

Dr Simon Ewing-Jarvie

RESUME

I am an intellectual magpie. I love finding shiny, interesting ideas and taking them back to my nest to show to wife, children and cats (and anyone else passing by). Often, I combine several of these ideas together for someone else that wants to do business better and I call this consulting. For the last few years, the topic is organisational leverage with a particular focus on disruptive strategy, business war games and experiential learning simulations.

In reality, consulting isn't a great term for what I do because I am a serial disruptor. Not in a bad way, mind you. I'm referring to disruptive strategy – asking why not – challenging old ways of doing things. Now, as you can imagine, this caused a few problems in my early life as an Army officer although, surprisingly, far fewer on peacekeeping operations or in the field generally when there are far less forms to fill in (I don't do forms). Even I would admit that my brief mid-life crisis as a commercial pilot and skydiving instructor wasn't the place to try disruptive innovation. As a human resources manager I found training and employee relations to be excellent environments for testing new ideas although some of the outcomes were interesting.

Yes, I even dragged my disruptive persona all the way through university (both learning and teaching) but according to Miss Manners, you shouldn't call people with PhDs (like me) 'Doctor' because medical people don't want us to be mistaken for someone that has learned how to treat fungal growth between the toes. I thought politics would be a hotbed of good disruption but there were more forms and rules than the Army (and less of most of the good things). So it's back to disrupting the business world! There's a serious list of former jobs on my LinkedIn profile page.



My business partner, Heather Roy, and I have two companies. **Torquepoint** is a business consultancy specialising in the commercial application of military planning, testing and teaching techniques – from Business War Games used to develop and test strategy through to experiential learning programmes. **Black Swans** is a member-based organisation that provides 'players' (competitors, regulators, consumers, media etc) exclusively for Torquepoint business war games.

I'm married to Julia and we have 3 children. We live in Wellington.

And in case you're interested, recreation for me usually involves a boat, a fishing rod and a roll of duct tape (the latter for fixing either of the other two as required). I also play the bagpipes, guitar/bass guitar, double bass and steelpan drum, grow chillies and do my best to ensure that NZ's whisky supplies maintain their high quality standards.

I can be contacted via email at simon@torquepoint.co.nz or cell 021 887 674. I'm also on LinkedIn (www.linkedin.com/in/simonewingjarvie/), Twitter (@rogestrategist) and Instagram and welcome new follows or connections (just tell me how you know me please!)

