



# A.L.P.S. News

ASSOCIATION OF LYCEUM PAST STUDENTS | GHAQDA EX-STUDENTI LICEO

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## Message from the ALPS President to all members and friends

Every year at this time, ALPS prepares for the wrapping up of the current year and starts gearing up for the next twelve months ahead. As we start putting 2017 on the document headings, I am struck once again at how quickly time goes by.

My term as President of Ghaqda Ex-Studenti Liceo, will run for yet another two years. Being involved in ALPS continues to give me the chance to get to know many of you members and friends of this association. I enjoy meeting with you and gaining valuable understanding of issues involving the needs and the wishes of our members and friends. I want to stay involved with you "all of the time".

Each year, The Association of Lyceum Past Students takes stock of all its achievements over the past twelve months. I strongly encourage you therefore, to consider attending for the next Annual General Meeting in February 2017 and also getting involved. There is certainly room for taking on board some Newly Elected Council Members that need to volunteer and give support for the benefit of ALPS. If you feel you are able to give your contribution as an

ALPS Council member, do fill in the nomination forms that are enclosed with this newsletter. Offer to ALPS new faces with newer ideas that may form the best nucleus for a very healthy and modern association that adjourns with the times, for the benefit of its members and friends. A healthy and energetic council, as we presently have, will continue to reap best results.

Service is what makes ALPS. It is exactly with what we do, that you may have judged our performance over the past twenty-two years. We set a goal to serve all our members, we come to you with innovative ideas and we prepare

for you the best of cultural and, or social events, that have time and time again proved to be to your utmost satisfaction. ALPS Council Members of yester year have primarily put to you their dedication and service. Unlike many other associations that have come and gone, we are confident we will be here for many more years. This of course, with your continued best support and for this we thank you. It shall be Christmas Day soon. A special day when people from all corners of the world get even closer. They all like to extend their best wishes to one another for "A Happy Christmas and the best of



everything in the forthcoming New Year " In the coming year, I am hoping to see more and more of your participation, in the ongoing activities prepared by ALPS.

On behalf of The Association of Lyceum Past Students, I wish to end this message by extending to you members, friends and to your respective families, sincere felicitations for a " Peaceful, and Happy Christmas Day and may the blessings of the new born Jesus be always with you in the coming NEW YEAR 2017.

Sincerely

**George dei Conti Stagno Navarra**  
ALPS President





# ALPS Yuletide Dinner & Weekend Break at Radisson Blu: December 2016

Synonymous with the ALPS week-end that has for a good number of years been celebrated at the Radisson Golden Sands Resort, comes the Yuletide dinner. Year after year, this event continues to attract a large crowd. This year, we have again reached another record with three hundred and sixty dinner guests. The ballroom of the Golden Sands Resort was magnificently decorated and looked well packed when all our guests were seated. As usual, David Vella entertained those present with soft music throughout the evening that has appealed most favorably to all who have attended. Some couples took to the dance floor and really enjoyed themselves.

A welcome introductory drink, helped all the participants to meet and to talk with many of their friends. The Association of Lyceum Past Students "ALPS" is extremely proud to be instrumental in bringing its members and friends together

for such get together events. The ladies in their evening gowns looked so attractive and they could be seen to enjoy the evening to the full.

At the start of the dinner, the ALPS President delivered what one might call an informative speech. He touched on the success achieved over the past year whilst announcing well in advance, what is in the pipeline for the coming year 2017. The full speech may be accessed over the ALPS website [www.alpsmalta.com](http://www.alpsmalta.com). For those members and friends who were not able to attend for the dinner, it is recommended that you all read the message delivered by the ALPS president at this years' Christmas dinner. Many were those who have interrupted the president whilst he was talking with spontaneous clapping during the speech. In particular, there was a hearty response when George Stagno Navarra mentioned the ALPS intention to assist a little boy JETT, who

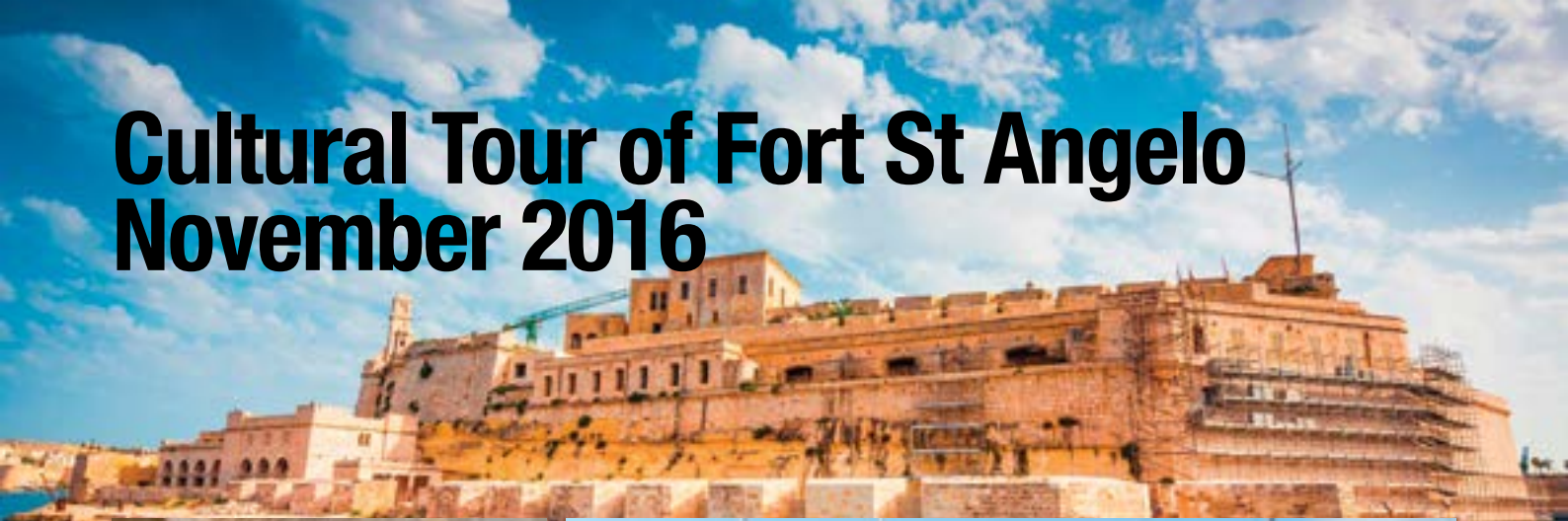
is undergoing specialized treatment abroad, for what is termed as a very rare disease. Treatment is presently being given to little Jett in Australia and it is intended that further tests be undertaken in the USA. We hope and trust, that a cure may be found for this young boy. To the parents and the family of this unfortunate child, the ALPS president extended an arm of solidarity. And to further show the meaning of our support, a donation was also presented to a relative of Jett's family. Such rare occasions bring out the best sentiments and thoughts of the members and friends of ALPS. When we are gathered together, the spirit of friendship reigns supreme. Happy faces demonstrate the joy and the best feelings of all those who are participating at an event like this years' Christmas dinner. Let us hope, that the very same thoughts may continue to be felt throughout the coming year. This has

been emphasized by the ALPS president before ending his speech. As customary, the very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year were extended on behalf of The Association of Lyceum Past Students to all those who were present at Radisson Golden Sands as well as to all others who, because of some other commitment could not attend. To them also, the yearly greetings have been extended. Needless to mention, many of the dinner guests were seen leaving the ballroom, carrying food and drinks hampers that had been won in raffles. Some were even luckier to win a Week-End stay at the resort or some Sunday lunches that had all been donated by the Radisson Blu.

May the New Year 2017 which is about to commence in a matter of days, bring good tidings to each and every member and friend of the Association. **Peace, Health, and Happiness, is Wished to all our readers.**



# Cultural Tour of Fort St Angelo November 2016



**Joseph Buttigieg**

Under a bright and sunny sky, the Association of Lyceum Past Students organized a cultural tour inside Fort St. Angelo, Birgu. We thank those members, their spouses and friends who joined ALPS on this exceptional event around the fort's magnificent restoration of its fortifications and medieval archaeological remains. Two guides from Heritage Malta conducted

two groups of 40 and gave them a general overview of the fort's medieval history and configuration during the middle ages including its later use as Headquarters of the Mediterranean Fleet of the British Navy.

By special concession, the troglodyte chapel of the Nativity of the Virgin was opened for the group to see.

Fort St. Angelo's importance, then known as Castrum Maris, during the medieval past is well recorded in history. Since Fort St. Angelo is very closely associated with the Order of St. John, His Excellency Fra John E. Critien, Grand Bailiff and Resident Knight of the Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of

Malta greeted the group and graciously conducted a tour of the Upper Fort which is rarely open for public viewing. He then invited everyone to have a look inside the private quarters under the care of the Knights of St John. At the end of the tour, Fr. William, our Chaplain said Mass at the Chapel of St. Anne. His Excellency Fra John donated the Mass Collection to the Nuns of the Cloistered Monastery of St. Ursula. The Nuns form part of the Order of St. John and have the privilege of wearing the Maltese Cross around their neck and on the cape.

It is worth noting that after Holy Mass ended, the ALPS President conferred an Honorary Life Membership

on His Excellency Fra John Critien in recognition of all the help and assistance that he extended to members and friends of The Association of Lyceum Past Students who were present on this cultural tour.

It was a marvelous experience for all those who attended. As a record of this memorable event, you may wish to view the collection of photos on our web-site: [www.alpsmalta.com](http://www.alpsmalta.com)

More of such cultural events are being planned for you in the not too distant future. Watch out in the forthcoming Newsletters for any announcements with details and for booking.

# The ALPS Chapel Dedicated to Sant' Anna



**Nazzareno Azzopardi**

The more I search the archives and books for news about this jewel of a chapel that ALPS has been nominated to care for by the Parish Priest of St. Paul's Bay, the more I find interesting items. I feel sure that all readers of this newsletter appreciate learning about the latest archival findings.

Kilin in his book *A Maltese Mosaic*, (Guttenberg Press 1990) page 44 wrote that before this chapel was built there was in the vicinity another one dedicated to the Nativity of Our Lady. The presence of this chapel is shown in the last painting of Pietro d'Aleccio's series in the main hall of the Grandmasters palace in Valletta. This painting surely indicates that a chapel existed in the area in the year 1565.

The present chapel was built by a priest Gio Vincenzo Galea and after some time consecrated by the Bishop

Astiria on the first July 1672. The arched roof of the chapel followed the customary architectural feature of chapel building in this era where wooden beams were costly to import and wise stone masons utilized local stone to form an arch and then fill in the spaces with one meter (tal-franka) stone slabs.

During the French occupation starting 1798 the chapel was broken into and all its property stolen and sacred holy pictures torn up. Tradition has it that building served as an abattoir, where cattle (probably stolen from the local peasants) was prepared for cooking.

In 1860 a priest Don Giuseppe di Stefano painted in oils the picture that is hung on the right hand side of the altar. The young Madonna is shown helping her parents in daily chores. The Crucifix hung up dominating the main altar is of considerable artistic merit.

Count Sant Fournier and family may have the jus patronatus of the chapel or own some agricultural lands in the area of the Pwales valley. As the area has several springs of fresh water that the farmers carefully ration out between themselves all the year round, one finds an abundance of crops and fruit.

In 1910 Count Sant Fournier contributed his share so as to save

the Chapel from collapsing due to pressure of the arched roof. He buttressed the west side of the chapel by building an inclined wall and on the east side was built the top floor of the sacristy. Despite this construction the damage caused by the arched roof to the sides of the Chapel increased and the architect in charge replaced the graceful arched one with a flat concrete and steel construction.

As a marble plaque in the church has it, in 2002 the Minister of Tourism and Culture at the time Dr Francis Zammit Dimech LLD authorized extensive repairs to the Chapel following the plea of the ALPS council.

The latest refurbishing of the Chapel was undertaken during the summer of 2016 with funds that had been made available by the Association of Lyceum Past Students.

The Chapel, the Sacristy and two first floor rooms were fully redecorated and doors painted over.

A new lighting system has been installed throughout the chapel and all the adjoining areas

Bathroom facilities have been renewed and the flooring has been given special preservation coating over the cangatura.

The façade on the outside of the

chapel has also been repainted with special material, that may withstand weather conditions throughout the year

Embellishing chandeliers donated by the family of the late Aldo Leone Ganado who was a regular visitor to the chapel of Sant' Anna are now hanging inside the chapel and sacristy.

In the words of George Stagno Navarra the ALPS president, this Chapel is the crown jewel of the Ghaqda Ex-Studenti Liceo. It is used every month, except August and September, for the celebration of a Holy Mass. During the month of July, ALPS organizes an open-air celebration with Holy Mass on the chapel parvis commemorating the festa of Sant' Anna.

We thank all the tradesmen & workers who have worked on the refurbishment of the Pwales Chapel. Once again we also thank Mr. Andrew Magri Overend of MACMED (MacPherson Mediterranean Ltd) who very generously donated materials.

To our friends Tony Aquilina and Oscar Galea, who dedicated many hours during and after the completion of works, we say

'THANK YOU' for showing such enthusiasm in the completion of all the refurbishment on the chapel.

## For the last two dates of the year 2016

**Saturday, 19th November, Holy Mass for the dead (cancelled due to bad weather)**

**Thursday, 8th December Holy Mass – Feast of Immaculate Conception: ALPS celebrated Mass with Christmas Carols.**

In spite of the adverse, rainy and stormy weather that prevailed in the morning, the PWALES CHAPEL was lit with a new lighting system to its full splendor as part of the

major internal restoration that was undertaken inside the chapel for the month's celebration of Holy Mass. Being the 8th December 2016, the feast of The Immaculate Conception, attracted a sizeable congregation. ALPS are pleased to have hosted such a good number of people, who remained very attentive listening to a meaningful homily delivered by our Chaplain Fr. William Bartolo. A selection of Christmas Carols were sung during this religious celebration.

When mass was ended, those who were present, met and socialized over a cup of tea or coffee and biscuits. In the words of the association's president, The Association of Lyceum Past Students, continues to project the best image for even more past LICEO students to join ALPS.

Greetings were exchanged and everyone left the Pwales Chapel, with many nice thoughts and feelings. It really was a jolly start to the festive season.

## Calendar of Activities at St. Anna Chapel Pwales during 2017

<b>JAN 14 16:30</b>	Thanksgiving - end of the 2016 administration
<b>FEB 11 16:30</b>	
<b>MAR 25 17:00</b>	
<b>APR 22 17:00</b>	
<b>MAY 20 17:00</b>	Celebrating the Feast San Gorg Preca - ALPS Patron Saint
<b>JUN 17 17:00</b>	
<b>JUL 8 19:00</b>	Celebrating the Feast of St Anna no activities
<b>AUG &amp; SEP</b>	
<b>OCT 22 17:00</b>	
<b>NOV 11 16:30</b>	Remembrance Day
<b>DEC 8 1100</b>	Christmas Mass

## ALPS Tour: Friday, January 27, 2017

ALPS is starting our program of activities with a visit to the Embassy of the USA.

For security reasons, the Embassy has restricted the number of visitors to 58. Those of you who wish to attend are to make a booking now as the booking will be closed once the number of 58 is reached. Regrettably, no exceptions will be made.

Booking is by email only and each person is required to submit the following details:

- 1. Full name as printed on your ID Card;

- 2. Your ID Card number.

Please note and observe the following security procedures:

- Your ID Card must be presented to the Security Guard before entering the Embassy;
- Cell phones and all electronics items, in general, are not permitted inside the Embassy. Ideally any electronics are left at home or in the car. However, if that is not possible, the Embassy security personnel will hold the items for the duration of the visit.
- Please plan on arriving at the U.S. Embassy (Ta' Qali National Park, Ta' Qali, ATD 4000) 20 minutes before 11:00 a.m. in order to complete security procedures in time to start the presentation at 11:00 a.m.

### Below is a timeline:

- 10:40: Guests arrive. Security screening.
- 11:00: Dr. Ross delivers presentation: 'Life of a Diplomat and the Bilateral Relationship.'
- 11:20: Tour of the Embassy grounds.
- 12:00: Guests depart.

### BOOKING:

- By email ONLY to Alex Borg at: [alpsmalta@gmail.com](mailto:alpsmalta@gmail.com) with a copy to: [josephdbtg@gmail.com](mailto:josephdbtg@gmail.com)
- Bookings close immediately once the number of visitors reaches 58 and by not later than MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 2017

### TRANSPORT:

ALPS will not be organizing transport for this event. You are requested to make your own way and park nearest to the embassy at Ta' Qali. We shall need the cars after finishing the embassy tour, to go visiting other sites ( see hereunder)

### OTHER EVENTS ON THE SAME DAY:

- Visit to Bristow Potteries, Mediterranean Ceramics and Mdina Glass;
- Please drive and park near Bristow Potteries;
- Since there is no cafeteria, we can make use of roadside comfort foods. Time of break to be decided by mutual agreement.
- There are no charges for the American Embassy tour & other sites at Ta' Qali



# The ALPS Web Page: Latest

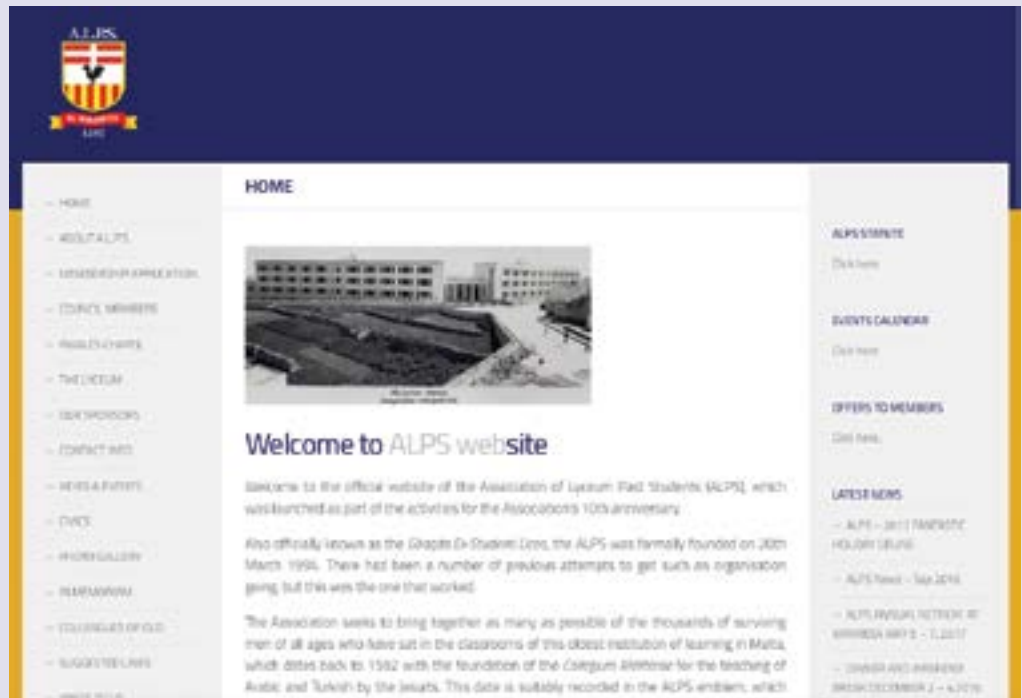


Joseph Buttigieg

We are using this medium to keep all our readers, members and friends adjourned on all activities relating to ALPS, our Association. The Website has become more informative and is available 24/7 to anybody with an internet connection anywhere in the world. Watch out for additions to the ALPS web-site as these are introduced for the benefit of our members and friends. Do remember to look us up at: [www.alpsmalta.com](http://www.alpsmalta.com). We also welcome your feedback and suggestions: write to us at: [alpsmalta@gmail.com](mailto:alpsmalta@gmail.com). Please help us to build a library of photos of Old Lyceum Events. We are pleased to mention that this gallery is growing with new additions as they become available. 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)

## ALPS Web Page & Newsletter Sponsorship Appeal

Our lifeline for producing the ALPS Newsletter and maintaining the ALPS



Website is entirely dependent on the generosity and continued support of our esteemed sponsors.

We are now faced with a situation whereby the cost of producing and maintaining the two media sources has increased to a degree that we need to find additional sponsors who, in their generosity, would make a financial contribution to ALPS to bridge this shortfall in financing.

We are therefore making this appeal to all those Corporate entities, to please come forward and add

their name to our list of Corporate Sponsors. The exposure of your product or services to our Members would be beneficial for your image. In helping out, you can rely on the ALPS Members for supporting your product or service. Readership of the bi-monthly Newsletter is in excess of 800 copies and your company logo will appear prominently in every issue of ALPS Newsletter. This is distributed not only in Malta, but also in Canada and U.S.A. Furthermore, we will also place your logo on our Website

[www.alpsmalta.com](http://www.alpsmalta.com) under the tab 'OUR SPONSORS'. Needless to say, through our website your Corporate logo will have a free international exposure the business potential of which is hard to measure.

Your sponsorship will make the difference between mediocrity and excellence of our media.

We thank you in advance for your future support. You may address your confirmation for assisting ALPS to: Joseph Buttigieg on: [josephdbtg@gmail.com](mailto:josephdbtg@gmail.com) / Tel: 9922-2787

## Remembering our Gentlemen Masters and their Nicknames 1946 - 1966

Courtesy of Milo Vassallo (Canada) and Joseph D Buttigieg (Malta)

Dr Frenzo Azopardi, Latin, Il-Bajdolu  
Mr Karmenu Vassallo, Maltese, Il Poeta / Xoffa Tal Vas  
Can J Bugeja, Religion, Il-Minus One  
Mr Paul Abela, Maths, Il-Pullu  
Mr Vella, English, Carmelina  
Mr Richard Bisazza, Italian, Stuka  
Mr Attard, History, Il-Baqra  
Mr Costanzo Sapiano, Maths Iz- Zanzu  
Mr Bonello, Italian, Il Contadin  
Mr Albert Cassaola, Italian, Bajd Iebes  
Mr John Grima, Maths, Pythagoras  
Mr Schembri, Geography, It- Toqbu  
Can Vincenzo Azzopardi, Latin, Ego Sum Li- Sponsun  
Mr Zarb, Maltese, Iz- Zobu  
Mr Burgess, Geography, Begiga & Bbc Begiga Business Class  
Mr Cryl Parker, Headmaster, Ic-Cirillu  
Mr Giovanni Curmi, Italian, Il-Faro  
Mr Darmanin, French, Id-Duce

Mr Wettinger, Il-Kazzott  
Mr Bonello, English, Il-Foxey  
Mr Agius, English, Drunken Sailor  
Mr George Victor Parker, English, Third Man  
Can Farrugia, Latin, Il-Perse'  
Mr Schiavone, English, Il-Foresta  
Mr Scicluna Spiteri – Globu Margerina  
Mr Zammit, Science, Mr Blackbook  
Mr Calleja, English, Il-Pejxa  
Mr A Buttigieg, Geography, L- Hambaq  
Mr Gauci, Maths, Il-Globu  
Mr Giovanni Curmi, Italian, Il-Faro  
Mr Johnny Camilleri, Il-Pipi  
Kanonku Darmanin, Id-Desperate Den  
Mr Muscat, Maths, Is-Cid  
Mr George Victor Parker, English, Third Man  
Mr Buhagiar, Il-Lazzru  
Mr Syclemoore, Scaramoush  
Mr Borg Cardoba, Il-Pahwi

## ALPS Cultural Event Astra Theatre The Opera 'Aida' Oct 29 2016

For personal reasons, mostly age and health, Joe Fenech had relinquished his post on council of ALPS. Nevertheless, he still looked after the ticketing at the Gozo theatre as well as hotel accommodation for a good number of members and friends of the association. The opera AIDA this year, was one of the very best performances ever presented by Astra Theatre. A full house was recorded and the rounds of applause from beginning to end, were proof enough of the great satisfaction that the audience have experienced by way of costumes, stage design, the opera singers and the choir. Thanks again dear friend Joe Fenech, for always making our association ever so proud, by keeping to this opera date.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

# ALPS Annual General Meeting 24th February 2017

ALPS, thanks all outgoing council members who have served over the current twelve months. Their care and dedication during 2016, has produced superb results. The program of events that was presented for one year is proof enough of a positive result that has been reached.

We must now prepare for another year ahead of us and we ask you to complete the nomination forms that are attached with this News Letter. Support the ALPS association, by

volunteering to serve on council of administration and contributing to a greater achievement for the future.

The annual general meeting is scheduled to be held at the LICEO Hamrun on Friday the 24th February 2017 at 18.00 hrs. Auditors will present the accounts for the past year. Elections shall be held for the post of Honorary Treasurer as well as seven other members to serve on council for the coming year 2017. The post of Secretary General still holds for another year. The 3-year term

of the ALPS President remains valid up to 2019.

We recommend that you send in your preferred nominations early, thus giving us ample time to do the preparations for elections that will need to be held.

### Annual General Meeting Agenda

1. Opening Prayers
2. Reading and approval of the minutes of 2016 AGM
3. The reading presentation and approval of the Administrative report for

2016

4. Presentation and approval of the Audited financial accounts as at 31st December 2016
5. President's address
6. Election for the post of eight members of the Council of Administration for a period of one year
7. Appointment of professional firm auditors -Griffiths & Associates to act as auditors of the Association of Lyceum Past Students
8. Other matters.



## ALPS Planned Activities for 2017

The following list is the program planned for 2017. ALPS reserves the right to change the dates and events depending on circumstances obtaining at that time. Full details and application forms will be published later on this website, newsletters or by email.

### Friday, Jan 27, 2017:

- Embassy of USA, Ta' Qali: admission limited to 58 persons: first come basis only due to security restrictions
- Bristow Potteries, Ta' Qali

- Mediterranean Ceramics, Ta' Qali
- Mdina Glass, Ta' Qali

### Friday, Feb 3 - 5, 2017

ALPS Valentine Weekend Break

### Friday, Feb 24, 2017

ALPS AGM, Lyceum Hamrun

### Saturday, Apr 1, 2017

- Upper Fort St. Elmo, Valletta
- National War Museum, St. Elmo
- Fortifications Interpretation Centre (Biagio Steps, Valletta)

### Friday May 5 - 7, 2017

ALPS Annual Retreat  
Manresa, Gozo

### Saturday, Jun 10, 2017:

- Gozo: Cittadella
- Gozo: Agri-Tourism Site

### Saturday, Jul 8, 2017

Festa Sant' Anna, Pwales Chapel

### Friday, July 14, 2017

ALPS Annual BBQ

### Thurs Sep 28 – Mon Oct 9 2017

ALPS Malta To Malta Cruise

### Saturday Nov 4 2017

Alps Annual Reunion, Lyceum Hamrun

### Friday, Nov 24, 2017

- Esplora, Science Interactive Centre (Bighi)
- Restoration Centre Bighi

### Friday, Dec 1 - 3, 2017

ALPS Yuletide Weekend Break, Radisson (Ghajn Tuffieha)

### Friday, Dec 8, 2017

Feast of Immaculate Conception 11:00; Christmas Mass at Pwales Chapel

# ALPS Valentine Weekend Break At Radisson Golden Sands

**3rd - 5th February 2017**

February 2017 is fast approaching and the ALPS annual Valentine dinner with week-end break shall once again be held at the Radisson Golden Sands Resort Ghajn Tuffieha. From the feedback we received last year, it is evident that you all enjoyed that chosen venue and you have expressed a wish that next Valentine dinner and relaxed week-end break be organized at the very same resort. And to satisfy your wishes, we again approached the management of 'Radisson Blu' and obtained another special package that is most advantageous for everyone's pocket. We want to be close to you and we want to celebrate with you this annual event, with the best food and happy atmosphere that may please you all. Do place your bookings as early as possible because room allocations are likely to be taken quickly and we do not want to disappoint anyone. The Valentine dinner menu is being displayed with this newsletter. Dinner shall be on Saturday 4th February 2017 **(Time 19.30hrs**

**for 20.00 hrs.)** Latest to book shall be Tuesday 31st January 2017 as we shall be preparing suitable table plans to accommodate all who are coming to this event. Your family members and friends are more than welcome to join you for this year's VALENTINE'S dinner and week-end break. Raffles shall be drawn during the mentioned dinner and we augur that you may be amongst the lucky winners. Come join us and enjoy a happy week-end in a most luxurious location.



## ALPS Valentine's Dinner Saturday 4th February 2017 Radisson Golden Sands Welcome Drink

### Italian Antipasti

Octopus Carpaccio with citrus segment salsa, mini Caprese salad and figs with Bresaola

### Plated Pasta

Garganelli with sundried tomato pesto cream and pecorino shavings

### From the Soup Kettle

Caramelised cauliflower soup with herb dressing

### Carvery

Roast rib of beef with red wine jus

### From the Hot Counter

Baked salmon with braised fennel and creamed leeks

Chicken and mushroom casserole

Root vegetable and lamb stew

Aubergine parmigiana (V)

### Accompaniment

Steamed rice (v), Bouquetiere of vegetables, Fennel seed roast potatoes, Natural salads: rucola, lettuce, tomatoes, cucumber

### On a sweeter note...

Gianduia chocolate millefoglie, fresh strawberry tart, passion fruit sorbet

Fresh Brewed Coffee

### Beverages Included

2 glasses of Local Wine

Half bottle of Water

2 Night Stay for 2 People including Valentines Dinner on Sat 4th, B'fast and Dinner on Fri 3rd & B'fast on 5th Feb 2017	<b>€226</b>	Additional rate for 3rd person for 2 nights HB including Saturday Valentines Dinner Feb 2017	<b>€110</b>
2 Night Stay for 1 Person including Valentines Dinner on Sat 4th, B'fast and Dinner on Fri 3rd & B'fast on 5th Feb 2017	<b>€171</b>	Additional rate for 3rd person for 1 night HB including Saturday Valentines Dinner Feb 2017	<b>€69</b>
1 Night Stay for 2 People including Valentines Dinner on Sat 4th & B'fast on 5th Feb 2017	<b>€143</b>	Children 0 -12 sharing with Parents supplement Feb 2017	<b>FREE</b>
1 Night Stay for 1 Person including Valentines Dinner on Sat 4th & B'fast on 5th Feb 2017	<b>€105</b>	Children 12 + sharing with Parents supplement per child per day Feb 2017	<b>€35</b>
1 Night Stay for 2 People including Dinner on Fri 3rd & B'fast on 4th Feb 2017	<b>€143</b>	Valentines Special Dinner only on the 4th - Adults (not staying in house) Feb 2017	<b>€35</b>
1 Night Stay for 1 Person including Dinner on Fri 3rd & B'fast on 4th Feb 2017	<b>€105</b>	Valentines Dinner only on the 4th - Children (not staying in house) Feb 2017	<b>€16</b>
		Sunday Buffet Lunch on 5th Feb 2017	<b>€33</b>



# Laughter Remains the Best Medicine

When Beethoven passed away, he was buried in a churchyard. A couple days later, the town drunk was walking through the cemetery and heard some strange noise coming from the area where Beethoven was buried. Terrified, the drunk ran and got the priest to come and listen to it. The priest bent close to the grave and heard some faint, unrecognizable music coming from the grave.

Frightened, the priest ran and got the town magistrate.

When the magistrate arrived, he bent his ear to the grave, listened for a moment, and said, "Ah, yes, that's Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, being played backwards."

He listened a while longer, and said, "There's the Eighth Symphony, and it's backwards, too. Most puzzling." So, the magistrate kept listening, "There's the Seventh... the Sixth... the Fifth..."

Suddenly the realization of what was happening dawned on the magistrate. He stood up and announced to the crowd that had gathered in the cemetery, "My fellow citizens, there's nothing to worry about. It's just Beethoven decomposing."

# ALPS Are Proposing a Fantastic Holiday Cruise for 2017

All the holiday tours that ALPS have been organizing for its members and friends over the past years, have every time proved to be most interesting and full of adventure. For the coming year, we are yet again preparing for all the ALPS members, friends and families, a summer holiday, cruising on the Norwegian Spirit for 12 days. The chosen tour operating company SMS Mondial have offered a superb package **MALTA to MALTA on the basis of an ALL INCLUSIVE** (except for the shore excursions that may be bought on the ship and the daily tips obligatory and payable by each passenger). SMS Mondial prepared a suitable flyer with dates and itinerary, quoting a special price to the ALPS group, who will be joining us on this holiday in 2017.

We bargained for the best deal that may be beneficial to you all because we want you to enjoy every minute that may be spent together. Reservation of ship cabins shall be on first come/first serve basis. Details of this tour with full information may be viewed on the colored



back page advert of this News Letter. We want to see many of you joining for this holiday. All bookings strictly through

SMS Mondial because ALPS is in no way responsible before, during or after this proposed tour.

# Payment of Annual Subscriptions in ALPS

We are again nearing the end of another year and some have not yet settled for the membership renewal. It is still outstanding, but you can remedy, by immediately writing out a cheque and send it to Hon. Treasurer David. R. Abela. Your continued assistance enables us to reach our targets. If you have effected a payment already, kindly disregard this request and keep working for more and more of your Lyceum friends to join ALPS.

**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.**

Cheque to ALPS, can be addressed to Hon. Treasurer David R. Abela, Juniper, Gianni Vella Street, Tal-Qattus, Birkirkara BKR 4263. Tel: 2148 7693 / Mob: 9902 0845 / e-mail: david.r.abela@gmail.com

# We keep asking you for your E-mail addresses please

Without any shadow of doubt, you must have by now read our appeal at least six or seven times, requesting that you **IMMEDIATELY respond and send to us a one line confirmation of the latest e-mail** that you are using. It costs you nothing to do this BUT you will benefit from a quick message relay, if the necessity should arise. There may be instances during the year, when urgent announcements will need to be issued and transmitted to members and friends of

ALPS. We are confident that the majority of our members and friends have access to e-mail. So please be kind to send to us soonest the desired information. Our data base continues to be updated and your assistance in the matter will oblige. Send your confirmation to: ALPS Council Member Oscar Galea on oaggalea@maltanet.net You will be sent a reply by return, to ensure that your message is acknowledged and actioned. We thank you for your best cooperation.





## IN MEMORIAM

### Let us also Remember and Pray for:

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

Mr. Pio Schriha, Lyceum Ex-teacher, passed away at 92 years of age, on 18th Sept 2016

Mr. Ray Fenech Gasan, Membership number 523. Passed away early 2016

Mrs. Darmanin, daughter of an ALPS member. She passed away 23rd Oct 2016

Mr. John Galea Cavallazzi, Membership number 496, passed away on 22nd August 2016

ALPS members and or their family members who passed since inception of ALPS in 1994

Hamlet, who died in the recent past years  
MAY THEY ALL REST IN PEACE, AMEN.

members, who may be house bound or in a Seniors Retirement Home.

The members of families from the Pwales

We remember and pray for the sick and aged ALPS

We promise to keep them always in our thoughts and prayers.

# A Thought for this Month...

*When one door of happiness closes, another one opens, but we often look so long at the closed door, that we do not see the one that has been opened for us*



# Christmas Traditions in Malta

In a predominantly Catholic Malta, the feast of the Nativity of Baby Jesus, is celebrated each year on the 25th day of December. The churches and the houses around Malta and Gozo are nicely decorated with cribs full of tiny statuettes "PASTURI" that are depicting figures of the Holy Family, as well as figures of tradesmen and many other traditional occupations, that continue to be inherited from generation to generation. It is the practice in Maltese churches that on Christmas eve the birth of Christ is celebrated with midnight mass. A short sermon is delivered to an attentive congregation and the preacher is usually a 7 or 8 year old boy or girl who recites the sermon, that would have been studied by heart from six or seven weeks before Christmas night.

Cribs in the Maltese Islands have a long standing history dating back to the year 1617 when the very first crib was



prepared by the Dominican Friars of Rabat Malta. And, another tradition that continues to be practiced at Christmas in Maltese villages is the procession on Christmas Eve with a statue of Baby Jesus, that is carried shoulder high by four boys, through the different village streets around Malta and Gozo. This traditional procession was first initiated in 1921 by Dun Gorg Preca, (Saint) of the M.U.S.E.U.M. society.

It is with such traditions that Christmas in Malta and Gozo continues to be celebrated with great devotion every year. Families and friends get together and exchange greetings for a most Holy and Happy Christmas Day. Best wishes for the coming year are also extended at this time of year, auguring the best of Health, Happiness and continued friendship. This is Christmas and how it continues to be celebrated in the Maltese Islands.

## ALPS Grand Reunion at Liceo Malta October 2016



**Alfred Agius**

The Annual Grand Reunion of past students was this year held at the Main Hall of the Lyceum School in Wenzu Mallia Street Hamrun on the 15th October. The event which started at 19.00 attracted a sizeable crowd of ALPS members with spouses and friends who filled the Lyceum main hall.

Assisted by his Cerimonier and by Mons. Anton Gouder, His Grace Archbishop Emeritus Mons. Pawl Cremona (himself a LICEO past student), con-celebrated Holy Mass. In a short but meaningful homily, Mons. Pawl Cremona stated that he always felt glad to promote the spirit of brotherhood values, where persons in need can count on the support of others. He went on to utter words of encouragement and praise towards

ALPS for accomplishing its objective to preserve present acquaintances as well as to promote new ones in a Christian spirit. When Holy Mass

was concluded, there was a swift activity and chairs were shifted to the sides of the hall, thus creating a sizeable space where participants could circulate with ease and socialise amongst themselves to once again meet with their former acquaintances.

The gathering was addressed by ALPS President George Stagno Navarra who started by congratulating those participants who happened to be amongst the students who had started or finished attending the Lyceum in the year 1966. He noted, that fifty years had elapsed since that memorable day, from years that may have been the very best of one's life. He stressed the fact, that Lyceum Boys no matter the age, will always stay close to each other. He also reminded that ALPS was always keen to organise various activities throughout each year, to accommodate the wishes and whims of the vast majority of its members. The President went on to encourage more participation from prospective new members. At the conclusion of his concise introductory speech, the audience showed its appreciation towards the continuous efforts and contribution offered by our President and all the ALPS Council members, by giving a round of hearty applause.

Popular singer Enzo Gusman

himself a Lyceum past student, honoured the gathering with his presence. Enzo's inimitable voice interpreted various songs at intervals mainly from the famous era of the golden 70's & 80's to the appreciation of all the participants especially his former class mates. Perhaps it is worth mentioning also, that our Lyceum colleague had quite recently participated at another ALPS grand reunion held in Toronto Canada. Many thanks dear friend Enzo. The singer, was joined on the stage by another past student of Liceo. His name is Wilfred Buttigieg who presented a medley of popular and classic tunes on his electric steel guitar. It is a unique instrument in that Wilfred was the first musician to import this instrument to Malta in the early 70's. Since then, he also designed and built his own versions of this instrument. James Caterers once again proved their worth, by providing abundant and delicious finger food throughout the evening. A number of waiters did their best to quench the thirst of the participants by providing frequent rounds of soft drinks and glasses of wines and beers.

One could observe the ongoing easy free flowing conversation, with topics discussed amongst various participant groups, unhindered by the easy listening to music in the

background at a reasonable volume level. Mainly, the conversation or favourite topics concerned the narrating of past anecdotes and personal experiences in relation to the old teachers, whom the majority of reunion participants fondly specified by names and/or respective nicknames. (the list of teachers' nicknames is shown above in this same issue)

Many group photos were taken during the evening. One such impressive picture is attached, showing the large attendance and the smiles on everyone's face to recall this very happy occasion. As the evening wore on to a late hour, most participants commenced to take their leave while uttering their farewell wishes to each other and expressing personal satisfaction to have participated in the Grand Reunion. Many were also heard to remark that the occasion had served as a means to rekindle their nostalgia of the old days, when they used to wander to and fro along the very same corridors of the Lyceum, leading from the main hallway, sports ground and to the classes at various floor levels.

One can conclude, that it turned out to be a real memorable evening, the kind of event that one fondly loved to attach in his annual activity calendar to preserve nice memories that may be carried in future years.







# GRECIAN SPLENDOUR

28 SEPTEMBER 2017



**NORWEGIAN**  
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BALCONY

Guests 1 & 2 will receive the Ultimate Beverage Package  
Guests 3 & 4 will get the Soda Package

**Price Includes:** 11 nights Cruise on board the Norwegian Spirit, 24 hours complimentary dining, Daily entertainment & use of on board facilities and All Port Taxes. **Not Included:** Travel Insurance. Gratuities payable on board at \$13.50 per person per day. Excursions (optional, to be paid on board). **Notes:** Deposit to be paid is of €700 per cabin. Final payment to be paid 75 days prior departure. Passports must be presented upon booking. SMSmondial are responsible of all bookings and payments. ALPS are not responsible for any bookings before, during or after this trip.

INSIDE IA		OCEANVIEW OB		BALCONY BA	
TWIN	TRIPLE	TWIN	TRIPLE	TWIN	TRIPLE
1399	1299	1539	1439	1849	1749

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For bookings,  
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