

**DRIVER**

The man behind leading local steel company

**DESPATCHES**

Portugal, the latest travel hotspot

**CONCEPT**

Ron Weideman's bold colour play



**MB**

THE MERCEDES-BENZ  
GOLD COAST MAGAZINE

**GC**

SPRING 2019

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MBGC is published quarterly.



In everything that Mercedes-Benz Gold Coast does, we strive to honour the legacy of innovation and precision set by Karl Benz, the founder of Mercedes-Benz antecedent Benz & Cie, who, in 1886, patented the Motorwagen, the world's first automobile.

# WELCOME

## Spring 2019



**W**elcome to the Spring issue of MBGC. This is the season that really showcases the Gold Coast and the perfect time to drive with the top down if you're lucky enough to own a Mercedes-Benz Cabriolet or Roadster.

We pride ourselves on the ambassadors that represent the dealership and the brand, and I'm excited to see our very own Robbie McEwen, three-time winner of the Tour de France's green jersey classification amongst many other accolades, inducted as an Athlete Member of The Sport Australia Hall of Fame. One of the highest honours that can be bestowed in Australian sport, this is another fantastic achievement that we congratulate him for. You can read more about it in Operations in the magazine.

Also in this edition we take a drive with local businessman Ben O'Bryan who's laying the foundations for many of the Gold Coast's construction sites through his company Buyrite Steel QLD. Ben takes us for a drive in the Mercedes-AMG GLC 63 S and fills us in on the booming industry from the ground up.

In our regular restaurant review we go south of the border, both geographically and in cuisine, and take a look at the popular Mexican eatery La Barrita in Kingscliff. They have almost 100 tequilas on offer as well as Tex Mex and Veracruz-inspired dishes. Well worth a visit and a great excuse to cross the border.

Our travel story this month explores the two largest cities in the burgeoning tourism hotspot of Portugal – Lisbon and Porto – both abundant with history, narrow cobblestone streets and of course the ubiquitous national treat, the pastel de nata. It's been named in the top 10 countries to visit by a number of high-profile magazines over the past two years and won't remain a secret for much longer.

While in the region, Label features some amazing products made from the Quercus suber, commonly called the cork oak. What was once the domain of the traditional wine stopper, the waterproof and renewable

product is now being fashioned into bags, wallets and even fruit bowls and imported by local company Cork Trader.

In Concept we take a look at the loose, impressionist-style painting by Ron Weideman that employs bold, vibrant strokes and explosive bursts of colour. Originally a native of the motor city Detroit, his time in Australia has helped him come to appreciate the laid-back surf culture and capture it in his art.

The creative theme continues with our feature on Gold Coast firm Designing Spaces and Places. Liliana and Jason Madigan made the move from Sydney in 2003 where they had an interior design business and art gallery in Surry Hills but these days work with a range of clients including developers such as Raptis, Pellicano Group and Heran Building Group.

And if you're looking for the latest on one of our best-known shopping and entertainment precincts then you'll get all the inside information in our Catchment story on the ever-evolving Broadbeach.

We round out this edition with our regular contributors: advice for high net worth individuals with James Marshall from MWM Advisory; a tasty steak tartare recipe from restaurateur extraordinaire Daniel Ridgeway; golf tips to get your game on par with Brad Kennedy; and help on how to prevent holiday blowouts with health and fitness guru Holly Louise.

If there's anything you'd like to see in future editions, please feel free to contact our editorial team, and of course if there's a Mercedes-Benz that catches your eye in our catalogue then make sure to get in touch.

**Robin Mainali**

*Dealer Principal*

*Mercedes-Benz Gold Coast*



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**HH** HARVEY PRESTIGE

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Craig Fogarty  
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# MAN OF STEEL

WORDS Melinda Burton PHOTOS Whitney Palmer

The Gold Coast building industry can be a feast or famine affair, however one local company that supplies the steel reinforcement for luxury homes and commercial projects has learnt that solid foundations are the key to business success.

**W**e've just finished taking a lap around the Burleigh industrial estate and it doesn't take much to convince our driver to go for a second lap.

Behind the wheel is Ben O'Bryan, a man who's pulled a second-tier steel manufacturing company firmly into the thriving Gold Coast construction scene.

Lowering the window to better appreciate the sound of the 4.0 litre V8 biturbo hand-crafted engine of his Mercedes-AMG A 45, he deliberately downshifts to hear the exhaust growl.

Ben can't single out what he loves about the steel industry, but he enjoys coming to work each day - his heart's in it and he's got the head for it.

Ben's father, Dinny O'Bryan, founded Buyrite Steel QLD more than 30 years ago, but it has only been in the last four years, since Ben took the reins, that the company has experienced an upswing in work.

"He concentrated more on the small builders, renovators, concreters and the guys who do driveways," Ben says of his father.

"It was all manual work with Dad."

With a master's degree in Urban Planning and Sustainability, Ben acquired most of his knowledge on the job.

"A lot of it I already knew, but I've brought my own stuff to it," he says.

Since coming on board in 2015, Ben has massively modernised the way Buyrite processes steel, bringing about an automation revolution.

"There's more than \$600,000 of machinery downstairs and it's helped us chase work outside our current market," he says.

Buyrite is busy. In the past three months alone, the company has processed over 500 tonnes of steel that has been distributed across south-east Queensland and as far as Sydney.

It's this step up in automation and a lot of hard work that led to the company breaking into the luxury housing market.

"We can supply steel for any kind of house, but we're known as one of the companies that deliver a better-quality product, especially for those prestige homes that are basically constructed wholly of concrete from the basement to the roof," Ben says

"When you get into the prestige housing market, it's all about customisation and being individual.

"Nothing is cut and paste, it's all very specialised per house and that's where we come in."

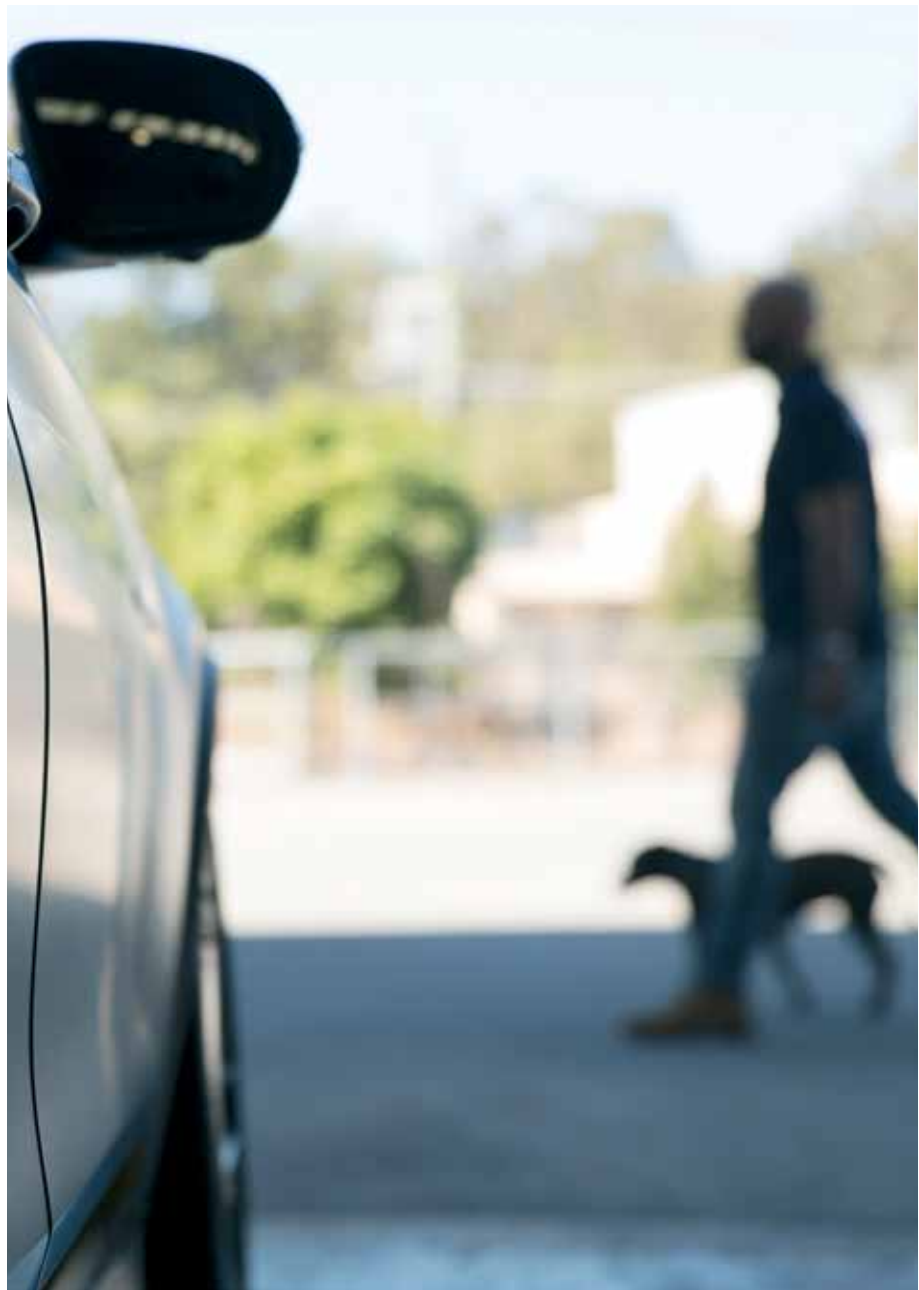
There's not many out there that can match what Buyrite does and it has the portfolio to prove it.

"We have a lot of customers come to us for this exact reason," he says.

"There's more being constructed entirely of concrete and all the steel that goes into it has to be produced spot on.

"We may not always be the cheapest, which we're not, but I can confidently say that what we supply is the best."

The luxury housing market is booming business on the Coast, one that Ben says is getting bigger and bigger.



“Commercial is never going boom the same time as residential and residential, is never going boom the same time as commercial”



“There are certain builders that specialise in the luxury housing market, and they’ve all got plenty of work on,” he says.

At the coal face of the industry, steel suppliers are often the first to pick up and first to slow down, something Ben says you’ve got to be flexible about.

“The markets are never the same,” he says.

“Commercial is never going boom the same time as residential, and residential is never going to boom the same time as commercial.

“They always seem to be on slightly different cycles, so it’s being able to move with the market.

“If you get stuck in one area, you’re going to face some challenges.”

It’s evident from the moment you walk in the door, the Buyrite team is a family.

In fact, Ben rattles three months off the top of his head, January, June and July.

This is when three members of his team will celebrate their 20-year anniversary with the company.

“They’ve known me since I was 12, so they’ve seen me grow up from a little smart arse to an even bigger smart arse,” he laughs.

By Ben’s side is Miah, the most loyal, enthusiastic and also furry member of the team.

The photo shoot has been going on roughly two hours, and in that time, Miah has greeted each incoming truck and individual with equal gusto.

It’s another thing that’s evident: Miah is adored by the entire team.

Ben adopted the energetic Staffordshire Bull Terrier from a Burleigh animal shelter eighteen months prior.

Since then, she’s been keeping the same working hours as Ben, spending her days moseying about the factory and coaxing people into play.

Working for the company since he was 15, Ben cites having a different working style from his father as one of the challenges of taking over the business.

“When I came on board, I was dealing with a heap of long-term customers, a lot of people who had dealt with my Dad and suddenly they had me,” he says.



“I’m very different from my old man in how I run the business.

“We had a few disagreements about what we should be doing in the few years before I did take over.”

Now retired, Dinny occasionally drops in and, seeing Ben’s progress, admits there’s a number of things Buyrite should have done years ago.

“Dad’s almost 80 now, so it would have been difficult for him to take certain risks that I have,” he says.

Up until now, Ben has been taking one step at a time, but he’s quickened the pace having just finalised negotiations to open a Yatala facility in early 2020.

“It’s going to position us for the Flagstone master plan city to take shape around Yarrabilba and Logan Village,” Ben says.

“When works start in the next five years, we’ll be in a good place to take advantage of that.”

Buyrite Steel QLD  
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“Dad’s almost 80 now, so it would have been difficult for him to take certain risks that I have”







# NEW WORLD DISCOVERY

WORDS Bruce Nelson PHOTOS Liza Spratt

Once the first global empire, Portugal has played second fiddle to many of its neighbours for years, but now the proud seafaring country has come out of the shadows to emerge as the latest travel hotspot.

**T**he discovery of the sea route to India in 1497 and the European discovery of Brazil a few years later by Portuguese explorer Vasco da Gama set the country on a path of wealth and prosperity never before seen.

However a series of unfortunate events, including a major earthquake in Lisbon in 1755, occupation during the Napoleonic Wars, Brazil's independence and the subsequent loss of the riches that flowed back, and a slow take up of industrialisation compared to other countries, took the shine off what was once a glittering empire.

That was until influential publications such as *Condé Nast Traveler*, *Marie Claire*, *The Guardian* and many others predicted its rising popularity just a few years ago, and what was previously known as a cheap English holiday destination started to come into its own.

The country's National Statistics Institute reported earlier this year that total foreign arrivals grew to 12.8 million in 2018 with tourism experiencing consistent growth for eight years in a row. Throw in the domestic tourism numbers (nationals leaped to 8.3 million, a percentage increase of

3.8) and the total figure is around 21 million tourists for the year, with numbers expected to grow.

So with moderate temperatures all year round, great wines, a long coast line, fascinating history and plenty to see and do, what's not to love about Portugal?

Its two largest cities, the capital Lisbon and the home of port wine, Porto, offer the easiest and most insightful glimpse into the country if you're thinking of a visit.

Accessible from most European cities either by the national airline TAP or other carriers, Lisbon is showing all the signs of a city growing up.

Construction cranes dot the skyline, boutique hotels are blossoming and luxury rooftop bars and restaurants are opening up across the city as a sign of its development.

Even celebrity investors are getting in on the action. Mabel Capital, who counts tennis ace Rafael Nadal as a stockholder, bought a landmark building in Rossio Square for a record €62 million late last year to redevelop as a hotel.

While the growth is good for traveller choice and the local economy, the charm of Lisbon hasn't been lost amongst the clamour of change.

Narrow winding cobblestone streets continue to deliver up surprises of small bars and restaurants, while boutiques of local-made crafts and ceramics provide retail relief from the numerous tourist shops selling fridge magnets and tea towels.

Even the very best Piri Piri chicken can still be enjoyed in fairly non-descript laneway restaurants at incredibly reasonable prices (Bonjardim is the best if you're wondering), and the sweet and creamy pastel de natas (Portuguese tarts) are available from a myriad of local patisseries.

At the other end of the spectrum, luxury travel in Lisbon has really come of age with areas such as Príncipe Real, one of the most fashionable neighbourhoods in the city, home to a growing number of high-end restaurants, stores and art galleries.

Rooftop bars are also in vogue, mushrooming on top of buildings and providing an eagle-eye view of the city. For a real treat catch the elevator to the seventh floor of the five-star hotel Altis Avenida to the Rossio Gastrobar, a slick and stylish bar and restaurant that overlooks central Lisbon and out to the River Tagus.

For history buffs, the city is a living museum with monuments and statues of explorers overlooking leafy parks and Portuguese

pavement squares, centuries old churches and public buildings, and the iconic rattling yellow tram system in use since the late 1800s.

Lisbon provides a terrific insight into the country's heart and soul, however if you want a more regional experience then take the three-hour train trip to Porto in the north; home of port wine, an artery clogging local sandwich and beautiful blue tiled buildings.

A seat in comfort class on the Alfa Pendular train costs just under €40 one-way and is a relaxing and enjoyable way to see some of the countryside of farms, orchards and small towns dotted along the route.

Portugal's second-largest city, Porto has a population of almost 290,000 and surrounds one of the oldest European centres, with its historical core proclaimed a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1996.

The riverfront of the Praça da Ribeira fronting the Rio Douro is one of the city's most picturesque and popular areas and provides a bustling array of cafes, restaurants, and bars to wander in and out. If you visit on a Sunday in summer you'll be confronted by the huge number of tourists and locals enjoying a day out, but it all adds to the atmosphere of a holiday experience.

Across the river in Vila Nova de Gaia you'll find the various port houses, many displaying their English heritage with names such as Taylor's, Graham's and Offley, and offering tours and tastings of the world-famous tippie.







The Anglo-Portuguese commercial treaty of 1654 created new opportunities for English and Scottish merchants living in Porto giving them special privileges and preferential customs duties including the establishment of port houses that exported the ruby red liquid back to England.

But it's the heart of Porto that really shines with beautiful buildings, meandering medieval alleyways and centuries of architecture and culture built on top of each other.

A hallmark of the city are the coloured tiles that adorn many buildings and often tell religious stories. Make sure you visit the São Bento railway station that features around 20,000 tiles dating from the beginning of

last century depicting scenes such as the Battle of Arcos de Valdevez, and Egas Moniz before Alfonso VII of Castile.

The Chapel of Souls, famous for its exterior of blue and white tiles painted with scenes from the lives of saints, and the Church of Saint Ildefonso dating back to 1739 and built in a proto-Baroque style, both provide beautiful examples of the azulejo form of tile work.

Just like Lisbon, the city's culinary scene is evolving and boasts a number of Michelin-star restaurants that sit comfortably alongside the many excellent local cafes.

But if it's local you want then you can't go past the Tripas à Moda do Porto, a stew of

cow tripe, smoked meats and white beans typically served with rice and considered Porto's official dish, or the Francesinha Sandwich, made with ham, sausages, steak and layered with melted cheese and an egg on top, and covered with a hot thick tomato and beer sauce (you get an accompanying side of French Fries just to get the calorie count into triple digits).

Porto, like Lisbon, provides a window into Portugal's personality, and while there are many other places to visit in this friendly, enchanting and fascinating country, a visit to both is highly recommended before the likes of the 'Hotel de Nadal' shape the future of the Iberian Peninsula's newest discovery.



# MEXICAN STAND OFF

WORDS Bruce Nelson PHOTOS Elizaveta Valeeva

A second chance at running a restaurant in the same location provided Anna and Marco Cenfi an opportunity to reinvent themselves and their offering for locals and visitors to Salt Village in northern NSW.



We carry more than 90 unique and authentic tequilas showcased on our shelves and through the large drinks menu

**H**aving one of the biggest bars in the area carries with it great responsibility, especially when it's stocked with tequila.

"We carry more than 90 unique and authentic tequilas showcased on our shelves and through the large drinks menu," says Anna Cenfi, one half of the husband and wife team behind La Barrita.

"The tequila bar was part of the concept from the beginning, providing a real point of difference with beautiful show piece bottles, and of course quality tequilas.

"This is the place where you'll find your perfect Margarita, try something new like a Mexican Negroni or sip on a Coconut Mojito while enjoying that perfect plate of nachos."

Open for just over a year, the cantina serves up the freshest Mexican food made as authentic as possible, incorporating some Tex Mex (the fusion of Mexican and American cuisines) but also a lot of items that have been researched and tasted to ensure true flavours to the country of origin.

There's a huge variety of tacos, Veracruz inspired dishes (one of the 32 states of Mexico) including fish and BBQ pork cooked in banana leaf, and sides such as rice, salads and beans all done the way Mexicans would cook.

Even the kid's menu gets the full Mexican makeover, with toned down versions of the spicier staples on the menu and not a chicken nugget in sight.

Anna says her favourite is the Mexican salad, a mix of fresh fruit and vegetables including radish, broccoli, apple, cabbage, shallots and red onion dressed with a spicy lime vinaigrette served in a flash fried corn tortilla bowl (pulled pork, shredded chicken or shredded beef optional), with the bowl part of the meal.

The Cenfi's are no strangers to the hospitality industry, having moved from Sydney nine years ago after running a café in Leichhardt's famous Norton Street.

When they moved to the Tweed Coast, they established the highly successful Italian restaurant Bellini for five years before selling it.

"When the chance came up to take it over again, we jumped at it but decided on a new culinary direction," Anna says.

"Knowing Salt and its growth we saw an opportunity and thought Mexican could really work as it's family friendly and very casual – perfect for this location and environment.

"Marco also has a shop design and fit out company having helped create Fins and Piccolo Gelato in the same area, so it allowed him to use those skills to create an authentic and rustic Mexican experience."

La Barrita prides itself on the use of local produce – all the limes (and there's plenty of them in Mexican food) come from Tumbulghum, with local fruit and vegetable suppliers bringing tomatoes, coriander and avocado to the kitchen.


"We intend to keep exploring the different areas of Mexico and keep coming out with new dishes with a change of menu for the seasons, for example ceviche with local fresh fish in summer and more heartier dishes in winter," Anna says.

"And of course, we'll continue to add to the bar, we're so close to 100 bottles it'd be a shame not to reach that milestone and celebrate with a tequila of course."

La Barrita

Shop 4 Bells Blvd, Kingscliff NSW

(02) 6674 8487

 @labarritasalt



# SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN FOR GOLD STANDARD LOYALTY MEMBERS

## KIDS GOLF ACADEMY WITH BRAD KENNEDY

Members of our Gold Standard Loyalty program (or their children at least) were invited to attend our first School Holiday Kids Golf Academy with MBGC Golf Ambassador and Touring Professional Brad Kennedy.

The half day event catered for kids of all skill levels from five years and up and was broken into Rookie and Intermediate sessions.

For the budding golfers Brad gave tips on basic skills including the fundamentals and foundations of the game, swinging, chipping and putting, while those with a bit more experience had a one-on-one opportunity to learn more about scoring, driving and more details on playing a better game.

Here's hoping we find the next Brad Kennedy, Adam Scott or Jason Day in the cohort.



## THE TOY STORY CONTINUES

Who doesn't love a Toy Story, and what better way to see the latest instalment of the Pixar classic than at the Home of the Arts (HOTA).

Gold Standard Loyalty program members and their families joined Woody, Buzz and the gang at a private screening during the school holidays enjoying complimentary popcorn and refreshments.



If you'd like to experience the benefits of our Gold Standard Loyalty program simply contact our friendly Loyalty Team on 07 5558 6555





PHOTO: Graham Watson

## MBGC AMBASSADOR INDUCTED INTO SPORT AUSTRALIA HALL OF FAME

Mercedes-Benz Gold Coast Ambassador Robbie McEwen has been inducted as an Athlete Member of The Sport Australia Hall of Fame and received one of the highest honours that can be bestowed in Australian sport.

We couldn't be prouder of this well-deserved achievement and to be associated with such a terrific representative for the sport and the Gold Coast.

Robbie told The Sport Australia Hall of Fame it was a huge honour when first announced while he was commentating the Tour de France in July.

"It was an honour to be inducted into the Cycling Australia Hall of Fame, but to some extent maybe that was to be expected within Australian cycling," he said.

"To be recognised at a national level by a Hall of Fame that takes into consideration all sports and what all Australian athletes have ever done is a huge, huge honour."

Robbie was the first Australian to win the green sprinter's jersey at the Tour de France in 2002, he went on to win the coveted 'Maillot Vert' again in 2004, 2006 and won the silver medal at the world road cycling championships in 2002 and represented Australia at three Olympic Games.

He won 115 major professional races and more than 200 in all – at least one a year from 1996 to 2011 – including eight European one-day races, two Australian road championships and four national criterium titles.

Robbie was named Australian Cyclist of the Year in 2002 and was an inaugural inductee into the Cycling Australia Hall of Fame in 2015. In 2017 he was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for significant service to cycling at the national and international level as a competitor, coach, and advisor, and to the community.

Congratulations once again Robbie.

# MBGC STYLE

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  - COMAND navigation with voice activation
  - 360 degree camera
  - LED headlight system
- Many more features to list.

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2018 Mercedes-Benz C 200

\$64,900.00 Drive Away



Km 6,512. Four-door and five-seat sedan in Hyacinth Red Metallic with black Artico interior. Stock number L12862.

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  - Navigation
- Many more features to list.

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\$64,900.00 Drive Away

\$50,000 - \$100,000



Km 36,682. Two-door and five-seat coupe in Iridium Silver with black leather interior. Stock number L12834.

Features Include

- AMG Sports Package
- 19-inch multi-spoke AMG alloys
- Unique AMG body styling
- Vision Package
- Panoramic sunroof
- LED Intelligent lighting system
- Head-Up display
- Seat Comfort Package
- COMAND Navigation

Many more features to list.

Mercedes-Benz Certified  
Pre-owned vehicles



2018 MERCEDES-BENZ C 200

\$64,900.00 Drive Away



Km 6,368. Four-door and five-seat sedan in Obsidian Black Metallic with black Artico interior. Stock number L12811.

#### Features Include

- Vision Package
- Panoramic sunroof
- MULTIBEAM LED Intelligent headlamps
- Head-Up display
- 360 camera

- Electric front seats
- Navigation
- Cruise control

Many more features to list.

\$50,000 - \$100,000



Mercedes-Benz **Certified**  
Pre-owned vehicles



2018 MERCEDES-BENZ C 200

\$62,900.00 Drive Away

\$50,000 - \$100,000



Km 5,666. Four-door and five-seat sedan in Polar White with black Artico interior. Stock number L 12807.

Features Include

- Vision Package
  - Panoramic sunroof
  - MULTIBEAM LED Intelligent headlamps
  - Head-Up display
  - 360 degree camera
  - 897 Smartphone integration
  - Electric front seats
  - Navigation
- Many more features to list.

Mercedes-Benz **Certified**  
Pre-owned vehicles



2018 MERCEDES-BENZ GLA 250

\$62,888.00 Drive Away



Km 7,543. Five-door and five-seat wagon in Mountain Grey Metallic with Red Cut leather interior. Stock number L12810.

Features Include

- AMG Sports Package
- Unique 19-inch AMG gloss black alloy wheels
- Unique AMG body styling
- Vision Package
- Panoramic sunroof
- LED Intelligent headlamps
- 360 camera
- Electric, memory front seats with heating

Many more features to list.

\$50,000 - \$100,000

Mercedes-Benz **Certified**  
Pre-owned vehicles



2010 MERCEDES-BENZ GL 350

\$59,990.00 Drive Away

\$50,000 - \$100,000



Km 16,428. Five-door and five-seat wagon in Palladium Silver with Crystal Grey leather interior. Stock number L12863.

Features Include

- Factory 7-seat configuration
  - Seat configuration
  - COMAND Navigation with voice activation
  - Electric memory front seats
  - Cruise control
  - Glass sunroof
  - Keyless entry and start
- Many more features to list.

Mercedes-Benz **Certified**  
Pre-owned vehicles



2017 MERCEDES-BENZ C 200

\$59,900.00 Drive Away



Km 11,056. Four-door and five-seat sedan in Polar White with black Artico interior. Stock number L12854.

Features Include

- Sport Edition
  - Vision Package
  - Panoramic sunroof
  - MULTIBEAM LED Intelligent headlamps
  - Head-Up display
  - 360 degree camera
- Many more features to list.

\$50,000 - \$100,000

Mercedes-Benz Certified  
Pre-owned vehicles



2016 MERCEDES-BENZ C 200

\$59,900.00 Drive Away

\$50,000 - \$100,000



Km 46,000. Two-door and five-seat coupe in Polar White with black Artico interior. Stock number L12833.

#### Features Include

- Vision Package
- Panoramic sunroof
- Head-Up display
- LED Intelligent lighting system
- SEAT Comfort Package
- COMAND Package
- 13-Speaker BURMESTER surround sound system
- Cruise control

Many more features to list.

Mercedes-Benz **Certified**  
Pre-owned vehicles



2018 MERCEDES-BENZ CLA 250

\$58,888.00 Drive Away



Km 7,699. Five-door and five-seat wagon in Polar White with Red Cut leather interior. Stock number L12819.

Features Include

- AMG Sports Package
- Unique 18-inch 5-spoke AMG alloy wheels in gloss black
- Unique AMG Body Styling
- Seat Comfort Package
- Panoramic sunroof
- COMAND Navigation with voice activation
- Cruise control
- Reverse camera

Many more features to list

\$50,000 - \$100,000

Mercedes-Benz **Certified**  
Pre-owned vehicles



2018 MERCEDES-BENZ A 250

\$53,888.00 Drive Away

\$50,000 - \$100,000



Km 7,363. Five-door and five-seat hatchback in Iridium Silver with Anthracite Twin leather interior. Stock number L12814 .

Features Include

- Vision Package
  - Panoramic sunroof
  - MULTIBEAM LED Intelligent headlamps
  - 360 degree camera
  - 877 Ambient Lighting Package
  - MBUX dual screen user interface
  - Navigation
- Many more features to list.

Mercedes-Benz Certified  
Pre-owned vehicles



2018 MERCEDES-BENZ A 200

\$49,900.00 Drive Away



Km 7,882. Five-door and five-seat roadster in Cosmos Black with Anthracite Twin leather interior. Stock number L12808.

Features Include

- Vision Package
  - Panoramic sunroof
  - MULTIBEAM LED Intelligent headlamps
  - 360 degree camera
  - 877 Ambient Lighting Package
  - MBUX dual screen user interface
  - Navigation
  - Cruise control
- Many more features to list.

\$15,000 - \$50,000



Mercedes-Benz **Certified**  
Pre-owned vehicles



2010 Mercedes-Benz E 250

\$29,900.00 Drive Away



Km 96,000. Four-door and five-seat sedan in Iridium Silver Metallic with black leather interior. Stock number L12569.

Features Include

- Vision Package
  - Electric sunroof
  - Harman/Kardon surround sound system
  - Blind Spot Assist
  - Semi-electric front seats
  - Keyless entry and start
  - 5G-Tronic 5-speed automatic transmission
- Many more features to list.

\$15,000 - \$50,000



# SHORT GAME

## THE LOB WEDGE CURSE

WORDS Brad Kennedy

In this issue, we look at chipping and why we instinctively pull our lob wedge or sand wedge out to chip. Is it habit? Or lack of knowledge? Use my tips to improve your club selection and save shots off your scorecard.

When people talk about chipping, you often hear “I scrambled well today” or “I didn’t chip it close enough”. This is often a direct reflection of their score as chipping is the connection between the fairway and the putting green. If we chip well, it goes a long way to scoring well. I can honestly say that during my professional golfing career, my driver is the only club I haven’t chipped with during a tournament. We are only governed by our imagination and creativity.

Chipping is such a diverse part of the game and using any club is possible - but how do we know what club to use at what time? This is the start of becoming a better player. Below I will break down the types of chips into categories. I’ll also go through a drill to test and improve your chipping distance control.

Chipping from 25m in can be put into three categories: chip and run, pitch and flop/lob shot.

1. Chip and run – land the ball a third of the distance between you and the pin. Let the ball roll the remaining two thirds.
2. Pitch – land the ball at a 50 per cent distance between you and the pin. Let the ball roll the remaining 50 per cent.
3. Flop/lob shot – land the ball two thirds of the distance between you and the pin. Let the ball roll the remaining third.

Take a moment to decide what type of chip shot is in front of you, then ask yourself what club

you need to give yourself the best opportunity to hit the ball inside 1 metre. If you don’t know the answer, then now is the time to learn. Chipping is not just a lob wedge.

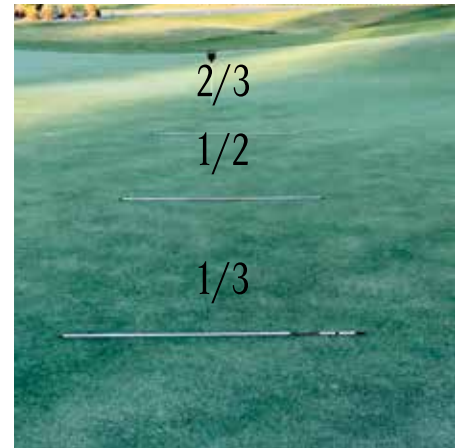
1. Visualise the shot you would like to play – is it a chip and run? A pitch? Or a lob?
2. Choose the club that will give you the best chance of landing the ball in the right spot, rather than just choosing the lob wedge.
3. Once you have selected the club, visualise your landing spot and the ball rolling to the hole.
4. Hit the shot with trust and confidence.

Don’t be afraid to try new shots, get creative and challenge yourself. When practising, put yourself in a bunker and try chipping out with a 9-iron, chip with a rescue or 3-wood from just off the green on the fairway, or try and hit a flop shot over a bunker with a pitching wedge.

### The Ladder Drill

How good is your distance control?

Create a ladder. Choose a spot to hit from, then 5m away, lay a club on the ground parallel to you. At 7m put another club parallel; then again at 9m, 11m and 13m. Chipping from your spot, try to land the ball into the gap between 5m and 7m. How many shots does it take you? Remember, for distance control the focus is on landing the ball in the ladder (not where it



finishes). When you’ve landed one ball between 5m and 7m, try to land a ball in the next rung between 7m and 9m. There are four sections to land the ball in. How many shots does it take you to land a ball in each section from 5m to 13m? Repeat. See if you can beat your best the next time.

If you want to test your chipping further, either make your clubs 1m apart and repeat the drill or start from 10m away.

Keep a record by writing down how many up and downs you made after each round. It is the best way to see your improvement and build confidence.

Want to learn more? Please send all requests to [feedback@mbgoldcoast.com.au](mailto:feedback@mbgoldcoast.com.au) and I will answer in the next issue. I look forward to hearing about your progress and success implementing the ladder drill.



# LOST IN A SUMMER HAZE





WORDS Nick Nichols ARTWORK Ron Weideman

## There's more to Ron Weideman's love of Australia's laid-back beach culture than his art reveals

**R**on Weideman is amused by the thought that he could be obsessed with the Australian summer because he is still trying to shake off the winter chill of his home town of Detroit.

There may be some truth to it, but the more he talks about his career, the more apparent it becomes that the Kingscliff artist's love of the laid-back surf culture originated very early in life.

Ron, who emigrated more than 30 years ago, is recognised for his loose, impressionist-style painting that employs bold, vibrant strokes and explosive bursts of colour.

His work typically captures the essence of a carefree Australia through snapshots of magical sun-soaked days.

"Everything I do now is beach culture, and everything I did when I was in Detroit was centred on the snow," Ron admits.

However, water has never been far from his life. Detroit summers can be just as punishing as any in Australia, with the nearest escape to be found along the ocean-like shores of Lake St Clair or

Lake Erie, part of North America's stunning Great Lakes system.

"We also used to holiday in Florida during the summer, so I've always had a fascination for the surf and surf culture. The water and the colours have always appealed to me."

Ron's affair with Australia began in 1984 when he was working for an advertising agency in Detroit, America's famed Motor City. That's when he arrived in Adelaide, transferred by the agency from one motor city to another to work on the Chrysler-Mitsubishi account when the auto industry in Australia was in its prime.

"Once I got here, I just fell in love with it," says Ron who spent three years in Adelaide, before moving to Sydney, then Brisbane and finally settling at Kingscliff.

Since landing in Australia, Ron took to surfing, in part to satisfy his creative lust. But he is just as likely to be mixing with the crowds watching the Quiksilver Pro at Snapper Rocks for inspiration.

"It's such a great vibe; I love the surfboards, and I've always been intrigued by their shape and how they work," he says.



“I always think my best painting is going to be the next one, that’s what really excites me”

“The dynamic of surfing also amazes me. It’s the freedom, I guess, probably the same sort of freedom I get when I paint.”

When he’s not surfing, Ron finds inspiration from his daily walks on the beach with his wife Monica and their dog Franc ‘The Tank’.

“I take in everything, from people on the beach to the whales going by. It’s just life, just taking note of what’s around you.”

The process is not too far removed from the creative techniques he used in advertising when ‘someone says something funny on a bus and you use that in an ad’.

Ron’s art evokes the colour and light of familiar shapes and movements of happy summer days by the beach.

It’s a simple and uncluttered approach to what he experiences from day to day.

“When I paint, I try to make it all about a connection; you can’t paint from a personal narrow-minded approach,” he says.

While his style is inspired by the curves and colours of Brett Whiteley’s work, Ron’s distinctive colour palette is derived from years working with the basics of the print medium – cyan, magenta, yellow, black and white, and all the combinations they offer when deftly blended.

“I’ve always been attracted to those colours and I use them to convey the colours of Australia, which are very different to those of America, especially the greens.”

Ron always had an eye for art, something his mother recognised and encouraged at an early age.

“I’ve been painting since I was kid and my mum was good at supporting us and pushing us to do it,” he says.

“My dad was more pragmatic. He was a car designer who told me I couldn’t make a living from just painting. He wanted me to be a car designer.”



Ron eventually found some common ground, graduating from Detroit’s College for Creative Studies which specialises in photography and fine art.

“That’s how I went into advertising. It was still creative and visually exciting because we were creating something from nothing, but I never stopped painting, even when working full time.

“To this day I get excited every morning when I have to paint something and the reason that I do it is because of my mum and dad.”

These days, Ron reaches the world with his art, working on commissioned pieces for clients as far afield as Europe and America and capitalising on the online space which he says is putting more artists in control of their work.

“There may be fewer galleries around but there is so much more social media being used. Artists are becoming very savvy in promoting their work this way. It’s the future of art.”

A lot of Ron’s work is bought by designers and collectors. Some still prefer to see the art in the flesh and Ron does display in galleries such as Retrospect in Byron Bay.

His father’s pragmatism probably shapes his attitude to art these days.

Ron admits he’s ‘not precious’ about people choosing his art to match interior colour schemes.

He also has no special attachment to any single work he has done.

He keeps some paintings, but is willing to part with them if someone wants one badly enough.

“I always think my best painting is going to be the next one, that’s what really excites me,” he says.

Ronzo  
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# POP THE CORK

WORDS Bruce Nelson PHOTOS Liza Spratt



A passion to provide a unique yet environmentally friendly and sustainable fashion accessory and homewares range prompted Liza Spratt to look to the Iberian Peninsula for inspiration.

**C**ork doesn't immediately conjure up tote bags and fruit bowls, rather the natural and self-renewable product is best known for wine bottle stoppers, gaskets and floor tiles used in the 1970s.

However its beautiful and malleable texture has recently lent itself to a range of accessories and products that are on-trend with our obsession with social and environmental responsibility and fashion statement pieces to boot.

Cork Trader, a company founded by Liza Spratt to showcase the distinctive material, was created to provide a different sustainable designer product that wasn't available in every fashion store.

Selling stylish European designed handbags, back packs, wallets, purses and a range of homewares, Liza searches for the very best products produced by skilled artisans and showcases them to a new Australian market.

"I have a background in retail and interior design, so when I came across cork I knew immediately it provided all the necessary qualities that not only make it unique, but aligned with our increasing environmental consciousness as well," she says.

"You don't see cork fashion products that much here, and while they are more prevalent in Europe, I don't import the same as the tourist cork you see on the streets of Lisbon.

"Ultimately cork is a fashion statement that says, 'I'm stylish, different and I care about the environment' and that's something you

won't find in a single product anywhere except for cork."

Cork is harvested from *Quercus suber*, the cork oak, which is found mostly in southwest Europe and northwest Africa where it is one of the major plant communities of the Mediterranean woodlands and forests ecoregion.

The bark of the tree is water-resistant, buoyant, elastic, and fire retardant, and is removed only from early May to late August when it can be separated from the tree without causing permanent damage.

Ironically once harvested it promotes new growth and the trees end up living longer, up to 300 years, making it one of the most renewable natural products on the planet.

"As a resource for use in fashion and accessories cork is about as natural as you can get," says Liza.

"Cork Trader's range doesn't use any animal products and is ethically made using only sustainably-sourced materials.

"Our best seller is the shopper bag; after all if you really care about the environment why not carry one made of cork instead of plastic or a recycled product that requires some degree of manufacture?

"They're beautiful to look at and fantastic to feel which together create something wonderful and unique."



Cork Trader  
0418 882 092

 @corktrader



# IN SEARCH OF YOUR OWN AMBIENT STYLE

WORDS Nick Nichols  
PHOTOS Designing Spaces and Places

There's a formula to creating the ultimate comfort zone, and the journey begins from within, says interior designer Liliana Madigan.

In the world of interior design there is no concept as fickle as ambience. What works for one person may not for another.

Textures, colour palettes and the importance of spatial balance can challenge the best of us trying to visualise a new living space that we can call our own.

Some people want the latest trends, while others are more interested in timeless elegance.

For Gold Coast interior designer Liliana Madigan, the secret to getting it right is understanding what makes people tick.

"It's about listening to how people use their space and what they want out of their space, and then working with that," says Liliana, co-founder of Gold Coast firm Designing Spaces and Places (DSP).

That means getting down to the basics with her clients, finding out what they do for a living, how long they have lived in the house,

or even whether they enjoy reading or prefer soaking up some sun.

It's an unashamed third degree that allows Liliana to know everything she needs to get the job done.

"Mostly people know what they like but they don't know what they want," she says.

"But I am very good at listening to what the client needs. I like my designs to touch all the human senses because that's how you create ambience in a room. Your home should reflect who you are."

It's a process that helps Liliana get to know her clients very well.

"You feel like part of their family by the end of it; working on someone's home is a really personal process."

Liliana and Jason Madigan are well known for creating inspirational interiors on the Gold Coast and beyond.

The couple established DSP in 2003 after moving to Queensland from Sydney where they had an interior design business and a three-storey art gallery in Surry Hills.

These days the couple works with a range of clients, including developers such as Raptis, Pellicano Group and Heran Building Group.

Among their recent projects is the refurbishment of the Blue Heron Motel, transforming it into a 'quintessential beachside holiday' stay.

Whether it's a corporate or a personal client, Liliana says the ultimate aim is to create living spaces that work.

"Even if you are a hotel operator, you still have a responsibility to touch the person that comes into the space. It needs to be ambient to a wide market so that everyone who stays has an experience to remember that will make them want to return."

Liliana fell into interior design after styling and decorating homes for people in preparation for sale. Jason was involved in interior design in Hong Kong before they met.

When she finds the time away from running the business and managing the needs of a young family, Liliana enjoys painting and sculpting.

Jason also shares Liliana's keen eye for art and design, although he mostly looks after importing custom-made furniture for clients. He travels widely in search of objects that fit the bill.

Furniture and art are an integral part of the design process, as is keeping up with the latest trends.

"I love using new elements," says Liliana.

"I get excited when people want to use different things and textures like wallpaper. These are the layers that create ambience in a space."

It goes without saying that wallpapers are top of her list. Currently her penchant is for the latest releases from Italy's Casamance which incorporate the new 2020 interior pantone colours of soft, muted tones mixed with metallics.

"I also like using colour but a lot of people prefer muted tones. Of course, we can do that, but I think it's more challenging to incorporate colour into a space and do it effectively."

Neutral tones mixed with coastal looks are popular on the Gold Coast. When combined with driftwood-style furniture, the result is a coastal luxe feel that Liliana says never goes out of fashion.

"But there's also at the absolute other end of that which makes interior design on the Gold Coast quite interesting.

"Some people like a lot more metallics, like gold and silvers and shiny objects. You can make that look terrible or you can make that look absolutely amazing.

"The foyer of The Darling at The Star casino is a really good example of that, where a lot of gold and marble is used and it looks great. It's part of the 2020 Pantone palette and all those metallics are really in."

So, what does Liliana's personal style for her own home say about her?

"I'm a bit of a hippie really," she admits.

"I have a mix of different pieces, some African furniture and a big Persian rug, so my personal style is quite eclectic.

"There are some pieces in my house that I'd like to throw away eventually, but I'm pretty much doing it the way I want to at the moment."

If there's a single piece of advice Liliana has for anyone planning to remodel their living space it's to have a plan.

"People tend to do it in a bitsy way, but you should look at all the spaces in your home and come up with a plan before starting.

"If you can only afford to do one room at a time then just do one room at a time, but always keep the plan in your head.

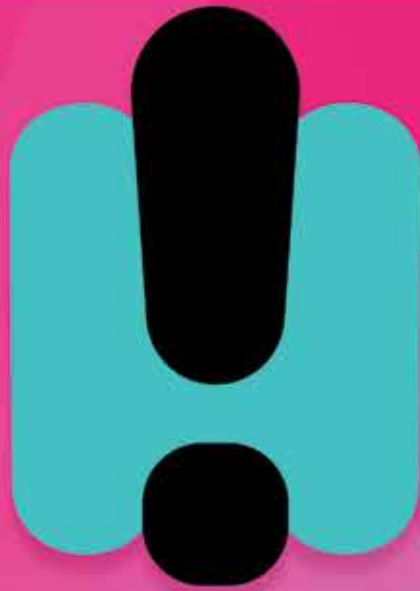
"If you don't you can easily drift off track. You might be out shopping and see something you want to buy that just doesn't work. Just have a plan and stick to it."

“Some people like a lot more metallics, like gold and silvers and shiny objects. You can make that look terrible or you can make that look absolutely amazing”



# BREKKIE CREW

LISE, SARAH, DAN & BEN



hit  
90.9



# HOW TO PREVENT HOLIDAY BLOWOUTS

WORDS Holly Louise – The Fit Pharmacist

Many people use travelling as an excuse to throw their dieting and exercise routines out the window. This is usually due to the fact that our normal routines are interrupted when travelling. This can happen in the following ways:

Those of us who normally work out in a gym may not have access to any equipment.

Those who normally exercise with friends or a training partner.

Those who like to prepare their own meals.

Those who are used to a regular sleep pattern may be sleeping at odd hours in different time zones.

## INCREASE YOUR CALORIES

Trying to stick to 1,200 calories while on holidays will only be setting yourself up for failure and won't allow you to enjoy yourself. Increase your calories up to around your maintenance level or just below. By increasing your calories you will have a more realistic amount to work with while away and you won't feel so restricted.

## STOCK UP ON STAPLES

Head to the supermarket/convenience store to grab a few staples. You will be amazed at what you can find at the supermarket these days – ready-to-go meals, salads and pre-packaged meats are super handy and

they all have the macros listed on the label making them easy to track.

## PLAN AHEAD

If you know that you will be going out for a meal, have a look at the menu beforehand and select your meal. That way you can plan the rest of your meals for the day around it. If you can't choose beforehand, try to save a realistic amount of macros for that meal by having smaller, micronutrient-dense foods during the day. Always carry some protein powder or a protein bar with you to keep up your protein intake while out on adventures.

## STAY HYDRATED

Hunger is often mistaken for thirst, so drinking enough water can help reduce cravings. Keep your water bottle with you and make an effort to sip water throughout the day. Drinking extra water can also help to reduce fluid retention from flying.

## SET AN ALCOHOL BUDGET

Drinking alcohol is a big part of enjoying yourself while on holidays, but it doesn't mean you need to spend the whole day getting over indulging. Set yourself a limit each day and don't go over it. Don't forget to increase your water intake if you are drinking alcohol, as dehydration and heat are not a good combination.

## FOLLOW THE 80/20 RULE

Remember to follow the 80/20 rule – make sure you get at least 80 per cent of your daily food intake from whole, nutritious foods and leave the remaining 20 per cent for more processed, calorie-dense foods. This way you will be able to stay on track while still enjoying yourself.

## GET IN A WORKOUT

If the hotel has fitness facilities, construct a workout with what they have. If you normally exercise outside – head to the local park. Otherwise, a quick circuit in your hotel also works a treat. It is often best to do this first thing in the morning, otherwise you will be less likely as the day goes on.

## KEEP MOVING


We don't just burn calories through 'exercise' – all the things we do in the day such as walking or shopping, also help with our total calorie. This is referred to as Non-Exercise Activity Thermogenesis (NEAT) and can account for as little as 15 per cent of energy expenditure in the very sedentary and up to 50 per cent in very active individuals. The easiest way to increase this is move. When you're on holidays, go for a walk each morning and plan fun activities, like surfing, hiking or cycling.

Put these all strategies into place for your next travel adventure and enjoy yourself without the blowouts.



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# BRINGING IT ALL TOGETHER

WORDS Bruce Nelson

PHOTOS Various

Broadbeach has absorbed all the best bits of what makes the Gold Coast great and added a level of sophistication that keeps visitors and locals coming back for more.

It's hard to talk about the Gold Coast without highlighting what makes each of its beachside suburbs unique.

Surfers Paradise definitely has the glitz, Burleigh Heads an emerging dining scene and Kirra the nostalgic taste of life on the beach as it used to be.

Broadbeach, on the other hand, is probably the one place that brings this all together.

The Star dominates the skyline as home of non-stop entertainment and the

Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre has cemented Broadbeach as the Gold Coast's events heartland.

It's home to the Australian Surf Lifesaving Championships, Blues on Broadbeach, Groundwater Country Music Festival and, for the less culturally inclined, Queensland's largest shopping centre, Pacific Fair.

It also hosts a series of avenues and arcades lined with cafes and

restaurants (way too many to mention here) and bespoke retail experiences.

For fans of public transport, Broadbeach is one of the Gold Coast's most accessible beachside suburbs. It's also one of the easiest to access by car with plenty of on-street and off-street parking options.

One way or another, all roads lead to Broadbeach and it never fails to disappoint.



## PLACES TO EAT

### The Lamb Shop

A high end take on the more traditional kebab shop, this almost hole-in-the-wall Greek style restaurant provides table service or takeaway, and delicious food and great service to boot. Try the slow cooked lamb shoulder (be quick as they tend to run out), village salad and fries to share. If you want to go it alone then the chicken or lamb kebabs are amazing by themselves.

### Social Eating House + Bar

Right next door, this upmarket but casual restaurant is consistently good. You can see food being prepared in the open kitchen and the bar has an extensive range of cocktails and drinks providing the perfect place to perch yourself before friends arrive. Plates are designed to share and utilise the freshest local produce.

### The Cardamom Pod

Who hasn't gone vego these days, and the Cardamom Pod provides a delicious range of gourmet vegetarian and vegan meals to satisfy the soul. Overlooking a leafy park with a relaxed atmosphere, the menu has a meal combo option, or you can choose from classics such as the lasagne (cheese, vegetarian or vegan) and delicious desserts smoothies and coffee.

### Mamasan Kitchen & Bar

Described as Asian-inspired fine dining, this hatted restaurant is lined with relics procured from all over South East Asia menu and follows a perfect blend of traditional and modern cuisines combined with a zesty cocktail list. The offering includes small plates, dumplings and buns to share as well as larger plates such as Peking Duck Pancakes, Miso Cod and Wok Fried Beef Fillet. It gets busy so get there early or book ahead.

### The Roosevelt Lounge

A classy interpretation of a 1920s speakeasy, this after-dark and late night bar and restaurant oozes sophistication and style with leather chesterfields and red velvet booths a key feature. The drinks



### Frankies

Melbourne restaurateur Frank Heaney has made the move from the southern states to offer the latest in brasserie dining. The menu is locally sourced and includes delicious seafood as well as a raw bar, pasta options and classic mains such as rump steak, chicken, pork and fish of the day. There's even a burger to show there's no pretence here.

list is extensive with classics like the Old Fashioned, Gimlet and Martini all on show, and a champagne selection to really get you going. Did we mention they also have a reasonably good food menu to keep you up into the wee small hours.

## PLACES TO SHOP

### Beatniks Records

Record stores were once the only place to buy your music, then they disappeared with the launch of the CD, and now they're back better than ever. Beatniks specialises in pre-owned, rare and collectable vinyl LPs and 45s, rock memorabilia and band merchandise. They also stock a range of turntables and related audio equipment ranging from entry level to high end in both new and used condition.

### Element

Offering the best in leisure, travel, day and evening wear, and combining top Australian designers with prestige labels from across Europe, and the US, Element has been a staple on the Broadbeach fashion scene for many years. Owner Talia Munro regularly travels to the same countries that first inspired her Element dream and led her to designing and manufacturing her own label named after her daughter ELILA which is stocked in this store and selected stores within Australia.

### Venus and Appollon

Established in 2002, Venus and Appollon has helped Gold Coaster's find that perfect outfit from everyday attire to dressing for gala events. Stocking a wide range of women's and menswear, it's been the go to place for fashionistas for years.

### The Outlet

Almost a Broadbeach institution, The Outlet started life as a Levi's outlet store with its huge sign visible on the corner of Main Place (Gold Coast Highway) and Victoria Avenue luring people in for a bargain. Now stocking more than just jeans, it's worth a rummage.

### Broadbeach Markets

Held twice a month on the 1st and 3rd Sunday, the Broadbeach market features plenty of unique Australian made products you won't find anywhere else. Located in the centrally positioned park adjacent to the Kurrawa Surf Club and the Oasis Shopping Mall, it's a great way to spend a morning wandering through the aisles of offerings.



## THINGS TO DO

### The Kurrawa Experience

There's no better place to start a visit to Broadbeach than mixing it with the locals at Kurrawa Surf Lifesaving Club. Members have been servicing the community since 1958, looking after the thousands of people who flock to the water at Broadbeach every day. The new club hosts a range of dining options and some spectacular views of the ocean.

### Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre

Home to a conference, concert or expo just about every weekend, the Convention Centre is the preferred place for putting on a show on the Gold Coast. Keep an eye on their website for what's on, but in the next few months you'll be able to experience the Somerset Storyfest Business Lunch with Thai Cave rescue divers and joint 2019 Australian of the Year Drs Richard Harris SC OAM and Craig Challen SC OAM.

### Broadbeach Bowls Club

Recently revamped for the 2018 Commonwealth Games, the local bowlo



provides a bistro, live entertainment and of course barefoot bowls every Sunday. It has four floodlit greens and professionals on hand to show you how to master the game and get the best out of your bias.

## PROPERTY

The property market in Broadbeach is dominated by apartments and town houses, with a number of new developments either in the planning or already rising out of the ground, with multi-million dollar penthouses and sky homes to classic Broadbeach terraces (identified as a potential heritage listed style of building).

It's home to a diverse range of age groups, dominated by independent younger people who have a huge range of rental properties on offer, closely followed by the more mature and established who like the proximity to the beach, cafes and restaurants and can afford to live in more prestige apartment buildings.

## BROADBEACH DEMOGRAPHICS

- Population – 75,511
- Private dwellings – 4,011
- Median age – 41
- Families – 1,222
- Median weekly household income – \$1,219



# THE TAX BURDEN GETS HEAVIER

WORDS James Marshall

How anti-phoenixing laws are catching out more directors doing the right thing.



Company directors bear a lot of weight on their shoulders when it comes to dealing with tax matters, including personal liability for some corporate debts

owed to the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

With new laws coming into effect from October 1, the burden is about to get even heavier.

As we discussed last edition, under current tax law, the directors of companies can be held personally liable for failing to meet their PAYG (pay as you go) and SGC (super guarantee charge) commitments.

However, in the ATO's efforts to rein in the activities of a few bad eggs engaging in illegal phoenixing activities, the new laws will draw many more company directors into the net by including stronger powers to also recover unpaid GST debts.

The title of the legislation, *Treasury Laws Amendment (Combating Illegal Phoenixing) Bill 2019*, says a lot about the motivation for the changes.

It's primarily designed to crack down on rogue directors who leave debts behind in a failed company only to set up a new corporate entity and continue business as usual with a clean slate.

While the changes have been broadly welcomed, many company directors doing the right thing may not be aware that these amendments to the *Corporations Act 2001* could also affect them.

The issue centres on the ATO's new powers to pursue directors personally for GST debts incurred by the company under their watch.

The matter is even more critical as new directors who are unaware of existing tax debts could also be in the firing line if they are not careful.

Most company directors will be aware the ATO can issue a director penalty notice (DPR) to recover what it determines to be an unpaid debt owed to it by a corporation.

In the past, these notices have been confined to outstanding PAYG and SGC debts of a company. With its new powers over GST, the ATO has extended its reach to put pressure on more company directors to meet their tax obligations. It also puts more pressure on company staff and company processes to prepare and lodge GST returns.

Currently, the ATO can estimate a company's PAYG and SGC and seek recovery from the company or its directors.

From October 1, the ATO will also be able to estimate a company's net GST liability and seek recovery of that amount, even though an actual assessment has not been made and even if the estimate is well off the mark.

For the unwary director, the legislation can be a minefield.

The ATO may issue a penalty notice to a director if the tax liability is not paid by the due date.

In some circumstances, even new company directors could be liable 30 days after their appointment if the bill is outstanding. This is

despite their appointment made after the due date of the liability.

While the new laws primarily target company directors engaging in illegal phoenixing activities, legitimate business owners could become collateral damage in this battle.

Whether a company receives an assessed net GST amount or an estimated net amount from the ATO, the directors of that company are personally obligated to make sure it is paid, usually within 21 days of receiving the notice.

If it isn't, and if the directors become aware that the company may be insolvent, they must place the company into administration.

In the past, companies may not have lodged a business activity statement if they were in a start-up or wind-down phase.

Under the new rules, this is a big risk for company directors as it could lead to an inaccurate GST estimate being issued by the ATO, followed by a lengthy and costly estimates process to rectify it.

Of course, the ATO does accept valid excuses such as illness or the company taking reasonable steps to rectify issues.

The fact remains though that while the new laws are meant to target illegal phoenixing activity, company directors and their staff are now in the firing line when it comes to meeting the company's GST obligations.

MWM Advisory

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# STEAK TARTARE WITH TOASTED BRIOCHE AND CORNICHONS

*Seeing steak tartare on a menu, I believe, means that the restaurant takes pride in the freshness and quality of the meat it serves. This dish demands only using the best and freshest beef available. Classically, this dish is served with all ingredients presented separately so that it can be combined specifically to each individual's liking. I serve it combined so that I can be sure it is perfectly seasoned and presented.*

**Daniel Ridgeway, Ridgeway Group**

## STEAK TARTARE

### Makes 6

300g Wagyu rump or eye fillet, finely diced  
 6 golden shallots, finely diced  
 ½ cup (loosely packed) flat-leaf parsley, coarsely chopped  
 75g pickled capers, diced  
 60g (about 8) cornichons, finely diced, plus extra whole to serve  
 50g Dijon mustard  
 25ml Worcestershire sauce  
 Pinch sea salt  
 6 x small organic egg yolks

### METHOD

For steak tartare, combine all ingredients, except egg yolks, in a bowl with a spoon and stir to combine thoroughly. Refrigerate until needed.

## PICKLED BEETROOT

1 kg beetroot bulbs, stems removed  
 250ml apple cider vinegar  
 250ml water  
 150g brown sugar  
 ½ teaspoon whole black peppercorns  
 ½ teaspoon whole cloves  
 1 teaspoon salt

### METHOD

1. Preheat oven to 180C.
2. Wrap each beetroot bulb in foil. Place on a baking tray. Roast them for 1 hour or until beetroot is tender when pierced with a knife or skewer. Set aside to cool.
3. Remove skin and discard. Slice beetroot into rounds. Pack beetroot into dry, sterilised jars.
4. Combine the vinegar, water, sugar, peppercorns, cloves and salt in a large saucepan over high heat. Bring to the boil. Set aside to cool.

5. Cover the beetroot with the vinegar mixture and seal.

### TO SERVE

- Slice brioche into 6 slices and lightly toast under grill/salamander.
- Spoon steak tartare mixture into 8cm rings on plates, rest for 3-5 minutes, then remove rings.
- Place yolk carefully into the centre of each tartare.
- Garnish with pickled beetroot, cornichons and some pink sea salt.
- Serve immediately.

### CHEF NOTES:

- We make brioche fresh in-house, though it can easily be substituted with a store-bought loaf.
- Cornichons and/or pickled beetroot can be used as an accompaniment to this dish.
- I prefer the texture of diced meat rather than using minced meat.



Ridgeway Group

Little Truffle, Mermaid Beach  
 BiN 72 Coolangatta | BiN 232 Pacific  
 Fair | BiN 931 Westfield Chermerside  
 Rivea Italian, Broadbeach  
 Gotham Grill & Rooftop Bar,  
 Runaway Bay



A glimpse into Mercedes-Benz marketing of yesteryear, an era of long copy, masterful commercial artistry and press advertising with panache. Curated by the team at MBGC.

In 1926 John Logie Baird conducted the first public demonstration of a television, Gertrude “Trudy” Ederle became the first woman to swim the English Channel and the gangster turf wars sparked by Al Capone raged in Chicago.

It also marked the birth of Mercedes-Benz after Daimler AG was formed by the merger of Daimler Motoren Gesellschaft (founded in 1890 by Gottlieb Daimler and Wilhelm Maybach) and Benz and Cie (founded in 1883 by Karl Benz).

An Agreement of Mutual Interest was originally signed on May 1, 1924, between

the two companies but both continued to manufacture their separate automobile and internal combustion engine marques until June 28, 1926, when they agreed that thereafter all of the factories would use the brand name of Mercedes-Benz on their automobiles.

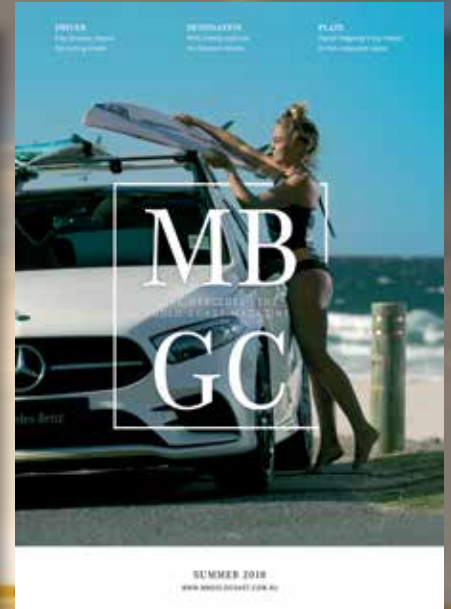
A series of ads was produced the same year to commemorate the merger and creation of what would become the world’s oldest and most recognisable luxury motor brand, including this one featuring a Mercedes-Benz Type 400, a large automobile featuring a switchable supercharger (Kompressor) fitted to the engine.

Note the individual design elements of both brands, the three-pointed star of Mercedes representing the company’s drive toward universal motorisation with its engines dominating the land, sea, and air (three points), and the laurel wreath of Benz, the classic decoration awarded to winners of sporting competitions and reflected by the successes achieved by Benz and Cie in car races during this time.

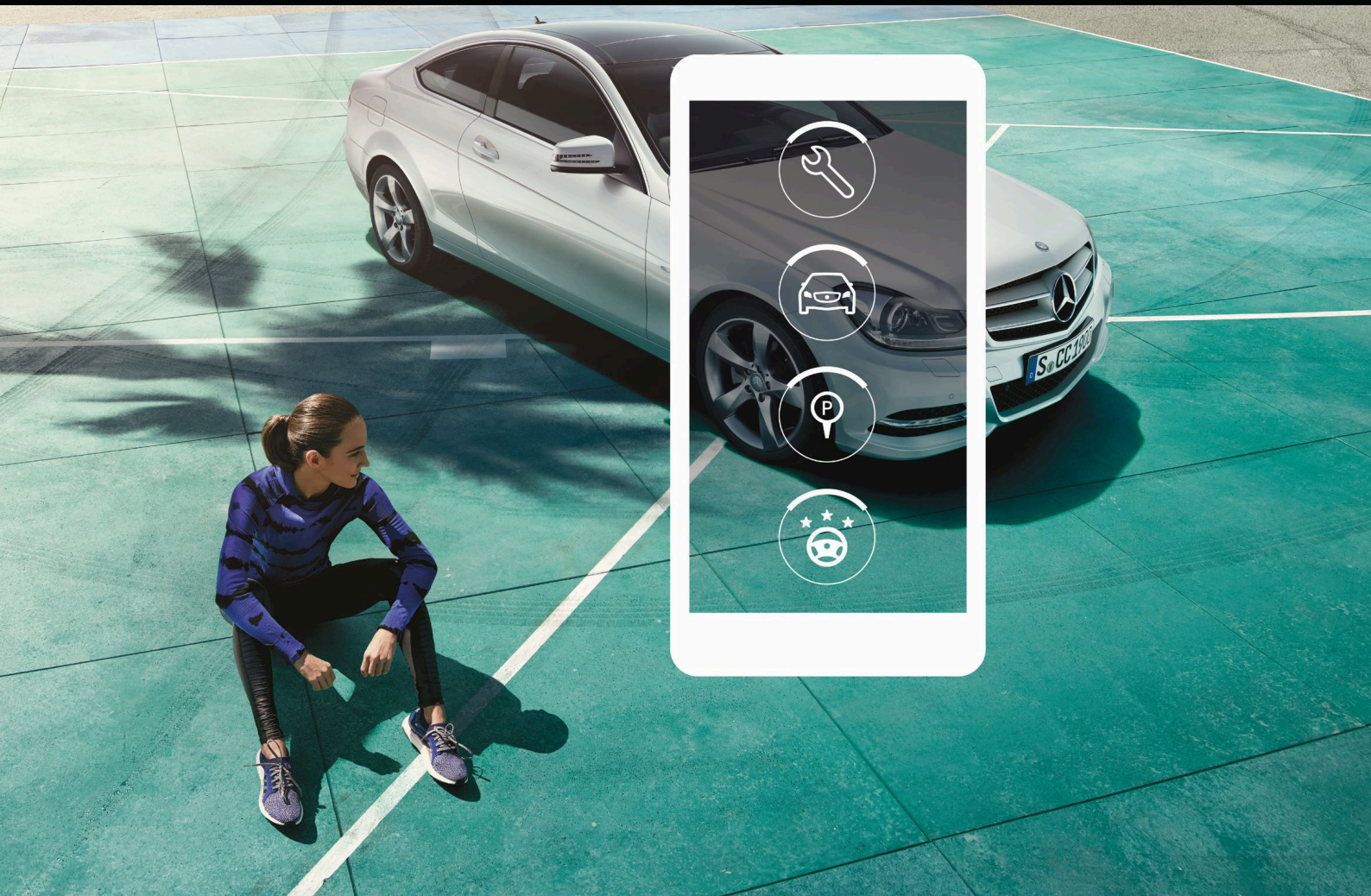
The two were brought together to mark the merger and are still used to this day.

# Mercedes-Benz Gold Coast Magazine

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