# **Pete Garside**

Wildlife educator and conservationist

**Outdoor enthusiast with a passion for the protection and regeneration of our natural world. Over 10 years of experience working in a number of conservation focused roles both in the UK and internationally.**

# Experience

Forest School and Conservation Leader April 2018 – Present

Thrive childcare

Regional including Scotland

As forest school and conservation leader for thrive childcare I am responsible for training teachers to be able to lead forest school sessions in their individual settings. As a passionate conservationist I have also led the company along an eco-friendlier business route, implementing green initiatives and leading a team of conservation champions who are responsible for educating children about our planet and how to take care of it. My job is very varied, and no 2 days are the same I travel to Scotland regularly where I also train and work with teachers all over the country.

Topics that I teach include:

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| * Wildlife identification * taking care of the planet * Using tools safely * Nature arts and crafts | * Wood carving * Fire building and safety * Gardening and horticulture * Shelter building |

Sales Assistant January 2017 – November 2017

Patagonia Inc.

Whistler

CAN

During time living in Canada I worked as a sales assistant in the Patagonia store in Whistler, BC. I held the usual sales responsibilities such as assisting customers and cash handling, but the job also offered opportunities to use my education, passions and interests. During my employment I became a member of Patagonia’s strong outdoor community. This allowed me to take part in grassroots activism, be involved in planning of events and charity fundraisers and inspiring others to live more sustainably through conscious buying.

Western Toad Naturalist May 2017 – August 2017

Resort Municipality of Whistler

CAN

As Western Toad Naturalist for the resort Municipality (council) of Whistler it was my job to plan and implement actions to ensure safe migration of Western Toadlets. My responsibilities included:

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| --- | --- |
| * Monitoring migration numbers * Aid in safe crossing of danger areas | * Volunteer management * Giving toad talks to the public |

Wildlife Tour Guide April 2017 – November 2017

Whistler Photo Safaris

CAN

As a wildlife tour guide I spent a lot of time driving 4x4s round the various mountains of Whistler while guests captured photos of the wildlife in the area. I would also give informative talks about the wildlife and history of the area. The tours were mainly focused on spotting black bear, but other wildlife included:

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| --- | --- |
| * Bald Eagles * Grizzly Bear * Deer | * marmot * Snakes * Pika |

Guest Service Agent Winter season 2017

Vale Resorts

Whistler

CAN

In the winter of 2017 I worked in the ski resort of Whistler as a guest services agent for Vale resorts. The job was varied, and I would work in a number of different roles depending on what was needed, but most roles were customer facing and included:

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| --- | --- |
| * Ticket sales * Lift operation | * Security checks * Ski and snowboard hire |

Education officer and zookeeperApril 2015 – December 2016

Blackpool Zoo

Blackpool

UK

During my time working at Blackpool Zoo I held two positions, the first as a seasonal education officer in charge of planning and running presentations and classes to visiting school groups and giving informative talks to the public. At the end of the seasonal role I was hired as a mammal’s keeper in charge of the care and upkeep of the animals and their enclosures. I was very proud to be offered this job role as it was given to me because of the good impression I made as a seasonal member of staff. During my time at the zoo I was awarded employee of the season for my excellent engagement with the public and for my efforts to promote conservation of threatened and endangered species.

Rescue assistant and trainee falconer April 2014 – April 2015

Wild wings birds of prey

Warrington

UK

Birds of prey are a group of animals I care deeply about, I have been fascinated by them as long as I can remember. As a member of the wild wings team I would give as much time as possible to the support of the owners in any way possible. Days at the centre were varied but often included:

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| * Care and rehabilitation of injured birds * Cleaning enclosures and maintenance | * Giving talks and tours to the public * School and other group visits * Rescue and release of birds and other small animals from homes and businesses. |

Assistant Manager, Barista September 2013 **–** February 2014

Holy goat coffee

Port Macquarie

AUS

During my time spent in Australia I trained and worked as a barista, making and serving coffee from a mobile coffee cart that I would transport around to various locations. I enjoyed learning how to make coffee professionally a skill I still use today, although just for my own morning coffee. The job entailed a great deal of socialising with regular customers, many of which became good friends.

Animal Rehabilitation assistant August 2013 - March 2014

Kempsey reptile rehab

Kempsey

NSW

AUS

My first conservation job after graduating university was in Australia and consisted mainly of rescuing venomous snakes and spiders from people’s homes and businesses and releasing them back into their natural habitats. This job was very rewarding and also a little scary, my days were always different but usually consisted of:

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| --- | --- |
| * Animal rescue and release * Rehabilitation of injured wildlife | * Public education * General cleaning and maintenance |

# Education

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| * Level 3 Tefl certification * Forest school leader level 3 * University of Salford - B.Sc. Wildlife Conservation with Zoo-biology * Wigan and Leigh College – B-Tec national diploma, public services | 2022  2018  2010 - 2013  2006 - 2007 |

# Hobbies and interests

I spend much of my time outdoors enjoy hiking and mountaineering although I wish I could spend time practicing my skills. A lot of my time is spent wildlife spotting whether that is in my local nature areas or in the fells and mountains of national parks. I also enjoy Illustration and I am currently working on publishing a children’s book.

# Volunteering and Activism

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| * Volunteer, Bear Smart Society - Whistler, CAN * Chairperson, Whistler Wildlife Protection Group – Whistler, CAN * Volunteer Gardener, Green Hands Conservation Programme, UK | * Volunteer, Chang Mai Elephant Sanctuary, THAI * Activist, Howesound Flotilla, CAN * Activist, Manchester Pigsave, UK |

# Proud Moments

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| --- | --- |
| * Completed Wainwrights Coast to Coast Walk * Completed National 3 Peaks Challenge | * Writing and illustrating children’s books * 2015 employee of the season at Blackpool Zoo |