

Tenth International Vote a Stamp Referendum 1986

by Dr. J. Mercieca

The counting of votes received in connection with the "Xth International Vote a Stamp Referendum and Contest" took place at the monthly meeting of the Philatelic Society (Malta), held at the Sports Centre, Floriana on Monday 5th May 1986.

In addition to those received locally, votes were received from several overseas countries including the U.K., West Germany, France, Italy, Switzerland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Hong Kong, the U.S.A., Australia etc.

The Stamps voted for were the 24 Stamps from the 8 sets issued by the Postal Administration of Malta in the year 1985.

The 8c + 2c of the Christmas set, designed by Mr. John Bonnici, emerged an easy first with no less than 40% of the total number of votes received. The second place with 6.63% of the votes received was secured by the 23c stamp of the old Maltese Ships set, designed by Mr. Norbert Attard, while the 2c + 1c stamp of the Christmas set, designed by Mr. John Bonnici was placed third with 5.27% of the votes received.

After the full results of the Referendum were announced to the Meeting by Dr. John Mercieca, the Society's President, all the ballot papers of those who had voted for the winning stamp were placed in a big box and Mr. John Burtin, a director of the Royal Stamp Co of London, who happened to be in Malta at the time and was present at the Meeting was called to draw the names of the four lucky winners of the prizes offered.

The big prize went to Mr. Anton Farrugia of 36, Sannat Road Victoria Gozo, who won 2 free Flight Tickets, kindly donated by the National Airline Air Malta, to and from any city presently being served by the Airline, and the three consolation prizes, each consisting of a De Luxe Stamp Stockbook, kindly donated by Messrs E. Said, Stamp Dealer Malta, went to each of the following:

Mr. Joseph Azzopardi of Mosta, Malta.

Mrs. A.M. Rowe of Oxted, Surrey, U.K.

Signor Francesco Graziano of San Marcellino, Italy.

Bringing the Meeting to its close Dr. Mercieca, thanked the National Airline – Air Malta and the Malta Hilton for again this year donating the Big Prize, Messrs Emanuel Said for donating the 3 De Luxe Stockbooks and six firms who had advertised on the elegantly printed voting brochure, without whose support this could not have been realized.

Last, but by no means, least the President thanked Mr. Vincent Mercieca who was the official responsible for the organization of the Referendum and who had done all the spade work connected therewith.