

THE PROBIOTIC PIONEER

Claire Vero was a high-flying management executive working on everything, from dermatology to the first ever cancer vaccine, at GlaxoSmithKline when she spotted a gap in the beauty market for scientific, results-driven products that were formulated naturally. So she decided to go it alone. 'Women felt like they had to pick between "science" and using skincare that was "natural",' says 33-year-old Claire, who founded Aurelia skincare in

2013. 'Our products do both. The secret weapon is the probiotic element that

performs checks and balances on the skin to reduce cellular inflammation and create the optimum environment for a healthier, more radiant complexion,' she says. The trick to making the products work for you whatever your age or needs - is layering. For younger, twentysomethings who need a kick of hydration, make the Revitalise and Glow Serum, £47, plus Cell Revitalise Night Moisturiser, £42, your poison. For older skins whose bugbear is lines you could add a drop of the Cell Repair Night Oil, £45, into your cream, then layer the mixture over your serum. The Night Oil, in fact, is Claire's top tip for anyone with scars - including stretch marks. 'Having had a baby recently, my body isn't quite the same as it used to be!' she laughs, recalling the triathlons she used to compete in. Now, achieving a work-life balance is more of a case of speed talking new business ideas into a dictaphone as she walks one-year-old Henry around Richmond Park on

her 'non-office days'. With a team of six who have helped her roll the brand out into high-end retailers, such as Liberty and Net-A-Porter, she can afford to squeeze in a few Thai massages now and again, ('everyone should try Acu-Channel on the Brompton Road') and

relies on Eskimo-3

Pure Omega 3 Fish Oil supplements to keep her wits sharp. Other than that, her own beauty regimen is fairly simple - although she admits a weakness for Jo Loves' Pomelo fragrance. This summer, she's dreaming of a visit to the Limewood Hotel spa in Hampshire and long family weekends on the beaches of Salcombe. But, before that, she has products to create. 'These days, women increasingly want more than just one thing from their beauty buys,' she says. 'Cleansers that double up as masks or serums that melt into foundation, for example. We're working on a super smart new skin mask for next year that's going to bring multiple benefits in a luxurious, stress-free, hightech way'. We say amen to that. aureliaskincare.com

