
I've not got a job

Posted by boris - 15-05-2008 21:40

Today my team was shown the proposal for its forthcoming restructuring and, to no surprise, my post was not included, and my functions distributed among other posts, both in my team and elsewhere. So, after 13 and a half years in the organisation, I shall (following a 2-week consultation process and a few weeks for things like appeals, meetings, and stuff), in about 6 weeks, be given my 8 weeks notice of redundancy.

I've been thinking about a change for some time (the job's been getting sterile and unchallenging, and the organisation has moved - in my opinion - to being more concerned about brand and image than its core mandate of alleviating poverty and suffering), so I'm definitely regarding this as an opportunity rather than a threat, although it's slightly scary too. The good news is that the redundancy terms are considerably better than the statutory minimum, so I should get a healthy pay-off, providing they don't do something nasty like find me another job in the organisation.

I am therefore now considering my options, which fall, I think, into three categories: find another job (probably the most sensible, even if many of my skills may not be too transferable); go self-employed (freelance editing is probably the favourite, although I kind of fancy running a vegetarian cafe or something similar, but that might be a bit too high-risk); or retire into the poverty into which I fully anticipate becoming accustomed.

This is the second time in my life I've been made redundant (although I accept that, until I actually leave, there is still a chance that they might redeploy me). The first time was when I was a trucky and came after doing the job for 11 months, so I had no entitlements to any compo, and that also proved to be an opportunity, as it gave me the opportunity to become a dossy student for three years. Now, who knows?

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Re:I've not got a job

Posted by Rogin the Armchair Fan - 15-05-2008 21:45

Blimey, boris, sounds like you've pulled yourself together far faster than I would have done, in the circumstances.

Don't forget to shit into a tupperware tray and leave it tucked right under the desk of the boss who's made this decision.

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Re:I've not got a job

Posted by jefe - 15-05-2008 21:57

Or perhaps raw shrimp tossed far back into his heating duct.

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Re:I've not got a job

Posted by hobbes - 15-05-2008 21:59

Heh. I was made redundant along with 50 other people in a company of 200 for the sole reason that the new CEO wanted to impress the shareholders by cutting costs. (They had to start re-hiring 3 months later as they were understaffed.)

On my last day I went to the pub, had a couple of cold lagers then Nitromoors'd the cunt's Porsche.

Good luck Boris. Take a bit of time for yourself and then do whatever feels right.

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Re:I've not got a job

Posted by Femme Folle - 15-05-2008 22:15

Boris is the kind of guy who rolls with the punches, so it doesn't surprise me that he's already looking at the up side.

Good luck, MB. If you're looking for interim work, I'll pay you to clean my flat. Shouldn't take longer than a month.

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Re:I've not got a job

Posted by imp - 16-05-2008 00:19

We're currently looking for a butler, two gardeners, a nanny and a masseuse. Feel to drop me a PM with your application.

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Re:I've not got a job

Posted by Femme Folle - 16-05-2008 01:12

Why do you need two gardeners, for heaven's sake?

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Re:I've not got a job

Posted by Reed of the Valley People - 16-05-2008 02:00

Front and back.

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Re:I've not got a job

Posted by Auntie Beryl - 16-05-2008 04:52

The topic list reads

"I've not got a job" by Boris

For a moment there I forgot I was reading OTF and was instead reading headlines on the BBC News site. My heart leapt.

Oh, and bonne chance, OTF Boris.

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Re:I've not got a job

Posted by The Chubby Cyclist - 16-05-2008 07:15

There's a football club just around the corner who desperately need somebody skilled at alleviating poverty and suffering, Boris. And it could do with a decent vegetarian (or other) cafe, too.

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Re:I've not got a job

Posted by HORN - 16-05-2008 07:18

A vegetarian cafe, eh, boris? I'd have thought Oxford was a suitably bohemian place. Would it be somewhere like Cowley Road? Are there many about in the city now?

I've always wanted to run a cafe (or a caff, if you know what I mean). There's a part of me that envies this development the the chances it presents you with.

Re:I've not got a job

Posted by Bombanero - 16-05-2008 07:37

La Bomba Nera's latest idea for career development (while the commie publishers wrangle over her translating the excellent 'myth of the liberal media' book) is a vegetarian cafe. There are veggie places here, but they're all utter crud. I'm guessing the competition would be a bit stiffer in Oxford, but having thought about it for the last few days, I really really like the idea. Although that might be because it's her in danger of bankruptcy, not me.

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Re:I've not got a job

Posted by Pan Tau - 16-05-2008 07:54

Good luck, boris.

The fucking NGO industry makes me sick sometimes. Branding is great and necessary for funding, of course, but leads to the organisation putting itself ahead of its mandate.

The Nelson Mandela Children's Foundation is just a brand. They may disperse money to valuable projects and all, but it is a good example of empire building. The fucking egos in that outfit; power-tripping cunts everywhere. And, of course, they're not the only ones.

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Re:I've not got a job

Posted by Crusoe - 16-05-2008 07:57

I think congratulations are in order, boris. Sounds like you've been given the opportunity and the motivation to turn a bad situation into a good one and to think about what you'd really like to do - I really could use a similar kick. Good luck in whatever you decide is right for you.

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Re:I've not got a job

Posted by treibeis - 16-05-2008 08:24

On my last day I went to the pub, had a couple of cold lagers then Nitromoors'd the cunt's Porsche.

Alternatively, remove one of his hubcaps, put a pebble in it and put the hubcap back on again. It takes them ages to suss out what's rattling.

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Re:I've not got a job

Posted by ursus arctos - 16-05-2008 08:49

Boris, just a quick note to say that the sheer quality and clear-headedness of your opening post makes me absolutely certain that a) they made a very large mistake, and b) you will make a success of whatever it is you choose to do next.

A word of caution, however. Running an eating establishment of any sort can be a never-ending pain in the ass, though keeping it small and working with reasonable purveyors helps a lot.

Approach with caution and your eyes wide open.

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Re:I've not got a job

Posted by wingco - 16-05-2008 08:50

Yeah, I'd say congratulations too, Boris. Seriously, the one time this happened to me it was a godsend - I was jumping up and down clicking my heels together.

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Re:\ve not got a job

Posted by hobbles - 16-05-2008 08:54

Alternatively, remove one of his hubcaps, put a pebble in it and put the hubcap back on again. It takes them ages to suss out what's rattling.

Alloy wheels, innit?

I reckon the cost of a full respray for his car was about 30% of what the cunt cost me in wages sacking me in a bear market.

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Re:\ve not got a job

Posted by Bill Poster - 16-05-2008 15:29

Sorry to hear about your situation Boris, although it does sound like you were ready for the change and redundancy offers you that opportunity more than resignation.

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Re:\ve not got a job

Posted by boris - 06-08-2008 15:30

Well, it's finally happening. My last day here is Friday 29th August, after which I will allow myself a small holiday (possibly taking in the delights of Ebbsfleet and Northwich) before embarking on the rather nerve-shredding role of freelance copy editor and proof reader (if any of you know of any work available feel free to drop me a line).

I may consider looking for a proper job in the New Year if this line of work doesn't prove too fruitful, but in the meantime it looks like I may have landed myself a nice little book-writing project. I will expand on this once the contract has been signed, just in case it all goes horribly wrong.

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Re:\ve not got a job

Posted by Gangster Octopus - 06-08-2008 15:33

Good luck.

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Re:\ve not got a job

Posted by Eggchaser - 06-08-2008 15:41

I echo the wishes of luck here. Getting put out on yer arse isn't fun, but you seem to have a plan as to what to do next, which is half the battle won already.

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Re:\ve not got a job

Posted by E10 Rifle - 06-08-2008 15:42

PM sent

Re:I've not got a job

Posted by Andy C - 06-08-2008 15:47

Best of luck, boris.

Re:I've not got a job

Posted by Femme Folle - 06-08-2008 15:50

Best wishes from me too.

Re:I've not got a job

Posted by hobbess - 06-08-2008 15:52

Ahh, good luck sir. Enjoy the freedom.

Re:I've not got a job

Posted by Ant van Oviedo - 06-08-2008 15:58

A similar thing will be happening to Mrs Ant in the near future, and we are hoping it will happen sooner rather than later and that she doesn't get re-deployed, as she works for the biggest bunch of wankers in W. Europe. If all goes to plan she will then have the time and opportunity to gather her thoughts and start looking for something more rewarding and worthwhile.

Good luck in whatever you decide to do. Sounds like you're better off.

Re:I've not got a job

Posted by boris - 06-08-2008 16:02

E10 Rifle wrote:

PM sent

Replied. And to Heliotrope. Thanks both.

And thanks to the rest of OTF for your best wishes. For now, it's all good. When I'm wrapped in my last overcoat in my unheated hovel in mid-winter I may change my mind. Still, I've already bought my season ticket, so no panic there.

Re:I've not got a job

Posted by Femme Folle - 06-08-2008 16:05

Are you thinking of using your free time to procreate?

Re:I've not got a job

Posted by Heliotrope - 06-08-2008 16:07

Ahem. I need to stay anonymous online.

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Re:I've not got a job

Posted by La Lanterne Rouge - 06-08-2008 16:08

boris wrote:

Still, I've already bought my season ticket, so no panic there.

Ah. Like me you're planning on burning it for heat in the midst of winter?

Good luck. I'll see you and your flag on Tuesday.

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Re:I've not got a job

Posted by HORN - 06-08-2008 16:10

Yeah, boris, if you make it up to Northwich please let me know. I'll make you a soya sandwich, or summat.

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Re:I've not got a job

Posted by boris - 06-08-2008 20:13

La Lanterne Rouge wrote:

Good luck. I'll see you and your flag on Tuesday.

You'll see it on Friday if you watch the match on the box. Alas not on Tuesday though, because Jason is mascot for that game and so I have to suffer the South Stand Lower with him.

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Re:I've not got a job

Posted by Toro De France - 06-08-2008 20:35

best of luck.

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Re:I've not got a job

Posted by Furtho - 07-08-2008 07:47

I didn't see this thread before. Good luck to you, Boris.

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Re:I've not got a job

Posted by chippy - 07-08-2008 13:01

Hi,

Thanks for the tip-off about this at the Wycombe game. As you know I left the same organisation exactly a year before

you: I think you started a month before me. At least you got a pay-off!

I think the HQ can get up its own arse very easily and your division was one of the worst for it. If you think where you started: making sure the offices had enough money, processing orders for relief supplies, etc. you've come a pretty long way. But also all that work is now done in regions leaving the HQ sometimes at a loss.

It also means that the HQ doesn't have a large programme input (apart from Mrs Boris' dept) and can seem dominated by fundraisers.

You've got some security in terms of your pay-off and Mrs B's salary. So give yourself a chance of doing something useful that you will enjoy.

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