



# NICK LOUGHLIN

**CURRENT ROLE: HEAD OF COPY, MEDIAWORKS**

## CAREER HISTORY

After Sixth Form and a Journalism course, I joined The Northern Echo and was soon appointed Sports Editor. I spent over 20 years in the role, covering Football, Cricket, Golf, Rugby and more. I have reported on Pools games, both home and away – covering over 1000 games over the years. I was made Teesside Editor at The Northern Echo, before leaving in October 2020 and joining Paul Gough Media in Hartlepool where I produced PR and publications for both the Physio and Media business in the UK and America. From there I started at Mediaworks, a Digital Media agency in July 2022.

## 3 EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS NEEDED IN CURRENT ROLE?

### COMMUNICATION

The ability to talk to people, to be able to interview them confidently, is vital.

### WRITING

A high standard of English is important working in the media.

### TEAMWORK

No-one likes to work alone – being part of a team and leading a team of writers is a huge part of working in the media.

## WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT YOUR CURRENT ROLE?

I was fortunate to spend over 20 years watching and writing about Pools – who wouldn't enjoy that?!

## HAPPIEST MEMORY OF HTCS?

I was lucky to come back for one final time before the old buildings were demolished – and the same smells and sensations came back to me 30-something years later!

## 3 WORDS TO DESCRIBE HTCS?

Enjoyable, challenging and regimented (or it certainly used to be!)

## WHAT PIECE OF CAREERS ADVICE WOULD YOU OFFER TO YOUR 16 YEAR OLD SELF?

Listen to your advisors (and teachers) and take in their advice: they know a lot more than you, and in time you will appreciate just how much more....

## WHAT OPPORTUNITIES WERE OPEN TO YOU IN YOUR CURRENT ROLE?

It allowed me to get to know players and managers and not just watch them, but to become friends with many over the years.

## HOW CONNECTED WAS YOUR POST-16 STUDY?

The NCTJ course is for the more traditional media – newspapers, etc – but it is now adapting to cover digital content. There's so many more openings in media these days, but more in newer forms such as digital publishing, which is a whole new and ever-growing world. I was able to follow my plan of being a sports journalist, but these days there's so many more openings in different areas available and wanting to specialise in one area can be very limiting in 2022.