



Name: Don Ward
Age: late 40's
Stats: 6' 190lbs
Hair: Dirty blonde/greying
Eyes: Blue

Background:

Born in Arkholme near Lancaster, Don attended Arkholme Church of England Primary School where he received a scholarship for Sedbergh School. He was marked out as a gifted pupil, especially in Maths and Science but was expelled for assaulting the Headmaster who was threatening to cane him. Placed in Morecombe Community High School, he developed his interest in electronics and computers.

He joined the army as a boy soldier on the advice of a careers master and then transferred to the Royal Corp of Signals where he rose to the rank of Squadron Sergeant Major. On attending a lecture about Special Forces and the need for good Signallers, he applied for selection. It was whilst he was training that he met Rufus Stone and they became not just firm friends and colleagues, but comrades on a level only understood by those who have trained and served together.

Don is a 'straight talking northerner', he has no respect of rank or position/title; people have to earn his respect and once that has happened he

is your strongest and most loyal supporter. He is a staunch socialist, exceptionally intelligent with an aptitude for data and analysis, with a love of tattoos, folk music and real ale. An expert climber from days spent in the Lake District as a youth, he also has a keen interest in ornithology and used to collect eggs from some of the highest peaks. This led to several run-ins with the rangers and police. Fortunately one of the rangers convinced him it was better to help the rangers protect the birds rather than endanger them, this fulfilled his love of climbing and gave him even greater access to the birds for research and monitoring.

Typical of a cerebral character – Don is sartorially challenged, thinking nothing of going unshaven for days and wearing clothes for convenience rather than any fashion statement. Being in uniform suited him as he didn't have to think about what to wear and his preference is still cargo trousers and khaki t-shirts.

He married his first wife Mary, at a young age, but it was a loveless marriage, with continual arguments about his deployments abroad and the secrecy involved with his tours, it became one of convenience for both of them.

Whilst still married to Mary he met Orla when he was part of the Directing Staff at the 14th Intelligence Company Detachment (created to combat Irish terrorism). They both risked being RTUd (Returned To Unit) for their affair as any relationships were banned on the selection courses; however, their relationship prevailed and after a relatively amicable divorce from Mary, they married on the island of St Lucia whilst holidaying with their trusted friends Rufus and Steve Hessayon (CIA agent).

On retirement from the SAS it was a natural progression for him to go into business with Rufus and they developed 22Red along with Orla to offer clients a robust service based on skill, experience and integrity.