

Stories of Stuff

Shave with a Laurel
by Cheryl Nosworthy

Story inspired by a razor exhibited at Liskeard Museum

Jane Harris of Liskeard had luscious long hair. She had long hair on her head, long hair on her arms, and long hair on her legs. She was particularly proud of her long beard. The townsfolk were not impressed.

'You're much too hairy Jane', said Mr Currah the grocer, in disgust as he handed over her vegetables, 'it's not proper'.

'You look like a bear,' said smooth legged Christine Hoskin, flashing her ankles. 'Hairy Jane, Hairy Jane,' sang the schoolchildren skipping home.

'Jane,' said the Mayor, 'our lovely Liskeard ladies have standards to uphold,' and he presented her with a beautiful Laurel Ladies Boudoir Safety Razor in a little hinged tin box with six extra blades.

That evening, the razor gave a mischievous sparkle as Jane mowed an unsatisfying strip up one leg. Meanwhile in the grocer's shop, Mrs Currah was looking at Mr Currah in dismay. 'My dear' she exclaimed, 'your hair, it's falling out!' and by the time Jane had finished one leg Mr Currah was completely bald. By the second leg, Christine Hoskin had a head to match the rest of her hair free body. By the time Jane had finished, half of the townsfolk had cold, bare heads.

The Jane Harris Hat Shop has since done very well, even if the hats are a little itchy.