

Clifford

Freelance Researcher in Black and Asian Studies



How I got here

I did A Levels in geography, biology and history. I came from abroad and I found myself one of only six non-white people in a school of 1,600 people - there was something exotic about the six of us. That sort of got me into geography.

Straight from school I then worked as a trainee cartographer and a seismic data processor in Saudi Arabia and Oman in the oil industry for 7 years. I then studied Geography and Asian studies at university in Ulster, Northern Ireland. After that I worked for a Japanese travel company, planning new destinations for the company and translating for the Japanese market. Recently I decided to have another change of career which stemmed from me tracing at my own family history over three continents. I now work as a researcher in Black and Asian Studies.

What my job entails

Now I can control my own work schedule I started off looking at Bexley's hidden history of Black and Asians, I'm doing something at the forefront of history and geography, rediscovering history people have not heard of. Baxley has 460 years of Black and Asian history, including the role of slavery - the income from this trade in people created the grand estates of the aristocracy.

How I use geographical skills

Geographers have a very multi-disciplinary view of the world, they look at the whole picture, from mountains and valleys, to culture and weather, and how all these things influence the world. This has helped me in my research, the cultural and historical the last in the string of events that make the world.

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