



Dan MacPherson 'Why I had to marry Zoe'

He's nabbed his dream girl, and now the actor has set his sights on a Tinseltown takeover

Fresh off a flight to Sydney, it's clear that married life suits Daniel MacPherson. The star beams as he talks about his wedding to actress Zoe Ventoura in Queensland's beachside oasis of Noosa.

'It's weird to think I was on the dance floor just a few weeks ago,' the 35-year-old tells *New Idea*, as he opens up for the first time about their big day.

'It's a very special place for us and my family, and we celebrated in true Australian style at the beach club... in the Sunshine Coast.'

Dan – who met his bride while making Aussie TV drama *Wild Boys* in 2011 – admits that he's lived 'out of suitcases' for much of the last few years. Fortunately, Zoe, 34, can relate.

'Unless you're with someone who really understands that kind of world, it's tough,' says the former *Neighbours* star.

'There are occurrences in LA that are beyond belief. No-one would believe me when I told them I was late because Lady Gaga blocked me in at the Starbucks car park, or that I got stuck in a line with Colin Farrell.'

'Sometimes I'll walk into an audition and go to shake the hand of the casting director,



The couple announced their marriage by sharing this sweet shot.

who says: "Sorry, I don't touch." Thankfully, Zoe is going through the same sort of stuff.'

Quitting *Dancing With The Stars* in May after seven seasons as host was a deliberate career move for the Sydney-born actor.

'I'd been in LA for years and was coming so close to landing big jobs, but I'd get to the final hurdle and then miss out,' he recalls.

'So my decision behind leaving was to take away everything that was distracting me.'

But unlike other former soapie stars, Dan is quick to assert that *Ramsay Street* will always be close to his heart.

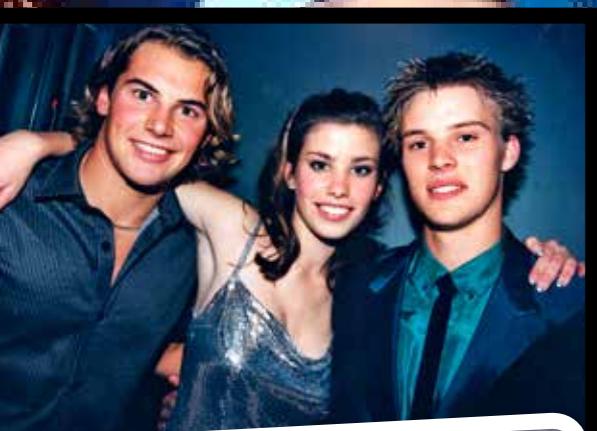
'*Neighbours* was my version of drama school,' he says. 'I learnt so much about professionalism, punctuality, publicity... I'm very proud to have come out of there.'

It looks like 2016 will be Dan's year, with new fantasy TV series *The Shannara Chronicles* premiering in the US in January, followed by sci-fi flick *SFv1*.

'I'm about to head back to LA for pilot season,' he adds. 'Hopefully, this time next year there's a bunch of films lined up.'

'It's one of the most alluring things about LA – your life can literally change in a phone call.'

By Paul Ewart **NI**



The former *Neighbours* hunk (left, with co-stars Brooke Satchwell and Jesse Spencer) has been busy, trying his luck in LA with wife Zoe (left) and starring in sci-fi flick *SFv1* (below).



STAR POWER

