



CLUB NEWS



CLUB MEETINGS:

The next Club meetings are scheduled for Wednesday APRIL 4, and Wednesday APRIL 18 at 6.30 p.m at the Victoria Hotel. During one of these meetings, members will be asked to endorse the nominees who will serve in the Board for the Lionistic year 2018/2019.

CULTURAL VISITS: A visit to Fort St. Elmo will be held on Sunday April 15. Presently at Fort St. Elmo there is a temporal exhibition, to commemorate the two hundred anniversary of the arrival to Malta of the Schranz family.

The exhibition brings together, around 180 works of art, the output of several generations of the Schranz family. The painting collection includes scenes from Malta and abroad, coming not only from private collections in Malta but also from the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Royal Trust and other art collections.

Through the good offices of Lion Margaret Frendo, Heritage Malta have waived the entrance fee. Meeting time is 1015 at the entrance to the War Museum.

Lion President George O. Attard can arrange lunch at the Union Club in Sliema for those wishing. Those interested to go for lunch are kindly requested to inform Lion President by April 11.

As already notified the next cultural visit will be held on Tuesday May 1 (a public holiday in Malta) when a visit to the Ta' Braxia Cemetery at Pieta has been arranged.

WE SERVE



MARCH 2018

INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

WE'RE THE KING OF THE JUNGLE

Not bound by the chains of the past, emboldened by its aura of freedom, America a century ago was an incubator of innovation. There was jazz, The Broadway musical and a social movement, Lions Clubs, the first group of any stature to dedicate itself to community service.

As Lions grew in numbers and influence, we were wonderfully open to new ideas, new ways of doing things. Lions didn't always conceive of an intriguing original idea, but we quickly adopted it and helped popularize it: service dogs for the blind, eye banks and the white cane. To get where we wanted to go, to serve efficiently and broadly, Lions did not ever hesitate to do things differently and creatively.



The spirit of innovation continues to be a hallmark for clubs, districts and Lions Clubs International. Whether it's a homeless shelter that provides vocational training for children, raising awareness of the need to recycle through a Trash Fashion Show or, ingenuously, making lawn decorations such as pumpkins and snowmen out of beetle-killed trees to raise money, Lions refuse to simply replicate worn-out service methods but instead invigorate communities with fun, clever and inspiring events and activities that help those in need.

This being the digital age, our innovation extends to social media and smart-phones. MyLion, a world-class mobile app. Is dramatically changing the way we serve and communicate. It's a brave new world indeed, and Lions are courageously blazing new digital trails. The world is speeding up, spinning faster and increasingly becoming a true global village. MyLion puts us in the heat of the town square, able to be a linchpin of social improvement, thanks to our communication prowess.

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VISIT TO TRIESTE

The visit to Trieste has now been rescheduled to June 13-18. The dates were changed at the request of members expressed at the March 7 meeting. The programme as prepared by our twinned club Trieste (Host) is as follows:

Wednesday June 13: Arrival at Trieste in the morning. Dinner at a typical restaurant in the evening



Thursday June 14: Morning - Visiting the city, historical centre, buffet lunch and later transfer by Pullman to Redipuglia to see places of First World War and the village of Palmanova with a stop for shopping. Evening dinner at a fish restaurant.

Friday June 15: Morning visit to Castello di Miramare and Castle Diuno besides other parts of the city. Afternoon visit to the "Risera di San Sabba (a camp used to exterminate Jews in Italy by the Nazis and to Folha di Basovizza (National Monument). Dinner at the hotel also meeting with members of Lions Club Trieste Host.

Saturday June 16: Excursion to Slovenia visiting the villages of Isola, Pirano and Portorose. Afternoon free. Dinner at typical restaurant.

Sunday June 17: Transfer to Airport.

Accommodation at the NH Hotel (in the city centre) - Double Room €135; Double room single use €120; Single room €110.

Lunches: €25 to 30; Dinners: €35 to 40. Museums: €30. Transport based on number of participants. Based on 30 persons E14 daily.

DEPARTURE: June 13 Ryanair FR3875 to Treviso at 0650 arriving at 0850
RETURN - June 17 Ryanair FR3874 at 0915 arriving Malta at 1110.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

The annual golf tournament to raise funds for the club's philanthropic funds was held at the Royal Malta Golf Club at Marsa on March 19. This tournament was started by the late Lion Alex Mangion and continues to be organised yearly by his son Bengie.

Participants in the tournament make a contribution to the Club's philanthropic account. Our Club will then equal the sum collected and the total amount is presented to a charity or NGO chosen alternately by the golfers and our Club. The sum collected this year by the golfers amounted to €460. Our Club decided to donate the total of €920 to the Malta Dogs for the Blind.

Lion President George O. Attard together with Lion Joe Messina presented golf balls to the male and female winners and runner-ups.

LIONS MAGAZINE GOES DIGITAL



As from February 2018 the Lions magazine which members receive by mail (albeit at times it used to reach us several days late) is now 100% digital.

This new procedure will provide Lions with

- Instant access to a world of stories
- An exciting multimedia user-experience.

LION Magazine will now be available as:

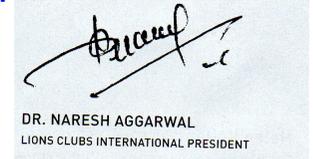
- 6 bi-monthly print and digital issues
- Plus 5 digital-only issues.

Lions are advised to download LION Magazine app.

LionMagazine.org

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All of that leads me to ask: How is your club doing? If it works for you, keep doing it. If you know you can do better, be brave and innovative. After all, being daring is part of our Lion DNA. It's a cliché, but we are the king of the jungle, distinguished by our courage to stride fearlessly forward. I wish you the best this year in your service and know, based on a century of success, that as Lions you will reach your goals.



MEDITERRANEAN LIONS CONFERENCE



During the Mediterranean Lions Conference which was held in Antalya, Turkey, it was confirmed that the 2019 Conference will be held in Beirut, Lebanon, from March 22 to 24.

It was also agreed that the 2020 Conference will be held in Genoa, Italy. The Conference will be held in March but the actual dates will be notified in due course.

At the same conference Past International Director Gabriele Sabatosanti of MD 108 ITALY was elected to serve as member representing the northern Mediterranean littoral in the Mediterranean Solidarity Organisation for the next two years. A Tunisian Past District Governor was elected to serve as representative of the southern Mediterranean littoral.

The Conference at Antalya was well attended with discussions mainly centred on how Lions can help the influx of immigrants in various Mediterranean countries. Lions pledged to help these people whenever possible. The International President and various other International Directors and Governors also attended.

GUEST SPEAKER

Lion Margaret Frendo writes'

Reverend Professor Salvino Caruana OSA, was the guest speaker on the 21st March 2018.

He gave us a brief sketch of The Origins of Christendom from the 1st to the 6th century A.D. His talk concentrated mostly on the spread of the Catholic Church in the Eastern part of the Roman Empire, pointing out some significant historical facts such as that Jesus started to preach his mission on earth among the Jews, it was when Jesus was close to being killed that He told the twelve disciples to 'Go and preach to all Nations'

His disciples were all of Jewish descent. Except for Matthew they were illiterate. Matthew was the only one who could speak Greek which was the language of the educated at the time. However by the power of the Holy Spirit the disciples became eloquent in their preaching. It was the apostle Paul who set out on the mission to convert the Gentiles.

From the early days the newly converted to Christianity were persecuted, but the worst period of persecution was around 306 A.D. under the Roman Emperor Diocletian. In 313 A.D. a turning point came about with the conversion of Emperor Constantine to Christianity. Constantine gave all his subjects freedom of worship. This gave rise to various religious movements, including the Gnostic movement. The Gnostics were a great threat to the church because of administrative similarities.

To preserve pure Christian teachings Christian men, led by St Anthony the Abbot, started to leave cities for the desert, such as the Sinai, where they formed monasteries. We were told that all was going well until the arrival of women to the monasteries.

Lion Chris Borg Cardona thanked Rev Caruana for his interesting talk and presented him with the Lions' banner. The speaker then joined us for dinner.

Photo thanks to Lion Carmelo Azzopardi.



INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The International Lions Clubs Board of Directors is composed of 34 Directors. Together they serve our Association by:

- Supervising all officers and committees of the board and association.
- Managing association's business property and funds.
- Preparing and approving the association fiscal budget.

International Directors serve for two years and are designated either as first year directors or two years directors.

Directors are elected from all Lions regional areas in the world with Europe having three directors serving a two years term and three serving a one year term.

Markus Flaaming from Espoo, Finland, Elizabeth Haderer from Overeen, The Netherlands and Eileen van Dillo from Rense, Belgium are serving for the next two years.

The one year term Directors are Sandro Castellana from Padova, Italy, William Galigani from Nimes, France and Regina Gieesen from Germany.

Three members of the Board representing Europe are of the fairer sex. Moreover the First Vice International President is the Icelandic Gudrun Yganvadottir who was in Malta for the Mediterranean Lions Conference in March 2016. She will become the first female International President at the 101st International Convention being held in Las Vegas from June 29 to July 3, 2018.

International Director Sandro Castellana was also in Malta for the March 2016 Conference. He may be visiting Malta in the near future.

The Board of Directors include also the Executive Officers who occupy the post of International President, the Immediate Past International President and the First, Second and Third Vice Presidents.

