



# My STYLE

Welcome to the feature where we peer into the wardrobes of stylish people in Hertfordshire. **Fiona McClurg Welland**, of Style2You, is a personal stylist, based in the county, who shows her clients how to be glamorous, by using the cuts and colours that suit them best.

**Finish the sentence: My Style is...** Confidently classic and well accessorised.

**Tell us about the outfit you are wearing today.** This comfy rose and taupe-coloured jersey dress was from Walton Clothing in Berkhamsted a while ago and the boots were a bargain from Brantano a few years back. The Mulberry-esque bag was from Spittlefields market in London and the necklace was made especially for this dress by a jewellery contact of mine. The whole look didn't cost over £100 and it complements my colouring and echoes my style and personality!

**What is your favourite item of clothing in your wardrobe and why?** A cornflower-blue velvet blazer which works equally well for formal or smart casual occasions. It's very tactile and always elicits compliments.

**When was the last time you feel you looked your best and why?** Nearly every day with my job as an image coach. I walk the talk when I can, but do like to have at least one image-free day per week where my face breathes without make-up and my animal-print slipper boots get worn!

**Who influences your style?** Growing up it was my grandma. She had a great sense of style and was very dramatic looking. She would always attract attention when entering a room. Her favourite outfits were kaftans with matching turbans – only she could get away with it! Personally, I do tend to be a leader rather than a follower, but in terms of fashion trends of course I keep up to date, but with smaller details like accessories.

**Are there any items of clothing you have kept from your fashion past?** Yes, but only one... a pair of 20-year-old Levi 501 jeans that I've kept to remind me of my late teens and being a size 14. Having lost more weight recently (six stone overall), I've got them on for the first time with room to spare! Otherwise, I tend to recycle items every time I add something to my ever-growing-bigger capsule wardrobe. That's what I try to teach my clients to do so they don't end up with wardrobes full of clothes but nothing that matches or goes together.

**Where are your favourite shopping haunts?** For myself, East, Kew and Phase Eight as they specialise in muted shades... and M&S. For my clients, M&S, Debenhams, John Lewis and Wallis to match their colour, style and personality as well as their budget. Shopping centre-wise, it depends on the client, but I frequent the Harlequin at Watford, Milton Keynes and now Westfield in Shepherd's Bush.

**What is the most you have ever spent on one item of clothing?** £150 for a dress to wear to Ascot in 2007. I have only worn it once so poor cost-per-wear value – but it was Ascot! Of course, I had the matching bag, scarf and hat too.

**Are you partial to any particular designers?** No, not been able to squeeze my previously ample proportions into them, but I do like Ralph Lauren, as they produce 'sophisticated, timeless, feminine' garments. I find the High Street offers more choice and when you mix carefully chosen higher value items with your sale bargains it adds quality to your look. People often think I shop in Regent Street, so it works for me.

**What has been your biggest fashion mistake to date?** During the 1990s I wore huge spectacle frames and deep matt lipstick – very dramatic. Nowadays, I'm 'stylish' as opposed to 'fashionable'. I'm comfortable with myself and my look now I'm approaching the big four-0.