

Creative Traveller

SINGAPORE

TOP 10 REASONS WHY

MONGOLIA

INAUGURAL MOTORBIKE TOUR

ON BEING A WRITER

WHEN CAN YOU CALL YOURSELF A WRITER?



Travel + Art + Life
CreativeTravellerMag.com



*Magical
Singapore*



**“The view you see
from the top of
Mt. Oberon
is quite simply
the best view
you will see
anywhere in Australia.”**

Keith Trotter

contents

CONTRIBUTORS	3
EDITOR'S DIARY	4
WHY SINGAPORE?	5
INTERVIEW WITH BABA FRED	17
ADVENTURE IN MONGOLIA - AN EXPEDITION ON TWO WHEELS	21
HOLIDAY AT HOME	29
WHAT IS IT REALLY LIKE TO BE A PROFESSIONAL WRITER?	37
BRISBANE FITNESS EMPIRE SUBSCRIBER GIFT VOUCHER	40
ILLUSTRATION AND THE CREATIVE PROCESS	41
BOOKISH TREATS	44
READER REWARDS SUBSCRIBER GIVEAWAYS	45
SUBSCRIBE TO CREATIVE TRAVELLER	47
INVITE A WRITER	47
NEXT ISSUE	47
PREVIOUS ISSUES ARCHIVE LINKS	48

contributors



Adventurer, **Peter Grace**

Pete's travels lead him all over the world, and he loves to catch up with his brother Dave to take a motorbike adventure through some of the most remote regions on the planet.

His motorbike diaries let us in on his real stories based on real

experiences and in this issue we begin a new series exploring magical Mongolia with the inaugural tour organised by the Australian motorbike adventure company Compass Expeditions.

In the photo Dave at left stands with Pete at right as they pose in a unique landscape in far flung Mongolia.

Pete and Dave are independent unsponsored travellers.

To see Pete's contribution to this issue read part 1 of "Adventure in Mongolia".

Cover Photos:

Main - Supertrees, Singapore - Image © Trevor Onn

Full page right - Traditional clothing, Singapore - Image © Trevor Onn

Double page spread - Mt Oberon, Victoria - Image © Keith Trotter



Business owner, **Fred Lam**

Museum docent for the fabulous Peranakan Museum in Singapore, Fred shares his love of traditional treasures and local delicacies with a unique "insider's" cultural understanding.

To learn more about the wonderful food of the Nonyas and Babas from Singapore read "Interview with Baba Fred".

©All rights reserved. No material published in this magazine may be reproduced in whole or in part without prior written authority. Every endeavour is made to ensure the information contained herein is correct at time of distribution. No responsibility is accepted for lost manuscripts, artwork or images. Creative Traveller is published quarterly - ABN 61688266954. PO Box 5509 Stafford Heights QLD Australia 4053

editor's diary

In this issue - Asia, vibrant and frenetic, where intense colours rule and food is hot, sweet, sour and spicy. Yum!

Plus an off-track Mongolian adventure for those who like a different type of tour. And Keith throws out a challenge! Brave man.

Travel - Asia - Singapore & Mongolia. We bring you a showcase of two very different destinations. Think delicious food, fabulous antiques and rich cultural heritage in an ultra-modern city in a garden. It could only be Singapore!

Off-road, dusty, remote. Enjoy part one of a true grit adventure on two wheels in far-flung Mongolia.

The glories of Australia are brought to you by Keith Trotter who proclaims his part of this continent to have the best view in Australia. I could argue the point, but I'll leave that to the readers. Feel free to disagree with Keith on this one. Let us know what you think. Email editor@CreativeTravellerMag.com

Art - Digital Illustration. International Illustrator Adèle Watters shares her process for creating her beautiful digital works on page 41.

What's it really like to be a professional writer? More importantly, for those who like to write, when can you call yourself a writer? Find out on page 37

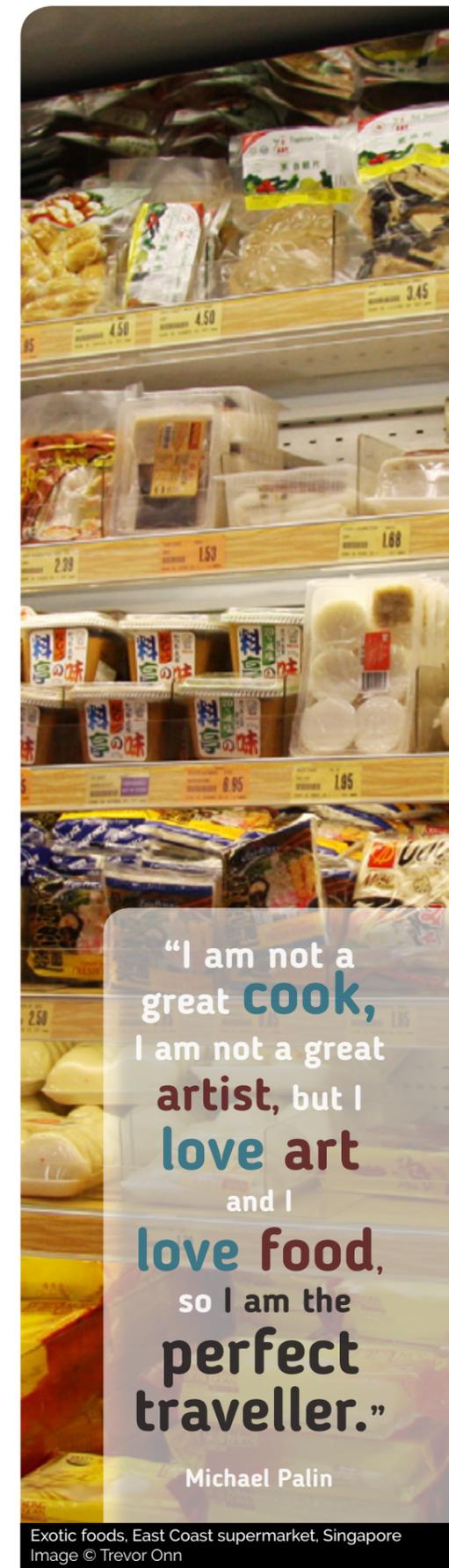
Life - Enjoy our bookish treats from the extraordinary story of the ship that rescued the survivors of the Titanic, to a couple of family friendly favourites.

Contributors. As always, thanks for being the best team in the known universe!



DIARY PIC. Apparently, Marina Bay Sands in Singapore has giant counterweights built into its towers because, without them, swimmers in the SkyPark pool could be washed over the infinity edge if the buildings were to sway. Nice to know yes?

Jenni Onn, Editor & Creative Director
Jenni.Onn@CreativeTravellerMag.com
[facebook.com/CreativeTravellerMag](https://www.facebook.com/CreativeTravellerMag)
[@creativetravellermag](https://www.instagram.com/creativetravellermag)



"I am not a great cook, I am not a great artist, but I love art and I love food, so I am the perfect traveller."

Michael Palin

Exotic foods, East Coast supermarket, Singapore
 Image © Trevor Onn

SINGAPORE

WHY SINGAPORE?

Where historical architecture and futuristic wonders exist in joyful cohabitation. Jenni and Trev Onn put together their top 10 reasons why Singapore should head up your Asia travel wishlist.

Singapore visits range from a stopover, beloved of travel agents, and often measured in hours rather than days, to a proper holiday, with luck measured in weeks rather than days.

Our numerous visits have yet to exhaust the many wondrous things to do and enjoy so if you're planning a visit and are trying to decide how long to allow, I would suggest you give yourself as much time as possible.

WHAT'S GOOD ABOUT SINGAPORE?

The top ten!

1 **Safe Travels.** Singapore consistently rates as one of the world's safest cities. This makes it a great destination for first time overseas travel. Singaporeans are delightfully friendly and helpful.

2 **Green Spaces.** Singapore is a city in a garden. Singapore calls itself the Garden City and aims to be the world's greenest. Consider also that it is a country. Does all this make it the world's safest and greenest country?

3 **Historical wonders** abound. Lovers of history can visit temples, unique museums and outer islands which preserve the old way of life.

4 **Modern marvels.** Supertrees, a cloud forest and a spectacular indoor flower garden are just the start of many incredible attractions to enjoy.

5 **Food.** Well maybe that should have been ranked in the number one spot. The food of Singapore ranges from unique Peranakan cuisine to Michelin starred celebrity chef establishments to lively hawker centres selling vast arrays of incredibly delicious street food. You can spend a small fortune or a few coins, as you wish.

6 **In the middle.** Being very close to the equator means Singapore generally requires just one flight to get there. Certainly it is one flight away from here, and that suits me just fine.

7 **Nature.** If you love your wildlife there are many opportunities for spotting wild animals. If you prefer the more relaxed approach, the animals can be presented to you with ease at one of several excellent zoos and aquariums.

8 **Warmth.** Time to take a break from chilly winter weather? Singapore is always warm.

9 **5 star Luxury.** The jaw dropping views from Marina Bay Sands swimming pool are just the start of many luxury accommodation offerings which include The Fullarton collection of hotels with their outstanding roof top bars overlooking Marina Bay. You can look at them looking back at you and raise your glass to the joys of holiday indulgence. Luxury lovers are spoilt for choice when it comes to accommodation and, our final contender in the top 10 listing...

10 **Shopping.** You may have heard of The Great Singapore Sale. Surely you've heard of Orchard Road.

Shopping is extremely popular in Singapore and they have the brand names to prove it. Vast complexes housing everything from bespoke watches to designer everything await your shopper's fervour. Go for it. (You're more likely to find us absorbed in the awesome view from a cable car atop Mount Faber than hitting the shops but to each his own)

So if you're smart, and you would be given that you're reading this excellent magazine, you'll realise right away that Singapore is worth a good look. Give yourself as many days/weeks as your time and budget allows.



01 Bum boat, Clarke Quay, Singapore
Image © Trevor Onn



02 Sea Jellies, SEA Aquarium, Singapore
Image © Trevor Onn

Singapore Pictorial



03 Sea Jellies, SEA Aquarium, Singapore
Image © Trevor Onn



04 Singapore is kept pristine by its proud maintenance crew who use traditional brooms
Image © Trevor Onn



07 Bum boat driver, Singapore
Image © Trevor Onn



05 Open Ocean habitat, SEA Aquarium
Image © Trevor Onn



06 Marina Bay
Image © Trevor Onn



08 Original shop fronts, Singapore
Image © Trevor Onn



09 SEA Aquarium, Singapore
Image © Trevor Onn



10 View from Iluma rooftop, Singapore
Image © Trevor Onn



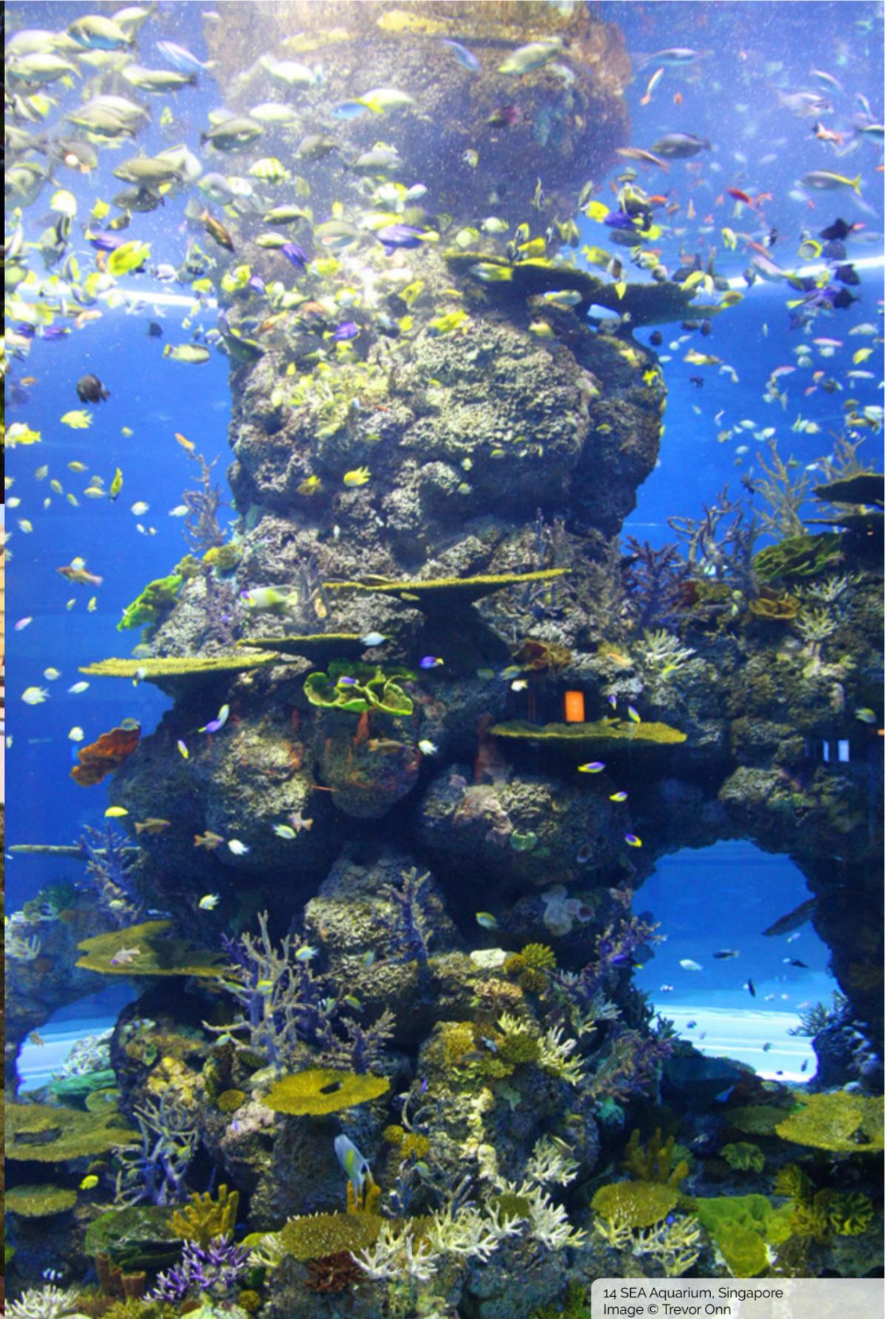
11 Historical streetscape, Singapore
Image © Trevor Onn



12 Gardens by the Bay, Singapore
Image © Trevor Onn



13 City in a garden streetscape, Singapore
Image © Trevor Onn



14 SEA Aquarium, Singapore
Image © Trevor Onn

INTERVIEW WITH BABA FRED

Singapore local, Baba Fred Lam, Owner of Rumah Baba Fred shares his insights into the fascinating Peranakan history and exquisite foods of his beloved city.

Singapore is justly famous for its fabulous food. We are delighted to share the story behind the unique flavours, and showcase the visual feast of beautiful rare artefacts, in an interview with Baba Fred Lam, who spoke with Creative Traveller about his passion for all things Peranakan.

ORIGINS OF THE PERANAKAN

Q. Who are the Peranakan and where did they come from?

A. The word "**Peranakan**" is a Malay word meaning "**local born**" of mixed parentage.

About 600 years ago, Chinese traders would travel from the port of Xiamen (Amoy) in the southern part of China to South East Asia in search of trade. Besides Indonesia and Philippines, they would travel to Malacca via the **trade winds** or **monsoon winds**. This sea route was the alternative for the Silk Route which was getting expensive due to the Turks imposing higher tax.

“This sea route was the alternative for the Silk Route.”

The Chinese Traders would remain in Malacca for 6 months (the duration of the monsoon before it changes to the North East Monsoon which would bring them back to China). Some eventually **stayed** on and took on local **Malay brides**. Their children were known as the Peranakan.

From Malacca, many would migrate to Penang and Singapore when the British made them their colonies in 1786 and 1819 respectively. The Peranakan in these areas are therefore known as the **Straits Chinese** (Penang, Malacca, and Singapore were collectively known as the Straits Settlements).

I am a **4th Generation Peranakan**. My ancestors came to Malacca in the early 1800's. The men are called "**Baba**", and the women "**Nonya**".

Q. Many people come to you for Peranakan food. How did this come about?

A. I have been cooking for more than 3 decades since I was a teenager in Singapore.

I started to cook "serious" food when I went Australia for my University education. We were living in the suburbs and the only way you could have your **Satay** or **Laksa** was to **cook your own**. There was a group of Asian students that we mixed around with and **they loved our cooking**.

When we returned after our education, we continued to entertain friends at our home and **soon word spread**. They must have like our food I guess.

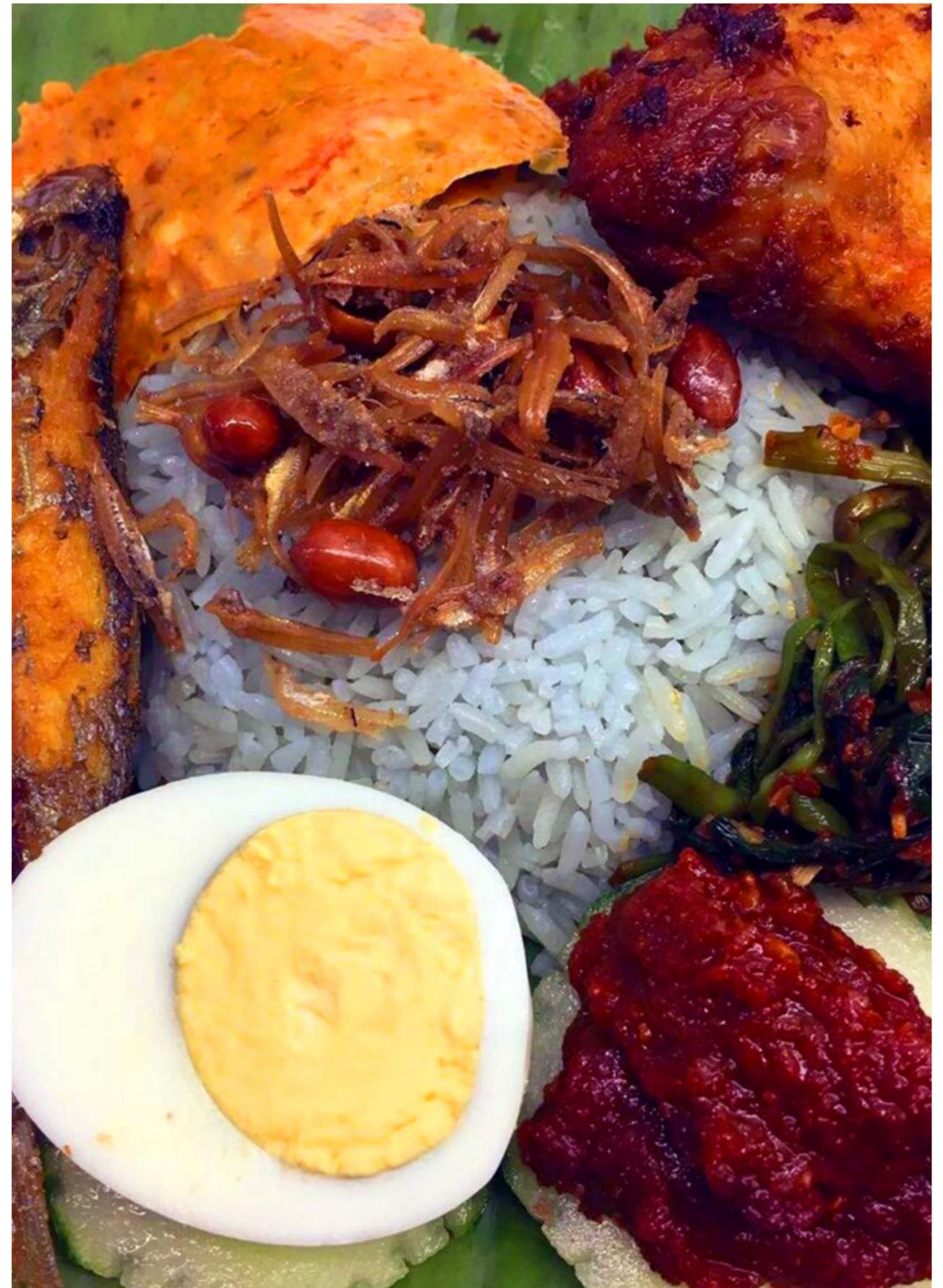


Baba Fred Lam in his "private museum" home
Images © Fred Lam

“The men are called Baba and the women Nonya.”

Q. How did this "cross breed" affect the food? Would this make their food halal since the brides were Malay?

A. In those days, the women were housewives. They were the **matriarch** of the house while the men sought employment, usually working for the British or running businesses.



Local cuisine by Baba Fred Lam
Images © Fred Lam

Continued over page ▶

Continued from page 18

The women would cook **spicy** food and blend it with the **Chinese** food of her husband. She would use the local available spices for the Chinese food e.g. to their salted vegetables duck soup or **Itek Tim**, which is Chinese, would be added the spice - **nutmeg**, for flavouring. The womenfolk were not Muslim as Islam hadn't spread to them. So, you will find **pork** being used in their cooking.

Q. What are examples of Peranakan dishes? Is there a signature dish?

A. There are similarities between Malay and Chinese dishes. Some of the Peranakan dishes are **Babi Pongteh** (Pork cooked in preserved bean paste), **Chap Chye** (Stewed vegetables), **Bakwan Kepiting** (Meatball with crab meat served in soup), **Ngor Hiang** (meat roll spiced with 5 spice), **Otah Otah** (fish meat paste with spices), **Laksa** (noodle served in spicy coconut milk), and of course our Peranakan signature dish - **Babi Buah Keluak** (Pork cooked with black nut). **The nut is said to be poisonous if not properly cleaned.**

Q. You have a home that you have converted into a private Peranakan Museum where you have preserved Peranakan artefacts. You also conduct tours and cook for tourists at your home. You are also a museum docent at one of your local museums. Tell me about it.

A. My parents were **antique dealers**. They deal in Peranakan artefacts too. At a tender age, we were exposed to a world of antiques. We had antiques in every part of the house. I started to buy **small antique porcelains** when I was a student in Australia. My collection started to get bigger when I began to delve into the Peranakan culture. Visitors are impressed that I have **turned an apartment** into a **Peranakan house**, which probably might be **one of its kind** in Singapore. Most of the Peranakan artefacts are more than 150 years old from the **Qing** Dynasty. Artefacts range from utilitarian porcelains to jewellery, to clothing, and furniture.



Antique porcelain - Image © Fred Lam
Peranakan treasures - Image © Fred Lam



Each session at my home lasts for **2 hours** and I will introduce visitors to the Peranakan history followed by Peranakan food that **I host** for them. I will then delve into the artefacts and explain what they are, and their usage. We charge SGD 100 per person, minimum 6 person maximum 8.

What better way to share this culture than to become a **volunteer** docent with The Peranakan Museum. For an hour, I will conduct tours for visitors and students alike.

Q. What would you recommend for visitors to Singapore?

A. Depending on what you want to achieve, really. Many tourists come here for their shopping. We have big shopping malls and our **Great Singapore Sales** that are held twice yearly in June and August.

There are others who come here to visit places of interest e.g. **The Singapore Zoological Garden, The Jurong Bird Park.**

Antique porcelain - Image © Fred Lam

These are world renowned. We also have internationally renowned performances e.g. The Lion King being staged here.

Then there are others who come here to enjoy our food. We have a wide choice of food from **Malay, Chinese, Indian, Eurasian**, as well as **Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese, Thai, Burmese, Italian, Greek** etc. Popular local food includes **Chicken Rice, Chilly Crab, and Char Kway Teow.**

There is now a new trend towards dining at the homes of the locals to experience how the locals live and the food they cook and I am pleased to be part of **this growing trend.**

Q. Lastly, is there any tip for cooking a sumptuous meal?

A. There are many cookbooks or videos on cooking delicious food but really to cook good food you will first need to have **quality** and **fresh** ingredients. It also calls for **patience** and **passion** too in order to make one a better cook.

Q. Any one, last piece of advice?

A. Please come to Singapore. Where on earth can you get to travel 3 countries in 1 - we have **Chinatown** (Chinese), **Little India** (Indian), and **Kampong Glam** (Malay).

We have the **best airport** (Changi Airport) in the world; a **very safe place for the family** (even President Trump and President Kim Jong Un came here for a meeting); and we have **many tourist attractions**, and **food to whet all sorts of appetites.**

Selamat Datang.

Baba Fred Lam

*Owner of Rumah Baba Fred
You can find him on Facebook
"Rumah Baba Fred" or email
Frederick.Lam@Live.Com*

Traditional Nonya Kebaya - Image © Fred Lam Sweet treats - Image © Fred Lam



Happy visitors - Image © Fred Lam



ADVENTURE IN MONGOLIA



AN EXPEDITION ON TWO WHEELS

Far flung brothers, Peter and Dave Grace have embarked on a guided motorbike adventure with Compass Expeditions and meet in a very distant land where they inspect a dinosaur, learn the correct way to spin prayer wheels, and take to the dusty road heading for another new horizon. In this issue we begin a new adventure series with the first few days from Pete's Travel Diary.

Travel Diary Wednesday 13 June

I'd arrived 3 days before the bike ride began, to give me a chance to get to know the place. My brother Dave would join me tomorrow so my first day was my own.

The Hotel Nine was near the main square and having acquired a map of the city I set off to explore. It was a bright sunny day and I walked across Sukhbataar Square to the National Museum. Cost T10,000 (currency is called Togrog) to get in (about \$5.50). Nine rooms covering "early man" through to Genghis Kahn and Russian control, to current independence and development as a free market democracy.

Lots of very nice insights. When the early Turkic empire influenced Mongolia in the 8-9 century, there was a belief that the earth was held up on the back of a turtle. Stone monuments were erected for dead heroes with inscriptions describing their achievements. To ensure the

stone was stable it was placed on a stone turtle – it's true see the picture.

For anyone who plays Scrabble be aware that the traditional long-sleeved wrap around cloak worn by Mongolians is called a del or deel. Could be useful.

I took a photo of a pair of 13 Century motorcycle boots as well – just goes to show what early innovators they were. Probably exported them on the boot road rather than the silk or tea road.

Mongolians traditionally were nomadic, moving their herds to the best areas as the seasons change. Even now 30% of the population spend some of the year tending their animals and living a nomadic way (part of their culture like Aussies going to the beach). A common way to move was to have all their possessions hauled by yaks or horses. Yaks are enormous, I wouldn't fancy milking a lady yak.

Checked out a dinosaur museum too. It had whole skeletons made up of 98% fossilised bones dug up in the Gobi Desert, and dinosaur eggs, even

one with a fossil embryo inside.

I love to do some flaneuring (wandering watching the world with interest). The city I saw is a bit run down in places but with real surprises such as wall art and sculptures where you would least expect it

Thursday 14 June

Dave arrived safely. It was great to see him again – we like meeting in far flung places. He was more jet lagged than me having come west-east so it was a slow start today.

I went for a stroll on my own to find Beatles Square. This was a place that young people met to play Beatles songs when their music was banned - in protest at the repressions of the USSR communist government. The square is being refurbished but I found the statue.

A sculpture I found called 'Apex of the Sky' was the globe held up by tree branches. It was impressive but the representation of Australia was a bit dodgy. Tasmania seemed a bit big and I was not sure about the SW corner of Western Australia. Continued over ▶



Turtle monument - Images © Peter and Dave Grace



Statue of Genghis Khan, Sukhbataar Square - Images © Peter and Dave Grace

GREAT KHAN IRISH PUB

The pink traditional dance theatre was fabulous and was being adorned with a giant white screen to show soccer world cup games. We must get back there to see a game before we leave. Next door was the Great Khan Irish Pub – must try a Mongolian Guinness soon. I met up with Dave back in Sukhbataar Square and found lots of people in traditional garb and a celebration with prize giving. See the mixed skyline - old and new - in the photo.

We went for a coffee and then in search of someone with an industrial strength sewing machine to fix some damage to Dave's bike riding jacket. David's mimes of sewing machines and sewing were hilarious and not very successful. The Mongolians can't have heard of charades.

UB seems very dusty and when I washed a T shirt out the dirty water was brown.



Opera house conservatorium, Ulaan Bataar Images © Peter and Dave Grace

Friday 15 June

Another eventful day. By chance we got invited to join the inaugural tourist bus ride through Ulaan Bataar. It started with speeches then music by a traditional throat singer and a 4 piece Mongolian boy band. The traffic slowed things down a bit. We had notable sights explained and stopped at a monastery for a few photos.

At one stop we saw memorials for Russian assistance to Mongolia in WWII when they repelled the Japanese. Mongolia raised money to help Russia buy tanks and at the end of the war they sent them one that had travelled from Moscow to Berlin and survived.

We called at the dinosaur museum and got a guided tour by the director. It was very good. The Americans found a T Rex like dinosaur and took it to America but have now given it back.

They have 98% of the bones so the photo is the real thing. It is 7.5m long and half the expected adult size (unless it loses a fight or a meteor hits).

We called at another monastery, effectively Buddha HQ in Mongolia, to see him – he is 28m high, made of bronze with a gold covering and full of herbs to give him the right essence. We learnt that any rites (like spinning prayer wheels) must be done clockwise and three times. Behind us in the photo (right) was a small edifice with about 9-10 bells hanging from it. We dutifully walked round it three times ringing the bells for good luck.

On the way home we took a photo of Ghengis Khan in the main square. We wonder if the sculpture misadjusted his horizontal hold. He doesn't look like a man to argue with.

Tomorrow we have a bit more exploring to do and meet up for the bike tour briefing and a pre-ride meal.



Dinosaur museum, Ulaan Bataar Images © Peter and Dave Grace

"It's hard to describe the scale of it all!"
Peter, Australia.

Mongolian Magic Adventure Motorcycle Tour August 2019

Join one of our motorcycle tours and you will experience a truly unforgettable adventure. With 20 incredible itineraries across 45 countries on 5 continents we can take you to the most stunning places on the planet.



+61 3 9747 2379 | compassexpeditions.com | info@compassexpeditions.com

<http://www.compassexpeditions.com/tours/mongolian-magic/>

Watch the video on YouTube

 <https://youtu.be/SvJiYa4oFjA>



Peter and Dave in front of the monastery Images © Peter and Dave Grace



An epic 14 day biking adventure through
Mongolia

Continued over ►



Dave with baby eagle - Images © Peter and Dave Grace

Our evening meal was in a beer garden at the Great Khan Irish Pub where we watched Egypt versus Uruguay in the world cup soccer game. It seemed bizarre to be with a crowd of people of different nationalities watching a game where we didn't care who won, but everyone joined in the spirit of the game.

Saturday 16 June

Took a taxi south of the city to climb a 300m high lookout which promised good views of the city. As always, these little adventures seem to lead to the unexpected. We passed a train of rider, dog and 9 camels – made of fibre glass but impressive none the less, supposedly a typical scene in the Gobi Desert in earlier times.

The lookout celebrated the Russian achievement of repelling invaders in WWII but as they didn't leave until 1992 they were really invaders too. The hill had 600 steps to the top and had a statue of a Russian soldier holding a flag 27m high. The views were impressive and depressing. The urban sprawl is unfinished and messy. You can see many gers (traditional tents) because even though people have a modern apartment a ger is much more cosy in winter.

Power is generated by 2 coal fired power stations and as we were directly downwind the acrid smoke from them was very obvious.

BABY EAGLE

There was a man with an eagle at the top – traditionally used for hunting – and we both held it aloft. It was 5 years old and just a 'baby' but was very heavy.

We're off for the tour briefing now and tomorrow we start riding.

Sunday 17 June

The tour briefing was a sobering experience as we heard about the terrible roads and the places we will be going to where there are no real roads at all. "Take care" was the obvious advice. We are to spend 3 nights in high quality hotels and then stay in ger camps until the last 2 nights. Of course there will be fabulous scenery to make it all worthwhile.

A CHAOTIC START

We woke this morning to find it had been raining all night – the first rain in UB for this year! There were 17 bikes in the group, all supplied by a local Mongolian company. Sadly a few didn't run properly so with that and the rain it was a chaotic start.



"Of course, there will be fabulous scenery to make it all worthwhile."

Wet start - Images © Peter and Dave Grace

We got off about 10.30 and the rain continued all morning. The Mongolian roads were as awful as promised with large lakes over them so we all got wet and cold. We stopped for a coffee and it was decided to skip a sight seeing excursion and go direct to our hotel. We all warmed up at the bar – Dave and I had hot milk and honey – just shows how cold we were.

Mick, the tour leader (who also runs Compass Expeditions) was very apologetic and shouted a nice meal and gave us all a discount on the cost of the trip. The forecast was for a fine day to follow.

Our wet clothes are now drying.

Monday 18 June

It was a full-on day. New bikes had been delivered, old bikes fixed and the weather was cool but sunny.

We left at 8.00am and got back to the hotel at 7.45pm. We started by visiting the Genghis Khan statue. It was enormous – the biggest horse in the world apparently.

EXCELLENT ATTRACTION

We climbed 6 flights of stairs to reach the horse's hooves and could get out onto the horse's head. And they also had the biggest hand-made boot in the world. Excellent tourist attraction. Continued over ▶



Biggest hand made boot
Images © Peter and Dave Grace



Dave and Pete with Genghis Khan - Images © Peter and Dave Grace



Ger banquet lunch - Images © Peter and Dave Grace

LOTS OF POSSIBLE ROADS

We then rode on in lovely sunshine and turned left for our first taste of the Mongolian steppe. There are no real roads just lots of possible roads and you ride where you like – but must be careful to avoid potholes and gullies. It goes on forever in all directions. We had 5 accidents in the day but none affecting Dave and me. And no serious injuries. There were some water crossings too.

The locals tended their goats, sheep, cattle and horses and mustered them like you would imagine it was in biblical times.

BANQUET

We stopped for lunch and had a banquet (no joke) in a ger. A big storm came as we arrived and was over by the time we had finished our meal.

We got back stiff and sore, had a few beers and a meal and fell into bed. Such a good day. 🍺



“We got back stiff and sore, had a few beers and a meal and fell into bed. Such a good day.”

Pete’s Travel Diary continues in issue 6 of Creative Traveller magazine - due end November. In the next edition they discover mysterious ancient monuments, and “truly incredible landscapes” and are left with a sense of euphoria from two weeks immersed in the joy of riding free.

To read Pete’s Patagonia adventure go here... <http://bit.ly/LaunchIssue2017>



Giant Genghis Khan statue - Images © Peter and Dave Grace

HOLIDAY AT HOME

Keith throws out a challenge to all seekers of nature's beauty by declaring his patch of ground to be the most beautiful in Australia. Is it? Decide for yourself as you read on...

When you are expecting a visit from well-travelled interstate visitors and you want to show them around your "neck of the woods", what should you do? Take a holiday at home.

After a lifetime of work which included working a total of 7 years in 3 other states aside from my home state of Victoria, I had seen a fair bit of Australia, and the time had come to pack up our van and head off to see what the rest of this big country had to offer. If you had followed my 4 part story "The Big Lap" in this magazine, you would know we saw some of the best this country has to offer.

To say it was a sensational experience would be an understatement. So many times we have heard people discuss the sheer size of our country, and there is no disputing, it is a big country, but until you have travelled around it, and especially if you have travelled Europe, where you can pass through a country or two in an afternoon, the reality of Australia's vastness may not be fully appreciated.

Our friends, Wayne and Jenny Bowman from Bunbury WA were also doing a similar trip to us, but in reverse. ie. they were travelling in a clockwise direction while we were going anti-clockwise. Our paths crossed in Kununurra WA where we spent a week together, sharing tales and experiences of places to visit and places not to visit, before we headed off in separate directions. During our time together, we hatched a plan for them to stay with us when they got to Victoria. This, we concluded, would be good for all of us. They would get to experience the best Gippsland had to offer, having us as local tour guides, and we could enjoy a holiday at home with some good friends.

I've lived in and around Moe (130km east of Melbourne) most of my life and know the area and its history pretty well, so, long before they arrived, I sat down and prepared a list of places that I thought the Bowmans would like to see. After 9 months on the road, they could be excused for being a little tired and glazed over, but the party isn't over yet folks.

If they think they've seen the best, boy, do I have a surprise for them. I have an ace up my sleeve and know exactly where to take them.

But before we set off to these fascinating destinations, I break them in gently by going no further than 15 minutes from home. We start off with a tour and history lesson of the power stations and open-cut coal mines that have defined the Latrobe Valley for the last 90 years. This was once the engine room of the state of Victoria, providing electricity for the vast majority of the state, and with a population of 84,000, the State Electricity Commission (SEC) provided employment for 18,000 people. That equated to roughly one SEC worker in every second household.

Only a few minutes from the centre of Moe is Lake Narracan. This lake was constructed to provide a constant source of water for Yallourn "W" power station. It doubles as a recreation facility, hosting power boat and water ski events, and in recent years it has been partially developed as a recreation reserve, with a board walk and picnic area.

PICTURESQUE COMMUNITY

Many of the town's residents are anxiously awaiting council's approval of a proposed new caravan park and further foreshore development in the near future.

Taking a 10 minute drive out the other side of town, along a winding

country road, you pass through the picturesque community of Narracan. Along the way, we arrive at the Narracan falls, which is more of a picnic and swimming area than a grand waterfall.

Still, it's great having this natural feature only 10 minutes from home.

MUST SEE

A must see for any tourist to Moe is Old Gipps town – Heritage Park, at the western entrance to Moe. This is a step back in time to the 19th century, where you will experience life from another era.

Continued over ►



Narracan Falls, Victoria
Image © Keith Trotter



The Bowmans
Image © Keith Trotter



Old Gipps town Heritage Park
Image © Keith Trotter



Old Gipps town Heritage Park
Image © Keith Trotter



Rusty classics at Erica enroute to Walhalla
Image © Keith Trotter

The history of early settlement in the region can be found in abundance here. You can expect to spend up to 2 hours exploring this blast from the past.

OUR FAVOURITE DAY TRIP

Once we have done our "15 minutes from home" induction and orientation, we are ready to venture further afield the next day. This time it's a 45 minute drive north to an old gold mining town from years gone by. Walhalla is our favourite "day trip" destination, having drawn us back for decades, due in part to its close proximity to home but mainly because it is so beautiful. It is situated in a narrow valley with steep hills on either side, having a rich and colourful history of hard times and good fortune.

LAST TOWN FOR ELECTRICITY

The population of Walhalla at its peak, reached 6,000 a figure that really stretches the imagination when you try to visualise where they all lived. You couldn't fit 600 there today.

Today's population is on the south side of 20, and part of the reason for this could stem from the fact that it was the last town in Victoria to have electricity connected, as recently as 1999. Walhalla's charm and beauty is obvious from the moment you cross the bridge over the Thompson river and travel the last couple of kilometres along the narrow winding road that cuts a swathe through near vertical cliffs. Within three minutes you pass the steam train at the station which operates on weekends, past the 19th century cemetery that is a must see, over the bridge into the middle of town that is period perfect, past the old fire station/museum and the legendary rotunda, culminating at the Star Hotel which has also been rebuilt period perfect.

This is where you park the car and walk the next kilometre to the camp ground because the scenery here is best appreciated at a slow pace. Many of the gardens along this stretch of road and river are stunning, fully complementing the classic old miners' cottages and new heritage compliant dwellings.

“Our next adventure takes us on a scenic drive to the timber town of Noojee, about an hour north west from home.”

TIMBER TOWN NOOJEE

Departing Moe, the scenery just keeps getting better as you pass through Willow Grove then through Hill End and you begin to notice the trees getting taller and the air looking cleaner. About 10 minutes out of Hill End, you hit this twisting piece of black ribbon that winds its way through a forest of tall straight mountain ash. This mesmerising drive is reminiscent of driving through the legendary Healesville Black Spur.

The drive to Noojee is rewarding enough, and one of the reasons you come here is to see a top quality waterfall, so before you arrive in town, you make a right turn which takes you up a short road to the Toorong Falls. Once you park your car, it's about a 10-15 minute walk up a very scenic track that runs right beside the creek to the falls. There are a few good photo opportunities along the way of water flowing over moss covered logs and river rocks.

BEST FALLS TO PHOTOGRAPH

The main falls are a dream to photograph because they are right in front of you.



Walhalla rotunda
Images © Keith Trotter



Walhalla, Victoria
Images © Keith Trotter

Continued over ►

Continued from page 32

Just pack a tripod before you leave home, set it up on the viewing platform, slow the shutter speed down and shoot. I hadn't been there for many years, and thanks to all the improvements to the park and the walking paths, the falls are much more impressive than they were then. I found these Toorong Falls every bit as spectacular as any of the waterfalls in the top end, and equally the best falls to photograph.

THE NOOJ

The township of Noojee is quaint, with a history rooted in logging, and the main attraction is really no surprise, the Pub, or as the new owners call it, "The Nooj". This place really comes to life at weekends, with live music and that special atmosphere that only comes with a big country pub.

Not to be outdone is the Tool Shed on the other side of town. Having a bit of a "man cave" feel about it, as it was originally a tool shed/chook shed.

The previous owner decided to turn it into a bar, and it has developed into one of the best places to get a substantial meal. The Tool Shed is a must see whenever you are in town, even if you just finished a big meal at the pub.

A couple of minutes further out of Noojee is the Trestle Bridge that is a remnant of an old railway line from days past. Built in 1919 as part of the Noojee to Warragul rail link, it used to be called Bridge No.7, but now it stands as one of the only surviving wooden trestle bridges, and the tallest in Victoria.

TIME NOW FOR A BIG DAY OUT.

We left early for the one hour trip to Inverloch (our closest beach), and once there, we enjoyed the coastal drive from there to Cape Paterson, stopping to explore Eagle's Nest along the way. Next we took a short drive to Wonthaggi, stopping to see the white elephant which is also known as the Victorian Desalination Plant.

Construction of this piece of "vital" infrastructure was completed in 2012 at a cost of \$5.7b and wasn't used until March 2017.

Rounding off the afternoon was a quick visit to Phillip Island to see the seals, and in particular, the fairy penguins. You've gotta see these little fellas, they are so cute. Unfortunately they don't allow the use of cameras at all with the penguins. The penguin viewing area is packed to near capacity every night of the year, with park rangers supervising the crowd. A large percentage of the visitors are from overseas, and to get the message through that no cameras are to be used, some of these rangers have to be multi-lingual.

I'VE GOT AN ACE UP MY SLEEVE

If our visitors had gone home now, they would have gone home impressed with what they'd seen. But like I said, I've got an ace up my sleeve and have been saving the best till last.

Continued over page ▶



Wooden trestle bridge
Image © Keith Trotter



Toorong Falls, Victoria
Image © Keith Trotter

Continued from page 35

Wilson's Promontory, or The Prom as it is known locally, is something out of the box. This is it folks, the big Kahuna. Nowhere on this big island of Terra Australis is there any place like this. It is unique in the world.

We drove up to the Mt. Oberon carpark and headed off on foot, up the access road toward the summit. It takes about 50 minutes to reach the top of the road, then another 5 minutes to walk over the rocky apex. Then, just as you take your last few steps, all the senses of awe and wonderment your mind and body can summon, come to the fore. You are now taking in a vision you have never seen before and try to stop yourself uttering silly one word statements.

THE BEST VIEW IN AUSTRALIA

The view from the top of Mt. Oberon, which is right there on the beach, is quite simply the best view you will see anywhere in Australia. Nothing comes close. I'm not talking about harbour-side views or anything engineered or man-made. I'm talking about natural beauty, land that is virtually untouched by man. Let's not confuse scenery with views, they are different. There is scenery and there are views, but as far as natural views go, this place reigns supreme.

I've been saying it for years and I stand by that same statement, having travelled far and wide across this country, so here it is again: The view you see from the top of Mt. Oberon (on a clear day) is the best view you will see anywhere in Australia. Nothing comes close. It is so far ahead of whatever's in second place, it has no equals. None.

Challengers for 2nd place may be the Whitsundays, Atherton in far north Queensland, Mount Tamborine Qld, the Glasshouse Mountains near Maleny, Qld, Margaret River in WA, Kalbarri WA, the Blue Mountains, the Bungle Bungles WA. All are special and beautiful, but the view...nah, sorry folks, we have the best in our own back yard and to date, I have not been proven wrong. Both Wayne and his son Clint, endorsed my opinion by wholeheartedly agreeing that this was indeed the best view they had ever seen.

COUNTLESS BAYS

From just one vantage point at the top of the mountain you can see Oberon bay, Little Oberon bay, Norman Bay, (Tidal River), Leonard bay (Squeaky beach), Picnic bay, Whiskey bay, Darby bay and beyond.

At that point you are standing over 1800 feet above sea level and you can see countless bays of different coloured sands. There are islands out there with rocks and vegetation.

MORE THAN A GREAT VIEW

Wilson's Promontory is much more than a great view from a mountain top. There are enough beaches here to keep you entertained for a long weekend. Norman Bay is the main beach at Tidal River and is one of the safest surf beaches you will ever swim at. The surf is usually very mild and is unpatrolled. It would be safe to say there are virtually never any rips and you will see young children unattended, having a splash.

There are so many walking tracks, you can walk till you drop, as you choose from 20 minute walks all the way through to overnight walks for the moderately experienced bush-walker.

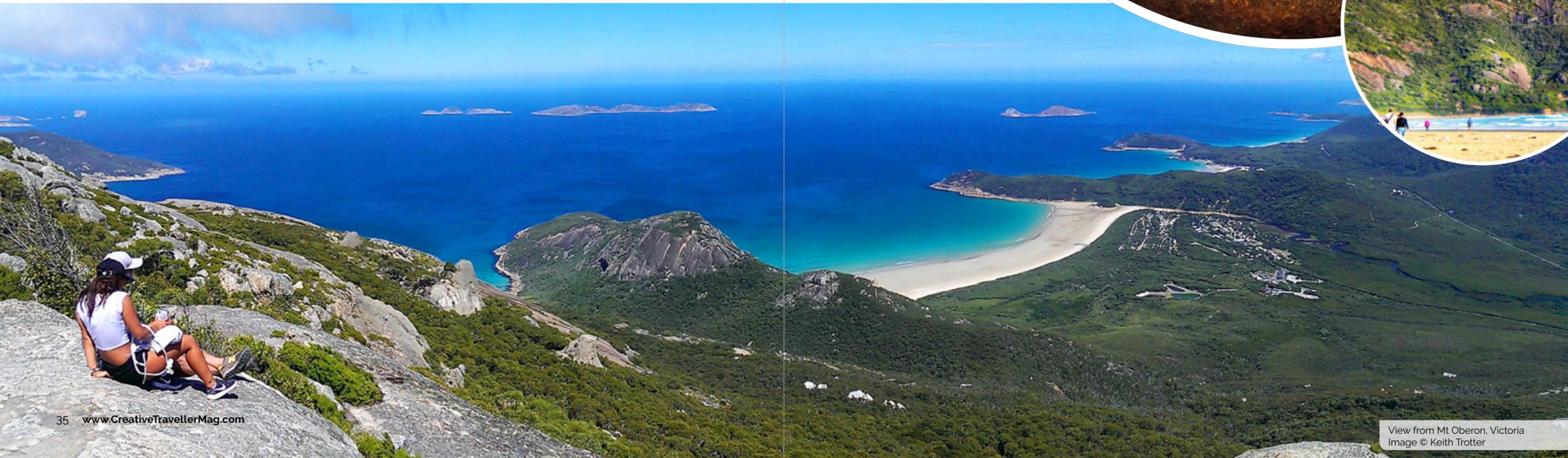
CONCLUSION

Whether you have heard of Moe or not, my old home town is a pretty good place to live. There is water skiing 5 minutes away, snow skiing 45 minutes away, off-roading on our doorstep, camping just down the road, and our nearest beach is only 1 hour away.

Surrounding us are lush green dairy farms, forests of tall mountain ash, rivers, lakes and waterfalls. We are one of four regional centres in Victoria, the others being Geelong, Ballarat and Bendigo.

The Latrobe Valley (Moe, Morwell and Traralgon) is the only centre on the east side of Melbourne. We are situated on Highway 1 and only a 90 minute drive to the city. Most importantly it is only a 2 hour drive to the best view in the country. 🇦🇺

Wilson's Promontory National Park
Images © Keith Trotter



WHAT IS IT REALLY LIKE TO BE A PROFESSIONAL WRITER?

Writing an article about being a writer obviously starts with the question of when you became a writer. Is there an agreed amount you need to have written before you are accepted as a writer? Is there a test you have to take, or a degree you need to have? Who polices this? How do you justify your desire to write? All these questions and more are answered here by Brian McIver, professional writer. Thanks Brian!

In my case, I was working in an industry that really didn't excite me much. I wanted to go back to uni to get a higher degree, initially looking at those courses which would keep me in the same field, but aiming towards a managerial or executive level. Then I realised that it was probably a better idea to study something that could actively help me move away from an industry I wasn't in love with.

I chose to begin a master's degree in journalism. I always had memories of watching the news as a kid, and thinking that the journalists and presenters were learned and respected. When I read a newspaper, I could skim the headlines and quickly get the gist of what was happening around the world. This kind of writing appealed to me: short, snappy and to the point. Surely an entire degree of learning to write this way would make me a great writer.

My wife remembers the night of my decision. I'd just picked her up from the train station, and we were heading back home. Now, I'd spent all afternoon surfing every single one of the university's web pages, calculating costs and time requirements. After that I spent a few hours working out how this would affect our finances and time together on the weekend, I had a fairly rehearsed speech all ready to go in my head.

“So, I've been thinking.... I think I'd like to go back to uni and do a journalism course”

Tentatively I began with “So, I've been thinking...I think I'd like to go back to uni and do a journalism course”.

She just looked at me and said “Umm, well that'd be perfect for you (subtitle: Well duh Fred!)”.

Great! All systems ahead.

I remember breathlessly firing off an email to my course director after I'd enrolled, and asking her if the course gave me a recognised accreditation as a writer/journalist. She replied “No, it doesn't I'm afraid.”
Oh.

Four years of on/off study later, and I've actually only had one small unit out of about ten dedicated purely to the craft of writing (specifically “Newsriting”). I've realised that formal study can't and shouldn't promise to teach someone how to write.

Most of the other units in my degree have been about applying communication theory to real world examples that we were free to choose. I've written about soccer, Star Wars, feminism, and racism – all topics that fascinate me.

ONE MAIN THING FROM MY DEGREE

This lesson has definitely been the one main thing that I will take away from my degree (much more so than anything about structure or grammar); wherever possible, write about things that interest you and try to impart as much of this interest to others. That should be the central aim of every article, blog or post you write.

WHEN CAN YOU CALL YOURSELF A WRITER?

So getting back to the first question – when can you start calling yourself a writer? I started deliberately answering “writer” when I was on holiday in Europe and people asked what I did. I would hold my breath as I waited for them to ask what books I'd written, or which newspaper I worked for. Continued over ▶



Don't waste time
rewriting your content.

Let Left To Write make it
perfect.

Services include:
CONTENT WRITING | BLOGGING | EDITING
SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGEMENT

Continued from page 38

But people never did. Because I developed a less than helpful habit of blurting out "butimjuststartingout" after saying "writer" rather grandly. Totally wrecked the effect.

Just say that you're a writer. Does a doctor say "Oh, but I just look after colds and flu. That's all I can be trusted with so far"? No (at least I hope not).

No one else can motivate or teach you to write, except you. Read as diversely as you can (if time is an issue, give something else up). Reread your favourite books and look for new insights; my favourites are the books I used to read as a teenager (yep, still have them). Follow interesting people on Twitter (you don't have to agree with them, or their views) and watch what they write.

The truth is that all writers are at different stages of their craft. I personally would hate a world where all of us are at the same level, and where there was no scope to improve from autobiographies, workshops, TED talks and just meeting other writers.

BEING A WRITER (AMONG OTHER THINGS)

Freelancing specifically as a writer makes certain things very clear. You'll often be starting from less than nothing (studying, website hosting, advertising and marketing all cost something), so learning to do a bit of everything yourself is necessary. I've had to learn how to do things such as social media management, graphic design, animating, coding and video editing as part of my marketing strategy. These skills often have nothing to do with writing, and everything to do with competitive business. Every other writer out there is often a jack-of-all-trades who can write, shoot, capture, post and self-publish on multiple platforms. You simply have to be better and quicker than the competition; when you are, you don't have to be cheaper!

My studies in journalism have shown me how news reporters now need to be across different technologies and methods,

always fostering conversations with the audience, and having a good idea for which approach works best where. This same mindset is identical to that needed by writers outside of the journalism sphere too. Following this approach, you'll find that often you won't be in a traditional office environment and in fact outdoors or in someone else's business or office. You could quite easily be faced with having to write an article away from your "normal" computer and in a very short space of time, only having the benefit of what's in your pockets and between your ears.

My three technologies that I can't live without and always have close by are my smartphone, cloud technology and open-source software. And coffee. Coffee is definitely technology.

HOW DO YOU WRITE?

The short answer? Differently, mostly based on my energy levels. If I'm writing an essay for uni, it's very much a slow, methodical process. I often don't do a rewrite, have all of the Microsoft Word spell and grammar checks on, and use section headings (even if I later remove them) and a hyperlinked table of contents.

If I'm attacking the horror story that I'm writing, I tend to read more than I write (even more than with academic writing). Other horror stories, psychological theory, and guides to character writing are my main sources. I tend to write and rewrite very slowly, but I'm fairly happy with what I've written, with some parts of it almost too dark for me to read again.

When writing for someone else, all of the above goes out the window and it depends on the particular job. Sometimes I've had to test out products for myself to get an idea of how they work, one time using a particular range of cleaning products all around my house to see just how well they stacked up. I've interviewed a comedian on the other side of the world, and then transcribed the entire twenty minute interview by listening and re-listening to my own

voice repeatedly (this is some of the most cringe-worthy self-torture possible). I've trawled desperately through a list of upcoming events happening around town, even if there wasn't anything I would normally show interest in, for an idea to write about. This has definitely opened my eyes to trying new things, and I've been to some pretty interesting events as a result.

I find with freelance writing especially that I tend to rewrite and edit a lot. I'll bang out about 80 percent of the word count (if there is one) within the first hour, and the next 20 slowly makes its way onto the page when it's good and ready. That last bit of writing is very much concerned with finding the voice of the customer and their product or service. They're not standing right behind you telling you where to put a comma or full stop, but by this stage of the exercise, the enthusiasm you had at the start of the project has waned slightly. You've managed to get most of the words that bubbled forth in your head when you started thinking into coherent sentences on the screen. Now you've got the time to listen and cast your mind back to that first conversation you had with the customer, remembering just how excited they were to tell you about their passion. Now it's time to rewrite, and introduce the excitement and language of that person into the piece.

For me, this is the hardest stage of writing for someone else, and the most rewarding. I've had the pleasure of someone reading what I've written for them and then saying "Yes, that's perfect! I had no idea what I wanted, but that's definitely it."

Those words are lovely to hear, but they're not the reason I write. I write only for the way it makes me feel, and because I want to.

Brian McIver

| fb.me/lefttowritecomm

| [@left_to_write_communications](https://twitter.com/left_to_write_communications)

| l2rcommunication@gmail.com

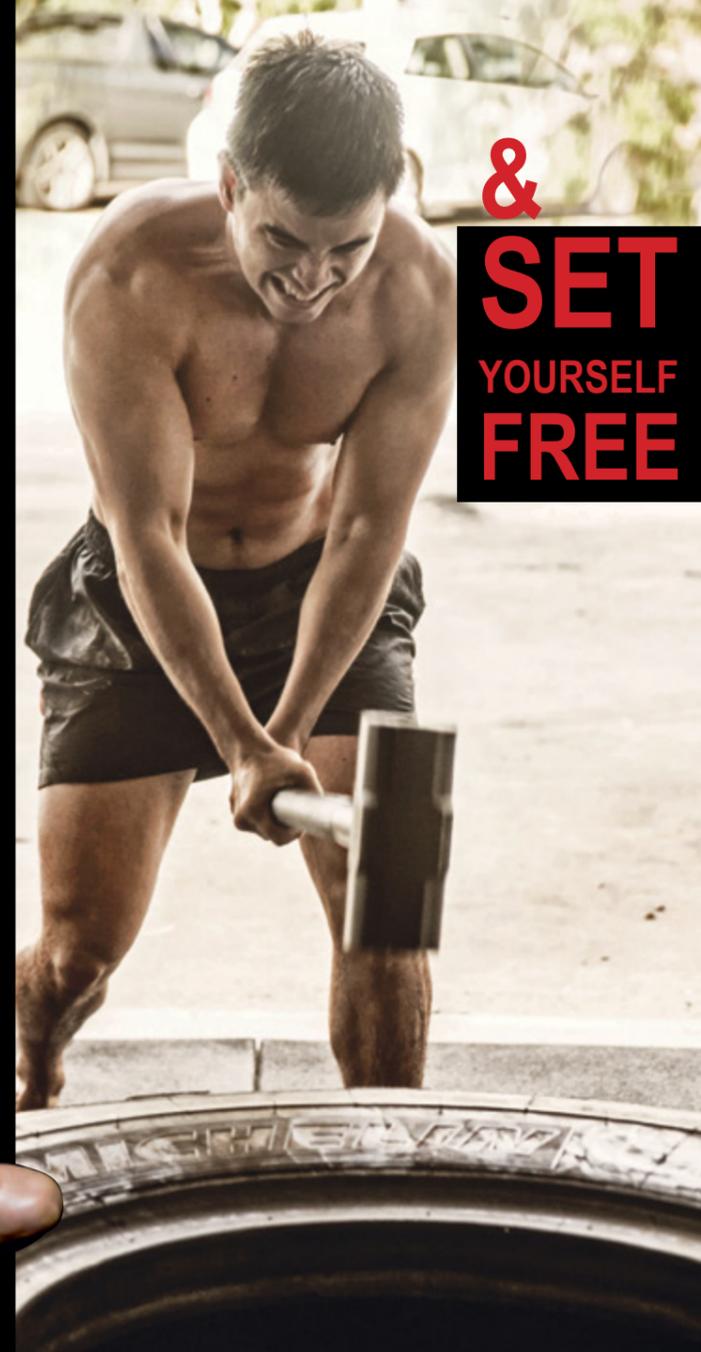
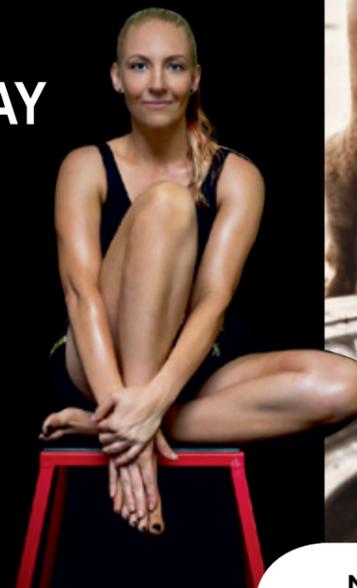


HAVE FUN AT BRISBANE'S ULTIMATE & PERSONAL TRAINING & KICKBOXING STUDIO

**\$130 for 10 classes + 1 Personal Training session
You save \$70**

PAY AS YOU PLAY

- ▶ NO JOINING FEE!
- ▶ NO CONTRACTS!



**&
SET
YOURSELF
FREE**

Make the Change & Contact Us Now!

▶ 0424 382 697

▶ brisfitempire@gmail.com

Drop in to 3/37 Windorah St Stafford.



FREE Class Pass!

Use this voucher to receive 1 Free Class of your choice at Brisbane Fitness Empire Offer open to all Creative Traveller magazine subscribers INCLUDING existing BFI clients. Email brisfitempire@gmail.com or phone ahead to book your free session.

ILLUSTRATION AND THE CREATIVE PROCESS

In this article, international illustrator Edéle Watters shares insights into her creative process, plus some lovely examples of her stunning work.

FINDING THE STORY

Illustration is one of the most rewarding fields to work in for so many reasons. It allows for a connection to form between the creator and the viewer and can take all of those hard to explain emotions and give people a sense of 'Thank goodness I'm not the only one'. So it is incredibly important when creating a piece of work that time, thought and care are put in to finding the narrative or the story you are trying to tell.

Once I know the story of what I am working on, it becomes so much more empathetic and already has more impact. Then there is a lot of time researching the subject area to ensure an understanding of what the illustration is trying to say.

CREATING AN ILLUSTRATION

Most often I enjoy combining handmade elements into digital work. I struggle a lot with matching colours because I can't see shades and so the colour picking tool in Photoshop usually becomes my best friend.

I make experimental screen prints and scan them in, finding inspiration in the patterns they create. I work a lot with my own handwriting and use floral elements in my work.

I have been very inspired by the work of Jim Kay in using layering of textures and drawing in combination and it gives a more painterly feel to digital work. I feel it brings more emotion to the narrative as a whole. I like to take inspiration from old fine art paintings that give a strong sense of emotion. 🇮🇪



Lilypads
Image © Edéle Watters



Experimental screenprint
Image © Edéle Watters

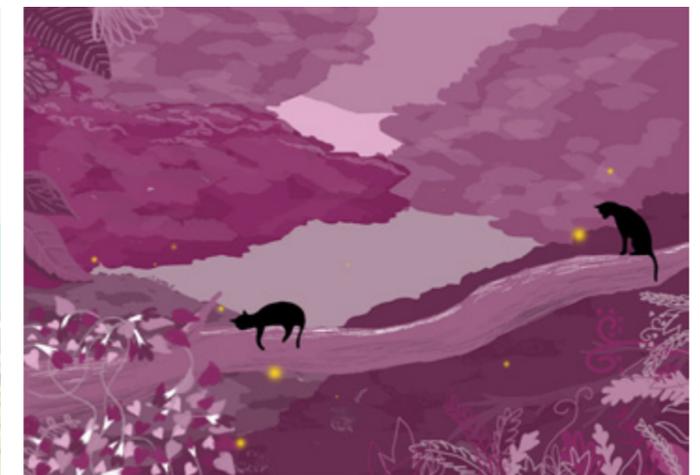
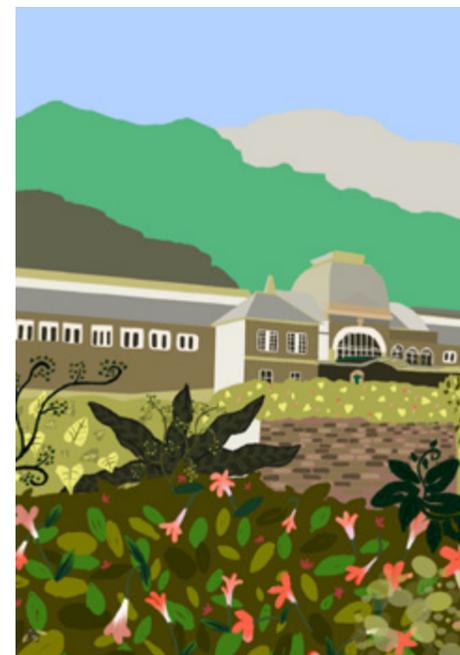


Taking inspiration from a Monet painting
Image © Edéle Watters

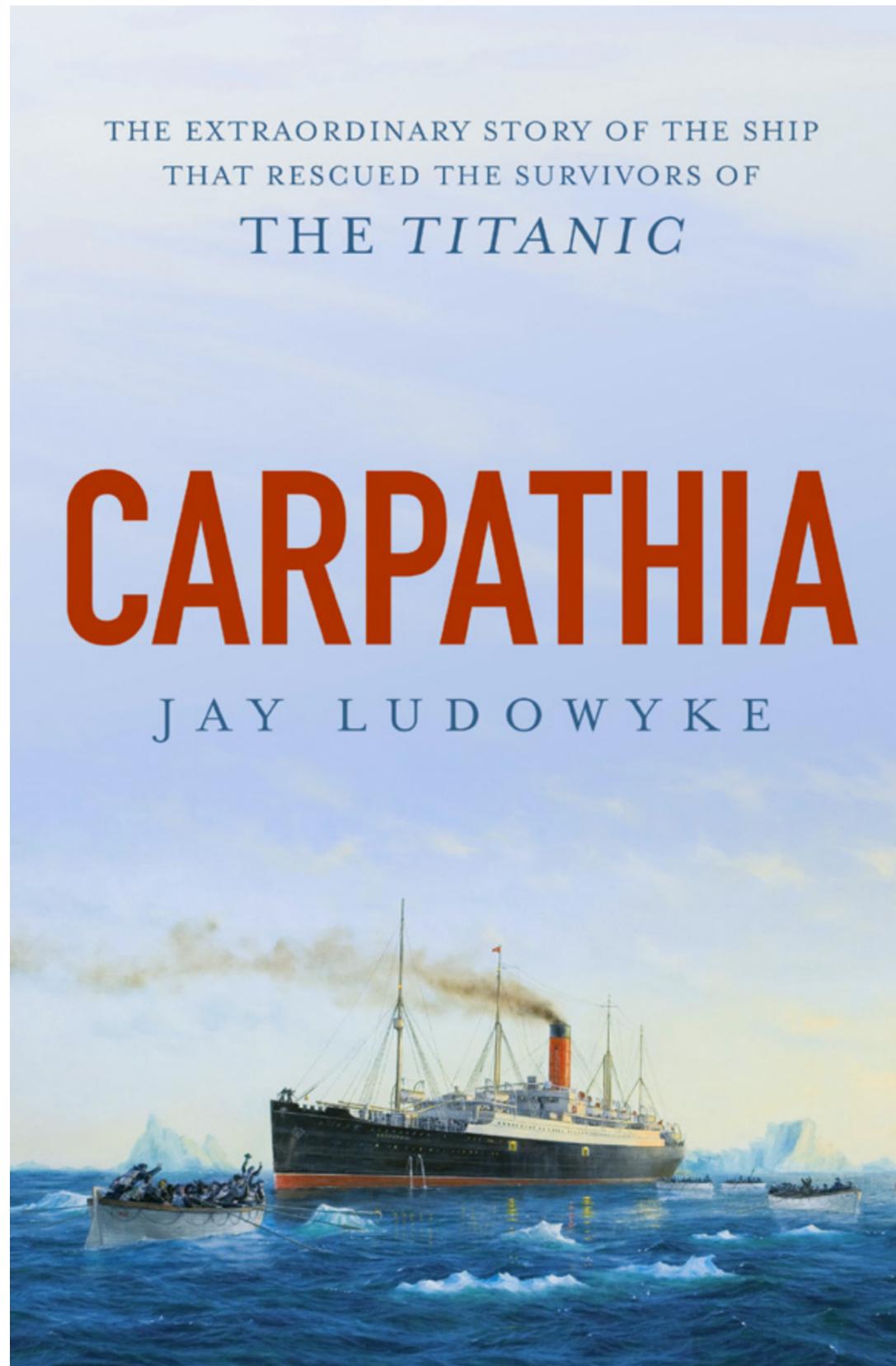
@edelewattersillustration
edelewattersillustration@gmail.com

Edéle Watters

Illustrator from Northern Ireland. Working Internationally.



@edelewattersillustration
edelewattersillustration@gmail.com



BOOKISH TREATS

For everyone!

This issue we explore fascinating Titanic history from a different perspective, as well as a different kind of ship story, plus another book that's just for family fun.

Carpathia by Dr Jay Ludowyke

Say the word "Titanic" and everyone immediately has the picture! Huge, luxury vessel, tragically lost at sea along with too many of its passengers, was followed in more recent history by the spectacular discovery of the wreck in its watery graveyard by Robert Ballard in 1985.

But the tragedy of the Titanic is only half the story. Another story, every bit as extraordinary as that of the RMS Carpathia, the ship that raced to Titanic's rescue.

Aboard the Carpathia were the uncle and aunt of three of Titanic's passengers, who received a brief, loving, inter-ship message from their nieces, "Caroline, Charlotte and Malvina, over dinner. .

Later that evening, wireless operator in the Marconi shack aboard the Carpathia, Harold Cottam, has worked an hour and a half over his shift, he is preparing for bed in a curtained off area of the shack when a message comes through that will ripple like shock waves around the world -

"Come at once. We have struck a berg. It's a CQD OM."

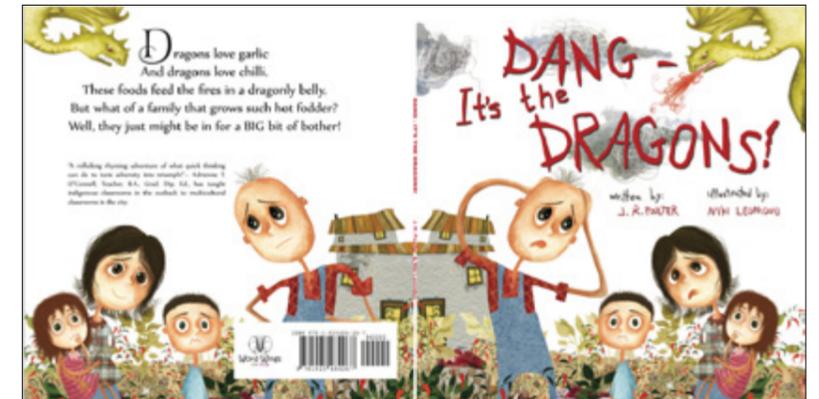
CQD. All stations, distress.

"Carpathia: The extraordinary story of the ship that rescued the survivors of the Titanic"

You can check out whether the nieces survived the wreck here:
<https://www.encyclopedia-titanica.org/titanic-survivors/>

ISBN 9780733640674

*Hachette, 2018
Reviewed by Jenny Poulter*



Dang - It's the Dragons! by J.R. Poulter

Author J.R. Poulter tells us what it's like to be invaded by dragons in Dang - It's the Dragons! This book is a funny children's book that not only rhymes, but tells the tale of what the farmers did one day when the dragons swooped down on their farms to eat up their crops. Poulter's story and the beautiful colorful illustrations by Niki Leonidou create a fantastical story about the wonders of dragons. The fantasy and magic, as told by the elders, cause children to believe that this is all fable until the day that they actually encounter dragons. Once the dragons pounced upon a farm to gobble up the delicacies of chillies, onions, radishes, garlic and peppers, they not only had a feast but they left piles upon piles of poop. Little did they know that the secret to the mystery was held in Grandfather's special book. Was that the last time that they would see the dragons and the poop?

I felt giddy reading this story. It was fun as I enjoyed the rhymes, the story and colorful images. This book was so engaging that I wanted more. Your child will love reading this book over and over again. I believe that it will become one of their

favorites because the story is fun, educational and entertaining. Children will learn that when life gives you lemons, simply find ways to turn it into lemonade as the farmers did. By discovering Grandfather's book, they were able to solve the dragon dilemma. What will happen if the dragons return? Get your own copy of this story to find out.

About the reviewer

Vernita Naylor

Vernita Naylor is a business educator that has for over 13 years provided business development and government contracting education and training services to corporate (B2B) and government (B2G) entities and their stakeholders. Additionally, she has written for American Express, Examiner.com, Random House and their affiliates.

She does a lot of volunteer work for churches and organizations like CASA and Girls, Inc to name a few. She is excited to give back to authors with an honest and professional review of their work.

ISBN 9781925484267

*Word Wings for kids
Reviewed by Vernita Naylor
for Readers' Favorite*

What happens when things
don't go the way you plan?
Can you try and try again?

Spirit

CHERRI RYAN
ILLUSTRATED BY
CHRISTINA BOOTH

Spirit by Cheri Ryan, illustrated
by Christina Booth

A stunning allegory about a small
girl's lovingly crafted, small ship and
how the child comes to understand
the elements of current, wind and tide
and how her ship interacts with them.
It is also the story of the child's 'spirit'
and how she learns to overcome
adversity, draw on her resources,
and build again! The images weave
around the story, like wind and water.
Beautiful!

ISBN 978-1-925381-77-1

Walker Books, 2018
Reviewed by Jenny Poulter



Reader Rewards: "Carpathia" and "Spirit"

"Carpathia: The extraordinary story of the ship that rescued the survivors of the Titanic"

One lucky subscriber will have the opportunity to nab their own copy of this fascinating book!

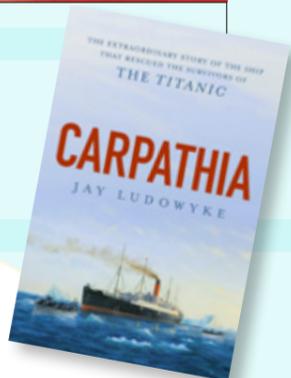
"Spirit" by Cheri Ryan and illustrated by Christina Booth - We have one copy of this lovely picture book to give away.

This issue we're making it really easy. **All you have to do to be in the giveaway is SUBSCRIBE!**

If you haven't subscribed yet go here - <http://bit.ly/ctmTravel>

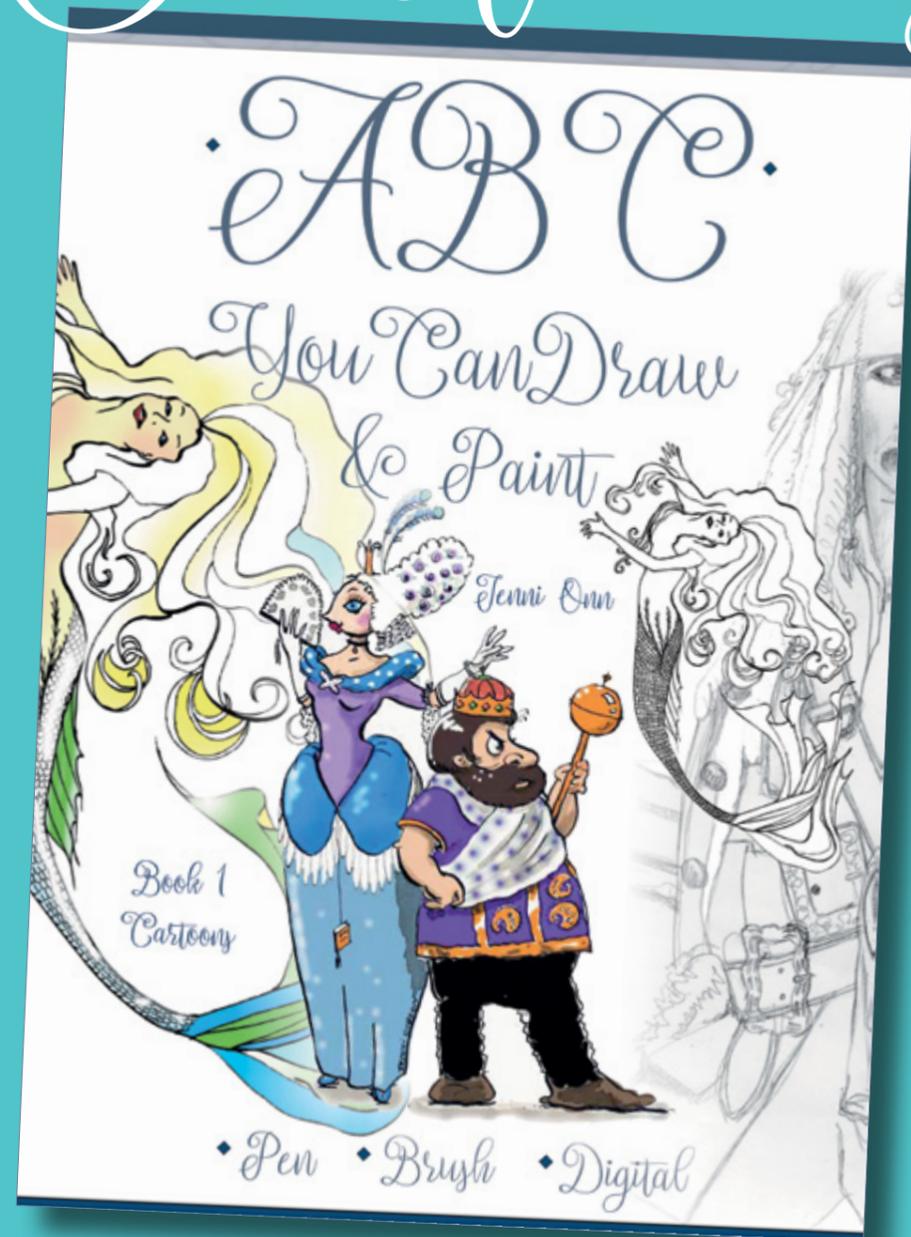
Entries close 30th November, 2018.

Many thanks to Walker Books and Hachette publishers.



Coming Soon from ABC You Can Draw

Cartoons



"Cartoons"
is a new
collection of
fun drawing
lessons
available soon
for digital
download

Question: How can you be sure to get your hands on a copy?

Answer: Everyone who purchases a book from www.abcYouCanDraw.com
in 2018 will automatically receive "Cartoons" when it is released!

www.abcYouCanDraw.com

SUBSCRIBE TO CREATIVE TRAVELLER

If you received this copy from a friend and you'd like to enjoy the same free digital subscription go to www.bit.ly/ctmTravel and enter your details, or send an email to media@CreativeTravellerMag.com and we'll sort it for you.

Remember we are a quarterly publication so you can expect the next issue in November/December.



INVITE A WRITER

If you'd like to invite a writer to review your event, business, product or service please send details to Editor@CreativeTravellerMag.com

Our schedules are tight so please be patient. If your service/project/business aligns with our upcoming features we will contact you to make further arrangements.

NEXT ISSUE

Our final issue for the year is all about **animals** – the ones we love and the ones we admire. We learn how to be **mindful travellers** when it comes to the **wildlife** we might encounter in far off destinations.

Where will we go in the creative world of **the arts**? Well we have an **interview** with an author whose book presents the **untold story** of the dog's role in building the nation of Australia. Boy, we owe our dogs big time!

Life takes a look at **fat burners** and **fitness supplements**.
Until next time – Happy travels!

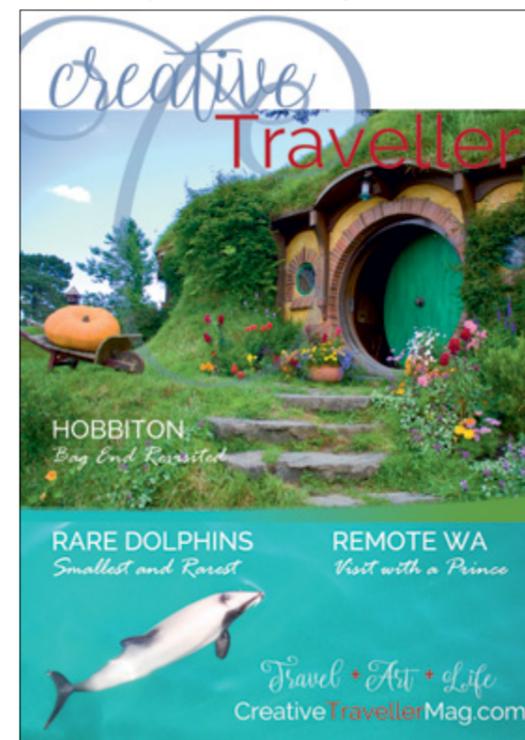
 [facebook.com/CreativeTravellerMag](https://www.facebook.com/CreativeTravellerMag)
 [@creativetravellermag](https://www.instagram.com/creativetravellermag)
<http://bit.ly/YouTubeHello>

Have you missed an issue?



www.bit.ly/LaunchIssue2017

<http://bit.ly/NewZealandMagazine>



<http://bit.ly/EuropeFreeDigital>

<http://bit.ly/2018-Q2>

