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MEDIA RELEASE



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For immediate release

Historic Streeter's Jetty gets some TLC

Restoration work will begin next week on the historic Streeter's Jetty in Broome's Chinatown.

Built around 1886, the 69m-long structure is the only remaining jetty used by Broome's original pearling lugger fleet, and is now a popular attraction with tourists and locals.

It has been modified and rebuilt several times during its life, and will be closed to the public between Wednesday 4 November and Friday 13 November 2015 for work to replace a number of weathered decking planks, piles, braces and fastenings.

Shire of Broome Manager of Infrastructure Operations, Andrew Graffen, said that it was important to retain the heritage of Streeter's Jetty and that traditional methods would be used in the restoration work.

"The timber used on Streeter's Jetty is left raw in line with traditional methods, however this untreated timber eventually breaks down through constant expansion and contraction with the movement of the tides, as well as through the action of marine borers," Mr Graffen said.

"The jetty also falls below the high water mark and is fully submerged several times a year on big tides, which further stresses the decking timbers.

"Broome carpenter Lachlan Fraser will undertake the progressive restoration of the decking of the historical jetty with planks made from Jarrah treated with a lanolin-based product to improve their longevity.

"Temporary bracing works will be installed prior to the wet season to ensure the structural stability of the jetty while local Cajuput timber is sourced for the piles and cross braces to retain the historical value of the structure."

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