

MATTHEW BLAIR-VINCENT

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Trainee cybersecurity professional with strong foundations in SOC analyst skills: log analysis, threat detection, and incident response. Former Parachute Regiment soldier with 9 years' service, including Herrick 8 (Rifleman) and Herrick 13 (Intelligence Cell). International experience training anti-poaching rangers in the DRC (2016–2020) and supporting undercover infiltration operations against wildlife trafficking in South Africa. Now serving in the Royal Artillery Reserves while completing Google Cybersecurity Certificate, Immersive Labs, and TryHackMe; preparing for CompTIA Security+. Seeking an entry-level, hybrid or remote SOC role to apply analytical, investigative, and threat-hunting skills.

CLEARANCES AND QUALIFICATIONS

- Held Security Check (SC), Counter Terrorist Check (CTC), and NATO Secret clearances during service.
- MOD Information Assurance Training – Defence Information Management Passport & Protecting Information (secure handling of sensitive/classified data).
- Tactical Intelligence (Afghanistan) – intelligence collection, analysis, and reporting.
- Ground Sign Awareness Instructor (2015) – tracking and pattern recognition.
- BTEC Level 3 Award in Education & Training (2018) – qualified instructor.
- BCS Level 2 Certificate in IT User Skills (ECDL Extra, 2016).
- ILM Level 2 Award in Team Leading (2010).
- OCR Level 2 Certificates in Adult Literacy & Numeracy.
- Operational Service Medal (Afghanistan, with clasp).

CORE SKILLS

- **Security Operations (SOC):** Practical experience with log analysis, threat detection, and documenting incidents through labs and training.
- **Cybersecurity Training:** Hands-on labs via Google Cybersecurity Certificate, TryHackMe, and Immersive Labs (network traffic, malware, risk assessment).
- **Threat & Risk Analysis:** Background in reconnaissance and tactical intelligence (HUMINT/OSINT/infiltration) — transferable to identifying cyber threats and adversary behaviour.
- **Information Security & Assurance:** Information Security & Assurance: MOD training in secure handling of sensitive/classified data.
- **Leadership & Instruction:** Qualified instructor (BTEC L3 Education & Training, ILM Team Leading) with international training delivery experience
- **Languages:** English (native), French (professional working proficiency)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Royal Artillery Reserves | Present

British Army

- Support unit training and operations while developing transferable cyber skills.
- Maintain readiness, teamwork, and problem-solving under pressure.

Parachute Regiment – Reconnaissance & Tactical Intelligence | 2007-2016

British Army

- **Herrick 8:** Rifleman on frontline operations in Afghanistan.
- **Herrick 13:** Intelligence Cell – produced intelligence reports, risk assessments, and briefings.
- Conducted reconnaissance, HUMINT, and risk assessments for operational planning.

Private Security/Training (DRC & South Africa) | 2016–2020

Endangered Species Protection Agency

- Trained and mentored anti-poaching ranger units in French across the DRC.
- Conducted undercover intelligence operations against illegal wildlife trafficking networks in South Africa, applying HUMINT and OSINT to identify actors and assess risk.

Co-Founder & Director | 2020–Present

Oceander CIC

- Co-founded a social enterprise providing housing in Sunderland.
- Oversaw compliance, safeguarding, GDPR, and property portfolio management.
- Manage property portfolio, contracts, and secure digital documentation.