



**ON DECK:** Michael Klim aims to use his swimming experience to design a multi-purpose fitness area for the Watson Apartments.

**Picture:** DAVID CRONIN

## ... diving head first into hotel pool design

**TOM DOUGHERTY**  
REAL ESTATE REPORTER

OLYMPIC gold medal-winning swimmer Michael Klim will dive into a project of a different kind when he helps design the pool and deck area of the Watson Apartments and Hotel development at Walkerville.

To be built on level two of the redevelopment of the former Department of Transport building on Walkerville Tce, the 25m-long pool will form part of the project's strong focus on fitness.

Klim - who owns an apartment in The Watson's sister hotel, The Olsen, in Melbourne - said the Walkerville pool's design was almost

finalised and he couldn't wait to swim the first lap.

"Having the sporting experience, I spoke to the guys and thought I could add value to designing a pool that is perfect for an active lifestyle and could also be used for multiple purposes," he said.

"My input is from experience and I have used hundreds of pools in my time."

The dual relay gold-medallist at the Sydney 2000 Olympics said the fitness area, gym and pool ticked a lot of boxes for people wanting to live a healthy lifestyle.

"This one has to be multi-functional - it has to be a lap swimming pool and it has to be able to be used for recre-

ation by residents that just want to relax and cool off," he said.

"The depth is important, the deck space and the acoustics have to be taken into account.

"The pool and gym is super important - the people who will be moving into The Watson are now very much into an active, healthy lifestyle."

Asian Pacific Group chief executive officer Will Deague said the company was delighted to have the Olympian on the project team for the development of the \$120 million project.

"Michael has enjoyed a long relationship with Art

Series Hotels through his frequent stays at The Olsen and has become an unofficial and highly valued ambassador," Mr Deague said.

"Adding Michael's expertise to the team will further add to the high quality of the project, which is shaping up to be the most unique and stylish apartment building and boutique hotel in South Australia."

Apartments go on sale to the public from tomorrow, prices starting at \$270,000 for a one-bedroom apartment and a two bedroom apartment from \$360,000.

Klim's skincare range - Milk & Co - will also feature in The Watson's hotel rooms.

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