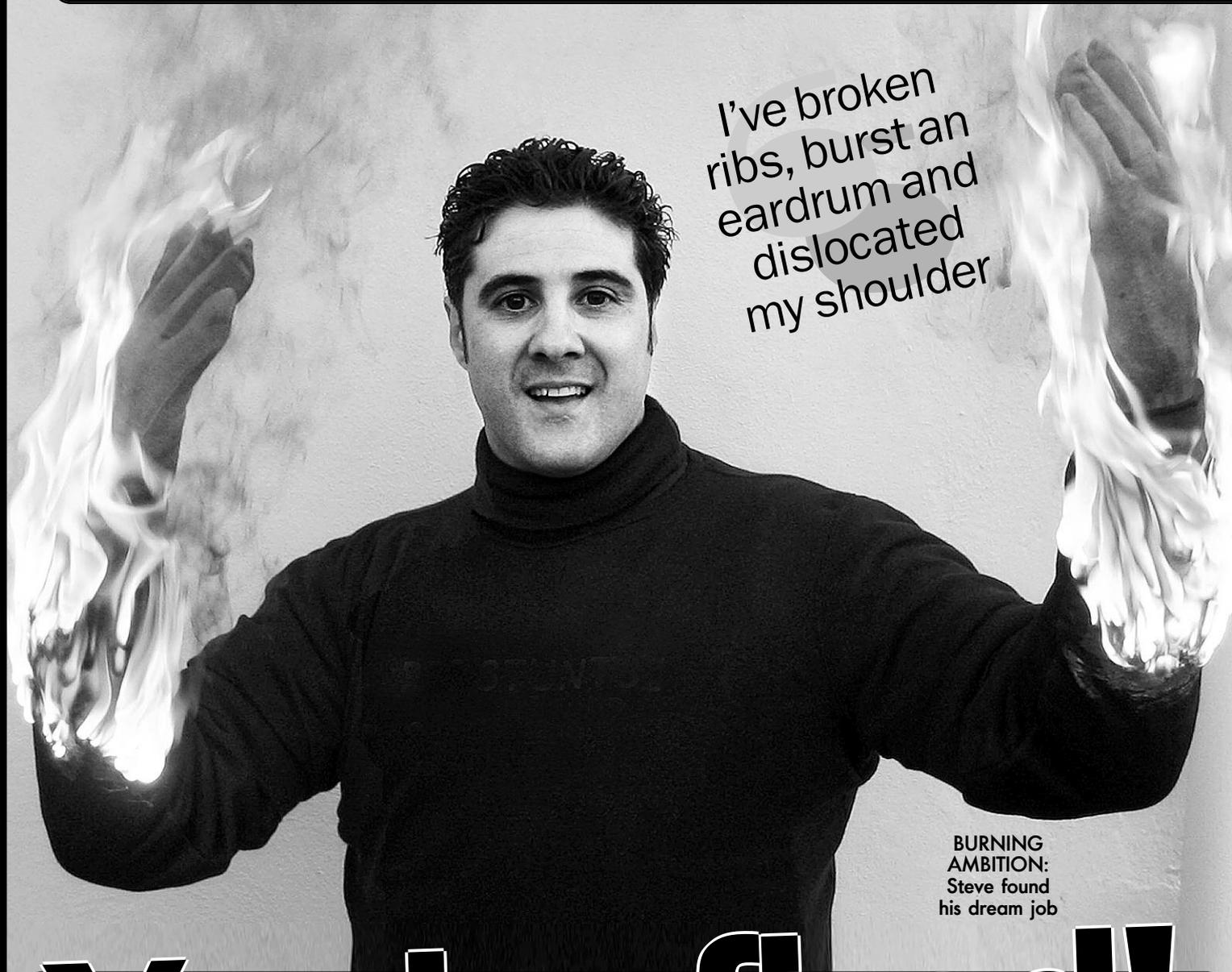


MirrorWORKS

CAREER AHEAD WITH YOUR JOBS SECTION

EDITED BY TRICIA PHILLIPS



I've broken ribs, burst an eardrum and dislocated my shoulder

BURNING AMBITION:
Steve found his dream job

You're fired!

...AND BLOWN UP, THROWN OFF BUILDINGS.
THE LIFE OF A STUNT PERFORMER IS RISKY

By TRICIA PHILLIPS

AS Steve Truglia sets off for work each day, he knows there's a chance he might not come home.

But working in the glamorous world of blockbuster movies and top TV shows also has its plus points. "My job as a stunt co-ordinator and performer can be life-threatening and dangerous, but I love it," says Londoner Steve, 39.

"From stunts that will bruise me, or ones that could kill - I never know what I'm going to be doing. It's part of the buzz.

"I've never had any really serious injuries but I've had a few knocks along the way.

"I've broken several ribs, dislocated my shoulder, burst an eardrum and had minor burns," he says.

In a way then it's fitting that Steve's first stunt job was on Bond movie *Tomorrow Never Dies*. "I couldn't believe my luck - amazing," he says. "I've also worked on *The World Is Not*

Enough and with some of Hollywood's best - including Tom Hanks and Matt Damon in *Saving Private Ryan* and Catherine Zeta-Jones and Sean Connery in *Entrapment*."

As a young man Steve didn't know what he wanted to do. He spent years doing all sorts of work then 12 years ago he joined a stunt register and found his dream job.

"In a way I've been training to be a stunt performer all my life. I've always enjoyed extreme sports and did martial arts, boxing, motor racing and climbing," he says.

"To get on the register you have to excel and be assessed in six different sports. I realised I could do all the things that I loved - and get paid for it!"

Steve is now planning a world-record-breaking stunt to parachute from the edge of space. The current record, set in 1960, is 102,000ft - and he wants to go 20,000ft higher. As part of his training, Steve is attempting a European parachute record with a 52,000ft jump next year.

His most dangerous job was a

much shorter drop - a backwards high fall from almost 100ft.

"It was unbelievably exciting and intense, but from that height the air bag I was supposed to land on looked like a wallet, surrounded by concrete," he says.

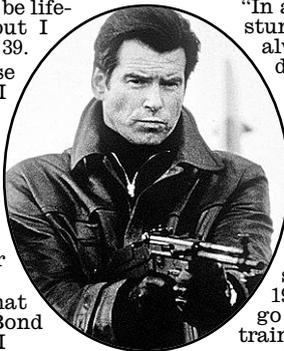
Closer to home, you've probably seen Steve's work on TV. He says: "I'm resident stunt driver on *Fifth Gear* and have appeared on shows like *The Bill* and *Soldier Soldier*."

Asked if he's crazy to risk his life every day, Steve replies that his work is planned meticulously. He does a recce of all locations, second-guessing any potential dangers, and always prepares a risk assessment.

In fact Steve is more concerned with copyright theft than safety. He says: "The real danger in this industry is DVD piracy and illegal downloading. It puts thousands of jobs in the UK's film industry at risk."

It took Steve a long time to find his dream job but it was worth the wait. He says: "The joy of finding something you really love is worth the lack of income in the beginning and lifestyle changes to get that job."

● Visit www.prostunts.net and www.spacejump.co.uk for the world record attempt, and www.copyrightaware.co.uk for copyright info.



HIT: Brosnan is 007 in *Tomorrow Never Dies*

Chance to enter film business

AMCOR Flexibles, a Worcestershire firm which produces printed film for the food market, is expanding and taking on 60 new staff.

The company has teamed up with Jobcentre Plus in Evesham to hold an open day next Monday, 1pm to 8pm, to meet people interested in the vacancies as print assistants, wash-up operators, slitters, laminators, plate mounters, stores personnel, engineers, lab technicians, customer service staff, planning and logistics assistants, management accountants and human resources administrators. For more details call 01386 760 560.

□ THERE are more than 50 exhibitors at Jobsolve Live! today and tomorrow. Featured employers at the fair, at Cardiff International Arena, include Picture Financial, 118 118, HBoS and British Gas, plus training organisations, colleges and recruitment agencies.

Their purpose is to help adults improve their career prospects, with advice clinics, seminars and demonstrations.

Running alongside Jobsolve Live! Is Go Wales, an event for students and graduates looking for their first job, gap year opportunities, post-graduate study or just good advice about their future.

Recruiters include Arriva Trains Wales, John Lewis Partnership,

JOB WATCH
OUR WEEKLY ROUND-UP OF VACANCIES NATIONWIDE

Barclays Bank and Sainsbury's and there is advice on CVs, interviews and business start-ups.

Doors open for both events from 10am till 4pm today and from 10am till 3pm tomorrow. Find out more at www.jobserveevents.com.

□ WHAT'S stopping you? That's the question being asked at a free event for women at Jury's Inn, Milton Keynes, on November 14, 10am till 3.30pm.

Organised by Business Link, it is aimed at women who want to work for themselves.

There will be free expert advice and support, confidence building, finance, IT, plus talks from women who have already succeeded in starting a business. To book a place call 01732 878007.

□ BIRMINGHAM City University is hosting a careers recruitment fair on Wednesday, November 14, which is open to all students, graduates and changers.

A wide range of employers will attend, including Next Retail, Carillion, BAE Systems and the Crown Prosecution Service.

The venue is Baker Hall on the university's Perry Barr campus, from 11am till 3pm. Find out more at <http://tinyurl.com/27od74>