



I: MAINTAINING AND UPDATING INFORMATION ON INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES

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There is a wide range of methods to promote the international dimension to local Scouting. The most common methods these days involve the use of the internet but there are still a number of Leaders who do not have regular access to the Internet.

Your local area may already have existing mailing lists (both electronic and hard copy) that are used to disseminate information. The International Office produces a bulletin called *Global Team News* which is sent to members of the Global Team every quarter. For more timely information, they make use of the existing mailing lists such as the Membership Management System or the 'international e-mailing list' that members can join via the Scouting Internet Database (or SID). For more information, visit the SID pages on ScoutBase at :

<http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/direct/ukemail/>.

Your local area may also have a website providing your members (and potential members) with information about forthcoming events and the programme. The international pages of ScoutBase (<http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/ps/inter>) offer a wide range of international initiatives and opportunities. This information is maintained on a regular basis and it recommended that local Scouting links to the relevant pages rather than duplicating the information.

The information that you might want to include on a website or send out on a mailing list will vary depending upon your programme but might include:

- Information on the local international team
- Opportunities for next year's summer camp
- Opportunities for expeditions such as Explorer Belts
- Opportunities for locally organised events such as study visits or training opportunities
- Other 'global events' being run in the local area by organisations such as charities, other youth organisations or even other Scouts such as other Districts/Counties or National Scout Fellowships
- Information about existing projects and how people can get involved.

The rest of this section of *International Essentials* give details of a number of areas that you might want to publicise and where you can find the latest information.





1: CAMPS AND JAMBOREES

International Opportunities is a monthly publication from the International Office that lists future International Camps and Jamborees that are open to members of the UK Scout Association. The publication lists events both in the United Kingdom and abroad. *International Opportunities* is available to view and download from Scoutbase at

<http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/ps/inter/programme/ukcam/ps/intopp.pdf>.

The International pages of ScoutBase contain the latest lists of camps

- In the UK

<http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/ps/inter/programme/ukcamps/index.htm>

- Overseas

<http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/ps/inter/going/opportunities/index.htm>.

Should Counties or others wish to promote an event on *International Opportunities* they should contact the International Office.



In 2005, the Scout Association's International Team introduced an initiative called Global Explorer. This came from the fact that the 'international' content of an 'international camp' can vary widely; some camps have a high proportion of international participation whereas others only attract a small number of overseas participants.

Global Explorer is a quality incentive for event organisers and a support for marketing; it is a system of recognising good international programming which 'kite marks' events prepared to promote, prepare for and implement this important aspect of Scouting.

To be eligible to join the Global Explorer initiative, event organisers should ensure that there is a suitable International focus to the event such as:

- Encouraging the linking of groups prior to the event
- Providing a venue as the focus for free-time activities which focus on international and global issues

- Including global activities in the main programme of the event
- Providing promotional material to support the scheme – record card etc
- Providing recognition of international and global issues programme – badge, pin or certificate, using wherever possible the Global Explorer symbol.

More information can be found in fact sheet FS260070, *Global Explorer – a programme for international camps*

Kandersteg International Scout Centre was founded in 1923 as a place where Scouts from all over the world could meet. The centre is located approximately 40 miles south of Bern at the southern end of the small, traditional village of Kandersteg in Switzerland. It is easily reached by road and rail and provides an excellent base for sightseeing or exploring the Alps (the Centre is 1200 metres above sea level) and is open throughout the year.

For more information, visit the Kandersteg website at

<http://www.kisc.ch/>





2: EUROPE FOR YOU!



The Europe for You! Programme is an initiative of the European Scout Region and will be of particular interest to members in the Explorer Scout and Scout Network Sections as well as Leaders aged 25 to 30.

Currently the programme comprises two elements:

- Where to Stay in Europe and
- the European Scout Voluntary Programme

See fact sheet FS260027 – *Europe for you!* For more information.

Where to Stay in Europe is a really good resource for anyone thinking of having a trip in Europe and gives information on more than 330 different centres in 24 European countries. The resource gives basic information (such as size, opening times, prices and location) for each site and contact details to get more information.

Where to Stay in Europe is available from the European Scout Region website at:

<http://scout.kaleis.com/index.php?idsousrubrique=68>.

The European Scout Voluntary Programme is designed to allow young people from around the world to develop their leadership skills and intercultural learning by providing them with a residential experience of at least four weeks as a volunteer staff member at a site in another country within Europe.

Participants in *the European Scout Voluntary Programme* must be

- a member of any WOSM-recognised Scout association around the world,
- aged between 18 and 30 when the residential service commences and
- prepared to fully complete all of the requirements of the programme.

People interested in taking part in *European Scout Voluntary Programme* should look at the information on the European Scout Region website at :

<http://scout.kaleis.com/index.php?idsousrubrique=55>

Applications to take part in the *European Scout Voluntary Programme* are normally required approximately 10-11 months before the start of the

voluntary period (ie mid-September for the following summer) and should be sent to the International Office. Sites currently involved in *the European Scout Voluntary Programme* range from islands to castles, mountains to flatlands, old and new, from Iceland to Croatia passing through the UK, Poland and Switzerland. At present, all of the sites are established Scout or Guide Centres; many of them are open year round and have been working with volunteers for years. The sites all provide 'basics' such as a bed and food, as well as training and development within the framework of each sites organisation.

The European Scout Voluntary Programme may also be able to provide overseas volunteers for UK Campsites or even specific projects, like preparing for large international camps. If a local site wishes to get involved, contact the International Office for more details.

The International Camp Staff Programme is operated by The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) in conjunction with The Scout Association and offers the opportunity to work for six to 12 weeks during the summer months (commencing mid June) as a counsellor at one of the BSA summer camps or Cub Scout day camps.

There are more than 400 boy Scout camps in the USA. The camps have organised programmes for the boys where Scouting skills and ideas are presented. Each camp period usually lasts one week and will have on average 150 to 200 boys from 10 to 15 different Troops. There are between six and 11 one-week camp periods during the summer. Cub Scouts participate in day camp programmes.

As a staff member, you and the rest of the staff will receive one week's training before the camp opens. You will sleep in a tent or a small cabin and eat in the dining hall. There will be little free time as programmes run throughout the day and evening. However you will receive an occasional free day when you can visit nearby towns. The Camp Director or their representative will be available to help you make the most of the experience and deal with any problems that you may have.

More information on the *International Camp Staff Programme* can be found on the International pages of ScoutBase at:

<http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/ps/inter/going/ics/>



3: INTERNATIONAL LINKS AND EXCHANGES

Scouting has always promoted international peace, understanding and co-operation through contacts with young people from other countries and cultures. This international element helps young people to develop awareness of life outside of their own immediate sphere, and assists them in recognising and respecting the differences that exist between the nations and races of the world.

THE INTERNATIONAL LINKS SCHEME

This offers a means of communicating with other Scouts abroad. There are two types of links available through the scheme:

International Friends are links between individual Cub Scouts, Scouts, and Explorer Scouts. This is a fun way of learning about life and culture of a Scout in a foreign country, and may result in a close friendship being established and perhaps even an exchange visit to each others country.

International Group Links is a scheme that tries to link local Scout Sections (e.g. Groups, Packs or Troops) in the UK with a similar group abroad to exchange letters, photos and material.

Please note that Groups as we know them do not exist in some countries and it may often be better to link leaders and allow their links to develop into a group or section link. Similarly most countries do not have sections covering the six to eight years age range and it is often difficult to link people younger than 12 years of age as a good knowledge of the language is required.

Details of the *International Links Scheme* along with current lists of overseas members wanting links with UK Scouts can be found on ScoutBase at:

<http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/ps/inter/programme/links/index.htm>



COMMONWEALTH SCOUT EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

The *Commonwealth Scout Exchange Programme* has been run for a long time between Australia and the United Kingdom but a similar scheme between the UK and Malta has just been initiated.

The programme is self-financing, as the only costs are participants' airfare, insurance, a small admin fee and spending money. Many Groups and Districts who have participated to date have often been able to obtain some financial assistance towards these costs. Every applicant must have the support of their Group, District and County.

Successful applicants would spend the summer holiday in either Australia or Malta hosted by a local Scouting family and take part in family and Scouting activities.

Similarly in our winter, the scheme offers similar hosting for Australian Venturers in the UK and hosts for two or three Australian Venturers over December/January period are always welcome.

More information is available from the UK Coordinator through the International Office.



WORLD AND REGIONAL PROGRAMMES AND EVENTS

The **Jamboree on the Air** (JOTA) is an annual event held over the third full weekend in October every year. Started in 1958, it allows approximately 500,000 Members of the Scout Movement worldwide to communicate using amateur radio.

Although the event is available for the whole weekend, local circumstances will govern when people actually join in; there is no need to take part for the whole period.

See fact sheet FS120521 for more information.

In 1996, WOSM recognised that more and more Scouts were using e-mail and Internet Relay Chat (IRC) as methods of communication over the Internet and thus introduced the **Jamboree on the Internet** (JOTI) as an annual event.

Like JOTA, JOTI takes place on the third weekend in October and officially runs from 0000 hours on the Saturday for 48 hours. With the increasing availability of the Internet around the world, it is possible to communicate at any hour of the day or night.

There is also an official JOTI website at <http://www.joti.org> which allows participants to register and gives more information on the software packages and "Netiquette".

The **Jamboree On The Trail** (JOTT) is an annual event held on the second Saturday in May. All Scouts, whatever their age and wherever they may be in the world, are invited to participate in whatever way they can. Cubs and younger Scouting sections could visit a local nature trail as part of a weekend camp. A Scout Troop might check out a hiking trail while working on badge requirements. An Explorer Scout Unit or Scout Network might make a Service Project out of restoring or maintaining a hiking trail. In their own way, everyone will be hiking the same direction: towards a better future through Scouting.

More information on JOTT can be found on the JOTT website <http://www.jott.org>.

Lands of Adventure is a European Scout Region initiative for Scouts and Explorer Scouts aged 11 to 16. Its aim is to assist in enriching the programme with a European dimension and to contribute towards the development of a well balanced, attractive, and



relevant programme for the Scout age section in Europe.

Lands of Adventure is open to Scouts from all over the European Scout Region, which includes the United Kingdom as well as all the countries from Ireland to Greece, Portugal to Finland, and Turkey to Israel.

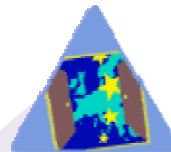
There are three youth challenges within *Lands of Adventure*: Express EURself, EUR Hopping and Europe@EUR.door. Small groups of participants join 'Lands of Adventure Patrols' and register for one or more challenges within the scheme.



Express EURself is a project planned and undertaken by patrols in their own programme, based on the theme of "Discovery". Patrols produce their project in any media format of their choice - such as video, music, sculpture, art, dance or mural.



EUR Hopping is designed to encourage Scouts from different countries to make contact and design a project which involves common preparation, implementation and evaluation/follow-up. The project does not require that the Scouts meet physically and many successful projects have been completed using the Internet or post.



Europe@EUR door is designed to encourage Scouts to learn more about Scouting and explore the culture of other European countries. Scouts from all over Europe are invited to plan and implement a project that is specific to the chosen host country (or if they wish, any other country of their choice).

Lands of Adventure integrates very well into the six to 25 Programme, giving support to such areas as the Global Challenge, the Creative Challenge, and the International Friendship Award and provides a good linking activity between Scouts and Explorer Scouts. The UK has a 'Lands of Adventure Ambassador' who can provide advice and assistance to people thinking of undertaking the challenges.

More information on the scheme can be found on the European Scout Region pages at :

<http://scout.kaleis.com/index.php?idsousrubrique=255> .



Gifts for Peace

To mark the Centenary of Scouting, each Scout Association was asked to come up with a *Gift for Peace* to show how we are continuing to work towards peace. As the topic 'peace' is an incredibly large area, three specific working areas were identified that are relevant to young people and that would truly constitute a valuable contribution to world peace. These areas are:

1. Managing conflict without violence
2. Challenging prejudice
3. Encouraging greater solidarity

The UK Scout Association has decided on three national *Gifts for Peace* that build on our good record in the past but local *Gifts for Peace* are encouraged. The National *Gifts for Peace* are:

- Creating a more peaceful world: *We will refine our Member Programme to include greater focus on personal values and peace, emphasising the Promise and Law. This will ensure that our Programme remains relevant to young people. We will work with others to devise appropriate educational methods.*
- Encouraging greater solidarity: *We will build upon our international contacts and networks and encourage more young people to form partnerships with Scout communities across the world, using as a basis the Marrakech Charter. We will also improve our sharing of such experiences throughout our Association.*
- Challenging prejudice: *We will widen the diversity of our UK Membership and reach out to displaced groups and indigenous minority groups. By being more diverse, the Movement will be more relevant to local communities, drawing upon the widest range of views and experiences. This mirrors the aim of Scouting in providing opportunities for all young people in our communities.*

To help members develop Gifts for Peace, WOSM has produced a resource called **ScoutPAX** which includes a lot of information about creating activities and developing a more peaceful World. ScoutPAX is available online at:

<http://www.scout.org/scoutpax>