

The girl with the £3,500 eyebrows

KEEPING up with fashion can take its toll – as Claire Culverwell knows only too well.

Hoping to emulate her style icons as a teenager, Miss Culverwell plucked her eyebrows to achieve a thin arch.

Now aged 30, she has spent £3,500 on an eyebrow transplant operation, after the over-zealous tweezing permanently damaged her hair follicles, resulting in brows that wouldn't grow back properly.

Miss Culverwell, a dental technician, said: 'I didn't understand the harm I was doing to my eyebrows in my teens and I was horrified when I finally learnt the truth in my twenties.'

'It badly affected my confidence. I didn't like people seeing me without make-up. I would be reluctant to open the door if I hadn't used my eyebrow

Daily Mail Reporter

pencil.' The six-hour operation, which has become popular since the Duchess of Cambridge showed off thicker eyebrows, involved removing a narrow strip of around 400 hairs from the back of Miss Culverwell's head.

Under local anaesthetic, small holes were made in her eyebrows using a needle so individual hairs and their roots could be implanted.

The procedure, carried out at a clinic near Manchester, has now restored her natural brow shape, although the new hairs grow quicker and need regular trimming.

Miss Culverwell, of Manchester, said: 'It has made me feel so much more comfortable about my appearance. It is the best thing I have ever done.'



BEFORE

Claire Culverwell's eyebrows are barely there



AFTER

She shows off beautifully defined new brows

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Some people like collecting stamps, I like making bombs

What the man who set off blasts for fun told police

By **Chris Brooke**

AN electrician gave a whole new meaning to DIY by building and setting off home-made bombs as a hobby, a court heard yesterday.

Paul Smith was so obsessed with constructing explosive devices from a workshop at his parents' house that his family gave him a birthday cake in the shape of a bomb.

It carried the message: 'Paul 40 today. Hope it goes with a bang.'

However, neighbours got so fed up with him setting off explosions that they complained to police. One explosion in Smith's back garden set off all the local car alarms.

Officers raided the home and found a huge collection of bomb-making equipment, Hull Crown Court was told. It included material of the type used by the Taliban in Afghanistan.

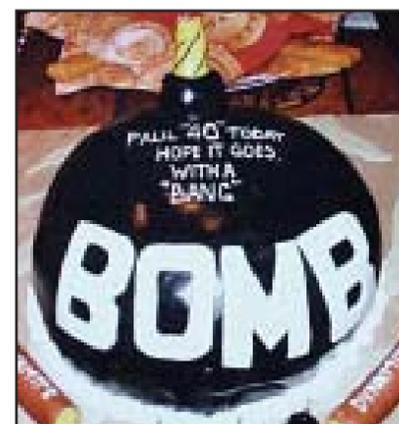
Smith told officers he was not a terrorist or fanatic, but made the devices as a hobby for fun. He told police: 'I don't know what all the fuss is about. Everyone knows I make small bombs. Some people collect stamps, I make small bombs.'

He learned his skills from the internet and spent the past ten years making increasingly sophisticated bombs, the court heard. Some parts were made from household objects, such as a lunchbox which was turned into a remote-controlled detonator.

He also collected gunpowder from unexploded bombs found in eroding cliffs on the East Yorkshire coast.

In his workshop police found two live pipe bombs and 20 to 30 detonators as well as shotgun cartridges, 9mm bullets and gunpowder.

Prosecutor Richard Woolfall said chemicals including sulphur, iron oxide and magnesium were held in storage jars on the shelves. He added: 'There



Tasteless: Smith's birthday cake

was a mixture of sugar and aluminium of the type used in Northern Ireland and by the Taliban in Afghanistan.'

An Army bomb disposal team was called in to make the home safe.

David Gordon, defending, said Smith was 'a somewhat naive 40-year-old'.

He added: 'He has been in custody now for five months and does not find it at all pleasurable. He is not a terrorist. He does not have any radical religious or political opinions. He does have an unhealthy interest in explosive devices.'

Smith, of Hull, pleaded guilty to making or possessing explosives under suspicious circumstances and another charge of possession of a class B drug. The court heard he had lost his job and had taken to injecting amphetamines, to which he was addicted.

He was given a 15-month supervision order, with a drug rehabilitation programme and 150 hours' unpaid work. A ten-year anti-social behaviour order was also imposed, banning him from possession of flares or fireworks which are not commercially available.