# EPIC Growth Exchange

27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025, Dublin, Ireland



# David Sharkey

Communications Consultant to Stade Rochelle XV, Arsenal Women's XI, Dublin GAA

Communication to drive change in teams and organisation



#### **OVERVIEW**

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01: WHO AM 1?

02: WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM SPORT?

03: WHAT DO I DO?

04: WHAT IS THEMEING?

05: SOUNDS GREAT, BUT HOW DOES IT WORK?



#### 01: WHO AM 1?

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 A COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTANT WORKING IN HIGH PERORMANCE SPORT AND BUSINESS.

• 10+ SPORTS AND COUNTING;

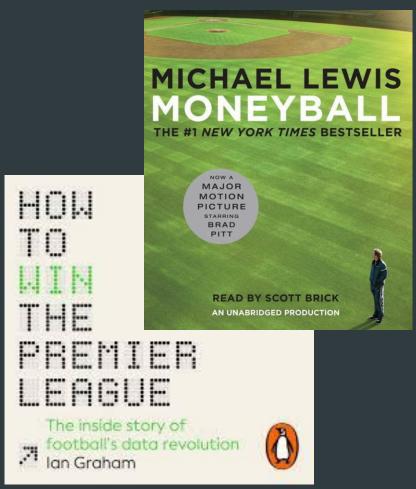
CONSTRUCTION, FOOD & DRINK;
 DIPLOMATS; DOCTORS; FARMING; FINANCE
 AND; HOSPITALITY INDUSTRIES;

USING KNOWLEDGE OF PEOPLE &
 PEDAGOGY, TO HELP LEADERS &
 TEAMS TO MAKE COMMUNICATION A
 COMPETITIVE ADVANTANGE.

#### 02: WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM SPORT?

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- BEHOLDEN TO DATA WITHOUT REALLY KNOWING WHY...
- DATA = PANACEA...OH DEAR...
- DRAWN TO A LIMITED NUMBER OF CONCLUSIONS OR 'THE' ANSWER.
- CAN WE USE DATA TO ASK BETTER QUESTIONS?

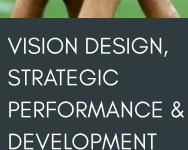


## 03: WHAT DO I DO?

STADE ROCHELAIS AUSTRALIAN 7S RUGBY DUBLIN GAA









COMMUNICATIONS DEVELOPMENT

ARSENAL WOMEN

IRISH HOCKEY







VISION DESIGN &
STRATEGIC
PERFORMANCE

WWW.POLARIS-TEAMS.COM

VISION DESIGN,
STRATEGIC
PERFORMANCE &
DEVELOPMENT

## 03: WHAT DO I DO?

WESTMEATH GAA AIB



**VISION DESIGN &** STRATEGIC PERFORMANCE



VISION WORKSHOP

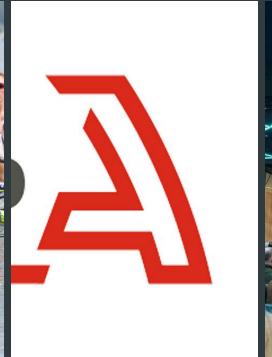
**BRITISH ROWING** 



**VISON WORKSHOP** & BACKROOM TEAM DEVELOPMENT

**ACTAVO** 

THE GAA



DEVELOPMENT & TEAM- CONFERENCE DESIGN WORKSHOP



& COMMUNICATIONS DEVELOPMENT



#### SERVICES

#### 01: CONSULTANCY

ADVICE ON PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF: VISION; KEY MESSAGING; SYSTEMS OF COMMUNICATION & STRATEGY.

#### 02: DEVELOPMENT

HELPING INDIVIDUALS AND TEAMS IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF THEIR COMMUNICATIONS

#### 03: PERFORMANCE

COMPREHENSIVE AND STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION SUPPORT TO HELP TEAMS PERFORM AT THEIR BEST.





### M.V.P.







**VISION** 



**PRESENTATIONS** 



# 04:WHAT IS THEMEING?





BELGIUM GP - SPA FRANCORCHAMPS



**EAU ROUGE** 

40M INC @ 200 MPH

"LIKE GETTING SHOT

OUT OF A CANNON"

MARK WEBBER



#### WHAT'S YOUR EAU ROUGE?

WHAT'S THE FEELING YOU ARE CHASING?



NOT A PERSON OR A THING;

A PERSONAL MOMENT;

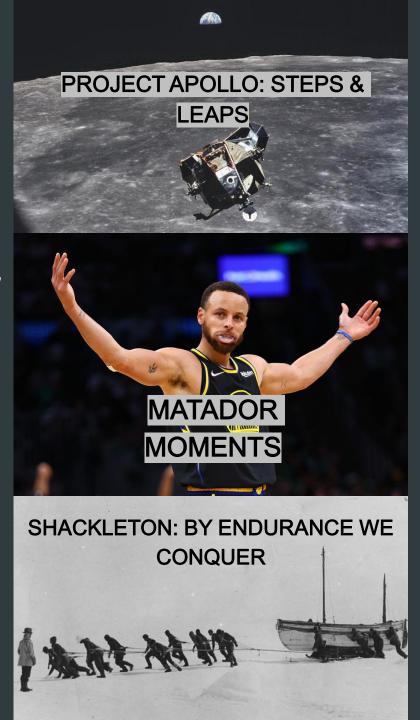
FLEETING;

WITHOUT IT, WHAT'S THE POINT?



#### THEMEING

A MULTI-FACETED
COMMUNICATION TOOL USING
A WORD, PHRASE, STORY OR
METAPHOR TO FULFILL A
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE OVER AN
EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME.





#### 05: SOUNDS GREAT, BUT HOW DOES IT WORK?

#### **MISCONCEPTIONS**

- SOUNDS A LOT LIKE STORYTELLING...
- SO YOU TALK ABOUT F1 DRIVERS/ROCKETS/CLIMBERS

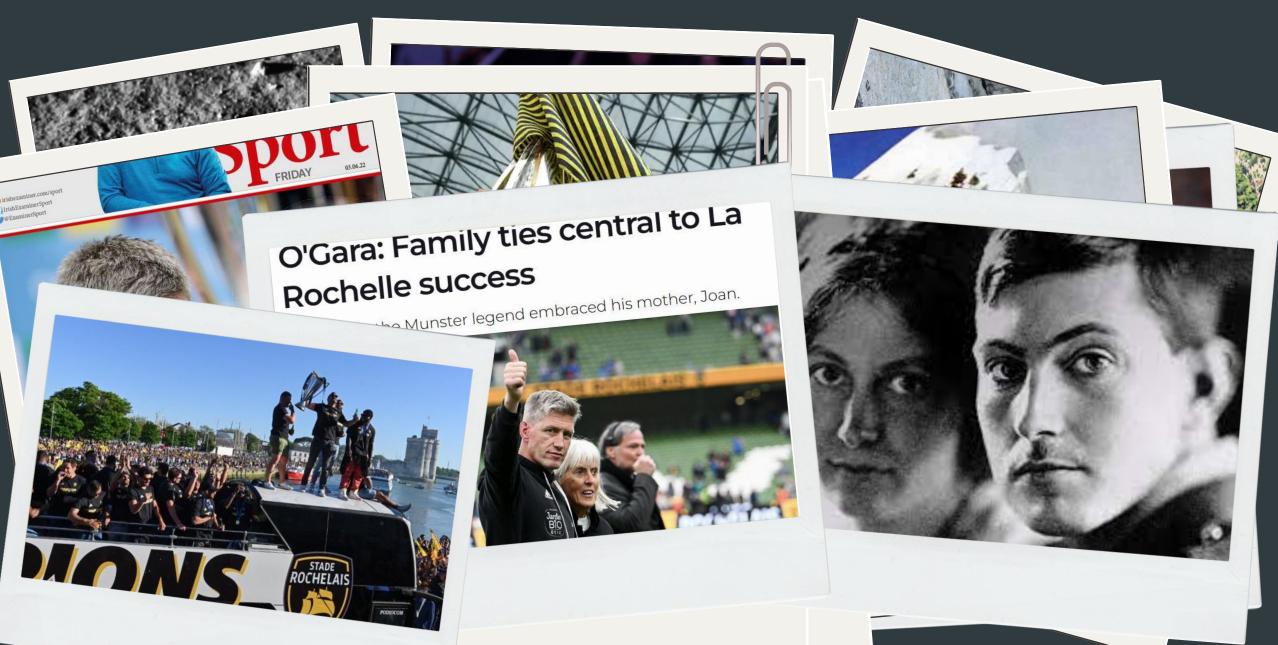
AND THEN YOU WIN STUFF...

LET'S START WITH THE PROBLEM...

#### PROBLEM A: EVERYONE DOUBTS US (EVEN US)



#### PROBLEM B: WE'VE NEVER WON ANYTHING.



#### PROBLEM C: OUR HISTORY HAUNTS, IT DOESN'T HELP US



#### THEMEING IN ACTION



- 12 MONTHS LEADING INTO PARIS 2024
- EXTENSIVE SUPPORT THROUGH SVNS WORLD SERIES
- EXTENDED PART OF BACKROOM TEAM
- STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS: RIGHT MESSAGES AT THE RIGHT TIME
- DESIGNING CONTENT TO FRAME, CONNECT & PRIME
   A GROUP

**AUSTRALIAN 7S RUGBY** 

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# HOW CAN WE USE COMMUNICATION TO WIN A GOLD MEDAL?

MISFITS ARE PIONEERS IN DISGUISE...













...TO BE AUSTRALIAN, IS TO BE A PIONEER.

#### THE AMERICA'S CUP: AUSTRALIA II











#### RECAP

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