

# New concept for Flat Rocks

**A UNIQUE vision for coastal land near Flat Rocks is being explored with the intention of establishing environmentally friendly accommodation.**

Landowner Julie Hayes and architect Garry Baverstock said the intention was to create a self sufficient eco-village and education centre that incorporated solar power and permaculture gardens, as well as water

harvesting and sewerage processing facilities.

"There will definitely be a tourism focus but the development has to stack up environmentally and ecologically as well," Mr Baverstock said.

"We are still in the

very early stages but we have a lot of ideas. First we would like to get ecologists in to study the area and develop a strategy ... it will be an evolutionary process ... there will be no firing from the hip," he said.

"The most important people are the current users of the area and unless they are happy we will not go ahead with anything. We will keep

them involved with the decision making process the whole way – it is a matter of respect.

"If we are not prepared to lead by example then nothing should happen at Flat Rocks," Mr Baverstock said.

Ms Hayes said she had purchased the land with the hope of completing original landowner Doug Brown's

eco-accommodation vision.

"I bought into the vision and the land with the hope we could take it further," Ms Hayes said.

"It is such a beautiful area and I would hate to see a standard development built there. We want to create something beautiful and environmentally friendly.

"We are very flexible

at this stage but we definitely want to leave as much of the natural vegetation as possible. We hope it will encompass all kinds of people and develop an ongoing interest in environmental matters," she said.

Ms Hayes and Mr Baverstock hope to share the concept with the State Planning Commission in the near future.