

# Neil has key to unlock deal



Neil Carrier with the exquisite lock and key charm that he has created

## Specialist firm chosen to create tiny charms

They may measure just 22mm high but these tiny locks mean a big deal for a Black County-based family firm.

Keith Carrier & Son lockmakers, in Willeshall, has been asked by a London jeweller to create these tiny locks and keys to adorn charm bracelets and pendants.

After scouring the country to find somewhere with the skills to do it, the jeweller ended up asking the firm, based in Ward Street, to make some prototypes.

Bosses are keeping their fingers crossed it will lead to more business in the future.

And, while miniature locks are commonplace on charm bracelets, these are a little bit different - they are a real working lock and key.

Neil Carrier, who works at the business with his 63-year-old father Keith, said today: "The jeweller has asked us to make a few of these as prototypes.

"He had been looking everywhere for someone who could do something like this but couldn't find anybody to make them

### Report by Catherine Dalton

for him. They are very unusual as they are so small and because it is a real working lock.

"They are very intricate and each one takes about two to three weeks of work off and on."

The smallest of the locks is 22mm high and just 5mm thick, while the largest Mr Carrier is making measures 10cms high and 20mm wide.

Mr Carrier said the work was a further boost to the company, which recently won a Express & Star Manufacturing Award.

"To be honest, things are really picking up for us," he said.

"We've got some really interesting stuff coming in at the moment. We do all types of things too, like work for people who just come off the street or more specialist stuff like these tiny locks.

"At the moment, we're doing some work for RAF Cosford and we're also doing something for Roman Abramovich, who owns Chelsea."