

God of excess inspired exclusive development

Michelle Hele
PROPERTY EDITOR

SOUTH Bank is continuing to grow as a restaurant precinct with new plans for an \$11 million restaurant and bar named after the god of wine, celebration and excess.

The restaurant, Bacchus, is to be built in Rydges Hotel at South Bank on the second level.

The building's Grey St facade will also be redeveloped to include three new retail spaces and vertical gardens.

Rydges executive assistant manager Callum Kennedy said the restaurant and bar had been inspired by high-end New York dining and nightlife.

The 2887sq m restaurant and bar will take over the entire second level of the building with work expected to be finished by September.

Base Architects and LA interior designer Tracey Beckham have designed the facility, which will house an elevated restaurant, lounge bar, poolside bar and dining and function space to house 500 people.

Mr Kennedy said the restaurant would operate as a stand-alone facility, distinct from the hotel.



He said with the development of the ABC headquarters at South Bank and the redevelopment of the Convention Centre they felt the timing was right to offer something different and modern.

He said South Bank was emerging as a strong restaurant precinct in Brisbane and they wanted to offer something that would stand out from the rest.

A pool will be installed as part of the development as well

ONLY THE BEST: Callum Kennedy at the Rydges Southbank at the new \$11 million redevelopment.

Picture: Jono Searle

as pool cabanas, a bar and dining options.

Mr Kennedy said while they were going for a very indulgent feel, they would be aiming their prices at a more affordable range.

RSL takes on troubled bowls club

RSL Queensland has hit a winner buying a bowling club north of Toowoomba for about \$700,000.

Highfields Bowls Club was put up for auction last year under instructions from receivers and manager BDO.

The 3998sq m site at 55 Highfields Rd, which includes a 717sq m bowls club complex, was marketed by Ray White Commercial's Damian McMahon and Gordon Bradley.

RSL Queensland CEO Chris McHugh said the organisation had sought to buy it at auction.

"We bid on it in September and then we pulled out of the bidding and we negotiated," he said. "Basically we were at the right place at the right time and for the RSL it met a lot of our requirements.

"But we won't use it as a bowling club."

The club was owned by Lillypilly Investments which went into liquidation last year.

Mr McHugh said final use of the site was not finalised but the RSL had earmarked it as a district office to provide services to members.

Chris Herde