

CLUB NEWS



CLUB MEETINGS: The February 2022 Club meetings are scheduled for Wednesday February 2 commencing at 1830 and Wednesday February 16 commencing at 1800 since on this day the business meeting will be followed by a talk. If the present COVID 19 restrictions continue the meeting will be virtual otherwise the meetings to be held at THE IMPERIAL, Sliema.



ASSOCIATE MEMBER

Our Club member Lion Edward Zammit who is now residing in Italy has been accepted as an Associate Member of Lions Club Martina Franca Valle L'Ibra with effect from December 18, 2021 when Lion President Giuseppe Gianfrate presented him with bannerette.

Lion Edward has been our Club member for several years. He was very active in the club, and acted as the auditor of our Club always giving sound advice.

Lion Edward always joins whenever our Club meetings are held via Zoom.

EMERGING LIONS LEADERSHIP: The Course which was to be held on the first weekend of April has unfortunately been postponed to a later date. This is due to the unavailability of Past International Director Domenico Messina who was to be the main lecturer. It is hoped that this Course, which is very important for those Lions aspiring to act as Leaders, will be held at a future date. No date has yet been agreed so far. Oak Brook will still sponsor this weekend course. Seven members from our Club had enrolled to attend. Further information will be given as soon as the new dates are confirmed.

WE SERVE

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LIONS CLUB SLIEMA NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2022



LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

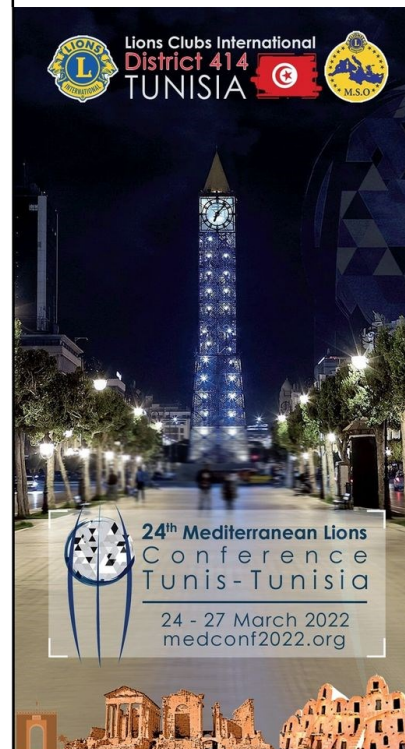
In 2024 Lions Club Sliema will be celebrating its Golden Anniversary. The Charter Document was signed on July 12, 1974 by International President Lion Johnny Balbo and Secretary Lion Ray Salesstyle.

The Charter members listed in alphabetical order were Bartolo Charles Philip, Beacom Patrick J., Borg Joseph, Borg Valhmoor, Castillo Roger, Curry Peter Michael, Darmanin Donald, Davidson Geoffrey Paget, De Gray Vivian, De Maria David J., Diss Frank, Fletcher John, Galea Joseph M., Gilleney Michael, Grech Anthony, Grech Orr Charles, Hersey Joseph, Powell Ambrose Austin, Mizzi Joe, Salomone Albert V., Steel James Rankine, Stubbs Patrick J., Terreni Tony, Wright Robert Philp and Windham Jack. Lion Valhmoor Borg was the first Club President while Lion John Fletcher was the Club Secretary. Several of the above-mentioned Lions continued to be members of our Club for a long time. None of them is still a member as they have either resigned or died.

Presently the Club has 59 members, several of whom have been members for a number of years and are considered to be the doyens of the club. The Club now also have a number of female members with one member, Lion Margaret Frendo, leading as President in 2020/21, while Lion Loraine Farrugia has been the Club Secretary for the past few years. Thanks to the efficiency of Lion Vivienne Zammit, the Membership Chairperson, several new members joined the Club in the last three or four years. This is a good sign that the Club is alive and fulfilling its commitment "TO SERVE".

Though the Club has a good number of members we must still look ahead and recruit other "service minded" men and women. We need them to augment our membership. Every member should explain to potential members how Lions Club Sliema has been involved in various projects beneficial to the Maltese public. Let us all look ahead to keep our Club alive and strong in adherence to the Lions Clubs motto and slogan:

MEDITERRANEAN LIONS CONFERENCE—TUNISIA



Despite the current travelling restrictions due to the COVID 19 the Organising Committee of the 2022 Mediterranean Lions Conference are going ahead with preparations for this year's Conference in the Tunis. The Mediterranean Solidarity Organisation has stated that the Conference will be held from March 24 to 27 with the following programme: themes:

Session 1: Global warming and its influence on the rise of water levels in the Mediterranean.

Session 2: Mediterranean solidarity in the face of pandemics and natural disasters.

To date no details of hotel accommodation and costs have been received from the Organising Committee in Tunis. These will be communicated as soon as received.

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- I. To support the Organising Committee of the Mediterranean Conference through consultation and by proposing themes for discussion and provide any other topic to be included in the Convention agenda.

Article 2. of the Observatory Regulations states:

"Members of the Observatory are all Multiple Districts, Single or Provisional Districts and Undistricted areas of the Mediterranean as defined, classified and recorded by Lions Clubs International. Joining the Observatory is open to all the Mediterranean members who will apply for it. Joining is valid starting from the meeting of the Board of Directors during the Conference following the date of application".

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Delving further into the market, it became obvious that car prices are rocketing. Given that we have reached a point of equilibrium after fund-raising, plus a little, and car price hikes, it became clear that it is now or never. Sometimes Lion Tom, as wise as an owl, never fails to surprise me - though he has lived longer than most of us! He is so right to advise the club to purchase the car now. Our fund-raising abilities have been clipped severely due to the recent Covid spike while car prices gallop ahead of us.

It seems like yesterday we began this fund-raising journey and yet it seems that so much water has gone under the bridge. Many of us have worked tirelessly to raise adequate funds to get to this point and I must thank all of you for your support.

In the end, and with the help of Hospice itself, we have secured a white Toyota Aygo. I am fully aware that our fund raising is not there yet but I am confident that within my Presidency we will be able to support this price fully. In the meantime we have a car!

MEDITERRANEAN SOLIDARITY OBSERVATORY

The objects of the Observatory shall be:

- A. To promote the diffusion of Lionism in the Mediterranean area.
- B. To promote the diffusion and knowledge of different cultures as an expression of a common origin and history.
- C. To express a common vision of Lionism representing it at competent offices of the Association.
- D. To encourage information flows among the member countries regarding initiatives and activities implemented.
- E. To stimulate a twinning programme among clubs at the two sea shores of the Mediterranean basin.
- F. To develop a youth exchange programme among youth.
- G. To support initiatives for the protection of the environment.
- H. To create a partnership with Mediterranean universities so as to encourage the creation of scholarships and stages for student and graduates.

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ARTS FOUNDATION

Lions Club Sliema Arts Foundation was constituted 17 years ago .precisely on March 25, 2005. This was the brainchild of then Past President Lion Ian Lochhead. The primary aim of the Sub-Committee appointed yearly by the Board of Directors of our Club And in accordance of the BY-LAWS of the Club's Constitution is:

"To promote the studies of the arts and related artistic projects in the Maltese Islands by providing financial support as approved by the Board of Directors".

Each year the Club appoints an "Arts Sub Committee" . The current Chairperson is First Vice President Lion Victoria Muscat with Lions Susan Galea Borg, Nadette Vella Briffa and George O. Attard as members.

By the end of December 2005 the Foundation had in its possession about Lm20000. This considerable amount was mainly sponsored through the goodwill of the Foundation's Chairman Lion Ian Lochhead and various fund-raising activities at Ian and Elizabeth Lochhead's home at Xwieki.

Amongst various cultural activities involving local talent, The Foundation sponsored promising artists in the music field to further their studies abroad. Three Maltese students who had won scholarships from the Ian Tomlin Fund to study at the University of Edinburgh's Ian Tomlin School of Music. The three students were Michael Cutajar, who studied the clarinet, Beatrix Calleja studied clarinet and piano, and soprano Gabriele Sargant. The three students were given one thousand euros each to cover their travel and accommodation. While in Malta in August 2016 the three students performed during at a fund raising social musical evening at the home of Lion Ian Lochhead and his wife Elizabeth to raise funds.

This year the Sub Committee were planning to hold an Arts Exhibition . However due to the current situation restricting events, this had to be postponed to a later date.

Lion President Norman Wilson reports

THE CAR

Lions Club Sliema have provided a Toyota Aygo for Hospice Malta.

Why and How?

Lions Club Sliema has almost completed a noble task by purchasing a Toyota Aygo (delivery in March 2022) for Hospice Malta and each and every one of us should be so content to have done this to lives of the sick and dying and their families and carers.

"Hospice Malta is a voluntary organization inspired by Christian values. It exists to provide and promote the highest standards of palliative care for persons with cancer, motor neuron disease, end of life respiratory, cardiac, renal and liver disease. "Hospice Malta helps to support individuals and their families through this difficult time to support their quality of life. It recognizes the dignity of the sick and terminally ill and the right to pass away as comfortably as possible. The Hospice also offers support and help to the family during and after the patient's illness.

improve the Hospice Malta's multidisciplinary professional team performs assessments and follow up visits to give the necessary support and advice to patients and their family. Professionals include doctors, nurses, psychologist, social workers, complementary therapist, physiotherapist as well as Hospice's Spiritual Director.

Hospice has its own Day Therapy Unit which offers various activities and therapies for patients who visit. This offers family "time off" to ameliorate the stresses and strains of caring for the sick. Home care is also offered 24/7. This allows patients to remain in their own home thus relieving the burden on the hospital as well as allowing the hospital to discharge patients earlier. There is also the possibility of equipment loan such as walking sticks, electric beds, syringe drivers are given to patients following a detailed assessment of their needs. Children of parents and careers are offered summer school for 10 weeks involving different activates, games and outings as well as socio-emotional help that could be required. .

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Psychological support is offered to Hospice registered patients. Individual and group sessions are delivered by Hospice Malta's psychologist according to patients' needs.

Bereavement support is given to relatives and significant others through memorial service, one to one bereavement sessions as well as structured bereavement support groups. Apart from delivering the latter mentioned groups to relatives of Hospice Malta's registered patients, during the past year this service was also extended in the community through the various local parishes. However, employed staff are forbidden to use their



own cars, which are insured entirely for pleasure, during working hours. It is for this reason that Lions Club Sliema has bought a brand new Toyota Aygo to be delivered sometime in March this year

As President I must thank all our members, each and every one, most sincerely for everything you have done towards raising money for the Malta Hospice car. Four Lions were prime movers

in sourcing the car, Frank, Lorna, Victor with support and advice from Lion Lorna must get THANK YOU.

Lions Frank and Vivienne have stood with me shoulder to shoulder in car showrooms and managers' offices as we negotiated the car. Lion Victor went to garages too. It wasn't easy. We have spent countless hours and many many phone calls negotiating. We were buoyed up so many times and made to believe the garage would oblige, sometimes even with promises, only to find out at some later point that the higher your hopes rise the harder you fall. It has been a rollercoaster round all rolled into one!

As we negotiated, it became crystal clear that conventional cars in our price range were simply not available, partly because of the shortage of parts like computer chips, Covid labour shortages and partly because of the changeover to hybrid and electric models that cost much more. >>P.6