



MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

The Journal of Maltese Living Abroad

Editor : Frank L Scicluna OAM MQR JP

maltesejournal@gmail.com



BOETHIUS AND
PHILOSOPHY
is back home
in Malta

Mattia Preti
Painting



our journal is the
the voice of the
people

vox populi

7



years
of
service





Foreign Minister stresses need for peaceful resolution to Libyan conflict in official visit to Turkey

In meeting with Turkish counterpart, Evarist Bartolo underlines need for peace in Libya in light of conflict's dire consequences for Malta

by **Massimo Costa**

www.maltatoday.com.mt

Foreign Minister Evarist Bartolo met with his Turkish counterpart Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu in an official visit to Ankara. A peaceful resolution to the Libyan conflict is the only way of preventing further serious consequences for Malta and

the rest of Europe, Evarist Bartolo said in an official visit to Turkey.

The Foreign Minister met with his Turkish counterpart Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu in Ankara on Tuesday, with the two exchanging views about the impact of the unfolding Libyan scenario on migration, and the need for more concerted efforts to disrupt the business model of human smugglers and traffickers.

Bartolo stressed that there is no alternative to the peaceful resolution of the Libyan conflict, and augured that the parties involved would arrive at a lasting ceasefire for the common good of the Libyan people.

The minister elaborated that the solution to the situation in Libya should be Libyan-led and should preserve a single and united country, in the hands of the Libyans themselves.

Events in Libya were resulting in dire consequences on Malta and the rest of Europe, Bartolo said, as he emphasised that peace and stability in Libya would translate into peace and security in the Mediterranean as well as in Europe. This made it urgent for the EU to facilitate and provide active support to the resolution of the conflict. The meeting with Çavuşoğlu is considered important in the light of Malta's overtures to the NATO country and its withdrawal from EUNAVFOR Irini, the European naval operation considered to be inimical to Turkey's geopolitical interests.

Çavuşoğlu had back in June said that Operation Irini failed to meet the demands and concerns of the internationally recognised government. "Does it say anything about the warplanes coming to Libya from Syria? Does it look into arms sent from Abu Dhabi? Does it have a report about France supplying arms to Haftar?" he had asked during a joint news conference with his Italian counterpart, Luigi di Maio,

"It's not objective. Operation Irini does not contribute to a solution to the Libya problem, nor the embargo," Çavuşoğlu had said. During their talks, Bartolo and Çavuşoğlu moreover explored areas of possible bilateral cooperation, including trade, investment, education, culture, health, and English language learning.

The two discussed matters of regional importance and in particular common challenges and cooperation opportunities in the Mediterranean.

Bartolo and Çavuşoğlu also signed an agreement between the Maltese and Turkish governments on the gainful occupation of dependants of members of diplomatic missions and consular posts. This agreement enables the spouses of diplomatic officers serving in each other's country to engage in remunerative employment. Bartolo's visit to Turkey comes after he [earlier this month met with Turkish defence minister](#)

[Hulusi Akar](#), who was in Malta on a short visit.

<https://www.maltafireworksfestival.com/>

**THE MALTESE COMMUNITY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA
AND THE READERS OF THE MALTESE JOURNAL
SAY 'THANKYOU' TO FRANK SCICLUNA AND THEY
SHOW APPRECIATION FOR ALL THE SERVICES
ACCOMPLISHED DURING HIS TIME AS CONSUL FOR MALTA**

JM Abela and Staff

Thank you WE WILL MISS YOU



- ❖ Frank well done and thanks for the years of faithful and great service that you have given to the Maltese community of South Australia as honorary consul. **+CHARLES GAUCI – BISHOP OF DARWIN**
- ❖ Qed naqra dwar l-irtirar tieghek. F'isem il-Kunsill Malti għall-Arti, nizzi hajr għall-hidma kulturali tieghek u nittama li tibqa' attiv u se tissokta taghti sehmek f'dan il-qasam. B'ghozza u rispetti. **ALBERT MARSHALL -MALTA.**
- ❖ Thank you for the newsletter. Congratulations on all you have achieved as the Maltese consul I'm sure you will be sorely missed. Enjoy your retirement, always welcome in the tropics if you wish to take a long earned holiday xx **MARCELLE & GRAHAM HAMMOND - QUEENSLAND**
- ❖ Just to thank you for letting us know of your retirement. On behalf of all the Sisters I wish you all the best and thank you for your help to the Maltese community and to us personally. Thanks also for continuing to issue the Maltese Newsletter. It is so important to all Maltese whether at home or abroad. We hope to still see you at any Maltese functions if we ever have them again. So all the best to you and Josephine. Take care and May God bless you. **SR. VITTORIANA DEBATTISTA**
- ❖ Ghaziz Frank. il-Paci Mieghek. Grazzi hafna tall-Maltese Journal. Interessanti hafna. Jiena kollha naqraha. Inti qed taghmel hidma kemm socjali kif ukoll spiritwali b'dan il-Maltese Journal. Gazzi hafna tar-research, xoghol u zmien li qed tiehu. Alla jippremmjak min din is-dinja u aktar fl-ohra. Issa jiena qiegħed Malta, suppost irirajt imma ghandi xoghol pastorali u ta' kitba. L-Awstralja u l-Peru fejn hdimt għall-hamsin sena bqajt inhobhom hafna. Sakemm Alla jaghtini s-sahha u z-zmien nibqa' nahdimlu. Jekk ikollok xi bzonn fejn nista' naqghik ibghad ghidli ghax naghmlu bill-qalb kollha. Nerga nawguralek u ftakar li qed nitlob ghalik biex tkompli taghmel il-gid. **FR MANUEL ADAMI TALL-BIRGU MALTA.**
- ❖ I must admit that I am one of the many who has taken you marvellous Journal for granted but nevertheless enjoyed it immensely over the years. I am not Maltese but my wife Maria is. I had two postings in Malta when the Australian High Commission was still located in Sliema. The first was from 1971 to 1975 and the second was in the early part of 1982 when I had a short-term posting as Acting High Commissioner. Maria and I have visited Malta almost every year since. Maria and I were married in Qrendi in 1977 with my dear late friend Fr Rafael Vella of Malte Emigrants Commission fame officiating. Your very fine journal invokes many fond memories for me, and I am sure for many thousands of others all around the world, so I thank you for all your efforts and dedication in this regard. Sincere thanks and best wishes **GORDON SELLECK - AUSTRALIA**
- ❖ Thank you Frank for connecting the Maltese diaspora to their homeland. Greet job. Warm regards **GEORGE MICALLEF.**
- ❖ Your most informative and valuable journal is a treasure I will always keep. You never realize how much good you have done for our younger and older generations as well as dedicating your time, your expertise and your voluntary work for the Maltese community and for the Maltese Government as Honorary Consul for the Republic of Malta in Adelaide. THANK YOU. **ALBERT VELLA - CANADA**
- ❖ Keep up the good work Frank, such a good read I saw that show on SBS last night on Cassar-Daly was amazing to track history, hope your well keep safe Knights of Malta Merchandise (Facebook) **PETER BORG Adelaide**
- ❖ Dear Frank, I hope this E-Mail finds you safe and in good health. As I have notified you on previous occasion's that I have been forwarding you're fabulous Maltese News Letter to thirteen of my family & relatives overseas, If you feel that it will help you're course by reducing the numbers I will be more

than happy to oblige to your request. and stop forwarding these Maltese News Letters altogether I always believed, that the more readers the better for all: .. isn't that the aim? Please let me know what you would like me to do. Warm Regards **LINO MAGRO**

- ❖ I hope this short note finds you well. I want to thank you for your work and time to produce the Maltese newsletter. My cousins (in Australia) Carmen and Lena Mifsud forwarded my name to your publication originally. I enjoy reading it very much and have shared it with many others in the San Francisco bay area. I am a first generation Maltese-American as my parents and 2 older brothers and sister were all born in Malta. My best to you, **MICHAEL ANDREWS**
- ❖ Many thanks for the latest journal which brings such a pleasant break to all readers, and especially those who left The land of their birth a long, long time ago. Also much appreciated is the list of all your back numbers. It must give you great pleasure and consolation to know how worthwhile is your continued labour of love which brightens many a MALTESE ex-pat's month. **FR. JOHN BRIFFA SDB**
- ❖ Dear Mr Scicluna, I enjoy reading the Maltese Journal and hope to find the time to send you an article on the Shipwreck of St Paul. You can see a 2-min. promo of the documentary on the same subject here... <https://vimeo.com/104694616>. Please continue sending the journal to my e-address. With kind regards, **MARK GATT - AUSTRALIA**
- ❖ I have heard on the grapevine that you have retired as the Maltese Consul, I would like to congratulate on a job well done. Having worked closely with you at the Maltese language school I know how you put your heart and soul into everything you have done. We will sorely miss you, I wish you and Josie all the best for the future. Regards **KATIE CASSAR Adelaide Australia**
- ❖ Thank you, first and foremost for your kind words in my regard and thank you also for your dedicated service and commitment to the Maltese community in South Australia.
- ❖ I can assure you that I would love us to keep in touch. As you know, as consuls general sometimes we embark on consul-on-the-move exercises and, although these are suspended at the moment due to the virus, I am hoping that I would one day be sent to SE and get to meet you in person. On the other hand, please let me know if you are ever in Melbourne. Wishing you health and happiness always. Sincere regards, **FARRUGIA BORG CONSUL-GENERAL VICTORIA**
- ❖ Good morning Frank Thank you for all your work. We congratulate you on your past service and retirement and really appreciate the effort to do the newsletter which we love. God bless you and your family Mary Borg
- ❖ Edward and myself would like to wish you all the best on your retirement as Honorary Council. You have done a great deal for the Maltese people in South Australia in the 17 years. All the Best **GIOVANNA AND EDWARD BORG-BARTHET - AUSTRALIA**
- ❖ I thank you for your kind email. We received the notification last week that Malta has a new Honorary Consul for South Australia. I thank you for your past work as Hon. Consul and also for your ongoing work with the Maltese e-Newsletter – the Journal of Maltese Living Abroad. I look forward to seeing you again sometime in the near future and should you be in Sydney please do contact me. I wish you well and best to your family, Kind regards, **LAWRENCE BUHAGIAR CONSUL-GENERAL, NSW**
- ❖ I have just learned that you will be retiring. I would like to thank your service during the last 17 years to Malta and the Maltese Community in S.A. I wish you a happy and healthy retirement and congratulations on your achievements. Glad to hear you will continue publishing the Newsletter.
- ❖ Warm regards to you and Josie. **JOANNA PISANI TEL AVIV - ISRAEL**
- ❖ As always, a most interesting journal reached me this morning. I learnt about your retirement from your position as honorary consul for Malta in South Australia. I would like to wish you and Mrs Scicluna, very happy retirement celebrations together. I am very pleased, that you will be carrying on producing this informative publication for us all around the world. I have captured consistently, the humanity in the wording as I have scrolled through and read each journal you have sent out to us all. I shall look forward to many more, God willing. Regards **VICTORIA FOSTER**

- ❖ Dear Frank It is sad to hear about your retirement from Hon. Consul, but we do understand that it is a time to rest and enjoy life and family more. We would like to wish you a very prosperous retirement full of good health and happiness. We cherish the good news that you plan to continue with your Newsletter. Take care and all the best. Kind regards **RITA & FELIX DEMICOLI - MOSTA MALTA.**
- ❖ Nieħu l-okkażjoni biex nawguralek mistrieħ u għomor twil mal-familja wara tant snin ta' servizz lill-Maltin u lil Għawdxin f'down under fejn donnu l-virus qed jerga jerfa rasu! Nieħu gost nisimgħek tgħid li se tkompli tieħu ħsieb dan il-Journal li jsasal għand tant nies. Il-Mulej miegħek u jħarsek minn kull hemm! tislijiet...ħu ħsieb! **KAV JOE M ATTARD GOZO MALTA**
- ❖ Dear Mr Scicluna I hope you and your family are well. Thank you for your very interesting magazine which I am happy to read historical facts as I am a history buff, and as well as catching up with the latest local news of the communities in Australia and Malta. Again many thanks. 😊 Keep smiling even if no one can see it. **MARY RAMUNDI**
- ❖ I would like to take this opportunity to show my respect and wish you a very healthy and happy retirement, very pleased to hear that you are continuing with the most welcoming newsletter, as I enjoy reading it and also I know from my own experience, that keeping the brain busy is a great idea. All the very best to you and Carmen in her new appointment.
Take care and stay safe Kind regards **GODFREY VELLA**
- ❖ Chris and I would like to congratulate you on your retirement, it's well deserved after so many years of exemplary service to the Maltese community of South Australia. I hope that you and Joyce will be able to enjoy your retirement to the full once all restrictions are lifted, and be able to travel where you wish. Chris and I have enjoyed reading your interesting and informative journals and will continue to do so, I always forward them to family members, as they find them to be a good read as well. I have very much appreciated your counsel and wisdom on club matters and look forward for that to continue for years to come. With love and peace always, **DOLORES AND CHRISTOPHER ADELAIDE SA**
- ❖ Meta ircevejt il-Jurnal minghand Harry Bugeja sibt li ser tispicca minn Konslu Onorarju ta South Australia, Adelaide u tassew iddispijaci li ser thalli din il-hidma sfieqa, interessanti, informattiva u ta dak kollu dwar Maltin barra min Malta. Pero straht fl istess waqt li ser tkompli tinfurmana dwar hutna l-Maltin u Għawdxin li dan allura għalkemm ser ikollok forsi aktar hin mal-familja tiegħek izda ukoll ser ikollok xi ftit serhan minn hidma kontinwa u ta tahbil ir-ras. Għaldaqant nahseb li inti ser tkompli bis sehem tiegħek fuq il-gurnal li dan ifisser li ser tkompli forsi aktar is-sahhah dan il-gurnal hekk ta informazzoni u ta interess għal kulhadd mifruż mal-globu. Nawguralek il-kumpliment ta hajtek seren, b-sahhah u b-hidma kif dejjem tajt lill għajrek u zammejtna ilkoll mgharufin dwar hutna barra minn Malta u Għawdex. Grazzi ta hidmietek mhux biss fil-gurnal/magazine, izda ukoll hidma versu hutna l-Maltin u Għawdxin ta Konslu Onorarju f-dan il-kontinent hekk kbir. **DOMINIC N PANTALLERESCO GZIRA MALTA**
- ❖ Hello my friend For these last two years I have been reading your newsletter. I print it and give to my relatives and friends and they all enjoy reading it. We are always interested in what's happening in Malta and the Maltese in other parts of the world (Diaspora). Although I do not live in Adelaide I am sure that the Maltese community is going to miss you. I have relatives living there and they told me the good work you have been doing to the Maltese citizens in that State. Thank you and keep up the good work. **ALBERT SAMMUT – QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA**
- ❖ Just a short note to let you know that we are glad that you are going to continue producing the Maltese Journal. It's the best newsletter and the most informative. As soon as I receive it I read it from cover to cover. Especially now that I am staying home because of this cruel coronavirus. Thank you and regards. **CHARLES CAMILLERI, MICHIGAN USA**

**WE RECEIVED OVER 500 EMAILS THIS WEEK
ON THE SAME SUBJECT – UNABLE TO PUBLISH
THEM ALL**

**WOULD LIKE TO THANK FRANK
SCICLUNA HONORARY CONSUL FOR
SOUTH AUSTRALIA. FAREWELL
MALTESE COMMUNITY CENTRE
CRINGILA NSW CARES!**



History of Maltese Fireworks

The Ministry for Tourism and Consumer Protection and the Malta Tourism Authority are organising the 19th edition of the Malta International Fireworks Festival. Fireworks in Malta have a long tradition which is centuries old. Indeed the craft of pyrotechnics in Malta goes back to the time of the Order of the Knights of St John. The Order which was conventual, aristocratic and military used to celebrate the most important feasts by special pyrotechnic displays. Such firework displays

were an expression of rejoicing on special occasions, such as the election of a Grand Master or a Pope, as well as on the birth of a prince.

Pyrotechnics must have been inspired by cannon shots and musket fire. The feu de joie which was a salute by the musketeers produced a celebratory welcome to any dignitary. From this developed the *musketterija* which today is a series of hundreds of explosions of crackers firing in rapid succession. These are attached to a string placed on the roof top of a church or other large building.

The solfarelli d'aria were a series of colourful weak shots fired in quick succession into the sky, The Jigjifogooh (Italian: gioco di fuoco) is better known as St Catherine's wheels (irdieden). This is a mechanized and rotating set of wheels attached to a pole on the ground which provide a rotating movement for the burning gas tubes. This centuries-old tradition is still very much alive in the crowded calendar of village festas that take place all over Malta and Gozo. Were you to fly to Malta any time between June and mid-September you will be surprised to find that firework displays is taking place practically every weekend starting on Friday.

There are some 35 fireworks factories and double that number of towns and villages where these displays are part of the traditional celebrations of patron saints. In between these celebrations there occur unfortunately also periods of mourning. This is related to the accidental death of pyro-technicians whose life is cut short by unexpected explosion mishaps during the course of the preparatory work.

Still fireworks production in Malta is an all year round occupation for enthusiasts which will fascinate thousands of people both Maltese as well as foreign.



<https://www.tvn.com.mt/mt/mgt-application-form/>



Find us on:
facebook®

www.facebook.com/frank.scicluna.3

**X-FACTOR WILL BE REPLACED
BY MALTA'S GOT TALENT**

< Application form

**WE SINCERELY THANK ALL
THOSE WHO SEND US
ARTICLES, COMMENTS AND
EMAILS**

Local Crafts

Crafts have undergone a revival in recent years. Not solely because they make interesting souvenirs but also because of their high cultural value to the Islands. Some crafts, such as knitwear, basketware and lace, have a long history.



Other craft forms, such as weaving and pottery, date back to prehistoric times. The 'Sleeping Lady' found in the Hypogeum is a clay figurine of exquisite workmanship. In the **Tarxien Temples**, archaeologist also found fragments of red-dyed, flax textiles. These fabrics showed that the prehistoric islanders had considerable skills in weaving.

The **Arabs** introduced cotton into Malta from around 870 A.D. and brought also their expertise in weaving and dyes. Cotton production became a major rural industry from medieval times up to the early 19th century. During the time of **the Knights**, Gozitan cotton linen was highly-prized in mainland Europe.

Weaving, embroidery and lace-making were encouraged, often by the Church. Life in Gozo and much of rural Malta was relatively harsh and craft industries became a main source of income for rural families. Such was the workmanship of these textiles during the 17th century, that various Grand Masters prohibited the wearing of embroidered and fancy garments considering them frivolous and out of keeping with the Order's religious calling. A craft that really flourished under the Knights was gold and silver ware. Malta's most precious production is filigree and jewellery. Today, Maltese goldsmiths are thriving, their work often exported to major cities abroad.

Alda's Traditional Hand Weaving



Weaving is one of the oldest crafts in the Maltese Archipelago. As early as prehistoric times the Maltese weavers were famous for their craftsmanship. For many centuries weaving remained an important industry in these Islands. Every family had its loom and every member of the family gave his share of work in this craft, men planted and harvested cotton,

children helped in washing the local sheep's wool and women worked on the looms. All family and house necessities such as clothes and blankets were woven at home. In fact the Maltese national costume is entirely made from hand woven material. However during the last decades of the 20th Century weaving lost much of its household use and did not remain so popular. Presently very few weavers still operate in these islands and an effort is being made not to let this noble craft die a natural death.

Alda Bugeja is the prime weaver on these Islands. In fact on the 2nd November 2000 in recognition of her outstanding performance in the crafts sector she was presented with the prestigious national award for Achievement in Industry. Weaving has been part of Alda's life since her early childhood. Watching her mother and older sisters deftly weaving intricate patterns it did not take her long to start experimenting on her own. In fact at the tender age of five years she started weaving her first pieces of material.

As time passed on weaving became her main hobby and she became a talented weaver. Although nowadays one can find electrical weaving equipment Alda has opted to continue using traditional equipment and methods while spinning the sheep's wool, preparing the warp and weaving. However, although using traditional equipment, it does not mean that Alda has not diversified her range of products. She uses all types of yarn and in all shades of colour for her woven items always keeping in mind to use the appropriate material and colour for the intended finished product. In order to adapt to present modern requirements apart from traditional rugs, blankets and national costumes she nowadays also produces among others, wall hangings, curtains, and lampshades. She is often commissioned to weave articles for churches and other organizations.

While weaving mostly in traditional patterns she has also created and often designs original patterns so as to meet the specific tastes and requirements of her clients. She is always striving to create new patterns and ideas while adhering to traditional weaving. Alda's main aim while producing her works is the high quality of her products as she believes that every serious artisan should do. Contact us by: 'Bright Eyes', Dun Pawl Micallef Street, Ir-Rabat (Victoria), Malta .

It is my pleasure to receive and read this magnificent Newsletter. The variety of articles reaches the young and the not so young. I print them all and keep them in my folio and share them with my relatives and friends – Maltese and non-Maltese. It's a Maltese Encyclopaedia. N.C. Sammut



St John Rescue Corps – Malta



St John Rescue Corps was founded by the late Anthony, the Marquis Buttigieg De Piro (1932-2012).

In 1986, the Marquis Buttigieg De Piro began to raise a corps of rescue volunteers, which would form a new and separate branch within St John Ambulance (Malta). The request to raise

a Rescue Corps under the banner of St John was done in order to meet the need of a support civil defence unit in Malta, consisting of adult volunteers fully trained in rescue and first aid.

The first rescue courses organised for the new volunteer recruits of the newly-formed St John Rescue Corps, were carried out by Marquis Buttigieg de Piro himself with the assistance of instructors from the Armed Forces of Malta. However, help was available from far and wide – the newly formed organisation received equipment, vehicles and uniforms from Germany, the United Kingdom and Italy. These initial donations and offers to help, enabled the Corps to commence operations and provide a sterling and impeccable service that is now approaching its 30th year since its foundation. Having been the founder and Corps Commander of the St John Rescue Corps for the first 20 years, Marquis Buttigieg de Piro retired in 2006, remaining Corps Vice President until his passing away.

St John Rescue Corps still operates under the same mission statement and while it does not have any regular donors or benefactors, still heavily relies on the generosity of the public in order to uphold the objectives instilled by its honourable founder.

Together with the St John Ambulance Association's Training Branch and the Ambulance Brigade (First Aid & Nursing), the Rescue Corps forms part of the St John Association of Malta and operates under the auspices of the Order of St John, of which Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II is Sovereign Head.

Training The Human Resources Management branch coordinates training for new recruits and active volunteers.

Each recruit must be over eighteen years of age, physically fit for the rigours of rescue work and must undergo a program of basic training which includes basic first aid, light rescue and foot drill, which is also part of the initial training. Cadet volunteers may join at the age of 16.

After this, a fully trained and certified Rescue Volunteer Class I is required to undertake a minimum of training every month. Many of the volunteers take further advanced courses during weekends in the more specialised and demanding fields of heavy rescue, cliff (high-angle) rescue, fire fighting, first aid and rescue diving.

The Corps also offers its volunteers other training options such as watermanship, climbing, abseiling and physical training, the aim being to inspire more confidence and to maintain physical fitness.

Most of the officers of the Corps as well as some of the senior leaders, qualified in Special Rescue Training at the Katastrophenschutzschule des Bundes – the Federal German Civil Defence Staff Training School in Ahrweiler, Germany. St John Rescue Corps Headquarters and Training School is based at Fort Madalena.

The Rescue Corps has taken part in numerous exercises together with the Department of Civil Protection in Malta, the Malta Police Force and the Armed Forces of Malta.

FRANKLY SPEAKING.....

by Rita Rotin Camilleri Melbourne July 2020

The *Maltese E-Newsletter* is always a pleasure to read. One news item which appeared in the July Issue 328 caught my attention. I was taken aback to read about the way that Martha Attard (and others) had been treated in Malta because of their skin colour. Racism is parochial, narrow, and does not belong in Malta. After all, its population is drawn from so many different peoples, from Phoenicians, Greeks, Arabs and others.

But Malta, like other countries, is a product of its history.

In years past Malta has been a major source of immigrants to many countries, not least Australia. More recently, Malta has been a major port of call for those fleeing war, persecution and abject poverty mainly from Africa and the Middle East. Over six thousand people seeking a better future have arrived in Malta by boat since 2015 alone (UNHCR).

Today, a joint civil society press release from the human rights foundation Aditus (July 2020) states “Malta simply may not abdicate its responsibility for people on its territory and for whom it is clearly responsible”. This involves an unhygienic animal transport vessel carrying fifty men and women who are stranded at sea. It is up to Malta to coordinate a safe port for their disembarkation. The vessel had rescued them on orders from the Maltese authorities. If the Maltese are fearful of being overrun by foreigners, then educational and other processes are needed to ensure that the rights of highly vulnerable people are respected. Though many of us like to think that most Maltese are not racist, racism appears to have found ways of rearing its ugly head.

We know Malta gained its independence in 1964, although some British forces remained there until 1979. But British influence has left its mark on Maltese law, business and architecture and even culture. One may even ask, did Britain colonize the Maltese way of thinking? Even today, many Maltese are Anglophiles, and this can be a plus because they see themselves as belonging to a wider world. But some at least may have come to think and feel that white is superior.

What has crept into mainstream thinking in many places today is the belief that if something originated in the English-speaking world, it must somehow be better. The British Empire colonized many people of colour and ruled over them and others for decades, Malta included. In Australia's case the policy of *terra nullius* (an empty land) opened the door for new settlers to commit terrible atrocities against the First Peoples, including massacres, with impunity. Even today, the descendants of those people are treated as second-class citizens. The Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement has helped us to focus on the injustices and suffering people of colour have endured for so long, America is certainly not the only case.

The notion of whiteness as superior has permeated our language from childhood. Fairy tales ask "who is the fairest of them all?" or "the fairest in the land". To be *fair* in appearance is equated to being *just* and good.

By maintaining the separation between black and white we deny ourselves the opportunities to learn from each other. We are all closely interconnected. To quote the well-known English poet John Donne, "no man is an island". So why try to build walls when we can build bridges? Might the Maltese nation and the far-flung Maltese diaspora have an important part to play in spreading and living this message?



An extraordinary letter from Napoleon Bonaparte to one of his top generals, Louis Charles Desaix, detailing preparations for the French invasion of Malta is up for auction in the United Kingdom.

The letter, which is signed by the later legendary French Emperor, is written in French and in it, Bonaparte commands Desaix to assemble ships and armaments to sail towards Malta on 4th May 1798 as part of the Egyptian campaign.

Desaix was told to pass along the coast of Naples, through the straights by the lighthouse at Messina, and to drop anchor at Syracuse or somewhere nearby that affords "the best approach to Malta"- "*la plus favorable pour se rendre á Malte*", as

Letter from Napoleon Bonaparte to top general about Malta invasion up for auction

Albert Galea THE MALTA INDEPENDENT.COM

Napoleon himself hand-wrote onto the paper. The three-page letter instructs Desaix to take Commander Ménard with him and to procure a fleet made up of a frigate, two brigs, two dispatch-boats, and two royal galleys.

They are told to sail in close formation in case the English pass through the straits and, for the same reason, are also advised to arm the convoy with "four pieces of 24 [ostensibly referring to 24-pounder cannons], two mortars, two grills for red-hot bullets with two- or three-hundred shots apiece".

The letter is dated 19 April 1798 and hand-signed by 'Bonaparte'.

It is being put up for auction by the well-known British auction house Sotheby's, with an estimated value of £2,000 to £3,000.

However, as of Tuesday afternoon the highest bid stood above that estimate, at £3,800.

The bidding closes in on 15 July. Napoleon Bonaparte, who at the time was still a general in the French army did invade Malta, with his fleet departing from Toulon exactly a month after this letter was sent.

The French fleet arrived on Malta on 9 June, and when the Grandmaster of the Order of the Knights of St. John Ferdinand von Hompesch refused to allow the whole fleet into the Grand Harbour, an amphibious operation was launched and the island was taken over with little to no resistance.

The soon-to-be Emperor spent a few days in Malta, staying at Palazzo Parisio in Valletta,

before continuing on to Egypt. He left a 4,000 strong garrison under the command of General Vabois.

The French occupation of Malta would officially last little more than two years, with the Maltese rising against the French, who eventually surrendered to the British in September 1800.

Desaix, a good friend of Napoleon's, meanwhile fought with distinction in the Egyptian campaign, before being killed at the Battle of Marengo in Italy in 1800. Two monuments of him were erected in Paris after he was killed.

Malta - a Small but Precious Gem in Europe

Landmarks & Icons

There are many reasons to spend time in Malta, a small country in Europe. The Knights of St. John settled here a long time ago and stayed for centuries. If you spend some time here, you will become a fan of Malta very quickly.

Here are some of the advantages of a [Malta vacation](#). First, the island is easy to get around as it is only 27 kilometres/17 miles long and 14.5 kilometres/9 miles wide. Secondly, because of its location directly south of [Italy](#), the weather is perfect pretty well all year round with lots of sunshine. Thirdly, although the Maltese have their own complicated language, almost everyone speaks English fluently. This is a product of Malta having been part of the British Empire until 1964. The majority of signs are in English. Fourthly, I have not met a Maltese who wasn't friendly or helpful. Now, let's get into a whole list of other reasons to experience a trip to Malta. When you consider the size of the country, it has more than its fair share of attractions.

Valletta

[Valletta](#) is the capital city of Malta. It is very compact, quite hilly, and surrounded by the Mediterranean Sea on three sides. Should you wish to reach the waterfront, you have to go down fairly steep narrow streets from the centre no matter which direction you take. This means you have to climb back up on the return. The views of the waterfront, known as the Grand Harbour, are spectacular. Because Valletta is a peninsula, you can see over the water, two corresponding peninsulas which you should visit.



Ancient walls and streets of Valletta, Malta

Valletta has a medieval flavour and consists, for the most part, of narrow, old and charming streets where the houses have protruding balconies, typical of Valletta. It also has the most attractions to keep you occupied. In the centre of the city is [St. John's Co-Cathedral](#), an impressive church built in the late 16th century. You may have to line up to go in and will be charged an entrance fee but once inside, you will be impressed. It is richly decorated and extremely ornate inside. Look for the many works of art, especially the huge painting by [Caravaggio](#) of John the Baptist. The Cathedral Museum houses illuminated choral books

and a magnificent collection of 17th-century Flemish tapestries based on drawings by Rubens.

Another important building to visit on a Malta vacation is the Grandmaster's Palace. This large building dominates one of the central squares. It was once the seat of power for the Order of the Knights of St. John

and served as the Governor's Palace during British rule. Today, it is the Office of the President. It was originally built in the 16th century. Parts of the building are open to the public. The Palace State Rooms are where the Council Chamber is home to a rare collection of exotic tapestries depicting hunting scenes from different continents and where the State Dining Room is adorned with portraits of the presidents of Malta and one painting of Queen Elizabeth II. Also open is the Palace Armoury with a comprehensive arms collection.



Facade of the Grandmaster's Palace in old city of Valletta

Valletta Fortifications

The fortifications are a series of defensive walls and other attractive fortifications which surround the city. Although ancient, they are very impressive today and the best way to view them on a [Malta vacation](#) is to walk completely around the edge of the peninsula on top of the walls looking down on the two harbours. Fort St. Elmo, on the tip of the peninsula, guards the entrance to Valletta's harbours. The fort was built by the Knights and was the fort that bore the brunt of the Turkish attack during the [Great Siege of 1565](#). After restoration and renovation, the fort opened to the public in 2015 and now contains the exceptional [National War Museum](#). You can visit the parade ground and the 1559 chapel where Knights fought to the death during the siege trying to protect the altar.

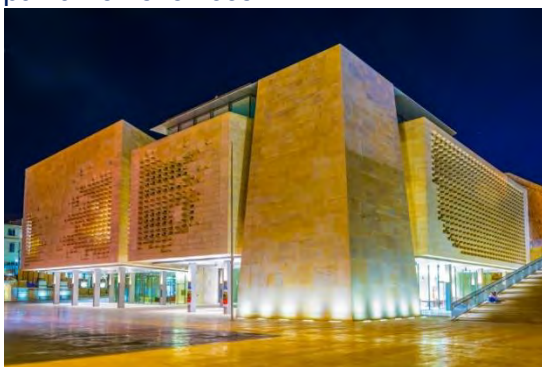


Fort St Elmo as seen from Upper Barrakka Gardens, Valetta

The Barrakka Gardens are actually two gardens; one is called the upper and the other the lower. The latter is where the action is. Every day at noon, a cannon is fired, a time-honoured tradition. Take advantage of the elevator which goes down from the gardens to the harbour and back. It will save your legs. The upper gardens are somewhat less popular, but from here, you will have amazing panoramic views over the harbour.

[Renzo Piano's](#) breathtaking Parliament Building was completed in 2014. Its design includes two massive volumes of stone that look suspended in the air but are supported by stilts. Covering

the rooftop are 600 square metres of panels, which generate most of the energy required to heat the building in winter and cool it in summer. The building contains the parliament chamber and the members of parliaments' offices.



Night view of the Maltese Parliament in Valletta

One suggestion for dining or to simply observe the locals enjoying a meal is to head to the lively City Market or as it's known in Maltese, *Is-Suq tal Belt*. This is a 19th-century market hall which not only sells food but has, in the lower level, a large number of food concessions ranging from local cuisine to Asian delights and everything in between. You can choose your meal and then sit in the centre of the building to devour it.

Sliema and St. Julian's A ten-minute ferry ride from [Valletta](#) will take you to Sliema. On arrival here, you will find a total contrast to the place you just left. You are now in the more urban and

modern part of Malta. This is a resort which was once popular as a summer resort for wealthier Valletta residents and where you will notice shops with international acclaim. The coastline here has a promenade which stretches for quite a long way, lined with hotels and apartment buildings. Venture into the back streets and you will find a number of bars and pubs. Walking far enough along the promenade, you will eventually arrive at St. Julian's. On a [Malta vacation](#), this is for the young at heart and can be fairly boisterous. Combined with its neighbour, Paceville, it is where you can experience the lively and colourful nightlife. Neither Sliema nor St. Julian's has sandy beaches. The waterfront consists of rock.

Sliema promenade and creek in the morning



The Three Cities

This might sound like a place to avoid on a trip to Malta but the name doesn't do it justice. Another ten-minute ferry ride across the harbour will bring you to yet another contrasting attraction. It is called the Three Cities as it is made up of three distinct neighbourhoods, each one built on a peninsula. I suggest you stick with the one where the ferry docks. This is called Vittoriosa and is peaceful, charming and picturesque. A mainly residential area, it is still very pleasant to stroll along its old narrow cobblestone streets and appreciate the charming and well-maintained houses or sit in an open-air café in the main square. One

of the highlights is the view back over the harbour to take in the skyline of Valletta. The Inquisitor's Palace here is now a museum. It was once the seat of the Inquisition in Malta between 1574 and 1798 during the majority of the Knights' rule. Apart from being the palace of the Inquisitor, it also housed the tribunal and prisons at the time. The most fascinating part of the building is the former prison cells with their elaborate carvings by prisoners on the walls. Particularly sinister is the torture chamber, with its rope contraptions for extracting confessions.



Old Mdina street with traditional Maltese style houses and Carmelite Church Bell Tower in the background, Mdina
Rabat Adjoining Mdina is Rabat. Here you can visit the Catacombs of St. Paul, an underground Roman necropolis dating back to the 4th century AD, used as the final resting place for the dead from surrounding cities like Mdina. There is room for about 1,000 bodies in total. Hundreds of people sought shelter in these crypts during air raids in WWII. St. Paul's Church is a 17th-century Baroque church built over the grotto where it is believed the apostle St. Paul stayed and preached during his stay in Malta in 60 AD. He lived in Malta for 3 months

and during this time, he was instrumental in establishing the Christian faith in Malta. The Domus Romana is a museum that contains what remains of an ancient Roman townhouse. The mosaics, which have been restored, date back to the 1st century BC. The museum also contains exhibits of Roman artifacts found throughout Malta.
from Mnajdra.



Double decker bus concerts in various localities in Malta and Gozo

Posted On July 11, 2020 - Updated 11 July, 2020 9:55am

Report: Daphne Cassar

Covid-19 precautions have led to the need of adjusting festivals and other events. Festival Malta has prepared a festival which is performed on a double decker bus which is visiting various localities in Malta and Gozo.

The unique music festival is this summer providing entertainment to residents in more than 50 localities,

through concerts from the double decker which was furnished specifically for the event.

The concerts consists of over 80 hours of music that includes the participation of Sterjotipi, Corazon, Skald, Paul Giordimaina, Ivan Grech, Dorothy Bezzina, folk singers and many other artists.

The Hybrid festival is organised by Festivals Malta and invites people to remain at home and follow the concerts from their roofs, balconies or behind windows. Organisers say that in this way unity will prevail through this entertainment. **When:** August



FROM JOSEPH CALLEJA'S FACEBOOK

'ART IS CALLING FOR ME'

I feel extremely privileged to be afforded this global platform and be amongst the most talented and globally celebrated pioneers and ambassadors of song' whom I have the honor of calling them my dear colleagues and friends.

Can't wait for my collaboration with my friend **Javier Camarena**

November 2020

...'We are thrilled to announce Met Stars Live in Concert, a groundbreaking new series of 12 pay-per-view concerts featuring opera's most extraordinary voices, streamed live from striking locations across Europe and the United States. Each performance will marry the intimacy of the Met's virtual At-Home Gala with the high production value of the company's Live in HD series of cinema transmissions....-The Metropolitan Opera House NYC

Tickets for each recital are only \$20 and will be available for purchase on the Met's website beginning Tuesday, July 14, at 12PM EDT. Each performance will remain available for on-demand viewing for 12 days.



MET STARS LIVE IN CONCERT

The Met Launches Unique Pay-Per-View Series Featuring Some of Opera's Biggest Stars Singing Mainstream Operatic Repertoire in Striking Locations Across Europe and the U.S.

Weekend series of 12 live concerts opens Saturday, July 18, with Jonas Kaufmann performing from a historic abbey in Polling, Bavaria

Summer and fall concerts also include Roberto Alagna, Piotr Beczala, Angel Blue, Joseph Calleja, Javier Camarena, Diana Damrau, Lise Davidsen, Joyce DiDonato, Renée Fleming, Aleksandra Kurzak, Anna Netrebko, Sondra Radvanovsky, Bryn Terfel, Pretty Yende, and Sonya Yoncheva

Locations include a terrace in Èze, France, overlooking the Mediterranean Sea, a castle in Oslo, palaces in Vienna and Malta, a historic mansion in Washington, D.C., and churches in Barcelona and Wales

Pay-per-view tickets, priced at \$20, go on sale Tuesday, July 14, at noon ET

MANY ARE THOSE WHO WRITE TO ACKNOWLEDGE
THE RECEIPT OF THE MALTESE NEWSLETTER
If you have articles, stories, pictures, jokes or graphics
mark them 'for publication' and send them to me
TOGETHER WE BUILD BRIDGES AND DESTROY BARRIERS

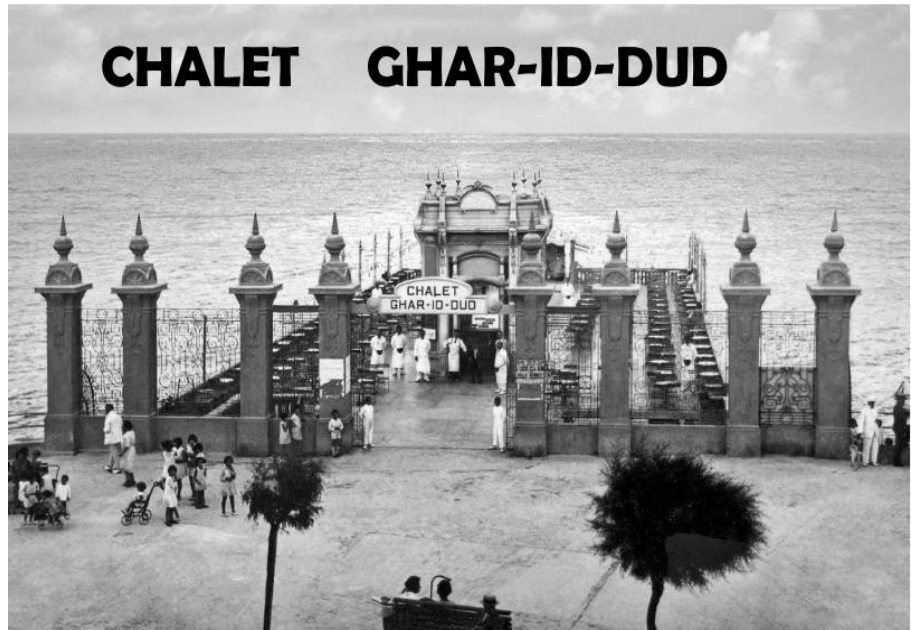
IT'S NICE TO BE IMPORTANT, BUT IT MORE IMPORTANT TO BE NICE



Discover a lost Maltese treasures

It may be long gone, but younger generations of Maltese are sure to have heard about the Sliema Chalet, for it represented the height of entertainment, pleasure and freedom of self-expression in Malta in the early to mid-20th century. The Chalet graced Ghar id-Dud, in the area of Qui-Si-Sana, by the Fortizza in Sliema between 1926 and 1963. Only the platform on which it once stood remains, triggering a reminder of its heyday in locals who are old enough to remember.

As this wonderful video about the Chalet shows, the beautiful building was truly a sight to behold. The Sliema Esplanade was developed at the end of the 19th century,



attracting visitors from around the island. Bands played there regularly, and the area became a hot spot for entertainment. Mr Carmelo Axisa signed a 30 year lease for the building of a chalet in the area, and it was built in the contemporary neo-liberty/art nouveau style, inaugurated on 12th May 1926.

The Malta Chronicle of 15th May 1926 reported that, "(The Chalet) is beautifully constructed in reinforced concrete on a jutting rock with two spacious storeys, having accommodation for refreshments, dancing, bathing, etc. for hundreds of people at one time. Enjoyable music is provided by an excellent orchestra."

Nowadays, one might also find it amusing that the fact that the Chalet was lit by electric bulbs was also reported on the newspaper. It was that very year that oil-lit street lighting was replaced by electric lamp posts.

The island's top bands performed regularly at the Chalet, patrons could dance in their swimwear and the windows would be obscured from external view. However, Sunday evenings were a sit-down, suit and tie affair. The venue was also hired out for weddings and private functions.

Sadly, while the Chalet began as an elegant venue, over time, it became more like a kiosk. When World War II hit in 1939, normal life came to a halt and the Chalet closed down temporarily. An air raid hit in 1942 continued to delay the potential reopening of the venue until repairs were undertaken. Eventually, the Chalet was repaired, sold and reopened in July 1944 under new management.

Unfortunately, some years later in 1959, the Chalet was declared structurally unsafe, and in 1963 it was permanently closed down. Strong north-easterly winds and rough seas battering against the structure continued the deterioration. Over the years, several attempts were made to give the Chalet a new lease on life, however, none of the proposals came to fruit. The Chalet was completely demolished in 2006, after 43 years of complete abandon. Today, only the concrete base remains for use by swimmers and for fishing, though it will forever live on in collective memory.



Written by Melanie Drury

Melanie was born and raised in Malta and has spent a large chunk of her life travelling solo around the world. Back on the island with a new outlook, she realised just how much wealth her little island home possesses.



Il-lingwa Maltija mhix għaddejja minn żmien sabieħ. Dik ta Malta qegħdha

tant tinbidel li ħafna l-anqas għadhom jagħrafuha u issa hawn l-Awstralja għadna kemm ircevejna l-aħbar li i-Malti m'għadux irrikonoxxut bhala l-lingwa ufficjali ta HSC (Higher School Certificate, l-għola eżami fis-sistema ta l-Edukazzjoni ta l-Awstralja . Ir-raġuni hi li għal-dawn l-aħħar snin l-istudenti li kienu jagħmlu dan l-eżami fil-Malti tant naqsu li fl-aħħar għebu għal-kollox. Sadattant it-tagħlim tal-Malti f'diversi postijiet jibqa sejjer : li se jieqaf u l-eżami ufficjali. Dan in-nuqqas jista jintela billi daww kollha li għandhom x'jaqsmu jistghu jaslui biex jippreparaaw xi forma ta eżami , wieħed ta livell avanzat u l-ieħor ta livell iktar baxx biex almenu daww li jispicaw il-kors ikollhom x'juru u wara li jieħdu certifikat. Għall-istudent il-fatt li hemm eżami joffri certu skop u sodisfazzjon u li s-sodisfazzjon jikber jekk jgħaddi . U jekk ngħidu aħna ma jgħaddix jara li..... iva ipprova, imma li fl-eżami stess hemm certu livell hemm certu standard li ma laħqux. Nifhem li din ta l-eżami mhix xi ħaħa ħafifa u titlob ħafna koordinazzjoni .

M'inhix se noqgħod nagħmel lamentazzjonijiet u ewlogiji fuq is-sistwazzjoni imma hemm numru ġmielu ta raġunijiet għax ġara dak li ġara. Snin ilu fil-Maltese Herald kont ktibt artiklu fuq li ż-żmien ta diletantizmu spicca. imma jista jkun li dan għadu jinħass. Nista insemmi wkoll l-idea tal-kultura Maltija : dik li għadna nimxu fuq is-sistema tal-każini tar-rah: nifred u niftah għaliha u sejrini. Naħseb li daqshekk biżżejjed fuq hekk. Fattur ieħor mportanti hu kif l-lingwa tigi mgħallma jew pprezentata. Issa hrigna mis-sitwazzjoni li titgħallim il-Malti biex meta tmur Malta tkun tista tkellem u tifhem lin-nanna u lin-nannu . Issa ġejna li tkellimhom bil-Malti tagħna li xorta ma jfihmukx... Allura trid issib jew insibu raġuni oħra biex titgħallim il-Malti: mhux biex tkellem il-nanna u titlobha bicca hobb jew bela ilma jew biex tgħaddi minn xi eżami

Hemm parti oħra tal-lingwa : insejħula letteratura. Il-Malti hi lingwa sabieħa mhux biss biex tordna u titlob imma għax għandha wkoll il-letteratura tagħha. Bhala lingwa għandha mod uniku kif tesprimi dak li trid u dak li thoss. Tidhol għalhekk l-emfazi fuq il-poezija, rumanzi u plays li għandha bil-Malti . B'hekk jidholl ukoll fit-tagħlim... is-sens ta kritika u ta apprezzament. It-tagħlim u l-prezentazzjoni tal-Malti irid

jgħaddi minn ' Agħtini bicca hobb..... għal poezija ta Chetcuti u Cuschieri u Dun Karm biex l-istudenti -ewwel haga ikun jaf li din il-kitba teżisti u forsi il-quddem tibda tapprezza u tiggosta u thobb il-letteratura bhala letteratura . Fuq kollox l-istudenti ikun jistghu jew almenu jibdw japprezzaw wkoll il-Malti bhal lingwa żviluppata u li fiha x'tapprezza li tmur iżjed ' l fuq milli tghid 'Grazzi 'u ' Jekk jogħgbok'. Din tal-letteratura Maltija trid tintuza bhala naqra melh fil-brodu jew fil-minestra : nifhem li t-tagħlim li qiegħed isir huwa f'ħafna każi elementari.

ħafna drabi naħsbu li il-kultura Maltija li konna nitkellmu fuqha ħafna sa ftit sin ilu, tikkonsisti biss fl-għaġin il-forn maħmuġ u fil-bizzilla ta Għawdex. Il-lingwa kif ukoll l-varjeta tal-letteratura hija parti intrinsika mil-lingwa u mil-kultura

Jiddispacini ngħid li meta kont ngħallim il-Malti u wieħed taparsi teacher qalli il-letteratura x'għandha x'taqsam ma kif titkellem bil-Malti. Malajr wera li l-anqas biss qatt semgha b'Dun Karm u inqas u inqas qara xi poezija minn tiegħu jew min ta xi ħadd ieħor. U inqas u inqas u inqas seta japprezzaha. Il-letteratura turi li Il-Malti hu lingwa żviluppata u meta l-istudenti kienu jaraw li iva għanda poeziji bil-Malti u rumanzi bil-malti u x'naf jien allura jhossu li li l-Malti hu bhal lingwi l-oħra. Fuq kollox toqtol xi ftit l-inferiority complex u l-istudenta thoss li qiegħedha titgħallim lingwa mhux biex tgħaddi mill-eżami biss imma li għandha storja u letteratura wkoll li tista thobb u tapprezza.

ħafna Maltin għadhom bl-idea li jekk tkun taf xi ftit il-lingwa u tużaha u tpaćpac quddiem klassi alluri kapaci tgħallim.għax. il-metodi jiġu waħedhom.. Tista wkoll thalli l-istudenti jimlew xi kelma l'hawn lu l'hin u forsi jiktbu il-kelma 'serduk' taħt l-istampa tiegħu imma it-tagħlim tal-lingwa iżjed ikkomplikat min hekk , iżjed u iżjed meta jidholl il-kamp tal-letteratura fejn l-għalliem ikun iridi juri li mhux biss jifhem dak li jinkiteb imma fuq kollox iridi juri li l-ewwel haga jaf u jifhem u juri ġibda u apprezzament ta dak li jkun qiegħed jgħallim . B'hekk jista jasal li jipprezenta l-lingwa bhala xi ħaġa ħajja u li għandha wkoll Il metodi kif tessprimi ideat u ħsibijiet għoljin fil-letteratura tagħha.

(Victor Vella klen wieħed minn ta l-ewwel li ħadem u ipprepara sillabi ecc. biex il-Malti jidholl bhala suġġett fis-sistema ta l-Edukazzjoni ta N.S.W. Editur)

THE OLD PRISON OF GOZO

THE NATION OF MALTA IS an archipelago of 21 islands, the second largest being Gozo, home to the Citadel, an ancient fortified city within a city. Inside the walls you'll find the Old Prison, where you can get a glimpse into some pretty grim prison-digs from centuries gone by. Covering the walls and floors is centuries of graffiti, etched-in proof that carving your initials and crude drawings go back long before "Kilroy was here."

Known simply as "The Old Prison," it was an active jail beginning in the mid-16th century, originally run by the Crusades-era Knights of St. John. At the time it was used for knights who were a little rowdier than the others, and their 5x10-foot block cells gave them some time to cool their heels, and apparently let off a little artistic steam.

Much of the graffiti relates to the knights and their symbols, including crosses, medallions known as the "Malta Cross," and lots of plain old handprints, names, and dates. There are also some intricate carvings of ships, some with multiple planks on the hulls. One theory is that the planks were used as a kind of calendar system for the prisoners, as a tally of their time served.

The Old prison was later controlled by the British after the Knights were kicked out of Malta, and it was in some use up until 1962 when it closed completely, eventually being meticulously restored for visitors to see. Notable prisoners included Jean Parisot de La Valette, the founder of Malta's capital city of Valletta, who spent four months there in 1538. He was convicted of attacking a man, and he later went on to become the Grand Master of the Order of St. John. Not bad for an ex-convict.



Joseph Howard

(1862 – 20 May 1925) was the first [Prime Minister of Malta](#) from 1921 to 1923.

Howard was born in Valletta in 1862. He studied at the Lyceum and abroad, also serving at the

French Military academy. Upon return to Malta, he had a career in business in the [tobacco](#) industry, up to being appointed director of Cousis Cigarettes. From 1914 to 1925 he served as consul of [Japan](#) in Malta and chaired the *Società dell'Arte, Manifattura e*

President of the Chamber of Commerce. He also *Commercio* and *La Società Filarmonica La Valette*.

MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

Journal of Maltese Living Abroad



READ, ENJOY, SUPPORT AND SHARE

maltesejournal@gmail.com

IF YOU HAVE A
STORY TO TELL
AND YOU WANT
TO SHARE IT –
SEND IT TO US

II- tal-papà

Trevor Żahra

Il-papà iss'għandu l-*facebook*,
Tgħidx kemm qed iħossu smart,
Qisu skopra f'salt l-Amerka...
Għalkemm daqs mitt sena tard.

Il-hin kollu jistaqsina:
"Dar-ritratt kif napplowdjah?"
Għax għalkemm bl-*account* u l-*password*,
Bilkemm għadu jaf jużah.

U jgħidilna b'kull ma jaqra...
"Għax l-Italja għamlu strajkl"
Jagħmel sigħat sħaħ jiskrollja,
Kull ritratt jagħmillu *LIKE*.

Anki jekk tkun aħbar falza
Xorta waħda jrid jaqraha,
U jemminha ... "għax fil-*facebook*"
U ma' hbiebu jixxerjaha.

Ritratt xehet, ta' zgħożitu,
U tgħidx x'ferh ... xi frattarija
Għax f'jumejn tletin *LIKE* laqqat!
Qisu rebah lotterija!

Għalhekk inti, li qed taqra,
Hu paċenzja, kun bil-lest,
Jekk dalwaqt, minghand miissieri,
Se tasallek *friend request*.

Fittex wiegħbu ... u aċċetta,
W ibqa' ċert, jiktiblek zgur,
Għaliex halef li jrid jgħaqqad
Hamest elef fi ftit xhur.

Izda 'k forsi, b'xi prodotti
Jew b'xi loġħba dlonk javżak,
Jew f'xi nitfa pastażata
Ifettillu jitteggjak...

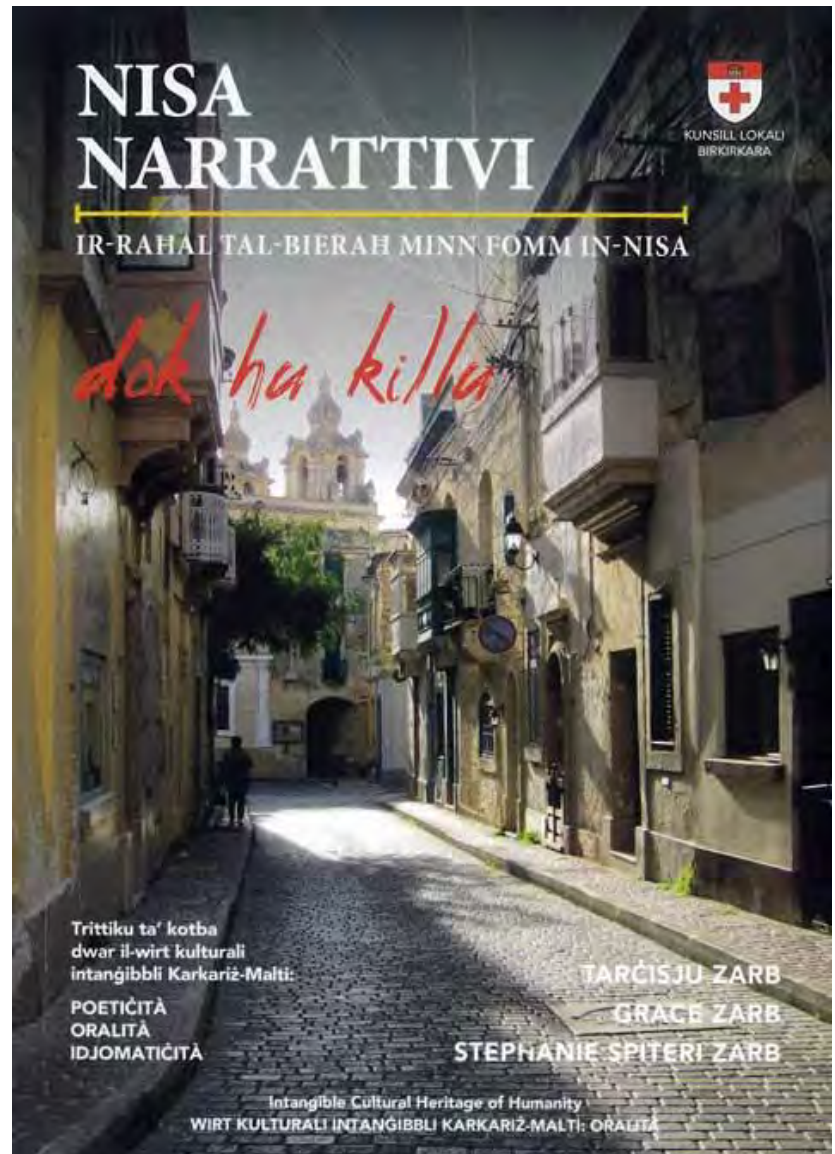
Toħodhiex tant kontra tiegħu,
Toqghodx tgħajru w takkużah,
Ftakar li dal-qahbeċ *facebook*
Bilkemm għadu jaf jużah!



F'dan il-ktieb nisimgħu n-narrattiva tal-mara Maltija, fl-idjoma tagħha, hekk kif tirrakkonta l-istorja tagħha, u kif din tfasslet skont ir-ritmi tal-ħajja tal-imghoddi. Il-vuċi ta' kull mara hija waħda unika, għas-sempliċi fatt, li hawnhekk in-narrattiva tagħha, hija riprodotta fl-idjolett u s-soċjolett tagħha – it-tessutità tal-fluss tal-irakkuntar tagħha.

Għaldaqstant, dawn in-narrattivi jiswew mitqulu deheb, kemm kif inhuma, kif ukoll għal skop ta' studji ta' xeħtiet varji, fosthom dawk antropoloġiċi, lingwistiċi kif ukoll ta' storja personali. Il-ħajja ta' raħal, belt, pajjiż mhijiex dik li tiġi rrapurtata fuq il-midja ta' kuljum, imma hija dik li jixxierku fiha n-nies bejniethom fil-ħajja ta' kuljum, kif ukoll dik li sseħħ fil-qiegh nett ta' ruħna.

Fid-dawl ta' dan kollu, wieħed għandu jaqra dan il-ktieb, u siltiet minnu, bl-attenzjoni li jisthoqqlu, għaliex kull kelma, kif ukoll l-istess fluss tan-narrattiva trid tgħidilna storja – l-istorja li sawritna bħala nies u bħala poplu li ngħixu minn, u ma' xulxin.



<https://bdlbooks.com/product/nisa-narrattivi-ir-rahal-tal-bierah-minn-fomm-in-nisa/>

Preti's masterpiece 'Boethius and Philosophy' BOETHIUS AND PHILOSOPHY is back home in Malta

Mattia Preti's painting 'Boethius and Philosophy,' is back home in Malta. The Ministry for National Heritage, the Arts and Local Government, said that this addition to Malta's National Collection was made possible thanks to the Government's acquisition of the major masterpiece last February. It explained that the acquisition of the monumental oil on canvas for the sum of €1,323,000 during Sotheby's Old Masters Auction in New York, was financed by the National Development and Social Fund. This brings the masterpiece's journey to a full circle. The painting, like the artist himself, has strong links with the country, having been commissioned by the knight Fra Andrea di Giovanni in the 17th century, and having taken pride of place on the walls of the Grand Master's Palace in Valletta for decades. The Ministry explained that while the masterpiece will be displayed for the first time at

MUZA, Malta's National Community Art Museum, from the 17th to the 31st of July, once the extensive restoration works at the Grand Master's Palace are completed, it will finally find its way back home,

where it was originally displayed. 'Boethius and Philosophy' is now officially under Heritage Malta's wing, for the benefit of present and future generations, the Ministry said.

[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [WhatsApp](#) [Pinterest](#) [Tumblr](#) [Reddit](#)



IL-HAĠAR
HEART OF GOZO

FONDAZZJONI BELT VICTORIA

VO/0762 Gozo NGOs Association founding member

Pjazza San Ġorġ, Victoria VCT 1101

info@heartofgozo.org.mt

Media release

Franciscan Treasures @ Il-Haġar

Il-Haġar museum (Pjazza San Ġorġ, Victoria) is hosting a short exhibition on level 1 up to 20 July.

"Treasures from the Friary of St Francis" consists of a representative selection of an ex-voto painting and altar items which are not usually on show. The six Prophets are multichromatic statuettes produced a century ago by innovating artist Wistin Camilleri, whereas the collection of silvers includes impressive chalices.

This special treat – added to a wide range of permanent and temporary exhibits – can be visited during normal opening hours (9am to 5pm, seven days a week). There is no entrance fee.

Teżori Frangiskani fil-HAĠAR

Il-mużew il-Haġar (Pjazza San Ġorġ, Victoria) bħallissa qed joffri wirja qasira fil-livell 1 sal-20 ta' Lulju.

Teżori mill-Kunvent ta' San Frangisk huma għażla rappreżentativa ta' pittura ex-voto u oġġetti tal-artal li normalment ma jkunux għall-wiri. Is-6 Profeti huma statwetti multikromatiċi prodotti mill-artist innovattiv Wistin Camilleri seklju ilu, waqt li l-kollezzjoni ta' fided tinkludi kalkijiet impressjonanti.

Il-hinijiet tal-ftuħ biex tinżar din l-okkażjoni speċjali – fost tant esibiti permanenti u temporanji – jibqgħu mid-9am sal-5pm sebat ijiem fil-gimgha. M'hemm x'ħlas tad-dhul.

12 7 20



E.T. Mons. Charles J. Scicluna, Arcisqof ta' Malta, waqt Quddiesa Pontifikali li mexxa fil-Parroċċa ta' Kristu Re, fil-bidu tal-Viżta Pastoral ta' tiegħu, habbar il-ftuħ uffiċjali tal-proċess biex l-ewwel u l-unika Knisja, Monument ħaj tal-XIII Kungress Ewkaristiku tal-1913 u ddedikata lil KRISTU RE tigi elevata għad-dinjità ta' Bażilika Minuri.

Illum, Il-Ħadd, 14 ta' Lulju 2019.



"Basileus huwa is-Sultan u l-Bażilika hija d-Dar tas-Sultan, tar-Re, illum bil-Libsa tat-Tiegħ."

† Charles J. Scicluna, Arcisqof ta' Malta.

**SOME PEOPLE SHOULD SUPPORT
THIS JOURNAL INSTEAD OF TRYING
TO DESTROY IT LBJ(MALTA)**

WE ARE PROUD OF OUR MALTESE ACHIEVERS

Dun Karm Psaila



GHALIEX? Jedd l-Ilsien Malti

Għaliex tarmih l-ilsien li tatek ommok
U tiflek għaqlek wara lsien barrani?
Maltija kienet l-ewwel kelma f'fommok
U bil-Malti tkellimt tifel dahkani.

U kiber mieghek dak l-ilsien ewlieni
U gmielu ntiseg mal-grajjiet ta' hajktek
Bih fissirt qalbek meta sfajtli hieni
Bih fissirt ghommtok meta mbikki rajtek.

Għaliex immela tichad, Malti hija,
Lil dan l-ilsien li bih int Malti sewwa?
Hobb, jekk jiswewlek l-ilsna barranija
Izda le tbarri lil min hu ta' gewwa

A huge THANK YOU to our conductor, Harrison Merrifield and Lanicah Dabu for putting this virtual performance together. Video can be found on our Facebook page and also on our YouTube



THE CONSUL-GENERAL FOR THE REPUBLIC OF MALTA IN VICTORIA MARIO FARRUGIA BORG - On Behalf of MMG Concert Band of Victoria musicians, members, students and Committee, we wish the Consulate General of Malta for Victoria, Mario Farrugia Borg a very Happy Birthday. We also acknowledge your hard work supporting the Maltese community to keep the culture alive here in Victoria.



https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=1342949062763178&id=656050878119670

YOUTUBE <https://youtu.be/xpacFwwGnA4> Enjoy and share



GEORGE CALLUS

George is one of our baritone musicians at MMG Concert Band of Victoria. He has been playing music for approximately 30 years and had previously had played the tuba.

George learnt how to play tuba when he was a member of the Maltese Own Band by the late Tony Medina. He has also played with the St Albans Melita Band. George has been a musician with MMG for just over 2 years.

George enjoys playing music as he finds it relaxing. He enjoys MMG as he likes the social activities and playing at the variety of performances including the Maltese feasts.

George looks forward to the moment when his Grandson joins the band. He is currently one of our Music School students learning the sax horn.

MMG CONCERT BAND - VICTORIA

Mailing Address P.O. Box
4053 Keilor Downs 3038
VIC

Facebook:

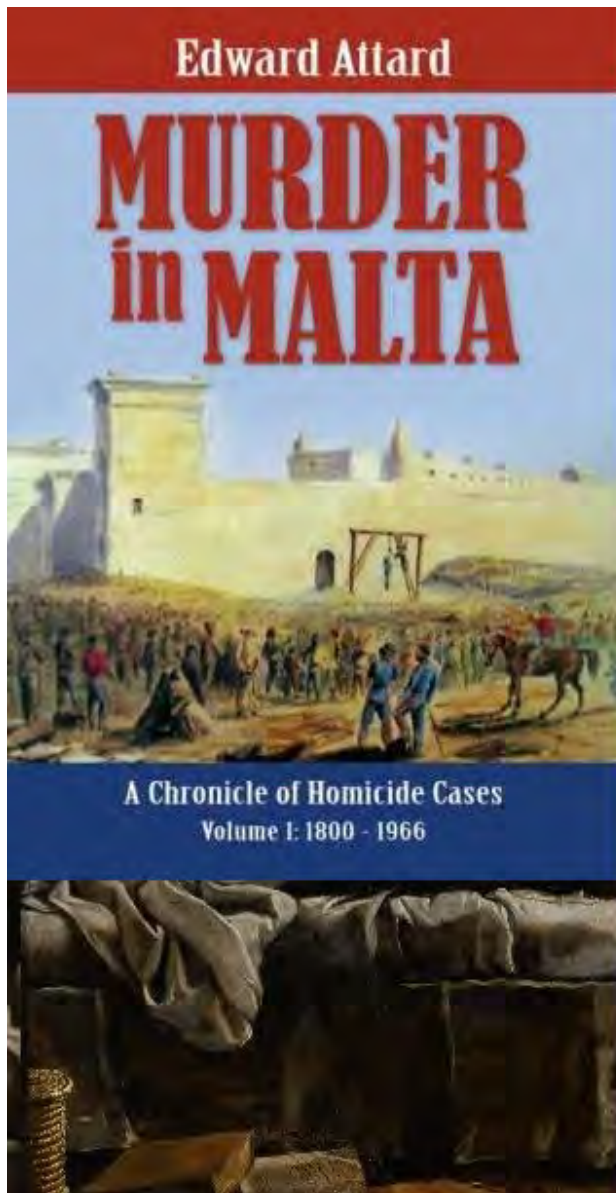
We have missed getting together with our band family and entertaining you with our music! So we decided, why not come together in the virtual world as we know it today!

We are excited to be able to share with you our virtual band performance of First Anniversary, also known as 'Ma Tagħmlu Xejn,' which is a very popular Maltese song.

**WE THANK OUR READERS
WHO MADE OUR JOURNAL
OF MALTESE LIVING ABROAD**

NUMBER ONE





According to statistics, during the last decades Malta matched Britain regarding homicides per capita. The vast majority of homicides were committed on the spur of the moment, unplanned acts of passion, in which the possible penalties were rarely considered by the perpetrator. Pre-meditated homicides were rare. The runaway success of Edward Atard's latest book *Delitti f' Malta – Mitejn Sena ta' Omičidji* – provides ample proof of the fascination of the most despicable of crimes. this record with the most decent and peace-loving of the population with the most despicable of crimes. This record of all homicides that took place in the Maltese Islands between 1800 and 1999 is the result of many years of research in the archives of the court at Mdina, the criminal processes in the National Library, and especially the newspapers of the period.



Police Museum

The Police Depot, as it is known today, was built by the Portuguese Grand Master Manoel De Vilhena in 1734 and at first it served as an institute called 'Casa D'Industria', a home for homeless women. They were taught basic skills and education such as reading, writing and some trades like weaving, carding and processing cotton.

In 1850, during the British occupation period, this building was used as the General Hospital. Beneath this building, a shelter was dug at

the beginning of the Second World War in order to tend to wounded patients who could not be easily moved from one place to another. This space therefore provided a safer environment for patients during air bombardments. Imagine what would have happened if during an operation, doctors would have to stop from their medical intervention on patients. That is why there are two operating theatres in this shelter. It is interesting to note that this is not only the only shelter in the Maltese Islands used for this function, because as far as we know, there is no underground hospital on the continent that was built or dug out to operate in this way.

It was in 1954 that the Police Force moved into this building and turned it into its General Headquarters, *St. Calcedonius Square Floriana* from where it still operates today.

The Malta Police Force was formed on the 12th of July 1814 and its first commandant referred to as the General Inspector, today the Commissioner, was Colonel Francesco Rivarola. He was appointed by the first Maltese Governor, Sir Thomas Maitland. As a police force, we can say that it is the first force in Europe formed by a constitution, which means that it is administered under civil law and not under military law as in other countries. This constitution took effect with a proclamation by the same Governor.

The Museum is divided into two sections: each section is housed in a separate hall. The first section deals with the administrative history of the force and the second part is about some of the criminal cases.

In the first hall, one will see various objects and belongings, for example uniforms, badges, medals, decorations, weapons and many other interesting things including tools and vehicles which were all required and used in different periods which helped the Police Force to carry out its duty to the best of its ability. In the second hall one can see made-up scenes of crime that happened in Malta.

Priestly

**Thankful
Grateful & Blessed**

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit, fruit that will last. — Jn. 15,16

Fr. Charles Michael Grech ofm
Pastor – St. Jane Frances de Chantal Parish - Canada

Ordination

**The Editor,
staff and
readers of the
Maltese Journal
wish Fr. Grech
many more
years of service**

**In God's
ministry**

**AD MULTOS
ANNOS**

We salute and thank all the Maltese Chaplains, past and present, who dedicated their lives and ministry to assist the Maltese who emigrated for these last two centuries



Żaqq From Wikipedia

The **żaqq** (with definite article: iż-żaqq) is the most common form of **Maltese bagpipes**. The instrument was once associated with Maltese folk-festivals.

The use of the żaqq in daily life came to an end in the 1970s, the instrument having been perhaps replaced by the accordion earlier in the century.^[2] In 1977 the **Galpin Society** noted only nine remaining traditional pipers in Malta; the last of these, Toni "I-Hammarun" Cachia, died in 2004. There are ongoing attempts to revive the instrument

by various folk music ensembles such as **Etnika**.

Etymology and spelling It is sometimes erroneously referred to as the zapp due to a spelling error in a 1939 English-language publication. The Maltese word żaqq literally means "sack" or "belly" and derives from Arabic *ziqq* ("skin" [as a receptacle]). It is sometimes stated that żaqq derives from Italian *zampogna* but this is not the case.

- Ruben Zahra. *Iż-żaqq the Maltese bagpipe*. Mills College Theses, Mills College



Ta' Kandja's Underground Galleries At St. Julians

Many Maltese people were recently

surprised to find out that a giant **underground cave** existed in St Julians, but following a recent Facebook post by the Water Services Corporation, it seems that there may be even more mysterious underground caves in Malta.

Now, exclusive photos of the hauntingly beautiful underground galleries at Ta' Kandja near Siggiewi have been released, showing a side to Malta that is so rarely seen: the intricate and connected underground system that provides Malta with its potable water.

"Chronologically, Kandja Pumping Station was the last groundwater abstraction station to be constructed by the British," says Pablo Micallef, manager at the Water Services Corporation

"The digging of the galleries and station shafts started in the early 1950's and the plant itself was commissioned in 1963. Concurrently, another station limits of Zebbug namely at Ta' Bakkja along the valley known as Wied Baqqija, was developed and started in 1957," he says.

The statue of Jesus was installed in the 1950's as well. These pumping stations and reservoirs are connected through a series of links.

"The gallery systems of both these stations comprise of six galleries each, with the sixth one being about 3km in length and interlinking both stations radiating from a central pump," says Pablo.

"Submersible pumps are installed which pump groundwater to distribution reservoirs with the Ta' Kandja pumping station pumping to Qrendi reservoir and the Bakkja pumping station pumping to Ta' Qali group of reservoirs where it is blended with desalinated water as well with other groundwater abstracted either from similar stations and also from groundwater boreholes," he says.

The whole gallery system of the Ta' Kandja pumping station alone extends to approximately 6.1km whilst that of the Bakkja pumping station spreads to 5.4km.

"The galleries are about 97 metres below ground level and they run just above the imaginary mean sea level," says Pablo. "The access to the gallery level is through a passenger lift with a smaller lift available in case of emergencies. These lifts were installed in the early 1900's and replaced the old and larger lift which serviced the access to the gallery levels since the early 1960's. A stand-by generator is also available in case of a power shutdown."



Aged 80 they retire from their mission at the Dar tal-Providenza

Report: Maria Muscat

Three nuns, all aged over 80, expressed high

emotion particularly Sister Gesuina Mangion, as they have now been retired from the Dar tal-Providenza because of their age after giving over 50 years of service to the home's community.

The nuns of St Jeanne Antide Thouret, known as the Sisters of Charity, had in the past been requested to continue giving their services in the Dar tal-Providenza, founded by Mons Mikiel Azzopardi.

The one who has been resident there longest, Sister Gesuina Mangion, who is aged 80, said it will be difficult after having given 41 years of service in the residence because she regarded the residents as her children and will suffer their loss after having raised some of them from the age of 16 to 55.

Sister Bernarda Buhagiar, together with Sister Bertha Bezzina, has been working in the home for over 20 years. She said she has been dedicated to ensure the residents were comfortable and kept happy.

Sister Lorenza has been at the residence for these last 13 years and said she will find it difficult to leave behind the persons with disabilities that she has loved so much. She said she will miss the Dar, its residents and the personnel because they have always helped.

Mother Superior, Sister Nathalie Abela said the decision, made together with the nuns in the Dar tal-Providenza, was a source of heartbreak. She said it had been a difficult decision to take but the situation and ages of the Sisters helped her to reach the decision.

While expressing their heartbreak at having to leave their mission, the nuns said they are leaving with peace of mind that the Dar will continue to operate with dedication and love by its Director, Fr Martin Micallef and his administrative team.

MALTESE CENTER NY USA

Planning Ahead

Maltese Center Committee

Updated: Jun 13



Dear Members & Maltese Community,

In regards to the COVID-19 pandemic we have been closed since March 9th 2020 following the New York City and New York State guidelines and would like to update you on our current financial status of the Maltese Center. Many members have inquired about the financial well-being of the Maltese Center. Currently, the total amount of dues collected is only but a small portion of the Maltese Center's funds. Let us all be reminded, we are a member owned, volunteer operated Center and that we are all in this together. It is important that members continue to make timely payments on their dues schedule. Given COVID-19's impact on the economy, the Maltese Center is adopting a

more conservative stance to our pending capital project schedule. For the moment, we are limiting capital expenditures to absolute necessary maintenance. The bulk of monies that go towards operational costs and capital improvement come from events and the concession which have been nonexistent for three months but our monthly expenses (taxes, insurance, gas, electric, internet, phone etc.) are still due. The funds that were allocated to capital improvement projects will have to be on hold due to the setback that the closure has created and go towards the Center's operational expenses. The Maltese Center has always striven to stay in a sound financial position and be fiscally responsible but we will need to focus on filling the financial gap.

The Maltese Center is considered a social organization in Queens County within the region of New York City. As of June 11th 2020, we must remain closed as we do not qualify for Phase I. The situation is dynamic and continuing to change daily, and we will be updating and providing timely information to our members. Please know that the Committee and Advisory Board are greatly disappointed that we are not able to offer the Center as an outlet during this time; however, it is just not a possibility for now. We will make certain to be in a position to open as soon as permissible.

The Committee and Advisory Board are in discussion to come up with a 3 phase plan to reopening the Center in strict adherence with the NYS & NYC guidelines. It is a fluid situation with no hard dates.

Phase 1 Sanitizing the premises; organizing a volunteer cleaning crew, appeal for cleaning & sanitizing supply donations, health and safety training. The biggest step in reopening is cleaning and sanitizing the premises, if you would like to volunteer, please contact us with your dates and availability.

Phase 2 New health and safety protocols will be announced; floor markers and signage will be posted throughout the premises and available hand sanitizing stations to comply with NYS & NYC reopening rules.

Phase 3 Soft opening with a controlled capacity & contingency plan for the time being. Implementing a MEMBERS ONLY visiting reservation system and snacks/pastizzi to go . With a controlled capacity we cannot allow anyone who is not a member to make a reservation as we would like to give priority to members. A member cannot bring family or guests on the premises which would compromise the limited capacity that will be set forth by NYS & NYC .

Thank you for your patience as we "figure this out". Stay safe and stay well.

Arab Rule in Malta

<https://culturemalta.org/arab-rule-in-malta-2/>

After Muhammad's death in 632 AD, Islam spread across the whole of the Middle East and North Africa as far as Spain and Sicily, with Malta falling to the North African Aghlabids in 870 AD after three centuries of Byzantine rule. [1] The effects of that conquest caused ripples across the centuries that can be felt up to the present day. Some historians claim that among the general looting, some Christian structures in Malta were dismantled and taken to Sousse, in present day Tunisia, as a prestigious reminder of this victory.

Few archaeological remains have been found from the years immediately after 870 AD, however it is no longer thought after 870 AD Malta was left an 'uninhabited ruin'[2] especially as later 10th and 11th century pottery, typically Arab, was unearthed at Mesquita square, Mdina. By 910 AD the founding of the city of al-Mahdiyya in Tunisia placed Malta at the centre of an important political and commercial route as ships sailing



from Sicily to this new capital had to cross very close to the Maltese islands. This was a dangerous route due to the risk of pirates and meant that the Muslim conquerors had to keep a number of soldiers on the Maltese islands in order to protect this sea route.

Majmuna Tombstone, Malta's most important Arab-period archaeological find, the tomb-stone of a girl called Majmuna, who died on 21 March 1174.

Al-Himyari who recorded the events of that period says "The Island was visited by shipbuilders because the wood in it is of the strongest kind, by fishermen because of the abundance and tastiness of the fish around its shores, and by those who collect honey because that is the most common thing there." However the account by Muslim historian Ben Ghadhary Al

Marrakeshi that the Maltese fleet conquered the island of Djerba in 1039 proves that it did not remain an 'uninhabited ruin'.

In the mid-11th century many new settlers arrived, strengthening of the fortifications around Malta's ancient capital city Mdina and Birgu. Many finds of 11th century ceramics confirm that by this time a growing community existed in Mdina. The ceramics are similar to ones found in Sicily indicating trade between Sicily, Malta and Gozo. They introduced new crops, including cotton and citrus fruits, and important innovative agricultural systems such as irrigation, and the waterwheel, still in use today. The distinctive landscape of

terraced fields is the result of ancient Arab methods. Many delicacies of today's Maltese cooking, like that of its neighbour Sicily, owe their origins to Arabic imports – figs, almond, sweet pastries and spices. There is also evidence of the importation of food, and this would only have become necessary to feed a large population.



Ruggero II Re di Sicilia che prese il controllo di Malta dagli arabi. Immagine tratta dal documento

Between 1048-49, Malta was attacked by the Byzantines trying to reconquer the islands. Assessing the situation, the Muslims found that their slaves outnumbered the free men, so they offered slaves freedom in return for helping them drive back the attackers. What really happened is uncertain, however they succeeded in this and the islands were not attacked again. This makes it clear that the local community was composed of masters and slaves though it is not known whether the slaves were all Christians from Malta or if they were brought here after capture. Because many village names such as Farruġ, Ġawhar, Kbir and Safi started off in this period, it seems that the first 'raħal' (Hal-) villages also originate from this time.

Under the Muslims, the Maltese had their own assembly called *ġemgħa* composed of both Christians and Muslims under an Arab hakim or governor. Initially, many of Malta's Christian inhabitants converted to Islam and adopted

numerous facets of Arab culture. As in the Arab lands, poetry flourished. Among others, the Malta-based Arab poets Abu al-Qasim ibnRamadan, al-Samiti and Ibn al-Susi became renowned throughout the Muslim world. Strangely, Arab culture on the islands peaked in the 12th century, after Roger the Norman had occupied the country when Muslim natives of Malta were among the leading writers and artists in the court of King Roger II. To this day *ġhana* (Arabic ghina'-song), the traditional spontaneous songs of the countryside are still very popular and little different to the modern zajal sung in the Greater Syria area.

Around 1091, Count Roger of Normandy landed in Malta defeating Muslim resistance which soon surrendered and agreed to recognize him as the overlord, to give up their weapons, to pay an annual sum, and to release their Christian captives. The Christian captives came out of 'il-Medina' tearful with joy at their sudden liberation and welcomed Count Roger's rule with shouts of "*Kyrie eleyson*" (Greek for "Lord have mercy on us").

However, contrary to legend, Count Roger's visit did not mark the end of Muslim presence in Malta, as it was not much more than a raid to control Malta before taking over Tunis and North Africa. It was in 1127 when Count Roger's son, King Roger, took over the island when it was threatened by a Muslim rebellion, that Europeanisation started. From now on, throughout the Middle Ages, the Islands' fortunes were tied to those of various European nobility and royals. Still, Islam continued in Malta for over a century as the Muslims were only totally expelled from the country between 1224 and 1250. The official languages of Malta and Sicily were probably, Latin, Classical Arabic and Greek.

Christianity was reintroduced in Malta by King Roger in 1127 and flourished there ever since. At first, Greek Byzantine influence was supreme, but the Latin (Western) Church favoured by the Normans eventually took over in Malta. It must be admitted that for deep religious and cultural reasons many Maltese people find it difficult to accept their Arab and Muslim past. Yet the very language that is spoken in Malta is basically a Semitic language with main words, including numbers and names of basic foods [4]. Maltese grammar has strong Arab roots while most village names are Arabic, as are most surnames, e.g. Borg, Cassar, Chetcuti, Farrugia, Fenech, Micallef, Mifsud and Zammit.



ABOUT THE FESTIVAL - MALTA

By popular demand, the APS Summer Festival presents 8 weeks of cultural activities staged along the Valletta Waterfront. Held alfresco under the stars, with historic fortifications and the sea as a backdrop, the evocative venue offers a unique location for re-introducing live events in Malta. Featuring an eclectic choice of styles, artists include Big Band Brothers, Comedy Knights, Ray Calleja, Clare Ghigo, Alex Bezzina & Band, Red Electrick, Nadine Axisa, Studio 18 and musicians of the Malta Philharmonic Orchestra together with emerging local talent and the Malta Youth Orchestra. These Live Music Weekends are complemented with outdoor cinema nights, dance, comedy and poetry acts. The APS Summer Festival is produced by the Malta Philharmonic Orchestra and the Valletta Cruise Port and supported by the Malta Tourism Authority, StudioSeven, Embassy Cinemas and Island Insurance Brokers. More information:

E: events@maltaorchestra.com

T: +356 2226 1900

ABOUT THE VENUE

The APS Summer Festival will be held along Quays 4-5.

Kick off the night with a pre-event drink or a light meal at one of the outlets on the Valletta Waterfront. Located in eighteenth century warehouses with their iconic coloured doors stretching along the water's edge, the Valletta Waterfront's many restaurants and bars present a variety of offerings catering to different tastes. The establishments on the Valletta Waterfront will also be open after the event.



Yvonne (Gixti) Gatt



Henry, John, Stella, Walt and Marg Leeks



John Pavia



Joseph Mary Grech



Frank Pace



George Porter



Roger Harmsworth



Emanuel "Lee" Pavia



Jane (Farrugia) Porter

Passport photos of Maltese Immigrants to London, Ontario 1948-1953

The Maltese Presence in North America E-Newsletter

June 2020 Dan Brock

Learn Maltese
tgħallem il-Malti

with

Skola Maltija Sydney

Skola Maltija



K-6 primary and adult beginners classes
start on **Saturday 25th July** at
Cobbitty Public School, 9:00 – 11:15am.

Enquiries for the SSCL high school class welcome.

Primary and adult beginner classes are also available at Rouse Hill PS,
Ringrose PS (Greystanes) and the George Cross Falcons Community Centre (Cringila).

To request an enrolment information pack
email: skolamaltijasydney@yahoo.com.au

or

call **Cynthia Villar** on **0419 239 193**



Find us on Facebook.

www.facebook.com/skolamaltijasydney/



Skola Maltija Sydney is a program of Akkademja Maltija ta' NSW Inc.
Supported by the NSW Community Languages Schools Program, NSW Department of Education
and the George Cross Falcons Community Centre.

Skola Maltija Sydney

2d Term 3 classes commence on these
dates:

25 July at Cobbitty and Seven Hills
(Saturday School of Community
Languages)

30 July at Cringila (George Cross
Falcons Community Centre)

1 August at Greystanes and Rouse Hill.

To request an enrolment information
pack email:

skolamaltijasydney@yahoo.com.au

Il-klassijiet tat-tielet term jibdwu f'dawn
id-dati:

25 ta' Lulju f'Cobbitty u Seven Hills

30 ta' Lulju f'Cringila

1 ta' Awwissu fi Greystanes u Rouse Hill.

Biex titlob enrolment information pack
ibgħat email:

skolamaltijasydney@yahoo.com.au



Did you know the United Kingdom's population (66 million)
is more than double Australia's (almost 25 million),
but manages to fit everyone into a space
approximately the size of Victoria!

