

VERMONT SOUTH



Barry Plant Glen Waverley agent Mitch Palmer said he had received calls from UK buyers hoping to call Ramsay St home.

Picture: CARMELO BAZZANO N31WH998

Soap digs for grabs

INTERNATIONAL BUYERS EAGER TO SNAP UP A PIECE OF NEIGHBOURS REAL ESTATE

Melanie Gardiner

THE ultimate piece of *Neighbours* memorabilia could be snapped up by an overseas buyer.

It will be lights, camera, auction when 3 Pin Oak Court, Vermont South, goes under the hammer on March 2 — the first time a *Neighbours* house has been offered for sale publicly since 1999.

On the small screen the house is 30 Ramsay St and home to Toadfish "Toadie" Rebecchi, played by Ryan Moloney.

Since *Leader Realestate* broke news of the sale last week, Barry Plant Glen Waverley agent Mitch

Palmer has received inquiries from local and UK buyers hoping to call Ramsay St home.

But fans will not find Toadie's living room inside, because interior scenes are filmed at Global Studios, Nunawading.

The home's celebrity status is not the only drawcard — owners are paid a significant annual fee by producers FremantleMedia Australia.

"Astute investors would be crazy not to have a look at it," Mr Palmer said.

The amount paid is a closely guarded secret and will be blacked out in the Section 32 until buyers sign a confidentiality agreement.

GOOD NEIGHBOURS

- The Official Neighbours Tour visits twice a day, 365 days a year.
- Crews usually film once a week.
- Pin Oak Court has 24-hour security.
- Former residents of 30 Ramsay St include Stefan Dennis, Rachel Friend, Natalie Imbruglia, Bernard Curry, Madeleine West and Blair McDonough.

Owner Faye Pierce is downsizing from the four-bedroom home she built with her husband in 1973.

It is the third house in the street and features two living areas, a deck and pool.

"It's got a nice outlook from the back of the house and we thought, 'what a nice quiet court, our children can play and ride their

bikes,'" Mrs Pierce said.

In the mid-1980s, the mother of two noticed a man photographing her home.

"Then we got a knock at the door from Grundys to say they were thinking of filming in our court.

"We all thought it was a bit of fun."

The buyer will have to sign a contract agreeing to

keep up the garden, avoid changes to the facade without consultation, and provide access to the park at the back, Mrs Pierce said.

She has fond memories of meeting stars of the show including Kylie Minogue and Guy Pearce, and said buyers could look forward to some good off-screen neighbours too.

The price is undisclosed and inspections are by private appointment.

RPData reported the year-to-date median house price in Vermont South is \$650,000, up from \$345,000 in 2002.

Would you live on Pin Oak Court? Tell us at whitehorseleader.com.au

local business news

spruiker

Back in motion

BLACKBURN South's Back in Motion physiotherapy practice is promoting a new book by the founder of the group, physiotherapist Jason Smith. *Get Yourself Back In Motion* aims to encourage people to self-manage pain and optimise their health. The book is available at Back In Motion, 164 Middleborough Rd. Details: 1300 694 325 or backinmotion.com.au

Shopping for kids

NUNAWADING has a new shop for parents looking for children's furniture, linen, books and toys. Parenthood opened in the Home HQ centre, 372-394 Whitehorse Rd in October. Manager Sasha May said they were open seven days a week. It is the third Melbourne store in the chain. Details: parenthood.net.au or 1300 287 771.

Fitness challenge

BLACKBURN North's Contours gym is inviting women to join its 6 Week Challenge from February 11. The gym will donate \$10 to Ovarian Cancer Australia for every challenger entered in the intense program of exercise and nutritional guidance. The gym is in the North Blackburn Shopping Centre, Springfield Rd. Details: contours6weekchallenge.net.au or phone 9878 2555.

Helping with pain

SURREY Hills' Spring Osteo Clinic has helped more than 1500 patients to overcome and manage pain since it opened three years ago. The practice has three osteopaths and a massage therapist and treats children and adults with pain. Details: 9830 7044.

Move your feet

VERMONT'S Lou-Na Performers Dance School is taking enrolments for this year's classes. The school offers funk, jazz, tap, classical, cheerleading, bopping babies, and Zumba. Details: lounaperformers.com.au

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