

Dr Vicki Anne Cremona guest speaker at Paris university

Dr VICKI Ann Cremona, the Maltese Ambassador in Paris, was recently invited to address students of European cultural history at Paris Dauphine University.

The subject of her lecture was the Maltese Carnival, on which she has done extensive research.

Dr Cremona was welcomed at the university gate by Professor Bertrand de Montmorillon, president of the University, who said he was convinced his establishment would soon be finalising an Erasmus exchange agreement with the University of Malta, following talks with the ambassador.

Dr Cremona, who is preparing a book on the history of Malta's Carnival, gave a fascinating account of the origins and development of the Carnival in Malta under Hospitaller, British rule and since Independence. She also gave a film presentation on little known aspects of Carnival in Victoria. There were many questions, even from people who were surprised that Malta's Carnival is comparatively hardly known of abroad and asked whether it could be better promoted by the Malta Tourism Authority.

Everyone was impressed by the ease and elegance with which Dr Cremona expressed herself in French, a language in which she gained a

Currently, every Wednesday, Fuego is hosting the Las Chicas (girls' nights), with special surprises every night, hosted by Graham Charles together with Fuego's international deejays.

Moreover, the management is preparing for summer weekly events, such as the hugely popular Qawra Wednesday foam parties, and a new night in St Julian's – jungle fever.

Both clubs are hosting the ever-popular tequila Mondays. Meanwhile, the guest deejay at Fuego in St Julian's for this month is Wilson Castro, from the Dominican Republic.



Patrice Sanguy introducing Maltese Ambassador in Paris, Dr Vicki Ann Cremona, to those present at the lecture/conference held at Paris Dauphine University

greater command while reading for her university degrees at the University of Aix-en-Provence.

The lecture was followed by a reception, jointly sponsored by the University and Cercle Vassalli, a society for the promotion of the French-Maltese friendship, of which Patrice Sanguy, a senior lecturer at Dauphine University, is the president and founder.

Guests who attended the lecture and reception included professors Annie Krieger and Martine Piquet, editor of the Commonwealth Studies quarterly; Dr Lépolard, keeper of the Order of Malta's French archives; General and Mme Jorant *née* Tanti; Joe Camilleri (formerly of UNESCO); Joyce Camilleri, administrator of Cercle Vassalli; composer Marc Vella and Mrs Vella; Anne Marie Montebello, professor of literature at Lycée Louis le Grand in Paris, Doinz Runea; Georges Xerri and Jean Tanti, administrators of the circle; Mrs Tanti; Percy Högberg;

Jean-Claude Ceccarelli and Christian Savaill-Zahra.

The reception organisers were Sauveur Cachia and Helen Gharbi Mamo, secretary general and deputy secretary general of Cercle Vassalli, respectively.

After, Dr Cremona parted for Quai d'Orsay, the French Minister for Foreign Affairs' palace, where she had another engagement.

University Paris Dauphine is the leading French University in the field of management and was rated last year one of the world's 100 best universities. It can be regarded as the French counterpart of the London School of Economics.

Two members of the faculty, Mr Sanguy and Michael Riccioli, are of Maltese descent and have been actively campaigning for closer relations between Dauphine and the University of Malta. The university also has a research group on Anglophone Europe headed by Mr Sanguy.