



Look

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'I Went From Campaign Manager To Sheep Farmer'

Beate Kubitz, 37, from Todmorden, Yorkshire, downsized her life from a top charity job in London to a barn in the country

My job was managing campaigns for top UK charities, and I loved it. I volunteered for Amnesty International before uni and when I landed a paid job, I was thrilled. I worked my way up, earning more than £30,000. I owned a house in London but there was part of me that was starting to feel more conscious about my fast-paced life.

I decided to move to Yorkshire, where my family is from – it would

give me the chance to think about where my life was heading. I came across a converted barn with 20 acres of fields and it felt perfect. In 2002, I relocated. I soon settled in and with all the space, I was inspired to buy six sheep.

Within months, I bought some more sheep and angora goats and started looking at what people were doing with wool in my area. They were making all sorts of things from socks to scarves, and when a shop came up for rent in my town, I decided to start selling handmade woollen accessories.

Through that, I met a local designer. I had the sheep and she had the fashion skills, so we decided to start an ethical clothing company, www.makepiece.co.uk.

I now own 60 sheep and shear them all by hand. I love getting up early and going out to my fields to feed them while taking in the view.

Sheep farming isn't lucrative but I have lodgers to help pay the bills and I've learnt to be frugal and live on just £10k a year. Although my lifestyle is hard work, I'd never go back to my old life. I feel truly contented. ▶



In her previous job working for a charity

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'I feel truly contented with my 60 sheep'

