

Out there opinion

LIZ McDOUGALL

ON weekday mornings a varied group takes an early morning dip at North Steyne then races across to the Honolulu Grill for an 8.30am appointment.

With much enthusiasm they record a podcast, which is free for anyone to listen to at www.inlatteveritas.com

And it is proving a hit around the world for the eclectic bunch involved - antique dealer John Verhoeven, English teacher Evan Bongarzoni, market stallholder John Partridge, Planet Earth Store owner Shane McCoy and podcaster Steven Lewis.

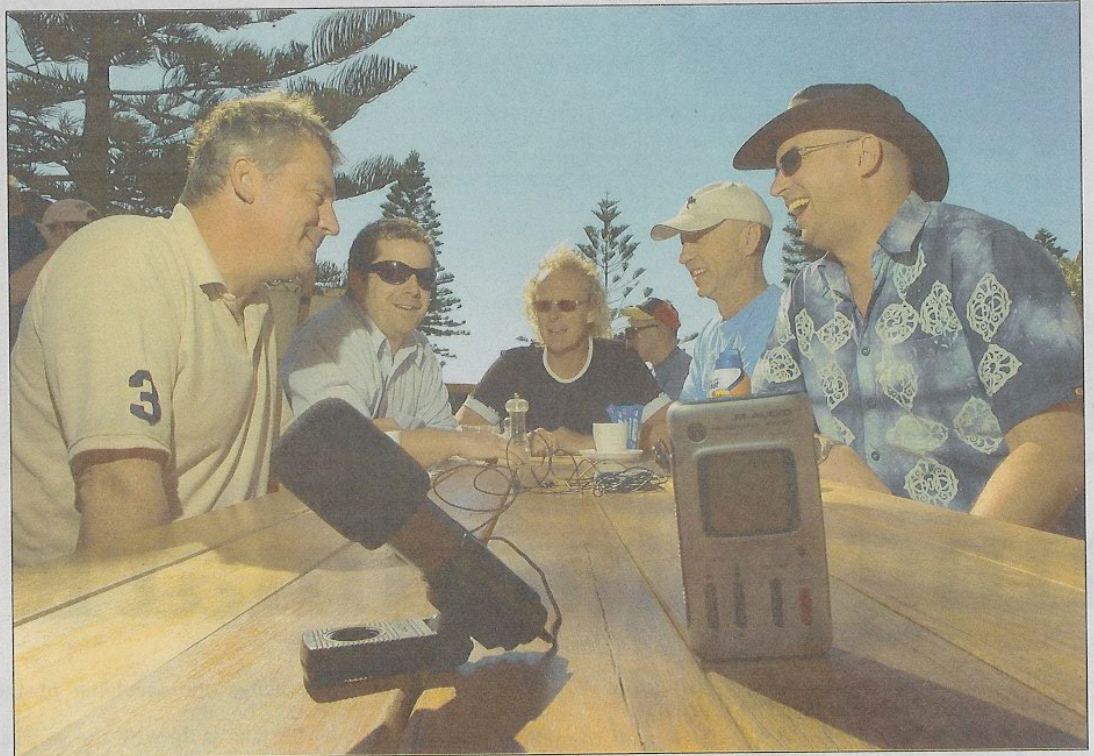
The podcasts are not commercial, are strictly limited to five minutes and once a topic is selected there is no discussion before the recording begins.

The group is up to episode 46 and topics have included: Steve Irwin - national or family tragedy?; should people who are rescued pay for it?; who owns buried treasure?; strippers at work functions; and ticket scalping. But heavy topics such as David Hicks, torture and other human rights issues are also chosen.

"You get the vibe fairly early whether the topic is going to work," Mr Lewis said.

"There needs to be people with opposing views."

Other people join in and it's not



John Verhoeven, Evan Bongarzoni, John Partridge, Shane McCoy and Steven Lewis.

Picture: JOE MURPHY

unusual for some to declare "mike fright" but they are likely to leap in with comments once the microphone is turned on.

Each person gets their fair share of talk time so there are few interjections but there is the oc-

casional disagreement over pronunciation.

"We know from emails and other feedback that we have listeners all over the country, and indeed the world," Mr Lewis said.

"We're big in Stillwater, Oklahoma, for a start . . . and have

had topic suggestions from the UK and the US."

Visit the website or subscribe in iTunes for the latest episodes.

Podcasts are audio or video files which can be downloaded from the internet and played on iPods and similar music players.