

CAIRNS

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LIVING IN PARADISE

The June/July issue of Australian Traveller published Tripadvisor's Top 100 destinations in the world. Coming in as Australia's highest-ranked at No. 22 is Sydney, followed by our very own piece of paradise, Cairns at No. 23.

Byron Bay came in at 30; popular Port Douglas was at No.60 well ahead of Noosa at No. 78. Milford Sound, NZ, made No.1 on the list, while Monterey, California, scraped in at 100. See the full list at www.tripadvisor.com

PROPERTY INVESTORS IN FOR A LEG UP

Things are looking positive for property investors since the release of the latest Federal Budget, but only if they target the cheaper end of the rental market. The government has launched a \$623 million fund to boost the supply of rental housing for poorer households by an extra 50,000 homes. To encourage cheaper private rentals, large

institutional property investors have been offered incentives of up to \$60,000 a home. Although this scheme does not apply to direct mum and dad investors, the incentives could boost returns for large scale property developers. In turn, people investing in these companies and institutions stand to benefit.



PORT DOUGLAS

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CARNIVALE FUN

The fifteenth Reef and Rainforest Carnivale parade was a huge success with 49 floats taking to the streets to “bring the country to the coast”. Carnivale organisers, Managing Australia Destinations predicted around 60,000 visitors to Port Douglas for the 10 day festival this year and the increase in accomodation bookings suggests that Carnivale has been better than last year.



THE LAST WORD

As we move into the realms of uncertainty in the global credit market and with no clear leadership being shown from the new federal government in understanding and combating inflation, it would appear inevitable that another rate rise is around corner. If it was not so serious it would almost be humorous that the Labour Party’s major push in the election campaign was



Alex Caracao



Drew Pittman



Stephen Murphy

CATCHING A FEW WITH THE COLDWELL BOYS

Coldwell Banker Australia’s CEO, Alex Caracao, was recently in town for a deep sea fishing expedition with the Coldwell Banker Barrier Reef

and had perfect weather all day long. The judge’s decision still hasn’t come through on the biggest catch of the day, it was a very close call between Stephen and Drew who both caught

decent sized Spanish mackerel. As the sun went down and tales were told it came to light that Alex actually hooked the biggest fish, but unfortunately it was ‘the one that got away’.

to assist working families – at this stage they have done the reverse. Amazing how history tends to repeat itself.

As the credit market gets tougher, it is more important than ever for young people to ensure that they maintain a good credit rating – don’t let an electricity bill or phone bill be forgotten about, banks are becoming much more stringent on their lending criteria a good credit rating is

imperative.

With ever increasing uncertainty in the property market – we see the market switching from a very strong sellers market to a more neutral if not buyers market. We are seeing cashed up buyers feeding on vulnerable vendors. Now is an even more important time if you are considering selling to look for a professional agency to manage your sale.