

Steve Castiglioni's mega makeover has given him a renewed zest for life

When he weighed nearly 200kg, Steve Castiglioni dreamt of walking on the beach and not feeling embarrassed about how he looked. Posing for a recent New Idea photo shoot, Steve got a very different reaction. 'Is he modelling clothes?' a spectator yelled. Steve smiled and flashed his brand new teeth.

But he is more proud of the way his stomach looks. He's not perfect, but he's thrilled that after a total body lift operation, he now looks how he imagined he would after losing around 100kg. Steve lost the weight through exercise and diet, only to be left with a stomach sag.

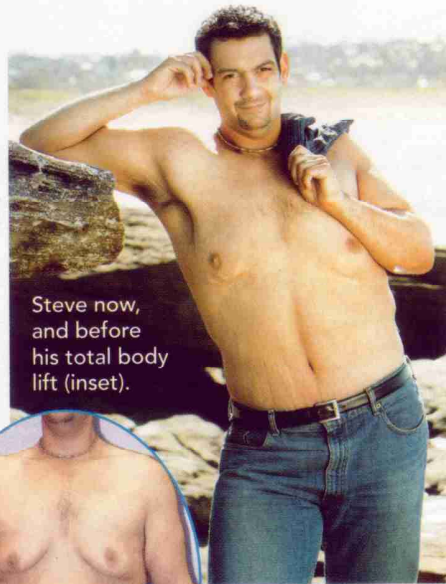
'It moved when I walked,' Steve admits. 'It was so depressing.'

So he approached the Seven Network show *The Body Specialists*, which screens on Thursdays at 8pm, about having a total body lift.

The operation removed more than 8kg of skin, and moved his belly button from below his pelvis to its normal position. He will have another operation to remove skin sag from his upper body.

Dr Robert Drielsma, of Sydney Plastic Surgeons, performed the surgery, and is very happy with the results.

'It went smoothly. Steve sailed through, although I was expecting



Steve now, and before his total body lift (inset).



minor complications because we had to remove so much skin,' he says.

Steve adds: 'I feel great, but there's more to be done. I want to have the

next operation then hit the gym again.'

After our shoot, Steve was treated to a surprise party organised by best friend Zinovia Givoaris, who has been there every step of the way encouraging him.

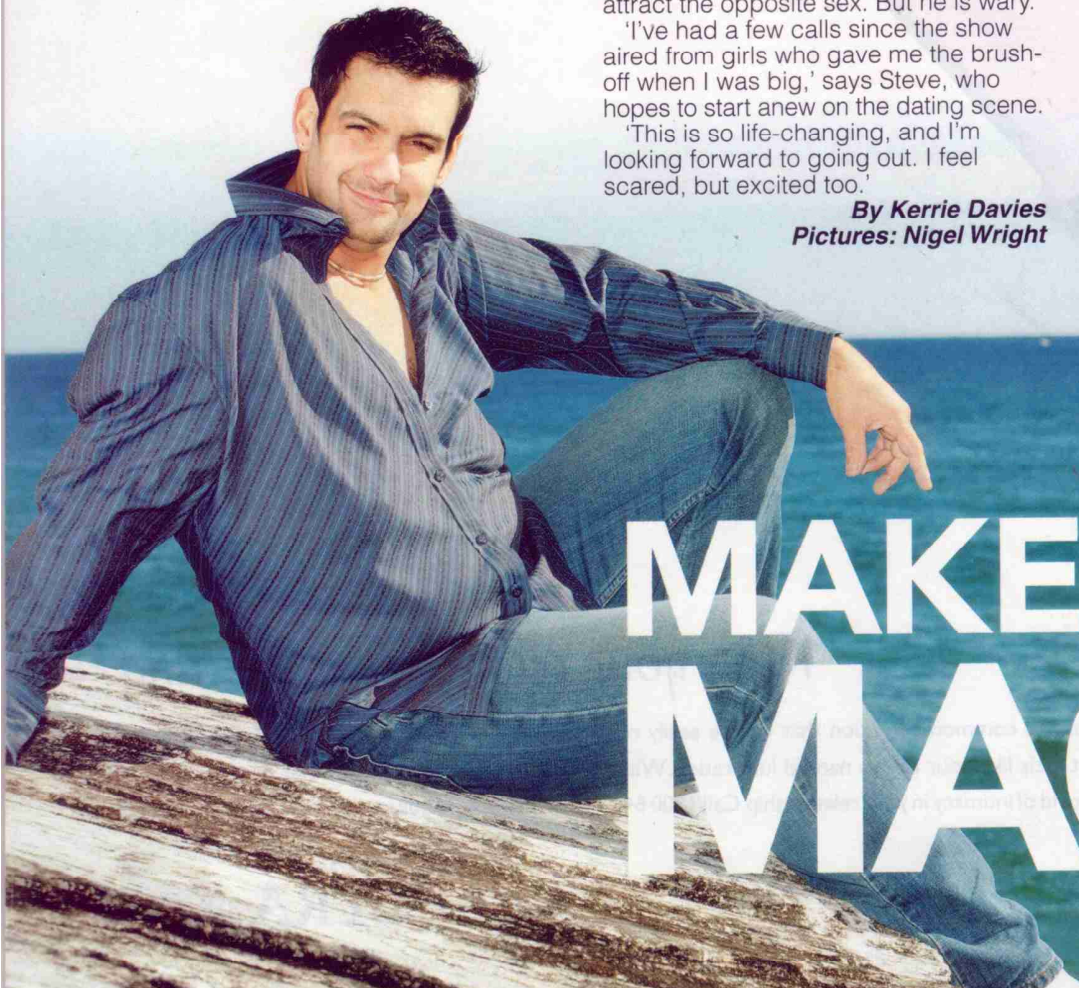
'As long as he doesn't change who he is, then I love the new Steve,' she says.

Posing happily with a group of girlfriends from his 'reveal party', Steve says he now feels confident enough to attract the opposite sex. But he is wary.

'I've had a few calls since the show aired from girls who gave me the brush-off when I was big,' says Steve, who hopes to start anew on the dating scene.

'This is so life-changing, and I'm looking forward to going out. I feel scared, but excited too.'

By Kerrie Davies
Pictures: Nigel Wright



DESIGNER BRIDE

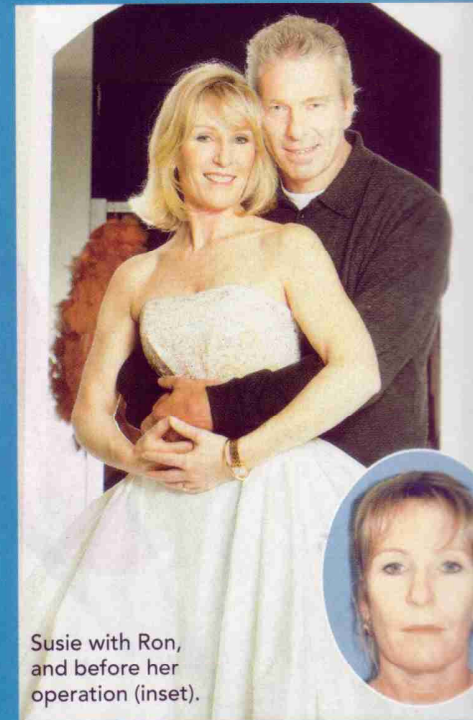
ot on the heels of *The Body Specialists*, transformed Susie Baker is getting ready for her next appearance – her wedding in Melbourne in July.

Susie, who appeared in episode one, was thrilled with the nose job, liposuction, browlift and upper eyelid surgery that gave her a younger look.

Sydney designer Alex Perry helped Susie with her makeover, and is now taking care of her wedding dress. At his salon in Sydney's Strand Arcade, she tries on a divine strapless gown.

'I just love her,' her fiance Ron says. 'I told her: "Don't do this surgery for me," and she assured me that she was doing it for herself. I knew she wouldn't do a Michael Jackson! She looks great, but I would have loved her just as much if she hadn't done a thing.'

Susie considered breast implants, but to Ron's relief she decided against them. 'I like them the way they are,' he says with a grin.



Susie with Ron, and before her operation (inset).



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