

# Africa 2021

## Information Pack



In 2021, West Lancashire Scouts will complete a three-week long expedition to the village of Mangani, which is located in Malawi. While in the village, the team will undertake the building of an education centre.



### Who can join this project?

The trip is aimed at the Explorer and Network section and is open to anybody born between the dates of September 1<sup>st</sup> 1996 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2005. The individual must be a member of Scouting as a Leader, Explorer Scout, Young Leader or Network Member.

We would then like to take a further contingent of Network members, born between the dates of September 1<sup>st</sup> 1996 and 30<sup>th</sup> April 2003 as those participants at the younger end **MUST** be 18 by the time of the last training weekend – 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021. This will be to undertake their Scouts of the World Award. These will be projects designed and managed by those young people.



### When will this project happen?

This project will happen in the summer of 2021. The trip is expected to take place between the start of the school holidays in July and return just before the A Level results are released in August. Dates are TBC, subject to flights.

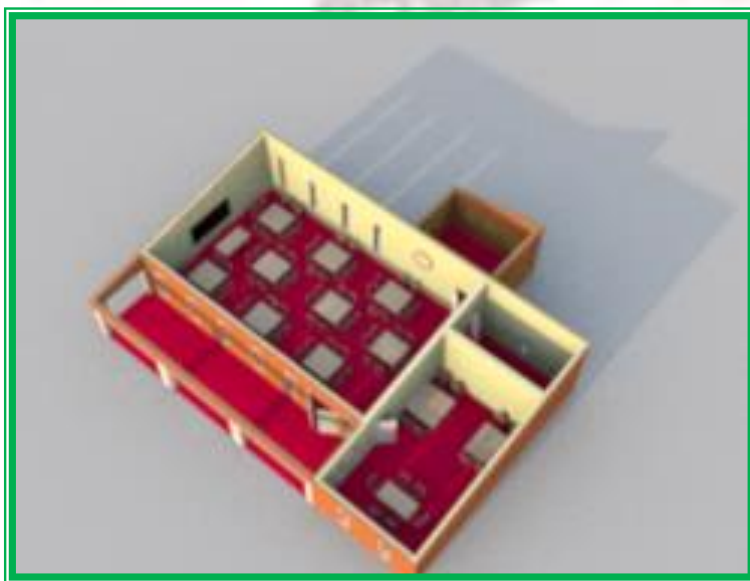
## What will this project involve?

### **MAIN PROJECT**

It is expected that this project will involve building an education centre to operate as a preschool in mornings, a venue for extracurricular education in the afternoons and a place for adult education in the evenings.



The building will then be maintained and managed by FOMO (a Lancashire based charity who work with Malawian orphans and their families and already do a significant amount of work in this area of Malawi). It is expected that the team of 36 (6 leaders and 30 participants) will work with FOMO, Malawian Scouts and other volunteers to fundraise and build this centre.



FOMO managed the previous centre which was an old building destroyed by Cyclone Idai. This centre will cost no more than £15,000 to build and will be accessed by a minimum of 200 people each day from local villages.

## OTHER PROJECTS

The Scouts of the World teams will work with FOMO to identify other smaller projects in the community in order to complete their award, for which they will be fully responsible for all fundraising, project management, delivery etc in line with the requirements of the award.



### What happens after the Community Project?

After the Community Project, the contingent will enjoy some well-deserved rest and relaxation. We expect this to be determined in partnership with all participants and a £450 budget (per person) has been set for this accordingly. This period will last in the region of 7 days.



## How much will this expedition cost?

The cost of the trip will be no more than £1955.

Included in this cost is:

- Flights to and from Malawi
- Travel insurance (some personal items may not be covered)
- Food for three weeks
- Travel and accommodation in country
- 4 training events and other training events classed as mandatory
- Mosquito nets
- Rest and relaxation period – activities to be decided
- 2 contingent neckerchiefs
- A contingent polo shirt
- A contingent hoody
- Contingent badge

The trip cost does not include all expenses as some are subject to change before we travel in 2021.

Additional costs not included:

- Fundraising specifically for project (see below)
- Vaccinations and antimalarials
- Visa costs
- Optional training events
- Personal item travel insurance for some valuable items (cameras etc)
- Meals at any stop overs unless provided by airlines

This trip may end up being less than the quoted figure of £1955 as there is an amount of contingency within the budget to ensure we are not in the position during these uncertain times where we do not have enough funds to be able to deliver the trip as advertised. Any surplus money will be returned to the participants after the trip has returned or we may choose to reduce the cost after purchasing the flights.



### How many places are available for this trip?

There are 30 places available for participants from West Lancashire Scouts on the main expedition, made up of Explorers and Network members. There will be a 27-hour selection event on the 21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020 to ensure that we have the best possible team of young people to carry out this ambitious project.

There is also an additional 15 places for Network members with suitable Scouts of the World Projects.

To be selected for either part of this expedition you will need to attend this selection event. The selection event will cost **£20**.

### How much will be needed to fundraise in order for this project to be fulfilled?

We are being very ambitious in choosing such a project to focus on; with a full team of 30, we believe that we should be able to complete this. It is envisioned that each participant will raise an additional £500 minimum specifically for the main project. All fundraising for this project must be completed by end-April 2021 in order for funds to be transferred, materials purchased etc in country ready for our arrival.

Network SOWA teams will set their own separate project fundraising targets and are NOT part of main project fundraising.

The leadership team will also be working to both support the participants and to fundraise money themselves towards this trip.

The first £500 of each person's fundraising will go towards the project they are on. After this, additional fundraising can go towards the personal commitment of the trip. Any fundraising that exceeds both commitments can go towards helping the project in the future. We will also be looking at getting as much as possible of the fundraising being put through for a Gift Aid claim too in order to maximise everyone's efforts!



## Who are the leaders involved in running this trip?

### Main Expedition Team

#### **Chris Worthington (Expedition Leader)**

Chris is ACC International for West Lancs Scouts and has recently been appointed to be the UK Lead for The Scouts Of The World Award. Chris scouts in South Ribble where he leads in both the Scouts and Explorer sections. Africa (especially Uganda) is a place very close to Chris's heart having led an expedition there in 2013, returning in 2014 to complete his Scouts of the World Award and then as Deputy Leader for the West Lancashire Scouts expedition to Uganda in 2019. Chris is very excited to be leading this expedition, which as well as being life changing for all participants, will be West Lancs Scouts biggest (and best) community project so far! He cannot wait to see young people working to leave the world a little better than they found it. Outside of Scouting, Chris is a primary school teacher in Chorley; but has been known to acquire the strangest things when in Africa - including a cockerel at a church harvest auction!



#### **Chris Jeffrey (Deputy Leader)**

Chris is an Explorer Scout Leader from Fylde and former DESCom for Fylde also. Chris has led many trips for groups from Cubs through Scouts & Explorers and is very excited to be taking on this opportunity. Chris has over 20 years' experience in Scouting and was an Assistant Leader on the recent West Lancashire Scouts expedition to Uganda. Chris firmly believes in the opportunities that trips such as this offer all our young people and has two children very much involved in Scouting. He also met his wife when on leadership training – truly married to the job! Chris works in sales management in the construction industry and is looking forward to the challenges ahead and putting his experience to the ultimate test. Chris W is not on his own with random African purchases though, as Chris was the only member of the Uganda expedition who bought a bed to put in his tent last summer!



### **Jenny Rutledge**

Jenny is a Cub and Explorer Leader from Preston and was a participant on the hugely successful Uganda 2019 Expedition with West Lancashire Scouts. Outside Scouting, Jenny is a student who also works at the Escape Rooms in Preston. Jenny is looking forward to going back to Africa and embracing another culture and help people develop better outlooks on life. She is looking forward to helping young people on this once in a lifetime experience.



### **Carla Addison**

Carla has been involved in Scouting since being a Venture Scout in 1985 and going on to gain her Queens Scouts Award. Starting as a Cub Leader, she jumped ship and joined Scouts 9 years ago in Wyre District. She is Wyre District's First Response Trainer as well as an Archery and Tomahawk Throwing Instructor. She works as an Activities Team Leader in a nursing home – a rewarding yet challenging position. Carla is really looking forward to helping make a difference to a community in Africa by working alongside a fantastic team of Young People and Leaders.



### **Michelle Durney**

Michelle is the District Commissioner for Ormskirk District as well as an Assistant Beaver Scout Leader and Assistant Explorer Scout Leader, so very much involved with helping young people get the most out of and enjoying their Scouting. She has 2 children who have both been through Scouting and she has seen them grow and develop, especially on international trips they have been part of. Michelle works as a nurse but is hoping it is a skill set we will not need to use that much! Doing a community project, to help those in real need, is something she has always wanted to do and she is really looking forward to getting to know you all and sharing these experiences with her, as well as all the dance moves to 5,6,7,8!



## **Paul Cochrane**

Paul started his Scouting adventure as an Assistant Cub Leader before progressing into the role of Scout Leader for 1<sup>st</sup> Ormskirk. For the past few years Paul has also taken on the role of ADC Scouts in Ormskirk District, and has two children who are both involved in the organisation and have international experience. Paul is very much looking forward to building and developing a group of young people ready to experience the chance of a lifetime along with the challenges and rewards that Africa will bring.



## **Scouts Of The World Team**

### **Rebecca Churchill**

Rebecca is a County Network Leader and is responsible for the Top Awards in Scouting within West Lancs. Rebecca has been to Uganda three times (and was Expedition Leader in 2019) and is looking forward to returning to Africa, a place she dearly loves. Rebecca has co-ordinated a number of projects for the UK International Scout Active Support Unit. When not Scouting, Rebecca works as a primary school teacher in Blackburn. Rebecca is excited to see the participants of the trip use this opportunity to achieve a Network only award in the Scouts Of The World Award – something there is only 10 of in West Lancs – with many of them coming as additional projects on the Uganda 2019 expedition.



### **Paul Harris**

Paul is a Cub Leader from Blackpool District as well as being Assistant County Commissioner for Scouting Skills and Nights Away. Paul has been in Scouting for 37 years and has attended a number of international events and trips. Paul also led the West Lancashire Project Malaysia Expedition – a community project in Malaysia and Borneo. Like all of our superheroes, Paul has a day job and works as a Group HSE Manager for a Pharmaceutical and Cosmetics Product Manufacturer. Paul is especially looking forward to this challenge and believes projects like these change lives – not only for those we help but also the participants we work with.





## Official Dates

### 2020

22<sup>nd</sup> February – Applications Close

21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> March - Selection Event

Saturday 9am - Sunday 12 noon

Location Waddecar

5<sup>th</sup> April – First Participant Get Together

Location Garstang (4pm-7pm)

22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> May - First Training Event

Location Silverdale

30<sup>th</sup> August - Social Training Event

Location Preston

23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> October – Environment Weekend

Location TBC

**(Optional Skill/Experience Event)**

6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> November – Second Training Event

Location Fylde



### 2021

12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> March – Third Training Event

Location Bibbys Farm

30<sup>th</sup> April – 3<sup>rd</sup> May – Fourth Training Event

Location Mowbrek

July/August – Expedition

All training events, which are not listed as optional, are **mandatory** for all participants and leaders to attend. Optional events are designed to enhance skills and complement the trip and will incur small additional costs. If there is a reason why you cannot attend one of these dates, please let the leadership team know on the application form. There may also be media opportunities and presentations before and after the expedition - all of which will require varying levels of your support!

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What will the weather be like?

Malawi does not have seasons the same way the United Kingdom does, it has wet and dry seasons. July and August is a part of the dry season; it may however still rain heavily. The weather will be generally hot during the day (t-shirt and sun cream weather) and cool in the evening (you will want a hoodie or a coat on).

### Will there be Wi-Fi?

In the village, there is no Wi-Fi. There may be a local internet café in villages or towns but this is likely to be costly and no guarantee of quality of connections. The beauty of this trip is that not being able to connect to social media 24/7, you will be able to fully enjoy and getting involved with African village life.



### What are the toilets like?

Not as bad as you might think! Here is a picture of a toilet from a previous community project and we expect them to be similar.



### Will I be able to have a shower whilst in the village?

Unsure, but it is important we keep ourselves clean by enjoying a bucket bath if we have to! We are staying in accommodation provided by FOMO at one of their centres (approx. 2km walk from the building site) which will provide a cooking area, some running water and limited electricity (not enough to charge phones, sorry) as well as roomed accommodation.



### I am vegetarian or I have a dietary requirement, will I be okay on this trip?

Yes, you will be fine; the contingent will be largely cooking for themselves while in country and will be able to cater individual needs. Prior to flying to Malawi the contingent will formulate a cookbook of what they will be cooking each night with the ingredients available.



### What vaccinations will I need?

We cannot answer this as these will be different for everyone, but to enter Malawi you may need to be vaccinated against various things. All participants are expected to be fully vaccinated as required. You will also need to buy antimalarial tablets; but would stress we encourage everyone to book an appointment with their GP and to follow their advice. If you are unsure or confused about anything medical, please e-mail Michelle.

### How will I fundraise for this trip?

There are a million and one ways you could fundraise for this trip! All participants are supported throughout the fundraising element of the trip by the leadership team. However, they will not do the fundraising for you! The leadership team may be able to organise events (such as bag-packs) across the county for the participants to attend but these not be expected to cover all commitments. The first £500 you raise will go to the project. After this, you can use fundraising to help pay for the trip!

### What language do they speak in Malawi?

There are 16 spoken languages in Malawi! The two official languages are English and Chichewa. It is likely most people will speak both and have a relatively good grasp of English. There is an App that you can download to help in the build up to our trip!



**Any More Questions? E-mail – [africa2021@westlancsscouts.org.uk](mailto:africa2021@westlancsscouts.org.uk)**

**Application Deadline is 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2020**

**Application forms can be found here:**

**[www.westlancsscouts.org.uk/overseas/africa2021](http://www.westlancsscouts.org.uk/overseas/africa2021)**