

A photograph of a street in Malvern, showing historic buildings and cars. The text 'Celebrating' is written in a large, red, cursive font with a white outline, positioned over the top half of the image.

Celebrating

**Long Established
& Family
Businesses**

A photograph of a street scene in Malvern & Ledbury, featuring a prominent timber-framed building. The text 'in' is written in a large, red, serif font with a white outline, positioned over the middle of the image.

in

**Malvern &
Ledbury**

Vehicle experts attribute 12 years of excellence to moving with the times

FACT FILE

COMPANY

Recovery Services Malvern (RSM) Ltd

OWNERS

Alan and Justin Dean

BUSINESS TYPE

MOTs, servicing, repairs, recovery

ESTABLISHED

1996

TELEPHONE

01684 562121

WEB ADDRESS

www.rsmltd.co.uk

E-MAIL ADDRESS

justin@rsmltd.co.uk

LOCATION

Unit 1, Spring Lane South, Malvern, WR14 1AT

MOVING with the times and creating niche markets has ensured Recovery Services Malvern (RSM) Ltd has been in business for 12 years.

RSM is owned by father and son team Alan and Justin Dean. The business has been established in the area for 12 years and has been at its current Spring Lane South site for the last five years.

During this time the company has continued to expand and offer more services to local people.

As Alan explained, progress is the key word.

"Years ago we had a unit at Blackmore where we started buying and selling vans. I bought a transporter so that I could bring two here at a time and that moved us into the recovery side," he said.

"The business moved to Newlands and Recovery Services Malvern was born, rescuing lorries, coaches and vans across the country and into Europe.

"We moved to Spring Lane and wanted to ensure our repair, servicing and MOTs were carried out on time for the public.

"Now we've nine staff and are the only garage in the area to offer MOTs on large motorhomes as well as minibuses and vans."

He added: "We are still committed to our 24-hour commercial vehicle recovery service covering the UK and Europe. Our Commercial Fleet Care facility offers MOT preparation, servicing and safety inspections."

MOT testing is a large part of RSM's operation and it is the only test centre in the area capable of testing cars, light commercials, motorhomes and minibuses.

The workshop has four lifts and provides mechanical repairs and ser-



▲ The Recovery Services Malvern (RSM) premises in Spring Lane South, Malvern. 37299201.

vicing for private and commercial vehicles of all makes and models.

This includes refurbishing brake discs with a Pro-Lathe, LPG conversions, supplying and fitting tyres to order, installing clutches, wheel balancing and air conditioning.

RSM is an appointed Ferodo agent for the area and has extensive Bosch equipment, enabling the trained mechanics to make full use of the diagnostic fault-finding computers they have installed.

It is also a Valvoline service and

repair centre and Valeo centre for clutches and air conditioning.

Free courtesy cars, or vans for commercial customers, are available and should be pre-booked, although some vehicles may be available on request.

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FREE COURTESY CARS. Collection and delivery service available (terms and conditions may apply).

Highest standard of service and quality

ALLAN Vaughan Ltd can provide all the soft furnishings you need to make your house into a home.

The business also stocks a wide range of home accessories including lighting, mirrors, rugs and furniture to complete your new style or colour scheme.

The company was established in 1955 by Mr and Mrs Allan Vaughan. In 1963 they were joined by Derham Cook, who subsequently took over the business with his wife Ruth following Mr Vaughan's death.

Mrs Cook explained the company ethos: "We are proud that all the staff provide a service that is second to none, from listening to customers' needs and advising on colours and styles to home visits and the excellent workmanship of the products."

"All of our staff are very experienced and have worked here for at least 21 years," she said.

The company, at 6 Bank Street, Link Top, Malvern, has hundreds of fabric and wallpaper sample books which are available to take home on loan so you can see them in situ.

The high standard of service and workmanship continues as it uses a highly skilled in-house upholster



▲ Inside the beautiful showroom at Allan Vaughan Ltd. 37301201.

and carpets are fitted by experts.

Mrs Cook said: "We have our own workroom and make everything here in Malvern. Our staff are highly trained in creating hand-worked curtains, loose covers and other soft furnishings."

"We work to a very high standard using five specialist sewing machines – each doing a specific job. Critical elements like curtain headings are always made by hand in the traditional manner."

Allan Vaughan Ltd also offers a home advisory service to help you

choose colours, styles and fabrics.

Measurements can be taken and an estimate will be submitted according to your requirements.

The business deals with top fabric houses and keeps up to date with trends so you can be sure to find something, traditional or modern.

For more information, call 01684 892638 or go along to the attractive showrooms at 6 Bank Street, Link Top, open Monday-Friday from 9am-1pm and 2.15-5pm, Saturdays from 9am-1pm and by appointment in the afternoon.

Fact File

Businesss

Allan Vaughan Ltd

Telephone

01684 892638

Business type

Interior design and soft furnishings

Web address

www.avl
furnishing.com

Established

1955

Location

6 Bank Street,
Malvern,
WR14 2JN

Owners

Derham and Ruth Cook



at **ALLAN VAUGHAN LIMITED**
01684 892638

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Tel: 01684 893354 - Fax: 01684 566644

www.candcceramics.co.uk - Email: carolluton@aol.com



Improve your home with beautiful tiling

TILE business C&C Ceramics has been helping people to create beautiful homes for 19 years.

The family firm in Cowleigh Road, Malvern, was started following Cecil Luton's redundancy and, with some funding from the Enterprise Allowance Scheme and support from wife Carol, the business was soon up and running, providing tiles for homes.

The couple's son Ian started helping out during the school holidays and now some years later he is fully involved in the business.

Carol, Cecil and Ian offer natural stone, slate, ceramic, porcelain and terracotta wall and floor tiles for the interior and exterior of your home or business. Over the years, the business has quadrupled in size and now deals with more than 40 suppliers.

Mrs Luton said: "As a family business, customer service is paramount. Our strength is in what we do. We pride ourselves on our friendly, reliable, helpful service and offer good advice – our customers come first, second and third."

As well as business in Malvern and across the Midlands, C&C Ceramics has also supplied tiles to



▲ Carol Luton, Ian Luton and Cecil Luton at C&C Ceramics in Cowleigh Road. 37299001.

London, Scotland and Devon and some have even been taken to Cyprus.

The company also offers a limited fixing service but does have a list of recommended fixers that it can supply you with.

The Lutons hosted a summer ball last July, raising £9,600 for the

British Heart Foundation and Cancer Research UK. Mrs Luton explained: "My husband Cecil had a heart bypass 14 years ago and I had cancer in 2006. We decided to throw a party and do some good at the same time."

C&C Ceramics is closed until 9am on Tuesday, September 16.

Fact File

Business

C&C Ceramics

Telephone

01684 893354

Business type

Floor and wall tile retailers

Fax

01684 566644

Owners

Carol, Cecil and Ian Luton

E-mail

carolluton@aol.com

Established

1989

Location

26 & 30 Cowleigh Road, Malvern, WR14 1QD

Just So



Just So is a family owned independent Card and Gift Shop. Run by Stephen and Jane Knowles since 2001.

People often describe the shops as an "Aladdins Cave" or a mini department store, where you can find a gift whatever the occasion whether it is for a new baby or Great Grandma's 100th Birthday.

We are main stockists for national brands such as Portmeirion, Radley Handbags, Kit Heath Jewellery and Jellycat Soft Toys. But we also stock different and unusual gifts and jewellery from companies who only supply independent shops like us.

"I search out what is new and exciting, so our customers don't have to" says Jane. *We have wonderful new season jewellery, scarves and accessories in stock now. Come and have a leisurely browse and collect ideas for Christmas or why not treat yourself.

92 Barnards Green Rd., Malvern. Tel: 01684 566866



PARRS SEWING MACHINES

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Schools welcome.

17 Lower Quest Hills Road, Malvern.

01684 563106

www.parrssewingmachines.co.uk

PARRS Sewing Machines has been trading in Malvern for the past 30 years.

The husband and wife-run firm sells BERNINA sewing machines and repairs all makes. The small business is well known for its person-to-person service, the person you speak to on the telephone is the one who greets you when you call to buy or deliver a sewing machine for repair.

Working closely with suppliers, the firm's staff are constantly in touch with new ideas and developments in the sewing machine trade.

Its mail order business is growing and its website, www.parrssewingmachines.co.uk, which is at present under reconstruction, answers queries from across the country on a daily basis.

17 Lower Quest Hills Road, Malvern. Tel: 01684 563106



Celebrating Long Established & Family Businesses in Malvern & Ledbury

To include your business in the celebration of long established & family businesses in the New Year contact:

KIM



- Malvern Link
- Upton
- Leigh & Bransford
- Powick

SIMON



- Malvern Wells
- Ledbury
- Colwall
- Bromyard
- Newent

ANNA



- Great Malvern
- Barnards Green
- Welland
- Tewkesbury
- Hanley Swan

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Family shoe stores put best feet forward

GREAT Grandfather Elt always commented: "Never stint on your bed or your shoes because when you're not in one, you're in the other."

This advice is as relevant today as it was in 1872 when Albert Elt founded the business.

Albert Elt started the business in Worcester High Street, roughly where the River Island store is today. Perhaps two of his favourite and best-known customers were Sir Edward Elgar and his wife, who were near neighbours in their music shop.

The Malvern shop opened in 1948, so is celebrating 60 years at the top of the hill. Robin Elt, the current owner, moved the head office to Church Street in 1992. Daughter Jenny – the fifth generation in the business – joined the Malvern team and now splits her time between teaching and the IT side of the company.

From Church Street, Robin and Jenny have expanded into a new Worcester store and added Leominster, Hereford, Ludlow, Pershore, Torquay, Totnes and Abergavenny shops.

In the original Malvern shop,



4 Robin Elt Shoes has plenty of choice in top brands. 37303401

Time Outdoors sells outdoor and casual lifestyle clothes popular with tourists and locals alike.

The aim of the business, wherever it is located, is to provide an extensive range of world-class footwear and clothing brands seen in Munich as well as Malvern, London as well as Leominster.

Footwear from brands such as Ecco, Gabor, Timberland and Barker not only bring top quality but also excellent value for money.

Later this year, a website and e-store will be added, making Robin Elt Shoes one of the largest independent retailers in the UK.

Business

Robin Elt Shoes

Est

1872

Telephone

01684 573904

Fact File

Business type

Independent retailer

Owner

Robin Elt

Location

7 Church Street, Malvern, WR14 2AA

ROBIN

AUTHENTIC

ELT

SHOES

FOOTWORK SINCE 1872

MALVERN
01684 573904
WORCESTER
01905 729515

PERSHORE 01386
552061
LEOMINSTER
01568 611755

NEW STORE - HEREFORD 01432 356943

NEW STORE - LUDLOW 01584 872937

NEW STORE - ABERGAVENNY 01873 858535

*An independent business
for your classic lifestyle*

* TIMBERLAND * ECCO *
* GABOR * SEIBEL * THINK *
* VANDAL RIEKER *
* BARKER * MEPHISTO * LOAKE

*Renowned for Super Choice,
Quality Brands
First Rate Service*

FACT FILE

BUSINESS

Francis of Malvern

BUSINESS TYPE

House furnishers

OWNER

Derek Francis

ESTABLISHED

1933

TELEPHONE

01684 573823

LOCATION

Lounge and Dining:

235 Worcester Road,
Malvern Link

Bed and Bedroom:

275 Worcester Road,
Malvern Link

Lighting, Carpets and Modern Living:

128 Worcester Road,
Malvern Link

"All of our goods are of high quality at reasonable prices and we have something to suit all tastes and pockets."

— Jon Lunn of Francis

► Derek and Sue Francis cut a cake to celebrate the firm's 75th birthday earlier this year. 37298701.



FRANCIS of Malvern, founded in 1933 by the late W G Francis, is an independent company that continues to prosper, offering everything for your home.

It is run by a team of dedicated staff, many with more than 35 years' experience.

The first shop was opened 75 years ago at 235 Worcester Road, Malvern Link, which is the same site as the existing lounge and dining department. The company is now owned by Derek Francis.

Jon Lunn, manager at Francis' lounge and dining centre, has been with the company for 32 years.

He said: "Over the years, the business has grown and we have supplied furniture across the country. All of our goods are of high quality at reasonable prices and we have something to suit all tastes and pockets."

Stuart Hobbs, manager of the beds and bedrooms department, has been with the company for 35 years after starting as a driver's mate.

He said: "We have a wide range of beds and bedroom furniture to suit all budgets and requirements. The bedroom department started off on just one level and has expanded over the years to offer four levels."

Philip Boocock is the manager of the carpet shop, having joined his late father in the company some 39 years ago.

The lighting section is run by Christopher Jordan, who joined the company eight years ago and who is also assistant manager to Philip Boocock, both having nearly 40 years' experience in the carpet trade.

Francis of Malvern is committed to wildlife conservation and has contributed more than £160,000 to wildlife charities in recent years.

Its 75th anniversary grand raffle has raised more than £3,500, including donations for wildlife charities the WWF and the David Shepherd Foundation. The winners were announced on Saturday.

Pam Roberts of Francis said: "The top prize winner will be treated to a helicopter trip around the Malvern Hills and runner-up will visit the Morgan factory and have use of a Morgan for a half day."

All prizes are donated by local businesses.

All Francis of Malvern stores are open six days a week between 8.30am and 5.30pm. Lounge and dining is situated at 235 Worcester Road, Malvern Link, bed and bedroom down the road at number 275 and carpets and modern living across at 128.

FRANCIS OF MALVERN

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Celebrating 75 years in business

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from £90
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etc.



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Brintons,
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including
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01684 560762



LOUNGE & DINING FURNITURE
235 Worcester Rd.
01684 573823



CARPETS/RUGS/LIGHTING
128 Worcester Rd.
01684 564216



Email: enquiries@francisbedrooms.co.uk Website: www.francisbedrooms.co.uk

Transform your look with help from clinic

SET up by Christine Fittus, The Linea Clinic opened its doors in November 2006, offering a friendly, clinical environment for aesthetic treatments.

Christine said: "Even some of the best clinics in Birmingham have to send their clients to Harley Street for some treatments and people were travelling to Cardiff or Bristol to have simple procedures like tattoo removal.

"We saw a gap in the market and Malvern is a great location for The Linea Clinic as it has easy access to the rest of the country.

"Two years on, we still see clients from across the country and we are unique in that we offer a range of treatments under one roof."

Treatments include skin rejuvenation, facial peels, acne clearance, dermal fillers, thread vein removal, hair removal, body contouring, cosmetic dentistry and laser hair restoration treatments.

A full list of treatments, price list and frequently asked questions section is available on the clinic's website at www.lineaclinic.co.uk.

Christine said: "The most popular treatment continues to be hair removal and since acquiring our Regen TriPollar radio frequency machine, body contouring comes a



▲ Tonya Taylor-Holmes, nurse, and The Linea Clinic's director Christine Fittus. Picture by Martin Humby. 37300601.

close second. We are open to both men and women, more men are now interested in muscle relaxants and fillers and a men-only clinic can be arranged.

"It has been really important to us to have our own in-house medical staff so that our clients have continuity. We have three qualified RGN nurses who have many years' experience in the aesthetic industry and they are joined by our therapist, who offers massage and reflexology."

You will be offered a free consultation to discuss all the options to treat your condition.

"We know that it is important to have a consultation with a qualified practitioner," said Christine. "Our medical team will listen to your needs and see if there are underlying problems that need treatment."

The Linea Clinic, at 33 Graham Road, is registered with the Healthcare Commission. Car parking is available.

TLC the linea clinic

The only Tripollar Body Contouring Clinic in the Midlands

Skin Rejuvenation
Facial Peels
Laser Hair Removal
Acne Clearance
Tattoo Removal
Skin Resurfacing
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Muscle Relaxants
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Tripollar Body Contouring
Mesotherapy
Dermal Fillers
Sculptra
Thread Vein Removal
Sclerotherapy
Microdermabrasion
Cosmetic Surgery
Massage & Reflexology



33 Graham Road, Malvern, Worcs, WR14 2HU
Clinic: 01684 575701 info@lineaclinic.co.uk
www.lineaclinic.co.uk

Registered by the **Healthcare Commission**
No. CO10000803

Fact File

Business	MD	MD	Owner
The Linea Clinic	Medical aesthetics clinic	November 2006	Christine Fittus
Telephone	Web address	E-mail address	Location
01684 575701	www.lineaclinic.co.uk	info@lineaclinic.co.uk	33 Graham Road, Malvern, WR14 2HU

STRAWBYN KENNELS & CATTERY

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Individual runs. Current vaccinations essential.

OPENING TIMES:-

Monday-Friday 09.00am - 12noon &
04.00pm - 06.00pm

Saturday - Sunday 09.00am - 12noon

A home from home for your dog or cat

WITH four acres of land, paddocks and walks straight onto Castlemorton Common, your dogs will be well looked after when staying at Strawbyn Kennels.

The kennels have recently been taken over by Steve and Gaynor Bolton, enabling Steve to turn one of his hobbies and passions into a business catering for working dogs, pet dogs and cats.

With more than 30 years' experience training spaniels and labradors, Steve is a Kennel Club A panel judge who recently worked at both the springer and cocker championships.

He said: "We are able to provide good quality kenneling for both pet and working dogs and have the experience and knowledge to know how they differ. We'll be talking to the owners and finding out what their requirements are, so that their pet in kept in the right conditions while they stay with us."

Steve hopes to make some further improvements to the kennels over the winter but everything has been kept clean and the kennels are large. If owners have multiple dogs they can opt to kennel them together as some double kennels are available.

At Strawbyn Kennels, dogs are

walked twice a day and let out at 10pm in the small paddock so that they are comfortable for the night. There is a shower area and large undercover area where dogs can be dried off.

Cats have a separate, well lit area with heaters.

There is a separate kitchen in the kennel block. Owners can specify the food they want animals to be fed and Steve has knowledge of the BARF (Biologically Appropriate Raw Food) diet.

John Hope-Ryan of Masefield House Veterinary Surgery in

Malvern Wells will be on hand should the Boltons need any help or advice while your pets are in their care.

"We're aiming to create a small friendly kennels, and people are welcome to come along and have a look around," said Steve.

"With autumn arriving and perhaps weekend breaks away this is a good opportunity to use the kennels before next year's summer holidays."

Steve is also available for gundog training sessions in disciplines such as steadiness and retrieving.



▲ Steve and Gaynor Bolton, owners of Strawbyn Kennels, with Bella, Amy and Milly. Picture by Carsten Evans. 37299302.

Fact File

Business	Business type	Established	Owners
Strawbyn Kennels	Kennels and cattery	1960s	Steve and Gaynor Bolton
Telephone	E-mail address	Location	
01684 573752	boltongk@aol.com	Hancocks Lane, Welland, WR13 6LG	

Visit showroom and upgrade your home

WITH the apparent downturn in the housing market, more and more people are now looking to upgrade their present home.

In Ledbury, the perfect starting point is Ledbury Kitchen and Bathroom Centre, a family-run business that provides a friendly personal service.

The business was started about ten years ago by local man Duncan Williams and in the spring of 2006 was relaunched under its present name.

Duncan now operates the business with the help of his daughter Lucy and son Thom, offering a full design, supply and installation service for kitchens, bathrooms and bedrooms.

The showroom in New Street contains displays of Mereway kitchens and bathroom furniture, with a wide range of styles available. Also on show are Ideal Standard bathrooms and Merlyn shower

enclosures. At the rear of the building is the tile showroom, with an extensive collection of floor and wall tiles. All these are complemented by a variety of fittings including mirrors, lighting and heating.

Designs are made using

computerised technology to provide the customer with a graphic representation of the finished room.

Installation, including tiling if required, is carried out by local fitters to ensure a personal and professional service.

The aim of the business is to provide the customer with a room which suits their individual needs at a truly competitive price. Call in to the showroom, there is plenty of parking and you can discover how you can improve your property.



Fact File

Business

Ledbury Kitchen and Bathroom Centre

Owner

Duncan Williams

Business type

Kitchen and bathroom showroom

Telephone

01531 633206

Established

1998

Web address

99a New Street, Ledbury, HR8 2EA

▲ A new kitchen can be a fantastic asset to your home. 37301701.

Come in and be inspired. traditional to contemporary kitchen & bathroom design showroom



Complete design and installation.

professional fitting team, electrical,plumbing,tiling and decoration. Supply only if required.

Open Monday to Saturday
8.00am – 5.00pm



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FOR A FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTE CALL
01886 880959 OR 07721 384538
ALL AREAS COVERED

Brothers' gardening business blooming

MCB Landscaping has taken on a new member of staff because business is blooming.

Offering garden maintenance and tree surgery in and around the Malvern area for eight years, brothers Matt and Chris Burton now employ four full-time members of staff as well as seasonal staff who all have experience and qualifications in horticulture.

The brothers, who have a farming background, both gained horticultural qualifications from Pershore College enabling them to combine their interest in plants and their love of the outdoors.

Matt and Chris explained the service that they offer: "The range of work varies from small back gardens to country estates and is tailored to suit individual requirements," they said.

"We carry out garden maintenance such as pruning and hedge cutting, mowing anything from small town house gardens to over 10 acres of lawn and tree surgery."

Chris completed his tree surgery qualifications two years ago and since then that side of the business has grown rapidly.

He said: "We offer on site surveys and then complete the whole process including dealing with planning applications."



▲ At MCB Landscapes are, left from back, Matt Burton, Chris Burton and Ray White, and, front, Joe Rabin and James Hughes. 37302901.

The company does commercial as well as residential work and currently carries out garden maintenance for residential homes, church-yards and a local property developer.

MCB Landscapes advertises in this newspaper each week so you

can always get in touch for a free site visit and written quotation.

They added: "We would like to thank all of our customers for their support over the past eight years and we're looking forward to working with them, and new clients in the future."

Fact File

Business

MCB Landscapes

Telephone

01886 880959

Business type

Garden maintenance & tree surgery

Mobile

07721 384538

Established

2000

Location

Storrige-based

Owners

Matt and Chris Burton

Working together to offer right solutions

PODIATRIST David Williams established his practice in Malvern in September 1979 and it is still going strong.

Initially he ran the business part-time, as he also worked for Malvern Health Centre, Upton Health Centre and later as a lecturer at the Birmingham School of Podiatry.

But over the years, the surgery developed into a full-time private practice offering a wide variety of chiropractic and podiatric services, including minor surgery, sport and dance injuries, biochemical examination and orthoses.

To assist him with the increasing workload, registered chiropodist and podiatrist Jenny Britton joined the practice in the mid-90s. This year Footshop UK was formed to provide a wide range of foot products that are available at the surgery or at www.foot-shop.co.uk.

Three years ago, Catherine Owers and Stephanie Wilson, business partners and principal chiropractors at Three Counties Chiropractic Clinic, started clinics at Malvern Surgeries. The Three Counties Chiropractic Clinic is a member of the British Chiropractic Association and is also registered with the General Chiropractic Council.

Mr Williams said: "Multi-practice surgeries benefit patients with quick and easy referrals between practitioners.

"The disciplines of chiropractic and podiatry complement each other, as both podiatrists and chiropractors treat sport and dance injuries as well as lower limb and back complaints."

You can have a free spinal check and discuss any chiropractic treatment that may suit you by calling 01684 562323.

More recently, Mr Williams has been joined by Kamela Todd, who

offers a range of complementary therapies such as reflexology, Indian head massage, aromatherapy and advice on diet and nutrition.

Mr Williams would like to thank all his patients for their loyalty over the years.

He would also like to thank practice manager Sally Hancock, who has worked with him for 15 years, and Catherine Bullock, who has recently joined the team as secretary/PA, for their help in contributing to the success of the Malvern Surgeries.



Fact File

Business

Malvern Surgeries

Established

1970s

Business type

Podiatrist, chiropody, chiropractic and holistic therapies

Telephone

01684 561342

Owner

David Williams

Location

64 Worcester Road, Malvern, WR14 4AB

▲ David Williams from Malvern Podiatry Surgery and Stephanie Wilson from Three Counties Chiropractic Clinic. Picture by Carsten Evans. 37302401.



- Back pain
- Neck pain
- Headaches and migraines
- Sciatica
- Recurrent sports injuries
- Shoulder/knee pain

To find out if a chiropractor can help you, book a **FREE** spinal check on 01684 562323

Appointments available Monday to Saturday

Mr David Williams DPodm., M.Ch.S., S.R.Ch

Miss Jenny Britton B.Sc., Pod., M.Ch.S., S.R.Ch

State Registered Chiropodists & Podiatrists

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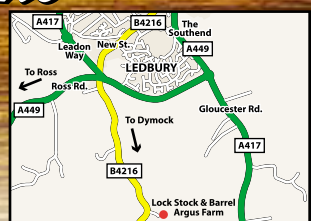
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Lock Stock & Barrel Furniture Ltd

Unit 1, Argus Farm,
Dymock Road, Nr Ledbury,
Herefordshire, HR8 2HU
Tel: 01531 633333
Fax: 01531 631487



Quality furniture for rock bottom prices

LOCK, Stock and Barrel is offering the public the chance to save up to 75 per cent by shopping in its furniture warehouse in Ledbury.

Owner Ruth Whittaker said: "We are a genuine wholesaler and have decided to offer our goods to you so don't expect a shopping experience when you arrive.

"You can literally go into the warehouse and take a look at what we have on offer. Because we're not opening a shop, we can pass on genuine savings to you without any overheads."

Lock, Stock and Barrel imports reproduction antique mahogany furniture. The business has been established in Herefordshire for 10 years and Ruth took over 18 months ago. Along with her daughter Amy, she is always there to offer a warm welcome and answer any questions.

Ruth added: "We are well known for our beds, four posters and bedroom furniture, as well as office and a range of occasional goods. "Everything is top quality mahogany which comes from sustainable plantations in Indonesia. The wood is stunning and the sleigh bed and bedroom range is very popular."



▲ Ruth Whittaker, left, and Amy Saunders with some of the beautiful furniture at Lock, Stock and Barrel. Picture by Martin Humby. 37302101.

"We also have painted beds, including a six-foot rattan bed with gold leaf, and traditional antique white and cream with gilt."

"We are giving you the opportunity to buy at the same prices as the trade brochure, which you can browse through if we don't have the items on display that you are looking for."

Ruth feels her business has made buying made-to-measure, bespoke furniture truly affordable.

"Many people like the style of a piece and want it to fit a certain

area of the room, or may even turn up with a magazine picture that they'd like. If you require a one-off item we can go through the design with you and get it manufactured to your specification," she said. Items in stock can be taken away and there is a free local delivery service for larger items.

The warehouse is situated on the Dymock Road, near to the Countrywide Roundabout.

Opening hours are 9am-5pm, Monday-Friday and Saturdays by appointment.

Fact File

Business

Lock, Stock and Barrel

Telephone

01531 633333

Business type

Reproduction mahogany furniture wholesalers

Web address

www.lockstockandbarrel-uk.com

Established

1996

E-mail address

lockstockandbarrel@fsmail.net

Owner

Ruth Whittaker

Location

Unit 1 Argus Farm, Dymock Road, Ledbury, HR8 2HU

Funeral directors is like a trusted friend

THE only independent funeral directors in Malvern, F W Spilsbury has been in the town for five generations.

It is a sad fact of life that in one way or another, we will have to deal with funeral arrangements at some point.

At these times you need to be able to depend on a well established, understanding, professional company – and to rely on its knowledge and experience in such matters. F W Spilsbury of Malvern has that reputation.

A family business since 1875, F W Spilsbury is a modern funeral directors that is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to guide you through this emotional journey.

The two chapels of rest at Upper Howsell Road are homely, and the friendly faces Johanne Spilsbury and Ivan Willis are there as a bereaved family's first port of call.

The current staff have more than 80 years' experience between them and offer a caring service for the bereaved in the community, priding themselves in giving families trust and confidence and respecting their wishes from the outset.

Johanne said: "During this time we like to think of ourselves as a trusted friend. We care, are con-



▲ Nicholas Davies, left, Johanne Spilsbury, Ivan Willis and Ray Stocker at F W Spilsbury. Picture by Carsten Evans. 37299701.

cerned and compassionate, offering sensitivity, help with essential decisions, supporting the family and recognising the importance of grief and cherished memories."

Funeral director Ray Stocker is now assisted by Nicholas Davies, who has recently joined the team,

and they are there on the day of the funeral, assisting with floral arrangements, the journey and at the church or crematorium.

"Everyone here will go that extra mile to ensure peace of mind when you are making arrangements for your loved one," said Ivan.

Fact File

Business name	Established	Telephone	Web address
F W Spilsbury	1875	01684 892777	www.funeraldirectorsmalvern.co.uk
Business type	Owner	Address	Email
Funeral Directors	David Spilsbury	12 Upper Howsell Road, Malvern, WR14 1TL	fwspilsbury@btinternet.com

F. W. SPILSBURY (David Spilsbury) FUNERAL DIRECTOR



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*Price Dependent On Size Of Job

Fantastic reputation is secret of success

SHANE Howells Ltd, situated at The Workshop, Bye Street, is Ledbury's longest-established supplier of high-quality windows, doors, conservatories and glass to the public and trade buyers.

The business has been built up via word of mouth and trades on its great reputation.

Husband and wife Shane and Clare Howells are joined by brother-in-law Dave Williams and the business has 10 employees.

With years of experience in the building and glazing trade, Shane set up the business 13 years ago and moved to the current Bye Street showroom in 2002.

The business prides itself on honest pricing and good advice.

"We offer good prices right from the start and our products give great value for money that will last," said Mr Howells. "A good finish can add thousands of pounds to your home but a shoddy job could lose you money – get it right first time with us."

It can also offer a repair service for misted double glazed units, patio doors, velux windows, PVCu, timber or aluminium frames.

"Repairing units is a cost effective alternative to replacing entire



◀ Shane Howells and team offer high quality windows, doors, conservatories and glass.

windows and it will save money on your heating bills too. If you are concerned about energy efficiency then we can provide a grade A window," said Mr Howells.

"VEKA windows and doors are renowned within the double glazing industry for offering great strength, performance as well as sheer beauty and technical excellence."

Bespoke conservatories are made with a choice of traditional white or wood effect PVCu and Shane Howells Ltd will measure up to ensure everything is to your specification. Sun lounges with a tiled

roof are also available and windows can be made using hard or soft wood.

Mr Howells added: "The focus here is really on service. We are a friendly local company that offers a professional service."

All products come with a 10 year guarantee.

If you are looking for excellent products and high quality service then call 01531 635338 or pop in to Shane Howells Ltd, Bye Street, Ledbury. The showroom is open from 8am to 4.30pm, Mondays to Fridays, and 8.30am to 1.30pm on Saturdays.

Fact File

Business name	Partners	Telephone	Web address
Shane Howells Limited	Shane and Clare Howells	01531 635338	www.shanehowells.co.uk
Business type	Established	Address	Email
Windows, doors & conservatories	1995	The Workshop, Bye Street, Ledbury, HR8 2AT	shane@shanehowells.co.uk

Book returns to donkeys' years

by Robert Hale

robert.hale@midlands.
newsquest.co.uk

DONKEYS were once a common sight around Malvern, taking visitors up the heights of the Beacon or to the many springs and watering-holes.

Now they are gone, but artist and author Rose Garrard has just published a lavishly-illustrated book bringing a fresh insight into this hidden part of local history.

Ms Garrard is perhaps best known for her work creating water features such as the Elgar memorial and Malvhina at Belle Vue Terrace and the new wrought-iron gates at the North Malvern clock tower.

The new book, *Donkeys' Years on the Malvern Hills*, arose from the years of research she did into the Water Cure and the local springs and wells.

She discovered that even before the apparently glamorous years when Malvern became 'the metropolis of the Water Cure', it was already well-known for its donkeys for hire.

So when the town became renowned for



◀ Rose Garrard, author of *Donkeys' Years on the Malvern Hills*.

its healing waters, the donkeys were there to transport people to the hillside springs, and became increasingly popular.

"From the coming of the Romans to the growth of the medieval monasteries, from the influence of aristocratic benefactors to the impact of the water-cure doctors on the growth of modern Malvern, donkeys played a vital, but unsung, role in Malvern's development as a spa town," said Ms Garrard.

The book explores the divisions between the Victorian well-to-do classes and those who tended the donkeys and led them up and down the hills.

It is also full of fascinating facts and stories about everything from the clock-tower to the old camera-obscura.

One of the most attractive features of the book is the illustrations, more than 200 of them, 70 in colour, many of which have never been published before.

The book is dedicated to Ms Garrard's brother, Dr Timothy Garrard, who died in 2007 and whose legacy enabled its publication.

Donkeys' Years on the Malvern Hills is printed by Aspect Design, Newtown Road, and is available there and from the Tourist Information Centre, Aquarius and Beacon Books in Great Malvern, priced £20.



▲ A donkey driver waits as young 'toffs' admire the view, 1910.

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◀ A donkey stand near Malvern Wells church. Watercolour by Mary Brandling, 1856.



▲ A group of Edwardian women on the hill-path crossroads above West Malvern.

the fig tree

OPENING TIMES

10-12 p.m.

12-2 p.m.

6-7 p.m.

7-10 p.m.

COFFEE MENU

LUNCH MENU

PRE-THEATRE MENU

EVENING MENU

MONDAY-SATURDAY

99B CHURCH STREET, MALVERN, WORCS., WR14 2AE

TEL: 01684 569909



ADVERTISING FEATURE

High quality food in a courtyard setting

A SECLUDED courtyard in the centre of Malvern is the place to enjoy lunch or dinner, tranquillity and sunshine.

The Fig Tree, just off Church Street, opened in July and has already built up a good reputation for high quality, freshly prepared food.

Manou Kabirizadeh took 10 months to restore the 200-year-old former Belle Vue stable block into a contemporary restaurant offering a modern, fresh menu at affordable prices.

Co-owner Christine Hale, who was born in Malvern, said: "We've managed to maintain the character beams as well as creating a stylish open space for people to enjoy.

"A new professional kitchen has been installed and all meals are individually cooked to order – we don't own a microwave!

"Our meat is from a local butcher, which is farm assured, and we use local products where possible," she added.

The lunch menu is often accompanied by a choice of two special dishes, the lighter pre-theatre menu aims to give a quick, light meal without compromising on quality and the main evening menu

includes a selection of chargrilled meat and fish.

Popular dishes include hummus and tzatziki to start, spaghetti polpetta (meatballs), risotto verde alle erbe (spinach and herb risotto) and homemade puddings such as Tiramisu or grilled peaches.

The menu is seasonal and the

autumnal dishes will be available very soon.

Groups and party bookings are welcome. There are 42 covers inside across two floors, and seven tables in the courtyard that surround the fig tree. The restaurant is fully licensed and also serves good quality coffee.



▲ The courtyard at new Malvern restaurant The Fig Tree. Picture by Carsten Evans. 36296601.

Fact File

Business

The Fig Tree

Owners

Manou Kabirizadeh and Christine Hale

Business type

Mediterranean restaurant

Telephone

01684 569909

Established

July 14, 2008

Location

99b Church Street Malvern WR14 2AE