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sunday

Simmering resentment
One woman's battle
to poach an egg

Pussy bow coup
Prim but sexy blouses



BOOM AND BUST

How our stunt industry tore itself apart

katie's diary

A week in the life of beauty editor **Katie Newton**



Signature range There are so many amazing products to put on your skin (and empty out your wallet) at Mecca Cosmetics that it's easy to overlook their house brand. But the range is full of body-beautifying treats, designed to cover those essentials the other more famous brands might have missed.

The focus of the range is on staple skincare, done really well. My favourites are the moisturisers, which have that tricky-to-obtain, light-but-rich texture. A pump load of the Better in the Buff Smoothing Body Cream, \$60, will be gratefully

sucked up by dehydrated skin; the purse-sized Velvet Glove Hand Hydrator, \$45, has a non-greasy finish. Lip De-Lovely Conditioning Lip Balm, \$25, makes lips beautifully supple, and you can barely tell you've got the To Save Face SPF 30+ Hydrating Facial Sunscreen, \$56, on at all. Best of all, when you compare it to the

prices of the other creams that line the shelves, you feel like you're saving money when you choose it.

www.meccacosmetics.co.nz



Gimme shimmer Here's another product to add to your never-knew-I-needed-it-but-now-I-can't-do-without-it file – the multi-purpose shimmer stick. Used to highlight areas like the cheeks, lips and décolletage, it can be worn alone or over makeup for a pretty but subtle effect. The original is from Nars, whose The Multiple, \$108, has helped elevate the brand to its current cult-favourite status. The colour range is fantastic, going from the sheerest pearl through to a deep bronzy hue. ModelCo's version, Luminosity, \$36, is slightly stickier, so needs to be blended in with the fingertips, and my favourite, The Body Shop's Roseflower Radiance Stick, \$22, has the same silky texture of The Multiple and comes in a pretty soft pink.

Hard as nails It was easy to be confident that the representatives from Revitanail knew a thing or two about nails when they held their new product launch at Spa Auckland the other day.

Brand executive Courtney Sims' nails were in such perfect condition she had been recruited as hand model for the new range of strengthening nail lacquers. As we had our toenails painted, she explained how a bamboo-derived silica extract would give our nails strength and flexibility, while they were hardened with dimethylurea.

There are 12 shades to choose from including this orangey pink (which I went for) and the dark purpley brown, along with a great nude shade that was also in my goodie bag for a low-maintenance option. It's going to be a lot easier to keep my nails in top shape.

Revitanail Nail Lacquers
in Port Wine, Cashmere

Latte and Coral
Cascade, \$21.90 each.

www.revitanail.co.nz



A tight spot My boyfriend can never find what he's looking for, even when it's right in front of him. So when I tried ReFirme Skin Tightening, I wasn't surprised he couldn't tell the difference.

When I met up with my girlfriends later, however, they all noticed my newly smoothed complexion and well-defined jaw line. Using bi-polar radio frequency and infra-red light, the ReFirme "elos" head zaps the dermal tissue, stimulating collagen and producing a firming and tightening effect. The results after one treatment were extraordinary.

During the treatment, Jude Luke from The Elements spa slathered me with cooling gel and concentrated the head on my jaw line, crow's feet and the upper corners of my mouth.

She did one side at a time so I could compare

them, making the slightly stinging zap much more tolerable on the second side having seen what it could do.

Jude usually recommends a course of between three and five treatments to get results that will last around six months.

It's subtle enough to look natural, although your perceptive girlfriends should be able to tell.

The price of ReFirme Skin Tightening varies from person to person, and is available with a free consultation at The Elements.

www.theelementsspa.co.nz

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