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THE
AUSTRALIAN
BALLET IN BEIJING

OUR
SPORTING
HEROES

LIBBY TRICKETT
TOM SLINGSBY
KY HURST
GLENN BOURKE
& JACOB WALKER

MEET THE
TASTEMAKERS
NET-A-PORTER
MCM HOUSE
THE HATMAKER

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ISSUE 14
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Wild Oats XI on Sydney Harbour in 2014.

One of the most satisfying circumstances in life comes when business and pleasure can merge. Fortunately, this has been an experience for me for many years, but never more so than now. It is due primarily to the national and international success we are enjoying with Hamilton Island, and my favourite sporting activity, sailing. Making this special circumstance even more pleasurable is the strong link that exists between the two, namely Audi Hamilton Island Race Week, which is staged in August each year. I am proud to say that Audi Hamilton Island Race Week 2015 was the most successful in its 32-year history. Our remarkable fleet of more than 200 sailboats confirmed once more that this

superb week of sailing and vibrant onshore events stands as Australia's premier big-boat regatta. Unfortunately, this year I was unable to participate with our yacht, Wild Oats XI, but for good reason. She was away on the other side of the Pacific Ocean, competing in one of America's major ocean racing events, the Transpac Race from Los Angeles to Hawaii. It was certainly a worthwhile endeavour as Wild Oats XI's name went into the record books, having scored the fastest time for the course. Ironically, this record goes hand-in-hand with the records we are establishing with Hamilton Island — record occupancy levels and unprecedented accolades from our guests who have enjoyed the Hamilton Island experience.

On the note of success, in 2016 we will be celebrating the 10th anniversary of our world-class luxury resort, qualia, which is located on the secluded, northern-most tip of Hamilton Island and is very close to my family's heart. From the outset, qualia has set new standards in luxury by presenting unique experiences for the pleasure of Australian and international guests, and it continues to do so.

While we continue to focus on improving every aspect of the island experience, our sailing team is working hard to make Wild Oats XI even faster. She has been first to finish in the Rolex Sydney-Hobart race on a record eight occasions, but this year we are expecting the toughest challenge ever, in particular from the American supermaxi, Comanche. We know that, despite being 10 years old, Wild Oats XI remains highly competitive, but even so, we still need to give her every chance for success, so she's been getting a new lease of life. She now features a completely new hull shape forward of the mast; a shape which all our research tells us will make her even faster.

When she goes to the start line on Boxing Day, she will be back to being 30-metres long, and proudly carrying the Audi logo on her mainsail. She will also be representing Hamilton Island Yacht Club in what is considered to be the world's greatest ocean racing contest. For me, when it comes to success, there is a common thread between Hamilton Island and Wild Oats XI: always strive to be the best, then do your best to improve on it. My family and I hope you enjoy being at Hamilton Island as much as we do.

Bob Oatley
Owner, Hamilton Island

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CONTRIBUTORS



LUKE TSCHARKE, COVER PHOTOGRAPHER

BEST SUMMER SUNDOWNER? "For me it's hard to beat a Corona with Lime or a Franziskaner Wheat Beer."
WHAT ARE YOU READING? "A Beautiful Anarchy by David duChemin."
FAVOURITE WATER SPORT? "Stand up paddleboarding. I love spending sunny Saturdays paddling around Pittwater, north of Sydney."
WE LOVE A SUMMER PLAYLIST. WHAT'S ON YOURS? "Jack Johnson, Donavon Frankenreiter and Flume."
SO, FOOD. TELL US ABOUT YOUR SEASONAL INDULGENCE? "I love turkey and pudding at Christmas time!"
OCEAN OR POOL? "Definitely the ocean. Nothing like going for a dip early in the morning on a hot day."



ZAC AND JORDAN STENMARK, MODELS, CREATORS OF STENMARK.LIFE

BEST SUMMER SUNDOWNER? ZAC: "Feeling quite 'James Bond' at the moment so I'd say a martini." JORDAN: "It's a child's drink with an adult twist... vodka slushie!"
WHAT ARE YOU READING? ZAC: "I really enjoyed The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo and this is the next in the Millennium series: The Girl in the Spider's Web." JORDAN: "I just started reading Michael Clarke's Ashes Diary 2015. I am a massive cricket fan."
FAVOURITE WATER SPORT? ZAC: "I have grown up surfing and I find it an amazing way to start the day." JORDAN: "I love going for a long paddleboard and exploring the beaches. It is also a great workout."
WE LOVE A SUMMER PLAYLIST. WHAT'S ON YOURS? ZAC: "Always love John Mayer, Coldplay and Ed Sheeran. Also Bob Marley, Kygo, Louis the Child and James Bay." JORDAN: "Bondax, Duke Dumont, Flume, Vance Joy, Disclosure and Robin Schulz."
SO, FOOD. TELL US ABOUT YOUR SEASONAL INDULGENCE? ZAC: "In summer I love mangoes, can't get enough of them. In winter I enjoy inventing all sorts of different vegetable soups." JORDAN: "Coconut ice-cream all year round."
OCEAN OR POOL? ZAC: "Ocean. The ocean is my favourite place." JORDAN: "Ocean. No contest."



CARLA GROSSETTI, WRITER

BEST SUMMER SUNDOWNER? "When the sky is melting, my favourite tippie is a gin and tonic. A G&T tastes like it should with Stone Pine Distillery Dry Gin as its base, a jigger of Sin-Kō-Nah tonic syrup and Sifon sparkling mineral water. Happy days."
WHAT ARE YOU READING? "A Confederacy of Dunces by John Kennedy Toole."
FAVOURITE WATER SPORT? "I grew up in Cairns, in tropical North Queensland and I love snorkelling. I prefer snorkelling to diving because of the freedom it allows. I also enjoy swimming laps in the sea pools in Sydney."
WE LOVE A SUMMER PLAYLIST. WHAT'S ON YOURS? "I am listening to Feel Better by Caravãna Sun. I live in Cronulla and these boys are local and they play this kind of indie-gypsy surf-rock that makes you want to dance."
SO, FOOD. TELL US ABOUT YOUR SEASONAL INDULGENCE? "A bucketload of prawns, oysters, rock lobsters and mud crabs with a glass of current release Scarborough Yellow Label Chardonnay."
OCEAN OR POOL? "Ocean. Nothing like the salty kisses from the sea."



TERRY BIVIANO, DESIGNER

BEST SUMMER SUNDOWNER? "It would have to be an Aperol spritz or a glass of chilled Champagne."
WHAT ARE YOU READING? "I'm reading Becoming by Cindy Crawford. Not just a pretty face but an extraordinary businesswoman."
FAVOURITE WATER SPORT? "My favourite water sport is paddleboarding. You get to tan and work out at the same time."
WE LOVE A SUMMER PLAYLIST. WHAT'S ON YOURS? "On my summer playlist are chillout tunes from Café del Mar."
SO, FOOD. TELL US ABOUT YOUR SEASONAL INDULGENCE? "My seasonal indulgence would have to be summer fruits. I could live on fruit alone — nectarines, mangoes, watermelon..."
OCEAN OR POOL? "Ocean every time. I'm a true beach babe."



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THE ORIGINAL N°1 CUP

STAR POWER

Hamilton Island gets a visit from the biggest pop star in the world, Taylor Swift. By Noelle Faulkner.

She's a seven-time Grammy award winner worth an estimated \$80 million, she has sold over 10 million records and boasts a social media fan base that extends beyond a whopping 802.3 million fans. Taylor Swift is, without any doubt, the biggest pop star in the world. So, when the biggest musical star in the world finds herself at the end of her tour, yearning for a beautiful and luxurious place to relax, treat her family and her crew to a mini-break, as well as host an intimate concert for some of her biggest fans in Australia, where does she go? Hamilton Island, of course.

Recently in town for her huge 1989 World Tour, which is estimated to have sold over 350,000 tickets, the 25-year-old spent some time on the island, making her way around the Whitsundays and experiencing all the sunny pleasures Hamilton Island has to offer its guests. During her stay, Swift charmed the island's locals, from a gorgeously curious sulphur-crested cockatoo, whose portrait earned over 1.9 million likes and 18.8k comments on Swift's Instagram account, to the island's very own A-list celebrity, Willy the koala, who was lucky enough to hang out with Swift and her family during their stay.

"We are so thrilled that out of all the beautiful destinations that Australia has to offer, Taylor Swift chose Hamilton Island to spend her down time," said Hamilton Island's CEO Glenn Bourke. "Her visit has been huge for the island and we feel very lucky to have been able to host Taylor, her crew and her family, and show them all the wonderful range of things we have on offer."

Not only in town to relax and regroup, Swift also partnered up with Nova's Red Room to transform Hamilton Island's Yacht Club into an intimate concert venue. Performing



Taylor Swift, 1989 World Tour.

PHOTOGRAPHY: MARK METCALFE / GETTY IMAGES



Taylor Swift performing, Nova's Red Room.

"SO STOKED TO BE ABLE TO TAKE MY BAND AND CREW ON A VACATION AT THE END OF A LONG AND WONDERFUL TOUR."

to an audience of 100 prize winners, Swift hit the stage and belted out hit after hit, from 'Blank Space' to 'Out of the Woods', 'Wildest Dreams', and the track that turned the striking, sculptural venue into an energetic dancehall, 'Shake it Off'.

According to tourism experts, Swift's visit is estimated to be the island's most valuable celebrity drop-by so far – and that includes the time Oprah, Queen of daytime TV, stayed here during her famous 'Great Australian Adventure' in 2010. But when you look at the stats, it's not hard to see why. Swift's five Hamilton Island holiday 'grams have so far generated over 8.2 million likes on the social media app alone, garnering thousands and thousands of comments. Such is the power of Taylor Swift's Instagram. In 2015, the pop star, who has a follower count that is more than double that of the Australian population, topped almost every "most liked" list on the internet, well surpassing fellow musicians Beyoncé and Rihanna.

Though her visit caused a stir amongst the island's locals and staff, ever the humble and grateful young woman she's known to be, Swift posted a heartfelt thank you to the island's staff, saying she felt very lucky to have been able to visit one of Australia's most beautiful islands

and treat her nearest and dearest. "So stoked to be able to take my band and crew on a vacation at the end of a long and wonderful tour. For all their hard work this year, they really deserve it," she wrote. "Thank you to Hamilton Island for taking such great care of 125 of the people who work tirelessly to make sure the 1989 World Tour stage gets built, the lights are on, the costumes are made, the guitars are tuned, and the show goes on."



Taylor Swift and crew, Hamilton Island.



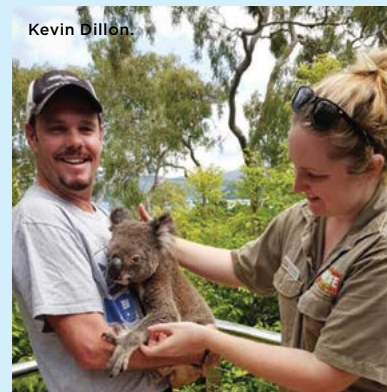
Taylor Swift making friends on Hamilton Island.

VIP: MEET WILLY THE KOALA



Taylor Swift and family.

He may have nuzzled up to the island's most famous guests, including the likes of Oprah, Entourage star Kevin Dillon and now, Taylor Swift, but Willy, Hamilton Island's most famous resident, somehow still manages to stay grounded. When he's not chomping his way through piles of eucalyptus leaves or napping in the shade, this 12-year-old marsupial loves cuddles, enjoying daily breakfasts with his fans at the park's 'Breakfast with the Koalas' and posing for selfies. A favourite among families, Willy and his koala clan at WILD LIFE Hamilton Island are constantly finding themselves at the mercy of the paparazzi, but to them, it's just another day being a celebrity.



Kevin Dillon.



Oprah Winfrey.



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BULLETIN BOARD

Filming, live broadcasts, fashion, and actors... it's all go and all part of our unique island life. Here, the latest updates. By Esther Holmes.



On set with Globo TV.



The cast, Totalmente Demais.

TOTALLY AWESOME: GLOBO TELENOVELA

All eyes were on the film crew as Brazil's largest broadcaster Globo TV — producers of the highly popular soap operas that screen to more than 20.8 million viewers daily — arrived on Hamilton Island for four days of filming. Globo came to capture the amazing views, diving, swimming, snorkelling and so much more as the backdrop to an episode of Totalmente Demais (translation: Totally Awesome). The romantic comedy tells stories of "love, resilience and redemption, glamour, partnerships and sabotage". The crew filmed at a private home on the island, at the reef and at Whitehaven Beach. Like, awesome.



Sunrise team, Catseye Beach.

BROADCAST NEWS: CHANNEL 7'S SUNRISE

Taking the entire Channel 7 Sunrise team on location is rare, but when the opportunity came to be a part of Audi Hamilton Island Race Week, the morning crew jumped at it. As host David Koch said on air: "Any excuse to come up to Hamilton Island is a good excuse. Our viewers just love it when we come up here. We've been up a few times, we've had a wedding up here, it's always huge ratings because it's such an idyllic spot." David Koch, Samantha Armytage, Natalie Barr, Mark Beretta and Edwina Bartholomew all came up for a live broadcast from Catseye Beach. They went for an afternoon of mud-crabbing with local Marine Biologist, Matt Vickers and later attended the Collette Dinnigan Unlaced Dinner at qualia's Long Pavilion, adding extra glamour to an already stylish evening.

WAX FABULOUS: QUALIA AND MAISON BALZAC

What's not to love about a candle called The Island created exclusively for qualia, in limited edition? The candle totally captures qualia's natural beauty with its notes of bergamot, watery green, frangipani, ylang ylang and hibiscus accompanied by amber, musk and vanilla. The fragrance evokes memories of a fabulous holiday overlooking the beauty of the Whitsundays, transporting guests back to the resort's pristine setting among all that natural Australian bushland, even when they are back home and feeling blue. Burn, baby burn, we say.

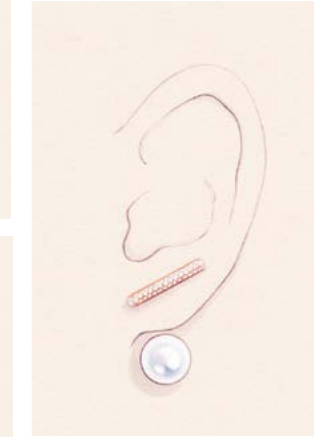
The Maison Balzac range, including the exclusive The Island candle, are available for purchase at Spa qualia, \$60 each.



qualia candle by Maison Balzac.



Paspaley Nautique Collection.



Launch of Paspaley Nautique Collection, Pebble Beach, qualia.

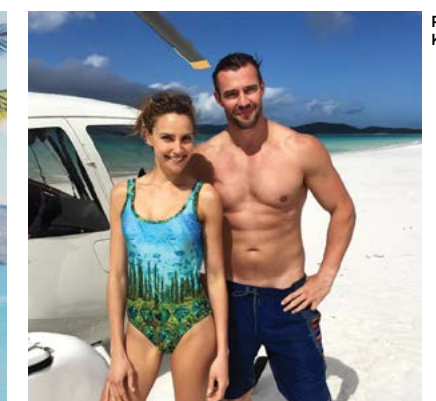


PERFECT PEARL: PASPALEY NAUTIQUE COLLECTION

"As with so many of our collections, we gravitate to the sea for our inspiration. This time we have channelled a Whitsundays spirit, creating a collection with a sense of chic fun and the sleek nautical vibe that sums up everything we love about Audi Hamilton Island Race Week," says Christine Salter, Paspaley Creative Director and granddaughter of founder Nicholas Paspaley. And so the limited-edition Paspaley Nautique collection was launched during Audi Hamilton Island Race Week. We all fell in love with the "open" pearl ring, and the gold ropes and clasps that almost resemble moorings. If we had to pick a favourite? The reversed pearl stud earrings: we love a celebration piece. Those Paspaleys are very clever.



Rachael Finch, Kris Smith.



Rachael Finch, Kris Smith.

WELL TRAVELLED: VIRGIN AUSTRALIA'S THE LONG WEEKENDER

Rachael Finch and Kris Smith visited Hamilton Island to film an episode of Virgin Australia's The Long Weekender. The pair spent a luxury weekend getaway at qualia, enjoying a buggy tour of the island; qualia's Talk and Taste sake and sashimi tasting; a morning bushwalk to the highest peak on the island, Passage Peak; dinners at coca chu and Bommie restaurant; a mud-crabbing experience; and of course sailing onboard Wild Oats XI and Alive during Audi Hamilton Island Race Week. As if that wasn't enough, Smith enjoyed a round of golf at the Hamilton Island Golf Club and Finch indulged in a spa treatment. All part of a day's work.



1

PARADISE FOUND: WHITEHAVEN

It feels wonderfully remote, although in reality Whitehaven Beach is just a short trip by helicopter, yacht or motorboat from Hamilton Island. It's always tough to tear yourself away from the legendary sparkling silica sand of Whitehaven Beach, but anyone who ventures deeper into the interior of Whitsunday Island – the largest in the archipelago – declares it a holiday highlight. Head north, up to pristine Hill Inlet and track the history of the indigenous Ngaro people. Walk south through the native bush instead and find spectacular swimming and hidden snorkelling spots.



6

SKIP TO IT

Hire a skippered yacht charter; cruise the easy-to-navigate islands, beaches and bays on your own bareboat charter; or soak up the best of sea and land with a sail-and-stay package. Budding captains can book lessons with the island's expert sailing crews to earn internationally-accredited qualifications. If a quiet sail into the sunset or luxury dinner cooked on board a traditional cruiser is more your style, then raise a sundowner and simply enjoy. Some do it for the sport, some for the buzz; others just want to relax and ride the tropical breeze.



7

CHILD'S PLAY

Thrill-seekers aged six to 14 years can take on the Quads for Kids adventure course in Palm Valley. Head to the Resort Centre to put dibs on a Water Walker, a big blow-up bubble that you climb inside and roll out onto the water. And the young ones will find new friends to hang out with in the Kids Fun Zone play area or the Clownfish Club childcare centre. Sports fans will also get a kick out of a few rounds of mini golf or a strike at the island's seven-lane bowling centre.

GOLF: TEE-TIME ANYONE?

Even when it's not about teeing off, this is the place to visit thanks to the breathtaking views. Follow up a tour of the unbelievable Dent Island scenery with a laidback lunch in the Clubhouse. The exacting course was designed by the legendary five-time British Open champion Peter Thomson, which throws down an 18-hole challenge to semi-pros and Sunday swingers alike. Catch the ferry across to our fairway to heaven – the Hamilton Island Golf Club – and you'll be amazed.



2

REFRESH, RELAX, IT'S THE REEF

Take a day-trip out to the Reefworld viewing platform where you can snorkel through the brilliantly coloured coral formations. Our other favourite and a totally spectacular way of soaking up the big, postcard-perfect picture is with a memorable scenic spin in a chopper with Hamilton Island Air. Prefer to take it slower? Spend a half or full day touring around the secret spots of the Whitsunday Islands or dive and snorkel out at Bait Reef with the Explore Group experts. Oh yeah, we're on island time now, and whether there's a day or a week left, you've time to explore the natural wonders of the Great Barrier Reef.

3



4

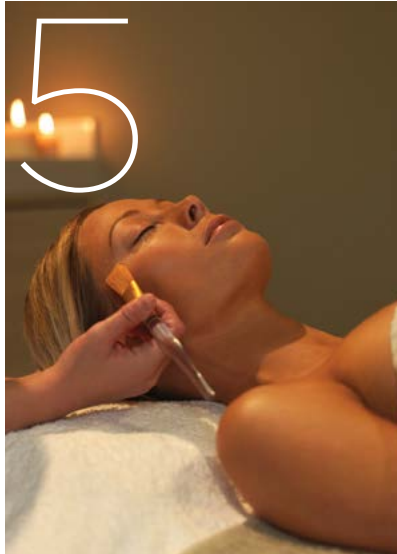
HOOK, LINE AND SINKER

Hook up with Predator Fishing or Renegade Fishing Charters – those seasoned salty fishermen can hire a private or share charter while first-timers can get advice on where the big fish are biting. The crew will demonstrate how to clean and prepare a catch for dinner. If you want to go solo, Hamilton Island Dinghy Hire is the best bet for a boat, bait and tackle. We love fishing and the joys of reeling in our own fresh catch.

5

UNWIND

Check in, rejuvenate your skin, soul and body, and completely bliss out. Deep inside the lush gardens near the Resort Centre is the sanctuary that is Spa wumurdailin. The therapists here are intuitive and apply indigenous-inspired treatments by Waterlily and LI'TYA in customised cocoons, scrubs, rituals and facial therapies. See a nutritionist or alternative therapist for the full wellbeing experience. Need a humidity-proof blow dry, wedding upstyle or emergency spray tan? Book into Island Hair and Beauty in the Resort Centre.



9

WILD AT HEART

Slippery lizards and snakes, creepy spiders, kangaroos, dingoes, the fierce Australian cassowary and the island's own resident crocodile are all here at WILD LIFE Hamilton Island. And why not say hello to Freddie the talking sulphur-crested cockatoo (he might even say "Hello" back), Hippo the wombat or Elvis the koala and his family. Take a guided walk to meet the animals, then stop for breakfast or lunch at the café. But under no circumstances can you leave without a cuddle and photograph with a koala: a classic Instagram favourite.



8

SALUTE THE SUN

A morning yoga session is one of our all-time favourite ways to start the day. For the energetic in need of a good stretch, a Body Pump class, weight session, cardio workout or game of tennis, head to the Hamilton Island Sports Club. Guests staying at the Reef View Hotel, Palm Bungalows, Beach Club, qualia or Hamilton Island Holiday Homes can also pick up a complimentary catamaran, kayak, windsurfer or paddleboard from Beach Sports on Catseye Beach. Paddle out, get wet and just go for it. One of the best ways to see the island is from a day or sunset sea kayaking session. Back on dry land there are 20 kilometres of bushwalking tracks leading to breathtaking lookouts and photo opportunities all over the island.



10

NEED FOR SPEED

Hire some wheels and ride the fire trails and bush tracks on an all-terrain vehicle. It's a blast, and one of the best ways to get to rugged outlooks on the island. More of an on-roader? Why not burn around the go-kart track or hire a golf buggy to get to know Hamilton Island. They are easy to drive and really just so much fun. Or power up on the water with a guided jet ski tour. Unforgettable and totally exhilarating.

To find out more or book your tours and activities visit the Resort Centre Tour Desk or call 07 4946 8305.

Ky Hurst,
Libby Trickett,
Tom Slingsby.



OLYMPIC HIGH

It was one of those epic moments. Olympic athletes coming together to talk about strength, determination and passion. Courageous, that's what they are, says Lisa Ratcliff.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANDREA FRANCOLINI

At Audi Hamilton Island Race Week 2015, Australian Olympians, two of them gold medalists, talked at an intimate dinner about their individual paths and the superhuman efforts that went into reaching the zenith in their chosen sports.

The athletes included the sailor from Gosford who fell to his knees at the Beijing Olympics then stood proudly on the dais four years later in London, Tom Slingsby; multiple world champion and Olympic gold medalist swimmer Libby Trickett (Lenton); Hamilton Island's CEO, multiple world champion and Olympic sailor Glenn Bourke; and the Ironman dubbed the greatest surf swimmer of his generation turned America's Cup grinder, Ky Hurst.

What each of them realised early in life is that they had not only a talent, but the doggedness and the work ethic to be the very best. Two weeks after Slingsby crashed out of the Beijing Olympics, he stood up at a function for 150 Australian Sailing Team members, patrons and sponsors at Hamilton Island and announced impromptu that he'd be back. "The big thing for me was I knew I was better than my result. I was in the gutter and very serious about giving it away, but knowing I might be the best in the world and couldn't prove it didn't sit well with me."

Four years later, the then 26-year-old five time world champion collected the first Olympic gold for his country in the Laser class, declaring,

"Finally I'm going home knowing that all the sacrifice over the years wasn't for nothing". Tom Slingsby's critical moment came after his 22nd placing in the Laser class at the 2008 Beijing Games. Thinking back to that time, Slingsby knows no matter what the goal, hard work pays off: "I've battled adversity and come back from it. It doesn't matter whether it's the America's Cup or business, I'll put in the work that's required. It's been a good life lesson." Glenn Bourke's dad was an Olympic swimmer and had high hopes for his son in the same discipline. But a teenage Glenn couldn't imagine himself slogging away for the next decade swimming up and down the black line and tentatively proposed switching to a sport out of his dad's coaching realm – sailing. The rest is history, and grit.

Bourke has won seven world sailing championships, including three consecutive world titles in the Olympic Laser dinghy class. He's sailed in the America's Cup; collected the Australian Yachtsman of the Year titles in 1989 and 1990, and represented his country in the Finn class at the '92 Olympics.

A pure love of swimming launched Libby Trickett's career. Then it became the love of competition and once that world opened up, the idea of representing her country drove her to bag 17 gold medals through three Olympics, four world championships and eight world records in freestyle and butterfly, one of which she still holds.

“When I was 14 I realised I had to put myself completely into it or walk away. Mum suggesting I could quit if I wanted was the most amazing thing because it made me realise I couldn’t go without my swimming. I made the choice to invest myself entirely and from there my performances improved.”

Trickett retired from Australia’s golden era of swimming in 2009, only to return the following year. In 2013 the champion pulled the plug for good, taking the drive and focus she’d learned from the competitive bubble to a more normal life away from the pool and on to her next set of challenges. Trickett and husband Luke enjoyed their babymoon at Hamilton Island in August and two weeks later, she gave birth to their first child, Poppy.

“Swimming was the passion I found early on in life. I learnt to strive for the love and passion, and not settle for mediocre. Flexibility of thinking is so important too. Life doesn’t always go to plan; you can plan and train and prepare but if you aren’t flexible with the circumstances that life presents, you’ll break. It’s important to bend, not break,” Trickett says.

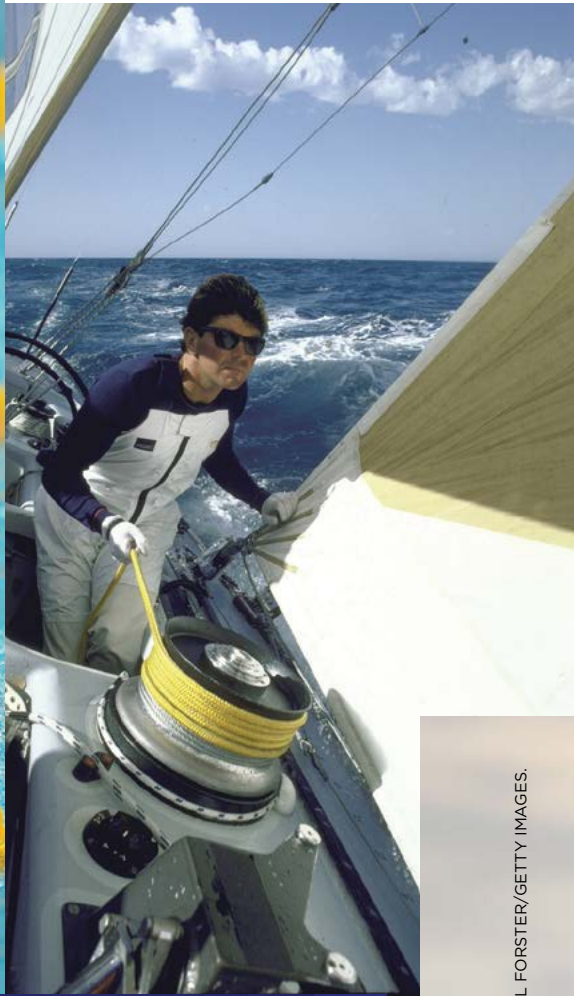
Ky Hurst’s stubbornness and ambition to succeed earned him the nickname “Killer” and made him one of the country’s most successful watermen — first in Ironman and surfing, then Olympic distance swimming. Now he’s part of Oracle Team USA with teammate Slingsby, who re-signed for Larry Ellison’s America’s Cup defence following their 2013 triumph.

Hurst admits he gets moody away from the ocean. The Australian Surf Life Saving Hall of Fame member found international success in his “soothing place”, claiming four Australian Ironman titles, 10 Australian surf titles and swimming the 10 kilometre open water swim at the Beijing and London Olympic Games. Judging by his toddler son, stubbornness may be in the genes. “I can see there are traits there I had as a kid,” Hurst smiles. “They are a little bit dangerous, but they are the extras that make people want to succeed in life.”

Hurst has proven he has the tanks for the grinding position on Oracle Team USA, and he knows he has the work ethic. “The racing is the easy part; it’s the blood, sweat and tears, the behind-the-scenes training program and fitness development for the odd opportunity to



Ky Hurst, Beijing Summer Olympics 2008.



Glenn Bourke, America's Cup, 1987.



Libby Trickett, Glenn Bourke, Ky Hurst and Tom Slingsby, Surf and Turf dinner, Audi Hamilton Island Race Week.

“THE QUESTION OF WHETHER ELITE ATHLETES ARE BORN OR MADE HAS BEEN LONG EXAMINED. DO THEY HAVE THE GREATER GENETIC IMPRINT OR WORK ETHIC... ?”

perform and put on a show.”

The question of whether elite athletes are born or made has been long examined. Do they have the greater genetic imprint or work ethic, or has a series of random events led them to opportunities that bypassed the kid standing next to them at the beach or at the pool? In the 1990s psychologist K. Anders Ericsson tested the theory that a person at the peak of their chosen profession is likely to have put in 10,000 hours’ practice.

Bourke agrees dedication is fundamental, but says it’s only one part of any success story. “You have to have the dedication plus the desire, in spades — nobody can make you be elite — and lastly, the ability. That’s why elite sportspeople are rare, because you don’t often get all three components mixed together in the right combination to be able to succeed regularly at the top level. There are plenty of flash-in-the-pan performers; perennial winners are one in a million.”



Libby Trickett, Beijing Summer Olympics 2008.



Tom Slingsby, London Summer Olympics 2012.

PHOTOGRAPHY: MARK DADSWELL; CAMERON SPENCER; CLIVE MASON; DANIEL FORSTER/GETTY IMAGES.

THE STENMARK BOYS: OUR GET-WET LIST

Our favourite international men of travel and style know a thing or two about getting some action on the water. Jordan and Zac tell REEF why Hamilton Island is their hot spot for chilling out *and* getting active. It's all part of the Stenmark Life.

ZAC STENMARK: WE'RE BEACH GUYS. "Most of our family holidays involved sun and sand. Whether it was surfing, swimming or just hanging on the beach with a group of friends, it was where I always wanted to be and still is. Even now when I have been overseas in big cities, the first thing I do is come home and go to the beach. It is just so relaxing and really lets me know I am home."

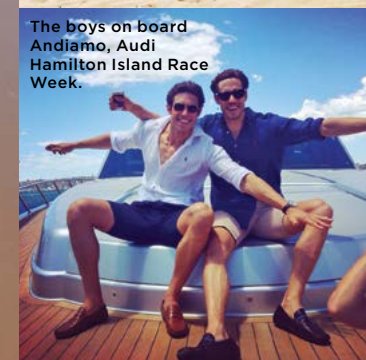
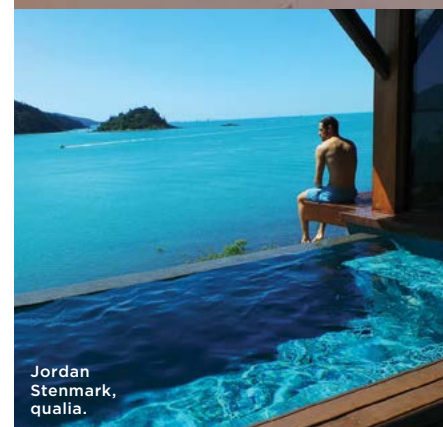
JORDAN STENMARK: I'D LOVE TO LEARN TO SCUBA. "I have had some amazing experiences snorkelling, especially on the Great Barrier Reef. There are so many beautiful fish and the colours of the coral are stunning, among the best in the world. Our most memorable experience there was swimming with a turtle. That's definitely not something you get the chance to do very often! They are such amazing creatures and it was such a relaxing and peaceful experience feeling truly connected to nature."

ZAC STENMARK: I THINK I MIGHT HAVE TO DO THE WHITEHAVEN BEACH OCEAN SWIM SOMEDAY SOON... "We both grew up doing a lot of competitive pool swimming but, instead of following the black line, more recently I've been doing ocean swims in Palm Beach and Balmoral Beach in Sydney, including a few races. I am really enjoying it — every race is different, depending on the conditions. Whitehaven will be another challenge, which I love."

JORDAN STENMARK: KAYAKING AND PADDLEBOARDING ARE A GREAT WAY TO EXPLORE. "We have always loved water sports. Kayaking and paddleboarding are a great way to see the waterways around Hamilton Island and also do wonders for your shoulders, arms and core. You will definitely feel it the next day if you haven't done it for a while. Zac and I have always been competitive with everything, so even if we set out for a leisurely paddle, it always ends up being a race of some sort!"

ZAC STENMARK: WE'RE INTO YACHTING. "We've been lucky enough to be able to both do the socialising and the sport. We did sailing lessons during primary school and growing up we had friends who were into sailing so spent a bit of time on the water. The coves and beaches around the Great Barrier Reef are perfect to drop anchor and have some lunch. We feel privileged to have had the opportunity to see some great yacht races over the past couple of years during Audi Hamilton Island Race Week."

JORDAN STENMARK: I LIKE THE SPEED OF A POWER SPORT. "While windsurfing is a great workout, I prefer the speed of the jet ski or speed boat. The Whitsundays are a great place to ski around with friends and pull into the beaches for a swim... then finish off the day back with a seafood dinner and a few drinks."



The boys, Pebble Beach. PHOTOGRAPHY: COURTESY OF STENMARK.LIFE

Jordan Stenmark, SOLAS Big Boat Challenge Sydney Harbour.

Zac Stenmark.

Jordan Stenmark.

Audi Hamilton Island Race Week.

The boys on board Andiamo, Audi Hamilton Island Race Week.

DIVE IN, DO IT NOW!

Go deep at: Snorkelling and diving experiences available through Explore.exploregroup.com.au; [Cruise Whitsundays.cruisewhitsundays.com](http://Cruise.Whitsundays.com.au).

Stretch out on: Catseye Beach on Hamilton Island and Pebble Beach at qualia. Take a walk to discover your own secluded beach on some of the island's walking trails, or a quick boat trip to visit famous Whitehaven Beach on nearby Whitsunday Island.

Cast off: Choose from a number of day-tour options sailing to Whitehaven Beach, sunset sails, charters or learn to sail hamiltonisland.com.au/things-to-do/tours-and-cruises. Or for sailing on a different scale, hire a windsurfer or catamaran from Catseye Beach Beach Sports Hut hamiltonisland.com.au/water-activities/beach-sports.

Flex: Hire kayaks and paddleboards (free for selected resort guests) at the Beach Sports Hut on Catseye Beach hamiltonisland.com.au/water-activities/beach-sports. Book adventure or sunset kayak tours with a guide hamiltonisland.com.au/things-to-do/tours-and-cruises.

Rev up: Book a jet ski tour to see secret locations and marine wildlife. [Jet Ski Tours hamiltonisland.com.au/water-activities/jet-ski-tours](http://JetSkiTours.hamiltonisland.com.au/water-activities/jet-ski-tours) or [Jetryder hamiltonisland.com.au/fishing-and-boating/jetryder-tour](http://Jetryder.hamiltonisland.com.au/fishing-and-boating/jetryder-tour).

Gear up: The next Fujifilm Whitehaven Beach Ocean Swim is November 2016 hamiltonisland.com.au/swim.

For the runner: The Great Whitehaven Beach Run is June 2016 hamiltonisland.com.au/beachrun.

For more information on any of the tours and activities, or to book, contact the Tour Desk on 07 4946 8305.

SUPERHERO

Is it a bird, is it a plane... no, it's the supermaxi Wild Oats XI and she's undergone a radical makeover to keep her at the very top of her game. By Rob Mundle.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANDREA FRANCOLINI

When you are 10 years old, and the most successful yacht in the 70-year history of the Rolex Sydney to Hobart classic, you are entitled to a makeover, especially when your supremacy in the world of ocean racing is about to be questioned for the second time by a much younger aspirant from America.

This is the scenario for the grand lady of international offshore yacht racing, the famous 30-metre long Australian supermaxi, Wild Oats XI. She has had a makeover unlike anything done before, and looks slimmer, sleeker, is "fuller" forward and has a smaller stern. All research indicates that these dramatic modifications will give Wild Oats XI a new lease on life: she should be considerably faster, especially when surfing down large waves at more than 30 knots with a massive cloud of sail billowing forth.

Interestingly, this silver-hulled racing thoroughbred, which since 2005 has registered a level of success in the Hobart that will probably never be surpassed, holds a direct link with Hamilton Island. Her owner is Bob Oatley AO, who, along with his family, owns Hamilton Island. And, because of this connection, Wild Oats XI will be contesting the Hobart race in December this year under the burgee of Hamilton Island Yacht Club.

Since being built in Sydney and launched on the eve of the 2005 Sydney Hobart race, Wild Oats XI has undergone small annual upgrades in a bid to retain a competitive edge. Even so, it was expected by many that her reign would come to an end in last year's annual dash to Hobart when the new, purpose-built, state-of-the-art American racer, Comanche owned by Jim and Kristy Clark, arrived in Sydney with the sole intention of putting the Australian champion out for the count in the classic.

It appeared that might happen when the black-and-red hulled Comanche blasted away at the start on Sydney Harbour like a rocket leaving

a launch pad. She was in front within seconds and, soon after, showed Wild Oats XI and the entire fleet of 118 yachts the way to the open sea. Comanche maintained a narrow advantage over Wild Oats XI for the first 300 of the 627 nautical miles to Hobart, until the conditions turned in favour of the Australian yacht. Soon after, she passed Comanche and went on to claim line honours victory.

It was a result that etched Wild Oats XI's name even more prominently into the record books: she had become the only yacht to be first-to-finish on eight occasions, had won the race twice on handicapped time, and established a race record time on two occasions.

There was, however, a distinct message accompanying that latest result: Wild Oats XI's supremacy was definitely under threat, and something major needed to be done if she was to have any chance of protecting her crown. That thought process became even more critical when two pieces of information filtered through from the northern hemisphere a few months ago: Comanche would be returning for this year's Sydney-Hobart race, and she had just set a world-record run for 24 hours under sail of 620 nautical miles. That meant she could cover the distance of the Sydney Hobart race in a day — a time that would put her more than 18 hours inside Wild Oats XI's current race record!

"We considered building a new yacht," said Bob Oatley's eldest son, Sandy, the Chairman of the family's commercial operations, including Hamilton Island Enterprises. "However, we quickly realised that if we were to do that the new design would not be a lot different to Wild Oats XI, simply because, on the vast majority of occasions, to be successful in the Hobart race you need an all-round yacht; one that performs well in all conditions — upwind and down, light winds and strong, flat seas and rough."

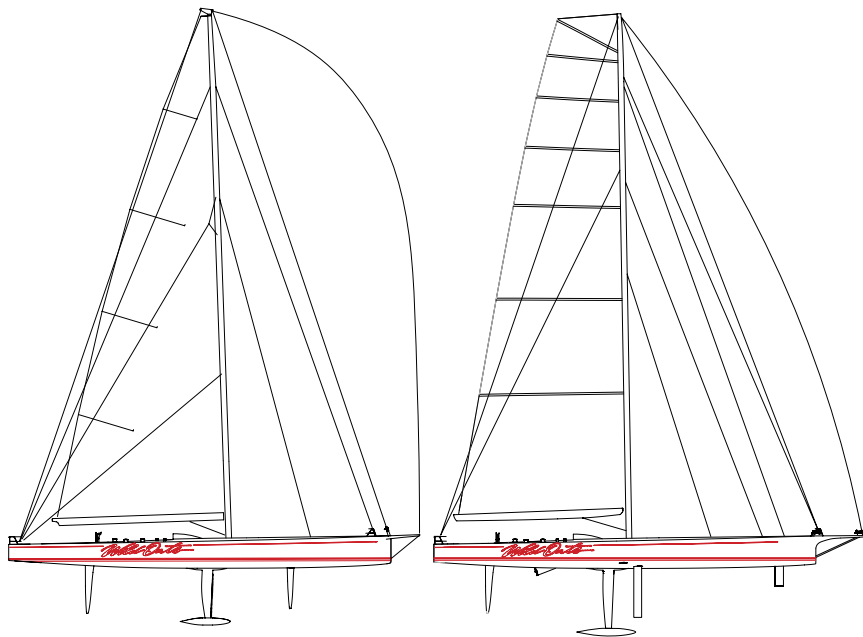
The answer was immediately obvious: give Wild Oats XI a massive makeover, or more specifically, give her the chop!

While the designers, builders and engineering

Rolex Sydney Hobart
Yacht Race 2014.



Wild Oats EVOLUTION XI



2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015



“THE SURGERY WAS SO DRAMATIC AND SPECTACULAR THAT IT HELD THE INTEREST OF SAILORS AROUND THE WORLD.”

consultants — plus Bob and Sandy Oatley, and Wild Oats XI’s skipper, Mark Richards — formulated the extent of the modifications, the yacht was prepared for one last challenge in her existing form. She was set up to contest the greatest race staged on the west coast of America, the biennial 2,225 nautical mile Transpac race from Los Angeles to Hawaii. She was entered as a joint venture between Bob Oatley and Roy P. Disney, of the Walt Disney family fame, and a veteran of 20 Transpac races, and she lived up to expectations. Wild Oats XI scored the fastest time for the race in a fleet of 60 yachts.

Two days after finishing that marathon, she was under sail once more: sailing more than 4,000 nautical miles back to Sydney, and an appointment with the boat builders. Design calculations and computer analysis confirmed the mid-section of the yacht could be retained, and that the fastest possible shape would see her forward sections made fuller (and thus more buoyant) and extended by two metres. However, with the Hobart race having a maximum overall length limit for yachts of 30 metres, two metres would also have to be cut from the stern so she stayed within that limit.

The surgery was so dramatic and spectacular that it held the interest of sailors around the world. Ten metres of Wild Oats XI’s bow was cut off when she was at her base on the shores of Sydney Harbour. Then, what remained was



Mid modification transportation on Sydney Harbour.

towed up harbour, lifted from the water and placed on a truck destined for the McConaghy boat-building facility on Sydney’s northern beaches. Since then the boat builders have worked frenetically, fitting the new bow section they had prefabricated while Wild Oats XI was away in America. They also lopped the two metres off the stern, and did everything possible to make her stronger and lighter through the use of the

most modern, space-age materials. Remarkably, the surgery was scheduled to take only two months to complete. That meant the new-look Wild Oats XI — or maybe it’s Wild Oats XLV — would be back in the water for trials in late 2015. If that is achieved, and the trials go according to plan, then the Hobart race showdown with Comanche has the potential to be one of the greatest sailing contests ever seen.

EXPLORE HAMILTON ISLAND

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Unique Experiences In Amazing Places

Jacob Walker, completed the 2015 Fujifilm Hamilton Island Triathlon in 1 hour, 35 minutes, 29 seconds.



MIND OVER MATTER

Testing terrain is no match for Jacob Walker, who used his personal adversity to motivate a triumph of physical and mental strength when competing in the 2015 Fujifilm Hamilton Island Triathlon, he tells us.

I've never been to Hamilton Island before. I've never done a triathlon before. But I love the idea of a spring race: you work your butt off for an hour or hour and a half, then you relax with some guilt-free beers. And I couldn't think of anywhere better to have them. I also knew that taking on the island — with all the hills it's got going on, and the weather — would be really tough. So when I thought I'd try triathlons, I thought "perfect"...

First I [went] on a training trip to Orlando, Florida and New York in preparation for the summer of triathlons that I am doing this year. So I've not just been training to get through this one event; I'm conditioning myself for a series. Hamilton Island is the start.

I might have done a marathon, but never a sprint [event] like this. You could say that a triathlon is shorter distances of everything, so a marathon has got to be harder, but you have to change your body to do things with explosive power and force, rather than at a pretty consistent pace for four hours. It's quite drastic.

Florida was all about preparing for the tropical heat, the humidity of Hamilton Island and the ocean swimming. But New York was more about reconnecting with the people I met through running the New York marathon last year for the brain cancer charity B*Cured. I revisited the finish line of the marathon and filmed my feelings about [going back to] the spot where I crossed the line after having surgery on my own brain cancer months before.

I was 28, it was late February 2014, when I was diagnosed. I was doing sports journalism for Yahoo!7 and I'd started to find that when a story broke in the newsroom and I'd need to punch out a few paragraphs quickly, I couldn't work out where words went in a sentence or remember the word I was looking for. In conversation I couldn't think on my feet.

At first my GP thought that I might have some anxiety and need to see a psychologist but thought I should have the MRI [scan] just to

be sure... they picked up the tumour straight away. I was in surgery within about 10 days. Before that there was a whole bunch of tests to determine which side of my brain all my thinking and control and speech were on, about five more MRIs and other tests.

It was all so swift that the emotional processing about actually having brain cancer didn't really hit until I'd got through the surgery and I realised what I'd been through, and what that meant for going forward. I just went into surgery thinking "I've got to get back to my job, I've got to get back to my usual life".

I very vividly remember waking up with more

"I VERY VIVIDLY REMEMBER WAKING UP WITH MORE DRIVE AND AMBITION THAN I'D EVER FELT IN MY LIFE. I HAD A SENSE OF DEFIANCE... I KNEW I HAD TO DO SOMETHING POSITIVE."

drive and ambition than I've ever felt in my life. I had a sense of defiance: I wasn't going to just lie there and let bad things happen; and I knew I had to do something positive quickly, before negative thoughts started creeping in.

That's what led me to sign up for the New York marathon that November.

There were a lot of times when I had doubts about whether I could pull it off. I was in pretty good physical shape before my diagnosis and I think that made a huge difference to my trajectory, but sometimes my neurosurgeon or neurologist would say, "Look, you're at risk of having seizures if you push too far here".

The first physical challenge was just walking. I could walk, but had such poor balance and stability. And I couldn't even have lunch with a friend without needing to sleep for four hours

afterward. I had to wait four weeks until I could go to the gym, and even then I was only allowed to walk three times a week. I started by holding onto the treadmill and going slowly. Two months post-op I could speed it up into a slow jog.

From that point, a marathon might seem a million miles away, but I know that one foot in front of the other gets you there. No treading water. I [ended up] doing my first run [on the road] only 100 days before the actual marathon. It was a bit of a steep challenge! Running that marathon in November, when I hit the wall at about 35 kilometres in, just looking down at my jersey that said "cure for brain cancer" with my name on the front motivated me. I was running for people who've lost their lives, with people who have lost people they love... I was the only person in that race who actually has brain cancer and could run.

Where the tumour was, and currently is, is in my communication, short-term memory and personality centre. I still have brain cancer that they can't remove — unfortunately there's some that is in a really tricky spot. Having said that, it's all pretty stable at the moment: no further growth since surgery. Sometimes I wake up and don't feel like myself; I feel detached or lost.

But I'm probably in the best physical shape I've ever been in. I've realised that not only can I do what "normal" people can do, I can do what fit, healthy athletes can do. That's satisfaction. Nothing's holding me back.

I do have days when I think about how every day's a blessing and those types of things that people say throughout cancer experiences, but for me it's more that I just don't want cancer to run my life. I almost live like anyone else does and just get on with it.

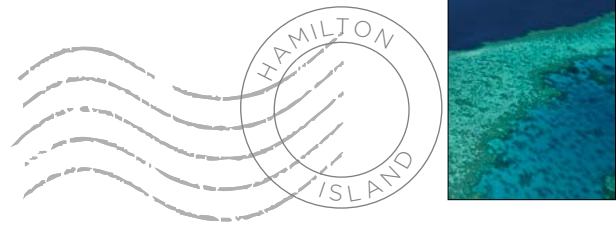
I have a YouTube channel now ([youtube.com/user/TheTexasRanger85](https://www.youtube.com/user/TheTexasRanger85)) and I run or compete for anyone who can get something out of what I do. I feel like I have a duty to be an example, to show them that there's something in not looking at the glass as half empty. I want to keep that on the radar."

PHOTOGRAPHY: HAMILTON ISLAND PHOTOGRAPHY.

PARADISE POSTCARD FROM... THE MINICHELLOS.

Anthony Minichiello, Terry Biviano and their gorgeous two-year-old daughter Azura sent us snapshots from their family holiday. #wewish #squadgoals #jealous? Us.

We took a family holiday up to Hamilton Island in August. Two nights at the amazing Yacht Club Villas. Obviously the longer you can stay, the better, but because it's such a quick, easy flight, it only takes a minute to get out of the airport. There's no stress and you're in this absolute tropical paradise, so even a short getaway feels really relaxing. There was downtime for us — we even got to the spa — and Azura loved the pool, the wildlife and the play areas. It's one of our absolute favourite places to be together.
Love Terry & Mini xoxo



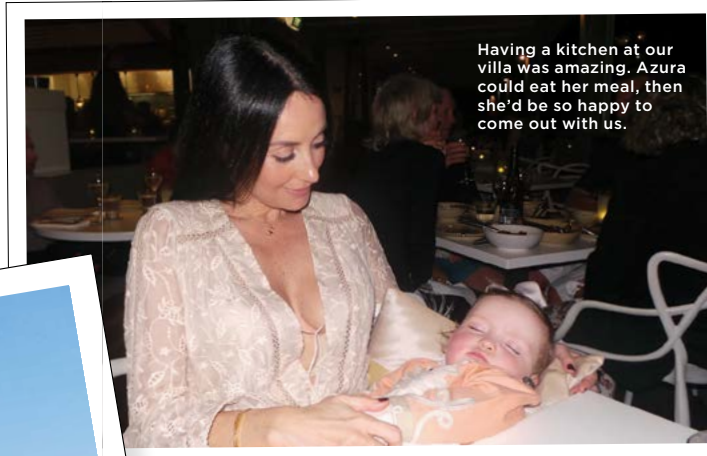
WE WENT TO WILD LIFE HAMILTON ISLAND TO SEE THE NATIVE ANIMALS. AZURA LOVED THE KOALAS. IT'S A FUN ISLAND FOR KIDS.



The flight's easy for a little one — just enough time for a little something to eat, a sleep and then you're there. Instant holiday.



The Yacht Club Villas have this amazing view, right on the water, and feels like a home. We had our own kitchen and a laundry, highchairs and you can hire strollers, plus there's a pharmacy and groceries two seconds away. Our wonderful concierge was on call 24 hours a day too.



Having a kitchen at our villa was amazing. Azura could eat her meal, then she'd be so happy to come out with us.

BABY'S FIRST HOLIDAY ON HAMILTON ISLAND

Take the stress out of travelling with your baby, we've got you covered. Request in advance on a complimentary basis a crib or cot, high chair, jogger pram, change mat and many more indispensable items that you may need. You can also order in advance from the Baby's First Holiday Convenience Shopping list, with items including organic baby food, Johnson & Johnson products and more - so the items are ready and waiting for your arrival and you can free up some space in your luggage. Child minding services are available at the Clownfish Club, catering for babies from six weeks onwards with a friendly, experienced and professional team. For details, visit hamiltonisland.com.au/babys-first-holiday

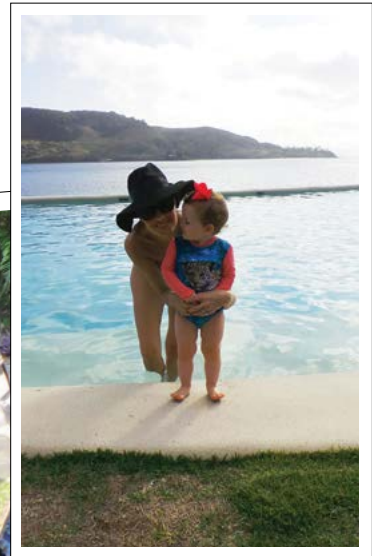
THERE IS A BEAUTIFUL POOL AT THE YACHT CLUB VILLAS AND AZURA LOVED RUNNING AROUND THE LAWNS. WE'D SEE WALLABIES JUMPING AROUND DURING THE DAY. IT WAS JUST GORGEOUS FOR HER.



THE ISLAND CAN ARRANGE BABYSITTING SERVICES TO GIVE PARENTS' SOME ALONE TIME. WE HAD TREATMENTS AT THE SPA. DIVINE.



The villas are really close to everything and you have your own buggy. Lots of fun.



THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT

About 85 percent of Australia's 400 different species of butterflies can be found in Queensland, with 40 hailing from the Whitsundays. Keep your eyes open it's an incredible sight to see on the island, says Queensland Museum entomologist, Dr Chris Burwell.

What is a butterfly, and when is a butterfly a butterfly and not a moth? Butterflies are in fact a group of special moths that fly during the day rather than at night. This is why most butterflies are more colourful than moths, because they can show off their colours in the light of the day. Their patterned wings can convey a variety of messages, such as a signal to the opposite sex or perhaps a memo to predators, "Don't eat me because I taste bad". The beautiful patterns of butterfly wings, and those of moths, are produced by thousands of microscopic, flattened scales which overlap like roof tiles. There are, however, some colourful moths that fly during the day, masquerading as butterflies. North Queensland has a famous one, the large Zodiac Moth, which has black and metallic-green banded wings. The Zodiac Moth's threadlike antennae reveal its true identity. Butterflies also have threadlike antennae, but they are tipped with thickened clubs. The reverse situation is also sometimes the case; not all butterflies are active during the day, although there aren't any truly nocturnal species. While on Hamilton Island, keep an eye out for the Evening Brown, a large, relatively drab butterfly that flies close to the ground at dawn and dusk. One of the most conspicuous butterflies in the Whitsundays is the Blue Tiger. It breeds in summer, the caterpillars feeding on the leaves of a rainforest vine, and numbers of adult butterflies build up through the wet season. The dry season in the tropics is rather inhospitable for insects: not only is it cool, but more importantly, it's dry.

Blue Tiger butterflies, and a number of other species, sit out the winter in sheltered, forested gullies and sometimes many thousands of adults congregate in favourable locations. In 1933 on nearby Hayman Island it was noted that "there was a definite camping site where the insects assembled in millions on the trees, and when disturbed the air became black with their flying bodies".

The Clearwing Swallowtail is also a butterfly you may see on the island. The males are unromantic and jealous lovers. Unlike many butterfly species, the male does not go out of his way to court the female. He simply grabs and carries her to the ground and attempts to mate. To add insult to injury, if successful he secretes a mating plug during the act which may last from 17 to more than 40 hours. This plug is the butterfly equivalent of a chastity belt which prevents her taking another lover, thereby ensuring he is the father of her eggs. You may be surprised to learn that some butterflies have a close relationship with ants. Instead of eating them, the ants protect the caterpillars of many species of smaller blue butterflies. In return for their attentions, the ants are rewarded with a sugary substance secreted by a special gland on the back of the caterpillars. Australia is famous for these butterfly-ant relationships. In north Queensland the caterpillars of several butterfly species, including those of the spectacular Purple Oak-blue, are tended by the infamous green ants which build their silken nests in trees.

PHOTOGRAPHY: COURTESY OF THE
QUEENSLAND MUSEUM.



Amber Scott, Principal Artist, The Australian Ballet, Beijing.



Benedicte Bemet, Coryphées, The Australian Ballet, Beijing.



Jessica Fyfe, Coryphées, The Australian Ballet, Beijing.



Lana Jones, Principal Artist, The Australian Ballet, Beijing.

ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE

Back from a tour of China, The Australian Ballet's Principal Artist Amber Scott tells us about the best stages she's danced... and why Hamilton Island still tops her list.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY LISA TOMASETTI

I'm so lucky to have an incredible art form for a job and that I get to tour and show people around the world Australian ballet. The Company's just back from a two-week tour of China, to Beijing — where we danced a mixed bill and Swan Lake — and Shanghai — where we performed the mixed bill and Cinderella. I've danced in both Shanghai and Beijing several times since I joined The Australian Ballet — the first tour I was only 18 — and it's been incredible to see the progress of each city. They are so different. Beijing has had a lot of change because of the Olympics [2008] but it still has so much history. Between performances or rehearsals we get to visit incredible places like the Forbidden City or just wander the little streets of the hutong [old laneways]. This trip, we went to the Great Wall. Beijing's a cultural adventure. Shanghai is the glamour — their Paris. It feels more Westernised, but has gorgeous green spaces, beautiful Art Deco buildings and pretty architecture. There's something special about dancing outside of our usual environment, about performing something you might have danced a lot of times before, for a different audience. The Swan Lake that we toured is Australian, it's Graeme Murphy's version. I think audiences around the world respond to this Swan Lake particularly because it's such a human story: all the world loves a drama and this one's about a juicy love triangle. The fact that there are some iconic music and choreographic moments — like the black swan fouettes and the cygnet dance — from the old version that Murphy incorporated makes everyone from all over the world enjoy it. You can almost

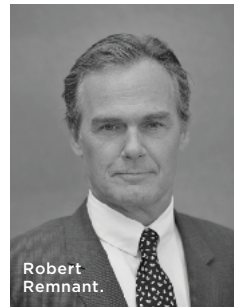
hear them go "Aah, I know this one!", but it's also interesting that it's nothing like the traditional version in which all the women are feathered swans. In ours, it's modern and the swans are all a figment of Odette's imagination. As the ballet progresses, her heartbreak at her position in the love triangle causes her emotional fragility to verge into insanity. It's a very special role to me. It was my first big principal one and I look forward to each year, to seeing what more I can bring to Odette's character. I started out as a nun in my earlier performances and my partner Adam [Bull] was a waiter, so we've gone up through all the different roles and now we are really proud to lead our company dancing Odette and The Prince internationally. When she was talking about Australia's sponsorship of the tour, Foreign Minister Julie Bishop called the ballet "cultural diplomacy" and I think that's a nice way of saying how ballet brings people together. It's timeless and it basically encompasses all of the things that are beautiful in life: music and stories. Every culture, every country, no matter what it's going through, understands and relates to that human side of ballet. It's an emotional thing. And because it's a visual language, we can communicate with people without having to speak the same way. Whether you love ballet and understand the technicalities or you're seeing your first, everyone can find something in it. For us dancers, in our little world of the theatre and the set, you might say that we could be in Toowoomba or in the National Centre for the Performing Arts, or The Giant Egg as it's known in Beijing. That it makes no difference. But I definitely think that the space, the location, where we give a performance can definitely enhance the experience for the dancers, but also for the audience. I've performed on stages around the world but there is nothing like the performance experience up at qualia on Hamilton Island. It's very unique; one of the most beautiful places you could imagine to dance. The stage is outside, beside a beautiful swimming pool and behind us is the ocean. So it looks almost as if the pool melts into the stage which melts into the ocean and you have the dancers just floating across. The sun comes down, you have the reds and the pinks, and the stars are coming out just as we are starting the performance, and then the stage lights come on... there's always that bit of added magic.

Hamilton Island is a long term partner of The Australian Ballet. To find out more about the Pas de Deux in Paradise events at qualia, visit qualia.com.au. The Company will be performing Cinderella, 19-24 February 2016 (6 performances) at the Lyric Theatre, QPAC. For bookings visit australianballet.com.au

POP GOES THE SEASON

Wines with bubbles are the perfect partner for summer holidays and the festive season. Darren Jahn talks to Champagne and sparkling wine ambassador Robert Remnant.

DARREN JAHN: "YOU'VE WORKED WITH CHAMPAGNE AND SPARKLING WINES FOR QUITE SOME TIME NOW. TELL US ABOUT YOUR VERY FIRST BUBBLY EXPERIENCE?"



an appreciation for Champagne, having been appointed Brand Manager of Moët & Chandon and Dom Pérignon at a time when they were selling about 30,000 bottles of the two brands combined. Today, they're at about 3.5 million bottles — from little acorns, mighty oaks do grow!"

DARREN JAHN: "HOW DO THE WINES OF CHAMPAGNE DIFFER FROM THE SPARKLING WINES WE PRODUCE HERE IN AUSTRALIA?"

ROBERT REMNANT: "The Champenois would tell you that it is the 'terroir' of the Champagne region that makes their bubbles so special. And they'd be right. It's unique. The production method used to produce Australian sparkling wines (méthode champenois) can be identical to those of Champagne, but the soil structure, climatic conditions and generations of know-how accumulated by the Champenois all combine to create a truly unique wine."

DARREN JAHN: "YOU'VE RECENTLY RETURNED FROM A FEW YEARS

LIVING IN THE CHAMPAGNE REGION OF FRANCE. IS IT TRUE THE CHAMPENOIS DRINK THEIR WINE RIGHT THROUGHOUT A MEAL?"

ROBERT REMNANT: "Not always, but more often than not. Champagnes are, above all, fine wines. They can be the perfect accompaniment to food, and not least to fresh, beautifully prepared Australian cuisine. Highly recommended."

DARREN JAHN: "I DRINK CHAMPAGNE WHEN I'M HAPPY AND WHEN I'M SAD. SOMETIMES I DRINK IT WHEN I'M ALONE. WHEN I HAVE COMPANY I CONSIDER IT OBLIGATORY. I TRIFLE WITH IT IF I'M NOT HUNGRY AND DRINK IT WHEN I AM. OTHERWISE, I NEVER TOUCH IT — UNLESS I'M THIRSTY." MADAME LILLY BOLLINGER FAMOUSLY HAD A NUMBER OF IDEAL MOMENTS TO CONSUME CHAMPAGNE. WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE OCCASION FOR A GLASS OF BUBBLES?"

ROBERT REMNANT: "When my palate is at its freshest and most responsive to the sensation of bubbles dancing across the tongue. There is nothing quite like a glass of Piper-Heidsieck or Charles Heidsieck with brunch on a lazy Sunday morning."

DARREN JAHN: "DO YOU HAVE A FAVOURITE STYLE?"

ROBERT REMNANT: "I've become a huge fan of Blanc de Blancs — guided on this adventure by Charles Heidsieck's Blanc des Millénaires. Unbelievably, the 1995 vintage is the current release, at a time when most other Prestige Cuvées are onto vintages of the mid-2000s. It is still drinking as fresh as a daisy, with a fair few years left in it. To my mind, Champagne simply doesn't get any better than this. Since returning to Australia, I've

been introduced to a more affordable, locally-produced alternative from Taltarni. Their Blanc de Blancs has to be one of the best-value sparkling wines on the market today. It's a wine of great texture and finesse."

DARREN JAHN: "AUSTRALIA PRODUCES EXCELLENT SPARKLING WINES, ESPECIALLY FROM OUR COOLER CLIMATES SUCH AS TASMANIA. WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT THE WINES OF CLOVER HILL?"

ROBERT REMNANT: "Their elegance, balance and finesse. The winemaking team's uncompromising commitment to quality. The extraordinary beauty of the vineyard site in Tasmania's Lebrina region. Clover Hill's vineyard is dedicated to growing the three key grape varieties in Champagne (chardonnay, pinot noir and pinot meunier) and they give most Champagne houses a run for their money across every single wine they produce."

DARREN JAHN: "AND FINALLY, RETURNING TO FRANCE, PIPER-HEIDSIECK IS WIDELY AVAILABLE AND ARGUABLY ONE OF THE BEST-VALUE CHAMPAGNES ON THE MARKET. WHAT, IN YOUR OPINION, MAKES IT SO GOOD?"

ROBERT REMNANT: "The Chef de Caves, Régis Camus, is a legend in Champagne. What he has achieved with the quality of the Piper-Heidsieck Champagnes in the past decade or so is unbelievable. The man is a magician... underestimated! His influence on the quality of the Piper-Heidsieck Champagnes cannot be underestimated. There are many highly talented winemakers in Champagne, but I don't think any other Maison can boast a Chef de Caves as accomplished as Régis."

Piper-Heidsieck
vineyard,
Champagne.

HIGH FIVE

Top drops to pop, selected by Darren Jahn.



AURELIA PRESTIGE CUVÉE

An elegant and refreshing classic blend of chardonnay and pinot noir from Pemberton in Western Australia's cool south-west.



CLOVER HILL TASMANIAN CUVÉE

Tasmania is the home of Australia's best sparkling wines, Clover Hill is one of the best producers and this delicious cuvée is great value indeed.



LA GIOIOSA PROSECCO SUPERIORE D.O.C.G., ITALY

If you too have fallen in love with prosecco, then you simply must try this outstanding example from the true home of this wine style. Agreeably fruity and ever-so-slightly sweet.



CHÂTEAU DE SOURS SPARKLING ROSÉ, FRANCE

A unique sparkling wine from Bordeaux — so it's made from cabernet and merlot — and is quite simply scrumptious. Distinctive raspberry fruits and fine bubble.



PIPER-HEIDSIECK CUVÉE BRUT, FRANCE

Having recently topped a tasting for the best non-vintage Champagne, this wine continues to improve each time I taste it. Crisp, refined and complex with a terrific, persistent bead (bubble).

SUMMER LOVING



Peach and Strawberry Capriosca, Sails restaurant.

The hottest places to enjoy a cocktail over summer on Hamilton Island? Carla Grossetti intelligence-gathers the best glass-raising go-tos.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KARA ROSENLUND

When the tropical sun goes down, there's no better way to celebrate than with a cocktail or two. While the hot summer trends from the mainland are loosely reflected on drinks menus around Hamilton Island, the most buzzed-about beverages are still infused with the unmistakable taste of the tropics. With the help of Hamilton Island food and beverage expert, Elle Hunt, we've found four of the best places to go for a sundowner when ensconced on island.

ONE TREE HILL

A cocktail tastes better when sipped at sunset at the renowned hilltop bar, the highest point accessible by vehicle on the island and commanding unobstructed 270-degree views over the Whitsundays. Grab a Green Apple Mojito — a white rum-based cocktail dressed in mint — and watch as the sun slips down over the mainland and paints the sky pink.

Although the original tree from which the hilltop bar takes its name was lost in a tropical cyclone, there is seating for about 45 and plenty of space for spreading out a picnic rug and enjoying a platter of antipasti.

Hilltop lookout, 07 4946 8026

BOMMIE DECK

The Bommie Deck bar is named after the Aboriginal word “bombara”, which refers to the patches of reef found in the waters around the island. Join us overlooking the marina and Dent Passage and watch on the deck bar as the sailboats flit to and fro and the last of the sun's rays wash over the island. Given that white rum is having its moment in the sun, it seems only fitting to order a Bombay Chai Pina Colada, a mix of coconut rum, chai-infused dark rum, pineapple, coconut cream and nutmeg. You can also enjoy oysters and a glass of Piper-Heidsieck Champagne. Chin chin.

Front Street, Hamilton Island, 07 4948 9422

Watermelon Mojito, Manta Ray.



Green Apple Mojito, One Tree Hill.

Bombay Chai Pina Colada, Bommie Deck.



BEST PLACES TO HAVE A NICE COLD BEER



The climate in Queensland is a near-perfect match for an ice-cold beer. Here is our list of the four best bars to visit for a refreshing brew while on Hamilton Island.

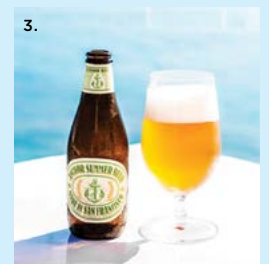
1 James Squire One Fifty Lashes Pale Ale @ Marina Tavern, Front Street, Hamilton Island.

2 Tooheys 5 Seeds Cloudy Apple Cider @ Reef Lounge, Resort Drive, Hamilton Island.

3 Anchor Summer Wheat @ Bommie Deck, Front Street, Hamilton Island.

4 Anchor California Lager @ Verandah Bar, Resort Drive, Hamilton Island.

For further information on restaurant and bars on the island, call 07 4946 9999.



MANTA RAY

Bartenders are taking their cues from the kitchen and whipping up craft cocktails that are driven by seasonal ingredients. Ask your friendly mixologist at Manta Ray, located along the marina, to make you a Watermelon Mojito. The white rum and watermelon liqueur-based cocktail is made light and refreshing with the addition of lime, watermelon and mint. Order grilled prawns with tomato, fennel, ciabatta or baby squid with smoked chipotle mayonnaise, and settle in for a few more cocktails. Just the thing for a summer afternoon.

Front Street, Hamilton Island, 07 4946 8213

SAILS RESTAURANT

Fruit-driven cocktails are sure to remain popular on the island into 2016. At Sails, the signature cocktail of Peach and Strawberry Capriosca is spiked with peach and strawberry liqueur and vodka and given zing with lime wedges and fresh strawberries. If you're peckish, order a burger or Thai green curry. It's lovely by day and night with the lights from yonder yachts twinkling over the water. The poolside setting makes this a popular place for parents as they can tip older children out into the splash zone.

Catseye Beach, Resort Drive, Hamilton Island, 07 4946 8562



TAKO's famous tequila flight.

“WE FELT A FUSION OF JAPANESE AND KOREAN WOULD ALLOW US TO ADD A GOOD LAYER OF FLAVOUR AND SOMETHING A BIT UNEXPECTED.”

TAKO ME TO THE TROPICS

Hamilton Island has a new Mexican-style eatery. Carla Grossetti peruses the menu and finds there's plenty more to TAKO than tacos.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KARA ROSENLUND

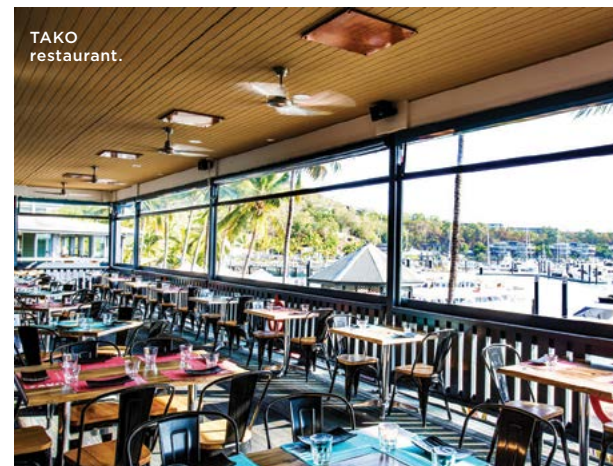
As part of the research required to set up a Mexican cantina-style place on Hamilton Island, Executive Chef, Food and Beverage, Nicolas Gomez-Duran travelled to Melbourne with his Sous Chef in search of inspiration. “During our quest to find the perfect taco, we ate at all the top new-wave Mexican restaurants that have opened in Melbourne in the past few years,” says Gomez-Duran, who spent a year working in Mexico’s own Yucatan Peninsula. Their hours logged dutifully slurping on salsas, testing hot sauces, throwing back fajitas and examining soft-corn tortillas paid off with the launch of TAKO, which hugs the marina on Hamilton Island.

Both the menu and drinks list reflects Gomez-Duran’s own global wanderings. “We wanted to give our restaurant a touch of something else to

give us a bit of freedom with the food we cook. We felt a fusion of Japanese and Korean would allow us to add a good layer of flavour and something a bit unexpected. The name of the restaurant — TAKO — reflects that influence,” he says. Expect some fireworks to take place on the plate with dishes such as crab and avocado tostadas, jalapeño poppers stuffed with cheese and served with guacamole, and quesadillas with locally made chorizo and potato. Gomez-Duran says the new restaurant, which occupies the site of the former Steakhouse at the marina, has been a huge hit on the island. “The menu is all about street food with a casual feel. The dishes are based on authentic ingredients with recipes inspired by my travels and research,” he says. While on his tour of duty, Gomez-Duran invited Executive Chef and head of food innovation at La Tortilleria in Melbourne, Sachiko “Sachi” Makihara Valencia, to Hamilton Island to consult on the menu. “Having a Mexican chef talk us through the nation’s cuisine gave my team a fantastic introduction to all things Mexican. For me, Mexican food has a focus on fresh, fantastic flavours that are so suited to the tropical climate,” he says. **TAKO, Front Street, Hamilton Island, 07 4946 8032.**



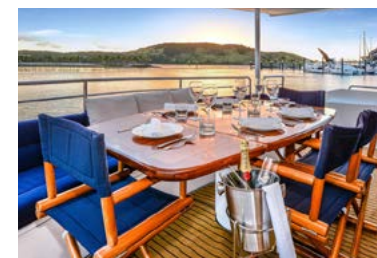
Nicolas Gomez-Duran.



TAKO restaurant.

Holiday in unprecedented luxury

CRUISE THE WHITSUNDAY ISLANDS IN STYLE



The motor yacht Alani offers the ultimate 5 star luxury boat charter around Hamilton Island. Sunseeker's 82 foot masterpiece features interior appointments designed by world renowned New York designer Alan Wanzenberg. Accommodating up to 35 guests for day charters, or sleeping nine guests overnight, Alani is available for boat cruises and holidays afloat in the Whitsundays or is also the perfect option for VIP corporate events. **W** www.alani.com.au **M** 0488 424 222 **E** alani.charters@bigpond.com **@alanicharters**





POWER & THE GLORY

What happens when you marry Italian supercar flair with German engineering? The Audi R8. The fastest and most powerful Audi of all time debuted during Audi Hamilton Island Race Week. A first for Australia. Here, the facts of the matter. By Jason Mint.

PHOTOGRAPHY: KEN BUTTI.

FAST FACTS: AUDI R8
Price: From \$400,000 (estimated)
Engine: 5.2-litre V10
Power: 397kW/540Nm or 449kW/560Nm
Transmission: Seven-speed dual clutch auto
0 to 100km/h: 3.2 seconds
On sale: February 2016
Know more: audi.com.au



Guillaume Brahimi is one of our favourite chefs. Here he shares his other love, a great car.

"I have always had a real passion for exotic, fast cars. When I joined Audi as an Ambassador, the R8 was the only choice for me. The V10 engine's power is unbelievable, and it sounds incredible. But I also love the purity of its design, balancing that aggressive stance with a real sense of luxury. The only problem for me is there is one passenger seat, and I have four kids, so the school drop off was always a little tricky."

1. As Audi enthusiasts perhaps know, the new generation R8 is a relative of the Lamborghini Huracán. The two brands are jointly owned by the Audi Group, but the cars are very different in philosophy and execution.
 2. While the Huracán is a raw machine, the R8 is a supercar that has been to finishing school.
 3. The Audi R8 is powered by a V10 engine (available in two grades) and a new seven-speed twin-clutch transmission. That means it delivers the same epic punch as the Lamborghini (0 to 100km/h in just 3.2 seconds, if you don't mind), yet with more creature comforts thanks to its slightly roomier and more luxurious cabin.
 4. The other ace up the Audi's sleeve: the aluminium frame now has a lightweight but super-strong carbon-fibre "tub" between the driver and the engine mounted in the rear. Think of it as the core of the car going to Pilates. With a high-strength frame at the centre of the R8, the rest of the car can be better controlled.
 5. The new R8 also has a slightly bigger footprint than the Lamborghini which, combined with the new all-wheel-drive system, provides better road holding.
 6. The previous generation Audi R8 was predominantly rear-wheel-drive with some power sent to the front wheels on demand. The new model can apportion the power to all four wheels more evenly, taking grip levels to new heights.
 7. Normally such a growth spurt would add weight, but the use of carbon fibre enabled the Audi R8 to get bigger without getting fatter.
 8. Inside, Audi's latest mod-cons are standard fare, including the "virtual cockpit", now appearing across other new Audi models.
 9. The instrument display is now one large screen that can be changed to suit the driver's needs... or mood.
 10. "Performance" mode shows the car's vital signs more prominently, while "navigation" mode transforms the display into a large map, with speed and other information alongside.
 11. The steering wheel borrows influences from Audi's Le Mans race cars, with a bright red "start" button to bring the R8 to life.
- And with more than 400 of the previous generation R8 sold in Australia since 2007, Audi has a large audience waiting for the new model. The only question mark is the price. The cost of the R8 in the UK has gone up slightly, but Audi Australia is hoping to avoid a price rise when the new model arrives. Nevertheless, there is already a healthy order bank, with the first few months' allocation sold sight unseen. If that's the measure of a supercar, Audi has another legend on its hands.

ALISON VENESS: "TELL US ABOUT YOUR LOVE AFFAIR WITH THE SEA?"
CHARLES HINCKFUSS: "I'm a Cancerian. I was born to love and live in the sea!"

ALISON VENESS: "ARE YOU A SAILOR?"
CHARLES HINCKFUSS: "Not yet. I do love the Duran Duran film clip of them on a yacht sailing around [Rio, 1983]; that's my inspiration."

ALISON VENESS: "ARE YOU A BIG SURFER? WHERE DO YOU SURF?"
CHARLES HINCKFUSS: "I live in Bondi, you can't not love that beach. But I did grow up in Geelong and Bells Beach is such a special place for surfers."

ALISON VENESS: "HOW WOULD YOU DEFINE WHAT YOU DO?"
CHARLES HINCKFUSS: "Creating classic contemporary furniture for all types of spaces and people."

ALISON VENESS: "DO YOU HAVE A MANTRA, SOMETHING YOU COME BACK TO WITHIN YOUR WORK, THAT HELPS DEFINE YOUR STYLE?"
CHARLES HINCKFUSS: "Timeless."

ALISON VENESS: "TELL US ABOUT THE ESSENCE OF MCM HOUSE? MODERN CLASSIC? OR ROUGH CLASSIC?"
CHARLES HINCKFUSS: "We have a background in selling decorative furniture and art, so the collection has a familiar feel. Everything we do we try to make sure it fits in all places and spaces."

ALISON VENESS: "THERE SEEMS TO BE A RAW, POLISHED GOODNESS TO YOUR FURNITURE... PLEASE EXPLAIN THIS?"
CHARLES HINCKFUSS: "High and low-brow work really well together. It's about the combination of these two elements that makes us feel like a lifestyle choice."

ALISON VENESS: "LOVE SOLID TIMBER, LOG STOOLS... WHAT'S NEXT? ARE YOU ALWAYS SEEKING THE NEXT NEW?"
CHARLES HINCKFUSS: "Not the next new. The next old!"

ALISON VENESS: "MCM HOUSE IS ALL VERY MAN-OF-THE-EARTH. ARE YOU GOOD WITH YOUR HANDS?"
CHARLES HINCKFUSS: "I'm ready to use them at any time."

ALISON VENESS: "WHERE DID YOU START WHEN YOU WORKED WITH THE BEACH CLUB ON THE REFURBISHMENT FOR THE RESTAURANT?"
CHARLES HINCKFUSS: "We made sure it felt in place with the existing new items, and would

THE NEW CLASSIC

Interiors maestro Charles Hinckfuss' MCM House has just finished work on the Beach Club restaurant's breezy new look. Here he talks to us about island living, the building blocks of great style, and how to nail that new-old patina.
 By Alison Veness.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MICHAEL NAUMOFF



Beach Club restaurant details by MCM House



Charles Hinckfuss.

"EDIT, SIMPLIFY AND CONTRAST AND THEN ADD SPECIAL PIECES THAT REMIND YOU OF ISLAND LIFE."

help people feel relaxed and formal at the same time."

ALISON VENESS: "I LOVE THE LIGHT ON HAMILTON ISLAND. WHAT MOVES YOU HERE?"

CHARLES HINCKFUSS: "That coral reef is something you can never imagine exists. It's really one of the most magical spots on earth."

ALISON VENESS: "DID ANYTHING SURPRISE YOU?"

CHARLES HINCKFUSS: "The energy of the place always seems to be moving forward, which is exciting to see."

ALISON VENESS: "YOU ARE ABOUT TO WORK ON THE REEF VIEW HOTEL. TELL US ABOUT THAT PROJECT."

CHARLES HINCKFUSS: "It's going to be a lot of fun bringing this very cool building up to date. I'm sure it will be something the island will be proud to show the world."

ALISON VENESS: "ARE YOU COLLABORATING WITH ANYONE ELSE ON IT?"

CHARLES HINCKFUSS: "Interior Designer, Caroline Choker and her team, a really talented brand on the rise."

ALISON VENESS: "CREATING A SPACE ON THE ISLAND IS SO DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHER WORK YOU DO... HOW DID YOU APPROACH IT?"

CHARLES HINCKFUSS: "Start with all the fun ideas then make them practical!"

ALISON VENESS: "HOW WOULD YOU ADVISE US TO HAVE AN 'ISLAND STYLE' AESTHETIC AT HOME?"

CHARLES HINCKFUSS: "Edit, simplify and contrast and then add special pieces that remind you of island life."

ALISON VENESS: "HOW DID A TRIP TO THE REEF INFLUENCE YOUR COLLECTIONS/INTERIOR THOUGHTS?"

CHARLES HINCKFUSS: "The colours set me off: pepper pink and mist linens have been a big part of the range."

ALISON VENESS: "WHICH OTHER INTERIOR DESIGNERS OR ARCHITECTS INSPIRE YOU?"

CHARLES HINCKFUSS: "The Brazilians of the 1950s and 1960s eras really had a big influence on my aesthetic and approach to relaxed living."

ALISON VENESS: "ANY STYLE ADVICE THAT MIGHT HELP US REFINE OUR OWN LIVING SPACES?"

CHARLES HINCKFUSS: "Start with a great sofa and table."

BEHOLD THE HATMAKER

He made a flying visit, literally, to head up a millinery masterclass during Audi Hamilton Island Race Week. Here, Hatmaker's Jonathan Howard shares his thoughts following a whirlwind Whitsundays trip. By Rebecca Khoury.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KEN BUTTI



Carmen Hamilton, Sara Donaldson.



The Hamilton Hat.



REBECCA KHOURY: "TELL US ALL ABOUT THE JOURNEY TO GET TO HAMILTON ISLAND; WHEN YOU FLEW IN ON THAT PRIVATE SEAPLANE?"

JONATHAN HOWARD: "My first time in a seaplane, let alone making an entrance in one! Well, it did not disappoint. The tiny plane motoring just above the islands and waterways was the perfect vantage point. The ride was just long enough to take in the sound and feel of the vintage aircraft, bobbing and turning through the air and then the landing, like a duck on a pond."

REBECCA KHOURY: "WHY WERE YOU INVITED AND WHAT DID YOU SHARE WITH THE GUESTS ONCE YOU ARRIVED ON THE YACHT?"

JONATHAN HOWARD: "Landing in a Hatmaker-branded seaplane adjacent to a very large motorboat full of guests awaiting your arrival does certainly achieve an enthusiastic greeting; the guests being a gaggle of fashion media, creatives and VIPs about to be introduced to Hatmaker and the creative partnership with Hamilton Island. Luckily for me, Catriona Rowntree was master of ceremonies, making me feel at ease to talk about myself, my craft and the Hatmaker story so far. Of course I was also there to present the Hamilton Hat and our range of luxury sun-hats during the excitement of Audi Hamilton Island Race Week."

REBECCA KHOURY: "TELL US ALL ABOUT THE SPECIAL HAT YOU HAVE CREATED FOR HAMILTON ISLAND? LOTS OF DETAIL PLEASE: WHY THIS SHAPE, TEXTURE, AND THE INSPIRATION BEHIND IT?"

JONATHAN HOWARD: "The idea of creating a special hat for Hamilton Island came from Nicky Tindill, [Hamilton Island Brand Manager], a creative collaboration with Audi Hamilton Island Race Week. Of course I jumped at the idea and set about devising the perfect hat for the occasion using the island and reef as inspiration. To me the hat needed to be a luxury item yet still relaxed. I started with the straw and it was my luck that I had discovered a supply of very beautiful, fine vintage straws from recent travels to Japan. They were perfect for this hat."

With this starting point I gave the straw the Hatmaker treatment: hand-dyeing the straw, hand-shaping it to a soft relaxed shape, and to finish it off, a reef-inspired trim, something a little "under the sea" — a feather tassel to mimic floating sea grass, and a single pearl.



Bambi Northwood-Blyth, Jonathan Howard.

The finished product is luxe enough for the chic resort and relaxed at the same time for a day on the beach. I hope for the hat to become a much-loved and treasured item."

REBECCA KHOURY: "WHY DID YOU BECOME A MILLINER AND WHERE DID YOU TRAIN?"

JONATHAN HOWARD: "I literally stumbled across the opportunity of an apprenticeship in millinery, back in the day when you found jobs on noticeboards. I had been searching for a creative profession, but not knowing exactly what I wanted to do. My apprenticeship with milliner Neil Grigg turned into an 11-year position. I loved it from the start and I am still loving it."

REBECCA KHOURY: "YOUR BEST ANECDOTE ABOUT THE MOST EXTRAORDINARY REQUEST FOR A HAT?"

JONATHAN HOWARD: "The most memorable request was that of an email from Kensington Palace requesting look-books for an upcoming royal Australian tour. I did for a moment think it was a joke, but no it was not. It was the first of many emails to finalise a hat for the Duchess of Cambridge, and all worth the effort when I received a royal letter of thanks."

REBECCA KHOURY: "HOW DO YOU DECOMPRESS AFTER MELBOURNE CUP?"

JONATHAN HOWARD: "Melbourne Cup is the top of the millinery mountain I climb annually. It is now late November and I am about to have a three-day break, a

drive up the coast of about eight hours (I'm only on my Ps) to visit family. Then back to it: summer sun hats and an autumn racing collection before Christmas... Ho ho ho!"

REBECCA KHOURY: "DO YOU HAVE A MUSE?"

JONATHAN HOWARD: "No muse to speak of. I do, however, have a very lovely in-house model: Phoebe my apprentice."

REBECCA KHOURY: "DO YOU DRAW FROM HISTORY FOR YOUR HATS?"

JONATHAN HOWARD: "Yes, historical hats are a great reference point. Traditional cultural headwear and hat trends through the decades all play a part in the shape of headwear today. I love old images of people in hats, and how sometimes the most outlandish hats can look so normal and everyday."

REBECCA KHOURY: "WAS THIS YOUR FIRST TIME TO HAMILTON ISLAND? WHAT DID YOU LOVE ABOUT IT?"

JONATHAN HOWARD: "First-time visitor to Hamilton Island, and hopefully the first of many visits to such a beautiful part of Australia, and especially at race week. Such a great mix of sailors, fashion, food and plenty of Champagne. From the moment you get off the plane, every single person you meet is genuinely happy, friendly and interested in a chat. And how can you not love a place where golf buggies are a mode of transport! Overall, you can't help but enjoy yourself, relax and feel lucky to be there... I can say I will be working on my resort wardrobe and imagining the perfect hats to complement it."

ISLAND RETAIL THERAPY

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07 4946 9017

FLORAL COLLECTIONS
07 4946 8335

FOOT'S ARTWORKS
07 4946 9062

HAMILTON ISLAND DESIGNS
07 4946 8565

HAMILTON ISLAND JEWELLERY
07 4948 9857

MARINA RETAIL
07 4946 8180

PRO SHOP (HI GOLF CLUB)
07 4948 9760

QUALIA BOUTIQUE
07 4948 9473

RESORT CENTRE LOBBY SHOP
0427 148 952

REEF VIEW LOBBY SHOP
0427 148 623

RESORT STORE
0427 148 793

SALT SWIM AND RESORTWEAR
07 4946 8221

SWIMWEAR STORE
07 4946 9281

THE ART GALLERY
07 4948 9657

THE HUT
07 4946 8273

TRADER PETE'S
07 4946 0907



WHO'S THAT GIRL?

Hanneli Mustaparta is many things: Norwegian, a blogger, photographer, stylist and founding Style Council member of Net-A-Porter's social-media shopping app The NET SET. We caught up with her during her recent visit to Audi Hamilton Island Race Week.

REEF: "DESCRIBE YOUR CHARACTER IN THREE WORDS. HARD WE KNOW."

HANNELI MUSTAPARTA: "Happy, curious, easygoing."

REEF: "WE ARE ALWAYS SEARCHING FOR THE BEST PIECE OF TRAVEL ADVICE. WHAT'S YOURS?"

HANNELI MUSTAPARTA: "For longer flights I always bring my Bose noise-cancelling headphones. They keep out most noises and make me feel more rested when I land. I also use an SK-II mask and moisturise a lot using Dior's Prestige moisturiser. I make sure I'm hydrated by drinking lots of water."

REEF: "AND WE ARE ALWAYS HUNTING DOWN THAT BEST PACKING TIP...?"

HANNELI MUSTAPARTA: "I'm terrible at

packing light! I bring everything that excites me."

REEF: "WHAT HAS EXCITED YOU ABOUT HAMILTON ISLAND, BEEN YOUR BEST MOMENT?"

HANNELI MUSTAPARTA: "The NET SET dinner that I co-hosted with Senior Buyer at Net-A-Porter, Holly Russell. It was an amazing evening and we had so much fun."

REEF: "WHAT HAS INTRIGUED YOU ABOUT AUSTRALIA SO FAR?"

HANNELI MUSTAPARTA: "The grand nature, the wildlife, the people."

REEF: "WE LIKE A REALLY GOOD BOOK ON HOLIDAY. NAME A NOVELIST WHO ABSORBS YOU AND THAT WE

SHOULD READ?"

HANNELI MUSTAPARTA: "I just finished Goodbye Eddy Bellegueule by Édouard Louis, and now I'm reading Moby Dick and Crime by Ferdinand Von Schirach."

REEF: "POET YOU LOVE?"

HANNELI MUSTAPARTA: "Kolbein Falkeid, Cleo Wade, Stein Mehren and Hans Borli."

REEF: "TRACK ON REPEAT AND WHY?"

HANNELI MUSTAPARTA: "Hold On, We're Going Home by Drake and Woman by John Lennon."

REEF: "BEST PINCH-YOURSELF MOMENT IN YOUR CAREER?"

HANNELI MUSTAPARTA: "I'm having loads and it's hard to choose just one. I loved sitting

PHOTOGRAPHY: KEN BUTTI.

in a meeting with Anna Wintour and getting to contribute to US Vogue. Being Brand Ambassador for Calvin Klein. Art-directing all the shoots that I do and basically being so lucky I get to do what I love every day."

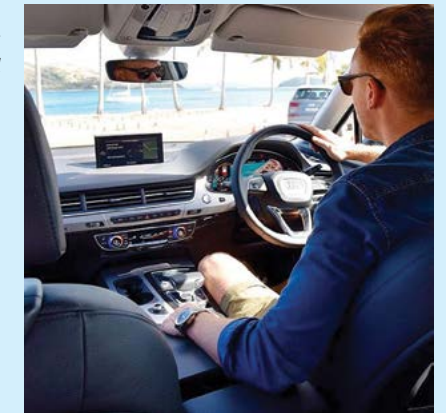
REEF: "CHARITY YOU TRULY BELIEVE IN AND SUPPORT?"
HANNELI MUSTAPARTA: "Every Mother Counts and Amazima Ministries."

REEF: "WHAT'S NEXT FOR YOU AFTER HAMILTON ISLAND?"
HANNELI MUSTAPARTA: "Visiting Hamburg town and having more fun. There are some exciting projects coming up that I can't talk about yet unfortunately."

THE SOCIAL SET

They came, they partied, and we loved them for it.

Luc Weisman is the man behind @dmarge, a men's online publication that is all about the very best that a man could ever hope to be: stylish, with a hint of satire.



Nadia Fairfax @nadiafairfax is very funny, the kind of person who turns everything into a party and makes you laugh so much.



Nicole Warne @garypeppergirl is the go-to for global lifestyle living. If you like to perve, then perve. It's all here as she lives the life.



Jimmy Niggles @beardseason is all about turning beards into life-saving conversation-starters: "challenging you, your friends and family to book a skin check for melanoma". He is hairy and quietly hilarious.



Audi Hamilton Island Race Week.



Mud crabbing, Weekends of Wonderment.



Floristry, Weekends of Wonderment.



Fujifilm Hamilton Island Triathlon.

DIARY DATES

Open your calendars. Take note. Hamilton Island is buzzing with events. By Rebecca Khoury.



Pas de Deux in Paradise.

2016

11-13 MARCH WEEKENDS OF WONDERMENT

This is a special, highly personal event where artisans and creative experts set up workshops on the island and share their trade secrets, much to the delight of our inner student. It's a great opportunity to roll up your sleeves and get hands-on experience with the experts. Creative souls and those with an appreciation for hand-crafted luxury, this is your kind of weekend. It's no coincidence that Weekends of Wonderment's acronym is WOW.

1 MAY STAMFORD FINANCIAL HILLY MARATHON

Already a firm favourite on the Endurance Series calendar with both locals and visitors alike, in 2016, the toughest half marathon will get even tougher. To celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Stamford Financial Hilly Half Marathon, we are putting down a challenge and setting out a new marathon course, where runners can take on 42kms of the island's uniquely challenging and mountainous terrain in what is set to be one of the most epic endurance events in Australia. If the half marathon is still more your style, you can take part in the 21km race, and the event also includes a 3 x 7km relay plus kids fun run.

8 MAY MOTHER'S DAY CLASSIC

Hamilton Island proudly hosts the annual Mother's Day Classic, Walk in the Park. It's a

fundraiser for breast cancer research, and a tribute to mums all over Australia. Dress in pink and join the island community and other guests in this walk for a good cause. It's so much fun and such a good spirit.

26 JUNE THE GREAT WHITEHAVEN BEACH RUN

Could there be somewhere more glorious to wait for that photo finish than on one of the most photogenic beaches in all of the Whitsunday islands? Wait, you have a choice: there's the full-throttle 21.1km half marathon, a 10km run along the silica expanse of Whitehaven Beach, or the shorter 5km circuit. We're not letting the lulling turquoise tide, the holiday sunshine or warm sand dazzle us into a false security. Focus: this is a test and we will sweat. Run solo or team up with friends. You can even bring the kids along for junior events — there's a challenge for everyone. Even the spectators are winning, really.

JULY AWAY, THE ART OF PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP

Guests tour the highlights of the Whitsundays by land, sea and air, in light conditions that range from sunrise to spectacular sunset, to learn more about the art of the lens than we ever thought possible. Beginners and experienced photographers ready to advance their know-how alike will relish this four-day workshop with its focus on expert tips and techniques in one of the most stunning shoot locations in the world. Students are coached on equipment, editing, shot composition and tricks of the

trade by photography professionals. Start your portfolios people.

20-27 AUGUST AUDI HAMILTON ISLAND RACE WEEK

It's Australia's favourite annual yachting regatta and believe us, there is nowhere else you will want to be this week. The race week's mixture of short course and passage races will test any sailor's tactical ability to ultimately decide the new national champions. Also on the schedule for top-end contenders is an IRC Passage class for modern, fast-cruising yachts; performance racing and a sports-boat competition. Cruising, corporate, bareboat, non-spinnaker and SB20 divisions will also be lining up. Not so amped about the actual sailing? Hamilton Island has a carnival vibe throughout the week, with the fashion, the food, and the social set-up on dry land giving non-sailors just as much buzz.

23-25 SEPTEMBER PAS DE DEUX IN PARADISE

Join The Australian Ballet at qualia for an intimate and exclusive weekend of Pas de Deux in Paradise. Held every two years and set under the stars, witness two magical outdoor performances. Book now. Tickets are limited.

OCTOBER PGA PROFESSIONALS CHAMPIONSHIP AND HAMILTON ISLAND AMATEUR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

Lock in some extra practice hours between now and October. Australia's top-order club golfers and teaching professionals are primed and ready for the PGA Professionals Championship. Yes, the greens are going to be hot. That goes for the non-pro event, the Hamilton Island Amateur Golf Championship, too. This is the championship's fourth year and anyone who missed out on a spot last time will not be making the same mistake twice. Places are limited so, golfers and enthusiasts, book early. The popular stableford event starts at the same time as the PGA and will host a pro-am on day one, followed by a 36-hole competition, open to both men and women. There's serious prizes to be won but, honestly, we just do it for the glory.

2-4 DECEMBER WEEKENDS OF WONDERMENT

So you missed the first workshops in March. Now's your chance to front up with the experts and get down and get creative. Weekends of Wonderment are a great way to meet inspirational experts who share their artisanal secrets. Past visiting creatives who have enthralled us include leading florists, candlemakers, chefs and milliners. It's all about the craft. There aren't many opportunities like this, so take advantage and book now.

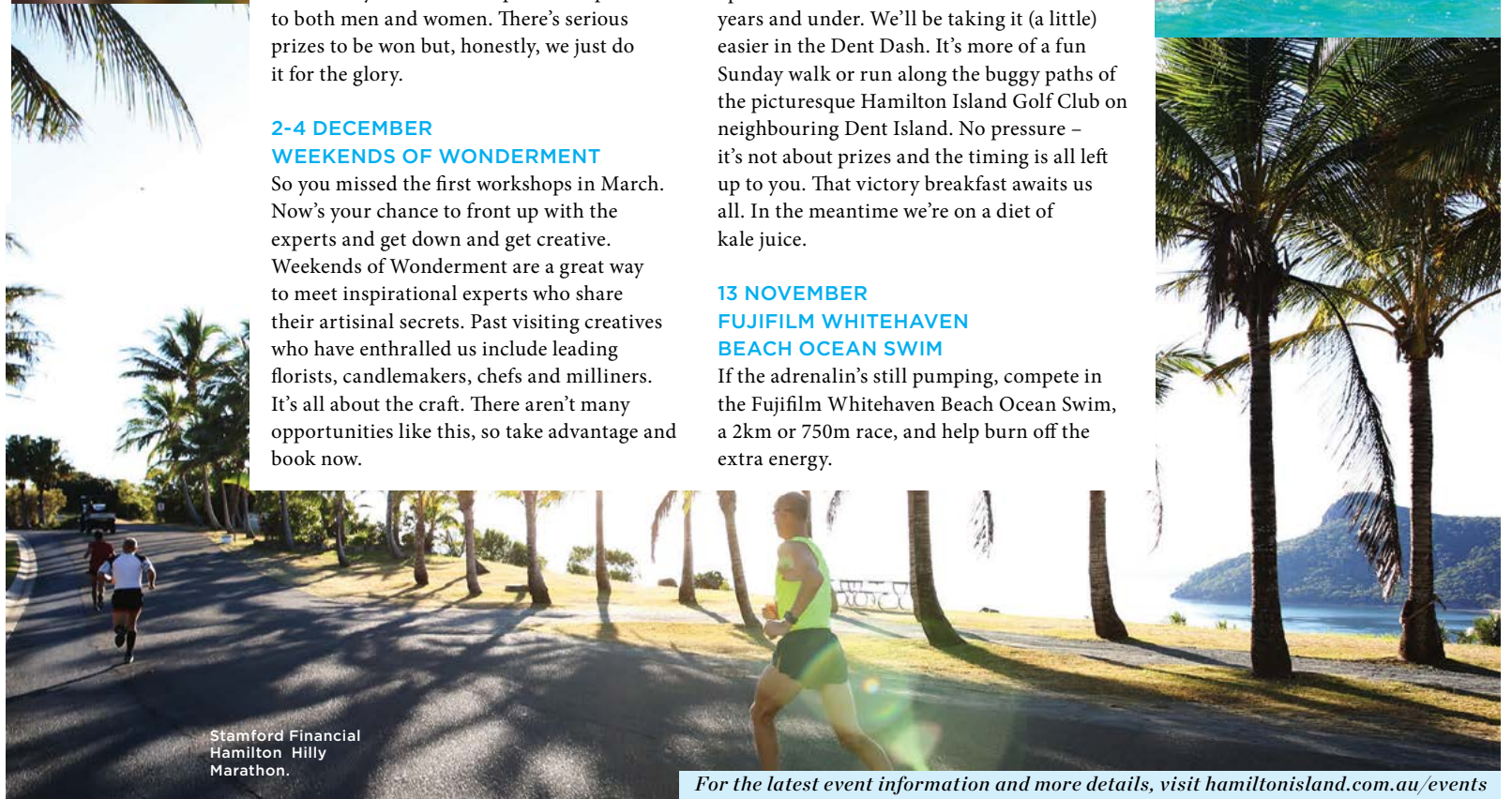
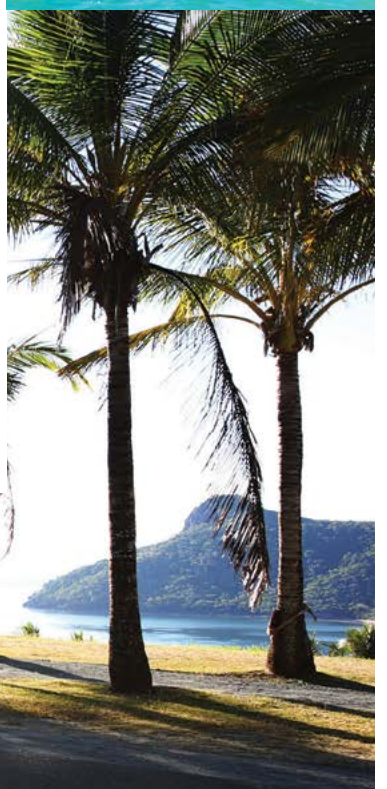
12 NOVEMBER FUJIFILM HAMILTON ISLAND TRIATHLON

It's a beautiful course, covering the natural highlights of the island, but this is serious all the way to the beachside finish. This is your chance to face off against professional athletes with the likes of Susie O'Neill, Ky Hurst and other amateur-but-intense athletes who come to Hamilton Island to test their mettle. Just crossing the line earns extensive bragging rights and, we would argue, first call on the daybeds by the pool. For the kids there is also a junior triathlon (of varying lengths), and a Splash n Dash run and swim for athletes 15 years and under. We'll be taking it (a little) easier in the Dent Dash. It's more of a fun Sunday walk or run along the buggy paths of the picturesque Hamilton Island Golf Club on neighbouring Dent Island. No pressure — it's not about prizes and the timing is all left up to you. That victory breakfast awaits us all. In the meantime we're on a diet of kale juice.

13 NOVEMBER FUJIFILM WHITEHAVEN BEACH OCEAN SWIM

If the adrenalin's still pumping, compete in the Fujifilm Whitehaven Beach Ocean Swim, a 2km or 750m race, and help burn off the extra energy.

Fujifilm Whitehaven Beach Ocean Swim.



Stamford Financial Hamilton Hilly Marathon.

For the latest event information and more details, visit hamiltonisland.com.au/events

RSVP

AUDI HAMILTON ISLAND RACE WEEK



AUDI GUILLAUME BRAHIMI DINNER

Audi ambassador Guillaume Brahimi masterminded a delicious dinner at qualia's Long Pavilion. On the menu Saikou salmon with lemon fennel, green apple and wasabi; Tajima wagyu beef grilled on the barbecue followed by an indulgent Opera cake to celebrate Audi's 10th birthday.

Andrew and Tobi Doyle.

Guillaume Brahimi.

Justine Cullen.

Jules Sebastian.

Romy Frydman.

Bambi Northwood-Blyth.

Tanja Gacic.

Sara Donaldson, Carmen Hamilton.



Carol and Sandy Oatley.



Alyssa McClelland.



Libby Trickett, Glenn Bourke, Ky Hurst, Tom Slingsby.



JJ Gregory, Bruno Rusca.



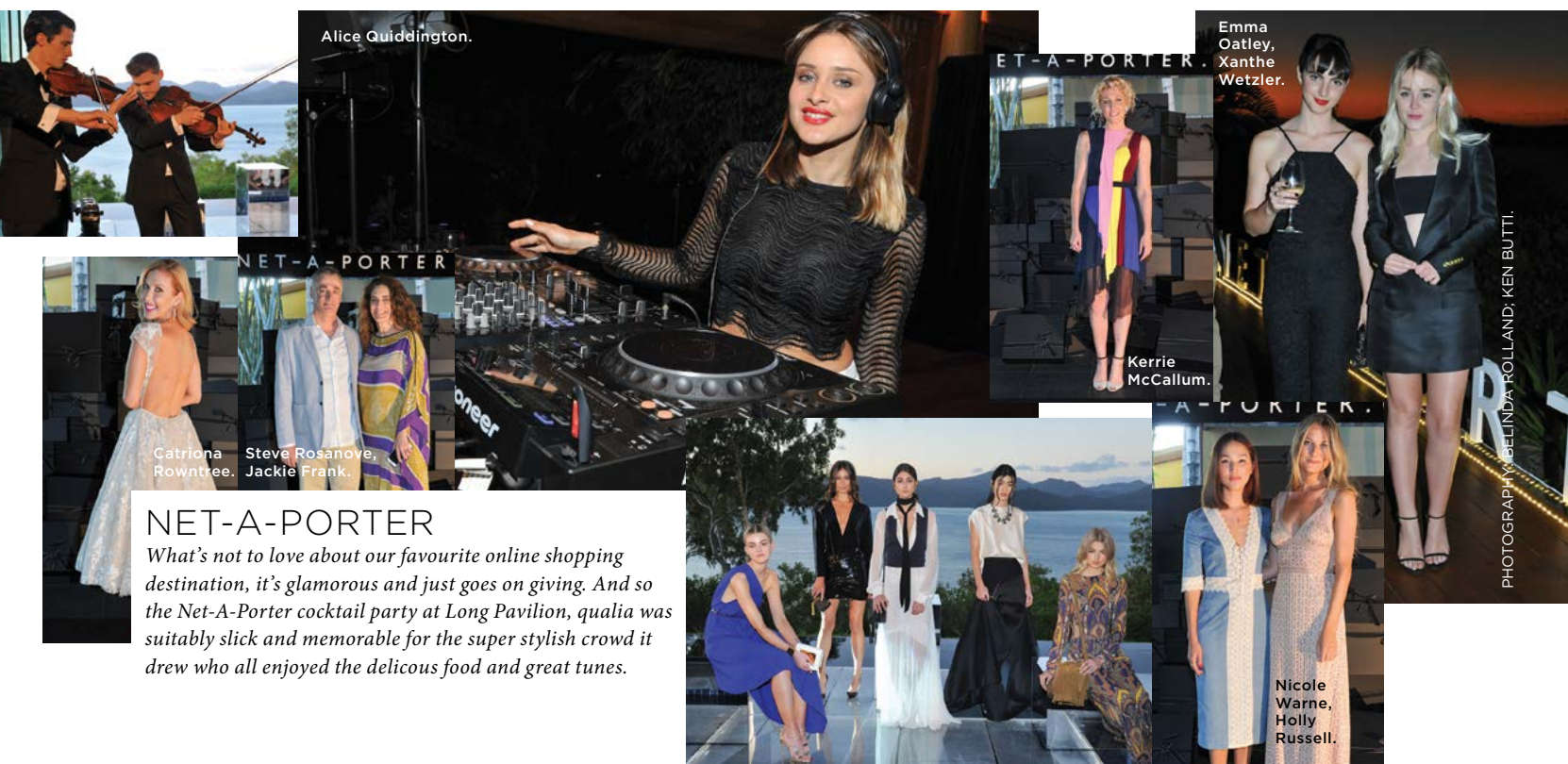
Rob Mundle, Christine Power.



Troy Tindill, Tom Slingsby, Dylan McNiven.

SURF AND TURF DINNER

It was a memorable night at Romano's full of sporting heroes and heroines sharing stories of success. Olympians Tom Slingsby, Glenn Bourke, Ky Hurst and Libby Trickett took to the microphone and inspired us all and filled the room with pride. It was a great way to kick off Audi Hamilton Island Race Week.



NET-A-PORTER

What's not to love about our favourite online shopping destination, it's glamorous and just goes on giving. And so the Net-A-Porter cocktail party at Long Pavilion, qualia was suitably slick and memorable for the super stylish crowd it drew who all enjoyed the delicious food and great tunes.

Alice Quiddington.

Emma Oatley, Xanthe Wetzler.

Kerrie McCallum.

Catrina Rowntree, Steve Rosanove, Jackie Frank.

Nicole Warne, Holly Russell.

PHOTOGRAPHY: MELINDA ROLLAND; KEN BUTTI.



Terry Biviano, Nadia Fairfax.



Richard Broug, Kristy Officer, Robert Remnant.



Alice Quiddington, Nadia Fairfax.

PIPER-HEIDSIECK CHAMPAGNE LUNCH

And with a pop of a cork the elegant lunch at Hamilton Island Yacht Club's Bommie Restaurant kicked off. Guests lingered on the long terrace that spans out across the turquoise water before enjoying a lunch designed by chef Josep Espuga. Chilled glasses of Piper-Heidsieck were enjoyed under the watchful eye of Champagne and sparkling wine ambassador Robert Remnant.



Andrew Brown, Kristy Officer, Darren Jahn.



John and Ann Toohey.



Jorgia Dunn, Zac Dolton.

RSVP

AUDI HAMILTON ISLAND RACE WEEK



Denise Johnston, Deborah Campbell, Samantha Woodfield, Allison Turner.



Kirstie Clements, Darren Jahn.



Alyssa Parkinson, Rebecca Foster, Chelsea Whyte.



Natalie McLean, Margaret Bowen.

WILD OATS WINES LADIES LUNCH

Here's to the ladies who lunch during Audi Hamilton Island Race Week, a stylish bunch. They came to enjoy chef Adam Woodfield's sensational sharing plates at coca chu, with matching Wild Oats wines. Hosted by Kirstie Clements.

Elizabeth Ann Macgregor, Collette Dinnigan.



25 YEARS OF COLLETTE DINNIGAN DINNER

Presented by Audi and Charles Heidsieck, the dinner at Long Pavilion, qualia was a power packed mix of Australian talent. Elizabeth Ann Macgregor, director of the MCA Sydney interviewed Collette Dinnigan about her remarkable career and her love affair with Hamilton Island.

Nadia Fairfax.



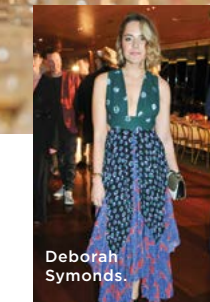
Troy and Nicky Tindill.



Asher Keddie, Vincent Fantauzzo.



Mark Beretta, David Koch, Samantha Armytage, Natalie Barr, Edwina Bartholomew.



Deborah Symonds.



Chris Paspaley, Carol and Sandy Oatley, Claudia and Patrick Boutellier.



Elle Halliwell, guest, Anna Burgdorf.



Kellie Hush, Jonathan Howard.



Bambi Northwood-Blyth, Jonathan Howard.



Tom Slingsby, Catriona Rowntree.



Danielle Ragenard, Romy Frydman, Bambi Northwood-Blyth, Justine Cullen, Sheree Commerford, Kellie Hush, Catriona Rowntree and guest.



Carmen Hamilton, Sara Donaldson, Sheree Commerford.



Nicky Tindill.



Jimmy Niggles, Luc Weisman, Anthony Minichiello.

Nadia Fairfax, Jimmy Niggles.



Chris Paspaley.



Edwina McCann, Neale Whitaker, David Novak-Piper.

PASPALLEY NAUTIQUE LUNCH

Blue skies, straw boaters and quoits on the lawn, set the scene for a beautiful lunch to celebrate the new Paspaley Nautique collection, inspired by Audi Hamilton Island Race Week. Pearls at Pebble Beach, qualia, what more could you want.



Francesca Packer Barham.



Natalie Barr, Samantha Armytage.

PHOTOGRAPHY: BELINDA ROLLAND; KEN BUTTI.

Pre race planning with Carbs on the Couch.



Grace Musgrove, Jake Birtwhistle and Emma Jackson talk Olympic dreams.



Susie O'Neill on there's more to life than swimming.



Jake Birtwhistle heading to his maiden Hamilton Island title.



Women's champion Emma Jeffcoat striding away from the field.



FUJIFILM HAMILTON ISLAND TRIATHLON & WHITEHAVEN BEACH OCEAN SWIM

The annual epic endurance triathlon in November was taken out by Jake Birtwhistle who stormed across the finish line, at 01:05:37; closely followed by Drew Box at 01:06:19 and Liam Rapley at 01:07:48. The weekend also included sprints; junior tri's; and junior splash n dash races. The Fujifilm Whitehaven Beach Ocean Swim for women was won by Grace Musgrove 00:25:38; and the men's race by Matt Pegg, 00:23:49. It was a great weekend of competition and camaraderie. Fierce.



Ocean Swim, junior participants.



Nicola Logan, Emma Jackson, Grace Musgrove.



Drew Box, Matt Pegg.



PHOTOGRAPHY: HAMILTON ISLAND PHOTOGRAPHY.



Australia's Number 1 Beach



World's Number 1 Reef



Whitsunday's Number 1 Day Cruises

2015 Whitsunday Tourism and Business Awards WINNER Major Tour and/or Transport Operator

Great Barrier Reef Adventures & Whitehaven Beach Day Cruises

Outstanding day cruises to the Whitsundays' most iconic attractions, including the colourful outer Great Barrier Reef and world famous Whitehaven Beach. Cruises depart daily from Hamilton Island Marina. For bookings or further information contact the Hamilton Island Tour Desk on 07 4946 8305 or 68305 (in-house) or visit them in the main Resort Centre. cruisewhitsundays.com





THANK GOODNESS WE'RE HERE

Boaters with a big family, Sydneysiders Bruce and Julie Scott tell Tracey Withers why their pocket of Hamilton Island paradise is the best investment they ever made.

“ALL DAY IS OUR FAVOURITE TIME OF DAY. THE MORNING LIGHT IS BEAUTIFUL, THEN WE GET THAT SPECTACULAR PINK AND ORANGE SUNSET. THAT’S WHEN WE’LL HAVE A MOJITO OR CAPRIOSCA AND A BEER.”



“We’ve been in love with Hamilton Island since we first started coming in the 80s when our four kids were young. But it was only in more recent years, when we’d come up to qualia for a handful of nights every few months by ourselves, that we first floated the idea of buying a holiday property here. The difference that’s been made to the infrastructure, the amenities, everything from the restaurants — there’s a new Mexican, TAKO, we’re yet to try — to the supermarket, since the Oatley family took over ownership of Hamilton Island has been astounding. It gave us a lot of comfort as investors that it has a strong future, so we bought our property last year. Though our children are all grown up now, it was important to us that a holiday home would be somewhere that would encourage us all to be together now and into the future. But that idea didn’t work in a lot of other places we’d considered buying. Hamilton Island’s unique in that there are so many things for a family to do. We’ve been go-karting and quad biking in the school holidays. Bruce’s mum is a mad golfer and at the age of 83 has just taken a trip up with a bunch

of girlfriends to play on the 18-hole course on Dent Island. Then when we’re here alone, it’s our ultimate relaxation retreat. When the plane makes its last turn in for landing, you see the water, the green... and our house. We get “that” feeling every time: thank goodness we’re here. One Tree Hill is on the northern part of the island and that’s where our property is. It’s green and lush — we don’t even have a garden in Sydney — and we’ve got a pool and a big deck. We cook in the kitchen one night, out on the barbecue the next (Bruce masterchefs a good barbecue brekkie). The clincher on the place was the 270-degree view: we look to the right over Fitzalan Passage up toward Whitehaven Beach. The other way, we look north up the inland side of Whitsunday Island and toward Airlie Beach. All day is our favourite time of day. The morning light is beautiful, then we get that spectacular pink and orange sunset. That’s when we’ll have a mojito or capriosca and a beer. The other thing we really love about Hamilton Island is exploring the waterways. They’re certainly the most beautiful in Australia and rival the best in the world. We’ve been involved with boats all our lives really, we’re passionate about it, and Julie has been working on marine

interiors, designing and doing soft furnishings, for years. So when we sold our family refrigeration logistics business last year, we took up a partnership with Keith Hanson and his son Ryan in Whitehaven Motor Yachts, a custom boat-design business named after Whitehaven Beach. We bought our own boat — a 70-footer — in 2011 and we’ve sailed it from Sydney to Hamilton Island before. The marina is beautiful. Bay-hopping at different places on the way can make it a leisurely two-week trip up. There’s a saying that goes “It’s either the being there or the getting there”. On our boat the getting there is as much of a pleasure as being there. From Hamilton Island, we often sail north, up to Whitehaven or further through Hook and Hayman Islands or the Gloucester Islands. We’re looking forward to exploring more of the south, around Lindeman and the Percy Isles and everywhere in between. It’s an endless bucket list. In time, we think Hamilton Island will become our primary home. There are so many flights now, it’s easy to stay connected to the city, but we’re really loving the idea of living slower now and in reverse — more island than Sydney. Yes, we’re really looking forward to hitting reverse.”

PHOTOGRAPHY: COURTESY OF JULIE SCOTT.

BUY INTO LUXURY, NATURALLY

Why close the door on natural beauty? Introducing Papillon, a show-stopper of a house that invites the outside in... with spectacular results. By Esther Holmes.

Look closely. Really get into the detail. We bet you've not seen anything quite like this. It really couldn't exist anywhere else in the world. We won't even bother talking location — anyone could glance at this place and their "build it here" radar would sound. But it takes a special type of eye to transform 2,661 square metres of raw, Australian bush magic into something practical, yet impossibly sleek-lined and beautiful; to put a standout home like Papillon together in such a position. But Queensland architect Chris Beckingham, who also masterminded the island's luxury resort qualia, saw this place and that view and knew exactly what to do with it. Beckingham specialises in the use of timbers that radiate like tropical sunlight yet feel cool in the island heat. His aesthetic is one of sophisticated minimalism, working with the flow of natural breeze and light. And at Papillon it feels as though the attributes of the island — all manicured lawns and native tropical gardens, blinding Whitsundays blue water and sky — have somehow been built into the fabric

of the house itself. Ingenious bi-folds, big-picture windows and wide spaces flaunt the knockout view at every single opportunity. Early morning, high noon, electrical storms, sunsets, night sprays of stars all display like your personal theatre. The three bedrooms (each with bathrooms or en suites and balconies) are cocooned by nature, and inside the kitchen, lush timbers give the stainless steel appliances and modern dark splash-backs an earthy vibe. Luxuriating endlessly in the open-plan living and dining area of the pavilion-style home would be fine, if not for the stunner of an infinity pool that needs to be swum in as often as possible. Follow with drinks on the terrace, where reflective pools are perfect for quiet contemplation. Likewise, the neat study... for sometimes some of us must work. Papillon is on the exclusive, quietly secluded northern edge of the island (it's only a few beats from the marina and hub of the island but feels miles away) and casts a long look over Fitzalan Passage out to Whitsunday Island, then to infinity and beyond.

To find out more visit hamiltonislandrealestate.com.au

PHOTOGRAPHY: NEIL RIDDICK



"EARLY MORNING, HIGH NOON, ELECTRICAL STORMS, SUNSETS, NIGHT SPRAYS OF STARS ALL DISPLAY LIKE YOUR PERSONAL THEATRE."





NO CITY LIMITS

Melaleuca Drive
FOR SALE. FROM \$6,000,000

5 🛋️ 4 🍷 1 🚗

This multi-award-winning house is one of the premier properties on the island, nestled on close to 3,000 square metres of prime waterfront land. As soon as you enter, your breath will be taken away by the panoramic water views. The open plan design is testimony to the designer's ability to be at one with nature, and truly brings the outside in. The use of timber throughout the property is stunning, from the gourmet kitchen and dining/lounge area, through to the bedrooms. Walk out onto the extensive decks and into an entertainer's paradise — the front deck includes a barbecue, fridge and outdoor dining area leading to a beautiful private pool. The rear deck takes advantage of the magnificent water views with a massive undercover deck and stairs down to the large outdoor spa.



LA BELLA WATERS #7

Coral Sea Avenue
FOR SALE. FROM \$1,695,000

3 🛋️ 3.5 🍷 1 🚗

La Bella Waters, a deluxe villa complex of only eight, is the ultimate purchase for the opportunistic buyer. La Bella Waters #7 is positioned next to the complex pool and elevated high above the lower villas with outstanding views over Fitzalan Passage and Whitsunday Island. Its north-east aspect means you are protected from the chilly trade winds in winter and hot afternoon sun in summer. A recent renovation has given the villa a modern feel, and key features include high ceilings, all bedrooms with en suite (two with walk-in wardrobes), an office area with a sofa bed for extra guests, generous patio with barbecue, plus a grassy lawn which leads out from the large open plan living, dining and kitchen area. Storeroom, powder room and large laundry plus modern furniture and buggy complete the package.



Club Car

Hamilton Island's Golf Car of Choice

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Head Office: 20 Kingston Drive, Helensvale QLD 4212 PH: 07 5529 9499





ANCHORAGE #1
Banksia Court
FOR SALE. \$729,000

2 2 1

The Anchorage is regarded as perhaps the most well built one- and two-bedroom development on the island, with this reputation a tribute to both the workmanship of the structure and the serenity offered by the complex. This single level apartment is already well established in the holiday rental market, offering a consistent rental return with the option to utilise the low maintenance property as often or as little as desired. Its setting amidst glorious tropical gardens makes Anchorage #1 a very peaceful getaway for owners and holidaymakers alike. It's perfect for the family, too — it has a lovely view to the tropical lagoon-style pool.

COMPASS POINT #8
Acacia Drive
FOR SALE. FROM \$610,000

2 1 1

Compass Point #8 is the perfect buy for any smaller family or executive couple who wish to have a Holiday Home on gorgeous Hamilton Island. Upon walking into the property you're met with vibrant colours and a lovely view straight out to your own private timber deck with an outlook towards Dent Island and the Passage. With nothing to do upon purchase you can settle on the unit and just enjoy the perks of having a lovely complex pool close by, air-conditioning in the living room and both bedrooms, parents' retreat deck off the master bedroom and a practical kitchen for preparing family meals.



PROPERTY SALES: CONTACT WAYNE SINGLETON 0416 024 168

The properties featured in the REEF Magazine Real Estate section are available at time of print, but for a full listing of properties for sale or to review recently sold properties, visit the Hamilton Island Real Estate office on Front Street, or go to www.hamiltonislandrealestate.com.au
PROPERTY SALES: (07) 4948 9101 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT: (07) 4946 8028 HOLIDAY RENTALS RESERVATIONS: 137 333 (02 9433 0444)

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YACHT CLUB VILLA #18
HOLIDAY RENTALS. FROM \$1150 PER NIGHT
Maximum capacity: 8 people

4 4 1

This gracefully positioned waterfront villa offers an unrivalled lifestyle and spectacular views of the Whitsundays and Dent Passage. The villa has a private plunge pool; spacious open-plan living/dining room; state-of-the-art gourmet kitchen with Miele appliances; four bedrooms and four bathrooms, comprising master suite and walk-in robe and bathroom, two additional queen bedrooms with en suite and fourth bedroom which can be king or twin with an adjacent bathroom. In addition, the villa has a separate laundry, fully ducted air-conditioning and a private golf buggy for guest use. The location is quiet and private, but just a short stroll to the marina, with an array of restaurants and retail experiences.

YACHT HARBOUR TOWERS #8
HOLIDAY RENTALS. FROM \$800 PER NIGHT
Maximum capacity: 8 people

4 4 1

This 8th floor single level penthouse style apartment has unequalled views of Catseye Beach and Dent Passage and has been fully renovated to create a luxurious holiday retreat. It is centrally located, enjoying easy access to the resort activities on one side or the marina, shops and restaurants on the other, all within walking distance. The apartment has a fully renovated kitchen with stainless steel appliances and huge open plan lounge and dining room which opens up to the fantastic entertaining deck. Relax by the stunning swimming pool and spa, with your own private locked cabana with mini bar fridge.



CASUARINA COVE #20
HOLIDAY RENTALS. FROM \$465 PER NIGHT
Maximum capacity: 6 people

3 2 1

This standalone holiday home is ideally positioned within walking distance of Front Street, the marina and Catseye Beach. As you enter on the top level you'll find the living area with air-conditioning and an open plan kitchen, and sliding doors to the covered timber deck overlooking the marina. Also on this floor you will find the first of three bedrooms with timber floors, wardrobe, air-conditioning and access to an outside deck. On the lower level the timber theme continues in the two further bedrooms both with air-conditioning, wardrobes and opening onto another private deck area. If you are looking for an affordable large home close to both the marina, Front Street and the beach don't go past Casuarina Cove 20.

FRANGIPANI #001
HOLIDAY RENTALS. FROM \$425 PER NIGHT
Maximum capacity: 6 people

2 2 1

Frangipani 001 is a fully renovated, ground floor apartment situated directly opposite Catseye Beach. Sit outside on your spacious patio watching sailing boats cruise by on their way to the landmark Whitehaven Beach. Inside you will find all that is needed to keep a small family comfortable on holiday. The open plan modern kitchen features a dishwasher, stovetop, oven and microwave. Leading off the spacious living area are the two large bedrooms, each with their own en suite, the main featuring bi-fold doors that open up to a patio area overlooking the beach. Ducted air-conditioning throughout will help to keep you cool.



HOLIDAY RENTALS: CONTACT HAMILTON ISLAND HOLIDAYS 137 333 (02 9433 0444)

To view the full listing of Hamilton Island holiday rental properties available, visit the Hamilton Island Real Estate office on Front Street, Hamilton Island or go to www.hihh.com.au
HOLIDAY RENTALS RESERVATIONS: 137 333 (02 9433 0444) PROPERTY SALES: (07) 4948 9101 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT: (07) 4946 8028

*RATES QUOTED ARE OFF PEAK RATES BASED ON 7 NIGHTS PLUS STAY. OTHER RATES AND DURATIONS OF STAY AVAILABLE, PLEASE ENQUIRE AT TIME OF BOOKING.

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