

"Truly accountable, ethical, responsible, sustainable volunteer travel"



Summer newsletter 2011

Ed`s comment Pedantry!

This is to any newsletter readers who have noticed any grammatical errors in previous newsletter, i.e. no gap between a comma and the next word and/or no gap between a hyphen and the next word. My excuse is that whilst editing in the publisher programme on my laptop all of the aforementioned appear correct but on converting to an email they don` t always appear so.

Of course in Kate the placement director we have a world class pedant who is very keen to point out grammatical errors to me. I have explained the problem to Kate and suggested if she is not happy I will strap my laptop on to my motorbike and ride down to Faversham to show her the problems I have to deal with!

Seriously I hope none of you have any problems reading the newsletter and if you do please let me know at newsletter@travel-peopleandplaces.co.uk and I will try to sort out the problem. Of course everything at *people and places* is done on a shoe string including the newsletter and whilst I endeavour to do my best I am very much an amateur, so mistakes do sometimes happen.

Nigel Pegler

News from Mapoch

I recently emailed the following to Sallie and Kate

Thought I would let you both know that earlier this evening I spoke to Pastor Peter via Skype! Marnie looked well although she said she gets tired and no more late nights for her, Jeremy was, well Jeremy! he asked if I watched the royal wedding and I said I was riding my bike when it was on! I spoke to Aaron and he sounds very grown up now, a proper little South African.

Peter`s voice was a little croaky but he sounded and looked well, he said they have sold all of the bikes we sent out and although the trailer making business has slowed down they are still making 2-3 trailers a month. Peter noticed that my beard is going rather grey now and I explained that it`s a consequence of editing the newsletter! let`s face it anyone would go grey working for you two!

It was lovely to hear from Peter and it`s quite made my day, Peter sends his love and said thanks to everyone who has prayed for him.

Read about the bicycle project [here](#)

Nigel Pegler

St Lucia needs volunteers - a paradox?

Paradox – a situation, person, or thing that combines contradictory features or qualities (OED)

I did a quick straw poll the other day – I asked 10 people to give me the first thing that came into their mind after I had said Saint Lucia - everyone said holiday and Caribbean, most mentioned The Pitons, other mentions were – beach/sand and sea, honeymoon, luxury and bizarrely one person said divorce but I guess that`s a whole other story! **to read the rest of Sallies blog click [here](#)**

There are three new projects in St Lucia, they are...

[Working with disadvantaged youth](#)

[Heritage and Environment Preservation and Conservation](#)

Special needs education (soon to be added to the site)



A note from Sylvester and Zan in Saint Lucia



We at Scribal are very happy to be Local Partners for people and places in St. Lucia. Things were kick started for us when Sallie visited our shores in early May. It was a busy week which was well worth it. We were able in a very short time to set up the programme and are well on our way to receiving volunteers to our first project.

So far it has been great working with Sallie and Kate and have only positive things to report about working together. As a matter of fact, we would like to officially thank them both and Harold for choosing us. We are extremely proud to be a part of people and places and look forward to receiving our first volunteer. We are committed to this venture and are very excited about things to come.

Cambodia projects—Marmite and bicycles

Our Education advisor Dianne Ashman has just returned from visiting our new Cambodia projects [Community Support in Siem Reap](#) and [Support for Child Prisoners](#)

Thanks to Dianne (ably supported by our local partner Michael and the project managers) we probably have the best quality information for these two projects that we have ever had for new projects!

But I must admit these are my favourite snippets from her reports

"Michael would really appreciate it if you brought a jar of Marmite with you "

" The most pleasant way to travel is by tuk-tuk. Many people hire a bike – the area round Siem Reap is totally flat – and one possibility would be to buy a bike (about \$32) and donate it to the place where you have been working when you leave."

To read the rest of Sallies blog click [here](#)



Calling all history and archaeology buffs



The National Trust of Saint Lucia would like your help...and you won`t need to travel!

They have plans to restore the various British Garrison buildings at Pigeon Island National Landmark but they have a problem! They cannot locate the original plans.

Can you help? This is a project you could undertake from the comfort of your own home... maybe you are a student...what a great project for you and your classmates?

Please contact sallie@travel-peopleandplaces.co.uk for more info. Read more about our volunteer programme with The National Trust of Saint Lucia [here](#)

Pioneering volunteers to new projects

In our previous newsletter, we wrote about several fantastic `new` projects and destinations ... and here we are, just a few months later, confirming our first volunteers to..... Click [here](#) to read more



A chance to meet us in November

We`d like to meet you ... and we are sure you`d like to meet each other as well. Previous opportunities to get together have always been really popular and very well received (we are frequently asked to arrange socials more often!), so we`re delighted to announce this next date for your diaries:

Saturday, 19th November 2011 – in Newport Pagnell (M1 junction 14)

To find out more click [here](#)



Discounted flights for volunteers!

people and places has recently been accepted as a partner by a great charity www.flyforgood.com Not only do they promote the volunteer programme, but they also can access discounted flights to many of the countries where we work.

So please remember to ask us before you book your flights and we may well be able to help you gain a discount! And whilst we are talking about discounts - remember if you choose to return to the same project as a volunteer, we will discount your placement fees too!



News from our local partners

The most important news first: welcome to the latest additions to our Peruvian partners` family! Bringing major life changes, twins have arrived ... We wish Amelia and Nicholas health and happiness! And we wish parents, Quinn and Marlen stamina!

Learn more about the project at [Manu Learning Centre](#) and read [News from our local partners in Peru](#)

Our non - exec chair the Teddy Bear

Those of you who read [our last newsletter](#) will know that Kate and I awarded him "the Silver Badger" in our BAFYA `s - well the Indian press has gone one better with this!

"Harold Goodwin, the Englishman leading the Responsible Tourism movement worldwide, has a good impression about Malayalis....

Goodwin, a professor of Responsible Tourism at Leeds Metropolitan University, is a person who cannot be easily missed. He is a stocky **teddy-bearish man** with a square juggy face adorned by a salt and pepper beard and fitted with twinkling blue eyes.

[read the whole article in The New Indian Express](#)

You may also like to read what fellow players in tourism have said about him [here](#).

Our favourite is:

"Harold you are the lynch pin, tackling tough issues like Johnny Wilkinson. Great working with you, wouldn`t want to work against you or even get tackled by you for that matter."



Now our local partners are blogging too!

You can follow some of our partners as they expound on their blogs

[Paul Miedema Port Elizabeth South Africa](#) [Anita Singh Soan Ibex India](#)

Which reminds me ... Are there any volunteers blogging who we don`t know about!

Follow us on Twitter and facebook

Come on you know it makes sense- all this social networking stuff is becoming important!

Twitter-pandpvolunteer

facebook page [click here](#)

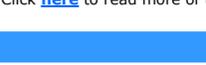
join us now and keep up to date with all the news.

PS- don`t ever expect to hear from Kate on these - she doesn`t know her `face` from her `tweet` ... email and tele-communication are her limits

Ed nor me! the only tweeting I am interested in comes from the birds in the trees!

No more chalk dust at Amar Jyoti School

We are very pleased to see how the volunteering over the first season has made such a positive impact. Click [here](#) to read more of this letter from our local partner



News from Education for All – Morocco

Sunday 1st May dawned with cloud and heavy rain but this did not dampen the spirits of the girls of Dar Ouirgane or Dar Tinnel who all woke very excited and enthusiastic about the last minute preparations before the guests arrived. Floors were washed, rooms tidied and tables laid with trays of biscuits and cakes, coffee, mint tea and freshly squeezed orange juice. The guests would not be hungry or thirsty after their mid-morning feast!

Click [here](#) to read the blog



Mo Mos in Kathmandu

This from Raj, our local partner in Kathmandu.

An enhancement to the cultural experience during the volunteering experience in Kathmandu is the newly started GO LOCAL series at *socialtours*, which boasts several options of discovering hidden secrets of Kathmandu.

Some of experiences are already embedded into the Kathmandu program, such as the `cook like a local` culinary courses which teach how to cook Nepalese dishes, and the off the beaten city walk, "Kumari Trail Following the Living Goddess" ... these programs will help appreciate local cultures deeper and enhance the volunteering experience in Nepal.

Cook like a local on Facebook - <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Kathmandu-Cook-like-a-Local/195803570464718>

Kumari Trail on Facebook - <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Kathmandu-Kumari-Trail-City-Walk/191268057577091>



Short-term and luxury hotel - is this responsible voluntourism?

When it comes to banging on about responsible volunteering – we at *people and places* are out there at the front of the demos!

One of the hottest topics of debate is whether or not short-term volunteering mixed with a holiday – `voluntourism` – is responsible. We think it`s controversial too – and so it should be!

In the midst of this current controversy, we are proud to announce the latest SHORT TERM VOLUNTOURISM trip with [ITC Giving](#) in St Lucia – where travellers will visit and work with a project supporting marginalised youth.

For us responsibility is simple – is it a win for visitor and community alike? If not, it`s not responsible in our book.

So - [Click here](#) for the rest of Sallie`s blog



Support Tim as he climbs Kilimanjaro for Calabash Trust

Why support The Calabash Trust?

The **Calabash Trust** is based in Port Elizabeth and channels support from Tourism into sustainable development in disadvantaged communities within and around Port Elizabeth.

Through [Face Africa](#) I have been fortunate to be involved with Calabash for a number of years and have borne witness to some of the amazing achievements this NGO has made happen in these communities. We have been a small part of some of these achievements and our aim with supporting Calabash through our Kill Climb is to provide financial support to ensure the continuation of this work.

Learn more about the climb and how to support Calabash [here](#)

Name - calling

thank you from Kate, our placement director:

"I`ve been called some names in my time, but how about this lot from volunteers` phone calls and emails in the last few weeks: – `charming`; `thorough`; `understanding`; `helpful` ... as well as being accused of having `a bad shoulder` and `a listening ear` ..."

I may need to revisit my character reference ...

But seriously – thank you, everyone, for your kind comments and your appreciation of our work here at *people and places*. I am indeed one of the world`s fortunate people with a job I love and where I spend my time communicating with some truly inspired and inspirational people – I love it!"



Kate being "helpful"- Sallie without "a listening ear"

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Please let us know which email address you would like to be unsubscribed as some people have emailed us with a different address to the one we have on record and it causes much confusion for me!