



CLUB NEWS



CLUB MEETINGS: The October meetings are scheduled for Wednesday October 6 and Wednesday October 20. Meetings will be held at THE IMPERIAL in Sliema. After the business part of the meeting on October 6, Lion Tom A. Restall will make a short presentation about "Lions Origin and Growth". The presentation was prepared with the cooperation of Lion Secretary.

On Wednesday October 20, Lion Prof. Alex E. Felice will be the guest speaker after the business part of the meeting. Prof. Felice will be speaking about "Darwin and the Virus". After the talk members can stay over for a "pasta supper".

CHARTER NIGHT: Members are reminded that the Charter Night Dinner will be held at the Hotel Phoenicia in Floriana on Saturday November 13. Further details will be promulgated in due course. Keep this date free. It is hoped that members from our twinned Clubs will be present for this event.

VISIT TO THE IMPERIAL: During the visit to the Imperial when a good number of members were present, members were welcomed by a reception and later taken a tour of the premises. Afterwards all present had a "pasta dinner". On the initiative of Mrs Victoria Wilson a fund raiser was made to sell perfumes and candles donated by an anonymous person. A sum of Euro 325 was raised from the sale of these items. Thanks Mrs. Wilson and the anonymous person for helping the Club to reach our target to buy a car for the Hospice Movement. Hopefully we will reach the required amount to fulfill this project in due course.



LIONS CLUB SLIEMA NEWSLETTER

AAugust

SEPTEMBER 21

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

There are many worthy causes out there – ALS, Caritas, Inspire, YMCA...the list is endless. It falls to the Lion President to name their preferred charity for the year, so why did I choose Hospice Malta?

Hospice Malta provides and promotes the highest standards of palliative care for persons with cancer, motor neuron disease, end of life respiratory, cardiac, renal and liver disease. It also aims to help and support their families. Which family, I ask you, has not been touched by one of these? It is indeed a noble act to be able to help those who are much less fortunate than ourselves, to be able to provide some finance so that suffering is eased in some way. It is the perfect fit for our resources.

At the moment Hospice Malta have 2 cars which are used extensively but are now needing replacing and Lions Club Sliema, I am hoping, will replace one of them – a Lions car.

It gives me, and I'm sure it gives you too, the greatest of pleasure to support this noble cause. To this end we have had 3 very enjoyable events – Spare Ribs Night, Buffet and "Majjallata". So far we have raised just short of Euro5000 hence we are halfway there.

Since being effectively rejected by the Victoria Hotel, many of us have worked hard to ensure we have a worthy home where we can hold our meetings and many of our events. We visited here, there and everywhere, including one meeting at 1926 Hotel, until we landed on the Imperial.

Welcomed like royalty at the Imperial for our Familiarization Meeting with a welcome reception followed by a tour after which we all enjoyed each other's company over a trio of excellent pastas and dessert.

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WALLED CITIES LIONS CLUBS

Past President of Lions Club Mdina, Lion Mary Anne Abela has been elected President of the "Associazione Citta Murate Lions Clubs" at the 16th annual meeting of the association held at San Marino from September 17 to 19.

In 2003 Lion Franco Ghio, President pro tempore of Lions Club Lucca le Mure proposed the setting up of the Association of Lions Clubs hailing from "walled cities". The first international Congress of Lions Clubs from "Walled Cities" was held on June 18/19, 2004 in Lucca. Besides the host city, five other founding clubs participated namely Avignon, Carcassone, Mdina, San Marino and Avila. 110 delegates from seven clubs hailing from five countries were present at the Congress. The event was a great success.



Through the efforts of Lion Franco Ghio and the outgoing President at present 211 clubs from 23 nations in four continents form part of the Association. During the Congress hosted by Lions Club San Marino, delegates discussed matters of common interest.

Lions Club Mdina hosted the 2011 and 2018 Congress in Malta. Our twinned club Sciacca Host is also a member of this Association.

Photo: Lion Mary Anne Abela being congratulated by Vice President Lion Giacomo Beorchia of LC Venzone Via Julia Augusta in the presence of Lion Giuseppe Guerra the outgoing President of the Association.

DEMISE OF LIONS CLUB MALTA HOST

The number of Lions Clubs in Malta has unfortunately decreased to three clubs after the directors of Lions Club Malta Host decided to close down the club. This is an unfortunate decision,

Lions Club Malta was chartered in 1958 being one of the first clubs chartered in Europe. When chartered the Club was called "Malta George Cross" and had over 30 members. Eventually being the first Lions Club in Malta, the Club sponsored Lions Club Sliema in 1974. This happened after some of their members hailing from the Sliema area decided to form a club in their town.

Lions Clubs Malta Host had several Lioness members who when in later years Lions Clubs International decided that female members, who were called Lionesses, could form their own Club. Eventually a number of female members formed Lions Club Mdina which is the second Club in Malta, the other being Lions Club St. Paul's Bay.

Eventually the Lions Zone Malta was formed with the first Zone Chairman appointed by the Maltese Clubs being the late Joe W. Micallef.

With our Club now becoming the most senior Lions Club in Malta, it is now much more than before, that our members keep the Lions motto "WE SERVE" flourishing so as to be of help to those in needs amongst the Maltese communities.

TIME

TIME is free, but it is priceless.

You cannot own it, but you can use it.

You can spend it.

Once you have lost it you can never get it back.

As a LION use your time "TO SERVE".

"MAJJALATA" (SUCKLING PIG)

The Marsa Sports Club was again the venue of a fund raising activity when members and their guests sat down to enjoy a traditional Maltese dinner called "majjalata". The event was coordinated by Lions George O. Attard and Doreen Davis.



Besides enjoying the meal, those present raised a nice sum. In an email Lion President stated: "Yesterday was a quite magical event with 70 people present. Seven pulled out due to circumstances beyond their control. Together with a donation of Euro 200 we netted Euro 1292 bringing the Hospice Car Fund to nearly Euro 5000".

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The Imperial shows great promise for Lions Club Sliema and I hope our settling in proves the right decision.

On 15 of October we will welcome the French Lions to Malta and later that month there's Bingo and Dinner with some good prizes.

Until then I would like you all to reflect on this. Some of us have worked really hard while others have given the Lions worthy support. To all of these I would like to say a very big thank you.

Finally I would like you to ask yourself, what have I done to help fund the new car for Malta Hospice?

Norman

PAST GLIMPSE

Perhaps few of the present Club members would remember “Tal-Ferha”, a small residential home for the lepers. Going through a few past editions of our monthly newsletter, then entitled “SLIEMA ROAR”, I came across an article “Visit to Hal-Ferh” which is being reproduced hereunder.

Members will no doubt recollect that our Club was one of the first philanthropic institutions to make regular visits to Tal-Ferha to meet the lepers residing there. Usually the visit is made around Christmas. In 1997 the visit was made on Easter Monday. The usual Lions made the visit and presented a hamper of foodstuffs and a five pound note to the remaining four inmates at the home. Present besides Lion President Joe Caruana, were Lions David de Maria and his wife Margaret (who is ever present at this visit), Henry B. Calleja, Ian Loch-head and Tom A. Restall.

Lion Ian, together with our departed colleague Lion Dieter Lehmann, pioneered the visit to the lepers. Their example was followed by other Club members and a visit to the lepers has been on the Club’s programme ever since. It is indeed satisfying to see how the inmates appreciate our visit. The smile on their faces when one visits them is indeed satisfying.

Actually this was perhaps the last visit made to this home, as the four remaining inmates were transferred to St. Vincent de Paule Hospital. To be honest most of the members at the time did not relish a visit the home. Nonetheless most contributed foodstuffs to be given to the inmates or made financial donations.

This was another service made by our Club without the blowing of trumpets to show what help was being given to those less fortunate than us.



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION



Lions are committed to Childhood Cancer Research. September is Childhood Cancer month. Childhood Cancer is one of 5 worldwide Lions Clubs International main Global Causes.

GERMAN VISITOR

At our first meeting at 26 Hotel in Sliema we had a German visitor namely Lion Jutta Seemans from Lions Club Bremen. Lion Jutta set attentively listening to proceedings of our Club meeting which was the first meeting held since the lifting of some Covid 19 restrictions.



Lion Jutta spoke of her club’s activities and on how they have managed to meet despite the pandemic.

Lion President Norman Wilson exchanged bannerettes with Lion Jutta who also presented him with souvenirs of her home town.

This has been the first visit of a foreign Lion to our Club for some time. We often have Lions visiting our club while they are on holiday or business visits to Malta. It is common practice amongst Lions to visit clubs when travelling overseas. Once they are Lions they can attend other clubs’ meetings.