

Brraavoo! Scouting Alumni

December 2015

Dear member of the Alumni Network,



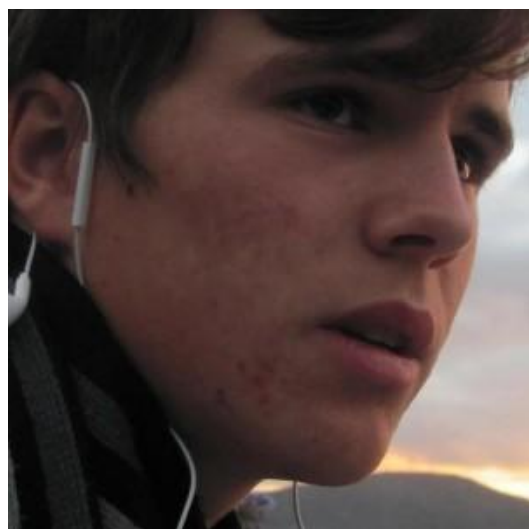
As the year ends I am grateful to be able to share my reflections and highlights of the past year with you - my Scouting family. We have all been touched by the turbulent events of 2015. We have seen xenophobia, violence, terrible natural disasters and weather conditions that enhance the dire circumstances some of our members find themselves in.

Despite all of these events, our members have lived the spirit of Scouting and shown support, compassion, good citizenship and determination to help those in need and overcome these challenges. You have continued to smile and whistle as true Scouts and lived up to the essence of being a Messenger of Peace. You make me proud to call myself your Chief Scout. [Read more ...](#)

Chief Scout raises Euro 30 000 for child development

On the 4th of October Chief Scout Sibusiso Vilane raised €30 000 or over R300 000 by running the [Cologne Marathon](#) in Germany. The ["Africa Run"](#) fundraising event was organised in cooperation with Nangu Thina e.V. and Sinothando e.V. Chief Scout Sibusiso Vilane was joined by a team of runners from the Umckaloabo foundation. The pharmaceutical company Dr. Willmar Schwabe donated €11 000 and they received pledges of up to € 19 000. The funds raised are earmarked for Early Childhood Development projects in South Africa. The ECD projects will be implemented by Scout Groups nationwide as part of the 2016 Cubbing Centenary. Well done Chief!

"Anything is possible, you have the power to make a difference"



"Peace brings people together from different religions and cultures, it allows us to work together in harmony and unity. It encourages us to be tolerant and open to building bridges and collaborating", says 17 year old Scout **Zachery Preyser**, from **2nd Bergvliet Sea Scout Troop** in Cape Town. He represented South Africa at the **Nagasaki Peace Forum and Memorial Ceremony** whilst participating in the **23World Scout Jamboree** earlier this year.

The discussions from the forum have inspired me to think about the role we as Scouts in South Africa. We are a rainbow nation and as youth we have to raise our voices. As Scouts we can help teach our peers in our communities about peace and how we can accomplish it by doing small things. Xenophobia can be brought to a stop, conflict between people about their culture and beliefs can be stopped, anything is possible if you believe you have the power to make a difference and you believe in yourself. Because anything war can do, peace can do better!" [Read full story.](#)

Food For Life "a life changer!"



Earlier this year the 1st Manzemba Scout Troop ([supported by Keep The Dream 196](#)) in Limpopo organized a "Food For Life" project. Local community members, 115 Scouts, Cubs and parents learnt about healthy eating habits, how to identify certain vegetables, how to sow seeds, nurture seedlings and establish and maintain a vegetable garden. Young leaders were also taught how to transfer skills and educate their peers.

Mphaho Vhulenda, one of the participants, was very excited about planting his own vegetables "Reaping the benefits of my own labor for the first time was a moment that I will never forget in my life." [Read full story.](#)

SSA thanks the following companies and individuals for their financial support:

From what has been reported to the National Office, we would like to thank the following companies and individuals for their financial contributions:

Mr **John Fraser** for the funds donated **in memory of his mother Maureen Fraser** towards the expansion of our retail activities. The **HG Summerley Trust** and **Mr Alan Sol** for bequeathing to SCOUTS South Africa. The **EE Camden Trust** and **Mr Dave Arnot** who financially support the operations of Scouting in the Free State. **Liberty Holdings Limited** for sponsoring the registration fees of 50 Scout Groups nationwide. The funds donated allow for members from impoverished and rural communities to access training courses and to apply for grants and international opportunities that arise. **Santam** for supporting the operations of the National Scout Office. This support makes it possible to continue to provide services and administrative support to regions and groups nationwide.

Thank you to all who give to Scouting in kind by sharing your **expertise** and **services**.

Have you heard?

Expansion of Scouting Regions. As part of the revitalisation of Scouting we aimed at enhancing member services and growth. Over the past year the Free State, Northern Cape, Eastern Cape South and Eastern Cape North were established as independent Scouting regions and new structures are being put in place. We now have 10 regions and the National Scout Office.

New Regional Websites being rolled out early 2016. As mentioned in our [previous newsletter](#), one of our marketing priorities is to roll out a unified brand for SSA nationwide. This includes regional websites. Check out the first Regional site which is currently being piloted: <http://westerncape.scouts.org.za/>

Cubbing Centenary: 2016 marks 100 years of Cubbing! We will host the **Akela 2016** (International PowWow) from **6-9 August 2015 in Johannesburg** and will run **100 Early Childhood Development projects**. Excitement is growing and fun assured! More information will be disseminated early 2016

SSA's Advert '[Learn It Young. Remember It Forever.](#)' wins **Gold** at the international **Cristal Festival** in France. In the category NGO / Great cause / Charity we won Gold. The ad was produced by Not Norm and Velocity Films.

SCOUT Shop: In 2014 SCOUTS South Africa launched its online shop <http://shop.scouts.org.za/>The shop offers Scouting members nationwide the opportunity to purchase their Scouting necessities from home.

Join the **Alumni Network**: Are you a former Scout? Would you enjoy reconnecting with us? Email alumni@scouts.org.za and we will be in touch. If you know other former Scouts please share this email with them so they can contact us if interested. To get regular news and stories "[Like](#)" the [SCOUTS South Africa Alumni Facebook Page](#).