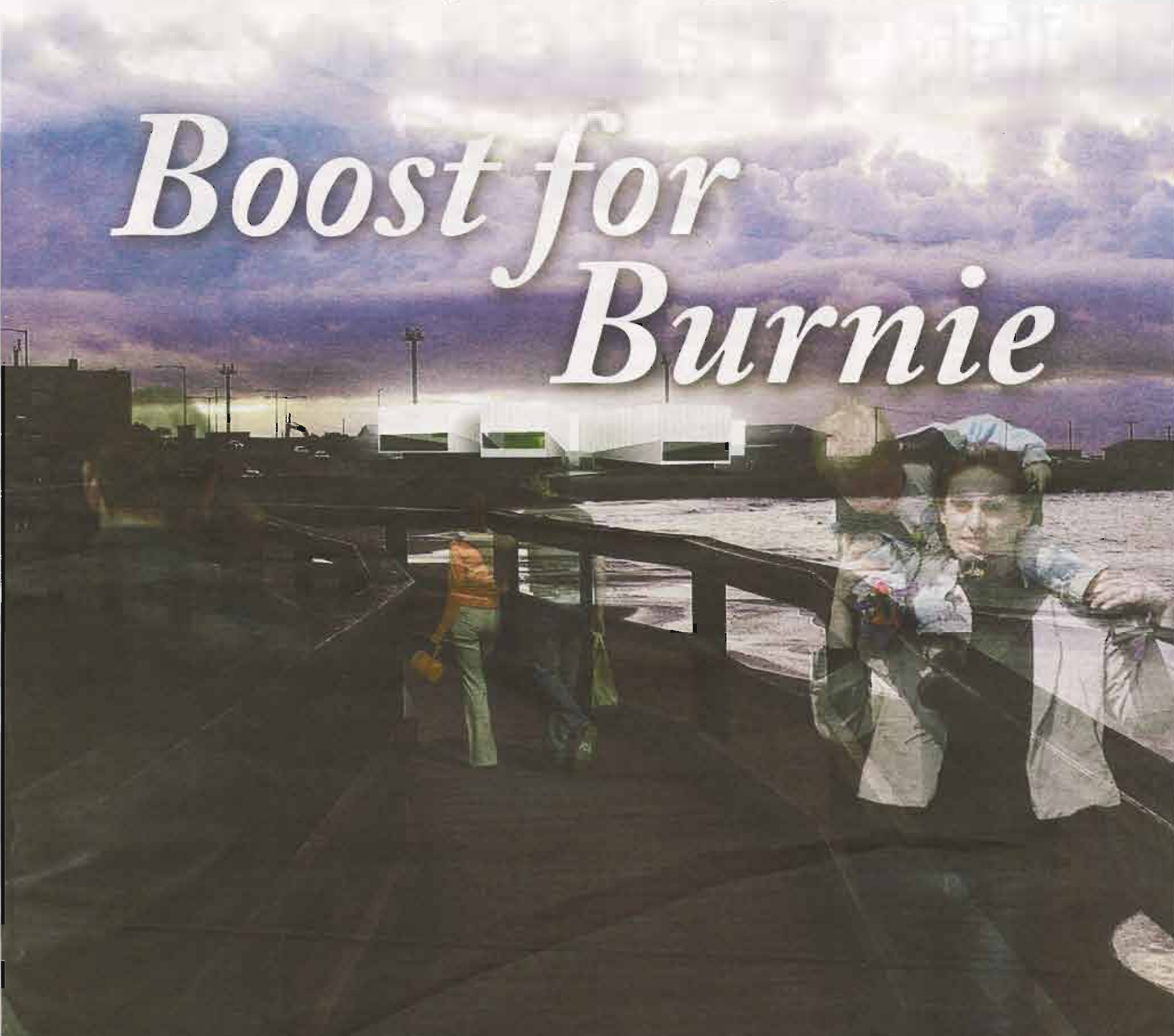


# Explore

your lifestyle guide

## Boost for Burnie



Burnie's waterfront is set to be transformed with the construction of a \$5.35 million Maker's Workshop on land at the end of West Beach. It will be home to the Visitor Information Centre, Creative Paper, a cafe, art gallery and revolving displays from the Pioneer Village Museum. It will be complemented by a revamped boardwalk - connecting it to the renovated surf club - and the conversion of North Terrace to a one-way street with wide footpaths.

Read BEN WILD'S report on Page 38

*An artist's impression of the planned boardwalk and Maker's Workshop at Burnie*

*Tourism, food, wine and health*

## Explore tourism

*Burnie's latest development has the Mayor singing its praises*

# Workshop makers triumph

By BEN WILD

**B**URNIE will soon have a tourism hub that Mayor Alwyn Boyd believes will attract visitors like moths to a flame.

Construction has started on the \$5.35 million Maker's Workshop that will perch on land at the end of West Beach.

Enclosed in a skin of translucent material, the building is of a strikingly modern design and will house the Visitor Information Centre, Creative Paper, a cafe, art gallery and revolving displays from the Pioneer Village Museum.

From above the building looks like a stylised hand, with five fingers radiating out from a central space, each housing separate functions.

Ald. Boyd peppers his sentences with words like "iconic", "spectacular" and "special" when he talks about the project.

"This will be an icon for Burnie. We wanted something special," he said. "It has to be right."

The need for something out of the ordinary grew out of the history of the city's plans for a significant tourism hub on the site.

Work had begun to convert one of the city's most loved and most prominent buildings, the former Burnie High School and Adult Education building, to that end when it was devastated by fire in April 2007.

The heritage listed building was completely destroyed. Its replacement is unabashedly modern.

Hobart and Sydney-based architecture firm Terroir sees it as a major project for their firm and for the State.

"When completed the project should stand as the fullest exemplar yet of Terroir's ambition to provide places of cultural



**Burnie Mayor Alwyn Boyd on the site of the new \$5.35 million Maker's Workshop.**

Picture: PETER LORD

consequence," the firm has written on its website. The firm described the building as "a lighthouse of sorts, perched on the western headland above the beach, a sentinel both for passing ships and for the locals whom we hope will make this the living room of the city".

Ald. Boyd said it was an important piece of the city's plans to reinvent its waterfront.

The process began with the award-winning renovation of the surf club and will continue with the Maker's Workshop and a revamped boardwalk between the two.

Work is also continuing on the conversion of North Terrace to a one-way street with wide footpaths so the pubs and cafes can set up outside.

The Maker's Workshop is due to be finished in October.

*“Burnie Mayor Alwyn Boyd peppers his sentences with words like “iconic”, “spectacular” and “special” when he talks about the project.*