



Royal Geographical Society (with IBG)

- Shane Winser- Geography Outdoors: the centre supporting field research, exploration and outdoor learning





Supporting fieldwork

- Grants for Students

- The Society provides grants to support university students undertaking overseas field research
www.rgs.org/grants

- **Geography Outdoors**

- Advice, information and training for anyone planning overseas expeditions or fieldwork.
www.rgs.org/go

- L&L Fieldwork apprenticeships

- Opportunities to go overseas in summer of your first year as a geography fieldwork apprentice
www.rgs.org/L&L



Supporting
Fieldwork



What are your motives for planning an Expedition?

- Strong research interest
- Keen to travel
- Develop new skills
- One way of doing a dissertation
- See the world





Project ideas can come from many places

- Links with host country NGOs
- Personal knowledge of an area / tutors
- Surveys commissioned by host country
- Researchers who have visited the area
- Scientific journals (new knowledge)
- Baton passing from previous expeditions



Expeditions Database

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Home » Fieldwork & expeditions » Expeditions database & reports »

Fieldwork What's on Geography today Press & Media Networks Join us

Expedition database and reports

The RGS-IBG houses a unique collection of over 5,000 expedition reports detailing achievements and results of research from almost every country in the world.

Are you planning an expedition?

The Society's expeditions database is the place to begin. Search the database of over 10,000 planned and past expeditions recorded since 1965, including the above mentioned reports. See who has been to your area or done similar work before and learn from them. Then please add your own plans to the database and keep us informed of how they go.

Have you lead or taken part in an expedition?

If you have returned from an expedition, please send us your report and if you haven't already, register the details on our database.

Download our Guide to Writing Expedition Reports for advice on how to write an expedition report (PDF)

How to consult a report

Search the expeditions database to identify the reports you wish to see, and email the Foyle Reading Room or Fieldwork and Expeditions team for an appointment.

If for any reason you can not visit the Society, email us and we may be able to provide you with a copy. Costs are in the region of 10 pence per page.

To search the database and add your own expedition details, as well as other contacts, please use the links on the left and right of this page.



Royal Geographical Society with IBG

Advancing geography and geographical learning

RGS-IBG links

- Foyle Reading Room
- Expeditions and fieldwork advice
- Writing an expedition report PDF
- Search the expeditions database
- Add your expedition to the database

Send email to

- Fieldwork & Expeditions
- Foyle Reading Room

- Accessibility statement
- Terms & Conditions
- Contact Webmaster
- Download Adobe Reader
- RGS-IBG is not responsible for the content of external internet sites

SHARE

- Record of 8,500+ past & planned expeditions
- Searchable online

W: www.rgs.org/expeditionreports



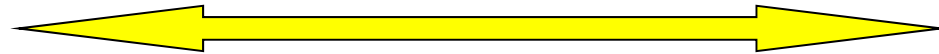
But of course there will be constraints

- Research skills of the team
- Time in the field
- Availability of facilities & equipment
- Environmental & seasonal constraints
- Money
- Political stability
- Safety concerns



● ● ● | **Expeditions and
Science -1**

Token
Science



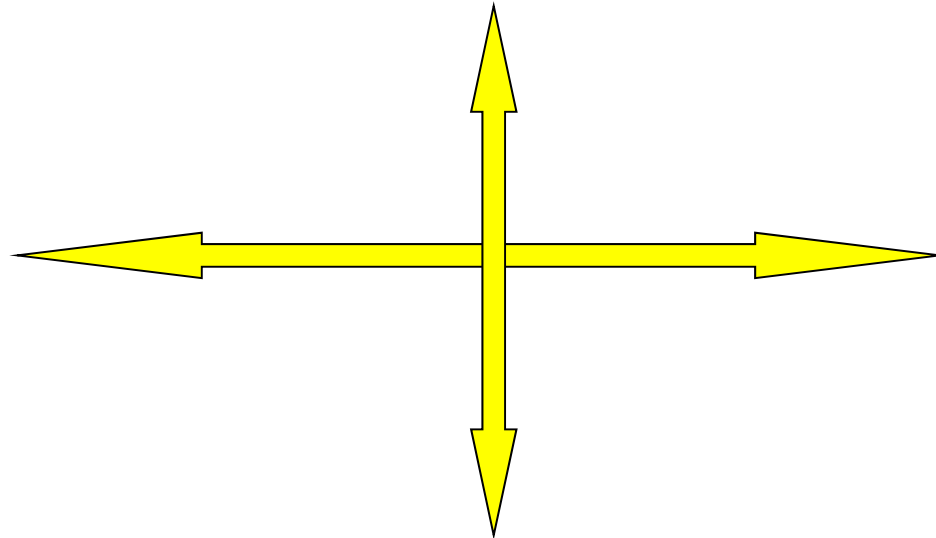
Major
Research



Expeditions and Science -2

Epic Adventure

Token
Science

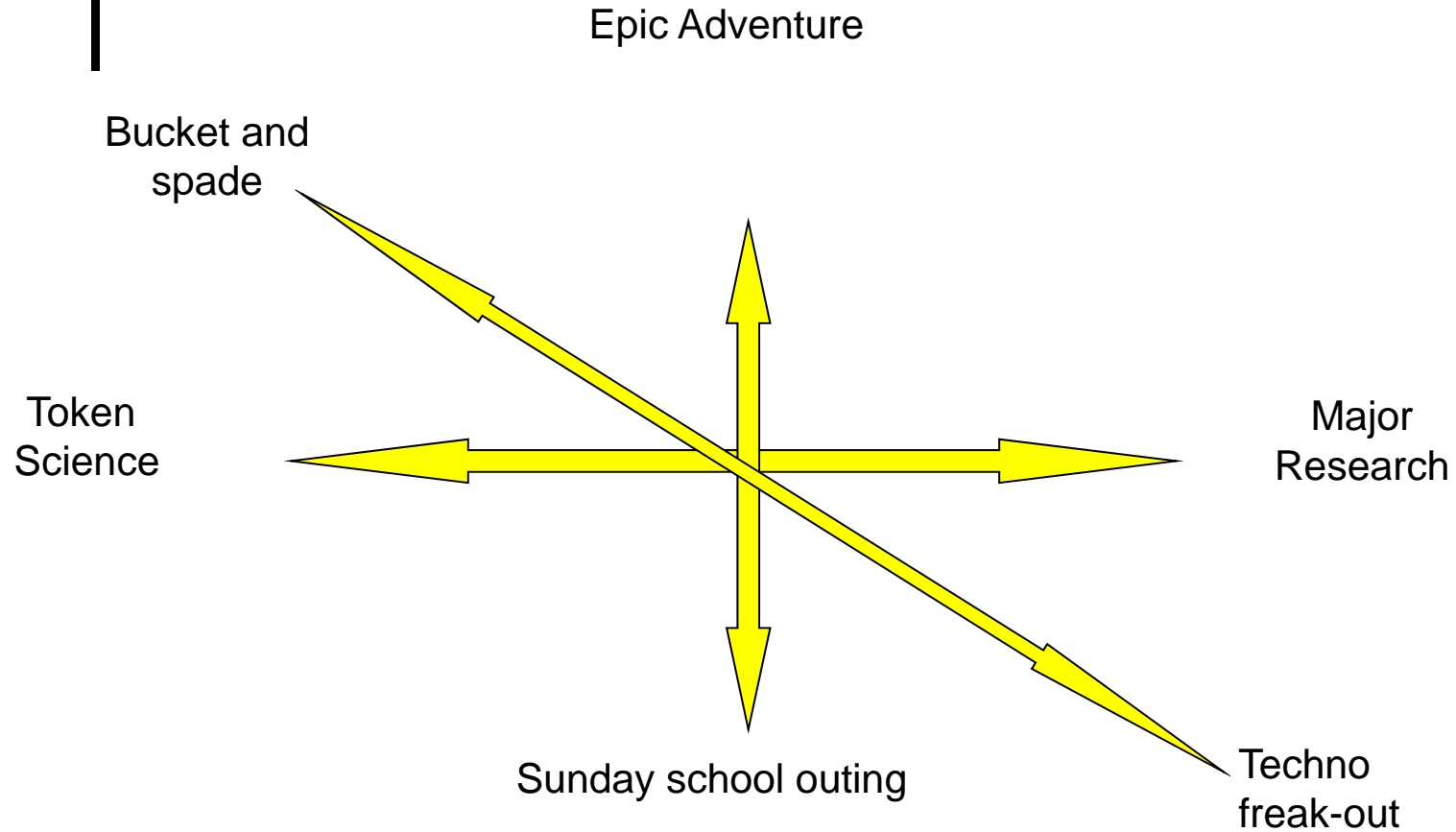


Major
Research

Sunday school outing



Expeditions and Science - 3





Working with local people

- Helps identify priorities
- Expands learning opportunities
- Greater pool of knowledge
- Avoids 'academic imperialism'
- Makes working in country easier
- Can facilitate the permissions
- More likely your work will be needed & valued



Geographical Fieldwork Grants

- RGS-IBG Endorsement
- Several grants of up to £3,000
- Available to teams only
- Over £70,000 available each year
- 20+ approved and supported expeditions in 2015

Getting Funded: Top 10 Tips

1. Review the **criteria** carefully – make sure you are eligible
2. **Answer** the questions asked
3. Have a **purpose** (aim, objective, question, hypothesis) set in a broader context
4. Provide enough detail and evidence to convince the panel you are **credible** and **capable** and know how to **achieve** your purpose and you/your team have the training/expertise to do it safely
5. **Consult** widely – experts here and in-country
6. Show you are **committed** and **prepared** – make contacts, get permissions, develop a timeline; develop a realistic **budget**
7. Referee Statements – do not leave last minute – make sure **referees** are informed!
8. Be **safe and responsible** – develop a risk assessment & crisis management plan; identify environmental, social and cultural impacts and strategies to minimise and mitigate these
9. Demonstrate you will **share your findings/ give something back**
10. **Apply!**

W: www.rgs.org/grants

E: grants@rgs.org



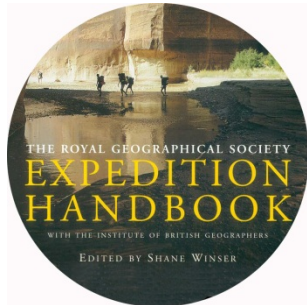
Other funding sources

- Top Tip: **Apply to lots of places**
- We are here to help
- www.rgs.org/grants
- grants@rgs.org; go@rgs.org



GO Publications

www.rgs.org/GOpubs



- ◆ **Expedition Handbook**
(key chapters available on website)
- ◆ **Oxford Handbook of Wilderness Medicine**
- ◆ **Logistics: Tropical Forest, Deserts, Polar, Underwater, & Caving**
- ◆ **Field Techniques**
e.g. GIS Manual, People, Education, Birds, Insects, Bats, Reptiles
- ◆ **Bulletin of Expedition vacancies**

www.rgs.org/GOpubs



EXPLORE 2015

weekend 13-15 November



Image: © J. Watt

RGS-IBG expedition and fieldwork planning weekend

Over 100 leading field researchers and explorers will run workshops, lectures and advice desks to help you plan an overseas expedition or field research project.

Opening lecture on Friday 13 November

'Inspiring a generation: why expeditions for the young, and the young at heart, matter'

Where: RGS-IBG, 1 Kensington Gore, London, SW7 2AR

Tickets: Prices start at £55 for the weekend

For more information or to make a booking contact Geography Outdoors

W: www.rgs.org/explore T:020 7951 3030 E: go@rgs.org



Top Tips

- ➔ **Aim:** be clear about what you plan to do and why
- ➔ **Objectives:** how are you going to achieve your aim?
- ➔ Don't be too ambitious
- ➔ Success is in the planning
- ➔ Be enthusiastic





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