



LIONS CLUB SLIEMA

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY YEAR 2024

MARCH NEWSLETTER

LIONS INTERNATIONAL CONSTITUTION

The purposes of this association shall be:

To organise, charter and supervise service clubs to be known as Lions Clubs.

To coordinate the activities and standardise the administration of Lions Clubs.

To create and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world.

To promote the principles of good government and good citizenship.

To take an active interest in the civic, cultural, social and moral welfare of the community.

To unite the clubs in the bonds of friendship, good fellowship and mutual understanding.

To provide a forum for the open discussion of the matters of public interest, provided, however, that partisan politics and sectarian religion shall not be debated by club members.

To encourage service-minded people to serve their community without personal financial reward, and to encourage efficiency and promote high ethical standards in commerce, industry, professions, public works and private endeavours. *(Ed. Note – above extract from Lions International Statute)*

DUTIES OF OFFICERS OF THE CLUB

PRESIDENT: He/she shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Club preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and the Club, issue the call for regular meetings and special meetings of the Board of Directors and the Club, appoint the standing and special committees of this club and cooperate with chairpersons to effect regular functioning and reporting of such committees, see that regular elections are duly called, noticed and held.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: He/she and the other Past Presidents shall officially greet members and their guests of club meetings and shall represent the Club in welcoming all service-minded people in the community served by the Club.

VICE PRESIDENTS: If the President is unable to perform the duties of his/her office for any reason the Vice President next in rank shall occupy his/her position and perform his/her duties with the same authority as the President. Each Vice President shall, under the direction of the President, oversee the functioning of such committees of the Club as the President shall designate.

(Ed. Note – above extract from Lions International Statute)

WE SERVE THROUGH THICK AND THIN.

THINGS TO KNOW AND REMEMBER

FISCAL YEAR: The fiscal year of this Club shall be July 1 through to June 30

PARLIAMENTARY PRACTICES: Except as otherwise specifically provided in the constitution and by-laws, all questions of order or procedure with respect to any committee appointed hereunder shall be determined in accordance with “Robert Rules of Order” as revised from time to time.

PARTISAN POLITICS/RELIGION: The Club shall not endorse or recommend any candidate for public office, nor shall partisan politics or sectarian religion be debated by members in meetings of this club.

PERSONAL BENEFIT: Except to further his/her progress in Lionism, no officer or member of the club shall use his/her membership as a means of furthering any personal. Political or other aspiration, nor shall the club, as a whole, take part in any movement not in keeping with its purposes and objects.

COMPENSATION: No officer shall receive any compensation for any service rendered to the club in his/her personal capacity with the exception of the secretary, whose compensation, if any, shall be fixed by the Board of Directors.

SOLICITATION OF FUNDS: No funds shall be solicited from the Club during meetings by any individual or individuals who are not members of the Club. Suggestion or proposition made at any meeting for other than the regular obligations shall be referred to the appropriate committee or to the Board of Directors for further review.

(Ed. Note above extract from Lions International Statute)

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ORGAN DONATION CAMPAIGN

Lions Club Sliema had a big part in The Organ Donation Campaign in Malta. In 1996 Lion Frank Gales together with Fr. Joe Borg of the Media Centre decided to publish a booklet to explain what was meant about Organ Donation. The aim

The aim of the booklet was to provide information for doctors and paramedical



staff about organ donation. The publication was part of an Organ Donation Campaign organised by Lions Club Sliema, the Intensive Therapy Unit, the Media Centre and the Health Promotion Unit. Research carried a few months prior to the publication of the booklet had helped to identify a number of questions and basic concerns which the public had about organ donation. Some of these questions were addressed in a leaflet targeted at the general public. The booklet contains more detailed information and attempts to answer additional questions which persons in the medical and paramedical professions may have.

In the booklet there is a section describing the “History of Organ Transplantation” which is produced hereunder.

The first reported transplant took place in 1906 in Olmutz, now in the Czech Republic. This was a cornea transplant. Experimental transplantation. Experimental transplantation of kidneys in humans began in the early 1900s. However, the first major success came in 1954 when Dr Joseph Murray, carried out a kidney transplant in Boston, USA, between two twenty-three-year-old identical twins, one of whom was suffering from advanced glomerulonephritis. The first liver transplantation ever attempted in a human being took place in March 1963. Four years later in Cape Town, South Africa, Dr Christian Barnard performed the first heart transplant. Unfortunately, the first heart transplant was not successful.

*In Malta blood donation has been taking place on a regular basis since 1928. The first cornea transplant was performed by a visiting American team in the early 1970s. A medical team headed by Surgeon Mr Bewick carried out the first liver donor kidney in 1983. The following year, the first cadaveric transplant was performed and four persons received a kidney from two donors who died at the Intensive Therapy Unit of St. Luke's Hospital. Between 1984 and 1995 sixty-five kidney transplants were carried out in Malta, forty-five of which were from cadaveric donors. The first heart transplant was carried out by Prof. Manche on 25 September 1996. The recipient had been suffering from ischaemic cardio myopathy. **Reproduced from the booklet entitled "ORGAN DONATION" which was sponsored by Lions Club Sliema and the Media Centre.***

HOW TO SUPPORT OUR ASSOCIATION

By payment of dues – Attending meetings regularly – Contributing positively at meetings – Volunteering to serve when the need arises – Giving voluntary or freewill donations – Constructive criticism – Maintaining cordial relationship with fellow Lions.

Dear Tom, Thank you so much for this newsletter! Congratulations: it is really well done and I am very happy to have an update on the activities of your club.

Welcome to the new members and best wishes for fruitful work to all of you.
Warm regards **Past District Governor Carla Cifola. Area Leader CA4K**

Dear Lion Tom - A lot of congratulations for your February newsletter. Everything is said, everything is there. It's clear, precise, concise. Bravo and a very big thank you. Best regards.

Lion Monique Boisvieux

Grazie Tom.... sempre professionale

Lion Gabriella Fedeli

ACADEMY OF GIVERS CONFERENCE

Lion Secretary Lorna Farrugia and Lion Tom Restall responsible for international contacts recently participated in a conference hosted by the Academy of Givers. This organization, locally registered, is dedicated to enhancing philanthropic and corporate responsibility initiatives. It serves as a forum for individuals with similar goals to gather, exchange knowledge, gain recognition, and draw inspiration.

The conference which was held at the Corinthia San Gorg, commenced with an address from Mark Weingard, President of the Academy of Givers, and



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Founder of Inspira Sia Group and Inala Group. Following this, Nathan Farrugia, Chairperson of the Academy of Givers and Managing Director of Vistage Malta and UAE, delivered a brief presentation. During the event, five pre-selected NGOs presented pitches outlining their organization's values and objectives. These organizations vied for a €5000 prize, with the audience voting for the most deserving candidate. Dar Hosea emerged as the winner.

The day continued with a series of speakers and a panel discussion, which included Commissioner for Voluntary Organisations, Jesmond Saliba, offering insights into proposed reforms aimed at improving voluntary organization legislation. Following this, attendees had the opportunity to participate in workshops covering various topical subjects. The conference also provided voluntary organizations with a platform to exhibit their work and connect with businesses in attendance thus fostering networking opportunities.

REFORM OF THE VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS ACT

At the final session of the “Academy of Givers Conference” which was chaired by Mr. Jesmond Saliba, the Commissioner for Voluntary Organisations stated that the office has currently undergone a consultation procedure to affect changes to the VO Act.

The reform will see changes to the office which will now become the Office for the Voluntary and Not-for-profit sector providing a stronger and legislative

framework with a reduction in bureaucracy. Mr Saliba also mentioned that with the changes in process the office has now reduced its risk factor which will reap benefits for compliance issues.

Lion Lorna Farrugia, Secretary had attended the consultation meeting organised by the Office of the Commissioner where this reform was presented to the number of Voluntary organisations present. More information about the proposed changes can be found here

<https://cvo.gov.mt/public-consultation>

WHY I JOINED THE LIONS CLUB – JULI TSUKUI Ph.D.

I am from Japan and my address is Yoyogi, Tokyo. From a young age, I lived in several countries with my father, a diplomat, and studied in the United States for 10 years and Ireland for 3 years. Foreign countries are not that unfamiliar to me, and I am particularly active in international clubs and have been a member of one organisation for 25 years. I believe that the spirit of service does not change even if the country is different.

The reason I wanted to become a Lions member was because I wanted to join every club in Malta and help underprivileged people and refugees around the world.

Many of the Lions Club Sliema members are at least 10 years older than me. They are very friendly and kind, and they show the image of service above self, and from them I learned the heart of a true Maltese person. That's why I joined the Lions. I would like to leave a final note of love from St. Augustine to the Lions.

“Love and do what you will”. If you keep silent, keep silent by love; if you speak, speak by love; if you correct, correct by love; if you pardon, pardon by love: let love be rooted in you, and from the root nothing but good can grow”.

WHY I JOINED LIONS’ CLUBS

PRESIDENT JIMMY CHARTER stated: *“I joined Lions Clubs International not to get many medals or pins on my chest but to help others that’s my most valuable reward”.*

URSULINE SISTERS CHILDCARE CENTRE

On Saturday 23 March, 2024, Lions Club Sliema held an activity in Valletta. The objectives were twofold: to raise more awareness about Sliema Lions Club and what it does to serve the community; to collect donations for President Karl Grima Bezzina's Project, the Ursuline Sisters Childcare Centre. A good sum of money, in excess of €700, was raised on the day. The final amount will be announced later, because pledges by people who could not attend on the day are still coming in!

The Ursuline Sisters are refurbishing their building in Sliema to set up a childcare day centre to accept not only children of working parents/guardians, but also socially disadvantaged children. They also plan to engage professional people to counsel and educate the families of these children. The



Lions Club members at the fund-raising event with Lion President second right and Lion Louise first left

refurbishment costs run into several thousands, as everything must meet EU standards. Besides this, they will continue to give a home to children in need, and to provide for all their requirements, which is a considerable expense and relies on the generosity of benefactors.

This activity was organised by Marketing Committee members Lion Louise Cutajar Davis and Lion Martin Ward. A number of Lions turned up to help on the day: Lions Doreen Davis, Stephen Gatt and Malek Smaoui, as well as prospective member Juliet Tsukui. Lion President Karl Grima Bezzina was present to support the event. Family members were also on hand to offer help and encouragement. Sister Michaela Paris was there to represent the Ursuline Sisters and to express their gratitude for our efforts to support them. *Ed. note – above article and photo provided by Lion Louise*

THE CHALLENGE OF LEADERSHIP IS: *To be strong but not rude. – Be kind but not weak. - Be bold but not bully. – Be thoughtful but not lazy. -Be humble but not timid. – Be proud but not arrogant. – Have humour but without folly.*

LANDMARKS OF LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL

1917 The Origins: Melvin Jones, a prominent Chicago businessman asked a simple question that would change the world: *"What if people were committed to improve their community hours?"* A hundred years later, the Lions Clubs International is the greatest service club organization in the world, with over one million four hundred members in more than forty-six thousand clubs and countless stories of Lions acting in the name of the same simple idea: "When Lions come together for the sake of humanity, there is nothing we cannot accomplish."

1920 International expansion: Just three years after its foundation, Lions went international thanks to the formation of the first club in Canada in 1920. In 1927 it was the turn of Mexico. International growth accelerated in the 50s and 60s thanks to the formation of new clubs in Europe, Asia and Africa.

1925 The fight against blindness: During her speech at the International Convention of Lions Clubs International held at Cedar Point in Ohio (USA) Helen Keller challenged Lions to become the "knights of the blind". Since then, Lions have worked tirelessly to help the blind and visually impaired.

1945: The birth of the United Nations: The ideal of an international organization is exemplified by our enduring relationship with the United Nations. Lions Clubs International was one of the first non-governmental organisations to be invited to assist in the drafting of the UN Charter. Since then, Lions have supported the work of the UNO.

1957: Organisation of Youth Programmes: In the late 50s Lions created the Leo Programme to give young people the opportunity to grow on a personal level through volunteering. There are thousands of Leos and 6700 Leo Clubs in over 140 countries and regions worldwide.

1968 The establishment of LCIF: The Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) assists Lions in large-scale and global humanitarian projects. Lions have received more than \$949 million in grants through our Foundation to help meet the needs of the local and global community.

1990: The launch of SightFirst: Through LCIF, Lions restore sight and prevent blindness on a global scale with the SightFirst programme. Lions

raised over 415 million dollars for this initiative that was launched in 1990. SightFirst deals with the main causes of blindness; low vision, trachoma, river blindness, infantile blindness, diabetic retinopathy and glaucoma.

CLUB MEMBERS EMAILS

Dear Tom, Thank you so much for this newsletter! Congratulations: it is really well done and I am very happy to have an update on the activities of your club.

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Lion Monique Boisvieux

Grazie Tom.... sempre professionale

Lion Gabriella Fedeli

WHO IS A LION?

He or She who achieves success, live well,
Laughs often, loves all human kind,
Gains the respect of intelligent people
And the love of little children
S/He fills his niche, does well his work and
Makes God's world a better place than it was
By just a brighter flower, a perfect poem
A human soul awakes to its own loveliness,
S/He feels the glow of beauty in all life
And never fails to voice his/her praise of it.
S/He sees the best there is in fellow beings
And gives to them the best there is in them;
His/Her life is one vast inspiration.

THAT WOMAN/MAN IS A LION

