

Local
News

Winners

City-based building projects have come out on top at this year's Master Builders Association of NSW's Excellence in Construction Awards at Sydney's Darling Harbour Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Some 18 building projects based across Sydney, Ultimo and Pyrmont were honoured at the prestigious event, in a highly competitive field.

"Based on the number of Awards presented to building and construction projects in the CBD, it is clear that building contractors are delivering quality construction projects for the people who live in, work in and visit the city to enjoy," said Master Builders NSW Executive Director, Brian Seidler.

The Award-winning projects in Sydney city included:

■ The Ivy - which won Lucas Stuart Pty Ltd the Award for Hospitality Buildings \$25,000,001 and over;

■ The Apple Retail Store in George Street. Kell and Rigby took home the Shop Fitouts \$5,000,001 and over Award for this prominent project;

■ The Triple J, ABC Studios in Ultimo. Isis Projects took home the Interior Fitout \$1,000,001 - \$2 million Award for this project;

■ The QVB ground floor shopfront refurbishments. This project won Euroline the Shop Fitout up to \$5 million Award;

■ St Andrews Cathedral School Library in Sydney Square. Fugen Constructions won the Private Schools up to \$2 million Award for this project;

■ Zaprunder's Other Films, in Chippendale - which won Mammoth Projects the Best Adaptive Re-use of an Historic Building up to \$5 million Award.

Sydney to Norfolk Is.: \$949

At a time when airlines are cutting services around the world, Norfolk Air this week launched a new weekly service into the Gold Coast to tap into one of Norfolk Island's strongest markets.

Using a Boeing 737-300 jet, the new service will leave Gold Coast Airport Coolangatta at 10.10am and arrive on Norfolk Island at 1.45pm local time. Return flights will leave Norfolk Island at 2.45pm each Thursday, arriving back on the Gold Coast at 3.30pm.

And to mark the new service, Norfolk Air has teamed up with major wholesalers Talpacific, Oxley

Travel and Norfolk Specialist Holidays to offer a seven night holiday package including return flights, pre-paid taxes, car hire and accommodation on a twin share basis from \$899 per person for travel between October 7 and December 31, 2008.

Similar packages are also being made available from Sydney \$949 pp, Melbourne \$1099 pp and Brisbane \$899 pp. To book call Talpacific on 1300 665 737, Oxley Travel on 1800 671 546, and Norfolk Specialist Holidays on 1300 361 153.

Reflecting the importance of the new Gold Coast service, Norfolk Island Chief Minister Andre Nobbs led a delegation to the Gold Coast to farewell the inaugural flight this morning.

Mr Nobbs said Norfolk Island believed the new service held enormous potential for its tourism industry because the Gold Coast Airport serviced more than a million potential customers from Lismore and Grafton in the south to Coomera, Hope Island and Sanctuary Cove in the north.

"With this new service Norfolk Air becomes the eighth airline operating into Gold Coast Airport, and we are delighted with the support we have received from Dennis Chant and his team at GCAL," Mr Nobbs said.

"We have a new aircraft and a new service, and we want as many people as possible to know about the great value that Australia's closest overseas destination can offer Australians wanting a break in one of the most spectacular and naturally beautiful locations on Earth," says Norfolk Air's Jeff Murdoch.

- Denise Roberts

McGowan's
World

Bob's your uncle



Bobby Johnson is a good mate. He has been for a long time. We have known of each other since the early 60s.

I was in Perth and he was everywhere. You would be more than happy to Bobby Johnson in the trenches beside you. Providing the trench wasn't all that deep.

It is not easy to work out what Bobby does these days. He rushes from place to place, has meetings, sends SMS messages, and pays people money. None to me.

He says he books artists for shows. Most likely he does. Not that you can always believe what "BJ" says. His yarns are endless. His jokes make you ache with laughter.

And Cheryl, his wife since teenage years, shakes her head and buries her face in her hands.

Bobby is my memory jogger when it comes to Australian pop music circa the 60s. He was a drummer with The Blue Jays, a pretty slick rock and roll group who back then recorded with Tony Worsley, and had a National Top Ten with Velvet Waters in 1965.

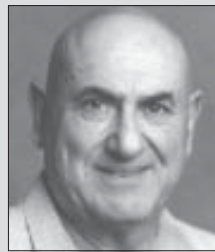
The Blue Jays themselves had a sortie into the Top 40 with the gimmicky Happy Jack, a parody on the British Naval Classic which brings the Royal Albert Hall down at The Last Night Of The Proms each year.

Bobby Johnson has met and worked with some of the most successful acts in the world. Shirley Bassey, Matt Monro, Danny La Rue, Jerry Lewis and Chubby Checker to name a few.

He wanted me to name many more. But I said I only wanted a few.

An occasional column by Keith McGowan

From The Outer



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With John Pasquarelli

Dr Bernhard Moeller and his Down Syndrome son have driven the other big news stories off the front pages.

The doctor, on a 457 visa until 2010 has applied for permanent residency which has been denied - an immigration spokesman saying that the son would be a 'burden on the health system.'

Dr Moeller is Horsham's only permanent specialist physician and that community is understandably outraged at the immigration department's decision.

This is the same immigration department which under the Howard Government allowed thousands of refugees to enter Australia without any proper health or character checks and we have never been told how migrants are really screened.

It is most unlikely that the good doctor will run amok with a machete or seriously assault police or start running drugs.

He is serving the community in Horsham which is a positive and given the doctor's income and the likely possibility that he has health insurance for his family, the son may well never become a burden on the taxpayer unlike those thousands of refugees.

If the immigration department wants the law to apply equally to all they should immediately take urgent steps to review the health and character credentials of all other migrants and refugees.

You can send an e-mail to John Pasquarelli: kojak@mmnet.com.au

Whatever
Happened To ...
Jet Jackson

By Kevin
Trask
of
Sydney
News



● Jet Jackson

When ATN-7 began official transmission in December 1956 we were introduced to something completely foreign to Sydney families - a 30-minute American television series.

We were used to going to the local picture theatre and seeing feature films but the idea of a regular television series was something new.

We soon got hooked on shows like *I Love Lucy*, *Our Miss Brooks* and the children's adventure series *Jet Jackson - The Flying Commando* starring Richard Webb.

Jet Jackson was in production in America from 1954 till 1956. It was actually finishing up by the time we huddled around our 17-inch Astor black-and-white television sets, but we didn't know that or little did we care. *Jet Jackson* was our hero.

Assisted by his faithful companion Ichabod Mudd (with two D's), *Jet Jackson* fought crime from high on a mountain top. We knew we were safe while *Jet Jackson* was on the job. We were members of the *Secret Squadron* and we would help out if *Jet* needed a hand.

Richard Webb was born in 1915 and broke into films playing small character roles in the early 1940s. His early film credits included, *Out Of The Past*, *The Big Clock* and the *Sands of Iwo Jima*.

In 1954 he landed the role of *Jet Jackson*. In America the series was titled *Captain Midnight* but there was a problem with the sponsor after the series ended.

The sponsor owned the rights to the name *Captain Midnight* and it could not be used when the show went into syndication. To fix the problem, the words *Jet Jackson* were dubbed over the soundtrack whenever someone uttered *Captain Midnight* - we all thought it was a bit strange, but what the heck, this was television and we were happy to sit and watch the test pattern in those days.

Richard Webb had a successful acting career for 20 years after *Captain Midnight* finished and had guest roles in popular television shows.

He turned to writing in his later years and sadly took his own life in 1993 following a long illness.

His last performance was in a documentary recalling his role in *The Sands of Iwo Jima* opposite John Wayne. Syd Melton who played Ichabod Mudd in *Jet Jackson* is still alive and working in show business.

- Kevin Trask