



- The Honourable Francis Logan, MLA, Member for Cockburn;
- Deputy Mayor Carol Reeve-Fowkes;
- Councillor Philip Eva, JP;
- Councillor Lyndsey Wetton;
- Councillor Bart Houwen;
- My wife Patricia;
- Mr Craig Moss, designer & builder of the Stairs.
- Mr Chris Beaton, Manager, Environmental Services and other members of staff here today;

The Manning Stairs were opened to the community in late August and the lookout at the top has recently been upgraded as well. The clever spiral design provides an opportunity to get even better views to the Darling Scarp and Cockburn Sound.

In those short few weeks, the Stairs have attracted hundreds of people on a daily basis and provided a very popular addition to this beautiful Park.

The City has received overwhelmingly positive feedback about the stairs and they are now in constant use. People tell me they enjoy both the climbing challenge and the chance to take in the spectacular views.

I'm pleased to say that vehicle access to the park is now available from 6am to 8pm until April, so there is plenty of time to use the stairs during the warmer weather.

The stairs have been designed to provide access to the ridge for a greater number of people. As you can see, there are no more than five stairs without a landing, and seats and rest areas have been provided as well as handrails on each side to allow for people of differing ages and abilities.

There are 192 steps in total - to put this into perspective, the famed Jacob's Ladder at Kings Park in Perth has 242 steps.

I congratulate all of our City staff members involved in this project. The stairs complete the Davilak trail circuit. A requirement for access to the top of the limestone ridge via this route was identified in the 2013 Trails Master Plan.

I also congratulate Craig Moss for the design and construction of the Manning Stairs. Craig was also responsible for the Eco Shark Barrier on Coogee Beach

Ladies and gentlemen, girls and boys I thank you to all of you for coming along to the Cockburn Rotary Spring Fair and to this special opening event.

To celebrate the occasion, anyone who climbs the stairs after the ribbon is cut today can claim a voucher for a treat which must be redeemed by 2.00pm.

As we come to the official opening, I firstly thank the Cockburn Pipe Band for their earlier performance at the Fair and for 'piping' me to the base of the Manning Steps. I invite Ben, the young Bagpipe Player to join me in cutting the ribbon.

I now declare the Manning Stairs open.