

# A.L.P.S. News

ASSOCIATION OF LYCEUM PAST STUDENTS | GHAQDA EX-STUDENTI LICEO

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A.L.P.S. Newsletter Volume 17 | No 4

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## From the ALPS President's Desk

### My dear Liceo Friends

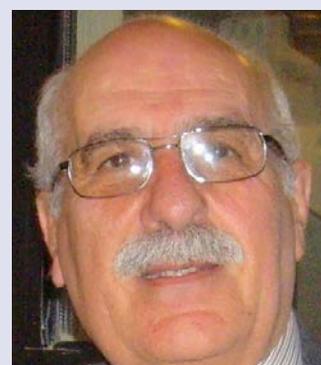
The year 2017 will soon come to a close and shall be added to the history books of our individual lives. Many of you will probably look back over the past twelve months and ponder upon the good and the not so good events that have occurred. There may have been instances that brought joy and happiness but we must admit and accept also, those events that we all had to face in the year that is about to end and which may not have been to our expectations. Life goes on and we must therefore all pluck up courage and look forward with greater determination and enthusiasm for the year ahead 2018. If our health might have been the main cause for concern during this year, let us hope and pray for better times in the future. If money or fortune was not on our lucky side, let us keep our fingers crossed and hope for better luck in the forthcoming year. If anyone has suffered the loss of a friend or a close family member, we just have to look straight ahead and offer prayers

for the repose of the souls of our dearly departed who entered into eternal life. Remember that their journey is now finished whilst we still remain and struggle and hope for a better future. Let us always look at the positive side and as long as our health may permit, we can feel happy and accept life as it is at the present time.

The "Association of Lyceum Past Students" plays a very important role to keep you all happy and united. It organized many events during this year. Looking back at what went on during 2017, we can very proudly say that there have been many interesting occasions for members and friends of ALPS. The real scope of getting more and more Liceo past students together, seems to be definitely working in the right direction. The continued feedback that reaches our ears, is mostly positive and with some very nice comments, praising the Council of Administration of ALPS, for all that is planned

and concluded for you dear members and friends. We truly aim to please each and every one of you out there, who may be always anxious to listen to whatever we may be planning for the coming year 2018. Rest assured that with a team of healthy and energetic council members around me, we are going to continue surprising you in no small way, with a program of events that is in the making for the coming twelve months. Added with this Newsletter, please note the forthcoming ALPS events with items that are being proposed for you to enter in your diaries and ensure to be present. The same applies to the Pwales Chapel almanac, with dates and time when Holy Mass shall be celebrated for you all, who like an occasional walk in the countryside to reach the chapel situated in the Pwales hamlet limits of Xemxija St Paul's Bay.

Your participation is always appreciated, in order to



turn every event to be more successful and pleasant. From time to time 'ad hoc' announcements are issued via e-mail or web-site. We always recommend that you keep watch for such messages. On behalf of 'Ghaqda ex-Studenti Liceo' I take this opportunity, to augur to you ALPS members and friends, a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS in the company of your loved ones, receiving great blessings and discovering that there is no bigger gift than being together as a family, enjoying the peace and love of this great feast. I end by wishing to you all, good health and happiness in the NEW YEAR 2018.

Very sincerely

George dei Conti Stagno Navarra



# Cultural Tour November 2017



*Joseph D Buttigieg*

A group of 60 Members and Friends of ALPS spent a day out visiting Bighi Restoration Centre and Esplora Interactive Centre.

## **BIGHI RESTORATION CENTRE**

From the premises of a former British Naval Hospital, Heritage Malta's Conservation Division in Bighi provides conservation-restoration, preventive conservation, and scientific diagnostic services to all the museums and sites managed by Heritage Malta. It has state-of-the-art diagnostic and conservation laboratories where the conservation of all kinds of artefacts is undertaken. These include paintings, metals, ceramics, stone, textiles, books and works of

art on paper and wood. Additionally, the premises at Bighi also host Heritage Malta's head office since 2010.

At Bighi, the group was met by Mr. Mario Casha, Marketing Executive of Heritage Malta. Because of the size of the group it was divided into 2 to enable participants space inside the laboratories. At the first laboratory, Mr Spagnol, Head of the Paintings and Gilded Objects Section, explained in great detail the difference between restoration and conservation and the ethical procedural constraints that are universally acknowledged and applied in those professions. Other areas visited were the metals, sculptures and textiles laboratories.

The group was suitably impressed with the professionalism of the staff of restorers and conservationists.

## **ESPLORA INTERACTIVE SCIENCE CENTRE**

The Esplora Centre is a short walk up the road from the Bighi Restoration Centre.

At 12:30, the group had a snack in the canteen of the Esplora.



Esplora Interactive Science Centre is Malta's latest visitor attraction which was opened in 2016. This project is a first of its kind in Malta. Esplora has been partly funded by EU funds, seeking to cultivate a culture of scientific curiosity and imagination by igniting a passion for questioning, investigation where visitors at Esplora are encouraged to explore, think and imagine.

The renovated building now consists of several buildings and outdoor spaces, all interconnected following an extensive restoration and development process. The main exhibition halls and the landscaped gardens consist of over 200 exhibits making this science center fun. Moreover, there is an

exciting Activity Centre for visitors to experience hands-on workshops and entertaining science shows, making science relevant to our everyday lives.

The group had a great time trying out all the activities; in fact, somebody remarked: "... look at them, they are behaving exactly like kids..." After 2 hours of laughter and real enjoyment, we had a hard time trying to wrest the group away from the interactive exhibits to start boarding the coach home.

Our sincerest thanks and appreciation go to Mr. Mario Casha from Heritage Malta, and Ms Anabelle Scicluna from Esplora Interactive Centre, whose help made these visits possible.

# The ALPS Grand Reunion November 2017

This year, we had a most successful Reunion at the Old Liceo Building which today is part of the University Campus in Valletta. The attendance for this event was in excess of one hundred and twenty and it went very smoothly. Mons. Lawrence Gatt celebrated Holy Mass in the main entrance foyer, where guests for this event were seated and listened very carefully to a homily that has indeed enlightened everyone who was present. Mons. Gatt was himself a Liceo past student and his feelings and sentiments, truly reflected the words that he said.

When mass was ended, it was the turn of the ALPS – President to address the gathering. Great emphasis was made to the choice of venue this year. We wanted to go back to the roots of the Lyceum at Valletta where, many of those who have attended for the reunion could very well remember the classrooms that they were attending in their younger days. The evening proceeded with a



reception when finger food and drinks were served.

A word of thanks goes to Mrs. Marlene Ferrante who came along and played hymns during Holy mass. Thanks also to the executives from the University Campus who granted the permission and have helped to make possible for this event to take place at this prestigious

venue. Going back to the LICEO of old, made some of the elderly participants at this reunion, reminisce about their younger days when they attended classes and ran through the wide corridors of their school. We thank the ALPS sponsors who assist our association throughout the year for maintaining contact via the Newsletter and web-site

and through any other form of financial support. Thanks to the Council Members who coordinated the different tasks in order to ensure that the Reunion evening was appreciated by all who attended. Let us hope that for next year, we can have another good attendance and perhaps even larger in number to make this annual event nicer.

# Forthcoming ALPS Events for the Year 2018

The Council of Administration of The Association of Lyceum Past Students, prepares well in advance, a number of events each year. These are staggered over a period of twelve months and give a chance to the members and friends to be well informed.

Council members hold think tanks to come out with good ideas on how to entertain and prepare the best events that can be to your enjoyment. Every event necessitates a lot of thinking and much work is put into it so that we may have best results. It is you our members and friends of the association, that keep encouraging us to think of better occasions that may entertain you to the full. Good attendance is best assured, if prior notification to each one of you may enable you to plan ahead and be on the lookout for the respective announcements when the time arrives for each occasion.



## PROGRAM OF ALPS EVENTS FOR THE YEAR 2018

**January** Nil  
**February** Valentine's Week-End (Radisson Golden Sands **9-11th Feb**)  
**March** ALPS Cultural Tour (Details to be announced later)  
**April** ALPS Manresa Retreat

**May** Nil  
**June** ALPS Full Day Tour In Gozo (Details to be announced later)  
**July** Festa Sant Anna Pwales - **7th July 2018**  
**July** ALPS Barbeque (Date and Venue chosen to be announced later)  
**August** ALPS Trip To

Lourdes and Toulouse

**September** Nil

**October** ALPS Reunion & 50th Anniversary Celebration

**November** ALPS Cultural Tour (Details to be announced later)

**December** ALPS Christmas Week-End & Dinner

Number one on the list of events for the year 2018, shall be the Valentine's week-end break with special dinner at the Radisson Golden Sands. Enter this date and start filling the booking form that is herewith attached for reserving a guest room at the one of the best resorts in Malta. We look forward to having a good attendance for this event. This can be a means for you to treat your loved ones, to a week-end of leisure and relaxation away from the usual household chores. Again, ALPS have bargained the best prices to make this event affordable to all.



## Have You Paid Your Annual Subscription in ALPS for the Current Year!

It is the month of December and we make another appeal to you who may have inadvertently forgotten to send your remittance and settle for the annual subscription fee 2017. It is with that little payment that you make to us each year, that we can continue to prepare events and issue the periodical Newsletter, e-mails and web-site announcements, to keep you informed and adjourned about what is going on in ALPS. Payments may as usual be directed to:

Hon. Treasurer David R. Abela who receives such renewals.

Cheque to be addressed, Hon. Treasurer ALPS and post it to David Abela, Juniper, Gianni Vella Street,

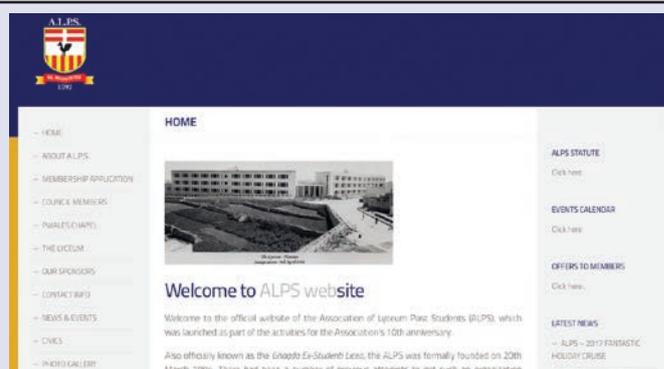
Tal-Qattus, Birkirkara BKR 4263.  
 Tel: 2148 7693 / Mob: 9902 0845  
 / E-mail: david.r.abela@gmail.com

**One-year subscription remains @ €12.00 per annum.**

**Life Membership Fee remains @ €70.00 once only remittance for life**

**The Friends of the ALPS pay @ €10 only per annum.**

ALPS thanks you in anticipation of your continued support with a payment of your pending renewal. To all those who have already sent their remittance for year 2017, a big thank you for your unflinching support.



## ALPS Web Page



Joseph D Buttigieg

We always take photos of every event we organise. They are immediately uploaded on our website [www.alpsmalta.com](http://www.alpsmalta.com) under the tab PHOTO GALLERY. This is the place where you can see photos of our events going back to 2005, that is twelve years of photographic memories. Please help us to continue

building our library of photos both of Old Lyceum Events as well as Students. We are pleased to mention that this gallery is growing with new additions as soon as you make them available to us. Ideally this gallery would include group photos with the names of those in the photo and the date of the event. Scan your photos and send them as an email attachment to: [josephdbtg@gmail.com](mailto:josephdbtg@gmail.com). Helping us in building the sections named: COLLEAGUES OF OLD and PHOTO GALLERY would ensure that we have a permanent record of historic events of our school and of our activities. Thank you for your co-operation because your contribution is very important to us.

# Fr Hilary Tagliaferro



*Peter Tortell*

One of the most prominent Old Boys in this Sports Corner (Birthname Salvinu) is no doubt a dear old friend of mine with whom I played in the school football team and was also in the same class until he left from Form 3 to join the Augustinian Order at the age of 16.

Father Hilary's love for football started when he was very young playing football in the streets during the Second World War. When the War ended he continued his Primary education and was made Captain of the school football team. From the Tarxien Primary School Father Hilary passed the entrance exam to the Lyceum in 1945 and formed part of the team in Form 2.

At the age of 16 he joined the Augustinian Order in 1950 and was ordained Priest in 1958. In his first four years of study in Malta he did not play but when he was sent to Rome for 4 years to continue with his studies he went to a college where the students there had a football team competing with other colleges. Unfortunately, in one of the games Father Hilary suffered a serious injury in his knee which stopped him from playing. His involvement in football was also

mainly on Coaching and Journalism.

Father Hilary Tagliaferro is now 83 years old and his track record is indeed distinctive as can be seen from his undermentioned achievements. After his ordination Father Hilary was sent to the Augustinian Convent in Tarxien, his home town. Adjacent to the Convent there was an Oratory run by Patri Gulju Bonnici. Father Hilary took over from him and spent a very happy ten-year period playing football with the youths. He also insisted on the youths to respect the officials and teaching them the basics of "Fair Play". He also looked after their spiritual needs as well as helping to settle family problems. Father Hilary was appointed Sports Editor of *Lehen is-Sewwa*. Later he continued his journalistic career on Radio and TV. During this period, he attended 5 Olympic Games from Munich in 1972 to Seoul in 1988 and 8 editions of the FIFA World Cup from Mexico in 1970 to Paris in 1998. In 1972 he was one of the founders of the Ghaqda Kittieba tal-Isport.

Father Hilary took part in a Coaching Course in Loughborough University. During the Course a curious incident occurred when Father Hilary was invited to sit in the VIP Box. The Glasgow Rangers a staunch Protestant team were playing and no Catholic person, let alone a priest, would be allowed there. Father Hilary was appointed Technical Director of Hibernians of Paola, the first time a priest took charge of a football team. Hibs won two League Championships



under Father Hilary in 1966/67 and 1968/69. During 1967 Hibs were drawn to meet Manchester United in the Champions League and drew 0 – 0 with the English champions which was a fantastic result for Hibs. Further on, Father Hilary started the Education Sports Centre in Marsa where hundreds of children used to go to Marsa twice a week to practice football, basketball, athletics and gymnastics. Later on, a number of football nurseries started throughout Malta. This was followed by the Youth F.A. which was set up in 1982 where a new Technical Centre and training ground were inaugurated at Ta' Qali. Father Hilary's dream of educating children not only in the football skills but also how to behave on the field of play and to practice fair play in sport with respect towards the officials and opponents. In 1975 Father Hilary invited the world-famous footballer PELE to visit the Nursery at Marsa and Pele also had a training session

with the youths at the old Empire Stadium. In 1982 the Youth F.A. was set up under the patronage of the Malta Football Association and is still organizing leagues for the various ages to this day with Father Hilary as the Technical Director and also the President. In 2005 Father Hilary was honored by UEFA when he was given the "Order of Merit" for his service to football especially with Youths.

One can write much more about Father Hilary Tagliaferro, however, I cannot but end this article without mentioning the Millennium Chapel "the Oasis of Peace" in the heart of Paceville which is a Monument to Father Hilary and his band of helpers who everyday take care of this chapel and look after the many persons, drug addicts and others who go to this chapel for help. May the Lord keep guarding and guiding this priest who has given such good example during his long years of involvement in sports both locally and abroad.

## The ALPS Annual General Meeting 2018 is to be held on Friday the 23rd February 2018 at the Lyceum Building in Hamrun

### Agenda for the 24th. Annual general meeting of ALPS

- Opening prayer by the ALPS president
- Reading and approval of minutes of 23rd Annual General meeting held on the 24th February 2017
- Reading / presentation and approval of the Administrative Report as at 31st December 2017
- Presentation and approval of the audited financial accounts as at 31st December 2017
- Short speech by the President of

ALPS to thank all outgoing ALPS council members

- Election for the post of Secretary General for next two years
- Election for the post of Hon Treasurer of ALPS for next two years
- Election for the post of eight members to Council of Administration for a period of one year
- Confirmation & appointment of professional firm of auditors - Messrs. Griffiths & Associates to act as auditors for the

Association of Lyceum Past Students in 2018.

- Closing speech by the President of ALPS - welcoming all newly elected council members

We make a special appeal to our members and friends to attend for the next AGM. The attendance over the recent past years has been continually dwindling. Please do make an effort to spare an hour once in a year, to be present and participate at least for electing council members who are all the year working so very hard to make

ALPS even more interesting for you.

You owe it to the outgoing council members who definitely deserve a 'thank you' with your presence at the annual general meeting.

Make this coming AGM be more numerous with greater participation. You are the best part of the association and therefore your voice is to be heard and recorded. You can decide and choose a new set of council members to assist the ALPS president for the coming twelve months.

# Pwales Chapel News

**We are adding herewith the Pwales Chapel Almanac for YEAR 2018**

It would be best for you to insert these dates in your diaries for next year. We inform our members and friends well ahead, so that we can have a good attendance on every occasion when a function is being held at the little chapel in Pwales. Your continued participation gives us much pleasure to see the chapel benches occupied. We thank you for your support.



Calendar of Activities at St. Anna Chapel Pwales during 2018		
Date	Time	
Jan 13th	1630	End of 2017 Administration - Thanks giving
Feb 17th	1630	
Mar 10th	1700	
Apr 14th	1700	
May 12th	1700s	Celebrating the Feast San Gorg Preca - ALPS Patron Saint
Jun 16th	1700	
Jul 7th	1900	Celebrating the Festa ta' Sant Anna
Aug		No activities
Sept		No activities
Oct 20th	1700	
Nov 17th	1630	Remembrance Day
Dec 13th	1100	Christmas Mass with carols



## Year 2017 – ALPS Remembrance Mass

The ALPS annual Remembrance Mass was this year held at the Pwales Chapel on Saturday the 11th November 2017.

In spite of the fact that the weather forecast was predicting rain and wind, we still managed to have a good attendance for this event. Primarily, we have remembered our Founder President Dr Guido Saliba (Guido who passed away on 7th Dec 2004) as well as all past members who have died since the inception of ALPS in 1994.

The Lyceum teachers have also been remembered on this very special occasion.

Family members and friends of those who are involved in The Association of Lyceum Past Students have also been added in the remembrance prayers. The list included the Pwales Hamlet residents, who may have lost a member of their family during the past years since ALPS has been looking after the chapel.

**May they all rest in peace, Amen.**

## Visiting the ALPS Members Who are Sick or Indisposed

For the past few years, it has been the custom of ALPS council members to pay visits to members and friends who may be sick or housebound for some reason or another. During October, we can report one such visit that has been made by Deputy President Robert Ferrante. He was accompanied by another council member Dr. Nazarene Azzopardi who report:

“ALPS member and an old friend of ALPS - LINO GATT, was hospitalized at SAMOC at the hematology ward. One person at a time was allowed to visit, and since his wife was near him, she would have to leave for any of us to enter near Lino. This was arranged and we made it a point to spend only a few minutes near the patient, who was ever so pleased to see us. He asked us to convey his regards to all members of the Council. Within a few days Lino Gatt returned to his home only to be readmitted a day or two later, for further hospitalization. Trust that he may now be fully recovered.”

On another occasion, council members Peter Tortell and Nazzareno Azzopardi MD paid a visit to Mr Joseph Agius Delicata

who has retired to Holy Family Home in Naxxar together with his dear wife, also a retired school teacher. The couple enjoy good health and they could recount their teaching experiences and memories of past students.

“Mr Agius Delicata studied at the Hamrun Primary and passed the entrance examination to the Lyceum in Hamrun in 1939. During the war years students were shifted to different areas wherein to attend classes. Destruction from bombing was widespread. On finishing the fifth form he entered the Teachers Training College in the Lintorn Barracks, Floriana. He followed up this training by entering the Royal Malta University course leading to a Bachelor of Education. He passed with excellent results and started teaching Mathematics at the Hamrun Lyceum in 1950 when the Headmaster at that time was Dr. Curmi. Mr. Agius Delicata married a Dingli teacher, Carmelina Azzopardi in 1956, who on marriage had to resign her appointment. They remember Father Charles Vella interesting himself in pre-marriage preparation courses. After



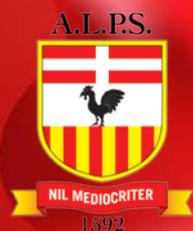
marriage the couple attended the Catholic Action, a religious society that was quite active all over Malta and Gozo. When the late Father Fortunato Mizzi founded MAS- Moviment Azzjoni Socjali- the couple dedicated hours of voluntary work to advance the social teaching of the church. It was the time when the Catholic church was concentrating on the religious education of workers so as to combat the harmful effect of Communist revolutionary teaching.

After the war years the government wanted to upgrade the Civil service. In 1959 Mr. Agius Delicata applied for the advertised job of Administrative

Secretary at Prime Minister George Borg Oliver LLD office in Auberge d'Aragon. His work entailed dealing with Heads of the Civil service in the Education department. In 1979 he was appointed Acting Head at the new Technical Institute in Naxxar. In 1981 he was pensioned off, classed as 'officially blind' and thus ended his connection with the Government.

Similar visits are anticipated by ALPS in the coming months. We shall be very happy to know if any of our members who may be sick or house bound, can be visited by a delegation of two council members. This is to show them that we always keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

It would be greatly appreciated, if anyone who knows about any such ALPS members who are not attending any more to social or cultural events organized by the association, to establish contact soonest by telephone or e-mail with Robert Ferrante on Mobile 79603622 / Home Tel No 21444570. We thank you in anticipation for every assistance you may give, which helps ALPS to maintain contact with its members at all times.



# ALPS Valentine's Dinner

## Saturday 10th February 2018

### Radisson Golden Sands



Cured salmon gravlax

Cured homemade salmon gravlax with petit salad and Chile and lime dressing

#### Plated Pasta

Sardi with cherry tomato asparagus cream and ricotta salata shavings

From the soup kettle

Cream of parsnip and celeriac soup with sun dried dressing

#### Carvery

Roast rib of beef with red wine jus

#### From the Hot Counter

Grilled sea bream with cherry tomato fennel confit

Chicken with pickled vegetables, green olives, flaked almonds and Marsala wine

Lamb curry

Roast root vegetable and fior di late tart

#### Accompaniments

Palu rice

Bouquetière of vegetables

Spice potatoes wedges

Natural salads: rucola, lettuce, tomatoes, cucumber

#### On a sweeter note

Lemon and hazelnut crunch, glazed raspberry delight, coconut sorbet

Fresh Brewed Coffee

#### Beverages Included

2 glasses of local wine & water

Welcome drink from 19.30hrs and Dinner seating from 20.00hrs

### ALPS Valentine's Week-End

#### 9th to 11th February 2018

(all quoted prices in €)

2 Night Stay for 2 People including dinner on Friday 9th Feb 2018, befits and Valentines special dinner on Saturday 10th and B'fast on Sunday 11th Feb 2018 **€240**

2 Night Stay for 1 Person including dinner on Friday 9th Feb 2018, b'fast and Valentines special dinner on Saturday 10th and B'fast on Sunday 11th Feb 2018 **€180**

1 Night Stay for 2 People including Valentine's Dinner on Sat 10th & B'fast on 11th Feb 2018 **€150**

1 Night Stay for 1 Person including Valentine's Dinner on Sat 10th & B'fast on 11th Feb 2018 **€110**

1 Night Stay for 2 People including Dinner on Fri 9th & B'fast on 10th Feb 20 18 **€150**

1 Night Stay for 1 Person including Dinner on Fri 9th & B'fast on 10th Feb 2018 **€110**

Additional rate for 3rd person joining for 2 nights HB including Saturday Valentines Dinner 10th Feb 2018 **€115**

Additional rate for 3rd person joining for 1-night HB including Saturday Valentines Dinner 10th Feb 2018 **€72**

Children 0-12 sharing with Parents supplement **FREE**

Children 12 + sharing with Parents supplement per person per day **€35**

Valentines Dinner only on the 10th Feb 2018 Adults (not staying in house) **€36**

Valentines Dinner only on the 10th Feb 2018 Children (not staying in house) **€16**

Sunday Buffet Lunch on 11th Feb 18 2018 **€33**

# The Lyceum Scout Group - Part III



Joseph Micallef

We must not leave a letter to the Editor go unnoticed. Some extracts of the letter from the ex Chief Scout of the Association give us first hand information about the glorious days of the Lyceum Scout Group at the 'Jungle'. It says:

*'I joined the Lyceum Group in 1958 when I entered the then Lyceum at Hamrun. Mr Paul Abela was the Group Scout Master and the Group consisted of four Patrols: Lion, Eagle, Horse, and Antelope Patrols. (The Patrols are always named after the animals in the Jungle Book).*

*'Our HQ was at St Michael's*



**Lyceum Scouts at the Jungle**



**Off to Easter Camp**

*Counter Ground, known for us as The Jungle, where we used to meet Saturday afternoons. Besides the usual camps during the school*

*Easter holidays and during the summer we used to take an active part in the Mallia Shield and Bates Cup Competitions organised by*

*IHQ. As indicated in your article the Group used to hold a Christmas Party at IHQ and take part in the Christ the King Procession and the Annual St George's Day Parade.*

*'In 1971 I left the Group in order to assume responsibilities as Secretary General of The Scout Association of Malta, a position I kept for eight years. My connection with the Association continued as a member of the Scout Council until the year 1998 when I was elected as the Chief Scout of the Association, a position I held till 2008. Since then I formed part of the Awards and Decorations Sub-Committee. A few weeks ago I was elected as Chairman of the Malta Scout Fellowship'.*

*Signed Perit Vincent Cassar.*

Indeed, it's a great honour that one of our Lyceum Group members dedicated so much time and service to our Association. We likewise invite other members of the Lyceum Scout Group to share their experiences.

## The origins of the Lyceum

### EDITOR'S NOTE:

**Column member Alfred Agius, together with ALPS member Dr. Joe Spiteri Gonzi, present excerpts from two publications of The CHANTICLEER magazine. This write up consists of material that had originally been written by Dr. Guido Saliba the Founder President of ALPS in 2002. It also includes further study about the origin of II-LICEO, which had been presented in a later edition of The CHANTICLEER during 2005, as had been written by Fr. Anton Azzopardi S.J., the then spiritual director of ALPS.**

It was as early as the 18th September 1553 that Grand Master Claude de la Sengle and Bishop of Malta Domingo Cubelles invited Ignatius Loyola to establish a college in Malta, ostensibly for the teaching of Arabic and Turkish by Jesuits and to attract Maltese youths to join the Society of Jesus. The holy man, Loyola, known to be zealous in his special mission to convert Muslims, approved the plan.

Still, it was only on the 28th March 1592 that Pope Clement VIII issued two briefs. In the one addressed to Grand Master Hughes Loubenx de Verdalle

the Holy Father expressed his intention to erect a college run by the Jesuits in Civitate Melitensi and requested the Grand Master to give Bishop Tommaso Gargallo every assistance, possibly even making a monetary contribution. In the second brief, Gargallo was ordered to provide the land on which to build a college, church and residence for the Fathers, and to transfer to the Jesuits all the benefices and legacies earmarked for the establishment of a Diocesan Seminary.

Notary Giacomo Sillato drew up a contract at the Magisterial Palace on the 12th November 1592 stipulating the foundation of the college. Bishop Gargallo imposed on the Jesuits, represented on the contract by Padre Pietro Casati, the burden of opening a school for the teaching of grammar and the humanities. In 1727 the Rector of the Collegium Melitense, Padre Martino de Andrea, obtained from the General of his Order the faculty to confer degrees of Bachelorship, Licentiate and Doctorate in Philosophy and Theology.

Grand Master Manoel Pinto de Fonseca, authorized by Pope Clement XIV in his brief Sedule Romani Pontificis, decreed on the 22nd November 1769 that

"from this moment We erect in this college a Public University of General Studies . . . For the better management of the said college and university, we hereby create the post of Protector who in Our place and under Our orders shall be supreme in the conduct of the institutions . . ."

On the 16th and 18th June 1798 Napoleon ordered that the University of Studies and the College be replaced by an École Centrale, but this projected reform never materialized. After the expulsion of the French from Malta, Civil Commissioner Captain Alexander Ball appointed Canon Francesco Saverio Caruana Rector and Director of the University and College, in recognition of his merits and services during the Maltese insurrection against the French.

A council appointed by the Governor, the Marquis of Hastings, proposed in its report for 1833 the unification of the lower schools – of which at the time there were three: The Primary School, known as the Terza Classe, the Grammar Class and the Humanities School – into one general public school to be called Lyceum or Grammar School with a modern system of education.

In the early 1940s (probably 1940/1) there was yet another

amalgamation – this time it was the Central School with The Lyceum. This apparently took place because of a shortage of accommodation and staff. Students were moved around from The Lyceum in Merchants Street, Valletta, to Messina Palace in St Christopher Street, to Spinola Palace in St Julian's and to a place in South Street, Valletta, probably what is now the National Museum of Fine Arts. To minimize movement in other areas and to spread the Lyceum students out as much as possible, branches of The Lyceum were opened in Sliema, Balzan and Rabat.

There was a time in 1945 when the education authorities decided to do away with the name "Lyceum". The official reason for this was that the school age limit had risen, making more secondary schools a necessity, and the authorities felt that keeping the name "Lyceum" would be discriminatory. The students, including those who had already left The Lyceum and were at the Royal University of Malta, did not agree and held a demonstration which seems to have done the trick. The name of The Lyceum lived on.

*NOTE . Similar contributions from any other Lyceum Past Students (irrespective of membership in ALPS) will be most heartily welcome*

OF GENERAL INTEREST TO ALL WHO MAY BE READING THIS COLUMN

# Prevention is Better than Cure...

This is exactly what prompts us today, to present some information extracted from content source Centers for Disease Control / USA.

We care for each one of our members and friends. Hence our wish to see you all feeling healthy.

It is common knowledge that as the season starts showing its cold spell, people will undoubtedly begin to fall sick. There may be many effects causing sickness amongst which of course is the FLU.

Different types of influenza may hit from time to time and it is always recommended that, medical

advice be sought from the family doctor or some recommended health center who are specifically trained to give advice to whoever seeks their guidance. We wish to present to you some information that can be of assistance, when deciding about taking appropriate care before sickness hits any of you.

We do not wish to influence anyone and a final decision must be yours alone as assisted by your doctor.

## INFLUENZA (FLU)

### What is Influenza (also called Flu)?

The flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat, and sometimes the lungs. It can cause

mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. The best way to prevent the flu is by getting a flu vaccine each year.

### Signs and Symptoms of Flu

People who have the flu often feel some or all of these signs and symptoms that usually start suddenly, not gradually:

- Fever\* or feeling feverish/chills
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Muscle or body aches
- Headaches
- Fatigue (very tired)
- Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in young children than in adults.

*\*It's important to note that not everyone with flu will have a fever.*

### How Flu Spreads

Most experts believe that flu viruses spread mainly by tiny droplets made when people with flu cough, sneeze or talk. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby. Less often, a person might also get flu by touching a surface or object that has flu virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes.

### Period of Contagiousness

You may be able to pass on the flu to someone else before you know you are sick, as well as while

you are sick. Although people with the flu are most contagious in the first 3-4 days after their illness begins, some otherwise healthy adults may be able to infect others beginning 1 day before symptoms develop and up to 5 to 7 days after becoming sick. Some people, especially young children and people with weakened immune systems, might be able to infect others with flu viruses for an even longer time.

### Onset of Symptoms

The time from when a person is exposed to flu virus and infected to when symptoms begin is about 1 to 4 days, with an average of about 2 days.

### Complications of Flu

Complications of flu can include bacterial pneumonia, ear infections, sinus infections, and worsening of chronic medical conditions, such as congestive heart failure, asthma, or diabetes.

### People at High Risk from Flu

Anyone can get the flu (even healthy people), and serious problems related to the flu can happen at any age, but some people are at high risk of developing serious flu-related complications if they get sick. This includes people 65 years and older, people of any age with certain chronic medical conditions



(such as asthma, diabetes, or heart disease), pregnant women, and young children.

### Preventing Seasonal Flu

The first and most important step in preventing flu is to get a flu vaccination each year. CDC also recommends everyday preventive actions (like staying away from people who are sick, covering coughs and sneezes and frequent handwashing) to help slow the spread of germs that cause respiratory (nose, throat, and lungs) illnesses, like flu.

### Diagnosing Flu

It is very difficult to distinguish the flu from other viral or bacterial causes of respiratory illnesses on the basis of symptoms alone. There are tests available to diagnose flu.

**A visit to your family doctor or clinic will of course assist you to stay healthy all through the winter season. Good luck**

## IN MEMORIAM

Let us remember and pray for:



Our Founder  
**President: Dr Guido Saliba LL.D.**, who passed away on Dec 7, 2004



**Dr. Edgar A. Agius F.R.C.O.G.**, aged 94 years, died 24th November 2017



**Mrs. Susan Mulvaney** (wife of ALPS member Charles Sacco) died 7th October 2017

### PROFILE OF A TRUE GENTLEMAN

Cecil Paris, one of the founder members of ALPS, passed away on 8 August, 2017, aged 83. Cecil spent practically all his years looking after patients at Santa Lucia for 4 years and subsequently in Sliema for the rest of his working life which would be no less than 12 hours daily from Monday to Friday and, if needed, also on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. His main characteristics were his lovely smile, his patience, his gentle manners and the expert advice he always offered to everyone.

Cecil was also a Knight of the Order of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta. In recognition of his work for over 25 years looking after patients who went to Lourdes, Cecil was conferred with the Cross of Grand Officer "pro Merito Melitensis" in January 2016. As very appropriately described by our President: "We have lost a learned doctor, a sincere friend and an amiable person who was loved and respected by everyone." The Association of Lyceum Past Students (ALPS) offers heartfelt condolences to his family.



**ALPS members and or their family members who passed on since the foundation of ALPS in 1994  
The members of families from the Pwales Hamlet, who died in the recent past years.  
MAY, THEY ALL REST IN PEACE, AMEN.**

**We also remember and pray for all the sick and aged members and friends of ALPS, who may be house bound or in a Seniors Retirement Home. We promise to keep them always in our thoughts and prayers.**

# 'It was one of the Best ever ALPS Holiday Cruises'

This year, a good number of ALPS members and friends of the Association booked for the cruise that has taken us to East and West Mediterranean, between the 28th September to the 9th October 2017. The ship departure was scheduled for late evening, and this gave the participants an opportunity to admire the magnificence of the Maltese fortifications as they were lit at night. On the very first night, the ALPS group had special arrangements inside the 'Windows' restaurant aboard the vessel, to be seated together. This enabled the group to familiarize themselves with each other. The vessel **NORWEGIAN SPIRIT** is a great ship with all amenities and with many entertainment spots that have made the whole experience stress free and no worries. The facilities on the ship were truly fantastic. Full integration among the passengers made this ALPS cruise holiday very pleasant from beginning to end.

The Cruise director was truly fantastic. A daily show made the ALPS group take their individual decision to attend for a show before or after a dinner. The Cruise Freestyle



Daily bulletin was most helpful thus enabling the ALPS group to decide their evening activity as well as prepare for the next day's excursions. The food was ample with a rather great variety on offer. It was simply superb. (That's why we may have added a few pounds or inches to our waistline).

In addition to the ports that were listed in our holiday brochure like Messina, Naples, Civitavecchia, Livorno, Cagliari, Heraklion, Piraeus, Santorini and Katakolon, many from the ALPS group have also

managed to visit Savoca, Taormina, Ana Capri, the Vatican City and Olympia, where the Olympic torch is lit and is carried every fourth year to that country where the games are taking place. Perhaps it is worth mentioning a spontaneous and unannounced visit to His Eminence Cardinal Prospero Grech, who very kindly received a sizeable group of ALPS members and friends at his Vatican Residence. We could spend at least half an hour with a Prince of the Church adding to the merriment of this Cruise aboard The Norwegian Spirit.

The sea condition was always most favorable with very light swell that managed to rock all of the ship's passengers to a nice slumber without suffering sea sickness. Do join the ALPS group the next time that an overseas holiday is planned for members and friends of the association. ALPS goes into every detail to try and give to you the most enjoyable time, in the company of a group of ex-Lyceum students, who travel together with their family and friends and who always bring back the happiest memories of places that are visited.

## Laughter is the Best Medicine

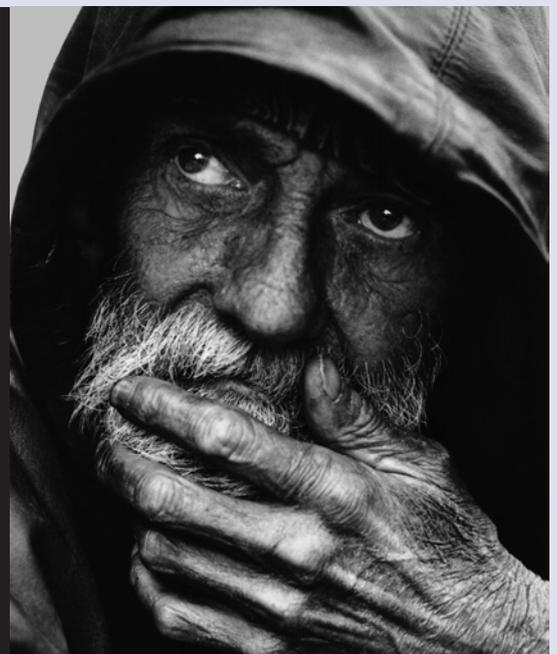
Hospital regulations require a wheelchair for patients being discharged. However, while working as a student nurse, I found one elderly gentleman already dressed and sitting on

the bed with a suitcase at his feet--who insisted he didn't need my help to leave the hospital. After a chat about rules being rules, he reluctantly let me wheel him to the elevator.

On the way down, I asked him if his wife was meeting him. "I don't know," he said. "She's still upstairs in the bathroom changing out of her hospital gown."

## A Thought for this Month...

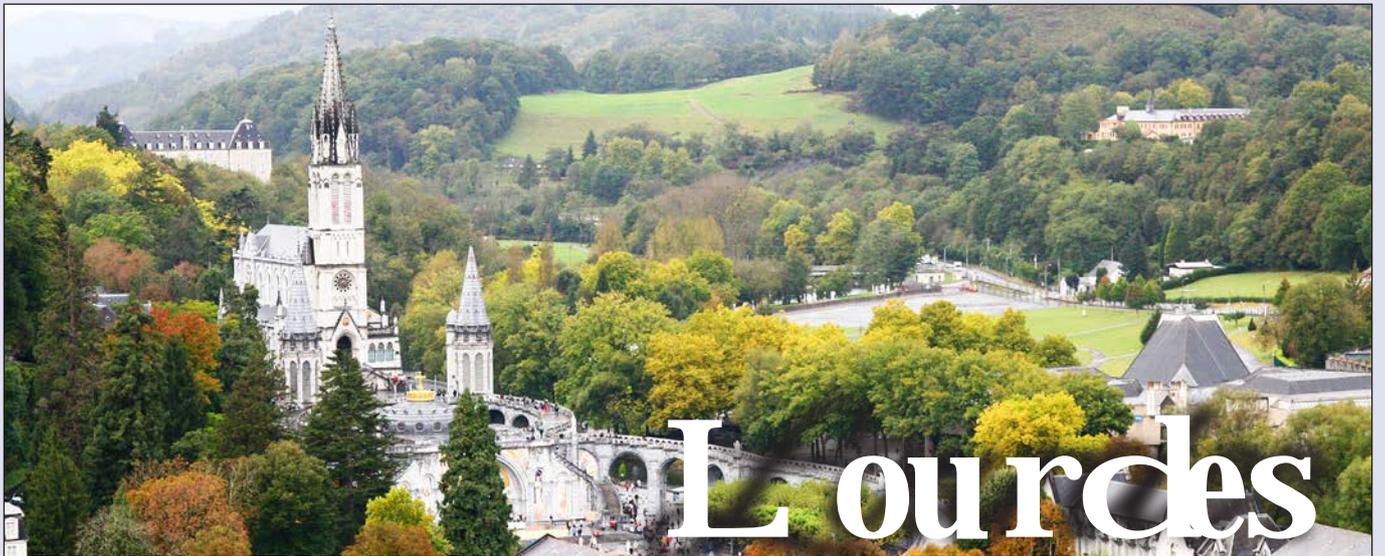
*Love does not grow on trees or bought in the market, but if one wants to be "loved" one must first know how to give unconditional love...*





*"At a exclusive private party for the ALPS group, ship Captain Peter Engwald, and ALPS president George Stagno Navarra, exchanged gifts. An association lapel badge, a tie and bannerette were handed to the Captain who reciprocated, by donating the NCL Norwegian Spirit ship placard, that will commemorate this nice get together for all the group. Many of those present have already experienced other NCL cruise liners like the Sun, and the Gem, besides Norwegian Spirit in Sept 17."*





# Lourdes



# & Toulouse

## AUGUST 2018

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