CLAIMS

1. A cleaner head for a vacuum cleaner, the cleaner head comprising:

a suction cavity comprising an opening through which debris enters the cleaner head, and an outlet;

an agitator mounted in the suction cavity in a cantilevered manner for rotation relative thereto, the agitator comprising:

a core having a first, free end, a second end remote from the free end, and upstanding helical ridges extending between the free end and the second end; and

a row of bristles located between the helical ridges and inclined relative to the core in a direction extending towards the free end of the core.

2. A cleaner head as claimed in claim 1, wherein the row of bristles extends towards the free end of the core in a helical direction, and wherein the bristles are inclined towards the free end of the core at an acute angle to the helical direction.

3. A cleaner head as claimed in claim 2, wherein the acute angle is in the range from 20 to 60°.

4. A cleaner head as claimed in claim 2, wherein the acute angle is in the range from 30 to 50°.

5. A cleaner head as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein, as measured in a direction perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the core, the height of the upstanding ridges is at least 50% of the height of the bristles.

6. A cleaner head as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the core is conical in shape, the free end of the core having a smaller diameter than the second end of the core.

7. A cleaner head as claimed in claim 6, wherein the cleaner head comprises a sole plate in which the opening is formed, and wherein the lowermost portion of the external surface of the core is parallel with the sole plate.

8. A cleaner head as claimed in claim 6 or claim 7, wherein the suction cavity is defined by a substantially conical housing of the cleaner head,

9. A cleaner head as claimed in any preceding claim, comprising a drive for driving rotation of the agitator, and wherein the agitator is connected to the drive at or towards the second end of the agitator.

10. A cleaner head as claimed in claim 9, wherein the drive comprises a motor located externally of the agitator, and a belt connecting the agitator to the motor.

11. A cleaner head as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the row of bristles comprises a continuous row of bristles.

12. A cleaner head as claimed in any of claims 1 to 10, wherein the row of bristles comprises a plurality of discrete bristle tufts.