



Auction Idol Competition



The 2007 Auction Idols Competition, as part of the Messenger Newspapers~Adelaide Bank Golden Gavel Competition, has kicked off with a bang with students from across Adelaide now being coached by some of our most experienced auctioneers. Our 2006 Australasian finalist, Phil Harris, is mentoring the students from Westminster College and as part of the ongoing

publicity machine Phil had one of his students, Richard Strapps, along with Anthony Toop and Golden Gavel Trustee Lindsay Warner appear on the afternoon radio show 5AA with Amanda Blair.

Richard put on a sterling performance as he conducted his first-ever auction "live and on air" to the accolades of all present and thousands of listening public. Richard's experience as a debater and would you believe, singer with a jazz band, has given him a strong foundation for being upfront as an auctioneer.

Richard and Phil also appeared at the Fringe Festival and conducted a charity

auction at an event in Rundle Street in front of approximately 250 people.

As ongoing promotion for this event, Lindsay Warner will also be appearing at the Fringe with two of his Auction Idols, Zac Reveruzzi and Tom Ratcliffe, both from Rostrevor College, to again conduct a charity auction in front of a sell-out audience.

The 2007 Auction Idols Competition heats will take place on Tuesday 1st May 2007 in the marquee on the lawns of Hindmarsh Square in front of Adelaide Bank. The top three students will then compete for the inaugural Championship trophy on Friday 18th May at the Adelaide Convention Centre.

If you would like further information on this exciting and ground breaking Auction Idols Competition please contact Golden Gavel Trustee Lindsay Warner on 0414 627 888. ●

New Vice-President for Society



Wally Karpiuk (left), sole director of two highly successful Century 21 real estate agencies in the north-eastern suburbs, has been elected the new vice-president of the

Society of Auctioneers & Appraisers (SA). A member of the Society for the past 22 years, Mr Karpiuk was made a member of the Board late last year and will take up his new post alongside recently elected President, Colin Hocking.

Mr Karpiuk runs two of Adelaide's top real estate agencies – Century 21 The Lakes at Mawson Lakes and Century 21 Golden Estates at Surrey Downs – and is one of the organisation's most experienced operators in South Australia.

Mr Karpiuk started his career 35 years ago and has held senior management positions within the industry for the past

two decades.

A licensed real estate agent and talented auctioneer, Mr Karpiuk is passionate about working to further strengthen the auction market across all areas of business.

"From years of personal experience I know that buying and selling real estate through the auction market paves the way for honest competition and the best possible outcomes for all parties," he said.

"It's the same scenario whether you're selling property or vehicles, fine art, wine, livestock or plant equipment.

"I'm looking forward to working with Colin and the rest of the Society Board to ensure the auction industry in South Australia and across the country remains healthy and buoyant."

Mr Hocking, who was elected President of the Society late last year for 2006-2007, has welcomed the experience and enthusiasm Mr Karpiuk will bring to his new role.

"Wally enjoys a well deserved reputation

as an astute businessman and a talented auctioneer and supporter of the auction industry itself," Mr Hocking said.

"The Society is lucky to have access to his contact and expertise over the next two years". ●

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Building Update



by ROBERT HARDING (HIA)

Poor Housing Affordability Slows Population Growth in SA

Despite South Australia's economic competitiveness being compromised by drought, an appreciating Australian dollar, and record low affordability, growth in overseas migration has provided a welcome boost to South Australia's housing industry.

Commenting today on the release of HIA's annual *Population and Residential Building Hotspots* publication, Australia's peak building industry body HIA said South Australia 'has shown robust population growth over the 2005/06 year.

HIA's Regional Director South Australia, Mr Robert Harding, noted that over 2005/06, South Australia gained 9,500 people through net overseas migration but lost 2,900 people through net interstate migration, causing population growth to come in at 0.9 per cent over the financial year, compared to 1.3 per cent for Australia as a whole.

"Record low housing affordability in Sydney has forced an increasing number of first home buyers to relocate interstate, which in many cases has caused these people to give up their current jobs in the hope of finding a home to start a family," Mr Harding said.

"Our analysis of population and residential building activity also shows that most of the building work is concentrated in Adelaide, with three building and population 'hotspots' located in the metropolitan area."

SA Building and Population Hotspots**

**SLAs with in excess of \$50 million in residential building work approved in 2006 and with an annual population growth rate in excess of the national average

Statistical Local Area	Statistical Division	Residential Building Approved, 2006, (\$000)	Annual Population Growth Rate (%)
1 Salisbury (C) Bal	Adelaide	118,593	13.3
2 Onkaparinga (C) - South Coast	Adelaide	76,177	4.2
3 Port Adel. Enfield (C) - East	Adelaide	57,026	2.7
4 Victor Harbor (C)	Outer Adelaide	63,782	1.4

The Statistical Local Area of Salisbury (C) led the state's population growth in 2005/06. The population growth in this area was 13.3 per cent, and the value of residential building work approved was well above the \$50 million threshold over the 2006 calendar year.

Victor Harbour (C) was the strongest Statistical Local Area outside of Adelaide. Population growth in the Victor Harbour area was 1.4 per cent, and the value of work done was in excess of \$50 million.

For a copy of the full 80 page HIA Population and Residential Building Hotspots report please contact Kirsten Lewis on (02) 6245 1393.

For further information on this release, please contact: Robert Harding, HIA Regional Director, South Australia Phone 0408 084 768. ●

Lost Property goes on Web Auction

from *St Albans Observer, St Albans, England, UK*

by SALLY-ANNE JOHNSON

Unclaimed property handed into police stations is now being sold off in internet auctions, with proceeds going to local charities and organisations. Bumblebee Auctions went live on Monday following a successful nine-month trial in Welwyn Hatfield. The scheme was developed by police in Surrey before being picked up by Hertfordshire Constabulary and works in the same way as auction site eBay.

Items such as bicycles, watches, computer games consoles, DVDs and jewellery are all up for sale on the site. The website replaces the old police system of selling items via public auction houses. Is this a sign of the future? ●

New Feature

To find out a bit about some of our successful and valued members who prefer to stay a little more off the radar, tune into next edition's new feature "From the Field: Introducing . . ." ●

General

Auctioneers in India



Rudyard Kipling's Adelaide haunt, the Bombay Bicycle Club at Bowden was the venue for the Society's General Auction get-together where healthy banter

regarding profile and recognition for general auctioneers and web based advertising as it affects the general auction fraternity was fused with cold Coopers. Our general auctioneers are the quiet achievers generating turnover of millions of dollars of stock annually. ●



The Society knows how to party!

by BRIDGET VAN HEURCK, LATERAL COMMUNICATIONS

A fun night was had by all at the launch of the Messenger Newspapers~Adelaide Bank 2007 Festival of Auction and the release of the Inaugural School's Auction Idol Competition on 27 February at the Festival Theatre. Attended by more than 120 Members, Sponsors and their guests, the drink flowed freely; speeches were short and the Sponsors proud and genuinely enthusiastic to be associated with such an innovative and forward-thinking Society. Any lulls in conversation – and there weren't too many – were filled by the smooth harmonies of popular music duo, Misjif. Congratulations to party organizer, Wally Karpiuk, for another hugely enjoyable bash. ●



Notice to Real Estate Auctioneers

We have updated our Terms and Conditions of Sale by adding two clauses, namely:

Legal Age to Purchase

A person who wishes to bid and purchase a property at auction must be at least 18 years of age.

Foreign Investor

A person who wishes to purchase a property must be an Australian National or have the appropriate Foreign Investment Review Board approval prior to auction.

Vale Bruce Messer!



Alwyn Bruce Messer, a stalwart Member of the Society in the early days, died in Coffs Harbour last Thursday morning (15th March) at 81 years of age.

Bruce was a Committee Member of the Society (Committee Meetings were held at his office of Jackman and Treloar at Greenhill Road). He was one of Adelaide's leading flamboyant Auctioneers, a President of the Real Estate Institute and a very vital, successful man who could be a bit of a wag when the need arose. Condolences to Jeannie. May he rest in peace. ●

Coming Events

Messenger Newspapers~ Adelaide Bank Golden Gavel

- 1 May** Schools Idol Finals
- 2 May** Senior & Novice Real Estate
- 3 May** General Auctioneer
- 18 May** Gala Dinner
- 24 & 25 May** Conduct Property Sale by Auction

Congratulations to Board Member Richard Thwaites



Our congratulations go to Richard Thwaites of L.J. Hooker Kensington on the momentous achievement of 20 years with L.J. Hooker.

Richard is the current holder of the Auction Principal Marketer of the Year with the Society of Auctioneers and Appraisers (SA) and has been a finalist in the Golden Gavel Auction Competition for the past two years. Richard's office currently employs 16 staff incorporating property management and residential and commercial sales.

Richard said "After 20 years with L.J. Hooker it is still fun and I enjoy the challenge and satisfaction of assisting my staff grow in knowledge and experience. The office is predominantly an auction office with the majority of property sales occurring at auction and last year achieving a clearance rate of over 86%. ●

A Snapshot from the Life of a General Auctioneer



Andrew Maros of Mason Gray Strange gives an insight into his hectic schedule.

A general auctioneer is just that. "General" really meaning that diversity is the key component in the multiple industry auctions conducted at many locations in a short time-frame. No two days are even remotely

similar considering the broad spectrum of clients and their particular situations. This creates the ingredients for an organisational nightmare but, thankfully, the staff of Mason Gray Strange Auctions are able to accommodate the varied tasks of each day.

The build-up to an auction can create 200 or more enquires depending on the type of sale, with the process taking an average of 3 weeks from start to finish. The auction itself can include from 100 to 1000 lots and can require organising the removal of stock, making our dedicated staff the most valuable part of the business!

During March I was involved in nine on-site auctions including businesses as diverse as a city restaurant, a prawn trawling operation in Darwin and a vintage tractor collection at Tanunda, in addition to the regular auctions at our Mason Gray Strange auction complex at Kilkenny South Australia.

Now you may ask "What about Sundays?" and I would reply "There is another obsession in my life – car racing in my 600 HP improved production Chrysler Valiant. This is how I relax, with the bonus being you can't answer the phone on the track!" ●

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