



What is your personal path?

Dr David Rees. March 2026

One of seven boys An identical twin



Introspection (for me and you)

- Who am I?
- What do I want to be?
- How do I get there?
- What are my values?
- What is happiness?
- What do I leave behind me?

Dialectical Materialism

Normally for society – but also individually.



Education

- Boarding school from 8 – 13 (England)
- Boarding school from 13-18 (Scotland)
- Loughborough University (Master's degree in Economics and Social Psychology)
- Worcester College of Higher Education
PGCE (CAPES) in Economics and English
- DEA (Bordeaux University) Pedagogy
- PhD (Doctorat) (Montpellier University)
Pedagogy

Early Interests

- Ornithology, herpetology,
- Plants
- Experimentation
- Fishing
- Photography
- Music (Clarinet)
- Sports – golf, sailing, athletics, rugby, hockey, roller hockey, skiing, cross-country, cricket, badminton etc.

Curious

Competitive

Determined

Rebellious

Follow your heart

- I started my first company aged 10. '*Home Farm Products*' selling my plants at fairs.
- Horticulture and Landscaping didn't exist at the time at university. I wanted to do an HND (BTS) in horticulture. Parental refusal.
- I had to go to university where I studied Economics and Social Psychology, then a PGCE (CAPES) in Economics and English
- After 10 years as a teacher, I left to Portugal to follow my dream and become a landscaper
- I left with my ex-wife and two babies for a very low salary in Portugal



Products

I quit my second job (head of ornamental plant production in a big nursery) to create my own company.

Two companies. One for tourist products, one for landscaping

Landscaping



'Top-end' landscaping for wealthy British, Dutch, German and American clients in the Algarve, the south of Portugal.

Landscaping



Landscaping



Landscaping



Landscaping



Running a Company

- Finding your market – client profile
- Employment Policy
- Learning – language, technical competence, negotiation, management, accountancy
- Creating products – production, pricing, distribution, evolution.

Family



Family



Jardim de Tavagueira



Jardim de Tavagueira



Why Leave Portugal?

- Children's education
- My wife's health
- The landscape market

Arrive in France

- What future career? (Epistemic distancing)
- Learn French (APTIRA)
- Re-education (Master and PhD)

Balancing

- Work (INHP) training future engineers and ESSCA (visiting lecturer)
- Family - remarriage
- Sport – Golf (president 2FOpen49)
- Music – Jazz group 'Blue Moon'
- APLESAV – President
- Associations - (Monde Diplomatique 49, Economistes Aterrés)

France



France



Golf Corpo



Blue Moon





Blue Moon

Micro-Company

Retired from the Ministry of Agriculture in 2022

Continue working at ESSCA

Started a micro-company

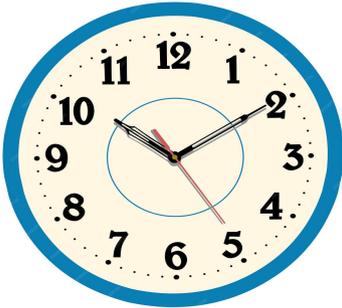
Advisor for the application of Economics and
Politics (Brussels Think Tanks)

Conferences (Anjou) on Economics and Politics

Landscape advice and design

Plant production

Balancing values?



That's my life

What will yours be?