Attivitajiet għax-xahar ta' April

Il-Ġimgħa 10 t'April: 8.30 p.m. Project House, Floriana. Illum se nagħmlu Quiz Night: Staqsini Għoxrin immexxija minn Maria u Mark. Ittim rebbieħ jieħu rigal. Wara jkollna kafe', kejk u ħin nitkellmu bejnietna.

Il-Ġimgħa 17 t'April: 8.30 p.m. Project House, Floriana. Illum għandna talk li żgur se tkun interessanti mit-tfajla simpatika Christine Mifsud. Christine hija t-tifla ta' waħda mill-membri tagħna, Josephine Attard. Żgur li se tkunu impressjonati b'din it-taħdita u nħeġġiġkom tiġu. Il-kuraġġ, l-ottimiżmu u s-simpatija ta' Christine żgur se jkunu ta' eżempju għalina lkoll. Titilfux din it-talk.

II-Ħadd 19 t'April: Illum se norganizzaw ġurnata għal Għawdex fejn ikollna coach il-ħin kollu magħna u ikla għand Xerri il-Bukkett.

<u>Programm</u>: Niltaqgħu ċ-Ċirkewwa fit-tmienja u nofs (8.30 am) biex nitilqu mal-vapur tad-disa' (9 am). Ikollna coach tistenniena l-Imġarr u mmorru nżuru r-Rabat.

Fil-ħdax u kwart (11.15 am) immorru għall-quddiesa ta' Pinu u wara mmorru għand Xerri l-Bukkett għall-ikel. Fit-tlieta (3 pm) nitilqu għalmixja fil-Lunzjata u kafe' Marsalforn. Immorru lura Malta fis-sitta (6 pm).

Menu Ghal Ghawdex (Including one soft drink or glass of wine): Starter: Soup OR Spaghetti with Tomato Sauce OR Tuna Salad

Main Course: Dentici OR Chicken Breast OR Roast Pork

Dessert: Ice Cream/Cake

Price - €20Booking ma Maria Mob no: 99271981

Il-Ġimgħa 24 t'April: 8.30 p.m. Project House, Floriana. Illum se niċċelebraw il-Birthdays ta' dawk li għalqu sninhom f'April. Bħas-soltu il-party se jsir ġo Project House. Prezz €7. Booking ma Louise Suda.

Chairperson: Maria Borg Mob. 9927 1981
Secretary: Louise Suda Mob. 9949 8784
Email: secretary@minusone.eu or info@minusone.eu

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Għeżież ħbieb,

Nispera li din in-newsletter issibkom tiċċelebraw l-Għid imqaddes mal-familji tagħkom. L-Għid hija festa sabiħa ta' tiġdid tal-ħajja u tama fil-futur. Nispera li l-futur ta' kull wieħed u waħda minnha ikun dejjem aħjar mimli saħħa u ferħ u imħabba. Kif tafu f'Marzu kellna l-AGM fejn twaqqaf il-kumitat il-ġdid. Peress li n-numru ta' voluntiera għal-kumitat kien eżatt sebgħa kif tafu ma kienx hemm bżonn issir elezzjoni. Ħamsa mill-membri baqgħu l-istess tas-sena l-oħra u nbidlu żewġ membri. Il-membri tal-kumitat il-ġdid huma dawn:

Louise Suda – Segretarja Mark Farrugia – IT Officer Connie Azzopardi – Social Secretary Silvio Ellul – Activities Administrator Ray Micallef – PRO Joseph Bonello – Teżorier Maria Borg – Chairperson

Il-kumitat il-ġdid diġa Itaqa' għall-ewwel darba u ngħataw ir-rwoli tagħhom. Nixtieq nirringrazzja lill-membri tal-kumitat li rtiraw i.e. Joseph Farrugia u Doris Axiaq li ħadmu bis-sħiħ u taw kontribut qawwi bix-xogħol u l-idejat tagħhom. Flistess waqt nixtieq nilqa' fi ħdan il-kumitat il-ġdid lil Joseph Bonello u Ray Micallef iż-żewġ membri ġodda li jiena ċerta li se naħdmu tajjeb flimkien għal ġid assolut tal-grupp.

Peress li kellna konkorrenza fqira, il-gita għal Sqallija tħassret. Minflok se norganizzaw gurnata għal Għawdex fid-dsatax ta' April li jaħbat il-Ħadd. Jekk jogħġobkom araw il-programm. Nispera li jkollna konkorrenza tajba. Dan ix-xahar stedinna wkoll speaker straordinarja, Christine Mifsud, mara li għaddiet minn taqlib kbir fil-ħajja li rnexxielha tegħlbu u tibni futur waqt li t-tbissima fuq fommha u l-kuraġġ ma naqsu qatt. Nisperaw li nibqgħu narawkom! Nawguralkom l-Għid it-Tajjeb mimli hena, riżq u barka, lilkom u l-familji tagħkom.

Dejjem tagħkom, *María*

In Prison Sentenced to Death

By Mike Woodard

Years ago, I was living a foreign land where I had run into trouble with the law. The laws seem unfair, confusing and harsh. I was sentenced to death for my crimes. I wish I could say I was not guilty but according to the laws of the land I was guilty as charged. The situation was hopeless.

The prison was a horrible place. As I waited in my prison cell, I learned about a seldom used law that could give me either a glimmer of hope or a greater despair. The law stated if a person could be found who was guilty of no crimes and was willing to take my place I could be set free from prison. Now I have to ask you, what is the chance that this would ever happen?!! Someone else to take my place? After all, I was guilty and deserved to die according to the laws of the land! Then one day the prison guards came to me with amazing news. A man visiting from another country had offered to take my place! My first response was debrief. Was this a sick joke? But it was true. I did not know him. I had never met him. All I had to do was accept the offer. On the day I was to be executed, he died. I was set free and immediately offered a home in a new land, with the promise of a new start on life. The arrangements were all made. I was met by someone at the prison with a ticket as well as directions to a new future. I had so many questions but she said I just had to accept the offer and my many questions would be answered in time.

I so wanted the freedom and a new start but I had so many doubts and questions. Who was this person who took my place? How could this actually be happening to me, in prison with a death penalty on my head one moment, and walking out of the prison door the next? Was this for real? Why me? Who was behind all this? I was sent to a new land, a place I had never been. The freedom was overwhelming. I felt so relieved! I was officially declared not guilty. I could start a new life. But I still pondered, "Why would anyone die for me?" When I arrived I was taken to a palace!

I thought that there must be a mistake. I was a convicted criminal and was being treated as if I were an important person. How could this be? Somehow I thought this must not be good. Maybe I would again be put in jail, once my sordid past was revealed. I was lead into a beautiful and grand room. A distinguished man dressed in fine clothes smiled and called me by name. He came to me and embraced me! All I could say was, "Sir, I am so confused. How do you know me and why am I here?" He offered me a chair and began to explain. "I have followed your story for a long time. In fact from the moment of your birth I have watched the circumstances of your life. I know all the details. I know what you got for your 5th birthday. I know about your father's death. I know you find this hard to believe but I love you. You see, my son is the one who took your place. He took your guilt and death sentence. He was the innocent one who died for you."

I began to weep out of amazement, wonder and gratitude. I deserved none of this. As if he read my thoughts, he said, "I knew you had no hope. I had to do something. It was the only way. The law was clear that without the death of an innocent person there could be no freedom, and my son was willing to take your place." The man turned and called for an aid. "Please show my son to his room." Sir," I asked in amazement, "you called me son? "Yes," he replied with a look in his eyes I will never forget, "You are now my son. This is your new life. I have adopted you. You are now in my family, my son and heir. We will live together from now on." Every year I celebrate the day an innocent man died for me to give me freedom. It's called Good Friday.

