

Andrew White joined the Costa Rica & Nicaragua expedition from June to September 2008 as an Adventure Project Manger

Before joining Raleigh I had just finished a career of nine years in the Armed Forces and I was on the look out for more challenges in life. Raleigh presented a great opportunity to achieve this while using many of the skills I had obtained during my service.

I have always enjoyed the instructor role and being able to show and guide people to achieve things they may have thought they were not capable of. So being able to work with young adults, out of the military environment, I felt to be both a challenge and a privilege.

Personally, I experienced all of what the ventures did and gained more experience in different aspects of leadership, which I had to adapt to in different situations in order to help guide, and if needed, lead the group. This was something I would not have gained in the military as I was now presented with a completely different audience to lead and in a totally different environment / organisation.

I do believe Raleigh has most definitely helped me make a better transition to a fresh start after leaving the Army. It has giving me time to identify what I really want out of life while at the same time giving something back in a worthwhile experience

I think Raleigh does give you a better perspective of what your wants are and how to achieve them while remaining happy. Also by being on an expedition in a different, sometimes poor, culture you are given a good reality check on the many things we can take for granted back home

I do talk about Raleigh in a very positive light not just promoting it for the young adult ventures but also for volunteering staff. We can always learn more and in the positive environment of a Raleigh expedition I believe all the staff learnt something new about themselves and their abilities, which they would never have been faced with if not for Raleigh.