

Newsletter

Nangu Thina e. V.

*Dear friends
and supporters,*

another year of projects has gone and we met again for our annual meeting. Looking back, we can say Nangu Thina – that interactive network - is growing day by day.

Cultural exchange, training tours, social projects and scouting events – just a few examples of the volunteer work of our partners in the Netherlands, South Africa, Germany and all the other countries...

This year we are expecting again groups of the rainbow nation to visit Europe, meet friends and enjoy friendship across borders, races and languages. We look forward to have another South African scout choir on a tour through Germany and I am sure, they will impress us with their rousing singing.

**"SABANGANI
– we are
friends!"**

Christian Mackels

Errol is coming!!!

I hear some asking: "Who theis Errol?" but most of the German scouts and scouters that have been down to Cape town will easily answer this question. Since the Jamboree tour in 1995 there has been a great contact with the coloured community in Mitchells Plain (Cape flats) and the district commissioner Errol Bird helped us (usually together with Stephen) to arrange things in this beautiful city. Also his hospitality is well know and the Braais and Potjes famous. He finally made it happen that some 14 scouts (girls and boys) in the age of 14 – 18 years are coming over to Germany. They will come for three weeks in July – just at the beginning of the school holidays in NRW. We have a couple of partner groups but search for some more interested scout troops to host them or have a joint project together.

Please contact us as soon as possible if you are interested at the head office and talk to Uwe. info@nangu-thina.de

Homepage

Our webmaster Ralf Feldhaus (called Felde) is constantly improving the homepage of Nangu Thina and we recommend that you check it out once a month as most information is supplied there. In the future you might be even able to follow our projects more closely through the homepage. We also offer you to inform us about your projects on the homepage. Project co-ordinators should also supply Felde with all information available as we believe that the website is our most important tool for communication. So please stay tuned.

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Nangu Thina annual conference

For the fourth time the members and friends of Nangu Thina met for the annual conference and network meeting. The North-South team from Scouting Nederland who had at the same time a coordination meeting for their projects kindly invited us. And what a great response we had – more than 50 participants from both countries came together and could welcome Brenda and Dudley James from Mpumalanga. They gave a special taste not only with the supper on Sunday but also with their presence and the opportunity to get first hand information and input from the south African side while planning new projects.



Jörg Hagmeier and some members discussing about professionalisation and further growth

Again an interesting mix of people from 17 to 60 years old held the indaba not only to meet people and look back to fond memories, but also to make new contacts and develop the partnership network. On Saturday morning we had separate meetings in the German and Dutch group to make the decisions that are necessary to develop our activities and we are very positive about the action the members took. We will further grow and professionalise the head office in order to get the support our volunteer project coordinators need. This will hopefully improve the quality of our service and make

Mackels, who has served in various capacities so far for the network. He was elected with a majority vote for the next three years – welcome on board. In the afternoon various workshops were offered and one of the discussions focussed around the question of how to improve the cooperation between different countries and how meaningful projects can be identified. With Brenda's and Dudley's help we arranged a South African dinner with no leftovers at all. Afterwards there was again enough time to see slides and videos

response times shorter. Especially for the administrative need of the network this decision had to be made. After the resignation of our Vice-chairman Klaus-Peter Ott we found a new candidate in Christian

exchange ideas or just talk to old and new friends. We trust that the concept of these meetings will be improved with every indaba and so we are looking forward to the next weekend. Please block the



The very first of the new, big badges is presented to Klaus-Peter Ott for his work as Vice-chairman following dates in your calendar:

2-4.11.2001 in Düsseldorf or Berlin

5-7.04.2002 in ????

Hamba Kahle

Volunteers – more of a help or more of a burden?



Interns? Volunteers? What can they do? Are they more of a help or more of a burden? Before we started we asked ourselves many questions if this is the way to go but after some very positive experiences last year and the great interest from Germany going south and the request from our partners in various regions we decided to go ahead with this scheme and develop a system that guarantees good preparation and evaluation for both sides. And we are proud to have Heike Theisen from Grevenbroich to be the first intern for Guiding and Scouting Mpumalanga. Daniela Jaensch will follow her in July and we have various candidates for next year already. They will cover their own expenses but of course we try to help wherever we can. Main tasks will be the support on the admin side of the area offices and the support of training courses. In this way we can help the volunteers to have less work and also have input from a European point of view. Lastly we will have a person to make tours and projects in South Africa and Europe easier happen

as we increase the (wo)-manpower in the HQ. The German volunteers in return get a unique experience in another country for a longer time and also improve their language abilities. Very often one would also find that a growth in personality and experience is reported. In the long run we will hopefully see South African scouters and guiders to come to Europe on the same scheme as we have many scouting grounds where this kind of work is possible.

The responsible co-ordinators are Anne Broeker and Ludger "Lubu" Bubenitschek (in Bremen) or Markus Koppe. All have extensive experience in a volunteer situation in South Africa and will happily advise you if you are interested. Contact them at internship@nangu-thina.de.

Please also check the homepage for more information and job opportunities.

Mpumalanga Scouters are coming.

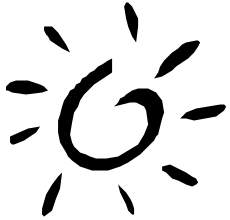
And here is another first for the network that we can be very proud of. A group of 16 scouters from Mpumalanga are coming to visit us in Germany. It was their wish to come over and they arranged everything themselves. It is the first all black tour of a group in Mpumalanga – Congratulations. They will arrive in Frankfurt on the 24.5 and leave again on the 11.6.2001 from there. In between they will meet again many scouts and guides in Germany and participate in big Pentecost Camps in Westerlo, Münster and Strasbourg. Also a seminar and various meetings with youth workers are scheduled to give them an inside view on our situation in Germany. They will meet with troops in the Cologne and Mainz area as well as participating in school projects in Gelsenkirchen. The group has proven that they are excellent singers even though we are not arranging a choir tour for them but we are sure that the one or other impromptu will be seen. Whoever wants to meet them or invite to your town – do not hesitate and contact us at the HQ in Bonn. info@nangu-thina.de

Sabangani Choir from KwaZulu/Natal coming again.

After the very successful tour we had last year we mutually decided that we will have another tour in September this year. Again Germany and Holland will be on the agenda and we are happy that the DPSG Essen scouts invited us to join in at the RUHRJAMB – a major scouting day with 6000 expected participants in Gelsenkirchen. Other cities will be Bonn/Cologne, Münster and Velbert. The choir will be in the country between the 12 – 24.9.2001. If you have any suggestions for this time you should contact Uwe in the head office. Due to the success of the choir we are planning to have 2 if not 3 choirs of different size in the year 2002 in Germany. If you are interested you should make arrangements very soon as the first planning sessions for these tours will be done in May this year.

What a happy day!!!!

This was the most said sentence when various projects could receive help through the Nangu Thina network. The Nangu Thina e.V. and DPSG St. Rochus in Bonn received funds from the NRW



departments of youth and social affairs in order to help in Mpumalanga. We were very happy to inform the Girl Guides in both east and west that some 40.000

RSA in total could be donated for new camping equipment. This enables both regions to substantially improve the numbers and qualities of camps. And isn't this the place where scouting happens. The equipment is stored in central locations so that many groups have access to it and will hopefully use it for training and camps.

Then we could support the Bonginhlhla stimulation centre for handicapped children, which is not yet supported by the government. Due to the involvement of 1st Middleburg Guides the standard could be improved already but with the new facilities from the biggest mining company and the new equipment the kids and volunteer working mothers are very happy. We could arrange for chairs, tables, mattresses, a fridge and a stove. All these things were not available beforehand.

Lastly we could support the MP Sport Ass for the disabled and bought some wheelchairs so that Basketball for handicapped could be introduced to the community. Some of the local scouts knew some of the handicapped and we hope that the interaction starts just like with the DPSG scouts in Germany.

During the annual conference the members of the network supported to continue on this way as we realize that the needs of the SA community are still largely not met. We hope to identify the right projects in this year and hope that the solidarity of German scouters will continue to grow.

A great thanks again to the departments who will hopefully continue their support as well.

Workshop-Tour 2001

Two weeks, a new area, more than 100 scouters and guiders, 1.000.000.000 ants, 150 kg of luggage, 4 Germans.... that are some numbers to describe the Workshop-Tour 2001.

In march two Scouters from BdP and two from DPSG started for this trip to offer two Training-weekends to scouters in North-West and Guiders in Gauteng. And the resonance was great! For the first weekend we expected about 30 scouters and met more than 70 of them. We had a very successful course at the Mafikeng Scene Center. The content of the weekend were management skills like time and project management, Public Relations and communication skills. During Saturday afternoon we had a troop challenge with a variety of tasks such as making your own food on an open fire or interpreting a scout law and adapting it to today's society. And all of the groups were very successful in singing, dancing, camp structures and and and....

The next weekend we spent with guiders from Kagiso in Magaliesburg where they were trained on camp preparation, games, camp structures and first aid. It was a weekend of continuous singing and dancing – and even the Germans got affected by the lovely songs, dances and games!

We had three impressive days – even if it seemed that the rain



surrounded us all the time. We exchanged ideas about scouting and guiding and enjoyed the african way of guiding.

All in all it was a very short, but successful trip that should be repeated. Therefore we are looking for volunteers who are experienced in training and would like to go to South Africa and support areas and districts on training their guiders and scouters. On the other hand we need to know where what kind of training is needed – please contact Nangu Thina if you would like to invite a training team for a camp or a weekend.