HAMPTON

Teenager takes on icy triple

PLAN TO TACKLE POLAR TREKS

Jon Andrews

AN ICE-COOL Hampton teenager is on a mission to become the youngest person to complete one of the world's toughest challenges.

Fourteen-year-old Jade Hameister is taking on the Polar Hat-Trick – North Pole, Greenland and South Pole.

In the first of three epic expeditions, next month she will spend 21 days trekking 225km on skis across the treacherous floating ice of the Arctic Ocean to the North Pole.

Accompanying Jade will be her father Paul, who has climbed Mt Everest, polar guide Eric Philips, and National Geographic cinematographer and director Petter Nyquist.

She will then move on to the Greenland Crossing in April next year, before ending in the South Pole in the summer of 2017.

Totalling almost four months on skis, she will be dragging a very heavy sled in ultra-cold conditions and facing risks including thin ice and polar bears.

"I'm so excited, I've trained so hard for this and it has been such a big build-up," Jade said.

"I really want to influence teenage girls to become fit, healthy and happy with who they are and encourage them to aspire and work hard to become the person they want to be."

Mr Hameister said his daughter was a pretty unique 14-year-old.

"She has always been very independent, driven, active and passionate about health and fitness," Mr Hameister said.

"I have no doubt she can do this."

The North Pole challenge will be filmed for a National Geographic documentary, expected to air in July.

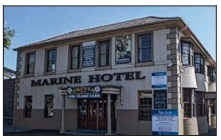
Do you know of a Bayslider doing something extraordinary? Tell us via bayside@leadernewspapers.com.au

Jade Hameister is embarking on a world-first polar trek. Picture: PAUL HAMEISTER

BRIGHTON

Beer will flow even if the land gets sold

Jon Andrews



MARINE Hotel operator Craig McDonald has guaranteed the Brighton pub will not be closing its doors.

Mr McDonald said he had a lease for 27 years to run the New St venue.

He said the April 7 auction referred to in last week's *Bayside Leader* would not result in the pub closing.

Mr McDonald said he will retain the rights to continue operating it as a hotel regardless of who bought the land.

"I will be running it as an ongoing concern," Mr McDonald said.

"We are not going anywhere. I'm not a developer, I'm a hotelier with other hotels as well.

"For me it is a long-term operation and I guarantee we will be open (as a hotel) for another 27 years."

He said it was a profitable concern because of their pokies.

The selling agents said they have had more than 200 inquiries.

The auction is on Thursday, April 7 at noon.

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