

NSGF UK NEWS

Newsletter No. 2
October 2012

Newsletter of the National Scout and Guide Fellowship United Kingdom.

FELLOWSHIP DAY MESSAGE 2012

Dear friends, members of ISGF, time passes so quickly and again I wish you a very happy Friendship Day 2012. The World Committee has been very busy this last year, contacting the Fellowship members all over the world and working towards the development of ISGF. Many ISGF members organised activities, workshops, seminars, took part in different community projects or gave support to the Scout and Guides activities and some remembered to send their photos to the ISGF web page, but unfortunately others forgot to do it. On this Fellowship Day I challenge you to share with the other members of ISGF around the world a project that was the most important of the year for your Fellowship. Describe it shortly and send it with a picture or two to www.isgf.org By this time next year we will be celebrating the 60th anniversary of ISGF, so be prepared to join in. Yours in Fellowship - Mida Rodrigues

8th Europe Region Conference – Sept. 4th – 8th 2013

The venue will be in Stockholm and on a boat travelling between Stockholm, Sweden and Helsinki, Finland. Organisers & Hosts are the Nordic countries together with Lithuania. The motto for the conference is: **Crossing Borders.**

Preliminary Programme:

Wednesday 04/09/2013 (Optional)

11:00 Check in opens at Nordic Sea Hotel

The hotel is situated at a short walking distance from the Central Station and end stop for busses from Arlanda Airport, Sightseeing around the town until

17:30 Meeting for the heads of delegations

Thursday 05/09/2013

09:00 Country meetings

11:00 Opening ceremony at the City Conference Centre a short walking distance from the Nordic Sea Hotel.

13:00 Lunch : **14:15** Conference

19:00 Dinner at Nordic Sea Hotel

Friday 06/09/2013

08:00 Reflections : **08:15** Breakfast **09:00** Country meetings

10:00 Bus to the M/S Mariella **13:00** Lunch on board

14:15 Conference in the ships conference centre

16:30 M/S Mariella departs from Stockholm for Helsinki

Enjoy a magnificent voyage through the Stockholm Archipelago :

19:00 Dinner on board

One of the most spectacular features of cruises departing from the beautiful Swedish capital of Stockholm is surely scenic cruising through the vast Stockholm Archipelago.

Saturday 07/09/2013

8.00 – 10.00 Seabreakfast on board and approaching Helsinki via Kustaanmiekka, fortress of Suomenlinna which is an UNESCO world heritage item.

10.00 Arrival in Helsinki, the capital of Finland. Different excursions / sightseeing to be announced at a later stage.

17:30 M/S Mariella departs from Helsinki for Stockholm

19:00 Farewell dinner on board

Sunday 08/09/2013

09:45 M/S Mariella arrives in Stockholm

URGENTLY REQUIRED

The Domain name www.nsgf.org.uk has been Registered, a volunteer is required to act as webmaster. The webmaster will need to be able to upload and download information to update the website.

Future ISGF Events

2012

Oct. 5th -13th: 6th Tunisia Gathering

Oct.12th - 15th: South America sub Region Meeting

Oct. 25th FELLOWSHIP DAY

Oct. 31st – 5th Nov: 14th Mediterranean Gathering

Nov. 6th – 11th: 13th Asia Pacific Region Gathering

2013

Mar. 11th - 15th 5th Europe Region Workshop

Sept. 5th – 8th: 8th European Conference, Sweden

Sept. 11th – 15th: 2nd Caribbean Gathering

Oct 25th 60th Anniversary of ISGF

2014

Oct. 10th – 16th: 27th World Conference, Sydney, Australia

Further details on the above from
The International Secretary, Sue Page

Email: sue.page3@btinternet.com Or Tel: 01886 832940

TWINNING

The latest UK Branch of the Baden-Powell Guild to 'Twin' is Dorking. They are now 'twinned' with Troon branch of the B-P Scout Guild in Scotland. The two branches have exchanged information and received their Twinning Certificates from ISGF Twinning Co-ordinator, Lenny Doleman. The Malvern Branch is twinned with Blenheim and Stourbridge Branch with Christchurch, in New Zealand. Your International Secretary attended meetings of both of these branches earlier this year.

**PLEASE DO NOT FORGET TO LET
THE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY
KNOW IF YOU ARE ATTENDING ANY
ISGF EVENTS**

5TH EUROPEAN WORKSHOP

11th to 15th of March 2013
Berlin/Wandlitz, Germany

The ISGF Europe Region invites you to join the 5th workshop at the youth hostel Berlin / Wandlitz, Germany. The new hostel is situated near the Lake Wandlitz, a bit north of Berlin.

Our topic is: **'ROUTE 2020' -
STEP BY STEP TO THE FUTURE
Tools for developing the European NSGF's**

We hope that from each member country at least one guild member will participate. The European Committee decided to give financial support to each sub-region to enable members, who would not be able to pay the full fee, to join this workshop.

Costs:€ 180.

(includes accommodation and full board)

Travel and private expenses on your own

Registration deadline: **November 15th 2012**

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### **Cois Laoi 2012 23<sup>rd</sup> Western European Gathering**

Travelling from flood hit UK to four fine days in Cork was the start of a fabulous Gathering provided by the Irish Fellowship. Old friendships were renewed by the UK delegation, of over thirty members, and new ones made as there were representatives from twelve countries present. Talking was non-stop throughout the event. Among those present were Mida Rodrigues ISGF World Chairman and Nana Gentimi Vice Chairman.

Each day before going out on tours we had a varied programme which included a session on crafts from different countries, a talk from the 17 year old chairman of SHARE, a project run by a Committee of 56 pupils from different schools in Cork. They organised fund raising for the project and the visiting of a group of elderly people who lived in accommodation provided by the project. In the years since its inception the committee had not only provided the funds for the accommodation but also a large day centre and the money for the running costs of both.

One visit was to Cork's historic Water Pumping station where we learnt about water conservation and also the history of the provision of a clean water supply to Cork. Other visits included Cobh and Blarney and a tour of Cork City centre.

This was a Gathering full of Friendship, Fellowship and Fun. A special thank you goes to the UK Delegation who provided crafts and scripts for the entertainment given at the "camp fire". The New SGF shirts, gave a truly corporate UK identification at Cork.

**UK members build on link with Crimea!**

Whilst working in Sevastopol about four years ago Peter and Jennifer made first contact with the Association of Scouts of Ukraine and a friendship was built up with their Vice-President, Valdimir Stroyvans. A vision was shared and as part of the Leadership team they helped plan and then accompanied 27 Northumberland Explorer Scouts undertaking their Explorer Belt Expedition in Crimea in July 2012. Working in joint teams with Yalta Scouts the full programme of walking, challenges and exploration was completed and new friendships formed. The expedition was a resounding success taking in southern Crimea, Sevastopol, Balaclava, Yalta and, en route, the capital of Ukraine, Kiev. A warm invitation has been extended for the Yalta Scouts to pay an exchange visit to the North East as soon as their funds allow. Peter said that facilitating the link and expedition was a role that we enjoyed and to experience the obvious pleasure and benefit that all the Scouts obtained was a wonderful reward.

**Peter Short & Jennifer Roberts**

### **PEACE LIGHT**

*"We gladly receive the light as a sign of our willingness to be channels of peace, by our words and actions."*

Now in its 27th year, the Peace Light from Bethlehem is now passed on to 30 European Countries and also to North America, Mexico and Canada. Each year, a child from Upper Austria kindles a flame from the "Eternal Flame" from the Nativity Grotto in Bethlehem, where Jesus was born. The light is then flown to Austria from where it is distributed at a Service of Dedication to delegations from across Europe with a message of Peace. Scouts and Guides can then take the light on to other churches, hospitals, old people homes and other places. For the UK the collection is carried out by members of the Deep Sea Scout Fellowship. This year the Vienna distribution service is on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December so following an overnight rail journey to Paris, another to Calais and a ferry back to Dover, it will arrive in Dover during the evening of Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>. (At moment the advertised time is 19.20 pm) There is a web site with further information but at the moment, the site only has last year's information, but you may find it helpful - <http://www.peacelight.org.uk/>

*May the kindly spirit of Christmas spread its radiance far and wide,  
So all the world may feel the glow, of this Holy Christmastide.  
So may this light of peace today that has travelled many miles,  
Bring joy and hope to many, and fill each face with smiles.  
So may every heart and home continue through the year,  
To feel the warmth and wonder of this season of good cheer.  
And may it bring us closer to God and to each other,  
With every stranger known as friend, whether Sister or a Brother*  
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### **NSGF UK - Component Organisations**

The Baden-Powell Guild of Great Britain (BPG)  
Scout and Guide Fellowship (SAGF)

#### **NSGF UK JNC (Joint National Committee) Members**

- Chairman – Alan Beavis, SAGF**
- Vice Chairman – Jane Wardropper, BPG**
- International Sec. – Sue Page, BPG**
- Treasurer – Peter Short, SAGF**
- Liz Aveston – Committee Member, SAGF**
- Adrian McDowell – Committee Member, BPG**

**Any contributions for the next edition by 1<sup>st</sup> Jan. 2013  
please to Sue Page.**