

Business

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New owners at the helm

Reef Marine pair now get some free time

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IF YOU love fishing, you've probably been to Reef Marine.

The long-standing Mackay business has been the go-to shop for fishers since 1967, selling new and used boats, motors, trailers and an extensive range of parts and accessories.

Owners Brett Griffin and Greg Camilleri have put their heart and soul into the business for the past 25 years, but now it is time for someone else to take the helm.

Andrew Camilleri and his wife Marguerite will now steer the ship, and Mr Griffin said he couldn't be happier.

"I think Andrew will bring some new ideas and fresh enthusiasm to the job," he said.

"He's younger and that will be reflected in the business."

Andrew Camilleri said he had always been a Reef Marine customer and was excited to provide great service to the people of Mackay.

"When you look at our market, Mackay has one of the largest number of boat registrations in the state," he said.

"We've got the reef, islands and dams. Our lifestyle revolves around the outdoors."

"This business is about enabling people to live that outdoor lifestyle."

"I'm a keen fisherman myself and I think I can give quality advice to customers."

Andrew previously worked on his parents' farm and transitioned to his new role in February.

"I am a motor mechanic by trade and worked my way up to project manager out at the mines," he said.

"But when my father passed away, I left my job in the mines and worked on the cane farm



THE TEAM: Andrew Camilleri and his wife Marguerite Camilleri (front) with Greg Camilleri (back left) and Brett Griffin (back right) in front of the Reef Marine store in Mackay.

Photo: Rainee Shepperson

for about 10 years.

"I love the cane farm and the industry, but I'm very passionate about fishing and felt like it was the right time for a change."

Reef Marine currently employs about 15 staff members and has served generations of customers.

Mr Griffin said his relationship with customers was what he was most proud of.

"Someone's granddad might have bought a brand new boat from us in the 70s and we have re-powered that boat three or four times over the years," he said.

"My father built rapport

"I THINK ANDREW HAS A LOT OF ENTHUSIASM AND WILL GO A LONG WAY."

GREG CAMILLERI

with our customers and I have carried on that legacy with their children.

"Some of our staff have worked here for more than 10 years so we know what we are talking about."

"At the end of the day, people want service, we are not all about selling a product - we also want to have a chat and build that relationship."

Although he loves his job, Mr Griffin said it was "time for

a sea change" after 25 years in retail.

He plans to spend more time on his hobbies and maybe try something new.

"I've got a car to do up and a few other projects to work on," he said.

"I plan to go fishing, work on the farm and spend time with my wife, Susan, and our three kids."

Fellow business director Greg Camilleri has worked at

Reef Marine for the past 38 years.

He started his apprenticeship with the business at just 16-years-old.

"I was a light marine engine technician and I loved fishing," he said.

"The industry was perfect for me because I loved boating and I was out on the water every second weekend."

"At this stage I will be taking a step back from the business and going on a short holiday before returning to work three days a week."

Reef Marine is at 26 Prospect St, Mackay.



BEST: Parts manager Jarrod Adams, service manager Jayme Wilson, sales manager Tim Overall and general manager John Nash. Photo: Contributed.

Nissan dealership recognised

A MACKAY business has been recognised as one of Australia's best, and not for the first time.

North Jacklin has been named the provincial winner of the Nissan Australia global award.

It is the third year in a row the business has received the title.

General manager John Nash said sales and service were the two key reasons for the win.

"All Nissan dealers have targets in place for sales and service, and we always go above those targets," he said.

"We've been in Mackay a long time so we've built up a reputation as a provider of great service."

"We have a strong management team and longevity of staff, which makes a difference."

Mr Nash said North Jacklin sold an average of 50 new Nissan cars each month, and was one of the highest sellers in Queensland.

"We normally sit around third in the state," he said.

The award was a "great achievement", Mr Nash said.

"It's not the easiest award to win because it is Australia wide, so we are very proud," he said.

"We plan to try and win four years in a row, our goal is to keep improving."

Nissan is North Jacklin's highest selling brand, but the business stocks Mitsubishi, Subaru, Honda and Mercedes.

Kevin's Place - For Sale.

All the Hard Work is Done - Just Walk in and Take Over.
Lease F/ 79 Victoria Street, Mackay.

For Sale

Acclaimed Asian cuisine

Fully operational WIWO business

High levels of custom

Serving the public for over 15 years

Includes popular footpath dining

Busy CBD location

A truly rare opportunity now exists with Mackay diners classing this leasehold restaurant one of the most highly regarded within the city. Its authentic Singaporean cuisine has proven popular with the business having been operational for over 15 years now. Good profit levels currently exist.

For more information and discussion
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