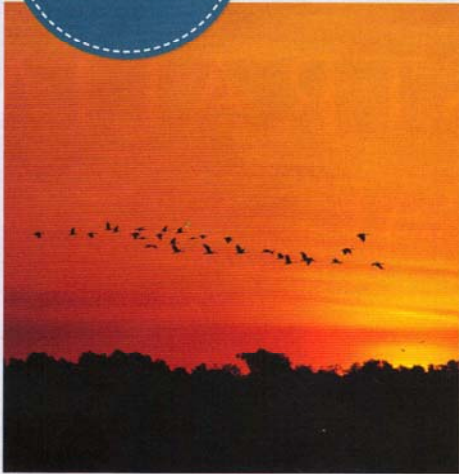


WINNING LETTER



A REQUEST FOR HELP

Dear AT Editor,
 Could you please consider doing an extensive article on Jim Jim and Twin Falls? I have travelled to parts of the NT but haven't made it there yet. For me, Kakadu National Park is the jewel of the Northern Territory – an ancient and surreal landscape that is both naturally and culturally diverse, filled with adventure and discovery. It's a truly memorable place where I felt totally alive.

I can't wait for the delivery of your magazine each month and read each page with delight, hoping to one day see and experience all of Australia's beauty. I have entered many AT competitions but as yet I have won none.

Thank you to everyone who is involved with AT, your hard work is greatly appreciated and recognised by this reader.

– Penny Meyers, Leichhardt, NSW

Congratulations, Penny, you've won something now. Also: perfect timing. We're planning our year's editorial calendar in the coming months so you can definitely look forward to a piece along the above lines in the very near future. Probably the Feb/Mar issue, which should give you time to plan your trip to see these two wonders at their best time of year: in April.

To other readers who'd like to request a specific story or have us review a particular part of the country, send us an email to editor@australiantraveller.com. – Ed

ROMANCING THE OUTBACK

After returning from four months spent travelling our beautiful land, I was excited to find two AT magazines waiting at home for me. Issue 33's (June/July) story "Outback Seduction" had me in stitches as I relived our trip through the exploits of the honeymooners.

Negotiations aside, Quentin was a brave man to risk his future wedded bliss with TWMBB for four fun-filled days of desert adventure. We've just clicked up 35 years of marriage, so I guess my husband figured he didn't have too much to lose!

Ah, the memories: dining at Spuds Roadhouse at Pimba and touring the dusty, cave-dwelling town of Coober Pedy with its thousands of mullock heaps and moonscape surroundings; the golf course with not a blade of grass; and bizarre characters, such as the infamous Crocodile Harry and his even more bizarre cave decorations, which truly were a "What the?!" moment.

Fortunately for TWMBB, it would appear she didn't need to use the ladies room there, as I did. In response to my horrified look when directed by our lovely Greek tour guide to an ancient wooden thunderbox in the yard, I was promptly assured it was perfectly fine. He lied – the Yellow Pages were never intended for that purpose. Damn my weak bladder!

On seeing the majestic Uluru for the first time, the burden of fatigue from driving the seemingly endless desert terrain melted away. It's a road trip that every Australian must do.

Quentin's "nine lessons for new husbands" were very insightful and to my mind most profound. His adage for all new wives that "misadventure can prove to be the source of the very best memories" certainly rings true for this old wife.

– Joanne Harvey, Wynnum, Qld

Hi Joanne, for more of Quentin and TWMBB's adventures, go to page 54 – Ed



ANOTHER HAPPY READER

I would like to thank you for recommending outstanding accommodation that truly inspired my mind and soul. We just came back from a trip to revisit the Great Barrier Reef. While the majesty of the Reef and the lush tropical rainforests are breathtaking in their own right, it was our stay at the marvellous Altitude ONE40 [featured in issue 29] at Mission Beach that made the experience absolutely perfect.

Occupying a 17-acre expanse of rainforest-covered hilltop that offers unparalleled 270-degree views, and complete with its own helipad, it is a retreat that is far beyond any rating system. Although the weather was not perfect during our stay, the warm and extraordinary services from host Shane Hunter made up for it all.

We have been travelling extensively in Australia and overseas and stayed at much more famous and expensive places, but none can match the romance and inspiration of Altitude ONE40.

Thank you for leading us to a truly unforgettable experience.

– Lily Li, Pyrmont, NSW

PRANK OF THE MONTH

Hello. How can I reach the Mole Creek Publican? Is it a newspaper? I have a Tasmanian Tiger skin I found.
 Sir William, via email

Well, Sir William, it seems you may have had quite a bit to do with a publican before you wrote us your email. Still, I'm sure the famous Tassie Tiger Bar (aka the Mole Creek Hotel) will have you. You can find them at 90 Pioneer Drive, Mole Creek, Tas. The licensee's name is Doug. Tell him we sent you. Cheers! – Ed