



## CLUB NEWS



### PROGRAMME - CHARTER NIGHT & VISIT OF FOREIGN LIONS

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 2nd at 2000:

Welcome Party and Return Twinning with Lions Club LICATA at Capua Palace, Sliema - Price €35

FRIDAY November 3rd

Tour of Valletta for foreign guests - Lunch at a Valletta Restaurant (Price to be announced)

SATURDAY November 4th

Tour of Rabat/Mdina for foreign guests - Lunch at a restaurant in the locality.

Charter & Centennial Gala Dinner at the Corinthia San Gorg, St. Julian's commencing at 2000.

Paid up members will not pay for this event. However price for their spouses/partners is €55.

MEMBERS are kindly ask to book for these events with Lion Victor Borg Barthet (99485696) OR Lion Joe Messina (99237456) as soon as possible

It is hoped that members will attend for the Social Events. They can also join our foreign guests on the cultural tours. Members from our twinned clubs Licata, Catania Nord and Bosco Marengo together with visitors from Germany, Estonia and Croatia will be attending.



OCTOBER 2017

## MEDITERRANEAN SOLIDARITY OBSERVATORY

The Mediterranean Solidarity Observatory brings together all Lions Clubs in the Mediterranean Littoral. One of the major events organised by the Organisation is the annual Mediterranean Conference which is



normally held in the second or third weekend of March.

The Conference is meeting for all the Lions of the Mediterranean countries, who meet, leaving cultural and national differences out of consideration for the following purposes:

- To promote friendship and mutual understanding among the Lions of the Mediterranean Sea.
- To compare different Lionistic experiences and to discuss themes and activities related to the aims of the Association.
- To realise common service activities.
- To discuss and deal with subjects of common interest.

The Lions Mediterranean Conference shall be administered by two different bodies:

- A. The Board of Directors made up by the Mediterranean Solidarity Observatory shall have the purpose of establishing the main topic that shall be treated during the different working sessions.
- B. The Organising Committee shall be the executive body of the Conference. It shall be appointed by the Council Chairman or District Governor of the single or provisional District, or Regional Chairman of provisional region, or Zone Chairman of the provisional zone or President of the undistricted club, responsible for the organisation.

## FUND RAISING EVENT

A successful fund raising event was held on Thursday September 28 at the Marsa Sports Club. On the initiative of Lion President George O. Attard a "Pig Roast" was held. A good number of members and their guests together with representatives of Lions Club Malta (Host) and Mdina including Zone Chairperson Lion Mary Anne Abela attended the event.

During the evening a lottery for various prizes was organised by Lions Vivienne Zammit, Isabelle Micallef and Victoria Muscat. The lottery raised over €300 which together with profit from the event will boost our Club's Philanthropic Account. The event held in a friendly atmosphere was enjoyable.



It was a good decision to take as more funds were raised to the Club's thus enabling the Club to continue with its philanthropic work which this year sees the completion of the restoration of the frescoes at St. Agatha's catacombs in Rabat. It is envisaged that these

works will be finalised by the end of October. It will then be possible to inaugurate the project during the forthcoming celebrations of Lions Club International Centennial scheduled for early November. Well done to all concerned.

\*\*\*\*\*

## GET TO KNOW LIONISM

Past President Lion Alfred Micallef Attard gave an interesting power point presentation on Lions Clubs International and its activities to new members highlighting the Lions constitution and ideals.

This talk was greatly appreciated by those present thus helping them to learn more about our Association.



## A VISIT TO MILLBRAE

While visiting California, Lions Valhvor and Vivienne Zammit had occasion to attend a meeting of our twinned club, LC Millbrae, which has some members of Maltese origin. In the photo at left, our two club members are seen presenting our Club bannerette and souvenir publication to LC Millbrae President.

## FOOD STUFF COLLECTION

On Saturday October 21 a group of Club members were present at Smart Supermarket in Balzan asking shoppers to donate food items which will be distributed to needy families in Sliema and St. Julian's. This year we collected a considerable amount of food stuff.

Thanks go to all the Lions who took time to ask people to make donations, but especially Lion Beat Hiestand Zerafa who coordinated the activity and to Lion Louis Sciberras who stored the stuff before it is put into hampers to be donated to the needy families. Lion Beat is very pleased with the response and hopes that a similar event will be organised next year.



## 21st MEDITERRANEAN LIONS CONFERENCE



The 2018 Mediterranean Lions Conference is being held at Antalya, Turkey, from 15 to 18 March. This will be the third time that the Conference has been held in Turkey.

Antalya, which has been home to various civilizations since prehistoric times, is a cultural heritage of the Mediterranean. For this reason the 2018 Conference has chosen as the main theme of *"Beekeeping of Civilizations"*.

Lions attending the conference will see and live once again the solidarity and friendship of the Mediterranean people at the meeting. The most important element that brings us together men and women, young and old is our volunteer services for the same goals.

Antalya the pearl of the Mediterranean Sea was the world's third most visited city by a number of international arrivals in 2011. Around 300 days per year are sunny in the region. During the conference participants will involve their services towards the cultural and social life and into the defence of the environment.

A rich touristic programme and activities will accompany the working sessions for the pleasure of participants.

The Chairperson of the Organising Committee is Past District Governor Selva ULGEN who has visited Malta several times the last time being when we had the Conference in Malta.



The Organising Committee has prepared a programme of cultural visits to various places of interest around Antalya.

Information about booking for the conference can be found on the conference website.

*Lion Margaret Frendo reports on the*

## OCTOBER CULTURAL TOUR

On Sunday October 15 a group of thirty three members, family members and friends visited the Monastery and church of the St. Augustine community in Valletta. Unfortunately a few club members, who attend these outings on a regular basis, could not attend because of family commitments or were abroad. However we were happy to be accompanied by club members who live abroad, namely Mirelle and Jean Claude Mir, Beat and Angela Hiestand Zerafa and Trevor and Barbara Pinson who were accompanied by friends visiting Malta.

Rev. Professor Salvino Caruna, who until recently was a theology lecturer at the University of Malta, gave us a brief history of the Augustinian Order.

The land for the building of the church and monastery had been donated to the monks by Grand Master Del Monte, who upon the death of Grand Master La Vallette, distributed and donated land in the new city of Valletta. The property is very vast, occupying a whole quadrangle giving onto four streets.

The church is richly decorated in the Baroque style, boasting of a number of altar pieces by famous artists including a Mattia Preti. The church has just acquired a new statue of St. Augustine. It is still in its natural state, in wood, waiting for the day when it will be gilded and painted. This is the work of the Gozitan sculptor Chevalier Alfred Camilleri Cauchi and his son Aaron.

We next moved into the monastery. The building is a labyrinth of long corridors, stairwells, courtyards and also a garden. We visited the refractory, library, the monks' private chapel and the first floor, where there is an art gallery with portraits of several heads of the Augustine Order in Malta. We ended the visit on the roof with the view of Marsamxetto Harbour.

Beneath the building is a crypt and war shelter. The monks are planning to open a section of the monastery for public visits. >>>5

<<<4

At present there are only nine monks living in the Monastery, their age ranging from 40 to 90 years.

The visit was followed by a most delicious meal at Aaron Kitchen in Valletta. Certainly a restaurant to go back to.

A healthy sum of €165 was collected from amongst those attending, €100 of which was donated to the monastery with the remaining €65 going towards the Club's philanthropic funds. A very big THANK YOU goes to Lion Bella Micallef who organised both the visit to the monastery and negotiated a fine lunch for those attending.



Lion Joe Cassar took photos during the visit. At left the group are in the monastery library. Lion Joe stated "that apart from the many old books and manuscripts preserved there, in one of the displays one can see the original papers, typewriter and other memorabilia belonging to Maltese poet, Dr. Ruzar Briffa. His nephew Dr. Dino Vella Briffa, husband of Lion

Nadette Vella, was with Lions group during the visit.

As usual, the Lions group ended the tour by having lunch. At left the group at Aaron Kitchen before awaiting to be served.



**NOTE - The next cultural tour will be in January 2018 since in November we will be having our Lions Centennial celebrations and in December club members will be mostly occupied with Christmas celebrations. Notice of the January tour will be given in due course.**