

AROUND THE WORLD IN
800
DAYS

On the 8th May 2012, artist Andy Smith and biologist Emma Smart, two valiant adventurers, plan to set off on an expedition of a lifetime. Together they are planning on circumnavigating the world by 4x4.

Rather than race like Phileas Fogg, the pair have decided to put a twist on Jules Verne's classic adventure and take a much more leisurely approach, giving themselves 800 days to travel the world. They will visit over 50 countries; encountering people and places, having fun, learning, helping and sharing their experiences as they travel.

As conscientious travellers the duo plan to share what they learn on their travels and work with various charities to help

give back to the communities that welcome them.

Using both their backgrounds as a starting point they plan to work with charities in the more poverty stricken countries they visit. Their trip is already a low-cost endeavour so unfortunately any financial support for these charity organisations would be minimal. What they can offer however, is time and extensive knowledge (well, they have plenty of time).

The duo are willing to help wherever needed and are focusing on community based educational, social and environmental projects. Some charity projects are already confirmed with many more in the pipeline.

Emma will run short courses on the local environment and wildlife whilst Andy will run art workshops which could include drawing, painting, textiles, photography, woodwork and sculpture.

Despite their enthusiasm and experience, which was gained on previous trips, the duo are aware that this trip is ambitious and that its success will be in the planning. Lucky then that Emma has a qualification in expedition planning and has previous experience in planning expeditions with wildlife documentary crews around the Middle East.

This knowledge and some serious grit and determination will ensure that the trip will be a success.



The road to Salalah, Oman

About - Andrew Smith

I was born and raised in Guernsey, Channel Islands. I am a practising artist and have exhibited worldwide. Along side this I am a keen graphic designer and have a healthy interest in all areas of creativity, including photography, illustration and music. I have worked extensively in the arts including teaching in higher education and working as a Community Arts Development Officer.

I am also the founding member of the Readerswives Collective, a group of young artists, designers, writers, photographers and musicians who enjoy working on collaborative projects. In March 2008 the Readerswives Collective opened the Centre Fold Gallery and studio in Guernsey. This was a non-profit venture to provide the island with cultural events in the form of exhibitions by international

practitioners from areas such as graphic design, illustration, fine art and photography as well as independent exhibitions in these areas produced by local artists.

Working as an Art Technician for 8 years I have developed many practical skills from mechanics to carpentry, sewing to metal work and all areas in between. This role also meant that I had to have a good understanding of first aid and fire safety equipment too.

Whilst at university I would travel back to Guernsey for Summer Holidays and would work in many different areas. I gained experience in tree climbing and tree felling, working as a landscape gardener. I also gained much IT experience

working as an IT engineer. In 2001 I worked for a summer in Cyprus as an Extreme Sports instructor on a S.C.A.D. This gave me a great understanding of climbing equipment. This role also meant that I was responsible for the safety of the public at the top of a 80m crane. It was out in Cyprus that I first met Emma.

I have travelled fairly extensively around Europe and have visited the USA and Canada countless times, I have also travelled the Middle East and recently visited Nepal. I have a passion for cars, bicycles and adventuring.



About - Emma Smart

I have lived and worked in the UAE for the last 9 years as a marine biologist. I have had various environmental jobs whilst using the geographic location of Dubai as a springboard from which to visit Asia, the rest of the Middle East and further afield. I have spent time in India, Nepal, Tunisia, Brazil, Sri Lanka, California, Nevada, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Yemen and Jordan.

On arriving in the UAE I worked as a production manager for a wildlife documentary series, planning and managing expeditions across the Arabian Peninsular. Whilst exploring in Oman I discovered a new species of freshwater fish, *Garra smarti*. This led to the establishment of my 'wadifish' project. I was also directly involved in the establishment of the UAE's first mountain protected area.

I have also worked for Emirates Wildlife Society/WWF, where I planned and initiated several awareness and education programmes locally and worked with federal and municipal government departments, NGO's, schools and universities, communities and the corporate sector within the UAE.

More recently I was employed by Ecoventure; working at a field research centre in the desert near Dhaid in the UAE. Here I taught students of varying ages from 7 up to A-Level about the importance of conservation.

Last year I worked as a consultant with the BBC Natural History Unit in Bristol on a new wildlife documentary series focusing on Arabia.

My obsession with travelling started in October 1993, my grandfather - the legendary Bernard Davenport took me on a trip that changed my life forever. We spent 3 weeks in the Himalayan kingdom of Nepal, 2 of which were spent trekking to Everest base camp. In 1995 I set off to Delhi and spent 7 months in India teaching and travelling.

During my postgraduate studies I spent some time researching in Mexico which helped reinforce my passion for travelling.



About - 'Bee Bee'

'Bee Bee' is the third and some might argue the most important member of our team. She is an exceptionally clean 1994 Toyota Hilux Surf SSRX 3.0 Ltd auto diesel that has been meticulously cared for by her previous owner for the last 7 years. She has uprated suspension to handle the extra weight and to accommodate the off-road tyres.

Lovingly titled 'Bee Bee', a shortened version of Roadrunners famous catch phrase and an abbreviation of sorts of 'Black Betty', a song by Ram Jam;

"She's so rock steady (bam-A-lam)

And she's always ready (bam-A-lam)"

We are currently in the process of completing all the preparation work to bring her up to expedition standard. This includes many modifications including toughened bumpers with a winch, safari snorkel for water crossings, a fridge, water tank and hot water shower, uprated cooling system, compact storage and most importantly our bedroom for the next two years, a Maggiolina roof tent.

The vehicle we have chosen is renowned for being built like a brick and replaces our previous, much newer 4x4. It may seem a little crazy that we have decided to trade in a nice new reliable car for a 17 year old used vehicle, but logic does reign here.

Older cars can be repaired by any mechanic with the most basic of tools, whilst newer cars rely on Microsoft Windows and a knowledge of diagnostics that any doctor would be proud of. The latter is few and far between in Mongolia.

As much as our beloved 'Bee Bee' is a gas guzzling monster we have calculated that on our trip we will actually produce 41% LESS CO2 per day, proving that our planned adventuring lifestyle is significantly more sustainable than living in a typical British house.

Together with our resourceful mechanical knowledge and Bee Bee's lucky champagne cork rear view mirror charm we pretty much have the tools for a successful trip.



Various Bee Bee photographs prior to expedition modifications

Route



This is the proposed route, we have allowed room for plenty of improvisation over the 800 days. Even with the most stringent of plans we cannot guarantee that travel through some of the countries we want to visit will be straight forward.

- Leg 1 - UK to Australia
- Leg 2 - The Americas
- Leg 3 - Africa



Various photographs by Andy Smith & Emma Smart from Oman and Nepal

Confirmed Charities (more tbc)

Volunteer Placement 1 - Turkmenistan Youth and Civic Values Foundation (Turkmenistan)

The Turkmenistan Youth and Civic Values Foundation is a non-profit organisation dedicated to developing and encouraging civic values, international experience, and community engagement amongst the people of Turkmenistan. We are currently in discussions with the organisation as to how we can work together to help young Turkmen students hoping to apply for University in the UK.

<http://www.tycvf.org>

Volunteer Placement 2 - Emmanuel Children's Home (Kerala, Southern India)

Emmanuel Children's Home has 160 residents ranging from orphaned children, vulnerable young women, boys and girls from extremely impoverished single parent families and youngsters with physical disabilities. We will be spending one month at the home to assist in teaching English, organising fun activities and running educational courses.

<http://www.emmanuelchildrenshome.com>

Volunteer Placement 3 - Sitinoraiti Orphanage (Pangururan, Northern Sumatra)

Lake Toba is the location of Sitinoraiti Orphanage, where a small group of children are cared for by this independent charity. The objective is not only to house, educate and care for the children, but to continue to help them into work. During our month's stay at Sitinoraiti we hope to assist with the general day-to-day running of the centre, coordinate educational programmes and arrange leisure pursuits and English conversation classes.

<http://www.sitinoraiti.com>



Website

Half the adventure is in the preparation for the trip and so we have set up a website to document every aspect of our journey. In the past 16 months we have gained a considerable amount of knowledge about the world and how to complete a trip of such epic proportions. Over the coming months leading up to our departure all of our knowledge will amalgamate on our website and will hopefully become a useful tool for fellow adventurers.

The website will also document the highs and lows of the whole trip, right from its inception with the blog acting as a valuable constant in what is going to be, at times, a very chaotic journey.

Our family and friends will be able to keep track of our progress via the website; as well as it being a very useful promotional tool.

The website is linked to our Facebook page where we are slowly gaining fans through our constant presence on the many overlanding travel forums and websites. We expect the traffic to our website to increase significantly once we set off and gain media exposure throughout the countries we visit.

The website will also help us to keep in contact with the many new friends we are likely to encounter on the way.

If you'd like more information about our trip you can view our website here...

<http://www.aroundtheworldin800days.com>

or alternatively you can contact us via the following methods...

aroundtheworldin800days@mail.com

<http://www.facebook.com/aroundtheworldin800days>

00 44 (0)7781 126890



Various photographs by Andy Smith and Emma Smart from Oman and Nepal

Sponsor and donate

Sponsor #1 (£100)

Value to us

This level of sponsorship will guarantee that we can purchase all the materials we will need to run educational workshops at our chosen charities.

Value to you

Your company name will appear on our website

Exposure in locally

Monthly updates of our progress.

Association with an environmentally conscious project.

Sponsor #2 (£250)

Value to us

This amount of sponsorship will guarantee that we can purchase all the materials we will need to run educational workshops at our chosen charities. We will also be able to donate cash to enable our chosen charities to complete valuable projects.

Value to you

Your company name will appear on our website

Media exposure locally and around the world

Association with an environmentally conscious project

Your company logo will appear on our vehicle

Donation £

Sponsor #1 £100

Sponsor #2 £250

Name of company:

Contact name:

Contact email:

Contact tel no:

Please indicate which package you would like with a tick or fill in how much you would like to donate, and return the form to **Andy Smith, La Forgette, Rue De La Vallee, Torteval, Guernsey, GY8 0PW** or email **aroundtheworldin800days@mail.com**

Thank you in advance for your support.
