

CITY BEAT

WITH JAMES McCULLOUGH



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STORY RINGS TRUE

WHAT began as a beautiful romantic gesture for local financial planner Scott Quinlan (illustrated) promptly turned to disaster on Heron Island a few weeks ago.

Quinlan, from Whittaker Macnaught (soon to be rebadged as Solace Financial Group) proposed to his partner Brydie on the sand at the beautiful tropical atoll.

She accepted and a large diamond ring – something we hear could pretty well be spied from outer space – was placed on her finger.

A trek that night to watch the turtles resulted in the ring accidentally slipping from her finger, causing a mad search with torches. Alas the couple didn't find it and returned at first light with metal detectors

to comb the area. Still no luck.

The ring was insured but insurer Suncorp this week denied the claim. Although Quinlan sent them a copy of the receipt from the jeweller, the claim was denied due to not having a valuation.

RAISING DOUGH

HAVING made a lot of dough in the franchising game, former Brumby's Bakery boss Michael "The Professor" Sherlock is set to share his recipe for success with others seeking their own rise to the top. Fresh from a whirlwind trip to Macau, Hong Kong and Singapore – where he targeted high net worth investors in his role with Sentinel Property Group – rounded off with flying visits to inspect property prospects

in Melbourne and Mackay, Sherlock has returned to the familiar ground of breadwinning via franchising growth.

The man who steered the rapid expansion of Brumby's picked up The Professor moniker earlier this year when made an adjunct professor at the Griffith Business School's Asia-Pacific Centre for Franchising Excellence.

Giving back to the sector that delivered his wealth, Sherlock is hosting a Franchise Growth Master Class at Griffith Uni's South Bank campus on December 5. The day-long event aims to help the next generation of franchisors realise their potential through accelerated growth plans.