

It's no lousy job when the nits vanish



Boel Eriksson

PARENTS are increasingly hiring professionals to carry out the nasty chore of removing nits and lice from their children's hair.

The outsourcing of the job stemmed from parents being too time-poor to do it, and from feeling that they did not do a good enough job in getting rid of the parasite, said a northern beaches woman who has made it her business.

Deborah McIntyre of Warriewood started her mobile nit removal business No Nits Now one year ago and said she was getting busier every week.

"Parents are time-poor and when they spend quality time with their children, they don't want to do this sort of thing," Mrs McIntyre said.

She uses a comb imported from Germany and organic products to do her removals.

Kidspot.com.au executive editor Alex Brooks said lice were a "very real problem" for parents.

"I'm not surprised parents are outsourcing that job because they have better things to do," she said. "It has become such a chore of modern life."

But she said having it professionally done was not an option financially available to all parents.

"I'd say there are cheaper ways of doing it, but that involves time," she said. "Every parent needs to decide what's right for them."

Claudia Richards of Collaroy Plateau hired Mrs McIntyre to remove nits from her son Xavier, 4, after a chemist told her to buy \$60 worth of products.

"I was so relieved that she could do it