

INbox@APR

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What's NEW

MARCH 2005

TSUNAMI SCOUT AID UPDATE • More Scouts contribute

UK: Mr Derek Twine of The Scout Association (UK) shares an inspiring report that Scouts in UK raised USD 128,600 for the Tsunami Scout Aid and had transferred the amount to the Tsunami Scout Aid account in Geneva. This is the first tranche of donations received by the UK national office until the end of February.

Australia: From the southern hemisphere, a pleasant news comes from Thuat V Nguyen, ICCVS Chairman based in Sydney, informing that ICCVS has raised funds for Tsunami Scout Aid with a total of USD 23,106. The aid is broken down for Indonesia (USD 8,106), Thailand (USD 5,000), Sri Lanka (USD 5,000) and Malaysia (USD 5,000). Donations were collected from ICCVS Scout Groups based in Australia, Europe and North America.

Korea: Secretary General Lee Young-Ku of Korea Scout Association coordinated with Regional Director Abdullah Rasheed on the additional donation of Korean Scouts to tsunami affected countries in the form of medical supplies, snacks and blankets worth US\$15,000. They agreed to hand over the supplies to Tamil Nadu Scouts in South India.

INDONESIA • Scouts to help in Nias disaster

Scout volunteers in Indonesia have already re-grouped for Nias Island to assess how they could help victims of the recent earthquake that struck the island on 28 March. Nias is in the west coast of Sumatra, one of the 32 provinces of Indonesia. Hundreds of people died and homes were shattered by the earthquake. Despite the difficulty of reaching the island because of the vast devastation, Vice Chairman of Gerakan Pramuka, Mr Parni Hadi, said that the Scouts Care Volunteers (SCV) team is determined to extend help as it is effectively doing for the Tsunami victims.

World Scout Bureau Director of Corporate Communication Mark Clayton, on behalf of the World Scout Foundation, visited Indonesia from 16 to 20 March. Mark's mission is to get more information about the SCV team and their work for Tsunami survivors in Aceh.

FRENCH POLYNESIA • First Training of Leaders

Being the newest associate member of Scouting in the Asia Pacific Region, the Polynesia Scouts Council had the first taste of a training course run by APR with a regional team, an experience that starts a series of training that would propel them for further training. Scouts Polynesia organized two training courses for Scout leaders simultaneously. One course is the Basic Training Course (BTC) for Scout Leaders of the Scout Section attended by 15 participants with the support of APR office, Scouts Australia and Scouts Canada. The other course is called BAFA 1 (STIP) attended by 31 Scout leaders. Dominique Pastor was course leader of BTC while Marie-France Ehumoana was course leader for BAFA I. Council President Joel Vanffaut opened the course on the first day and thanks to Scouts Australia and Scouts Canada for sending Peter Lane, Carol Cope and Louise Beausejour who comprised the training team. Thian Hiong-Boon of APR office coordinated this entire event. Both courses were held in Tautira, 70 km away from the capital town of Papeete.

Having this new experience for both participants and course staff, the training was made in a camping style boosted with camp crafts, Scout songs and games. The newly appointed Minister of Youth and Sports