



CLUB NEWS



NEXT MEETINGS: On Wednesday JUNE 6 and Wednesday JUNE 20 starting at 1830 at the Victoria Hotel, Sliema.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS: THE HAND OVER & AWARDS NIGHT is being held on Saturday June 30 at the Roof top restaurant of the Victoria Hotel, Sliema. A circular will be sent in due course. It is expected that a good number of members and their guests will attend this event.

HOUSE CONCERT: Two of the students who were sponsored by our Club to further their studies abroad will be giving a concert at the home of Lion Ian Lochhead on Friday June 22 at 7.00 p.m. A buffet dinner will be served soon after the concert. The number of persons attending has been limited to 40. Price per person is €25.

RECIPE FOR A SUCCESSFUL LIONS CLUB

ONE CUP OF KINDNESS

A TABLESPOON OF TEAMWORK

A TEASPOON OF GOOD LEADERSHIP

A PINCH OF LAUGHTER

MIX TOGETHER WHEN NEEDED

The wise advice of Past International Barry J. Palmer who had visited Malta when our Club celebrated its 40th anniversary of its foundation in November 2014.

WE SERVE



MAY 2018

VISIT TO BOSCO MARENAGO

Club President Lion George O. Attard and Lion Victor Borg Barthet, together with their wives, visited our twinned club LC Bosco Marengo Santa Croce to celebrate their eleventh anniversary.

After a four hour delay, the group finally reached Alessandria in time to attend a concert by the Orchestra Sinfonica Conservatorio "A Vivaldi" organised by the service clubs of Alessandria, namely the three Lions Clubs, Inner Wheel, Rotary, Soroptimist and Zonta clubs. This concert is held, not only to show the talent of the conservatorio's students, but also as a gift to the people of Alessandria.



On the morrow they were taken to visit the oldest grappa distillery, Mazzetti, at Alta Villa.

In the evening they attended the Club's Charter, held at Realisdel Castello di Oviglio, where they were joined by another two LC Sliema members, Lions Antonio Varriale and Elisa Solimini. The Charter was held in magnificent surroundings, where a lavish dinner was served. During the ceremony the two Club Presidents, Lion Marzia Maso and Lion George O. Attard exchanged gifts. *(photo at left)*

The following day we participated in the presentation of a special wheelchair to the IDEA Association for the severely handicapped which enables them to enter showers and also swimming pools.

Later we visited the Town Hall for a meeting with the Mayor of Alessandria, who was presented with our Club's banner. The Mayor presented an inscribed silver tray to our Club President. The meeting was very cordial. In the afternoon the Maltese Lions were taken to Acqui Terme visiting the town and Villa Ottolenghi which boasts an award winning garden and vine yards.

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Occupying a considerable amount of space is the Olof Frederick Gollcher (1820-1889) monumental grave, signed Egidio Pozzi of Milan. The bronze portrait bust of Olof Gollcher is set on a tall column draped with a bronze curtain entwined with a bronze floral wreath, leaning to the column in the effigy of his widow Vincenza.

Additions and alterations were carried out at the cemetery until 1887. The last maor addition was the chapel dedicated to the memory of Lady Hamilton Gordon, commissioned by her husband Arthur Charles Hamilton Gordon a prominent Scotsman.

We toured round the cemetery for almost two hours yet we only managed to see a small fraction of it.

At the end of the tour a few members bought the book about the cemetery. Prof. Thake and Ms. Buhagiar were gracious enough to give a donation of €80 from the book proceeds to the Club. A further €77 was collected among those present. The morning was nicely rounded off with a sumptuous meal at the Marsa Sports Club.



The group at Ta' Braxia with Prof. Thake (second left) and Ms. Buhagiar in dark dress in front and Club President George O. Attard squatting in front.

Lion Margaret Frendo reports

CULTURAL VISIT TO TA' BRAXIA CEMETRY

Prof. Conrad Thake and Ms. Yanica Buhagiar, authors of the book "Ta' Braxia Cemetery", guided the May Cultural outing to the cemetery. Prof. Thake started the tour by giving the historic background as to why and what necessitated the building of the cemetery. The building for a new burial place, other than those existing, became pronounced at the beginning of the nineteenth century, with the arrival of the British to Malta. The island had, as yet, no burial ground for those of the Protestant faith. The situation became desperate during the Crimean War (1853-56), when wounded soldiers and sailors started to arrive in Malta for treatment, a few of who died and were buried here. The cemetery was intended for burial of people of all creeds and social or political background.

Sir William Reid, Governor of Malta from 1851 to 1858 commissioned the 25 year old pro-British architect, employed in the Public Works Department, Emanuele Luigi Galizia, to design a new cemetery at Pieta, in the area known as Ta' Braxia. Galizia's style for the new cemetery ranged from Neo-Classical to Neo-Gothic with the occasional Baroque symbols on a few graves.

Unlike Catholic cemeteries, the Protestant cemeteries did not require to have a church within their grounds, the only chapel at Ta' Braxia belongs to a private burial place. Galizia chose to build a garden cemetery, with tree lined pathways. Running along a central corridor, occasionally adorned with a fountain. Galizia was later to build the Addolorata and the Ottoman cemeteries.

Yanica Buhagiar took over from Prof. Thake and led the group around the cemetery stopping at a few graves, the most notable being the Grecian Urn, which represents ancient civilization as it was the earliest recipient used to hold the cremated remains of nobles and war heroes. The truncated obelisk or pillar is a symbol of life cut short by death before reaching full maturity. A number of flowers, such as the lily represent purity. The poppy head, a symbol of not having yet grown to full potential, while also the poppy having the property of a narcotic, it induces sleep, the sleep of death. Other symbols such as anchors and guns inform the viewer of the profession of the person buried there, while Masonic symbols associate the occupant of the grave as belonging to a Masonic lodge of Freemasons.

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Later in the morning the group went to the Colline di Acqui for a really good diner at the Restorante Da Fausto at Cavatore. The Lions of Bosco Marengo Santa Croce prepared a very good programme making this visit a wonderful experience.

*Photo at right shows
The Mayor of Alessandria
Presenting a silver salver
To Lion President George
O. Attard/*



*Photo below taken during
The presentation of a
Special wheelchair. At right
Of photo is Lion Marzia
Maso President of Lions
Club Bosco Marengo Santa
Croce.*



**IT'S GREAT TO
BE A LION.**

**Twinning with
other Clubs
bring members
together in a
spirit of friend-
ship besides
learning how
other clubs
serve their
communities.**

LOSS OF MEMBER

With deep sorrow we record the death of Lion Joe Cassar who died on May 19 aged 70. Although Lion Joe only joined our Club two years ago, during the short time he spent with us he soon became a valid member and was ever present at meetings contributing to discussion and giving advice.

The Club's Board of Directors had earmarked Lion Joe to become First Vice President for the year 2018/19. However due to health reasons the Board had to change its plans. During his short spell with us Joe was appointed Chairman of our Arts Committee, a post which is now occupied by his sister Lion Victoria Muscat.



Dr. Joe Cassar was one of Malta's most seasoned diplomats. He served as Malta's ambassador to Portugal, Italy, Libya and the Russian Federation. He also served as Malta's permanent representative to the United Nations in Geneva, Vienna and New York.

His funeral was held on May 22 at St. Joseph Parish Church, Msida. Several club members were among a large congregation at the funeral paying their last respects to Lion Joe.

The Club conveys condolences to his family and Lion Victoria on the sad loss of Joe. May his soul rest in peace.

GOVERNOR MD108YA 2018-2019



Lion Paolo Gattolo, Honorary member of our Club has been confirmed as Governor of District MD108YA (Campania, Basilicata and Calabria) for the Lionistic Year 2018-2019.

Lion Paolo is a member of LC Salerno Arecchi one of our twinned clubs in Italy. He has been a Lions member for more than 20 years and has served in various roles for both his club and district. Paolo is married to Silvia who is a magistrate. He will be installed as Governor in early July. Paolo has a twin brother, Danilo, who is also a member of our Club.

Congratulations to Paolo on his appointment. Lion Paolo will be visiting Malta later this year when it is hoped he will be able to meet our Club members

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2018-19 ZONE MALTA CHAIRMAN

Lion Joe Messina who has been a member of our Club since 1992 and served as Club President from 1994 to 1996 and later as Club Secretary from 2006 to 2015 has been elected as Zone Chairman Malta.

Lion Joe is a very active and valid members of our Club. Joe is renowned for his organisation of events.

We wish Joe a successful tenure of office and guarantee our utmost cooperation to fulfil his duties as the leading Lion in Malta.

