

IHQ Bulletin



THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION OF MALTA

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01 POINTS TO REMEMBER

Development of Outlook: Reverence

Aids to Scoutmastership B.-P. 1919

Development of outlook naturally begins with a respect for God, which we may best term "Reverence."

Reverence to God and reverence for one's neighbour and reverence for oneself as a servant of God, is the basis of every form of religion. The method of expression of reverence to God varies with every sect and denomination. What sect or denomination a boy belongs to depends, as a rule, on his parents' wishes. It is they who decide. It is our business to respect their wishes and to second their efforts to inculcate reverence, whatever form of religion the boy professes.

There may be many difficulties relating to the definition of the religious training in our Movement where so many different denominations exist, and the details of the expression of duty to God have, therefore, to be left largely in the hands of the local authority. But there is no difficulty at all in suggesting the line to take on the human side, since direct duty to one's neighbour is implied in almost every form of belief.

The following is the attitude of the Scout Movement as regards religion, approved by the heads of all the different denomination s on our Council: -

"(a) It is expected that every Scout shall belong to some religious denomination, and attend its services.

"(b) Where a Troop is composed of members of one particular form of religion, it is hoped that the Scoutmaster will arrange such denominational religious observances and instruction as he, in consultation with its Chaplain or other religious authority, may consider best.

"(c) Where a Troop consists of Scouts of various religions they should be encouraged to attend the service of their own denomination, and in camp, any form of daily prayer and of weekly Divine service should be of the simplest character, attendance being voluntary."

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For Your Diary : May - July

- 2/5 **Annual Rally**
- 4/5 National Backwoods Cooking Competition Evaluation Meeting
- 6/5 **Executive Meeting**
- Training & Programme Committee Meeting
- 11/5 **DC's Meeting**
- Level 3 - Basic Adult Leadership Course [Weekend 1]
- 18/5 Leaders' Development Programme
- 22-23/5 **National Scout Leaders Camp**
- National Venture Scouts Community Work
- 23/5 National Rover Scouts Community Service Day
- 25/5 **Commissioners' Meeting**
- 28-30/5 **Camping Skills Weekend Camp**
- 3/6 **Executive Meeting**
- 8/6 **Scout Leaders' Meeting**
- 14/6 **Rovers Life saving course**
- 15/6 **DCs Meeting**
- 3/7 **Nat. Cubs Swimming Gala**
- 8/7 **Executive Meeting**
- Training & Programme Committee Meeting
- 13/7 **GSLs Forum**
- 15/7 **Ventures BBQ Weekend**
- 22/7 **Commissioners' Meeting**
- 27/7 **DCs' Meeting**

02 FROM THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

Call on His Excellency Dr. Edward Fenech Adami.

On Wednesday, April 21, 2004, the Chief Scout, Mr. Vincent Cassar, and the Chief Commissioner, Mr. Godwin D'Anastasi, paid a visit to His Excellency Dr. Edward Fenech Adami, newly elected President of Malta.

During the meeting His Excellency was offered the Patronage of the Association which he gladly accepted. He was presented with a copy of the book "Scouting in Malta" and a gold plated B.P. commemorative medal.

The Chief Scout and Chief Commissioner then informed His Excellency about the present strength of the Association. They further spoke about the educational value and main aims of the Association of to-day's generation..

His Excellency showed great interest in the various Groups' progress.

Chief Commissioner Personal Award.

On Sunday, 25th April, 2004, at the end of a very successful Backwoods Cooking Grand Prix, Mr. Godwin Guisti was presented with the Chief Commissioner Personal Award by the Chief Commissioner for his outstanding work and contribution to the Association in general.

Mr. Guisti is an Acting Leader, at present training for his Woodbadge to take over charge of the St Michael School Scout Group Rover Crew. This gentleman has presented very original handcrafted wooden trophies and mementos to various competitions, events, and VIPs. All this at no cost whatsoever and quite voluntarily.

A very big thank you Mr. Godwin Guisti.

Cancellation of Appointments

011/2002	Major Alex Dalli	Comm. Air Scouts [Grd]
012/2002	Capt Mark A Said	Comm. Air Scouts [Flt]
050/2002	Mr. Josef Custo	ADC [Central]
024/2003	Ms. Doreen Depares Valenzia	ACSL Naxxar

New District Commissioner, Central District.

At a recent Central District meeting, Mr. Josef Custo, who up till recently held the post of Assistant District Commissioner, was unanimously elected by the Central District Groups as the new District Commissioner. Mr. Custo, is also the quartermaster with the Hamrun Scout Group. He has been a serving member for many years and is the holder of the Long Service Decoration.

We take this opportunity to augur good work and scouting for the benefit of all to Mr. Josef Custo.

Library at IHQ.

One may recall that in my initial speech, I had shown my intention to try and with the help of others organize a library/museum to serve all present and future members of the Association.

Pentium 1 in Chief Commissioner's Office.

Thanks to the generosity of Mr. John Fenech, the Chief Commissioner's office can now boast of having its own Pentium 1 computer. The need of this computer has long been felt to enable the easy access to records and other information.

Well thanks to the huge efforts of a very industrious and energetic Mr. John Brincat, the library is beginning to take shape. The new furniture arrived some time back and most of the arduous work involved in filtering all the papers that were thrown in various boxes, is now nearing completion.

To further increase what the Association possesses, Mr. Augustus Tortell, on behalf of the other family members of the late Mr. Edward Tortell, better known as Wings, has kindly donated a good number of books, memorabilia and other scouting incidentals.

Recently, Major Ronnie Abela has also kindly donated more books that belonged to his late uncle and former Island Commissioner, Colonel JV Abela. Other log books recording past events in the Lyceum's Group were amongst the presented material.

A very big thank you goes to all these people for their kind donation.. Our PRO has now been asked to write in the local newspaper to try and ask other ex members to donate any past surplus items to further enhance our library and museum.

Finally another vote of thanks go to our perseverant Johnnie Brincat who has done a mammoth job and has to date called at IHQ when time permitted to continue this task in spite of his many other personal commitments.

THANK YOU JOHN.

Parking at IHQ.

Please note that the Association has come to an agreement with CT Park Ltd., regarding the organization and running of the parking area within the grounds at Floriana. Kindly note that one may not park within the grounds unless he displays a specially issued permit. This is only applicable to everyday including Saturdays and Sundays. Normal parking is allowed during shop hours time, normal Tuesdays and Thursday opening hours, and special events as indicated by the Association's personnel.

This is to ensure that no one parks at times when the said Company is present. Ignoring of this regulation will end up with the clamping of the owner's car and a payment of LM20 to remove the clamps.

03 ERRORS AND OMISSIONS

By Mr Mario H Calleja Commissioner for Public Relations

▪ National Rover Camp

The full list of visitors during this camp were the following

Mr Vince Cassar	Chief Scout
Mr Godwin D'Anastasi	Chief Commissioner
Mr Michael J Cefai	Commissioner for Programme and Training
Mr Lino Bonnici	District Commissioner South
Mr Adrian Borg	District Commissioner North
Mr Josef Custo	District Commissioner Central
Mr Mario H Calleja	Commissioner for Public Relations
Mr John Micallef Engerer	Commissioner Venture Scouts
Fr Anton Briffa	Commissioner for Spiritual Dimensions
Mr Noel Muscat Doublesin	Commissioner for Administration
Mrs Pauline Cefai	Honorary Secretary

▪ National Cub Camp

The following information was missed in the write-up on this activity published in the last Bulletin. The Fgura and St Aloysius College Groups loaned both Marquees used for the weekend. The Cospicua

Venture Unit set up the various games on Thursday whilst the San Gwann Venture Unit who was fifteen strong managed the Kitchen for the whole camp. Other Venture Scouts helped out in the running of the camp as well, there were two from St Michael's School, two from Sliema, two from St Venera and two from Victoria and the VSL from B'Bugia. The Commissioner for Human Resources, Mr David Schembri, who is also GSL Qrendi Group was on camp throughout the weekend assisting in the running of the activities. Well done to all the above who undoubtedly helped to make the Camp the great success that it was.

▪ **Marsa Group Article**

Please note that Mr Vince Cassar is the Chief Scout and not the Chief Commissioner and Mr Godwin D'Anastasi is Chief Commissioner and not Island Commissioner. Apologies to both Chiefs.

04 FROM THE PAWLA GROUP

From Ing Mario A Frendo GSL Paola Group

▪ **Pawla & Fgura Packs Badgework Day**

On Saturday 20th March the Fgura and Pawla Packs organised a day of badge work. This activity was held at the Pawla Group HQ and organised by Fgura Pack Akela Ms. Joanne Pisani and other leaders. About 40 Cubs from Fgura and 8 Cubs from the Pawla Groups took part in this event.

The Cubs worked on various badges which included: Photographer; Computer; Home help; Our earth; Naturalist; Artist; Craftsman and others. The activity started at around 0900 hrs with the Pawla Pack greeting the Fgura Cubs a holding a joint Grand Howl ceremony. The Cubs were then divided into small groups each assigned to a particular leader who was the instructor of a particular field.

At midday all stopped for a pizza and games. In the afternoon the cubs continued with outdoor activities namely photography and flower planting. Cubs working on Home help badge started work in the kitchen, and those who took up the crafts badge worked on building a puppet theatre. All Cubs were full of enthusiasm, thanks to the leaders who made an interesting day for all, (even the GSLs had fun!!). The activity came to an end at about 1600 hrs.

Thanks again to the Fgura GSL and CSL for giving the Pawla Cubs a helping hand.

▪ **1st Cospicua Rover Unit Lending A Hand To The Pawla Pack**

On Tuesday 9th March two members of the Cospicua Rover unit held their first session with the Pawla Pack at the Pawla HQ. This was possible thanks to the Unit's Secretary and Chairman and the interest shown in giving a helping hand. The first meeting was planned together with the Pawla GSL who introduced the Unit's members to the Pack. After starting with the Grand Howl ceremony, some games were played and then a session about trekking signs was done. Again the cubs enjoyed this first session and it is envisaged that these meetings will be held at least once a month depending on the commitments of the Unit.

A big thank you to the Cospicua GSL from all of us at the Pawla Group.

05 TARXIEN GROUP EASTER CAMP

By Mr Carmel Mangani GSL Tarxien Group

Another Easter camp is over and each and everyone is back to the hustle and bustle of daily life. Yet I trust everyone has lived up to the magical experiences of the world of scouting. The Zurrieq Campsite, thanks to the courtesy of the Zurrieq Group, offers an ideal setup. Good outdoors and indoors facilities, well furnished kitchen and above all the site is situated reasonably far away from the urban area. So we could always allow the little bit of noise that we Maltese are famous for.

This year's Easter Camp was different from the usual. The troop decided to camp indoors so as to concentrate mainly on the activities. Each patrol had to plan, organise and execute an outdoor activity. Treasure hunt, rally, emergencies simulation and radioactive transfer were the major activities. Most activities were held around the village.

The venture unit and rover team have joined the party for the full camp. They opted to camp outdoors. Their main objective was to assist as necessary. Their efforts were very much appreciated by both the troop and pack. The pack has only spent one day on Saturday. They spent the morning cutting and sticking a wonderful and colourful piece of craft to be presented to their parents as an Easter gift. After a hearty lunch prepared by our five star chef Joe, the cubs spent the afternoon crawling and jumping along the obstacle race prepared by the unit.

Contrary to last year's camp the weather was very reconcilable. Except for a few drops of rain, the weather was practically dry and warm. However the wind was rather strong particularly on Saturday night. The ventures had to struggle to keep one of the tents on its poles.

Everyone knows that scouting brings appetite. To satisfy the taste buds our chef Joe and his team has prepared some mouth-watering dishes. On Easter day we had no less than a four-course meal plus a figolla for each and everyone!

The Holy Week is the time to stop and reflect. The Zurrieq Campsite was the perfect setup for this. Fr Dominic animated the Friday evening thoughts and feelings. Holy Mass was celebrated on Easter Day. These few but busy days came to an end with the traditional campfire. The star of the evening was venture scout Brian who has entertained us for most of the evening.

I have now exceeded the 50-year mark but to be honest I always feel ten years younger following a very good camp. Indeed scouting is good medicine. I would recommend it to all.

I have to confess: this camp was short and simple yet one of the best ever; we have played together, laughed together, prayed together and why not, cried together. At times the emotions were really high. I do not exclude that someone had some romantic moments as well. This is what I call good scouting. Thanks to all participants.

06 THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION OF MALTA ARCHIVES IS TAKING SHAPE

By Mr John Brincat Officer in Charge Archives

The room above the main entrance hall to the Congreve Bernard Memorial Building (IHQ Floriana), where all kinds of valuable and historical records together with Scouting Memorabilia are stored, has been neglected for a considerable long time

After the sifting out, cataloguing and the organizing of the said items, the Scout Association is now able to dispose of various copies of "The Pathfinder", The Scouter (UK. Version), The Malta Scout, which together with local newspaper cuttings are surplus to our requirements. Copies of the said publications are being offered, to all those parties interested in taking advantage of this "once in a lifetime offer", before their eventual disposal.

The Scout Association of Malta is aiming to establish a "Scouting Archives", going back to 1908, depicting personalities who had devoted most of their time in favour of scouting in Malta, together with a collection on Scouting records and achievements, both at National and Group level.

Once the remaining Scouting material and memorabilia has been sorted and categorized, the Scout Association of Malta archives will be open to all those wishing to learn more on "Scouting Bygone days' and to those wishing to research their group's history.

Those wishing to acquire copies of the said publications are kindly requested to contact Mr John Brincat who is available at Island Headquarters every Tuesday.

07 FROM THE COMMISSIONER FOR PUBLIC RELATIONS

It has been noted that a number of features have recently appeared in the Press without prior clearance by the Commissioner for PR. All Commissioners and GSLs are reminded about the instructions issued on this matter by the Chief Commissioner.

Furthermore and in view of recent circumstances please note the following new procedure.

In the future any write-ups or features on events and/or activities being organised by respective Departments/Districts/Groups are to be produced by the organisers themselves. They are advised to include a PRO for the respective event who is to submit the feature to the Commissioner for PR before publication and distribution to the Press. This is to be done well before (preferably one week) the event itself especially if this is to appear on the media. The Commissioner for PR offers his services to distribute material to the Press but of course material may be circulated by the organisers themselves, if they so wish.

In any case it is being stressed that material must be cleared before being released to the Press.

Follow-up material is to be produced on the same date as the event, again if this is to be featured on the media. These features should include, besides the write-up, pictures, logos (if any), names, objectives of the event, achievements and any other stories of interest to readers.

Exposure may not be possible if these deadlines are not met.

As regards to features for the IHQ Bulletin it is important that these are ready by the 10th of each month.

Any material should be passed on in electronic format so as to ease distribution and/or production.

Thanking you all in anticipation of your cooperation.

PUBLIC RELATIONS TEAM

The Commissioner for Public Relations is inviting Rover Scouts and Scouters preferably coming from the different Districts to assist him in his work in PR. Anyone interested to form part of this team is kindly asked to contact him as soon as possible.

08 FROM THE TRAINING AND PROGRAM DEPARTMENT

by Mr. Michael J Cefai, Commissioner Training and Programme.

National Scout Backwoods Cooking Competition – Evaluation Meeting

Well done to all the Scout Troops that participated in The *National Scout Backwoods Cooking Competition* on Sunday, 25th April 2004 at the *Ghajn Tuffieha International Campsite*. An evaluation meeting for all the Scout Leaders of the participating Scout Troops will be held on Tuesday, 4th May 2004 at I.H.Q. at 6.00 p.m.

Change of Dates for Level 3 – Basic Adult Leadership Training Course

Application Forms for participation on *Level 3 - Basic Adult Leadership Training Course* will be available from the first week of April and may be collected from the Secretariat at IHQ. Adult Leaders applying for this course must have completed their *Level 2 – Introductory Adult Leadership Training Course* and must have had all their *Course Projects* approved. The first week end of this course will be held on *Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th May 2004*,

while the second week end will be held on *Saturday, 26th and Sunday 27th June 2004.*

Level 1 – Initial Adult Leadership Training Course

Another *Initial Adult Leadership Training Course* has been inserted in this year's Training Programme. This course will be held on *Saturday, 18th September 2004* at the Victoria Scout Headquarters in Gozo from 9.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. Application Forms are available from the Secretariat at I.H.Q. and further details may be collected with the Application Form.

Leaders' Development Programme (LDP)

The next meeting for all Wood Badge holders and Section Leaders will be held on *Tuesday, 18th May 2004* at 6.00 p.m. at I.H.Q. We urge as many Adult Leaders to attend these meetings as part of their on-going development within Scouting.

Second Scout Leaders' National Seminar

The second National Seminar for all Scout Leaders and Assistant Scout Leaders will be

held on *Sunday, 4th July 2004.* The theme of the Seminar will focus on "*The Scout Section Age*". The *Scout Youth Programme Team* invite all Adult Leaders of the Scout Section to leave this date free so as to participate and to contribute in this decision-making process, so important for the formulation of the new *Scout Section Programme.* Further details will be given at a later date.

Basic Scouting Skills Training

The second session of *Basic Scouting Skills Training on Meteorology* to be held on *Tuesday 4th May 2004* has been cancelled due to lack of participation on the part of Adult Leaders. These Training sessions, which are basic and important to any Adult Leader, will be reintroduced at a later date.

Scout Leaders' Meeting

The next *Scout Leaders' Meeting* will be held on *Tuesday, 8th June 2004* at I.H.Q. at 6.00 p.m. All Scout Leaders are urged to attend this meeting.

09 FROM THE LYCEUM SCOUT GROUP

By Mr David Darmanin Scout Leader & Nigel Vella Patrol Leader (Hawk Patrol) Lyceum Scout Group

On Saturday 6th March 2004, eight boys were invested as new scouts with the Lyceum Troop. These were Mark Galea and Matthew Dimech of the Eagles Patrol, Clint Buhagar and Matthew Vassallo of the Hawk Patrol, Roderick Borg, and Matthew Mercieca of the Kestrel Patrol and finally Ivan Vidolich and Neil Joseph Vella of the Falcon Patrol. For this ceremony the Headquarters were decorated with new curtains made from a parent and also with a decorative painting prepared by Group Scout Leader Alex Bonello. The ceremony was held in the presence of the parents of the Scouts and was opened with an introduction by the GSL and Scout Leader Mark Darmanin. Before the investiture took place the Troop performed a marching display which was well prepared by the Senior Patrol Leader Jonathan Falzon.

The gathering was also addressed by the Chief Commissioner Mr. Godwin D'Anastasi who also happened to be an ex-member of the Group. The Chief Commissioner was invited to present three Awards. These were best Scout for the year 2003 Adrian Davison, the best Patrol for past 3 months Hawk Patrol and finally the best Patrol Corner Eagle Patrol which was held to motivate the upkeep of the Head Quarters. Also present for the Ceremony were the District Commissioner, Mr Josef Custo and Commissioner for PR, Mr Mario H Calleja. Refreshments were served at the end of the activity.



10 MALTA SCOUT FELLOWSHIP

By Mr A A Tortell Hon Secretary

The following gentlemen were elected to form the Executive Committee of the Fellowship for the year 2004/2005

Mr J.M. Cassar Naudi	Chairman
Cdr. J.V. Ebejer	V/Chairman
Mr F.R. Flynn	Hon. Treasurer
Mr A.A. Tortell	Hon. Secretary
Mr E.C. Azzopardi	A/Hon. Secretary
Mr J. Fenech Conti	PRO
Messrs A. Galea & E. Tanti	Members

All ex-Scouts and friends of the Movement are invited to join the Fellowship. Those wishing to do so are asked to contact the Hon. Secretary on Tel – 21 332293 or at 3 Peprina Court, 3 Nicolo Isouard Str., Sliema, SLM 04

11 MARSALA TROOP EASTER CAMP

Mis-Sur Alex Cutajar Scout Leader Marsala Scout Group

Mill-Hadd 11 t`April sa l-Erbgha 14 t`April t-truppa tal-Marsala Scout Group organizzat il-kamp ta l-Ghid fil-Park Nazzjonali f`Ta Qali. Il-kamp li ttella kollu taht it-tined tmexxa fuq bazi ta` patrol kamp fejn kull patrol barra l`area tieghu kellu l-programm u l-menu ghalih. Fil-programmi tal- patrols spikkaw dawn l`attivitajiet: tent pitching, cooking, camp ovens, visit to Mdina, campfire, camp gadgets u quddiesa minn Fr.A.Dimech group chaplain. Waqt il-kamp kellna 3 patrols b`total ta 22 scout u 5 scouters.

12 First-Aid Course by Red Cross at Stella Maris College Scout Group

By Mrs Pauline Cefai Azzopardi GSL Stella Maris College Scout Group

The Stella Maris College Scout Group organised a First-Aid Course for its Leaders on 17 - 18 th April 2004 which was directed by the Red Cross. Leaders from the San Gwann and Sliema Groups also joined in with the College Scout Leaders on this weekend course. At the end of this course all participants, 11 in all, achieved the Basic First-Aid Certificate.

We are preparing the next issue of the Bulletin.
Please send us information, news, activities and updated calendar of events.

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