

POCKET ROCKET WINS ON NATIONAL STAGE



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SQUATTER'S RIGHTS

**EVICTION
AVOIDED
BY LAST
MINUTE
DONORS**



By Genevieve Cooper

Finding two last-minute donors to pay nearly \$40,000 in unpaid council rates to forestall his possible eviction was an act of “destiny”, according to Iain Herridge, Carey Gully’s high profile squatter.

With only a little over \$3000 raised on an internet crowdfunding site to meet the debt to allow him to remain living in the house – which has no known inheritors – Mr Herridge said he had all but “chucked in the towel” before last week’s auction by the Adelaide Hills Council to recover its rates.

But the day before the sale Queensland professional poker player Luke MacDonald – unknown to Mr Herridge – and another interstate benefactor, each agreed to put up \$19,000. The men were inspired by Mr Herridge’s story which screened on Channel 10’s current affair program *The Project*.

“I was blown away,” Mr Herridge said of the rescue, which allows the 51-year-old to continue his bid to acquire the old cottage on Rangeview Road through the legal principle of adverse possession.

“It was coming down to the wire,” he said. “It was fate, it was destiny.”

Mr Herridge, an actor, filmmaker and multi-media artist, wants to make the 1.5ha deceased estate available to artists for plays, music recitals and painting.

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Two benefactors have donated nearly \$40,000 to pay a council rate debt, enabling Iain Herridge to continue his bid to acquire a Carey Gully deceased estate through the principle of adverse possession.

CROWDFUNDING PLAN FOR PLAZA

INVESTORS NEEDED TO DEVELOP TOWN SQUARE

By Melissa Keogh

A \$113m crowdfunding campaign will be pitched to investors to help secure the last block of undeveloped land in Mt Barker’s CBD and build a town square with a nine-storey hotel and apartments.

The Mt Barker and District Residents’ Association has launched the campaign managed by fractional property investment firm DomaCom, which is also crowdfunding for the acquisition of the Kidman cattle properties in outback Australia.

Association treasurer Douglas McCarty said the campaign could draw interest from both local and

overseas investors and, if all goes to plan, the town square could be built in the next five years.

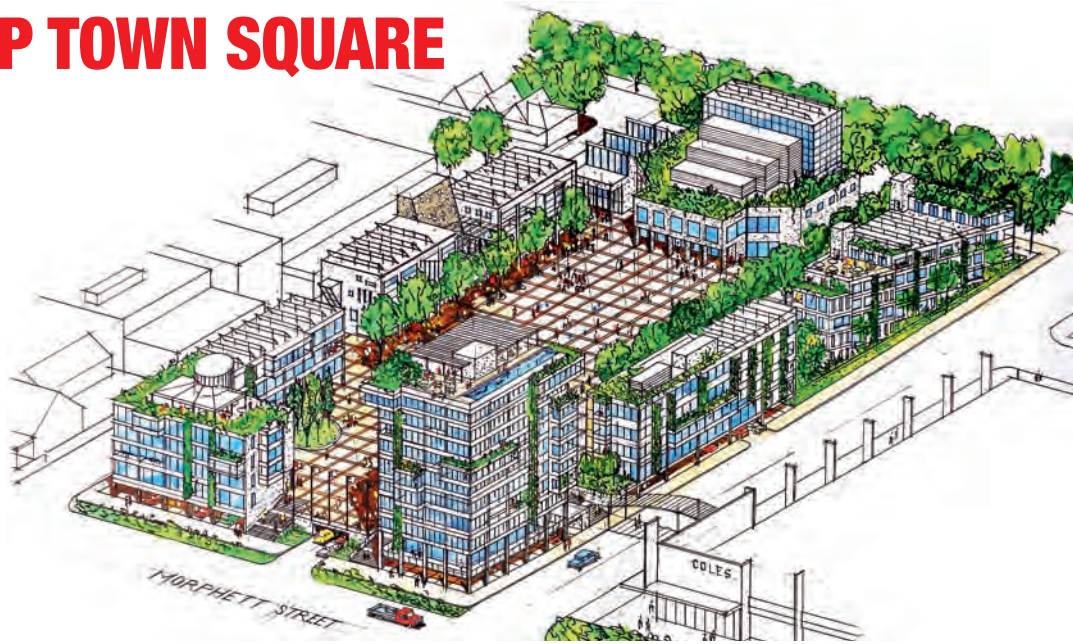
Earlier this year local architect Geof Nairn released a \$100m vision for the site, which includes an arts centre, law court, apartments, a science and art gallery and government buildings.

But Mr McCarty, who has a background in civil engineering, said the first step was to secure the land, bordered by Morphett Street and Druids Avenue, from its owner Woolworths.

The land is believed to be worth in excess of \$10m.

“The first stage is to acquire the land and if we don’t it’s going to be impossible to get the town square,” Mr McCarty said.

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A \$113m crowdfunding campaign has been launched to secure the last block of vacant land in Mt Barker’s CBD and build a town square designed by prominent architect Geof Nairn.

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