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HENLEY BEACH

# Jet ski riders in hot water

Thomas Conlin

POLICE have issued seven fines so far this summer to jet skiers breaching restrictions along the metropolitan coastline.

Six riders were fined \$220 for speeding above four knots within 200m of the shore or for entering a jet ski-free zone off Henley Beach.

Police fined another rider

## POLICE CRACKDOWN ON WATER SPEEDSTERS NETS RESULTS

\$260 for causing a nuisance on the water. The exclusion zone prevents jet skis and motor boats coming within 200m of the shore between the River Torrens outlet and Grange Rd.

SA Police Water Operations Brevet Sergeant Glen McKenzie said patrols were paying particular attention

to the exclusion zone to protect swimmers.

“We urge the public to continue to use the coastline in a safe and responsible manner so that everyone can enjoy the summer period,” Brev-Sgt McKenzie said.

Transport Department officers have also issued two

cautions to jet ski riders for breaching the zone, while council staff also received reports of two breaches.

The Western Adelaide Coastal Residents Association had lobbied the council and the State Government to police the zone, which has been in place for the past two summers. President Jim

Douglas said there had been a concerted effort from residents to report any illegal behaviour within the zone since the ban came into place on December 15.

“The community love (the jet ski-free zone) and the community are well aware now that the jet skis shouldn’t be in there,” Mr

Douglas said. “We’ve got a lot of people along the esplanade that are members of WACRA and if they see them in there they’ve got the numbers to contact.”

The jet ski exclusion zone will be in place until March 31. Charles Sturt councillors voted in December to seek a permanent exclusion zone during summer to avoid having to reapply to the State Government yearly.

FLINDERS PARK

## Reaping a long, rich history of gardening

Thomas Conlin

WHILE the River Torrens now cuts a meandering path through homes and businesses, it was once the lifeblood of a thriving market-garden industry in the western suburbs.

Families from Italy began arriving in the area to escape the depression in 1927.

They grew fruit and vegetables – and eventually a thriving community.

Researcher Madeleine Regan has interviewed people from 36 families who were among the first to begin the market-garden industry, which thrived in the west for more than 50 years.

Her eight-year project to document the history of the area will be the subject of a presentation at the Migration Museum next month.

“This is a really interesting story about migration and settlement and about a community,” Mrs Regan said.

“People visited each other



Researcher Madeleine Regan and Frank Ballestrin at the River Torrens at Kidman Park.

Picture: CALUM ROBERTSON

and they swapped things. “There were the traditions like killing the pig and making the wine, so they had a really strong community.”

Frank Ballestrin’s father and uncle were among the first to work the land in the area after arriving in 1927.

Mr Ballestrin grew up

working on his family’s land at Flinders Park and remembers the sense of community.

“They all used to get together on Sunday in our shed and dad used to get a keg of beer and if there was 30 people they would share the cost,” Mr Ballestrin said.

“People would take something from home, so you would have a little bit of this and a bit of that.

“They all used to come around at 10am or so every day and they would be having coffee with us as well.”

The free presentation, *From the Veneto to Frogmore*

and *Findon Roads: Stories of Italian Market Gardeners*, will be on Wednesday, February 3 at 5.30pm at the Migration Museum, Kintore Ave, Adelaide, as part of the Eat Your Words series. Bookings essential.

For further details call 8207 7580.

WOODVILLE

## Fresh battle over Port Rd Macca’s

Thomas Conlin

MCDONALD’S wants to open a franchise on Port Rd four years after residents won a battle to block the development.

The restaurant would be at 837 Port Rd, Woodville.

Charles Sturt Council’s Development Assessment Panel is due to assess the application tonight (Wednesday, January 20).

Changes from the original plans include moving the building to the southwest side of the property and installing a 2.6m-high sound fence. The council received 27 responses to a request for feedback on the proposal and 10 people have asked to speak at tonight’s meeting.

Residents have raised concerns about the restaurant’s potential noise, odour and increased traffic, as well as its proximity to Woodville Primary School.

The Environment, Resources and Development Court rejected a similar proposal in 2012 on the grounds it would have had an unreasonable impact on nearby residents.

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