



# **LIONS CLUB SLIEMA**

## **GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY YEAR 2024**

### **FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER**

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#### **MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**

**ACTIVE MEMBER:** A member entitled to all rights and privileges and subject to all obligations which membership in a Lions Club confers or implies. Without limiting such rights and obligations, such rights shall include eligibility to seek, if otherwise qualified, any office in this club, district or association and the right to vote on all matters requiring a vote of the membership, and such obligation shall include regular attendance, prompt payment of dues, participation in club activities and conduct reflecting a favourable image of this Lions club in the community. As provided in the Family Membership Programme criteria, qualifying family members shall be Active Members and be entitled to all rights and privileges thereof. As provided in the Student Member Programme criteria, qualifying student former Leo and young adult members shall be Active Members and be entitled to all rights and privileges thereof. This membership category shall be included in the Club delegate formula calculation.

**MEMBER AT LARGE:** A member of this Club who has moved from the community, or because of health or other legitimate reason, is unable regularly to attend Club Meetings and desires to retain membership in the Club, and upon whom the Board of Directors in this Club desires to confer this status.

The status shall be reviewed each six months by the Board of Directors of this Club. A Member-at-Large shall not be eligible to hold office or to vote in district or international meetings or conventions, but shall pay such dues as the local club may charge, which dues shall include district and international dues. This membership category shall be included in the club delegate formula calculation.

**HONORARY:** An individual, not a member of the Lions Club, having performed outstanding service for the community of this Lions Club, upon whom this Club desires to confer special distinction. This Club shall pay entrance fees and international and district dues on such a member, who may attend meetings, but shall not be entitled to any privileges of active membership. This membership category shall not be included in the club delegate formula calculation.

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## **MEMBER AWARDS**

**KEY AWARDS:** Bringing other community-minded men and women into Lions will strengthen your club and its service. Lions who sponsor new members are recognised by one of the various Key Awards in multiples culminating with the 500 Member Key Award.

**CHEVRONS:** Chevrons are “service stripes” which may be attached to the Lion Lapel button. There are two types: “Charter Monarch Chevrons” for charter members who have maintained 10 years of continuous membership and “Monarch Chevrons” for Lions who have maintained continuous membership for 10 years. Chevrons are then added for each additional five years of continuous membership. Certificates are available upon request.

**EXTENSION:** Lions who assist in the organisation of a new club are eligible for an Extension Award. It is given to those Lions – no more than two for each club – who in the opinion of the District Governor have done the most to organise the Club.

*Reproduced from the Constitution and By-Laws of Lions Clubs.*

# ***Lions Clubs International Code of***

## **ETHICS**

**TO SHOW** my faith in the worthiness of my vocation by industrious application to the end that I may merit a reputation for quality of service.

**TO SEEK** success and to demand all fair remuneration or profit as my just due, but to accept no profit or success at the price of my own self respect lost because of unfair advantage taken or because of questionable acts on my part.

**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.

**WHENEVER** a doubt arises as to the right or ethics of my position or action towards others, to resolve such doubt against myself.

**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 to another, but that true friendship demands nothing but accepts service in the spirit in which it is given.

**ALWAYS** bear in mind my obligations as a citizen to my nation, my state and my community, and to give them my unswerving loyalty in work, act and deed. To give them freely of my time, labour and means.

**TO AID** others by giving my sympathy to those in distress, my aid to the weak, and my substance to the needy.

**TO BE CAREFUL** with my criticism and liberal with my praise to build up and not to destroy.

***Reproduced from a Lions Clubs International publication***

**VOLUNTEERS are not paid because they are worthless.**

**They are not paid because they are priceless.**



## FRIENDSHIP AGREEMENT

Club Lion Tamer Louis Sciberras was responsible to frame the Friendship Agreement with Lions Club Abingdon. In the picture at left he is seen presenting the framed document to Club President Lion Karl Grima Bezzina (left) at the meeting held on February 7 at the Grands Suites, the new meeting place of Lions Club Sliema.

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## PEACE POSTER COMPETITION PRESENTATION

Two students of St. Dorothy's Senior School namely Nicole Caruana and Rhona Seguna who took part in the Peace Poster Competition were presented with a certificate and stationery items during a visit to the school by Lions Louis Sciberras and Tom Restall. Prior to the presentation Lion Tom delivered a short speech to the senior college students about Lions Clubs International and their annual Peace Poster Competition. He encouraged the students to participate in the 2024 competition. A Lions Club Sliema bannerette was also presented to the School Assistant Headmistress Ms. Therese Pirotta. The school is interested in participating the next Peace Poster Completion.



## GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND

A major project undertaken by Lions worldwide is to provide guide dogs for the blind. Lions worldwide support this important project by donating funds to the various training centres. One such centre is located at Limbiate in the province of Milano. The centre is run on a professional basis training dogs not only for those in need in Italy but also in other countries.

**The Director of the centre is Lion Professor Giovanni Fossati, a member of Lions Club Rho. The centre has a staff of around 20 persons who train the dogs and also has several kennels. The idea of having such a centre in Italy was mooted by a military pilot who lost his eye sight in an accident. From a humble beginning the centre is now fully established. The centre located in Limbiate in the Province of Milano occupies an area of 25,000 square metres. The centre employs 15 persons who train dogs from the time they are brought to the centre as puppies.**

**Training of a guide dog takes about six months and costs approximately twenty-five thousand euros until the dog is handed over to the person in need of a guide dog. The cost also includes the stay of the person receiving the dog while at the centre for training.**

**In March 1986 the President of the Italian Republic decreed the centre as “Ente Morale”. As a result, the Centre was able to obtain public funds for the day-to-day operations. However, these funds are not enough, hence the centre obtains funds through donations made by various entities. Forty-seven percentage of these donations come from Lions Clubs in Multiple District 108 Italy. Most of the Italian Lions Clubs make an annual donation thereby it is possible for the Centre to continue its noble work. The Centre also receives donations from various entities whose members are conscious of the importance to help people in need of help.**



**Lions Club Sliema will be receiving a guide dog for a Maltese national after the Club made arrangements with Prof. Giovanni Fossati to obtain a dog from this Centre. Funds for this project have been raised through various fund-raising activities. Club Treasurer Lion Alex Arena has visited the centre to finalise the procurement of the guide dog. Hopefully the dog will be in Malta in near future hopefully before our Club’s Golden Anniversary of its charter. Thus, this very important project will be finalised and a Maltese citizen will benefit from our Club’s initiative.**

**Two years ago. a group of our Club members visited the training centre at Limbiate and were greeted by Prof. Fossati who took the group round the centre and also hosted them for lunch.**

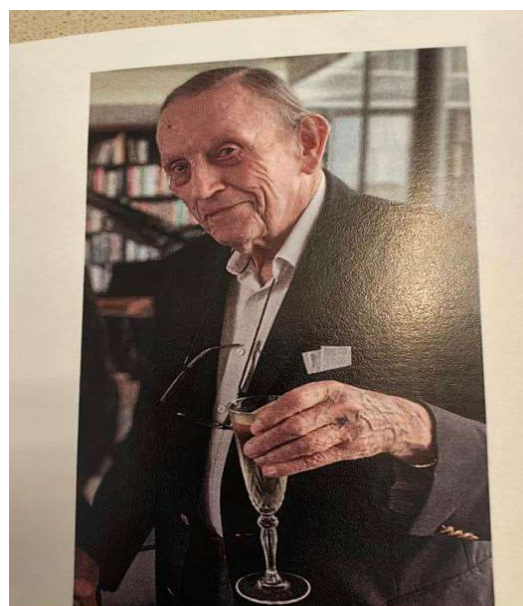


## REMEMBERING PAST PRESIDENT LION IAN LOCHHEAD

The following tribute to Past President Ian Lochhead was posted on our Club's Facebook page and merits to be reproduced in our newsletter.

*Lion members today attended a service in remembrance of Lion Ian Lochhead who passed away last December. Lion Lochhead will be remembered for his many charitable deeds, love of the arts and the promotion of young artists.*

*The beautiful ceremony was enriched with the voice of soprano Nicola Said one of his proteges, who sang Silent Worship by Handel and Nella Fantasia from Gabriel's Oboe by Enno Morricone. Thank you, Ian, for your years of service.*



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It was indeed fitting that several Club members were present at the memorial service at St. Paul's Anglican Cathedral to pay tribute to our departed colleague who was a real gentleman and a great Lion. Ian will surely be remembered for many more years as long as the Arts Fund, which he launched during his term of office as Club President continues to prosper. Soprano Nicola Said took part in the memorial service.

It was also great to see ex Club members at the memorial service remembering Ian as one who enriched our Club. Rest in peace Ian, you will also be remembered by our club.

## CLUB NEWS

During the meeting held on Wednesday February 7 we welcomed to the Club's roster two new members namely Madam Juliet Tsukui, who hails from Japan and Mr. Joseph Zerafa. The two new members will be formally inducted as members later. We also welcomed back Lion Noel Calleja who now that he has retired from his business stated that he will be attending our meetings and events organised by the Club.

VISIT OUR CLUB'S OFFICIAL FACEBOOK - [Lions Club Sliema Malta VO146](#) This is the official club site. Tell us what you think.

## BERNA'S MESSAGE TO HER FRIENDS

Good morning, Friends,  
To make someone feel intentions = Abuse, hurt your trust, ignoring, sad this era. The rudest thing human being behaviours you walked, the tree you will miss, the possibility of finally yourself and your Earth. Beyond new times ways and hearts be open "



worthless, your good your feelings, damaging when there's no excuse in a person can do to another are: "Don't hurt the roads touched, the person you loving inside you and heart. Walk with the and people. May all your

My Precious Friends 💙 May your path leads to love, goodness and beauty.  
Would you buy me a coffee? ☕ With love 🌹

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## COFFEE ENCOUNTERS & TRANSFORMATIONS

### IN EARLY MODERN MALTA

Dr Noel Buttigieg was the guest speaker at our Club meeting on February 21. Hereunder is a resume of Dr Buttigieg talk.

The early modern Maltese archipelago provides an exciting background to explore the pioneering nature of coffee consumption in the Catholic world. The coffee experience in Malta is rather unique, especially since its introduction happened through the interests of slaves captured during corsairs' activities rather than the interest of European merchantmen involved in the Levantine trade. Furthermore, the brew was quickly adopted by the ordinary people of the urban towns who visited the slaves' prisons regularly to taste this novel drink. Against this background, Dr Buttigieg explored what could have intrigued the imagination of the Maltese when the brew was still relatively unknown in mainland Europe. The discourse on coffee experiences was discussed through the concept of 'embodied imagination': sensory perceptions, socio-cultural meanings and material culture.

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**THE TONGUE HAS NO BONES BUT IS STRONG ENOUGH TO BREAK A HEART.**

**SO BE CAREFUL WITH YOUR WORDS**

## TENBY MALE VOICE CHOIR

Just over 20 years ago the Tenby Male Voice Choir were invited to give concerts in Malta. The visit was organised by Lion Ian Lochhead and Lion Joe Messina, who was the Club President at the time. While in Malta the Choir gave three concerts, one at St. Paul's Anglican Cathedral, at Stella Maris Parish Church in Sliema and at the St. George Basilica in Gozol. The three concerts were well attended and those present had words of praise for the way the choir performed.

The Rev. Canon Simon Godfrey, the Chancellor of St. Paul's Cathedral wrote to Lion Joe Messina stating: *"I am writing to say thank you, Ian Lochhead and the Lions for organizing the choir visit of the Tenby Male Voice Choir. Not only the music and vocals were a treat but they brought a relaxed yet profoundly spiritual atmosphere to the Cathedral. The members were a great bunch of men so obviously passionate about making music which shone throughout their performance. It was a good evening and generous in its appreciation".*

Similar sentiments were expressed by the Stella Maris Parish Priest the Rev. Mons. Anton Portelli, who also thanked the Club for holding a concert in Sliema. A sum of Euro 456 was collected during the evening. Besides the two concerts in Malta the Choir also sang at St. George Basilica in Gozo. Special thanks go to Lion President Joe Messina, Lions Ian Lochhead and Hans Wijnberg who were responsible for the organisation of the event which further enhanced the reputation of Lions Club Sliema.

*Ed. Note – the above is reproduced from the June 2004 newsletter.*

## THINK A WHILE – OUR PURPOSE AND OUR ETHICS

As Lions we hold ourselves to the absolute highest standards in every thing we do. Our members and clubs are dedicated and it shows. We champion kindness in our communities and actively work to improve the lives of other people.

**"WE SERVE"**





