

28 September 2008 - 40 Years of TGS Eurogroup



# Newsletter

TGS40 Newsletter no. 4, September 2008 - UK Edition  
TGS Eurogroup, via Marconi 22, 31021 Mogliano V.to TV, tel./fax +39.041.5904717

## Shine like stars in the world!

by Fr. Igino Biffi, TGS Eurogroup Salesian Delegate

When we come back from a long, demanding and adventurous journey, one of the usual activities is meeting friends to show pictures or videos and make comments on the best moments, trying to recreate the atmosphere that turned that journey into something special.

Some pictures, though, are better than those a camera can shoot, images that no one will ever be able to cancel, that will never fade in time and that no thief will be able to steal. These pictures are those we keep in our hearts, in our souls ... part of our history as men and women. Not only are these to be remembered, they are events to be experienced again, feelings to be cultivated and hopes to be given as gifts in our daily lives.

The forty years of TGS have left an everlasting tattoo in the hearts of so many, have given them the desire to turn their lives, in future, into a gift for the others and the ability to imagine their lives as a place of joy, full of friends, relationships, faces and dreams.

After forty years, let's not be satisfied with looking at pictures and feeling so nostalgic as not being able to wish anything more for the future. After forty years, either inside or outside the current management of TGS Eurogroup, let's ask ourselves, instead, what we can do to live again today the dreams that the past experience inspired in us.

The best way to remember, indeed, is to keep living in the present, where God calls us to live today, those memories that the past would want us to cancel. In TGS verbs are not used in the past tense, only in the present or in the future tenses. We have been given a gift that cannot be as an item to be kept in display on the furniture of our lives, either near or far from TGS, this gifts wants to be alive.

This is why we are meeting after forty years: to remind one another that the dream is still alive inside and around us.

Thanks to this spirit, and to the optimism that Don Bosco left us, this Salesian experience is still possible today, promoted by the Salesian Region "San Marco" Italy North-East, because it is an educational one, based on our faith and in favour of the youngsters we meet and their families, too. In these times of educational emergency, we firmly believe that sharing experiences in a Christian group of youngsters can be the answer for those who long for real values to build their lives on, so that their future can be a long chain of days worth living.

TGS Eurogroup is in service of the youngsters who join the association for the summer courses and for their families, but it is also character-forming for those who join the Salesian movement as TGS Leaders. One of the pillars of the youth Salesian spirituality is the belief that the youngsters must be given the chance to become protagonists, that is "youngsters in favour of other youngsters".

It is not an easy task, there are no shortcuts, but at the same time those who accept the challenge of the Salesian mission, especially in TGS, have the possibility to train themselves in caring about the others and develop the certainty that what is not freely given is lost for ever.

This faith is rooted in the Holy Gospel, telling us that a man is a man when he loves as Christ showed. "Shine as stars in the world!", saint Paul says, "for the salvation of the youngsters", Don Bosco would certainly add.

Any leaders who accept such call will really shine as a bright light in the world and will keep shining even in forty more years, as the stars in the sky never go out.

So, thank you for the long journey so far and best wishes indeed, as, after forty years, we are here to say again that ... the future in front of us is greater than our great past.

## Congratulations TGS for your 40 years celebration!

by Maggie and Ray Anderson, TGS Eurogroup UK.

Congratulations TGS for your 40 years celebration! An amazing achievement for an amazing organisation with so much to celebrate!

Of course, none of this would have been possible without Fr. Berti who worked so tirelessly and with such dedication for TGS and its young people.

A truly inspirational man who touched the lives of so many and continues to do so through those who knew him well and who are

carrying on his vision through their own dedication to TGS.

We have now been working with TGS for 35 years!

How privileged we have been to have had TGS as an important part of our lives!

We have so many happy memories of all the friends we have made and the good times we have spent together both here in England and in Italy.

We have so many memories too, of the many students we have seen pass through the TGS centres here in England, many of whom have gone on to be TGS leaders themselves.

Thank you TGS for enriching our lives and our best wishes for your continued success and development in the years to come.

*TGS Eurogroup Committee  
is delighted to invite you  
to the Celebrations for the forty years of the Association on  
Sunday, 28th September 2008  
at Astori Salesian College in Mogliano Veneto*



*forty years of TGS Eurogroup*

---

**TGS40**  
**Sunday, 28th September 2008**  
**“Astori” Salesian College, Mogliano Veneto (TV)**

**Event programme**

9.30 Welcome and registration of the participants Presentation speech in the theatre Opening of the photo exhibition	14.30 Games in the courtyard Video show in “Don Bosco” hall
12.00 Holy Mass in memory of don Dino Berti <i>singing led by Coro Improvisando from Conegliano</i>	16.00 Afternoon snack
13.00 Spaghetti Party <i>as don Berti used to recommend: “much wine and tasty cakes!”</i>	17.00 “Jesus Christ the resurrection” - the musical <i>casting and production by “Gruppo Musicale Ex Allievi del Collegio Vescovile Balbi Valier” from Pieve di Soligo</i>
14.00 Competition for the “Best Cake”	Celebrations will end by 18.30

---

**Information and bookings**

You are kindly requested to confirm your presence for the day  
**by Monday, 15th September 2008**  
as we explain in the enclosed form.

*Further information: please contact TGS Eurogroup office - tel./fax +39.041.5904717 - email [tgs40@tgseurogroup.it](mailto:tgs40@tgseurogroup.it)*

---

**TGS40 update**

[www.tgseurogroup.it/tgs40](http://www.tgseurogroup.it/tgs40)

- We are still receiving messages posted in the TGS40 “Guestbook”: why not sending yours, as well?
- Following the tradition of our Spaghetti Parties, TGS will provide pasta for everybody and the participants will bring their own wine or soft drinks or cakes to share. Don't forget that the tastiest and nicest cakes will be given a prize at the end of the party!
- As far as the “Games in the courtyard” are concerned (a real experience of Salesian animation) , we advise you all, grown-ups and children, to have comfortable shoes to wear. After that, some refreshments and, in the end, all together in the theatre for the conclusive musical!