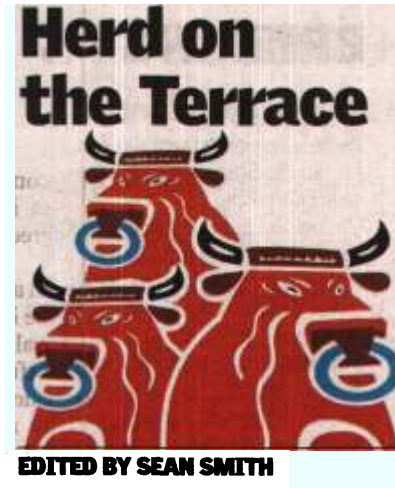




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Old mates gather at new brokerage

Also in March the Bull caught wind of some old names kicking around in a new broking venture, Blackswan Equities.

The new brokerage, headed by former Porter Western and Macquarie scrip shuffler Simon Lyons, has reunited some former work mates through a merger with Stripe Capital and this week celebrated its first branded capital raising by tapping investors for \$5.2 million for Azumah Resources.

Other one-time Macquarie staff in the rebadged venture include Brian Bates, Phil Grant, Tony Kenny, Tim Weir and Jamie Mann. Former Hogan & Partners resource analyst Tony Lofthouse has also joined the team, perhaps not surprising given that Blackswan took over the Hogan & Partners' office lease at BGC Centre after Terry Hogan and Eve Broadley closed the firm in December. Macquarie is a major shareholder in Azumah.