



NOVEMBER 2015

## **WORLD LIONS SIGHT WEEK**

**For the last few years the local Lions Clubs have visited Dar tal-Providenza during the week dedicated by Lions to show solidarity with the less fortunate people in their communities**



**On Sunday October 11th members of the four Lions Clubs in Malta paid a visit to the Home where the Home Director said mass. As is customary the clubs made a donation to the Home which is ever in need of funds to cater for the residents.**

*Photo: Club President Lion Chris Borg Cardona (Sliema) presenting a donation to Fr. Micallef in the presence of the other Clubs representatives.*

## **CULTURAL VISIT TO FORT ST. ELMO**

**Lion Margaret Frendo reports:** The Club's outgoing for October was held on Sunday 18th. Forty three members accompanied by family members and friends headed towards



Fort St. Elmo for the "In Guardia" re-enactment parade which lasted 45 minutes. We were given a taste of the rigorous military training undertaken by the Knights and soldiers, on a regular basis, inside some military fortifications in Malta and Gozo during the time of the Order's period in Malta (1530-1798).

Some fifty soldiers and Knights from the different detachments of troops, in various colourful period costumes, demonstrated their skill in sword fighting and the shooting of muskets and cannon. Such training was of utmost importance to fulfil the Order's role of protecting Malta as well as Christainity in the Mediterranean.

Thanks to a discount on the entrance ticket by Heritage Malta the outing generated a donation of Euro 93 towards the Club's philanthropic funds. A big "thank you" to Lion Isabelle Micallef who booked lunch at the Valletta Waterfront Bistro 516 for an excellent lunch.



## THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Occasionally new Club members ask why Malta is not considered to be a District within Lions Clubs International. The simple reason is that there are not enough clubs in Malta to be classified as a District.

The Statute of LCI (Lions Clubs International) clearly states that: "On formation, a district will consist of thirty-five (35) clubs in good standing and a total membership of at least one thousand two hundred and fifty (1250) Lions Clubs members in good standing unless otherwise approved by a 2/3 vote by the Board of Directors.

Malta is undistricted like a few other countries like San Marino, Monaco and Gibraltar.

Interesting to know that at one time a few years back we had considerable pressure to join part of District MD108YB (Sicily). However this was never considered even though there were some Maltese Lions wanted to.

Mentioning MD108YB - Sicily, up to a few years ago Sicily formed part of MD108Y which also embraced Campania, Basilicata and Calabria. However with the increase in Sicilian clubs, the international Board decided that Sicily will have its own Governor.

There are 18 districts in Multiple District 108 ITALY each known by a different letter. For example starting from North Italy, Piemonte is MD108IAI (**I** being the first letter in **ITALY**). Others follow with the letters T, A, L and Y., ending with 108YB namely Sicily.



## OCTOBER TALK

In the series of talks organised by the Club every third Wednesday, the guest speaker in October was Mr Denis Darmanin, a well known military historian who spoke about "The Main Guard - its history and its murals".

Mr Darmanin gave an illustrated talk about this magnificent building in the

centre of Valletta which has a chequered history. Besides being the headquarters of the British Army contingent entrusted to guard the Governor's Palace across the square, at one time soon after the British forces left Malta in 1979, the building was also briefly home for the Libyan Cultural Centre.

Presently several of the Attorney General's officials use this building as their offices.

Mr Darmanin's talk was well received by the good number of Club members and their guests. Club President Lion Chris Borg Cardona thanked the speaker for a most interesting talk and presented him with the Club's 40th Anniversary bannerette.



## **Bs of RELATIONSHIP BUILDING**

**Be Real  
Be a better listener  
Be Empathetic  
Be Honest  
Be Helpful  
Be Engaged**

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### **FOR YOUR ATTENTION:**

The next Club outing is on Sunday November 1st when by kind permission and co-operation of the Office of the President of Malta, we will be visiting Verdala Castle. Further details in due course

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Kindly note that Lion Secretary's Alexander Arena's mobile phone number is 79555001

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REMEMBRANCE MASS— is being said on Friday November 13 at 7.00 p.m. at the Ursuline Creche Chapel, Sliema, in remembrance of Club members who passed away. Fr. Savio will be the celebrant. It is hoped that a good number of members will attend.

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CHARTER NIGHT: Final reminder about the Charter Night on Saturday November 7th, at 8.00 p.m for 8.30 p.m. Members are reminded that they will not pay for attending the charter. However their partners or guests will pay Euro 40.





## **MEDITERRANEAN LIONS CONFERENCE MALTA**

Preparations for this important event in the annals of Lions in Malta are ongoing.

Bookings have started to come in and it is hoped that we will reach the set target of participants for the Conference.

When in Augsburg for the 2015 Europa Forum I had occasion to meet several Lions from the Mediterranean littoral who were keen to know more about the conference and who have signified their intention to attend. Amongst these a good number of District Governors from the Mediterranean Lions Clubs including those of Israel and Egypt.

Members will recall that the Conference is being organised by our Club together with LC St. Paul's Bay since the other two clubs in Malta decided not to participate. It is hence in our Club's interest that this Conference would be a success. We expect that Lions Club Sliema members will give more than a helping hand not only during the Conference but also in the days prior to the conference when there will be lots of things to do.

Immediate Past President Lion Victor Borg Barthet, Immediate Past Secretary Lion Joe Messina we have been doing a lot of preparatory work and we trust that we will get the support of all Club members. I am pleased that Lion Alfred Micallef Attard has accepted to be the Financial Controller of the conference. I am sure that our Club members together with those of LC St. Paul's Bay will rise to the occasion and organise a memorable conference.

*Tom A. RESTALL*

## TENBY MALE VOICE CHOIR

The three concerts given by the Tenby Male Voice Choir were attended and those present had words of praise for the way the choir performed.

The Rev. Canon Simon Godfrey, the Chancellor of St. Paul's Pro-Cathedral wrote to Lion Joe Messina stating: ***"I am writing to say thank you, Ian Lochhead and the Lions for organizing the choir visit of the Tenby Male Voice Choir. Not only the music and vocals a treat but they brought a relaxed yet profoundly spiritual atmosphere to the Cathedral! The members were a great bunch of men so obviously passionate about making music which shone throughout their performance! It was a good evening and the large audience was obviously delighted and generous in its appreciation"***.

Similar sentiments were expressed by the Stella Maris Parish Priest the Rev. Mons. Anton Portelli, who also thanked the Club for holding a concert at Sliema. A sum of Euro 456 was collected during the evening.

Besides the two concerts held in Malta the Choir also sang at the St. George Basilica in Gozo.

Special thanks goes to Lions Joe Messina, Ian Lochhead and Hans Wijnberg who were responsible for the organisation of this event which further enhanced the reputation of Lions Club Sliema.

