

FAMILY BUSINESS

Scott Benson is showroom manager at Linda Joseph Interiors based at Kirkby Lonsdale. Scott, 36, works with his mum Linda, who launched the business in 1991, and his dad, Joseph, who previously worked as a self-employed kitchen fitter throughout Cumbria. Scott has worked for the family firm for 10 years and lives in Kendal with his girlfriend, Zoe. He is a keen Carlisle United fan and also plays football in the Westmorland League



Linda, Joe and Scott Benson

I studied urban studies and planning at the University of Sheffield and many of the design aspects from my degree have come in useful for my job. I've gone from designing urban spaces to interior spaces.

After university, I worked on house renovations until my dad asked me to help out in the family business. I took over the office side which allowed my dad to get back out on site.

When we opened the showroom in Kirkby Lonsdale Business Park in 2007, it allowed us to bring

everything under one roof. Before that, the kitchen side of the business was based in Penrith and the interior design was in Kirkby Lonsdale.

I like the fact that we can offer a complete service. A customer can sit and plan their kitchen layout with me and then go and see mum about the soft furnishings or window dressings.

We work well as a team. My mum looks after the interior design side, my dad project manages jobs on site, and I'm based at the showroom,

planning fitted kitchens or bedrooms for clients. It's good that we each have our own forte.

I enjoy seeing the whole design process through with the client. It's very satisfying seeing a project develop from the initial design to the finished product.

Cumbria has so many unique properties that every job we do is different. I'm lucky to work in such a fantastic place. Even my drive to work is lovely.

Zoe and I rent at the moment but we've got plans

to buy a house and renovate it. I imagine we'll get plenty of help and advice from my family!

We love travelling to see and experience different places. We have been to 10 countries in the past 12 years. One of our favourite holidays was seeing the mountain gorillas in Uganda.

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