



To help the environment, actress Brooke Satchwell wants Australians to drink tap water instead of costly bottled water.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY PETER BREW-BEVAN. STYLING BY STAV FORTIS. HAIR AND MAKEUP BY LESLEY CAMERON. BROOKE WEARS SILK COTTON. MAXI DRESS BY HARRY WHO. ACCESSORIES BY THE FAMILY JEWELS. PREMIUM HOSE BY JAMIE DURE. 1800 231 311.

It is the season of goodwill and the perfect time to help another person and the planet, writes **Larry Writer**, who talks to four popular Australians who have become devoted ambassadors for causes dear to their hearts.

Brooke Satchwell Australian Bottled Water Alliance

WHEN THE WORLD started buying water in plastic bottles, paying exorbitant prices for liquid you could get free from a tap, Brooke Satchwell scratched her head. "I was at school and everyone was carrying a plastic water bottle as a fashion statement. I thought, 'This is weird!' To me, Evian was 'naive' spelled backwards."

Today, the bubbly Brooke, 28, a TV favourite from *Neighbours*, *Water Rats*, *White Collar Blue*, *Dangerous* and *Canal Road*, and about to star as a hot-shot property developer in the new film *Subdivision*, supports the Australian Bottled Water Alliance, which calls for bottled water to be consumed only when absolutely necessary.

"Australia's use of bottled water creates more than 60,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions a year, the same as that of 13,000 cars. And at least 50 million litres of precious oil is used to make and distribute bottled water every year. Also, nearly 70 per cent of the used plastic water bottles ends up as litter or landfill."

If you're in a restaurant, Brooke adds, "When the waiter asks, 'Sparkling water or still?' I always say, 'Tap's just fine.' I truly prefer the taste ..."

And, doubtless, the price. Even though Australia has among the clearest, cleanest and most sparkling tap water in the world, we still spend more than half a billion dollars a year on bottled water.

"A litre of bottled water can cost up to 2500 times [more than] the water that comes out of your tap and, in the case of many brands, more than a litre of petrol," says Brooke.

For more information about the costs of bottled water, visit www.bottledwateralliance.com.

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