



**L-Università ta' Malta**  
Cottonera Resource Centre

# **Academic Report**

**October 2017 - September 2018**

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## Introduction

This report aims to present a comprehensive picture of Cottonera Resource Centre's work between October 2017 and September 2018. The introduction section highlights the mission of the Centre and introduces the Chairperson, Director, board and staff members of Cottonera Resource Centre (CRC).

This report is then divided into 4 main sections – the first section focuses on the formal and informal education provided to children and youths; the second section talks about the work held at CRC for adults; the third section focuses on the services provided to the community at large; and the fourth section includes miscellaneous activities held at CRC.

University of Malta Cottonera Resource Centre (CRC), inaugurated in 2013, was set up to act as a bridge between the communities in the inner harbour area and the University of Malta; facilitating resource-transfer and capacity building. The centre aims to promote higher and tertiary education; support those interested in furthering their education and promote the area's potential.

The scholastic year 2017 – 2018 marked the sixth year of the Centre. In November 2017, Dr Katya DeGiovanni was appointed Director of CRC, replacing Dr Josann Cutajar. Ms Yanica Ellul was appointed Project Coordinator and started working at CRC on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November 2017 replacing Ms Cassandra Sturgeon whose resignation was effective from the 27<sup>th</sup> of August 2017. Ms Romina Carabott started working as a clerk on a part time basis on the 10<sup>th</sup> of September 2018. Mr Daniel Pisani remained the Lab Officer of the Centre, who started working at CRC during the scholastic year 2016 – 2017.

The board consists of a chairperson, director and 8 members. During this scholastic year, board member Prof. Angela Abela was replaced by Dr Gordon Sammut. Currently the board consists of:

Chairperson: Ms Andreana Dibben

Director: Dr Katya DeGiovanni

Board Members: Prof. Simone Borg  
Prof. Peter Mayo  
Dr Dione Mifsud  
Mr Emile Vassallo  
Dr Noel Vella  
Dr Gordon Sammut

Mr Simon Sammut  
Dr David Zammit

The board met on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April and the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September 2018. During the meeting held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April projects and activities which were implemented by the previous director and handed over to Dr Katya DeGiovanni were discussed. Work held at CRC and new projects and ideas were also discussed during both meetings and pinpointed in meeting minutes 15 and 16.

## **Section 1: Children and Youths**

This section includes activities and projects organised by CRC for children and youths including Revision Classes, Drama & Robotics Classes and XjenzaManija Summer School.

### 1.1 Revision Classes

One of the main projects at CRC are the revision classes for Form 4 and 5 students in preparation for their MATSEC exams. The objective of these classes are to help students grasp and consolidate topics learnt at school and assist them in their studies.

Contracts of Mentors who had previous experience at CRC were automatically renewed. A call for the post of part time Mentors was published on the 27<sup>th</sup> of September in order to recruit new mentors and interviews were then held on the 6<sup>th</sup> of October 2017 by Dr DeGiovanni and Dr Dibben at CRC.

By closing date, 2<sup>nd</sup> of October 2017, 9 applications were received and 7 candidates were deemed eligible for an interview. 4 new mentors were appointed including:

- Mr Renald Buhagiar
- Mr Kevin Abela
- Mr Jurgen Azzopardi
- Mr Robert Cassar

In total, 8 mentors were employed. The agreement signed was valid from the 16<sup>th</sup> of October 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018. Mentors were remunerated at €12 per hour.

Table 1.1 below shows the name of the mentors for every subject, the day the session is held, the number of students who applied and the average attendance.

**Table 1.1: Plan**

	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Mentor</b>	<b>Number of students</b>	<b>Average attendance</b>
Monday 4.30pm – 5.30pm	English	Ms Carmen Muscat	4	1
	Maltese	Mr Renald Buhagiar	6	3
	Maths	Mr Kevin Abela	8	2
Monday 5.30pm – 6.30pm	Design and Technology	Mr Christian Serpina	2	1
	English	Ms Carmen Muscat	4	2
Tuesday 4.30pm – 6.30pm	Biology and Chemistry*	Ms Diane Grech Scerri	1	1
Wednesday 4.30pm – 5.30pm	Maths	Mr Brian Craus	6	2
	Physics	Mr Jurgen Azzopardi	7	2
Wednesday 5.30pm – 6.30pm	Maths	Mr Brian Craus	5	3
	Physics	Mr Jurgen Azzopardi	6	2
Thursday 4.30pm – 5.30pm	Accounts*	Mr Robert Cassar	1	1
	Maltese	Mr Renald Buhagiar	6	2
Thursday 4.53pm – 6.30pm	Accounts*	Mr Robert Cassar	2	0
Friday 4.30pm – 5.30pm	English	Ms Carmen Muscat	5	1

Friday 5.30pm – 6.30pm	English	Ms Carmen Muscat	4	1
<b>Total</b>			67	

\*Chemistry, Biology and Accounting lessons were only held between October and November 2017.

In total 23 students applied from the following localities:

Birzebbuga x 1  
 Fgura x 3  
 Kalkara x 4  
 Marsascala x 1  
 Paola x 2  
 Rabat x 1  
 Vittoriosa x 5  
 Zabbar x 6

## 1.2 Robotics and Drama Course

### 1.2.1 Project Description and Aim

Dr Josann Cutajar, former Director, and Ms Cassandra Sturgeon, former Project Coordinator applied for Premju *Kreattiv* fund Arts Council Malta with a project entitled ‘Science and Gender: undermining stereotypes through robotics and engineering’. This project combined drama, robotics and gender studies to engage young people in a conversation about gender stereotypes and the narratives associated with them.

An agreement was entered into on the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017 between Mr Anthony Attard, Director Strategy, appearing in the name of Arts Council Malta (ACM) and Prof. Alfred J. Vella, Rector University of Malta, on behalf of Cottonera Resource Centre (CRC). It was agreed that for the purpose of this project €4,000 will be funded by *kreattiv* and another €1,200 funded by CRC.



### 1.2.2 Practitioners

At application stage Ms Laura Wyatt O’Keeffe, Dr Josann Cutajar and Ms Marouska Bugeja were identified as the drama teacher, sociology teacher and robotics teacher respectively. Ms Marouska Bugeja was eventually replaced with Mr Christian Serpina as she was not available to work in the agreed period.

Ms Laura Wyatt O’Keeffe is an award nominated actor, writer and creative facilitator. She makes work with, for and about women and young people. Dr Josann Cutajar, former director of CRC and is currently Head of Gender Studies, University of Malta.

Mr Christian Serpina has been teaching Design and Technology for the last 4 years. Moreover, Mr Daniel Pisani, full timer at Cottonera Resource Centre and with a special interest in Robotics, also assisted during Robotics classes.

### 1.2.3 Plan and Process

The project was intended to start in October 2017, however due to the change in Director and since there was no project coordinator at the time, this did not happen. In December 2017, CRC requested to move the start and end data ahead and this was approved in January 2018 by ACM. Dr Katya DeGiovanni, Director, and Ms Yanica Ellul, Project Coordinator, took over the project. Moreover ACM accepted also the request to open the course for boys, taking in consideration that CRC strongly believes that keeping girls segregated to themselves will not challenge stereotypes but promote segregation.

The price for this course was €50. CRC offered 2 sponsorships, Ms Yana Bland Mintoff offered half the amount of the course for 2 students and Mr Emil Vassallo, Principal St Maragert’s College paid the rest for the mentioned students; hence in total, 4 students were offered full sponsorship. Sponsored children were identified through their college principal, head teachers and teachers. In all, 12 students applied for the course.

The course started on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March and ended on the 21<sup>st</sup> of June 2018. The first part of the course focused on drama and robotics and included also 2 sociological lessons, while the second part focused only on robotics. A certificate of attendance was given at the end of the course.

### 1.2.4 Time Table

#### Week 1

Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Robotics 4-6pm	Mr Daniel Pisani Mr Christian Serpina
	Gender Issues 6-7pm	Dr JosAnn Cutajar

#### Week 2

Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Robotics 4-6pm	Mr Daniel Pisani Mr Christian Serpina
	Gender Issues 6-7pm	Dr JosAnn Cutajar
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Drama 6-8pm	Ms Laura Wyatt O'Keeffe

#### Week 3

Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Drama 9am to 11am	Ms Laura Wyatt O'Keeffe
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Robotics 4-6pm	Mr Daniel Pisani Mr Christian Serpina
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Drama 5-8pm	Ms Laura Wyatt O'Keeffe

#### Week 4

Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Drama 9-2pm	Ms Laura Wyatt O'Keeffe
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#### Week 5

Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Robotics 4-6pm	Mr Daniel Pisani Mr Christian Serpina
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Drama 6-8pm	Ms Laura Wyatt O'Keeffe

#### Week 6

Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	Robotics 4-7pm	Mr Daniel Pisani Mr Christian Serpina
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	Robotics 4-6pm	Mr Daniel Pisani Mr Christian Serpina

#### Week 7

Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> April	Robotics 4-6pm	Mr Daniel Pisani Mr Christian Serpina
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Robotics 4-6pm	Mr Daniel Pisani Mr Christian Serpina

#### Week 8

Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> April	Robotics and Drama 3.30pm to 6.30pm	
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Week 9

Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> May                      Robotics and Drama 3.30pm to 6.30pm

Week 10

Wed 9<sup>th</sup> May                      Robotics and Drama 3.30pm to 8.30pm                      Final Concert

Week 11

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May      Adv. Robotics 4-6pm                      Mr Daniel Pisani Mr Christian Serpina

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> May              Adv. Robotics 4-6pm                      Mr Daniel Pisani Mr Christian Serpina

Week 12

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May      Adv. Robotics 4-6pm                      Mr Daniel Pisani Mr Christian Serpina

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May              Adv. Robotics 4-6pm                      Mr Daniel Pisani Mr Christian Serpina

Week 13

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> May      Adv. Robotics 4-6pm                      Mr Daniel Pisani Mr Christian Serpina

Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> May              Adv. Robotics 4-6pm                      Mr Daniel Pisani Mr Christian Serpina

Week 14

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June              Adv. Robotics 4-6pm                      Mr Daniel Pisani Mr Christian Serpina

Week 15

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June      Adv. Robotics 4-6pm                      Mr Daniel Pisani Mr Christian Serpina

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> June              Adv. Robotics 4-6pm                      Mr Daniel Pisani Mr Christian Serpina

Week 16

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June      Adv. Robotics 4-6pm                      Mr Daniel Pisani Mr Christian Serpina

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June              Adv. Robotics 4-6pm                      Mr Daniel Pisani Mr Christian Serpina

### 1.2.5 Sessions & Activities

During robotics workshops participants created their own robots and made them move through coding. In the first part of the sessions, WeDo robots were used while in the second half Mindstorms were used. Two sociological lessons were delivered on the issues of gender stereotypes, gender role expectations and how these might impact stereotypical female roles.

On the other hand, during drama sessions the students imagined the beginning of the world; what it looked like, what kinds of creatures and inventions existed and what the first people might be like. The play the students created was based on what they love about the world they live in and what challenges them about their world. In the middle of the play, ten stones are found by the community and on these stones are rules that could destroy the community's happiness. Through drama, the students had to come up with solutions to these rules or obstacles. The main focus of the course was to empower the students to make choices regardless of gender-related expectations.

An event was held on the 9<sup>th</sup> of May where the play was exhibited to the students' relatives. Relatives were also involved in various activities and exercises learnt through drama and robotics classes.

### 1.2.6 Promotion

The course was advertised on Facebook and post was boosted to reach as many people as possible. An email was sent to all entities in Cottonera and also to those schools who fall under St Margaret's College. An email was also sent to all government employees. This course was also advertised during Familji ta' Ghada radio programme which CRC was invited to.

During robotics class, a clip was filmed for Kultura News and aired prime time on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June 2018 on TVM and was also posted on Kultura News facebook page.

## 1.2.7 Pictures

Students during a Drama Session:



Students during a Robotics Session:



Students during a Sociology Session:



Students and their relatives during the event:









Pictures showing some of the promotion held:



### Centre - University of Malta

@um.cottonerarc

#### Home

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Promote

35972154\_102155...jpg

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#### Posts



Cottonera Resource Centre - University of Malta

Published by Yanica Ellul [?] · 23 mins ·

Celebrating Jayden's birthday during Robotics class



Liked | Following | Share | ...



### Familji ta' Ghada

@familjitaghada

- Home
- About
- Photos
- Events
- Videos

#### Posts

- Community
- Notes

Create a Page



Familji ta' Ghada added 2 new photos.

March 16 at 6:46pm ·

Cottonera Resource Centre - University of Malta  
NOW in Familji ta' Ghada on Radju Malta -93.7FM  
With Yanica Ellul, Kylie Cassar, Dorian Abela and Peter Ciangura



## 1.3 XjenzaManija Summer School 2018

### 1.3.1 Summer School Overview

XjenzaManija Summer School 2018 was held between the 2nd of July and the 10th of August; 6 weeks in total. It operated from Monday to Friday between 07:30hrs and 13:30hrs.

CRC applied for the registration of a summer school as an educational establishment on the 30<sup>th</sup> of April and certificate was issued on the 16<sup>h</sup> of May 2018. CRC was bound to comply with all the necessary regulations.

Applications were open during the last week of May-beginning of June. The price for the summer school was €200 and was subsidised to €100 to those students from Cottonera (Vittoriosa, Senglea and Cospicua). The decision to subsidise the price was taken after taking into consideration that the Cottonera Resource Centre was set up to give an opportunity to children from Cottonera. 13 students applied for the summer course between the ages of 8 and 12.

### 1.3.2 Mentors

A call for applications for coordinators and mentors was issued on the 6<sup>th</sup> of April 2018 and closed on the 27<sup>th</sup> of April. Interviews were then held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of May 2018 at UoM. Contracts of Mentors who had previous experience at CRC were automatically renewed. Employees were paid €12 per hour.

Mr Brian Craus and Ms Louise Gafa were employed as coordinators – the former for the first three weeks and the latter for the remaining 3 weeks. The following taught the mentioned subjects:

- Ms Gatt - Physical Education
- Ms Gauci - Science Experiments
- Ms Grima - Chemistry & Biology
- Ms Lauri - Science
- Ms Ozdemir - Life Skills
- Mr Pisani - Robotics
- Ms Pullicino - Music
- Mr Serpina - Design and Technology

### 1.3.3 Outings

During the 6 weeks of summer school the below sites were visited:

04/07/2018	Fort Rinella
11/07/2018	Junior College Lab
18/07/2018	Limestone Heritage
25/07/2018	University of Malta
01/08/2018	Malta Aviation Museum
08/08/2018	Esplora

1.3.4 Pictures

Aviation Museum



Esplora





Fort Rinella



Junior College



University of Malta Msida Campus



Limestone Heritage



## Chemistry & Biology



## Cooking



Design & Technology



Life Skills



Music



## Robotics



Science Experiments



The Science behind physical exercise





## Section 2: Adults

This section includes activities held at CRC for adults including lifelong learning lessons, and University of Third Age.

### 2.1. University of Third Age

In collaboration with the University of Third Age, CRC hosted a number of modules every Thursday during scholastic year 2017-2018.

Registered students can apply and attend any module that is offered in the different branches – Floriana, Sliema and Cottonera Centres. 17 students applied through CRC from the following localities:

Birkirkara	x 2
Birzebbugia	x 2
Cospicua	x 2
Fgura	x 1
Kalkara	x 1
Marsascala	x 3
Qrendi	x 1
Safi	x 1
St Julians	x 1
Zabbar	x 2
Zurrieq	x 1

During scholastic year 2017-2018 the following sessions were held at CRC:

Module:	Maltese Archival Heritage
Lecturer:	Dr Charles Farrugia
Summary:	The sessions will highlight the richness of Maltese archival heritage. The diversity in public, ecclesiastical and private archives. The national memory project known as MEMORJA. This project is capturing oral testimonies aided by audio-video content in order to safeguard the memory of the people for future generations.

Dates: 12 October 2017 - 30 November 2017

Average attendance: 20 students

Module: Farsa tal-Karnival ta' Dun Felič Demarco, Awtur Bormliž tas-Seklu 18

Lecturer: Dr Olvin Vella

Summary: Il-qacilla hija farsa tat-triq li ssir fi żmien il-Karnival. Wieħed raġel, taparsi nutar jaqra kitba li taparsi hi kitba taż-żwieġ. Għalkemm kienet issir kull sena, l-ewwel qarcilla li waslitilna għandha valur letterarju kbir. Kien kitibha awtur Bormliž li ftit għadna nafu fuqu. L-Università reġgħet qajmet il-qarcilla minn ħames snin 'l hawn. Fil-kors se naqraw il-kitba ta' Dun Felič u qriečel oħra li ġew warajh, u nispičcaw bil-qriečel li saru f'dawn is-snin.

Dates: 6 December 2017 - 8 February 2018

Average attendance: 22 students

Module: Malta during the 19<sup>th</sup> Century

Lecturer: Mr Vincent Zammit

Summary: The 19<sup>th</sup> century is known as the Long 19<sup>th</sup> Century, as it was to be a century (and another 25 years) to influence the development of modern Europe, the establishment of new European states, the international scenes, and amongst all, the passing of Malta to the British Empire. The main events, protagonists and social development that occurred in Malta during this century.

Dates: 15 February 2018 - 19 April 2018

Average attendance: 22 students

Module: Hajti Tieghi – Naghzel Jien!

Lecturer: Ms Marica Mizzi

Summary: Permezz ta' dawn il-laqgħat persuna tkun tista' taħdem fuqha nnifisha, tibda tifhem hi min hi u li mhix dik li jaħsbu fuqha. Takkwista għarfien għal bdil

lejn stil ta' ħajja aktar mifhuma u pożittiva u finalment biex tħoss l-importanza tal-irwol tagħha fis-soċjetà. Importanti li tiftakar li baqgħalha ħafna iktar kontribut x'toffri fis-soċjetà immaterjali l-età! Il-ħajja sabiħa – Mela għixha kif tixtieq. Ħajti tiegħi, mela naghżel jien.

Dates: 26 April 2018 - 14 June 2018

Average attendance: 15 students

## 2.2 Lifelong Learning Courses

The Directorate for Lifelong Learning developed various short and long courses to help those who stopped studying a while back or who simply want to learn something new. The number of lifelong learning courses held at CRC increased through the years. During scholastic year 2017-2018 the centre hosted the below courses:

Course: Maltese Bobbin Lace Making

Code: CNGO 002

Level: MQF level 1

Educator: Ms Carmen Schembri

Day held: Monday morning

No. of sessions: 22

Average attendance: 20

Course: Maltese as a Foreign Language

Code: LNGO 008

Level: MQF level 1

Educator: Ms Alexandra Degiorgio

Day held: Tuesday evening

No. of sessions: 25

Average attendance: 10

Course: Personal Beauty Care

Code: HNGO 001  
Level: MQF Level 1  
Educator: Ms Lara Bella Vella Baldacchino  
Day held: No fixed day  
No. of sessions: 10  
Average attendance: 4

Course: ECDL  
Code: INGO 003  
Level: MQF level 2/3  
Educator: Mr Raymond Bonnici  
Day held: Tuesday evening  
No of sessions: 25  
Average attendance: 6

Apart from hosting courses, CRCs role is that of liaising with the Directorate to decide which courses will be offered at the Centre, promoting courses held at CRC and helping potential students to apply for courses.

The following courses will be held at the Centre during the scholastic year 2018-2019:

- Maltese as a Foreign Language - MQF Level 1
- Maltese Bobbin Lace Making - MQF Level 2
- ECDL - MQF Level 2/3

### Section 3: Community Outreach

This section focuses on community outreach including Play Therapy, Legal Clinic, Counselling Sessions and Prima Klassi.

#### 3.1 Legal Clinic

CRC in collaboration with the Faculty of Laws offers free legal advice to help families and individuals from the Cottonera area and beyond. Law students are offering legal consultation under the supervision of Dr Zammit (board member) and coordination of Dr Kurt Xerri.

The Law Clinic at the UoM received a total of 37 referrals during the scholastic year 2017-2018, out of which 29 referrals through CRC. Four of these referrals were dropped since the clinic only counted on two students during the last semester. One student offered her service in summer and met 1 client at CRC.

#### 3.2 Counselling Sessions

CRC in collaboration with the Department of Counselling is offering free counselling sessions to individuals who are experiencing emotional and/or psychological difficulties or those seeking personal growth and understanding. The service is offered by students following the Master of Arts in Transcultural Counselling and Master of Arts in Counselling under the supervision of their lecturers.

During this scholastic year, the service started being offered in April 2018. 2 students were carrying out part of their placement at CRC - Ms Johanna Cutajar & Mr John Tabone. Below please find details of sessions:

Table 2.1:

UoM Students	Client number	Number of sessions
Ms Johanna Cutajar	1	x 1
	2	x 8
	3	x 3
	4	x 1
Ms John Tabone	1	x 1

Hence a total of 14 sessions were held between April and September 2018. Note that 6 other appointments were set but cancelled by clients.

The role of the CRC administrative staff is to promote this service within the community, liaise with entities/individuals who might need this service, and to allocate clients to trainee counsellor. Counselling sessions are held on Tuesdays and Fridays when a beadle is present.

### 3.3 Play Therapy

Ms Kylie Camilleri offered play therapy at CRC for children from Cottonera as part of her practicum experience to become a professional play therapist between February and June 2018.

Two children were referred and sessions were held every week for 40 minutes. These particular children were referred due to separation anxiety and due to underperformance both academically and socially. CRC resource room was used.

### 3.4 Prima Klassi

Volunteer Ms Victoria Butters, together with Appoġġ, organised Prima Klassi project with the aim of providing basic English and Maltese lessons for adults who would like to improve their literacy. On certain occasions the lessons were followed by an informative session offered by professional speakers on themes identified by the participants. Outings at places of historical interest were also organised.

The sessions were held every Friday from 9am till 12pm at CRC. During this academic year, 10 students attended the mentioned sessions.

## Section 4: Miscellaneous

### 4.1 Collaborations

#### 4.1.1 Collaboration with the United States Embassy

CRC and the Department of Gender Studies partnered with the United States Embassy in the screening of the movie “The Help” (2011). This film touches upon women empowerment and racial integration and the idea behind the screening was to commemorate National Women’s History month. The event was held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March between 18:30 and 21:30.



**the Help**

Thursday, March 22 at 6:30 p.m.  
at U.S. Embassy Valletta in Ta' Qali

Participation is on a first-come,  
first-served basis.

RSVP to:  
[usembmalta@state.gov](mailto:usembmalta@state.gov)

SUPPORTED BY:

-  L-Università ta' Malta Faculty for Social Wellbeing | Department of Gender Studies
-  L-Università ta' Malta Cottonera Resource Centre

#### 4.1.2 Collaboration with Valletta 2018 – European Capital of Culture

The purpose of this walk and talk event, which was held on the 10th of September 2018, was that of opening a discussion about Pedestrianisation and Green Spaces in the Cottonera area. The aim was to identify residents' ideas and wishes for a more accessible Cottonera and to have a more in-depth understanding of what the problems from a resident's perspective are.

#### 4.2 Article on Xjenza Online

In December 2017, Dr DeGiovanni and Ms Ellul wrote an article for Xjenza Online, the Journal of the Malta Chamber of Scientists, regarding the American University of Malta. The American University of Malta (AUM) is a private university in the South Eastern Region of Malta. The article aimed to look at the social impact of the American University of Malta's Cospicua site on the Cottonera and the surrounding localities.

#### 4.3 Kids on Campus Sponsorship

Kids on Campus 2018, University of Malta Msida Campus summer school, was held for 8 weeks, 5 days a week between the 9<sup>th</sup> of July and the 31<sup>st</sup> of August. Kids on Campus, based on a learning through play philosophy, offered a fun packed programme full of activities including sports and games, arts and crafts, swimming, dance, IT, personal and social development, creative drama, singing, cooking and more.

UoM sponsored 4 students from St Margaret College to attend Kids on Campus who fit the following criteria:

- Student 1: 7 years 6 months – 8 years 9 months
- Student 2: 8 years 10 months – 9 years 11 months
- Student 3: 11 years 1 month – 12 years 6 months
- Student 4: 12 years 9 months – 13 years 3 months



In order to give this opportunity to those who would benefit most from it, students were identified by the College Principal and Head of Schools. Transport to and from the University was coordinated and paid by UoM.

#### 4.4 Degree+ voluntary work: Summer 2018 and Winter 2018-2019

CRC offered the following opportunities to university students who wish to volunteer with CRC through degree plus. The following was advertised:

##### XjenzaManija Summer School:

XjenzaManija summer school will start on the 2nd of July and will run till Friday 10<sup>th</sup> of August. This summer course will be held from Monday to Friday from 7.30am till 1.30pm. It is open for students between 8 and 12 years. Some of the topics covered include: robotics; science; drama; design and technology; life skills; and first aid. Volunteers are needed to assist teachers with their students during the mentioned six weeks both during classroom activities and also activities held outside the school premises.

##### Library:

Cottonera Resource Centre library is one of the branch libraries of the University of Malta. Volunteers are needed to sort, shelf and code books accordingly. Dates and times are flexible.

##### Revision Classes:

One of the main projects at CRC are the revision classes for Form 4 and 5 students in preparation for their MATSEC exams. The objective of these classes are to help students grasp and consolidate topics learnt at school and assist them in their studies. This opportunity would be ideal for those who are interested in gaining experience in teaching. Different subjects to teach and students to mentor. Classes run between October 2018 and June 2019 from Monday to Friday between 4.30pm and 6.30pm.

Research Volunteers:

Working as a research volunteer is an ideal way for university students to gain experience in doing research. This opportunity is ideal for those studying social sciences. Dates and times are flexible.

## 4.5 Media

### 4.5.1 Familji ta' Ghada radio programme

CRC was invited on Familji ta' Ghada radio programme, aired on the 16<sup>th</sup> of March 2018, in order to introduce our centre to the listeneres, explain who we are and what services we offer.

### 4.5.2 Published Article on Unity Magazine

An article about CRC, focusing on the Centre's aims and services, was published on 'Unity', the magazine of the Faculty for Social Wellbeing. The article was prepared in June 2018.

### 4.5.3 Kultura News

CRC had the opportunity to film a clip for Kultura News during a robotics class which course was sponsored by Premju Kreattiv Arts Council. The clip was aired prime time on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June 2018 on TVM and was also posted on Kultura News facebook page.

## 4.6 Erasmus+

Ms Ilayda Ozdemir, volunteered at CRC as part of Erasmus+ programme. She worked on the subject of Financial Literacy – taught Financial Literacy as part of Life Skills topic during XjenzaManija Summer School at CRC and also presented a paper at the European Conference on Resilience in Education at the Valletta University Campus on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of July 2018, together with Dr Katya DeGiovanni and Ms Josette Barbara-Cardona.