

Christopher David McKenna

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Availability

I am currently available without notice.

Education

University	University of Wales, Swansea	September 1998 - June 2001
Secondary Schools	Kings of Wessex Community School, Cheddar, Somerset	September 1993 - July 1998
	Fairlands Middle School, Cheddar, Somerset	September 1991 - July 1993

Qualifications

GCSEs	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Grade</i>
June/July 1996	Information Systems (Computing)	A*
	Science (Double Award)	A, A
	Geography	B
	Mathematics	B
	English Language	B
	English Literature	C
	German	C
	Art Graphics	D
A-Levels	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Grade</i>
June/July 1998	Computing	B
	Psychology	B
	Geography	C
University	<i>Did not sit final examinations</i>	

Employment

02/1994	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Work experience with Grosvenor Technical Management Ltd. (Computer-based security and access control systems), Millers 3, Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire. Including working in research and development (software) and on-site visit to Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food with Technical Support.
11/1996	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Kings of Wessex Community School, Cheddar, Somerset, upgrading the Business Studies Windows NT based network.
03/1997	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Work Experience with Northern Technical Computing (CAD packages and CAD-optimised computers), Leeming Bar Industrial Estate, Leeming Bar, North Yorkshire, assembling and testing computers.
07/1998 - 09/1998	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● General Assistant at RoadChef Sedgemoor Motorway Services, Rooksbridge, Somerset, with duties including preparing and serving food.
06/1999 - 09/1999	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Worked for StaffSign Agency, Wells Branch, St Cuthbert's Street, Wells, Somerset. Including the following jobs.<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Royal Bath and West Show, Royal Bath and West Showground, Shepton Mallet, Somerset, waiting at the Stockmen's supper and in the Members and Stewards Lounge.● Clare Hall Residential Nursing Home (BUPA), preparing food, including special menus.● D&J Mobile Catering of Leicester, working at 'Truckfest', Royal Bath and West Showground, Shepton Mallet, Somerset and the British Grand Prix, Silverstone Circuit, Silverstone, Northamptonshire, which involved cooking and serving food in a high-pressure environment.● Ascot Hospitality, Ascot Racecourse, Ascot, Berkshire, serving wine, champagne, spirits and cigars during the Royal Ascot meeting.● The Cornish Pasty Company (mobile) Ltd., 17a Alverton Street, Penzance, Cornwall, serving Cornish pasties from a mobile catering van during the New Wine and Soul Survivor Christian festivals at the Royal Bath and West Showground, Shepton Mallet, Somerset.
09/2001 - 11/2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Polstar Print Works, Paulton, Nr Bath, operating blow-in and shrink-wrapping machine.● Branch Administrator for the North Somerset and BANES branches of the Pre-school Learning Alliance.

- 11/2001 - 1/2005 ● Cartographer for Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)
Also Lone Worker Health & Safety System Co-ordination and First Aider
- 2/2005 – 10/2006 ● Rural Development Advisor for Defra/Natural England.
- Various times ● I have been employed on a per-job basis over a number of years to produce a number of documents, leaflets, etc. using desktop publishing.

Extra Curricular

- Amnesty International Archery I was an active member of Amnesty International, including committee memberships, while at school and university. I campaigned on numerous cases and issues during this time.
I was a member of the Swansea University Archery Club for 2 years, and competed in inter-university competitions.
- Archaeology ● I am interested in archaeology and I am an active contributor on the Time Team internet forum which accompanies the popular Channel 4 television series.
● I have organised a number of regional and national meets for regulars on this forum (the Time Team Forum Friends).
- Back-Stage Crew At secondary school I was a member of the six-person Back-Stage Crew who set up and ran sound and lighting systems for numerous assemblies and productions. I also represented the crew on the school's assembly committee.
- Computing ● I have been using computers since 1986 and have become proficient in both Windows and Linux. I also have experience of Acorn Archimedes computers.
● I was secretary of the Swansea University Computer Society from June 2000 to May 2001, earning life membership of the society. I continue to be a member of the society's admin team.
● I computerised the bulk purchasing scheme for playgroups in the Central Somerset branch of the Pre-school Learning Alliance.
● I created and maintained a computerised system for management of the Pre-school Learning Alliance Pre-school Development Workers in Somerset.
- First Aid From 2003 – 2006 I was a qualified First Aider
- Hiking I have completed the annual Save the Children sponsored walk from Bleadon Hill to Wells, approximately 24 miles, four times. I have also completed 300 miles of the South West Coast Path from Minehead to Par, via Land's End.
- Librarian I was a student librarian in the Learning Resource Centre at secondary school.
- Literature I am a keen poet and have had my poems published in regional, national and international collections, winning several awards for various pieces. I am a keen reader and especially enjoy Science Fiction novels.
- Playgroups I have assisted in pre-school playgroups on many occasions
- Prefect I was elected prefect by senior staff at my secondary school to be responsible for IT systems.
- Swimming I am a keen swimmer and enjoy doing it to keep fit, although I don't compete.
- Transport I have a keen interest in public transport, particularly rail, and am an active member on one of the largest London Underground (LU) forums. Through this forum I have become acquainted with many LU staff and have gained much knowledge about the system.

Awards

- Achievement ● I was awarded the Barbara Burrows Award for Achievement at Fairlands Middle School.
- Good Citizenship ● In my final year of the Kings of Wessex school I was awarded the good citizenship award for my work for the school and community in Computing, Back-stage, Library and Amnesty International.
- Long Service ● I was awarded the Long Service award by the Swansea University Computer Society in June 2001 for "Endless service to the society".

Referees

- Employer Pre-school Learning Alliance: Ms K Poole, 55 Mayfield Park South, Fishponds, Bristol, BS16 3NF
Defra: Ben Smith, Foss House, Kings Pool, 1-2 Peaseholme Green, York, YO1 7PX
- Personal Mr P Young,
Miss E Handley, 28 Harvey Gardens, Loughton, Essex, IG10 2AD