****

**Pie makers move into legal history**

ARTISAN pie makers judged to be among the best in the region are taking the law into their pastry rolling hands.

Pie Jackers - the brainchild of Julie and Neil Fletcher - is opening its first bakery and diner in the former court chambers at the heart of Middlesbrough’s historic quarter.

The company burst on to the local food scene in 2016 after the husband and wife team quit their jobs in PR and Marketing and began selling their handmade gourmet pies at farmers markets and food events.

Since then they’ve scooped a whopping seven British Pie Awards, making Pie Jackers one of the most decorated pie makers in the North East.

The couple’s plans for the historic stone-fronted building include a bakery counter and licensed casual dining, a place where customers can tuck into a pie meal washed down with a local craft ale. There will also be a takeaway service.

“It’s the most beautiful building, it’s got bags of character and we can’t wait to get started on the refit which will include a fun twist on its historical links to the courts,” said Julie.

“We love the work that’s being carried out to regenerate the historic quarter and we hope Pie Jackers will prove a popular destination for those working in the creative digital industries that are flourishing in this part of town.”

The new venture is at the heart of Albert North, home to some of Middlesbrough’s most iconic buildings.

Work is ongoing to expose the area’s industrial heritage, and many of the spaces are being renovated by urban regeneration specialists Jomast in collaboration with Middlesbrough Council.

Mark Hill, Commercial Property Director at Jomast, said: “It is great news to have signed the multi award winning Pie Jackers as our latest tenant at Albert North.

“There is a real buzz of excitement around this announcement and personally I can’t wait for them to open their doors.”

Any companies interested in becoming the next member of the Albert North business ‘family’ is asked to contact Jomast on 01642 666936 or visit [www.albertnorth.co.uk](http://www.albertnorth.co.uk) for details.