

OPPORTUNITIES TO LEAD WEST LANCS OVERSEAS

Where in the World Paris? Nepal? Austria? Russia? Peru?

*"But who are ye in rags and rotten shoes
You dirty bearded, blocking up the way?"*

*"We are the Pilgrims, master; we shall go always a little further;
It may be beyond that last blue mountain barred with snow,
Across that angry or that glimmering sea"*

(The Golden Journey to Samarkand - James Elroy Flecker 1884-1915)

PREAMBLE

Lord Baden-Powell established the international aspect of Scouting to encourage peace and harmony amongst nations and races, and it rapidly became an important element of Scouting. For several years West Lancashire has been at the forefront of providing an exciting programme of overseas trips for our young people. In addition to World Jamborees and Moots to Chile, Thailand, Sweden, Mexico, and Taiwan, over the last fifteen years major overseas events have included:-

Red Rose Series	Explorer Belt	Mountaineering Group	Community Projects	Other
Canada 1997	Eastern Europe 2001	Dauphiné Alps 1999	Uganda 2005	Link X Austria 1998
Austria 2002	Slovenia 2004	Ötztal Alps 2001	Borneo 2009	America 2004
Waddecarr 2004	Holland 2007	Jotunheimen 2003	Peru 2012	Eurojam 2005
Canada 2008	Baltic States 2009	NE Greenland 2004		Nepal 2010
GT 2010	Romania 2012	Arolla 2005		Scouts Go Danish 2011
		Jotunheimen 2006		E Greenland Sea Kayaking 2012
		NE Greenland 2007		Nepal 2012
		Dolomites 2009		Scouts Go Alpine 2013
		Saas Tal 2011		Greece 2013
		Canada 2012		
		Ötztal Alps 2013		

On top of this there have been the annual trips of the Ardennes Adventure, Switzerland Ski Alpine, the bi-annual trips to Disneyland and Munich, with the odd visit to the Menin Gate thrown in! Most of the above are targeted at Explorers and Network (previously Venture Scouts!) and we are pleased that the Scout Section has now started its own "Go" overseas programme



Because of the sheer scale of our international exposure, in 2009 the County was independently audited by the Young Explorers' Trust for conformity with British Standard 8848 – "Specification for the provision of visits, fieldwork, expeditions and adventurous activities outside the United Kingdom" and we became the first voluntary organisation in the UK to be awarded Corporate Conformity. All quality and safety measures of our overseas ventures, and procedures, now are required to conform with that standard. The accreditation was re-confirmed in June 2012.

LEADERS

We can only operate such an extensive programme as outlined above, to the highest standards of safety, by having been fortunate to be able to recruit excellent Overseas Leaders. In order to maximise planning time, and to be able to significantly influence the programme, by Easter 2013 we wish to recruit **CHIEF LEADERS** for major overseas events now coming into focus for 2014/2015, with a view to completing the Leadership Teams by summer 2013, and recruiting participants this next autumn.

IN FOCUS

Now coming into focus are:-

- Scouts Go Paris – Easter 2014
- Himalayan Highlights - Nepal – Xmas 2014
- Scouts Go Austria – Summer 2015
- Explorer Belt Russian Federation – Summer 2015
- Adults in Scouting – Community Project Peru – Summer 2015

(The World Scout Youth Events Group will start a separate recruitment process in a few months time for the Chief Leader and Leader Team for the 23rd World Scout Jamboree in Kirarahaama, Japan (Summer 2015), and Leadership of NE Greenland 2015 will be specifically drawn from our activity teams. The next Community Project will be in 2016, probably SE Asia).

Scouts Go Paris – Four days at Easter 2014

The Scout section are really getting into their overseas Scouting and this will be the third in the “Go” series. Under guidance from the ACC(Scouts) and with support from Assistant Leaders, a 4/5 day programme will be developed offering a bit of culture, bit of fun (?Disneyland)..... and perhaps a bit of Adventure (Fontainebleau?) thrown in.

Himalayan Highlights – Nepal – Three weeks over Xmas 2014

We have contacts with an orphanage outside Kathmandu that has never received support from NGOs or voluntary organisations. This December, 2010, two leaders plus 11 older Explorers/Younger Network (16/20years) to Nepal for three weeks to spend five days working at the orphanage, 12 days trekking in the Sola Khumbu with views of Everest, and experiencing the amazing Nepali culture. Kathmandu IS the most enigmatic city in the world! We have just repeated this with two leaders and 10 Explorer Scouts helping in the orphanage and at their school – so we are now looking to recruit a Chief Leader to start the process again for Xmas 2014. Why December? August is monsoon and leeches, April is pre-exams, December is cooler – but clear views!!!!

Scouts Go Austria – 10/14 days in Summer 2015

This will be the fourth in the “Go” series. Under guidance from the ACC(Scouts), and with support from Assistant Leaders, a 10/14 day adventure programme will be developed to enthuse the Scout Section. A bit of hiking, a bit of mountain biking, some River Rafting and Canyoning thrown in – with maybe a trip to Vienna – sounds really good to me!!!

Explorer Belt Russian Federation or Ukraine two weeks in Summer 2015

Following the success of Explorer Belt Romania 2012, the plan is to go even further East for this two week trip for Explorer Scouts & Network. We need to appoint a Chief Leader to start to plan and recruit three/four Assistant Leaders to undertake operational control of 10-15 teams of 3-5 participants for this two week scheme. There will be plenty of time for experiencing the country for yourselves.

Adults in Scouting - Community Project Peru 2015 (Summer)

A few years back one of our County Team said to me “I’m jealous of our young people travelling afar to undertake a community project – why can’t I?” This echoes my belief that the only thing B-P got wrong was the name of his book – its not “*Scouting for Boys*” – it’s “*Scouting for Everyone*”! This also reflects what many providers in the Gap-Year sector are finding: that their market has changed to around 50% middle aged! So, on the back of the success of the Peru Project 2012, and using our contacts in Peru, we are looking for a Chief Leader to get a team together to plan a three week scheme up in the Andes to spend some time working within a community and having the opportunity of undertaking a short trek or visiting the Amazon Rainforest, and experiencing the amazing Inca cultures of Cuzco, Lake Titicaca etc..... and of course the surreal Macchu Picchu! We do have excellent in-country contacts to help source the project and fine tune the itinerary. The intention is to offer the trip to active Adults in Scouting: Older Leaders & members of SASU

THE CHIEF LEADER

As outlined in the attached Job Specification, the Chief Overseas Leader is a County appointment, reporting to the County Commissioner through the Responsible Commissioner and the Major Events Group. There are obviously no budgets yet (that’s part of the job of the Chief Leader and his/her Leader Team!!!) – but suffice to say the budgets will be structured to make a contribution to Leader travel costs. A full Job Specification for the Chief Leader accompanies this paper.

NEEDS

At present we are specifically looking to appoint the Chief Leaders of the above ventures to take responsibility for recruiting, planning and successfully executing each of these experiences, with the input and involvement of Assistant Leaders and participants.....and backed up by a huge level of experience and support within the County. Whilst previous experience with overseas Scouting trips is helpful, it is not essential..... but for the Chief Leader role you must already be comfortable with overseas travel.

TO APPLY

Please complete the attached Application Form. There is a matrix whereby you can select one, or all, ventures in which you would be interested in leading, listing order of preference (1<4) if interested in more than one. Please submit your application to:-

Steve Morton, ACC(International), 8, Spendmore Lane, Chorley, Lancashire, PR7 4NZ.

email: steve@sjmorton.me.uk mobile: +44 7709 344 617

If you are interested, but have queries, or are not totally convinced, get in touch with Steve or myself – we’ll convince you!!!!

Please submit applications by March 1st for shortlisting on March 5th, with selection on 16th/17th March, ready to start recruiting Assistant Leaders after Easter, and to launch the ventures at the Global Evening in September.

**DICK GRIFFITHS – dick@globaladventure.org.uk
Deputy County Commissioner
Chair – Major Events Group**



WEST LANCASHIRE COUNTY SCOUT COUNCIL
MAJOR AND OVERSEAS EVENTS

ROLE SPECIFICATIONS
CHIEF OVERSEAS LEADER

(This role specification is specifically about the Chief Leader appointed for all overseas events of West Lancashire County Scout Council)

Prime Objective of the Post

The Chief Leader is responsible for the overall planning and preparation of the expedition and until its conclusion after return from the UK. He/she will have ultimate responsibility for all of the expedition members whilst in the field and for the conduct of the expedition.

Line Management

This is a County appointment: the Chief Leader is appointed by the County Commissioner for that specific venture upon the recommendation of the Major Events Group and has a functional responsibility to the Major Events Group and to the appointed Responsible Commissioner.

Range of Duties

- With the assistance of a panel agreed with the Major Events Group, to recruit a balanced leadership team, adequate for the intended numbers. One of these leaders recruited shall eventually be appointed as Deputy.
- Where applicable, to agree the destination of the venture with the Major Events Group and, if considered necessary, arrange for a reconnaissance to be undertaken.
- To prepare and update a budget for the venture, to periodically report financial progress to the Major Events Group, and ensure finances are concluded and reported to County within three months of return to the UK
- To arrange for recruitment publicity and processes to recruit the intended numbers.
- To create a timeline for the venture, from inception to conclusion. This to include meetings, training, parental/team briefings, payments schedule, etc.
- To ensure that the roles of Finance, Administration, Logistics, Communications, Training, Media, amongst others, are adequately covered from within the Team.
- WITH ALL PARTICIPANTS, plan and create an itinerary for the venture.
- To become familiar with the overseas policy and guidance documents of West Lancashire County Scout Council, and the best practice as provided by BS8848. In particular, to ensure that members of the Leader Team have attended the County's Overseas Preparation Seminar, and where appropriate have attended a remote/wilderness first aid course.
- To keep the Major Events Group regularly updated with progress.
- With the Responsible Commissioner and the Home Contact, to sign off the venture for conformity with BS8848.

Essential Requirements

- To hold an existing appointment within the Scout Association.
- Have leadership experience and have completed leader training within the relevant Section or, if from outside that Section, to be willing to undergo such training modules as appropriate.
- Previous or Personal experience of organising overseas trips

Desired Skill Requirements

- Good communication and organisational skills

Contacts

- Major Events Group
- Responsible Commissioner
- Appointed Home Contact