

## JANUARY 2015

### REGIONAL INITIATIVES

#### Scouts in the streets of Manila: Visit to Perth "unforgettable"

Big dreams, even the seemingly impossible, do come true. This was true for 22 Scouts who used to just roam around the streets of Manila, Philippines, but got their adventure through an invitation to participate at the Anything is Possible Camp from 30 December 2014 to 3 January 2015 in Perth, Australia.

The surprise invitation came after 35 Scouts from Western Australia (WA) Branch of Scouts Australia attended the Annual Camp of the Ticket to Life (TTL) Manila Scout Group and were deeply inspired of their positive outlook amidst the difficulty of having come from families who are living in the streets of Manila, and needed to work to help their parents.

The WA Scouts raised money and brought the 22 Scouts, accompanied by TTL Philippines National Coordinator Sophie Castillo and Unit Leader Derek Bonifacio, who have been looking after the TTL Scouts Group since 2006.

Scouts visited different places of interest in Perth. Among the highlights was a visit to the Government House where they had the rare opportunity of meeting Her Excellency the Honourable Kerry Sanderson AO, the thirty-second Governor of Western Australia.

The five-day camp was an incredible experience for the 22 Scouts. Quennie Morales, one of the 22 Scouts said in a newspaper interview, "I cannot say [what is my favourite] because everything that happened is unforgettable."

Margaret Macindoe, mother of a Scout in Australia, said "God gave Scouts WA the TTL Scouts so you could change our lives. You are such special people and you have taught us so much. We have so much (material possessions), but in reality we have so little of what really counts... unconditional love for our neighbours".

Completing the travel documents, raising the money, and applying for entry visa seemed so impossible, but this camp made it all possible. 🌐 **By Shane Earnshaw and Syd Castillo**

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Asia-Pacific Region!**

### 2015 events

#### **WSB Management Meeting**

20-25 January  
Malaysia

#### **50th APR Basic Management Course**

4-14 February  
India

#### **National Rovers Conference**

6-10 February  
Taiwan

#### **Disaster Risk and Reduction Management Training Course**

21-25 February  
Laguna, Philippines

#### **Visit to Vietnam**

March 2015

#### **APR Scout Shop Management: Leaders Meet**

5-8 March  
Taiwan

#### **Disaster Risk and Reduction Management Training Course**

12-16 Samar,  
Philippines

## World Scouting mourns the passing of King Abdullah

The World Organization of the Scout Movement today mourns the passing of the King of Saudi Arabia, King Abdullah, Custodian of the two Holy Mosques.

The late King Abdullah was most instrumental in the development of the World Scouting's flagship initiative, Messengers of Peace.

Since its launch in 2011, Messengers of Peace has inspired millions of young men and women – members of the Scout Movement worldwide – to do great things in their local communities, to create a better world.

Through Messengers of Peace, Scouts have helped their communities recover from disasters in El Salvador, Haiti, the Philippines, and the USA. They have taken care of street kids and their families in Bangladesh, Honduras, Kenya and the Philippines. They have intervened in divided communities in Burundi, Indonesia, Kashmir and Rwanda. These are but a drop in the ocean of the millions of projects that have been undertaken by Scouts to bring positive change to their communities.

World Scouting is committed to bringing the message of peace and creating a better world for all. Our 40 million Scouts and more to come will be mobilised to achieve this vision for peace.

King Abdullah was recognised with Scouting's prestigious Bronze Wolf Award, the highest honour from Scouting at the world level. 🌐 [scout.org](http://scout.org)

## Earth Hour 2015 Countdown Begins

Scouts in the Asia-Pacific and around the world gear up for this year's Earth Hour which will take place on 28th March 2015 between 8:30 and 9:30 P.M. in your local time zone.

WWF's Earth Hour kickstarted the countdown to the 2015 event with the release of the official campaign video today. Set to the international hit song 'Pompeii' by British rock band Bastille, the two-minute video demonstrates how Earth Hour is empowering individuals and organisations around the world to take action on climate change.

WWF International Marketing and Communications Executive Director Sudhanshu Sarronwala said that this is the ninth time the Earth Hour movement will roll across the world. Millions of people will come together to use their power to change climate change and we want to work with them to deliver real solutions for a sustainable future for our planet.

In the past eight years, Earth Hour has grown from a symbolic lights-off event in Sydney, Australia to the world's largest open-sourced environmental campaign mobilising hundreds of millions of people in more than 7,000 cities and 162 countries and territories.

To know more about the event and activities happening in and around your city and how you can use your power to change climate change, visit [www.earth-hour.org](http://www.earth-hour.org).

**Myanmar Workshop**  
15-30 March

**2nd WSJ Host Organizing Committee Visit**  
27-29 March  
Japan

**Disaster Risk and Reduction Management Training Course**  
9-13 April  
Nueva Ecija, Philippines

**Workshop on Service Excellence**  
11-15 April  
Malaysia

**4th Preparatory Meeting for 25th APR Scout Conference**  
22-23 April, Korea

**Regional Scout Committee Meeting**  
25-26 April, Korea

**Course for Assistant Leader Trainers**  
27 April-5 May  
Cambodia

**Disaster Risk and Reduction Management Training Course**  
7-11 May  
Pangasinan, Philippines

**Staff Development Workshop**  
13-15 May

**CSPSA Forum Workshop**  
25-28 May  
Papua New Guinea

**Disaster Risk and Reduction Management Training Course**  
28 May -1 June  
Davao, Philippines

## WSB Management staff help flood victims get back on their feet

True to the Scout's Promise "helping other people at all times", the World Scout Bureau generously raised funds to purchase essential items to help flood victims in Malaysia get back on their feet.

The funds were collected from members of its management staff from the World Scout Bureau offices in the six Scout regions – Africa, Arab, Asia Pacific, Eurasia, Europe and Interamerica -- who were in Kuala Lumpur for their team meeting.

This was the first time the WSB management staff were meeting in Kuala Lumpur, the location of its latest office which was opened by the Prime Minister of Malaysia in June last year.

The essential items included bottled mineral water, school uniforms, shoes, socks, and cleaning items such as brooms, mops, pails and detergents. The items were handed over to the Flood Relief Supplies Collection Centre of the Royal Malaysian Air Force.

To date, the RMAF has distributed more than 3,000 tonnes of supplies to the flood affected areas.

In late December last year, parts of northern, southern as well as East Malaysia experienced severe flooding as a result of unusually heavy rainfall. The unprecedented disaster was the worst in decades – it claimed at least 24 lives, forced about 200,000 people to evacuate their homes and caused total losses amounting to RM1 billion. [scout.org](https://www.scout.org)

### NSO INITIATIVES

## Malaysian Rovers and Senior Scouts taking the frontline amidst the flood situation

Scouting good turn may come in many forms. For Malaysian Rovers and Scouters from Petaling District Malaysia, it came out as a help extended to people living in east coast of Malaysia hit by heavy flooding during the end of 2014.

With over 100,000 people were evacuated to nearby relief centres, Scout leader Ekbort Yong led the team of Rovers and few Scouters to pack relief goods and send out the boxes to Maha Vihara Buddhist Temple, one of the relief centres located at the city centre. Here, they teamed up with a group of Senior Scouts and loaded items to pick-up trucks heading to ground zero.

"We did not only deliver the aid, we just provided our service at the Relief Centre. Together, as a team we say "We Can", Yong said.

Moreover, Secretary General Scott Teare, in his official message, took pride mentioning when news broke out about the flood, Scouts throughout Malaysia swiftly responded by organising donation drives, collecting and dispatching items urgently needed by the victims as well as deploying troops to support logistic efforts.

He said "They truly lived up to the Scout Promise, serving their communities and their country in times of need."

He extended his deepest sympathy to those lost their loved ones but urged the Scouts and their families to be strong and take courage for the worst was over.

**Adult Support Sub-Committee Meeting**  
30 May, Philippines

**APR Seminar-Workshop on Needs & Challenges of Young People and Adults**  
2-5 June  
Philippines

**APR Management Meeting**  
16-18 June

**APR Seminar on Life Skills for the 21st Century**  
22-25 June  
Bhutan

**31st APR Jamboree Preparatory Meeting**  
4-5 July  
Mongolia

**National Risk Management Workshop**  
6-9 July  
Mongolia

**23rd World Scout Jamboree**  
28 July-8 August  
Japan

**Disaster and Risk Reduction Management Training Course**  
20-24 August  
Laguna, Philippines

**APR Workshop on Community-Based Scouting**  
2-6 September  
Australia

**APR Course for Leader Trainers**  
26 Oct-1 Nov  
Korea

“To all the Scouts who have served selflessly, I commend your efforts and I hope you will continue to provide assistance as the situation improves, and help the survivors put their lives back together again.”

The Asia-Pacific Regional Office also extended financial assistance to the flood victims.

## REGIONAL LEADERSHIP

### Call for Nominations: Asia-Pacific Regional Scout Committee 2015-2021

At the 25th Asia-Pacific Regional Scout Conference in November 2015, five members of the Regional Scout Committee will complete their term of office. They are Dr Chao Shou-Po (Scouts of China), Mr Shree Ram Lamichhane (Nepal), Mr Sang-Ho Shimn(Korea), Mr. Nicholas Tang Ning (Singapore), and Mr Pattaroj Kamonroj-siri (Thailand)

To fill-up these five vacancies, nominations from member Scout organizations are solicited for a term of six years (2015-2021). If your Scout organization wishes to make a nomination, such nomination must reach the World Scout Bureau/Asia-Pacific Regional Office not later than 30 April 2015.

Not more than one elected member from any one member Scout Organization may serve in the Regional Scout Committee at any one period (Chapter IV, Article VIII (2) of the APR Constitution & By-Laws). Therefore, candidates from the following member countries are not eligible to run for the 2015 election: Scout Association of Japan, Scouts Australia, Bangladesh Scouts, Boy Scouts of the Philippines, and Sri Lanka Scout Association.

## NATIONAL LEADERSHIP

### New Chief Commissioner of Australia announced

Scouts Australia announced the new Chief Commissioner of Australia, Mr. Chris Bates, during its National Executive Meeting held between 14-16 November in Adelaide. His term will begin this 1st of February 2015.

Chris brings with him a wealth of experience in Scouting. His initial foray into Scouting began as a Cub with the Lameroo Scout Group. He fondly remembers exciting moments from camps in Ridge Pole tents out in the National Park, cooking food and hiking for hours in the bush with nothing more than a compass.

In 1974 Chris commenced what would become a 36 yearlong public service career with the Department of Social Security, now known as Centrelink. During his career he resided in Port Lincoln, Berri and Adelaide. All this while, his passion for the Scouting Movement continued to grow. After registering his two eldest sons into Scouting, Chris joined as a Leader.

This began an illustrious Scouting career which included volunteering at numerous Jamborees and taking on a variety of Scouting roles including Troop Leader, Activity Leader, Branch Commissioner International and Manager of Course 2 of the South Australia Young Leader Development Program. In 2012 Chris was appointed as Chief Commissioner for the South Australia Branch of Scouts Australia.

#### 8th APR Scout Youth Forum

29 Oct–1 Nov  
Korea

#### Chief Scout Executives Meet

1 November  
Korea

#### Sub-Committee and Regional Scout Committee meetings

2 November  
Korea

#### Regional Scout Committee Meeting with Heads of Delegations

3 November  
Korea

#### 25th APR Scout Conference

3-8 November  
Korea

#### Disaster and Risk Reduction Management Training Course

19-23 November  
Cebu City, Philippines

#### Disaster and Risk Reduction Management Training Course

13-17 December  
Mindanao, Philippines

This list of events will be updated regularly.

## INVITATION

### Extreme Scouting at Mongolian Rover Moot

If you are a Rover from 18 and 25 years old, and is looking for extreme Scouting adventure, the 5th National Rover Moot is just right for you.

Sign up through your National Scout Organization for the 5th National Rover Moot Mongolia on 2-8 July 2015 to be held at the Scout Adventure camp, about 65 km northwest of Ulaanbaatar, the capital of Mongolia. Mongolia is dubbed as a land with extreme weather condition.

Expected number of Rover participants is 500 including 400 local Rovers and leaders, and 100 from overseas.

Theme for the Moot is Discover, Serve and Share.

Highlight of the event is engaging the Rovers to help expand the Scout Camp of Mongolia with the following activities: building shelter and hut, decorating training room and shelters, building activity areas, donating equipment for training and programme.

The activities will become part of the World Scout Award such as Scouts of the World Discovery/ Scouts of the World Voluntary Service.

Registration is US\$250 that will cover food, souvenirs, inland transportation and insurance.

International Service Team fee is US\$200 including meals, souvenir items and other issuances, and transportation from the airport to camp and back.

Average annual temperature in Mongolia's capital, Ulaanbaatar, ranges from -16°C (-2°F) in February to a more comfortable 16°C (62°F) in July.

Interested? **Contact the Scout Association of Mongolia**

**E-mail:** info@scout.mn **Website:** www.scout.mn

## CIRCULARS

**Circular 1-2015:** Revised Guidelines for the Asia-Pacific Regional Scout Youth Forum

**Circular 2-2015:** Proposed Amendments to the Constitution & By-Laws, Rules of Procedure and Submission of New Resolutions

**Circular 3-2015:** Proposed Conference Agenda

**Circular 4-2015:** Nominations for the Regional Scout Committee Membership 2015-2021

### Contact Persons:

**J. Rizal C. Pangilinan**  
Regional Director  
jrqp@scout.org

**Luz Taray**  
Director, Communications & Strategy  
luz@scout.org

**Facebook:** Scouting in the Asia-Pacific Region  
**Website:** scout.org/asia-pacific