

game changers. thought leaders. rule breakers. style makers

# COLLEGE

ISSUE 33

*hit refresh*  
**THE TRAILBLAZERS**

**ANNE HATHAWAY ON FRAGILITY**  
**ARIANNA HUFFINGTON SCREW BURNOUT**  
**JACK DORSEY PLAYING FAIR & SQUARE**



**+** **HOW TO STOP EDITING YOUR DREAMS**  
**& START OWNING WHAT YOU WANT**



# Born to be Wild

*Skip the been-there-done-that beach towel cliché and TAKE FLIGHT on an ADVENTURE fit for the FREE-SPIRITED soul.*



LEFT: IMAGE COURTESY OF EXPLORA HOTELS (SACRED VALLEY, PERU) / RIGHT: IMAGE COURTESY OF AIRBNB, TRAVEL PR UK, EXPLORA HOTELS (PATAGONIA), ALPS 2 OCEAN (PHOTOGRAPHY: REBECCA RYAN), WOTIF GROUP BRANDS/RAMADA ECO BEACH RESORT, YOU CAMP (PHOTOGRAPHY: STUART COHEN)

## HIGH TOP

Tree houses are fast becoming one of Airbnb's most desirable listings, according to the sharing site. For less than AU\$60 per night you can stay in the remote 'Sanctuario' treehouse resort in the jungles of the Philippines, within hiking distance to the famous Concepcion waterfalls. Or, for city lovers, check out the 'Secluded Intown Treehouse' in Georgia, US, built around a 150-year old Southern Pine tree. It feels like it's light-years from civilisation – but is actually only 10 minutes' drive from intown Atlanta. A happy compromise! [airbnb.com](https://www.airbnb.com)

## LUSH

The Kerala Trek in India leads adventurers through emerald green forests, cardamom-scented hills and blooming tea plantations. Join an 11-day group expedition, which consists of challenging hikes (including scaling Meesapulimala, the second-highest peak in the region) and then a night sleeping on a traditional houseboat as it winds its way through the Alleppey backwaters. You can also add a three-day 'beach extension' to recover! [discoveradventure.com](https://www.discoveradventure.com)

## TAKE ME AWAY

*If tourist tracks have started to bore you, ENERGISE your spirits by choosing one (or all) of these VACAYS with a side of ADRENALINE.*

WORDS AMY MOLLOY

## SPEED

Cycle through glacier-carved valleys, lush forests and around turquoise lakes by traversing the Alps 2 Ocean Cycle trail, which showcases the diverse landscape of New Zealand's South island. At over 300km in total, it starts at the foot of New Zealand's highest mountain, Mount Cook, and finishes at Friendly Bay on the Pacific Ocean. If you don't want to carry a tent, there are hotels, motels and B&Bs along the eight-section route for when it's time to rest your muscles. [alps2ocean.com](https://www.alps2ocean.com)

## LUXE

Want to test (and treat) yourself? Explora Hotels, which have destinations in Chile, Peru and Argentina, are all about 'in-depth exploration with luxury essentials.' Their hotel at the centre of the Torres del Paine National Park in Patagonia offers a personalised experience. Try one-on-one guided hikes or horseback tours, then there's a luxury spa and gleaming bar to unwind at. [explora.com](https://www.explora.com)

## ECO-CENTRIC

The Ramada Eco Beach Resort, an hour's drive from Broome, Western Australia, has a sustainable ethos with a focus on relaxation. Choose between glamping in a safari-style tent or staying in your own solar-powered eco villa overlooking the ocean. There's limited wi-fi and televisions are banned but you won't be short of entertainment – activities include whale watching, turtle monitoring and even heli-fishing. Finish with a 'mangrove mud bath'. [ecobeach.com.au](https://www.ecobeach.com.au)

## BUDGET

The best things in life can come for free. Australian start-up YouCamp is the Airbnb of outdoor accommodation; pairing campers with private landowners across the country that are happy to host your tent, camper van or 4WD vehicle (some farms also offer caravans, shearers' quarters or a bed in their spare room). Some charge a minimal fee, but there are no-cost options too. [youcamp.com](https://www.youcamp.com)

NOMAD





## DETACHED

At Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp in Namibia, isolation is taken to a new level. The camp, which opened in 2014, is only accessible by light aircraft – not surprising when you see the rugged mountains and untamed Kaokoveld desert that surrounds it. The camp itself is very civilised: imagine a hotel that happens to have a canvas roof, with ensuites, a communal bar, swimming pool and library. Explore on foot or let a chauffeured 4WD take you around the game sites. [wilderness-safaris.com](http://wilderness-safaris.com)



## NATIVE

Want a bushwalk with a difference? The Bama Way offers unique tours led by Aboriginal guides from the Kuku Yalanji clan. Their three-day 'discovery tour' explores the Daintree rainforest and surrounding coastal areas, during which time you'll be taught traditional skills. Add to résumé: knows how to spear fish. You'll finish with a new respect for the land. [bamaway.com.au](http://bamaway.com.au)



## EXTREME

How about sleeping on a thin platform suspended from a cliff face 300 metres above ground? Unleashed Unlimited is the first Australian company to offer 'cliff camping' experiences. You'll abseil down Mount Buffalo Gorge in Victoria to a hanging 'portaledge', where you'll enjoy a starlit picnic, sleep overnight then, if you fancy, complete 'The Descent' to the ground in the morning. Not for the queasy! [unleashed-unlimited.com.au](http://unleashed-unlimited.com.au)



## HOW TO INSPIRE YOUR INNER ADVENTURER

**WITH BELINDA KIRK, LONG-DISTANCE ROWER, GUINNESS WORLD RECORD HOLDER AND CO-FOUNDER OF WILD INSPIRATION BOXES.**

**SEEK YOUR MOTIVATION** The best way to bring adventure up your priority list is to be reminded just how fun and refreshing it is – whether your 'Everest' is a hill 20 minutes from your front door or, well, Everest itself. That's why I launched Wild Inspiration Boxes – the first adventure subscription box in the UK. Every month we surprise members with books, documentaries or gear to inspire them. We all need reminders!

**CULTURE UP** As a sportswoman, I turn to my favourite books when I need a boost. *Into the Wild* by Jon Krakauer is a classic which is why, 20 years after it was written, people still go on adventure pilgrimages to follow the trail of the main character, Christopher McCandless (who hiked through the Alaskan wilderness). I like stories about brave and inspirational people who are also flawed, like all of us.

**LEARN FROM LEGENDS** An upcoming Wild Box will include a new book which, in my opinion, is the most inspirational ever written. I can't reveal the title and you probably won't have heard of the author because, sadly, he lost his life on one of his trips. It's about an adventure that most of us can only dream of, but the author shares wisdom about living – and who can't relate to that?

**CLICK FOR COURAGE** I try to keep my social media use to a minimum, but the internet can be a great source of inspiration. Personally, I love the honest blogging of Tom Allen ([tomsbiketrip.com](http://tomsbiketrip.com)) who cycled the length of England with no money, no credit card and just a bike he rescued from a scrap heap. I'm also the founder of Explorers Connect, an online community of 25,000 adventure lovers, from beginners to explorers, who share ideas, tips and resources.

**BE HUMAN** Remember that even explorers have down times. Enjoy relaxing on the sofa every now and again – it's okay to be lazy, but you can find ways to use that time effectively. Look over maps, read books and search out blogs – it's all great preparation for your next adventure, and can be almost as fun as going on one... Almost!

LEFT: IMAGES COURTESY OF: HOANIB SKELETON COAST (PHOTOGRAPHY: DANA ALLEN), BAMA WAY, REFUGA (NIKOLAJ ASTRUP MADSEN), UNLEASHED-UNLIMITED; WILD INSPIRATION BOXES (BELINDA KIRK) / RIGHT: IMAGE COURTESY OF EXPLORA HOTELS

**ANNABEL JAMES**  
PORTABLE  
BARBECUE AU\$101  
[annabeljames.co.uk](http://annabeljames.co.uk)

**OLLOCLIP**  
4-IN-1 LENS  
FOR IPHONE  
IN ROSE GOLD  
AU\$129.95  
[pica.com.au](http://pica.com.au)



**BIOME KLEAN**  
KANTEEN  
STAINLESS  
STEEL CUP SET  
OF 4 AU\$64  
[biome.com.au](http://biome.com.au)



**EQUIPMENT**  
*Get stocked with the goods.*

**WELL NATURALLY**  
NO SUGAR ADDED  
CHOCOLATE MINT  
CRISP AU\$2.80  
[wellnaturally.com.au/  
where-to-buy/](http://wellnaturally.com.au/where-to-buy/)



**RUMPL**  
DOWN PUFFY  
AU\$258  
[gorumpl.com](http://gorumpl.com)

**SUNDAY**  
SOMEWHERE SPIKE  
SUNGLASSES, AU\$320  
[sundaysomewhere.com](http://sundaysomewhere.com)



**SCARPA** MISTRAL  
GTX WOMEN'S HIKING  
BOOTS AU\$279.95  
[outdooragencies.com.au](http://outdooragencies.com.au)



**UE BOOM 2**  
PHANTOM  
SPEAKER  
AU\$249.95  
[ultimateears.com](http://ultimateears.com)



**CRANMORE HOME**  
'BOW + ARROW'  
ENAMEL MUG AU\$14.50  
[cranmorehome.com.au](http://cranmorehome.com.au)



**KSL LIVING**  
TENTE SUSPENDUE  
CACOON BONSAI GRIS  
AU\$302 [ksl-living.fr](http://ksl-living.fr)



**THE BRITISH BLANKET COMPANY** NAVY BLUE  
AND GREY WATERPROOF  
PICNIC BLANKET AU\$182  
[thebritishblanketcompany.com](http://thebritishblanketcompany.com)

**MATT & NAT**  
PELTOLA - BLACK  
US\$150  
[wildfang.com](http://wildfang.com)



←↖  
*You Keep  
me safe  
I'll keep  
you Wild*  
↗→



# THE GREAT ESCAPE

*Two friends, ONE FROZEN CAR and a long wait for RESCUE: how a HERO PRODUCT was created in EXTREME CIRCUMSTANCES.*

WORDS AMY MOLLOY



NOMAD

When two guys who spend a lot of time in the outdoors design

bedding, there may be some unlikely results.” This is how Rumpl describes itself and it’s a fitting introduction for a blanket that is fast becoming a cult product, born from a passion for adventure, frustration at traditional bedding – and a very cold night in the back of a broken-down vehicle.

Wiley Robinson was working as a senior designer at a brand-overhaul company in San Francisco when a ski trip gone wrong changed his career path forever. “My friend Nick [Polinko, now his business partner] had decided to take a road trip to some ski fields in California,” says Wiley. “Our plan was to drive up this remote road, sleep in the car and then wake up early to go skiing.”

This wasn’t unusual for the pair, except that night turned out to be one of the coldest on record for the area.

“When we woke up, the car was frozen,” says Wiley. “There was two foot of snow outside, we had no cell reception and no supplies. It was a legitimately dangerous situation.”

The duo could do nothing but wait for someone to come by and help, which gave them nine hours of thinking time. “The conversation turned to our bedding,” says Wiley. “We were toasty warm in our sleeping bags [so] we got talking about how we’d prefer to use them at home, instead of traditional bedding, if only you could fit a duvet cover over them.”

Fuelled by a bottle of whiskey, they came up with a solution – a sleeping bag blanket that was designed to be used indoors and outdoors, made from the same high-performance material used for puffer jackets.

“We decided after we were rescued that we would make two for ourselves,” says Wiley. “We didn’t think any more of it, but then friends started noticing them and asking if they could buy one.”

Wiley and Nick wondered whether this could be the beginning of a business – or was the customer base too niche? They decided to set up a Kickstarter page to test the idea. >

*Our PLAN was to drive up this remote road, sleep in the car and then wake up early to go SKIING.*

*When we woke up, the car was FROZEN... We had NO CELL reception and NO SUPPLIES.*







By the close of the campaign, they had raised over US\$250,000 and Wiley quit his job immediately. Since then, a second campaign to develop a fleecy version of the blanket has raised over US\$475,000.

It helps that both founders have skills useful to a start-up. Sort of. Nick previously worked as a mechanical engineer, “working on the tiny parts that go into augmented reality glasses”. Meanwhile, Wiley’s storytelling experience is evident on the brand’s website. In a section titled “How do you Rumpl?” they split their customers into categories like the camper, the captain, the van lifer, the chiller, the super fan, the road warrior and the snoozer. The message? A Rumpl belongs in everyone’s linen closet – whether or not you’ve ever climbed a mountain.

“Some people who’ve never owned a puffer jacket don’t understand the benefits of the material immediately,” admits Wiley, “until they put their dog on it and realise this is the only blanket that doesn’t attract dog hair. Or they live in a tiny apartment and realise it takes up far less room than a comforter.”

The brand has an ambassador program similar to GoPro’s, involving partnerships with adrenaline athletes including skiers, kite surfers and



*Whether you’re a mountain CLIMBER or a SKIER or you do YOGA, there is a moment when you’re done with ‘it’ and you want to RELAX. That’s the SPACE Rumpl wants to occupy.”*

professional downhill skateboarders who use their product in extreme conditions. But the customers aren’t all action heroes, as their social media shows – they also include couples on picnics, hikers having a tea break, soccer fans on the sidelines and surfers sharing a six-pack. Wiley says they want to dominate the ‘after it’ industry.

“Whether you’re a mountain climber or a skier or you do yoga, there is a moment when you’re done with ‘it’ and you want to relax,” he explains. “That’s the space Rumpl wants to occupy.”

The blanket range is now sold in Canada, the Netherlands and Japan, with plans to expand further. A clothing range



isn’t on the immediate horizon, but may be the next natural step. “Look at bath robes, for instance. Right now it’s a big, billowy cape, but there’s an opportunity to create a product with the same function that can be worn outdoors too.”

So, how does Wiley relax after a tough week of business negotiations? “I still get outdoors as much as possible,” he says, “Living in the bay area, you can surf, mountain bike or ski within a four-hour drive.” With a Rumpl in the back seat, of course. 🏠



### 3 ADVENTURE APPS WE ♥



**WILD WALKS**  
A free app which lets you search for hiking routes across New South Wales, filtering them by length, time, grade and ‘style’ (circuit walks, return walks or one-way). It also includes live alerts for bush fire risks or weather warnings. [wildwalks.com](http://wildwalks.com)



**ADVENTURE JUNKY**  
This new release allows you to search over 500 trips around the world, from ‘soft adventures’ (yoga, wildlife watching) to extreme offerings (volcano climbing in Guatemala, or snowshoeing in Canada). Users can also submit their own adventures. [adventurejunky.com](http://adventurejunky.com)



**WILD SWIMMING**  
An off-shoot of the bestselling book *Wild Swimming* by Daniel Start, this app lists over 400 rivers, lakes and waterfalls. The app only currently covers the UK, but you can buy paperback guides for wild swimming around the world. [wildthingspublishing.com](http://wildthingspublishing.com)



### 5 MINUTES WITH...

**HENRY BRYDON, FOUNDER OF WE ARE EXPLORERS, WHO BELIEVES MICRO ADVENTURES ARE THE KEY TO A HAPPY LIFE.**

**YOUR BLOG ENCOURAGES NORMAL PEOPLE TO GO ON ‘MICROADVENTURES’ – WHAT DOES THAT MEAN EXACTLY?** Microadventures are cheap, simple local outdoor escapes that cram the spirit of a big adventure into an amazing weekend away. It’s easy to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of city life, as fun as it is, but there is literally a world to explore out there, and it’s surprising how easy it is to find an epic little adventure that is close by and also convenient.

**WE’RE ALL BUSY PEOPLE! ANY TIPS FOR FINDING TIME TO GET OUTSIDE OF YOUR COMFORT ZONE?** Many of us have way more time off than we think we have. Following a traditional work week in Australia, we get 116 days of holiday every year (104 weekend days plus 12 public holidays). This doesn’t even include your entitled annual leave or weekday evenings (some of the best adventures happen after dark). It’s up to us to recognise this gaping holiday hole in our lives and fill it with unique experiences.

**THE MICROADVENTURES ON YOUR BLOG DON’T SOUND VERY RELAXING! SO WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?** Experience is everything. Aside from the physical health benefits (and an enviable Instagram feed), a weekend entombed by nature can be mentally transformative. You’ll feel inspired, you can reflect and dream bigger. You’ll also have an ear-to-ear grin to bring to the office on Monday, and a wild story to impress your colleagues with.



**IS IT TRUE YOU CYCLED FROM LONDON TO SYDNEY?** Yes, it is! In 2010 a mate and I set off from London on bicycles with all our worldly possessions and cycled for 38,000km over two years through 30 countries. It changed my life, teaching me how little money you need to be happy (we lived on \$5 a day). But I also believe you can fit the same spirit of adventure into a fun-filled weekend – without the chafing!

**WHAT’S BEEN THE MOST POPULAR BLOG POST SO FAR?** I launched the site with a project called the Explorer Challenge – over 12 months, 50 strangers wrote about their ‘original weekend microadventure’. Some entries were wild and wacky (six guys floating through Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park in \$10 inflatables). But they were all relatable, ‘normal’ people doing something extraordinary.

**FINALLY, TO SELFIE OR NOT TO SELFIE?** I think it’s important that people share their adventures, whether it’s blogging or posting on social media. It’s not boasting if your aim is to inspire others. I do have one tip: focus on being in the moment during your microadventure, and wait until you get home before updating Snapchat.



WE ARE EXPLORERS PHOTOGRAPHY: HENRY BRYDON