



Hotelier braves the inspector

AN ELVIS-LOVING chef from Wath has cut down his portions to entice more customers into his hotel and restaurant.

This is just one change implemented by David and Dyan Elliott, the owners of Sandygate Hotel – now called Elliott's at Sandygate.

The couple will feature in a Channel Five television programme called the Hotel Inspector in June after being approached by the production company.

They were advised to draw on their unique qualities so focused on David's love of Elvis.

His rock and roll memorabilia has moved from the pool room and is now placed around a themed restaurant.

David, known as the Elvis chef, cooks in Elvis outfits and is no stranger to appearing on television – he won junior Masterchef when he was 17.

David said: "When we were filming it was quite draining because they kept retaking shots. But I absolutely loved it, I am a show man and I was in my element.

"I am confident it will show us in a good light and it has given us a good push."

The couple spent around £15,000 on improvements. This included focusing on the website, updating three bedrooms and cutting down restaurant portion sizes.

Before, David was serving up about 1lb of ribs for a starter, which was overwhelming diners and not making a profit.

Open days and charity functions were held to draw in businesses and designers redecorated a function room.

David said he was dubious about doing the show but was glad he had. "We have always been poor on marketing so we got them in on that basis.

"It really was worthwhile doing and it was a wake up call."