

INFO

01/2013

rural youth europe

THE RURAL YOUTH EUROPE MAGAZINE



Who won the Youth Project competition this year?

Check pages 04-08

Once an IFYE – always an IFYE

Read on page 09

Managing youth projects

Find out on page 14



Rural Youth Europe

Rural Youth Europe (RYEurope) is a European non-governmental organisation for rural youth. Established in 1957, it is an umbrella for youth organisations working to promote and activate young people in countryside. It provides international training possibilities and works as an intermediary between national organisations and youth organisations and public institutions at the European level. Rural Youth Europe is a member-led organisation: democratically constituted, the organisation is led by young people for young people.

Rural Youth Europe aims to:

- Educate and train young people and create an awareness of rural and social issues.
- Actively encourage rural populations and industry.
- Support the development of new rural youth organisations.
- Network with other European NGOs.
- Lobby and highlight the problems and needs of rural youth to focus the attention of international and national bodies, as well as the general public.

Rural Youth Europe unites 26 member organisations across 21 European countries. The membership base is over 500,000 young people who either live in rural areas or have an interest in rural life.

If your organisation is interested to join Rural Youth Europe or you would like more information about our events, please contact office@ruralityoutheurope.com or check our website www.ruralityoutheurope.com



SPRING 2013 EDITION

- 02 Contents
- 03 Editorial
Brussels
- 04-08 Youth Project of 2012 competition
- 09 Where are they now?
- 10-11 Youth exchange in Finland
- 12-13 IFYE exchange
- 14 Managing youth a project
- 15 Postcards
- 16 Calendar 2013



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RESPONSIBLE EDITORS: Mikko Väitalo, Emma Silén

ADDRESS: Karjalankatu 2A, 00520 Helsinki, Finland

PHONE: + 358 45 234 5629

E-MAIL: office@ruralityoutheurope.com

WEBSITE: www.ruralityoutheurope.com

PHOTO-CREDITS: www.PHOTOS.com, www.fotolia.de, rural youth europe

CONCEPT & LAYOUT: madergrafisch (www.madergrafisch.at)



Spring, spring, spring!

Finally, the spring is arriving! When you get the INFO magazine it will almost be summer already, but then think back a couple of months and remember how the leaves started to grow and how people suddenly started to wake up from their winter sleep. In some languages the word "spring" means to run or to jump. That is indeed exactly what the animals do when let out for the first time after the winter; it's quite a suitable word, isn't it?

Talking about jumping and running and being energetic in general – the annual spring seminar is soon coming up. This year the theme is "coaching for inclusion – closing the gap between urban and rural youth" and will take place in Strasbourg in May/June. The seminar is a co-operation between Rural Youth Europe and the Youth Express Network Y-E-N. Both organisations have worked on the topic of coaching before and therefore we now have a common study session. As a part of the prep team I can assure you that the whole prep team has been working hard with the project and want to deliver an interesting and useful seminar.

From one project to another; we say congratulations to Clonakilty Macra na Feirme from Ireland who won the annual youth project competition 2012 with the project "Random acts of kindness festival". More about the competition and the rest of the entries can be found on pages 04–08.

It's time for me to stop writing now, so I want to wish you all a very nice summer with lots of sunshine and productivity!

EMMA SILÉN
Board member



Grab your future! – Study visit to improve your advocating skills

Brussels, Belgium
2-6 December 2013

Brussels is the capital of politics and negotiations. The aim of this study visit is to deliver knowledge from experts on youth population. In particular, rural youth as they are in average less interested and less active in politics and therefore less successful in lobbying and negotiating. The study visit is about to deliver self confidence and certain skills to participants to improve their position in all democratic processes on national and international level.

In addition, the study visit aims to introduce the importance of European institutions and their work itself. Participants are about to meet leaders in interactive discussions and workshops. Importance is as well recognised in a wide range of backgrounds of our participants and therefore reinforces awareness that Europe is gathered in diversity.

Aims:

- To deliver information and awareness about the work of European institutions
- To reinforce advocating skills of youth leaders

Objectives:

- To provide lobbying, negotiating and advocating skills for 30 young people
- To understand importance and work of European institutions
- To improve socialising and networking process amongst the participants coming from different backgrounds
- To distinguish stage fright and improve public speaking
- To develop leadership and coaching skills

ROK ROBLEK
Board Member

Rural Youth Project of 2012

Rural Youth Europe set up a best practise competition for the first time in 2009 to encourage the exchange of project ideas, give inspiration and provide a learning opportunity for rural youth organisations. Enjoy reading about these amazing projects and remember you can take part too with your best practise project!



Winner – Macra Random Acts of

In July last year, Clonakilty Macra organised the unique three days "Random Acts of Kindness Festival" to spreading positivity. The aim of the project was to run something for the community to bring a smile to people's faces and to show, what people can do when they work together.

The slogan was "fun, free and for all ages" and so it was a festival for everyone. The festival started on Friday, when the Town Mayor opened the event with a bubble blowing ceremony. Then a street party was held on the town's former main street and three local bands, two of whom had collaborated to write a song about spirit of the festival.

One business gave away food while another provided face-painting and balloon modelling. Over 1,000 people were gathered on the street and all age categories were represented.

After a Kids Sports Day on Saturday morning, a voluntary organisations showcase was held in the afternoon and this

best practise
competition
2012



na Feirme Kindness Festival

was twinned with a Speakers Corner event. Local groups and charities could spread the message about what they do and recruit new members. Over 20 groups were represented and all were very grateful to have the opportunity to speak on their work in the community.

Around the town on Saturday, kindness zones were set up, where volunteers distributed gifts donated by local businesses, such as passes to the cinema or theatre or a locally produced yogurt.

Many collaborative events developed over the weekend. For example the Rugby Club joined with the Tidy Towns to carry out a cleaning project on some local St. Vincent de Paul premises. There were several workshops also carried out including drumming, ukulele and breakdancing.

The festival ended on Sunday with a Jungle themed BBQ in collaboration with the Jungle City project. One of the hotels in the town hosted the event and supplied the food.

Some of the Jungle animals were present, traditional Irish musicians played while one of Ireland's best known storytellers did a Children's Storytelling session. Face-painting, balloons and bubbles were again a feature while a Hula Hoop group joined in to supply entertainment for all present.

Everyone who visited the Random Acts of Kindness Festival was just happy and enjoyed the amazing community spirit. It was a real pleasure to see the joy on faces of those present. The festival received lots of media attention in the media and many newspaper and radio stations reported about the festival and the national TV brought it in their main evening news.

For their efforts, Clonakilty Macra will be invited to the next Rally and awarded with the Rural Youth Project traveling trophy.

LUKAS HELFENSTEIN,
Vice chair

1st Runner Up – Wales Young Farmers Beefy's Bike Ride



Beefy's Bike Ride was a Wales-wide charity project that involved members of Wales YFC aged from 11 upwards. Each year, the Wales YFC chairman selects a good cause to promote. The chairman of Wales YFC for 2011-2012, Dylan "Beefy" Jones, decided in his year of office to commit to raise funds for Wales Air Ambulance. Wales Air Ambulance is a charitable organisation that has assisted many YFC members and their communities, by providing a helicopter ambulance that can reach sick and injured people in remote and difficult to reach areas. It has saved the lives of many friends of YFC, and without receiving charity would no longer operate.

Beefy decided to raise awareness of and money for this good cause by challenging himself to cycle the 568 miles around Wales. He hoped that by visiting each part of Wales he would be able to encourage members from that county to join in, and to raise awareness. The cycle was carried out over a series of weekends, and involved YFC members and supporters from each of the 12 counties within Wales YFC. This was completed over 6 weekends commencing in August 2012 and ending in October 2012 with each leg varying from 23 to 70 miles. At each of the stops, an event was held which was devised and organised by the YFC County federation. These ranged from raft races, to a promise auction to

barbecues and involved further members of the community, in a voluntary capacity.

Members were encouraged to join Beefy in his cycle for as much as they felt they could. This saw some members complete the whole 500 miles (Aled Jones), others a few hundred miles and others just 15 miles. Over 100 YFC members and supporters, the youngest being 12 and the oldest 67 joined Dylan and Aled along the way on their bikes. However, many more members were involved in the project through the events at each stop that were held to raise funds for the Air Ambulance and to bring the YFC county together. The Bike Ride finished in Cardiff for Wales YFC's AGM weekend.

Members were encouraged to train in advance, to work together to cycle in teams of friends, and it was an opportunity to draw past YFC members back who were keen cyclists to encourage more novice cyclists to take part. The objectives were to raise funds for the Air Ambulance, to raise awareness of the work undertaken by the Air Ambulance to support rural communities, to bring members of clubs and counties together, to encourage young people to "get fit" and to take on a challenge. It was also an ideal opportunity to generate positive publicity for all those involved.

2nd Runner Up – Young Farmers club of Ulster Strengthen our club, Helping others, Tractor Trek 2012

For their 65th anniversary, Cappagh YFC from Northern Ireland wanted to run a project to strengthen the team work and to raise money for the less fortunate in their local community. The club has done a tractor trek 40 years ago, so they decided to do something similar as their parents already did when they were young Farmers. The idea of a Tractor Trek 2012 was born. The trek should go around all six counties and in each town the club passes, they want to do collect money for charity. Beneficiaries would be the Saturday Club, which supports and helps those families with disabled children and Macmillan Canceron

who supplies help and care to those people suffering from cancer. The club president gave his a 1985 Volvo BM Valmet and supplied all cost that occurred to restore the old tractor. Then the project was divided into the four working task groups: Restoration; Planners; Away Team and Advertising/Evaluation. So all members could bring in their strengths and felt as an important part of this project, what then generated a fantastic team spirit in the club. The teamwork of all four groups was very successful and the club went on to run a successful tractor trek over three days and raised a total of £4879.66 for the two charities.



2nd Runner Up – Finnish 4H "Working for Santa! – joy for people in different ages in Hankasalmi"

The project started when a youngster in Hankasalmi began to plan the musical "Santa Claus and the Magic Drum" which is a children fairy tale. To make with the project something for everyone, the idea for a series of three events, each targeting a different age, was born. "Prom of the elderly people" was the event for the older people of the city. The day started when the young people together with the local hairdressers and make-up artists prepared the elderly for the prom. When then everyone was ready the prom started and the day continued with live accordion music, dancing and singing. Coffee and cake was offered to the elderly and at the end of the day they were all very happy about this day.

For the musical the group started practising in September and in end of November they gave three performances, which were all free of charge. Although the target group for the event were the children and families living in Hankasalmi, the event reached a very broad at all ages. Also people from the neighbouring municipalities came to see the show. In total over 1700 persons came to enjoy one of the three shows. As a last event, the committee organised a Christmas Disco which generated also some action for the younger people. The over 50 youngsters involved in the project reached nearly 2000 people and generated a solidarity between the generations and offered activities, joy and new experience for everyone.



OTHER PROJECTS:

Germany: me.you.us.for rural areas.



In the nationwide project "me.you.us.for rural areas" German rural youth promoted their work and made society, citizens, politicians and the media aware of it. The organisations of the federal states were actively

included in the project and all had their own sub-projects, where the citizens were involved and got the feeling of what it means to be a member of rural youth. For the project-closing, members from all over Germany travelled to Berlin to show how diverse rural youth in Germany is and left marks, when they showed their common love for rural youth.

England: Drive it Home: Saving Lives on Rural Roads



In this project NFYFC campaigned for a reduction of car insurance costs. Therefore they aimed to convince insurance companies that they are safe drivers. Together with a road safety campaigner NFYFC provided training

courses for young farmers and educated them to become a "Drive it Home Champions". With their skills, the champions were then multiplier in local rural road safety sessions, where they train others about how to react in dangerous situations and motivate them to behave safe on rural roads to evade accidents.

Latvia: Step 2012



During three days Latvian YFC organised the rural youth development seminar "Step 2012" for its member and other interested youth. Invited experts gave lectures about different innovative agricultural sectors and entrepreneurship skills.

After the lectures the youth deepened their knowledge in workshops and debated about the different topics. In the evenings the attendees actively used the time for informally discussions and exchanged a lot of knowledge and experience.

Germany: Strong for Rural Areas



With "Strong for Rural Areas" German Rural youth wanted to identify the needs of young people who see their centre of life in rural areas. Society, experts and

members have been interviewed and included in the project. In a competition the members were invited to design creative road signs that show grievances and improvement proposals for rural areas. The best road signs are then going into production to create publicity and confront the political parties with the needs of the youth in rural area.

Finland: Our Earth Hour



Our Earth Hour was an international sustainable development project of a Finnish and French youth group, which was aiming to improve the social influencing possibilities of young people in rural areas. Kick-off was with a

Skype connection, when they got to know each other and made promises to each other and the environment. The main events were then two camps in Finland and France, when the youth got experience about natural preservation and volunteering. Now after the project the youth is still in contact with each other.

Wales YFC: International Youth Volunteering Project



In August 2012, seven Welsh Young Farmers took volunteered 10 days at Camphill Community on an organic farm which is central for create a safe and secure home for people with mental disabilities. Together with Czech

volunteers they did construction and renovation work which was, after a substantial flood, essential for the community. The group learned to communicate through language barriers and were able to exchange cultural knowledge, discuss various ways of living and educate each other.

Wales YFC: Food on the Wye



With "Food on the Wye" Wales YFC developed a food festival that gives local producer a platform to promote and sell their products to the local community. During the festival Wales YFC organised a number of different

activities, such as demonstrations, workshops and competitions, all related to food. These activities and the stalls of the producer with a wide variety of all sort of homemade products, made the festival to a cosy family event that brought the young people of Wales YFC and the community of Rhayader together.

Where are they now?

In previous editions we have interviewed some of our past chairpersons to find out where they are now. In this edition of INFO magazine, we'll introduce you to one more past chair and ask what his highlights on the board were and what he is doing today.



Luuk Geurts

I have been on the board of ECYF4H-clubs as the name was at that time. First one year as a representative for the group of the Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland and Austria. I was elected to the board at the general assembly in Austria in the summer of 1990. One year later I was elected as a vice chairman for 2 years and after that Chairman for 2 years.

I joined the board in the turbulent years when Helga Stark had taken over the secretariat (from Bob McGregor who had runned it for several decades), and the secretariat had moved to Bonn. The Berlin wall had fallen and we tried to find ways to include east European rural youth organisations into our organisation. We invited them to rallies and seminars at the youth centre in Strasbourg to get to know each other more. We tried to find ways how they could make money to pay their membership fee.

We had reforms in the group representation system and also a membership fee reform. At that time the Netherlands decided to leave our organisation in favour of MJARC, as they could not afford to be a member of 2 European umbrella organisations. During my last year Helga resigned as secretary general and we had to find a successor. Luckily we were able to hire Sandra Lont. So I can for sure say that my period at the board was all but boring.

During my first year we started the magazine and I was the first responsible board member for the magazine. Being a board member opened the doors of Europe for me. I represented our organisation in several other organisations like Youth Forum and European Coordination Buro. I got the possibility to meet youth who all were very engaged in their organi-

sations and who tried to understand what democracy means on European level. Finding ways to cooperate together to influence the EU, and to understand that Europe is bigger than EU. I learned about all these different ways that organisations are organised and runned. Learned to understand the European dimension of things etc. and developed abilities to understand some of all these different "types" of English that Europeans – and even people from the British Isles – speak.

Now 23 years later I live in Oslo, Norway. I left all my roots in the Netherlands and found out how universal a technical job is. I'm working now as a mechanical engineer on development of seismological equipment to be used in sea. I have put all my engagement in voluntary work at rest when I left the Netherlands. I have, together with my wife, renovated a hundred years old wooden house and enjoy cross-country skiing and chopping firewood at my cabin in the mountains.

If you asked me, would you do it again then it is very easy to say yes. It is not always easy to take on so much responsibility, but you get so much back. I work now for an international company and have colleagues from all over the world. Trying to understand each other and finding ways to bridge different ways of thinking is a daily challenge. I enjoy working in this environment. I have great advantage of the experience and knowledge I gained during my work on the board. Whenever I travel around in Europe I can meet friends and enjoy their company over a cup of coffee or a glass of wine.

Keep up the good work. Youth clubs are the basis of democracy and enjoy every small step in understanding each other!

Where
are they
now?

Would you jump into an icy

In February 29 young people gathered in Pori, Finland. And yes, after sauna they did jump into an icy lake.

This Gather2Gether winter edition was a part of a series of seminars. The first one was held in Austria last summer and there are two more coming; in Spain next summer and in Slovenia spring 2014. The idea for these exchanges was developed in Rural Youth Europe spring seminar 2011 in Strasbourg, France. The project in Finland was funded by the Youth in Action programme.

The aim of the week was to give the participants a chance to experience Finnish winter, to understand the effect of winter on Finnish economy, culture and way of living. Also we discussed about the challenges and possibilities of winter. Each country also had a presentation about the winter in their country.

The location of a study visit was city of Pori. The participants got to know the city and its people by doing different tasks during a race around the city.

During the week we also spent a lot of time outside, playing games and doing some traditional winter sports. And we even created



lake?



new ones! In the end of the week we had winter Olympics and the participants had a chance to try 'tandem skiing' which means skiing with many people on the same skis. The participants were introduced also to Nordic Walking, one of our national sports.

It was an amazing experience to be this time in the prep team. Organising such an event teaches so much and you really learn to appreciate all work that has been done when having seminars abroad, for example. Clear, blue sky, full moon and the bonfire. New friends and memories that will last forever. Once again one unforgettable week was behind.

ANNIKA SAVILUOTO &
MIKKO VÄLITALO
Finnish 4H



IFYE Exchange a friendship ca

Did you have a great week at the European Rally or on your IFYE exchange trip? Do you want to experience the fun, friendship, and fantastic experiences all over again, and again, and again? Do you want to make the last day of the European Rally or your exchange trip just the start, not the end, of your career as an international globe-trotter and friend maker?



Read on to find out a little about the International Farm/4H Youth Exchange (IFYE) programme and about what the European International Farm/4H Youth Exchange Alumni (EIFYEA) group can offer you!

After World War II in 1948 the IFYE exchange programme started, with the intention of rebuilding personal relations between youth from the USA and countries all over the world. The participants

had such fabulous experiences that they wanted to meet up again

to relive and discuss their adventures with like-minded people. The first meeting/reunion, when 15 IFYE's representing seven European countries, met at the World Exhibition in Brussels in

1958, was the start of the European IFYE Alumni group. They had such a fantastic time that they decided to meet again the following year in a different country, and hence the EIFYEA annual conference commenced and continued to this day.

Over the years, the IFYE exchange programme expanded; by 1964 there were ten European countries participating, now there

are twenty and they offer various exchanges from 6 weeks to 6 months to such places as New Zealand; Australia, USA, Canada, Costa Rica Kenya and Taiwan as well as within Europe. You stay in host families and have a unique chance to learn about the culture and life in a country from the inside. Participants on the exchange programmes are known as 'exchangees', and after their exchange they have the opportunity to join their country's alumni group. In addition, the exchangees can become a member of EIFYEA and most importantly attend the annual conference!

The exchange programme is organized differently in different countries. Make contact with your national organization that sent you to the Rally or your national 4H/ Landjugend/ Young Farmers



teacher and life long experience



and ask as for the IFYE programme. They are looking for candidates age between 18 -30 to send out.

In 2012, the conference was hosted by Sweden, this year it will be held in Wales and next year in Germany, it is a great way to see around Europe! The 'conference' (it is actually a social event) attracts approximately 140 – 200 exchangees. Some have just returned from their trip in 2012 and others traveled 50 years ago!

In 2012 the 54th EIFYEA conference was held in Kungälv, Sweden from the 21st – 28th July. 150 members from 16 different countries attended and experienced much of Nordic life.

The venue, Nordic Folk High School, overlooked a medieval Bohus fortress, and a river – fantastic. The group attended a medieval festival in the fortress - including a display of medieval games on horseback! The west coast of Sweden is rugged, undulating and rocky – on Monday, we had the opportunity to explore the coastal towns, villages and islands to experience life on the coast. On Tuesday we split into teams and traveled by boat, tram, train, bus and on foot in Gothenburg on a treasure hunt. In the evening the fancy dress theme was 'EIFYEA goes Royal', Princes', Princesses, and Elvis 'The King' attended!'

On Wednesday, there were various trips to choose including; a visit to a mushroom farm where they literally grew before our eyes! On Thursday the traditional midsummer, celebrations were relived – several weeks late! We created our own floral garlands; learned to dance; built a maypole; played traditional games; ate seven cakes (a tradition!) and concluded the day with a barbecue. Exchangees did what we do best: participated, laughed, partied and enjoyed! Friday was relaxing: canoeing, massages, visiting the coast were options prior to dressing up for the formal farewell dinner in the evening. Many stay up all night before departing for home on Saturday and starting their count-down for the next conference! See a 6 minutes resume of an IFYE conference on : <http://youtu.be/VCKJByREyg8>

This year you could be there too! The conference will be held in Monmouthshire, Wales from 25 July - 1 August and there are some places left. See the European section of www.ifye.org for more information. We hope to see you in Wales in July or at another EIFYEA event in the future.

SALLY YOUNG & HILDE W. RISER

A step into the unknown

I will never forget the moment in the favela of Sao Paulo, Brazil, when the little girl taught my Norwegian colleague and me how to play the tambourine. We did not speak the same language, but she was very strict about our errors and she had us practicing again and again until we did it well enough to join the whole orchestra to play on the street.

Our projects in South America and Asia are not about European helping the poor. They are about equal respect and exchange in all directions. We can learn something new all the time if we are open to what is around us.



At the volunteer projects we often work with children in the local communities.

As Secretary General at Rural Youth Europe my field is mainly Europe, but youth work is my passion and on my free time the projects reaches until China, Nepal, Argentina, Peru, Venezuela, Uruguay and Brazil. The project of 2013, Live Innovation For Environment, Entrepreneurship and Employment (LIFE3) is the third intercontinental project I coordinate. As the name says, it is about innovative and sustainable working opportunities. In the previous two we worked on equality between ethnic groups and on non-formal education.

What these projects have in common is the aspect of community development and that the target group is youth in rural areas and suburbs –so a lot similar like what Rural Youth Europe does. These are multi-task projects which consists of several seminar, volunteer projects, job shadowings and meetings which all are taken place during one year. The concept that has given the most to our participants is to “live another reality”. This mean that we take off all luxury of fancy hotels and tourist sightseen and concentrate on living the everyday life in another culture by using homestays as accommodation and keeping short term volunteer project as the main activity. This is the concept that has given thousands of young people unforgettable moments and the inspiration to do several long-term follow-up activities.

These intercontinental projects are mainly funded by the Youth in Action sub-action Youth in the world and it is expected that this kind of activities could receive

ve funding also in the new youth program of the European Commission starting in 2014. Here follow my advice about project management of intercontinental youth projects:

- It is a big advantage to know the partners personally in advance and you can meet them for instance on global youth congresses.
- Start planning the application several months before the application deadline to develop the best possible application and to get all partner documents in original from the partners in time.
- Keep up the contact all the time with the partners to act in time if changes come up.
- Have a preparation meeting in the beginning of the project to together decide on program of activities and common rules, and to clarify technical procedures.
- Give responsibility to the partners for the activities they host – it might not be exactly like you as coordinator had planned, but often it might even be better than you could imagine. Anyway, be prepared to give support or step in when needed.
- Do risk assessment together with the partners – take into account everything from airline strikes and politic elections to poisonous snakes and earthquakes.
- A common working language make the management easier, but for the sake of inclusion it should not be required. It is possible to be creative regarding the language, but expect translation/communication to take time.



At the volunteer project in Peru we have showed youth in the slums how to install solar light bulbs and become entrepreneurs on the field.

- Prepare the participants well before departing for the activities.
- Do the documentation of costs carefully.
- Read all details about rules for visa, immigration and flights.
- Follow up and support the individual learning process of both participants and leaders, it is equally important.
- Let the participants eat and sleep enough, then all other challenges are easier to solve.
- In the end you are just the coordinator, so the content should come from the partners, partners and communities. Trust in them, be flexible and expect the unexpected –it is no use of a project coordinator in panic.

If you have further questions about application procedures or project management of intercontinental projects, don't hesitate to contact the Rural Youth Europe office!

PIA NURMIO-PERÄLÄ
Secretary General

Greetings from Switzerland!

I am enjoying early spring here in Swiss rural youth General Assembly. I left from the -15 degrees Tallinn and landed almost +15 degrees Zurich.

And here I am in a nice small town, Neunkirch. Yesterday we had two excursions to the local businesses; first we saw a farm that produces lumber wood and uses it for energy and the second visit was to the Rimuss factory where they produce alcohol-free wines. Evening ended with big rural youth party.

I have heard many roomers about wakeup call in Switzerland but this time they used an empty bin, I was already expecting chainsaws and cowbells, bit disappointing. ☺

GA has been fast and productive and emotional, as almost half of the board is ending they term. My highlight of this GA was how all the regions thanked their leaving representatives. I also saw many familiar faces from different Rural Youth Europe events.

Thank you Ueli and Swiss Rural Youth for inviting me, and good luck for the new chairwoman Cornelia.

KADRI TOOMINGAS
Chair



Greetings from Vienna!



Your board held the first board meeting for this year in Vienna, Austria. We met the very nice representatives of Landjugend Austria over breakfast in a fancy café. During the meeting we discussed their current situation. They told us about what they are doing in Austria and how their organisation is doing at the moment. During the actual board meeting the development plan for the next three years was discussed. Now it's up to you and your organisations to suggest what you would like to have in it.

All in all we had an intensive but productive meeting. Now we are working on what needs to be done until the General Assembly in Ireland in August. Maybe we see you there?

EMMA SILÉN
Board member

SPRING SEMINAR 2013

"Coaching for inclusion: Closing the gap between urban and rural youth"

26 May – 2 June 2013,
European Youth Centre Strasbourg, France

The overall aim of the event is to explore coaching as a tool for inclusion of young people. The study session will explore how coaching can help young people overcome barriers they face in their daily lives and promote their social inclusion and active participation in society. Participants will gain knowledge, skills and experience of coaching methods and techniques and how they can be adapted to different target groups. The study session will promote multiplication of skills and knowledge by developing concrete tools and resources to use in the home organisations and local communities of participants. Participants will develop coaching tools and resources which can be adapted to different target groups in their local communities.

RALLY 2013

"Get Involved!"

3 – 10 August 2013,
Tipperary, Ireland

Macra na Feirme will host the Rally 2013 in Tipperary, Ireland on the theme of community engagement. "Get Involved!" is a multilateral youth exchange for 60 young people from different rural areas in Europe. For one week in August 2013, rural young people will have the chance to discuss and find solutions to the active participation of young people in the sustainable development of rural areas across Europe. The Rally will bring participants together to share their ideas and views on issues related to the lives of rural young people. The title of the project will be: Get Involved! Developing citizenship in rural communities.

AUTUMN SEMINAR 2013

"Inspiring Change: Transforming Communities through Innovation and Entrepreneurship"

12 – 19 October 2013,
Malvern, Worcestershire, England

The National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs (NFYFC) will host the Autumn Seminar 2013 in England. The seminar will explore the theme of youth entrepreneurship in rural communities and aims to strengthen intercultural links through citizenship. The study will answer the following key questions: Why is entrepreneurship important in rural areas? How can social media be used in a positive light to support and grow businesses? What resources do we have at a local level that can facilitate innovation? How can Citizens use innovation and entrepreneurship to make their communities better places now and in the future?

STUDY VISIT

"Grab your future"

2 – 6 December 2013
Brussels, Belgium

The study visit aims to improve advocating skills.