

STUART MANIFOULD. DIRECTOR - SNAPPY MEDIA LIMITED AND THE INFINITY SPORTS PROJECT LLP.

NCS LEAVING YEAR? 2006

GCSE OPTIONS? ICT, GEOGRAPHY, FRENCH, SPANISH.

CHOICES AFTER GCSE? A LEVELS: FRENCH, PHYSICS, GEOGRAPHY.

DEGREE? BA (HONS) PE (LEEDS METROPOLITAN), MBA FOOTBALL INDUSTRIES (LIVERPOOL JOHN MOORES)

DESCRIBE YOUR CAREER SO FAR? I STARTED MY CAREER AS A PE TEACHER WORKING IN THE STATE SECTOR IN MANCHESTER. HAVING QUICKLY GAINED PROMOTIONS WITHIN THE PASTORAL AND CURRICULUM TEAMS I WAS ABLE TO WORK MORE COLLABORATIVELY WITH PARTNERS OUTSIDE OF THE SCHOOL. THIS ENABLED ME TO INCREASE MY NETWORK AND LED TO AN OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITHIN THE FA GROUP, FIRSTLY AS A BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS MANAGER AND THEN MORE RECENTLY AS A PROJECT DIRECTOR WORKING ON MAJOR INVESTMENT SCHEMES WITH A BUDGET OF OVER \$70M. NOW AS AN INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT, I WORK ACROSS MANY DIFFERENT LEVELS OF FOOTBALL AND WORK WITH SOME GLOBAL ORGANISATIONS.

BEST PART ABOUT YOUR JOB? WORKING FOR MYSELF! ITS GREAT KNOWING I CAN CONTROL THE WORK I DO AND I'M FORTUNATE THAT I CAN CHOSE THE PROJECTS I WANT TO WORK ON.

WORST PART OF YOUR JOB? TRAVELLING! THE WORK I DO ALONG WITH MY BUSINESS PARTNER IS EXTENSIVE AND WE WORK ON PROJECTS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY AND AROUND EUROPE. IN THE LAST 3 YEARS, WE HAVE COMPLETED WORK IN; JAPAN, CHINA, UAE, GERMANY, NETHERLANDS AND THE USA AS WELL AS OUR COMMITMENTS HERE IN THE UK.

ANY TIPS TO AN 16 YEAR OLD YOU? GET NETWORKING! I WAS ALWAYS TOLD THIS AS A YOUNG PERSON TRYING TO MAKE MY WAY IN LIFE, BUT I DIDN'T REALISE ITS IMPORTANCE UNTIL I STARTED MY CAREER. IF YOU EVER GET TO MEET PROFESSIONALS IN THE INDUSTRY THAT YOU WISH TO WORK IN, MAKE SURE YOU LEAVE A GOOD IMPRESSION WITH THEM AND TRY AND KEEP IN TOUCH. ONE DAY, THEY MAY OPEN A DOOR FOR YOU IN YOUR CAREER! I CAN SAY FROM EXPERIENCE THAT HAVING A STRONG NETWORK ALWAYS LEADS TO OPPORTUNITIES.

ANY ADVICE TO OUR CURRENT GENERATION OF LEARNERS?

"IN MY INDUSTRY WHERE COMPETITION FOR ROLES AND OPPORTUNITIES IS STRONG, WE OFTEN LOOK FOR THE PEOPLE WHO ALWAYS PRESENT THEMSELVES IN A PROFESSIONAL, AMBITIOUS AND DRIVEN MANNER (WITH A LITTLE HUMOUR THROWN IN FOR GOOD MEASURE!). WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR GOOD PEOPLE WHO CAN HELP US ACHIEVE OUR OUTCOMES. EVER BEEN TOLD THAT EMPLOYERS CHECK OUT YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA TO SEE HOW YOU POST YOUR THOUGHTS AND HOW YOU COME ACROSS? THINK IT'S A MYTH? IT ISN'T."