



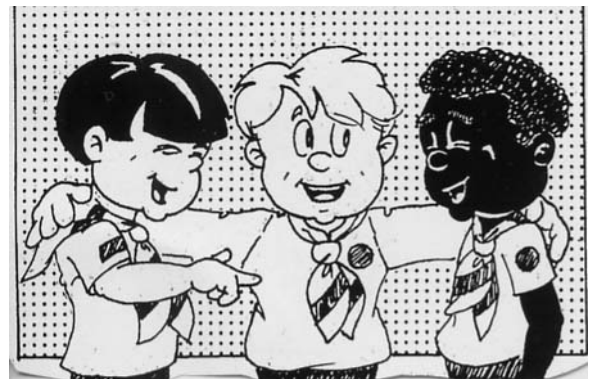
Newsletter 7

November 2008

The air flights have now been booked. We shall be flying out of London Heathrow on Friday 17th July 2009 at 20.00 on a Kenyan Airways flight to Lusaka via Nairobi. The return flight for the majority of the party will be on Saturday 8th August 2009 arriving back at London Heathrow in the early hours of Sunday morning. Travel by coach will be arranged between the Northeast and Heathrow. The four member of the party who requested an extension to their trip will return on Friday 14th August 2009 arriving at London Heathrow early on the Saturday morning. (Flights were not available for return trip on the Saturday or Sunday due to part of the flight being fully booked).

Uniform:

There appears to be some confusion following the issue of neckerchiefs to members at our last training weekend. We realise that the Girls Brigade do not wear neckerchiefs as part of their uniform but it was decided that we should treat all members of the expedition similarly so all member were given a neckerchief and badge. There will be certain occasions during our expedition when all members will be required to wear correct uniform. Again we realise that there is a variety of options of uniform available within our two organisations and these will be clarified and discussed at our next training weekend in January 2009. Youth organisations in Africa are very proud of their uniforms and we must be prepared to support them when the occasion arises.



Deposits

You are reminded that the forth deposit of £300.00 is due on 1st December 2008. Please arrange for this to be sent to Barbara in time as we now beginning to have to commit ourselves to several expenses. There are still a few members who have outstanding fees.

Training Weekend:

Our next training weekend is again at West Hall over the weekend of 9th/11th January 2009. Please put this date in your diary and remember to return your form, even if you are not able to attend, so that we can arrange the programme.

Personal Information:

We shall require a photocopy of the last page of your passport to enable us to have your correct name printed on the air tickets. We shall also keep these in case we have any problems with passports while in Zambia. We would like these copies if possible on, or before, the next training weekend. Please remember that your passport must have at least six months to run dating from our return from Zambia. Do not leave it too late if you have to apply for a new passport. You will also require a Visa for Zambia but do not apply for this too early or it may run out before you even leave to UK.

Poloshirts:

We hope to have the pre-ordered polo and sweat shirts available at the next training weekend.



Fund Raising:

At present general fund raising is relatively slow. We need to increase our activity in this field or we may find that we have a short fall in our general reserves. This is particularly important due to the fact that there is an International downturn in all financial activities. Many of the resources that we shall require in Zambia are likely to be over budget.

Bag Pack:

Unfortunately we have been unable to obtain a Bag Packing opportunity at Marks and Spencer's in the Metro Centre over the Christmas period. We have however been offered Saturday 14th February 2009 so please put this date in your diary as we shall require as many members, parents or friends to help us on this day. Further details will be sent when available.

Buy a Brick:

As you probably know we are selling bricks for the project. These are being sold at £2.50 each. Each member will be given a supply of these and it is hoped that you will be able to sell as many as possible. More supplies are available from Doug. Please remember that all profit from this activity will go towards the general fund. There is also a Gift Aid form that can be downloaded from the web site for people to sign which will enable us to claim Gift Aid on their donation.



Medical Requirements:

In preparation for our expedition you will need to make certain that you all have the required inoculations for Zambia. These must not be left to the last minute so you should be consulting your GP early in the New Year. We shall be discussing this at our next training weekend.

Web Site:

Are you keeping an eye on the web site? All relevant information will be added to this site so if you lose your newsletter, or any other information, you should be able to find it together with other useful details on the site.

The web site address is: <http://www.ix09.co.uk>



As we shall probably not see many of you again before the New Year the main team would like to wish you and your families a very Happy Christmas and an even better 2009. During 2009 we look forward to a busy, but enjoyable year, in preparation for our expedition in July.

Doug Corbin, Expedition Leader