

# IHQ Bulletin



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## For Your MAY Diary

1 <sup>st</sup> – Camping Stds (Rinella) - Pt 7	9 <sup>th</sup> – Policy Committee Meeting	23 <sup>rd</sup> /26 <sup>th</sup> – Care Awareness Fair
2 <sup>nd</sup> – Level 1 Course (Part 5)	13 <sup>th</sup> – Camping Stds Pt 9	24 <sup>th</sup> /26 <sup>th</sup> – Camping Stds weekend
2 <sup>nd</sup> – Ethics Committee Meeting	14 <sup>th</sup> – DCs' Meeting	26 <sup>th</sup> – Venture/Rover Activity
5 <sup>th</sup> – Annual Parade	16 <sup>th</sup> – Level 2 Course Pt 1	30 <sup>th</sup> – Training Prog Meeting
6 <sup>th</sup> – Camping Stds Pt 8	18 <sup>th</sup> /19 <sup>th</sup> – Level 4 (3 <sup>rd</sup> Weekend)	

### **1 – Message registered on the Book of Condolences of The Scout Association (UK)**

"The Scout Association of Malta extends its deepest sorrow to all brother Scouts of The Scout Association at the passing away of Her Majesty the Queen Mother and join them in this moment of reflection.

May Her exemplary and long life of service and devotion to duty be an example to us all and push us forward to make this world a better place to live in.

Vincent Cassar - Chief Scout (Malta)"

### **2 – Commissioners for Inclusive Scouting**

The Chief Executive has appointed Mr. Ivan Vella and Mrs Mervin Vella as Commissioners for Inclusive Scouting within the Training and Programme Section. They are both trained Wood Badge Holders with years of experience in the field of children with disabilities.

### **3 – New Youth Website**

The Youthnet Community Portal, aims to give access to youth organisations to create their own websites, do web-streaming of their activities and offers the possibility of chat and forums on issues related to young people. The <http://www.youthnet.org.mt/>

#### **4 – Young Woman in the Community Award 2002**

Soroptimist International has recently organized the Young Woman in the Community Award 2002 and their respective Groups nominated four female Scout Leaders of the Scout Association of Malta for the Award. Eligible for this award were females between the ages of 18 and 30, in recognition of their voluntary work within their community. The nominees, Pamela Schembri of the Qrendi Scout Group, Jacqueline Sciberras of the Mosta Scout Group together with Debbie Xuerreb and Lorraine Brincat of the Birzebbuga Scout Group were amongst the final thirty-one short-listed for the award. Ms Daniella Crocker from the Balzan parish community was announced as the winner of this award at a presentation ceremony held at the Millenium Chapel Hall in Paceville on Friday 5th April 2002. Ms Jesmond Mugliette, wife of the Parliamentary Secretary for Youth and Sport presented Ms. Crocker with an engraved silver tray whilst all the other nominees were presented with a commemorative certificate marking their achievement.

#### **5 – Scout contingent invited for Queen’s Golden Jubilee Celebrations**

Seven Dolphin Award Holders arrived in London, on the 16<sup>th</sup> April, to participate in activities organised by The Scout Association (UK) to celebrate the Queen’s Golden Jubilee of her coronation. Officials from the Scout National Headquarters and the Greater London Middlesex West Scout County greeted them. They took part in the St. George’s Day Parade of Queen’s Scouts and the National Scout Service at Windsor Castle on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2002 which also happens to be Her Majesty’s birthday. The Queen reviewed the Parade, an event which is held annually and which dates back to 1934. The Maltese contingent was made up of Mr Teddy Farrugia, GSL Naxxar Scout Group as Leader, Kurt Caligari from the Cospicua Scout Group, Ivan Sciriha from the Naxxar Scout Group, and Kevin Camilleri, David Darmanin, David Demicoli, Andrew Ellul, all from the Sliema Scout Group. They visited various local Scout Groups and were guests at the Queen’s Scouts Presentation and Dinner held at Brunel University on the 20<sup>th</sup> April. They also met the U.K. Chief Scout at Westminster Hall.

#### **6 – Investiture Ceremony at the 1<sup>st</sup> Hamrun Scout Group**

It was certainly a big occasion for 24 members of the 1<sup>st</sup> Hamrun Scout Group who on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2002 were invested in various Sections of the Group.

The celebration started off by a parade through St. Joseph High Rd Hamrun followed by thanks giving Mass at the Museum Chapel at Blata-l-Bajda celebrated by Fr. Gilian Sammut. After Mass the Group again marched through various streets in Hamrun until we arrived at the HQ. There the official ceremony, presided by our Group Scout Leader Leo Grima, took place.

The Cub Leader Ricahrd Sacco officially presented eight members from the Cub Section to the Scout Leader Cedric Salafia. After this introduction, another seven members who joined the Troop Section during the past four months joined the first eight. Together they pronounced the Scout Law and Promise and afterwards were presented with the Scout beret by the Group Scout Leader as gesture of their official Troop status.

As the newly invested members returned to their ranks eight other members of the Troop Section moved forward. The Scout Leader Cedric Salafia officially presented the new recruits to the Venture Leader Paul Vella. Again, the Law and Promise was pronounced and then the Group Scout Leader presented these members with the Venture Unit badge.

All the members invested were then awarded a commemorative certificate. Accompanied by the applause of the people present for the ceremony and the cheers of the whole Group they took their place among their new Section members.

#### **7 – B’Bugha and Qrendi Scouts help out Din l’Art Helwa at Bir Miftuh, Gudja**

Male and Female members of the Birzebbuga and Qrendi Scout Groups teamed up on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2002, and offered a helping hand to the Maltese Heritage organization Din l’Art Helwa during their embellishment program and general clean up at the Bir Miftuh Medieval Chapel, Gudja.

The Scout contingent helped in the planting of over fifty olive trees in the chapel’s vicinity. They also gave the area a thorough clean up filling an open skip to full capacity with rusty drums and car parts

together with sacks full of plastic bottles and domestic rubbish that had turned the area into an eyesore.

Addressing the large gathering present, Din L'Art Helwa's President Mr Martin Scicluna spoke at length on the need for the conservation of our historical sites, so abundant around the Maltese Islands and praised the Malta Scout Association for their initiative in the preparation of a heritage awareness and conservation award scheme

The Gudja Mayor, Mr John Mary Calleja who was present through out the whole activity, also found the time to speak personally to each and everyone of the Scouts present, congratulating them on their assistance, dedication and team efforts

All present were treated to snacks and refreshments, courtesy of Din l'Art Helwa.

**8 – Basic First Aid Course at IHQ by Red Cross Society**

The Commissioner for Rover Scouts, under the auspices of the Training Department organised a first Aid course at the IHQ. 17 members from different Scout Groups attended a 12 hour course in Basic First Aid lectured by the Malta Red Cross Society. A certificate and a badge were presented by the Commissioner on the last day of the course.

**9 – Scout Groups and Girl Guides embark on President's Award Scheme**

The Paola, Zabbar and Lyceum Scout Groups together with the Paola Girl Guide Company have started working on the President's Award Scheme. An introductory meeting was held at the Paola HQ in which Mr, C. Cilia from the President's Award explained how the programme works. Any Scout Groups who are interested in teaming up with these Scout Groups can contact the Paola GSL Mario Frendo by mail or on e-mail [fritz@onvol.net](mailto:fritz@onvol.net). Further information may be obtained from the official of the President's Award, Mr. Charles Cilia c/o Teachers Documentation & Resource Centre, The Mall, Floriana. Tel: 21 241634.

**10 – Help needed in Iklin Troop.**

The Iklin Scout Group is appealing for help in the running of its Troop which meets every Thursday between 17.00 and 18.30 and consists at the moment of eight Scouts. GSLs are kindly asked to contact Mr Pierre Mangion, Scouter-in-charge, on tel. 21 43 09 00 or email: [stuart@global.net.mt](mailto:stuart@global.net.mt).

**11 – Availability of Campsites up to the end of 2002**

Below is a table showing the booking status of various campsites which are available for Scouting activities. Please note that dates shown in brackets denote that the respective dates are booked, which means that the rest of the month is available. Those dates not in brackets denote that the dates are available and that the rest of the month is booked. For further information please contact the respective GSLs. This information below is accurate as at April 18<sup>th</sup>.

	IHQ	Mellieha	Rinella	Bahar ic-Caghaq	Zurrieq	St Michael
May	No info available	25 – 26	2-10, 13-24, 26-31.	Fully Booked	No info available	Vacant
June		(28 – 30)	Vacant			
July		Vacant	1-4, 7-12, 19-24.			
August		(9 – 17)	Fully Booked			
September		Vacant	9-11, 15-20, 22-27.			
October		Vacant	Vacant			
November		Vacant	Vacant			
December		Vacant	Vacant			

**12 – Spring Flower Show organized by Horticulture Society**

On the weekend of the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> May the Horticulture Society is holding it's Annual Spring Flower Show and the Association has been invited to participate. Scout Groups may exhibit flower arrangements on themes of their choice such as the Scout Association Logo and Local Council Insignia or any other arrangement. Any exhibit needs to be suitable as a table piece and should be made up of fresh flowers. The name of the Group is to be written on a 15 cm x 20 cm card. The exhibits will be only for show but on Sunday from 1800hrs onwards HE the President will present all participants a certificate of participation. Exhibits are to be taken to San Anton Gardens either on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May from 0700hrs up to 2000hrs or on Saturday from 0600hrs up to 1030hrs after which the Gardens will be closed for judging. Exhibits may be collected on Sunday from 2045 hrs or on Monday from 0600hrs up to 1600hrs. Groups who are interested in participating are to contact Mr Gabriel Ebejer on 21 692 144 in order to reserve space for the exhibit.

### **13 – Water Rescue Courses by the Malta Red Cross Society**

The following two courses in Water Rescue are being organised by the Malta Red Cross Society through the Training and Programme Department at IHQ.

#### **INTRODUCTION TO WATER RESCUE & ADVANCED BASICS TO WATER RESCUE**

The Introductory to Water Rescue (16 hrs duration) is intended for Scout members 15 to 18 years, whilst Advanced Basics to Water Rescue (25hrs duration) will be for all Scout members and leaders over 18 years of age. These courses will commence in June and the sessions will be held on every Mondays and Thursdays between 17:30 and 20:30.

At the end of the course a certificate and an ID, as a rescuer, will be issued. The MRCS's Life Saver badge may also be worn on the Scout Uniform

The Introductory to water rescue will be equivalent for the Venture Award or the Dolphin Award.

The fee for these courses will be LM10.00 for the introductory and LM15.00 for the Advanced.

Closing date for these courses is Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> of April and application forms are available from the Secretariat IHQ. Applicants have to be full members of the Association and will be considered on the first come first serve basis, as only a limited number will be accepted.

### **14 – Care Awareness Fair**

The Association has been invited to participate in the above Fair that is to be held between the 23rd and 26th May at the Fair Grounds in Naxxar. Each stand that measures 3mtr x 3mtr costs Lm10 and contains 9 one-meter panels on which to fix exhibition material. Stands may be shared between Groups each taking a minimum of three panels at a cost of Lm3.40 per set. All Groups wishing to participate are to contact the undersigned as soon as possible stating their level of participation. Participating Groups are to form part of a roster tending the stands during the Fair. There are four Scout Groups who are participating besides two stands of the Association. Space is already very limited and Groups are therefore urged to decide as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. Those interested are to contact the PRO.

### **15 - PRESIDENT'S AWARD**

On the 18th April, 2002 H.E. President Prof. Guido De Marco presented 59 Gold Standard Awards and Certificates to all those who participated in the President's Award Gold Award scheme. The evening event was held at the Grandmaster's Palace and was presented by Mr. Mario Cilia, the co-ordinator of the Presidents Award for Malta. In his speech, H.E. President spoke about the importance of youth involvement in the community and to put their free time to good use. Another distinguished guest included the Hon Minister for Education Dr. Louis Galea. Amongst the Awardees was Ms Vanessa Mangion (ACSL), Mr Jeffrey Cachia (Venture Scout), Mr. Manwel Zerafa (Venture Scout) all the three of them from Zurrieq Scout Group.

### **16 – St Michael School holds Rover Scout Investiture Ceremony**

The 28<sup>th</sup> April 2002 was a red letter day for the St Michael School Scout Group. The event started off with a Thanksgiving Holy Mass said by Rev Francis Zammit SDB. After the flag raising ceremony, the new banners for the Unit and Crew were blessed and then this was followed by a number of Investitures, Going-up Ceremonies and presentation of Awards. The event included the Investiture of six Rover Scouts. The Rover Scout Investiture Ceremony was divided into two parts. The first part was the Investiture of the Rover Leader Mr Godwin Gusti by the Chief Executive Mr Godwin D'Anastasi with GSL Evander Borg as sponsor. The second part was the Investiture of Mr Gordon Mercieca, Mr Peter Mifsud, Mr Nick Clark, Mr Winston Busuttill and Mrs Tania Busuttill as Rover Scouts by the RSL and the GSL once again as sponsor. Another important occasion for this Group was the formation of the Venture Scout Unit. The Group, 80 strong, now has all the Sections of the Association and has achieved this after only five years from its formation. The Chief Executive congratulated the Group for this achievement.

### **17 – Visit by Tunisian Scouts**

A Group of Tunisian Scouts will be visiting Malta this summer from the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup> of August and they would like to meet Maltese Scouts. They will be a Group of around 50 to 60 boys and girls. Those Groups who are interested are to contact the International Commissioner by not later than the 16<sup>th</sup> May. Mr Franco Azzopardi may be contacted on [fazzopardi@hotmail.com](mailto:fazzopardi@hotmail.com) or 7942 7374.

### **18 – Seabed Clean-up**

We have been contacted by Ms. Barbara Fee from Nature Trust with regards to a cleaning activity which is going to be held on the 18th May. Some divers are going to clean up part of the seabed from all the rubbish. Nature Trust is asking for help from some scout groups for this activity, but do not know which groups would be interested. The work involved is picking up the bags which the divers collect & throwing them in skips nearby. This is a great opportunity to create awareness amongst the younger generation about all the filth that ends up in the sea. If you need more info please contact Ms Barbara Fee Tel 21370266 [bobbiefee@hotmail.com](mailto:bobbiefee@hotmail.com)

### **19 - Level 2 Introductory Leadership Training Course**

The dates for this Training Course are Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> May in the evening, Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> June and Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2002. [Both Saturdays whole days.] The closing date for applications is Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> May, 2002. Only those who have completed all Level 1 requirements, that is attended the whole course and handed in their Projects, may apply for this course. The Course is open to 32 participants. Late applications will only be considered if place is still available. Applications are available from the Secretariat at IHQ.

### **20 – Auxiliary Appointments**

At the last Training and Programme Committee it was decided, in consultation with the District Commissioners' and the Chief Executive, that applicants for the post of Auxiliary ought to be in possession of Initial Leadership Training (Level 1) prior to applying for this post. Applicants for the post of Auxiliary - Group Quartermaster need also to be in possession of a Camping Standards Certificate, besides Level 1 Training. Appropriate Application Forms for such appointments will be available towards the end of May.

### **21 – Commissioner for Human Resources and Support**

Mr. David Schembri, Group Scout Leader Qrendi Group, has also been appointed by the Chief Executive as Commissioner for Human Resources and Support. One of his main roles will be that of supporting the Training needs of Adult Leaders within the Association.

### **22 – Commissioners for Air Scouts**

Captain Alex Dalli and Captain Mark Said have been also been appointed by the Chief Executive as Commissioners for Air Scouts (Ground and Flight respectively) within the Training and Programme Section. Both Commissioners, who are highly trained and experienced pilots, will be responsible for the set up, running and support of all Air Scouting Groups and activities.

**23 – Scout Standard Badge**

The old Scout Standard Badge has been reintroduced as part of the present progress scheme of the Scout Section Youth Programme. This will be available from the Scout Shop as from the month of May. The present Scout Standard Badge (that is, tent and fire on a light green background) will in the future be used for some other purpose within the Scout Section. The Director Training and Programme welcomes from Leaders any suggestions for the use of this latter badge.

**24 – National Youth Programme Seminar**

The National Youth Programme Seminar originally programmed for Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2002, has been postponed for Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2002. This Seminar will be of national importance for the set up of the Youth Programme, as it will deal with the age ranges of all the Sections within the Association. All Section Leaders and Group Scout Leaders are being invited to attend this Seminar. Please, leave this date free as your contribution is of paramount importance to the Seminar.

**25 – St Julians Group entrusted to manage Wied Ghomor**

This year St.Julians Scout Group is celebrating 70 years from it's foundation. In recognition of the work done through these years the Group was invited by the Ministry of Resources and Infrastructure to manage the recently restored Wied Ghomor valley. The Group's assigned tasks will be that of watering the number of trees already planted and to plant more trees which the Ministry will supply. The Group is to also supervise the area, reporting any damages, which might occur due to vandalism and to keep the area clean. In order to reach these objectives the Group will be organising various activities in the valley. Other Scout Groups, NGOs and the public at large are invited to use the area as long as they keep it clean and no damage is caused to the recently restored rubble walls.