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NEWS 35



Stephanie Schmidt Ziggy, with a load of clean laundry. Picture: TIM CARRAFA

## POWDER 'ATTACKS' OUR SKIN

CATHERINE LAMBERT

WASHING powder is the most damaging skincare product in the house, according to a leading environmentalist.

Ecostore founder Malcolm Rands said a chemical-laden washing powder can increase the skin's ageing process.

"All the chemicals in washing powder are against the skin 24/seven, whether in clothes, pillow slips, sheets or towels," Mr Rands said.

"That's making the skin work harder to cope. In fact, it attacks the skin."

One of the worst is optical brightener, he said.

"It has always been something of a contest to compare whose clothes are brightest, but these optical brighteners are not only on the outside of the clothes, they're on the inside and, in the worst cases, forming allergic rashes," he said.

Mr Rands, who has just released a new book *Ecoman*, began Ecostore 28 years ago.