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brisbane**news**

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peter helliar
IS NOT YOUR AVERAGE
couch potato

BANGING THE TAMBORINE FOR
QUEENSLAND WINE

david pugh SHUCKS
SOME BRINY BEAUTIES

TAKING FASHION TO THE
shores OF **portside**

THE **inside word**
FROM AUTHOR IAN RANKIN

win 15 DOUBLE PASSES
TO **into the wild**



among the thorns

In today's dating game, how do you find the perfect rose? With great difficulty, it seems, as singles step outside their comfort zone and into the matchmaking minefield

kidzoneSM



Wear

Deshabille's pyjamas // Tiny fashionistas can go to sleep in style this summer in gorgeous pyjamas. The Miss Origami (\$55), right, and Mini Me PJ (\$44), left, sets are available at www.deshabille.com.au. Phone (02) 9948 6728 for a catalogue.



Read

Old Tom's Big Book of Beauty
By Leigh Hobbs, Allen & Unwin, \$24.95

A colourful page-turner that's fun for young and the young-at-heart. Old Tom is a one-eyed, dishevelled tomcat who's good-natured but lazy. He shares his suburban home with Angela Throgmorton, who treats her pet like family. In this delightful picture book for 3-8 year olds, Angela tries to improve Old Tom's appearance, but even she is surprised when he takes the advice of her *Big Book of Beauty* to heart.

On the world stage

Lauryn Clare // 15, Burtleigh Waters
Talented singer Lauryn Clare is set on a path to international stardom as the only Australian representative to perform at the 2008 International Nile Children's Song Festival in Cairo, Egypt, in February. Lauryn will compete against other rising stars from 17 other countries including Canada, Germany, France, Sweden, Romania and the UK. "It has all happened so fast. I can't believe that I'll be representing Australia in what I love to do," Lauryn says. Her vocal ability was recognised by local talent scout Mark Eady, of Ozworks Entertainment, who is now her manager. "I have produced over 20 arena spectaculars and auditioned thousands of singers, and I can honestly say that Lauryn's singing has affected me more than any other performer," Mark says. Lauryn has also been accepted into the Music Excellence Program at Palm Beach Currumbin High School, a high achievement program with limited admission for students in Years 10, 11 and 12.



WITH VALERIA GOSSE



Child's play

Movies in the Park // Pack a picnic and head to your local park for family films including *Happy Feet*, *Monster House* and *Arthur and the Invisibles*. Until Fri, Dec 14. Session times on www.brisbane.qld.gov.au

Summer Reading Club // Popular Queensland online reading club returns with games, quizzes and stories. Participants can win prizes

such as an iPod, books and magazine subscriptions. From Dec 8, State Library of Queensland. www.summerreadingclub.sla.qld.gov.au

Chess Club // The Southside Junior Chess Club offers coaching, games and tournaments for children aged to 15. Every Friday during the school term, 7-9pm. Carindale Library, Carindale

Shopping Centre. Email dr.andrew.gunn@gmail.com

Kids in the Kitchen // Chefs introduce children aged 5-10 to different cooking techniques. Classes include pizza and gingerbread making, cupcake decorating, herbs, and a class on Christmas goodies. Each child gets an apron and a chef's hat. Nov 10, 17, 24; Dec 11, 18; \$15. River Cafe, GoMA, ph: 3840 7255.