



TREFOIL TRUMPS

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UPCOMING EVENTS

16 April – 22 April 2014

Meeting of the World Committee

12-15 July 2014

World training seminar for spiritual teams in Lebanon

5-9 July 2014

Presence of ICCG at the 35th World Conference of WAGGGS in Hong Kong

14-18 August 2014

Sichem in Ivory Coast for 18-30 year olds

Atout trèfle

bi-annual newsletter of ICCG

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Keep your lamp burning

Rejoice! Rejoice! For God so loved the world that he gave us his Son! What joy it is to believe in a God who was so close to mankind that he chose to live among us! In today's world, where economic crisis, moral crisis, and crisis of meaning affect so many men, women and children, do we dare announce that God is coming to earth to bring peace to all mankind? That God is love and that he wants the best for each and every one of us?



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In ICCG, we support each other as Catholic guides, as a part of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts. Our network is one of sisterly love. It is a small taste of God's Kingdom on earth. For over 100 years now, girls from all over the world have been able to discover it, thanks to the Guiding movement. For over 100 years now, they have heard this call: Guides, keep your lamp burning, for He who will save us comes!

May the child for whom we wait in hope bring to each and every one of us, to guide and scout associations, and to your families, his peace, his joy, and his love.

Catherine Faucher

World executive of ICCG

Two world meetings in 2014

Dare to promise to build peace

Two global meetings in 2014 will bring together two kinds of audience. The theme will be: *Dare to promise to build peace*. One, called Sichem, will be held in Africa, thanks to the Ivory Coast Catholic Guides, who have agreed to host it, helped by the ICCG Africa regional team. The other will take place in Lebanon, near Beirut. These two meetings will help the members of guide associations, who offer support to young people to help them live their Christian faith as a Guide, to see the commitment of the promise with fresh

eyes. It's an educational path to peace, living as Christ's disciple.

These two meetings will also be a wonderful occasion to celebrate the centenary of Catholic scouts and guides, «Keeping Your Lamp Burning».



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For guides, to make their promise, it is a commitment to peace.





Book project 50 years of ICCG

At the end of June 2015, ICCG will celebrate its 50th anniversary in Rome. To mark this occasion, the story of ICCG and the Catholic Guide network, which was founded before ICCG, will be published in a book, written in three languages. The editor will be Sophie Wittmans, former federal commissioner of the Catholic Guides of Belgium. We thank her warmly.

To accompany the text, we are looking for photos and/or documents from meetings for Catholic guides throughout the years. Please send them to cicg-mondiale@sgdf.fr.

Please feel free to send us your story, to be included on a «stories» section of ICCG on the website: cicg-iccg.com.

WAGGGS and ICCG meeting



Catherine Faucher, Chair of ICCG with Nadine El Achy Chair of WAGGGS.

Catherine, Chair of the ICCG World Team, met with Nadine, the president of WAGGGS, during her visit to Lebanon last July. It was a chance for a friendly talk, explaining what ICCG do around the world and how ICCG acts to help WAGGGS, and in particular its Catholic guides. Catherine gave Nadine ICCG's book *Talitha Kum*.

Two meetings in summer 2014

July 12-15

Training: learning about the promise for the spiritual teams

A world seminar will be held from 9am on 12 July until 10pm on 15 July at the Maronite Seminary in Ghazir, near Beirut, bringing together training and programme commissioners, chaplains, members of spiritual teams, members of Catholic councils, etc., on the theme of teaching peace through the Guide Promise.



Today, it isn't easy for young people to commit in the long term to their faith. However, through the Promise, the teachings of the Scouts and the Guides help them maintain this commitment. Scout and Guide leaders themselves sometimes have difficulty living their commitment and thus helping young people from their units on the path that is the Promise.

ICCG offers this training to help associations train leaders to dare to promise whilst believing in Christ in a context of religious plurality and/or indifference, to understand the promise as a way of discovering Christ, and/or to grow in their faith in Christ. More information and application forms can be found at cicg-iccg.com

August 14-18

Sichem: a global meeting of 18-30 year olds in Abidjan

The ICCG Africa team and the Catholic Guides of Ivory Coast are making preparations for Sichem 2014, a special global meeting for young adults. The theme is: «Dare to promise to build peace».



The first such meeting took place in Lourdes in October 2012, and now Africa will host this event full of meetings, pilgrimages, and faith. The presence of older and former members will show how the Promise has been a lifelong commitment.

A camp organised by the Catholic Guides of Ivory Coast will take place before Sichem in order to allow, amongst other things, the production of a short play for the opening evening of Sichem.

Camp dates: 7-14 August.

Sichem dates: 14 August, 9am, until 18 August, 12pm.

For more information and to download the application form, go to cicg-iccg.com





19-21 August 2013 Regional meeting in Benin

More than 25 ICCG representatives from national associations, commissioners and chaplains, representing 10 of the 14 member countries of ICCG Africa, came together for a regional meeting from 19-21 August 2013 in Benin. On the agenda: the role of the ICCG representative in organising Sichem in Ivory Coast, sharing associations' news about



Participants at the meeting in Benin in August 2013.

faith education, developing communication, and the pilgrimage to Ouidah, where there is a memorial in remembrance of the slaves who departed from Benin. At the turn of the millennium it was transformed into Africa's place of rebirth. The spiritual approach to this meeting was made clear in the theme of the centenary of Catholic guides and scouts: Keep your lamp burning.

News!

ICCG Africa publishes information newspaper on the life of ICCG in the area. Its name *Kibare* means «new» in Burkina Faso.

The first issue can be downloaded on cicg-iccg.com

The ICCG Africa regional team have made their plan of action

After the meeting in Benin, the regional team worked on their plan of action for the next two years.

In particular, this includes helping with the organisation of Sichem 2014 in Ivory Coast, a meeting of 18-30 year-olds. The first meeting was in Lourdes in 2012. All the member countries of ICCG Africa - especially Ivory Coast's neighbours Burkina Faso, Togo, and Benin - have indicated their interest and would like to send several young people. Many older and former Guides are also participating. *Kibare*, a newspaper for ICCG's Africa region, has been founded. *Kibare* means «message» or «news» in the language of Burkina Faso. It will be a way of sharing and raising awareness of each association's news, and particularly helpful in organising Sichem. We are looking for funding for the various meetings in 2014. We are also celebrating the 50th anniversary of ICCG in Africa.



ICCG team at the meeting in Benin.

ICCG at the regional conference WAGGGS Africa

Isabelle Konan from the Guides of Ivory Coast, member of the regional team and other members of the regional team of ICCG Africa who represented ICCG at the WAGGGS regional conference in Lagos, Nigeria from 11 to 17 August 2013.

All members of ICCG had representatives at the conference. Isabelle Konan was elected to the African committee. The flyers presenting the world meeting in Lebanon and Sichem in Ivory Coast were well received. The members of the ICCG regional team have developed some good contacts for Francophone countries: Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo and English speaking countries: Lesotho, Gambia, Liberia, Zambia. These associations expressed a real interest in becoming members of ICCG.





ICCG Europe at the Regional Conference of WAGGGS

ICCG took part in the 14th European WAGGGS Conference in Berlin, Germany, from 16 to 21 August 2013.

Every day, ICCG and ICCS prepared Mass together. On Saturday 17 August, singing practice was a good opportunity to welcome the approximately 25 members of delegations from Spain, Italy, Germany, Slovenia, Monaco, France, Portugal and Croatia. As the celebrations finished, a PowerPoint presentation showed ICCG's activities, then a reception allowed discussions to continue. On Sunday, an interfaith session brought together around 30 people from Turkey, Italy,

France, Switzerland, Germany, Spain, and Monaco, as well as two members of the WOSM European office, etc.

This conference provided the opportunity for discussions with several members of ICCG, but also with other associations which are often based around a spiritual committee, some even having a Catholic committee. The head of ICCG Europe was able to meet Annette Von Stockhausen, a committee member on the Council of Protestants in Guiding and Scouting (CPGS). The president is Katriina Kuusela, Guides and Scouts of Finland. Many people were interested by the idea of the Week of Communion. Some countries, such as

Slovakia and Hungary, translate ICCG's tools into their own languages.

During this conference, AGESCI proposed a motion which would allow WAGGGS to work on spiritual education with other guide networks of different religions and spiritualities. The motion failed to pass by 5 votes. Already, associations are thinking of proposing a new motion at the next WAGGGS World Conference.

At the start of November, the ICCG Europe team organised a workshop on spiritual education during the Scout Academy which was jointly organised by WAGGGS and WOSM in Brussels.

ICCG hosted a workshop at the Scout Academy



ICCG Europe was invited by Lara Tonna and Craig Turpie, presidents of the WAGGGS and WOSM committees, to organise a workshop during the Scout Academy from 29 October to 2 November 2013.



Alessandra Silvi and Taja Zajec at a workshop at the Scout Academy.

Taja, a member of the ICCG Europe team, was chosen as the official trainer to animate the two sessions on «Spirituality in Guiding and Scouting».

The Scout Academy hosted 192 participants.

We had 22 participants on Saturday morning and 28 on Saturday afternoon, for a total of 50 participants (1/4 of the total participants), from many different countries, among which were: Sweden, Norway, Finland, Italy, France, Malta, Spain, Romania, Belgium, Armenia, UK... «We felt there is a strong desire to deepen

this issue», says Alessandra Silvi, «especially in open Associations, that have to deal with members of different faiths and beliefs, as well as with members who have not made any faith choice. The issue is particularly difficult in these Associations: on the one hand, those who recognise themselves in a faith need to be offered the opportunity to progress in it, those who have not made any faith choice or are atheists need to be

offered the opportunity to approach and deepen values that might eventually lead them to a faith.»

The next Academy will take place in Belgrade (Slavija Square), Serbia, from 3 to 9 November 2014.

The group of participants from the ICCG Europe meeting in the cathedral of Catania



With representatives from Belgium, Czech Republic, Slovenia, Slovakia, Hungary, Catalonia, Poland, France, Italy, Guinea, and for AGESCI Giuseppe Finocchietti, National Commissioner, Matteo Spanò, President and Noemi Ruzzi, International Commissioner and for ICCS Euro-Med Gerry Glynn, Secretary General.





The regional ICCG team at the Western Hemisphere conference in our Cabaña, Mexico



From the 20th to the 25th of July 2013, all the ICCG Western Hemisphere Region members participated in the 13th Regional Conference. Each member established good contact with the association of which they support. In the same way, some space was provided so a presentation about ICCG could be held. Each team member held personalised meetings with their target Associations.

Associations who attended the presentation of ICCG during the

13th conference of the Western Hemisphere were: Bolivia, Peru, Aruba, Honduras, Mexico, Argentina, Ecuador, Bolivia, Guatemala, Paraguay, Dominican Republic. Ana Victoria Mora, Director of WAGGGS and Parla Casco, outgoing member of regional committee of Western Hemisphere. These associations are most interested in ICCG.

Regional team meeting in Mexico city, from the 25th to the 27th of July, Mexico City, Mexico.

Work was done on the following topics:

- Dates were defined for regular future virtual meetings through Skype twice a month.
- A spending settlement was agreed upon and a revision of the achievements of the 2013 adveniat project was made.
- The work programme was revised for what remains of the three year period. The possible participation in events in 2013 and 2014 was also examined.
- Material designs submitted to the Associations participating in the WH Conference were evaluated. These were: a leaflet, an invitation to the Regional ICCG Meeting in 2014 in Panama from the 7th to the 10th of October 2014, photos with messages for the stand presented at the Conference and the 60x60 poster put up in the main Conference room.
- The action plan was followed up on both in terms of participation in training and the 2012 regional meeting.
- A schedule and the content of the 2014 regional meeting were established. «We are going to light up the world» 7th-10th of October 2014 in Panama.
- The need to monitor the commitment of the associations that participated in the 6th regional Emmaus meeting in 2012 was stressed.



The ICCG team during the conference in Mexico City.



The life of ICCG in the Middle-East region

Despite all that we are living through in our region, we still have hope.

In July 2013, the regional camp in Lebanon hosted a meeting full of friendship, solidarity, peace and faith. The training allowed leaders of ICCG to meet each other and discuss a theme (the road to peace travels through faith), to remove all fear before Jesus Christ, and allowed everyone to return to their own country not only with techniques on guiding, but also with more courage, enthusiasm, and openness towards others, and to our mission as Christians.

Good news: Nancy, from the Upper Egypt Guides and a member of the regional team, who is four months pregnant, took part in the camp.

In August 2013 in Egypt, the convent and the church of Father Magdi, the chaplain of the Egyptian Guides, was

attacked and looted, but, thank God, no-one was killed. The same thing happened in 25 churches in Minya, where Nancy lives. The country is in turmoil, between the Muslim Brotherhood and the political regime of the new president: el-Sisi.

In Lebanon: The number of Syrian refugees is increasing, and risks changing the demographics of Lebanon.

In Syria: Aleppo was under siege for two months, and had its electricity and internet cut off. The chemical attack in Ghouta shocked the whole world. 1400 people died, and today chemical weapon negotiations are under way again.

A good piece of news came from the Arab World Regional Conference, or-

ganised by WAGGGS: the ex-national commissioner from the Lebanon Guides, Zeina Jammal, was elected a member of the regional office among the new representatives of the committee. In September 2013, we lost contact with Egypt and Syria. We have tried to get back in touch with Palestine, and we hope to renew links with them.

We look forward with great hope to ICCG's international seminar to be held in July 2014 at the seminary of Ghazir, near Beirut. It will be a great pleasure for the Catholic Guides of the Middle-East to welcome the whole world.

Marie-Jo Kahale
regional chair, ICCG

Regional camp in July 2013

The road to peace travels through faith



The group of participants at the regional camp around bishop Mounir Khairallah.



Festive evening led by the Guides of Lebanon.

Nearly thirty Guide leaders and representatives from Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon met from 11 to 14 July near Beirut for the ICCG's Middle East region training camp. The Syrian Guides couldn't be present, but thanks to the magic of the internet, they managed to make contact almost every day.

On the agenda: talks on the situation of women in the Middle East, their role in citizenship, faith and peace education; conferences on our role as women, guides, and Christians; and prayers, reflections, meditation, and a pilgrimage to deepen and consolidate our faith.

Mgr Mounir Khairallah, the bishop accompanying the Lebanese Guides, visited them, as did Catherine Faucher, Chair of the ICCG World Team, and Father Jean-Luc, the World Chaplain. The Lebanese Guides put on a magnificent show for the opening evening.



LIFE OF THE REGIONS - ASIA PACIFIC



Vicky presents ICCG to the assembly.

Regional Conference WAGGGS Asia Pacific

ICCG has been invited to the WAGGGS Asia Pacific Regional Conference in Japan from June 29 to July 5, 2013. Vicky, responsible for the Western Hemisphere region, has fulfilled her mission : she presented ICCG to many interested associations and made new or renewed contacts with associations of different countries : Japan, South Korea, Philippines, Mongolia, Vietnam, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore. A draft regional meeting could emerge in 2014 or 2015. We hope to see the participation Guides of Asia Pacific at two global meetings in Lebanon and Ivory Coast.



Vicky with the delegates of Hong Kong.



Vicky with the Director of the Asia-Pacific office.

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