

# Press Release



## **Do you know a deserving young person to nominate for a trip of a lifetime to the Galapagos?**

The #WeTwo Foundation charity is seeking nominations for young people to take part in a once-in-a-lifetime expedition to the Galapagos in October 2024.

Nearly 200 years after a young Charles Darwin left Plymouth on The Beagle and visited South America's Galapagos Islands – a place key to making him become one of the most notable naturalists the world has ever seen – the #WeTwo Foundation are seeking 10 deserving young people to follow in his footsteps in their ongoing mission to change the face of adventure.

This comes after the unrivalled success of the ground-breaking City to Sea expedition to Antarctica in November 2022, which saw adventurers Dwayne Fields and Phoebe Smith take 10 underprivileged youngsters from across the British Isles including – London, Devon, Essex, Merseyside, Birmingham, Nottingham, Scotland, Wales, NI – to follow in Shackleton's footsteps. They are now looking for the next cohort from across the UK.

The pair formed [Team #WeTwo](#) several years ago after meeting at Countryfile Live where they were asked to take part in a panel discussing barriers to getting into the outdoors and having adventures. "We realised there that – for different reasons - we had similar experiences with people telling us how we couldn't/shouldn't/wouldn't be able to do it," said Dwayne. "We decided that if we teamed up we would have a much wider reach."

Each of the 10 participants who journeyed to Antarctica paid for their places not with cash but with environmental good deeds in their local communities. These included: rewilding a section of the River Clyde in Scotland, removing invasive species from the Black Mountains in Belfast, multiple beach and town clean ups in Devon, Essex and Wales, a clothing swap in Liverpool (where people 'paid' for their items with sustainability pledges), plastic bottle collection to build a greenhouse for a local youth group in inner city Birmingham, fruit and veg garden establishment in a Nottingham school to reduce food miles and help provide for the poorest children, working to get a London School certified Green Flag status, removing debris and replanting key vegetation in London's wetlands.

The team also planted the start of a #WeTwo Forest in East London, as well as a community of trees in the Natural Area of Kew Gardens. Post-expedition most of the young people have got jobs using their experiences or gone on to further education. Seven of them re-joined the team to take part in a 100-mile walk across the width of Britain to fundraise for this next group of young people. And all of the young people gave inspirational talks to their schools, local communities, Scouts and youth groups, as well as events across the country, highlighting sustainable adventuring.

"The Antarctica expedition and mentorship programme proved that by giving opportunities to those young people who need it most has made a huge difference, not only to them but also their communities," adds Phoebe. "For us expeditions are not about planting flags, but planting seeds – in so many ways."

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Similar to the last expedition, all young people selected for the Galapagos adventure – which is being organised with the help of Intrepid Travel, who are sponsoring two places on the trip – will ‘pay it forward’ with environmental initiatives in their local communities, which the #WeTwo Foundation will support them to find or start. They will also be planting trees in the charity’s forest pre-trip to offset the carbon produced.

“We’ve also teamed up with Craghoppers again who, as well as sponsoring two places on the trip, will be kitting out the entire team. They are committed to sustainability and are ensuring that all of the kit we use is made from recycled materials, is responsibly sourced and features NosiLife insect repellent that is plant-based and made from a renewable source,” says Phoebe.

Across the Galapagos, the young people – as well as meeting Darwin’s tortoises, birdwatching for the endemic finch, and snorkelling to monitor the underwater life, many of which are only found here – will be taking part in a multiple volunteering projects including beach cleans, removal of plastic from the sea, undertaking monitoring surveys with local scientists/conservationists and learning about local sustainable initiatives that is helping safeguard the future of residents on these islands. All travel insurance will be provided by True Traveller.

The team has launched a nomination form on their website where teachers, social workers, parents, guardians, police officers, foster carers and friends from across Britain can nominate a young person from a disadvantaged background to take part.

To nominate a young person go to [www.TeamWeTwo.com](http://www.TeamWeTwo.com) and [complete the form](#). Deadline for nominations is midnight, 3 May, 2024.

Dwayne and Phoebe would love to offer more than 10 places – if you are interested in sponsoring contact them through the website or donate at their [PayPal Charity account](#).

**For further information, interviews with the team, and images, please contact Team #WeTwo at [teamwetwo@gmail.com](mailto:teamwetwo@gmail.com)**