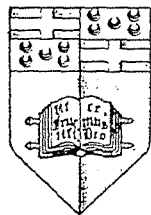# Foreword

A lemma is a result which helps in the proof of a future theorem but is not deemed to be of sufficient importance by itself to warrant the title "Theorem." To distinguish between the two is often a DILEMMA.

In 1998 and 1999 my students were producing interesting "new" proofs for well known results. On their suggestion and my commendation, we decided to start sharing them. This was the start of the **Collection workshops** and the **Collection.**

The following pages tell the rest of the story so far.

Dr. Irene Sciriha.
Organisor.

UNIVERSITÀ TA' MALTA
ιsida – Malta
PARTIMENT TAL-MATEMATIKA

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA
Msida – Malta
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

27th September, 1999

Dear Mathematician,

Have you ever felt proud of yourself when you produced a neat solution to a mathematical problem or an elegant proof to a mathematical truth? Do you have a hunch that some simple mathematical truth is true but is hard to prove?

Then send an abstract (summary) of your mathematical discovery to

> Ms. Annabelle Attard
> The Collection
> University of Malta
> Department of Mathematics
> Msida

A workshop will be held to share these ideas among people who find pleasure in the preciseness and elegance of mathematics.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. I. Sciriha

4th January, 2000

The Collection
Department of Mathematics

Collection Workshop I

A workshop is being held on Wednesday, 16th February 2000 from 3.00 to 4.00 p.m. to share some interesting mathematical ideas among people who find pleasure in the elegance and preciseness of mathematics.

Venue: University of Malta, Maths and Physics Building, Department of Mathematics, Room 316

Speakers: Ms Phoedra Cassar
            Mr Peter Borg
            Mr Alex Farrugia
            Ms Josephine Debattista
            Dr. I. Sciriha

We shall end with a brief session for spontaneous problem posing and/or solving. You are cordially invited to attend.

Abstracts of possible proofs or conjectures which you wish to share with us in this meeting, or in a future one, may be sent to Dr. I. Sciriha or Ms. A. Attard, Department of Mathematics, (marked "The Collection"), at any time of the year.

Dr. I. Sciriha

p.s.   For these two years I am the convenor of the European Women in Mathematics (EWM). Budding, amateur and professional mathematicians who wish to become members of the EWM can contact me.