



## Highlights

September 2024 - Issue 85

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### ***ONLINE: An Illustrated History of YMCA MALTA***



YMCA Malta will turn 50 in a few short years!! We have been working on an interactive Timeline illustrating how your local YMCA came into being, growing from an idea amongst friends into a national institution. With great pleasure we invite you to take a look.

The Timeline is divided into five decades, featuring hundreds of annotated photographs, video clips, graphics, and text blocks guiding you through our myriad of projects, programmes, activities and events since 1976!

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## ***Welcome to Malta: YMCA Europe Movement Strengthening Committee***

We were honoured to host the YMCA Europe Movement Strengthening Committee who met here in Malta! National representatives from across the continent worked on mutual support initiatives in order to supercharge unity, growth and resilience across the YMCA Europe network.



## ***Mediterranean Family: YMCA Malta in Thessaloniki***

YMCA Malta was invited to visit fellow YMCA Europe colleagues at YMCA Thessaloniki. They presented us with their impactful work growing strength in their locality, offering sports and other youth-focussed programmes.

Trips like these are crucial for us in the YMCA network; they show us what our colleagues abroad are up to, offering us bold new perspectives for our own local projects. Huge thanks to YMCA Thessaloniki for your beautiful Greek hospitality!



## ***Summer Sunset: Y'EXPLORE '24***



Summer officially came to a close this month but until the very end of it we carried out a selection of specialised workshops, activities and events for youth—all completely free of charge.

This last month saw Y'EXPLORERS continue working on their mural for our Youth Centre in Żabbar, as well as experience two outings in nature! We were hosted by our fabulous Italian friends at Horse Lagoon Foundation 🐾 where participants got up close and very personal with the healthy equine gang living free there. To find out how you can visit these majestic animals yourself, check out their site: [www.horselagoonfoundation.com](http://www.horselagoonfoundation.com)







Y'EXPLORERS also got a private tour of Bird Life 🦩 at the newly rehabilitated Salina Nature Reserve. We spent a sunny afternoon bird spotting and learning about the precious wildlife that also call our islands home. To see this unique ecosystem with your own eyes, visit: [birdlifemalta.org/nature-reserves/is-salina](https://birdlifemalta.org/nature-reserves/is-salina)

This wraps our Y'EXPLORE season for 2024. Giving young people opportunities to experience the world around them—and grow creatively and professionally in the process—is a constant drive for us here at YMCA Mata. Until next year Y'EXPLORERS!

Big thanks once again to APS Bank & Aġenzija Żgħażaġħ for sponsoring this important programme.

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## ***MISSION: Scavenger Hunt***

This month we called out to youth across the islands to sign up for our annual Scavenger Hunt. On Thursday 3rd of October they will depart from our Youth Centre in Żabbar for an afternoon and evening of problem-solving, team-building and all-out FUN!

This event sees participants complete tasks and activities at every checkpoint, unlocking the next challenge awaiting them. They must use their wits to complete the mission, working together with fellow hunters to achieve their objective. The mission will terminate at our Youth Centre where participants will be nourished with snacks and drinks.

Stay tuned for another update next month...





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*Thank you/Grazzi ħafna*

### Needs Support Programme

The support of the following organisations is ongoing in our [Needs Support Programme](#):

- Hartons
- Victory Kitchen
- Malta Food bank
- The Alfred Mizzi Foundation
- TTBL Limited
- Panku Streetfood
- ST Media Company Limited
- Maypole

An enormous thank you to these organisations. Your philanthropy is much appreciated.

If you or an organisation you work for would like to contribute to the Needs Support Programme and help us gather food and other essentials for our programmes, please do not hesitate to contact us.



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