

The Livingstone Trans–Africa Expedition 2014–2015



“The mere animal pleasure of travelling in a wild unexplored country is very great... Africa is a wonderful country for appetite... No one can truly experience the charm of repose unless he has undergone severe exertion.”

–Dr. David Livingstone

Introduction.

This is a short paper which sets out the opportunity to become a sponsor of **The Livingstone Trans–Africa Expedition**. A two man team comprising of Jack Wrigley and Angus Aitken are planning to recreate Dr. Livingstone’s feat of a coast to coast crossing of Africa which he completed in 1854–56.

The expedition will set out from Luanda in Angola in early November 2014 and reach Quelimane in Mozambique seven months later. The total distance covered will be approximately 5000km.

The expedition will be conducted entirely by means which would have been available to Livingstone – by animal, on foot and by dug-out canoe.

A three part documentary series will be made recording the expedition as well as the legacy which Livingstone and his ideas have left on the areas he explored.

Objectives.

An expedition retracing Livingstone’s trans–Africa journey on its 150th anniversary would be a fitting way to honour his legacy and to address those struggles for which he made his crossing; namely slavery and the future of Africa’s commerce.

The expedition will also seek to raise £60,000 shared equally between three charities addressing the contemporary problems these regions now face. The project will promote the profile of these charities as well as their sponsors. Our

chosen charities are The African Wildlife Foundation, The Halo Trust and The Butterfly Tree charity.



Dr. Livingstone – fought to end the slave trade in Africa and bring legitimate commerce to the continent.



The Route:

We will follow Livingstone's original route as closely as possible. However, small deviations for minefields and other known dangers will have to be made. This will take us through modern-day Angola, Zambia and Mozambique.

Livingstone had come to Luanda from Makololo to find a route for legitimate commerce to the Atlantic which could undercut the slave trade and therefore stop the abhorrent practice. However, Livingstone was unsatisfied with the route he had marked out to the Atlantic. So on the 20th of September 1854 he began retracing his steps back into the interior in order to take his Makololo followers back to their home and to conduct further research on the Zambezi river. He hoped the river would act as a navigable highway from the interior of Africa to the Indian Ocean. He reached Quelimane in Mozambique on May 25th 1856. He was the first European to make such a crossing from one side of the continent to the other and was lionized by the British press as well as across the world. Livingstone's legacy is credited with the subsequent 'scramble for Africa' towards the end of the 19th C.

The Team:

Jack Wrigley and Angus Aitken have known each other for a decade and have embarked on numerous expeditions together under the aegis of **Blue Horizons Films**. The largest being their 1000 mile odyssey with nomads across Outer Mongolia on horseback and camel in 2011. This has been made into an acclaimed independent film *Blue Horizons: A Journey with Nomads*.



Angus Aitken



Jack Wrigley

A year later they navigated the entire length of Lake Malawi in a traditional fishing boat. A film (*The Voyage of the Nkhwazi*) is currently being produced and is due for release in the summer of 2014.

Charities:

The expedition will support three charities, each dealing with a fundamental issue across southern central Africa. It aims to raise £60,000 divided equally between the following causes:

- **The Halo Trust** works to destroy landmines in areas afflicted by war. It is involved in both Angola and Mozambique. Landmines were laid in Angola during the 27 years of conflict that followed independence from Portugal in 1975. Considerable progress is being made; although HALO estimates that it will take another decade to clear the mines. In Mozambique HALO is helping to clear vast swathes of mines resulting from the 1977-92 civil war which was a proxy for the Cold War.

www.halotrust.org





- **The African Wildlife Foundation** helps to protect endangered species in southern central Africa. The AWF has brought together all stakeholders in Mozambique, Zambia, and Zimbabwe to develop management strategy for the 40,000 elephants which roam in the Zambezi Heartland landscape. In 2003, the AWF completed the first-ever coordinated, cross-country aerial survey in this landscape. AWF's conservation work was then adjusted to more appropriately focus on securing additional habitat for elephants and other large herbivores. These plans designate zones for wildlife movement corridors, biodiversity conservation/wilderness areas, agriculture and human settlement, tourism development, fishing and non-fishing.
www.awf.org

▪ **The Butterflytree Charity** – works to develop education in rural Zambia. For the past eight years they have built new schools, enabling children to go to school for the very first time, added classrooms to existing schools, installed bore holes and latrines and provided seeds for sustainable feeding programs. They have an orphan sponsorship program, which has enabled hundreds of children to receive an education up to the end of high school.
www.thebutterflytree.org.uk

“If you have men who will only come if they know there is a good road, I don't want them. I want men who will come if there is no road at all.”

--Dr. Livingstone

Sponsor Benefits:

This is an opportunity to become involved in a Great British expedition. We are looking for a lead charity sponsor of £15,000 and supporting sponsors to offer £5000. There will be extensive national coverage having built up good relations with the press through our two previous expeditions and previous fundraising enterprises. The sponsors will be afforded the following benefits:

- 1) **Being an integral part of a young British expedition** that will raise £60,000 for three charities.
- 2) **Publicity**, including:
 - A launch photo at your office
 - Coverage on the expedition website (and your website link)
 - Regular progress updates and blogs
 - A charity cheque presentation upon the expedition's return
- 3) **Exposure** to personal sponsors.
- 4) **Thanks in the documentary** series to be produced.



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