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## 'Our Town' Weekly Online Magazine

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Issue  
2

# Our Town Magazine Advertising Options

Our Town Magazine provides various advertising packages, ranging from standard options to more exclusive deals, ensuring there is something for every budget. This approach allows us to engage the entire community with our unique marketing website, which serves as a valuable resource for local residents.

To find out more email: [wendy@ourtownmagazine.co.uk](mailto:wendy@ourtownmagazine.co.uk)

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## Optional extras:

Increase your page listing with adverts and photographs.

\* Limited to a maximum of 3 of the same trade.

# Showcasing our Business Partners

## Chillies Delivers Big Flavour and Warm Hospitality

Last month, I had the opportunity to visit Chillies in South Woodham Ferrers for a 'Food Review'. This was my first visit to the restaurant, and I was excited to sample their menu after hearing many rave reviews about them.

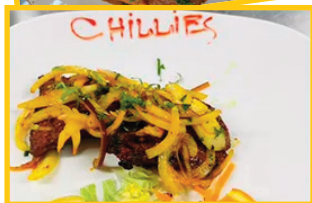
Upon entering, I was warmly greeted by Kam and Harry, who were both very friendly and smartly dressed. Kam now helps manage the restaurant and mentioned that they have been established in the town for 20 years.

We were offered drinks to start. Since I was driving, I opted for an alcohol-free drink, there was a good selection to choose from, especially on such a hot day. I then perused their comprehensive menu, which featured a variety of options starting from appetizers to main dishes. For my appetizer, I chose the mixed grill, which was beautifully presented and included a combination of chicken and lamb tikka, along with sheek kebab and a side salad. I liked the way the plate is personalised, a nice touch!

I hadn't anticipated there would be many other diners being a Tuesday, but there was a steady flow of customers. Sitting beside me was a couple who dined there every Tuesday, travelling from Althorne. They assured me that it was well worth the journey, as they had consistently enjoyed the food throughout their many years of visits to Chillies and wouldn't go anywhere else now!



Harry & Kam



I had the opportunity to speak with Harry about the menu between courses. He mentioned that they have a signature main course that they are well-known for, and they take great pride in that dish. He also told me that if you are looking for something a little different yet better than the standard options, they offer an excellent alternative. When I asked how often they change their menu, he explained that it's updated once a year.

Chillies has earned a 5-star food hygiene rating, reflecting the highest standard for food safety. This rating highlights their commitment to maintaining excellence in all aspects of food hygiene management and their dedication to providing a safe environment for customers. This rating is reviewed annually, with no prior notice given to when food hygiene inspectors will conduct their inspections.

During peak times, Chillies employs two main chefs and an additional five staff members to assist. Regular visitors know that Christmas time at Chillies can get extremely busy, sometimes accommodating up to 100 diners. Therefore, it's advisable to book your table well in advance! They have made booking easier by offering an online reservation service on their website. They believe that online advertising and social media are essential, and they are pleased to collaborate with Our Town online magazine.

Choosing my main course was a breeze. I told Kam my preferences, including how spicy I wanted it, and he selected the dish for me. The table was set with hot plates, which is something you don't always see these days, but it keeps the food warm. Kam chose the Muj Chicken for me, which features sliced chicken tikka cooked with aromatic spices in a rich sauce. It smelled and tasted delicious, and the portion sizes were generous—there's nothing worse than enjoying a meal that isn't substantial enough!

All in all we had a lovely dining experience tasting the lovely food that Chillies has to offer.

**Wendy Murray,**  
Editor, Our Town



**Chillies**  
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### Local Businesses in and around South Woodham Ferrers

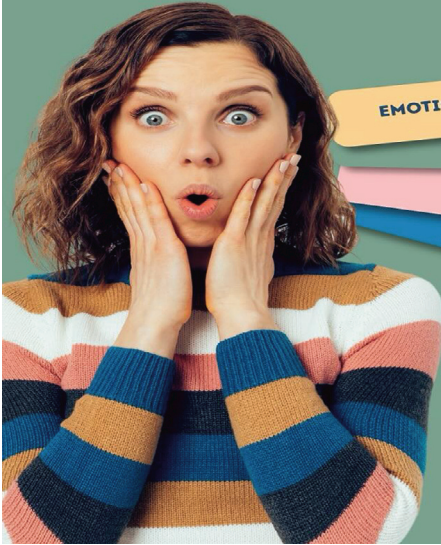


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# Showcasing our Business Partners

## Guy Lehan & Son Interview

Meet Guy Lehan & Son, a professional painting, decorating and plastering company serving South Woodham Ferrers and the surrounding areas since 1989. A family business with a personal touch to meet our clients individual needs. From smaller projects to larger projects including Heritage & commissioned Charity work with many established clients.

### ***What made you decide to start your own business in South Woodham Ferrers?***

I moved to South Woodham in 1993 and soon realised that there were only two other professional decorating companies in the Dengie/Woodham area, so I saw a good opportunity.

### ***How many years of experience do you have as a painter?***

I have been a decorator since I left school and served my apprenticeship back in the 80's, so just over 40 years experience.

### ***How much of your work comes from advertising and how much would you say word of mouth?***

In the early days, being new to the area compelled me to invest heavily in advertising. However, over the years, we have established an excellent reputation, and now an impressive 70% of our work comes from recommendations.

### ***What sort of hours do you work and is it the sort of job that you need to work irregular hours.***

We do some commercial work (estate agents and shops) but 90% is residential work, so we work any hours that are required to get the job done.

### ***As a painter, what steps do you take before painting a room and how important is it to prep a room before you start?***

As everyone knows, preparation is key to a successful job. However, many clients have specific requests regarding access, pet welfare, or simply accommodating their unique needs. With more people working from home and often attending virtual meetings, it's crucial to minimise noise and disruptions during our work.

### ***Is it important to use quality branded paints, and does that determine how many coats of paint you use?***

Absolutely, using quality branded paints is important, but it's primarily about ensuring the protection of the work environment—specifically, the clients' homes. The right paint can influence the durability and finish, which ultimately affects how many coats are needed for a flawless result.



# Showcasing our Business Partners

## *What do you think is the most challenging issues that painters face?*

Customers—really it is usually managing people's expectations. You can't make a silk purse out of a pig's ear, but I always try to make the best job out of what I am presented with. Being honest with a client goes a long way.

**All this  
for just  
£15  
a week**

## *What do you do that sets you apart from others in your trade?*

I'm exceptionally good at what I do, and the decorating that I produce is outstanding. But just as important is the customer service. I treat clients and their homes the same way I would expect to be treated, and my own standards are extremely high.

## *Do you have any projects you have worked on that you are proud of?*

I have been quite fortunate in my decorating career, having worked on some truly remarkable projects. I've decorated hotels for the Hilton and Marriott groups all over the world, and I had the honor of decorating the athletes' village at the 1990 Commonwealth Games in Auckland, New Zealand. Additionally, I undertook a two-year contract at Claridge's in London, where I decorated the hotel suites—an experience that was both traditional and fascinating. Locally, I was commissioned to work on Edwins Hall in Woodham Ferrers, which we fully decorated top to bottom over a six-year period. More recently, I completed an extensive project at Old Riffhams in Little Baddow.



## *What relevant training and painting certifications do you have?*

I am a time-served decorator and used to be a Dulux Select Trader. Over the last couple of years, I have completed courses at the Dulux Academy to keep abreast of new technology, trends, and techniques in the field of decorating.

## *What skills do you think are important for painters and which do you have?*

I believe that patience and diplomacy are crucial skills for painters. Patience is essential when working on a piece, as it takes time to achieve the desired result. Diplomacy comes into play when collaborating with clients or other artists, ensuring that communication is smooth and constructive. I possess both of these skills, which I believe enhance my work as a painter.

## *What is it you like about South Woodham Ferrers as a community and what do you do in your spare time?*

South Woodham Ferrers is a lovely community with some good people living here.

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The winner will be selected randomly and notified by email \*Competition Terms & Conditions apply.

# Paul J King

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