FIONA WOOD
(1958–)

When she was young, Dr Fiona Wood dreamt of being an Olympic sprinter, but it was another career – medicine – which would see her become an inspiration to so many. After studying in London, Fiona was drawn to plastic surgery, which soon led her to the burns unit, and so her passion in this field was born.

In 1987 Fiona migrated to Australia with her family and settled in Perth, where she completed her medical training. In 2002 tragedy struck with the Bali bombings and Fiona was thrust into the spotlight when a group of injured survivors were sent to Royal Perth Hospital. Leading a team and working around the clock, Fiona helped to save 25 patients with severe burns. Thanks were certainly in order – a Medal of the Order of Australia, that is.

In 2003 Fiona was named Australian of the Year, and from 2005 to 2010 she was voted Australia’s Most Trusted Person – even if we didn’t know there was such an honour, Fiona certainly deserves it! Awards aside, one of Fiona’s biggest accomplishments is her development of ‘spray-on skin’, which is a world-first technology used to treat burns.

Fiona continues to undertake new research in the field of burns medicine and every day her findings are making a difference to people’s quality of life.

Fiona, your integrity, intelligence and ingenuity have made you a hero to so many. You’re helping and healing the world in a very special way.

We trust you completely!

ILLUSTRATION BY AMANDA BURNETT