

COMING EVENTS



TENBY MALE CHOIR: The Tenby Male Choir will be coming to Malta in October 2015. The sub-committee responsible to organise this event, namely Lion Secretary Joe Messina, PP Lion Ian Lochhead and Lion Hans Wijnberg, have confirmed that concerts will be given at St. Paul's Anglican Cathedral or St. John's Co-Cathedral in Valletta, Stella Maris Parish Church Sliema and the Cathedral at Victoria, Gozo.

The exact dates of the concerts will be communicated in due course. When it will also be known the venue of the Valletta concert.

PEACE POSTER COMPETITION PRIZE GIVING CERMONY: This will be held on Wednesday April 15th at Maria Regina Secondary School in Sta.Venera. Further details will be communicated in due course.

LC SALERNO ARECHI:

The return twinning ceremony Lions Club Salerno Arechi is scheduled for June 5 at the Grand Hotel in Salerno.

Arrangements are being made to visit Salerno and the Costa Salernitana, Pompei and other places of interest. It is envisaged to depart Malta on June 1st and return on June 7th with a stop over of one day at Rome.

Lions Club Bosco Marengo Santa Croce have signified their intention to also be in Salerno to celebrate their charter night on the occasion of the twinning.

Details about the visit will be circularised as soon as all the arrangements are finalised. It is hoped that a good group of members will come to Salerno for this special occasion.



MARCH 2015

President's Message

Those Lions who have attended the 40th Anniversary of Charter would have met IPP Barry Palmer. Barry is now Chairman of the International Lions Clubs Foundation (LCIF). In his very recent report on the partnership with the Vaccine Alliance GAVI, an organisation which has prevented the death of 7 million children, Barry points out that strength comes from numbers.

When one looks at other Lions Clubs one realises how right Barry is. Many Clubs have dwindled in membership and this has affected their performance. Our Club's success in the projects and activities we hold are all thanks to the strength in numbers. Our Club members are involved and contribute with their work, ideas, suggestions and participation. This is one reason why we always seek new members and encourage them to actively take part in our projects.

Later on this month Zone Chairman Tom Restall and myself will be attending the Mediterranean Lions Conference in Pescara. Our attendance at this Conference is specially important due to the fact that Lions in Malta will be hosting the 2016 Conference. Tom Restall is finding all the help he needs from Lions Club Sliema members. These members are offering support in areas such as finance, logistics, website and hospitality. This brings out the value of having a strong Club with experienced members in many fields.

March should also bring some sunny weather. This will be greatly appreciated for our monthly outings and outdoor fund-raising activities. I also hope that at the end of this month we will organise a weekend break in Gozo, similar to what we used to do some years ago. This break will give members an opportunity to discuss club matters while enjoying the Gozo countryside.

Lion Victor Borg Barthet

WE SERVE

LIONS CLUB CATANIA NORD



One of the Clubs with which our Club is twinned is Catania Nord.

The Club was founded in 1978 to become the 461st Club in Italy. The Club meetings are held at the Sheraton Hotel at Acicastello.

Lions Club Catania Nord is twinned with another Club in the Mediterranean namely Lions Club Nice Doyen. Lions Club Sliema twinned with the Sicilian Club in the Lionistic Year 1999/2000 when our Club

President was Lion Victor Borg Barthet.

Besides various activities mostly educational and social, LC Catania Nord has for the last few years formed a choir made up of club members. The choir entertains guests at the annual charter night and on other occasions and also visits homes for the elderly to render their repertoire of not only Italian melodies and opera arias but also foreign compositions.

Our Club is twinned with two other Sicilian Clubs namely LC Enna and LC Sciacca.

<<< >>>

LIONS EUROPA FORUM 2015

The 2015 Europa Forum is being held at Augsburg in Bavaria, Germany from October 9th to 11th. The theme of the Forum is:

Lions—Sympathy and Friendship

The Lions of Augsburg are inviting European Lions to exchange experiences between them in a range of interesting workshops and seminars. Prices for the Forum are being kept as low as possible to enable European Lions to participate in this annual event for Lions. An interesting cultural and social programmes is being prepared. More details will be communicated as soon as they become available.



CULTURAL TALK

The next cultural talk is being held on Wednesday March 11 at 7.00 p.m. at the Salesian Oratory, Sliema, opposite St. Patrick's School.

Father Savio Vella (Salesian) will deliver a presentation on the Holy Shroud which is found in Turin, Italy.

At the Oratory one can view one of the four "genuine" copies of the Shroud.

Lion Members and their families/friends are invited to attend.

.....from Page 3

Recently Heritage Malta restored and opened large areas to the public which had previously been inaccessible. Now one can walk through the kitchens, the magnificent staircase, audience hall, the tribunal, the private apartments, prisons and courtyards through the palace.

Our visit was well timed as the palace until recently had a temporal exhibition about the Malta Inquisition. Among the objects on display were a paper hat used to ward off pain, magical sheet spells in Arabic and recordings of a few cases brought in front of the Inquisitor.

Two hours into the visit, our stomach started to protest so we headed to the restaurant Sotto Vento right on the Vittoriosa waterfront. The food was good and the service professional. It was agreed that everyone would pay his ones bill rather than pay the total amount divided by the number having lunch.

Editor's note: Thank you Lion Margaret for the article.

Lion Margaret Frendo reports on

VISIT TO THE INQUISTOR'S PALACE

On February 8 a group of Sliema Lions, accompanied by a few family members and friends, met at 1030 to visit the Inquisitor's Palace at Vittoriosa (Birgu).

The Inquisitor's residence is housed in a majestic palace built and decorated over a period of 268 years. The palace started its life as a small civil court house of the Order of St. John. When the Order moved to the new city of Valletta the tenants became the Inquisitors.

The Malta Inquisition is not to be confused with the Spanish Inquisition. The Inquisition which applied to Malta was called the Malta Inquisition, set up by the Pope to control the spread of Protestantism and the reading of prohibited books. The first of a series of Inquisitors to arrive in Malta in 1574 was Mons. Pietro Duzzina. He was sent over to Malta to help settle a dispute which had arisen between the Grand Master and the Bishop. Once in Malta Duzzina found that there were various other irregularities within the church (witchcraft, magical spells, bigamy and blasphemy to mention but a few). Therefore the Inquisitor became quite a permanent feature in Malta until the arrival of Bonaparte in 1798.

Most of the Inquisitors who came to Malta belong to Roman noble families. It was a position from one could advance within the church hierarchy. Of the 62 Inquisitors of Malta, 32 became cardinals and 2 became popes. Fabio Chigi as Pope Alexander VII and Antonio Pignatelli as Pope Innocent XII.

The story of the palace is interesting as that of the Inquisition. One can still see the different additions and architectural styles belonging to the different period in which the palace was enlarged. In the oldest area of the palace, that which originally belonging to the Law Court the gothic cross ribbed vault is still visible, as one moves from a section of the palace to the other the Baroque style is predominant.

Continued page 6.....

FEBRUARY CULTURAL TALK

The guest speaker in February was Mr Charles Xuereb, a lecturer at the University, who spoke about **"France Maltese Collective Memory"**. Mr Xuereb spoke about various episodes which characterized the French three-years stay from 1798 to 1800 in Malta. His talk was very interesting. The speaker answered various questions from members and their guests.

Mr Xuereb has recently published a book on this subject which received a great response so much so that the book is being reprinted since the first issue was sold out in a few weeks.

A provocative idea mentioned by Mr Xuereb was the removal of the George Cross from the Maltese national flag. Mr Xuereb's idea was not welcomed by most of those present.

The next talk is scheduled for Wednesday March 18 When Lion Dr. Valhmar Zammit will be taking about "Health and Stress".

Photo: First Vice President Chris Borg Cardona presenting a club banner to Mr Charles Xuereb.

(Photo courtesy of Mrs Margaret Farrugia wife of Lion Frederick Farrugia.)



<<< >>>

WHY ARE WE CALLED LIONS? It is the acronym of the letters **L I O N S** meaning:

L = LOYALTY I = INTELLIGENCE O = OUR
N = NATION'S S = SAFETY



LIONS CLUBS TWINNING PROGRAMME

The Lions Clubs Twinning Programme is a voluntary and mutual agreement between Clubs in different countries. Lions and Leos can participate, however twinning must occur between Clubs (i.e. Lions with Lions, Leos with Leos).

Twinning is an opportunity to learn about another club and its culture. Club twins actively illustrate the Third Purpose of the Association, namely **"to create and foster a spirit of understanding among the people of the world"**.

Members of international organizations often develop international friendships. This is certainly true of Lions and Leos who attend international forums or conventions. After an initial meeting Lions and Leos often develop their friendship through long distance correspondence. After many months or years the two clubs may decide to formalize their friendship as club twins. At this time the clubs may decide to sign the **International Club Twinning Recognition Application**, and become club twins. Often, the clubs organize a formal signing ceremony to celebrate the official twinning relationship.

Twinning is not to be initiated to persuade others to adopt one's ways nor it is to be entered into for financial or material assistance.

After Clubs have become friends they can apply for an **International Club Twinning Patch Award**. Clubs that enter into additional twinning relationships within the fiscal year receive a letter of congratulations. Clubs can only receive one twinning award per fiscal year.

The Club Twinning Award indicates participation in the International Club Twinning Programme. The club does not receive annual recognition for twinning. It is expected that twinning to continue.

A club is eligible to receive another International Club Twinning Recognition only if enters into a new twinning during a different fiscal year.