

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



Winter newsletter 2011

Editorial

Those of you who read the last (Autumn) newsletter may remember me saying....

"Apologies for the late delivery of this newsletter, I will put together a short and sweet newsletter for December and hopefully next year we will be back on course!"

oh well the best laid schemes of mice and men often go astray! Of course I didn't take into account the fact that Kate and Sallie can't resist the temptation to fill ever square inch of the newsletter!

Of course there are so many wonderful stories and great news, how could the newsletter be any shorter!

Follow the blog for regular updates on all projects - Sallie posts as much news as possible on the [blog](#), there is often more news than Kate and Sallie are able to email out to individual volunteers.

If you can't read this email click here to download a PDF file



We have to get out more! the road show was sooooo good!

Kate and I love the volunteer road shows and our mail box after such events show us that the volunteers past and future who attend them really enjoy them too - so we are determined to do more and we already have plans for the next one on March 3rd in Chester, so click [here](#) to find out more.

Sallie

"I've never seen another volunteer organisation that takes so much care"

After receiving the invitation to my first road show in early September, (and finally sorting out all the logistics necessary to attend it), I began to wonder what the day would be about.

"A gathering of past, present, and possible future volunteers", said Sallie, "Come and talk about Cambodia, and you can answer any questions about our Cambodian projects".

That proved to be a pretty good description of events, though my discussions with people covered a wide range of topics.

To read the rest of Michael's blog click [here](#)



Unspoiling the family— guest post from Donna Okell

I've recently read, with interest, a number of articles regarding trends in travel, and in particular in the luxury travel sector. Combine this with my recent and increasing interest in Responsible Tourism, and you have a fairly interesting combination. I've often wondered how Responsible and Sustainable Tourism can work effectively in the luxury sector; I believe it can.

Listening to Michael Horton from the [conCERT programme in Cambodia](#) speak at the fabulous *peopleandplaces* event in Newport Pagnell last week, I realized I was not alone in believing in the Responsible Luxury Travel model.

to read the rest of Donnas' post click [here](#)

Come and meet us

These events are SO popular that Sallie and Kate are arranging several more during the first six months of 2012 - the first of which is now planned for March 3rd in Chester. We're delighted to extend this invitation before the busy - ness of the forthcoming holiday season takes over! And we would urge you to get the date into your diaries as soon as possible!

To read more click [here](#)



Working with children - a little responsibility is a dangerous thing

In an earlier post I posted extracts from two journal articles written by myself and our local partner in Cambodia about the ethics of volunteer programmes that engage with vulnerable children. ([Read the original post here](#))

These articles were published in the journal "Progress in Responsible Tourism" edited by Xavier Font and Harold Goodwin of The International Centre for Responsible Tourism and published by Goodfellow Publishing.

To read an update from Xavier click [here](#)

"Do you play marbles"

"Do you play marbles, Grandfather Peter?"

The question came from a wide-eyed six-year-old girl as I walked across the expansive courtyard of [Samata School in central Kathmandu](#), capital of that fascinating country, Nepal.

She had broken away from her group of similar-aged chums, her dark eyes searching my face for an answer.

"I used to," I said.

She put her right hand into the pocket of her shabby little jacket and brought out a small glass marble, barely half an inch in diameter.

"I have had this all my life," she said, her dark eyes glowing with happiness. "I want you to have it."

To read the rest of Peter's story click [here](#) and have your tissues ready!



homestay or guesthouse ... where shall I stay?

Where there are lots of accommodation options for volunteers - as is the case in Port Elizabeth - it can be a difficult decision. Shall I stay in the township; in a guest house; township in the week & guest house or trips away at weekends ... ???

We provide general information about location options, costs etc., and are always willing to help as much as we can ... but what really helps with the decision-making is for volunteers to find out what others think ... so we introduce them to each other and enable them to chat away and share their thoughts!

to read more of this blog click [here](#)



Monica emails from Kathmandu

25th October

Hello
This is only going to be a short email, as I'm feeling pretty weary, so I'll hopefully do the camping trip tomorrow - suffice it to say, it was great, if exhausting.
We got back to our hotel about 6.30pm, desperate for shower and hair wash, but at reception they couldn't find my laptop, just the main luggage. I was so upset, and after running up and down to my original room from reception 5 times, up 4 flights of stairs, I was near to collapse. They called in the boss man from front desk who said he would come in, but I asked to give me 15 minutes for shower.

to read the rest of Monica's emails click [here](#)



teachers prepare for volunteer placements in Nepal

Three UK teachers - Nicki, Evelyn & Lorna - have been talking with each other for months in preparation for their placements in [Amar Jyoti School](#). All 3 were able to meet in Leeds last month, and there's been lots of emailing to and from, with our local partners at [Tiger Mountain](#) joining in too!

It's fantastic to read all their ideas of what to take /what not to take, how their placements have been taking shape - Nicki began her placement on 19th October, and has now been joined by Evelyn and Lorna.

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



We are so excited - video interviews - hear from volunteers themselves!

Here at *people and places* we have a very steep learning curve - needs must and all that. Not for us a visuals and promotions budget...sigh

For months I have realised that...

1. We must interview our wonderful volunteers and make those videos available to all - especially future volunteers.

2. In order to do that someone - ME - had to master the joys of posting on YouTube.

[So here is the link to our new YouTube channel.](#)

Subscribe and then click "also email me each new upload" and you will be able to keep up to date with all the latest volunteer videos.

The first half dozen or so were filmed at our latest volunteer road show

Thanks to Paul for being camera man and interviewer.



Like cycling or Morocco or both

then take a look at the great charity bike holiday in Morocco where cycling is optional!

Education for All - the charity we work with in Morocco - is organising a wonderful holiday where you can cycle and stay in wonderful hotels....or not cycle and stay in wonderful hotels!

learn more [here](#)



HOT off the press!

This is such recent news it nearly missed the newsletter

Tribes travel - what a great new partner

We are really thrilled to be working with such a trail blazer in responsible travel.

here is the [press release from Tribes sent out only this afternoon](#) - and here's the link to the programme! [Click here](#)

NEW!! Tribes Travel offers Volunteering

2nd December 2012

In a brand new and exciting development, Tribes is delighted to announce that they are now offering superb volunteering experiences to clients.

Tribes is working in partnership with the volunteer organisation, *people and places*.

click [here](#) to learn more



And finally - we are thrilled - the newsletter is so jam packed there's no space for Sallie to write about her October trip to morocco - but she will be blogging about it soon so why not subscribe to the blog [here](#) and click on register (under META)

Kate and Sallie join me in wishing you a peaceful and healthy holiday season and all you would wish for yourselves

Thanks to all who have supported us this year and here's to 2012!

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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!

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