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Zimbabwean Children's Home Uses Scouting as part of its Care Programmes



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Emerald Hill Children's Home is a home for orphaned and other vulnerable children. Since 1914, the Roman-Catholic Dominican Sisters have provided shelter for children in need. Today, the home cares for the physical and spiritual well-being of about 90 children aged 3 to 20. The children come from a variety of difficult backgrounds, many of them having been abandoned by their parents or having gone through traumatic experiences of neglect, emotional and physical abuse, including sexual abuse. Apart from providing food and shelter, Emerald Hill actively focuses on the emotional healing of its children through Christian spirituality in daily life, the engagement of social workers and counsellors, and a number of other creative offers.

It is in light of this that the 9th Harare Emerald Hill Scout Group was opened at the home in 1937. Having started with just one cubs six, the group went through several transformations and homes until it finally settled at its current home, "the Kensington Scout Hall". The scout programme compliments the physical, emotional, spiritual, intellectual, social and character development care programmes provided at the home.

From commencement, the group used to run Cub Scouts programme only. However, in 2001 when David Love returned from South Africa, he felt it was imperative that a Scout Group be started as there were a lot of boys who were too old for the cub Scouts section but still wanted to enjoy the Scout programme. The boys worked on a few projects including the building of the Scout Hut. In 2007, 9th Harare Emerald Hill Scout Group opened its doors to girls when it accepted the first Girl Scouts into the group. The group is currently led by Romeo Kwenda the Group Scout Leader.

One of the Girl Scouts, Ivy Madakwenda, shares a poem to express what Scouting at 9th Emerald Hill Scout Group is like; *Honor - Scouting here at Emerald encourages honor as meaning the badge requires loyalty, trust and helpfulness. Truth is sometimes difficult. Owning up for taking the last cookie from cookie jar can be hard. Cooperation isn't difficult because we are already brothers and sisters at home. Learning makes school easier as the skills we learn during our Scouting activities are the same skills we learn at school. Spirit- we have learnt to complete a task whether we are first or last. This is our spirit at 9th Emerald. Food, glorious food - we love our food here at 9th Emerald. Ha ha ha!*

Among the many camps, scouting skills competitions and activities the group has been involved in was the opportunity to send 5 Scouts to 22nd World Scout Jamboree in Sweden 2011. Every year the Group also join millions of other Scouts worldwide in Jamboree-On-The-Air/ Jamboree-On-The-Internet. The Scout group runs a blog <http://harare9thscouts.blogspot.com> having previously started on <http://9thharare.blogspot.com> through which the share updates on their activities. In 2011 they kept in touch with their Jamboree participants through the blog <http://2011jamboreezimcont.blogspot.com>. You can also tweet them @9th_emerald.

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Journée Africaine du Scoutisme

7 - 11 March / Mars 2018 - Zimbabwe

All Africa Scout Day Celebrations

Dates: **7 - 11 March 2018**

Venue: **Ruwa Scout Park
Harare, Zimbabwe**

Theme: **"Uniting young people through Scouting"**

Official Africa Scout Day website:
www.scout.org/africascoutday

Event Information Page
www.scout.org/asd2018



INVEST IN THE FUTURE OF AFRICA: JOIN THE AFRICA SCOUT FOUNDATION

Donations are vital in helping Scouts help others. Your contributions will go towards ensuring the sustainability of a wide variety of programmes and projects that enable millions of young people in Africa to learn and develop skills useful for personal growth and community service. For more information on becoming a member of the Africa Scout Foundation, visit www.scout.org/africascoutfoundation or email africa@scout.org.

FOCUS ON NATIONAL SCOUT ORGANIZATIONS

Scouts of Namibia sign MoU with SOS Children's Villages to Grow Scouting



In recognition that they share the common aim of empowering youth through education and promoting action towards their sustainable social and economic development, the Scouts of Namibia and SOS Children's Villages have signed a Memorandum of Understanding committing to joining efforts using their best endeavors to facilitate achievement of their missions. The MoU signing ceremony was presided over by SoN's National Executive Officer Allen Sameja and the Executive Director of SOSCV-Namibia Mrs. Simonee Mulamata.

Scouts of Namibia will work in conjunction, consultation, collaboration and coordination with SOS Children's Villages to offer Scouting as an educational activity at individual SOS Children's' villages of Tsumeb, Windhoek and Ondangwa in Namibia. Scouts of Namibia undertakes to provide programme materials on Scouting to young people and leaders alike, contribute ideas for a variety of fun yet challenging activities for young people, arrange relevant training for adult volunteers to run Scout groups, and extend invitations to SOS members to attend national, regional and local Scouting events. In doing this, Scouts of Namibia shall be guided by its National Child Protection Policy.

SOS Children's Villages Namibia, in turn, will work in conjunction, consultation, collaboration and coordination with Scouts of Namibia to make it possible for young people in their care to become Scouts and thereby take part in the Scouting programme, and also to offer SOS staff members the opportunity to become adult Scout leaders and run Scouting activities. SOSCV Namibia has the child as its core business and thus its major focus is on child protection and child safeguarding. SOSCV Namibia also recognizes the fact that registration/enrolment by individuals is absolutely voluntary and therefore only those children and youth who volunteer to participate in Scouting will be allowed to join this programme.

Scouts of Namibia will further provide feedback to SOS Children's Villages on the performance of their registered members through annual reports. Such feedback will be provided directly to the Village Directors who will ensure reflection of such feedback in the quarterly and annual progress reports and Child and Youth Development Plans.

Malawian Scouts in Karonga lead pro-child disaster interventions

At a meeting with Head Teachers and District Council officials in Karonga, The Scout Association of Malawi Programmes Officer, Albert Mzumara noted that children have been left out in terms of disaster risk reduction initiatives though they are the most vulnerable when tragedy strikes. He argued that disasters affect children's well-being, growth and education. Billy said that in line with Scouting's Safe From Harm policy which seeks to ensure that young people have a safe and secure environment to do their activities in, the Scout Association of Malawi will roll out special lessons to empower children with survival and first aid skills. The Head Teachers commended the initiative saying that it will help put children out of harm's way.

(Story by Leonard Masauli, Malawi News Agency)

South Sudanese Scout among Yei youth calling for peace and unity



South Sudanese Scouts living in Yei River State were among youth organizations present at a forum to promote peace in the south-western region of South Sudan. The forum which brought together 91 youth from the Sudan People's Liberation Army, National Security, Prisons, Police, Boda Boda Associations, Women's Association, religious groups, and Scouts explored ways to end ethnic division and build unity. The young people identified some of the factors causing inter-ethnic polarity in Yei as impunity among elites, the historical background of conflict among superior tribes, tribal pride, as well as tribal and political hegemonies.

The forum was organized by the Civil Affairs division of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan in collaboration with a local faith-based group, Augustine Family Organization under the theme "promoting peace, social cohesion and peaceful co-existence."

The forum urged that the different tribes making up the country must project unity through its diversity rather than using ethnicity as a dividing factor. Participants were also encouraged to strive for peace by embracing the culture of social cohesion and peaceful co-existence.

This contribution by the Scouts of South Sudan to the achievement of lasting peace in their country underscores Scouting's recognition of the potential and role of the youth in bringing peace and harmony to their communities. Through the Dialogue for Peace programme Scouts around the world continue to build bridges of dialogue, friendship, peace, harmony and co-existence among their peers, in their families, schools and communities. Read more at <https://unmiss.unmissions.org/yei-youth-calling-unity-diversity-rebuild-broken-relationship>

Fostering Collaboration Between Scouts and Youth Council in Zimbabwe

The Regional Director for Africa, Frederic Tutu Kama-Kama during his visit to Zimbabwe in December paid a courtesy call to the Zimbabwe Youth Council to shed light on how the World Scout Bureau works with the Scout Association of Zimbabwe and how they intend to work with Zimbabwe Youth Council.

Kama-Kama pointed out that Zimbabwe won a bid to host the 2018 Africa Scout Day commemorations which is a day set aside by AU in recognition of contributions of Scouting in Africa. Ruwa Scout Park will be the venue for the celebrations and over 300 delegates from Africa are expected to grace the occasion with a couple of visitors expected from other regions around the world. Zimbabwe will also be hosting Africa Scout Youth Forum from 4th to 6th September 2018 and the Africa Scout Conference from 7th to 10th September 2018.

Frederic also reflected that he is looking forward to supporting and strengthening the existing ties between the Scout Association of Zimbabwe and the Zimbabwe Youth Council as they do the preparation for the scheduled events and beyond. He indicated that the Scouting community will be glad to have the Patron of Scout Association of Zimbabwe who is also the President of Zimbabwe to officiate the events. Read more at <http://zimyouthcouncil.org/?p=420>

Developing Musical Talents through Scouts Brass Band in The Gambia



The Gambia Scout Association has over the years run a Scout Brass Band programme for its young people. According to Lamin K. Cham, council member of the Gambia Scout Association, this has gone a long way in supporting and developing of musical talents as well as boosting the morals of Scouts.

"The Scout Band is a programme of the Gambia Scout Association and a good number of our members are playing a central role in in the bands of the police and army today," said Cham. One of the key successes of this programme is that the female Drum Major of the Gambia Police Band is a product one of the Association's bands, the Sanyang Scout Band.

This programme has since 1997 been made possible due to the generosity and support of a Dutch Philanthropist, Father Loek Struick. In December 2017, Father Loek donated another consignment of musical instruments including 41 red and black ski jackets, 45 white shirts, 23 red cloths for music teachers, 11 red T-shirts, 26 red neckties, 15 drums (parade + flat), 4 saxophones, 8 clarinets, 1 box containing various small instruments, 5 trumpets, concert pianos, 3 music standards, 2 trombones, 1 standard drum, 4 harnesses for drums, 1 large standard chrome among other music materials.

The Chief Scout of the Gambia Scout Association, Abubacarr Krubally, thanked Father Loek for the gesture, noting that without his long and continuous intervention, operations of the Scout Bands in the country would have been difficult; noting that there was no existing Scout Band in the country today that has not benefited from the instruments the philanthropist donated. The Association now has Scout bands in Sanyang, Tallinding, Bijilo, Basse and Gunjur. Krubally called on the national bands, the police and the army bands, to support the Scout bands as the young people from these bands are absorbed by them. Read more at <http://standard.gm/site/2017/12/04/dutch-philanthropist-gives-gambia-scout-bands/>

Scout Group in an Armed Forces Barracks

Kamuzu Barracks Scout Troop was formed in 2007 within the premises of the Malawi Defence Force headquarters in Lilongwe. The troop is located at the Community Secondary School inside the barracks and has 150 Scouts - from cubs to rovers.

The troop undertakes a number of activities including; waste management, tree planting and forest management. Apart from their normal Scout Group meetings they are also involved in community projects like assisting the needy, life skills education for young people and community sporting activities. The troop is run by two leaders, Paul Kamanga and A.F Chipiko, who are also teachers at the school.

Madagascan Messengers of Peace Hero to the ECOSOC Youth Forum



The National Messengers of Peace Coordinator from Madagascar, Lahariniaina Safidinantenaina, has been selected to attend the 2018 United Nations Economic and Social Council Youth Forum to be held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on 30-31 January 2018 under the theme, "the role of youth in building sustainable and resilient societies."

Mr. Safidinantenaina is a National Commissioner at Kiadin'i Madagasikara, one of the Scout Associations that make up the Firaisan'ny Skotisma eto Madagasikara (Fédération du Scoutisme à Madagascar). He has been instrumental in driving the growth of the Messengers of Peace Network in his country aside from leading the implementation of numerous community service projects and campaigns with Scouting in Madagascar. He was also among the ten Scouts that received the Messengers of Peace Heroes Award in 2017.

The ECOSOC Youth Forum will bring together youth leaders from around the world, like Safidinantenaina, and provide a platform for them to engage in a dialogue with Member States and to discuss the policy frameworks and promote innovative, institutionalized approaches and initiatives for advancing the youth development agenda at national, regional and global levels with a view to promoting solutions to the global challenge of strengthening resilience and sustainable development.

To know more about and follow the ECOSOC Youth forum, visit www.un.org/ecosoc/en/node/2641005. You can also see his video <http://www.bbc.com/news/av/magazine-41311476/it-s-ok-to-make-mayonnaise-while-on-your-period>

Gone Home

Jules Mwila Nsekeshu - Fédération des Scouts de la RD Congo
National Scout Commissioner for Community Development (2011-2014), Former International Commissioner of from 2008 to 2011, National Coordinator for Eclaireurs du Zaïre (1987-1990) and Former Provincial Scout Commissioner for Katanga.

Simplisius Wasendwa - Kenya Scouts Association

Served Scouting for close to 44 years, Former Scout Leader and Area Commissioner, Principal in a number of high schools in Kenya and Former member of the National Executive Committee (2012 - 2017)

Ousmane Keita - Association Nationale des Scouts du Guinea

Founding member and long time loyal servant of Guinean Scouting, Former civil servant at the Ministry of Youth, Commissioner General of the Scouts of Guinea (1985 - 1998), Trainer of Trainers and Former member of the Steering Committee of the Scouts of Guinea

AGOSSOU "Father of the Séraphine" - Scoutisme Beninois

Served Beninese Scouting for many years as trainer, Member of the National Office successively in charge of the promotion of female Scouting and then of spirituality and Former Inspector of Primary Education

Sadia Mohammed Osman - South Sudan Scout Association

Served Scouting in the larger Sudan in different capacities, Treasurer of South Sudan Scout Association and Director of Planning in the State Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports in Jubek State.

Josephus S.B. Logan, Sr. - Liberia Scout Association

Former Rover Scout Commissioner who served the Liberia Scout Association for 74 unbroken years

Isaac Kumeh - Liberia Scout Association

A Scout Leader from a local Troop

East African NSOs Hold Annual Zonal Scout Events in Uganda



The 2017 edition of the annual East African Zonal Scout Zonal Activities, which bring together the National Scout Organizations in the East African sub-region in the spirit of scouting took place in Kampala, Uganda from 14th to 19th December 2017 under the theme "youth involvement, the future of our sustainability". Present at the event were Scouts and leaders from Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, Ethiopia and the hosts Uganda.

The three events held concurrently include the zonal inter-patrol competitions, the zonal Scout youth forum and the zonal Scout conference. The events offer young people and opportunity to experience great fun and friendship with peers from other countries, jointly take part in learning activities as well as explore a new country. The adults on the other hand meet to discuss the progress of Scouting in the zone and plan for further growth and development of the movement within the sub-region.

The competitions were held at the redeveloped Kaazi National Scouts Camp on the outskirts of Kampala, the venue for the 7th Africa Scout Jamboree in 2020. The East Africa Zonal Scout Youth Forum in its twelfth edition took place at the St. Kizito Secondary School, Namugongo. The forum is where the young people in Scouting discuss their issues and make resolutions and propose recommendations that will help improve Scouting for the young people.

The Eastern Africa Zonal Conference on the other hand took place at in Kampala city centre. Some of the key resolutions passed by the conference included a commitment to ensuring gender parity in the selection of members to the conference and other activities. An update and enforcement of international relations policies, adoption of social impact and membership growth reporting by NSO's and the implementation of deliberate strategies to empower the youth into leadership roles, including strengthening of the youth forum at grassroots level was agreed upon. Member NSOs were also encouraged to endeavor to attend all zonal and regional activities, utilize their pool of expert human resource in trainings and to communicate change in office personnel in good time through Africa Support Centre. The conference also resolved that the 2018 zonal Scout activities will take place in Burundi in December.

The Regional Director, Frederic Kama-Kama in his remarks congratulated the leaders for their consistency in hosting the events annually without fail. He underscored the important of such zonal events as a key platform for inter-NSO learning and collaboration towards strengthening of Scouting and enhancing regional integration. Apart from sharing some updates on the developments in Scouting at the world and regional level, Frederic urged for outcomes that are geared towards making Scouting available to more young people and contributing to the development of East Africa, Africa and the world. He also reiterated that the World Scout Bureau Africa Support Centre will continue being a partner to NSOs in their undertaking to develop and grow Scouting nationally.



8th Africa Scout Youth Forum
Dates: **4 - 6 September 2018**
Venue: **Harare, Zimbabwe**
Hashtag: **#AfricaScoutYouthForum**

17th Africa Scout Conference
Dates: **7-10 September 2018**
Venue: **Harare, Zimbabwe**
Hashtag: **#AfricaScoutConference**

Theme:
"Africa Scouting: Building the Foundation for Sustainable Development"

Official Event website:
www.scout.org/africayouthforum
www.scout.org/africaconference


UPCOMING EVENTS

EVENT	DATES	VENUE
West Africa Zonal Scout Youth Forum & Conference	11 - 16 February 2018	Lome, Togo
All Africa Scout Day Celebrations	7-11 Mar 2018	Ruwa Scout Park Harare, Zimbabwe
43rd Southern Africa Zonal Scout Conference & 14th Southern Zonal Africa Scout Youth Forum	30 May - 3 June 2018	Manzini, Swaziland
8th Africa Scout Youth Forum	4-6 Sept 2018	Harare, Zimbabwe
17th Africa Scout Conference	7-10 Sept 2018	Harare, Zimbabwe

STAY IN TOUCH

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