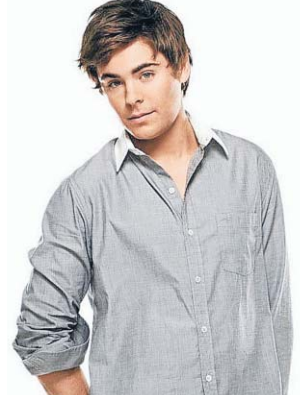


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Twilight time

Like a vampire thirsting for blood, *Twilight* fans are a hungry lot. But while *New Moon*, the second film in the four-part series, isn't due for release until November, there's plenty to keep appetites sated in the meantime. **Alyssa Braithwaite** reports.

THE DVD of *Twilight*, complete with deleted scenes and making-of documentary, was released on Wednesday, and *Twilight Director's Notebook* hit bookstores recently. Catherine Hardwicke, the director behind the worldwide hit that has made more than US\$360 million (NZ\$639.31 million) worldwide, says the fan hysteria has just grown and grown. "Luckily, it was a little bit gradual, otherwise I think we would have just been like, wow, and maybe we would have chickened out," Hardwicke says. Fortunately, Hardwicke herself is a passionate fan of United States author Stephenie Meyer's best-selling series about a teenage girl who falls in love with a vampire. Hardwicke's dedication to the project helped her deliver a movie that recorded the biggest box-office weekend for a film made by a woman. So when she was given the opportunity to publish a book based on her working notebook, including costume and design sketches, location scouting

and behind-the-scenes photos, she jumped at the chance. "One thing that's been fun for me as I've gone around and met *Twilight* fans, a percentage of people come up to me and go, I want to be a director now, or I want to be a producer or a screenwriter or an actor," she says. "So I think that's kind of neat if I can inspire other girls to make films, and this is a cool mini-portion of the things that go into making a movie." Through handwritten notes in the book, Hardwicke describes her inspirations, why bad weather forced her to change some scenes, and how they brought Meyer's novels to life on screen. She hand-picked the cast, and found Kristen Stewart to play human teenager Bella Swan quite easily. But finding someone to play the impossibly good-looking vampire Edward Cullen was a nightmare. "I did a lot of auditions and really nobody seemed like they

were the perfect person," Hardwicke says. "A lot of people are great looking, are really interesting and whatever, but they didn't seem they were from another world and another time. "They didn't have that magical, mysterious quality." Hardwicke found the perfect Edward in British actor Robert Pattinson, who was young, handsome, pale, a good actor and had great chemistry with Stewart.

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Blood and romance: Actors Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson in a scene from the movie *Twilight*.

Blades of naked glory

MATE
 Mark Wilson



I LOVE the winter and everything that goes with it, like duck shooting, Stags rugby, skiing, trips to Dunedin to play some code for the mighty Satanic Verses and their ensuing aftermatch functions where rehydration is taken very seriously. One thing that doesn't usually come into play in your average Mark Wilson winter is ice hockey, nor any form of activity that involves me actually interacting with the ice while on skates. Winter started early as I somehow managed to become involved as a trainer with the New Zealand ice hockey team, the Ice Blacks, in the build-up to the IIHF Division 3 World Champs to be held in Dunedin. Those penguins must have been right - there is ice there after all. How did this happen you may ask? Maybe it was my ability to round up 24 young sports medics, the majority of them female from the university, to assist in treating injuries as well as offering the odd well received rub down, or possibly my passion for Speights that saw some much-needed team bonding at the brewery while taking part in the fabled tour. This, given my actual role was to keep the lads fit and healthy for the duration of the tournament. My ice hockey rookieness was emphasised on my first trip to the rink. During a pre-tournament camp I entered the minus 2degC structure clad in suitable southern attire, shorts, T-shirt and jandals, much to the amusement of the more seasoned ice rink campaigners. My response was that, being from Invercargill, I didn't feel the cold. Adding to the show, part of my initiation with the team was to complete an elephant on ice during world champs. I was aware, due to my education at Otago University, that an elephant of this nature meant a bunch, so possibly bare-arsed guys linked in a very questionable manner with arms and hands in positions that are dicing with death for anyone not 100 per cent comfortable with their sexuality. So not only was I meant to skate on ice, I had to be naked and to cap it off *Blades of Glory*-style. It was an all-male routine featuring not two but eight people of XY chromosome structure. Not quite as gracefully as Chaz Michael Michaels, I stuttered on to the ice soon to be wedged against Chris Eden's butt cheek by a sudden stop in the elephant. I was so focused on not crashing and slicing off my manhood on a skate edge I didn't notice the hundreds of people watching, nor the icy water being thrown on us. It's a long way round an ice rink naked, skating as steadily as an oyster boat in Foveaux Strait, specially connected in a very camp way to eight other lads, but we successfully negotiated the infamous annual tradition of the naked elephant and now can look forward to watching next year's newbies enjoy the privilege.

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