

MEDIA RELEASE

Adrian Pederick MP JP

Member for Hammond
**Shadow Minister for
The River Murray - Forests
Agriculture, Food and Fisheries**

Monday September 21, 2009

Jones Lookout pays tribute to an extraordinary local family

Against a backdrop of the nation's most important river in crisis, the acknowledgement of one of its greatest champions was a memorable moment.

Last Saturday on the cliff-top at Clayton Bay overlooking the River Murray, a large crowd was present to pay tribute to the Jones family, long time residents of the district.

With the assistance of Alexandrina Council, SA Water, Country Arts SA and numerous other organisations and individuals, a decommissioned water tower has been converted into a lookout above the river.

'The 'Jones Lookout' is sure to become a popular and prominent landmark overlooking one of the river's final reaches to Goolwa and the sea,' said local MP and Shadow Minister for the River Murray Adrian Pederick, who had the pleasure of explaining just what the Jones family had done for the river and the region.

As a fourth generation lakes fisherman and patriarch of a large and committed family, Henry Jones has become a familiar face fighting for the river's survival.

After describing the endless list of the family's involvements and achievements, Mr Pederick said the Jones family's influence spread far and wide. He said Henry and wife Gloria were well known at all levels; local, state, national and international.

Speaking after the official ceremony, Mr Pederick said, 'These people know and treasure the river as well as anyone. It is ironic that, being at the end of the system, they and their community are among the first to suffer the consequences of the dire state of the river.'

'But they haven't given up. They and their community continue to fight to save all that can be saved of one of Australia's most impressive and important eco-systems. I admire their commitment and resilience.'

'The Jones Lookout is a fitting tribute to this remarkable family and stands as a permanent reminder of their commitment to the region.'

Caption:

From left; Henry and Gloria Jones with local MP Adrian Pederick at the opening of the 'Jones Lookout'.