

# No slowdown in housing

Brisbane's property market continues to grow as other capitals cool off

ELIZABETH TILLEY

BRISBANE'S housing market continues to defy the slowdown gripping Sydney and Melbourne, with new figures showing the city's home values recorded the strongest monthly gain in nearly a decade.

The latest CoreLogic home value index for November reveals prices in the Queensland capital rose another 2.9 per cent last month to \$662,199 –



A Brisbane house auction.

the biggest increase of any capital city. It is also leading the nation when it comes to

quarterly home price, with values up 7.4 per cent, compared to 4.3 per cent in Sydney and just 2.4 per cent in Melbourne.

CoreLogic's research director Tim Lawless said Brisbane and Adelaide were the only capital cities yet to experience a slowdown.

"Relative to the larger cities, housing affordability is less pressing, there have been fewer disruptions from Covid lockdowns and a positive rate

of interstate migration is fueling housing demand," Mr Lawless said.

"On the other hand, Sydney and Melbourne have seen demand more heavily impacted from affordability pressures and negative migration from both an interstate and overseas perspective."

Different supply dynamics were also creating divergent trends across the nation, Mr Lawless said.

In the four-week period to

November 28, total stock available for sale across Brisbane was 34 per cent lower than the five-year average, showing demand is still outweighing supply.

Property buyers waiting for promised price reductions in Brisbane will be disappointed.

BuyersBuyers co-founder Pete Wargent said the idea prices were going to decline in Brisbane "any time soon is wide of the mark".

"We've seen many first-

hand examples of popular homes in Brisbane selling with dozens of offers, and that's a lot of prospective buyers going away disappointed," Mr Wargent said.

"Interstate migration into Queensland recently hit the highest level in around 15 years, and it should be noted that houses and other family-suitable properties are experiencing strong demand across many areas of South East Queensland."

## Inquest into police shooting

KAY DIBBEN

A MAN who died after being shot in the chest and abdomen by three police officers, had threatened them with a steak knife and refused to back down, a court has heard.

Police fired 19 rounds at Jesse Aaron Kermode, 26, with six or seven bullets striking him, Rhiannon Helsen, counsel assisting the coroner, told Brisbane Coroners Court.

An inquest into the death of Mr Kermode, who was fatally shot at Ipswich railway station on September 16, 2018, will begin on December 20.

Ms Helsen said an autopsy found Mr Kermode died from gunshot wounds to his chest and abdomen.

He had a potentially lethal amount of methamphetamine in his body, which a pathologist said could have had a significant effect on his behaviour before the shooting.

Ms Helsen said earlier that day Mr Kermode had stolen a set of steak knives from Big W at Redbank Plains Shopping Centre. Soon after he was seen at a nearby KFC kicking at cars, yelling and screaming.

The inquest will look into the circumstances leading up to the shooting and police training and procedures.

The court heard Mr Kermode had a "notable" criminal history and had been a drug user. He had experienced episodes of drug induced psychosis, having been diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia.

## EKKA LEFTOVERS TASTE BERRY NICE



Jemima Maddox, 12, Billy Sedgwick, 6, Matilda Sedgwick, 4 and Fletcher Maddox, 9 with strawberry sundaes. Picture: Nigel Hallett

TAHNI TURPIN

EKKA flavours at Christmas time seem so wrong that they just may be right.

Queenslanders are being urged to swap the Christmas pavlova for the iconic Ekka ice-creams with proceeds of sales going to support "life saving" medical research.

The Common Good charity has

launched its Berry Christmas campaign aiming to sell 2.1 tonnes of limited-edition ice-cream left over from this year's cancelled Ekka.

Chief executive Michael Hornby said Christmas was the perfect time to reflect on quality family moments that medical research has provided.

"We've made it possible for people to spend more time together, and most

importantly, improve the quality of that time for so many people," he said. Brisbane families can pre-order 5-litre tubs for Christmas Day this week, with each family-sized tub funding heart and lung disease, dementia and mental health treatment.

Supplied by Lick! Ice Cream, some of Brisbane's top chefs will give families the chance to make a special

Christmas dessert. Each tub comes with a special Christmas decoration and recipes from top chefs Shaun Hunt, Javier Codina, and Brendon Barker.

The Ekka strawberry ice-cream is available for pre-order now, with pick up from Thursday, December 9 across six different dates and three convenient locations.

## ARCTIC RAIN RISE

THE amount of rainfall in the Arctic may increase at a faster rate than previously thought, according to international experts. They say the total rainfall will supersede snowfall decades earlier than expected.

The researchers built a model to predict changes in the Arctic water cycle by 2100, finding that rainfall was predicted to be the dominant form of precipitation in some areas as soon as 2060, which was several decades earlier than previous models suggested.

The authors said more stringent climate mitigation policies were required.



Mehran Faraji

## Fitness trainer charged with consorting

VANDA CARSON

A BRISBANE fitness trainer described by police as a recognised offender will plead guilty to habitually consorting with two alleged Comanchero bikies at a luxury hotel, a court has heard.

Mehran Faraji, 36, of Kangaroo Point, was not in Brisbane Magistrates Court on Wednesday where his charge of habitual consorting

with alleged Comanchero and personal trainer George Bejat, from Hamilton, and with alleged Comanchero Zivko Stojakovic, from Woollongabba, both aged 34, was mentioned. Faraji's lawyer Thomas Gardiner, from Fisher Dore, told the court his firm had sent a submission to the prosecution on November 16 and that prosecutors had rejected it.

"So I therefore have instructions to list (the case) for

a plea of guilty," Mr Gardiner told the court.

The case has been listed for a plea on January 12.

Faraji remains on bail until then. His case was in court on September 1 where solicitor Hamish Farr told magistrate Belinda Merrin that his client would be pleading guilty on November 4.

As part of Faraji's bail conditions he is banned from meeting, speaking, phoning or

sending messages to Bejat or Stojakovic. Faraji is also banned from visiting the Fortitude Valley entertainment area or the Brisbane City nightlife hot spots.

On July 15 this year an officer from the Queensland Police Service's elite Organised Crime Gangs Group charged Faraji with habitually consorting with Bejat and Stojakovic at Hotel X on Brunswick St in Fortitude Valley.