

NEWS LETTER

Happy Easter from TGS!

Alessandra Granziero & Igino Zanandrea

"Christ is alive! He is our hope, and in a wonderful way he brings youth to our world, and everything he touches becomes young, new, full of life".

> Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation "Christus Vivit" of the Holy Father Francis to young people and to the entire people of God

Happy Easter everyone! Our most sincere Easter wishes come with our feedback on the most recent activities TGS has been involved in the past few months.

The year 2019 started off in our best TGS style with our "Friendship Meeting" on Sunday 13th January. This is always the best opportunity for our Association to gather all its members – volunteers, students and their families – to showcase the full programme of activities for the new year. This year the meeting was particularly special as the elections of the TGS Committee were held! We are happy to announce that a brand new committee was elected, including familiar



faces (Bruna, Chiara G., Mariagrazia, Giulia Clio, Gianluca and Don Paolo) as well as newbies (Chiara M., Elena, Ilaria, Alberto and Nicola). We wish them all the best for the next two years of commitment for our Association!

Later in January we also had our first major activity of the year: our journey to Brussels, celebrating the fifth year of "TGS18+ Project", our European Citizenship educational programme. This study trip, which took place from 26th to 30th January, engaged 24 students, teachers and volunteers in a number of meetings and exchanges with European institutions. Most of the people involved were TGS members from our Veneto region, but we also included 8 students and 1 teacher from a Salesian school in the Piedmont region, in the north-west of Italy. Such project is getting more and more popular every year and more schools are willing to join it. It feels like we all need to talk about Europe more, in a conscious and appropriate way, therefore this experience is giving our youth the opportunity to grab information first hand and reflect about it. This is particularly true this year, now that we are heading to the elections of the European Parliament. February and March went by very guickly as TGS office got ready for the next big activities: our solidarity walk in Venice











and our training meetings for our young volunteers. The 41st edition of the "Up and Down the Bridges of Venice" took place on Sunday 7th April and gathered almost 10.000 people. As always, it looked like a big family gathering. We need to highlight the role of our 450 volunteers: their support is much appreciated throughout the route, cheering up people all along the "calli", showing the way and giving information in a festive mood, or handing out biscuits, sweets and beverages at the refreshment points. But this is the just the "front desk" support: in fact, our volunteers' work on the day of the event follows all background activities carried out by the TGS Committee in partnership with many other associations and institutions, also including the Town of Venice itself, during the months before the solidarity walk. So thank you everyone for the hard work behind the scenes!

The walk over, it is time to start meeting the prospective TGS leaders. The first 2019 training meeting took place in Este (near Padua) last weekend, 13th and 14th April. Our leaders were given information on how the organisation works both in Italy and overseas. They proved to be enthusiastic and eager to know more. No doubts it sounds like a great experience to them, but it is a great responsibility as well, with many aspects to consider. We are just at the very beginning of their training process and we will certainly have all the time we need to pass on them the information and guidance they need.

What else? Yes, we are almost ready for yet another season of our beloved UK Summer Courses – and we are really looking forward to that! In the meantime, we need not to forget the very reason of our getting in touch. Easter is here and we wish to send special wishes to you all. May you spend great moments with your dearest ones!



TGS Summer Courses 2019

Bookings are already open for our Summer Courses 2019 and we enrolled quite a few students already! If you'd love to be involved in our TGS Summer activities in Great Britain, please get in touch with your local TGS representatives or drop us a line at info@tgseurogroup.it. And remember to take note of our dates below!

Dates
06.07-26.07.2019
12.07-02.08.2019
12.07-02.08.2019
14.07-31.07.2019

The aim of our Summer courses is to develop young people educationally, socially and spiritually, through a full program of guided tours in places of historical and cultural relevance, sports/recreational activities and entertainment evenings. TGS Eurogroup is an Italian charity association supported by the Salesian Congregation in Venice and has been organizing study visits to England for young students aged between 11 and 18 years since 1968.



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