

AGENDA ITEM 6

Friends of Valletta

Report to Community Affairs Committee



November 2022

Past Events

The annual dinner of the Friends, which had been postponed from March, was held at the Chichester Park Hotel on 8 September which is celebrated as Victory Day in Malta, when 33 members and friends enjoyed an excellent meal.

Our live talk in September by Nicholas Frayling which was on the Order of St John & Museum in Clerkenwell was also streamed to members who were unable to attend in person. A few years ago Nicholas had organised a visit for the Friends to the museum which we all thoroughly enjoyed.

On 20 October Peter Brinsden, a retired Naval Officer, gave a talk entitled "Nelson & Malta" which was also streamed, enabling members here and in Malta to enjoy. It was also recorded and put on our website, for those unable to attend in person. He spoke about Nelson's role in the liberation of the island following its capture by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1798.

Future Programme

A meeting of the Three Cities Committee is being held on Monday 14 November to select a distinguished guest speaker for the event in support of the Festival of Chichester in June 2023.

The AGM will be held in the Council Chamber on 16 November at 7.00 pm. Unfortunately, our President the Mayor is unable to attend.

We are currently discussing the possibility of a Zoom talk in December.

In January 2023 Kim Dalli will be giving a Zoom talk on "the Making of Women of the George Cross Island". The date has yet to be finalised. The programme for the balance of 2023 is currently being planned.

Committee

Lois Cope has resigned from the Committee leaving the post of Secretary vacant. Peter Agius will be moving house and has indicated that he will stand down at the AGM meeting. Brenda Gay and Richard New have volunteered to join the Committee and will be elected at the AGM.

Anne continues to prepare issues of the Melita newsletter every two months for members with interesting articles from various sources as we are concerned to keep in touch with our members, and she always keen to receive new material.

Membership

We currently have 83 members, including the Honorary Life Members from overseas.

Graham Pound

Chairman, Friends of Valletta