



Winery's plans to share bounty

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GRAEME PHILLIPS | June 28, 2011 02.07pm

STEVE Lubiana has announced the immediate construction of a new cellar door, tasting room and vineyard cafe next to his existing winery overlooking the Derwent at Granton.

He says formal approval has been given to the \$600,000 project by the Derwent Valley Council. Site works will commence immediately, with the likelihood that the new purpose-built facilities will be ready for operation in late 2012.

There will be a new vineyard cellar door wine-tasting and sales facility, and a small vineyard cafe seating about 40 with a wood-fired oven and, under the guidance of chef Jo Cook, serving a range of Italian-inspired snacks and simple meals for lunch.



The two-storey Tuscan-style facility will have a number of eco-friendly innovations, and will offer visitors panoramic views of the Granton site and the nearby Derwent River.

An on-site orchard, vegetable garden and olive grove will supply fresh, biodynamically grown produce to the vineyard cafe, while any remaining needs, Steve said, would be sourced from local producers using sustainable production methods.

Steve said the company had been operating a small orchard and vegetable garden since July 2010. These are being managed by Patrick Johnston, a former agronomist, vegetable export manager and restaurateur and the man responsible for the establishment of Tasmania's first Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden.

"We're really looking forward to being able to offer visitors the same spectacular views and fresh, locally grown Tasmanian produce our family is able to enjoy here every day," he added.

"We've only just recently completed a 7ha vineyard expansion program and by the time our new building developments are in full operation, we expect visitors will be blown away by the simple, natural beauty of our gardens, orchards and 25ha biodynamic vineyard.

Further down the track, he said, he had plans for an underground sparkling wine cave, a small distillery and a dedicated work space for an artisan cheese maker.