



HOW TO BECOME INVOLVED IN IMAGINEERING

The Imagineering Foundation is an educational charity, dependent on grants, sponsorship, donations in cash or kind and volunteer support. There are many ways in which individuals, manufacturers and organisations can become involved in this exciting venture, to promote engineering to young people as a future career opportunity. It is not only professionally rewarding but also thoroughly enjoyable.

FUNDING

There are a number of opportunities to fund special events and projects – such as:

- the Imagineering Clubs,
- the Imagineering Fair and
- other promotional opportunities and marketing projects.
- There are sponsorship opportunities on the Imagineering web site where there are plans to make the site more interactive for young Imagineers.
- There is also a need for ongoing finance for administration costs to run the Clubs and Fair and expand the Foundation's activities.

SPONSORSHIP IN KIND

This can cover such things as:

- storage space,
- administrative support,
- postage,
- stationery,
- materials and equipment,
- loan of equipment,
- in-house services such as AV technical support and printing.

ENGINEERING TUTORS

There is an ongoing need for volunteer engineer tutors for the Imagineering Clubs – in order to maintain and extend the network. Each out-of-school club of 12-15 children takes place once a week for one hour during term time. An engineer tutor, with practical skills, a background in industry, a basic understanding of engineering, science or design principles, heads each class with the help of class teachers and helpers. The hands-on activities, for example for 8-10 year olds, include making simple devices such as a telescope or micrometer, which they are allowed to keep.

SCHOOLS TO START CLUBS

To spread the word about Imagineering and keep the spark alive, it is essential for more schools to start out-of-schools clubs – after school, at lunchtimes or even at breakfast time, Imagineering activity can dovetail with the main school timetable.

OTHER ORGANISATIONS TO START CLUBS FOR OLDER CHILDREN

Imagineering Clubs at present provide opportunities for primary school children but to retain that interest Clubs need to be started for older children and many of these could be started by other organisations at other venues such as colleges and community centres.

JOINING IN AND SUPPORTING EVENTS

The Imagineering Fair is an ideal opportunity to support the initiative by taking a stand and developing hands-on activities for children, offering financial support or encouraging employees to offer their time. Other promotional opportunities occur throughout the year to promote Imagineering, at conferences and workshops – support is always welcome, financial or volunteers, and the presence of supporting organisations

VOLUNTEERS FOR EVENT SUPPORT

All events, in particular the Imagineering Fairs, the annual showcase event at the Town & Country Festival at Stoneleigh, Warwickshire at August Bank Holiday and also the newer Fair at the Royal Bath & West Show at Shepton Mallet, depend heavily on volunteers, many of whom may only be able to donate a few hours of time over the weekend but whose help is no less valuable. This is a marvellous fun event for all involved and rewarding to see the enthusiasm of the young visitors.

CAREERS ADVISORS

A key part of the Imagineering initiative is to ensure that children make the right choices in terms of subjects as they progress through school towards further education or a career in education. There is a constant need for informed careers advice.

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

As Imagineering grows and develops, there is a growing need for administrative support on a general basis and for the Imagineering Clubs in particular.

IMAGINEERING STEERING GROUP

The Imagineering Steering Group is a lively dynamic group of dedicated volunteers who are always happy to welcome newcomers who would like to become involved in progressing Imagineering. The initiative is growing rapidly with new projects and ideas in the offing but as ever, what are most important are resources, financial and human.

CONTACTS:

Sponsorship & funding opportunities:

Bob Shanks Tel: 01926 859441

Email: bob@shanks.org

Imagineering Fair (Warwickshire)

Alastair Graham Bryce Tel: 01926 427201

Email: al@grambryce.com

Imagineering Fair (West Country) and

Media & general information:

Joy Smith Tel: 0121 457 4771

Email: joy.jcm@btinternet.com

Imagineering Clubs

Alastair Graham Bryce Tel: 01926 427201

Email: al@grambryce.com

David Bray Tel: 01926 888791

Email: davidbray48@aol.com

Karen Cookes Tel: 01386 712657

Email: clubadmin@imagineeringweb.co.uk

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