

Niall Stopford

Researcher | Zoologist | Film-maker

niallstopford@hotmail.com -07821445632 -Bristol based

- Creative, driven and organised Zoology graduate (BSc, first class hon.)
 - Experienced at solving problems and managing equipment in challenging field conditions.
 - Produced and edited a self-shot documentary on chestnut crowned babblers during a research assistant position in the Australian outback <https://vimeo.com/149856451>
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Producer/ Self shooter - “Co-operation in the Arid Zone” (Made TV, Jan 2016)

- Nominated “Best Documentary” and “Best Cinematography” at NASTA 2016.
- Wrote a sequence script and narrative then directed a research team to obtain footage.
- Utilised field craft and pre-dawn filming to capture all desired behaviour.
- Oversaw the complete editorial process (Adobe PP).

Researcher work experience – Oxford Scientific Films (August 2016)

- Researched species and novel behaviours for a 3x60 blue chip production (in development).
- Wrote additional storyline and sequence ideas for each species, received very positive feedback on my creative input from creative director and head of specialist factual.

Production Runner – RDF West “The Arrivals” (July 2016)

- Casting contributors and following up with release forms.
- Was conscious of which themes needed coverage and searched for new contributors accordingly.

Researcher work experience – Made Television (June 2016 – Present)

- Sourcing studio guests and VT contributors for daily entertainment show “The Lowdown”.
- Camera operator for studio shoots (JVC 650).

Researcher – The Creative Community Development Company (May – June, 2016)

- Photographed, mapped and sourced information for a government funded heritage trail.
- Formatted information into engaging fact files for publication.
- Worked unsupervised. Responsible for all research, writing and photography.

Field research assistant – University of Exeter (June – October, 2014)

- Tracked and identified breeding groups of target bird species, managed data-collecting equipment, built and repaired decoder coils, kept accurate field notes for data entry.
- Corresponded with decoder manufacturer to trouble-shoot and fix a technical circuit board issue.
- Trained in communicating effectively to a team, over radio, when capturing birds in mist nets.
- Exercised a high level of organisation by integrating my own filming with assistant duties.

Researcher work experience – Silverback Films “The Hunt” (April, 2014)

- Researched species and sent briefs to producers, praised for the depth of content.
- Contacted scientific experts for information in a professional manner.
- Logged rushes for three sequences (CatDV), reading sequence scripts to select shots.

Education

The University of Leeds. 2011-2014

- BSc Zoology, first class honours.
- Received the “Level 3 Zoology prize” for the highest grade in the final year.
- Specialised knowledge in social insects, parasites and sexual selection.

Tapton Secondary School and Sixth Form, Sheffield. 2004 -2011

- A levels: Biology (A), Geography (B), Psychology (B)

Skills and Interests

Filmmaking and Photography

- Experienced with cameras (Panasonic AVG-90, JVC 650, DSLRs) and the technical considerations needed for a shoot.
- Post-production (Adobe Premier Pro).
- Enthusiastic wildlife photographer, work featured in Biosphere magazine.
Work: niallstopford.weebly.com/

Natural world, Travel, Writing

- Avid birdwatcher and reader of natural history content.
- I take notes on interesting biology and behaviour and how it could be adapted to a natural history narrative. Currently researching the Pyrenees’ bearded vultures for a future project.
- Currently writing entries for an engaging, educational wildlife blog. (See website above).
- Travelled extensively in Australia, Asia and South America, building knowledge of wildlife, local customs and field skills.

Other skills

- Conversational Spanish.
- Full, clean UK driving license.
- PADI open water diver.
- Microsoft office, Adobe Lightroom, excellent online academic research skills.

Referees

Jonathan Mann

Development Producer – OSF
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Mandi Stark

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