



KERRY CURL

Style. What is it? Do you have it? How do you get it? There's an abundance of advice from which to seek guidance but ultimately style is a matter of personal taste; there's no one size fits all solution, says new Resident columnist Kerry Curl.

Five years ago I was all about the 1940s. I've worked my way through most of the eras from that point onwards. Now I'm what I refer to as a vintage mongrel. I mix the old with the new and mash up

the eras depending on mood.

Some days the only thing that nods to vintage about my look is makeup choice, a messy Kim (Wilde not Kardashian) inspired hairdo or an 80s jumper.

Maybe my Kim hair goes a bit OTT sometimes, as was perhaps evident from the second glance that lasted longer than required from the lady in the supermarket - who was wearing pyjamas. I had caught the eye of someone who has already taken her indoor to outdoor look beyond where many would dare to go. But that's fine: style is individual.

The truth is I found myself in a style rut being full on vintage from head to toe, so I've had to find a way to do it for me. Sure enough when I started to actually explore my own personal likes and dislikes, I discovered what my classic pieces are.

I have read the '10 essential pieces you must own' type articles and it's not that I don't agree with those lists (recently I've invested in a Whistles 'classic' white shirt, I'll forever love Levi's and pencil

skirts), but it's through experimentation that I have gained appreciation for a certain style. If you've found your own look without much exploration then great, but if you're still searching, keep looking!



Norwich is a fabulous city for style watching as the continued growth of Norwich Fashion Week proves. It's not about predicting the trends two seasons ahead, it's also not about dictating what you should be wearing. It's a celebration of the city's choice of fashions from independent, designer and vintage to mainstream.

There's a shift happening in the world of fashion. Big name designers are beginning to realise that the way they launch collections has to reflect consumers, not just industry buyers. The digital age has enabled the public to watch shows via social media and the demand for this is driving change.

I predict at the big industry driven fashion weeks such as London, Paris, Milan, we'll begin to see more ready-to-wear shows which will oddly enough make the mix of high couture, off-the-peg and 'buy it now' concepts reflect the model of local fashion weeks up and down the country, including Norwich...

Kerry Curl is a Norwich photographer specialising in fashion, portraiture and music and is also one of the directors of Norwich Fashion Week. Kerry is also the face behind the Missy Vintage blog, www.missyvintageblog.com