Becky Wicks

35 Danemead Grove, Northolt, Middlesex

Email: <u>beckywicks@me.com</u>
Web: <u>www.beckywicks.com</u>

Who am I?

A British published author, freelance on-and-offline creative writer with global advertising, radio and magazine experience. I'm looking to find something more permanent and equally exciting in London.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2011 - 2013 HarperCollins Author

'Latinalicious - The South America Diaries, published December 2013, HarperCollins

Third in the travel trilogy! This time I hiked, trekked and traipsed around Brazil, Ecuador, Colombia, Argentina, Chile, Bolivia and Peru on a nine month travel diary-writing adventure. Ask me about the snorers on buses...

'Balilicious - The Bali Diaries', published in December 2012, HarperCollins

Sequel to Burqalicious, this time documenting six months in Bali. From shaking ashrams, to healers with cellphone addictions, to raw food revolutions and ghost-hunting on the Gili islands. Sometimes you have to lose yourself completely to find yourself.

'Burgalicious -The Dubai Diaries', published Feb 2011. HarperCollins

(Rights sold in Australia, New Zealand, China, Russia, Poland, Germany, Slovenia, North America & Canada)

A diary account of two years in the sandpit, documenting the rise and fall of the economy through the eyes of an online entertainment editor/copywriter in the ad industry. And lots of champagne.

2011 - Ongoing

Freelance Copywriter & Social Media Coordinator

I've added SEO driven travel and lifestyle copy to thousands of websites for a multitude of freelance clients including Expedia, PayPal, Yahoo Travel, Bank of Dubai, Concierge Traveller, NineMSN, FOXTEL, Tourism NSW, JumpOnIt/Living Social, Jacobs Creek, IKEA, Microsoft, PayPal/eBay Australia, CNNGo, Live4 Australia, Durex, TheTravelEditor.com and Kodomo.com.

Magazines include: Time Out Dubai, Emirates in-flight magazines, TNT Australia, OK! Magazine, eBay Life Magazine, Hello and Sydney Morning Herald.

Feb 2010 – August 2011 Online Content Editor

Nova 96.9, DMG Radio, Sydney

- Collaborating with breakfast and night-time presenters and producers to create exclusive Nova show content, transferable online.
- Writing SEO driven feature articles on music news, celebs, entertainments and events.
 Photographing and filming bands in studio and on location.
- Social networking relevant content, driving traffic to exclusive Nova videos/photos/articles following studio guests and events.
- Extensive use of Photoshop, plus sound and video editing software

Leo Burnett & BBDO Dubai

- Extensive copywriting and conceptual work on Mercedes, Emirates Airlines and Emirates Holidays, Galaxy, Tatweer (Universal Studios, Dubai Healthcare City, Tiger Woods, etc), McDonalds, General Motors (Chevrolet & Cadillac), Kelloggs, Jazeera Airlines, Laughing Cow, National Bank of Dubai, Du Telecom, P&G.
- Work includes above and below-the-line (radio and TVC script-writing, brochures, print ads, company branding, web-copy), brainstorming new briefs in teams, conducting research, compiling creative ideas for in-house pitching, working on company initiatives, attending radio and TVC edits, dealing with client services on a daily basis. Working to strict deadlines.

July 2007 - March 2008 Online Celebrity Editor

Ahlanlive.com, (HELLO) ITP, Dubai, UAE

- Managing pre and post launch of new website in association with the biggest selling magazine in the Middle East - celebrity and fashion title 'Ahlan!' 240,000 unique users per month since launch.
- Writing and sending three weekly newsletters to 16,000 newly acquired subscribers
- Reporting on Dubai's 'local celebrity' scene, nightlife, news, events, launches and growing entertainment opportunities. Social networking to drive traffic.

April 2005 – June 2007 Online Entertainments Editor lastminute.com, London, UK

- Working within CRM and Marketing departments to determine product and content for targeted 'smart tips' and weekly newsletters lastminute.com (2.8 million subscribers), Something for the Weekend (280.000)
- Liaising with PR/West End theatres and writing content on coinciding blogs / video diaries. Managing theatre and travel blogs.

Dec 2003 – Feb 2005 Features Editor

Block Magazine, (Community & Arts) Brooklyn, New York, USA

Researching and writing features about local events, places and people in the Brooklyn community.

Oct 2002 - Dec 2003 Editorial Assistant

SW Magazine, Highbury Local Publications, London, UK

 Writing feature and advertising copy for publication, including restaurant reviews and London happenings

Sept 2001 – Sept 2002 Intern/Admin Assistant
Fluid Post, New York, USA

- First point of contact for front of house.
- Daily administrative support for the team, including managing company database

EDUCATION:

- Mountbatten Internship Programme, NYC Certificate of Int'l Business, Cambridge University (LEB)
- University of Lincolnshire and Humberside BA Hons Degree in Media Production, (classification 2:1)
- Boston College, Lincolnshire BTEC National Diploma in Media / AS Level Photography
- Gleed Girls Grant Maintained School, Spalding 9 x GCSE's