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HD Businessman offers prime double-deal

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LP **Private Property**

An influential executive has listed a two-for-one trophy home opportunity on the Yarra River.

TD Businessman Malcolm Watkins, the director of Australian Finance Group, one of the country's biggest mortgage brokers, has relisted a prized riverside holding in Hawthorn.

The unusual property at 12 Coppin Grove includes a historic former coach house which was reconfigured into a luxury family residence by previous owner, Melbourne Aquarium developer Peter O'Brien.

On a huge 3300 square metre block, the property also includes a permit for a luxury second home, designed by Rob Mills, and which would enjoy views over the Yarra River and Richmond to the CBD.

The site made headlines in 2012 when the Opposition Leader Matthew Guy, in his former role as Planning Minister, rejected an application by Mr O'Brien to replace the riverside backyard with three townhouses.

Dingle Partners Anton Wongtrakun is representing Mr Watkins, who listed the house last year without a permit for the new build. Mr Wontrakun is expecting more than \$9 million plus. MP

Comics' homecomings

Their shenanigans have made them FM radio's highest paid pair, but comedians Hamish Blake and Andy Lee are not goofing around when it comes to savvy property moves. A few weeks after Blake was signing a contract for a \$4.2 million Richmond house - one of the highest prices paid in the suburb - his mate Lee was looking for a tenant for his Seddon property, seeking \$490 a week for the beautifully renovated two-bedroom house.

The former Cleo Bachelor of the Year has co-owned the property - one of two in his portfolio - with his brother Cameron since 2010, title records show. EP

Jobs guru clocks off

Recruitment entrepreneur Guy Sigston and his wife, Simone, are selling a historic terrace in East Melbourne's most exclusive pocket. The 1886 freestanding two-storey terrace at 10 Powlett Street includes five bedrooms, formal and informal lounge and dining areas and parking for three cars. It is walking distance to the CBD, Fitzroy Gardens and the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Kay & Burton's Michael Armstrong is representing Sigston, who established Lloyd Simpson and recruitment website Jobs Jobs Jobs. The house is expected to sell for more than \$3.7 million.

In 2007 Sigston controversially sold his then-new house in Toorak's quaint Selbourne Road to interests associated with the Chinese government, which intended to use it as an education facility. MP

First past the post

A consortium of Chinese millionaires has snapped up one of Australia's most significant rural properties, Chatsworth Park, from the Bayles family.

After more than two years on the market, the Nagambie property is speculated to have exchanged for more than \$10 million.

Amanda Elliott nee Bayles - [John Elliott's](#) second ex-wife - was one of four beneficiaries to inherit the 946-hectare holding from her late father, former VRC vice-chairman Ian Bayles. Pat Race & Hawkins agent Peter Hawkins represented the family. MP

■ Got a real estate whisper? Contact us: emily.power@fairfaxmedia.com.au or marcpallisco@gmail.com

Shhhh!

Buying up

Albert Park

Whispers that the buyer of the worst house on Melbourne's best street - St Vincent Place in Albert Park - is BRW Rich Lister and [Flight Centre](#) founder Geoff Harris are spot on. The ramshackle property beside Harris' glamour Victorian - which he bought for \$12 million - sold at auction in May for \$4.2 million (an eye-watering \$1.7 million over reserve) to a mystery buyer. Private Property can confirm Harris is land banking in the leafy street. No. 67 settled recently under the name of a company of which Harris is a director. EP

YOU WISH: Melbourne CBD \$6.88m

Is there a better city address than Collins Street?

If living a cocktail shake from upmarket boutiques such as Dior and Louis Vuitton appeals - and if you have a budget that means shopping at those stores is something to sniff at - then the Collins House penthouse will likely tick every box.

Designed by Bates Smart, the sky-high property occupies 245 square metres on the 56th floor, almost 200 metres above 466 Collins Street.

The building is set to be the new supermodel - tall, thin and stylish - of Melbourne's skyline, and is one of the world's skinniest residential skyscrapers.

The penthouse - on the market for \$6.88 million - has double height ceilings, fireplaces set in marble walls, herringbone timber floors and floor-to-ceiling glass windows to exploit the 180 degree views.

Developer the Golden Age Group has created sub penthouses on levels 54 and 55 aimed at families eyeing a move to the inner-city.

The penthouse is one of 263 apartments in Collins House, which will reach above the historic Makers Mark building. EP

SHINE BRIGHT

It stands to reason that this McKinnon house has plenty of sparkle. It belongs to fashion designer Natalie Coyle and her husband Scott Sheezel, the creative and business nous behind the Tilkah boutiques around Melbourne.

The three-bedroom property is in the coveted local college local and has a secret upstairs wing.

Coyle is busy launching Tilkah's spring bag and jewellery range, but found time to impeccably spruce 3 Lysbeth Street ahead of August 29 auction.

Buxton's Simon Wood is handling the sale. EP

LITTLE BEAUTY

One of the smallest houses created by architect Nicholas Day has hit the market in

Toorak, near the Hawksburn Village and Brookville Gardens. Andrew Bond, a general manager of Menzies Facility Services, owned by multi-millionaire Rod Menzies, can expect about \$1.7 million for 27 Canterbury Road - a two-storey terrace with three bedrooms

and an open-plan living and dining room overlooking a courtyard. Marshall White's James Scarff and Celeste White will auction the house later this month. MP

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