

Name: Neil Sharp
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As the membership of OutdoorLads grows and grows ensuring our amazing team of leaders are supported and appreciated is critical for the future of the group – our leaders are our life blood as they give up hours and days of their time as volunteers to create fantastic events for our members. Be it a short walk, to a hair raising climb. A hostel weekend to a trek up to Everest base camp, these events don't happen without dedication, passion and a desire to share great experiences with other gay, bi and trans men.

Having been a member of OutdoorLads myself for 6 years, and a leader for 2, I have loved every moment of both leading events myself and supporting other leaders with events they have run. Each walk, camp or hostel has been a rewarding challenge.

Some time ago I became the regional walk leader for East Anglia – an area of the UK that was relatively quiet for events. In 2017, to date as a team have generated 18 walking events and gained 3 new leaders – something which I'm very proud of and something I would love to see grow across the UK.

Since June 2017 I have been co-opted to the board with the role of looking after and representing our leaders – a role I hope to build and grow with three key pillars:

- Support – ensure we are doing everything we can to help, appreciate and encourage our current team of leaders
- Growth – look at ways to encourage and develop new leaders
- Training – understand what are the barriers to members becoming leaders, find ways to break those barriers down, and also provide inspiration and training to our currently leaders so they can grow the opportunities available to them

I'm deeply passionate about OutdoorLads, its future and its leaders. I hope that you'll welcome me in to this role as a Trustee to represent those individual who go the extra mile to enable our members to #getoutmore

Neil