



## SHOW BLOW

Horses ruled out of annual event

PAGE 5



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Top team ready for NESL showdown  
Three-page special

IN SPORT

# Bolted boss on spending spree



**MJT citrus SCANDAL**  
The Mark Richards Fiasco

DETAILS have emerged of Mark Richards' lavish lifestyle in the weeks leading up to his disappearance, as the police dragnet closes in on the citrus fugitive.

Mr Richards' personal assistant at MJT Marketing, Karen Young, has spoken

of her former boss's staggering ten-week spending spree with other people's money.

She claims the cash splurge included flying his wife out from New Zealand three times, taking her on a luxury holiday to Noosa, paying for an employee's

trip to Vanuatu, flying his sister-in-law up from Tasmania and bankrolling the trips of two female employees from New Zealand.

He also paid \$300 a week to sponsor Olympic hopeful Claire Mallett,

Continued Page 2

## New centre is coming to life



FEVERISHLY packing shelves in readiness for the October 30 opening are Target store manager Lisa Morrison with Shonell Gullotta.

PROGRESS at the \$65 million Griffith Central shopping centre is steaming ahead with the two signature stores already stocking up the shelves.

The Area News was given an exclusive glimpse inside the centre this week ahead of its much-anticipated October 30 opening.

Flooring and a state-of-the-art security system have been completed with specialty stores now at the fit-out stage.

The centre's two anchor tenants - Target and Ritchies IGA - are already piling stock onto the shelves.

Peninsula CEO Simon Morris said Griffith Central would transform from "shell to shopping centre" in the next five weeks.

"This is possibly the most substantial capital injection in Griffith's history and will landmark Griffith on the national retail map," Mr Morris said.

Mr Morris said the centre would be near or at full capacity on opening day.

### The stores so far

- Target
- Ritchies IGA
- Amanti Di Cafe
- Man to Man
- Noni B
- Millers
- Goldmark
- Gloria Jeans
- EB Games
- Supanews
- Flight Centre
- Chemist Warehouse
- Go Lo
- Fone Zone
- Fan Everyday Wear
- Ed Harry
- Angus and Coote
- At Home Homewares
- At Home Junior

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