

Picture Perfect

Local photographer Cathy Robinson admits she's a bit of a stickler for getting the right shot.

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It is something we have all experienced . . . You walk into your parents' living room and there it is — possibly the worst photograph of yourself that you have ever seen. Admittedly, photographs are our memories of the past. But do we really want to see a picture of ourselves with half shut eyes and a forced smile?

If the answer is no, it is time to pay a visit to Mansfield photographer Cathy Robinson — a self-confessed perfectionist when it comes to getting the classic shot. With more than 20 years' experience in photography, Cathy's studio on Station Street boasts some truly breathtaking shots of both people and their pets. From contemporary family portraits to weddings and modelling portfolios, it is clear the mum-of-two has a true talent for capturing a precious moment on film.

With a clear passion for people and photography, Cathy aims to reflect an individual's unique beauty in each shot — concentrating solely upon the person that stands before the camera to reveal their inner personality and banish any self-conscious hang-ups. "I first became interested in photography because I wanted to portray people's unique beauty through photographs," she told Profile. "Everyone has a special beauty about them and that is what makes them different from the next person. I'd look at photos other people had taken and think that is not what I would have chosen to focus on — which is what drove me into my career."

Cathy, who has previously worked freelance and in photographic studios, set up her own business six years ago in Hucknall and has since opened up a studio in Mansfield — giving her little time to put down her camera. Added Cathy: "I wanted to wait until my children Charlotte and Lily were old enough before starting my own business as it is very time consuming — but I absolutely love it and there is no job I'd



rather be doing. And Cathy's daughter Charlotte (19) has already begun to follow in her mum's footsteps by becoming a trainee photographer for the business, alongside Cathy's mum and sister — making 'The Photographer' very much a family run business.

"Family is very important to me and I think that is what helps me to create the perfect family portrait which reflects warmth and comfort," she said. "My photos are all about capturing a memory and the person as their true self. ▶