



'R'STORY': Case studies of young people

MAX ROBSON, 24



Max joined the team as Production Assistant in May 2014 and has been involved as a volunteer in several of the Foundation's film projects previously.

"QPR have always been my local team and I have learnt about the history and what makes it so crucial to the area as 'the heartbeat of west London'. I would like to be a film maker and this experience has made me particularly interested in producing documentaries. I am so grateful and

honoured to be involved with this project, I could not be doing anything better. I feel very lucky."

ROSS NORMAN, 23



"I am big fan of both QPR and documentaries and being a part of the Story of QPR, something that linked them together, sounded like a great project to be part of.

I'm hoping that it will help me further my career within the media industry as a camera operator and editor. So far I've learnt better techniques on how to conduct interviews and I've noticed that my editing skills and camera operating skills have improved. In fact while taking part in the project I successfully got a job with an international news channel

called 'Arise News' where I set up and play all the non-live footage such as news reports for the live shows. But hopefully with the help of this project I'm hoping that I'll be able to work as a camera operator soon.

The Story of QPR has given me more confidence in what I am able to do and what I am capable of. I've enjoyed being able to film on the pitch at Loftus Road, especially the playoff game against Wigan. It's not that often you get to walk alongside the QPR players and film them after they have just secured a place at Wembley Stadium with Loftus Road rocking! I feel proud and privileged that I get to be involved in such a unique project."

AYO BODURIN, 25



"I got involved with Octavia Foundation after I finished a film project with the Prince's Trust and they got me involved in the Story of QPR project. I really enjoy meeting new people and filming the documentary and I've learnt so much about organising film shoots, helping young people and much more. I managed to get paid work on another film project and am now helping them to set up a youth-led production team and we've got our first paid event soon.

"I was given the Rising Star Award at the Octavia Youth Awards this year which really meant a lot to me. I want to thank Emily, Serena and all of the team who voted for me. My first short film is out on YouTube now too, it's called Struggle of Life. Look it up, I'm waiting for your comments!"

MICHAEL HAGAN, 28



"I joined the Octavia Foundation in 2009; I was involved in the Hidden Herstory film project where I learned how to make a one hour film and how to put a website together, working with all different types of people. I am now working on the Story of QPR project and I am finding it very interesting and working with all kinds of young people, doing interviews.

The Octavia Foundation has also helped me to set up my own film production company called Crazie Productions."

GOPESH PATHAK ,18



"The great thing about this project is that it has given me first-hand experience in very journalistic things. Experience I wouldn't be able to get anywhere else.

I've discovered how important various interviewing techniques are and just how critical research is to a documentary like this. It's been a privilege to have been part of a project as big as this one!"

JONATHAN FRANCO, 29



"My initial interest in getting involved was to extend my filmmaking experience through the Story of QPR. My ambition is to one day run my own film company."

OTHER YOUNG VOLUNTEERS:

ANKIT PATEL, 23



"Being part of this project has been an insightful experience. I wanted to gain related experience within marketing which was my main reason for volunteering, along with having the opportunity to work within football, which is difficult to get hold of.

I have had the opportunity to create event- day materials, assist with event planning and conduct interviews, which included interviewing footballer Joey Barton. I particular enjoyed researching QPR memorabilia, which not only improved my research skills, but enabled me to learn more about the football club which I have a personal affiliation with. "

ALEX WARD, 26



Alex is an active participant of the Down Syndrome Tiger Cubs group at the QPR in the Community Trust. Alex joined the project from its launch in September 2013 and regularly attended with his parents who have also supported him in sessions. Alex's highlights of the project have been learning how to use the camera equipment, and taking part in researching and filming interviews.

"It's a privilege to take part and I'm really excited to make the film. My favourite session so far has been interviewing team members and learning to use the camera" Alexander (now 26), Young participant

"Since Alex has been involved in the project he is definitely more motivated and has spent time at home working on the research side" Kevin Ward, Alex's Dad

AMII BONNER



“On the project I learnt how to prepare interview questions, conduct necessary research required to potential interviewees for the film and also what are the best ways to communicate with our target audience so the film will be successful but as well as finding some of our audience to be involved in the film as well.

From what I have learnt so far when working on the Story of QPR project I used some of the skills to prepare for a job opportunity I had at a local company in West London which successfully helped me to get a Public Relations Internship as my first job outside of university..”

MARIA ZIZOLFI



During her four months on the project, Maria contributed a great deal; working alongside and supporting the young volunteers during sessions at the Loftus Road Stadium, researching heritage content for the film and assisting in the office with day to day co-ordination. Away from the project, Maria was also encouraged to access job interviews related to the area she wanted to work in, and received support from the team to prepare for these.

After moving on from the project, Maria secured a position as assistant Producer within an Italian language production company. Reflecting on her time with the Foundation, Maria said *‘I have very fond memories of Loftus Road and the team, I met amazing people, and looking back at it, I am sure that working for The Story of QPR project helped me to develop the skills and competencies required for the job I'm doing now’.*

