

Himalaya Adventure

At Easter in 2006 I will be going to Nepal with the Scouts. I have been in Scouting for 8 years and this will be my biggest challenge yet.

However it is not just a personal challenge. I will be doing community work as well. A charity, "Education, Protection & Help for Children", is currently building a school for children on the streets of Kathmandu. We will be painting the classrooms and will also be taking out educational posters and lots of books to help the children with their education.

It is very important for the Nepalese children to learn English as tourism is their main industry and speaking English will enable them to get a job in the future.

We will be working with local Nepalese scouts and the trip will qualify for the Duke of Edinburgh Award. The actual trip will be 15 days long with a seven-day expedition in the Himalayas. We will be walking the Annapurna trail. This is the same trail that Michael Palin did on his TV series Himalaya. We will be going up to a maximum altitude of 3,500 feet.

In order for me to go I need to raise £1,200. The Scouts are organising several fund-raising events but I also need to do my bit individually. I am willing to do all sorts of odd jobs to raise money- washing cars, gardening, shopping etc. I am also hoping to have a cake sale after the June Family Service to raise money.

When I get back I may even do a short talk about my experiences and let you see some photos!

If you are interested please speak to me at church or phone 020 8460 5242.

Stewart Cox

A Message from Matt

The summer holidays have now started here so nearly all the projects are closing till July 1st. But the Boys and Girls Home are still open so I will be spending my time there teaching English, playing games and hanging out with the kids.

During the week Mia left to go back to Sweden after spending seven weeks doing a practical assignment for her university course. On the way to the airport on Tuesday night we were going along a dual carriageway when the tyre went 'POP' we were stuck in the fast lane with lorries skimming by while the driver changed the wheel in the dark! We got there safely in the end though!

During the week I went into Delhi with four boys from the handicapped centre, they went to a selection course for a chance to represent Delhi in the Special Olympics in Calcutta in June. I helped with some coaching which was brilliant fun. Hopefully I will be able to go with them if they are selected.

Matt Newman

