

# George's

HAIRDRESSING



# A NEW WAVE OF WIG

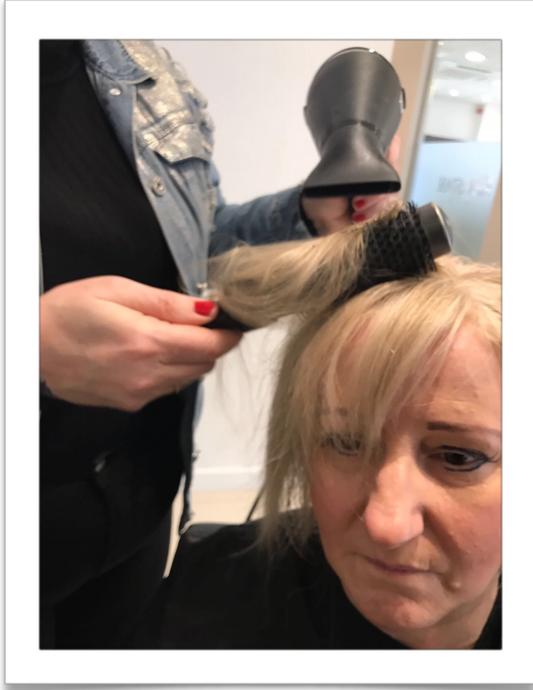


George's Hairdressing have entered into a new wave of wig. Suzanne Hunt is one of our first clients to have one of our bespoke, custom made wigs. We asked Suzanne to write the story of her emotional journey, battling with hair loss, and how she feels after just a few weeks of wearing her new hair.

‘It began in June 2016 with my first fitting; which I have to say I was a little apprehensive about, but it went well. It took what only seemed like a few minutes and despite what looked like a strange contraption, it was amazing how Jane & Lois were able to get a perfect mould of my head! We discussed the cap and I was a little anxious, I have to admit, when they said I would not need tape: that's been my security blanket for years, but I was assured I could throw my head around and it would not come off! I remember a time when I was in a club dancing, when a man who decided to practise his dance moves for no apparent reason, picked me up and tipped me upside down!!! Proving you just never know when you're going to need that extra security!!



On leaving the salon I felt great and was really excited about my new hair, thanks to Jane & Lois who talked me through colours, density & textures. A new world to me



but one I was glad to be part of, having been excluded from it for so many years.

Now, for the wait for it to be made...it was 6 months until I saw it and it felt strange thinking about letting go of that familiarity - something I have found I hold on to a lot more than usual since having Alopecia. The last thing I ever want to do is draw attention to my hair in fear of people noticing the lack of it. Whilst waiting, I really relished looking at hairstyles in magazines and looking at other people's hair, whilst deciding what style I wanted; this was something I'd really missed, having been without it for so long! I began to think about shampoos, colours etc., and get involved in conversations with others: something I hadn't realised until now, how much I'd 'zoned out' of all of this!

After getting the call to say my hair was now ready I felt both excited and apprehensive, but the thought of picking a style; something I had not been able to do for over 12 years, took over any apprehension. When I first saw my hair I was so pleased to see it was such lovely quality. My heart sank, however when putting it on, as it was very long, with a centre parting, which just hung, but thanks to Lois, who reassured me it was normal to feel like that before the cut and styling and it would all be ok once she had worked her wonders! Her words proved to be very true as it took shape and began to suit my face better. I was involved in the whole restyling process - being asked my opinion but at the same time helped by Lois's experience, I returned later for a second cut as I felt it needed to be a bit shorter.



Having not had hair for so many years, I didn't realise that the ageing process had changed my colouring and style. I would advise anyone changing to a real hair wig after a long period to bear this in mind when picturing styles, colours etc. as our memories may be frozen in terms of our hair at that time. But unfortunately life is cruel and this is not the case in terms of maturity! This proved to be not too much of a problem once I talked it over with Lois, who took it away and put some darker colours through it. How wonderful having your hair coloured and not having to sit for hours! Another positive!



I was encouraged to wear my hair on leaving the salon, which I did, but I felt very self-conscious as it felt as if it would “ping off” at any moment! I got home - tugged on it and threw my head around shaking and it tipping it upside down...it didn't shift! I asked myself 'Why am i still feeling anxious? I came up with 2 answers, which may be particular to me but I will share my thoughts. Firstly the actual cap felt so small, finishing much higher up my neck, whereas for 10 years the acrylic standard wigs I had been wearing came much lower into the nape of my neck - something that I now recall had irritated me on many occasions as it would push up easily with certain clothing and was the reason the hair would stick out. It also felt light on my head and no pressing of the

adjustable velcro pieces at the base of my neck and the metal pieces at my ears: who would have thought I would miss this! Secondly someone from the BOC group said to me you need to build trust in the wig and this really hit home, I needed to give it time. I did talk with Lois and she assured me the fit was fine and checked I was putting it on right and again this gave me confidence in accepting it was just the change. I will be honest I did use tape for a couple of weeks for my own piece of mind but I know now this wasn't needed.

Ok so after wearing it for a while and getting used to the fact that it looked like it needed a brush as real hair does, it moved like my own hair. It had been 10 years plus of swilling my acrylic wig in tepid water, then placing it on my head with no effort and it would stay in place all day, that is something I used to hate, but again, I had adjusted to over the years. So now having my new hair I realised I needed time to adjust again, adjust to washing and styling my new hair.

Now I love it! I have been and bought hair clips which I have enjoyed and an added extra bonus of having no hair meant I was able to put it up whilst on the poly head therefore getting it just as I wanted it. ☺

Here is a list of things I have enjoyed since having my hair:

Being able to wash my hair in the shower

- *Wrapping my hair in a towel when coming out of the shower*

- *Being able to look at hair accessories*
- *Looking in the mirror and the enjoyment of the hair looking like it belongs to me*
- *Styling my hair*
- *Being able to have a sleepover with my niece and wearing hair overnight*
- *Being able to put it up*
- *Getting ready for a night out and taking time to do my hair*
- *The smell of freshly washed hair*
- *People asking how I get my hair to look so nice*



But there are one or two things I haven't found so positive

- Blow drying my hair was a shock! I had forgotten how hot and hard work it was and the last time I had done this I was in my 30's!
- Waking up to my hair being all 'over the place'

Just a couple of small things that I am used to now.

I look forward to seeing everyone on 26<sup>th</sup> although it has left me with a big decision...

**DO I WEAR IT UP OR  
DOWN!!!**