



## **AUSfund finds more than \$800,000 in Cairns MEDIA RELEASE - August 25, 2006**

Australia's Unclaimed Super Fund, AUSfund, has returned more than \$800,000 to the citizens of Cairns in the twelve months since the *Cairns Post* ran a story the story about Australia's \$8.2 billion unclaimed superannuation.

AUSfund's executive director Mr David Haynes said today AUSfund had paid \$808,372.19 to 1,223 following the story that ran in the newspaper last September.

"We are very grateful to the Cairns Post for running our list of lost members in Cairns and surrounding districts," he said

"AUSfund, which has more than \$600 million unclaimed super fund, is not just a warehouse for lost money," he says.

"While most Eligible Rollover Funds are happy to let members accounts remain inactive, AUSfund is Australia's only ERF which actively seeks to unite members with their unclaimed superannuation."

Mr Haynes says while AUSfund has about 1.4 million accounts, the ATO has 4.6 million 'lost' accounts on their Lost Members Register - with average balances of more than \$1,500.

Mr Haynes says it's easy for people to track down lost superannuation. "It's not hard, or time-consuming and it doesn't have to cost you a cent," he says.

"There's no need to pay anyone to find unclaimed superannuation. They just need to log on to [www.unclaimedsuper.com.au](http://www.unclaimedsuper.com.au) and follow the links. If you can't find your name in any of AUSfund's accounts, we have a direct link to the Australian Taxation Office register."

Australians become separated from their superannuation in a number of ways. People change address and forget to advise their superannuation fund; others change their workplace; women, in particular, move in and out of the workforce; and young people in the 18-39 age group move between jobs a lot more.

By consolidating the super accounts into one low-fee super fund, which is AUSfund, Australians can save hundreds of dollars a year in fees and multiple insurance premiums, adding up to additional thousands in retirement.

The top 10 benefits paid in Cairns were:

\$61,432.56;  
\$53,877.58;  
\$35,386.11;  
\$35,018.68;  
\$31,341.05;  
\$29,057.55;  
\$12,488.01;  
\$6,888.24;  
\$5,372.27;  
\$5,108.86