

## Premier

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Dear Sir/Madam

As you are aware, education standards and retention rates are significant issues for our State and my Government is committing significant effort to improve them. We need to inspire our students to make the most of what Tasmania has to offer and this in turn benefits our society and economy.

I commend the BookEnd program to you for its initiative in support of these aims. The private individuals and professionals involved have recognised that improving education is not just an issue for the Government to face, but that it is a responsibility of our entire community. They have in turn donated their own time and resources to develop this program and to show Tasmanian students of all ages that high profile people and the business community care about their development and what they can achieve.

The challenge that these individuals have laid down is for others to match the effort and resources that they have already put into the program, whether as money, links, mentoring or support. You don't need to be famous or in the public eye, you just need to care about the future of our young.

I strongly encourage you to find out more about the BookEnd Trust, a Tasmanian initiative, and to see what you can do to help keep the momentum building.  
(<http://www.bookendtrust.com/challenge.html>)

Yours sincerely

David Bartlett MP  
**Premier**  
**Minister for Education and Skills**