



Kathryn Bonella's book *Snowing in Bali* follows the life of a drug "horse" in Bali. Picture: PAUL LOUGHNAN N22PP607

From the horse's mouth

IT is a subculture that few understand, but for those with dreams of money, mansions, fast cars and fast women, Bali's drug culture is an opportunity too good to pass up.

For Kathryn Bonella, a former *Leader* journalist, and author of the best-selling *Hotel Kerobokan* and *Schappelle Corby: My Story*, the life of the drug lords of Bali has enabled her to produce another eye-popping book, *Snowing in Bali*.

Ms Bonella said she had

no real affinity with Bali until she worked as a producer with *60 Minutes*, covering the Bali bombings and travelling with Liz Hayes six months after the attacks.

Snowing in Bali details the life and times of the drug "horses" — horses because they consider themselves smarter than mules — the extravagance, their rise to incredible wealth, but also the terrible consequences for those who get caught.

"This is about how western drug dealers get ad-

dicted to the Bali lifestyle," Ms Bonella said.

The book details one man's account on how he rose to become the kingpin of Bali's drug world.

"He basically got to a point where he saw three options; the cemetery, jail or hospital," Ms Bonella said.

"It wasn't until his wife got arrested in Sweden and he served time that he went clean."

Snowing in Bali is available at book stores.