



PLANNING A GAP YEAR

a funding information leaflet from *funderfinder*

Taking a gap year is not just for students wanting time out between school and higher education. Voluntary work abroad is available to graduates, those taking a career break or considering new career opportunities, or the retired. This leaflet covers some basic sources of information for people who are planning a gap year. It is not intended to be comprehensive, merely a starting point to finding further information. There is a wealth of information on the web and your local reference library may well have a number of books about taking a gap year including those mentioned below.

Organisations

Lattitude Global Volunteering

44 Queen's Road, Reading RG1 4BB, tel: 0118 959 4914, website: www.lattitude.org.uk
Previously known as GAP Activity Projects, this is an educational charity offering work opportunities overseas for UK school leavers and graduates aged 17-25. Placements usually last between three and twelve months, depending on the destination. Lattitude operates in over 17 different countries and offers a number of different types of placement.

Platform2

16 Bowling Green Lane, London EC1R 0QH, tel: 0800 988 6828, website:
www.myplatform2.com

Platform2 is a global volunteering scheme for 18 to 25 year olds who wouldn't otherwise be able to visit a developing country and get involved with global issues of justice and poverty. It is funded by UKaid from the Department for International Development. and run by Christian Aid and BUNAC. Placements last for 10 weeks and are fully funded.

Raleigh International

Raleigh House, 207 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8XD, tel: 020 7183 1270, website:
www.raleigh.org.uk

Raleigh International is a UK charity that organises expeditions for people aged 17-75. It aims to develop teamwork, self-confidence and leadership skills of the participants. The programmes give participants the opportunity to work on a number of different projects during the expedition which can be five or ten weeks in length.

Worldwide Volunteering

7 North Street, Stoke sub Hamdon, Somerset TA14 6QR, tel: 01935 825588, website:
www.www.org.uk

Produces database which enables young people to build an on-screen profile of their ideal volunteer placement and match it against the requirements of more than 1450 organisations with over 1.1 million annual placements, both in the UK and overseas.

The Year Out Group

Queensfield, 28 Kings Road, Easterton, Wiltshire SN10 4PX, tel: 01380 816696, website: www.yearoutgroup.org

An association of leading year out organisations, formed in 1998 to promote the concept and benefits of well-structured year out programmes, to promote models of good practice and to help young people and their advisers in selecting suitable and worthwhile projects. Their website includes advice and guidance on choosing a gap year project and what to expect, and includes a list of year out providers who are members of the Year Out Group.

Books

Most books are in the £9-£15 price range and have a new edition every year.

Publishers:

John Catt Educational Limited, Great Glemham, Saxmundham, Suffolk IP17 2DH, tel: 01728 663668, website: www.johncatt.com

Vacation Work, an imprint of Crimson Publishing, website: www.crimsonpublishing.co.uk

The Gap-Year Guidebook

pub. John Catt Educational.

Published annually, it includes information on: university entrance, retakes, office skills, languages, paid work in the UK, voluntary work overseas and travel.

Your Gap Year

by Susan Griffith, pub. Vacation Work.

Information on jobs and voluntary work for travellers around the world, joining an expedition, learning a language or a new skill or just travelling.

Work Your Way Around the World

by Susan Griffith, pub. Vacation Work.

A guide for the working traveller offering advice on how to find work around the world in advance or on the spot.

Also published under the *Vacation Work* imprint are other guides including:

- The Au Pair & Nanny's Guide to Working Abroad
- Gap Years for Grown Ups
- Green Volunteers
- World Volunteers

Websites

www.ethicalvolunteering.org - offers advice & information for people who are interested in international volunteering and want to make sure that what they do is of value to themselves and the people they work with. Its guide has useful tips on choosing the right agency.

www.gap-year.com - run by John Catt Educational, information and advice on projects, expeditions, travel, studies, languages.

www.gapyear.com - a source of information for all would-be gap travellers, it acts as a market place where people can meet up and develop their gap year plans. The company produces gapyear.com, gap year magazine and a monthly emailed newsletter.

www.overseasjobcentre.co.uk - provides information on working holidays, gap year and jobs abroad with links to organisations that can help find paid or voluntary jobs overseas. There is also a bulletin board and country index.

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