

A Melbourne legend

All Brown is probably Melbourne's most famous football writer and even had his grinning face emblazoned across the back page of the old *Melbourne Herald*. The scribe was one of only six media representatives to be inducted into the AFL Hall Of Fame in 1996 after 30 years covering the VFL/AFL.

Brown died last year at the age of 88. The executors of the estate have instructed Carmichael & Weber in conjunction with Earnest Williams & Sons to auction his East Melbourne property.

The double-storey Victorian terrace house at 27 Gipps Street



is just a stab pass from the MCG and a brisk walk from the Hinders Street headquarters of the now-defunct *Herald*.

Carmichael & Weber director Graham Kane expects the three-bedroom house to sell for at least \$950,000 at the November 22 auction.

THE KEYHOLE



MIKE BRUCE AND ANDREA MOSS UNCOVER THE HOT PROPERTY GOSSIP

Hammer fails to nail Alf's home

• THE East Melbourne balcony terrace that was home to legendary football writer **Alf Brown** for 50 years was passed in at auction yesterday.

The two-storey house at 27 **Gipps St** has seven main rooms and is on a 50m-deep block, across from Darling Square Park and a few doors from Hoddle St.

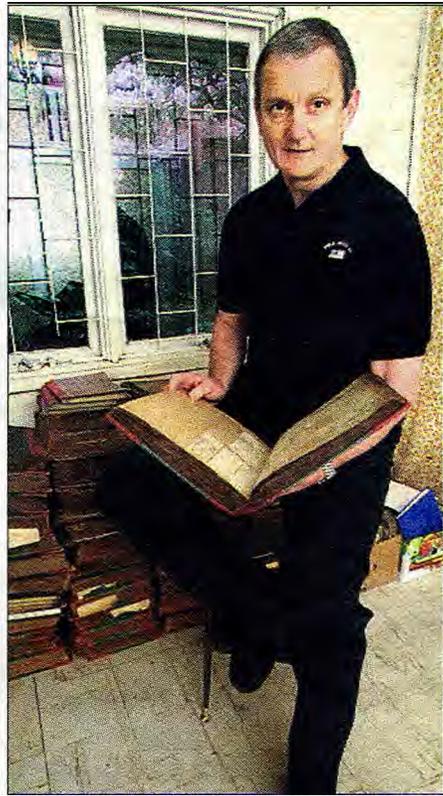
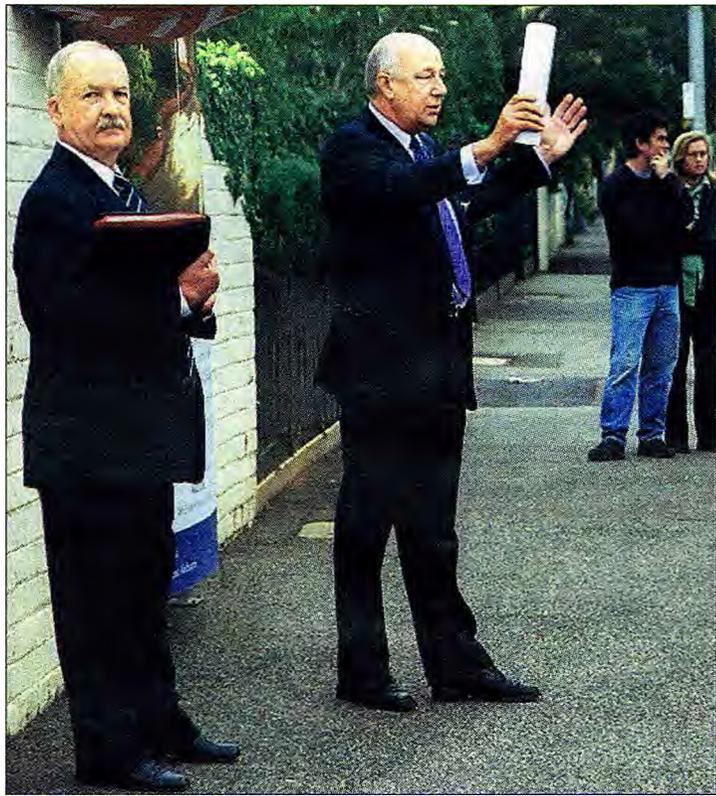
Auctioneer **Graham Kane** of **Carmichael and Weber** opened the auction with vendor bids of \$900,000 and \$910,000, but there was not a whisper from the crowd of about 60.

The property was quoted at \$900,000 plus during the campaign.

It was an executor's sale. Brown died last year and his wife, **Rita**, passed away earlier this year.

Brown was inducted into the AFL Hall of Fame in 1996 after a 34-year career (1945-1979) as chief football writer at *The Herald*. He covered an estimated 1000 matches, including 34 Grand Finals.

His son, **Bruce Brown**, who played a few games with Melbourne in the early 1970s, said the piles of reference scrapbooks and other memorabilia his father had kept since the 1940s would be offered to the Australian Football Museum at the QV development in Lonsdale St.



Not a whisper: A lonely Gipps St yesterday (left) and Bruce Brown (right) with his legendary father's scrapbooks.