



THE UNIVERSITY OF MALTA  
RESEARCH, INNOVATION  
& DEVELOPMENT TRUST

# RIDT Newsletter

## November 2022



### ALIVE Foundation donates another €90,000 for cancer research

After an absence of 2 years due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the ALIVE Charity Foundation has once again held their cycling challenge and raised another €90,000 for cancer research undertaken by academics at the University of Malta. The funds were donated to the Research Trust (RIDT) of the University of Malta during a ceremony held at the Biomedical Labs at the University.

[See more](#)

### Every Welbee point counts

Loyalty points from the Welbee's Supermarket app can be donated to RIDT. These points will translate into funds for research.

Welbee's Supermarket customers are encouraged to shop and donate their points to RIDT.

[See more](#)



### RİÇERKATURI – CAMPUS FM 103.7

As part of the efforts to disseminate information about the ongoing research projects at the University of Malta, RIDT CEO Wilfred Kenely, hosts a weekly programme on Campus FM 103.7 called Riċerkaturi.

Riċerkaturi takes the format of a relaxed conversation on the work done by the researchers, their aspirations and the outcome of their work. We also get to know the human side of each researcher, including their taste for music and other aspects outside the work related to research.

The radio programme is also an opportunity to meet some of the NGOs, Voluntary Organisations and Corporate Companies who donate funds for specific research projects through RIDT. Along the years there have been some really outstanding donations by different entities which have made research not just possible but fruitful.

Riċerkaturi goes on air every Monday at 18:00 with a repeat every Tuesday at noon.

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**DONATE YOUR WELBEE'S POINTS TO**



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## Life Cycle

On 3 October 2022, the LifeCycle (Malta) Foundation donated €25,000 to the University of Malta's Research, Innovation and Development Trust (RIDT) in support of current research to determine the underlying genetic defects in patients with polycystic kidney disease in Malta and Gozo, the most commonly inherited kidney disorder and a significant cause of end-stage renal disease.

A cheque was presented to Professor Alfred Vella, Rector of the University of Malta, by Alan Curry, Founder of the LifeCycle (Malta) Foundation, and Chairperson Dr Shirley Cefai in the presence of representatives of Nescafé the main sponsor of this year's challenge, members of the University of Malta research team and RIDT CEO Wilfred Kenely.

The research programme is being run by the Department of Anatomy within the Faculty of Medicine & Surgery in collaboration with the Department of Pathology at Mater Dei Hospital. The LifeCycle (Malta) Foundation raises funds in support of patients suffering from kidney failure and covers three principle areas: awareness, treatment and research. To achieve this, the foundation works with the medical staff at the Renal Unit in Mater Dei Hospital, the University of Malta and RIDT.



## Spreading the word on research and funding

Over the past few months, the Research Trust has embarked on a systematic outreach campaign using different media platforms. Whilst keeping the RIDT social media platforms busy, thanks to the support of different media houses, information on research and funding is now included in the schedule of local TV stations. The printed media and online portals are also contributing by giving RIDT the space for relevant interviews and articles related to the researchers themselves as well as the priceless work they are doing.

You may follow RIDT updates through the different social media platforms





## Europa Donna funds more Breast Cancer Research

On Thursday 27 October 2022, Europa Donna Malta held their annual Hilda Schembri Memorial Lecture. During the event, which took place at the University of Malta Valletta Campus, Gertrude Abela (President Europa Donna Malta) presented another donation to RIDT CEO Wilfred Kenely.

This year's donation of €40,000 will go towards a second Europa Donna Malta PhD scholarship in Breast Cancer Research at The University of Malta.

The event was very well attended and included a number of presentations and a discussion which focused on metastatic breast cancer.

RIDT would like to thank Europa Donna Malta for their generous donation and for the constant support towards Breast Cancer Research.

## Claudette Buttigieg joins RIDT

Claudette Buttigieg has joined the RIDT team. In her role as Senior Executive Officer, Claudette is responsible for assisting the RIDT Chief Executive Officer Wilfred Kenely to promote research projects and find funding through private entities, individuals and corporate organisations.

"I am thrilled to be working at RIDT. There is a wealth of knowledge and initiatives which people are not aware of. Working with Wilfred Kenely is a great pleasure and having an office at the University Valletta Campus, makes it even more special."



For further information please visit [ridt.org.mt](https://ridt.org.mt)