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& THE
GREAT
BARRIER
REEF

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PLAYING WITH FIRE

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THE SAILORS WHO
STOLE RACE WEEK**

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& THE EPIC OUTDOORS

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Holidays

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PASPALLEY
THE MOST BEAUTIFUL PEARLS IN THE WORLD

INTRODUCTION

Sandy Oatley.



father Nick Paspaley and my father Bob Oatley, including the determined way in which they lived their lives, and their extraordinary ability to grab onto and stick with a clear vision. As 2018 draws to a close, I look back on another very successful year for Hamilton Island. I marvel at what stands here today, and it's pretty much how Dad described it should be. Perhaps that's how these first-generation pioneers did it. They knew what our country should have, and they worked it back from there. I am proud of my father's vision and I'm equally proud of the Hamilton Island team members who have brought his vision to life and who continue to live and breathe it every day. For these

fleet yet. It looks like we might top the record next year, with so many of the sailors telling me they intend to return and bring friends, which is always the best compliment as far as I'm concerned. There is a great story on page 18, written by our good friend Lisa Ratcliff, on the opportunities opening up for women in sailing, one of whom, Stacey Jackson, will be skippering our boat Wild Oats X to Hobart this year. In terms of what's new, this year we built a new Weddings Office, which sits opposite the Spa in the Resort Centre, and we refurbished the Chapel. We renovated our Conventions Centre and our Fitness Centre – both are worth a quick look if you get time. Finally, I am pleased to present our brand new Pizzeria and Gelateria, which opened early December. I will finish with a thank you for choosing Hamilton Island for your holiday, your wedding, your conference, whatever it is that has brought you to stay with us. From the Oatley family and the Hamilton Island team, we wish you a happy holiday and a fruitful and successful 2019.

Sandy Oatley
Hamilton Island

A highlight for me this year was meeting and doing a talk onstage with Marilynne Paspaley at the recent Hamilton Island Race Week. Two second-generation family members sharing and swapping stories (probably boring everyone senseless) about what it was to grow up with fathers pioneering as primary producers in the 1950s and 1960s. For Paspaley it was natural pearls, in our case it was coffee beans and then wine. There were some remarkable similarities between Marilynne's

reasons it is an honour for me to share it with you, our guests, and with the many residents and businesses that call Hamilton Island home. In September, we presented pas de deux in paradise with The Australian Ballet. Owing to demand, we had to schedule an additional performance and both were sold out. These performances are rare and special and something not to be missed. You can read more about this year's event on page 58. Hamilton Island Race Week was again a resounding success, with our second-largest

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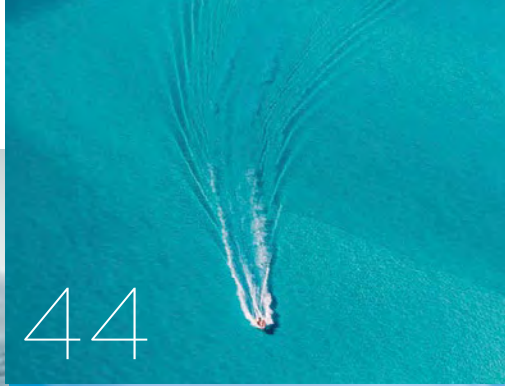
Dive below the surface and be greeted by bright tropical fish and thousands of species of coral, and as the day fades into sunset you'll leave with lifetime memories of this epically Australian icon.

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CONTENTS



18



44



30



28



26



34



22



Unique Experiences in Amazing Places



EXPLORE HAMILTON ISLAND



HILL INLET



SNORKEL THE GREAT BARRIER REEF



DIVE THE GREAT BARRIER REEF



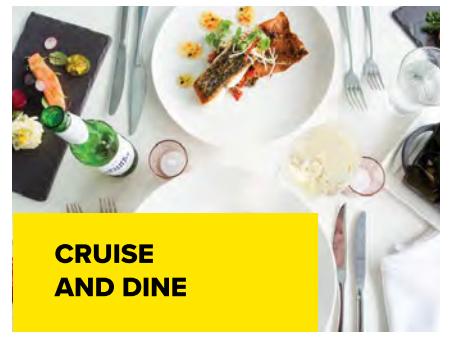
WHITEHAVEN BEACH



DINE ON M.V. HAMILTON STAR



SAIL IN THE WHITSUNDAYS



CRUISE AND DINE



SUNSET SAIL

ISSUE 20

- 10. **CASTAWAY** With Vogue Australia's editor-in-chief, Edwina McCann.
- 12. **TOP 10 TO DO** The must-do Hamilton Island Activities during any stay.
- 14. **ISLAND NEWS** Bulletin Board.
- 16. **CALENDAR** Take note: Diary Dates for 2019.
- 18. **SAILING** Riding the Wave. Lisa Ratcliff on the women of Hamilton Island Race Week.
- 22. **FOOD** Playing with Fire. Lennox Hastie creates food theatre. By Alison Veness.
- 26. **PERFORMANCE** In Camera. Justin Ridler photographs The Australian Ballet.
- 28. **COCKTAILS** Let's Do the Twist. A new take

- on the classics. Shaken and stirred.
- 30. **ADVENTURE** Rhapsody in Blue. The ultimate day trip to another part of paradise.
- 34. **ACHIEVEMENT** Moonrise Kingdom. Alison Veness meets Marilynne Paspaley.
- 38. **ENVIRONMENT** Wonder World. The incredible underwater world of Catseye Beach. By Jarrod Parkinson.
- 40. **STYLE** The Importance of Being Yourself. Style guru Nick Wooster in conversation.
- 42. **STYLE** Sounds of Summer. Dress the part in the perfect beach and pool pieces.
- 44. **PHOTOGRAPHY** The Roving Eye. Kurt Arrigo shares his passion and tips for

- memorable photography. By Nicholas Carolan.
- 48. **MY ISLAND LIFE** Together Stronger. Meet Hamilton Island triathlete Debra Childs.
- 50. **GOLF** Play Like a King. Matt Docking on how to play the Hamilton Island Golf Course – and win. By Matt Cleary.
- 52. **RSVP** Hamilton Island Race Week: Lennox Hastie dinner; Neil Perry Qantas dinner; Piper-Heidsieck Champagne lunch; Paspaley luncheon; an afternoon with Helen Goh; James Boag Discovery Dinner; and pas de deux in paradise.
- 60. **PROPERTY PORTFOLIO** On the Up. Papillon, one of the hottest properties on island.

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JUSTIN RIDLER, PHOTOGRAPHER

IF YOU WERE ASKED TO SET SAIL, WHICH TYPE OF SEAWORTHY VESSEL WOULD YOU CHOOSE?

I'm gonna stick with a tinny, but it has to be seaworthy.

FAVOURITE SUMMER SUNDOWNER?

There's a little bar in the Piazza Santo Spirito in Florence that does a cherry negroni. I know it sounds a bit weird, but my mum gave me cherry cough medicine when I was a kid and now fake cherry flavour is totally a thing for me.

YOU HAVE DISCOVERED BURIED TREASURE ON THE ISLAND - WHAT ARE YOU HOPING IT MIGHT BE?

All of my lost sunglasses... Thousands of them all buried together.

YOU CAN PARTAKE IN ONE WATERSPORT WHILE YOU'RE ON HOLIDAY - WHICH DO YOU PICK?

Water pistols - maybe an arsenal of them - and some kind of pirate-ship-skirmish situation.

TOP NEW YEAR'S TUNE THAT YOU MIGHT BE PLAYING TO "DANCE IN" 2019?

I'm pretty into Emerald Rush by Jon Hopkins. I reckon that will stay on high rotation for a while.

LISA RATCLIFF, WRITER

IF YOU WERE ASKED TO SET SAIL, WHICH TYPE OF SEAWORTHY VESSEL WOULD YOU CHOOSE?

My favourite design team is Sparkman & Stephens, founded in 1929. Their first commission, drawn up by a twentysomething Olin Stephens, was Dorade, the pedigree American S&S 52, which graced Hamilton Island Race Week in 2017 during a tour down under.

Jessica Watson and Jesse Martin both completed their record solo circumnavigations on a trusty S&S 34, and my first Sydney Hobart Race in 2017 was aboard the magnificent 30 tonne S&S 73 Kialoa II, a former line-honours winner from the early 1970s.

FAVOURITE SUMMER SUNDOWNER?

Soda and fresh lime, or good champagne with a strawberry.

YOU HAVE DISCOVERED BURIED TREASURE ON THE ISLAND - WHAT DO YOU HOPE IT MIGHT BE?

Anything silver, plus a pair of Havaianas and a SodaStream for making endless soda water in reusable bottles. I have a keen interest in the plight of the ocean and its sea life, which is literally choking on plastics and microplastics.

YOU CAN PARTAKE IN ONE WATERSPORT WHILE YOU'RE ON HOLIDAY - WHICH DO YOU PICK?

That's easy - sailing! TOP NEW YEAR'S TUNE THAT YOU MIGHT BE PLAYING TO "DANCE IN" 2019?

Old school from the '90s... Snap, Real McCoy, C+C Music Factory and, for something slower, Rivers of Babylon by Boney M.



KARA ROSENLUND, PHOTOGRAPHER

IF YOU WERE ASKED TO SET SAIL, WHICH TYPE OF SEAWORTHY VESSEL WOULD YOU CHOOSE?

A classic 1940s wooden runabout with a flapping red flag. I think it would be great for water-skiing, too.

FAVOURITE SUMMER SUNDOWNER?

I'm partial to an Aperol spritz - to me, it's summer in a glass. However, I also can't go past a chilled glass of rosé.

YOU HAVE DISCOVERED BURIED TREASURE ON THE ISLAND - WHAT DO YOU HOPE IT MIGHT BE?

This is my dream. It would be filled with sacred and rare tribal artefacts from Papua New Guinea, including bone jewellery, skulls and woven baskets, which were collected by an archaeologist at the turn of a century, who set the treasure chest adrift as he was caught by a cannibal tribe...

YOU CAN PARTAKE IN ONE WATER SPORT WHILE YOU'RE ON HOLIDAY - WHICH DO YOU PICK?

Snorkelling just out the front of Catseye Beach, witnessing the sea life, including my favourite, sea turtles.

TOP NEW YEAR'S TUNE THAT YOU MIGHT BE PLAYING TO "DANCE IN" 2019?

Africa by Toto. I know it's daggy, but my gosh is it fun.

NICHOLAS CAROLAN, WRITER

IF YOU WERE ASKED TO SET SAIL, WHICH TYPE OF SEAWORTHY VESSEL WOULD YOU CHOOSE?

The Good Ship Lollipop, if only for the chance to reprise my debut stage role as Sailor #2 in my first-grade musical showcase.

YOUR FAVOURITE SUMMER SUNDOWNER?

A negroni of spritz proportions. YOU HAVE DISCOVERED BURIED TREASURE ON THE ISLAND - WHAT DO YOU HOPE IT MIGHT BE?

Yet again, a negroni of spritz proportions.

YOU CAN PARTAKE IN ONE WATERSPORT WHILE YOU'RE ON HOLIDAY - WHICH DO YOU PICK?

Jet-skiing side-saddle, like Rihanna - looks like a vibe.

TOP TUNE THAT YOU MIGHT BE PLAYING TO "DANCE IN" 2019?

Shallow from A Star Is Born. I'm off the deep end, watch as I dive in.



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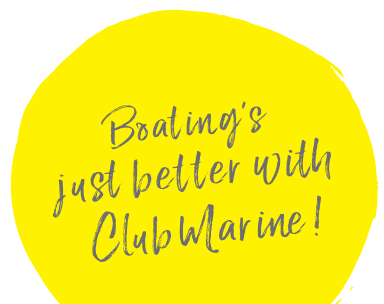


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Castaway.... EDWINA MCCANN

Imagine you've been stranded on a desert island – yes, the thought of it is quite fabulous – and you've only been able to "take" a few things. You need to be resourceful. We invited Edwina McCann, editor-in-chief of Vogue Australia, to be our castaway. Surely this would be stressful for her, as it's not nearly as glamorous as Hamilton Island and her daily diary. How would she cope?

What three essentials would you pack?
"iPhone, charger, power plant!"

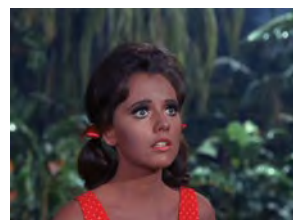
What would you most regret not packing?
"None of the above."



If you could channel one fictional character, who would it be?
"Alice in Wonderland, because I think, being a castaway, I would start to hallucinate anyway."



What spirituality lessons that you've learnt would you apply to your time spent stranded on the island?
"This too will pass'. But, then, if I were stranded anywhere like qualia, I wouldn't want it to pass too quickly."



What's your favourite island movie for inspiration?
"Certainly not that one with Tom Hanks and the volleyball! Gilligan's Island, but I'm more Mary Ann than Ginger."

What would you take as your island accessory?
"Hermès H slip sandals in tan."



Who would be your dream companion?
"My partner, because we are well practised at being stuck together, and we still like one another. Why risk it?"

What would you miss most about reality?
"My family."

What island hobby would you take up?
"Paddleboarding, although I didn't opt to pack a paddleboard, did I? So that might be disallowed."



Which book would you bring with you?
"Predictably, I would bring 60 years of copies of Vogue, rather than any books. If I'm stuck for a long time, I could stretch it out, month by month."

Who would rescue you?
"Well, I hope someone with a boat – preferably a very large one with lots of staff and champagne."

What would you grow to eat?
"Anything green, except kale."



Where's the first place you'd go once you've been rescued?
"Caviar Kaspia in Paris – after I've been home, of course."

Dream meal once you've been rescued?
"Caviar with Ruinart Blanc de Blanc champagne."

Top island tune?
"Anything by Jack Johnson."



Catch of the day?
"Dogtooth tuna – I think that's what it's called. Do I get to pack an angler?"

What essential tool would you want to have on the island?
"Said Angler."

What would your island mantra be?
"Where's the champagne?"

What would you wear?
"Paco Rabanne SS19."



How would you send your SOS?
"I'd spell it out on the beach with driftwood and shells, which would keep me busy for a few hours while I beachcomb, and make me feel crafty, which I am not."

PHOTOGRAPHY: MICHAEL NAUMOFF.



it's PIMM'S[®] O'CLOCK



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TOP 10 TO DO



1

GET AMONGST IT: THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

There are many ways to view the reef with minimal impact. Take a day trip out to the pontoon at Hardy Reef and enjoy snorkelling through the brilliantly coloured coral formations. Or spend a half- or full day touring the secret spots of the Whitsunday Islands or outer reef with the Explore Group experts, who also offer an introductory scuba-dive experience for a deeper look at the reef. There's also the option of taking a flight in a chopper or a seaplane over the Whitsunday Islands with Hamilton Island Air; you'll be amazed at the views - and your photographs. These moments will make for a truly memorable holiday. Quite simply, this is one of the most incredible natural habitats on Earth.



6

GET PUMPED: STAY ACTIVE

There are so many great ways to see the island. Our pick is a sea-kayaking session. If you're staying at the Reef View Hotel, Palm Bungalows, Beach Club, qualia or Hamilton Island Holiday Homes, you can pick up a complimentary catamaran, kayak, windsurfer, snorkelling gear or paddleboard from Beach Sports on Catseye Beach. Hot tip: try them all. And did you know there are some incredible bushwalking tracks on the island? One of the most unforgettable ways to start the day is watching the sun rise from one of the many lookouts to which the tracks lead. Follow that up with a morning yoga session, held at different locations on the island and, twice a month, on the helipad at Dent Island, and then seal all the good work with a nourishing green breakfast afterwards. If you're keen for a more rigorous workout, head to the Hamilton Island Sports Club and choose from group fitness classes such as Body Pump, RPM, HIIT and Pilates.

SUNDAY TRADING: MARINA DAZE

What better place to watch the sun set than down at the marina? Head on down and enjoy the live music that happens every Sunday - 6pm-9pm during the summer, and 5.30pm-8.30pm in the winter months. Bring a blanket, pack a picnic, or just pick up a pizza or fish and chips, and join all the other families soaking up the last rays of sun and dancing. Because it's all about kicking back and relaxing.



7

UP THE ANTE: WHITEHAVEN BEACH

A holiday on Hamilton Island demands a trip out to Whitehaven Beach. It really is the kind of natural environment that is often viewed in glossy books or incredible photographs, yet is seldom seen in person. Here it is, then: a perfect stretch of bone-white silica sand, bordered by clear, turquoise sea - pinch-yourself paradise that is truly wonderful. The beach may feel remote and otherworldly, but the reality is only a short trip away by helicopter, seaplane, yacht, motorboat or, better yet, a high-speed catamaran from Hamilton Island. There's so much more to Whitehaven Beach than meets the eye, though. Take a guided bush walk and learn all about the native flora and fauna, or climb to the Hill Inlet lookout for unparalleled views across the Whitsundays. It's worth the hike.



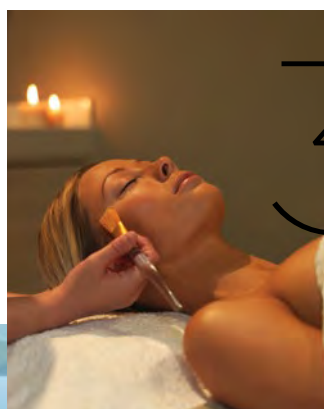
2

PLAY AND STAY: GOOD GOLFING

Catch the ferry across to Dent Island to enjoy one of Australia's most spectacular 18-hole courses, the Hamilton Island Golf Club. Designed by the late, five-time British Open champion Peter Thomson, it's an incredible course. Our advice is don't rush the round - a challenge for professionals and casual golfers alike. It is breathtakingly beautiful, with views of the Whitsundays and beyond, so prepare to be distracted. At the 19th hole, drink in more views over a laidback lunch at the Clubhouse, which has an à la carte menu that's sure to satisfy any hungry golfer after a day out on the course. And perhaps update your golf wardrobe with a visit to the well-stocked Pro Shop.



4



3

BE YOUR BEST SELF: GET PAMPERED

Treat the mind, body and soul to a dedicated session at Spa wumurdaylin. The highly skilled therapists provide treatments that are rich in aromaceuticals by Waterlily, plus massages, scrubs, rituals and facial therapies. And there's no better way to achieve an instant lift than getting a blow-dry, a last-minute 'do, a mani and pedi, or even a spray tan. So make some time to book into Island Hair & Beauty in the Resort Centre while you're here.

CAST OFF: INTO THE BLUE

There's nothing like a day out on the open sea to fill the senses. Explore the Whitsunday Islands on a sail or jet boat, or be your own captain and hire a motorised dinghy. Pack a delicious picnic, relax and soak up the beauty as you set out across the Coral Sea. If you fancy a little more action, hire some snorkelling or fishing gear and make a sporting day of it - perfect for family fun or a couples day out. Head to Hamilton Island Marina to choose your own adventure.



8



9

SAY HELLO: MEET THE WILD BUNCH

This is one of the best ways for the whole family to have fun: a guided walk to meet the animals at WILD LIFE Hamilton Island, followed by breakfast or lunch at the cafe. Say hello to Freddie the talking sulphur-crested cockatoo (he might even say hello back) and hang out with Bobby the koala and his family to get some much-needed cuddle time (children must be over the age of 12 to hold a koala). And don't miss the slippery lizards, snakes, kangaroos, dingoes, the fierce Australian cassowary and the island's resident crocodile. The whole gang's here.

GOOD TIMES: FAMILY FUN

The youngest members of the family will find new friends to hang out with at the Fun Zone play area or the Clownfish Club childcare centre (for children aged up to 14 years). Those aged six to 14 with a sense of adventure can tackle the Quads for Kids course in Palm Valley, while the whole family will get a kick out of a few rounds of mini golf. Or why not try for a strike at the island's seven-lane bowling centre.



5



10

GO FASTER: SPEED RACER

Go-kart racing at Hamilton Island's Palm Valley track is a classic on-land go-to not to be missed. The karts are fun and easy to drive, and a session in one is a great way to let off some city steam. No licence is required for these bad boys, which can reach up to 45km per hour around

the track. Kids too young to drive can still join in the fun and ride as passengers in a double go-kart. Just the thing for tropical thrill-seekers.

To find out more or book your tours and activities, visit the Tour Desk, call 07 4946 8305, or download the Hamilton Island app

BULLETIN BOARD

It's all about the amazing environment and life on the Great Barrier Reef. Here, the latest updates, by Esther Holmes.



RELAX, RENEW AND RECHARGE

Spa qualia has recently undergone a complete refurbishment. Picture mood-lifting spaces, deluxe couples' suites and luxe treatment rooms – yes, a total haven for the body and soul. There is a new treatment menu and, joining the Sodashi range as the new brand in residence is LaGaia, which has been developing luxurious and results-based formulations for 20 years. Spa qualia have chosen their most authentic Australian products for the body treatments, including the Macadamia Exfoliate and kaolin-clay Balancing Mask. Also available are products by People4Ocean, which has developed Australia's first 100% coral-reef-safe, ocean-friendly sun-care system. What are you waiting for?



GET TO THE HEART OF IT

Hamilton Island Air has recently opened its eagerly awaited Heart Island pontoon. Moored 40 nautical miles from Hamilton Island, it's an incredible "landing pad" and so much more for their slick helicopters that will take you out to see the Great Barrier Reef and the famous Heart Reef. A breathtaking experience. Once you land at the pontoon, you can snorkel in the area, although there is also a glass-bottomed boat for anyone wanting to view the reef below the surface without getting wet. We say pack your camera (obviously), swimmers and all the usual – sunscreen, hat, towel – and get set to enjoy a memorable and thoroughly unique experience. It's everything we love. Snorkelling equipment and light catering are provided. To find out more or to book, visit the Tour Desk or call 07 4946 8305.

WEDDED BLISS

So you're secretly thinking about proposing to your loved one while you're here and then heading back again later to tie the knot. Our advice, then, is go straight to the newly minted Hamilton Island Weddings office in the Resort Centre to start the top-secret planning. If you want to see what they do and need inspiration, check out their Instagram – @hiweddings – and be amazed at the options, the detail and the romance of it all. The superstar team will help plan the kind of day that you've always wanted: they listen and make dreams a reality.



PHOTOGRAPHY: KARA ROSENLUND.

CHECK IT OUT

Beard Season's Jimmy Niggles joined forces with the Queensland Institute of Dermatology during Hamilton Island Race Week for the second year running. He tells us that this year's Race Week felt extra-special. "Our skin-check team from the Queensland Institute of Dermatology was busily back in action. We were honoured to have them checking more than 800 people in a week, with more than 400 biopsies. Mind-blowing. But what really hit home were all the people who told me in tears that they might not have been here if it hadn't been for a vital skin check last year. Such a powerful result to be part of. Pinch-me moments in paradise. I couldn't be happier. It was like a family reunion – so many warm and wonderful faces. Big smiles and sparkling eyes up there in the Captain's Club, along the wharves and across the room at every single lunch, dinner and impromptu dancefloor. The whales even seemed to be waving us all a welcome, every chance they got." We love a good result. The message? Get checked.



BEACHSIDE DINING

There is nothing better than watching the sun setting while dining, savouring a glass of wine and discussing the day that's been and the days of relaxing to come. If you're staying at the Beach Club, beachside dining has just become a reality, with four tables exclusively reserved for semi-private dining on Catseye Beach. The five-course chef's degustation starts with Piper-Heidsieck champagne, and there's the option to have an additional matching wine flight. Only available for Beach Club guests; for more information and reservations, visit Beach Club Guest Services or call 07 4946 8000.



PIZZA THE ACTION

When in Rome... yes, eat delicious pizza and feast on fine gelato, that's our advice. Except, for Rome, read Front Street, Hamilton Island. The latest addition to the good food to be found on the island is here and selling melt-in-the-mouth gelato. There are 12 flavours to choose from – our personal favourite is classic vanilla, if you're asking – and the ice-creamy treats and coffee are served from 10am until late. Perfect for when you've finished promenading around the marina. And if, like us, you like lazy days in your holiday villa, or at home, and don't want to cook, then why not try the home-delivery pizza option? The fine crust pizzas, served from 3pm until late, are *delizioso*, and there are an impressive 20 different options. All home delivery is between 5.30pm-9.30pm and costs \$5 per delivery. Order through the Hamilton Island app.



YOUR EXCELLENCE

We do love an award-winning destination, and so we were thrilled when qualia took the gong for best resort at the prestigious 2018 HM Awards for Hotel and Accommodation Excellence. These are decided on by the experts' experts, they're the insiders' insider awards. qualia has also snagged the Australian Traveller People's Choice Awards 2018 for best luxury hotel/resort/lodge. This award is decided on by the passionate readers – "Luxury, serenity, visually spectacular scenery, wonderful food and fantastic service – our best travel experience in the world!" said one.



DIARY DATES 2018/19

Some of the best events in Australia's sporting and social calendar are held right here on Hamilton Island, set in some of the most breathtaking scenery in the Whitsundays.

2018

DECEMBER 24 CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Come all and join the festivities on Christmas Eve at Frangipani Park as the sun sets. Get among the live entertainment, carols and candles, available at Hamilton Island State School. There's also going to be a very special guest dressed in red with a stocking full of sweets... Pack a picnic or buy food and drinks at the park. A firework display will kick off after sunset.

DECEMBER 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE

Make it a happy new year with a good old street party. Dance the year away on Front Street to great, chart-topping tunes and classic hits. It all kicks off at 9pm, followed at 10pm by Hamilton Island's guest band, Martini Club, who are taking the stage at the Marina Tavern forecourt. Including a delicious dinner at

one of the island's restaurants will make the evening almost complete, but it wouldn't be a New Year's Eve celebration without fireworks lighting up the sky at midnight, of course. For the kids, Catseye Beach will be hosting a variety of activities, as well as family-friendly fireworks by the beach at 8.30pm. Go on, ring in the new year right.

2019

FEBRUARY 5 CHINESE NEW YEAR

Head down to the marina at Front Street to celebrate the Chinese New Year, which for 2019, is the year of the pig. According to the Chinese zodiac, the pig represents a year of fortune and luck, which we think is something really worth celebrating. Adding to the street-

party atmosphere will be Chinese-food stalls, live entertainment, a traditional lion dance performed by the Chinese Kung Fu Academy and, yes, of course, cracking fireworks.

APRIL 25 ANZAC DAY

This day marks the anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli. Like hundreds of thousands of our fellow citizens who gather at memorials in cities, suburbs and towns across Australia, we gather here on Hamilton Island to commemorate one of the most significant events on our national calendar. Please come and join us at Catseye Beach for the Anzac Day dawn service of remembrance.

MAY 5 HAMILTON ISLAND HILLY HALF MARATHON

Marathon runners, listen up: 21.1km of Hamilton Island's mountainous terrain is calling you. Yes, it's that time of year again – the annual Hilly Half Marathon is back. It's one of the most epic endurance events in Australia and we're already gearing up for the 2019 challenge. The event also includes a 3 x 7km relay, plus a kids' fun run. They're all part of the Endurance Series, and visitors and locals are welcome to battle it out for those coveted titles.

JUNE 23 GREAT WHITEHAVEN BEACH RUN

Participants have a choice: a half-marathon, a 10km run along the white expanse of



Whitehaven Beach or the shorter 5km circuit. Kids can compete in junior events – there's a challenge for everyone. However, some of us feel the trickiest challenge is not letting the allure of the turquoise tide, the sunshine or warm sand distract you as you sprint to the finish line on one of the most photogenic beaches in all of the Whitsundays.

AUGUST 17-24 HAMILTON ISLAND RACE WEEK

The mixture of short-course, passage and multihull racing classes is guaranteed to test any sailor's tactical ability, and has established Hamilton Island Race Week as one of the world's premium yachting regattas – certainly Australia's favourite. 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 all be in the line-up, too. It is one of the most exciting weeks to be on the island and, with accompanying on-shore events including delicious lunches and memorable dinners created by visiting chefs, a Paspaley pop-up store and lots more, Hamilton Island Race Week has become one of the key social events on the calendar. We will be there.

NOVEMBER 18-21 PGA PROFESSIONALS CHAMPIONSHIP AND HAMILTON ISLAND AMATEUR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

This PGA Professionals Championship attracts Australia's top-order club and



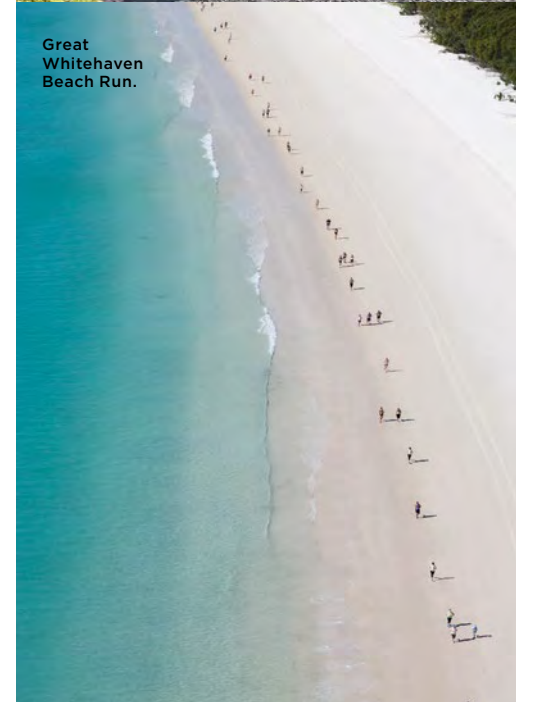
teaching professionals alike, all ready to take on the iconic Hamilton Island course for the national final. That also goes for the non-pro, three-day event, the Hamilton Island Amateur Golf Championship, which runs in conjunction with the PGA final. Places in the latter are limited to only 50 spots, so golfing enthusiasts must act quick. The popular Stableford competition starts at the same time as the PGA and is a pro-am on day one, followed by a 36-hole competition, which is open to both men and women. There are serious prizes to be won. Time to start locking in those extra practice hours.

NOVEMBER 23 HAMILTON ISLAND TRIATHLON

You can do it. Swim Catseye Bay, bike the airport runway and run the Hamilton Island roads. It's a demanding course and serious all the way to the idyllic beachside finish, but this is your chance to face off against professional athletes and other amateur-but-intense participants who come to Hamilton Island to test their mettle. Just crossing the line earns extensive bragging rights. For athletes aged 4-14, there's a junior triathlon and a Splash'n'Dash swim and run the following day (both events are of varying lengths).

NOVEMBER 24 WHITEHAVEN BEACH OCEAN SWIM

This is one of the most beautiful beaches in the world and not to be missed, so if the adrenaline is still pumping after the triathlon, why not compete in the Whitehaven Beach Ocean Swim? It's a 2km or 750m race, so will definitely be able to help you to burn off any excess energy.



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

Riding THE WAVE

The 35th Hamilton Island Race Week was blessed with beautiful weather, nail-biting finishes and a strong female presence among the trophy winners, says Lisa Ratcliff.

Sailors heralded Hamilton Island Race Week 2018 as the best in recent times, thanks to six days of fair breeze and glorious winter sunshine, only broken on the final afternoon, when isolated rain clouds washed a fine salt layer off the decks.

Among the second-largest ever Race Week fleet of 233 boats, a handful of international sailing's equivalent to influencers featured among the professional teams. These included names such as America's Cup and double Olympic champion Iain Percy and five-time Volvo Ocean Race (VOR) sailor Rob Greenhalgh.

Two division winners – IRC Division 1 champion Marcus Blackmore's TP52 Hooligan and Multihull Cruising victor Ave Gitana – featured some serious female offshore-racing talent and well-known adventurers who took the sport up as children and teenagers and turned it into a career.

Sharon Ferris-Choat was one of a handful of female skippers on the entry list, and she led an all-women team to victory aboard Antonio Pasquale's Crowther 40 Ave Gitana from Russell, New Zealand. Her sailing days began in the mid-1980s through a friend whose parents owned a boat and, noting her enthusiasm, suggested she join the high-school sailing team. "I went and found this Mr Godbert, and he gave me a list of conditions, mostly about values, commitment and respect for others and the equipment supplied. I signed and rushed home



Ave Gitana crew, winners of Hamilton Island Multihull Cruising Division 1 and the Gun Boat Trophy for the most line honours wins across all divisions at Hamilton Island Race Week.



Sharon Ferris-Choat (second from left) skippering at the 2016 Extreme Series.



Jo Breen (left) and Sharon Ferris-Choat (centre) helming Ave Gitana.

to ask Mum to please take me." Flick forward to her 2003 experience sailing Maiden II from Antigua to Newport on a World Speed Record: "I was one of the drivers and we came out behind Block Island and put up the Yankee, a huge Code Zero sail. We had flat water and 15 knots of wind building to 20 knots. I hit 40.2 knots [74kph] of boat speed, the first person to steer her that fast, and it was effortless." Joining Ferris-Choat for Hamilton Island Race Week was Jo Breen, a professional sailing instructor from Tasmania, who was introduced to sailing through school sport and books, in particular an audio book on Kay Cottee's

journey around the world in 1987-88. Breen, 29, campaigned her S&S 34 Morning Star in the 5,500-nautical-mile double-handed Melbourne to Osaka Race in March. She was then adopted by the Kiwi Ave Gitana team and spent winter on an extensive tour, which took in regattas and ocean races spanning New Zealand, New Caledonia and Australia, and added more than 5,000 nautical miles to the multihull's log. Stacey Jackson, the sole woman aboard Blackmore's champion team, cried from fear as a seven-year-old on her first outing aboard the family's Duncanson 36. The Queenslander not only overcame her trepidation but took her

PHOTOGRAPHY: JEREMIE LECAUDEY, CROSBIE LORIMER AND MARTINA ORSINI.

"WE HAD FLAT WATER AND 15 KNOTS OF WIND BUILDING TO 20 KNOTS. I HIT 40.2 KNOTS OF BOAT SPEED, THE FIRST PERSON TO STEER HER THAT FAST..."

“THERE IS A GREAT DEAL OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION TOWARDS WOMEN IN THE SPORT, WHICH IS OPENING UP OPPORTUNITIES THAT SIMPLY DIDN'T EXIST BEFORE.”

Stacey Jackson, 2017-18 Volvo Ocean Race, Leg 7 from Auckland to Itajai, on board Vestas 11th Hour Racing.



passion so seriously she qualified as a sailmaker turned professional sailor. Now she fills in the gaps between paid sailing roles with her home business, NautiBags, which makes bags from second-hand sailcloth.

Working on boats is a popular lifestyle choice; a lot dream but don't succeed. Jackson says establishing herself on the waterfront and putting time into mastering relevant skills, as well as committing to lengthy stints away from home while racing in Europe and the USA in the Australian off-season, is why she has succeeded.

The 35-year-old has two VORs to her credit – in 2014-15, on the first all-female crew in 12 years, Team SCA, and in 2017-18 aboard Vestas

11th Hour Racing – and measures Hamilton Race Week 2018 as her best yet. After trading blows with Matt Allen's sistership, Ichi Ban, Hooligan's ultimate victory was determined by the narrowest margin result in the penultimate passage race. "On the second to last day, the lead changed 10 times between us and Ichi Ban," says Jackson, "and finally we beat them across the line by five seconds – it was the most excitingly close match-up. Everyone put in and that sealed the overall win for the week." Jackson faced the biggest challenger of her professional sailing career aboard Vestas 11th Hour Racing. A fatal collision with a fishing vessel on the approach to Hong Kong at the end of leg 4 and the mast crashing down partway

through leg 7 in 30- to 35-knot winds and gnarly seas were life-altering setbacks that Jackson and her team pushed through to complete the 45,000-nautical-mile odyssey. When organisers of the 2017-18 VOR stipulated a quota system to numerically advantage teams that included women, which ended up being all of them,

despite some early protestation, the reaction was vehemently mixed, of course. Eventual winner, Dongfeng Race Team, out of China, created history when Carolijn Brouwer and Marie Riou became the first females to taste the sweetest victory. Ferris-Choat, mother of two, Olympian and skipper in the Extreme Sailing Series, believes now is a very different time for women in sailing. "There are more opportunities open to women compared with 20 years ago. Women need to train and study in the high-skill areas of marine-industry production, design and engineering, as well as sailing. Then we will start to see a big shift." Jackson believes the Team SCA campaign,



Hooligan, Marcus Blackmore's IRC Division 1 winner, with Stacey Jackson in the mid-bow role.

PHOTOGRAPHY: CROSBIE LORIMER AND SALTY DINGO.

plus the VOR's gender quota, started a movement towards some semblance of gender balance at the elite level. "Not all teams came on board quickly and not all were convinced afterwards, but the ball is in motion," she says. "There is a movement happening in ocean racing, and I'm a believer because I want to be part of these top-tier global events." The younger Breen feels like it's a great time to be a female in sailing. "There is a great deal of affirmative action towards women in the sport, which is opening up opportunities that simply didn't exist before." The VOR quota gave women the opportunity to learn to compete at the same level as the men, says the mixed-team believer. These inspirational women, each representing a different decade, carry aspirations of sailing feats yet to be accomplished. Breen's number-one goal is a non-stop, single-handed circumnavigation. "I genuinely enjoy solo sailing and that

would be the Everest of the sport for me, whether in the form of a Vendée Globe [a single-handed non-stop race around the world conducted every four years] or a project of my own." Jackson hopes, one day, to win the Tattersall Cup for the overall corrected time winner of the Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race, while Ferris-Choat is putting time and energy into the concept of a New Zealand offshore training academy. And when her kids are older, she also hopes to take on a Vendée Globe. Brilliant Whitsunday island courses, frequent whale sightings and a rare week of winter's best weather favoured the 35th edition of Hamilton Island Race Week. Behind the holiday ambience, the internationally recognised series once again brought sailing's debutants and deities together and created plenty more conversations and opportunities within the mixed sport of sailing.

For full results and further information, visit hamiltonislandraceweek.com.au

FULL SAIL

We like to call it off-shore elite, the best sailing gear to face off those ever-changing conditions and deliver peak performance. And it's all extremely stylish.

Henri Lloyd breeze cap, \$44.95.



Henri Lloyd women's freedom jacket, \$459.95.



Henri Lloyd freedom hi-fit trousers, \$369.95.



Henri Lloyd 50-litre breeze holdall, \$129.95.



Henri Lloyd is available at Marina Tavern Retail



Lennox Hastie.

Playing WITH FIRE

Take your seats, it's curtain up for some food theatre – a performance piece starring Lennox Hastie, playing the role of himself. By Alison Veness.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KEN BUTTI AND KARA ROSENLUND



The scene is set at Pebble Beach, qualia.



Matt Vickers from Wild Cape York Barramundi.



“WHEN I WAS YOUNG, I WANTED TO BE A CONDUCTOR, AND I OFTEN FEEL NOW MY ROLE IS A CONDUCTOR – AND THE INGREDIENTS ARE THE STARS.”

Lennox Hastie prepares.

CHARACTERS

Character #1: the chef himself, LENNOX HASTIE, about 186cm tall, close-cropped, dark hair and light, four-day beard. Born Sussex, England. Speaks with English accent. Wardrobe: chef blacks. Nimble. Deft. Centre of the action.
 Characters #2: two supporting chefs and the restaurant manager from Firedoor, Sydney, plus qualia's finest staff. All dressed in blacks.
 Characters #3: the extras, aka the GUESTS, dressed in black tie, all looking glamorous in a selection of sweeping gowns and smart tuxedos and crisp white shirts.

SETTING

Pebble Beach, qualia, during Hamilton Island Race Week, where our main character, Lennox

Hastie, is stoking the white-hot embers on the army of stainless-steel grills that have been shipped all the way up here for tonight's dinner from his award-winning restaurant, Firedoor. There are also two wood-fired ovens to burn the wood to make the embers over which the fish is to be grilled. Hastie is nothing if not resourceful. His famed approach to cooking over a wood fire has quite literally fuelled his incredible reputation as a fearless chef.

TIME

Dusk. Guests are already clustered around this fireside setting, watching the smouldering embers as the sun dips down over the Whitsundays. There are neatly stacked piles of chopped ironbark ready for refuelling the fires when needed. The long tables are set with white

linen and tons of fat candles and many pristine wine glasses. Something shocking is about to happen. 'Twill be a sight to behold.

ACT I

THE CANAPÉS

HASTIE has already prepped for tonight, starting out early in a boat with the renowned fisherman and provedore Matt Vickers. Their morning catch from eight special pots has hauled 30kg of fat mud crabs that are included on the menu as a fortuitous, last-minute canapé: grilled mud crab and crème fraîche on seaweed rice crackers. The GUESTS are purring with happiness. This is the thing with HASTIE – he has a menu in mind, but he also lets things evolve. He revs it up, and he only uses top-notch bounty.

HASTIE:

“The whole experience was just joyful. Matt’s eyes lit up – he was like a little boy – and even he was surprised we got that many. He had only put the pots out 24 hours earlier.
 “When I was young, I wanted to be a conductor, and I often feel now that my role is a conductor – and the ingredients are the stars. My role is to put them together and orchestrate it, so that they are performing at their very best [LAUGHS.]. I don’t play any instruments – I wasn’t at all musical, really. It was very bizarre but I liked the idea of it...”

Some of the GUESTS may have expected HASTIE to have a wood-chopping axe in hand, but instead, he currently has a metal rake and shovel. He is already lightly grilling the yellowfin tuna, sourced from Mooloolaba in Queensland, to go with the shiso and nashi pear that will be served as an entrée.

HASTIE:

“The sweet perfumes are so good together, yet nature doesn’t follow any rules – it chops and changes when you are cooking on wood. It’s the opposite of consistency, and so the flavours are unique. Every day I cook is different – that’s what excites me. Some days are tougher than others [PAUSES TO RAKE THE EMBERS.]. The whole world of wood has opened up now and I’ve really created a demand for all types from my supplier. We had all the wood delivered for this evening from the Blue Mountains in New South Wales and driven up to Airlie Beach and then ferried across to the island. Ironbark, orange and grapevine.”

Wood smoke wafts and sometimes billows like a sensory cushion as the twilight lowers across the diners. Aromatic and concealing.

GUEST:

“Why so particular with the wood – couldn’t you have just used driftwood?”

HASTIE:

“[LAUGHING LOUDLY.] When I came from Spain [from Asador Etxebarri, where Hastie was cooking with Victor Arguinzoniz] to Australia, I knew I wanted to cook with fire, so I had to look at the woods – we have amazing native woods in Australia – some are great and some are rubbish to burn. Driftwood is rubbish. So it took time. The way they burn really affects they way we cook. [THERE IS SOMETHING WILD IN THE AIR. THERE IS A LIGHT WIND BLOWING, AND FIRE IS UNPREDICTABLE, BUT HASTIE APPEARS TO BE IN CONTROL. HE TAKES A SWIG FROM A BOTTLE OF WATER.] It’s an honour to be here. I am blown away by the setting, especially qualia.”

GUEST:

“How hot is too hot?”

HASTIE:

“Good question. Ironbark burns 400 degrees hotter than the wood we used in Spain. I didn’t know that because it hadn’t been done before I started experimenting. The ovens at Firedoor are currently rated to 1,700 degrees and sometimes it can suddenly skyrocket up and sometimes we can’t touch it, so we’re exploring new territory with food all the time.”



“MY GRANDMOTHER RAN A HOTEL AND SHE LOVED FOOD. I REMEMBER COOKING WITH HER.”



Raking the embers.



Fresh mud crab, the canapé to the feast.



Plating up.



Dessert drama.

GUEST:
“You must have grown up cooking with fire.”

HASTIE:
“[LAUGHS.] I grew up in Sussex, England, where you only have a short burst of summer when everyone goes out and barbecues. My dad, despite being Australian... Well, we were looking at charcoal briquettes doused with lighter fuel. My mother is Scottish. She is unusual, in that she grew up on a small island – the Isle of Arran. Back in the '70s she went overland across the world via Kashmir and then she ended up on the large island of Australia, where she met my dad and dragged him back to Scotland. [PAUSES.] My heart is in Scotland. We used to visit a lot from southeast England when I was younger. My granddad ran the buses and the taxis on the island, Lennox Motors, and my grandmother ran a hotel and she loved food. I remember cooking with her. It was back in the day when the only olive oil you could buy was in a pharmacy – exactly [RAISES HIS EYEBROWS.]! – and to actually use exotic ingredients was forward thinking. She taught me how to make biscuits and cakes, and I remember making Yorkshire puddings, always. As a kid, seeing that rise... [LAUGHS. HE HAS A LOUD, INFECTIOUS LAUGH.] My wife is also Scottish, she was born in Aberdeen – my wife, my mother and her mother are all deep into Scottish dancing. [HE CAN REEL.]”

GUEST:
“Kilt?”

HASTIE:
“Yes. It’s Lennox – and my mother’s maiden name. And no, I don’t ever cook in my kilt – it’s too hot!”

GUESTS:
[LAUGHTER AS THEY TURN BACK TO THE DINNER TABLE.]

ACT II
THE ENTRÉE AND MAIN
The entrée of tuna, shiso and nashi is served. There is silence, save for the sound of the cutlery, as the lightness and freshness hits the brain cortex of the hungry and, it must be said, hedonistic GUESTS.

HASTIE:
“Do you love the sake [TSUKASABOTAN SENCHU HASSAKU JUNMAI SAKE, FROM KOUCHI, JAPAN, IS Poured.]?”

ALL THE GUESTS:
“Yes, yes, yes – absolutely delicious [MURMURS BETWEEN FORKFULS OF FRESH TUNA AND REFILLS FROM GIANT BOTTLES OF THE SAKE. OCTOPUS, FROM TASMANIA’S ROARING FORTIES, WITH ‘NDUJA AND CHICKPEAS, FOLLOW. THE OCTOPUS HAS BEEN GRILLED

OVER GRAPEVINES, KEEPING THE FLAVOUR LIGHT AND DELICATE.]”

GUEST:
“Craziest ingredient you’ve ever grilled?”

HASTIE:
“Caviar. It tasted amazing. It took a year to get it right, to get the right caviar, to look at the whole world of caviar and work out the most delicate way to cook it. It was one of the most amazing flavours ever. I eventually put wakamame seaweed between the wood and the caviar, and it was trial and error. It accentuates the nuance in the caviar, the flavour of black olives and hazelnuts, so it is briny and sweet and smoky. You need to have 10g of caviar at once, anything else is pointless. It’s a good spoonful, then you are truly experiencing it. It blew my mind. It’s hard to get, difficult to do.”

The main course is Wild Cape York barramundi, supplied by Matt, with fennel, palm heart, native herbs scattered over the filleted whole fish. The barramundi is grilled on orangewood and falls apart fabulously.

GUEST:
“[WAVES BREAKING GENTLY ON PEBBLE BEACH AND CUTLERY CLINKING AS GUESTS EAT.] I saw you on MasterChef! Do you have a favourite TV chef?”

HASTIE:
“Keith Floyd!”

GUEST:
“I’m from Bristol, too! I loved watching Floyd on TV as a child – he was such a character. I remember going to his restaurant in Bristol.”

HASTIE:
“He was amazing, knowledgeable, completely bonkers. Exactly what a celeb chef should be. I’d like there to be more honesty, transparency, none of this bullshit.”

GUEST:
“Really, there is.”

HASTIE:
“Are you serious?”

ACT III
THE DESSERT
With a final flourish, dessert is served – a pine

lime bombe, flambéed with Malibu liqueur, an ironic nod to tropical holidays.

HASTIE:
“It ignites so well. It’s fun, it’s interactive, and there’s something about that sense of theatre, engagement with something, a reminiscence of toasted marshmallows and flames on the bonfire...”

The plates are clean, a few espresso martinis are served to order.

By now, the GUESTS are well fuelled with food and wine – Robert Oatley Finisterre Chardonnay 2016, Margaret River; and Robert Oatley Finisterre Syrah 2014, Great Southern. As the curtain goes down, the conversation turns to tomorrow’s racing and childhood memories of camp fires and dining outside under the stars.

HASTIE takes a bow as the GUESTS applaud and cheer.

IN THE HOT SEAT



Lennox Hastie admits that Firedoor goes against the grain of a classic grill restaurant, with the majority of the plates served comprising fish and vegetables. This is, in large part, due to his particular obsession with finding a steak to rival that of the renowned grass-fed beef of Spain. It’s been a journey, however, and he has finally found two producers in Australia that produce Angus cattle that are grain-finished gradually over 270 days. He’s a man with a mission.

We appreciate that 200+-day-aged beef may not be a regular at our local butcher’s and wood fires aren’t the everyday go-to cooking method, but Hastie’s steak recipe below can be applied to any good-quality, slightly aged steak on a barbecue. Follow it as best you can and reap the benefits of a hearty meal.

200+-DAY DRY-AGED BEEF RIB

Serves: 2–4

Recipe type: savoury

Wood type: grapevines

Heat: intense embers

Additional equipment: grill

Variation: a good-quality, slightly aged steak cooked over a high heat on a barbecue

INGREDIENTS

1kg (2lb 3oz) dry-aged beef rib on the bone, at room temperature
Fleur de sel or sea salt

METHOD

1. Prepare your embers. Suspend a grill approximately 10cm (4in) above the embers.
2. Holding the steak by the bone, brush it across the grill rack 3 or 4 times to baste the grill.
3. Place the steak on the grill and immediately season well.
4. Leave for 1 minute and rotate 60 degrees, adjusting the height of the grill or the embers as necessary to ensure that the steak is only being licked by flames.
5. Repeat the rotation 5 times until the surface is caramelised to a rich mahogany.
6. When ready, turn the steak and season again.
7. Repeat the rotation and adjustment process (steps 4–6).
8. Remove the steak from the grill and allow to rest in a warm place for 5 minutes.
9. With a sharp knife, remove the bone, trim the sinew line on the inside of the rib and carve into 5mm (¼in) slices. Serve immediately.

EXTRACT TAKEN FROM FINDING FIRE BY LENNOX HASTIE (HARDIE GRANT BOOKS, \$60)
PHOTOGRAPHY: © NIKKI ITO



Adam Bull and
Miwako Kubota.

In CAMERA

Justin Ridler has been working with The Australian Ballet for the past six years. His photographs capture the energy, passion and all that precision, says Esther Holmes.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JUSTIN RIDLER

Every two years, The Australian Ballet comes to qualia to perform a showcase of pas de deux. It is always a night to remember as the sun sets and the dancers enthrall with magic and emotion in this intimate setting. To coincide with the performance in September this year, Justin Ridler exhibited at qualia's Long Pavilion and captured our hearts all over again with an enduring and fruitful creative collaboration. "When I met David McAllister [creative director of The Australian Ballet] in 2012, I was an early career artist, a young man who contextually was experiencing a lot of changes," Ridler says. "Illness in my family, relationships ending and forming, places to call home changing their shape and place. I think, with a little objectivity, it's easy to see why the ballet became such a strong source of inspiration for me, an intensely curious and kinetic person. "The works I saw develop in rehearsal spaces, performed on stages and in my own studio, through their expressiveness, mapped the contours of my own life, holding a mirror to my own perils and triumphs and the textures in between – through the pure grace of bodies moving. I know my body and my own movement. I saw those people dance and I knew their movement as though it was my own." Six years on from that meeting, "I have a home, a life and a conviction to my craft that

was largely aided by my relationship with the ballet and their dancers," Ridler says. "And over the sum of those years, I've had the somewhat unique privilege of becoming wildly opinionated. Through conversations with brilliant artists like David and resident choreographer Alice Topp, my preferences have refined. Now I have something that you could describe as an irreverent curiosity about dance. I believe I know the structures, the chords, the phrases. Now I want to have a little fun with it. To see what else is there. To say new things. New phrases. New ideas." He's excited about "the potential to expand the vocabulary of dance and photography through my creative practice. To work choreographically and make great kinetic paintings of my own." McAllister says, "It has been such a joy to work with Justin over these past six years. Apart from being one of the most creative and generous people you could meet, he really understands our art form and the importance of form and line. He is a fantastic collaborator and makes our time in front and behind the camera so enjoyable. It has been amazing over the past few years to take this creative partnership we share to the 'paradise' that everyone encounters at qualia on Hamilton Island. I think his images reflect the beauty of both the natural world and the physical world that we all enjoy when you are watching the dancers perform under the stars at qualia."



**MARINERS:
TROPIC THUNDER**

Leave the ginger beer in the fridge and reach for the eggs instead. You heard us. The creaminess of the egg white in this tangy delight means Mariners take on a mule – also known as a buck – is still punchy but without all that fizz.

INGREDIENTS

- 45ml Tanqueray gin
- 15ml peach schnapps
- 45ml pineapple juice
- 30ml lemon juice
- 15ml sugar syrup
- 15ml egg white
- 2 dashes of peach bitters

METHOD

Combine all the ingredients in a shaker, dry shake (no ice), wet shake (add ice), then double strain the mixture into an ice-filled collins glass. Garnish with bitters, a dehydrated pineapple slice and edible flowers.

Let's do the
TWIST

We love a fresh, delicious cocktail to pass the time during a hot Australian summer. However, we also like to mix things up – pun intended – so we asked the restaurants on Hamilton Island to share their takes on classic cocktails. See you there.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KARA ROSENLUND



**COCA CHU:
MANDARIN
STING**

Some like it hot. We like it spicy. So coca chu's fruity martini infused with chilli – shaken, not stirred – is ripe for drinking. Choose your level of spice wisely.

INGREDIENTS

- 60ml Smirnoff Red
- 30ml mandarin purée
- 20ml lemon juice
- 15ml cranberry juice
- 5ml maraschino syrup (double strained)
- Fresh chilli to spice level, muddled into
- 15ml sugar syrup

METHOD

Shake all the ingredients together and double strain them into a sugar-rimmed martini glass. Garnish with fresh chilli.

**ROMANO'S: BLOODY
SHIRAZ NEGRONI**

Nothing says *Italia* like a negroni. And trust the island's resident Italian restaurant, Romano's, to pump up the volume by adding a good shiraz and Cinzano to this classic. A negroni in overdrive? *Si, amore.*

INGREDIENTS

- 30ml Four Pillars Shiraz Gin
- 30ml Campari
- 30ml Cinzano Rosso

METHOD

Stir all the ingredients together, then serve in a rocks glass with an ice sphere. Garnish with dehydrated blood-orange peel.



**BOMMIE RESTAURANT:
COCONUT AND
VANILLA DAIQUIRI**

We all know a good daiquiri must have the perfect balance of sweet and sour, and Bommie Restaurant's version captures this essence and then some. Coconut and rum? Partners in crime.

INGREDIENTS

- 30ml Malibu
- 15ml Pampero Blanco rum
- 15ml Licor 43
- 45ml coconut cream
- 15ml sugar syrup

METHOD

Shake all the ingredients together, then double strain them into a coupe glass. Garnish with an edible flower petal and dust of cinnamon.

Rhapsody IN BLUE

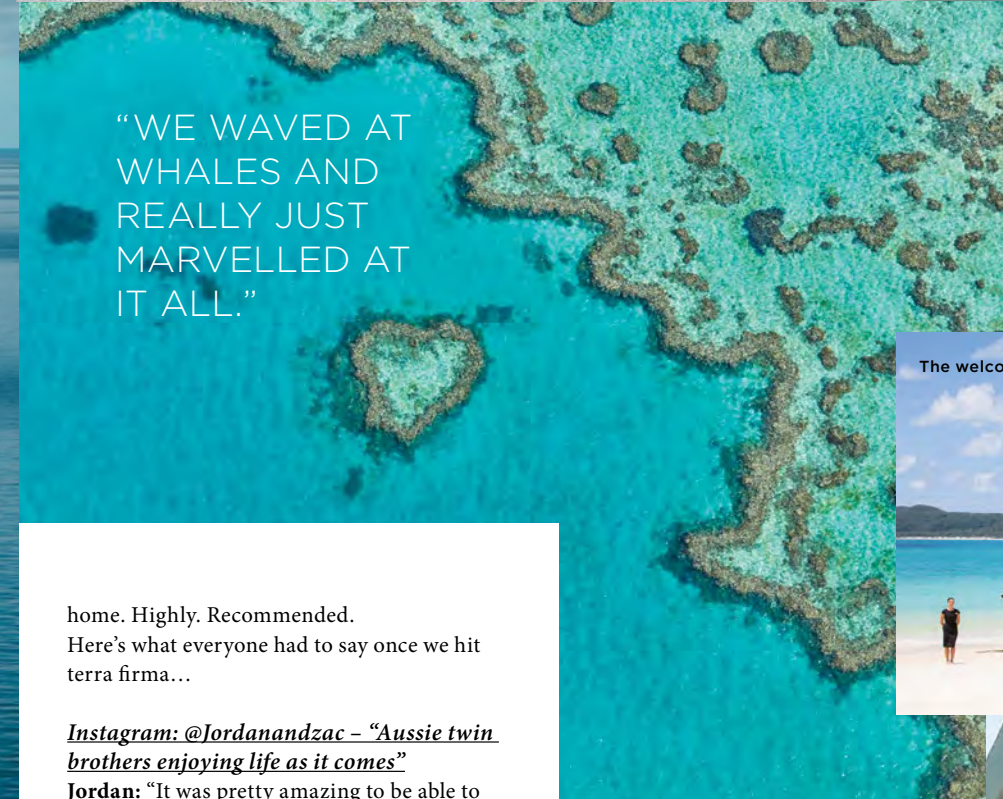
We do love a day trip while we're on holiday, especially one that is super-stylish and involves great company. REEF took to the task, happily joining a small and perfectly formed group of old and new friends on the ultimate day out in another part of paradise.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KEN BUTTI

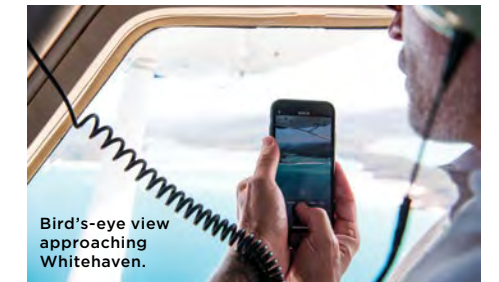
Flying high.

Boarding now, Hamilton Island Air terminal.

Jordan Stenmark.



"WE WAVED AT WHALES AND REALLY JUST MARVELLED AT IT ALL."



Bird's-eye view approaching Whitehaven.



The welcoming party.

Gotta love Jordan and Zac Stenmark. They are the boys who can and do. They are exponents of healthy eating, good living and super-fitness, so REEF got a little worried about being in the company of such pedigree, even though we have a gym membership, which by itself is sometimes enough to make us feel fit... Joining the dynamic duo on the day trip was nutritionist Asha Dillon and our favourite fearless adventurer and filmmaker Sam Evans, as well as Nick Wooster, one of the most stylish men this side of NYC, and Beard Season poster boy Jimmy Niggles, who is rather stylish himself. And so the day started at the Hamilton Island Air terminal with a debriefing about flying in one of their de Havilland seaplanes. Not just any day out. And soon we were all off, divided into two groups, and soaring up over the island and heading north over the Great Barrier Reef, towards Heart Reef, which lies 40 nautical miles from Hamilton Island. The flight affords a true bird's-eye view – this has to be one of the best ways to see the Whitsundays, with all that epic blue ocean and sky so picture perfect. Click click. And filming. It takes about half an hour to fly out to the reef and, on the way, we swooped

over Whitehaven Beach, all snakey sandbars and lush landscape. Low tide. When we reached the reef pontoon, we waved at whales and really just marvelled at it all – the geography, the environment, the tiny beating Heart (reef) and vast, never-ending big blue out here. Then we doubled back towards Whitehaven. A seaplane landing is a rush of excitement and water, and we made quite the grand entrance on Whitehaven Beach as the plane reversed in and we all climbed down onto that famous white sand. Could there be a more glamorous setting for a qualia-provided picnic? The sunshades and loungers were spaced out along the sand immaculately, and our waiter greeted us with a chilled glass of Charles (Heidsieck), whom we toasted, of course. Platters of fresh oysters, prawns and charcuterie kept us fuelled in between swimming and paddleboarding, also kindly provided. This was no Vegemite-sandwich picnic, but a six-star qualia moment, though it can be as simple or as lavish as you want out here, as in the end it's all about enjoying the company and the epic location. We squandered time, talked and relaxed. Talked some more, sipped more Charles and did nothing at all. We took a few pictures and lazily, eventually, returned to the seaplanes and headed

home. Highly. Recommended. Here's what everyone had to say once we hit terra firma...

Instagram: @Jordanandzac – "Aussie twin brothers enjoying life as it comes"

Jordan: "It was pretty amazing to be able to sit on the beach, eat fresh seafood with a great group of people after getting off a seaplane on the whitest beach in Australia. I don't think you can get much better than that."

Zac: "To fly in over the Great Barrier Reef, have lunch at the most beautiful beach in Australia, paddleboard around and then be flown back – it doesn't get much cooler."

Instagram: @ashax – "Nutritionist, model, product development"

"It was the first time I'd visited Whitehaven Beach, and I'm confident that arriving on the beach, via a seaplane over the reef, with fresh seafood and champagne upon arrival, was the ultimate way to experience it."

Instagram: @nickwooster – "Free agent"
"One of the most indelible moments of my life was having the opportunity to fly over the Great Barrier Reef in a helicopter and the next day in



Nick Wooster.

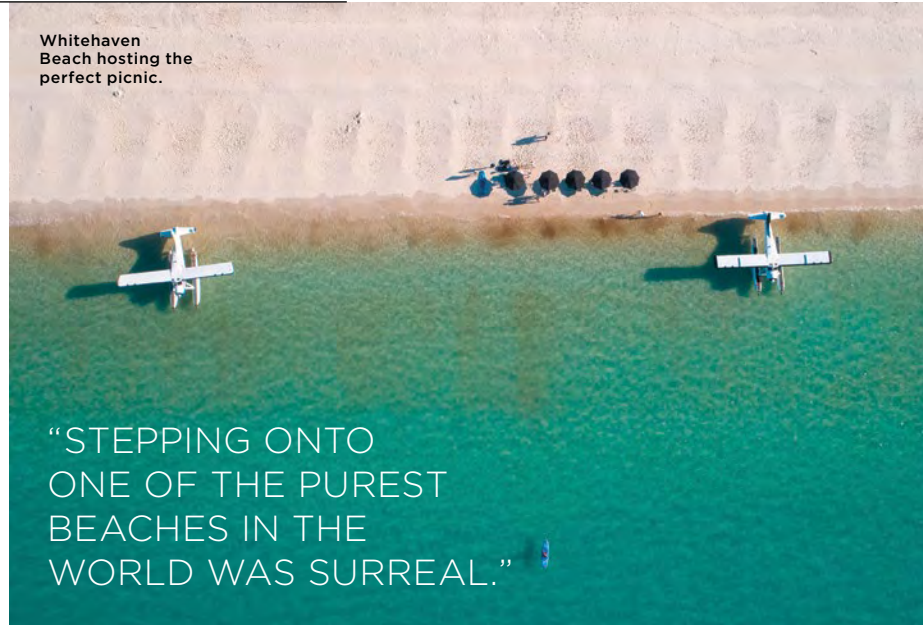


Seafood picnic.



Jimmy Niggles.

ADVENTURE



a seaplane. It is one of the most awe-inspiring, breathtakingly magnificent visuals I have ever experienced! Twice!”

Instagram: @beardseason (aka Jimmy Niggles)

“Our trip to Whitehaven was an absolute dream come true, especially flying in on a seaplane over the truly Great Barrier Reef. Crystalline blue water, squeaky white sand and a wonderful crew to enjoy it with. All the more memorable, thanks to the qualia team, who put on a delicious spread of cheeses, seafood and, of course, Charles Heidsieck champagne. A few of us went for a dip while the rest chatted under umbrellas. I took the liberty of explaining an ancient Aussie beach tradition known as the Chiko Roll to one of the guests, Nick Wooster, who’s from New York. When you have the whitest sand in the world to work with, why on earth not?! It was the perfect moment to embrace this jewel of a landscape, forget our phones and simply sit

back and enjoy what would easily be one of the most glorious places in all the universe.”

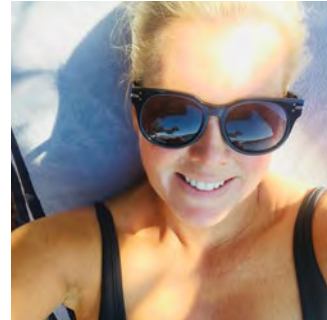
Instagram: @samevanslife – “Content creator”

“Our afternoon out on Whitehaven, for me as a filmmaker, was one I don’t think I’ll ever forget. Usually with such pristine and untouched coastline like Whitehaven Beach, it would take a considerable hike/boat trip to make it out there. To be able to fly in via seaplane and step off onto the sand onto one of purest beaches in the world was just surreal. We then swam, paddleboarded and enjoyed some food under the comfort of an umbrella, all the while soaking up the radiant white sand and mesmerising turquoise water. It’s experiences like these that I crave to capture.”

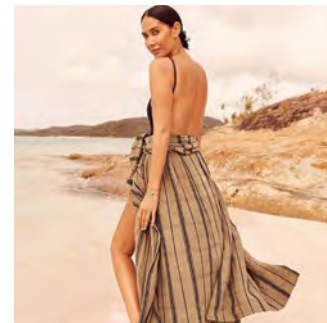
For more information about flying with Hamilton Island Air and taking a scenic flight or heading to Whitehaven Beach, visit hamiltonisland.com.au

POSTCARDS FROM PARADISE

Dear Instagram followers, look who came to visit the island recently...



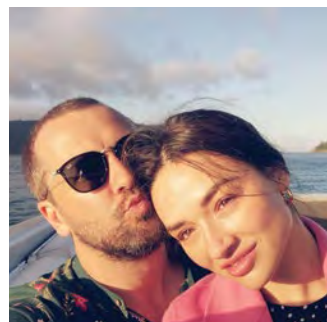
“[Cheers] to the weekend”
@sam_armytag



“@ramavoyage @cruisewhitsundays #journeybeyond #hamiltonisland #whitsundays #resortwear #destinationwear”
@lindyklim



“Big climb but worth it to get to Passage Peak! Best view of the Whitsundays”
@markberetta



“Beautiful one day, perfect the next. Whitsundays ain’t too bad either. #seeaustralia @australia”
@darrenmcmullen



WEDDINGS | ELOPEMENTS | REAFFIRMATIONS

Located in the heart of the Great Barrier Reef, Hamilton Island Weddings offers the ultimate destination wedding experience. With more than 10 ceremony locations and 15 unique reception venues, we can cater for anywhere between two – 200 guests. Delivering the full scope of weddings services from your Planner through to venue styling and photography, our goal is to make planning your special day a joy.

Plus, with its own airport guests are able to easily access Hamilton Island with direct flights from Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne and Cairns.

For more information, visit hamiltonislandweddings.com



Moonrise KINGDOM

Marilynne Paspaley AM is a legend. She may dispute this, as she is nothing if not humble. Indisputably, though, she is from the very best pearling stock in the world. Second generation. Here she talks to Alison Veness about life out west.

We are sitting on the edge of Pebble Beach in qualia looking out across to the Whitsundays. There are whales at work out there. I have ordered us a glass of Charles (Heidsieck), as it seems only the right thing to do when you are with Marilynne Paspaley. You want to celebrate, as she is such a pioneer of fabulous design, one of the keepers of the Paspaley flame and so much more. She also has a great, rather naughty laugh. She is quite at home here, but then beautiful landscape is in her blood, her natural habitat. She is based most of the time in Broome, operating the boutique lodge Pinctada McAlpine House, of which she is founder and managing director. The retreat is a wonder, an edge-of-the-earth sweep, and so we talk about what it's like to come from so much epic landscape. "I think when one is living there you just don't think about those sorts of things, it's just where you are, and you're doing what you're doing," she says. "But when I come back to the city, or when people from the city visit, I realise the pace is so completely different. And they find that the colours influence them, and the way you feel and what you actually want to do. Rather than feeling you have to be hectic every moment, you actually want to stop and take it in. Things have a different value. "We are so conscious of the weather, the blue sky, the temperature, and when it has or hasn't rained, and the smell of the earth. And it just becomes part and parcel of your day. You are so

aware of it all the time because of the different extremes between the wet and the dry seasons – those wonderful extremes of ridiculous humidity where you can never be comfortable – no fabric suits it. And then this beautiful dry season, like Hamilton Island in winter, which is just gorgeous. I think it grounds you." She doesn't feel as though she's from the country. It's a very different thing, she explains. "The Kimberley is such an extraordinary destination, and it's so intense in so many ways. The colours... I mean, there is nothing mundane about it or 'common' – it's always about extremes. And I feel very much part of there. I do think that when you are in places like that, it feels like anything is possible..." Her late father, Nicholas Paspaley, registered the Paspaley Pearling Company in 1952 (although he bought his first pearling lugger in the 1930s). I ask her if the immensity of that landscape is perhaps what fuelled her father's energy to achieve so much. "I feel that the energy was just inherent in him," she says. "He came from Kastellorizo, a tiny island in Greece. Historically the people there traded through Turkey to the rest of the world. So they never looked inwards, because it was tiny. It was all about position, position, position. They had the most superb environment to live in, but it was so small and you couldn't do business there within that tiny island, you had to think outward. "And so I think it was part of his nature. His father died within two years of them arriving in Australia – my father arrived when he was four years old – so I think his mother faced a

tremendous challenge, raising the five children in such a remote area. I think that awareness of seeing opportunity and grabbing it and making something of it was innate, possibly learnt because of the examples set. And I'm not sure it was Australia that bred that, but I do know that he believed very strongly that we were Australian, because it was Australia that gave him the chance to build a beautiful life for his family. "He was very clear. At that time, Greeks mixed with Greeks, but my father mixed with Australians and he raised us to be Australian. He wouldn't speak Greek at home. And one day I asked him why, and he said, 'Because this is the country that has given me the opportunity. We can live like this and we are Australian.' Amazing. A great strength. He really appreciated what he was able to do in this country, without question." One of her first memories is of dancing – "with a piece of tinsel, at Christmas. I was very little, and I was wearing frilly underpants. That's what I remember," she laughs. She also remembers being out at sea: "I loved it, and have so many wonderful memories of it. I remember falling asleep on deck one day when we were going out to the [pearl] farms, and when I woke up I'd lost all sense of time and this massive globe was rising above the horizon. I thought I'd slept right through the night and it was the sunrise, but it was actually the spectacular moonrise that you see in the Kimberley, when the moon is red. That's why people go to Staircase to the Moon in Broome, because when it rises it is actually red. It looks as if it's on fire, quite



"WE ARE SO CONSCIOUS OF THE WEATHER, THE BLUE SKY, THE TEMPERATURE, WHEN IT HAS OR HASN'T RAINED, AND THE SMELL OF THE EARTH."

PHOTOGRAPHY: KARA ROSENBLUND.

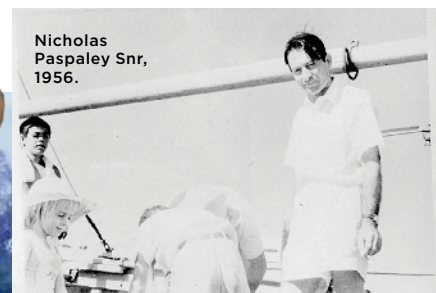
ACHIEVEMENT



Roslynne and Marilynne Paspaley in the 1970s.



Marilynne Paspaley's keshi-pearl cross.



Nicholas Paspaley Sr., 1956.



Marilynne Paspaley with her mother, Vivienne, in the 1950s.



Marilynne Paspaley in the 1970s.



Marilynne Paspaley in the 1970s.

incredible, and so I got totally confused about the time. It was beautiful. I just loved being out at sea – my father did, too.”

She never tired of going out to the pearl farms. “I got goose bumps every time I was allowed, and to see the land and the coves, and the excitement of that plane... That flying boat is such a thrill every time it lands and takes off. A flying boat lands on its belly, and so when it lands, the water rushes up past your window and it’s as though you’re being submerged, but you’re not. It’s an amazing feeling. It is so extraordinarily beautiful and untouched out there.”

I ask if her father has particularly influenced her life, and perhaps still guides her. “All the time, actually, all the time – with all the choices I make in life. He had very strong values, he was very simple, quiet, not an ostentatious person at all, and he really believed in dealing with people with integrity, in everything he did. And it was a tremendous gift, to be valued by someone like that and see it lived every day. “I think that’s common in all of us [her siblings, Nick and Roslynne]. I think we actually like to live a simple life. We are very fortunate, because we are involved in an amazing industry that has given us a very good life, but the underlying thing is that it keeps us very grounded, because you are working with nature and it doesn’t matter how smart you think you are. Unless you are working truly in nature’s best interests, you don’t get anything. So it is quite a wonderful lesson every day. It takes hard work and all our children have a very good work ethic.”

Marilynne was executive director of Paspaley for more than 20 years. “It was a very exciting time, I absolutely loved it. I had a fabulous team of people that I worked with and we were all so passionate about it. Every day was exciting. I directed the design and the collections – they were based on business, but to add creativity to a discipline is more exciting than just creating. I loved that challenge of creating a collection that was good business but also outstanding. It was great fun. And there was a tremendous sense of

“I JUST LOVED BEING OUT AT SEA - MY FATHER DID, TOO. I GOT GOOSE BUMPS EVERY TIME I WAS ALLOWED...”

satisfaction when you pulled it off – which we usually did. “My father made me a cross with some keshi [non-nucleated pearls] when I went to university [the University of New South Wales, at the age of 16, on a Commonwealth scholarship]. I had been complaining about pearl-jewellery design because I thought it was terrible back then – and so he challenged me. He got out a packet of keshi pearls and he said, ‘What would you do?’ and I said ‘I don’t know.’ And he flicked some keshi pearls across the table and said, ‘You go and do something then...’ And so I did – I made a bracelet, which I still have. It’s the most gorgeous thing, very simple and quite ethereal. At the same time, he made me this beautiful cross. And then I thought I’d lost it and, just before I left the company, I found some button keshi at a harvest and asked the pearl room to find me the balance of them, as it requires six perfectly matched pearls, and then sent it to the workshop and asked them to make me a cross, and all I wanted was to see the pearls. I wear that every single day. It’s very hard to make

something with that size of keshi. They might make about three pieces a year like my original one, but they make smaller ones, and I’ve never worn anything that gets so many comments. It’s not about the value of it, it’s just the beauty of it.”

She is now a director of the Paspaley Group of Companies and a mentor. “I love the communication. I think our next generation is very smart, well educated and very passionate about our business. I don’t formally mentor, but when you have meetings it’s a great pleasure to share experience. I would have loved a mentor – I had examples, but not a mentor.”

For Marilynne it was more that she was the youngest in a family business and about whether they would take her seriously. “That was more of a challenge than being a woman. I think when you’re creative and meet on a creative level, it’s no longer about being male or female, it’s about the vision, the excitement. Gender was not an issue. I never found that relevant at all in all of my 20 years.”

Before joining the family business she was an actor, appearing in films and on TV for many years. She says she made the change because she was “benefitting from the business and wasn’t contributing”, and “my brother and sister decided that I probably wasn’t doing anything really... and I should open the store in Broome.” She did and became completely passionate about it. “We knew nothing and it was a tremendous learning curve, but to be able to work with such an extraordinary product and to be able to be honest was akin to being an actress, because in performance, if it isn’t grounded and honest, you lose your audience. If it’s an ‘act’, you don’t touch anybody. When it’s based on a belief and a reality, then you have a performance that can reach people. I felt that same passion when I worked with people and dealt with clients. I loved looking after people, I loved giving information so that they could make a wise choice and feel confident and happy with their purchase. I used to get

“I’VE LEARNT A LOT, A GREAT DEAL. AND I’VE MADE A LOT OF MISTAKES. ALL OF THAT IS REALLY HEALTHY. I FEEL VERY BALANCED.”

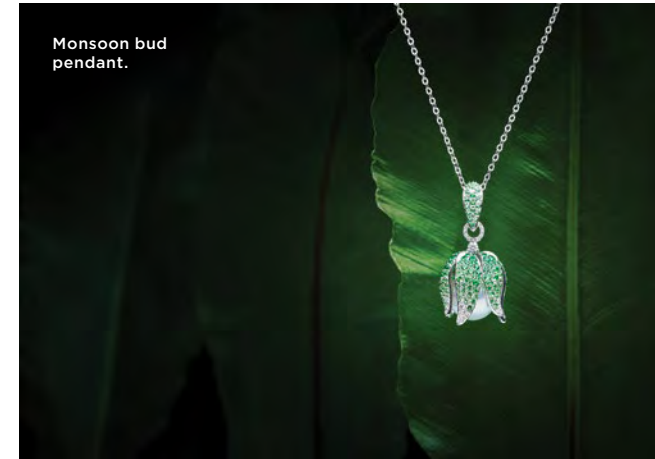
goose bumps with particular moments – and they weren’t always expensive moments. It was such a thrill knowing when a piece was going to someone who valued it.” She first visited Hamilton Island before the Oatleys owned it. “Now, how perfect is this? I stayed at the Beach Club then, and now they have absolutely maximised the position and done the rooms so beautifully. I could happily stay here several weeks.”

She knows her hospitality. Over the past decade she has established Pinctada McAlpine House (an original, historic master pearler’s home) as an award-winning destination. “I have learnt a lot, a great deal. And I’ve made a lot of mistakes,” she laughs. “And all of that is really healthy. I feel very balanced, having taken that on and, as much as it has not always been easy or successful, I don’t actually have regrets. I just wish I had been better at it! One of my biggest mistakes was not listening to my instincts – now I really do listen. They’re not some crazy emotion but numerous perceptions, experiences and learnings, and that’s the solid foundation of real instinct.”

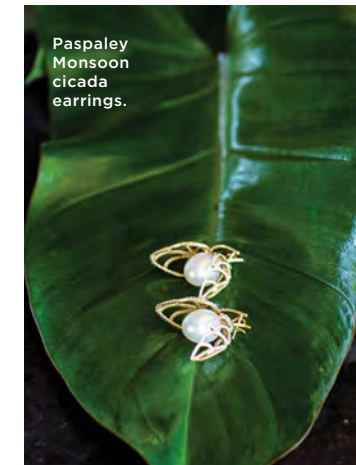
Her proudest achievement so far? She smiles, “Oh gosh, well there’s work and business, but my greatest thrill at the moment is seeing two of my sons – because only two have partners and children – be such amazing husbands and fathers, and seeing the incredible joy they have in being fathers. It’s as much as you could hope for.” She has four grandchildren, but she is a long-distance (geographically speaking) grandmother. “We FaceTime a lot and they are gorgeous children and fabulous parents. I’m very proud of them all.” She says her children, especially her oldest son, Nick, are hugely influenced by their grandfather: “Nick spent a lot of time with my father. And I think he would be very proud. I know he is. You have no idea how many moments in my life he has absolutely been there, and truly, absolutely been there...” And, at that, we pause and look out across the sea.



Paspaley Monsoon cicada pendant.



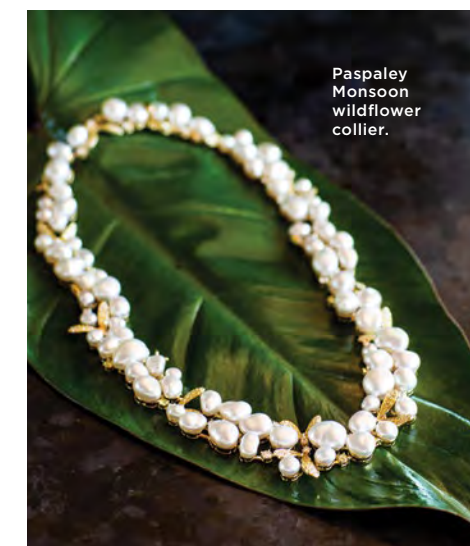
Monsoon bud pendant.



Paspaley Monsoon cicada earrings.

MAGIC OF THE MONSOON

The latest Paspaley collection is inspired by the powerful monsoons that hit the land and pearl grounds between October and May every year in Broome. The storms affect everything and, while the wet season brings seriously challenging times, in its aftermath there is a great regeneration and rebirth of the insect and plant life as nature repairs the work of the summer months and the dry land begins to blossom. It is an intense cycle, and it is the raw beauty of this naturally extreme environment that the innovative and passionate design team have taken as their inspiration. Of course, there is technical innovation, the hallmark of Paspaley. And so, an incredibly clever cicada – chosen because, when they appear en masse, it is a signal that the wet season is about to begin – comes complete with a pair of hinged wings that open and close and encase a pearl body. There are dragonflies, too, with rare keshi-pearl bodies. Three-dimensional flower buds have petals that open and close. And then there are earrings inspired by the “aftermath of rain – dripping with pearls and wet with diamonds”, says Christine Salter, the creative director (and third generation of Paspaley), who works closely with the design team. Exceptional. We die. We want it all.



Paspaley Monsoon wildflower collar.



Paspaley Monsoon petal earrings.

PHOTOGRAPHY: COURTESY MARILYNNE PASPALEY.

Wonder WORLD

Catseye Beach is home to a fascinating underwater world of fabulousness. Jarrod Parkinson, Bachelor in Marine Science, walking encyclopedia and Hamilton Island resident, talks us through some of its unique magic and shares his passion.

Catseye Beach is named after the catseye shell also referred to as a shiva shell. The beach is renowned for these shells – they get washed up from the lagoon system and sit along the shores.

Overall, there are 3,500 individual reef systems, 760 of which are fringing reefs, which grow a further 20cm from the shoreline each year. Hamilton Island is really special and really lucky – it has seven of the 760 fringing reefs.

What is so unique about Catseye Beach is that it stretches great distances seaward with the low tide, more than 500 metres, and the big 3-metre tides allow the ecosystem to function as normally and healthily as possible. Down at the southeastern side of the beach, we get those little reef sharks and juvenile lemon sharks – they really help the environment. Green and brown algae is abundant here because of the shallow, calm nature of Catseye Beach. The algae grows in temperate and tropical waters but not at great depths, which is why this area is so full of life and there is such a diverse abundance of primary producers that allow the ecosystem to thrive.

Six of the world's seven marine turtles are in the Whitsunday area, and four of them have been spotted at Catseye Beach. As you look across the water you might see turtle heads popping out. They are cold-blooded reptiles that need to breathe air; they have lungs not gills, so every seven minutes they have to pop up and take a breath. And they're very inquisitive. And very playful. The sex of hatching turtles depends on the temperature of the sand where they are laid during the

incubation period. Sand with a temperature of more than 27C produces more females, while cooler sand produces more males. Not all that hatch survive – maybe one in 1,000 will reach adulthood and maturity, which is approximately 35 to 50 years.

Unfortunately, most become victims of predatory birds and reef sharks during their first scurry across the sand and their arrival into the ocean environment.

There are 45 species of stingrays from 16 families that are within the Great Barrier Reef, and up to 23 have been spotted in and around the lagoon systems of Hamilton Island and Catseye Beach.

Stingrays have a defence mechanism – three-quarters of the way up their tail they have a small barb, made up of keratin just like our fingernails, which they use as defence. If they are attacked, they get one shot, and it takes two years to regrow that barb. They don't have teeth – all they have is a cartilage-crushing jaw. They will sit in the sand to crush up little snails, prawns and crabs. Generally, you'll see a tail behind them and they'll bask in the sun and feed.

There are shovelnose rays, too, which have a triangle-shaped head and two dorsal fins. They're very smart marine creatures, and that jelly-like liquid at the top of the triangle of their head is actually see-through. They can detect our heartbeats. Shovelnose rays have no physical protection, they are just very clever and cautious.

Down towards the southeastern end of the beach are cowtail rays, named for having a feathered tail similar to the kind cows have. The fish you can see cruising around in the waters are the diamond-scale mullet. They

Catseye Beach.



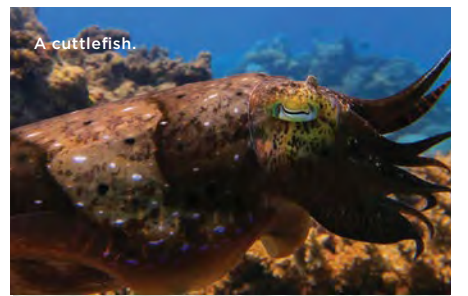
“PEOPLE HAVE SAID THEY’VE HEARD THE WHALES SINGING TO EACH OTHER, IT’S QUITE SPECIAL.”

PHOTOGRAPHY: KARA ROSENBLUND AND JARROD PARKINSON.

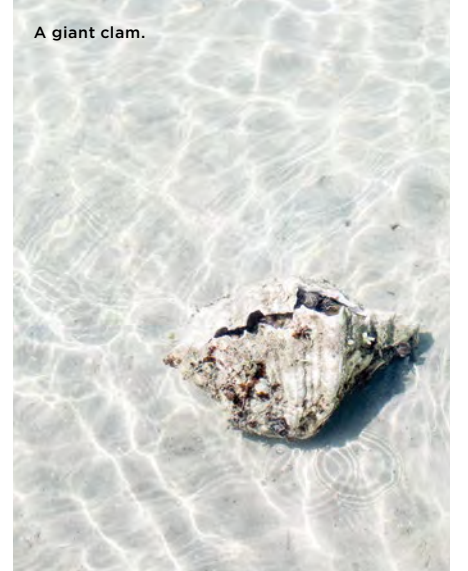
have really small scales at the top of their heads and then really long diamond scales at the bottom of their backs. There are plenty of dugongs around the island as well. Seagrass, weeds and all that algae is what they feed on – it's the most oxygen-producing plant in the entire world. The dugongs will sit and make their own little beds in the seagrass and munch away. They are very curious and social, but they don't like noise, so are rarely sighted. There are giant clams, too.

What Catseye Beach is really renowned for is cuttlefish, one of the smartest invertebrates to exist. Their latin name is *Sepia latimanus* – *sepia* meaning ink, *lat* meaning flat, and *manus* meaning fingers moving. They are masters of disguise that contain chromatophores, sacks of red, brown and yellow pigments that are regulated by muscle and controlled by the brain allowing them to alternate between being visible and invisible in a matter of seconds. Catseye Beach is so calm that they school in this area. During whale season, especially when Catseye

Beach experiences the big 4-metre tides that occur around the moon phases, the whales will come in very close. It's not uncommon at night-time, when you're sitting up at One Tree Hill, to hear them, slapping around and spraying along these reef systems while they protect their young. When the calves are a bit more mature, around September time, they begin making their way back down to Antarctica, back to where they came from. While they're up here, the whales won't eat, they're just here letting their babies develop a blubber layer and using the warm water and protection of the islands. Shallow lagoons like this, and the ones around Whitehaven, are perfect for protection. People have said they've heard the whales singing to each other. It's quite special. Each season they'll add a little bit more to their song – new parts of their song get created through communication, reconnecting with family members and learning. The whole ecosystem is really thriving here.



A cuttlefish.



A giant clam.



Yellowtail fusiliers.



Catseye shells.



A cowtail ray.



The Importance of BEING YOURSELF

Oscar Wilde once said, “Be yourself, everyone else is already taken”, and the American fashion director, collaborator and “free agent” Nick Wooster is the living embodiment of the sentiment. Rebecca Khoury caught up with him as he cut a stylish swathe through Hamilton Island Race Week to ask him how he does it.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KARA ROSENLUND

DRESSING THE PART

Nick Wooster is an international traveller who records many of his super-stylish exploits on Instagram. Here we watch and learn...



“Thank you @paspaieyppearls @hamiltonisland @qualiaresort #hirw photo by @kararosenlund”



“Shooting in Taormina with @paulsharkofficial photo by @sara.antonietti”



“I’m having the best week in Tokyo thanks to @teslamotors for the use of the Model X. It’s an amazing ride.”



“Thank you @cartier for the most amazing two days in San Francisco... And I’m obsessed with this acoustically perfect room.”

I have always been obsessed with clothes, and probably the only fear I don’t have is getting dressed. I tend to be pretty insecure and fearful about everything except getting dressed. From the time I was five years old there’s never been anything [I wouldn’t wear]. Some people say, ‘Oh, I would never wear that’, but I’ve always been up for anything. For someone who honestly never wanted to stand out, my actions when getting dressed were exactly the opposite. I’ve never been afraid to wear something with a weird design or colour. And now it’s like I’ve painted myself into a corner.

So many people have influenced my career and helped me along the way. The person behind the scenes who really influenced me the most in terms of everything I do, the filter through which I see everything, is Peter Rizzo, who was my boss at Barneys New York in 1987. At the time, he was the [chief merchant], so the boss of all the buyers, and he ran the men’s business when the Pressman family owned Barneys, when it was truly a social and cultural source in New York. He taught me everything I know about design, about taste, about how to buy collections and, to this day, I think about him. Three of the most recent people who have influenced [my career] are Tommy Ton, Scott Schuman, the founder of the blog The Sartorialist, and Lawrence Schlossman. They are all bloggers, and in 2010, Scott took a photo of me for The Sartorialist, and Lawrence was the first to write about me when I started as fashion director at Neiman Marcus and Bergdorf Goodman. It’s because of those three that I have the career that I have today.

I guess style is like a fingerprint. Everybody has their own style, even if it’s not really “stylish”, and that’s OK – not everyone should or will prioritise clothes in the way that I do. But also I’m a sponge, so I think I get informed by everything, whether it’s people in the street, at the airport, or in movies and magazines. Everything influences me to some degree, and it really is about, “OK, cool, I’m not doing that but maybe I’ll do this.” I do believe people have their own style, even if they are not conscious of it.

Sticking to one colour is the easiest rule – if you want a rule – and something I’ve kept really practising in some way, shape or form. So if you’re going to wear colour, stick to the family, for example jeans. People always say things like, “Oh, that looks great with denim”, but for me, the only requirement for denim is navy blue. I never wear a “colour” with denim – I wear navy

or blue. Or with military green or camouflage I’m going to wear some sort of khaki or green on top. Stick with one colour, it makes life easier, and it makes packing so much easier. And a really good pair of shoes, a really good pair of sunglasses and a really good watch can make a simple T-shirt and jeans look amazing. I love collaborating with brands because they’re the experts. I don’t actually consider myself a designer, but I love to collaborate and I love

“I GUESS STYLE IS LIKE A FINGERPRINT. EVERYBODY HAS THEIR OWN STYLE, EVEN IF IT’S NOT ‘STYLISH’, AND THAT’S OK – NOT EVERYONE SHOULD OR WILL PRIORITISE CLOTHES IN THE WAY THAT I DO.”

to go to the source. So if it’s somebody who makes beautiful eyewear, like Garrett Leight, I’m happy to collaborate. I have a couple of things cooking... My next collaboration is going to help address travel, which is obviously something I am doing a lot of right now. The jacket I’m wearing here is from the collaboration I did this summer with Paul & Shark, a heritage Italian brand that has its roots in sailing. The jacket is a homage to the kind of statement jackets they’ve been making for the past four years, and it was really my take on those. And the flag on it, the country it represented, means something to me. And for my next motivation, I’m going to have to make Australia front and centre.

Before I got to Hamilton Island, so many people said to me, “God, that’s a long way to go”, and I said, “Yeah – and it’s worth it.” That’s the thing about the island – I had no idea what I was getting into. I had no idea what was in store and it blows me away. I would say it’s worth going all the way around the world for. The people, the setting, the weather, just everything, the hospitality, oh and qualia – I’ve never seen anything like it. It really exceeds every possible expectation I could have had or did have. It’s so worth it.

Sounds of SUMMER

Renew your blues with a touch of gold and layer up with pastels by the pool this summer. If you're in a more playful mood, throw some neon accessories into the mix for a sportier vibe.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KARA ROSENLUND



PLAYTIME

<< Bag, \$29.99, by Billabong; swimsuit, \$119.99, and reef shoes, \$29.95, by Rip Curl; playsuit, \$150, by Tigerlily; and beach towel, \$29.99, and Frisbee, \$14.99, by Sun Bum; all from The Hut. Sunglasses, \$264.95, by Michael Kors, from SALT.

POOL PERFECT

▲ Men's beach shirt, \$240, camouflage-print shorts, \$295, and women's shorts, \$260, by Bassike, from SALT. Sunglasses, \$410 each, by Prada, from the qualia Boutique. Cape Grim water, \$4.50 for small, \$8.50 for large, available at selected eateries on the island. Leica Sofort camera used as prop.

GET SPORTY

>> Swim shorts, \$89.95, T-shirt, \$79.95, and cap, \$44.95, by Henri Lloyd, from Marina Tavern Retail. Cool Down gel, \$9.99, by Sun Bum; water bottle, \$12.99, by Rip Curl; and slides, \$129.95, by URGE; all from The Hut.



WATER BABE

<< Dress, \$99.95, by Seafolly; bag, \$99, by Parfait Ce Cabas; bikini top, \$129.95, and bottoms, \$89.95, by JETS; and hat, \$24.95, by Laze; all from SALT. Slides, \$99.95, by URGE; sunglasses, \$205, by Ray-Ban; and SPF 30+ sunscreen, \$15.99, by Sun Bum; all from The Hut.



ISLAND RETAIL THERAPY

AUSTRALIA THE GIFT
07 4946 9015

FLORAL COLLECTIONS
07 4946 8335

FOOT'S ARTWORKS
07 4946 9062

HAMILTON ISLAND DESIGNS
07 4946 8565

HAMILTON ISLAND JEWELLERY
07 4948 9857

MARINA TAVERN 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

SALT SWIM AND RESORT WEAR
07 4946 8221

THE ART GALLERY
07 4948 9657

THE HUT
07 4948 8273

TRADER PETE'S
07 4946 0907

The Roving EYE

Malta may be home for the photographer Kurt Arrigo, but he's never more content than when he's at sea "bobbing up and down on the water", most recently during Hamilton Island Race Week, writes Nicholas Carolan.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
KURT ARRIGO

Wild Oats XI, Hamilton Island Race Week 2018.



“It’s funny – when people ask, ‘What’s your favourite destination?’ it’s hard to put your finger on one,” says Kurt Arrigo, 49. “But being in the sea, being among nature is certainly where I’m happiest.” An intrepid marine photographer who is just as at home shooting portraits on location as he is documenting a yacht race, (including Hamilton Island Race Week), Arrigo thrives in liminal spaces. “I’m shooting above, below, and sometimes on board,” he says. “I consider myself quite flexible in all the different elements I can place myself in.” Arrigo’s comfort navigating the space between sea and sky could almost be predestined. The relative proximity of Malta to the world beyond is an added bonus of life on the island where he was born and raised. “Being based in Malta, everywhere is pretty close,” Arrigo says, speaking from his home in Gharghur, a hilltop village in the northeast of the island. In the

summer months, life in Malta turns toward the azure sea – in particular, to Arrigo’s lifelong passions of sailing and diving. Testament to the Mediterranean island’s magnetism is the fact that Arrigo has never managed to stay away for more than three months, no matter how extensive his travels. This year, the photographer has visited 44 countries; add to that the almost three decades that he has been travelling, and you start to get a picture of his endless appetite for adventure. “Travelling opens up your whole perspective on life and your connections with people,” he says. “It’s a way of growth, where you tend to discover yourself in various situations... It really is a university of life – it certainly has been for me.” It wasn’t until he was in his early twenties, at a time when his photographic career was gaining traction, that Arrigo started to feel an urge to explore other countries. At 21, he travelled to San Diego to photograph the 1992 America’s Cup – it was a trip that sparked his desire to make a living from travelling.

When he first began to explore underwater photography, Arrigo recalls reading an article that had the headline “If you don’t have a good sense of humour, don’t take it up”. “True to the headline, it was so challenging. In the early days, it was still analogue,” Arrigo says, laughing. “I feel very fortunate that I started from film, because it really disciplines you in how you create your photography.” For him, shooting analogue completed the equation necessary for creating a memorable image – to balance the lighting, framing, exposure and composition without the retroactive aid of digital compositing.

As for any favourites, there are too many to remember. Arrigo recalls a Rolex Middle Sea Race, which starts in Malta, when he photographed a boat ploughing through the seas and 30-knot winds, its deck bathed in golden sunrise and white water. There are also the many taken when a boat has passed the Organ Pipes cliffs of Tasmania just as the light perfects itself. Or there’s the photograph that landed him the Yacht Racing Image of the Year in 2012, taken during the Volcano Race (which is based around Gaeta and the Aeolian Islands in Italy) and featuring the yacht Nilaya, in whose hull the reflection of the isle of Capri is visible as the sun broke through the storm clouds, gilding the ship and her neatly aligned crew.

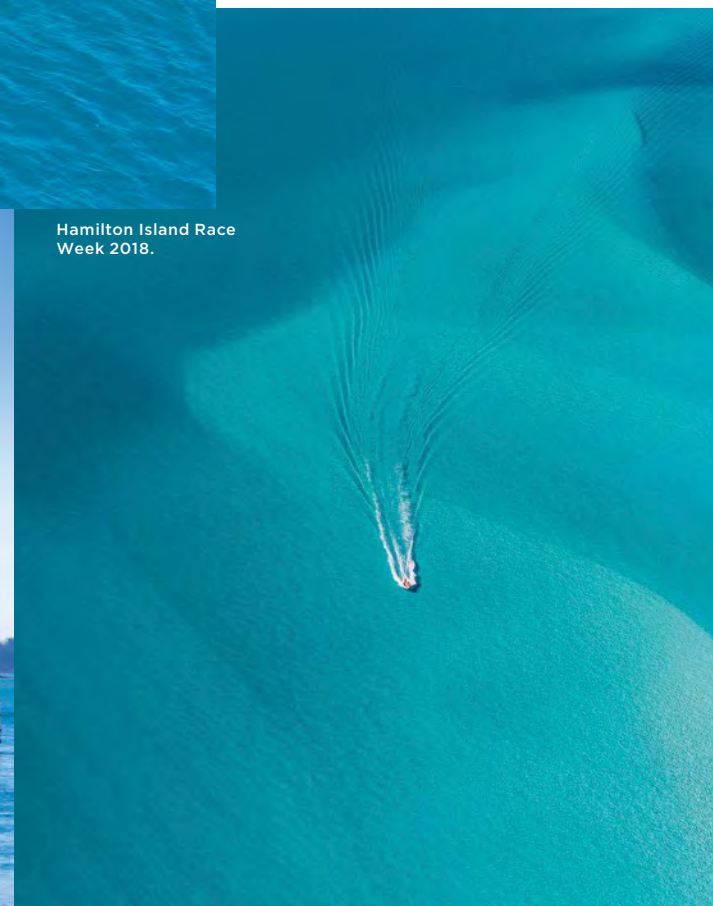
Beneteau 47.7 Stratacare Bluebottle, Hamilton Island Race Week 2018.



The fleet approach the finish line in Dent Passage, Hamilton Island Race Week 2018.



Hamilton Island Race Week 2018.

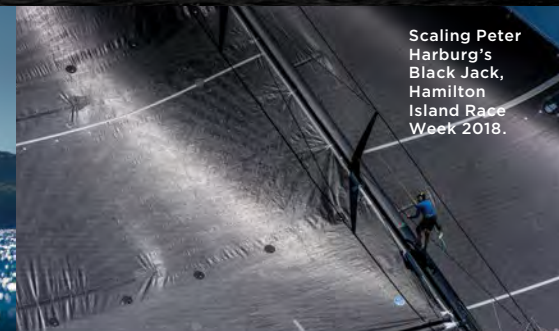




James Crowley's J122
Javelin, Hamilton
Island Race Week 2018.



Ian Edwards' Dehler 46 Wings, Hamilton Island Race Week 2018.



Scaling Peter Harburg's Black Jack, Hamilton Island Race Week 2018.

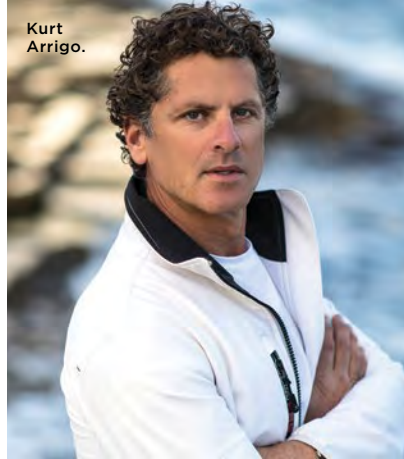
In August 2018, Arrigo visited the Whitsundays for the first time to photograph Hamilton Island Race Week. "It was, as expected, stunning," Arrigo says. "The island has a really incredible energy... My time there was absolutely fantastic." The week presented Arrigo with the rare opportunity to capture the dense concentration of life above and beneath the surface, framed by the kind of crisp light that saturates the world in vivid colour. Perhaps more impressive still, Arrigo somehow finds time to put down the camera and join in. A recent week on a cruising boat in Greece allowed him to relax. A camera, however, was never far from hand. "It's just natural to me. When I go out on assignment, to be honest, I still feel like it's my first day. It has never really been a job for me." Next up is another Rolex Middle Sea race, which starts from Valletta and goes around the islands that surround Sicily. Then perhaps it will be on to Tromsø, in northern Norway, where Arrigo went on an expedition last year to photograph orcas. "Whatever comes, we'll see," he says. "I'll take it as it comes."

"IT WAS, AS EXPECTED, STUNNING. THE ISLAND HAS AN INCREDIBLE ENERGY."



Black Jack (left) and Wild Oats XI, Hamilton Island Race Week 2018.

KURT ARRIGO'S TOP TIPS FOR TAKING MEMORABLE PHOTOGRAPHS



Kurt Arrigo.

KNOW YOUR GEAR

"Whether you're shooting with a phone, a point-and-shoot camera or a professional SLR, it's really important that you understand how to use your gear properly in terms of what it can deliver. If you don't understand it, get some professional help to show you how you can best use your camera."

PREPARATION IS KEY

"If you're going to a particular destination on assignment or on holiday, it's great to know where you're going and prepare yourself for what you're expecting to see."

UNDERSTAND THE LIGHT

"Sunrise and sunset are always magical hours because they give beautiful colours that have an impact on our emotions. It's important to prepare yourself for where you're going and how it suits you to be in that location. Whether you're shooting into or away from the sun, if the sun or the light is hitting a subject, whether there is shade or contrast, are all things to bear in mind."

SHOOT THINGS THAT MEAN SOMETHING TO YOU

"At the end of the day, you're creating a picture that needs to resonate with you first. The connection with the image you're going to create is going to come from you. If you're not connecting with it, it's not going to reflect the best image."

DON'T WORRY, BE HAPPY

"Ultimately, it's important to be happy with what you've created. I always live by this kind of [test] – is it an image I'm happy with or could I improve on it? It helps you as an artist to develop your skills as a photographer. You grow from it as you connect with the picture."



Hamilton Island's Golf Car of Choice

www.golfcarsinternational.com.au

Sales and Service Centre: Hamilton Island PH: 0427 050 409

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



GOLF AND UTILITY VEHICLES

Brett, Taya, Brock and Debra Childs.

“FITNESS AND BEING ACTIVE IS REALLY IMPORTANT TO OUR WHOLE FAMILY.”

Together STRONGER

Oh, don't let the hypnotic dancing palm trees and gentle tide fool you. Hamilton Island is for athletes. Tracey Withers talks to one dedicated competitor who lives here and trains hard.

Hamilton Island can make a gutsy competitor of anyone (and they will love it). Blame the healthy-living community vibe and an events calendar stacked with so many swim meets, marathons and triathlons it almost drips sweat and tears. Getting in on a sporting club or training pack is easy and, we hear, addictive. The fitness culture of the island is part of its magic. In the lead-up to the “Hamo” triathlon that took place in November, you might have seen them motivating each other up the hills and cutting laps around the buoys out at Catseye Beach. You probably wouldn't have spotted them drilling hard in the Reef View Hotel pool, though – that happened in the pitch black, way before us holidaymaker types were awake. It's all very inspirational. Debra Childs, 40, shares her passion.

“I live on the island with my husband and our two kids – Brock is eight and Taya is four. I first came here 16 years ago, when my husband got a job here, so both the kids were born into the island lifestyle. Fitness and being active is really important to our whole family. My husband and son go mountain biking together up in the trails. Both the kids love karate and Brock's into squad swimming and doing the 5km parkrun that anyone – staff and guests – can do for free on a Saturday. It's a lot of fun. You'll find us all up in the trails together, bushwalking, on weekends, too. The hike to the little beach down at Coral Cove is one of our favourites. We also have a little boat that we take out to explore the Whitsundays.

“Freedom is really what we love about raising a family here. It's a safe environment for kids to be outside and exploring. I think people on the outside look at the island's size and wonder if there's enough to do, but it would actually be

hard to get bored. The weather is usually on our side as well, so we can be swimming, snorkelling down at the beach, on bikes or up in the bush any time. My kids don't even own an Xbox or anything like that. We prefer them to be playing outside – and so do they.

“Fitness and triathlons were definitely not me before I came here. It didn't come naturally to me. But I got into it quite a few years ago, and once you're in, you're in. I love it. It all started with one season of outrigger. Once I'd done that, I thought, ‘What's next?’

“It's no secret that it's hilly here, but it's an easy island to love training on. Run up South East Head and you get an amazing 360-degree view of the water and all that sky and other islands. Even if you're doing a flat train, running along the marina, you can almost convince yourself it's just a leisurely jog.

“Having the IGA has made being nutritionally prepared for events easy. I talk to Claire [Waterson] at the gym about nutrition quite a lot, too. I tend to stick to my macros [macronutrients – carbohydrates, fats and proteins] when in training.

“The Hamilton Island Tri is a tough course, though – one lap in the water down at the beach, three laps of the course on the bike and then the run. That last kilometre is a breaker. Coming out of Mango Tree up to the church, it's a hill finish on a climb that just doesn't stop. It's a technical course, too – lots of corners and having to manage your speed and technique. Even the pros who come up here and who have trained for hills always say it really tested them. It's a thrill to line up with them, but I try not to compare myself to anyone else – I just go out there and do it. Just finishing this course is a reward. That and seeing my training buddies cross the line. We're here to coach each other until the end.”

Play like a KING

Ever wondered how to play the legendary Hamilton Island Golf Course – and win? Matt Cleary went in search of advice and hit golfing gold.



14th hole, Hamilton Island Golf Course.



Ninth hole, Hamilton Island Golf Course.



Matt Docking winning the Australian PGA Professional Championship 2017, Hamilton Island.

They call Wally Lewis “The King” and Johnathan Thurston “The King of the North”. A long-necked, 750ml bottle of beer is known as a “king brown”, after Australia’s most widespread venomous snake. That Australians would confer titles of highness upon two greats of rugby league and a bottle of beer shows that such appellations aren’t handed out easily. Matt Docking is known as “The King of the Island” by friends who are taking the mickey a bit. But only a bit. Because it’s not without merit. As REEF went to print, Docking was preparing to defend the Australian PGA Professionals Championship that he won in 2014, 2015 and 2017. Last year he shot 5-under on day two in breezy conditions and won by three shots. He’s from Cowra via Canberra and is currently head pro at Royal Hobart. And he has owned Hamilton Island Golf Course. Though it’s owned him back. “I go up expecting to lose some golf balls,” he says. “There will be times in your round that you won’t get a ‘fair’ bounce. I’ve had a bit of success because I don’t seem to let it bother me.” Docking says navigating Hamilton Island Golf Course isn’t so much about setting low expectations as going in with a mindset that the course will have its way with you, on occasion. And his advice to the amateur golfer is the same as it is for his professional colleagues: hit the fairway off the tee – and then do your best. “Mentally, you don’t want to get ahead of

PHOTOGRAPHY: HAMILTON ISLAND PHOTOGRAPHY AND KARA ROSENBLUND.

yourself. Pick a shot you’re comfortable with, rather than something that’s only, say, got a 1 in 10 chance of coming off. Don’t bite off more you can chew.” Though there are holes that look forbidding to the amateur player, Docking says that every hole is playable – it’s just a matter of playing it the way you can. “There’s an option for how to play the hole and score on every hole,” he says. “They don’t need to trick it up. You miss the fairway by a couple of metres, in the rough, it can be a lost ball. It’s a tough challenge regardless of the standard. It’s not your traditional resort course.” Docking’s favourite hole is the par-4 13th – “probably the most spectacular hole on the island. It runs across the top. It’s a blind tee shot and you just want to hit an iron or hybrid over the hill to a generous fairway. You need to pick your line and get it in play. The second shot, you’re well above the hole, playing down to the sea. Miss left or right, you’re in trouble. It’s a white-knuckle hole, and immensely satisfying to score well on. “Next up, I’d nominate the 16th – another spectacular one, with views across the water to Hamilton Island on the right. After a blind tee shot over a hill along the top of the island, par-3, the green seems to ‘float’ on the horizon. You could hit any number of clubs, depending on the wind. Missing right is bad. But again, very satisfying to make birdie. “And 15 and 17 are both difficult but satisfying

second shot. And 17 goes up and then down, it’s long and, depending on the wind, you could have a long or short iron in.” Such is the rolling topography of Hamilton Island Golf Course that golfers will face shots where the ball is above or below their feet. The 10th hole is a par-4 that plays longer than it looks, given the 20 metres of elevation from fairway to green. The 18th tee is set on top of a hill looking down over the clubhouse and Hamilton Island in the distance, with magnificent views of the clubhouse and islands. Elevation and views would be the golf course’s points of difference. “It makes beautiful use of the water,” says Docking. “It’s like a nature walk with a golf course on top of it. The views are unbelievable.” When Docking won in 2017, after going into the last round with a three-shot lead, he knew anything better than par would be a good score. He set out to hit greens and make a lot of 2-putts. He shot 1-over. “On that golf course, anything can happen at any given point. You’re only a bad bounce away from a big number. You just have to realise you’re going to hit a good shot for a bad result. After a round of golf I don’t think I’ve ever come off as ‘fried’ mentally. That’s not a bad thing. It means you’ve had to think every time you stand over the ball. “The golf course is nothing short of brilliant. I love getting up there and playing golf. What a great place to have a week off work!” Amen, your majesty.

when you play them well. Fifteen is long, downhill par-4, often into the wind. Again, you want to get the ball in play off the tee and do your best with your

“IT’S LIKE A NATURE WALK WITH A GOLF COURSE ON TOP OF IT.”



16th hole, Hamilton Island Golf Course.

RSVP

HAMILTON ISLAND RACE WEEK

Kerrie McCallum and Joanna Savill.

LENNOX HASTIE DINNER

Location: Pebble Beach, qualia
 Dress code: beachside elegance
 Chef: Lennox Hastie, Firedoor, Sydney
 It was an elemental fine-dining experience that guests enjoyed as Lennox Hastie cooked on open fires. Fanning the conversational flames was the well-respected journalist Joanna Savill, who hosted an entertaining conversation with the Sydney-based Hastie, who brought all the theatre and deliciousness to the beachside table. A night to remember.

The opulent table setting.



Jay Lyon and Nick Leary.



Jimmy Niggles and Nick Wooster.

Firing up the wood.



PHOTOGRAPH BY KEN BUTTI.



Sophie Tedmanson, Alison Veness, Elizabeth Hewson, Rebecca Khoury.



Claudia and Patrick Boutellier.



Carol and Sandy Oatley.



Edwina Robinson and Felix Forest.

Jordan and Zac Stenmark.



NEIL PERRY QANTAS DINNER

Location: Long Pavilion, qualia
 Dress code: resort chic
 Chefs: Neil Perry, Rockpool Dining Group, Sydney, and Helen Goh, Ottolenghi, London
 As the sun set quite spectacularly and on cue – naturally – guests sipped Piper-Heidsieck and toasted Neil Perry's 21-year partnership with Qantas. He cooked the entrée and main courses; Helen Goh was on dessert. Both were en pointe. Taste titans. We were in heaven.

RSVP

HAMILTON ISLAND RACE WEEK

Tom Williams and Rachel Gilbert.



Poolside with Piper-Heidsieck.



Nadia Fairfax.



Christine Salter.



Terry Biviano and Anthony Minichiello.



Hayley Wilson.



Nicky Oatley.



PIPER-HEIDSIECK CHAMPAGNE LUNCH

Location: Pebble Beach and Long Pavilion, qualia
Dress code: resort chic
Chef: Perrin Yates, Long Pavilion, qualia
Well, of course, only the finest Piper-Heidsieck champagne was served with every course, tick, tick, tick: a Cuvée Brut on arrival; Piper-Heidsieck Essentiel with the entrée; and our favourite, served with the main course of beef short ribs, a Piper-Heidsieck Rosé Sauvage. To finish? Piper-Heidsieck Vintage 2008. Epic.

Glenn and Linda Bourke.



PHOTOGRAPHY: KEN BUTTI, KARA ROSEN LUND.

Lunch is served at Pebble Beach.



Nikolina Skoric, Sophie Flemming and Jack Slade.



PASPALLEY LUNCHEON

Location: Pebble Beach, qualia
Dress code: elegant white
Chef: Perrin Yates, Long Pavilion, qualia
The blue skies and full sun provided the perfect backdrop to the annual super-chic Paspaley luncheon. Everyone wore their most stylish white and Paspaley pearls. Even the menu had a white theme, the best (always) being the dessert: frozen meringue, milk sorbet, fromage blanc, coconut and elderflower pearls, and milk jam. Lush with lustre.

RSVP

HAMILTON ISLAND RACE WEEK

Helen Goh.



AN AFTERNOON WITH HELEN GOH

Location: Quantum
Dress code: resort chic
Chef: Helen Goh, Ottolenghi, London
It was a sweet success as we set sail, nibbling tiny raspberry bitters sponge cakes, and passionfruit cheesecake with spiced pineapple. The table was groaning under the goodness of this spread laid out for afternoon tea (and champagne). Helen Goh, who works with Yotam Ottolenghi as his tour de force pastry chef, melted hearts (and some chocolate) and we swooned and fell in love with this Melburnian legend.

Afternoon tea.



Embarking.



James Tobin.



Xanthe Wetzler and Robert Oatley.



Collette Dinnigan and Bradley Cocks.



Deborah Symond O'Neil.



Christine Power and Rob Mundle.

JAMES BOAG DISCOVERY DINNER

Location: Outrigger Lawn
Dress code: resort chic
Chef: Danielle Alvarez, Fred's, Sydney
James Boag and Danielle Alvarez, head chef at Sydney's award-winning restaurant Fred's, created a dinner that fully delivered on flavour, including the refreshingly crisp new beer from James Boag. It beautifully matched the specially created menu, which celebrated Tasmania's finest produce. Guests were extremely happy and enjoyed this foodie phenomenon.



Danielle Alvarez and Justin Hemmes.



Ardyn Bernoth.

Anthony Minichiello and Jared Ashdown.



Montana McDonald and Deborah Symond O'Neil.



Quantum.



Native flora decorating the table

PHOTOGRAPHY: KEN BUTTI, KARA ROSENBLUND.

Natasha Kusen and Richard House performing Giselle Act II.



Tanya and Ian Oatley.



James Pettit and Catriona Rowntree.



Brodie James and Amanda McGuigan.



Nadia Fairfax.

Luke Ricketson and Kate Waterhouse.



Richard House, Amanda McGuigan, Brodie James, Rena Nemoto, David McAllister and Natasha Kusen (front) of The Australian Ballet.



Silvia Colloca.



Guests interacting with the performers following their barre class.

PHOTOGRAPHY: JUSTIN RIDLER; OLIVIA ROSE

Daniel Galvin Jnr.



PAS DE DEUX IN PARADISE

Location: Pebble Beach, qualia
 Dress code: black tie
 Chef: Perrin Yates, Long Pavilion, qualia
 Every two years, The Australian Ballet performs under the stars at qualia. (This is the only place the company ever performs outside.) Magical and amazing, this year's pas de deux included *Life in Grey*; *Le Corsaire*; *Giselle Act II*; and *The Sleeping Beauty*. There was much swishing around in elegant evening gowns and the boys did their stylish best in black tie.



Room with a view.



Perfect poolside.

“PAPILLON IS BACK, BIGGER AND BETTER – AND NONE OF THE MAGIC OF THAT BIG, WIDE, SPECTACULAR VIEW OF FITZALAN PASSAGE HAS BEEN LOST.”

On the UP

Papillon has emerged resplendent from the chrysalis, and everybody’s excited – it’s on the market. While investors rev the engines, REEF takes a walk-through.



The majestic property.

Everybody’s been talking about it. The Papillon property – a jewel on the residential northern end of Hamilton Island for a long time – has just completed its transformation into a seven-bedroom, contemporary haven for families, and it’s already booked by holidaymakers into 2019. Tourism numbers are excellent and the scene here is buoyant. “It’s a good time for investment on the island – we’re getting great returns,” says Hamilton Island Real Estate. “The whole island has a refreshed sense. There’s been a lot of renovation and there’s an excitement.” Blink and you’ll miss it, though – this house is going to fly.

Papillon is back, bigger and better – and none of the magic of that big, wide, spectacular view of Fitzalan Passage has been lost. The original invention and intention of architect Chris Beckingham, a local master of island design, is still evident – from the kwila wood floorboards to the limestone tiles and flow of the space, the nature, air, light and island breeze are invited inside. At the long, eight-place table in the open dining space, the 180-degree view across to Whitsunday Island is so big we’re practically

sitting outside. In the long infinity pool that curves around the view and stretches out into the air, it feels as though we could float right out into the turquoise beyond. Below, in the green, neatly manicured gardens that come complete with an outdoor pizza oven and a fire pit that gives off campfire vibes under the stars, there’s the pure quiet and sense of being surrounded by native bush. Let the clear air fill the lungs up – these 2,661 square metres of private land are paradise.

It’s also a true home for families, for groups who come to the island for escape. Papillon gets it: secluded togetherness is what you came for – but so is space. All the bedrooms are en suite, with six of them set apart from one another across the site, stretching out from the body of the main building – only the master bedroom is here – like a butterfly.

There’s also a superbly kitted-out gym set in its own little house, from where you can drink up expansive views of bush, sea and sky. Well, if one must sweat on holiday, one should not feel like it’s hard work.

Yes, shoulders down, slow breathing. The state-of-the-art kitchen makes entertaining a cinch. Air conditioning maintains the balance between chill and the island’s balmy breeze. We’d heard the buzz, we’d expected a lot. And Papillon is even more perfect than we’d imagined. If housesitting is ever remotely required, call us. We’re so in.

To find out more, visit hamiltonislandrealestate.com.au

CLEARWATER

12 GREAT NORTHERN HIGHWAY,
HAMILTON ISLAND
PRICE ON APPLICATION

5 3.5 1

Nestled in the side of the One Tree Hill precinct, this stylish luxury home sits high atop this island paradise, and has sweeping vistas over the Whitsunday Passage. Step through the grand entrance to be greeted by uninterrupted water views. Boasting four spacious bedrooms and a granny flat, this property has plenty of room for family and friends. The master bedroom features breathtaking views of the ocean, a queen bed and a large en suite with spa bath.



JASMINE

4 DIANELLA CLOSE, HAMILTON ISLAND
\$3,250,000

4 3 2

Jasmine is a stunning four-bedroom, three-bathroom house perched above the Marina, with breathtaking ocean views that reach as far south as the Conway Ranges. The property truly is an entertainer's delight, thanks to its designer kitchen, which features striking granite benchtops and the best-quality appliances, and an open-plan living and dining area. There's also an enormous entertaining deck that's perfect for outdoor dining by the gorgeous pool. Located on the upper level, the main bedroom features a private deck with incredible views, a walk-in wardrobe and an expansive en suite with spa bath. Downstairs, you will find two additional bedrooms, a study and an entertaining room, complete with its own kitchen.



BELLA VISTA EAST 1

12 WHITSUNDAY BOULEVARD, HAMILTON ISLAND
\$1,200,000

2 2 1

When they were built in 1990, under the watchful eye of Hamilton Island's original visionary, Keith Williams, the deluxe two-bedroom, two-bathroom apartments of the Bella Vista East complex were an innovation in terms of space and luxury... and this is still the case 28 years later. This large apartment offers a type of modern luxury that is unavailable anywhere else on the island. The lawn on its wide, eastern frontage is the perfect spot for relaxing in the tropical sun and, thanks to the corner location of this property, there's no through traffic to interrupt the peace and quiet. You will never want to leave.

COOINDA GARDENS 4

14 WHITSUNDAY BOULEVARD,
HAMILTON ISLAND
\$1,700,000

4 3 2

With just six apartments making up this unique development, Cooinda Gardens is a luxurious private estate, complete with a private pool and manicured gardens. This luxury home features a large, open-plan kitchen, dining and lounge area, as well as spacious, covered twin balconies. With sleek, contemporary lines and vaulted ceilings throughout, the natural light streams in through the enormous windows, while the living spaces remain cool and breezy, thanks to clever interior architecture. This is a property that truly has it all.

POINCIANA LODGE 001

2 MARINA DRIVE, HAMILTON ISLAND
\$1,350,000

3 2 1

North facing and centrally located, with the Marina on one side and resort area on the other, Poinciana Lodge 001 won't be on the market for long. Self-contained, tastefully renovated and located on the ground floor, this property has an extended lawn area, access to the fantastic complex pool and an inviting barbecue area. Currently used as a holiday let, Poinciana 001 is receiving healthy returns and has strong forward bookings that will be passed on to the new owner. Additionally, being a company-share title, no stamp duty will be applicable to this transaction.

OASIS APARTMENT 19

5 BANKSIA COURT, HAMILTON ISLAND
\$685,000

2 1.5 1

Oasis Apartment 19 is a top-floor, single-level, two-bedroom, one-and-a-half bathroom apartment in the heart of Hamilton Island. The light and airy design instantly creates a tropical-holiday vibe - perfect for families and people of all ages. Fully furnished with the main living area extending out to a large balcony, this is the ideal space for entertaining on balmy summer evenings. Adjacent to the complex pool area and just a short walk to the marina and restaurants, this oasis is truly a piece of paradise.



PROPERTY SALES: CONTACT BOYD JACKSON 0407 901 721

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)

WHITSUNDAY VIEWS 3

10 WHITSUNDAY BOULEVARD, HAMILTON ISLAND
\$2,400,000

3 2.5 1

Located in a quiet estate, northeast facing and with amazing views over Fitzalan Passage, this property is simple, stylish, stunning and easy to maintain. Designed by Chris Beckingham and recently refurbished to a high quality, Whitsunday Views 3 features large verandas and patios that are surrounded by landscaped tropical gardens – ideal for entertaining. The home comes fully furnished and air-conditioned, and has the potential for the construction of a private, in-ground pool. If you are after a reasonably priced single residence with consistent holiday-rental returns and no issue of a body corporate, you need look no further.



SUNRISE WATERS B8

2 WESTVIEW LANE, HAMILTON ISLAND
\$550,000

3 2.5 1

Centrally located, this top-floor, single-level apartment features an open-plan kitchen, dining and living area that leads out to a balcony with views over Catseye Beach. Thanks to a recent renovation, its presentation is perfect: there's a new kitchen, new bathrooms, new timber-look flooring and new furniture throughout. All the bedrooms are generously sized, with the master featuring an en suite and beautiful vistas of the ocean. Currently vacant, this property will perfectly suit either an owner-occupier or investor. Expected to achieve rent of between \$750 and \$800 per week, with the tenants paying for utilities, this is a perfect investment opportunity.



SUNSET WATERS 11

3 BANKSIA COURT, HAMILTON ISLAND
\$500,000

2 1.5 1

Sunset Waters is a beautifully presented, recently renovated, value-for-money complex in a quiet cul-de-sac, nestled among the trees. The well-appointed, two-level, two-bedroom, spacious, open-plan townhouse has leafy views over Dent and Whitsunday Passages, and offers a quiet, relaxed atmosphere. On the lower level, the kitchen/dining and living area opens onto a spacious, sunny garden courtyard, while the upper level, comprising the main bathroom and two large bedrooms, boasts a wide private deck where you can enjoy magnificent views.

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hamiltonislandgolfclub.com.au



**YACHT CLUB
VILLA 20**
(4-NIGHT MINIMUM STAY)
FROM: \$1,330 PER NIGHT
(7-NIGHT RATE)
**MAXIMUM CAPACITY:
8 PEOPLE**

4 4 1

With its superb waterfront location, contemporary decor and spacious interior, this luxury villa offers an unforgettable Hamilton Island escape. It boasts four bedrooms, four bathrooms, a golf buggy and everything you need for a truly indulgent holiday.



BLUE WATER VIEWS 8
(3-NIGHT MINIMUM STAY)
FROM: \$475 PER NIGHT
(7-NIGHT RATE)
MAXIMUM CAPACITY: 6 PEOPLE

2 2 1

This fresh, spacious and well-equipped apartment is ideal for families. It offers views to the Whitsundays and Dent Passage from the outdoor balcony, living area and master bedroom, and opens onto a covered entertaining terrace that has a barbecue and outdoor seating for six people. It also offers direct access to the pool and the complex's shared barbecue area.



BELLA VISTA WEST 2
(3-NIGHT MINIMUM STAY)
FROM: \$655 PER NIGHT
(7-NIGHT RATE)
MAXIMUM CAPACITY: 6 PEOPLE

3 2 2

Bright and airy, this large, three-bedroom apartment is located on the ground floor, with private access to the complex's gardens, as well as a large terrace and a lawn area – ideal for young children. It offers magnificent views over another, private lawn area to the pristine Whitsunday waters. Located on the northern side of Hamilton Island, it's an easy walk to One Tree Hill, the perfect spot for enjoying the sunset.



ALANG ALANG
(5-NIGHT MINIMUM STAY)
FROM: \$1,330
(7-NIGHT RATE)
MAXIMUM CAPACITY: 12 PEOPLE

5 4 1

Perched high on the headland, Alang Alang is beautifully quiet and private. Relax on the deck and enjoy spectacular views of the Marina and the Whitsundays. There's plenty of room for everyone, with five bedrooms, four bathrooms and a range of living spaces, including a media/rumpus room, second living area and self-contained guesthouse.

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

To view the full listings of Hamilton Island holiday-rental properties, visit the Hamilton Island Real Estate office on Front Street, Hamilton Island, or go to hamiltonislandholidayhomes.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 A 7-NIGHT MINIMUM STAY. OTHER RATES AND DURATIONS OF STAY AVAILABLE, PLEASE ENQUIRE AT TIME OF BOOKING.



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