



Bringing out the best in Business!

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Name

Ken Hames

Topics and Title

Leadership & Motivational Speaker

Background History

Ken Hames served in the British Forces for 25 years and is one of the elite British Officers to have worn the red beret of the parachute parade, the green

beret of the Royal Marines and the sand beret of the Special Air Service. His military experiences have taken him world wide and he was one of the last British soldiers to guard Rudolph Hesse in the infamous stronghold of Spandau in Berlin.

Ironically he was there when the Berlin Wall was finally broken down as one of the last British Officers to work behind the Iron Curtain in East Germany. Ken's operational experience is vast. He completed no less than eight tours of Northern Ireland at the height of the troubles. He was also at the liberation of Port Stanley in the Falklands and served in the SAS in the first Gulf War after commanding Britain's anti-terrorist team for one year.

Ken's corporate work is focused mainly on business improvement programmes with strong emphasis on behavioural skills and positive attitude. In his keynote, speeches he provides a fascinating insight into pressure, change, survival, teamwork and winning against the odd bringing strong evidence of best practice in difficult and demanding circumstances. His main effort is to promote development, provide motivation and give inspiration to leaders and managers and offer practical solutions with strong anecdotal evidence from the army and working with business.

Ken has developed and completed many 'Business workshops', the focus of these have been to develop the essential thinking skills and processes required to manage situations and threats that are ever changing and to lead teams through crisis situations. Ken says "The thinking process is the key to successful leadership, when the process is instinctive you will always possess an advantage."

His Business Development Programmes for companies such as IBM, Redrow, British Gas have inspired teams to a higher level of performance through innovative ways, to get more cut of their conferences and meetings to help the organizations maintain their edge, motivate and develop their staff and help them make their business easier to manage and the teams deliver their business objective

Areas of Expertise

Following an impressive military career, Ken Hames has brought a unique slant on the many documentaries that he has created and presented for TV. Ken's third series of 'Beyond Boundaries' set in the Andes range in Ecuador will broadcast on BBC TV this Spring and he has just finished filming his latest BBC1 project a documentary on the homeless and is now filming 'Beyond Boundaries – Where Are They Now'.

'Mission Africa' was a 15 part series for primetime BBC1 where Ken took a group of young apprentice builders from the UK to Kenya to build the first eco lodge and game reserve to protect the endangered species that live there working closely with the Born Free Foundation. This was then handed over to the local Samburu tribe as a sustainable business that also protects the wildlife. Ken first got the idea for 'Mission Africa' a few years ago when he was on a major expedition in Kenya's Northern Frontier District and the local Samburu tribe came to his rescue offering food, water and shelter until the flood waters had subsided and Ken vowed to come back and help them one day.

The third series of 'Beyond Boundaries' is in Ecuador where he took a group of severely disabled people on an expedition across the Andes at high altitude for BBC 2.

Ken created and is the expedition leader on the ground breaking 'Beyond Boundaries' series for BBC TV. In the first series Ken led an expedition of 12 disabled people (one of whom was blind), across Nicaragua, from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean in a record breaking, 300 km trek starting in the Mosquito Coast and ending one month later as a world first. The series showed the team going through jungles in over 40 degrees of heat, dealing with a dangerous route overrun with drug, running bandits and even climbing the most difficult live volcano in Central America. The second series saw a new group crossing Africa starting at Victoria Falls and ending on the Skeleton Coast.

'Desert Darlings' was broadcast on Channel 4 in spring 2003. Ken took couples across the Namib Desert, placing their sometimes fragile relationships under the extreme pressures of an expedition. His first series for Channel 4, was the award winning, 'Jungle Janes', where Ken's challenge was to turn a group of British women, none of whom had any expedition experience, into a cohesive team fit enough to take on the gruelling jungles of Borneo. It was enjoyed by millions who found this journey an inspiration. The first documentary was a television series, called 'The Trek' broadcast by Meridian. In 1994, with the help of Diana, Princess of Wales, Ken was able to take twelve disadvantaged youngsters to the heart of Africa on a 500-mile trek over desert and mountainous terrain, The process transformed their lives and Ken still monitors their progress, twelve years on.

These documentaries have proved Ken's extraordinary ability to inspire and motivate even the most unlikely candidates. His unique skills enable him to take any rabble of individuals and finish with a winning, cohesive team, using sound leadership and thorough training are just some of the tools he uses. Ken is passionate about empowering people to transform their lives for the better.

Ken presented the highly praised series, 'Greatest SAS Missions' for Five in 2004, CBBC's 'Bring it On', 'Hero Factor' for the Discovery Channel in 2002, 'Battle Stripes'

for Sky in 2000, 'Future Fighting Machines' for the US in 2003, Channel 4's 'Shattered' and ITV's 'Celebrity Fit Club'. Ken was also involved from the earliest of stages in the design and development of ITV's 'I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here'.

Client Comments:

"Ken Hames is the master practitioner in the war of training. He has the unique ability to inspire others to seek personal transformation and achievement."

Diana, Princess of Wales

"Ken was an inspiration to our delegates. He has a great motivational style which lifts people's horizons."

Carole Nicholl, Lehman Bros

"Ken was inspiring and stimulating. His presentation captured the theme of our event and his message had a lot of relevance to our audience. It was great."

John Ogilvie Network Veka

Some press cuttings from recent reviews of Desert Darlings

'Ken Hames will almost certainly become a TV star, which will help to redress the reputation of army majors on television.'

Mark Lawson, Guardian 21/4/03

'Ken is the man charged with guiding these innocents through their trial. Exuding capability and a certain kind of military charm, he's a calming influence at the centre of the expedition.'

Peter Chapman, Independent 19/4/03

'Unless hardship brings out so far hidden depths among the darlings, the most interesting of the travellers is pack-leader Ken Hames himself.'

Peter Paterson, Mail 23/4/03

Thank you for your fantastic presentation. The feedback was excellent. People will not forget 'Lead, follow or get out of the way'

Martin Goodman, Office of the Director – IBM

Your speech was an inspiration to our audience. You have given IGF members a renewed sense of motivation and desire to succeed.

Paul Foulkes Director of Global Financing IBM

In his leadership master class Ken gave my senior managers a renewed sense of purpose and direction. He is current, credible and inspirational and is particularly adept at getting results in a short timeframe. I continue to use him to keep my leaders at the cutting edge.

Robert Ford CIO EMEA Microsoft Corporation

Ken inspired us all with his motivational conference programme and leadership master class. We are looking forward to the next phase in our business development programme.

Simon Curry Director BT UK

Ken did a fantastic job for us and it was an inspiration to hear him talk and motivate our leadership team. We look forward to his return.

Derek Hudson Vice President UK British Gas

Wherever Ken goes the atmosphere changes significantly. He is able to get results and does this with credibility as someone who is still out there 'doing it' so to speak. He has a unique understanding of the pressures facing business today and delivers solutions that will help managers do better.

Jerry Hagan Director GlaxoSmithKline