



Deborah Thomas

One of the country's most successful and experienced Magazine Editors, Deborah was at the helm of Australia's biggest selling magazine, *The Australian Women's Weekly*, for a decade and has been editing our most popular women's magazines for over 20 years, before moving to a corporate role within ACP Magazines.

After successfully editing magazines such as *Cleo*, *Elle* and *Mode* (now *Harper's Bazaar*), Deborah was appointed Editor-In-Chief of *The Australian Women's Weekly*, Australia's highest selling magazine and a national icon, in September 1999.

In May 2002, *The Australian Women's Weekly* scooped the pool at the Magazine Publishers of Australia Awards. The awards included Magazine of the Year 2002, General Excellence (News and General Interest), as well as two advertising and marketing awards. Deborah received the highest accolade, Editor of the Year. As well as many other notable awards under her steorage, *The Weekly* won the 2009 Australian Magazine Award for General Excellence in the Mass Women's Category.

In July 2010, Deborah was given the newly created role of Director of Media, Public Affairs and Brand Development across ACP's portfolio of 50-plus titles. Reporting directly to the CEO, Deborah is responsible for all media, marketing and PR across the corporate division, as well as the individual magazine brands and events, plus the development of new revenue streams for the company, including licensed products.

Deborah is the corporate face of the company, hosting many of the magazines' events for the industry and general public, and speaking on behalf of the company, as well as representing ACP on a number of boards and charities.

In 2011 Deborah took on the role as adviser to Mark Bouris in the top rating television series, *Celebrity Apprentice 1* with a second series going to air in April 2012. A regular on radio, Deborah hosted the weekly Health and Wellbeing Show on 2GB and 3MTR – the only woman to have her own show on Sydney's top rating radio station. She is an entertaining and informative media commentator, with regular spots on the *Today* show, *A Current Affair*, *National Nine News* and *Mornings*. Deborah is also a sought-after speaker on many topics, including marketing to women, balancing work and family, and, of course, the Australian publishing and advertising industry.



Currently, Deborah sits on the council of the National Library of Australia (her second term) and is a board member of the Surf Life Saving Foundation. She is also a founding patron of the Taronga Conservation Foundation. In 2011 Deborah was awarded one of the highly contested Board Diversity Scholarships from the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Deborah has also been a member of the Walkley Advisory Council (2005-2007), a board member of the National Breast and Ovarian Cancer Centre (2003-2010), a board member of the Queensland Food, Fibre and Agribusiness Council (2000 – 2007), an AusAID Ambassador for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (2003) and a member of the steering committee for Promoting the Value of the Arts for the Australia Council (2002).

In 2010 and 2011 she was chosen to be the ambassador for the Heart Foundation's Go Red for Women campaign to raise awareness of heart disease as the number one killer of Australian women as well as Australia Day Ambassador 2011 to Darwin, NT.

Outside work, Deborah is a wife and mother to nine-year-old Oscar, and is actively involved in many community fundraising projects.