



The Monaco St, Broadbeach Waters property features five bedrooms, eight bathrooms, opulent living areas and a designer kitchen, while outside is styled as a tropical resort.

Superb mansion sold for a Kool \$5m profit

Viva Hyde

The couple behind the Kool Kids early learning centre group have profited about \$5 million in two years from the off-market sale of their jaw-dropping main river estate.

The luxury Broadbeach Waters property has changed hands in a hushed deal handled by Amir Prestige principal Amir Mian after passing in at auction in January.

Property records show the triple-storey Monaco St mansion was owned by Carolyn Coulson, wife of Bruce Coulson, who founded the Kool Kids group of nine childcare centres across the Gold Coast.

The sale price has not been publicly disclosed, but is understood to be \$13.5m – a hefty uplift from July 2021,



when the Coulsons settled on their \$8.5m purchase of the luxury pad.

The Coulsons are well-versed in prestige Coast real estate, having sold their former Isle of Capri estate for

\$26.88m in October 2021. It was the city's richest sale of the 2021/22 financial year.

Features of their Broadbeach Waters home on a sprawling 2303sq m lot include a spectacular Italian marble entrance hall and staircase, leading on to five bedrooms and eight bathrooms,

along with opulent formal and informal living areas and a designer kitchen, wet bar, home

theatre, steam room, private gym and executive office.

Outside is styled as a tropical resort, with a huge heated swimming pool flanked by three draped cabanas and a covered entertaining zone with a bar servery and barbecue kitchen.

Landscaped grounds are fringed with palm trees, and there's also a river deck and enormous pontoon, as well as a 10-car basement garage and a desalination plant for recycling water. Mr Mian described the property as, "one of the largest north-facing estates in Broadbeach Waters" when it was last listed.

Property records show the home spent 109 days on market from November 2022, but fell short of vendor expectations when it went under the

hammer three months later.

"If I was a billionaire or millionaire, I'd love to live there," Mr Mian said in February.

"It's renovated, it's got land, beautiful gardens and a lot of entertaining zones.

"It's pretty much like a massive private estate in suburbia on main river, walking distance to the casino, and then there's a full basement for all the toys, cars, boats."

The sale caps off a big week for the Glitter Strip's high-end market, with at least \$60m in property changing hands, including an oceanfront Mermaid Beach home which fetched \$14.1m at auction.

Mr Mian said an influx of interstate and international migration, coupled with low stock levels, was driving demand.

SURVEY RESULTS

Mishaps as you travel

Millions of Aussies are running into trouble while travelling, according to new research by Finder.

A Finder survey of 1110 respondents revealed almost one in three Australians (28 per cent) – equivalent to 3.5 million people – suffered a travel mishap while abroad in the past 12 months.

The research shows 14 per cent endured travel delays, while 8 per cent lost personal items. A disturbing 5 per cent of Aussies were scammed while travelling overseas and 3 per cent were the victim of theft.

Concerningly, 3 per cent – equivalent to 377,275 people – ended up in hospital.

PENFOLDS GRANGE

Rare wine collection

An extremely rare Penfolds Grange wine collection has come to auction, curated by a former employee of Penfolds and is expected to sell collectively for six figures.

The collection features 60 extremely rare bottles of vintage wine from 1959-2018.

It has been stored in a climate-controlled cellar and checked at the Grange clinic by former Penfolds winemakers.

"We haven't seen a wine collection as complete and pristine and as carefully looked after as this collection and it is attracting international attention," Lloyds Auctions chief operations officer Lee Hames said.

LIVING LONGER

Aussie life expectancy

On average, Australians are living longer than ever before and to very old ages.

But living to extreme ages (over 110) is still a rare event, which sparks the question: How long can Australians live?

A new Australian Institute of Health and Welfare report explores trends in our increasing life expectancy and other measures, such as maximum age of death. Over the past five decades, our life expectancy has risen by 13.7 years for males (to 81.3) and 11.2 years for females (to 85.4).

Centenarian (100 or older) deaths grew from one in 1214 to one in 72 from 1964 to 2021 (0.08 per cent to 1.40 per cent).

Ex-HOTA boss takes reins at Queensland Theatre

Georgia Clelland

Criena Gehrke, the former CEO of Home of the Arts (HOTA) on the Gold Coast, has been named the new executive director of Queensland Theatre, marking a significant milestone for the arts community in the state.

The announcement comes less than a year after Ms Gehrke revealed her intention to step down from her role at

HOTA, marking the end of a successful five-year tenure.

Following a stringent selection process, Ms Gehrke was chosen for her exceptional leadership, strategic acumen, and notable advocacy within the arts sector.

Queensland Theatre chair, Elizabeth Jameson AM, praised Gehrke's dedication to fostering creativity and championing artists in Queensland.

"Criena's passion for putting

artists at the centre of Queensland's cultural landscape is unparalleled," Ms Jameson stated.

"Her achievements as HOTA's inaugural CEO are a testament to her expertise, and we eagerly anticipate the growth she will bring to Queensland Theatre."

Gehrke, renowned for her innovative approaches and unwavering commitment to diversity, will take the reins from

July 10. At HOTA, she introduced nationally recognised artist development programs, including ArtKeeper, and achieved legacy outcomes for artists following the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games.

Arts Minister Leanne Enoch also congratulated Ms Gehrke on her new role, recognising the importance of Queensland Theatre in promoting local stories, arts, and

culture, particularly in the lead-up to the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Ms Gehrke expressed her excitement. "My love for theatre was nurtured by Queensland Theatre in my formative years," she said. "I am thrilled to join this organisation that has a long history of excellence, and I look forward to creating transformative experiences for our audiences."



Criena Gehrke.