

Business

Chicken stock Collins float underwater >P38 Two-speed economy Luxu

CITY BEAT

WITH MITCH GAYNOR

Floating money

GIVEN the foreboding economic malaise, which will inevitably give way to much rocking in foetal positions, dark cupboards and heads in sand, etc, you would think anyone with spare cash floating around would have a good excuse to shove it fair under the mattress.

So it is something of a surprise to hear that local boat builder Riviera is pulling some rather large numbers at this week's Sydney International Boatshow.

Riviera CEO **John Anderson** said the company had sold nearly \$15 million worth of craft, including four of its new 53 Enclosed Flybridges, which retail for a little under \$200,000.

Buyers from as far afield as Russia were in the market, although a couple of unnamed buyers from Cairns and the Gold Coast also opened their wallets.

It's not a bad outcome for a company that had to sack staff wholesale and were teetering on the brink at the height of GFC Mark I.

Rally coming

ALSO frantically fanning those fading optimistic embers is RBS Morgans chief economist **Michael Knox**, who is taking a refreshing "the world is your oyster" attitude to the appar-

1944, when the survival rate of one tour was at best 50 per cent.

His exploits included the heroic allied raid of September 1944, which sank the German battleship *Tirpitz* while it was holed up in a Norwegian fiord.

Buckham's Lancaster from 463 squadron was the only RAAF bomber to take part.

He and his crew were eyewitnesses to the final stages of the giant warship capsizing as he flew at 20m above the water in the face of anti-aircraft fire to take confirming cinematography.

On the return run back to base in Scotland, and to avoid the enemy and bad weather, Buckham took his crew on a record 15½-hour flight via

that all-too-brief property utopia, Ireland.

The firm says it has already raised 370 million euros.

Tender wait

A FEW eyebrows have been raised over the shortlist for Suncorp's preferred new sites around the CBD. One of those just happens to be the dental hospital on Turbot St in the city, with Leighton listed as developer.

Given it's understood to be a state-owned property at present, a number of developers are wondering whether there will be a tender for the project - as is usually the case for surplus government land - or perhaps that's a tad old fashioned these days.

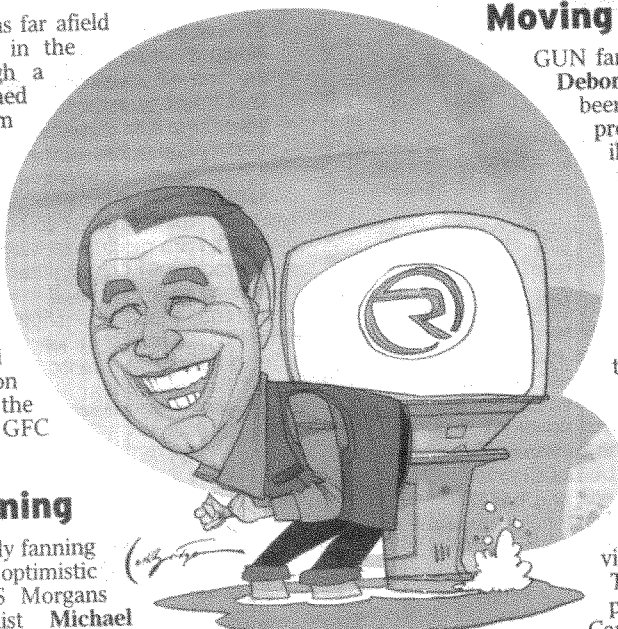
Moving up

GUN family law expert **Deborah Awyzio** has been nominated president at Family Law Practitioners Association (Qld).

Awyzio started her own firm, DA Family Lawyers, in 2005. It has since grown to a small team of lawyers as well as forging tie-ins with regional firms.

Joining Awyzio as vice-president is **Trent Waller**, a partner with Carne Reidy Herd

Lawyers.



HAPPY BOSS: Riviera chief executive John Anderson.

Airport

Extra staff pay off for Leighton

Tony Grant-Taylor

LEIGHTON Holdings expects it can now finish the Brisbane Airport Link project on time, reducing the loss it will carry on the troubled toll road.

The project will still cost Leighton dearly. But - having thrown extra resources at it, including lifting the project's peak workforce from an originally predicted 3000 to more than 4000 - Leighton now thinks it can complete the job on time, thus avoiding liquidated damages for late delivery.

Leighton yesterday reduced its forecast loss for 2010-11, after deciding its subsidiaries Thiess and John Holland would likely complete Airport Link in Brisbane on schedule, by June 30 next year.

"Airport Link is showing good progress, with the gross loss reduced from \$730 million to \$520 million as a result of no longer needing to provide for liquidated damages and time-related costs, which would otherwise have applied for late completion," Leighton chief executive David Stewart said yesterday.

Thiess John Holland has a fixed price-fixed time contract with Airport Link owner Brisconnections, which includes such penalties.

Leighton - which had previously forecast a bottom-line loss of \$427 million for the year to June 2011 - said it now expected the final figure to be a loss of \$408 million.

It also confirmed that it

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