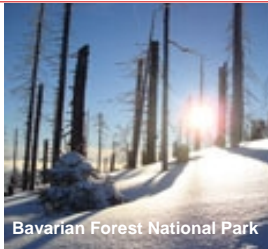




E-News December 2008

We wish you a merry Christmas...

2008 has been characterised by many positive **CHANGES** in the Federation, moving EUROPARC **FORWARDS** and looking to the **FUTURE** of the organisation.



The EUROPARC Directorate would like to thank our members, supporters and partners for their support, cooperation and encouraging feedback over the last twelve months. We look forward to working and meeting with you again in 2009 as well as to continued productive cooperation.

We wish you all a fantastic Christmas and a great 2009!

Frohe Weihnachten und einen guten Rutsch! Joyeux Noël et bonne année!

Saying goodbye to Damien de Chantérac

Damien is from the region of Paris in France. He joined EUROPARC as a trainee in March for a placement for his course in political sciences and sustainable development. In August this year he temporarily took on a position as project coordinator. Damien was in charge of the project Working for Nature and the Junior Ranger Programme and now returns to France to explore a career as a youth camp leader. His last day with us was 12th December. We asked him about his EUROPARC experience ...



1. Damien, when you arrived at the Federation 10 months ago what did you expect of your time here?

I expected to gain professional experience in the field of PAs, to work on an international level and in different languages, to learn something about the field of youth and education.

2. Were those expectations fulfilled?

More than fulfilled!! I wasn't expecting to work on the Junior Ranger Programme, become a project coordinator, go to Romania [Damien was in Romania for a month helping to prepare for the 2008 conference

To find out more about Damien's time at EUROPARC and what he will be doing in the future please visit www.europarc.org/news

BUON NATALE, FELIZ NAVIDAD, VESELE VANOCE, GLEDELIG JUL, PRETTIGE KERSTDAGEN, HYVÄÄ JOULUJA, ΚΑΛΑ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥΓΕΝΝΑ, NOLLAIG SHONA DUIT

European Day of Parks (EDoP) 2009



After much consideration we are pleased to announce that the theme for the EDoP 2009 will be:

"Youth – the future of our parks"

(De: „Jugend – die Zukunft unserer Parke“, Fr: „La jeunesse – l'avenir de nos parcs“).

The theme connects to the anniversary of **100 years of national parks in Europe in 2009** by looking to the future of nature conservation.

Events could explore the following ideas:
The role of children and youth in the management of protected areas – past, present, future; The next 100 years of European parks from a child's point of view; Junior Rangers in protected areas; Innovative environmental education for young people.

As usual the events for the EDoP will be organised on and around the **24th of May in 2009**, which we commemorate as it was the day the first National Park was founded in Sweden in 1909.

Let us know what you are planning to organise and we will record the event in our EDoP calendar.

More information will be available soon at www.europarc.org

European Charter event: Linking tourism and biodiversity

Over 60 participants followed the invitation from the EUROPARC Federation to an Information Seminar on the European Charter on the 9th of December in the representation of the Euro region Alpes Méditerranée in Brussels.



58 protected areas from seven countries across Europe are committed to sustainable tourism - is what the EUROPARC Federation reported to an audience of representatives from the EU Commission, regions of Europe and other organisations. The occasion: The promotion of the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Brussels as a model and instrument to sustain rural areas through these changing and challenging times.

The seminar took place in the framework of the EUROPARC project European CharterNet which is supported by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) with funds from the German Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety.

To read the rest of this article please visit www.europarc.org/news

Celebrating 100 Years of National Parks.

The project commemorating 100 years of national parks in Europe is coming along in leaps and bounds.

We are, however, still missing information and pictures from some national parks. So if you have not done so already please download the questionnaire from www.europarc.org/working-together/current-activities and send us your answers with some pictures of your park.

The deadline for getting us this information is 15 March 2009!

NOLLAIG SHONA DUIT, PRIECIGUS ZIEMASSVĒTKUS, LIXKSMŲ KALĖDŲ, E SCHAÏNE CHRĒSCHTIDAG, СРЕКЕН БОЖИК, GĒZUAR KRISHYLINDJET, GOD JOU 09

If you no longer wish to receive these updates from us or you have any questions or comments please send an e-mail to office@europarc.org or phone us on 0049 8552 96 100.

Please circulate this E-News within your organisation and to those who might be interested!



E-News December 2008

The EUROPARC Junior Ranger Summit - a summary



When the moon was full and bright and the trees sparkled with frost, a group of Junior Ranger leaders met deep in the Bavarian forest...back to their spiritual home where European Junior Ranger programmes first began!

Nine participants from eight countries of Europe brought warm clothes, good cheer and plenty of inspiration and ideas to help the EUROPARC Federation look at what the future should hold for the Junior Ranger programme.

We stayed in the Wildness Camp and as ever the Bavarian Forest National Park were the perfect hosts, generous with their assistance, time and experience.

After two intensive days a new set of values and principles for EUROPARC Junior Ranger programmes was proposed as well as a set of characteristics for programmes and the annual international camp. Terms and conditions for the use of the logo were also considered as this logo will be registered shortly. But most of all the benefits and values of the Junior Ranger programmes was affirmed and the uniqueness of this programme for protected areas proclaimed once more.

Over the next few weeks, the Federation will be summarising the results of the summit and communicating these to members in the new year.

The Federation would like to thank those who took part for their participation and inspiration.

Questionnaire on the use of wood in architecture

EUROPARC Member, the Administration of Navarra (E) is currently carrying out a questionnaire concerning the use of wood in architecture. They have asked us to distribute it within the network.

The questionnaire forms part of a study which aims to find out people's general perceptions regarding the use of wood in architectural construction.

Please help the Administration of Navarra with their research by taking the time (10 mins) to fill in the questionnaire, which can be found in Spanish, French and English at www.europarc.org/news.

WESOŁYCH ŚWIĄT, FELIZ NATAL, CRĂCIUN FERICIT, A BLYTHE YULE, ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΓΕ ΠΟΛΗ, VESELE VIANOCE, VESEL BOŽIC, GOD JUL, NADOLIG LLAWEN

GRUNDTVIG Learning Partnership: "European volunteers in parks" – first coordinator workshop

For the next one and a half years, eight partners in the EUROPARC network - the German, Spanish, Atlantic Isle and Italian EUROPARC sections, the Icelandic Environment Agency, Latvia's Nature Protection Board, the Association of Lithuanian State Parks and Reserves, and the Romanian Rodna Mountains National Park Administration – will work together on the subject of European volunteers in parks in a so called "Learning Partnership", financed by the EU-programme GRUNDTVIG.

More than twenty participants from eight European countries spent four days together in the Flusslandschaft Elbe-Brandenburg Biosphere Reserve, Germany. From 26-30 November the "hot" topic was "European volunteers in parks" – a theme that was discussed intensively by experienced volunteer coordinators of protected areas as well as by newcomers attending the event. The questions that were looked at were: What are the tasks and skills of volunteer coordinators? How does the role of volunteering differ in individual European countries? What do we want to achieve in our common work concerning promoting volunteers in parks on European level?

The workshop in Germany was the first of three international workshops addressing volunteer coordinators in protected areas. Another common activity within the Learning Partnership will be the international exchange of volunteers in parks for short term volunteering.

Further information: EUROPARC Germany, Anne Schierenberg at anne.schierenberg@europarc-deutschland.de



ЧЕСТИТА КОЛЕБАА, SRETAN BOŽIC, RÓÓMSAID JÓULE, ZALIG KERSTFEEST, GLEDILEG JÓL, KELEEMES KARÁCSONYT, С РОЖАЕСТВОМ ХРИСТОВЫМ

EAI Seminar: Beyond boundaries – protected landscapes, cities and the European Landscape Convention

Increasingly we are being encouraged to see the borders between urban and rural, between protected and non-protected, as porous and reciprocal. The European Landscape Convention requires to think about how landscapes need enhancing and celebrating; and to bring people into the foreground of that work. The seminar will address these questions: What does this mean in practice? How can protected landscapes work best with urban populations? How should they respond to major growth plans? What can we learn from Europe?

This seminar, organised by our Atlantic Isle Section, takes place on the 27 January 2009 at Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, Holborn, London. For more information contact Dan Bloomfield at dan.bloomfield@europarc-ai.org



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