

“If we upset someone, bad luck, because we want to get a fair go for the farmers” – says Geoff Brock

# Promise of ‘hard hitting’ grain report

A HARD-HITTING report from the Parliamentary Select Committee inquiry into the grains industry will be delivered by the end of September, according to committee chair, Independent MP, Geoff Brock.

“I will be fighting very hard to make certain when this report goes to the government, it makes some strong recommendations to government, at state and federal level, and the wider industry, that we need to do lots of soul-searching to ensure we have everything right for the future,” he said. “The report will probably be very hard-hitting and we make no apology for that as a committee.

“If we upset someone, bad luck, because we want to get a fair go for the farmers.”

Mr Brock said the committee heard evidence of growers in Western Australia charged up to \$12 a tonne

less on delivery and shipping tariffs.

He said the inequity needed urgent attention to secure the future of the state’s grain industry.

“I’ve learned a lot about the grain industry and how important it is for the regions,” Mr Brock said.

“I’ve discovered there have been senate inquiries into the grains industry and nothing has been done about it.”

He met with the committee’s research officer and the parliamentary secretary on Friday to discuss the next direction for the inquiry.

Mr Brock said the committee would be looking to meet with bulk grain handler, Glencore, which bought out Viterra recently, in coming weeks.

■ **GEOFF BROCK** comments on Balaklava’s switch to the Frome electorate – Page 11

## LOOK WHAT AWAITS A LUCKY LOCAL SHOPPER!



FOR those looking for a unique escape in a world of its own, five star eco and nature resort Thala Beach Lodge, located just outside of Port Douglas, is a wonderful prize to win.

All readers of the Plains Producer need do is shop locally and list your name with participating stores, shown on Pages 14 and 15.

Thala Beach Lodge offers seclusion in a stunning natural environment, situated on the headland of a two kilometre stretch of private-access beachfront north of Cairns and 15 minutes south of Port Douglas.

Easy airport transfers from Cairns Domestic and International airports make getting to the resort a breeze.

The resort offers a range of features, including a unique restaurant offering modern Australian cuisine and views of treetops that meet the expansive Coral Sea.

## Paradise beckons at Thala Beach Lodge

You can join the couple pictured above and enjoy unsurpassed views at sunset with a delectable cocktail in hand.

The resort’s accommodation consists of four different types of private bungalows, including the Sandpiper Suite, which offers the ultimate in privacy and romance with views over the secluded beach frontage and eucalypt forest. Facilities at the resort

include two freeform pools, with the main pool located at Thala’s open plan main building.

The pools feature waterfalls, spas and grottos, along with ample seclusion for some evening romance. Views over the forest and out to the Coral Sea are on offer at the pool’s edge.

The second pool is the ‘Rock Pool’, a smaller and more intimate swimming hole

with a waterfall feature that blends harmoniously with the natural surroundings, perfect for a honeymoon or anniversary under the stars.

Two kilometres of private sandy beaches at Thala provide the perfect opportunity for a sunset stroll, and will make one feel as if they’re in a paradise all of their own. If you’re up for a bit of informal beach front lounging.

Free activities at the resort include guided bird watching. There’s also a nature and wildlife walk led by flora expert Brett Kelly, who delights in sharing his knowledge of the plant species scattered across 145 acres of the resort’s grounds.

Thala Beach Lodge is located between world heritage rainforests and The Great Barrier Reef, making it the ideal base for exploring the natural attractions of the area or visiting the towns and attractions of Port Douglas and Cairns.

## RETRAVISION

HERE FOR 50 YEARS & HERE TO STAY!

- ✓ Over 50 years leading the electrical industry
- ✓ Locally owned and operated
- ✓ Part of a strong network of over 250 stores
- ✓ Proud supporter of the local community
- ✓ Best brands, best price, great service

see us & **save**



**HITACHI**  
81cm HD LED TV with PVR Function

**\$496**



**FUJIFILM**  
FinePix 14.0 Megapixel Digital Camera

**\$144**



**PANASONIC** Blu-Ray Player with 500GB Hard Disk Drive Recorder

**\$597**



**SUNBEAM**  
Compact Ceramic Heater

**\$68**



**DISHLEX** Dishwasher

**\$498**



**BUFFALO**  
2.0Tb External Hard Drive

**\$129**



**SUNBEAM**  
Safe & Sound Throw Electric Blanket

**\$68**



**ELECTROLUX**  
8.0 kg Front Load Washer

**\$798**

**BALAKLAVA ELECTRONICS**

28 GEORGE ST, BALAKLAVA -  
PHONE 8862 1552 OR 8862 2211

**in Rent**