

## CLOTHESLINES



# DEIRDRE McQUILLAN



## Cul for kids

McCul kids' clothes for ages one to 10 years are designed in Ireland, and have the native climate in mind, but they are also fun, and live up to their name. The latest collection for what they call "little legends" features lots of striped hoodies with cartoon characters based on Irish myth, fleeces and rain jackets. Though the company is only two years old, McCul grows stronger season by season, sticking to its philosophy of creating simple, stylish, hardwearing and affordable clothes. The range can be found in a host of outlets, including their own website at [www.mccul.ie](http://www.mccul.ie), and from Blarney Woollen Mills, Wheat Stores in Bray and Midleton and selected Carraig Donn shops.

## Think pink

The glitziest, girliest bag of the season is a pink metallic faux leather clutch studded with a rosette of crystals. And it's more than just a glamorous cocktail bag. Specially designed by Mary Kate Ryan of the Chica boutique in Dublin's Westbury Mall, all proceeds from its sale will go to the charity Action Breast Cancer. It has an affordable €49.99 price tag and is currently on sale in the boutique, making it an ideal Christmas gift. The crystal motif is symbolic, according to Ryan: the centre stone symbolising the person dealing with the cancer and the smaller surrounding crystals the support network – breast cancer support, doctors, nurses, family and friends.



## Village people

Straightened times generate extra efforts to make us spend. The latest offer from Kildare Village is an express coach service from Dublin direct to the designer outlet and back. The Gray Line tour bus departs every Friday and Saturday from the Gresham Hotel on O'Connell Street, Dublin 1, at 10am, with another pick-up at Dublin Tourism Centre on Suffolk Street, Dublin 2, before heading off on the one-hour journey to the Village. The return bus leaves at 3.30pm. The service will run every weekend up to Saturday, December 27th and tickets, priced at €15 each, include a €10 gift card to spend at the Village. See [www.irishcitytours.com](http://www.irishcitytours.com).

## ABOUT FACE

# PHYL CLARKE



## Party tricks

Here are a few tips from make-up artist Billy Orr

**I'M NEVER WITHOUT** my notebook when there's a make-up artist in the building. They are sometimes found in the photographic studio, transforming some pretty young model into a beacon of loveliness ready for a close-up. I like to see the products they use, pick up tips and watch their technique. And I quiz them about their favourite products and trade secrets.

Our fashion pages this week feature dresses for the party season. Loose flowing curls, dark smoky eyes and nude lips are the perfect modern foil to keep things fresh and on trend. Make-up artist Billy Orr created the look (right), and I was there, pencil poised, to give him the third degree.

Working on model Niamh Healy's curls with the **Babyliss Pro Hair Wand**, Orr was in his element, listing the merits of one of his favourite tools. "It's lightweight, heats in seconds and its cone shape allows varying size curls. Here comes a tip – wind ends of hair only – you don't need to go right into the roots. Leave curled hair to set while you do your make-up, and then brush out with your head held upside down. Throw the head back and spray, for full and soft party curl. The Babyliss wand is available from Salon Services, Drury Street, Dublin 2 and it costs €63.99.

On to the make-up, and the must-have of every artist's kit seems to be **MAC** Face and Body make-up (€36). It's the foundation that I see most artists using. It is lightweight, but gives good coverage and a natural, dewy finish. Another MAC product is a favourite of Orr's: Mineral Skin Finish Powder (€26.50) sets foundation without any hint of mattness due to its pearlised ingredients.

**Chanel's** Bronze Universal (€36) is another staple, for adding shape and contour, and it can even be used as a foundation on darker skins for a sun-kissed healthy glow. Orr plumps for the ever-flattering pink when selecting a cheek colour, and he loves Pot Rouge from **Bobbi Brown** (€26), using the shade Powder Pink



**MADE UP** Model Niamh Hickey wears a purple silk halter neck dress, €1,155, by Julian Clancy, from Caru, Drury Street, Dublin 2

to bring Healy's complexion to life. This product was also used on the model's lips, with a slick of **Vaseline**, which adds a gleam to lips without the gloop, to finish.

The smoky eye is the most popular look again this season and Orr keeps it simple with three products from **MAC**. The first is a cream shadow (€19), which he favours for its ease of application and versatility. Constructivist, which is a metallic dark brown with a red pearl finish, is applied over the eyelid. Eye kohl pencil (€17) in Teddy (a dark bronze shade) is used underneath the bottom lashes, and the finishing touch for added drama is a frosted black shade, Feline (€17), which is applied inside the bottom lashes. Lashings of black mascara on top lashes complete the eyes.

Finally, if you need some colour, or to even out skin tone on shoulders or arms, the trusty **MAC** face and body make-up comes into its own again, giving believable colour and natural coverage – so much classier than shimmery bronzers.

[pclarke@irish-times.ie](mailto:pclarke@irish-times.ie)

Calla Collection

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# ROCKS

DUBLIN

ROCKS JEWELLERS  
73 GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN 2. 01 613 9910

ROCKS OF STILLORGAN  
STILLORGAN SHOPPING CENTRE, STILLORGAN, CO. DUBLIN. 01 288 6156