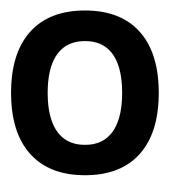
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by Simon Curno



Simon Curno – Secret Agent

The Curno Diaries – Licensed to Chill!



f course, it is impossible for me to speak with you about my life as a Secret Agent. It does after all need to remain secret! Without revealing too much though, I can give you a glimpse into a little of the personal qualities I have and how they

provide the backdrop to my life as Agent 00 Curno. (Of course, names and events may have been changed to protect the innocent.)

I consider myself to be a Barnstaple boy. I grew up here, went to school here, quite happily as I recall. I have a sister, Susan, who lives nearby in Swimbridge. She has a dog. A little dog. And I'm her little brother! I like to visit her and her little dog sometimes. For the past 10 (of my 50+years) I have shared a home with a number of friends at Lawrence House.

Living life in the fast-lane as a secret agent can be exciting. However... I consider myself to be more of a *Licensed to Chill* kind of guy.

Unlike many of the other secret agents with their golf clubs and fast cars, I prefer a quieter life. So, it's down to the Gateway Club to relax with a bit of colouring and maybe a cup of coffee with a chocolate bar. Or an evening of skittles with the Lawrence House Skittle team. I particularly like to set up the pins for the next person. *Attention to detail* is a must for a secret agent. And then crisps (chicken flavour) and a diet coke – neither shaken nor stirred!

Having *the ability to improvise and take on different roles* as needed, is crucial. To keep these skills well practiced, I have Drama club – Many Directions. As it turns out, it's also a lot of fun!

It's also important to me to have *time to myself*. And sometimes I find it difficult to talk, as if something is stuck in my throat. So 'Simon's time', includes most mealtimes when I prefer to eat in *peace and quiet*. Though I do occasionally join the others. And then I'll collect the small plates after a meal, and the cups. Maybe watch some TV.

Things can get pretty serious in my world. Like everyone, I can have my not-so-happy moments. So, I find *a good sense of humour* is important too. For this I keep a large supply of DVDs in my bedroom. Everything from Dad's Army (Stupid boy!) to Rumpole, Carry-On Films, Captain King Kong and Dr. Who. (I like the Daleks -Exterminate!) I have my own personal Tardis in my room too. Oh, and Star Trek - the original ones with James T Kirk.

Of course, *expecting the unexpected* would be high on the list of personal abilities if you're thinking of a career in the Secret Service. For this, I'll just say, I can give a good impression of Basil Brush - Ha ha ha ha, Boom-boom! Or sing the soundtrack to Dr. Who. Now... be honest, did you expect that? I forgot to say, I can be a bit of a joker myself. It's all part of my charm, or so I'm told. And of course, you've guessed it – *Charm* is important!

Keeping your personal life uncomplicated and knowing what you like is a high priority too. If I'm out and about (always *dressing smartly* of course) – shopping for that latest DVD or maybe even some new slippers to relax in, I like to eat out. As in all things, I know what I like and for me, it's always Fish, Chips and Baked Beans...

Look out for the next instalment of ...

The Curno Diaries