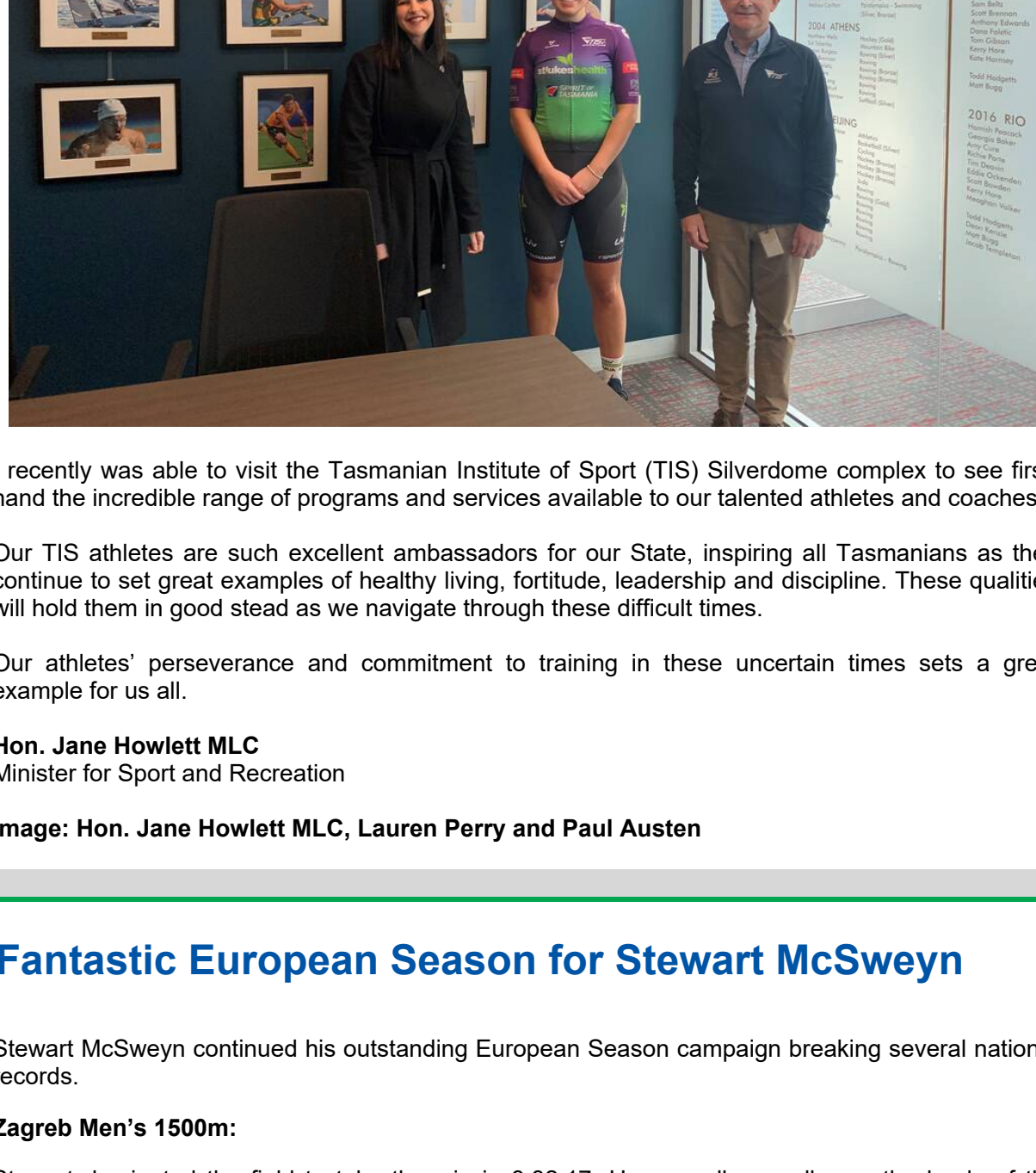


Minister for Sport and Recreation visits the TIS



I recently was able to visit the Tasmanian Institute of Sport (TIS) Silverdome complex to see first-hand the incredible range of programs and services available to our talented athletes and coaches.

Our TIS athletes are such excellent ambassadors for our State, inspiring all Tasmanians as they continue to set great examples of healthy living, fortitude, leadership and discipline. These qualities will hold them in good stead as we navigate through these difficult times.

Our athletes' perseverance and commitment to training in these uncertain times sets a great example for us all.

Hon. Jane Howlett MLC
Minister for Sport and Recreation

Image: Hon. Jane Howlett MLC, Lauren Perry and Paul Austen

Fantastic European Season for Stewart McSweyn

Stewart McSweyn continued his outstanding European Season campaign breaking several national records.

Zagreb Men's 1500m:

Stewart dominated the field to take the win in 3:32.17. He was all over the heels of the pacemaker through 800m and looked ready to explode with the field starting to queue up behind the pace which was slower than anticipated.

Stewart ran a 55-second split for the third lap to put on the pressure and run away from the field to gain an unassailable lead.

[Video here.](#)

Rome Diamond League - 3000m

Stewart finished third and broke Craig Moltram's national record of 7:32.19 by 4.17 seconds, recording a 6.77 second personal best of 7:28.02.

Chatting after the event Stewart said, "It's obviously a huge honour to break any national record so I'm extremely happy. I'm really pleased with the way I executed the race. I gave myself the best chance I had to win the race and that was the goal going into it."

[Video here.](#)

Doha Diamond League - 1500m

Stewart assumed the box seat behind the pacemakers right from the start. The first lap split of 54.05 left Stewart with a buffer over the classy field. The following two laps were recorded as 57.55 and 57.54 seconds respectively, with Stewart passing through the 1200m mark at 2:49.14. In the final 300m Stewart was completely solo, he finished in 3:30.51 - breaking Ryan Gregson's Australian national record from 2010 which stood at 3:31.06.

This national record is the fourth Stewart has added to his name - already securing the 3000m and 10,000m outdoor records, along with the 1500m indoor record. This makes him the first Australian man to hold the 1500m, 3000m and 10,000m national records simultaneously.

[Video here](#)

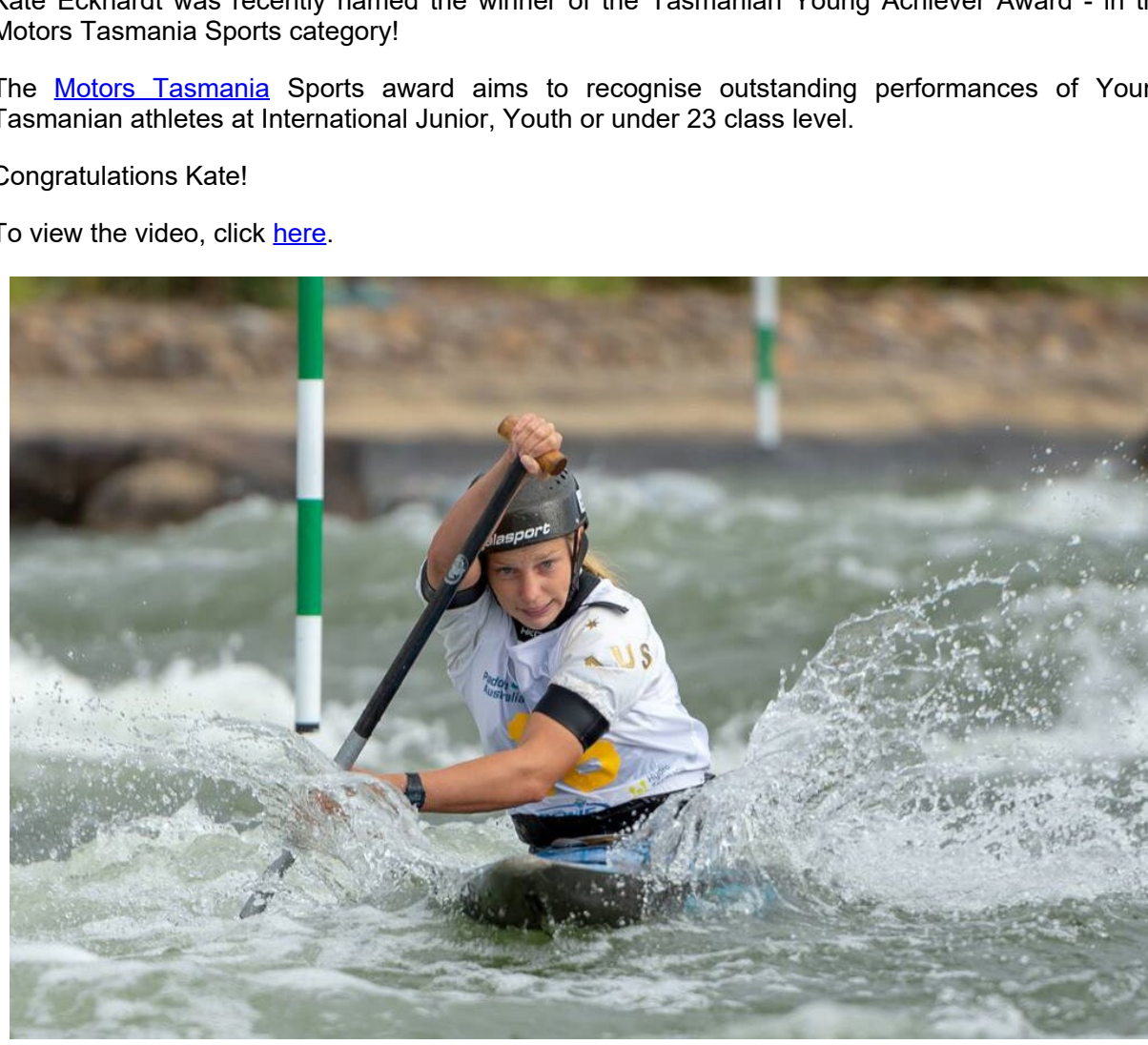


First Para-Athlete named for Tokyo

Deon Kenzie is the first Tasmanian to be named in the Australian team to compete in the Paralympic Games in Tokyo!

This will be Deon's second Paralympic Games - his first was in 2016 where he brought home a silver medal in the T38 1500m.

Congratulations Deon!



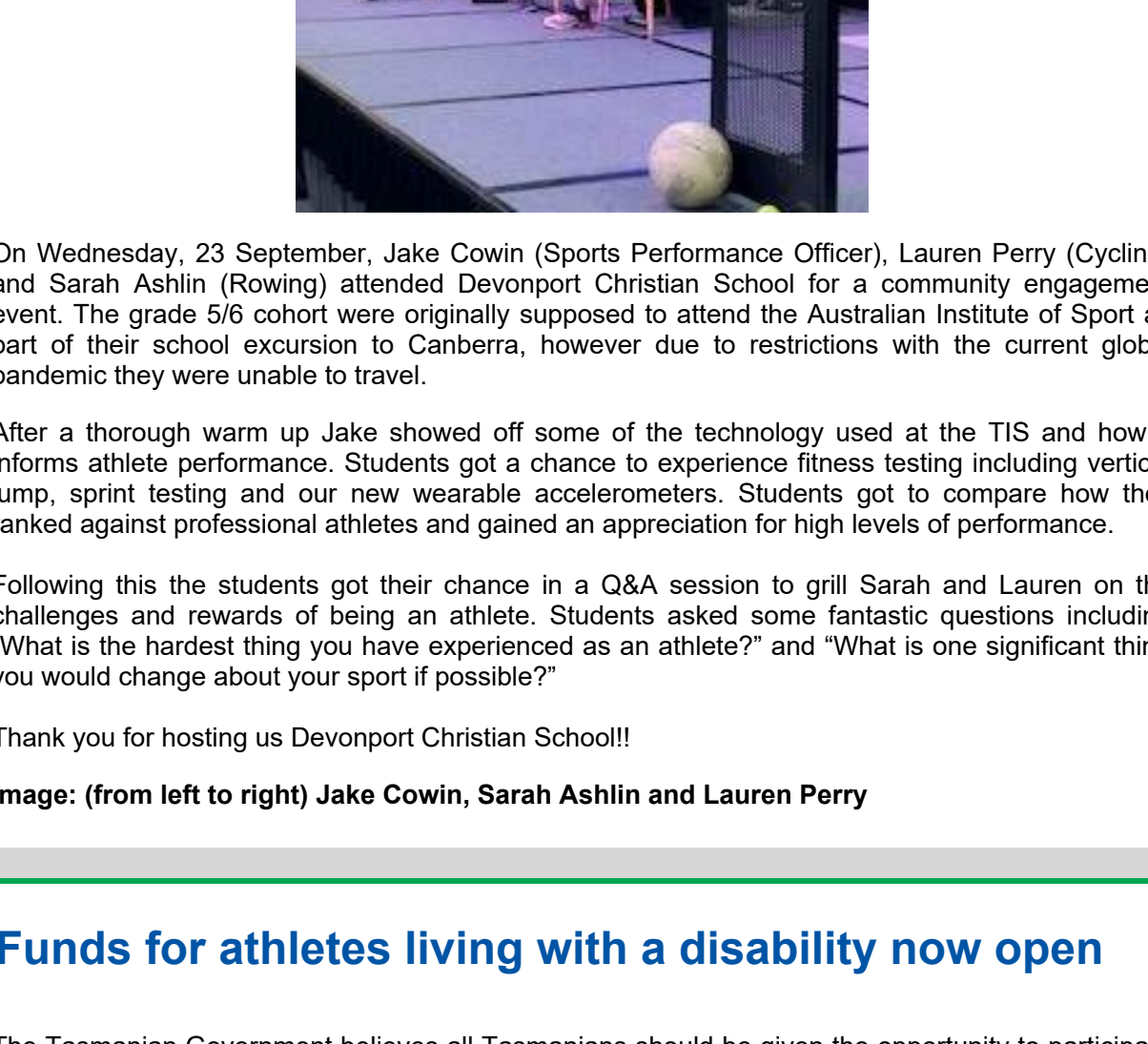
Kate Eckhardt wins an award

Kate Eckhardt was recently named the winner of the Tasmanian Young Achiever Award - in the Motors Tasmania Sports category!

The [Motors Tasmania](#) Sports award aims to recognise outstanding performances of Young Tasmanian athletes at International Junior, Youth or under 23 class level.

Congratulations Kate!

To view the video, click [here](#).



Community Engagement - Devonport Christian School



On Wednesday, 23 September, Jake Cowin (Sports Performance Officer), Lauren Perry (Cycling) and Sarah Ashlin (Rowing) attended Devonport Christian School for a community engagement event. The grade 5/6 cohort were originally supposed to attend the Australian Institute of Sport as part of their school excursion to Canberra, however due to restrictions with the current global pandemic they were unable to travel.

After a thorough warm up Jake showed off some of the technology used at the TIS and how it informs athlete performance. Students got a chance to experience fitness testing including vertical jump, sprint testing and our new wearable accelerometers. Students got to compare how they ranked against professional athletes and gained an appreciation for high levels of performance.

Following this the students got their chance in a Q&A session to grill Sarah and Lauren on the challenges and rewards of being an athlete. Students asked some fantastic questions including "What is the hardest thing you have experienced as an athlete?" and "What is one significant thing you would change about your sport if possible?"

Thank you for hosting us Devonport Christian School!!

Image: (from left to right) Jake Cowin, Sarah Ashlin and Lauren Perry

Funds for athletes living with a disability now open

The Tasmanian Government believes all Tasmanians should be given the opportunity to participate in sport and lead active healthy lifestyles.

As part of last year's 2019-20 State Budget, the Government announced the establishment of a Sporting Competition Access Fund.

The purpose of the Sporting Competitions Access Fund is to provide assistance to athletes with disability, enabling them to compete in national or international sporting competitions and allowing them to excel in their chosen sport at the highest possible level.

This funding is in response to the different needs and higher costs including transport and support needed by athletes with disability.

Support packages of up to \$3,000 will be made available to enable an athlete, coach and/or carer to attend the same event.

Applications are open until 31 May 2021 or available funds are exhausted and applications will be assessed on a "first-in" basis. Total funding available in 2020-21 is \$100,000.

For more information on the Fund, please contact Communities, Sport and Recreation by emailing sportrec@communities.tas.gov.au or phoning on 1800 252 476.

Alternatively, you can access the guidelines, and application form [here](#).

Tasmania has a strong history of representation at Paralympic events with the likes of Deon Kenzie, Melissa Carlton, Todd Hodgetts, Matthew Bugg, Jacob Templeton, and many more inspiring Tasmanians doing the State proud on the international stage.

I have no doubt we will continue to see many more success stories.

In addition to this support, for the 2021 Tokyo Paralympic Games, our Government will also provide \$40,000 in support to the Australian Paralympic Team.

Hon. Jane Howlett MLC
Minister for Sport and Recreation



The TIS gratefully acknowledges the valuable support received from:



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Our mailing address is:

Tasmanian Institute of Sport
PO Box 93, Prospect, TAS 7250
Silverdome Complex, 55 Oakden Road,
Prospect, Launceston, TAS 7250

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