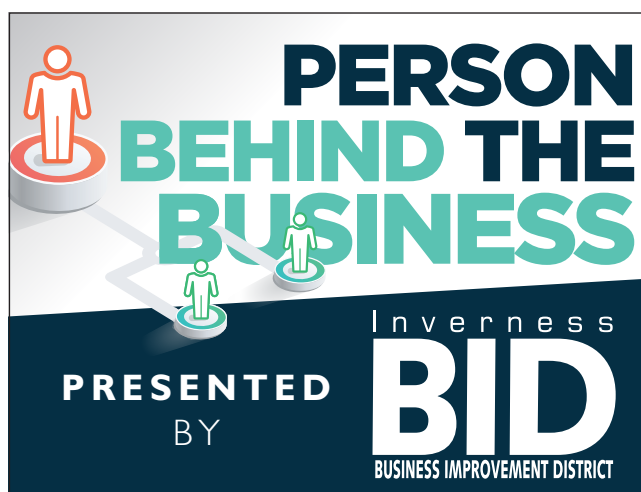


Family music shop hits the right notes

With its vibrant live music scene and tuition too, Inverness is a great place to run a music shop says **Roger Catherwood**



Q How would you describe your business?

A We are a family-run music shop which began trading in 1986. Along with our bricks and mortar shop on Church Street, we also sell on Reverb, via our website.

Q What led you into the business?

A Originally, our family moved to Inverness in the early 70s as my parents began working in the local music shop called Bruce



Roger Catherwood, The Music Shop, Inverness.

Picture: Callum Mackay

Millers. I started as a Saturday boy working for my mum and dad. When my parents opened their own music shop I joined them. And here we are almost 40 years later – still a family-run business with myself and my two sisters!

Q What makes Inverness a great place to run a business?

A There are many factors that make Inverness a great place to run a business. For us, the interest in music is fundamental, whether it's the vibrant live music scene, the many music groups offering the chance to learn an instrument or the music being taught in the schools. With Inverness being one of the fastest growing cities, and the environment being conducive to a great life style, it's easy to see why it's a great place to run a business as well as to live and bring up your family.

Q What is your greatest

achievement?

A I think my greatest achievement is expanding the business from the small shop we opened in 1986 in Queensgate to the current shop we moved into in 2018. Also, keeping the business going through the financial crisis in 2008 and Covid, which has been a major challenge for all retail.

Q Who do you admire in business?

A I don't admire anyone in particular – I just admire anyone who takes the leap to open up their own business, as I can appreciate the efforts to make it a success.

Q What's your advice to budding entrepreneurs?

A Make sure you know your market. Do your research. Keep up-to-date with the latest trends in the business sector you're moving into. Ask as many people as possible and contact any agencies, such as Business Gateway, that help start-up businesses.

Q Can you tell us more about yourself?

A Helping run the family household and walking my dog keeps me busy. Occasional visits to the gym in an attempt to keep fit – my marathon days are very much over! I also enjoy travelling, reading and being outdoors. My passion for Liverpool FC is probably unhealthy, but the stress is sometimes worth it!

The Music Shop, 49 Church Street, Inverness
T: 01463 233374
W: www.musicshopinverness.co.uk
For more information about Inverness BID:
T: 01463 714550 W: www.invernessbid.co.uk