



PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

Community Recognition Statement

18 June 2020

HUNTER WETLANDS

Ms SONIA HORNER (Wallsend) :

When a deliberately-set fire ripped through the Hunter Wetlands Centre, an important local institution in the Wallsend Electorate, the local community rallied around. The Wetlands Centre received 131 donation and membership enquiries, and a 106 new memberships.

The Hunter Wetlands Centre plays an important role in protecting the local ecosystem, educating about and advocating for this important part of the environment. I would like to acknowledge Ken Bayliss, CEO of the Wetlands Centre, and David Crofts, board chair, for their leadership during this trying time.

Local residents and businesses from around the Wallsend Electorate and surrounding suburbs have chipped in with donations of cash, goods and services, helping to rebuild what was lost in the fire.

The Wetlands Centre tell me that the public response is still coming in and is very generous. As the picture becomes clearer about what they'll need, they'll reach out to those who have offered to help.