



209th LIONS' NATION

The Republic of AZERBAIJAN became the 209th nation to join Lions Clubs International at the 97th International Convention in Toronto, Canada. Before relinquishing the office of International President, Lion Barry J.

Palmer honoured members of the Baku Lions Club during the flag ceremony on July 6.

Azerbaijan a nation of 10 million people located at the crossroads of Eastern Europe and Western Asia declared its independence from the then Soviet Union in 1991. Baku is the capital city of Azerbaijan.

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EUROPEAN INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORS

European Lions are represented in the Lions Clubs International Board of Directors by six Directors. Three are Second Year Directors and three are elected at the Convention as First Year Directors who will continue for a second year.



The current Second Year Directors are Roberto Freisa of Italy, Robert Rettby of Switzerland and Omine Oya Sebuk of Turkey.

The First Year Directors who were elected at the 97th International Convention at Toronto are Sven Oystein Bersten of Norway, George Th. Papas of Cyprus and Jouke Ruissalo of Finland.

The Directors are elected on a rotation system to have equal representation from northern and southern European countries.



1974/2014

40 YEARS OF SERVICE

*Ruby Anniversary
Of
Charter*

OCTOBER 2014

President's Message

October is a busy month for our Club. Sub committees are meeting regularly as the 40th Anniversary and the 5th Gathering of Lions in Malta are approaching. I am happy to inform you that this Gathering is the largest one we have had so far.

The Committee of the 40th Anniversary Celebrations, made up of Lions Alfred Micallef Attard, Joe Messina, Tom Restall, George Attard, Vivienne Zammit, Betty Calleja, Chris Borg Cardona and Louis Sciberas is undertaking the design of the Anniversary Badge, Banner and Commemorative Booklet. They are collecting donations from sponsors, planning protocol and special arrangements for the Immediate Past International President's visit, looking at venues, hotel bookings, tours, lunches and dinners for the many foreign guests that will be participating in this event, which is such an important milestone in the Club's history.

We are also organising the twinning with Lions Club Salerno Arechi, which will take place on the eve of the Charter at Capua Palace. A full programme of events will soon be finalised and will be sent to all members.

However the Anniversary of Charter and the Gathering are not the only events that many of us are busy organising. October sees all children back to school and it is the time when we will launch this year's "Peace Poster Competition" which will be held in collaboration with the Education Department and which is sponsored, as last year, by Messrs. Miller.

Our Events Chairman, First Vice President Lion Chris Borg Cardona, is contacting our monthly speakers and preparing our Sunday cultural outings.

We have a great team doing sterling work.

Lion Victor Borg Barthet

"WE SERVE"

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The charitable organization **Fondazzjoni Nazareth** were the beneficiaries of our considerable collections, and have written a letter of appreciation to Lion President. Fondazzjoni Nazareth care for severely handicapped people in three care homes. They are campaigning to provide another house for their increasing responsibilities. Our efforts have helped them to reach their objective.

Apart from the concerts, nine students took advantage of Master Classes, which were offered by Prof. Dion Buhagiar and Dr. Erwin Wiersinga. The participants attended a presentation with Dr. Owen Bonnici, the Minister for Culture, where they were each presented with a certificate and our Club's bannerette at a gathering that was featured on TVM news.

Finally Irina Rozanova held a workshop for local composers, which was attended by seven students who voiced their approval to the teacher and to Lions Club Sliema.

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MONTHLY TALKS

The monthly talks will be resumed as from Wednesday October 15th. Dr. Alan Deidun, well known for his numerous articles on the environment will be the guest speaker. He will be speaking on "The Sea Environment of the Maltese Islands". The talk will be held immediately after the normal meeting which will commence at 6.30 p.m. at the Victoria Hotel. Members can invite guests to attend the monthly talks.

MONTHLY OUTINGS

First Vice President Lion Chris Borg Cardona, who is responsible to organize the monthly talks and outings is arranging to pay a visit to St. Francis Church, Floriana, wherein there are interesting crypts. Further details will be sent to members by email.

Past President Lion Ian Lochhead reports on the

FIRST INTERNATIONAL ORGAN FESTIVAL

Wholly sponsored by Lions Club Sliema, this event got off to a rocky start. There were misunderstandings which, fortunately the Board were able to sort out and the event began on August 28 with a truly remarkable performance by Wayne Marshall. A capacity audience responded with wild enthusiasm to his virtuosity, and when he challenged us to drown the organ with a rendering of "Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty the King of Creation" the wonderful sound shock the foundation stone!

This was the first of six concerts at the Anglican Cathedral. The remaining eight were spread among other churches throughout the island, so that we were able to sample the great differences between the organs as instruments. Compare for example the mighty and relatively new main organ at St. John's Co-Cathedral with the tiny original modern now in the Oratory. First installed in 1579, it is still playable. Diego Cannizzaro managed to arrange a tribute to the Knights with a tune for each of the Languages.

There was so very much music and of such high calibre during the two weeks that it is hard to pick the outstanding ones. The Police Band with their vocals and pipers and drums were rousing. Dion Buhagiar with Francesca Farrugia and Grazielle Debatista and the haunting tones of the organ of St. Gaetan's at Hamrun were enchanting. But they were all good, and so predictably, the final concert took on a gala atmosphere. Once again a capacity audience attended to hear Andres Uibo from Estonia and his beautiful violinist daughter perform with the local Kalypso Ensemble, and baritone Joseph Lia conducted by the elegant Dmitry Banaev who came from Russia.

We were blessed with attendance by a group of truly outstanding performers. All the events were well attended and approved. A remarkable number of people attended several of the events, and not a few claimed to have attended them all. Quite obviously, we struck a cord with the public, but we managed to do a great deal more.

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Into the Second Year



Sometime in September 2013, Lion President Victor Borg Barthet had an idea that the Club should revive the newsletter to keep members aware of what the Club is achieving. Having already been responsible to publish "Sliema Roar" I took up the challenge with trepidation as it is not always easy to find suitable material for a monthly newsletter. Having always adhered to the motto "**Were there is a will there's a way**" I was determined to get the newsletter published monthly.

From comments received from members of the Club and other recipients of the newsletter, one year on I am happy that the newsletter has brought our Club's activities to the attention of members and non members.

Going into the second year I hope that I will be able to continue being of service to the Club by editing this newsletter. As I mentioned above it is not always easy to find articles. Nonetheless I will continue to make the newsletter as interesting as possible by including articles not only on Club activities but also on Lions in general so that members will be become more aware of Lions Club International and all its activities.

The past year has been an eventful one for the Club. We have had various activities which brought members together. Attendance at club meetings has always been good and this augurs well for the Club as members get to know better one another and also participate in discussions and get involved in projects.

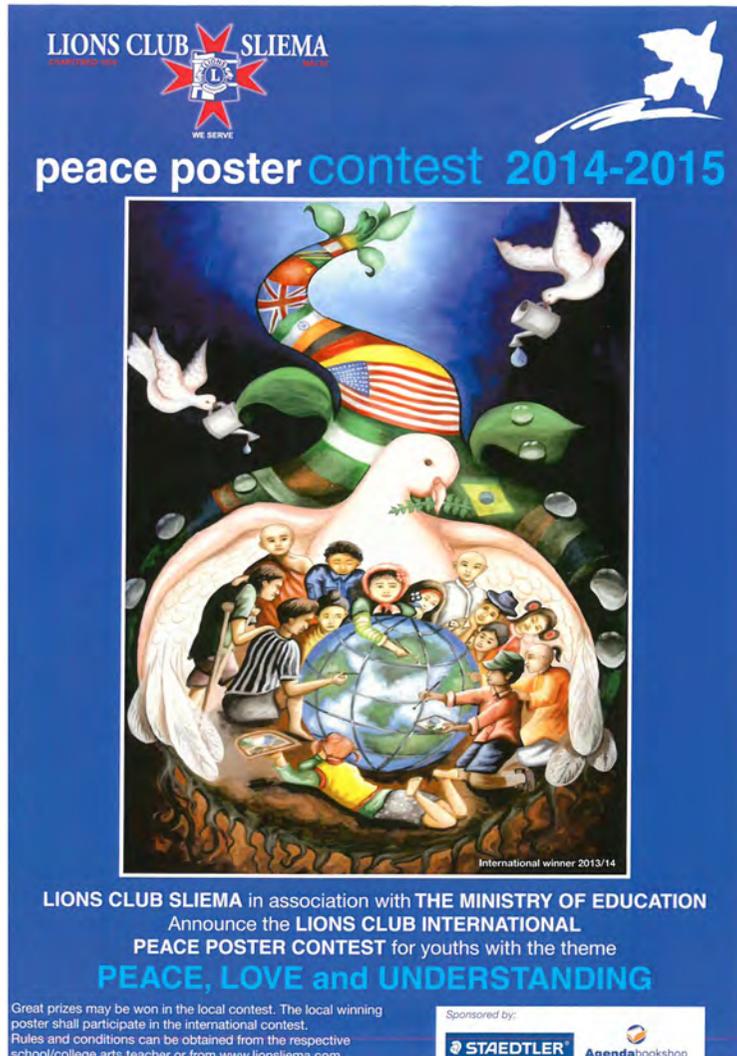
2014 is an important year for Lions Club Sliema as this year the Club is celebrating the 40th anniversary of charter. In the first week of November the Club will be hosting quite a few overseas Lions who will be in Malta for the 5th Gathering of Lions and also for our Gala Dinner on Saturday November 8. The Club will be honoured by the presence of IPIP Lion Barry J. Palmer. This is a great opportunity for members to meet one of Lions Clubs International officials.

Tom A. Restall

PEACE POSTER CONTEST 2014-2015

Following last year's success when several children participated in the Peace Poster Contest, once again the Club has launched the 2014-2015 contest. The Ministry of Education and Employment is once again cooperating with our Club to make Maltese school children aware of the contest.

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The theme of this year's contest is

"PEACE, LOVE AND UNDERSTANDING"

The poster on page 4 is being distributed to all schools in Malta with the cooperation of the Education Department and prizes to the winner and runner-ups are, as last year, being sponsored by Agenda.

Lion Louis Sciberras has been entrusted to chair the organizing sub-committee and together with Lion President has already started the ball rolling by producing the poster seen on page 4. This is being distributed to all schools in Malta and Gozo with the cooperation of the Education Department. As last year Agenda will be sponsoring the prizes to the winner and runner-ups.

Students aged 11 to 13 years on November 2014 are eligible to participate in the contest and are being asked to create posters depicting the theme **"Peace, Love and Understanding"**.

Club members who have children in the age group 11 to 13 years or who know children in this age group are invited to encourage them to participate in this contest.

It is hoped that all entries will be exhibited at a prominent place to be viewed by the public.

COMMEMORATIVE PIN



To commemorate the 40th Anniversary of Charter, the Club has made a special pin which will be presented to members at the Gala Dinner Dance being held on Saturday November 8 at "THE PALACE".

The pin will undoubtedly become a collectors' item.