



## STEM Ambassador Profile

Name: Jane Wilson

Hometown: Plymouth

Job Title: Contact Lens Optician / Dispensing Optician / Diabetic Retinal Eye Screener / Practical Examiner for the Association of British Dispensing Opticians

Company: Newsome Opticians

Fun Fact about me:

I have completed the New York Marathon, done a tandem skydive and abseiled down a waterfall all for charity.

What was your dream job when you were a child?

Anything that involved working with horses.

What do you do now?

I have a varied job role - Contact Lens Optician, Dispensing Optician and Diabetic Retinal Eye Screener, I am also a practical examiner for the Association of British Dispensing Opticians both in the UK and abroad and I supervise a trainee dispensing optician.

What is the best part of your job?

Every day is different and I work with a great team helping to ensure that our patients receive the best eye care possible, whether that be advising on the latest designer eyewear range of frames, giving a child the confidence to wear contact lenses, or helping a low vision patient have the best visual aids and support to allow them to keep their independence.

What challenges do you face in your job?

Technology is constantly changing and it is vital to keep up to date to ensure we are always giving our patients the best care and advice available as well as keeping up with the latest fashion trends for frame styles.

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What advice would you give to any young person interested in doing a job like yours?

Go for it!! I have enjoyed many years in optics and there are so many different career paths to choose from you will never be bored and will never stop learning. All of my qualifications have been achieved through distance learning and have been funded by my employer which has allowed me to work in practice from day one rather than attend a full time college or university course. Over my career I have travelled to Paris and Milan as a frame buyer and have had the opportunity to examine students in Malaysia, but the best part of a career in optics is knowing that you can make a difference from your very first day in practice and you can play a part in ensuring patients achieve the best care and the best vision they can.



My Career In  
Pictures.pptx

Useful websites for more information:

[www.abdocollege.org.uk](http://www.abdocollege.org.uk)

[www.plymouth.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/bsc-optometry](http://www.plymouth.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/bsc-optometry)