

# MEDIA RELEASE

## HAIRDRESSER HANDING OVER

12 October 2017

After 52 years working as a hairdresser in Dauncey Street, Richard Ley is handing over the tools of the trade to Chris Sheridan.

Chris has been with the salon since 1986, so 31 years working alongside Richard, in the business that was set up by his father Trevor.

In its early days, the salon was a men's hairdresser, and they sold a vast array of goods, including cigarettes, tobacco, souvenirs, watches and even fishing gear.

"A commercial traveller used to visit the Island, and he'd sell almost the same things to all the shopkeepers," Richard Ley said with a laugh, remembering those early times.

After serving a five-year apprenticeship with his dad, Richard took over the business some 45 years ago.

"I've done this for so long as I enjoy working with people, and I chose to stay on Kangaroo Island because of the wonderful lifestyle. I've always been keen on the outdoor life, including sailing, so the Island has been perfect for me," he said.

Over the years, Richard has taken on 18 apprentices, and following this tradition, Chris Sheridan intends to hire a new apprentice too.

In buying the salon, Chris is showing her dedication to the Island, as she didn't want to see this wonderful service to the community scaled back.

"Richard wanted to retire, but he hoped someone would buy the salon and keep it going. My husband Paul and I decided that the time was right ... our children are grown up now so I'll have the time to devote to running the business," Chris said.

Richard's Salon will retain its name, and continue to employ the current four staff, only now, Richard will be an employee and Chris will be the owner. Richard intends continuing to work a couple of days a week, which is great for his customers.

Commissioner for Kangaroo Island Wendy Campana said how pleased she was to learn of this changing of the guard.

“Richard deserves the community’s thanks for offering the services he has for so many years, and it’s wonderful that Chris has faith in the community and the business to purchase it and continue driving it forward. This is just the type of entrepreneurial spirit the Island needs and I wish her every success,” Wendy Campana said.

And Richard will be seen restoring his H28 yacht in his spare time.



*Photo of Chris Sheridan & Richard Ley*

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