

# 10Q

## Ten things you didn't know about Burnie artist Janine Morris

### 1 Who inspires you?

My children are my inspiration because they are forever asking questions.

### 2 What are you reading and how do you like to relax and wind down at the weekend?

As a self-employed artist, weekends have never existed for me but I love to hang out with my kids and cook. I am usually reading blogs and the Thesaurus.

### 3 What thing couldn't you live without and what are your three favourite things?

One thing I couldn't live without is my self-esteem. As an artist I open my heart and soul for all to see. My three favourite things are my partner, Rick Eaves, and our kids, Tallulah and Ned.

### 4 If you could invite anyone to dinner, who would it be and what would you eat?

I think I would invite Captain Cook and I think he would love my curry.

### 5 What do you know now that you wish you had known before?

Every day you choose what kind of day you will have, by what you say to yourself. Make it positive!

### 6 If you had a magic wand, what would you wish for?

I would wish for a world that could exist without the need for money.

### 7 Do you have a favourite place?

The whole West Coast of Tasmania.

### 8 Most embarrassing moment?

Every time my kids know more than me!

### 9 What has been a defining moment in your life?

Meeting my partner of nearly 15 years and falling in love on Deal Island.

### 10 What do you daydream about?

Stuff, storage space, peace and string.



## What we're reading . . .

**LOU: MY WONDERFUL LIFE**  
Lou Richards and Stephen Phillips  
Slattery Media Group, rrp \$32.95

TO HEAR Lou Richards tell it, it certainly has been a wonderful life. Some is fact, some is embroidery but it is all in the inimitable Collingwood rover's eclectic, iconic style. Even without the embellishments, it's a great story — a young working-class boy growing up in the depression who becomes a Magpie legend, following the family tradition. He captains the team to a premiership and cements his place in history. His stories of his family and life as a pub owner and his varied media career are fascinating, whether you love the Pies or hate them. This is the updated version of the book, with some extra details at the end and more pictures. This is an amazing book to read when you have only grown up knowing Lou from his Sunday sports show appearances and a great reminiscence for those who grew up with him as a player and media megastar.



CHLOE HOPE

**THE SIMPLE THINGS**  
Antonia Kidman and Sally Collings  
ABC Books rrp \$35

HER sister may lead a jet-setting, glamorous life, but Antonia Kidman prefers to keep it simple by embracing baking, sewing and mending. With five children under 14 and another baby due in December, Kidman says she takes pride in managing a household — and now more than ever she is embracing a simple way of life. The little sister to Hollywood superstar Nicole has written a book called *The Simple Things: Creating an organised home, a happy family and a life worth living*. The 42-year-old author says she realised how important it is in our society to peel back the layers of modern life and to simplify it. "There's a lot of pressure and parents and families today . . . financially, or on children to be achieving . . . it's extraordinary." Her book, co-authored by Sally Collings, looks at how we can live a healthier and less hurried life. There are tips on organising your household and finances, to ideas for craft and gardening projects, making your own beauty treatments and just having fun with your kids.



JULIA CARLISLE

**LIONEL ASBO: STATE OF ENGLAND**  
Martin Amis  
Jonathan Cape (Random House) rrp \$32.95

ENGLISH thug Lionel Asbo is challenged in the personal pronoun department. "You got to listen to you Uncle Li," he tells his orphaned nephew Des Pepperdine. "You carry a blade? Well you should. For you own security". A fixture in the local courts, Lionel changed his surname by deed poll from Pepperdine to Asbo (short for Anti-Social Behaviour Order) on his 18th birthday. He is a debt collector, aided by two psycho dogs he riles up by pouring Tabasco sauce on their steak. Des is a huge disappointment to his Uncle Li. He works hard at school and reads "real" newspapers. In a karmic aberration, Lionel wins £140 million in the lottery (on a ticket filled out by Des as Lionel "finks" the lottery is for mugs). He starts a lifestyle of trashing five-star hotel penthouses, buying £200 socks, seeing to (and occasionally giving a "fump") to a line-up of gold diggers until he finds the gold digger of his dreams, "Threnody". Meanwhile, Des is terrified of Lionel's unpredictable wrath over an unforgivable act and it's this tension that ratchets up to a nail-biting conclusion. It's twisted but hilarious.



JUDY HERBERT

# It's just aliens, folks

## THE WATCH

Director: Akiva Schaffer  
Stars: Ben Stiller, Vince Vaughn, Jonah Hill, Richard Ayoade, Rosemarie DeWitt and Will Forte.  
Rating: MA

SUBURBAN paranoia can be as funny as it can be dangerous.

But in *The Watch*, which was renamed from *Neighbourhood Watch* to distance itself from the Trayvon Martin killing in Florida, the threat to an ordered Ohio town isn't anything with contemporary resonance. It's just aliens.

That's the disappointing basis of *The Watch*, which unfolds not in a way that might have anything funny or enlightening to say about picket-fence fearfulness, but simply with conventional summer movie bombast.

Evan Troutwig (Ben Stiller) is as devoted to Glenville, Ohio, as Max Fischer was to Rushmore Academy. Though he and his wife (an underused Rosemarie DeWitt) are trying to have a kid, he puts most of his energy into the town through various community groups and his



senior management position at Costco.

This is a particularly earnest Ben Stiller: "I don't have any black friends yet, but I am on the market," he says.

But Evan's enthusiasm is shattered when a friend and Costco security guard (Joseph A Nunez) is mysteriously mauled overnight.

When Evan makes neighbourhood safety his new cause, his rally for support draws derision and only three volunteers.

They're a motley lot: Bob, a father of a teenager looking for a guy's night out (Vince Vaughn); Franklin, a police department reject with a buzz cut and switchblade

(Jonah Hill); and Jamarcus, a divorced, afroed Brit (the wry, poised Richard Ayoade, who directed the promising *Submarine* and nearly steals the movie).

The crew is slow to develop, harassed by dismissive cops (a funny Will Forte) and egg-throwing high-schoolers. But they make some headway and eventually crack open the case: aliens are invading Glenville.

Action and comedy are nearly always strange bedfellows, and *The Watch* is no exception.

Introducing extraterrestrials puts the story on a familiar trajectory of chases and explosions filled with mock-

tough guy slow motion.

Though many of the jokes land, some of them feel like a game of penis-related Mad Libs.

Directing is Akiva Schaffer, one-third of the Lonely Island trio (Schaffer, Andy Samberg and Jorma Taccone make a quick cameo) and a *Saturday Night Live* writer famous for the popular digital shorts.

This is his second feature after 2007's *Hot Rod*, and while he clearly has the ability to pull funny out of his cast, he doesn't here show any visual and narrative distinction that separates him from the growing pack of comedy directors.

His most interesting choice is to make the aliens far more fearsome and detailed than a comedy would normally accommodate.

The mission of the Neighbourhood Watch gang stresses their budding friendships, pulling them apart before pushing them back together.

Or was that the plot of *21 Jump Street*? Maybe it was *Get Him to the Greek*?

JAKE COYLE