

[QUICK TOUR OF RR's CREDIBILITY IN EARLIER PUBLIC DEBATES](#)

Identifying Peter Costello as Australia's biggest-taxing Treasurer: *Mr Costello was dismissive of research from Macquarie Bank interest rate strategist **Rory Robertson** that Canberra had collected more tax revenue and kept more of it for itself than ever before. Mr Robertson said Mr Costello almost certainly was Australia's biggest-taxing treasurer. A separate report, from the Centre of Independent Studies, says the tax burden on Australians is growing at more than double the inflation rate.* <http://www.theage.com.au/news/national/figures-clear-decks-for-budget-reform/2007/04/24/1177180651446.html>

Ross Gittins is the Herald's Economics Editor: ... *Truth is, Mr Costello's been suffering an embarrassment of riches. He's been trying to get rid of money because he's so sensitive to the charge that he's our highest-taxing treasurer. Mr Costello tries to conceal that fact in his budget papers by the simple expedient of pretending the GST isn't his tax. But **that pesky Mr Robertson** has been checking. It's clear from the Bureau of Statistics' independent figures on federal revenue collections and from a special series Mr Robertson has calculated (to overcome the discontinuities associated with the complicated federal and state tax changes involved in the introduction of the GST) that it's still true: Peter Costello is our highest taxing treasurer.* <http://www.smh.com.au/news/business/gsts-not-the-financial-free-kick-costello-says-it-is/2006/07/07/1152240492841.html?page=2>

'Rate Cut' Rory Bets Australia's Highest Peak on House Prices
<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=newsarchive&sid=aBGpZWYKLiWE>
Macquarie's Robertson Wins Mountain Bet on Australian Houses
<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=newsarchive&sid=aJua.fRYs1KQ>

RR account of September 11 in NYC:
<http://news.sky.com/home/article/1029209> ;
<http://parlinfo.aph.gov.au/parlInfo/search/display/display.w3p;db=CHAMBER;id=chamber%2Fhansard%2F2001-09-17%2F0035;query=id%3A%22chamber%2Fhansard%2F2001-09-17%2F0003%22>

Piece from ABC's Quentin Dempster
<http://www.abc.net.au/stateline/nsw/content/2006/s1921142.htm>

Laurie Oakes (Nine Network and *The Daily Telegraph*): ...*But it's interesting to read comments by more **independent experts. Rory Robertson**, a Macquarie Bank interest rate strategist, for one. ...Robertson... proceeded to demolish one of the resources sector's key arguments - that the proposed tax is "retrospective". "After all," he wrote, "every city-based household knows that its rate payments will trend higher over time, even if the home was bought many years earlier. Owners of rural property know that the government rates and rents are linked directly to the latest assessed value of the property, and that if that value doubles, then payments to government will tend to rise. ..."Finally, those of us working over decades to build 'human capital' would struggle to argue with a straight face that any increase in income-tax rates is unfair because it is 'retrospective'."*
<http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/opinion/mining-new-depths-of-political-bastardry/story-e6frezz0-1225872694228>

Michelle Grattan, "Hoping to ride out the storm": **Robertson** notes the advantages Australia has from here on: room for a flexible monetary policy, which will see further interest rate cuts if needed; a big fall in the dollar, which helps exports; the Government's ability (with a no net debt starting point) to boost spending to stimulate the economy if necessary, and continuing high immigration adding to demand. <http://www.theage.com.au/news/opinion/hoping-to-ride-out-the-storm/2008/10/09/1223145539681.html?page=fullpage>

Housing affordability: why some cities are so expensive http://www.crikey.com.au/2007/02/23/housing-affordability-why-some-cities-are-so-expensive/?wmp_switcher=mobile&wmp_tp=2

Old CV on web: <http://www.ecosoc.org.au/node/201> (Includes initial error - it's always been "Rory"!)

rory robertson

economist and former-fattie 😊

now fairly fructose free!

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