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Kevin Albin

Personal Profile

As a police officer for 25 years, I had an exciting and varied career, reaching the rank of Inspector. During my career with Thames Valley Police, I had training in a range of different skills including working as a Restorative Justice facilitator and a Hostage Negotiator. I spent eight years on the Tactical Firearms Team. For the final two years of my service, I was seconded to Oxfordshire Youth Service to run Prince's Trust Volunteer Programmes. These are three month developmental programmes for 16-25 year olds. This fuelled a career change, and in 2002 I started working in the adventure activities industry. I hold the International Mountain Leader's Award.

Key Skills & Experience

Leadership.

- Nominated for Team Leader of the Year with the Prince's Trust in recognition of my skills in enthusing and motivating disengaged young people.
- Managed groups of young people and adults in a variety of outdoor activities for different companies.
- Led expeditions to Belize, Borneo, India, Morocco, Tanzania and Venezuela.
- Centre Manager for *Acorn Adventure*, at their largest centre, in the Ardeche, France.

Communication.

- Excellent oral communication and presentation skills, developed through years of experience in lecturing and delivering detailed, critical instructions to clients and staff.
- Several years of reviewing teams, counselling young people and working on corporate training.
- Created and delivered a bespoke package for *O2 – Airwave* on Environmental Safety.

Development.

- Two years with Prince's Trust groups, attaining 80% success rate of those entering further education or employment.
- Taught outdoor pursuits to diverse and challenging groups working for *Outdoor Experience*, *Exodus*, *World Challenge*, and *Trekforce*.
- Facilitated in a programme of corporate development for *City Challenge*.
- I have maintained my own development by pursuing a variety of training courses and other experiences.

Team work.

- Team Leader for the Prince's Trust, teaching young people the benefits of effective teamwork.
- Expedition Leader for *World Challenge* using the opportunity of being a foreign country to develop team skills.
- Developed and managed a successful team of seventy staff during the season as Centre Manager for *Acorn Adventure* at their centre in the Ardeche, in France.

Problem solving.

- Developed and delivered the training for an Initiative Exercises package for *Acorn Adventure* to use at all their centres.
- Continued to develop and practice my own skills whilst on overseas expeditions. Problems have included the collapse of a project, a team being threatened by locals, the loss of passport and documents, several medical evacuations, transport and logistical issues.

Career history, responsibilities and achievements

2008.

- Continued to guide in European mountains trading as *Let Loose with Adventure*.
- Led an expedition for *World Challenge* to Venezuela. Worked on a carpentry project in a remote Pemon village, led a trip to the summit of Mt Roraima and Angel Falls.

2007.

- Created and delivered a number of presentations on environmental awareness for the mobile phone company *O2*, for the engineers working outdoors. This resulting in designing and delivering safety equipment for their use.
- Worked for *Exodus* as an International Mountain Leader taking clients on part of the Haute Route in the Pyrenees.

2006.

- Started working as *Let Loose with Adventure* providing winter skills courses and overseas mountain trekking holidays.
- Led an expedition to Tanzania for *World Challenge* with a successful summit of Mt Kilimanjaro.
- Led an expedition to India and provided a comprehensive viability report for a company seeking to expand their existing product.

2002 - 2005.

- Technical Advisor for *Acorn Adventure* at their centres in the UK and Europe. Provided their Management training for the Centre Managers and Senior Staff.
- Centre Manager for *Acorn Adventure* in the Ardeche, France; their largest site with 250 guests and 70 staff. Responsible for the delivery of outdoor activities, including the 2 day descent of the river, all financial, personnel and logistical matters.
- Freelance Instructor in outdoor pursuits and Expedition Leader. Led two expeditions to remote areas in Danum Valley and Maliau Basin, Sabah, Borneo on behalf of *Trekforce Expeditions*. In Maliau Basin we were responsible for locating a previously unknown waterfall. A third expedition was to convey teachers to remote villages in Sarawak.

Education and qualifications

- 2008, Wildlife tracking and observation course.
- 2007, REC Level 2 First Aid course.
- 2007, Snowshoe Instructor's course.
- 2006, International Mountain Leaders Award, Plas y Brenin, Switzerland.
- 2004, Mountain Leaders Award (Winter) Plas y Brenin, Scotland.
- 2004, Foundation Certificate in Food Hygiene.
- 2003, BCU 2 Star Kayak.
- 2003, European Mountain Leader Award (Training).
- 2001, Prince's Trust Team Leader Award. Oxford Cambridge and RSA Examinations.
- 2001, Jungle Training with Kaboa.
- 2001, Far From Help, Wilderness Medical Training Certificate.
- 2000, Health and Safety Certificate.
- 2000, Single Pitch Award, Plas y Brenin.
- 1999, Mountain Leaders Award (Summer) Plas y Brenin.
- 1977 – 2002, a variety of specialist courses whilst serving as a police officer.
- 1993, Open Water Diving PADI and CMAS.
- 1972 – 1976, 7 GCE O Levels including English and Maths. Sir William Borlase, Marlow, Buckinghamshire.

Personal information

I was born on the 22nd July 1957 in Park Royal, London. I am married with a son and live in France. I have been involved in sporting activities all my life. Cycled for Reading Cycle Club; swam for the police in galas and lifesaving events; competed in Triathlons including the National Championships. I would say that I enjoy living life to the full, seeking out new experiences and new people. I enjoy travelling as much as possible, having made personal trips to much of Europe, Canada, Denmark, India, Israel, Malaysia, Morocco, New Zealand, Russia, Sweden, Slovenia and Thailand.