

Lorraine's changing rooms all over the country



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by **DAWN ECKERSLEY**

FROM sprawling mansions to modest terraces, interior designer Lorraine Howell can revamp any home and make it fit for a king.

The award winning designer — who set up Renascent Design five years ago — truly loves her job and works hard to make it a success.

The mother-of-one, who runs the business from her home in Scouthead, said: "I spent so many years doing bread and butter jobs that I used to dread getting up for work every morning. Eventually I just decided to go back to college and do something that I really wanted to do and I haven't looked back since. You're only here once after all."



DESIGNER . . . one of many rooms Lorraine has designed over the past five years

She chose the name Renascent because it means new beginning which she says applies to her new career and the new start she can give each customer with their revamped homes.

Lorraine's first job - designing and making mosaics for Mallon's restaurant, Huddersfield Road, Austerlands - came before she finished her interior design course at Oldham College.

Regular appearances in

the popular trade magazine "Concept for Living" saw Lorraine's popularity soar and when she won their coveted Interior Designer of the Year award she found herself in high demand.

Lorraine travels far and wide and is currently preparing for a big project in the Hebrides for a regular customer who has been using her services for the past five years.

She said: "To have customers keep coming back

and recommending you to their friends is very complimentary.

She adds: "One of the biggest misconceptions people have about interior designers is that they are only for the rich. This is a huge misconception as someone could spend thousands on their home and still get everything wrong. People think I am going to flounce in like Laurence Llewellyn-Bowen and make everything garish and pink but that's just not the case."

"I do have to travel a lot for my business but there are a lot more things moving up north now and its brilliant to see it all developing."

Lorraine balances her hectic work life with her home life in the former barn that she converted with Nick, her husband of 19 years.

Renascent Design can be contacted on 01457 878877.