



Contents

⇒ Malta Libraries	1
⇒ Editorial	2
⇒ MaLIA listens to its members	2
⇒ New publications at UM Library	3
⇒ MaLIA News	4
⇒ Interview with new EBLIDA president	5
⇒ International NewsNews	6
⇒ Technology News	7
⇒ Local News	8
⇒ MaLIA at EBLIDA's AGM and Conference	8

Malta Libraries— Head positions appointed

The Malta Libraries has finally got a new National Librarian and two deputies who will be in charge of the National Library and the Public Libraries. Oliver Mamo has been appointed National Librarian and CEO of the Malta Libraries. Joanne Sciberras has been appointed Deputy with responsibilities for the National Library and Cheryl Falzon is the new deputy with responsibilities for the public libraries. MaLIA is pleased to note that all three posts have been allocated to qualified library and information professionals and all three are members of MaLIA. MaLIA wishes them success in their new roles and promises its support and cooperation. Here is a brief presentation of the young and energetic team leading the Malta Libraries.



Oliver Mamo, National Librarian and CEO—Malta Libraries. Studied at University of Malta and Aberystwyth University, pursuing his career by working in different types of libraries. He coordinated several cataloguing projects in the museums environment with another government agency. His main area of specialization is metadata within a cross-domain environment that includes libraries, archives and museums. He formed part of the Carare Metadata Expert Group and participated in the Athena and Michael Plus projects.



Joanne Sciberras, Deputy Librarian at the National Library of Malta. Ms Sciberras holds an Hon. Degree and a Masters Degree in History from the University of Malta. She has been working at the National Library of Malta for the past 11 years and has represented Malta at the CENL Conference. Ms Sciberras is a council member of the National Book Council and also chairs the Malta Book Fair Committee. In recent years she was coordinator of exhibitions and cultural events held at the National Library of Malta.



Cheryl Falzon, Deputy Librarian for Public Libraries, has been working in the library scene for over ten years. Following her Dip. LIS, she has worked at the Library and Information Unit within the Economic Policy Department. Her experience in special libraries facilitated the acquisition of additional skills apart from providing access to information for research and report writing. Ms Falzon is keen to raise the quality of service provided at the Central Public library as well as in the regional and branch libraries.



IFLA World Library and Information Congress
 78th IFLA General Conference and Assembly
 11-17 August 2012, Helsinki, Finland
 Congress theme:
Libraries Now! - Inspiring, Surprising, Empowering

Editorial

We are already half way through the year and reflecting back, quite a lot has happened in the local library scene so far. MaLIA has been very active with practically an organised event every month, apart from the routine ongoing work. MaLIA also had a very productive meeting with the Malta Libraries Council in which the main focus was on the Guidelines and Standards for Public Branch Libraries. This is an important document that can serve as the main source to help us raise the standards of our public libraries. We have to admit that our public libraries have generally fallen below the standards reached by other public libraries across Europe and other developed countries. But apart from the work which was undertaken by MaLIA to compile the standards and guidelines, there seems to be a need for a concerted effort so that our public libraries thrive rather than survive.

The appointment of a new team at the newly formed Malta Libraries is a step in the right direction. Our front page is in fact dedicated to this young and energetic team who face several challenges in their work to revamp the local library scene. MaLIA is working hand in hand with the Malta Libraries and I am sure that everyone stands to benefit from such synergies. Some progress can already be seen but much remains to be done and more resources need to be made available to the new team to be able to implement ideas and improvements which will place libraries at the heart of our society. It is not easy, mainly because we are up against a general perception that libraries are just book dispensing depositories and unless we can prove otherwise, we will continue to struggle.

During the preparations for the City Gate Project, MaLIA's dream of having a state of the art public library in Valletta - our aspiring capital city of culture, were dashed at the last minute with a change of plan. It would have been the ideal scenario that would have seen a modern public library at the entrance of the capital city serving as a landmark and providing the right boost for other public libraries across the island. MaLIA seems to have been discouraged and has relented its insistence on this issue in recent months. MaLIA must not be deterred, however. A capital city of culture without a modern active public library would be a national shame and MaLIA has to work on this notion. Our politicians have found the money for other projects and they should do the same for a modern public library in Valletta. Future generations will be eternally grateful.

The MaLIA council notes with sadness the passing away of Dr Vincent Depasquale, on March 4, 2012 at the venerable age of ninety-one. Dr Depasquale served as National Librarian for many years and was known for his capacity to absorb knowledge effortlessly and recall it easily. As many have described him Dr. Depasquale was a "walking encyclopedia". Our sincere condolences go out to the members of his family.

In the meantime, MaLIA has now got a new website which apart from providing a fresher look, will offer new services once it is fully functional. Other positive news—the membership secretary informs that 19 new members have joined MaLIA since the beginning of the year. What is even more positive is the fact that these new members come from public, school, private and the National Libraries—as well as from the private sector. MaLIA needs to continue with its focus on new members as these are the lifeline of any association.

The MaLIA Council works on a voluntary basis and it is difficult to keep the momentum going due to our full time job and other family commitments. We would like to tackle more issues but it is simply impossible with the resources we have. Members who have ideas and are willing to help out are therefore more than welcome to come forward. Your support is crucial for our association's success.

MaLIA— Listening to our members: Survey results

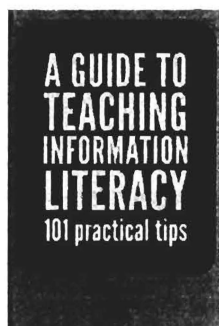
The survey, consisting of ten proposals to which members were asked to assign a number, (no. 1 to be assigned top priority and no. 10 the least), was carried out by LZ and handed out to members present at the AGM. The same survey was later distributed online among members. Forty-seven (47) members participated in the survey: Sixteen members (16) filled in the survey during the AGM and the remaining thirty-one (31) participants did so online.

According to the survey results, the following proposals achieved the highest priority:

1) Professional status of library workers (the most importance); 2) Working with MLC and MLA (MNL & Public Lib.); 3) Increase membership; 4) Short courses for library workers; 5) Modern public library in Valletta; 6) Position statements on topical issues e.g. ACTA; 7) Library/cultural activities for members; 8) Position statement on school librarians; 9) Publications, and 10) Generating more funds (the least important).

The MaLIA Council has since discussed the need to take these issues on board and on the need to prioritise given the lack of human resources available to work on all these issues.

New publications at the UM Library



Z711.2.B573

A guide to teaching information literacy: 101 practical tips.

Helen Blanchett, Chris Powis and Jo Webb. Facet Publishing, 2012

This easy-to-use book is an invaluable source of inspiration for any librarian involved in teaching information literacy, whether they are new to teaching or experienced but in search of fresh ideas.



Z699.5.D5E981

Evaluating and measuring the value, use and impact of digital collections.

Edited by Lorna M. Hughes. Facet Publishing, 2012

Key issues include the role of digital resources in the research life cycle, digital collections to be sustained over the long term, the assessment of use and impact, the role of digital collections in the 'digital economy' as well as public engagement with digital cultural heritage materials.
Z699.5.D5C6



Collection development in the digital age.

Edited by Maggie Fieldhouse and Audrey Marshall, Facet Publishing, 2012

Includes trends in electronic resources, trends in library supply, making and keeping the collection effectively and developing information literacy skills.

**A library
implies an
act of
faith.
Victor
Hugo**



CHECK THESE OUT!!!

How school libraries make a difference: What research tells us and the challenges this sets us—Lucy Gildersleeves

(<http://www.cilip.org.uk/filedownloadslibrary/groups/slg/conf%202011/keynote%2011%20gildersleeves.pdf>)

Inside the Quest to Put the World's Libraries Online

(<http://www.theatlantic.com/entertainment/archive/2012/07/inside-the-quest-to-put-the-worlds-libraries-online/259967/>)

Describing and measuring the value of public libraries: The growth of the Internet and the evolution of library value

Paul T. Jaeger, John Carlo Bertot, Christine M. Kodama, Sarah M. Katz, Elizabeth J. DeCoster

(<http://firstmonday.org/htbin/cgiwrap/bin/ojs/index.php/fm/article/viewArticle/3765>)

MaLIA News

MaLIA's Newsletter

Council members approved Mary Samut-Tagliaferro's suggestion of 7th February 2012 to reduce the publication of MaLIA's newsletter from quarterly to half-yearly. Council's increased workload and lack of sufficient time to properly undertake this commitment were cited as the main reasons for taking this difficult decision. The fact that MaLIA's news is published online, also influenced the decision since members, can continue to keep abreast with the Association's news in between the publication of the twice-yearly issues.

National Conference on Libraries

A sub-committee composed of Mary-Samut-Tagliaferro (chair), William Zammit, Laurence Zerafa and Victor Vella has been set up to design a forward-looking programme, identify suitable speakers and to contact sponsors for this event. The aim is to hold a full-day conference with speakers hailing from different types of libraries and with enough time for workshops, comments and discussion.

Monthly MaLIA events will continue in September

Following the success of the monthly meetings held during the first half of 2012, the MaLIA Council has decided to continue with these monthly events as from next September. Information can be obtained from MaLIA website and

FaceBook page.

Lunch in honour of Mr Joseph Grima

The MaLIA Council organised a lunch in honour of Mr Joseph Grima, who after many years of service on the MaLIA council decided to step down. Mr Grima had been on the council for over four decades and his knowledge and experience will undoubtedly be missed on council. The MaLIA council has awarded Mr Grima honorary life membership.

Guidelines and Standards for Branch Public Libraries

A set of guidelines and standards for Branch Public Libraries in Malta and Gozo has been prepared by Laurence Zerafa and Mary Samut-Tagliaferro. The working paper, (which owes its inception to an earlier paper drafted by Joseph Grima), was launched at a well-attended meeting held at the MCAST Library on 13th February 2012. The paper was well-received and provoked a lively discussion among the audience, mainly composed of public sector library and information employees. The final document entitled, "Proceedings of a seminar on guidelines & standards for the development of the Malta public library service: a case study for branch public libraries" was presented to the Malta Libraries Council for discussion during a historic introductory meeting between the members of the two

Councils held at the National Library of Malta on 19th April 2012. It is hoped that the Malta Libraries will soon be in a position to use the final version of this document as a tool to improve the situation in branch libraries across Malta and Gozo. An abridged version of the document will be disseminated to all local councils and other relevant authorities. (A full version of the paper has since been posted on MaLIA's website).

MaLIA Council meets the Malta Libraries Council

The MaLIA Council has met the Malta Libraries Council with the aim of establishing a direct link of communication and enhancing cooperation between the councils. A number of topics were discussed including training opportunities for Malta Libraries' staff, professional status and the paper on guidelines and standards for public libraries mentioned above.

MaLIA sub-committee on professional status

The MaLIA council had decided to set up a sub-committee to further investigate the issue of professional status for qualified library and information staff across Malta and Gozo. This matter has been on the MaLIA agenda for a number of years now and it is considered as crucial for the development of the profession. The sub-committee is made up of Robert Mizzi, Claudio Laferla and Elizabeth Lloyd and will start meeting this Autumn.

New MaLIA Council 2012



Front Row—from left to right:

Claudio Laferla (Deputy Chairman)
Laurence Zerafa (Chairman)
Mary Samut-Tagliaferro (Secretary)

Back Row—from left to right:

Louis Cini (Membership Secretary)
Victor Vella (Treasurer)
Josephine Spiteri (Asst. Secretary)
Robert Mizzi (Int. Relations Officer)

Interview with Klaus-Peter Böttger—EBLIDA President

First of all congrats on being elected President of EBLIDA on its 20th anniversary. What type of background do you come from?

Thank you and thank you for your support! I have worked in public libraries for many years, in branches, as department head and since 1991 as director first in Muelheim, where I had the opportunity to build a new central library – the MediaHouse – as ppp-project. Since 2009, I am director of the public library in Essen.

You have been on the EBLIDA executive committee for some years and have now been elected to President. What got you in touch with EBLIDA in the first place?

It was 1997 when I became more and more interested in international library topics when the IFLA conference in Copenhagen was quite easy to go to. And as chairman of the association of German librarians at that time, it was quite natural to observe also the increasingly important role of Europe and EBLIDA given that the German library umbrella association was one of the founding members of EBLIDA.

What exactly is the role of EBLIDA?

EBLIDA is a NGO and lobby organisation for libraries in Europe. It has to defend and promote the interests of the library, archive and information sectors and professionals, mainly through following the policy agenda of the European Commission. This means that EBLIDA has to work on two fronts. First EBLIDA has to influence the European institutions and organisations in favour of library-friendly policies and projects. Second, EBLIDA has to provide support to national member organisations. Over 90% of

passed national laws are first made at the European level. And if this framework and general set-up creates bad conditions for libraries, the battle on the national level is lost. On the other hand, the national organisations have to observe and influence that the national implementation is still for the benefit of libraries.

Have you seen the role of EBLIDA change over the years?

Initially, the main topic was copyright law. The questions of information law are still an important topic. But over the years, the view has been broadening for culture, digitisation, education (keyword Bologna), life-long-learning and many other items in which the interests of libraries are touched.

Has the financial crisis affected the work of EBLIDA?

As an organisation not yet, but we have to look to that problem if the crisis continues.

What are the main issues facing EBLIDA at the moment?

Generally, it is crucial that EBLIDA has to be prepared to publish statements and position papers in relation to certain library topics. I think that in the next few years we have to focus on access to e-books for public libraries, the developments in information law, the regard for libraries in the EU 2020 strategy and the efforts towards a library policy for Europe, i.e. conversion of the Vienna declaration.

Small countries such as Malta, Cyprus and Luxembourg face specific challenges in all sectors including libraries. Does EBLIDA envisage offering specific support on certain issues to these countries?

I can imagine that small countries have specific problems and I am very interested to keep the European family together. So if there are special needs and support besides advice and consultation and presentations at national conferences, please let us know so that we can take care of that.

There are other entities and institutions across Europe dealing with library issues. What is the relationship of EBLIDA with these entities? Can you ensure a harmonized approach on major issues?

Yes, there are also other organisations from the library and information sector on the European stage which might sometimes confuse the European contacts. It is, in my opinion, important to work together with strategic partners, to avoid superfluous double work on statements and reports if the direction and position is the same and to agree about action plans.

What vision have you got for EBLIDA and European libraries in the coming years?

E is for Europe and the e-world
B is for books and believe
L is for libraries and life
I is for Information and citizens
D is for Dream and Dedication
A is for Advocacy and All the best

“EBLIDA has to defend and promote the interests of the library, archive and information sectors and professionals, mainly through following the policy agenda of the European Commission.”



EBLIDA new president, Klaus-Peter Böttger and MaLIA IRO Robert Mizzi during the EBLIDA Annual Conference 2012 held in Copenhagen last May.

International News— UK Archives

UK Government confirms transition to 20-year rule will begin from 2013

The UK Government will move towards releasing records when they are 20 years old, instead of 30, from next year. This will make thousands of historical records public much earlier than previously possible.

From 2013, two years' worth of government records will need to be transferred to The National Archives over a ten-year transition period until a new '20-year rule' is reached in 2023. After this point, government will

revert to transferring a single year's worth of 20 year old records to The National Archives each year.

The move from a 30-year rule represents a major change for government and must be managed in an affordable way. As such, a phased approach will be adopted. The transition beginning in 2013, will apply to the majority of public records transferred to The National Archives and 70 institutions that act as their own place of deposit, with the exception of records selected for transfer to one of the 116 local authority places of

deposit, where the impact of introducing the change now could outweigh any benefit. The intention is to commence a second ten-year transitional period for these organisations from 2015, subject to the outcome of a full impact and cost assessment.

The announcement, made by written ministerial statement today, follows the completion of The Review of the 30 Year Rule in 2009 and the government's decision to introduce a 20-year rule. (Source: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/news/739.htm?news=rss>)

The dissemination of knowledge is one of the cornerstones of civilization.
- John F. Budd

International News - UK Libraries

British Library Board appoints new Chief Executive

The Board of the British Library has appointed Roly Keating as the Library's new Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

Keating, currently Director of Archive Content at the BBC, and a former Controller of BBC Two and BBC Four, will take up his new role on 12 September 2012.

Baroness Blackstone, Chairman of the British Library, said: "I am delighted that Roly Keating will be joining us as Chief Executive. He has a strong record of creative leadership and strategic innovation at the BBC and has wide experience and a deep commitment to the digital information environment. He is the ideal person to build on the

successes of the British Library and to ensure that the Library continues to be a leading-edge provider of knowledge as we take forward our Vision for 2020. I look forward to working with him."

Source: <http://pressandpolicy.bl.uk/Press-Releases/British-Library-Board-appoints-new-Chief-Executive-597.aspx>

International News – School Libraries in Canada

School libraries open for summer

One of Briana Victorio's duties this summer is to select books from the shelves at the Sunrise Elementary School library that she thinks students participating in the Friends of the Albany Public Library's pilot reading project might want to check out. "They like books about bears, the 'Bad Kitty' books and stories about horses and dogs," she said. When not searching for books, Victorio checks books in and out for the children.

The objective is to encourage children to continue their reading while on their summer break, said Nancy Powell, president of the friends. "We approached GAPS to see if the district would be interested in keeping a couple of schools open to keep the children reading."

The district was receptive and agreed to open the library at Sunrise from 10 a.m. to noon on Tuesdays. The library at Clover Ridge Elementary School is open during the same hours on Thursdays. The program ends at Sunrise on Aug. 14 and at Clover Ridge on Aug. 16. Both libraries

are staffed entirely by friends volunteers, who must undergo background checks. "We have two volunteers at each school, and this project is being offered at no cost to the friends or the district," Powell said.

Because the program has proved to be so popular, the friends want to offer it again next summer.

Source:

http://democratherald.com/news/local/school-libraries-open-for-summer/article_c6fe47ec-d615-11e1-8f6a-0019bb2963f4.html?comment_form=true

Technology News

Being born in the “Digital Age” and being tagged as “Digital Native” does not make you “Information Literate”...(Video Clip)

This video clip makes a very important point...

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9uGLt1tSOe&feature=related>

21st BOBCATSSS Conference, Ankara, 23-25 January 2013

BOBCATSSS is an annual conference series that is traditionally organized by students from European universities. This conference will happen at the 21st Anniversary!

Conf Title: From Collections to Connections: Turning Libraries 'inside out'
<http://bobcatsss.net/?p=42>

IT in Libraries (Video Clip)

The library—whatever the type—has been on an innovative evolution learning curve...this is all the more for librarians or information professionals. The library still remains the “HUB” of information, yet, librarians need to have the vision for it. The change will not happen automatic but needs to be an attitude of the librarians in charge of the library.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iEhPXp3kEq4>



The Phoenix Rising From The Ashes

This is an interesting online presentation which features the Library in the 21st Century. Sarah Houghton-Jan, who is a Manager at the San Jose Public Library, tries to answer the following question, that, as a librarian, we try to see what makes the life of the patron easier.

Without doubt, technology has permeated any aspect of life, being it health, hobbies, education, profession, the lot! We can safely say that there is an app for anything. Technology seems not to be the barrier any longer and therefore, by consequence, people demand to know—and they want it now!

In view of this, I would like to pose a few questions to librarians:

- ◆ As a profession, are we making all the effort to supply the needed information?
- ◆ Can a library professional afford not to change and still be called a professional?
- ◆ Can the profession afford librarians who have no thought of evolving or use IT?

http://www.slideshare.net/librarianinblack/the-future-of-libraries-and-technology-the-phoenix-rises-from-the-ashes?from=ss_embed

The library is located next to a major shopping mall and has always been very busy."RFID was implemented to revolutionise the library experience for customers and staff."

RFID Technology Aids Rebuilding of Christchurch Library

Geelong company FE Technologies' state of the art technology has helped libraries devastated by the Christchurch earthquakes rebuild. This was evident at Christchurch City Library's Papanui Library which reopened with the radio frequency identification (RFID) technology last October. Libraries and Information Unit Manager Carolyn Robertson said Papanui's business has been up to 3 times as busy due to neighbouring library closures. "Without the RFID self loan stations staff would not have been able to meet the level of customer demand and customers would suffer significant delays," Ms Robertson said. "The library is located next to a major shopping mall and has always been very busy."RFID was implemented to revolutionise the library experience for customers and staff. "The main goal was to achieve 100% self service for customers issuing items from the library," Ms Roberts said.
Source: <http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/BU1206/S00959/rfid-technology-aids-rebuilding-of-christchurch-library.htm>



**HACETTEPE
UNIVERSITY**



European Conference On Information Literacy (ECIL) - Istanbul, Turkey ~ 22-25 Oct 2013

ECIL is an international conference supported by Turkish National Commission for UNESCO, Information Literacy Section of IFLA and many other prestigious universities, associations, and organizations actively involved in media and information literacy. One of the Topics of the Conference is: Information literacy & emerging technologies (Web 2.0; Web 3.0; Mobile technologies).
<http://www.ilconf.org/>

Local News

Conservation laboratory launched at the National Archives

Conserving and preserving books, manuscripts and other old valuable works will now also become part of the services offered by the National Archives; a laboratory was purposely set up for the restoration of such documents.

Over the years the National Archives became renowned for collecting several old yet, valuable works; a move seen as a gradual, yet, natural one. Among some of the works which will be preserved, and set to see the light of day once more, are those of Charles Camilleri, renowned as Malta's national composer. Years and natural elements have taken their toll on some of Charles Camilleri's works, however, the team behind the setting up of this laboratory are more than up for the task.



Turning over a New Leaf at the National Library

New Leaf, is a non-profit, voluntary organisation, which has recently been set up with the prime objective to preserve and digitise the books at the National Library of Malta, and promote the use of local lending libraries. New Leaf aims to:

- ◆ Preserve books at The National Library with specialists and equipment
- ◆ Convert the National Library's hand written library cards to a database
- ◆ Organise book cleaning training and volunteers
- ◆ Find volunteers to convert the out-dated cassette based audio books to MP3
- ◆ Publicise the need for volunteers to man desk duties within the lending libraries

The Maltese Speech Engine

Access to information is crucial in today's society. What use is there for information that cannot be accessed? How can visually impaired or illiterate person use information that is displayed on a screen if that information cannot be read? These technologies make it easier for almost everyone to use computers. However, for many, they define whether or not one is able to use a computer. For example, textual information shown on computer screens is not accessible to illiterate or visually impaired people. Nevertheless, it becomes accessible with the use of speech synthesis technology, which reads out what is shown on the screen. (<http://www.independent.com.mt/news.asp?newsitemid=146062>).

MaLIA at EBLIDA's 20th AGM and Annual Conference

MaLIA's International Relations Officer, Robert Mizzi, participated in the 20th annual conference of EBLIDA which took place in Copenhagen on the 10 and 11 May 2012.

The EBLIDA council meeting was held on the 10 May and during the AGM, reports from the Expert Groups were read out and the new council was elected with Klaus-Peter Böttger taking over from Gerald Leitner as President (see interview on page 5). The AGM was held at the Royal National Library, also known as the Black Diamond—a gem of a national library. The following day, the 20th EBLIDA-NAPLE Annual Conference with the theme

“Democracy Development in a New Media Environment” was held at the IDA Meeting Hall in Copenhagen. The main focus of this conference was on the issues being faced by libraries when dealing with e-books. EBLIDA is concerned with the current situation and the licensing contracts being offered by publishers. So much so, that the conference served as a catalyst for a European-wide campaign to inform all libraries about the current unacceptable situation and also called for a Memorandum of Understanding with publishers and fair licensing agreement for e-books. Politicians will also be informed about the campaign and why it is important as this

promotes true democracy across all Europe.

At the end of the workshop reports, a one-page document entitled “European libraries and the challenges of e-publishing” was prepared and the participants were asked to translate this into their national languages and disseminate it their countries. This document is in fact being translated into Maltese and will be sent to EBLIDA by the end of July 2012. The statement is available online at www.eblida.org and videos of all contributions at this conference are available at <http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLDB0F10465A075DD2>