

BEST NEWS-STAND MAGAZINE, QANTAS AWARDS

food, wine & good living

# Cuisine

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## The Magic of Christmas

Bubbles  
& NZ Reds

Sumptuous  
Seafood

RESTAURANT  
OF THE YEAR  
FINALISTS



11



### Top shelf

#### SHAVE YOUR BACON

After experimenting with the new shaved bacon from Beehive I am a convert. It is just so versatile. Sliced very thinly, it will crisp in seconds – perfect for adding crunch and flavour to salads, soups and pasta. It is also perfect for wrapping around foods such as chicken and scallops before roasting or pan-frying and, because it is so fine, you use less but still get terrific flavour. Find it in the chiller section of your supermarket for \$5.99.

### Bottom shelf

#### LOVING SPOONFUL

This is our choice for a practical, yet totally different, funky gift. The Jackie Shapiro for French Bull range of serving spoons comes in wild and wonderful stripes or – more elegant but still with a cheeky spark – spots and geometric design. Heat-resistant up to 120°C, they are suitable for serving hot foods as well as cold. Find them for \$28.50 per pair at Macy Home, Ponsonby, Auckland. ph: 09-361 3388.

#### NEEDS MUSTARD

If you are looking for something with a unique flavour to match your Christmas ham, some of the amazing New Zealand-made mustards available give you plenty to choose from. One of our favourites is Waiheke Island-based Attitude Foods' Orange and Ginger, or the very popular Roasted Garlic. See [www.attitudefoods.com](http://www.attitudefoods.com) for stockists or ph: 09-372 5074. \$8.

#### SIDEKICK

If you like something hot to go with your food, Billy's Chilli Chutney sure packs a punch. Hot, yet sweet, natural and wonderfully fresh in flavour, this is just the condiment to have on hand to spice things up. Available in selected food stores from \$6.95, or ph: 07-576 1626 or 021-105 4734, email: [jelly13@hotmail.com](mailto:jelly13@hotmail.com), for stockists and mail order.

#### REAL FAST FOOD

Even great cooks need convenience foods occasionally, and if you want fast, you might as well make it really tasty. With Studholme's "Just heat and eat" meals such as Lamb Madras, and Lamb Shank in Red Wine and Rosemary Sauce, a gourmet meal is minutes away. And the pouches are as convenient as can be – they don't need refrigerating. Perfect for the boat and beach house, and available in supermarkets from \$10.95.

