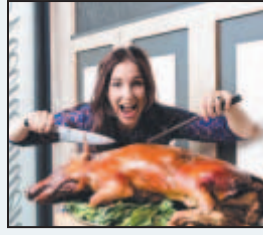


## HELPERS THANKED

As part of International Volunteers Day held on Monday, Cancer Council Queensland thanked the efforts of its 2500 dedicated volunteers, after a successful year of hard work and immense dedication.

## ULTIMATE FEAST

De Vietnamien is putting on the ultimate festive season feast for friends, family and colleagues to celebrate like royalty - a 10 person whole suckling pig banquet. It costs \$70 per person for the three courses. Phone 3397 7117 or visit devietnamien.com.au.



## PARK IMPROVED

New Farm Park is set to receive an upgrade to make it more inclusive and accessible to people of all abilities, part of the Access and Inclusion Plan 2012-2017. This may include changes to car parks, access paths and picnic areas.

# Students earnest about showing off Wilde's work

WHILE other kids are lazing around these summer holidays, one local teenager is turning the clock back to 1895 to direct and star in an all-time classic.

Fifteen-year-old Hendra student Joe Howard has been hard at work rehearsing for his local production of Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*, tomorrow and Saturday night.

"I'm very excited, it's coming together very quickly now," Joe said.

With a cast of teenagers and other youngsters from around Brisbane, the play is set to be a fresh and lively reinvention of the Victorian classic.

Joe, the youngest in the production, said he decided to put on the show with some of his "talented friends" because of his love of theatre and the work of Oscar Wilde.

"I love his style of comedy... his social commentary is brilliant as well, having a laugh at the upper classes of England at the time," he said.

➔ **The Importance of Being Earnest is playing at the Hamilton Hall on December 9 and 10 at 7pm. Book on 0448 989 255**



YOUNG IMPRESARIO: Joe Howard (right) of Hendra with Mitch Krosch, directs and stars in *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

# Residents won't back Deagon's new look

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THE community is divided on whether Deagon race-track should be redeveloped, with nearly two-thirds saying no after a furious row between Lord Mayor Graham Quirk and Racing Queensland.

In July, Racing Queensland announced plans for a \$39.9 million redevelopment of the thoroughbred training facility into harness and greyhound racing track.

In an exclusive *Quest Newspapers* online poll of 450 people, 62 per cent said they did not support the redevelopment, while 38 per cent would like to see it go ahead.

Cr Quirk said he had been "getting a bit of a brickbat" from Racing Queensland chief executive Bob Bentley but remained firm on his opposition.

"I'm quite happy for Mr Bentley to take out ads condemning me but my position is a considered one," Cr Quirk said.

"It's an application which the people down in that area are quite clearly saying to me that they don't want."

Following newspaper and billboard advertisements, Mr Bentley sent a scathing letter to Cr Quirk, slamming his "personal opposition" to the development application before the council.

"I find it deeply regrettable you have been so vocal about your opposition to a proposal that would develop the racecourse into a state of the art greyhound, harness racing and training facility, offering substantial economic benefits to the immediate area," Mr Bentley wrote.

But residents are just as vocal, with one saying: "Go take it somewhere else."

# Plan for 15-storey towers

UP FRONT: NOTHING TO HIDE, SAYS BRISBANE RACING CLUB CEO, AS ANONYMOUS LETTERS URGE RESIDENTS TO WRITE TO COUNCIL

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APARTMENT blocks of 15 storeys could be built on the Eagle Farm racecourse if the Brisbane Racing Club's development application for the precinct is approved.

While the Brisbane City Council's draft Racecourse Precinct Neighbourhood Plan aims to limit buildings to a height of 12 storeys, the

full details of the club's master plan, only available through the council's website, show the club wants to build residential towers of up to 15 storeys.

The 15-storey target does not appear on the club's own master plan website, or on the information brochure distributed to 10,000 residents by the club.

But anonymous letters have been dropped around

the neighbourhood detailing the club's plans and warning they may be successful, with the flyer encouraging residents to make submissions to the council.

Brisbane Racing Club chief executive Stephen Ferguson said the club was "absolutely not hiding anything" in regard to the development application, and all details were available on the council website.

Mr Ferguson said talking in terms of storeys could be deceptive, and the club was more focussed on educating the public about the principal behind the plan's design, which includes residential blocks of varying heights with a maximum of 15 storeys.

"No matter what height gets agreed, the principle is areas close to existing residential areas will have lower

heights (and) taller buildings will be stepped back well away from existing residential areas," he said.

Mr Ferguson said the club had made its application before the draft neighbourhood plan came out, and the final decision on height restrictions would be up to the council.

He said club had been open and transparent about the application.

The APHRC wishes a Merry Christmas to All!

ALBION PARK HARNESS RACING CLUB

- Poker Tuesdays from 2PM during the race meeting
- 10 Dec - The Lord Mayor's Cup
- 17 Dec - The SEW-Eurodrive Christmas Cup (QLD Reds Appearance)
- Free Entry, Free Parking, Live Entertainment

www.aphrc.com.au

Twitter and Facebook icons.