

Business

This is the official business page of The Beeston Express, where we feature local businesses, large and small, with news to share. Our aim is to keep Beeston Express readers living in the wider community up-to-date with what's going on in the business world, either as items of general interest or if it may directly affect them (such as changes to tax laws, for instance). However, we request that, if we are running advertising editorial, advertising in The Beeston Express supports it.

Chilwell hairdresser cuts down after 40 years

A CHILWELL hairdresser has decided to hang up his scissors after 40 years of tending to the crowning glories of local ladies.

Malcolm Allcock, of Hair by Malcolm on Bramcote Lane, will be taking more of a back seat in a career that he started out in as a 15 year-old as he hands the business over to his two daughters, Gemma Mills (29) and Jodie Allcock (24).

The girls are looking forward to stepping into their father's shoes and playing a bigger part in the actual running of the business. Gemma will become the new owner; Jodie will act as manager.

Malcolm started his training as a hairdresser as a 15-year-old at Stanley

Barber Hair Fashions of Long Row, Nottingham – but at first he hated it.

He said: "It was my mother's idea to apply for the training. Most of the careers I'd been considering as I finished school were closed to me because I was too small. Then Mum spotted the Stanley Barber advertisement in the local paper and said: 'Why don't you try this? I'm sure you're not too short to be a hairdresser!'"

"Anyway, I applied and was accepted onto the course. But I really did hate it at first, and was always thinking 'What have I done?'"

"Eventually, though, I came to realise that I actually had a bit of flair as a hairdresser. Once I

accepted that, I settled down and started to enjoy it. Since then, I've always been happy and committed. These days, I'm even an ex-Provincial Master of the Guild of Hairdressers (Nottm) Guild, a body of professional salon owners who represent the interests of the hairdressing industry."

Malcolm set up his first salon at the age of 18 on Chilwell Road, Beeston. He bought the Bramcote Lane premises in 1992, where he has remained ever since. During his career he has trained many young hair stylists, several of whom have gone on to open salons of their own.

Of his two daughters, Gemma decided that she wanted to be a hairdresser

at the age of five, when she would watch her Dad when he took her into work for any reason. Gemma is now a tutor/assessor at the Nottingham Hairdressers' Training Agency (NHTA) on King Street, Nottingham.

Jodie was more of a reluctant stylist, like her father. She said: "I couldn't decide what I wanted to do when I first left school. Then I decided I would train, and am now fully qualified. I'm doing more business-related training at Castle College, Chilwell, now that I'm to take over as manager."

Malcolm, (58), said that one of the best things that had happened in his life was having his daughters, especially now that he could hand the business down to

the next generation through them.

A local man, he was born on Coventry Road, Beeston, and lives in Chilwell.

He went to school at Dagfa House and Beeston Fields, and his interests include music, especially piano and clarinet, as well as ice dance and skating.

Although he is handing the business itself over to his daughters, Malcolm will carry on working one day a week. He hopes to spend much of his increased free time with his partner of 10 years, Sandra, at a caravan he owns at Newhaven, near Hartington, Derbyshire.

Malcolm will continue to work at the salon on Wednesdays, looking after his own long-term clients.

He said: "I've had some of my clients for a very long time – one lady was the client of my first boss, and she's been with me for 43 years!"

"I would like to say 'thank you' to customers past and present who have supported the business throughout the years, and I hope they continue to support the new team in the future."

In that future, Gemma is planning to update the salon. She said: "Once I've felt my way into running the business, I'd like to expand the business; modernise it a bit and put my own mark on it."

Beeston's public snooker hall possibly last one in country

DAVE and Kathy Gibson run what is possibly the last public snooker hall in the country, here in Beeston.

The Snooker Hall, on Villa Street, Beeston, has been open since the 1920s and has been run by Dave Gibson for 45 years. Dave met Kathy in 1987 when she went to work part-time at the Hall; they married in 1992 and live in Beeston.

There are 10 full-size tables at the Snooker Hall. During WWII, people would dive for cover beneath these same sturdy and solid snooker tables if they were in the hall when the air raid sirens sounded.

Beeston Snooker Hall

has two teams in the Long Eaton league. Mr Gibson said: "People come from far and wide to play a game of snooker here – Cotgrave, Bingham – because they like the idea of dropping in for a game.

"Many years ago, when Queen Victoria was on the throne, you needed to have a snooker hall licence that regulated the hours and days you were allowed to open – no Sundays, and you had to close for Thanksgiving. I've always been pleased that, according to the terms of the licence, 'Persons of notoriously bad character were not allowed to assemble therein, and

no drinking was allowed therein.'

"In the 1970s, though, all licences were quashed – but my solicitor didn't bother to tell me.

"Anyway, in 1997, I applied for a drinks licence and then extended it sideways because the Snooker Hall now needed to be a club. Then I found it didn't need to be a club. The Licence ceased in 2008 and we reverted to being a Public Hall.

"We never have any trouble and are very happy here. Lots of the players have become our friends over the years and my son, Paul Gibson, became a

professional snooker player in the late 1980s when the snooker clubs were having their heyday. BBC TV's 'Pot Black' had come along – the BBC was using it to promote colour television sets! Snooker was suddenly very popular and we suddenly faced a shortage of tables!"

If you fancy a game of snooker, take the coupon in this paper (page 11) with you for one hour's free play.

See page 11 for your Snooker Hall coupon!

Footfall on Beeston High Road

THE March figures from the footfall counter on Beeston High Road show a marked increase when compared to the same four week period of 2009: the weekly average is up by almost 5500.

The footfall counter is positioned above one of the shops on the busiest stretch

of the High Road and has become a useful tool for the Economic Development team at the council, recording data relating reduced to footfall during the bad weather earlier this year, and during the disruption caused by last year's High Road improvements.

	2009	2010
Week 10	84218	98387
Week 11	99741	102884
Week 12	99262	102024
Week 13	95570	97066
AVERAGE	94698	100090