



# What's on in Europe

issue 4/ August 2016



## **Roihu 2016** **7<sup>th</sup> International Finnjamboree** **by Doris Stockmann,** **The Fellowship of Scouts and Guides of Finland /Treasurer** **Europe Committee**

Roihu 2016 was the 7<sup>th</sup> International Finnjamboree organised by the Guides and Scouts of Finland. It was the largest youth project of the year in Finland. Roihu (=campfire) was the culmination of 17,000 scouts' summer camp in the forest at Evo, southern Finland.

The Fellowship of Scouts and Guides of Finland took part in the sub-camp Oasis at Roihu, which offered the possibility to leaders to come for a cup of coffee, to have a shower or visit a warm sauna. They could also talk with some experienced leaders, enjoy singing or just have a sleep.

The Fellowship had a tent where ISGF and Finish Fellowship products were sold. We also promoted the Peace Light from Bethlehem and the Stamp Bank. The participants had been informed that they could bring stamps to the tent and thus through the Stamp Bank help WOSM and WAGGGS Scout and Guide projects around the World.

Our goal was to make the Fellowship more visible and to recruit new members. We distributed leaflets on how to start a Guild and the ISGF leaflet.

There were lots of things happening; programme for different age groups, workshops, hikes and campfires, as well as an evening programme in a smaller scale – sub-camps and camp groups had their own evenings in addition to some International evening programme!

At Roihu there was a sub-camp for families, and all adults participated in the camp duties. This was the place that gathered children and parents together from each one of Roihu's sub-camps. Whenever you heard excited laughter, you knew that the children were not far! For handicapped scouts, who need extra support, the activities were roughly the same as the activities of other scouts and age groups. There were many religions and ideologies presented! It was a chance for everyone to learn about our differences while embracing one's own spirituality.

We were very pleased with the interest shown by 32 contacts, many of them wishing to establish a new Guild and/or become a member of our Fellowship.



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## **Meeting of the ISGF-World Committee in Estoril, Portugal 17<sup>th</sup> of March 2016 Report and picture by Hans Slanec President Europe Committee**

For the first time the ISGF-World Committee invited the regional presidents to join the annual meeting. Mida Rodrigues, our World President, had prepared the venue and so we could start immediately in our discussions.

For a whole day we had the possibility to speak about our regions and the problems we have, but also what we are doing to push our regions forward. I had prepared a power point presentation, where I put a flashlight on all the four sub regions. I explained the differences between the countries and the different ways of working in the guilds, the huge variety of languages and traditions in scouting and guiding, and last but not least the problems to bring up the former communist countries to the standards of all the other European countries. A big problem in these NSGF's is the high age of the guild members and that the number of scouts and guides is decreasing. There is also a lack of younger leaders, so elder people have to fill this vacuum. But now we miss them in ISGF. At the moment the Sub Region Central Europe tries to work on programs to give support to the scouts and guides, so they are willing to continue after a "scout career" as a member of the National Fellowship.

I pointed out, that approx. three quarters of all ISGF-members come from Europe and that Europe is paying the biggest part of the fees for ISGF. But now Europe needs help like the other regions to strengthen our weak member countries by sending them to workshops and conferences where they can get the know-how they need. If Europe is strong, we are able to give all necessary help to the developing regions Africa, Asia/Pacific and South America.

The coming World Conference was the theme for the next day and there will be some changes in the ISGF-Constitution to be voted on. "Our Kit" should be finished and booklets about "Our Projects" be added. The "Action Plan" should be revised and more oriented on the needs of the members.

At the next World Conference three European committee members end their term and we need to find candidates. I hope we will be able to find a candidate in each sub-region, and if they are women, that would be excellent, because the members that will continue are all men.

The last evening we had the possibility to visit the facilities of a Scout Group in Almada, a bit outside of Lisbon, and to taste local food and to listen to Fado music.

I hope, that ISGF World Committee will continue to invite the regional presidents to their annual meetings. This seems to be a good way to a prospering future of ISGF.





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## European Conference

### 9<sup>th</sup> European Conference of ISGF Tours - Val de Loire - France 11-15 September 2016

The organising committee is establishing individual contact with the participants to make sure everything is ready for their arrival.

All information and documents to be discussed have been sent through the International Secretaries and National Presidents.

**Theme of the European Conference:  
Live together  
Scouting and Guiding,  
a School for  
Peace and Citizenship**

### Grants to attend the European Conference

Aware of the difficulties some European countries have been experiencing in the last few years, the Europe Committee decided to give grants to promote the participation of Europe NSGF's members in the European Conference. This initiative aimed at making sure that all who wanted to participate in the Conference could do so, despite of their income or financial possibilities.

All the nine (9) applicants from European NSGF's who requested a grant to participate in the Europe Conference received full payment of their enrolment fees.



The European Committee is glad to send you the forth issue of the Newsletter "What's on in Europe", a joint effort of its members:

**Hans Slanec  
Doris Stockmann  
Katharine Diver  
Sara Milreu**

Please do not hesitate in forwarding your remarks and questions to  
saramilreu@yahoo.co.uk

### Annual fee

The annual fee, in the amount of **€40**, for the year 2016 may now be paid.

The countries which have not paid the fee for 2015 are reminded to pay it as soon as possible to the Europe account:

**ISGF – Region Europe**  
**IBAN: BE42 3631 3366 7454**  
BIC: BBRUBEBB

Countries wishing to pay their fee at the Europe Conference should inform Doris Stockmann of the fact, and pay the 2015 fee on the first day, to ensure their voting rights at the Conference.

Doris Stockmann - treasurer