

# Rachel Yorke

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It's not every day you find a course in the local community that can help you with your work but that's just what Rachel Yorke found - or rather her husband found it for her!

Rachel's husband is a vicar in the West Wight and was leading assembly at Weston Primary when he saw the advertisement for Pottery classes to be held at the school. Rachel works at Chessell Pottery and has been interested in developing a wider knowledge of the processes involved in making pottery. She initially signed up for a 6 week course and found she enjoyed it so much that she was motivated to continue on to the next course which was a NCFE in Creative Craft.

Many of the elements of the courses have proved helpful in her work including how to make pallets. Rachel has taken this knowledge back to her workplace and taught her co-workers how to make their own pallets. Although enhancing her work skills was not a primary objective when she first embarked on Community Learning, helping with her work has provided a good outcome. During the course Rachel developed a special interest in the Research and Design that leads through to development and completion of each piece.

Rachel has always worked in the field of art and painting and pursued a variety of art classes over the years. Although already

educated to degree standard Rachel found it quite an incentive that the second course offered an opportunity to obtain a further qualification, this time in a specific area directly related to her work. Over and above the practical achievements that the course brought to her Rachel said **“I thoroughly enjoyed the courses all round. It was nice meeting people and being able to access this type of course in the local area was a bonus.”**

As a vicar's wife and working mother of 3 daughters, Rachel's life is a very busy one. Due to all her commitments she is unable to join the next pottery course as signing up for 20 weeks is too long but she is looking forward to learning about any further courses in the local area that particularly involve painting.

