



Victoria Scout Group

News sheet

Nº: 186

[April - June] July 2014

From the Group Scout Leader

Lorrie Saliba



Annual Rally 2014 - Group photo of the Xagħra and the Victoria Groups at Island Headquarters, Floriana

The past three months were characterized by many activities held for our members. These included indoor and outdoor activities such as hikes, camps, cookouts, competitions and participation in national activities. Reports on these activities are found on other pages of this issue. Worth mentioning in my report are the fundraising activities held during the last months, the beneficiaries of which were the ARKA Foundation, The OASI Foundation, The Friends of the Sick and the Elderly and the Dorthese Ellis Foundation. All these are Non Governmental Organizations on Gozo and their main aim is that of helping other people in need in the Maltese Islands. Many thanks go to all those who participated in these activities and gave their share. Thanks also to our members including our Group Council Members who worked hard for the success of these fundraising events. Over three thousand euro were raised and shared between these organizations. Though a considerable amount of money is needed to run a group like ours, we always keep in mind our Law and Promise "A Scout Thinks of Others Before Himself - A Scout's Duty is to be Useful and to Help Others"



GSL is presented with a certificate of participation in the Cleaner and Greener Campaign held by the Gozo Ministry.

cont. turn over

Views expressed in this publication are personal and not necessarily those of the Victoria Scout Group as a whole, or of the Scout Association of Malta.

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From the Scout Group Leader

cont...from front page

Summer holidays are with us and so is summer camp. By the time you receive this issue of the News Sheet we will be in our last minute preparations for this big and awaited event. Camp preparations start well in advance, with the repairs of tents plus the inevitable purchase of replacements for trusty equipment that had reached a venerable age and finally fallen to bits. After Easter camp the leaders met to discuss the coming camp and start formulating the programme which will be finalized by the end of June. The leaders leave no stone unturned to make the programme as interesting and adventurous as possible so that our members enjoy every minute at camp. Scout camps are not waste of time but a great opportunity for our members to mingle with others in a Scout brotherly way while putting into practice the skills they learn during the weekly meetings. More importantly, during camp they learn to live together, under canvas in a spirit of a big family in harmony, brotherhood and friendship as I said before- "A Scout is a Friend to all and a brother to any other Scout." (another Scout Law) I am sure that the majority of the parents know this but those parents whose children are attending camp for the first time may raise some questions. I assure everybody that our leaders are well trained and qualified to do this job with lots of personal sacrifices and all this for the benefit of our members. I personally as the Group Scout Leader publicly extend a big thank you to all the leaders



The Cubs go on a hike with the GSL

for their job in different areas within our Group. Now my appeal is to you parents to encourage your children to attend the coming camp and to cooperate with the leaders. By doing so you will participate in achieving our goal, that of forming the character of tomorrow's men.

As I said earlier we need money to run our Group and from time to time we organize fundraising activities with this aim. The next one is the camp barbeque. I hope to see you there with your family and friends. As usual the BBQ ends with the traditional campfire. More information about this activity will be sent to you by post.

Happy holidays.

SOLVE DRAINAGE PROBLEMS

 Cleaning of blocked pipes for vanity/tub/kitchen with high pressure jetting

Contact
 Michael Refalo (Tlittu)
 on
 2155 4189 or 99822768

The World Scout - Part 1 - Environment Programme

A point to Ponder with the Editor – Anita Muscat

“The man who is blind to the beauties of Nature has missed half the pleasure of life.”

Lord Robert Baden-Powell



The environment is central to the Scout Programme and a key element in the development of good citizens of the world. Scouting provides opportunities to experience and connect with the natural world. Scouts participate in educational programmes and make informed choices about the environment, people and society - choices that reflect the Scout Promise and Law.

In 2008, the 38th World Scout Conference decided to phase out the World Scout Conservation Badge (also known as the Panda Badge) over a 3 year period. This badge had been created in conjunction with the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), formerly the World Wildlife Fund, a global environmental conservation organization, whose logo featured the black and white panda, an endangered species. This was the only instance in which WWF has had a co-branding of its logo with an external organization.

Instead, the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) replaced this badge with the World Scout Environment Badge. WWF were consulted throughout this process and they backed this decision so much so that they provided support

for the educational content of the World Scout Environment Programme. This badge is intended to focus the attention of WOSM members on the challenges facing our environment and encourage them *“to think globally and act locally”*. In today's world, there are so many more environmental challenges than when Scouting began. This makes it imperative to keep the environment central to Scouting, to build on what has already been achieved and to make Scouting a positive force for change.

The purpose of the World Scout Environment Badge is for Scouts to assume personal responsibility for the environment. The badge encourages Scouts to connect with nature, think about how we interact with our environment and take action to protect it. It is hoped that achieving the World Scout Environment Badge is the first step in awakening enthusiasm for the natural world and creating a generation of Scouts who care about the environment and are prepared to take action to protect it.

(Information taken from the WOSM and the WWF websites)

Venture Unit Report

by VSL Darren Mercieca

Once I was told that Scouting is a medicine and that taken in the right quantities, balance and timings it can be very beneficial. Well, spring time is an excellent time to take a pretty good dose of balanced Scouting activities.

April kicked off with the Annual Parade and also the Easter Camp. This year, unlike most of the previous ones, the weather during the camp was quite pleasant and therefore we could carry out activities such as abseiling, pioneering projects, helping out with the general running of the camp and Easter functions. We have also tried out our new Dutch ovens.



The Unit tests the Dutch ovens at camp. That stew smells divine! And so does the chocolate cake in the other oven.

Scouting is not only about having fun and experiencing new stuff, but also giving something back to the community. In May the Ventures helped out during a lunch in aid of the Friends of the Sick and the Elderly. The Unit also gave helping hand during large scale cleanups held in Gozo as part of the Cleaner and Greener Campaign and the Let's Do it Malta.

The Ventures have also given their fair share of help in the running of the Group's Family Fun Day, manning activity stations in order to achieve the aim of bringing families closer together through Scouting.



At the end of the Family Fun Day, the Unit helps to pack all the equipment.

In May we also welcomed our newest members to the Unit: Izaak Bajada, Nathan Camilleri, Justin Cauchi, Pawlu Mizzi, Glenn Rapa, Jake Scicluna and Gianluca Spiteri. We all wish them the very best within the Unit and promise them lots of great experiences. As an informal social activity to help the new Ventures feel at home with the rest of the members, a cook out was organised in order to break the ice.



At the cookout



The Ventures at the archery station at the Family Fun Day



Easter Vigil ceremony at Ta'Pinu

In June we helped during the Group's Food and Wine Evening. We also organised a maintenance meeting where we are currently fixing a small dinghy in order to use it during summer camp. We are also holding weekly maintenance meetings every Wednesday at HQ, where a different Venture Scout, under the guidance and expertise of AGSL George Said, helps in the maintenance being carried out on tents and also other equipment that needs immediate attention.



Maintenance work at HQ

Awards and Badges Gained ~ April to June 2014 ~ CLUB SCOUT PACKS

- Attard Gabriel - Athlete Stage 3, Mowgli
- Attard Ellis James Jude - Athlete Stage 3, Bagheera
- Azzopardi Nathan - Craftsman, Athlete Stage 3
- Bajada Clint - Athlete Stage 3, Mowgli, Baloo, Bagheera, Bronze Arrow
- Bonello Nathan - Athlete Stage 3
- Casha Neil - Athlete Stage 3, Health and Fitness
- Cini Matthew - Athlete's Stage 2
- Clark Presley - Athlete Stage 3
- Curmi Michael - Athlete Stage 3
- Debono Royvin - Book Reader, Athlete Stage 3 Mowgli
- Ellul Dorian Assuero - Baloo
- Farrugia David - Athlete's Stage 2
- Farrugia Michael - Athlete Stage 3, Kaa
- Galea Luc - Kaa
- Galea Karl - Athlete Stage 3, Botanist, Bird Lover, Chil
- Galea Mike Angel - Baloo, Athlete Stage 3
- Grech Jean Pierre - Scientist, Athlete Stage 1
- Grech Jeremy Paul - Athlete's Stage 2
- Grech Pierre - Tenderpaw, Membership, Athlete's Stage 2
- Magrin Michael - Tenderpaw, Membership, Athlete Stage 1
- Mizzi James - Athlete Stage 3, Musician, People and Places, Scientist
- Rapa Simon - Bagheera
- Refalo Michael - Mowgli, Athlete Stage 1
- Said Lucas - Athlete Stage 3, Astronomer
- Terribile Michele - Hathi, Athlete Stage 3, Silver Arrow
- Vella Gabriel - Athlete Stage 3
- Xerri Benjamin - Athlete Stage 3, Bronze Arrow
- Xerri Jerrod - Athlete Stage 3
- Zammit Maurice - Tenderpaw, Membership

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**SATURDAY &
 SECONEE PACK**
by CSL Anita Muscat
REPORT



The Victoria Club Scout Packs in the arena at the BP Adventure

These three months were crammed with activities, some of which were rather special. The first highlight of this 3 month period was Easter Camp. 35 out of 38 Cubs attended this 2 day camp. A joint programme for both Packs was prepared.

As usual, the Athlete's badge was one of the activities included in the programme. This badge is split up into several athletic feats. There is the long jump, the sergeant jump, the shuttle run, ball throwing, a 50m sprint and finally there is the 800m run. The latter is the most difficult of all as the boys have to race against time and unless they beat the clock the run is not valid. Still there were a few boys who managed to complete the run in the stipulated time frames. Overall, several boys completed one stage or another for this badge. Well done!

For the first time, a group of around 20 Year 5 students from Sannat Primary School joined us for a day at camp. These students and their teachers participated in all the activities held for the Cubs on the second day. They also joined us for lunch, games and badge work.

Our stay at camp also served as a background for several activities for the World Scout Environment Badge. The valley, the pond, the cliffs, the Inland Sea and other areas were perfect backdrops for the activities one has to carry out to complete this badge. Besides being stunningly beautiful, all these areas are so rich in history and nature that we could not have chosen a better place to carry out this badge. Besides fulfilling some requirements for the badge, this activity also doubled up as the Cubs' contribution towards the Cleaner and Greener Campaign held by the Ministry for Gozo. (*Vide report elsewhere in this edition.*)

Both Packs went off for a hike with the Group Scout Leader as their guide. This hike took them over the cliffs, past some stone quarries, across the fields, over the bridge leading to



*Easter Camp - the Athlete's Badge
 COME ON GABRIEL!*

the freshwater pond and finally back to the campsite. Another day and another hike! This time, the Cubs, their guests and the leaders climbed up the hills until they reached a big cave perched on top of the campsite. Camp naturally included a campfire and lots of games.

Another special event was the Baden-Powell Adventure. This was a national activity organized for Cubs and Brownies by the Scout Association of Malta and the Girl Guide Association of Malta. A very good number of Cubs from both Packs attended this activity at the Association's campsite in Ghajn Tuffieha in Malta. Around 600 members of both organizations spent the day taking part in various activities. All the participants



The Cubs and their guests in the cave on top of the hill



Easter Camp - Please, can I have some more?

were divided into small groups who then moved on from one activity to another.

The Challenge consisted of 8 games. The Science Corner included several interactive scientific experiments. The Let's do it activity was a clean-up of the area around the campsite. This activity was part of a much larger national and European



The Science corner at the BP Adventure

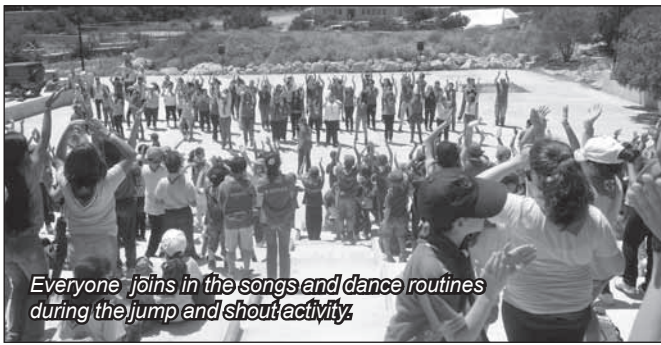
initiative, called "Let's Clean the Mediterranean Together" which was held over that weekend. Malta, together with 20 other European countries, joined this international effort by attempting to collect as much floating and deposited garbage as possible. The Cubs and Brownies joined thousands of volunteers who carried out similar clean-ups all over Malta, Gozo and Comino. These volunteers did their best to raise awareness about the problem and took action to address it. These volunteers demonstrated that problems of such magnitude can only be solved by working together. The day ended with a noisy Shout and Jump, an afternoon alternative to a campfire. It was indeed a memorable experience for all the Cubs especially those who had never participated in a national activity before.



Games at the Baden Powell Adventure



*More games at the Baden Powell Adventure
 COME ON NAHOR!*



Everyone joins in the songs and dance routines during the jump and shout activity.

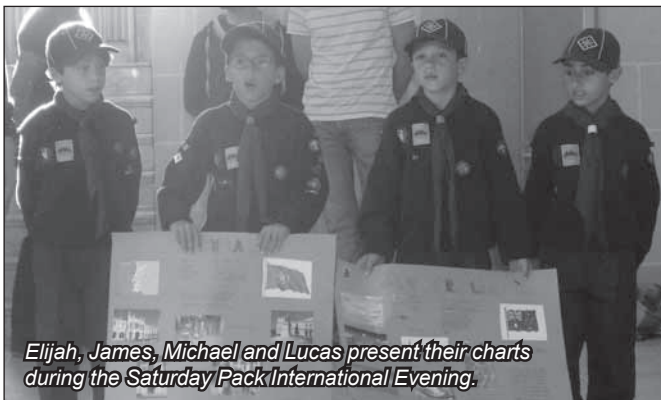


The newly invested cubs, Pierre, Maurice and Michael with Rikki Edith, Raksha Francis, Akela Anita, the GSL Lorrie Saliba, Hathi Helen and Kaa John Paul



The Cubs watch James carry out an experiment for his Scientist Badge

Weekly meetings included games, songs and badge work. In June, Cub Scouts Pierre Grech, Michael Magrin and Maurice Zammit were invested. We welcome him into our Scouting family.



Elijah, James, Michael and Lucas present their charts during the Saturday Pack International Evening.

Another camp is nigh. This year's theme for camp will be:

During the meetings, SL David Grech has given us a sneak preview of what this will involve. It promises to be great fun!!!

Pirates!

Food & Wine Evening

At the beginning of June the Group organized its annual Food and Wine Evening in the gardens at the ARKA Respite Centre in Ghajnsielem. The calm evening, the relaxing atmosphere as well as the good food and wine on offer, and a varied selection of background music made this an enjoyable evening for those who attended.



At the ARKA Gardens



DJ//AVSL Giacomo Xerri provides the background music.



Patrons queue at the drinks station.



The mixed platter is served.

A Cleaner and Greener Gozo



Group members set off from headquarters for the cleanup sessions.

Certific

The certificate pro



Catch the carbon dioxide game



Clean up by the Venture Unit



Troop members at the playing field and bus terminus area in Victoria



Another location and another clean up by the Troop

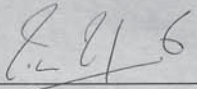
THANK YOU - The group would like to thank Caruana and Cini Co Ltd for their support.

Certificate of participation

This is to certify that

Victoria Scouts

has participated in the
Cleaner and Greener Campaign 2014



Dr Anton Refalo
Minister for Gozo



presented to the Group

KEEP GOZO



Clean up by the Troop at Xlendi



Sense Nature activity - Nature Larder



The result of the cleanup sessions



Sense Nature activity - Barefoot on the beach

THANK YOU - The Group would also like to thank Saviour Tabone and Teddy Mizzi.

TROOP REPORT

by SL David Grech

April started off with our annual Easter Camp. This year, all five Patrols that took part in camp re-enacted the Great Siege of Malta of 1565. Each Patrol took the name of an Order of Knights that came to the rescue following the Grand Master's call for help. Before the start of the activities the Patrols had the option to organize their Order in any way they wanted. Patrols were given a sum of camp money to be able to upgrade the armour and the weapons that their Order was wearing. Apart from this the Patrols could also buy potions and curses to help their cause or hinder that of the other Patrols. Leaders manned six different 'shops' that sold everything from helmets, shields, axes, scrolls and even poisons. The way that each Patrol structured their Order provided them with both advantages and disadvantages for the entire camp.

Patrols went through the whole history of the Great Siege during camp, starting from defending Fort St Elmo by building several watch towers, to the battle of Senglea where the Patrols had to man several checkpoints and complete their mission before being overrun by the Turks. Another activity involved the Patrols escorting the Piccolo Soccorso that came to Malta's aid from Sicily and trying to overcome several obstacles set out by the Turks. Finally, the Battle of Fort St Angelo saw all Patrols take part in a nocturnal attack on the Turkish watchtowers. This activity ended with a victory for the Secundos Order of Knights (and a very sore throat for SL David).



A final photo before the marquee comes down

The meetings after camp were focused on part of our Scout promise - Do a good deed – with the Troop taking an active part in the annual carwash in aid of the OASI and ARKA Foundations. The week after, the Troop took part in a Cleaner and Greener Gozo campaign where the Troop, together with their leaders visited several locations and carried out cleanups.

The Patrol Leaders Council (PLC) met during May to set up a programme for the Troop till summer camp. Most of the activities planned will be prepared by the PL's and APL's. These included a treasure hunt in Marsalforn, a wide game at the Citadel and an end of exams fun day in the environs of Fort Chambray.



A snapshot from Easter Camp 2014



The Scouts choose their armour for the coming battles.

The end of exams fun day is a staple in the Troop programme. The Troop met at the fields near Chambray at around 3pm and after setting the campsite, set off for a hike that took them from Għajnsielem, to the Heliport and down to ix-Xatt L-Aħmar and finally all the way back to Chambray. Upon arriving, all Patrols started to prepare for the cookout. A Scout leaves no trails, and this was our motto for the night. The Patrols cleared all the fires and set out their sleeping gear. However before settling down for the night there was still time for some games organized by two of the PL's. Waking up on Sunday morning the Troop attended mass at a nearby church and then were treated to a breakfast prepared by the leaders. After breakfast the Troop set out for the final activity of this fun day, swimming.



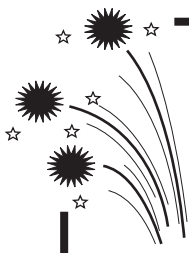
Captain Blackbeard, alias SL David Grech introduces the theme for summer camp - Pirates!!!

For the last three activities mentioned above, the Troop was also joined by the latest batch of Cubs doing their Link Badge. These Cubs will be joining the Troop on a full time basis after summer camp. However in the months preceding this move, they attend some meetings with the Troop to get acquainted with the Troop setup.

Over the years in these articles, I mention not only the leaders that provide the support needed to carry out these activities but also several helpers that give their time to provide assistance to the leaders. The month of May also saw two of these helpers, Charlene Galea and Sarah Grech, deciding to take the plunge and register as official members of the Group. Both have started their training that will see them getting invested as full members of the Group in the near future. Good Luck to both.

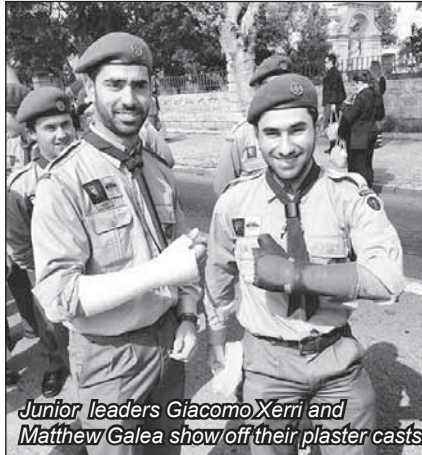


Games at Easter Camp



ANNUAL RALLY 2014

The Group took part in this year's annual Scout and Guide Parade held in April in Valletta, Malta. Over 90 members marched from Floriana to Valletta. In St George's Square, they saluted the newly appointed President of Malta, Dr Marie Louise Coleiro Preca and officials of both Associations.



Junior leaders Giacomo Xerri and Matthew Galea show off their plaster casts.



The Venture Unit leads the Group at the Annual Rally.



The Group enters Valletta.

Lunch in aid of the Friends of the Sick and the Elderly and the Dorthese Ellis Foundation – Good Turn by the Group

On Sunday 4th May, the Group organized a fund-raising lunch, the proceeds of which were donated to two local philanthropic organizations, the Friends of the Sick and The Elderly and the Dorthese Ellis Foundation.



The main course is served.

Car Wash 2014

On Saturday 26th April, the Group held its annual car wash in aid of the ARKA and the OASI Foundations. The car wash lasted 12 hours. Scouts, parents and volunteers from both organizations washed around 170 cars.

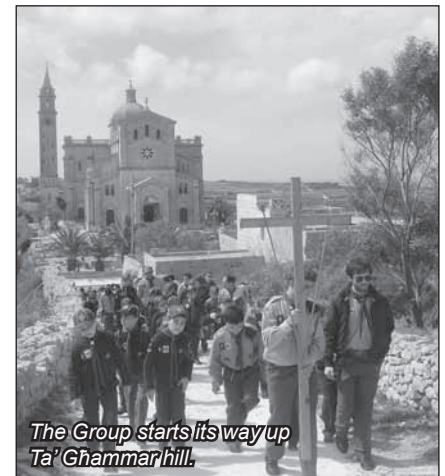
The proceeds were presented to the directors of the respective organizations at the Scouts' headquarters on Saturday 3rd May. The group organizes such a car wash annually and each time the funds collected are donated to local philanthropic organizations.



At the car wash

Via Crucis

During Lent each year, the group organizes a Via Crucis up the hill at Ta' Ghammar near Ta' Pinu. Various prayers were recited on the way up. Later Fr Renato Borg celebrated an open air mass in the amphitheatre at the top of the hill. A good number of parents were also present for this religious activity.



The Group starts its way up Ta' Ghammar hill.



GSL Lorrie Saliba presents the proceeds of the Car Wash to the two beneficiaries, ARKA and OASI organizations.

We were there.....

Representatives of the Group were present at:

- ✓ The National Scout Youth Forum
- ✓ Gief il-Belt Victoria award ceremony by the Victoria Local Council
- ✓ A public dialogue on the occasion of the 10th anniversary on EU accession for Malta
- ✓ A public discussion on the occasion of the 23rd anniversary of OASI Foundation.
- ✓ A group of Venture Scouts gave a helping hand during the opening of a sacred art exhibition in aid of Ta' Pinu Sanctuary at Dar Karmni Grima in Gharb.



Members take turns to read the Scriptures and recite prayers.

THANK YOU!

Another thank you goes to David's Bakery.

Sale of Figolli

The Group would like to thank all those who helped in the preparation, cooking, decorating and purchasing these Easter delicacies during the figolli sale held in April.

For a Cleaner and Greener Gozo - A Campaign by the Ministry for Gozo

by CSL Anita Muscat

“For those who have eyes to see and ears to hear, the forest is at once a laboratory, a club and a temple.”

Lord Robert Baden-Powell

Long before the inception and growth of the green movement in the world, respect for nature and the environment were core principles of Scouting. The environment is central to the Scout Programme and a key element of developing good citizens of the world.

Throughout the past 107 years of Scouting, Scouts around the world have been learning and caring for their environment. Scout organizations the world over have tackled environmental issues and tried to equip their members with the necessary skills and understanding to address the environmental challenges they encounter from a local to a global level. Such educational initiatives remain a fundamental part of the Scout programme.

Bearing this in mind, the Victoria Scout Group immediately accepted the invitation to participate in the Greener and Cleaner Campaign organized by the Ministry for Gozo.

Spread over a period of two months, the three sections within the Victoria Scout Group have all organized various activities in favour of this initiative.

Venture Unit (members 14 to 18 years):

On Monday 21st April, during the Group's annual Easter Camp at Dwejra, members of this section and various leaders carried out a clean-up of the area near il-Qattara Pond and the valley nearby. They also cleaned up areas along the coast.

Cub Scout Packs (aged 7 to 11 years):

On Monday 21st April, during the Group's Easter Camp, the Cubs and their leaders carried out several activities as part requirement for the World Scout Environment Badge. Scouts have to carry out different activities to address the 5 aims for environmental education proposed in the badge.

The Sense Nature activity:

Nature can be appreciated by using all of our senses – sight,

hearing, tasting, smelling and touching. By concentrating individually on each of our senses, we can gain a better awareness of our local environment.

A scavenger hunt, associated with sight required the boys to search for particular objects found in the area around the campsite.

A barefoot walk in the Inland Sea area, while blindfolded, associated with touch, required the Cubs to concentrate on what their feet could feel.

During another activity called “*What do you hear?*” held near the Qattara Pond, the Cubs had to identify the different sounds around them and distinguish between those which were natural and others which were man-made.

Another activity, the *Nature Larder* was held in the valley near the pond. Various edible plants and flowers were identified by the leaders and tasted by the Cubs.

The *Nature Smells* was held on the cliffs. The Cubs had to smell as many natural smells (provided by the different plants which grow there) as possible.

Another activity held was the *Catch the Carbon Dioxide Game*. This game explains climate change as a result of greenhouse gases and encourages the boys to think on how their daily actions can affect the world around them both positively and negatively. The boys were divided into two teams. One team represented trees and the other carbon dioxide molecules. The number of trees present, the cutting of such trees or planting more of them, gas emissions by factories and cars and other human activity all affect the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, which in turn causes a change in our climate.

Troop Section (members aged 11 to 14 years):

On Saturday 10th May, members of this section and their leaders were split up into groups which carried out clean-ups in different localities around Gozo. These were the parking areas near the Gozo General Hospital and the mental hospital, the parking area near the bus terminus and the former playing field in Victoria, Wied il-Ghasri Inlet and the Kantra Valley in Xlendi.

The group would like to thank the Gozo Ministry for providing it with two trucks, one at Dwejra in April and one near its headquarters in Victoria in May to pick up the rubbish collected by its members as well as other items needed during these clean-ups.

Our participation in campaigns such as these enables our members to live up to our Scout Law and Promise, “*We will do our best!*” as regards the environment, people and society.

Visitors to HQ

- **Fr Joseph Ciappara** OFM, a leader with the Dingli Scout Group
- **Fr Anton Briffa**, OFM Cap, Chaplain of the Scout Association of Malta
- **Dave Clements**, Peterborough Scout Group
- **Cedric Salafia**, AGSL, Hamrun Scout Group
- **Mgr Emanuel Curmi**, director of the ARKA Foundation
- **Mgr Manuel Cordina**, director of the OASI Foundation

Forthcoming events

(Further details will be sent in due time)

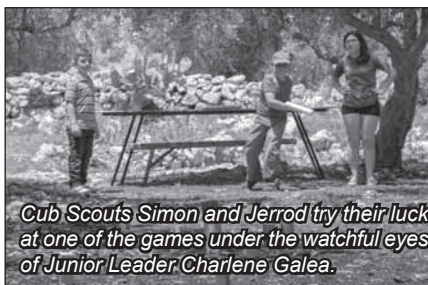
- Summer Camp
Scouts, Venture Scouts - Friday 1st August to Friday 8th August
Cubs - Monday 4th - Wednesday 6th August.
- Group BBQ - Wednesday 6th August
- Santa Marija Parade and Guard of honour - Friday 15th August

FAMILY FUN DAY 2014

For the second consecutive year, the Group organized a Family Fun Day. This was held at the olive grove at Ta' Blankas in Xewkija and its environs. Various activities were prepared for all members of the family. There were face painting sessions for the young and not so young by council member Celine Portelli. Different games, archery sessions and short hikes around the area were held. But the most popular of all was undoubtedly the abseiling experience. The queues at this post were certainly the longest and at no time did they abate. The leaders and Ventures Scouts manning this post were VERY busy. At noon, some of those present joined in a BBQ provided by the Group while others brought along their own food for a picnic in the shade of the trees. At tea time, tea, coffee and cakes were served.



GSL Lorrie Saliba, ASL Jean Pierre Scerri and ASL Mario Galea at the barbeque



Cub Scouts Simon and Jerrod try their luck at one of the games under the watchful eyes of Junior Leader Charlene Galea.



A budding Robin Hood?



The diners enjoy their meal under the shade of the trees.



Lunch time

The 1st National Scout Youth Forum

by CSL Anita Muscat

In April 2014, the Scout Association of Malta, in collaboration with Agenzija Żagħżagħ, the Parliamentary Secretariat for Research, Innovation Youth & Sport, Mochika and Nestle organized its 1st National Scout Youth Forum. The main objective of this event was Youth Empowerment. Youth Empowerment was chosen to be one of the two priority topics of the European Scout Region's workplan for the next three years.

The event included the election of 11 council members representing the four different Scout districts to serve on the first National Scout Youth Council. The role of the National Scout Youth Council members is to be a voice of the youth members in the various decision making bodies within the Association as well as work on the outcomes and recommendations of the workshops held during this day. However their role will not only be limited to that but will also be the voice of the Association within the National Youth Council amongst other things.

Beppe Galea from the Victoria Scout Group and Josmar Azzopardi of the Xagħra Scout Group have been elected as the Gozo District's representatives. Congratulations!



Cub Scouts Mark S, Matthew, Russell, Drew and Karl take their turn at one of the games while Scout Glen Mario Rapa notes their scores.

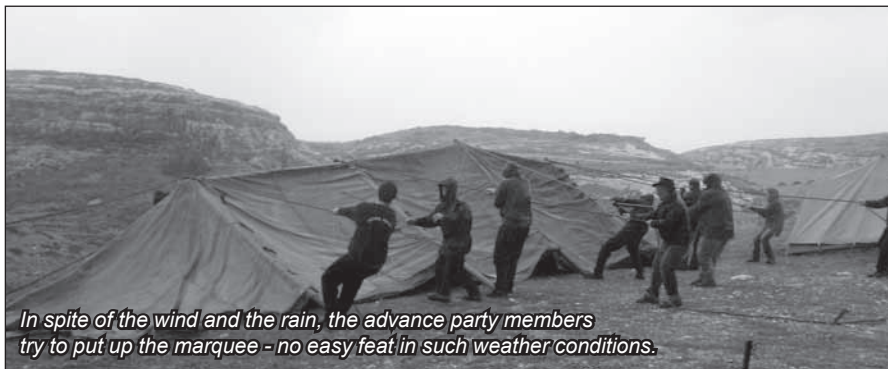


Juan Scerri gets an Angry Bird face paint from council member Celine Portelli.

EASTER CAMP 2014



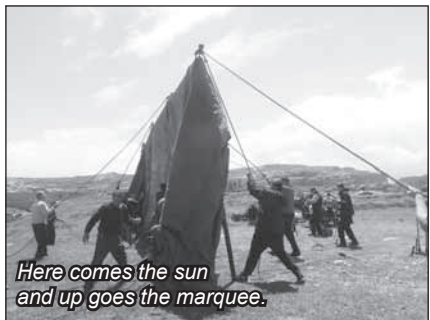
Members of the Unit pack the equipment for camp.



In spite of the wind and the rain, the advance party members try to put up the marquee - no easy feat in such weather conditions.



The adverse weather conditions have thwarted our efforts in putting up the marquee.



Here comes the sun and up goes the marquee.



Some final touches by Venture Scout Mark Portelli



Group members during the Easter vigil ceremony at Ta' Pinu



Group photo



At a camp lunch - English Scouter Dave Clements (who came over from the UK to join us at camp), Fr Joseph Ciappara OFM - Dingli Scout Group, Dr Samuel Azzopardi - Mayor of Victoria, GSL Lorrie Saliba, the Group Patron Joseph G Grech, the Group librarian Carm Cachia and AGSL Gorg Said



Flag break



Handle with great care, Carm and Lell. The hungry hordes await their lunch.



Back home at headquarters - Easter camp is over.

Till the next one