

Hairdressers in Stickney

Robert Ashling was a Shoe Maker living at Sibsey in 1835 and is mentioned in a news paper article of the time as also being a Hair Cutter presumably for men, and even in 1824 there were twelve Hairdressers and Perfumers in Boston, although no such accounts have been found that relate to Stickney in the same way.

Edwin Smith is the first Hairdresser that has a mention in the village in 1900. He originated from Louth and set up his business in what is now Kings Garage on the Main Road north of the Church. His son Herbert Sidney was sixteen at the time and his occupation was also specified as a Hairdresser most probably as an apprentice to his father, as his older brother Charles had been some years earlier when they all lived in Wainfleet. Edwin who initially trained as a Shoe Maker had left Stickney and had retired to Skegness by the time that the next census was taken.

Arthur Tom Coultan was wounded in the First World War and as a result of his injury had one of his limbs amputated and replaced with a traditional wooden leg. He was born in Tumbly and married Ethel Eliza Drayton in 1930 and went to live at Bargreen in Stickney. He set up a barbers business in a wooden shed that was sited in the yard of the old Rose & Crown. Batemans Brewery of Wainfleet owned the Inn at that time and they eagerly welcomed any such trade to be operating close by as it would most certainly result in an increase in the sale of alcohol for them.

Mr Coultan was also a tobacconist and would travel the short distance to and from work on the local service bus or sometimes by bicycle. It is rumoured that the district conservative meetings regularly took place in his shed. He is remembered by some older residents as easily being tempted to a drink and it was not unknown for him to leave a half shaven customer "*in the chair*" while he enjoyed a pint in the bar next door. He died in 1968 at the age of seventy four. His old shed was eventually moved to a Village near Sleaford and remains there today having been converted into a car garage. Arthurs daughter Ada went to Mansfield after leaving school at fourteen and trained as a ladies hairdresser with Marie Brailsford. On returning to Stickney she took a job at Mr Shorts Grocers and Drapers store and remained there until she married Peter Borrell in December 1952 and never actually practiced her initial profession.

Albert Hall, or Taz as he was known to many people was the next Barber to pursue the profession in the Village although he did not sell cigarettes or practice the art of shaving with a cut throat razor. He had a new shed erected on the same site where Mr Coultans had been and also kept the barbers shop at Carrington but came to Stickney two nights a week to cut the men's hair. Albert ceased his hairdressing in Stickney when the Rose and Crown was closed in 1986. The Public House was sold by Batemans and became a private residence and his shop was removed and resited at the back of Carrington Lodge on the main road and is still used today as a garden store by Mr & Mrs Weston. Taz and his wife retired to a small bungalow down Holmes Road in Stickney, where he died in 2000 at the age of Eighty Four and is buried in Stickney cemetery

Billy Head was considered by some to be quite handy with a comb and pair of scissors and he had a small circle of regular gentlemen who would rely on him for a conventional hair cut. Even Taz Hall the Village Barber would visit his small home down west fen lane for a trim up when it was necessary

Marian Hanes was a ladies hairdresser and also cut the hair of some of the young school children of the village in a room of her father's home Bourne Villa on the Main Road next door to the old school house. She also travelled around the village doing trims and perms in peoples own homes and frequently travelled to Grimbsy to stock up on solutions and supplies during the mid sixties

Penny was the second wife of Mike Whitamore and she came to Stickney in the nineteen seventies. They lived in Lindsey House on the Main Road to the south of the village and had the detached garage at the side of the property converted into a modern hairdressing Salon from where she worked for several years

Margaret Smith was once a ladies hairdresser. She lived and worked in a house called The Yews, on the opposite side of the main road to the butchers shop that was owned by the Shaw Brothers

Jack and Barbara Shooter came to the Village in 1974 and bought from Rowland King,

the house which was originally called Rose Cottage and the old building that was used as a Blacksmiths workshop which stands next to it. The south side of the old building was converted into an Antiques shop and is still trading today under the name of B&B Antiques, and the other half was transformed into a Ladies Hairdressing Salon and given the name Hair Flair. Mrs Shooter was a trained hairstylist and took on Christine Mallet as an apprentice until the beginning of 1978 when Barbara retired from the profession to concentrate on the other side of the business and let the shop out to Christine and her Mother who continued with the hairdressing for the next four years

Julie Head and her younger sister Vivienne Odlin are the third and the fourth oldest children of the Mackinder's family of six siblings and have virtually lived most of their lives in Stickney

They took over the saloon from the Mallets in the July of 1982 and ran the Hair Flair business together for the next twenty five years. They also employed Susan Pinchbeck and then, Karen Burr as full time staff during the years of the Eighties and the Nineties and always found casual work for a young girl on a busy Saturday. The shop was always closed on Mondays but was opened for five days a week for appointments and ladies hair styling and also catered for men with extended hours on Tuesday nights so they could attend after work as no male Barbers existed in the village by now. When the lease on the property expired and the shop closed on the 9th November 2007 the premises stood empty for a while until Paul Cox acquired it for his wall & tile business in March 2010. Julie and Vivienne still continue to provide a hairdressing service in the Village, but now with prearranged appointments at the homes of their particular clients.