

IHQ Bulletin



THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION OF MALTA, ISLAND HEADQUARTERS, E.S. TONNA STREET. FLORIANA VLT 16

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FOR YOUR JULY DIARY

Thu 3rd – Camporee Meeting
Sat 5th – Cubs Summer Activity
Thu 8th – Commissioners Meeting

Thu 10th – Training Team Meeting
Tue 15th – Executive Meeting

Other Dates for your Diary

Friday 29th August to Sunday, 7th September Camporee at Ghajn Tuffieha.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

Beauty

Aids to Scoutmastership B.-P. 1920

In other words one may suggest that happiness is a matter of inner conscience and outward sense working in combination. It is to be got where the conscience as well as the senses together are satisfied. If the above quoted definition be true, the converse is at least equally certain – namely, that the appreciation of beauty cannot bring happiness if your conscience is not at rest. So that if we want our boys to gain happiness in life we must put into them the practice of doing good to their neighbours, and in addition, the appreciation of the beautiful in Nature.

1. From the Chief Commissioner

Mr Godwin D'Anastasi

- Rover and Venture Scout Epaulettes.

Please note that Rover and Venture Scouts may start wearing the newly designed epaulettes which may be obtained from the Scout Shop.

- Leaders Epaulettes

These are now ready. Leaders will be duly notified by the Training Department and nobody will be able to obtain them without the necessary certificate that will be issued by either Mr Michael Cefai or his nominated Scouter

- New designed Appointment and Warrant Certificates.

In the past few weeks, Messrs. Michael J Cefai, David Schembri, Elvio Briffa and Mario H Calleja, have been working with the Chief Commissioner to formulate and redesign new Appointment and Warrant Certificates. To further promote the Maltese identity, these will be in Maltese.

- Beavers' Sub Coimmittee

The Beavers' Sub Committee made up of Messrs. Adrian Borg, Joe Briffa, Leslie Bonnici, Mario H Calleja and Capt Reuben Lanfranco, have finalized their task on Tuesday, 10th June, 2003. A report has been submitted to the Chief Commissioner for consideration. I would like to offer my sincere thanks to all the Sub Committee members on a job very well done.

- New Cub Scout and Cub Scout Leaders' handbooks.

Following the launching of the Cub Scout and Cub Scout Leaders handbooks, it has come to my attention that some Group Scout Leaders and/or Cub Scout Leaders have decided to produce photo copies of the said manuals. May I inform one and all that both manuals are covered by copyright and it is forbidden to have them copied without the express written permission of The Scout Association of Malta, which represent the owner of the said copyright.

2. Promoting Maltese Scouting beyond our shores

By Mr David Schembri Commissioner for Human Resources & Support

The World Wide Web has today made mother Earth a truly small place. With the press of a button on one's computer, one can easily surf the net discovering locations that one would never have believed to have ever existed. Using one of the most powerful search engines, and by inputting the word 'Scout Association of Malta', one can easily find oneself forwarded to numerous scout sites, both locally and abroad. Having preformed the above, I decided to enter two of these 'foreign Maltese' sites to investigate further.

The following interesting articles emerged, and are truly worth reproducing

Site One - The Unexplained: I was crouched on the floor one late night, alone in the basement Headquarters, making up a large display knotting board. Shortly before midnight a piece of chalk came rolling at me from some 5 yards away and stopped when it hit the knotting board. There was no one else in the hall, all windows were locked shut, front door was closed, and there was absolutely no reason for this piece of chalk to leave the foot of the blackboard we had screwed to the wall. I quietly packed up for the night and went hastily home. I mentioned the fact to Wings the next day and he reminded me of the 1st World War patients and their suffering, and sometimes death in our Scout Headquarters. I never received a satisfactory explanation.

Site Two - I recollect the days when we used to have Scouters and Guiders parties every month. We used to alternate sometimes and at times we all pitch in. One incident that I recall quite well - Tamara Price, Capt Price's daughter and I were in the kitchen making tea in those large rectangular pots [I forget what we used to call them]. Tina - Tamara's nickname - said, "Oh My Gosh! We forgot the ladle"! Not blinking an eyelash I took off a chair leg and stirred the pot. She exclaimed, "but you did not wash that ... it is dirty?"... I lifted it out of the pot and showed her a clean leg!! But the people out there ... Never mind ... they do not know about this

..... (They do now,
kind sir, but we are positive that your actions added that extra and unique flavour to the tea).....

Investigating further brought me in contact with the web page's web masters, two truly remarkable gentlemen, Mr. Paul Calleja-Gera and Mr. Thomas Vella-Zarb, former scout leaders in the Sliema and Lyceum / Dockyard School scout groups, currently residing in the United Kingdom and Canada respectively. These fine gentlemen, truly remarkable ambassadors of the Maltese scout association and our

island home, have included articles and pictures in their own personal web sites of their 'Malta scouting life in their younger days. The articles are not only entertaining but of a highly educational value with regards to the 'yesterday years in Maltese Scouting'. Their web sites are a "must" to those that hold Maltese scouting at heart.

These gentlemen have shown us the power of the World Wide Web and its benefits. A field where the Malta scouts association can keep in close contact with its former members both locally and abroad. A tool where we can advertise our association and respective scout groups beyond our shores.

With many of the local scout groups setting up their own web sites, links to the scout association's web page www.maltascout.org.mt should be encouraged. Interested scouts, both foreign and local members should be encouraged to visit and sign the respective sites guest books thus establishing "contacts outside our shores". The Malta scout association's monthly bulletin could easily be forwarded to these recipients at no added costs, helping to keep further personal and close contacts. Each and every one of us can help to build greater bonds between our present and past members. It is up to each of us to do our part no matter how small this may seem to be.

The respective web sites are reproduced below and well worth a visit.

Mr. Calleja-Gera <http://www.shurdington.1to1.org/paulcg.htm> and
Mr. Thomas Vella Zarb <http://www.netrover.com/~toveza>

Please find the time to sign their guest books in recognition of their sterling efforts to promote "**Maltese Scouting**" and our nation home, both of which we all are proud of.

3. Badge Collectors

By Mr Mario H Calleja Commissioner for Public Relations

Greetings from Canada,

I am a leader with the 2nd St Albert Eagle Cub Pack in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada and am interested in expanding my collection of international badges, both for myself and as a way of teaching our Cubs about Scouting around the world. I would like to acquire two or three badges from Malta and would greatly appreciate it if you could put me in touch with someone in your movement that would be interested in trading badge.

Hope to hear from you soon. Thank you,

Yours in Scouting

David Weger (Shere Khan) deweger@shaw.ca

4. 46th Jamboree On The Air – JOTA – 18 & 19 October 2003

By Mr Mario H Calleja Commissioner for Public Relations

The largest annual WOSM event, the Jamboree-On-The-Air (JOTA) will be held this year for the 46th time during the weekend of 18 and 19 October 2003.

The JOTA is an annual event in which about 500,000 Scouts and Guides all over the world make contacts with each other by means of amateur radio. It is a real Jamboree during which Scouting experiences are exchanged and ideas are shared, thus contributing to the world brotherhood of Scouting.

<http://www.home.zonnet.nl/worldscout/Jota/44jota.htm>

5. Maltese Scouting and North African Scouting

By Mr David Schembri Commissioner for Human Resources & Support

Recently Malta has been discovered by Tunisian Scouts where in the last three years an average of between eighty to one hundred and fifty Tunisian Scouts visit Malta in Summer.

Last September My daughter and I attended a ten day Discovery jamboree in Libya. Apart from us two were 300 Libyan Scouts, Ten Jordanian Scouts and Ten Egyptian Scouts.

Arab region scouts are extremely well organised and leave no stone unturned in offering the best hospitality possible. Arabic Scouts have already organised fifty two Arab jamborees whilst the European have only organised two.

This following article is taken from the book "Scouting in Malta, an illustrated History" J.A.Mizzi 1989.

More and more Scouts went abroad in the summer of 1947. Rovers of Sliema and Paola toured Sicily. Twenty-five Scouts from Valletta spent a week camping near Catania. Nine Scouts from Lascaris led by Scoutmaster Anthony Barthelet and Assistant Scoutmaster Victor Mizzi spent three weeks as the guests of the 4th (Harnham) Salisbury Group whose Scoutmaster Martyn Chaplin had been Scoutmaster of the Sa Maison and the 2nd Pembroke Troop whilst serving with the Royal Air Force in Malta during the war.

Twelve Rovers from Floriana spent a month touring Italy, France and Switzerland where they stayed at the International Scout Chalet at Kandersteg. Another group of 14 Rovers from St. Aloysius College, led by Group Scoutmaster Anthony F. (Mickey) Mifsud followed them at Kandersteg. In Rome, en route to Switzerland, the College Rovers were invited to take part in the congress of Catholic Action with a midnight Mass at the Termed di Caracalla and to hear the Pope's address to a crowd of some 600,000 in St. Peter's Square.

Twenty-one Rovers and Scouters joined the Mediterranean Fleet on its second summer cruise, taking passage in the aircraft carrier H.M.S. Triumph. Led by Capt. Ingham they were Julian Bartolo (St. Julian's), Julian Sammut and John Agius (Sliema), Francis X. Martin (University), Joseph Munro and Joseph Cordina (Dockyard), Salvino Savona and Frank Kingswell (Vilhena), Peter Paul Vassallo (Rabat), Paul Falzon and Carmel Galea (Mosta), Joseph Muscat and Anthony Bonello (Zebbug), Joseph Zerafa (Naxxar), Francis Fenech (Msida), Joseph Mula (Zurrieq), Anthony Portelli (Hamrun), Victor Borg (St. Edward's College), J.A. Mizzi (St. Aloysius College) and Ramiro Scicluna (Zejtun).

The aircraft carrier visited Tripoli, Bone and Aranci Bay in Sardinia. In Bone the Scouts met French counterparts who had been to the Jamboree as Moisson and were shown round by an architect of Maltese parentage, Mr. J.A. Buttigieg. They also met several Gozitans whose forebears had settled in the town. From Bone they went by train to Algiers. A journey of 405 miles.

But it was in Tripoli that the Maltese Scouts received the warmest welcome. The Maltese community gave a reception in their honour and their visit gave a fillip to the fledgling Scout Troop of Maltese boys who had just returned from concentration camps in Italy where they were interned as British subject throughout the war years.

Their Group Scoutmaster, Mr. J.E. Agius, described how no one in Tripoli had dared to be a Boy Scout before the war as only Mussolini's Balilla were allowed in uniform. Arab, Jewish, Maltese and Italian boys were banned from starting Scout Groups. But

with the British occupation of Tripolitania in 1943, the first Scout Troops were started by a Maltese, Mr. Harry Gatt of Pawla, who was serving with the military government.

6. British Scouts in Malta

By Mr David Schembri Commissioner for Human Resources & Support

On Wednesday Steve Brown and his 12 year old son Chris visited our Scout Group. The couple are really very nice and it seems that they take their scouting very seriously. Both attended the Group meeting and participated in the activities and got on very well with the Group. Steve presented the Group with a scarf, a few badges and a Staffordshire plate (3 inches in diameter) as a reminder of their visit. The unfortunate thing is that they do not have "wheels" and they are lodged at the Seabank Hotel in Mellieha. Presumably one has to see them home. But the effort is worth it as they are both extremely interested in Scouting and happy to have established sound contact with the Maltese Scouts

7. Cub Section News and activities.

By Mr Leslie Bonnici Commissioner for Cubs

- All National Summer Activity for cubs 5th July.

The venue will be at Marsascala Swimming Pool from 09.30 till 15.30. Entrance fee Lm 1 per person. Food will only be allowed as personal pack. NO PICNIC COOLERS. Those Packs who are interested to attend please send an e-mail by next week mid-week if possible, and the approx no of persons. There must be a leader with every 6 to 8 cubs and each pack must organise a water game for approx 200 cubs (I will tell every one the exact number as soon as each pack confirms their participation), and equipment must be provided by each pack for all those participating.

Group Tee shirt to be worn and group scarf. Proper sun hat or cap must be worn. And don't forget your SUN BLOCK and swim suit.

- Week End camp for Cubs.

Most Cub Packs will be joining their respective groups during the Nation Scout Camp at Ghajn Tuffieha this summer, but most leaders agreed to organize a National Cub Camp during the mid term Holidays of November.

The tentative dates will be Friday 31st October 1st and 2nd November. An organizing committee is form to plan for this event. More information will be sent to you in due course.

- Week End camp for Cub Leaders.

This years camp will be held during the W/E of 10-11-12 October. It will be held at Zurrieq Scout centre. Previous Cub Leaders Camps have always been a success and hope that this year's will be the same. More information will be sent to you in due course.

If any one of you would like to have more information please contact me. I will be abroad between 21st till 30th June.

8. International Scouting

By Mr David Schembri Commissioner for Human Resources & Support

The following is a copy of the correspondence related to the visit of Doreen and David Carnell who marched with the Qrendi Group during the Annual Parade

- *From David Schembri*

Dear Mr Warburton

The Scout Association of Malta together with the Qrendi Scout Group shared the honour of the participation of Scouters Doreen and Chris Carnell of 2nd Warrington (St James) at the Scout and Guide annual parade that was held during their visit to Malta in May.

Your scout leaders, fitting ambassadors of the British Scout Association helped in consolidating the excellent ties that exist between our two nations and associations.

Mr and Mrs Carnell featured prominently in the local English media that covered the annual parade and the British scout leaders stay in Malta

I am forwarding a copy of our latest Scout bulletin that gave tribute to the scout leaders stay in Malta,

Yours in Scouting

David Schembri

- *From Tony Warburton*

Dear Mr Schembri

Thank you for taking the time to let me know how successful Doreen and Chris Carnell's visit to Malta was for your scouting community. They are a very valued part of our District Team. As well as being the main stays of their own Group Doreen is a District Cub Scout Leader and Chris is very much involved in the management of our District Headquarters.

They have come back to Warrington full of praise for the Scouts of Malta and the hospitality they were shown during their visit. Their experience is an example of the world wide family of scouting in action.

I am sure they will have indicated that should any of your membership be over in the UK and particularly if they are in our North West region they would welcome contact with them. Can I say on behalf of our District that we would also be please to return the hospitality extended to Doreen and Chris.

Thank you for the copy of your bulletin which I will read with interest.

Yours in scouting

Tony Warburton

District Commissioner (Warrington West District)

9. Kandersteg International Scout Centre

By Mr Franco Azzopardi International Commissioner

This Kandersteg offers a unique environment in which young people of all nations can join together in new challenges, scale new heights and collect memories that will be remembered for the rest of their lives. There is something for everyone at Kandersteg. You can explore the mountains on skis or by foot, learn a new craft, try out rock climbing or go crawling down a cave.

Kandersteg International Scout Centre is the only World Centre of the World Organization of the Scout Movement. For more than 75 years, hundreds of

thousands of guests have come from all over the world to share in its unique atmosphere.

Our program of activities is built around themes of International Friendship, High Adventure and the Environment. These themes bring our guests together and encourage them to experience the alpine environment.

Why don't you take the opportunity to visit <http://www.kisc.ch/> and SHARE in the Magic that is Kandersteg

10. Small Nations Games

By Mr Jeremy Borg Grech ACSL St Julians Scout Group

On After the long term of dedicated training and preparation for the GSSE events, Nicolai Portelli placed 2nd and even holds the national record of the 400 meter race.

On the day of the race some members of the group met at Marsa Sports club to encourage and even cheer Nicolai. Well done Nik.

Mentioning sports and good placing one should also mention James Dimech (a St. Julian's Cub Scout) who practices cycling and is also a member of Mosta Cycling Club has recently placed 2nd in a cross country event. Keep it up James.



11. Venture Scout Section news.

By Mr John Micallef Engerer Commissioner for Venture Scouts

- National Venture and Rover Scouts BBQ Adventure Weekend

The next National activity for Venture and Rover Scouts is a BBQ Adventure Weekend being held between Saturday 19th to Sunday 20th July 2003. The Venue for this activity is proposed to be at the Dwejra Gozo.

A Committee for this activity is to be set up in order to organize and help in the preparations needed for such an activity. All those interested are to contact the Commissioners for Venture and Rover Scouts at IHQ. Further information may be obtained from both Commissioners.

- Venture Award Achievements

Congratulations to Mark Sultana, Julia Dalli, Christine Jones, Jonathan Farrugia, Jean Paul Sultana, David Gixti, Audrey Grech and Bernice Vella from the San Gwann Venture Scout Unit and Manuel Borg from the Mosta Venture Scout Unit for achieving the Venture Award. Well done to all the above mentioned as well as to their respective leaders and Groups

- Venture Scout Units

Since the receipt at IHQ of the last Census returns it appears that there has been some changes regarding Venture Scout Units. The Commissioner for Venture Scouts would like to update the current list of units and leaders so as to be able to keep everyone informed of the plans and activities concerning this section.

Group Scout Leaders are therefore kindly asked to inform the Commissioner for Venture Scout if the Group's Venture Scout Unit is operating or not by sending all details about the current leader/s or Scouter in Charge as soon as possible. Please do comply with this request.

12. Troop Summer football tournament

By Mr Alex Cutajar Scout Leader Marsa Scout Group

The Summer Football Tournament will this year be organized in September / October and further information will be circulated in due course.

13. Equal Opportunity, Equal Participation Seminar

By Mr Franco Azzopardi International Commissioner

Two members from our association, and another from the local guide association, together with another 30 members from WOSM and WAGGGS European regions will be attending a seminar in Budapest, Hungary .

Leslie Bonnici together with Pamela Schembri has been selected by the European region from the four members that have shown interest attending.

The seminar will focus on how the achievement of equal opportunities will lead to more active participation by young people in society. The focus of this seminar will not solely be on gender equality but on ensuring that each person, without distinction of origin, race, creed, abilities or wealth is encouraged and assisted to achieve his or her full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential. Special attention is also being made to intercultural learning and methodologies different from Guiding and Scouting.