



Ink Credible Rachel Cadman



Rachel Cadman grew up in Carleon and started out illustrating children's books. She set up Cadman Furniture, a furniture making business 20 years ago with her husband. She was the only female at her school to do A level Craft Design and Technology. She says: "Woodwork basically. I did all the design work and carving afterwards for the furniture business."

In later years, she realised that her main passion was printmaking. "I absolutely love that," she says. "Mainly I was self-taught and progressed and did a Masters in contemporary craft about three years ago but I could focus on whatever I wanted. And I focussed on printmaking."

"I run Big Skill workshops in lino cutting and intaglio printing, basically things 'from the groove' like etching, dry print engraving and collagraph. Screenprinting as well but it's important to me to do things that are ecologically sound and environmentally friendly."

"All the inks I use are plastic-free and I teach workshops where I make the ink myself. My absolute passion, making inks from coloured river rocks that I find in the area or plants that I make into dyes that I make into a pigment."

"In my workshops you can learn out to carve your block, how to make ink, how to make your own paper. With lino printing, if you've got lino and the back of a spoon, a little bit of ink, it can be quite cheap. Away you go."



Making ink from coloured river rocks