

IHQ Bulletin



THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION OF MALTA

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01 POINTS TO REMEMBER

How to Grow a Scout Leader

First plant seven rows of P's:
Promptness, perseverance, preparation, participation,
presence, purity, and performance.

Next, plant three rows of squash:
squash unfairness, squash criticism, squash
indifference

Then plant seven rows of lettuce:

1. Let us delegate responsibility
2. Let us give assistance whenever necessary
3. Let us recognize the importance of pooling ideas and encourage full and free ideas and encourage full and free discussion before decisions are made.
4. Let us appreciate and respect the attitudes of other people
5. Let us encourage cooperation
6. Let us arrive in advance of scheduled meetings, with all materials needed
7. Let *us* be prepared

No garden is complete without turnips:

Turn up for meetings
Turn up with enthusiasm
Turn up with new ideas
Turn up with a smile

The harvest is one terrific Scout Leader

-- Thanks to Beverly "Sarge" Benner, Supermom@fament.com, Ozark Area Girl Scout Council

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For Your Diary : Nov / Dec

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| 2/12 | Level 1 – Appraisal of Visits |
| 9/12 | Christmas Drinks |
| 11/01 | Executive Meeting |
| 13/01 | DCs' Meeting |
| 15–16/01 | Level 3 Basic Adult Leadership Course (second weekend) |
| 25/01 | Level 1 Initial Adult Leadership Course - Evaluation |

Greetings

The Hon Secretary – Ms Pauline Cefai Azzopardi

On behalf of the Scout Council and the Executive Committee, the Chief Scout together with the Chief Commissioner, wish all members of the Association a blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year. May the incoming year bring to us a shower of enjoyable and joyful Scouting activities.

02 FROM THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

Mr Godwin D'Anastasi

Worker of the year.

The Scout Association of Malta heartily congratulates the Chief Scout, Mr Vincent Cassar A.& C.E., Permanent Secretary Ministry for Urban Development and Roads, and the Victoria Group Scout Leader Mr Lorrie Saliba, Principal Technical Officer Water Service Corporation (Gozo), on their nomination as finalists in this year's Worker of the Year edition. These gentlemen were chosen from amongst 15 other nominees. Unfortunately, there was only one eventual winner but Mr. Cassar's and Mr Saliba's nominations are clear recognition for their sterling work both within and outside the civil service especially scouting. Present for the presentation was President E. Fenech Adami, Prime Minister L. Gonzi, and Education Minister L. Galea.

Appointments

The Chief Commissioner has approved the following appointments with effect from 30th November 2004

064/2004	Jennifer Camilleri	Acting Leader	Dingli
065/2004	Joseph Zahra	Acting Leader	Dingli
066/2004	Maria Bonello	Acting Leader	Dingli
067/2004	Maria Farrugia	Acting Leader	Dingli
068/2004	Jonathan Callus	Venture Scout Leader	San Gwann
069/2004	Clarissa M Soler	Cub Scout Leader	San Gwann
070/2004	Elvio Briffa	Asst. Group Scout Leader	San Gwann
071/2004	Sandro Vassallo	Acting Leader	San Gwann
072/2004	Eric Borg	Scout Leader	San Gwann
073/2004	Jeanne Lauri	Acting Leader	San Gwann
074/2004	Josef Custo	Rover Scout Leader	Hamrun

Cancellations of Appointments

The following appointments have been withdrawn and cancelled with effect from the 30th November 2004.

016/2002	Vladimiro Commodini	Aux. Finance	IHQ
018/2002	Ivan Vella	Aux. Finance	IHQ
037/2004	Charles Bonett	Venture Scout Leader	San Gwann
049/1995	Jonathan Callus	Scout Leader	San Gwann
041/2003	Clarissa M Soler	Asst. Cub Scout Leader	San Gwann
030/1987	Elvio Briffa	Cub Scout Leader	San Gwann
012/2003	Josef Custo	Auxiliary [QM]	Hamrun

Resignations.

028/1991	William Schembri	Group Scout Leader	Gzira
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It is with great regret that we announce the resignation of Mr William Schembri, formerly Group Scout Leader of the Gzira Scout Group due to pressure of work. Mr. Schembri was no new comer to the Association, because prior to opening officially the Gzira Scout Group, he served as Cub Scout Leader with the Mount Carmel College Scout Group for a good number of years. He had also helped for some time at the Scout Shop. Although Mr Schembri has relinquished his appointment, he will keep on rendering his services to the Gzira Scout Group. We wish Mr. Schembri all the very best in his future life.

Gzira Scout Group.

Until future notice, Ms May Cassar, who is at present Scout Leader, will assume responsibility as Scouter in charge of the Gzira Scout Group.

Warrants.

The Chief Scout has approved the following Warrants with effect from the 30th November 2004

W 04/2004	Adrian Borg	Group Scout Leader	San Gwann
W 05/2004	Marica Chappell	Cub Scout Leader	Rabat

Ventures / Rovers Arm Badges.

With immediate effect please note that the round arm badges that used to be worn to denote a Venture or Rover scout will cease to be worn in uniform. These may now be worn only on activity wear. These badges have now been replaced by the Venture/Rover Scout epaulettes to denote section when the uniform is worn.

03 SOUTH DISTRICT PL COURSE AT RINELLA SCOUT CENTRE

by Mr Martin Bonnici ADC South District



Over ninety scout patrol leaders hailing from the Scout District of the Scout Association of Malta camped out under tents at the district's scout camp centre at Rinella, to participate in a weekend's patrol leader's course held between the first and third October.

Male and female patrol leaders coming from all the respective Scout District Scout groups, namely Birzebbuga, Cospicua, Fgura, Marsa, Paola, Qrendi, Tarxien, Xghajra, Zabbar, Zejtun and Zurrieq were formed into several patrols under the direct supervision and guidance of a senior adult mentor, where leadership and team building skills were taught and practiced throughout the weekend.

During the weekend the course participants discussed various scouting topics and issues that form an integral part of the scouting program in various workshops and were lectured on Scouting skills, procedures and patrol management.

However the South district patrol leader course was not solely theoretical as various craft sessions such as glass painting, mosaic laying together with scouting skills dealing with the mounting of cordage boards, the building of miniature camping gadgets and the manufacture of portable camp stoves also formed an integral part of the course program. Backwoods cooking at patrol level was also practiced during the course allowing one to polish up on his skills whilst learning new techniques.

Fulfilling their religious commitments at Holy Mass celebrated by Father Brandon, the course participants were entertained to a scouting campfire that rounded up Saturday evening, where musical and theatrical qualities were put to the test to the delight of one and all.

Striking their tents on Sunday afternoon, the tired course participants returned home, happy to have reaped the full benefits from the weekend camp.

04 Visit to Malta of the 3rd Tyrone Scout Group of Ireland

By David Schembri – Group Scout Leader – Qrendi Scout Group

Sixteen male and female Scouts, accompanied by five Adult Leaders from the 3rd Tyrone Scout Group of the Catholic Scouts of Ireland have just returned home after spending seven days on the Maltese island, as part of their International Camp.

Lodged at Qawra, the group took the opportunity to visit various places of tourist and historical interest around our island, whilst also taking the opportunity to visit and share scouting spirit with the Qrendi and St. Venera Scout Groups, with whom they featured on the popular Sunday morning TV show “Ta-Lynn”, presented by the “evergreen”, Ms Lynn Chirchop.. The Irish Scouts also visited the Marsa Scout Group at the South District Campsite in Rinella, during one of the group’s fund raising activities.

Calling on the Irish Scouts, was the Cub Scout Commissioner Mr. Leslie Bonnici, who together with the Assistant District Commissioner (South) Mr. Martin Bonnici, made the courtesy visit to the Rinella Scout Camp possible.

A visit to Gozo was also included in the Irish Scouts’ itinerary, where our foreign guests were allowed to really appreciate a truly “Gozo experience” as provided by the Victoria Scout Group through their energetic Group Scout Leader, Laurie Saliba, who left no stone unturned in his effort to promote “Gozitan Scouting and hospitality”. However the highlight of their visit to our sister island was the visit to the “Ta Pinu” sanctuary, where moments of silence and prayers were observed.

After visiting Malta for the first time and after having heard so much about Malta, the 3rd Tyrone Scout Leader, Ms Majella McCallion, thanked the scouts and people of the village of Qrendi for making her group so welcome within their community. She also thanked the Scout Association of Malta and all its members for all the assistance and hospitality provided to the 3rd Tyrone Scouts throughout their visit to Malta.



05 Greetings from the Marsa Scout Group

by Alfred Savona Group Scout Leader Marsa Scout Group

L-iscouts tal-Marsa jixtiequ javzaw li din is-sena mhux ser jibghatu Christmas cards, izda minflok ser jaghtu donazzjoni lid-dar tal-Providenza tas-Siggiewi. Ghalhekk permezz tal-Bulletin nixtiequ nawguraw lil kulhadd il-Milied u s-sena t-tajba.

06 FROM THE COMMISSIONER FOR PUBLIC RELATIONS

Mr Mario H Calleja

The work of the Public Relations function in the Scout Association should not only consist of issuing Press Releases and producing the monthly IHQ Bulletin. There is an urgent need to have essential other material to promote Scouting in other spheres of our society on local, national and international levels. We need to equip our leaders and commissioners with up-to-date material and tools when they are representing our Association. We need to produce a comprehensive set of information sheets grouped into a pack which would be used as exhibition and PR material. We need to produce posters and handouts aimed for dissemination in schools. We need to design and implement a strategy to seek more exposure in school and specialist magazines, TV Shows, Radio Stations, etc.

There is a great need for a CD ROM containing various presentations on different aspects of our Association which would be used during talks, exhibitions and other functions. A Scout magazine is needed to effectively communicate with our members and which would contain news, notices, training ideas, articles, letters, stories, jokes, competitions and other information. This magazine would serve as a showcase of our Association and would give our Scouts a medium to which they can identify themselves. These are just a few examples of what is needed and why a PR Team is required. Many calls have been made in the past for this team to be formed but regrettably response has been little and without commitment. If our Association is to make any progress in this area more people must come forward and become involved. The objectives are not easy but this is a challenge which can be accomplished if this Team is formed and its members are constant, committed and resolute.

07 Ghar Hasan WARNING

By Mr Jesmond Borg Group Scout Leader Birzebbuga Scout Group

Nixtieq nige b I-attenzjoni lil minn ser jorganizza hike in-naha tas-South ta' Malta mod specjali hdejn Ghar Hasan Birzebbuga u kosta tal-bahar. Dawn I-inhawi huma kkundanati u hemm fence imdawar mieghu, ghalhekk qed nitlob biex hadd ma jiehu r-riskju u jzzomm il boghod minn dawk in-nahat. Qed isir dan I-avviz biex ma jwegga hadd.

08 Donations to Razzet tal-Hbiberija

By Mr Carmel Bajada Commissioner National Events

All groups are kindly requested to donate Lm5 each to be forwarded to Razzet tal-Hbiberija as a donation. If they so wish they can forward the donations to the above-mentioned Commissioner at IHQ who will forward the total sum accordingly. (As was done last year) Mention of the groups that donated will be posted in future copies of the bulletin.

09 From the Commissioner for Rovers

Mr Edward Vella

Rover Scouting is back

During a very important meeting held at IHQ with the Rover Scout leaders, I congratulated all the Crews which registered last year and that are working hard in their Groups. These Crews, which come from San Gwann, Mosta, St Aloysius College, Zurrieq, Cospicua, Hamrun, St Michael's School and Tarxien have a total of 85 very active members. A special well done goes to Tarxien Crew who recently invested all their new members in a special ceremony in my presence.

The above mentioned Crews are all experiencing the proposed programme for Rover Scouts in Malta and their leaders are expected to give a feed back about the same programme by the end of this year. A special meeting about this programme will be held at IHQ on the 2nd December and all members interested to suggest or propose any amendments about the programme are welcome to attend.

National Camp for Rover Scouts

Next year's National Camp for Rover Scouts will be held between the 1st and the 3rd of April at Ghajn Tuffieha Scout Centre. The theme for this year will be "Rover Scouting to All" and the idea is to open doors to all Group Scout Leaders who want to introduce this section in their Groups. Also, during this camp, the general public will have the opportunity to visit and participate in the activities which will be held by the Crews. This will help in the idea of people getting to know us better and this will give us the opportunity to expose ourselves to the media. A sub committee for this camp will be preparing all the activities and anyone who wishes to help, can contact me as soon as possible. Further details about this camp will be given in the next issues of the Bulletin.

Investiture Ceremony

The Maltese version of the Rover investiture ceremony is ready and will be distributed to all Crews during the 2nd December meeting. The Crews can use either the Maltese or the English version during the ceremony. One can obtain both ceremonies electronically by contacting me via email at edvella@maltanet.net

The Crew of the Year Award

This year's Crew of the Year Award will be judged on the commitment, consistency and participation shown by the Crew during the year.

Service

The motto of Rover Scouting is Service, and thus if any Group Scout leader needs any kind of help in his/her group is to contact me immediately as I have Rovers full of energy willing to help.

Christmas Lunch

The Commissioner for Rover Scouts is organising a fund raising activity towards the Association. The activity consists of a Christmas Lunch on the 19th of December 2004. This lunch will be held at Zurrieq Scout Group headquarters and all Leaders, Rovers, Commissioners, Scouters and Friends are invited to attend and join in the fun. Tickets are available from Edward Vella on first come first serve basis as only a limited number of persons will be accepted. Special thanks go towards the St Michael's Scout Group, who offered to do all the cooking, and to the Zurrieq Scout Group for providing the premises.

Life Saving Courses

The commissioner for rover scouts presented certificates and badges to 20 members of the association who successfully attended life saving courses which were organised during last summer. These courses were carried out by qualified instructors from the Red Cross Society. Members who participated for these courses came from, Mosta, San Gwann, Dingli, B'Bugia, St Michael's School, Lyceum and Zebbug Scout Groups. These members not only obtained training for themselves, but now they can contribute towards their groups during water activities.

Fist Aid Courses

Any members of the association, who wish to attend for a First Aid course, can contact the commissioner for Rover Scouts Mr Edward Vella on 79707924 or on edvella@maltanet.net for the possible arrangements. These courses are being carried out on regular basis at St John's Ambulance Brigade, Valletta and frequently members from our groups are attending these courses.

10 Mosta and Mellieha Scout Groups help Razzett tal-Hbiberija

By Mr Edward Vella Venture Scout Leader Mosta Group

The Mosta Venture Unit and the Mellieha Scout Group recently helped out during a fund raising activity held for Razzett tal-Hbiberija. The activity consisted of a treasure Hunt in mountain bikes and a total of 38 cyclists, who came from different clubs, competed in this event. At the end of the activity they managed to collect an amazing sum of Lm1,400. The Mellieha Scout Group offered their dormitories for the cyclists, while the Mosta Unit organised the transport, medical support and food for the competitors. This was another opportunity for the Unit members to obtain another part of the Venture / Dolphin Award.

11 National Rally for Venture Scouts

From Mr John Micallef Engerer Commissioner for Venture Scouts

The National Rally for Venture Scouts was held on Sunday 7th November 2004. A total of 79 Venture Scouts coming from the Birzebbugia, Cospicua, Dingli, Mosta, San Gwann, Siggiewi, St Aloysius College, St Augustine Air, St Venera, Tarxien, Victoria, Zejtun, and Zurrieq Scout Groups attended.

The Venture Units competed for the National Rally for Venture Scouts Shield, which was won by the Zurrieq Unit whilst the St Venera and Tarxien Units were runners up.

The Rally consisted of a 14 Kilometre orienteering exercise covering three checkpoints and four incident points all based on Venture Scout Training. These points consisted of first aid & emergencies, pioneering, orienteering, general scouting skills, and general knowledge. A surprise game was also included at one of the incident points. The teams had to light a fire and prepare a warm drink. The Rally kicked off from the main square of Siggiewi, down to Hagar Qim, Mqabba and finished at Hal Far airfield.

A good number of Leaders from the participating Venture Units also attended to see their Units going along. Commissioners from the Scout Association and Members of the Malta Red Cross helped out as judges at various incident points.

This year the Rally had an international flavour with the visit of Ms Heather Clark who was taken around the various points by the Public Relations Commissioner and the Commissioner for Venture Scouts. Ms Clark comes from the United States and to be precise is a Scout Leader of Troop 333 based in California. She was very impressed with the level of Scouting and our country and stated that our training is very similar to what is carried out in her country.

The Commissioner for Venture Scouts would like to thank all those who helped as judges, the Malta Red Cross for its support, the Venture Scout Leaders and the Venture Scouts themselves for their participation, good behaviour and discipline shown throughout the event.

Well done to all.

12 Scouts National Camp

by the Chief Commissioner Mr Godwin d'Anastasi

A total of 244 Scouts accompanied by their Leaders from the Attard, B'Kara, Dingli, Gzira, Hamrun, Lyceum, Mosta, Rabat, San Gwann, Santa Venera, Sliema, St. Michael School, and Xghajra attended this year's National Annual Scout Camp held at the Ghajn Tuffieha International Scout Camping Centre from Friday, 29th October till Sunday, 31st October.

The Scouts were intermixed and enjoyed various activities during the camp, which amongst other things included crafts, orienteering, hikes and various other events common to scouting.

Mass was celebrated by Father Anton Briffa, Commissioner for Religious Dimensions. Camp fire followed which was interrupted by the arrival of three fire engines from the Xemxija Fire Station of the Civil Protection Department. These were under the guidance of Station Officer Bezzina, who incidentally was also a past scout with the Mosta Scout Group who together with his team of fireman demonstrated the technique used to save a person trapped in a vehicle after a collision and how a vehicle on fire is extinguished.

Camp Chief was Chief Commissioner Mr. Godwin D'Anastasi, who together with his organizing team ensured that no stone was left unturned to ensure the success of the Camp. The camp was also visited by Chief Scout Mr. Vincent Cassar, and an innumerable number of other Commissioners.

13 Errors and Additions

From Mr Mario H Calleja Commissioner for PR

Issue Number 8 Item 9 – The Stella Maris College Scout Group also participated in the JOTA / JOTI and had both stations set up. The Scouts made a lot of contacts including Nazareth and Kuwait.

Issue Number 8 Item 10 – The title of this piece should have been "Paola and Fgura Packs joint activity". Apologies to the Fgura Group.

14 TRAINING AND PROGRAMME DEPARTMENT

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

Level 1 – Initial Adult Leadership Training (Lv1/010/04)

The evaluation session of the Visits to Scout Groups will be held on Tuesday 25th January 2005, at IHQ at 6.00 p.m. All participants on this course are obliged to attend this last session.

Level 3 – Basic Adult Leadership Training (Lv3/003/04 - Second Weekend)

The second weekend of Level 3 will be held on the 15 and 16 January 2005. Further details of this residential weekend will be sent to all the participants.

Beaver Scout Programme Team

After the meeting on **Beaver Scout** held last Thursday, 4th November at Island Headquarters, a **Beaver Scout Programme Team** has been set up. The Team was given the brief to prepare the structure necessary for Beaver Scouting to operate and the Beaver Scout Programme. The members of this Team are the following: Mr. Joe Filletti (Attard Group), Saviour Richard (Dingli Group), Mr. Anthony Grima (Hamrun Group) Ms Joanne Lauri (San Gwann Group), and Ms. Claudette Magro and Ms. Charmaine Sciberras, (St. Venera Group), and the Commissioner Training and Programme, Mr. Michael J Cefai.

15 SOUTH DISTRICT'S MIGGIANI SHIELD 2004 SCOUTING CHALLENGE

By David Schembri – Group Scout Leader – Qrendi Scout Group

Twenty-eight male and female scouts from the B'Bugia, Qrendi, Tarxien, Zabbar, Zejtun, Zurrieq and Xghajra Scout Groups tried their skills at backwoods cooking as part of this year's Miggiani Shield scouting challenge.

The four scout strong teams, consisting of two members from two different scout groups, matched their skills against each other being judged in fire preparation and lighting, originality, food preparation and presentation. The keenly contested challenge saw the Qrendi/ Tarxien team place third, Zurrieq/Tarxien team place second whilst the Zabbar/Zejtun team emerged as the challenge winners.

Presenting the Miggiani Shield to the winning team, Mr. Lino Bonnici, the South District commissioner congratulated all present for their fine efforts throughout the challenge, reminding all that in such challenges there are no winners or losers as each and everyone emerges as true winners at the end of the day.

All present heartily thanked District Commissioner Lino Bonnici, Rinella Commissioner Joseph Bonnici and District Scouter Joseph M. Galea, who together with the Rinella Scout Center support team members, Richard Aquilina and Felix Attard, made the day truly successful. Paola Group Scout Leader Mario Frendo, Martin Bonnici ADC South and Leslie Bonnici Commissioner for Cub Scouts also played an active role in the event, forming part of the judging team.

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

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