



The Voice of the Maltese

(driven by the voice of its readers)

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234

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The Barrakka Lift at Malta's capital, Valletta

The Voice of the Maltese will now take a short break.
The next issue will be published on Tuesday September 1.



Kumment editorjali: Skejjel tal-lingwa Maltija

Għandu jħammrilna wiċċna l-fatt li ma kellniex il-ħila li nwasslu 15-il student/a mal-Awstralja kollha

Is-sospensjoni tal-Malti fil-livell sekondarju tal-VCE/HSC/SACE hija telfa oħra għall-komunità Maltija fl-Awstralja. Dan ikompli jdgħajef il-profil u l-identità tal-komunità Maltija fl-Awstralja li għandha storja twila marbuta sa mill-bidu tal-isettjar barrani f'dan il-kontinent.

It-tagħlim tal-Malti f'dan il-livell uffiċjali, rikonoxxut mill-awtoritajiet Awstraljani kien għarfien tal-livell akkademiku ta' lingwa komunitarja xejn inferjuri minn komunitajiet hafna akbar minnha u li l-ebda tagħlim ieħor tal-Malti f'livell komunitarju ma jista' jisboq.

It-telfiet ta' kisbiet bħal dawn li saru bix-xogħol ħabrieqi tal-mexxejja ta' qabilna, ikomplu jdgħajfu l-preżenza tal-komunità Maltija fl-Awstralja.

Kellna l-Malti mgħalliem fi struttura professjonali u tlif-nieh. Dan jiftaħ it-triq biex daww l-individwi u gruppi li jgħallmu l-Malti jkollhom aktar ġustifikazzjoni li jgħallmu l-Malti kif jidrilhom huma, skont irżorsi u s-sillabi li johlqu indipendentament, bla koordinazzjoni u bla skrutinju ta' ħadd.

Tliffa l-ghajnuna finanzjarja tal-gvern Awstraljan, li kienet jgħib magħha klassijiet bħal dawn. Tghid il-gvern Malti se jgħinna biex inżommu l-lingwa Maltija haġja fl-Awstralja?

Zgur li ma nistgħux nagħtu tort lill-awtoritajiet tat-tagħlim tal-lingwa bħalan Awstraljani li tant ilhom jiehdu paċenzja bina u jkarkru minn sena għall-oħra b'għadd limitat ta' studenti Maltin u studenti fittizzji, qraha u ħbieb ta' dak u l-ieħor, biex ikollna l-kwota meħtieġa.

It-tort hu tagħna bħala komunità Maltija. Meta daww li ġenwinament jifhmu xi tiffser telfa bħal din, u taqra *'However the good news...'* M'hemmx aħbarijiet tajba wara mewta bħal din?

Din hi attitudni ta' inferjorità ġeja mill-isfont servili u medjokru tagħna: *'u iva ahna dejjem niddubbjaw u nirrangaw bejnieta' jew 'dejjem ingaħgħu xi haġa'.* Id-dmir sagrosant u ewlieni tal-iskejjel u l-klassijiet tal-Malti fil-komunità kellu jkun li jrawwu studenti biżżejjed biex jibdeu mill-Malti bażiku u jwassluhom sal-ogħla livell tal-Malti fl-Awstralja.

Mhux kull student/a jkun interessat li jkompli sal-livell sekondarju, imma li ma konniex kapaċi nwasslu 15-il student/a mal-Awstralja kollha għandu jħammrilna wiċċna.

Kif jirrifletti fuqna dan bħala komunità Maltija fl-Awstralja? Ahna komunità li nħobbu 'nčekku', l-aqwa li nidhru li qegħdin nagħmlu xi haġa, kuntenti *'bl-aħjar mix-xejn'* u *'mill-ħażin tiegħu li tista'.* li meta jiġi xi ministru minn Malta, nuruh kemm żammejna l-lingwa u l-kultura Maltija.

U meta ninzlu Malta, ikollna raġun u dritt li nitalbu mal-Gvern biex jgħinna nżommu haġja l-lingwa Maltija. Inħobbu nagħtu tort lill-ġenituri li ma jhaxrux lil uliedhom fl-Awstralja biex jitgħallmu l-Malti.

It-tort ewlieni huwa tal-individwi u l-istrutturi tal-iskejjel li mhumiex qed jilħqu l-iskopijiet tagħhom. U dan tistennieh, għax għandek għalliema li lanqas jafu l-Malti bażiku, ma jagħrux xi jfisser it-tagħlim tal-Malti, mgħalliem bħala t-tieni lingwa

fl-Awstralja, it-tagħlim aġġornat tal-lingwi eċċ.

Għandek fragmentazzjoni u individwi jgħallmu l-Malti, b'riżultat ta' nuqqas ta' qbil ma' klassijiet u skejjel oħra. Fuq kollox individwi u strutturi li mhumiex qed jispiraw lill-ġenerazzjonijiet ta' Maltin Awstraljani, għaliex importanti li titgħallmu il-Malti fl-Awstralja.

Ahna li konna edukati f'Malta, tgħallimna tliet lingwi jew

aktar. Hafna minna f'it li xejn kellna inkoraġġiment mill-ġenituri jew nanniet tagħna, għax imsieken, lanqas kellhom edukazzjoni biżżejjed biex jifhmu dan, imma eċċellejna f'aktar minn lingwa waħda, mhux biss biex ngħaddu mill-eżami u nsibu xogħol, imma bl-imħabba ġenwina u bl-inkoraġġiment tal-għalliema li ggwidawna.

Allura għala le wliedna fl-Awstralja li għandhom hafna aktar riżorsi minna? Mhumiex

kapaċi daqsna? U l-għageb li l-Malti diffiċli biex titgħallmu. Importanti li jkollna mexxejja ħassieba, li jispjegaw b'passjoni għaliex bħala wlied il-Maltin importanti li titgħallmu il-Malti fl-Awstralja?

Jekk hemm bżonn, noħorġu nagħmlu dan fejn hemm konċentrazzjoni ta' studenti bi sfont Malti, fl-iskejjel statali u privati. Ma nibqgħux magħluqa fil-komunità tagħna. Ninħbew wara l-kultura b'hafna qari bl-Ingliz dwar Malta, biex ngħallmu l-Malti!

M'għandekx għalfejn tmur il-klassijiet tal-Malti biex taqra fuq il-kultura Maltija. Imma l-kultura Maltija ma tiftiehemx biżżejjed jekk mhux fil-kuntest tal-lingwa Maltija. Il-hoss tal-kelma u l-frazi Maltija mis-sors originali mingħajr aċċent Awstraljan m'għandhom qatt ikunu mdakkra, kif m'għandux ikun imdakkra il-Malti idjomatiku meta jkun mgħalliem uffiċjalment.

X'inhu l-iskop li tiltaqa' u titkellem mad-dirigenti tat-tagħlim tal-Malti f'livell terzjarju fl-Awstralja jew li l-komunità tiprotesta biex jestendu t-tagħlim tal-Malti f'dan il-livell, jekk bħala komunità m'ahniex kapaċi nsibu 15-il student mal-Awstralja kollha? U x'se ngħidulu lill-Ministru meta ninzlu Malta, niftahru bis-suċċessi tagħna bħala komunità Maltija fl-Awstralja fil-konvenzjoni li jmiss?

Meħtieġa bidla mill-qiegh kif qed isir it-tagħlim tal-Malti fl-Awstralja. M'għadux iż-żmien li nikkontaw b'kollox. Il-klassijiet tal-Malti komunitarju fl-isfont ta' din l-aħbar huma rrelevanti. U x'inhu l-iskop li l-Malti fl-Awstralja jitgħallmu on-lajn/virtwali? Jekk dan huwa l-każ wieħed jista' jagħzel wieħed mill-hafna korsijiet professjonali dirett minn Malta.

Ma rridx ikun kritiku zżejjed u naqta' qalb xi wħud li ġenwinament qed jagħmlu l-almu tagħhom. Bħala komunità qieghda fina li ngħidu grazzi u prosit lil daww kollha li jidhru jagħmlu xi haġa fil-komunità, għax malajr jitgħerru u jekk iwarribu huma nispiċċaw b'xejn u kif dejjem inħobbu nikkonslaw *'aħjar mix-xejn'*.

L-akbar ħsara li qed issir lill-Malti fl-Awstralja hija minn daww dilettanti li jidrilhom li huma esperti tal-Malti, għax jafu jaqraw u jliissu erba' kelmiet bil-Malti.



Maltese language students

Q. I am 72 years of age and have just gone back to work two days a week 15 hours per week. I have been taking a monthly payment from my account based pension and have built up my cash reserves significantly. I wish to invest some of this cash into superannuation. Can you please confirm that I can do this? How much am I allowed to contribute?

A. As you are working more than 40 hours over a 30-day period, and as you are between the age of 65 and 75, you can make non-concessional contributions into superannuation. The maximum amount that you can contribute per annum until age 75 is \$100,000 while working, and as long as you have not reached the cap of \$1.6 million.

Q. My mother is in an aged-care facility. She has heard that a dear friend of hers has also just moved into an aged-care facility. My mother wishes to move into her friend's facility for them to be together. Is this possible and what do we need to consider prior to making this move?

A. Yes, your mother should be able to move into her friend's facility but there are many things for you to consider prior to making this move. You first need to ask the new facility whether they have a vacancy. You need to know the amount of refundable accommodation deposit (RAD) required because this could be quite different from the one your mother paid to her current facility.

If the RAD is higher, you need to make sure that your mother can afford this. The location of the new facility needs also to

be considered if she expects her family to visit. If all these needs are met, then the current aged-care facility would transfer the refundable accommodation deposit (RAD) directly to the new facility within a few days.

Q. I am in my thirties and have two children aged 7 and 5. I wish to invest \$5000 in a managed fund and use this investment as a savings plan. I plan to add a small amount every month in order to build this investment up and I plan to use these funds in 10 to 12 years' time to pay for the University fees if they continue to study. Should this investment be in my name or my children's name?

A. As your children are still very young, you should have this investment in your name in trust for them. Any earnings made should be shown in your tax return. Children under the age of 18 pay high tax on earnings from investments.

Q. I am in my 80s and just renewing my Will. I have no siblings or relatives

to bequeath my financial affairs to, so I am leaving my assets to charities. I had two friends as executors in my previous Will but unfortunately both have passed away. I am in a dilemma as to whom to appoint as executors of my Will. Can you help?

A. You should not be overly concerned about this. When you come to renew your Will ask the solicitor if he is willing to be your executor. They normally agree to this as they charge a fee to carry out this work. This however will ensure that your affairs are left in order and that the proceeds from your estate will be paid to the beneficiaries you nominate.

Q. I am in my 40s and took up the opportunity to withdraw \$10,000 from my super fund in June as I thought this was a good opportunity to use some of the funds that otherwise will not be available to me at the earliest until I turn 60.

However, I realised that in superannuation the funds would grow and should increase quite significantly in 20 years' time and be very useful in my retirement. Am I able to re-invest this amount in superannuation?

A. As you are under 65 you can make contributions into superannuation. Superannuation is a vehicle for retirees where we build our savings during our working life, which is normally around 35 to 40 years for us to live on in our retirement years, which could also be around 30 years.

It is therefore of great importance to ensure that this superannuation fund continues to grow in your working life. The larger your super fund is, the more comfortable your retirement should be.

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Conscription 1916: Who were the Maltese 'children of Billy Hughes'?

Dr Barry York

The Maltese 'children of Billy Hughes' were a group of 214 Maltese migrants who arrived in Australia during its conscription plebiscite campaign a century ago and were deemed to be prohibited immigrants under section 3(a) of the *Immigration (Restriction) Act* after failing a dictation test in the Dutch language. They are remembered in Maltese communities as *it-tfal ta' Billy Hughes*, 'Billy Hughes' children'.

To the opponents of William Morris Hughes, like Eddie Ward MP, Hughes thereafter became William 'Maltese' Hughes.

The 214 Maltese male labourers travelled on the French ship, 'Gange', and, unfortunately for them, the ship was due to arrive in Melbourne around 28th October 1916, the day of the plebiscite. Being Maltese, they were British subjects by birth and most had served at Lemnos, Mudros and Gallipoli.

During the First World War, Malta was 'the nurse of the Mediterranean'. With its hospitals full, Maltese authorities converted many public buildings on the tiny island into hospitals.

About 80,000 wounded were cared for by the Maltese, many of them Anzacs, and there was favourable feeling toward them on the part of returned servicemen. It should be noted that Malta's population at that time was 212,000. (Malta is small. It can fit 300 times into Tasmania).

The gratitude of soldiers who recuperated at Malta was summed up by this telegram: 'Wounded in foot, am in heaven in Malta'. But back then, as sometimes still happens today, the exclusion of people who would make fine settlers was accompanied by exaggerated and hysterical claims.

During the plebiscite campaign, the anti-conscription Labor parliamentarians and trade union leaders argued that the capitalists planned to replace Australian workers conscripted for



overseas with cheap imported labour. The Maltese were called 'coloured job jumpers'.

The fact that the Maltese in Australia numbered less than a thousand at that time did not deter talk of a Maltese invasion. The Australian Workers' Union declared that the

Maltese were a 'black menace' and a meeting at Inverell was panicked by the rumour that four thousand had just landed and were sneaking in via Coffs Harbour.

Many years later in his memoir, *I Remember* (1956), anti-conscriptionist Jack Lang stated

that the arrival of the 'Gange' was just the evidence the 'No' case needed.

Prime Minister Hughes, an ardent advocate for a 'yes' vote, did not want the 'Gange' to disembark its passengers and relied on the 'dictation test' provision of the *Immigration (Restriction) Act* to keep them out. Section 3(a) meant that immigration officers could declare any new arrival a prohibited immigrant if they failed a dictation test of 50 words in any European language.

Originally meant to exclude Chinese and other 'coloured' people, Section 3(a) had occasional political application, such as the (in)famous case of Czech communist Egon Kisch in 1934 who was tested in Scottish Gaelic.

The Maltese were tested in the Dutch language, by a professor from Mel-

bourne University. A Maltese priest, Father William Bonnet, was allowed onto the vessel when it reached Sydney and spoke with the prohibited men. Outraged by the injustice and the sheer dishonesty, he wrote to Governor-General Munro-Fergusson, about what had happened.

In researching my book, *Empire and Race: the Maltese in Australia 1881 to 1949*, I came across a document from the Colonial Office in London on which an officer had scrawled the words: 'An act of treachery, worthy of the Germans!'

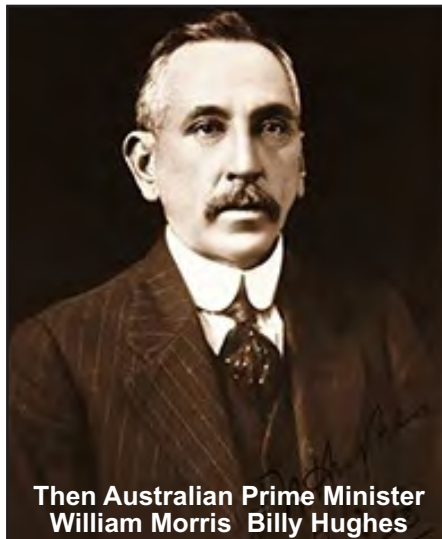
As the 'Gange' was a French ship, the excluded men ended up at its destination, Noumea. They languished there for more than three months, with their families back in Malta in acute poverty. However, public pressure from ex-servicemen and pro-Empire groups like the Millions Club secured their return to Sydney toward the end of February 1917.

But the ordeal was not over for Hughes 'children'. On return to Sydney, they were detained on an old hulk, the 'Anglian', in Berry's Bay, for a fortnight before being released gradually in groups. All were freed by 12 March 1917.

Maltese migrants have a reputation as hard workers and Billy Hughes' 'children' went on to help construct the Burrinjuck dam and the rail extensions in northern New South Wales. Another lot were recruited to the Mt Lyell mines in Tasmania. As in the 1950s, Southern Europeans did much of the 'dirty work', the harsh manual jobs.

**This happened more than a century ago. I started researching it in Australia, Malta and at the Public Record Office in London 35 years ago.*

**Continued on page 5*



Then Australian Prime Minister
William Morris Billy Hughes

In 1989, Barry York recorded an oral history interview with Emmanuel Attard (pictured right), one of the last surviving passengers on the Gange for the National Library of Australia's oral history collection.

Who were the Maltese 'children of Billy Hughes'?

There were other passengers going to Caledonia who were allowed to be the

On the voyage from Malta to Fremantle, there was nobody who fell sick that he knew of. But there was a man who got seasick and his conditioned got worse every day. He did not know much about him however.



He remembers it was a perfect day. "The man was placed in a coffin on the side of the ship, a member of the crew read the funeral notice and the coffin slid down into the water", Emmanuel said.





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Thank God HERKULES never came to Malta!

Ron Borg

This isn't about the Roman God Hercules, but the Axis plan to invade Malta during World War II, code named "HERKULES"! It was the plan hatched by the Germans and Italians for the invasion of Malta during the war in order to eliminate Malta as a British Naval base, and to secure an interrupted supply across the Mediterranean Sea to the Axis forces in Libya and Egypt.

Actually, this plan to invade Malta had its origin in Italian military studies conducted in the mid-1930s during the Italian conquest of Ethiopia. The concept of this plan was approved at a meeting between Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini on April 29, 1942.

General Major Kurt Student was sassigned Command of the airborne component of Herkules. He had extensive knowledge of British defensive positions on Malta, thanks to meticulous aerial mapping by the Italians.

Every fortification, artillery emplacement and AA battery was carefully noted and scrutinized. Student later claimed, "We even knew the calibres of the coastal guns, and how many degrees they could be turned inland."

Around 500 aircraft were allocated for the air landings along with 500 gliders carrying 8,000 men. There were also 24 Gi-

gant gliders capable of carrying up to 200 fully equipped paratroopers or a 25-ton tank.

The Italian Air Force would contribute 180-220 transport aircraft, carrying 5,000 men. Airborne units slated for the invasion were a total of approximately 29,000 airborne troops, and additional preparations for the airborne assault included construction of three glider strips on the island of Sicily.

Hitler's concerns lead to the scrapping of the invasion of Malta

The seaborne assault force comprised a total of 70,000 Italian ground troops who were to make amphibious landings at two points on the south-eastern part of the island, in Marsaxlokk Bay, with the main effort falling upon a site designated "Famagusta beach" and a smaller secondary landing at a place designated "Larnaca beach". Also, to be seized were the lesser islands of Gozo and Comino.

To draw British attention away from the actual landing sites, amphibious landings would be directed at St. Paul's Bay, Mellieha Bay and northwest of Valletta near the old Victoria Lines.

The main assault convoy was scheduled to begin landing on Malta just before mid-

night on the first day of the invasion, after the airborne forces had already landed during the afternoon hours and secured the heights above the selected beaches.

The bulk of the first wave of 19,850 assault troops would come from Infantry Divisions, including Marines, Blackshirts, and a commando unit with armour support comprised self-propelled guns plus 30 light tanks.

The follow-up convoy would be mainly made up of 17,900 troops from the Italian Infantry Division along with 3,200 attached artillery assets that were to be in position to land on the smaller island of Gozo in the early morning hours of the second day.

Additional armour intended for Herkules included, a German unit equipped with 50 heavy tanks from the German Panzer Division.

Two days were allowed for the main amphibious assault and landing of the follow-up convoy, though it was heavily dependent on quickly securing Marsaxlokk Bay to allow heavier artillery pieces and a much higher tonnage of supplies to be brought in.

The Regia Marina had the twofold task of protecting the invasion convoys from attacks by Britain's Mediterranean Fleet and providing offshore gunfire support during the landings.

The force assigned to accomplish this included four Italian battleships, four heavy cruisers, eight light cruisers and 21 destroyers. Italian and German submarines were also to be deployed for intercepting any British naval forces attempting to interfere with the seaborne landings.

One submarine was to be stationed midway between Sicily and Malta and act as a guide beacon for the transport planes on their way to and from the drop zones. The Italians were confident they could fend off any daylight incursions by Britain's Royal Navy, especially given the German Luftwaffe's ability to dominate the daytime skies. But there were legitimate concerns the Italian fleet would face serious difficulties if the British sought to disrupt the seaborne landings by night.

In 1942 the main garrison forces on Malta consisted of 15 infantry battalions (11 Commonwealth, 4 Maltese) organised into four brigades totalling 26,000 men.



Mussolini and Hitler discussing Operation Herkules



A British Matilda II Infantry Tank on Malta in May 1942

**Continued on page 7*

German MFPs were transferred to the Mediterranean to supplement Italian-built landing craft intended for the invasion of Malta



Operation HERKULES...

The invasion of Malta that never was

**Continued from page 6*

The Royal Tank Regiment provided Armour support, equipped with four Infantry Tanks, armed with 2-pounder guns and two light tanks, armed with two machine guns, before being reinforced by an additional eight tanks.

Also on hand was the 12th Field Regiment, Royal Artillery which had two dozen 25-pounder 3.45 inch field guns, capable of providing indirect fire support out to a range of 11 km and covering most of the island while remaining in protected static positions. Malta's fixed defences included 19 coastal guns, 130 smaller coastal guns, 112 heavy and 144 light anti-aircraft guns.

A date near mid-July 1942 was set for the invasion, partly to allow time to bring troops from other frontline positions and partly because Hitler believed the Italian Navy was no match for the Royal Navy.

Field Marshal Erwin Rommel supported the idea of seizing Malta, to the point that he personally asked Hitler to allow him to command the invasion forces to hinder the Allied troops fighting in Africa, as well as to remove the threat to the convoys heading to himself with supplies, oil, and men, of all which he was desperately low on.

He put the emphasis on the attack to such an extreme that he was willing to move units from his front for the attack. The head of the German Luftwaffe, Hermann Göring, opposed the invasion, fearing it would turn into another near-disaster for his paratroops, as had happened on Crete.

General Field Marshal Albert Kesselring tirelessly promoted Operation Herkules but even he was eventually dissuaded when it became apparent that too many air and ground units had been siphoned off to support Rommel's drive into Egypt, thereby significantly diminishing any chance of Herkules' success. This, along with Hitler's lack of faith in the paratrooper divisions as a result of the Invasion of Crete and in the Italian Navy's ability to protect the invasion fleet from British naval attacks, led to the scrapping of the plan.

Eventually, when it became apparent that



GF Marshal Albert Kesselring

too many air and ground units had been siphoned off to support the Axis drive into Egypt, diminishing any chance of success, in November 1942 the plan was cancelled.

Herkules was a very heavily manned and armed invasion plan that might have had dire consequences on the island of Malta, and heaven only knows what would have been the devastating outcome if it were not abandoned.

More on the war years...

Appeal launched to buy fighter planes for Malta

According to a report that was published on July 29, 1940 by *The Daily Mail*, written by its correspondent on his return to the UK after visiting Malta, at the time Malta was the most bombed spot in the British Empire.

The correspondent also described his visit to the Island's ancient cellars and tunnels, where 10000 homeless or evacuated islanders were then living.

A day later, in response to reductions at the time of fighter strength to critical levels, an appeal organised by the Anglo-Maltese League, in conjunction with Barclays Bank and Allied Malta Newspapers was launched to raise funds to be used for buying a fighter plane to serve over Malta.

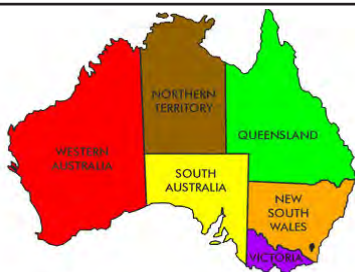
Announcing the campaign in *The Times*, the organisers said: "None can have failed to appreciate the great service of the Royal Air Force in the air defence of these Islands against the bombing attacks by Italian aeroplanes, nor can any have failed to observe that other territories of the British Empire have subscribed towards providing additional planes for the Royal Air Force."

The Anglo-Maltese League, in full conviction that it is fulfilling the earnest desire of all Maltese and English people in these Islands, has consequently undertaken to open a fund, which has been styled *The Fighter Plane Fund, Malta* in order that a 'fighter' may be presented to the British Government for service over Malta and as an expression of Malta's admiration for and gratitude to the Royal Air Force."

Malta has been bombed on an average twice daily, so no wonder that in less than three weeks after its launch, the Fund had already reached its target and could buy the spitfire (below) it had targeted



Have your say/Xi trid tgħid?



The Voice of the Maltese

fortnightly magazine

This is a bi-lingual (in English and Maltese) fortnightly magazine that specifically targets all Maltese living abroad with emphasis on the Australian and Maltese scenes.

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Your letters/ L-ittri tagħkom ...

COVID-19: Back to square one

Tony Cassar from St Albans, Victoria, writes:

So, after enduring so many hardships during the first four months of COVID-19 pandemic, and when we thought that the worst was over, out here in the State of Victoria in particular, we seem to be back to square one as we are once again in almost complete lockdown.

We are back in isolation as COVID cases keep rising day by day. I don't even dare to point out how or why we have reached this stage once again, though most probably, and

in many cases, it might have been lack of discipline by the residents, and perhaps even some wrong decisions by the authorities. It is heart breaking for all of us Victorians.

They are telling us residents that we need to be patient as a number of Victoria's hard borders are put in place. In a few weeks, after the resurrection of the outbreak in Victoria, other states in Australia are also going through the same tribulations, especially NSW.

I do not know what has gone wrong or whose fault this is, but the return of the pandemic seems to be the result of people not abiding to the letter with the rules and the restrictions that were not enforced. It looks like we are in the midst of the second wave of infections that we believed could not hit us after doing so well initially.

COVID-19 is still among us, and it looks as if we would have to live with it. Therefore it is important now, more than ever that we do all that we can to protect our communities and support, not only Victoria, but also the rest of the country, in stopping the spread of this dreaded virus.

We cannot afford, for many reasons, and not just health, to return to being isolated from the rest of the nation for much longer.

Għax qed jistrakjaw?

Carmel Mallia minn Birmingham UK jikteb:

Nistaghgeb kif f'Malta, fejn daww minn ta' quddiem, l-aktar fis-settur tas-saħħa biex il-pandemija tal-COVID-19, giet ikkontrollata kważi kompletament u ġew imsejja eroj, f'daqqa waħda, għax bħal mhu qed jigri kważi fid-dinja kollha, l-aktar fl-Ewropa reġġu żdiedu l-għadd tal-infettati, l-għadda tat-tobba (MAM) qed iġġib l-istmerrija ta' hafna fuq uħud mill-membri tagħha.

Minflok li tkompli timbotta biex it-tobba jgħinu lil min jiġi nfet, il-MAM donnu li qed titfa' kull htija fuq il-gvern għaž-żieda tal-infettati, u sejjuha għal strakjijiet mill-membri f'ċerti setturi tas-saħħa u qed iżommu lil xi tobba membri milli jagħmlu x-xogħol li titlob minnhom il-professjoni, li jiehdu hsieb il-marid. Dan għax skont huma l-Gvern ma hassarx kompletament l-attivitajiet tal-massa. Imma fil-fatt hassar hafna u sa hareġ direttivi u multi għal min ma jimxix mar-regolamenti.

Xi gvernijiet fid-dinja ma mxewx tajjeb fil-pandemija, fosthom fejn noqghod jien, u xi pajjiżi oħra, imma ma naf lil hadd li hadha kontra l-awtoritajiet. Allura x'inhir raguni vera tal-l-MAM f'Malta?

The Voice magazine iħabbar u jgħalllem

Mario Grixcti minn Ta' Xbiex, Malta jikteb:

Ircievejt il-harga Nru.233 ta' The Voice of the Maltese u nizzikom hajr. Dejjem attenti li ggibu l-ahbarijiet kif inhu minghajr paroli zezda jew kummenti fiergha. Bravissimi. Qed tkompli b'servizz eċċellenti li għandu jkun multi apprezzat.

The Voice iħabbar u jgħalllem. Grazzi mill-qalb.

Rapporti fattwali

Joe Vella minn Middle Park, Victoria jikteb:

Irrid nifrah lil Konslu Onorarju l-gdida fis-South Australia imma wkoll li The Voice of the Maltese għall-mod eżemplari u prudenti kif habbartu t-tnehhija tal-konslu ta' qabel u l-hatra tal-gdid.

Hekk għandu jkun għall-żgħir professjonali minghajr sensazzjonalizmu, nofs verita' jew fake news. Rapportar fattwali kif għandu jkun. Illum qed naf-frontaw qarreja intelligenti, u hafna ftahir żejjed aktar jagħmel hsara.

Nawgura lill-Konslu ta' qabel kif ukoll lill-gdida hajja mill-aqwa.



Dr Hugh McDermott MP State Member for Prospect

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L-ghana Malti: tradizzjoni u fost l-eqdem elementi muzikali f'Malta

Min għandu l-età tiegħi ta' sebgħin 'l fuq żgur jiftakar l-iljieli sajjin tal-imghoddi meta imqar jekk ningabru fuq banketta wara xi bieb ta' xi ġirien u noqogħdu nirrakkontaw il-praspar u stejjer oħra ta' matul il-ġurnata. Kien ikun l-ghors tagħna meta bit-toroq imdawwla mill-qamar u l-kwiekeb, f'xi hanut fil-qrib konna nisimghu xi għana Malti tradizzjoni tant popolari.

Ma niftakarx ix-xena ta' meta xi żagħżuġ għannej kien imur jgħanni lill-mahbuba tiegħu taħt it-tieqa tal-mahbuba tiegħu. Imma niftakar sewwa waħda mill-ġirien tgħid li għalkemm għall-ewwel ma ridetx tkun taf bil-guvni xorta kienet ta' kull lejla tistennieh minn wara t-tieqa tisimghu jsejthilha bl-ghana helu tiegħu.



Frans Baldacchino (Il-Budaj)

Ddarba kont staqsejt lil din ix-xweġha: "Allura Mari, għaliex ma hriġtx tittawwallu u tgħidlu 'Kollox sewwa?' Kienet daret lejja u pront qaltli, "Mela le! U ommi?!" Anke missierha daħal fix-xena u qaltli li allahares kien ikun jaf missierha għax kien joqtolha kien.

Dik hi forma waħda ta' espressjoni fl-ghana. Kienet

espressjoni popolari, imma l-ghana hu aktar minn hekk. Irrid ngħid li l-ghana għadu popolari, mhux biss f'xi rhula, imma wkoll fost il-komunitajiet Maltin fejn hemm l-emigranti. Fost l-aktar forsi fl-Awstralja fejn anke hemm xi klabbijiet.

F'Malta għadek tara xi lejla organizzata bl-ghana, l-aktar f'xi f'xi hanut, inkella fl-Imnarja, f'San Ġirgor fiż-Żejtun inkella f'Marsaxlokk. Fil-fatt, naħseb li ż-Żwieten huma dawk li l-aktar dilettanti tal-ghana Malti. Magħhom jingħadu rhula Maltin antiki oħra u xi hwienet tat-te u l-kafé li fihom jingabru xi għannejja, l-aktar f'xi Hadd filgħodu.

Peress li noqgħod ir-Rabat, f'xi lejla sajjija minn xi daqqiet fil-pjazza ewlenija tal-hanut jorganizza lejla ta' għana, u tkun popolari tant li trid tibbukja mejda għax ma ssibx post. Hawn l-aktar popolari jkun dak spirtu pront. Naturalment l-għannejja jkun akkumpanjati mid-daqq tal-kitarri.

Tassew nammira lill-għannejja għax għandhom hila jwieġbu lil xulxin f'hakka t'għajn – spirtu pront – u b'rima preċiża. Lanqas ma tonqos xi tbissima u għaldaqstant nistennew bilherqa kif se jwieġbu siehbu l-għannej l-iehor.

Sehem poetiku fil-letteratura

Il-kritiċi letterarji jistqarru li l-versi tal-għannej huma l-ewwel sehem poetiku fil-letteratura Maltija. Għandhom raġun għax l-ghana tagħna huwa wkoll fost l-eqdem elementi muzikali li nil-tagħgu magħhom fost il-Maltin.

Dari, wara l-hidma tal-ġurnata l-irġiel, l-aktar dawk fl-għelieqi kienu jinfexxu fl-ghana li kien tant għal qalbhom li waqt il-hidma iebsa tagħhom geli kienu jinfexxu jgħannu fuq il-lant tax-xogħol.

L-istoriċi u r-riċerkaturi jistqarru li ma jafux meta beda l-ghana fostna ... imma x'aktarx li diġà kien fuq fomm il-poplu wisq qabel ma bdiet tinkiteb l-istorja. Imma l-ghana għadu hemm kwazi bl-istess tifsira tal-imghoddi.



L-ghana huwa wkoll espressjoni ta' ferh għalkemm wara daħal ukoll biex ifisser iċ-ċaħda u l-qrusa tal-ħajja. Ngħid għalija, jekk ma jkunx ripetittiv, l-ghana tal-fatt napprezzah ħafna, l-aktar jekk nifhem sewwa kull kelma tiegħu. Ħafna mill-għannejja tagħna huma l-poeti tal-poplu.

Frans Baldacchino (Il-Budaj)

Irrid ngħid li bosta mill-ghana Malti aktarx li jintiret mill-missier għall-iben; anke t-tfajliet illum dahlu fix-xena tal-ghana Malti. Nistqarr li l-ghana Malti huwa taħlita tal-fdal taċ-civiltà Għarbija fostna.

Niftakar sewwa meta flimkien mal-Budaj (għannej Malti famuż miż-Żejtun li illum m'għadux fostna) u xi kitarristi Maltin morna Franza. Hemmhekk ipprezentajna l-ghana Malti, u wara li l-kompożitur Charles Camilleri kien spjegalhom dan l-ghana tagħna, il-Francizi tant hađu gost jisimghu l-ghana Malti. Fehmu sewwa dik il-kisra sabiha u melodjuża ta' Frans Baldacchino, il-Budaj.

Għalkemm ma nistax ngħid li nifhem wisq, imma nista' ngħid b'mod l-aktar liberu li l-Budaj għamel qabza kbira fil-kwalità tal-ghana. Kellu l-hila jdaħħal dan l-ghana folkloristiku Malti fis-swali tal-kunċerti, fl-Università u anke barra minn xtutna.

Inħobb ngħid li l-Budaj kien imwieled għannej u komplja fejn halla l-magħruf għannej l-iehor tal-imghoddi, iż-Żebbugi, Leli Cilia.

Għal xi żmien kont niehu ħsieb il-programm tal-ghana nhar ta' Hadd filgħodu fuq ir-Rediffusion, u wara wkoll fuq ir-radju. Kont noqgħod attent li ma jsirx xi diskors politiku jew li seta' joffendi lil xi hadd. Qatt ma kelli problemi.

Indri Brincat (Il-Pupa)

Niftakar ukoll meta Indri Brincat (Il-Pupa), kitarrista tal-ghana mill-aqwa, kien mistieden mid-Dipartiment tal-Kultura fis-snin tmenin biex jirrekordja xi passaġġi sbieħ tiegħu bil-kitarra. Indri kien surmast tal-kitarra Maltija u hu stess kien ifassal u jaħdem diversi kitarri, mhux biss għalih iżda wkoll għal shabu.



Indri Cilia (Il-Pupa)

Ir-rekordjant kien ikun mimli ħlewwa muzikali marbuta mal-għeruq tal-ghana Malti.

Darba tkellimt dwar dan mal-Kompożitur Malti ta' fama internazzjonali Charles Camilleri.

Tgħidx kemm feraħ u ha-dem bis-shih fuq l-ghana Malti, tant li daħħlu f'kompożizzjoni serja tiegħu, fil-famja internazzjonali 'Malta Suite' f'wieħed mill-movimenti mmarkat 'Nocturno' fejn jagħti dehra mill-isbaħ ta' għannej f'lejl l-Imnarja fil-Buskett.

Perspettiva

A version of this series in English may be found in the author's blog at:

<https://ivancauchi.blogspot.com>

kitba ta'
IVAN
CAUCHI



Kull ħajja tgħodd?

Dan huwa prinċipju interessanti. Meta wiehed jisimghu, x'aktarx li jgħid bejnu u bejn ruħu "heqq iva, mela, dażgur".

Il-mistoqsija tiegħi hi, fil-fatt huwa minnu? U jekk iva, huwa hekk dejjem?

Il-prinċipju huwa wiehed ta' ugwaljanza. Per eżempju 'kulhadd għandu d-dritt tal-vot'. Imbagħad meta tidhol fid-dettall f'dan jew f'dak il-pajjiż, tiskopri per eżempju li jekk wiehed ikun il-habs, jew ikun instab hati ta' xi att b'piena minima ta' tant snin prigunerija, dan id-dritt jintilef.

Forsi tirraguna li hekk għandu jkun - jien le, imma halliha, għax il-punt li rrid nohroġ huwa li prinċipju nobbli ta' ugwaljanza, dritt ugwali għall-vot, jista' jkollu l-limitazzjonijiet tiegħu, miżjuda apposta meta tkun issawret u għaddiet il-liġi.

Jekk toqgħod taħseb iktar, tinduna li hemm limitazzjonijiet oħra anke fl-istess suġġett. Per eżempju, generalment mhux kull min ikun qiegħed f'pajjiż ikun jista' jivvota, bħal residenti temporanji, turisti, ċittadini li m'għalqux it-tmintax-il sena eċċ. Dawn kollha se jkun hemm min jaqbel jew ma jaqbilx jekk għandux ikun hekk - mhux l-iskop ta' dan l-artiklu li nidhol f'dan.

Ma nistax ma nżidx li kieku konna ngħixu madwar xi mitt sena ilu fl-Awstralja, in-nisa kollha ma setgħux jivvutaw, u wara li dal-pajjiż kien wiehed minn tal-ewwel fid-dinja li rrimedja għal dan, kellhom jgħaddu f'it iktar snin biex in-nisa setgħu joħorġu huma stess għall-parlament.

Il-vot huwa biss wiehed mid-drittijiet li bniedem jaspira għalih. Hemm drittijiet oħra, bħad-dritt tal-edukazzjoni, tax-xogħol, tal-libertà tal-espressjoni, anki tal-libertà personali (bħall-libertà li timxi fit-triq, tirkeb fuq karrozza tal-linja jew sempliċement tidhol f'hanut) li hafna minna lanqas biss naħsbu fihom, imma li għal xi whud, jew fil-passat jew fil-preżent, huma pjaga ta' kuljum li toħloq tbatija ta' barra minn hawn, għalih, uliedu u għal ulied uliedu.

Bhalissa għaddejnin sensiela ta' protesti imsejhin *Black Lives Matter* (Il-Ħajja tas-Suwed Tgħodd), li bdiet fl-Istati Uniti u nfraxet f'pajjiżi oħra inkluża l-Awstralja.

Ix-xrara li hegġeġ dan in-nar ta' protesti fl-Istati Uniti din is-sena kien każ ieħor, wiehed biss minn tant, fejn pulizija (abjad) spicċa qatel bla l-ebda bżonn ta' xejn raġel (Afrikan-Amerikan) George Floyd f'Minneapolis, billi qagħad b'irkoppa fuq wara għonq Floyd għal kwazi tmien minuti, tant li waqqaflu d-demmi li tiela għal rasu u miet.

Din is-sensiela ta' protesti kienet bdiet fl-2013 f'każ ieħor tal-qtil ta' Trayvon Martin, Afrikan-Amerikan ieħor, fi Florida. Membru tan-*Neighborhood Watch* rah miexi minn hanut lejn id-dar tat-tfajla tiegħu, għaddielu li kien suspettuż, kellhom xi jgħidu u spicċa sparalu.

Il-protesti jirrigwardaw il-forzi tal-ordni, li jidher li għandhom it-

tendenza li jużaw il-forza b'mod eċċes-siv meta jikkunsidraw persuna li hija ċar li hija Afrikan-Amerikan. Dan hu fi sfont tal-istorja tal-pajjiż, fejn l-Afrikan għal tant snin kienu miġjuba mill-kontinent tagħhom għal dak Amerikan bħala skjavi, u meta l-iskjavitù ġie pprojbit wara l-gwerra ċivili Amerikana (1861-1865), is-suwed baqgħu għal ħafna għexieren ta' snin ddiskriminati.

Gew ukoll mifruda mill-bqija tal-popolazzjoni b'mod sistem- atiku, u garrbu vjolenza kontri hom, inkluzi li jinħarqu ħajjin u jitgħallqu minn marmalja, speċjalment fl-istati tan-nofs inhar tal-pajjiż. L-attitudni razzista għadha tinħass illum.

Dawn il-protesti sabu eku tagħhom fl-Awstralja, fejn il-popolazzjoni aborigena wkoll għandha l-istorja tagħha ta' tehid tal-artijiet mill-kolonizzaturi Brittanniċi, is-serq ta' generazzjoniet ta' tfal biex jiġu mrobbija minn istituzzjonijiet tal-istat u tal-knisja (haġa li baqgħet sejra sa xi 40 sena ilu) u l-qtil barbaru ta' hafna minnhom biex il-kolonizzaturi jkun jistgħu jistabbilixxu l-irziezet tagħhom.

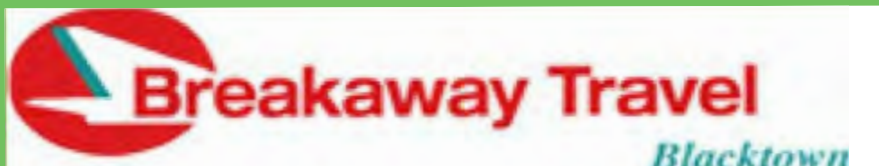
Illum, l-aborigeni għandhom problemi kbar, bl-ordni soċjali tagħhom imħarba, nuqqas ta' xogħol, stennija tal-ħajja iktar baxxa minn dik tal-popolazzjoni ġenerali, rati għoljin ta' inkarċerazzjoni, livell ta' edukazzjoni baxxa eċċ eċċ.

Il-protesti qajmu wkoll daww kuntrarji, li jsejhu lilhom infushom *All Lives Matter* (Il-ħajjiet kollha jgħoddu). Din il-kontro-protesta tiġbed saqajn dik originali, u qisha trid tgħid li s-suwed jippretendu li ħajjithom huma iktar importanti minn dik ta' ħad-diehor.

Dan il-messaġġ jimmiinterpretat vilment dak ta' *Black Lives Matter*, li qed jipprotestaw għax qishom ħajjithom ma tgħodd assolutament xejn, u mhux għax iħossuhom superjuri! Saħansitra f'dan is-sens raġt messaġġ li Ġesù ġie biex isalva lil kulhadd - dan huwa minnu, imma x'logħob malizzjuż bil-kliem ta' Ġesù nnifsu!

Irid ikollok nuċċali mčajpar sew biex tinjora l-istorja ta' diskriminazzjoni li sofrew u għadhom isofru n-nies Afrikan-Amerikani fl-Istati Uniti u l-aborigeni tal-Awstralja, il-vjolenza li saret u għadha ssir fil-konfronti tagħhom, is-sitwazzjoni mwiegħra soċjali tagħhom li qisha ma tistax tiġi għall-quddiem.

L-inqas li nistgħu naghmlu hu li nisimghu lil min hu mġarrab, naghduh u nhennu għalih, jekk mhux li ntuh appoġġ. Mhux nit-nejku bih.



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Memorji u nostalgija

Il-ħabib tiegħi Lino

Lawrence Dimech

Ilna ħbieb hafna snin. Ma konniex nafu lil xulxin f'Malta. Għalkemm Lino Vella twieled Raħal il-Ġdid hu trabba San Ġiljan qrib fejn illum hemm il-Cavalieri Art Hotel; jien fin-naħat, mix-xatba l-isfel, il-Hamrun. Kienet l-emigrazzjoni u l-imħabba għamja li għandna t-tnejn li aħna għall-futbol li għabna flimkien.

Jien wasalt Sydney ftit qabel Lino imma meta bdejna nifformulaw it-tim tal-Malta Eagles. Sammy Chetcuti (illum mejjet) qalilna b'Lino Vella li kien għadu kemm jasal Sydney u kien gowlkipper maghruf.

L-istorja ta' kif Lino Vella beda l-karriera sportiva tiegħu fi NSW hija legġenda. Mhux daqstant għax kien atleta mill-aqwa iżda għax l-ewwel partita tiegħu lagħabha taht isem falz. Kien x'aktarx tort tiegħi għax kif ilmaħna lil Lino fi Queen's Park innutajna wkoll li l-gowlkipper regolari ma wasalx, għalhekk ġejna bla xi hadd li seta' jgħasses il-lasti.

Lino ma kienx irregistrat magħna imma xorta lghabnih. Tant lagħab tajjeb li mill-ewwel impressjoni u ġie magħzul biex jilgħab mal-aħjar tal-*Eastern Suburbs Soccer Football Association* u anke NSW. Imsomma, balbuljata li rranġajna bi ftit skużi u apoloġji.

Konna klikka ġuvintur bla direzzjoni, mifrudin mill-familja u mdejjejin bil-hajja stramba, monotona u bla hajja ta' Sydney fil-hamsinijiet. Konna niltaqgħu f'ħafna djar differenti iżda l-iktar għand il-familja taż-Żużu Micallef f'Margaret Street Newtown fejn ommu Ġulina kienet tiegħu

ħsiebna qisna uliedha.

Konna wkoll drajna mmorru f'CUSA House f'Castlereagh Street Sydney fejn hemmhekk Mary Nappa kienet tiegħu ħsiebna f'atmosfera kattolika. Kienu jiġu wkoll xi tfajliet oħra fosthom Barbara Platell, tfajla Intelligenti, pulita ta' nisel Ingliz. Niftakar kont introduċejta lill-ħabibi Lino. Innamraw u żżewġu. Jien parrinu ta' Annette, it-tifla. Almenu għamilt xi haġa tajba!

Izda, bħala ġuvintur, dejjem konna bqajna noholmu b'Malta. Kien nu jaqbduna dwejjajk kbar. Mhux l-ewwel darba li nfexxejna nibku u nkantaw il-kanzunetta famuża Mamma, memorji tal-familja li hallejna warajna. Waħda mill-aktar frażijiet li qatt ma ninsa kienet dik li lissen il-ħabib tiegħi. Lino kien ġej minn familja ta' għawwiema maghrufa. Hutu kienu jilagħabu l-waterpolo mal-Balluta u San Ġiljan. Darba qalli, "Tant ninsab imdejjaq li se nipprova ngħum sa Malta. Mhux se niddejjaq mix-xarks".

Kienet il-hajja dak iż-żmienijiet, mhux lakemm tidra tghix f'belt bħal Sydney meta tkun għadek ġej minn San Ġiljan.

Meta ġejt mitlub mingħaqad mal-Kummissjoni Għolja fl-Awstralja hallejt *The*



Maltese Herald f'idejn Lino. Ma kellux esperjenza ġurnalistika jew edukazzjoni għolja iżda kien intelliġenti u ntiz hafna aktar minni fin-negozju. Dam editur madwar hamsin sena, rekord ċertament għal ġurnalist Malti. Fl-1999 ġie mogħti l-*Australian Medal* mill-Gvern Awstraljan u fl-2011 Gieh ir-Repubblika mill-Gvern Malti.

Lino u martu Barbara hadmu bħala tim. Kienet Ingliża iżda kienet tittajppja bil-Malti f'ħafna aktar heffa u preċiż minni. Dwar il-hajja ta' Lino u jien fiz-żmienijiet diffiċli u mqallba tal-*Maltese Herald* inhallihom għal darb'ohra.



Tlett iħbieb ta' veru: Ritratt mehud f'Sydney f'Settembru 1958. Mix-xel-lug: Lino Vella, Lawrence Dimech u Tony Felice (illum jghix il-Kanada)



Roundup of News About Malta

‘Malta a champion for small states’

- Minister Evarist Bartolo tells Baroness Scotland

During a meeting with the Commonwealth Secretary General Baroness Patricia Scotland in Malta, the Minister for Foreign and European Affairs Evarist Bartolo remarked on Malta's natural vocation as a champion for small states.

He said this was evident by the number of initiatives geared at developing capacity in Small Island Developing States (SIDS), such as the setting up of the two Malta-based hubs; the Small States Centre of Excellence (SSCoE) as well as Commonwealth Centre for Connected Learning (3CL).

He also highlighted the nexus between governance and rule of law and the need to ensure strong structures to address the complex global challenges, especially for small states.

Baroness Scotland commended Malta's efforts in strengthening good governance and the rule of law in the country. She also remarked on the positive contribution that Malta could offer, through its institutions, in this sense.

The importance of sound financial governance in relation to anti-money laundering (AML), as well as cooperation in response to transnational criminal activity were also raised during this meeting.

In this context, Minister Bartolo pointed out the need and importance of capacity-

building initiatives as key enablers that contribute towards the sustainable development of Small Island Developing States across the Commonwealth.

It is worth noting that Malta hosts the Small States Centre of Excellence, which emanated from the 2015 Valletta Com-

Minister Evarist Bartolo in his meeting with Baroness Patricia Scotland

monwealth Heads of Government Meeting. Thirty-two of the world's 39 small states are all members within the Commonwealth.



Malta, Libya, Turkey discuss latest situation in Libya

Another important commitment for Minister Evarist Bartolo was a meeting in Tripoli, with the foreign ministers of Libya and Turkey where they discussed the latest situation in the host country and the relations of joint cooperation between the three states.

Both Malta and Turkey stressed their support to the Government of National Accord, the legitimate government of Libya. They maintained that there is no military solution to the Libyan crisis, and that the stability and security of Libya are of great significance.

They eventually agreed:

- * to promote joint cooperation, return of Maltese and Turkish companies to Libya, and the resumption of air flights between Libya and Malta and Turkey;

- * that illegal migration does not impose a threat to the EU only, but also to Libya, and that there is a need to strengthen the Libyan southern borders and combat human trafficking and smuggling.

Malta and Turkey expressed their readiness to support the Government of National Accord in this regard by providing the necessary needs and equipment to upgrade the capabilities of the Libyan Coast Guard;

- * to stress the importance of the EU's participation in tackling the root causes of illegal migration by helping the development of source countries;

- * to set up a joint working team to coordinate efforts and co-operation in order to translate any agreed matters into concrete and practical projects.

3,000 migrants stopped from coming to Malta

Minister for Foreign Affairs Evarist Bartolo said that since March, the Government's work has prevented 3,000 irregular immigrants arriving to Malta. He said this work involved steps taken with Libya and the surrounding area.

Speaking about the economy, he said that Malta's small size magnifies the challenges we face today; rebuilding our economy and ensuring that irregular migration does not ruin what we have achieved in the last 100 years".

Following the devastating explosion in Beirut on August 4, Malta has decided to support the Lebanese Republic with a financial contribution of €50,000 from its official development assistance budget

Malta supports Lebanon with financial contribution

The explosion reportedly killed at least one hundred, leaving more than 4,000 injured, and caused considerable damage to the city's infrastructure.

The emergency response from the Maltese Government is an expression of full solidarity with the government and the people of Lebanon, contributing to the hope that the global humanitarian assistance would help the country to overcome the destructive aftermath in the shortest time possible.

Malta remains engaged as a proactive player in the global humanitarian scene as can be witnessed by the regular and timely financial contributions in direct response to new crises.

In this spirit, it has made an urgent appeal to the international community to heed the call by the Lebanese Government for assistance without undue delay.



Roundup of News About Malta



Malta Chamber launches post-COVID 19 project

At the launch of the post-COVID 19 project titled 'Heading beyond Covid' by the Malta Chamber of Commerce, Enterprise and Industry (MCCEI), President Vella was given a thorough presentation of the various scenarios of how the post-pandemic landscape might look and of strategic initiatives to be undertaken in the short-to-medium term to address the new normal.

The Chamber's President, Perit David Xuereb, explained that the aim of this project was to identify what should be done to ensure sustainable and resilient businesses in Malta while embracing the changes that the pandemic has brought about.

Commending the Chamber for its work through this project towards the recovery of the country as a whole, President Vella highlighted the need to think on how we intend and plan to adapt to a new reality, whichever shape and dimension it assumes, and not get carried away by it.

He stated that solutions have to be tailor-made for every country. He expressed satisfaction at the widespread level of participation, which was a very encouraging manifestation of commitment and determination to weather the storm together while ensuring not only economic growth but, more importantly, the physical and mental well-being of the people.

He stated that all efforts need to be geared at ensuring everyone in Malta has access to essential services and social protection. "Vulnerable groups cannot disproportionately carry the socio-economic impacts of the pandemic", the President said.

The project was also presented to the Government through the Minister within the Office of the Prime Minister Carmelo Abela who thanked the think tank made up of different individuals representing the business sector who worked on the report.

The Minister, who is responsible for social dialogue and sustainable development, said he would follow up with further meetings with the Chamber so as to devise tangible actions based on the results presented in the report.

In his reaction to the report, Minister Abela remarked that when looking at possible opportunities for economic growth in a post-Covid context, sustainability related matters are the key to a resilient economy which is able to handle both current and future challenges.

He explained how this can be achieved in line with the Sustainable Development Goals established by the United Nations where member states – including Malta – are working towards reaching



President George Vella at the launch of the report by the MCCEI

these goals by 2030.

The objective is not only to address current circumstances, but also to aim for a better future for the next generations in relation to economic, social and environmental aspects.

He said, "we should not fear change. We have to promote a culture of change in the way we are doing things". He added that both government and the private sector need to work closely together to pave the way for a change in mentality and sustainability.

€4.2 million project at 'Mall'

A regeneration project is underway at the Maglio Garden (better known as Mall) in Floriana-Valletta by the Grand Harbour Regeneration Corporation (GHRC) with an investment of €4.2 million.

Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Capital Projects Ian Borg said that the government is committed to continue to invest in this area, and improve the island's open spaces

not only because it is a touristic area, but also because it is very important for the residents of the localities.

This investment, that includes 7,500 square metres of new special paving for people with impaired vision, is intended to improve the aesthetic quality of this garden and the area to better complement the aesthetic of City Gate, Pjazza Tritoni, Biskuttin and Argotti Garden.

Heritage Malta to manage three new underwater sites

Heritage Malta, the national agency for cultural heritage, will be managing three new sites in Malta's seas, taking the total number of underwater sites available to divers to fifteen.

The new sites announced by the Underwater Cultural Heritage Unit consist of two American aircrafts, namely, the B24 Liberator and the Douglas A-1 Skyraider, as well as a Ju88, a German aircraft operated by the Luftwaffe. These three aircraft crashed and sunk within Maltese territorial waters during the 1940s.

In the past three years, Heritage Malta, the main operator and guardian of everything that makes us Maltese has grown from 30 sites to over 35. It also has a total of 15 underwater sites.

José Herrera, the Minister for National Heritage, the Arts, and Local Government said that Heritage Malta has been researching and documenting the island's underwater cultural heritage for the past two years. "Malta is truly the curator of a concentration of underwater heritage which belongs to all humankind," he said.

Heritage Malta' CEO, Noel Zammit said that with these three new sites Malta, which is already renowned for the quality of its underwater sites, consolidates its position on the map for international divers.

Professor Timmy Gambin from the Underwater Cultural Heritage Unit explained that the identification and opening of these sites are the result of our collaboration with the Armed Forces of Malta, Transport Malta, the University of Malta and the Superintendence of Cultural Heritage.

"We look forward to further our collaboration which will result in the launching of new sites in 2021," he said.



Announcing the three underwater sites

Mix-xena tal-ħajja Maltija

minn Ġużè Camilleri

L-inkwiet fil-Kamp Nazzjonalista Wara tliet snin, elezzjoni oħra għal kap

Mix-Xena Politika

Fix-xena politika l-midja lokali għadha kkoncentrata fuq il-kriżi fi hdan il-Partit Nazzjonalista, għalkemm issa donnu beda jidher xaqq ta' dawl li l-kriżi tissolva, tal-inqas parzjalment, wara li l-Kunsill Ġenerali tal-PN id-deċieda li wara tliet snin, issir elezzjoni oħra għall-ħatra ta' mexxej ġdid.

Dan indirettament ifisser li l-mexxej t'issa tal-Partit Nazzjonalista, Adrian Delia issa jista' jitlef postu u jinħatar iehor minfloku, għalkemm jista' ma jkun ġdid xejn, jekk Delia jirnexxielu jegħleb l-isfida li għandu quddiemu u jerga jiġi elett mill-membri mħallsa tal-PN – l-hekk msejja tesserati – fejn jingħad li Delia għad għandu appoġġ tajjeb.

Delia se jkollu sfidi qawwija biex jirbah mill-ġdid. Saħansitra hawn min qed jgħid li jista' anke jehel mal-ewwel pass - dak tad-diligenza fejn kull membru li juri x-xewqa li johroġ għall-mexxej irid jgħaddi minn eżerċizzju ta' due diligence u verifiki. Dan minhabba ;għadd ta' allegazzjonijiet li saru dwaru f'l-aħħar tliet snin.

F'każ li jekk sal-bieraħ it-Tnejn meta kellu jagħlaq il-hin biex jikkontestaw, ikun hemm xi hadd iehor interessat, irid jgħaddi minn fażi oħra, għax qabel ma ssir il-votazzjoni mit-tesserati, tkun trid issir votazzjoni oħra mill-Kunsill Ġenerali biex jagħzel żewġ kandidati. Ikunu biss dawn it-tnejn li jmorru għall-votazzjon tat-tesserati. sal-Hadd kieu biss tnejn.

Ma ninsewx li dan hu l-istess Kunsill, li filwaqt li madwar sena ilu kien ta vot ta' fiduċja lil Delia, issa ma tantx invota favur, meta ddeċieda li ssir elezzjoni ġdida għall-mexxej.

Il-kampanja

Il-kampanja għall-elezzjoni ta' kap tal-Partit Nazzjonalista mistennija tkun waħda qasira billi l-Kummissjoni Elettorali tal-PN li se tmexxi din l-elezzjoni qed tipprojbixxi lil dawk li se johorġu għat-tellieqa milli jibdw bil-kampanja tagħhom qabel ma jgħaddu mid-diligenza... proċess li jista' jieħu sa sitt ġimgħat.

Minhabba li hemm min qed jimbotta biex l-elezzjoni ssir qabel il-festi tal-Indipendenza f'Settembru, dan ma jhallix lok ta' kampanja twila. Mhux għax indirettamente mhux qed issir ċerta ħidma minn dawk li beħsiebhom johorġu permezz ta' żjarat fil-

It-tellieqa bejn tnejn?

Imma l-Kunsill Ġenerali se jkollu għalfejn jagħzel? Mill-ewwel għajta hekk kien jidher, billi bdew jissemmew tal-inqas sitt kandidati li ntqal li kienu thajru li jidhlu għat-tellieqa.

Imma f'daqqa waħda ġie kkonfermat li l-hekk imsejja "r-ribelli" – id-19 d-deputati li haduha kontra Delia – kienu qed jiltagħghu biex jaslu fi ftehim ma' dawk li kienu se jikkontestaw halli tkun biss persuna waħda minn fosthom li tohroġ għall-isfida, bl-oħrajn jappoġġjawha.

Dan sar billi dawn id-deputati qed jibzghu li jekk ikun hemm aktar minn kandidat wiehed li jiffaċċja lil Adrian Delia jista' jkun ta' vantaġġ għal tal-aħħar... u jsir dak li ma tantx hu mistenni... u sintendi dak li ma jix-tiequx dawn d-deputati... li jiġi elett Delia.

F'xi waqtiet, skont il-midja kienu qed isibuha diffiċli li jilhqu ftehim. Attwalment f'għajnejn id-deputati kien hemm Roberta Metsola MEP Nazzjonalista u l-Avukat Bernard Grech, li s'issa qatt ma hareġ għall-politika.

Imm'issa Metsola qalet li mhux se tikkontesta, filwaqt li hafna qed isostnu li d-dep-



utati l-aktar influwenti, fosthom Jason Azzopardi, jixtiequ li jingħazel Grech.

Therese Commodini Cachia, li l-istess Deputati kienu għazlu biex tiehu post Delia bhala Kap tal-Oppożizzjoni, wara li wriet li kienet imħajira tikkontesta bdiet tigi mwar-rba. Uħud ikkummentaw li ma kienx sewwa li giet użata u issa qed titwarrab. Hi wkoll issa qalet mhux se tikkontesta u li lesta tokkupa kull kariga biex tgħin lil-partit.

Sintendi hemm min qed jixli lil dan il-grupp, li qed juża metodi li ftit jirriflettu d-demokrazija li jittkellmu tant dwarha, meta qed jippruvaw ma jhallux għazla aktar wiesa lit-tesserati għall-elezzjoni tal-mexxej.

Wara li hadet id-deċiżjoni li ma tikkontestax, Metsola qalet, *"the decision was taken after days of soul searching, tough discussions and difficult negotiations."*

Meta kkonferma l-kandidatura tiegħu, Adrian Delia, sostna li dawk li kienu qed jopponuh kienu qed jippruvaw jimponu kandidat wiehed minflok ma jagħtu għazla lit-tesserati tal-Partit.

Fuq kollox il-pjan ta' dawn id-deputati jista' jisfaxxa, għax anke jekk sat-Tnejn iressqu kandidat wiehed, jistgħu jiffaċċaw oħrajn, li mhumix influwenzati mill-grupp bhala kandidati, li jiftgħu l-kandidatura tagħhom., fosthom l-eks deputat Franco Debono, li kellu differenzi mal-Prim Ministru, Lawrence Gonzi, li wasslu għar-riżenja tal-Gvern Nazzjonalista fl-2013 u d-deputat Mexxej Robert Arrigo. Ma ċaħdux li kienu qed jahsbuha jekk jagħmlux dan.

Uffiċjalment, allura sal-Hadd kienu biss tnejn li tefggu n-nomina, il-kap attwali, Adrian Delia u 'l-għazla tar-ribelli' Bernard Grech.

Nistennew u naraw.



L-isfidant ta' Delia, Bernard Grech

każini tal-partit, artikli fil-midja, u propaganda oħra.

L-indikazzjonijiet huma li din se tkun migġielda bl-aħrax speċjalment fil-konfront ta' Delia.

Bizżejjed naraw x'għara lejliet il-votazzjoni mill-Kunsill Ġenerali tal-PN, meta fuq il-Facebook Jason Azzopardi għamel allegazzjonijiet serje kontra Adrian Delia, b'dan tal-aħħar jasal iressaq protest ġudizjarju fil-Qorti kontra Azzopardi fuq qlajiet malafamanti.

*Ikompili f'pagna 15

Mix-xena tal-hajja Maltija

minn Ġużè Camilleri

Konfront li jidher li se jispiċċa fil-Qorti bejn Delia u Azzopardi

*minn paġna 14

Ftit wara mbagħad, l-istess Jason Azzopardi ressaq kontro-protest kontra l-kap tal-partit tiegħu Adrian Delia.

Fil-protest ġudizzjarju, Delia rrefera għal għadd ta' messaġġi li ntbagħtu lil terzi persuni minn Azzopardi li fost l-oħrajn jgħidu li Delia ha flus mingħand Yorgen Fenech biex ifixkel lil David Casa milli jitle' fl-elezzjoni għall-Parlament Ewropew.

Fil-kontro-protest, Azzopardi qal li l-ebda protest ġudizzjarju ta' Delia ma jista' jmeri s-sewwa magħruf, jiġifieri li Delia żamm komunikazzjoni sigrieta mas-suspettat mandant fil-qtil ta' Daphne Caruana Galizia, Yorgen Fenech.

Azzopardi zied jgħid li m'għandu

xejn x'jirtira u li Delia qed jahbi l-ef-fetti politiċi tal-għazliet li għamel wara kliem fierah legalistiku. Fil-kontro-protest, Azzopardi (*fuq*) qal li Delia qed jiġi jaq' u jgħid mill-partit.

Dan jista' jagħti ndikazzjoni dwar x'jista' joħroġ waqt il-kampanja elettorali għall-mexxej.

Sadanittant, Jason Azzopardi qed jiġi mixli li halef fil-falz meta qal li qatt ma ltaq' personalment ma' Yorgen Fenech għax ritratt ta' laqgħa bejniethom giddbu.

Imsomma wiehed donnu jistenna aktar battibekki u forsi wkoll tghajjirmiz-żewġ fazzjonijiet.



Il-koronavirus ...

Espressjoni li sikwit tisma' hi, "Il-pandemija Covid-19 għadha magħna. U tasew, għax meta l-Maltin u l-Għawdxin kienu bdew jiehdu n-nifs għax għal ġimgha shiha ma kienu hemm każ wiehed ta' infezzjoni bil-virus u dawk li kienu nfettati kienu kważi kollha fiegħu, sbahna mill-ġdid b'għadd ta' każi.

Jidher li l-firxa mill-ġdid tal-virus kienet prinċipalment ġejja, minn żewġ attivitajiet partikulari: *party* ta' tlett ijiem f'lukanda magħrufa u l-marċ fil-Festa ta' Santa Venera.

Dan wassal mhux biss għall-biża' tat-tieni firxa tal-pandemija, iżda wkoll għal kritika qawwija għall-Gvern li halla l-attivitajiet tal-massa, fosthom il-festi u parties fejn jiltaqgħu l-aktar iż-żgħażaġh.

Kien hemm ukoll skedati erba' kbar fil-ġimghat li ġejjin li kien mistenni jattiraw eluf ta' barranin lejn Malta u jhallu mal-€25 miljun fil-kaxxa ta' Malta.

Inghad li minhabba li n-nies qed toħroġ, hemm iktar possibiltà li n-nies ikunu flimkien. Għaldaqstant hemm numru ta' *clusters* li ziedu l-każijiet.

Il-koronavirus laqet ukoll lill-immigranti llegali, tant li mill-madwar mitejn emigrant li ġew salvati mill-Forzi Armati Maltin, kważi nofshom instab li diġà kellhom il-virus fuqhom, hekk li attwalment madwar 40% ta' dawk milquta mill-virus huma emigranti li għadhom kif rifsu Malta.

Quddiem din is-sitwazzjoni l-Gvern żamm ir-riedni u għamel ċerti restrizzjonijiet li wasslu li jithassru l-erba' attivitajiet li semmejt. Gew imwaqqfa wkoll il-marċi tal-festi, bil-Knisja tħassar ukoll il-purċissjonijiet li kienu qed jiehdu forma ta' pellegrinaġġi.

Wara laqgħa li l-Prim Ministru kellu mal-imsieħba soċjali (MCESD), saru regoli ġodda ta' infurzar fosthom persuna għal kull 4 metri kwadri, massimu ta' 10 persuni flimkien u li l-avvenimenti ta' aktar minn 100 persuna jrid isir assessjar. Fuq ġewwa jista' jkun hemm sa 100 persuna u barra sa 300.

Barra minhekk, hareġ avviż legali li jpoġġi l-obbligu tal-ilbies tal-maskra. Min ma jilbishiex f'postijiet bħal hwienet, fuq tal-linja jew fuq il-vpur t'Gawdex jehel multa ta' €50.

Il-Prim Ministru qal li rridu nibqgħu nsibu bilanċ bejn is-saħħa u l-ekonomija, u li nipproteġu l-hajjiet u l-ghixien tan-nies.

Koppja Maltija vittma ta' Covid-19 f'Melbourne

F'Malta l-poplu tnicket wara li sar magħruf li koppja emigranti Maltin, it tnejn ta' aktar minn 90 sena, Charles u Carmen Micallef (*stampa fuq*) mietu fi spazju ta' 31 siegħa kaġun tal-pandemija COVID-19 f'Melbourne.



It-tnejn s'faw infettati bil-virus meta suppost kienu taħt il-kura, Charles fl-isptar Royal Melbourne, u martu Carmen f'residenza tal-anzjani.

Charles, mir-Rabat Malta u Carmen mill-Bahrija, li emigraw lejn l-Awstralja hafna snin ilu, huma fost il-vittmi fit-tieni mewġa tal-pandemija fl-Istat ta' Victoria li qed tesperjenza zieda qawwija fl-infezzjonijiet.

F'Victoria ġie ddikjarat stat ta' diżastru u impona miżuri ġodda ta' lockdown wara zieda qawwija fl-ghadd ta' infezzjonijiet ġodda tal-COVID-19.

(Aqra aktar f'paġna 16)

Please help

My name is Michael Frend. I am trying to locate a Mary Anne Cassar. She was my birth mother, I was named by her as Michael John Cassar.

This adoption took place in June 1959, I was born in April 1959.



Richard Spiteri
0407 202 167
(02) 9659 0900

Castle Hill
Seven Hills
Windsor and
all suburbs

"Let Our Family
Help You Through"

—
Halli l-familja
tagħna tghin lill-
familja tiegħek



Maltese Funerals

In conjunction with Hills Family Funerals.



A quick glimpse at Australia

VICTORIA - 'a State of Disaster'

Premier of the State of Victoria, Daniel Andrews declared a "state of disaster" for the whole of the state and imposed stage four restrictions, which include a daily curfew from 8pm to 5am for Melbourne (the state's capital city) residents.

"We can no longer have people simply out and about for no good reason whatsoever," Mr Andrews said as he announced the new six-week shutdown, which could wipe up to \$9 billion from the national budget forecasts.

State opposition leader Michael O'Brien slammed the move, saying Victorians "don't deserve this". He added, "In declaring a state of disaster, Premier Daniel Andrews has conceded that his government has lost control of COVID-19 in this state".

The Federal Treasurer Josh Frydenberg said on Melbourne radio "Daniel Andrews is obviously operating in a very difficult environment." He urged fellow Victorians to "put aside their anger and their disappointment, their frustration, and work together".

He said his message would be "let's work together towards that one single objective, namely to reduce the number of cases and to get the virus under control".

The State of Victoria - where more Malta-born live than anywhere else in Australia - has been in "state emergency" since March 16 2020. A state of disaster addresses matters beyond public health issues.



Melbourne's Flinders Street Station, always crowded, as it serves the entire metropolitan rail network

It is intended to deal with emergencies such as natural disasters, explosions, terrorism or sieges, but it can also be used to deal with "a plague or an epidemic".

It was used in Victoria in January 2020 during the bushfires, but the declaration was limited to specific areas that were in danger from the spread of bushfires. It was initially for a period of 7 days, which was later extended for a short period

'The flying kangaroo'

PPrime Minister Scott Morrison has become Australia's highest-flying new Prime Minister, spending more than \$3 million on international flights and accommodation during his first 15 months in office.



Figures released by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and Defence show Scott Morrison's State Visit to the United States of America was his most expensive international trip, costing \$527,840, including \$328,176 in Royal Australian Air Force flights.

In his first year in office, the present PM embarked on more overseas trips in his first year in office than each of his predecessors.

New figures show the Prime Minister made 17 international trips to 19 nations during his first 15 months in office, at the cost of \$3,105,537. Ten of the Prime Minister's 17 international trips cost in excess of \$100,000.

Scott Morrison's least expensive international visit was a \$41,154 day trip to Auckland to meet with New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern in February 2019.

Can you be forced to wear a mask?

Anti-maskers in Melbourne and even in Sydney are trying to make legal arguments during confrontations with the po-



lice and businesses.

Since July 23, residents of metropolitan Melbourne and the Mitchell Shire must wear a face covering when leaving home, with a limited number of exceptions. Those who don't can face a \$200 fine.

Associate Professor Luke Beck from the Faculty of Law at Monash University said this was one of many "pseudo-legal arguments" that is just plain wrong.

"It absolutely is the law - the Public Health and Wellbeing Act was passed by parliament ... that legislation allows the relevant government health officer to impose restrictions like we have now," he said.

"The legislation goes on to say that when a person contravenes the directions, that person is liable to a fine and so that's what's happening here." Associate Professor Jonathan Liberman from the University of Melbourne Law School backs this opinion. He said the new rules were "perfectly lawful".



A quick glimpse at Australia



Christmas Island detention centre

to reopen

The Australian, Border Force will reopen Christmas Island at North West Point detention facility, located more than 1,500 kilometres from the Australian mainland, to help relieve “capacity pressure” in detention centres across the country.

The agency said its ability to deport detainees has been “curtailed” due to global coronavirus measures that have closed borders and reduced international flights.

“With unlawful non-citizens continuing to move from prison to immigration detention, and with required COVID-19 distancing measures in place within the detention network, this is placing the detention network under pressure,” a Border Force spokesperson said.

The Federal Government shut down the North West Point facility in October 2018. It was briefly reopened in 2019 but did not house any detainees.

It was also used in February to quarantine Australians evacuated from Wuhan, the epicentre of the coronavirus epidemic.

National agreement on closing gap

PM Scott Morrison, Minister for Indigenous Australians Ken Wyatt and lead convenor of the Coalition of Peaks Pat Turner unveiled the National Agreement that promises to tackle Indigenous disadvantage through partnership, new accountability mechanisms, and a commitment to address structural racism within government organisations.

With the National Agreement, for the first time, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people will share decision-making with governments on vitally important Closing the Gap measures that will commit Australia to improve health outcomes, education, language preservation, employment and training, and housing and land rights for Indigenous people over ten years.

The agreement also aims to reduce Indigenous imprisonment rates, suicides, child removals, and violence against women and children.

“This is a historical moment, and key to the chances of success for Closing the Gap is that Indigenous organisations will be directly involved in negotiating and implementing the new agreement. That will prove to be a powerful difference this time,” FECCA Chair, Mary Patetsos said.

World-class cancer facility at the Hills District

Alex Hawke MP, the Federal Member for Mitchell and assistant Defence Minister, told *The Voice of the Maltese* that the Government has acted swiftly and decisively to provide economic support for workers, households and businesses of around \$289 billion or the equivalent of 14.6 per cent of GDP.

This necessary and unprecedented level of economic support has significantly impacted the budget position. The underlying cash balance is forecast to decrease from balance in 2018-19 to an \$85.8 billion deficit in 2019-20 and a \$184.5 billion deficit in 2020-21.

Through the Government's strong fiscal management, Australia entered the COVID-19 crisis in a position of economic and fiscal strength. Australia returned the budget to balance for the first time in 11 years, which underpinned the capacity to respond to this unprecedented shock.

Local cancer patients in the Hills District will soon no longer have to travel for potentially life-saving treatment, thanks to a new world-class cancer facility being built in Norwest by radiation therapy provider GenesisCare.

A \$10 million radiation therapy facility will be built at the Bond in Norwest, an innovative new health precinct adjacent to Norwest Private Hospital. The centre will have the capacity to deliver more than 14,000 treatments to 800 patients a year.



Michelle Rowland MP

Shadow Minister for Communications
Federal Member for Greenway



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Tagħrif dwar il-kitba Maltija



In-nomi *mimmati*: x'inhuma?

X'aktarx li f'tit huma dawk fost il-qarrejja ta' din ir-rivista li semgħu bil-kelma *mimmati*, aħseb u ara kemm jafu xi tfisser.

Din il-kelma, li ġejja mill-Għarbi *mim*, qegħda għal dawk in-nomi kollha fil-Malti li jibdew bl-ittira **M** u jkunu ġejjin jew mill-**VERB** inkella minn xi **NOM**

iehor. Dawn juru post, għodda, inkella kwalità.

Hemm x'hemm ma naħsibx li hemm aħjar mill-eżempji biex titgħallim dwarhom? Għalhekk hawn taht issibu xi whud minn dawn il-kliem:

POSTIJJET: masġar, mansab, mitjar, misrah, mahzen, mogħdija, mergha, Mis-

tra, mithna, miżbla, mohba u mixtla.

GħODOD: mgħaḥqa, mħakka, mizien, maqbad, miftieh, mohriet, mrewha, mradd, musbieh, mera, munqar, moqdief.

KWALITÀ: mibgheda, mġiba, mħabba, mistrieħ.

OHRAJN: midneb, mġja, mogħdrija, mixghela, mahfra, Milied.

Snajja antiki Maltin:

In-Nissieġa **W**aħda mis-snajja tradizzjonali Maltin li donnu li qed tintilef ħlief għal xi f'tit nisa, l-aktar f'Għawdex, li qed jippruvaw jgħallmuha lil hadiehor, hija dik tan-nissieġa, li hafna drabi x-xogħol tagħhom kien jikkonsisti fli jaħdmu kutri ħoxnin bis-suf tan-nagħaġ, imma mhux biss.

L-insiġ huwa wkoll il-proċess li bih isiru drappijiet, twapet, kutri u prodotti oħra. Dan isir permezz ta' tislub ta' żewġ settijiet fibri bħal qoton, ħarir jew suf.

Il-bidu u l-iżvilupp tad-drapp minsuġ huwa mirqum mal-istorja tal-bniedem. In-nies tgħallmu l-insiġ eluf ta' snin ilu billi kienu jużaw, ħaxix, weraq tal-palm u siltiet irqaq tal-injam jew qasab.

Kull materjal li huwa rqiq u flessibbli biżżejjed jista' jkun minsuġ. X'aktarx li s-sengħa tal-insiġ iddahlet fil-Gżejjer Maltin mill-Feniċi, u bħal dejjem, il-Maltin malajr qabdu s-sengħa u pperfezzjonawha, tant li fi żminijiet Puniċi u Rumani, il-gzejjer Maltin saru ferm magħrufa għal-livell għoli ta' drappijiet lokali.

Interessanti li s-senatur Ruman Ċicerun, fir-rapport tiegħu dwar



Malta kien kiteb dwar "kwantitajiet ta' drapp fin Malti".

Sa f'tit tas-snin ilu fid-dinja Għarbija, l-aktar fil-pajjiżi ta' Fuq tal-Afrika, pereżempju fit-Tuneżija u wkoll fil-Libja (qabel ir-rivoluzzjoni), din is-sengħa kienet popolari hafna u kienu hafna li kienu jaqilgħu l-ghaxxien tagħhom minna.

F'Malta wkoll is-sengħa tal-insiġ kienet waħda b'saħħitha tant li fid-djar Maltin, fl-akbar kamra kien jin-trama' l-makkinarju tan-newl. Il-ftit nissieġa li għad fadal, qed jippruvaw iqajjmu din is-sengħa mill-ġdid u jingħad li hemm Maltin li minn żmien għal żmien sa anke jaqsmu l-fliegu biex imorru Għawdex halli jitgħallmu din is-sena. Huwa mifhum li anke fl-MCAST qed sir xi tagħlim ta' din is-sengħa. Hekk forsi s-suf tal-madwar 13,000 nagħga f'Malta u Għawdex ma jibqax jintilef, u jibqa' jintuża.

Mogħdija taż-żmien: *Taħbil il-moħħ* – MINN AJ BORG

1. Jekk tneħħi tikka minn ġidi se tfaqqarni verament.
Għax insir wild ta' xi mogħża Nittallab il-manteniment.

Twegħiba - Ġidi

2. Jien nixbaħ hafna lill-ommi bħala ndur qisni żugraga.
Nixxala u niddeverti bla ma ntiem l-ebda haġa.

Twegħiba - Kuċċarina

3. Għalkemm hatjin qatt ma konna malajr tawna l-istess piena.
Dendluna ġo post fil-gholi u kull tant jiġbdu 'Isienna.

Twegħiba - Qniepen

4. Ommi għandha hafna bħali f'darnha m'hemmx ħlief rass u djieq.
Ilkoll norqdu ġo f'tit sodod m'għottija b'liżar irqieq.

Twegħiba - Rummiena

5. Xuṡti folla sewda fahma nomxotha m'għandix għalfejn.
Flok coff nuża biċċa arjetta biex minnha ma nitlef xejn.

Twegħiba - Pinzell taż-żebgħa

6. Jien insofri minn għatx klubi imma naqtgħu ma nistax.
Billi nixrob kull ma jtuni qatra fija ma jibqax.

Twegħiba - Lembut

7. Jekk trid t'għaḥel uża lili aħjar minni ma tarax.
M'hemmx wisq li se jqarraq bijja ħlief kulur għax ma narax.

Twegħiba - Għarbiel

8. Jien norbot irġiel u nisa xjuħ, żgħaḥaġh, subien u bniet.
Mal-anġli ma kellix x'naqsam għax dawn twieldu fis-smewwiet.

Twegħiba - Iż-Żokra

9. Issa billi l-wiċċ taħsilli ġid m'intix tagħmilli xejn.
Serva kont u serva nibqa għax anki naħdem bil-lejn.

Twegħiba - Targħa

10. Dan ħabib ta' baħar bnazzi l-anqas jiswa nofs ta' habba.
Max-xemx johroġ u jmur jiġri mad-dlam dlonk imur jistaħba.

Twegħiba - Id-Dell

Telefonata lill-Mulej: *L-Ikbar Imħabba*

Sinjur qieghed inċempillek,
Gia taf min jien Mulej
għax inti taf kollox fuqi
dak li ghadda u dak li ġej.

Nistqar li matul ħajti,
għamilt hafna dnubiet
izda naf lill-ħniena tiegħek,
taħfer in-nuqqasijiet.

Nitolbok bil-qalb għal marti
għat-tfal u n-neputijiet
ehlishom mil-gwaj tal-ħajja
ta' dawn iż-żminijiet.

U fl-aħħar imma mhux l-inqas
nitobok il-barka Tiegħek
thalliniex illi niġġarfu
biex iżżomna dejjem miegħek

Nispera li ma ndumx ma narak.

Charles Mallia

Australia's 2019-20 fires 'killed or harmed three billion animals'

During Australia's devastating bushfires of the past year, nearly three billion animals – mammals, reptiles, birds, and frogs – were killed or displaced. It's almost three times an earlier estimate released in January scientists say.

Those figures are revealed in an interim report commissioned by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), entitled Australia's 2019-20 Bushfires: The Wildlife Toll. It is believed to be the world's first research. The findings meant it was one of the "worst wildlife disasters in modern history."

The mega blazes that swept across every Australian state last summer, scorching bush and killing at least 33 people, were far worse than any prediction. Mammals, reptiles, birds and frogs also died in the flames or from loss of habitat.

Ten scientists from the University of Sydney, University of New South Wales, University of Newcastle, Charles Sturt University, and BirdLife Australia contributed the majority of the work.

The project is being led by Dr Lily Van Eeden and overseen by Professor Chris Dickman, both from the University of Sydney. While results are still being finalised, the headline figure of nearly three billion animals impacted is unlikely to change.

WF-Australia CEO Dermot O'Gorman said, "The interim findings are shocking. It's hard to think of another event anywhere in the world in living memory that has killed or displaced that many animals. This ranks as one of the worst wildlife disasters in modern history."

Koalas face extinction in New South Wales by 2050

During the peak of the crisis in January, scientists had estimated that 1.25

billion animals had been killed in New South Wales and Victoria alone, but the new estimate takes in a larger area. About 11.46 million hectares – an area comparable to England – was scorched from September to February. What was the impact?

"When you think about nearly three billion native animals being in the path of the fires, it is absolutely huge – it's a difficult number to comprehend," Prof Chris Dickman, who oversaw the project by 10 scientists from Australian universities, said.

While the scientists cannot say how many animals died, Professor Dickman said the prospects for the chances of animals escaping the blazes and surviving were "probably not that great" because of a lack of food and shelter or being forced into habitat already occupied.

The numbers were based on population counts and estimates of animal density before the disaster. Limitations on data meant that some groups – such as invertebrates, fish and turtles – were not included in the estimates.

In January, Professor Dickman, working with WWF scientists, produced an early estimate that 1.25 billion animals were impacted. However, that calculation focused only on the states of New South Wales and Victoria.

In February, the Australian government identified 113 animal species that needed "urgent help" after the bushfires. Almost all on the list had lost at least 30% of their habitat in temperate forests and grasslands of Australia's south and east.

Dr Van Eeden said that for this project the team examined a fire impact area of 11.46 million hectares. They be-



Wildlife killed or displaced by fires:

2.46 bn reptiles
180m birds
143m mammals
51m frogs

Source: WWF

lieved that a continent-wide assessment of the number of animals that might be impacted has never been done in Australia before or anywhere else in the world. "Other nations can build upon this research to improve understanding of bushfire impacts everywhere," Dr Van Eeden said.

Experts said that koalas and wallabies – as well as bird, fish and frog species – were among those needing the most help.

Mr O'Gorman said with extreme fires becoming more frequent because of climate change the interim findings "give other countries a window into the future of mega fires and their devastating impact on wildlife".

He said the research had also been released in time to be considered by the review of Australia's flagship environment law – the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act.

"Following such a heavy toll on Australia's wildlife, strengthening this law has never been more important. WWF will continue to advocate for policies that benefit both people and nature, restore what has been lost, and ensure we build back a more resilient Australia," Mr O'Gorman said.

The government pledged A\$50m to wildlife and habitat recovery, but environmentalists have called on Australia to strengthen its conservation laws. It is holding a royal commission inquiry into the fires, which is due to report findings in October.

It has heard overwhelming evidence from scientists who said the unprecedented frequency and severity of the blazes were a result of climate change. Experts also said that smoke from the fires was linked to more than 445 deaths.



Fighting the fires



Fis-27 ta' Lulju l-Prim Ministru Robert Abela, akkumpanjat mill-Ministru għal Għawdex

Clint Camilleri, inawguraw uffiċjalment Pjazza San Frangisk fil-qalba tal-Belt Victoria fir-Rabat b'investiment ta' €2 miljun.

Il-pjazza nġatat dehra kompletament ġdida wara proġett ta' riġenerazzjoni u ta' tisbiih li qed toffri spazju iehor miftuħ għar-residenti u għal daww jżuruha ta' kuljum. Il-Prim Ministru qal li

Pjazza San Frangisk proġett ta' €2m

tal-gvern li jkompli jtejjeb il-kwalità tal-hajja tan-nies

Il-proġett tal-pjazza li minnha jghaddu għadd kbir ta' vetturi fi triqithom lejn diversi lokalitajiet, inkluda bosta xogħlijiet fosthom zieda fiż-żoni pedonali, installazzjoni ta' sistema ġdida ta' dwal fil-pjazza, issaħhew is-sistemi tal-ilqugh tal-ilma tax-xita u twaħhlet għamara ġdida ta' barra li l-pubbliku jista' juża waqt li jgawdi din il-pjazza.

Il-Pjazza tbierket mill-Gwardjan tal-Patrijiet Frangiskani Konventwali Patri Joseph Xerri.

Mill-Gżira
Għawdxija

Charles Spiteri



Inawguratur sit storiku fuq Kemmuna

L-Ministru għat-Turiżmu u l-Protezzjoni tal-Konsumatur Julia Farrugia Portelli inawguratur xogħol ta' restawr li sar fuq il-Batterija ta' Santa Marija fuq Kemmuna (*stampa taħt*) li kienet inbniet mill-Kavallieri ta' San Gwann fis-sena 1715.

Il-proġett tar-restawr fuq il-Batterija, li hi ikklasifikata fi Grad 1 protetta għall-arkitettura militari sinifikanti tagħha, sewa madwar €183,000 li minnhom madwar €150,000 huma minn fondi Ewropej.

F'kelmtejn għall-okkażjoni l-Ministru Farrugia Portelli fahhret lill-ghaqda non-governattiva *Din l-Art Helwa* għall-impenn u l-kontribut tagħha. Fis-situ bħala "wieħed imprezzabbli" fejn jirrigwarda l-harsien u ż-żamma ta' postijiet storiċi bħalma huma l-fortifikazzjonijiet fuq il-gżira ta' Kemmuna.



Il-festa f'Sannat

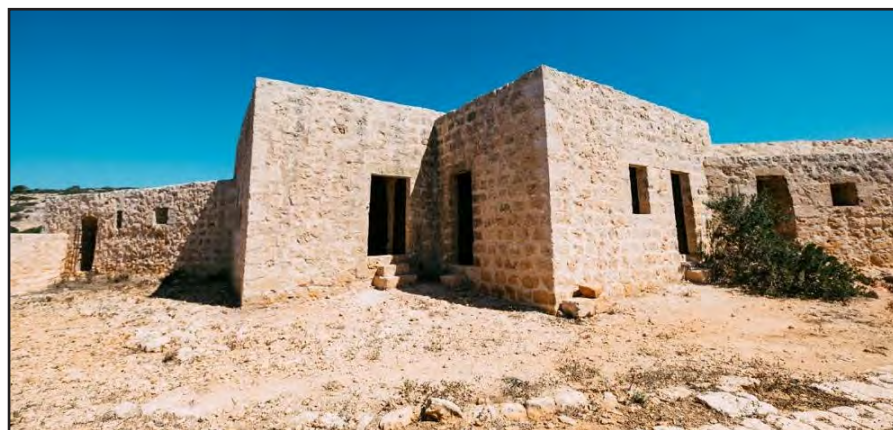
Wahda mill-ahhar festi li ġew parzjalment iċċelebrati qabel restrizzjonijiet godda mposti biex tilqa' għall-pandemija COVID-19 kienet dik ta' Santa Margherita f'Sannat li bdiet b'quddies Pontifikali filghodu li tmexxiet mill-Isqof George Bugeja OFM u b'Patri Michael Camilleri OP jagħmel il-paneġierku.

Il *Mro di Cappella* s-surmast Joseph Debrincat, mexxa l-mużika u

l-kant bis-sehem tal-Kor *Uljed Margherita* taħt id-direzzjoni tas-Sopran Georgina Gauci.

Fil-ghaxija sar il-hruġ tal-pellegrinaġġ ta' hajr bl-istatwa ta' Santa Margherita Verġni u Martiri, li tmexxa minn Mons. Anton Mizzi, Vigarju Parrokkjali, segwit mill-innu ta' Santa Margherita, versi ta' A. Farrugia u mużika tal-Mro Giuseppe Giardini Vella, mill-Banda Santa Margherita, taħt id-direzzjoni ta' Mro George Apap, bis-sehem tal-Kor *Uljed Margherita*.

Il-Banda Santa Margherita akkum-panjat il-pellegrinaġġ.



Frank Balbi, the oldest Maltese serviceman to serve in WW2, dies aged 98

Frank Balbi, who was known and loved by many among the Maltese Community died on July 22, aged 98. The second youngest of a large poor family with seven children was born on January 5, 1922 in Birkirkara, Malta but spent his younger days in Valletta.

At age 14 was apprenticed to his brother-in-law as a tailor during the post-depression years and assisted in his sister's household. In 1941 he joined the Royal Malta Artillery and was stationed in the Searchlight battery at Dingley Heights where he remained during the rest of the war.

Frank's claim to fame during this period was being alerted to a man in trouble at the base of the cliffs. He and his unit contacted the navy to collect the man who on questioning turned out to be an Italian spy observing the island of Malta's defenses. Frank was promoted to Lance Bombardier and was discharged on April 24, 1945.

During the war Frank met the girl of his

dreams, Alice, They got married in August 1945. Frank immigrated to Australia with his family five years later. His first job was as a garage attendant. He then made a career until his retirement in 1987 as a motor trimmer with the Department of Supply.

Frank and his wife first bought a large property at 17 Marshall Street, Moore Park where they used to rent out rooms to Maltese Immigrants. Then they moved to Kensington and in 1959 finally settled in Roseberry.

Frank's greatest love apart from his family and the Maltese community was his association with the RSL. He became a service member of the Mascot RSL and until last year marched proudly with the Maltese Ex Servicemen's Association of NSW at all ANZAC Day marches in Sydney.

At his age, Frank was the oldest Maltese serviceman to serve during WW2 at Malta and living in Australia. He was well known and well loved by all those who



knew him. He will be sadly missed. Lest we Forget.



Last year's procession at the Cathedral

Vittorja celebrations at Sydney's St Mary's Cathedral cancelled

The celebration of the feast of Maria Bambina (*Vittorja*) that was due to be held on September 13 at St Mary's Cathedral Sydney has been cancelled.

Maltese Chaplain Fr Tarcisio Micallef MSSP said that the decision has been taken to safeguard the safety of the community in view of the COVID-19 Pandemic and the restrictions being taken.

The restrictions include that the maximum number of people per building is one hundred, even in large churches. Congregational singing is not allowed during events.

Fr Micallef said, "Trusting we keep our devotion to Maria Bambina through our prayers".

He hoped that by next year, this pandemic would be over and they would be able to celebrate the traditional feast as in previous years. He called on the community to pray for each other with the hope that this pandemic will be over soon.

Mother's plea to God for daughter

Agus pleaded guilty to dangerous driving and is to be sentenced next month. Casey's mother told the court she "bargained with God" to trade places with her dying daughter.

Casey Mallia 19 years, was fatally injured when a Toyota HiLux driven by her boyfriend Matthew Agius 21, flipped on the Sturt Highway at Narrandera in the Riverina region, NSW, about 5.30hrs from Sydney and 3.45hrs from Canberra.

Agus pleaded guilty to dangerous driving and is to be sentenced next month. Casey's mother told the court she "bargained with God" to trade places with her dying daughter.

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Roof of MCP car park at Florana transformed into public garden

A public garden covering over 5,000 square metres is being created on top of the MCP car park before entering Malta's capital, Valletta. The transformation of the roof of one of Malta's largest car parks, is an investment of €10 million.

The site of the MCP car park was first granted on lease in 1991 with original plans catering for an underground car park capped by a garden at road level.

The operators are also adding 400 new car park spaces on six underground levels, introducing new charging point facilities for electrical vehicles, bicycle spaces, paving, recreational benches, and a pedestrian bridge. A number of indigenous trees have been planted in the garden.

The extension of this project is the result of a new lease agreement that was reached with the government in 2012 that made it

conditional on the developers to develop the garden at road level.

On a visit to the project, Infrastructure Minister Ian Borg said the investment would help in attracting more people to the capital city.

He said that such an investment goes hand in hand with the government's efforts to invest in public transport for more effi-

cient connections, incentives towards cleaner means of transport like electric cars, and other infrastructural work that not only improves road safety and efficiency but also considers aesthetic aspects of places like our capital city.

The garden is bound to enhance the view points of City Gate and the Valletta Grand Harbour.

Malta bids to host EuroPride 2023

Malta has submitted a bid to host the EuroPride 2023, reaching the final stage of the EuroPride 2023 bidding process along with Rotterdam in The Netherlands, and Belfast in Northern Ireland.

Three Pride organisations have reached the final stages of bidding to host the 2023 edition of EuroPride, that is the continent's

most significant LGBTIQ+ event that each year attracts visitors from across Europe and farther afield for several days of human rights and cultural activities.

Parliamentary Secretary for Equality and Reforms Rosianne Cutajar said that over the past 15 years, thanks to the efforts of civil society, the support from government and the private sector, the annual Pride March has transformed from a small gathering to one of the largest public manifestations celebrated in Malta.

The government is endorsing the bid submitted by ARC to host EuroPride 2023, a process which requires considerable preparation and effort as well as consultation with all stakeholders.

Ms Cutajar said that the EuroPride Valletta 2023 would serve as an opportunity to welcome LGBTIQ+ persons from all over Europe and beyond, and showcase the richness of Malta's culture and the beauty of our islands.

The Maltese LGBTIQ+ community is part of the European LGBTIQ+ movement.

Head Stone Burial Plots x 2 Pinegrove Memorial Park \$43,000

Two single black burial plots "side by side" located in the lovely area of Peace in Pinegrove.

These plots being sold "side by side" are unique, as they can no longer be purchased this way. Prefer to sell together but willing to separate.

Easy to find plots with scenic outlook near main entrance. Pinegrove Memorial Park located at Great Western Highway Minchinbury.

Call Colleen Vassallo on 041 221 0737 or email: cvassallo3@gmail.com

Community News

Tune in to Radio and Television

Some Radio stations may be off air due to covid-19 restrictions

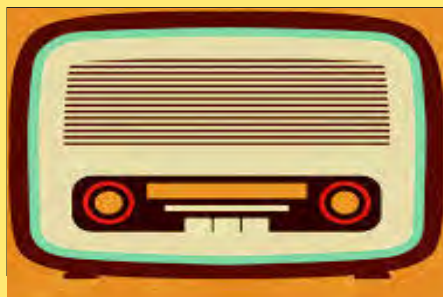
MELBOURNE: on 3ZZZ 92.3FM or on www.3zzz.com.au. Mondays 5-6 pm, Fridays 5-6 pm and Saturdays 10-11am.

MELBOURNE: on 98.9 North West FM, every Friday 6.00 - 7.00p.m. and Mondays 7.00 to 8.00pm. Presenter: Emmanuel Brincat.

On SBS Radio

Day Time Analogue and Digital Tuesdays and Fridays: 12:00-13:00 97.7fm SBS 2.

To tune into digital radio you need a receiver or device with a DAB+ chip. Tuning in is by station name not frequency. Digital radio can also be heard via digital TV.



SYDNEY: listen to the MCC radio programmes on 2GLF FM 89.3. Isma' l-programm tar-radju bil-Malti mill-Kunsill Malti ta' NSW minn fuq l-istazzjon 2GLF 89.3FM. Also *On Demand* on l-Internet: www.893fm.com.au

On Demand: Ethnic Maltese Council 11am) Il-Ħadd 11.00 am: l-ahhar ahbarijiet minn Malta, muzika, tagħrif, kultura, avvizi u suġġetti ta' interess.

SBS Radio 2 on Channel 38. Programmes can be accessed online (live/catch up) at: sbs.com.au/maltese (mobile), using the SBS Radio app.

For television news from Malta - **SBS2 TV 32** (Viceland) on Thurs-

days and Sundays at 8am.

VIVA MALTA on COAST FM 96.3 Community Radio in Gosford Central Coast NSW. Aired on Thursdays every fortnight from 6 pm -7 pm. Presenter: Nathalie Gatt. Web streaming: www.coastfm.org.au

SBS MALTESE NEWS: L-Ahbarijiet are now on SBSTV Viceland HD Channel 32 every Sunday at 8.00 a.m. and on Thursday at 8.00 a.m.

BRISBANE listen to the Maltese Programme on 4EB on Tuesdays 6.00 - 8.15am; Sundays 4.15pm to 5.15pm.

Maltese Community Radio Adelaide: Maltese Programmes on 5EBI 103.1fm: **Sunday:** 7.30am; **Monday:** 8.00 am; **Monday:** 6.00pm. Contact: Bernadette Buhagiar: 0420 944 205. Email bernadettebuhagiar@gmail.com Ron Borg: 0418 843 850. Email ronborg@mac.com

97.9 FM Melton Tuesday Maltese Programme: 6.00 To 8.00 pm Presenter Miriam Vella

Important Notice

If you are unable to buy the next issues of *The Voice* from the usual sources, you can inquire about our subscription at: maltesevoice@gmail.com

We will deliver *The Voice* by mail to your address anywhere in Australia.

Avviż lill-qarrejja

Tixtieq li jkollok kopja f'idejk ta' The Voice?

Infakkru lill-qarrejja li *The Voice of the Maltese*, mhux biss magazine online, iżda wkoll l-uniku tax-xorta tiegħu fl-Awstralja li wkoll jiġi ippubblikat. Huma ħafna dawk li ilhom li approttaw ruħhom minn dan u abbonaw biex anke jibdw jirċevu kopja pprintjata bil-posta d-dar bi ħlas.

Dawk kollha li jixtiequ li jibdw jirċevu kopja pprintjata tal-magazine kull darba li joħroġ biex ikunu jistgħu jzommuha f'idejhom, huma mhegga li jabbonaw għal sena halli jagħmlu żgur mill-kopja

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L-ittri għall-pubblikazzjoni indikawhom: *Letters to the editor.*

Please Note:

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Events for 2020

Sunday October 18:
Fete

Saturday November 14
Dinner Dance

Sunday December 6
Festa San Nikola



Sydney FC claim historic 4th A-League Premiership

Sydney FC claimed a record-breaking fourth Hyundai A-League Premiership following the 1-1 draw at Bankwest Stadium between Wellington Phoenix and Adelaide United. The result meant that Sydney FC could not be caught in the race for the Premiership, and Football Federation Australia (FFA) Chairman Chris Nikou congratulated them on a historic achievement.

Sydney FC have a nine-point insurmountable lead at the top of the league ladder from 24 matches.

Having won the inaugural Hyundai A-League Championship in 2006 and the Premier's title for the first time in 2009/10, Sydney FC have been one of the most successful clubs in the history of this league.

They will be presented with the Premiers Plate next Saturday evening at Leichhardt Oval, after their final home game against Western United.

The race for the other places in the top six is still on. There is still plenty to play for in the remaining regular season matches.

The Hyundai A-League 2020 Finals Series begins in four weeks' time on Saturday, 22 August 2020.

Following are the results of the Hyundai A-League since the last issue of The Voice:

Central Coast v West. Sydney W.	1-1
Melbourne V v Brisbane Roar	1-2
Adelaide U v Perth Glory	5-3
West. Sydney W v Wellington Ph.	1-0
Melbourne C v Sydney FC	2-0
Newcastle J. v West. Sydney W	1-0
Melbourne V v Central Coast	2-3
West. Sydney W v Perth Glory	1-3
Wellington v Brisbane Roar	1-1
Adelaide U v Sydney FC	1-1
Western U v West Sydney W	5-3
Perth Glory v Melbourne V	0-4

2020/21 Malta Premiership season kicks off September 11

Champions Floriana start v Gżira

The 2020-21 Premier Football League in Malta, which will be made up of 16 teams, is scheduled to kick off on September 11-13 with Floriana starting their defence of the title against Gżira United.

Having just missed winning last season's title by finishing runners up, Valletta will take on Birkirkara and, while two other top names, Hibernians and Sliema Wanderers also clash on match day one. After finishing fourth last season, Sirens launch their campaign against Hamrun Spartans.

The full draw for Match Day One:

Hamrun Spartans v Sirens	Floriana v Gżira United
Żejtun Corinthians v Santa Lucia	Mosta vs Gudja United
Sliema Wanderers v Hibernians	Tarxien Rainbows v Balzan
Lija Athletic v Senglea Athletic	Valletta v Birkirkara

***Before the commencement of the league, on August 18/19 Floriana have the tough task of taking on Romaina's CFR Cluj at the National Stadium in the first round of the UEFA Champions League.**

Parramatta FC's Rd 4 match washed out

Lots of possession but few scoring chances in loss against UNSW

The Parramatta Eagles' Round 4 match against Hawkesbury City due to have been played last weekend at the David Bertenshaw was washed out and cancelled. It will now be rescheduled.

Meanwhile, in the only match played in the past fortnight, Parramatta FC lost their Round 3 match against UNSW FC at the Melita Stadium. It was a game that promised so much but ended in disappointment for the home team who went down 1-0 to a goal by Jakub Buris 10 minutes from time.

Parramatta FC enjoyed a lot of possession and most of the action was played in the UNSW attacking half, they but did not create enough chances they could convert

into goals.

They first chance came early on when Ali Dulleh just missed from close in, and their best opportunity came late on when Neram Yalda's free kick but the UNSW goalkeeper producing a quality reaction save.

The Melita Eagles' next match will be the Round 5 fixture at the Melita Stadium on Sunday, August 16, when they host Prospect United SC.

It is a highly anticipated match for the simple reason that some of Prospect United's coaching team (*below*) is made up of people and their family members that had previously been associated with the Eagles as players and/or supporters.



The Prospect United coaching staff. (From left): Fred Sammut (goalkeeping coach), Brian Summers (U/18 asst. coach) Martin Cassar (First Grade asst. coach), Aaron Vella (U/ 20s coach), Darren Camilleri (Head coach Men's team), Daniel Farias (goalkeeping coach), Chris Camilleri (Head of Football – U/13s to U/18s); Brian Vella (U/18's coach)