



**Our Team**



### Chris Proud – Director

Chris is our Founder and can generally be found on site making sure everything we do is to the high standards our clients have come to expect.

Having started working in the outdoors in 2000 his passion for sharing the outdoors moved towards the construction of ropes courses. In 2005 Chris and Peter (our engineer) first started working together on projects in the Ropes Course Construction Industry.

Chris fast built a reputation for delivering great service soon meant the company were delivering projects in over 15 countries and gaining a reputation for delivering on time, on budget and to a great standard.

In 2014 Chris took on the challenge to open the longest and fastest zip wire in Europe, Zip World, initially supporting all technical and operational areas then becoming the Head of Technical Operations.

Chris's reputation spread wider than just the world of High Ropes and Zip Wires when in 2017 he was selected to join the Adventurous Activities Industry Advisory Committee, the outdoor industries lead body for safety and standards in the UK. In this capacity he worked on the latest revision on the UK Ropes Course Guide issued in 2021.

In 2020 7x19 was born and Chris continues to play a pivotal role in our sector as well as ensuring the same quality and service remains at the heart of what we do.



### Asa Gurden – Director

The most recent member to join our team Asa can be found making sure potential clients think of 7x19 first and ensuring we fully understand requirements so that we deliver great service.

Asa started working in the outdoors in 1998 with the intention of staying for one season, over 25 years later he still enjoys the thrill of seeing people young and old experience adventures.

Before joining 7x19 Asa spent 17 years leading a group of outdoor centres for the UK's largest youth organisation, The Scouts, working with over 120,000 people a year by the time he left in 2023. During his time working for The Scouts he over doubled the size of the operation and contributed to the wider charities strategic development as well as organising high profile events such as Royal Visits, Celebrity Adventures, The Big Help Out and the Lying in State of HM The Queen.

Prior to working in the charity sector Asa worked for some of the biggest outdoor education providers in the UK developing products for education and activities for the leisure market working both internally and consulting for brands such as Center Parcs (UK and Europe) and First Choice Holidays.

Asa is also Trustee of the Institute of Outdoor Learning (IOL) and Chair of the Outdoor Advisory Board (OAB) which brings together key outdoor organisations with the aim of being the "voice" of the sector to parliament, education and the wider public.



### **Brie Proud – Director**

Brie is our project manager, finance and HR guru and can generally be found making sure everything is going smoothly from the office in North Wales.

Brie started working in the outdoor sector in 2000 first as an Instructor before progressing into operational management roles.

In 2005 Brie delivered work-based learning qualifications for outdoor instructors across multiple sites, helping individuals get the most from the early years of their careers.

In 2015 Brie became the Head of Strategic Planning for a fast growing adventure tourism provider in the UK. As is typical fast growing organisations Brie quickly had to get to grips with IT projects, HR Law, Sales and Marketing and much more. No doubt her success in juggling this wide range of projects contributed to the fast growth of the organisation.

Brie has always been the organised one and in 2017 proved this by gaining APM Project Management Qualification and continues to keep all of us at 7x19 doing the right tasks at the right time whilst also being a key point of contact for clients and, sorry, making sure the invoices get to you promptly.



### **Peter Ducane – Consulting Engineer**

Peter is our consulting engineer, helping us design everything we build at 7x19 as well as providing innovative solutions to the many challenges we throw at him.

Peter actually first got involved in the construction of High Ropes courses as a teenager as we worked with a construction company building projects across the UK and Europe before University and during his summer holidays, whilst we are sure he didn't realise this at the time this clearly started what would become a passion in the future.

Having qualified as an engineer in 2001 having won the RW Mann Prize twice and the Cassie Prize for Design he went to work in the oil industry.

It wasn't long before his knowledge of construction in the High Ropes industry and his engineering qualifications came together, in 2006 he worked as Chief Engineer for Dropzone undertaking structural design of ropes courses and climbing walls, advanced analysis and structural design of long span zip wires and mechanical design and manufacturing of climbing equipment.

In 2017 Peter became a self-employed Consulting Engineer and has been responsible for the engineering and design of the longest and fastest zip wires across the globe from the Middle East, Asia and, closer to home, Zip World.