



MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

The Journal of Maltese Living Abroad

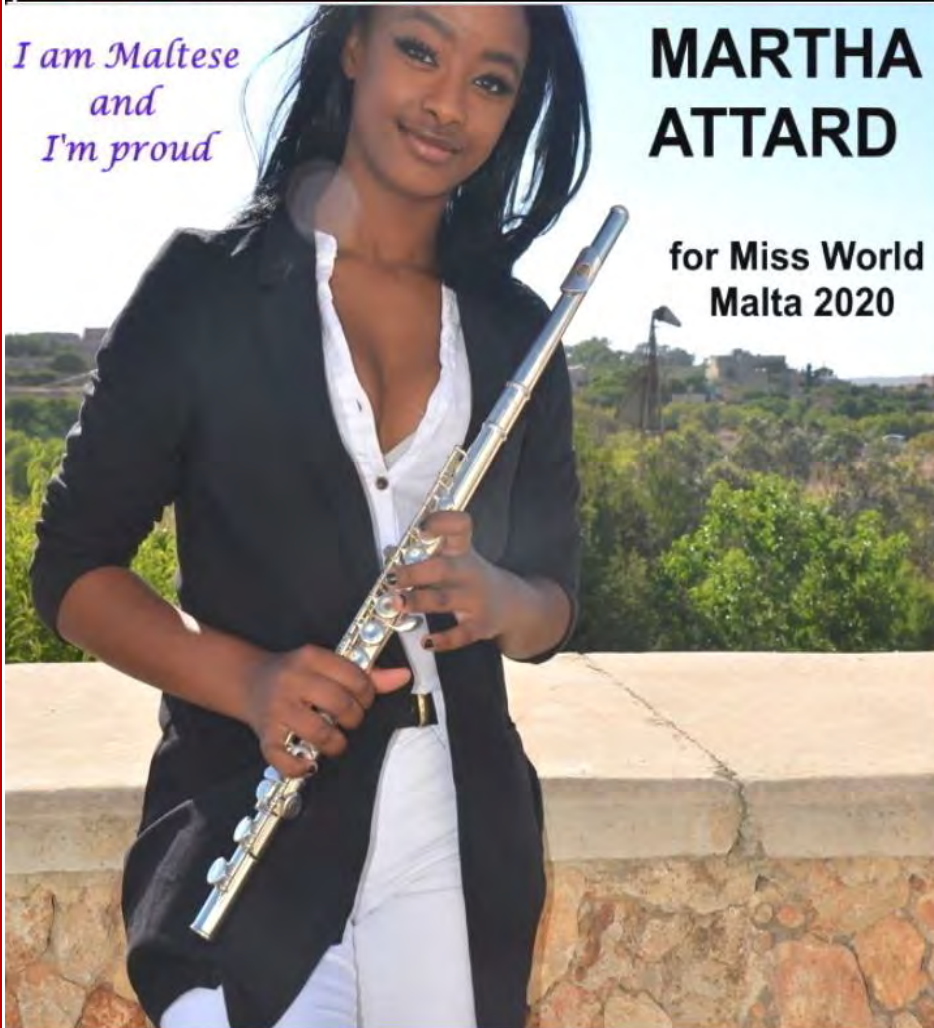
Editor : Frank L Scicluna OAM MQR JP

maltesejournal@gmail.com

*I am Maltese
and
I'm proud*

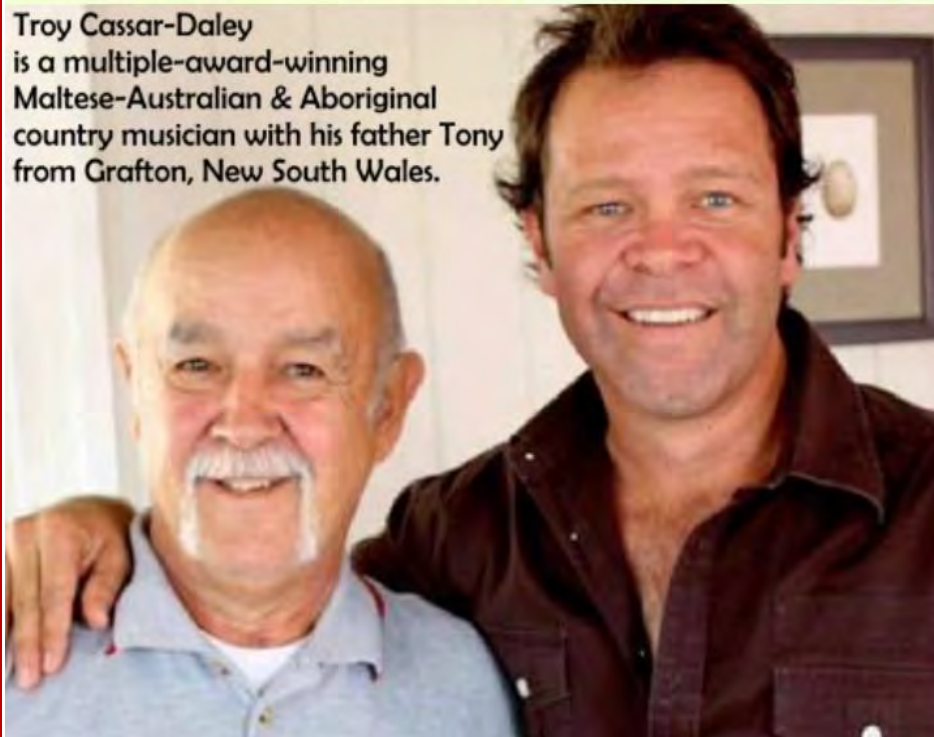
MARTHA ATTARD

for Miss World
Malta 2020



**Waldemar Beck
killed on British
western front
WW1**

Troy Cassar-Daley
is a multiple-award-winning
Maltese-Australian & Aboriginal
country musician with his father Tony
from Grafton, New South Wales.



significantly fatter than
most others apart from
the Maltese - Boris



Maltese Passport





The Malta Book Festival 2020 – release of the official poster

Posted on July 6, 2020 Posted By: nationalbookcouncil Categories: Festival

The National Book Council is pleased to release the official poster of the Malta Book Festival 2020, which is going to be held between Wednesday 11 and Sunday 15 November at the Mediterranean Conference Centre, Valletta.

The illustrations of this year's poster are by Moira Scicluna Zahra and Mark Scicluna, while the graphic design is by Steven Scicluna. Moira, Mark and Steven are household names when it comes to book illustrations among other work, and have illustrated and designed many book covers in Malta and abroad. This year's poster features famous book characters, like Sherlock Holmes, Little Red Riding Hood and a dog dressed up as the cat in one of Dr. Seuss's books.

The NBC will also be retaining an extended exhibition space for this year's MBF, which will include a hall dedicated to booksellers and NGOs, and various activity areas for the many book presentations, discussions, launches and cultural activities that will be taking place. The programme of activities will be released in September and will be posted in print form to all households in Malta and Gozo. In the coming weeks the NBC will also be revealing the name of all foreign guests, including a renowned author as this year's special guest.

The Malta Book Festival will be inaugurated with a private ceremony on Tuesday 10 November, when the winners of the Terramaxka Prize for children and adolescents' books published in 2019 will be announced. The evening activities will open on Wednesday 11 November with the main conference of the Festival, which this year will focus on the experience of being translated abroad. School children will be able to visit the Festival every weekday morning. They will be treated to a special programme of cultural and fun activities that is being prepared for them, including theatre pieces, readings and meetings with writers.

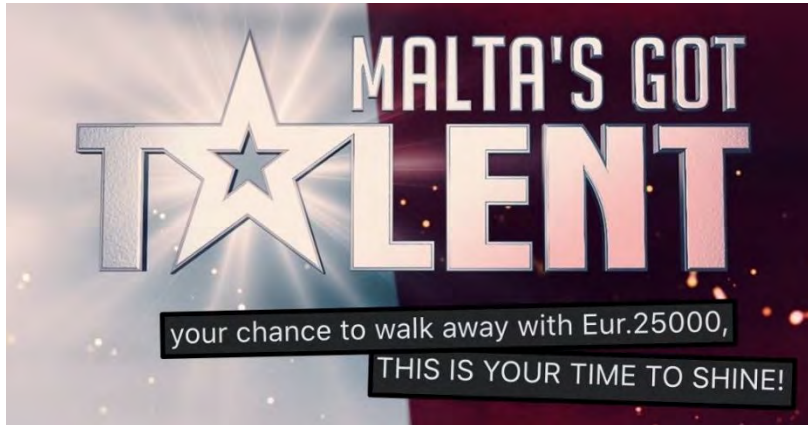
The NBC is following closely all latest Covid-19 measures by the Government so as to provide a safe experience for everyone visiting the Festival.

Prospective exhibitors that have not yet applied for their stand, can [do so from here](#). Deadline for applications is Friday 14 August at noon (12 pm). Members of the public are urged to follow updates on the festival on the [Facebook page of the National Book Council](#) and the 2020 Malta Book Festival FB event page and on our [website](https://ktieb.org.mt/). <https://ktieb.org.mt/>



DON'T MISS THE NEXT EDITION – WE HAVE SOME EXCITING NEWS

Malta's Got Talent to Replace X Factor



Malta's Got Talent will be replacing X Factor Malta's spot on our TVs throughout the coming months.

"The world's number one tv show has landed and the search for Malta's Number 1 talent has begun! This is your chance to show all of Malta and the world YOUR talent, this is your chance to walk away with €25,000, in a few words – this is your time to shine!" the show said upon its launch.

The winner will be awarded a

€25,000 prize and applications are open now.

Looking to apply? Send *Malta's Got Talent* a message via WhatsApp on 79202021 with your name, surname, age, and email. You can also choose to include a short clip of yourself performing.



NEW CASH-FOR-PASSPORTS SCHEME RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Malta's Individual Investor Program will be abolished in September, to be replaced by a program which will require applicants to live in Malta for at least a year before being allowed to apply for citizenship.

The government's plans were made public in a media

briefing by Citizenship Parliamentary Secretary Alex Muscat, who said that the IIP would be scrapped irrespective of whether the cap of 1,800 applications is reached or not.

New programme capped at 1,500 applications

Under the new system, only individuals who first manage to obtain a Maltese residence permit will be allowed to apply for citizenship. There are two ways to do this. Individuals can apply after a one-year residency period if they invest €750,000 or more. Applicants would have to pay €600,000 if they apply after a three-year residency period.

Presently, IIP applicants pay €650,000 for their Maltese citizenship.

Under the new system, €50,000 must be paid for each dependent of the main applicant. The minimum value of the property purchased is increasing from €350,000 to €700,000. If a property is rented, the minimum value is increasing from €16,000 to €18,000 annually.

Applicants must also make a mandatory €10,000 philanthropic donation.

A new agency will be set up to oversee all forms of citizenship, including those obtaining their Maltese passport through investment.

The money generated from this investment will be split up in the same way that applies with the current system, with 70% going into the National Development and Social Fund. There will be a limit of 1,500 applications.



Photo: Alenka Falzon

Through virtual reality, the general public can now visit underwater cultural heritage sites

“Our civic duty in these times” – Heritage Malta CEO

<https://heritagemalta.org/virtual-viewing-heritage-malta-sites-go-online/>

A visit to a Heritage Malta site or museum can still be on the cards despite the necessary social distancing measures imposed – thanks to Heritage Malta’s website, which now offers virtual experiences of over 35 sites and a vast database of

interactive content.

The national Agency’s website – www.heritagemalta.org – has just been redesigned to offer tailor-made experiences for the current circumstances. From exclusive virtual exhibitions to archaeological lectures, Heritage Malta’s website has something to pique everyone’s interest.

“Most families are currently self-isolating, or in quarantine, with very little to do,” explained **Noel Zammit, Heritage Malta’s CEO**. “Offering a virtual trip to our sites is simply our Agency’s civic duty in these troubling times.” Visiting the website, the *Museums & Sites* section offers virtual tours, information, and photos of the selected site. From roaming the Grandmaster’s Palace in Valletta to exploring the Ta’ Bistra Catacombs in Mosta, viewers can experience a variety of areas around the islands, complete with helpful facts and photos. Younger audiences can also find entertainment, with the *Kids* section bringing together weekly competitions, social media content, and tailormade educational material.

The *Videos* and *Lectures* section provides access to Heritage Malta productions and conferences, while the *Downloads* section opens the doors to the Agency’s vast resources.

“Until the day when we can re-open our doors arrives, we are doing our best to still ensure access to our national heritage,” stated **José Herrera, Minister for the National Heritage, the Arts and Local Government**. “I encourage parents and educators to use our online services as much as they can, and keep our country’s story alive.”



New appointment for Bishop Grech

Anton D'Amato

Pope Francis has appointed Bishop Mario Grech on the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of Christian Unity.

Bishop Grech was appointed member together with Cardinal Joseph William Tobin, Archbishop of Newark, Mgr. Paulo Cezar Costa, Bishop of San Carlos, Mgr. Paul Rauhana, Titular Bishop of

Antardo and Auxiliary Bishop of Jubbé, Sarba and Jounieh dei Maroniti and Mgr. Richard Kuuia Baawobr, Bishop of Wa. Mgr. Giacomo Morandi, Titular Bishop of Cerveteri and Secretary of the Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith, and Mgr. Giorgio Demetrio Gallaro, Archbishop Emeritus of Piana degli Albanesi and Secretary of the Congregation for the Oriental Churches, were appointed as Consulters. Bishop Mario Grech is Bishop Emeritus of Gozo, and in the coming months he is expected to be appointed Secretary General of the Synod of Bishops.

I'M PROUD TO BE
MALTESE

THAT'S WHY I READ, LOVE AND SHARE
THE MALTESE JOURNAL

maltesejournal@gmail.com





HERITAGE MALTA currently has 25 sites available to virtually tour and travel to Malta. This includes various museums, temples, forts, and archaeological sites. Malta is also home to three UNESCO Heritage sites that can be explored virtually: the city of Valletta, the Ħal Saflieni Hypogeum and the Megalithic Temples.

GRANDMASTER'S PALACE

In the city of Valletta, one can view the Grandmaster's Palace where today it seats the Office of the President of Malta. The Palace itself was one of the first buildings in the new city of Valletta founded by Grand Master Jean de Valette in 1566 a few months after the successful outcome of the Great Siege of Malta in 1565. The Palace Armoury is one of the world's largest collections of arms and armor that is still housed in its original building. The website offers four online exhibits one can look through, photo galleries and two museum views as if one were standing inside the museum.

FORT ST ELMO

Also in Valletta, one can virtually visit Fort St. Elmo National War Museum. Artifacts are displayed in chronological order, commencing from the early phases of the Bronze Age around 2,500 B.C. Two halls are dedicated to Malta's important role in WWI, the Inter-War Period and Malta's historical role in the Second World War where the Gloster Sea Gladiator N5520 FAITH, Roosevelt's Jeep 'Husky' and Malta award for gallantry, the George Cross are displayed. This site includes one online exhibit, a photo gallery and 10 museum views that viewers can explore.

ĦAL SAFLIENI HYPOGEUM

Ħal Saflieni Hypogeum is located in Raħal Ġdid. This Hypogeum is a rock-cut underground complex that was used both as a sanctuary as well as for burial purposes by the temple builders. It was discovered during construction in 1902. There are three underground levels that date from around 3600 to 2400 BC. There is one online exhibit unveiling an underground prehistoric cemetery, a photo gallery and one museum view.

ĠGANTIJA TEMPLES

There are seven Megalithic Temples found on the islands of Gozo and Malta, each a result of individual development. Five out of the seven can be virtually visited. The Ġgantija Temples in Xagħra, Gozo are the oldest, free-standing monuments in the world and are a testament to the Island's inhabitation for at least 1,000 years before the famous Egyptian pyramids of Giza were constructed. On the website viewers can look at one online exhibit, a photo gallery and three museum views.

JOSEPH CALLEJA VIDEO Musicians and singers in Malta are following suit in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic and sharing their performances online for all to appreciate. Malta's tenor, Joseph Calleja asked his fans to request songs and arias they would like to hear him sing on his Facebook page.



Ball of the August Moon scheduled for 1st. August

Report: Glen Falzon

The Ball of the August Moon is going to be held. The appointment is scheduled for 1 August at Verdala Palace in Buskett. President George

Vella has stated that this activity will give some breathing space to the Malta Community Chest Fund, with income from ticket sales going to the Foundation, which has fared badly in recent months because of the pandemic.

The pandemic had a bad effect on the Malta Community Chest Fund, as funds started to dry up because fund-raising activities had stopped. President Vella pointed out that more people in Malta were suffering from cancer, and new medicines for treatment were very costly. "Last year we raised six million euro. This sum only suffices for six months, and I have to admit that we often have to resort to the Government to make up the difference."

When launching another edition of the Ball of the August Moon, President Vella stressed on the need for such activities to pick up again, for donations to come in. "I pray to God and augur we do not arrive at a state when we say funds have dried up. God forbid," the President stated.

Marquis Daniel De Petri Testaferrata said the Ball of the August Moon would be held at Verdala Palace on Saturday 1 August. The Marquis reiterated that all directives by the health authority, including social distancing and hand washing, would be observed during the ball. The ball had started being organised in the sixties, and is considered one of the highlights of the summer calendar

Touring Filfla - NEW DATE!

Following the enthusiastic response for the first tour to Filfla, Heritage Malta is inviting the public to join



Senior Curator John J Borg on **Saturday, 25th July**, on an intriguing tour around Filfla during which he will reveal several interesting anecdotes about the history and wildlife of this island.

Price: Adults €25, Seniors and Students €20, Heritage Malta members and children (6 – 11yrs) €15.

Meeting point:

Sliema ferries at 9.15 am. Boat leaves at 10:00am sharp. Tour ends around 3.00pm. The tour may be cancelled in the case of bad weather.

How did this island form? From where did it get its name? Is it true that there was a chapel on Filfla? Why did the island attract pirates? How did it end up as a bombing target during the British Period? Which species live on Filfla nowadays? Why has the island been turned into a nature reserve?

Participants will enjoy a boat ride while listening to these stories. The boat will leave from Sliema and head to Filfla. There will be no disembarkation on the island and no swimming will take place around Filfla. On its way back, the boat will stop for a short time for those who would like to swim, and then return to Sliema.

Those attending are required to bring food and drinks with them. A bar will be available on the boat with refreshments only. Participants are recommended to apply sunblock and wear a hat.

Temperature reading will take place and Heritage Malta reserves the right to deny access to anyone with a temperature higher than 37.2 degrees Celsius, or if feeling unwell. Children should be supervised at all times. For more details visit our [Facebook event page](#).

'Not a Maltese breed': Miss World Malta contestant faces racist abuse

← Martha Attard for Miss World Malta 2020's Post



You and 224 others
225 12 6

Louis Galea
NT MALTESE BREED
1 hr Like Reply 1

Beauty pageant contender Martha Attard hits back at social media comments

Martha Attard. Photo: Facebook

A beauty pageant contestant is facing racist abuse on social media after one user said she was not a "Maltese breed".

Martha Attard, who is a hopeful in this year's Miss World Malta, was accused of not being Maltese, ostensibly because she is a black woman. She is one of 25 women competing in this year's edition Miss World Malta, which was launched back in January.

The racist comments were sparked by one user who posted a screenshot of one of Attard's promotional photos with a caption that said she should not be representing Malta as she is not of "Maltese breed".

Further comments accused her of not being Maltese at all. The Facebook post attracted nearly 300 comments. Attard reacted by saying she is, in fact, Maltese and eligible to participate in the beauty pageant.

"I will say it again: I am Maltese and I'm honoured to represent this country in this years Miss World Malta," she subsequently wrote on Facebook. Attempts to contact Attard for comment were unsuccessful by the time of writing. Rising racial tensions. Earlier this month, *Times of*

Malta reported how the number of reports to Malta's Hate Crime and Speech Unit has spiked amid a global anti-racism movement and increased local tensions over migration. In the first week of June, the number of hate crime reports were double the total filed during the entire month of May, according to data provided by the unit. The colour of this woman's skin should be of no more significance than the colour of her eyes.

Watch: 'Re George V' Mqabba band pays tribute to Our Lady of Lourdes



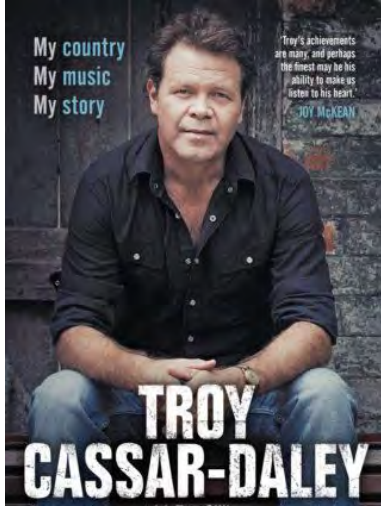
For the occasion of the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, which was celebrated on Sunday, the 'Re George V' band of Mqabba recorded the 'Ave Maria' and uploaded it on internet for the feast day. Normally, the band visits Qrendi

where it performs a number of band marches during the celebration of Our Lady of Lourdes feast. Due to the current pandemic situation, all the activities were this year cancelled. However, musicians of the Re George V band recorded the 'Ave Maria' and uploaded it on

internet. <https://www.tvm.com.mt/en/news/watch-re-george-v-mqabba-band-pays-tribute-to-our-lady-of-lourdes/>

Who do you think you are?

Troy Cassar Daley opens up on the moments that have defined his life and music



Troy Cassar-Daley has a dual family history marked by displacement and dispossession on both sides. In Malta lie the secrets to his grandmother's moribund expression, and way upriver from his childhood home in Grafton, NSW, is a hidden pocket of Australia's Indigenous past. The

singer's country music is the soundtrack to much of this enlightening journey, with a song especially crafted to mark his arrival in his true ancestral home an especially touching moment.

He is the country music legend that so many know and love, with a career spanning 26 years, a slew of awards including over 30 Golden Guitars, and a tenth studio album which has just been released. And now, in an honest and revealing autobiography, Troy Cassar-Daley shares the most intimate and poignant moments that have shaped his career and life.

A 'living treasure' of Australian country music, the truly gifted musician and storyteller, Troy Cassar-Daley has always had a fierce connection to family and his culture and in his autobiography which was released last week, Cassar-Daley shares the stories that have made him who he is today.

Discussing his childhood, Cassar-Daley told Radio National that music was an escape for him. Growing up with a Maltese Australian father who lived in Sydney city and an Aboriginal mother in Grafton, music helped him make sense of living in two different worlds. "I had some dysfunction in my family, living between Mum and Dad. I found that a hard tightrope to walk for a while."

Cassar-Daley describes how his father would help to ease him with music when he came to visit during school holidays. "Dad would play music to me when I was crying for Mum, I would get down here for school holidays (Sydney) and would be upset wanting to go back to Grafton, and he would bring out the guitar and make up songs with my name in them



and it made me feel like I belonged. And that is what music has been since that day."

Known for baring his heart on stage, fans will be interested to hear the stories that have shaped his life, the good the bad and in between. Cassar-Daley has shared what he believes are the moments that define your path, such as a time that he wanted to shoot his stepfather.

"I was reasonably good with a gun and it was encouraged because rabbit and kangaroo shooting was a big part of our life. Being indigenous, we liked surviving off what we could get ... it was a rite of passage as kids," Cassar-Daley told AAP. "But I was at that pivotal point in life where I hated someone as much as I did that I was prepared to do something like that, like hold a gun and not even be scared. I wasn't even shaken by the whole thought about it."

"A lot of people tend to write autobiographies later in life, but I thought at 47, my memory is still okay and I can still remember plenty of stuff" Troy joked with the hosts of NITV's League Nation Live last Tuesday night ahead of his performance on the show. "There's a lot of stories from my childhood, right from day dot. There's some confronting stuff in there too, not everyone's life is a walk in the park, but I find it's nice to be able to come through the other end, look back and think of it fondly."

Troy says that felt the book was timely and has posted on his Facebook page a message to his supporters.

Writing my story was quite a journey emotionally and made me remember things I had tucked away thinking they were gone for good. Revisiting those memories were a trial at times. I know it's honest and may make you laugh and cry at some of the things I did or went through, but most of all it's my story, through my eyes, told the only way I know best.

"Troy's a true gentleman, warm and genuine, always a pleasure to be around. He sings straight from his heart and straight from the heart of his country." ~ Paul Kelly

Cassar-Daley has also released an album which was inspired by the writing of the book.

In the opening of the title track to Things I Carry Around Cassar-Daley alludes to the reflective nature of the album: *That Old Timer knife my grandpa gave to me, has worn a hole in a hundred pairs of jeans / And this old keychain, I should have thrown away by now / Are some of the things I carry around*

Prime Minister thanks Neil Agius for raising awareness through his wave of change initiative

This morning, Prime Minister Robert Abela welcomed Neil Agius at the Auberge de Castille, the swimmer who last Friday managed to swim from Sicily to Malta.

During the meeting, Prime Minister Abela expressed his gratitude for the initiative taken by



Neil Agius to keep on raising awareness for cleaner sea and for making the public more aware of the consequences of plastic disposal in the sea. Mr Agius explained the challenges he faced during the swim and expressed his gratitude for the support he found for the Waveofchange initiative against the dumping of plastic at sea.

**We spread love and friendship
not coronavirus**



THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF MALTA
Arthur (Turu) Rizzo

We congratulate Neil Agius for his achievement in swimming between Sicily and Malta. Turu Rizzo (photo) is a legendary swimmer. He swam between Gozo and Malta in 11 hours in September 1926 (photo) and three years later he spent 68 hours and 18 minutes in water. In Aug 1933 he attempted to swim between Sicily and Malta but had to quit because of the rough seas after covering 34 kms in 24 hours.

<https://www.facebook.com/NationalArchivesMalta>

Maltese Community Centre PARKVILLE VICTORIA



The old and present Maltese Community Centre at Parkville – Victoria

The MCCV continued to grow and at the General Meeting held in Parkville on 9 April 1978, the President reported that whereas at the time of the first General Meeting there were only five associations present, now there were 22 affiliated with the council, of which 20 were present. By 1986 the number of associations affiliated with the MCCV had increased to 27.

The building of the *Centru Malti* in Parkville was the next most important project for the MCCV and its opening in December 1983 constitutes one of the most important landmarks in the annals of Maltese settlement in Victoria. It galvanised the various organisations forming the Maltese community and gave them a focal point and a sense of community bonding, which may have been lacking before. It gave them a stronger sense of purpose.

The building of a cultural and recreational centre for the community of Victoria was one of the agenda items for the first meeting of the Maltese Community Council of Victoria held on Sunday 6 July 1958 at St. Mary's Mission House. This dream was discussed on various other occasions.

On 13 December 1968 the President informed the committee that the first appeal for a building fund would be launched on the 20th December on the occasion of the Xmas party organised by the Community Christmas Committee. A plan for loans of \$500-\$800 by the affiliated associations would be proposed. An Open Forum between the MCCV and the Maltese associations in Victoria was held at the N.O.W. Ethnic Centre in Coburg on 24 October 1976. There was a substantial response to the call made through public announcements in *The Maltese Herald* and on the Maltese radio programme.



Mr Victor Borg, President of the MCCV, who chaired the forum appealed for greater unity among the community. He invited suggestions on how to improve things as well as criticism in an open discussion with any fear.

It was at this forum that Fr. George Scerri, the Provincial of the Missionary Society of St. Paul, announced that the leaders of the MSSP had decided to make its property in Parkville available to the Maltese community. He said that the project contemplated that the priests would keep a small part of the land on which to build a chapel and for their use in the delivery of spiritual service. The rest of the land would be used for the construction of a Maltese Centre with facilities to cater for the needs of the Maltese community in the fields of education, social welfare, sports and so on.

The late Fr George Scerri seen addressing an MCCV Council Meeting with (from left) Victor Borg, George Saliba and Paul Borg looking on.

Bishop Kelly blesses the foundation stone which had been shipped from Malta with (from left) Fr Tarcisio Micallef MSSP, Richard Curmi, Paul Borg, Joe Bartolo and Victor Borg proudly looking on.



Fund-raising activities were organised in earnest in every corner of the Maltese community as the treasurer's report adopted at the Annual General Meeting of 19 July 1987 shows. By 30 June 1987, the donations by the affiliated associations had risen to \$44,965 and from individuals to \$11,452. The Quest had rendered \$228,461, the Fete \$72,434, raffles \$75,577, social activities \$13,713, bingo \$33,000 and the hire of hall rendered \$21,780. The Tini Jdejk project raised \$16,094. and Fr David's concerts raised \$53,941 while bank interest(1975-1983) rendered \$142,422.

The Foundation stone for community centre was presented at the council meeting held on 4 February 1981. It is the work of the Maltese sculptor Mr. Marco Montebello. It was laid in September 1983.



The foundation stone which originated from Malta. The official opening of the new Maltese Centre in Nov 1983.

The Victorian Premier, Mr. John Cain



officially opened the Maltese community's new Centre at Parkville on 20 November 1983. He unveiled a commemorative plaque to mark the occasion saying that he "was delighted to be associated with the opening of this very impressive new community centre. This is a very special event for the Maltese community in Melbourne, and for the community as a whole."

Mr Cain said that he believed "the community at large will see in this new facility the great achievement of an important ethnic community in this State. This is a proud occasion for all of you, and it's a pride in which my Government is delighted to join in sharing... I want to put on record, too, my government's appreciation for

the very valued contribution the Maltese community makes to our State. Like other ethnic communities in Victoria, the Maltese community has added a rich dimension to our cultural heritage.

The Centre houses a library, with about a thousand books, that became open to all in early 1985. Books and tapes can be borrowed except rare books and reference books. Dr. Maurice Cauchi looked after its establishment and Mr. Edwin Baldacchino helped with setting up the necessary facilities.

UNITED WE STAND

**BUT SOME PEOPLE
NEVER LEARN**





**MALTESE
E-NEWSLETTER**

**The Journal of Maltese
living in Malta and Abroad**

**Sign up to our e-Newsletter
so that you don't miss a thing**

maltesejournal@gmail.com

The THE MALTESE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF VICTORIA

MCCV has recently expanded their services to provide additional assistance to the Maltese Community members who are over 65 and reside in the Western Suburbs of Melbourne.

Domestic Assistance This program is here to assist you with daily tasks that you might find difficult to keep up with. The MCCV can send a Maltese speaking person to your home to help out with:

- Cleaning Dish washing Ironing Clothes washing
- Shopping for food or other items Other household tasks

These services are very flexible and can be adapted as your needs change. We will discuss which day or days you prefer to have someone come to your home to assist you. You can also have short term assistance if you are not feeling well or come home from hospital and need some time to get back on your feet.

Fees There is a fee involved with provision of these services and this depends on which service you require and how often these services are delivered. All fees will be discussed with you before you start our programs.

How to access services If you wish to access any of our services, you will need to be referred via [My Aged Care](#) and have an assessment by the Regional Assessment Service by calling on [1800 200 422](tel:1800200422) or by going to myagedcare.gov.au

You can call My Aged Care or if you prefer, a referral can be made by your Doctor, someone who already provides a home care services to you, or a family member or carer. When you contact My Aged Care, you can let them know that you wish to use Maltese Community Council of Victoria services.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, some services will be modified to adhere social distancing laws and Government restrictions. Please note that this is a temporary arrangement and as soon as restrictions are eased or lifted, services will progressively return to normal.



The Maltese Canadian Association in Gozo has been celebrating Canada Day on July 1st. for these last 24 years. These are some pictures of our morning celebrations at the Emigrants Memorial and they finished celebrations with a dinner in the evening.

Happy Canada Day Everyone

Emanuel Tabone and Alfred Camilleri

MALTESE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION IN GOZO

Our Story starts back in 1995 when Alfred and Lily Camilleri hosted a Canada Day BBQ at their Farmhouse called IR-RAZZETT by the Xaghra Windmill called also Ta' Kola. It was a wonderful evening, music and lots of food. All present had showed interest to form some kind of a club, an organisation to organise the many returning emigrants to Gozo. There was already an association in Malta, but there was a strong feeling that the Gozitan returning emigrants should be an identity and have their own association

« ĠORĠI TAGĦNA *reġa' magħna* »

Is-sajf reġa' jinsab magħna
u miegħu tant festi sbieħ
illi niesna dlonk tistenna
għaliex dawn tgħożżhom qatigh!

Nghid għaliġa, jiena nhobbhom,
na nitlifx żgur waħda minnhom,
mill-bidu sat-tmiem jogħġobni
dak kollu li nara fihom.

Prominenza jiena nagħti
tal-Knisja l-funzjonijiet
illi jdur mal-istatwa
li ma tħalliniex bi kwiet

u quddiemha erhilna nċapċpu
u nkantawha bla waqfien –
din għalina tiġi l-ewwel
u hekk se tibqa' tul iż-żmien.

In-noti tal-qniepen helwa
illi jdoqqu bla mistrieħ
iferrhuni, jallegrawni,
tismagħhom mal-erba' rjiej.

It-tiżjin fit-toroq tagħna
ukoll johloq spirtu kbir;
atmosfera mhix komuni
u bih qalbna trid ittir.

U xi ngħidu mbaġħad għall-baned
illi jkaxkru lil tant nies
biex jisimgħu dawk il-marċi
b'hlewwa u benna ta' bla qies!

Żgur li l-festa itkun nieqsa
'k ma jkollhiex xi ftit sparar,
qisek hawwart borma prima
u hallejtha mingħajr bżar!



ritratt: Jovan Galea

Dawna l-ingredjenti kollha
żgur li ssibhom fil-Belt tagħna
għaliex tul ix-xahar ta' Lulju
arah jasal Ġorġi magħna!

Minn kull naħa n-nies tisfronda
u timla lit-Tempju tiegħu,
titolbu b'hegħa mill-akbar,
ilkoll hienja mdawra miegħu.

Din il-knisja hekk tal-ghageb
ghandha seher fuq kulhadd,
ghaddew fuqha ghadd ta' sekli –
ghadha hemm, ma tħarrket qatt!

Hemm se tibqa' u lil Ġorġi
tkanta innu ta' tifhir
u quddiemu lkoll jinxtehtu
l-ghani, ż-żghir, il-kbir, il-fqir.

Ta' kull sena ma' nofs Lulju
jingħaqad dlonk mal-Għawdxin
ferħan kollu l-poplu Malti,
u ma' dawn salt barranin.

U kif jista' jkun mod iehor
la San Ġorġ hu ta' kulhadd,
u li żgur qatt ma nstema'
li qatt nesa lil xi hadd!

O Tribun qawwi, setgħani,
meta l-Hadd toħroġ iddur
fost il-ferħ u l-ghors tal-folla
waqt li qalbna bil-ferħ tfur,

itfa' ħarstek fuq dal-poplu
illi bik jagħmel ir-riħ;
int fuq fomm l-hin kollu
ghax ihobbok wisq, qatigh!

Qabel nagħlaq, xtaqt nitolbok,
o Patrun tal-gżira tagħna:
biebna berah se nberrhulek
sabiex tghix għal dejjem magħna.

Ehlsna minn din l-**imxija**
illi nikktet lil kulhadd,
mill-gdid oħloq it-tbissima
u barra la tħalli 'l hadd!

Meta mbaġħad in-numru jagħlaq,
tafdaniex minn taht ghajnejk
izda aqbadna minn idejna
biex fil-Ġenna nigu hdejek!

Kav. Joe M. Attard
Il-Belt Victoria, Għawdex
Lulju 2020

festi fit-tielet Hadd ta' Lulju

Consulate General of the Republic of Malta to Canada

110 YEARS AGO TODAY THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST PAUL (MSSP) WAS ESTABLISHED

A Special Day for all Maltese Canadians

Mgr Joseph De Piro established the MSSP in Malta on June 30, 1910, and today the Superior General is Fr Mark Grima MSSP.

MSSP became a Pontifical Society and granted 'decretum laudis' in 1973 by today Pope Saint Paul VI.

2020 is also marks the 90th Anniversary since the establishment of the St. Paul The Apostle Maltese Canadian Parish in Malta Village in The

Junction, Toronto, today has Fr Mario Micallef MSSP as its Pastor assisted by Fr Ivano Burdian MSSP.

The MSSP was or is present in Ethiopia (1927), Australia (1948), Canada (1959), Peru (1968), USA (1973), Pakistan (1982), The Philipphines (1999) and Cuba (2017).

Vocations, volunteers and donations can help in the strengthening of your only Maltese Canadian Parish in all of Canada, the welcoming place you or your ancestors encountered when you or ancestors arrived in Canada. It is part of your family, its history and rich heritage in Canada.

Treasure it for present and future generations of Maltese Canadians.



Dar tal-Providenza launches 'Sabiñ li Tagħti' campaign as pandemic creates funding shortfall

The Dar tal-Providenza has launched a new fundraising campaign dubbed "Sabiñ li Tagħti" – the joy of giving – in the wake of a Covid-19 pandemic which has seen donations dry up while expenditures increased. The home for persons with disability in the limits of Siggiewi has had to implement a number of measures to protect its staff and residents alike, as home administrator

Nadine Camilleri Cassano explained.

"Despite all the difficulties, we worked together and did everything possible in order to protect our residents in the best way possible, while ensuring that they enjoy a good quality of life and in an environment which promoted their wellbeing," Camilleri Cassano said. However, she pointed out, these measures require a substantial investment of more than €60,000

Around €500,000 lost through volleyball marathon cancellation

At the same time, as Manwel Zammit explained, donations have fallen drastically, including through the cancellation of fundraising activities. One notable example is the annual volleyball marathon usually held at this time of year: the Dar tal-Providenza would have expected some €500,000 in donations from this event alone. The home also had to close its Valetta office, which provided a central location for benefactors wishing to make donations. However, Zammit also expressed his gratitude towards a number of organisations and commercial entities which have provided their assistance during this difficult period.

Fellow Dar tal-Providenza board member Jesmond Saliba explained that the Sabiñ li Tagħti initiative sought to bring together all the fundraising efforts that will be required to keep the home afloat. He reminded that the Dar tal-Providenza needed some €5 million a year to continue providing its services, and that it largely depended on the generosity of the Maltese public.

The home's name itself highlights its reliance on public generosity: it was famously founded after its founder Mgr Mikiel Azzopardi outlined his dream to establish it in 1965, prompting a young woman to generously donate Lm100 she had saved up for a vacation.

Pandemic forces stop to visits and excursions

The pandemic forced a stop to visits, while residents could no longer leave the premises, including on excursions organised by the home.

To help make up for this unwelcome change, a team of ability promoters led by Margaret Vella made sure to organise frequent activities, including street music and crafts session, and residents were frequently taken to the home's gardens to enjoy some fresh air.

With the help of MITA, the home also provided WiFi and smartphones to residents so that they could continue keeping in touch with their loved ones.

Staff were also provided with personal protective equipment and training, and a specialised transport service was provided to those relying on public transport to ensure they could reach the home safely. The home also improved its IT systems to enable administrative work to be carried out remotely.

And as the home announced its latest fundraising initiative, Superintendent for Public Health Charmaine Gauci paid a visit to thank them for the dedication they had shown during the pandemic, and to express her appreciation for the measures taken to safeguard the health of residents and workers alike.

Illness forces home's director to go on long leave

In his address, Saliba also announced the sad news that the home's director since 2008, Fr Martin Micallef, will be withdrawing from his responsibilities for a long period for health reasons: he will be receiving treatment for a curable form of cancer.

"Fr Martin will be embarking on a different, more arduous marathon. This is a difficult period for us who work so closely with Fr Martin, as well as his family and the family represented by the Home," Saliba said, whilst pledging that the home's administrative team would do its utmost in his absence.

As he appealed for donations, Saliba said that the public's generosity would not only provide invaluable help to the home's residents, but would also help encourage and sustain Fr Martin as he undergoes his treatment, while the home eagerly awaits his return.



The Lost Chapel of Bones in Malta

Charlie Hintz

Somewhere beneath the ruins of the Nibbia Chapel in Malta is an ossuary decorated in human bones exhumed from a nearby cemetery. Crypt beneath the Nibbia Chapel of Bones in Valletta, Malta

For nearly a hundred years a small church in Malta's capital of Valletta served as a place of powerful religious devotion, as well as a macabre tourist destination. Known as the Chapel of Bones, the vaulted crypt

beneath the church was elaborately decorated with human skulls and bones exhumed from a nearby cemetery in the mid-1800s. Bombs dropped on the city during the second World War, on February 14, 1941, left the chapel damaged. What remained was later demolished sometime in the 1970s. Only the sarcophagus of the chapel's builder Fra Giorgia Nibbia, along with remnants of the foundation, were left standing.

The Nibbia Chapel was built in the year 1612. Nibbia, a member of the Knights of the Order of St. John (who controlled the island at that time) funded the construction of the Roman Catholic chapel beside a cemetery where deceased patients of the nearby Sacra Infermeria hospital were laid to rest. It was dedicated to the *Madonna della Misericordia*, or Our Lady of Mercy, and was originally called *Taz-Zuntier*, a Maltese word for "cemetery." The altar had a Latin inscription that, according to the *Times of Malta*, "lamented the ephemerality of life and requested prayers for the dead." When Nibbia died in 1619, he was entombed in a stone sarcophagus within the chapel.

The chapel was dismantled in 1730 to make room for expansion of the hospital. At that time, Nibbia's tomb was opened, and his corpse was said to appear untouched by death. The church was rebuilt the following year in the Baroque style with architecture attributed to Romano Carapecchia. This new structure, as described by the *Times of Malta*, "consisted of a large portal panel having the main door set within two clustered sets of Doric pilasters on each side. The door's architrave was adorned with a marble plaque at the centre and topped by a broken rounded pediment. A thin cornice separated the upper section which was made up of a central light arched window set between two smaller clusters of pilasters and running scrolls. Above the whole was a triangular pediment."

In 1776, the decision was made to relocate the cemetery. The remains were exhumed and reinterred underground in a large ossuary beneath the chapel. Then, in 1852, hospital chaplain Rev. Sacco decided to

use the bones as decoration, adorning the walls and ceiling of the crypt with elaborate shapes and patterns made entirely of human skeletal remains. He created intricate patterns with crossed long bones, scapulae were used for floral shapes, skulls lined the walls, and smaller bones were used as trim.

In the 1914 book *Six and One Abroad*, author Sidney J. Thomas wrote about the Church of St. John in Valetta, where a relic said to be the mummified right hand of John the Baptist was kept (after Napoleon stole the diamond ring from its finger), before moving on to describe the city's other macabre destination.

"But yet a more startling apartment in this remarkable edifice is a chapel whose walls and ceiling are lined with grinning human skulls," Thomas wrote. "This gruesome decoration of bones is not disposed at random and in sparse bits here and there, but is arranged with artistic skill into all sorts of designs, shaped into full framed skeletons that STARE at you with ghastly smiles, into the curves of arm bones and arches of clavicles and windows and wainscotting of ribs. In the world, civilized and savage, there is not another such a gruesome and appalling spectacle. It was a clever artist who assembled these, the relics of the sturdy Knights of Malta, into such extraordinary schemes of drapery and friezes and ornaments – here an arm bone finished off with finger joints and meeting another of the same kind and together holding a grinning skull as the keystone of an arch; yonder a row of columns with their tops decorated with skulls."

Though little remains of the Nibbia Chapel, the underground crypt is believed to still exist, and may one day be found.

Karl Doenitz held as prisoner-of-war in Malta



Karl Doenitz was to become commander of the German U-Boat forces during World War II.

Probably, one of the most prominent prisoners-of-war (POW) in Malta was Karl Doenitz who, at the end of World War II briefly succeeded Adolf

Hitler as Chancellor of the Third Reich after the dictator's suicide.

In 1910, Doenitz had enlisted in the Kaiserliche Marine (Imperial German Navy). After the outbreak of World War I, he was serving on the light cruiser SMS Breslau in the Mediterranean Sea.

In August 1914, SMS Breslau and the battle-cruiser SMS Goeben arrived in Constantinople, which formed part of the Ottoman Empire; the ships were renamed the Midilli and the Yavuz Sultan Selim, respectively. They began operating under Rear Admiral Wilhelm Souchon, engaging Russian forces in the Black Sea.

On March 22, 1916, Doenitz was promoted to Navy First Lieutenant. When the Midilli put into dock for repairs, he was temporarily assigned as airfield commander at the Dardanelles. From there, he requested a transfer to the submarine forces, which

became effective in October 1916. He served as watch officer on U-39, and from February 1918 onward as commander of UC-25.

On September 5, 1918, he became commander of UB-68. On October 4, his U-boat was sunk by the sloop HMS Snapdragon off Gozo. One of the submarine crew members died but 33 were rescued by the boats of the Snapdragon. Doenitz was among the survivors who were taken as a POWs who were captured and interned in Malta.

On November 4, 1918, exactly one week before the armistice that ended the conflict in Europe, Doenitz was taken to the waterfront in Grand Harbour and transferred to Britain aboard a British cruiser.

Imaginative children's guide to the pandemic



A Special Spring Festival, written and illustrated by Gao Jing The China Cultural

Centre in Malta, in collaboration with the philanthropic website of Life Tree Books, is publishing nine colourfully-illustrated children's books, freely accessible to the public. The aim of this project is to help children to have a better

understanding of COVID-19 and how to protect themselves against contracting the virus.

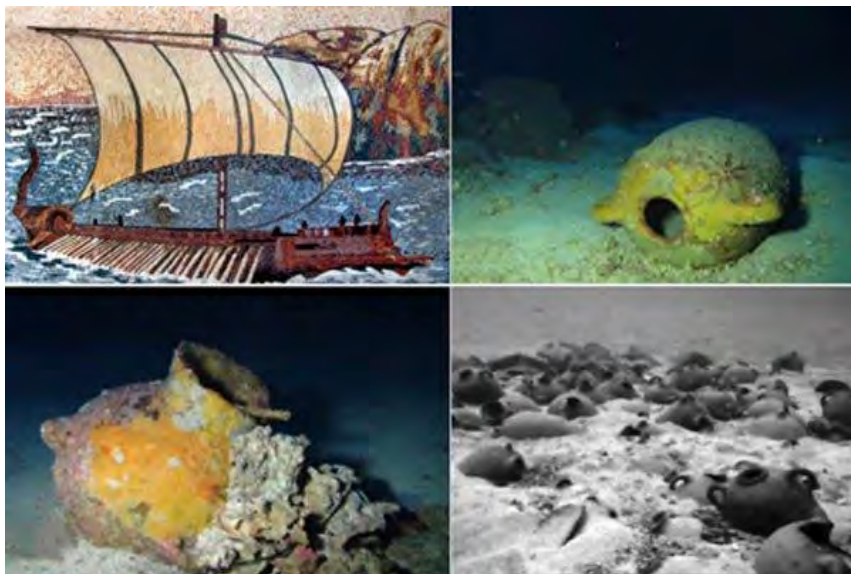
A Special Spring Festival, written and illustrated by Gao Jing

According to UNESCO, almost three-quarters of the world's schoolchildren were impacted due to the closure of educational institutions in the attempt to contain the spread of COVID-19. Barred from schools and not able to meet friends as freely as before, many young children around the



world have a lot of questions about this change in their lives.

To date, 200 volunteers have translated this set of books into 13 languages, including French, Russian and Italian. It continues to be a great source of answers and consolation to children of different nationalities. The China Cultural Centre in Malta, commonly abbreviated to the CCC, is issuing an open call to Maltese speakers who would be interested in volunteering to translate the books from English to Maltese. Their skills would benefit a good cause and contribute to the fight against the virus by providing children with science-based knowledge through books.



2,700-year-old Phoenician Shipwreck Discovered in Maltese Waters

The Phoenician shipwreck was found one mile off the coast of Gozo in Malta

A group of divers have discovered a Phoenician shipwreck dating back to 700 BC off the coast of Gozo island in Malta, according to a news report in the [Times of Malta](#). It is a unique and

immensely important finding as it is the oldest known shipwreck in the central Mediterranean, it is among the oldest and most complete Phoenician ships ever recovered, and it will serve to shed light on inter-regional trade and exchange in antiquity.

The announcement was made by Malta's Minister for Justice, Culture and Local Government, Owen Bonnici, who said the wreck was found in Maltese waters at a depth of 120 metres.

"This discovery is considered to be unique not only here but internationally as well because it is the oldest, or considered to be the oldest shipwreck in the central Mediterranean and it is in a fantastic state of preservation," Project Co-Director Dr Timmy Gambin told the Times of Malta.

To date, researchers from France, the United States, and Malta have recovered 20 lava grinding stones, weighing some 35kg each, and 50 amphorae of seven different types, which suggests the ship had visited different harbours. Based on the cargo, scientists believe the ship was sailing from Sicily to Malta to sell its cargo when it sank.

The whole operation, which is being supervised by the Superintendence of National Heritage and explored by **GROplan Project**, is currently focused on piecing together over 8,000 photographs to create a very high resolution and detailed 3D model of the site. Following this, the results will be published and the international team will be working out how the site can be enjoyed by the general public. It has already been added to the National Inventory of Cultural Property and steps are being taken to protect the site for its future preservation.

One of the project's researchers explained that the shipwreck is a typical Phoenician vessel which would have measured some 50 feet long.



*Phoenician ship carved on the face of a sarcophagus. 2nd century AD. Image source: **Wikipedia***

The Phoenician civilization, which lasted from 1550 BC to 300 BC, was based in present-day Tyre in Lebanon. They travelled across most of the Mediterranean, not as conquerors but as traders.

The strategic location of the Malta in the Mediterranean made the islands a safe refuge for the Phoenicians during their long sea voyages. By the 7th

Century BC the Phoenician presence was part of the identity of the Maltese islands. They are also widely believed to have set the origins of the Maltese language.

The Phoenician civilization was eventually conquered by the Persians and then by the Greeks.

*Featured image: Top Left: Phoenician boat marble mosaic art (contemporary). Remaining images: Screen captures of newly-discovered shipwreck taken from video released by the **Times of Malta**.*

By **April Holloway**



**WE THANK OUR
READERS FOR THE
GREAT SUPPORT AND
ENCOURAGEMENT
IN PRODUCING THIS
JOURNAL OF MALTESE
LIVING IN MALTA AND
ABROAD**

MALTESE CENTER

Social club in New York City, New York, USA

Address: 2720 Hoyt Ave S, Astoria, NY 11102, United States

Phone: +1 718-728-9883

EXITING NEWS – RESET-RESTART-REOPENING



Dear Members, Many things have changed since our last newsletter. We have exciting news. The Maltese Center will reopen July 5th for outdoor seating. All snacks and drinks must be taken to your designated table. In advance there are a number of new rules that the city and state has mandated but the good news we are open! Starting July 5th - The Maltese Center outdoor area will have a soft reopen with limited capacity for members only who are up to date and in good standing.

**WE HAVE A VERY IMPORTANT PROJECT TO PRESERVE THIS JOURNAL FOR
FUTURE GENERATIONS. DETAILS NEXT EDITION. WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!!**



Fat-fighter Boris Johnson declares war on obesity in UK

“We are significantly fatter than most others – apart from the Maltese.” Boris said.

UK has one of the highest rates of obesity in the world: nearly one in three adults are obese. Coronavirus crisis has persuaded prime minister that obesity is a major health issue

Boris Johnson drinks a beer in 2016. He proclaimed that he was now ‘as fit as a butcher’s dog’ after a recent bout of Covid-19. File photo: Reuters

Boris Johnson made an uncharacteristic apology on Monday; he confessed that in the past he had taken a too “libertarian” attitude to obesity and the government’s role in preventing it and vowed to wage a national war on fat.

The prime minister’s nutritional epiphany comes after a dangerous bout of Covid-19 that led him close to death.



Weighing more than 110kg when he was admitted to hospital two months ago, Johnson blamed his susceptibility to the virus on his own poor body mass index score.

In an interview with *The Daily Mail* the former journalist gave a photo opportunity by doing a

press-ups, to show he was “as fit as a butcher’s dog” and personally serious about getting in shape.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson is determined to tackle obesity in Britain to better prepare the country for future health crises. Photo: Reuters

“Everybody knows that this is a tough one, but I think it’s something we all need to address,” he said in a radio interview Monday. “I think that we certainly must have a care for the health of our population and we will be happier and fitter and more resistant to diseases like Covid if we can tackle obesity.”

Obesity is seen as a major risk factor for severe Covid-19, and the chances of recovery from intensive care are greatly reduced, especially with a common comorbidity of diabetes. Johnson says he wants action now to get the nation in better shape in case of a second wave of the pandemic later this year.

According to the World Health Organisation, in 2018 the only European Union country with a bigger obesity problem than the UK was Malta. A 2017 report by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, found obesity to be growing at an epidemic rate with the rate almost doubling since the early 1990s.

Malta’s superintendent of public health was asked to weigh in on the subject and acknowledged the need to expand Malta’s own efforts to fight the widespread problem.

In 2015, 26.9 per cent of the UK population were considered obese. A government survey found 28.7 per cent of adults in the country were clinically obese with a further 35.6 per cent classified as overweight.



2020 is a historic year for the Society of St Mary and King George V Band of Mqabba where it will celebrate its 75th anniversary since the formation of the St Mary Orchestra, today known as the King George V Band. This Society has been on the forefront of cultural advancements on the Maltese islands, with innovations in the fireworks industry in the early 1900s, thereafter, post the end of the Second World War, it developed the musical culture in Mqabba.

The art of music within the village and the Society of St Mary had its origins way before the official formation. It was Guzeppi Galea, a local musician, who in 1939 took the initiative and started teaching music at the King George V Club. The club was established back in 1910 with the principle aim being the celebrations of the St Mary feast. Less than a year after starting this project, WWII hit our islands and music teaching was forced to stop due to heavy bombardments. It wasn't until early 1944 when Galea commenced teaching music once again. Soon after Galea, together with Profs Pawlu Carabott, Charles Schembri, Antonio Mamo, Espedito Deguara and Francesco Azzopardi, established the St Mary Orchestra in June 1944 as publicised in the Maltese newspaper *Il-Berqa* dated 16 February 1945, showing the official photo of the orchestra. The St Mary Orchestra made its debut in public on Sunday, 12 August 1945 on the second day of the Triduum of the feast of St Mary of Mqabba. During this debut, set in the parish square, various music themes,

St Mary Orchestra in Mqabba

produced by Ketèlbey and Von Suppé were displayed. This was the first ever concert by a local music formation in the village.

The transformation from orchestra to a band took place shortly after, in October 1946, bearing the name of the club, that of King George V Band led by Mro Joseph M. Barbara. This band kept on progressing, as invites from other village feasts started to pour in, with the band establishing performances also in events held on a national level. During the 1990s international relations were established with bands from the United Kingdom, Italy, Israel and Greece, among others. A notable performance was delivered during 1998, where the association with the Corpo Bandistico Santa Vittoria di Matenano bore fruit, with this twinning awarded the highly regarded honour *Les Etoiles d'or du Jumelage* by the European Commission. During 2007, the band also played live performances in Rome and the Vatican City enhancing its relationship with other Italian bands. Nowadays the school of music, within the King George V Band, has more than 33 students, developing their studies in music and instrumental techniques utilizing modern technologies made available to them through investments by the band club. Through the progress and milestones achieved throughout the years, the band has evolved, thereby keeping the aim of promoting music in the local community and the organisation of the feast of St Mary at heart



Share it with others
send it to us

WORLD WAR 1 1914-18 Last Maltese to die in action, perhaps



During the final drive of hostilities in France, the young Maltese Lance Corporal Fortunato Borda paid the supreme sacrifice on the field. He was probably the last

Maltese of World War I to die in action. He was serving in a British regiment. Educated at St Aloysius' College, Birkirkara, and at the University of Edinburgh, he joined the Scottish Borderers as a volunteer.

The Military Cross

Lt William Parnis awarded the Military Cross

Among the gallant band of Maltese officers who were serving at the various fronts with credit to themselves, early in 1918, 2nd Lt William Parnis was awarded the Military Cross "for conspicuous bravery in the field". Lt Parnis had proceeded to England where he volunteered for active service. Having obtained a commission, he was posted to the Buffs, and afterwards transferred to the Machine Gun Corps. He was active on the Western Front for a considerable time. Lt Parnis participated in an extensive move which resulted in the biggest capture of the war. His brother, Lt H. Parnis, was serving on the Western Front with the Royal Army Medical Corps and was mentioned in despatches.

Public prayers for peace with victory

As there were prospects of cessation of hostilities in the air, the Church in Malta ordained public prayers for peace with victory. The circular issued by Archbishop Maurus Caruana, OSB, ordained three days – a triduum – of War Intercession Services in all the church of the island. Mgr Caruana further announced that the Cathedral Chapter had made the vow of a

solemn procession to be held once only from the Cathedral to the church of Our Lady of the Grotto at Rabat, in the event of the island being spared the horrors of war till the conclusion of hostilities.



Waldemar Beck killed on British western front

Waldemar Beck, who was serving on the British western front, died of wounds received on the field. He had left Malta for Western

Australia in 1912 after having successfully completed his studies at the University of Malta, obtaining the degree of Bachelor of Engineering and Architecture, and the warrant of land surveyor and architect. He filled an important billet but in 1916 he gave it up, and enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force, being attached to a Battalion Fourth Brigade. He died of wounds from a gunshot wound to the head on 6 July 1918 in France, aged 29.

Silta mill-kitba ta' Ġużè' Ellul Mercer. Hajr lil Nazzarene Zerafa li għoġbu jghaddiena din il-paġna! Huwa jsegwi dan il-gurnal Brisbane fl-Awstralja, u għalkemm ilu nieqes minn artna madwar 40 sena, l-ilsien Malti baqa' hafna għal qalbu! Grazzi Nazzarene

Il-Kelma Maltija

Helu l-ilsien Malti u għani biżżejjed biex bih tista' tikteb li trid; mhux biss, iżda tista' tgħanni l-ferħ, l-uġiġh, iż-żebli u l-glorja ta' artna.

Qawwi biżżejjed biex min tweled...jista' jekk iħoss, jekk irid u jekk għandu biżżejjed sengħet il-kitba, iħalli dak li tħabbat qalbu u dak li jahseb moħħu mnizzlin fl-ilsien Malti biex ma jintemmu qatt.!

Ġużè' Ellul Mercer

Jl-Helsien tad-19 ta' Ottubru, 1960.

MALTESE-CANADIAN COMMUNITY NEWS



I WOULD LIKE
TO SINCERELY
THANK THE
CONSUL
GENERAL,
DR. XERRI AND
THE MEMBERS
OF THE
MALTESE
CANADIAN
ASSOCIATION
OF TORONTO
AND SEVERAL
FRIENDS WHO
SUPPORT
THIS JOURNAL

FALCON'S SHADOW

A Novel of the Knights of Malta

"Falcon's Shadow by Marthese Fenech

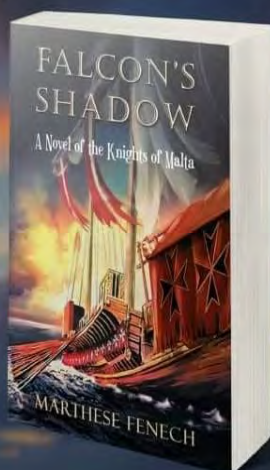


is a beautifully compelling,
and emotional read..."

The Coffee Pot Book Club

Marthese Fenech

marthesefenech.com



The number of Maltese
living abroad is reaching one
million.

This journal is distributed to
so many countries where
Maltese reside. – including
USA, Canada, all over
Europe, South America,
Africa, Russia, Middle East
and in Malta and Gozo

MALTESE JOURNAL - READ, ENJOY, SUPPORT AND SHARE





George Cross of WWII Heroine Violette Szabo Sold for a Record Breaking £312,000

Photo Credit: [Dix Noonan Webb Website/Facebook Page](#)

Lord Ashroft adds another George Cross Medal to his collection – that of WWII heroine Violette Szabo – which he bought for a record breaking £312,000. The George Cross was part of the several medals the WWII heroine

received for her work as a spy and that went under the auction gavel recently. The sale surpassed the highest current record of £93,000.

Knowing the WWII Heroine

Violette Szabo was one of the the only four women who were given the George Cross. Odette Sansom, a fellow British SOE spy and a recipient of the George Cross, even acknowledged that the WWII heroine was the “bravest of them all”.

Beautiful and brave Violette Szabo was a British spy who worked on several highly-dangerous missions in Nazi-occupied France during the Second World War. The WWII heroine was captured by the enemy when she chose to let a comrade escape while she face them head on. She was violently tortured before the Germans decided to end her life by shooting her at the Ravensbruck Concentration Camp in Germany early 1945.

The 23-year-old WWII heroine joined the Land Army first after the outbreak of WWII working as a strawberry picker and later on, at an anti-aircraft battery. Then, the death of husband at the hands of the Germans at El Alamein in 1942 happened.

Deciding to avenge his death, Violette got herself involved with the Special Operations Executive.

Her first solo mission – two months before D-Day [April of 1944] – took her to Cherbourg on a parachute. She was tasked to assess the condition of a network of SOE agents. The WWII heroine also had to gather as much information as she could about the factories that were producing war materials for the Nazis so that the Allies could bomb them.

The WWII heroine got arrested twice by the Germans during that time but as they believed her cover story, they also let her go on both occasions. And before she was picked up for home, Violette dared to go shopping in Paris where she bought her daughter back home, Tania, an expensive dress.

[Two days after the Normandy Landings](#), Violette embarked on her second mission. The WWII heroine parachuted to southwest France reportedly kissing the whole crew of the Liberator aircraft before she jumped off to her destination.

Tasked with sabotaging Nazi communication lines, she, along with French resistance fighter Jacques Dufour and several others, drove to Dordogne in haste. But then, they were stopped by a German checkpoint located near Limoges.

Realizing that their cover was blown, Violette and Jacques ran into a nearby wheat field all the while fighting against their pursuers with their Sten guns. They crawled through the field for sometime until the WWII heroine, exhausted and suffering from an injured ankle, urged her companion to make his escape as she engage the enemy.

“She insisted she wanted me to try and get away, that there was no point in my staying with her. So I went on while she kept firing,” Dufour said later on.

December the following year, the WWII heroine was posthumously awarded the George Cross by King George VI. Her daughter, Tania, was the one who took it on her behalf during a private ceremony in Buckingham Palace. She was only four years old then.

Tarxien Time flies; Not many changes

<https://annevisitsmalta.com/tag/tarxien/>

ANNE VISITS MALTA



(PHOTOS) around 1947, my sister, Mary, my nana and I on our roof. Myself, on one of my trips, on my roof



These two photos are taken 69 years apart. Both were taken on the roof of my house, when I lived in Malta. The first has myself, my

sister and my nana and was taken in 1947; the other, is of myself and was taken in 2016. About the only change is me, quite a bit older. Houses in Malta seem to go on forever. Not much changes!



Old Tiles Really old tiles still look great today.

In the living room of my home in Tarxien, we saw beautiful tiles that had been installed by my grandmother over 75 years ago. They were still lustrous, shiny and in terrific shape. I was surprised to see them, still looking great after all this time.

Memories of a WW II Shelter

My sister standing on the exact spot where she was born, down in a shelter during a bombing during WW II.

Across the street from our home (see previous blog) is a patched up area enclosing a World war II shelter. This was the entrance to a catacomb-like construction, underground, with hollowed out rooms for the families to live in, during bombing. My sister chose to be born on one of these occasions.

It was eerie to come back, so many years later and still see the remnants of the shelter.

The Temples in Tarxien



Megalithic Temple

This temple, dating from around c.4,000 to 2,500 BC is located close to the place where I lived in Tarxien. In fact, my friends and I used to play among the now protected and untouchable rocks when we were young children. This was before they became tourist attractions. I still remember seeing blood stains, from sacrifices on the altar rocks.

If you enjoyed this, much more information is available in my published book: Return to Malta which can be purchased from Amazon.com

We're Back with more museums and sites!

What's On - July 2020



1st July The National Museum of Archaeology, MUŻA, Fort St Elmo and the National War Museum will be open to visitors from **Wednesdays till Sundays (10:00 – 18:00hrs)**. Admission is **free of charge** for all visitors until further notice.

6th July **Hal Saflieni Hypogeum** will re-open from

Monday, **6th July**. Tickets, including the last minute tickets, will be available online in the coming days. *The tickets for the audiovisual will be suspended until further notice.* **From 6th to 19th July, all tickets for the Hypogeum will be at half price.** From 20th July onwards, ticket fees will be at a normal price. **7th July** As from 7th July, the **Inquisitor's Palace, Domvs Romana, Ta' Haġrat, Skorba, Ċittadella Museums and Visitor Centre** will be open to visitors on **Tuesdays and Saturdays (10:00- 17:00hrs)**. Normal admission fees apply.

8th July As from 8th July, the **Tarxien Temples, Ġgantija Temples, Haġar Qim and Mnajdra Temples, St. Paul's Catacombs, and Fort St. Angelo** will be open to visitors from **Wednesdays till Sundays (10:00 – 18:00hrs)**. Normal admission fees apply.



Keeping Maltese Communities Connected

MALTESE JOURNAL 285 September 2019

Maltese eNewsletter
Journal of the Maltese Diaspora
Editor: Frank L. Scicluna
maltesejournal@gmail.com

THE MALTESE GUILD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA CELEBRATED MALTA NATIONAL DAY IN ADELAIDE Sept. 7, 2019

HON JING LEE
Member of the South Australian Parliament

MALTESE COMMUNITY OF NEWCELEBRATES E-ITHELIA

THE NAMING OF A MEDICO
BY MARILYN L. GARDNER

Malta DownUnder
Maltese Australian TV Show

MARLENE MARK

MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER 259 March 2019

Maltese eNewsletter
Journal of the Maltese Diaspora
Editor: Frank L. Scicluna OAM MQR Contact: maltesejournal@gmail.com

THE PRESIDENT OF MALTESE LIVING ABROAD
President Marie-Louise Collins Preca said that while Maltese people have ended up living in every corner of the globe, they remained united by culture and by common values. Malta still needs you. I am proud to be the President of every Maltese person, including those living overseas, and encouraged the diaspora to continue to give visibility to their country of origin.
End of term of office - April 2019

MALTA and the ANZACS

THE NURSE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN
World War I 1914 - 1918

MALTESE COMMUNITY CENTRE IN AUSTRALIA ROBBED BY MASKED INTRUDERS

MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER April 2019

Maltese e-Newsletter
The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora
Editor: Frank L. Scicluna OAM MQR JP Email: maltesejournal@gmail.com

A Special Edition dedicated to the new President of Malta Dr. George Vella

MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

The Maltese living abroad congratulate you, Mr. President and we are all very proud of you

His Excellency Dr. George Vella

The Prime Minister Joseph Muscat and Dr. George Vella

Speaker Anglu Farrugia at the swearing-in of the new President of Malta

Maltese eNewsletter
JOURNAL OF THE MALTESE DIASPORA
Editor: Frank L. Scicluna OAM MQR Contact: maltesejournal@gmail.com

MALTESE TRADITIONAL DRESS

CARNIVAL IN MALTA 1 - 5 MARCH 2019

EXPLORE MALTA THE KNIGHTS OF ST. JOHN

Visit: airmalta.com

Our journal is reaching readers from all over the WORLD

MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER 287 September 2019

Maltese eNewsletter
Journal of the Maltese Diaspora
Editor: Frank L. Scicluna
maltesejournal@gmail.com

Madhavi & Group
Indian folk group based in Malta

How dare you! Greta Thunberg tears into world leaders over 'inaction' at UN climate summit

Maltese scattered all around the globe

THE MALTA INTERNATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL

MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER 259 September 2019

Maltese eNewsletter
Journal of the Maltese Diaspora
Editor: Frank L. Scicluna
maltesejournal@gmail.com

MALTESE COMMUNITIES AROUND THE WORLD CELEBRATED MALTA NATIONAL DAY - 8 SEPTEMBER - "IL-VITORJA"

UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES, CANADA, AUSTRALIA, SOUTH AMERICA, MIDDLE EAST, ASIA, AFRICA AND THE EUROPEAN UNION

21 September 2019

JUM I-INDIPENDENZA
Independence Day

THE KNIGHTS OF MALTA PARTICIPATE IN THE 8 SEPT. CELEBRATIONS IN SYDNEY

THE PRESIDENT AND THE POPE

MALTA NATIONAL DAY 8 SEPTEMBER REGATTA (BOAT RACE) VALLETTA GRAND HARBOUR

Maltese in Adelaide celebrates Malta Day in Adelaide

MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER 225 June 2018

MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER
The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora
Editor: Frank L. Scicluna OAM Contact: maltesejournal@gmail.com

L-IMNARJA 29 JUNE

This feast marks an important event in the calendar of Maltese popular customs and traditions. It is a country harvest and folk festival as well as a religious holiday. It dates back even further than the arrival of the Knights of St. John in 1534. The festival is named L-Imnarja, a corruption of the Italian 'Luminaria' and means Festival of Light. It is named after the bonfires that used to light up the festivities in the towns of Malta and Rabat.

MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER OCT/NOV 2019

Maltese eNewsletter
Journal of the Maltese Diaspora
Editor: Frank L. Scicluna

CONNECTING COMMUNITIES 2019

Elena Gomez Blanco, a fourteen year old student from Havana, Malta Junior Eurovision Song Contest 2019

Maltese-Americans in USA

Maltese in Greece still hold Malta dear to their hearts

The President makes a courtesy call by Mr. Josep Borrell at San Anton Palace, Madrid

Minister Aletta spoke about the idea of a global Malta in a globalised world, as the way to help of the Maltese diaspora in the coming years. 'There is no us and them, our interests and theirs, but a common interest to boost Malta's uniqueness'.

Maltese eNewsletter
JOURNAL OF THE MALTESE DIASPORA
Editor: Frank L. Scicluna OAM MQR Contact: maltesejournal@gmail.com

MALTESE TRADITIONAL DRESS

CARNIVAL IN MALTA 1 - 5 MARCH 2019

EXPLORE MALTA THE KNIGHTS OF ST. JOHN

Visit: airmalta.com

Our journal is reaching readers from all over the WORLD