

townsvilleeye

December 17, 2008 - Issue 84

• people • food • fashion • cars • homes • travel

FROCK FEST
Cool dresses to get
you through the long
hot summer

CHRISTMAS LUNCH
Try these classics with
a modern twist



giving as good
as you get

What do women really want for Christmas?
What do men really want? We find out ...

Bulletin

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townsvilleeye

eye editor

THERE are two topics of conversation at this time of year. The first starts with "How hot is it?" which isn't the question it appears of course, but a statement of fact which nobody is going to argue with.

The second is "How's your Christmas shopping going?" Now, I hate that question. Because when people ask, generally at work, it's never going well. It's not going well because I'm still at work, because apart from some die-hard inner city retailers attempting to keep the city heart pumping there are few places left to shop in here and because I'd rather chew on ground Christmas baubles than deal with late night shopping.

Nonetheless I will get it done, with the help of our two stories this week that shed some light on the stress-inducing question of "What women really want?" and the even more vexing "What do men really want?" Ruth Brown created an on-line poll to discover what gifts Townsville women enjoy the most and Shari Tagliabue battled blokes' natural unhelpfulness on this issue to extract some enlightening answers. It's essential reading.

Also in this issue, hot summer frocks perfect for keeping your cool and recipes for a three course Christmas lunch or dinner that mixes tradition with a modern twist. Gardening writer Julie Roach gives the lowdown on putting up Christmas lights without burning the house down and Karla Pincott casts her eye over an in-flight shopping catalogue that raises the bar well beyond naff caps and model planes. Enjoy the read!

Christy

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2. Floris No.89 is the signature scent of James Bond creator Ian Fleming, its release in Australia coinciding with the latest Bond flick, *Quantum of Solace*. With classic notes including orange, bergamot, lavender, nutmeg and sandalwood, this light classical cologne is all class.
Floris No 89 EDT 100ml, \$158. Go to www.florislondon.com.au

home

1. Christmas is the time for bling, and we reckon the blinger the better. Set in solid 14k or 18k white, rose or yellow gold, Gemma Giovelina's new *Finest and Finest* collection caters for the traditionalists and the outgoing. Call 07 5479 3759 for stockists or go to www.carat.cc
2. Eloisa James has another hit on her hands with *An Affair Before Christmas*. Set in the 1770s, the sequel to her racy historic novel *Desperate Duchesses* is required holiday reading. Rrp \$32.99. Hodder & Stroughton
3. Don't let Christmas queues or long holiday drives get you down, just whip out your hand-held *Electronic Sudoku* player. With two MILLION puzzles and nine levels of difficulty, time will fly! There's a timer to keep track and a help function too. ADH Worldwide Marketing, rrp \$29.95. Go to www.adhgifts.com.au
4. Mix a dirty martini and strike a pose as Teri Perkins & the *Ladyboys* give a string of 70s hits a good going-over on their latest cd, *No. 1's & No. 2's*. Teri's gravelly growls transform hits like *Hollywood 7* and *Three Times a Lady*, while Barney's falsetto harmonies on *You Make Me Feel Brand New* are gold. Universal, from all good CD retailers.
5. Put the kettle on, take the phone off the hook, and settle down for *McLeod's Daughters: The Complete Saga Box Set*. One of Australia's most loved dramas, the ironing will be piling up and dinners left uncooked as you enjoy the 54 discs in this great collectible gift idea. Rrp \$349. from all good DVD retailers.
6. You might start every day with a cuppa, but if it's served in this gorgeous *Lamorna breakfast cup and saucer* you'll find it hard to stop at just one. In a range of colours, \$169 from *Workday Possessions*, 41 Denham St. 4724 5665

for her

BABY BOOMERS

Usually mum or dad or nan and pop have plenty of years of accumulated clutter, er, treasured gifts – so maybe it's time to give them something they can actually use. They'll wonder how they ever managed without these great gift ideas...

for him

1. When there's a break in the cricket he'll love *Phoenix*, the gritty and ground-breaking 13-part ABC series that changed the face of the Aussie detective drama forever. Now available as a 4-disc box set, rrp \$49.95 from ABC Shops, Mary Who? Bookshop, 414 Finders Street Mail Ph: 4771 3824 / Angus & Robertson, Stockland Ph: 4775 5019
2. Floris No.89 is the signature scent of James Bond creator Ian Fleming, its release in Australia coinciding with the latest Bond flick, *Quantum of Solace*. With classic notes including orange, bergamot, lavender, nutmeg and sandalwood, this light classical cologne is all class. **Floris No 89** EDT 100ml, \$158. Go to www.florislondon.com.au
3. Be the Grey Nomad who doesn't need to ask for directions with the *Explore Australia by Caravan and Motorhome* (3rd edition). Paperback with a PVC wallet, the guide has over 170 maps, discount coupons, practical tips and dog-friendly details. Rrp \$49.95 from all good bookstores, camping and outdoor stores.
4. We know blokes don't like asking for directions, so this waterproof *Garmin Etrex* GPS will let you find your way back to that secret fishing spot without having to ask. Powered by two AA batteries, use the trackback to get the fish home for dinner. Rrp \$149 from Anaconda: call 1300 669 137 or go to www.anaconda.com.au
5. Find out what makes international media mogul Rupert Murdoch tick in *The Man who Owns the News*. Head of the family dynasty that makes headlines and then buys them, *Vanity Fair* writer Michael Wolff has unprecedented access to the most powerful global media identity in this fascinating read. Rrp \$49.95, Random House.
6. Stylish Danish brand *Ilse's* *Vignette* *Thermometer* puts an end to the guesswork in serving wine at 'room' temperature. Fit on the bottle and the digital readout will show the temperature. Simple! It comes in a gift box too - \$38. Go to Peter's of Kensington: www.petersofkensington.com.au

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1. *PHOENIX* SERIES ON DVD
2. **FLORIS** No. 89 Eau de Toilette
3. **EXPLORE AUSTRALIA BY CARAVAN AND MOTORHOME (3rd edition)**
4. **GARMIN** Etrex GPS
5. **THE MAN WHO OWNS THE NEWS** Inside the secret world of RUPERT MURDOCH
6. **ILSE'S** Vignette Thermometer