

# Rachel Kellett

## Curriculum Vitae 2023

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Nationality British

Date of Birth 10/12/1957

Place of Birth Norwich, Norfolk

Kinda Forest School - <https://kindaforestschool.com/>

Kaliwood - <https://kaliwood.wordpress.com/>

Kalikellett - <https://kalikellett.wordpress.com/>

Loch Ness Wellington 2020 - <https://lochnesswellington2020.org/>

Halesworth to Istanbul <http://kalikellett.tumblr.com/archive>

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### **2018-Currnt Kinda Forest School**

In 2018 with Mell Harison and her team, we started Kinda Forest School in my wood. In order to facilitate, I accomplished Level 2 Forest School Training at Green Light Trust 2019. I am a director of Kinda Education CIC and Level 2 Facilitator, working at least once a week with the tribe, with child led learning, play and Earth Education.

<https://kindaforestschool.com/>

I set up and help to run Elders wellbeing in the woods, now in it's 3rd year. Working closely with The Pear Tree, Elders are triaged from them, or come from the local community. About 4 have dementia, and come with their carers.

### **2022 Hopes and Dreams**

Connected through Elders, working with the Pear Tree (Halesworth), Pippa Guard and I set up Hopes and Dreams project. Hopes and Dreams is a reminiscence project based at The Pear Tree, supporting people with dementia and their carers. It is part of Remembering Yesterday, Caring today, a European Reminiscence project established in 1993, inspired by Pam Schweitzer. We successfully ran two 8 week sessions.

<https://hopedreams.uk/>

### **2019 - present Socratic Dialogue**

After a life long interest in philosophy and enquiry, I trained to become a Facilitator of Socratic Dialogue with the SFCP (<http://sfcp.org.uk/>), co-facilitating a 2 day Socratic Dialogue in Spring 2019. I became their Administrator in 2021.

### **2010-2018 Traveling/Writing/Administrating/Woodland**

Having sold my London flat I searched for a new place to live, and at the same time travelled and wrote. In 2014 I travelled for 10 months overland through Eastern Europe to Istanbul and back, (17 countries) in a camper-van with a dog. In 2012, I travelled to West Africa, in a Toyota Land-cruiser with a friend, overland from Romford Road (London) to Tombuktoo (Mali). In 2011 I travelled with a friend to 6 countries in West Africa.

In 2012 I co-ordinated the compiling and editing a book of memories 'Old Fishes Tales' [www.canonesses.co.uk/](http://www.canonesses.co.uk/)).

In 2010 I started an Open University Open Degree, completing 5 out of the 7 modules. The degree was interrupted by the death of a close friend. The subjects studied were:

[Power, dissent, equality: understanding contemporary politics \(DD203\)](#)

[Environment: journeys through a changing world \(U116\)](#)

[Exploring philosophy \(A222\)](#)

[Doing philosophy \(AXR271\)](#)

[The arts past and present \(AA100\)](#)

From 2009 -2019 I was Site Manager of Holton Hall Park, a 70 acre estate of holiday static vans in Holton, working closely with Suffolk Wildlife Trust to conserve the parkland, maintain the woodland and lake.

In 2014 I bought a 5.5 acres woodland near by. I joined up with the East Anglian Coppice Network and various other woodland groups. Starting with the overgrown four boundary hedges, I started laying, coppicing them to thicken them. In 2015 had the two ponds dredged, and both refilled that winter. I started the coppice cycle, coppicing an acre of hazel a year. In 2016 Paul Jackson and Graham Norgate built an oak cabin out of the 8 dead oak trees on the land, felled and planked in 2014.

[www.kaliwood.wordpress.com](http://www.kaliwood.wordpress.com).

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## **1. 2005-2010 Metfield Stores Community Village shop**

I bought a declining village shop at auction in November 2005 with a vision to resurrect to keep a shop in the village, run by the community for the community. While I was in India the local community restored and stocked the shop, taking ownership immediately. For the next three years I was involved in renovating and developing the entire building, breaking it down into 5 income streams. It's combined income generation attracted Harleston Information Plus (a Government Quango) who were looking for an imaginative way of leveraging a salary. In 2009 East of England Development Agency funded the purchase of the building from myself, securing HIP a salary, and Metfield Stores a security of tenure and controlled rent.

I remained an active director of Metfield Stores until Spring 2010, promoting local products, running an annual Graze and Buy - a festival dedicated to our local producers - and Apple Day, linking up with the Aldeburgh Food and Drink Festival. I helped secure funding for the shop and was an active networker with the press and local community ([www.metfield.org.uk](http://www.metfield.org.uk)).

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## **2. 1998-2006 India**

### **1998-2002 Environmental Campaigning**

Originally I went out to India with my partner, Bob Edwards, to support him in his work of setting up Greenpeace in Delhi. Using my at the time cutting-edge internet background, I found an additional role

working with Non Governmental Organisations's hocking them into the existing electronic network (based on local academic X25 protocol, using PMAIL!) and set up an organisation called Toxics Link (still active: <http://www.toxicslink.org/>) to link up electronically and disseminate information to geographically separated campaigning groups. It was one of the first electronic link ups in India at the time. The first success was in Bhopal working with Sathyu Sarangi in his Sambhavna Clinic - where internet was important for the collaborative work his clinic were doing with epidemiologists and health care professionals in the UK. <http://bhopal.org/>

In 1998, I collaborated with Bob Edward's Greenpeace work researching the chemical industry in India, including a scientific sampling tour of the most industrial polluted places in India with the Greenpeace Exeter Laboratory. The results of both the science investigation and research were published in a report, 'The Stranger'.

In 2000 with Bob Edwards we co-wrote the book 'Life in Plastic', ([www.baobabs.co.uk/lip](http://www.baobabs.co.uk/lip)) which lifted the lid off India's plastics industry, presenting a comprehensive analysis of the effect of plastics on human health, the environment and the social fabric of India. In effect it helped to change the Government of India's policy towards promoting a more 'recyclable' plastic (PET) in favour of the environmentally harmful PVC, for the growing market of water bottles.

## **2002-6 India: Teaching / Developing Footprint curriculum**

For four years I taught at the Alice Project school as a volunteer teacher, (co-ordinating other volunteers), culminating in the development of an Indian curriculum, called Footprint. The concept (an alternative to the predominantly 'western based' text books and educational philosophy that dominated the Indian educational system at the time) was to connect both school curriculum subjects and us to our material world.

<http://www.baobabs.co.uk/> and <http://www.aliceproject.org/>

## **2002 India/Nepal: Writing / Publishing Bird of Passage**

I wrote the story of Sugata (who I met in India) over two years, travelling with him in Norway, India and Kathmandu (where he had become a Buddhist monk). His story is an odyssey of the last century. The book was published in Kathmandu 2002. <http://www.sugata.info>

## **1997-98 Africa travel**

I spent the best part of a year travelling around East Africa (Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda), climbing mountains (Mt Meru, Mt Kilimanjaro, Livingstone Mountains, Rwenzori).

## **3. 1997-1997 Information Technology**

Feeling unstimulated in the art world and fascinated with the beginning of the computer revolution, I did a 6 month (Manpower) government training course in C programming. I held 2 principle jobs in IT: Migent, and Imperial Cancer Research Fund (now called Cancer Research).

## **1990-97 IT Computer User Support Manager**

Imperial Cancer Research Fund (ICRF) now Cancer Research

Starting as Information Officer, I became User Support Manager in a team of 20 people in an IT department responsible for the maintenance and support of 1,500 scientists over 40 research centres spread around the UK. Technology used included local Mac's but also Windows PC's, connecting up to main-frame VAX, Sun Unix platforms and a specialised Parallel processor. My main work was to support the scientists with their computational needs, co-ordinating the technical support team of 12 engineers through a help desk, and running computer induction courses. ICRF, now called Cancer Research, was the first institution in the UK to have its own Intranet (TCP/IP) and as a member of the British Computer Society (Electronic Publishing), I gave some early workshops on Internet and the principles of how it worked. (End salary £32,000)

1989-90 I took a year out to nurse my mother who died.

## **1987-89 IT Computer programming/Marketing**

Migent UK, Marketing a Relational Database

This was my first job and I was employed to launch 'Eagle Bay' - at the time a revolutionary relational database technology, through training dealers and end users. I ran courses, wrote a manual, and working with engineers supported users on this platform. (It was a competitor to Ashton Tate's DB3/4, and the company folded in 1991 in part due to this competition) (End salary £23,000)

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## **4. 1979 -1987 Art Restoration**

For 2 years trained in an apprenticeship to restore paintings, under Michael Chapman at Foulsham, Norfolk. Specialising in Norwich school and early to C19th Dutch, I moved to London where I worked in the studio of Gillian Mussett in Curzon Street, before starting my own self employed business, based in Holland Park Road. I drew work from Bond Street and George Street galleries, as well as private clients.

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## **5. Education**

1976-79 King Alfred's College Winchester, BEd (Drama)

Leaving school with a stammer I opted to study Drama, and to be safe, to teach it.

1964 - 1976 New Hall, Boreham, Chelmsford Essex (Catholic convent school)

A Levels: English, Art, History of Art

O Levels: English Lit / English Language / Maths / Biology / Geography / History / French / Art

## **Origins**

I was born in Norwich, bought up in East Dereham, schooled in Essex. My mother was originally from Yorkshire, my father from Ireland.

## **Interests**

Poetry / Other peoples lives ([www.sugata.info](http://www.sugata.info)) / Politics / Buddhism / Music (Classical/African) / Trees and woodland / Astronomy / Writing and reading / Walking the dog / Camping / Travelling /