

## **ROGER THOMAS BURTON**

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## **DOB**

1st August 1950 Portsmouth UK

## **Secondary School**

Boarded at the Royal Hospital School Suffolk 1961-1966 achieved 'O' levels in Art, Technical Drawing, Maths, English Language and English Literature.

## **Further Education**

Portsmouth College of Art and Design completing a one year Foundation course and a three year Southern Region Diploma in Graphic Design.

## **Employment**

### **1967 (6 months) Arthur Coomer Printers Portsmouth**

Assistant 'minder'

### **1971-1972 Portsmouth Corporation Repro Graphics Department.**

Assistant to the Photographer.

### **1971-1972 Highbury Technical College, Cosham.**

General Assistant in the closed circuit television department responsibilities included everything from making the tea, operating cameras and producing captions.

### **1972-1975 Southern Television, Southampton.**

I was one of a group of ten Designers preparing graphics for local news, regional and network programmes.

### **1975-1995 Tandem Design, Southampton.**

I set up a small design practice called Tandem which I ran with a business partner for 20 years. We were a multi-skilled practice and I therefore have a great deal of experience in all areas of design including print, exhibitions, packaging and audio visual. I was also responsible for the general running of the business which grew to a complement of 12 staff in substantial freehold premises.

*During this period took responsibility for the administration of:*

**The accounts, staff recruitment, print buying and selling, purchasing and maintenance of the equipment, job scheduling and workflow, estimating for design typesetting and print production and development of sales opportunities ... indeed all aspects of the successful running of a small business that the owner/manager has to undertake.**

### **1995-1997 Merchants Restaurant, Southampton.**

I decided on a career change, sold my share of the design practice and opened a restaurant ... sadly it failed.

### **1998-January 2007 Meridian Broadcasting Southampton**

I was, until taking redundancy in February 2007, the Head of Graphics for a department with 4 full time and some freelance personnel. I was responsible for all on-screen Graphics for the region with some contribution to the ITV network. My role involved me in not only the creation and production of titles and content graphics but I was the point of contact for anyone requiring a graphics input for their programme or printed publication, signage etc. I was therefore required to be knowledgeable and able to operate most of the equipment and software in the department, this includes both Macs and PCs running After Effects, Photoshop, Illustrator and DVD Studio Pro. I also have a knowledge of basic office applications and consider myself very computer literate I am currently self-training with Dreamweaver, Flash and Cinema 4D to improve my web development skills.

In addition to my professional role at Meridian I was a member of the company's Communications Group, the team are responsible for disseminating information from management to staff and, indeed, from staff to management. I was also an active member of the company Environment Committee. I've attended a range of incidental courses some of which are Health and Safety related including 'Manual Handling', 'Fire Extinguishers', and 'Risk Assessment' (the latter being a particular requirement in the industry as all studio and location filming needed to be assessed). I was responsible for carrying out Health and Safety audits in the departmental work areas and making both staff and freelancers aware of the group's precautionary regulations. I am an approved competence analyser, this qualifying me to assess and hire both full-time and freelance personnel.

Meridian were keen to forge strong links with local education to this end I have for some while become involved with Southampton Solent University setting students “live” television design projects. I’ve since been asked to sit on a validation panel to assess the suitability of a new BA (Hons) Creative Industries course and I was, in 2003 teaching (just 2 hours a week) a drawing unit to a group of first year students, Since becoming freelance I have been visiting lecturer in Graphics, an experience I found really interesting.

I enjoyed my job at Meridian but somehow felt that I would like to get involved in something a little more challenging and varied so decide to pursue a freelance career.