**Sudbury Silk Stories Interviews**

Maureen Harman - Plug Winder - Gainsborough Silks

File Length: 00:06:53

FULL TRANSCRIPT (with timecode)

*00:00:13:09 - 00:00:32:27*

I grew up on the Katz line estate opposite the factory and my school was a Catholic school. I was taught by nuns very hard and then I went to the girl's high school to number 16.

*00:00:33:03 - 00:00:54:17*

I started off as a cleaner appears to be clean and making the tea and I just watch people do their work and there there's a lady who was going to retire. So I took her job. I do several jobs at the moment for my plex. I have to in cotton on two buttons and then the bombs come onto my machine which I pile into a perm and then the perm goes to wave in the shuttle's goes in the shuttle's

*00:01:00:19 - 00:01:01:17*

eye level stuff. We

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We do the Chinaman especially in the pressure on us. It's a China man sitting in a Chinese garden and we actually believe that it's very pretty.

*00:01:12:19 - 00:01:18:03*

We got the royal warrant tree as you may know. We wait for the Queen Queen Mother. We used to

*00:01:19:13 - 00:01:24:07*

We know Jim Bentley basically can't do any design for those

*00:01:26:21 - 00:01:40:01*

we do lots of things but we don't sort of know that part of it. We don't. We just do our work in us when it goes up but when he told who they're for at the end of all that we've done for Ozzy Osborne and Len

*00:01:41:20 - 00:01:45:06*

then X woman Lennox we've done for you know several things

*00:01:51:25 - 00:02:01:23*

Wouldn't be much discovery at all at the moment. But the trouble is with such an old fashioned factory no one wants to work in it because it's too old fashioned for

*00:02:08:08 - 00:02:19:29*

I would recommend it but they'd have to have proper training. The snow got them coming up here for days saying no. Six weeks I had 12 weeks try and unplug wind and I was made to stand there for twelve weeks to work

*00:02:26:12 - 00:02:45:28*

Management. They've been coming and going over the years. They're trying to make the factory a bit more modern in things and it doesn't work and they try and his own people try and do different things and at the end of the day we go back to the old original way because that doesn't work.

*00:02:45:28 - 00:02:57:25*

People like old fashion who have our cloth a lot people come up looking at the place and I fall in love with it. We really do. We should have the w o clubs come up in the evenings look brands.

*00:02:57:26 - 00:03:01:18*

We don't have that anymore anywhere they're not legs of Health and Safety stopped everything

*00:03:08:05 - 00:03:11:12*

I absolutely love working here.

*00:03:11:27 - 00:03:14:25*

It's just a challenge when we're busy.

*00:03:14:25 - 00:03:25:25*

Everybody gets dead there were and we still have a little play here and there but we all if we NASCAR challenge has got to be done at this time we will try our hardest to get it done. And we normally do.

*00:03:25:26 - 00:03:35:13*

Know would have given take a good bunch of people we all get on one such family it's not like a factory. It's more of a family there. Now. If someone upset.

*00:03:35:13 - 00:04:00:04*

We all know everybody gets upset just it is there's no the factory like this where John used to be not that you say never laugh and joke. And every Saturday morning the glass sheriff used to come out which come to work and the glasses are still floating at the factory somewhere with a little silver tray. That was a regular thing that was Saturday mornings. Come on girls used to say last year Jerry time. It was lovely. It was.

*00:04:00:05 - 00:04:22:09*

He was he was a dedicated boss. He used to get it used to come back with one liter order. Make yourself at one meat order see no one goes out like that anymore much happier. And that's that. We lose that you've got to see people face to face looking on the computer or look good on the screen. It's not the same. As John said you stand and shake hand. Thank you very much. That went a long way he said.

*00:04:23:13 - 00:04:25:21*

Lives leaves he enough this place.

*00:04:25:24 - 00:04:26:28*

Didn't really love to

*00:04:33:18 - 00:04:36:08*

the lady who took her job.

*00:04:36:08 - 00:04:41:16*

From Amy she was ninety three four weeks ago and we got some old photographs.

*00:04:41:21 - 00:05:13:27*

When I first start I've only just seen him recently and there's a photograph of her trying to me on the machine and she had that frame and took to the old people's hand for her ninetieth birthday and it was one of she's the only lady what made me smile because one day instead of pressing the machine on she pressed the fire alarm and we had all the firings come up here. We will never forget that never. SHUSTER That was all right before you always had parties for you. John a good retirement party. Yeah. When they were building our nursery over there we had we had his part in here.

*00:05:13:27 - 00:05:33:00*

We had a party over there. Good funds all that that's gone. That is so we don't have things like that any more than that. Which one was that back in the palace. Stephen. Who are you going to be interviewing soon. He always carried his scissors around in his pocket. He set the alarms off in the Tate Gallery. Yeah. Because he has scissors in his pocket.

*00:05:34:03 - 00:05:48:15*

We went at Buckingham Palace. We've been all over the place. The coach trips. Lovely. We went there to have a little Lark cloth to look round. I was just a day trip. The firm put on for us. We went to open Abbey Buckingham Palace type gallery all sorts. We

*00:05:48:15 - 00:05:48:21*

We were

*00:05:54:18 - 00:05:55:13*

East.

*00:05:55:17 - 00:05:57:03*

It just fell over. I think

*00:05:57:29 - 00:06:07:00*

I can't win silk to be honest it's. It just doesn't agree with me my hands are too hot for silk I and anything else but I cannot own silk. I've tried

*00:06:08:16 - 00:06:20:19*

Because you love a lot of Chinese people in America people love this too. They come up here and then they can't get rid of me but they just absolutely love what they do and it's noise you know.

*00:06:22:02 - 00:06:40:03*

It's just stand back and watch people tomorrow and our work. It's lovely. And then I come up say thank you for showers around us. Well that's that. You're welcome. You know it's nice to say yes and the penalty people the customs I love you they come to speak to us at the factory. She brings a little dough that look Primrose.

*00:06:40:09 - 00:06:48:13*

They're lovely people but you know you say hello to people I speak back to you when I speak to anybody. I can't help but