



Victoria Scout Group

N e w s s h e e t

Nº: 187

[July - September] October 2014

From the Group Scout Leader Report

Lorrie Saliba



Summer Camp 2014 - Group photo with the 'pirate ship'

First of all I would like to thank all those parents and friends who attended the Group's recent fundraising activity. This was the camp barbeque, attended by around 500 guests. Another thank you goes to all those who offered items to be drawn in the raffle during the same activity. This activity is the major fundraising activity for the year. As I said in my previous report, the Group is in the process of enlarging the kitchen and also upgrading the store for the camping equipment. So all the money raised from this activity and other activities planned for the future will go towards these two projects. Your participation in such activities will help us achieve these goals and is appreciated by us all.

By the time you receive this issue of the News Sheet, summer holidays will be over and here at headquarters we will be back into the winter Scouting routine. For some leaders there was barely a summer break because they were kept busy right through with other Scouting activities.

The most important activity held during these last months was Summer Camp. For another year, the attendance was more



The Group Scout Leader Lorrie Saliba, SL David Grech and the Scouts during the campfire

cont. turn over

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H.Q. St. Domenica Street, Victoria, Gozo – Malta • Tel: 2155 6497
Group's web-site: www.victoriascoutgroup.org

Editor: **Anita Muscat** – Tel: 2155 4657 / 2155 9134 / 9920 9805 – anita@victoriascoutgroup.org

Group Scout Leader: **Lorrie Saliba** – Tel: 2155 5844 - Mob: 79 555 844

Email: lorrie@victoriascoutgroup.org

Group Patron: **Joseph G. Grech**



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From the Scout Group Leader

cont....from front page

than satisfactory with those not attending being very few. To cater for and accommodate more than hundred Scouts at one time is a headache from the beginning to the end. The success of this important event in the Scout calendar is the result of a lot of hard work and personal sacrifices of our devoted leaders. While I extend my thanks to these leaders, I wish that all the parents appreciate more their disinterested work. You have to keep in mind all the time that what these people are doing is for the benefit of your children and youths.

Following a very short break after summer camp, we are back to our weekly meetings together with other outdoor activities that are held from time to time. I want to make it clear especially to the new members, that in our Group regular attendance in the Group's activities and the weekly meetings are obligatory and this is part of the Group's discipline. The leaders put in a lot of time and effort in preparing for the meetings and other

activities, and it is unfair that such hard work is met with a poor attendance. You all realize how hard it is nowadays to work with children and youths, so I expect that parents collaborate with our leaders and give them a helping hand when needed. You can do so by encouraging your children to attend the weekly meetings and also the other activities that are held from time to time. Our leaders do all their best for our members even if this involves a lot of personal sacrifices. You have entrusted us with caring for your children. Your support guarantees your children's and the Group's future. The weekly meetings and other activities held, help our members to develop their character.

During these last weeks a good number of new members joined our group. As the Group Scout Leader I would like to give a warm welcome to these new members who joined both the Troop and the Pack sections and wish them a happy and adventurous life with our Group and also as members of the worldwide Scout Movement.

THANK YOU!

THE GROUP WOULD LIKE TO THANK

- Mr Charlie Attard
- Mr Jeremy Cassar (Marsovin Winery)
- Mr Charlie Cini (Caruana and Cini Ltd)
- Mr Simon Enriquez
- Mr Joe Grech (Arkadia Ltd)
- The Hamrun Scouts
- Sisters Lorenza and Lina (Dwejra Bar)
- Ms Marita Mercieca
- Mr Ġorg Meqlaq (Meqlaq Jewellers)
- Mr Abram Said (Vini e Capricci)
- Mr Mario Scicluna (Jubilee Foods)
- Mr Saviour Tabone (Baron Ltd)
- Francis Vassallo (Vassallo Jewellers) for their continued support during various Group activities.
- The group would like to extend its heartfelt thanks to Ms Lorraine Bonello Ghio, Head of Administration and HR at Mediterranean Bank and to the bank for the generous donation of office furniture.
- Other thanks go to those council members, Scouters, parents and campers who gave a helping hand during the group's barbeque. The help given during the preparation of the food, both at headquarters and the campsite and the cleaning of headquarters on Wednesday 6th August 2014 as well as that given during the cleaning up (of the never-ending number of dishes and utensils) on Thursday 7th August at the campsite was greatly needed and very much appreciated. Organizing a barbeque for around 500 persons is quite an undertaking and the success of this activity depended largely on the help offered by these volunteers.
- Another thank you goes to Major Edric Zahra and the Armed Forces of Malta for the helicopter display at Summer Camp.
- Our final thanks go to Alex Rizzo and Steve Rizzo of Ritz Kayaks for the donation of a kayak and a pair of oars.

SANTA MARIJA PARADE 2014

As has been customary for these past 50 years, the Group provided a guard of honour to H.E. the President of Malta, Mary Louise Coleiro Preca and to the Minister for Gozo, Dr Anton Refalo at the agrarian show held on Santa Marija's feast at Villa Rundle Gardens. On her way in, the President and her husband stopped to shake hands and talk to all the members of the group. She also praised the leaders for their sterling work and encouraged them to keep up the good work in favour of children and youths.



The Group marches down Republic Street and awaits the arrival of H.E. the President of Malta.



The President of Malta, Dr Mary Louise Coleiro Preca salutes the members of the Group.



World Scout Jamboree 2015 和 WA: a Spirit of Unity

The 23rd World Scout Jamboree will be held in Kirara-hama, Yamaguchi City, Yamaguchi Prefecture, Japan from Tuesday 28th July to Saturday 6th August 2015. The theme will be Scouts between the ages of 14 and 17 can join the adventure of a lifetime with other Scouts from around the globe.

Those who are interested kindly contact the Group Scout Leader as soon as possible.

Venture Unit Activities

by Venture Scout Jurgen Attard

Summer is always the busiest season in our Scouting calendar. Even though most of the Ventures have summer jobs and other commitments, we truly do our best to organise as many activities as we can and assist the Group as much as possible.

The open air dinner at the hamlet of Santa Luċija started off the summer season. The activity was very well attended by parents and supporters. Under ideal weather conditions, the Venture Scouts served the wine and the food to all the guests while having a peek at the ongoings of the World Cup match being shown on the big screen. The diving sessions have now taken root in the Unit's calendar and have become



Putting down the marquee at the end of camp



The Venture Unit works on the hyperbolic parabola.



The Venture Unit prepares lunch for the campers.



Service with a smile during the group's BBQ.



Yummy! Can we join in the feast pleaseee?



The Ventures look forward to their diving session.

an annual event. This was an excellent activity and a completely new experience for most of the Ventures. In this activity, we got the chance to experience the underwater world with the help of the diving instructors at Ras il-Hobz. The Ventures will surely not forget this unique and breathtaking experience provided by the Unit.

The highlight of the Scouting activities throughout the year is the annual summer camp. This camp involves a lot of preparation and hard work beforehand. The summer camp is an excellent time to plan a great deal of Scouting activities. We had a difficult job unloading all the tents from the truck in very hot dry weather, but with a great deal of teamwork we finished all the jobs that needed to be done. This year, a pirate theme was chosen for camp and therefore the pioneering project was a pirate ship. This attracted a great deal of attention from both camp visitors and tourists.

Like every year during the summer camp, a massive barbeque which was very well attended from parents and supporters alike, was held. The pirate theme was not forgotten and it reflected on the preparation for the campfire thus making it more memorable. To the surprise of

those present, a fireworks display was let off with the sound of bagpipes in the background. An additional fireworks display at the end of the campfire was another surprise and was welcomed by all with cheers and a round of applause.

On the 15th of August, which marks Santa Maria's feast we kept our appointment and paraded down to Villa Rundle where we formed a guard of honour to the President of Malta, Her Excellency, Marie Louise Coleiro Preca. During summer we also kept on going with maintenance

sessions to keep all the equipment up to date. On the 13th of September, the Venture Scouts held a barbeque on the H.Q rooftop. It was a relaxing activity, and marked the nearing end of summer. An indoor abseiling session was also held on the last weekend of September.

With summer now over, we wish our Ventures the best of luck in their scholastic year and we are sure that the weekly Scouting meetings will serve as a means to vent the scholastic stress accumulated during the week.



Under the sea, under the sea.....

SATURDAY & SECONEE PACK REPORT

by CSL Anita Muscat



Cub Scouts Christian, Mark Saviour and Michael prepare a pirate flag.

The month of July started with a craft session where the Cubs prepared a mosaic jar. A cookout was also held. During another meeting, various activities in connection with the World Scout Environment badge were held.

Although water is essential to life, yet water pollution is one of the most serious ecological threats we face today. During the **Water Filter** activity with Onai Joseph, a homemade water filter demonstrated how different materials representing geological layers in the Maltese Islands work to create an effective natural filter which helps to clean rainwater water as it seeps down through the water table.

A discussion about **"What have I done today?"** with Bagheera Nicholas and Chil John Paul M. encouraged the Cubs to reflect on how their actions can have either a positive or a negative effect on the environment. Information about renewable and non-renewable sources of energy, the time taken by different materials to disintegrate and the meaning of bio-degradable and non-degradable materials was also included.

During the **"What disaster am I?"** activity with Kaa John Paul C., the Cubs and their leader discussed disasters, both natural and those which occur as a result of human action. A series of pictures depicting different natural disasters were used in a game in which a Cub had to guess the name of 'his disaster'.

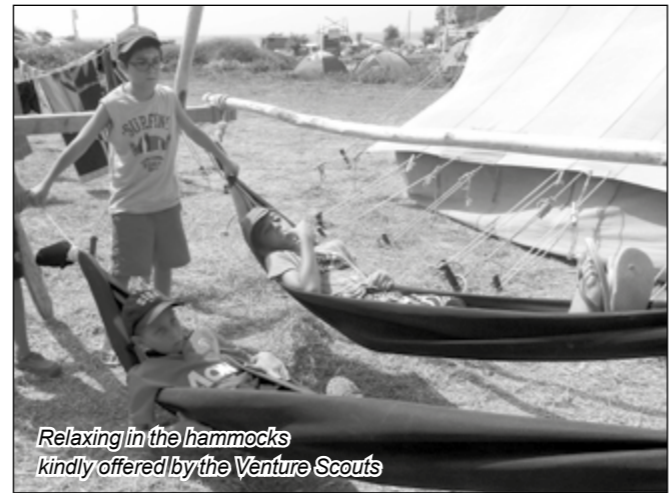
Another activity with Akela Anita and Chil Helen focused on **flooding** and an experiment demonstrated the effect of sea level rise on low lying land. Words such as global warming, climate change and the greenhouse effect were explained. Another experiment showed how different materials and colours absorb or reflect heat in a different manner.



Summer camp 2014 - English breakfast today



Cubs - Sticky leaves activity World Scout Environment Badge



Relaxing in the hammocks kindly offered by the Venture Scouts



Group photo of the Cubs and their leaders at camp

Santa Lucija Dinner 2014

The meeting proved to be a very interesting and informative one and gave the Cubs ample time to discuss how we all interact with our environment and what we can do to safeguard it.

Then came summer camp revolving around the theme 'pirates'. A few of the activities on offer were a face painting session, preparing a Jolly Roger pennant, a night hike, water games and other games linked to sinking vessels, marauding pirates, sea battles and exploding bombs. The Cubs also participated in the Group activity 'The Centenary Games' and the Group's campfire. A session on safety rules for swimming was followed by successful attempts at the Swimmer's badge. The final activity for the World Scout Environment badge, the Sticky Leaves activity was held at camp. This involved taking samples of leaves from different areas around the campsite and checking the levels of dirt accumulated. As could be expected, those leaves near the edge of the campsite which are closest to the very busy road were the dirtiest while those further away (for example in the valley) were much cleaner.



Cubs - Mosaic jar craft

At the end, there were 23 Cubs who completed all the requirements for this special badge. This international badge involves a lot of work and takes quite some time to complete. Our Group is proud that over the years, successive groups of Cubs have managed to gain this badge. This is evidence to the Group's commitment to educate our young members through fun activities in which they learn by doing, inform them about environmental challenges and encourage them to assume personal responsibility for the environment.

After a brief break in August, meetings resumed in September. The Packs bid farewell to 9 Cubs - Jeremy Paul, Jerrod, Karl, Luc, Matthew, Michael, Neil, Presley and Simon who have now joined the Troop section. However they welcomed some new boys into our Scouting family. These are Jonathan Camilleri, Paul Camilleri, Jean Debattista, Enzo Giordanella, Henry Holland, Kyle Lupi, Gabriel Micallef and Zack Portelli. Another fun filled year of activities and learning opportunities await these boys. It promises to be another exciting Scouting year!



At the cookout

At the beginning of July, the Group organized an open air dinner at the hamlet of Santa Lucija. The activity was very well attended by parents and supporters. The ideal weather conditions, the good food offered, the subtle background music and the suggestive location made the occasion a very pleasant one for those who attended.

Since it was World Cup time, the patrons could watch the evening's match, the quarter-final between the Netherlands and Costa Rica on a big screen. This turned out to be quite an exciting game with extra time and penalties. In the end, the Netherlands prevailed in the penalties, winning the game 4-3.



The kitchen team prepares the antiplasto platter.



Santa Lucija square



The Scouts watch the penalty shootout.

Trip to Sicily



David, Leli and Gorg on the way up



The contrast between a trail of white snow and the black lava on the slopes of Mount Etna



A photo of the whole group - Omar, Gorg, David and Leli

Etna Expedition Report

by SL David Grech

Every year while at HQ or at camp, the subject of going on an expedition abroad always comes up. This year after one of these discussions, AGSL George Said, Leader Leli Mizzi and myself decided to book a plane ticket to Catania and walk up Mount Etna. Joining us was Omar Said, George's son. With the plane and accommodation booked, before we left, we started studying the routes and walks to take on this trip.

We arrived in Catania early Friday morning and after settling in the B&B at the foot of the Etna in the village of Nicolosi, we decided to explore our surroundings. A walk through town took us to the foot of Monte Rossi, a twin peaked mountain rising to about 1300m. A winding path through the trees took us to the top of this mountain with a breathtaking view of Nicolosi beneath us and with Mount Etna looming behind us.

The second day was focused on reaching the summit of Mount Etna which on the south side stands at 3280m above sea level. The bus from Nicolosi up to the Rifugio Sapienza took us from 1000m to 1900m. Here we asked around and found that from 2900m upwards, one can only hike up with an alpine guide. The problem was that the guide only attempts one ascent every day at around 11.00. Since our main objective was to reach the summit we had to take the cable car up to 2500m and a 4x4 up to 2900m to meet the guide. From there, a 2 and a half hour ascent took us through a lunar landscape up to the edge of the crater at 3280m. Looking down at the crater 150m below us gives you a sense of how small we are compared to the world around us. The descent took another two hours as the alpine guide took a detour to show us the latest crater that was formed, with steam still coming out. At 4pm it was time to take the cable car down again to make it in time to catch the bus back to Nicolosi.

On our third day we decided to take the bus up to the Rifugio Sapienza again. However this time we followed a horizontal trail that took us around Etna for a hike of around 25km, passing through the lava path in one instance and thick forests the next. This walk ended the hiking part of our four day trip as the final day was dedicated to travelling and some sightseeing down in Catania.

On the plane getting back to Malta one thing was the most discussed... Where to next?



Lost in the mists of time, it's still a thumbs up sign for Gorg and Leli

A point to Ponder with the Editor – Anita Muscat



THE WORLD SCOUT ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME — PART 2

“THE OPEN-AIR IS THE REAL OBJECTIVE OF SCOUTING AND THE KEY TO ITS SUCCESS.”

LORD ROBERT BADEN-POWELL

23 Cubs from our Group recently completed the World Scout Environment Badge and have been awarded this international badge by the Training Department of the Scout Association of Malta. They can now proudly carry this **very special** badge on their uniform.



Both the logo for the World Scout Environment Programme and that for the badge are full of important details. But what do these signify?

At the centre of the World Scout Environment Programme logo and badge is Antarctica - the only collectively managed continent in the world and one of the most at risk from climate change. The other landforms create a 'world' image - not showing any one particular continent or country, as Scouts are encouraged to look beyond their own borders and think of the world. The blue, green and white colours are commonly associated with nature and the purple of World Scouting is blended with these. The Sun which brings life to our world is reflected in the water.

In the World Scout Environment Programme logo, the world is supported by three leaves to symbolise water, air and plants which are all important environmental elements to support life. The World Scout Emblem shows that it is an official programme of the World Organization of the Scout Movement and its inclusion



as a registered trademark gives the logo legal protection. The words 'World Scout Environment Programme' are written with the graphic image and can be translated into other languages. The World Scout Environment Badge has the same world image as used in the logo, encompassed by a circle of rope which reminds us that we are all connected on this one world. There are three colours of rope, to show the progression made by Scouts as they move through the sections and advance their appreciation of the environment. The rope colours are blue for Cub Scouts, Green for Scouts and purple for Rover Scouts.

The framework for this badge is based on the principles and aims for environment education in Scouting and encourages a progressive learning process as Scouts develop a greater awareness and understanding about the environment and the world around them. For Scouts to earn the World Scout Environment Badge, they should both explore and reflect on each of the five aims covering:

1. Air and Water
2. Habitats and Species
3. Harmful Substances
4. Environmental Practices
5. Environmental Hazards and Natural Disasters.

•EXPLORE & REFLECT

•TAKE ACTION



They should then consider how they can take action based on their learning experiences and undertake an environmental project. This approach encourages a holistic exploration of the environment.

Working on this badge was quite a lengthy process which involved a lot of effort from both the young members and their leaders. However it was a very interesting and interactive one mainly based on 'outdoor activities that were fun, allowed unstructured exploration, encouraged inquisitiveness and generated awareness'. The learning process helped all those involved to become more aware of the challenges facing our environment from local to global level. The environment is a global subject and the badge focuses on learning about local and global issues and how taking local action can help both of these. It also helped the Scouts to realize the relationship between their actions in an urban setting and the natural world which might seem quite far away but actually is not. So these Cubs can be very proud indeed! Well done!

(Information taken from World Scout Environment Programme Fact Sheets)

NB: These badges cannot be bought by an individual but by the Scout Group from the National Scout Organisation in each country. They are then passed on to the eligible members following a screening process about the activities undertaken.

TROOP REPORT

by SL David Grech

The meetings in July started the build-up for summer camp with meetings aimed at preparing the Troop for the 8-day activity-packed event. The Troop did find the time to spend one of these hot July Saturdays at Ramla Bay where the Scouts competed in various non-aquatic events (as the purple flag of jellyfish loomed from the lifeguard's tower).



Scout Matthew Grech is invested.



Scout Kurt Cauchi is invested.



The Troop prepares a launching pad for a rocket.



Troop leaders, ASL's Jean Pierre and Jesmond at work on the pirate ship's figurehead



Pastamaking session

This year summer camp's theme was Pirates. Each patrol had already prepared their pirate crew's name and flag and all three pirate crews arrived at Dwejra ready to find the final Treasure Island – Raftel. Before arriving there however, the crews had to navigate their way through several islands on the way. The crews had to overcome some of these islands while challenging another crew. On other islands they had to confront Cubs and Ventures while other trials were to be undertaken alone.

Among the stand-alone activities, this year the patrols had to combat an ancient sea monster and navigate around his lair using kayaks. Here the crews were given instructions about safety at sea using kayaks and then after being given time to practise, they had to finish a course using them.

Another stand-alone activity took the patrols to the Island of Amazon Lily where the local tribe kidnapped some of their crew members. To win them back, the patrol had to beat the locals in a match of archery.

The island of Dressora put the crew in the middle of a civil war where they had to outwit the enemy in various logic and intellectual games. Another island's main focus was nature where the patrols had to complete several tasks in order to appease the nature gods of these islands and be able to proceed to the next destination.

On Cookvalten, the crew was challenged to create the best pasta dish from scratch. Each team created from scratch a plate of tagliatelle, made with flour, eggs and semolina, topped with a creamy carbonara sauce. Another island put the survival skills of the crew to the test as they had to build a shelter and start a fire from scratch.



The Scouts are ready for the launch— 10, 9, 8, 7, 6)



SL David Grech with the finished product—Long George Silver

Continue reading on next page *

IMPRESSIONS OF A FIRST-TIME MOTHER AT THE SCOUT SUMMER CAMPFIRE AUGUST 2014

I felt I should put down in writing my positive views to the amazing campfire the Victoria Scout Group organized on Wednesday 6th August, 2014. I was totally impressed by the whole event, especially the impeccable organization from start to end.

Being my very first-time and coming from a family of girls, I was never involved in a Scout Group, so this for me was all new and to my utter surprise, a super thumbs up to all those involved to make this happen!

I am sure that organizing for an approximate of 550 people is not an easy task at all. Food service was perfect and no extra waiting at all. Meat perfectly cooked and everything home-made, even the ketchup!

Last but obviously not least, the cherry on the cake, was the actual campfire! I thought that it was only lighting a fire but I was simply amazed with the way the fire was lit, the entertainment which brought a lot of smiles and laughter to all the faces out there and most of all the story behind it all..... Simply amazing!!!

I had no idea I could invite friends and family but I made it a point to tell all my family to keep it free for next year so they could be a part of it too and enjoy every minute of this superb event.

I feel I should thank all the Scouts especially Lorrie (GSL), George (AGSL) David (SL) and Anita (CSL) and all the other leaders, for this great opportunity they're giving my son, Drew and all the other kids and for all their patience and dedication.

Maria Portelli

Summer camp would not be the same if the annual water games were not held. These involved around 1200 water balloons (even if the leaders filling them up did reserve a few to the side for additional activities... mainly 'exploding' them on GSL, AGSL and other leaders).

Summer camp will also be remembered fondly by two Scouts in particular. Kurt Cauchi and Matthew Grech were invested during Camp. Also invested were two leaders who have been an integral part of the Troop for quite a number of years, Charlene Galea and Sarah Grech. On behalf of the other Troop leaders we wish them many years of service to the group.

The end of summer camp brings with it a few weeks of holidays for the Scouts and for the leaders, giving the Troop leaders the time to analyse the past year and prepare for the one to come. When meetings started again in the beginning of September, the time with the Pack for 9 Cubs came to an end and they stepped up to the next section. Now the Troop of 37 Scouts is well prepared and ready to tackle the Scouting year ahead.



Shaun, Christopher, Kurt, Keith and Gianluca at a cookout

We were there.....

- **Visit to the President of Malta** In July 2014, the Group Scout Leader and District Commissioner for the Gozo Scout District, Lorrie Saliba joined other officials of the Scout Association of Malta and paid a courtesy visit to H.E. Marie Louise Coleiro Preca, President of Malta at the Palace in Valletta.
- **Group participates in World Scout Scarf Day 2014** On the 1st August 2014, while at camp, the Group participated in an international initiative called World Scout Scarf Day where current and former Scouts were requested to wear their Scout scarves in public to show their commitment to the "spirit of Scouting" and to make that "spirit" visible: "Once a Scout - always a Scout!" Participants were invited to post a picture of themselves wearing their scarf on the Facebook page of their National Scout Organisation. Such a photo of our members was included in the Scout Association of Malta's post for the occasion. This in turn was forwarded to the organizing committee. Scarf days have been celebrated since 2007 and are promoted by Scouting organizations throughout the world.
- **Group helps in organizing a BBQ in aid of Home-Start Gozo** Various Scouters and council members helped officials of the Home-Start Group Gozo, to organize a fund-raising barbeque at Dwejra. Home-Start Gozo offers its services to families who are facing difficult times and need both emotional and practical support.
- **Giochi senza Frontiere** A group of Ventures participated in the Giochi senza Frontiere – It's a Knockout! - village youth games held in different villages around Gozo.

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.



The Group Scout Leader, Lorrie Saliba and other officials of the Scout Association of Malta meet H.E. the President of Malta, Marie Louise Coleiro Preca.



Members of the Group participate in the World Scout Scarf Day 2014.



Giochi Senza Frontier - At the youth games

AWARDS AND BADGES GAINED JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2014

CLUB SCOUT PACKS

Christian Attard – Mowgli,
James Jude Attard Ellis – Swimmer
Stage 3, Cook
Nathan Azzopardi – Mowgli
Clint Bajada - Cook
Matthew Buhagiar – Tenderpaw
Neil Casha – Kaa, Swimmer Stage 1
Neil Camilleri - Link Badge
Presley Clark – Mowgli, Swimmer
Stage 1, Link Badge
Michael Curmi – Mowgli, Swimmer
Stage 1
Royvin Debono - Swimmer Stage 1
Leo Mike Farrugia – Tenderpaw
Mark Farrugia – Mowgli, Swimmer
Stage 1
Michael Farrugia - Swimmer Stage 2,
Swimmer Stage 3, Link Badge
Simon Formosa - Link Badge
Karl Galea – Silver Arrow, Link Badge
Luc Galea – Raksha, Swimmer Stage
2, Swimmer Stage 3, Link Badge
Mike Angel Galea – Bagheera,
Swimmer Stage 1
Jean Pierre Grech – Baloo, Swimmer
Stage 2, Swimmer Stage 3
Jeremy Paul Grech - Swimmer Stage

1, Link Badge
Matthew Grech - Swimmer Stage 2,
Swimmer Stage 3, Link Badge
Nicholas Grech – Tenderpaw, Swimmer
Stage 1, Mowgli
Pierre Grech – Membership, Mowgli,
Swimmer Stage 1
Nahor Grima – Bagheera, Swimmer
Stage 2, Swimmer Stage 3
Michael Magrin – Membership, Mowgli,
Swimmer Stage 1
James Mizzi – Kaa, Swimmer 1,
Craftsman
Sam Morgan – Mowgli, Swimmer Stage
1
Drew Portelli – Tenderpaw, Swimmer
Stage 1
Lucas Said – Membership, Mowgli
Neil Said – Tenderpaw, Mowgli,
Swimmer Stage 1
Michele Terribile - Swimmer Stage 2,
Swimmer Stage 3
Gabriel Vella – Mowgli, Swimmer Stage
1
Benjamin Xerri – Kaa
Jerrod Xerri – Silver Arrow, Swimmer
Stage 2, Swimmer Stage 3, Link
Maurice Zammit – Mowgli

WORLD SCOUT ENVIRONMENT BADGE

Saturday Pack : Luc Galea, Neil Casha, Gabriel Vella, Benjamin Xerri, Karl Galea, James Mizzi, Michael Curmi, Pierre Grech, Lucas Said.

Seeonee Pack: Michael Farrugia, James Jude Attard Ellis, Jeremy Paul Grech, Nathan Azzopardi, Michele Terribile, Nahor Grima, Mike Angel Galea, Royvin Debono, Michael Refalo, Jerrod Xerri, Simon Rapa, Presley Clark, Mark S Farrugia, Michael Magrin.

TROOP

Attard George.....	Entrepreneurship
Axiaq Shaun M.....	Pathfinder
Azzopardi Neville.....	Pathfinder
Azzopardi William A.....	Entrepreneurship
Bajada Keith.....	Explorer, My Community
Galea Andrea.....	My Community
Grech Matthew.....	Entrepreneurship
Mercieca David.....	Entrepreneurship
Mizzi William.....	Pathfinder
Portelli Jonathan.....	My Community
Portelli Malcolm.....	Entrepreneurship
Rapa Samuel.....	Pathfinder

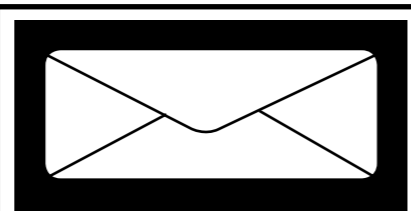
Forthcoming events

- Sunday lunch under the marquee at Dwejra Sunday 26th October 2014
- Bicycle Fun Run in aid of the Ability for Disability Association (A.F.D.A.) Sunday 14th December
- Christmas dinner in December
- Sale of Christmas cakes in December

Further details will be sent in due time.

VISITORS TO HEADQUARTERS

David Darmanin – GSL 1st Sliema Scout Group



Letter by the Minister for Education and Employment

After forwarding a copy of the Group's Newsletter to the Ministry, the Group received a letter of appreciation from Dr Evarist Bartolo, Minister for Education and Employment where the Minister commented positively on the group's commitment and effort to organize so many activities not only for its members but also engage in various fund raising initiatives in favour of other Non-Governmental Organizations. He urged other organizations to follow suit.

While thanking the Minister for his words of encouragement, we promise to continue "To do our Best", according to our Scout Law and Promise.

SOLVE DRAINAGE PROBLEMS

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

Contact
Michael Refalo (Tliittu)
on
2155 4189 or 99822768

Congratulations !

Congratulations to World Scout Committee members João Armando Gonçalves (3rd from left), Daniel Ownby (1st from right) and Jemima Nartey (1st from left). During the 40th World Scout Conference held from the 11th to 15th of August 2014 in Ljubljana, Slovenia, they were respectively elected as the new Chairperson and the new Vice-Chairpersons for the Triennium 2014-2017.

The World Scout Conference is the governing body, the "general assembly" of Scouting and is composed of members from all of the National Scout Organizations within WOSM. Over 1,200 delegates from 130 National Scout Organizations attended this event.



BBQ & CAMPFIRE 2014

This year's BBQ and campfire were held on Wednesday 6th August. It was another memorable occasion. Around 500 guests attended. There were also around a 100 campers.

Special guests for the occasion were former Chief Scouts Vincent Cassar and James Rizzo, the Chief Commissioner, Leslie Bonnici, former Chief Commissioner and Group Scout Leader, Joseph G Grech, former Scout Leader Lawrence Sciberras and Harry Haig of the Malta Scout Fellowship.

After serving the numerous items of food to all these diners, it was time for the campfire to start. The guests moved from the dining area to the campfire area and waited for the fire to be lighted.

The sound of bagpipes was then heard and a group of bagpipers from the Hamrun Scout Group entered the campsite. Scout Leader David Grech started explaining that this year's camp theme was **Pirates**. He was then interrupted by a group of Ventures alias pirates who 'hijacked the proceedings' and launched an attack from the pirate ship (the form of this year's hyperbolic parabola). 'Cannonball' shots from the masts and prow of this ship in the form of fireworks was how the Unit started this year's campfire going. This was a complete surprise and was welcomed by all with cheers and a round of applause.

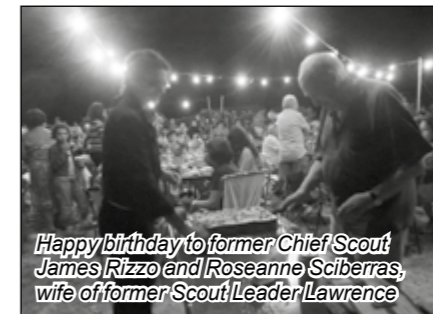
Different songs and stunts as well as the customary annual campfire song composed by former Scout David Mario Fenech entertained those present. Another round of fireworks brought the campfire to an end.



Distinguished guests at the BBQ



A view of the barbecue area after sunset



Happy birthday to former Chief Scout James Rizzo and Roseanne Sciberras, wife of former Scout Leader Lawrence



Campfire fun for the Ventures



SL David Grech is accompanied by David Mario Fenech during the campfire.

CONGRATULATIONS



Christmas Cakes FOR SALE



The Group will have homemade (**un-iced**) Christmas cakes for sale. The cakes will be 18 cm in diameter and will cost €10.00. Special orders for iced ones will also be accepted. You can place your orders with the Group Scout Leader, Lorrie Saliba on 79 555 844, council member Maria Mercieca on 79 56 08 96 or CSL Anita Muscat on 99 20 98 05 till the end of November.



SUMMER CAMP 2014

Beware of Pirates!



The investiture ceremony of Junior Leaders Charlene Galea and Sarah Grech



The Group Chaplain, Mgr. Joseph Farrugia celebrates mass at camp.



The campers welcome the AFM helicopter.



Water games during the Centenary Games

During the first week of August, the Victoria Scout Group held its annual summer camp at Dwejra. Around 100 campers, members of the 3 sections within the Group – Cub Scouts, Scouts and Venture Scouts together with their leaders attended this 8-day camp. The theme for this year's camp was Pirates. Each section followed its programme but most activities revolved around this theme. There were face-painting sessions, lots of water games, open fire cooking, fresh pasta making, swimming sessions, badge work, the construction of a hyperbolic parabola in the form of a pirate ship, the preparation of a ship's figurehead in papier-mâché and a demonstration by an AFM helicopter. Two new junior leaders, Charlene Galea and Sarah Grech as well as two Scouts, Matthew Grech and Kurt Cauchi were invested. On Wednesday a BBQ and campfire for around 500 parents and supporters was held. On Thursday, another BBQ and campfire was held for persons with disabilities.



The 'pirate ship'.



The Centenary Games - Scout Max and Cub Scout Mark Saviour try to get the water balloon safe and sound to its destination.



Fr Michael Galea, Asst Director of ARKA Foundation and the GSL Lorrie Saliba during a BBQ and campfire for persons with disabilities.



Another summer camp is over and the Scouts seem tired after all the activities.

Till the next one