



Gareth Carter - Lone Buffalo Co-founder/ On Safer Ground Director

In 2010 Gareth's On Safer Ground project took Manophet's football team from Laos to Sweden, thus becoming the first Lao team to play outside of Asia. Tragically Manophet would never see his dream come true – he died on the eve of the tournament. In his memory, the team competed alongside more than 1500 other teams from 70 countries. Manophet's team reached the semi-finals of the competition and were fittingly awarded the 2010 Gotha Cup Fair Play Trophy.

"I got involved in this project after Mark Steadman introduced me to Manophet in Phonsavan. I was instantly taken in by his vision and charisma as well as well as his selfless attitude. Meeting the kids that he was coaching in football and English was a total inspiration and I was deeply impressed by their commitment to learning when given the opportunity. It would prove to be the motivation I would need to do something that would help push Manophet's vision forward."

Gareth now lives in Scandinavia, from where he watches the progress of Lone Buffalo with pride.