



KENT SCOUTS

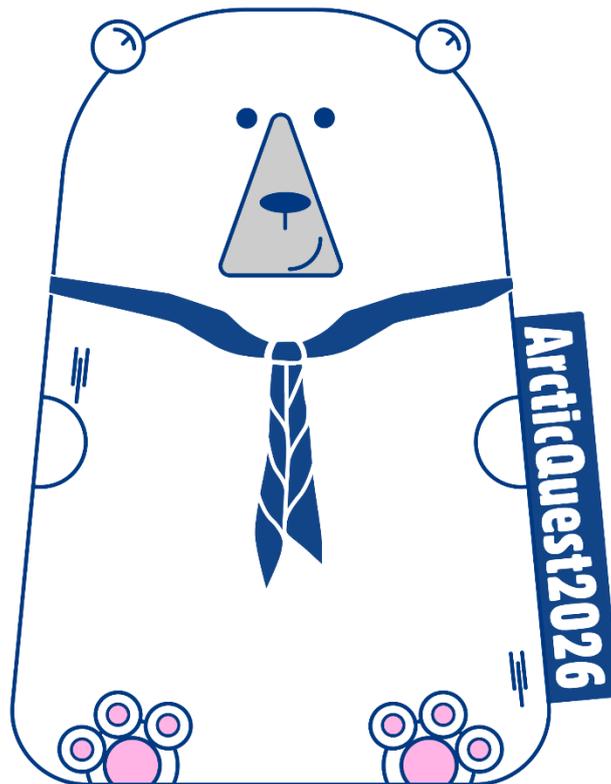
Global Projects

GLOBAL PROJECT PLAN V4

CONFIDENTIAL

For County Trustees, Steering Committee & Project Leadership Team ONLY

ArcticQuest2026



Compiled By

Alan Noake

**County Visits Abroad and Community Impact Sub-Team Leader
(Global Projects)**

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Project Overview:

ArcticQuest2026 is a Kent Scouts global project aiming to deliver an adventurous tall ship expedition in the Arctic, scheduled for April 2026. Inspired by historical polar explorers, the project combines youth development, scientific research, and outreach, building on the legacy of previous successful expeditions such as REQUEST2021.

Key Dates:

Expedition: Tuesday 21st April – Sunday 3rd May 2026 (Note: Recently revised dates).

Objectives:

Voyage: Undertake a challenging sailing expedition in the Arctic (Svalbard region) aboard the s/v Rembrandt van Rijn.

Projects: Engage participants in group and personal polar research projects, contributing to climate action and environmental awareness.

Heritage: Celebrate the achievements of Frank Worsley and other polar pioneers.

Outreach: Share the experience widely with young people and the broader community.

Team & Structure:

20 participants (aged 18–24) plus a leadership team (25+), divided into patrols for operational flexibility.

No formal selection process; commitment and willingness are key.

All leaders and participants must complete safeguarding, DBS, and first aid training.

Logistics & Practicalities:

Travel includes flights from London to Oslo and Oslo to Longyearbyen.

Accommodation in Oslo is planned, with most time spent aboard the expedition vessel.

Accommodation in Longyearbyen is to be avoided if possible, due to high costs.

A budget of £1250 per person for transport and accommodation. £200 per person for activities. Strict safety, risk assessment, cancellation, refund and conduct policies are in place, including robust emergency and communication protocols.

Financial Summary:

Total project budget: **£133,320** (approx. £6,666 per participant).

As of October 2025, over £92,000 has been raised; A group fundraising shortfall of

£31,004.35 remains, with a request for a £25,000 loan from the County Trustee board.

Ongoing fundraising includes JustGiving, merchandise, events, grants, and sponsorships.

Partnerships & Risk Management:

Main expedition partner: Oceanwide Expeditions (ship charter agreement now in place).
are detailed to protect participants and project viability.

Aims & Objectives

Overall Aim: Following on from the success of the REQUEST2021 Antarctica Global Project the aim is to continue in the footsteps of Scout Marr who went north in 1925/26 and completed polar research on Frank Worsley's British Arctic Expedition.

Revised Dates: Tuesday 21st April to Sunday 3rd May 2026.

Regretably we are *no longer able to keep to the Kent Easter School Holidays 2026.*

Proposed Objectives

- VOYAGE – An adventurous expedition 'Under sail in the Frozen North'.
- PROJECTS – Undertake group & personal projects and present the results.
- WORSLEY – Celebrate the achievements of Frank Worsley.
- OUTREACH – Share the experience with thousands of young people.

Practical Considerations

SLEEPING ACCOMMODATION

We have 2 age groups – Networkers (18-25) & Senior Leaders (>25 for the purposes of this project).

Ideally both ranges need to have some sort of separation for sleeping arrangements.

Whilst the Network Scouts and Senior Leaders are all adults in the eyes of the law in Scouting terms Network Scouts are still a "youth" section.

In the field this may simply be dealt with by hanging a screen or carefully allocating rooms/cabins.

DBS & TRAINING

All leaders and networkers to complete DBS and to have done safeguarding training.

All participants to have up to date first aid certification.

PROJECT WORK

Undertake a group polar research project to involve all participants in some capacity.

Carry out personal projects to gain the Iceberg Award.

Present the results in a variety of formats.

All participants need to ensure that they have appropriate clothing, footwear & equipment to suit undertaking project work.

THE NORWEGIAN SCOUT MOVEMENT

There are two Guide and Scout organisations in Norway, the YWCA-YMCA Guides and Scouts of Norway (green shirts) and the Norwegian Guide and Scout Association (grey shirts).

If anything should happen while the project is in Norway or the Arctic, the Government will contact one of these organisations in Norway to offer its assistance in whatever way it can, and this reassurance is worth having.

INSURANCE

A specialist insurance policy will need to be put in place. Estimate based upon Trailfinders comprehensive worldwide policy (<https://www.trailfinders.com/insurance>). Under £100 per person. [Action xxx]

VISAS

No visa is required for a trip of less than 90 days to the Arctic.

MONEY

Recommended spending money for the trip is around £250 (including £100 for meals out). Emergency funds to be held by group leaders. (Exchange rate: Approx 13 Norwegian Krone to the pound as of October 2025.)

EXTRA EQUIPMENT

Project resources - art & science equipment - divvying up across people's luggage. Aiming to use about a quarter of the luggage allowance for taking resources.

PATROLS (S=Senior Leader, N=Networker)

	<p><i>Polar Bears</i></p>	<p>Michael Keam (S) Gemma Wood (S) Toby Gardner (S) Oliver Breed (N) Jordan Giannasi (N)</p>
	<p><i>Arctic Foxes</i></p>	<p>James Burford (S) Lydia Vadgama (S) Joseph Day-George (N) Samuel Buisson (N) Jack Quinney-Martin (N)</p>
	<p><i>Narwhals</i></p>	<p>Tim O’Brine (S) Ricky Baker (S) Amy Schipper (N) Nicholas Mullins (N) Sophie Mothersele (N)</p>
	<p><i>Arctic Wolves</i></p>	<p>David Wraight (S) Paige Iveson (S) Alex Maciver (N) Katrina Davenport (N) Jenson Smith (N)</p>

Patrols will only come into effect if the team need to split down into smaller groups.

IN-TOUCH SYSTEM

Our InTouch emergency contact for the project is **xxx** [Action xxx]

Tel: **xxx**

Email: **xxx**

If there is an expedition incident parents should contact the Project Team via **xxx**, and not directly, to improve & centralise communications and avoid any misunderstandings. If **xxx** is unavailable or out of contact then communication can be made via Kent Scouts County Office on 01622 397070 or info@kentscouts.org.uk

“CHAIN OF COMMAND”

Should the worst-case scenario happen the following “chain of command” will be implemented if David Wraight, or others, are unable to run the project for any reason: -

1. David Wraight	3. Mike Keam
2. James Burford	4. Lydia Vadgama

GLOBAL PROJECTS CODE OF CONDUCT

- Appropriate clothing must be worn by all as advised by Team Leaders.
- Consider if you really want to take your mobile phone, reception may be poor or non-existent.
- No inappropriate language.
- No degrading or disrespectful comments or behaviour to others
- No bullying.
- No inappropriate behaviour.
- No smoking out of designated areas.
- No drunkenness.
- No drugs.
- No inappropriate sexual behaviour.
- Respond to instructions from leaders quickly and without question.
- Uphold the Scout Law and Promise

PROJECT LEADERSHIP TEAM

- * David Wraight
- * Lydia Vadgama
- * Tim O’Brine
- * Helen Smith
- * Gemma Wood

- * James Burford
- * Ricky Baker
- * Toby Gardner
- * Mike Keam

David Wraight: Involved as an adult in Scouting for over 40 years David is currently Assistant County Commissioner (International) and an Explorer Scout Leader with the 38th&40th Strood Explorer Sea Scout Unit. He has worked on many international camps and expeditions both in and outside of the United Kingdom, including working with other members of the team on the Kent Scouts Kilimanjaro expedition. As well as being involved in getting Kent Scouts afloat or up in the hills he has also found time for his own trips up into the Arctic. He was a group leader for our Kent Scouts Ghana2018, Ghana2022, Kenya2024 and Botswana2025 global projects.”

James Burford: “xxx” [Action xxx]

Lydia Vadgama: “xxx”

Ricky Baker: “xxx”

Tim O’Brine: “xxx”

Toby Gardner: “xxx”

Paige Iveson: “xxx”

Mike Kean: “xxx”

Gemma Wood: “Gemma has been running a Squirrel Scouts group with her leadership team since 2022. Prior to this she volunteered with the Cub section with 1st Ockendon Scout Group in Thurrock. Whilst living and working in Thurrock, where was part of Network. She has been involved in Explorers (in Kent) for a short period of time.”

Project Team Size

Number of Participants: 20

Participants Age Range: 18 – 24 with Senior Project Leaders, 25 and over).

Selection Process

No formal selection process for this Global Project – just a willingness and commitment to see the project through to completion. A reserve list is being maintained.

Norway/Arctic:- [Action xxx]

- Project Leader (25 and over) – David Wraight
- 8 assistant project leaders (25 and over)
 - James Burford
 - Gemma Wood
 - Lydia Vadgama
 - Ricky Baker
 - Tim O’Brine
 - Toby Gardner
 - Helen Smith
 - Mike Keam
 - Tim O’Brine
- Coordinating Projects (Chief Scientific Officer) – Tim O’Brine
- Photographer (Any Participant) – xxx
- ArcticQuest26 Media Officer (Any Participant) – xxx
- Quartermaster (Any Participant) – xxx
- ArcticQuest26 Treasurer (Any Participant) – xxx

United Kingdom:-

- In Touch – Alan Noake
- Media Team (UK), to liaise with ArcticQuest26 Media Officer – Dave Norris
- UK Project Treasurer, to liaise with ArcticQuest26 Treasurer – Alan Noake

Pre-Project Meetings & Training

- Project Launch with Leaders – 17th April 2023
 - Project Launch with Participants – 14th May 2023
 - Online Teem Meet Up Session – 20th September 2023
 - Team Building at Wildwood, Canterbury – 2024
 - Pre-Camp / Training Session at Lower Grange Farm – xxx Feb 2025
 - Final Pre-departure Briefing – xxx Mar 2025 [Action xxx]
-

Getting There and Around

Flights

We are working with a group booking supplier we have used before (ST Fly) to get the best deal. [Action xxx]

Indicative Flight Cost - London to Oslo (Return): £170

Indicative Flight Cost - Oslo to Longyearbyen (Return): £300

BUDGET **£500** per person to allow for splitting flights, 23Kg luggage and inflation.

Transport

Bus No. 30 to Fram Museum in Oslo: £3 (Approx)

Transfers between Longyearbyen and the ship (s/v Rembrandt van Rijn) is included in the voyage cost.

Accommodation

GROUP BOOKINGS: www.tripmastery.com (Good for group hotel searches)

Hotel - Oslo

Indicative CityBox Oslo £50 per person per night. (<https://cityboxhotels.com/hotels/oslo>)

(Note: Alan Noake has stayed there before – it is a great central location with small but clean and comfortable rooms.)

Hotel - Longyearbyen

Accommodation in Longyearbyen is to be avoided if possible, due to high costs.

David's notes: "Had a long talk with the tourist information centre staff today. They confirmed my suspicions that the only "cheap" places to stay in Longyearbyen are listed under guesthouses here <https://en.visitsvalbard.com/>

We would need to talk to the guesthouses direct as the site only handles booking of up to eight.

I think if we want to visit Longyearbyen for the Slavbard Museum, Polar Exploration Museum and limited local shops, all in same area, we might be better having everyone onboard ship for the event and negotiate arriving back in Longyearbyen a day early for some sightseeing and a last night on ship before the following early morning fly out."

Proposed Activities & Excursions

Oslo Activities (Under Consideration)

We will adjust the activities chosen to ensure that they fit within the available maximum budget of £200 per person. [Action xxx]

Fram Museum

<https://framuseum.no/the-museum/plan-your-visit/>

Norwegian Scout and Guide Museum

<https://www.visitoslo.com/en/product/?tlp=2985433&name=Norwegian-Scout-Museum>

Opera House Tour

Harbour Cruise

(Note: Alan Noake has done all these activities before so will be a useful source of information.)

<https://www.visitnorway.com/listings/the-polar-museum/127034/>

Tobogganing

(Note: Lydia Vadgama has done this activity before so will be a useful source of information.)

Other Ship / Landing Activities

David's Notes: "Talking to captain and guides it seems that April sailing is, due to climate change, becoming more of a thing as less fixed ice forms; however, it is cold and if people are outside that's going to mean plenty of layered fleece, face shield and

warm hat (or balaclava), snow goggles, sun glasses, thermal underwear, good quality mountain gloves and spares, light thermal inner gloves for camera use etc and full waterproofs - and spares of all that. While ordinary clothes will do onboard with some trainers they will certainly need a fleece. So there is going to be some expense for people.

Under Norwegian law people using zodiacs for embarkation and disembarkation must be fully dressed for the weather and be wearing waterproofs and appropriate footwear. Still working on what that footwear might be.

It terms of going ashore, the only option would seem to be walking but even for short trips in April that's likely to require snowshoes, another cost even if hired, as well the kit listed above and a day sack. Walking/ snowshoeing will require a degree of fitness, think of an IMC weekend. You are usually starting at sea level and are immediately moving upwards. The two photos show a shore party bottom right and the party (zoom in) about 30 minutes later.

Sailing on the ship is most motor with sail as the wind allows. There is a lot of roll just under motor, under sail is more balanced and less stressful on the non-sailing stomach but I suspect a lot of our participants will require some good sea sickness medication at the start. When sailing assistance on the ropes hoisting and lowering the sails is an option. As this is schooner rig everything is managed from the deck so there no going aloft."

Best option would seem to be to spend a day/night in Longyearbyen at the beginning of the trip - options to visit Slavbard Museum, Polar Expedition Museum (both have entry fee) and local shops. Could stay and eat in town but possibly more expensive than arriving and spending a day with the ship in dock for an extra day and with sleeping and catering onboard.

Possible option for trip during winter is to work with company to develop a training programme so participants learn:

- * both chart and map based navigation
- * Share watches with professional crew
- * hoisting and setting sails - in reality, like most big ships, once set they pretty much stay on the same setting for long runs of many hours. Other issue is that conditions often dictate motor over sail. Any sailing at Easter will be on the West of Slavbard - gulf stream means less fixed ice than the inaccessible East

*training ashore probably based around half day sessions due to extreme weather and participants experience- snowshoeing and glacier crossing/rescue.

Snowshoes can be supplied by boat

Harnesses can be supplied but need to be specifically requested.

Ski poles/walking poles are not supplied so participants will need own with snow baskets (the small baskets supplied with good walking poles can be replaced with snow baskets)

Guide ratio (guides are armed and polar bear trained) is normally one to seven; however, one to ten is mentioned in some of the literature but this is probably a company decision we need to follow.

Any going ashore programme will be heavily ice/weather dependent i.e. if there is too much ice extending over the shallow water the Zodiacs might not be able to drop off or pick - tides may also affect this.

The programme suggestions come very much from the guides. The company may willing to use their guides with the skills required for training or they may want some middle option.

Still looking at footwear- there issues about what to use as stepping in and out of zodiacs and landing areas can involve getting boots in the water; okay for knee high wellingtons or sailing wellies but these may not be best for snowshoeing.

KIT DOCUMENT: 2025_OEX_Expedition_Manual_ENG.pdf – David would want to add to this.

Boots: “So, having played a larger part in today’s landings as I had the right footwear as opposed to most people’s ski boots and talking to the guides, a rubber style boot is best and something like the Muck Artic Sport or Muck Ice are the best. You can forget walking boots, no good for landing in surf and sailing boots do not have the grip or robustness for snowshoes.

The Rembrandt van Rijn does not carry rubber boots but other boats in the Ocean Wide chain do, so maybe it’s possible to hire them from another ship, if people are not buying their own. Snowshoes I am told can be hired from the ship but we would need to check.”

Timeline for Project Participation

2022	Feasibility Study Form Steering Committee Early Planning Session Agree Leadership Team Finalise participants
2023	Early Meetup Session Fundraising activities T-shirts, Badges & Neckers issued
2024	Meetup Sessions Fundraising activities
2025	Meetup Sessions Fundraising activities Activity base at KIJ25
2026	Final Briefing Mar 2026 Project April – May 2026 Post-project presentations

Group Equipment

GROUP EQUIPMENT LIST

- Group medical supplies
- Group first aid rucksack
- Portable Defibrillator

Name for the Project

ArcticQuest2026

Social Media

[ArcticQuest2026 Facebook group](#)

Instagram Name: [ArcticQuest2026](#)

Twitter/X Name: [ArcticQuest2026](#) (Suspended?)

Hash Tag: #ArcticQuest2026

Website: www.ArcticQuest2026.org.uk

PROJECT EMAIL ACCOUNT:

<https://webmail.livemail.co.uk>

Username: info@arcticquest2026.org.uk

Password: Worsley2026

Branding

Main logo – polar bear themed



Badge – based upon main logo



Necker – Expedition Team ONLY



Woggle – also polar bear themed



Project Patrons

Louis Rudd MBE.



Louis Rudd MBE is a record-breaking polar adventurer, expedition leader, former Royal Marine Commando and SAS soldier, with 34 years of service. He is the first – and only – person to have traversed Antarctica twice using human power alone, has reached the South Pole four times from different coastal start points and summited Antarctica's highest mountain. He is a member of the exclusive Explorers Club, a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, an Ambassador for ABF The Soldiers' Charity, Director of Expeditions for Shackleton, a Published Author and accomplished Public Speaker.

In May 2018 Louis self-organised and guided a team of five civilian friends on a 570km west-to-east traverse of the Greenland Ice Sheet. Despite a difficult season and hurricane-strength winds, the team completed the crossing in 27 days. They were one of the few teams that season to make it across, and Louis conducted a rescue of a stranded team mate from a collapsed tent during a violent piteraq.

Dr. Amelia Rudd



Dr. Amelia Rudd is a polar expedition leader, the 7th Woman in History to Ski Solo to the South Pole and an inspirational speaker on adventure and mental resilience.

Amelia had a relatively ordinary existence until 2015. A keen runner and skydiver, she had four children and a full-time office job. After meeting a team going on expedition to Antarctica, Amelia began to wonder if someone with no experience, no time, and no money, could successfully complete a Polar expedition. It was an almost impossible challenge. But Amelia set herself the biggest goal of all; a solo, unsupported journey from the coastline of Antarctica to the geographic South Pole.

Her story is one of the highs and lows of training with the dedication of an Olympic athlete, raising tens of thousands of pounds to fund the trip, and juggling the commitments of everyday life. A full, unsupported crossing of Greenland was completed, kit borrowed, and extreme medicine courses completed. Amelia also trained in the unforgiving environments of Iceland and Norway, learning how to survive in temperatures of -30 and below.

Throughout the endeavour, Amelia gave talks to schools, companies and charities, with the aim of inspiring others – especially women and girls – to achieve long-term goals and set themselves bold challenges. Time and again, she heard ‘oh, I could never do that,’ but she was determined to prove that someone ordinary could do something extraordinary.

In January 2020, Amelia became only the seventh Woman in history to ski solo unsupported from Hercules Inlet to the South Pole. She hopes many more will come after her.

She has raised funds and awareness for ABF The Soldiers’ Charity and the Youth Adventure Trust and has worked with psychologists and cold-weather experts to advance both domestic and expedition medical science.

She is currently a full-time speechwriter for the head of the British Army and guides Polar expeditions for Shackleton London.

Amelia is relatable and honest about the self-doubts we all have when faced with challenging times. Often being described as ‘inspirational’, she offers insight into how to cope in the most difficult of situations, how to build mental resilience, and offers life lessons from the edge of existence.

At the time of writing the team have reached just reached over £90.000.



JUST GIVING VIEW (AS OF 30/10/2025)

Reconciling the accounts with County Office up to the end of October 2026 the actual project income to date amounts to **£92,375.72**. A non-trivial amount. However, to reach the **£133,320** total required to properly implement the project a further **£9,939.93** still due in from individual fundraising/payments and a further **£31,004.35** from group fundraising efforts.

Despite some sterling group fundraising efforts from most of the team to get to this point this is still a very concerning shortfall six months before the proposed expedition. The climate for fundraising generally is tough right now. The charity sector is currently facing a "big squeeze" due to financial pressures and increased competition. Many organisations are contending with donor fatigue and declining donor numbers, especially in the face of the cost-of-living crisis.

We have been implementing an ongoing group fundraising plan (See Appendix F) however time is now running out, and it falls to the following few methods to bring in any final group funds by the end of the year:-

- Group JustGiving page <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/arcticquest>
- Merchandise sales (including badges and bears) and food concessions at events.
- Final Annual ArcticQuest Online Auction – December 1st – 10th 2025.
- November 22nd Grand Quiz. [PROPOSE CANCELLING DUE TO NO TAKE UP]
- Dec 6th Ollie Breed's Fundraiser Event.
- Ongoing Grant & Corporate Sponsorship Applications.

Being realistic we are still going to be looking at a group fundraising shortfall of around **£20,000 - £25,000** by the end of the year. On that basis we are approaching the County Trustee board for a £25,000 loan to be paid back by further group fundraising and/or individual participants by the end of 2026.

BUDGET - Costs Per Participant (passing through County Accounts):

£6,666 for all participants.

ArcticQuest2026 BUDGET V1	Budget (20)
The Arctic In An Icebox Resources x 22 & Outreach	£4,000.00
Printing / Newsletters / Marketing & PR	£2,500.00
Admin (Postage, Stationery, Membership Fees etc)	£5,500.00
Pre- & Post- Expedition Events (Hotel, Hire, Camps etc)	£3,000.00
Merchandise (Badges, Woggles, Polar Bears etc)	£3,000.00
Flights, Luggage, Insurance & Accommodation (Svalbaad)	£30,000.00
Food & Activities (Svalbaad)	£2,000.00
Arctic Voyage	£50,000.00
Team Equipment (Branded gear, Group First Aid Kit, Comms & Media, Expedition Project & Scientific Kit etc)	£20,000.00
Contingency	£13,320.00
TOTAL	£133,320.00

PER PARTICIPANT

£6,666.00

REVISED TO OTHER ESSENTIALS TO INCREASE VOYAGE BUDGET (V2)

ArcticQuest2026	Budget (20)	Per Person
The Arctic In An Icebox Resources x 22 & Outreach	£0.00	£0.00
Printing / Newsletters / Marketing & PR	£500.00	£25.00
Admin (Postage, Stationery, Membership Fees etc)	£2,500.00	£125.00
Pre- & Post- Expedition Events (Hotel, Hire, Camps etc)	£1,500.00	£75.00
Merchandise (Badges, Woggles, Polar Bears etc)	£2,000.00	£100.00
Flights, Luggage, Insurance & Accommodation (Svalbaad)	£28,320.00	£1,416.00
Food & Activities (Svalbaad)	£2,000.00	£100.00
Arctic Voyage	£85,000.00	£4,250.00
Team Equipment (Branded gear, Group First Aid Kit, Comms & Media, Expedition Project & Scientific Kit etc)	£1,500.00	£75.00
Contingency	£10,000.00	£500.00
TOTAL	£133,320.00	£6,666.00

REVISED BUDGET BASED UPON ACTUAL SPEND TO DATE & REVISED VOYAGE COST (V3)

V3 (Oct 2025)	BUDGET	SPENT	REMAINING	PER PERSON
Outreach	£0	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Marketing	£170	£20.00	£150.00	£7.50
Admin	£2,000	£1,914.81	£85.19	£4.26
Events	£5,250	£5,201.35	£48.65	£2.43
Merchandise	£11,300	£11,163.00	£137.00	£6.85
Travel/Accom	£25,000	£0.00	£25,000.00	£1,250.00
Activities	£4,000	£0.00	£4,000.00	£200.00
Voyage	£80,000	£0.00	£80,000.00	£4,000.00
Equipment	£1,600	£1,329.42	£270.58	£13.53
Contingency	£4,000	£1,386.45	£2,613.55	£130.68
TOTAL	£ 133,320.00	£ 21,015.03	£ 112,304.97	£5,615.25

ORIGINAL INCOME SCHEDULE	1st April 2023	1st July 2023	1st Oct 2023	1st April 2024	1st October 2024	1st April 2025	1st October 2025	TOTAL
INDIVIDUAL	£ 200	£ 466	£ 600	£ 600	£ 600	£ 600	£ 600	£ 3,666
GROUP	£ -	£ -	£ 600	£ 600	£ 600	£ 600	£ 600	£ 3,000
							TOTAL	£ 6,666

County Bank details

Sort Code: 40-52-40 Account #: 00015563

Quoting AQ26 and SURNAME as a reference. e.g. "AQ26-NOAKE"

Tall Ship Sailing Experience

The primary objective of the project has always been to undertake an adventurous expedition '**Under sail in the Frozen North**'. We understand and respect that this was one of the key reasons why most participants signed up for this experience in the first place. There are only a limited number of tall ship options available in the Arctic Circle. Early on we identified two ships that could potentially provide the sort of adventure experience we were seeking.

The original budget and costings were based upon early discussions held with Swan Expeditions who own the Noorderlicht tall ship. However, after nearly a year of very promising correspondence with their sales manager he left the company. He clearly hadn't done a proper handover to his fellow Swan Expeditions staff members. By the time we realised he had left the company they had regrettably taken another booking for April 2026 and were unable to offer us any alternative.

So, at the end of 2024 we therefore resumed discussions with our 'back up' provider - Oceanwide Expeditions who own the s/v Rembrandt van Rijn. They gave us an indicative quote for chartering the ship however it was considerably more than the quote we had originally had for the Noorderlicht. We some adjustment of the figures we still managed to make this work within the planned budget.

Oceanwide also explained that a special licence would be required from the Norwegian Government to carry out landings from a tall ship from the waters around Svalbard during April. They had some concerns about our proposed voyage dates (Friday 10th April – Friday 17th April 2026) being so early in April and have also subsequently lost another client's contract immediately after our voyage which has significantly impacted their scheduling.

Negotiations have continued during 2025 and after much detailed discussion we have now finally received a full proposal and quotation from Oceanwide. (See appendix G). However, the bad news is that this proposal is based on the condition that we accept a change the dates for the voyage to **Friday 24th April - Friday 1st May 2026**. Whilst this now necessary change of date may not present a massive hurdle to those taking time of work, we realise it might be significantly more difficult for those of university age to adapt to these new dates.

Some redeeming good news is that in the circumstances we have managed to negotiate a £9,000 discount which will help ease the previous tightening of the budget just a little and ensure a better level of contingency for the project.

[HOLDING PAGE – DOCUMENTATION TO BE COMPILED IN DUE COURSE] [Action xxx]

Individual Projects

[HOLDING PAGE – DOCUMENTATION TO BE COMPILED IN DUE COURSE] [[Action xxx](#)]



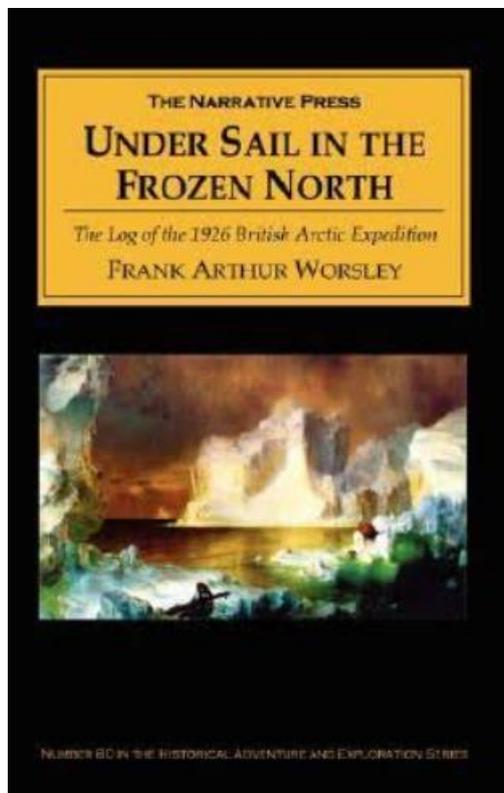
The Project Mascot – Worsley The Polar Bear has been out and about visiting Districts in Kent



The team have been selling Worsley The Polar Bear plush toys



Whilst out in New Zealand in the summer of 2024 participant Nicholas Mullins went to Akaroa the birthplace of Frank Worsley.



A number of project participants have been reading Frank Worsley's book – Under Sail In The Frozen North.

Outreach Plan

[HOLDING PAGE – DOCUMENTATION TO BE COMPILED IN DUE COURSE] [Action xxx]

Conclusions & Future Project Recommendations

ArcticQuest2026 is a high-impact, youth-led project designed to foster leadership, resilience, and global citizenship through polar adventure and research. The plan emphasises safety, financial responsibility, and broad community engagement, with clear strategies for risk mitigation and future project sustainability.

The project leadership team and steering committee feel that working with an experienced partner such as Oceanwide Expeditions for Norway and the Arctic is essential to mitigate the risks for Kent Scouts projects operating in the Arctic Circle. The experience gained on this project can be used to continue to build up a team of people to lead similar projects in due course.

Having clear policies in place for cancellation and refunds are essential on a project of this nature with this age group – there is lots of potential for participants dropping out as well as late replacement applications.

- Swan Expeditions

Christian Spaargaren

Expedition Manager

Swan Expeditions

Hopmanshof 2, 9481 BK, Akkrum

E: christian@swanexpeditions.com

W: www.swanexpeditions.com

- Oceanwide Expeditions

Florian Piper

Director Sales | Arctic Program

Oceanwide Expeditions

Visserijkade 5 | 4382 ZA, Vlissingen, NL

E: florian@oceanwide-expeditions.com

W: www.oceanwide-expeditions.com

Early Oceanwide meeting video: www.request2021.org.uk/Oceanwide.mp4

- Classic Sailing

Adam Purser

Director

Classic Sailing Ltd

Mermaids, St Mawes, TR2 5AA

E: skippers@classic-sailing.com

W: www.classic-sailing.com

- Gilwell International Team

www.scouts.org.uk/international

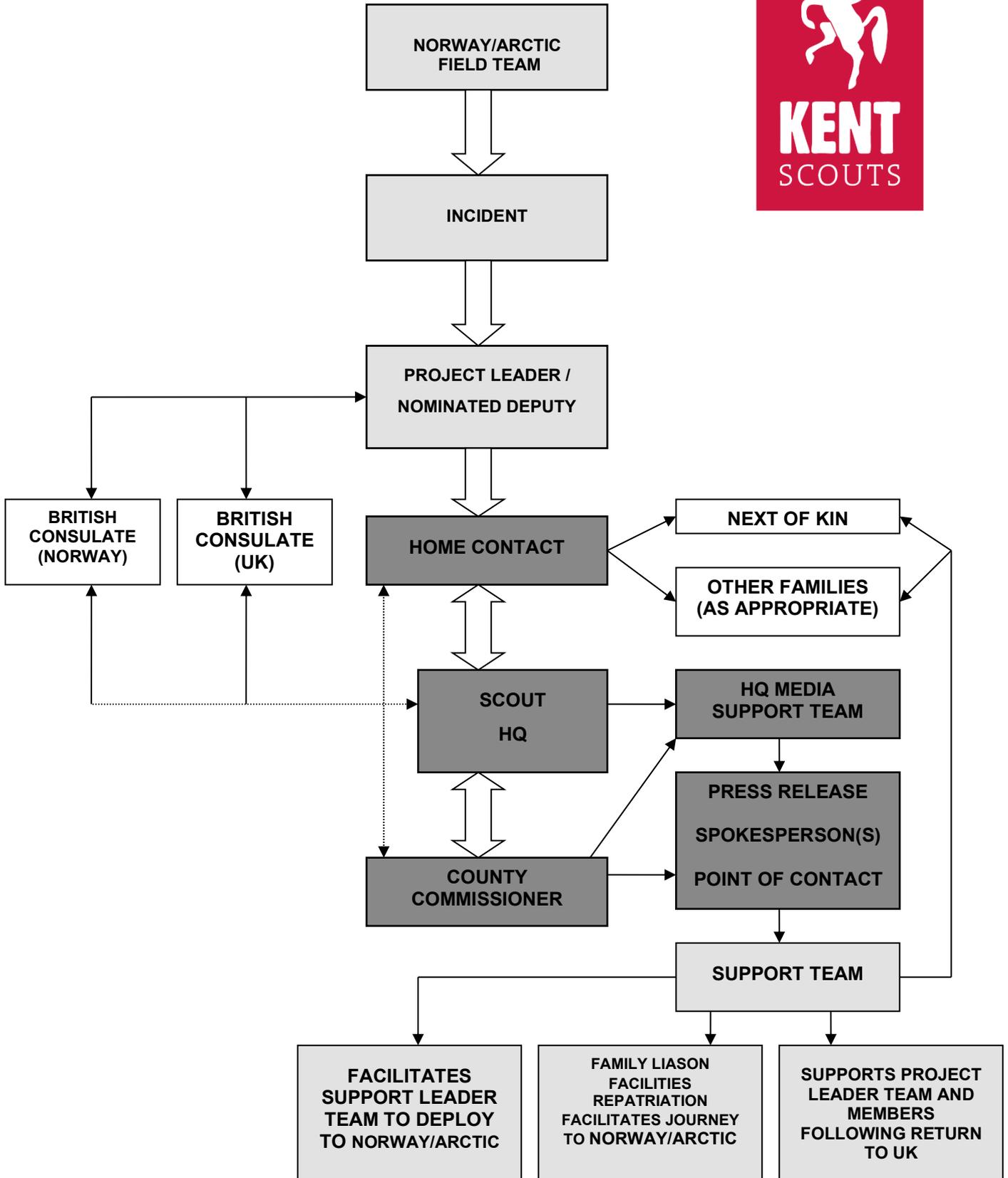
Appendix B - Risk Assessment

[HOLDING PAGE – DOCUMENTATION TO BE COMPILED IN DUE COURSE] [Action xxx]

- Everyone to participate in fundraising. Even those that pay instead assist with group fundraising.
 - Policy: personal choice to pay up front or fundraise the entire amount or a mix.
 - All participants are expected to support the fundraising in order to build team rapport in addition to more formal team building events
- Policy – underwriting from County
 - Assumption is nothing. Funding strategy may allow some pre-funding of specific items and cashflow assistance but clear fundraising schedule for viable covering of all costs would need to be available & have been approved.
- Cancellation: project level
 - Reason: Insufficient funding overall to make project viable
 - Reason: Events covered by insurance
 - Refunds to sponsors and individuals who have donated or paid identifiable amounts could be refunded (where reasonable, after incurred costs have been paid)
 - Funds from group events that is not able to be refunded to specific donors would go into county funds for future “global projects” (e.g. barn dances, badge sales etc)
 - Reason: Those not covered by insurance (acts of God, weather, wars)
 - Alert participants at that start that there are some level of events that would occur at the last minute meaning the project doesn’t occur or is not as planned (e.g. change of route or final destination) and costs have been incurred so refunds are not available (alert there is a risk of losing your money)
 - Reason: Partner organisation goes bust or pulls out
 - Depends how much cost has been incurred at this point. Refer to insured / not insured policies
 - Possible change of route or final destination
- Cancellation: leader / participant level
 - Reason: beyond reasonable control (illness, move away, redundancy, life changing event)
 - Personal payments are refunded after the balance of reasonable costs is paid (e.g. loss of insurance premium payment and deposit).

- Money raised from fundraising would be passed to their replacement participant / general project funds
 - Reason: personal choice
 - Can the place be filled? Is the money refundable without jeopardy to the overall budget? If not, no refund.
 - Reason: lack of funds from personal fundraising
 - No county underwriting available
 - Project is responsible for monitoring this and early decisions will be taken
 - Early misses: help and advice
 - Middling misses: support and warnings
 - 4 months before project: final warnings and be prepared for person to lose their place to allow time for a replacement participant to be found as last resort.
 - Ensure payment schedules are frequent from early on to allow for this monitoring to take place
- Policy: Approaching sponsors
 - Scouting at national level have relationships with some sponsors. Participants are not to approach these companies without prior approval via a coordinated approach which fits the national strategy
 - County level approaches: this is less structured than national level but there will be a level of project coordination of major sponsors
 - Project level: individual participants should not approach these people for separate requests
 - Individual requests: these may want to be monitored & recorded to ensure we don't repeat / overlap requests

CRITICAL INCIDENT PLAN



Appendix F - Fundraising Plan

Fundraising philosophy “Sell the sizzle not the sausage”. i.e., Personal Development of participants carrying out projects in the Arctic which contribute towards UN development goals 13: Climate Action and 14: Life Below Water.

- JustGiving pages for group and all participants with offline totals. [IN PROGRESS - SUCCESSFUL] <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/arcticquest>
- High profile Arctic dinner in Autumn 2024 with guest speaker: Louis Rudd MBE [DONE – RELATIVELY SUCCESSFUL]
- SquishMallow Crowdfunder: <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/arcticquest26> [DONE - UNSUCCESSFUL]
- AQ26 Badges – £1.77 each (inc. VAT & delivery). £5 each. (£3.23 profit each.)
- Polar Bear – Guess The Name (from 100 Norwegian boys names!) £5 a guess. [IN PROGRESS – SOME SUCCESS]
- Merchandise sales in Global Marketplace at KIJ25. [DONE - SUCCESSFUL]
- Merchandise sales at Gilwell Reunion. 2024 [DONE - SUCCESSFUL], 2025 [DONE - SUCCESSFUL]
- Merchandise sales and food concessions at Christmas at the barn. 2024 [DONE - RELATIVELY SUCCESSFUL], 2025 [PLANNED]
- Merchandise sales and food concessions at Other Public Events 2024 [DONE - SUCCESSFUL], 2025 [PLANNED]
- Laminated Polar Bear Sponsor certificates inc. woven badge. £10-£500.
- Annual ArcticQuest Auctions – December 1st – 10th 2023 [DONE - SUCCESSFUL], 2024 [DONE - SUCCESSFUL], 2025 [PLANNED].
- 2025: London Landmarks Half Marathon. Team of 5 Dressed as Polar Bears! <https://www.justgiving.com/page/aq26llhm> [DONE]
- 2025: November 22nd Grand Quiz. [PLANNED – PROPOSE CANCELLING DUE TO NO TAKE UP]
- 2025: Dec 6th Ollie Breed’s Fundraiser. [PLANNED]
- Significant Number of Grant Applications. [IN PROGRESS – LIMITED SUCCESS TO DATE]
- Corporate Sponsorship Applications. [IN PROGRESS – UNSUCCESSFUL TO DATE]

Tue 30/09/2025 10:16

Hello Alan,

Attached the concept agreement .

I revisited the quote and happily reduce the daily rate from EUR 14,500 to EUR 13,000 and also deduct the cost of the Fam Trip of David , as agreed .

Early January we will schedule the landing program and it would be good to find out which areas , and activities you wish to focus on. In principle we can take the vessel all the way up to North Spitsbergen and sailing + landing program will always be subject to prevailing weather conditions and availability of landing sites . Please note that in April / May / June we need to comply with 500 m distance rule to polar bears .

For the activities , I assume you wish to hike every day with the snowshoes we supply onboard . Please note that we recommend to bring solid , warm and waterproof boots for the landing program (we recommend Muck boots , knee high neoprene boots , or any other brand with similar quality) . Please expect every landing with zodiac boats to be a wet landing unless the ship will be stopping an ice flow and the gangway can be lowered for disembarkation .

Met vriendelijke groet, Best regards,

Florian Piper

Director Sales | Arctic Program

Oceanwide Expeditions (Block) Charter Agreement RVR04, North Spitsbergen

24 April till 01 May 2026

(BLOCK)CHARTER AGREEMENT

Par. 1:

Whereas **OCEANWIDE EXPEDITIONS B.V.** of Visserijkade 5 , 4382 ZA , Vlissingen, The Netherlands (as Charterer) operates with a certain vessel known as **Rembrandt van Rijn** (as Vessel), which it wishes to charter to **Kent County Scout Council**, Kent Scouts Activity Centre, Lower Grange Farm , Grange Lane Sandling Maidstone, Kent, ME14 3DA, United Kingdom (as Sub-Charterer) who desires to sub-charter the VESSEL now therefore, in consideration of the mutual covenants exchanged and contained herein, it is agreed as follows:

Par. 2:

VESSEL: s/v „Rembrandt van Rijn “

Type: three mast sailing schooner

Length o.a.: Approx. 56 meter

Classification & Flag: Vanuatu flag

Owner: Oceanwide Expeditions, the Netherlands

Par. 3: Charter / Code RVR04, North Spitsbergen : 24 April (Fri) till 01 May (Fri) 2026

Voyage North Spitsbergen, from 24 April 2026 till 01 May 2026. Total duration: 8 days / 7 nights. Spitsbergen waters only, departing on 24 April 2026 in Longyearbyen, Spitsbergen (embarkation at 16.00 hours) and arriving in Longyearbyen, Spitsbergen on 01 May 2026 (disembarkation at 09.00 hours), offering our standard North Spitsbergen itinerary as published in charterer's publications such as brochures, dates and rates and day-by-day itineraries, however always to the discretion of the Master of the vessel (see also par. 9) and limited to the capabilities of the vessel.

Sub-Charterer charts 16 cabins (33 berths) with private facilities for a total of 33 passengers in:

- 9 Twin porthole cabins (18 berths) with shower and toilet, and upper and lower bunkbed.
- 6 Inside cabins (12 berths) with shower and toilet, and upper and lower bunkbed.

- 1 Triple porthole cabin (3 berths) with shower and toilet, and upper and lower bunkbeds.

It is the responsibility of the Sub-Charterer to allocate the berths in passenger quarters needed for their escorting tour leaders.

Total net charter hire payable:

EUR 13,000 x 7 nights = EUR 91,000 less EUR 3,187.50 voucher = EUR 87,812.50 net payable

Par. 4

PAYMENT SCHEDULE is as follows:

- A deposit of 20 % (= EUR 17,562.50) of total net charter rate on 17 October 2025
- An additional 30 % (= EUR 26,343.75) of total net rate on 17 December 2025
- A final 50 % (= EUR 43,906.25) of total net rate on 24 February 2026 (2 months prior)

Par 5:

CANCELLATIONS: In case of cancellation, the following penalties apply:

In case of cancellation by Sub-Charterer, other than as expressly provided for elsewhere in this agreement, the following hire shall be payable by way of liquated damages:

- From 17 October 2025 until and incl. 16 December 2025: 20 % of charter hire
- From 17 December 2025 until and incl. 23 February 2026: 40 % of charter hire
- From 24 February 2026 until and incl. the day of departure: 100% of charter hire

2 Oceanwide Expeditions (Block) Charter Agreement RVR04, North Spitsbergen, 24 April till 01 May 2026

In the event of cancellation by Charterer, all hire paid in advance will be returned to Sub-Charterer and Sub-Charterer's claim cannot exceed the amount of charter hire paid in advance, excepting for events as per paragraph 14 in which case the terms and provisions of paragraph 14 will apply and shall prevail over those of paragraph 5. Charterer reserves the right to cancel any trip prior to or during the departure for compelling reasons only. If Sub-Charterer fails to fulfil the payment obligations set forth in Paragraph 4, Charterer has the right to cancel the voyage and is entitled to charge Sub-Charterer the in this paragraph mentioned cancellation fees as of the time of cancellation.

Par. 6:

CHARTER RATE INCLUDES:

- Accommodation for passengers as outlined in paragraph 3.

- Ship's language will be English
- Use of vessel according to the itinerary, including CREW (1 Master/Captain, 1 Chief Officer, 1 Second Officer, 3 Deck Hands, 1 Engineer, 1 Hotel Manager, 1 Steward , 1 Cook) and staff (1 Expedition Leader/Guide and 1 Assistant Guide)
- Food for passengers according to the standard meal plan starting with dinner on day of embarkation, ending with breakfast on day of disembarkation. Breakfast, lunches and dinners will be served as buffets. Various snacks, coffee and tea are available free of charge throughout voyage. Table water is free of charge during main meals, only soft drinks and alcoholic beverages will be charged for.
- Harbor, pilot, landing and agency fees throughout the voyage, shore excursions, zodiac trips, (according to the scheduled Vessel's itinerary).
- AECO fees
- The Vessel is P & I insured by the owners
- Group transfer in Longyearbyen / Spitsbergen: airport - ship - airport
- Travel documents (boarding pass, travel information by email)

NOT INCLUDED:

- Other meals and drinks and beverages not mentioned in par. "charter hire includes".
- All other harbor, pilot and landing/excursion fees outside the illustrated itinerary
- All pre and post tours such as but not limited to flight expenses, hotel accommodation, travel insurances, personal insurances for the passengers, other transfers between airport – land hotel or vessel – airport not mentioned in par. "charter hire includes", airport taxes, optional excursions , any unforeseen governmental state or local (airport departure) taxes, tips to crew, and laundry expenses of the passengers
- Use of vessel's communication equipment (SAT-COM, email etc.) by the passengers and communications charges of the expedition staff members of the Sub-Charterer

Par. 7

SEAWORTHINESS: Charterer warrants that they make the Vessel seaworthy and to properly man and equip the vessel before and at the commencement of the voyage and to maintain her in such condition during the course of the voyage.

Par. 8

RESTRICTIONS: The Sub-Charterer agrees that the Vessel shall be used only for a pleasure purpose and shall not transport any merchandise or engage in any trade. As far as the itinerary of the voyage is concerned, the captain has the final decision regarding all activities of the Vessel (based on weather conditions, nautical circumstances etc.). The use of a drone (unmanned aerial vehicles) is not allowed anywhere during the voyage. 3 Oceanwide Expeditions (Block) Charter Agreement RVR04, North Spitsbergen, 24 April till 01 May 2026

Par. 9

MASTER OF VESSEL: it is hereby agreed that the master of the vessel will make the final decisions with regard to the Vessel's operation based on weather conditions, ice conditions, nautical circumstances etc. The master has the nautical responsibility for all standard operations, also in the field and during the landings. Due to weather conditions, ice conditions, nautical reasons, instructions of the local authorities, the itinerary can be changed by the captain. Charterer does not accept claims for refunds when such changes occur and/or if due to such conditions the voyage has to be cancelled.

Par. 10

LOCAL LAWS: Sub-Charterer in entering into and performing this (block)charter, must not commit any breach of any enactment or other law in any country whose laws affect the Vessel, their Charterer and/or crew; and Sub-Charterer agrees to indemnify the Charterer from all liability whatsoever in respect of any such breach which shall occur.

Par. 11

LIMITATION LIABILITY CHARTERER: All travel elements which relate to the stay on board of the Vessel and/or excursions or programs off ship (such as but not limited to excursions or programs on land, including zodiac, kayak and camping) are for 100 % the own risk of Sub-Charterer. Charterer is therefore not liable for any damage, such as but not limited to (bodily) injury, illness and death except for gross negligence. In no other event, Charterer is liable for consequential and/or indirect (commercial) damages, such as but not limited to loss of earnings and or profit, loss of market, loss of business, loss of customers, loss of opportunities, commercial losses or damages, loss of or damage to commercial image and or reputation.

Par. 12

FORCE MAJEURE: For events which may occur at the day of departure and therefore the vessel would be unable to carry out the intended voyage, neither the Charterer or the Sub-Charterer shall be responsible for any loss, damage, delay or failure in performance under this (block)Charter agreement resulting from Act of God (e.g. war, uprising, natural disasters). If situations of force majeure occur before departure date, Charterer will pay back the paid charter hire only to Sub-Charterer. If situations of force majeure occur during the trip, Charterer will try to offer an alternative programme. If this should prove impossible, either Charterer and/or Sub-Charterer is/are entitled to cancel the voyage. In such a case, Charterer may not be held financially liable.

Par. 13

MEDICAL TREATMENT / EVACUATION:

In case of a medical problem arising during the voyage, either on board or on shore, which results in costs for medical treatment, evacuation, use of aircraft or repatriation the Sub-Charterer will meet such costs.

Par. 14

TECHNICAL PROBLEMS:

It is agreed that Sub-Charterer allows Charterer 24 hours to solve any technical problem, which may occur prior to departure or during the voyage. If such technical problems are solved within the mentioned 24 hours then Charterer does not accept any claims for refunds. If Charterer is not able to solve the problems within the mentioned 24 hours, Sub-Charterer has the right to cancel the trip and Charterer will refund the entire paid charter fee only, or - in case these problems occur during the trip – a pro rate for the duration of the remaining trip only. Other travel items such as, but not limited to, flights and hotels will not be refunded. 4 Oceanwide Expeditions (Block) Charter Agreement RVR04, North Spitsbergen, 24 April till 01 May 2026

Par. 15

FINAL AGREEMENT: This document and General Travel Terms and Conditions Oceanwide Expeditions b.v., English version (date of issue: 06 December 2022) represents together the final complete agreement of the parties for the charter of the VESSEL. In the event of a conflict of conditions, the provisions of this (block) charter agreement shall prevail over those of the here mentioned General Travel Terms and Conditions Oceanwide Expeditions b.v.

Par. 16

LAW AND JURISDICTION: This (block)charter agreement is governed by Dutch law.

Signed and agreed,

DATE SUB-CHARTERER

(Alan Noake MBE, authorised for sub charterer)

DATE CHARTERER

(Florian Piper, Director Sales Arctic Program, authorised for Charterer)