Maltese e-Newsletter
Journal of Maltese Living Abroad
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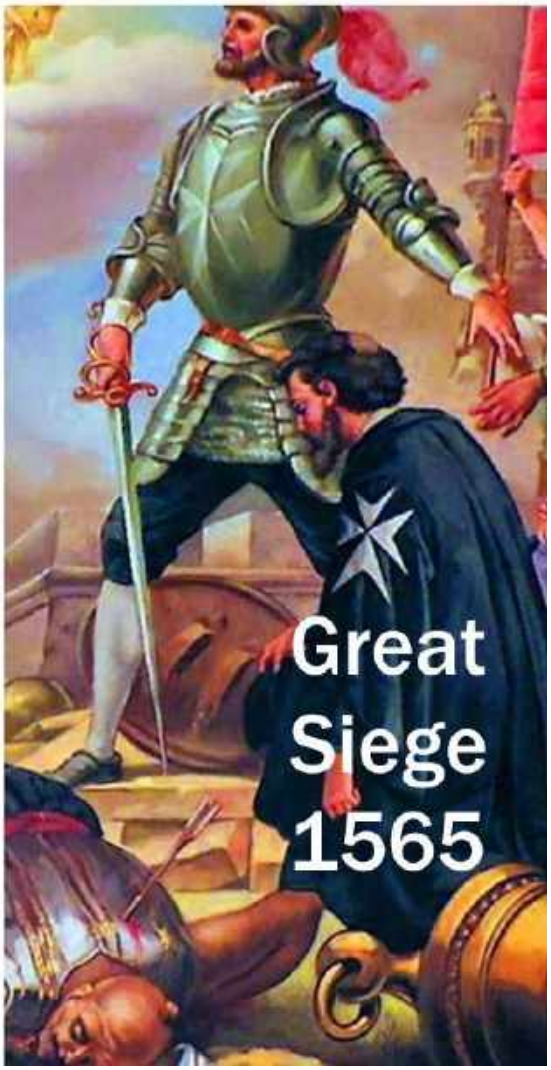
120 YEARS OF THE MALTA FA
MALTA FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION



National Museum of Archaeology, Malta

The Auberge de Provence was opened as the National Museum in 1958 by Agatha Barbara, the then Minister of Education. The museum originally included the archaeological collection on the ground floor and fine arts on the first floor. The first curator was Captain Charles G. Zammit, the son of the eminent Maltese archaeologist Sir Themistocles Zammit.

In 1974, the fine arts collection was moved to the National Museum of Fine Arts, newly established in the Admiralty House building in South Street, Valletta, and the National Museum was renamed the National Museum for Archaeology.[1]

The museum was refurbished and upgraded in 1998. Artifacts were placed in climate-controlled displays so that the exhibition met with current conservation standards.[2]

BUILDING The Auberge de Provence is a baroque building in Republic Street, Valletta, built for the Order of Saint John in 1571. It was designed by the Maltese architect Girolamo Cassar, who directed the building of most important buildings in the early days of Valletta. The building was subject to various alterations during its history, including of which extensive reconstruction of the façade to integrate shops at ground floor level during the early seventeenth century. The Gran Salon on the first floor is the most ornate room in the building. The Knights used it for business discussions, and as a refectory and banqueting hall, where they sat at long tables according to seniority.

When Napoleon expelled the Knights from Malta in 1798 the Auberge was leased to the Malta Union Club. Though the lease was to expire in 2002, on 12 August 1955 the Auberge was assigned to house Malta's National Museum.[2]

COLLECTION The ground floor of the museum exhibits prehistoric artefacts from the Maltese islands, from the Għar Dalam phase (5200 BC), the earliest appearance of settlement on the island, up to the Tarxien phase (2500 BC).

EARLY NEOLITHIC PERIOD ROOM (5200–3800 BC) This room exhibits artifacts from the early Neolithic Period, including decorated pottery from the Għar Dalam, Grey Skorba, Red Skorba and Żebbuġ phases.

Of particular importance are the Red Skorba figurines, the earliest local representations of the human figure and the predecessors of the statues of later temple periods.[1]

The exhibition features a reconstruction of the rock-cut tombs that were a characteristic of the early Neolithic period in Malta. Rock-cut tombs reached their climax in burials like the Ħal Saflieni Hypogeum and the Xagħra Stone Circle;[3] photographs of both sites are displayed in the museum.[1]

TEMPLE PERIOD ROOMS (3800–2500 BC) These rooms show examples of architecture, human representation and other items that date from the Mġarr, Ġgantija, Saflieni and Tarxien phases of Maltese prehistory. The temples that were built at this time are considered to be the world's first free standing monuments[2] and are listed in the UNESCO World Heritage List.

The museum exhibits numerous corpulent statues representing human bodies unearthed from temple excavations, along with phallic representations. Until recently the statues were called Mother Goddesses, Fat Ladies, Deities and Priests among other names, but it is now argued that these statues were probably asexual and represented a human being, irrespective of whether it was male or female.[2] The representations vary in size and shape, with the largest being as tall as 2.7 m and the smallest 4 mm.

The discovery of temple altars and corpulent human representations suggests that some type of cult existed on the islands of Malta and Gozo in prehistory. Given the corpulency of the statues it may be that the cult was tied to a fertility rite. Fertility at this time must have been very important since, apart from family growth, it also meant the reproduction of crops and animals.[2]

The exhibition includes altars excavated from the Tarxien Temples that were probably used for animal sacrifices. They were brought to the museum for conservation reasons.

BRONZE AGE HALL (2400 – 700BC) The Bronze Age Hall tells us about the culture and rituals of new peoples that moved to the Islands c. 2,400BC.

The remains from the Bronze Age attest to a total break with the culture of the Temple Period. The richly decorated temples which defined the previous culture, are replaced by fortified settlements, built into rocky

natural defences, that bear witness to more defensive newcomers.

The Maltese Islands themselves do not have the metal resources by which this culture is defined. Metal ore, to make copper and bronze objects such as the knives and axe heads we see in the display, needed to be imported. On the other hand, the whorls and loom weights are testimony to a well-developed textile industry, and may have been an important export to balance payments.

The pottery from this period is marked by geometric lines and new pottery forms. Ashes and burnt bones found in intact pots are evidence of cremation ceremonies, a practice which seems to have been introduced during this period. Body ornaments made of fish-bones, shell and faience, as well as daggers and axes, discovered in Bronze Age burial sites, accompanied the cremated remains.

Of note are a new highly-stylized form of body representation which are completely different to the ones belonging to the previous Temple period.[4] They are flattened figures with disk-like torsos, narrow heads and no arms. The torsos are inscribed with the same geometric motifs that adorn contemporary pottery.

CART-RUTS ROOM Here we find a reproduction of the mysterious curt-ruts, which are widespread throughout Malta and Gozo.

Although some are thought to be Bronze Age, their precise period has not yet been established, and neither has their use.[4] Were they used as a mode of transport, using wheeled or sliding carts, or were they water channels?

The model and accompanying video by the late and renowned Dr David Trump shows features such as depth, slope, lurches and forkings which give a sense of their configuration in the Maltese landscape, and delves into a number of possibilities.

PHOENICIAN HALL The Phoenician Hall introduces us to these highly accomplished artisans and seafarers who set up trading outposts throughout the Mediterranean and who settled on the Maltese islands during the course of the 8th century BC. The collection contains fine examples of pottery, jewellery and glass-ware produced by the Phoenicians, some locally as an important outpost in the Western Mediterranean. Of particular interest are an amulet made of solid gold consisting of two standing gods, Horus and Anubis, soldered together back to back and a hollow bronze amulet with the head of Horus which contained a tiny papyrus scroll with an inscription. Both amulets were found in tombs, and are evidence of the strong Egyptian influence in Phoenician belief, ritual and afterlife.[5]

A whole section is devoted to mortuary customs. Both cremation and inhumation were practiced during this period. Prime of place is given to a terracotta anthropoid sarcophagus discovered in a rock-cut tomb in 1797.

NATIONAL NUMISMATIC COLLECTION On the top floor, one can visit the National Numismatic Collection. Stemming from a donation bequeathed by Prof. Salvatore Luigi Pisani (1828-1908) in 1899, the collection has continued to grow and now consists of more than 16,000 coins, commemorative medals and dies.

The coins are testimony to centuries of foreign rulers, almost each imprinting their gods, themselves or their coats of arms on local coinage. The collection boasts coins from each occupation including, Punic, Roman, Byzantine, Muslim, Norman, Aragonese, the Order of St John and British. The museum houses the most comprehensive collection of coinage from the Order of St John including rare specimens.

The coins and medals mark important events. One of note is the copper fiduciary coins, introduced by La Valette following the building of Valletta. It is marked with the words NON AES SED FIDES (not copper but trust) and replaced the silver scudi with copper coins, a testimony to the changing relationship of the Order to the Islands which it would occupy for another two hundred years.

HAVE YOU LOST THIS PRECIOUS PHOTO? IT WAS FOUND AT KILBURN, SOUTH AUSTRALIA. IT WAS TAKING IN 1939 IN MALTA. THE HOLY COMMUNION CELEBRATION OF VIOLET AND FRED (NO SURNAME)
email me: maltesejournal@gmail.com

In view of the risks posed by hosting a mass event during the COVID-19 pandemic, the National Book Council is regretfully announcing that the Malta Book Festival will not be taking place in its traditional brick-and-mortar form, but will be moving online. A number of small events with limited audience numbers will still be held at the Mediterranean Conference Centre.

Although the decision is made with a heavy heart, it is deemed necessary in the interest of audiences and the long-term existence of the event. We cannot take the risk of being responsible for one single infection at the Festival and we cannot hold an event that would endanger our clients, stakeholders and staff. Furthermore, over the past seven years the National Book Council has worked very hard to make the Malta Book Festival into a reputable and successful brand. One single case would jeopardize all the hard work we made over the past years.

It is therefore clear that unless a vaccine is announced and distributed, or the virus and the pandemic dissipate in any other way, we cannot run the risk of holding the Malta Book Festival in its traditional form. Should a vaccine be distributed in time, we are ready to hold the event in its traditional format, but as it stands now the Malta Book Festival 2020 will be held in a virtual form, and the general public will be able to participate in events which will be streamed online on the National Book Council Facebook pages and Malta Book Festival 2020 event page, along with other events organised by publishers in their respective pages. As always, publishers, who are the main stakeholders of the Malta Book Festival, will be fully supported in this transition. School children will still be able to attend events online, and the usual book vouchers would also be made available.

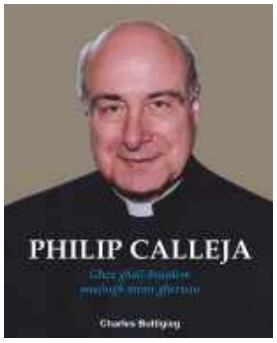
We are working towards delivering the same level of experiences between readers, authors and publishers that the community has come to expect of the Malta Book Festival, but in a shape that reflects all the latest guidances and safety protocols. Even in the shape of a virtual festival, we believe that the events featuring the participation of of local and international authors and publishers have the potential to convey the same spirit of exchange among a growing book-loving community.

The National Book Council sees this as an opportunity to facilitate the industry's transition into the online retail sphere. We have to make sure that Maltese books are available for purchase in an easy and accessible way via websites and smartphone applications – the survival of the Maltese book industry depends also on this.

Simultaneously, we are asking the government and the public broadcast provider to offer their full support in this necessary transition, thus supporting an industry which is crucial for the educational and intellectual development of society.

The Malta Book Festival will be held from 11–15 November. The full programme of events with all the activities will be issued in the coming months. For further updates on the Malta Book Festival 2020 and event details follow the National Book Council's website and Facebook page.

'Philip Calleja: Għex għall-Bniedem Maqlugħ minn Għeruqu' ta' Charles Buttigieg (**Klabb Kotba Maltin)** Finalist tal-Premju Nazzjonali tal-Ktieb 2020 // Kategorija: Riċerca bijografika u storjografika



"Min bħali ilu jaf lil Dun Philip mill-qrib… jgħożżu u jistmah, aktar minn kollox, għall-karattru u għas-sens ta' rġulija u għall-imħabba lejn art twelidu li għalih huma wisq ogħla minn kull partit politiku. Alla u l-Knisja tiegħu huma d-dawl li fih jgħix, jittama u jemmen." Dun Frans Camilleri Editur, Lil Ħutna, Ġunju 1978. Tista' tixtri dal-ktieb minn hawnhekk: https://midseabooks.com/.../language.../philip-calleja/ jew mill-Festival Nazzjonali tal-Ktieb 2020 mil-11 sal-15 ta' Novembru.

Author

Charles Buttigieg twieled iż-Żejtun fl-1947. Kien l-editur tal-ġurnal ta' kuljum 'Il-Ħajja' (1972-1987), Uffiċjal għar-Relazzjonijiet Pubbliċi tal-Kurja tal-Arċisqof (1987-2009), u l-ewwel Kummissarju għar-Refuġjati f'Malta (2001-2007). Huwa l-awtur ta' żewġ kotba dwar Mons. Arċisqof Ġużeppi Mercieca: 'Il-emorji' (2014) u 'Bijografija' (2017). Kotba oħrajn tiegħu huma 'Mikiel Gonzi – Ħamsin Sena fit-Tmum' (2015), 'Ir-Rifuġjati f'Ħajti' (2013), u 'The Malta Institute of Management – Born to Lead' (2013).

Speak with Salman Rushdie at the Malta Book Festival 2020 during this very special Q&A session

Posted on October 2, 2020 Posted By: nationalbookcouncilCategories: Festival

One of the events featuring Sir Salman Rushdie, this year's special guest of the Malta Book Festival, is the digital Q&A which will take place on the evening of Thursday 12 November at 6:30 pm.

The Booker Prize winning author will be directly engaging with students and readers from the general public. To better preserve the spirit of a direct exchange, the number of spaces is being limited to forty audience members. Participants interested in booking a place at the Q&A event are invited to submit the one question they would like to ask Sir Salman Rushdie: the more fascinating the question, the better the chances of securing a place. Everyone will still be able to follow the discussion which will be live-streamed on the Malta Book Festival Facebook page and www.ktieb.org.mt.

Calling on the general public and all University of Malta students

Twenty out of the forty 'seats' will be reserved for the best questions received by the National Book Council. You should be submit your question by email to michael.mercieca@gov.mt by 31 October with the subject line 'MBF2020 Q&A' and include your name, surname and contact number.

We want to make sure that students can make the best of the opportunity to meet of the noted public intellectual and one of the most thought-provoking proponents for free speech today. This is why we're collaborating with the Department of English at the University of Malta, and the Department of English Students Association (DESA) to make twenty places at the Q&A exclusively available for UOM students.

UOM students wishing to join the Q&A, are invited to send in the question they would like to ask Sir Salman Rushdie to DESA at desa.uom@gmail.com, including their full name, course, year of study and contact number also by 31 October.

In conversation with Dr Alfred Sant

At the 2020 Malta Book Festival Rushdie will be appearing in conversation alongside another towering figure of Maltese literature, Dr Alfred Sant. In a long and distinguished literary career, Dr Alfred Sant authored a notable list of published works ranging from novels, short stories, plays and autobiographical writings. On five different occasions and in different categories he's been the recipient of the National Book Prize, and most recently the 2019 National Book Prize Lifetime Achievement Award. Between 1996 and 1998 Sant served as Prime Minister of Malta and was elected as a Member of the European Parliament in the 2014 and 2019 elections.

His first novel*, L-Ewwel Weraq tal-Bajtar* (1968), published when he was only 19 is a watershed moment in the development of the Maltese literature, announcing the advent of the contemporary novel. Other landmark novels include the early-seventies set *Silġ fuq Kemmuna* (1982) and *La Bidu, La Tmiem – 1599* (2001), a historical epic praised for its capacity to meld "political, economic, social and cultural viewpoints…while never failing to deal with humanity's existential conundrum" (Mario Azzopardi, *Times of Malta*). Sant is also a renowned playwright, with the satirical *Balzunetta Towers* (2017) as his most recent work in the genre. This took on Malta's construction obsessed mind-set and the power of money over the political class, and was performed as part of the Valletta 2018 European Capital of Culture programme.

The discussion, which will be shedding light on the achievements, influences and current preoccupations of these two great writers and their respective cultural milieu, will be moderated by Prof. Clare E Vassallo, Associate Professor of Semiotics and Translation Studies at the University of Malta, and streamed online on Wednesday 11 November at 7 pm.

MALTA AND THE UNITED STATES

His Excellency Dr George Vella, President of Malta

Ir-relazzjonijiet li ilhom stabbiliti bosta snin bejn Malta u l-Istati Uniti tal-Amerika, u l-koperazzjoni f'oqsma importanti bħall-migrazzjoni, id-dwana, u l-ġlieda kontra t-terroriżmu kienu fost l-affarijiet li ddiskutejt mal-Segretarju tad-Difiża Amerikan, l-E.T. Mark T. Esper, li dalgħodu għamilli żjara ta' kortesija. Semmejt l-International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law (l-IIJ), li hu bbażat hawn Malta, bħala wieħed mill-aktar eżempji riċenti ta' din il-koperazzjoni li rnexxew. Dwar il-kwistjoni tas-sigurtà fil-Mediterran, sħaqt fuq il-ħtieġa tal-istabbiltà fil-Libja jekk irridu li jkollna sigurtà għal żmien twil fir-reġjun. Qbilna li dan għandu jseħħ b'konformità mal-Proċess ta' Berlin u mat-taħditiet li saru aktar kmieni dan ix-xahar fil-Marokk.

The longstanding relations between Malta and the USA, and the cooperation in important fields such as #migration, #customs, and #counterterrorism were among the issues I discussed with H.E. Mark T. Esper, who paid me a courtesy call this morning. I referred to the Malta-based International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law (IIJ) as one of the most recent and successful examples of this cooperation. On the issue of security in the Mediterranean, I emphasised the need for a stable #Libya to ensure durable security in the region. We agreed that this should be achieved in line with the Berlin Process and the Morocco talks that have taken place earlier this month.

Donated works on show at Il-Ħaġar

A portrait of Pawlu Mizzi was donated by his family to the museum. Photos: Charles Spiteri

Il-Ħaġar museum in Victoria is currently exhibiting several paintings from its reserve collection.The works, in various mediums, styles and themes, belong to contemporary artists, both local and foreign, as well as older pieces.

These include Celia Borg Cardona, Austin Camilleri, Mario Cassar, Walter Coccetta, Gianfranco Ferroni, Luciano Micallef, Savio Mizzi and George Scicluna.

The majority of the exhibits were donated to the museum.

One of the portraits on display is that of Pawlu Mizzi, known as the 'father of Maltese books', which was donated by his family on the first anniversary of his death. They also presented an urn and research documents to the museum.

Il-Ħaġar in St George's Square, Victoria, is open daily, Monday to Sunday, from 9am to 5pm

Lill-Papa San Ġwanni Pawlu II
Mitt Sena minn Twelidu
1920 – 2020

Il-Polonja qegħda tifraħ
B'dan il-kbir Prelat minn tagħha;
Min jista' l-ġid ikejjel
Li mas-snin hu għamel magħha!

Din is-sena qegħda tfakkar
Il-Mitt Sena minn twelidu
Dar il-globu jwassal 'l Alla
Il-ġnus kollha kienet tridu!

Żar ukoll il-gżejjer tagħna
Sab ukoll ħin għal Għawdxin
F'ħoġor il-Madonna talab
Biex jarana lkoll henjin.

Bniedem ta' statura kbira
Għandu laqa' rjus kbar;
Kien ukoll iħossu hieni
Fost il-fqar u fost iż-żgħar.

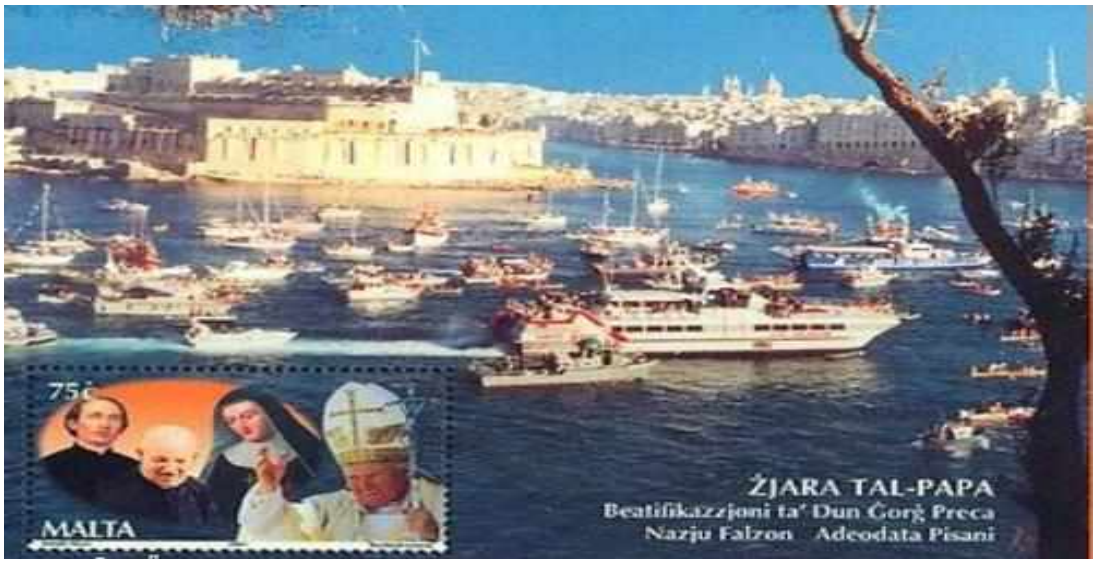
Lejn it-tmiem tal-ħajja tiegħu
Il-mard kagħbru waħda sew;
Ma kienx waħdu għax il-folol
Minn kull naħa qribu ġew!

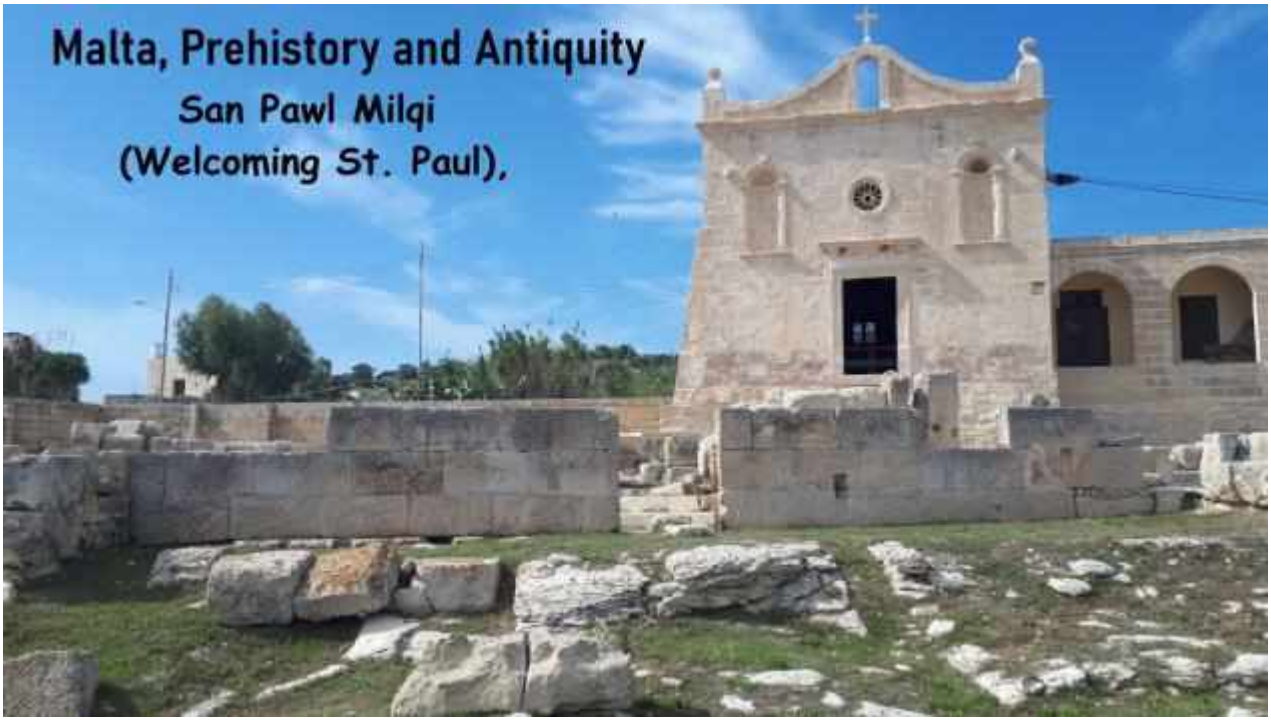
'Santo Subito' kienet l-għajta
Mat-tmiem tiegħu fuq din l-art -
Illum fuq l-altari nqimu
Mżejna b'xema' u ward!

Għażiż Gwanni Pawlu t-Tieni
Aħna wliedek midinbin;
Biegħed minna mard u niket
Madwarek żommna henjin.

Itfa' ħarstek fuqna kollha
Fuq wiċċna żomm it-tbissima
Magħqudin żommna qrib tiegħek
U bierek din l-art ħanina!

<u>Kav Joe M Attard 06-X-2020</u>





My first time ever visiting San Pawl Milqi archaeological site, as a guided tour by Heritage Malta. The site is very well-kept and has not been excavated fully. San Pawl Milqi (literally translated: Welcoming St. Paul), is a Roman period agricultural site which is traditionally the villa that St. Publius welcomed St. Paul in after his shipwreck on the island. The site is on the slope of a fertile valley and near the Roman harbour of Salina which made it ideal fpr the production of olive oil on an industrial scale. The area was full of olive trees at the time, a grove of 2000-year old olive trees survived to this day nearby at Bidnija. At the villa a rotating mill, 2 presses and settling vats can still be seen. The site was later fortified and 2 small towers added. The pressent chapel was built in 1616, replacing a 14 th century church which fell in disrepair. It is dedicated to the Welcoming of St. Paul.

Kappa Vision Bahar Ic-Caghaq, Malta ·

A unique 16th century chapel with buttressed side walls surrounded by catacombs. The chapel of the Annunciation of Our Lady in Triq il-Katakombi, Salina, Naxxar, Malta. It is known as tal-Lunzjata (Thabbira lill-Madonna) in Maltese. The buttressed side walls were built in 1776 because the walls were sliding out.
A cluster of small Paleo-Christian catacombs cut in the hard coraliline limestone are located near the chapel. Although the Salina Catacombs are small when compared to the catacombs of St. Paul and St. Agatha in Rabat, they are an important record of the sizeable community that must have lived in the area in around the last half of the first millennium AD. Mass at the chapel is held on Saturdays, at 5pm in winter and 5:45pm in the summer. Copyright © Kappa Vision / Jean-Paul Borg For the latest photos, please visit and like Kappa Vision on Facebook

ANOTHER CANADIAN-MALTESE PERSONALITY

ANTHONY J. MIFSUD

Born on the island of Malta and raised in Toronto, Anthony J. Mifsud or 'Mif' as he has become professionally known internationally, is a genuine renaissance man whose multi-faceted talents are as evident as his various achievements.

Mif's first claim to fame came as the dynamic front man and award -winning vocalist for the internationally renowned Canadian musical group and recording artists, Slash Puppet (1989-1995). As an integral member of the popular rock band he was able to hone his skills and confidence as a performer, enabling him to become an accomplished and legitimate force on the Canadian music scene. Mif released two records internationally with Slash Puppet, the self-titled 'Slash Puppet' in 1993 on Fringe Records and more recently a 2007 re-issue of the band's critically acclaimed 1989 independent release ("The Demo") entitled 'No Strings Attached' through Sun City Records that garnered accolades on several hard rock and heavy metal fanzines worldwide making it to #7 on Sleaze Roxx's "Top 10 Best" releases of 2007. Other accomplishments with the band include awards for Best Toronto Club Band at the 1990 Toronto Music Awards and Best Independent Video for their hit single "When The Whip Comes Down" at the 1993 Los Angeles Area Music Awards.

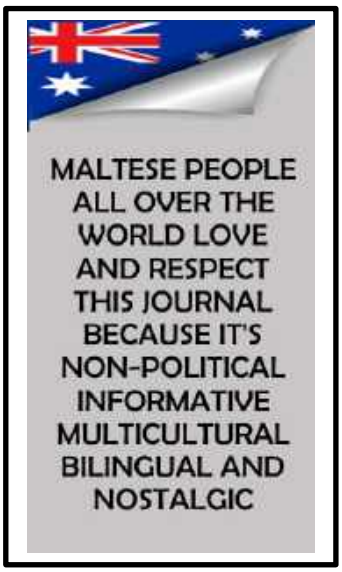
A well rounded and truly versatile entertainer, Mif is also an accomplished actor (1995-present) who has appeared both nationally and internationally in numerous film and television productions. Cast alongside some of the biggest names in show business, his movie credits include such films as 'Just Business' (Gina Gershon), 'Foolproof' (Ryan Reynolds), 'Eye See You' (Sylvester Stallone), 'Detention' (Dolph Lundgren), 'Gossip' (Kate Hudson) and 'Dirty Work' (Norm MacDonald).

On television, Mif is being featured in the recurring character of the 'Greek Delivery Man' in the third and final season of the Netflix Original Series 'Hemlock Grove'. Entitled "The Final Chapter" the American horror thriller began streaming worldwide on October 23, 2015. He also continues to be featured in the recurring role of 'Dr. Necros' on the hit Disney T.V. show 'Aaron Stone' that debuted to record ratings on Friday the 13th of February, 2009 as the flagship show for the then newly branded international network Disney XD. On the strength of its ratings the live-action adventure series was picked up for a second season which began shooting in 2009 and aired in the fall of 2010.

Other notable guest starring appearances and episodic roles on prime time television include popular shows such as 'Warehouse 13', 'Queer As Folk', 'This Is Wonderland', 'John Woo's Once A Thief', 'Due South', 'Psi Factor', 'FX: The Series', 'Kung Fu: The Legend Continues' and 'Relic Hunter'. He also possesses several commercial credits, as well as several made for television films and movie of the week credits, both here in Canada and the United States.

Furthermore, as an experienced voice artist and broadcaster, his voice has been heard on several radio and television programs as well as several commercial spots across North America, pitching products for such sponsors as Bell, Hewlett Packard, Sony, Ford, General Motors, Canada Post, Molson's and Kellogg. While writing and editorial credits include several local sport publications, as well as such national magazines as Fresh, Canadian Musician, M.E.A.T. Magazine, Inside Soccer and The Soccer News. *IMDb Mini Biography By: Media International Freelance*

We intend to publish the main Contents of the journal in a book. It's a massive job. But we will endeavour to do it. We need your support.



75th Anniversary of Maltese Canadian Society of Toronto meeting with Maltese from Detroit, USA to celebrate Sept.8th, 1945 in Toronto, Canada

September 9, 2020 was the 75th anniversary of the meeting of the members of the Maltese-Canadian Society of Toronto and members of Detroit, Michigan's Maltese-American community. They gathered in old St. Paul the Apostle basement hall, Toronto, to celebrate the 8th of September. The Society banner and sign can be seen in the far left corner.

Some of the people in the photo are directly below the Union Jack, next to each other Carmela and Joseph Cachia, to the left of them Grezju Borg holding the trophy the Maltese-Canadian Society of Toronto (MCST) won in Toronto's 1934 Centennial Anniversary, MCST committee member holding the Society's original flag (now at the "Migrants Museum" in Valletta), below the open window next to the Union Jack is diocesan priest and St. Paul's pastor Father Egan.

He replaced Father Alphonse Cauchi, OSA (1880-1942) in 1942, upon the arrival of Father Lawrence Bonavia in 1951 the parish came under the administration of the Order of Franciscan Minors.

Far left bottom corner, lady with a brooch Mrs. Catherine Vassallo, wife of one of the MCST founders, Joseph Vassallo, he's at the far right at the back with the rest of the Society committee and magician Johnny Giordmaine, far right under white hanging sheet, MCST founder John Zammit "il-Gudra" and MCST President Charles Baldachine

MALTIN LIVING ABROAD

If you have a story to tell share it with others

Send it to us
maltesejournal@gmail.com

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MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER
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Website: www.ozmalta.com

SOPRANO MIRIAM GAUCI

Miriam Gauci was born in 1958 and has since become the most successful Maltese soprano, enjoying an international career and reputation. She started her studies with her aunt, soprano Hilda Tabone, who early recognized her talent. Miriam Gauci was born on Malta and pursued her musical education mostly in Milan. Since her stage début in Bologna she appeared frequently at numerous international opera houses and is considered to be one of today's leading sopranos in the Italian repertoire. She is closely connected to the State Operas in Hamburg, Munich, Berlin and Vienna as well as to the Opéra National in Paris. In March 2001 she made her successful début with the New York Metropolitan Opera singing Mimi in Puccini's *La Bohème*.

The artist's repertoire includes mainly rôles by Verdi like Elisabetta (*Don Carlo*), Amelia (*Simon Boccanegra*) and Desdemona (*Otello*) as well as by Puccini e. g. Mimi (*La Bohème*), Cio-Cio-San (*Madama Butterfly*), *Suor Angelica* and *Manon Lescaut*. However Mozart's Contessa (*Le Nozze di Figaro*) and Donna Elvira (*Don Giovanni*), Massenet's "Manon" and Leoncavallo's Nedda (*I Pagliacci*) also belong to her successful repertoire on opera stage. As Margherita and as Elena in Boito's *Mefistofele* she had sensational success in Vienna under Riccardo Muti's baton. With this maestro she has sung Verdi's *Messa da Requiem* in Tokyo and Vienna as well as when making her début with Salzburg Festival in July 2002. Miriam Gauci also appeared in Zurich and Rome singing Verdi's *Messa da Requiem* in 2001 within the Centennial-Celebrations of Verdi's death. Miriam Gauci has participated in numerous TV and video productions and she has recorded most of her stage-repertoire for CD as well as the title-rôle of Puccini's *Tosca*.

ĦAMRUN AND ITS HISTORY

Ħamrun is considered to be one of the suburbs of the Maltese islands and is to be found around 2 miles away from the Capital city of Valletta.

Originally, Hamrun was born as 'Ta Braksja' around 1500, and christened with its present name in 1881. In between, it lived the life of a fragmented village, as it was an area divided between the parishes of nearby Birkirkara, Furjana and Qormi, and was merely known by the Italian name of its main road, Casale San Giuseppe, that is 'Triq il-Kbira San Ġużepp'. Ħamrun's motto is 'Propera Augesco' which means 'I grow suddenly'. The transformation of Ħamrun from a disjointed village into a large busy town began in the middle of the 19th century, with the influx of harbour project employees and people seeking relief from the expensive rents of Valletta. It further matured between 1881 and 1931 with the onset of the Maltese railway system. Malta's railway system was one of the last railways of Western Europe, yet also one of the more advanced. Though initially established as a private venture, the train evolved into a national institution.

'Triq il-Kbira San Ġużepp' was strategically located along the train route, which commuted on one narrow gauge between Valletta and Mdina. It was a major station with its own schedules to and from the new and old capitals of the island, and sported first-class engineering, a workshop and foundry. The end of the line for the Maltese railway arrived on March 31st, 1931, after it was ousted by the bus system.

Except for an influx of refugees during World War II, the population of Ħamrun remained relatively stable since the days of the train. **Nowadays it is estimated to host around 12,000 inhabitants**.

In the 1860s and 70s, Parish status became imminent, and it was believed that the Patron Saint for Ħamrun would be Saint Joseph. Such hopes were dashed when Saint Joseph's patronage was given to nearby Msida instead. **San Gaetano became Ħamrun's Patron Saint**, even though the feast of Saint Joseph still continued to be celebrated for some years by the old supporters of the Saint Joseph local Parish Band, which had been created in 1889. Today, although the Saint Joseph festa is no longer held, the band still exists, and an intense competition takes place between it and the San Gaetano Parish Band during the festive

celebrations of this Saint. During this time, both bands hold marathon marches while their supporters turn the streets of Hamrun into a sea of blue and red flags.
The building of the Parish Church was completed in 1875, however there are two other main churches predating it. These are both dedicated to Our Lady, one to the Visitation, which dates back to 1745, and the other to the Assumption. The former is a baroque structure also known by the Italianate name of 'Portu Salvu', while the latter is also known as 'Tas-Samra', meaning 'the tanned', named so for the dark complexion of Our Lady in the main painting.
Today, Hamrun is very different from 60 or 70 years ago. It made enormous advancements in a short period of time and can now almost compete with the Capital City with regards to shopping facilities. Apart from being a commercial centre, in Hamrun one also finds the general headquarters of various groups and political parties. San Gorg Preca's religious group, the M.U.S.E.U.M. started out from the locality of Hamrun. Here the Maltese Saint preached his teachings, which later on spread throughout all of Malta and other countries too.

Lina, Pina u Salvina, 3 typical ladies living on the Maltese island. Lina is a very nervous person and just can't stand Pina. Lina follows the Labour Party. Pina does not really hear that much and follows Gonzi. Salvina is always trying to make them stop fighting. Like us on Facebook and see what we are up to every now and then

Identical local twins Mary and Madeleine in the '70s

They were the first twin playmates to feature on the iconic magazine *Caroline Curmi*

Identical Maltese-British twins Mary and Madeleine Collinson were born in Sliema in the summer of 1952. Despite the statistical rarity of identical twins, multiple births were a common occurrence in the Collinson clan – in fact, their mother later gave birth to a second set of twins.

By the second quarter of 1969, the pair had moved to Britain, and a year later they landed their first big gig: Playmates of the Month in the October, 1970 edition of Playboy. This symbolised a first for Playboy, with the twins going down in history as the first identical duo to feature as centrefolds in the iconic magazine. Famed for their dark looks and voluptuous figures, the pair continues to enjoy a degree of popularity to this day.

The twins eventually transitioned to the big screen, where they were cast in a handful of B-rated movies, most notably the vampire horror film Twins of Evil (1971) which enjoys a 6.6 star rating on IMDb. As an avid horror fan, Mary was considered the perfect woman for the role of the evil twin, with her sister Madeleine shortlisted as the timid one. Interestingly, due to their thick Maltese accents, the director incorporated a common procedure often implemented with foreign actors and had their dialogue replaced by British actors.

Both women eventually settled down with their respective husbands and children, and while Mary opted to live in Italy, Madeleine returned with her immediate family to Malta, where she embarked on several cultural projects before passing away in 2014 due to a long illness. Mary, now 67, is believed to be living in Milan

Il-Bejjiegħ tal-Ħut bħala Xogħol Folkloristiku

Kull pajjiż għandu t-tradizzjonijiet tiegħu, li jagħmluh differenti minn pajjiżi oħra.

Bħala ċittadini Maltin, għandna nibżgħu għall-folklor Malti, għax dak huwa li jagħmilna uniċi.

Permezz tal-Folklor, illum il-ġurnata aħna sirna nafu kif kienu jgħixu n-nies dari bil-karatteristiċi kollha tagħhom:

- L-għana
- Iż-żfin tradizzjonali
- Il-binjiet tradizzjonali
- Ilbies tradizzjonali
- Ikel tradizzjonali

- It-Torta tal-Lampuki
- L-istuffat tal-qarnit

Nota Żgħira dwar Dun Frans Camilleri

- Kiteb poeżiji fuq temi lokali bħas-sajd u l-baħar u bi ħsibijiet pożittivi.
- Kiteb b'mod sempliċi u melodjuż. Fil-fatt ħafna mill-poeżiji tiegħu ġew inklużi f'kotba li jintużaw fl-iskejjel, eż. "Il-Bejjiegħ tal-Ħut."
- Ħafna drabi fil-poeżiji tiegħu jinqeda bid-deskrizzjoni biex ipinġi xenarju f'moħħ il-qarrejja tiegħu.

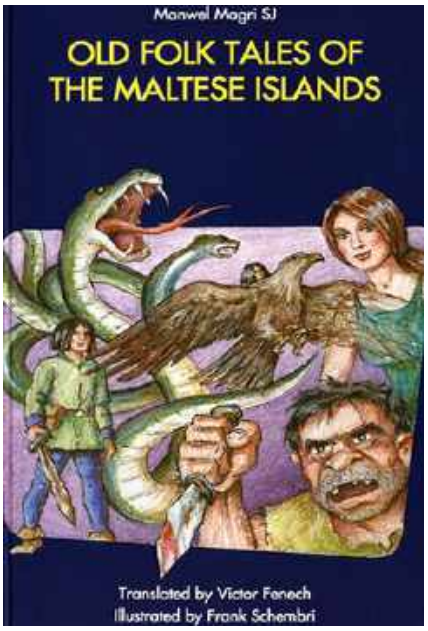
Tfal tal-iskola f'Berlin jipprattikaw il-Malti

Numru ta' Referenza: , Data ta' l-Istqarrija : Ott 06, 2020

Fl-okkażjoni tal-Jum Ewropew tal-Lingwi, rappreżentanti tal-Ambaxxata ta' Malta f'Berlin żaru żewġ klassijiet ta' studenti ta' bejn 6 u 9 snin fl-iskola elementari Hunsrück f'Berlin-Kreuzberg, sabiex jintroduċulhom lil Malta u jagħtuhom kors qasir u ntensiv fil-lingwa Maltija. Din l-attività saret b'kolloaborazzjoni mal-Istituti Nazzjonali tal-Unjoni Ewropea għall-Kultura ta' Berlin (EUNIC) u r-Rappreżentanza tal-Kummissjoni Ewropea f'Berlin.

Wara introduzzjoni qasira fl-istorja, il-flora u l-fawna ta' Malta, kif ukoll il-ħajja tal-iskola f'Malta, it-tfal kienu ħerqana li jitgħallmu xi kliem bil-Malti. Is-Sa Sephora Gauci, Deputat Kap tal-Ambaxxata ta' Malta f'Berlin, tathom introduzzjoni fl-alfabet Malti waqt li enfasizzat ċerti ittri li ma jinstabux fl-alfabet Ġermaniż kif ukoll il-pronunzja speċjali tagħhom. Il-preżentazzjoni ta' kanzunetta mill-*pop band* Malti 'The Travellers', ħeġġet lit-tfal biex ikantaw flimkien u jipprattikaw il-pronunzja ta' diversi kliem bil-Malti. B'entużjażmu, it-tfal irrepetew il-kliem bil-Malti, u peress li kienu ħerqana li jitgħallmu aktar, tassew ħadu gost jgħoddu minn wieħed sa għaxra, u jitgħallmu xi ismijiet ta' annimali bil-Malti. Fl-aħħar tal-lezzjoni, l-istudenti ġew mgħallma konversazzjoni faċli li tippermettilhom jintroduċu lilhom infushom u jistaqsu mistoqsijiet lil xulxin. Uħud mill-istudenti saħansitra setgħu jirrelataw ċertu kliem Malti mal-oriġini Taljana jew Għarbija tagħhom.

Fl-aħħarnett, l-istudenti ngħataw diploma, li kkonfermat il-parteċipazzjoni tagħhom fil-kors intensiv fil-lingwa Maltija, iċċertifikat mill-kapijiet tar-Rappreżentanza tal-Kummissjoni Ewropea, il-libreriji ċentrali u statali ta' Berlin, u EUNIC Berlin. Din kienet l-10 darba li l-Ambaxxata ta' Malta f'Berlin ipparteċipat f'din l-inizjattiva edukattiva, li għal darb'oħra wriet li hija mod divertenti u effettiv biex tesponi lit-tfal għall-varjetà ta' lingwi li teżisti fl-Ewropa.



These stories form part of a much larger collection of Maltese folk tales gathered by the Jesuit priest Manwel Magri whose 62 tales (including 13 variants) were first published during the period 1900 – 1907 in the series Kotba tal-Mogħdija taż-Żmien. Folktales are an important literary genre and a facet of social history, sinċe they throw light not only on the way of life of a people but also on such interactions as customs, beliefs, and language. They are also constant travellers and important cultural links between very diverse countries. Above all, they have proved to be a strongly colourful ingredrient in a nation's collective memory. This selection has all the elements normally associated with the Mediterranean folk tradition. Written by Manwel Magri SJ Translated by Victor Fenech Illustrated by Frank Schembri

http://www.mirandabooks.com/product/old-folk-tales-of-the-maltese-islands/

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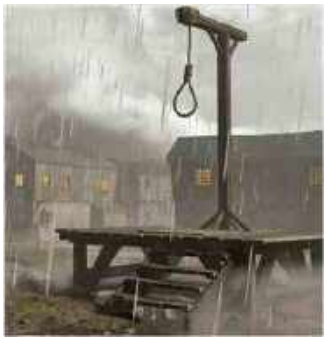
Blast from the past

ROSARIO MIZZI AND ANTONIO AZZOPARDI

ALBERT FENECH



Rosario Mizzi and Antonio Azzopardi were hanged for murder but was Mizzi framed and was Azzopardi buried alive

ROSARIO MIZZI – "IL-LAJS"

The scene now moves forward to the late 19th and early 20th Century and two very controversial death penalty executions of Rosario Mizzi known as "Il-Lajs" and Antonio Azzopardi known as "Ninu Xkora" in 1894 and 1908 respectively. Mizzi had been sentenced to death by hanging, for murder. However, shortly after his execution doubts began to emerge as to whether he had actually been guilty as charged, for murder. At the time Lord Gerald Strickland was Secretary to the Government and he was soundly criticised for a miscarriage of justice. When later he became Malta's Prime Minister he called the whole affair "a dirty business" to confirm there had been a complete miscarriage of justice and that Mizzi had been framed for a murder he did not commit.

Lord Gerald Strickland was accused of complicity in Rosario Mizzis frame up

TERRINU BONO – "Terrinata"

Ironically, later, Strickland was himself the victim of a frame-up. He was the leader of the Constitutional Party (pro-British) in heated rivalry with the Partito Nazionale (pro-Italian) during the build-up to the Second World War. Nearing the eve of the General Election (which Strickland was expected to win), the PN produced a "witness" named Terrinu Bono who swore an oath that he had seen Strickland wearing the robes of a freemason and entering the freemasons' lodge in lower Valletta. In highly Roman Catholic Malta, this was an enormous scandal, a bombshell. The Church immediately stepped in and pronounced an "interdict" on Strickland, his party and his newspaper which meant that anybody who voted for his party (which was then in coalition with the Malta Labour Party) or read his newspaper would be guilty of mortal sin.

Subsequently, Strickland lost the election but it later emerged that Terrinu Bono, who worked as a waiter, was a known drunkard and a liar and had been paid by the Partito Nazionale to fabricate the story! Hence, Terrinu's name became part of Maltese parlance because ever after the term "Terrinata" signified a frame-up i.e. being framed – and this perpetuated his notoriety!

ANTONIO AZZOPARDI – "NINU XKORA"

However, our concern here is with Antonio Azzopardi known as "Ninu Xkora" who was born in Valletta but resided in Hamrun. "Xkora" means sack and his nickname came about as a result of his being constantly seen carrying a sack slung over his shoulder, a trait which was commonplace in those days, the sack being used to collect all useful bits and pieces that others had thrown away.

Azzopardi was found guilty of murdering his daughter's fiancé', sentenced to death and duly hung. As was the custom in those days, burial had to take place just one hour after the execution and thus Azzopardi was hastily buried.

Shortly after doubts began to creep in as to whether he had actually died on the gallows or whether he had been buried alive. Azzopardi was a tall man and some doctors said the length of rope was too short for a man of Azzopardi's stature. This meant he had probably not completely broken his atlas vertebrae and was therefore still alive although unconscious.

The newspapers "In-Nahla" and "Risorgimento" took up the story and the doctors that had pronounced him dead took libel proceedings against the newspapers. Surprisingly, they lost the case as the media lawyers cited the story of a girl who fell from a balcony and although her head and neck were badly twisted she was still alive.

This reinforced the probability that Antonio "Ninu Xkora" Azzopardi had in fact been buried alive.

As a boy I remember stories of Ninu's ghost being "seen" woefully plodding through Hamrun's main road at night and bad boys (like yours truly) were very often threatened with being taken away by Ninu in his sack unless they sharply mended their ways!

Hamruns St Joseph High Road in the1920 s said to have been haunted by the ghost of Ninu Xkora

About Albert Fenech

Born in 1946, Albert Fenech's family took up UK residence in 1954 where he spent his boyhood and youth before temporarily returning to Malta between 1957 and 1959 and then coming back to Malta permanently in 1965. He spent eight years as a full-time journalist with "The Times of Malta" before taking up a career in HR Management but still retained his roots by actively pursuing freelance journalism and broadcasting for various media outlets covering social issues, current affairs, sports and travel.

Five Punic tombs in Ħal Tarxien untouched for 2,300 years

Report: Antonia Micallef

Nine Punic tombs were discovered in recent months during construction works at the area known as Ta' Scicluna in Ħal Tarxien.

Archaeological investigations by the Cultural Heritage Superintendency revealed that five of the tombs were still sealed with a stone cut in the rocks. This means that these tombs remained intact for some 2,300 years. Superintendency officer, Kevin Borda, said that these findings have opened a direct window to the past.

"You are seeing something untouched as left by the people living at the time, and therefore, when one considers the placing of the manufacture for example, how the urns were placed, whether the oil lamps were either lit or not in the grave; then one may create an interpretation on the organisation of a funeral at that time".

Ħal Tarxien roots go back to the Neolithic period due to the Tarxien temples and the Hypogeum, however there is a strong presence of the Phoenician and Punic era. He said that there is a great amount of tombs in the locality centre which means that a community of people lived in the surrounding area and likely traveled from ports and to the principal town where Mdina lies today.

Some of the findings are being exhibited at the Dar tal-Kejka in Ħal Tarxien which houses the locality's scouts quarters. The exhibition remains open to the public till the 11th October.

Culture Minister Jose' Herrera praised the devolution project to the Local Council of Dar il-Kejka in 2000. He said that this devolution left its mark because the council agreed with the locality's scouts to make good use of the place. Cultural Heritage Superintendent, Joe Magro Conti, said that as a result of the superintendency work, the development work where the tombs were found will continue. He remarked that the tombs will be preserved throughout.

A figure clad in a white robe walks silently in the street to collect offerings

OLD TRADITIONS

A figure in a white robe walks silently in the street to collect offering

A figure clad in a white robe, a white hood over the head, with two slits for the eyes, and a white, wide-brimmed hat, occasionally walked silently in the street, tinkling a small money box in his hand, to collect offerings.

Others similarly clad, could be seen in practically all towns and villages. Their mission was unsavoury and frightening, but merciful and voluntary. They collected offerings for someone condemned to die at the gallows, the money destined to be spent for masses and to support dependents.

These individuals were members of the Rozarjanti, a Confraternity of the Holy Rosary, associated with the Dominican Friars of Valletta, and amongst other social work and duties, they had to cater for the spiritual and temporal needs of the condemned, especially during the few days before, during and after the execution.

When the administration of justice moved from Mdina to Valletta, to the Klistanija, (the building where there is now the Ministry of Health), corner St. John Street with Merchants Street, the condemned used to be confined for three days chapel from passing of sentence to execution, during which the Rozarjanti took it in turns to assist, and provide a Capuchin Father to prepare him for death. Before the 1880's an execution was treated as a public affair.

Members of the Rozarjanti Confraternity came in procession from their oratory in St. Dominic Street, clad in their characteristic style, and went down to St. Paul Street, round to the Palace, Merchants Street, St. John Street and Republic Street, proceeding Floriana, through various gates then existing in the fortifications, to the gallows in the area of the present War Memorial.

All vantage points and streets used to be lined and crowded with silent onlookers, as the Head of Police rode in front, followed by bugler, the numerous Rozarjanti in two long rows, and the victim standing, surrounded by Police and accompanied by the executioner who held him tied from hands and neck, most often on a horsedrawn cart

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After the execution, the Rozarjanti took down the body and buried it in a sack in a hole in the ground, unmarked and unblessed. In time, burial took place in a cemetery. The Rozarjanti then walked back to Valletta church and offered high mass for the dead. This Confraternity is still in existence, but its role has changed with the times, retaining only some of the spiritual activities especially in connection with the Rosary. At one time they were very numerous, with members all of high standing, including Knights of St. John.

Its members included all professions, especially those connected with the law. It originated in the 16th Century, and because of their work with the condemned, extended their name into Confraternity of the Holy Rosary and of Mercy. In the 17th Century it moved for some time to the Oratory of St. John's Co-Cathedral on the invitation of the Grand Master, where the theme of the Beheading of St. John was well suited for them, especially since they were also affiliated to the Rome Confraternity of that title since the 1570's, but to avoid losing their identity they eventually returned to the Dominicans. [Guido Lanfranco]

"My name is Peter Cutajar. I'm originally from Qrendi. My mother is from Qrendi and my father is from Zebbug, Malta. I emigrated to Australia with my family in 1979. We are all trying to get back to normal here after all the troubles of the last two months or so. Where I work we provide finance to builders and property developers and families for the construction of buildings. We are helping to keep jobs going for all people during these difficult times. Jobs support workers, contractors and their families and we are striving to provide housing for families. Keeping people employed after this virus is controlled, is the most important thing. Employment keeps families going. Work keeps all communities and economies alive and moving forward. Whether you are in a village, town or city, after health, work and family are the factors that keep us all going. Stay Safe." – Peter

Send your selfies portraying your expressions, moods, joy and sadness. Be creative and send us your pictures, alone, with your family, with your pets, with anything you happen to be doing....it is up to you. Send a FB message or email: thepeopleofmalta@gmail.com, with your photograph together with your name and surname, your locality if you wish and a sentence or two (in Maltese or English) with a brief explanation of how you are feeling or what the picture represents. Just be original and creative

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"I am going to be 80 years old in three months' time. But right now, I'm 79 years old. God will call us whenever He pleases but until then, make the most of your time on earth! Sports has helped me lead a long and healthy life. It has always been a big part of my life. When I was a kid, we used to play in the streets. We didn't have the games or gadgets that kids have these days. When I was a student at De La Salle, I was very much involved in sports, especially in football and athletics. Since the school was sport-oriented, it helped me mature and grow fonder of sport. One thing that really helped was that I didn't focus solely on one sport. I was also a sports teacher for some time and I used to teach different sports, such as hockey, athletics, tennis, basketball and others. First, you start practising, then you start teaching. I attended several courses to learn these different sports. You learn the game and then you teach it to your students.

One of the reasons why I'm still very active in sports is because sports imbibes you with energy and adrenaline. Many think that you rest by sitting down and doing nothing. But the mind unwinds when you take a break from the usual routine and indulge in a physical activity or sport. I pay close attention to my diet. My wife is very careful about the food that she cooks. It's important to maintain a balanced diet: eat a little bit of everything. It's our lifestyle that puts our health at risk."

Charles Mizzi at **Marsa Sports Complex - Malta**

-"Xogħli kien li nberfel. L-ewwel karozza li berfilt kienet Hillman Mix li kellu missieri. Kont bdejt inbigħ il-pitrolju u wara kont inberfel. Dak iż-żmien, qed nitkellmu wara l-ħamsinijiet, it-tberfil kien popolari. Ħafna mill-karettuni kienu jiġu mberfla. Imbagħad anki x-xarabanks bdew jiġu mberfla. Minn dejjem kont bin-namra għat-tpinġija. Għandi ħafna memorji hawn imwaħħlin mal-ħitan ta' xogħlijiet li jien għamilt. Meta beda jnaqqas il-bejgħ tal-pitrolju, intfajt inberfel. Tlaqt ix-xogħol u armajt għal rasi bit-tberfil. Kont nagħmel mis-6.30am sad-9pm hawn inberfel. Dak iż-żmien kollox bil-pinzell kien isir. Ħdimt fuq kollox, l-hena tiegħi kienet inberfel it-trakkijiet.

Ma kontx naqta' qalbi. Dak li kienu jitolbuni kont irrid nara kif nagħmel u npinġih. Ismijiet ta' qaddisin fuq ix-xarabanks u r-ras ta' żiemel fuq il-karettuni u t-trakkijiet kien

wisq popolari. Meta jitolbuni biex nikteb ismijiet jew affarijiet mhux xierqa, jien ma kontx inpinġihom. Meta kont niżbogħ ix-xarabanks, hawn ġew kienu jiġu pjanċi u joħorġu minn hawn miżbugħin u mberfla lesti, minn barra u minn ġewwa. Ma nistax ngħid li kelli xogħol ta' dwejjaq. Kienet taqbadni d-diqa meta xarabank kien jitlaq minn hawn wara li nkun ħdimt fuqu. Imbagħad, l-hena tiegħi kien meta nitla' l-Belt u nara dawk ix-xarabanks wara xulxin u nara xogħli apprezzat. Illum ngħid kif għaddew 45 sena. Illum it-tberfil naqas drastikament. Illum m'għadnix inberfel. Dan il-vann ħallejtu memorja. Dan kien mormi, ġbartu, irranġajtu, armajtu u żbajtu jien." – Bastjan

MALTA DIARIES – AMELIA TROUBRIDGE

Synopsis:

From an early age, Malta had always been a different world for Amelia Troubridge; a place for first times, and where she first picked up her camera and was inspired to take photos. From watching the sun set on the shores of Ramla Bay, as they had for Ulyssees and Penelope thousands of years ago, to organising Malta's first rave, it was somewhere to get away from everything and everyone back home in London. Invariably, only then would you find out that you knew, were known, or were related to everyone around you - an extended family home, like no other. Within one tiny country were the influences of a host of nations. From Italian to Arab to English, it was a melting pot of hot summer days and magical summer nights, where nothing ever felt wrong. Since her innocent family holidays as a young girl, through her rebellious teenage years, half-Maltese herself, Amelia has always seen Malta through the identity of its local people. "Malta diaries" brings together many faces and moments over a period of ten years, from her grandmother under the hairdryer, to the numerous celebrations, religious or political, that always filled the streets.

As the country finds itself drawn into change by its arrival into the European Union, "Malta Diaries" celebrates the unchanging and the unique, encapsulated into one photographer's personal relationship with the island and its people. Included in its pages is an introduction by Edward de Bono, also Maltese by birth, an academic renowned for his theories on creative thinking, and offering a personal narration on the island.

Amelia Troubridge – photographer

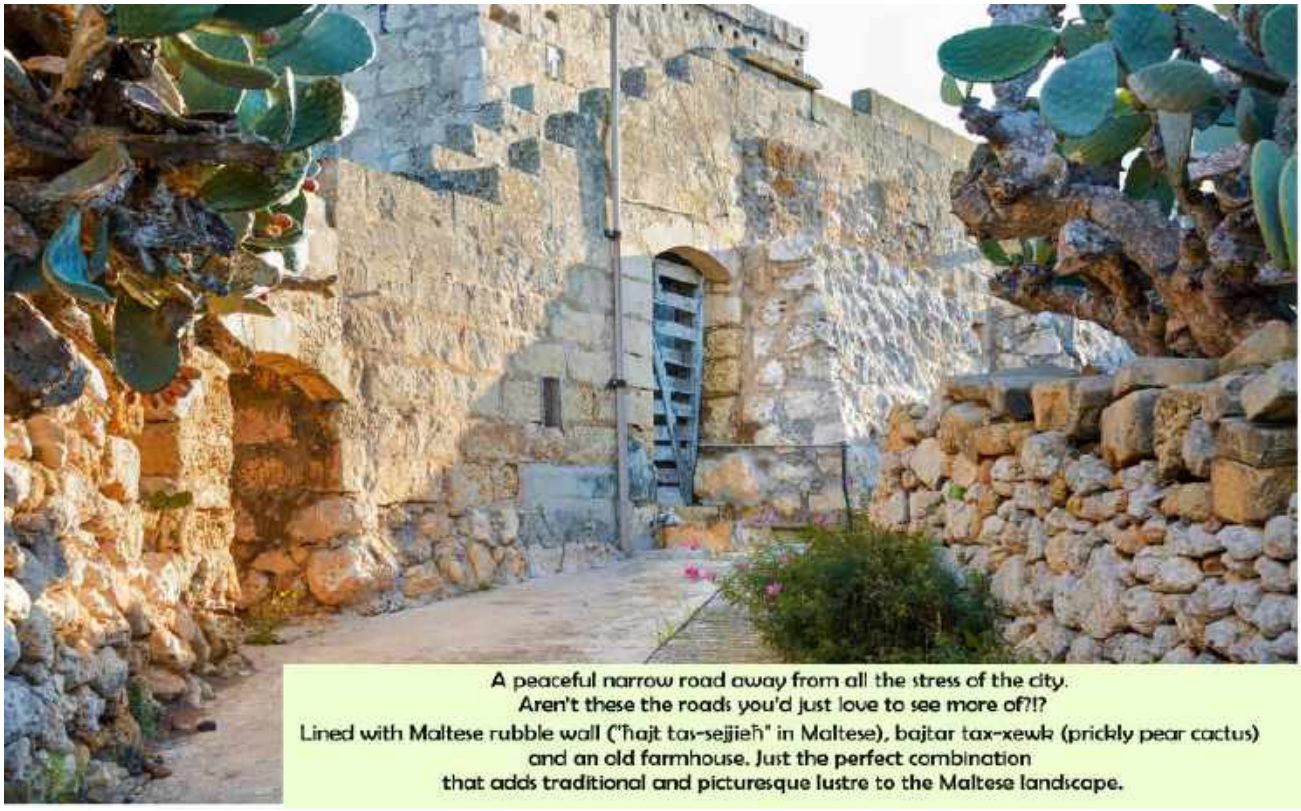
Amelia Troubridge is an English-Maltese photographer. Her worked has spanned the worlds of Film, Fashion, Politics, Music, The Arts & Society. Amelia has been consulted on visual content for a number of commercial clients including De Beers, The British Tea Council, Jimmy Choo & LK Bennett.. Born in London, Amelia has photographed some of the most famous faces in the world, including Kim Cattrall, Baroness Warsi, Fay Weldon, Cara Delevinge and none other than David Cameron. The latter was for a TIME magazine shoot, but Amelia's also been commissioned by Vanity Fair, The New York Times, GF and Dazed & Confused! Throughout this long list of insanely great successes, Troubridge hasn't let go of her Maltese roots, and her second book *Malta Diaries* was a personal rundown of her experiences with the island.

Suzanne Sharp – entrepreneur

Malta-born Suzanne is the creative director of The Rug Company, which she runs with her husband Christopher Sharp. The company started as a small shop in the 90s along the Qui-Si-Sana seafront, but by the turn of the millennium, the power couple moved to London, revolutionising the upmarket rug industry, collaborating with behemoth designers like Alexander McQueen, Paul Smith and Vivienne Westwood along the way. Fast-forward to 2017, and The Rug Company has *over 20 showrooms worldwide*, including New York, Los Angeles, Harrods in London, Dubai and Cape Town! The multi-million pound business boasts a celebrity client list ranging from Alex Ferguson to Bill Gates, so it doesn't seem like Suzanne Sharp is going anywhere anytime soon!

Embassy of the Republic of Malta to the United States

Today we've launched the Malta-North America Business Council during a virtual meeting in the presence of the Heads of Malta Enterprise, Malta Tourism Authority, Finance Malta, Trade Malta, Gaming Malta, Tech Malta and the Malta Digital Innovation Authority. The Council, which is composed of 12 members each representing different economic sectors of interest to Malta, has a clear objective of promoting FDI to Malta and to support the Malta based companies in looking for new niches in the US and Canada. We look forward to engaging with others, both Maltese and American/Canadians willing to cooperate and work with this Council to promote Malta as an ideal business hub.



A peaceful narrow road away from all the stress of the city.
Aren't these the roads you'd just love to see more of?!?
Lined with Maltese rubble wall ("ħajt tas-sejjieħ" in Maltese), bajtar tax-xewk (prickly pear cactus) and an old farmhouse. Just the perfect combination that adds traditional and picturesque lustre to the Maltese landscape.

MALTESE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF VICTORIA INC

Best wishes coming to you from us at that Maltese Community Council of Victoria. It has been a very troublesome year. We started 2020 with severe bushfires across our state that devasted many. Soon after the bushfires Covid 19 arrived on our shores. With stage 2, 3 and then 4 lockdowns many of our community members have been struggling to deal with the daily isolation and worry about when this will end. Our staff and Executive committee have continued to work hard, despite our doors being closed. We have been offering social support to not only our elderly community but to anyone who requires it. Daily communication has occurred by phone, Zoom and Facetime, care and activity packages have been delivered to our vulnerable.

The Executive committee have continued to meet and work on a strategic plan to take us into the future. We have started some much-needed renovations at the centre in Parkville, so when we reopen it will look fresh and welcoming. We are planning many community activities as soon as we can start opening up again. One of our first activities is to organise a day trip to the Maltese Museum located in the La Trobe Valley. Stay well, stay safe and happy. **MCCV PRESIDENT MARLENE EBEJER**

MOOMBA The Maltese Community Council of Victoria has been given the opportunity to submit an Expression of Interest to participate in the Moomba Parade on 8 March 2021. We would like to extend an invitation to the community to participate in this memorable event. Please contact our office via telephone or email if you wish to take part in the 2021 Moomba Parade. (03) 9387 8922 admin@mccv.org.au

MALTESE LANGUAGE CLASSES - VICTORIA Registration for our 2021 Language Classes will soon be available. We will be advertising and updating registration for 2021 classes in the near future via our website mccv.org.au Registration for Maltese Language Classes is required in order to participate. The Maltese Language classes are sponsored by the MCCV at the Maltese Community Centre.

Students pay a nominal enrolment fee and families who enrol will be eligible for a discount. Classes are provided at three levels: Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced. Due to COVID-19 restrictions classes will only be held online during this semester via ZOOM. The MCCV Education Committee overseeing the classes is composed of qualified LOTE tutors, class coordinators as well as an independent adviser. Courses are intended to provide participants with a basic knowledge of reading, writing and speaking Maltese.

Each course runs for one semester. Lessons coincide with Victorian school terms. A token fee of $120 per semester for 16 lessons covers some expenses. The tutor will advise students of additional resources that are appropriate. The classes run for one hour extended by 30 minutes for student queries. Students receive guided self-learning activities equivalent to 1 hour. The total Unit context hours are 2.5 hours per week.

Artichokes with garlic anchovy crumbs

In Maltese cuisine, stuffed vegetables have a long tradition. The island's soil and climate offer the right conditions for fruits and vegetables to grow and ripen under the Mediterranean sun with strong tastes and in huge quantities. Tomatoes, onions, marrows, zucchini, aubergines, pumpkins, all fruits and vegetables that are perfect to be filled! Be it with meat, seafood, herbs or other vegetables, you can combine flavours of all kinds or even use your leftovers to create a completely new dish you would have never thought of before. When I'm in an experimental mood, I bravely mix whatever I find in my fridge and shelves, sweet, sour, spicy or bitter, I've never been disappointed, but often surprised! This recipe uses a slow cooker which creates deliciously tender artichokes that pair wonderfully with the salty crunch of garlic anchovy crumbs.

Serves 6

Ingredients

- 6 globe artichokes
- 2 litre water
- 2 cup (500 millilitres) chicken stock
- 2 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1/4 cup (60 millilitres) olive oil, to serve
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 6 anchovy fillets, drained, finely chopped
- 3 clove garlic, crushed
- 1 1/2 cup (105 grams) stale breadcrumbs
- 1 tablespoon finely grated lemon rind
- 1/3 cup finely chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley
- 1/2 cup (40 grams) finely grated romano cheese

Method

1 Remove and discard tough outer leaves from artichokes. Trim stems so artichoke bases sit flat. Using a small teaspoon, remove and discard hairy chokes from centre of artichokes; rinse artichokes under cold water.

2 Pack artichokes tightly, upside down, into 4.5L (18-cup) slow cooker; pour in the water, stock and juice. Cook, covered, on low, 8 hours.

3 Make garlic anchovy crumbs just before serving.

4 Remove artichokes with slotted spoon; drain well. Serve artichokes with olive oil and garlic anchovy crumbs for dipping.

Garlic anchovy crumbs

5 In large frying pan, heat oil; cook anchovy and garlic, stirring, until anchovy softens. Add breadcrumbs and rind; cook, stirring, until crumbs are browned lightly and crisp. Transfer to medium bowl; cool. Stir in parsley and cheese; season to taste.

120 YEARS OF THE MALTA FA

BY Kevin Azzopardi

The Malta Football Association is 120 years old. The officially recognised year of birth of the Malta FA is 1900, with Major William Henry Russel Prewer becoming the first president of the association in 1909.

The 120th anniversary of the Malta FA is an occasion to cherish and relive those moments, those epic matches and unforgettable events throughout this long and emotional journey of a footballing nation. "This is a prestigious anniversary for the Malta FA, which is one of the oldest football associations in the world," said Malta FA president Bjorn Vassallo. "We are naturally very proud of this.

e are commemorating this anniversary during unprecedented times owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, which has impeded us from celebrating this occasion with football enthusiasts and friends.

Nevertheless, it's important for our association to commemorate this 120-year journey of a footballing nation, with its highs and lows, and celebrate the efforts of all those who have contributed to the development of Maltese football."

The Malta national team line up for their first official match, against Austria in 1957.

Celebrations kicked off with the unveiling of the 120th anniversary logo during a special online event broadcast on the association's Facebook page and YouTube channel. Football stalwarts who have etched their names in the annals of Maltese football enlivened the discussion in the first part of the programme. The guests were Joe Cini, who was part of the Malta team that faced Austria in the country's first official international match, played on 24 February 1957, former Malta captains Raymond Vella and Gilbert Agius, Birkirkara FC forward Michael Mifsud, the country's most-capped player with over 140 A ppearances and a record tally of 41 goals for the national team, and Dorianne Theuma, who recently became the first female player to reach 100 appearances for the national team.

The discussion also featured the participation of Malta FA president Bjorn Vassallo, football journalists and former Malta FA president George Abela. Despite the unprecedented difficulties caused by the COVID-19 crisis, the Malta FA president struck an upbeat note.

"The 120th year of the Malta FA will certainly be remembered for the extraordinary challenges caused by the coronavirus," he said. "I'm very confident that Maltese football will overcome the current difficulties and make an opportunity out of it.

"The Maltese people have always shown courage and resilience in times of adversity, and as a nation we have always managed to come back stronger. We look forward to consolidating the association's footballing mission, as well as the social aspect, which is also at the heart of our work, in the months and years to come."

[Submitted by Anthony Grima – FOOTBALL, VICTORIA – Head of Commercial]

Report: Mario Micallef www.tvm.com.mt

The pandemic effect on tourist arrivals has left an impact on the tourism industry with figures from the National Office for Statistics showing a clearer picture.

In August the number of arrivals was that of 114,458 persons, a reduction of 66.2% when compared to the same month last year.

During the first eight months of this year, tourist arrivals decreased by one million, three hundred and fifteen thousand, that is, by 71% over the same period the previous year. The larger part of arrivals were from the United Kingdom, followed by Italy, France and Germany.

Consequently the sharp decrease of arrivals is reflected in the money they spent. NSO figures show that tourist spending between January and August was that of €353 million, a decrease of €1.1 million over the previous year

Malta Cricket Association

(Left) Player of the series, Heinrich Gericke, receiving his national team cap from team captain, Samuel Aquilina, before his first match vs Bulgaria.
Heinrich went on to score a total of 236 runs at an avg. of 59.00, a strike rate of 178.79. Incl. 23 *4's, 10 *6's. Also proving a useful bowler taking 2/15 in 2 overs
(Right) The Ronnie Sacco Memorial Trophy. 4 x T20's in honour and memory of a true Maltese cricketing legend!
Malta Cricket Association is the official governing body which is responsible for the sustainable development of cricket in Malta. "One game - One family" " logħba waħda - familja waħda"
https://www.facebook.com/maltacricketassociation/

KULHADD IHOBBU - GORG 'TAL-MUSEW'

Gorg Agius twieled fis-sena 1926 ,minn Pawlu u Marija, it-tieni wiehed minn disa' ahwa,il-Qala, Ghawdex. Ma damx wisq hemm ghax il-familja tieghu nizlu joqoghdu l-Birgu fejn ghadda hajtu kollha. Naturalment biex isibu xoghol. Bhalissa qieghed irtirat f'San Vincenz De Paol, l-Imgieret, vicin Hal Luqa.

Il-familja tieghu ghamlu xi zmien jghixu qrib il-kunvent ta' Santa Liberata tall-Kapuccini ,l-Kalkara. Niftakar li dak iz-zmien dawk l-inhawi kien kollu raba. Ghalhekk Gorg ghamell-ewwel tqarbina f'Santa Liberata. Propju Gorg u l-famija dahlu jghixu go dar fejn konna noqoghdu il-familja tieghi fi triq San Filippu.

Meta Gorg kellu 10 snin missieru Pawlu dahal jahdem it-Tarzna bhal bicca l-kbira tan-nies tall-Kottonera. Il-kbir fost is-subien Gorg spicca ibiegh il-haxix. Hajjiet Gorg rat l-iskola tghib hesrem u baqa' ma tghallimx jikteb u jaqra. Minflok dahlet il-hmara xi haga rari il-Birgu, ibiegh il-haxix biex jghin il-familja tkampa. Kellu frajgatina zghira libiha kien johrog biex jaghdos ghal-gandoffli halli jghin lil familja.

Kont nafu ragel ta' sahha. Gieli iddendilt ma jdejh ma tfal ohra u kien joghllina f'daqqa qiesu mhux hu! Fi zmien il-gwerra kien haffer xi shelters ukoll. Ta' sbatax il-sena nqabad bil-leva suldat izda ma damx wisq ghax hallewh jahden ix-xatt li dak iz-zmien kien importanti hafna fejn dam 44 sena jahdem hemm.

Min meta kien zaghzugh, niftakar lil Gorg jitkellem fuq il-qaddisin u mhux fuq affarijiet ohra. Ghandi mpressjoni li kien jipprova jimitahom. Ic-cimiterju ta' San Lawrenz kien abbandunat ghall-kollox. Gorg naddfu u kien hemm kamra ma nafx jekk kienx bniha hu mimijla santi tall-mejtin imdendlin mal-hajt. Gieli mort hemm u l-kamra s-santi u Gorg kienu jimpressjonawni hafna. Mall-kamra kellu xeblieka dik tal-ward zghir abjad li jien kont nitghaxxaq biha u Gorg jiggustani nhares lejha.

Sa min zghozitu Gorg kien jaghti ezempju tajjeb u jitkellem fuq affarijiet tal-fidi u n-nies tajba. Ix-xatt tal-Marsa kien jigbor il-haddiema u l-pulizija u jghidilhom Ejja nghidu tat-tmienja l-ahwa" meta xi hadd ser ser jizbalja Gorg malajr kien jghid xi cajta biex iwaqqafhom. Kien iheggighom biex immorru l-quddies. Gieli kien ikun hemm xi hadd jiddiehaq bih izda Gorg kien iwieghgeb lura b'dak it-talent sublimi u poetiku tieghu. K emm il-darba inzertajt inkun fuq il-karrozza tal-linja u Gorg jghidilna "Ejjew l-ahwa halli nghidu Ave Maria" u jghid xi haga fuq il-Madonna. Kullhadd kien jieqaf u jitolbu u jisimghu lil Gorg. Jien kien jikkunslani nitkellem u nimxi mieghu.

Gorg kien imur jara l-morda l-isptar San Luqa qabel x-xoghol filghodu u meta jispicca mix-xoghol filghaxija. Anki meta spicca bill-krozzi. Min jaf kemm ikkonsla morda u l-familji taghhom. Il-festa ta' San Lawrenz kien ihobbha erhilu jiltaq' man-nies u jabillhomil xi poesija. Meta jkellmek kien jaghmlu bit-tqabbilint min int. Sar maghruf bhala l-Ghannej tal-Mulej. Dan kien don kbir li Alla zejnu bih. Spirtu pront u dejjem biex jaghti xi taghlima. Meta kont nigi mill-Peru kont immur infitxu u jqabbilli u jaghtin xi slips bit-tqabbil tieghu li kienu jiktbulu. Darba taghni mit-lira ghall-orfanatrofju li kont bdejt hemm minghajr turija ta' xejn. Kemm kien jghid kliem ta' farag.

Gorg kien imur ma' tax-Xirka f'xi parrocci u erhilu jdur il-kazini , hwienet tax-xorb u postijiet ohra biex jghid kemm hu ikreh d-dagha b'dik iis-solitu tjubija tieghu, minghajr ma jcanfar lil hadd u kemm hu sabieh li nfahhru l'Alla u lil Madonna.

Killhadd kien ihobbu ghat-tjubija tieghu. Nghid ghalija nqiesu bhala bniedem qaddis. Gieli ghidt lil arcipriet u xi kanonci tall-Birgu biex jiehdu hsieb jiktbulho hajtu ghax probabbli ghad jigu bzonnha. Bniedem umli u ta' fidi kbira li zergha hafna gid mall-kull tip ta' nies.

Ghalkemm lil Gorg jghidulu tal-Muzew izda ma kienx tall-Muzew, imma membru kooperatur. Pero kellu ammirazzjoni kbira lejn Dun Gorg Preca u kien imur jisimghu jippriedka. Kien jerfa' lil Dun Gorg ghax kien b'sahhtu ma xi ragel iehor biex jitla' jaghti xi tahdita biex ipogguh fuq platform quddiem mejda u Gorg zgur ku kien ihossu onorat li kien qed jerfa' qaddis.

Nispicca b'wahda mill-hafna li kien jghidli sa anki meta mort narah f'San Vincenz.

Mal-Papa Frangisku, Jaqblilna nirsistu.
Ma l-Arcisqof Scicluna Nohotgu l-kuruna U biex tirbah il-kuntrarju Uza dejjem ir-Ruzarju.

Patri Manuel Adami

One of our aircraft is missing.

EXECUTED FOR ESPIONAGE

The sentence of death by hanging, passed on Carmelo Borg Pisani on charges of treason and espionage, was carried out at the execution cell of the Civil Prison, Kordin, yesterday morning at 7.30 o'clock.

This was the first case of a Maltese being executed for treason since the British flag was hoisted over these Islands.

There is a public demand that retributive justice shall overtake the arch-traitor Carlo Mallia, now a Fascist Senator, an instigator of the conspiracy in connexion with which Borg Pisani was landed in Malta with treasonable intent. This would be the logical consequence of the nation's demand for justice against those who would have betrayed their native land.

Carmelo Borg Pisani executed, Times of Malta 29 Nov 1942

Carmelo Borg Pisani (Aug 1915–Nove 1942) was a Maltese artist who considered himself to be Italian. Politically he was a Pro-Italian fascist. He was born in Senglea (Malta) and executed at Corradino prison in Malta for fighting for the Axis Powers as an Italian soldier.

The Italian government considers him an "Italian citizen", having received the highest Italian military medal ("Medaglia d'oro al Valor Militare alla memoria") from the King of Italy Victor Emmanuel III.

This e-Newsletter is published weekly in Adelaide, Australia

and distributed free of charge to readers in Malta, Gozo and all over the world.

This Journal collects and collates information from different sources and each article belongs to the relevant writer.

Hear-No, See-No, Speak-No Evil

We are proud of our Maltese Achievers

Promoting the Maltese culture, history and heritage