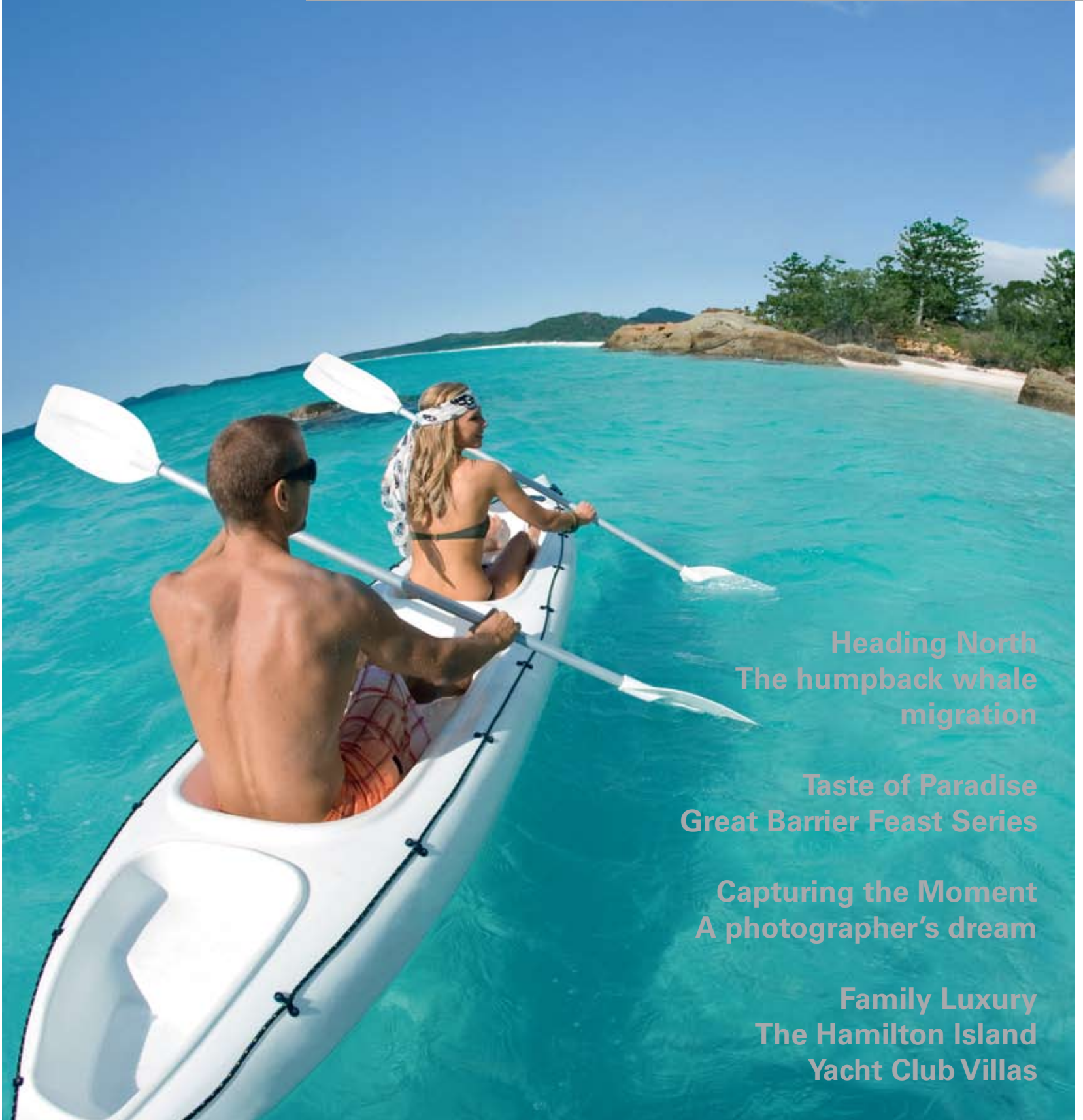


REEF

HAMILTON ISLAND &
THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

MAGAZINE



Heading North
The humpback whale
migration

Taste of Paradise
Great Barrier Feast Series

Capturing the Moment
A photographer's dream

Family Luxury
The Hamilton Island
Yacht Club Villas

Luxury Whitsunday charters



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Winner



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The Great Escape



Andrew (Sandy), Bob and Ian Oatley

Although it is only seven years since we acquired Hamilton Island, the transformation has been remarkable and I am particularly proud to see that our original vision for the island is becoming a reality.

This has been achieved through a tremendous effort from every member of the team and the driving passion of my family to see Hamilton Island become a world-class destination offering the very best facilities in what can only be described as one of the most beautiful locations on earth.

In this relatively short period, we have seen the completion and opening of the luxury qualia resort, the new Golf Course and Clubhouse and the iconic Yacht Club amongst other new developments. We've also improved on many of our existing facilities, including a comprehensive refurbishment of the Reef View Hotel.

The new world-class facilities, while celebrated in their own right, have also become synonymous with some of the island's signature events. Australia's biggest offshore regatta, Audi Hamilton Island Race Week has become the leading sailing competition in the southern hemisphere, where we'll once again welcome a remarkably strong fleet, from the smallest cruising yachts through to world-class ocean racing thoroughbreds.

While Hamilton Island has always been identified with some of the best sailing in the world, we have introduced a whole range of other activities with broad appeal, including the annual performance by The Australian Ballet at qualia or the Great Barrier Feast Series offering guests a unique culinary experience. Of course the newly

opened Hamilton Island Golf Club has already received popular acclaim, considered by many to be one of the most spectacular courses in the world.

There are also more than 60 other activities to enjoy, so you'll find there is always something to do. From July to September, the humpback whales migrate north and we are lucky enough to welcome these majestic creatures to our warm waters around the island. Read more about these gentle giants in 'The Migration' story in this issue.

There are any number of reasons for visitors to choose Hamilton Island, from families looking for the perfect getaway, to the avid sailor, golfer or holidaymaker wanting to experience the finest things in life in a stunning location. Combined with the considerable investment in the island's facilities and infrastructure, it is easy to understand why so many also see Hamilton Island as the perfect place to call home or choose to invest in a holiday home. Superb opportunities now include the recently completed Hamilton Island Yacht Club Villas and the premium land release 'Coral Bay', that offers potential owners the chance to develop their own dream property with million dollar views out over Catseye Bay and Fitzalan Passage.

Whether you come to Hamilton Island for a relaxing or action-packed holiday, an event or conference or even decide to live here, our aim is to make sure you have the time of your life.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Bob Oatley'.

Bob Oatley

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Not only is Audi Hamilton Island Race Week one of the country's most important regattas, it is the 'grand final' of the Audi IRC Australian Championship



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The ultimate family escape, Hamilton Island Yacht Club Villas redefine luxury accommodation right on the water

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The most beautiful location meets gastronomic perfection in this inspirational culinary series



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Making the most of capturing the beauty and the memories of a trip to paradise

Hamilton Island 2010/11

Highlights



JULY 2010

Whale Watching

Whale watching season begins in the Whitsundays from July through to September

AUGUST 2010

1-6 Caught on Film

AWAY Photography workshop with hosts David Oliver, Peter Eastway and Bruce Pottinger

20-28 Under Sail

Audi Hamilton Island Race Week – Australia's largest and most important offshore racing regatta



OCTOBER 2010

1 Spring Festival

A host of activities to herald the changing of the seasons

2 Vogue Living Champagne Dinner

An intimate evening of superb food in the stunning surrounds of the Hamilton Island Yacht Club



NOVEMBER 2010

2 And They're Racing

Melbourne Cup Day Lunch and Calcutta

9-14 To the Limit

The Fujifilm Hamilton Island Triathlon including a workshop followed by the Whitehaven Beach two kilometre swim and triathlon

26-28 Culinary Delights

Great Barrier Feast with celebrated chef Ben Shewry of Attica, Melbourne

Hamilton Island is an inspiring destination for many, including some of Australia's finest artists, designers, food and wine experts and sportspeople who choose the island as a place to exhibit their latest creations. Whether it be enjoying fine food and wine with great Australian chefs at the Great Barrier Feast Series, a thrilling outdoor performance by the magnificent Australian Ballet, or learning photography with some of the best photographers in the country, these are experiences that are simply unforgettable.



For more details on Hamilton Island's exciting calendar of events, visit www.hamiltonisland.com.au/events
To book your accommodation and flights, contact Hamilton Island Holidays on 137 333 or email vacation@hamiltonisland.com.au
For flights only call 1300 725 172 or email flights@hamiltonisland.com.au

DECEMBER 2010

1 Summer Festival

Celebrate summer with a host of extra activities and festivities

24 Festive Celebration

Carols by Candlelight on the island for a memorable Christmas Eve

31 New Years Eve

Let the party begin – join the celebrations on Front Street, including live entertainment and fireworks

MARCH 2011

Great Barrier Feast

A taste and an experience to savour in the most idyllic location (visiting chef to be confirmed)

MAY 2011

1 Deep Breaths

Challenge yourself with the 21kilometre Hilly Half Marathon

JUNE 2011

16-19 Paddle Power

The colour and excitement of the Hamilton Island Outrigger Cup

JULY 2011

1-3 Pas de Deux in Paradise

A performance like no other as qualia provides the stage for The Australian Ballet

22-24 Masterclass

Join the chef's table for the Great Barrier Feast Series (visiting chef to be confirmed)



Retail Therapy

No relaxing holiday is complete without some retail therapy, and you'll find plenty of opportunities on Hamilton Island.

Henri Lloyd Christina Stripe Dress and
Giani Cardi, both in French Navy,
Marina Tavern Retail
07 4946 8180 (58180)

Hamilton Island Retail Outlets

The Art Gallery 07 4948 9657 (59657)
Australia the Gift 07 4946 8371 (58371)
Breeze Resort Wear 07 4946 8221 (58221)
Floral Collections 07 4946 8946 (58946)
Foots Artworks 07 4946 8308 (58308)
General Store 07 4946 8626 (58626)
Hamilton Island Designs 07 4946 8565 (58565)
Hamilton Island Jewellery 07 4948 9857 (59857)

Island Hair & Beauty 07 4946 8244 (58244)
Lord Nelson Menswear 07 4946 8233 (58233)
Marina Tavern Retail 07 4946 8180 (58180)
Offshore Surf & Leisure 07 4946 8273 (58273)
Hamilton Island Photography
07 4946 8690 (58690)
qualia Boutique (via Island Concierge)
07 4946 8929 (58929)

Spa wumurdaylin 07 4946 8669 (58669)
Resort Centre Lobby Shop
07 4946 8232 (58232)
Reef Lobby Shop 07 4946 9999 (20008)
Resort Store 07 4946 8231 (58231)
Swimwear Store 07 4946 8284 (58284)
Trader Pete's 07 4946 8426 (58426)
Video Store 07 4946 8496 (58496)



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The Bare Essentials

It would be almost impossible to do everything on even an extended visit to Hamilton Island and the Great Barrier Reef, but for those wanting to get a good 'feel' for the area, there are at least 10 essential elements to any visit.



2 Take the Plunge

What trip to this celebrated marine sanctuary would be complete without taking the plunge and experiencing what lies beneath the surface? Be it a snorkelling trip or full scuba experience, there is no limit to the ways you can enjoy this aquatic wonderland. Take a trip to Fantasea's Reefworld on Hardy Reef, where the wonders are on show through the special underwater viewing area, or enjoy a full scuba experience with H2O Sportz. Whatever you choose, it's sure to be an experience you won't forget.

www.fantasea.com.au,
www.h2osportz.com.au,
07 4946 8305 (58305)

3 In the Swing

Breathtaking views, bracing fresh sea air and a par 71 championship golf course to test your skill. The new Hamilton Island Golf Club is a must not only for the serious golfer but for those starting on their golfing journey. Play nine or 18 holes on this superb Peter Thomson-designed course on Dent Island, just a short boat ride from Hamilton Island. Brush up with some lessons, fine-tune your skills on the aquatic driving range, or enjoy lunch at the Clubhouse. Even if your game is not up to par, the views will not disappoint.

Contact the Hamilton Island Golf Club Pro Shop on 07 4948 9760 (59760)



5 Flightseeing

It is nigh on impossible to appreciate the sheer size and beauty of this area without taking to the skies. Climb aboard a helicopter for a bird's-eye view of the largest living structure on the planet, the Great Barrier Reef.

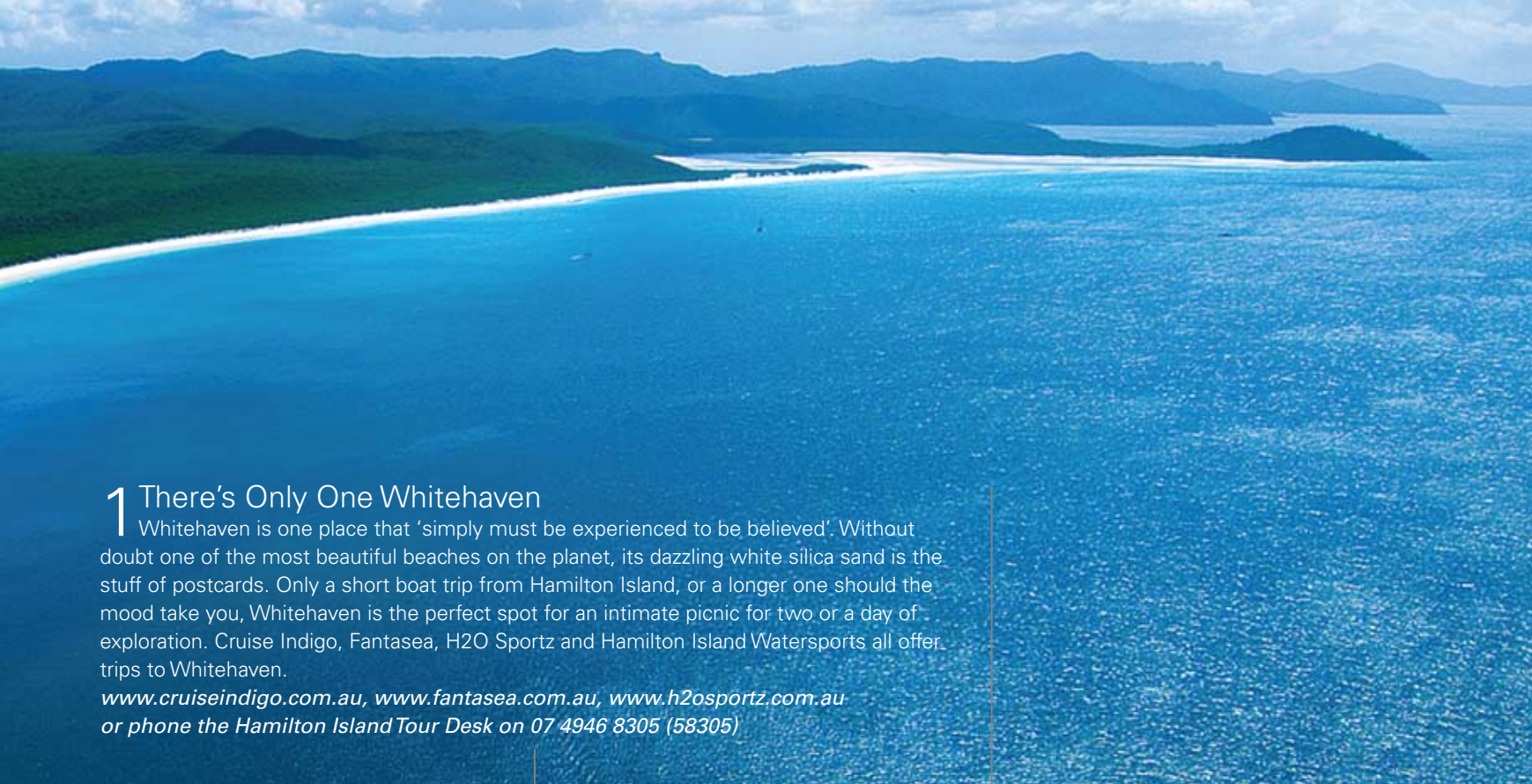
Contact Hamilton Island Tour Desk on 07 4946 8305 (58305)

4 Back to Nature

With more than 20km of walking trails on the island a guided walk to the highest point, Passage Peak, will give you a fauna and flora lesson along the way and you'll be rewarded with amazing 360-degree views when you get to the top. Or for something a little less strenuous – take a walking tour around our new Hamilton Island Wildlife Park. You can cuddle a koala, watch the crocodile-feeding and finish with a hot breakfast or a coffee in the garden cafe.

For walking trail maps and koala cuddling/crocodile feeding times call (07) 4946 8305 (58305)





1 There's Only One Whitehaven

Whitehaven is one place that 'simply must be experienced to be believed'. Without doubt one of the most beautiful beaches on the planet, its dazzling white silica sand is the stuff of postcards. Only a short boat trip from Hamilton Island, or a longer one should the mood take you, Whitehaven is the perfect spot for an intimate picnic for two or a day of exploration. Cruise Indigo, Fantasea, H2O Sportz and Hamilton Island Watersports all offer trips to Whitehaven.

www.cruiseindigo.com.au, www.fantasea.com.au, www.h2osportz.com.au or phone the Hamilton Island Tour Desk on 07 4946 8305 (58305)

6 Sail Away

Hamilton Island is the perfect place from which to set sail. From instruction for beginners to offshore skipper and international qualifications, stay and sail packages or skippered charters, the Whitsundays await you. As relaxing or as exciting as you like, riding a gentle breeze or literally 'hanging out' on the trapeze aboard Adrenalin Rush, a 36-foot Nacra catamaran – your experience under sail can be whatever you want it to be.

www.sunsailwhitsundays.com.au, www.adrenalinrushsailing.com.au, 07 4946 8305 (58305)

8 Trail Blazing

Negotiate the fire trails, tackle the different terrain and enjoy Hamilton Island riding your own quad bike. Tremendous fun for ages 16 and up (for the younger thrillseekers, kids 6-14 years can try the quads for kids adventure course), take in some exciting countryside on the way to the Resort Lookout and some of the best views and photo opportunities on the island.

Contact the Hamilton Island Tour Desk on 07 4946 8305 (58305)



9 The Long Relaxing Lunch

When the idea of kicking back and relaxing over a long lunch is the most pressing appointment in your diary, Hamilton Island is the perfect place to be. You are spoilt for choice in your search for fine food and wine, from the superb Bommie restaurant in the iconic Hamilton Island Yacht Club to any number of outstanding restaurants and cafes around the island. This is the perfect time to really take your time.

For bookings call the Tour Desk on 07 4946 8305 (58305)



7 Spa wumurdaylin

'wumurdaylin' (woo-mer-day-lin) meaning dragonfly, symbolises renewal, freedom and beauty. Often found near water, the name mimics our spa ethos which is to provide hydrating and nourishing spa, massage and skin therapies. With couples' rooms, vichy shower and rain shower rooms and the beautiful signature LI'TYA and Waterlily products – feel the tension melt away when you visit Spa wumurdaylin.

To book your treatment contact 07 4946 8669 (58669)



10 Catch Your Own Fish for Dinner

Renegade Charters and Rapture Fishing Charters offer private or share charters and the crew will even help clean and prepare your catch ready to eat that night. Or for something a bit more relaxing, hire a dinghy and set off to explore the local waterways – Hamilton Island dinghy hire can supply bait and tackle.

www.renegadecharters.com.au or Hamilton Island Watersports on 07 4946 8305 (58305)



The Migration

Nothing quite prepares you for your first encounter with a whale. That such enormous animals can be so graceful and playful is incredible, their sheer size awe-inspiring in itself. That first appearance on the surface, whether it be a glimpse of a fin, the back of the mammal breaching the water before blowing a huge cloud of spray into the air, or seeing a creature that could weigh anything up to 40 tonnes leap from the sea is something you will never forget.

Each year, the waters off Australia's east coast come alive as the migrating humpback whales leave the chilled waters of the Antarctic where they have fed for the summer on the abundant supplies of krill (tiny prawn-like invertebrates) and head north for the warmer waters. Although the timing varies a little each year, usually between May and September, the gentle giants make their way up the coast to mate or raise young, thrilling thousands of eager whale watchers with their acrobatic displays or simply with their presence as they lazily make their way on a trip of some 10,000 kilometres.

Like so many pleasure seeking humans, the humpbacks are particularly drawn to the waters of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, bringing their own special magic to an

area already considered one of the wonders of the world. Here in these warm waters, the humpbacks court and mate before making their way south once again around November.

Throughout the Whitsundays and the Great Barrier Reef, the whales are a regular attraction for those visiting the area and are almost always a welcome sight – except perhaps for the odd yacht skipper, forced to change course at a crucial stage in a race as the whales automatically get right of way!

To see a pod of these inspiring animals at play is an incredible sight. Although not the largest whales to be found in Australian waters, a full-grown male humpback can reach anywhere from 12-15 metres in length, and weighing in at up to 40 tonnes, can be a formidable creature, despite the humpbacks' gentle disposition. The migration is typically led by groups of young males with the pregnant females – called cows – in the middle of the pack and those cows already with calves making up the rear guard.

Travelling in these large groups, they not only thrill onlookers but provide one another with protection that even these giants of the ocean need – particularly the calves which, despite their size at birth, can still be a target for large predators. Indeed the young ones

Each year, the waters of Australia's east coast become the 'road north' for migrating humpback whales, leaving the feeding grounds of the Antarctic behind to head for the warmer water of the Whitsundays. Spectacular and stirring, the northern migration is a sight to behold and one that leaves a lasting impression.

STORY ROBERT MCMILLAN
MAIN IMAGE ANDREA FRANCOLINI
ADDITIONAL IMAGES COURTESY GBRMPA

remain with their mothers for at least the first year of their lives before venturing out on their own.

Seeing these majestic animals frolicking in the waters of the Whitsundays, it is hard to believe that they were once hunted nearly to extinction for their oil and bone.

Following colonisation, the Australian whaling industry was big business, surviving right through until it ended in 1963 (on the east coast at least). At that time, it is estimated that the number of humpbacks left on the east coast of Australia was as little as 100. Happily, as the importance of these creatures has been recognised and government legislation introduced to protect them, numbers have built steadily to the point where it is estimated that the population of humpbacks has grown to well over 8,000.

Despite their tremendous size, these are fragile animals that are vulnerable to the effects of climate change, pollution, commercial fishing, shipping and even, on occasion, the over zealous attention of their admirers. Although humpbacks often approach vessels of their own accord, they are easily 'spooked' by spectator vessels getting too close to them.

For this reason, strict rules apply to tourism operators and for those operating pleasure

Whilst there aren't any dedicated whale watching tours that operate out of Hamilton Island, whales are regularly seen during the season on the Fantasea Ferry Service between Hamilton Island and the mainland. "We regularly spot whales when we are out on the water during July to September – we aren't allowed to get too close but we always slow up to get a good look – they really are magnificent creatures and we are so fortunate that they choose the warm waters of the Whitsundays as their home for a good part of the year and to have their young."

Rob Addis, General Manager, Fantasea Adventure Cruising.



PRESERVING THE MAJESTY

- Despite their size, whales are susceptible to a range of water-borne hazards, from pollution to impacts with shipping and pleasure craft.
- Make sure all rubbish is disposed of properly. Any litter that ends up in the ocean can have a disastrous effect on all marine creatures – including whales.
- Vessels must not approach closer than 100 metres to a whale.
- Vessels must not approach closer than 300 metres to a whale with a calf.
- Vessels cannot be operated in a way that restricts the path of whales.
- The onus is on the skipper of a vessel to take all precautions to avoid a collision with a whale. The skipper must either slow down and change course away from the animal or place the engines in neutral and let the animal pass.
- Never feed or touch a whale, even if it approaches you or your vessel.
- Report any injured or stranded whales.



craft near the mammals to allow them to continue on their way without incident and allow watchers the best possible view.

"Whale watching regulations are in place to ensure watchers are kept safe and whales are not harassed or disturbed," says Dr Mark Read, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority Manager Species Conservation.

"A whale that is disturbed is less likely to spend time at the surface; consequently whale watchers may not get the best from the experience.

"Disturbing a mother and its calf can cause the calf to stop feeding and move away from

its mother which is a situation that must be avoided. Separating a mother and calf can also be dangerous should the mother feel her calf is being threatened in any way," says Dr Read.

Certainly these regulations have allowed an unprecedented number of people to experience the incredible spectacle of the migration up close in safety and without ill-effect to the whales.

Watching these giants of the sea has an inexplicable effect on all who witness their antics and is surely one of the greatest 'shows' in nature. ■



HENRI LLOYD

Est. MCMLXIII



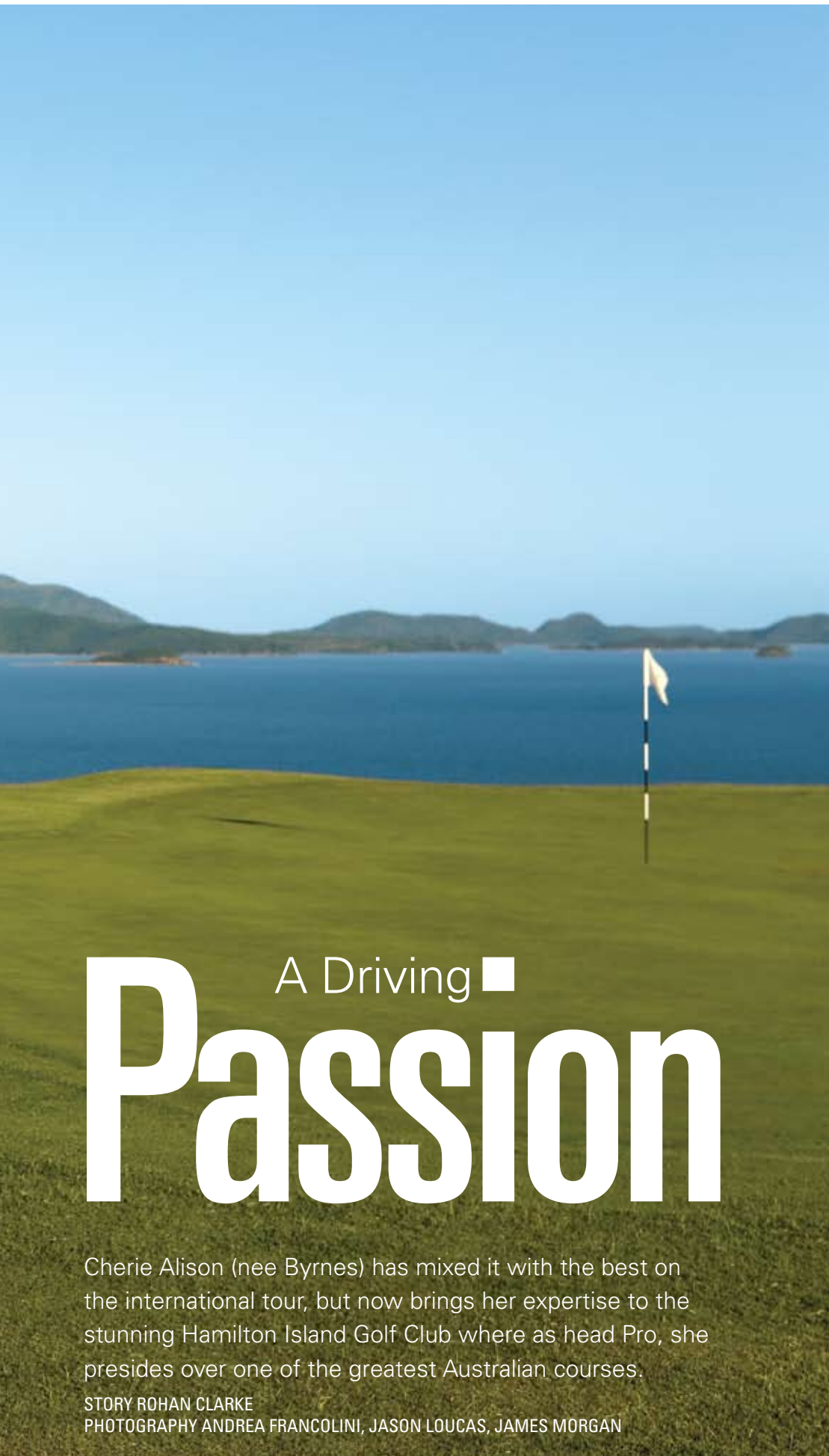
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www.henrilloyd.com





A Driving ■ Passion

Cherie Alison (nee Byrnes) has mixed it with the best on the international tour, but now brings her expertise to the stunning Hamilton Island Golf Club where as head Pro, she presides over one of the greatest Australian courses.

STORY ROHAN CLARKE
PHOTOGRAPHY ANDREA FRANCOLINI, JASON LOUCAS, JAMES MORGAN

When Cherie Alison (nee Byrnes) first turned professional it was unlikely you would find her teaching golf on a tropical island in Queensland's Whitsundays. But after a decade of traipsing the world's fairways – teeing it up against the likes of Karrie Webb, Laura Davies and Annika Sorenstam – she has opted for a change in pace.

For the past year Cherie has been head Golf Professional at Hamilton Island Golf Club. The golden opportunity materialised quickly after sending off her CV in June 2009. An hour later Alison received a phone call, inviting her to fly up to the Whitsundays for an interview. Not long afterwards she was offered the teaching position, having beaten more than 2,000 applicants for the posting.

Alison's credentials duly impressed the owners. The 34-year-old had been one of Australia's most accomplished women players over the past decade. Under her maiden name of Cherie Byrnes, she played the Ladies European Tour between 2001 and 2007 and spent a season on the US LPGA Tour in 2004. She had a career-best third place finish at the 2005 Algarve Ladies Open in Portugal.

At Hamilton Island, Alison leads a team of seven who manage the golf operations. It's a vastly different to grinding out a living on the pro circuit. As a teaching professional she gets great satisfaction helping amateurs to play the game better.



A day at the office for Cherie Alison (pictured above and previous page) is no hardship. Hamilton Island Golf Club is already considered one of the country's best and certainly one of the most spectacular.

“Just seeing the smiles on faces, seeing improvement, people enjoying the game,” says Alison, who encourages people to work on their short games as the quickest avenue to improvement (concentrating on the shorter shots onto the green rather than their tee shots or long game).

“I start people off with short game. I find it’s a lot easier for them to learn that way. I really enjoy teaching short game. (Most professionals) don’t concentrate on that because a lot of people ask for a lesson and they generally want it on long game.”

Most amateurs would envy Alison’s own rapid progression in golf. At the age of eight she followed her two older brothers to a junior clinic. At 12 she shot a score of 152 in her first full round. At 13 her initial handicap was 36. But over the next three years she lowered that mark to two and

won selection in the national squad. Her best competitive round is 62 at Sydney’s Bonnie Doon course.

While her primary role at Hamilton Island has a teaching emphasis, the job calls for sudden corporate expertise. Only recently the arrival of a cruise ship forced Alison to employ her logistical skills in order to cater for 122 would-be golfers. The position also entails playing with VIPs, a role for which she is well suited.

“She was the perfect fit for that job given the clientele – the number of corporate golfers who play at that venue and also the holidaymakers,” says Warren Sevil, Chief Executive of Australian Ladies Professional Golf (ALPG).

“She has the sort of personality that is appealing to everyone. She’s such an engaging person and so naturally pleasant.

But also very professional in everything that she does. She’s a great ambassador for women’s professional golf.”

Incidentally, it was during Alison’s time as a touring pro that she displayed a penchant for the managerial side of golf. For two years she was Tournament Director of the Australian Ladies Professional Classic at Horizons in Port Stephens, close to where she grew up at Nelson Bay.

It was a valuable experience for Alison, who was considering a teaching position in Sydney until landing the perfect job at Hamilton Island. Little wonder she’s thrilled, considering the travelling time it takes to get to work each morning. No peak hour traffic, just a seven-minute ferry ride for the 900-metre trip across to Dent Island where the course is located. Golfing paradise.



HAMILTON ISLAND GOLF CLUB – QUICK FACTS

Par 71, 18-hole championship course

Designer: Thomson Perrett

Distance: 6,120 metres

Green fees: 18 holes \$150, 9 holes \$100 (includes use of an electric golf buggy on-course and return ferry transfers – subject to change)

Hire clubs: Callaway

Clubhouse: Facilities include a Pro Shop and the Clubhouse restaurant and bar, which is open from 6.30am for light refreshments and from 11.00am for lunch. A refreshment buggy is available on-course.

First tee off: 7.00am

Last tee off - 18 holes: 1.00pm*

Last tee off - 9 holes: 3.30pm*

*Last tee times vary according to sunset.

www.hamiltonislandgolfclub.com.au

07 4948 9760 (59760)

Approximately 50 of Hamilton Island's 400 residents are golfers. They make up a fair proportion of daily rounds, which average about 40. That's a moderate number that will increase with demand on what is considered one of the most scenic courses in Australia.

It's a credit to the designer Thomson Perrett (the architectural company of five-times British Open champion Peter Thomson) who considers Hamilton Island as its most difficult project. Heavy machinery and exhaustive manpower was required to transform the course from rocky outcrops and thick vegetation, which came to fruition at a conservative estimate of \$20 million.

Thomson's signature 'pot bunkers' are a feature of the 6,120-metre layout (par 71). To counterbalance the rugged setting, he softened the course with wide fairways

and generous green complexes that have slightly undulating putting surfaces. Both accomplished players and once-a-year social golfers can appreciate its class.

Every hole has ocean views, leading Thomson to exclaim: "It's got a wow factor that I think is unmatched. As you play, you look out onto the other islands in the Whitsundays and the blue, blue sea. So it's really got a lot of picturesque charm to it."

Alison describes the Hamilton Island layout as pretty spectacular and well designed with amazing views. Her favourite hole is the fourth, a 175 metre par-3 that traverses a valley to an angled green with a dramatic cliff top as a backdrop. She likens a couple of holes to those at Kauri Cliffs on the North Island of New Zealand, yet says there is some resemblance to New South Wales Golf Club in Sydney.

Meanwhile, Alison has taken up residence on Hamilton Island with husband Mark, who she married in August at Port Stephens. Initially, she was concerned about adapting to the laid-back lifestyle.

"I've always enjoyed the water so I don't think you'd ever find me going too far country without being near the water," she says.

"I was just worried it might have been too quiet for us and not enough to do. But there's so many different activities going on. There's a little bit for everyone on the island between all the water-based activities, then the land-based activities as well."

But what's the best part of living and working on Hamilton Island?

"I've actually learned to sail. That's not something I would have pictured ever doing!" ■

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Chasing the Prize

For some it is a bit of fun, a wonderful way to experience the breathtaking Whitsundays under sail, while for others it is a fierce competition. One of the most celebrated sailing regattas in the country in its own right, Audi Hamilton Island Race Week is also the final event in the hotly contested Audi IRC Australian Championship – the cutting edge of Australian competitive yachting.

STORY DAVID GREY PHOTOGRAPHY ANDREA FRANCOLINI

In any code of football it would be considered the grand final, the culmination of a hard-fought season. For the cream of Australia's yachtsmen and women, it is the final event in the Audi IRC Australian Championship, and the venue is the stunning Whitsundays – what a place to slug it out!

Celebrating its 27th year in 2010, Audi Hamilton Island Race Week (AHIRW) is one of the most significant sailing regattas in the southern hemisphere, attracting a veritable flotilla of the best yachts and crews from Australia and around the world. With more than 200 vessels competing each year, there is a fair mix of competitors and indeed standards. Some participate purely for fun, while for others, this is an important regatta and pride as much as the grand first prize of a new Audi is at stake. But the Audi Hamilton Island Race Week is also the final event in the year-long Audi IRC Australian Championship, a competitive series considered the most important of its type in Australia.

First run in 2007, the Audi IRC Australian Championship represented a major development in Australian competitive sailing and was the first national championship series to be launched in Australia. The championship centres around four major regattas and events run on a point score system which was developed by Audi's IRC Australian



AUDI HAMILTON ISLAND RACE WEEK - QUICK FACTS

- The first Hamilton Island Race Week was held in April 1984 with a fleet of 93 boats.
- 2010 sees the 27th year of competition and the introduction of a dedicated superyacht division.
- Each year, Audi Hamilton Island Race Week welcomes a fleet of around 200 yachts, ranging from 6.1 metres to 58 metres in length.
- Approximately 3,500 sailors, family and friends head to Hamilton Island for Race Week each year.
- Approximately 45 media are in attendance each year.
- Audi Hamilton Island Race Week also includes an exciting off-water social calendar with more than 24 food, wine, sport and fashion events held over the week.
- Approximately 1,800 bottles of champagne and 6,500 bottles of wine are consumed over the week!

www.hamiltonislandraceweek.com.au

Audi Hamilton Island Race Week is the final event in the year-long Audi IRC Australian Championship, a competitive series considered the most important of its type in Australia.

Championship Technical Committee and managed by Yachting Australia which also endorses the championship. A handicap system means keel boats of all sizes can compete on 'a level playing field' and the result has been some epic battles between vessels of vastly different sizes, with fractions of a point separating crews and nail-biting finishes.

In 2007, 160 yachts turned out to contest the inaugural championship series, ranging in size from 35ft to the largest, *Wild Oats X* at 66ft, and the championship has gone from strength to strength ever since. Indeed this year the series has attracted so much attention that Audi Australia has produced a series of television programs dedicated to the action of the championship which have been airing on sports channel ONE HD.

The Audi IRC Australian Championship comprises four separate events held through the course of the year, starting with Audi Victoria Race Week in January, the Audi Sydney Harbour Regatta in March, the

Audi Sydney / Gold Coast Race in July and wrapping up in the turquoise waters off Hamilton Island at the Audi Hamilton Island Race Week in August. These events are organised and run by their respective host yacht clubs – the Royal Geelong Yacht Club, Middle Harbour Yacht Club, Cruising Yacht Club of Australia and Hamilton Island Yacht Club and to be eligible for the title, yachts must hold a valid IRC Rating Certificate and must compete in at least three of the four regattas. Each yacht's best results from three regattas count towards the final handicapped score, so those competing in all four are able to 'drop' their least impressive performance and count their three best.

The rewards for winning are considerable, with a stunning John Wolfe-designed Perpetual Trophy awaiting the victor, along with a brand new Audi – this year the winner will receive the keys to an Audi A5 Sportback for their efforts – and then of course there is the pride of winning

the county's most prestigious yachting championship.

Since 2007, only two skippers have taken the title, with Queensland's Rod Jones winning the inaugural title with his Archambault 35 *Alegria* and then Sydney yachtsman Peter Sorensen and his crew aboard *Philosopher's Club* (Sydney 36) victorious in 2008.

Last year, in a thrilling finish with less than one point separating first and second going in to the Hamilton Island event, Jones and his crew were back for more, this time in the updated *Alegria* (Archambault 40), to once again hold the Perpetual Trophy aloft and receive the keys to another new Audi!

Indeed Jones and his crew looked to have last year's series sewn up after winning Division 2 in the first two events, and looked certain to claim victory in class in the Audi Sydney Gold Coast Race until a penalty saw them drop back to sixth place. Any thought of taking it easy and cruising at Hamilton Island in the last regatta of the championship evaporated as their lead dropped back to less than a point (0.319 of a point to be exact) over Sydney yachtsman Graeme Wood and the crew aboard his JV 52 *Wot Not*, with some other serious competition not far behind and well and truly in contention.

But that is the very nature of the Audi IRC Australian Championship and is what attracts the cream of Australian yachting to fight it out for the title – that and of course the prospect of winning a new Audi into the bargain. And what better place to decide the outcome of such a prestigious series than at the country's most important sailing regatta? Despite the stunning location and laid back feel of Hamilton Island, Audi Hamilton Island Race Week means serious business for a great many of the 200 odd yachts which make their way to the island for the classic regatta each year, and with the added competition of those involved in the Audi IRC Australian Championship, there is no wonder that this is some of the finest yacht racing in the country.

So for those of you who prefer to stay on dry land and enjoy the wealth of non-yachting activities and entertainment during the event, spare a thought for the yachtsmen and women out on the impossibly blue water and remember, for many, this is the grand final. ■





Dramatic terrain. Breathtaking views. The new Hamilton Island Golf Club on nearby Dent Island is the only 18-hole golf course on its own island in Australia. Designed by five-time British Open winner Peter Thomson, our new championship course includes an aquatic driving range, practice greens and a stunning Clubhouse with a mouth-watering menu. And when you've finished your round, Hamilton Island offers you an array of incredible facilities to make your holiday truly unforgettable - our iconic new Yacht Club complete with a 240-berth marina, a range of hotels including qualia, a secluded luxury resort, fine



restaurants and a unique and relaxed residential community. You'll soon find that one visit to Hamilton Island is simply not enough to discover it all. For golf enquiries, call the Golf Club on **07 4948 9760** or visit hamiltonislandgolfclub.com.au. To book flights and accommodation, call Hamilton Island Holidays on **137 333** or visit hamiltonisland.com.au

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HAMILTON ISLAND
GREAT BARRIER REEF AUSTRALIA

Good Sport

Think sport in Australia and it's a fair bet you'll also think of Channel Seven's Mark Beretta. He's seen it all and evidently loves it all – but the colour and competition of Audi Hamilton Island Race Week each year holds a special fascination.

STORY PAUL POTTINGER PHOTOGRAPHY ANDREA FRANCOLINI

It's something of a shock to learn that Mark Beretta has turned 44. While he could easily pass for 10 years younger, the sports reporter and presenter who has become almost as synonymous with Channel Seven's *Sunrise* as Mel and Kochie, seems – in one incarnation or another – to have been around *forever*.

He's been there for four summer Olympic Games and several of the winter editions as well, to say nothing of (deep breath) the Commonwealth Games, V8 Supercars, AFL, every remotely aquatic sport (he's a 10-time national waterskiing champion) and indeed any sport to which Seven has access. For two years before *Sunrise* made him the most watched sports presenter in the country, he brought us the sports bulletin on *Seven News*.

And he is, of course, a fixture of Audi Hamilton Island Race Week at Hamilton Island.

Finding time to marry Rachel and become father to Ava and Daniel, Beretta has been close to ubiquitous on our screens for almost two decades. Seldom has chucking a career in engineering borne such fruit.

Beretta laughs at the memory of a life that could have been.

"When I went through high school and uni it was pretty straightforward. If you did science subjects at school you went on and did science or an engineering degree. If you did commerce subjects you did economics. I followed through on that but all the while I wanted to stay involved in sports. I loved my competition years and couldn't imagine doing anything else.

"I was watching the Australian Open tennis over summer one year and seeing Peter Landy, Sandy Roberts, Gary Wilkinson and Bruce McIlvaney and just thinking 'imagine if you could make a life out of being involved in sport'. From that moment all I wanted to do was that. I'm doing what I always dreamt of."

Like most faces we take for granted, Beretta's journey from being a voice on Radio 3GL Geelong to being seen in millions of homes every morning was one of hard graft.



“Decide what it is you want to do and commit to it,” he says simply. “I see it in sports people all the time. I’ve just finished my first book on legends of Australian motor cycling. I’ve been writing a lot about Chad Rooney who is one of the top five money earners in Australian sports. He came from a battling family in the Hunter Valley and is now a multi-million dollar enterprise in the US simply because he followed his dream. He wanted to ride supercross. When he came up the money was in road bikes, moto GP, but he kept on all the way.

“The most important thing is that no matter how many knocks you get, you learn and never give up on what you want to do. Look at the great jobs people get and say, well someone’s got to do it, it might as well be me.”

Beretta certainly has the competition runs on the board, those 10 Australian waterskiing championship wins in waters somewhat colder than you’ll find at Hamilton Island.

“My dad taught me when I was four years of age. I grew up in Geelong which was probably not the natural place to go waterskiing. It is freezing, but we were the only family who water-skied the whole year round. People would be driving to the footy to see Geelong looking down from the bridge at us thinking we were mad. And we probably were.



The racing at Audi Hamilton Island Race Week has a unique Australian flavour and is something Beretta looks forward to each year. Pictured above with Rob Mundle at last year's event.



“But it was great. It is a real family sport. You need to do it with a bunch of people. Socially it was fantastic, but still you learn to reach your goals and work with other people.”

So when Beretta says he’s living his dream, you tend to believe him, even though his days on *Sunrise* start when most of us are doing exactly that – dreaming.

“We’re up at 3.30am and we’re meeting in the office by half past four. It’s always a challenge to drag yourself out, but by the same token you wouldn’t miss it. Hand on heart we love what we do. At times it’s hard to be on holiday because you want to be part of the action. When news is breaking we know we’re first. We’re dealing with events as they unfold from around the world. It’s so addictive.

“*Sunrise* is a funny beast. I think because of the time it’s on we often catch people before they put their guard up for the day. The show by its nature has no pretense. We push no sort of wagon and talk pretty normally, much like you do at the breakfast table. We don’t hide our personalities. We are who you see. It’s connected with people. We know that because we get about 8,000 emails a day.

“I see that as the biggest upside of the job. You walk into a coffee shop and have a good chat with people.”

So when you see Beretta, or Berrets as they call him, don’t be shy. Indeed that’s one of the things he most enjoys about the whole Audi Hamilton Island Race Week, the laid back atmosphere that’s present, despite the competition out on the water.

“One of the events I really enjoy is Audi Race Week at Hamilton Island. There’s something about the sailing community, they’re so passionate about what they do. They know how to get out there and race hard and then enjoy themselves at the end of the day.”

For a man as passionate about his sport as Berrets, Audi Hamilton Island Race Week ticks all the boxes for high-level competition, and the location certainly doesn’t hurt either.

“It’s probably the most beautiful location in the world. To be able to race around the Whitsundays ... I can’t think of a better place in the world to go sailing. Superb.” ■

HAMILTON ISLAND 2010 CONFERENCE ITINERARY

- 7.00am Breakfast at the Hamilton Island Wildlife Park**
Enjoy a hot full buffet breakfast in the garden courtyard of the island's Wildlife Park. After breakfast take a tour of the park and 'meet the locals'. *Note: Bring camera - in case you get to cuddle a koala.*
- 9.00am Conference starts at the Hamilton Island Yacht Club - Ketch Room**
Make your way to the Hamilton Island Yacht Club. Located at the end of the island's marina - look for the amazing building with a roof similar to the Sydney Opera House. *Note: Bring camera - if you get a moment the views from the Yacht Club are incredible.*
- 10.00am Morning Tea on the Flag Deck**
Join the rest of the team for warm pastries, coffee and tea on the Flag Deck of the Hamilton Island Yacht Club overlooking the water. Conference resumes at 10.30am.
- 12.00pm Lunch Cruise to Whitehaven Beach**
Meet the cruise vessel at the marina for a relaxed lunch and turtle-spotting tour. *Note: Bring camera - you won't want to go home without some photos of this magnificent beach.*
- 2.00pm Arrive back at Hamilton Island**
- 2.30pm Hamilton Island Golf Club**
Meet the Island Links ferry down at the marina for a 10min ride over to Dent Island. Hole-in-One contest and golf tips from the resident golf pro. *Note: Bring camera - this is apparently being hailed as one of the most picturesque new golf courses in Australia.*
- 4.00pm Arrive back at Hamilton Island**
For those with a bit more energy left, join the Amazing Race buggy rally - the team who wins gets a complimentary spa treatment at Spa wumurdaylin.
- 6.00pm Dinner on the Dock**
Fresh seafood dinner at a fine dining table setting stretching the length of the jetty down at the marina. *Note: Bring camera - the sunset from this spot is unbelievable, and the fireworks display later in the evening will be amazing.*

What a conference!



Breakfast with the koalas



Hamilton Island Yacht Club



The beautiful Whitehaven Beach



Dinner on our own private pontoon



Our Hole-in-One contest

With direct flights from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Cairns, conference facilities - including 13 meeting rooms - to cater for 10 to 1,000 delegates with ease, a dedicated team of event professionals and amazing itineraries just like this one, Hamilton Island is the perfect destination for your next group or business event.



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Call the Business Tourism Team on **02 9433 3333**, email conference@hamiltonisland.com.au or visit www.hamiltonisland.com.au/conferences



The Great Barrier Feast

For lovers of fine food it is nothing short of heaven. One of the country's most celebrated chefs conducting masterclasses in the most idyllic location, for a food experience absolutely without equal. Welcome to the Great Barrier Feast Food & Wine Series.

STORY KEITH AUSTIN PHOTOGRAPHY ANDREA FRANCOLINI

Composer Lionel Bart was pretty much right on the money when in *Oliver*, the stage version of Charles Dickens' novel, he had the poorhouse boys sing "Food, glorious food! What is there more handsome?"

Of course they were dreaming of pease pudding and saveloy, hot sausage and mustard rather than a carpaccio of kingfish, confit of New Zealand scampi or seared fillet of veal with wasabi butter, but the obsession remains the same.

Indeed, the Hamilton Island Great Barrier Feast Food & Wine Series could easily have been called Food Glorious Food, given that so far this year it's seen chefs as luminous as

Tetsuya Wakuda and Bécasse's Justin North strut their stuff both at qualia and the Walter Borda-designed Hamilton Island Yacht Club at the harbour entrance, opened to great acclaim by Queensland Premier Anna Bligh in August last year.

Though Tetsuya would probably bristle at the idea of being called a 'chef', he is, he insisted as he humbly held court on the stage of the Hamilton Island Yacht Club in March, a cook. A good one, naturally, but really just a self-taught cook. Albeit one who went from dishwasher at Sydney's Fishwives in 1982 to one of the top chefs in the world in a mere 20 years.

Tetsuya's Saturday morning masterclass,



Tetsuya Wakuda (facing page) kicked off the Great Barrier Feast Food & Wine Series for 2010.

in which he swapped good-natured barbs with regular emcee Sarah Wilson (formerly of *Masterchef* fame) was one of the highlights of the first of this year's feasts. During two hours on stage Tetsuya thrilled 120 assembled guests by taking questions from the floor while whipping up, among other things, a sublime Queensland spanner crab omelette. I would lay good money that sales of crab, cream and canned creamed corn (oh yes) shot through the roof in the following week.

Another highlight was watching 'Tetsu', as he became known over the weekend, rattling the pans that night in the kitchen via giant TV screens in qualia's Long Pavilion restaurant. One moment we were ogling one of the world's greatest restaurateurs flipping wagyu beef loin on a grill and, minutes later, that same beef was sitting on a plate in front of us. Food glorious food; does it ever come more handsome than that?

The Great Barrier Feast was first held on the island in 2002, the brainchild of the late Australian wine expert, Len Evans. The first feasts were annual events held every June and consisted of two days and three nights of dinners and masterclasses from some of Australia's best chefs (and cooks). These included Gilbert Lau and Anthony Lui of Flower Drum restaurant in Melbourne, Cheong Liew, Head Chef at The Grange in Adelaide, Christine Manfield, Shannon Bennett, Curtis Stone, and Serge Dansereau of Sydney's iconic Bathers Pavilion.

However, this year the format has changed to three separate gourmet weekends held throughout the year, each devoted to the food of a single chef. These weekends include a welcome dinner at qualia's restaurant, courtesy of the resort's Executive Chef Jane-Therese Mulry.

Mulry is no mean chef herself; she was Marco Pierre White's first female Head Chef when she worked in his London kitchens and her Iberico-wrapped veal fillet with ham hock and garden peas was a much-talked about (on our table at least) hit at the inaugural degustation dinner in March.

The next day includes a masterchef class followed by a champagne lunch at Bommie, Hamilton Island Yacht Club's stunning restaurant, which opened less than a year ago, looking out over the harbour and the



Sandy Oatley and acclaimed wine writer James Halliday (top). Justin North of Bécasse with emcee Sarah Wilson, formerly of *Masterchef* fame (pictured above).

sea to beautiful Dent Island.

In the evening – possibly after a quick postprandial lie-down or a vigorous session in the gym, depending on your metabolism - it's back to qualia for the main event: a TV dinner cooked by one of Australia's top chefs. TV dinner? Well, sort of. It's probably the only time it's OK to eat food of such a high standard and watch the television as behind-the-scenes kitchen action is beamed into the restaurant via a live camera link-up.

In July it was the turn of Justin North, whose modern-French restaurants Bécasse

and Etch are among Sydney's finest. North was named Chef of the Year, 2010 by *GQ Magazine* and Chef of the Year, 2009 by the Sydney Morning Herald's *Good Food Guide*.

Tetsuya took 600kg of prepared food and several staff to Hamilton Island with him - and almost came unstuck as bad weather forced both to detour to the mainland and take the final ferry across to the island. North, on the other hand, went up a few days early and "started from scratch".

"We went up on the Wednesday and prepped pretty much all day Thursday and Friday. The menu was a combination of a few Bécasse signature dishes plus a few new ones to give a cross-section of what we do."

North, who visited Hamilton Island last year as a judge for the *Vogue Entertaining+Travel Produce Awards*, added:

"We also tried to make sure that things were organised so that there was enough time to spend quality time, good interactive time, with the guests, rather than being stuck in the kitchen the whole time. Mind you, that Saturday is a pretty busy day, what with the masterclass, the lunch for 120 people and the evening meal for about the same number. It's a big day."

Of the live TV link-up in the evening, North says it's one of his favourite bits of that big day: "I do quite like that, to tell the truth ... it's good for guests to see what's going on in the kitchen, to see things from the chef's perspective."

And last but not least let's not forget that each of the degustation courses at the two dinners and the lunch are matched with wines and bubbly chosen by acclaimed wine writer, James Halliday.

The next Great Barrier Feast takes place 26-28th of November, 2010 and will feature the talents of Ben Shewry of Attica in Melbourne. ■

Luxury accommodation packages are being offered for the gourmet weekend. Choose between accommodation at qualia or the boutique Beach Club. For qualia packages, prices start from \$1,550 per person, twin share. Beach Club packages cost from \$1,195 per person, twin share. For more information email luxuryspecialist@hamiltonisland.com.au, or telephone **1300 780 959**. The four gourmet events – the Welcome Dinner, the Electrolux Masterclass, the Veuve Clicquot Lunch and the Showpiece Dinner – can all be booked separately. Visit www.hamiltonisland.com.au/feast/ for full details.

Scarlett Johansson



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Picture Perfect

What do you get if you take two Grand Masters of Photography and a top flight digital imaging expert, and stick them together on one of the world's most stunning tropical islands? Possibly the best photography course on the planet.

STORY SAM TINSON PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY AWAY PHOTOGRAPHY



Imagine you've just bought your first proper digital camera. Not a prissy little point-&-shoot that fits in a matchbox, but a serious bit of kit with all the bells and whistles. It looks the business, and it feels pretty cool slung around your shoulder. Only trouble is, you don't have a clue how to use it. All those buttons confuse the hell out of you, and the 250-page instruction manual might as well be written in Swahili for all the sense it makes.

Clearly you're in need of a photography course, but you don't want to spend two evenings a week sitting in a drafty

community hall listening to the local camera 'expert' drone on about The Rule of Thirds, F-Stops and Laws of Reciprocity. And why would you?

Now imagine swapping that drab hall for a tropical island paradise, and replacing the local shutterbug with three world-class professional photographers, each masters of their craft. Toss in a helicopter so you can learn aerial photography, a mock wedding for you to practice on, and some of the most spectacular shooting locations imaginable.

Put these ingredients together and you have AWAY Photography workshop, a



unique course in camera skills which has been attracting a growing stream of amateur and beginner photographers keen to hone their hobby amid the picture-perfect surrounds of Hamilton Island.

The four-day course is run by David Oliver and Peter Eastway (both Australian Institute of Professional Photography Grand Masters and producers of the travel photography books from which the course takes its name), and Bruce Pottinger, Honorary Fellow of the AIPP and Managing Director of imaging firm L&P Digital Photographic. But as Eastway is the first to admit, the course's star attraction

is of course Hamilton Island itself.

"Hamilton Island is a great location to learn photography," he says. "The scenery is amazing and every time you come here a different aspect hits you. The light, the sand patterns, the colours of the ocean and the coral, it's all changing constantly and there's always something different to shoot, another angle to exploit. We even look forward to the occasional dramatic storm, although they never show those on the travel brochures!"

Eastway, a specialist in landscape photography who many keen snappers will know as the publisher of *Better Photography*

5 Top Photographic Tips

- Always have a camera with you – if you don't have a camera, you can't take the shot!
- Look for the light. The light is usually better in the early morning and late afternoon.
- Squeeze the shutter button gently. Keeping the camera still while you take the photo should ensure it is as clear as possible.
- Use Automatic mode freely. Modern cameras are amazing and most of the time the auto function will work well.
- If you enjoy your photography, think of doing a course or a workshop because it will open up so many more creative opportunities.

Peter Eastway



The four day AWAY Photography workshop is held in August each year. For further information, visit www.hamiltonisland.com.au/photography-course/ email events@hamiltonisland.com.au or phone **07 4948 9303**

"The scenery is amazing and every time you come here a different aspect hits you. The light, the sand patterns, the colours of the ocean and the coral, it's all changing constantly and there's always something different to shoot, another angle to exploit..."

Magazine, feels that between himself, Oliver and Pottinger the course offers the best possible tuition for budding photographers.

"I specialise in landscape photography, David is an award-winning portrait and wedding photographer and Bruce is an expert in digital image processing and printing, so we all specialise in useful areas," he says. "Between us we can help people take their photography to another level."

The workshop attracts all types, from teenagers to retirees, from camera store workers to company directors. While absolute beginners are welcome, Eastway says the majority of attendees are keen amateur photographers wanting to develop and better understand their hobby.

"We're assuming you know which end of the camera is the lens and which is the viewfinder," he says. "We'll teach you landscape and portrait photography, how to use image editing software like Photoshop, and how just by doing some simple things you can create a better image."

While there is some classroom time, the majority of the course is taken up with field trips. Highlights include boat rides out to the

reef, panoramic landscape shoots at Hill Inlet lookout, underwater photography lessons, a fashion shoot on Whitehaven Beach and a mock church wedding. For those keen to try their hand at aerial photography, there are even helicopter flights over the reef and beach.

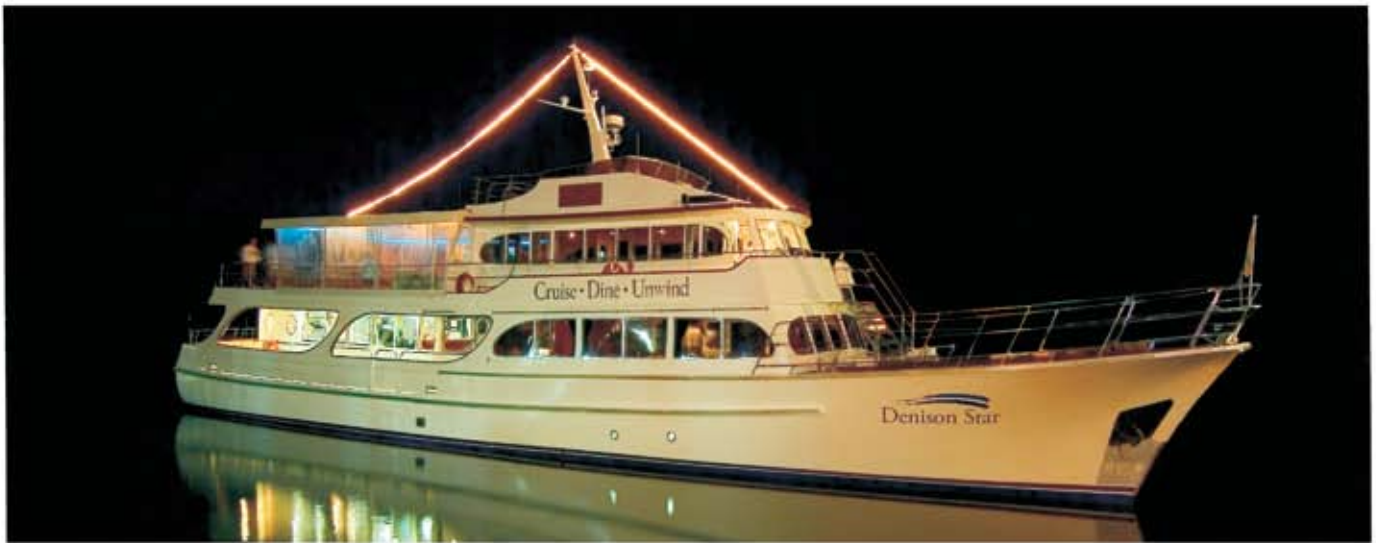
"Everybody goes home blown away by it," says Eastway. "The idea is that when you get home not only have you learned to take better photos, you'll also have a bunch of great shots in the camera. People will bring their laptops and download the photos they take, and David and I can sit down with them and discuss their images. They find it invaluable getting one-on-one opinion and advice."

It's not only the students at AWAY Photography who are picking up tips, either. Peter says one of the best things about teaching the course is that he still gets to learn new things himself.

"It's amazing, the things our students see that we don't," he says. "Some of the fantastic ideas and angles that people come up with are fascinating. There's always another way to shoot Hamilton Island." ■



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Family Luxury

Nestled right on the water overlooking Dent Passage, the exquisite Hamilton Island Yacht Club Villas are a haven for those looking for a taste of luxury whether it be for a week or a lifetime.

STORY JAMES HALLIDAY PHOTOGRAPHY JASON LOUCAS & KYLIE HOOD

The brief: You are looking for a holiday experience that includes absolute luxury accommodation, but your requirements include bringing the whole family or a group of friends.

The answer: Hamilton Island Yacht Club Villas.

Just on a year since it was officially opened by Queensland Premier, Anna Bligh, the arresting Walter Barda-designed Hamilton Island Yacht Club has become a landmark in the Whitsundays. Dubbed Queensland's answer to the Opera House, its iconic design is already synonymous with the island and

and the Oatley family's ongoing drive to develop Hamilton Island into a world-class destination.

Designed as part of the Yacht Club project, the Hamilton Island Yacht Club Villas are the island's newest residential development and luxury accommodation option, available for sale or for holiday stays and offering the very highest standards in luxury fitout, facilities and of course location. For those travelling with young ones, but who enjoy the finer things in life, the Hamilton Island Yacht Club Villas are the perfect choice. No expense has been spared in the design, construction and



fit out of these beautiful properties, and with exclusive access to a range of other premium facilities including the Yacht Club itself and the island's world-renowned resort, qualia, the Hamilton Island Yacht Club Villas represent a luxury home away from home experience without compromise.

Running out from the Yacht Club like ripples and designed to complement and blend with the surrounding environment, the 35 villas are set over three to four levels depending on position, all with commanding views of Dent Passage and making the most of the gentle on-shore breezes. Renowned landscape architect, Jamie Durie was called on to weave his special magic landscaping the grounds, using a variety of native plants to enhance Barda's design and give the area its own distinctive look and feel. From the large, lagoon pool right on the edge of Dent Passage to the terraces of each villa, the

whole development blends seamlessly with the geography of the location, a veritable haven of understated luxury nestled close enough to the centre of the island's activities for convenience, but shielded for absolute privacy. Luxury on Hamilton Island has a new name.

Extensive use of timber throughout, high ceilings and plantation shutters are perfect for the tropical island setting, the large open plan living areas, awash with natural light, flowing out on to private terraces with their stunning views, but discreetly shielded from other villas. Each villa boasts four bedrooms and four bathrooms, absolute state-of-the-art kitchens with Miele appliances and an elegant yet laid back feel, thanks in no small part to the interior design efforts of Coco Republic. This celebrated interior design company was charged with the task of creating a luxury feel but one that married

with the relaxed nature of the island. Interior colours and treatments are subtle yet elegant, giving each property a warm, familiar feel.

The result is a beautifully balanced, welcoming environment that you will not want to leave in a hurry, but with so much to do and so many additional privileges attached to choosing the Hamilton Island Yacht Club Villas, you will no doubt find the time and the energy to venture forth and experience all the island has to offer.

Situated as they are right next to the Hamilton Island Yacht Club, visitors will find themselves drawn to this iconic centre to relax right on the water's edge with a drink or enjoy the fine dining options including the Yacht Club's signature restaurant Bommie.

Indeed villa residents enjoy exclusive access to a comprehensive range of facilities including the Island Concierge team with a dedicated concierge team member to

Fanning out from Hamilton Island Yacht Club, the villas blend seamlessly into the surrounding environment, each with breathtaking views out over the water. The theme inside is understated luxury, the level of appointment, second to none.



Situated as they are right next to the Hamilton Island Yacht Club, visitors will find themselves drawn to this iconic centre to relax right on the water's edge with a drink or enjoy the fine dining options including the Yacht's Club's signature restaurant Bommie.

look after the guest during their stay, with privileged access to qualia restaurants and the stunning Spa qualia when available as well as priority bookings for tee times at the Peter Thomson-designed Hamilton Island Golf Club (just a short boat trip across the passage).

The special service starts as soon as you and the family arrive on the island, with VIP return Hamilton Island airport/marina transfers to your villa. Accommodation in the villas includes the use of a four-seater electric buggy to get you around during your stay,

although the villas' proximity to the Yacht Club, marina and the shopping and dining options along Front Street are just a short stroll away.

Owners of Hamilton Island Yacht Club Villas will revel in their Founding Member status at the Yacht Club and will enjoy the use of the private members' level and health club as well as their priority berthing at the new marina E-arm.

On an island where visitors are quite literally spoilt for choice in terms of accommodation, the Hamilton Island Yacht

Club Villas provide families the ideal way to experience paradise, without compromising in any way. Of course, as with anything, there is a down side, and that is that you will not want to leave – full stop. There is however a remedy even for that problem. For those looking for the ultimate holiday home or to put down roots in paradise, there are still villas on the market, but don't delay. At time of writing, there were six villas remaining for sale – the word is out. ■

For sales enquiries, please contact Hamilton Island Real Estate on **1300 800 070** or Noel Lucas-Martinez on **0411 175 506**. For holiday reservations, contact Hamilton Island Holidays on **137 333** or email vacation@hamiltonisland.com.au



Reefsleep Experience

Share the award-winning experience. Take the time and enjoy the unique solitude and tranquility of the Great Barrier Reef at night.

Reefworld Experience

Discover the beauty of the Great Barrier Reef at Reefworld, Fantasea's floating adventure platform.

Whitehaven Beach Experience

A must see in the Whitsundays! Cruise to Whitehaven Beach rated one of the most spectacular beaches in the world.

Fantasea Takes You There

Fantasea's fleet of high speed, air-conditioned catamarans deliver you to and from the Whitsunday islands in comfort.



It's the little Things

Hamilton Island is on a mission to be green despite being surrounded by a sea of blue. With the tremendous number of visitors to the island each year, having well designed strategies in place to reduce the impact on the environment is crucial to the island's sustainability – even if you're not always aware of them.

In this day and age, protecting our natural resources and reducing our impact on the environment is a real consideration to any thinking person. The importance of having environmental initiatives in place is accepted by individuals and big business alike, but the ways in which great gains are made are not always evident, indeed it is often the little things that add up and make the biggest difference.

On Hamilton Island, protecting the environment and doing everything possible to minimise the impact of the many visitors each year is essential to ensure the island's survival. Maintaining a positive balance and protecting the often fragile ecosystem of the island is a major consideration in the day-to-day running of Hamilton Island and a crucial factor to be considered whenever large-scale works are in their planning stages.

Much has been written about the

careful planning that went into the design and construction of the world-famous qualia resort, ensuring that the design was not only sympathetic to the area, but preserving as much of the naturally occurring vegetation as possible and in fact weaving it into the very design and making it part of the finished project. Despite increasing the development costs considerably, the Hamilton Island Golf Club too, was specifically designed to fit in with the rugged natural environment of Dent Island and retains the natural soils and vegetation, while an environmentally sustainable irrigation system has been put in place to keep the course in mint condition, but without any adverse effects on the ecosystem.

Although Hamilton Island is the largest resort island in the Whitsundays, more than 70 percent of it is preserved in its natural state, home to a wide variety of animals,



Although the largest resort island in the Whitsundays, more than 70 percent of Hamilton Island is untouched.

trees, ferns and grasses. In addition to being a bushwalker's paradise, the island is also home to three very special types of naturally occurring eucalypts, the leaves from which are used to feed the koalas at the Hamilton Island Wildlife Park on the island.

The feeding of other animals though is discouraged on Hamilton Island, with guests educated not to 'feed the locals' and garbage bins supplied all over the island that have been specially designed to keep the rubbish in but the local fauna out. The extensive education program of course extends to the surrounding waters and the Great Barrier Reef itself, with only highly qualified and eco-accredited tourism businesses operating out of Hamilton Island, ensuring best practice is always maintained.

Hamilton Island Enterprises is also a staunch supporter of marine park research and is a long-standing participant in the Eye on the Reef program which, along with some 40 other marine tourism operators, constantly monitor and collect data on the health of the Great Barrier Reef, working closely with the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA).

All of these things and so many more go on day after day as an integral part of life on the island. Water is recycled wherever possible – Hamilton Island has a waste water treatment facility which processes 70% potable water that is reused as grey water on gardens around the island.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Turn off the air-conditioner when you leave your room.
- Keep air-conditioners set at 25 degrees.
- Switch off lights and televisions while you are away.
- Reuse bath towels and sheets to reduce water and chemical use.
- Dispose of rubbish appropriately.
- If you are visiting islands be sure not to transport weeds or plant seeds.
- Enjoy a sailing trip powered by the wind.
- Don't touch coral or animals on the reef.
- Collect memories and photos rather than shells or other marine life.
- Visit the reef with a High Standard Operator (for more information visit www.gbrmpa.gov.au).

Recycling is a particularly important initiative and Hamilton Island's new recycling plan aims to reduce general waste by 70-80 percent in the next 12 months! This best practice recycling plan separates each material at its source and is designed to make the process as easy for all involved to implement as possible, through signage, communication, education and availability and easy access to recycling bins.

Supported by the Queensland

Government's Public Place Recycling Program, this initiative brings together all parties on the island, from staff to guests, local school children and tour operators, and will see awards introduced to encourage participation and recognise those who make a difference.

It all adds up. Phosphate-free cleaning products, power tags to turn off electricity when guests leave their rooms and of course, the ubiquitous electric golf buggies which are so much a part of the Hamilton Island lifestyle, providing transport with minimal harm to the environment (only service vehicles exist on the island and fuel-powered buggies are being phased out completely).

Of course monitoring our impact on the environment and maintaining a healthy balance is an ongoing process, so in 2007 the Hamilton Island Environmental Club was formed. Made up of staff and residents, it exists to discuss and work to improve the environmental initiatives on the island, while Hamilton Island and various concessionaires, staff and clubs are also actively involved in projects like 'Clean up Australia Day', not only on Hamilton and Dent Island, but also on neighbouring Whitsunday and Henning Islands.

It's ongoing but an essential process that is constantly being improved and refined to ensure that every possible base is covered to see that Hamilton Island and its surrounds not only survive, but thrive. ■



Raise Your Glasses

Celebrated Australian wine writer, James Halliday shares his views on the burgeoning local wine industry, its international appeal, quality and the future of the wonderful 'Australian drop'.

STORY JAMES HALLIDAY
PHOTOGRAPHY JASON BOUVILLE & JACK ATLEY



Wine has been made in commercial quantities in Australia for 190 years spanning three centuries. During that time its importance has waxed and waned; on one view the starting point of the present-day wine industry dates from 1953 (when the first stainless steel cold-fermented wines were made along with 1953 Penfolds Grange), on another 1985, the last year in which imports exceeded exports.

Whichever view is accepted, it is beyond argument that the rate of change since 1985 has been immeasurably greater than that at any previous time. We have skyrocketed from nowhere in the league of world exporters of wine to the fourth largest by value, with only France, Italy and Spain in front.

Australia is the dominant supplier to the United Kingdom, United States, Canada and Ireland, and is the second largest supplier to China.

This has been achieved through a combination of the excellence of the wine schools in our universities, with the University of Adelaide's Roseworthy campus best known, but with other universities

spread across the continent lending strong support; the world renowned Australian Wine Research Institute; and the work ethic and skill of Australian winemakers.

Since 1985 Australia's viticultural map has been re-written. Literally dozens of cool climate regions have been established (more than a few re-established after 100 years of inactivity). Equally importantly, chardonnay, sauvignon blanc, pinot gris, pinot noir and merlot have joined semillon, riesling, shiraz, grenache and cabernet sauvignon as our major varieties.

Then there is a host of Italian and Spanish 'alternative' varieties flooding onto the market; some are grown in the right combination of climate and soil, some not. The former will flourish, the latter will disappear.

A commonly asked question is where will the next great wine regions be. Mount Gambier in South Australia is still not officially recognised under the Geographic Indications legislation, but is full of promise for pinot noir and sauvignon blanc.

The regions on the western side of the Great Dividing Range have been recognised

for various periods, some better known than others. From north to south they are the Granite Belt, New England, Mudgee, Orange, Cowra, Hilltops, Gundagai, the Canberra District and Tumbarumba. Elevation is the key to the climate of each, and allows for a wide choice of varieties and styles, the common theme being quality.

This, however, is only half the story. Australia's area of vineyard rose from 64,000 hectares in 1985 to 164,000 hectares in 2004, its production from 389 million litres to 1.47 billion litres in 2004. This massive increase was almost entirely devoted to exports, and when these stopped growing in 2006/07 and then started to decline in 2007/08, the much-publicised wine surplus materialised with frightening speed.

Frightening, but almost inevitable. In 1995 the industry published a 30-year vision through to 2025; this forecast \$4.5 billion in sales, \$2.5 billion from exports, \$2 billion in domestic sales, the increase coming from 40,000 hectares of new vineyards. In fact it reached the target in 2003, 22 years early. It was a rate of change that had to come to grief, and it did.



But the events since then make the story even more complicated. The prolonged drought and the even longer profligate use of irrigation from the Murray Darling basin has placed the system under extreme pressure from urban demand, agricultural use and environmental flow.

Since around 60 percent of Australia's grape harvest comes from the Murray Darling and Riverina irrigation regions, it seemed that reduced production might be a blessing in disguise by bringing supply and demand into balance. On one view that was precisely the outcome of the 1.58 million-tonne harvest in 2010.

Yet even as the grapes were being

harvested, the China card came into play. In June this year, Wine Australia announced a multi-million dollar marketing push into China, with Wine Australia offices to be opened in Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong.

The forecast is that China will become Australia's largest export market by 2015, a change of monumental proportions. If it is achieved, demand will exceed supply unless there is a deliberate decision to pull wine from the bitterly contested UK market with its wafer-thin profit margins. In all existing major export markets promotional dollars will have to be spread more thinly.

All this comes at a time when Australia

is seeking to reinvent its image. Brand Australia's evocation of sunshine-in-a-bottle was the key to its export growth. But it ignored the high quality wines with a strong regional-varietal link.

Our 62 official regions produce a dazzling array of fine wines, and historically we have by and large been content to sell these in Australia. Systematically introducing these 'regional heroes' (as they have been dubbed) to existing export markets is one thing, but another challenge altogether when it comes to China.

It's going to be a very interesting five years. ■



Mudgee in NSW, home to Robert Oatley Vineyards (top) is renowned for its high altitude vineyards. Chris Hancock, Bob Oatley and Sandy Oatley (above).

Bob Oatley had a significant role in the evolution of the industry, first as founder of Rosemount Estate and, more recently, Robert Oatley Vineyards. He was a key player in Rosemount's decision in the mid-1980s to seriously enter the UK & US markets, then largely undeveloped. There's no doubt he was at the forefront of the popularity of Australian chardonnay and now leads the re-emergence of Mudgee. The wine-world watches his new activities with great interest.

*"I hope you enjoy
drinking these wines
as much as we enjoy
making them"*

Bob Oatley



ROBERT OATLEY
VINEYARDS

www.robertoatley.com.au



For Lucinda Dunn (pictured) who has danced all over the world, performing at qualia on Hamilton Island is a highlight. "It's one of the most beautiful locations in the world," she says.



Star Performance

Certainly not the traditional venue for a world-class ballet performance, but Hamilton Island's qualia has become a favourite with stars from The Australian Ballet and lovers of culture alike. The most magnificent theatre on earth is no match for a balmy Hamilton Island night under the stars.

STORY FIONA PURDON PHOTOGRAPHY ANDREA FRANCOLINI & JAMES MORGAN

Australian Ballet star Lucinda Dunn may have performed in London, New York, Paris and Tokyo but she says nothing beats the breathtaking backdrop of the Whitsunday Islands. Now in its third year, the Pas de Deux in Paradise is a unique cultural experience that combines the sublime surrounds of qualia on Hamilton Island, with some of the country's finest dancers from The Australian Ballet.

An unlikely pairing on the surface perhaps, but one which has worked superbly since the first event in 2008

when Artistic Director of The Australian Ballet, David McAllister first brought six of the company's shining lights to the island to perform *Wa* from the Bodytorque series. Since then, the annual visit by The Australian Ballet performing Pas de Deux's from great classic ballets has become an iconic event and enjoyed tremendous support.

..."You can't top the Hamilton Island setting at qualia," says Lucinda Dunn. "It is a highlight. It is one of the most beautiful locations in the world."...(1)

Dunn, 36, is one of four stars of The



Catriona Rowntree (pictured above with husband James Pettit and Carol and Sandy Oatley) was once again emcee for the event.

Australian Ballet who performed at the Pas de Deux in Paradise on Hamilton Island recently. She was joined by fellow principal artists Robert Curran and Rachel Rawlins, as well as Senior Artist Andrew Killian.

In a beautiful evening emceed once again by Catriona Rowntree, Dunn and Robert Curran paired in a stirring performance of *Black Swan* from the classic *Swan Lake*, while Rachel Rawlins and Senior Artist, Andrew Killian, joined to perform a piece from *The Nutcracker* as well as the passionate *El Tango* for an evening that delighted guests and produced uproarious applause.

..."We danced to beautiful music, it was challenging for the dancers and a great spectacle to watch," Lucinda said of the event ...⁽²⁾

Indeed Dunn had been looking forward to returning to Queensland after receiving rave reviews dancing the lead Marschallin in The Australian Ballet's national premiere performance of *The Silver Rose* in Brisbane

earlier this year.

Originally trained in Sydney, Dunn went on to study at The Royal Ballet School in London before returning to Australia to join The Australian Ballet in 1991. Her exceptional talent and hard work saw her promoted to Principal Artist in 2002, a position she has held ever since, despite taking time out to become a mother.

She has made a stunning comeback after giving birth to daughter Claudia in 2008 and taking a year off for maternity leave. Claudia, now 20 months old, regularly goes to rehearsals but has yet to see her mother perform. Perhaps in the future, young Claudia will get to experience the same magic under the stars that has left such an impression on so many already. ■

(1) & (2) – Fiona Purdon's original quotes appeared in her article entitled 'Chance to Dance Paradise, Pointe Tutu Good to Miss', published in *The Courier Mail*, 6th of April, 2010. Changes have been made to the original text for purposes of tense.



Dreaming of a white wedding?

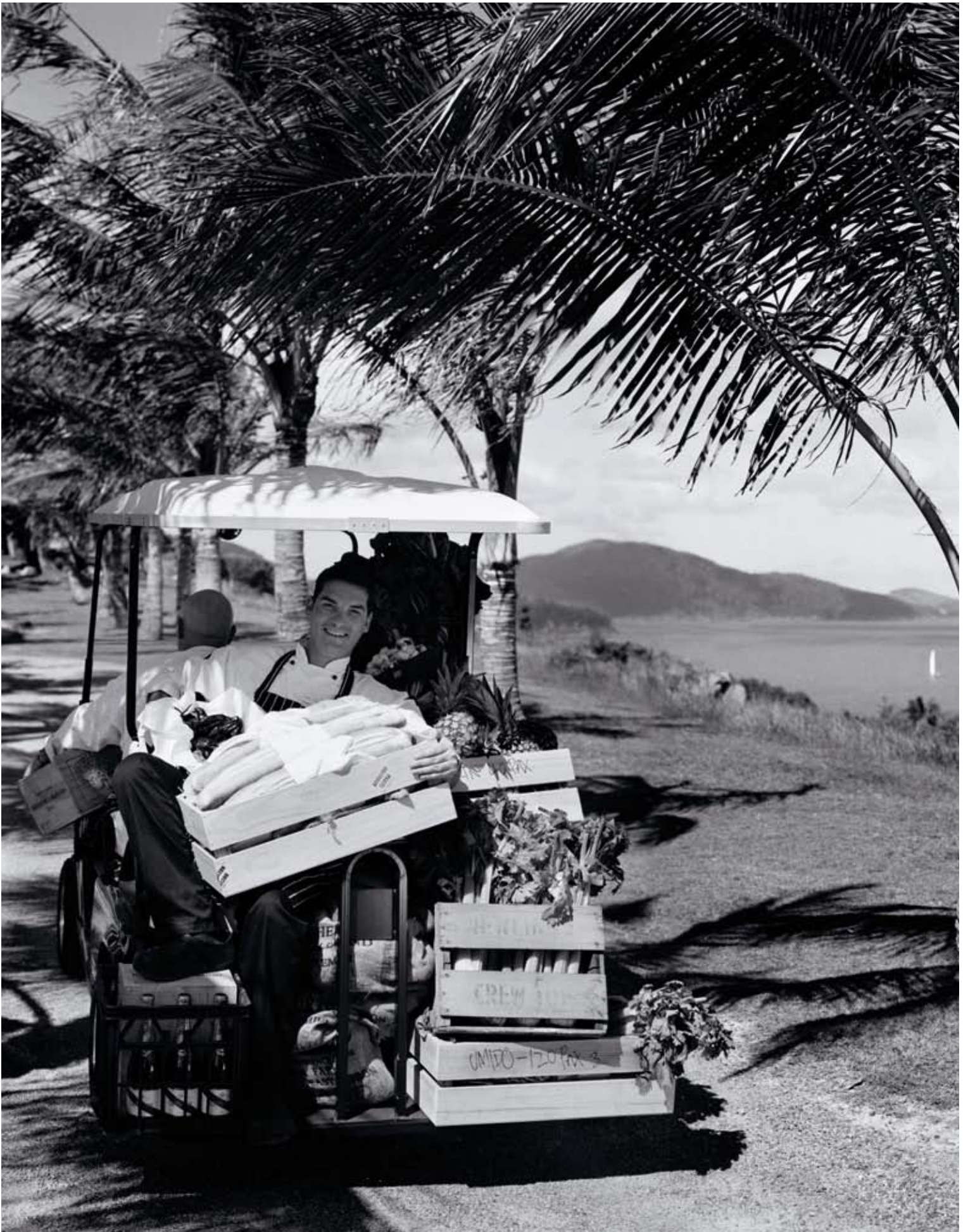
Whether you choose to get married in the beautiful island chapel or to break with tradition and have a barefoot ceremony on the beach, Hamilton Island at the edge of the Great Barrier Reef offers the perfect location for your dream wedding or honeymoon. From the flowers to the cake, for two to 200, there is no detail our experienced team of wedding consultants can't look after. To find out more about having your dream white wedding on Hamilton Island, call Hamilton Island Weddings on **07 4946 8515**. To plan the perfect honeymoon, or simply a romantic getaway, contact Hamilton Island Holidays on **13 7333** or visit www.hamiltonisland.com.au



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HAMILTON ISLAND
WEDDINGS
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The Logistics of Paradise

It is no small feat, catering to the needs of the many guests visiting Hamilton Island. Though the fine food and beverage seem to materialise seamlessly for visitors to the islands, the logistics behind such an operation make for a truly Herculean task.

STORY ALISON TAIT PHOTOGRAPHY DAVID MATHESON & JASON LOUCAS

When you're sitting on a tropical island, surrounded by clear blue water and endless skies, there are certain things you want to eat. Luscious, yellow pineapple, tart and sweet. Cool, red watermelon, with juice that runs down your fingers. Firm, fresh prawns. Fish that tastes of the sea. Light, crisp salad greens in tangy vinaigrette. Champagne.

Trouble is, tropical islands aren't always renowned for their a) space and b) fertile soil. Even seafood can prove problematic – wild barramundi aren't exactly at home in the waters of the Great Barrier Reef.

Which means that almost everything, from the eggs and lettuce, to the tropical fruits, to the black kingfish (to be crusted with pecans and served with cauliflower and sea urchin to the discerning diners at qualia) must be imported. And when you're talking about supplies for a population of up to 5,000 people – larger than many small country

towns – it takes quite an operation to keep supplies up. After all, it's not as if you can pop to the corner shop if you forget the milk.

Whether you're staying in one of the hundred or so holiday homes dotted across Hamilton Island, cooking for yourself and picking up supplies at the General Store, or relaxing in one of the island's fine hotels and enjoying a lavish buffet breakfast each day, you're the end stop on a journey that's very well planned.

Overseeing the day-to-day organisation of supplies is truly like playing a giant game of Tetris – everything is lined up, put in boxes and planned down to the finest detail.

At least one barge arrives on island each day, devoted to food and beverage, ferrying over the perishables, produce and staples that arrives on four trucks each week from Brisbane, four to five from Airlie Beach and up to two trucks from Townsville.

The dedicated Logistics and Procurement

Team on island sources suppliers, ensures supply and delivers supply. But it's Executive Chef Lindsey Palmer and his team of 80 chefs who decide what those supplies will be.

They devise a menu, get it approved and then it is sent to the Procurement Team for costing and sourcing the right product. That same team then formulates market lists and liaises with suppliers to make sure the required products are available.

The responsibility for getting the food orders right comes down to the chefs, and Palmer admits that Hamilton Island's spectacular location does make his job more difficult. "You are isolated, and you have to think," he says.

Palmer is responsible for 10 of the island's diverse food outlets (excluding qualia and Beach Club). "I have a key person in every outlet and they report to me, but run the outlet separately, with the responsibility for managing the costs," he says. "Our focus is

SERIOUS SHOPPING LISTS

Just part of Hamilton Island's annual shopping list:

Pineapples: 25,000kg

Watermelon: 28,000kg

Sparkling and Champagne: 37,000 bottles

Case Beer: 41,000 cases

Prawns: 8,400kg

Potatoes: 50,000kg

Guest Soaps: 60,000 units (certainly not edible, but essential nonetheless)



always on freshness, and with the food, we get two deliveries a week – and that's where the logistics come in."

While each food outlet has a theme – Romano's Italian, Mariners seafood, Manta Ray's family meals, for instance – and menus can be planned accordingly, Palmer admits that there are "always challenges".

"We have an Events Department, which can cater for up to 1,000 people at a time," he says. "Events doesn't look after breakfast, but they have to do morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and dinner for each person, for days at a time. You only get one chance to get the ordering right for something like that – and that's different to the mainland. One thing you definitely gain working here as a chef is organisational skills."

Peak times can stack up some impressive numbers. At Christmas at the Reef View Hotel, for instance, the chef can be ordering for 900 full buffet breakfasts (including omelettes cooked to order), lunch for 200 and dinner for 250. And that's just one restaurant. The island freights in extra cool rooms to deal with the volume of stock.

"Where it gets difficult is that if the food arrives with the Tuesday delivery, he has

to do the market list on Wednesday for the next delivery (Friday) to get through the weekend," says Palmer. "His fridges are totally full – and essentially he has to guess what he needs." Even so, says Palmer, restaurants, with their set menus, have it easier than the Events Department. "At least they can get into a routine, but with events, there's a different menu every time and we can't hold stock, so they're continually buying."

Not surprisingly, the most frequently purchased ingredients are milk (all types, around 3,000 litres per week), eggs (13,000 per week) and bacon, all of which are delivered three to four times a week, depending on requirements. (For other items on the regular shopping list, see above). Seafood and tropical fruits are also must-haves. Freshness is key.

All the fruit and vegetables come from the Brisbane markets – loaded at 9am one morning, arriving and unloaded from a barge at the island at 7am the next morning.

Palmer is particularly proud of the freshness of the seafood. "We had a frustrating situation where we were buying local fish through companies who were

buying it at the Sydney or Brisbane markets," he says. "It was just the way it was set up. But we've now got a new supplier, Matt Fitzgerald, and it's with us within 24 hours. Anything we can't get locally is flown in within the same period. That's what guests expect from us."

Of course, there are times when things don't go to plan. Sometimes it's elements out of the team's control. "We get into difficult periods," says Palmer. "The rainy season, for instance, when the roads can be flooded and we're waiting for freight." He talks about the cyclone that went through the area last year, creating havoc with the supply chain. "We had a major event planned at qualia and the Executive Chef there had ordered premium seafood in from Sydney, but it was bumped off the plane and we weren't told. The plane landed – no seafood." The crisis was averted through teamwork, and sashimi lobster was surrendered by another outlet.

Palmer is quick to point out that there is little waste. "We know what we need to order, through experience, and we have a system where we look after each other. Our chefs love their food – but you need serious organisational skills to work here." ■



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Hamilton Island is perfectly located in the heart of the Whitsundays and at the edge of the Great Barrier Reef. With over 60 different activities available, you can do as much or as little as you please. Choose from a number of ways in which to explore the unique surrounding environment, from sea kayaking, sailing, jet-ski tours or a snorkel adventure. Or, get active with a round of golf

at the Hamilton Island Golf Club, go-kart racing, quad bike adventures or target shooting. Slow down the pace with an art lesson at The Gallery on Front Street, indulge in a massage at our new Spa wumurdaylin, or simply choose to lay by stunning Catseye Beach or one of the many pools. **For help building your to-do list, contact the Hamilton Island Tour Desk on 07 4946 8305.**

REEF

MAGAZINE – HAMILTON ISLAND & THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

Real Estate

Your property guide for purchasing
your own piece of the Great Barrier
Reef and the Whitsundays.



Iluka

6 Whitsunday Boulevard

FOR SALE. \$4,200,000 5  4.5  2 

Contact.

Wayne Singleton 0416 024 168

Michaella Trigg 0400 870 222

'Iluka' Ultimate Tropical Paradise

One of the finest private residences on Hamilton Island, Iluka is a design masterpiece by renowned Whitsunday architect Chris Beckingham. This stunning property captures breathtaking north-easterly views, with a design emphasis on local materials. The property is set amongst over 2,000 square metres of stunning tropical gardens.

Iluka's vast internal space allows two families to be accommodated in superb luxury. With a focus on effortless living, indoor areas flow gracefully onto expansive outdoor areas embracing the spectacular natural setting and creating a fabulous entertaining precinct. The property comprises two separate lounge rooms, five bedrooms including two master bedrooms, each with ensuite and a swimming pool. Iluka represents an opportunity of envious proportions.

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The Peninsula Apartment 8

18 Whitsunday Boulevard

FOR SALE. Offers from \$2,200,000 3  2.5  1 

This villa is one of only eight properties in this luxurious development. Beyond the large living area is a vast outdoor space with breathtaking north-westerly views. The lower level offers private bedrooms and second living area with access to a gated plunge pool. Contemporary furnishings complete this spectacular property.

Contact.


Wayne Singleton 0416 024 168

Michaela Trigg 0400 870 222



Oasis on Hamilton Apartment 10

2 Flametree Grove

FOR SALE. \$890,000 3  2.5  1 

Conveniently located, this large single-level property is a popular holiday choice. Spacious bedrooms and living areas, spa bath and air-conditioning throughout offer comfort and convenience. The stylish louvered indoor/outdoor balcony is ideal for entertaining with south westerly views of natural bushland and landscaped gardens.

Contact.

Wayne Singleton 0416 024 168

Michaela Trigg 0400 870 222



Bella Vista Apartments East 1

12 Whitsunday Boulevard

FOR AUCTION 2  2  2 

Located in the northern district of Hamilton Island, this spacious 257m2 single-level apartment has been renovated to a high standard, featuring two enormous bedrooms and bathrooms, with an open-plan kitchen, dining and living space. Set on three acres, the bright northerly aspect captures beautiful gardens and Fitzalan Passage views.

Contact.

Wayne Singleton 0416 024 168

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www.hamiltonislandyachtclubvillas.com.au www.hamiltonisland.com.au



Yacht Harbour Tower Apartment 8

1 Marina Drive

FOR AUCTION 4  4  1 

This prestigious eighth floor apartment in the Yacht Harbour Tower offers magnificent views of Catseye Beach and Dent Passage. Boasting abundant solar access and a vast single level floor space of 318m² in area, the apartment is fully furnished and very centrally located. Simply an opportunity not to be missed.

Contact.

Wayne Singleton 0416 024 168

Michaella Trigg 0400 870 222



Coinda Gardens Apartment 1

14 Whitsunday Boulevard

FOR SALE. \$1,600,000 4  3.5  1 

Stunning northerly Coral Sea views to Whitsunday Island, this contemporary townhouse is set over two levels, offering abundant internal space, soaring ceiling heights and superb open-plan design. Gourmet kitchen and seamless transitions from indoor to outdoor areas make this home an entertainer's delight.

Contact.

Wayne Singleton 0416 024 168

Michaella Trigg 0400 870 222



Hibiscus Lodge Apartment 201

16 Resort Drive

FOR SALE. \$915,000 2  2  1 

Located in the sought-after Hibiscus Lodge beachfront apartment complex, this north-facing top floor unit has dazzling views overlooking two pools and lush tropical gardens to Catseye Bay. For visitors seeking close proximity to the beach and central resort facilities, it is a popular choice in the holiday letting market with solid rental returns.

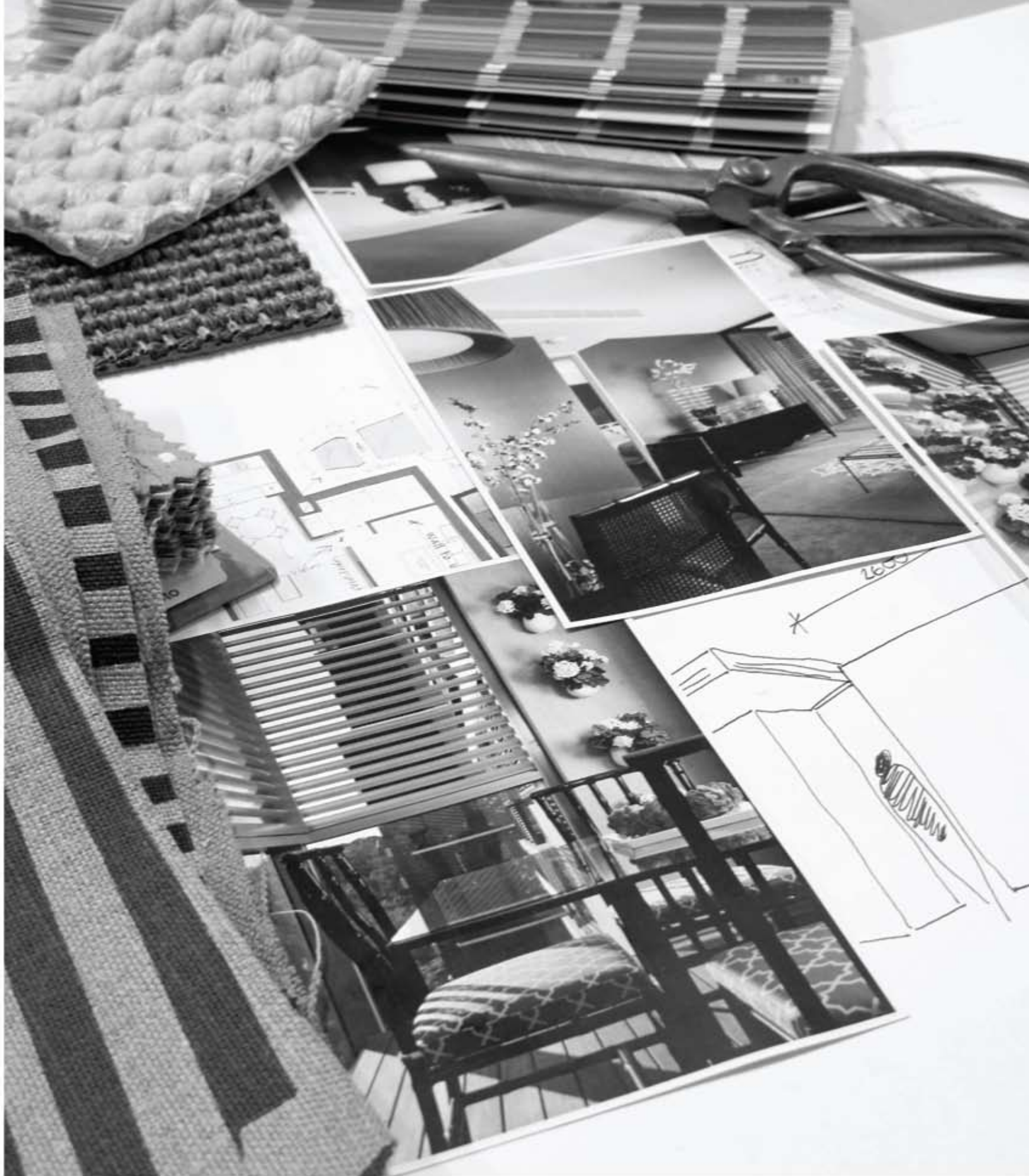
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Compass Point Apartment 6

4 Acacia Drive

FOR SALE. \$850,000 2 1 1

FOR RENT. From \$350 per night

Compass Point commands spectacular ocean views overlooking Plum Pudding Island and Dent Passage. This well maintained, single-level, two bedroom apartment boasts an elevated position, quality inclusions with a new flat screen TV, air-conditioning, updated furniture and window furnishings. Currently holiday let with impressive rental returns.

Contact. Hamilton Island Real Estate



Heliconia Grove Apartment 7

1 Flametree Grove

FOR SALE. \$570,000 1 1 1

FOR RENT. From \$320 per night

Heliconia Grove is a short walk to popular boutiques and restaurants on the Hamilton Island Marina. Surrounded by tropical gardens, this fully furnished apartment features an open-plan design, with beautiful views over Dent Passage. Ideal for a first investment property, it offers great rental potential to both professionals and holidaymakers alike.

Contact. Hamilton Island Real Estate



UISCE

5 Marina Terrace

FOR RENT. From \$815 per night 3 2 1

Uisce, pronounced "Ish - Ka", is Gaelic for water, and certainly lives up to its name with stunning water views of Catseye Bay, the marina and Whitsunday Passage. This centrally located, multi-level house has a separate area for children to be entertained, and is fully air-conditioned with two large balconies, a private lower deck and spa pool.

Contact.

Hamilton Island Holiday Reservations 137 333

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The Anchorage on Hamilton Apartment 12

6 Banksia Court

FOR SALE. \$995,000 2  2  1 

FOR RENT. From \$460 per night


Set amongst native bushland and mature tropical gardens, this exclusive development offers a very peaceful and private enclave. Experience beautiful day-to-night views from the open-plan living area and spacious covered balcony. Well established in the holiday rental market, this property offers solid rental returns and an excellent investment opportunity.

Contact. Hamilton Island Real Estate



Oasis on Hamilton Apartment 6

2 Flametree Grove

FOR SALE. \$659,000 2  1.5  1 

FOR RENT. From \$350 per night

The convenient location of the Oasis on Hamilton complex makes it a holiday hot spot. Close to the marina and Front Street, an in-ground swimming pool and shady tropical gardens surround this modern one level, two-bedroom apartment. Consistent returns and excellent value for your money present the perfect investment opportunity for the conservative buyer.

Contact. Hamilton Island Real Estate



Whitsunday Apartments

14 Resort Drive

FOR SALE FROM \$410,000 1  1  0 

With 28 days owner usage per year, escape to your own tropical beachfront paradise. Boasting breathtaking views, these modern, fully furnished, self-catering 3.5 star holiday let apartments sleep up to five guests. All the management of the property is taken care of for you, so just enjoy your yearly holiday and watch the returns roll in.

Contact.

Wayne Singleton 0416 024 168

Michaella Trigg 0400 870 222



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Yacht Harbour Tower Apartment 13

1 Marina Drive

FOR SALE. \$2,850,000 4  3  1 

Offered for the first time in over 10 years, this unique property is located in the iconic Yacht Harbour Tower. The spacious 333 square metre apartment occupies the entire level, and just one below the top floor, captures some of the most spectacular 360-degree views Hamilton Island has to offer.

Four generous bedrooms - each with private balcony, three stylish bathrooms, vast open-plan living and dining areas are fully furnished and air-conditioned. Access to this private residence is via two internal lifts direct from both a secured foyer area and a security buggy parking area.

When compared to the recent sale prices of similar luxury apartments on the island, the current asking price of this property offers a rare opportunity.

Contact.

Wayne Singleton 0416 024 168

Michaela Trigg 0400 870 222



Pavillions on Hamilton Island Apartment 21

1 Airport Drive

FOR SALE. \$3,900,000 3  3  1 

'Pavillions' positioned right on the water's edge, is one of the Island's signature luxury developments capturing exclusive views of the marina and Whitsunday Islands. The result is an unprecedented opportunity to relax in a stunning waterfront setting.

Offering over 220 square metres of internal living area plus 160 square metres of outdoor space, this property can easily accommodate larger groups and is ideal for entertaining. In addition to a private 18-metre marina berth, this well-appointed, modern garden residence comprises three bedrooms and bathrooms, four-seater buggy with private single-buggy garage, office space, state-of-the-art kitchen, private swimming pool, fully-ducted air-conditioning system, media room and superbly landscaped gardens.

Contact.

Wayne Singleton 0416 024 168

Michaela Trigg 0400 870 222

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HAMILTON ISLAND
REAL ESTATE

THE DIVER'S WATCH

No other watch is engineered quite like a Rolex. The Submariner, introduced in 1953, was the first watch to be water resistant up to 100 metres. It was later strengthened by its patented triple-seal Triplock winding crown, making it capable of withstanding depths of up to 300 metres. The new 40 mm Submariner is presented here in 904L steel with a green Cerachrom disc.

THE SUBMARINER



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