

Big bucks bring to city vibrant new project

By JOCELYN WATTS

Building blocks that may develop into a Sydney Rocks-style area in Maryborough are moving into place like pieces on a chess board.

Ron Blyth from property developer Belela was in the Heritage City this week overseeing the first stages of two developments - luxury units in Wharf Street and a \$30 million marina - and the planning of a third major project that's still under wraps.

Mr Blyth said big plans were in store for the block enclosed by Kent and March streets opposite the Mary River Marina.

"Belela is committed to bringing life back to the region along Kent Street between the CBD and the Granville Bridge," Mr Blyth said.

"We are currently working with Core Architecture to develop concepts that cover a number of different potential uses for our site.

"We are focusing on designing a development that will re-invigorate and bring people back to this side of town and also complement the river aspect.

"A director of Core Architecture said: 'After seeing the proximity of the site in relation to the heart of Maryborough and knowing the Rocks area in Sydney, this area has the potential to become Maryborough's equivalent.'"

Meanwhile, earthworks are under way on the site of Mr Blyth's boutique six-unit development, Riverview on March, on the corner of Wharf and March streets. Building will start within four weeks.

The project will be launched and unit prices announced on July 30, between 5pm and 6.30pm, at a display suite on the corner of Kent and March streets.

"Maryborough is a vibrant, exciting place at the moment," Mr Blyth said. "The pace and friendliness is attracting those who appreciate an alternative to big city stresses without compromising on convenience."

Fraser Coast councillor Gerard O'Connell said the company's projects were significant steps towards the realisation of Maryborough's urban renewal project.

To attend for the launch of Riverview on March, phone 1300 850 321.



Danny Lynch from Bellero Constructions, which is building Riverview on March (right), talks with property developer Ron Blyth.

Christmas present ... An artist's impression shows the \$30 million marina on the Mary River that is expected to be finished by end of this year. Developer Ron Blyth says the marina will ensure that as Maryborough grows it will keep in touch with its history as a port town.

Mary banks up for major facelift

A \$30 million marina, parklands and a caravan park on the bank of the Mary River will transform the old Hyne Timber site into a vibrant lifestyle hub, says Ron Blyth from Belela.



The site, just upstream from the Granville Bridge, was pre-approved for a marina when Belela bought the site about four months ago and Mr Blyth (pictured) has wasted no time in getting plans under way. About 100 steel pylons for a 120-berth marina arrived from China this week.

"The marina has been designed to accommodate a range of boats from 12 to 60 feet," he said.

"It is part of the Broilga to Bridge vision for Maryborough and there are plans to rejuvenate the surrounding riverbanks with recreational parklands, caravan and camping grounds and a marine industrial park."

The new marina is on track to be finished by Christmas.



Building on these luxury apartments, Riverview on March, will start soon.

Portside Passage to pave way to precinct

John Meyers can't wait for the crowds to come.

After three years of planning, Maryborough's Gatakers Lane, linking Kent and Wharf streets, will finally get a facelift.

"This has been in the works for ages now and to finally have the assurance it's going ahead is wonderful," said Mr Meyers, owner of the Maryborough Military and

Colonial Museum. "We're confident it will draw more people to the Wharf Street precinct."

The Fraser Coast council allocated \$500,000 to the project in this week's budget, equalling a State Government contribution. Property owners have also helped foot the bill.

Called Portside Passage, the access way runs from the Gatakers

complex on Kent Street to the museum on Wharf Street. It will include a paved walk-through courtyard with shade trees and public art that reflect the area's history.

"The Wharf Street precinct is Maryborough's major tourist drawcard so it's nice to know the council is putting money into its continuing beautification," Mr Meyers said.

Mary Harbour

Maryborough Sugar has also proposed a \$500 million development downstream from the Granville Bridge.

The project includes a hotel, 300-berth marina, retirement home and boardwalk, catering for about 3000 people.

Mary Harbour is expected to take shape in about two years.

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