



Moira and Graham—pictured with Laurie Smith—prove they're a cut above the rest.

TWO ANGUS businesses are celebrating a major achievement this year—12 years in business.

Montrose-based Graham's Garden Care, operated by Graham Henderson, and Arbroath-based Innovations Hair Studio, owned and managed by Moira Wallace, both received start-up advice from Laurie Smith of Small Business Gateway Angus.

However this is not the only thing the two have in common. Both families have known each other for many years and they both received financial assistance from the Prince's Scottish Youth Business Trust.

Also both were taken by Laurie to meet HRH Prince Charles at Perth in 1989 along with other young Scottish entrepreneurs assisted by the PSYBT.

In terms of PSYBT support in Angus, Graham has the longest surviving enterprise and Moira can claim to be the longest surviving woman in business.

Shears to 12 years in business!

Speaking from the Small Business Gateway offices in Marketgate, Arbroath, Laurie said, "Graham and Moira are great ambassadors for young entrepreneurs in Angus.

"Graham suffers from cerebral palsy and has shown remarkable grit and determination to succeed in an extremely competitive market.

"With assistance from Disability Services Scotland and in particular, his adviser, Lynn MacFarlane, he has acquired an impressive selection of equipment and can tackle almost all landscaping or ground clearance projects.

"Moira currently employs four, two stylists and two trainees, in her salon in Ar-

broath's Marketplace—having spent the first 10 years in business operating out of premises in Fisheracre.

"In 1998 she gained an HNC in Hairdressing from Angus College gaining maximum merits in all the practical hairdressing subjects.

"Moira now shares her skills by lecturing part-time at Aberdeen College."

In September 1993, Graham received a letter from HRH Prince Charles, which said, "I am full of admiration for what you have achieved and pray that your business will continue to grow and flourish."

Regional manager of the PSYBT, Carol Soutar, said, "It was a great honour for the Trust to be able to assist Graham and Moira launch their businesses twelve years ago."

Anyone interested should contact their local Small Business Gateway, visit the web sites, www.sbgateway.com and www.psybt.org.uk or telephone 0845 609 6611.