



# **LIONS CLUB GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY YEAR JUNE NEWSLETTER**

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## **CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2024/25**

The Board of Directors for the Lionistic Year 2024/25 taking office as from July 1 is as shown hereunder:

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| <b>President:</b>                | <b>Victor Borg Barthet</b>   |
| <b>Immediate Past President:</b> | <b>Karl Grima Bezzina</b>  |
| <b>First Vice President:</b>     | <b>Stephane Moyet</b>  |
| <b>Second Vice President:</b>    | <b>George O. Attard</b>  |
| <b>Secretary:</b>                | <b>Lorna Farrugia</b>  |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>                | <b>Alex Arena</b>  |
| <b>Directors for Two Years:</b>  | <b>Victoria Muscat, Norman Wilson</b>                                  |
| <b>Directors One Year:</b>       | <b>Alfred Micallef Attard, Tom A. Restall<br/>Louise Cutajar Davis</b> |
| <b>Membership Director:</b>      | <b>Vivienne Zammit</b>   |
| <b>LCIF Director:</b>            | <b>Joe Messina</b>   |
| <b>Lion Tamer:</b>               | <b>Louis Sciberras</b>   |
| <b>Tail Twister:</b>             | <b>Arlette Grech</b>   |

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## **VISIT TO SFAX – OCTOBER 2024**

Our twinned Tunisian Club Lions Club Sfax Thyna have proposed the following programme for our visit to Sfax in October 2024:

Welcome to Tunisia, especially Sfax from October 9 to 13, 2024.  
**Wednesday October 9:** Arrival at Tunis Carthage Airport. Reception and transfer by minibus to Sfax with a stop in Souse. Arrival in Sfax, check-in at the Les Oliviers Palace Hotel (5\*\*\*\*) Dinner with Lions of Sfax Thyna.  
**Thursday October 10:** Visit to Arab city, followed by a visit to the social actions of the club. Lunch in a traditional restaurant with our Maltese friends as guests. Club dinner in a friendly space with our Maltese friends as guests.

**Friday October 11:** After breakfast departure for the Kerkennah Islands. Lunch – fish and seafood, swimming – return to Sfax.

**Saturday October 12:** Visit to Roman Amphitheatre and museum in El Djem. Lunch in Gromballa (lamb meat). After lunch travel to Tunis visiting Sidi Bou Said. Check in at hotel in Tunis.

**Sunday October 13:** Departure to Malta in the morning. The total costs will be communicated to our Club as soon as the programme is finalised.

### FLASH BACK TO APRIL 1990

While rummaging through some files and papers I came across the picture below which I had published in the Club's newsletter of April 1990. The Club President at that time was Lion Frank Galea. The monthly newsletter was printed at Repro House free courtesy of Lion Frank Galea.



The newsletter was mailed to all members since at that time we did not have the luxury of emails. The Immediate Past President was Lion Dr Rene Eminyan who was also a keep artist. Whenever the Club set out to organise any fund-raising event, Lion Rene always came up with a poster. He had the patience to prepare adequate posters often featuring an apt LION caricature. featured above clockwise from top left: Lion Rene with his napkin ready for the Mistra Lunch, drawing the Maltese lira for a good cause at the Peking Chinese lunch and dressed up for the Carnival ball.

### LIONS CODE OF ETHICS

As we approach the beginning of another Lionistic Year it is appropriate to remember our Association's Code of Ethics.

- 1. To show my faith in the worthiness of my vocation for industrious application to the end that I may merit a reputation for quality of service.*
- 2. To seek success and to demand all fair remuneration or profit as my just due, but to accept no profit or a success at the price of my own self-respect lost because of unfair advantage taken or because of questionable acts on my part.*
- 3. To remember that in building up my business it is not necessary to tear down another's; to be loyal to my clients or customers and true to myself.*
- 4. Whenever a doubt arises as to the right of ethics of my position or action towards my fellow men, to resolve such doubt against myself.*
- 5. To hold friendship as an end and not a means. To hold that true friendship exists not on account of the service performed by one another, but that true friendship demands nothing but accepts service in the spirit in which it is given.*
- 6. Always to bear in mind my obligations as a citizen to my nation, my state and my community, and to give them freely of my time, labour and means.*
- 7. To aid my fellow man by giving my sympathy to those in distress, my aid to the weak, and my substance to the needy.*
- 8. To be careful with my criticism and liberal with my praise, to build up and not destroy.*

**WE SERVE**

## **JOINT PROJECT WITH LICATA LIONS CLUB**

Lion Treasurer Alex Arena reports on a joint project undertaken with our twinned club Licata.

On Thursday 13 June a convoy of two cars and a pick-up truck started a long journey of 258 kilometres from Sliema to Licata. The objective of this trip was a joint service between Lions Club Sliema and Lions Club Licata. On board the vehicles were six Sliema Lions, three family members and a technical person. The scope of this visit to Licata was to present “goal posts” to youths in Licata.

On Friday the group assembled the goal posts at the Chiesa di San Giuseppe in Licata which is where the Azione Cattolica S.G.M. Tomasi Licata operates from. The President of LC Licata was present during the assembling process.

On Saturday morning the group was joined by Lions Club Sliema President accompanied by members of his family. On Saturday afternoon the official ceremony of the donation of the two goal posts took place at the parish hall of “Chiesa di San Giuseppe Maria Tomasi” kindly made available by the Parish Priest. Lions Club Licata Master of Ceremonies Lavinia Cacciatore conducted the ceremony.

***Editor's Note: This shows how twinning with overseas Clubs can lead to creating friendship and solidarity between Lions Clubs.***

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## **A MEMORABLE VISIT TO GIF SUR YVETTE**

Thanks to the planning and organization by Lion Stephane Moyet, the visit to the Lions from Gif-sur-Yvette has set a gold standard for our trips.

We were met at the airport on our arrival at Orly and we made our way to Gif sur Yvette. We were too late for dinner but we received a very warm welcome by a group of Lions who had prepared a very casual but simply delicious spread of different hams and cheeses. The hotel provided the room adjoining the

foyer but it was the Lions themselves who brought the food, drinks, plates and glasses and set out our supper. They also cleared up when we finished as this was the room where the hotel served breakfast each morning. It was lovely to see these wonderful people rolling up their sleeves and getting into action.

We visited some very important places, such as the great Cathedral at Chartres with its wondrous stained-glass windows, the Glass Museum, and the matchless Palace of Versailles. We loved our trip up and down the Seine on the Bateaux Mouches, as it was a great way to enjoy the architectural beauty of this marvellous city from the perspective of the river. In all our visits we had really keen, well-informed guides who knew how to keep us interested even when we were beginning to get tired.

A Gala Dinner was organised by the Lions of Gif-sur-Yvette during which gifts were exchanged and friendship made.



This was also followed by a Garden party on Sunday. The food and wine were excellent but the best part of the day was the afternoon in the garden, where we all participated in games such as throwing loops and balls at different targets and even shooting an air gun.

Thank you Stephane and Lions of Gif sur Yvette, we look forward to welcome you in Malta during our Charter celebrations.

## WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO MAKE YOUR MARK?

**This question is asked by the 2024/25 International President Oliviero Pereira:**

It means stepping up in our clubs and our communities and changing lives. It means amplifying the voices that may go unheard. It means showing the world that Lions care and we are here to stay.

The International President encourage all Lions around the world to me this their motto for the 2024/25 Lionistic Year.

## **HANDOVER SPEECH**

### **PRESIDENT KARL GRIMA BEZZINA**

**This year has been truly rewarding for me personally as well as for our Club. It has helped me grow in learning and understanding of what this organisation really means. As a fellow Lion member once told us, success isn't measured by the sums of money that we collect, but by the level of growth that we have in ourselves within the Club.**

**Truly to his words we consider that even though, thanks to all those who contributed, we did collect a wonderful sum of money. This year has been an even greater success because we saw our Club grow. I experienced moments that even though to the naked eye might have been moments of troubled times. The Club was becoming and was longing to grow further, longing to shed our skin and grow a new more modern approach to this Club we hold so close to our hearts.**

**It was only last year that I was in this event with a head full of ideas and innovations that I would have liked to implement. It was only last year, as now I am standing before you, I realise how short this year has been. We have managed to implement a lot, would have loved to receive the support we sought to implement much more, but I do understand that change should not be rushed.**

**I do augur well to the incoming President to continue building on this change that I acted as catalyst for. I do augur that the momentum we have created towards modernising the Club won't stop with my presidency. I do have one suggestion, let there be no secretive agendas being created so you may steer the club in the right direction, one step in front of the other to move it forward. Dear Club members, I thank you once again for trusting me with presiding this Club throughout the last year. I have been asked about what my position will be now. I also am still thinking of what my next step will be: I'm too young to retire – too poor to quit – and too fat to strip.**

**But even though the incoming President has kept everything secret between those involved, of which I am not, I will still give my contribution in this Club that I have grown to love and love to hate.**

**On a more serious note, in 100 years' time it will be the year 2124. We will all be long gone. We will be forgotten; our deeds will be forgotten Strangers will be living in our homes we worked so hard for and our possessions will belong to some one else. Very few of us, if any know the father of our grandfathers. So, whatever, we do during our daily life won't matter then. As members those of you who have the thought that our contributions are there to fuel our egos, I have news for you. When we are gone it won't matter. So, let's once again think of why we are here. We are here to share our knowledge, share our strength and share our capability to help others. Through these acts of kindness towards those who weren't or aren't as privileged or as hard working as we are let us just work to fuel our own happiness and that of those that we serve.**

**As a final note I thank you members especially those who have supported me most throughout the past year. I thank our families and friends who have attended our events and made this year the success that it is. I would like to thank my parents who even though not being members, yet, were always there to show their support to this Club in a variety of ways. I also thank my wife, Daniela, who even though not a member herself, yet she was always ready to help both the Club and myself not just throughout this year but from the day I became a Lion.**

**Never deprive anyone of hope, as it might be all that they have left. It is now that with a bitter sweet tone, I would like to pass on the "Chain of Office" to Lion President Victor Borg Barthet.**

**After his speech President Karl Grima Bezzina made the presentation of awards: Chevron for 20 years membership to Lion Trevor Frank Pinson, Monarch Chevron for 35 years membership to Lion Joe Messina. Presidents' Awards to incoming First Vice President Stephane Moyet, Lion Treasurer Alex Arena, Fund Raising Committee Chairperson Lion Doreen Davis, Marketing Committee Chairperson Lion Louise Cutajar Davis and to Lion Susan Galea Borg who made a big donation from the sale of paintings at opening of her art gallery.**

**During the evening Lion Julie Tsukui was officially enrolled as a member of Lions Club Sliema and presented with the official Lions badge.**

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## **PRESENT ELECT LION VICTOR BORG BARTHET**

I am deeply honoured to be taking up the position of President of Lions Club Sliema. Taking up this post makes me think of all previous Presidents who have brought us to where we stand so proudly today. But, of course, important as the role of President is, it is the members, all members that are responsible for our achievements. Through all the fifty years of our existence, we have gone from success to success. We have faced challenges, and we have come out even stronger. I believe that what has given our Club its great resilience is its readiness to change, to revamp, to renew, and to reform when necessary.

It has been, and it is, my wish to involve all members of Lions Club Sliema in our activities. In the last couple of years several of you have come up with new

ways in which more of our members can have an active role in the Club. You have indicated improvements in the way we run the Club and come up with new ideas for our activities. As an example, one proposal is to focus more on giving time to those who are isolated. Isn't this as worthy of us Lions, as the giving of funds? Of course, Fund raising maintains its importance.



In the first meeting of July, we will be presenting the Charter Programme, the social and the fund-raising calendars, together with the Members coordinating all these activities. I am confident that the next months will be marked with new achievements. This, because you are all here because you want to make a difference.

**DISTRICT 135 NORTH CYPRUS - June 25, 2024** was a red-letter day in the annals of Lions Clubs International. On this day the Lions of North Cyprus took their place among all the world Lions after being recognised as **DISTRICT 135 NORTH CYPRUS**. Hence Northern Cyprus Lions Club have officially taken their place in the International Lions World. The first District Governor is Lion Fikret Yoruzendili of Nicosia North Cyprus Lions Club. Lions Club Sliema have good relations with the North Cyprus Lions Clubs. **CONGRATULATIONS**



