

## **NORFOLK SCOUTS INTERNATIONAL UPDATE 1**

Please see the below updates which have recently come to my attention, which may be of interest to your District, Group or Section. These updates will be sent in addition to the World Scout Jamboree monthly updates. This first update includes the following:

- [Links to a Cub Scout Pack in the USA](#)
- [Sustainable Development Goals – Activities for Scouts](#)
- [Community Project with Bookbridge with Explorers and Network](#)
- [Explorer Belt 2018](#)

Please let me know if you have any queries, or in the instance of the Explorer Belt, contact Mike Aston direct.

Yours in Scouting

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### **1. Brother Pack from USA**

Cub Scout Pack 894 in Indianapolis, Indiana USA is currently looking for a cub pack in England who would be interested in sharing recorded videos and information between packs in order to learn more about Scouting in other parts of the world. Although the time difference would not allow for much real-time communication, they would like to have the opportunity for any weekend video chatting between recorded video messages.

This would be a fabulous opportunity for Cub Scouts to be able to engage with Cub Scouts from another country and share experiences with one another.

Please let me know if you have a pack who are interested in getting in touch and I will arrange contact with the Den Leader, Jennifer.



### **2. Sustainable Development Goals - activities for Scouts and Guides**

A partnership between a global education organisation and European scout organisations has created some resources matched with our scout programme (World Challenge, International and Global Issues badges).

There are 17 activities for 17 goals alongside some background information. These are downloadable from the [ScotDec](#) website.



### **3. Bookbridge**

Bookbridge is a charity\* which supports learning centres in Cambodia, Mongolia, Sri Lanka and South Africa by collecting books to stock libraries - it matches nicely with community impact and global issues badges.

The charity is also looking for groups of Explorer and Network scouts to form a link with a learning centre whilst supporting the charity. Over 9-12 months this should lead on to peer-mentoring and a community project inspired visit abroad. Bookbridge volunteers (who are also scout volunteers and have taken their Explorers to Cambodia) are available to match groups with learning centres and provide some support for mentoring and designing the project.

This could be good for anyone looking to gain Visits Abroad experience outside of Europe and for Explorers and Network looking to take on a really interesting opportunity.



Let me know if you have volunteers / youth members who might be interested making use of this opportunity in order that I can point them to the appropriate contact.

\*Bookbridge is scout-inspired but should be treated as any other external organisation when considering risk and safeguarding etc

#### **4. Explorer Belt 2018**

In 2009, the UK-Arab Region Scout Fellowship sponsored a Study Visit to Oman by 19 Scout and Guide leaders. In 2012 a group of Omani Scout leaders visited the UK, finishing their trip at the Gilwell Union. Oman is a breath-taking country and our Scouting friends there are most welcoming. The Explorer Belt allows much flexibility in meeting the people and experiencing their ways of life in the desert, the mountains and the fishing ports by the Arabian Sea.

The Explorer Belt Expedition is open to all members of the Scout Movement who have had their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday by 5 August 2018 and have not celebrated their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday by 19 August 2018. The trip will start and finish in Muscat and visit various locations in Oman. There will be opportunities during the 10 day expedition to visit the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, Hajjar Mountains, Nizwa Fort, souks and kasbahs.



The trip expects to leave the UK on or about 5 August and return to the UK on the 19 August 2018.

They shall travel to Muscat from London and then to various destinations in Oman – travelling on foot, by bus, cycle, boat, donkey and maybe even by camel! The return flight will include a 48 hour stopover in Dubai to visit the Burj Khalifa, Palm Islands and Dubai Creek.

The total cost for the expedition will not exceed £1,350 unless air fares increase significantly from their current levels. The exact amount will be confirmed once numbers are known and the flight bookings are confirmed.

To secure a place on the expedition please send the application form, downloadable [here](#), along with a £50 deposit per person by 31 October 2017 to:

**Explorer Belt Oman 2018**  
**Hertfordshire Scouts' County Office**  
**Well End Activity Centre, Well End Road**  
**Borehamwood, Herts, WD6 5PR**

Full details of the Explorer Belt rules and requirements can be found at:  
<http://members.scouts.org.uk/explorerbelt>

This expedition is supported by the International Scout Support Unit, UK-Arab Region SIG and British Scouting Overseas.

Please contact Mike Aston on 01707 658644 or email [mike@kcited.demon.co.uk](mailto:mike@kcited.demon.co.uk) with any queries.