



A.L.P.S. News

ASSOCIATION OF LYCEUM PAST STUDENTS | GHAQDA EX-STUDENTI LICEO

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May 2017

What exactly is the true meaning and purpose of ALPS!

The Association of Lyceum Past Students founded in the year 1994 by Dr. Guido Saliba, had a great aim and purpose of bringing together many Lyceum past students to form an association that could bring them closer together and more so, to keep the name of the doyen of all schools II-LICEO alive. It is encouraging to note that over the past 23 years, ALPS succeeded to enroll a great number of Lyceum past students who became active members in a dynamic association. It has certainly proved its purpose and the result speaks volumes especially when one looks back at the progress made. From a relatively small group of volunteers who came around the founder president in the year 1994, today we boast of the highest enrolment number in excess of nine hundred. It goes without saying, that this is the result of hard work put into every council that has administered the ALPS over the past years since its inception date. There have been a number of dedicated Liceo past students who offered their services and expertise in order to promote in the best possible manner The Association of Lyceum Past Students as it stands today. It certainly is interesting to mention some of the main achievements that ALPS managed to carry out throughout its years of existence. Primarily, one can mention the continued bond that we have maintained with the school of our childhood II-LICEO. This aspect alone, gives us the greatest satisfaction in knowing that we have been, we still are and will continue to be proud of The Lyceum. It was the cradle of our secondary education from where, many a learned Maltese scholar had finished his schooling and progressed to even more advanced education. This resulted in giving to Malta and Gozo the best Professors of Law, Medicine, Dentistry,

Architecture, Engineering, Ecclesiastical (not forgetting even a Maltese Cardinal), Teachers, Social Workers and a multitude of high ranking Civil Servants who have served in the Diplomatic Corps all around the globe. No wonder therefore, that Lyceum boys remain proud of their school no matter how many years would have gone by. There is always that thought in our minds, that had it not been for the great dedication from the many teachers who have given to the Liceo students the best education and guidance, we might never have reached where we all stand today. We must therefore salute and keep in our prayers those illustrious gentlemen who have shown to us the way and have helped us to attain the best education results that we treasure so much.

Over the past twenty-three years, The Association of Lyceum Past Students continued to give to you members and friends, many social and cultural events that have proved to be to your satisfaction. There were times when perhaps we might not have been too perfect, but we learn from past mistakes and we do our very best to improve ourselves for the future. Each year a number of persons commit themselves to work within an incentivized council of administration. The roles are shared and each member is entrusted to do his best, so that whatever is planned and presented to our members and friends may be nearer to perfection. If you were to look at the Newsletter alone, you will no doubt realize that we have come a long way by giving to you the finest publication in a very elegant and informative manner. We are the envy of many other associations who keep telling us that ALP by far surpasses all other groups and associations in Malta and Gozo by way of quality and presentation and by

the very good number of events that are organized for the members and friends throughout the year. It has always been our aim to improve and give to you our readers the very best reading material and we are hoping that we are satisfying your wishes. When it comes to the social aspect, one can very proudly say that the response that we get is most encouraging. Every function attracts a large attendance and all our cultural events also interest many of our members and friends. Slowly but surely, we continue to build and strengthen our position in Maltese life. We wish that by word of mouth you can help us to achieve even more by spreading the word and enrolling many of your past schoolmates to join ALPS. We turn to you because you are the best advertising media for ALPS. Nobody can do it better than you dear Liceo past colleagues and, we therefore turn and ask you to help us to increase our membership. The yearly membership donation enables us to keep going and to continue to prepare even better events for you. Let us remain united as we were in our Lyceum days. Let us continue to participate in all that ALPS is preparing throughout the year. Let us help each other to stay young at heart. In 24 months from now, we shall be celebrating our twenty-fifth anniversary. I can assure you that we are starting to work on a special program for the year 2019 that should definitely be to your liking.

This edition of ALPS News comes to you just at the beginning of another summer season. Many of you will be planning your holidays in Malta, Gozo or abroad. You all deserve a break and here's wishing to you members and to your families, the best of a merited summer vacation. The remaining events before the council stops for the summer recess shall be the



Festa Sant Anna at the Pwales Chapel. We are making an exception this year by changing the date of the Festa to the 24th June 2017. The reason being that for this occasion we shall be having with us at the quaint little chapel, the Maltese Cardinal His Eminence Prospero Cardinal Grech. He was a Lyceum boy and he feels the urge to come and share with you our members and friends, from the success to this yearly event at Pwales hamlet. Do make it a point to come in greater numbers this year because we wish to give a very warm welcome to His Eminence, when he concelebrates holy mass during festa Sant Anna.

Before the start of the hot season, we shall end by organizing for you the annual summer barbeque on the 14th July 2017 at the Radisson Bay-Point open pool terraces in St Julian's. We wish to see many of you joining us for the last two events before auguring Happy Holidays to one another.

Sincerely

George dei Conti Stagno Navarra

ALPS President





ALPS Manresa Retreat 5th to 7th May 2017

Led by the association President George Stagno Navarra, a group of fifty participants have this year attended for the annual retreat at Manresa House in Gozo. This years' lecturer Fr. Dominic Sultana directed the talks and left everyone amazed at the fountain of knowledge that he brought along with him and shared with everyone who was there present. The theme for this years' week-end of recollection was truly different from what we have experienced in the past years. The entire program over the whole week-end was entrusted completely into the hands of Fr. Dominic who managed to keep all those who attended, listening carefully and experiencing from the vast knowledge that he had to offer. Open discussions ensued on many different subjects that instigated debate and left a pleasant taste with those present. The Association of Lyceum Past Students (ALPS) is proud to have again been instrumental, for organizing such a valued spiritual retreat for its members and friends.

A lot of good comes out from such an event. Together with the Dar Manresa director we have already planned and booked for next years' event that is to take place on the last week-end of April between the 27th/29th- 2018. If you are interested to again participate for next year's retreat, you are being invited to send an e-mail soonest to ALPS secretary General Alex Borg : alpsmalta@gmail.com and your name will be noted on first come first serve basis, because accommodation at the Manresa retreat home is very restricted. God willing, we can have another good response filling up all the vacant rooms at the retreat-home. By special request, we have asked Fr. Dominic to again direct for ALPS next years' retreat. We are pleased to confirm, that we have received a positive response to our wish. Perhaps we may call it a continuation of this year's retreat and we shall meet again at Manresa in 2018. Pencil your diaries and make sure that your booking is received by Secretary General Alex Borg well in advance.

Visiting ALPS Members and Friends

It is the aim of the Association of Lyceum Past Students, to stay in touch with its members and friends. Deputy President Robert Ferrante has been entrusted to organize home and or hospital visits, in order to maintain contact with our dear colleagues who may be sick, housebound or who are now retired in an old people's home. We kindly ask all our readers to send us feedback with names whom you might know, including address and possibly telephone or mobile number or e-mail address, so that a visit could be organized. It would be our pleasure to organize such visits lasting not more than half an hour by Robert Ferrante who will

be accompanied by one other council member. A small hamper, compliments of the Council of Administration, will be donated to the person being visited. 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 robbieferrante@hotmail.com Mobile 79603622 / Home Tel No 21444570. We thank you in anticipation for every assistance you may give, which helps ALPS to maintain its contact with its members at all times and who continue to be in our thoughts and prayers.



Pwales Chapel News

Calendar of Activities at St Anna Chapel Pwales 2017

JUN 24 1900	Festa Sant' Anna: Prospero Cardinal Grech Celebrating Mass
JUL	NO ACTIVITIES
AUG	NO ACTIVITIES
SEP	NO ACTIVITIES
OCT 21 1700	Feast of St Ursula
NOV 11 1630	Remembrance Day
DEC 13 1100	Christmas Mass with carol singing

Valletta Cultural Tour

Friday 1 April 2017



Joseph Buttigieg

A group of 68 Members, Spouses and Friends of ALPS participated in a very interesting historical tour in Valletta. The day was split into three activities and consisted of visiting the refurbished Upper Fort St. Elmo, the new War Museum and the Malta Conference Centre.

At Fort St. Elmo, we were met by Ms. Christine Cremona, from Heritage Malta who also guided us throughout the tour. Fort St. Elmo occupies a strategic location at the entrance of the Grand Harbour. As early as the Medieval period, this fact was recognized and exploited. When in 1530, the Order of St. John arrived in Malta, a survey concluded that the defenses of Marsamxett and the Grand Harbour warranted the construction of a fort right at the tip of this peninsula. In 1551, Grand Master de Homedes ordered the immediate construction of this fort. It was star shaped and construction took less than six months to completion under the military engineer Pietro Pardo and the supervision of Fra Leone Strozzi. The first Ottoman attack took place on May 28, 1565. After sustaining heavy bombardment for nearly a month, the fort fell into the hands of the Ottomans on June 23, 1565. The Turkish attack ended destroying massive sections of the fort, and today's building has precious little left of the original. The Order's victory over the Ottomans of 1565 led to the foundation of a new fortified city on Mount Sciberras. The fort was enlarged and fitted with barracks, ovens and cisterns. The city included a reconstructed and enlarged fort designed by the military engineer Francesco Laparelli, who also designed the street plan based on the grid system. Fort St. Elmo underwent several additions and alterations over the course of its history, such as the Vendome Bastion in 1614, and later a polverista was added to the same bastion. Carafa Bastions were constructed by military engineer Carl Gruenberg in 1687. Further developments took place during the British period to adapt the fort to the latest military technological and strategic requirements. Of primary importance was the creation of a number of gun emplacements to house the new twin 6-pounder QF (quick-firing) guns, and a musketry parapet that goes on up to the Vendome battery and converting the



polverista within Vendome Bastion into a permanent armory to house the small arms removed from the Palace Armoury. A number of gun emplacements were constructed between 1919 and 1939 to house new guns. During the Second World War, the fort played an important role in the defence of Malta. It was the element that crushed the Italian seaborne attack of July 26, 1941 on the Grand Harbour. Later in the 1970's, more work was done on the Abercrombie Bastion. The fort has just undergone a multi-million Euro restoration in collaboration with Heritage Malta and covered both the fort itself and its outer parts. This restoration included the on-site chapel of St. Anna and the dismantling of the National War Museum, which is now incorporated within the New Military Museum. With this restoration to its former glory, Fort St. Elmo takes its place as a jewel of the capital City of Valletta.

The second part of the tour consisted in visiting the new National War Museum. It houses a superb collection of items which take us back in time to prehistory. It houses such a vast array of militaria that it would take a whole day to view the entire collection. The items are displayed in chronological order starting from the earliest phases of the Bronze Age around 2500 B.C. followed by the Classical Age when Malta's overlords were the Phoenicians and then the Carthaginians. In the Second Punic War, Malta became part of the Roman empire. This period was followed by the Arab, Byzantine, Norman, Sicilian, Swabian, Angevin, Aragon, Catalan and finally the Spanish periods. In 1530, with the advent of the Knights of St. John, a section is devoted to medieval armour and weapons with prominence given to the Great Siege of 1565. Under the Order's rule, numerous fortifications were reinforced along the coastline throughout the 17th and 18th centuries. The order's rule ended when Napoleon invaded Malta on his way to Egypt in 1798 and the French occupation lasted about two years. Two halls are dedicated to Malta's role in the periods covering World War I and

World War II. Among the displays are the Gloster Sea Gladiator N5520 'FAITH', Roosevelt's Jeep 'HUSKY' and Malta's Award for gallantry 'THE GEORGE CROSS'.

The third segment of the day was a guided tour of the Malta Conference Centre historically known as 'LA SACRA INFIRMERIA'. The Holy Infirmary was ordered to be built by Grand Master Jean de la Cassière on the 7 November 1574, after a Chapter General, to replace the already existing one in Birgu. It was completed towards the end of the 16th century. Its architect is not known, but it is usually attributed to Girolamo Cassar. The building was built as a hospital in the 16th century by the Order of St. John. It was known as the Grand Hôpital during the French occupation of Malta. It was one of the leading hospitals in Europe until the 18th century, and it remained in use until 1920. It had a capacity to keep from 500 to 2,500 patients. The building is now used for multiple banquets, exhibitions, international conventions and theatrical shows. The centre's auditorium has roughly 1,500 seats. In 1636, one of the pharmacies was closed down. During the reign of Grand Master Raphael Cotoner, the infirmary was enlarged, having more wards added. This work continued until 1666, during the reign of Raphael's successor and brother, Nicolas Cotoner. The 'Old Ward' was also extended. Also during his reign, in 1676, a School of Anatomy and Surgery was established in the infirmary itself. A dissection room was built in the infirmary due to the school, which was later on moved to the site of the graveyard outside the infirmary. More work was carried out in 1712, during the reign of Grand Master Ramon Perellos y Roccaful. These included a Quadrangle, the Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament, a laboratory and a pharmacy. The French capitulated on 5 September 1800 and it was immediately occupied by 350 British Troops. The new General Hospital now became a Station Hospital to accommodate the wounded British soldiers being brought in by Hospital

ships. This was done due to its strategic position overlooking the harbour. This meant that the seriously injured troops could be easily and quickly transported there. The hospital saw much use mainly during the Napoleonic Wars, the Crimean War and the First World War. In effect by World War I Malta was known as the 'Nurse of the Mediterranean'. Between 1863 and 1865 more alterations were made to improve the building. The Station Hospital was brought to an end in 1918, by the conclusion of the Great War. From 1920 until May 1940 it served as the headquarters of the Malta police Force. The building was included on the Antiquities List of 1925. It was evacuated during the Second World War during which it took four direct hits, which destroyed certain parts of it. After the War, the part of the 'Great Ward' which remained, became a Command Hall for the Allied Troops. It remained so till 1950. Afterwards it became a Children's Theatre for a year. In 1959, the center became a school and an examination center. Restoration was attempted multiple times, however in 1978 a full restoration started and on 11 November 1979, the current center was inaugurated. It was later awarded the Europa Nostra Diploma of Merit. The center has since housed many conferences, meetings, summits and other events, such as the Valletta Summit on Migration and the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting 2015.

The ALPS group then enjoyed a hearty lunch on the open terraces of The Malta Experience snack-bar, which is overlooking the Valletta grand harbor.

This was followed by the last segment of the day: the audio visual spectacular show 'THE MALTA EXPERIENCE'. This show is a gripping story of a country buffeted by world events in which the bravery and resilience of its people have been tested to the limit. The imagery is authentic and is supplemented by a gripping commentary covering 7000 years in 45 minutes chronicling the events that have shaped Malta's history.

My old Lyceum days



Alfred Agius

My thoughts go back to the old days of the year 1963. It was to be my final year attending the local primary village school. I clearly remember my parents doing their best to make me understand that it was high time for me to cast aside the childhood notion of less work more play in the neighbourhood streets. Easier said than done especially when taking into account the fact that once arriving home from school I used to sit at my bedroom desk reading a book or doing my homework with the audible yelling and hollering of my street pals in the background while at play in the neighbourhood streets most of the afternoons and evenings.

Anyway, by hook or by crook a few months later I filed in the application forms to sit for the Secondary Schools common entrance examination. Naturally I had assigned my 1st preference to the Lyceum Secondary School should I qualify from this exam. A few older friends had expressed their high opinion and pride that they were obtaining their higher education in such a prestigious school. I had also admired their smart looking school uniform jacket adorned with the famous chanticleer on its front side pocket.

So, it was with certain familiarity and self confidence that I sat for that school examination that May. A few weeks later I learned, that together with four of my schoolmates, we were selected to attend the Liceo at Valletta for our 1st secondary school year. The ensuing summer holidays passed like a dream dragging along the long-awaited date of the 1st October.

At 7 o'clock sharp I boarded the bus with my four friends from the village main bus terminus towards Valletta. In just 30 minutes we descended at Valletta



The Lyceum, Hamrun - Inauguration 9th April 1958



Triton Fountain and proceeded on foot towards Merchants Street.

I can vividly recall our first student gathering in the main school yard for the introductory speech. After listening to the Headmaster's speech our names were read out together with our assigned classroom designation. Mine was Form 1C. Presently we all proceeded towards our respective classrooms wherein the Form Master read out a lesson schedule time table.

Fr. Darmanin (Maths), Fr. Mintoff (Religion), Mr. Schiro (Italian), and Mr. Agius (French) are in the first instance, names that come to memory on our first memorable school day. At around 12.30 we were dismissed into the central courtyard for our lunch break. Introductions were made amongst ourselves and no strenuous games were undertaken as everyone was acting in a rather formal manner. The afternoon lessons flew away like a dream and all of us were eager to proceed eagerly home to narrate the school proceedings to our respective parents.

My mother listened to me devotedly and attentively, bless her soul, and warned me that I ought to follow the school

regulations meant to turn us into the gentlemen of tomorrow. I recall that it was a fantastic experience now that I look back. At the same time, all of us expressed our relief that it was all over as we all expressed our enthusiasm to proceed to Form 2 at the main Lyceum school at Hamrun which for most of us was the real Mecca. The main reason being that the main Liceo School offered those majestic sports facilities namely a big gymnasium and an enormous football ground.

Our continuous student interaction contributed towards a stronger spirit of comradeship which led to sharing primarily of the prevailing pastime knowledge of reciting the nicknames assigned to most of the school masters. I can remember a few like the Minus One, Drunken sailor, il-gbejna, Ic-Cina, il-Pullu, etc. Besides this, various football teams were set up to vent off our stamina during the main school midday break. As the following school years flew past we got used to the fact that each respective year brought with it slight changes, whereby a handful of students discontinued their education due to finding some job along the way and other students got separated owing to being promoted to a different classroom.

Finally, most of us reached the 5th Form, the shortest school year, owing to the fact that most of us intended to sit for the Christmas time ordinary level examinations so as to continue to build upon the pass mark results in the following Summer examinations.

Seeing that I had obtained enough examination passes,

I applied for the 6th form advanced level languages course. Consequently, the following October one could observe that our student group of the previous years had dwindled considerably. I think it happened that we were the first batch of students to experience the initial coeducational procedure experience. This instance meant swapping our old football ground habits for the midday break into group strolls to the Gnien Ruman with our fellow class school girls.

Anyway, this particular 6th form period flew by more rapidly than the previous years and most inter fellow student acquaintances just melted away into almost total oblivion.

So, to close the account I can only state my pride to have joined A.L.P.S. after a lapse of 50 years. It facilitates renewing lost acquaintances and strengthening existing ones.

Special Prizes Donated By Alps To Lyceum Best Performers

Represented by Mr. Robert Ferrante and Tony Buttigieg at the Prize Giving Ceremony ,

The Association of Lyceum Past Students (ALPS), this year donated two attractive prizes.

The ALPS Prize For Altruism went to Mizzi Nathan and the Guido Saliba Prize went to Attard Jake. For a good number of years our association has supported Liceo prize day and each year has donated a number of book prizes to the best chosen students. This for sure continues to maintain the bond between the old and the younger generations at the Lyceum. Congratulations to the winners of year 2017 prizes.

Sports Corner



Peter Tortell

In my first article on Sports in the ALPS News for March, 2017, I requested information from Old Boys who were prominent in Sport to send me their experiences when participating in any Sport of their choice.

So far, only Dr. Eddie Turner, Ph.C., M.D., F.R.C.P., who has been living in Canada for a long number of years, replied.

Eddy was very prominent in Athletics and, also played Water-polo and Hockey in his younger days. One of his finest achievements was being chosen to take part in the First Mediterranean Games held in 1951 in Egypt together with George Bonello Dupuis and Lino Bugeja (see photo). He also used to take part in the Annual Athletics meetings of the Lyceum and the University. As a member of the Hermes Athletic Club he used to take part in Meetings with Royal Navy and Army units which were stationed in Malta.

Eddy also played water-polo with the junior teams of Sliema Aquatic Sports Club and remembers winning the League with the Under 18 team. He remembers that in the team there was another player called Alex Gollcher (who I knew quite well). Alex played for Sliema Aquatic Sports Club in summer



Edward Turner, George Bonello Dupuis u Lino Bugeja fl-1951

and also played football with Sliema Wanderers in the winter.

Perhaps it is worth mentioning that Eddy also played hockey for the Services. He wishes he was in Malta to go through the archives of the Times of Malta at his leisure to refresh his memory of the happy days he spent practicing Sport and asked me to say "Hi" to any old friends of his. I shall be very pleased to give Eddy's email address and his phone number to his friends if they wish to contact him.

The writer, together with George Stagno Navarra, have met with Eddy and his wife Carole when the ALPS held a Grand Reunion in Toronto. Eddy could not make it to the venue but whilst we travelled to Vancouver by coach, our dear friend drove and came to meet with us at Sun Peaks. That was a memorable get together with our Liceo colleague. Many memorable photos have captured the happy occasion.

Another prominent old boy in the ALPS Sports area was Lino Bugeja who passed away recently, on 10 January, 2017.

My dear friend Lino was a man of many seasons and besides Sports he was also an Educationalist, Environmentalist,

Journalist and Author. An exceptional man of Culture.

Lino started playing football as a youth for his hometown club Vittoriosa Stars and one of his best moments was when his team beat the famous Floriana Ajax when they were on their way to become one of the best teams ever seen in Malta.

In the meantime, Lino was also practicing Athletics and one of his finest moments was taking part in the First Mediterranean Games in Egypt in 1951 when he took part in the 400 meters' race. As I mentioned earlier on, Lino was part of the team of three athletes taking part which included George Bonello Dupuis and Eddy Turner.

When he stopped playing he helped his great friend, Father Hilary, to set up the Educational Sports Centre at the Marsa Sports Grounds which helped in training the promising young players at that time. Later on, a lot of Nurseries to cater for the young players were set up by various football clubs on the island. Lino was appointed coach of the Maltese Youth National team and my son Simon was chosen to be part of that team for their various commitments. He also helped Father Hilary



Lecturer tal-Akkademja Olimpika fl-Qatar

when he was the coach to Hibernians Football Club in the physical preparation of the players. One of the best results in that period was when Hibs drew 0 – 0 against Manchester United in Malta and in the return match in Manchester obtained a respectable 0 – 4 defeat.

Further on, Lino, together with his friends Karm Borg and Bertie Muscat were appointed members of the Malta Olympic Committee and Lino became the Secretary. Apart from his work as Secretary Lino was chosen by the International Olympic Committee to lecture on "Olympism" in a lot of countries and his frequent visits to Olympia helped him to pursue his agenda.

Lino was also one of the founders of the Ramblers' Association and also the first President and his work to improve the places where one could go for a walk in the countryside was indeed commendable.

In 2008, he was inducted in the "Hall of Fame" of the Malta Olympic Committee for his contribution to sport and in 2013 he was honored with the "Gieh ir-Repubblika" for services to his country.

Our Gentlemen Masters and their Nicknames

Revisions & Additions... courtesy of Rudolph Xuereb

Hgiegu: Mr. Thomas Glass (Headmaster)

The Third Man: Mr George V. Parker (English)

Lazzru: Latin

Baqra: Geography

Il-Begiga: Mr. Burgess (Administration Head Masters Office)

Bela Patata: Mr. Calleja (Mathematics)

Minus One: Canon Bugeja (Religion)

Desperate Dan: Canon Farrugia (Religion)

This is also one of the songs we sang. It was dedicated to the Lyceum Masters with music to the tune of the 'Lili Marlene' song:

*"It-Teachers tal-Liceo kollha bil-Laqmijiet
Għax dina hija d-drawha ta' dawn iz-zminijiet
Dawna kollha jiiffurmaw
Dik il-Klikka u tal-Mau Mau
Li jahqru bis l-itfal... li jahqru bis l-itfal"*

The Renewal of Annual Subscription in ALPS

Many of you would have already settled their dues but, quite a good number of renewal subscriptions are still awaited. The annual fees have remained unchanged and we are confident that if you might have overlooked this matter, you are going to write a cheque strait away and post it soonest:

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

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.



Where are all those missing E-Mail addresses?

We keep hearing from a number of members and friends of the association, that they are not receiving the e-mail messages, that from time to time we issue for announcing some special event.

We have time and time again reminded our readers to send an e-mail confirming their latest e-mail address so that the ALPS records can be brought up to date. We want to reach many of you by e-mail and therefore your co-operation in this matter will enable us to satisfy your wish and you can start receiving all e-mail correspondence. Help us to become even more efficient



towards you members. Write out that one liner message and send it to Oscar Galea on oaggalea@malta.net. This will ensure

that all future announcements come to your computer screen as soon as they are channeled out by ALPS.

Did You Know That...

Airports at higher altitudes require a longer airstrip due to lower air density.

The **University of Alaska** spans four time zones.

The **tooth** is the only part of the human body that cannot heal itself.

In **ancient Greece**, tossing an apple to a girl was a traditional proposal of marriage. Catching it

meant she accepted.

Warner Communications paid \$28 million for the copyright to the song Happy Birthday, which was written in 1935!

Intelligent people have more zinc and copper in their hair.

A **comet's tail** always points away from the sun.

The **Swine Flu** vaccine in 1976 caused more death and illness than the disease it was intended to prevent.

Caffeine increases the power of aspirin and other painkillers, that is why it is found in some

medicines.

The **military salute** is a motion that evolved from medieval times, when knights in armor raised their visors to reveal their identity.

If you get into the **bottom of a well** or a **tall chimney** and look up, you can see stars, even in the middle of the day.

When a **person dies**, hearing is the last sense to go. The first sense lost is sight.

In **ancient times** strangers shook hands to show that they were unarmed.

To be continued on the next issue

Submission of the Alps Annual Returns for the Year Ending 31st December 2016

It might interest our members to know, that with the preparation of the association's audited accounts through the Firm Griffiths and Associates, we submitted the annual returns and are now fully compliant with the office of the Commissioner from the Ministry for Social Dialogue, Consumer Affairs and Civil Liberties under the registration number VO/0500. A word of thanks goes to Mr. Peter Griffiths who, for the past few years has offered his services on a free of charge basis. A thank you note goes also to Hon. Treasurer David Abela who looks after the ALPS financial affairs.

Laughter Remains The Best Medicine

The teacher said to his class one day, "Please stand up, anyone who thinks they're stupid."

Nobody stood up so the teacher said, "I'm sure there are some stupid students in this class!"

At this point Little Johnny stood up. The teacher said, "Oh Johnny! So, you think you're stupid then?"

Little Johnny replied, "No, I just felt bad that you were standing up on your own."



IN MEMORIAM

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

Dr Joe Cassar LL.D.
Magistrate

Mr Winston Fenech, brother
of ALPS friend Mrs Beatrice
Asciak

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.

A Thought for this Month...

*Friendship isn't about whom
you have known the longest.
It's about who came,
and never left your side*



Forthcoming Events

Saturday 24th June 2017: Festa St Anna at Pwales Chapel

This year, we are compelled to alter the almanac and change the date for Festa Pwales. Instead of the 8th July, we shall be organizing the feast on the **24th JUNE 2017**. This change comes along because we are pleased to announce that His Eminence Cardinal Prospero Grech has acceded to the ALPS request and will come and celebrate The Festa Sant Anna with the ALPS members and friends at Pwales on the 24th June 2017. Mass shall be at 19.00 hrs. on the chapel parvis. A children's choir directed by Ms Veronique Degabriele Ferrante will be in attendance during the ceremony. Refreshments will be served after mass. Let us make this event, a unique occasion to give a warm welcome to our much-respected Maltese Cardinal. The neighbors from the Pwales hamlet are all invited to join for this special meeting with a Cardinal at the Chapel. No cars can be allowed to enter near the chapel because we shall need to afford transportation to His Eminence who is in his nineties. A smallish car must be able to drive the Cardinal close to the chapel and maneuver in the narrow passageway at the Pwales access alley.

Friday 14th July 2017: ALPS Annual Summer BBQ

At the ball room terraces near the pool "al-fresco" "Radisson Bay-Point Hotel"

Thursday 28th September to Monday 9th October 2017

All inclusive - ALPS Malta to Malta cruise which includes Messina, Naples, Civitavecchia, Livorno, Cagliari, Heraklion, Pireus, Santorini and Katakolon before returning to Valletta harbor. There are some cabins still available at the discounted price that has been offered to ALPS. If you are deciding on your summer vacation, why not join this cruise and share the fun with the ALPS members and friends.

Saturday 4th November 2017: ALPS Annual Reunion The Original Premises of the Lyceum in Merchants Street, Valletta

We shall be announcing the full program for this event at a later stage. Meanwhile, we would like you to insert a note in your diaries of the mentioned date & place for **Reunion**

Friday 24th November 2017: ESPLORA -Science Interactive Centre & Restoration Centre Bighi

Day Tour. More details and booking form will follow with a next edition of the ALPS News for October 2017

Friday 1st December to 3rd December 2017: ALPS Yuletide Week-End: Radisson Blu Golden Sands Resort: Christmas Special Dinner on Saturday 2nd December 2017

Holy mass in the hotel on Sunday morning the 3rd December 2017 at 11.00 hrs.

Friday 14th July 2017

ALPS Annual Summer BBQ at the Ballroom Terraces near the pool *Al Fresco* Radisson Blu St Julians

Time: 20.00hrs for 20:30hrs

BBQ MENU

ANTIPASTI

An array of antipasti, assaggi, and seasonal natural and composed salads served with dressings, chilled sauces and oils

SOUP

Chilled potato and celery soup

PASTA STATION

Spirilli with peppered goats cheese, Sun blushed tomatoes and parsley pesto

FROM THE GRILL

Fresh tuna with almond and minted crumbs, beurre noisette
Rosemary scented chicken breast

Beef and pepper brochettes on minted bulgar
Grilled vegetable and mature cheddar flan
Stir fried cabbage with caraway seeds
Traditional roast potatoes

SWEETS

Selection of sweet and pastries

€28.00 per person

Including 2 glasses of local IGT wine, half bottle of local water

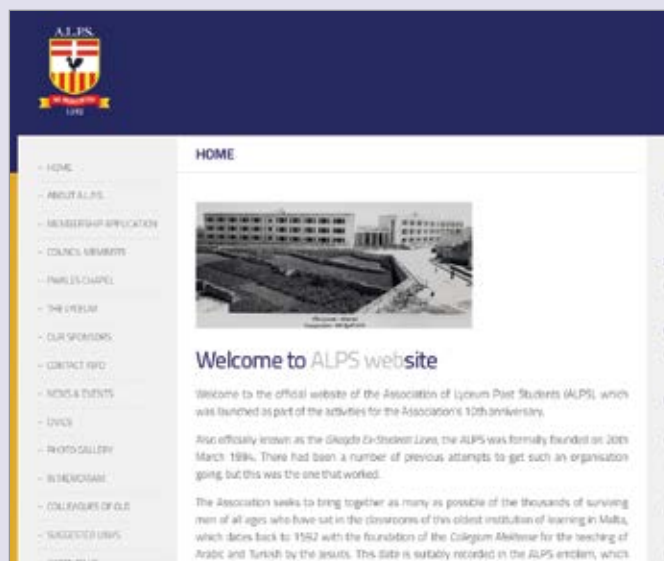
ALPS Web Page



Joseph D Buttigieg

We are using this medium to keep all our Local and International Members, friends and any other readers adjourned on all current and future activities relating to ALPS, our Association. We are constantly striving to make the Website 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. We also welcome your feedback and suggestions on how you wish to see changes in the format: please write to us at: alpsmalta@gmail.com. We would like you to help us to build a 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. Helping us in building the section named:

COLLEAGUES OF OLD would ensure that we have a permanent record of historic events of our school.



The committee and The Lyceum Scouts Group - 1914

The Lyceum Scouts and their origin



Joseph Micallef

The Lyceum Scouts Group

The Lyceum Group is one of the oldest in Malta and through its ranks have passed many of the Island's well known personalities - University Professors, Doctors, Lawyers, Army Officers and business men. 'Il-Liceo' is the only state school in Malta, to have the Scout Group bearing the same colours.

The Group was founded on January 1914 by the school drill master Mr R. N. LEWIS. It was first started as a Troop of Land Scouts with its scarf of brown colour. In Summer of 1916 there was a unanimous consensus of forming a Sea Scout Section. This wish was fulfilled when the Lyceum started the scholastic year in October of 1916. Both Land and Sea scouts met together at the Troops Headquarters which was registered at 27 Strait Street in Valletta. Upon this first meeting it was agreed that the Land Scouts retain the brown scarf while the Sea Scouts decided upon a different one, mainly a scarf of Blue and Old Gold divided equally with the Blue on the right and the Old Gold on the left.

The committee and The Lyceum Scouts Group - 1914

The aim of Scouting as drawn by Lord Baden Powell is to give the boys a chance to enjoy outdoor life as much

J. Debono (later Professor J. Debono), assisted by Mr J.V. Abela Ass. Scout Master (later Major, District Commissioner) revived the Group which, upon its revival, was enrolled in the

is-Sewda for a wild game, but at about 5.00p.m. Victory in Europe was announced and we gathered at the Palace Square where the Girl Guides happened to be assembled in the Palace Yard ready for the speech delivered by H.E. the Governor. Nothing of great importance was done by the Scouts and the Guides'. Weekly meetings were held at the Island Head Quarters preparing sketches for Christmas parties and Campfire when parents of scouts were invited.

1949 Mr P. Abela (Master at the Lyceum in Valletta, near the Jesuits' Church) was the Group Scout Master. The Scouts Group used to meet two doors further down the Lyceum and had a back door which led to the Lyceum yard where the group used to assemble and performed drill rehearsals. In summer the group had outdoor activities such as knotting at Fort Ricasoli, rowing and swimming at Rinella Bay etc.; the meeting point used to be customs steps at 2.00pm returning to H.Q. in Valletta by 6.00pm. Attendance used to be around twenty-five scouts. Assistant Scout Master Tommy Vella Zarb (later Scout Master) was of great help for these activities specialising in camping, cooking out, and hikes. Scouts life continued meeting every Saturday week at 'The Jungle' and organising various activities which included an annual Christmas party at the Island Head Quarters, Floriana and the procession of Christ the King.



Mr. P. Abela – Lyceum Master / Group Scout Master - 1949

as possible, that is, organizing outdoor activities such as drilling, hiking, camping, swimming, sports competitions, outdoor lecturing and cooking, lifeskills, cleanliness, and being faithful to their religion and country.

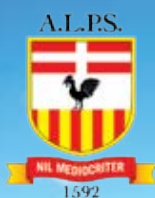
The expansion referred to was to prove detrimental to the troops and in 1918-1919 the Troops went from 'good' to worse and towards 1919 The Lyceum Scout Group was disbanded.

In the summer of 1923 Mr

presence of H.E. Lord Plumer then Governor of Malta. With the exception of enforced idleness due to the Second World War has flourished ever since meeting regularly every week. Apart from the normal outdoor activities the group used to attend carpentry sessions at the Sliema Primary School which proved to be useful during the war.

On 8th May 1945, Mr J. V. Vincenti A.S.M. said 'we ought to have gone to Wied





GRECIAN SPLENDOUR

28 SEPTEMBER 2017

NCL

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Guests 3 & 4 will get the Soda Package

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For bookings, kindly contact
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