



WITH  
**JAMES  
MCCULLOUGH**

## Newest recruit

IT IS no secret that recruiters are doing it tough. After all, there are more of them in Brisbane than perhaps in New York City and the first thing to get cut in a corporate sense is recruiters and marketing and media people.

However, amid the gloom, local recruitment player **Suzie Majer**, illustrated, has her personal recruitment drive under way with the recent arrival of first bub Henry.

Never one to sit back and smell the roses, Suzie also has a newborn recruitment arm of Majer Recruitment called Mini Majer which specialises in the recruitment of professional and reliable nannies, which we suspect could come in handy.

IT SEEMS that you make money when you join the employment ranks of the troubled property developer Trinity, and you make cash on the way out.

Trinity must be flush with funds because not only did it pay the new QIC lads a ton of cash to sign on, they also apparently forgave departing CEO **Ben McCarthy** a handsome sum on his way out.

We hear that McCarthy had employee loans of about \$3 million which were forgiven when he exited the group.

Some wags yesterday were even describing it as the "new Macquarie in Brisbane", meaning a millionaires factory.

And another thing. We described QIC operatives **Laurie Brindle** and **Steve Leigh** as former public servants. Well, we can now report that the pair were not exactly your run-of-the-mill public servants. Guess what? They both drive impressive Porsche cars to and from the millionaires factory.

## Pizza delivery

GEEZ, these pizza people are a tad sensitive. First we got a moan from Hell Pizza when we wrote that their pizzas were not exactly up to scratch.

Then we write that Eagle Boys Pizza is not exactly what it used to be and we get a letter from founder **Tom Potter**. We described Eagle Boys as the "former" plaything of Potter and he droned on about how he left the company years back and it was in good condition at the time. Whatever.

Then we get a call from the Mojo advertising people wanting to know why we have it in for Eagle Boys and how can they correct the situation.

For the record, Eagle Boys, now headed by **Todd Clayton**, is not travelling as it once was. The pink branded, two-minute pizza express drive is dead.

At the same time, a number of the franchise stores are up for sale. In fact, if you go online, you will find heaps for sale, everywhere from Helensvale to Grovely and Wanneroo to Redbank Plains.

## Ace of clubs

QUEENSLAND'S clubs staged a gala night of partying (or achievement) on Saturday at the Annual Awards for Excellence in the industry, where more than 1300 guests applauded 34 award presentations.

East's Leagues Club scooped a hat-trick of major awards, winning Best Club in Brisbane South, and the ultimate award of Club of the Year for its second year in a row. East's general manager, **Sharna McLean**, won the coveted gong for club manager of the year.

Some of the major winners included Redlands Sporting Club for best community service, Pacific Golf Club for best golf club, Brothers Leagues Club, Townsville, for best football club, Northcliffe Surf Life Saving and Supporters Club for best surf life saving supporters club, Currumbin RSL for best

and Club Glenvale for best club development over \$1 million.

## Art moves

There's a chance over the next few weeks for Vegas ballet opening-night junkies to frock in local corporates heading the charge. It's not that there is the Paris Opera Ballet *La Bayadere* currently performing at the Lyric Theatre.

Friday, the Botanic Gardens in the city chockers for the Australian Ballet's mance at the Riverstage.

Saturday night saw the opening of the Queensland Ballet season of *A Streetcar Named Desire*, a saucy production featuring the deadly sins.

And all this will be followed up in a few weeks with the arrival of the Sydney Dance Company for their season of *360 Degrees*.

Spotted at both *La Bayadere* and *A Streetcar Named Desire* was our own Guv, **Penelope Wensley**, our former guv **Lenene Forde** and company director **Peter Dowling**.

We didn't spot new Arts Minister **Anna Bligh**. Perhaps she doesn't want to be seen enjoying herself in these challenging times.

## Slap and tickle

EVEN our trans-Tasman cousins are cashing in on the Rudd stimulus package.



"Australians, what better way to spend your tax bonus payment than on a week skiing in Queenstown," said one advertisement for the New Zealand tourism industry we came across this week.

"Take advantage of the Government's generosity and hop across the Tasman for a week on the slopes, staying in the heart of Queenstown at the contemporary Crowne Plaza Hotel."

Speaking of the package, our spies who know about such matters report that a legal brothel in Summer Park, in Brisbane's west, has a large sign out the front declaring "Stimulus packages available".

online

James McCullough's blog takes you behind the corporate curtain. Share your gossip at [couriermail.com.au/blogs/citybeat](http://couriermail.com.au/blogs/citybeat)