

Focus on Friends

the newsletter of

Friends of Asia Pacific WAGGGS



January 2013

About FAPW

In 1999, during her term as Chairman of AP Region, Dr Juseon Byun founded Friends of Asia Pacific WAGGGS (FAPW) to support the development of Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting and the promotion of WAGGGS' Mission in the Asia Pacific Region. Her Royal Highness, Princess Azizah of Pahang, Malaysia is the very actively supportive Patron of FAPW.

There are about 2.6 million Girl Guides and Girl Scouts in the twenty five WAGGGS member organizations in the Asia Pacific Region. FAPW has a little over 900 members.

Every three years, FAPW holds a General Assembly at which the Working Group, consisting of six members, is elected to Administer the FAPW for the next triennium. Each General Assembly is held in a different country, providing opportunities for members to meet those from other countries, exchange ideas and share experiences and also to enjoy the culture and travel in the host country. General Assemblies have so far been held in Malaysia, Taiwan and South Korea and the next is scheduled in Thailand in 2014.



The current Working Group is chaired by Chempaka Pahamin (Malaysia) second from the right. The other members are (left to right) Helen Hargreaves (Australia), Annette Woo (Hong Kong), Susan Locsin (Philippines) Soon Duck Chung (Korea) and Junko Sato, (Japan).

Membership of FAPW is open to all. Any adult who donates a minimum of GBP 80 (£ Sterling) is accredited as a member of

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Focus on Friends will be published twice yearly, in January and July. We welcome articles from all member countries of FAPW. Share news of what your FAPW is doing, how the 30% benefit is being used by your national association.....
Deadlines for submission of articles will be 1 December and 15 June. Send articles to Helen at helenharg@westnet.com.au

FAPW and any child under the age of 18, who donates GBP 40 becomes a Crystal member. On turning 18, Crystal members need to upgrade to Silver to maintain membership. There is no annual membership payment. Members may choose to join at any level and may remain at that level. Members may also choose to upgrade at any time by donating the difference between their current level and any other level of their choice.

Just before the 10th anniversary gathering of FAPW Malaysia, the Working Group met with members of the AP committee. At this meeting, three new levels of individual membership were approved.

Membership levels are now

Crystal:	GBP	40	– a new level for children under the age of 18
Silver:	GBP	80	
Gold:	GBP	200	
Diamond:	GBP	300	
Titanium:	GBP	500	– a new level
Platinum:	GBP	700	- a new level
Major Donor:	GBP	1000	

There is also Corporate Membership level at GBP 500.

30% Membership Benefit

Member Organizations which raise GBP6,000, through membership fees for FAPW, have the benefit of deciding how GBP1,800 (30%) of that money could be spent. These MOs may submit a project for approval by the Asia Pacific Regional Committee.

In 2011, Girl Guides Australia, Girl Guides Association of Brunei, Girl Scouts of Japan and Girl Scouts of Korea all received the 30% Benefit. In November 2012, the Hong Kong Girl Guides Association was advised of its eligibility and Girl Guides Australia again became eligible in December.

Girl Guides Australia's use of the 30% benefit

The 30% Benefit allowed the project manager of GOLD (Australia), Fiona Miller to meet with her peers from New Zealand in the Cook Islands where they were able to discuss plans to bring a team of four young leaders each to the Cook Islands starting in 2012 to provide training and programs for Leaders and Guides. During this visit they met with the Cook Islands Leaders, Guides and Executive members to talk with them about what they wanted to achieve from the GOLD project. The team had successful meetings with members of Parliament including the Minister for Education, the Minister for Youth and the Prime Minister. The meeting with the Minister for Education was very successful and he was highly supportive of the project. He is willing to assist where required with future GOLD projects.

The project started in October 2012 and proved to be very successful. Plans are underway for the 2013 visit to the Cook Islands.

Cook Islands GOLD Project Information



What is GOLD?

GOLD stands for Guiding Overseas Linked with Development. GOLD was established in the UK in 1991 and since then there have been GOLD projects in over 25 countries including Thailand, Armenia, Chile, Egypt, Fiji, Honduras, Russia and Tanzania. Australia was involved in a joint project with the UK in Thailand in 2003 - 2008. GOLD is about facilitating the development of Guiding in the host country through various means such as workshops and/or training sessions. The style, format and content of each GOLD project depends upon the needs of host country.

Who can participate in GOLD?

In Girl Guides Australia, GOLD is a service project specifically for members of Girl Guides aged between 18 and 30 years. The Cook Islands project is a joint project between Australia and New Zealand. The team will consist of four Australian members and four members from New Zealand and each year the contingent leaders from each country are selected from those who participated in the project in the previous year. In 2012, the Australian contingent was led by Fiona Miller and the New Zealand contingent was led by Heidi Moeller, both experienced GOLD participants. The team leadership is shared by the contingent leaders.

When will the project occur?

The Cook Islands GOLD project will be held every year for five years. Each visit will last for approximately two weeks during which, there will be training sessions for Guides and Leaders, attendance at a national camp, visits to Guide Units, as well as opportunities for sightseeing and enjoying the Cook Islands culture.

Gathering '13 in Tokyo

We are planning how we can give you a satisfactory stay in Tokyo in a few days. What could be the most interesting experiences for you? You may hear our special music by three strings. You may join our dancing. You will arrange flowers by yourself. How about sipping green tea in a ceremony? Rakugo, the joke, will be fun for you. You will have a snap shot in Kimono. You will be on a boat to go to Asakusa temple, down town area, to find many small shops and you need to find a restaurant to eat by yourselves. Some of you may have a chance to make wax made food sample, tempura. We are grateful to FAPW, for we could have the World Leadership Development Program for a week, run by Girl Scouts of Japan as the 30% benefit. It is: you are wonderful and we are wonderful. See you in Tokyo! Masako Kajiura, FAPW - J

This gathering, which will run parallel to the 11th Asia Pacific Regional Conference, will take place from 29 June to 3 July 2013 at the National Olympics Memorial Youth Centre.

Friends of Asia Pacific WAGGGS (FAPW) Philippines celebrates 10th Anniversary in style



The Friends of Asia Pacific WAGGGS, Philippines celebrated its 10th Anniversary from 15 to 18 November 2012. More than 70 members from Australia, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Japan, Malaysia and Korea and around 150 local guests joined the festivities. It was an international celebration with a unifying objective of improving the lives of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.

HRH Princess Azizah, Crown Princess of Pahang Malaysia, the Royal Patron of FAPW, graced the occasion, as did FAPW Founder, Dr. Juseon Byun from Korea.

The four-day event saw the participants showcasing their dancing and cooking prowess while interacting and exchanging friendly talks. Shopping was also part of the fun adventure.

The opening salvo at the Astoria Hotel in Ortigas, Pasig City on the “All About Me” crash course on Dining Etiquette and Personality Development was a welcome self-check for the participants.

The second day showcased the traditional Filipino “Barrio Fiesta” (town’s feast) in Tamayo’s Restaurant in Intramuros, Manila where Friends and other guests came wearing their national costume. The many Filipino dishes and the joy ride around Intramuros via a tramvia enthralled everyone.

The third day set off the culinary immersion of the attendees via “Asian Confusion”, a cooking challenge thrown by Chef Gene Gonzales of Center for Asian Culinary Studies at Café Ysabel in San Juan City. On the same night, the Membership Ceremony was held at the hip Club Mwah which served as the highlight of the anniversary celebration. It was an entirely different ceremony from what used to be done concept-wise.



“Filipinos are fond of welcoming friends and it is our innate desire to showcase our many Filipino ways whenever we receive foreign guests to our country. With FAPW’s 10th year celebration, we are hoping that we can promote the largest voluntary Movement dedicated to girls and young women in the world as well as increase the number of membership of FAPW Philippines. A special thank you to the Girl Scouts of the Philippines is in order for helping out FAPW Philippines in all our preparations and making all this a reality,” said Susan Locsin, Chairman, FAPW-Philippines.

The other officers of FAPW Philippines are Vice Chairman Yolanda Hernandez, Secretary Esperanza Benin, Asst. Secretary Olivia Villafuerte and Treasurer Sampaguita Marave.

Inaugural gathering of Friends of Asia Pacific WAGGGS, Australia

From 21 to 24 September members of Friends of Asia Pacific WAGGGS (FAPW) Australia gathered in Sydney for the first time. Although the first members joined in 1999, membership growth was slow and the small number of members were scattered right across Australia, making it too difficult to arrange meetings. Membership has now grown to more than 60 members so the Country Co-ordinator Marian Langdon, suggested a gathering. Members welcomed the suggestion enthusiastically so Marian and her small team of helpers put together a program of activities that allowed members to get to know each other and learn about the work of FAPW.



Our Patron HRH Princess Azizah of Pahang, Malaysia and the Founder of FAPW Dr Juseon Byun participated in the gathering and told us about their roles in FAPW. HRH Princess Azizah also told us about her Tengku Azizah Fertility Foundation. We heard other presentations from the Chairman of FAPW Chempaka Pahamin, past Asia Pacific Committee Chairman June Cameron AM, and Chief Commissioner for Girl Guides Australia Helen Geard. These gave insight into the workings of FAPW, the AP Committee, opportunities that funds raised can give girls, and the Membership Incentive benefit to Australia. Discussion sessions encouraged input from members on the future management of FAPW Australia.

The venue for the gathering was the Sydney YHA in The Rocks, the oldest area of European settlement in Australia. The hostel is built over a large archaeological dig and close to many other interesting historical sites, of which we enjoyed a guided tour. An outing to Manly by ferry on a clear sunny day was most enjoyable and Reflections, held on the rooftop on a clear sunny Sunday morning, enabled us to enjoy the wonderful views of the harbour, with the Sydney Harbour Bridge on one side and the Opera House on the other.

Additional guests were invited to attend a dinner on the Saturday evening. At the dinner, HRH Princess Azizah presented membership pins and certificates to new members and to upgrading members. Her Royal Highness was presented with baskets of items donated by the participants for the babies born as a result of the Tengku Azizah Fertility Foundation's program.

FAPW Founder honoured



For her dedication to the development of leadership of girls and young women through her work with Girl Scouts of Korea, Asia Pacific Regional Committee and FAPW, Dr Juseon Byun received the prestigious Korean Yoo Gwan Soon Award in 2012.

Dr Juseon Byun has also been honoured with the title of "Dato", conferred on her by His Majesty Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah, King of Pahang, Malaysia.

Many thanks to

Joan Bunker, International Manager, Girl Guides Australia

Marian Langdon, FAPW Australia

Elizabeth Gilchrist, FAPW Australia

Masako Kajiura, FAPW Japan

Myra Sarmenta, Assistant National Executive Director and OIC Communications, Girl Scouts of the Philippines

for articles, information and photos