



Areas of Work

One year on...

Friday, 9 May 2008 was Europe Day. A not as well known fact is that 9 May 2008 also marked exactly one year to the day when we, the current European Scout Committee was elected by the 19th European Scout Conference in Portoroz, Slovenia.

Recently, the European Scout Committee has been reflecting on what has been achieved over the last year and has been identifying what still needs to be done over the remaining two years. Developing and growing Scouting is not a speedy process but there are indications that real development and measurable growth is taking place.

The European Scout Committee looks forward to providing an update on progress relating to the implementation of 'Aiming for Excellence', the Regional Scout Plan for 2007-2010 as well as on the Resolutions adopted at the 19th European Scout Conference. This will take place during the regional meeting at the start of the 38th World Scout Conference on Monday, 14 July 2008.

Educational Methods

Agora 2008

3-6 April 2008 at Kandersteg International Scout Centre, Switzerland

The 2008 edition of Agora, a European event organised by Rovers for Rovers, took place at KISC with 24 participants from 10 countries have shared their experiences and learning from each other in a friendly atmosphere, during a programme that combined outdoor activities, team games and debates.

An excellent Planning Team of young people from Finland, Luxembourg, Portugal and UK made this event an unforgettable one. To see more details about this event and other European Rover initiatives visit www.rovernet.eu/community.

THANK YOU all and see you at AGORA 2009!

RoverNet3.0

3-6 April 2008 at Kandersteg International Scout Centre, Switzerland

The 3rd edition of the European Forum for Rover Commissioners took place in KISC, where 23 leaders from 11 countries were present for an event aimed at exchanging views and experiences on developing and implementing the programme for the last age section, all in the magnificent setting of the Swiss Alps. To get more information and see the results of the Forum please visit www.rovernet.eu.

Taste It

4-7 September 2008 at the St. Andrew's Scout Centre in Athens, Greece

If you were running a restaurant what would you do with a dominant cook, a waiter or waitress having a burnout and a menu that has already been in place for ten years?

Would you make some changes, take better care of your employees and listen to the chef?

What do you do with your adults in Scouting? Do you have a plan? Does it work? Would you like to share it and learn new methods? Then taste it in our restaurant, open from 4 - 7 September in the St. Andrew Scout Centre, near Athens, Greece.

The Invitation and application form for the Network Meeting has just been published in the new Europak issue.

If you need any further information please contact Milutin Milošević, Director, Adult Resources by e-mail: milutin@scout.org



Mapping Adult Resources

The WOSM - European Region and Europe Region WAGGGS invited all the NSOs/MOs to send us information about current projects and expertise in the area of Adult Resources. The form was distributed in March Europak and you can find it at this weblink:

www.europak-online.net/ukeurop0308.html

The deadline for returning forms was 20 April 2008. We invite all those who missed this deadline to return the information to help ensure we have views on different activities in the Region.

Development and Support

The Growth Network is growing. Join us!

25-27 April 2008 in Lisbon, Portugal

At the end of April, Lisbon offered lovely sunny surroundings to a group of 42 motivated people from different corners of the region for the second Growth Network meeting. To be more accurate, it was also a first meeting because it was a Joint Growth Network meeting with WAGGGS.

People have not been idle after the first meeting in Berlin, Germany last October. Since then some people of the Network have met in person, while others have already put into practice some of the best practices they shared in Berlin. In Lisbon we attracted new people. This time the sessions focused on three growth factors: communication, youth programme and recruitment.

The idea of the network is to be a self-sustaining joint network of active Scouts and Guides from all over the region. Promising examples of networking were already seen in Lisbon when people from different associations dealing with similar topics on the agenda of growth and development had discussions, shared ideas and planned future co-operation.

Finland will host the next meeting. It is scheduled for 6-7 December 2008, so reserve that weekend for growth! The venue will be in or near Helsinki and the programme will most probably focus on the three topics not covered in Lisbon, namely adult resources, external factors and research, evaluation and analysis. You can learn more about growth factors and best practices in the Action for Growth report:

http://scout.org/index.php/en/media/files/europe/growth/entire_document As a result of the networking, new best practices will be added to this report.

Check also the WAGGGS toolkit of membership:

www.wagggsworld.org/en/resources/documents/1003

We welcome you to network with us! If your association has good (or bad) experiences of growth – be it small or large scale projects – share them.

Tailored Support Unit meets

16-18 May 2008 in Zagreb, Croatia

The Tailored Support Unit reviewed applications received to date and further consideration was given to how the services of the unit can be promoted wider, giving particular consideration to likely requests from countries in south east Europe following recent field visits by both Committee and Staff.

All members of the unit were in attendance. They included Björn Seelbach, Thomas Ertlthaler, Lidija Pozaic-Frketic and David Bull. Craig Turpie was also in attendance and provided an in-depth situation assessment of the current successes and challenges in each country. Katrin Tauscher and Jordan Bajraktarov from the World Scout Bureau – European Regional Office supported the meeting.

Relationships and Funding



2011 European Year of Volunteering

Wednesday, 9 April 2008 in Brussels, Belgium

Members of the European Parliament (MEPs), Marian Harkin (IE), Gisela Kallenbach (DE), Emmanouil Angelakas (GR), Mieczyslaw Janowski (PL) and Joel Hasse Ferreira (PT) launched a written declaration in the European Parliament to propose 2011 be designated the European Year of Volunteering.

However, a declaration in the European Parliament requires 50% +1 (391) of all MEP signatures. So we really need your help in mobilising your national MEPs with collecting signatures. We strongly encourage National Youth Councils, National Scout Organisations and Red Cross National Branches to work together with other volunteering organisations to:

1. Make contact with your national MEPs;
2. Personalise and send the template letter to MEPs of your country found in Europak – <http://www.europak-online.net/ukeurop.html> (the details of your MEPs are at www.europarl.europa.eu);
3. Invite them to participate in a local (to them) activity giving them the opportunity to learn more about Scouting and volunteering.

This is a great opportunity to affect change at a local, national and European level. If you would like further information or support in exploiting this opportunity, then please do not hesitate to contact mwalker@scout.org.

Committee contacts

Meeting with Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania

15-16 March 2008

Over the weekend, Craig Turpie, Chairman, participated in a contact meeting that was called by all associations operating in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

Building on several years of similar gatherings, the meeting provided an opportunity for all attending to be updated on each other's recent successes and challenges. Advice was sought on how to deal with particular challenges associated with development and growth that were common in all countries, including how to respond to competition from other similar organisations.

Field Visit to Bulgaria

18-19 April 2008 in Pleven, Bulgaria

The National Scout Organisation of Bulgaria, *Organizatsia na Bulgarskite Skauty* will organise another national Jamboree next summer. To discuss this and other topics a meeting of local leaders was held during the weekend near the city of Pleven. João Armando Gonçalves (the committee contact for Bulgaria) attended this meeting, took the opportunity to exchange on different topics and collected information about the main challenges of the NSO. Some direct support within the framework of the Tailored Support offered by the Region is envisaged in the near future in order to contribute to the development of specific areas within the organisation.

Field Visit to Poland

9-11 May 2008 in Warsaw, Poland

Over the weekend, Craig Turpie, the Committee Contact for Poland, participated in a conference that explored the issue of contemporary patriotism. The conference was organised by ZHP in partnership with the Senate.

The first sessions took place in the Senate of the Polish Parliament with Craig participating in a panel discussion alongside a cross section of politicians and academics. Much of the debate explored the relationship and differences between patriotism on the one hand and active citizenship on the other.

Smaller workshops allowed participants to explore the topics further by looking at specific questions.

ZHP plans to share the findings of the conference with other European associations.

Life of the Movement

What a youthful day - Youth law in Latvia accepted

Thursday, 8 May 2008 in the Latvian Parliament

A new youth law passed giving the youth policy sector a strong base for further development and for the support of youth NGOs. "It was a long time coming, we've been working on this since the mid-nineties. But the concerted action of national and international NGOs, the Scouts & Guides and the Ministry of Children and Family Affairs has paid off", said Eva Ikstena, President of the National Youth Council of Latvia. The Latvian Scouts and Guides sustained involvement at all stages of the processes illustrates their commitment to young people in decision-making.

"The Scouts and Guides, together with other youth NGOs, will continue to work closely with the Ministry of Children and Family Affairs to ensure that the law is implemented fully, and to lobby for a stable budget line to ensure the Youth Law will realise its potential", said Agnija Jansone of the Latvian Scouts and Guides.



KISC will host a special Members' Week

21-28 September 2008 in Kandersteg, Switzerland



- Who is the week for?

The week is being specially organised for members of the KISC Association. These members are a special group of people who support KISC in many different ways! They are made up of ex-staff and guests of the Centre who are interested in helping us continue providing the 'magic'.

- What will the week provide?

The week will provide the opportunity for Members to come together and enjoy a weeklong programme in Kandersteg. During the week you will get the chance to meet KISC Members from all over the world and catch up with old friends.

- What is so special about the week?

The week is the first event of its kind so KISC want to make it very special for our members!

A tailor made programme will be provided and you will have the chance to see the Centre at its best and enjoy the Alps with your fellow members.

- What is included in the week?

The price includes accommodation, full board, luggage transfers from Kandersteg train station and your week day and evening programme.

Included in the programme will be sight seeing in and around Kandersteg, day trips in Switzerland, team building activities and guided hikes. There will also be one day without organised programme where you can do your own hike, sightseeing or activity with others.

The evening programme will include an International Evening, Campfire, Sauna and a special last evening!

- Where?
KISC, of course!

- When?

21-28 September 2008

- How many?

The minimum participants is 15, maximum is 50

- How much?

The cost for the entire week is CHF 675.-

- Interested?

Email Katey; pda@kisc.ch for more information or to sign up!

Work in the Kandersteg International Scout Centre – Short Term Staff

13 September till 12 December 2008 in Kandersteg, Switzerland

Every 3 months a new group of Scouts arrive at the Centre as strangers and leave, 3 months later, as friends. These volunteers are known as Short Term Staff (STS) and work in every area of the Centre, helping where needed. The next round of applications for Short Term Staff is due on 15 June 2008 to be part of our Autumn season between 13 September till 12 December 2008.



During your three months here you will have the time of your life, make life long friendships and have the opportunity to explore the Swiss Alps! Our Staff team is made up of a group of international Scout and Guide volunteers. Why not join this team and live your dream!

To find out more information about the Centre, the Staff Team and the different seasons to work in check out the Staff section on www.kisc.ch!

Reminders and Deadlines

Short Term Staff at the Kandersteg International Scout Centre

13 September – 12 December 2008 in KISC, Switzerland

Deadline: 15 June 2008

Managing Adult Resources Network Meeting

4-7 September 2008 in Athens, Greece

Deadline: 28 June 2008

Campaign to have 2011 as European Year of Volunteering

In every country in Europe

Deadline: 8 July 2008

The Scout Academy

20-26 October 2008 in Molina, Spain

Deadline: 12 September 2008

Network meeting for Guide and Scout representatives in National Youth Councils

21-23 november 2008, Dublin, Ireland

Deadline: 30 September 2008

Useful Information

Europak: <http://www.europak-online.net>

Stay in contact

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