

Bags of style

We all need a good shopping buddy. So when CW discovered this fabulous ASOS Leather Punchout Tote Shopper (for \$115.67, no less) among the 600-plus bags available online, we couldn't help but click BUY. With its unique detailing and extra inside pockets to keep everything organised, this number is the perfect shopping companion. Details: visit asos.com.



Got an update tip? email update@fairfax.com.au



California dreaming

Ah, that Tom Ford. When does the guy sleep? When he's not designing gorgeous clothing or directing stunning films, he's wandering around California looking for new fragrance ideas for his Private Blend Collection. The new Lavender Palm (\$290) evokes images of sparkling sunlight, blossoms and a drive along the California coast. Details: call 1800 061 326.

It's a shoe-in

CW can't resist a bit of timeless style. That's why we love the classic suede desert boot. While last season blues and browns ruled the feet of men (and women) everywhere, the folks at Marcs tell us that oxblood (pictured here, \$139) is the new black this season. What we can confirm is that when teamed with a pair of chinos or jeans, your feet will stay warm while you look oh-so-cool. They may even inspire some new dance moves. Details: visit marcs.com.au



Island life

Italy's isle of Capri has long been the playground of the famous – and a great hunting ground for the paparazzi. It makes sense that Persol has named its new range of sunglasses after the chic enclave. Designed with both looks and functionality in mind, Capri glasses come in men's and women's styles in five colours inspired by the island. They look so fab, you'll demand to have your photo taken. Prices start at \$329.95. Details: call 1800 626 300.



« Drawn to it

Wanting to add a sleek retro touch to your home? CW suggests you check out Australian-based manufacturer Senkki, which allows you to design your own furniture using the graphics and imagery on their website. You can also customise pieces they have on offer by choosing your own woods, laminates and finishes – just like we did with these très hip side drawers (\$1500 for the pair). Details: visit senkki.com.au



EVOLUTION
mary-jane.daffy@fairfax.com.au

Is there an age when you are too old to play the egg and spoon race? Or dress up as Wonder Woman at a children's super-powered birthday party? (Apparently the dress-ups are only for the children). What about bringing the Slip 'n Slide to a supposedly grown-up couple's weekend away. Too much?

What if you've been charged with organising the dessert in a four-course feast with friends, and dish up bowls of vanilla ice-cream covered in chocolate topping and hundreds and thousands. Taking the piss? Not on my watch.

It's a reminder not to grow up and be too serious, too quickly. I'm sticking by the words of French writer Francois de La Rochefoucauld, who wrote "As one grows older, one becomes wiser and more foolish".

That's me.

So I was chuffed last week to discover a great little cafe just a hop-skip-and-a-jump from Flagstaff station that takes a flirty fun approach to some seriously good food.

The Little Lonsdale Street cafe, called The Workers' Food Room, steers away from the sandwich fare usually offered to the duck-in-and-tuck-in office workers and serves up farmhouse friendly fare with enthusiasm.

It's mostly cooked in the roaring wood-fired oven, kicking the food into the heart-warming zone. Think prawns with haloumi and tomato, duck fatayer, pickled octopus, and breakfast with eggs, soutzouki, thick rashers of bacon and mountainous serving sizes that might have you rolling to work.

The fit-out easily traverses the line between stark and warm, with white exposed brick walls, hanging greenery and wood. It's no surprise to discover that owner Kirsty Chiaplias has almost two decades of hospitality cred to her name (most recently sous chef at Easy Tiger and previously at Innocent Bystander).

Did I mention the cinnamon bombolone? I used to call them cinnamon boobies when I was a wee young thing. Oh, grow up! ■



The Workers' Food Room, 472 Little Lonsdale Street, city

PHOTOGRAPHS BY KRISTIAN SCOTT