

Edinburgh Reporter Chats – Andrew Dinnes



WHO ARE YOU AND WHERE DO YOU COME FROM?

My name is Andrew Dinnes. I live in Livingston and I'm the General Manager at Minuteman Press (www.myminuteman.com) in Broomhouse Road, Edinburgh. We've got more than 10 years of experience in providing high quality print for a wide range of businesses in Edinburgh and beyond.

WHAT IS THE BUSINESS BOOK YOU RECOMMEND THAT EVERYONE SHOULD READ?

There are a few I am planning to read, but work has been so busy recently that I've just not had the chance!

WHAT DO YOU THINK ARE YOUR BUSINESS STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES?

My strengths are that I always stay calm in what is a very fast-paced business environment and have a good eye for detail. As for my weakness, I have been told I am a perfectionist, but I see that as a strength!

WHAT WAS THE DEFINING MOMENT ON YOUR CAREER PATH THAT GOT YOU TO WHERE YOU ARE NOW

I started my working life as a chef and was working in a restaurant in the Channel Islands when I got the opportunity to join the family business.

Although I enjoyed being a chef, I had always been interested in graphics and realised that working with print and design was what I really wanted to do. I've never looked back.

HOW DO YOU SPEND YOUR SPARE TIME

I enjoy spending time with my family and getting out on my mountain bike in the countryside, whenever I have the chance.

DO YOU ACHIEVE A GOOD WORK/LIFE BALANCE

I think so – I work very hard, but I make sure that I get enough time off too.

WHAT IS YOUR SPECIAL AREA OF EDINBURGH

It's hard to name just one. I'm from Edinburgh and believe it's one of the most beautiful cities in the world, in so many ways, but I'd have to choose Princes St. Gardens, for its view of the Castle.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR CAREER PATH?

I've had to learn the business from the ground up and become thoroughly acquainted with everything to do with print before being promoted to a business development role. Since then, I have helped significantly increase our customer base.

WHAT NETWORKING GROUPS IN EDINBURGH HAVE YOU FOUND PARTICULARLY USEFUL

I have not managed to do as much networking as I had hoped this year, but I am planning to get along to some meetings after Christmas. One of my colleagues has attended No Excuses Networking and enjoyed it, so I will probably try it out too.

WHAT ARE YOUR BUSINESS GOALS FOR THE NEXT YEAR

Our main goal is to continue to grow the business. The team has grown and our customer base is expanding, as is the volume of work from our existing clients. We've always believed in developing long term client relationships and delivering a high quality service.

DESCRIBE YOUR TYPICAL DAY FOR US

As in most small businesses, there doesn't seem to be a typical day, but whatever I do is always about making sure customers are happy and that the business is running smoothly.

BEST JOB ADVICE YOU EVER RECEIVED

I was once told that if you enjoy your job, you'll never have to work a day in your life, which I've found to be absolutely true.