

IHQ Bulletin



THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION OF MALTA

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01 POINTS TO REMEMBER

If Only...

Won Lee was a stone cutter who lived in ancient China. He cut large stones and he cut small stones. He made them into ornaments for gardens. Some he cut to build houses. He was proud of his work, but sometimes he would think, "If only I had more money" or "If only I had less work."

One day, Won Lee was walking home from work. The sun was very hot and he was tired, so he sat down at the side of the road. He felt the heat of the sun and thought, "It's the sun that gives us the daylight, the warmth to grow our crops. Surely the sun must be the most powerful of all things."

Won Lee said quietly to himself, "God, if only I could be the sun I would love to feel what it is like to be the most powerful, the greatest of all things."

God answered Won Lee. "You may become the sun," He said. And Won Lee became the sun. He felt wonderful; so strong and powerful. He shone down on the world far below. After a few days, a puffy white cloud appeared in the sky. It drifted about and, when it came near Won Lee, it blotted out his rays and cast a shadow on the world. Won Lee was sad. Surely this cloud was more powerful than he? "If only I were the cloud. That would make me the greatest of all things," he said.

God heard and again He answered: "Won Lee, you may become the cloud." So Won Lee floated about the sky feeling very grand.

One day, Won Lee saw a great black cloud coming his way. Soon it surrounded him, and he saw the black cloud dripping droplets of water. The drops fell on the earth and made a mighty river.

Won Lee thought that this black cloud must be very powerful to swallow up a cloud and turn itself into a river, so he said, "If only I were the river."

How mighty I would be. Then I would be truly happy.

Again God heard and answered: "Okay. You may be the river."

So Won Lee flowed along, feeling the mighty rush of water. Then he came to a bend in the river.

In This Issue :

- 01 Points to Remember
- 02 100th Anniversary Celebrations Committee
- 03 From the Commissioner for Venture Scouts
- 04 Tarxien Group Summer Camp
- 05 Nature Trust and the Environment
- 06 Kamp tas-Sajf tal-Marsa Group
- 07 37th World Scout Conference
- 08 From the Training & Program Department
- 09 Committee to discuss NGO White Paper
- 10 Sponsored Walk in aid of Razett tal-Hbiberija

For Your Diary :

- 13/9 DCs' / ADCs' Meeting
- 15/9 Commissioners' Meeting
- 19/9 100th Anniversary Celebrations Committee Meeting
- 22/9 Council Meeting
- 27/9 CSLs' Meeting
- 28/9 SLs' Meeting
- 29/9 VSLs' Meeting
- 4/10 Executive Meeting
- 6/10 DCs' / ADCs' Meeting
- 15 – 16/10 JOTA / JOTI

There was a great boulder jutting out into the river. The great boulder held the river, swirling it back onto itself.

Won Lee thought, "The rock! The rock! At last I have found the mightiest of all things. If this rock can hold back the raging river, then it is the greatest. If only I were this great big rock, I would be happy."

So God made Won Lee into the boulder and he stood there, holding back the water and feeling very great and happy. Then, one day, along came a man who cut a large piece off the boulder. Won Lee was sad. No longer was he the greatest if this man could come along and cut him up.

"If only I could be the man who cut up the stone, I would surely be the greatest," Won Lee thought.

And God said to Won Lee: "But you are the Stone Cutter!"

02 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr Mario H Calleja – Commissioner for Public Relations

The Scout Council has appointed Mr Kenneth De Martino as the Chairman of the Organising Committee set up for the celebrations of 100 years of Scouting 2007-2008. The organising committee will soon be calling upon various individuals from all districts to form part of this committee in an effort to organise a series of events which will put Scouting in Malta even more on the map. The Chief Commissioner has also asked for all members with ideas to come forward and participate so the year 2007-2008 will be a memorable one.

03 From the Commissioner for Venture Scouts

Mr John Micallef Engerer - Commissioner for Venture Scouts

The National Venture Scout B.B.Q.

The National Venture Scout B.B.Q. was held on Saturday 16th July 2005 at Ghajn Tuffieha Bay. Regrettably for this year's activity only a total of 22 Venture Scouts and their leaders from Cospicua, San Gwann and Siggiewi Groups and 1 member from the Attard Group attended. Nevertheless, the Venture Scouts enjoyed themselves during a B.B.Q. held late in the evening and also took part in swimming and playing beach volley during the afternoon. The San Gwann Venture Unit slept overnight under bivouacs under the trees surrounding the bay, whilst the Cospicua Venture Unit slept under canvas at the Ghajn Tuffieha International Scout Centre. Many thanks go to all leaders present for their work done throughout the activity as well as all participants for their cooperation. Well done to all.

National Venture Scout 5 A-Side Football Tournament.

The tournament will be held on Saturday 24th September 2005. Depending on the total number of Units taking part, it would be considered that the first round be held on Saturday 17th September 2005 and the finals for the 24th September 2005. A meeting for all Venture Scout Leaders of all interested Venture Units will be held on Tuesday 6th September 2005 at 18.00hrs at Island Head Quarters. Further information will be issued in due course by means of a circular. The Scout Shop is once again the official sponsor of the event. Those who may help in forwarding football grounds for this activity are cordially asked to inform the Commissioner for Venture Scouts as soon as possible, whilst those Units who are interested in participating are to inform same by the end of August 2005.

National Venture and Rover Scouts Community Service.

This year's Community Service is being held between the two Sections and is to be held on the 1st and 2nd October 2005 at Island Head Quarters. Work is needed at I.H.Q. and it was felt that as charity begins at home, we shall be contributing some of our time towards our own Association. Units and Crews taking part may also sleep overnight at I.H.Q.

Further information in due course by means of a circular for your respective Commissioner and possibly a meeting.

04 Tarxien Group Summer Camp

Ms Rita Gatt - ACSL Tarxien Scout Group

It was a Saturday afternoon of a very hot July day, when I arrived there. Big pine and olive trees were offering their most-welcomed shelter to the people present beneath them.

A sweet young lady with mud spattered all over her tender arms and beautiful face, captured my attention. She was mixing soil and water in a big container with her bare hands. She was not wearing any gloves to protect her nails and she did not seem to bother that her nails might break. Looking closely, I could see that she was engrossed in what she was doing, she was enjoying herself; in fact her face was serene and calm. Two other young ladies were having their turns doing the same thing.

Very near, a number of young men were carrying big and heavy stones, discussing where best to put them and how to place them. Asking what was happening, I was told that these youths were trying to build up an oven... a very primitive oven that was to be so very useful for us during the camping days!

Yes, that is where I went. For the very first time in my life, I went camping.

It was buzzing with activities all over the place. I heard distant hammering, and someone explained that it was a sound I have got to get used to... the hammering down of pegs to which ropes will be tied properly in order to put up a camp.

Teenagers, youths of both sexes were all over the place carrying out their duties in a disciplined and happy manner. Distant laughter echoed throughout the whole camping site, indicating that some frolicking was taking place. These young people were carrying out activities that were previously planned with their leaders.

The leaders themselves were there, doing their very best to carry out what was planned before. They were helping, scolding, instructing, laughing and joking, and trying their best to co-ordinate everything in order to achieve their goal.

It was hard work for all involved; yet the sense of achievement was great. It was immaterial for them that they all ended up muddy, sweating and exhausted. They seemed to understand that the end result was not as important as the process itself. The most important thing for them was that the process to achieve their goal was a happy one.

It brought them all together. Helping, teasing, playing jokes on each other, calming the hot-headed and encouraging the less motivated are all part of the process.

The preparation itself and the long relaxing hours spent to carry out the projects and programmes, made up for the difficult situations that popped up from time to time. All in all, serenity, happiness, collegiality, cooperation, and mutual understanding prevailed throughout the whole camping days.

The Campfire was the means that brought all the activities of all the sections together. Parents and relatives were invited to participate. It was held on Friday, 29th, July 2005 at the Ta' Qali campsite. Cubs, scouts, and ventures presented their stunts and song well and everybody participated wholeheartedly. Parents and relatives were very impressed by the happy and relaxing atmosphere.

The kitchen staff and helpers were simply wonderful. These were always ready to please and help, and without their dedication, support and expertise the camping would not have been a success. The varied and healthy meals they prepared to all were done lovingly and with care. Electricity and maintenance problems were taken care of immediately and lovingly.

Lyrics written to the tune of '*Lanca gejjja w ohra sejra...*', were sung by all the kitchen staff and helpers after the meal on Saturday, 30th, July. When all the dishes, pots and pans were washed and put back in their place, the kitchen staff and helpers settled down to a sing-song. Like bees attracted to a beehive, many of the youths on the campsite came into the kitchen area and we all spent lovely and unforgettable moments together. It was a spontaneous activity to celebrate our closing down camping days for summer 2005.

On looking back at those unique and sensitive moments, I could see the built-up tension of hard work in the kitchen breaking up. The presence of all those youths in that small, yet inviting kitchen, showed the appreciation they all felt for the ones who fed them and looked after them so lovingly. In that moment, with tears blurring my vision, I could see and feel the strong togetherness that these camping days have brought about. I felt so very happy and proud to be part of this group... Tarxien Scouts Group.

We have left the camping site yesterday. We have left all the trees there, the beautiful olive and pine trees that offered us their shade, and their strong sturdy trunks to which we tied ropes to serve us as washing lines. We have left all the lovely birdsong that used to make our afternoons so relaxing and pleasant. We have left all that soil and big stones that served us as an excellent oven. All these we left where they belong, so that others can make good use of them like we did. But, we brought back with us a mixture of memories; memories of long and open discussions, memories of hot arguments that needed to be resolved and tackled, memories of relaxation, memories of solidarity, memories of mutual understanding, but most of all, memories of enjoyment, happiness and love.

05 Nature Trust and the Environment

Mr Raymond Darmenia - Commissioner Building & Equipment

Nature Trust has embarked on an ambitious plan to increase the level of environmental awareness of youths/children. It has built an environmental education centre near the entrance of Wied Ghollieqa Nature Reserve within the University Boundary. The educational centre is equipped with all the necessary equipment and can accommodate up to 60 persons. Meanwhile the Nature Reserve which is managed by Nature Trust can be used to organise educational walks and provide the natural ambient ideal for youths/children to feel

themselves in the countryside. Nature Trust has employed environmental educators for this purpose and has also prepared booklets and sheets to be used by children coming for these activities. Trips can be organised during the summer months, weekends and public holidays.

If you are interest in organising environmental activities, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Orland Bonavia on 79445406 or Mr Matthew Giordmania on 79287788.

06 Kamp tas-Sajf tal-Marsa Group

Mr Joe Galea - Assistant Segretarju Marsa Scout Group

IL-Marsa Group ghadha kemm temmet hmistax-il gurnata kamp fit-tined hdejn it-torri ta' Marsaxlokk bit-tema:- "Bhal Ahwa fl-Iscoouts – Familja wahda fil-Kamp". Taht it-tmexxija ta' GSL Alf. Savona li kien il-kamp chief, b'assistant tieghu H/CSL Joe Galea flimkien ma' 9 Scouters ohra. Kien kamp li mexa f'kollox kif kien ipplanat. Hadu sehem 7 bejn Rovers u Ventures, biex flimkien ma' 6 leaders mit-truppa saru dawk il-preparamenti ta' qabel u wara l-kamp. Gew armati 10 Ridge tents, 2 marquees – 1 bhala kcina u iehor kamp ghali-ikel. RD tent bhala Tuck shop u 6 tined ohra ta' l-iscouters personali. Barra dawn kien hemm ukoll 4 mobile toilets u 6 showers.

Il-programm kien varjat u ppreparat mis-section leaders SL A. Cutajar ghat-Troop u CSL A. Vella ghall-Pack mghejunin mill-assistenti / instructors rispettivament. Il-quddiesa ta' kull jum ma naqsetx mill-group chaplain Rev. Fr. Anton Dimech. Li bhala rikonoxximent tal-hidma li qed iwettaq fil-Group gie pprezentat bit-Thanks Badge mill-GSL Alf. Savona. Saru diversi attivitajiet fosthom Badge work – Canoeing – Water Sports Festival u kompetizzjoni tad-Drill li giet mirbuha minn PL. Balzan Jurgen.

Wagt il-kamp ma nqasux iz-zjajjar minn diversi personalitajiet fosthom il-kappillan tas-Ssma. Trinita Rev. Fr. Manwel Abela, Chief Scout is-Sur Vincent Cassar, id-District Commissioner South is-Sur Martin Bonnici, Ex – DC is-Sur Lino Bonnici u Hon GSL is-Sur George Camilleri, diversi ex-scouters, membri u hbieb tal-Group fosthom is-Sur Salvu Debrincat ex Drum Major tal-banda tal-Group li gab ghotja ta' rations u frott lill-Group. Nixtieq nggid ukoll illi l-kappillan ta' M'Regina ma setax izurna minhabba mpenji ohrajn.

Izda l-qofol ta' kull kamp dejjem jintlehaq permezz tal-Campfire fejn din is-sena bhas-soltu ergajna rajna t-talent umli tat-tfal taghna Cubs, Scouts u Ventures u hawn ma nistax ma nsemmiex lill-ACSL Mark Catania li mexxa b'hila kbira l-Campfire u ghaqqad lil kull min kien prezenti fosthom nmru kbir ta' genituri, membri mssg. U hbieb ohrajn. Kienu pprezentati numru ta' stunts, sketches u kant li allegraw is-serata. Fl-ahhar il-campfire ghalaq bl-innu tal-Marsa Group.

Ta' min isemmi wkoll b'sodisfazzjon li l-Group wettqet ukoll skema tat-tqassim ta' l-skart permezz tal-Waste Serv. Tul il-kamp saret l-ghazla fis-separazzjoni ta' l-iskart u b'hekk it-tfal tghallmu u pprattikaw l-importanza ta' l-ghazla ta' l-iskart u zamma ta' Ambjent ahjar.

Ir-rebbieha f'dan il-kamp kienu dawn:- L-ahjar Patrol - "Cobra" L-ahjar Leader - PL Balzan Jurgen L-ahjar Scout – Sc Cassar Melchior Finalment, il-GSL ghan-nom tal-Group jghid grazzi lil kull min ta' s-sehem tieghu jew ghin b'xi mod jew iehor biex seta' jsir dan il-kamp.

07 37th World Scout Conference

Mr Vincent Cassar - Chief Scout

Scouting's vision and aspirations, as it comes to the end of its first century and enters into its second century, will be one of the main topics of discussion at the next 37th World Scout Conference that will be held at Hammamet, Tunisia between the 5th to 9th September 2005. The Scout Association of Malta will be represented at the World Conference by its Chief Scout, Mr Vincent Cassar who will be accompanied by Mr David Schembri, Group Scout Leader of the Qrendi Scout Group and member of the National Scout Council.

During the Conference, Mr Cassar will present the local Association's "Gift for Peace" project. The subject of peace – specifically peace education – has always been a fundamental part of Scouting. Scouting recognizes the need for renewed action to combat the problems which we all face; chief amongst these is the need of a more peaceful world achieved through a culture of peace, and not simply the absence of war. The main concept behind the "Gifts for Peace" initiative is that every Scout in the world makes a contribution towards peace to mark the 100th anniversary of Scouting.

The World Conference in Tunisia is of particular importance to the Scout Movement as it will be the last one for this first century of Scouting. In fact during 2007, Scouting will celebrate its first centenary. A hundred years

during which Scouting has contributed to the non-formal education of over half a billion young people, without any distinction of race, religion, gender or class. One hundred years during which adults all over the world have committed themselves to accompanying young people in their development.

A year after, in 2008, The Scout Association of Malta will itself celebrate its first centenary. A hundred years during which the local Association has not only grown in numbers but has established itself as a forward looking organization that has contributed and continues to contribute to the education and character formation of young people in Malta and Gozo.

During these two years a number of events, both at an international as well as on a national level will be held. Only recently, during the month of August, the EuroJam (Euro Jamboree) was held at Hylands Park, Chelmsford in the U.K. At this event, which served as a prelude to the 21st World Scout Jamboree to be held on the same site in 2007, 45 male and female Scouts from Malta together with their leaders joined around 8,000 Scouts and Guides from another 51 countries at what proved to be a unique and enjoyable experience.

The World Organisation of the Scout Movement has decided that the theme for the 2007 celebrations will be ONE WORLD, ONE PROMISE. The year 2007 will mark the start of Scouting's second century and a new beginning for Scouting. The year when the worldwide Movement will bring the benefits of Scouting to the notice of those young people it has not yet reached and take them forward with it into its second century.

The Vision of Scouting is that of making a real contribution to creating a better world. Scouting is seen to be an influential, value-based educational Movement focused on achieving its mission through the involvement of young people working together to develop their full potential, supported by adults who are willing and able to carry out their educational role. Scouting is thus also an attraction to adults, women and men as through it they can make a significant contribution to society by working with young people.

08 From the Training and Program Dept

Mr Leslie Bonnici - Training and Program Department

The Training and Program Section is going through a reorganisation phase in all sections, to evaluate all the Training Proposals and Program of each section. The following meetings are going to be held at IHQ at 18.00 hrs sharp:

Cub Section – Tuesday 27th September.

Scout Section – Wednesday 28th September.

Venture Section – Thursday 29th September.

Items to be discussed:

- Future functioning within each section – and introduction to 'Self Managed Teams' SMTs – candidate nominations for the SMTs.
- Activities held within each section.
- Section Program.

It is imperative that all sectional records of the last five (5) years must be up-to-date. These must be on individual bases (cub/scout/venture) and include the following information.

- The date of entry, date of birth,
- All progressive achievements (arrow/standard/ venture award/proficiency);
- Internal courses (sixers/pl courses);
- External courses (first aid/fire fighting etc).

The above information will be collected during a number of surveys, which will be held in the immediate future.

It is imperative that Section leaders attend to these meetings - failing to attend or to notify the undersigned shall be very negatively noted. These meetings will presumably be extensive more than normal, so please prepare yourselves for some extended time.

09 Committee considering the White Paper on NGOs

Mr Evander Borg – Chairman

The Scout Association of Malta has formed a sub-committee for reviewing the proposed NGO legislation. This sub-committee has been established by the Scout Council and the Executive Committee with responsibility for

reviewing the White paper entitled “Strengthening the Voluntary Sector” issued by the Ministry for the Family and Social Solidarity on 29 July 2005. The Committee was duly constituted with effect from 26 July 2005 and is composed of four members as follows: Dr Arthur Azzopardi, AGSL St Augustine Air Scout Group, Mr Pierre Pace Member of the Finance Committee, Mr Mario H Calleja, Commissioner Public Relations and Mr Evander M. Borg, Council Member who is also acting as Chairman of the Committee.

Their brief is to

- Review the White Paper including the proposed amendments to the Civil Code and proposed legislation appended with said White Paper.
- Formally extend an invitation to the Girl Guide Association of Malta to liaise on matters arising from the White Paper and mutually affecting both organizations.
- Investigate into the procedures, practices and activities of the Scout Association of Malta and of any person acting for or on behalf of the Association for the purpose of finding out how the proposals in the White Paper would affect the rights and compliance obligations of the Association and the internal policy, organisation and rules.
- Disseminate information and awareness of the Association’s position amongst all Scout Groups and IHQ Staff, and promote a pro-active approach to identify and prioritise issues arising out of the White Paper.
- Organise seminars/workshops to create fora for discussion and collection of ideas.
- Draw up a final position paper for presentation to the Ministry for Family and Social Solidarity.

10 Sponsored Walk in aid of Razzett tal-Hbiberija

Mr Mario H Calleja – Commissioner for PR

Date	5 th November 2005
Venue	Razzett tal-Hbiberija, Marsascalea
How to get there	Public Bus Transport Route 17, 19, 20 or 22
Register for walk	0900hrs – 0925hrs
Time of Walk	0930hrs sharp
Who can participate	Everyone is invited..... the more the merrier

For more details contact Twanny Fenech on 21636526 or by e-mail on events@razzett.org

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

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