THE AUSTRALIAN
wish
MAY 2006

DIVINE DINING
Three meals, two countries, one day

GOING FAST
Bugatti's $2 million handmade masterpiece

PITCHING IN
Feelgood holidays

SAND CASTLES
How to make beach houses pay

ULTRA SHOPPING

From fishing flies to high fashion – Australia's best retail therapy

ULTRASHOPPING

BRISBANE

CLAIM TO FAME
Gordon Merchant started the **Billabong** label at nearby Burleigh Heads in 1973, launching his unique below-the-knee boardies.

BEST RETAIL THERAPY
Ann Street, Fortitude Valley; **Queen Street Mall**; **Grey Street**, **South Bank**; **Oxford Street**, Bulimba; **Boundary Street**, West End.

ARCADE
Elizabeth.

MALLS DU JOUR
Queens Plaza; **Broadway on the Mall**; **Robina Town Centre**.

DOUBLE ACT
Pamela Easton and Lydia Pearson, creators of mod-ethnic label **Easton Pearson**.

UNIQUE TO BRISBANE
Dogstar shops; **Alla Moda** imported fabrics; **Philip Bacon Galleries**; Craft Queensland's fascinating **CQ Store**.

FASHIONISTAS
Designer **Daniel Lightfoot**; boutique owners **Natalie Denning** and **Thea Basiliou** of **Blonde Venus**.

TOP FROCKS
Biffi; **Kim Hodges Design**; **Kisses**; **Madison Integrity**; **Max & Co**.

JEANS
Bam & Juju, **Bessie Head**, **Dirtbox**; **Ultra Suite**.

GEMS AND JEWELS
Tiffany & Co.; **Robert White**; **McKinney's**.

SHOE HEAVEN
Maryons; **Verge**; **Children of the Revolution**.

BEST BESPOKE
Custom Wetsuits; **Barbara Heath** for jewellery designed and made to order; **DVO Designs** for outdoor furniture.

WHERE THE BOYS ARE
Elio Moda Men; **Joe Richards**; **Mitchell Ogilvie** and off-shoot **Mitch**; **Tarmac 1**; **Noosa Longboards**.

TEENAGE DRAWCARDS
Ultra Suite; **City Beach** surf stores; **Elizabeth Arcade**; **Valley Markets** on weekends.

BOOKSNOBS HQ
American Book Store; **Avid Reader**; **Folio**; **Mary Ryan's**; **Coaldrake's**.

HOMEWARE HANGOUTS
Deka Furniture; **Fuse Furniture**; **King Furniture**; **Kova**; **Magnolia Interiors**; **Mod Cons Design**; **The Spare Room**.

SECRET INDULGENCE
Italian ice-cream and gelati from **Brunswick Street**.

Above: Unique designs from Barbara Heath Jewellery. Left: Wave-riders' paradise at Noosa Longboards.

HOT SPOTS
James Street and the Emporium complex in Fortitude Valley.

Above: Satisfied customers at Queens Plaza.
Left: Boho goes formal at Easton Pearson.

BARGAIN-HUNTERS' PARADISE
Harbour Town outlet centre, between Brisbane and the Gold Coast; **Stones Corner**; **DFO** at Brisbane Airport.

DISCOVERY
Australian Salvage for architectural treasures; the **Grey Street** precinct, **South Bank**; **Jan Manton Art**; **Lotus 76** boutique; **The Vinyl Frontier** retro furniture.

PIT STOPS
Shingle Inn, the city's classic sandwich bar revived; **Cru Bar** and **Depot Emporium** in Fortitude Valley; **Espresso Garage** in South Bank; **Lychee Lounge** in West End; **Valentino's** in Lutwyche; **Red Deli** in Clayfield; **Vanilla Pod** in Ascot.

FOODIE HAUNTS
Black Pearl Epicure; **The Executive Chef**; **Jocelyn's Provisions**; **Pamela's Pantry**.

CELEBRITY SPOTTING
Fortitude Valley ("The Valley" to locals).

IF YOU HAVE TO ASK, YOU CAN'T AFFORD ...
Anything from the **Sanctuary Cove International Boat Show**.

LUST OBJECTS
McTavish Fireball surfboard; **Riviera Sport Cruiser M400**; **Callaway Fusion golf clubs**; **BMW 6 Series Convertible**.

PHOTOGRAPHY: MARK GRANITCH OPPOSITE PAGE: LONELY PLANET IMAGES; MORNE DE KLERK