

Owners of The Salty Dog in Bangor, Co Down, to pass business to new family after 12 years

The owners of a popular hotel and restaurant in Co Down have announced they will be stepping down after 12 years and handing the reins over to a new family.

The Sharp family, who own The Salty Dog Hotel and Bistro, made the announcement on social media on Wednesday.

They said: "It has been an amazing 12 years looking after this 127-year-old building and working with some incredible people on The Salty Dog Team, our local suppliers, other great local businesses and of course our amazing customers.

"All of whom have taught us way more than we would have thought at the start of this journey.

"We are pleased to be handing it over to the Fusco family to add to their other businesses in Bangor and look forward to seeing what unique stamp they can bring to Bangor's only seafront hotel."

In 2012, The Salty Dog was taken over by Glasgow-born businessman, Ken Sharp, who transformed the venue into one of the city's most popular spots, being well-known for its pet-friendly restaurant.



Ken Sharp from The Salty Dog

(Image: Harry Bateman)

Previously, he worked for the royal family at Buckingham Palace for three years and has experience working in and managing hotels and restaurants across the world. He moved to Northern Ireland 15 years ago.

After hearing the news of the Sharp family stepping away from operating the Bangor hotel, the Alliance Party's Andrew Muir said: "Best of luck in the time ahead and thank you for the hospitality, advocacy and playing a key role in shaping the future of Bangor over the years."

Over the years, a number of celebrities have visited the hotel and restaurant while travelling through the city, with actors Tom Hiddleston and Sienna Miller calling their Scotch eggs "the best in the land."