



POPULAR SITE: Hugh, 10, and Lacey Barnicoat, 7, of Homestead enjoy a day out at Jezzine Barracks.

Picture: WESLEY MONTIS

## Jezzine Barracks redevelopment collects awards

**SAMANTHA HEALY**

TOWNSVILLE'S newest public playground has taken out another award, and was named one of Queensland's best developments for 2014.

The \$40 million Jezzine Barracks, which opened to the public in April, was declared the winner in the Excellence

in Sustainable Development Award for Retail, Commercial and Public Use category at the UDIA Queensland Awards in Brisbane.

Jezzine Barracks project manager Robert Kent said Jezzine was an important development for Townsville, and was jointly funded by the federal and state governments and the Townsville City Council.

"The project plays a pivotal role in our tourism growth and historic remembrance for the area," he said.

"It has been a long road, but the close working effort between the military and traditional owner advisory groups, the Community Trust, PLACE Design Group and the project team has resulted in a fantastic outcome, and this award is testament to this."

The project was a collaboration between architects, COX and TSA, PLACE Design Group, Thinc and the Jezzine Barracks Community Trust.

Jezzine Barracks was also awarded a "Great Place" award at the PIA Queensland Awards earlier this month.

The project is also a finalist in the PIA Planning Excellence Awards and UDIA Awards for Excellence.

men will face a committal hearing in February. Mark Anthony Smith, 31, is charged with the April murder of 21-year-old Bradley Lester in a CBD carpark. Legal Aid solicitor Helen Armitage appeared before Townsville Magistrate's Court yesterday and said they expected it to take no more than two days for committal but that preliminary discussions with the prosecution hadn't happened yet. But Magistrate Ross Mack allocated three days, saying an extra day would be better. "Given it's a murder charge, something's going to go wrong," he said.

## Rain relief on the way

TODAY could bring some relief to sticky conditions with the Bureau of Meteorology predicting showers and a possible storm for Townsville.

The bureau has said there's an 80 per cent chance of showers in the morning and afternoon with a possible a thunderstorm.

So far Townsville has had just 19mm of rain for the month, down from the mean November rainfall of 60mm.

The day also promises north-easterly winds from 25 to 35km/h in the morning and a high fire risk.

Out west at Mount Isa, there's a medium chance of showers to follow up on a burst of rain in the city yesterday afternoon.