



Biddy, Tom, Katie Wiggan, Warren, Audrey, Gingle & Peter



Lyndon Brown pearl skinning



The DMB, 21m (73ft) aluminium Catamaran, cruise speed 18knots, holds 16t of seawater for live shell transportation

## THE WORLD'S MOST BEAUTIFUL PEARLS.

Australia consistently produces the world's finest and most revered pearls. The thick nacre of an Australian South Sea Pearl displays a silk like lustre and gives rise to a diverse range of shapes and sizes.



The thick nacre provides the greatest longevity of any pearl, allowing for a precious gift of an Australian South Sea Pearl to be passed on through the generations.

Requiring no enhancement or treatment to reveal their beauty the South Sea pearl is the only truly natural white pearl. It ranges in colour from white, silver white and silver to soft yellows and intense golds. Exceptional pearls can display secondary hues of beautiful pink and green. It is easy to see why the Australian South Sea Pearl is the most coveted pearl in the World.

1984

### PURPOSE BUILT PEARLING CATAMARAN.

Cygnnet Bay Pearls launches the DMB, an aluminium catamaran purpose built for pearl shell fishing, one of the largest of its kind at the time.

1990

Industry peaks with 16 pearling licences and over 1,000,000 oysters seeded annually

1980

The second industry – *Pinetada maxima* cultured pearls

1985

Last hard hat diver.

1989

### PASPALEY BEGINS PEARLING IN WA.

Paspaley buys Pearls Pty Ltd (PPL) and so begins cultured pearling in WA.

1983

### ARGYLE DIAMOND MINE BEGINS.

1980s

### CULTURED PEARLING INDUSTRY EXPANDS.

In the mid 1980s pearl prices started to soar and the first wave of new pearlers joined the industry:

- Steve Arrow and family — Arrow Pearls
- Hiroshi and Pearl Hamaguchi family — Hamaguchi Pearls
- Lindsay Brady and Bruce Barker — Cossack Pearls
- Bruce Farley and wife Trish Grey
- Alan Badger

1978

### BLUE SEA PEARLS

Beverley Kinney, late husband Peter, with friends, Brian 'Snowy' County and Rod Reid, established Blue Seas Pearling Co.

*The Morgan Family* are another well-known old Broome pearling family who became successful pearl farmers, eventually based at the Montebello Islands. They are true cultured-pearling pioneers like the Browns and developed many aspects of this iconic Australian Industry. The Morgans exited the industry around 2009. They remain respected family friends, and along with the Male's and Paspaley's played a leading role in establishing the cultured pearling industry.

1990's

### THE NEXT WAVE OF PEARLERS.

During the 1990's the next wave of pearlery emerged. Few remained in the industry for a long time, but the new entrants created another surge in innovation and left their mark on Broome and the pearling industry:

- Hutton Family — Maxima Pearls
- Neville Crane, Steve Arrow and Lindsay Brady — Dampier Pearls
- Larry House, Mark Walsh and Andy Muller — Clipper Pearls
- Kal Brown — Norwest Pearls
- Tony Larard



Photo: oyster spat under a microscope

### HATCHERIES EXPANDS GLOBAL PRODUCTION

Advances in oyster hatchery techniques during the 1990s allows South Sea pearl culturing to expand in Indonesia and the Philippines on a vast scale.