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PNG cashes in

As debate rages in PNG over the selling of publicly owned assets such as Air Niugini, Telikom and PNG Banking Corp, three government-owned properties on Sydney's North Shore have just added more than \$3.8 million to the coffers. The High Commissioner of PNG, Renagi Lohia, was in attendance when 2 Clarence Avenue, Killara was put under the hammer on Saturday August 3. Situated in a cul-de-sac on a 1675 sq m block (two titles), the four-bedroom, four-bathroom executive residence was auctioned on behalf of the Government of PNG.

The property had been used as a consular-general residence. The government paid \$900,000 for it in 1993. Prem Panikkar of Ray White, Lindfield/Roseville, had given price indications of between \$1.35-\$1.5 million and the written reserve was \$1.3 million. It sold for \$2.005 million. The Saturday

last year's architecture awards for an addition to a Blue Mountains house (pictured); to quiz Innovarchi on apartment design, making the most of limited space and beachside living; and consult Kennedy Associate Architects, specialists in maximising space and light to provide great living environments. *Sydney Design Week Public Information Day: City Exhibitions Space, Customs House, Saturday, August 18 from 10.30am to 4.30pm. Inquiries: 9356 2955.*



Chenchow Little's Blue Mountains addition (top), and Innovarchi's nearly completed Gold Coast house (above).

before, Panikkar's agency handled the sale of two Lindfield properties for the PNG Government. A five-bedroom two-storey house on 996 sq m at 14 Strickland Avenue sold for \$847,000 and a three-bedroom house on 836 sq m at 32 Wolseley Road for \$950,000.

Meet the architects

Four of Sydney's leading architectural practices will answer questions on architecture and design following entertaining lectures by Tone Wheeler this Saturday.

Would-be renovators should seek out Cracknell Lonergan - the partners' tiny Surry Hills house is an exemplar of "small is beautiful". There is the chance to soak up top tips for adding onto an existing house from Chenchow Little, who won a commendation in

Not so sunny up north

While property continues to soar in Sydney and Melbourne it dived into negative territory in urban Queensland and Perth in the June quarter. The Home Price Guide reports that median house prices in Brisbane fell 0.8 per cent to \$179,000, by 1.2 per cent on the Gold Coast to \$247,000 and by 2.1 per cent to \$186,000 in Perth.

In Brisbane, units dropped 3.2 per cent to \$153,000 and those on the Gold Coast 2 per cent to \$170,000. Perth units remained static at \$140,000. However, auction prices in Brisbane and on the Gold Coast both recorded rises in July. The Real Estate Institute of Queensland disputes the gloomy June quarter figures but the Home Price Guide stands by them.

EVENTS

OPEN GARDENS

When August 17 & 18
Where Elegans, 21 Fishburn Rd, Galston
Time 10am-4.30pm
How much \$5.50



A collection of 150 camellias is a must-see this month. Set on 12ha, Elegans has been transformed over 20 years by its owner, Bill Fleming. This park-like garden includes four man-made lakes and a rainforest.



HARBOUR & OCEAN PHOTOS

When August 17 to November 24
Where Museum of Sydney, Bridge Street, Sydney, 9251 5988
Time 9.30am-5.30pm
How much \$7, con \$3, family \$17

Fearing for the future of many of our harbour and ocean pools photographer Patrick Van Daele captured the beauty of 30 pools between Newcastle and Cronulla.



JEWELLERY SHOW

When Until September 1
Where Metal Element V, Quadrivium, Level 2 South, Queen Victoria Building, George Street, 9264 8222
Time Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Thur until 9pm, Sun 11am-5pm
How much Free

A fresh approach to design is evident in the works on display at Quadrivium's annual jewellery and metal exhibition. Now in its fifth year, it's attracted work from 25 emerging contemporary Australian designers. Participating artists are recent graduates or in the midst of postgraduate studies at art institutions around Australia. The work of these artists is a playful fusion of tradition and innovation, and draws on both precious and non-precious materials.

Domestic bliss

Household furnishings expenditure, per state, per week (\$)



SOURCE: ABS