**Sudbury Silk Stories Interviews**

Margaret Long - Silk Weaver or Textile Operative - Stephen Walters

File Length: 00:03:50

FULL TRANSCRIPT (with timecode)

*00:00:14:12 - 00:00:22:24*

I spoke to the careers officer at her school and she got me an interview here. I started 12th August 1968

*00:00:24:10 - 00:00:30:15*

And we have a factory minibus pick us up go round the villages bring us in.

*00:00:31:08 - 00:00:47:21*

Well when I first started here we had to train in system when we went over the house across the way in the basement. There was four of us and we trained doing all sorts of jobs. So being service four was we had like little races to say you could do the jobs quickest.

*00:00:47:25 - 00:01:24:08*

It was a bit daunting because at 15 I got the boss teaching me for the first few weeks pay what it was which was quite intimidating. Hell the first morning because he got the other aisle I was delighted. And it was quite intimidating sitting there but they also made you welcome. He taught us how to put pride seeing head to foot drop was on the freights we had like an old loom over the house which did run a little bit and then you learn how to do all the jobs connected with the name you learn all the parts.

*00:01:24:17 - 00:01:51:07*

And he was very nice because he he made a lot of them happy you know because he knew we were intimidated so he made us at ease because he was a lot of older women here when I come in used to walk through the floor or a night be singing over the looms and especially Christmas time and all that. But when I first came here I was very shy and we used to walk through the rows of women. We hit them well till I got to know.

*00:01:58:20 - 00:02:19:18*

First of all what I tried to be waver. Then I went down to the walking floor walking and they asked me to come up the floor and learn to be a nutter which involves entering dropped one all sorts of jobs and then I did a bit more waving and then went back walk in for quite a few years. Then the warping floor

*00:02:20:20 - 00:02:25:19*

Stopped and the warp in was done up here on the weaving floor.

*00:02:25:27 - 00:02:31:02*

So then they asked me to come back during weaving that's where I've been since

*00:02:37:07 - 00:02:46:24*

I do the black work which is the Saturn Saturn let you know and evening where you have to show any lapels and I'm not that material.

*00:02:46:26 - 00:02:52:23*

And I also make the material for linings for ceremonial ropes.

*00:02:52:27 - 00:03:04:18*

I love doing drop whoring and I love entering and I do love wave and I like doing I like to challenge myself.

*00:03:04:19 - 00:03:10:17*

It is a job. If you've got something that's got a model I'd love to do it just to prove I can do it.

*00:03:17:24 - 00:03:37:15*

Well because I haven't done the same job all the time so I've moved around the factory. I've had lots of friends here. I've got on well with management. I've looked after me. The good the bad times and it is so so family is his family firm and because I'm like the third generation now Julius

*00:03:38:21 - 00:03:45:05*

Yeah you've got lots of friends here still got lots of friends outside who were tan very unhappy and