



**Friends of Australia is Tourism Australia's global ambassador network that recognises bright and influential opinion leaders who share a passion for Australia.**

 FRIENDS OF AUSTRALIA

TOURISM AUSTRALIA 

# OUR GLOBAL AMBASSADOR



# CHRIS HEMSWORTH

## ACTOR

*Based in Byron Bay, Australia*

**Chris Hemsworth is an Australian actor well known for portraying comic book hero Thor in the Marvel Cinematic Universe franchise.**

Chris Hemsworth was born in Melbourne and saw quite a bit of the Australian country in his youth, moving with his family including brothers Liam and Luke, to the Northern Territory before settling down on Phillip Island, south of Melbourne.

Hemsworth followed in the footsteps of other famous Aussies like Heath Ledger, Isla Fisher, Simon Baker and Naomi Watts by becoming a regular on the soap opera *Home and Away* (2004-2007), whilst also competing on the Australian season of *Dancing with the Stars* (2006). These appearances boosted his profile, leading to his first Hollywood appearance in *Star Trek* (2009).

It was Hemsworth's role as *Thor* in the Marvel Cinematic Universe which thrust him to worldwide prominence in 2011. He has reprised the character five times and starred amongst a top tier cast of actors which has only furthered his presence in the world of Hollywood stars.

Hemsworth has also appeared in a number of other Hollywood films including *Snow White and the Huntsman* (2012), *Red Dawn* (2012), *Rush* (2013) *In the Heart of the Sea* (2015) and *Ghostbusters* (2016).

Often highlighting his passion for surfing over the years, Hemsworth and his family (wife, Elsa Pataky and three children) relocated in 2015 from

Los Angeles to beachside town, Byron Bay, Australia, famous for its pristine beaches and surf culture.

Chris Hemsworth was appointed as Tourism Australia's global ambassador in 2015. Chris was appointed as he is passionate about Australia and provides an authentic Australian voice to help tell the country's story globally.

An aerial photograph of a tropical coastline. The water is a vibrant turquoise color, transitioning to a deeper blue further out. The shoreline is irregular, with patches of dark green vegetation and lighter sandy or coral areas. In the bottom right corner, a small white airplane is visible on the water.

 FRIENDS OF AUSTRALIA

# AQUATIC AND COASTAL

- BARTON LYNCH
- BRAD FARMER
- BRINKLEY DAVIES
- BRUCE 'HOPPO' HOPKINS
- EUGENE TAN
- JESSI MILEY-DYER
- SEAN SCOTT
- TRENT 'MAXI' MAXWELL

# BARTON LYNCH



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## FORMER PROFESSIONAL SURFER

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Barton Lynch is one of Australia's most formidable figures in surfing.**

Barton spent more than 15 years as one of the top 16 surfers in the world and won the World Title in 1988. He now mentors, coaches and trains hundreds of surfers of all levels including many of the country's aspiring champions.

In 2006 he launched Barton Lynch's Blast Off, which still remains Australia's premiere pre-junior surfing event and coaching program.

# BRAD FARMER



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## FOUNDER OF NATIONAL SURFING RESERVES

*Based in Perth, Australia*

**Brad Farmer is a world-recognised pioneer for the conservation of oceans, waves and beaches.**

Founder of multiple not-for-profit initiatives including Surfing Reserves, Coastcare, Ocean Care Day and Surfrider Foundation, Brad has written about Australian beaches for over three decades and examined most of them firsthand. Brad is developing a model for UNESCO to recognise significant coastal sites while continuing to engage coastal audiences with his 101 Best Beaches project which aims to raise the international profile of Australian beaches.

# BRINKLEY DAVIES



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## SOCIAL INFLUENCER AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATIONIST

*Based in Port Lincoln, Australia*

**Born and raised in Port Lincoln, Brinkley has a strong affinity with Australia's beach and coastal lifestyle, boasting a bachelor's degree in marine biology and a resume of volunteer work and surfing, diving, and boating qualifications.**

Brinkley has a passion for environmental conservation and animal welfare. In 2016 Brinkley adopted and hand raised an orphan kangaroo joey found on the side of the road, named Bunji. Through her conservation focused not-for-profit Balu Blue Foundation, Brinkley founded the Two Songs Sanctuary, a private orphan native animal rescue based on Eyre Peninsula where Bunji is now based full time.



# BRUCE HOPKINS



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## BONDI LIFEGUARD

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**‘Hoppo’ is the longest serving lifeguard at Bondi Beach, where he has been based for 15 years. He is also head of the Waverly Council Lifeguards based in the Eastern Suburbs of Sydney and stars in the hit television series *Bondi Rescue*.**

A keen surfer since the age of six, he has completed many rescues, saving many lives and resuscitating people whose heart and breathing have stopped completely.

In 2006 he won the Australian Lifeguard of the Year award, and recently won two gold medals at the Australian Surf Lifesaving titles.

# EUGENE TAN



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## PHOTOGRAPHER AND BLOGGER

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Eugene is the photographer and founder of Aquabumps, a brand dedicated to celebrating Australia's coastal lifestyle.**

Eugene captures spectacular images of Australian coastal destinations which can be seen in his boutique photography gallery located on Curlewis Street in Bondi Beach and various other retailers around the world.

 FRIENDS OF AUSTRALIA

# JESSI MILEY-DYER



TOURISM AUSTRALIA 

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## FORMER PROFESSIONAL SURFER

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Jessi Miley-Dyer is a former professional surfer who is now the Women's Commissioner for the World Surf League (Association of Surfing Professionals).**

Jessi was considered as one of the best Australian surfers during her years on Australia's Pro Junior series and in the ASP Women's World Tour, she now uses her in-depth knowledge and passion for the sport to create a stable competition platform for women.

# SEAN SCOTT



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## SURF AND LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHER

*Based in Burleigh Heads, Australia*

**Sean Scott is an ocean landscape photographer based in Burleigh Heads, Queensland where he owns and operates his own coastal lifestyle gallery.**

His galleries in South East Queensland have been open for more than 12 years and he now finds himself travelling and taking photographs all over Australia and the world.

With a large and loyal social media following, Sean's passion is to share his experiences of Australia through his photographs.

# TRENT 'MAXI' MAXWELL



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## LIFEGUARD, FIREFIGHTER AND TELEVISION PERSONALITY

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Maxi is one of the most recognisable and popular of the Bondi Lifeguards featured on Network Ten's reality TV show *Bondi Rescue*.**

Maxi started as a 16 year old trainee, making him the youngest lifeguard ever to patrol the world famous Bondi Beach. He also graduated from NSW Fire & Rescue in 2016, making him a qualified firefighter.

Maxi's passion is helping people and with his positive, fun and friendly outlook on life he looks forward to telling the world about the warm welcome they will receive when they make the trip Down Under.

 FRIENDS OF AUSTRALIA

# ARTS, MUSIC & MEDIA



- BAZ LUHRMANN
- CALLAN MCAULIFFE
- CATRIONA ROWNTREE
- CHIH-HSIANG LO  
(SHOW LUO)
- DARCEY BUSSELL
- GEORGE BYRNE
- HUI LI (XUE XIAO)
- IVA DAVIES
- JESSICA MAUBOY
- JIANMIN DONG
- JINGHUI CAI
- JINPENG ZHANG
- JOHNNY JET
- JUN JIN (SHOU MA)
- KATHY LETTE
- LAURA BROWN
- LINCOLN LEWIS
- LISA WILKINSON
- MAGDALENA ROZE
- PETER FITZSIMONS
- PARINEETI CHOPRA
- QILONG WU (NICKY WU)
- RACHEL GRIFFITHS
- RADHA MITCHELL
- SHU CHEN
- STEVE LIEBMANN
- TEIGAN NASH
- TIM OLSEN
- TIM ROSS
- WILLIAM BARTON
- YICHEN DING

# BAZ LUHRMANN



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## FILM DIRECTOR

*Based in Sydney, Australia and Los Angeles, USA*

**Baz Luhrmann is one of Hollywood's most respected and successful film directors, screenwriters and producers.**

Growing up in rural Australia, he first became enthralled by the world of movies and the power of storytelling at his father's theatre. After studying at Sydney's National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA), his career as a film director, screenwriter and producer took off and he became widely known for his lavish productions and emphasis on heightened reality. His most notable works to date are the three films that make up his Red Curtain Trilogy comprised of *Strictly Ballroom*, *Romeo + Juliet* and *Moulin Rouge!* Following the trilogy, his projects include *Australia*, *The Great Gatsby*, and his television limited series period drama *The Get Down* for Netflix.



# CALLAN MCAULIFFE



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## ACTOR

*Based in Los Angeles, USA*

**Callan McAuliffe is a talented young Australian actor known for his various roles in theatre, film and television.**

Callan began acting at age 8, appearing in Australian television shows and has gone on to feature in Hollywood films such as *The Great Gatsby*, *I Am Number Four* and *Flipped*.

When back in Australia, Callan enjoys getting back to nature by camping in the Outback.

# CATRIONA ROWNTREE



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## TRAVEL REPORTER

*Based in Geelong, Australia*

**Catriona Rowntree is widely known as 'Australia's Most Travelled Woman' having presented the Australian favourite travel show *Getaway* for the past 19 years.**

In addition to her TV roles, Catriona has been able to utilise her passion for community work as the Patron of the Arnotts Foundation, Ambassador for OCRF, Mission Australia and Phillip Island Penguins.

# DARCEY BUSSELL



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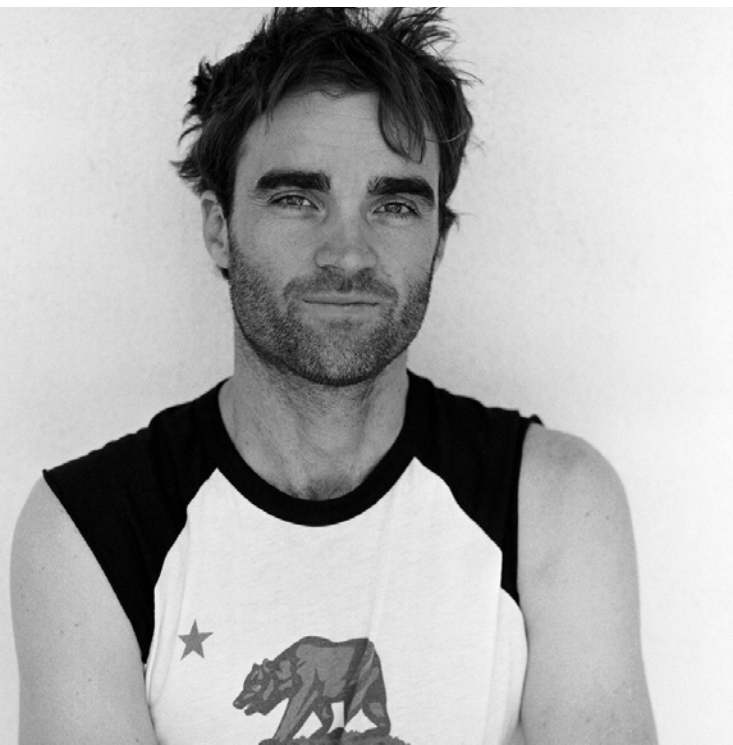
## TELEVISION PERSONALITY AND FORMER PRIMA BALLERINA

*Based in London, United Kingdom*

**Darcey Bussell is considered one of Britain's most accomplished ballerinas. Now retired, she is widely known for her role as a judge on BBC's *Strictly Come Dancing*.**

Darcey has always had great ties and passions for Australia, living in Sydney both as a child and later with her husband Angus Forbes.

# GEORGE BYRNE



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## PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTIST

*Based in Los Angeles, USA*

**George Byrne is an Australian photographic artist based in Los Angeles.**

Born in Sydney, Byrne graduated from Sydney College Of The Arts in 2001, travelled extensively, and then settled in Los Angeles in 2010 where he has been focusing on his photographic practice.

Byrne started using Instagram as a visual scrapbook in 2013, his gallery (@george\_byrne) has evolved to become an important and popular extension of his broader art practice.

George is the brother of Hollywood actress Rose Byrne.

# HUI LI (XUE XIAO)



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## MEDIA PERSONALITY

*Based in China*

**Hui Li is a famous opinion leader with Chinese women, taking the initiative with her colleagues to transform *ELLE China* into a truly multimedia brand.**

She published her first book *Elegance* to share her experience as a multi-tasking working woman, mother and partner.

# IVA DAVIES



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## MUSICIAN

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Iva Davies is the frontman of Icehouse, one of the most iconic bands in Australian history, which released 28 platinum albums, eight Top 10 albums and more than 30 Top 40 singles.**

Icehouse's success spans over many decades, with their second album featuring the unofficial anthem for all Australians, *Great Southern Land*.

Beyond Icehouse, Iva continues to showcase his musical skills for films, ballet, television and special events.

# JESSICA MAUBOY



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## SINGER SONGWRITER AND ACTRESS

*Based in Australia*

**Jessica Mauboy is an Australian singer songwriter and actress born and raised in Darwin, Northern Territory.**

As a singer, Jessica has sold over 2.5 million units in Australia, achieved 19 Top 30 hit singles, toured with international musicians including Beyonce and Chris Brown and collaborated with the likes of Snoop Dogg and Pitbull.

In 2014, Jessica made history as the first non-European solo artist to perform at the Eurovision Song Contest in Denmark. Jessica represented Australia in the 2018

Eurovision Song contest that was held in Lisbon, Portugal.

Jessica also boasts leading roles in internationally celebrated films such as *Bran Nue Dae* and *The Sapphires*.

Jessica is an active role model to the Indigenous community in Australia with involvement in many organisations ranging from mentoring, performing and education. Jessica has been nominated twice for Young Australian of the Year in 2010 and 2013.

# JINGHUI CAI



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## CEO OF QYER.COM

*Based in China*

**Jinghui Cai is CEO and Co-founder of Qyer.com, one of China's biggest travel sites featuring travel guides, forums and tips.**

Jinghui Cai is also the former Chief Representative of *Lonely Planet* in China.



# JOHNNY JET



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## BLOGGER AND JOURNALIST

*Based in the United States of America*

**Johnny Jet travels around 150,000 miles and visits over 20 countries each year through his role as a travel journalist.**

He and his website JohnnyJet.com have been featured over 2,000 times in major publications, including USA Today, Time, Fortune and The New York Times, and he has appeared on ABC, CBS, CNBC, CNN, MSNBC, NBC, FOX News Channel and PBS.

Every week, Johnny hosts a 'travel website of the week' for several radio stations around the world and he also writes for *Frommers.com*, *The Huffington Post* and *LAX Magazine*.

# JUN JIN (SHOU MA)



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## MEDIA PERSONALITY

*Based in China*

**Jun Jin, also known as Shou Ma, is the former Vice President of the Trends Media Group.**

He is the founder of the Chinese edition of *Men's Health*, *For Him Magazine* and *Robb Report*, as well as a top influencer in fashion and lifestyle area and has published eight books since 2000 with some of them becoming bestsellers.

Jun Jin has his own studio and runs a fusion program *Fun and Fancy* with iQIYI.COM. He is the visiting scholar of UC Berkeley and also the advocator of International Men's Day.

# KATHY LETTE



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## AUTHOR

*Based in London, United Kingdom*

**Born in Sydney's southern suburbs, Kathy Lette is an international best-selling author now based in the United Kingdom.**

Her first book *Puberty Blues* was a huge success and was made into a motion picture in 1981. In addition to writing over nine best-selling books, Kathy has worked as a newspaper columnist in Sydney and New York.

# LAURA BROWN



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## JOURNALIST AND EDITOR

*Based in the United States of America*

**Laura Brown is an Australian-born journalist and Editor In Chief of *InStyle* magazine.**

Laura regularly appears on US television news programs *Good Morning America* and *Today*. Laura also hosts a bi-weekly video series called “Dirty Laundry” in partnership with Time Inc’s People TV Network, in which she interviews celebrities in a laundromat and reveals personal and colorful stories behind the star’s most beloved outfits and accessories.

# LINCOLN LEWIS



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## ACTOR

*Based in Brisbane, Australia*

**Brisbane born and raised, Lincoln is an Australian actor most well-known for his roles in *Home and Away*, *Underbelly*, *House Husbands* and most recently appearing as a celebrity contestant on *Hell's Kitchen*.**

Outgoing and active, he is an avid photographer and videographer, capturing stunning Australian vistas, particularly of beaches and coastal scenes.

Lincoln has worked previously with Tourism Australia, capturing social content for use across his social media channels as well as *Aussie New Today*.

# LISA WILKINSON

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## MEDIA PERSONALITY

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Lisa Wilkinson is one of Australia's most admired and respected journalists with more than 20 years in the media industry.**

Lisa was appointed editor of *Dolly* magazine at just 21 years of age. By age 25 she was editing *Cleo* and doubled its circulation in a decade. She was host of Channel 9's *Today* and now hosts Network Ten's news-current affairs and talk show *The Project*.

Lisa is also an incredible business mentor, mother of three and wife to fellow journalist and author, Peter FitzSimons.



# MAGDALENA ROZE



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## MEDIA PERSONALITY

*Based in Byron Bay, Australia*

**An award-winning television presenter and meteorologist, Magdalena is one of Australia's most versatile talents with almost ten years' experience presenting live television.**

Magdalena is based in Byron Bay with her husband, Darren Robertson, who is the chef and co-owner of Three Blue Ducks.

Magdalena's passion points extend from food, travel and wine to fashion and all aspects of wellbeing. Inspired by the seasons and driven by respect for nature, she is also an enthusiastic advocate for all that is sustainable, artisanal, ethical and natural.

# QILONG WU (NICKY WU)

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## SINGER AND ACTOR

*Based in China*

**Nicky Wu (Chinese name Qilong Wu) is a Taiwanese singer and actor who also has large fan bases in mainland China and Hong Kong. He found fame in 1988 when he became a member of the boy band, Little Tigers Team (小虎隊), performing alongside Alec Su and Julian Chen. The trio were extremely popular and successful in Taiwan, selling millions of records.**

During his time with Little Tigers Team, he pursued a solo career, releasing an extensive catalogue of songs, Mandarin and Cantonese albums as a solo artist, releasing his debut solo album in 1992. In five years, he released 13 Mandarin and Cantonese albums. As an actor, Wu won the 1993 Best New Artist award in Hong Kong, and the next year played the lead in the 1994 film *The Lovers*, his greatest commercial success. With his background as a professional athlete, he is best known for playing fighting scenes and never uses stuntmen as he trusts his own ability. Wu has starred in more than 20 television series and more than 10 blockbuster films.





# PETER FITZSIMONS



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## JOURNALIST AND MEDIA PRESENTER

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Peter FitzSimons is a former Wallabies rugby union player turned journalist, author and radio presenter.**

Peter is one of Australia's most prominent and successful media and publishing identities and is also a correspondent to London's *Daily Telegraph* newspaper.

# PARINEETI CHOPRA



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## BOLLYWOOD ACTRESS

*Based in India*

**Parineeti Chopra is one of India's biggest Bollywood actresses with a highly engaged social media following.**

In addition to her acting career, Parineeti is a humanitarian and supports a number of charities and causes. She is also an avid diver and has a keen interest for health and wellness, inspiring millions with her YouTube video on her fitness journey 'Built that way.' Being a lover of nature and adventure, Parineeti is passionate about exploring Australia and sharing her unique adventures with her millions of fans on social media.

# RACHEL GRIFFITHS



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## ACTOR

*Based in Melbourne, Australia*

**Rachel Griffiths is an award-winning Australian actor whose breakthrough role was in the 1994 film *Muriel's Wedding*, and her Academy Award nominated performance in *Hilary and Jackie* (1998).**

She has since featured in various films and TV series that have seen her secure a Golden Globe award, a second AACTA award, two Screen Actors Guild Awards and three Australian Film Institute Awards for her work.

Griffiths was born in Melbourne, but spent her early childhood on the Gold Coast. She is now based in Melbourne with her husband, Australian artist Andrew Taylor, and their three children.

# RADHA MITCHELL



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## ACTRESS

*Based in the United States of America*

**Born in Melbourne, Radha began her acting career appearing on Australian television series such as *Neighbours*. After moving to the United States, she became known for her roles in both indie and blockbuster Hollywood films such as *Pitch Black*, *Man on Fire*, *Finding Neverland* and *Silent Hill*.**

Radha recently returned to Australia to film *Swinging Safari* where she starred alongside Kylie Minogue, Guy Pearce and Asher Keddie.

# CHIH- HSIANG LO (SHOW LUO)



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## ACTOR AND SINGER

*Based in China*

**Show Luo is a Taiwanese entertainer, Mandopop singer, dancer, host and actor. He has been dubbed 'Asia's Dance King' for his dancing skills and is the co-host of a daily entertainment news/variety show, 100% Entertainment on Gala Television (GTV) Variety Show/CH 28 with Alien Huang.**

He is also the creator and designer of street trend fashion brand 'STAGE Hyaline of World', abbreviated as S.H.O.W. It has outlets throughout Taiwan and in Hong Kong, Singapore, China, the United States of America and Australia.

# SHU CHEN



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## ACTOR AND SINGER

*Based in China*

**Shu Chen is a famous actress and singer and has appeared on TV in a variety of roles. She has won the Best Actress: Romance Award at the 4th Huading Awards and Favorite Actress Award at the Golden Eagle Awards.**

Shu Chen is married to Chinese-Australian musician, Yin-Yin Zhao.

# STEVE LIEBMANN



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## MEDIA PERSONALITY

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Steve Liebmann is one of Australia's most respected journalists, and has been for more than four decades.**

He has interviewed presidents, prime ministers and royalty, and is a regular on 2UE radio and is best known for co-hosting the *Today Show* and *Current Affairs*.

# TEIGAN NASH



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## MEDIA PRESENTER

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Born on the beaches of Sydney, Teigan is an up and coming TV presenter, host and producer. Known for her bubbly and outgoing personality, she began performing at a young age, singing, dancing and acting.**

Her presenting and hosting roles have included *Saturday Disney*, the 2016 Rio Olympics, Autumn Racing 2016 Carnival and is a Hoyts Red Carpet host where she interviews Hollywood's biggest stars.

In addition to her passion for the arts, TV fashion and film, Teigan has a keen interest for health and wellness. She is a lover of the beach and is often found in Cronulla, swimming, exercising and enjoying the great outdoors.



# TIM OLSEN

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## ART GALLERIST

*Based in Australia*

**Dedicated to showcasing the diversity of Australia's best artists, Tim Olsen is one of the country's most notable art dealers and gallery directors.**

With galleries scattered throughout Sydney, Tim is considered an expert in the art world and is a great advocate of Australian art.



# TIM ROSS



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## MEDIA PERSONALITY AND COMEDIAN

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Tim Ross is a well-known Australian media personality, performing on Nova for nine years as one half of *The Merrick and Rosso Show*, helping to launch the Nova network in 2001. Tim has also enjoyed working on television, hosting shows for MTV, The Comedy Channel, Nine Network and Network Ten; as well as the series *No Leave No Life* for Seven West Media.**

Along the way Tim has picked up numerous ACRA radio awards, an Astra, GQ Man Of The Year award and an ARIA. In 2010 he released his first book, *'Mum had a Kingswood'* and is a contributor to *Men's Style Australia*, *Rolling Stone* and *Sydney Morning Herald*. Tim also has a keen interest in architecture and is the ambassador for The Historic Houses Trust.

Tim currently hosts his own radio drive show each weekday from 4-6pm on *101.1 Mix FM* in Sydney and Melbourne; and has a unique stand-up show *Man about the House*.

# WILLIAM BARTON



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## DIDGERIDOO ARTIST AND COMPOSER

*Based in Australia*

**William Barton is one of Australia's leading didgeridoo players and composers and is a powerful advocate for the wider perception of his cultural traditions.**

Born in Mount Isa, he was taught the instrument by his uncle, an elder of the Waanyi, Lardil and Kalkadunga tribes of western Queensland. At 17 years of age, William played his first classical concert with the Queensland Symphony Orchestra and is now one of the world's leading musicians. In 2012, William won an ARIA Music Award for the Best Classical Album.

# YICHEN DING



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## MEDIA PERSONALITY

*Based in China*

**Yichen Ding is a well-known cartoonist and illustrator living in China.**

She has published three comic books since 2012, in which she created an avatar and outfitted it with love in pop culture, fine dining and travel that inspire others.



 FRIENDS OF AUSTRALIA

# ENTREPRENEURS & BUSINESS INFLUENCERS

- ANN SHERRY
- DICK SMITH
- MATTHEW UPCHURCH
- RICHARD BRANSON

FRIENDS OF AUSTRALIA

# ANN SHERRY



TOURISM AUSTRALIA 

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## EXECUTIVE

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Ann is the Executive Chair of Carnival Australia, one of the largest vacation companies in the world. She is a great advocate of tourism in Australia and a forward thinker in human resources and workplace equality.**

Former CEO of Westpac New Zealand; and the Bank of Melbourne and Group Executive, People & Performance; Ann was awarded an Order of Australia for her corporate contributions to the Australian community.

# DICK SMITH



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## ENTREPRENEUR

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**One of Australia's most successful businessmen, aviator, film-maker and explorer, Dick Smith hot air ballooned from New Zealand to Australia, and embarked upon the first ever solo helicopter flight around the world.**

Founder of Dick Smith Foods in 1999, Dick is passionate about Australian interests and developing business within the nation. Dick has an international profile and is an Australian icon.



# MATTHEW UPCHURCH



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## CEO OF VIRTUOSO

*Based in New York City, USA*

**Matthew Upchurch is the CEO of leading luxury travel network Virtuoso. In 2017, Tourism Australia and Virtuoso announced an expanded partnership throughout North America, with Virtuoso making a strong commitment to promoting Australia as destination to the US luxury market.**

*“Not only is it one of my personal favourites to visit, but Australia continues to be a key location for our travel advisors and their clients, consistently ranking in our top 10 destinations by sales and as the number one dream destination for Virtuoso travellers.”*

# RICHARD BRANSON

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## FOUNDER AND OWNER OF VIRGIN GROUP

*Based in the United Kingdom*

**Richard Branson is the world famous founder and owner of the Virgin Group, which has approximately 200 companies in over 30 countries across a range of industries including travel, tourism, music, finance and health. The Virgin Group also has non-profit projects which include the Virgin Earth Challenge.**

Richard's first venture was setting up a student magazine at the age of 16. In 1970 he founded Virgin as a mail order record retailer and shortly afterwards he opened a record shop. Two years later he built a recording studio and Virgin Music went on to become one of the top six record companies in the world. In his spare time Richard has successfully beaten world records, which include sailing, hot air ballooning, a sea crossing in an amphibious vehicle and golfing in the dark.





FRIENDS OF AUSTRALIA

# FASHION & DESIGN

- CAMILLA FRANKS
- COLLETTE DINNIGAN
- DION LEE
- KYM ELLERY
- NICKY AND SIMONE ZIMMERMAN
- YASMIN SEWELL

# CAMILLA FRANKS



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## FASHION DESIGNER

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Since launching her label 10 years ago, Camilla Franks continues to be internationally recognised as a designer who has a unique approach to creating colourful, playful and luxurious lifestyle fashion statements. With an ever-growing list of celebrity fans including Oprah Winfrey, Lily Allen, Kim Cattrall, Fergie, Beyoncé and Gwen Stefani who have all embraced her creations.**

Camilla's signature colourful and handmade graphic prints take centre stage in each of her product ranges which are distributed in over 250 high-end boutiques and luxury department stores worldwide including Harrod's, Bloomingdales, Selfridges, Nordstrom and SAKS, plus numerous flagships stores across Australia.

# COLLETTE DINNIGAN



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## FASHION DESIGNER

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Born in South Africa, Collette Dinnigan is an Australian based fashion designer. She launched her own range in 1992, and also opened her first store in Paddington and began selling to department stores such as Barneys New York, Neiman Marcus, Harvey Nichols and Joyce in Hong Kong.**

Only three years later, she was invited to show at Paris by the Chambre Syndicale de la Haute Couture, the first Australian to launch a ready-to-wear collection in Paris. In 1997, she was presented with Louis Vuitton Business Award. The following year, she was inducted into the Australian Businesswomen's Hall of Fame.

She currently has a lingerie line at David Jones, Collette by Collette Dinnigan, inspired by her travels around the world. She previously designed a line of lingerie, Wild Hearts, for Marks & Spencer in the United Kingdom and Target in Australia.

# DION LEE



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## FASHION DESIGNER

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Dion Lee has established himself as one of Australia's most critically lauded and awarded fashion innovators. Lee debuted at Australian Fashion Week in 2009 after graduating from Sydney Institute of Technology the prior year. Lee was the first designer to stage a runway presentation at the Sydney Opera House in 2010.**

The focus shifted to the international market in February 2012 with a move to the London Fashion Week schedule. Presentations in London were met with a phenomenally positive response extending the brand's exposure and distribution. In September 2012, Lee showed at London Fashion Week for the second time, elevating the brand with a breakthrough runway presentation and in February 2013, Lee participated in the International Woolmark Prize as the Australian Finalist and also presented at London Fashion Week.

# KYM ELLERY

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## FASHION DESIGNER

*Based in Paris, France*

**Born in Perth, Kym Ellery is a renowned Australian fashion designer best known for her fashion label, Ellery. After completing a certificate of Fashion Design in Perth, Kym made her way over to London to attend the highly acclaimed fashion school, Central St. Martins. It was here that she completed summer school studying Fashion Illustration and Sketchbook Building, developing the invaluable design skills she now possesses.**

Previously working for over four years at *Russh* magazine as a crucial part of the creative team, Kym watched the magazine rapidly develop into one of the most cutting edge and renowned fashion titles in Australia. International coverage of Ellery has gone from strength to strength, thrusting the label to the elite end of Australian designers. From Madonna's Stylist to *Vogue* and *Harpers*, to dressing some of the world's top models and extremely influential women, Kym has become one of Australia's most celebrated fashion icons.





# NICKY & SIMONE ZIMMERMANN

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## FASHION DESIGNERS

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Sisters Nicky and Simone Zimmermann run one of Australia's most successful high-end fashion labels, Zimmermann.**

Zimmermann began with Nicky designing dresses and selling them at Paddington markets in Sydney, and has now evolved to encompass a number of stand-alone stores across Australia and the USA including flagship stores on Mercer St in New York and Melrose Place in Los Angeles.

In Australia and abroad, the label receives extensive editorial coverage and has graced the pages of magazines including: *Vogue*, *Harpers Bazaar*, *Elle*, *W*, *Glamour*, *Nylon* and *Marie Claire*.

Zimmermann have been the recipient of multiple fashion awards including the Australian Fashion Laureate and Best Swim Designer - Prix de Marie Claire, to name a few. Nicky has been a member of the Australian Fashion Week Advisory Board and the Australian Fashion Chamber. Nicky and Simone have also been the fashion mentor for the Qantas Spirit of Australia Youth Awards.



# YASMIN SEWELL

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## FASHION PERSONALITY AND TREND FORECASTER

*Based in London, United Kingdom*

**Yasmin Sewell is a fashion retail consultant, creative advisor for fashion brands and trend forecaster. Setting up her consultancy in 2008, she and her team work on projects including retail strategies for international stores, trend direction for fashion brands in all markets and creative direction for young designers.**

Originally from Australia, Sewell now lives in London, and was named Young Australian of the Year in the United Kingdom in 2012 for her contribution to the fashion industry.





 FRIENDS OF AUSTRALIA

# FOOD & WINE

- AARON TURNER
- ADAM LIAW
- ANALIESE GREGORY
- BEN SHEWRY
- BILL GRANGER
- CHEF WAN
- CURTIS STONE
- DAN CHURCHILL
- DAN HUNTER
- DAVID MOYLE
- DONNA HAY
- GARY MEHIGAN
- GUY GROSSI
- GUY TURLAND &  
MARK ALSTON
- HAYDEN QUINN
- JAMES HALLIDAY
- JAMES VILES
- JOCK ZONFRILLO
- JOHN FINK
- JULIEN ROYER
- KYLIE KWONG
- LUKE HAYES-ALEXANDER
- LUKE MANGAN
- MAGGIE BEER
- MARK BEST
- MARK OLIVE
- MARTIN BENN &  
VICKI WILD
- MATT MORAN
- MATT PRESTON
- MATT STONE
- MATTHEW JUKES
- MICHAEL HILL SMITH
- MICHAEL MOORE
- MORGAN MCGLONE
- NEIL PERRY
- OLLY SMITH
- PAT NOURSE
- PETER GAGO
- PETER GILMORE
- PORNSAK PRAJAKWIT
- RENÉ REDZEPI
- RICK STEIN
- SANJEEV KAPOOR
- SASA SESTIC
- SEAN CONNOLLY
- SHANNON BENNETT
- STEFANO MANFREDI
- TOM COLICCHIO
- TONY HOWELL
- WONG WING CHEE
- YIFAN LIU
- YINGJI OUYANG  
(CRAIG AU YEUNG)

# AARON TURNER



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## CHEF

*Based in Geelong, Australia*

**Aaron Turner is one of Australia's most talented young chefs. His restaurant IGNI, in Geelong, Victoria has won numerous awards including Gourmet Traveller's Restaurant of the Year.**

Aaron grew up in Portland, Victoria and studied graphic design before travelling and working overseas. He opened his first restaurant in 2009, Loam, on an olive grove in Drysdale, 90 minutes outside of Melbourne, which won numerous accolades.

Since closing Loam in 2013, Aaron has worked and consulted with IGNI,

a degustation-only restaurant with regional and seasonal philosophies similar to Loam, this time in Geelong. In its first year, IGNI was awarded two hats by The Age Good Food Guide 2016, as well as winning the guide's awards for both Regional Restaurant of the Year and Chef of the Year.

The name IGNI refers literally to the charcoal in the kitchen that features in so many of the restaurant's dishes, including local saltbush leaves, fried crisp and sprinkled with vinegar powder, zucchini flowers stuffed with pickled mussels and grilled over charcoal or char-grilled squab, claw on, roasted on the crown.

# ADAM LIAW



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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Adam Liaw is a cook, TV presenter and author, best known as the winner of MasterChef Australia 2010. Adam's triumph on the hit show still remains the most watched non-sporting event in Australian television history.**

Adam was born in Malaysia before moving to Australia at a young age. He has lived and worked around the world including China, Australia, Malaysia, New Zealand, India and most recently a seven-year stint in Tokyo, Japan.

His eclectic upbringing and life experiences have given Adam a passion for authentic Asian cuisine. Adam is the author of two cookbooks, *Asian After Work* and *Two Asian Kitchens*, a host of the SBS series *Destination Flavour* and is currently UNICEF Australia's National Ambassador for Nutrition.

# ANALIESE GREGORY



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## CHEF

*Based in Hobart, Australia*

**Analiese Gregory is one of the most exciting young talents on the Australian culinary scene right now.**

Born in New Zealand, Analiese is the daughter of renowned Kiwi chef, Mark Gregory. With cooking in her blood, Analiese went on to train in some of New Zealand's best restaurants, before travelling abroad to gain experience in prestigious restaurants such as The Ledbury, Le Meurice and Mugaritz.

Settling in Sydney, she joined the team at Quay, and worked as a sous chef to Peter Gilmore for five years. After a brief stint working in

the deserts of Morocco, Analiese returned to Sydney, working alongside the stellar team at ACME. Analiese opened Bar Brosé in 2016 with a strong focus on natural wine and a menu reflective of her love of French cuisine and her Chinese heritage. In 2017, she closed Bar Brosé to take over the kitchen of David Moyle's acclaimed restaurant Franklin in Hobart. She is a passionate gardener and an avid forager, working with small producers and farmers from all over Australia to find unique ingredients.

# BEN SHEWRY



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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in Melbourne, Australia*

**Ben Shewry grew up in rural New Zealand, training as a chef with notable mentors in the late 1990s, before making the move to Australia. Ben's restaurant Attica in Ripponlea, Melbourne has garnered the attention of top food critics from Australia and beyond, and is the only Australian restaurant included in the World's 50 Best Restaurants list, ranking 32nd in 2017 and the Best Restaurant in Australasia.**

Known for his ethical and sustainable approach to cooking, Ben has been recognised for his "uniquely imaginative and outstandingly good" dishes. He is also widely known for foraging raw materials for his dishes from his own garden and his home environment in the Great Ocean Road region of Victoria.



# BILL GRANGER



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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in the United Kingdom*

**Bill Granger is one of Australia's most successful chefs, restaurateurs and food writers. He has opened multiple restaurants around the world including Bondi Beach and Surry Hills in Sydney, as well as Tokyo and the United Kingdom.**

Bill's five TV series are viewed in 30 countries; he has published 11 best selling cookbooks, which have been translated into many languages and sold over 1 million copies worldwide; and he writes for newspapers and magazines in both the UK and Australia.

# CHEF WAN



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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in Malaysia*

**A Malaysian accountant turned multi-talented celebrity chef, Chef Wan has become one of Asia's biggest household names. Chef Wan has over 20 years experience hosting cooking shows all over the world and has published several cookbooks, and he is also known for being an actor, talk-show host, rock star, comedian, lecturer and food ambassador for Malaysian cuisine.**

Chef Wan has developed a very high profile in Malaysia and received several international awards, including the Lifetime Jury Award at the Le Mazille Prix 2007 Gourmand. He has cooked for many famous personalities, including the Sultan of Brunei and the former President of the United States of America, Bill Clinton.

He currently hosts his own TV show, Expedisi, a cooking and travel program on the Asian Good Food Channel watched by over one million people per episode.

# CURTIS STONE



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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in Los Angeles, United States of America*

**Curtis Stone is a celebrity chef and presenter that has had great success overseas. He was trained in London by legendary chef Marco Pierre White and now has two restaurants in the US; Maude in Beverly Hills and Gwen on Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles.**

He was the presenter of the first season of globally successful cooking and lifestyle program, *Surfing the Menu* and has one of America's most popular reality/cooking shows titled *Take Home Chef*. Curtis has been involved in many other popular TV shows such as the *Celebrity Apprentice*, *Around the World in 80 Plates* and *MasterChef*.

# DAN CHURCHILL



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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in New York City, United States of America*

**Dan Churchill is an Australian cook, author, youtuber, blogger and television star. With his first self-published book *Dedefood* and *The Healthy Cook* he achieved recognition for his “super simple, wickedly tasty and colourful home cooked meals”.**

Dan has appeared on *Good Morning America* and has been signed as a regular correspondent for *The Chew*, the Emmy Award winning series on Disney/ABC Television America.

Dan is one of the stars of *Surfing The Menu*, *Next Generation* that premiered in 2016 for ABC Australia and the Discovery Networks.

# DAN HUNTER



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## CHEF AND RESTAURATEUR

*Based in Australia*

**Dan Hunter's journey with cooking has taken him around the globe and into the kitchens of acclaimed restaurants, including head chef at Mugaritz in Spain.**

Dan spent six years leading the kitchen of Dunkel's Royal Mail Hotel. This is where he developed his first intensive organic kitchen garden program and took the establishment to its three hat status.

His restaurant Brae is set on a hillside amongst 30 acres of vegetable gardens and orchards in the Otway hinterland of Victoria, using produce from the surrounding land and local farmers to offer a unique, contemporary cuisine built around an immense respect for nature and seasonality.

# DAVID MOYLE




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## CHEF

*Based in Melbourne, Australia*

**Born in the coastal town of Port Fairy, Victoria, David Moyle trained with some of Melbourne's top chefs including Bill Marchetti at The Latin, Maurice Esposito at Stokehouse and Andrew McConnell at Circa. He set up Pacific Dining Room at the Beach Hotel in Byron Bay before moving to Tasmania to be head chef at The Stackings at Peppermint Bay.**

David is now head chef at Franklin in Hobart, Tasmania which opened in 2014 and focuses on local Tasmanian produce including an array of seafood. In late 2016, he opened a Thai inspired bar, Longsong, above Melbourne's established restaurant Longrain.

 FRIENDS OF AUSTRALIA

# DONNA HAY



TOURISM AUSTRALIA 

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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Donna Hay is Australia's leading food editor and bestselling cookbook author. Her food, recipes and styling focus on basic ingredients, simple preparation and beautiful photographs.**

She is the editor of *Donna Hay Magazine* which has subscribers in 82 countries.

Donna is the author of 22 award-winning cookbooks that have been translated into multiple languages and also has her own television series *Fast, Fresh, Simple* on The LifeStyle Channel.

# GARY MEHIGAN



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## CHEF AND TV PERSONALITY

*Based in Melbourne, Australia*

**Gary Mehigan is instantly recognisable as a chef and TV personality, most loved for his role as one of the trio of *MasterChef Australia* judges. With over 30 years' experience in the restaurant industry, Gary trained in some of London's best kitchens and has been running his own highly successful restaurants and catering events company in Melbourne for more than 15 years.**

He is the ultimate foodie, passionate, informative, a natural teacher. He is an advocate for local, seasonal and most of all home cooked food. He has authored four books, written for food magazines and food columns and starred in numerous television series.



# GUY GROSSI



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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in Melbourne, Australia*

**Guy Grossi is a leading Australian chef, presenter and food and media personality. He is the owner and head chef of Grossi Restaurants in Melbourne, including the iconic Grossi Florentino, Merchant Osteria Veneta and Ombra Salumi Bar.**

Guy's dedication to 'la cucina Italiana' has awarded Guy many accolades, including an award from the Prime Minister of Italy. Guy is frequently sought out to present his love and expertise in Italian culture and hospitality both in corporate settings and across many media platforms including international and national television and radio. Guy has also injected his unique vibrancy and insight into food and culture into many projects, authoring two esteemed cookbooks, *Guy Grossi: My Italian Heart* and *Grossi Florentino: Secrets and Recipes* which won the Australian Food Media Book of The Year Award in 2004.

# GUY TURLAND & MARK ALSTON



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## RESTAURATEURS AND BLOGGERS, BONDI HARVEST

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**After working as a chef in some of Australia's finest restaurants, Guy Turland and business partner Mark Alston started their YouTube cooking show in 2012, with only a surfboard, a camera and a camp oven, cooking food al fresco in some of Bondi's most iconic beauty spots. With a style that sits somewhere between a young Jamie Oliver and a Corona ad, Guy Turland (chef, surfer, free-diver and YouTube cooking sensation) captures the easy, laidback, sundrenched essence of Bondi Beach.**

His recipes are chock-a-block with sunny, seasonal, vibrant, and zingily fresh flavours, designed to be eaten and enjoyed by friends and family. Bondi Harvest features the very best of sundrenched, simple, delicious and healthy Australian food and flavours from the most beautiful beach in the world. Now a hit weekly YouTube cooking show, Guy's recipes are featured on The Guardian's website and the pair have also opened a Bondi Harvest restaurant in Sydney and in Los Angeles in addition to the Depot Cafe in Bondi.

# HAYDEN QUINN



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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Hayden grew up on the beautiful Northern Beaches of Sydney, surrounded by the ocean, great food and a serious sense of adventure.**

Hayden has been featured on Australian and international TV screens exploring all things food, environment, people and good times. He starred in *Surfing The Menu*, *Next Generation* for ABC Television and Discovery Network. Hayden has also penned a book *Dish It Up* that shares the recipes that are dear to him.

Food is the vehicle for Hayden's other passions. He is the part owner of The Cube Gym in Sydney, and has a partnership in the philanthropic Aussie wine label Kooks Wines.

# JAMES HALLIDAY

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## WINE WRITER AND CRITIC

*Based in Australia*



**James Halliday is a respected Australian wine writer and critic with a career spanning over 40 years. He is one of the founders of Brokenwood wines in New South Wales and Coldstream Hills in the Yarra Valley, Victoria.**

Due to his expertise in wine, he is in constant demand as a wine judge around the world. Since 1979, he has contributed to over 56 wine guides that are distributed worldwide and available in multiple languages.

# JAMES VILES



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## CHEF & RESTAURATEUR

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Chef and owner of two hatted Biota Dining & Rooms in NSW Bowral, James Viles has become one of Australia's most respected young chefs and restaurateurs for his commitment to sustainability and his imaginative modern food.**

When James isn't in the kitchen, you'll find him in the forest, on the river or on a farm in the Southern Highlands, hunting, gathering and seeking inspiration for his much lauded restaurant.

# JOCK ZONFRILLO



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## CHEF

*Based in Adelaide, Australia*

**Born in Scotland to an Italian and Scottish family, Jock Zonfrillo is an Adelaide based chef famed for working with native Australian and Indigenous ingredients. As chef and owner of Orana Restaurant, Jock has a genuine passion for the Australian landscape and a curiosity for Australian ingredients.**

Jock previously worked with internationally renowned chefs including Marco Pierre White and David Cavalier before moving to Sydney as Head Chef at Restaurant Forty One in 2000. He then moved to Adelaide as Executive Chef at Magill Estate Restaurant and has stayed in South Australia to focus on his first solo venture, Orana.

In 2016, Jock launched Blackwood, a new bistro underneath his existing restaurant Orana which focuses on similar ingredients and techniques in a casual dining setting.

# JOHN FINK



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## RESTAURATEUR

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**John Fink is a restaurateur and runs the family restaurant business, Fink Group.**

The group owns and operates some of Sydney's most prestigious restaurants, including Quay, Otto Ristorante and Bennelong at Sydney Opera House. It is also a joint partner in the two-hatted The Bridge Room, Byron Bay Beach Café, and Sydney's wood-fired restaurant Firedoor. In 2016, Fink Group made their first interstate venture, opening Otto in Brisbane.

# JULIEN ROYER

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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in Singapore*

**Chef de Cuisine Julien Royer is the latest culinary rising star to grace the kitchen of the iconic Singapore restaurant JAAN. He has received numerous awards including the coveted World Gourmet Series Rising Chef of the Year 2012.**

Since Chef Julien joined the kitchen, JAAN has received numerous accolades, including the Best Dinner Experience (Western) Award of Excellence at the 2012 G Restaurant Awards and Certificate of Excellence for the Year of 2012 by TripAdvisor, which honours businesses that consistently earn top ratings from TripAdvisor travelers. In 2013, Julien was awarded 'One to Watch' at the San Pellegrino Asia's 50 Best Restaurants.





# KYLIE KWONG



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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Kylie Kwong is one of Australia's best-known chefs and restaurateurs. She is also a regular TV presenter and has written five cook books and since 2000, Kwong has run the one-hatted Billy Kwong in the inner Sydney suburb of Potts Point, a Chinese-Australian restaurant.**

Kwong has won plaudits for her focus on sustainable, local cuisine combining Asian flavours with Australian produce. The restaurant focuses on native, bush foods such as wallaby, saltbush and edible insects.

# LUKE HAYES- ALEXANDER

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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in Canada*



**Luke Hayes-Alexander is a 25 year old chef who founded Luke's Gastronomy in Kingston, Ontario, Canada. After an intense four-year training period, Luke became chef at the age of 15. Word quickly spread of this prodigy and his cooking, and the press soon followed. Luke has been featured in Centurion Magazine, Australian Gourmet Pages, Food and Wine, The Financial Times, Toronto Life, and The Ottawa Citizen.**

People are coming from all over the world because of Luke's story, the word of mouth and the press he has received. They love the playful juxtaposition of old world techniques with avant-garde presentations and ideas.

# LUKE MANGAN

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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in Sydney, Australia*



**Luke Mangan is one of Australia's leading chefs. He currently owns and operates a number of award-winning restaurants in Australia and overseas including Glass Brasserie at the Hilton Sydney, Lukes Kitchen on Dank Street, Salt Grill onboard P&O's Pacific Jewel & Dawn, Salt and the adjoining World Wine Bar in Tokyo, with another set in Singapore.**

Luke is also the Virgin Australia Chef, with Sir Richard Branson a frequent client for his private events. He has written four bestselling cookbooks and created his own range of Australian condiments, wines, tea coffee and desserts. In 2008 Luke hosted his own TV show Appetizing Adventures with Luke Mangan that screened in the United States and Asia.

# MAGGIE BEER



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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in Barossa Valley, Australia*

**Maggie Beer is one of Australia's best loved food personalities, chefs and food producers; a household name in part thanks to her extensive history of television appearances and food writing. No Australian home chef's kitchen is complete without an item from Maggie's extensive range of products, arguably the most highly esteemed by Australian gourmets.**

Maggie set up home in the Barossa Valley in 1973 with a humble dream of breeding game birds and growing grapes. Since then, she has established the legendary Pheasant Farm restaurant and produce shop as well as on-farm accommodation Orchard House. Highlights of Maggie's career have been being awarded Senior Australian of The Year in 2010, and South Australian of The Year in 2011, as well as her appointment as a Member of The Order of Australia for her service to tourism and hospitality.

# MARK BEST

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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Mark Best is the owner and chef of Pei Modern in Melbourne and Sydney. He started by discovering the stoves accidentally and ended up becoming an unquestionable symbol of the new Australian cuisine, with his previous restaurant Marque one of Sydney's most awarded restaurants.**

Mark began his working life as an electrician in the gold mines of Western Australia before starting his culinary career at the age of 25. He commenced an apprenticeship at the Macleay Street Bistro in Potts Point in 1990 which was the beginning of his passion for French food. In the fourth year of his apprenticeship he was awarded the Josephine Pignolet Award for Best Up and Coming Chef in NSW. Mark has worked in various restaurants around the world including Alain Passard's three Michelin Star Gastro Temple restaurant L'Arpège in Paris and Raymond Blanc's Le Manoir Aux Quatre Saisons in Great Milton, the United Kingdom.



# MARK OLIVE

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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in Melbourne, Australia*

**Mark Olive, also known as The Black Olive, is a celebrity chef who has been in the kitchen for more than 20 years. Born in Wollongong, Mark's people are the Bundjalung nation from New South Wales' northern rivers region.**

Today, Mark is a regular chef on public and corporate events, has a Bachelor of Arts in Film and Television and has a passion for cooking and filmmaking.



# MARTIN BENN & VICKI WILD

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## CHEF AND RESTAURANT OWNER

*Based in Sydney, Australia*



**Martin and Vicki are the owners of Sepia restaurant in Sydney, one of Australia's most awarded restaurants. After working for many years together at Tetsuya's, the couple opened up Sepia in 2009 collaborating with renowned seafood supplier George Costi of De Costi Seafoods to supply the restaurant with the best quality seafood available.**

Starting his career in London learning French gastronomy, Martin learned from the world's best, including Michel Lorrain, Marco Pierre White before tackling the fundamentals of Japanese cuisine with Tetsuya Wakuda where he became Head Chef at the age of 25. In 2015, Sepia was named "One to Watch" at the World's 50 Best Restaurant Awards. Sepia has also been named Australian Restaurant of The Year in 2015 at the Australian Financial Review Top Restaurant Awards, and Restaurant of The Year 2015 in the Sydney Morning Herald Good Food Guide.

# MATT MORAN



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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Growing up on a farm, Matt has always had a strong love of food and local produce. He believes that seasonality is an important basis for menu production and one of the most significant ingredients in achieving a flavoursome, balanced and premium quality menu. At the age of 15, Matt started his chef's apprenticeship at La Belle Helene in Sydney where he learnt and finessed the skill in classical French cooking.**

He launched his first restaurant The Paddington Inn Bistro with Peter Sullivan in 1991 which led to a second Moran's Restaurant and Café opening in 1995. Matt now has multiple successful restaurants in Sydney and Brisbane including ARIA on Sydney Harbour and in Brisbane; Opera Bar, and North Bondi Fish in Sydney, Riverbar & Kitchen in Brisbane and Chiswick in both Sydney's Woollahra and at the Art Gallery of New South Wales. Matt also hosts a popular show called *Paddock to Plate* and the *Great Australian Bake Off* with fellow Friend of Australia Maggie Beer.



# MATT PRESTON

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## FOOD JOURNALIST AND MEDIA PERSONALITY

*Based in Melbourne, Australia*

**Matt Preston is an award-winning food journalist, restaurant critic, recipe writer, and television personality.**

Best known as a judge and co-host on *MasterChef Australia* and *MasterChef The Professionals*, Matt currently writes a national column for the *Taste* section for News Ltd's metro newspapers and is also a senior editor for *Delicious Magazine*.



# MATT STONE



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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in Yarra Valley, Australia*

**Matt Stone is one of Australia's youngest celebrity chefs, internationally renowned for his views on sustainability and innovative cooking techniques. In 2004 after having worked as an apprentice chef at Leeuwin Estate Winery, Matt started at Star Anise one of Perth's most highly regarded restaurants. There at the age of 20 and without formal qualification he was appointed Sous Chef and worked with David Coomer to keep the restaurant at the top of Perth's dining scene with their Asian inspired modern Australian cuisine.**

In late 2009, Matt stepped out on his own to become the Head Chef at Greenhouse Perth, and then took on the role of Executive Chef at Greenhouse by Joost in Sydney and Silo by Joost in Melbourne. Matt has won multiple awards including Gourmet Traveller's prestigious Best New Talent 2011, West Australia's Good Food Guide's Best Young Chef 2011 and Greenhouse won the Good Food Guide's Best New Restaurant for 2011.

In 2015 Matt was announced as the Executive Chef at Oakridge Winery in the Yarra Valley, where he plans to create a menu using produce only from this region.

# MATTHEW JUKES



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## WINE WRITER AND MEDIA PERSONALITY

*Based in the United Kingdom*

**Matthew Jukes was voted the most influential wine writer in the United Kingdom and he is a past winner of the International Wine Communicator of the Year Trophy.**

Matthew is the author of thirteen best-selling wine books and also the weekly wine writer for the United Kingdom's *Daily Mail Weekend Magazine* and *MoneyWeek*. He curates the annual 100 Best Australian Wines List and is the creator of The Great Australian Red – the annual quest to find the best Cabernet/Shiraz, “the blend that defines Australia”.

He is the founder and patron of Touch Wine in Adelaide and Wine Rules in Melbourne (raising money for homelessness in Australia). Matthew was awarded Honorary Australian of The Year 2012 at the Australia Day Foundation United Kingdom Awards.

# MICHAEL HILL SMITH



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## WINEMAKER

*Based in Adelaide, Australia*

**Michael Hill Smith was the first Australian to pass the rigorous Master of Wine examination. In 2008 he was awarded an Order of Australia for his contribution to the Australian Wine Industry and featured on *Decanter Magazine's* power list 2009, 2011 and 2013.**

Michael is an international wine judge, wine consultant and strong advocate for Australian fine wine both within Australia and internationally.

# MICHAEL MOORE



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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**With a career in food spanning almost three decades, Michael Moore is no ordinary chef, better described as a global entrepreneur. With a passion for nutrition and a fervent interest in the science behind food, the popular television chef, food consultant and author is able to make high-end food preparation both accessible to the cook at home and desired by the discerning restaurant patron.**

As the owner of Sydney's O Bar and Dining as well as the popular Reuben & Moore, Michael is carving a global career for himself, one that shows no signs of slowing to a simmer any time soon.

Four years ago personal circumstances changed the trajectory of his career. While out to lunch with family one day in late 2009, Michael, diagnosed as a diabetic ten years prior, suffered a major stroke that nearly claimed his life. Permanently changing his outlook on healthy eating, this episode sharpened his determination to educate others on the importance of correct nutrition, particularly for fellow diabetics.

# MORGAN MCGLONE



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## CHEF

*Based in Melbourne, Australia*

**Morgan McGlone is the chef and creator of much loved fried chicken joint Belles Hot Chicken.**

Morgan McGlone is a third generation chef who started out at culinary institutions in Sydney including Summit and Luke Mangan's CBD Salt Restaurants. Morgan then moved to the United States where he started his own catering and chef agency in Los Angeles and New York. Morgan spent several years working for Sean Brock at Husk in South Carolina, and then as Chef de Cuisine at Husk, Nashville.

Inspired by his time in Nashville where hot chicken is celebrated,

Morgan returned to Australia in 2014 and teamed up with business partners, Reno Pontonio and Miranda Campbell to open Belles Hot Chicken in Melbourne's Fitzroy which celebrates crunchy, juicy chicken, seasoned with any of five different spice levels.

In 2015, the trio opened an adjoining sophisticated wine bar, Bar Clarine. Later that year, Belles Hot Chicken opened in new lifestyle precinct, Barangaroo. In 2016, they opened three more Belles eateries in Melbourne's Richmond and Windsor and one in Sydney's Tramshed's precinct in Harold Park.

# NEIL PERRY



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## CELEBRITY CHEF, AUTHOR & MEDIA PERSONALITY

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Director of The Rockpool Group, Neil Perry is one of Australia's most influential and respected chefs. He has managed top Australian restaurants throughout his stellar career, and continues to concentrate on the Rockpool Group which includes: Rockpool Bar & Grill in Sydney, Melbourne and Perth; Spice Temple in Sydney and Melbourne; Eleven Bridge and Burger Project in Sydney; and Rosetta in Melbourne.**

Neil's passion and the importance he places on quality produce are evident in all his dishes and the business projects he undertakes. The numerous awards and accolades won by his restaurants are a testament to this. Neil's determined passion for Australia, food and wine, quality, travel and recipe books have driven him to where he is today. In addition to running multi-award winning restaurants, Neil has written eight cookbooks and heads a team of consultants to Qantas, developing quarterly menus for the Australian airline's first and business class travellers.

 FRIENDS OF AUSTRALIA

# OLLY SMITH



TOURISM AUSTRALIA 

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## TV PRESENTER, WINE EXPERT AND AUTHOR

*Based in the United Kingdom*

**Olly Smith is a respected British wine expert, TV presenter and author.**

He is the wine editor of *The Mail* and has written three books. In 2015, Olly was listed in Debrett's 500 which recognises people of influence in British society.



# PAT NOURSE



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## FOOD WRITER

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Pat Nourse is one of Australia's leading food critics, and is the managing editor and chief restaurant critic of *Australian Gourmet Traveller*. He is also the Australian correspondent for American magazine *Gourmet*, and contributes to *The Age* and *Sydney Morning Herald Good Food Guides*.**

Pat is the Academy Chair for Australia for The World's 50 Best Restaurants and serves on Tourism Australia's Food and Wine Advisory Panel.

# PETER GAGO

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## CHIEF WINEMAKER

*Based in Adelaide, Australia*

**Peter Gago is a British-Australian winemaker and author, and the current custodian and Chief Winemaker of Penfolds Grange, possibly the best known Australian wine, based in the Barossa Valley.**

Working with Penfolds Wines since 1989, Peter initially started producing sparkling wine before moving onto reds and in July 2002, at age forty-five, Gago succeeded John Duval as Penfolds Chief Winemaker.

In 2012 Peter was named Winemaker of The Year by a panel of international winemakers, the Institute of Masters of Wine and United Kingdom magazine *The Drinks Business*.



# PETER GILMORE

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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in Sydney, Australia*



**Peter Gilmore is internationally acclaimed as one of Australia's top chefs. Peter is the Executive Chef at Bennelong restaurant at the Sydney Opera House and he has been the Executive Chef at the three-hatted Quay restaurant since 2001, regularly awarded prizes as one of the best restaurants in Australia. Peter describes his cuisine as "food inspired by nature" with an emphasis on texture, and he sources rare plants and heirloom varieties from local producers.**

A passionate gardener, Peter was one of the first chefs in Australia to truly embrace the vegetable garden and its diversity. Sourcing rare plants and heirloom vegetable seeds, he forges unique relationships with small farmers to grow bespoke produce exclusively for Quay. He collaborates with fisherman who hand dive and line catch seafood in pristine Australian waters, and farmers who rear rare breed animals with superior flavour and texture for the table. Peter plans his menus from the ground up a season ahead; a way of working which has strengthened his appreciation of the seasons and the natural world, and is directly reflected in his cuisine.

# PORNSAK PRAJAKWIT



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## MEDIA PRESENTER AND RESTAURATEUR

*Based in Singapore*

**Pornsak Prajakwit is a Thai-Chinese celebrity, media presenter and restaurateur who moved to Singapore at an early age. His hit-show *Food Source* is currently showing in Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Hong Kong, Korea and parts of Europe.**

Having travelled around the world in search of the freshest ingredients and the most delicious recipes, it is no surprise that this young entrepreneur has decided to open a Thai restaurant chain called, *Porn's Sexy.Thai.Food*. He also studied a Master of Education with specialisation in Early Childhood at Monash University and founded an Early Childhood Enrichment Centre in Singapore.

# RENÉ REDZEPI



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## CELEBRITY CHEF AND RESTAURATEUR

*Based in Denmark*

**René Redzepi is the chef and co-owner of Noma in Copenhagen, Denmark, which in 2016 was ranked number 5 on the World's 50 Best Restaurants list. Since the establishment of the restaurant in 2003, René has developed a cuisine that draws from the area's landscape and culture. Using a wide yet intimate network of farmers, foragers, and other purveyors, Noma celebrates the region's ingredients and aims to present a kind of cooking that expresses its location and the seasons.**

In 2016 René opened Noma Australia, a 10-week residency at Barangaroo Sydney featuring the best of Australian produce to design an original menu and focusing on producers who have a respectful and passionate engagement with the sea and the land.

René is also the author of *Noma: Time and Place in Nordic Cuisine* (Phaidon, 2010) and *A Work in Progress* (Phaidon, 2013). In 2011, he founded the MAD Symposium, a platform for chefs to share knowledge, concerns and inspiration in our changing trade.

# RICK STEIN



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## CELEBRITY CHEF AND HOTELIER

*Based in Australia and the United Kingdom*

**A British citizen, Rick Stein is a renowned chef, owns several restaurants, a delicatessen, patisserie, seafood cookery school and forty hotel bedrooms in the United Kingdom. He is also the head chef of Rick Stein at Bannisters at Mollymook's Bannister's resort in Mollymook on New South Wales' beautiful South Coast.**

Rick regards Australia as his second home and has a house in Sydney and a holiday retreat in Mollymook.

# SANJEEV KAPOOR



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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in India*

**Sanjeev Kapoor is the most influential man in food across India and most of South East Asia.**

He has been presented with the Best Chef of India award by the Government of India, and is the most famous face on Indian TV through his cookery show *Khana Khazana*, popular for over two decades. On International TV he has prominently featured with Rachel Ray, Richard Quest and Rene Redzepi. Sanjeev is the first chef in the world to launch his own 24x7 Food TV Channel called *Food Food*, and also sits on the board of the Singapore Airlines International Culinary Panel.

# SASA SESTIC

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## WORLD BARISTA CHAMPION

*Based in Canberra, Australia*

**Sasa Sestic was born in Serbia and moved to Canberra where he is the Director and the dedicated Bean Hunter for the award winning café, Ona.**

He is a passionate advocate for Australian coffee and in 2015, Sasa won the World Barista Championships, making him the world's best barista.





# SEAN CONNOLLY

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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in Sydney, Australia*



**Sean Connolly is one of Australia's and New Zealand's most well respected and recognised chefs. Currently Sean is the Executive Chef of The Morrison Bar & Grill in Sydney, The Grill By Sean Connolly in Auckland and Sean's Kitchen in Adelaide. After moving from his native Yorkshire, Sean travelled the world cooking on the QE2 and then became Executive Chef of Astral restaurant at Star City Casino in 1988.**

The restaurant and his team have earned consecutive chefs hats from 2007 to 2011, also winning accolades such as *SMH Good Food Guide Chef of The Year* in 2008. Sean left Star City Casino in 2010 to pursue international opportunities and his growing TV career. This led him to New Zealand where in 2011 he, together with Skycity Auckland opened the multi-million dollar restaurant called The Grill by Sean Connolly. This was made into a 6-part documentary called *Under The Grill* which documented Sean's journey, armed with a 4 million dollar budget and a hundred day deadline to create a world class restaurant from scratch.

# SHANNON BENNETT



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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in Melbourne, Australia*

**Shannon Bennett is a Melbourne based celebrity chef and founder of the renowned fine dining restaurant Vue de Monde. During his career, Shannon has worked in Europe in the kitchens of such greats as Albert Roux, John Burton-Race, Marco Pierre White and Alain Ducasse.**

Returning to Melbourne in 2000 at the age of 24, he opened 'Vue de Monde' in a humble terrace building in Carlton. A cult following was quickly established and in recognition for his obsession for classical cuisine combined with his edgy approach he was named *Australian Gourmet Traveller's Best New Talent* for 2003. After six highly successful years, during which time 'Vue de Monde' scored an unprecedented 19/20 from *The Age Good Food Guide* and was repeatedly named *Australian Restaurant of The Year*, Shannon took the restaurant to new heights – relocating to the Rialto building – an expansive space with 365 degree views over Melbourne.

# STEFANO MANFREDI



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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Stefano Manfredi is recognised as one of Australia's leading chefs and internationally as a master of modern Italian cuisine. He has influenced the way we eat since first opening Restaurant Manfredi in 1983, which was awarded a coveted Three Chefs Hats by the *Sydney Morning Herald Good Food Guide* 1995. More than two decades later, Manfredi has owned and operated several restaurants in Sydney, most notably the award winning Restaurant Manfredi (1983-1996) and Bel Mondo (1996-2002).**

In October 2002, Stefano travelled to Italy to be presented with the inaugural trophy from the Italian International Culinary Institute for Foreigners by the Italian Prime Minister and his inclusion as one of Italy's internationally recognised chefs in the first English translation of *The Silver Spoon 2005* firmly cemented his reputation as "The Godfather" of Italo-Australian cooking. Currently, Stefano has four restaurants in Sydney Balla, Pizzaperta and Pretty Beach House.

# TOM COLICCHIO

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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in the United States of America*

**Born in New Jersey, United States of America, Tom Colicchio is a coveted New York City based chef who gained recognition for his various television roles, most notably as head judge on the Bravo Network TV series *Top Chef*.**

Tom co-founded the award-winning restaurant, *Gramercy Tavern* in New York City. He later sold the restaurant and founded his current restaurant *Craft* which is now one of seven branded restaurants of his across America. Tom has also won five James Beard Foundation Medals for his accomplishments and written three books.



# TONY HOWELL



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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in Margaret River, Australia*

**Tony Howell is the Executive Chef of the Margaret River Hospitality Group, which owns and operates five restaurants and cafes. He is an acclaimed and award-winning chef and has forged a loyal following with his strong food philosophy that is centred on seasonal, local and sustainable produce. Tony has worked in the finest restaurants in Western Australia, helping them win a multitude of awards with his culinary creations.**

As a Margaret River Gourmet Escape ambassadorial chef, Tony has cooked for and alongside Heston Blumenthal, Alex Atala, Rene Redzepi and Sat Bains and he has appeared on numerous television cooking shows including *MasterChef Australia* (2011).

During his 15-year tenure at five-star boutique hotel Cape Lodge in Yallingup, the restaurant was awarded *Conde Nast Travellers* Gold List Best Food Category in 2005, 2008, 2011 and 2012.

# WONG WING CHEE



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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in Hong Kong*

**Wong Wing Chee is one of Hong Kong's most renowned chefs and has also hosted a number of TV programs focusing on food and drink, as well as his role as honorary Chief Executive Office (CEO) of Dragon King Group Holdings Limited. In a city that loves to eat out, his high media profile has led him to become an iconic and influential gourmet and food critic.**

As a chef, Wong has won a number of significant awards, including the Top 10 Chefs Award in both the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau region and the China region (in 2006).

 FRIENDS OF AUSTRALIA

# YIFAN LIU



TOURISM AUSTRALIA 

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## CELEBRITY CHEF

*Based in China*

**Yifan Liu is the Executive Chef of the Fairmont Peace Hotel and was one of the three judges for *MasterChef China*.**

He now works for the Travel Channel as the host for the program *Master Coming*, based on food trails for travellers, which is broadcast through Travel Channel Satellite TV nationally and also online.

# YINGJI OUYANG (CRAIG AU YEUNG)

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## MEDIA PERSONALITY

*Based in China*

**Ying Chai (Craig) Au Yeung is a top food influencer in Greater China.**

He joined Hong Kong Commercial Broadcasting Company in 1988 as producer and creative director. Craig hosted a TV food program in 2005 and has published many food and travel books in recent years and now works as a food columnist and food event curator.







 FRIENDS OF AUSTRALIA

# NATURE & WILDLIFE

- BINDI IRWIN
- DAVID WHITEHILL
- JASON EDWARDS
- MATT WRIGHT
- ROBERT IRWIN
- ROBERT PENNICOTT
- TERRI IRWIN
- TIM FAULKNER

# BINDI IRWIN



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## TELEVISION PERSONALITY AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATIONIST

*Based in Sunshine Coast, Queensland*

**Bindi Irwin is a wildlife conservationist and television personality.**

Born to Wildlife Warriors Steve and Terri Irwin, she has inherited their passion for wildlife and continues to carry on in their footsteps through work at Australia Zoo and around the world.

Bindi has dedicated her life to wildlife conservation and inspiring the next generation to make a difference in the world.

# DAVID WHITEHILL



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## AUSTRALIAN WILDLIFE EXPERT AND MEDIA PERSONALITY

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**From training dolphins at Sea World's Dolphin Pools to hosting an International Travel Show, David Whitehill seems to have done it all. After being crowned *Cleo Magazine's* Bachelor of The Year in 2002, David has pursued a successful career in TV hosting shows such as *Hot Source*, *Queensland Escapes*, *Mornings with Kerri-Anne* and *So Fresh*.**

David has also been engaged as the 'Face of Sea World Australia', and the co-host of Qantas' Welcome Aboard Program. David is currently in production of a brand new television program that combines his love for marine wildlife and Australian travel.

# JASON EDWARDS



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## NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC PHOTOGRAPHER

*Based in Melbourne, Australia*

**National Geographic's Jason Edwards has been at the forefront of natural history photography for nearly two decades. His image portfolio ranks among the largest of any photographer in the Society's long history. Based in Melbourne Australia, a passion for animals and the environment has been with him over his extensive career.**

Beginning his career at the Royal Melbourne Zoo, Jason has since been recognised globally for his contributions to science, the environment and the arts. Jason's accolades within the photographic industry stretch over 20 years. He has been a two time winner of the Eureka Prize for Science Photography, three time winner of Communications Art Photography Annual, two time winner of the ProMax Golden Muse, and winner of the Australian Geographic Society Pursuit of Excellence Award among others.

# MATT WRIGHT



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## TELEVISION PERSONALITY AND TOUR OPERATOR

*Based in Darwin, Australia*

**Matt Wright, is a helicopter pilot turned animal wrangler and host of National Geographic TV show *Outback Wrangler*.**

Matt also owns and operates Outback Floatplane Adventures, a tour company specialising in airboats, choppers, floatplanes tours along Sweets Lagoon.

Matt was raised in tropical far-north Queensland and has spent time in Papua New Guinea. Matt's passions and unique skills have fostered a career as a wildlife re-locator – tracking down, capturing and transporting a diverse range of dangerous animals including crocodiles, wild buffalo and even polar bears.

# ROBERT IRWIN



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## TELEVISION PERSONALITY AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATIONIST

*Based in Sunshine Coast, Queensland*

**Robert Irwin is an Australian television personality and conservationist.**

Born to Wildlife Warriors Steve and Terri Irwin, Robert has a natural curiosity in wildlife and the Australian bush. His hobbies include mountain biking, paleontology and photography.

Robert has a rising media presence in promoting Australian wildlife, most notably through his recent appearances on *The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon*.

# ROBERT PENNICOTT



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## FOUNDER OF PENNICOTT WILDERNESS JOURNEYS

*Based in Hobart, Australia*

**Robert is the founder and Managing Director of Pennicott Wilderness Journeys, one of Australia's leading ecotourism cruise businesses operating along the coastline of southern Tasmania from Bruny Island and Port Arthur. Robert is highly committed to sustainable tourism and philanthropy, donating approximately 25 per cent of net profits towards charity and conservation. He was awarded Australia's Best Ecotourism Business in 2009.**

In May 2011 Robert embarked on a journey of considerable proportions, circumnavigating Australia in a 5.4m inflatable yellow dinghy over three months to raise funds for Polio eradication. Using a website to collect donations and regularly posting a blog and video footage, the project titled 'Follow The Yellow Boat Road' raised \$300,000 to help achieve a Polio free world.



# TERRI IRWIN



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## WILDLIFE EXPERT

*Based in Sunshine Coast, Australia*

**American-born Terri Irwin is a wildlife expert, naturalist and author, and the widow of the iconic Australian adventurer Steve Irwin.**

Mother of Bindi and Robert Irwin, she is the owner of Australia Zoo in Queensland, and works with her two children to educate people about wildlife conservation and native Australian animals.

# TIM FAULKNER



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## WILDLIFE CONSERVATIONIST AND TELEVISION PERSONALITY

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Tim Faulkner is the General Manager of the Australian Reptile Park, and stars in *The Wild Life of Tim Faulkner*.**

Tim is a recognised leader in the Australian zoo industry and in conservation organisations. His working life has been dedicated to hands-on wildlife education and conservation.

In 2013 Tim was able to shine the spotlight on his beloved animals and endangered species in his own program, *The Wild Life of Tim Faulkner*. Now in its third series, the television show is a blend of wild life conservation education and entertainment. With Tim's animal expertise and passion for adventure, he brings to life the combination of deadly and dangerous animal encounters as well as rescuing cute and cuddly mammals.

 FRIENDS OF AUSTRALIA

# SPORT



- ADAM GILCHRIST
- ADAM SCOTT
- ANDREW BOGUT
- BRETT LEE
- DANIEL RICCIARDO
- DYLAN ALCOTT
- GLENN MCGRATH

- HARSHA BHOGLE
- KURT FEARNLEY
- LOUSIE SAUVAGE
- MARK WEBBER
- MICHAEL CLARKE
- NICK CUMMINS
- LORD SEBASTIAN COE
- STEVE SMITH

# ADAM GILCHRIST



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## FORMER PROFESSIONAL CRICKETER

*Based in Perth, Australia*

**Adam Gilchrist is a former Australian cricketer who was the vice-captain of the Australian team and is widely regarded as the greatest wicket-keeper-batsman in the history of the game.**

His records include: scoring at least 50 runs in successive World Cup finals (1999, 2003 and 2007), first player to reach 1,000 runs in the Indian Premier League and his striker rate is amongst the highest in the history of both One Day International and Test Cricket.

FRIENDS OF AUSTRALIA

# ADAM SCOTT



TOURISM AUSTRALIA 

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## PROFESSIONAL GOLFER

*Based in Australia and United States of America*

**Adam Scott is an Australian professional golfer. He has won 29 professional tournaments around the world and during May to August 2014, he was ranked as the World Number 1 golfer.**

His biggest achievement to date has been the 2013 Masters Tournament – his first major championship and the first Masters won by an Australian in its 77-year history.

# ANDREW BOGUT



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## PROFESSIONAL NBA BASKETBALL PLAYER

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Andrew Bogut is an Australian professional basketball player for the Sydney Kings. Bogut has previously played NBA basketball in the United States and holds the record for Australia's longest tenured NBA player with 13 seasons under his belt.**

Andrew began his career in basketball in his hometown of Melbourne before moving to the United States to join the college basketball team of University of Utah, where he was an immediate hit. Since then, Andrew has gone on to become one of the Australia's greatest ever basketball talents. His impressive NBA career has seen him drafted for the Milwaukee Bucks, Golden State Warriors, Dallas Mavericks and the LA Lakers. Andrew also plays for the Australian basketball team, The Boomers and has represented Australia in three Olympic Games. In 2018 he returned to Australia to play for Sydney Kings in Australia's National Basketball League.

# BRETT LEE



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## FORMER PROFESSIONAL CRICKETER

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Brett Lee is a world renowned Australian cricketer and one of the most dynamic fast bowlers of recent cricket history. Brett's career highlights include the Bradman Young Cricketer of The Year 2000, Wisden Cricketer of The Year 2006, Australian Test Player of The Year 2008 and the prestigious Allan Border Medal 2008.**

While most people know Brett as a cricketer, Brett has many interests outside of cricket including music and fashion and in particular his love of India. In May 2011 Brett launched the charity Mewsic, opening the first of many planned community music centres ensuring that marginalised children in India have the opportunity to experience the joy and power of music.



# DANIEL RICCIARDO



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## F1 RACECAR DRIVER

*Based in Monaco and Perth, Australia*

**Daniel Ricciardo is an Australian racing driver who is currently competing in Formula One for Red Bull Racing.**

Born in Perth, Ricciardo started karting aged just nine. He learned his trade in the Australian Formula Ford and Asia-Pacific Formula BMW competitions before moving to Europe and working his way up to join the ranks in Red Bull Racing's F1 team, replacing Mark Webber after his retirement.

With over 120 grands prix to his name, Daniel is in the prime of his career with a reputation for hard driving, thrilling overtaking and demon qualifying.

# DYLAN ALCOTT



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## PARALYMPIC GOLD MEDALLIST PROFESSIONAL BASKETBALLER

*Based in Melbourne, Australia*

**Dylan Alcott is an Australian wheelchair basketballer, wheelchair tennis player, motivational speaker and radio presenter.**

Alcott was born and raised in Melbourne. At the age of 17 he became the youngest ever gold medal winner for wheelchair basketball, and was the youngest to compete in the Wheelchair Basketball competition.

He has won multiple Paralympic gold medals throughout his career and was named the 2016 Australian Paralympian of the Year due to his outstanding achievements at the Rio Paralympics.

# GLENN MCGRATH



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## FORMER PROFESSIONAL CRICKETER

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Glenn McGrath is a former Australian cricket player and is considered as one of the greatest bowlers in history. Glenn holds the record for the highest number of Test wickets by a fast bowler and for the most wickets in the Cricket World Cup.**

Since retiring from cricket in 2007, Glenn has become more involved with his charity, the McGrath Foundation, which is a well-known breast cancer support and education charity in Australia.

# HARSHA BHOGLA

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## CRICKET COMMENTATOR AND JOURNALIST

*Based in India*

**Harsha Bhogle is a famous Indian cricket commentator and journalist, also known as the “voice of Indian cricket”.**

Harsha has made his mark on the sport as being one of the most favourite commentators and has commented on over 400 one-day international games and over a hundred test matches.



# KURT FEARNLEY



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## PARALYMPIAN AND PROFESSIONAL WHEELCHAIR ROAD RACER

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Described as the “Marathon Man” of wheelchair sports, Kurt Fearnley is a two-time Paralympic Champion, five-time world champion, and completed the Kokoda Track.**

Raised in a small country town, Kurt was born without the lower portion of his spine but this has never hindered his ambition.

An ambassador for the Day of Difference Foundation and International Day of People with a Disability, Kurt is also a qualified Physical Education teacher and was named the 2009 NSW Young Australian of the Year – he is an incredible example of the Australian spirit.

# LOUISE SAUVAGE



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## PARALYMPIAN AND PROFESSIONAL WHEELCHAIR ROAD RACER

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Born in Perth, Louise Sauvage has won nine gold and four silver medals for Australia in the Paralympics.**

Louise also holds two Olympic gold medals and has won the Boston marathon four times, establishing herself as one of the world's greatest wheelchair athletes in both track and road races.

Louise lives by the motto "You never know what you can achieve until you try", and was named the International Female Wheelchair Athlete of the Year in 2000. Louise is an ideal Friend of Australia with her determination, ambition, commitment and success.

# MARK WEBBER



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## FORMER PROFESSIONAL RACING DRIVER

*Based in Sunshine Coast, Australia*

**Mark Webber is a former professional and world champion racing driver. Throughout his 12 years in F1, Mark notched up 215 races, nine victories – most notably becoming a double winner of both the prestigious Monaco and British Grands Prix – and accumulated an impressive tally of 42 podium finishes, 13 pole positions and 19 fastest laps.**

Since retiring from F1 in 2013 Mark has taken on the legendary “Race Across The Sky” twice. The Leadville Trail 100 MTB – a one hundred mile mountain bike race across the high-altitude, extreme terrain of the Colorado Rockies. In 2017, Mark launched an apparel range Aussie Grit designed for functional road cycling and trail running.

Mark is well known for his high level of physical fitness and as a true lover of the great outdoors environment. When in Australia, Mark enjoys the surf and national parks in Queensland.

# MICHAEL CLARKE



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## FORMER PROFESSIONAL CRICKETER

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Michael Clarke is an international cricketer and former captain of Australia.**

The 43rd test captain of Australia, and widely known as one of the best batsman of all time, Michael has dominated the cricket world since his international debut in 2003. Clarke was anointed the Australian captaincy in 2011 where in less than 18 months under his leadership he took the team from number five in the world, to number one.



# NICK CUMMINS



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## MEDIA PERSONALITY AND RUGBY UNION PLAYER

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Nick Cummins, AKA The Honey Badger, is a well-known Rugby Union footballer, and Australian personality born the north coast of New South Wales and raised in Queensland.**

Cummins drew inspiration from the fierce nature of the honey badger and adopted the animal's ferocity on the rugby field, resulting in his nickname 'The Honey Badger'.

Now taking a break from the game following a celebrated 15 Test match career with the Australian Wallabies, Cummins is a brand ambassador, guest speaker and TV personality known for his flamboyant, never-say-die approach to life. A true outdoorsman, Nick loves heading on adventures 'out bush' and getting amongst the wildlife.

Nick has more recently broadcasted his quest for love as 'The Bachelor' on Ten's hit series.

# LORD SEBASTIAN COE



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## FORMER TRACK AND FIELD ATHLETICS AND OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALLIST

*Based in the United Kingdom*

**Lord Sebastian Coe is President of the International Association of Athletics Federation (IAAF), former Chairman of the British Olympic Association and one of the greatest British athletes in history.**

Lord Coe first made his name as one of the greatest athletes of his generation by winning Olympic gold for the 1500m at the 1980 Moscow Olympics and repeating the feat at 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, becoming the first man in history to do so. During his career, Lord Coe has set 12 world records over four distances,

achieving four golds and three silver medals in the Olympics and European Championships.

Lord Coe is also the former Chairman of the 2012 London Organising Committee for the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Lord Coe retired from competitive athletics in 1990 and became a Member of Parliament and Private Secretary to William Hague. He received a Knighthood in the 2006 New Year's Honours List and received a Companion of Honour in the 2013 New Year's Honours List.

# STEVE SMITH



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## PROFESSIONAL CRICKETER

*Based in Sydney, Australia*

**Steve Smith is an international cricketer and former captain of the Australian National Cricket team.**

Smith is described by many as one of the best batsmen in the world, reaching the second-highest test batting rating of all time. Prior to captioning Australia, Smith played for New South Wales and Sydney Sixers in domestic Cricket. Smith's outstanding talent on the field has earned him world-wide recognition and an impressive portfolio of awards including International Cricketer of the Year (2015), International Test Player of the Year (2015, 2017) and the Best Player in Australian Cricket (2015, 2018).