

IHQ Bulletin



THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION OF MALTA

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01 POINTS TO REMEMBER

THE ONLY TRUE SUCCESS IS HAPPINESS

From "Rovering to Success" by BP

What is success?

Top of the tree? Riches? Position? Power?

Not a bit of it!

These and many other ideas will naturally occur to your mind. They are what are generally preached as success, and also they generally mean overreaching some other fellows and showing that you are better than they are in one line or another. In other words, gaining something at another's expense.

That is not my idea of success.

My belief is that we were put into this world of wonders and beauty with a special ability to appreciate them, in some cases to have the fun of taking a hand in developing them, and also in being able to help other people instead of overreaching them and, through it all, to enjoy life - that is, TO BE HAPPY.

That is what I count as success, to be happy. But Happiness is not merely *passive*; that is, you don't get it by sitting down to receive it; that would be a smaller thing - pleasure.

But we are given arms and legs and brains and ambitions with which to be active; and it is the active that counts more than the passive in gaining true Happiness.

TWO KEYS TO HAPPINESS

The rich man has his limitations. He may have two or three houses and dozens of rooms in each, but he

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can only occupy one of these in turn, since he only has one body.

He is no better off than the poorest in that way. He may look at and admire the sunset, enjoy the sunshine, or the view, but the poor man can do that just as fully.

If the poorer man has the sense to do two things in life he can enjoy it just as well as the millionaire, and probably better.

The first is:

Not to take things too seriously, but to make the best of what you have got, and to look on life as a game, and the world as a play-ground. But, as Shackleton has said, "Life is the greatest of all games; but there is the danger of treating it as a trivial game.... The chief end is to win through honourably and splendidly."

The second is:

To let your actions and thoughts be directed by Love. By Love with a capital "L" I don't mean falling in love and so on. I mean the use of the kindly spirit which you show when you do good turns to other people, when you are kind and sympathetic, and when you show gratitude to others for kindness done to you. That is, Good-will. And Good-will is God's will.

02 From the Chief Commissioner

Mr Godwin D'Anastasi

Cancellations of appointments

The following appointments have been withdrawn and cancelled.

As from 1st December 2006

| | | | |
|----------|------------------|-------------------|--------|
| 015/2002 | Stuart Ciappara | Auxiliary Finance | IHQ |
| 036/2003 | Marlon Psaila | ASL | Hamrun |
| 061/2004 | Vincent Farrugia | SL | Attard |

Appointments

The Chief Commissioner has approved the following appointments.

As from 1st December 2006.

| | | | |
|----------|------------------|---------------------|--------|
| 036/2006 | Vincent Farrugia | GSL | Attard |
| 037/2006 | Mark Darmanin | Asst. Comm. Finance | IHQ |
| 038/2006 | Stuart Ciappara | Asst. Comm. Finance | IHQ |
| 039/2006 | Helen Farrugia | ACSL | Qawra |
| 040/2006 | Marlon Psaila | CSL | Hamrun |

Warrants

The Chief scout has approved the following warrants with effect from 1st December 2006

| | | | |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------|-------|
| W004/2006 | Mariosa D'Anastasi | Auxiliary | IHQ |
| W005/2006 | May Cassar | GSL | Gzira |

Festive Drinks at IHQ

These were held at IHQ and hosted by the Chief Scout, Vincent Cassar and Chief Commissioner, Godwin D'Anastasi. A large number of lay and uniformed members attended the event. Both the Chief Scout and Chief Commissioner delivered short speeches at the end, and augured the best for the festive season. Our thanks go to all those helpers who provided the excellent service throughout.

03 From the Commissioner for Training and Programme

Mr Leslie Bonnici

For the past few months, the Training & Programme Department has been quietly but steadily working on the new format of adult leadership courses. After months of intense preparation by the Core Team, the first course in the new format commenced in November 2006.

The first course in the new Adult Leadership Training Programme catered for adults who had previously undergone training and were awaiting the final phase of the Woodbadge course. It was only fair that as they had already been in the system, they would be the first intake. After an absence of three years they have the opportunity of completing the course and finally attaining their Woodbadge.

Advanced Adult Leadership Course

The first AALC is nearing the end. Starting in November and with a mini break over the festive period, this course consisted of eighteen modules spread out over eight Mondays. The new format of the course content and its presentation has been very well received by the thirty-eight participants.

I would like to congratulate the participants in advance and look forward to presenting them with the Woodbadge beads after completing their project.

Getting Started

In the month of December 2006, the "Getting Started" training fact sheets were sent to all GSLs. The GSLs must now distribute these fact sheets to all the new Scouters working in their respective Sections to help them get started on the road to receiving training relevant to their position and responsibilities.

It is imperative that all new Scouters complete the Training Workbook and Course Application Form and send this to the Training Department.

At the same time, in order to regularise their position within the Association all new Scouters must complete and send the Appointment Form applying for an appointment of 'Support Leader' at IHQ. For ease of reference this Appointment Form has also been included with the package sent and must be forwarded to the Training & Programme Department along with the Training Workbook and Application Form.

You are kindly requested to notify the Commissioner for Training & Programme if for some reason you have not received any of the Getting Started Training Package and this will be sent to you immediately.

Pathfinder

Before a new Scouter Trainee applies to attend the Pathfinder Course, he/she must have been working with their respective section for at least six months.

To attend the Pathfinder course, all Scouter Trainees must have completed the Getting Started phase.

Basic Course

All Scouters who have attended up to Level 2 of the previous Adult Training System are eligible to attend the next intake for the Basic Course.

Scouters are asked to complete their Training Workbook and forward this by email to the Training Department as early as possible. On receipt, an application form for the next intake will be sent out for completion.

All trainees who are working with their respective sections must have a valid First Aid Certificate and if possible a Food Handling Certificate.

Since the start of the new Adult Training Scheme, a new structure has been introduced. This consists of attending modules according to your personal needs. It is therefore very important that your Training Workbook is correctly completed and validated to ensure that one does not attend modules needlessly.

Following receipt of your Training Workbook a Training Advisor will be appointed to help to co-ordinate your training programme.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Timetable of Upcoming Courses (held every Monday)

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------|---|
| Pathfinder Course: | Course 1 | 12, 19 and 26 February 2007 |
| | Course 2 | October (dates to be notified at a later stage) |
| Basic Course: | Course 1 | 2, 16, 23, 30 April |
| | | 7, 14, 21, 28 May |
| | | 4, 11 June |

Gone Home:

With deepest regret we inform that our brother scout Christopher Micallef, Assistant Cub Scout Leader with the Fgura Scout Group, has gone to meet the Risen Lord on Saturday 6th January 2007. We send heartfelt condolences to his wife Gina and his son Andrew.

04 From the Commissioner for Venture Scouts

Mr John Micallef Engerer

National Venture Scout 5 A-Side Football Tournament.

The tournament was held on Saturday 4th November 2006 at Naxxar Synthetic pitch, Naxxar. A total of over 85 Venture Scouts together with their leaders from Attard, Cospicua, Marsa, Mosta, Msida, Naxxar, San Gwann, Sliema, Xghajra and Zurrieq Scout Groups took part.

At the end of the activity, the Commissioner for Venture Scouts presented Trophies, Mementos, Medals and Certificates to all who took part. The Msida Venture Scout Unit won the event and was presented with the Winning Shield to be kept for 1 year, whilst the Xghajra Venture Scout Unit was the runners up. Venture Scout Kyle Darmanin of the Zurrieq Venture Scout Unit won the Top Scorer Trophy after having scored 10 goals during the games.

Thanks go to all who attended for their very good behaviour and fair play shown during the event. A special thanks to the Naxxar Local Council for once again granted permission for the use of the football ground. Thanks also to Mr. Charles Grixti, from the Scout Shop for sponsoring the Trophies.

Well done to all.

NATIONAL RALLY FOR VENTURE SCOUTS

The National Rally for Venture Scouts was held on Sunday 19th November 2006. The event took its start from Birzebbuga up to Marsaxlokk, Xrobb I-Ghagin and ended at Marsascula. A total of 61 Venture Scouts from Attard, Birzebbuga, Cospicua, Mosta, Naxxar, San Gwann, St.Venera, St.Aloysius College, Stella Maris College, Tarxien, and Zurrieq Scout Groups attended.

The Venture Units competed for the National Rally for Venture Scouts Shield, which was won by the St.Aloysius College Venture Scout Unit, whilst the Mosta Venture Scout Unit was runners-up. The Tarxien Venture Scout Unit placed third.

The rally consisted of an 11 kilometre orienteering exercise covering two checkpoints and four incident points all based on Venture Scout Training. These points consisted of first aid and emergencies, pioneering and knots, orienteering, general scout crafts and general scout knowledge.

A good number of leaders from the participating Venture Units also attended to see their Units going along. Commissioners from the Scout Association helped as judges at various incident points, together with members from the Malta Red Cross who took charge of the First Aid and Emergencies incident point.

The Commissioner for Venture Scouts would like to thank all those who helped as judges, the Venture Scout Leaders and the Venture Scouts themselves for their participation, the good behaviour and discipline shown throughout the event. He was also very glad with the level of Scouting shown in orienteering and at various Scouting skills.

Well done to all.

05 From the International Commissioner

Mr David Schembri

“Generation Europe – All Different, All Equal” Seminar on Human Rights - European Youth Centre, Strasbourg, 27th November and the 3rd December 2006.

From the International Desk – Scout Association of Malta



Three Maltese Venture Scout Participants, Thomas Frendo, James Baldacchino *from the Fgura Scout Group* and Simon Borg Barhet *from the San Anton Scout Group*, accompanied by Stephanie Darmanin from the Gzira Girl Guides, participated in the Seminar on Human Rights, organised by WAGGGS,

The seminar entitled “Generation Europe – All Different, All Equal” was held at the *European Youth Centre, Strasbourg, between the 27th November and the 3rd December 2006*

This seminar, organised in such a fashion so as to build towards a final goal, commenced with instructional sessions, on the facts of Human Rights and related terminology,. Details on the various participating Scout Associations, as well as on the Council of Europe, were also dealt with during the introduction.

Time to *express ones opinions, and discussions with others* on different issues dealing with human rights, also formed an integral part of the seminar's itinerary, whilst a *planned Human Rights project* was strongly encouraged to be executed in the respective participating countries.

An International Evening held during the seminar was a huge success, where Maltese foods were eagerly tasted by all the participants at the Malta stand, adorned for the occasion with promotional posters and material, made available by the Malta Tourist Board and our national airlines, AirMalta



"The seminar was great.

It was more than just learning on how to create human rights awareness through the scout organisation, but an opportunity to make friends throughout European member states, through shared experiences, ideas, and games. A great way to learn from others and from their experiences enabling one to come up with an effective way to deliver a message of equality to scouts in a way they will find it to be fun and inspiring", reported one of the participants.

Is the Scouting Centenary only about celebrating?



The Workshop on Adult Recruitment in Scouting brought together fifteen participants from Ireland, Malta, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, Sweden and UK, and was held between the 14 to 17 December at Mount St Joseph, Targa Gap.

The aim of the workshop was to explore ways in which one can use the Centenary of Scouting to recruit adults in leadership, and other roles, within the Scout Movement.

The official opening ceremony of this event was inaugurated by the Hon. Dr. Francis Zammit Dimech, Minister for Tourism and Culture, and was held in the Headquarters of the Scout Association of Malta, in the presence of the Maltese Scout officials and workshop participants.

The Minister emphasized that *"Scouting exists for the benefit of young people. It is a youth movement in which adults provide guidance and support to youth members within the various groups and associations"*.

"It is evident that the delivery of the various programmes forming part of the day-to-day instruction to the members of the Movement has to be imparted through competent and dedicated adults".



Scouting and profiles of Leaders, recruitment techniques, and obstacles to recruitment, formed part of the Workshop's itinerary.

Special attention was placed on the Scouting's Centenary as an exceptional occasion, and also as a challenge for recruiting and retaining Leaders. Exchanges of ideas, plans and experiences between participants, indicated a large potential.

Participants worked in small international teams, and tackled Communication issues between national and local Scouting, ensuring a coordinated approach, Adult Recruitment in minority communities, Recruitment Project in Universities and / or Colleges, Adult recruitment and social trends and using new Information Technology System to aid Adult Recruitment, amongst other interesting topics.

The Scout Association of Malta and Mount St. Joseph Retreat Centre provided excellent conditions for work and warm Mediterranean hospitality, to all its foreign scouting colleagues.

06 To All Group Scout Leaders

Mr Mario H Calleja

We have received the following communication from Ms Nadia Fabri and Ms Mariella Grixti of medEcology who are offering their services to give talks to Scout Groups on waste management practices.

This is an excellent opportunity that should not be missed.

Dear Group Scout Leader,

Kindly be informed that Medecology (sub contractors of WasteServ on educational matters) is delivering talks about waste management to different entities including Scout Groups. This is a free service that is being provided by WasteServ through our organisation. You may appreciate the importance of appropriate waste management practices particularly since environmental issues are becoming more relevant today.

Should you like that we deliver a talk to your Scout Group, do not hesitate to contact us on mariella@medecology.org or on 21 313915/6.

Yours sincerely,

Nadia Fabri & Mariella Grixti
medEcology eco-councillors

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

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