



**The colour was for a panto role – but I loved it**

*ACTRESS Avril Gaynor, 73, lives in South London and has two grown-up daughters. She says:*

**BECAUSE** I've had the same hairstyle since my 20s, you may think I'd put a lot of thought into it. But I decided on my short, red look because of a quirk of fate.

When I was a child, my hair had a natural bounce and was mousy in colour. My mother worked as a model for L'Oreal, and after my face was badly injured in a car accident at 18, one of her stylists suggested going blonde might help my confidence. So blonde I went.

I learnt how to make the most of my hair, make-up, clothes and accessories, wearing larger earrings to steer attention away from my scars.

In my early 20s, I appeared as a princess in a pantomime and my costume included a red wig. But one night it flew off on stage, revealing my blonde curls.

The next day I went to a salon and had my hair coloured red, lest it should hap-

**1970**

pen again. To my surprise, everyone said it suited me. I loved it, too – and have kept that colour and style ever since.

I'm a creature of habit and have been going to the same male stylist, Jean-

**THE SAME  
50 YEARS**

**AVRIL GAYNOR**





**1982**

**TODAY**

Marie, at Vidal Sassoon in Covent Garden, every six weeks since 1991. I was one of the first people through the salon's doors when it reopened in early July. He is terribly complimentary about

my hair and never tries to persuade me to do anything different. However, these days I colour my hair at home, as DIY products have come a long way and are so easy to use.



**Most women have 150 different styles in a lifetime. But for some, one look's enough for ever**