

## Sam - Car Mechanic

Take a sharp turn down a very narrow cobbled alley and carry on through a tunnel like passage, you'll get to a small yard packed full with cars. That's the Riverside Garage. You'll find Sam and his boss Keith ready to greet you with a smile (it might be from under a car).

They had three apprentices leave in 12 months because they found the work too hard. Being a Mechanic is physically demanding, dirty and cold in winter. Yet Sam has been in the job for 10 years and still loves it. It isn't easy, but he gets to play with cars all day... a boys dream!

The job has changed over the years and will continue to do so as technology evolves. Cars are getting more reliable but more complicated too. More electronics are used in vehicles and hybrid and electric cars are becoming more common. As a result the skills needed are changing too. It could only a matter of time before mechanics become electricians.

The Riverside Garage has carved itself a niche of looking after old vehicles though, something a lot of garages can't do anymore.

Being a mechanic can be stressful when things go wrong - diagnosing and fixing car problems isn't always straight forward. Sam rates his job 8 out of 10. Still living the dream!