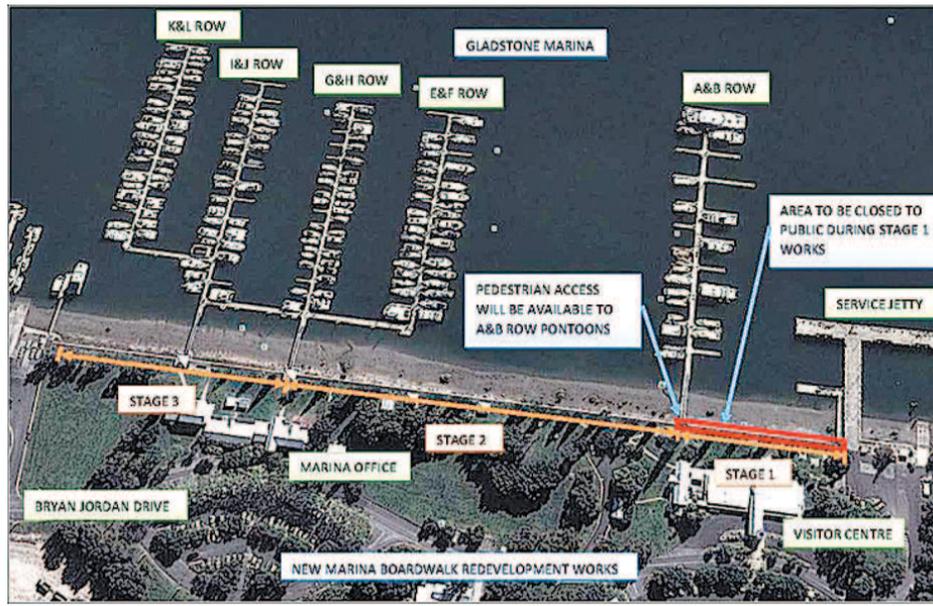


Marina Boardwalk reconstruction commences

GLADSTONE Ports Corporation (GPC) commenced construction associated with the Marina Boardwalk Redevelopment works recently.

The first stage of the redevelopment will involve the reconstruction of the first 80 metres of boardwalk between the service jetty and A and B Row pontoons.

The area will be fenced off from public access for the duration of construction works, which is expected to be a period of five to six months.



Record Shipment and Vessels Depart on a Single Tide

PILBARA Ports Authority (PPA) has achieved a record departure of cargo and vessels on a single tide from the Port of Port Hedland.

Eight cape-size bulk carriers sailed out with a record tonnage of 1,511,977 tonnes within a tidal window of 4.75 hours on Saturday, 28 February 2015.

This beats the previous record set last June by more than 240,000 tonnes on seven cape-size vessels.

One of the world's largest cruise ships, the Celebrity Solstice, also departed the port within the same tidal window.

Abbot Point agreement given industry thumbs up

QUENSLAND-based civil construction and dredging company Hall Contracting has commended the state government on its recent decision to dispose of dredge spoil from the Abbot Point Coal Terminal at the T2 industrial site just weeks after coming into power.

Hall Contracting Managing Director Cameron Hall said environmental concerns surrounding the Abbot Point Coal Terminal had been a hot issue for some time and he was pleased to see Labor taking swift action to move the project forward with the environment as a priority.

"Having the spoil disposed of on industrial land as opposed to the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area is a great outcome for the project and strikes the right balance between furthering development in the area and preserving the environment," Mr Hall said.

"This proposal provides the most sustainable approach we've seen to expanding the port and I hope to see the approval process commence as soon as possible."

While the new disposal plans will minimise construction impacts on wetland ecosystems, they will also influence the dredging operations taking place on site.

Mr Hall said the proposed size and shape of the dredge ponds would necessitate a different approach to that required under the former LNP government's plans.

"It appears the new dredge pond arrangement covers a smaller area and has a more constrained shape than those previously proposed so a considered approach will need to be taken to ensure the dredge spoil can be processed efficiently and tail water is constantly monitored for quality assurance," Mr Hall said.

"It is important that consultation occurs with the Queensland construction industry at all stages of the approvals process to ensure the environmental objectives laid out can be not only achieved but carried out at the highest standard."

Mr Hall said it was encouraging to see the government focusing on the sustainability of the region and its delicate ecosystems and he looked forward to seeing the project progress.

"The Abbot Point development will play an integral role in Queensland's future economic prosperity however we all acknowledge the importance of its proximity to one of Australia's most valuable environmental assets, so it's great to see both the fiscal and environmental needs of the state being accommodated."

Hall Contracting has been in operation for more than 65 years and has undertaken dredging projects all over Australia, South East Asia and the Pacific Islands. Its fleet of 10 cutter suction dredges makes the company Australia's largest dredging contractor, with offices on the Sunshine Coast as well as in Brisbane, Fiji and Malaysia.

For more information regarding Hall Contracting, please visit www.hallcontracting.com.au or call (07) 5445 5977.

Hart Marine receives Excellence Award from Energy Power Systems Australia

ON the 22nd of December 2014, Energy Power Systems Australia (EPSA) presented Mornington based Pilot Boat builder, Hart Marine with an Excellence Award for the installation of two Cat® C18 diesel engines in Hart Marine's latest state-of-the-art ORC pilot boat 'Kestrel'.

The award, presented by EPSA CEO Phil Canning to Hart Marine Managing Director Mal Hart is in recognition of the innovative installation of twin C18 700hp Caterpillar diesel motors in what is the latest of Hart Marine's growing list of completed pilot boats.

The vessel which has recently been delivered to Port Kembla for its new owner and operator, the Port Authority of New South Wales, is designed and built to operate in the most extreme conditions whilst maintaining maximum levels of usability and safety.

The attention to detail shown in the Kestrel's engine room is evident in the emphasis placed on safety and optimal engine performance. Each of the engines is rated for 533 kw delivering power to two Mikado 750mm gear boxes. This gives the Kestrel a top speed of 28.5 knots and ample power to enable a safe and speedy exchange of personnel between the boat and large vessels.

Below deck, the engine room offers ample workspace for engine service and maintenance

whilst stainless steel safety rails have been placed around both engines to ensure maximum safety.

Not only did these design features play an integral part in Hart Marine attaining the award but it's also evidence of the very high standards for which they have become so well known throughout Australia.

In accepting the award, Mr Hart acknowledged the contribution of Hart Marine's highly skilled and dedicated team of boat builders who not only continuously exceed their high levels of workmanship but also played a pivotal role in Hart Marine recently achieving its prestigious ISO 9001 accreditation.

With more than 30 years' experience building high performance vessels using composite materials Hart Marine now produces some of the finest pilot boats available to a growing contingent of clients including Port Philip Sea Pilots, Geraldton Port Authority, Rio Tinto and Esperance Port Authority.

EPSA is the exclusive supplier of Cat® engines and power solutions in Australia, Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands.



Above: Peter, Cameron and Brian Hall

