

to make a name

This weekend we continue our series with **Christina Swaneveld** delving into the lives of Gold Coast personalities. Today she speaks to artist Sharon Hindle and puts her in the hot seat

1 **WHEN did you know you wanted to be an artist?**

I wanted to be an artist from the age of eight when I entered a local newspaper colouring competition and won.

The prize was a beautiful Alice In Wonderland mirror, which I have hanging in my bedroom today.

2 **What was your proudest moment?**

My proudest moment was when I exhibited my first piece of art at a local exhibition and it was hung alongside a Pro Hart.

It was in 1990 at an exhibition at Runaway Bay.

It was the first picture I did. It was an illustration of a lady in a swimsuit.

People were looking at this magnificent Pro Hart and saying 'my goodness, here is an illustration by who?'

3 **Who is your greatest inspiration?**

My greatest inspiration is my grandfather.

At 86 years of age, he is a completely sane and energetic Scotsman with an awesome sense of humour.

4 **What is the most annoying sound in the world?**

A mosquito buzzing in your ear just when you are about to go to sleep.

And I can't stand the sound of a tap dripping.

5 **What three things would you take on a desert island?**

I would take my two boys, Lachlan and Bailey, and an endless supply of marshmallows to toast on the camp fire.

6 **What animal do you most resemble?**

The animal I most resemble is a hawk because I like to think I have eyes in the back of my head. Somehow I know if someone is sneaking up behind me. I'm intuitive and pick up on things really quickly. I have this sixth sense.

And having two boys gives you a parental instinct - you've got eyes and ears everywhere.

7 **What movie puts a lump in your throat?**

As *Good As It Gets* with Jack Nicholson because I'm always asking myself, 'Is this as good as it gets?'. It is such a poignant movie for me.



Artist Sharon Hindle with her Brattitude series.

8 **What is your favourite childhood memory?**

My favourite childhood memory is growing up on a farm in southern England.

I had such a blessed childhood.

We lived above horse stables in a converted barn and our back yard was full of horses.

In spring the fields were full of daffodils and in winter they were covered in snow.

It was fabulous.

9 **What is the most important lesson you have learned in life?**

It is fine to push yourself to the limit in the name of fame and fortune but nothing is worth sacrificing your health and your sanity.

It is important to have harmony and balance.

The most traumatic and challenging moments of my life happened when I turned 30.

Up until then I felt I lived my life through rose-coloured glasses.

But I've taken these challenges and survived.

It also brings a certain amount of wisdom.

I'm older and wiser and am able to understand people a lot better.

10 **What do you want to achieve in the future?**

I would like Sharon Hindle to become a household name, whether it is for art, teaching or because I'm appreciated for what I do and what I have to give.