# The West Australian

HD Two greats turn page on history

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**Business** history buffs aren't going to be short of reading material next month, with both Wesfarmers and its Coles supermarkets empire releasing tomes to mark their centenaries.

Wesfarmers' imposing hardcover book, The People's Story by award-winning author Peter Thompson, is already back from the printers in time for its official launch on February 18.

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However, its print run of 8500 is dwarfed by Coles' own softback offering, wait for it . . . Coles 100 Years of Quality, Service & Value. Coles is turning out 100,000 copies to ensure each and every staff member gets one.

Mundella's Bright delight

Local udder-squeezers done good Peter and Anne Hector are in line to make a bundle of cash after selling their dairy business, Mundella, to China's Bright Foods.

But the picture on this page is proof that the family is no overnight success. Taken in the 1970s it shows Anne, centre, getting down to **business** at the **dairy**. The Bull (a big fan of Mundella's Greek Honey range) wishes the hard-working couple the best in their future endeavours.

### Oliver nominees

WA's battered small and mid-cap resource companies may have gone through an annus horribilis but there is some cause for cheer with the announcement of nominees for this year's Craig Oliver awards.

Beadell Resources, BC Iron, Doray Minerals, Gindalbie Metals, Northern Star Resources, Phoenix Gold, Regis Resources, Sandfire Resources and Toro Energy have been short-listed to pick up the gong, or sculpture rather.

Subiaco's Thomas Meihofer Jewellers has crafted a unique sculpture in silver, titanium, **copper** and **gold** (at least the materials would have been cheap — to the consternation of the companies attending). The award was created in memory of the former non-executive director of Sundance Resources, who was killed in 2010 when a plane carrying the entire Sundance Resources **board** crashed in the Congo.

It will be presented during the RIU Explorers Conference, which runs at Fremantle's Esplanade Hotel on February 19 and 20.

Good luck all.

Awards left in Crabb's hands

Speaking of awards nights, the Bull was surprised at the Chamber of Minerals and Energy's choice of presenter at one of its coming events. The chamber's politics is slightly to the right of Ghengis Khan so the decision to lure ABC/Fairfax luvvie Annabel Crabb as host seemed odd. Then again, the March 7

event, Women in Resources Awards, is celebrating diversity, so Crabb's sometimes left-of-centre pedigree may not be out of place.

#### Sexy intrigue

The always entertaining interface between Perth's sex industry and the **business** world will again be probed next month when John Kizon and **business** partner Nigel Mansfield front the bench over insider trading charges relating to buying shares in online sex shop **business** Adultshop.com.

For those readers with hazy memories, a quick recap. The pair originally faced 52 charges, which included allegations relating to trade in a **company** called My Casino , but most were dismissed in 2010

A year later, the WA Court of Appeal ordered a retrial on 34 charges in relation to Adultshop.com — the online "marital aid" service set up by the celibacy movement's man-of-the-year, Malcolm Day.

The pair appealed to the High Court, which last year ruled against them.

"Every punter on St Georges Terrace should be terrified," was Kizon's take on the decision.

## Pankaj pursuit

Still on the subject of law and order, word has reached the paddock from Oslo that a key figure in Yara International's expensive pursuit of Pankaj Oswal's fertiliser plant near Karratha has slid further into the judicial manure, or judicial gjødsel as they would say in Norway.

Tor Holba, was Yara's head of upstream **operations** and was behind the ugly decision to spend \$176 **million** buying an extra 5 per cent **stake** in Burrup Fertilisers in 2008, shortly before the collapse of global financial markets.

He has been indicted by the slickly titled Norwegian National Authority for Investigation and Prosecution of Economic and Environmental Crime (apparently the agents have A4-sized business cards) over alleged corruption involving the Norwegian fertiliser giant.

#### Case for cash

If you see a broker from Euroz sweating on February 21 it will be because they are waiting for a key shareholder vote on whether the **firm**'s bonus system should be altered to, well, give staff bigger bonuses.

Executive chairman Andrew McKenzie sent a letter to shareholders last week in which he outlined the case to create a deeper bonus pool by making it 40 per cent of pre-tax profits, up from the current 30 per cent.

McKenzie put up several arguments for change, including that it would make it less likely that Euroz staff would be poached by better-paying companies.

A less kind Bull would suggest another way to guarantee a bigger bonus would be to make more money . . .

**CO** wsfrm: Wesfarmers Ltd | colsqj: Coles Group Ltd

i64 : Retail/Wholesale | i656 : Mixed Retailing | i6560002 : Department Stores | i8396 : Diversified Holding Companies | ibcs : Business/Consumer Services | iretail : Retail

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