Title Research data for PhD Thesis on Advancing Environmental Literacy

Training for Instructors of Outdoor Adventure Activities

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Sensitive information that could identify the participant has been removed from the transcript. The participant’s name has been pseudonymized.

**Interview with Indie**

0:0:0.0 --> 0:0:7.120  
Ella Sutton  
I have some questions. If it doesn't go to the questions, that's fine. If you've got other things you want to say, that's fine. So, my first question is, what were the most valuable bits of the course for you?

0:0:24.0 --> 0:0:29.200  
Indie  
I think that other than having a much better understanding of the breadth of what could be included and, you know, we focused a lot in the past on litter, but to have people looking at fungi and birds and all these other things. I guess kind of redefining what, what nature is, what wild is that was quite useful to me. And also just being aware of that community of knowledge as well. So yeah, I think those were the two best things for me.

0:1:5.310 --> 0:1:18.830  
Ella Sutton  
Nice, cool. I meant to say, actually, before I really- I've used your analogy of the water basins all being linked up few times. I think that's such a nice analogy of like, different places all being linked. I thought I've had to tell you that one!

0:1:20.70 --> 0:1:25.870  
Indie  
Especially at the minute for several at the highest levels ever recorded, yeah.

0:1:25.710 --> 0:1:26.790  
Ella Sutton  
Yeah, yeah. So, how have you used the course in in your job role if you have?

0:1:35.30 --> 0:1:39.230  
Indie  
So I think, I mean we're kind of we're seasonal.And I don't remember exactly when the course was. I think it landed in the middle of our last season.

0:1:47.640 --> 0:1:50.440  
Ella Sutton  
Yeah, I it was about August time, I think.

0:1:50.300 --> 0:2:7.20  
Indie  
Yeah. So, I for us personally, I think we haven't yet had the opportunity for that to kind of percolate into what we're offering customers, what is on the website and all of that is stuff that I need to really think about in the next couple of months about. Whether because I think this is one of the things we talked about on the course is getting that buy in from the clients even before they're on site, so that they know that they're going to be looking at- at birds or whatever they're gonna be doing, a bio blitz or any of those other things just to kinda help manage their expectations. And I think lots of our customers will want to do those things. I just need to kind of refine exactly what those offers are and what it looks like and whether it costs any more or whether it's kind of free bolt ons or whether it's a, you know, an optional like Scavenger hunt thing that's more focused on wildlife. And so I haven't implemented any of those things yet, so if anyone else has and there's like easy hacks or tricks or worksheets, please point me in that direction. But I think in terms of timing for us, adding anything new has to happen over the winter. So that is things in my intro. But we what we did do last year was set up the new Community interest Company, which was specifically to look at environmental stuff as well as kind of disadvantaged franchise groups within the community, and I haven't built that website yet. So when I do that, I think there will be a lot more environmental stuff on there. I think it gave me a little. So we've kind of whitewater clients and smaller coaching groups. I think it gave me a bit more confidence to talk about those things more openly and to try and draw out of people whether they had any of that knowledge or were wanting to know more about those things. But yeah, we've- to our kind of bread and butter big groups and like paying customers. I haven't implemented it yet.

0:4:4.130 --> 0:4:11.90  
Ella Sutton  
And I think in the survey, I think you said you were done a little bit of citizen science stuff. What kind of stuff is that that you've done?

0:4:15.520 --> 0:4:22.760  
Indie  
So we're trying to use insurance Mapper to figure out like where the pennywort is and how quickly it's spreading. Pennywort hasn't been a problem for us at all until like the last 18 months, and that coincides, really, unfortunately with a clearance problem that's happened further upstream. So yeah, I don't want to assume that's a bio security thing and it might just be that it would have spread down the water course anyway. But it's now a problem that's growing so quickly. When we first applied for some funding to kind of help target it, we were talking about isolated kind of 1 metre by 1 metre rafts and now it's established itself in these huge rafts. So then the whole method of collection is different and the amount of money that cost is different. And so yeah, just trying to get to grips with insurance Mapper for best and then we- Oh, as part of the same bid we're trying to use one of the water quality testing kits I can't remember what it's called, but yeah, we need to get our whole kind of coaching team up to scratch with using those kits so that they're happy doing it as and it doesn't become a big draw. It's like a seamless part of their work. So yeah, those are the two things we're kind of trying to do on a citizen science front. I also did- so there's a catchment-based group who kind of meet near us and the last one of those, the Environment Agency and I think Thames Water both attended and interestingly, they both said that they're not yet using any citizen science data. Which was really disappointing and did kind of make it all seem a little bit pointless. So for things like the Pennywort, where it's only going to be us noticing it and us suffering and us tackling it and us trying to get funding for it, then it makes sense for us to know where it is and to track it and to report it and monitor it. But for things like the water quality testing, like if they're not going to care or use the data, then it seems…

0:7:23.500 --> 0:7:28.740  
Ella Sutton  
Yeah, that's insane, isn't it? You wonder why when it's like there is a free resource for them to use.

0:7:29.230 --> 0:7:36.590  
Indie  
It's just a real shame, and it seems that something that needs to kind of happen above my pay grade, really if any citizen science is gonna be useful then it needs to be being done at a standard that's acceptable to the industry. Otherwise it's a bit, yeah.

0:7:50.10 --> 0:7:55.690  
Ella Sutton  
Yeah. Otherwise why encourage to do it? Like you say, there's, you know, just doing it for the sake of doing it is a bit- well, hopefully that might change.

0:8:3.560 --> 0:8:4.40  
Indie  
Yeah.

0:8:4.730 --> 0:8:18.610  
Ella Sutton  
So in terms of when you're talking to the groups that you've got that you're taking out, how comfortable or how confident you feel in talking about nature, do you feel like there's been a change since the course or not particularly?

0:8:22.120 --> 0:8:24.200  
Indie  
Yeah, I think so. I'm trying to think of any good like specific examples or things that we've changed directly because of the course. Yeah, certainly with some paddle boarding clients. They were doing a course which was supposed to be about kind of expedition skills. They were making fires and making shelters and everything else, but then we were talking about kind of the impact of poo and thinking about packing that out with you. So rather than teaching people to dig. Trying to kind of think about, well actually that's not necessarily sustainable and the impact in the long term might be there, say, again in America they're already a little bit better at taking it out with you. Although it's not the- what everyone necessarily wants to talk about, but yeah, we had a poo chat on your behalf. So, there you go!

0:9:41.670 --> 0:9:41.950  
Ella Sutton  
Great! And in general, did you always feel relatively confident talking about things that you're seeing in nature? What you're, what you're doing there and stuff?

0:9:55.660 --> 0:10:25.460  
Indie  
I think so. Yeah. I think one of the things that I raised on the course and that I still have a problem with now is kind of knowing what's best sometimes because you don't want to talk about using, you know, like biodegradable cups over reusable cups over paper cups. And unless you actually know which one has the best footprint and what's best. So I think I'm, I'm still missing a little bit of a resource in terms of what's the, you know what's the consensus amongst the scientific community on the moment as to whether it's better to recycle your kayaks or to use them until they fall apart, by which point they've essentially become microplastics in the environment. Or you know, whether we should be taking a flask with us or taking a Kelly kettle and heating our water on site with you know, I just, I don't know which, if any of those and I guess I am not aware of like a footprint calculator to even let me put in the data to figure out any of those things. So I think I'm still a bit apprehensive to kind of- advocate for best practise on some of those things. Just 'cause. I don't know what the right thing and to some extent that overlaps with the pennywort as well because we've had this huge explosion, but whether it's related or not, I don't have the data to back it up, but the volume of pennywort and the nutrients that's absorbing has correlated with less of the duckweed, so we've got these kind of two invasive species like battling it out. And if we cleared all the pennywort, which is quite easy to collect, are we actually going to make a bigger duck weed problem?

0:11:59.310 --> 0:11:59.430  
Ella Sutton  
Wow.

0:11:59.500 --> 0:12:1.980  
Indie  
And yeah, I just, I don't, I don't know. So it's hard to- it's nice to have those conversations, but also when you don't have any of the answers, it's a little bit like-

0:12:11.540 --> 0:12:20.420  
Ella Sutton  
Yeah. In terms, it doesn't have like obviously specific stuff for outdoor things, but there's a book called how bad are bananas? By Lee Burns. And that he advertises it as this carbon footprint of everything.

0:12:33.220 --> 0:12:33.660  
Indie  
OK.

0:12:33.820 --> 0:12:43.20  
Ella Sutton  
And yeah, it's not specific to kayaking or whatever, but it does have a lot of stuff in and is. I mean, I find it pretty interesting because it's, you just have, sometimes not even a page like half a page of what's the carbon footprint of having a cup of coffee? And then it says, what milk are you using and are you having it take away or having it at home and it gives it in quite a- it's not like technical to read. It's easy to read, and yeah, maybe have a look at it 'cause. I do think that's quite a good one to reference.

0:13:7.810 --> 0:13:8.970  
Indie  
That sounds great.

0:13:10.510 --> 0:13:20.110  
Ella Sutton  
But yeah, in terms of specific things like you say, it's really hard, isn't it, to actually know which when you weigh it all up, like, what is the best thing to do? I don't know.

0:13:22.450 --> 0:13:23.930  
Indie  
Yep, not sure.

0:13:24.490 --> 0:13:29.770  
Ella Sutton  
It's on the similar lines, but in terms of like human impact on the environment. How confident or comfortable do you feel talking about that within your sessions within your activities?

0:13:43.10 --> 0:13:44.250  
Indie  
I think a lot.

0:13:45.990 --> 0:13:56.190  
Indie  
What we do when we are like out collecting litter, that's obviously a like a very relatable, very human, very direct impact. So I think that it is quite a good thing to communicate on, but then when you look at it, some of the things that we find like a toothbrush for example, isn't necessarily like no one's been out walking their dog and just drop their toothbrush in the river. That's indicative of like a bigger problem with our waste systems and whether, you know, like a beanbag split on the street and then that's come into the canal or whether it's blown off a lorry or blown off a landfill site or what it's then you have got that kind of one step removed. It's not the human the like naughty bad human doing the littering. It's like our whole- the waste management systems that we're relying on breaking down, but again, that's all very human. I think where we are operating entirely in an urban area, it's everything we're talking about is that direct human impact rather than anything more natural. Like we can't look at 100 types of beautiful lichen, unfortunately. So yeah, I think that is happening and one of the things that we're hoping- I don't know if I mentioned this in the chat, but did anyone talk about like doing a tampon test with the water?

0:15:23.910 --> 0:15:24.550  
Ella Sutton  
No.

0:15:24.910 --> 0:15:49.830  
Indie  
There's a, so I was trying to find out about what was like the if the water companies weren't gonna use the data from these expensive water quality testing kits, why were we doing that? And if we know that, we're going to find horrendous water quality, like who does that benefit? What does that do? How does that help? And one of the other things that a lady from the catchment group had suggested was tampons, because they're UN bleached. If you dip them in the water and then hold them in UV light, then you can see straight away where the synthetic optical brightness has been used which are in all of our washing powder. So then you know, then it's something that we can tackle directly as customers or as guides or as water users because we can choose to buy a washing powder that doesn't have those optical brighteners in. And all of the associated kind of chemical and environmental issues with those things. So that was one thing that I haven't actually been able to do yet, but I'm hoping to do when we start getting groups on the water again because it's really cheap and it's something that people can relate to a bit more directly and hopefully it'll be like a appropriate level of humour without being gruesome or alienating, as long as they're like previously unused.

0:16:51.790 --> 0:16:54.350  
Ella Sutton  
Maybe even remove some of the stigma of that as well!

0:16:54.740 --> 0:16:58.380  
Indie  
Yeah, exactly. So, yeah, we're hoping to do a bit of that.

0:16:58.840 --> 0:17:1.600  
Ella Sutton  
Oh, that would be really cool. So what are you seeing when it's contaminated?

0:17:2.660 --> 0:17:5.20  
Indie  
I think they glow in UV light.

0:17:5.590 --> 0:17:5.910  
Ella Sutton  
Oh wow.

0:17:6.540 --> 0:17:14.140  
Indie  
Because of the- it’s not bleach. I think it's the optical brightness, but I don't know what the chemical name is for those.

0:17:14.320 --> 0:17:16.640  
Ella Sutton  
No. OK. Pretty interesting!

0:17:16.550 --> 0:17:33.990  
Indie  
Yes, specifically in, like laundry, laundry powders and it's just another one of those things that I guess people assume gets dealt with at the water processing plant. But as we know from the headlines at the moment, they don't seem to be filtering anything out.

0:17:37.140 --> 0:17:42.340  
Ella Sutton  
Yeah, yeah. I mean on a similar vein to that, it's the same with like painkillers and birth control stuff and pharmaceutical stuff is all having an impact on the fish and I always found that amazing like.

0:18:5.670 --> 0:18:6.110  
Indie  
Yeah.

0:17:56.620 --> 0:18:7.660  
Ella Sutton  
And I think it's not a huge amount of research into it at the moment, but the idea that fish are becoming less fertile because of birth control being taken by humans just seems like mental.

0:18:8.270 --> 0:18:8.710  
Indie  
Yeah.

0:18:9.640 --> 0:18:13.560  
Ella Sutton  
But yeah, that sounds like a really cool way to test. It'd be interesting to see how it goes. So in the first survey that you did ages ago before the course, there was a question about whether you feel like the experiences that you lead will change the way clients view nature and the environment.

0:18:35.540 --> 0:18:36.140  
Indie  
OK.

0:18:37.870 --> 0:18:44.150  
Ella Sutton  
How do you think that the experiences that you lead will change the way clients view nature in the environment?

0:18:46.230 --> 0:18:56.310  
Indie  
God, I just wrote a really eloquent paragraph on this recently and can I remember it now. I think it's kind of- I think it works on 3 levels for us I think. People get that, so not necessarily a dopamine hit, but I think they get that direct reward of feeling like they're having an impact. And then I think there's the secondary impact on their purchasing choices going felt forwards so. If they, for example, fish out a load of kind of sandwich boxes and single use pasta packets and that kind of thing, I'd like to hope that next time they're buying their lunch, something in the visual part of their brain, it's like, wait a second. That's a piece of plastic that I don't need to buy. So we haven't got any data to back that up. But I suspect that's happening on some level and then I think there's a third thing that happens when other people and passers-by see groups of people litter picking and you know, see the environment, you know the environment actively being looked after. And sometimes they ask about that and are obviously interested. Sometimes I think they just think, oh, that's nice. But I think even that at a kind of scale when we don't have a good sense of community and we don't have necessarily a sense of pride in some of these urban environments. I think even a little bit of that happening is probably positive. But I don't really know how to measure those things or how to turn any of that anecdotal stuff into science. So we had a a PhD student come down recently who was specifically looking at the social connections and groups formed by environmental work and environmental projects, and it was really lovely because the day she that she came down happened to be like the 10 year anniversary of our little picking group and they were having like a little party. But yeah, there were- in the nicest possible way. Some of those are kind of like oddball people, but they, like a few of them, came and said like this is made such a big difference. I never really left the house before there, so I didn't know anyone in my local area before there. So, I made so many friends through the group so whilst that doesn't have a direct impact on nature, I think it's a kind of tertiary benefit of finding other people who care makes it all seem a little bit less hopeless.

0:21:35.750 --> 0:21:37.270  
Ella Sutton  
Yeah, yeah, definitely.

0:21:37.160 --> 0:21:43.960  
Indie  
Yes. And so, I think some of that stuff is nice. But again, I don't know how to quantify any of that stuff.

0:21:44.210 --> 0:21:45.170  
Ella Sutton  
Yeah, it is hard, isn't it! And especially when you've got, like, people coming in once and then leaving again. Like, if you're never going to see them again. Yeah, like you say, how did you know you can you have a feeling that they've said this or said that, and you think, oh, they might go away and change. But yeah, unless they come back six or months or a year later and said, I've changed this, this and this, it's really hard to know, isn't it?

0:22:14.740 --> 0:22:25.140  
Indie  
I'd say we definitely like more so than anything else that we do. We get repeat customers for litter picks. So corporate customers come back. Organisations book like a series of events for different teams and teams come back year on year so I think they're obviously enjoying it. Whether that speaks to like broader behavioural change, I don't know, but, hopefully.

0:22:57.700 --> 0:23:0.820  
Ella Sutton  
On the latest survey, you said that the course didn't meet your expectation and I was wondering what you were expecting from the course and if anything and if there was a reason why it didn't meet your expectation?

0:23:12.690 --> 0:23:13.450  
Indie  
I think. I don't know have you- if you are familiar with the kind of The XXX system or courses, but I think with many of the other qualifications that I've done, there's kind of like a syllabus that you have to learn and then you like, demonstrate that you've learned that syllabus and then you that's you complete the course. And I think I was very surprised by how kind of welcoming and open. It was like not quite a kind of discussion, but there was no kind of fixed lists of things that we had to look at or cover or learn. It was. It was much more about kind of sharing and thinking about how we build the stuff into practise. And I don't know whether that was just whilst you think about putting the course together or whether it'll always be like that. But yeah, I think it was a bit different from what I expected, a kind of prescriptive course to be.

0:24:26.660 --> 0:24:29.100  
Ella Sutton  
In a good way or a bad way, or just different?

0:24:29.630 --> 0:24:58.550  
Indie  
I think so. I guess the challenges of that is how repeatable it is because if you know you had like we had a really keen bean group on that didn't we? And like there's so much knowledge and there was that Lady who knew like every bird species of the British Isles and the other chap with his amazing like fungus videos. And if you if you had a whole group of people who were completely new to it and didn't know anything know anything, then I don't know what the course would look like. I can't imagine it, but that doesn't mean it wouldn't be great. But yeah, I guess I was expecting more, more kind of like textbook, prescriptive stuff like worksheets or tick lists or anything like that. And yeah, I don't, I don't know if any of that is a bad thing, but yeah, I just it wasn't why I thought it would be, I guess.

0:26:0.760 --> 0:26:2.720  
Ella Sutton  
Yeah ok, that's interesting. Thanks.

0:26:2.760 --> 0:26:12.0  
Indie  
I guess I don't know what the textbook on the course that we did would look like, but if it either takes, maybe that's a good thing, yeah.

0:26:8.520 --> 0:26:16.120  
Ella Sutton

The environment in general is so broad I think it's really hard to say. It's not like a climbing syllabus, is it, where you've got to be able to learn how to be like you've got to be able to how to tie in or whatever. It's like you need to know how to teach about this in the environment that you work in. So it's quite- there's lots of different ways that that can be done.

0:26:56.170 --> 0:27:28.50  
Indie  
Yeah, I think it was really interesting to hear from other members on the course, you know what their challenges were as well. So I think some of them, it was about not going too close to the seals not approaching the wildlife and then thinking about kind of bank erosion and launching. And like you say, like the breadth of things that we have to cover is huge. And even with something that is- should be really simple and really prescriptive. I don't know if you've seen like the ‘Check clean dry campaign’?

0:27:30.270 --> 0:27:30.710  
Ella Sutton  
Yeah.

0:27:32.380 --> 0:27:41.860  
Indie  
They gave us some kits for that and it was just like, had some stickers in it and like this tiny little squeegee bottle. But it didn't identify. It didn't say, you know like, the most dangerous situations as if you're transporting your kayak from 1 waterway to a different waterway or from, you know, saltwater to freshwater or from, you know, an SSSI to an urban waterway or vice versa, and yeah, just like this little bundle of, like, plastic bits and pieces that when you weren't ever gonna be able to clean any size of boat with this like tiny little bottle when there's, you know, there's no public water points anywhere anymore. So like, is it good enough to use the river water to clean it, or does that defeat the point? Like, how long can these things survive without water or if the weed dries out? Does it still survive? Is, is it still a risk? So yeah, I think something that should be as simple as good bio security isn't being done well and doesn't kind of travel particularly well between all of the different venues and clubs and craft and everything else. So to then expand across the whole, the whole of nature, I think you've got a job on your hands!

0:29:22.460 --> 0:29:30.620  
Ella Sutton  
So my last question is, if you're going on various like courses, whether it's for CPD or just for your own interest, what do you what do you take away as valuable? What makes them valuable to you?

0:29:48.60 --> 0:29:56.820  
Indie  
I guess on some selfish level that kind of imposter syndrome thing, so something like a first aid course, if you've done that training, that gives you a little bit of confidence that you have been taught stuff and you do know what to do and you could help someone. So yeah, I think we've like whitewater safety and rescue courses and other coaching courses like I feel a little bit more confident that at least one other person has deemed that I am in fact competent. So I don't know what the word for that is, but I guess, meeting some kind of standard or doing some kind of training is valuable in that respect I think. Enjoying it on some level and being able to recommend it to other people is really important as well. I don't how much you dabble in water sports but alongside British canoeing, there used to be another training organisation called Water Skills Academy.

0:31:10.820 --> 0:31:11.460  
Ella Sutton  
OK.

0:31:11.710 --> 0:31:28.150  
Indie  
And they had a different model. So they had like an entry level instructor award and then they had a guide award and then they had a kind of expedition leader award and guide would be like a day out on the water with your group. And then expedition would be overnighting and things as well.

0:31:33.10 --> 0:31:33.410  
Ella Sutton  
OK.

0:31:33.950 --> 0:31:41.30  
Indie  
But having these much more kind of experiential based awards was specifically great for things like nature for things like leaving no trace for things like ornithology, you know, like when you are guiding people for the day, it's about more than keeping them safe. It's about introducing them to the area and showing them the wildlife and everything else and that that was all part of the ethos of that training body, but this winter, they've collapsed. I think that well, initially they've gone into administration, but I think the whole thing's gone now. Which left this whole group of I think really highly qualified professionals who had all of that skills and knowledge and experience but didn't have any Canoe Wales or British canoeing qualifications.

0:32:28.880 --> 0:32:29.360  
Ella Sutton  
Right.

0:32:29.840 --> 0:32:36.800  
Indie  
And one of the things during all of that like shitstorm that I was trying to say was that Canoe Wales have got this kind of- embryonic isn't the right word now, but they have got this environmental learning course which would cover lots of the things that used to be covered to some extent in in the Water Skills Academy Awards and but I think making that applicable and making it, you know when it was like one element within a guiding award, it was like, well, of course it makes sense to talk about birds whilst you're guiding people on the river within the format of canoe Wales. It's a little bit harder to figure out where to bolt in all of the really good stuff that's on your course because should people do it when they first do an instructor course or should they do it when they start coaching or when they start leading or when they start, you know, looking after adults or should everyone be doing it? And should people be doing it even if they're not interested in the environment? So I think, where to put that stuff is something that canoe Wales need to kind of think about. Have they incentivised it with some like CPD points or something at the minute? But you know, who have they made it available to.

Ella Sutton  
Yeah.

0:34:34.970 --> 0:34:40.610  
Indie  
And across climbing and across coasteering and across skiing and- that content is totally portable, isn't it? And it could be across all of the bodies and recognised for that. And I think all of that would be really good 'cause ultimately it's frustrating when you come across people like working in the outdoor but then they're using like those single use like fuel gel, you know, energy things, yeah.

0:35:28.930 --> 0:35:29.330  
Ella Sutton  
Yeah.

0:35:10.740 --> 0:35:37.300  
Indie  
What are they? There's like sugar packets and yeah, for lighting their fire with, like, the little chemical fire starters. And there's, like, so many things where you just like you, the ethos isn't there, like, underpinning your work. I mean, you can't go around saying that to people. But yeah, it would be lovely if it was a little bit like the first aid where it was like a usual bolt on that was really recognised and appreciated by everyone and, yeah.

0:35:40.480 --> 0:35:49.240  
Ella Sutton

Yeah, hopefully across all activities, it almost, yeah, the way I saw it was like an environmental first aid course which hopefully could be widespread, but we'll see.

0:36:37.620 --> 0:36:38.460  
Indie  
That'd be brilliant.

0:36:41.650 --> 0:36:48.410  
Ella Sutton  
Cool. That's all my questions. Is there anything you wanted to say otherwise?

0:36:55.40 --> 0:36:56.200  
Indie  
I don't know, I guess I- and again I think we maybe talked about this during the course was having some kind of like forum or page or group or like somewhere we could share some of the ideas or like briefings or lessons that worked really well because I didn't know that guys videos on the train existed and I don't know if I'd even be able to find them again now. So like somewhere that, that, that stuff exists together would be a useful resource, but I don't know where and you don't want to like reinvent the wheel if that stuff already.

0:37:29.760 --> 0:37:35.200  
Ella Sutton  
I don't know how many people are involved in IOL? Are you a member of IOL- Institute of Outdoor Learning?

0:37:36.220 --> 0:37:38.620  
Indie  
Institute of learning… I have heard of it. There's- I'm trying to think- I think we had a school group who cancelled a booking because we weren't registered with IOL, but then when I looked at it, it was something like £1000 a year to be a member.

0:38:1.260 --> 0:38:1.460  
Ella Sutton  
Oh.

0:38:2.70 --> 0:38:3.270  
Indie  
If it's the one that I'm thinking of, yeah, I think it was about £1000 a year to kind of get registered. And then to kind of keep renewing your registration and for us it just wasn't going to be worthwhile to have additional flagship. And again I spoke to British canoeing about this and they said that they used to be involved with the programme, but they're not anymore. So then it was like well, its because the Institute of outdoor learning were recognising some of the ski association's qualifications, and they were recognising some climbing qualifications. So then you kind of got automatically ticked off for these things, but without British canoeing supporting the scheme, it would have been extra difficult for us to go through that because we'd have had to, you know, like essentially prove that we had met all of these different criteria.

0:39:0.740 --> 0:39:4.500  
Indie  
So yeah, I think I think it's a nice idea, but whilst it's just a kind of pyramid scheme, it's hard.

0:39:6.850 --> 0:39:13.810  
Ella Sutton  
Yeah, well, the only reason I was mentioning it is because I know they have forum pages which haven't- I joined the environmental ones and actually haven't really seen any activity on them yet but-

0:39:20.720 --> 0:39:21.360  
Indie  
Oh gosh.

0:39:22.90 --> 0:39:39.290  
Ella Sutton  
Yeah, but and I was just thinking, you know, if there's a forum that exists, it would be good if people used it. But at the moment, it doesn't seem to be being used and almost maybe it'd be better to have something like within, like canoe Wales hosting it so that it was canoe stuff and mountain training, hosting one or whatever.

0:39:39.900 --> 0:39:46.380  
Indie  
I think the one we were looking at was learning outside the classroom actually, so maybe it's different body completely. I'll have a look at the Outdoor Learning Forum. Yeah, it's a shame with anything like that. It's got to be well used, hasn't it to be a kind of valuable resource.

0:39:59.420 --> 0:40:9.100  
Ella Sutton  
Yeah, yeah. It's a bit of a circle, isn't it? Enough people have to know about it, for it to get used. And then, yeah, until that happens, it's a bit dead. But yeah, it will see 'cause if we can get something going on. Like British canoe hosting a forum somewhere then I feel like that would be quite easy to access because everybody would already be using the Canoe Wales website.

0:40:25.270 --> 0:40:25.830  
Indie  
Yeah.

0:40:26.510 --> 0:40:30.30  
Ella Sutton  
And the same for the other governing body organisations or something.

0:40:30.940 --> 0:40:36.820  
Indie  
Well, canoe Wales have got like a paddle symposiums coming up. So at an event like that, having like an environmental workshop as part of that would be really great because everyone's kind of there to learn anyway and like keen to do some stuff. But yeah, online I don't. I don't really know where people do share it.

0:41:3.170 --> 0:41:3.810  
Ella Sutton  
No.

0:40:59.860 --> 0:41:4.620  
Indie  
There's not even a good one for like canoe games that I know of, so. And everyone needs inspiration for games all the time, so I'm not sure.

0:41:11.740 --> 0:41:23.20  
Ella Sutton  
Well, I'll keep an eye out and also there's hopefully by the time like I've written bits up, then there'll be some, like material that might be helpful as like key cards or whatever which when I get round to doing, I'll send them out! Ok well that's everything for me.

0:41:30.560 --> 0:41:37.760  
Indie  
Magic. Thank you so much and good luck with it all. Keep me posted if there's anything exciting going on.

0:41:37.880 --> 0:41:41.560  
Ella Sutton  
Yeah, will do. And good luck with the tampon exercise!

0:41:41.990 --> 0:41:45.670  
Indie  
Yeah, I'll just have to do a YouTube video on that one, won't I?

0:41:47.560 --> 0:41:49.480  
Ella Sutton  
Who knows what you might find there!

0:41:50.410 --> 0:41:52.930  
Indie  
Brilliant. Thank you. Have a good night.

0:41:51.30 --> 0:41:54.70  
Ella Sutton  
Thank you very much! Bye.