

Motorway attracts buyer Dealer's search ends at Robina

by Travis Lye

A VEHICLE sales business with outlets in Brisbane, Cairns and the Sunshine Coast is poised to set up shop in the M1 Business Precinct on the Gold Coast.

The business, East Coast Commercial, is associated with Don and Gerry Gulley, who bought a 3000sq m vacant site in the 4.2ha Robina precinct for an undisclosed sum.

The duo acquired the property, at 277 Scottsdale Drive, through entity D & G Gulley.

The company lodged an application with the city council last week to develop a 400sq m showroom and workshop building on the property, which is visible from the Pacific Motorway.

The development will also include more than 1600sq m of hardstand area, while the showroom will house about 80 light-commercial vehicles.

The duo established East Coast Commercial in 1987 and have outlets at Rocklea and Acacia Ridge in Brisbane, at Kawana on the Sunshine Coast and in Cairns.

The new showroom will house a Fiat Professional outlet, while the hardstand area will showcase second-hand four-wheel-drives, and light trucks and vans.

Don Gulley said they had been looking for a property on the Gold Coast for three years and settled on the Robina parcel because it was central and

had easy access from north and south.

"We wanted a central location so we could draw our customer base from both ends of the Coast," he said.

"Access is always an issue. "We had been looking at properties on Reedy Creek Road but nothing was quite right."

Mr Gulley said they hoped to start developing the Robina property in November and open before next Easter.

He said there had been an opening on the Gold Coast for a light-commercial showroom for some time.

Entities associated with the Gulleys hold 12 properties spread across Queensland.

“We wanted a central location so we could draw our customer base from both ends of the Coast”

Agent Marcus Weld, of Robina Marketing Australia, negotiated the deal. He said the M1 Business Precinct enabled businesses to establish facilities to meet specific needs.

"The precinct is unique in offering businesses the opportunity to purpose-build premises in CBD Robina," he said.

"Land lots in the business precinct have been made available specifically with owner-occupiers in mind."

Remaining available lots for sale range from 2840sq m to 7000sq m.

Out of the Mist, new Nirvana emerges

A SEASIDE restaurant and bar will make its home in Niecon's Nirvana by the Sea apartment tower which is nearing completion at Kirra.

The award-winning operators said they would provide 'something special' for residents and holidaymakers at the southern end of the Gold Coast.

The business, Mist, will occupy the largest of nine street-level retail tenancies in the tower. It is expected to open in early November.

Niecon chief executive Con Nikiforides said securing Mist was a coup for the company and Kirra.

Sisters Kylie Hayden and Shonel Simpson, the restaurateurs behind Mist, have made their mark at the southern end.

They operate a restaurant called Bellakai, which means 'beautiful food', on the beachfront at Coolangatta.

Bellakai last month took the best breakfast award in the 2009 Gold Coast Restaurant and Catering Awards.

In December, the sisters opened Perle at Circle on Cavill in Surfers Paradise.

Mr Nikiforides said Ms Hayden and Ms Simpson 'had the recipe right'.

"Bellakai and Perle have earned an enviable reputation with a large following and I'm sure Mist will further enhance their growing list of achievements," he said.

Ms Hayden has owned and operated restaurants for more than 12 years.

She has a wide range of experiences, including running Sipz at Main Beach, cafes under the Seabank tower in Southport and opening Barchino in the Santorini resort at Nobby Beach.

Two years ago she teamed up with her sister Shonel, who had worked as a computer programmer, to open Bellakai.



Nirvana by the Sea at Kirra

Ms Hayden said Mist would be similar to Perle, which she described as a contemporary dining and lounge bar.

"We want to provide something for the Kirra locals that they don't have now," she said.

"The bar will be stylish, the sort of venue that can be used for special occasions."

The restaurant will have three private dining rooms and two private bar rooms accommodating up to 30 people in each.

Ms Hayden said the restaurant would seat 100 people and the bar would cater for a similar number.

The Mist lease covers a 227sq m area and a 91sq m alfresco space.

It is for seven years, with renewal options for five years.

The Nirvana retail area will encompass nine tenancies spanning 775sq m, with 423sq m of alfresco space.

Niecon retail leasing executive Sarah Lewis said the retail area was expected to be finished this month.

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