

the mother load

BRISBANE MUM DIANNE EVANS JOINED FORCES WITH SISTER SHARON TO WRITE *MOTHER WHO?*, A COLLECTION OF EXPERIENCES OF MOTHERHOOD.

What was the idea behind the book? As a mother of three young children I experienced firsthand how difficult the work/life balance can be. I found just chatting to other mums and women about how they were feeling and dealing with career, work and family helped to keep me sane. *Mother Who?* collates different perspectives from women from all walks of life to provide a sense of community and inspiration.

There are some quite difficult stories here – was it hard to coax these out of your subjects? Our contributors are amazing women and passionate about providing honest communication to other women in the hope of providing a helping hand. It was amazing how forthcoming our contributors were about difficult issues such as postnatal depression and having autistic children. Our contributors willingly opened up and shared their experiences with the intention of helping other women. We certainly didn't take that for granted at all.

How do these stories compare to your experiences of motherhood? I learned women have different experiences but there are aspects we all share. Perfect mothers and perfect children aren't a realistic aspiration.



Dianne and Sharon with their respective broods

Learning how other women have dealt with the experience made me see there are options, tips and tricks that can make it easier.

***Mother Who?*, \$29.95, Big Sky Publishing
Available at bookstores and online at
www.motherwho.com.au
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