



Cambridgeshire Scout Expeditions (CaSE) Newsletter—August 2009

14 weeks to go and we shall be on our way to the Gambia for our trip of a lifetime. Everyone has been busy raising funds which at times has been quite a challenge in the present economic climate but most are on target. There has been a great response to our requests for items for the container and although the barn at Poplar Hall is bursting at the seams we are having an additional push to get the final items by 13 September.

During the training weekend in October we shall go through in detail all of the information you need to prepare you for the expedition, in the mean time please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

'Devine writes'

You may be wondering why you do not hear a lot from me. Simply, Jane runs the domestic side of the expedition whilst I am more involved in the external stuff, including keeping in touch with The Gambia. I am happy to report the villagers in Jiroff are aware of our arrival and are delighted and excited over the prospect of us being there.

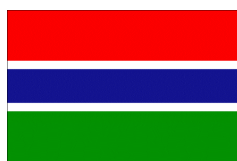
As Jane said we have fourteen weeks to go but still a little work to do. The container has been purchased and is due to be shipped from Cambridge on the 17th September. The expedition bags are here and we should receive the tents next week. As you are aware our flights are booked and we need to pay the full fare on the 6th October. For this reason can you please ensure that your payment schedule is up to date before the end of September. I am aware that a number of you are at or have surpassed your targets and thank you for that.

I have confidence that this trip is going to be a lot of fun and when everyone meets in October I am sure you will find some new friends amongst those expeditioners you have not yet met. Take care, George

Expedition Kit

George has managed to negotiate a good price for expedition trousers (zip-off type) and shirts (including ladies sizes). The cost will be £30 and can be paid into your expedition account. Please let Jane know by 12 September the size that you require, information being sent out via separate e-mail.

Our scarves were chosen using the colours of the
Gambian flag and have proved to be quite a talking point when worn.



Training Weekend

We shall all meet at the Lochgoilhead Scout Centre during the evening of Friday 9 October and shall be leaving at lunchtime on Monday 12. Indoor accommodation is provided, just bring a sleeping bag, boots, change of clothes, wash kit etc.
www.lochgoilhead.org.uk/

Pocket Money

The maximum amount of pocket money allowed will be £100. We shall be running a camp bank and you may if you wish pay your pocket money into the Gambia Account by 25th November. We recommend that you do not bring sterling or dollars as we cannot be responsible for any loss.

Reminder—payment schedule

The following amounts must be in your account: £800 by the end of August, £1150 by the end of September and £1500 by the end of October.

Travel to the Gambia

Monarch-MON 6478 leaves Gatwick at 0900 therefore we are arranging to stay the previous night at a Scout HQ in Cambridge and travel by mini-bus to the airport. Our return flight is MON 6479 leaving at 1630 local time arriving at Gatwick at 2215 hrs. Please check that your passport has at least six months to run following your return to the Country i.e. is valid until 6 July 2010. Please bring your passport with you to the training weekend together with two photocopies.

Luggage Allowance

There are strict weight restrictions; you will be allowed around 15 kg of hold luggage and 10 kg of hand luggage. The only items that can be sent in the container are a folding chair, eating utensils, secret Santa and if you wish to bring one, a small Christmas gift from home. Details for the collection of items for the container have been circulated separately.

