

CITY BEAT WITH MITCH GAYNOR



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FIVE-STAR DAY

MOET, Mercedes and millionaires ... the triumvirate came together at Neill Ford's Alsace polo fields in an impressive way on Sunday.

The five-star tournament attracted a matching crowd with polliws and corporate bigwigs mixing as ex-panelbeater and City Motor Auctions boss Angelo Russo (pictured) out-muscled Glen Wright's outfit in the final.

Campbell and Lisa Newman, Transport Minister Scott Emerson and wife Robyn and former Labor heavyweight, Terry "the fox" Mackenroth (who incidentally warned Peter Beattie not to bother running for Forde), enjoyed a glorious spring day. It included potential Olympic events such as Mercedes Benz versus horse.

Brisbane's fast-growing Sentinel Property Group hosted two tables, which included MD Warren "the property whisperer" Ebert and new GMs Michael Sherlock, former CEO of Brumby's bakeries, and Michael Bowers, former CEO of the Brisbane Lions.

Bowers explained his part in the infamous Martin Pike headbutt incident back in 2004, saying he was about to leave when things were heating up - as they sometimes do at 2am - but it was his shout and he

couldn't welsh on one of life's cardinal unwritten agreements.

As you would expect there was also a bit of chatter about the property market. The consensus? It's all blue sky from here.

PROPERTY IN A FLAP

THE retail property industry kicked up its heels in a Great Gatsby



themed gala dinner at the Brisbane City Hall last Friday.

A swarm of flappers and gangsters attended the Property Council's awards night, with McGees property director Greg Clarke rounding off the evening by winning the President's Award for his ongoing commitment to the retail sector.

ISPT's The Wintergarden won the state's most prestigious

retail property accolade as the Retail Property of the Year.

As a small observation, the Wintergarden happens to house a store that flogs adult-sized onesies which, yes, is disturbing on a number of levels.

Guests included Springfield's Raynuha Sinnathamby; Queensland president of the Property Council, Greg Sheehan from the Buchan Group; and David Hedemann, the principal of Cousins Hedemann Property who was MC for the evening.

FAREWELL TO AN OIL INDUSTRY PIONEER

ONE of the founding fathers of the

Australian oil and gas industry has died.

Charles William (Bill) Siller died peacefully on the weekend. The St George-born industry pioneer graduated from the University of Queensland with a degree in geology. In the late 1950s and early 1960s he was one of the key leaders in the oil and gas industry, pushing for the formation of the Australian Petroleum Exploration Association (APEA).

Bill was chairman of Roma Petroleum, which was snapped up by QGC in 2008, and was also on the board of Exoil and Oil Drilling and Exploration.

In 1968, he was awarded an MBE for services to the oil and gas industry and in 1973 was made an honorary life member of APEA. He retired in 2008, aged 78.