

# ***Curriculum Vitae***

**Name:** **GOSS, Jonathan Piers**



**Date of Birth:** **9 October 1970**

**Postal Address:** **933 Reckumpilla Street**

**Mount Alford, Queensland 4310**

**Contact:** **0428 868 169**

**[training@bluepeteraustralia.com](mailto:training@bluepeteraustralia.com)**

## **Professional work experience:**

Mar 2014–present **Director of Blue Peter** (The Sea School P/L), a training organisation for the development and delivery of best practice in experiential and therapeutic approaches to adventure-based group work. For detailed information please refer to [www.bluepeteraustralia.com](http://www.bluepeteraustralia.com)

Nov 2013–present **Consultant/Senior Teacher** with various organisations and schools to design and deliver quality therapeutic and experiential learning programs for students and staff.

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Feb 2003–present **Adventurous Journey Supervisor** with the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, providing supervision and assessment of staff and students involved in training and qualifying expeditions, in a range of adventure activity environments.

May 2000–present **Captain (Master V)** - conducting chartered voyages, corporate team building and Learn to Sail courses, Offshore Yacht Master and Sailing Instructor training, family sailing adventures and solo passages between Cooktown and Lord Howe Island on various catamarans, sail training ships and charter vessels.

Feb 2011–present **Trainer and assessor** with Paramount Adventure Centre and Paddle Australia (formerly Australian Canoeing) delivering accredited training programs focussed on risk management, leadership and facilitation of bushwalking, canoeing, kayaking, high ropes and related activities.

Jan 2005–Oct 2016 **Training Officer** with the Queensland Department of Justice and Attorney General (previously the Department of Communities). I researched, designed and delivered youth justice intervention and family therapy programs, tailored for a range of complex learning needs. I specialised in the mentoring, training, assessment and supervision of staff involved in the facilitation of intentional group work and adventure activity leadership. During this time, I acted in the roles of Manager, Team Leader and Registered Training Organisation co-ordinator.

Mar 2015–Sep 2015 **Outdoor Education Teacher** with Maroon Outdoor Education Centre (Education Queensland). Delivered and evaluated a range of five-day experiential education programs for school students, focussed on developing resilience, teamwork and leadership.

Jan 2004–Jan 2005 **Personal Development Teacher** with Moreton Institute of TAFE, designed, delivered and assessed skill-based competencies through Environmental Studies, Outdoor Recreation and Horticulture courses for students with complex learning needs.

Mar 2002–May 2003 **Learning Support Teacher** with Yeppoon State High School (Education Queensland). I initiated extra-curricular adventure therapy programs for specific high needs students - culminating in a student led sailing expedition from Yeppoon to Southport.

Mar 2000–Mar 2002 **Training Officer** with the Central Queensland Outlook (Department of Families, Queensland) providing training, resourcing and support for teachers and other youth/community workers gaining skills and experience in group facilitation, experiential education and technical activity leadership.

Oct 1997-Sept 1998 **Head teacher** with the Toogoolawa School at Ormeau, an independent school for students who been excluded from mainstream schools due to their complex needs. The holistic curriculum we developed was focused on building engagement, literacy and numeracy skills, self-esteem and effective communication through outdoor learning, with a framework of core human values to inform and support our work.

May 1996–Jan 2006 **Contract teaching positions** at various schools, detention centres and school camps in QLD, NSW, VIC, N.T. and W.A. Teaching areas of junior and multi-strand science, maths, biology, health and physical education.

Jan 1993-Dec 1996 **Senior Instructor** with Outward Bound Australia, facilitating a wide range of expedition style adventure learning programs for school groups, young adults, older adults, and people with disabilities. Often the sole instructor on expeditions conducted between nine to twenty-six days in duration, leading epic journeys involving multi activity descents and traverses in many remote parts of Australia. The intensive nature of these courses was designed for the development of personal qualities such as self-reliance, awareness, confidence and motivation, and the ability to work efficiently as part of a team or in a difficult group situation. Benchmark psychological assessment and other evaluation tools were developed during this time.

## **Prior work experience:**

Aug 1988–Jan 1993 **Signaller** with the Australian Army Reserve, Queensland University Regiment, St Lucia.

Apr 1993 – Jun 1993 **Machine operator** with Elliot Holdings, Sapphire

Feb 1989 – Apr 1991 **Delivery Driver** with Pizza Hut

Feb 1988–Oct 1988 **Sales worker** for Expo 88, Amberley Air Spectacular and the Bicentennial Naval Review with Australian Consolidated Press

Dec 1987-Mar 1992 **Night fill worker** with Coles supermarkets, Brisbane

## **Education:**

**Tertiary:** Partially completed **Master of Education** (Curriculum and Pedagogical Leadership) at the University of Southern Queensland. Currently on leave of absence while focussing on developing The Sea School.

**Certificate IV in Training and Assessment**, first completed in 2000 and kept current; most recently upgraded in 2014 through Online Courses Australia.

**Diploma of Outdoor Recreation** through Swinburne TAFE. Organisational Management Qualification - RPL in 2008.

**Graduate Diploma of Environmental Education** through Canberra University.

Graduated in 1996.

**Graduate Diploma of Education** through Griffith University.

Majored in the teaching specialisations of Biology and Junior Science. Graduated in 1992.

**Bachelor of Science** (Australian Environmental Studies) through Griffith University.

Majored in Ecology, and Land and Water Processes. Graduated in 1992.

**Secondary:** Brisbane Boys' College - 1982 – 1987.

**Primary:** Highlands School, Harare, Zimbabwe.

### **Practice frameworks:**

I believe that engaging in the praxis of experiential and adventure-based learning is important for all educators of young people. My approaches are relational and collaborative, I embrace indigenous ways of knowing, reflective practice and trauma informed care along with other authentic approaches to learning and growth.

Ecocentrism is important to me. I seek supervision with elders and colleagues in my community, and maintain a range of partnerships to deliver effective, culturally appropriate “rites of passage” and personal development programs for our collective future.

### **Current training/accreditation:**

I have extensive experience as a lead instructor, staff supervisor, trainer and assessor under the Outdoor Recreation Training Package, and maintain National Outdoor Leadership Registration and training qualifications in:

- Organisational leadership and risk management
- Conflict management and mediation facilitator
- Ecology and environmental education

- Group facilitation and adventure-based learning
- Remote area first aid and emergency response
- Adventure therapy practitioner
- Navigation in uncontrolled and marine environments
- Bushwalking instructor - intermediate environments
- Canoe and kayak instructor/assessor – moving water and coastal endorsements
- Sea kayaking guide
- High ropes supervisor and vertical rescue technician
- Rock climbing guide - natural surfaces
- Offshore Yachtmaster instructor, Keelboat instructor,
- Advisor for the development of small boat sailing competencies

### **Personal Interests:**

I am grateful for my connection to nature, and for my family life with my partner Yonna and our two daughters - Eva and Francesca. We live in an old Methodist church that we are still renovating, and really enjoy our life in the country. Deep ecology, caring for country and respect/participation for positive cultural approaches are important to me. I enjoy gardening as well as adventure activity based recreational pursuits which all provide rich experiences and metaphors for my own reflection and personal growth.

### **Referees who can attest to my suitability:**

**John Long** – Ugarapul elder 0418 982 533

**Boomi Hegarty** – Wakka Wakka elder 0432 435 769

**Bob Muir** – Woppaburra elder 07 4913 5000

**Andrew Hamilton** – Program psychologist 0438 323 510

**Virginia Mitchell** - Lecturer in Outdoor Leadership 0404 047 325