

# The Scout Association of Malta

## IHQ BULLETIN



Island Headquarters, E. S. Tonna Street, Floriana FRN 1480, MALTA

Tel : +356 21 224334 Fax : +356 21 251382 E-mail: info@maltascout.org.mt Website: www.maltascout.org.mt

## ANNOUNCEMENTS NEWS FEATURES STORIES

1908 - 2008 - 100 years of Scouting in Malta

01

### POINTS TO REMEMBER

#### Scouting is Simple

To an outsider Scouting must at first sight appear to be a very complex matter, and many a man is probably put off from becoming a Scoutmaster because of the enormous number and variety of things that he thinks he would have to know in order to teach his boys. But it need not be so, if the man will only realise the following points:-

1. The aim of Scouting is quite a simple one.
2. The Scoutmaster gives to the boy the ambition and desire to learn for himself by suggesting to him activities which attract him, and which he pursues till he, by experience, does them aright. (Such activities are suggested in Scouting for Boys).
3. The Scoutmaster works through his Patrol Leaders.

#### In This Issue :

- 01 Points to remember
- 02 From the Chief Commissioner
- 03 What a Contingent!
- 04 Fellowship Centenary Presentation
- 05 Gone Home - Dr. M. Hassouna Fehima
- 06 Joint Community Serv. at St. Joseph. Home
- 07 Maltese Canadian receives Scouting Award
- 08 Investiture ceremony at Maltese Consulate General Office in Melbourne
- 09 Gone home Joe M. Galea ex GSL Sta. Lucia and Rnella Service team
- 10 . Scouts loose their lives at BSA Camp
- 11 St. Michael School Scout Group celebrates 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary
- 12 From the Training & Programme Dept.
- 13 Malta Scouts and Guides jointly hosts International Commissioners' Forum

#### THE AIM OF SCOUTING

The aim of the Scout training is to improve the standard of our future citizenship, especially in Character and Health; to replace Self with Service, to make the lads individually efficient, orally and physically, with the object of using that efficiency for service for their fellow-men.

Citizenship has been defined briefly as "active loyalty to the community." In a free country it is easy, and not unusual, to consider oneself a good citizen by being a law-abiding man, doing your work and expressing your choice in politics, sports, or activities, "leaving it to George" to worry about the nation's welfare. This is passive citizenship. But passive citizenship is not enough to uphold in the world the virtues of freedom, justice, and honour. Only active citizenship will do.

#### The Four Branches of Scout Training

To accomplish the aim of training for active citizenship, we take up the following four branches which are essential in building up good citizens, and we inculcate them from within instead of from without:

- Character - which we teach through: the Patrol System, the Scout Law, Scout lore, woodcraft, responsibility of the Patrol Leader, team games and the resourcefulness involved in camp work. This includes the realisation of God the Creator through His works; the appreciation of beauty in Nature; and through the love of plants or animals with which outdoor life has made one familiar.
- Health and Strength - Through games, exercises, and knowledge of personal hygiene and diet.
- Handcraft and Skill - occasionally through indoor activities, but more specially through pioneering, bridge-building, camp expedients, self-expression through the arts, which all tend to make efficient workmen.
- Service to Others - The carrying into daily life of the practice of religion by "good turns," dealing with quite small good actions as well as with community service, accidents, life-saving.

**02**

## **FROM THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER**

Mr. Godwin D'Anastasi

### **APPOINTMENTS**

The Chief Commissioner has approved the following appointments

#### **With effect from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2008**

024/2008	Edward Sciberras	ASL	SAC
025/2008	Sandra Micallef	ACSL	Fgura
026/2008	David Grech	ASL	Victoria
027/2008	Carmel Tong	Auxiliary [ Bandmaster ]	St. Michael School
028/2008	Caroline Portelli	ACSL	St. Michael School
029/2008	Charles Grixti	SL	St. Michael School
030/2008	Jeanelle Bugeja	ASL	St. Michael School
031/2008	Kristina Abela	ASL	St. Michael School
032/2008	Martin Camilleri	AGSL	St. Michael School
033/2008	Mario Caruana	Auxiliary [ QM ]	St. Michael School
034/2008	Albert Harmer	AVSL	Cospicua
035/2008	Maria Magri	Support Leader	Cospicua
036/2008	Kim Lanzon	Support Leader	Cospicua
037/2008	Mark Pace	Support Leader	Cospicua
038/2008	Vincent Vella	GSL	Xaghra
039/2008	Felician Lanzon	VSL	Cospicua
040/2008	Joseph Muscat	ACSL	Zebbug
041/2008	Tonio Axisa	Support Leader	Zebbug
042/2008	Carmen Spiteri	Support Leader	Zebbug
043/2008	Maria Bonello	ABSL	Dingli
044/2008	Ian Fenech	ASL	Mosta

### **CANCELLATION AND WITHDRAWAL OF APPOINTMENTS.**

The following Appointments have been withdrawn and cancelled.

#### **With effect from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2008**

025/2002	Charles Grixti	ASL	St. Michael School
----------	----------------	-----	--------------------

028/2002	Caroline Portelli	Acting Leader	St. Michael School
025/2004	Martin Camilleri	SL	St. Michael School
066/2004	Maria Bonello	Acting Leader	Dingli
027/2005	David Grech	Acting Leader	Victoria
027/2006	Felician Lanzon	AVSL	Cospicua
028/2006	Albert Harmer	Acting Leader	Cospicua
012/2007	Sandra Micallef	Support Leader	Fgura
027/2007	Ian Micallef	Support Leader	Mosta
053/2007	Edward Sciberras	Support Leader	SAC
082/2007	Mario Caruana	ASL	St. Michael School

### **WARRANTS**

The Chief Scout has approved the following warrants with effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2008

W001/2008	Mario Ellul	GSL	Cospicua
W002/2008	Martin Bajada	AGSL	Cospicua
W003/2008	Kurt Caligari	AGSL	Cospicua
W004/2008	Kevin Spiteri	SL	Cospicua

### **WHAT A CONTINGENT !**

**03** Mr. Charles Grixti - Scout Leader - St. Michael School

The 4<sup>th</sup> of May 2008 was a red letter day for the Scout Fellowship of the Scout Association of Malta. On the occasion of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary from the founding of the Scout Association in Malta, past members over the age of eighteen years were invited to march in the Annual Scout and Guide Parade in Valletta. The response received was encouraging and displayed when the contingent of past members marched proudly down Republic Street in Valletta.



The job of marketing, coordination and organisation of this contingent was left in the hands of Mr Charles Grixti and Mr Paul Vella who worked in close cooperation under the coordination of Chief Commissioner Mr Godwin D'Anastasi.

On that day two venues were chosen as meeting places. The Association's Island Headquarters was the place where all non-Scout Fellowship members congregated. The participants were met by Scout Leader Mr. Charles Grixti assisted by Ms Alexia Vassallo. On their arrival these were presented with a participation form and an invitation for a Get Together to be held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> May. Here old friends met and greeted each other in true Scouting spirit - with loud cheers and smiles. Memories of past years were also exchanged. At exactly 10:00hrs the contingent was formed and marched off to meet the rest of the Guides and Scouts awaiting further orders at the Granaries in Floriana. Mr Edward Tanti led the contingent, proudly holding the fellowship flag.

Fellowship members met in front of the Old Opera House in Valletta under the direction of Mr Paul Vella. These gentlemen, typically exuding smartness, formed up to be ready to merge with the group which left IHQ upon its arrival in Republic Street. Clearly, Mr Vella had no easy task in controlling these over-enthusiastic men.

The Contingent like all Scout Groups present marched smartly and in step even though most of those present had not marched for many years and were greeted with a round of loud applause on their arrival at the Main Guard to salute the acting President Dr George Hyzler.

Fellowship members fell out of ranks after giving the salute and left the younger members of the contingent to complete the parade up till Auberge de Castille. Here a group photo was taken and the traditional Scout yell, was heartily shouted by all, kindling fond memories of their Scouting days.

04

## **FELLOWSHIP CENTENARY PRESENTATION**

Ms. Pat O'Neil - Hon. Sec Fellowship

On Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2008 around 50 people who took part in the Centenary Annual Scout & Guide Parade assembled at Island Headquarters for a presentation of Certificates of Attendance. This number consisted of Scout Fellowship members and other people who had been active Scouts in the past and were interested in becoming involved in the movement again to share their experiences with others.

The gathering opened with a short introduction by Mr. Charles Gixti, manager of the Scout Shop and the person who had the forethought to suggest and arrange this event.

Mr. David O'Neil, a member of the Scout Fellowship Committee then explained to the gathered assembly what Scout Fellowship was all about, stressing that joining the fellowship did not commit them to giving up a lot of time but just helping out if and when they could.



Mr. Joseph Cassar-Naudi, President of the Scout Fellowship, then thanked all those who attended and invited them to come forward and fill in application forms to join the Fellowship.

The Chief Commissioner, Mr. Godwin D'Anastasi, presented those who took part in the parade with Certificates of Participation and thanked them all for answering the Association's call to march during the rally and also for attending the evening's presentation. The Chief Commissioner then presented the Chief Commissioner Personal Award to Mr. Charles Gixti and Mr. Matthew Muscat, while Mr. Paul Vella was honoured with the Thanks Badge

Mr Harry Haig was appointed Scouter Emeritus and was also presented with the Chief Commissioner Personal Award in appreciation of his dedicated service to the Association..

The evening ended with the serving of light refreshments and a group photograph. Various other photographs were taken during the evening's event. All those present were presented with a voucher that could be exchanged for a Commemorative T-Shirt.

Twenty-one of the number present signed up for membership of the Fellowship and if anyone else would like to join they should contact Ms. Pat O'Neil, Hon. Secretary Fellowship, on 21423135 for a form.

05

## GONE HOME

Mr. David Schembri - International Commissioner



DR. MOHAMED HASSOUNA FEHIMA, FORMER CHIEF SCOUT OF THE PUBLIC MOVEMENT OF THE BOY SCOUT AND GIRL GUIDES OF THE LIBYAN JAMAHIRIYA, PASSES AWAY.

*The news of the demise of Dr Mohamed Hassouna Fahima on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2008, has saddened our hearts knowing too well that the Scout Association of Malta had not only lost a dear and close friend and gentleman, but also one of the greatest scouting ambassador of the Libyan Scout and Guide Movement, and the People of the Libyan Jamahiriya.*

*Dr. Mohamed Fahima was a special person, friend and a great leader with a vision to move forward, whilst promoting Libyan and Arabic Scouting. An inspiration to others to follow in his fine footsteps,*

*His absence will long be felt by those who knew him, especially those that held him close to their hearts, and most of all his dear wife and family.*

*The Scout Association of Malta wishes to recommend the soul of Dr Fehima to our Almighty Creator, asking Him to welcome our dear Brother with open arms, whilst rewarding our dear departed with Eternal Life,*

06

## Joint Community Service at St. Joseph's Home Summer Residence

Mr. Timothy Zammit, Crew Co-ordinator (St. Aloysius College Scout Group)



In true Roving spirit, members from the Mosta Rover Crew and St. Aloysius College Rover Crew joined forces in a community service initiative held in May. It was an early start for the members from both Groups who met up at the S.A.C Headquarters on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May. Still tired, but determined to get the job done, everyone proceeded to St. Joseph's Home



Summer Residence in Birzebbugia. This residence is used by the young residents of St. Joseph Home during the summer months.

The tasks at hand were two: re-paint the staircase rail and renovate the metal bunk beds that looked like they had seen better days. The most strenuous of tasks was removing the rust and old paint from the old metal bunk beds. This took the team most of the morning. This was followed by re-painting the metal bunk beds in a brighter yellowish colour and the staircase rail in a grey colour.

Hours and litres of paint later the tasks allocated to the team were successfully completed. After a quick clean up of the premises, the team left knowing that with their contribution the young residents of St. Joseph Home now have a more welcoming environment where to spend the summer months.

**07**

### **After more than 50 years, Maltese Canadian receives scouting award**

Mr. David Schembri - International Commissioner

It's been more than 50 years since Thomas Vella-Zarb was involved with scouts in his homeland of Malta. But he sure left an impression.

The 77-year-old Prairie Siding man was one of only three other people to have recently been recognized by the Scout Association of Malta, where earlier this month, the retired teacher received the Chief Commissioner's Personal Award in appreciation of his dedicated service to the Scout Association of Malta.

Thomas was also been bestowed with Scouter Emeritus status in recognition of his good service to scouting and the international scouting promotion of his country of birth.

"I was really surprised," Vella-Zarb said on receiving this recognition.

"He added it is a real honour, noting he learned only two other people received this recognition. One person in Australia and another in the United Kingdom.

He said the first "inkling" something was going on happened a few months ago when he got a call from Scouts Canada in Ottawa. Vella-Zarb joked he almost didn't answer the phone because he thought it was a telemarketer calling.

"I was elated when I found out," he said.

Vella-Zarb joined scouts in 1944 in Malta with the Lyceum Group. In 1949, he became a warranted Scouter with two groups until 1957, when he immigrated to Canada.

One of the first things he did after arriving in his new homeland was to become involved with scouting. He joined a troop in St. Thomas as a leader and from 1958-62 and was leader with the 195<sup>th</sup> Toronto Group, before moving to Windsor. From 1964-74, he worked with the 3rd and 5th Wallaceburg groups before becoming a Rover Advisor in Thamesville.

Vella Zarb also boasts an extensive training record and appointments within scouting.

Vella-Zarb received his latest honours during a national scouting event held in Kingston, Canada at the beginning of May, through the sterling and combined efforts of the Scout Association of Malta and Scouts Canada.

Thanking all those who had a part in the presentation of these prestigious awards, namely Godwin D'Anastasi and David Schembri, Malta Scouts Chief Commissioner and International Commissioner respectively, and Canada's International Commissioner John Neysmith, Robert Stewart, Executive Commissioner and CEO, Jeff Smith, Deputy Executive Commissioner Central Canada, and master of ceremonies Bill Racz, also of Scouts Canada, Vella-Zarb said he has many fond memories of his former scouting days, adding he enjoyed "being with the boys and all the adventures and the camping and the campfires."



*Tom Vella-Zarb, 77, displays the Chief Commissioner's Personal Award and a certificate bestowing the honour of Scouter Emeritus from the Scout Association of Malta. He is pictured with Malta's flag, the country of his birth where he first joined scouting as a young boy.*

08

## Prezentazzjoni ta' midalji fil-Konsolat-Generali ta' Malta f'Melbourne

Nhar il-Hamis 5 ta' Gunju 2008, fl-ufficcju tal-Konsulat Generali ta' Malta f'Melbourne saret prezentazzjoni ta' zewg midalji ta' l-Ordni Nazzjonali tal-Meritu kif ukoll ta' midalji k commemorattivi biex ifakkru c-centinarju mit-twaqqif tal-Moviment ta' l-Isclouts f'Malta.

Wara kelmtajn ta' merhba lill-dawk prezenti mis-Sinjura Angele Azzopardi, Konslu-Generali ta' Malta fil-Victoria, il-Kummissarju Gholi ta' Malta, l-ET is-Sur Francis Tabone ipprezenta zewg unuri: lill-Kavallier Joseph Attard li sar membru ta' l-Ordni Nazzjonali tal-Mertu u lis-Sur Joe Montebello li sar Membru Onorarju ta' l-istess Ordni.

Wara, is-Sinjura Azzopardi tkellmet dwar il-Moviment ta' l-Isclouts f'Malta u stiednet lis-Sinjura Julie Gunn, Kummissarju Internazzjonali ta' l-Isclouts ghall-Victoria biex tipprezenta l-medalja k commemorattiva ta' l-Isclouts lill-Kummissarju Gholi. Imbaghad l-istess Kummissarju pprezenta certifikat lill-Kavallier Joseph Attard A.M, M.O.M, u midalja u certifikat lill-Sur Frank Bugeja, is-Sur Vincent Calleja, is-Sur Nicholas Chircop O.A.M, is-Sur Paul G. Mifsud, is-Sur Joseph Montebello M.O.M u lis-Sur Emmanuel Spiteri.



Is-Sur Nicholas Chircop, f'isem dawk li rcevev il-midalji, irringrazzja lill-Kummissarju Gholi u lill-Konslu-Generali ghal din ic-cerimonja.

Wara kelmtajn mill-Kummissarju Gholi, is-Sur Tabone ipprezenta l-maktur tal-grupp ta' l-Isclouts tieghu f'Malta jigifieri s-"St Aloysius College Group", kif ukoll ktieb dwar Malta, lis-Sinjura Gunn.

Is-Sinjura Gunn imbaghad ipprezentat "Lapel Pin" u maktur k commemorattiv li jirraprezenta l-Isclouts Association ta' l-Awstralja.

Prezenti ghal din ic-cerimonja kien hemm ukoll is-Sur Victor Borg, Konslu Onorarju ta' Malta ghall-Victoria. Kien hemm ukoll ghadd ta' rapprezentanti minn diversi radjijiet etnici f'Melbourne, kif ukoll il-mistednin ta' dawk li rcevev il-midalji.

Wara c-cerimonja kien hemm riceviment zgħir għal dawk prezenti.

Ic-cerimonja giet iffilmjata u ser tidher f'episodju futur tal-programm tal-PBS "Waltzing Matilda".



I will now quote part of the address delivered by H.E. Mr. Francis Tabone, [who is the son of Emeritus President Dr. Censu Tabone], High Commissioner of Malta in the presence of those invited and International Scout Commissioner for Victoria, Ms. Julie Gunn.

***"The Scout association celebrates this year its hundred years since it was established. The Malta Association was if I am not mistaken the first overseas Association established in 1908. The links***

***between Lord Baden Powell and Malta are well recorded having served there in the early years of the 1900's. He did return to the Island some years later find the Scout Movement strong and thriving.***

***The scout movement has done a lot to young boys in its leadership training programmes. The results learnt were endless. The fellowship that it created – everlasting – And I must mention fellow scouts in my group. The St Aloysius College Group who were with me they were to meet again years later in Australia, Prof Stephen Gatt, Paul and John Farrugia.***

***Like me, the recipients of the 100 years of Scouting Commemorative Medal, have their story to tell. The camp fires, the songs, the hikes, the friendship.***

***We are proud to be part of this and for the recognition it has bestowed upon us today.***

***Thank you one and all - This is a true cause to celebrate".***

While thanking H.E. Mr. Francis Tabone, High Commissioner of Malta in Australia, for accepting our proposal to hold the investiture ceremony at the Maltese High Consulate Office in Melbourne, I must thank also Mr Joseph E. Montebello, M.O.M., who originated the idea, Ms. Angele Azzopardi, Consul General Victoria for her untiring efforts and also for keeping me in touch with proceedings and finally but not least, Ms. Julie Gunn, International Scout Commissioner for Victoria for accepting our invitation to attend the investiture ceremony.

**Photo above right shows Ms. Julie Gunn investing H.E. Mr Francis Tabone with Ms. Angele Azzopardi looking on.**

**Photo above left shows left to right, Mr. Vincent Calleja, Mr. Joseph Montebello, Mr. Emanuel Spiteri, Chev Joseph Attard, H. E. Mr. Francis Tabone, Ms. Julie Gunn, Ms. Angele Azzopardi, Mr. Paul Mifsud, Mr. Nicholas Chircop, and Mr. Frank Bugeja**

09

**GONE HOME JOE. M. GALEA - EX-GSL STA. LUCIA & SOUTH DIST. SERVICE TEAM**

By: Mr. E.L. Bonnici - Scouter Emeritus, Ex-South District Commissioner.

The sudden demise of J.M. Galea, affectionately known as “Joe ta’ Santa Lucia” surprised me as one of my friends in Santa Lucia saw him walking briskly on Friday. Joe was on a holiday in Corfu when he was called to “Higher Service”.



District – Presenting the Joe Galea Shield to the Dec 2004

I have known Joe for the past 36 years, when in 1972 he founded the Sta. Lucia Scout Group. There the South District, under the District Commissioner Mr. Frank Miggiani, attended Mass in the local Parish church and then marched through the streets of Santa Lucia.

Joe did his utmost and to the best of his abilities to keep his Group active. He continuously strived to find a shelter for his Group. Meetings were held outdoors, sometimes even in his own house, where he kept all the Group’s equipment. Later on he managed to secure the use of the main Parish Hall

provisionally lent by the Parish Priest.

By late 80’s the Group started to dwindle and he was left with only his daughter and son to help him and his struggle for a HQ never materialized. In December 1993, during a District Get Together at the Marsa HQ, Joe himself announced the closure of the Sta. Lucia Group; thus bringing to an end the Group’s existence that kept scouting alive in Sta. Lucia “for 21 years without a cover”.



First from right with the District Service Team – December 2004

Months later I asked Joe to be part of the District Service Team which I headed along with the support of others to see to the District’s needs. Joe was always there when we organised courses and activities for the District, something which was always greeted well by everyone.

Joe was more than willing when asked to lend a hand to certain Groups that found themselves in difficulties through lack of leaders. Tarxien Scout Group and then Zabbar Scout Group were two such Groups.. He was always at the forefront when help was much needed for the refurbishment of our Rinella Scout Centre.



Giving the salute with the District Service Team - Annual Parade 2002

At the end of his Scouting career Joe donated a shield to be competed for by the Cub Scouts of the South District to prosper Friendship and Scouting. I hope this will be carried on for many years to come!!!

My dear Brother Scouter, on behalf of the District Service Team and the Rinella Scout Centre Staff I thank you for all the sterling work you did with the Santa Lucia Scout Group and

the support without compromise you have given to the District.

I hope we meet again as the Scout song says "In The Happy Hunting Grounds", where I am sure you are already reaping the reward you have worked for in the Scout Movement.

My deepest condolences to his wife Vivienne, his two daughters Miriam and Marilyn and his son Antray.

Joe passed away on Friday June 6<sup>th</sup> at the age of 83.

May God bless his Soul.



10

### **SCOUTS LOSE THEIR LIVES AT BSA SCOUT CAMP** Mr. David Schembri – International Commissioner

#### **Four Die as Tornado Hits US Scout Camp**



At least four people have been killed and 40 injured at a Boy Scout camp after it was hit by a tornado in western Iowa, on June 11.

Most of the injured had been on a hike when the tornado struck near Little Sioux in Harrison County, authorities said, leaving them without protection from the deadly winds.

Rescue workers cut their way through branches and dug through debris to reach the camp where the 93 boys, ages 13 to 18, and 25 staff members were attending a week-long leadership training camp.

Thomas White, a scout supervisor, said he dug through the wreckage of a collapsed fireplace to reach victims in a building where many scouts sought shelter.

"They were under the tables and stuff and on their knees, but they had no chance," he said.

The tornado struck at 6:35 p.m. Russ Lawrenson, of the Mondamin Fire Department, said warnings had been issued before the tornado hit the Little Sioux Scout Ranch but he doubted the campers had time to seek shelter "The tornado came in pretty fast, ahead of the storm," he said.

Taylor Willoughby, 13, said several scouts were getting ready to watch a movie when someone screamed that there was a tornado. "Everyone in the building hunkered down, he said, but windows were breaking"

At least 40 people who were injured in the storm were taken to hospital.. One included a baby of two months.

The ranch is about 40 miles north of Omaha and features hiking trails through narrow valleys and over steep hills, a 15-acre lake and a rifle range. A line of tornadoes cut a diagonal swath across

Kansas, killing two people and causing widespread damage. The Kansas State University campus was hit especially hard.

To the families, Friends, Scout Leaders and the Boy Scouts of America, go the Scout Association of Malta's deepest and most sincere condolences on their sad loss. May God Almighty give them all the strength to overcome the sad loss of their beloved and departed.

May they Rest in Peace.

11

### THE ST MICHAEL SCHOOL SCOUT GROUP THIS YEAR CELEBRATES ITS 10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY.

Mr. Evander Borg – G.S.L. St. Michael School Scout Group

The Group spent its more recent years having to cope with storing its equipment in various private residences and garages with the Group quartered in an improvised HQ which consisted of two 40 foot trailers placed behind the Junior School. This was to the detriment of the Troop membership whose numbers dwindled.

In 2007 fair winds hit the Group and, thanks to one of the patrons Mr Alfred Carabot, it was given permission to make use of some ex-military Nissen Huts situated in Pembroke. The situation of these premises left much to be desired as they were in such a terrible state no one could imagine that young children and teenagers would ever make use of them. The place was like a rubbish dump and the huts were in a bad state of repair. However, due to the perseverance of Scout Leader Mr. Martin Camilleri, work started with the help of Troop members, other Leaders and some parents. The works consisted of the clearing of all rubbish, the rebuilding of walls, reclaiming land by soil, fencing the area, painting, cleaning etc. Much of this was financed by St Michael Foundation.



Works escalated this year, the anniversary year and GSL Mr. Evander Borg made it clear to everyone that the Group needed to celebrate its birthday in a big way. The Group Council was set up under the chairmanship of Mr Alfred Cuschieri. This helped things a great deal as the work which was previously carried out by the Leaders of the Group was shared by another half a dozen people. We would here like to take the opportunity to thank the Group Council members for the sterling work they carry out.

One must also mention that the present state of our HQ is also thanks to the Hon. Minister Mr. George Pullicino who approved that personnel from PARK would help us continue to embellish the premises. This was done under the supervision of Mr. Martin Camilleri who was appointed 'Project Manager'. It is very hard to believe the state in which these Nissen huts and the surrounding area were found when one sees them today!

The inauguration of the St Michael Centenary Quarters, as it is now known, (thereby celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary that coincided with the Scout Association of Malta's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary) was on held on Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> March 2008. The Patrons, Mr. Alfred and Ms. Annemarie Carabot and Minister Mr. George Pullicino were present for this event as well as the Hon. Mr. Carm Abela, the Chief Scout, Mr.

Vincent Cassar, the Chief Commissioner, Mr. Godwin D'Anastasi, IHQ Commissioners, the Mayor of Pembroke, former members, relatives and friends.

We can now fairly say that the St Michael School Scout Group has premises to be proud of and is now reaping the fruit of all the hard work sown by all those who were involved and who hold the Group and its members dear to their hearts.

12

#### FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF TRAINING & PROGRAMME

Mr. Leslie Bonnici – Commissioner for Training & Programme

#### Training Information

My attention has been drawn to the fact that the exact procedures one should follow on joining the Movement as an Adult Leader within the Association is not known by all.

Therefore I am outlining the steps one should take when an individual starts working within a Section in a Group, and what one must carry out before applying and attending the Pathfinder Course.

Initially once an individual agrees to a Role Description (i.e. who they will be working with, which Section they will be working in and what is expected of them) with the Group Scout Leader and/or District Commissioner, then the individual should begin a locally agreed induction programme with his/her Group, or if necessary, with other Groups in the District.

Following three months of this induction programme, the individual will be required to complete the Adult Leader's Training Workbook which may be obtained from 'Scoutkeeper' on [www.scoutkeeper.net](http://www.scoutkeeper.net), the Group Scout Leader, the District Commissioner or the Training & Programme Commissioner. Once the Workbook is completed and forwarded to the Group Scout Leader and the District Commissioner, a copy of this must also be handed in to the Commissioner for Training & Programme at Island Head Quarters together with an application for "Registered Leader". This can be done by email.

Once the Registered Leader application is accepted, the individual can begin the "Getting Started" section of the Programme. This is made up of eighteen modules that can easily be carried out with your Section and/or Group. These modules are all self-learning and all adults undergoing this phase of induction training must log their modules on the worksheet 'Personal Training Workbook (sheet 4) and you will be assisted and assessed by your Group Scout Leader and/or District Commissioner. During this initial period of training the individual must undergo and gain a First Aid Certificate (adult) through St John's or Red Cross. The First Aid Certificate must remain valid throughout the period that an individual is working with young people.

When all the requirements for the Getting Started section are completed, the individual will then be able to apply for the Pathfinder Course (at least six (6) months should elapse). This course gives one a basic knowledge on how to interact with young people within a Section. On completion of all the modules in the Pathfinder Course (usually held on a Saturday morning) and the completion of the joint activity, the individual will then be able to apply for a "Support Leader" appointment.

Should anyone wish clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me by email on [lesliebonnici@onvol.net](mailto:lesliebonnici@onvol.net) and I will do my utmost to clear up matters. It would be good to bear in mind too that if the Department is not notified of your existence and role within a Section/Group, then the Department will be unable to include you in our mail shots with news of forthcoming courses/events.

## Presentation of Certificates

On the 20th May the Department organised a small presentation ceremony for all the trainees who successfully completed their specific level of training. The presentation was very well attended. An opening speech was delivered by the Chief Commissioner, Mr. Godwin D'Anastasi which was followed by information regarding the presentation procedure and also future courses given by the Commissioner for Training & Programme, Mr. Leslie Bonnici. Mr. Vincent Cassar, Chief Scout concluded the evening's event with a closing speech.



At this presentation a good number of trainees received their certificates. A few who completed all levels of the Adult Leadership Course were presented with their Woodbadge Beads, Gilwell Scarf and Certificate, while others who complete the Basic Course were presented with the Gilwell Woggle and Certificate. Trainees who were successful in their Pathfinder Course were presented with their Course Certificate



### ***Woodbadge Beads, Gilwell Scarf and Advanced Adult Leadership Course Certificate:***

Salvu Borg, Paul Borg Barthelet, Marco Cassar, Stuart Ciappara, Mark Darmanin, Helen Farrugia Stefan Pullicino

### ***Gilwell Woggle and Basic Course Certificate:***

Kristina Abela, Naomi Attard, Antoine Azzopardi, Horace Bonavia, Maria Bonello, Angela Borg Barthelet, Daniel Borg, Nevisse Borg Caligari, Jeremy

Borg Grech, Mark Philip Borg, Francis Bugeja, Jeanelle Bugeja, Mariella Bugeja, Maryrose Bugeja, Jeffrey Cachia, Isabella Camilleri, Jennifer Camilleri, Mariella Camilleri, Caroline Caruana, Pauline Cassar, Lennie Cortis, Anthony Debono, Helen Demanuele, Kerstin Demicoli, Andrew Farrugia, Glenn Farrugia, Joseph Farrugia, Ruth Farrugia, Ian Fenech, Lyon Galea, Roderick Galea, Rita Gatt, Emanuel Grech, Paul Grixiti, Albert Harmer, Patricia Marsh, Erika Micallef, Sandra Micallef, Francis Muscat, Joe Muscat, Bertha Patiniott, Karl Psaila Custo, Matthew Sammut, Kenneth Scerri, Bernard Schranz, Edward Sciberras, Maxine Scicluna, Ivon Spencer, Alexia Vassallo, Annette Vella, Jacqueline Zahra

### ***Pathfinder Course Certificate:***

Margaret Abela, Tonio Axisa, Emanuel Baldacchino, Christopher Balzia, Sophie Briffa, Catherine Camilleri, Moira Camilleri, Mario Cardona, Joseph Farrugia, Nicholas Formosa, Emma Gauci, Julian Muscat, Ruth Pulis, Carmen Spiteri

## Courses

Since the last Bulletin was published at the beginning of May, the long-awaited Advanced Adult Leadership Course commenced and is now half-way through. Forty participants are taking part in this course and when this is completed, it will bring them one step away from obtaining the longed for Woodbadge beads.

So far very favourable comments have been passed as to the course content as well as the course tutors. It is hoped that each and every one of you attending will take back something to their Groups and will be in a position to use the knowledge gained.

### **Upcoming Courses:**

#### *Pathfinder Course*

Registration for the Pathfinder Course will take place on the 6th October and the Pathfinder Course will be held on Saturday 11th October 2008 starting at 09:00. The course will be held at IHQ in Floriana.

Any Registered Leader who is eligible to attend the course is urged to read the opening article in the Training and Programme section of this Bulletin to ensure that all criteria are met.

#### *Advanced Adult Leadership Course*

The second Advanced Adult Leadership Course will be held as already advertised. This will start on the 20th October 2008. Any leader eligible to apply for this course is urged to send in their application form from now and not wait for Registration Day (13th October) in order to avoid disappointment (all leaders who have already apply need not reapply).

As with the AALC/002/08 only forty applicants will be accepted for this course.

#### *Skills Camp*

A weekend residential course in the form of a camp is to be organised from Friday 21st and Sunday 23rd November 2008. This course will serve to provide a revision of basic scouting skills and all leaders (especially the new comers) within the Movement are invited to attend this course.

Details of the venue and exact programme will be issued at a later stage.

**13**

### **MALTA SCOUT AND GUIDE ASSOCIATIONS TO JOINTLY HOST THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSIONERS' FORUM**

The Europe Committee WAGGGS and the European Scout Committee has recently approved the bid, jointly submitted by the Scout Association of Malta and Malta Girl Guide Association, to host the next International Commissioners Forum, in Malta.

The next International Commissioners Forum, scheduled for November 2009, is to be held at Mount St Joseph in Targa Gap, and shall see an expected 100 scout and guide International Commissioners visit our country.

The Malta Scout and Guide success was brought about through the collective efforts and teamwork by both associations. Efforts that auger brightly for the future of both associations.

On behalf of the Scout Association of Malta, may we take the opportunity of thanking the Europe Committee WAGGGS and the European Scout Committee for the trust they showed in both our respective associations, with "special thanks" going to all the Joint Scout and Guide team members entrusted with Malta's bid, on a job well done.

e-mail : [dagodwin@onvol.net](mailto:dagodwin@onvol.net) [godwin60@gmail.com](mailto:godwin60@gmail.com)

**out Association of Malta The Scout Association of Malta The Scout Association of Malt**