



THE GOOD WOOD

HIGHLIGHTS

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The Joke of the Week

Over dinner one evening Fred turned to a fellow diner and said, "They call this the Palms Hotel. I've been here three days and haven't seen a single palm within miles."

"Ar wait until you are leaving, the staff line up at the door" replied his new friend.

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AND A HAPPY, PROFITABLE, SAFE
NEW YEAR! . . . FROM ALL AT SID'S

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LB4 Lip Balm 4gm Stick	LB12 Lip Balm 12gm Stick	SS75C Sunscreen 75ml with Carabiner Clip	SS125 Sunscreen 125ml Tube	SS125HF Sunscreen 125ml Tube Hands Free	SS250 Sunscreen 250ml Bottle	SS500 Sunscreen 500ml Bottle	SS1 Sunscreen 1Litre Bottle	SS25 Sunscreen 2.5Litre Bottle
\$5.95 Special \$5.35	\$6.50 Special \$5.85	\$5.95 Special \$5.35	\$6.50 Special \$5.85	\$7.50 Special \$6.75	\$10.50 Special \$9.85	\$17.95 Special \$16.15	\$30.95 Special \$27.85	\$67.95 Special \$61.15



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The Good Wood Sid's Specials

top value

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3000 Nails

JAMBRO

3000 Nails

Natbuild EXCLUSIVE

Jambro
Trade quality
gun nails 34°
75mm bright.
Box of 3,000

\$29⁹⁰

TRADE SPECIAL

WORTH ONE ENTRY

Fuller
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CONSTRUCTION ADHESIVE

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ALL NEW
EASY TO GUN FORMULA

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Max Bond Triple
Pack (320g x 3)
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Equates to \$3.65 per tube
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BIG BUY

Office space for rent . Our Ipswich Branch has a large area of office space available. Details are available from Kathleen Campbell - SWITCH REALTY. Office number 3202 3877. m.0438 160 030 .Would suit a drawing office or the like.



From left to right CEO Ross Simon overseeing changes to the Toowoomba's Sid's Place Honour Board . Eddy Graafland Group Accountant (20 years) Dale Mutch — Timber Sheds (20 years) and Neville Scott - Moulding (15 years)

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

December 2011

I have just been flicking through previous December messages and I note that last December I was on a trip to Broome and back as the market had made a turn for the worse and I needed to rejuvenate my thinking. The December before that I was talking about the getting over from the effects of the GFC. Well here we are in 2011 and all I can honestly do is whinge about the terrible market and wonder when it is going to improve. It is definitely the worst downturn the company has experienced at least since 1995-1996. When is it going to improve I hear everybody saying. I must admit my crystal ball is a bit jaded at the moment from being kicked around but one thing I do know for certain, it will improve. It always does, just have to stick it out. [Please turn to page 4](#)

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What are the catalysts for improvement? I think interest rates have peaked and will either stay where they are or decline. The mining boom will have a positive flow on effect in South East Queensland, some areas a lot more than others. For instance many of the fly in fly out miners have their permanent residences in South East Queensland and their increased disposable income will feed into the rest of the community. Sorry in advance to all the labour and green voters out there but we will have elections early next year that will lead to more proactive governance of South East Queensland. Even though the climatic events of early this year were very extreme it did put an end to the drought and with farm incomes increasing again we should see a positive flow on to the rest of the community. I also believe with the volatility of the share market and the lower prices for houses that there will be a positive move by the investor market back into houses.

That's the good news, now for the whinging. I have talked before about the high cost of land in the house and land package. I think this is a continuing problem. One of the main reasons for the high cost of the land but also the houses is that according to the HIA taxes from both a local, state and federal level account for approximately 40% of the overall cost. This is absolutely outrageous. On top of all this, that with all this revenue the local, state and federal governments supposedly struggle to make ends meet. An old adage comes to mind, "they have killed the goose that lays the golden eggs". Though no doubt killed is an overstatement they have definitely clipped the geoses wings so it cannot fly. I believe the bureaucracy in this country is the one that needs its wings clipped and I sincerely hope that the incoming politicians have the insight to see this and have the guts to do something about it. Otherwise we may all be in for a number of very slow years with the housing shortage reaching critical proportions. Someone may be able to tell me if I am correct but as I understand it the wages and salaries in all government departments are levels say for arguments sake starting at level 1 then 2 then 3 etc. As I further understand it one of the main criteria of what level you are on is the number of employees that you are in charge of so it is in their best interests to convince department heads to employ more people and of course it is the departments heads to do so also. This is a recipe for ongoing increasing costs that the community as a whole has to bear in increased taxes and charges and a recipe for disaster like Greece is now facing. I know all of the above sounds all to simplistic to be true so I would love someone to enlighten me to the true facts. For instance can anyone tell me the number of employees in their local planning department now versus how many there were say 5 years ago. As we all know there is now private certification of building work so surely there must be a lot less; surely?

Anyway that is enough of my ranting. As I have stated in previous years Christmas is fast upon us and it is a time to remember the truly amazing things that have happened around you. I will always remember the awesome power of nature in the January floods and the many acts of heroism during it and the way people stood shoulder to shoulder cleaning up after it. Of course I will also remember the immense sadness of those that lost love ones and wish them all the happiness in the future. On a personal front my daughter came back from Cairns with my two grandchildren so I have had a chance to see their loving smiling faces more often. I recently came back from one of my stints at the coast and found our whole garden in bloom, what a beautiful sight; pure magic.