

# Jetty legs not strong enough

By Tari Jeffers

THE Esperance Tanker Jetty's legs—or piles—are a major part of the icon's safety issues.

The Shire of Esperance received possession of the jetty in 1990 from the State Government, but the Port Authority installed some replacement piles before the changeover.

These replacement piles were placed on either side of the jetty, in an attempt to take the load off the original, deteriorating piles.

Results from a report undertaken by WA engineering company BG&E found that some of the piles had been infested with the teredo worm, a marine equivalent of the termite.

At a public forum held on Monday, July 11, a structural engineer for BG&E, Simon Dennis, said that the jetty had a history of regular maintenance in the past.

"There were fundamental changes when the jetty changed hands in 1990," he said.

When the jetty was originally built, each pier—a collection of piles, cross braces



and decking—had three piles to hold up it up.

As the piles deteriorated due to time, weather and marine life, some of them developed holes.

Over time, the deteriorating piles had become ineffective as load bearers.

"They're really just dead weight," Mr Dennis said.

"So essentially, now the jetty only has two piles per pier, rather than three."

Mr Dennis did say there was ingenuity in the curved structure of the jetty, in that waves did not break directly on the piles further out, but followed the curvature in, to break on the shore.

He said that in replacing

or refurbishing the jetty, it would be prudent to replace the piles with materials stronger than wood.

At the forum, the common consensus from the public was that they would appreciate wooden piles closer to the shore where they were visible, but replaced with something stronger further out.

ESPERANCE Shire CEO Mal Osborne and Director of Engineering Gavin Harris stand on the Tanker Jetty that has been deemed not up to Australian safety standards.

**Dr Graham Jacobs MLA**

*Your Member for Eyre*

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## Local ladies make a difference

TWO local women will visit an orphanage in Kenya to help out less fortunate children.

Sylvia Boast and Alma Perfrement are due to fly to Nairobi on August 4 where they will spend five-and-a-half weeks visiting and working with orphans at Kenyan orphanage Hope House.

Ms Boast, who last visited Kenya two and a half years ago, said while donations were vital, it was important for her to see where the money was going.

"It's very important to go over there and help these people out, and see to their needs," Ms Boast said.

"When you've been there and you've realised that even the poorest Australian kids have so much more than what these little ones have, to go back to Kenya is a real thrill," she said.

"They are just such beau-

tiful children—they are just so happy and vibrant—and I love going over to help them."

Ms Boast said her and Ms Perfrement's role at the orphanage would be general duties, including caring for the babies and washing dishes in the kitchen.

For the last 18 months, Ms Boast said she had been buying whatever she could find to take over to Kenya, however the excess baggage would be quite expensive.

The Blue Light Association will hold a sausage sizzle and a raffle outside Bunnings on Sunday, July 31 in order to raise money for that excess baggage, while Ms Boast held a morning tea yesterday to raise money also.

Ms Boast thanked everyone in the town for their support in making her trip to Kenya possible.



POLICE and Community Youth Club (PCYC) volunteer Jean Handley and president Murray Pownall wish Sylvia Boast all the best ahead of her trip to Kenya next month.



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**2011 Esperance Biennial Art Award Competition and Exhibition**

Do you live in Esperance/Eastern Goldfields/Ravyn/Hopetoun area? The entry forms are now available from the Cannery Arts Centre and Esperance Community Arts Gallery, Museum Village. Entries close on the 11th August. Over \$11,000 in prize money. Sponsored by Cliffs Natural Resources

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Carolans Irish Cream 700ml.....	<b>\$19.99</b>	Carlton Cold Stubbies 24s.....	<b>\$34.99</b>
Midori 500ml range.....	<b>\$24.99</b>	Heineken Stubbies 24s.....	<b>\$44.99</b>
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Penfolds Koonunga Hill Wine Range.....	<b>\$11.99</b>	Cascade Premium Light Stubbies 24s.....	<b>\$31.99</b>

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