

MOST WANTED

Professional colour service

from around £50 per treatment, Marie Hall
Hairdressing, West Bridgford; 0115 982 1061

When it comes to adding colour to your hair, there really is nothing to beat that professional touch.

The latest "DIY" tints (complete with those fiddly highlight brushes) are all very well. But sorry, once you've seen how much better your hair looks (and how much longer the effect lasts) after visiting a salon, there's just no contest.

Of course, many of us can't afford to visit one of those swish city centre salons every eight weeks.

That's why West Bridgford specialist Marie Hall is such a find.

Marie's thriving business in Trent Boulevard may be what some refer to as a "back street salon" — but don't let that fool you.

She has recently graduated from the hairdressing industry's most prestigious colour course, earning her the accolade "Wella Master Colour Expert (MCE)."

That makes Marie one of the most highly qualified colour professionals in Notts, excelling in technical expertise, creativity, colour correction, advice and personal colour consultations.

For the last 15 years, I've been a

regular client at one of the bigger salon chains, forking out a hefty £85 or so every time for bleached highlights on a base of tinted brown. (I know, I know. What a rip off. But it's positively the only way I can disguise my grey hair).

So I put Marie's expertise to the test, and she more than matched the big boys who usually have to battle their way through my complicated mid-length "do." Her confident manner, attention to detail and effortless skill with the colour bottle produced some great results. And the cut was also spot on.

Meanwhile, regular client Elena Botterill (right with Marie) decided to really test Marie's skills, adding no less than six subtle colours to her trendy short crop. Including shocking pink.

"I love it ... I just wish I'd had more pink!" said a delighted Elena after her two-hour treatment.

And for my own part, as someone who's previously avoided out-of-town salons, I know where I'll be heading next time those grey hairs need sorting...

Oonagh Robinson



BEAUTY Q&A

Zoe Beauchamp, team leader at Sassoon Studio, St Peter's Gate, Nottingham

Q: What hairstyles are good for wearing under hats to weddings? I want to wear a hat but I don't want 'hat hair' at the evening reception.

A: "If you have long hair, a great style to wear under a hat is to tie your hair into a low, tight ponytail at the nape of the neck. This will allow your hat to sit comfortably on your head, and will also keep your hair tidy so that when

you take your hat off later in the day your style will remain unchanged. You could also carry a small bottle of serum such as System Professional Fluid Crystal in your handbag to smooth any loose or flyaway hairs.

If you have shorter hair, instead of using a grease-based wax, use a malleable product such as a hair putty to style your hair in the morning. When you take your hat off, lightly dampen your hair by running wet hands through it to re-activate the product and re-style for the evening.

If you have curly hair, leave it loose under your hat, and pop a curl-refreshing product in your handbag. When you remove your hat, turn your head upside down and spray through the curl-refresher to revive your curls."



If you have a beauty question that you would like one of our experts to answer, then write to: Health & Beauty, Nottingham Evening Post, Castle Wharf, Nottingham NG1 7EU or e-mail mhairi.mcfarlane@nottinghameveningpost.co.uk