



**Gold Coast**

# Bulletin

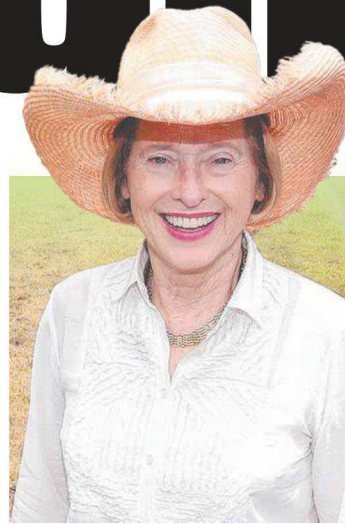
TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2024

GOLDCOASTBULLETIN.COM.AU

\$2.80

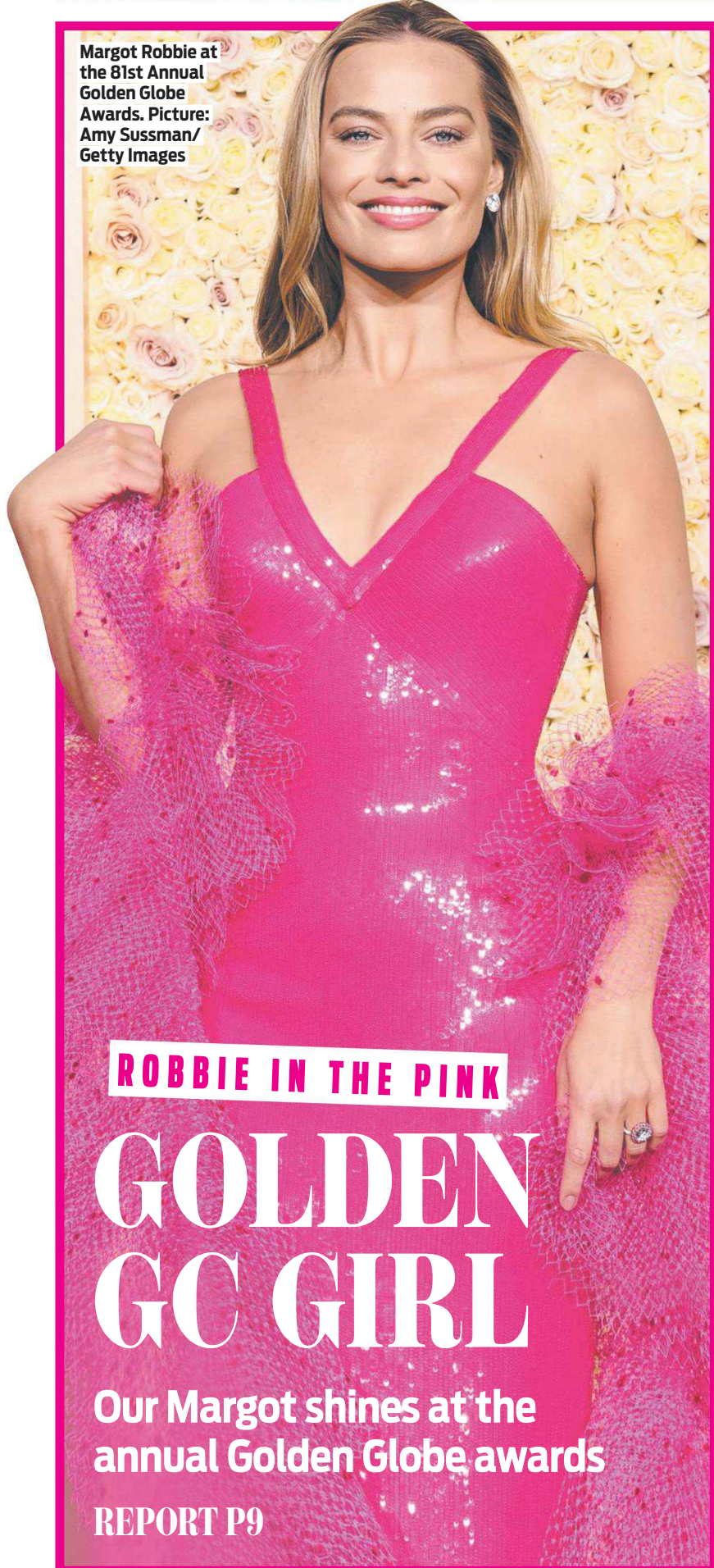
## HORSE PLAY

Coach Billy's not foaling around **P3**



## GAI'S GOT THE MAGIC TOUCH **P3**

Margot Robbie at the 81st Annual Golden Globe Awards. Picture: Amy Sussman/Getty Images



**ROBBIE IN THE PINK**

## GOLDEN GC GIRL

Our Margot shines at the annual Golden Globe awards

REPORT **P9**

## — 'DON'T PUSH US OUT' —

### Seafood trawlers salty with the state

# FRESH FISH FLEET FURY

The city's famed fishing trawler operators claim they will be squeezed to the gills at their home site of 50 years due to plans for development but the State Minister rejects that. **REPORT P2**

**PM'S STORM VISIT **P4****



**YACHT CLUB PLAN **P7****



# SUBSCRIBE AND ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF BEING A GOLD COAST BULLETIN MEMBER

**E PAPER**

Read the Gold Coast Bulletin newspaper replica no matter where you are, when it's convenient to you on mobile or desktop



**THE APP**

Download the Gold Coast Bulletin app and access breaking local, national, world and sport news



**UPDATES**

Join our newsletter mailout for the latest Gold Coast news emailed to your inbox every morning and throughout the day as it happens



## Inside

COLUMN.....	6
NATION.....	14
WORLD.....	15
PUZZLES.....	16
ESCAPE.....	17
LETTERS.....	30
BUSINESS.....	32
SHARES.....	33
TV.....	34
WEATHER.....	35
CLASSIFIEDS.....	36
RACING.....	37
SPORT.....	39

## Follow us

**ONLINE**  
goldcoastbulletin.com.au  
**FACEBOOK**  
goldcoastbulletin  
**TWITTER**  
gctbulletin  
**INSTAGRAM**  
@gctbulletin

## Contact us



**GENERAL MANAGER**

Belinda Dawes  
belinda.dawes@news.com.au

**BULLETIN EDITOR**

Ryan Keen  
editorial@goldcoast.com.au

**SUBSCRIBE**

1300 726 161

**NEWS TIPS**

07 5584 2000

**LETTERS**

letters@goldcoast.com.au

**DISPLAY ADVERTISING**

07 5584 2116

**CLASSIFIEDS**

13 11 13

**HOME DELIVERIES**

**CIRCULATION**

1300 726 161

**PHOTO SALES**

newsphotos.com.au

# Fears fishing site will be stuffed to the gills

**Paul Weston**

Queensland's last remaining fishing co-op, the trawler fleet at The Spit on the Gold Coast which sells seafood direct to the public, says it's under threat from developers.

The fishermen along with community groups fear the State Government, putting Carter's Basin up for tender, will want the highest bidder for the prime commercial site south of Sea World and squeeze them out.

But State Development Minister Grace Grace is adamant the boats will continue to be able to sell seafood.

The Fishermen's Co-op, after operating more than 50 years, says it intends to fight for its future, and this week will ramp up its campaign after 1200 customers backed its petition in three days. Premier Steven Miles is to be targeted by campaigners with posters being created warning "don't let Labor trash our trawlers".

State Development on January 22 will announce tenders for a "commercial marine opportunity" at Carter's Basin which it says will "accommodate the local fishing fleet" but include "marine tourism outcomes" within a mixed-use development.

Fishermen's Co-op spokesperson Richard Hamilton, owner of Spanner Crab boat Dubrovnik, said the new marina would include operators displaced from Mariners Cove.

"The Queensland Government thinks it can solve that problem by squeezing us all into a reduced site at Carter's Basin," Mr Hamilton said.

Numerous talks with the State Government during the past few years had resulted in no genuine consultation or practical outcomes, he added.



A map showing the extent of the seabed lease and land available as part of redevelopment of Carter's Basin on The Spit; (left) Gold Coast Fishermen's Co-op spokesperson Richard Hamilton.



"They haven't listened to what we need. They just tell us what they want," he said.

"In recent talks with the Department of State Development we made it clear their current plans for Carter's Basin fail to provide a viable future for the fishing fleet. The trawlers and the export-generating tuna boats that make up the Co-op are all family-owned primary producers.

"Unfortunately, Premier Miles' vision for The Spit seems to be miles of elite resorts, leaving insufficient room

for small marine-based businesses.

"Over a quarter of a million customers - locals and tourists - buy seafood from our trawlers every year. They are horrified at the prospect of the Co-op being forced out."

Tenders for the Carters Basin site close on March 4. The land area is 7150sqm and the seabed section, outlined on a map, is 20,985sqm.

"The area currently used by the fishing fleet - a wharf and 18 vessels on nine pontoons - will basically be turned into a base for marine tourism," Mr Hamilton said.

"That's just not going to work. As well, customers pur-

chasing seafood off the side of trawlers need to be able to park. Yet the Government's plan would reduce the area available for parking."

Ms Grace said the Government had acted on advice there were limited options for new Coast marinas and Carter's Basin was the best location.

"The Queensland Government has spent years consulting widely about the development of The Spit. Boats selling fresh seafood to Queenslanders will not change," she said.

"The tender will take into account the needs of all the stakeholders, including the fishing co-op, while balancing the fi-

nancial, economic and community outcomes for all Queenslanders."

Mr Hamilton said the Co-op's current two year lease would run out in April.

"Should the Queensland Government persist with their plan to sell off the lease to a developer, the lucrative tuna boat industry will be forced to relocate to NSW," he said.

The Government is being asked to put on hold the tender for part of Carter's Basin until a more realistic alternative can be found, continue consultation with stakeholders and accommodate the displaced marine tourism operators at the site's northern part.

## Berlin backflips on jets

**JERUSALEM:** Germany is ready to allow sales of Eurofighter jets to Saudi Arabia, Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock said on Sunday, having blocked arms deals with the Gulf kingdom for years.

Germany, Britain, Italy and Spain jointly build the jet and each can veto deals. Berlin has blocked one deal, sought by London, since 2018.

"We do not see ourselves,

as the German federal government, opposing British considerations on other Eurofighter (sales)," Ms Baerbock told reporters on a trip to Israel, in which she highlighted the Saudi role since the eruption of the Israel-Hamas war.

Germany has blocked arms sales to Riyadh since the 2018 murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi in the Saudi consulate in Istanbul.



Kerry Condon in Night Swim.

## Wonka still the golden ticket

Musical fantasy Wonka hung on atop the North American box office this weekend, taking in an estimated \$US14.4m (\$21.4m) as Hollywood hoped for a boost from the annual Golden Globe awards, industry analysts said Sunday.

The Warner Bros film, the top performer of the Christmas season, reached the \$US165m mark domestically and passed \$US300m internationally in its fourth weekend out, which

Variety called "a triumphant result for the Timothee Chalamet vehicle".

Hugh Grant, as a curmudgeonly Oompa Loompa, Keegan-Michael Key as a police chief with an exaggerated sweet tooth, and Olivia Colman as the cartoonishly evil Mrs Scrubitt also star.

Universal and Blumhouse's new horror film Night Swim took in \$US12m for second place in the Friday-to-Sunday

period, industry watcher Exhibitor Relations reported.

The thriller is the first from horror masters Jason Blum and James Wan since they recently teamed up. Wyatt Russell and Kerry Condon star as a couple whose swimming pool turns out to have a disturbing history and creepy powers.

The top five was rounded out by Aquaman and the Lost Kingdom, Migration, and Anyone But You.

# Opinion OURS & YOURS

**Gold Coast Bulletin**

**AQUATIC ECONOMY**

## Up and down

There's lots of new development at The Spit but we cannot forget our long-time trawlers

**T**HE eyes of the Gold Coast will turn to Main Beach and The Spit this year as the first major developments in nearly 25 years begin to rise from the ground.

These steps have been a long time coming.

It's been a decade since ASF Consortium was picked to build the "Broadwater Marine Project", a development which evolved into a cruise ship terminal and casino earmarked for Wavebreak Island. In the years which followed, several controversial developments were pitched for the area, all of which fell in the face of opposition from community groups and government.

Now, with the Spit masterplan in place and the larger issue of development settled, the first new projects will begin to finally rise from the ground.

Nearly \$1.3bn worth of projects at Mariner's Cove, a site next to it and Marina Mirage have all been green-lit.

The multimillion-dollar investment of the council and state government for a superyacht berth at Southport Yacht Club is also paying off.

The club has unveiled a major expansion and revamp of its facilities which will give it an edge in attracting more conventions and events in coming years as its plans are realised.

But further north at the Carter's Basin area, the future of the long-existing fishing trawlers remains in doubt.

The fishermen along with community groups fear the state government, which is putting the area up for tender, will want the highest bidder for the prime commercial site south of Sea World and that it will mean an end to their control of the site after 50 years.

State Development on January 22 will announce tenders for a "commercial marine opportunity" at Carter's Basin which it says will "accommodate the local fishing fleet" but include "marine tourism outcomes" within a mixed-use development.

While this new project, whatever form it takes, will surely lead to more investment, it is critical we do not abandon the trawlers which have become a key part of Gold Coast Christmases as thousands line-up to get their fresh seafood.

WRITE TO US: Make sure to include your name, address and phone number if verification is required. Only your name and suburb will be printed. Please note we reserve the right to edit letters for reasons such as clarity and length. PRIVACY POLICY: Our privacy policy at <https://preferences.news.com.au/privacy> includes important information about our collection, use and disclosure of your personal information (including to provide you with targeted advertising based on your online activities). It explains that if you do not provide us with information we have requested from you, we may not be able to provide you with the goods and services you require. It also explains how you can access or seek correction of your personal information, how you can complain about a breach of the Australian Privacy Principles and how we will deal with a complaint of that nature.



## Letters

The ACT government's volunteer assisted dying framework is being examined by a parliamentary committee and will form the foundation of the most liberal scheme in the country if it becomes law.

It does not have a requirement for a predicted time of death, includes provision for those who can no longer consent, allows health workers to initiate conversation around euthanasia and is considering allowing teenagers as young as 14 access to the euthanasia scheme.

As I sat on a crowded stationary tram at Broadbeach South station on Thursday, empathising with efforts of the patient driver to get control of a large group of young teenage boys vaping, banging on windows and chanting "F--- the police", I pondered on the confused messages we send our vulnerable young people.

Prevention of bullying, suicide and the mental health programs in schools, the "catch and release" youth crime laws

and the push for teen euthanasia as according to the ACT Human Rights Commission "excluding teenagers did not respect the right of young people to have their views taken into account" (The Australian, Jan 4).

**CHRIS MAGILL, SURFERS PARADISE**

Charities are crying out for volunteers and donations, when the cost of living and threat of a recession impact households, families and individuals.

Everyone is under stress, finding survival a challenge, even for the most fiscally intelligent. Charity stores depend on volunteer labour, with donations recycled to provide low-priced goods to sell, to help the homeless, the Australian poor, low-income families and children at risk in developing countries.

Charity stores rely on customer honesty, integrity and generosity.

But when charities, depending on volunteer labour, suffer loss through

theft, it is an indictment upon those who feel the need to exploit the lack of supervision and dependence upon the honesty of clients. Taking advantage of stores lacking sufficient staff to monitor change rooms and checking bags brought into the store, provides more opportunities for theft. Clothing change rooms are areas where shop items can easily be exchanged, replacing with one's old clothes on hangers undetected. Sliding into shop shoes, leaving old pairs of shoes in place, is often the modus operandi. Expensive items in packages or boxes are often removed, leaving the empty packages and boxes, without challenge, with a loss of income for charities.

Those with extra time to volunteer for work for charities, find it a satisfying experience. It is an indictment upon the whole nation when we have such low-life, thoughtlessly stealing from those committed to making a difference in a selfish world.

**ELOISE ROWE, TANNUM SANDS**

## Text the Editor

**Only text messages of no more than 80 words will be considered**

One channel reporting absolute Godawful BLOODY PLIGHT, Mt Tambourine residents are suffering!!! On another channel, new "Grand Poo-Ba, leader of Queensland," mumbling excuses about why he took a holiday amidst the HUGE bloody crisis occurring on HIS new patch, eh? Ah geezuz, God help us all, if a more widespread severe weather event, ever again occurs in Qld, eh?!!!!!! Amen!

Are TV chefs keeping a secret of newfound "stringless celery?" Most

recipes include it, yet NO-ONE ever mentions, what a pain in the bloody arse, celery strings are! Hmph!

Nature's wildlife leaves humankind for dead. Animals don't fuss over problems that don't exist. And they don't deliberately create environments which bring them harm.

Ok I give up with you lot.what does it take to get a txt to editor published

Matt Canavan is an ignorant knob so it is really not surprising that he is now a columnist for News extremely limited. This is the whole problem with media bias. That clown thinks

coal will save the world when it is contributing to climate change. How does News justify printing his rubbish yet pretending to care about flood victims. Just like Canavan, the staff at News are ignorant morons. Shame on you both. And a note to Canavan pretending to be a Christian. Thou shalt not lie.

The question now, really, is how much more damage to democracy can Donald Trump do before he is too old to participate.

The fact that some alcohol is more affordable than bottled water speaks volumes for the power of marketing and the gullibility of consumers.

Leisurely drives to the beach have been replaced by bumper to bumper traffic and vengeful drivers. And they call this progress.

(Surprised to see Cuneen's name re-appear, after his ridiculous "anti-vax" views were spewed! Anyhow, to each their own, eh! Ooroo)

Overseas Albo accusing Liberals of hiding documents, hahahahahahaha. Good one elboweasay.

Re Mann's xlent cartoon Saturday. No doubt whatsoever, tiny-minded Council staff, actually expect folk on Mt Tambourine to "separate" their

garbage for pick up!!! Off your overpaid arses, Tom & totally incompetent new blithering bloody idiot "Premier of Qld" - time to earn your pay! After all, you're always banging on about always doing the "right thing for Qld'ers! Seems now is the perfect time to prove it, eh? Ooroo

Hate these climate change hysterics bent on destroying our way of life for bugger all, if any, gain. It's all political and feeding the rabid rich, not saving the planet as the gullible masses believe.

The recent event by an incompetent parole board is another example of