

Oak Hall

The adventure starts here...



Serving the Lord through Oak Hall

For the last 3 years since leaving university I have been a youth worker with Scoutlink working with young people in the Belfast area. Unfortunately the role of a Youth worker is often government funded and works on short term contracts. My last contract was due to finish on 31st December and I wasn't guaranteed work so with my love of the mountains and snowboarding I looked into the possibility of spending a winter season in the French Alps.

Initially I had two options - go with a friend to a resort, snowboard lots and try and find some work, or I had also contacted Oak hall about going to serve with them. I really wasn't sure what route to take (+ probably initially favoured the first option) but when I was over at an interview with Oak Hall I decided to let God decide what I should do.

I had been reading Proverbs 3 that night and verses 5+6 really stood out - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths."

I prayed and left my options fully in God's hands, within half an hour my first option of travelling with my friend had been closed (as he couldn't make it) and therefore decided to go serve with Oak hall.

What is Oak Hall?

Oak Hall is a Christian run organization who runs mission trips in the summer and ski holidays in the winter.

What will I be doing?

I will be working in a ski chalet in the Swiss Alps in a little village called Lauterbrunnen (close to Interlacken)

My main role within the chalet will be a cook most weeks and a caretaker on a

couple of weeks. I will be working with one other person in the kitchen cooking for anything between 40-120 people.

For every week there is a speaker brought over and every evening we run meetings about 1hr long. These will include a time of praise, a short testimony, possibly a book review and then the speaker. I will be involved in these most evenings helping out where possible.

There are approx 10 people on our staff team each week including; leader, speaker, cooks, caretaker, ski and snowboard instructors. We start and end each day with a team prayer meeting.

When on working weeks I work 6 days a week. And I'll also get a few weeks break throughout my time to snowboard.

One of the main things I look forward to when working on team is getting to know the guests, we have a real opportunity to make friends and share the love of Jesus with them. Although many of the guests on the holiday will be Christians it's equally important to build them up in their Walk with God as it is to share the gospel with non believers.

In Matthew 28v19 we are commanded to 'go therefore and make disciples of all the nations'

When they are away from all the stresses of modern day life it's a great way to let them explore how close to God they are and to help bring them closer. One of the main things we aim to do at Oak Hall is to encourage people to go home with a real desire to serve more in their local churches and see the name of Jesus lifted high.

I am really blessed to have this opportunity to serve the Lord in this way and it's only through his strength that I can do it. I would really appreciate that as a church you would get behind us in prayer and together we see God do a mighty work this winter season.

Prayer points

- Compassion & boldness to share Gods word
- For all the people I meet
- For my own walk with God & that I keep him central to all that I do
- keep me safe when on the mountain

I will miss the church when I'm away but I really appreciate your support and I will continue to remember Cookstown Baptist in my prayers.

For anybody interested in a ski holiday with oak hall you can check out their [website](#)

Why not come and join me for a week?

God bless,
Peter Sloan