

Curriculum Vitae
Nick Ball

Wildlife DOP/Cameraman/CAA PfCO Drone Pilot
Part-107 Drone Pilot / I-VISA (exp. April 2023)

CONTACT DETAILS

E-mail: nick@nickball.tv
Telephone: +44 (0) 7729201391
Address: Hampshire, UK

PERSONAL DETAILS

Nationality: British
D.O.B. 24/10/83
Sex: Male

PRODUCTIONS/SHOOTS

2022

- DOP – *‘Predators’*– BBC NHU – Specialist animal shots in Sweden for VFX and BCUs.

2021

- DOP – *‘Born Wild’* – Humblebee – (In Production for Netflix) – Shot two major sequences in Botswana and Zambia – 2 months of filming
- DOP – *‘Life Of Mammals’*– BBC NHU – Shot two major sequences for the Heat Episode in the USA – 2 months of filming

2020

- DOP – *‘In The Womb’*– National Geographic Landmark series (In Production for Pioneer Productions) – Locations: Zambia (lions) & Kenya (elephants)

2019

- DOP – *‘Meet The Foxes’*– UK – Athena Films – series with Steve Backshall
- DOP – *‘Meet the Chimps’* – USA – Disney+
- DOP – Natural history segment for *‘The One Show – Winter Hill’*– BBC1 (presenter-led) – Filming took place in the UK
- DOP – *‘History of Britain’* – Chan - filming over several days with presenter Tony Robinson

- DOP – Sequence cameraman **‘The Farm’** – **UK** – Love Nature (In Production) – 4K
- DOP – Sequence cameraman **‘Europe’s New Wild’** – **Germany** – Nat Geo Wild – Lynx and drone work. Shot in 4K
- Series cameraman – **‘The Wonderful World of Baby Animals’** - (Chan 5) filming extensively for the vast majority of a 6-part series for Blakeway Productions.

2018

- DOP – Sequence cameraman **‘Primates– Malaysia** – BBC Studios Natural History Unit – filming took place over 4 weeks following a troop of wild dusky langur monkeys in the jungle. Shot on RED Weapon in 8K MoVI and Inspire 2 in 5.2K. Airing January 2019
- Drone Operator **‘Chasing the Tour’** – Yahoo Sports – filming took place at several key stages of the Tour de France. Shot in 4K
- DOP – Sequence cameraman **‘Europe’s New Wild’** – **Germany** – Nat Geo Wild – Bald Ibis conservation sequence and drone work. Shot in 4K
- Drone Op - **‘Chasing the Tour’** – **French Alps** – Yahoo Sport. Shot in 4K

- Series Cameraman – **‘The Wonderful World of Puppies’** (Chan 5) filming extensively for the vast majority of a 12-part series for Blakeway Productions.
- DOP – **‘The Lions Last Roar’?** filming in the U.S.A and Canada for a feature-length documentary exploring the controversy and merits of hunting lions for trophies. For Talesmith. *Cinematic release*. Shot in 4K
- DOP – Natural history segment for **‘The One Show – Tollesbury Wick’** – BBC1 (presenter-led) – Filming took place in the UK.
- DOP – **‘Wild Poland’** (working title), White-tailed sea eagles, ravens, bison and more (In Production) Shot in 4K.

2017

- DOP – Sequence cameraman **‘Europe’s New Wild’** – **Bulgaria** – Nat Geo Wild – snakes, lizards, tortoise, vultures, wolves and drone work. Shot in 4K on the canon C700
- DOP – Natural history segment for **‘The One Show – Puffin Island’** – BBC1 (presenter-led) – Filming took place in the UK.

- Cameraman – **‘Snake City’**, Live Filming with presenters and snakes - 2x ±30 minutes episodes for Nat Geo Wild Facebook Page (UK).
- DOP – **‘Jane Goodall: Saving Paradise’**, - *Nat Geo Wild* - filming extensively up and down Tanzania’s tropical coastline for a new documentary on the conservation of Tanzania and the people involved (Inc. Jane Goodall). Shot in 4K

- DOP (Series Cameraman) – **‘Guardian Live Streaming Series’**, filming four live wildlife segments per month, all over the UK, for The Guardian’s online presence. Red kites, Starlings, Frogs, Bees and more.

2016

- DOP (series Cameraman) – **‘Wild Korea’**, filming for two months in South Korea, Pioneer Productions / Blue Ant Media. 4K production with Panasonic V35, CN20, drone (pilot), Ronin Gimbal and night filming.
- Cameraman (additional) – **‘Bronze Age’**, filming at an archaeological dig in Cambridgeshire - 360 Productions for BBC 4.
- Cameraman – **‘Queen of the Chase, Tanzania (Nat Geo Wild)’** – NCFWW
6 weeks filming cheetahs. 4K production with Sony F5 and CN20.

2015

- DOP – Wildlife of Tanzania’s Mangrove Swamps – NCFWW - 4K production.
- DOP – Wildlife of Mt Meru, Tanzania – NCFWW - Filming involved 10 days climbing, summiting and filming on Mt Meru (4,565m) 4K production.
- DOP – Wildlife of Mt Kilimanjaro, Tanzania – NCFWW – Filming involved 10 days climbing and filming on Mt Kilimanjaro (8 days spent over 4,000m). 4K production
- DOP – Natural history segment for **‘The One Show – Little Grebes’** – BBC1 (presenter-led) – Filming took place in the UK.

- DOP – Follow-up filming at Mweka College, Kilimanjaro, Tanzania
- Cameraman – **‘The Truth About Calories’** – BBC1 (presenter-led) – Filming took place in several locations across London, UK.

2014

- DOP – **‘Honey Badgers’** – a 6-part series commissioned for Nat Geo Wild – filming took place over two months in Botswana. Oxford Scientific Films – 4K production
- Cameraman – **‘The Truth About Calories’** – BBC1 (presenter-led) – Filming took place on several farms in Hampshire, UK
- DOP – Science segments for **‘Newsnight’** BBC2 (presenter-led) – Filming took place over 4 days in Isle Of Man and West Sussex
- Contributing footage – **‘Natural World – Honey Badgers’** BBC2/Oxford Scientific Films
- DOP – **‘Operation Wild’** series for BBC1 (presenter-led) – Filming took place over 6 days in India

2013

- DOP – **‘The Treasure Hunters’** series for BBC1 (presenter-led) – Filming took place over several weeks in South Africa, Namibia and around the UK (Dallas Campbell & Ellie Harrison)
- DOP – **‘Operation Wild’** series for BBC1 (partly presenter-led) – Filming took place in several locations throughout South Africa (Claire Balding & Steve Leonard)
- DOP – **‘Misconception’**, feature documentary by Story-Head Productions, (Directed by Jessica Yu and produced by Elise Pearlstein) –

filmed over two weeks in Uganda.
Cinematic release

- DOP – ***‘Rhinos Without Borders’*** four-part mini-series – Filmed in South Africa and Botswana
- Cameraman – ***‘Lions on the Move’*** – Kingdom Pictures, series for Arte – Filmed in South Africa

2012

- DOP - ***‘The Guide’***, feature documentary by 23/7 Inc. & Story-Head with Jessica Yu & Elise Pearlstein
- Cameraman - 50/50 inserts for SABC
- Cameraman - WildAid Illegal animal trade documentary (in development)
- Cameraman - Katanga Express: Air Rescue promotional video
- Cameraman - Congo Star Safaris mini-documentary (Reuters, GlobalPost, USA Today)
- Cameraman - WildAid Earth Day
- Cameraman - Earth Hour 2012 footage

2011

- Cameraman - 50/50 insert for SABC (Pangolin)
- Cameraman - Wilderness Safaris re-branding and marketing
- Soundman & 2nd Camera – Dogs 101 (Anatolian Shepherd) episode for Animal Planet
- Cameraman – ***‘Africa’s Deadliest’***

three-part series for Nat Geo Wild
(high speed/macro)

2010

- Cameraman – ***‘Africa’s Deadliest’*** three-part series for Nat Geo Wild (high speed/macro)
- Cameraman – ***‘Those Left Behind’*** feature documentary – South Africa
- Cameraman – ***‘An Elephant in the Room’*** for Smithsonian Channel
- Cameraman – 50/50 insert for SABC (Rhino poaching situation)
- Cameraman – ***‘Inside Natures Giants’*** (hippo) for Windfall Productions/Channel 4 UK
- Cameraman – ***‘Battlefield: Rhino Wars’*** three-part series for Animal Planet
- Cameraman – ***‘Swamp Lions’*** 1-hour documentary for Nat Geo Wild

2009

- Cameraman – ***‘An Elephant in the Room’*** for Smithsonian Channel
- Assistant Cameraman – ***‘White Lions of Timbavati’*** – Aquavision TV Productions
- Cameraman – ***‘Swamp Lions’*** 1-hour documentary for Nat Geo Wild
- Assistant Cameraman – ***‘Swamp Lions’*** 1-hour documentary for Nat Geo Wild

EDUCATION

MSc – Feb 2006 – August 2007 *African Mammalogy* - Mammal Research Institute, University of Pretoria, South Africa

BSc (Hons) Sept 2002 - June 2005 *Zoology* - University of Surrey (Roehampton), UK

AS/A-levels Sept 2000 - June 2002 *Biology, Environmental Science, Psychology, Photography* - Queen Mary's College, Basingstoke, Hampshire, UK

EXPERIENCE

2012 – Present	Freelance Cameraman
2011 – 2013	Cameraman at Natural History Media
2009 – 2011	Cameraman for Aquavision Productions
2009 (June – July 2010)	Assistant Cameraman for Aquavision Productions
2008 (Sept – June 2009)	Africa specialist for C&K
2008 (March – May)	Scientific advisor for Aquavision TV Productions - 'Bonecrusher Queens' for Nat Geo Wild
2008 (March)	Location assistant for Nutshell Productions film 'Sparrows'
2007 (April – November)	Employment: Herpetofauna Translocation
2007 (March – April)	Predator surveys – Camera trapping, spoor surveys, Kololo GR, Waterberg, South Africa
2006 (December)	Radio/satellite tracking lions and prey censuses, Kruger NP, South Africa
2005 (September – November)	Employment: Herpetofauna Translocation
2002 (July - August)	Volunteer: SANCCOB - Sea bird rescue and rehabilitation centre, Cape Town, South Africa
2001 (July - August)	Volunteer: Sea Turtle Protection Society of Greece

SKILLS

I am an experienced natural history cameraman with additional extensive experience in reality, vérité observational documentary, E.N.G. and commercial work. I am highly knowledgeable and capable using a variety of cameras including, but not limited to RED Gemini (Own camera) & Helium, Sony F55, Arri Alexa, Varicam series and Phantom high-speed specialist cameras. Through a variety of documentary styles and genres, I am experienced using a diverse range of lenses, from wide-angle handheld to very long lens tripod work (years of experience on Canon 50-1000mm CN20). I have worked with a variety of internationally respected directors, and pride myself in being able to shoot well for the edit – whether directed or not. I have extensive experience using gimbals and motorised slider/timelapse rigs.

As a qualified zoologist, with years of experience filming and working with wildlife, I have an excellent knowledge of British and African wildlife and a very good knowledge of world wildlife. My time spent in the bush means my field skills are well suited for wildlife productions as well as filming in remote/wild locations. However, my knowledge of Africa does not start and end with wildlife as I have travelled and filmed in rural and urban locations in more than 15 African countries. I regularly sell images and high-end stock footage to major international publications films and series. Through necessity I have developed a good understanding of vehicle mechanics and maintenance, specifically for Land Rover and Toyota 4x4 vehicle. I also have a lot of experience with off-road (mud, sand, water, bush) driving.

I have a very good understanding of computers and many software packages including MS word, Excel, PowerPoint, plus specific software such as Adobe Photoshop, RAW processing applications and Final Cut Pro, Davinci Resolve and more.

I have a CAA drone ‘Permission for Commercial Operations’ (UK) plus Part-107 (USA) and have been flying drones for over 9 years. I have flown the Inspire 2, Inspire 1 drones extensively all over the world, both with a second operator and independently. I own an Inspire 2 with X7 (RAW 5K).

INTERESTS

Filming, wildlife and travel are, luckily, my main interests. But I also enjoy adventures, fishing, photography, building/fixing things, cycling, running and scuba diving. I hold an advanced diver scuba diving certification (PADI) and have made many dives in several places around world including USA, UK, Greece, Spain, South Africa, Mozambique, Egypt and the Seychelles. I consider myself a very competent scuba diver having made many deep, drift, wreck and night dives – as well as shooting some underwater content for some filming projects.

I have completed a 3-day Hostile Environment training course and hold a current Emergency First Aid Certificate.

REFEREES - Please contact me for suitable references