



Antonia Prebble, Robyn Malcolm and Siobhan Marshall share much more than a family connection on TV3's hugely popular series

When a member of *Outrageous Fortune*'s West family is in trouble – be it for fighting, drinking, stealing or causing mischief – the West Auckland criminal-family-gone-good stick together like glue. And offscreen, the cast and crew have formed such tight bonds, they too view each other as a family unit.

"We were all thrown together and we had to create a sense of family," Antonia Prebble, who plays Loretta West, says. "We had to form relationships from our first day on set. Luckily, the vibe was good and it worked instantly."

In fact, their bond is so strong that Robyn Malcolm – who plays West family matriarch Cheryl – admits she loves watching her onscreen daughters, Antonia and Siobhan Marshall, growing up before her eyes.

"To know Siobhan and Antonia is to love them," Robyn says. "They are amazing, talented and smart, and both are incredibly courageous. They are completely committed to their profession and want to learn. Seeing them sink into their characters and really develop more acting muscle has been a pleasure to watch."

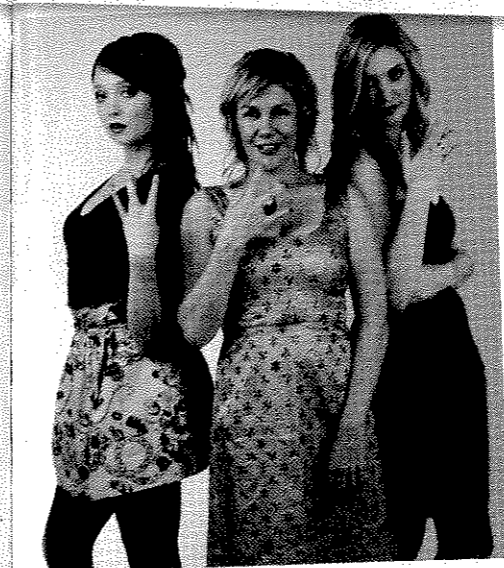
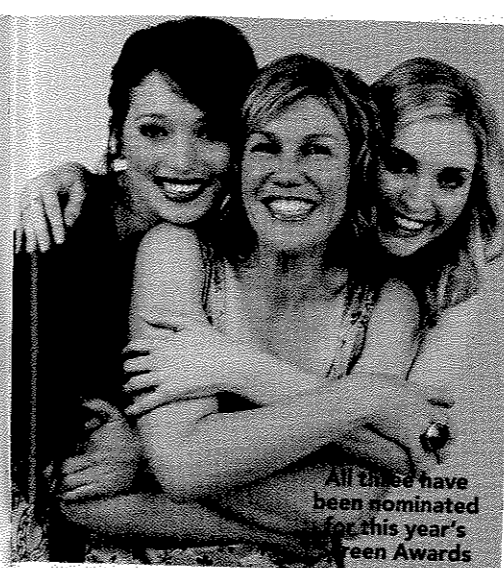
"We're all best mates now," Siobhan (24) adds. "We learn a lot from everyone on the show. If I have trouble with a scene, I'll ask Robyn."

Antonia (23) agrees. "I feel like I've grown very close to Robyn because she's so generous. When I ask Robbie for help, she's always 100% happy to help."

"She never says, 'Toni is asking me for help again but I'd rather go home and hang out with my babies' – which would be understandable. Instead, she says, 'I'd love to help you'. She happily passes on her wealth of knowledge to us. She is clearly the matriarch of the West family and the leader of the cast as well."

The gorgeous trio's onscreen talent has been recognised with nominations at this year's Air New Zealand Screen Awards. But the three down-to-earth actresses take the acclaim in their stride.

Robyn has been nominated for Best Performance by an Actress. She says,



CLOTHES: ROBYN'S DRESS FROM HELEN CHERRY; COAT FROM YVONNE BENNETT; SIOBHAN WEARS RED DRESS FROM SABINE. BEADED DRESS FROM YVONNE BENNETT; ANTONIA DRESSED BY MALA BRAKOVICH; ALL SHOES FROM OVERLAND; ROBYN'S RING BY AIE. ALL OTHER JEWELLERY BY MALA BRAKOVICH

PHOTOS: DOUG SHERRING • MAKEUP: JULIAN ARMISHAW AND AMBER HALDANE • STYLIST: KIRI DONALDSON •

"The awards are a celebration of the industry. It's a really positive event because we can be such a damning country in a lot of ways. The cultural cringe factor has been pervasive throughout New Zealand for a long time so a night to stand up and celebrate our success is healthy."

"I put my heart and soul into Cheryl, so it's great to be recognised for that."

Outrageous Fortune has been nominated for 16 awards this year, which Robyn says has caused some good-natured rivalry on set. But Siobhan and Antonia, two of the youngest cast members, have both been nominated for Best Performance by a Supporting Actress and are nothing but supportive of each other.

"I tell Toni she's going to win and vice versa," Siobhan says, laughing.

"If you win, can we share the award, Toni?" Siobhan asks sweetly, jokingly batting her eyelids.

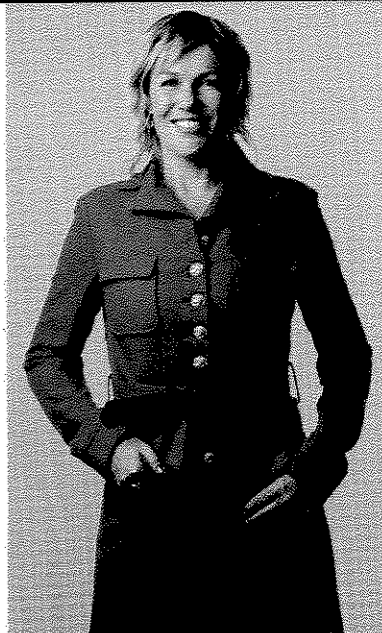
"Of course," Antonia answers seriously. "We each know how hard the other works. If Siobhan wins, she will totally deserve it." ●

Rebecca Milne

16 things you didn't know about your favourite stars:

ROBYN MALCOLM

- ★ Robyn says she will probably prepare her acceptance speech while "sitting on the loo" before going to the Screen Awards ceremony!
- ★ She is a religious user of Environ skin care and loves "things in bottles".
- ★ The former *Shortland Street* star is a non-smoker, even though her character Cheryl can often be seen chain-smoking. (Cheryl's cigarettes are herbal.)
- ★ After years of trial and error, Robyn has learned that keeping a sense of humour and "avoiding large quantities of coffee" will lower her stress levels.
- ★ When Robyn's son Charlie (2) saw a snippet from *Outrageous Fortune* where Wayne Judd (Kirk Torrance) and Cheryl were rolling around in the bushes, he asked why "that man" was cuddling his mum. "The first time Charlie met Kirk, he was suspicious of him," laughs Robyn.



SIOBHAN MARSHALL

- ★ Siobhan had never worn a bikini until she took on the part of Pascale West.
- ★ She indulges in power naps as often as possible. Lunchtime sleeps are her favourite.
- ★ Travel beckons. She and her best mate (Antonia, of course) are planning a trip to Europe in September.
- ★ Despite her good looks, all the makeup she has to wear makes her prone to the occasional acne breakout.
- ★ Using hair masks in her gym sauna gives Siobhan's beautiful mane a golden glow.
- ★ Siobhan describes the tiny leotard Pascale wears while teaching yoga at the Janet Frame Retirement Village as "cringe-worthy".



ANTONIA PREBBLE

- ★ Antonia gets to sleep in a little longer than most of her castmates because her makeup transformation into Loretta West only takes 15 minutes.
- ★ She reckons the best cure after a big night out is taking a spa and sauna, preferably with her pal Siobhan.
- ★ Her beauty secret is "Trilogy rosehip oil for dewy, clear skin".
- ★ Started running in February – and was surprised to discover she actually likes it.
- ★ Antonia first tried for the role of Pascale. "It was a terrible audition," she laughs. "I was surprised the producers wanted to see me in anything at all after that!" But of course they did, and she was shortly afterwards cast in the role of Loretta.

