

13 July 2010

Press Release

## **STEVE JOINS CHARITY WORKING PARTY IN NICARAGUA**

While most of us will be spending our summer holidays on the beach or relaxing by the pool, one man will be travelling to Nicaragua to help some of the poorest people in the world.

Steve Puleston, a furniture-maker who works as a technician at Cambridge Regional College, will be rolling up his sleeves and helping bring practical help to an area often devastated by hurricanes, flooding, drug trafficking and war.



Steve at work in CRC's carpentry and joinery department

Steve will be working for the Peace and Hope Trust, which sends regular medical aid and voluntary help to Nicaragua's Mosquito Coast.

The charity also delivers mosquito nets and medicine to isolated villages where water and malaria-borne illnesses often lead to death, especially among infants.

“It’s one of the poorest areas in the world, with families having to scavenge on rubbish tips for anything they can get,” said Steve, who sets off this week. “A team of us are going out to spend three weeks working on projects which will directly help the local people.

“The charity has done some great work out there, bringing practical help where it’s really needed. One of the projects was to build a safe house which was used recently during a hurricane, and sewing machines have been donated so that school uniforms can be made.

“My uncle works for the charity and told me about the terrible problems the people have to cope with on the Mosquito Coast. I want to go there and help, because I want to make a difference and give something back.

“I don’t know yet what I’ll be doing – I could be building a rice mill, making a new path to school for the children, or teaching. But I know I’ll be spending my holiday doing something really worthwhile.”

Steve, 31, who lives in St Ives, is also planning to collect clothes, tools, school equipment and other vitally-needed items, which will be taken out to Nicaragua by other volunteers.

To find out more about the charity, see [www.peaceandhope.org.uk](http://www.peaceandhope.org.uk)

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**MEDIA ENQUIRIES:**

For more information, please contact Lynn O’Shea, PR & Events Co-ordinator, on 01223 418773 or email [loshea@camre.ac.uk](mailto:loshea@camre.ac.uk)

## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

Cambridge Regional College is the second largest provider of full-time education for 16 to 19 year-olds in the eastern region. The College has around 3,500 full-time and 6,000 part-time students. Students come in from a 40-mile radius, covering Cambridge and its surrounding villages, eastern Bedfordshire, northern Essex and western Suffolk.

Over 80 per cent of full-time students are aged 16 to 18 years old and come to the College after secondary school; the rest are mature students, studying on a range of Access to Higher Education and vocational programmes.