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MADE JUST FOR TEENAGERS

ART / MUSIC / CRAFT / COMPETITIONS / STUFF

# issueNINE

Hello! And welcome to Issue Nine! This issue is all about imagery. We don't normally theme our issues but I really wanted to explore something that is so important (if not un-noticed) in our lives. Imagery appears everywhere, from art to architecture, to words on a page or photos on a screen. Imagery shapes how we interpret the world and in turn who we are as individuals. When you tell a story, your words transform into images; when you sleep, your dreams come to life; when you listen to music your mind creates colours, shapes, emotions and meaning. In this issue we really wanted to explore all the facets of what imagery can be, from an interview with Shell Valentine, a Melbourne based tattoo artist or the Livewire Zine's first photography competition, where the teenagers from around the country share their inspiration in an epic six page photo spread. We really hope you enjoy this issue and the imagery it creates. This magazine is created for you, the reader and we are always searching for your voice, imagination and inspirations, so if you ever have something you want to share, whether words, images, stories, comments or ideas don't hesitate to send them through either on Instagram, email or at livewire.org.au. Happy reading.:)

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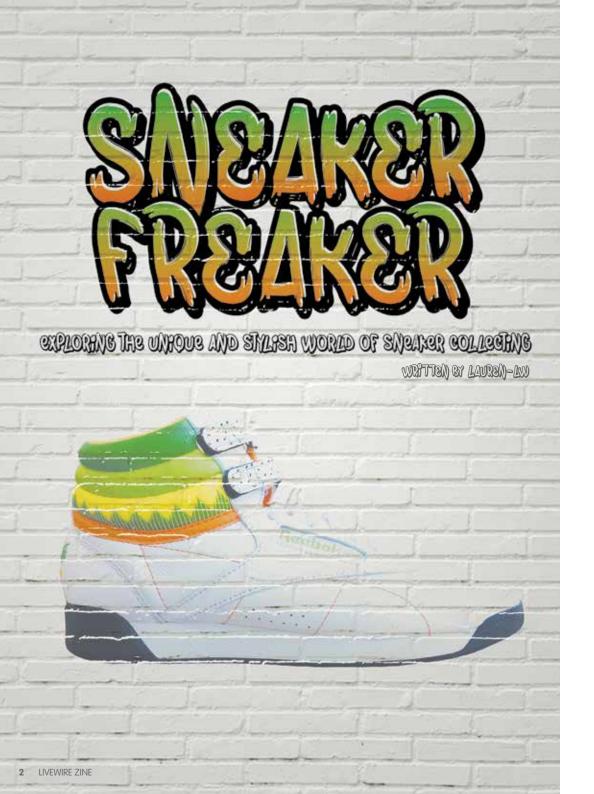
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Hi, my name is Lauren and I'm addicted to sneakers....Not eating them or sniffing them or anything (I'm not on one of those TV shows!). No, I'm just addicted to wearing and collecting them. And as it turns out, I'm not the only one....

Sneakerhead culture all started in the 80s with star Micheal Jordan's Air Jordan line of basketball shoes. It then gained momentum (and street cred) through the Hip-Hop movement and by the end of the 90s it was worldwide. Today, Sneakers are even featured in dedicated **Shoezeums** and art exhibitions. What was once an underground street culture is now a massive money maker for the big brands in the sneaker business. And sure, they make a squillion of money from the industry (figure has not been fact-checked), but sometimes this can also be used for good.

Just recently, in October 2016, Nike released a pair of shoes that not only lace themselves up, but can actually sense the individual wearer and tighten or loosen the fit accordingly! These shoes known as the Nike Mag were part of a campaign that raised \$9.15 million dollars – with one pair fetching a whopping total of over 200K (yep, that's two hundred thousand dollars people) - for the Michael J. Fox Foundation – a foundation supporting *Parkinson's Disease* research founded by the actor who wore the originals as Marty McFly in the 80s classic Back To The Future.

So why do we do it?! For some people it's truly their life passion to collect sneakers. If there's a limited edition style with only 100 pairs being released, some people will camp out in the weather for days just to get their hands on them. If the shoes are due to arrive at a store on a Saturday, Sneakerheads will be lined up at the store from the Tuesday.

For others, their kicks are just one part of a broader passion for street wear and urban culture in general. This includes things like street dance, b-boying, beatboxing, graffiti, skating etc.

For me, and many others, sneakers are a way to express ourselves; our personalities, our style, our flava. Personally, I like hi-tops. Hitops are my thing. And not only because they look wicked, but also because they're highly functional: they're comfortable for walking all day long, they can be laced in a way that makes them just Velcro on, and they give you ankle support which is perfect for dancing. And as an added bonus, they're also perfect for when you're at a friend's birthday party and you get spontaneously challenged to play extreme badminton by their younger (and infinitely fitter) siblings.

I also like that they stand out. They're different and sometimes crazy bright so they often serve as a conversation starter - I always get a laugh when I hear a fellow enthusiast say "oh my god, fresh kicks!" and even when someone polite but not-so-keen says "oh... they're very loud aren't they?". I also just like to keep people guessing by wearing a different pair each day. Usually they assume I own 365 pairs. I WISH!

And to me, it doesn't really matter what the occasion, my hi-tops always go. I recently, genuinely entertained the idea of wearing some to a job interview. I thought better of it in the end, but it remained a definite possibility pretty much right up until I got dressed. Maybe it is time for me to go on that show....



You might hear someone describe their kicks as 'crispy' or 'fresh', although this might sound like we're describing fruit and vegetables, it actually means the shoes are clean and new/cool. The term 'illest' means the tightest, maddest, meanest or best shoes ever and when someone says the shoes are 'OG' it means they're original (as in Original Gangster) and if they're super rare they'll be referred to as 'Grail' (as in the Holy Grail).



# Were you born and raised in the city of Melbourne?

Yes Melbourne born and raised! It has always been home for me and I have a feeling it always will be. I've been lucky enough to travel around Australia tattooing. Although I get to travel to so many amazing cities that are pretty cool, I feel that they are not as awesome as Melbourne.

# What was the main reason that you became a tattoo artist?

When I was young in a magazine called TV Hits, I saw a tattoo of roses and thorns around an actor's ankle and I thought she was so bad-ass. No one in my family had tattoos and it was rare in the 90s (wow I'm old!) for women to really have visible tattoos and it just stuck with me. I have always been arty and have always loved to draw, so I knew I would have a creative career when I was older. I started getting tattooed

when I was 16 (don't try this at home kids) and became hooked on tattoos and tattoo culture. The main reason I became a tattooist was my love for everything tattoo-related and my passion for art and creativity – it was a perfect balance of my interests and skills. As far as I'm concerned it's the best job in the world! Every day I get to be creative and have the honour of putting my artwork on someone for life (I still get so overwhelmed thinking about this sometimes).

# How would you describe your style of tattoo artistry?

If I had to label my style that I most tattoo I'd call it girly traditional, traditional or 'old school' tattooing. In earlier styles of tattooing in western culture there was often a bold outline and not much detail in the designs, only what really needed to be there. Solid blocks of colours were used as

# I LOVE IT LUHEN I CAN TATTOO SOMETHING FOR SOMEONE THAT MAKES THEM SMILE"

there weren't as many ink colours available. Tattoos were mostly coloured in black. red, blue, green, yellow, brown and if you were lucky, purple. Themes then were often nautical, pin-ups, animals and flowers. I have always loved how traditional tattoos looked so I take the fundamentals of that style - a bold outline, a design that has just enough lines and elements that it needs except I like to use lots of bright colours that we are lucky enough to have available to us in modern tattooing. I tattoo a lot of cute design, or kawaii in Japanese terms, and lots of pop culture elements like Disney and cartoons that make me feel nostalgic that I've grown up with. Every day is really fun as I get to tattoo things that I love. I feel so lucky!

How many hours of drawing practice do you need to commit to before you are ready to work on the body?

My tattoo apprenticeship was around a vear and a half. This is different from some other trades where you have a set length of time for apprenticeships. Tattooing is a bit different as every apprenticeship length varies depending on your boss or the person who you apprentice under. It generally starts with you drawing and painting and when you think you've drawn or painted enough, you draw and paint some more! You spend a lot of time watching the other artists in the studio and learning about the health and safety aspects and the cross contamination side of tattooing. Tattooing involves some work with blood (gross!) you need to have developed skills in understanding how to work safely and correctly. It is very important that you do not put yourself or others at risk of transferring disease. Many people think that when you start an apprenticeship you'll be able to start tattooing people straight away and it will be easy, but that's so far

continue reading on next page



from the truth. 'You need to learn to crawl before you can walk' as they say, and with tattooing you need to start small and work your way up. Once you get to a point where you start tattooing you will often start practising on fruit or vegetables. I practiced on a butternut pumpkin! If you practice on synthetic skin, eventually you're ready to start doing small tattoos on friends and family and progress very slowly from there. Tattoo apprenticeships aren't about racing to the finish line, they're about taking time and learning as many skills as you can. Even though I have been tattooing for 4 and a half years now there is always something new that I'm learning every day. You will never really master it, and if you think you have you will only limit yourself as an artist as you should be striving every day to get better than yesterday.

# What is the funniest tattoo that a client has requested?

I think most of the tattoos I do would be funny to other people! I did tattoo Bart Simpson dressed in a skirt and jumper that said Barbie all over it, but I often tattoo food with little faces and once did a cat dressed as Harry Potter. I love it when I can tattoo something for someone that makes them smile.

# Do you work solo or with a team?

I work at Dangerzone Tattoo in Fitzroy where I also did my apprenticeship and currently work as part of a team that consists of 5 of us – we mostly have different tattoo styles so it's great to have so many people to bounce ideas off and appreciate their work.

# What advice would you give young people starting out in the industry?

Draw, draw! This is a hard industry to break into, so don't be disheartened if you don't find an apprenticeship straight away. The best thing you can do is ask for some feedback and don't take it to heart if it's not positive. Use feedback as an incentive to better yourself and your folio of designs. Sometimes hearing things that you don't want to is the push you need to try harder. Tattooing is glamourised by media so don't take that lifestyle as a reality, it's a lot of hard work. If anything it's the hardest job that I've ever had in my life and I've worked in some really stressful occupations before I was a tattoo artist. You tattoo all day, get home to draw all night and still have to find time to answer emails, update social media, paint, get organised for conventions, answer questions for the Starlight Children's Foundation etc. and still have a life somewhere in between all of that...In saying all of that, it's the most rewarding thing in my life. My advice is to go to tattoo conventions, get tattooed, get inspired by other artists (but never copy their work), learn to appreciate all different styles of tattooing as you won't always get to tattoo what you want. Some days I'm tattooing a Disney piece in the morning, a mandala in the afternoon and then an infinity symbol before I go home. They're all very different styles but the more wellversed you can be, the more that you can offer to your customer. Love what you do in your career whether it be tattooing, or any other career. If you can find something that you love doing and can make a career out of it, it won't feel like work - that's how I feel about tattooing!

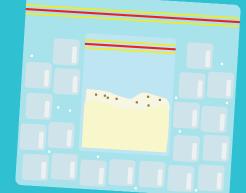
# BART'S ICECREAM IN A BAG

This is one of those quick, fun things to do that has returns much greater than what you put in. It has everything going for it; tension, trepidation, fear, action, extreme temperatures, flavour, texture, surprise and total satisfaction.

It's exactly what it says on the tin, and you will be eating ice cream in a bag, and not just any ice cream, the creamiest ice cream in the land.

# WHAT YOU NEED

- 2 tablespoons sugar
- → 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- → 1x3-4 litre ziplock bag



# HOW TO MAKE IT

- Combine the cream, milk, sugar and vanilla extract into the small bag and seal.
- Place the ice and salt into the large bag, then place the small bag in too and seal tight.
- Shake the bags for 5 minutes or until the ingredients have gone hard.

Warning: for this to work, you may need to do something to stop your hands going numb (which is slightly annoying and close to extremely painful). Either wear rubber gloves or put the bags in another couple of shopping bags.

So, after the 5 minutes open the bags, pull out the little one and grab a spoon. Eat the perfect ice cream right out of the bag. I've tried it and I can promise it works, and is delicious.



### Make a list...and check it twice.

The first step to take to make sure you don't blow the budget is to make a list before you head to the shops. Work out who you want to buy a gift for, how much you can afford to spend on them and what you think they would like. Once you have a nice list, you can set some goals and save the money you need, rethink the present you have in mind or if you think your neighbour's cat wouldn't mind you leaving their stocking empty, removing them from the list altogether.

Make sure you are realistic when you make this list. Price each gift, add it all together and expect the unexpected, for example, forgetting about your little brother.

It can also help to use online tools and apps that help you track your spending as you go. Most banks can help you with this and they will make sure you don't blow your budget on the new phone you decided was a great early present to yourself.

# Get your budget in line early

If your savings goal for Christmas seems a little big, it may be time for you to think about setting up a personal budget. Whether you're earning pocket money, or have a part-time job, if you're saving for something big, a budget helps you keep track of where your money ends up.

To set up a budget, simply work out how much money you have to play with in a given week or month. Then subtract any costs vou need to commit to. like bus fare, or phone credit. From the figure you have left, decide on an amount that you're comfortable to regularly save.

Knowing how much you can regularly put aside in savings each week/month throughout the year will help you decide on how much you're comfortable to spend on the perfect gift.

# **Shop Smart**

There are some easy ways to make sure you don't end up paying more than you expected for that super cool gift you know your Nanna will love.

Get in early - if you know you have to buy something that everyone will be wanting as well, make sure you hustle the crowds and prioritise that gift first. This way, your only problem will be trying to find a good hiding place from snooping family members and not trolling the internet for 'the only one left in existence'.

Jump online - if you're purchasing gifts for loved ones that aren't in such high demand, and if you're finding it hard to get to the shops in time for Christmas, shopping online can be a great option. It lets you compare prices across a wide range of suppliers to search for the best price, and it means you can do all your shopping at your fingertips. Be aware that not all online shops are created equal, and sometimes that awesome pair of Adidas for half the normal price, may not be exactly what you think they are.

### Don't be afraid to DIY

In this digital age, it can be easy to get caught up in the rush of the latest gadget, toy, or gift idea, and the pressure of affording so many gifts for your loved ones can become a little overwhelming.

If you're pushed for money at Christmastime, definitely don't be afraid to resort to trusty DIY. Get creative with things like paintings, photo frames, baked goods, craft, or simply writing a heartfelt letter, thanking them for being in your life. You will be amazed at how much people appreciate something you have put time, thought and care into. Plus, you know they will have to keep it forever because you made it.

If you'd like to know more about saving or budgeting, you can pop into any Greater Bank branch across NSW or South East QLD, or you can drop us a line on Facebook or Twitter. There are also plenty of handy tools like the Savings Goal Calculator at greater.com.au. We're here to help you make the most of your money.

From all of us at Greater Bank, we wish you a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.

# spot the difference.

Can you find the ten differences between the two amazing collages created by the very talented patients at John Hunter Children's Horpital. Find the answers on livewire.org.au. Happy hunting.





# A CHAT WITH A LIVEWIRE.ORG MEMBER

# MENTOR MONKMAN

NTERVIEWED BY BART-LW

**Mentor\_Monkman** is a longstanding member of *Livewire*, who has become a State Finalist for Young Australian of the Year 2017, based upon his volunteering work, which includes supporting young people with chronic illness and young offenders.

# Did you know this was happening or was it a surprise?

It was a surprise until like a month or 2 ago. I got an email from them saying someone had nominated me a month or so ago.

# Can you give us some background about yourself and how you became interested in volunteering?

I grew up in a reasonably small town. From a young age I was lucky enough to see that people are generally really good at helping each other when times are tough. For me, volunteering is a great way to not only help people out but also learn more about yourself and gain useful skills.

# How has being a member of Livewire had an impact on your life?

When I joined *Livewire* I was very sick. Probably the sickest I've ever been! Having a place to not only rant about life or being sick in a safe understanding place was such a massive help to me. I think the beauty of *Livewire* is that like a small town, everyone is willing to help each other out when times are tough. The friends I've made on *Livewire* are

probably some of my closest friends.

# Can you tell us a funny story or situation you've been in?

Where do I begin, I seem to attract funny situations! I think one that comes to mind is when I was at a fundraising event for a charity with lots of celebrities: somehow I managed smudge chocolate cake all over Gina Liano (From the real housewives of Melbourne and Neighbours)!

# Have you any advice for young people with chronic illness, to help them get through a tough time?

Hmm advice.. I think lots of people try to stay positive all the time and positivity helps a lot, don't get me wrong, but what I find more important is to be realistic and honest! Life can't always be positive, and to stay positive 100% of the time is unrealistic. Some things in life you can't control. Being sick is sometimes one of those things. I think it's important to sometimes feel crappy and rant if you need to have a bit of a rant but make sure you smile lots too!

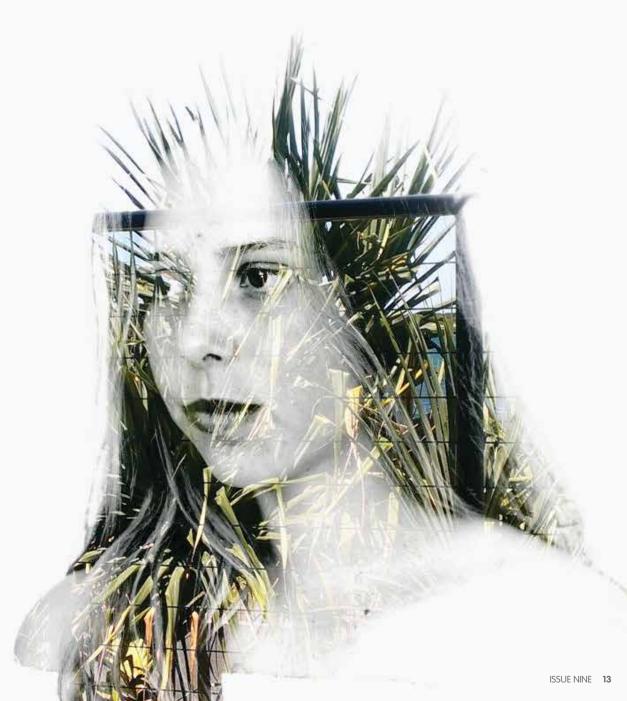
# FROM MYON EYES

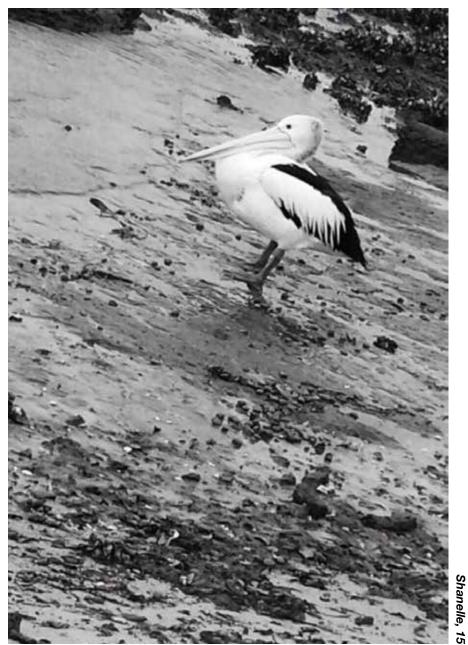
PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Welcome to *Livewire Zine's* first photography competition. Firstly we want to thank everyone who entered this year. We were overwhelmed with the thoughtful and creative images we recieved. They were amazing!

This competition started last issue when we gave a call out to anyone willing to share an image of something that inspires them. Since then the images started rolling in and over the next few pages you will see this year's finalists.

It was really hard to pick a winner but with the help of the *Livewire Zine Team*, selected *Starlight* staff and our resident professional photographer *Derren Hall*, we decided *Emma* stood out as the winner. Everything about her mind bending photo (as seen on the front cover), screamed "tell me the story" and the mind twisting effect gave us all a sense that the place was a world of its own. Congratulations *Emma*. We would also like to congratulate *Cate*. Her photo titled 'Lady Liberty' (picture on the right of the page) was the very close runner-up. Congratulations to everyone who entered.







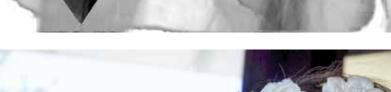


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Livewire is designed exclusively for teens and young people experiencing acute and serious illness or disability. Whether they are in hospital or at home, Livewire connects adolescents through creative workshops, an online community, entertainment and a little partial absurdity.

We aim to offer every adolescent a place that makes them feel safe, included, supported and most importantly, free to be a teenager.

For more information speak to your nearest Livewire Facilitator or jump online to livewire.org.au or livewire.org.nz (if in New Zealand).



'ADVENTURE' - A collaborative art piece created at Princess Margaret Children's Hospital by patients in Ward 7Teen.



# DO IT YOUR SELFIE

FIVE APPS TO TAKE
YOUR INSTAGRAM TO
THE NEXT LEVEL

written by Hannah\_LW

If you're a non-stop 'grammer' you'll understand the importance of slick photo editing. The filters on Instagram are great and all, but if you want to take your photo editing skills to the next level you'll need the tools the professionals use. With so many editing apps available, it can be difficult to know which ones to choose when working on your images. So here are 5 apps photographers, fashion bloggers, Instagram celebs and foodies alike use to make their photos POP!



### SNAPSEED free

This incredibly easy to use app is fast becoming one of the most popular photo editing tools. Not only does it offer an impressive amount of filters to use, it also allows you to edit sections of the photo that require colour correction instead of changing the entire photo. If you're new to iPhoneography, this should be one of the first apps you download and learn.



### **SQUAREREADY** free

There is nothing more annoying than finding the perfect photo to post and then having the edges cut off because it isn't the right dimensions. Well, Squareready takes all the stress away by perfectly formatting your photos for Instagram no matter if they were taken in portrait or landscape by simply placing a white (or other) background for the remainder of the square.



# AFTERLIGHT \$1.49

This app is all about 'the more the merrier' as it boasts an impressive 74 adjustable filters, 78 textures, and 128 frames to fit every mood or season, plus 15 cropping tools to control every aspect of your photo. The challenge with this app is knowing when to stop, as you can spend hours tweaking and retaking until your photo looks nothing like the original!



### **VSCOCAM** free with in-app purchases

If you want the app the professionals prefer, then you really can't go past VSCO CAM. Not only does it dominate the market with its top notch filters and user-friendly editing tools, the hashtag #VSCOCAM has skyrocketed its popularity with over 114 million posts! Much like Instagram's own filters you can adjust the strength of the filter to suit your taste, plus you have the option to purchase themed filter packs to really pump up your filter collection.



# OVER free for the basic version

If you want to recreate your favourite celeb's Instagram quotes and graphics, then Over is the app for you. This app lets you incorporate cool fonts, text and artwork to your pics, making them super visually appealing and slick. Plus it has an option for you to receive free daily artwork when you set your push notifications to 'on'. The app itself is free, but if you want the upgrade to 'Over PRO' which gives you unlimited access to all custom fonts, you will have to cough up a hefty \$11.49 per month. Crikey.

Once you have checked out these apps and become INSTAFAMOUS, don't forget to follow us! @starlight\_livewire;)



Last issue we covered the topic of Mindfulness. So this time around, we thought we would learn some basic and effective 60 second techniques to master it.

If you missed it, here's a quick recap:

Mindfulness is the concept of being aware of the present. It's about pressing pause on life and focusing on the moment we are currently in: not reliving the past or worrying about the future – just focusing on and, more importantly enjoying the present moment.

So without further ado, here's some quick mindfulness techniques to help you settle into the now.

# the stop practice

Stop. Take a few deep breaths. Observe or pay attention to the present moment and how we feel physically, emotionally and mentally. Think about how your body feels, the emotions you are experiencing and what thoughts are running through your head.

For example: How that breath feels going in and out your body, how your body is positioned – if there are any physical sensations or discomfort, are you a little bit frustrated or upset, are you able to settle your mind – if you find it darting off try and just bring it back to the present moment.

**P**roceed – ask yourself what really matters and what's most important to pay attention to right this minute and stick with whatever that is.

# 60 seconds to just breathe

For a whole 60 seconds just close your eyes and breathe. Slow your breathing to deep full breaths and focus on how you feel as the air enters and exits your body. Notice the different sensation of breathing through your nose and your mouth and the way that the chest expands and relaxes as you breathe. If your mind gets off track, just bring it back to your breathing again. You can expand on this idea by choosing a go-word or trigger, maybe a certain word or sound which you can use as a reminder to be mindful. Each time you then hear it, practice bringing your thoughts back to your breathing.

# a numbers game

It seems simple but it can be tricky and this makes it a great exercise.

Try to count slowly from 1 to 10. Each time your attention wanders away, start again. With practice, it will become more and more easy to remain focused through to the end.

# posture ponder

In this exercise, all you need to do is become aware of your posture. Whether you are sitting, standing, walking or lying, make yourself aware of the way your body is positioned – how your muscles and breaths feel and if there are any sensations that are present. Move from one area of your body to another until you have become aware of every part. It is sometimes easier to move in one direction, starting at your head and finishing with your toes or vice versa.

# the 3x3

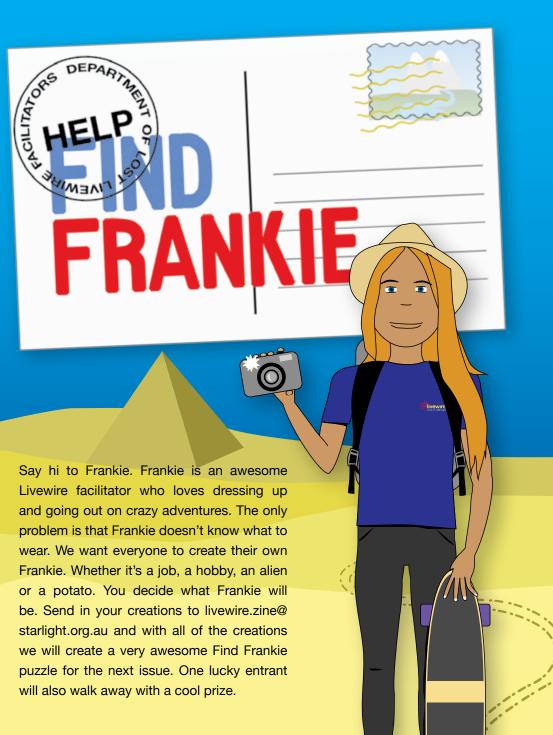
The 3 by 3 involves closing your eyes and focusing on your breathing. When you have achieved a nice, steady rate of breath slowly open your eyes, look around you and take note of 3 things you can see, 3 things you can hear and 3 things you can feel.

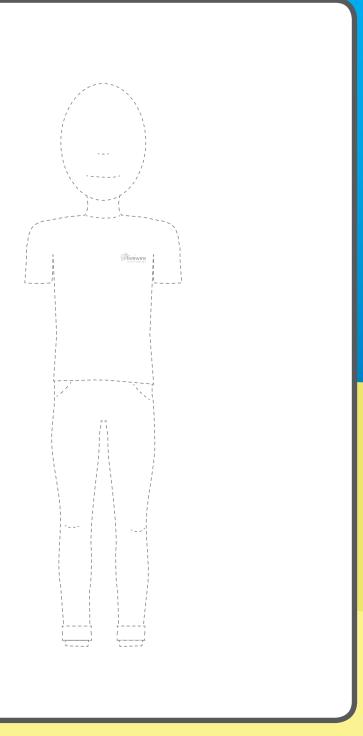
# mindful eating and drinking

The idea behind this technique is to stop and pay attention to the food and drink you consume. When you are eating or drinking something, stop and focus on the way it looks, the way it smells and how the texture feels. Pay attention to the sensation of the food or drink in your mouth, how it feels on your tongue and the way it feels when you swallow and try and savour every bite or sip you take.

Whilst these tips are quick, they are not a quick fix. Mindfulness requires practice like anything else but if you stick with it you can reap the many rewards it has to offer.

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# AMANDA



# GRAPHIC DESIGNER

interviewed by Gabby-LW

Amanda Hay is a graphic designer who works with many different aspects of design. I had the pleasure of interviewing her for some insight into how she turned her creativity into a very diverse and rewarding profession. As we continue to head towards a more digital era in art she reminds us not to forget the more 'hands-on' approach for drawing and design.

# Where were you born and raised?

I was born in Perth but spent the first 10 years of my life in Newman, a little mining town in the remote Pilbara region. I have very fond memories of Newman as my siblings and I used to run wild in the bush that backed on to our house and did a lot of camping and exploring in and around the most amazing gorges and waterholes surrounded by red, red dirt. We then moved to Kalamunda in the Perth hills where I finished school.

# What influences (if any) did this have on your creative style?

I don't know if it has necessarily influenced my style but I love landscapes, texture and pattern and often use it in my work, whether this is because I've been subconsciously influenced though, I'm not sure.

# Who/what inspired you to become a graphic designer?

I was good at drawing as a kid and was accepted into an art program in high school which meant going to school every Saturday on top of normal school (ho hum) but really, it was amazing. It was all hands-on and we would study a different discipline each term from sculpture to live drawing to mural painting and while I was always artistically inclined, I think this solidified my love of visual art and set me down the path to become a designer.

# What is your area of specialty in design work?

While design is becoming more about the digital space, I still work primarily in print. I do a lot of publication work including programs, annual reports and newspaper ads. I also get to do quite a lot of illustration and a bit of branding. Branding is probably my favourite thing to do, as it's great being involved from the inception of something and then seeing it rolled out.

# What are the biggest challenges of your work?

Sometimes it can be really hard to nail a brief especially when you're under time pressure (as designers often are). In these instances it's best to put this to the back of your mind if possible and keep trying as sooner or later something will click and work. Also graphic design can be stressful as it's one of the few jobs where the smallest error can have big consequences because when something is printed, these errors can't be undone. Something as minor as a spelling mistake can mean having to reprint and printing is expensive so you have to have a very high attention to detail.

# How do you feel when you see your work printed or in a public space?

As a lot of creative people do, I usually think about how it could have been better but I also feel a certain sense of accomplishment – seeing the tangible output of something you have been working on is nice and some projects really come to life when they're printed.

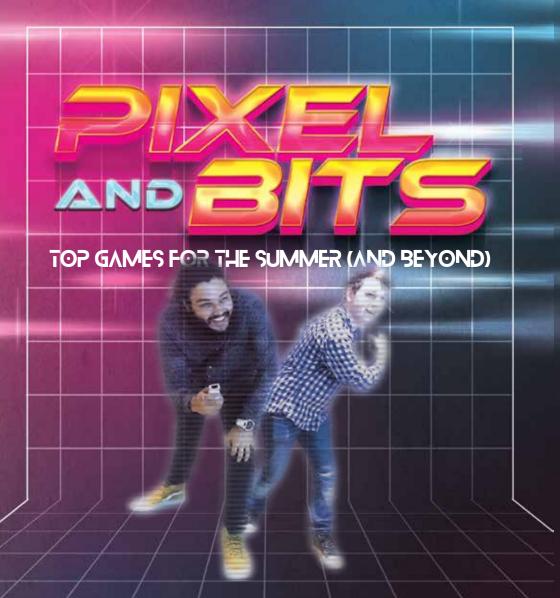
# Do you think that the design industry will change dramatically over the next five years?

I think it will continue to head more towards the digital side of things but there have been some big advancements in recent years in digital printing (which is the type of printing often used for small print runs) meaning it's becoming more economical to do some pretty interesting stuff so we may see even more of a swing back to more bespoke printing.

# Where would you like to see yourself in the future in terms of design projects?

I'd like to continue working with good people and interesting clients who are willing to be a bit adventurous. I'd also love go back to my roots a bit and be doing more drawing, hand lettering and painting and incorporating it into my design work.

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If you've hung out at *Livewire Brisbane* on a Wednesday night before you'll have met their resident gaming gurus *Pixel and Bits*. These guys are local game designers with an encyclopaedia worth of knowledge about all things making, designing and playing games. Check out their list of what's hot for the summer and beyond! They've got your school holidays sorted!

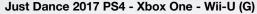
# What's up everyone! Your Game Professors PIXELS and BITS are here to tell you about the best games for the summer holidays!

# Pokémon Sun & Moon 3DS (PG)

A new generation of *Pokemon*, set in the hawaiian themed Alola region! Introducing 81 entirely new pokemon, as well as 18 new forms for some of your old favourites! Take on the 4 Island challenges, facing off against the powerful totem pokemon and the strongest trainers, the KAHUNAS!

**Bits:** My favourite is *Mudbray*, the donkey *Pokémon*. caught a shiny one!

Pixels: The battery Pokémon, Charjabug!



Get Ready for more *Just Dance!* Featuring 41 new songs, like *Justin Bieber's* "Sorry" and "Cheap Thrills" by *Sia feat. Sean Paul.* If you're a dance machine the new *Just Dance Unlimited* streaming service has 200 songs from past *Just Dance* games and new exclusive songs!

**Pixels:** My favourite is "Step-by-Step" by New Kids on the Block. Gotta love the 90's!

**Bits:** "Hey Ya!" by *Outkast* has to be my favourite! Always a classic.

# Overcooked: The Gourmet Edition PS4 - Xbox One - PC (G)

An insanely chaotic and insanely FUN Cooperative cooking game for up to 4 players. Work together in a bunch of crazy kitchen environments, like a super hot volcano or a swashbuckling pirate ship. Serve the food up as fast as you can!

Pixels: Quick the soup is gonna burn!!

Bits: I'm too busy chopping all these tomatoes!!!

# Overwatch PS4 - Xbox One - PC (M)

Amazing characters and solid gameplay, *Overwatch* is a great team-based shooter to play for fun or competitively with up to 5 others. Everyone must work together to reach an objective, like defending a valuable artifact or point from the opposing team. With loads of heroes to choose from there's a character for everybody!

**Bits:** Like a big Gorilla scientist! **Pixels:** and a floating android monk!









MIRITTEN BY HANNAH LW

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instantly, so just have fun with it:)

# What about the gadgets? Do you need fancy equipment, or can you start with the

You definitely don't need "fancy equipment" to start off with. The camera on iPhones are so good at the moment, it would be totally fine starting on that! My tip would be to just have good lighting. Sit your phone/camera in front of a window during the day, and it should light your videos perfectly and make your video really good. Often, natural light is better than the artificial lights! If YouTube is something you really love and really want to continue to do, I would suggest then investing in a DSLR camera. Obviously make sure it can record video, even better if it has a flip out screen (you can make sure you're framed nicely and always in focus)!

# What equipment do you use?

At the moment I own a Canon 60D which I use for sit down / singing videos, and a Canon G7x for vlogging, and the editing software I use is called Final Cut Pro. It's software I bought for my Mac and a lot of YouTubers use it, however it's pretty expensive, so if you were new to editing and to YouTube I would suggest using iMovie or Windows Movie Maker. Both are free, do amazing jobs and are super easy to use!

# What's next on the horizon for you? Any new exciting projects planned?

I'll be moving to LA next year so I can really get stuck into projects I want to do! I want to do a lot more with music, would love to tour and meet subscribers, and plan to do some really exciting projects. All are secrets right now though, but stay tuned!

> TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT JESS. CHECK OUT HER SOCIALS HERE

INSTAGRAM JESSBAUER TWITTER JESSB **YOUTUBE JESS BAUER** 

# A CHAT WITH A LIVEWIRE.ORG MEMBER

# LINUXTIGER

How old were you when you started having health problems? What was your eventual diagnosis?

I've had health problems ever since I was a baby. Most of them weren't that serious and I had a few abnormalities here and there but it didn't impact my life in any way until I was 12. After 3 years of searching and tests, I was finally diagnosed with Severe Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome, Inappropriate Sinus Tachycardia, as well as some other heart issues. I also have Cyclic Neutropenia and Hypermobility.

# How did your ill health affect your ability to lead a life like your peers?

My health affected my ability to lead a life like my peers in many ways, the major one being that I am unable to do what most people my age enjoy doing; like going to parties, exploring new places, seeing a movie in the cinemas, etc. Also, due to how complex my health is, a lot of my peers didn't understand what I was going through or how to socialise with me properly. One of the hardest things was having to leave school and my extracurricular activities that I had been in for years, and having to leave my friends I had gained from those things. But in the end it has made me find the most amazing life long friends that I don't think I could have found if I hadn't been through this experience.

# How did you find those friends?

I found my life long friends though social media groups and online games. We found we had similar interests and experiences. They are very understanding people and have never judged me or gotten angry because I couldn't go out or come over. Usually if I'm not well or in hospital they come and see me and cheer me up:) Gaming really can bring people together.

# What kinds of things have you done or used to help cope with your condition?

Things that I have done to help cope with my illnesses are: art, even if it's just coloring or

painting, it has been one of the best stress relievers and helped me express how I was feeling without having to use words. I also found reading or gaming as an amazing distraction, as you can put yourself into another world and just stay there for as long as you need. If you are stressed about something or just need to escape all the stuff that is going on in your life, I find that reading or playing a good game can take you away into another world, where you can be whatever or whoever you want to be.

# What games do you play the most? Are you interested in VR technology?

I play all console games, mostly *PS4*. I tend to lean towards any game with a great storyline, even if it's in pixel form or 2D. My most favorite game genres are Action, Role-play (RPG) Adventure and sometimes Horror.

One of my most memorable games has to be The Last Of Us. It was one of the first games I played when I was very sick in bed and it changed my life. It helped me express how I was feeling and distract me from the pain. I felt invincible while playing it. It didn't matter what happened around me as long as I had that amazing world to escape to. I knew I could overcome anything. It gave me the strength and willpower I needed. And leading into the topic of VR, yes I am very interested in it due to the fact that it has the potential to take you away to another world completely and you get to experience things you normally couldn't. I have actually already ordered a PS VR, which will get here before Christmas. I am very happy that the world is diving into VR tech recently as I really am interested to see how immersive they are able to make them. Also it opens up a whole new gaming industry and experience that can be such an amazing thing for people who can't go and experience the world, because now they might be able to do it without leaving their bed.



# left hospital and want to

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left hospital and want to make friends
left hospital and want to stay in touch with livewire
left hospital and want to chat about cats
left hospital and want to share my experience
left hospital and want to win heaps of cool prizes

Livewire.org.au and livewire.org.nz is a great place for teenagers from around Australia and New Zealand to meet new people, share experiences, find support and keep up to date on the latest news and gossip. It is also an amazing place to get creative and win some awesome prizes! All you need to do is jump online, head to www.livewire.org.au or www.livewire.org.nz (if in New Zealand), create a profile and start exploring.

# LIVEWIRE ONLINE MEMBERSHIP FORM

Livewire.org.au and livewire.org.nz is an online community for young people with chronic health conditions, or disability, and their families. It is a safe, online space where members can connect and share experiences, chat, create blogs, enter competitions and read up on the latest news, reviews, interviews and videos. If you would like to sign-up to be a Livewire member please complete this form and hand it to your closest Livewire Facilitator or if you would prefer simply head to www.livewire.org.au or livewire.org.nz (if in New Zealand) and create your profile.

# **MEMBERS DETAILS**

Full Name:	
D.O.B:	Female / Male / Other
Email:	
Contact Number:	P/C:
How long will your injury, illness or disability last?	
Less than 6 months / More than six months / No illness (I am a sibling)	
PARENT / GUARDIAN DETAILS	
Parent / Guardian Name:	
Email:	
Contact Number:	
Parent / Guardian Signature: Date:	

Once this form has been completed, a Livewire Facilitator will create your membership and make you a temporary Username and Password. This can be changed as soon as you are able to login yourself.

A Livewire official will be in touch to confirm these details.

Please read the terms and conditions online before engaging with livewire.org.au or livewire.org.nz.

# LOGIN DETAILS

Create a unique username and a password that contains at least 8 digits, a capital letter, a number and a symbol.

USERNAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PASSWORD:

To login, simply head to livewire.org.au and hit the 'Login' link!