



The Voice of the Maltese

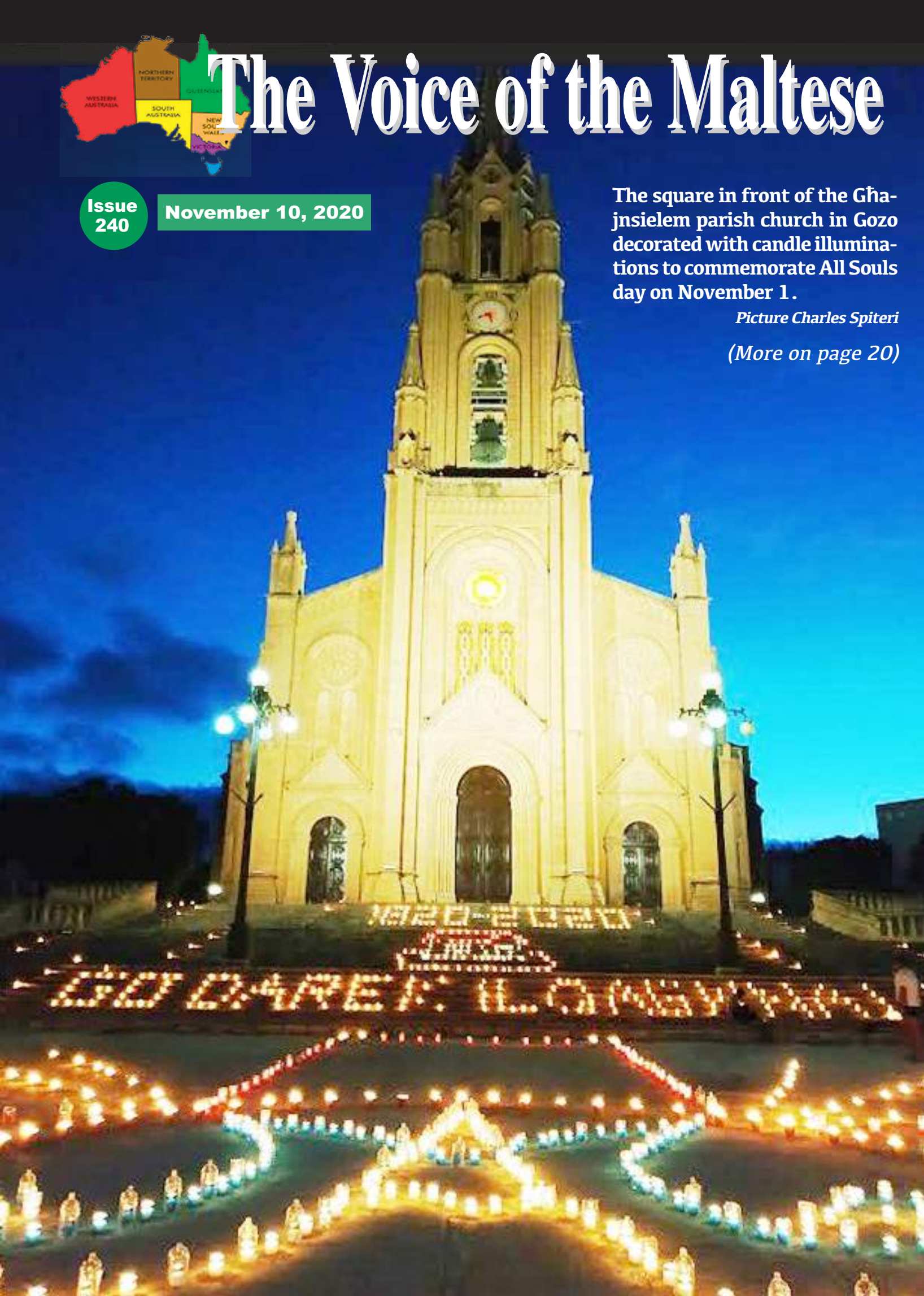
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240

November 10, 2020

The square in front of the Għajnsielem parish church in Gozo decorated with candle illuminations to commemorate All Souls day on November 1.

Picture Charles Spiteri

(More on page 20)



Waqt il-pandemija, laqgħa storika fiċ-ċentru La Valette ta' Blacktown

Kienet laqgħa ġenerali differenti mis-soltu, jekk mhux ukoll storika meta f'nofs il-pandemija COVID-19, iċ-ċentru Malti La Valette fi Blacktown NSW kellhom il-kuraġġ u d-determinazzjoni li xorta jorganizzaw il-laqgħa ġenerali annwali. Inghatat attenzjoni għall-implimentazzjoni tar-regolamenti tal-Awtoritajiet tas-Saħħa dwar is-sigurtà, u ta' dan, taċ-ċentru haqqhom proposit.

L-attenzenza ta' madwar tmenin persuna, fil-maggoranza tagħhom anzjani, fi żmienijiet diffiċli bħal dawn, uriet kemm għad hemm interess f'dan iċ-ċentru Malti. Il-laqgħa ma kelliex is-solita stennija għax fl-elezzjonijiet ewlenin ma kienx hemm kontestazzjoni.

Fir-rapporti li nqaraw issemmev it-tentattivi li saru biex il-kwestjoni reliġjuża tigi solvuta iżda l-komunità ta' dawn l-inħawi għadhom mingħajr is-sacerdot Malti. Intqal ukoll li iċ-ċentru dam magħluq kważi tliet xhur minhabba l-pandemija, u dan ikka għana nuqqas ta' kummerċ tant li d-dhul naqas kważi bin-nofs, iżda dan iċ-ċentru għad għandu bażi finanzjarja soda biex kapaċi jiffaċċja kull diffikultà.

Iċ-ċentru reġa' fetaħ f'Lulju għalkemm b'xi restruzzjonijiet, imma kemm il-logħob tal-boċċi, tombola u anke r-respite



services issoktaw. Il-kċina, li issa hija mmexxija minn kok professjonali wkoll għadha tiffunzjona u saret popolari hafna mal-membri.

Kien hemm bidla sostanzjali fil-kumitat, fosthom li Antoinette Caruana, l-ewwel mara President taċ-ċentru għal dawn l-aħħar erba' snin tant diffiċli, iddeċidiet li ma tkomplix f'din il-kariga. Minflokha gie

Il-Kumitat Eżekuttiv taċ-Ċentru, La Valette. Mix-xellug: Francis Fitzpatrick, Antoine Mangion u Godfrey Sultana

maħtur Godfrey Sultana, filwaqt li Antoinette inħatret bħala viċi president.

Inbidlet ukoll is-segretarja, bi Francis Fitzgerald, li kien ilha tokkupa din il-kariga għal 14-il sena, issa nħatret bħala kaxxiera, biex bħala segretarju issa daħal għall-impenn Antoine Mangion li bħala assistent tiegħu għandu lill-ommu, Antoinette Mangion.

Joe Abela u Jim Zammit gew maħtura unanimament bħala msieħba taċ-ċentru għal għomorhom (*life members*).

Ir-returning officer fil-laqgħa ġenerali kien George Vella.

Il-kumitat għall-kumplement ta' din is-sena u l-2021 issa huwa fformat minn:

President: Godfrey Sultana; Vici President: Antoinette Caruana; Segretarju: Antoine Mangion; Asst. Segretarju: Antoinette Mangion; Kaxxier: Francis Fitzpatrick. Membri: Joe Abela, Anġlu Borg, Ivan Cauchi, Joyce Micallef, Michael Spiteri, u Jimmy Zammit.

Nota: Eddie Busuttill ma reġax hareġ għall-kumitat, filwaqt li Ivan Cauchi li kien kaxxier, ma reġax ikkontesta għall-kariga imma żamm postu bħala membru fil-kumitat.



Joe Abela (xellug), u Jim Zammit li gew maħtura bħala membri għal għomorhom

Dehra tas-sala waqt il-laqgħa ġenerali fejn gie osservat is-social distancing



Q. I am 78 years of age and am in the process of reviewing my Will. I have four adult children but I am mainly looked after by my eldest daughter who is financially not very comfortable. The other three live further away and mainly keep in contact with me by phone. Am I able to leave the bulk of my estate to my eldest daughter or will this cause conflict?

A. I think you should ask the advice of your solicitor, as he/she would be in a better position to answer you. However, you may consider helping your daughter now while you are still alive as you can do whatever you want with your money. You may also mention your plans to your other children and see how they feel about it. This should hopefully avoid conflicts in the future.

Q. My father is 73 years old and needs to move into aged care as he has severe dementia and because I work, I cannot provide him with full time care. I am single and have been living in the family home all my life. We will need to pay a Refundable Accommodation Deposit (RAD) to the aged care facility. My father has very little money being a pensioner. If we need to sell the house to pay the RAD, I will have to start renting. Can you help?

A. As the family home has been your home all your life, and as you have been your father's carer, the house will not be treated as an asset when Centrelink assesses your father's assets and therefore you will not have to sell your home at all. If your father cannot afford to pay the RAD, he can apply for subsidy by the government and he will be able to move into

the facility and the government will cover his ongoing costs. He will probably only have to pay the Basic Daily Fee which is 85% of the pension.

Q. I am 66 years old and still working. I have just received an inheritance of \$300,000 from my sister's estate. I have a very small super fund and would like to invest this money into super to build it up. Am I able to do this?

A. You are able to make a non-concessional contribution of \$100,000, as you are over 65 years of age. If you continue to work or if you at least work 40 hours every year in a period of 30 days, you will be able to invest \$100,000 in super every year up to the age of 75. This year however you are only able to make a contribution of \$100,000 into your super fund.

Q. My mother is going to move in with us. She is now 82 and although quite healthy, we feel she should not be living on her own any more. She may at some future date sell her home or rent it out. Will she lose her age pension as this is

This is a monthly service offered by The Voice of the Maltese in which Marie Louise Muscat from the Fiducian Financial Services helps our readers understand the complexities associated with financial planning. If you need more advice send an email to Marie Louise via: maltesevoice@gmail.com.



her main concern?

A. If your mother moves out of her home and leaves it empty, it will not be treated as an asset for the first two years. It will still remain her residential home while giving her the opportunity to see whether she can settle in comfortably with you. If she is uncomfortable living with you, she will be able to move back into her home.

However, if she rents out her property, this will immediately become an investment property. It will be treated as an asset by Centrelink and also a good portion of the rent will be treated as income. If the house is quite an expensive property, she would most probably lose the pension completely. You should visit a financial planner who, after assessing your situation, would be able to calculate this for you.

Q. My sister passed away three months ago. She looked after her husband who is only in his 60s but had suffered a stroke a couple of years ago. He has no siblings and does not wish to move in with any of us as he feels he can manage. I have been, however, visiting him daily and doing chores around the house, cooking main meals for him and taking him to doctors and shopping. Do you think I qualify for a carer's allowance as some friends encouraged me to apply for it?

A. I think you most certainly should try and apply for this allowance. If you stopped doing what you are doing for him, he would probably have to move into care. You should visit an FIS officer at Centrelink and he/she will assess your situation and help you fill in the form for the carer's allowance.

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The Cathedral Square at Mdina

Mdina a **jewel** in an even bigger **JEWEL** in the Mediterranean

Malta's former capital, Mdina is described as "a Maltese Jewel" by petitfute.co.uk, the UK travel website that also chose it as one of the Most Beautiful Villages in Europe. It also mentioned the what the Maltese like to describe as The Silent City, was also used as the setting for King's Landing in Games of Thrones TV series

The website argued that it is understandable why, since this small town, whose architecture has remained unchanged since its reconstruction in 1693, is of unparalleled beauty.

It stated that the white stone of the buildings dazzles visitors on summer days, and all around the town vineyards produce good wine.

A former capital of Malta, Mdina enjoys a rich past that can be discovered in its alleys, especially thanks to the many tourist attractions such as "Medieval Times" or "The knights of Malta".

In another article titled, 'The late season in Malta: an ideal time to enjoy the riches of the archipelago', the same website also described Malta itself as "a real jewel in the middle of the Mediterranean, an archipelago that combines a rich historical heritage with exceptional natural beauty."

It went on to say that a visit to Malta in October-November is an opportunity to enjoy a quieter atmosphere, while enjoying weather conditions that are ideal for long walks outside and swimming.

It went on to describe the island as a baroque pearl and that, "Here and there in the archipelago, there are a large number of monuments that are the sweet heritage of this period."

The website also gives an overview of Malta's capital, Valletta, saying that a tour in Malta inevitably leads visitors to the heart of the capital, and that while strolling through its streets and alleys, one should not miss the opportunity to visit its main historical monuments starting with the co-cathedral of St. John, a masterpiece of Baroque art and a breathtaking interior with its vault covered with frescoes representing the life of Saint John the Baptist.

The Palace of the Grand Masters and the beauty of its interior courtyards with statues and fountains is also highlighted. So too Casa Rocca Piccola, part of whose dwelling is accessible to visitors, that allows one to discover the history and culture of a Maltese aristocratic family, with a large number of everyday objects from past centuries.

Another interesting visit should be the Teatru Manoel "to admire a sublime golden baroque hall overhung by an impressive chandelier.

Also worth visiting are, Fort Saint-Elmo and its National War Museum, the National Museum of Fine Arts - MUŻA, to see paintings, sculptures, furniture and objects associated with the Knights and the National Museum of Archaeology.

A message of hope from Fr Rob Galea

In a message to his followers, Fr Rob Galea a Maltese-Australian Roman Catholic priest, who is currently serving in Sandhurst Diocese, Victoria after moving to Australia from Malta, said that while hoping that they have been well over the last few weeks, which have not been easy, he believes that God has continued to reach out to them.

Fr Rob, a singer and songwriter with an international fan base, is also the founder and director of FRG Ministry, a not-for-profit Catholic organisation whose main purpose is that of bringing the love of Jesus and His message of hope to people of all ages.

The Ministry team visits secondary schools around Australia and internationally to share the Good News in a relevant and meaningful way.

Fr Rob Galea and the team offer day workshops suitable for schools. Fr Rob travels with a full band, made up of VIT qualified teachers and professional musicians who also specialise in performance, testimony and worship. They have toured with him nationally and internationally and also passionately support the work of the Church, especially in seeing young people growing in their walk with God.

He says that as an FRG Ministry team, they are committed to praying for one's needs. They are issuing an invitation for anyone needing them to pray for them to let them know how they can pray for them.



He said that during their online Mass he would like to pray for one's specific needs. "Let us know your needs and our FRG Ministry team and I will intercede for you," Fr Rob said.

A new podcast

In the meantime during October a new podcast was released. In fact, two podcasts are being released each week: one to prepare one for the upcoming Sunday Gospel readings, and the other is his preached homilies. They can be checked by visiting this link:

https://www.frgministry.com/podcast?ss_source=sscampaigns&ss_email_id=5f9b6968ca0b2a14ccb2e98b.

Apart from a series of recordings and CD releases, Fr Rob has also written a number of songs for various campaigns and international conferences. His latest single, 3 AM has received over 50,000 views in the week of its release. It is now also a hit the Australian Christian radio charts.

The song, is about the struggle Fr Rob faced last year of serving the Lord, but not making enough time just to BE with Him. It can be heard and downloaded on this link:

https://www.frgministry.com/3am?ss_source=sscampaigns&ss_email_id=5f9b6968ca0b2a14ccb2e98b.



President George Vella with the winners of the Malta Business Woman Awards and the organisers of the event

Women occupy 46% of top positions in the public sector

The President of Malta George Vella described as very encouraging the fact that the number of women occupying top positions in the public sector in Malta currently stands at 46 per cent – a figure that doubled in the past seven years – as very encouraging, the President of Malta George Vella. He hoped that this would set an example and that the private sector would also aspire to reach these targets.

Addressing this year's Malta Businesswoman of the Year Awards' ceremony, the President augured that more companies would introduce family-friendly measures and life-long learning schemes that promote gender balance and equal opportunities.

The President said that the Awards' that were launched in 2018 with the aim of recognising women and their role in the business world, serve as an excellent opportunity to recognise women's determination to break free from socio-cultural expectations and gender ascribed roles and instead embark on an entrepreneurial journey and progress to the top positions in the company they work at.

Caroline Buhagiar Klass, Head of Human Resource and Corporate Sustainability at HSBC Malta said that this year's nominees showed that the Maltese community is rich in success stories of women and hoped that more women would be inspired by the awardees of this ceremony.

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Għaliex Novembru magħruf l-aktar bħala x-Xahar tal-Erwieh

Joseph Cutajar

Fil-kalendarju liturgiku x-xahar li ninsabu fih, dak ta' Novembru huwa ddedikat kollu kemm hu għall-mejtin. Tant li nsibuh bħala *ix-Xahar tal-Mejtin*. It-tifkiriet ewlenin ta' dawk li hallewna għad-dinja l-oħra jsiru fil-bidu tax-xahar. Hekk insibu, l-1 ta' Novembru bħala *l-Jum tal-Qaddisin Kollha*, li fih jingħata gieh lill-qaddisin, filwaqt li t-2 ta' Novembru huwa magħruf bħala *Jum Erwieh* fejn nitolbu għall-mejtin tagħna.

Veru li digá għaddejnihom imma ta' min jagħti xi tagħrif dwar dawn il-jumejn in-separabli u li ġieli anke jhawwdu lil xi whud. Aktar ta' taħwid il-fatt li fl-istess jiemi dahlet ukoll l-okkażjoni tal-Halloween, festa li hafna jqisuha bħala wahda "pagana" u li ttellef xi ftit is-sinifikat veru ta' dak li għandna tassew infakkru.

Għalkemm din tal-Halloween, imbuttata minn nies li jharsu lejha bħala okkażjoni li fiha jistgħu jagħmlu, kif ngħidu aħna l-Maltin, "xi sold", grazzi għall-imbuttatura li jtuha wkoll xi xandara u l-mezzi tal-midja, jibqa' l-fatt li d-dominanza tradizzjonali għadha tal-mejtin, anke jekk ċerti funzjonijiet fil-knejjes spiċċaw.

Forsi l-aktar bidla li hafna jhossu hi dik li fit-2 ta' Novembru, *Jum l-Erwieh*, inkella *l-Għid tal-Imwiet* l-insara konna nisimgħu tliet quddisiet li kien jiċċelebra wahda wara l-oħra l-istess qassis, u noffruhom għar-refugju tal-midinbin. Ma nafx ir-raġuni vera għaliex jidher li din kullimkien inqatet minn hafna mill-parroċċi.

Mhux biss, imma tant il-hajja saret mgħagġla li rari għadek issib nies li jismgħu quddies ta' kull jum, speċjalment filgħodu. Generalment dawk li ssib fil-knejjes għalihom ikunu anzjani li baqgħu

marbuta mat-tra-dizzjoni u jhossu li għandhom jib-dew il-ġurnata appuntu bil-quddies.

Fid-dinja kollha, f'kull kultura u poplu hemm l-biżà tal-mewt u tal-mejtin. Meta konna żgħar kienu jgħallmuna – twemmin li għadu sal-lum - li l-quddies għandha mertu kbir u ma ssibx familja nisranija f'Malta li kull sena ma thallasx biex kemm jista' jkun, fl-istess jum li jkun qed jfakkru l-mewt tal-gheżież tagħhom, tiġi ċċelebrata quddies għal ruhhom.

Hafna jemmnu li hu importanti li l-hajjin jgħinu lill-mejtin jevitaw il-Purgatorju billi jitolbu għalihom, u li l-aktar mod effikaci hu l-quddies. Allura l-Knisja ippruvat theg-geġ id-drawwa billi twaqqaf jum speċifiku, *Jum l-Erwieh* halli jsir dan.

Hemm ukoll id-drawwa li fil-*Jum tal-Erwieh* il-knejjes idoqu moti kiebja, filwaqt li t-tiżjin tal-knisja f'dawn iż-żmienijiet ikun bi drapp iswed. Wara l-quddies hafna mill-fidili kienu jerhula lejn iċ-ċimeterju tar-rahal jew belt tagħhom u jmorru jitolbu fuq l-oqbra ta' qrabathom jew il-hbieb u jpoġġu l-fjuri, xemgħat u wkoll ritratti tal-mejtin midfuna f'dak il-qabar. Hafna għadhom jagħmlu sal-lum, l-aktar fuq l-oqbra tal-ġenituri tagħhom mejtin.

Għad ukoll hawn id-drawwa li filgħaxija fil-jum iddedikat lill-mejtin il-kappillani jorganizzaw purċisjoni żgħira mill-knisja saċ-ċimeterju biex ibierku l-oqbra.

F'Malta, dawk li għandhom qrabathom midfunin fiċ-ċimeterju tal-Addolorata, jagħmlu minn kollox biex għall-inqas, tul ix-xahar ta' Novembru jsibu hin li jżuru l-oqbra tagħhom hemmhekk. Hi xi haġa komuni speċjalment f'dan ix-xahar, li fid-dahla qabel il-kancell ewleni tal-Addolorata jkun hemm għadd ta' bejjiegha tal-fjuri li jkun qed jistennaw, dan ix-xahar l-aktar, biex ibieghu l-fjuri għal fuq l-oqbra.

U bħal f'kull okkażjoni ma jonqosx li fejn jidhol l-ikel, il-Maltin għandhom ukoll il-helu tradizzjonali għal dan ix-xahar, għaġina f'forma ta' għadam għall-helu magħruf bħala "l-għadam tal-mejtin" u jzejjnuh bil-ġelu generalment abjad.

Fi sħarriġ li għamilt sibt drawwa antika oħra f'Malta – li sinċerament ma kontx naf biha – hi, li f'*Jum l-Erwieh* l-ikla ta' filgħaxija kienet tinkludi majjal il-forn, ibba-żat fuq drawwa li hanżir kien jithalla jimraħ fit-triqat b'qanpiena mdendla m'għonqu biex minn fejn jgħaddi, n-nies jitimghu



qabel jissajjar u jqassmuh lill-foqra.

Jingħad li l-Knisja stabbiliet ix-xahar ta' Novembru bħala dak tal-Mejtin fis-Seklu 10. Qabel, Jum l-Erwieh kien jiġi mfakkar f'dati oħra matul l-Għid, fosthom sezzjoni tal-Knejjes Orotodossi u l-Bizantini. Xi reliġjonijiet oħra jfakkru l-mejtin il-Gimgha ta' qabel ir-Randan.

Fis-Seklu sitta l-patrijiet Benedittini kellhom id-drawwa li fil-Pentekoste fil-kun-venti tagħhom kienu jagħmlu funzjoni li fiha jfakkru lil shabhom, speċjalment lil dawk li jkun mietu matul is-sena.

Fi żmien San Isidoru ta' Seville (d.636) li ghex f'dik li llum hi Spanja, it-Tnejn wara l-Pentekoste kien ikun iddedikat bħala l-jum li fih ifakkru l-mejtin. Imbagħad fis-Seklu disgħa l-Abbati Eigil ta' Fulda iffissa s-17 ta' Diċembru l-jum li fih jifakkru l-mejtin f'dik li llum hi l-Germanja.

Skont persunaġġ ieħor, magħruf bħala Widukind ta' Corvey (c.975) fis-Sassonia, digá kienet teżisti ċerimonja li fl-1 ta' Ottubru biex isir talb għall-mejtin, imma fis-Seklu hdx, San Odilo ta' Cluny iddeċieda li kull sena, fil-jum ta' wara l-Jum tal-Qaddisin Kollha, l-monasteri ta' Cluny kellhom jibdwef i fakkru l-mejtin billi jgħinu lill-foqra, u jsir talb u sagrifċi b'sufragju għal dawk l-erwieh li kienu fil-Purgatorju.

Odilo kien iddikjara li dawk li jitolbu li ssir xi quddies b'sufragju għall-mejtin, kellhom jagħmlu offerta lill-foqra u jsumu.

Id-data tat-2 ta' Novembru nterdet mill-monasteri Cluniaci għal oħrajn tal-Benedittini u ukoll mal-Knisja tal-Punent tal-Ewropa ingenerali. Imbagħad id-djoċesi ta' Liege fi Franza taht l-Isqof Notger (d.1008) saret l-ewwel djoċesi li bdiet tipprattika dan il-jum, segwita fis-Seklu 13 mill-Italja.

Zewġ sekli wara d-Dumnikani iddeċiedew dwar id-drawwa li f'*Jum l-Erwieh* kull saċerdot jibda jiċċelebra tliet quddisiet. Fl-ewwel gwerra dinjija, minhabba l-ammont kbir ta' mwiet u t-tifrik ta' knejjes li għalhekk ma kienx setax isir quddies, il-Papa Benedittu XV ta permess lis-saċerdoti li setgħu jibdwef iqaddsu tliet quddisiet.

Din id-drawwa għadha permessa sal-lum, anke jekk għal xi żmien uħud bdew iqaddsu biss tnejn, imma mhux kulhadd għadu jsegwiha.

Iċ-ċimeterju tal-Addolorata



Renewable Energies: Malta's location, a little-used energy advantage

A European Union directive binds Malta to produce 10% of its final energy production from Renewable Energy Sources (RES) by 2020. This is also part of the EU's climate neutrality ambition by 2050 as indicated in the European Green Deal released in January this year.

Within the EU, 75 % of greenhouse gas emissions come from the energy sector. The burning of oil in the power stations to produce energy emits carbon dioxide in the atmosphere that increases the greenhouse effect.

While the production of energy most often comes from natural gas, oil, or diesel, the use of Renewable Energy Sources can help reduce a country's carbon footprint.

Already in 2009, the European Commission released a Renewable energy directive that established a requirement for the EU to produce by 2020 at least 20% of its energy with renewable energy. Although the target of 10 % seems really high for Malta, its location is actually an asset to rely more on renewable energies.

Malta has a high rate of energy dependence since the country does not have domestic fossil fuel resources, such as coal, oil, or natural resources.

In April 2015, the Malta-Italy interconnector was inaugurated so that Malta could face its internal electricity demand. Consequently, Malta's energy supply is based on imports on electricity and fossil fuel, so that the country can meet the energy needs of its residents and businesses.

In order to make Malta carbon neutral, the country must focus on the development of alternative energy sources. Among other things this will allow Malta to reduce its energy dependence on imports, and also help the country meet environmental and energetic targets set by the EU.

Malta is an archipelago situated in the Mediterranean Sea, in which the islands generally use diesel generators to produce electrical power. Malta is no exception, but its climatic characteristics represent assets for the production of renewable energy.

The climate in Malta is Mediterranean, with hot and dry summers, and mild winters. Malta is also known for the wind that often sweeps its coasts and land. According to the EU, given its location and climate, Malta has indeed a high potential regarding renewable energy.

First of all, Malta has a high potential re-

garding solar energy. Indeed, sunshine is not what is missing in Malta. It has a high amount of sunshine hours during the year, with around 3000 hours per year.

This is one of the highest sunshine rates in Europe, compared to Berlin for example in Germany which has approximately 1660 hours of sunshine during the year. Thus, solar energy is the renewable energy most used in Malta, but this resource has remained under-exploited over the last decade.

In 2015, 1,7% of Malta's energy production came from photovoltaic panels, and its target for the end of the year 2020 is 4,7%.

If the exploitation of this resource can seem easy thanks to the annual duration of sunshine, the installation of solar panels is still being debated because of its impact

installations were expected to produce nearly half of the renewable energy production target by 2020.

But over the years, the government's vision has shifted to a focus on solar energy. A project of building a major offshore wind farm at Sikka l-Bajda has been turned down after the failure to obtain a building permit. From that moment on, the Maltese government did not realize any project regarding any potential offshore wind farm. If the production of energy through wind power remains low in Malta, its capacity stays the same. If the government decided not to invest in that resource, this can always be a fall-back solution in case of non-achievement of the targets announced by the EU.

Furthermore, Malta has another natural resource that is not exploited at all and that can turn into a renewable energy source. The island has 140 km of coastline, the sea surrounding the 316 square kilometres of land. The sea wave energy happens to be a source of renewable energy, using the energy released by the wave to produce energy.

The strategic location to install a wave energy converter would be on the western coast of Malta, because the waves come mainly from the north-west.

The wave power is weaker in the Mediterranean Sea than in the Northern countries because of the enclosure of the area by mountains, weakening the force of the wind. But this may in fact turn out to be an advantage.

The offshore wave energy converters will need to be under a lower risk of failure due to the power of the waves. This energy source is not being used in Malta but can represent a way to help it become more energy-dependent and to meet the environmental and energetic targets set by the EU.

Thus, Malta has several sources of renewable energy at its disposal, several of which remain little or not at all exploited. We will see by the beginning of next year if Malta succeeded to reach the targets imputed by the EU by focusing almost only on solar energy. If not, it has other resources left over to move towards and meet the environmental and energetic targets set for the following years.

This article was written by Clémence Pille who is currently pursuing an internship with Friends of the Earth (FoE) Malta.



First-ever solar farm at Bengħajsa covering over 29,000m² of land and producing a total of 2,400kW of energy

on the landscapes, its price, and the place it takes. That is why in 2017 a solar farm policy was launched, setting guidelines for the location, design, and mitigation measures of the installation.

As Malta is a small island of 316 square kilometres, the solar farm policy encourages the installation of solar farms on deserted sites, like brownfield sites or former rubbish dumps. The policy also calls for using car parks, as well as industrial areas, to install large-scale PV rooftops.

In addition to this possibility of installing larger areas of solar panels, the government also granted discounts on electricity tariffs for families that invested in solar panels. Thus, solar energy is an abundant resource, with the sun shining almost every day, so this resource is called upon to help the country moving towards the targets set at the EU scale.

Secondly, according to the EU, Malta also has a strong potential for wind energy production. In 2010, after the EU target of 10% of renewable energy was announced, the Maltese government's plan focused on offshore and onshore wind farms. These

Have your say/Xi trid tgħid?



The Voice of the Maltese

fortnightly magazine

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

The magazine can be read in flip-book or PDF format online. A pdf copy is sent via email on request.

Hard copy subscription is also available at a cost.

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Letters for publication in *The Voice* magazine, either in Maltese or English should include name, e-mail address and residence of the writer, and be e-mailed to: maltesevoice@gmail.com.



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Your letters/ L-ittri tagħkom ...

Dr Barry York's interesting articles

Paul Farrell from Perth writes:

Although I don't know much about him, I am a great fan of Dr Barry York and have been following his writings since discovering his work quite a number of years ago. His last contributions to *The Voice of the Maltese* were most interesting and I discussed them with friends. We were all so intrigued to learn about his findings resulting from his interviews with Maltese who were among the first to set foot on Australian soil.

I remember my *nannu* mentioning Joe Preave, the person mentioned in the second part of Dr York's article but I don't know anything about him other than that he lived in Mackay in Queensland, the same city that

my dad first lived before settling for a number of years in Molendinar where he met and married my mother, and then Port Vernon where he raised the family.

One of the reasons for using Facebook is, that by logging to *The Voice of the Maltese* page, I can read Dr Barry York's short articles that are full of useful information and can be very historical. I particularly loved his recent article about the look-back to the 1986 US election in which he also mentioned similarities with the Australian political scene.

I am sure that if he were to also publish these same articles in *The Voice* they would be most welcome by the readers.

He is so knowledgeable and interesting.

Ilbsu dawk il-maskri

Karm Borg minn Kellyville NSW jikteb:

Ilni mħasseb hafna nara Maltin anzjani jgħid li fis-shopping centres, ċentri, klabbijiet, u anke postijiet oħra mingħajr ma jkun li bsin il-maskra li tippoteġi kemm lilhom u wkoll lil haddiehor.

Forsi jaħsbu li huma b'saħħithom biżżejjed u l-COVID-19 ma tistax għalihom? Veru li imxijja tidher li kkalmat xi ffit, imma taħsbux li għosfrot għal kollox. Jagħmel x'jagħmel il-Gvern jekk ahna mhux se nobdu jkun kollu għal xejn. Mela ejja nilbsu l-maskli u nżommu d-distanza.

Congratulations for a job well done

Richard Cumbo from Toronto, Canada writes:

I hope you, your families and the many readers of *The Voice of the Maltese* are well and healthy. Just wanted to congratulate you on another excellent edition of your magazine, No. 239. Great Job!!!

Tifhir għal *The Voice* - ma nistax ngħid mod ieħor

Mario Griscti minn Ta' Xbiex, Malta jikteb:

Grazzi hafna tal-harga 239 ta' *The Voice of the Maltese*, li għoġbokom tibagħtuli. Nahseb li dejjaqtkom intenni, f'kull korrispondenza tiegħi, dwar kemm toghġobni kull harga tal-magazin u ngħid prosit u forsi kważi dejjem l-istess kliem. Madankollu ma nistax ngħid mod ieħor, daqs-kemm napprezzaha. Dan il-lehen tal-Maltin hu tassew turija ta' għaqda, saħħa u dinjità. Grazzi mill-qalb hbieb.

Where a Maltese resides is his Malta

Anita Meli from Altona Victoria writes:

I was pleased that the issue of Diaspora vs Greater Malta was raised in two recent issues of *The Voice of the Maltese*. Diaspora is derived from the Greek "dispersion". It mostly refers to the Jews in "exile" outside Palestine.

The words "Greater Malta" were mentioned and given attention and importance when former President of Malta Dr Censu Tabone visited Australia in 1993.

"Greater Malta" is more appropriate as we refer to all those that are Maltese all the time, Maltese in sunshine and in shade. Migration from Malta was never obligatory, it was necessary but never an "exile". I appeal to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Malta to stop referring to the diaspora but instead, to "The Greater Malta" as wherever there are Maltese we have a slice of Malta.



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Il-mużiċist Surmast Għawdxi l-Professur Joseph Vella



Sa mil-bidu tal-karriera tiegħu, segwejt bis-sħiħ l-iżvilupp mużikali kontinwu tas-Surmast Għawdxi, il-Professur Joseph Vella, li miet fi Frar tal-2018 fl-età ta' 76 sena. Ninsab persważ li l-magħmudija tiegħu fil-mużika, li żvolgiet f'diversi oqsma mużikali bdiet bil-kant. Kien jakkumpanja lill-nnifsu fuq il-panju fil-festivals tal-kanzunetti.

Joe, kif ħafna kienu jafuh, kien anke jikkomponi kanzunetti għal kantanti oħra. Is-Surmast Vella kien kbir fil-mużika kontemporanja Maltija. Il-mewt ħasditu waqt li kien għad fadallu ħafna x'joffri lill-arti mużikali.

Niftakar meta fil-bdu tas-snin sebgħin is-Surmast Joseph Vella kien issejjah fl-aħħar mumentu biex jidderiegi għall-ewwel darba l-orkestra tal-Manoel fil-pjazza ta' quddiem il-Katidral fl-Imdina, għall-Kunċert tal-Indipendenza.

Ftit qabel il-kunċert, is-Surmast Joseph Sammut kellu jidhol l-isptar u fl-aħħar mumentu s-surmast Għawdxi gie msejjah jidderiegi l-kunċert li fost oħrajn kien jinkludi s-Sinfonija Nru. 6 (is-Sinfonija Pastorali) ta' Beethoven.

Minkejja li kien riħ qawwi, bil-mużiċisti jsibuha diffiċli biex idu qqu għax beda tjaġirihom l-partituri, u l-vjolinisti (u strumenti tal-korda) bdew isibuha diffiċli li jikkontrollaw l-ark, l-eżekuzzjoni kienet suċċess u Joseph Vella ħareġ bl-unuri.

Niftakar meta l-għaqda tal-kompożituri u awturi Maltin il-UKAM organizzat kunċert fit-Teatru Manoel b'xogħolijiet ta' kompożituri Maltin. Kont fil-kumitat u nsistejt li l-UKAM ma tintrabatx biss mal-kanzunetti Maltin imma wkoll mal-mużika serja. Dakinhar il-kunċert bl-orkestra tal-Manoel fit-Teatru Nazjonali kienet esegwiet xogħol bikri ta' Joseph Vella, *Three Mood Pieces*. Il-kompożizzjoni nħogbot u donnu li dan kien il-bidu tal-entuzjażmu tiegħu fil-kompożizzjoni serja.

Joe kien għamel ukoll arrangament tal-kompożizzjoni għall-banda li ndaq-qet minn La Stella tar-Rabat Għawdex li magħha kien bena wkoll karriera bħala surmast direttur tagħha.

Kompla fejn ħalla missieru, Giovanni. Fil-qasam bandistik, joe bena wkoll karriera mal-Banda Konti Ruggeru tar-Rabat Malta li kien iqisha

bħala l-banda tal-lokal għax flimkien ma' familtu kien joqgħod fi Pjazza San Duminku fir-Rabat.

Vella tella' u idderiegi l-operetti ta' Johann Strauss, imtella' bis-sehem tal-istudenti ta' St. Michael's Training College bħala parti mit-taħriġ tagħhom ta' għalliema.

Joe kien ukoll għalliem fid-dipartiment tal-Edukazzjoni.



Carmina Burana

Fost id-diversi xogħlijiet mużikali li s-Surmast Vella introduċa f'pajjiżna hemm il-famuża *cantata* 'Carmina Burana' ta' Carl Orff. Ftit kienu dawki li semgħu b'din il-*cantata* qabel. Meta tkantat għall-ewwel darba f'pajjiżna, l-udjenza fit-teatru mtliet bl-entuzjażmu, tant li bdiet iċċapċap wara kull silta. Kellu jkun Joe stess li talab lill-udjenza biex jekk kellhom japplawdu, jagħmlu dan biss fl-aħħar.

Bis-saħħa ta' dan is-surmast saret popolari ħafna. It-tieni parti kienet ukoll ingħazlet bħala s-sigla tad-Dar tas-Soru, sensiela drammatika televiziva ta' Television Malta b'kitba ta' Francis Ebejer li ma falliex rappreżentazzjoni waħda tagħha.

Meta l-Mużew tal-Katidral tal-Imdina nfetħa għall-istudjużi u r-riċerkaturi, is-Surmast Vella kien jgħidli dwar is-sbuhija kbira tal-mużika antika li hemm f'dan il-mużew. Hu nnifsu ta xhieda ta' dan u esegwixxa xi xogħlijiet li l-origini tagħhom kienu appuntu fil-Mużew tal-Katidral.

Joseph Vella lahaq ukoll Kap tal-Iskola

tal-Mużika u kien tella' l-opra 'Cendrillon' ta' Nicolò Isouard, bil-participazzjoni tal-istudenti fil-Manoel.

Kien ukoll gie mitlub mill-Banda King's Own tal-Belt Valletta biex jikkomponi marċ għall-Festa ta' San Duminku. Kien għaddielhom il-partitura mil-lum għall-ghada. Missieru ħadha bi kbira għax deherlu li ibnu kellu jzomm il-partitura u jibqa' jirfinaha sal-aħħar. Mur għidlu lil Giovanni li dan il-marċ tas-Surmast Vella kien wiehed mill-isbaħ marċi tal-librett!

It-Teatru Astra

Joseph Vella kien ukoll beda fil-qasam tad-direzzjoni fl-opra jidderiegi r-*Rigoletto* ta' Giuseppe Verdi u l-*Barbiere di Siviglia* ta' Rossini għat-Teatru Astra tar-Rabat Għawdex. Kien-baqa' jidderiegi l-opri f'dan it-teatru tul il-kumpliment tal-karriera.

Huwa introduċa ħafna affarijiet oħra mużikali sbieħ għal Għawdex ... għax hemm kien iħossu f'daru. Wara kollox hu kien Għawdxi ta' San Gorg.

Għalkemm kien għadu mimli energija ta' zagħżuġ, is-Surmast Vella donnu kien qed iħoss li kien riesaq lejn it-tmiem tiegħu, tant li ftit sigħat biss qabel ma ħalliena, ħalla parti minnu - l-arkivju mużikali tiegħu - lill-Mużew Il-HAĠAR.

B'xorti tajba, ħafna mill-mużika tiegħu hija rreġistrata fuq CDs tasew professjonali, bil-mużika esegwita taht id-direzzjoni tiegħu stess.

Ikkompona minn kollox, ħlief l-opra. Is-Surmast Joseph Vella kien beda biex jesegwixxi din ix-xewqa tiegħu u sa kien lesta l-ewwel żewġ atti tagħha. Kien beda t-tielet att u kien għaddej fuqha kważi lejli u nhar jirreġistra l-ħsibijiet mużikali tiegħu fuq partitura għall-panju.

U x'taħsbu li kien is-sugġett? Għawdex, il-gżira li tant ħabb u fejn anke ndifen fil-qabar tal-familja.

Perspettiva

A version of this series in English may be found in the author's blog at:
<https://ivancauchi.blogspot.com>

kitba ta'
**IVAN
 CAUCHI**



Għall-erwieh!

Kont qiegħed naħseb kif nista' niddeskrivi x'qed inħoss waqt li kont qed nosserva l-proċess elettorali fl-Istati Uniti.

Qatt kontu f'sitwazzjoni, forsi waqt xi laqgħa twila, jew riċeviment, fejn thossu l-gisem jgħajjat mingħajr kliem li għandu bżonn pjuttost urġenti b'timbru numru tnejn, imma minħabba l-kirjanza jew l-importanza tal-mument tiddeċiedi li żżomm kollox ġewwa u biss titlob li l-avveniment jieqaf kemm jista' jkun malajr?

Ġieli għalkom li wara dan kollu, fl-aħħar jirnexxilek taħrab u ssib il-kamra l-baxxa, imbagħad haġa tal-iskantament issib li l-balla ma tridx toħroġ wara kollox, u thoss frustazzjoni liema bħalha?

Naħseb li din hija l-iktar metafora preċiża li nista' nsib, meta nħares lejn il-President tal-ikbar ekonomija tad-dinja, l-Istati Uniti tal-Amerika, Donald Trump, l-aġir, it-taħdit u l-attitudni tiegħu waqt din l-elezzjoni li mhix biss għal President, imma anke għal parti mis-Senat, il-Kungress kollu u gvernaturi f'xi stati.

Ilu snin iġerger kontra s-sistema fejn ċittadini Amerikani jistgħu jivvutaw bil-posta, u jallega li dan huwa miftuħ għall-frodi. Fil-fatt, huwa magħruf li każijiet ta' frodi saru fil-passat, imma l-ammont ta' frodi huwa insinifikanti, inqas minn 0.01% fl-elezzjonijiet tal-2016 u 2018.¹ Kif tista' tifhmu lil dan il-bniedem meta, iktar kmieni din is-sena huwa stess ivvota bil-posta?²

Huwa ċar li l-attakki tiegħu kontra l-ivvutar bil-posta, u l-messaġġi kontinwi li l-problema COVID-19 mhix daqshekk serja, li l-ġlieda kontra l-hoss sostanzjalment mirbuha u li m'hemmxx bżonn ta' prekawzjonijiet, wasslu lill-votanti Repubblikani biex jivvutaw bi għarhom fil-jum tal-elezzjoni.

Mill-banda l-oħra, l-eks Viċi President Joe Biden, li ikkontesta għall-presidenza għall-Partit Demokratiku, kien ilu javża lill-votanti biex jivvutaw kmieni biex jevitaw riskji għal saħħithom.

Ma jidhirlx li kien parir hażin, meta tara li l-pajjiż fl-4 ta' Novembru garrab 107,872 każijiet ġodda, rekord ġdid, u 1616 mewt³ (bħala tqabbil fl-Awstralja fl-istess jum kellna 13-il każ⁴ u l-ebda mewt). Dan il-parir ġie milqugħ mill-votanti Demokratiċi li vvutaw bi għarhom bil-posta.

Li għara kien li wara l-ġurnata tal-elezzjoni, f'hafta stati l-ewwel li ġew magħduda kienu l-voti li ntefġu fil-jum tal-elezzjoni, u dawn taw impressjoni ta' sitwazzjoni tajba hafna għar-Repubblikani u wkoll għal Trump, li fil-fatt mar aħjar milli kien maħsub u mbassar.

Madankollu, meta l-għadd tkompla fuq il-voti li ntefġu bil-posta, is-sitwazzjoni bdiet tinbidel bil-mod il-mod. Ir-raġuni li l-għadd tal-voti bil-posta jiehu iktar hin mill-voti l-oħra hi li l-voti jridu jinħarġu wiehed wiehed mill-envelop (fi stat minnhom, saħansitra l-vot ikun go envelop li hu stess ikun go envelop ieħor), imbagħad jiddependi fuq il-liġijiet ta' kull stat, jista' jkun mandatorju li tiġi awtentikata



firma li tkun fuq l-envelop u t-timbru tal-posta.

Allura, mal-hin, id-differenza ta' voti fi stati li kienu magħrufin li jistgħu jiddeterminaw il-presidenza, jiġifieri Nevada, Arizona, Michigan, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, North Carolina u Georgia, bdew jitbiegħdu minn Trump u jersqu lejn Biden, b'uħud fil-hin tal-kitba jaqilbu għan-naħa l-oħra.

Meta ra dan, Donald Trump ħareġ jgħajjat, bla provi, li qiegħed isir frodi, talab li jitwaqqaf l-għadd tal-voti jew jerga' jsir l-għadd u beda jiftaħ każijiet fil-qorti tal-istati kruċjali għalih biex isir dan.

Huwa qal li jekk ma jihux dak li jrid, beħsiebu li l-ġlieda tibqa' tiela' sal-Qorti Suprema Amerikana. Huwa ċar li jaħseb li ladarba rmaxxielu jahtar tliet imħallfin konservattivi f'din il-Qorti, dawn jivvutaw b'mod partigġjan favurij. Dak huwa l-mudell ta' għustizzja ta' dan il-bniedem, mudell għad-dinja kollha.

Mhux ta' b'xejn li anke membri tal-Partit Repubblikan saru pjuttost kwieti u b'kemm jidhru miegħu meta jagħmel il-ħanqiet ta' hmar tiegħu. Dan mhu xejn hlief aġir ta' awtokratu li wasal fi żmien il-kontijiet.

Min-naħa tiegħi, issa li r-riżultat tat-tkaxkira ta' Trump huwa ċar, nista' nliessen bil-qalb "għall-erwieh!"

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Ministru Malti jishaq dwar il-htieġa ta' azzjoni qawwija, urgenti biex jitnehħa l-iskart mill-ibhira

Għexieren ta' snin ta' użu mhux sostenibbli ta' plastik wassal biex illum ninhtieġu azzjoni qawwija u urgenti biex dan l-iskart jinqered mill-ibhira tagħna. Il-plastik li jintuża darba biss, b'mod partikolari, jagħmel hsara kbira lill-ekosistemi tagħna. Dan qalu l-Ministru Malti għall-Ambjent, it-Tibdil fil-Klima u l-Ippjanar Aaron Farrugia waqt laqgħa informali f'Berlin għall-ministri responsabbli mill-ambjent u mill-klima.

F'din il-laqgħa organizzata mill-Presidenza Germaniża tal-Kunsill tal-Unjoni Ewropea zied jgħid li kien għalhekk li l-gvern Malti qed jiffinalizza l-istrategija għas-single-use plastics li se tkun qed tpoġġi restrizzjonijiet, kif ukoll tipprojbixxi l-użu ta' ċerti prodotti.

Filwaqt li spjega li Malta ddikjarat 35% tal-ibhira territorjali tagħha u 28% tat-territorju fuq l-art, bħala żoni protetti, il-Ministru qal li s-sajf li għadda Malta kienet impenjata biex tippromwovi għadd ta' *clean-ups* u kampanji ta' għarfien dwar l-iskart li jintrema fil-baħar. "Permezz ta' diversi skemi se nkunu qed nixprunaw konsum sostenibbli mill-konsumaturi u inċentivi godda għall-operaturi, bħall-holqien ta' green corners f'diversi hwienet", qal il-ministru.

Huwa fakkar li ftit tal-jiem ilu waqt summit tal-Ġnus Magħquda, għadd ta' mexxejja dinjin qablu li jagħtu s-sostenn tagħhom għall-bijodiversità. Qal li kulhadd għandu jagħmel l-almu tiegħu biex ikollna qafas globali għid għall-bijodiversità, u li l-konvenzjoni COP fuq il-bijodiversità għandha sservi ta' okkażjoni halli jizjed



Il-Ministru Aaron Farrugia

l-impenn lejn il-konservazzjoni u l-immanigġjar ahjar tar-riżorsi tagħna.

Sostna li għall-Maltin kull ċentimetru ta' art hu prezzjuż u jzid l-importanza tal-green economy u l-impatt fuq il-kwalità tal-hajja tal-poplu. "Huwa proprju għalhekk li qed niffukaw l-isforzi tagħna biex nippromwovu għadd ta' proġetti ta' thaddir fl-urban flimkien ma' inizjattivi oħra halli nirrestawraw u nippreservaw iż-żoni rurali tagħna. Dan ma jfissirx li għandna neżentaw lilna nfusna milli nindirizzaw prattiċi hżiena oħrajn bħal dawkl tal-konsum", qal il-Ministru Farrugia.

Il-Ministru Farrugia (*xellug*) sahaq li Malta għandha tindirizza l-isfida tal-klima permezz ta' miżuri godda fl-oqsma tat-trasport u biex l-ippjanar fil-pajjiż ikun aktar effiċjenti fil-konsum tal-enerġija. "Il-Gvern Malti hu kommess li jimplimenta l-miżuri neċessarji biex inaqqas l-emissjonijiet," qal.

Kompla jtenni li bħalissa Malta tinsab fil-proċess li tiffinalizza l-Low Carbon Development Strategy, li se tkun qed tipproponi sett ta' miżuri li għandhom jiġu implimentati biex sas-sena 2050 tintlaħaq in-newtralità fil-karbonju. Qal li Malta dalwaqt se tkun thabbar id-data li fiha se twaqqaf l-importazzjoni ta' karożzi li jahdmu bil-fjuwil.

Fl-istess waqt, il-gvern se jissokta jinvesti biex l-infrastruttura tat-toroq tal-pajjiż tkun waħda li tillimita l-kongestjoni tat-traffiku u tindirizza d-domanda għall-użu ta' sorsi alternattivi ta' enerġija, bħall-użu ta' karożzi li jahdmu bl-elettriku.

Konservazzjoni tal-pitturi tal-Assedju l-Kbir fil-Palazz tal-Granmastru

Konservaturi professjonali u studenti li qed jistudjaw il-konservazzjoni f'livell ta' Maġisteru fid-Dipartiment tal-Konservazzjoni u l-Patrimonju Mibni fil-Fakultà għall-Ambjent Mibni, qed ikomplu x-xogħol ta' konservazzjoni fuq għadd ta' pitturi li huma storikament akkurati li jitrattaw l-Assedju l-Kbir tal-1565. Dan ix-xogħol sar possibbli permezz ta' donazzjoni ta' €75,000 mill-Awtorità tal-Ippjanar.

Dan thabbar mill-Ministru Aaron Farrugia u l-Ministru għall-Wirt Nazzjonali, l-Arti u l-Gvern Lokali José Herrera waqt żjara li għamlu fis-Sala tat-Tron, fil-Palazz tal-Granmastru.

Il-Ministru Farrugia qal li l-konservazzjoni tal-wirt kulturali Malti hu parti integrali mill-ippjanar għaliex jagħmel parti mill-patrimonju storiku u arkitettoniku ta' Malta. Issokta jgħid li "x-xogħol tagħna biex nippreservaw il-wirt kulturali u ambjentali ta' pajjiżna hu fid-direzzjoni li qed iħaddem il-gvern ta' ippjanar intelligenti".

L-għan aħhari huwa li l-wirt nazzjonali jiġi mgħoddi lill-generazzjonijiet preżenti u futuri li għandhom għalfejn ikunu kburin bih, flimkien ma' ambjent naturali san u



aktar hdura fiż-żoni urbani fejn jista' jkollhom kwalità ta' hajja ahjar.

L-Awtorità tal-Ippjanar mhux biss tagħti appoġġ fir-restawr ta' dan il-wirt kulturali li ilu magħna mijiet ta' snin, imma tfittex ukoll li thares lejn dawn l-istrutturi f'kuntast aktar wiesgħa.

Min-naha tal-Ministru José Herrera fahhar din l-inizjattiva koordinata minn diversi entitajiet biex isir ir-restawr u l-konservazzjoni tal-pitturi mal-hajt relatati mal-Assedju l-Kbir. Hu spjega li dan il-proġett se jikkumplimenta l-programm estensiv ta' restawr li qed isir minn Heritage

Malta fil-Palazz tal-Granmastru, b'investiment ta' €28 miljun.

Dawn l-opri ġew impittra mill-pittur Taljan, Matteo Pérez D'Aleccio (1547 – befor 1616), li kien ingiebb Malta fl-1577 speċifikament biex ipitter pitturi tal-Assedju l-Kbir mill-Granmastru Fra Jean de la Cassière (1572-1581) innifsu.

L-Assedju l-Kbir huwa figurat fi 12-il episodju permezz ta' figuri allegoriċi li jżejnu l-parti ta' fuq tal-hajt tal-Kamra tat-Tron fil-Palazz tal-President, u juru l-grazzjiet differenti li graw tul l-erba' xhur ta' assedju f'sekwenza narrattiva.



Roundup of News About Malta



Prime Minister launches €470 million infrastructure investment programme

Prime Minister Robert Abela has launched the INDIS project, a €470 million infrastructure investment programme to be spread out over eight years that, he said, would be solving a problem of industrial space and offer more space for new businesses that will operate in a sustainable environment.

As the PM and the Minister for the Economy, Investment and Small Businesses Silvio Schembri unveiled the details of the investment programme, Robert Abela said it would be attracting greater investment and create thousands of new job opportunities.

The project is to include an investment of €101 million for a five-block 30,000 sqm extension to the Life Sciences Park that would house research, development and innovation in Lifesciences aimed at hosting Life Sciences, technology-related and other knowledge-intensive industries.

One of the blocks would also house child-minding facilities, a health and fitness centre and catering services.

It would also include the rehabilitation of the disused dump at Luqa through an investment of €51 million turning it onto a landscaped and safe semi-industrial and recreational area, as well as the creation of 85,000 sqm of prime developable land, and the regeneration of the Business Incubation Centre in Kordin spread over 10,000 sqm with an investment of €14 million for startups. This way would be converted into a modern start-up facility.

The project also includes the construction of new factories and roads in the industrial area of Hal Far and others with an invest-



Prime Minister Robert Abela (right) and Minister Silvio Schembri at the launch

ment of almost €80 million; taxiway expansion at the airport and other facilities in the aviation sector; as well as infrastructure development.

Employment opportunities

The Prime Minister said Malta is launching INDIS Malta at a time when all other countries are loaded with pandemic effects. In the case of Malta however, it is addressing the situation and looking forward to greater investment, economic growth and greater employment opportunities that would benefit the country's families without causing environmental harm.

Minister Schembri said that because of lack of space to accommodate the in-

vestors, Malta is currently losing millions of euros in opportunities and jobs.

The new project would be attracting new niches of business to Malta, and turn construction and demolition waste into a new resource, and through state of the art buildings, it would accommodate life sciences, artificial intelligence, and the manufacturing industry.

Another project is the upgrade of Taxiway Lima through an investment of €5 million to accommodate wide-body aircraft, new services and MRO facilities that would be ready by the end of 2021.

INDIS Malta, chairman Jean Pierre Attard said that in addition to creating new spaces for industry, this new entity is aiming at creating open spaces and a better environment for workers.

Robert Abela congratulates Biden, Harris

Malta Prime Minister Robert Abela joined heads of states from all over the world to congratulate Joe Biden on winning (convincingly) the USA Presidential election to become that country's 46th President. The President elect (*right*) has yet to take the oath of office in January.

In his tweet Abela also congratulated Ka-

mala Harris for becoming Vice President. In fact Harris will be the first Indian American, the first African American, and the first female vice president in US history, and thus, the highest-ranking female elected official in United States history. Harris is a multiracial American.

Meanwhile, incumbent President Donald Trump is refusing to concede, and is not prepared to engage in the normal activities that guarantee a peaceful transition.



Robert Abela
@RobertAbela_MT

Congratulations upon his election as POTUS @JoeBiden - congrats also to @KamalaHarris as first woman vp in the US - so inspiring - RA

Government guarantees for 430 Malta businesses

As a result of the Malta Development Bank's COVID Guarantee Scheme, aimed at increasing the liquidity of businesses, 430 businesses in Malta had borrowed €344 million that were being guaranteed by the Government.

Finance Minister Edward Scicluna said that this helped to protect the jobs of the 30,000 workers in these businesses.

Cyrus Engerer new MEP on behalf of Labour Party

Cyrus Engerer is to replace Dr Miriam Dalli as a Member of the European Parliament on the Malta Labour Party ticket. He was elected in a casual election that was held between him and six other candidates.

The casual election was necessitated after last Dr Dalli's resignation from an MEP to serve in Malta's Parliament.

Joe Ellis sworn in as NP's new Parliamentarian

Meanwhile, Dr Joe Ellis has been sworn as a Member of the House of Representatives on behalf of the Nationalist Party following the casual election to fill the seat in the 13th district that became vacant with the death of Frederick Azzopardi.



Roundup of News About Malta

MCST and ACM renew agreement

The Malta Council for Science and Technology (MCST) and Arts Council Malta (ACM) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) renewed for another three years targeting the areas of Arts and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).

The signing, presided by the Minister for the National Heritage, the Arts and Local Government José Herrera, and the Parliamentary Secretary for Financial Services and the Digital Economy Clayton Bartolo and seeks to encourage interdisciplinarity between the arts and science, increase cross-sectoral participation in culture, the creative industries, and to raise the profile of these disciplines within formal and informal education.

Minister Herrera said that this MoU carries a lot of significance in particular during this period of the pandemic. He added that MCST would assist the creative arts sector in creating new technological means of promoting their creativity;

ACM would assist the science and technology sector in attracting the necessary enthusiasm and participation.

Clayton Bartolo pointed out the importance of creativity and innovation as ingredients for strengthening the engine of the global economy and to continue to incentivise these sectors to make Malta a centre of excellence when it comes to research and innovation.

He also stressed the need to encourage children from an early age to approach areas such as STEM, art and culture, which indirectly help to grow the economy and enhance our quality of life.

He said that the government's vision is to cultivate a culture of scientific curiosity and creativity. "We believe that this can only be truly and completely achieved through a STEAM approach", he added.

Arts Council Malta's Head of Strategy, Adrian Debattista stated that the renewal of this agreement is an important part of ACM's trajectory as it prepares for its new strategy for 2021-2025.



Parl. Sec Clayton Bartolo



Minister José Herrera

Gender equality in a democratic society

The Malta Council for Social and Economic Development (MCESD) is currently studying the local situation on gender gap on the place of work to address more robustly the issue of gender balance, through a recently set up working-group representatives both employers and employees.

This was stated by the Minister within the Office of the Prime Minister, Carmelo Abela (below) responsible for social dialogue in a debate entitled, 'Equality in a Democratic Society' organised by the Malta EU and Steering Action Committee (MEUSAC).

The debate focused on themes related to gender equality such as gender-based violence, closing gender pay gaps, equal participation in the labour market, and achieving gender-balance in politics.

The Minister said, sad that we needed to change the mentality towards gender equality and that from his end, when it comes to the boards under his responsibility, in his decisions he was taking into consideration gender-balance.

He also referred to EU statistics that show that while 44% of Europeans believe men should be the breadwinners in the family, 43% believe women should be homemakers and prioritise their families. Furthermore, 33% of women living in the EU have experienced some form of violence, and also tend to earn around 15.7% less than their male counterparts for equal work of equal value.

He pointed out that when one speaks about gender equality, he is also speaking about democracy and fairness. He believes there's a need for more education on gender stereotyping. In this regard, he emphasised that education is crucial to tackle gender equality and end gender stereotyping in society and the place of work when it comes to both the present and future generations.

In the debate as part of the activities organised by MEUSAC during a week of activities aimed at making the European Union more accessible to citizens, participating students had the opportunity to put their ideas forward directly to Maltese MEPs Alex Agius Saliba, Josianne Cutajar and Roberta Metsola.



Parliamentary Secretaries Rosianne Cutajar and Alex Muscat addressing the media

Men to be obliged to declare civil status for Notarial Acts

Malta will be amending the legal system that for scores of years has exercised a distinction between woman and men.

Parliamentary Secretary for Equality and Reforms, Rosianne Cutajar, explained that under the current law any woman wanting to make a notarial act, such as when purchasing property or making a will, has to reveal her civil status, while men were not obliged to.

With the amendment to the in Act regarding the Notarial Profession and Notarial Archives, irrespective of gender, a person, man or woman will now have to state their civil status. The change, resulting from the Legal Amendment has just been published.

Meanwhile, Alex Muscat, The Parliamentary Secretary for Citizenship and the Community said that the amendment would end discrimination and all anomalies. The amendment is in its second reading before Parliament.



Mix-xena tal-ħajja Maltija

minn Ġużè Camilleri

X'elezzjoni bikrija? ... 'Issir meta jkun fl-interess nazzjonali' - il-Prim Ministru

F'hin minnhom meta kien qed iwieġeb għad-diskors tal-Kap tal-Oppożizzjoni Bernard Grech dwar il-baġit, il-Prim Ministru Robert Abela stqarr li "fi ftit xhur oħra" hu kien se ikun iġġudikat miż-żgħażaġh ta' 16-il sena (referenza għall-vot lil dawh ta' din l-età li jkunu jistgħu jivvutaw fl-ewwel elezzjoni biex jinħatar gvern).

M'ghaddewx wisq siegħat li b'ittri kbar il-midja tal-Oppożizzjoni harġet tgħid: "Il-Prim Ministru jindika elezzjoni fi ftit xhur".

Din ta' elezzjoni fil-qrib ilha sejra għal xi żmien, u komplet iżżid mal-ħatra ta'

Bernard Grech bħala mexxej tal-Partit Nazzjonalista. Dawk li qed imexxu din l-istorja, qed isostnu li hemm x'juri li l-popolarità tal-Gvern qed tonqos u jikkwotaw l-aħħar stħarriġ li fejn ingħad li l-popolarità tal-Prim Ministru naqset xi ftit, anke jekk id-differenza bejn iż-żewġ partiti baqgħet waħda qawwija.

Allura dawh li bdew jikkellmu dwar li l-elezzjoni hi fil-qrib irraġunaw li se tissejjaħ kmieni qabel mal-Partit Nazzjonalista jilhaq jissahħah sewwa.

Iżda waqt programm ta' TVM il-Prim Ministru malajr wieġeb għax-xniegħat.

Qal li dik li tagħmel elezzjoni waqt il-pandemija jkun ifisser li jkun qed jikonttradixxi lilu nnifsu billi hu kien kkritika lill-Partit Nazzjonalista li filwaqt il-pandemija dawn kien għaddejnin b'elezzjoni għall-ħatra ta' kap ġdid.

Abela kompli jgħid li jkun irresponsabbli li kellu jagħmel elezzjoni waqt l-pandemija jew meta Malta tkun f'nofs il-qawmien mill-pandemija. Anzi sostna li l-elezzjoni ssir meta jkun iż-żmien li jkun ikkunsidrat bħala fl-interess nazzjonali.

L-elezzjoni li jmiss trid issir sa Settembru 2022.

Diskorsi tal-Baġit... kif marru l-mexxejja?

Kull sena, id-diskorsi tal-Kap tal-Oppożizzjoni u t-tweġiba tal-Prim Ministru dwar dak li jkun thabbar fil-baġit u li jiġi mxandar dirett mill-Parlament dejjem johloq ċertu nteress. Imma dis-sena l-interess kien sa ċertu punt differenti, għax id-diskorsi saru minn żewġ mexxejja politiċi li hađu l-ħatra ftit ilu; Bernard Grech ftit tal-ġimgħat ilu, u Robert Abela Abela ftit tax-xhur ilu.

Sintendi, wara li saru d-diskorsi bdew it-tixbiħat u huwa diffiċli li wiehed jifred kummenti li jkunu influwenzati mit-tendenzi politiċi ta' dak li jkun, u dawh li jkunu

minn dak li forsi ħafna stennew."

Dan saħansitra kompli jgħid li "L-ispeech ta' Bernard Grech huwa diżappuntanti mhux biss mill-istil imma anki fil-kontenut. Kważi kważi ngħid li kieku d-diskors mingħajr ma nkun kattiv, fejn hu tiegħu dejjem tajtulu, fejn kien haqqu tifhir, faħħartu però kważi kważi kieku għamel id-diskors Adrian Delia (il-Kap ta' qabel) kien ikun aħjar."

Il-Kap tal-Oppożizzjoni Bernard Grech

Interessanti aktar dak li kiteb James Debono fil-Malta Today taht it-titlu "Bullish Abela outperforms Grech in Budget speech". Hu ta ħames raġunijiet għaliex Grech ma marx daqshekk tajjeb. Skont Debono...

1. Abela did better than expected while Grech who had all eyes on him in anticipation, played safe and failed to impress.

Abela mar tajjeb ħafna filwaqt li Grech illimita ruhu li jaqra minn dak li kellu miktub.

2. Abela had a good budget to sell. Grech had to criticise it but he could have changed the focus to his own proposal.

Grech ried jikkritika baġit tajjeb li mhix xi haġa daqshekk faċli, u naqas li jiffoka dwar dak li kien qed jipproponi l-Partit Nazzjonalista

3. Abela was optimistic pitting hope against fear while Grech did not do enough to balance justified concern on the COVID

death toll with an uplifting message.

Filwaqt li Abela iffoka fuq l-ottomizmu, Grech għamel wisq enfasi dwar dawh li hallewna minhabba l-pandemija u naqas li juri li bil-proposti tal-PN kien hemm ċans ta' futur aħjar.

4. Abela has no scruples on pandering to migration fears triggered by boat arrivals while the PN focuses on foreign workers which are perceived as a source of revenue.

Filwaqt li Abela għamel distinzjoni bejn il-barranin li jiġu Malta biex jaħdmu u dawh li jidhlu illegalment u ma naqasx li japprofitta ruhu mis-sitwazzjoni fejn ħafna Maltin huma kontra dawn ta' l-aħħar, Grech poġġa lill-barranin f'borma waħda u kkritika l-fatt li f'Malta hawn ħafna haddiema barranin.

5. Abela manages to project unity in his own party while hitting at divisions in the PN.

Abela għamel enfasi qawwija fuq l-għaqda li hemm fi hdan il-Partit Laburista f'botta ċara lejn il-firda li f'dawn l-aħħar snin ħakmet lill-Partit Nazzjonalista.

Biss kif kiteb l-artikolista ta' The Times Ranier Fsadni: 'PN recovers its voice'. Hu sostna li fi żmien sitt xhur Grech ma jkunx l-istess Grech li rajna u smajna fid-diskorsi tal-baġit.

The Grech we saw on Monday will not be the same one we'll have in around six months. His delivery won't sound so homiletic. He'll have had more time to master his brief and won't need to read his speech U kompli...

But assume he'll eventually polish the stump speech and you'll see there's a distinctive PN voice being recovered.

*Ikomppli f'pagna 15



Il-Kap tal-Oppożizzjoni Bernard Grech

aktar qrib is-sewwa.

Biss minn dak li deher fil-midja lokali u fuq dik soċjali jidher li, kif qal l-editor tal-gazzetta Illum, Albert Gauci Cunningham, "Il-Kap tal-Oppożizzjoni mhux talli ma lahaqx l-aspettativa imma kien ħafna inqas

Mix-xena tal-ħajja Maltija

minn Ġużè Camilleri

Minkejja l-COVID-19 Bilanċ bejn l-ekonomija u s-saħħa

Il-Covid-19 qed tagħmel herba mad-dinja kollha... u din id-darba anke Malta giet milquta sew billi mhux biss in-numru ta' każi telgħa sew, tant li meta qed nikteb, dawk infettati qed joqrob l-elfejn, imma għax fejn sa Marzu kellna 10 imwiet, issa (sal-Hadd li għadda) dawn telgħu għal 78, fosthom tliet saċerdoti Ġizwiti.

Is-Supretendent għas-Saħħa Pubblika l-Prof. Charmaine Gauci id-deskriviet l-ammont ta' mwiet bħala wiehed għoli għall-popolazzjoni ta' Malta, bl-aktar eżempju komuni fost l-imwiet hija 'l fuq minn 70 sena bil-predominanza tal-imwiet tkun fost l-irġiel.

Fil-parti 'l kbira, dawk li mietu kienu wkoll qed ibatu minn mard ieħor kroniku.

Is-supretendent appellat lill-anzjani speċjalment biex jiehdu ħsieb u jagħzlu fejn imorru u jaraw jistgħux jitolbu l-għajnuna biex jagħmlulhom il-qadi.

Qalet biex kemm jippruvaw jevitaw il-folol.

Dan wassal għal miżuri aktar iebes mill-Gvern, imma, jumejn ilu l-Prim Ministru ċaħad li konna resqin lejn *lockdown* kif kienet qalu fuq il-midja soċjali.

Jidher li l-Gvern qed jagħmel minn kollox biex johlq speċi ta' bilanċ bejn l-ekonomija u s-saħħa, xi haġa li kif wiehed jistenna qed tiġi kkritikata mal-Opportunitàzzjoni li ssostni li s-saħħa għandha tiġi fuq kollox, għalkemm mhix tirrikkomanda *lockdown*.

Sadanittant l-iskejjel fethu, u għalkemm kien hemm għadd ta' edukaturi li ġew infettati, aktarx barra mill-iskola, skont il-kliema s-saħħa, ma kien hemm ebda każ ta' tixrid tal virus fost l-istudenti fl-iskejjel.



Il-Prim Ministru Robert Abela

Il-mexxejja fil-baġit

*minn paġna 14

Il-Prim Ministru Robert Abela

Attwalment wara li Grech għamel id-diskors tiegħu, kien hemm minn stqarr li hafna minn dawk li kienu se jismgħu lil Robert Abela, x'aktarx li kienu fidiċjużi li kien se imur ahjar minhabba: li kellu baġit tajjeb, kellu aktar esperjenza fil-politika, b'attitudni pożittiva, kien irnexxielu, sa ċertu punt, irazzan l-influs ta' l-immigranti illegali f'Malta, eċċ.

Imma Abela xorta kien se jkollu sfida x'jegħleb... dik li hafna, speċjalment Laburisti, kienu se jxebbhuh mad-diskorsi tal-baġit li tant kien magħruf għalihom l-eks-Prim Ministru Joseph Muscat.

Jidher li Abela mnexxielu jegħleb l-isfida, tant li hafna kienu sorspiżi kif mar daqshekk tajjeb, hafna ahjar milli mistenni, billi kemm ilu Prim Ministru kien hemm min beda jiġġudikah li l-prestazzjoni tiegħu ma kienetx daqshekk tajba.

Tant li Gauci Cunningham, li semmejt aktar il-fuq, qal hekk: "Il-Prim Ministru eċċeda l-aspettativa jiġifieri. Ha nitkellem għalija, mhux għax beda l-Prim Ministru għidt li ha jkun hażin imma ma bsartux li ha jkun daqstant tajjeb u dan sentiment li kien hemm, anki tara l-midja soċjali kien hemm hafna li bdew jgħidu li kien tajjeb u kien ahjar milli sten-nejna."

L-effetti tal-imxijja

Sadanittant, minkejja l-istress u d-diffikultajiet li qed tohloq din l-epidemija, fortunatament:

- Fejn fil-maġġoranza l-kbira tal-pajjiżi tal-Unjoni Ewropeja l-qagħad żdied birrata ta' qagħad fi Spanja titla bi 18.7%, f'Malta matul dawn l-aħħar erba' xhur, naqas ta' kull xahar. F'Settembru r-rata kienet ta' 4.2%. li jfisser tnaqqis ta' 0.2% inqas mix-xahar ta' qabel biex b'hekk Malta kellha l-inqas rata ta' qgħad fost id-19-il stat membru fiż-Żona Ewro.

- Ix-xahar ta' Ottubru kien rekord għas-sena 2020 fl-iffirmar tal-konvenji fuq proprjetajiet filwaqt li l-istess xahar kien meqjus bħala wiehed mill-aqwa fl-iffirmar ta' konvenji mis-sena 2017 l-hawn.

Dan kontra dak li kien maħsub li kien se jiġri minhabba l-epidemija, speċjalment billi għadd ta' barranin li jaħdmu f'Malta hallew pajjiżna, kif ukoll billi n-nies kienet attenta hafna fl-infieq minhabba l-imxijja.

Imma jidher li l-inċentivi li introduċa l-Gvern f'Ġunju li għadda fid-dawl tal-pandemija, liema inċentivi bbenefikaw minnhom kemm ix-xerrej iżda kif ukoll il-bejjigh hallew il-frott tagħhom..

- L-istħarriġ tal-Eurobarometer li għamlet il-Kummissjoni Ewropea fit-tieni nofs ta' Lulju li għadda jikkonferma kif, minkejja l-pandemija, f'pajjiżna fl-aħħar xhur xorta hawn livell tajjeb ta' ottimizmu u fiduċja.

Ir-rizultati tal-Eurobarometer jikkonfermaw kemm hawn sens ta' fiduċja fost il-familji f'pajjiżna. Il-qagħda ekonomika, li twerwer lill-familji madwar l-Ewropa, mhux qed tbeżża' wisq lill-familji f'pajjiżna.

Il-Gvern qed igawdi aktar fiduċja, minn istituzzjonijiet oħra f'pajjiżna, fosthom il-mezzi tal-midja, fejn il-fiduċja naqset.



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**"Let Our Family
Help You Through"**

—

**Halli l-familja
tagħna tgħin lill-
familja tiegħek**



A quick glimpse at Australia

Queensland is Labor as well

After great wins in New Zealand, the ACT and the Northern Territory, the Australian Labor Party has won the jewel in the crown. Annastacia Palaszczuk (pictured right) has claimed victory for Labor in the Queensland state election, becoming the first woman in the Nation's political history to win three elections in a row to enter the history books as a Labor legend.

"It has been tough not being able to see your family and friends in other states, or even around the world, as we've been in the midst of a global pandemic. "But here in Queensland we've all stood strong and united, and together we are on top of the pandemic, and if we continue to work together, we will stay strong".

Liberal National Party leader Deb Frecklington conceded defeat and later resigned as party leader. Going into the election, of the 93 parliamentary seats, Labor held 48 to the LNP's 38, with the crossbench comprising three Katter's Australian Party members, one Greens, one One Nation, one North Queensland First and independent Sandy Bolton.



Praise at last for Victoria

America's top infectious diseases expert Dr Anthony Fauci has heaped praise on Victoria for the state's recovery from its second wave of coronavirus.

Speaking on a University of Melbourne panel with Doherty Institute director Sharon Lewin, Dr Fauci said Australia had done "quite well" in its response to the

COVID-19 pandemic.

"I would like to say the same for the United States, but the numbers speak for themselves," he said. "Although there's many positives of independent states, when you're dealing with a pandemic and you say 'we need everyone to be doing A, B and C', and all of a sudden state 43 does this and state 27 does that, it becomes very difficult."

Dr Fauci (left) particularly commended Victorians for embracing masks. "I really wish that we could transplant that kind of mentality here, because masks in the United States have almost become a political statement," he said.

Victoria premier Andrews Daniel announced the end of lockdown on October 27 after nearly four months saying that while Melbournians want to support local businesses, they must keep following rules including the wearing of masks.

"The rules, they are not against you, they are for you - they are so you can continue to do these things," he said.



Jobseeker to continue

Uncertainty over the future of the welfare payment – boosted by an income supplement during the COVID-19 pandemic set to expire on December 31 – has remained a concern for recipients of the support.

During Question Time, the Prime Minister responded to warnings against a return of the rate to pre-pandemic levels of \$40 a day, saying recipients should expect some part of the supplement to continue.

"I have been clear that people can expect the supplement going forward beyond the end of this year," he told parliament.

"We expect the new Jobseeker rate will be lower than what it is right now ... it should be higher than the old Newstart rate."

The supplement was cut at the end of September to \$250 a fortnight until December 31, from \$550 a fortnight at the height of the pandemic.

Mr Morrison said a decision on the ongoing arrangements for the COVID supplement beyond December would be made before parliament rises – with its last day set for December 17.

Gender equality says: 'Put a women's name on it'

Gender equality advocates are calling for a new federal electorate in Victoria to be named after a woman, as they draw attention to the "incredibly stark" disparities in who is honoured and represented in Australia's civic landscape. Did you know just five out of the 38 federal electoral divisions in Victoria are named after women?

Indigenous rights advocates Margaret Tucker and Auntie Eleanor Harding (right), war correspondent Louise Mack, feminist activist Zelda D'Aprano and Labor politician Susan Ryan are some of the women being put forward amid a cam-

paign for the Australian Electoral Commission to "put her name on it".

Public suggestions have been published online and are open for comment as the AEC considers the redistribution of Victoria's federal electoral divisions, including the name and location of a new electorate being created in the process.

Clare Wright, professor of history at La Trobe University and a vocal supporter of the campaign for a female namesake, says only 11 per cent of the country's 150 federal electorates are named after women.





A quick glimpse at Australia



Cardinals Giovanni Angelo Becciu (left) and George Pell

New Zealand to legalise Euthanasia

A referendum on the issue of euthanasia was run alongside the New Zealand October 17 general election and the result, showed voters supported introducing it by a majority of 65.2 per cent to 33.8 per cent.

The referendum was on legislation that had already passed New Zealand's Parliament: This means the End of Life Choice Act 2019 must come into force by November 6, 2021.

"We have to accept that we are about to cross a rubicon – a line of no return," said John Kleinsman, the head of the Nathaniel Centre for Bioethics, a think tank established by the New Zealand bishops' conference.

"This result goes against the tide of opinion worldwide with 33 jurisdictions around the world having rejected similar laws in the last five years, including the UK and Scotland, because of the risks it poses for vulnerable people," Dr Kleinsman said in a statement.

Victorian corruption watchdog about alleged Vatican fund and Cardinal Pell

A few weeks ago Italian newspapers reported unsubstantiated allegations that Cardinal Giovanni Angelo Becciu was suspected of wiring 700,000 euros (\$1.14 million) to Australia in an attempt to secure evidence against Cardinal George Pell in his sexual abuse trial.

AUSTRAC's chief executive Nicole Rose revealed the agency had provided information to the Australian Federal Police (AFP) and Victoria Police, however, Victoria Police confirmed it had received information from AUSTRAC, but said it was not investigating further.

"[AUSTRAC] have not advised Victoria

Police of any suspicious activity related to these transactions," Victoria Police said in a statement.

DFAT officials told NSW Liberal senator Concetta Fierravanti-Wells in Senate Estimates that the embassy's role at the Vatican was to monitor reports and "provide support for the AFP recognising the potential for a criminal matter".

Gaming historic reforms soon?

The NSW Government wants to move to completely cashless poker machines and require players to register for a gambling card in the most significant gaming reforms in the state's history.

The changes would mean gamblers must register and pre-load money to the card, which would operate in a similar way to cashless Opal cards for public transport.

Senior cabinet minister Victor Dominello – who has responsibility for gaming – has extended the consultation period for draft harm minimisation laws until December 11.

A signed letter from senior faith leaders, including Sydney Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP and Sydney Anglican Archbishop Glenn Davies, calls on MPs to back the "bold historic reform".

The letter says the pandemic was a stark reminder that people needed to be kept safe. It says that people in NSW saved \$1.2 billion when machines were switched off this year. They were switched back on in June and now losses to the machines are back up to \$18 million a day. MPs are urged to MPs to "seize this opportunity".

It was the silent race

It is known as the race that stops a nation, but this year it was COVID-19 that nearly stopped the race. The iconic Melbourne Cup 2020 was run against a backdrop of silence, as attendees were restricted to trainers, jockeys and key personnel due to Melbourne's COVID-19 restrictions.

Racehorse Twilight Payment won the race, giving owner Lloyd Williams his seventh Melbourne Cup, and trainer Joseph O'Brien his second.

The Irish stallion, Anthony Van Dyck, ridden by jockey Hugh Bowman, sustained a fractured fetlock on the final bend of the race and had to be "humanely" put down, Racing Victoria's head of integrity Jamie Stier confirmed on Tuesday afternoon. He said the horse received immediate veterinary care, but was unable to be saved due to the nature of its injury. Jockey Bowman was uninjured in the incident.

Anthony Van Dyck is the seventh horse to die in the Melbourne Cup since 2013, according to animal rights groups such as Animals Australia.



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Tagħrif dwar il-kitba Maltija

Kelma li ġejja minn żmien ‘żemżem’

Jingħad l-kelma żemżem x'aktarx ġejja mill-kelma Zamzam, il-bir sagru li jżuruh u jxorbu minnu miljuni ta' pellegrini li jżuru Mekka meta jmorru għall-Haġġ. Dan jinsab f'Mekka qrib Masjid al-Haram fil-lvant ta' Kaaba, fl-Gharabja Sawdija, l-aktar post sagru fl-Islam.

Dan il-bir tant hu qadim li jgħidu li kien jixrob minnu Abram; għalhekk il-kelma żemżem tintuża meta xi haga jkun għadda hafna żmien minn fuqha.

Hawn allura ta' min jagħti aktar tagħrif dwar dan il-bir “sagru” li skont l-Islam huwa mirakoluż bl-ilma tiegħu ġej minn Alla u li nħoloq b'mod spontanju eluf ta' snin ilu meta iben Abram Ismail thalla m'ommu Haġar, it-tini mara ta' Abram fid-deżert bil-ghatx u jibki. Skont it-tradizzjoni Islamika, dan il-Bir Zamzam ġie svelat lil Haġar.

Jingħad li skont kif kien qallu Alla, Abram halla lil martu u ibni f'post fid-deżert u telaq. F'disprament, Haġar ippruvat issib l-ilma għal binha li kien għadu żgħir imma ma setgħet issib imkien minhabba li l-belt ta' Mekka tinsab f'wied li jkun maħkum minn shana qawwija fejn diffiċli ssib l-ilma.

Minkejja shana qawwija, Haġar ġriet seba' darbiet bejn żewġ għoljiet, Safa u Marwah tfittex l-ilma. Sadanittant it-tfajjel Ismail beda jkaxkar fl-art b'riġlejh meta f'daqqa wahda beda hiereġ lilma mill-art.

Hemm ukoll verżjoni oħra għall-istorja



Il-Bir Zamzam li skont il-kitba hemm l-antorjala li biha ttella' l-ilma u li ilha mill-14-il sekl. Il-barmil tal-ramm kien jintuża fil-bir sa mill-1299 Hijrah.

dik li Alla kien baġhat lill-aṅġlu Gabirjel li b'reġlejh beda jsabbat mal-art u f'daqqa wahda sbroffa l-ilma.

Isem il-bir ġej mill-frazi Zomë Zomë, li tfsir “ieqaf hiereġ” (għall-ilma), ordni li Haġar irrepitet għal għadd ta' drabi bil-ghan li twaqqaf l-ilma min-nixxija.

Hemm kliem iehor alternattiv għal Zomë Zomë. Bhal Zam Zam, Zam-Zam, Zemzem, Zem Zem, and Zem-zem.

Dejjem skont it-tradizzjoni Islamika,

Abram kien bena l-Baitullah (Id-dar t'Alla) fejn hemm il-bir. Dan il-bini li originarjament inbena minn Adem u llum imsejjah Kaaba huwa l-binja li l-Musulmani jħarsu lejha meta jitolbu ħames darbiet kuljum.

Jingħad li l-ilma tal-Bir Zamzam li l-Musulmani mhux biss jixorbu minnu imma wkoll jaħslu wiċċhom u bnadi oħra minn ġisimhom, hu l-aktar ilma pur fid-dinja. Huwa l-uniku ilma li fih 200mlg ta' kalcium f'kull litru, li jipprovd l-ġisem b'amont kbir ta' dan il-mineral tant importanti. Huwa ilma pur u ċar hafna, bla riha jew kulur.

Charles Nenu Vella “in-Negus” 1928-2020

I had known Nenu for over 25 years. He was always a regular listener to all my Maltese Radio programmes including on 98.9 North West Fm.

Nenu was a gentleman, he enjoyed the simple things in life, movies, marci of Maltese Bands, his films of Maltese Festas, loved going to Coburg shopping strip, meeting his long time friends at the local post office and the annual Stella Maris festa in Melbourne.

At the local coffee shop he would sit there with his friends sipping on coffee, shopping locally. He was a regular visitor attending to his Maltese Club in Coburg at the “Bob Hawke Centre” the annual Stella Maris Festa in Melbourne, talking to his friend the President of the Stella Maris Association Mr Charlie Xerri.

He was concerned about his wife Martha or his sister in Queensland and his late brother in Sydney.

He did mention to me on several occa-



sions, “Manwel you know how long I have been here in Australia?” He would repeat what he told me several times over the years “I am living here, but my heart is still in Malta”

Born in the Parish of Stella Maris on August 2, 1928, Nenu Vella passed away in Melbourne 3rd October 3. He was aged 92 years.

Emmanuel Brincat
(Radio Broadcaster)

Il-logħba Haġra Maġra

Kien hemm logħba tat-tfal li llum ftit li kienet tissemma, magħrufa bħala Haġra Maġra li fiha ġemgħa ta' tfal joqogħdu bil-qieghda madwar mejda, maqsumin f'żewġ gruppi jħarsu faċċata ta' xulxin.

Wieħed mill-gruppi jifthiem li jahbi żrara jew xi oġġett f'id wieħed minnhom. Imbagħad bil-moħbi jgħadduh minn id għall-oħra minn taht il-mejda biex hadd minn dawk tal-grupp l-iehor ma jkun jaf għand min se jispiċċa l-oġġett.

Imbagħad it-tfal li jkollhom l-oġġett jgħollu dejhom minn taht il-mejda u jżommu l-ponnijiet magħluqin quddiem l-avversarji li jkunu jridu jaqtgħu għand min qiegħed l-oġġett.

Jekk xi hadd minn tal-grupp l-iehor jaqta' għand min jinsab l-oġġett jiehdu, u jagħmel l-istess logħba hu mal-grupp tiegħu.

Din il-oghba kienu jsibuha wkoll bħala Haġra Tigri jew Tielgħa, minhabba li fil-logħba l-haġra timxi minn id għal oħra u finalment tittella' minn taht il-mejda f'ponn ta' wieħed mit-tfal.



Malta se tiftaħ ambaxxati godda fil-Afrika u fl-Amerika Latina

Bil-ghan li ssahhah ir-rabtiet politiċi u kummerċjali fl-Afrika u fl-Amerika Latina, Malta se tkompli tifrex il-preżenza tagħha b'ambaxxati godda fihom. Dan habbru l-Ministru għall-Affarijiet Barranin u Ewropej Evarist Bartolo.

Waqt konferenza tal-aħbarijiet, il-Ministru Bartolo qal ukoll li matul is-sena li ġejja se tintensifika l-kampanja ta' Malta biex tiġi eletta fuq il-Kunsill tas-Sigurtà tan-Nazzjonijiet Uniti, li huwa meqjus bħala l-aktar organu importanti fil-politika internazzjonali.

Huwa fisser li għalkemm dak tiegħu jissejjaħ Ministeru għall-Affarijiet Barranin, fil-fatt huwa Ministeru għall-Affarijiet Maltin u Għawdxin għaliex permezz tal-uffiċjali u tad-diplomatiċi tiegħu, il-ministeru jahdem qatigh biex ihares l-interessi tal-Maltin u tal-Għawdxin kollha f'Malta u lil hinn.

Huwa semma li f'dan il-kuntest dan l-aħhar għamel kuntatt mal-Maltin kollha fir-reġjuni affettwati mit-terremot li laqat lit-Turkija u l-Greċja biex jassigura li kienu qawwjin u saħ.

B'dan l-istess mod hadem matul il-pandemija COVID-19 biex għab lura Malta aktar minn 1,600 persuna residenti f'pajjiżna, waqt li kien ċentrali fl-akkwist u fil-forniment tat-tagħmir mediku meħtieġ mill-awtoritajiet tas-saħha fil-għieda kon-

tra l-pandemija.

Il-Ministru Bartolo tkellem ukoll dwar l-irwol ta' Malta bħala stat newtrali biex tkompli titjeb is-sitwazzjoni fil-Libja fl-interess tal-Libjani daqs kemm hu fl-interess tal-Maltin u tal-Għawdxin u tal-bqija tal-Ewropa.

Il-Ministru qal li bis-saħha tar-relazzjonijiet b'saħhithom li nbnew fl-aħhar xhur, minn Marzu 'l hawn twaqqfu mal-5,000 persuna milli jtilqu mil-Libja u jaqsmu l-Mediterran b'mod irregolari.

Fl-istess waqt saħaq li Malta se tibqa' soda fil-konfront tal-migrazzjoni irregolari biex il-pajjiżi kollha tal-Unjoni Ewropea jaqsmu r-responsabbiltà ta' dawk li haqqhom l-ażil, u biex dawk li ma jikkwalifikawx għal kenn politiku jintbagħtu lura pajjiżhom.

Imbierka l-oqbra ta' vittmi tal-COVID-19

Fit-tifkira tal-Mejtn fl-2 ta' Novembru, Arcisqof Charles J Scicluna iċcelebra quddies fil-kappella taċ-Ċimiterju tal-Addolorata b'suffraġju għal ruh il-mejtn kollha b'mod speċjali għall-vittmi tal-COVID-19 li għaliha kienu preżenti whud mill-qraba ta' persuni li mietu bil-pandemija.

Fl-omelija tiegħu l-Arcisqof qal li l-pandemija għallmet lill-bniedem li hu dgħajef, li hafna drabi jintilef wara l-frugħa u kemm hemm affarijiet tassew għeżiež.

Qal li lezzjoni oħra tal-pandemija hi l-umiljazzjoni tal-mewt. "Għax kull min jaf xi tfisser tmurt bil-Covid-19, għax għadda minnha, u l-protokoll li ntrabtu mad-difna tal-għeżiež f'dawn l-aħhar xhur jifhem li m'hemm biss il-qsim il-qalb tat-telfa imma hemm ukoll il-qsim il-qalb ta' min jixtieq jesprimi n-niket tiegħu u ma jistax."

F'isem il-poplu Malti u Għawdxin kollu, ried ukoll iwassal il-kompassjoni mal-għeżiež qraba

Mill-komunitá Maltija.....

Il-komunitá Maltija fl-Awstralja qed tis-tenna b'herqa l-aħbar tal-persuna tal-Kummissarju Għoli l-gdid li se jiehu post l-ET Charles Muscat li wara seba' snin f'dik il-kariga se jirtira.

Bdew jiġru hafna xniegħat dwar min se jkun il-Kummissarju Għoli l-gdid wara li fil-harga ta' l-ewwel ta' Settembru *The Voice of the Maltese* konna habbarna li se jkun hemm bidla f'Canberra.

Il-Kummissarju l-gdid jibda l-kariga tiegħu fl-ewwel jiem ta' Jannar 2021, u qed jingħad li l-persuna li se tingħata l-inkarigu ta' Kummissarju Għoli għal Malta diġà tinsab fl-Awstralja. Barra minhekk, hu mifhum ukoll li anke se jsir xi ċaqlieq f'xi pożizzjonijiet oħra fi hdan il-Kummissjoni Għolja.

Sadanittant wara li f'it ilu kien hemm ir-riżenja ta' Shane Delia il-kok ta' fama minn Melbourne mill-Kunsill tal-Maltin li Jghixu Barra (*Maltese Living Abroad* (CMLA), issa thabbret riżenja oħra, dik ta' Anita Grillo biex minn flokha nħatret Giorgia Bugeja.

Għall-attenzjoni tal-qarrejja

Il-qarrejja li jixtiequ juru l-fehmiet tagħhom dwar xi suġġett huma mhegga li ma jhallux għall-aħhar. Indirizzaw l-emails lil

maltesevoice@gmail.com.

L-ittri għall-pubblikazzjoni indikawhom:

Letters to the editor.

L-Arcisqof Charles Scicluna jbierak l-oqbra fil-Addolorata



li tilfu lil xi hadd kawża tal-COVID-19. "Imma naf ukoll li għandna t-tama fil-Mulej Gesù, li żżommna maqgħudin benjietna u tagħtina faraġ kbir meta nahsbu fl-għeżiež tagħna li hallewna," qal l-Arcisqof.

"Meta nħarsu lejn iċ-ċimiterji tagħna qalbna tingħasar. Tmur f'ċimiterju tar-raħal, jew tiġi hawnhekk fiċ-ċimiterju l-kbir tal-Addolorata, u timxi fost l-oqbra u titaq' ma' hbieb antiki, mal-girien.

"Donnu hawnhekk, biż-żmien, timbena belt li ġejja mill-passat tagħna imma għandha wkoll futur. Iċ-ċimiterju huwa art il-hajjin. Hallelw il-fdalijiet tagħhom imma il-mahbubin tagħna, missirijietna, ommijietna, in-nanniet tagħna, il-qraba tagħna, uliedna għal min tilef lil uliedu, huma hajjin," qal.

L-Arcisqof temm jgħid li hemmhekk hallelw dak li jintemm imma fil-Mulej jghixu għal dejjem.

Wara l-quddies huwa bierek l-oqbra fiċ-Ċimiterju tal-Addolorata, fosthom l-oqbra fejn hemm midfuna whud mill-vittmi tal-COVID-19.

(Ara wkoll, *Għaliex Novembru magħruf l-aktar bħala x-Xahar tal-Erwieħ* f'pagna 6)



Il-Ministru tal-Edukazzjoni Owen Bonnici (kokka) u l-Ministru Clint Camilleri (bil-wieqfa t-tieni mx-xelug) fit-tqeghid tal-ewwel ġebła fl-iskola f'Victoria

Mill-Ġżira
Għawdxija

Charles Spiteri



Titpoġġa l-ewwel ġebła

Il-Ministru għall-Edukazzjoni u x-Xogħol Owen Bonnici u l-Ministru għal Għawdex Clint Camilleri żaru s-sit fejn se tinbena l-iskola primarja l-ġdida fir-Rabat, Għawdex, u poġġew l-ewwel ġebła ta' proġett, li huwa investiment ta' madwar €10 miljuni imfisser li se jkun għall-futur tat-tfal Għawdxin.

Il-binja se tiehu post l-iskola primarja li hemm bħalissa fi Triq il-Vajringa, ir-Rabat li għandha madwar 160 sena.

L-iskola l-ġdida se jkollha 10 klassijiet għall-kinder-garten, 16-il klassi għall-primarja L-iskola se jkollha wkoll klassijiet għal suġġetti speċifiċi fosthom għat-tagħlim tas-suġġetti tax-xjenza, tat-teknoloġija, tal-informatika u tal-arti.

Id-daqs tal-iskola li se tkun tesa' 650 tifel u tifla, se jkun ta' madwar 8,000 metru kwadru, bi 3,000 minnhom għal faċilitajiet sportivi u għar-rikreazzjoni tat-tfal.

Il-Ministru għal Għawdex fisser dan l-investiment bħala l-akbar proġett kapitali fl-infrastruttura edukattiva f'Għawdex li meta jitlesta se jkun l-uniku kampus fil-pajjiż li jiġbor fl-istess post ċentru għall-harsien tat-tfal, skola primarja, medja u sekondarja, u sixth form.

Huwa qal li dan il-proġett huwa parti minn investiment ta' €30 miljun fil-belt Victoria minhabba li qed ukoll jinbena ċentru sportiv li se jinkludi fih pixxina ta' daqs Olimpiku.

Preżenti għaċ-ċerimonja kien hemm ukoll, is-Segretarju Permanenti fil-Ministeru tal-Edukazzjoni, Frank Fabri, is-Segretarju Permanenti fil-Ministeru għal Għawdex, John Borg, il-Prinċipal tal-Kulleġġ ta' Għawdex Denise Mifsud u l-Kap tal-Iskola Lelio Spiteri.

**Ara wkoll paġna 21: Jitlesta proġett...*



Il-Ministru Owen Bonnici (xellug) u l-Kap tal-iskola primarja tar-Rabat Lelio Spiteri jsejmu lil xulxin



Mixgħela f'Jum l-Erwieħ

B'kollaborazzjoni bejn id-Direttorat għall-Wirt Kulturali fi hdan il-Ministeru għal Għawdex u d-Djoċesi ta' Għawdex, f'Jum il-Qaddisin kollha, nhar il-Ħadd, 1 ta' Novembru, fl-irħula kollha u fil-belt Victoria, kif ukoll fi Pjazza t-Tokk saret mixgħela quddiem il-knejjes, fil-biċċa l-kbira fuq iz-zuntier tal-parroċċi rispettivi. Inxtelghu eluf ta' xemgħat mis-sitta sal-ħdax ta' billejl. Fl-istampa u fil-faċċata ta' quddiem, il-mixgħela quddiem il-Knisja Parrokkjali tal-Madonna Ta' Loreto, f'Għajnsielem

Jislesta l-proġett taċ-Ċimiterju Parrokkjali tax-Xagħra

Wara li saret l-estensjoni l-ġdida fiċ-ċimiterju tax-Xagħra f'Għawdex, sar ikoll ir-restawr fil-parti l-qadima u tlesta l-ġnien ta' riflessjoni, magħruf bhala *Gnien il-Hajja*.

Dan sar wara li nhasset il-htieġa li parti oħra biswit iċ-ċimiterju tinbidel fi ġnien bhala ċimiterju monument għal dawk ulied ix-Xagħra li matul is-snin hallew il-familji tagħhom u emigraw lejn artijiet imbegħda biex jibnu ġejjieni għalihom u għall-familji tagħhom.

Hafna minn dawn in-nies qed jikbru fl-età waqt li whud mietu. L-Arċipriet tal-parroċċa Mgr. Carmelo Refalo qal lil *The Voice* li, "hija hasra li dawn in-nies li tant habbew raħal twelidhom, u minhabba ċirkustanzi diversi ndifnu f'ċimiterji barra l-pajjiż, jintesew."

Bil-hsieb li hafna Xagħrin li l-fdalijiet tagħhom jinsabu f'ċimiterji oħrajn f'Għawdex jew f'Malta, u għalhekk ma jibqax tifikira tagħhom fir-raħal, nibtet l-idea li jinbena dal-ġnien iddedikat lil-hom. Il-ġnien gie fassal madwar il-blat u l-veġetazzjoni naturali li tinsab tikber fil-post.



Il-monument għal Xagħrin li mietu barra. Tidher tfikira ta' dawk li mietu fl-Awstralja

Tpoġġew għadd ta' blajjet kbar bhala monument li magħhom jit-waħhlu d-dettalji ta' nies mir-raħal li mietu u l-fdalijiet tagħhom jinsabu f'xi post ieħor.

Waqt it-tindif inkixef hajt sabiħ taċ-ċimiterju l-antik u matulu se titpoġġa Via Sagra biex min jinvista iċ-ċimiterju matul ir-Randan ikun jista' jimmedita quddiem ix-xbihat tal-passjoni ta' Ġesu' Kristu.

Fil-parti ta' barra se jkun hemm parkeġġ u se jikber l-ispazju madwar il-kappella halli waqt il-funzjonijiet ikun jista' jilqa' aktar nies fi spazju miftuħ. Minbarra dan se jithawlu sigar indigeni biex jikkumplementaw il-pajsagġ u jhaddnu l-ambjent naturali. Apparti minhekk, is-sigara simbolu tal-hajja, jagħtu tifsira reliġjuża lil min iżur il-post.

Hospice Movement Malta appeals for donations



For the past 30 years, Hospice Malta, a registered NGO, has provided patient-centred palliative care, as well as psychological assistance, to persons suffering from serious illnesses.

These include cancer, motor neuron disease, and other illnesses related to heart, liver and respiratory conditions.

Its services, completely free of charge, are provided to over 1300 patients annually. They also include the provision of equip-

➔ Peter Calamatta's book in aid of the Hospice Movement in Malta

ment (e.g. syringe drivers, wheelchairs, hospital type beds etc.) for home use.

Hospice also looks after the families of the patients during this difficult time and provides support and bereavement counselling.

It depends heavily on a large number of volunteers who assist the multidisciplinary team in terms of services, day-to-day operations, planning and assisting at events.

It manages to sustain these services mainly through the generous donations it receive during the year, as well as a number of fundraising initiatives that are held.

At the moment Hospice Malta is promoting Peter Calamatta's book, *Xi Hadd Hemm Fuq Ithobbi* in which he recalls how he is a long term cancer survivor.

The book is an inspirational book to those passing through difficult times. It is prized AUD\$25. All proceeds from its sale are going to Hospice Malta.

The Voice of the Maltese is passing this information to the Maltese communities covered by the distribution of our magazine because it was requested to do so. It is also appealing to social clubs and other Maltese Associations, to get in touch with them in order to encourage them to organise fundraising activities for Hospice.

More information about Hospice and Peter Calamatta's Book, can be obtained by [contacting andrew.zammit@hospice-malta.org](mailto:contacting.andrew.zammit@hospice-malta.org) or by phone on: (00356) 21440085.

The Maltese Community Council

MALTESE LANGUAGE TEACHERS

The Maltese Language School of NSW is inviting interested applicants to join our team of casual teachers to teach the Maltese language. If you are a fluent Maltese speaker and passionate about the language, we would like to hear from you. Successful applicants will be provided training and support. This is a paid position.

Volunteer teachers' aides would also be welcome.

Lessons are held every Saturday morning and classes run as per the NSW school terms.

The Maltese Language School of NSW
is a division of the Maltese Community Council of NSW
For more details please call us on 0416 119 100 or email:
malteselanguageschoolnsw@hotmail.com

Community News

Tune in to Radio and Television

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

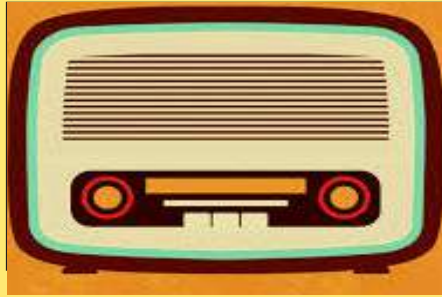
MELBOURNE: on 3ZZZ 92.3FM or on www.3zzz.com.au. Mondays 5-6 pm, Fridays 5-6 pm and Saturdays 10-11am.

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

On SBS Radio

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

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



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

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

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

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

days and Sundays at 8am.

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

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

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

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

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



La Valette Social Centre

La Valette Social Centre Inc. 175 Walters Road, Blacktown Tel. 96225847

The Centre is now open again two days a week, **Thursdays, Saturdays**

The Centre is a registered Covid-Safe Venue and all special requirements are in force including social distancing, restricted numbers, temperature taking, patron register and Covid-Marshall.

Flexible Respite is operating normally but Centre-Based Respite is restricted due to low numbers that can be transported.

Charlie's Family Restaurant is open Thursdays and Saturdays for lunch and dinner.

Bocci pitches are operating again with some restrictions.

Bingo: Saturday only at 8.00pm preceded by short Maltese movie at 7.30pm.

MASS: Thursday: 10.15am; Saturday: 5.30 p.m. (subject to availability of a priest.)

Avviż lill-qarrejja

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

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

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

Biex dan isir wiehed l-ewwel jibgħat email lil maltesevoice@gmail.com fejn jitlob tagħrif dwar il-ħlas ta' abbonament għal sena fl-istat fejn jgħix. Imbagħad jekk ikun irid jissieheb ma' dawk kollha li mhumix kuntenti biss li jaqraw il-magazine online, imma wkoll li jkollhom kopja tiegħu, jgħarrafna u jkun moqdijin.



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L-aħbarijiet tal-PBS (Malta)

Il-PBS ta' Malta tforni lill-SBS fl-Awstralja bis-servizz tal-aħbarijiet tagħha, imma l-qarrejja xorta huma mhegga biex jidhlu fil-website tal-istazzjon Malti: www.tvn.com.mt. għall-aħbarijiet kemm bil-Malti u bl-Ingliż.

Sports on two pages



Marcus Rashford: finding purpose off-field can improve sporting performance

Matin J Turner

(Reader in Psychology, Manchester Metropolitan University)



Manchester United and England footballer Marcus Rashford had quite a month in October. He was honoured with an MBE for his efforts to ensure free school meals for children, and his petition to end child food poverty has surpassed a million signatures.

It has often been said that to achieve success on the pitch, one must “eat, sleep, and breathe football”. But this previously accepted wisdom is being challenged.

Rashford’s competing commitments do not seem to be causing his sporting performance to suffer. In fact, the reverse seems to be true: Rashford came off the bench to score a hat-trick in 16 minutes against RB Leipzig in the Champions League on October 28 as United beat their opponents by 5-0.

Finding purpose outside of sport can contain a multitude of benefits for athletic performance, and – perhaps more importantly – for wellbeing more generally.

I am what I do

One of the occupational hazards of being an elite sports person is that an athlete’s identity becomes defined by what they do. This phenomenon is known as “athletic identity”.

This is characterised by an over-commitment to sport, and an avoidance of exploring other identities. Athletes appear to be at particular risk because athletic identity is generally developed at a young age before they can fully explore other role identities.

On the one hand, a strong athletic identity

can unearth huge reservoirs of motivation. It can enhance performance and feed a long-term commitment to sport. On the other side, those with a strong athletic identity can view setbacks and adversity as threats to their identity. They will overinflate the perceived severity of on-field mistakes or injuries, and are more likely to experience crisis when they are no longer able to play the sport.

Moreover, the problem with exclusively engulfing identity in a profession is that a person’s sense of value and self-worth becomes tethered to their occupation.

This means that an athlete may only view themselves as valuable and worthwhile people when they perform well – and useless and worthless when they fail. As Olympic swimmer Lizzie Simmonds told *Sportspiel*:

I developed a self-limiting belief that my worth as a person was correlated to my performance in the pool.

This can add pressure to the already highly demanding and scrutinised world of professional sport. It is of little surprise that making self-worth contingent on your performance is bad for mental health and can lead to burnout.

The dangers of a strong and exclusive athletic identity mean that it is better for sportspeople to consider being an athlete as just one part of who they are, not the totality of their identity.

Athletes able to distinguish between who they are from what they do, and recognise that they are just normal human beings who succeed sometimes and fail other times, are more likely to be able to per-

Marcus Rashford scoring the second goal of his hat-trick against RB Leipzig in the UEFA Champions League

form under pressure.

Another benefit of an athlete pursuing meaning away from sport is that they can make use of a balanced and more accurate view of sport. Sport is not life, and success and failure is not life and death.

My research has shown that under pressure, taking a more balanced perspective on sport performance can aid performance. We can encourage this sense of perspective in young players, to limit the pernicious idea that under-performance in sport is the end of the world.

Athletes who are entrenched in a strong athletic identity, where self-worth is contingent on performance, are more likely to view adversity as terrible, intolerable, the end of the world – because failure is dangerous to their sense of who they are.

By engaging in meaningful endeavours away from sport, athletes can understand that their setbacks and failures do not compare to what many others are experiencing.

What we learn from Marcus Rashford, and many other athletes who have dedicated their efforts to societal issues, is that a human being’s social worth far outstretches athletic ability and has the potential to create a meaningful legacy that will exist outside of the context of sport.

By applying themselves to endeavours outside of sport, athletes can develop a greater sense of who they are beyond sport.

If athletes are able to meaningfully apply their skills, their intellect and their motivation to worthwhile causes outside of sport, then they are more likely to take a balanced approach to performance, and realise that they have value to society beyond their athletic skillset.

Courtesy **THE CONVERSATION**

Sports on two pages

Three matches in six days for Malta national team

Tomorrow Wednesday November 11, Malta's national football team face the first of three upcoming international matches at the Ta' Qali National Stadium. Wednesday's will be a friendly international against Liechtenstein, to be used as a warm-up match ahead of the two UEFA Nations League Group D1 home games. Three days later, on November 14 the Maltese host Andorra, and on the 17th take on the leaders of the group by five points, Faroe Islands.

Malta would be aiming to extend their four-match unbeaten run and to improve their points' tally in the UEFA Nations League. Malta currently stand in second place in the league ladder on five points and would be all out to bag more to make this their best ever points-tally in the competition.

In the last outings Malta drew 1-1 at home and then beat Latvia away 1-0, and figured

in a scoreless draw away to Andorra in September, and also defeated Gibraltar 2-0 in an warm-up home match.

The national team's preparation for the forthcoming fixtures were somewhat undermined by the COVID-19 epidemic as head coach Devis Mangia himself had to spend some days in self-isolation to recover from the virus, while a number of players have also been unavailable for the same reason.

When this problem is surmounted, the coach, and Malta's supporters would be hoping that the players who have done so well of late, would keep showing even further improvement.

International final curtain call for Michael Mifsud

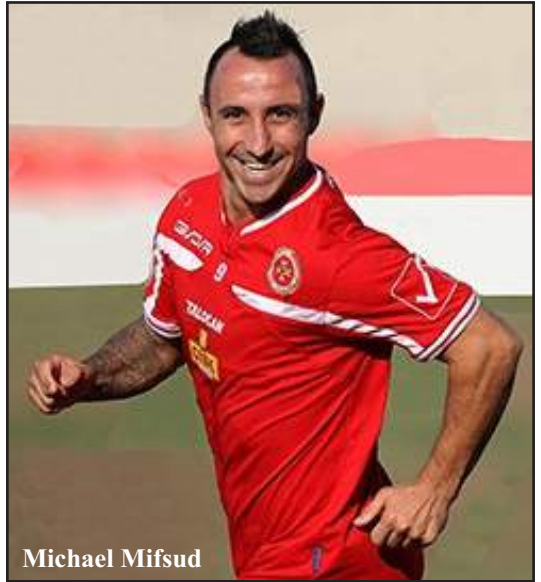
Meanwhile, Wednesday's friendly against Liechtenstein will be the final international curtain call for Malta's most-capped footballer, Michael Mifsud, 39, who currently plays for Sirens. It would be his 143rd appearance in a Malta shirt. He is also Malta's all-time national team leading scorer with 41 goals.

Michael Mifsud's amazing 20-year jour-

ney with the national team started at the age of 18 when Josip Ilić gave him his debut in the home friendly against Albania on February 10, 2000.

Talking about his experience in the national team, Mifsud said that all the games he played for the national team were nice memories... "Every game, every second you play matters," he said.

"I've always been honoured to represent my country and proud with what I have achieved. I wish to thank everyone, especially those who helped me to achieve this. It's a very special thing," he added.



Michael Mifsud

Malta Premier League 2020/21

Hibs and Sliema take the lead

Before the break for the National team's international commitments, Hibernians and Sliema Wanderers won their matches from Day 7 that elevated them to the top position in the Premier League ladder with 16 points.

Hamrun Spartans and Gżira United dropped points in their 2-2 draw and now they share the next stage two points behind the leaders. Sliema obtained their spot following two successive wins in six days. They first beat Birkirkara 2-1 in their postponed match from Day 6, and then defeated Balzan on Day 7 by 3-1.

Hamrun Spartans who had taken the league by storm have now dropped seven points in their last three outings, first with the loss against Birkirkara, and then with back-to-back 2-2 draws against Balzan (on Day 6) and against Gżira United on Day 7.

Promoted side Gudja could become the surprise team of the campaign. They are holding their own against the established teams, and going great guns against the others, as they did in their 5-0 victory over Tarxien that has enabled them to settle in fifth place, three points behind the leaders, one point and ahead of Floriana (who have a game in hand), and two over and Valletta.

Sirens played their Day 4 postponed match against Tarxien R on Saturday before the league heads into the international break and drew 2-2.

Jai Hindley just misses out in Giro but heralds bright new era for Australian cycling



Jai Hindley on the podium in Italy

An achievement last month in the *Giro d'Italia* (Tour of Italy) by 24-year-old Jai Hindley who managed a podium place at the end of it, heralds a bright new era for Australian cycling. It has been described as an early marker for a talented next generation.

His achievement also transformed the young man's standing in the sport.

Hindley from Perth just missed out in his wholly unexpected attempt to win one of the great prizes in cycling when he lost his leader's pink jersey on the very final time stage in the Italian city of Milano.

In the end, just 39 seconds separated him from the most unlikely of victories as his English friend Tao Geoghegan Hart ended up prevailing after the wonderful three-week battle.

It meant Hindley just failed in his bid to become the first Australian winner of the event and only the second after Cadel Evans, winner at the 2011 Tour de France, to secure victory in one of cycling's three grand tours – *Le Tour*, the *Giro* and Spain's *Vuelta*.

As he cycled into sight of Milan's famous cathedral, Britain's former Tour de France champion Bradley Wiggins, commenting on Eurosport, declared: "We're going to be talking about this man a lot for the next 10 years. He's been fantastic."

Yet the man who finished only 21st in the national road race championship in January was only at the *Giro* as a domestique at the service of his team leader, Dutchman Wilco Kelderman, and as it turned out, the servant became the master.