

UP APPEARANCES PRUE WHITE

## ENTER INTELLIGENCE

vs to soothe your skin and love your locks

A skincare brand based on the humble carrot may seem like lunacy, but have faith. Yes to Carrots uses nature's ingredients - Dead Sea mud and minerals and beta-carotene - in its C the mud mask (£8.99, at selected nationwide) and Feel the spa (£9.99).

Carrot mud mask, £8.99, Boots

ing in Superdrug this Good Skin from Estée has ranges for dry, and oily skin types as specific products for ageing skin, red and skin, and severely dry the Soft Skin Creamy (£8, 0870 0342566) and non-drying.

No!No! (£140, www.selfridges.com) is a dinky gadget that removes hair by sending a thermal signal to the hair shaft that crystallises the upper part of the hair and disrupts the follicle. Clinical trials show that after several months' use, hair density is reduced. More important, it is pain-free, and you don't have to wait until hair is interminably long before taking action.

Cult Beauty, an online magazine that launched last month, specialises in sourcing the best of the world's beauty wares. It has just brought Alison Raffaele's range of mineral make-up over from the US. The pick of the bunch is her Face Forward skin primer (£35, www.cultbeauty.co.uk).

Surya Brasil launched in Brazil in 1995, and has just arrived at Liberty of London.

The range contains the essential

**Preciosa tree**, as well as

five plant extracts. The

ve Hair Mask (from

-7734 1234)

ti oil to

yed hair

tain



Surya Brasil hair mask, from £10, Liberty



**SALON SPY:**  
**SKIN HEALTH SPA**  
12 Brushfield Street, London E1  
(020-7655 6920)

**Atmosphere and staff:** The salon is small and clinical - think dentist rather than beauty salon. The staff are warm, welcoming and professional - white-coated Frances is a former state-registered nurse. Given that your skin is about to be lasered, the medical ambience is deeply reassuring.

**Products and treatments:** Skin Health Spa is all about medical aesthetics. Our spy, whose legs had entered middle age more or less unscathed save for an ugly road map of thread veins, was attracted by the promise of dramatic results from the lasers and the intense pulsed light (IPL) technology, which destroys the thread veins that can look like small spiders or long bruises. She had a combination of IPL and laser treatment - the latter used to treat the deeper, larger veins.

**Be prepared:** The treatment is painful. But Frances is brilliant, supplying both a stress ball to squeeze and a steady stream of cheerful conversation which helps you cope with being repeatedly pinged with a rubber band. Leg veins need multiple treatments: our spy had five, at a cost of £600. But it was worth it - this summer she is baring her legs in short skirts for the first time in years.

**Highs:** Frances.

**Lows:** The pain.

**Marks out of five:** Four.

If you have a salon that you either love or hate, e-mail sarah.vine@thetimes.co.uk

