

Public access to jetty secured

By **LISA BACHMAYER**

RAPID BAY – Issues surrounding public access to the new Rapid Bay jetty have been rectified, just in time for its completion.

Adelaide Brighton Cement owns the site on which the new jetty is being constructed as well as the surrounding land.

Planning SA granted the Department for Transport, Energy and Infrastructure (DTEI) approval for the jetty's construction, providing that a lease allowing public access be agreed before it is open.

The District Council of Yankalilla told The Times late last year that the agreement was yet to be finalised and was concerned the public would not be able to use the jetty.

However, the council accepted the agreement with Adelaide Brighton Cement last week, with the Minister for Transport expected to sign on the dotted line soon.

The short five-year agreement enables Adelaide Brighton Cement to consider the possibility of increasing the quarry's capacity and its future at the site.

Yankalilla Council chief executive Roger Sweetman stressed that this would not affect public access to the jetty.

Timeline: From old to new

■ Construction on the old Rapid Bay jetty began in September 1940 and was completed in March 1942.

■ The jetty was first used on September 5, 1942 when 5,382 tonnes of limestone was loaded onto the SS Iron Knob and transported to Whyalla.

■ In January 1942, it was discovered that test piles installed in 1938 had failed due to Teredo worm attack.

■ From February 1943 to January 1949, the piles were enclosed with concrete collars to prevent worms, but proved ineffective.

■ By 1958, teredo worm and docking ships had caused all six dolphins to become very unstable, threatening the stability of the entire t-head section and adjoining jetty.

■ Reconstruction work was done from the late 1950s-early 1960s to replace the timber piles with steel piles.

■ The State Government acquired the jetty from BHP in 1981 at no cost.

■ New mine owners, Adelaide Brighton Cement, shipped limestone to Birkenhead until 1988. The jetty's commercial life concluded in 1991.

■ Having fallen into disrepair, the jetty was closed on Christmas Eve, 2004.

■ The Friends of the Rapid Bay Jetty was formed on January 2, 2005.

■ Plans to build a new jetty were announced in September 2006.

■ Construction firm Bardavcol began construction in August 2008.



SEA MAGIC ... Troy Deluca spots a leafy sea dragon during the Flinders University Underwater Club's first dive off the new jetty.

Photo: James Manna.

■ February 2009: the new jetty is completed and open to the public.

■ Premier Mike Rann to officially open the jetty on March 11, 2009.

Source: <http://www.rapidbayjetty.org/history.htm>



GOLD MEDALLIST ... Vincognita vigneron Peter Belej at his Nangkita Vineyard with the Gold Medal winning 2008 Madeines Viognier.

Nangkita winery wins Sydney gold

NANGKITA - Vincognita Wines' Madeines Nangkita Viognier received gold for the second successive year at the Sydney Royal Wine Show.

Last year it was the 2007 vintage and this year the 2008 wine was judged the best Viognier from a named vineyard.

Vigneron Peter Belej was extremely pleased.

"It's been a fantastic couple of years for us, and while we've endured frost, drought and heat, it's great to see our efforts in the vineyard and winery rewarded - Nangkita truly is a remarkable viticultural site."

Vincognita specialises in northern Rhone style wines, from Shiraz and Viognier grapes grown on its Nangkita and McLaren Vale vineyards.

Record breaking edition

REGION - The Times has broken another record.

The edition of the paper on January 22 this year set a new benchmark for sales, selling a massive 7752 copies.

It broke the previous record set more than 12 months ago by more than 100 copies.

The newspaper's circulation continues to grow at more than three-percent.



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