



Maltese e-Newsletter

Journal of Maltese Living Abroad

maltesejournal@gmail.com



Editor: Frank L. Scicluna

Diana Damrau and Joseph Calleja in Malta



LIVE: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24 AT 1:00 PM ET



Maltese emigrated after WW2 because of overpopulation and unemployment



COVID-19

All feasts have been cancelled for this year 2020
A sad moment for festa-goers



Changing Together

'I Am Greta'



BAQA' MIELX! MAGHHDEM

Diana Damrau and Joseph Calleja in Malta



LIVE: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24 AT
1:00 PM ET

Queen of the Night in *Die Zauberflöte* in a single season.

JOSEPH CALLEJA

Born in Malta, tenor **Joseph Calleja** made his professional operatic debut when he was only 19 years old, as Macduff in *Macbeth* at his nation's Astra Theatre. He made his Met debut in 2006 as the Duke in *Rigoletto* and has since appeared in nearly 100 performances of 10 roles, including Cavaradossi in *Tosca*, Gabriele Adorno in *Simon Boccanegra*, Edgardo in *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Macduff, Rodolfo in *La Bohème*, the title role of *Faust*, Hoffmann in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, and Nemorino in *L'Elisir d'Amore*. In 2017, he starred as Pollione in the premiere of Sir David McVicar's new production of *Norma*, which served to open the 2017–18 season, and in all, he has starred in four *Live in HD* transmissions. Highlights of recent seasons include appearances as Cavaradossi and the Duke at the Vienna State Opera; the Duke, Don José in *Carmen*, and Pollione at the Bavarian State Opera; Rodolfo in *Luisa Miller* at Lyric Opera of Chicago and in Hamburg; Rodolfo in *La Bohème* in Dresden; Cavaradossi in Aix-en-Provence; and Edgardo at Deutsche Oper Berlin. One of his native land's biggest celebrities, he was selected to serve as Malta's first cultural ambassador in 2012, and he recently teamed up with Malta's Bank of Valletta to form the BOV Joseph Calleja Foundation, which serves to help children and families in need.

This outstanding soprano-tenor pairing presents a program of popular arias and duets, broadcast live from a spectacular 16th-century cathedral on the beautiful isle of Malta. Diana Damrau and Joseph Calleja, both longtime Met audience favorites known for holding nothing back onstage, are sure to pull out all the stops for this performance.

About the Artists

DIANA DAMRAU

German soprano **Diana Damrau** has been an audience favorite since making her Met debut in 2005 as Zerbinetta in *Ariadne auf Naxos*. Since then, she has given nearly 150 performances of 17 roles, including Violetta in *La Traviata*, Elvira in *I Puritani*, Juliette in *Roméo et Juliette*, Leïla in *Les Pêcheurs de Perles*, the title roles of *Manon* and *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Amina in *La Sonnambula*, Gilda in *Rigoletto*, Adina in *L'Elisir d'Amore*, Rosina in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, and Countess Adèle in *Le Comte Ory*.

In 2007, she was named a Kammersängerin of the Bavarian State Opera, where her roles have included Violetta, Lucia, Antonia/Giulietta/Stella in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, and the Countess in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, among others. She has appeared to great acclaim at the world's greatest opera houses, including La Scala, Deutsche Oper Berlin, Covent Garden, LA Opera, the Vienna State Opera, the Paris Opera, the Salzburg Festival, Spain's Castell de Peralada Festival, and in numerous cities throughout Europe and Asia. In 2007, she became the first artist in Met history to sing both Pamina and the

**OUR JOURNAL IS
PROUD OF ALL
MALTESE ACHIEVERS
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**Kummissjoni Gholja
tar-Repubblika ta' Malta**



**High Commission
for the Republic of Malta**

MHC Press Release 05/2020 - EN

**RESUMPTION OF IN-PERSON APPOINTMENTS AT
CONSULATE GENERAL IN MELBOURNE**

The High Commission in Canberra is pleased to advise that the Consulate General in Melbourne will reopen to in-person appointments on **Monday 5 October 2020**.

Our offices have been closely monitoring updates from the Government of the State of Victoria in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The reopening of the Consulate General in Melbourne to the public will require the strict observance of the COVID-19 precautionary measures, as follows:

- ✓ Persons accessing the office are expected to practice good hygiene and must sanitise hands upon entry;
- ✓ Applicants will only be allowed access to the office at the time of the pre-booked appointment – no more than two persons allowed per allocated booking or persons residing within the same household;
- ✓ Applicants should wear a face mask to be taken off only when instructed by members of staff – to capture biometric images.

In-person appointments relating to applications for passport and citizenship, and other consular services, including the witnessing of signatures and identity, will be accepted by APPOINTMENT ONLY, so as to ensure that social-distancing is enforced for the safety of the public and members of staff alike. To make an appointment, please contact our Consulate General in Melbourne on:

maltaconsulate.melbourne@gov.mt
(03) 9670 8427.

Persons who have expressed their interest in the past months, when our Consulate General was operating remotely not from office, will be contacted to re-book an appointment.

The timeframe of application processing has been impacted by the current restrictive measures and are taking longer. Applicants must leave ample time to renew their passports.

We look forward to welcoming applicants back and will appreciate your cooperation in making this a safe experience for all.



Kids teach us a lesson



**On behalf of all the readers of
THE MALTESE JOURNAL
I thank the Hon. Evarist Bartolo
Minister for Foreign and European Affairs
for his acknowledgement and support
Editor: Frank L Scicluna**

ERADICATION OF COVID-19 WITHOUT VACCINES



“3 Vessels and 3 Castles”

Profs Stephen Gatt NSW

Two weeks ago, I formally went into ‘retirement’ from active clinical practice. As my parting gift to my state – NSW, Australia – I produced a Plan for Eradication of COVID without the need for vaccines or magic bullets called “The 3 Vessels and 3 Castles” Project. Even though my original plan was directed at New South Wales, the Australian Capital Territory and Lord Howe Is, two international webinars – “ReEntry” (Indonesia/China/Singapore/me - Australia/Malta) and the “Pouring Oil over the Waves, Pulling Out the Spikes and Cutting the Tail Off COVID-19” (Portugal/Italy/me - Australia/Malta) elicited such international interest that I was asked by the G4 Alliance to prepare a presentation for the United Nations General Assembly for 20th September (four days ago) using only 6 minutes and 9 ‘slides’

entitled “Five Synergy Pillars which will Defeat and Eradicate COVID-19”.

It has taken me more than 15 feverish-effort weeks in isolation to produce this eradication plan but, as one of the last remaining intensive care and anaesthesia specialists trained within an infectious disease hospitals – Prince Henry in Little Bay – I felt that, as one of the few remaining specialists with the expertise, knowledge and experience to manage this type of epidemic - I owed this to my country of adoption and I made this my parting gift to NSW. The ‘book’ is going into print next week and several ministers, state premiers and the Australian PM are being briefed as I write.

Last night, as Alice and I watched the PBS news from Malta on SBS, I was flooded with the realisation that, right now, Malta is in dire need of these tools... even more so than NSW. I felt that Maltese Australians – indeed, all Maltese Across the Diaspora - need to urgently come to the assistance of Malta as it grapples with this destructive Phase II of COVID-19.

I was already in the process of converting my 3V3C to a Malta-specific version. As each day goes past, it is becoming increasingly apparent that Malta can no longer afford to ‘stand and wait’. The contagion must be contained immediately. I have decided to release my ‘raw’ plan for Malta immediately and to allow local Maltese from all walks of life to modify and render my plan ‘Malta-specific’... the principles remain intact but the locations, selected COVID positive institutions and ships, logistics, protections, choice of staff, etc. will change, albeit in the relatively minor detail.

With this in mind, I have a simple plan to bring the Diaspora to the assistance of Malta immediately. Over the next 24 hours, I intend to send you 5 emails in fairly rapid succession. All I ask you to do is to forward these plans to as many in Malta (and locally) as possible with a simple request to pass these on to all their friends – especially Parliamentarians and those in public health, media, opinion leadership and public office.

We will then leave it to the Maltese to decide how (or whether) to implement our plan. I suspect that if Malta started this comprehensive, whole-of-government initiative, they could control COVID within 2 weeks. This would catapult Malta, not only into the best-practice quarantine COVID management category, but into Malta becoming showcase for the world for eradication of COVID.

Will you pass this on to all in Malta? Will you pass this on to the Media Community in Malta and locally for them to draw their own articles? Could you get this into the mainstream media? Will you take care of this base material in your own journals? What worked in Phase One (the Surge or the Curve) will not work with subsequent Waves, Spikes and Tail. The greatest problem now is not only the disease but fear and its social and economic implications. Contact Dr. Gatt - gattsp@gmail.com

More information will be given in future issues of this journal.





JOSEPH MUSCAT

OSA AOCA

**Maltese/Canadian Visual Artist
Art & Exhibition Consultant**

Beginning Beginnings are important. They pave the way and help form who we are. Born on the island of Malta at the end of the nineteen forties, I spent the first fifteen years of my life in a small town surrounded by family and churches and basking in the Mediterranean sun. Aunts and uncles, cousins and grandmothers were ubiquitous and the quaint village-town life on the island was easy going and laid back even though the islanders were recovering from years of World War II bombings, only a decade or so earlier. Stories about the war were plentiful and every single Maltese over a certain age carried salient images of the terrors of war. The church dominated everyone's life, from birth to death, at school and at home and politics was not far behind.

So how did these first dozen years impact my art making? A few things come to mind. On top of the list was my father's occupation. Like his father before him, he was a skilled craftsman. He was a decorator of churches and wealthy homes. He excelled at gilding, faux marble and faux wood and sign painting. I spent many a Saturday afternoon high up on scaffolding helping him retrieve gold leaves that had flown away from his work pad or watching him letter trucks or storefronts at breakneck speed.

Festive events such as the village festa, Carnival, Christmas and Easter also contributed heavily to my artistic curiosity. Second in line was time spent in church as an altar boy assisting at Mass, Funerals and Baptisms. Since most churches on the island had paintings everywhere, on the ceiling and on the walls, I had plenty of time to alleviate the boredom by staring at the biblical stories and lives of saints colorfully displayed all around me. However my interest in following a career in the arts did not happen until much later. In my early boyhood years, I lived for soccer, the sea, jumping from high places, and academics; I attended the Lyceum Secondary School in Malta when I turned twelve and at age fourteen the family upped and moved to Toronto.

From There To Here We settled in the Junction, a rough and tumble section of west end Toronto where most Maltese settled at the time, comforted by a newly built parish church, Maltese cafés, grocery stores and schools and close to High Park, one of the nicest public parks in the city. My stay in Toronto was short-lived as I decided to continue my secondary school studies at a private school in Brockville Ontario, a three and a half hour train ride from Union Station. St. Mary's College was an all boys seminary school run by a religious order preparing young men for the priesthood. It gave me an excellent education and immersed me in the Canadian culture of the day in a near perfect location bound by the St. Lawrence River and hundreds of acres of woods. Canada Steamship Lines freighters plied the waters of the seaway on the south and Canadian National and Pacific trains resounded their long lonesome whistles day and night in the north. Seminary life was great but the prospects of a career as a man of the cloth, did not. After graduation, I started my university studies at Glendon College, York University.

Halfway through my studies, I moved to Aix-en-Provence in the south of France to work on my French and supposedly to continue my studies at the université d'Aix-Marseille. This too veered into a different path when I decided to leave the université to join the Academie des Beaux-arts d'Aix where I studied drawing and sculpture with a renowned sculptor, Francois Martinez. It was love at first sight. My life was to take a leap forward into the wonderful world of art and romance was soon to follow when I met my soul-mate at the university where I was supposed to be completing my third year. When I returned to Toronto, I finished my studies while taking art courses both at Glendon and the Ontario College of Art; my plan B of going to Law School however, was scrapped and replaced by a three-year diploma in Fine Arts at OCA and a one year Education degree at the U of T. Now I was ready to settle

into a life of art-making and teaching intervened by two children who shared both the space in my studio and the joy of playing with pencils, paint and whatever they could find in my work-space.

The years have seen me exhibit my work in over one hundred solo and group shows in Canada, USA, Europe and South America; I have traveled to over fifty countries, taught in university and high school, participated in a number of arts organizations, artist-run centres, and collectives and sat on national



and local art juries while continuing to invent and create hoping that my work will find its way into private, corporate and public collections. This has been and continues to be my legacy.

I'm pleased to announce my upcoming exhibition **Graphic Chats** at Propeller Gallery in Toronto between September 16 and October 4, 2020. This show was originally scheduled for last April when our city was gripped by the Covid Pandemic. Although we are still in the midst of this world wide dilemma, we at Propeller feel that we can still responsibly participate in the Cultural life of this vibrant city by taking all the necessary precautions.

The gallery will be open Wednesday to Friday between 1:00 and 5:30 pm. and Saturday and Sunday between 12 and 6 pm. **I will be at the gallery on Saturdays and Sundays Sept. 19, 20, 26, 27 and Oct. 3 and 4 between 12 and 6 pm.**

Propeller Gallery will respect the latest Covid prevention protocol within the gallery. A limited number of people will be allowed in the gallery at a time with proper distancing and wearing a mask.

A Zoom Opening will take place from the

JOSEPH MUSCAT
Graphic Chats
September 16 - October 4

ARTIST PRESENT:
 September 19, 20, 26, 27
 October 3, 4, Noon - 6 pm

*Covid restrictions in effect

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GALLERY HOURS
 Wed - Fri 1 - 5:30 pm
 Sat - Sun 12 - 6 pm

propeller
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ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL
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 an Ontario government agency
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gallery on September 19 between 5 and 6 pm. To participate, go to Eventbrite and book. <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/118350992003>

If you wish to contact me directly and book a time while I'm in the gallery, please email me at muscat@interlog.com. Please come and support our artists.

The Journal loved and respected by thousands of readers around the world

Maltese eNewsletter

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Here's a sneak preview of my *Graphic Chats* Series: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CJM0jrXvfvI>
Fr. Ivano Burdian and Fr. Mario Micallef MSSP

**MALTESE CANADIANS
CONGRATULATE ASSOCIATE
PASTOR**

**FR IVANO BURDIAN MSSP ON HIS
25TH ANNIVERSARY AS A PRIEST**

Fr Ivano Burdian is the Associate Pastor of the St Paul The Apostle Maltese Canadian Parish Church and for the last month has took the helm of the St Paul The Apostle Parish while Fr Mario

Micallef, Pastor was recovering from a medical intervention. Great to see Pastor Fr Mario Micallef back in action.

The editor and readers of THE MALTESE JOURNAL and the Consul-General Dr Xerri and the Maltese community wish you a great day and wish you many more years of service as a MSSP priest and amongst the Maltese Canadian Community.

TODAY MALTESE CANADIANS REMEMBER

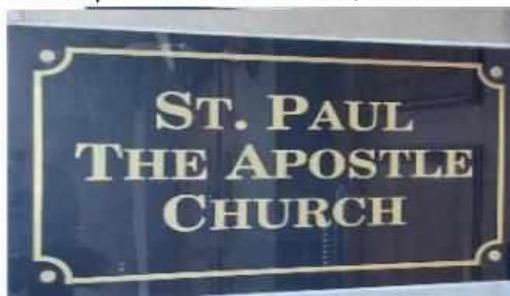


Mgr. Joseph De Piro



St. Paul the Apostle Church - Toronto, CANADA

The 87th Anniversary of the passing away of The Reverend Monsignor Servant of God Joseph De Piro, MSSP (1877 - 1933) Monsignor De Piro is a central and very significant figure in the life of all Maltese Canadian for one reason. He founded the Missionary Society of St Paul (MSSP) in June 1910. The MSSP is the society that has presence in many countries around the world including here in Canada in the St Paul The Apostle



Maltese Canadian Parish Church in Malta Village, The Junction in Toronto.

This Church is the church where thousands of Maltese and Gozitans were and still baptised, including Malta's present Archbishop Monsignor Charles J. Scicluna a son of this parish, Maltese couples married and still get married, Holy Communions, Confirmations and funerals.

For most Maltese Canadians living in Canada today owe the first years in this country to this MSSP parish - teach your children of this rich family heritage.

The Breakwater handed over to the Admiralty...

After more than 6 years of hard work, the Breakwater was handed over to the Admiralty. The construction was finished last May, with the cost estimated to reach close to one million pounds Sterling.



More than 500 skilled workers employed on its construction, including a number of foreigners.

The need to build a breakwater has long been felt so that more space is utilized within the Grand Harbour. The Admiralty, aware of this need, issued a call for tenders for the ambitious project in 1902. Its plans were drawn by the company Coode Sons & Matthews, while the firm S. Pearson & Sons was chosen as building contractor and Davies & Greenburgh, the project engineers. The first foundation stone was laid by King Edward VII on 20 April 1903.

The blocks of hard-wearing coralline limestone used for its construction are from a quarry in the vicinity of Hondoq ir-Rummien in Gozo. From there the blocks were transported to Mistra. After being cut to size, they were conveyed to the port on barges. Work on the beacons is expected to be finalized in the coming months.

11 October 1909



Maltese-

Australian TV Host Holds Online Cooking Class Of Timeless Maltese Classics

Meet Shane Delia – one of Australia’s finest Restaurant Owners and TV Host for Channel 9’s Postcards and Spice Journey. As Malta commemorates Independence Day next week, all the Maltese Communities all over the world meet up to celebrate this important day in our history, and Shane is no exception.

He usually hosts a special Maltese night at his restaurant, but this year, he obviously cannot. So he will be hosting a special online cooking class where he will be sharing his Nannu Nenu’s Special Recipe for a timeless Maltese classic – Braised Rabbit! The food looks divine, and frankly, we’re drooling a tiny bit!

In a short clip on his social media page, Shane speaks about how his mum used to make the Roast Potatoes all the time, and how his Nannu taught his father the secret Fenek Stuffat recipe – which Shane then got from his father himself. Shane’s menu also includes a Ricotta and Gbejniet Salad, and home-made Galletti.

This video captures the true essence of the Maltese-Australian Community, who are so far away from Malta and Gozo but, despite that, they continue cherishing customs and culture, and culinary expertise – truly celebrating what it is like to be Maltese. Add that to a bottle of Kinnie, which can be easily found in stores across Australia, and you have the perfect Maltese Celebration.

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF VICTORIES IN ADELAIDE AUSTRALIA

As you are probably aware, this year things are looking quite different for the Feast.

The only celebration will be a Mass on Sunday 4 October 2020 in Maltese. Fr Fred has kindly agreed to say Mass for the Feast.

The Chaplaincy Group cordially invites you to attend the Feast Mass and hopes that you will be able to join us. We are hoping that we will have a good number of Maltese attend in an effort to combine the community in some way.

We look forward to seeing you on 4 October at Christ the King Church - LOCKLEYS. Carmen Spiteri Secretary



YOUNG PEOPLE WELCOME NEW BISHOP

Mario Micallef

On the occasion of the solemn entry of the new Bishop of Gozo Mons Anton Theuma, which took place yesterday at the Gozo Cathedral, the Gozo Diocese Youth Choir released an original song entitled, “*Ibqa’ magħna*” (Stay with us), composed by Francesco Pio Attard and music by Richard Grech.

The lyrics are based on the motto chosen by Bishop Theuma himself from the story of the disciples of

Emmaus ‘*U baqa’ miexi magħhom*’ (and he continued walking with them).

CVC Media produced a video for this song which you can watch here:

IBQA’ MAGĦNA

Fit-triq sibtna niġru miġxula
bla nafu tassew fejn sejin,
ġejt f’nofsna u l-bqija mxejt magħna,
fik qlubna hassejna mheggin.

Int Kelma li tlaħħmet għalina,
sirt ikel għal min hu bil-ġuħ,
dħalt għandna mal-mejda għall-festa,
l-Ispirtu sawwabt fuq kull ruħ.

*Ibqa’ magħna, Mulej, fi triq ħajjitna,
irgħa l-merħla li fdejt b’demmek l-għażiż,
ikkonsagra dar-Ragħaj li għażiltina,
(dewqu l-ħlewwa ta’ mħabbtek il-piż),
b’dehnek żejnu ħa j’tik poplu qaddis.*

Mimlija bil-qawwa ta’ Kelmttek
lil ħutna bit-tama nixegħlu,
fid-dinja noħorġu bla biża’
inħabbru l-ferħ tal-Vanġelu.

Mitmugħa bil-Ħobż li qsamtilna
tibgħatna mill-ġdid pellegrini
indewwu l-ġrieħi tad-dgħajfa,
inġarrfu ħitan u konfini.

CVC Media have produced a video for the song, which has been published on the Gozo diocese [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/gozodiocese).
<https://www.facebook.com/gozodiocese>



A YEAR OF SIMPLE FAMILY FOOD

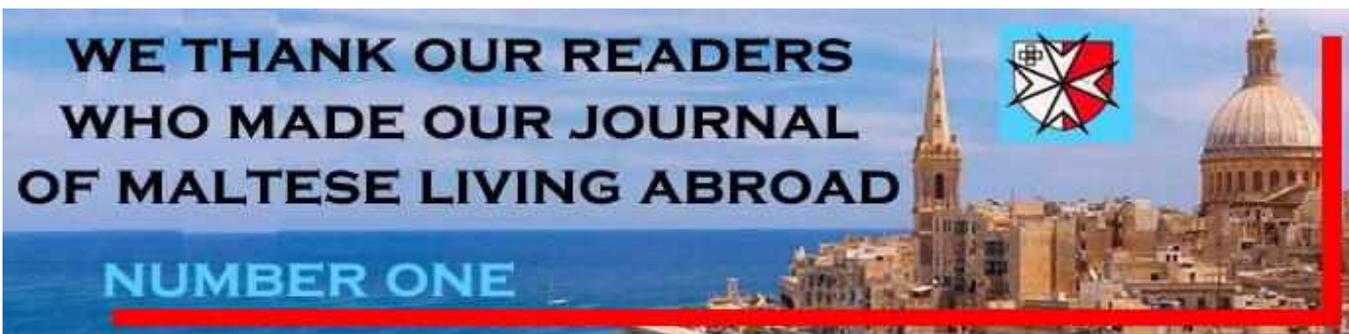
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**WE THANK OUR READERS
WHO MADE OUR JOURNAL
OF MALTESE LIVING ABROAD**

NUMBER ONE





Tanya Howard

Leader for Health, Safety & Wellbeing, THE ICONIC AUSTRALIA

Tanya Howard (Scicluna) is the Leader for Health, Safety & Wellbeing at THE ICONIC (Australia), with 20 years' experience in both industry and

professional services settings in Australia and UK. Tanya is passionate about helping organisations create a positive health, safety & wellbeing culture enabling people to thrive. With a Post Graduate Diploma in OHS Management, and as a Registered OT, Tanya also brings specialist expertise and interest in mental & physical health, positive psychology and broader wellbeing connections.

[THE ICONIC](#)

It's been just over four years since [Tanya Howard](#) joined us and since that time Tanya's experienced so many different phases of rapid growth and development whilst we've scaled our systems, processes and business. Today, Tanya shares with us more about her year to date. "The year 2020 has brought a whole new level of change, but I am so grateful that throughout this pandemic, we have brought our people and our customers even closer to the heart of what we do. When I look back, a major highlight for me is how we started with getting our foundational safety right, creating safe systems, and evolving from "Zero Harm" to "Plus One", integrating people's wellbeing and preventative mental health as a core tenant of our Health, Safety and Wellbeing strategy. Our team collaboration has always been a key driver of THE ICONIC's success, and albeit we are now more organised and structured, that team spirit has just become the way we do what we do."

HALEY BUGEJA MAKING OUR COUNTRY PROUD



Photo - DOI - Jeremy Wannacott

Haley Bugeja (born 5 May 2004) is a Maltese [footballer](#) who plays as a [forward](#) for Italian [Serie A](#) club [US Sassuolo](#) and the [Malta women's national team](#).

On Saturday, 5th September, 2020, at the age of 16, she made her debut in Serie A Femminile in Sassuolo-Napoli 3-1. Bugeja scored the first and third goal for her team. The first one was a gem of individual skill. The second one was a fabulous curving shot in the top corner with her "weaker" foot. Her impressive performance was given a lot of media attention both in Italy and Malta.

Prime Minister Robert Abela hosted Malta women's national team player Haley Bugeja at Castille recently. Dr Abela praised Bugeja's talent, dedication and passion for football, encouraging her to maintain her commitment and enthusiasm to achieve further success in her career. Haley took centre-stage recently when scoring two spectacular goals on her debut for Italian club Sassuolo in the Serie A Femminile.



Stunner: Haz-Zebbug law student Anthea Zammit has been crowned Miss Universe Malta

Miss Universe Malta and law student Anthea Zammit is both candid and bold about life and social issues

Written by Maria Christina De Carlo Two years ago, Anthea Zammit endured the trauma of a psychological abuse in which she felt undervalued. Behind what many felt was a dazzling presence on stage, her charming smile hid a harrowing emotional experience. "I was made to believe that I was just not good enough. People said negative things just to bring me down. I had a very traumatic experience," Zammit, 26, says.

"I took part in Miss Universe Malta to conquer my insecurities. It is already a victory for me to have found myself and I did not let anyone bring me down," the young law student says today, in a message of courage following her crowning as Miss Universe Malta.

"For all those people who have low self-esteem or psychological issues my message is: speak up as soon as possible. There is nothing to be ashamed of. There is nothing wrong about speaking to a professional, a person who can guide you through to bring out a better version of yourself."

Zammit now will go on to represent Malta in the United States alongside 96 contestants representing different countries in the Miss Universe contest.

The professional dance teacher, who teaches children at San Anton School, is still getting terms with her recent victory at the Malta contest for Miss Universe. "The most important lesson I have learnt is the impossible is truly possible once you set your mind to something, once you work hard for it." Encouraged by her family and friends to try modelling, Zammit was ushered into this world of glamour through the experience of Sue Rossi and Claudia Calleja at Modelle International, when she

Anthea Zammit: 'I conquered my insecurities. Don't let anyone get you down'

took part in her first beauty competition. Later she made a bid for Miss World, where in 2016 she placed first to represent Malta in the international Miss World contest, and in 2017, for Miss Supranational.

This year, representing her hometown Zebbug, Zammit managed to attract the attention of the judges with her dazzling smile, poise and true confidence. A yellow evening gown suited her well, complimenting her slim physique and skin complexion, apart from her natural curly hair which suited her face shape, to the makeup she wears on a daily basis, bringing out her stunning features and the colour of her eyes.

"I am today a different Anthea. I feel grown-up having been through certain experiences that made me more mature. You gain confidence by respecting yourself for who you are, knowing and accepting your strengths and flaws."

Now in her third year of law, Zammit says her career plans have helped her beliefs become stronger. Her knowledge of human rights in particular, inspires her to want to help others. "What bothers me in Malta is the fact that many jump to conclusions, and we are forgetting how important equality is, the right to live. We jump to conclusions on illegal immigrants arriving to our country in these unfortunate situations. We need to remember that as Maltese citizens we are not the only ones battling COVID-19 – it is a worldwide pandemic and the people running away from dangerous situations in their own countries, must find safety on other shores. "They should be given a second chance, irrelevant of our situation... It is the only way that we can continue to share love, peace and equality between us. We need to respect each other and everyone to have peace within ourselves."

Zammit still looks forward to one day opening her own dance school and having a family.

"Without the support of the people close to me and the experience I have gained, I don't think I would be where I am today. A special mention goes out to the people who believed in me all the way through. I want to thank my family and friends for their support. They believed in me more than I believed in myself. I promise to do my utmost to make Malta proud at the Miss Universe contest."



**'I am Greta' –
a Hulu
documentary
on Greta
Thunberg in
Toronto Film
Festival 2020**

Greta Thunberg full speech at UN Climate Change COP24 Conference. [Image source/Connect4Climate YouTube video]

Teenage Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg is the subject of the Hulu documentary 'I am Greta.' It depicts her uphill struggle to save the world. Don't miss on the latest updates

Click on the topic that interests you to follow it. We will keep you updated with the news you shouldn't miss.

Video of the Day: [North Korea demolishes office used as liaison office for the two countries in Kaesong](#)

Greta Thunberg is a teenage climate activist from Sweden. She hit the headlines when she landed in New York in 2019. She arrived in a transatlantic carbon-neutral boat from Europe. Her purpose was to give a speech to the United Nations on climate change. She was worried about the indifferent attitude of a section of the people.

They are those who formulate policies and have to realize the dangers of ignoring an issue like climate change. She wants a safe world for future generations and has voiced her concerns on the subject at various international forums. Filmmaker Nathan Grossman has made a documentary on her and it was shown at the Toronto International Film Festival 2020 with other [Movies](#).

It is "I am Greta" and it will launch on Hulu on November 13 with the subsequent release in the UK on 16 October.

The Guardian says many people have heaped criticism on [Greta because she is very blunt and does not hesitate to call a spade a spade](#). She has already gathered a huge band of young followers who agree with her and believe that the elders must rise to the occasion and tackle climate change on priority. They flock to her rallies. Greta Thunberg takes the criticism of the seniors in her stride and encourages the youth to speak up against the inaction of the elders. The documentary "I am Greta" tries to put these issues in a proper perspective.

<https://us.blastingnews.com/showbiz-tv/2020/09/i-am-greta-a-hulu-documentary-on-greta-thunberg-in-toronto-film-festival-2020-003203964.html>



MALTIN LIVING ABROAD

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Journal of Maltese Living Abroad

Our aim is to protect and promote
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connecting Maltese communities.



Street vendors of Malta then and now

<https://vassallohistory.wordpress.com/>

Street vendors are very much a part of Maltese culture. But are they dying out?

Melanie Drury



The vegetable vendor's truck is a common sight on the streets of many villages. And the gas man's undeniable loud horn still announces his arrival on designated days of the week. Within most parts of Malta, this is all that survives of the local street vendor. No lady with a pram comes to our door selling fresh goats cheese, eggs, capers and prickly pears anymore, as she did when I was a child. And I haven't seen a kerosene truck in

decades. In fact, whatever happened to the Maltese street vendor?

During a two-year stint living in the village core of Gharghur, I was able to experience true village life in Malta. It is starkly different from town or suburb life, in that village people still live according to tradition. Contrary to modern residential areas, in the village core, neighbours are very much involved in



each others' lives: men meet at the *kazin* to gossip over tea in a glass, and women take chairs outside someone's house to gossip in the cool evening air.

And I quickly realised that here, the street vendor hadn't died out. The trend may have changed, but the culture survives. Every Wednesday, the square in front of the Oratory became a little marketplace of street vendors. There was the van selling household goods and detergents, complete with green shading for customers. There was another selling fresh fish. The man with a

donkey selling *bigilla* (Maltese bean paste) was replaced by a shiny van with a recorded audio call.

One Maltese saying states "the call is half the sale" ("*l-ghajta hija nofs il-bejgh*"), indicating the recognisable calls, horns and tunes that street vendors use to announce their presence, attracting custom. As a proverb, it points at the necessity to do your bit in order to gain a return.



Street vendors (*bejjiegħa tat-toroq*) emerged a long time ago as a clever marketing tactic. During bygone times, when transportation was limited and it was a hassle to go on foot to other villages to purchase goods, street vendors made buying and selling easier by moving their products from village to village. Come rain or shine, on the designated day of the week, the street vendor would appear to serve the household needs of eager housewives.

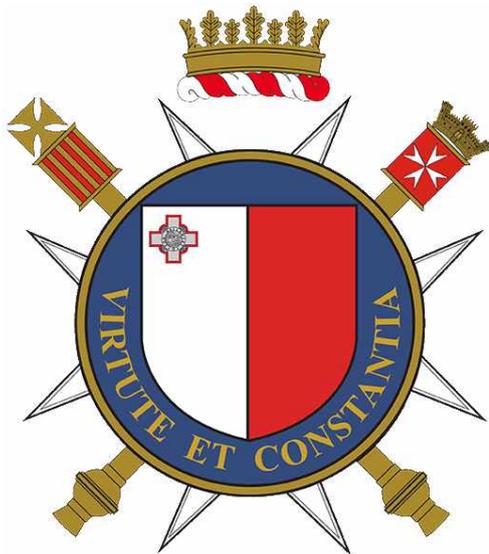
Men carried their ware on their heads or shoulders, in cotton bays or cane buckets. Women balanced goods on their heads on a round turban or carried bundles. They also used pushchairs, small hand-pulled carts and large karts pulled by donkeys or mules. That's when the famous Maltese door-knob came in handy, to tie the animal while serving customers. Gradually, carts and donkeys gave way to vans and trucks, and the vendor's personal call replaced by a handy recorded audio. But you can still see traditional nougat sellers' carts at village feasts all over the island.



Products varied immensely: freshly squeezed milk, goats cheeselets, eggs, ice cream, seasonal produce, fresh fish, bread, street food, perfumed soap, household goods, home decorations, kerosene, brooding hens... you name it. Some vendors even provided a service, such as knife sharpening.

Today, the Maltese street vendor has evolved and changed, just like everything else. The man who brought his goat to your door to milk it fresh may be gone, but the doughnut van with the catchy jingle everyone sings in mockery has appeared, so there is hope still. Let's hope it will not be too soon before goods are only available from large department stores!

Herald of Arms of Malta



Heraldry has its own language, known as 'blazon', originating in medieval France. The blazon describing the Arms of the Chief Herald of Arms of Malta is:

Below a crest coronet of fourteen oak leaves Or issuant from a wreath of the colours and upon a hurt edged of the First bearing the motto VIRTUTE ET CONSTANTIA and debriusing two herald's maces of the First in saltire with dexter finial displaying the Cross and Arms of Aragon and sinister finial the Arms of Fortress Malta both Proper, the shield of Malta, with the whole supported by an Eight-pointed Cross of the Second. The motto, 'VIRTUTE ET CONSTANTIA', alludes to a phrase which reverberates throughout the history of Malta.

Grand Master Jean 'Parisot' de Valette used these words in a dispatch to King Philip II of Spain when describing the victory of the Great Siege of Malta in 1565.



LIFE IS A CLOCK

The clock of life is wound
but once and no man has the power
To tell just where the hands
will stop..at late or early hour.
To lose one's wealth is sad indeed.
To lose one's health is more.
To lose one's soul is such a loss
as no man can restore.
The present is our own to live,
love and toil with a will.
Place no faith in tomorrow
for the clock may then be still.
Author unknown.

WE ARE EMBARKING ON A VERY IMPORTANT PROJECT PUBLISHING A BOOK WHICH WILL INCLUDE THE MAIN ARTICLES AND STORIES PRINTED IN THIS JOURNAL. WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT MORALLY AND FINANCIALLY

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Church
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Elmhurst, New York

JOHN GATT

NOVEMBER 10, 1932 – SEPTEMBER 17, 2020

THE MALTESE CENTER COMMITTEE, ITS MEMBERS, AND THE MALTESE COMMUNITY SEND THEIR DEEPEST CONDOLENCES TO HIS WIFE MARY, SONS GEORGE, VINCENT, GRANDCHILDREN AND FAMILIES. JOHN GATT WAS A LONG TIME ACTIVE MEMBER, HONORARY PRESIDENT OF THE MALTESE CENTER AND SERVED TIME IN THE COMMITTEE. HE WILL BE MISSED.



KEEP THEM IN YOUR
THOUGHTS
AND PRAYERS
MAY HE REST IN PEACE



Dear Members & Maltese Community,

In regards to the COVID-19 pandemic we have been closed since March 9th 2020 following the New York City and New York

State guidelines and would like to update you on our current financial status of the Maltese Center.

Many members have inquired about the financial well-being of the Maltese Center. Currently, the total amount of dues collected is only but a small portion of the Maltese Center's funds. Let us all be reminded, we are a member owned, volunteer operated Center and that we are all in this together. It is important that members continue to make timely payments on their dues schedule. Given COVID-19's impact on the economy, the Maltese Center is adopting a more conservative stance to our pending capital project schedule. For the moment, we are limiting capital expenditures to absolute necessary maintenance. The bulk of monies that go towards operational costs and capital improvement come from events and the concession which have been nonexistent

for three months but our monthly expenses (taxes, insurance, gas, electric, internet, phone etc.) are still due. The funds that were allocated to capital improvement projects will have to be on hold due to the setback that the closure has created and go towards the Center's operational expenses.

The Maltese Center has always striven to stay in a sound financial position and be fiscally responsible but we will need to focus on filling the financial gap.

The Maltese Center is considered a social organization in Queens County within the region of New York City. As of June 11th 2020, we must remain closed as we do not qualify for Phase I. The situation is dynamic and continuing to change daily, and we will be updating and providing timely information to our members.

Please know that the Committee and Advisory Board are greatly disappointed that we are not able to offer the Center as an outlet during this time; however, it is just not a possibility for now. We will make certain to be in a position to open as soon as permissible.

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

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

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

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

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

The Maltese Center Committee <https://www.facebook.com/Maltese-Center-NYC-331002843034>



19 Years Ago, The World Changed, Over 3,000 People Died, Including A Man Of Maltese Descent

- Noel Zarb <https://bay.com.mt/>

Everyone, around the world, remembers where they were on this day, 19 years ago, as a massive coordinated terrorist attack hit the World Trade Center in New York City, and the Pentagon, after four commercial planes were hijacked. A fourth aircraft presumably never made it to its intended destination, as it crashed into a field near Camp David.

Nearly 3,000 people died on September 11, 2001 – people who worked at the Twin Towers, passengers who were probably flying to meet their loved ones, as well as firefighters and police officers who had no clue what the day was going to bring as they started their morning shift.

Among the victims of this attack, we'd like to especially remember one of our own, as 26-year-old Brian Cachia, the only confirmed Maltese descendant who died in the attack, was called into work an hour earlier than usual because the company he worked for had technical difficulties in its computer system.

Sadly, it was at 8:46am, 14 minutes before he was meant to originally be at the office, that one of the planes hit the North Tower where he was in. Brian worked as a technical support specialist for Cantor Fitzgerald.

Another victim, Steven Genevose, who worked for the same company as Mr Cachia, may have been of Maltese descent although this was never established.



Former President H.E. Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca, Pointing at Mr Cachia's Photo at the National 9/11 Memorial in New York City Mr Cachia died a week after he had gotten

engaged, and he had only been in his WTC job for a month. Our thoughts are with his family and friends for whom this day definitely brings with it the ugliest memories!



Inizjamed tfittex li ggedded l-espressjoni artistika u kulturali f'Malta. Festival Mediterranju tal-Letteratura ta' Malta. / Inizjamed seeks to renew artistic and cultural expression in Malta. Malta Mediterranean Literature Festival.

Dear All,, I hope this email finds you in good health.

The extraordinary circumstances we are going through and the new measures precluded us to meet at our annual meet at Fort St Elmo to celebrate literature and let it get us closer to each other. However, as from this week we will be uploading videos with our five invited authors, the Maltese Miriam Calleja, Leanne Ellul and John Portelli who all have just published brand new work. We will also have the EU Prize for Literature award winner Jan Carson from Ireland and Itisha Giri from Nepal. Our short videos will consist of reading of poetry, translations of each other and interviews. For a short time we will suspend the social distancing and let words instead of numbers speak to us. All videos will be uploaded on our Facebook page, [here](https://www.facebook.com/inizjamed/photos/a.139014072914672/1695626030586794/).

For more information, please feel free to contact me. Jean Paul Coordinator: Inizjamed



New season for the Malta Philharmonic Orchestra

The Malta Philharmonic Orchestra has launched its 2020/2021 concert season, embodying the orchestra's endeavour to diversify its music-making through its online programme. Three productions will be released in seven days streamed from some of the most poignant locations on the island.

Ħaġar Qim and Rebbieħa, held in collaboration with the Office of the Principal Permanent Secretary and Heritage Malta, form part of the celebrations marking Public Service Week. Performed at the Neolithic Temples of Ħaġar Qim, Joseph Vella's ballet suite is performed by MPO Principal players Rebecca Hall (flute), John McDonough (oboe) and Daniel Cauchi (percussion) featuring dancer Moritz Zavan Stoeckle.

Vella's popular symphonic poem Rebbieħa, defined by the New York Classical Review as "a dramatic overture with energy, imagination and an individual voice" positioning the composer "somewhere between Ralph Vaughan Williams and Shostakovich" shall be recorded by the MPO at Fort St Elmo under the baton of Kevin Abela. Both productions shall be streamed on TVM on the 18th and 25th September respectively at 9.00 pm. This year's *Il-Kunċert ta-Indipendenza* adopts an online format, presenting a unique interdisciplinary production artistically directed by Ruben Zahra featuring the MPO and violinist Stefan Calleja performing under the baton of resident conductor Michael Laus. Produced in collaboration with Festivals Malta under the distinguished patronage of the President of the Republic of Malta, the concert will air on the 21st September at 7.00 pm on TVM



Order of Malta Members in Thailand support children's home struggling following Covid-19

On Saturday 11th September the Members of the Order of Malta and Friends visited Baan Pra Bida a Home for 97 children mostly displaced from Myanmar.

Due to the hardship of Covid 19 the

Foundation lost some of their benefactors, and for this reason the Order stepped in to assist the home meet the shortfall 10 months.

Members and Friends also brought with them 500 face masks, 150 hand gels, 10 Temperature Testers, dry food, toys and hygiene sets. They also stayed for lunch, celebrated 8 of the children's birthdays falling in September and attended Holy Mass at St Fatima's Church.

The Order of Malta Thailand will return in November bringing warm blankets to Baan Pra Bida Home.

An unsung Maltese hero as Ohio brings salvation to besieged Malta

Greg Caruana NSW



Frank it was really a good interesting article about Operation Pedestal which was published in the Maltese Journal sometime ago. Another unsung Maltese Hero who for years was totally forgotten Mr. Wenzu Attard, the one who steered the OHIO into the grand harbour.

A portrait of Wenzu Attard, the harbour pilot who steered Ohio into Grand Harbour. "Wenzu's wife, mother and brothers tried to dissuade him. The tanker was still full of fuel. If there was another attack it could explode" - Lina Brockdorff

The Operation pedestal or as all Maltese know it "Il-Konvoj ta' Santa Marija" was a real act of courage that the OHIO made it to the grand Harbour and saved Malta from the drastic situation that was in. The captain of this Blessed Tanker "OHIO" captain Dudley Mason was given the George Cross for bravery. But unfortunately

there was an unsung Hero that was totally forgotten. In the issue of the Newsletter of August 2019 I write an article in

Maltese about this Operation pedestal where at the end, I mentioned this unsung hero **Wenzu Attard** the pilot that steered the Ohio into the grand harbour in the dangerous situation.

Actually he volunteered to do this heroic job, and when his boss actually tried to explain to him how dangerous the situation was, Mr. Attard told him "well if I don't die from this dangerous job, I will die of hunger anyway so, Yes I will get the tanker in the harbour. And unfortunately everybody was praised with the captain of the OHIO given the George Cross for bravery and

poor Wenzu Attard passed away in 1964 was totally forgotten, then after nearly over 60 years a plaque was unveiled in Ponsomby Street, Mosta where he was a refugee during the war as his home town of Vittoriosa was totally bombed and it was really dangerous to live in. Now his family are hoping that this brave Wenzu Attard will not be totally forgotten and a bust will be erected in his home town of Vittoriosa. Many historians trace the turn of the tide and the Allied victory to this single event – which boosted the hope and morale of the Maltese with renewed prospects of survival.



HMS Ohio, almost sinking, arrives in Valletta



Ohio also carried a substantial amount of wheat and other much needed food supplies, which was saved and stored within a few hours. It is generally recognised that *Ohio* was the saviour of the beleaguered island. Its captain was later awarded the George Cross. Although such a triumph was of utmost importance for the Maltese, it had a more significant effect on the

battle for North Africa.

It is sad to note that 70 years after such an important historical event, the heroic act of Wenzu, the Maltese pilot, has not been given its due. There is not a single marble slab to honour him. Yet Malta's public gardens and squares are adorned with statues and monuments of various statesmen, poets and lesser known citizens.

The national poet, Dun Karm, had chided the Maltese for their ingratitude of not acknowledging their brave forefathers. No poet has ever spoken or written words of praise for Wenzu.

FOLLOW UP – “How an Italian plane was hijacked and flown to Malta in 1942”

Dr. George M Boffa NSW



The recent excellent article on “**How an Italian plane was hijacked and flown to Malta in 1942**” published in the Maltese eNewsletter ISSUE 339 brings back memories of decades during which I gave medical talks (more than 1000, significantly, and with pride, in Maltese) to the Maltese Community in Australia on SBS Radio.

It was on the 8th September 1993. I was on my way to the radio station for one of the talks. The car radio was tuned to the Italian Programme on SBS. A stalwart of the Italian community, Domenico Gentile, was presenting one of a series of programmes he

was producing for the Italians. It was called “MOMENTI NELLA STORIA”. On the day, 8th September 1993, which was the 50th Anniversary of the Unconditional Surrender of Italy in WW II, it dealt with the way the 8th September 1943 affected Italy and how the Italians looked on their day of pain which caused a deep wound in their psyche...a wound which took decades to heal.

At the station I sought Domenico Gentile to tell what a singularly significant day the 8th of September is also for Malta and the Maltese. The Italians, including Italian historians look on those times very differently from us, Maltese.

For example, they look upon the Santa Marija Convoy (La Battaglia di Mezz’Agosto as they call it) as a great Fascist Victory about which Mussolini actually issued a special “**PROCLANA agli AVIERI E MARINAI**”. **And also, awarded many Medals!** I was caught. Domenico insisted on interviewing me, in Italian, for his programme.

A day after the interview went on air I got a call. One of Domenico’s listeners called with a request to speak to me; an occasion and conversation which I welcomed and which I joined in, with great courtesy and respect. This Italian gentleman, living south of Sydney, had been one of the crew of the Italian plane featured in your article.

He was grateful for the treatment he received as a Prisoner of War in Malta. He mentioned that some of those guarding the Italians were Maltese soldiers. He described how they were not rarely taken to view crashed Italian and German planes. The Italian prisoners of war appreciated the friendship shown to them by the Maltese servicemen.

They might not have realised that any significant snippet of information would reach British Intelligence. The only discomfort he mentioned to me was that all personal items (such as a small penknife, some money, letters, ID documents and Service Papers) were confiscated.

After some time in Malta the Italian Prisoners of War were transferred abroad and ended up in a Prisoner of War Camp in South Africa (if my memory serves me right).

Two of the British Officers who overpowered the crew and guards were decorated. The Italian servicemen were court martialled “in absentia” by the REGIA AERONAUTICA. As a matter of courtesy, I do not divulge the name.

My new friend did not seem to have fared too badly. A few months after the 8th September 1943, he was back in Italy trying to resettle and ponder the future which eventually included migration to Australia.

This highly pleasant and informative interlude with this Italian ended with a charming, surprising pleasantry.

As we were saying “Arrivederci” to each other, he interrupted to tell me “By the way, not long after I returned to Italy, I received a letter package from the British. The belongings including the “spiccioli” (loose change), the penknife, and other items which were amongst the things taken from me when I was captured, were returned!”

Experience China in Malta



Taiji Kung Fu Fan, a combination of martial arts and dance.

The China Cultural Centre in Malta is offering Chinese language lessons for students at different levels of proficiency, ranging from beginner to advanced, as well as a range of other Chinese cultural and creative activities.

Erhu, also known as the Chinese violin.

As the black ink flows from the brush, a Chinese character is formed, taking the shape of two rivers converging into one strong and boundless river. This is the Chinese character 永 (pinyin: yǒng) meaning eternal. It implies that the river is connected to the past yet stretches out into the future, much like how the Chinese language has carried on for millennia, with the earliest records of primitive Chinese characters found engraved on oracle bones dating back over 3,000 years ago. The language has survived the passage of time and has evolved into the rich and fascinating language it is today.

The most challenging yet rewarding aspect of discovering the Chinese language is learning about the visually enchanting and beautiful Chinese characters or symbols, also known as hànzì. The Chinese language does not have an alphabet but instead is composed of a system of hànzì. Each hànzì represents a syllable, which may represent a word on its own or form part of a word containing more than one syllable. Radicals,

which are the building blocks within a Chinese character, may reveal hints to the meaning behind the character and may suggest how it should be pronounced.

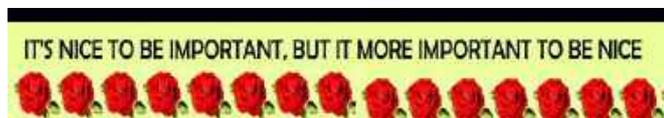
Another intriguing difference between the Chinese language and Romance languages is that it is a tonal language, meaning that the intonation or pitch of each Chinese character affects its meaning. If anyone reading this has the slightest blessing of a musical ear, you may have an advantage over adjusting to a tonal language at a faster pace. Surprisingly, Chinese grammar is free from complicated grammar, with no verb tenses, no plurals and no gender conjugation, unlike many European languages.

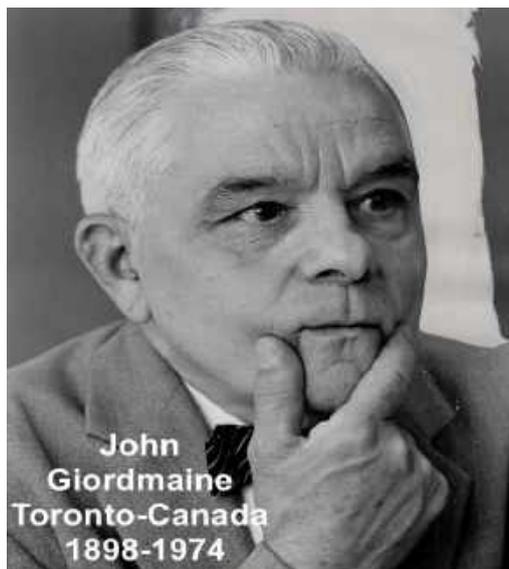
Once you succeed in speaking or reading a few sentences in Chinese, you will feel satisfied and elated, which in turn will encourage you to continue your journey towards fluency. Studying such an interesting and vast language will without doubt also lead you to discover the beauty and warmth of Chinese culture.

Those who wish to learn and understand Mandarin can now do so by applying for lessons at the China Cultural Centre in Malta. The evening classes are being offered to students at different levels of proficiency and will begin in October.

To many, China remains a mysterious and majestic country thousands of miles away. Will you give in to your curiosity and take the next step to learn more?

The China Cultural Centre will also be offering classes in calligraphy, Erhu, also known as the Chinese violin, Chinese painting, square dancing, the Chinese strategy board game called Go, Chinese handcrafts, Taiji Kung Fu Fan, martial arts and Chinese cooking. The Chinese language courses start in October and will be held every Tuesday evening. For more information contact the China Cultural Centre in Malta on e-mail on maltacc@gmail.com.





John Giordmaine (1898-1974) was one of Canada's most beloved children's magician.

Born Giovanni Nicola Giordmaina in Malta, he immigrated to Canada in 1919. He started as an electrician, but went onto a successful career as a professional magician after a serious injury in an electrical accident.

He became friends with [Sid Lorraine](#) who got him to join the [International Brotherhood of Magicians](#). He changed his name to Giordmaine to rhyme with legerdemain. In the late 1930s, Giordmaine worked at [The Arcade Magic and Novelty Shop](#) and the T. Eaton Company of Toronto. While at Eaton's toy department during the 1940s, he developed and sold a magic kit.

He became the first magician on television in 1933 and appeared on the Howdy-Doody show, Captain Kangaroo, Paul Winchell's Circus Time. He had been described as "the world's greatest little magician artist" in an early television show for children.



Giordmaine was a guest on [The Ed Sullivan Show](#) in 1957 and played the New York World's Fair. His Comedy Rope Trick can be found in [Stewart James' Encyclopedia of Rope Tricks, Vol. 2](#) (1968) and his *The Stamp Album: Magic Coloring Book* in [Tarbell Course in Magic](#), Volume 4.

A 30-minute documentary film directed by York Professor Laurence Green documentary film about his life was called "Sleight of Hand".

(PHOTO) Irving M. Lewis, International President of the IBM, presents Johnny with the "Star of Magic" Award, a high IBM accolade, recognizing "his great contributions to the art of magic", on January 25, 1963. (Photo courtesy Joseph Giordmaine) The Toronto Daily Star wrote about Johnny and his award on February 7th, 1963



We would like to thank all the readers who sent a donation to help us producing this Maltese Journal

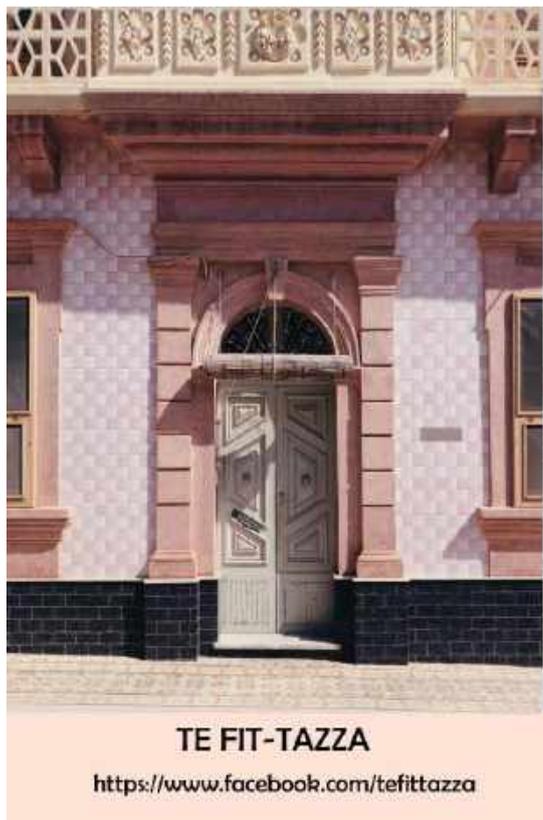
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TE FIT-TAZZA SS PETER AND PAUL, NADUR, GOZO

We are in love with this facade from Gozo. Talk about having a bold personal style! Lisa from [@maltadoors](#) had this to say about the facade in her original post:

"SS. Peter Paul this uber pink 1960 build, located in #Nadur, #Gozo has got to be one of my all-time favourite discoveries, and possibly also the one that started my 'Hunt for Pink' mission. I know I've already posted this beauty in the past, however I was keen on sharing more details of this unique tile-laden facade, which is so intricately ornate and patterned that it reminds me of a mosaic.



Saturday, September 26, 2020 at 5:30 PM UTC+09:30 – 12 AM UTC+09:30

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Registration for the workshops is now available: <http://bit.ly/MultilingualismDay2020>



MEP Cutajar appointed VP of European delegation for relations with Australia, New Zealand

Labour MEP Josianne Cutajar has been appointed Vice President of the European Delegation for Relations with Australia and New Zealand (DANZ), on behalf of the Socialists and Democrats within the European Parliament. The EP delegation is tasked with the upkeep of Europe's ties with Australia and New Zealand as its main objective. Topping the DANZ agenda at the moment are the Free Trade Agreement currently at negotiation stage, as well as collaboration on common challenges that include climate change and, more recently, Covid-19.

'What the crises we face today are showing us is that the most effective answers come when countries from different parts of the world come together and be open to dialogue', Cutajar said upon her appointment to the DANZ Vice Presidency. 'Faced with the struggle against climate change, the new challenges to our health brought on by the pandemic, as well as security issues, no single country can come up with solutions and save the day on its own. We all need each other,' Cutajar pointed out. The Maltese MEP is determined to further promote and protect the values shared by both parties including the human rights front, while paving the way for more joint investment in sectors such as Research and Innovation - a sector that, in Cutajar's words, currently offers much potential for collaboration between the two sides. Meanwhile, in a meeting, both Cutajar and H.E. Jenny Cartmill, Australia's High Commissioner to Malta, noted the positive relationship between the European Union, Australia and New Zealand. The strengthening of commercial ties between the parties, prospective sectors for new collaboration, and the sharing of best practices in gender policy were high on the meeting agenda. 'In all discussions I will be having as Vice President for this Delegation, I shall uphold the best interest of Europe's citizens and that of its Member States, including Malta', Cutajar remarked.



Maltese Community Council of Victoria Inc. -AUSTRALIA

The MCCV needs you. We want to hear what you think about us, what you know about us and what you want from us. Help us move into our next stage of renewal and rejuvenation.

Please go to the link below and complete the survey that the University of Melbourne has put together for us and you could win one of three \$50 Coles vouchers. It will only take a few minutes of your time. All responses are confidential and will assist us in setting the future direction of the Maltese Community Council of Victoria.

We will be giving away \$50 Coles vouchers to three lucky people who complete the survey, so leave a contact number and first name if you want to go into the draw. This is a quality assurance exercise and submitting a completed survey signifies your consent. Thank you for

your participation" Follow this link to the Survey:

<https://melbourneuni.au1.qualtrics.com/.../SV...>





Maltese community found in Japan dates back more than 100 years

From manuscript sources at Cospicua parish church, the National Archives and the University's Melitensia section, it transpires that the founder of the Maltese community was a Ruggiero Inglott, who was born in the harbour town of Cospicua in 1871 and died in Yamugucci, Japan, in 1950 at the age of 79. He married a Japanese lady, Nakayama, whom he very probably met in a Christian mission school context; she later converted to Catholicism.

They had three sons and a daughter, who changed their 'British' surnames during World War II, when Britain and Japan were enemies. During World War I, by contrast, Britain and Japan were on excellent terms and a Japanese naval squadron was based in Grand Harbour. The Japanese Navy rescued several Maltese sailors at sea and suffered scores of casualties at the hands of the Axis, as can be seen from their graves in the naval cemetery in Kalkara. Some Maltese ethnic inter-mixing with the sailors is also known to have occurred locally.

The then Crown Prince of Japan Hirohito visited Malta in April 1921 as part of his first European tour. He was present for the opening of the new Parliament, where Chev. Joseph Howard became Malta's Prime Minister under the first self-government Constitution. Hirohito visited Kalkara cemetery, planted a tree at Sant' Anton and was lavishly entertained at the Casino Maltese. As it happened, Professor Frendo noted, Chev. Joseph Howard, an industrialist and president of the La Valette Band Club, was also the Consul for Japan in Malta.

Ruggiero aka Roger Inglott attended the Lyceum from 1884 and began studying at the University, as did other members of his family, notably Emmanuel and Joseph. He opted for modern languages having studied English and Italian, which were standard subjects at the time, and he seemed destined to further his studies at University. Soon afterwards, however, he decided to venture further afield.

He was the 12th child of a medical doctor, Pietro Paolo, married to Antonia née Rosso, and the nephew of another, Gian Felic Inglott, who was better known. Another relative was Sir Ferdinando Inglott. This therefore was a well-established and reputable Cospicua family but, according to Professor Frendo, it appears that Ruggiero was somewhat of an adventurer and wanted to see the world. At the age of 21 he had a numbered passport, 1446, issued in 1892, and he possibly stayed for some time in Algeria before embarking for the Far East, almost certainly from Valletta.

According to Professor Frendo, he probably sailed on a P & O steamer, which made regular trips to India, Australia, Japan and China. One of these steamships, the first to have electric light in 1889, was named *Valletta*. In the 1890s, he added, the second-class fare to Japan was £42. The Peninsular and Oriental Steamship Navigation Company had an ongoing trade with Japan, sometimes selling or scrapping steamers there.

In Japan, Inglott settled down and spent a lifetime teaching English, starting at a Japanese naval school in the harbour town of Kagoshima. His children have now all passed away but some of his Maltese-Japanese grand-children still know of their ancestry and cherish the memory.

Unrelated to any organised emigration like that to the Caribbean or Australia, Professor Frendo judged Inglott's to be a *sui generis* trans-oceanic case, comparable to that of F.X. Grima of Birkirkara in New Orleans in 1870 or Antonio Azzopardi in Williamstown, Victoria, as early as the 1830s or, indeed, an explorer and trader such as Andrea Debono of Senglea in Egypt and the Sudan, in the mid-1800s. Maltese migrant settlement during the 19th century was largely limited to the Mediterranean littoral from Algeria to Turkey, but there were some exceptions all the way from the Americas to Australasia and, of course, Japan.

Professor Henry Frendo coordinates the unit on emigration and migrant settlement at the University's Institute of Maltese Studies.

Ottini - Maltese Number 8 Shaped Biscuits

These Maltese biscuits were one of my favourites whilst growing up and to be honest they still are as I grew to miss them whilst living here in England. So obviously I had to make them. The recipe is very similar to [Qagħaq tal-Ġunġlien \(Maltese Biscuit Rings with Sesame Seeds\)](#) with some ingredient changes and also, this time I used a food processor. Needless to say there was less mess in the kitchen and took less time to prepare!! It is quite easy to shape a number 8, actually easier than you had thought. Also, when I bake my OCD kicks in and I always have to weigh the prepared dough and divide its weight into equal and even shapes haha. Using this method I always get equally shaped (well approximately) finished products. So if you miss these biscuits like I do, here is how I made 10 of them first thing on a Saturday morning. You can dunk these in hot tea or coffee, that's how we like them :) You will need...

- 250g plain flour
- 85g caster sugar
- 1 ½ teaspoons baking powder
- 1 egg
- ½ teaspoon ground aniseed
- Pinch ground cloves
- 90g salted butter, at room temperature, cut into cubes
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 2 tablespoons water
- 1 tablespoon orange flower water - Ilma zahar (if not available add another tablespoon of water)
- Grated zest of 1 orange
- Sesame seeds



Method - Preheat the oven to 180°C.

1. If you are using a food processor, start by adding the flour, sugar, spices and baking powder into the food processor and pulse for a few minutes. If not using a processor add the dry ingredients in a large bowl and mix well. Add the butter and blend until all butter has been incorporated into the flour. If using your hands, mix the butter in with your fingertips until mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs.
2. In a small bowl beat the egg and mix in the orange zest, water, orange flower water and oil. Mix well. Add to the dry ingredients whilst food processor is running and blend until the dough comes together. Again if using your hands, add the wet ingredients to the dry ingredients mix well until you get a soft dough.
3. Divide the dough into 10 equal sized balls (about 50g each), a bit bigger than golf balls and roll into thin long sausage like shapes, about 30cm long. Shape into a number 8 and carefully transfer into a plate with sesame seeds turning over to cover both sides with the seeds. Place on a tray lined with greaseproof paper and bake in the preheated oven for about 20-22 minutes.
4. Let cool down and serve with tea or coffee. Enjoy!!

Posted by [Ramón and Amanda](#) <https://ramandalicious.blogspot.com.au/>



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New Program Schedule - Skeda Ġdida
Sept 19th, 2020

OMNI 1 - ONTARIO

SAT IS-SIBT 08:30am	TUES IT-TLIETA 11:30am	TUES IT-TLIETA 3:30pm	WED L'ERBA 11:00pm	THURS L'HAMIS 08:30am
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**MALTESE CANADIAN
 COMMUNITY NEWS**
 Note the new Lehen Malti
 TV program schedule

Lehen Malti offers the
 Maltese community 30
 minutes of first-run language
 programming
 on a weekly basis,
 in a magazine-style format.

OMNI BC

SAT IS-SIBT 2:00pm	FRI II-ĠIMGHA 10:30am
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OMNI Alberta

SAT IS-SIBT 2:00pm	WED L-ERBA 7:00pm
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OMNI™ is a free over-the-air multilingual/multicultural TV system reflecting Canada's diversity by broadcasting an array of ethnocultural programming.



A blast from the past! Malta's traditional xarabank

Photo: Kappa Vision

WE ARE STILL WAITING FOR AN ANSWER TO THE QUESTIONS WE HAVE BEEN ASKING FOR AGES. Who cares??????

- 1. Can Australia Hall in Malta be saved from total destruction?**
- 2. Is the History of Maltese Emigration a part of schools' curriculum?**
- 3. May students living abroad be provided with an online accredited Maltese Language course?**

LB Galea