



Sangelee Spirit

Did You Know ?

* **'Sangelee'**
Sangam's
mascot was
born at the
World confer-
ence Dublin,
in 1999.

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Participants experience

Had an amazing time at sangam!

Love India.

Namaste and greetings.....

We are pleased to tell you that the Sangam Community Volunteer Programme (CVP) has recently received two infusions of support. The 'Sow A Seed' Fund to support CVP scholarships received over 5,000 GBP from Margaret Wellock and Friends through the fundraising efforts of Trefoil Guild. We look forward to supporting young women from all over the world to be able to participate in the unique volunteer opportunity offered by Sangam. This issue of Sangelee Spirit focuses on CVP, so you can learn more and hear directly from volunteers about their experiences.

The Sangam Community Volunteer Programme has also been awarded funds from The UPS Foundation as part of the existing partnership with WAGGGS. Over the next five years,

we aim to expand the programme and invest in capacity-building, including improved IT and telecommunication infrastructure, facilities improvements, and build this global volunteer opportunity, create a network of former volunteers, and spread the word about CVP and NGO/corporate partnerships. Please read more about our recent Community Volunteer programme!

In the Spirit of Sangam,
Donna Lednicky
World centre manager



Judy says

• Greetings from Australia! I hope you enjoy this edition of Sangelee Spirit, and that the stories you read will inspire you to make your own visit to Sangam and experience the joys and rewards of working with Sangam's community partners.

• During the Sangam Centre team meeting earlier this year, I was fortunate enough to visit three of Sangam's community partners. Seeing the bright mural in the children's bedroom at Malantai Orphanage and the colourful alphabet posters and other learning aids proudly displayed at the Mobile Crèche really brought home to me what a special and unique role Sangam's Community Volunteer Programme and Community Action Projects play in the lives of the children serviced by these organizations.

• The bright eyes and huge grins of the children also showed how happy they are to see visitors from Sangam - evidence of the

(Continued on page 3)

Local girls learn to swim from



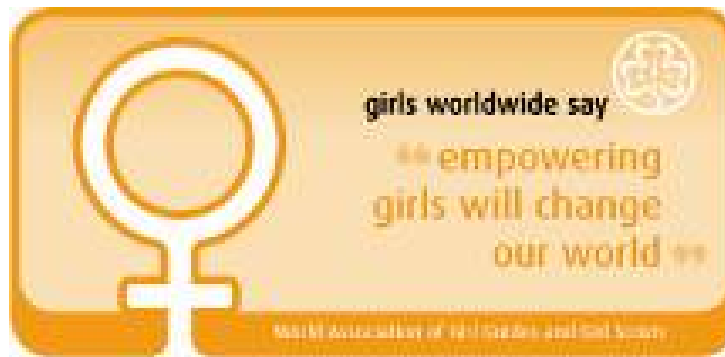
Thirty-eight girls from local neighbourhoods visited Sangam for their first swimming lessons as part of the Aarya Tara Mahila Trust programme to build self-confidence.



They visited the World

Centre during the event Artistic Expressions of India II on 26 October and 25 girls returned for their second lesson, during the Essence of India IV event from 1-10 Nov 09.

These lessons are run in collaboration with Sangam's community partner, the Aarya Tara Mahila Trust, an organization run by Dr. Manda Mune and it targets girls who live in slum areas. The trust operates a Women's Empowerment Project which aims to improve the lives of girls and women. Many of the girls who visited Sangam are part of an adolescent programme which focuses on building life skills and self-confidence.



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The swimming and craft activities were led by the participants from the Artistic Expressions, Essence of India, and Discover Your Potential events. The volume level reached a new high in the pool, Screams and shouts of delight erupted from the group when they stepped into the cool water. We played Simon Says, catch, tag, and follow the leader. We bounced up and down, swam underwater, blew bubbles, and even tried to float on our backs, but that was quite scary! After swimming and crafts everyone enjoyed chai and snacks before some final pictures and saying our goodbyes. Already after three sessions we can see the difference in the girls' confidence levels and skills in the water. Our next step is learning how to float on our



own! This is an exciting new challenge for us here at Sangam and a great opportunity to forge a new bond with the local community.



om guides around the globe.

Community volunteers fun day

As the community volunteer term from August to November came to a close, the volunteers and the children they worked with had one last hurrah at Sangam. It has become a Sangam community volunteer tradition to have a Fun Day at the centre for the children. A total of 30 children, 20 from the two Mobile Crèche sites, and ten from the Door Step School were invited.

Event participants from Essence of India IV helped the community volunteers run the programme for the day. The children swam in the pool, played cricket, played on the playground, and learned new games and a craft. Then we finished the day with ice cream and musical chairs! It was a resounding success and everyone who was involved loved it.



Have you ordered your 2010 thinking day badge and pin yet ?

Our Community partners' experience



We wanted an inside scoop into the community volunteer programme from the perspective of the partner organization. We spoke to two women who work at Door Step School, Gouri Katkar, a coordinator, and Vrunda Kashikai, a teacher. Vrunda has worked at the Shivaji Housing site for one year and worked with Sara and Linnea from Sweden this season. We asked Vrunda about her experiences working with the community volunteers.

Vrunda loves the way that the community volunteers teach the children. She finds their interactive style and methods of including the children very effective. One of her favourite activities was when Sara and Linnea taught the human body.

The children love having community volunteers at the sites, Vrunda says: "It allows them greater opportunities to learn English and more chances to try new and different things". She has learned from the community volunteers she has worked with and is impressed with their patience, their level of preparation, and the way they always include the children and give them a chance to try.

strong bond that Sangam's CVPs, in particular, build with these young children.

2010 is the centenary of international Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting - why not mark the birth of this life-changing Movement with your own life-changing experience at Sangam?

Best wishes

Judy Harris, Centre Team Leader, Sangam, WAGGGS World Centres Committee.

HURRY!
Book now!

It's never too late to consider booking for an event at Sangam. Why not attend one of the many exciting events coming soon?

Remember—groups, families, individuals—all are welcome!

It's a great opportunity to meet people from different countries.

Build a Better World I
(10 days)
March 7 – 16, 2010

Be a woman of action! Celebrate International Women's Day with women from diverse levels of Indian society who are making the world a better place. Learn local and international strategies to make our world a better place, and witness work being done by women at our community partners. Experience the culture of this country through its religions, arts, markets, and food. Enjoy the spirit of Sangam while sharing international friendship with Guides and Scouts from Pune.

Sangam News

Sangam has new gates in the front.



Jane Pennington is the new Friends of Sangam International Chair.

Lee Chee Yeng (Gwen) from Malaysia is our new Assistant programme manager



Current Staff and Volunteers

World Centre manager - Donna Lednicky - USA.
Deputy Centre manager – Darshana Pawaskar - India
Programme manager – Ezster Toth - Hungary
Event administrator – Priyanka Halunde - India.
Asst Programme manager – Lee Chee Yeng (Gwen) - Malaysia.

Winter Volunteers:

Emma Hancock, Australia Arielle Dundas, USA
Michie Saito, Japan Grishma Nagpure, India

SANGAM WORLD CENTRE—INDIA

WORLD ASSOCIATION OF GIRL GUIDES AND GIRL SCOUTS

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Amazing experiences—volunteers wanted! for Community Volunteer programme

Application deadline for 2010 –2011

15 April 2010.