# *Profile*

I am an experienced producer director who has worked on a huge variety of programmes from self-shooting hugely sensitive and access driven documentaries (Harry’s Heroes, Invictus Games, Comic Relief) to large stunt filled multi-camera setups (Top Gear, Operation Grand Canyon, The Real Full Monty)

I’m very comfortable creating a trustworthy relationship with contributors and gaining access in extremely difficult and sensitive circumstances. I’m equally comfortable working with the most established presenters on high profile programmes with numerous camera crews, helicopters, boats and plenty of scope for disaster!

I have filmed in over ninety countries and in environments as extreme as they are diverse, including: war zones, the Arctic, deserts and jungle.

I’m often employed to work on the first in a new series as well as develop new talent.

I produce, direct, develop, script, and edit programmes to a high standard and within budget constraints.

***The Last Leg, New Year Special, Channel 4 Director***

Alex Brooker is set a challenge to be the first disabled person to race a F4 car around Donnington.

***The Thomas Brothers; Manchester to Mumbai, Multi Story, ITV 1 Series PD***

Ryan Adam and Scott Thomas explore their Indian heritage with their dad Douggie.

***One Strange Rock Season 2, Nutopia, Nat Geo Producer Director***

Season two of the National Geographic series

***The Great Travel Hack Season 2, Shell/JWT/Carnage Series PD / Camera***

A road trip across Europe; from London to Istanbul making a series of commercials for Shell promoting cleaner methods of travel.

***Ladies Night, The Real Full Monty, Spun Gold, ITV1 Series PD***

1 x 90 mins. A group of female celebrities get set to bare all in the name of raising awareness for breast and ovarian cancer.

***The All New Full Monty, Spun Gold, ITV 1 Series PD***

1 x 90 mins. A group of male celebrities get set to bare all in the name of raising awareness for prostate and testicular cancer.

***The Great Travel Hack Season 1, Shell/JWT/Carnage Series PD / Camera***

A road trip from California to New York making a series of commercials for Shell promoting cleaner methods of travel.

***Harry’s Heroes: The Full English, ITV 1 Series PD***

11 Ex England Football players from the 1990s take on the challenge to get fit and play one last match under the leadership of Harry Rednapp. 2 x 90 mins

**Winner – Broadcast Best Popular factual Programme 2020**

***Celebrity Island with Bear Grylls, Shine, Ch4 Series Director***

A multi-camera shoot involving boats, drones and multiple ground cameras in a remote part of the world.

***Top Gear series promo Director***

A multi-camera shoot with tracking vehicles, mini cameras and numerous fast cars!

***Shark Town: Nat Geo Pilot, Talesmith Director***

A pilot about the great white shark industry in South Africa.

***The Island with Bear Grylls, Shine, Ch4******Series Director***

A multi camera shoot involving boats, drones and multiple ground cameras in a remote part of the world.

***Invictus: Battle to the Start Line, BBC 1*** ***Series PD***

A documentary profiling the stories of four ex-soldiers who have battled both physical and mental injury as they prepare to compete in the third Invictus Games in Toronto.

(1x60mins)

***Comic Relief, BBC Series PD / Camera***

Produced the appeal films for the night of TV. Filmed the effects if Malaria in a Childrens hospital in Malawi, street children in Liberia and on Dandora dump Kenya.

***9 Kids Down Under, Lion TV, CH 4 PD / Camera***

Preliminary filming for Britain’s biggest family who are travelling to Australia to meet Australia’s biggest family.

***A League of Their Own Ch4 Director***

James Corden, Jack Whitehall, Freddie Flintoff, Jamie Redknapp play a 5 a side football match with 10 professional players plus take part in an Archery Challenge.

***Maverick TV******Producer***

Development of new Channel 4 series ‘Escape’. Series was commissioned.

***Chinas Mega Tomb Revealed, Nat Geo, Brooke Lapping Director***

A drama doc about the first Emperor of China, directed the documentary part.

***Invictus Games, BBC1, BBC Producer Director***

Directing the promos and short films for the second Invictus Games, Orlando. In collaboration with the MoD using tanks, Eurofighters and battleships.

***Drive Two Four, ITV1 Director***

A presenter led multi-camera shoot involving numerous ground crews, drones and fast cars. 8 celebrities tackle various driving disciplines from off road buggies to Formula 4 racing.

***John Bishop’s Gorilla Adventure, ITV1, Tigress Series PD / Camera***

John Bishop gets exclusive access to the Gorilla Doctors in Rwanda, a team of vets determined to save the Mountain Gorilla – a critically endangered species. (1 x 60 mins)

**Winner - Wildscreen Panda Award for Popular Broadcast**.

***The Secret Life of the Zoo, Ch 4, Blast Director /Camera***

An Obs Doc of life behind the scenes of Chester Zoo.

***The Force (Access pilot), ITV1, Raw Cut Series PD***

Filming a pilot and gaining access to all areas within the Lancashire police force including the counter terrorism unit and the child sexual exploitation team. Pilot commissioned.

***Prized Apart, BBC1, Electric Ray Consultant Director***

A brand new 6 part BBC One Saturday night entertainment show. Set up pre-production, stunts, story lines and development on location in Morocco.

***Countdown to the Invictus Games , BBC 2 Series PD***

Following the amazing stories of 4 soldiers who have been blown up and suffered life changing injuries through the build up to Prince Harrys inaugural Invictus Games in London. (1x1hr + VTs)

***Slow Train Through Africa with Griff Rhys Jones, IWC Producer Director***

Griff travels by train through Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia in the first of this 5 part series for ITV 1. (5x 1 hr)

***Into the Wildfire, BBC2, Dragonfly Series PD***

A BBC Science Special - Simon Reeve and Kate Humble explore the science behind Australia’s wildfire season. (2x 1hr)

***Operation Grand Canyon, BBC2 Series PD***

Dan Snow leads an historical, geological and natural history adventure down the Grand Canyon recreating the first ever 1869 descent. (2x1hr)

***Britains Big Wild Life Revival, BBC1 - Outline Series PD***

A campaign series hosted by Ellie Harrison driving the revival of Britains’ threatened wildlife. Shot on Sony F55 with prime lens’. (6 x 1hr)

***Toughest Place To Be Fisherman, BBC Current Affairs Producer Director***

A Cornish fisherman revisits Sierra Leone to see whether things have got better for local fishermen who face starvation from activities of illegal trawlers.

***Having a Ball, BBC2 - Optomen Director Camera***

A feature length reconstruction of a ball and banquet set in Jane Austin’s era to celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the classic publication of Pride and Prejudice.

***Top Gear. BBC2 Director***

Director for series 16, 17,18 and 19. Responsible for directing stylised films using the latest techniques and equipment. Multi camera shoots requiring high speed driving, helicopters stunt coordination, precision and patience.

***50 Years of Bond Cars – Top Gear Special Director***

Director for US shoot looking at the AMC Hornet and the Toyota 2000GT.

***Immediate Media Director***

*Seat Mii 2012 launch commercial*

***For the Troops, ITV Producer Director***

Developed a 2hr format for ITV producing a concert and documentary from various British bases within Afghanistan. Programme was commissioned but didn’t go ahead due to MOD concerns over security.

***Forest Cops, Raw TV, Pilot (Commissioned for Nat Geo) Producer Director***

Self-shot commissioned pilot. I established relationships that enabled me to follow the US Federal Forest Service as they battled the rising problems of meth and marijuana epidemic run by the Mexican drug cartels.

***Man v Wild, Iceland. Diverse, 1x60. The Discovery Channel Producer Director***

Bear Grylls demonstrates survival skills in the land of Fire and Ice*.* Filming took place on glaciers, mountains and underwater lakes.

***Hell on Earth, Touch Productions. Pilot for Animal Planet Producer Director***

Developed and stylised a pilot that saw two American men survive in an environment after an apocalyptic event. Shot in the Salton Sea, California.

***Man v Wild, Norway. Diverse, 1x60. The Discovery Channel Producer Director***

A science special bringing the latest technology to the wild to create life-threatening conditions and monitor the effects on the human body.

***Man v Wild, Diverse. 1x60. The Discovery Channel Producer Director***

A behind the scenes look at the show, the team, the stunts and how it’s all put together.

***My Family’s Crazy Gap Year, 1x60. Twenty Twenty, Ch4 PD / Camera***

Self-shooting obs doc following a family as they pack up their life and set sail around the world. I immersed myself in their lives as they battled storms, pirates, fish poisoning while bring up two young boys in the confines of their 40-foot catamaran.

***Mainsail, CNN. Sunset & Vine APP Camera Operator***

I have filmed for this monthly sailing magazine programme which combines business and the marine industry, on and off for 10 years around the word. Features have included the Volvo Round the World Race, and the Americas Cup.

***My Family’s Crazy Gap Year, 1x60. Twenty Twenty Ch4 PD / Camera***

Self-shooting obs doc. A family pack up their life in Hong Kong and drive across Africa with their 3 children. Helping in orphanages, negotiating bandits and Africa’s harsh terrain.

***Top Dogs, Adventures in War, Sea and Ice, 1x60. BBC2 Producer Director***

Self-shooting and living aboard a forty-foot yacht with Sir Ranulph Fiennes, Sir Robin Knox Johnston and John Simpson as they attempt to sail the most feared stretch of water on the planet – Cape Horn.

***Going Back, Ricochet, 1x60’, Ch4 Producer Director***

Self-shooting Obs Doc following a family as they weigh up the pros and cons of returning to their roots in St Lucia. The mother has a newborn baby and a teenage daughter. Tensions increase as extended family get involved and the father is struggles to find work and make ends meet.

***Gordon Ramsay’s F Word, 12 x 60. Optomen, Ch4 Producer Director***

Self-shooting Obs doc as Janet Street-Porter reared Veal Calves on her estate in Yorkshire. Formatted inserts with Gordon Ramsay as he teaches cooking techniques for the award winning cookery series.

***Last Man Standing – Mongolia, Nagaland and Vanuatu, 3 x60. BBC3* Series PD**

Directed the first in the ground-breaking series (Mongolia), the fourth (Nagaland), and last (Vanuatu).

Mongolia (2006) - Living with the nomads the westerners learn wrestling and compete in the Naadam against the men who live on the plains.

Nagaland (2007)- Entering the restricted access territory of Nagaland in India the athletes learn Aki Kiti (kick fighting) before facing the very best in the country.

Vanuatu(2008) - Racing open canoes against the locals in a 25 mile ocean race against the elements. The last in the series where the champion must be chosen.

Often without western backup and resources I was responsible for the safety of the crew and athletes while bringing back film that engages and pushes the limits.

***Gethin Jones Danger Hunters, 1x60. Summer Films, Virgin1 Producer / Director***

Self-shot obs doc, Gethin Jones meets scientists, ski patrol and extreme snowboarders as they operate in New Zealand’s Mount Cook Region.

***The Sorcerers Apprentice, Twenty Twenty, CBBC Camera Director***

Street magic in Britain’s cities performed by David Penn.

***Into The West with Jeff Corwin, 2x60. Pioneer, Discovery Producer Director***

A trip through America’s west exploring the wildlife, national parks and American History.

***2003-2006 Holiday, BBC1 Producer Director***

Self-shoot and worked with crews on numerous films for BBCs flagship travel show. Responsible for bringing up and developing new talent as well as established presenters.

***Naked Science, Meteors, Pioneer, Nat Geo Director Camera***

Scientists try and explain how a meteor hit Peru without being detected before impact.

***SAS Are You Tough Enough? 1 x60. BBC2 Producer Director***

First in the series that saw 24 volunteers go through SAS selection in the Namibian desert.

***Ellen MacArthur E,On Corporate Producer Director***

Ellen MacArthur teams up with energy giant E.on to highlight global warming issues.

***Worlds Most Extreme Home, Pioneer, Discovery Producer Director***

A look at the world’s most unusual and magnificent homes and their owners. (1hr)

***The 32nd Americas Cup, Sunset & Vine APP PD Camera***

Filming the world’s most prestigious yacht race.

***Going To Extremes, Ideal World ,Ch4 Camera Director***

Self-shooting on board a 35ft yacht following 6 inexperienced sailors attempt to cross the Atlantic.

***You Call The Shots, Series 2 & 3. 6 x30. BBC1 Producer Director***

Three presenters three crews, the public decides what they want to see in this interactive travel series. Films shot in Orlando, Reykjavik, Bangkok, Madrid, Rio and St Petersburg

***Britain’s Worst Cook, Britain’s Worst Pet. 2x60. Mentorn, Five Producer Director***

Part of the hugely popular ‘Britain’s Worst…’ series presented by Quentin Willson.

***World of Mysteries, 1x60. Pioneer, Discovery Producer Director***

Part of a 6 part series looking into the well-known myths and legends.

***Alpine Rescue, 6x30. Pioneer, Five Producer Director***

Obs doc following the Chamonix mountain rescue team, the busiest in the Alps, as they work on foot, from ropes and out of helicopters. Filmed peak season in the busiest climbing area in the world.

***Fire Rescue, 1x60. Meridian, Five Producer Director***

Telling rescue stories using real life footage and reconstruction.

***Live & Kicking Castaway, 14 x 22. BBC Scotland Producer Director***

Following the successful ‘Castaway’ series teams of children attempt the same.

***999, BBC Bristol Director***

Reconstruction and actuality with the UK’s emergency services.

***Education***

**1995 – 1996 Falmouth College of Art, Cornwall.**

PG Dip Broadcast Journalism.

**1992 – 1995 School of Nautical Science, Soton.**

B.Sc Marine Environmental Science L2Diploma of H.E. Maritime Studies.

**1986 – 1991 Bryanston School, Dorset.**

10x GCSEs, A Level French & English.

***Additional information***

Robert Thirkell Story Telling Patrick Uden Script Writing

HETT Hostile Environment Trained BBC Production Safety

BBC Basic Desert Survival BBC Exploration Medicine

BBC Single Camera Directing Helicopter underwater escape training

BBC Safeguarding Trust BBC Camera Trained

BBC Health & Safety at work Single Camera Production, Ravensbourne.

RYA / DoT Yachtmaster RYA Level 4, Fleet Rescue Endorsement

Windsurfing – RYA level 5. BHPA – Club Paragliding License.

Ski Guide BASP Training. Experienced ski tourer and winter mountaineer

PADI – Advanced Open Water / Diver Medic Valid I Visa