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RÉSUMÉ

Primary skills and attributes:

Highly articulate; resourceful and creative; excellent communication ability; courteous and calm under pressure. Experienced illustrator; published author; mature editing, counselling and organisational qualities. Fluent Dutch speaker; computer and web literate (details below); well practised at dealing with the public in varying capacities as civil servant, EFL tutor, retail and export salesman, public speaker and emotional counsellor. Health excellent.

Born: Staffordshire, November 2nd 1954

Education:

1966-72 Clough Hall Comprehensive School, Kidsgrove
O Levels in Art, English Language, English Literature, French, Biology, History, Sociology
A Levels in Art, English Literature, History
[while at school wrote and directed several school plays, played the lead in others, led the winning team of the county inter-school debating championship, prominent member of the school magazine committee, started and ran several after-school clubs, certificated in national art competition]

1972-74 North Staffs Polytechnic
B.A. Graphic Design (Dip AD con.)
[ran the college film society]

Relevant work experience:

1975-77 As salesman
J. D. Beardmore & Co, Percy St, W1
Retail/export in architectural ironmongery / cabinet brass-foundry. Helped redesign their showroom, exhibition and window displays. Remapped their stock floor.

1977-80 As Civil Servant
Dept. Health & Social Security, South Norwood
Supplementary Benefit Assessment Officer
Key skills in play: accuracy under pressure and tact in dealing with claimants under extreme privation

1981-84 Home Office, Queen Anne's Gate
Panel officer
Worked for sub-contractor operating a permanently manned control room which monitored the building's fire, heating and electrical systems, etc. The nature and location of the work entailed 24-hour access to high security areas, necessitating a mandatory annual security clearance from

- Special Branch. Did system flow-chart redesigns in addition to routine monitoring of warning systems.
- August 1984 Emigrated to the Netherlands to concentrate on writing. Gave interviews on UK TV, radio and national press.
- 1987-89 As E.F.L. tutor English International, Assen, Netherlands
Teaching English to adults at various levels of competence, individually and in classes, also teaching specialised Business English evening classes, supervising language lab, and occasional secretarial duties.
- 1988-90 As Archivist Stichting Kind op Film
Hoogeveen, Netherlands
Founded an academic research database on the sociopolitical aspects of childhood as reflected in world cinema (and TV), 1895 to the present. Liaison with children's authors/directors, niche film festivals etc. Initial funding by grant from Pauluskerk, Rotterdam.
- 1990-98 Returned to the UK to care for an elderly friend invalided with angina. He died in 1998. Palliative care, domestic assistance – cleaning, cooking - finances.
- 1998-2002 Continuing work on the above archive project - now renamed The Asher Archive - preparatory to application for charitable status and/or millennium fund grant. Occasional graphic design commissions, translation work, interior decorating, counselling, private EFL tuition, and writing.
- 2002 Greenwich School of I.T.
NVQ Web design course – HTML, DreamWeaver
Began construction of Asher Archive website

Further information:

Have been using personal computers since 1981, chiefly in word processing/DTP and database contexts, but with some BASIC programming and grasp of logic. Familiar with MSWord, Access, PowerPoint, Adobe Photoshop, Paint Shop Pro, Corel Draw etc on PC and Apple platforms.

A patient and courteous listener, able to combine tact with clear guidance. In private life have chaired various committees, edited magazines and set up groups (such as a South London Film-makers co-operative) all of which required notional managerial aptitudes. Interests include cultural politics, social history, psychology.
