

# KIRSTEY'S KRISSEY KORNER 2009

Isn't it funny how quickly the "silly season" comes to our doors again. It happens every year, it almost seems like the Easter decorations have just come down in the shops, and then up goes the Christmas tinsel!

Christmas preparations are exciting and scary all at once and considering how hectic life is for everyone at this time, a few helpful hints on where to find fantastic festive pieces never goes astray.

I've found a great collection of ideas to make your 2009 Christmas the most exciting yet. Where can you throw a fantastic pre-Christmas or end of year celebration party? Where can you find that fabulous party dress? Where can you find those last minute ingredients for the roast lunch or pudding? Where do you find that perfect bottle of sparkling to celebrate the joy of Christmas? Where should you go to find the perfect holiday escape after the madness is over? The East End of course!



## The perfect party outfit

This year has seen a major transformation of the southern side of Rundle Street East into Adelaide's leading fashion hub for Australia's top fashion designers all offering the perfect party outfit.

Late last month, SABA, opened their second stand-alone store in South Australia, featuring both mens and womens clothing, on the corner of Rundle and Union Streets – in the space formerly occupied by Platinum Fashions. Earlier in October, Australia's leading mens brand, Calibre Clothing, opened their first stand-alone store in South Australia on the ground floor of 257 Rundle Street. And coming soon, LISA HO will open its first stand-alone store in South Australia, also in Rundle Street.

Ebenezer Place continues to blossom as Adelaide's favourite "off the beaten track" local fashion haven. DAS. Boutique has brought a unique flavour to the East End with the recent opening of their combined hair and fashion boutique, adjacent to Midwest Trader. Another local ladies fashion operator, Jade Foxx Empire, will soon open next to Andy Watson's popular RHD denim store.

Zimmerman's Adelaide flagship store has also recently opened, housing both Zimmermann Ready-to-Wear and Swim collections.

Soon Alannah Hill will be lavishing Adelaide with her bold silhouettes, luxurious delicate fabrics, muslin dresses and delicate draping with a softly layered aesthetic.

## Where to escape after the festive madness

After the festive craziness is over a great escape may be just what you need. I visited Flight Centre recently and asked Emily for her "get away" suggestions. She came up with a whole variety of fantastic trips including islands, mountains, beaches, or cities, including my personal favourite, the Garden of Eden, Club Med in Bora Bora. Talk about complete paradise. Visit Flight Centre at 186 Rundle Street for more great escape ideas.

Watching a movie at Palace Nova Cinemas is a fantastic escape during holidays. This year there are some brilliant diversions including, *The Time Traveller's Wife*, (which you can see with the East End Coordination Group at their Christmas celebration on 23 Nov) together with the classic-in-the-making, *The Boys are Back*. For a great Christmas gift try a Palace Nova gift voucher, available at the box office, or the fantastic Palace Nova Movie Club, where for only \$19.00 a year you get two concession tickets to any and every session, any time, any day, every time you visit Palace Nova.



## Gift ideas a plenty

Chocolate is a great gift for party hosts, or thank you gifts for bosses and workmates. The ultimate place to find the most exclusive examples of this fantastic festive cuisine is Cocolat at 283 Rundle Street. You can also purchase a romantic treat for your loved one, whether it be champagne truffles, tiramisu gelato or the ultimate cake, and my favourite for the last decade, the "Wild Thing"!

For all of us IT nerds, an exciting product has just been released to brighten our Christmas stockings. Comprus on Union Street is distributing the latest version of Windows, Windows 7, with new Toshiba laptops and Lenovo desktops. Comprus can also tailor computer support plans to suit your business or personal needs. I find their plans that provide unlimited remote and helpdesk support, scheduled maintenance and monitoring at a fixed monthly cost particularly helpful.



## Nibbles and bubbles

Imagine it's Christmas Eve or Christmas morning and you're getting ready for your big Christmas Day. You look in the fridge and, oh no, you've forgotten the custard for the pudding. What do you do? Go to IGA – that's what! IGA at 281 North Terrace is open Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day for any emergency. In fact, they're open 365 days a year and have everything to help you with your last minute Christmas dramas – including a collection of last minute gifts.

Palais cafe at 281 North Terrace is a fantastic place for end of year work or study celebrations. Tina Mazis stocks the most unbelievable Greek sweets, such as Baklava, Kataifi, Kourambythes, and Galaklobourikos – the perfect way to end any Christmas meal.



My drink of choice this festive season is a delicious pinot noir chardonnay, The Bay of Fires sparkling wine from the colder climate and the ancient vineyard soils of Tasmania. The boys at East End Cellars in Vardon Avenue describe this wine as showing complex notes, crisp crunchy pear but with soft creamy mousse and still with that impeccable balance and freshness we love from the Bay of Fires crew. It has "aromas of honey, oyster and fresh yoghurt characters" which has resulted in a "soft creamy palate with multi-layers of toast, truffle and cherry brandy". An extremely light and delicious bottle of sparkling and a perfect aperitif to accompany Christmas seafood.

Finally, I'd like to wish everyone an Incredible and safe Christmas. I know the pain drunk drivers can cause people, both victims and their family and friends. So please don't ever risk drinking and driving. Call a cab, or choose a designated driver before you go out. It's just not worth it. As the victim of a hit and run drunk driver, I know what I'm talking about – it's not just what you could do to yourself, it's what you can do to others.

**Kirstey Whicker**  
EECG Committee

