

Bulletin 14

Occasional news and snippets for participants, leaders, and supporters of Malawi 2024

May 2024

Malawi location map

The map below shows our main locations in southern Malawi.

For guidance, times from base camp to: Blantyre (30–45 mins); Zomba Treez project (1.5–2 hours); safari (2.5–3 hours); Lake Malawi (4–4.5 hours); Mt Mulanje (1.5–2 hours).

Flight changes . . .

Due to flight reschedules by Ethiopian Airlines, our new departure dates are:

Group 1 depart 28 July (arrive 29 July)

Group 2 depart 30 July (arrive 31 July)

More details to follow.



Malawi 2024 - Bulletin 14

Carbon offset projects

Berkshire Scouts have a carbon offset fund which is serviced by surcharges added to international events such as Project Africa (Uganda and Malawi) as well as events similar to Alps22 and Alps25.

It's been approved that £5,000 from the carbon offset fund can be used for three carbon offset projects in Malawi (in addition to the planned local community projects). The projects are:

Zomba Treez (£2,500) – the traditional approach is to plant more trees, but this alone can be ineffective. Trees are often cut down and used as firewood or sold by the locals. The <u>Zomba Treez</u> approach is to incentivise local communities to keep the trees alive. They do this by sponsoring local clubs, football teams, netball teams, etc, but the annual sponsorship payments are directly linked to the number of trees kept alive each year.



Sustainable stoves (£1,500) – we have identified an opportunity to provide safe and fuel-efficient cooking stoves for up to ten rural communities. Each stove costs circa £150.

Solar panels (£1,000) – we will be purchasing portable solar panels that will initially be used by our Scouts when in Malawi (there is very limited power in the project area). At the end of the event, the panels will be donated to our charity partner Joshua.

Leader briefing

A full day leader briefing was held on 12 May. The main focus of the programme was very much on safety matters and risk assessments.

The programme also included some 'what if?' scenarios to check our critical incident plans.

Time was also spent on cultural awareness and getting to know more about Malawi.

Key dates and links!

Final payment of £900 is due on 30 May.

Final training weekend takes place during the weekend of **21–23 June** at Dorney Wood campsite.

Final Briefing for participants/parents/leaders Tuesday 2 July Garth Hill College, Bracknell

Please share our JustGiving link (fundraising for central projects) as widely as possible: www.justgiving.com/campaign/projectafrica2024



ORBIS EXPEDITIONS

Useful links

<u>Online Shop</u> <u>Malawi 2024 web page</u> <u>Malawi 2024 Facebook page (public)</u> <u>Malawi 2024 Facebook page (group)</u> <u>Project Africa Facebook page</u>

For information and general enquiries: africa2024@berkshirescouts.org.uk

Malawi 2024 – Bulletin 14