



Coast where unit owners can grill politicians and public figures about the rising costs of living. Unit Owners Association

the meeting. Mr Stevens had previously raised concerns about the costs of owning a unit on the Gold Coast.



authorities will remain in custody in Queensland another month after ex-proceedings were adj

Rogers put on the



Mat Rogers grins and bears it

EXCLUSIVE
DEAN GOULD

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MAT Rogers was among friends yesterday – the type of mates who can sledge and laugh at your expense, as long as you'll cop it.

For the recently retired footballing superstar, there was no option but to sit there and take it.

More than 200 people attended The Rat's Roast at Jupiters Casino yesterday to pay tribute to a sportsman who played rugby league for the Gold Coast Titans, the Cronulla Sharks, the Queensland Origin team and Australian Kangaroos. He also played rugby union for the NSW Waratahs and Australian Wallabies.

It is little wonder then that the



Celebrity roasters and roasted include (from left) Phil Waugh, John Cartwright, Chris Close, Wendell Sailor

line-up of roasters included rugby league identities Phil Gould, Wendell Sailor, John Cartwright and Gorden Tallis, alongside former Wallabies Ewen McKenzie and Phil Waugh.

Tallis, one of the toughest in rugby league, mocked Rogers' performance on the end of some of football's best back lines.

"The only reason wingers score tries is because they are marked by wingers," he said.

McKenzie cited the weird injuries Rogers kept coming up with during

his playing days, including almost cutting his finger off on a collapsed massage table and hurting himself slipping over in a bath.

"He used to have a saying, they don't pay me to train – well, what else did he get paid for, because he never played."

As much as the stories entertained, there was a sense of constraint on the high-profile commentary. It was as if they held back the juiciest – and probably funniest – details. Political correctness

has oozed into even the last of blokedom – the testimon

But the sentiment for a tr athlete and superb ambas sport was overflowing.

Titans CEO Michael announced Rogers as the inaugural inductee into the Hall of Fame.

"We are a young club so have a lot of tradition but have a lot of spirit," he said you Mat, for all you've done club and for the Gold Coast

Top women reflect on their journey

LUCY ARDERN
& **SUZANNE SIMONOT**

JUGGLING her own business while raising two boys alone and volunteering for various community groups, Lucy Cole is someone to whom most modern women could relate.

The high-profile professional is best known as the boss of Lucy Cole Prestige Properties but selling some of the Gold Coast's most luxurious homes is just one of the things she squeezes into her day.

Last year Ms Cole took over as president of the Surfers Paradise-Broadbeach Chamber of Commerce and she is also involved in a number of community groups as a board member, as well as being known for her fundraising.

"It is phenomenal where women



Lucy Cole was with equals at International Women's Day celebrations yesterday

have come from in such a short time," Ms Cole said.

"But it is not easy and there is such a long way to go still."

Ms Cole was not the only one reflecting on the unique challenges and achievements of women this week, with one of the major International Women's Day functions being staged at Palazzo Versace yesterday to launch Karen Phillips' book, Women's Words of Wisdom, Power and Passion.

A diverse group of 50 Australian women provided anecdotes,

photographs, insights and advice for the independently published release, which Ms Phillips hopes will inspire women to connect, share and learn from each other.

Gold Coast Publications managing director Sylvia Bradshaw unveiled the book at Ms Phillips' monthly Early Risers Club to a crowd that included Terri Irwin, Fiona Coote, Emma Snowsill, Karni Liddell, Ann Middleton, Roma Blair, Tammy Hamawi, Sharon Kolkka and Christine Fortelny, who all feature in it.

Ms Phillips, Miss Coote, Ms Irwin, Ms Blair, Ms Hamawi and Mrs Fortelny were still on a high after going to Government House in Canberra on Tuesday, where Governor-General Quentin Bryce launched the book as part of International Women's Day.

