

Rhian Wyman - Rhian Wyman Design

What were your favourite subjects/best memories from school?

Music, Textiles, Art and PE. Playing Jazz with Miss Burt. Designing my own range of cushions in textiles. Sports day, coming first or second in my events, amazing a few teachers, as I was known more for music than sports.

What are you currently doing and how did you get there?

I am a Textile Designer and run my own hand weaving company. After Dene Magna I attended Newent Sixth Form College where I studied Music, Textiles, Photography and Graphics. I then went to Hereford College of Art and studied BA (HONS) Textile Design Degree, although the facilities were small you were able to get into and use the workshops every day. Once graduated I undertook three internships with established weaver makers, which led to a Weaving Assistant role for a Welsh woollen mill. This experience provided me with skills and confidence to start my own weaving businesses in 2017, still utilizing and expanding on the photography and graphic skills I learnt at A Levels.

What is your favourite thing about your career?

My work reflects who I am, I get to design most days and I am creating an item that will be passed down through generations.

What is your least favourite thing about your career?

That it's not always make, make, make, I have to do office admin and contact potential galleries and shops that may sell my work.

What advice would you give to a student wanting a job in your field?

Contact businesses and see if you can intern, even if it is just a couple of days or hours a week for a couple of months it gives you a great insight into that career and also an understanding to see how different each business is.

How did your experience at Dene Magna help you find your first job?

Being dyslexic Dene Magna helped me recognise my strengths and provided me with strategies to overcome challenges.

If you had to do it all over again what would you do differently?

I would intern during the Uni summer breaks.

What do you know now that you wish you knew when you were at school?

That it is ok to not know exactly what you want to do for a career, just try your best and take opportunities when they come your way.