CLAIMS

1. A hair styling device (10) having:
a body (12) defining a chamber (16) adapted to accommodate a length of hair (26), the chamber having a primary opening (24) through which the length of hair may pass;
a rotatable element (34) adapted to engage the length of hair adjacent to the primary opening;
an elongate member (20) located within the chamber (16), and around which, in use, the length of hair is wound by the rotatable element;
a handle (14) by which the device may be gripped by a user, the handle comprising a first handle part (62) and a second handle part (60), the first handle part (62) being connected to the body (12) and the second handle part (60) being movable relative to the first handle part (62).

2. A hair styling device (10) according to claim 1 in which a panel (56) is connected to the second handle part (60), the panel having a closed position in which it closes the primary opening (24).

3. A hair styling device (10) according to claim 1 or claim 2 in which the panel (56) moves to its closed position as the first and second handle parts (62, 60) are brought together.

4. A hair styling device (10) according to claim 2 or claim 3 in which the panel (56) carries at least one pressing part (54) adapted to push the length of hair (26) towards the primary opening (24) as the panel is moved towards its closed position.

5. A hair styling device (10) according to claim 4 in which the panel (56) has two pressing parts (54), the pressing parts being spaced apart along the length of the primary opening (24).

6. A hair styling device (10) according to claim 5 having at least one inclined surface (30, 32) located adjacent to the primary opening (24), the panel (56) being designed to cover the inclined surface(s) in its closed position, with the respective pressing parts (54) lying adjacent to the inclined surface(s).

7. A hair styling device (10) according to claim 6 in which the panel (56) has a recess (68) which can accommodate the at least one inclined surface (30,32).

8. A hair styling device (10) according to claim 7 in which the pressing parts (54) are located adjacent to the recess (68).

9. A hair styling device (10) according to any one of claims 2-8 in which the rotatable element (34) is automatically actuated when the panel (56) is moved to its closed position.

10. A hair styling device (10) according to any one of claims 1-9 having a control means adapted to detect the load applied by the rotatable element (34).

11. A hair styling device (10) according to claim 10 in which the rotatable element (34) is driven to rotate by a motor, and in which the load is detected by measuring the current drawn by the motor.

12. A hair styling device (10) according to claim 10 in which the rotatable element (34) is driven to rotate by a motor, and in which the load is detected by measuring the rate of rotation of the motor.

13. A hair styling device (10) according to any one of claims 10-12 in which the rotatable element (34) has a predetermined starting position, and in which the control means causes the rotatable element to stop and then to reverse to the starting position when the load applied by the rotatable element exceeds a predetermined threshold.

14. A hair styling device (10) according to any one of claims 1-13 in which:
the elongate member (20) has a free end;
the chamber (16) has a secondary opening (50) through which the length of hair may pass out of the chamber, the secondary opening being located adjacent to the free end of the elongate member (20); and
the device has a movable abutment (52) which can engage the length of hair (26) in use, the movable abutment having a closed position in which the length of hair is retained within the chamber (16), and an open position in which the length of hair can leave the chamber (16) by way of the secondary opening (50).

15. A hair styling device (10) according to claim 14 in which the secondary opening (50) is annular and surrounds the free end of the elongate member (20).

16. A hair styling device (10) according to claim 14 or claim 15 in which the movable abutment (52) is located within the secondary opening (50).

17. A hair styling device (10) according to any one of claims 1-16 in which the body (12) carries at least one sensor (58) adapted to detect misplaced hair.

18. A hair styling device (10) according to claim 17 having an inclined surface (30, 32) adjacent to the primary opening (24), and in which the at least one sensor (58) is located upon the inclined surface.

19. A hair styling device (10) according to claim 16 in which the at least one sensor (58) is located at the end of the inclined surface (30, 32) opposed to the primary opening (24).

CLAIMS

1. A hair styling device (10) having:
a body (12) defining a chamber (16) adapted to accommodate a length of hair (26), the chamber having a primary opening (24) through which the length of hair may pass;
a rotatable element (34) adapted to engage the length of hair adjacent to the primary opening;
an elongate member (20) located within the chamber (16), and around which, in use, the length of hair is wound by the rotatable element;
a handle (14) by which the device may be gripped by a user, the handle comprising a first handle part (62) and a second handle part (60), the first handle part (62) being connected to the body (12) and the second handle part (60) being movable relative to the first handle part (62),
characterised in that a panel (56) is connected to the second handle part (60), and in that the panel has a closed position in which it closes the primary opening (24).

2. A hair styling device (10) according to claim 1 in which the panel (56) moves to its closed position as the first and second handle parts (62, 60) are brought together.

3. A hair styling device (10) according to claim 1 or claim 2 in which the panel (56) carries at least one pressing part (54) adapted to push the length of hair (26) towards the primary opening (24) as the panel is moved towards its closed position.

4. A hair styling device (10) according to claim 3 in which the panel (56) has two pressing parts (54), the pressing parts being spaced apart along the length of the primary opening (24).

5. A hair styling device (10) according to claim 4 having at least one inclined surface (30, 32) located adjacent to the primary opening (24), the panel (56)

being designed to cover the inclined surface(s) in its closed position, with the respective pressing parts (54) lying adjacent to the inclined surface(s).

6. A hair styling device (10) according to claim 5 in which the panel (56) has a recess (68) which can accommodate the at least one inclined surface (30,32).

7. A hair styling device (10) according to claim 6 in which the pressing parts (54) are located adjacent to the recess (68).

8. A hair styling device (10) according to any one of claims 1-7 in which the rotatable element (34) is automatically actuated when the panel (56) is moved to its closed position.

9. A hair styling device (10) according to any one of claims 1-8 having a control means adapted to detect the load applied by the rotatable element (34).

10. A hair styling device (10) according to claim 9 in which the rotatable element (34) is driven to rotate by a motor, and in which the load is detected by measuring the current drawn by the motor.

11. A hair styling device (10) according to claim 9 in which the rotatable element (34) is driven to rotate by a motor, and in which the load is detected by measuring the rate of rotation of the motor.

12. A hair styling device (10) according to any one of claims 9-11 in which the rotatable element (34) has a predetermined starting position, and in which the control means causes the rotatable element to stop and then to reverse to the starting position when the load applied by the rotatable element exceeds a predetermined threshold.

13. A hair styling device (10) according to any one of claims 1-12 in which:
the elongate member (20) has a free end;

the chamber (16) has a secondary opening (50) through which the length of hair may pass out of the chamber, the secondary opening being located adjacent to the free end of the elongate member (20); and

the device has a movable abutment (52) which can engage the length of hair (26) in use, the movable abutment having a closed position in which the length of hair is retained within the chamber (16), and an open position in which the length of hair can leave the chamber (16) by way of the secondary opening (50).

14. A hair styling device (10) according to claim 13 in which the secondary opening (50) is annular and surrounds the free end of the elongate member (20).

15. A hair styling device (10) according to claim 13 or claim 14 in which the movable abutment (52) is located within the secondary opening (50).

16. A hair styling device (10) according to any one of claims 1-15 in which the body (12) carries at least one sensor (58) adapted to detect misplaced hair.

17. A hair styling device (10) according to claim 16 having an inclined surface (30, 32) adjacent to the primary opening (24), and in which the at least one sensor (58) is located upon the inclined surface.

18. A hair styling device (10) according to claim 16 in which the at least one sensor (58) is located at the end of the inclined surface (30, 32) opposed to the primary opening (24).