



# A.L.P.S. News

ASSOCIATION OF LYCEUM PAST STUDENTS | GHAQDA EX-STUDENTI LICEO

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## FROM THE ALPS PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dear members and friends of ALPS, Living through COVID-19 pandemic is proving to be somewhat difficult and frustrating for many of us. It has kept us from seeing each other and getting together for our usual ALPS functions, that have always attracted a good number of participants. The last edition of ALPS News was printed and forwarded to you during the month of March 2020. That is indeed a long time ago because it is customary for ALPS to send out its informative edition of the News Letter at least every two months. Regrettably, this has not been possible during the months when we have all been subjected to the lockdown between March to June. And in spite of the fact that the Maltese nation is trying to get back on track, the number of new infections with COVID-19 continues to increase to very alarming figures, that puts many of us back into hibernation behind our closed doors and taking every precautionary measure to stay safe. I am hoping, this message gets to you and finds you doing well. Do not take risks and observe the health authorities directives as

much as possible. Many of us are getting on in age and the last thing that we want is to become infected with this virus. Hence the association has felt the need to cancel or put on hold all of its advertised functions and events for this year.

The Association of Lyceum Past Students is always thinking of each and every one of you. You are our treasured members and friends and hence, we wish to regularly stay in touch with you. With this aim in mind therefore, we are exploring the possibility of starting short virtual on-line meetings via ZOOM. As a start, this can take place in groups of say not more than twenty. Thanks to one of our ALPS life members who came up with the idea of zoom meetings, we have held our first ALPS council meeting via Zoom during the month of September.. It went rather well and for a first of its kind, I can confirm that it ran smoothly from beginning to end. It was so encouraging, that we are thinking of going a step further and getting in touch virtually on Zoom, if enough interest can be shown by the members and friends of ALPS. We certainly

hope that this new idea can be brought to fruition and we can be talking with one another more often during this pandemic. For those of you who are interested, please confirm by return e-mail (on first come first serve for the first meeting), if you may be willing to join for the first virtual meeting, on a date and time, that can be circulated to the first group of participants who would wish to take part. One of our ALPS council members will always be in attendance for such meetings to open and instigate the discussion on any one or more of the subject/s that can be to your liking and which you are asked to please indicate, when sending your confirmation to take part. *(maximum time of meetings around 40 minutes)*

If interested, we shall be very happy to hear from you at earliest, so that we can start coordinating the dynamics for such virtual meeting/s. We await your replies at earliest after reading this newsletter, and we can start planning a date and time, when the first twenty participants can be having their first virtual meeting via Zoom. The invitation is open to the ALPS



members and friends. Please send your replies soonest, with the following details by an e-mail to [alpsmalta@gmail.com](mailto:alpsmalta@gmail.com) or [oscgalea457@gmail.com](mailto:oscgalea457@gmail.com)

SEND DETAILS REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE AS FOLLOWS:  
 FULL NAME: / E-MAIL ADDRESS:/  
 MOBILE NUMBER: / SUBJECT  
 YOU PREFER. We shall be looking at them as ZOOM parties for ALPS members and friends and would love to see you take part. If the ALPS usual functions and events have had to be cancelled, then let us make use of today's technology to stay in touch with one another.

Very sincerely  
**George dei Conti**  
**Stagno Navarra**  
**President – ALPS**







# Many of the ALPS events for this year 2020 had to be cancelled

When the first Coronavirus infections were being reported in the local media during the month of March, ALPS acted and immediately put on hold or even cancelled the planned events that had been advertised to you in our earlier issue of the Newsletter for March 2020. These included the Cultural tour to Mdina in March, the holding of Holy Mass at the Pwales Chapel each month, The Manresa/Gozo retreat 15th to 17th May, a full day tour to sister island of Gozo on the 20th June,

the Festa Sant Anna on 4th July and the annual summer B-B-Q on 7th July at Radisson Golden Sands Resort. During the past years, these mentioned events have always attracted a very good attendance and also brought many smiles and left good memories to all who took part in them. Unfortunately, this year 2020, shall be remembered in a negative way because primarily, ALPS looked after the health of all of its members and friends and did not risk taking chances with your wellbeing dear friends.

Our very well planned summer cruise around the British Isles has also been cancelled. We were all looking forward to spend a fantastic time cruising and visiting many interesting and picturesque places of interest around England, Wales, Ireland and Scotland.

The previous year 2019, we had good reason to celebrate a 25th Anniversary with much pomp, but this year we have had to keep a low profile as a precautionary measure to safeguard your health dear members and friends of

ALPS. God willing, there will again be times when the Lyceum Past Students, can get together again to celebrate and be happy in each other's company. Let us not forget to recognize the important role of ALPS in future years, when all this fear of Covid-19 is over and forgotten. The first 25 years of The Association of Lyceum Past Students have brought to us many happy memories and we hope there will be many more in store for all of us in the not too distant future. Meanwhile stay safe and be happy

## Cancelling the Yuletide Weekend and Christmas Dinner 2020

In view of the ever increasing number of Covid-19 cases being recorded in October, ALPS have decided to also cancel the Yuletide Weekend and Christmas dinner 2020.

We can fully understand that at this time of year, many of you would be planning to place a booking for a relaxed weekend at the beginning of December in order to meet and mix and enjoy the company of other ALPS members and friends. However, things are not looking healthy and we are therefore taking a precautionary step of not holding this year's get together at the start of the Christmas season.

We know for a fact that Santa Claus is this year having to observe social distancing too, because he feels irresponsible to put the lives of our ALPS

members and friends at risk.

Dear friends, this is one of the hardest decisions we have had to make this year, but your health and wellbeing is more important to us especially around the festive season.

God willing, we shall be able to make it up to you in the coming year 2021, when the virus would have been brought under control and we can all continue to live our normal life.

A special concession is being extended to ALPS members who may wish to book for a weekend break at Radisson Golden Sands Resort – Ghajn Tuffieha, using the ALPS advantageous rates. Every booking of course must be made directly with the resort. ALPS will not be involved in this. Deposit payment with booking and final settlement to be made direct to the hotel.

2 Night Stay for 2 People including Dinner on Fri 4th Dec, Breakfast & Dinner on Sat 5th Dec & Breakfast on 6th Dec 2020 **€250**

2 Night Stay for 1 Person including Dinner on Fri 4th Dec, Breakfast & Dinner on Sat 5th Dec & Breakfast on 6th Dec 2020 **€185**

1 Night Stay for 2 People including Dinner on Sat 5th Dec & Breakfast on 6th Dec 2020 **€155**

1 Night Stay for 1 Person including Dinner on Sat 5th Dec & Breakfast on 6th Dec 2020 **€115**

Supplement for a Sea view room per day **€20**

Supplement for Keeping of room till 18:00hrs **€30**

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

Children 12+ sharing supplement per child per day **€35**

To book kindly contact Radisson Golden Sands on the following numbers or by e-mail Daniela Said Ebejer: Email: [reservations.goldensands@rdbmalta.com](mailto:reservations.goldensands@rdbmalta.com) or contact number: 23561104 - Andrew Meli: E-mail [andrew.meli@rdbmalta.com](mailto:andrew.meli@rdbmalta.com) or contact number 23561965

### Payment Method & Cancellation Policy

Kindly be informed that credit card guarantee (number, expiry date and card owners name) is necessary for reservations, payment will be done at the hotel at time of Check - in

Our cancellation policy is free up until one day before arrival. Any cancellations made after this time will incur the first nights charge.

## Extending Season's Greetings in Advance

It has been a hard several months enduring all that came along with Covid-19. However, the long awaited festive season, will surely not fail to boost our spirits. It is the time when everybody has a smile. We simply yearn to be closer to family and friends who give meaning to our lives. The year 2020 is slowly slowly, passing away from our lives and soon it goes into the history books of our life. But soon also,

It will be Christmas time. On behalf of The Association of Lyceum Past Students (ALPS), I want to send warmest wishes and thanks to all the members and friends of ALPS. At Christmas and New Year, try and put aside the COVID-19 pandemic, whilst still observing recommended rules



for social distancing and keeping safe by wearing protective face masks as well as the frequent washing of hands. On behalf of Council of Administration of ALPS, I send fondest wishes of joy for Christmas 2020 and for the Greatest New Year 2021. I sincerely wish and hope and pray, that we shall spend a lot of 2021 together, to renew our friendship and to continue to make many more new memories in ALPS.



## Zoom in a nutshell... and how it works

Zoom is a web-conferencing platform that is commonly used for audio and video conferencing.

People use it to make phone calls and to participate in a video conferencing meeting. Zoom is known to be the most commonly used conferencing tool ahead of other similar solutions.

On 16th September 2020, ALPS council of Administration held its first virtual meeting via ZOOM. Immediately after that initial virtual meeting, when council members participated in a first ever and very interesting meeting of around forty five minutes, the ALPS president thanked all those who had taken part and shared in the discussion. One must remember that because of Covid-19, the last council meeting was held during February of this year. In a short e-mail when the meeting was finished, the ALPS president George Stagno Navarra wrote:

*"Dear Council members, thanks to ALPS Life member and friend Carlo Farrugia, today*

*we experienced our very first virtual meeting via ZOOM. This was a great success when, after a good number of months we could see each other on screen. The meeting appears to have run quite smoothly and this augurs well for our association. Regrettably, coronavirus pandemic has put the world upside down. However, with much determination we want to steer our association to better times.*

*Thank you all who have managed to connect and for the valuable contribution you have given during such meeting. In the not too distant future, we may even start some "members' meetings via ZOOM". Will probably start in groups of twenty at a time and see how it can progress from there. An e-mail will be circulated soon, giving a LINK to connect and Carlo will direct meeting in the presence of one council member. Best of health to you and your families. Stay Safe."*



## News from Kappella Sant'Anna - Pwales St Paul's Bay

The last time that Holy Mass was celebrated at the chapel was during the month of February 2020. From March onwards this year, every event that had been planned and circulated to members and friends of ALPS, was unavoidably cancelled because of the coronavirus pandemic. The chapel remains closed until such time, when health authorities can

declare that it would be safe to again congregate and organize our monthly religious function there. We know that you all miss coming to the tranquil surroundings of Pwales chapel but then of course, we had better be safe than sorry. Only when the situation improves, we can issue the usual almanac of the monthly events for the coming year 2021.

## The Pope's visit to Malta in 2020

Towards the end of May 2020, His Holiness Pope Francis, was expected to have visited the Islands of Malta and Gozo. Our association was looking forward very much to this unique occasion. We wanted to take part in the events that were planned for such visit.

At some future date when The Pontiff decides to pay a visit to the islands of Malta & Gozo, we shall be at the forefront to greet and cheer his stay amongst us. It would be prestigious for our association to give a warm welcome to Pope Francis, as we did when we visited Rome.







## Please tell us of any change in your e-mail or home address

Now, more than ever before, we search for our members and friends e-mail & home addresses on data base.

It is during these difficult times like we are experiencing during this current year with Covid-19, that ALPS needs to update its members and friends with information regarding any changes and/or planned new initiatives and /or any news coming out from The Association of Lyceum Past Students. We are living in the age of vast technology and most of you have access to internet.

Therefore, giving us your e-mail addresses is a true necessity.

Please send a one liner message with e-mail address to [alpsmalta@gmail.com](mailto:alpsmalta@gmail.com) or [oscgalea457@gmail.com](mailto:oscgalea457@gmail.com)

Your co-operation in this matter, will be greatly appreciated.. Do help us to be up to date with our data base. You will definitely be helping yourselves by staying in touch with ALPS.

If you have any difficulty, you are invited to phone Oscar on Tel: 2189 6293 / or mob: 7989 6293.



## Payment of the Annual Subscription in ALPS

Before end of 2020, can you please pay the ALPS renewal and/or outstanding subscription/s.

This year the association suffered great losses. We have not raised any income from functions.

All our activities for this year have had to be cancelled due to Covid-19. This leaves our coffers very short and dry of the much needed liquidity to be able to meet with the ongoing expenses.

If your annual subscription may be due for renewal, we therefore kindly remind you to send your remittance so that we can continue to update you by the Newsletter and/or any other material, that from time

to time is issued by ALPS. For easy and quick reference, may we repeat the fees as shown hereunder. Payments should be directed to Mr. David Abela the ALPS Hon. Treasurer. at his address: " Juniper " Gianni Vella Street Tal-Qattus B'Kara BKR 4263 telephone: 2148 7693 / mob: 9902 0845 / or email: [david.r.abela@gmail.com](mailto: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.

"Please, we need your continued support to sustain ALPS"

## Make use of the ALPS website

In an ever increasing digital world, ALPS have recognized the need to connect with members on line.

Extending our association's reach on-line, allows us to stay in touch with our members and friends.

The ALPS web-site is a very helpful component of the association's outreach. Our web site is regularly updated with material that can be to your liking. Not that there has been many additions lately

because all the events and functions that were planned for year 2020, have had to be cancelled due to COVID-19.

Nevertheless, from the comfort of your homes you are cordially being invited to browse and make use of the ALPS website. Click on the photos gallery and renew memories from the functions that were organized over the past years and in which you may also have participated. Look into and get to know

products available through the ALPS sponsors. They support our association and we should reciprocate by making use of their products and services. Perhaps also, you can visit the column " Colleagues of Old " and add a comment so that other members will get to know you better. Read also about the Pwales Chapel and how it is regularly maintained by ALPS throughout the year. Our Deputy President Joseph D. Buttigieg is in charge of keeping the

ALPS web-site fully updated.

If you should encounter any difficulty whilst browsing the ALPS website [www.alpsmalta.com](http://www.alpsmalta.com), you can send an e-mail to [josephdbtg@gmail.com](mailto:josephdbtg@gmail.com)

Happy browsing dear members and friends of ALPS. We keep track and from time to time we monitor the number of hits through local and overseas visitors. The results and statistics, give us much satisfaction that the ALPS website is being used.

# Its Nice To Talk About Wh

The year 2019, was one of the best years for The Association of Lyceum Past Students.

Having come this far, the start to celebrating a twenty fifth anniversary from inception date of ALPS, was a great milestone for all the members and friends of our association.

We definitely, will remember it as a successful period, when we could celebrate in a superb manner, the true meaning and the existence of a Lyceum Old Boys Association. Founder president Dr. Guido Saliba, had started it in the year 1994 and on relinquishing his Presidency, he bequeathed to us a very strong and determined association. He wanted ALPS to move ahead and to make bigger strides and be better known in Malta, Gozo and overseas.

It started with The ALPS Valentine Celebration at the much preferred Radisson Golden Sands Resort - Ghajn Tuffieha. The week end between the 7th to 9th February, saw a large group of members with family and friends who have shown interest to join us in the opening of events for the year 2019. Many were those who had placed their bookings early, not to miss this yearly occasion when we get together and celebrate the nice feast of St. Valentine. On the 8th February 2020, the ladies entered the ball room in colorful evening dresses and attractive hair styles... to match the happy occasion. All the female guests were greeted by the ALPS president, who presented to each one a bright red carnation individually wrapped that commemorated the Valentine's night. A buffet dinner was served and the guests were seen to have a good time, meeting and laughing and reminiscing from their younger years when they met and when, first sparks of love had started to shine. For many it had turned into reality when they got married. For the ALPS committee, it is ever so nice to organize these happy occasions that can bring back so many pleasant thoughts. Again, we thank all our members and friends who supported the event last year.

During the month of February 2019, ALPS held the 25th anniversary Annual General Meeting. Outgoing council



members had remained uncontested and were therefore automatically re-elected for a further period of one year. The ALPS auditors had presented the annual accounts and have gratuitously agreed to continue to audit the association's finances, for the year that followed. Many thanks to Mr. Peter Griffiths of Griffiths & Associates for the help that he always extends to ALPS.

In March we wanted to have a celebration marking our 25th anniversary with many different events. Starting with a Grand Reunion in March 2019, His Eminence Cardinal Prospero Grech travelled to Malta to concelebrate Holy Mass at St. John's Co Cathedral Valletta. His Eminence, was a Lyceum past student and wished to be surrounded by a number of other Liceo boys, who have chosen priesthood.

It was one of the nicest occasions ever registered in the history of ALPS. After holy mass at the cathedral, the congregation proceeded on foot to the Old Liceo building that is situated within walking distance, where a large reception was then held to mark this unique occasion. The get together was open to all past students of the Lyceum who still hold the name of their 'Alma Mater; in their hearts, whether

they were members or not in ALPS.

The weekend 10th to 12th May 2019, we got together and we went to Manresa House Gozo for our annual spiritual retreat.

We spent a full weekend of recollection and can definitely say that we learned a lot from our preacher Fr Dominic Sultana.

On the 20th day of June 2019, ALPS saw a bus load of members and friends, spending a whole day on a cultural tour to the sister island, with of course a spot of lunch and some shopping. We visited many places of interest at Victoria, Kercem, Marsalforn (where we shared a set lunch at the Lantern Restaurant), and our last stop was in Xewkija at Vini e Capricci for some nibbles and wine tasting. No doubt the participants made their last minute shopping, before returning to Malta by Gozo Ferry.

On the 4th July 2019, we celebrated the feast of Sant Anna, "all'aperto", at the quaint little chapel of Pwales St. Paul's Bay. His Grace Archbishop Emeritus Mons. Pawl Cremona, celebrated Holy Mass on the chapel parvis to the chirping of birds and the sounds coming from the field and farms close-by. Many people have turned up and we spent a wonderful evening together in the serene surroundings of the



Pwales hamlet. Delicious panini that were specially prepared for this occasion as well as wine and minerals and cakes, were distributed to all those present. ALPS had decorated with colorful festoons the passageway and the chapel parvis for this yearly event, to ensure that all those present have a great time. The inside of the kappella was very well lit and the statues of Sant Anna u San Gwakkin were displayed at the door of the chapel for



# at We Did Last Year 2019



## 25th Anniversary



all to admire during the whole evening. His Grace blessed the gathering before leaving and thanked ALPS, for inviting him to such a marvelous place in the countryside.

Yet again in mid-July, ALPS organized its summer barbeque in the picturesque Ghajn Tuffieha bay where, under a full moon and a starry sky, we could dine and be merry, at the water's edge, outside the ballroom open terrace of The Radisson Golden Sands Resort.

Before suspending our ALPS activities for the summer months of August and September, the ALPS president delivered a short speech and augured for happy summer holidays to all who were present.

In September 2019, came the much awaited summer holiday of 8 days aboard the liner Mein Schiff Hertz. Without any doubt, we thoroughly enjoyed that cruise. Just as sleep is necessary for our body, there were no rules for

getting up in the morning and having breakfast, having lunch, going out on excursions or during free time strolling along the busy city streets doing window shopping and acquiring some bargains. For only a few days, that is exactly what the ALPS cruise has meant to all who participated. It was our anniversary celebration year and after working hard throughout the year, summer holidays had been eagerly awaited by everyone. The Association of Lyceum Past Students ALPS, has always believed in organizing an annual holiday when a good number of its members can travel together and have a wonderful time.

Last year was definitely no exception. The first port of call was Corsica, then we proceeded to Sardinia and afterwards to Roma and Napoli... We named it "another great ALPS holiday cruise to be remembered".

Back in Malta and during the month of November 2019, had seen us prepare and organize a cultural tour for members and friends to Musa and Museum of Archeology. Yet another big success because we had a very large number of participants for that event. It was the first time that we could make use of our Senior Citizen Passport for gaining FREE entrance to the historical

sites that had been visited. We even had the chance to share a light lunch inside the Musa cafeteria.

The cherry on the cake of course, came during the month of December 2019. We wanted to close the 25th Anniversary Celebrations in a big way. A well planned week-end stay with special gala dinner was held at the luxurious Radisson Blu Resort in Ghajn Tuffieha.

For this unique occasion we had in excess of 350 participants for dinner alone and we have occupied at least 140 of the hotel suites. The pride and joy of every member and friend of The Association of Lyceum Past Student, was demonstrated with a much deserved Gala dinner inside the grand ballroom. It was silver service throughout the whole evening. A commemorative speech was delivered by the ALPS president. The date of this event happened to be the 7th December, exactly to the day, a 15th anniversary from the passing to eternal life of the ALPS founder president Dr. Guido Saliba. In a sign of respect, a one minute silence was observed by all those present. For that occasion, every dinner guest was presented with a memento that consisted of a leather passport holder to mark and remember this special 25th anniversary from foundation date of ALPS. Some free gifts given to ALPS by the Radisson Hotel management and by sponsors SMS Mondial were raffled too.

With all the year's events having been accomplished, there remained the thanksgiving mass on the 13th day of December 2019 inside the Kappella Pwales. Christmas carols were sung and after the exchange of Christmas and New year Greetings by the ALPS president, the year has ended on a very positive note after having delivered a very well planned 25th anniversary celebration program of activities.

Never a dull moment, but we assure you that all this was done with much care and dedication of a hard working council of administration. The satisfaction of the ALPS members and friends, is our pleasure at seeing more and more Lyceum Past Students getting together.

*Viva l' Liceo... Viva s-Serduq*

# Terry L Bencini celebrated her 90th birthday in August

Terry L. Bencini, turned 90 on Tuesday the 18th August 2020. The singer, comedienne and actress, retired from the stage in 1993. Terry performed at renowned local theatres, singing alongside Hollywood star Oreste Kirkop. She entertained also the Maltese community in Australia. Her popularity on Rediffusion sound system and on stage in earlier years, was always welcomed by all her followers. Still full of ' Joie de Vivre ' this magnificent Lady, leads by example and makes everybody smile whenever she is around. She's always smart and still cracks jokes and makes everyone laugh.



Terry was and still is a great friend of The Association of Lyceum Past Students. Her willingness to assist the ALPS choir soon brought her to join

a sizeable number of men and women who, after the winding up of the U3E choir, had spontaneously joined the ALPS choir under the direction

of Maestro Joseph Fenech. As the years roll by, Terry and her husband Maurice Lubrano, often join in the many ALPS -functions. Always at the forefront whenever the association organises short week-end breaks to commemorate a special occasion like, Valentine's night, a reunion or a Yuletide get together. It is ever so nice to have Terry Bencini on board at such occasions. Terry L. Bencini is still called "Mamma, Nanna and Buza, by her children grandchildren.

A devout Catholic, Terry L. Bencini is always setting a good example with her tender words. "La vita è bella.

## APPRECIATION:

# Tribute to Mrs. Pauline Buttigieg

*Wife of ALPS Deputy President Joseph D. Buttigieg*

*by Madeleine & George Stagno Navarra*

She fought a brave and strong battle but the cancer would not allow her to get better. She took each day in stride, never really complaining, always feeling tired and hoping that the treatments would finally end so she could get on with her life. This beautiful woman, inside and out, was a wonderful friend to us. We always admired how she never judged or forced her opinion on anyone, but offered valuable and truthful advice that we all treasured and will surely miss.

Our friend Pauline was loving and real. She was a wonderful mother to her two sons and laid a strong foundation for them. Still vivid in our minds, is the last 80th Birthday double celebration with her husband Joseph of the same age. Pauline wanted to show to her guests, pictures and videos of happy times, talk about all the



special traditions she used to do with her sons Bryan and Jonathan whilst they grew up. She loved to travel and many a time, she accompanied her husband on one of the ALPS overseas journeys when a group

of friends travelled together to share some fun in life. She simply loved the company of others and a real pleasure to have her near you. She also loved to help others. . Lastly, her magnetic smile will be

missed by all who knew her. Her last noble act, is to be greatly appreciated. As per her specific wishes she has donated her remains to the University Medical school for scientific research purposes.

Her beautiful spirit will live on through her sons and grandchildren and they will always know how much she loved them. She tried with all her heart to stay for them, but God called her, and she had to go. During our friend's illness, we know that there were two things that kept her going, her family and friends. Now, our hope is, that she rests in peace knowing she did all that she could and that her husband Joseph of 59 years and her sons and grandchildren will be fine. When we love people, it's so comforting to know that they will always be with us in our hearts. Until we meet with you again, dear friend Pauline... "May she Rest in Peace. Amen.

# Remembering victims of COVID-19 pandemic

The Association of Lyceum Past Students (ALPS ), wants to be remembering and honouring victims of the

coronavirus pandemic. With the number of Maltese and Gozitan lives lost, we show our solidarity with the stricken

families who have suffered the loss of a family member or even a friend. Covid-19 victims, all deserve to be

remembered in our thoughts and prayers.

May they all Rest in Peace Amen



## IN MEMORIAM

**Mrs. Pauline Buttigieg** (wife of Deputy President Joseph D. Buttigieg) died 19th June 2020

**Patri Victor Enriquez**, (Karmelitan/Balluta Priory ) died 24th June 2020

**Charles Azzopardi** (former-Phoenicia hotel manager) died 24th June 2020

**David Borg Cardona** 745 (Former -BIM Ltd Manager) died 28th July 2020

**Geoffrey Zarb Adami** (ALPS member 436) died 4th September 2020

**Victor J. Borg** (ex-Liceo Gozo & friend to ALPS) died 26th September 2020

**Joseph Betts** (brother of ALPS member George Betts) died 30th September 2020

**Robert Ferrante** (past Deputy President ALPS member 0045)

**Anthony J. Tabone** (former director at Simonds Farsons Cisk) - ALPS member 176)

**Joseph S. Pace** (one of the ALPS founder members no: 21)

**Lino Zahra** (friend of ALPS & brother of Hon. Life Member W.V. Zahra) died 1st June 2020

**Edwin Gruppetta** (ALPS member 252)

**Alex Qasha** (ALPS member)

**Richy Azzopardi** (ALPS member 456 )

Remembering ALPS past members and / or their family members who have died.

Remembering Lyceum teachers who dedicated their life to teaching

**MAY, THEY ALL REST IN PEACE, AMEN**

Let us pray for Pope Francis

Let us pray for Persecuted Christian Communities in many parts of the world. And we also pray for the persecutors. Let us pray for the widows of the deceased ALPS members.



And let us not forget our dear friends in ALPS, who are sick or in a senior's home or in hospital. We keep them all in our thoughts and prayers. ALPS cannot at this time repeat its offer of making visits to anyone who is sick or who may be confined to his home because of some disability. When things get better and the health authorities can relax the present social distancing measures, we shall continue with the home visits again. *(Details will be announced to you at a later stage)* Last but not least, we remember our friends from the Pwales Hamlet who are always helping ALPS

# A Thought for this Month...

Positive thoughts for inner peace..

Every moment, every glance,  
Every thought and every word,  
Can be infused with love

*by Nhat Hanh*



# Drama at the Lyceum and Cyril Parker

One of the ALPS members Dr. John Consiglio, dedicated some of his time to write and send to us this interesting write-up about drama.

Quite some time ago I was extremely pleased to read the item "Reporting about the Lyceum, Youth Theatre", by Dr. Nazarene Azzopardi in a very interesting recent issue of the ALPS Newsletter. During my forms Three to Six at The Lyceum between 1953 and 1956 I was active in that Theatre, and there is indeed much that can and must be said about it.

If, at around start of the school year in October, one would have even as much as shown half an interest in the schools' plays, Mr. Cyril Parker our Headmaster would immediately book all one's lunch breaks and all one's Saturday mornings for rehearsals. Woe

and betide anyone missing any rehearsal, even if one's part was in fact not being rehearsed at all during that day. When, feeling capricious, I once missed attending a Saturday morning rehearsal and went off to play football at the San Gioro Catholic Action Centre in Villa Schinas in Sliema, my younger brother came rushing to me there pleading "John please come quick back home because the Headmaster is there, and he's hopping mad." Indeed Mr. Parker had taken a taxi from the school in Valletta to come over to my house and fetch me, and when I got there his admonishing voice blared loudly "Is this the way to treat your old headmaster?". And he dragged me off to Valletta for the day's rehearsal in the hired taxi!

But this was a Headmaster who really knew what was good

for the boys and the school. When, for the Lyceum's annual Shakespeare play, he would always choose the one that would in that year be featuring in the Oxford examinations syllabus, he would not only be teaching drama with all its beauty to the participating boys, but he would also be assuring for the school the island's highest percentage of successes in the Oxford English Literature exams.

Under his tutelage I participated – and ended up knowing the whole play from cover to cover – in "A Midsummer's Night Dream". I played Helena in that production, and that was the first time I ever got on to a stage. In the following year I played Malvolio in Twelfth Night (and I really made the rafters at the old Knights Hall roar with laughter).

After that I played Macduff in "Macbeth", a play which later

I had the honour to explain in depth to Malta's great tenor Joseph Calleja, at his house in Attard months before his debut in that opera at the Astra Theatre in Gozo. In our Lyceum Drama Group actors who later were to become famous in Malta's theatre scene included Narcy Calamatta, Arnold Sultana, Hugh Holland, and many others.

Mr. Parker would plan to have the Lyceum play run for a whole week. And after that week he used to also take us all to put the show up at the Salesian Oratory in Gozo, where the productions were always jam packed. His generosity to us on those trips, with sweets, drinks, food, even as he chain-smoked endlessly, was unique. Cyril Parker really loved his students, and he really deserves a place of great honour in the history of education in Malta.

## You must be aware - What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported –ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

Fever or chills/Cough/Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing/ Fatigue/Muscle or body aches/ Headache

New loss of taste or smell/Sore throat/Congestion or runny nose/ Nausea or vomiting/Diarrhea Other symptoms are possible as well, as this is a new virus, that scientists are still learning about. A vaccine is in the experimental stages and it is believed that we may start seeing the first inoculations within the coming months.

**Observing Social distancing** means staying home as much as



possible, staying at least 6 feet away from other people while in public

**Everyone should wash their hands frequently**, for at least 20 seconds, especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose.

**Wear a cloth face cover**

The cloth face cover is meant to protect other people in case

you are infected.

**Quarantine**

This is a method to prevent the spread of disease. For COVID-19, the quarantine period is 14 days from the time of last exposure.

We hope that we are passing on to you dear members and friends of ALPS, some valuable information from which you and or your families can benefit.

As mentioned in the opening message from ALPS president, the coronavirus pandemic has turned the world upside down. It has disturbed and disrupted our normal life styles. Courage dear members and friends in ALPS. This virus will pass. We shall look forward to meet with each other and have some really good fun as we have become accustomed to do during all functions that are organized for you by The Association of Lyceum Past Students.

**COVID-19  
HELPLINE  
111**

### LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE:

## The wise old fisherman

The rain was pouring down outside O'Connor's Irish Pub.

There standing in front

of a big puddle outside the pub was an old Irishman, drenched, holding a stick, with a piece of string dangling in the water.

A passer-by stopped and asked him, "What are you doing?"

I am Fishing, replied the old man.

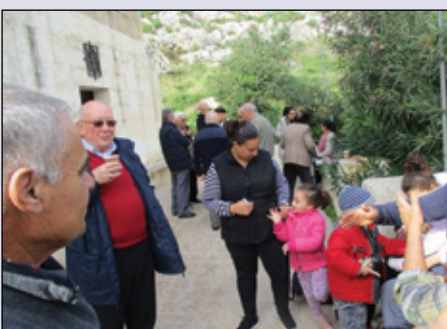
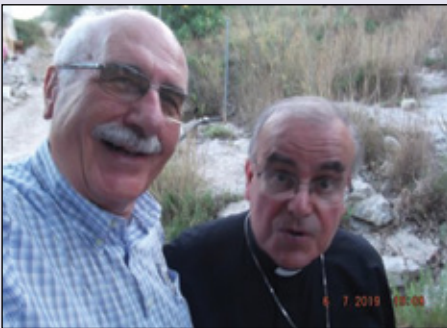
Feeling sorry for the old man, the gent says, Come in out of the rain and have a drink with me.

In the warm ambiance of the pub, as they sip their

whiskies, the gentleman, being a bit of a superior smart ass, cannot resist asking, "So how many have you caught today?"

"You must be the 8th person paying for my whiskies today", replied the old man







*Costa Magica*



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