



Five years ago I had a dream. I had just started my business simply hampers...simply the best and knew that my passion in this new venture was to showcase local products.

I was aware that boutique local food manufacturers were producing wonderful coffee, tea, condiments and sauces and value adding to their crops such as macadamias. I had heard that even cocoa plantations would eventually be producing a locally made chocolate. And plans were also underway to create our own local food branding Taste Paradise.

We also have local artists and potters and I could see simply hampers being able to present all these items eventually.

Sometime before, I had penned a piece of prose which I had entitled The Colours of Australia. I felt that the products needed to be presented not just in a basket or generic gift box but a beautiful gift box that was exclusive to simply hampers...simply the best and that the recipient could keep as a treasure.

I was fortunate to meet a local Yungaburra artist named Alison Bird. Her gift cards are bursting with colour and depict the local flora and fauna. I knew straight away that Alison was on the same page as me when I asked her to interpret my prose into a design that could adorn my gift box.

Her artwork was perfect and we were ready to go! Except for one thing – the GFC hit and I was hesitant to take the plunge to have the boxes printed.

So everything went on hold for some time.

A couple of years went by and I was saddened to hear that Alison was very ill and had to go to Brisbane for treatment – I must get this show on the road, I thought.

I had approached several companies here in Australia to manufacture the box, but it was just too expensive and then as so often happens, a little serendipity came into my life.

Local importer Trudy DiCola of Zanzoo Tiles was offering to source products in China for local businesses and to ship them along with the goods in their own containers from China.

This sounded like the perfect opportunity for me. With the assistance of Zanzoo Imports we were able to source a manufacturer in China and after many emails and adjustments to designs and much trepidation as to how the finished product would look, we received our production samples and the boxes were shipped forthwith.

The first shipment arrived November 2013 and the first order for gifts for a conference held here in Cairns went out a week or so after.

As good fortune would have it again, Alison had just returned to Cairns and that week I was able to present her with the very first one of this production run.



It has been a beautiful collaboration and it is so satisfying to see a vision become a reality.



The Colours of Australia

*Gold tipped eucalypt leaves reflect the golden rays
of the sun in our Tropical North.*

The dancing dolphins frolic in our azure Coral Sea.

*A Birdwing Butterfly flutters on the balmy breezes.
Orchids, and Heliconia flowers provide burst of colour
among the cool green ferns in a Tropical Rainforest
and if you look very closely you might
just catch a glimpse of a beautiful Green Tree Frog.*

*Reds, Ochres and blacks symbolize
the very heart of our country and our indigenous heritage*

*There is yellow for the Wattle, our nation's floral emblem and crimson for the
Waratah*

*Our native Kangaroo Paw, Dryandra and Bottlebrush carpet the vast west of
our land in a sea of vibrant hues from August to December.*

*These colours combine to reflect the richness of our heritage, the diversity of
our people and the warmth of our*

"Welcome"

...to our visitors.

Ph 0740451605 | Mob 0438121523 | E jill@simplyhampers.com.au

www.simplyhampers.com.au