



What's Happening

A Seasonal Newsletter from the World Foundation
for Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, Inc.

February 2026

With Gratitude from our Board:

Thinking Day greetings to all! We celebrate a sisterhood supporting the Global Strategy and Global Citizen of shared experiences and connections that make a program. difference for girls and young women.

Thanks to our Friends and supporters, 2025 was a great year for the World Foundation. Together we raised over \$1.2 million and were able to fund grants to support the missions of both WAGGGS and GSUSA.

WAGGGS projects funded include World Centre operations, capital projects, leadership programs (Juliette Low and Helen Storrow seminars) and volunteer programs at World Centres, capacity building, Growing and Learning initiatives, advocacy efforts and support to Member Organizations.

In calendar year 2025, grants to GSUSA funded USAGSO operations, community camps, microgrants and volunteer support as well as GSUSA sponsored events



We continue to make progress on our 3 strategic goals: Relationships, Presence and Organizational Excellence. We value our strong partnerships with our Members, Friends, donors and supporters. We are grateful to be represented and have a voice in many key conversations across the Movement. We continue to focus energy on a communication strategy which will elevate our collective voice and impact.

THANK YOU ! for your continuing partnership for our shared mission. The girls of the world need Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting now more than ever. We help create the future for them and the next generation of global citizens.

Linda P Foreman, President, on behalf of the Board of Directors

Your Impact for 2026 – We are so grateful to our community of supporters. Friends, volunteers, donors, Board members, and Emeritae all serve such valuable roles in our work and our Mission. The Board of Directors met on February 17 to review a new cycle of grant proposals and program/project reviews. We are pleased to share that \$1,888,394 in funding was approved for grants to our Members, GSUSA and WAGGGS.

Among other projects, these funds will contribute to a

pre-conference leadership event for women under 30 at this summer's World Conference, the expansion of GSUSA's Global Citizen Amplification Program after a strong pilot year in 2025, and USAGSO's extremely popular Microgrants program which is expected to support over 40 projects from Girl Scouts in 12+ countries.

The World Foundation is proud to support these amazing initiatives. We know we couldn't do it without you. Your support changes the world!



Friends of Pax Lodge

Friends of Pax Lodge were energized by the Gathering and have started our year with individual pledges so we could set our fund-raising goal. We are confident that we will reach and then exceed that goal this year. FoPL also set a membership goal and we are halfway to meeting that goal.

As a reminder, Pax Lodge is celebrating its **35th birthday** with a 5-day event at Pax Lodge. If you are thinking of attending, please contact Marlene Logan as soon as possible (cre8logan1@comcast.net) for housing and event information. Prices for the entire event start at 490£. If you like to make a donation in support of Pax's birthday, here is the website: [Pax Lodge in London](#) Thank you!

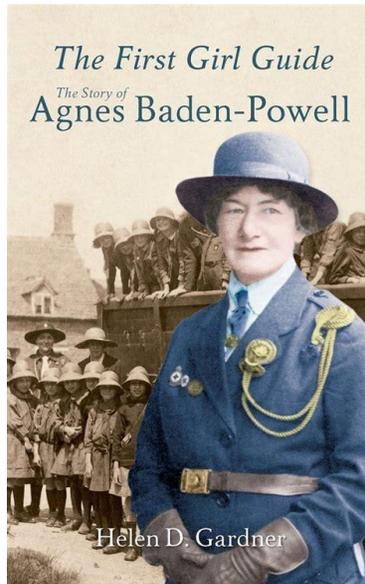
Updates from Liz at Pax Lodge, London:

Our Autumn/Winter volunteers have arrived:
Mara (Canada)
Katrina (USA)
Maru (Argentina)
Myra (India)
Alva (Sweden)
Linah (Lesotho)

We have hosted one event: **Global Friendship Event** – 23rd to 28th November. We had 6 participants – 1 from the UK, 1 from Canada, 2 from the Philippines, and 2 from Pakistan. Everyone had a wonderful time exploring London; a trip on the London eye; a tour with Catherine; helping out at the Peace Garden and watching Wicked.

WAGGGS hosted 3 events here at Pax Lodge: in September they had **the Europe Region Young Women's forum**; in November was **Regional Committee inductions**; and recently there were members of the World Board and the World Centre managers here. The Friends of Pax Lodge **UK Christmas Bazaar** was a great success – and the date has already been set for next year: 14th November.

FoPLUSA have already held one zoom fundraiser, a repeat of **The Murder on the Orient Express**. We are pleased to invite everyone to our next Zoom fundraiser which will be held on April 18. Participants will learn about **Agnes Baden-Powell**, who served as the first Chief Guide in the scouting movement. Agnes served



until Lord Baden-Powell married Olave whom he then made the World Chief Guide. We are also in the planning stages of a third Zoom event in September, date, time and topic to be announced at a later date. We will be planning an event for next fiscal year by Margot Iwanchuk, a great-great niece of Juliette Low and new member of FoPL, who will share stories and personal items she has received from the estate of her great-great aunt, "Daisy."

We haven't forgotten the **GSUSA Convention** in July and are looking forward to a very rewarding meeting.

We are collecting ideas which might be used to make the Global Village a big success. To that end, Friends are hard at work preparing something on Pax Lodge, London for adults and girls to take with them.

We have set a Zoom schedule for the whole Friends meetings for one per quarter to keep us all informed and connected. "I love it when the plan comes together."

Sarah & Maureen, CoChairs FoPLUSA



Friends of WAGGGS USA

Friends of WAGGGS USA provides support to programs through WAGGGS such as Stop the Violence, Free to Be, as well as USAGSO (USA Girl Scouts Overseas) and Kusafiri. Here's the latest news from Kusafiri.

Kusafiri Events

At the World Conference held in Cyprus in 2023 it was decided that Kusafiri would be located in Ghana until 2026. The Ghana Girl Guides Association are working closely with WAGGGS to move Kusafiri forward at their training center in Accra.



Friends of Sangam

World Thinking Day is a special day for the Girl Guides and Girl Scouts around the world. Participants who attend Sangam's World Thinking Day Session will experience the international friendship that Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting has to offer as they celebrate the 100th anniversary on February 22.

In addition, they will share activities with the Guide and Scout units of Pune as they celebrate our global Movement, interact with Sangam's local unit, the Nivedita Guides and find out more about WAGGGS' global initiatives.

Becoming immersed in Indian culture through dance, fashion and food, visiting the diverse sights of Pune, learning about the community, and witness first-hand the work of Sangam's Community Partners will be a part of the experiences of this special session.

Have you thought about embarking on a *cultural discovery or leadership event* at Sangam this year?

Take a look at what is happening in 2026 and find your perfect fit. There is still time to register for Sangam's programs.



Arts 4 Change - A Leadership Event - April 1-7

Come Discover Home - A Cultural Event - June 4 - 8

Discover Incredible India - A Leadership Event - June 25 - July 1



Spark Shine and Share - A Leadership Event - September 16 - 22 - A *Diamond Birthday Event!* Celebrate Sangam's 60th Year



Kusafiri events are an opportunity to immerse yourself in the culture of the Africa Region, learn about yourself, and build your connection with others.

A **Birthday Celebration** will be held July 9 - 15 to mark the 15th year of Kusafiri World Centre's journey of empowering girls and young women worldwide! This event is a unique opportunity to connect with our global community, reflect on the achievements of Kusafiri, and explore the exciting cultures that make this World Centre so special.

Other upcoming events include **Arts4Change** March 16-22; **Huduma Kwa Utamaduni** July 19 - 29 (Swahili phrase meaning: supporting others with kindness while celebrating cultural diversity); **Experience Gamashie with Chalewote** August 20 - 26 (a celebration of heritage and tradition); **Community Adventures**: 3 weeks 2026 Oct 1 - 21 (combining leadership development with cultural exploration and community engagement); and **Camping in the Wild - A Night in the Mountains** Nov 12 - 17 (guided hikes, storytelling around a campfire, and opportunities to connect with the environment). You can discover more about these activities here: [WAGGGS events](#)

Friends of WAGGGS USA invites you to join us in our mission to support programs such as these.



Friends of Nuestra Cabaña

In early February, the Friends of Nuestra Cabaña gathered in Cuernavaca for our annual meeting. The group, comprising Friends from five countries worldwide, had a delightful time learning about the improvements made to Nuestra Cabaña over the past year and planning future activities for the Friends Committee. It was a joy to walk through the Chief's Door and return to our southern home, especially since many friends were leaving behind snow and ice.

During the business portion of the meeting, we received updates from outgoing President Patty Cook, Nuestra Cabaña program staff, Magdalene Thomas from WAGGGS, and World Center Manager Martha Concha. It was evident that the Cabaña had seen a busy and successful year. Two program initiatives stood out from the rest. First, USA Girl Scouts Overseas (USAGSO) organized a camp for ages 5-14 at Nuestra Cabaña last summer. Concurrently, there were programs for Mexican Girl Guides, a Volunteer Retreat, guests, and an additional program by Girl Scouts of the USA developing Global Girl Scouting badge curriculum. Witnessing these groups interact while also supporting a complex and well-attended event was a significant achievement for Nuestra Cabaña.



Additionally, Nuestra Cabana staff developed a Sustainability Plan that includes a garden and service project called "Her Roots, Her Future." This program was developed in partnership with the Global Youth Movement (YGM) to empower girls and young women to plant, learn, and envision a sustainable future. Furthermore, Nuestra Cabana hosted a WAGGGS Global

Climate Change Summit, which brought together 24 participants from 12 Central and South American countries. These participants gained valuable knowledge and inspiration as part of the WAGGGS Global Action Climate Change (GACC) initiative.

The Friends of Nuestra Cabaña were delighted to participate in the gardening service project this year. One patrol turned over soil to plant sunflower seeds, another weeded the medicinal and herb garden, and the third raked leaves for composting. Although they left a bit dirty, the friends were satisfied with their contributions to the project.



Outgoing FNC President

Patty Cook was honored for her remarkable contributions over the past five years in saving and reopening Nuestra Cabaña. In particular, WAGGGS staff presented Patty with a Certificate of Recognition, acknowledging her exceptional leadership during one of the most challenging periods in the Centre's history. Patty is ending her second term as President a year early, with interim duties being covered by co-Presidents Rebecca Daniels (United States) and Alys Allardys (United Kingdom). Rebecca and Alys will ensure the FNC's continued success until a presidential selection committee identifies a new President to begin at the start of the next triennium.

The FNC concluded the evening with a gala event featuring a traditional Mexican mariachi band. The Nuestra Cabaña staff presented Patty Cook with a cake and recognition for her unwavering efforts. Friends, guests, and staff danced and sang along with the mariachis, creating a joyful and memorable atmosphere. We eagerly anticipate our annual meeting next year, which coincides with the 70th anniversary of the opening of Nuestra Cabaña.

Project 100

The Olave Baden-Powell Society (OB-PS) has officially launched Project 100! Project 100 is our flagship, global campaign for 2026, 2027, and 2028. The collective goals are:

- To welcome **100 new Members per year** worldwide (a combination of Members, Associate Members, and Young Members),
- To obtain **100 new donors per year**, and
- To acknowledge **100 Members reaching the next recognition level** per year.



Just think how many girls and young women WAGGGS can support around the world with 300 more Members, 300 new donors, and 300 Members reaching the next giving level in 2026, 2027, and 2028 - **SPECTACULAR!** The OB-PS USA team plans to do our part in recruiting new Members, inspiring new donors, and encouraging Members to attain the next recognition level! If are interested in joining, this is a great time to become a Member (Members - £6,000; Associate Members - £300 per year; or Young Members under age 35 - £1,000). FYI, your donations to the World Foundation in the last three years (2023, 2024, and 2025) can “count” in your donation for Membership (excluding the donations at the Not-So-Silent Auction or others supporting the operating expenses for the World Foundation).

How to Join OB-PS in the USA and/or How to Request More Information:

Here is the link to the “Joining Form” that also includes space to request more information:
<https://bit.ly/USAOBPSInterestForm>

Centenary of World Thinking Day

We’re certain that you are aware of the 100th anniversary of World Thinking Day on February 22, 2026. Many of us probably remember collecting pennies, nickels, and dimes for World Thinking Day when we were young Girl Scouts. Now it seems to be hard just to find pennies, nickels, and dimes!

Maybe your donation this year for World Thinking Day could include some zeros to celebrate the 100th Anniversary, such as \$100, \$1,000, or more! The World Thinking Day Fund supports WAGGGS work around the world. We all know it’s a worthwhile cause. Please be generous!

We will be thinking of how amazing YOU are on World Thinking Day!

Karen Sáenz, karensaenz.obps@gmail.com

Sue Goldsmith, suegoldsmith.obps@gmail.com



WAGGGS

100 Years of World Thinking Day

World Thinking Day is just around the corner, and this year marks an incredible milestone – 100 years of World Thinking Day.

In 2026, we’re celebrating Friendship and the bonds that grow and flourish within Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting. Together, we will explore what makes a healthy friendship and why community matters – both within our Movement and beyond.

By completing the activity pack, young people will take part in meaningful activities, build key skills for positive change, and feel empowered to work together towards a stronger global community.

Download the Activity Pack here:

<https://campfire.waggs.org/topic/world-thinking-day-2026-activity-pack>

Promote the campaign using our communications pack here: <https://campfire.waggs.org/topic/world-thinking-day-2026-communication-assets>

World Thinking Day Virtual Online celebration

We're marking a century of World Thinking Day with two exciting global online events – and everyone's invited! Join us to celebrate friendships near and far, connect with girls, young women, volunteers, and staff from across the world, share stories, and honour the incredible strength of our global Girl Guiding & Girl Scouting community.

Anyone from your Member Organisation is welcome – members, volunteers, and staff! Young people 18+ can join on their own, and those under 18 can participate with adult supervision.

Celebration: Saturday, 21 February | 9–10:30 AM UTC → https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_6c0HM1qdQSuLciDU2VdXHQ#/registration

(The first event took place on 15 February).

Registration Open: WAGGGS Global Forum 2026 – Kusafiri, Ghana

From 28 October – 1 November 2026, national-level leaders from Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting around the world will come together to explore how high-quality, non-formal learning drives impact across the Movement.

This 3.5-day gathering is designed for programme leaders in your MO/CA working on youth and adult learning or other areas within Growing and Learning (GAL). We encourage participation from those who can drive change at home or be supported to grow that influence. Sending participants involved in both girl and adult programming ensures your organisation's perspective is fully represented.

A Global Gathering for Learning and Leading

Participants will deepen their practice in youth and adult learning, while co-creating a global programme

that reflects the priorities of their Member Organisation or Component Association. They will connect with Member Organisations across all five Regions, shape and facilitate sessions grounded in real-world expertise, and strengthen the foundations of non-formal education in WAGGGS. Together, these outcomes build leadership capacity that can be applied locally, nationally, and across the Movement, extending the impact of the Forum well beyond the event itself.

This is a space by and for Member Organisations, where leadership, learning, and innovation come together. Participation is open to all genders. Please find out more here: <https://campfire.waggs.org/event/waggs-global-forum-2026-kusafiri-ghana>

Olave Baden-Powell Society & 'Project 100' Starts Now!

For over 40 years, the Olave Baden-Powell Society (OB-PS) has proudly supported WAGGGS by raising funds for global programmes, leadership experiences, global networking opportunities and create safe spaces for Girl

Guides and Girl Scouts across the world.

As WAGGGS approaches its 100-year centenary in 2028, OB-PS has launched 'Project 100', a global initiative with two clear goals: 100 new OB-PS members each year and 100 donations from new supporters each year.

Get involved or share 'Project 100' with your networks today:

<https://campfire.waggs.org/book-page/project-100>

Advocacy for Generation Digital (A4GD): Become a Digital Superhero!

The internet is amazing – it connects us, helps us share ideas, and makes our Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting community stronger than ever. But it also comes with challenges: cyberbullying, misinformation, online abuse, and unequal access to digital tools.

That's why, building on our Surf Smart 2.0 programme, this new activity pack from WAGGGS, supported by



Norton, helps young people dive deeper into Advocacy for online safety and the digital world to:

- Build confidence to speak up and advocate for change
- Understand key online and how they impact young people and communities
- Take action to make the internet safer and fairer for everyone

Download this activity pack and step into your role as a digital superhero, learn to stay safe online, support your friends, and champion a fair, inclusive, and responsible digital world:

<https://campfire.waggs.org/tema/advocacy-generation-digital-a4gd-new-curriculum-launch>

OB-PS Event and 39th World Conference



The WAGGGS Planning Team joint with Girl Guides Association of Cambodia are pleased to share that registrations for all three events taking place in Siem Reap in June, is now open:

1. 14 –15 June Get Ready for World Conference
2. 15-19 June Olave Baden-Powell Society (OB-PS) Annual Event
3. 16-19 June 39th WAGGGS World Conference

This joint global event will bring together Member Organisations, young decision makers, and dedicated supporters of WAGGGS including Olave Baden-Powell Society Members, Friends of Asia Pacific, Friends of Africa Region and Honorary Associates; to celebrate progress and shape the future of our Movement.

Anybody not attending as part of their delegation for their Member Organisation, can register to attend through the OB-PS Event <https://eur.cvent.me/8700YV> where you will have exclusive access to the World Conference and Olave Baden-Powell Society sessions.

Big Six Supporting Youth-Led Change Through the Youth Empowerment Fund

As a member of the Big Six Youth Organisations, WAGGGS is proud to be part of the next phase of the Youth Empowerment Fund (YEF). Through the YEF 2025 Open Call, 569 youth-led projects have been selected to receive capacity-building support, networking opportunities, and a collective €1.5 million in grants. Together, these initiatives are estimated to reach over 1.2 million people in local communities worldwide.

The selected projects address urgent global priorities, from climate action and gender equality to access to health, education, and economic participation, demonstrating the power of young people to drive progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Selections were made through the Global Youth Mobilization's youth-led model, with 154 Youth Panellists, 17 Senior Youth Panellists, and 6 Youth Board Representatives ensuring a process rooted in inclusion, fairness, and real-world impact.

This milestone highlights the strength of collaboration between the European Union and the Big Six Youth Organisations, including WAGGGS, as we continue working together to remove barriers, create opportunities, and equip young people with the resources they need to lead lasting change in their communities. Read the full announcement: <https://globalyouthmobilization.org/2026/01/23/569-youth-led-projects-advancing-sustainable-development-selected-from-the-youth-empowerment-fund-2025-open-call/>

World Centres Update: 2025 Highlights and 2026 Priorities

2025 was a year of strong results and meaningful impact across the World Centres. Thanks to the continued generosity of our supporters and the dedication of our teams, the Centres expanded access through scholarships and travel grants, welcomed thousands of guests, and remained vibrant places of learning, connection, and global sisterhood. The figures below reflect not only the reach of the World Centres, but also the care, professionalism, and commitment of the staff

and volunteers who bring these special places to life every day.

2025 in Numbers

Impact Area	2025 Result
Scholarships & Travel Grants Awarded	174
Total Funding Awarded	£122,000
Volunteers Hosted	92
Countries Represented	44
Programme Participants Engaged	2,162
Community Members Reached	11,000+
Girl Guiding & Girl Scouting Guests Welcomed	5,967
In-Person Events	57
Virtual Events	2

Bookings (Bed Nights)

Centre	2024 Actual	2025 Target	2025 Actual
Our Chalet	8,800	8,078	6,649
Pax Lodge	17,569	17,000	17,597
Sangam	3,997	3,001	2,967
Nuestra Cabaña	2,177	699	3,421

Financial Snapshot (Subject to Year-End Process)

Centre	Income	Expenditure	Surplus
Our Chalet	£802,000	£793,000	£9,000
Pax Lodge	£772,000	£667,000	£105,000

Sangam	£237,000	£203,000	£34,000
Nuestra Cabaña	£353,662	£341,370	£12,292

Looking ahead to 2026, our focus is on building on these positive results and ensuring the long-term sustainability of the World Centres. This includes running the Centres responsibly, investing in facilities, and implementing new systems and processes to strengthen monitoring, risk management, and facilities oversight. We will also be taking important steps to shape Kusafiri's future, while continuing to promote collaboration, connection, and shared learning across the World Centre network.

None of this would be possible without the dedication of our World Centre teams and the steadfast support of our donors. Thank you for your continued belief in the World Centres and for helping ensure these remarkable places remain open, welcoming, and impactful for future generations.

Individual Centre Updates – the Friends Groups will provide updates for the other 4 centres direction to the World Foundation.

Kusafiri

Kusafiri World Centre in Ghana is



preparing for an active and meaningful programme of learning experiences in 2026, continuing its commitment to supporting young people and adult leaders to grow through leadership, culture, community action, and global citizenship. Building on recent programme momentum, 2026 will include a mix of in-



person and online experiences, with opportunities focused on sustainability, community leadership,



intercultural understanding, and personal development. These experiences are designed to be inclusive and accessible, creating space for participants to learn together, share perspectives, and return home inspired to create positive change in their local contexts.

While planning for 2026 is well underway, it is certainly not too late to be part of the year ahead. Several events are still open for bookings, and others will welcome

additional participants as plans are finalised. We warmly encourage you to share these opportunities and support participation where possible. Continued engagement and investment make a tangible difference, enabling Kusafiri to reach more participants and sustain high-quality programmes that deliver lasting impact across our global community. Link to opportunities: [https://worldcentres.waggs.org/events/? world centr e=kusafiri](https://worldcentres.waggs.org/events/?world_centre=kusafiri)

Following the recently completed Kusafiri review, work is underway to thoughtfully consider future directions for the World Centre. The review provided valuable

insights into what has worked well during the pilot phase, alongside areas for refinement to ensure long-term sustainability, clarity of purpose, and stronger alignment with WAGGGS' global strategy. As these recommendations are explored, the focus remains on preserving the spirit of Kusafiri as a place of learning, connection, and cultural exchange, while adapting the model to better meet the evolving needs of participants and the Movement. Updates will be shared as decisions are confirmed. Link to the review:

<https://campfire.waggs.org/topic/kusafiri-motion-10-evaluation>

Our Chalet

The Cheryl Watkins Scholarship — Now Better Than Ever!

Great news for our community: the **Cheryl Watkins Scholarship has been expanded**, making it easier than ever for women to take part in our events and continue their journey in the Movement.



The scholarship can now **cover the full event fee** — not just accommodation as in the past. This means more access, more flexibility, and more opportunities to say *yes* to events that inspire, connect, and energise.

Even better, **women who have previously attended an event using the Cheryl Watkins Scholarship are welcome to apply again.** If your earlier scholarship covered accommodation, you can now use the scholarship to support the *other parts* of your event experience.

A Thank You, Not a Test

- The event-fee portion of the scholarship is **not needs-based**. It is offered as a heartfelt *thank you* to women **aged 60 and over who have given 20 years or more to the movement**. Your commitment, leadership, and contribution matter — and this scholarship is one way of recognising that legacy.

Extra Support When It's Needed - In addition to covering event fees, **limited travel assistance is also available** to help with flights and other travel costs where there is financial need. This ensures distance doesn't have to be a barrier to participation.



The Cheryl Watkins Scholarship can be used for a range of upcoming events, including:

- **International Friendship Week** – A wonderful opportunity to build global connections, celebrate diversity, and deepen friendships across borders.
- **Walking Week** – Perfect for those who enjoy time outdoors, gentle physical activity, reflection, and shared experiences in nature.

These events offer connection, renewal, and fun — and the scholarship makes them more accessible than ever.

You can use the scholarship for a family visit, or a custom group visit as well. If you've been

thinking "*maybe next time*", this could be your moment. We encourage eligible women to explore upcoming events and other options to visit, apply for the scholarship, and continue being part of the experiences that bring our community together.

Impactful Stories: A Dream Comes True

After years of fundraising our group was thrilled to visit Sangam in June of 2025. Some members of our former troop had visited Pax Lodge, and Our Chalet but none of us has yet experienced India or the Girl Guide spirit that thrives there.

Traveling to a country so different from our own was both humbling and inspiring. The sights, sounds, and energy of India were like nothing we'd known before. Zipping through traffic in a rickshaw could be overwhelming at times, but we found Sangam to be a calm and safe haven in contrast.

Although our visit didn't coincide with an official WAGGS event, Sangam still became a meaningful part of our journey. We made friends with Magali, a Girl Guide from Mexico who had just arrived to prepare for her summer volunteer work. We brought her along on some of our local adventures: watching the sunrise from a temple high above the city, exploring the ruins of a historic fort, and enjoying a bustling vegetarian restaurant that served what I still consider the best garlic cheese naan in India: piled high with herbs, freshly grated cheese, and enough garlic to make it unforgettable.

One of my favorite discoveries in Pune was a spice shop called Hand Mad Masale. It sold an incredible variety of masalas, many pre-mixed for specific dishes. Now I wished I had purchased more from this shop.

And then, of course, there was the food. I hadn't eaten much Indian cuisine before the trip, and I didn't expect to fall in love with it. From the fragrant curries to the fresh breads, every meal was an adventure. The

kitchen staff at Sangam worked tirelessly to make delicious food, and the buffets we sampled around the country added even more variety. Since returning home, I've cooked dozens of Indian dishes trying to capture those flavors again. One of our favorite daily traditions was afternoon chai. Every Day at 4:00 p.m. we gathered for tea in Sangam's dining hall, savoring their lemongrass chai.



After our stay in Pune, we extended our time in India with a tour of the Golden Triangle. Our experiences in Uttar Pradesh were among the most memorable of the entire trip. We visited Wildlife SOS's Elephant Conservation and Care Centre, where elephants rescued from years of abuse now live safely and peacefully. The next morning, we watched the sunrise over the Taj Mahal—a sight as breathtaking as every traveler claims.

That afternoon, we visited Sheroes hangout Café, a restaurant operated by women who survived acid attacks. Their strength and courage were deeply moving. The café provides them with employment, community, and a way to raise awareness about violence against women in India. What was once a story of tragedy has instead become one of resilience and empowerment.

Our time in India – both at Sangam and beyond – taught us that courage, kindness, and sisterhood transcend borders. It's not a trip for the faint of heart, but for anyone who is adaptable, curious, and open to learning, I would wholeheartedly recommend visiting Sangam. It's a place that stays with you long after you return home.

Linda, leader, Susan, Payton, Collette – Lifetime Girl Scout from Girl Scouts of Colorado

* The World Centers hold a special place in the hearts of all who visit. They are where cherished memories are created and lifelong friendships are formed, creating connections that endure across cultures and continents. As vibrant hubs of activity, culture, and global connection, the World Centers offer experiences that shape perspectives and transform lives

Do you know someone with an Impactful Story to share, or do you have one of your own?

We are excited to highlight your stories and share them with our community. If you have been impacted by projects or programs through WAGGGS, GSUSA, or USAGSO, we want to hear them! Giving these experiences and opportunities to Girl Scouts and Girl Guides around the world is the joy of what we do. Let us celebrate with you!

If you'd like to submit a story for publication in a future What's Happening Newsletter, please send it and any photographs you'd like to include to vpierpoint@girlscouts.org with the subject line "Impactful Stories." You are welcome to send your story at any time for consideration for future newsletters. Please encourage your friends to share their stories, too!

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Support:

Gifts can be made online at

<https://worldfoundationgggs.salsalabs.org/wfdonations-allfunds>

Checks can be mailed to

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