

## Save our lifestyle

"CHANGE does not need to be bad and in fact done-right it should be positive" (*Mercury* Editorial, March 23). Instead of a litany of trite generalisations, let's look at examples of buildings or projects in Tasmania where change has worked.

For starters, I nominate the Cape Tourville walkway overlooking the Freycinet National Park and entrance to Wineglass Bay. The beauty of the walkway works on so many levels. It is both practical and aesthetic. It captures the spirit of the area and enhances the lighthouse with its own impressive history. Best of all, it turns a potentially dangerous location into one which can be enjoyed by visitors of any age or level of fitness. It is a place of delight. As visitors linger and watch the changing seascape, they marvel at eagles soaring effortlessly in the air currents, a whale with her young calf or the unexpected harmony of pink granite rocks and delicate flowering shrubs. It is a place to revisit. Obviously the designers of the walkway had empathy and respect for the location.

How often are factors such as empathy and respect bypassed? They are frequently overlooked because they are intangible. Yet we can recognise them. They are the vital links that need to be restated.

There is a difference between welcome changes that enhance a location and unwelcome change which seeks to dominate.

That seems a form of arrogance and bullying. It is not the legacy we should offer future Tasmanians.

If we examine the designs and places we admire, it may be easier to work towards positive change that protects our lifestyle and environment.

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