

# ESTELLE DAVIES



**Date of Birth:** 15<sup>th</sup> November 1978

**Nationality:** British

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## TERTIARY EDUCATION

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<b>2003 - 2004</b>	<b>King's College London</b>	<b>England</b>
Post Graduate Certificate of Education (PGCE) in Secondary Biology		
<b>2002 - 2003</b>	<b>James Cook University</b>	<b>Townsville, Australia</b>
Masters of Applied Science (Distinction) in Tropical Marine Ecology,		
<b>1999 - 2000</b>	<b>University of California</b>	<b>Santa Cruz, California</b>
Academic Year Abroad in Marine Biology		
<b>1997 - 2001</b>	<b>University of St. Andrews</b>	<b>Scotland</b>
BSc (Hons) 2:1 in Marine and Environmental Biology		

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## EMPLOYMENT AND EXPERIENCE

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**January 2025 - Present** **French Polynesia**

*Guest Speaker - Oceania Cruise lines*

- Destination specialist and public speaking on the marine flora & fauna, biogeography & conservation issues of French Polynesia & the Cook Islands
- Created and presented multi-media lectures using my own photography (underwater and above)

**October 2016 - Present**

**Hong Kong**

*Founder and Marine Educator – LIVING OCEANS EDUCATION ‘Educate, Inspire & Protect’*

- Creator and Teacher of ‘Life in Our Oceans – An introduction to marine biology’ an after school enrichment program to educate & inspire students of all ages to know, love and protect all life in our oceans.
- Coordinating & leading outdoor field trips to snorkel, hike and explore the natural ecosystems of Hong Kong and Asia

**May 2023 - July 2023**

**French Polynesia**

*Guest Lecturer - M/S Paul Gauguin, Ponant Cruise lines*

- Public speaking on the marine flora & fauna, biogeography & conservation issues of French Polynesia & the Cook Islands

- Created and presented multi-media lectures using my own photography (underwater and above)

#### **December - January 2022-2023**

**Antarctica**

*Naturalists for an Antarctic Adventurers Program for Young Travellers - Ponant Cruise lines*

- Responsible for developing and creating a specialised Antarctica marine education program with lessons, activities and games for students aged 5-14 years
- Teaching the Antarctic Adventure Program and leading onshore excursions with young passengers onboard the ship, Le Commandant Charcot, in the Weddell Sea on the Antarctic Peninsula.
- High level of customer service and personal appearance dictated by standards of 6-star cruise company

#### **June 2018 - August 2018**

**Fiji**

*Coral Reef Ecology Lecturer & Dive Master - Operation Wallacea*

- Responsible for delivering two marine science lectures a day to high school and university level volunteers
- Coordinating & leading two SCUBA dives a day, conducting in-water marine research practicals including, fish, invertebrate and algae ID, benthic quadrate and 3D modelling surveys

#### **June 2018 - Present**

*Lead Swim Coach - Splash Foundation*

**Hong Kong**

- Working as a volunteer swimming instructor teaching migrant domestic workers (adults) and refugee children in swimming pools and also in open water on snorkel field trips

#### **September 2011 - June 2016**

**Hong Kong**

*Client Relationship Manager - Asia Pacific Adventure Outdoor Adventure Company (APA)*

- Working with International schools in Hong Kong and South East Asia to develop, promote, maintain and manage client and youth operations with APA outdoor adventure programs
- Coordinating, leading and facilitating outdoor leadership and education programs (2-10 days in length) for students (aged 8-18) in Hong Kong, China, Thailand, Taiwan and The Philippines

#### **Summer 2014**

**Madagascar**

*Marine Conservation Expedition Volunteer – BlueVentures*

- Conducting underwater benthic and reef fish surveys to collect scientific data to aid in the development of the largest locally-managed marine protected area. Teaching English to local Malagasy students
- Living in a secluded and remote environment with little available resources (water, electricity, food) for an extended period of time

#### **August 2013 – December 2013**

**Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean**

*Teaching Assistant and Intern in Tropical Marine Ecology and Conservation Biology Council for International Educational Exchange (CIEE) Research Station*

- Responsibilities include program delivery, academics, research, SCUBA diving for courses and scientific research, logistics, dive safety, student transportation and managing undergraduate students in residence at the station.
- Knowledge of Caribbean coral reef species, teaching AGRRA (Atlantic and Gulf Rapid Reef Assessment) Marine Ecology Research Field Methods as an AAUS (American Academy of Underwater Sciences) Scientific Diver

**November 2009 – April 2010****Maldives***Resident Marine Biologist & Eco Centre Manager- Shangri-la's Villingili Resort & Spa*

- Leading snorkel, dolphin watching, SCUBA dive excursions, turtle releasing events and conducting nature walks for guests
- Guest and staff presentations on the marine and terrestrial environment with emphasis on sustainable development of the Resort and the Maldives.

**February 2009- September 2009****Hong Kong***World Challenge Expeditions*

- School Program Manager working with teams leading up to expeditions including money management, team building and itinerary planning
- Assistant Leader on an expedition to Namibia (June-July 2009), overseeing the daily running of life on expedition, health & safety, teamwork, leadership, problem solving and communication

**June 2006 – January 2017****French Polynesia***Naturalist for Jean-Michel Cousteau's Ocean Futures Society*

- Leader of the Ambassadors of the Environment education program onboard the ship, M/S Paul Gauguin ([www.oceanfutures.org](http://www.oceanfutures.org))
- Teaching marine ecology and leading marine (snorkelling, kayaking, mangroves) and land-based (hiking, cycling) excursions with kids (aged 8-18) and adults throughout the islands of French Polynesia.
- Ability to live for long periods in a six star environment aboard a cruise ship

**February 2005- January 2009****Worldwide***Guest Lecturer for Jean-Michel Cousteau's Ocean Futures Society*

- Public speaking on the Marine ecology/biology, current environment issues and conservation on board Regent Seven Seas Cruises
- Created and presented multi-media lectures using my own photography (underwater and above) and that of Ocean Futures Society's expedition team (film and still photography)
- Topics and locations of lectures:
  - **Coral Reefs, Reefs and Rainforests, Marine Mammals, Plankton/Gelatinous Zooplankton, Sharks at Risk**
  - **Other Lecture Topics including:** Marine Sanctuaries, Amazon, America's National Marine Sanctuaries, Fishing, Sustainable Seafood, Environmental Education, plus personal stories and anecdotes from own experiences and studies of the natural world
- High level of customer service and personal appearance dictated by standards of 6-star cruise company

**May 2002 - July 2004****Australia & England***British and Australian qualified swim teacher*

- Worked extensively in both countries, teaching infants to adults, including children with disabilities

**August 1999 – March 2010****Cyprus, Maldives, California, GBR of Australia***PADI & NAUI Dive master*

- *Assisting in the instruction of the use of SCUBA diving equipment and leading open water dives both from shore and dive boats. This role involved practical demonstrations and required both verbal and physical communication skills*
- *This position carried the responsibility for the care and safety of the divers. Being focused, aware and showing confidence proved vital for this position.*

**Summer 1999****Pennsylvania, USA***Waterski Instructor and Camp Counsellor*

- Ski boat driver and Water ski Instructor to all ages and abilities
- Required continuous enthusiasm, leadership and time-management. Solely responsible for the welfare, safety and
- enjoyment of groups of children aged 8-18 yrs old

**Summer 1996****Belize, Central America***Marine Research Volunteer - Coral Cay Conservation*

- Intensive training course in tropical marine ecology enabling the collection of important scientific data using underwater survey techniques
- Living in a secluded and remote environment for extended period of time, team work was essential throughout

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**RESEARCH & FIELD WORK**

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**Summer 2014***Marine Conservation Expedition Volunteer – BlueVentures***Madagascar**

- Work included: Intensive training on the identification of local benthic flora and fauna and reef fish species. Collecting underwater benthic and reef fish data using line transect techniques with SCUBA for scientific and conservation purposes

**Jan. 2002 – June 2003***Masters of Applied Science degree in Tropical Marine Ecology***Townsville, Australia**

- Marine surveys involving reef fish behaviour, home range of reef fish, coral taxonomy and identification of coral recruits, as well as above water surveys on the investigation on abundance and distribution of marine invertebrates on a reef flat
- Over 100 Scientific dives assisting PhD Students and through my own research

**Dec. 2000- Feb. 2001***Marine Mammal Research in Hong Kong***Hong Kong***Ocean Park Conservation Foundation, BSc Honours (Supervisor: Dr Tom Jefferson)*

- Work included: boat (line transect) and aerial (helicopter) surveys to determine the distribution and abundance of Indo-Pacific humpback dolphins and finless porpoises in the territorial waters.
- Assisting in biopsies of stranded animals and using past stranding data formed the basis of my Honours Research Project, “*The spatial and temporal patterns of stranding's of the Indo-Pacific humpback dolphin and the finless porpoise in Hong Kong*”.

**Jan.-April 2000***Research work at Año Nuevo, Santa Cruz***California, USA***Field Methods in Animal Behaviour module, UCSC*

- Work included: counting, tagging and monitoring behaviour of Northern Elephant Seals over the breeding season with particular interest in the dominance hierarchy and copulation success of the males. Completing my Research Project, “The Dominance Hierarchy of male northern elephant seals at Año Nuevo”

**Sept. 1999 - June 2000***Work experience at Moss landing, Monterey Bay and Long Marine Laboratory***California, USA**

- Assisting PhD students in capturing and tagging Harbour Seals for scientific research

- This involved maintaining the health and well-being of Leopard Sharks, cleaning tanks, feeding the animals and assisting in carrying out x-rays on the sharks to determine the speed of food travel through the gut

## **Summer 1996**

### *Tropical Marine Research with Coral Cay Conservation*

**Belize, Central America**

- Work included: intensive training in tropical marine ecology on Caribbean reefs and mapping sections of the coral reef using line transect techniques with SCUBA. Scientific data was collected for management and conservation purposes and also forming part of my A-Level research project, “*The distribution and abundance of Stoplight parrotfish on the Belizean Barrier Reef*”

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## **SKILLS & QUALIFICATIONS**

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- Water Polo: University Woman’s Captain 2000/2001, Representing Scottish Universities, 1997-2001
- Freshman of the Year Sports award (University Blues)
- RYA National Powerboat Certificate and Ski Boat Driver’s License
- Hong Kong Marine Department Pleasure Vessel Operator Certificate of Competency
- British Drivers Licence (Car)
- PADI & NAUI SCUBA Dive Master
- DAN Asia Pacific Membership & Divers Insurance
- Wilderness First Responder: Wilderness Medical Associates
- First Aid and CPR: Emergency First Response & DAN Oxygen
- American Academy of Underwater Sciences (AAUS) Scientific Diver with current AAUS Dive Medical
- Level 1 Water Polo Coach & British Water Ski Instructor
- AUSTSWIM (Australian qualification) and ASA (British qualification) Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety
- INTESOL Certificate in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages), A1 Distinction
- Computer skills: MAC & PC, Powerpoint, Excel, Word, Keynote, Pages