

# Next Steps @ TRGA

Your weekly Careers news!

19th March 2018

**Next Steps @ TRGA** is a weekly newsletter which aims to provide students at TRGA with useful careers information, advice and ideas for the future – stay tuned for more tips and information next week!

## Career of the week

This week, we've mixed things up slightly with a career profile from a real-life Wedding Photographer!

## Wedding Photographer

**Andy Davison**

**Andy Davison Photography**



### Tell us a little about what you do...

I'm a full-time professional wedding and lifestyle photographer. I shoot 25-30 weddings over the summer months and spend the winter creating wedding albums, shooting families and catching up on business paperwork while updating my website and maintaining a social media presence. I also shoot a few pre-wedding or 'engagement' shoots.

### What's the best thing about your job?

I love being my own boss, working from home and having the time to be fully involved in my children's lives. I'm able to take a much fuller roll in family life than many parents who have full-time jobs that demand long hours and commutes. I'm also passionate about and love what I do – when you do something you love, it never feels like 'real' work.

Setting up the business was quite expensive; competition is extremely fierce and there is always a little uncertainty over income for the following year. Staying ahead of the competition, being as good as you can at what you do, finding your own place in a crowded market and reaching your potential clients are on-going challenges.

### What advice would you give to someone wanting to get into this industry?

My advice would be to finish your education with the best results that you can possibly achieve. Ideally, you'll include Photography as part of that education because it can only help in the later pursuit of a photography career. I'd practice photography in the background as often as possible – you don't suddenly become a photographer. We never stop learning and improving so the earlier you start the better. Once that education is complete, approaching other photographers for work and help, gaining experience in different genres of photography (weddings and lifestyle may not be for you) and then specialising and building a portfolio, website and social media profile to showcase your work and find clients is vital.

### What sort of challenges do you face?

If I'm honest, there aren't strictly any qualifications required to be a self-employed photographer. That said, a solid grasp of English and Maths plus maybe Business as well as obviously Photography would be hugely beneficial. Experience of working as a photographer in different areas, maybe for some local small businesses, local magazines and newspapers and helping other photographers in their work would be the best experience possible. Other than that, practice, practice and more practice.

**What skills or qualifications do you need to work in this type of job?**

### I want to know more about...

Got a job or career area you'd like to find out more about that we haven't featured in the newsletter yet?

Let us know by coming and speaking to Mr. Webb in the Careers Room!

### Monday Morning inspiration:

*"We have this one life to appreciate the grand design of the universe and for that, I am extremely grateful".*

*Stephen Hawking*

### Need some support with your future plans?

*Speak to your Careers Adviser!*



You can find **Mr. Webb** in the Careers Room (203) on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor at breaks or lunchtimes if you have any questions!

Email: [careers@ruthgorse.leeds.sch.uk](mailto:careers@ruthgorse.leeds.sch.uk)

**For more info on Photography, check out the links below:**

[https://creativeskillset.org/creative\\_industries/photo\\_imaging](https://creativeskillset.org/creative_industries/photo_imaging)

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/photographer>

# Keeping it local!



Stay up-to-date with some of the education, training and work opportunities in the Leeds City Region:



## Careers-related news from TRGA and the local area!

### The Diana Award – Extra-Curricular Club – Summer Term

THE  
DIANA  
AWARD



Are you in **Year 8, Year 9** or **Year 10** and interested in helping to improve the lives of others, while gaining some valuable skills for the future, such as teamwork, leadership and project management? This week, representatives from **The Diana Award** will be delivering assemblies to Years 8, 9 and 10 on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday to explain more about **The Diana Award Mentoring Programme**, a three-month project that will be running as part of the Thursday extra-curricular programme at TRGA during the Summer Term!



MENTORING  
FROM THE DIANA AWARD

The programme is targeted at a group of **30 students** who are interested in working on a social enterprise project that will benefit their school or the local community and will involve students working with staff from **The Diana Award** and mentors from local businesses like **Sky** to help bring their ideas to life!

If you are interested in being part of **The Diana Award Mentoring Programme** next term, please come and see **Mr. Webb** in **Room 203** before the Easter holidays and complete one of the registration of interest forms!



#### Courses

There are lots of different qualifications and courses available at schools and colleges around the local area, from A-levels to vocational qualifications like BTECs!

You can also visit some of these websites for more information...



#### Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships involve training in an industry while working for an employer – this could be in anything from Animal Care to Law! As well as getting paid for the work they do, apprentices also complete a qualification with a college or training provider and can be a good option for students who don't want to stay in full-time education after 16!

You can also visit some of these websites for more information...



#### volunteering

Volunteering is a great way to gain work experience in lots of different environments – you may need to be 16+ or 18+ for some of the opportunities available but because you are giving your time for free, you can do this type of work experience whenever you have the time to commit!

You can also visit some of these websites for more information...



You can also visit some of these websites for more information...

Getting a part-time job can help you to develop valuable work skills, like Communication, Problem Solving and Motivation and also help you earn money!

