

PRESS RELEASE

Malta National Epilepsy Day

14th February 2003



The Malta Caritas Epilepsy Association will be celebrating the National Epilepsy Day on 14th of February, in conjunction with other national epilepsy associations worldwide. St. Valentine, has been chosen as the patron saint of persons with epilepsy as he is said to have had this condition himself.

Epilepsy is the most common neurological condition and is known to affect nearly 1% of the worldwide population. In Malta, it is estimated that over 2000 persons have this condition. However, for many of them, it does not keep them back, as they have fulfilling lives, are married, have a good job and attend tertiary education. The Caritas Malta Epilepsy Association is the national association for Maltese persons with Epilepsy. It has over 200 members and meets every month.

On 22nd February 2003, Caritas Malta Epilepsy Association is organising a one-day seminar entitled: Malta, l-Epilessija u t-Tfal - Flimkien Naslu (Malta, Epilepsy and Children) at the New Dolmen Hotel, Bugibba.

This conference will form part for the national activities being held in conjunction with KNPD for the 2003 Year For Persons With Disability. Mr. John Bowis, MEP, former UK Minister for Health, and Dr John Chaplin from Lund University, Sweden, will address the seminar, while H.E. Profs. de Marco, President of Malta and Mons. Dun Victor Grech, Head of Caritas Malta, shall open the event. The subjects shall include various aspects of epilepsy in children: medical and psychological. Thus the seminar will be of interest to persons with epilepsy, parents and relatives of persons with epilepsy, neurologists and GPs, nurses, pharmacists and other health care professionals, teachers, social workers, psychologists, facilitators, and general public. For more information contact Mr Godwin Cachia, godcac@global.net.mt tel 21370381 or Dr Janet Mifsud, tel 23402845 janet.mifsud@um.edu.mt