

BUSINESS

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Q & A



Malcolm Grimes

Managing director of EM-Technik UK Ltd.

Q TELL ME ABOUT YOURSELF

A I'm Malcolm Grimes, I'm 43 years old and was born and raised in Stoke-on-Trent. I live with my wife, children and cocker spaniel and I'm the managing director of EM-Technik UK Ltd, a subsidiary of the German EM-Technik Group, which we started in 2017.

Q GIVE ME AN OVERVIEW OF YOUR CAREER SO FAR

A Having left the RAF in 2005 where I worked as a weapons technician, I stumbled into a career in technical sales. Initially, I was in general engineering sales for a local company, then I moved into a fluid handling and pneumatics role with a multinational manufacturer. In 2010 I started to work for a distributor where I took the role of product lead on the EM-Technik range. This ultimately led EM-Technik Group's CEO asking me to set up and run the UK subsidiary.

Q WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PART ABOUT YOUR JOB?

A I love helping customers find solutions to their problems. Being on hand here in the UK is a valuable service to offer companies who rely on EM-Technik's specialist miniature plastic fittings and connectors. Brexit and Covid-19 could have caused all sort of headaches for my customers, so being able to work with them and help them find workable solutions has been of great satisfaction.

Q WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO DO IN YOUR SPARE TIME?

A Much of my time outside of work is spent with a very busy family. Should my behaviour allow it, I also enjoy a few frames of snooker once or twice a week.

Q IF YOU COULD LIVE ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD, WHERE WOULD IT BE AND WHY?

A I would love to live somewhere with more defined seasons. Somewhere where there has hot, sunny summers and cold snowy winters. I'd be very happy to leave behind the typical mild and grey weather we get here in the UK for most of the year.

Q WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO DATE?

A I loved my time in the RAF. I joined quite late at 21, and after my technical training, I landed a dream posting working on the Harrier Jump Jet training squadron.



Q WHO IS YOUR BIGGEST INFLUENCE AND WHY?

A Self-made men really inspire. The likes of Duncan Bannatyne, Steve Jobs, Richard Branson as it shows that anyone can achieve, regardless of their background.

Q IF YOU COULD GO TO DINNER WITH ANYONE AT ALL, WHO WOULD IT BE? WHERE WOULD YOU GO AND WHY?

A I guess my dad. We lost him quite suddenly in 2017, so to be able to spend an evening with him would be great.

Q WHAT IS THE ONE THING YOU ARE MOST LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS YEAR?

A Christmas is a big deal in our house. Lots of food, wine, friends and family. The past two years have been quite different for everyone, so I'm really looking forward to an extra-special one this year.

On the move



A LAW firm which has offices in Alsager, Stafford and Newcastle has expanded its team with the appointment of two new recruits. Hannah Lawlor, **left**, has joined Nowell Meller Solicitors as part of the wills and probate team, based at the Newcastle office, to advise in relation to wills and tax planning, powers of attorney, administration of estates and trusts. At the same time, Amy Keeling has joined the business as part of the commercial property team. Amy, who qualified in 2019 and

previously practised as a residential property solicitor, will be based at the Stafford office to advise on anything regarding commercial property transactions from sales to purchases and leasing on behalf of both landlord and tenant. Director Debby Hackney said: "Hannah has brought not only experience to the team but also lots of care, warmth and fun. She is a delight to have around. "And Amy has already made an impact and become a great asset to Nowell Meller."