

ADVERTISEMENT



Planning Minister Justin Madden meets with NMA President Michael Young after a recent visit to the area

Planning minister "seeing stars"

The Nillumbik Mudbrick Association was delighted when Justin Madden got the daunting task of becoming the States new Planning Minister. Before politics, Minister Madden was an Architect and with such a practical background it could be easily assumed that he would contribute positively to the issue of Energy Rating of new houses.

On a recent visit to Eltham, the Home of Mudbrick building, he was quick to praise not only the beauty of Mudbrick but also acknowledged the comfortable feel that a Mudbrick house generates.

"They're beautiful homes, and its fantastic to see that a well designed 'Muddy' gets rewarded with 5 stars". Mr. Madden says Nillumbik is renowned for its alternative building, and Mudbrick construction is viewed widely as the most ecologically

sustainable building method available. It is only right that a modern computer program be developed to reflect this. Now in its fifth version, the "First Rate" Five Star Assessment Program, gives well designed mud brick homes a big tick of approval.

NMA Inc. President and Nillumbik Shire Councilor Michael Young endorsed Madden's visit. "It is great to see Justin taking a hands-on approach and throwing his weight behind what is a great local industry. People want environmentally friendly and they want a high Star rating; These homes are leading the way in thermal efficiency and we can achieve 6 stars or better". Mr. Young says.

For more information visit :
www.mudbrick.org.au