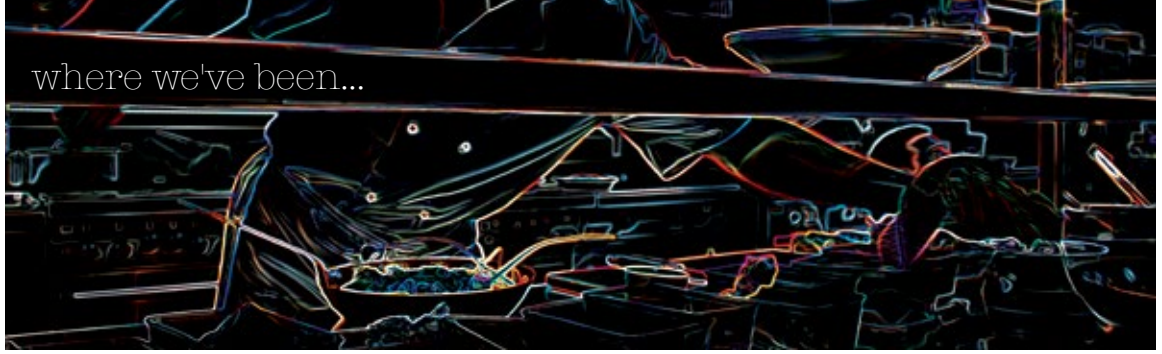


where we've been...



HURRICANES Narellan

Famous for flame grilled steaks and ribs, the Hurricane's brand spans 21 years, their first Sydney steakhouse opening in Roscoe Street, Bondi Beach in 1995. The latest Hurricanes opened recently at Narellan Town Centre, so as is my wont, I got there as soon as I could.

I arrived a little early and ordered a glass of Pike and Joyce, Pinot Noir. Sophia 'swanned' into the gorgeous restaurant right on time. The sophisticated Italian always turns heads and tonight was no exception. Gorgeous restaurant? Hurricanes Grill at Narellan is beautiful! We were both super impressed and after greetings, it was our first topic of conversation. Everywhere you look it is a design success, in both form and function. A simple colour palette and wonderful use of contrasting materials creates a gorgeous aesthetic and a sophisticated but welcoming ambience. A separate bar with more casual seating looks brilliant too. And yes, you can just use the bar if you wish. There's even a bar menu if you just want a drink and snacks with friends. It sure has that feel about it too.

A glass each of the aforementioned Adelaide Hills pinot, and the chatter began. The wine list is very good, in keeping with the sophisticated surrounds.

Another highlight was the staff. From the moment we entered Hurricanes, every young staff member we came into contact with was super friendly, helpful and professional. One poor young girl on her first shift would have

been having nightmares about calling us ladies when she approached our table. For those who have never seen me, I have long hair. It has happened before and it doesn't affect me in the slightest, but the poor girl was mortified.

With direction from our waitress, we decided on Salt and Pepper Squid and Hot Pot Garlic Prawns for entrees. The Salt and Pepper Squid was close to the highlight of the night. Superb tender squid with a thin coat of lightly spiced crumbs. It was big too. Luckily we were sharing, as it might have been a little too big before what lay ahead.

What lay ahead was huge! I went for a combo. That is a 200 gram Sirloin and Pork Ribs. Sophia ordered lamb cutlets. Glistening with baste, they were tasty and juicy, as you would expect from our national dish. We added a Mediterranean Salad for some 'yin' to counter the 'yang' of all that meat.

The quality of produce is sublime. If you're a meat eater, you will be in heaven. There's also seafood on the menu and all sorts of other treats.

I am not a fan of the oversized bibs, but I was eating pork ribs, the natural enemy of the white shirt. I succumbed to our waitress' offer. All of this was of transparent joy to Sophia. Sitting there smirking she grabbed her phone and snapped a picture of me, bib and all. She enjoyed also how uncomfortable I was eating with my hands, but there really is no other way.



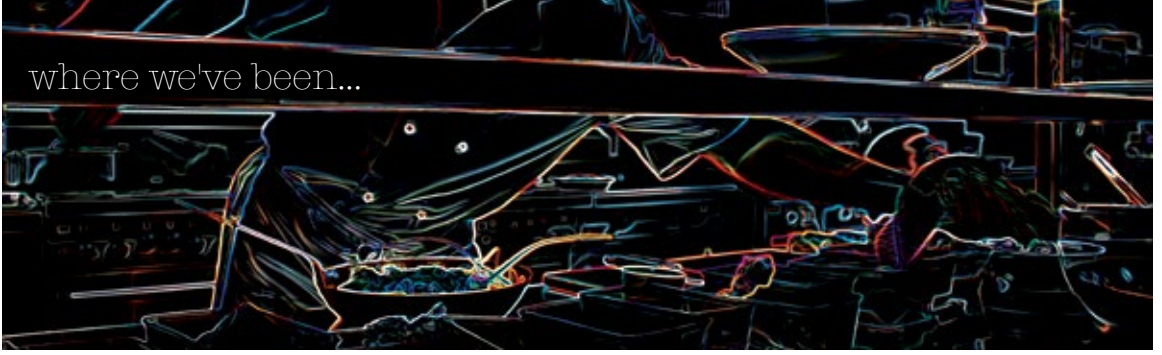
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where we've been...



We couldn't go dessert. This was not a typical meal for either of us and although not uncomfortable, we were indeed full. Lifestyle options around Macarthur area have been the focus of huge growth for the last couple of years and there is no sign of it slowing. I know of more exciting developments too, but if I tell you, I would have to kill you, and I don't like doing that. Stay tuned to my magazine, our website and our Facebook page and you will be the first to know - without being killed, I promise.