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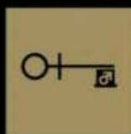
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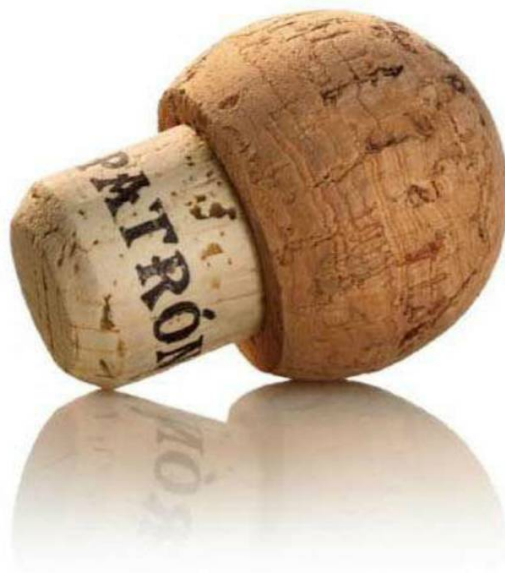
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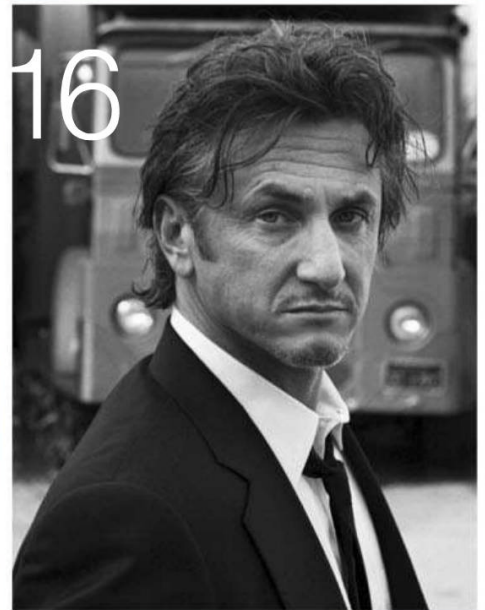
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## EDITOR'S LETTER

**A**H, SUMMER time. What a joyous time to be alive, provided, of course, you can cop the bushfires, the lack of parking at the beach and the fact your schooner is often the temperature of tea before the halfway point. More than anything, though, summer feels like the time to really *live*.

It was with this in mind that we set out to create the bumper *Penthouse* summer edition you now hold in your sweaty hand. It all started when someone in the office played the hilariously stupid song *I'm on a Boat* (lyrics: "I'm on a boat motherfucker, take a look at me, straight flowing on a boat on the deep blue sea") which quickly brought baying cries that our publisher should immediately purchase a 40-foot Sea Ray and take us out on Sydney Harbour for an afternoon of decadence and debauchery. Naturally he did what all publishers do and cried poor-mouth, so we came up with a quick rebuttal that old chestnut – join a boat club and let someone else cop the big costs. Read how you can too on page 52.

Anyway, it was then declared that no summer boat trip could occur without someone skilled in the art of cocktail creation. Stephen Corby was quickly deployed to find a mixologist, slap the bloke with a thong for applying such a pretentious title to himself, and then learn how to properly batch up something strong and delicious that a man can drink without feeling like a handbag. The fruits of his labour are on page 63.

Not that the big issues were being ignored. Someone described coal-seam gas the work of the devil, so we deployed the hard-nosed Mark Abernethy to deliver the real story. While we were waiting for that to arrive, it was time to eat. I fired up the office barbeque – gas, as it happens – and that sparked another debate; the one that says real men cook over hot coals, because it gets us in touch with our inner caveman and tastes better. Yep, another conundrum to solve. Head to page 58 while we take a load off. And do enjoy the issue. – **Ash Westerman**

## THE IN-BOX

### JACK OF JACQUI

The timing of your article about the Clive Palmer clown show (December) could not have been better, almost coinciding with the expulsion of the vapid and repellant Jacqui Lamby. Her departure exposes the Palmer United Party for what it is: a cobbled-together bunch of halfwits and pretenders being used to push Fat Clive's agenda of personal gain at any cost.

**Alan Marrs, Surry Hills, NSW**

### TANIKA ON TOP

As a patriotic sand groper here in WA, it was awesome to see Tanika West awarded Penthouse Pet of the Year in the December issue. Anyone who's seen Tanika live at Exotica would agree she's a



knockout on stage, and having met her a few times, a really top, down-to-earth girl. Her Pet of the Year shoot captured her beautifully, and the poster (as Darryl Kerrigan would say in the *The Castle*) has gone straight to my pool room...

**Garry Parsonage, Dalkeith, WA**

### ALL BETS ARE OFF

I found it interesting that your article on sports betting (December) made

no mention of the scourge that exotic bets have introduced into professional sport, in particular the Ryan Tandy match-fixing affair with the Bulldogs in 2010, and numerous scandals involving one-day cricket. In making sports betting such a highly marketed and easily accessed service, we've laid the groundwork for this to become a more frequent problem in the world of sport.

**Mark Astley, Bathurst, NSW**

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# PENTHOUSE EVENT PLANNER

YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON THROUGH DECEMBER AND JANUARY

ONE SERIOUS downside to **New Year's Eve in Sydney**, apart from the wanky theme that gets attached to each year – for 2014 it's 'Inspire' – is this: the bulk of harbourside vantage points are alcohol-free, meaning you can be tasered by the cops for merely mouthing the word 'champagne'. If you can cope with this, or you're happy to neck a stiff premix from a soft-drink bottle, Sydney does bung on a pretty – although pretty sporadic – show. There will be air displays, the 'harbour of lights' (basically lots of boats strung with fairy lights) while the midnight fireworks are 12 minutes of noisy, free entertainment to make the kiddies squeal and dogs hide under the bed.



## NICK CAVE

**27 Nov – 18 Dec**

Fremantle, Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Sydney

[ticketmaster.com.au](http://ticketmaster.com.au)

The high priest of indie music, Nick Cave, returns to Australia for a series of intimate shows, this time without the Bad Seeds. Cave plans to play songs from throughout his career, meaning he could deliver a playlist pulled from a bunch of his projects, including Grinderman and the Bad Seeds period.

## DAMON ALBARN

**12 – 16 Dec**

Sydney, Melbourne

[sydneyoperahouse.com](http://sydneyoperahouse.com)

From leading Blur to masterminding the genre-hopping brilliance of the Gorillaz, as well as collaborating with The Clash and the Red Hot Chili Peppers, Damon Albarn is stopping over in Australia for a few intimate performances following the release of his solo debut, *Everyday Robots*.

## STEREOSONIC

**29 Dec – 7 December**

Sydney, Claremont, Adelaide, Melbourne, Brisbane

[stereosonic.com.au](http://stereosonic.com.au)

Held over two weekends in five cities, Stereosonic is Australia's premiere dance music festival – and the place to be if you're a lover of EDM. The 2015 line-up includes Calvin Harris, Tiesto, Skrillex, Steve Aoki, and more.

## TROPFEST

**7 Dec**

Sydney

[tropfest.com.au](http://tropfest.com.au)

It started small, but Tropfest has now become the largest short-film festival in the world. Grab a picnic blanket, a date and a bottle of vino, and join the crowds that coat the grass of Sydney's Centennial Park to be a part of an event that's launched the careers of a bunch of local filmmakers. The best news is it's free.

## JIMMY BARNES

**22 Nov – 20 Dec**

Perth, Launceston, Nagambie, Yarra Valley

[adayonthegreen.com.au](http://adayonthegreen.com.au)

To celebrate his 30th anniversary as a solo artist, Barnsey is performing as part of Day on the Green. A segment of his show will feature the Jimmy Barnes Greatest Hit Spinning Wheel, which is made up of 30 classic Barnesy tracks. Fans will be invited on stage to spin the wheel, deciding which song the band will then perform. Good food, free-flow booze, classic Barnesy – you can't go wrong.

## RED HOT

**SUMMER TOUR**

**3 Jan – 14 Mar**

Mulwala, Mornington, Mannum, Launceston, Jacobs Well, Ballarat

[redhotsummertour.com.au](http://redhotsummertour.com.au)

The annual Red Hot Summer Tour is hitting the road again around regional Australia and is unleashing a stellar line-up packed with great Aussie acts, including Hoodoo Gurus, James Reyne playing Australian Crawl, Mondo Rock, Daryl Braithwaite and Boom Crash Opera.

## NAS

**20 – 27 Jan**

Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Perth

The legendary Nas is hitting Aussie shores in early Jan to perform is revered classic *Illmatic* live and in full. Not only is the album still hailed as Nas's crowning masterpiece, but also as one of the greatest hip-hop records of all time.

## FOREIGNER

**27 – 29 Jan**

Sydney, Melbourne

[ticketek.com.au](http://ticketek.com.au)

Just when you thought big hair and tight pants had gone the way of the Nokia brick, multi-platinum sellers Foreigner return to Oz after more than 10 years to deliver monster hits like 'Urgent', 'Hot Blooded' and 'Waiting for a Girl like You'.

## EDDIE IZZARD

**28 Jan – 10 Feb**

Adelaide, Canberra, Brisbane, Perth

[ticketek.com.au](http://ticketek.com.au)

Get your ribs tickled by Britain's chief surrealist Eddie Izzard's new show *Force Majeure*. Expect him to riff on about human sacrifice, dickhead kings, drugs in sport and Liam Neeson as Zeus.

## BILLY CONNOLLY

**6 Feb – 11 Mar**

Adelaide, Canberra, Gold Coast, Newcastle, Sydney, Perth

[ticketek.com.au](http://ticketek.com.au)

Set aside some coin for February because legendary comedian and very sweary Scotsman Billy Connolly is bringing his *High Horse* tour to Australia. Don't wait to book as the show is guaranteed to sell out.

## FUTURE MUSIC FESTIVAL

**28 Feb – 9 Mar**

Sydney, Perth, Brisbane, Melbourne, Adelaide

[futuremusicfestival.com.au](http://futuremusicfestival.com.au)

Ticket prices are down and star power is up for the 2015 edition of Future Music Festival, which is headlined by hip hop superstar Drake and Swedish producer Avicii. With no Big Day Out this year, Future's the place to be.



# WHAT WE'VE LEARN'T

**STEPHEN CORBY LOOKS AT THIS MONTH'S MOST INTRIGUING AND OBSCURE STORIES**

## SCARED OF PINK BITS

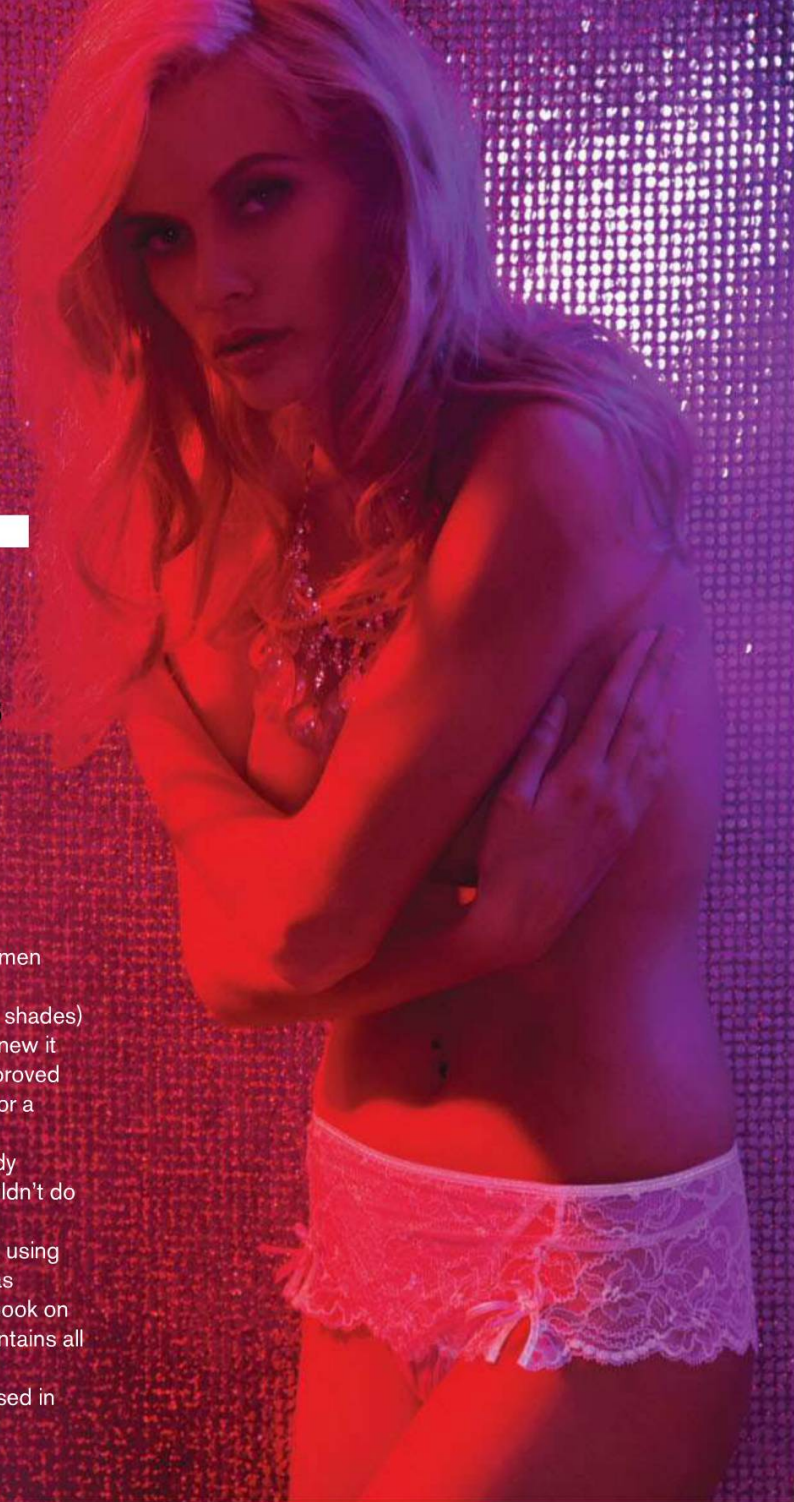
**I**T TURNS out there's a good, albeit weird, scientific reason most men don't warm to the colour pink – it's our kryptonite.

At some level, your brain is a bit scared of pink (or at least some shades) because it can make you weaker. Professor Alexander Schauss knew it and, back in the 1970s, he came up with some experiments that proved men were clearly weakened by staring at a piece of pink cardboard for a minute, while staring at a blue one made no difference.

In one famous TV demonstration, Schauss used a Mr California body builder who did some effortlessly show-offy bicep curls and then couldn't do a single one after staring at the pink card.

Prisons started using the colour for holding cells and police started using it for pacifying drunken idiots, causing the colour to become known as Drunk Tank Pink. This also happens to be the name of a fascinating book on science, and our brains in particular, written by Adam Alter, which contains all sorts of freaky revelations about the way our minds work.

You'll never look at those giant premier league goalkeepers all dressed in pink and laugh again. Or not as hard, anyway.



## BIKE TO THE FUTURE

**T**HE problem with cyclists on our roads isn't the fact that old blokes in lycra looking like perforated bowels, it's that they're too slow.

Bicycles in traffic wouldn't annoy you nearly so much if they could actually accelerate away from rest faster than a drunken caterpillar, or ever reach the speed limit.

Finally, though, the belligerent bastards who populate most of the bicycle world have realised this issue and started to do something about it.

Frenchman Francois Gissy sounds like the kind of cyclist you'd want to have a beer with because he just broke the bicycle land speed record by

posting a 333km/h run at the Paul Ricard circuit in France, wearing no lycra whatsoever.

Better yet, he didn't even pedal, possibly because it would have taken his pathetic human legs a lot longer than the 4.8 seconds it took his hydrogen-peroxide-rocket-powered bike to blast past 200 miles an hour.

This is something you absolutely must watch on YouTube, especially the bit where the rocket bike absolutely annihilates a Ferrari 458 off the line. Here, clearly, is the answer to the bicycle menace on our roads, and it's staring us in the face – let's stick a rocket up their asses. Problem solved.







## WHERE DID IT ALL GO WRONG?

**F**ACING criminal charges has always been seen as a badge of honour, or even a rite of passage, for rock stars, so it's weird that people seemed so shocked when AC/DC drummer Phil Rudd was recently in the news for allegedly hiring a hitman to kill two people and – whisper it – possessing drugs.

Rudd is described, even by his band mates, as having “lost the plot”, which is fair enough when referring to him releasing a solo album called “Head Job”, which he promoted, in what probably wasn't a clever play on the title, by doing interviews with his false teeth missing and his gums flapping invitingly.

But people also seem to be down on his lifestyle in a quiet coastal town in New Zealand despite the fact that it mainly involves taking vast quantities of drugs, hosting sex orgies with prostitutes, spinning around in his helicopter or on his boat, and occasionally falling asleep at traffic lights in one of his many Lamborghinis.

This, for a man of 60, is impressive, and surely how we want our rock stars to live. And die. And sure enough some people who think he's a legend turned up outside his rather large house to show support, singing AC/DC songs outside his windows.

Sure, we don't condone the charge he's facing of threatening to kill, but frankly even that isn't completely out-of-the-box behaviour for a musician. Read on...

## LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT HOW OTHER RAP SHEETS STACK UP...

### NATURAL BORN KILLERS

**S**TARTING at the top, with murder, we've got the infamous Sid Vicious, who quite probably stabbed his lover, Nancy Spungen, to death in 1978, but overdose before he could be tried.

The slightly less famous Johnny Paycheck was jailed for attempted murder after shooting someone in the head in an act of “self defence” during a bar-room struggle. God love America. The court case dragged on for years but Paycheck – who sang ‘Take This Job and Shove It’, and not much else – was eventually sentenced to seven years in stir.



### WORD OF THE MONTH HANGRY

**T**HAT'S right, I'm hungry and I'm angry. This one is under consideration for listing by Merriam-Webster dictionaries and it had better get across the line or we're going to attack their offices with KFC. You know you've felt this emotion, and you just never had the perfect word for it. Particularly painful when you're hungover and you're waiting at your local cafe for something fried and the person in front of you is taking forever to order their healthy kale smoothie. Also an emotion seen and felt a lot around kebab shops.



### STONE COLD CRAZY

**Y**OU may not be a fan of death-metal band Gorgoroth, but if you ever do bump into them on a dark night, don't piss off their singer, Gaahl (just the one name, much like Madonna).

In 2002, Gaahl got into a fight with some bloke at a party in Norway who later told police he'd been sucker punched and then woke up to find himself tied to a chair. Gaahl tortured him for several hours, even extracting his blood to drink it at one stage. He was found guilty and jailed for a year (which doesn't sound much, but the official penalty was only 90 days and the jury asked that it be raised).

We'd also like to give an honourable mention here to Marvin Gaye, who was involved in a murder, but at the wrong end of the gun (his father shot him).

Gaye had drug problems surely far larger than Phil Rudd's, particularly with cocaine.

“How much have I spent on toot over the years?” Gaye once pondered. “I don't want to know... Enough to certify me as a fool. You'd have to call me a drug addict and a sex freak.”



# THE MIGHT OF PENN

HE'S EVOLVED FROM HOLLYWOOD BRAT AND PAPARAZZI BASHER TO BE NOW CONSIDERED ONE OF THE GREATS, ON BOTH SIDES OF THE CAMERA

**S** EAN Penn is a man you'd want on your side. Why? He knows how to fight. He's fighting his own renegade war to save Haiti. He's fought battles over money and creativity in Hollywood for decades. He fights for any idea he believes in. Penn is not afraid of controversy, and of questioning those in power. He knows his position in popular culture can benefit the causes he believes in, leading to his humanitarian and activist work which now extends to Pakistan. He's a Hollywood rarity – a straight shooter who takes no shit; but who *does* give a shit.

**Can you explain what motivated you get involved in the whole Hati humanitarian effort back in 2010?**

My son had a skateboard accident where he almost died. He had emergency brain surgery. This was before he turned eighteen – he's 21 now. And when he was recovering, seeing the morphine go into him and give him relief created kind of a love affair for me with morphine and that usage of it. It had already been eight months of divorce and shit, and raising a kid that's going through the divorce himself, and then this fucking thing happens. He's 100 percent now, no brain damage – he's great. Got a few scars, but he's great. But it was a tough, tough time.

When he got out of the hospital and he's with his mother after being with me for six months, I thought, wow, I can actually go on a date. And so I go out and I strike out four nights in a row, drinking at a bar and ending up home, you know, drunk. And on the fourth day I said, "I could just go sit in the bed and watch TV at four in the afternoon, too. I don't have anything." My daughter was 18 and she's doing her thing, my son's with his mother. So I turned on the TV and there was this earthquake in Haiti.

**Did it suddenly feel like a higher calling for you?**

One of the first reports I saw, they were doing trauma surgeries, amputations – children, with no IV pain medications. Now, my joke has always been that an actor in Hollywood knows where to find narcotics, but not *bulk* narcotics. And they needed about 350,000 vials of morphine and ketamine. So I started putting a little ragtag team together to locate the drugs, and talked to the State Department and Southern Command to get a slot to land – the airport was crazy at that time. And that's what got us there. But the road started with the most obvious kind of

**"MOST ACTORS AND ACTRESSES ARE JUST DOING A BUNCH OF MONKEY-FUCK-RAT MOVIES. I BLAME THEM JUST AS MUCH AS I DO THE BUSINESS"**

trauma – my son's head – and then to get to a place that had been just so devastated and traumatised, and then to see that in fact most of the trauma actually predated the earthquake. You had a country that had never experienced anything that related to comfort, and out of that you had great trauma – but also this great strength that, I think, we all benefited from. That's part of the cultural thread that can be shared between the countries. Think about how pussified [America] has become, right? Haiti is so far from being pussified.

**You've achieved a hell of a lot with the Hati effort. How hard was that?**

In the beginning, my thing was always

blackmail. I would say, "If you don't fuckin' do x, y, and z, I'm gonna go on fuckin' CNN and I'm gonna fuckin' let the world know!" And sometimes I would get mocked because the bottom line is that yes, it's funny. It's funny to have this sniveling actor in there – and you can make fun of it, but the fucking easiest thing in the world is to convince people not to write a cheque. And that's not funny to the people who need the money.

**What do you think of the mainstream films that come out of Hollywood?**

I think that in general, the standard of aspiration is low. Very low. See, in my teens, I fell in love with the movies. And so when I got involved in the movies, I was a genius in terms of how the movies that were made in the generation that inspired me got made – but now the financing wasn't there to do 'em anymore. I'm caught in a business that I'm in love with *the idea of* – the whole process that's possible. Only now they're not making movies – they're representing them. Most actors and actresses are mostly just doing a bunch of monkey-fuck-rat movies, and I blame them just as much as I do the business. I know everybody wants to make some money, everybody's got a modelling contract, everybody's selling jewellery and perfume. I'm blinded by it. Bob Dylan said in an interview one time – somebody asked him, Are you really this reclusive? He says, "No, I'm not reclusive, man. I'm exclusive. Exclusivity is like intimacy."

**So you've never had an inclination or offer to do a big mainstream film?**

I'm just not a big-budget kinda guy, you know? When I was growing up and somebody like Robert De Niro had a film come out, it was a cultural event. Because he had such a confidence and a single mission that was so intimate. But when







## ACTING CHOPS

Since his debut in 1981 in *Taps*, Penn has acted in over 57 films. Below are some of his most notable performances:

- *Fast Times at Ridgemont High*
- *Bad Boys*
- *The Falcon & the Snowman*
- *At Close Range*
- *Colors*
- *Casualties of War*
- *Carlito's Way*
- *Dead Man Walking*
- *U Turn*
- *The Game*
- *The Thin Red Line*
- *Sweet and Lowdown*
- *I Am Sam*
- *Mystic River*
- *21 Grams*
- *The Assassination of Richard Nixon*
- *The Interpreter*
- *Milk*
- *Fair Game*
- *This Must Be the Place*
- *Gangster Squad* (pictured)

people start using themselves as instruments of a kind of consumerist mosh pit, they're helping that take over. I mean, you're either a soldier for it or you're a soldier against it. That's all there is to it. And we have so little of that intimacy left, it's no wonder that interpersonal relationships have become text relationships. It's a texting orgy. When is somebody gonna sit there, with their mate or their child, and just look them in the eye and say, "I love you?" When is that life?

**The first film you directed was the *Indian Runner* back in 1991. Most recently, it's *The Last Face*. How do you feel about directing versus acting?**

"I think I've finally weaned myself away from the dependence of acting. What I liked about what happened to me when I made movies was only enhanced by directing one of them.

As an actor, I think I was always pretty comfortable in the job. I tended to fill my time pretty well. It never bothered me to get a call at 6:00 in the morning call, and not shoot until 2:00 in the afternoon. I liked the feel of a movie set.

What I do find, when you're working as an actor, there are certain elements you've got to hold on to, in an imaginary sense, like the mood of a character, all day long. The director has to hold onto things, too, but they're not so imaginary. They're very tangible things, which I like, and have always liked in anything I've been involved in – carpentry or anything else. Also, as an actor, you have the burden that what goes down

**"WHEN YOU GET DIVORCED, ALL THE TRUTH COMES OUT, AND YOU SIT THERE AND YOU GO, WHAT THE FUCK WAS I DOING?"**

will be a piece of yourself for eternity. So it always means so much to you. As a director, you have actors to do that for you, and they can ruin their lives for the check that you get for them. You've got these consistent tangible building blocks to play with. As good of a time as I anticipated having as a director, I had that much better time."

**It seems your relationship of 20-odd years with Robin ended pretty acrimoniously. How do you reflect on that now?**

There is no shame in my saying that we all want to be loved by someone. As I look back over my life in romance, I don't feel I've ever had that. I have been the only one that was unaware of the fraud in a few of these circumstances blindly. When you get divorced, all the truths that come out, you sit there and you go, What the fuck was I doing? What was I doing believing that this person was invested in this way? Which is a fantastically strong humiliation in the best sense. It can make somebody very bitter and very hard and closed off, but I find it does

the opposite to me.

**Who's your artistic antithesis?**

There's a lot of 'em out there. I won't attack them here. But I'll tell you what I probably would prefer to happen less and less: actors that I know and respect in shampoo ads. Or modelling. See, it gets in my way when I see them in a picture. I feel like if you're gonna tempt distraction, there might be more productive things to invest your time in. I guess when you see a great bank-vault thief taking a cheap hammer and knocking in a storefront to steal some change, it seems beneath them.

**You've copped plenty of hostility for your criticisms of government – does any of it bother you?**

Look, I'm an American, and to engage in the culture of complaint about our own credibility failures is to acknowledge the part that we as citizens play, and [that we] have failed our own government. Not only the failure of the government towards us and to the world.

**Do you think most people in America, or other parts of the developed world, are too complacent regarding political debate?**

I say we have to get increasingly engaged in policies. I think one of the big things we have to recognise is we're complicit; we've been far too comfort-addicted, which has led us to be reluctant to boycott corporate interests which are lobbying a whole bunch of policies in government. 



# Hair transplantation



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## Our team

The team at DHT Clinic work with the latest hair transplantation techniques. Dr. Damkerng and his team comprise of three assistant doctors, four nurses and six physician assistants. DHT clinic specialises in only hair restoration, utilising proven surgical procedures and advanced artistic techniques.

Before



After



Before



After



## Testimonials

■ "I achieved outstanding results from my treatment at DHT and recommend Dr. Damkerng very highly. My hair is back to its former state and looks completely natural. I'm delighted with the result."

– DC, Sydney, Australia.

■ "I would like to thank you for the quality of your surgery and your skill with my hair transplant procedure. I'm very impressed by your work. I'd like also to thank your fantastic

team for their kindness and professional approach. Very happy with my choice."

– Mr.P from Belgium

■ "Dear Dr. Damkerng, I want to thank you for the excellent care you and your staff have provided me through the three hair transplant procedures over the last 18 months. The transformation I have undergone is fantastic. The results are better than I could have

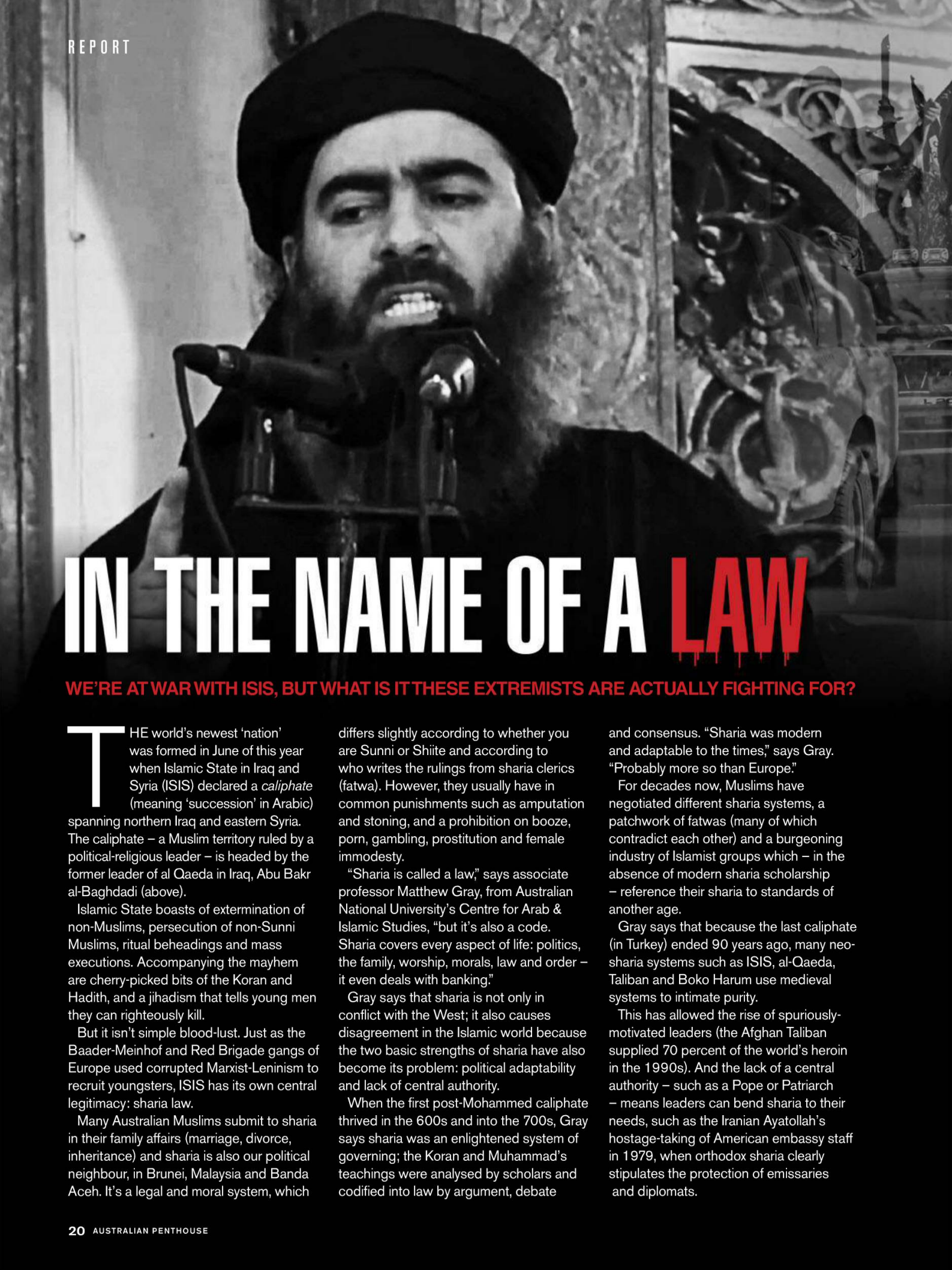
hoped for. I could have had this procedure done in many places, but I am quite sure that I could not have been treated with a higher level of competence, professionalism, artistry, and luxury than at your office. I can certainly recommend your practice to anyone considering a hair transplant, and would be happy to answer any patients' questions about the excellence of you and your staff."

– Jeffrey Schiller, M.D.

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# IN THE NAME OF A LAW

WE'RE AT WAR WITH ISIS, BUT WHAT IS IT THESE EXTREMISTS ARE ACTUALLY FIGHTING FOR?

**T**HE world's newest 'nation' was formed in June of this year when Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) declared a *caliphate* (meaning 'succession' in Arabic) spanning northern Iraq and eastern Syria. The caliphate – a Muslim territory ruled by a political-religious leader – is headed by the former leader of al Qaeda in Iraq, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi (above).

Islamic State boasts of extermination of non-Muslims, persecution of non-Sunni Muslims, ritual beheadings and mass executions. Accompanying the mayhem are cherry-picked bits of the Koran and Hadith, and a jihadism that tells young men they can righteously kill.

But it isn't simple blood-lust. Just as the Baader-Meinhof and Red Brigade gangs of Europe used corrupted Marxist-Leninism to recruit youngsters, ISIS has its own central legitimacy: sharia law.

Many Australian Muslims submit to sharia in their family affairs (marriage, divorce, inheritance) and sharia is also our political neighbour, in Brunei, Malaysia and Banda Aceh. It's a legal and moral system, which

differs slightly according to whether you are Sunni or Shiite and according to who writes the rulings from sharia clerics (fatwa). However, they usually have in common punishments such as amputation and stoning, and a prohibition on booze, porn, gambling, prostitution and female immodesty.

"Sharia is called a law," says associate professor Matthew Gray, from Australian National University's Centre for Arab & Islamic Studies, "but it's also a code. Sharia covers every aspect of life: politics, the family, worship, morals, law and order – it even deals with banking."

Gray says that sharia is not only in conflict with the West; it also causes disagreement in the Islamic world because the two basic strengths of sharia have also become its problem: political adaptability and lack of central authority.

When the first post-Mohammed caliphate thrived in the 600s and into the 700s, Gray says sharia was an enlightened system of governing; the Koran and Muhammad's teachings were analysed by scholars and codified into law by argument, debate

and consensus. "Sharia was modern and adaptable to the times," says Gray. "Probably more so than Europe."

For decades now, Muslims have negotiated different sharia systems, a patchwork of fatwas (many of which contradict each other) and a burgeoning industry of Islamist groups which – in the absence of modern sharia scholarship – reference their sharia to standards of another age.

Gray says that because the last caliphate (in Turkey) ended 90 years ago, many neo-sharia systems such as ISIS, al-Qaeda, Taliban and Boko Harum use medieval systems to intimate purity.

This has allowed the rise of spuriously-motivated leaders (the Afghan Taliban supplied 70 percent of the world's heroin in the 1990s). And the lack of a central authority – such as a Pope or Patriarch – means leaders can bend sharia to their needs, such as the Iranian Ayatollah's hostage-taking of American embassy staff in 1979, when orthodox sharia clearly stipulates the protection of emissaries and diplomats.





Left to slowly decentralise, sharia now spans the medieval to the modern, the pious to the moderate: a fatwa in Brunei imposes flogging on a drinker of alcohol, but many Muslim Indonesians believe that being drunk is the sin, not the alcohol. And under the Taliban's sharia law in Afghanistan, females were banned from being educated, but across the border in sharia-ruled Iran, more than half of all university students are female. Of Indonesia's eight female cabinet members, only one wears a head-covering; in Kuwait and Yemen, all women have to cover their heads in public.

For all its ugliness to the Western eye, sharia is also the source of much argument among Muslims. Recently, a group of 126 Islamic scholars issued a letter to the Islamic State caliph, citing 24 violations of sharia. The letter denounces the ISIS use of the Koran and Hadith, pointing out that you can't mix and match phrases from different Islamic texts to get one new phrase that justifies your world-view.

Traditional sharia writings unpack the scriptures from their specific circumstances

and ensure that words of the Prophet are not misused for political gain; the most common misuse has been the call for jihad. Sharia actually has many rules for the circumstances under which jihad can be called, something you wouldn't understand if ISIS was your authority.

One Islamic scholar, who did not want to be named, told *Penthouse* that genuine sharia leaders have more constraints on their power than the President of the United

business of executing gays or promiscuous women? Iran, Iraq, Yemen, Saudi Arabia and three Muslim African nations have the death penalty for homosexuality and sharia allows for a woman to be whipped for adultery, if married, and killed by stoning if unmarried. And women can be set upon by their relatives under sharia: an 'honour killing' doesn't require a court or a trial.

Then again, perhaps we forget too soon? Australia's last sodomy law was

## "SHARIA LAW IS THE SOURCE OF MUCH ARGUMENT AMONG MUSLIMS"

States. 'Sharia leaders have these huge books filled with their obligations. Roaming the desert, cutting off heads, is not the behaviour of a caliph and it is not sharia.'

But even discounting the extremes of ISIS, and the fact that some sharia is moderate, the question remains for Islam: can sharia be relevant in pluralistic societies when it is so punitive on social difference? And just for argument's sake, why would any government be in the

only removed from the Tasmanian criminal code in 1997, and even in the early 1970s promiscuous mothers' children were removed and adopted out.

Matthew Gray says the rise of extreme sharia states is unlikely to last, not the least because most Muslims don't want to live in them. Just like communist and fascist regimes foisted on the West, they eventually run out of people to punish.

— MARK ABERNETHY









# THUNDER STRUCK

COMPETITION BETWEEN THE MOST EXTREME RELIGIOUS FUNDAMENTALISTS IS HOTTING UP, WRITES **STEPHEN CORBY**



**I**T STARTS with one kid whacking another in a sand pit with his toy sword because he refuses to believe in his imaginary friend. It reaches its terrifying peak with some callous, ruthless idiot decapitating an innocent human being on the internet.

The existence of those appalling videos – the kind of putrid propaganda that would make Joseph Goebbels so proud – suggests there's something deeply and inherently wrong with human beings. Not all of them, but more than enough to be a whopping great bastard of a problem.

Religious zealotry of any kind, inspired by a need in its followers for something deep, is genuinely frightening. As someone pointed out recently, it's instructive to compare everyone's least favourite religious nutters, ISIS, with the Ku Klux Klan. The Klan proudly claims to be a Christian organisation (although they seem to have a strange way of worshipping the cross) but no one thinks of them as being particularly representative of Christianity, or blames the church for their habit of lynching black people.

To be fair, it's been a while since the church tried to install its equivalent of the radical muslims' caliphate anywhere; the Spanish Inquisition was back in the 1470s, after all.

It would seem laughable for the Pope to demand that everyone in Italy forsake extramarital and premarital sex, abolish abortions and defrock gay people, but then the Pope no longer

women in Iraq and Syria to "mass-produce spawn who'll follow in their footsteps" (and also because they just wanted to rape them) certainly suggests evil. As does demanding that all men should grow beards (that poor ginger teenager from western Sydney looks ridiculous for a start).

But is it less evil to murder abortionists in the American south in the name of God, just because they don't do it as often, or video the killings? Is denying an abortion to a pre-teen girl who's been raped less evil than forcing women to wear face coverings and give up driving?

The leaders of ISIS, the ones who are selling this cockamammy caliphate idea to their disaffected and mildly deranged followers might well be properly Jeffrey Dahmer evil, or they might be just the worst religious zealots on Earth at this particular time. There's no question, however, that they must be stopped, stomped on and in many cases killed, just as the world faced no choice with the Germans and Japanese last century. ISIS hates everyone, even atheists, and that's just too big a fight to pick.

What is terrifying about ISIS, though, far more than Al Qaeda certainly, is how smart they seem to be. The beheading videos are awful, a non-direct form of terrorism in a way because they're not so random that you can imagine it happening you or your loved ones, but they are also unstoppable effective.

## THE EXISTENCE OF THOSE APPALLING BEHEADING VIDEOS SUGGESTS THERE'S SOMETHING DEEPLY WRONG WITH HUMAN BEINGS

has armies at his beck and call – killing people in the Pontiff's name hasn't been big since the Crusades of 1095 – and he doesn't actually run the country, he just tells it what to do.

We should also all be thanking someone's god that India's Hindus aren't marching into other countries and setting up a cow-based caliphate, demanding on pain of death that everyone become vegetarian. The fact is that Hindus are too peace-loving to even demand that their countrymen follow their ways, just as Buddhists generally don't see non-Buddhists as needing converting, or deserving to burn in Hell (which is, strictly speaking, what Christians believe will happen to all those happy, smiley Buddhists).

Islam is no more appalling than self-worship – aka Twitter – as a religion, but it's tempting to see the followers of ISIS as evil, a label only used in the past for the Hitlers and Pol Pots of the world. Neither of them was particularly driven by a religious passion, of course, more a hatred of it in Hitler's case.

Reports that ISIS fighters have been raping thousands of

Obama was dragged back into a conflict they wanted by their existence. He simply could not do nothing once America had seen them. They're too excruciating, too terrifying, to bear.

In short, they work.

A recent video, filmed like a BBC news report, featuring British journo John Cantlie reporting from inside an allegedly ISIS-held city was an even scarier representation of their skills, their awareness of winning the western way. While Cantlie has been a hostage for two years and was no doubt forced to make the clip, he did a great job of making it look and feel entirely credible, and his script questioned, cleverly, whether we in the West were getting the whole story.

People who get their news from the internet, i.e. a vast number of the world's bedroom-cloistered angry, angry teenagers, are drinking in the evil produce of ISIS's mass-media-marketing skills, and running off to join them.

The young, unfortunately, are particularly prone to believing in imaginary friends.



# HEAT SEEKERS

SUMMER IS HERE, SO WHAT BETTER WAY TO CATCH A FEW RAYS THAN BEHIND THE WHEEL OF A PROPER TWO-SEATER CONVERTIBLE? HERE ARE FOUR OF OUR FAVS

WORDS : ASH WESTERMAN







## JAGUAR F TYPE V8 S

The reasons for preferring a convertible over a fixed-roof car are many – you want people to get a better look at you, you're obsessed with your tan, you went bald and it just seemed like the thing to do – but one of the less oft mentioned is the sound.

Jaguar recently added a second model to its F-Type range, a Coupe, and while it's a wondrous car, the fact is you'd be mad to choose one over the original, convertible version, and not just because the solid roof has slightly spoiled the purity of the design.

The reason is that the F-Type, particularly with the V8 under the bonnet, makes one of the greatest, angriest sounds on the planet, this side of a volcano, and the best way to enjoy it is with the roof down, so it can leap into the cabin with you and really bash you around the ears.

The Jag is a big, hairy handful to drive, and looks like a fist of fury coming towards you, although it does have the most pertly perfect rear end ever attached to a car. It's not as sharp or as race-ready as some of its competitors, but it's a different kind of cat, and it's certainly not embarrassed in the performance stakes, with the V8 S model packing 364kW and 625Nm from its 5.0-litre supercharged engine and rushing to 100km/h in 4.3 seconds. The F Type makes a sound argument for convertibles. **\$201,945**





## PORSCHE BOXSTER S

There are many convertibles you could buy, but only one you really should buy, quite possibly the best roofless car ever created; the Porsche Boxster. Yes, you can spend more and have a ragtop supercar, or even a 911 Cabrio, but really they're just showing off.

Designed from the outset as a convertible (the Cayman is actually a roofed Boxster, rather than the other way around), the Boxster has the kind of balance that only a mid-engine layout can provide, plus steering that is so pure and muscular it feels like an extension of your nervous system.

The S version is the best, of course, with its 3.4-litre screaming six-cylinder boxer engine making 232kW and 360Nm and pushing you to 100km/h in 5.1 seconds in manual guise, or 4.7 seconds if you drop \$5000 on the flappy paddle dual-clutch version. Which you shouldn't because this Porsche has one of the best owner-operator gearboxes in the world, and should be appreciated with every single shift. On a sunny day, on an open road, the Boxster is all the reason anyone could ever ask for to buy a convertible, and as close to perfect as a car gets. **\$126,500**



## » THE SPYDER'S REAL GIFT IS HOW EASY IT IS TO DRIVE FAST, AND HOW GOOD IT MAKES YOU FEEL

### AUDI R8 V10 SPYDER

It's very rare that a convertible looks better than the car it used to be. A very few, very special soft tops are born that way, but most are redesigned, slightly heavier versions of coupes (this makes little prima facie sense – chopping out all that roof should make them lighter – but convertibles need a lot of body stiffening to replace the integrity the hard-top provides).

The result is usually a vehicle that looks slightly less awesome than its donor body, but the Audi R8 Spyder is a rare case where the roofless version actually looks better than the original design. Somehow the strakes over the engine bay make more sense and the whole thing just looks more purposeful, more properly super car, with the lid off.

And a proper supercar this undeniably is (as it would want to be at the price), particularly in 5.2 FSI quattro form, where it's powered by a V10 borrowed from the awesome Lamborghini Gallardo, making 386kW and 530Nm and snarling its way to 100km/h in 3.8 seconds, which is quick enough to make every other car on this page look tardy.

As well as being staggeringly beautiful and slashingly quick, the R8 Spyder's real gift is how easy it is to drive fast, and how good it makes you look, and feel, as a driver. All that power shouldn't be so easy to harness; it should feel intimidating, but it just never does, and you can really hustle along a winding bit of road with no fear in your heart, only deep wells of joy. **\$395,800**







## AUDI TTS ROADSTER

Audi's TT Roadster has always suffered from a strange problem, but one that would be familiar to Emma Stone or Taylor Swift; it's just too damn pretty. Fortunately the latest version – new from the ground up and recently launched in hard-edged TT S form – has had some serious work on its face.

While the old car looked kind of gormlessly happy, the new one has a harder set to its eyes and seems permanently ready to punch someone in the face, or, preferably, really tear up some corners. Here, finally, is a TT Roadster a man could own.

The good work continues on the interior, which features Audi's new virtual cockpit, with a 12.3-inch digital display of such lush, futuristic beauty it would bring tears even to Steve Jobs' dead, dry eyes.

It's also lighter, stiffer and more powerful than ever before, with a 228kW / 380Nm turbocharged 2.0-litre that fires it to 100km/h in 4.9 seconds, which is quick, particularly with the roof down wind-rush going on. The new TT S Roadster is pretty all right; pretty damn fine. **\$115,000 (estimated)**







Hawaiian Garrett McNamara carves a whopper at Nazare, Portugal



# RIDING THE 100-FOOT WAVE

THE RACE IS ON TO BE THE FIRST SURFER TO CRACK BIG-WAVE RIDING'S HOLY GRAIL. A PITY IT'S ALL-BUT UNMEASURABLE...

WORDS : BEN SMITHURST

ON A balmy, slightly overcast day in Jena, Germany, in May 1996, 29-year-old Czech Jan Železný defied gravity and his own floppy, slightly Britpop hair to hurl an 800 gram javelin 98.48 metres. Exactly 98.48 metres. Javelin is a silly sport, where thousands of years of tradition sit cheek-to-jowl against deep modern irrelevance. But its record keepers are forensically precise, and to an almost blinkered degree: the altitude of the venue doesn't matter, nor air pressure, humidity or, remarkably, wind speed or direction. Just the distance. To the millimetre.

Measuring surfing is... not as precise. Ironically, this doesn't matter much when it comes to the subjectively judged professional World Surf League (WSL), known until last year as the Association of Surfing Professionals (ASP) world tour. It's where the most skilled, best-of-the-best surfers (Kelly Slater, Mick Fanning, John John Florence, Gabriel Medina et al) ply their trade, and few WSL surfers are genuine big-wave 'hell men'. But the imprecision matters greatly in big wave surfing, where they're now. And it matters particularly in the globally publicised, and thus incredibly lucrative, claim to having surfed the biggest wave ever surfed.

The current record was held by Hawaiian surfer Garrett McNamara. Now 47, he rode a 78ft wave at Nazare, Portugal, in November 2011. That's 24 metres, or slightly higher than a seven-story building.

Sounds simple? It isn't. Objectively, it's a shitfight.

The biggest wave ever surfed has been an active,

precisely measured concern since late 1997 when American snowsports company K2, briefly attempting to crack the surf market, introduced a US\$50,000 'Big Wave Challenge'. This was a new type of contest. The rules, they boasted, were "ruthlessly simple". "Any spot, any day, any surfer – based on the photographic evidence, the Biggest Wave Wins." But 1997/1998 was not a great swell year, and American ASP pro Taylor Knox won for a 52-foot northern Californian wave.

Sensing an opportunity, Billabong took over in 2003. They upped the purse to \$60,000, plus \$1000 per foot of wave height over 60ft. Today, the annual Billabong Global XXL Big Wave Awards is hyped via uploaded and then hyped web clips, with six categories and a prize pool of US\$115,000.

In the surfing community, rough estimates once held sway on wave heights because the only thing at stake was boasting rights. Hawaiian outer-reef surfers revolutionised big-wave riding in the 1990s by towing each other up to speed with jet-skis to catch waves. They could thus ride swells previously decreed too large, and thus too fast-moving to paddle into.

Until then, the wave the revered *Encyclopaedia Of Surfing* described as the biggest wave ever surfed was a 35-footer. It was ascribed to legendary Waimea Bay surfer and pioneer Greg Noll at Makaha, Hawaii, on December 4, 1969. But Noll's biography noted that "the distance of the swell from shore and the presumed scarcity of rideable surf prevented this historic day from being preserved on film".





Makua Rothman at Jaws in 2003

Which, as *Tracks Magazine* revealed in 2011, as a 41-year scoop, might be untrue; equally legendary Australian surf filmmaker Alby Falzon was on the beach. Falzon captured what he claims, and others who were there agree, was three shots of Noll's wave. "Uncomfortably," *Tracks* noted, "it's not that big." But Noll was a straight shooter, and a proven big wave great, so everyone just took his word for it. Surfing was imprecise, it was seemingly mutually agreed – and nothing much was really on the line. They were happy with the myth.

The XXL changed that. Given the "ruthless simplicity" of its rules, Billabong's XXL should be a straightforward. But surfing's upper echelon is a small community and its big-wave surfing community a smaller, broker community that pulses with testosterone. Unlike the well-reimbursed WSL, where the elite are millionaires, the big-wave scene is populated by brave men who do not (necessarily) share the elevated skills of those in the ASP. "Tow-in surfing is easy," says Australian big wave king Ross Clarke Jones. "Anyone can do it. You could do it. It's nothing like the ASP."

Like Jones, and McNamara, respected members of the big-wave fraternity they are often much older. Some are sponsored by Billabong and others are not but that's not why Billabong's XXL awards are controversial. But controversial they are.

In 2010, for example, the XXL's biggest wave awarded to 24-year-old Sebastian Steudtner, primarily a windsurfer, who is from Germany – a country primarily without waves. Steudtner had slain a colossal left at Jaws. At the awards in LA, Christian Fletcher, the scion of a famous Californian surf clan, opened the envelope, then threw it on the stage. "The fucking German who can't paddle won," Fletcher huffed, in surfing's own Kanye West moment.

**IN ALPINE  
TERMS, JAWS  
IN HAWAII IS  
A SHEER CLIFF;  
BELHARA IN  
FRANCE IS A  
ROUNDED HILL**

In 2002/03, Hawaiian Makua Rothman caught a 60ft+ swell at Jaws – a steep, critical, occasionally even barrelling wave – to be in the running. He was up against a pair of French virtual unknowns who'd surfed similarly sized, but much fatter, waves at Belhara, off the Basque coast. In alpine terms, is Jaws a sheer cliff, Belhara is a rounded hill.

Makua Rothman's father, Eddie, is an infamously violent Hawaiian enforcer, who once slapped the shit out of Billabong VP Graham Stapleberg in Stapleberg's own house. Eddie had skin in the game, and the skin was his son's, but when he unloaded on the "mushy" Belhara – in the *New York Times* – he was only saying what everyone else was.

"I'd tow my nine-year-old out onto that French wave," he said. But no way would you get me out at Jaws." Still, Makua, then 18, and a WCT-level surfer, won. His took home US\$66K, and – for a time – the argument was suspended.

It came back. Not with Steudtner or Rothman – with Garrett McNamara. World record holder. Almost as soon as McNamara rode his November, 2011 wave at Nazarre, Portugal. Nazarre is a crumbling peak much more like Belhara than Jaws, one which is almost always filmed from front on, from a great distance, stretching it visually. Press releases rang out around the globe. Being the first man to surf a 100-foot wave is big-wave surfing's holy grail; its four minute mile. Garrett, said the news, had done it.

To go with his epic footage, McNamara claimed he'd received a height estimate made by a former Billabong XXL judge over email of "85-90ft"; the media rounded up. McNamara further claimed that a professor at the Kinetics Institute for Body Movement, using "state of the art technology to measure the wave at three different



Hawaiian Mark Healey won 2014's XXL top 'paddle-in' award for this monster at Jaws



times and locations on the wave" had backed the ex-judge. McNamara's handler, and wife, Macias, declared that the hard-to-Google Institute had declared the daredevil's wave an average height of 91 feet 10.36 inches.

As precise as javelin!

In the end, however, the Billabong XXL/Guinness judges – described by one of their number, surf scribe Chris Dixon as “a jury of big-wave meteorologists, big-wave surfers and ... [surf] journalists” decided on 78ft.

But measuring surfing is hard. It's by consensus. And the winner often comes down to inches.

Even Billabong's XXL measuring method is flawed. It involves determining the height of the crouching surfer “to the inch” – even though the depth of the surfer's crouch will be constantly adjusted during a ride. This gives “a frame of reference for his or her wave,” wrote Dixon, and they can then simply count it out with a pair of dividers. Except – the shouty bit – the panel has to form a consensus on where the flat water is in front of the wave, known in surfing parlance as “the trough”, and thus where the wave's base is. By photos. Taken, occasionally, from hundreds of metres away. From vastly different angles. With surfers tall and short and crouched or half-crouched. Photos in which the surfer is a speck.

“Arguments over trough location can be particularly heated,” said Dixon. “At some spots, like Jaws, the wave's transition to vertical is often clearly defined,” he told the *Adventure Journal*. “At other spots, it's not so easy. In the 2008 photo of Cortes Bank, the trough of [that year's winner] Mike Parsons' wave is completely obscured by a wave in the foreground – meaning judges had to interpolate where the trough actually was. At a spot like Nazaré,

where the waves can be much more slopy and often obscured by spray, the determination of the trough's location can be doubly problematic.”

In January 2013, once again, global news bulletins carried footage of an ant-sized man sliding down a grim, grey-green mountain of frigid water. Hillary, snowboarding down Everest. CNN anchor Anderson Cooper, in his best newscaster tones, announced to the world that – again! For the first time! – Garret McNamara had ridden a 100-foot wave at Nazaré. As did *Wired*, *The Daily Beast*, Fairfax and the rest of the English and non-English speaking world.

This time, said G-Mac, his kinetics professor's calculations “got 34 (111ft) metres conservatively.” But that October, Brazilian Carlos Burle caught a wave at Nazaré that Burle claimed was even larger, but McNamara mocked. “I was really happy [for Carlos],” said Garrett. “[But] I'm sceptical.”

What did the judges say?

Well: nothing. McNamara, burned by online and peer backlash, withdrew from the XXL. He claimed he was opposed to the event having an alcohol sponsor in Guinness. Billabong, in according to his request, removed McNamara's potential 111-footer. And bad luck, apparently, Guinness. Except, come the 2014 XXL prize, McNamara's wave was absent, but not Carlos Burle's. Burle's sat alongside two from Jaws – cavernous and steep – another mountain from Nazaré and one from Belhara. The Belhara wave, ridden by little-known Frenchman Gautier Garannh, won.

XXL called it 62 feet.

Żelezný's 98.48m record has stood for 18 years. Big-wave surfing's biggest waves are a different size every time you look at them. 



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IN FOCUS DAVE NAVARRO

PHOTOS : HOLLY RANDALL

# CALLING THE SHOTS

WE'VE INVITED A SELECT GROUP OF ARTISTS, MUSICIANS AND CULTURAL ICONS TO DIRECT A PHOTO SHOOT THAT DEPICTS THEIR VISION OF WHAT MAKES A WOMAN BEAUTIFUL. GUITAR LEGEND AND TV HOST **DAVE NAVARRO** LEADS THE WAY





**F**OR the past 35 years, *Penthouse* has been discovering and photographing the hottest women in the world. Now we've invited a few notable guests to share some of this arduous workload. The assignment is straightforward, but far from simple: create and direct a photo shoot that represents their unique vision of what makes a woman hot.

We've put together a list of people who stand at the centre of popular culture, and we're kicking things off with Dave Navarro, member of Jane's Addiction, guitarist for Red Hot Chili Peppers, host of *Ink Masters* on 7 Mate, and no stranger to beautiful women. *Penthouse* sat down with Navarro to talk about women, sex and the source of inspiration for his set of photos, which were shot by Holly Randall.

**Talk us through some of the creative decisions you made for this shoot.**

The decisions I made were, in my mind, more in terms of "sexy" than "hot," because those are different things. To me, sexiness is mystique and mystery, a yearning to want to know someone, whereas straight-up "pornographic" imagery falls more into the "hot" category, and is just more lustful. I think what I was trying to accomplish here was to show these women in a way that appeared strong and interesting and mysterious, because ultimately that's what I find sexy in women. I mean, they're hot women to begin with, so that can't help but be a component. But to put them in a darker environment, and play with shadows and light a little bit more, and create an atmosphere that really has a mood – that was a little bit more along the lines of what I wanted to accomplish. Skin Diamond is a very well-known adult-film star, and I feel that we've seen her in adult scenarios and set-ups plenty, but Mosh isn't. From what I've seen of her work, it's more fetish-oriented and burlesque. I was told I could pick anybody I wanted to, and those were the two I selected.

**"TO ME,  
SEXINESS IS  
MYSTIQUE AND  
MYSTERY, A  
YEARNING TO  
WANT TO KNOW  
SOMEONE"**













RIGHT: Navarro snubs Occupational Health and Safety regulations by directing Ms Diamond to hang out a second-floor window.











**“I WANTED TO SET UP A SCENARIO, AN ENVIRONMENT, THAT WAS ODDLY TIMELESS AND HAD A DISTINCT MOOD TO IT”**

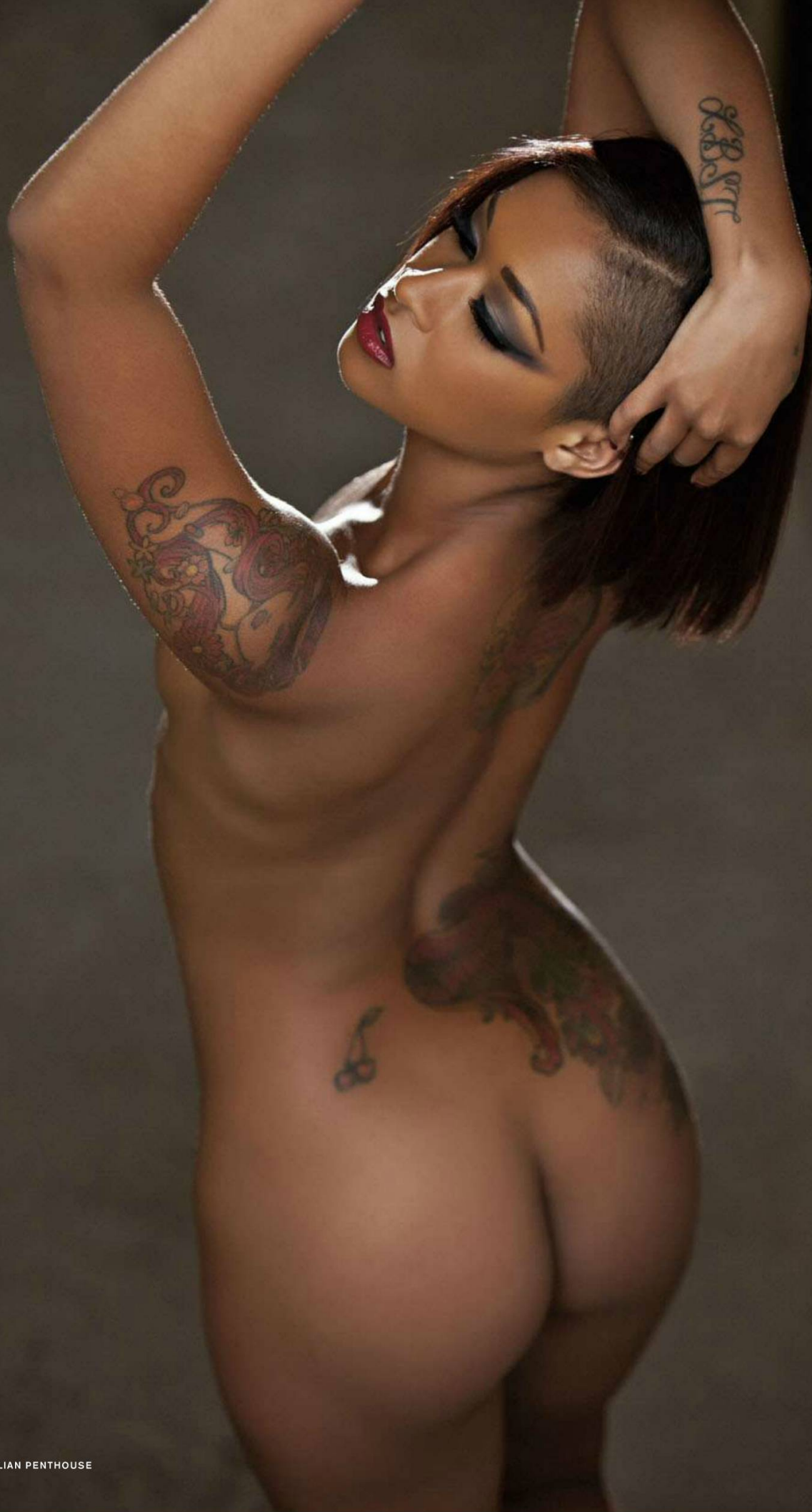
**The ebony-and-ivory theme is interesting. Is there some sort of back-story there?**

Actually, the black-and-white issue wasn't even intentional. We thought about it afterward. I was told that I could find the two prettiest girls I could think of: Skin is a good friend of mine, and she's just got such a life energy and spirit to her – in addition to being gorgeous. She's just a super fun girl in real life. So I knew I could count on her to bring that. But I'd never met Mosh. I just took a chance that we might work well together, and I knew that I could count on Mosh to look stunning. I knew they would both look stunning. I wanted to do a shoot that had a little more of a Stanley Kubrick feel to it. I wanted to set up a scenario, an environment, that was oddly timeless and had a distinct mood to it. I think these two girls come across as gorgeous and seductive, but they also look like people who I'd want to hang out with. And that's something that I thought was pretty important. The truth is that a pretty girl can get you interested, but an interesting girl can *keep* you interested. I felt like I wanted to show these women that way. My vision was to do something beautiful and something that, if I saw it in a magazine, I would find sexy and something that I would also feel comfortable framing and hanging in my home.

**Do you have a type of girl you're attracted to?**

I don't. On an aesthetic level, in terms of types, I like girls with funny-coloured hair and tattoos, and I like blonde bombshells, and I like Asian women, and – you know, it depends on the woman. They're all my type. In this particular shoot, I wanted to focus on Skin's curves, especially in the small of her back and the back of her legs and those little divots that the light really shines nicely off. But if I had to pick a type, I'm not a leg or ass, or breast man; I'm a face man. And I'm an eyes man. At the end of the day, that's who I'm interacting with. That's where the human is inside, and ultimately, it's what's going on upstairs and behind the eyes that keeps me interested and intrigued and inspired. There are some eyes that are more intense than others, and there can be intense eyes that don't have the light behind them, and what I look for is that light.







RIGHT: "I wanted Holly to capture the curvature of a woman's body I find really sensual," says Navarro of this shot. BELOW: Skin plots her revenge for the mysterious doona thief.







## WIELDING THE AXE

With his six-string skills best described as a merger between heavy metal, psychedelia and modern rock, Dave Navarro became one of alternative music's first true guitar heroes (with now-legendary bands Jane's Addiction and The Red Hot Chili Peppers). Born in 1967 in California, Navarro became mesmerised by the guitar as a teenager after discovering the incomparable Jimi Hendrix. This led to an appreciation of a wide variety of musical styles – in fact, when he first met singer Perry Farrell, he was in a speed metal band (along with drummer Stephen Perkins). Navarro, Perkins, Farrell, and bassist Eric Avery formed Jane's Addiction in the mid-80s, and alt-rock moved into the mainstream. Navarro is currently hosting a tattoo competition in the reality TV show *Ink Master* screening on 7 Mate, which has just finished shooting its fourth season. 







*how do you like it?*

PURE or DIRTY?

AUSTRALIA'S NO 1 CRAFT VODKA



# TOP 5 SUMMER FESTIVALS

THE MERCURY IS RISING, SO IT'S TIME FOR CULTURE VULTURES AND ROCK DOGS TO GET FESTIVE...

**T**HE HEAT can be brutal and a lukewarm beer may set you back the best part of ten bucks (and a wait that can feel like hours), yet still, few things top an Australian summer festival. The music, the camping, the army of daisy dukes... Whether you're up for a psychedelic week in Woodford or an artsy weekend in Adelaide, it's time you started planning your summer festival bender. Here are five we're looking forward to.

## **SOUNDWAVE (MELBOURNE, BRISBANE, ADELAIDE, SYDNEY)**

**22 FEB - 1 MAR** [SOUNDWAVEFESTIVAL.COM](http://SOUNDWAVEFESTIVAL.COM)

Soundwave is the day that Aussie heavy music fans spend the whole year fantasising about, so when the festival announced for the first time in history that instead of cramming the line-up into a single day, they'd decided to spread it over two days... fans rejoiced. The 2015 edition of Soundwave has one of the strongest ever festival bills ever seen in Australia, with several of the main acts rumoured to have new material to show off, including Marilyn Manson, Faith No More and Soundgarden. Some of the other big timers scheduled to hit the stage are Slash, Slipknot, Judas Priest, Fall Out Boy and Incubus. With no Big Day Out this year, Soundwave is the place to be.



Soundgarden play Soundwave



## **WOODFORD FOLK FESTIVAL**

**DEC 27 - JAN 1** [WOODFORDFOLKFESTIVAL.COM](http://WOODFORDFOLKFESTIVAL.COM)

Held every year over six days and nights, the Woodford Folk Festival is a smorgasboard of music, art, food and Mary Jane. Created afresh each year, the festival is held on 500 acres of lush green field in Woodford (about an hour north of Brisbane) and attracts a massive 130,000 people. We recommend kicking off your morning by starting at Bill's Bar – a backstage bar tucked away in the corner of the site that hustles with activity in the blink of a bleary eye every morning. Bring enough beer to last you a week, set up your tent and channel your inner hippie at this mad but glorious week-long festival.



## **ADELAIDE FRINGE**

**FEB 13 - MAR 15** [ADELAIDEFRINGE.COM.AU](http://ADELAIDEFRINGE.COM.AU)

Held over four weeks, Adelaide Fringe literally takes over the entire city, staging a whopping 900 events in hundreds of pop-up and established venues, including theatres, parks, warehouses, cafes, hotels and on the street. If you're up for a serious shot of funny stuff, you're spoiled for choice with the likes of Arj Barker, Ross Noble, Jimeoin, Dave Hughes and the Umbilical Brothers on the bill. Also, make sure you check out circus-cabaret show Limbo, because every grown man needs to see a woman contort herself into the shape of a pretzel at least once in his lifetime. You're welcome.





## AUSTRALIAN BLUES MUSIC FESTIVAL

**FEB 5-8** [AUSTRALIANBLUESMUSICFESTIVAL.INFO](http://AUSTRALIANBLUESMUSICFESTIVAL.INFO)

Besides showcasing the best of emerging and established blues acts from around Australia, this weekend festival includes workshops with some of the artists, open-mic sessions, markets, buskers and a pop-up vintage guitar store. While the full program wasn't released at the time we went to print, some of the acts on the bill include Collard Greens & Gravy, Minnie Marks, Geoff Achison, Big Blind Ray Trio and Isaiah B Brunt. This relaxed Blues festival, with its intimate performance spaces, offers plenty of opportunities to have a casual beer with the artists themselves. Definitely worth a roadtrip to Goulburn.



## ST JEROME'S LANEWAYS

**JAN 31 - FEB 8** [LANEWAYFESTIVAL.COM](http://LANEWAYFESTIVAL.COM)

This year's Laneway festival will mark a huge ten years since a couple of guys decided to wrangle together a few local bands and throw a party in a Melbourne back alley for 1400 hipsters. These days, the festival has grown to include shows in five Australian cities, as well as venturing internationally. Laneways is a lot smaller than your average music festival and generally more chilled out, meaning you're less likely to have to worry about getting a sweaty armpit or an elbow to the face in a cramped moshpit. For powerful, catchy riff rock that proves that guitar music is still well and truly alive, check out UK band Royal Blood. 🔑









# TURNING TURTLE

**PANASEA, ON PAPUA NEW GUINEA'S REMOTE CONFLICT ISLANDS, IS A REFUGE FOR REPTILES AND, THANKS TO ONE MAN'S DEEP POCKETS, SET TO BE A PLACE YOU'LL REALLY WANT TO VISIT**

WORDS : BEN SMITHURST

IAN Gowrie-Smith not a billionaire – yet. But in 2014 does millionaire even count? Australia had 1.2 million millionaires as per October 2014, although almost all of that citizen-high-roller lucre is tied up in our houses. Which means we can't plow through our fortunes on hookers and blow, even if we wanted to, which we don't, because that would be interesting, and while property investment dominates the nation's conversations, it is also very, very boring. Property and riches have made us boring.

Except! Except not if you're Ian Gowrie-Smith. The barrel-chested entrepreneur is one of our thrustingest, most successful exports, even if his BRW Rich List fortune peaked at \$180m in 2001. Even now, in his mid-60s, the former Trinity College chum of our future king remains a flamboyant corporate player. Gowrie-Smith also talks property, but his chatter is not boring, because Gowrie-Smith's numbers make mortals' heads spin. He talks property like military men talk war and now he is talking about the Conflict Islands.

The Conflicts are a 22-island atoll on the far-eastern hangnail of Papua New Guinea. Gowrie-Smith bought them in 2003 for a price that may or may not have been \$25m. They joined holdings including a Lithuanian castle and an African trout-fishing game reserve. He once owned a swank Chelsea apartment, too, but that went to his ex-wife in a £10m divorce. But, sweet fortune! That chunk of change was an expensive blessing,

because it would eventually deliver Gowrie-Smith into the arms of his current spouse, a breathtaking, caramel-skinned European vegan of the vocal kind, and also to the beating heart of the Coral Triangle.

"It was after the sixth turtle that I burned down the fisherman's huts," he is explaining to a travel writer from Fairfax. *Penthouse* is here, too, along with a dozen other travel writers, journalism's most unrepentant whores. We are visiting Gowrie-Smith's fiefdom, sleeping on his chartered \$38m yacht and chugging his South Pacific Lager. The fishermen, the entrepreneur is explaining, weren't locals – the Conflicts' remoteness means it's only ever been a stopover point on traditional trade routes. The atoll was strip-felled to grow copra early last century, and is now carpeted in a million sweet, swaying palms. So pretty! Every vista a postcard, every crappy iPhone snap is a potential *National Geographic* cover.

Gowrie-Smith had caught the crew slaughtering endangered turtles the previous day, and, like a grim-faced Liam Neeson, laid down his rules: don't kill any turtles; don't harvest the turtles' eggs; don't make a mess. Now, in front of angry native eyes, he furrowed his brow and destroyed their huts.

"I stubbed my feet in so many places that in due course they got infected," he said. "I couldn't stop myself once I really got going. I was just pulling and ripping these houses with bare hands."

Ian Gowrie-Smith! The blood of an eco-warrior flows through his millionaire veins. It is his redemption and it is almost Shakespearean in its





## THE DETAILS

Alotau, PNG, is three-and-a-half hours flying time from Cairns via Port Moresby, from where the Conflict Islands will organise a boat transfer. Air charters from Port Moresby cost US\$1950.

### FISHING:

Eight-day charters from Australia with Nomad Sportfishing begin at \$6950pp. [nomadsporfishing.com.au](http://nomadsporfishing.com.au)

### PANASEA:

Accommodation is in timber-and-thatch beachfront bungalows with en suites and air-conditioning. A seven-night twin-share package costs US\$4999 per person, including boat transfers from Alotau. All meals, wi-fi, non-alcoholic drinks, two dives a day, fishing, water sports, boat tours of other islands and beach barbeque included.

**MORE INFORMATION:**  
[conflictislands.com](http://conflictislands.com)

## IT IS A PARADISE FIT FOR HOLLYWOOD WEDDINGS OR SAVAGERY OF ANY OTHER KIND

ambition and its scope, because Gowrie-Smith made many of his millions in the environmentally dubious field of Papua New Guinean oil and gas exploitation. Now he will save the turtles!

The Conflicts are in Milne Bay, 130km due east of the New Guinea 'mainland' and 960km northeast of Cairns. Their name comes from the British naval survey ship that stumbled upon them in 1886, and they are the world's most glorious tropical atoll. Empirically, no lie, its reefs are the most biodiverse in the world. They boast the most fish species ever counted in a single dive (around 1500 species in total), with the second richest variety of corals. They have endangered green turtles and critically endangered loggerhead turtles, parts of which are considered delicacies to those in passing canoes, who hack out their stomachs and leave their carcasses to rot.

"I've bought a lot of crazy stuff," says Gowrie-Smith. "Why wouldn't I buy these islands?"

The Conflicts are no longer uninhabited. Panasea is where Gowrie-Smith landed on his first visit, after an overnight sail in

heaving seas. He arrived under darkness, "cold, wet, hungover, wondering what I'd gotten myself into. But then the sun came out, and the beaches appeared and we caught fish and swam in tropical waters."

To save the turtles, and to head off the beche de mer raiders, Chinese long-liners, and hungry locals, the millionaire says, he realised he needed to organise a permanent monitoring presence. And so Gowrie-Smith built a small, exclusive eco-resort on Panasea: a row of six simple but lovely beach bungalows (with air-con and en suites; accommodation prices begin at US\$4999 per person, per week, twin share; all fishing and diving and food included). They are a dream, and a song; if you want to get away, you could hardly get further (although, naturally, there is wi-fi). Alongside the bungalows is a larger 'club house' with dedicated staff, including a very fine chef, and a buxom German dive instructor.

Opposite Panasea is Irai, an island upon which Gowrie-Smith plans to bulldoze a longer airstrip to supplement Panasea's truncated example. Off Irai is the world's best diving. And then, more: he dreams

of building swathes of infrastructure (eco, naturally!), a larger resort (green!), permanent mansions (low impact!) for high-worth individuals and perhaps other facilities, on other isles, for more modest visitors. The passing fishermen will thus have jobs. Eco jobs! Jobs that preclude them from killing the turtles.

"Ideally, of course, these islands should be left as they are," says Gowrie-Smith, "And I would like that. But doing nothing is simply no longer an option."

It is also not very profitable. And, just like that! The concerns of business and Gaia align.

For now, though, there's just Panasea, and a reef teaming with fish, and some hut-less natives, and beaches so hi-fi paradisiacal that they makes clichés into truths, whether they're the lazy clichés of the travel blogger or the environmental awakening of a wealthy oil-and-gas man. It is a paradise fit for Hollywood weddings or savagery of any other kind.

It is a place where you will feel like a billionaire, even if you're barely scratching seven figures. And it's a paradise for turtles. 





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# SAIL OF THE CENTURY

LUXURY BOATING AIN'T JUST FOR OLIGARCHS. AN OWNERSHIP SYNDICATE COULD BE YOUR (ALMOST) RESPONSIBILITY-FREE TICKET TO THE HIGH SEAS

WORDS : BEN SMITHURST







THE best thing about being a super-rich Russian oligarch is not the quasi Bond-villain omnipotence. It is not even the doe-eyed gold-diggers who'll ignore your flatulence and feign lust at a merest glimpse of your paunch. The best thing, which is to say the thing that fires an oligarch's blood long after he's forgotten his first billion, is ownership of a superyacht. Russian tycoon Roman Abramovich, for example, owns three. His biggest, the 162-metre, US\$400m *Eclipse*, has its own submarine.

Each September the proof lines Port Hercules, Mona co's only deep-water port for the International Monaco Yacht Show. Except this year, the vendors were panicked. "Are the Russians coming?" they asked each other, a whisper so loud that it was reported by Canada's National Post. "Where are the Russians?" But Europe is a basket case, and even the Russians are watching their dollars.

Abramovich's *Eclipse*: tricky to reverse park



Standing on the deck of your own luxury vessel is glorious – whether it's worth \$400m or a risible \$1m. But know this: yacht outlay doesn't stop at the purchase price. When even oligarchs are trimming back their greatest pleasure, you know it's a money sieve.

Boats are a bad investment. Luxury boats more so. On top of the purchase price, a luxury yacht will cost at least another 10 percent per year to maintain. "That's to do it properly," says Ian Rose, Manager and Director at Sydney's Luxury Boat Syndicates ([luxuryboatsyndicates.com.au](http://luxuryboatsyndicates.com.au)), based in posh Rose Bay.

"You can skimp on it, but it'll end up costing



## WHEN EVEN OLIGARCHS ARE TRIMMING BACK THEIR GREATEST PLEASURE, YOU KNOW IT'S A MONEY SIEVE



Riviera 6000 Sport

you more in the long run. Take a million dollar boat, for example; some of these big engine components, if they go wrong, will cost you \$200,000."

The alternative is high-end boat club memberships – where you'll pay an annual subscription fee, allowing access to what is, in practical terms, luxury boat rental – or ownership syndication, which, "basically," says Rose, "is timeshare, or share ownership."

Businesses offering syndication and/or management are booming in many Australian capitals. In Sydney, memberships begin at \$995 a month ([pacificboating.com.au](http://pacificboating.com.au)), for a minimum of 20 access days per year, walk-on/walk-off service and no charges other than fuel. That will put you on a 28ft

Sea Ray 280 Sundancer that sleeps four – while access to a 52-foot halo express cruiser costs \$2995 a month. "Think of it like a golf club membership, where you get to use the facility with no hassle or additional costs," says Pacific's Phillip Pitt.

Or there's syndicated ownership. "That's where you have a vested interest in the vessel," says Rose. "An easy way to explain it is, take that boat that costs a million bucks. Instead of you paying a million dollars, you get eight people to pay \$125K. The theory behind that is that the average boat owner uses their boat 15 times a year. With a one-eighth shared ownership you get 43 days a year to use it, so your allocation is more than what your average owner would use it. The trade-off is that

there may not be a Saturday where you get to use it, but the difference is your change from that million bucks."

Rose's business is typical. Their current offerings start at a 1/8th share in a Chris Craft Corsair 28 (think speed, wooden decks, twin Volvo 5.7-litre engines with 447kW and Miami Vice pastel leisurewear) for \$27,000 in a three-year syndicate. They top out at \$189K, and \$1513 per month, for an eighth share of a 52-foot Euro-chic Absolute 52 Fly (three bedrooms, multi-level ultra-pimping). Each deal gets 43 days access a year and unlimited standby.

"I could do this syndication thing myself," you might think. And, like the oligarch, who can't trip without his precisely waxed



Sea Ray 280 Sundancer



Chris Craft Corsair 28



## LICENCE TO PIMP

If you're planning to go faster than 10 knots – that's 18.5km/h (hint: you are) you'll need a boat licence. There are different compulsory theory and practical requirements in each state; check your state's requirements.

### VICTORIA:

As is the norm, you'll need to be over 16. But correctly answer 26 of 30 multiple choice questions and you're golden.

Visit: [vicroads.vic.gov.au](http://vicroads.vic.gov.au)

### NSW:

You'll need to pass both theory and practical tests in the Premier State, the second component having come in back in 2009.

Visit: [rms.nsw.gov.au/maritime](http://rms.nsw.gov.au/maritime)

### QUEENSLAND:

Applicants must attend a practical a BoatSafe course at an accredited training provider. Once awarded, licences are valid for life. Visit: [msq.qld.gov.au](http://msq.qld.gov.au)

### SOUTH AUSTRALIA:

A multiple-choice theory exam is your ticket to the seas. There's even a 14-question online practice test.

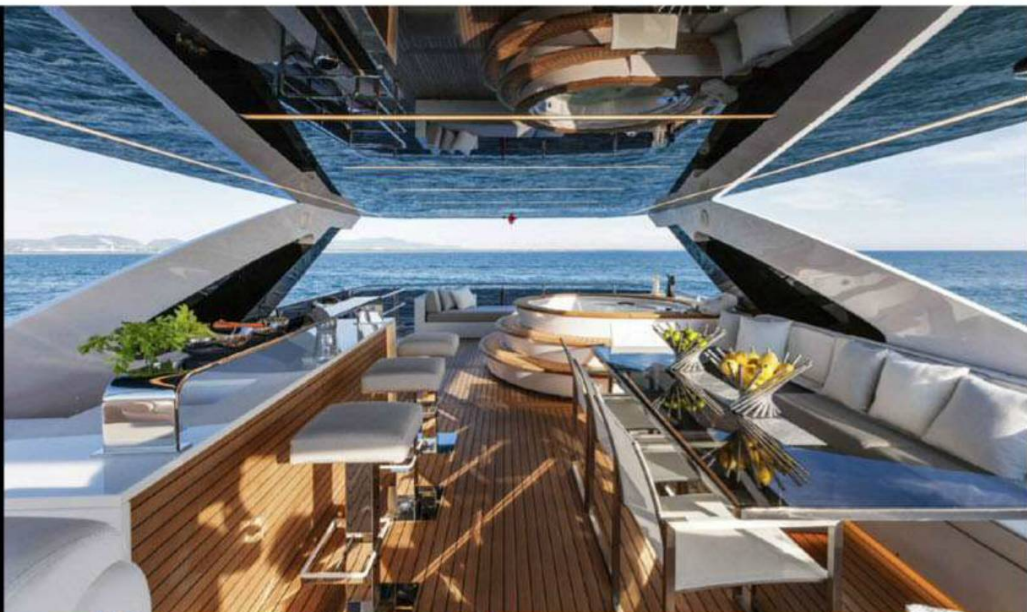
Visit: [ondeck.sa.gov.au](http://ondeck.sa.gov.au)

### TASMANIA:

You're required to pass a BoatSafe practical tuition course with an accredited provider. Find a list of 17 at: [mast.tas.gov.au](http://mast.tas.gov.au)

### WESTERN AUSTRALIA:

A rollickingly named 'Recreational Skipper's Ticket' means you've passed a theory test. Download rulebooks and practice at this link: [transport.wa.gov.au](http://transport.wa.gov.au)



DL Yachts Dreamline

Russian cock landing in a Bulgarian stripper, you could. "You can just have an owner-managed syndicate, but there's always one guy who'll try to manipulate it in his favour," says Rose. "That's where I, or a company, comes in. You pay a management fee for that and it avoids any conflict and makes it equal for everyone."

The prickly issue of juggling bookings on marquee days, for example. A manager will rotate the strike around them. "Absolutely," says Rose. "There's obviously several special days in the year, and everyone's different – some might want Boxing Day for the Sydney to Hobart, some want Australia Day, some may want New Year's Day. Last year, for one of my boats, I had three that wanted Boxing Day.

A manager will sort that out."

For which you'll pay him, in relative terms, a rate your average Russian peasant would describe as "a shit-ton" in monthly management fees. But then, in Russian oligarch terms, it's an amount so pitiful that Roman Abramovich wouldn't pick it up off a wet deck.

It's easy to feel like a million bucks. Try bobbing about on a catered, booze-stocked multi-level yacht, barking orders at the captain before docking to walk off – with no clean-up – and you'll feel like a billion.

Although no viable syndicate currently offers a detachable sub. Leave that to Roman. Conspicuous consumption can only occur above the waves. ☞



Absolute 52 Fly



# IT'S A SHORE THING

MAKE A STATEMENT ON THE SAND WITH THESE STYLISH SUMMER ESSENTIALS

**01 SINGLET:** Singlets are a staple when it comes to your summer wardrobe. They're cool, comfortable and give those man-pits a chance to breathe. Give 'em the bold shoulder

with the **Dip Dye Stripe Tank (\$25)** from Bonds.

**02 SUNGLASSES:** No sunnies means bulk squinting and zero ability to discreetly admire the female scenery. Don't risk it, try either the **Mens Ferris Sunglasses (\$130)** or **Chavez Aviators (\$129)** from Quiksilver.

**03 BOARDSHORTS:** Tourists come from all over the world to check out our iconic Bondi Beach – this pair of classic-fit **Bondi Montage Boardies (\$80)** from Speedo reminds us exactly why.

**04 THONGS:** Thongs are the ultimate summer footwear, even if the name confuses the hell out of American tourists. Put your best foot forward with a pair of **Byron Black Thongs (\$30)** from Havaianas.

**05 HYBRID BOARDIES:** On dry land they're stylish shorts fine for the beer garden; when the surf beckons, they're ready for splash-down. The best of both worlds from the rapid-dry **Amphibian Boardshorts (\$70)** by Quiksilver.

**06 TANK:** Not the type to go shirtless, even in the blisteringly hot Australian summer? Don't sweat it – put the bite on excess sun exposure with this ultra-lightweight and breathable **Great White Tank (\$80)** from Culture Kings.



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DIP DYE  
TANK



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QUIKSILVER  
AMPHIBIAN  
BOARDIES



CULTURE  
KINGS  
GREAT WHITE  
TANK



# FUEL'S GOLD

THE DEBATE OVER GAS VERSUS COALS IS JUST **HEATING UP...**

**T**HE side you take on the charcoal versus gas barbecue debate may just be an indicator of what sort of man you are. Think of it as a bit like the debate over vinyl versus CDs. One requires lots of careful love and handling before it rewards you with warm, pure music, the other is way faster and more convenient, but to the purist, lacks the soul of the old-school source.

Similar deal with barbecues. Your vinyl junkies of the meat-cooking world will happily shell out for heat beads and fire lighters, spend 20 minutes building and blowing and fanning to create the optimum heat source for the food, then swear it has a taste no gas barbie can touch. Meanwhile, the digital dude of the barbecue world just hit the ignition button, has full control in just a few minutes, and reckons there's no taste difference anyway. So who's right? Fact is, probably both.

## TASTE

Gas barbecues rely on heat hitting the flesh which works to vaporise drippings and make that delicious smoke. Gas devotees will tell you that this produces a flavour just as fine as charcoal, but it doesn't explain why retailers make a good money supplying packs that you burn on a gas barbecue to try to create a far more "woody" flavour. You can find plenty of animated and conflicting opinions on whether you can tell the difference between meat grilled on gas or charcoal. Some 'experts' contend that the characteristic flavour of grilled food comes from the drippings, not the fuel. When those drippings hit the heat source below, the oils, sugars, and fats burst into smoke and flame. That heat creates new complex molecules that rise in the smoke to coat the food you're grilling. Nothing in that process relies on charcoal, goes the theory.

And yet: it's normally a question of if gas tastes as good as charcoal, never the other way around. As the debate rolls on, it's obvious that it's actually the natural

smokiness of charcoal grilling that all barbecues hope to achieve.

## COST

The initial expense of a gas barbecue is normally quite a bit more than a comparable charcoal job. Having said that, the price of every single sack of heat beads or charcoal is way higher than the quantity of gas you would burn for same period of cooking. Keep this in mind in terms of regularity of barbecuing and the size you want. If you're only cooking for modest amounts of people every now and then, you can afford to go charcoal. If you're out there throwing flesh on the barbie most night, gas will save you a lot more in the long run.

## ALL FIRED UP

Cooking on a charcoal barbecue is much more an art form than gas cooking. It isn't as convenient or as predictable but it's a much more involving, satisfying experience that many men actually enjoy. When you look at your charcoal grill, no matter how expensive or fancy it might be, there's no control valve on there to let you set the temperature. You control the heat by the way you build a fire, how you adjust the vents, and how much you keep the lid on.

## HEAT BEAD HERO

Briquettes (the proper name for the product normally called heat beads) take about 20 minutes to reach optimum temperature, so ample time to crack and beer and prepare your meat. Make a pile of heat beads over firelighters, open the vents, then wait until all is blazing and a light gray ash has formed, indicating they are all fired up. For a medium cooking heat, for fish or chicken, spread your beads in a single layer on the grate. For a high fire, for steaks, lamb, or pork, light enough beads for a double layer. For an indirect fire, push all the beads to one side of the grate and cook on the other side of the grill. When you're done, closing the vents and leaving the lid on will help save the unburnt beads for next time. 







## BARBECUE FACE-OFF: THE CONTENDERS

### BEEFEATER BUGG

Compact, very cool portable Bugg features dual gas burners, detachable side shelves and sprung cast enamel lid, yours for \$599.



### WEBER BARBECUE

Weber pretty much pioneered the kettle barbie some 50 years ago. The Compact model kicks off the range at \$199; above that is the One Touch Gold Premium at \$449, while top spec is Performer Gold (\$749) which sees the kettle built into a trolley with prep space and storage.





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NO NEED TO TURN A BBQ INTO A SAUSAGE FEST...

# VEGETATION NATION

**I**T MAY sound like heresy to your average carnivore, but barbecues should not be contained to just cooking meat. If the barbie is blazing, it makes no sense to steam or roast veggies in the kitchen. Get 'em on the grill and relish the great flavour that serious, semi-direct heat delivers.

Here's a hit list of the usual suspects and how to get the best from them:

**ASPARAGUS:** Cut off the ends, soak in water for 30 minutes to an hour, pat dry and brush with olive oil. Place on grill, turning every minute. Remove when tips start to turn brown. Add some extra flavour by mixing a little sesame oil in the olive oil before you brush them. Top with shaved Parmesan and a squeeze of lemon.

**CAPSICUM:** Cut through the middle top to bottom. Remove stems, seeds and whitish ribs. Brush lightly with oil and grill for 2-3 minutes on each side. Or, cook whole, turning until the skin blisters and blackens. Then stick in a plastic bag and tied the neck. After 20 minutes, the skin will peel off, allowing you to then slice them up, discarding the seeds and core. Add a dash of balsamic vinegar.

**CORN ON THE COB:** Gently pull back the husks but don't remove. Remove the silk and cut off the very end. Soak in cold

water for about 30 minutes. Dry and brush with butter. Fold the husks back down and tie or twist the ends. Grill for about seven minutes. Turn to avoid burning.

**EGGPLANT:** Cut lengthwise for smaller eggplants or in disks top to bottom for larger ones. Soak in water for 30 minutes. Pat dry, brush with oil and grill for about three minutes each side.

**GARLIC:** Take whole bulbs and cut off the root end. Brush with olive oil and place cut-side down. Grill for about 10 minutes or until the skin is brown.

**MUSHROOMS:** Rinse off dirt and pat dry. Brush with oil and grill for 6-to-8 minutes for big field mushrooms. For smaller button mushies, thread onto a skewer.

**ONIONS:** Remove skin and cut horizontally about 10mm thick. Brush with oil and grill for 3-4 minutes.

**POTATOES:** Cut into wedges, brush with olive oil, sprinkle with crushed dried Italian herbs or some fresh rosemary and grill until browned. Or, wrap in aluminium foil and bake for 40 minutes, turning occasionally. Serve with sour cream, melted cheese and chives. ☺



## GRILLED FRUIT

The intense heat of a barbecue grill, whether gas or charcoal, adds fantastic flavor to any fruit. The sugars caramelise over the fire, picking up the grill flavour and make any fruit ready to eat in minutes. Make sure your barbecue is clean – give it a scrub with a wire brush or scrunched-up foil. Pineapple, mango, apricots and even bananas work brilliantly. Honey, cinnamon, a splash of rum or a simple syrup made from reduction of fresh orange juice and sugar is usually a top way to rev up pretty much any grilled fruit. Top with a blob of quality ice cream or sorbet and you're a hero.

- Rub the bars of your grill with a little vegetable oil, and make sure it's screaming hot
- Lightly drop the fruit on the bars and let them cook away for a few minutes – you may need to do this in batches
- Remember that different fruits will cook in different times so keep checking by lifting the fruit up with tongs and looking underneath
- If something is soft and cooked, get it off the heat
- Don't worry if anything chars slightly, it will still be delicious.



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# WHAT'S SHAKING

**SEX IN THE CITY GIRLS, MOVE OVER –  
MEN ARE RECLAIMING THE COCKTAIL**

WORDS : STEPHEN CORBY

**T**HE RULES of cocktails are very simple; they must be girly-coloured, sugar-plum-fairy flavoured and must pack a sly bitch-slap of alcoholic potency, and yet their target market has changed over the years.

There was a time when the simple answer to the question of whether it's ever okay for a man to be seen drinking one was "no" or possibly "would you like a solid thrashing from your mates with that?"

At *Penthouse*, we've long favoured the International Rule, meaning it's okay for a bloke to drink something that looks like a kid has vomited in it after ingesting too much Little Mermaid birthday cake and red cordial, as long as you're a long way from home. (Interestingly, the same rule applies to riding mopeds/scooters; absolutely fine in Greece, Hawaii or Thailand, effectively self-castrating in your own city). »





## BOTTOMS UP

### GET DRUNK QUICK

#### Cocktails:

Leg Spreader  
Blue Long Island  
Long Island Ice Tea  
AMF  
Vodka Martini  
Manhattan  
Seven and Seven  
Mai Tai  
Shots:  
ABC Shot  
Kamikaze  
Jager Bomb

### TWISTS ON CLASSICS

Tequila Old Fashioned  
Bloody Roman  
(new Bloody Mary)  
Grapefruit Negroni  
(new Negorni)

### CLASSIC EASY DRINKS THAT SHE WILL LOVE

#### Cocktails:

White Russian  
Seabreeze  
Malibu Bay Breeze  
Caipirinha  
Paloma  
Cosmo  
Mojito  
Margarita  
Mudslide  
Hazelnut Mudslide  
Pina Colada  
Mint Julip  
Bellini  
Cuba Libre  
Strawberry Daiquiri  
Lone Ranger  
Sex on the Beach  
Cosmo  
Blue Lagoon  
Fruit Tingle  
Illusion  
Shots:  
Skittles  
Jam Donut  
Cowboy  
Wet Pussy  
Quick Fuck  
Screaming Orgasm  
Royal Fuck

### DRINKS FOR GUYS:

Dry Martini  
Billionaire  
Blood and Sand  
Manhattan  
Old Fashioned  
Rob Roy  
Whiskey Sour  
Mojito



MAI TAI



CAIPIRINHA



GRAPEFRUIT NEGRONI



WHISKEY SOUR



At *Penthouse*, we've long favoured the International Rule, meaning it's okay for a bloke to drink something that looks like a kid has vomited in it after ingesting too much Little Mermaid birthday cake and red cordial, as long as you're a long way from home. (Interestingly, the same rule applies to riding mopeds/scooters; absolutely fine in Greece, Hawaii or Thailand, effectively self-castrating in your own city).

Increasingly, though, a bloke with a cocktail is accepted as simply someone who's trying to get drunk faster and, as long as there are no stupid tooth-pick umbrellas in it, the modern man can actually get away with a long, tall cold one with no froth on top.

Scotty Boxa, who describes himself as a "master mixologist" (yet admits he used to be just a "bartender") and the founder of [www.drinklab.org](http://www.drinklab.org), reckons a bloke can drink just about any cocktail, as long as they remember to ask for it in a tall, spirits glass rather than a big, girly martini one.

Contradicting that rule, of course, is the fact that an actual martini is a completely bloke-worthy choice. If it's good enough for James Bond...

"The shaken not stirred thing with Bond's martinis is funny, because having it stirred actually makes it a bit stronger, but he drank so many of them that he'd never have been able to shoot straight," Boxa laughs.

"But generally the rules for guys are simple; if you're going to drink a Cosmopolitan, put it in a rocks glass. The fact is, some cocktails are just too fluffy for a man to drink, ever, and the Cosmopolitan is about the point at which you need to draw that line, because it's so closely related to *Sex and the City* that it's just become a girls' drink. You should really steer clear of the Pina Colada as well."

Boxa says there are some more obviously manly mixed drinks, like the White Russian ("The Dude Abides," from *The Big Lebowski*, makes this the antidote to a Cosmo), the Manhattan, the Seven and Seven, the Old Fashioned, and of course the Long Island Iced Tea, which is "a good, hardy drink".

"It's just a whole heap of white spirits and some Coke to disguise it, which means it tastes awful if you get the amounts wrong, but it can be excellent if you get it right, and it will buzz you up," he says.

"The Long Island was a prohibition drink, because people at the time could just pretend it was iced tea they were drinking."

The term "cocktail" has been around since the early 1800s, when they were believed to be the cure for all kinds of ills, but mainly sobriety. They really took off during prohibition, however, because the alcohol you could get on the black market was powerfully awful, and even potentially deadly, so mixing in things like honey, fruit juice and other sweet flavours to hide how shit the liquor actually tasted became not just popular but necessary.

The theory was that sweet cocktails were also easier to down quickly, should your speakeasy be raided by the fun police.

A truly awful film with our own Bryan Brown and the world's most powerful dwarf, Tom Cruise, *Cocktail*, brought "flair bartending" to the art of cocktail making back in 1983 and made drinking them popular again, although Boxa says Australian bartenders have largely given up on that flashy flair wankery. "Americans still do it, because they think there might be tips in it, but no one in Australia will tip you anyway, so why bother?"

Our proud, beer-lovin' nation has been caught up in the

## SINCE THE EARLY 1800S, COCKTAILS WERE BELIEVED TO BE THE CURE FOR ALL KINDS OF ILLS; MAINLY SOBRIETY

"mixology" craze, however, which attempts to imply that people who can pour a few things into a shaker and produce a drink are some kind of scientists. Mixology is all about "novel ingredients" and "complex flavours", apparently, but we all know that the main goal of cocktail making is to get women really, really smashed.

"Yes there are a lot of drinks that clearly have that goal, and funnily enough a lot of them are the same ones that men like to drink," Boxa says.

"So for a woman you might try a Blue Iced Tea, which is basically the same as a Long Island but with Blue Curacao to make it look girly, or something like the AMF (Adios Mother Fucker).

"Then there are more blatant ones like the Leg Spreader, which comes in two versions, nice and naughty. The nice one is melon liqueur, coconut rum, pineapple and lemonade.

"The naughty is tequila, vodka, gin and rum and it's basically just a shot of each hidden under a big pink umbrella. Tastes like rocket fuel but if you can talk a girl into drinking one, it will do the job."

Boxa says a well stocked cocktail cabinet for your home should contain vodka, a white rum like Bacardi, tequila, bourbon and/ or whiskey, Cointreau and Blue Curacao. From there, all you need is a few fizzy mixers and a website like [drinklab.org](http://drinklab.org).

"We've got more than 10,000 cocktails listed, from around the world, and we're attempting to make videos of how to make them all, starting with the more popular ones," Boxa says.

As you would imagine, filming days for the site are pretty much the opposite of gruelling, because all those cocktails are too good to waste.

"You can definitely see we're more rose-cheeked in the videos done later in the day, and we may stumble and jumble our words a bit, but we definitely have some fun." ☺











# THE GREATEST WATER RETREATS

WHEN THE STRESS OF MODERN LIFE STRIKES, IT'S NICE TO  
KNOW THAT SOME OF THE MOST PEACEFUL, WOMB-LIKE  
WATERS OF THE WORLD ARE NEVER MORE THAN A DAY AWAY....

WORDS : AMIE BARBELER



## BONITO, BRAZIL

Mato Grosso was once Brazil's wild west – a land full of indigenous hunters, poachers, gold seekers and explorers. Today, Brazil's variety of wildlife and the incredible scenery make it a prime destination for modern-day pleasure seekers. In the south-western corner of Mato Grosso sits Bonito, a small, ultra-picturesque aquatic playground. It's got caves with lakes and amazing stalactite formations, beautiful waterfalls, incredibly clear rivers surrounded by a lush forest and hundreds of species of tropical fish. Bonito itself is a one-street show, though. Coronel Pilad Rebuia is a three-kilometre strip that offers everything you're likely to need during your time there. For a great place to stay, you can't go past a room at Zagaia Eco Resort.

They've even got their own 18-hole golf course. [zagaia.com.br](http://zagaia.com.br)



## THE MALDIVES

The Maldives is a sunworshipper's and scuba diver's wet dream. Home to some of the most stunning beaches in the world, with their white powdery sand and bright cyan-blue water, you won't find any hotels in the Maldives – just luxurious resorts – all of which are on their own private island. The only issue with the Maldives is deciding the level of luxury you require. Like, are you going to need a personal butler to refill your Maldivian Lady (A cocktail with white rum, apricot brandy, a dash of grenadine, pineapple and orange juice) while you lounge around on the sand? Or what about a private lap pool? The best bit? The water is so warm that the fish won't blink if you let a sly one slip. We recommend holing up in a Kerala boathouse on Cocoa Island, where you can admire the reef from your bedroom. [comohotels.com/cocoisland](http://comohotels.com/cocoisland)





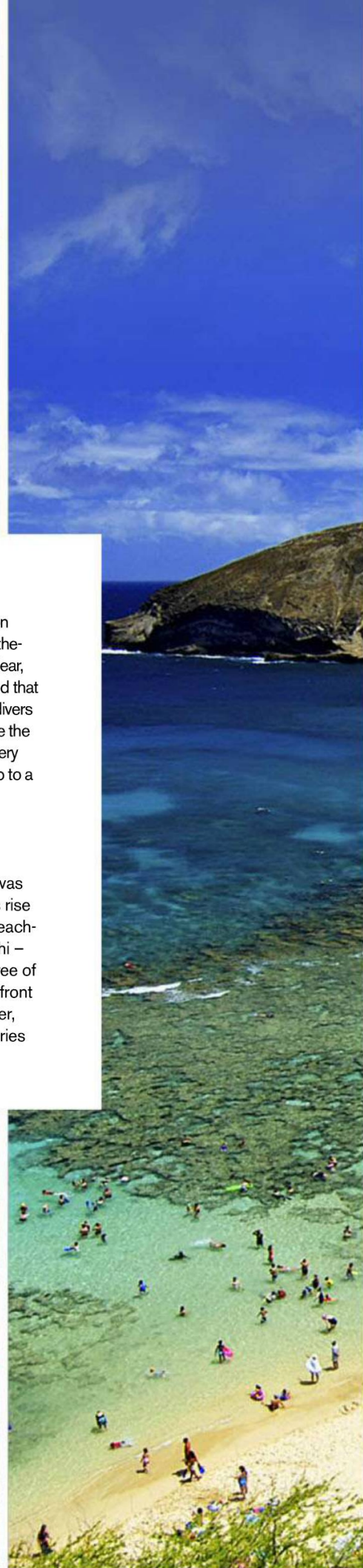


## BORA BORA

The view from the plane frames a ring of sand-fringed islets encircling a sparkling blue lagoon surrounded by soaring rainforest-covered peaks. In closer, you'll see Bora Bora's iconic over-the-water bungalows with piers that branch out into the water like tentacles. The water is vodka-clear, bath-warm and packed with swarms of parrotfish, manta rays and flame-coloured coral. You'll find that the best snorkelling sites are in the gardens of coral near the island's barrier reef. Experienced divers will love Bora Bora, with the selection of deep-dive sites, full of rays and reef sharks, just outside the lagoon. But even new divers will get a buzz out of Bora Bora, as the shallow reefs make it a very forgiving training environment. Splurge at the luxurious Pearl Beach Resort and enjoy waking up to a postcard view of Bora Bora's Mount Otemanu. [spmhotels.com/resort/bora-bora](http://spmhotels.com/resort/bora-bora)

## KO PHI PHI ISLANDS

The Ko Phi Phi Islands are where that laboured Leonardo DiCaprio movie *The Beach* was filmed. Don't let that stop you though – when Phi Phi is approached by boat, the islands rise impressively from the sea like a fortress. Sheer cliffs tower overhead and give way to a beach-fronted jungle. Besides the scenery, it's hard not to fall in love with the attitude of Phi Phi – some say it's one of the most laid-back places on the planet. Of the two islands, one is free of people (Phi Phi Leh) and the other has no roads (Phi Phi Don). Stay at Zeavola, a beachfront resort that at first glance, is no more than a scattering of dinky wooden huts. Get closer, though, and you'll see the hotel has been designed that way, to mask the mod-con luxuries with a veneer of rustic island charm. [thezeavola.com](http://thezeavola.com)





## HANAUMA BAY, OAHU

Hanauma Bay is the most famous of all of Hawaii's snorkelling beaches because of its dense fish population, calm, shallow waters and bright white sand. Originally formed as the cone of a volcano that eventually became breached by the ocean and formed a natural cove now known as Hanauma Bay, the beach can see up to 1000 visitors a day. The fish in the area are as chilled out as the Hawaiian locals and will be mostly oblivious to your presence as you snorkel around the crevices and caves flanking the reef. Stay at the Kahala Resort, which is situated on a private beach, has four onsite restaurants, a full-service spa for your girl and a private lagoon with resident dolphins. Go on, get lei'd in Oahu. [kahalaresort.com](http://kahalaresort.com)







## TO SUA OCEAN TRENCH

Now this one is really something unique: To Sua's ocean trench is located in a village on the south coast of Upolu island in Samoa and is only accessible by a ladder. If you're a afraid of heights it can be unerving climbing backwards down the algae-coated ladder that descends 30 metres down into the trench. But, once you've conquered the ladder, your reward is to explore the crystal clear waters, sublime marine life, smooth, white sandy bottom and deep caves within the trench. While you're in Upolu, it's also worth checking out Lalomanu, a village on the east coast that gives access to some of the best views in Samoa. Hire a kayak and paddle out over the coral reefs into the pristine water. Book yourself a suite at the Sinealei Reef Resort and soak up some of Samoa's finest panoramic beachfront views while cracking a cold local brew. [sinealei.com](http://sinealei.com)







## HINATUAN'S ENCHANTED RIVER

Hidden in the Philippine jungle, in a sleepy town called Hinatuan, is a tranquil short stretch of saltwater river. It's been nicknamed the Enchanted River because no one actually knows how or why it exists. Some spout science and others are convinced it was created by nature fairies... At its deepest point, it's only around 25 metres and barely long enough to be considered a river, yet it's just so damn beautiful and visitors from around the world flock to see it. Once you've explored the depths of the Enchanted River, jump on a boat and check out the Sibadan Fish Cage – a huge fish cage which houses a school of lobsters, sharks, turtles, stingrays, trevallies and other reef fish. The accommodation in the area is pretty basic, so head back to Butuan and grab a room at the Almont Inland Resort. [almont.com.ph/inland\\_resort](http://almont.com.ph/inland_resort)

## SABAH, BORNEO

Situated in Borneo, Sabah is a land of lush, emerald green jungle, craggy mountains and electric blue oceans, which act as a feeding trough for a kaleidoscope of sea life. To go eyeball to eyeball with the marine life, check out the island of Sipadan, which Jacques Cousteau described as having some of the best diving in the world. Although the island tends to attract experienced divers, there's loads of the Semporna archipelago that are great for novices who just want to explore and poke around the marine life not too far off shore. There's also the option to kick back in a boat and appreciate the palm civets, lorises and orang-utans that roam in the wild. While in Sabah, stay on the coast of Malohom Bay at Gaya Island Resort. It's a five-star resort hidden in the hillside of a rainforest and is only accessible by boat. [thezeavola.com](http://thezeavola.com)





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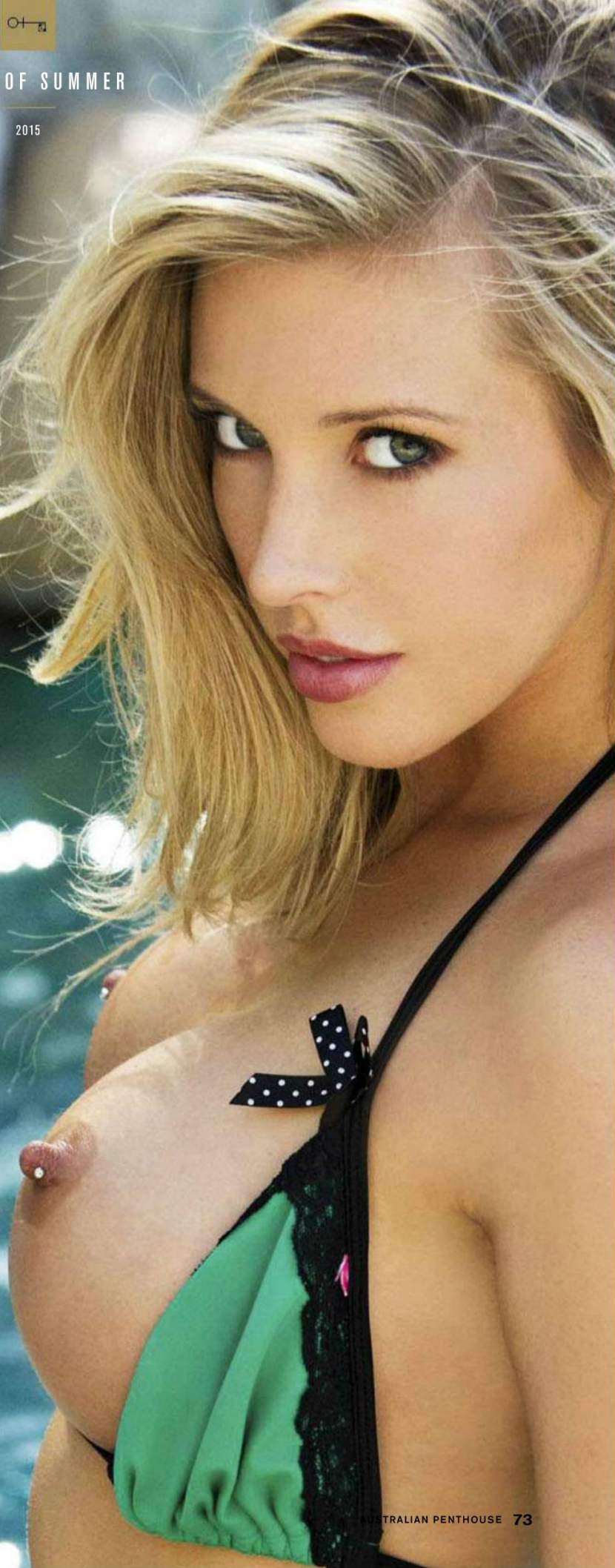


GIRLS OF SUMMER

2015

# MERCURY RISING

GLOBAL WARMING AFFECTS EVERYONE,  
AND IT'S VITAL WE ALL MAKE A  
CONTRIBUTION TO REDUCE ITS IMPACT.  
WHICH WE PROMISE TO DO, RIGHT  
AFTER WE'VE RAISED THE PLANET'S  
TEMPERATURE BY SEVERAL DEGREES  
WITH THE HOTTEST WOMEN OF SUMMER...











## SAMANTHA SAINT

Star of Wicked films uncovers a crucial design flaw with a new bikini top that is clearly not capable of any kind of supporting role.







## ISABELLA

Who needs a surname when you are this perfectly proportioned and so ludicrously loaded with Latino sultriness?











## CHARMANE STAR

The next time you get transferred through to a Filipino call centre, use positive visualisation techniques and pretend the person on the other end looks exactly like Charmane Star.











## CASSIE LANE

Photographers can rarely be trusted. One moment they love everything, the next they go and give a hard-working model a massive spray.

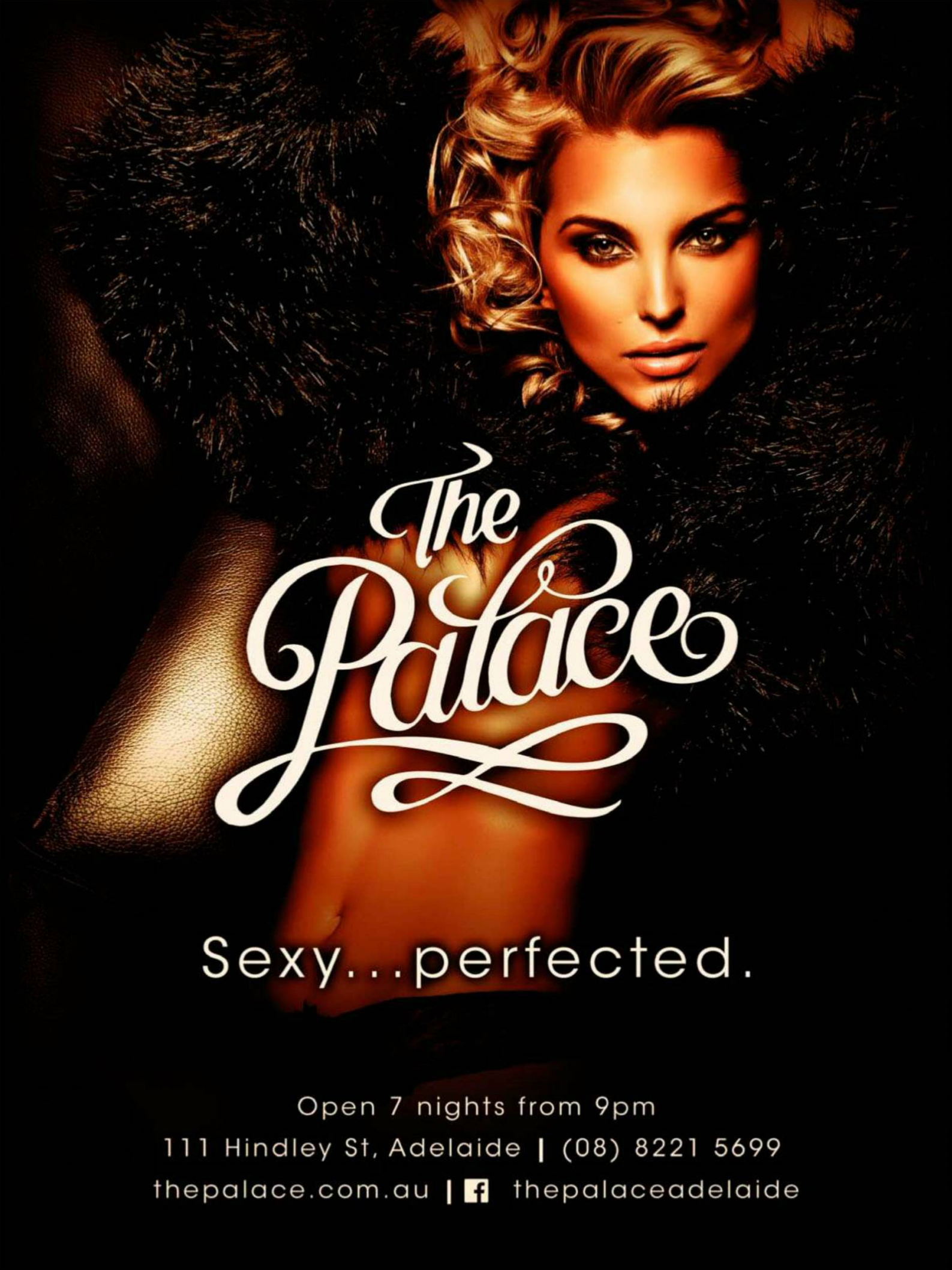


## LELA STAR

When Lela recently relinquished her title of Hottest Woman Ever With Star As A Surname, men the world over mourned the loss. We offer this image by way of small consolation.







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# THE GRAB FOR GAS

COAL SEAM GAS EXTRACTION COULD BE THE MOST ENVIRONMENTALLY DEVASTATING MINING EVER, YET THE JUGGERNAUT APPEARS UNSTOPPABLE

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WORDS : MARK ABERNETHY

**T**ONY PICKARD is a New South Wales sheep grazier. He's also taking coal seam gas (CSG) miner Santos to court for contaminating his water bores.

"Santos was drilling CSG pilots on the neighbouring property," says Pickard, who's property is in Jack's Creek, south of Narrabri. "They had eight wells and in 2011 I asked them to come and test the water in my two bores."

The company sent its water analysts in March 2012 and Pickard subsequently received a letter from the company. "They said, 'this bore water is not fit for human consumption,'" says Pickard. "They condemned my bores. Just like that."

"They told me it wasn't caused by their drilling – it was because of the feedlots and swamps."

But there are no feedlots or swamps in Pickard's district. So they told him the contaminated water must have been from his sheep, and then, that it was the fault of his septic tanks.

Independent analysts employed by Pickard concluded the pilot wells had probably contaminated the 'Paleo Channel' water system with an agent that accelerates bacteria growth. Pickard's case is so serious that it is now being run by the NSW government's Environmental Defender's Office.

"I'm not against mining or gas," says Pickard. "But in Australia we don't ruin our neighbour's water supply."



Coal seam gas mining is going to double Australia's gas production by 2020, but it is possibly – as American filmmaker Josh Fox says – 'inherently contaminating'.

CSG has to coax methane from the billions of cracks in a coal bed, meaning the wells have to be sunk up to 1km down, and then dug sideways to follow the horizontal coal seam. The methods used to get this gas out of the ground are so damaging that they're creating resistance movements in Australia and around the world. Australia's Lock The Gate Alliance, for instance, has more than 230 community action groups as members. In the United States, medical practitioner groups, churches and science associations are issuing statements against this 'unconventional' gas. The issue at stake is public health: namely, that CSG mining pollutes groundwater, puts toxins in the air, disrupts communities and compromises the food chain.

During the submissions phase of the NSW Chief Scientist's report into CSG in 2014, academics from University of Western Sydney – Pavla Vaneckova and Hilary Bambrick – reviewed all available public health research on CSG and concluded: "Health risks may be associated with all stages of CSG extraction (exploration, production and post-production), with possible exposures via water, soil and air pollution. The adverse health outcomes may include respiratory, cardiovascular, genitourinary and digestive diseases, skin problems, some types of cancer, injuries, hormonal disruption, fertility and reproductive effects."

In 2013, a group of academics reported on the public health dangers of coal seam gas for the US National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. They studied 492 people in 180 randomly selected households that use water wells, in areas of active gas drilling. Upper respiratory symptoms were twice as prevalent in people living in households less than 1km from gas wells compared to households living more than 2km from the nearest well. The number of reported health symptoms per person was twice as great for those living within 1km of a gas well (3.2), compared to those living more than 2km away (1.6).

This is Australia's newest resources industry – an industry that, with virtually no government-sponsored health impact assessments or deep environment impact studies – is going to grow nine-fold in Queensland by 2020 and increase 15-fold in New South Wales by 2035. Australia will be the world's largest exporter of natural gas by 2020, with an expected 40,000 CSG wells by the mid-2020s. And not a single peer-reviewed study into what it will do to our water, our children and our food chain.

IN THE exploration phase, CSG miners drill through aquifers and other water systems to find the coal beds. They use chemicals to aid drilling, and the

chemicals can leach into the water table and be carried as far as the underground channels take the water. The miners know this and insert an 190mm steel sleeve down the length of the well and line it with concrete, to stop the methane and chemicals infecting the water table. In the United States, where the technology was invented, these wells are known to degrade and leak as they age.

The miners then pump out the ground water to make the gas flow from the coal. This water, called 'produced' water, is highly saline – which kills vegetation and fouls fresh water – and can contain radioactive isotopes, BTEX chemicals and heavy metals. BTEX (acronym of benzene, toluene, ethyl benzene, xylenes) are carcinogenic chemicals once used in CSG mining, which are so toxic that they've been banned in Queensland and New South Wales. BTEX is found naturally in geological formations and they are often found in produced water.

Then the miners have to store the toxic water in large dams – dams which can and do leak. Queensland's Department of Environment and Resource Management reported 23 spills of waste water, four uncontrolled releases of waste water and three breaches of waste water storage during floods in the first six months of 2011. In the Pilliga East Forest area of NSW there were 16 spills and leaks from Eastern Star's CSG holding dams between 2010 and 2011. One of these spills of highly saline water, at Bibblewindi, resulted in a 'kill zone' 500 metres long in which the vegetation died.

Under some CSG licenses, the miners have to process the produced water with reverse osmosis, before they can discharge the water into a river. In 2011, Friends of the Earth and the Wilderness Society independently tested the Bohena Creek in New South Wales – downstream from where Eastern Star/Santos discharged its treated water. The testing found high levels of ammonia, methane, carbon dioxide, lithium, cyanide, bromide and boron. Santos said the readings were caused by agricultural fertilisers, but the Bohena Creek water upstream of the discharge pipe was uncontaminated.

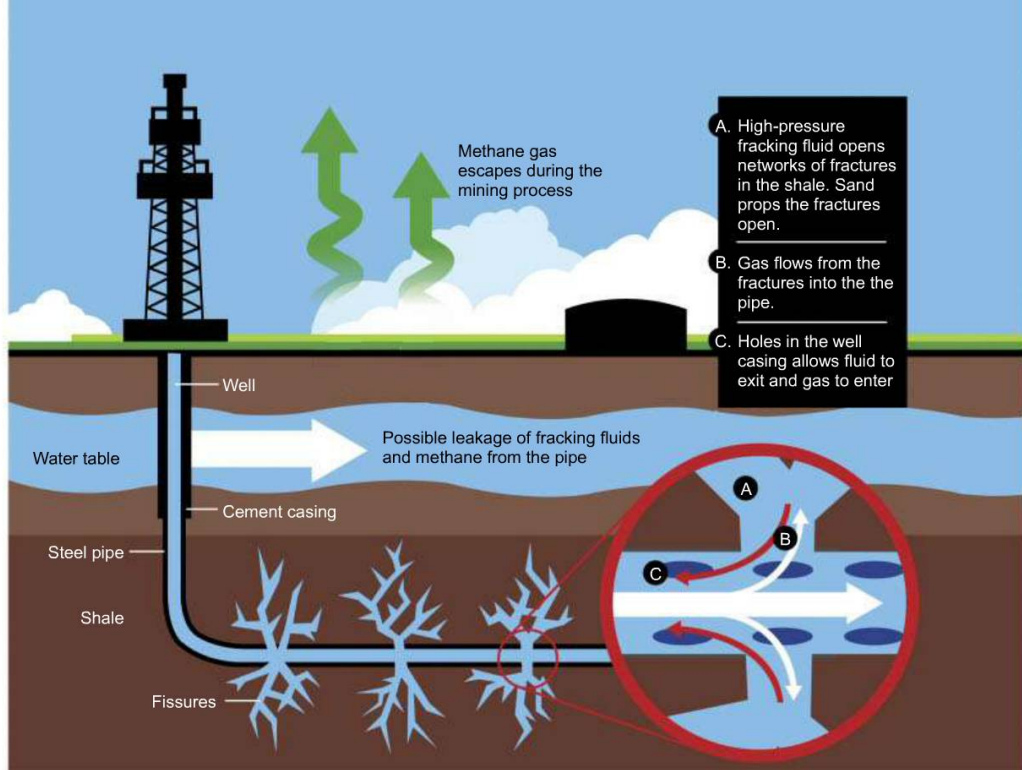
**CSG MINING  
POLLUTES  
GROUNDWATER,  
PUTS TOXINS IN  
THE AIR, AND  
COMPROMISES  
THE FOOD CHAIN**











## TORCHED FOR GAS

In 2006, American filmmaker Josh Fox (above, in cap) received a letter from an oil & gas company, offering him \$100,000 to extract natural gas from his rural land. A year earlier the US congress passed a law exempting oil & gas companies from environmental and water protection laws. So he investigated the areas where coal seam gas and shale gas had been extracted using 'fracking'. The result was *Gasland* – the 2010 documentary nominated for an Academy Award – which showed the now-famous scenes: contaminated well water; flaming kitchen taps; pools of rainwater 'bubbling' with methane; farmlands destroyed; soil and vegetation ruined; people sick, children with nose-bleeds; politicians and oil & gas executives in league.

When Fox made *Gasland II* for HBO, in 2012 he tried to film a congressional sub-committee that was considering an EPA report linking fracking to the contaminated groundwater of Pavillion, Wyoming. He was refused entry, handcuffed, arrested and thrown in jail. In *Gasland II*, Fox draws a clear linkage between fracking chemicals and groundwater contamination, and reveals how oil & gas companies pick on the state politicians and bureaucrats while circumventing the federal agencies.







## THERE ARE SCORES OF CHEMICALS USED IN A FRACKING, INCLUDING HYDROCHLORIC ACID, PETROLEUM DISTILLATES, METHANOL AND BORIC ACID



The miners most controversially use a technique called hydraulic fracturing (aka. fracking/fraccing) to crack the coal bed and make the well more productive: they force a mix of sand, water and chemicals into the well under high pressure which cracks the coal seam. There are scores of chemicals used in a fracking, including hydrochloric acid, sodium chloride, calcium chloride, petroleum distillates, methanol and boric acid. Each fracking involves 10–30 million litres of water and 15–20 tonnes of chemicals. They use 'bentonite clay' to seal the well when it passes through aquifers; to stop this clay swelling or dissolving they mix choline chloride, sodium chloride and tetra methyl ammonium chloride into it.

While the most dramatic risks from CSG involve ground water, communities around the wells also complain about the effects of 'flaring' the wells, and methane leakage into the air.

"It's easy to think that because you can't see a water supply, you don't have a problem," says spokesperson for Lock The Gate Alliance, Phil Laird. "But if you're doing something that can cause damage to people, water and the environment, you should start by proving that what you're doing is safe."

Laird says the mining companies are non-forthcoming with baseline environmental data, and he says the experts' reports can make people even more concerned.

"The New South Wales chief scientist released her report in September – she said that the industry can be made safe if you improve the legislation, strengthen the regulations and have better baseline data about ground water. It just made people think, 'why don't we have this already?'"

Laird says the dynamics of groundwater are complex: by taking millions of litres out of a well, the CSG miners encourage methane to fill the void. But

pressure alterations can make previously-separated methane, BTEX, hydro-carbons and bacteria migrate into the water being used in bores.

Consider Brian Monk, who neighbours a CSG operation in Queensland. He realised something was wrong with his water when his grandchildren suffered mild chemical burns in the bath. He found methane in his bore water, at large enough quantities that it can be set on fire. Other families around the Queensland gas fields have complained about their children developing nose-bleeds that last for days.

Laird says farmers adjacent to gas wells in the Condamine area have methane emitting through the ground, and around the CSG fields at Tara, in Queensland's Darling Downs, some water bores contain toluene and methane.

"You crack open the coal beds and you could be releasing methane straight to the surface," says Laird. "That's the point of fracking: to release methane."

He says the opening of Gloucester (in New South Wales to CSG mining, is of concern because the geology is fractured rock and the balance between rock, water and gas is easily disturbed, allowing contaminants to migrate into groundwater systems.

The ABC *Four Corners* documentary from 2013, *Gas Leak!*, shows footage of the Condamine River bubbling with methane. And Southern Cross University scientist, Dr Damien Maher, has taken air readings from the Darling Downs and found that the atmosphere contains three times as much methane around the CSG wells as it should.

Coal seam gas has taken many people by surprise. From a standing start in 1996, coal seam gas licenses and applications now cover 54 percent of Australia. The race to get gas out of the coal seams in eastern Australia is occurring because the three new LNG trains at Gladstone (facilities that freeze and compress natural gas into LNG for export) will be online by 2015 and they have the capacity to process twice the current annual consumption in the eastern states.

Victoria still has a moratorium on new coal seam gas projects and NSW has introduced limitations on CSG mining, mainly around prime agricultural land and industries such as wine and horses.

But governments are keen to facilitate CSG mining not the least because of the resources royalties to be earned. All states have resources laws allowing explorers to access private land for mining, and exempting the mining companies from environmental and water protection laws (a mirroring of similar law changes in the US in 2005).

The Queensland government is so supportive of this industry that in September it passed a law limiting the ability of people opposed to a CSG well to those who's property the well is actually on. The Queensland government has been very helpful to the CSG miners: when senior environmental



analyst at the Department of Infrastructure & Planning – Simone Marsh – was asked to approve the environmental impact study for a new CSG field owned by Queensland Gas Corporation in 2010, she noticed there was no study on the groundwater impact. She was told by her superiors, “there will be no chapter on groundwater.”

While governments are happy to sell-out to foreign miners, the pay-off for private landholders is not large. The Senate’s committee of rural affairs and transport – headed by Bill Heffernan – called for evidence on CSG in 2011, and heard farmers were paid on average .75¢ per \$1000 of gas extracted.

Farmers with a good lawyer can be paid \$30,000

## WHILE GOVERNMENTS ARE HAPPY TO SELL-OUT TO FOREIGN MINERS, THE PAY-OFF FOR PRIVATE LANDHOLDERS IS NOT LARGE



per year by the CSG miners, which includes an undertaking to keep livestock away from wells and other infrastructure. But by only compensating the landholders, gas companies and governments ignore the complaints of neighbours who also experience problems with their water, truck traffic and air quality.

The concerns about Australia’s nascent CSG industry echo the problems experienced in the United States where farmers are either bullied by expensive legal tactics to let the coal seam gas miners onto their land, or they are offered a cheque that is only enough to clear some debts. The public are set one against the other, as one group oppose the mining and the others take their cheques. And then, when the methane bubbles through the ground, and the water bores go off, the locals realise neither the government nor gas companies are responsible for the water.

Bill Heffernan’s Senate report on CSG pointed out that the industry had a relatively short life expectancy when put beside the perennial industry of agriculture and the long-term needs of the environment. The committee’s report called for a moratorium on coal seam gas mining where the Murray-Darling basin overlaps the Great Artesian Basin in northern New South Wales and southern Queensland – a crucial

watershed for Australian agriculture. Of concern was the disposal of 1.6 million tonnes of salt expected from the mining, and the impact that mining would have on water.

The National Water Commission is also concerned about CSG mining in the Murray-Darling because not enough is known about taking huge amounts of water out of an already-degraded groundwater resource. It’s a question they’re asking in the Darling Downs where farmers and townships’ 200,000 megalitres per annum of water from the Great Artesian Basin is already too much, and the CSG miners will ramp up to almost 100,000 megalitres of their own each year. The Great Artesian Basin is vast, but can it cope with more degradation?

The water problem runs through every discussion on CSG, and will only get worse if the US example is a precursor: in 2012, the US Environmental Protection Agency started water deliveries to residents of Dimock, Pennsylvania, whose water supply had become contaminated by nearby gas extraction.

Queensland’s Office of Groundwater Impact Assessment (OGIA) has already acknowledged that coal seam gas mining in the Surat basin (the Darling Downs) will see at least 528 water bores drop by between 2 and 5 metres in the next three years. The solution to this is that when the bores reach their predicted levels, the miner will then be responsible to ‘make good’ the water source.

“People can’t understand why we have to wait for the water bores to drop, when the government already knows which ones will be affected and who’s causing it,” says one farmer from the Jimba Plains, David Hamilton. “It isn’t the way things are supposed to work.”

The way things are supposed to work is that the government represents Australians, not foreign corporations. It has been estimated that around 80 percent of profits from coal seam gas mining will land offshore, largely because the biggest CSG miners are British, American and Chinese operations. Australia doesn’t just lose potential income and water resources from the gas deal; the focus of CSG towards the LNG terminals at Gladstone has more than tripled the price of domestic gas in less than a decade. Heads you win, tails we lose.

In another paradox, the CSG industry – once supported by the greens because it was a low-greenhouse gas way of generating power – now turns out to be harmful. Methane produces 20 times the greenhouse gas of CO<sub>2</sub>.

However, water is at the heart of the CSG problem and Australian farmers are becoming used to some of the spin produced by the mining companies as they move to leasing land from farmers.

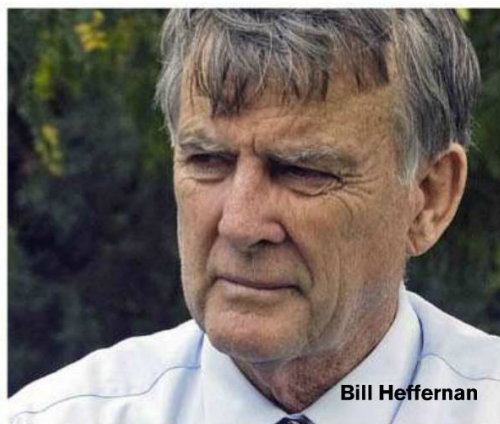
“One bloke’s getting \$50,000 a year to allow gas wells on his land,” says Tony Pickard with a laugh. “Santos call it ‘drought-proofing’ your farm. Now these people are comedians, too.”







Simone Marsh



Bill Heffernan



## FRACK OFF

CSG production can happen where ever there are coal beds – many old coal mines in Europe are used to collect methane for power generation. However, to make the wells commercially viable for gas there has to be certain characteristics – size, type, accessibility, gas price. Commercial CSG currently comes from basins in the USA, Canada, Australia, China, Kazakhstan and India. Many Canadian and American jurisdictions have banned fracking, including counties and cities in Nova Scotia, British Columbia, Quebec, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, South Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

In the rest of the world, fracking has been banned or non-licensed in territories in France, Luxembourg, Bulgaria, Rumania, South Africa, Germany, Czech Republic, Argentina, Spain, Switzerland, Australia, Italy, Northern Ireland, New Zealand and Australia, where municipalities such as Marrickville, Canada Bay and Tyalgum have made themselves CSG-free. Kaikoura District Council, in 2012, declared itself a frack-free zone.



# BRAIN STRAIN

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF ALL THINGS SUMMER-TIME, THEN - HOPEFULLY - LAUGH YOUR PANTS OFF

**1: Which New South Wales beach is home to one of the world's oldest surf lifesaving clubs?**

- a. Curl Curl
- b. Bondi
- c. Manly

**2: Which famous yacht race starts on Boxing Day each year?**

- a. The World Match Racing Tour
- b. The Commonwealth Cup
- c. The Sydney to Hobart yacht race

**3: What's the second most dangerous type of jellyfish in Australia?**

- a. Sea Wasp jellyfish
- b. Irukandji
- c. Box jellyfish

**4: By what age do we get 80 percent of our lifetime sun exposure?**

- a. 18
- b. 12
- c. 25

**5: Which Australian town holds the record for the hottest temperature at 50.7 degrees in January 1960?**

- a. Cloncurry, Qld
- b. Mooma, SA
- c. Oodnadatta, SA

**6: Stretching for 22km along the Indian Ocean, which WA beach offers amazing views of the Broome sunset?**

- a. Manly
- b. Torquay
- c. Cable Beach

**7: In cricket, what is a diamond duck?**

- a. A wicket in the first ball of the match
- b. A type of late-swing delivery used by Bart King in the early 1900s
- c. A delivery bowled by a spinner that travels in a highly arched path appearing to 'float' in the air

**8: Which Tasmanian Beach, named for its bulbous shape,**

**has been ranked amongst the world's top 10 beaches?**

- a. Wineglass Bay
- b. Round Cove
- c. Balloon Beach

**9: What state does the Australian Open take place each year?**

- a. Victoria
- b. Queensland
- c. New South Wales

**10: Which long stretch of sand on Queensland's Fraser Island provides ideal driving for four-wheel drive enthusiasts?**

- a. Seventy-five Mile Beach
- b. Sandy Cove
- c. One Mile Beach

**11: An eskimo roll would be seen in which sport?**

- a. Ice skating
- b. Surfing
- c. Kayaking

**12: What year was the first Australian Summer Olympic**

**Games?**

- a. 1896
- b. 1900
- c. 1936

**13: Near which beach did Australian Prime Minister Harold Holt disappear in 1967?**

- a. Bells Beach
- b. Cheviot Beach
- c. Cape Bridgewater

**14: Where in Australia can you face a \$500 fine or 60 days in jail if you're caught wearing a G-string on the beach?**

- a. Perth
- b. Melbourne
- c. Adelaide

**15: What, in surf lingo, is a stringer?**

- a. The strip of wood that runs the length of a surfboard
- b. A female surfer who isn't very good
- c. Getting spun around and held underwater by a wave

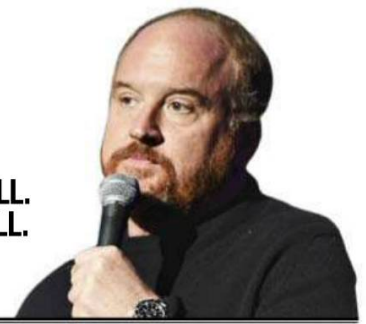


**BONUS QUESTION:**  
WHAT TYPE OF SWIMSUIT IS A MONOKINI?  
A. A MANKINI FOR WOMEN  
B. A ONE-PIECE WITH CUTOUTS ON THE SIDES AND FRONT  
C. A SKIMPY BRAZILIAN-CUT WITH CHAIN LINKS

1.b, 2.c, 3.b, 4.b, 5.c, 6.c, 7.a, 8.a, 9.a, 10.a, 11.c, 12.a, 13.b, 14.b, 15.a, Bonus .b



QUOTE OF THE MONTH  
"I DON'T STOP EATING WHEN I'M FULL.  
THE MEAL ISN'T OVER WHEN I'M FULL.  
IT'S OVER WHEN I HATE MYSELF"  
LOUIS C.K.



GOT ONE TO SHARE? | PENTHOUSE@AUSTRALIANPENTHOUSE.COM.AU

## TWO'S COMPANY

A businessman from New York is relocated by his company to a redneck town in the deep south of the USA. Just after he's finished moving in to his new home next to a trailer park, there's a knock at his door. He opens it to find a huge, bearded redneck in overalls standing there. The redneck growls, "Howdy neighbour, the name's Jethro."

After brief introductions, Jethro says, "Just wanted ta invite ya to a party, to welcome ya'll to the neighbourhood."

The businessman is a little taken aback, but says, "Er that's very kind of you..."

Jethro says, "Yup, there's gonna be lots of eatin', drinkin'; fighting and fuckin'..."

The businessman is a little wide-eyed, but says, "Well, gosh, that all sounds very exciting; what shall I wear?"

Jethro says, "It don't really matter. Just gonna be me and you..."

## WINNER NOT A GRINNER

A bogan Aussie buys a \$10 lottery ticket and wins first prize. He goes to the Sydney office to claim it where the man verifies his ticket number.

The bogan says, "I'm here for my \$20 million." The man replies, "No, I'm sorry sir. It doesn't work that way. We give you a payment of a million today, and then you'll get the rest spread out for the next 19 years."

The bogan says, "Mate, this is bullshit! I want my money! I won it, and I want me fuckin' cash NOW!"

Again, the lottery man patiently explains that he would only get a million that day and the rest over the next 19 years.

The bogan, now furious with the man, screams, "Listen to me ya fahn cahn, I WANT ME FUCKIN' MONEY! If you're not gunna give me my \$20 million right now, then I want me fuckin' ten bucks back!"

## BAD MEDICINE

A doctor and his wife were having a heated argument at breakfast. As he stormed out of the house, the doctor angrily yells to his wife, "You aren't that good in bed, either!"

By mid morning, he decides he'd better make amends and calls home. After



many rings, his wife, clearly out of breath, answers the phone. "What took you so long to answer and why are you panting?" he asks. "I was in bed," she replies. "What the hell are you doing in bed at this hour?" Wife answers, "Getting a second opinion."

## ONLY WAY TO TRAVEL

A man walks into a travel agent.

Man: "I would like to go somewhere really special."

Travel agent: "We have just the thing: an all-inclusive holiday in Thailand, flying from Sydney."

Man: "Nah, there have been so many plane crashes, I really wouldn't feel safe."

Travel agent: "Okay, I can offer you a cruise around the Greek islands then?"

Man: "But there have been so many cruise-liner incidents..."

Travel agent: "In that case, I can offer you a coach tour of Europe?"

Man: "But the road accidents – they're worst of all!"

Travel agent: "Oh, I think I have just the ticket – a walking tour, but I must warn you: it has sexual overtones."

Man: "That sounds perfect!"

Travel agent: "Great. So piss off and go fuck yourself."

## ROMANCE DOWN THE DRAIN

A bloke's girlfriend comes out of the shower and says, "I just shaved my pussy; you know what that means?"

Bloke says, "Yeah, yeah, the fuckin' drain is clogged again. Call the plumber."

## HANGING OFFENCE

Q: How do you make a gay man squeal twice?

A: First you fist him, then you wipe your arm on his curtains.

## SOLO PURSUIT

Ivan Milat convinces a backpacker to join him to smoke some very good weed in the Belanglo Forest. It's late at night, the wind starts picking up, and mysterious noises can be heard around them. The backpacker looks at Ivan and says, "This is scary. I'm freaking out here..."

Ivan looks at her and says, "You're fuckin' scared? What about me? I have to walk back out of here alone!"



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# BITTER SWEET

THE TRUTH BEHIND THE SWEET STUFF,  
MINUS THE SUGAR-COATING

WORDS : AMIE BARBELER

**I**T'S THE white stuff that the western world is hooked to like crack whores. We're a population of processed food addicts, drawn to sweetness like fat dogs to a butcher. Our desire for the sweet stuff is deep and unrelenting. Even just writing about sugar sends my salivary glands into overdrive, as I self-sauce over the thought of some pudding. But with doctors and dieticians having shifted their attention from putting the boot into fat, to vilifying sugar, is the demonisation of the sweet stuff warranted? Does sugar deserve the smack-down? Or is 'sugar-free' just the latest food fad? **»»**



## THE DEVIL'S IN THE DETAIL

Sugar is an evil bastard. It's high in calories yet not actually filling, making it way too easy for us to consume excessive amounts – with those excess calories going straight to our gut. But it's not just the empty and excess calories that are the problem. Our excessive consumption of the white stuff is being blamed for everything from obesity, diabetes, premature ageing and even mental health problems.

In small amounts, it's not a big deal – the occasional sweet treat is hardly going to translate into a new wrinkle or trigger multiple organ failure. We need a bit of glucose in our diets to supply ready energy to fuel our muscles and keep our brains active. The problem, though, is that most people consume way too much. And most processed foods have added sugar, which supplies energy in the form of calories – and that's about it. This means that our body has to rely on the nutrients from the rest of our diet to process it, which can mess with our health and immunity, in turn leaving us more prone to viruses. Plus, too much sugar causes our blood sugar levels to shoot up, giving us that familiar feel-food 'high' followed by a slump, leaving us tired, agitated and craving more sugar. It's a vicious cycle.

## KNOW YOUR LIMITS

Sugar is everywhere – not just in the obvious suspects like cakes, biscuits and sweets. You'll find sugar hidden in refined carbs like bread, pasta dishes, cereals, and in skim milk; the list goes on. Ever heard of diastatic malt, dextran, ethyl maltol, panocha and sorghum syrup? Yeah – they're just fancy names for added sugar. So even if you don't consider yourself as having a sweet tooth, you could still be consuming a high-sugar diet. Digest this – one slice of regular white bread is converted into the same amount of glucose as four teaspoons of sugar, which is more than half of what your sugar intake should be for an entire day. In fact, the World Health Organisation (WHO) recommends that only 5 percent of your daily calorie intake consist of added sugars, which equates to around five to six teaspoons (25g) for women and seven to eight teaspoons (35g) for men. That's not a lot when you consider a schooner of cider contains as much sugar as the WHO recommends you should consume in a whole day.

## LESSER EVILS

Some celebrities and high-profile chefs have touted the benefits of replacing refined white sugar with more natural, "healthier" sugars, like honey, maple syrup, raw sugar, palm sugar, agave and molasses. But when it comes down to it, a calorie of sugar is a calorie of sugar. There's nothing inherently better about any of these sweeteners compared to regular refined sugar. The only potential redeeming quality is that some of those sweeteners – especially maple syrup and honey – might have a stronger, sweeter taste, meaning you might be able to get the desired sweetness by using less of it.

## A SPOONFUL OF SUGAR-FREE

Type "artificial sweetener" into any search engine and expect to be inundated with a barrage of unsubstantiated claims about the evils of fake sugar. Despite no studies existing to back up these side effects, some people are adamant that artificial sweeteners like aspartame (used in diet soft drinks, nutrition shakes, cereals), sucralose (in yoghurt, protein bars, frozen desserts) and saccharin (in chewing gum, canned fruit, jams) can cause a myriad of terrifying illness like epilepsy, Alzheimer's, multiple sclerosis, cancer... the list is endless.



## EXCESSIVE CONSUMPTION OF THE WHITE STUFF IS BEING BLAMED FOR OBESITY AND DIABETES

What we do know though is that 'sugar-free' foods have become an increasingly popular option for people who want to reduce their calorie consumption and lose weight, but studies have proven that fake sugar products can actually just make you hungrier, which in turn, makes you just want to eat more sugar. Irony at its finest.

Another sweetener that's hit the mainstream is Stevia – a naturally-sourced sugar substitute extracted from the leaves of a plant grown in Brazil and Paraguay. Stevia has been heralded as a "miracle sweetener" and the "holy grail for the food industry", as it has very few calories, is said to be 200 times sweeter than regular sugar and, unlike other fake sugars, doesn't cause people to overeat, doesn't raise blood sugar and can be used in both liquids and baked goods, meaning it's easy to add it to processed foods. Stevia currently accounts for 30 percent of the low-kilojoule sweetener market



## SUGAR SUBSTITUTION RACKET

## DITCH FRUIT JUICE

A typical glass of juice can deliver a sugar load that rivals a can of Coke.

**Instead try:** Fruit – you'll get a hefty dose of fibre with your fructose hit, without the added sugar.

## BREAD

**WHITE BREAD** is the devil but even a slice of wholemeal still contains around 1.6g of sugar.

**Instead try:** Sourdough – Minimal sugar but still tastes excellent toasted and slathered in avocado or with a poached egg on top.

## YOGHURT

Flavoured and low-fat varieties of yoghurt typically contain around 20g of sugar, and

**Instead try:** Greek yoghurt – it's 30 protein protein and will fill you up, reducing the urge to snack.

## MUESLI BARS

Often disguised as healthy snacks, the average muesli bar contains around 14g of sugar.

**Instead try:** Beef Jerky – a ready-to-go snack with no sugar and a solid hit of protein.

## CEREALS

Even 'healthy' alternatives like muesli can come in at a whopping 25 percent sugar.

**Instead try:** Porridge – it's low in sugar but high in vitamins B and E, and iron.

## SAUCES

Some stir-in sauces contain 25g, while regular tomato sauce and salad dressing can deliver 5g, even in tiny doses.

**Instead try:** Homemade tinned tomatoes, onion, garlic and a bit of basil. Easy.

## SPOT THE HIDDEN SUGAR

- Low fat and 'diet' foods might boast that they're low in fat but they generally contain extra sugar to help improve the palatability and to add bulk and texture in place of the fat.
- Even savoury foods like ready-made soups and sauces contain serious amounts of added sugar.
- A can of soft drink, on average, contains the equivalent of seven teaspoons of sugar.
- The natural sugar in some fruit, such as apples, has increased as new varieties (including Pink Lady, Fuji and Jazz) are bred to satisfy our desire for more sweetness.

in Australia but based on overseas trends, we can expect to see an explosion of Stevia-sweetened dairy and chocolate products, chewing gums and drinks here in the near future.

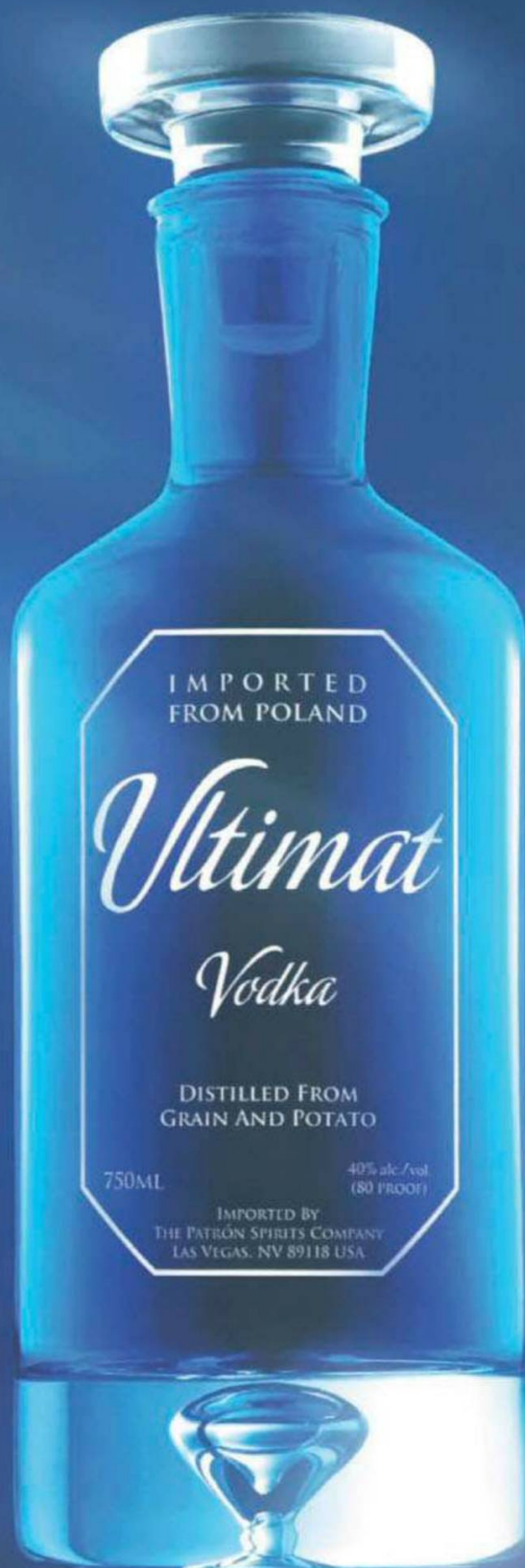
## GOING SUGAR-FREE

There's no doubt that going sugar-free is the dietary trend of the moment, leaving Paleo, the 5:2 and gluten-free for dust. And sugar-free cookbooks are big business right now, with Sarah Wilson's *I Quit Sugar* and *I Quit Sugar for Life* having sold a whopping 220,000 copies since being released in 2013. If you plan on giving up added sugar, though, resist the urge to go cold turkey. If you go from eating sugar non-stop to completely eliminating it in 24 hours, it will backfire. Make it a gradual process by just reducing your sugar intake each day. Cut out the sugar you add to your coffee or tea and if you can't stomach it without the sweetness, add a dash of Stevia; eat naturally sweet fruits and vegetables like beets, carrots, sweet potatoes, pumpkin, fennel, oranges, berries, apples, etc; and start reading food labels.

However, if you want to drastically reduce sugar from your diet but can't bear the thought of committing to a sugar-free lifestyle (and the mere thought of living off kale and coconut water makes you want to run screaming), just eat like our ancestors – a little fruit, almost no grains, a shitload of meat and a lot of exercise, as you pound the pavement of the urban jungle, imagining you're chasing the steak you will later eat. 



FIND BALANCE. FIND ULTIMAT.  
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IN FOCUS: MANNY ZERVOS

# A NEW VIEW

HOW A SYDNEY-BASED LANDSCAPE  
GARDENER TRADED A SHOVEL FOR A  
SHUTTER AND SOWED THE SEED FOR  
A REMARKABLE CAREER CHANGE



A full-page photograph of a person standing in shallow water, splashing water upwards. The water droplets are captured in mid-air, forming a large, intricate, fan-like shape that resembles a peacock's tail or a stylized tree. The scene is backlit by a warm, golden light, likely from a setting or rising sun, which creates a strong silhouette of the person and highlights the individual droplets of water. The background shows a calm body of water and distant, hazy hills under a warm sky.

**"EVERYTHING I'VE  
LEARN'T IS  
THROUGH TRIAL  
AND ERROR. IT  
REALLY HELPS  
YOU ESTABLISH  
YOUR OWN STYLE"**





**M**ANNY ZERVOS loves the South Sydney Rabbitohs, authentic Greek food, and capturing the beauty of women and landscapes with his camera. Over the last five or so years, he's been able to turn one of those passions into a viable occupation. Here he shares a selection of his favourite shots, and explains how he turned his love of photography into a career.

**How did you get started as an glamour photographer?**

I was a landscape gardener at the time I bought my first SLR camera and really I got into taking photos of landscapes, macros of water drops, flowers – that kind of stuff. The, in 2008, I was in Greece and I got my first break. I went to a strip club on Lesbos and met this girl. She was looking through my phone at my photographs and told me she wanted me to take some photos of her at the beach. So we did a series of topless photos and I suggested she flick her hair back as she came out of the water [left]. To this day, I think it's still my best shot.

**Have you had any formal photographic training since then?**

No, I'm completely self-taught. I went along to one workshop and learnt a little about posing and I've viewed a few YouTube tutorials about Photoshop. But besides that, I've taught myself everything I know. Everything I've learnt is through trial and error. It really helps you establish your own style. If you've got someone else teaching you, then you're going to adopt their style. I think that's what helps make my photos feel unique.

**What happened after the beach shoot? How did you find more models?**

Being an older guy, I didn't have the confidence to just approach these hot, young girls and say, "Hey, I'm a photographer. Come and shoot with this dirty old man!" I didn't shoot another model for a whole year after that... but I had this itch. So I went back to Greece thinking I'd just find another model. I ended up having this terrible shoot with a girl so I left Greece and joined Model Mayhem when I got home. From there, I started paying models to shoot with them and found I really enjoyed doing art nudes. Slowly, my reputation and skills started building and I started to get more work. It wasn't until a couple of years ago that I realised my work was at a level when I thought I could start doing it professionally. Since then, I've done a lot of glamour, fashion and bikini shoots, but my passion is photographing landscapes with nudes.





**“A PHOTOGRAPHER HAS TO GET THE MODEL TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE LIGHTING WORKS – HOW IT CARESSES HER FACE AND LIGHTS UP HER BODY”**

**Your models tend to have more serious expressions than the typical smile-at-the-camera shots. Is that a personal preference?**

People always say to me, “Why don’t your models smile?” I’m just not a real smiley kind of guy. That and I prefer to capture natural sensuality and sexuality, rather than big fake smiles. It’s not an easy feat to get a model to act ‘natural’ in front of a camera, because a lot of these girls have looked at too many adult and glamour magazines, and not enough of the artistic stuff. So they have skewed ideas of how they should pose.



**What do you think makes a great erotic photo?**

It has to make you stop and look at it for more than two seconds. Everyone says that video is going to overtake photos in popularity but I don’t believe it ever will. I don’t think you’re going to sit down and watch a video more than perhaps two or three times. But a really great photo, you’re going to go back to it again and again. You’ll look at it like a hundred times because you love that photo. A great photo has to have something special. It has to impart a feeling that you relate to. Obviously what makes a great photo is not the same for everyone. It’s like anything – beauty is in the eye of the beholder and all that. But for me, a memorable nude has to portray a woman’s sensuality, her beauty and the emotion she’s portraying. And it’s always better if she feels it naturally, rather than acting it.

**What is your approach when it comes to lighting?**

With lighting, I always have a preconceived idea of what the photo is going to look like. I’m at a point now where I’m so experienced with lighting that I pretty much know exactly what I’ve got to do to achieve the look I’m going for. But the important part of lighting goes beyond the equipment. A photographer has to get the model to understand how the lighting works – how it caresses her face and lights up her body.











A full-page artistic photograph featuring a person's legs from the knees down, positioned in the foreground. The legs are bent at the knees, with one leg extended towards the right and the other bent behind it. The skin is a warm, golden-brown color. The person is sitting in a pool of water at the base of a waterfall. The waterfall itself is a wide, powerful cascade of white water, creating a misty spray at the bottom. To the right of the waterfall, there are large, dark, wet rocks. The overall mood is serene and natural. The text "A GREAT PHOTO HAS TO IMPART A FEELING YOU RELATE TO" is overlaid in the upper-middle section of the image.

"A GREAT PHOTO HAS TO IMPART  
A FEELING YOU RELATE TO"







LEFT: "Black mosaic tiles and dramatic side lighting really highlight the definition and sexy parts of this model's body." BELOW: "Simple composition and natural light brings out the beautiful lines of this girl's figure."







**“IF YOU GET BOGGED DOWN IN TRYING TO LEARN EVERY SKILL THERE IS, YOU WON’T ALLOW YOURSELF TO DEVELOP AS A PHOTOGRAPHER”**

**How do you break the ice with nervous models?**

If a model shows up and she’s trembling from nerves, there are a few tricks I’ll do to break the ice. I’ll just start by showing her a pose. Imagine me, a big, 50-year-old, 150kg guy trying to strike these sexy poses... straight away she starts smiling. Otherwise, I’ll leave the lens cap on and go to take a photo and the model will start laughing at me for leaving the cap on. It just helps them relax. Another trick, is if it’s going to be a nude shoot, I’ll get the model naked early and then get her to put her clothes back on so we can start shooting the clothed stuff. This gets rid of the ‘pink elephant’ in the room – I’ve seen her body. It’s done. Then we can focus on the shoot.

**What’s your advice to someone with dreams of becoming an erotic photographer?**

Do what I did, just click away and experiment. If you start thinking about how much money you’re going to make or get bogged down in learning every skill there is to learn, you won’t allow yourself to develop as a photographer. Just pick up a camera and start shooting.





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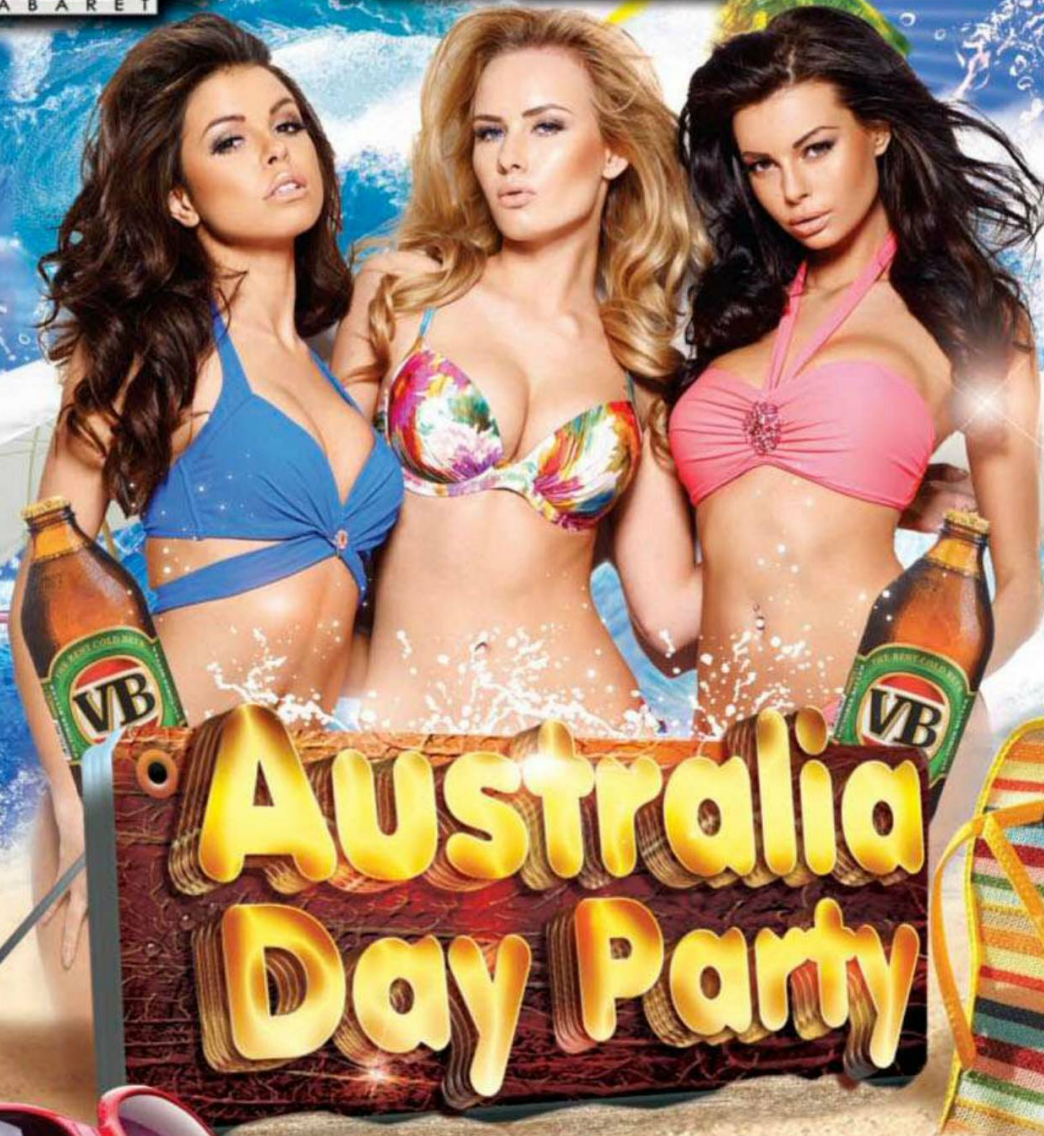
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## VANILLA THRILLER

I AM A swinger and no stranger to orgies, group sex with hooking up with strangers. However, I was a 'vanilla' virgin until recently. 'Vanilla' is what we call someone who is not a swinger. My husband and I do things differently to most other couples. We each have an account on the same swingers' hook-up site but we play separately. We are open on our profiles that we are married and playing separately, and we note the other's user name on the site so everyone knows we do have permission to play.

I was like a kid in the proverbial candy store when my husband and I decided to become swingers. I am not even sure how high the body count is, maybe it's best not to know an actual number... I have had experiences that have rocked my world and I've found that all of my inhibitions just disappear with the right person and the right circumstance. I have been experiencing things I never imagined I would even ever consider. My mind has expanded, I have met the most diverse and amazing people, and my husband and I share our stories, try new things, and our already hot sex life has gone through the roof. I am living the dream!

But things actually got better when I met Levi on the swingers' website.

Levi is an insanely hot guy and ever since we first met, we've had the wildest adventures together. He is my perfect match on all things intellectual, humour, political, philosophical, literary and on and on. We've also found that we share many fantasies, and then whenever we pitch one to the other, it instantly becomes a shared fantasy. He had this fantasy that we made come true in Kings Cross a few weeks ago and it was so hot and wild.

His fantasy was that we get a hotel in the Cross together and that he watches, as I find a random vanilla guy to flirt with. The plan is then for me to tempt the vanilla guy up to the room and fuck his brains out, and as soon as he is done and gone, I text Levi and he comes to the room and we fuck like animals afterward. As someone who gets off on fucking complete strangers, I didn't



**"ON ONE OF OUR VISITS, WE HAD DECIDED TO TRY AND MAKE OUR FANTASY A REALITY"**

take much convincing. I couldn't wait but we had decided to not rush it – that we'd just let it happen naturally.

On one of our visits, we had decided to try and make our fantasy a reality. I sat down at the hotel bar while Levi sat on the other side of the room. I was nervous that maybe no one would approach me but it only took five minutes for a handsome vanilla man to sit next to me. About twenty minutes, once the pleasantries were exchanged, the stranger and I went up to

the room and had fast, furious, awesome, standing-up, back-against-the-wall hot sex. The vanilla guy was a great guy and a wild fuck. He knew exactly how to push my buttons and his cock was huge. As soon as he left, I sent a text to Levi and he raced up to our room. While we fucked, I whispered every detail, only stopping the story with moans of my pleasure. This just increased the intensity level for us beyond belief! God, it was so fucking hot and I was so excited it happened! I have no idea how many times I came.

It's such an amazing adventure when you let go of your expectations and fear as anything is possible, in a place where time has no meaning and pleasure abounds.

I couldn't be happier.

**– F.W., Surry Hills, NSW.**



## UNDER INSTRUCTION

**I** T STARTED early, at 7:15 this morning when I walked into my office. I hadn't even set my bag down when I felt his presence behind me. He pushed himself up against me and I instantly got wet as his hot breath touched my ear.

"I'm going to bend you over your desk later and you're not going to be able to count how many orgasms you have," he growled playfully.

I stood there grinning, still bent over the desk for a minute as he walked back to his office, winking at me as he left the room. I had given him a very naughty To Do list for today and it was obvious he was intent on wasting any time. As soon as I logged into my computer he emailed me and asked if it was wrong if we knocked out the whole list in an hour. That cheeky bugger.

I smiled and looked up from my monitor to see his face. He had a devilish look on his face. Like he was going to rip my clothes off right there and then in the office. It made me squirm excitedly in my chair. I love it when he gets in this mood. He's unpredictable but very horny and

creative. It's like a roller coaster in the dark, you're not sure where you're going but it's fun and yet still safe.

Twenty four minutes later he was back in my office, this time though, he closed and locked the door. I had written a lot on that list and they weren't in any particular order, so I wasn't quite sure what he would do next but I was almost giddy to find out.

I stood up and he kissed me passionately before turning me around and bending me over my own desk. Obviously he was intent on keeping his promise! I could feel his hard cock twitching against my ass through his suit pants as he leant over me. I whimpered as he whispered: "Do you want this hard cock in you?" I really did. I was so horny. I had already soaked through my panties. Then he flicked his tongue on my ear once and walked out of my office again as I scrambled off my desk.

I was now completely useless at work. I pulled up the email that I had sent him to see what else I was going to be getting that day. I had barely switched to reading

my work emails when he was back in my office, the door open again, and he stood next to me in my chair and whispered, "The next time I come over here, I want you to suck my cock." The corner of my mouth went up in a naughty smile and he again went back to his office.

I sat at my desk for five minutes, staring blankly at my computer screen, wishing he'd come in and just fuck me. I couldn't wait any longer, so I flicked him a text that said, "I want to play..." That did the trick. Less than 30 seconds later he barged into my office. I quickly undid his belt, pulled his dick out and took the whole shaft into my mouth. I moaned in delight as his cock hit the back of my throat. I absolutely love the feeling of deep throating. Obviously intent on teasing me, he took his cock out of my mouth and sat in my spare chair. He sat there, stroking himself as I whimpered and wiggled in my own chair. His brown eyes were locked with mine as I switched between looking at them and staring hungrily at his cock as pre cum started to drip from the very pronounced head of his dick.

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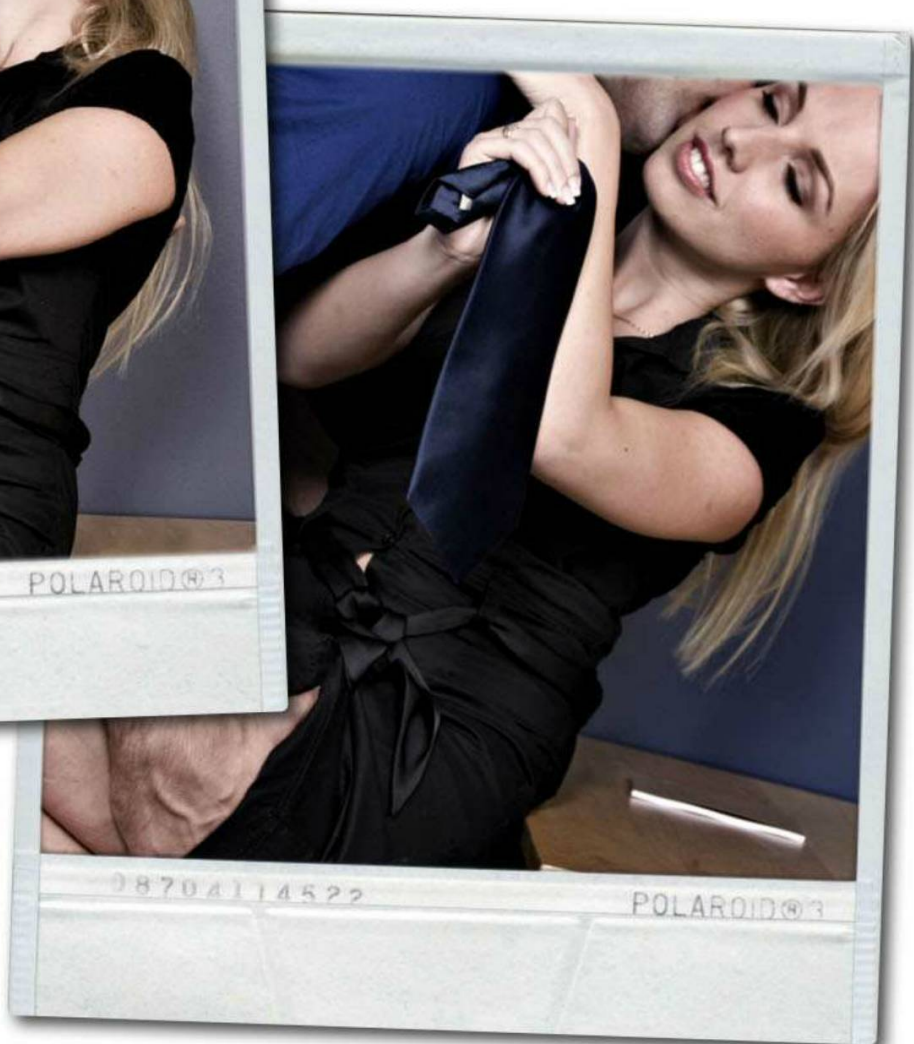
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I really wanted to ride him and feel his cock deep inside me, but he had other plans. He stood up, his cock still in his hand and stepped forward so that it was right in front of my face. He stroked it a few more times and as I opened my mouth to stick my tongue out to lick him clean he told me not to move, and he rubbed the wet head of his dick on my top lip, and then my bottom lip, and told me not to lick it off. My whole body shivered trying to fight both the urge to lick my lips and to suck him off, and he again returned to his office.

I could only sit and stare at him across the hall until, a painfully long two minutes later, he text messaged me with, "Lick just the top lip." As I did my eyes rolled back and I bit the inside of my bottom lip so I wouldn't be tempted to lick that, also.

Though the smell of him was literally right under my nose, I could smell how wet he had gotten me already, and it only made me more horny. I knew it was going to be a very, very long day. He was deceptively in control of himself, even though he was so revved up it was obvious that he wasn't getting any work done either. He was intent on making a mess of me, and I was well on my way.

Twenty minutes later he came back in my office. I tore off my skirt and panties

## **"TWO ORGASMS DOWN AND IT WASN'T EVEN 9AM! JUST ANOTHER DAY AT THE OFFICE..."**

and lay back on my desk in anticipation. I was expecting him to fuck me, but instead, he shoved his face between my legs and gave me the most incredible oral sex. Damn, it was hot! He stuck his tongue inside me, angled it up and massaged my G-spot. It was amazing! He started torturing me by slowly dragging his tongue over every part of my swollen pussy lips from outside to in, and then quickly sucking on my clit and letting it go as I twitched in his hands. When I felt like I was going to burst, he moved his face up to mine and mashed his mouth against mine, pushing his tongue deep into my mouth.

The combination of tasting myself on his tongue mixed with the feeling of his hard cock grinding against my pussy through his pants was driving me crazy. My pussy was aching to be fucked. After what felt like an eternity, he pushed his cock into me. I swear the feeling almost made me have a multiple orgasm! It felt so good. I rocked my hips against him, holding him close while we fucked like animals on my desk. I whispered to him that I was close to cumming and that just made him fuck me harder and deeper until I felt that familiar warmth and pleasure washed over my whole body. He slowed down his pace but kept fucking me afterwards – my pussy was so sensitive that it felt electric. While I lay there recovering, I gave him a hand job until I felt him stiffen and he exploded all over my stomach. Two orgasms down and it wasn't even 9am! Just another day at the office!

**– O.D, Melton, Vic.**



## FROM BAR TO FULLY BARRED

**F**EELING a little sore and a whole lot horny, I decided to visit my current favourite brothel for a nice relaxing massage and some hot sex. I walked in and was greeted by the pretty receptionist.

"Hello!" she said after recognising me. "Summer, right? Sorry but she called in sick today. The other girls are busy for the next 45 minutes and I only have Melissa available right now."

"Damn!" I said disappointedly. "I was really looking forward to seeing Summer again. I'm not sure anyone else can compare to her service."

"Melissa is a real hot MILF, if I say so myself. You won't be disappointed..." the cute receptionist tempted.

I agreed and paid her the fee before being led to the empty room.

The door slowly opened. My mouth dropped. I recognised her before she recognised me. It was the same Melissa who worked behind the bar at my local pub.

"Hi, I'm Mel..." She stopped in mid-sentence after realizing who her client was. "Sam!?"

Melissa stood about 5'8" in the 4-inch heels she wore. Pink painted toenails peeked through the open-toed shoes. She wore a slip over her perfect body. Her breasts and cleavage were proudly prominent and only slightly hidden by her thick and long dark brown hair.

"Mel!" It was all I could manage in reply.

"What are you doing here?" she asked. "Duh! Stupid question!"

"I usually see Summer every week but apparently she's sick today. The receptionist suggested I might enjoy you..." I grinned.

"I reckon you're going to forget all about Summer after I'm done with you," Mel remarked cheekily. I could feel my cock stiffening just looking at her.

Melissa tended bar at my local watering hole. There was something about her I always found hot. There seemed to be this mutual attraction between us and I would have loved to take things further with her but I knew she had a husband so I never pushed my luck.

"Well, I feel like I should probably get undressed now," Mel smiled as she bit her lip seductively. "This is going to be fun..."

I watched intently as Mel pulled off her slip, revealing her stunning athletic body. She reached around and undid her bra releasing her large but extremely pert

breasts. Her nipples were already hard. She hooked her fingers into the waist band and pushed down her matching French cut panties. She was shaved except for a tiny trimmed soul patch millimetres above her already wet slit. I wanted to taste her so bad.

Mel walked towards me and straddled me on the side of the bed. She grabbed my hand and directed my hand between her thighs. I plunged my fingers into her very wet pussy. "You're so wet already!" I told her.

"I started getting wet as soon as I saw it was you," Mel confessed. That comment made my cock spring to life.

She sunk her hips down onto my fingers, allowing my hand to sink deeper inside

her. "Oh fuck, Sam!" she groaned while bouncing on my hand. "You're going to make me cum already!"

I doubled my efforts. I curled my fingers inside her and hit that magic spot. "OH FUCK!" she squealed. She sunk her teeth gently into my shoulder as she came. "You made me come so fast!"

Melissa pushed me onto my back on the bed and squirted some oil onto her hands. "Fuck, Sam. That was so nice. You don't know how long I've wanted to be naked with you."

"Mel, I've wanted you since the first time I set eyes on you." I confessed. "But I didn't know if you were open to it."

Her oily hands kneaded my legs. She ran her hands up towards my groin, her fingers dancing along my stiff cock. "Hmmm... if I knew you had this, I would have given it to you long ago."

Mel straddled my face while she stroked my cock with her hands. The smelly of her pussy was driving me crazy – she smelt so damn good. I grabbed her ass cheeks and ran my tongue from her pussy to her ass. I greedily used my tongue to lick and suck all the juices that were pouring out.

**"MY MOUTH DROPPED  
OPEN. IT WAS THE SAME  
MELISSA WHO WORKED  
BEHIND THE BAR AT  
MY LOCAL PUB"**





Now, I've had a fair few handjobs over the years, but this was something else. She had this way of making me feel like I had five hands and mouths on my cock at once. When she could sense I was on the verge of orgasming, she pulled away and lay on her stomach on the bed, raising her ass in the air. I grabbed handfuls of her ass cheeks and massaged them, spreading them apart while Melissa moaned.

"Mmm... please fuck me, Sam. I want to feel you inside me," Melissa begged.

Moving back slightly, I pointed my dick down between her thighs. It was slick with oil and allowed me to slide right in. Melissa raised her bum a bit and I easily entered her.

"Oh fuck, Sam. Yes. Push it in! Harder," she coaxed. I pumped her hard and slow. "Oh fuck, yes! Don't stop!"

But I had to stop and I pulled out.

"You bastard!" she joked. "I was so close again."

"Yeah me too! Too close." I said. "Didn't want to cum just yet. This is too hot!" She rolled over and spread her legs wide.

"Fuck me! Put your cock inside me."

I laid between her thighs and pushed my cock deep into her. She wrapped her legs around my waist and immediately started thrusting her hips. "Fuck me! I need to cum!"

I obeyed her commands and started thrusting to meet her pelvic movements. "Oh fuck, Mel! I'm going to cum!"

"Yes! Fuck me! Fuck me hard! Cum inside me," she ordered. "I'm cum...m...ing! Uhhhh!"

Her cunt squeezed and sucked me. I could no longer hold back and shot my load into her. "Oh fuck! Oh fuck! Oh fuck!" I grunted as I came inside her.

I collapsed on top of Mel and panted. Still rock hard, my cock continued to spasm inside her. She let out a gasp and a giggle each time. "Mmm...! You feel so nice inside me."

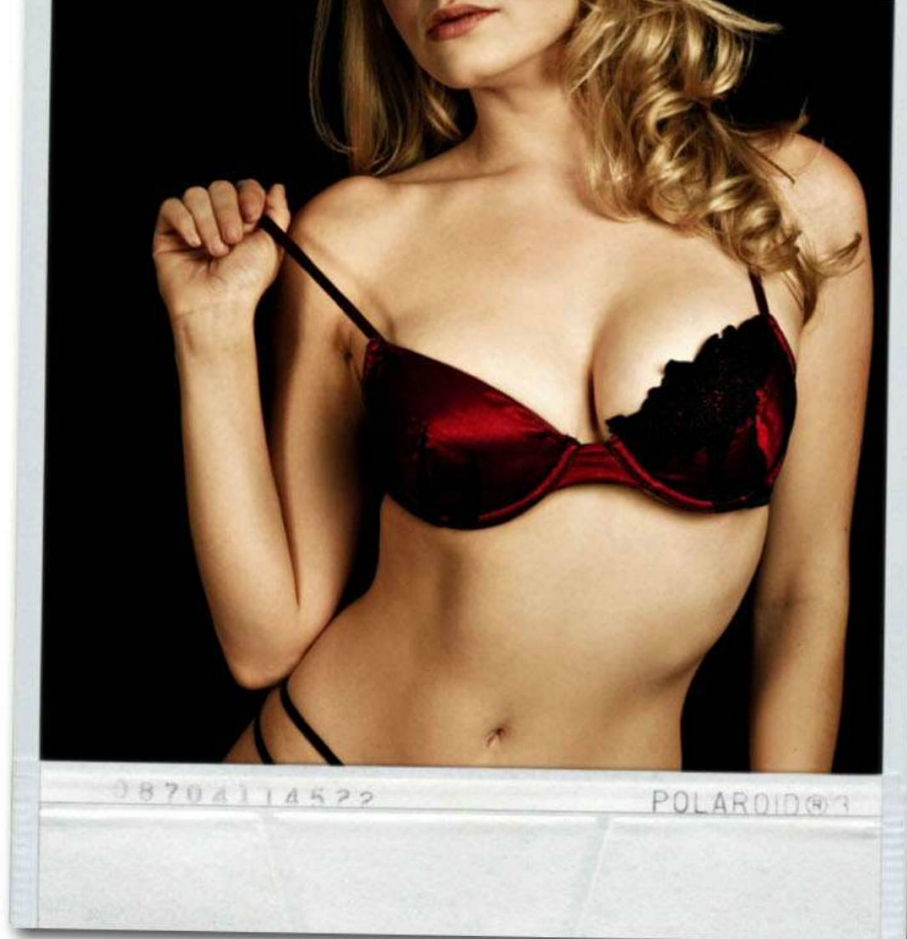
"Oh fuck, Mel! That was fucking incredible!" I managed.

She started to giggle. "I could get used to this job!"

I extracted myself from between Melissa's thighs and laid next to her on the bed. She kissed me and laughed, "I needed that!"

She looked gorgeous – exhausted but happy.

The cute receptionist was right, Mel was incredible. Summer who?



## HOME DELIVERY

I RECENTLY had one of the best experiences ever with the most incredible escort. I was anxiously waiting by the window trying to keep cool and collected, but when she arrived I was dumbfounded. She looked spectacular. From her tight jeans and heels to her revealing black top, she just looked superb. Her body is just to die for. Her hair cascading down her back.... Her figure perfect.

I help her in with her one small bag. Then she says, "Hey Baby" and plants a deep kiss on me. I give her a tour of the house and we settled with a glass of wine and a chat. We kiss again. Jas exclaims she is very hungry... and with a sly smile we embrace again. Her hands wonder and settle on my cock. It's at this point I realise she is indeed hungry – for my meat. She rubs my cock through my pants while we kiss deeply. My hands are also stroking her superb body. Her nipples were teasing me, by playing peak a boo, her hands work at my belt and pants and in no time, she was them on the ground and my cock in her hand, stroking it to attention. She traces her way down my body and settles with what can only be described as the one and only blowjob. Wow she has a unique style. Slow and sensual. Deep and wet. Her magical tongue has a mind of its own. This is BJ perfection. She works

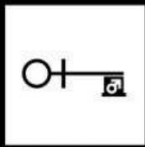
me slowly but with purpose. By knees are trying their best not to buckle. Best we make our way to the bed. Jas removes her lingerie and really goes to work on me.

After what seems an eternity, Jas places my cock between her breasts and massages while I gently thrust. Then she drops in to suck me to keep my cock moist and continues with the Spanish action. Wow, she is so warm. She glides up my body and mounts my cock and slowly rides me. So gently at first, so slow and smooth. This lady is all about smooth.

My view will never EVER be forgotten, her perfect breasts in my mouth while she rides. Her perfect pussy working my cock. Then she adjusts to Asian Cowgirl. The view in this position is spectacular. Watching me slide in and out as she rides me like this is really nearly too much for me. But here slow and smooth becomes frantic. We are in sync as we match each other with our thrusts. She really grinds into me, grinding her G-spot to perfection. We change through many positions from here from spooning and missionary variations and into doggy. It isn't too long before its all just too much and the inevitable happens and we fall in a heap, then recovering in each others arms and kissing. And that was just the first hour of a marathon...

– Andy, Manly, NSW.





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## BUSTIN' OUT THE COUNTRY

**FAR FROM FOLSOM** FEATURING TEX PERKINS PARRAMATTA GAOL, SYDNEY JAN 16-17 \$44-\$89

**O**N FEBRUARY 24, 1969, Johnny Cash played to inmates inside San Quentin maximum security prison in California. Fellow country music icon Merle Haggard was there too, but he wasn't in the band. He was in the audience.

Haggard was just 20, a skinny mope and a teenage recidivist who was first jailed at age 11. That February he was into his second year of a 15-year bid for armed robbery, and Haggard knew everything about hard time except that he'd get lucky and would be out after just two years. But for the moment, he sat with his fellow stick-up men and gangsters and murderers and rapists in front of the Man in Black.

Inmates had been writing to Cash since he'd had a



hit with 'Folsom Prison Blues' in 1955. He'd started off playing for them at Huntsville State Prison, Texas, in '57.

Those performances eventually lead to two iconic live albums, *Johnny Cash At Folsom Prison*, recorded on January 13, 1968, and *Johnny Cash at San Quentin*, recorded in front of Merle.

"In the latter prison, when Cash performed his prison song 'San Quentin', wrote historian Alex Selwyn-Holmes (lyrics: "I hate every inch of you/May you rot and burn in hell/May your walls fall and may I live to tell"), "he nearly caused an uprising."

Law and order was strange and fucked up in the United States of the '60s. In Dallas, Lee Harvey Oswald shot JFK then staged an ad hoc press call – inside jail! – and claimed police brutality. In Virginia, J Edgar Hoover's FBI wrote to Martin Luther King urging him to kill himself. And in California, Johnny Cash incited prison

riots at the pleasure of the state.

"He had the right attitude," recalled Haggard. "He chewed gum, looked arrogant and flipped the bird to the guards – he did everything the prisoners wanted to do. He was a mean mother from the South who was there because he loved us. When he walked away, everyone in that place had become a Johnny Cash fan."

Stick-up merchants and standover men and murderers and rapists. Merle Haggard too, of course. Haggard would have a string of 38 US country number-one hits. Haggard is a true original, because as every schlepping junior intern knows, you can't buy experience.

At San Quentin, and at Folsom, Cash was irresistible. *At Folsom Prison* went triple platinum, and revived Cash's career after a drug-addled nosedive and in the face of free love and Beatlemania. In 1983, *Folsom* was one of just 50 records chosen by congress to enshrine in the American National Recording Registry.

This January, as part of the Sydney Festival, peripatetic Australian rock legend Tex Perkins is playing 'Far From Folsom', a gig in which he "channels Johnny Cash in the historic Parramatta Gaol". Unlike Folsom, or San Quentin – still working prisons today – Parramatta Gaol is long closed. Seats will set you back \$44-\$89. They will also set Tex back a small piece of his soul. Because, *darling!* How inmate chic! *Tres* gritty! Pretend my Moet is a shiv, *hahahaha!* Around its grim walls, laughter will tinkle and burst and chime.

"We're really celebrating the demographic centre of Western Sydney," festival director Lieven Bertels told the media. "One of the things festivals do best is to take people into unusual spaces. People living in Parramatta talked to us saying, 'Wouldn't it be good if you could use it for something'. We're going to set up 3000 seats in the exercise yard."

If only Chopper could come! If only Paddles Anderson would do security! If only Abo Henry would stab someone during 'Cocaine Blues'!

"This not being an actively used, functioning jail anymore I guess you'd have to find some use for it," said Tex, in October. "Personally, I'd turn it into a crèche."

Careful what you wish for.







# ON A CHARGE

NEXT-GEN BATTERY TECH IS SET TO CHANGE ... WELL, EVERYTHING



**T**WO of the most sacred numbers in the electric-vehicle industry are 450 kilometres and \$100. The first is generally considered to be the distance electric cars need to travel on a single charge for car buyers to take them seriously. The second is the cost, per kilowatt-hour, to which batteries need to drop before EVs can compete with petrol-powered cars on sticker price.

Sakti3, a Michigan-based startup that auto-industry insiders have been whispering about for years, says it might soon hit those two sacred targets. Ann Marie Sastry, co-founder and CEO of the company (pictured left), claims that the company's prototype solid-state lithium battery cells have reached a record energy density of 1143 Watt-hours per litre – more than double the energy density of today's best lithium-ion batteries.

Sakti3's technology is solid-state battery produced with the same thin-film deposition process used to make flat panel displays and photovoltaic solar cells. Sastry says Sakti3 will commercialise its technology in a couple of years, and the first application will be consumer electronics. If all goes according to plan, electric-vehicle batteries will follow. And if Sakti3 delivers what it says it has, it could be the kind of battery to give us the 450km, \$25,000 electric car.

Before everyone starts talking about the imminent arrival of the God Battery, however, some important caveats. Most of the technical details remain secret. The energy-density claims have yet to be independently verified. Turning a tiny prototype cell into a road-worthy car battery is a huge and uncertain undertaking. For what it's worth, Sastry seems to understand all of this. "We've had several cells and runs that have demonstrated these numbers to

the point that we're confident," Sastry says. The company has received millions in funding from backers including Khosla Ventures and GM Ventures, the automaker's tech-investment arm.

One of the few experts privy to the details of Sakti3's work is Wei Lu, a professor of engineering at the University of Michigan. Lu says he has no direct involvement with Sakti3 and no financial ties to the company. He also says he is impressed. "They have a very rigorous testing facility," he says. "Their results are highly impressive and very accurate."

IT ALL sounds promising, but does it mean current lithium-ion tech is dead in the water? Not according to researchers at Nanyang Technological University, who say that they've developed an advanced lithium-ion battery that recharges to 70 percent full in two minutes and lasts 20 years.

Current generation lithium-ion batteries can be cycled (charged and drained and charged again) about 500 times, but researchers say that the new batteries will be able to cycle 10,000 times. And with the faster charging, an electric car could be fully juiced in 15 minutes.

To achieve the faster charging speeds and better longevity, the researchers tried a new material for the battery's negative pole, or anode. Instead of graphite – the current standard – they used a titanium dioxide gel. And the researchers created a new way of converting the titanium dioxide particles into nanotubes to speed the chemical reactions that lead to charging.

Battery technology evolves slowly, yet those involved in this project suggest the improved batteries could be on the market in two years. 

Cars like the electric Tesla Model S could travel 800km on next-generation batteries







## SAINTS ROW: GAT OUT OF HELL

XBOX ONE/ 360/ PC/ PS4/ PS3  
DEEP SILVER

IF you're already a fan of the *Saints Row* series then you will most likely love this. Fan favourites, Johnny Gat and Kensie Kensington, return with a mission into the depths of hell to save the team's leader.

As players advance through a hellish open-world sandbox in two-player co-op action, they'll run into friends and foes both old and new.

To fight against the minions of hell, players have access to superhuman abilities such as angelic flight, divine aura and the ability to summon imps. Various demonic weapons can also be utilised and include things such as exploding frogs and locust swarms. – NJ



## BLOODBORNE

PS4 FROM SOFTWARE

At first glance, you might think *Bloodborne* is another *Souls* game but there are some notable differences. First up, combat is more fast-paced; the player is more agile with options to dash and dodge around the battlefield. *Bloodborne* has a risk-versus-reward style of gameplay; players may decide to take a hit or two because if they make a quick counter attack, they can gain back a portion of that lost life. Of course, the game is filled with a dynamic arsenal to use against your foes, much of which can transform into different states. – NJ



## EVOLVE

XBOX ONE/ PS4/ PC TURTLE ROCK STUDIOS

**A** SYMMETRICAL 4v1 multiplayer action seems to be the new Meta in 2015. In *Evolve*, four hunters face off against a monstrous beast in an alien jungle. The catch is that the beast isn't your typical AI-controlled opponent, it's another player...

As the hunter, players team up and choose from four unique roles to make up a balanced team. These roles include Assault, Trapper, Medic and Support. Within these roles, players can choose distinct characters to further customise their experience.

The goal of the hunters is to track, hunt down and kill the monster. To accomplish this, they must work together as a balanced team. Assault is both the team's primary damage dealer and tank, while it's the Medic's job to make sure this ratio remains in the team's favour. Support supports their teammates by providing various buffs. Perhaps the most vital role, though, is the Trapper, who must actually find the monster. If you can't find it, you can't kill it. And if you can't kill it, it's just going to get stronger.

The monster's ultimate goal is to kill the hunters, but first it must get strong enough to finish them off. Therefore, it's the monster's initial job to evade the hunters while also hunting other non-player creatures. As it does this, it grows stronger; gaining size and new abilities.

The world itself can be a dangerous place for both sides. Of course, there are also benefits to be gained from the environment, but players will have to overcome it first.

It's all of these different dynamics that make *Evolve* such a unique experience. A less devoted developer might have just made a game where four players are thrown into an arena with a static player-controlled monster, but developer Turtle Rock Studios made something deeper. – Nathan Jacobs

## DYING LIGHT

XBOX ONE/ PS4/ PC  
WB INTERACTIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Fact: Gamers love killing zombies. And in *Dying Light*, players get to do a whole lot of that. Set in a huge open-world urban environment, up to four players can participate in various game modes. The gameplay revolves around a day/night cycle that sets the pace of the game. During the day, zombies mull around like your typical slow-moving flesh eaters whose most devious strategy is to trap and overwhelm. Players spend this time scavenging



and crafting weapons.

When the sun goes down though, the Zombies get faster and stronger. Instead of shuffling, they run. Luckily players have freedom of movement unseen in your typical survivor/horror game. Of course, there are

weapons galore in the game, but *Dying Light* is focused on the melee variety. Guns are present, and powerful, but used sparingly because zombies are attracted to the noise. All weapons can be customized in various, creative ways. – NJ



## AMERICAN SNIPER

**DIRECTOR:** CLINT EASTWOOD **STARRING:** BRADLEY COOPER, SIENNA MILLER, LUKE GRIMES, KYLE GALLNER **WARNER BROS**

**A**LL it took was the harrowing, tension-filled two-minute trailer to hook me. It's a nail-biter of a clip in which a US sniper has to quickly decide whether to shoot an Iraqi woman and a child who appear to be mounting a suicide attack, interspersed with emotional flashbacks of the soldier's life in America with his own wife and child.

*American Sniper* comes from a script by Jason Hall based on Navy SEAL Chris Kyle's best-selling memoir of the same name. Bradley Cooper (*American Hustle*, *The Hangover*) plays Kyle, acknowledged as the most deadly sniper in US history, who served four tours in Iraq and holds the record for the highest number of kills for an American soldier (160).

When Kyle is sent to Iraq, it's for the sole purpose of taking out insurgents and protecting his fellow soldiers. His pinpoint accuracy saves countless lives on the battlefield but as stories of his courageous exploits spread, his reputation grows behind enemy lines and the price on his head increases. At the same time, he faces a different battle on the home front: striving to be a good husband and father from the other side of the world. — **AB**



## THE INTERVIEW

**DIRECTOR:** EVAN GOLDBERG AND SETH ROGAN **IFC FILMS**

Directed by Seth Rogan and Evan Goldberg, their second joint directorial effort after *This is the End*, *The Interview* is a ridiculous comedy about a TV host (Franco) and his producer (Rogen), who land an interview with Kim Jon-un, only to find themselves hired by the CIA to assassinate him. The Interview is a spy thriller with two idiots. Idiots and lots of nudity and smut jokes. North Korea aren't amused, though, calling the film's existence "undisguised terrorism" and "an act of war". Rogen's not too worried, joking on Twitter, "Apparently Kim Jon Un plans on watching #TheInterview. I hope he likes it!" — **AB**



## BIRDMAN

**DIRECTOR:** ALEJANDRO G. INARRITU **20TH CENTURY FOX**

The first time we see Keaton in *Birdman*, he's in his tighty whiteys. His character, Riggan Thomson, once a big-shot movie star, is in the lotus position in his dressing room and he's levitating a few inches off the floor. *Birdman* is a blast from start to finish. Director Alejandro G. Inarritu (*Babel*) has created a film that's both technically and visually thrilling, while also feeling intimate and emotionally rich. He's managed to create the bizarre sensation that you're watching a two-hour film shot all in one take. Ambition, narcissism, insecurity and the price of celebrity are all addressed here in one fell swoop. — **AB**





## PENTHOUSE PLAYLIST

What's on rotation in the office this month:



### DROP IN THE OCEAN TUMBLEWEED

More Bowie-ish than the crunching guitars you may expect



### DANCEHALL DAYS THE BEAUTIFUL GIRLS

Get your skank on and blaze a fat one all the way to Kingston



### A LONG TIME MAYER HAWTHORNE

Sweet soul sound filled with optimism for the Motor City



### PLAY BALL AC/DC

Yes, it's formulaic, but just give in and shout the chorus



### WRONG DIRECTION BRITISH INDIA

Proof this Melbourne four piece are actually bang on course



### MOUNTAIN SONG JANE'S ADDICTION

1988 classic dusted off for Ken Block's epic *Gymkhana 7*



## THE SMASHING PUMPKINS

### MONUMENTS TO AN ELEGY

WARNER MUSIC GROUP

The lead track 'Being Beige' starts off with a minimal drum beat and piano part, but quickly grows into something much larger, with crashing guitars and more detailed drum fills courtesy of Mötley Crüe's Tommy Lee, while frontman Billy Corgan sings about the world being on fire. Lee reckons it's the band's best recent work, likening it to the first trio of now-iconic Pumpkins records. A follow-up to *Monuments*, entitled *Day for Night*, will be released next year.

Corgan's made noise about disbanding the group when the second album is released, with plans to go off and do something new. Really, Billy? Maybe something with more guitars? – AB



## TV ON THE RADIO

### SEEDS

HARVEST

TVOTR's old experimental sounds have taken a backseat to punky powerchords and dance grooves in what is the most hooky and poppy album of their career.

The album's brilliantly titled and paradoxically joyous lead track 'Happy Idiot' is about finding solace in ignorance and sounds like a homage to New Order. The chorus is incredibly catchy and danceable, and is backed by a wagging guitar hook – hardly a new concept for the Brooklynites but still a fun listen.

'Acceptance' mightn't be the most rock 'n' roll song, but, given *Seeds* was made following the death of TVOTR's bassist Gerard Smith (which lingers in 'Trouble'), it's a nice sentiment.

Chuck it on your summer playlist. – AB



## PINK FLOYD

### THE ENDLESS RIVER

MGM DISTRIBUTION

Never was an album more aptly named than *The Endless River*, the new – and seemingly final, if David Gilmour is to be believed, swansong from Pink Floyd. Though it's the band's first studio album in twenty years, most of the material was recorded back in 1993 and 1994, during sessions for *The Division Bell*.

The opening track, 'Things Left Unsaid', sets the tone, with its woozy wash of Wright's keyboards and Gilmour's mournful guitar. What starts as a tranquil wash, quickly churns into rapids from Nick Mason's thundering drums and Gilmour's piercing guitar. *The Endless River* is less about song writing and more about the chemistry. The river might flow pretty slowly, carrying on a bit too long in places, but it's easy to get swept along by it. – AB



## AC/DC

ROCK OR BUST COLUMBIA RECORDS

**R**OCK OR BUST represents the start of a new era for the Hall of Famers. It's the band's first studio album since *Black Ice* was released in 2008, and the first without Malcolm Young in AC/DC's 40-year-career. Young's brother Angus filled in for the recording sessions, alongside his nephew Stevie Young, who frontman Brian Johnson said was "magnificent" in the studio. Then there's Phil Rudd who face jail time for his alleged meth and threatening-to-kill antics in New Zealand. The band says he'll still tour with them, but he's absent from all of the promo material.

Songwriting duties, which have been shared by the Young brothers in the past, fell on the shoulders of Angus, who is said to have written the material on the album by himself.

When it comes to the music, the lead track 'Play Ball' is a rollicking, riff-heavy number, with Brian Johnson's signature vocals smashing through it and a bluesy AC/DC guitar lick finale. Really though, it doesn't stray too far from their last big single, 'Rock 'N' Roll Train,' from *Black Ice*. The video on the other hand, might as well be a tribute to Legends Football League, with its ball-fondling, lingerie-clad women rolling around on football fields and pool tables. Not that we're complaining.

When you first crank up *Rock or Bust*, you're going to find yourself listening for what might be different. Don't. AC/DC's new album sounds exactly like AC/DC have sounded like for the past 34 years. Just welcome what has always been and always will be. – AB







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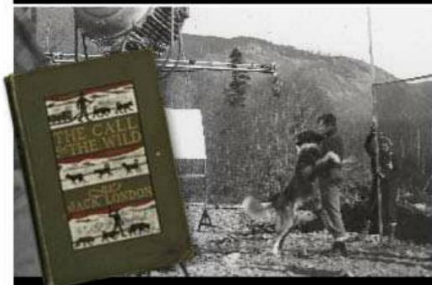
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**PENTHOUSE CLASSIC**  
Revisiting of the landmark  
stories of our time



## THE CALL OF THE WILD

BY JACK LONDON

PUBLISHED BY VIKING PRESS

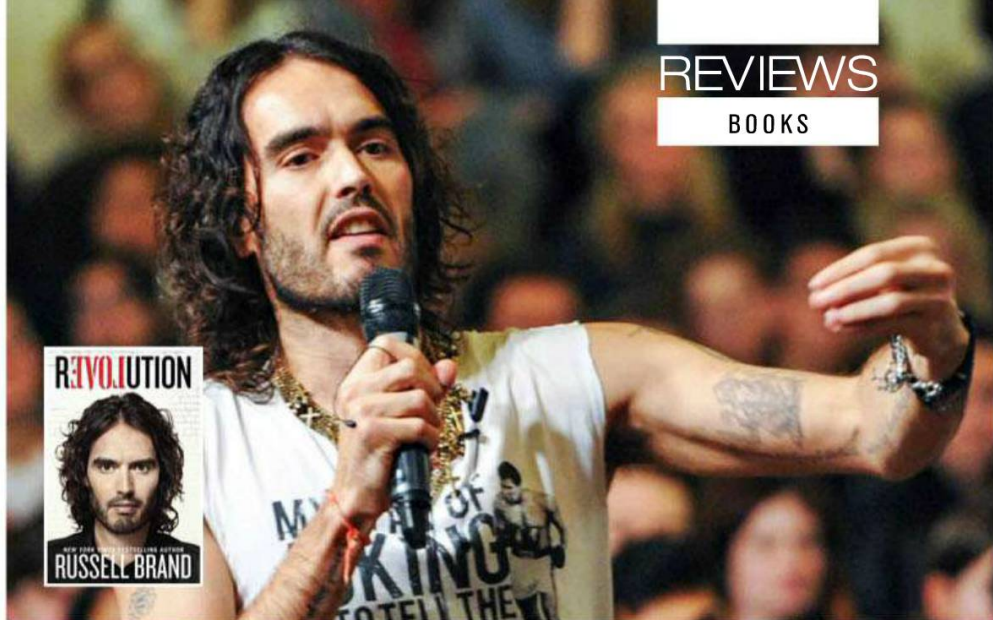
This story about a sled dog named Buck is one of the strangest, and most strangely potent, narratives you're likely to read. The reader discovers Buck, a domesticated prize dog who passes through a sequence of owners representing the highs and lows of humanity. Sold into a kind of canine slavery as an Alaskan sled dog, Buck ends up in the Yukon in the 1890s gold rush. Eventually, he becomes the property of a salt-of-the-earth outdoorsman, but when his master is killed, he gives in to his true nature, answers the call of the wild and joins a wolf pack: "Man, and the claims of man, no longer bound him." London's vivid style, and his identification with the world he's describing, inspired a generation of American writers. — GL

## PLAY ON

BY MICK FLEETWOOD

LITTLE, BROWN

Even if, like me, you think that Fleetwood Mac is saccharine ear candy to be consumed in very small doses, put that aside and read drummer and band leader Mick Fleetwood's biography. This is an unflinchingly honest account of how a gangly, six-foot-six dyslexic kid with a passion for beating the skins managed to pull together one of the biggest bands in the world, and, with *Rumours*, one of the biggest albums of all time. Fleetwood's recollections of the swinging sixties in London are compelling, and told in a way that's unusually cohesive and intelligent. Later, the tangled relationships in the band and massive coke abuse were perhaps less intelligent, but make for great reading. — AW



REVIEWS

BOOKS

## REVOLUTION

BY RUSSELL BRAND PUBLISHED BY RANDOM HOUSE

COULDN'T *not* read Russell Brand's *Revolution*. The media had a field day with it and Former Sex Pistol Johnny Rotten called it the work of a 'bum hole'.

Brand's general idea goes something like this: Low incomes and a corrupt political system has made for an apathetic public. Powerful corporations are draining the world, which belongs to the public. And Brand wants people to wake up and realise that while this is a reality, it's not inevitable, and that we should be working together to create new institutions, and ultimately, a better world. Sure, a great concept in theory, but Brand's lack of any real political depth or direction leaves his arguments feeling more like long, indulgent rants.

Brand insists transformative change is possible because he achieved it in his own life and he knows that change is a collective experience, because it was the support from his friends and fellow addicts that helped him ditch the drugs. *Revolution* is full of references to Brand's recovery process as an addict, yet he doesn't managed to translate those personal experiences to political ones. Sure, individuals can fuck up and hit rock bottom before managing to crawl back to the surface, but is that really achievable for whole societies?

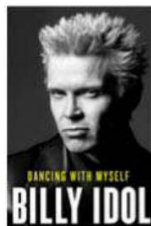
*Revolution* is a bit of a muddle but through the long, sometimes tangled sentences, it does at least deliver some thought-provoking ideas. — AB

## DANCING WITH MYSELF

BY BILLY IDOL

D.W. WILSON

It doesn't matter how fascinating, debauched, creative, or fucked-up the life lived by a rocker star has been — if they can't convey it, or their ghost writer sucks, the resulting book is good only as a firelighter. Thankfully Billy Idol's memoir doesn't suffer from this. It's written with real mojo and craft, and hooks you in from the opening pages where he describes the LA motorcycle accident in 1990 that nearly ended him. As one of the few punk/new wave acts that actually went on to serious stardom and huge money, Idol is a rarity. His rise, fame, battle with addiction, and voracious sexual appetite may be stock in trade, but you've never heard it quite like this before. — AW



## EXTREME FOOD

BY BEAR GRYLLS

RANDOM HOUSE

*Extreme Food* introduces us gently to alfresco dining, with Grylls teaching us how to whip up some pancakes and popcorn over an open fire. It's not until the moment we see the gory full-page photo of Grylls maniacally munching on the neck of a freshly slaughtered zebra that things start to get weird. From the humble beginnings of pancakes and popcorn, we're thrust into a Man vs. Wild masterclass of how to kill, gut and skin animals, accompanied by some gory pro tips on how to effectively break a rabbit's neck. And hey, you never know when you're going to need to make some earthworm jerky or purge some maggots of rotting flesh. — AB









# YOU'RE ADDICTED TO WHAT?

THE NOTION OF SEX ADDICTION IS ALL IN THE HEAD, WRITES **JESSE FINK**

**A** COUPLE of years ago I was asked to appear on the popular SBS TV chat show *Insight* to talk about sex addiction.

I'm not a sex addict, never have been, and am convinced it's a fictional condition used to explain away morally errant behaviour, chiefly by married celebrities caught having affairs or by those who compulsively use pornography or by your garden-variety, straight-out players and womanisers.

In my opinion, the term is baloney, what brilliant US-based psychologist, author and sex-addiction skeptic Dr David Ley, author of *The Myth of Sex Addiction*, memorably dismissed on the same SBS program as "Valley girl science".

But I was described or promoted in some quarters as a "sex addict" when my second book, *Laid Bare: One Man's Story of Sex, Love and Other Disorders*, was released in 2012. It's a memoir of the half-decade it took me to recover from a separation and divorce that shattered my life in almost every conceivable way.

The Hank Moody elements of the story – single dad with daughter, writer, multiple bed partners – were very marketable. One man's vigorous sex life is another's problematic sex addiction.

I'm over my ex-wife and don't long for the past. I enjoy my own company. If I'm not attracted to someone, I don't get involved with them. I exercise discretion. I am in complete control of my choices. So my primary motivation in appearing on television was to debunk sex addiction and call it for what it is: as an East Ender or Aussie might say, "a load of cobblers".

Over that five years (that's nearly 2000 days) as a newly single man after ten years of marriage I wasn't exactly a monk but I'm no Wilt Chamberlain, Rod Stewart or Warren Beatty. I would have preferred I met a girl I fell in love with straight away, but I didn't. It took time.

When I did meet someone special, a girl called Frankie, I never thought about anyone else or sleeping with anyone else because I had met the right person for me. When it's right, it's right. There was no illness. There was no addiction. I stopped fooling around or "playing the field". We broke up and she's since gone on to marry someone else. I'm happily single.

What struck me appearing on *Insight* and listening to the stories of some of the men gathered in the studio audience was just how ordinary their stories were. There was a bloke on stage sitting next to me, "George", wearing a ridiculous disguise. The full bit: wig, fake beard, glasses. When I first saw him, I thought, "Jesus, what's

he done?" expecting to hear a horror story. It turned out to be utterly banal: he'd slept with 25 women, gone to a strip club, paid for a lap dance, and followed his natural urges. Big deal.

What he described was no worse than anything two-dozen male friends of mine have got up to at some point in their lives. My macho Italian friends got up to more mischief than I ever did. "How many, Fink? That's *nooooothing!* I should write a book!"

This man was putting himself on national TV and torturing himself over behaviour that was completely ordinary.

Similarly, hearing the story of an audience member, Luke, a virgin in his late 20s who had been traumatised by his so-called "addiction" to pornography and predilection for masturbation, I thought, "You poor man. You're just a normal bloke with normal desires that you're not allowing yourself to indulge and you're exposing yourself like this, for what?"

What did both men have in common? Their faith – with its rules about what is and what isn't appropriate, including sex before marriage. As I saw it, their issue was moral not medical. Belief systems interfere with normal human urges, desires and curiosities and so these men and others like them unnecessarily torture themselves and throw away money looking for a "cure".

And this, I believe, cuts to the core of a flawed public debate largely predicated on values, not science (sex addiction isn't even in the fifth edition of the *American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* or DSM-5).

It's about picking a number out of thin air and determining that this arbitrary number is an acceptable amount of sexual partners in a lifetime. Put bluntly, it comes down to personal value judgments, not rigorous, science-based criteria. And so much of this healthy sexuality is being hidden away because of fear of that judgment. So many people lead double lives. It's time we stopped scandalising desire.

Reviewing *Laid Bare*, Dr Ley said it depicted "how sex, even too much sex, can be a normal and healthy part of coping and grief in the life of a man".

And that's what sex was for me during those five years post separation: a way of coping, a release, a diversion, a way of having fun in a period of unspeakable sadness and loss, a reminder that I was a useful, desirable, worthy person when I felt utterly crushed by the weight of everything that had happened to me.

It was never an addiction because, in my humble view, sex addiction just doesn't exist. 

I WAS DESCRIBED  
AS A SEX ADDICT.  
[BUT] ONE MAN'S  
VIGOROUS SEX  
LIFE IS ANOTHER'S  
PROBLEMATIC SEX  
ADDICTION



# A MAN AND HIS TAN

## BECOMING A BRONZED AUSSIE SHOULDN'T MEAN COPPING A MEGA DOSE OF MELANOMA

**S**AD fact for luminous albino types – no matter what sort of great shape you get yourself in for summer, you're always going to look better with a tan. Tanned skin shows better muscle definition, draws the eye away from any flabby bits, and generally allows you project a physical visage of robust health and vitality. Only problem with this, as we well know, is that big orange ball in the sky is an evil temptress out to get you. She'll lure you in with those caressing warm rays, then just as quickly riddle you with melanoma and ship you out in a box. The only really safe way to bronze up is to fake it, so here's our guide to doing it without looking like an Oompa Loompa.

### FAKE IT TILL YOU MAKE IT

No matter which fake tan you use, it's only as good as the canvas you're applying it to. To prep your skin for a good, natural-looking tan, hit the shower with an exfoliant and some elbow grease. "I generally like body scrubs made by fake tan companies," says tanning expert Katrina Brown, from The Bronzing Boutique. "They tend to

be stronger and best for removing all the dead skin cells that get in the way of an even tan application." Try: Fake Bake Pre-Tan Passionfruit Body Polish (\$24.95, [adorebeauty.com.au](http://adorebeauty.com.au)). Avoid oil-based scrubs, adds Brown: "The oil can act as a barrier against the tan adhering to skin," she explains. Once you've dried off, dab rough areas of skin – elbows, knees, ankles – with moisturiser. This will stop the tan from catching and building up on these patches.

Okay, now it's time to get down to the business of bronzing. Do the large areas of the body first: the limbs, stomach and back. Draft in a willing assistant, ideally an attractive one whose hands are going to feel good while doing the work, which may rule out your mother-in-law. Then focus in on the feet, ankles, knees and neck. If you see the tan darken too much in these areas as it develops, simply grab a towel and buff the colour down. Brown advises using the St Tropez Applicator Mitt (\$10.95, [sttropez.com.au](http://sttropez.com.au)); "It makes it easy to blend and has a protective film to prevent tan transferring onto palms." To give your hands a natural-look colour, mix part-tanner, part-body-cream and massage

in tanning pills are pigments called carotenoids, a range of yellow to red colours. Canthaxanthin is also used as a colour additive in food manufacturing, and added to many processed foods including barbecue sauces, fruit drinks and salad dressings, as well as animal feed to deepen the red colour of the fish.

Normally it's melanin, a brown pigment, that determines the colour of the skin you're in, and it's also what causes you to tan (that's the skin's way of protecting itself from the sun's rays). But when you take tanning pills you completely change the way you develop a tan – there are no ultraviolet rays or melanin involved. Consume it in large amounts and it will give you that fake orange-brown look.

The way it works is like this: The body dissolves canthaxanthin in the fat (the adipose tissue) just beneath the epidermis, and when consumed in sufficiently large it begins to accumulate in that fatty layer, tinting the colour of your skin.

While canthaxanthin may or may not be an effective way to develop a fake bronze tan without the sun exposure, there's a problem with taking canthaxanthin supplements for tanning purposes: you need to consume high doses of the pigment before you see results, and you need to continue using the pills consistently for at least two weeks before enough pigment is deposited in your skin to show a noticeable change in colour – and consuming large amounts of canthaxanthin has side effects ranging from gastrointestinal upset, dry or itchy skin and hives. And in some people those high doses of the pigment may cause damage to the eyes (the pigment causes crystals to form in the retina, causing a condition known as canthaxanthin retinopathy) which is surely enough to make you turn to the (fake-tan) bottle.

– ALEX BOYD

## "THAT BIG ORANGE BALL IN THE SKY IS AN EVIL TEMPTRESS OUT TO GET YOU"



into the backs of hands.

You'll need to chill out for at least an hour while the tan has a chance to set, so avoid sitting on light-coloured furniture or parading around the front yard butt naked while waiting for the drying time.

### MAGIC LITTLE PILL?

We know pills can fix everything from low mood to low-hanging man-tackle, but can they really give you a tan? Sadly, it would seem not. The active ingredients







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# OUTDOOR FITNESS, *SANDS* THE GYM

IF THERE'S A BETTER PLACE TO GET FIT THAN ON GOLDEN SAND NEXT TO A SPARKLING OCEAN, WE WANT TO KNOW ABOUT IT...

**T**HE ONLY thing better than lazing around on the beach enjoying a cold beer is having earned it with a 50-minutes blast of high-intensity exercise. Try this routine...

## 1. JUMP AND DROPS

Mark two lines in a flat section of soft sand, 30m apart. Start behind one line, facing the other. Perform a long jump, starting and landing on two feet. Once you land, drop all the way down until your torso touches the sand. Push back off the sand and jump back up to your feet. Repeat for the 30m length.

## 2. SOFT-SAND RUNNING

Soft sand running is the original and still the best beach exercise. Studies have shown that running in soft sand expends 1.5 times the energy as running on the road does, and also helps to reduce impact on ankles, knees and hips. Break up periods of soft sand running at a slower pace with faster pace running on the hard sand to amp up the intensity and help you to burn more calories.

## 3. HOPS AND BOUNDS

These help to improve lower-body strength and power. The soft sand adds an increased degree of difficulty, as well as improvements in balance and joint stability. Sets of standing double-leg bounds (or long jumps) combined with lateral hops will really crank up the intensity.

## 4. THE BEACH CRAWL

A fantastic whole body workout, this exercise essentially involves getting down on your feet and elbows and completing a certain distance. The

added benefit of the beach crawl is it puts your core in an isometrically contracted position, which is great for building core strength. Aim for distances of 20-30m.

## 5. SAND SKIP

Skip forward so that you're jumping and landing on the same foot. Work on leaping as high as possible by driving your knee upward as you push off the ground with your opposite foot. Do five skips on each leg.

## 6. BODY-WEIGHT JUMP SQUAT

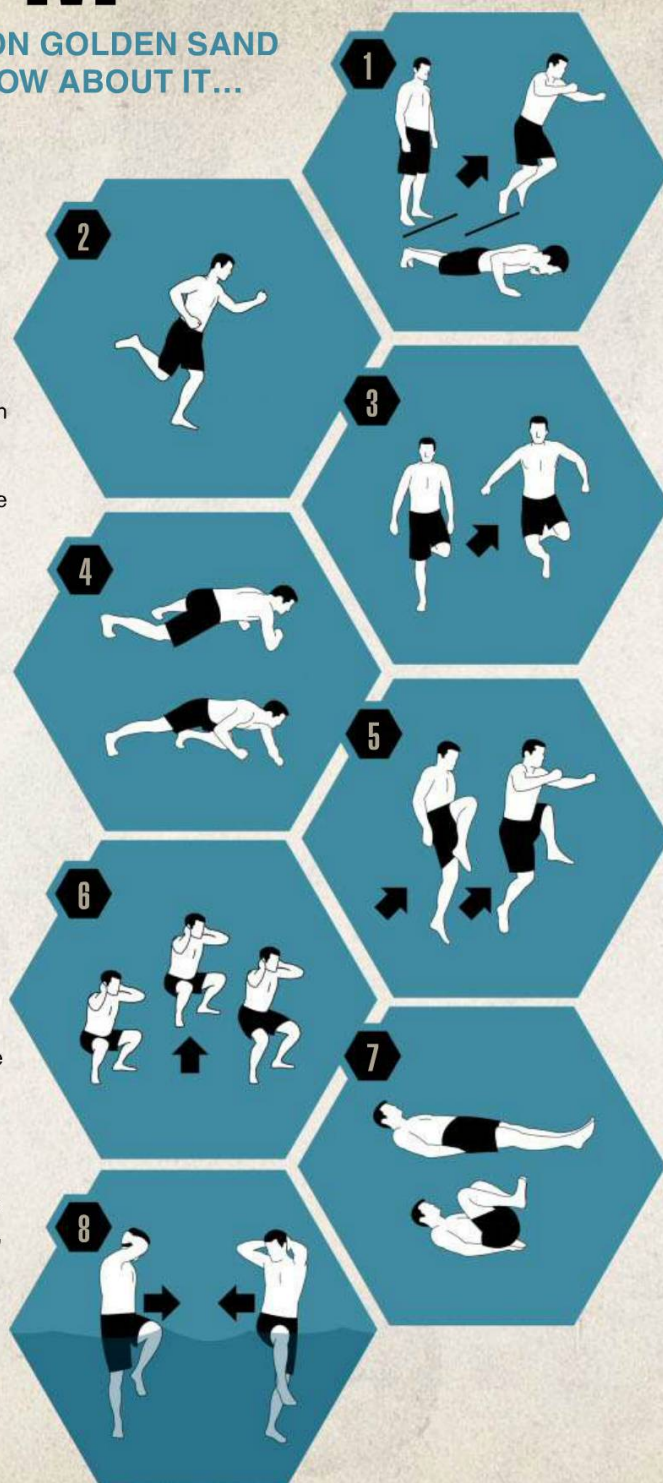
Place your fingers on the back of your head and pull your elbows back so that they're in line with your body. Dip your knees in preparation to leap. Explosively jump as high as you can. When you land, immediately squat down and jump again.

## 7. 10 LEG LIFTS

Lay on your back by the waterline, either facing the water or away from it. Make a diamond with your hands underneath your tailbone for support. Bring your knees to your chest, then extend your legs all the way back out, keeping your heels three inches above the sand. Do this 10 times without letting your feet touch the sand.

## 8. POWER WADE

Wade into the water until you're waist deep. Place your hands on your head, and start to power forward with a high knee-lift run. Twist your torso to bring in your core. This exercise puts a big load on your cardio capacity while building endurance in your legs and developing core strength, all with virtually zero impact and almost no chance of injury.





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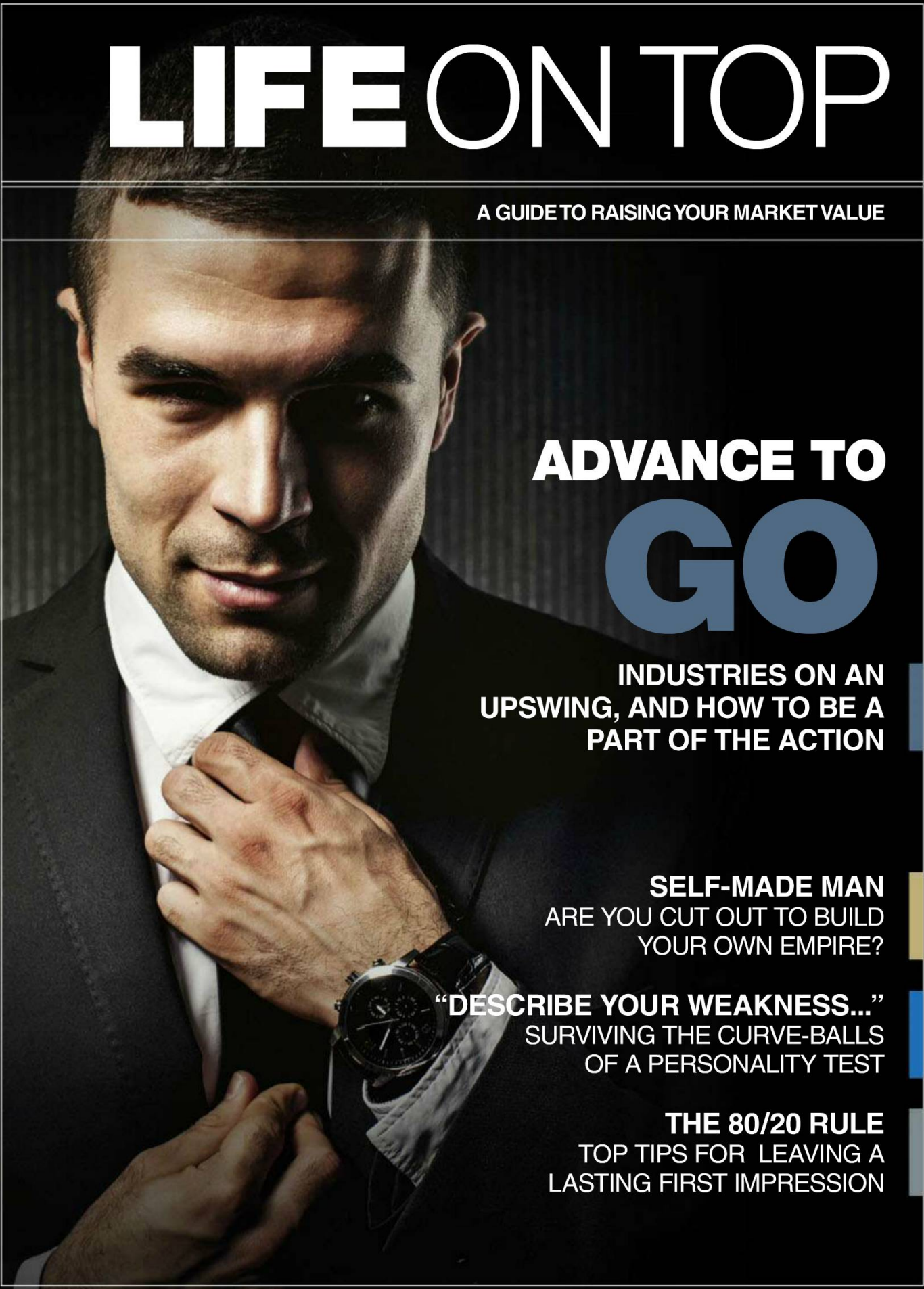
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# LIFE ON TOP

A close-up, black and white photograph of a man in a dark suit, white shirt, and dark tie. He is looking down and slightly to the side, with his hands adjusting his tie. He is wearing a dark, multi-dial wristwatch on his left wrist. The background is dark and out of focus.

A GUIDE TO RAISING YOUR MARKET VALUE

## ADVANCE TO GO

**INDUSTRIES ON AN  
UPSWING, AND HOW TO BE A  
PART OF THE ACTION**

**SELF-MADE MAN**  
ARE YOU CUT OUT TO BUILD  
YOUR OWN EMPIRE?

**“DESCRIBE YOUR WEAKNESS...”**  
SURVIVING THE CURVE-BALLS  
OF A PERSONALITY TEST

**THE 80/20 RULE**  
TOP TIPS FOR LEAVING A  
LASTING FIRST IMPRESSION



# ADVANCE TO GO

## How to be ahead of the career curve in a fast-changing world

**P**ERHAPS there was a time in the 1960s when men signed-up for a 40-year job and were happy to take the gold watch at 60, join the bowls club and find something to do with their defined-benefit pension.

It hardly matters that this halcyon work life perhaps never existed. What matters to modern men is that the current employment landscape is so changeable and ruthless that preparing for a career is like planning a special forces mission in Afghanistan: you prepare, prepare, prepare. And you stay paranoid, because complacency does not end well.

So what preparation does a man need to stay relevant in the 2020 work force, and stay in sight of the money?

Firstly, understand how it works: in 2020, according to economic

ton of opportunity. But where should you be so that your pockets are open and facing upwards when cash starts raining down?

The fastest-growing employment types to 2020, according to the National Institute of Labour Studies, will be 'managers and professionals' (25 percent growth 2008-2020), 'professionals' (36 percent) and 'associate professionals' (28 percent).

The demand for tradies will grow more slowly – although demand for specific trade skills will spike – and the clerical/sales/service sectors will be shrinking by 2020.

So tertiary-qualified white collar positions will grow faster than skilled blue collar, and the largely non-skilled clerical/sales/service will go backwards as their jobs are automated, internet-enabled and offshored to India and the Philippines.

and up and eventually say, 'I'm a manager'.

We all have to learn how to do this as our economy holds onto its high living-standards and our region moves to low-cost manufacturing. If we can't out-make our neighbours, we'll have to out-think and out-skill them. And it'll be the people who are part of this matrix in 2020 who can shake the money tree.

There's no university-snobbery here, because simply having a bachelor degree is no guarantee for Australians. The OECD's 2012 report, Education Indicators in Focus, forecasts that in 2020 India and China will produce more than 40 percent of global graduates, as India (12 percent) overtakes the United States (11 percent) in university output. Indonesia, in 2020, will produce 6 percent of the world's graduates, outdoing the United Kingdom, Germany and France (all 2 percent) – Australia doesn't even make the OECD tables. And just a reminder to those who think Australia exists in a jobs bubble, separated from Asia: India is the world's largest English-speaking nation.

So what's the strategy? *Australian Penthouse* rang a few far-sighted recruiters and came up with a slate of pointers for blokes who want to be doing better in 2020 than they are today:

- **PROFESSIONAL:** own a professional image, not a job description. Jobs cease to exist as industries change; skills grow with change.

- **BRAND YOU:** don't be scared to be known for your strengths. Are you the 'get it done' guy? The 'go-to' person? The 'mission impossible' man? Be known for what you do, not what a previous employer called you.

## “THE FUTURE OF HIGH-PAYING EMPLOYMENT LIES IN SKILLS IDENTIFICATION, NOT JOB DESCRIPTION”

forecaster Mark McCrindle, average employment tenure will be three years, which is less than half of what it was between 1980 and 1995 (6.5 years); in 2020 more than one in three workers will be casual.

So your next decade of employment will entail at least three gigs and one could be casual or contract, which may not be ideal if you like stability. The trick lies in redefining risk as opportunity because in any year the Australian economy sees between 100,000 and 300,000 new jobs on offer. That's a

You'll notice something else about the growth occupations in 2020: they are occupational descriptions, not industries. If you cottoned on to that, you're already on the money curve because the future of high-paying employment lies in skills identification, not necessarily job description. Anyone who is currently trade-qualified or professionally signed-up, already knows how this works: they don't say 'I work at a law firm', or 'I have a job with a construction contractor'. They say, 'I'm a lawyer', or 'I'm an electrician'; both of these people move on





- **META-SKILLS:** develop the meta-skills that allow you to work in many industries. Diesel mechanics, welders, communication professionals, engineers and accountants work in a massive array of industries.
- **UPSKILL:** Take every opportunity to retrain, upskill and become more qualified. In 2020 you'll need a qualification to be on the short list and you might kick yourself for not taking a retraining opportunity when an employer offered it.
- **TECH DUDE:** stay current with the technology, software and apps that drive change. One of the key words in 2020 is 'relevance': don't slip into the 'irrelevant' basket simply because you don't know the computer systems that enable your industry.
- **GLOBAL & REGIONAL:** avoid being a purely local thinker. Keep your passport current, advertise any language skills, join transnational professional organisations.
- **CV:** the CV didn't die – it just became the same CV for every person in your industry. Make sure your CV is in your own words, is a reflection of you rather than just an online template, and that it demonstrates skills and on-the-job achievement – not just a boast about which chair you warmed for two years. The CV is still the most likely first 'touch point' for a prospective employer, so make it count.
- **ENTHUSE:** when margins are tight and competition is intense, the enthusiastic, hard-working candidate will get the gig.

– MARK ABERNETHY



# SELF-MADE MAN

## Tips for rising to the top of an organisation – your own

**S**O, YOU'RE looking around the cube farm, sneering at your pay slip and looking at a boss who demands smiles and bonhomie. And before long you're dreaming about being Richard Branson, Mark Bouris or Steve Jobs. You're looking to where the grass is greener and you own the business. How hard can it be? There are 2.7 million business owners in Australia, and around 2 million entities, ranging from sole proprietors, trusts and companies, to partnerships and publicly listed firms. And every year 13 percent are new entrants and 13 percent are exits: there has to be room in there for a man with The Dream. For the blokes who have the entrepreneur bug and want to move things along, there's millions of words

your purpose – the 'why' of the whole thing. Steve Jobs said it another way: "Being the richest man in the cemetery doesn't matter to me. Going to bed at night saying 'we've done something wonderful', that's what matters to me."

- **HAVE A GOAL:** You have to spend each day aiming for a goal. It doesn't have to be as visionary as Henry Ford's 1907 promise to create, "a motor car for the great multitude"; it can be more specific, as canvassed by Napoleon Hill in *Think and Grow Rich*. Hill says successful businessmen work to very specific goals with exact amounts and time-frames attached. Hill made popular the idea of the goal-affirmation: you read your goal aloud twice in the morning and once at night.

## YOU'RE LOOKING TO WHERE THE GRASS IS GREENER AND YOU OWN THE BUSINESS. HOW HARD CAN IT BE?

of advice and thousands of inspirational quotes and aphorisms, most of which come in fives, sevens or tens. Many have the advice, but no one has the formula. We hunted down the best to distil the available wisdom:

- **KNOW WHY:** According to the founder of Yellow Brick Road, Mark Bouris, the road of the business owner is exhausting, scary and lonely, so you have to constantly remind yourself of

**WRITE A PLAN:** Every entrepreneur needs a strategy, but it has to be something that can be changed as circumstances dictate. Business plans should centre on strategy – tactics are used to achieve the objectives. Common business plan mistakes include: too detailed, too vague, poor research, ridiculous assumptions, incomplete lists of competitors. Some entrepreneurs keep planning very simple: Microsoft founders Bill Gates and Paul Allen

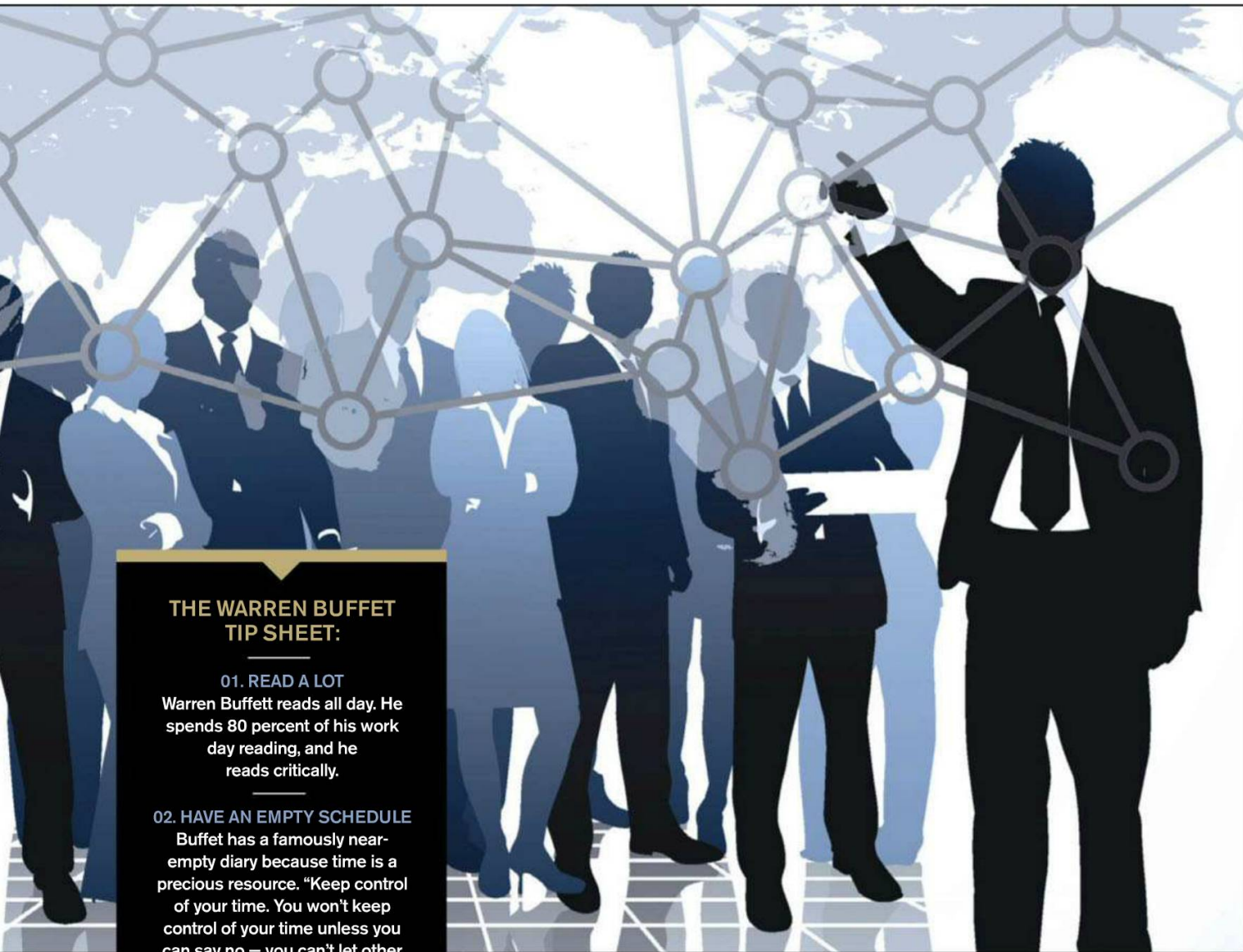
weren't really the business plan types, so in 1977 they simply came up with, "a computer on every desk and in every home". Kinda worked.

- **HAVE CASH:** New ventures burn cash because there's a lag between incurring costs and receiving income. You can raise funds from partners, investors, debtor finance and banks. There's also Bank You: as Richard Branson once said, "if you want to be a millionaire, start with a billion dollars and launch a new airline."

- **HARD WORK WINS:** Sam Walton started Wal-Mart when he was 44 and left a \$150 billion retail company to his kids when he died. Sam scheduled 7am executive meetings... on Saturdays. His own days started at 4.30am. Mark Bouris' day starts at around 5.30 am and can go til midnight. Richard Branson says that good luck improves with hard work.







## THE WARREN BUFFETT TIP SHEET:

### 01. READ A LOT

Warren Buffett reads all day. He spends 80 percent of his work day reading, and he reads critically.

### 02. HAVE AN EMPTY SCHEDULE

Buffet has a famously near-empty diary because time is a precious resource. "Keep control of your time. You won't keep control of your time unless you can say no — you can't let other people set your agenda in life."

### 03. UNPLUG

Buffett doesn't have a smartphone or a computer in his office. He reads annual reports in hard-copy, uses a landline phone and a basic cell phone.

### 05. HANG WITH SUPERIOR PEOPLE

Buffett advocates hanging out with better people, to "move in the direction of the crowd that you associate with."

### 06. WORK WHERE YOU CAN FOCUS

Buffett retains his HQ in Omaha, Nebraska. "I think it's very easy to keep perspective in a place like Omaha."

### 07. BE ALERT

Buffet doesn't make decisions when he's tired.

### • YOU CAN'T DO IT ALL YOURSELF:

Hire smart people. Not just the ones who mirror your culture and dreams, but the ones who complement you with different skills and personality. All successful entrepreneurs have an ego that can employ someone smarter than themselves. John Rockefeller (Standard Oil) and Henry Ford both paid higher salaries and larger bonuses to secure the best people.

• **BE LEAN:** You don't need to start a business with flash headquarters and a fleet of new cars. Warren Buffet keeps his modest Berkshire Hathaway HQ in Omaha, Nebraska, rather than shift to New York. Sam Walton retained his HQ in unfashionable Bentonville, Arkansas and kept office and admin costs to 2 percent of sales revenue in an industry where 5 percent was normal. The Wal-Mart head office was in a one-storey warehouse

complex and Sam drove a pickup truck with a dog cage on the back.

• **BOZO ALERT:** Steve Jobs had a No Bozo policy at Apple. Bozos, he said, sap energy from the best people and they hire other bozos. "One bozo gets another bozo. Soon, you're surrounded by bozos. This is called a bozo explosion". One of the world richest self-made men, Warren Buffet (worth around \$50 billion) always seeks out people who are smarter, better, more successful than himself. Bottom line: it's your business, your dream, your money. So hire good people.

• **DON'T GIVE UP:** Steve Jobs: "I'm convinced that about half of what separates the successful entrepreneurs from the non-successful ones is pure perseverance."

Mark Bouris: "Never, ever, give up."

— MARK ABERNETHY





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# COPPING A GRILLING



## How to take the heat in an employment personality test

**D**ON'T take it personally! Those invasive personality tests you go through every time you join the short list for a job, have been with us for a long, long time. We're a social animal, so we like to select who we employ. And that means employers have been focused on personality, and weeding out the wrong ones, since 202 BC. That's the year the Han Dynasty in China started testing candidates for its civil service; by the 14th century the testing went for three days and included essays, interviews and poetry.

Compliance. As WWII ended, another American system – 16PF – emerged with its 16 personality descriptions. By 1956, 60 percent of employers in corporate America were using some kind of personality test, and as the 1950s turned into the 1960s, the 16PF had simplified down to the Big Five personality traits (extraversion, neuroticism, agreeableness, conscientiousness, openness to experience) and the MBTI's four descriptors were becoming well known among employees.

The basic format of a personality test

their strongest impressions in the first seconds of meeting a candidate, backed up by the opening exchanges of the conversation. This means the interview starts when the interviewer calls you into the office; it begins when you shake hands and say 'hello'.

## “EMPLOYERS HAVE BEEN FOCUSED ON PERSONALITY, AND WEEDING OUT THE WRONG ONES, SINCE 202 BC”

Count yourself lucky that SEEK doesn't want your best haiku in its databases.

What's going on in your head is important. Armies and navies have always rejected people who are not smart or not humane enough and for a century grammar schools have been testing students on entry, to put smart people in one 'stream' and the not-so smart in another.

IQ testing goes back to the early 1900s, but it was in the 1920s that Carl Jung explored what he believed were the four factors of personality, a theory that in 1962 would come back as the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator.

Before the MBTI took human beings and turned them into EITJs (Extroversion-Intuition-Thinking-Judging) the US Army deployed the DISC personality test which looked for the four factors, (D) Dominance, (I) Influencing, (S) Steadiness, and (C)

had taken shape: a candidate is asked to respond to about 50 statements, with either a sliding scale of answers or a yes-no.

From the 1980s, employees started to see more tests used to 'improve' an employee. Emotional quotient (EQ) testing, evaluated how, you related, and other personality inventories assigned the employee a colour.

But if employers are going to test your personality, what do you have to do to seem better than the next bloke?

We spoke to Robert van Stokrom, who is the managing director of DFP, a recruitment consulting business. Van Stokrom has these tips for the personality testing blues...

**1. Look into my eyes:** the interview is your most important personality test. Most professional interviewers gain

**2. Eliminate the inauthentic:** Van Stokrom says professional interviewers have heard all the jargon and acronyms and all the insincerity. What they need from you is direct communication, examples to go with your claims and body language that evinces interest, not apathy. Tell the story of you.

**3. Don't lie:** when you're asked to sit a personality test, it is most likely to be the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator or a Big Five derivation. They have all sorts of traps and deception systems that find the people who are fibbing by containing questions that double-check an earlier question. So an inauthentic responder is usually caught out.

**4. Don't be socially desirable:** Most tests contain statements about socially undesirable, but common, outlooks. The fibber usually answers what he thinks the employer wants to hear. But when a question asks, 'do you ever become jealous?' it's time to fess-up. If there are too many socially desirable responses to statements such as these, the test might detect a deception.

Van Stokrom points out that people who successfully outsmart a personality test may only make themselves miserable. Be the best at your kind of personality – not someone else's. 



# SHINING PRINCE



Because there are no second chances for a first impression...

**A**S A man stirs in his cocoon, awaiting the emergence of his own Shining Prince in the New Year, he starts to dwell on his presentation: the way he looks, the way others see him and the impression he makes.

Having spoken to a couple of image gurus about how a man could project himself at two pegs of greatness higher than he actually occupies, we thought we'd check on a broader notion of self-improvement. We spoke with two presentation consultants who work with corporate, political and professional clients: one, a woman based in Melbourne, the other a bloke in Sydney. This is what we learned:

- **80/20:** Eighty percent of what a person thinks of you is based on the first 20 seconds of meeting you. No one is exempt. You have 20 seconds: what do you want the world to see? It's your call.

## “YOU HAVE 20 SECONDS TO CREATE A FIRST IMPRESSION: WHAT DO YOU WANT THE WORLD TO SEE? IT'S YOUR CALL”

- **YOU'RE SELLING YOU:** in your life-changing 20 seconds, you want the other person to process your physical appearance in a few seconds so you can advance to bigger matters such as your glowing personality. So your face, hair, clothes and deportment must 'tick a box' almost immediately. If you're dating, you may emphasise yourself externally with what they call the 'presence of positive'. But if you want a new client or job, you

want to be almost entirely unremarkable, which means the 'absence of negative'. Creating an absence of negative includes...

- > **Beards:** either tidily groom a full beard or shave it off. No douche beards or ironic moustaches.
- > **Shoes:** white shoes are fine for the golf course and tennis court; darks for everything else.
- > **Socks:** never wear sports socks with long pants.
- > **Tatts** cover them. All of them.
- > **Piercings:** remove them.
- > **Posture:** a slouch means you're lazy. In all cultures at all times in history.
- > **Hair:** Mohawks and fluoro dyeing are obviously unacceptable, but remember that a male ponytail only ever looks good to the one person in the universe who can't see it: the wearer.
- > **Clothes:** don't wear 'cool' at first meetings. Your cool may be their dick-head.

- **AT EASE:** having got through the appearance filter, now comes some engagement. All humans want you at your relaxed best, because it allows them to be at their relaxed best. So don't: gabble, wave your hands around, interrupt, or force your jokes. Handshakes shouldn't be too hard or limp; mostly, a handshake has to be accompanied by eye-contact and a greeting. If in doubt, smile and shut up rather than talk and lie.

- **LISTENER:** our male consultant: 'all successful conversations are controlled by the listener'. Which means the New You is going to start conversations by asking a question. Use open-ended questions starting with 'why' or 'how' and play the 'what colour are your eyes?' game as you listen to the answer.

- **SARCASM:** both our consultants commented that sarcasm is a real handicap for people trying to make a good impression. Sarcasm isn't funny, engaging or positive. Our female adviser: 'don't ever say "fine" in that sarcastic, resentful way. It's a career-killer.'

- **ENTHUSIASM:** replace sarcasm with enthusiasm. You can practice it by doing what novice radio announcers are taught to do: say everything through a ridiculously large smile – it enhances your tone and projection. Enthusiastic people earn have better careers, better sex and better health than their negative counterparts.

- **SPEAKING:** did you know that many excellent public speakers are not naturally so? They have been trained and then they practice. If you are not experienced or confident with public speaking, try treating it as a conversation rather than a performance. Conversations generally don't entail you mumbling into your notes.

- **LANGUAGE:** swearing always sounds better to the swearer than the swearer. Swearing can come across as angry and negative. And don't fill up sentences with 'um' and 'like'. It marks you as either not knowing what you're talking about, or lacking in confidence.

– MARK ABERNETHY



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