



Karen with The Veronicas.

Karen has made up a lot of famous faces over the years – she even got to fix Fergie's braids!

Karen with Paulini.

DO THESE PEEPS HAVE THE

COOLEST JOBS

ON THE PLANET OR WHAT?

Hanging out with celebs, bands, getting invited to all the coolest parties ... There's no question, these people have the best jobs ever!



Karen with Simone from Shakaya.

KAREN HOPWOOD, MAKE-UP ARTIST

HOW DID YOU GET INTO DOING MAKE-UP FOR MUSOS?

Well, my Aunty Heather was a rock journalist. I was going to do radiology, but I fell into it by accident by working part-time whilst studying.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DID YOU NEED?

I did an apprenticeship for a year, and then a one-year full-time hair and make-up course. One of my make-up teachers was head of make-up at Channel Nine, and I helped her out. I did all the hangover shifts, coming in at 4am on a Saturday and Sunday – all the stuff other people don't want to do!

HOW DO YOU MAKE SURE YOU'RE THE ONE WHO GETS THE COOL JOBS?

You have to assist the people who are currently doing it – you have to be flexible and adaptable.

WHO ARE SOME CELEBS YOU'VE LOOKED AFTER?

I've worked with Sophie Monk, The Darkness, The Veronicas, Faker, After The Fall, Franz Ferdinand, and the Black Eyed Peas! I've never met more positive, down to earth people. They were amazing.

Some days I do hair, sometimes make-up, sometimes both, but for the BEP I only did the hair. I had to fix Fergie's braids and I had to do a face shave on the boys. They're quite particular about their facial hair.

AFTER YOU'VE DONE THE MAKE-UP, DO YOU OFTEN GET TO SEE THE BAND'S SHOWS FOR FREE?

Yeah – that's definitely one of the perks.

WHAT'S SOMETHING THAT ONLY AN INSIDER WOULD KNOW ABOUT THE INDUSTRY?

You have to be immaculately clean. You can spend 10 years building up your career, and you can have one dirty brush and give someone something, and you will never work again. Never double dip. Always have separate brushes. You've got to be so careful.