

On trial

BANISH THE BLEMISHES

Having what you could euphemistically call a typical 'English Rose' complexion, I recently decided to take action and made an appointment with the Queen of veins, Harley Street-based Elaine Stoddart. It ain't glamorous, but I know I'm not alone in wanting to banish my red nose for good, and as Elaine is exceptionally well-qualified and experienced, not to mention warm and reassuring, I relax the moment I step into her bright practice room.

What I didn't know is that electrolysis has been around since 1875 and while laser and Intense Pulsed Light (IPL) treatments seem to get all the press these days, electrolysis has been quietly and successfully dealing with a multitude of skin complaints and blemishes, way beyond the typical hair removal treatments that are usually associated with it.

My veins were tapped with an electrical current through a needle the size of an eyelash, and Elaine systematically worked her way around my nose, stopping for me to have a breather as I must be honest. it does smart a little. It's such an accurate method, there's very little healing to be done afterwards, and as Elaine herself says, "why use a JCB digger to plant a daisy?"

After just one short session, I could see an immediate improvement, and I'll be heading back for some more sessions on other areas that could do with a little, ahem, refurbishment. BP Elaine Stoddart, No 1 Harley Street, London W1 (07526 233443; elainestoddart.com)