

# Jamboree's Past, Present and Future!

The size of 800 football fields, the Jamboree has a lot to offer for both participants and adults; international Scouting events often do. Regardless of changes to the Jamboree scene since the 1<sup>st</sup> World Jamboree in 1920, the events always prove to be a life changing experience for all involved.

article by Megan Donoghue

For many participants and adults this Jamboree marks their first international Scouting experience. Others, however, have traveled to multiple Jamborees, having had the opportunity to watch as the Jamboree scene changes, grows and expands.

Certainly this Jamboree has been a completely different experience to that of those previously. As one of the most experienced IST members currently onsite, András Soczó, 92, has experienced these changes firsthand, having attended the 1933 Jamboree as a young Hungarian Boy Scout.

Similarly, John Russell; 83, from the United States, has participated in a record amount of Jamborees, and commented on the changes over the years. "Social media is definitely a new part of the Jamboree experience, and I hope that it can aid future events to continue with the same values and encourage more involvement from adults. I think it [technology] is a very valuable tool but I think we need to be careful to maintain relationships" he said.

Frank Shiels, from Texas USA, participated in the 1975 Jamboree in Norway, commenting that the event didn't have the technology or equipment that is on offer today, and was more primitive. "Technology and communications has been vastly improved, and there are more activities... on the whole everything is so much bigger, but at the age of 17, it was still a lifechanging event" he said.

"There wasn't much of a language consistency in 1975; we would communicate in a group through each other, through the different languages that different people spoke - it was very interesting! With more people speaking English there is definitely less of a language barrier now."

Looking forward to Japan in 2015, participants will have huge opportunities in the way of exploring nature, science, global issues, community service, cultures and water activities. Being held from Tuesday July 28 until Saturday August 8, 2015, the 23<sup>rd</sup> World Jamboree in Japan is aiming to host a bigger and better Jamboree than ever seen before.



Who knows what the future holds for upcoming Jamboree's (especially with Japan's reputation of being a 'futuristic' country). The only thing to expect is that every-one involved will have an amazing time! See you in the future. ■



## *Le Jamboree du passé, du présent et du futur*

Pour de nombreux participants (jeunes et adultes), ce Jamboree est une première expérience scoute internationale. Certains, en revanche, ont déjà eu de multiples expériences et ont pu observer comment le Jamboree a changé, a grandi et s'est répandu.

Ce Jamboree a été une expérience totalement différente des précédents. Frank Shiels, du Texas, a participé en 1975 au Jamboree en Norvège et a commenté les changements de la manière suivante : « La technologie et les moyens de communication ont beaucoup changé, et il y a plus d'activités... Globalement, tout est devenu beaucoup plus grand ».

En 2015 au Japon, les participants auront la possibilité de d'explorer la nature, d'étudier la science, les problèmes globaux actuels, les cultures, de se mettre au service de communauté, de profiter des activités aquatiques... Du mardi 28 juillet au samedi 8 août 2015, le 23<sup>ème</sup> Jamboree mondial du Japon sera le plus grand et, qui sait, peut-être bien le meilleur des Jamborees depuis 1920 ! Rendez-vous dans le futur !