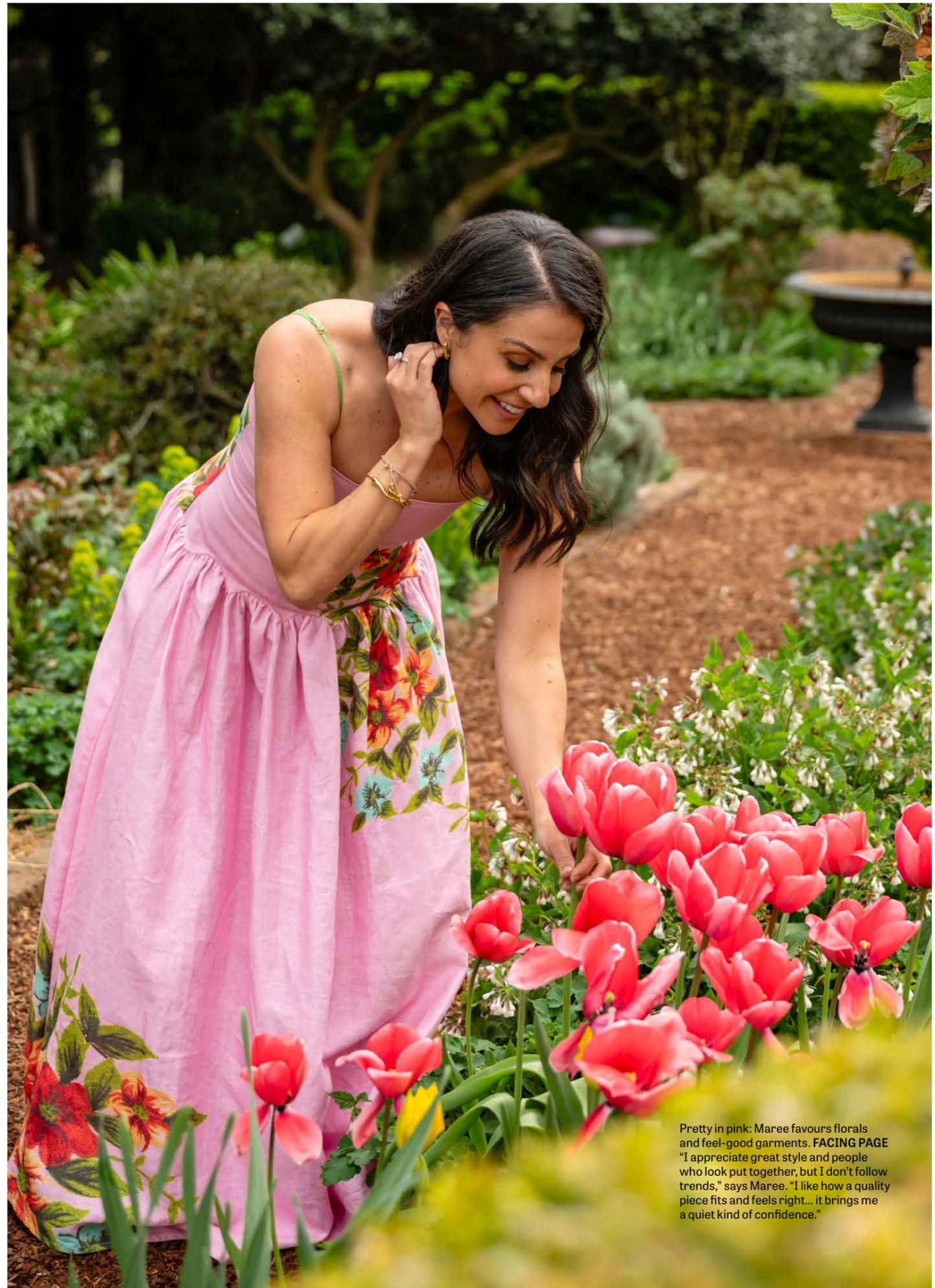


# The style diary

MAREE COLEMAN LOVES THE RELAXED LIFESTYLE ON OFFER IN ORANGE, NSW, AS WELL AS ITS MANY INDEPENDENT BOUTIQUES.

WORDS RACHEL WHITE PHOTOGRAPHY MONIQUE LOVICK  
STYLING AINSLEY SULLIVAN



Pretty in pink: Maree favours florals and feel-good garments. **FACING PAGE** "I appreciate great style and people who look put together, but I don't follow trends," says Maree. "I like how a quality piece fits and feels right... it brings me a quiet kind of confidence."



MAREE COLEMAN

STAY-AT-HOME MUM, 43

Maree lives on a cattle farm south of Orange, NSW, with husband Mark, 48, children Alex, 12, Ivy, 10, and Annabelle, seven – plus kelpie Patch and tabby cat Scribbles.

**What do you love about living in the country?** My childhood is filled with memories of growing up on an apple orchard just outside Orange with my parents and two sisters. I knew I wanted that for my children, too. On Sundays, we try not to leave the farm – it’s our sanctuary from the busy weeks. We reserve it for hanging in the garden, motorbike rides, swims, time in the kitchen – and rides with Patch, checking stock.

**How would you describe your style?** Day to day, you’ll find me in activewear; otherwise I’m swanning around in dresses, long skirts, and a tank and boots. Post-40, I’m liking more structured, tailored pieces that flatter my height. I recently bought a pair of Mother Denim jeans from their petite range that have the perfect amount of stretch and hold for comfort.

**Who are your style influences?** Some of my friends are incredibly stylish – they can wear designer jeans with a Kmart blazer and look fantastic. My Italian heritage sees me gravitating towards black. My nonna, mum and aunts tend to dress in smart suits and little black dresses.

**What’s the best style advice you’ve ever received?** Save nothing for good! Just wear the clothes and jewellery.

**What are your wardrobe essentials?** A wool coat to survive the winter, R.M. Williams boots, silk skirts, and a tailored trench coat for seasonal layering.

**What are your favourite clothing labels?** Cable for beautiful knits and quality tees. Viktoria & Woods; Zoe Kratzmann. When I feel like colour: Alemais, Kivari, and Camilla.

**Where do you shop for clothing and accessories?** We are so lucky in Orange, with Cint Boutique, Jumbled, The White Place, Hermana House, Hawkes General Store, Danielle Louise Fashion, to name a few.

**What are your essential beauty products?** Airyday Sunscreen, Face Atelier Foundation, and Maybelline The Falsies Lash Lift Mascara.

**Do you have a favourite fragrance?** I love wearing Chanel Coco Mademoiselle.

**Do you have any favourite accessories?** My Louis Vuitton handbags, and gorgeous handmade sun hat by Fiona Schofield Millinery. For jewellery, my Paspaley pearls, Peggy & Twig pieces, and Fairley for lovely, affordable gold.

**What helps you keep a balanced life?** Making time and space for relationships – a coffee catch-up, or midweek dinner with friends. Micro moments with the kids each day and, of course, my husband. I feel better if I move my body, so I prioritise exercise most days. Cooking makes me happy – I spend a lot of time in my kitchen and edible garden.

**Where are your favourite spots to eat?** Tonic Restaurant in Millthorpe, and Fiorini’s Osteria Italiana. Good Eddy, Byng Street Cafe and Bills Beans East Orange for brunch or lunch.

**What makes your region a special place to live?** Orange offers a balanced pace, the charm of local food, wine and festivals, and a strong sense of community. I enjoy the distinct seasons – bonfires in winter and poolside in summer. *CS*  
For more on Maree’s life and country home, turn to page 42.



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NATURAL INFLUENCE  
TEAM FEMININE FLORALS  
WITH EARTHY ACCESSORIES.

PRODUCED BY JUDIE SIU

1 Amber Sceats Venice bracelet, \$229, from David Jones. 2 Coco scarf-tie bikini top in Pink Multi Floral, \$165, and high-waist pants in Tan Multi Floral, \$160, from Zimmermann. 3 Fairley chain bracelet in Antique Gold, \$249, from Hawkes General Store. 4 Camilla and Marc Lolani maxi dress in Chocolate, \$450, from David Jones. 5 Kingdom skirt in Apricot, \$550, from Viktoria & Woods. 6 Marco flat sandals in Off White Raffia, \$219.95, from Jo Mercer. 7 Clara wicker mini bag in Natural/Cognac, \$579, from Oroton. 8 Chanel Coco Mademoiselle eau de parfum spray, \$295 (100ml), from David Jones. 9 Wide-leg bolero pant in Blue Florentine, \$540, from Lulu Zagame. 10 Lack of Color summer bucket hat in Clay, \$99, from David Jones. 11 Yasmin linen vest in Ecru, \$299, from Morrison. 12 Frankie high-wedge sandals in Biscuit Suede, \$279.95, from Jo Mercer. 13 Fairley Gigi earrings, \$279, from Hawkes General Store. 14 Newmann maxi dress in Tuscan Magnolia, \$550, from Acler.



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