



2014/2015 PRESIDENT'S THEME:

Strengthen the Pride through Service.

Service is the foundation of our association, so let's continue to build on it as we approach our Centennial.

Strengthen the Pride by strengthening your Club

Make sure your Club is on track for success and growing to meet the needs of your community.

Strengthen the Pride through Creativity

Use technology to enhance your communications and create new connections with your community.

< >

From Page 3

First Malta International Organ Festival

Lions Club Sliema is sponsoring the First International Organ Festival to be held in Malta. Lion Ian Lochhead has been busy these last months in the organisation of this festival which will be held from August 28 to September 12. There will be performances in various churches in Malta and Gozo with the participation of local and foreign organists.

Lions Alfred Micallef Attard, George O. Attard and Joe Messina have met with Lion Ian to set out this ambitious project. Important aspects in the organisation of this festival is that it gives opportunities to Maltese students to take "master classes" and it also raises public awareness of the many fine organs that adorn our churches.

The Organising Committee will be asking for the help of fellow Lions during the festival. Hope you will all participate and support this event.

Lion Victor Buge Bantket

For further information on Lions on stamps visit www.lisc.nl



1974/2014

40 YEARS OF SERVICE

*Ruby Anniversary
Of
Charter*

AUGUST 2014



JOSEPH PRESTON

INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

Joseph "Joe" Preston, of Dewey, Arizona, USA, was elected President of Lions Clubs International at the association's 97th International Convention held in Toronto, Canada, from July 4 to 8, 2014.

President Preston is temporarily retired from the automotive industry. He has over 30 years experience as a fleet sales manager, and was consistently recognised by Ford Motor Company for excellence in customer satisfaction, sales and product knowledge.

A member of the Bradshaw Mountain of Dewey-Humboldt Lions Club, President Preston has been a Lion since 1974. He has held many offices in the Association, including club president, zone chairperson, district governor, council chairperson and chairperson of district development, Lions Quest and MERL for the state of Arizona. He was host chairperson of the 1994 International Convention in Phoenix, Arizona, chairperson of the 2003 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum, and a national/multinational coordinator for Campaign SightFirst 2.

In recognition of his service to the association, President Preston has received numerous awards, including the 100% Club President Award, the 100% District Governor Award, the Senior Builder Key Award, Life Membership in the association, nine International President's Awards and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honour the association bestows upon its members. He is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

President Preston was recognised by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency for his work as a Lion to prevent drug use and abuse among youth.

President Joe and his wife, Joni, also a Lion, have two sons, one daughter and seven grandsons..



Group photo of the participants at "Campo Vesuvius". Andrew Cuschieri is fourth from left.

Andrew augurs that next year Malta would be once more represented at this Camp. Andrew wrote: 'I encourage you all to ensure that next year there will be another representative carrying the Maltese flag, not only because this is an incredible opportunity for him/her, but also because it gives the local Lions a better representation and strengthen relations with members abroad'.

After thanking all those involved to make his participation at the Camp possible, including Lion Hubert Bowinkel, MD108YA Youth Exchange Chairperson Lion Carmela Penna, Camp Director, and Club President Lion Victor Borg Barthet, Andrew stated:

"You have helped make this an incredibly successful Youth Exchange and for this I am eternally grateful to Lions Club Sliema. As a token of my gratitude, I pledge to try and revive the Leos Club by investing some of my time in attempting to stimulate interest in friends and young people I encounter to enroll in the Leos Club".



CLUB REPRESENTATIVE AT CAMPO VESUVIUS

18 year old science student Andrew Cuschieri, nephew of Club member Lion Louis Sciberras was one of 14 youths who attended the Campo Vesuvius held from July 6 to 20. His participation at this annual Youth Camp came about after negotiations started by Lion President Victor Borg Barthet.

Andrew Cuschieri joined youths from Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Norway and the United States.

In his report submitted to the Club, Andrew wrote:

At the opening ceremony which was hosted at the Camp Director Lion Carmela Penna's lovely home, I was introduced to the Camp participants, aged between 16 and 21. We were timid at first but over the next few days, in between all the banter, dining and sightseeing we formed strong ties which will likely go undissolved by geographical distance. Together we made a cheerful, easy going, harmonious group. The fact that we coalesced so well made our daily outings that more memorable. We visited numerous sites rich in aesthetic beauty and historical value such as Mount Vesuvius, Capri, Sorrento, Cimitile, Castellmare, Pompei and Napoli centre. We also witnessed ongoing archaeological excavations funded by none other than the Lions Club.

Through our encounters with many kind-hearted Lions, the other participants and I became more knowledgeable of the admirable philanthropic and social ventures of the Lions. Our exchanges with them, the people of Naples, and amongst ourselves also led us to understand and appreciate each other's cultures which gave us plenty to discuss and thus develop friendships. It was through our differences that we bonded and matured. I personally learnt a lot about myself by being exposed to different people and their unique realities. This is arguably the most beneficial thing about these Youth Exchange trips.

The official closing ceremony took place at the enchanting city of Matera, a candidate for the 2019 European Capital of Culture. There we listened to several speeches and closed off with a "Flag Parade" where each and every one of us proudly carried our flags forward and raised them up high for all to see as our National Anthems echoed melodiously around the crowded square. At Matera I was honoured to read out a speech in Italian, as besides the Italian Camp Leader, I was the only one who could speak Italian

PRESIDENT' S REMARKS:

Lions Club International - Commemorated on Stamps

For philatelists, like me, the Lions logo on stamps commemorating special events is a common sight when looking at stamps from many world wide countries. While this shows that as Lions we belong to an organisation that has worldwide recognition for its work, these stamps play a significant part in boosting the popularity and image of our Lions Club International.

In Malta there has been three postmarks to commemorate special events namely in 1976 on the occasion of the Lions International Europa Forum which was held here, in 1977 when Malta participated in Lions International Wilshow IV and in 1993 on the 75th Anniversary of Lions Clubs International. Moreover for the latter occasion the Malta Postal Authorities issued a commemorative 2 set stamp.

The Lions International Stamp Club (LISC) was formed in 1951 by a group of Lions who were, like me, keen philatelists. The aim of the club is to foster and develop the love of Stamp Collecting among Lions as this would strengthen Lionism through international goodwill.

Many collectors today have opted to collect stamps on a specific theme such as cars or insects. Others collect all the stamps related to a particular organisation whose international success and reputation has been commemorated by numerous stamps, such as stamps featuring Lions Clubs International and Rotary International. These are called "Thematic Collections", and if you have a love of stamps together with an interest in the organisation, such a collection would give you many hours of pleasure.

The Lions International Stamp Club are asking postal authorities to issue commemorative stamps for the Centenary of our Organisation. In Malta Zone Chairman Lion Tom A. Restall has already started the ball rolling for Malta Post to issue a commemorative set for the Centennial Anniversary in 2017.

(continued page 8)



SWIMMING THE GOZO CHANNEL WITH A DIFFERENCE

Two disabled Italian swimmers namely 32 year old Andrea Cadilli and 35 year old Andrea Chiuminatto swam the Gozo Channel on July 19. The two swimmers managed to cross the tricky channel known for its current in just over two hours.

This event came to fruition through the help given to the two swimmers and their helpers by our twinned club of Bosco Marengo Santa Croce and our Club which together with the Risso Water Polo School were responsible for the logistical preparations for this event.

For Andrea Cadilli who is blind and suffers from a rare bone disease which has seriously stunted his growth this was not the first swim to raise awareness on disability inclusion in sports. Andrea has previously swam from the Asian to the European side of the Bosphorus and also the Straits of Messina. However the swim across the Gozo Channel was the longest he has managed so far. Swimming with him was Andrea Chiuminatto who was paralyzed from the waist downwards after a serious car accident which

nearly cost him his life.

An elated Andrea Cadilli, who owes the success of his adventures to his coach and mentor Davide Sanguinetti, stated: "When you are blind and out at sea, the hardest thing is changing direction. When we reached Comino I thought to myself how am I ever going to make it? But, with Davide by my side I succeeded. Every stroke I take I just focus on my goal and my destination. It is liberating and I hope to help people find ways to free themselves".

For Andrea Chiuminatto this was the first time he attempted such an adventure. He could hardly believe he managed to swim this distance. He said that this was the most challenging but also satisfying and empowering thing that he has ever done.

Immediate Past President Lion George O. Attard is to be congratulated for his unstinted efforts to make this event a success. Lion George has been liaising with the Lions of Bosco Marengo for a long time. Thanks too to Lion Louis Sciberras who provided his boat to escort the swimmers and to Lion Chris. Borg Cardona for assisting at the departure point at Hondoq ir-Rummieni and at the arrival point in Cirkewwa. The whole event was a great success with the Club gaining another feather in its cap.



< Lion Louis Sciberras at the wheel of the boat which accompanied the swimmers during the crossing with Lion George Attard standing beneath the Lions flag.

Photo on Page 4

Swimmers and helpers underneath the Lions International flag at Cirkewwa after the crossing.