

West Lancs Scouts present...

**SUMMER 2015 EXPEDITION TO
NORTHEAST GREENLAND**



PROSPECTUS



West Lancs Scouts MOUNTAINEERING GROUP

Registered Charity Number 521712

Affiliated to **The British Mountaineering Council**

Member of the **YOUNG EXPLORERS' TRUST**



SUMMER 2015 EXPEDITION TO NORTHEAST GREENLAND

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*"We are the Pilgrims, master; we shall go always a little further;
It may be beyond that last blue mountain with snow,
Across that angry or that glimmering sea"*

The Golden Journey to Samarkand – James Elroy Flecker 1884-1915

SYNOPSIS

During four weeks in the summer of 2015 a team of Scouts from West Lancashire will be undertaking an expedition to Liverpool Land in Northeast Greenland.

The objectives of the Expedition are:

- To offer developmental opportunities to young people from the Explorer Scout and Scout Network sections of West Lancs Scouts, and to develop the leadership and organisational skills of the Leaders.
- To experience and explore the Arctic Wilderness.
- To climb remote mountains – some previously unclimbed.
- To undertake a degree of scientific research and exploration.
- To promote Scouting!

BACKGROUND TO WEST LANCS SCOUTS MOUNTAINEERING

The West Lancs Scouts Mountaineering Group was formed in the autumn of 1998 in order to bring together a team of experienced leaders to promote and deliver mountaineering in all its forms, at the highest possible level, to the Scouts in West Lancashire. Every year since then, the Group has provided half yearly meets in North Wales and the Peak of Derbyshire, ski trips and, significantly, an annual ten day "Snow & Ice" winter mountaineering programme in the Cairngorms that provides the opportunity for up to 100 members of the Scout County each year to develop their mountaineering skills in winter conditions.



Since 1999, the Group has organised a biennial Alpine trip. Destinations have included the Dauphine Alps, France; Arolla, Switzerland; Saas Grund, Switzerland; Jotunheimen, Norway; and the Oetztal Alps of Austria, twice!

It should be noted that West Lancs Scouts are a charity and the leadership and instruction on all these events remains on the voluntary basis that is the backbone of Scouting.

The Group actively promotes the professionalism of mountaineering skills within Scouting and a large number of leaders have undertaken national governing body awards. Personal qualification levels within the Group include an MIC, several Winter Mountain Leaders, and a greater number of Mountain Leaders.

The success of two previous Greenland expeditions, Milne Land in 2004 and Ren Land in 2007, allowed members of those expeditions to gain team and personal achievements they are still immensely proud of to this day. Highlights included climbing over 50 separate mountains, of which 49 of them were first ascents; mapping over 1,000 square miles on both Milne Land and Ren Land; collecting scientific data for many rare species; and being able to do all this through Scouting!



PROPOSED AREA OF EXPEDITION – LIVERPOOL LAND

An extensive range of north-south aligned peaks situated immediately to the north of Scoresbysund village and to the east of Hurry Fjord and Constable Pynt at 71 degrees N. Bordered by the Greenland Sea to the east, Liverpool Land offers a fantastic range of mountains (some possible first ascents) reaching heights of up to 1300m above sea level. From our glacial base camp, the team will be able to access both South and North Liverpool Land, thereby optimising the number of possible objectives during our time in the field.



THE TEAM (See separate supplement)

The team is made up of a mixture of backgrounds and interests, both in the leadership and participants. All Leaders are well qualified by relevant experience and qualification, and it is expected that all participants over the age of 18 will have at least undergone UK Mountain Leader Training. Whilst we are fortunate to have a Paramedic as a member of the Team, all members will have a standard first aid qualification and several members are first aid qualified to a very high level (REC5 Wilderness/Expedition First Aid).



All team members, even the younger ones, are already well experienced, with Alpine and Scottish Winter training under their belts. A comprehensive training programme is already in place; in particular, the full team will have a week's intensive training on the Jostedalsbreen of Norway in August 2014.

LOGISTICS

Around the end of March 2015, all equipment and rations will need to be packaged for outward freight by sea to Iceland and airfreight to Constable Pynt. The Expedition team will fly to Iceland in mid-July for an overnight stay in Iceland, before flying the following day to meet up with the freight at Constable Pynt. Powerboats will then shuttle the team across Hurry Fjord, followed by a 20km trek inland to reach base camp. Over the following four weeks, small teams will journey up and down the spine of Liverpool Land fulfilling objectives of the Expedition. Being within the Arctic Circle, there will be 24-hour daylight for all the time in the field.

Logistical support is being provided by Paul Walker of Tangent Expeditions.

OBJECTIVES

Developmental By the time the Expedition departs, Explorer Scouts and Network will have taken a full role, through specific sub-groups, in the planning and organising of the Expedition. From catering to kit lists, first aid to finance... and the rest! All those over 18 will have at least completed Mountain Leader training, most having qualified.

In the field, all members will be seen as equals as far as possible – and opportunities will be made for completing Duke of Edinburgh's Gold and Queens Scout Expeditions.

Experience and Explore The vastness and isolation of the Arctic is something that is never forgotten. To tread lands previously untrodden is sobering. To have the opportunity of doing this as part of a homogeneous team, where your well-being is dependent upon your fellow traveller, is something very special.

Climb remote unclimbed mountains A number of the mountaineering objectives in the area have been resolved. From attaining the summit of an unclimbed mountain, to being the first to traverse the pinnacle ridges, to topping the spectacular rock spires seen from the aerial photographs; these are the objectives that will challenge the team. The team comprising of members of the Scout Association, with all levels of ability from trekker to rock climbing specialist, and everyone in between.

Undertake a Scientific programme This will be developed over the coming months with support and steers from institutions. Current thoughts are orientating around an ecological/environmental programme, and a human physiology programme within the Expedition team.

In addition, the Expedition is happy to undertake further testing or research as may be requested by its sponsors.

COSTS

The Expedition is organised on an "equals" basis, with leaders as well as younger members contributing equally. In other words, the final overall net cost will be divided equally by the number of participants. The more that can be raised from grant funding or by donations in kind, or discounts, the less the final personal costs.

Whilst costs cannot be finalised until 2015, the following is a realistic assessment, allowing for price inflation for 2014 and 2015.

PROJECTED COSTS

		TOTAL BUDGET (20 Members)
Travel	To UK Airports Return	0
	To Iceland	6,000
	Iceland to Greenland (TANGENT)	60,000
	Internal	Tangent Incl
		£66,000
Accommodation in Iceland		500
Freight		Tangent Incl
Food	£6.00/day x 30 days	4,400
		<i>? Donations</i>
Equipment	Expedition	1,500
	Personal	Personal Cost
Insurance		5,000
Preliminaries - Preparation & Planning		1,900
	(To include Maps/Training/Etc)	
Prospectus & Reports		3,000
		82,300
Contingencies 5%		4,100
<u>TOTAL ESTIMATED COSTS</u>		£86,400

The accounts of the Expedition are subject to the procedures and controls of West Lancs County Scouts and will form part of the annual audit of the Scout County.

POST EXPEDITION

A comprehensive report will be produced and copies of this will be provided to all people and organisations that have supported the Expedition. Full acknowledgment of support will be given, and any support commitments fulfilled.

SUPPORT

Any level of support will be gratefully received, whether it be financial, in kind, by discount or in thought.

We thank you in anticipation.



*Centenary Peak, Renland
Summer 2007*