

## LAND MANAGEMENT

For years people have sung the hymn about England's green and pleasant land and with this I agree as the British landscape has inspired my interest in land and property management, in particular the sustainable interaction between our precious environmental landscape and the need for humans to continue to live and work within it. I have chosen to read this topic to degree level as it has such a broad outlook and will continue to develop my enthusiasm for geography and economics. Additionally this will give me an insight into the legal aspects of land and property ownership and management, as well as nurturing my skills so I am able to enter an industry I am passionate about and want to be a part of.

My home in the countryside has allowed me to understand and appreciate the natural beauty of the world we live in; however, my passion for geography has also shown me when human interaction has worked both against the environment as well as along side it. One case study which was a true highlight for me, whilst studying for my A levels was, the SA1 development site in Swansea, the area before the project was a derelict industrial area that didn't contribute towards any important factors of the urban location it was situated in. As well as affecting the natural environment, however, now the area is vibrant and contributes on an economic and social level, making it an asset to the town.

My economic studies have shown me how the increasing standard of living is taken for granted in modern economics. However the strain can be seen both globally through climate change and the world wide recession as well as on a local level as governments try to create jobs in struggling industries where local people, especially those in rural areas may suffer.

My holiday work for the CLA together with the time I have spent in a local Chartered Surveyor's/Estate Management office, has given me an insight into the practical issues affecting land managers in a more realistic light than the class room has, allowing me to reflect on how mankind's mistakes can be recovered to make the future more positive. I also anticipate doing work experience with the Pembrokeshire National Trust. To discover more about business and enterprise last summer I started my own small business selling home made creams and lip balms made from bees wax and honey, this has enabled me to become more independent and given me greater money management skills.

Participating in the bronze Duke of Edinburgh award provided valuable life skills, enabling me to develop as a person; I now understand the importance of teamwork and dedication to a cause. The scheduled completion of my gold award at the end of October after a tall ship expedition with the RONA sailing project will further allow my confidence to increase as I work and live with people I have never met before, a challenge I am eager to participate in.

The art of horse riding and the sport of trail hunting is something I have enjoyed from a very early age. It has taught me to respect other people and animals as well as instilling responsibility in me.

Perhaps my favourite hobby is photography and over the years I have undertaken projects on water, nature and character.

Having been at full-time boarding school for 9 years I returned home to study for my A levels. This move has further enhanced my communication skills and I have gained confidence and increased my self-assurance by meeting people through school, weekend work in a local pub and waitressing at weddings for a catering company. Membership of the local Young Farmers Club has enabled me to participate in competitions such as public speaking and tug of war.

I have many interests I am a dedicated and hardworking person and I have been rewarded for this by being voted to be a senior prefect. I believe my interests; work experience and academic ability make me a well-rounded individual who will have something unique to offer to this establishment.