**Sudbury Silk Stories Interviews**

Charlie Miller - Headings Weaver - Stephen Walters

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FULL TRANSCRIPT (with timecode)

*00:00:13:17 - 00:00:20:19*

I grew up in Scotland in a town called Armidale and school was just run of the mill and I enjoyed school

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I enjoyed the subjects and different things.

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Oh history and geography, nearly everything.

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First job I had when I left school, I worked as an apprentice electrical engineer. I moved there from Scotland. I was unemployed and I walked in to this place across the road because I wanted the job and then this job came available. I applied for it and I'm successful to come and work in this company. I've been here approximately over 51 years and I got a job because of my attitude.

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I was quite interested in the job because I'd heard so much about it. On my first day I did nothing but tie knots, special knots, what we would call weaving knots, which is essential in this job.

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My job now is to get... brand new designs come to me. I'm the first person to weave these designs. They come to me, My job is to weave them through the weave comfortably and properly. Shapes, colours right, weft types correctly so that when we see the parameter so that they go back to the design. And then they should be okay. should be.

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I love the challenges, everyday challenges. Different things handling different designs, different cloths.

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There's no two days the same here. No two days the same in my job. I'm buzzing here because I have a lovely outlook on life.

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The designers, the people that run the company, everybody wants what's best for the company. And people down there do their best as well. So I think it's got a good stronghold, Sudbury.

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For me it would be dead wouldn't it. The silk industries thriving Sudbury. If you look at the amount of people it employs in this town just itself and the history that belongs to it is this silk industry in Sudbury. There's three factories who employ a lot people and then you've got the things that supply with this company other products

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It keeps it going.

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Everyone's an unsung hero. Everybody. Because everybody has a part to play in getting this company working and designs. I mean it's not just the case of weaving the designs the cloth

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the materials have got be right for it to do the design.

*00:03:20:01 - 00:03:34:21*

The design has got to be correct then it's up to the girls and boys to finish it. do it. Check it for faults etc. So there's no one, no one better than anybody else here, we are all unsung heroes

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It's got faster, quicker.

*00:03:45:23 - 00:03:47:05*

more technology, computers

*00:03:48:24 - 00:04:03:16*

We send designs over the Internet. It used to be, you had a set of cards with two modules and you'd meet these up and things like that. Now it's just brought over on the internet, which has been designed.

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I can't recommend it highly. I couldn't go any higher. I've been treated well here. I've enjoyed my time here. I've enjoyed the people here. I've worked with all ages of people. Age is not a barrier in this job we're all here working the same,

*00:04:25:06 - 00:04:27:14*

Doing the same. And Hopefully

*00:04:28:06 - 00:04:33:00*

I'll pass on my knowledge to that person or persons, as we did with everybody else down there.