# [***Flash accolade for visions splendid***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:47KD-PM80-015H-6319-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Byline:** Libby McDonald

**Body**

AS a photographer, you know you have hit the heights when you are asked to be the featured artist in the annual Australian Geographic calender.

That honour has gone to local shutterbug Peter Jarver much to the joy of arts advocate and fellow Kuranda resident Eve Stafford.

Eve tells The Word her friends "down south" send her a copy of the latest Australian Geographic calender every year, but imagine her surprise and pleasure at discovering the featured artist was none other than Peter.

"Hey, we know him, we see him quite often in our local circle of friends," she told her friends when she opened the gift.

The Master Photographer is no stranger to accolades, picking up four silver awards from the Australian Institute of Professional Photography last year.

Peter has a major gallery in Kuranda, but also has two outlets in Cairns - in Shields St and at the domestic airport terminal - for those of us who would love to have one of his dynamic and colourful prints hanging on our walls.

Coastal cousins in dark as well

CAIRNS is not the only centre having problems keeping the volts on - some of the Gold Coast's Energex customers recently received their "Notice of Disconnection" with a sweet notation on the envelope reading: "May your holiday season and New Year shine brightly".

Who said the Christmas spirit was a dying thing!

Qantas Knight flies to rescue

ONE of The Word's spies tell us there was a familiar face sound asleep in the Cairns departure lounge recently.

Apparently the Cairns-based marketing manager had turned up for her flight at 6am when she discovered she'd actually booked a 6pm departure.

So after dragging four bags of luggage (we are told that 18 pairs of shoes are a necessity for any holiday) to the airport at 6am, the Cairns resident was simply amazed when a Qantas official ran to help with the luggage and on hearing of her dilemma immediately requested she be put on the next available plane.

Not only did she get some extra beauty sleep (in the departure lounge) but her faith in the dying breed of excellent customer service was renewed.

Is this Qantas's new customer focus or a "knight in shining armour"?

Whoever he was, thank you, we need more of your kind greeting our visitors and looking after us when we leave home.

Stop toying with us Barbie

WELL, the anticipation is building, that's for sure.

Cairns, like many other towns and cities across this great land, is waiting for "Her" - that's Lingerie Barbie - to hit the shelves of the nearest toy store.

But several phone calls to determine just where and when this eagerly sought-after doll will be available, have The Word still in the dark.

It appears Lingerie Barbie, described as "simple, and sassy in a pearl-grey satin slip trimmed in black lace", will hit Australia next month.

But no such luck for her pregnant "best friend" Midge Hadley, who was yanked off the shelves of the US equivalent of Kmart, Wal-Mart, after customers complained.

There's also the first African-American Lingerie Barbie for all those leaning that way.

We'll keep an eye out for Lingerie Barbie and let you know where you can catch a viewing.

Just kidding!

DURING the past 12 months, more than two million people from throughout the world have sent in their favourite jokes to the LaughLab website and rated how funny they found the jokes submitted by others.

Judging all the jokes was not a laughing matter, however one standout gag reigned supreme. It goes like this:

A couple of New Jersey hunters are out in the woods when one of them falls to the ground. He doesn't seem to be breathing, his eyes are rolled back in his head. The other guy whips out his ***cell phone*** and calls the emergency services.

He gasps to the operator: "My friend is dead! What can I do?"

The operator, in a calm soothing voice says: "Just take it easy. I can help. First, let's make sure he's dead."

There is a silence, then a shot is heard. The guy's voice comes back on the line. He says: "OK, now what?"

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