

OUR **REAL** WOMEN**Celeste Tan****19, nutrition student**

Life used to be quite black and white for me; going to university and work. Now I'm learning there are so many facets of life to explore. I recently celebrated my 19th birthday and, while I can't say I feel older, I can say I had a fabulous party.

**Alicia Kinsey****21, mother, student, sales representative**

I recently started doing casual work a few days a week in admin and sales. I haven't had a job for a little while, so it means a big change from my jeans-and-singlet lifestyle to business shirts and pants!

**Merelyn Carter****43, mother, country & western singer-songwriter**

I completed a music tour from Brisbane to Cairns in six days recently, with shows every night. At the end, David and I visited the Daintree Rainforest. What a beautiful and ancient place.

**Clare Della-Franca****36, personal assistant**

I brought a new dog home in September. She's an Akita called Mischa and she was a stray. At last harmony seems to be prevailing in our house, and our existing dog Riko and my husband Jeremy are slowly bonding with her!

**Fiona Scotts****36, mother, commercial actor**

Lately I've been working hard on my design and plans to launch my baby carrier which I'm excited about. I also watched my gorgeous Phoebe turn three a few months ago – we celebrated with a pink birthday party, which she loved.

FROM THE **EDITOR**

**AS THE COLD** weather moves in, we fly to Melbourne to road-test the latest winter fashions and find time to sample some of Melbourne's fabulous restaurants, shops, experiences and great buys.

You will be amazed when you see the gorgeous range of garments our Real Women found to fit all body shapes and sizes – and the amazing price tags. The secret this season is to mix and match your favourite items, and don't be afraid to shop at Target as well as your designer favourites, as there are plenty of bargains to be found.

In this issue, we celebrate the release of Dove's new range of hair products and show you how to have beautiful hair, every day. We help four of our readers find a manageable cut that works and looks flattering, and explain how it can be styled simply at home.

Plus, we talk to women who sail, as well as others in amazing careers that have traditionally been dominated by men. We also look at some special friendships between women with large age gaps.

Snuggle up with a hot chocolate and enjoy our third issue of *Real Beauty*, and don't miss your chance to win your own winter weekend in Melbourne, on page 16.

**Renae Leith-Manos, Editor**