

SAMANTHA JANE ROBSON

www.samantharobson.com

Biography (June 2007)

A star in the UK from her four seasons on the award-winning police drama "The Bill," Samantha's second US film, "The Poughkeepsie Tapes," was just bought at the Tribeca Film Festival. She also completed filming the UK documentary "The Witch Files," due for release in the fall of 2007.

Also busy off-screen, Samantha produced Tim Robbins's controversial hit play "Embedded." After a successful Los Angeles premiere the play moved to the Public Theatre in New York and then onto the Riverside Studios in London, where she was also Assistant Director.

Samantha Robson is a classically trained actress who has worked extensively with the Royal Shakespeare Company and appeared at the Royal National Theatre alongside Nobel-prize winning playwright Harold Pinter in a collection of his work.

Stage credits include *Twelfth Night* (RSC), *Measure for Measure* (RSC), *Peer Gynt* (RSC), *Cain* (RSC), *Music Hall* (RSC), *A Brand From The Burning* (RSC), *Eden End* (West Yorkshire Playhouse), *Titus Andronicus* (Hornsey Theatre), *Oklahoma!* (Yvonne Arnaud Theatre), and *Antigone* (Bristol Old Vic). Samantha has also worked with the eminent avant-garde Polish theatre company *Gardzienice* led by Wlodzimierze Staniewski.

Other work includes *The Trial of Sir Walter Raleigh* with Michael York for the BBC, *Breaking the Code*, *Top Girls* and *The Living Room* for LA TheatreWorks, and a number one tour in England playing the lead of Cyrenne in *Rattle Of A Simple Man*, directed by Patrick Sandford.

In addition to "The Bill" television credits include a starring turn in the BBC's "Murder in Mind," and work as a presenter on Channel 4's "The Big Breakfast."

Samantha is a member of Tim Robbins' *Actors Gang* and BAFTA LA. She also publishes monthly on the popular writer's website "Mad as Hell Club."

Press Packet available upon request or please visit
www.samantharobson.com.

The *Bill* star Samantha Robson has ditched her body-baring style for a sophisticated new look

Top, \$25, +1, Ghazal
Shah of Debenhams.
Trousers, \$43, 8-16,
Oasis. Boots, \$110,
3-8, French
Connection.
Necklace, \$4.99.
Accessories

Sam's a class act

star turns

CELEBRITY

One small step for a woman, one giant leap for her looks! Five famous faces reveal how one new beauty trick reaped big rewards

changes

SAMANTHA ROBSON, 29

She started her acting career with the Royal Shakespeare Company – but Samantha is best known for her role as PC Vicky Hagen in ITV's police drama *The Bill*.

'I was so lazy when it came to skincare in my teens, but when I got my first wrinkle I tried almost every anti-ageing product. That's how I learnt that skin is very fragile, because mine reacted very badly. Now I have a monthly facial and exfoliate weekly. I also believe that what you put into your body is as important as what you put on it, so I drink two litres of water every day,

take vitamin and mineral supplements, and improve my circulation with aerobics. I

think it's so much better to be vigilant with my

skin now, rather than try to repair the damage later on.'

OVER TO YOU

As well as a basic skincare routine, try to do the following:

- Increase your daily water intake to help keep your skin plump.
- Exercise for 20-30 minutes two or three times a week to boost the blood flow to your skin.
- Apply SPF15 to your face daily.
- If you have sensitive skin, test new products on the inside of your wrist and wait 48 hours for any adverse reactions. If you have a skin problem, and want to see a dermatologist rather than your GP, call the British Association of Dermatologists (0171 383 0266) for specialists in your area. And invest in *Body Foods For Life* by Jane Clarke, (£20, Weidenfeld & Nicolson) for advice on treating skin problems from the inside.

'I found the right routine for my skin'

SUNDAY
People

MAGAZINE 4
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INSIDE
YOUR
COMPLETE
TV GUIDE
FOR THE
WEEK

LONDON/MERIDIAN

**A PENNY
VINCENZI
SHORT STORY
JUST
FOR YOU**

**KIDS OF
COURAGE:**
The little
people with
BIG hearts



**SAMANTHA
ROBSON
PUTTING ON THE**

**YOUR
WINNING
WILDLIFE
PICTURES**

**MARTIN
CLUNES:**
A man
behaving
dadly

**I LOST
6st
FOR MY
WEDDING**

STYLE

FORMERLY PC HAGEN IN 'THE BILL'

SAMANTHA ROBSON

CONFESSES WHY IT'S MORE FUN TO
PLAY A BAD GIRL AS SHE MODELS HER
DESIGNER FAVOURITES OF THE SEASON



Above: Leaving *The Bill* may have been daunting at first but Samantha is now full of confidence. Here she wears blouse, £250, and jeans, £340, both by Blumarine; belt, £35, and earrings, £25, both by Mikey. Facing page: Samantha wears top, £250, by Blumarine; skirt, £365, by Maria Grachvogel; earrings, £23, by Butler & Wilson; and nude thong, £4, by La Senza

The morning that *OK!* met up with Samantha Robson for a photo shoot, the papers were awash with speculation about her career. On the one hand, it was being claimed she had landed the starring role of Roxie in the West End show *Chicago*, taking over from former *Brookside* actress Claire Sweeney, and there were also reports that she was about to jet off to LA for talks with Hollywood producers about various film projects. So it was no surprise that the former star of *The Bill* was in an upbeat mood when she settled down to set the record straight.

'Hands up, there's no smoke without fire,' Sam told *OK!* candidly. 'But the press have got the wrong end of the stick. Yes, *Chicago* is a possibility. I am in discussions about doing something in the future, but I'm not going to be replacing Claire Sweeney because I'm tied up with other projects. As for jetting off to Hollywood, I am planning to go to LA but only for a holiday. I'm not denying that it would be lovely to do a film over there at some stage, but at the moment I've got so much work lined up in this country it's not even something I'm thinking about.'

WPC VICKY HAGEN FROM 'THE BILL'

SAMANTHA ROBSON

IS CONFINED TO THE GYM AFTER INDULGING IN MARCO PIERRE WHITE'S WICKED PEACH MELBA



Samantha Robson says that since she gave up eating red meat her weight has been easier to control, despite the fact she has a 'terrible predisposition towards chocolate and sweet things' - especially the Peach Melba dessert Marco Pierre White serves up at his Knightsbridge restaurant, Parisienne Chophouse (recipe over the page)! Inset: Samantha as Vicky Hagen in *The Bill*

For the past three years, Samantha Robson has been a regular - and often controversial - member of the Sun Hill team, playing WPC Vicky Hagen in television's long-running police drama *The Bill*. This autumn, however, Vicky's tenure at the station is, as Samantha puts it, 'due to come to a sudden and shocking end' and, while Sam, 28, will be sad to leave the show (in which she has adored working, she admits she is hungry for new professional challenges).

Having just completed her final week's filming (Samantha's last appearance in *The Bill* will be shown in October), *OK!* suggested she join us for lunch at Marco Pierre White's new Knightsbridge restaurant, Parisienne Chophouse.

The menu at the Chophouse is based on traditional classic French cuisine brought up to date to suit modern tastes and it includes many of Marco's signature dishes, such as salmon fishcakes, calf's liver with bacon and ribeye Aberdeen Angus steak with sauce Béarnaise.

For fish-lover Samantha, head chef Adam Clark cooked a delicious lunch of whitebait, followed by salmon with horseradish cream and, despite her protestations of needing an extra hour in the gym afterwards, a wickedly creamy peach melba for dessert...

Sam, how do you feel about leaving *The Bill* after being part of it for so long?

I suppose I'd describe my feelings as a cross between excitement and trepidation as I don't know what the future holds. I've got some exciting projects in the pipeline but nothing has been finalised yet.

Why did you decide to leave now?

I had an instinct it was the right time to go. Although I love the show and I love the people in it, I felt I was becoming slightly institutionalised. During the past few months, my agent has been getting regular calls from casting directors asking, 'Is she free?' So, although I'm walking into the unknown, I feel if I play my cards right I should be on a winning streak.

What will you miss about *The Bill*?

Most of all I shall miss the people but I hope to keep in contact with many of the cast. Jane (Wall), Lisa (Geoghan), Suzanne (Maidcock), Holly (Davidson) and the rest of the girls have become like sisters to me and all the boys are such a laugh. It's the nature of the business, though, you leave a job and have to move on.

What won't you miss?

For the time being it will be nice to have some time to myself. *The Bill* has such a frantic schedule that I've found myself working 12-hour days, seven days a week. I haven't had a proper holiday for the past 18 months, as I've been filming the whole time.

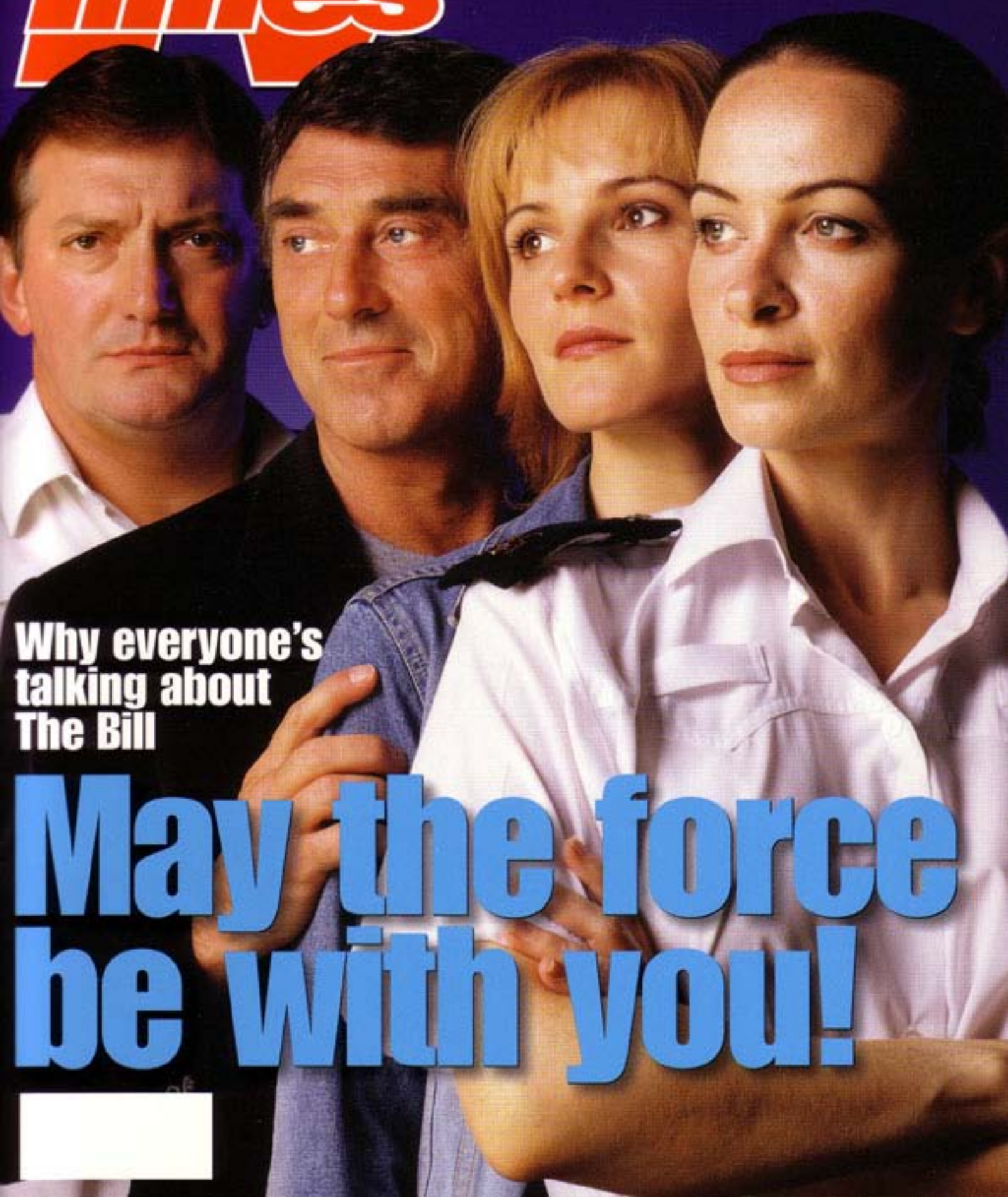
Tell us about the kind of food you like...

I'm not a big meat eater, partly for moral and partly for health reasons. I do eat fish and couldn't give that up as it has become a staple part of my diet. I have a terrible predisposition to

PROGRAMMES 10 - 16 JULY 1999 / 66p

TV
Times

INSIDER EXCLUSIVE
Guess who's the new
Doctor Who



Why everyone's
talking about
The Bill

**May the force
be with you!**



TOP BEAUTY SECRETS OF THE STARS

If anyone should know a thing or two about style, it's the stars who spend their lives in the limelight. But you don't have to be famous to look good. **CHRISTINE DAVIES** asked the stars for their top tips on style and beauty...



EMMA BUNTON Spice Girl

EVERYONE likes to have clear skin and I keep mine healthy by trying to avoid wearing

make-up when I'm not working. I have to wear a lot of make-up for concerts and photo shoots so it's good to give my skin a rest from it occasionally.

On days when I simply cannot avoid wearing it, I always cleanse my skin well with soap and water, then put on lots of E45 cream to rehydrate and soften it.

LORRAINE KELLY GMTV presenter

STYLE isn't just for the rich and famous and it certainly doesn't mean having to wear expensive designer clothes. You can look stylish whatever your budget.

I have a mixture of designer and high street clothes and often team a designer skirt with, say, a cheaper top or jacket from a high street store like George at ASDA or Next.

There are plenty of catwalk copy fashions for less than £50 and if you buy simple, well-cut items, you'll look classy and no-one will ever know how little they cost.

DANI BEHR TV presenter

I SWEAR by good old Vaseline. It makes a great elbow and knee moisturiser and as you can't get anything better for shine, I use it as a lip gloss too.



CAMERON DIAZ Film star

UNTIL recently, I always thought working out was boring and didn't bother much. But now I have to exercise for my part in the new Charlie's Angels movie.

Since starting energetic things

like kick-boxing, I must admit I feel really good. So if you don't find it too boring, I'd recommend exercise to boost physical confidence.

Beauty-wise, my favourite buy is an Evian Brumitiser water spray. It's great for carrying around for a quick freshen up.

MARSHA THOMASON Shazza from TV's Playing The Field

MAKE sure you feel comfortable in your clothes and that they flatter your good points and disguise any bad ones. Remember, an outfit that looks good on a model in a magazine may not look so good on you.

Also, there are some fashion trends that always look ridiculous away from the catwalk. Those big platform shoes the Spice Girls used to wear would look stupid on a woman in a normal situation.

For beautiful skin, my advice is to cleanse, tone and moisturise, eat healthily and drink lots of water every day. Yes, I know it's boring and everyone recommends all this but, honestly girls, it does work!

SAMANTHA ROBSON Vicky Hagen in The Bill

MY advice to women is do what Madonna does – make the best of your assets and you'll look great. She may not be classically beautiful but boy, does she know how to make the most of herself!

She uses make-up to accentuate her bone structure, eyes and mouth and always looks like a goddess. She also manages to carry off the latest trends without being a fashion victim.

Another tip is to eat well – it will show in your skin. And if your skin looks great, you will feel great.

I swear by evening primrose and cod liver oil capsules and I

drink lots of water – at least a litre and a half a day.

Get your body healthy and you'll feel so confident you'll be able to wear whatever you want.



JENNIFER LOPEZ Film star

TO me, looking good is all about having confidence and feeling good about myself.

I'm proud of my womanly body and work hard to keep in shape. I always eat healthily and do regular body-toning exercise.

I also dress to show off my shape and always – repeat always – make sure I wear beautiful shoes. That's a tip I learnt years ago from a relative. She said if I danced with a man he'd be sure to look down at my feet. If he saw lovely shoes, he'd know I was a woman with taste who cared for herself from head to toe. And, of course, he'd fall madly in love with me!

LISA KUDROW Phoebe in Friends

IF you want to look stylish, wear clothes that suit your shape. I'm quite tall and curvy with broad shoulders so I'm not built for the outfits that grace the petite, fragile bodies of catwalk models.

I wear classic clothes and refuse to wear something just because it's in fashion. I prefer to express who I am through my personality rather than through some silly, fussy outfit that's the latest fashion trend. Style

is about accepting yourself. Women should accept their bodies and dress accordingly.

NATALIE PORTMAN Star Wars actress

IF you're off to see a sad film at the movies and want to look beautiful once it's over, my best tip is to ditch the mascara and smear a layer of Vaseline on to your lashes instead. It makes them darker, glossier and won't run down your face if you cry!

LUCY BENJAMIN EastEnders' Lisa

MY one beauty must-have is an eyebrow comb. Every woman should invest in one. My eyebrows can be quite unruly and if I don't use a comb, they look terrible.

Your eyebrows frame your face and set off your eyes, so they need to be groomed into a flattering shape. And remember – big, bushy and untidy eyebrows are definitely not attractive – but neat, tidy ones definitely are!



BRITNEY SPEARS Pop star

MY mum always told me, 'Don't be embarrassed or ashamed of your body, because it is beautiful'. That's the best piece of style advice I can offer because it's so true. If you learn to love and accept your body as it is meant to be, you'll always look and feel good no matter what you wear.

Other than that, I ensure I always look at least half decent with make-up. For long lashes, I like Shu Uemura's Eyelash Curlers – they curl eyelashes the best. And I never leave home without concealer to cover spots and MAC lipsticks and gloss for really gorgeous lips.



FIT THE BILL: Cod liver oil and a dose of confidence, says Sam Robson

samantha robson

MY IDEA OF FUN

The Bill's WPC Hagan tells **Andrew Threlfall** why she prefers diving with dolphins and walking the dog to a life on the beat

What's your idea of fun?

Swimming with wild dolphins. I've done it and it was so exciting. You get an incredible adrenaline rush if it's a wild dolphin. I think that they are far more intelligent than we are.

What's your favourite holiday destination?

It would have to be either Fiji, the Red Sea or Koh Samui in Thailand, which is probably the best. That's because I have a huge passion for diving and marine fish, so I love the clear water and the huge variety of fish down there. I haven't really had a holiday in two years - although I did nip down to Cannes for the Film Festival, but that was sort of work.

What book do you come back to again and again?

It would be the comedies of Shakespeare. I don't have one particular favourite but I love *As You Like It*, *A Comedy of Errors*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Merchant of Venice* and *Twelfth Night*.

What book are you reading at the moment?

I've actually just finished reading *Captain Corelli's Mandolin*. I loved it. I usually have three or four books on my bedside table on topics such as dog-training or better fish-keeping.

What was the last film to knock you out?

I absolutely loved *Billy Elliot*. It was a wonderful portrayal of how hard it must be for a young boy to become a ballet dancer anywhere in Britain, let alone the north.

What programme do you always set the video for?

I try to never miss an episode of *Frasier*. It never ever lets you down and I think Niles is absolutely adorable! There isn't a weak link in the whole cast. Even Eddie the dog is brilliant.

What do you miss most when you're away?

My dog Bubba. He's a whippet named after the Jewish name Bubbala. He gets three walks a day if he's a lucky boy. He stays with his nanny when I'm away. I wouldn't go away if he had to go to a kennel.

Are you a shopaholic?

Not at all. I'm a saver-holic, actually. I try to avoid the shops, otherwise I find I spend loads on clothes. I buy most of mine in New York, though.

What do you most like to eat?

I prefer a spicy dish, although I'm mainly vegetarian now. A green curry with coconut rice takes some beating. I can't eat prawns because I have them in my fish tank at home and I couldn't look at them if I'd just been eating them.

How did you spend last Saturday night?

I went to Nobu in London, a fabulous sushi restaurant above The Met Bar. I was celebrating my new job with friends: I'm off to Yorkshire to do some theatre.

Samantha Robson is in The Bill, Tuesdays and Fridays on ITV1



24 HOURS IN THE LIFE OF

Samantha Robson

Samantha, 32, played PC Vicky Hagen in ITV's *The Bill* until she left to pursue other acting options. She is single and lives in London

Words **Allegra McCauley** Photograph **Tessa Hallmann**

Did you sleep well last night?

No. My whippet, Bubba, kept waking me up because there were foxes in the garden. I also woke up thinking I was having a heart attack when my cat Charlie jumped on my chest. He's a massive ginger tom, so it was like a 10-ton weight landing on me.

Who were you with at midnight?

I was with Robert De Niro, as I was watching *Taxi Driver* on DVD.

Who was the first person you spoke to this morning?

My publicist about a photo shoot with *OK!* magazine.

What was the best meal you had today?

Breakfast. Some friends came over and we had orange juice, fresh fruit, and French toast. I don't normally have time for breakfast except as a weekend treat.

What was the most expensive thing you bought today?

A black Dolce & Gabbana cocktail dress to wear at a friend's birthday party.

What made you laugh today?

I met Jerry Springer and Angus Deayton at a Prince's Trust dinner - I'm an ambassador for the Trust and they were both guests. It was a very entertaining conversation - Angus Deayton spent a lot of time discussing Kylie Minogue's bottom. That made me laugh a lot.

What do you regret about today?

I only had five and half hours' sleep - much less than I normally need - so I'm not going to be smiling and laughing as much as I should be.

What are you most proud of today?

Well, yesterday I stayed in bed until 11.30am. I'm proud of that because I usually have to be up at 6am but for

once I made myself have a proper rest. Trouble is, after last night I'm just as tired as before!

Has anything annoyed you today?

Driving to Bristol earlier for a meeting. I was waiting to pull out when a guy let me out and then proceeded to cut me up. I couldn't believe it.

What song can you not get out of your head at the moment?

Kylie's *In Your Eyes*, which is really irritating because I am so not into all the nonsense about her bottom but now I can't stop thinking about her.

What appointments did you make today?

I've got two auditions next week and the *OK!* photo shoot.

How long did you spend getting ready this morning?

Only about four minutes. I had a quick shower, then threw on some clothes and rushed out of the door.

What time will you be in bed tonight?

Probably well after midnight as I've got so many things to do before I go down to Bristol for a week's filming. We start rehearsals tomorrow and I always end up learning my lines until well into the small hours the night before, then having to get up far too early.

Was it a bad or good hair day?

Definitely a bad hair day, but I don't care. I haven't done anything to it today. I just got up, walked the dog, jumped in the shower, then got in the car. Once I got to Bristol, someone at the studio helped me fix it up a bit.

Samantha stars in *Murder In Mind*, BBC1 Wednesday (see programme details on page 68).



