



Bathing beauty

Save yourself from bad hair days with a bathing cap from Scally and Trombone. These fabulously flamboyant floral bathing beauties are just the thing to protect one's hair from water and sun during a quick dip in the bay. Available in a range of colours, they are also guaranteed to attract the attention of lifesavers should you get into any hot water while in the water. For a playful peek, dip into scallyandtrombone.com.au



i-Chic

Okay groovers. It's not just you who needs protection from the elements – so does your laptop or iPad. Luckily, protecting one's tablet or lappy can be done in a manner that's both practical and fashionable and now it can help the environment, too. CW loves the new range of brightly coloured recycled vinyl padded sleeves produced by the guys at Haul. The vinyl is taken from old billboards and no two sleeves are the same. Check out the haul at haul.com.au



Flip side

Ultra-cool Australian designer house Bassike have teamed up with similarly cool footwear specialists Havaianas to produce a line of simple and elegant rubber flip-flops, or thongs if you prefer. Whatever you call them, these are perfect for lazy days or for throwing on as soon as you get home from work. Check em out at bassike.com

Flash fingers

CW can't help it. We love our nails. If our mitts aren't manicured we're not a happy bunch. Luckily Zoya's new range of colours have been designed to make us dazzle this summer. Six (count 'em) shades – pink, tangerine, crimson, lavender, berry and Hollywood favourite turquoise – deliver show-stopping nails. They're not for the colour-shy – but then again, that's not you, is it, darling? The range is available at pharmacies or zoya.com.au



Howzat

It wouldn't be summer without a little beach cricket. This set from Sunnylife, containing a bat, ball, wicket and carry-bag, is perfect for storing in the office (as we discovered) and lightweight enough to carry to the nearest beach or park after work. While we can't promise you'll make the next Ashes side, we can't help thinking you couldn't do any worse than the current line-up. Go in to bat at sunnylife.com.au



Sexy girl

Summer in the city means one thing: fun. And to have fun you need to dress the part – even if you're back at work. For a quick change from work-drab to beach-fab, check out the summer range from designer Mela Purdie, whose clothes allow you to travel light. Purdie is known for her essentials that allow you to change your look quicker than Clark Kent can become Superman. Travel-ready and street-smart – now that's the kind of fashion city gals need. View the range at melapurdie.com.au



EVOLUTION

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I've got a bugbear that landed on me in the festive break. This bugbear has since niggled and burrowed beneath my skin. It's now dangerously close to boiling point.

Oh yes, welcome back from holidays, everyone.

Back to that bugbear. Over the break I missed out on spending time with two of my dear friends who had returned from overseas for a short time, but a good time.

Not that I knew.

Invents and the general whereabouts of these two were updated via Facebook. Who checks Facebook during their summer break? I'd much prefer to be swimming, sewing, playing beach cricket, devouring long lunches, sleeping, changing nappies, anything really – other than checking Facebook. When did it become common practice to Facebook people rather than texting, calling or asking friends to pass on a message? Did I miss the bulletin?

What's worse, when you finally discover you've missed a birthday party or celebration because of a Facebook invite, your apology is met with a peevish "that's OK" response.

I know it's OK. Blame yourself and your stupid obsession with your Facebook account for my lack of attendance.

On returning to work I discovered there is someone you can rely on in Melbourne: Salvatore Malatesta. I would almost bet money on this man opening up a new cafe every three months. He didn't disappoint last year.

Last week as I rode around Melbourne desperately seeking out an open cafe serving drinkable coffee, I came across The Tuck Shop, nestled in the foyer of the NAB building, 500 Bourke Street.

Who would have thought anything decent existed in a bank's foyer? But, believe it or not, cocky coffee guru Malatesta has once again swept his brown-bean wand, creating an edgy, funky and mature space that dishes out fabulous fare and serious coffee.

Invite a friend for a quick back-to-work lunch. Just don't send the invite via Facebook – they might miss the notification. ■



The Tuck Shop