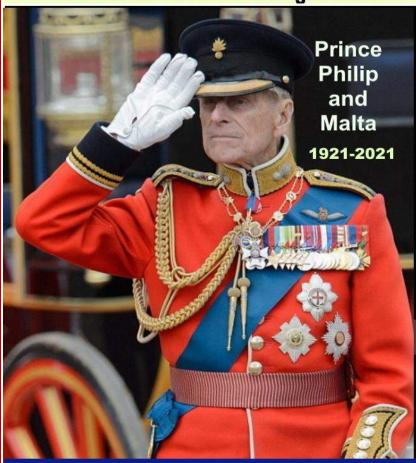
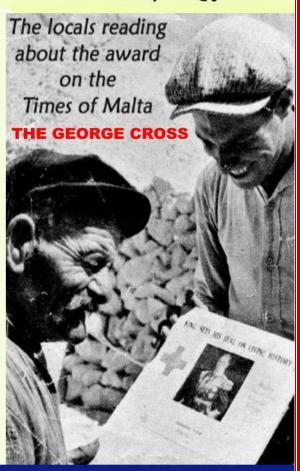
## Maltese eNewsletter

**Journal of Maltese Living Abroad** 

**Editor: Frank Scicluna OAM MQR** 

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#### CROSSING OVER

One last step in Malta, one first step in Australia, two steps that changed me from an emigrant to immigrant, as I took the plunge and crossed the Rubicon of an unchartered destiny. Can a migrant change his identity the way he changes his nationality? This is the question that seeks an answer.

#### MINN NAHA GHAL OHRA

L-ahhar pass f'Malta, l-ewwel pass fl-Awstralja, zewg passi li bidluni minn emigrant ghal immigrant, xhin qtajta li mmur 'il hinn mir-Rubikon ta' dad-destin. Jista l-immigrant jibdel l-identita' l-istess kif jista jbiddel in-nazzjonalita'? Din hija l-mistoqsija li tfittex it-twegiba.

(The late) Manwel Nicholas Borg - Victoria - Australia



# THE MALTESE JOURNAL HITS MALTA MEDIA

http:/www.newsbook.com.mt/keeping-maltese-communities/

#### WHY MALTA ALWAYS REMEMBERS PRINCE PHILIP

## PM leads Malta tributes to Prince Philip

Photo: Times of Malta

In the early years of their marriage the Queen and Prince Philip lived in Malta between 1949 and 1951 at Villa Guardamangia, owned by Philip's uncle Lord Mountbatten.

The duke was stationed there as a naval officer and was made second in command of HMS Chequers, operating from Malta with the Mediterranean fleet.

The property offered the newlyweds more than just a Mediterranean base, as Malta gave them their only taste of real life and a place where no one gave them any grief.

It is the only place outside of the UK that Queen Elizabeth has called home.

Lady Pamela Hicks, one of the Queen's bridesmaids, said: "The Queen really loved living in Malta because she was able to lead a normal life, wander through the towns and go shopping. "It was the only place that she was able to live the life of a naval officer's wife, just like all the other wives.

"They were magical days of endless picnics, sunbathing and water skiing.

"It was wonderful for her and it's why they have such nostalgia for Malta."

The Queen divided her time between England, where her son Prince Charles was staying with his grandparents, and Malta.

Elizabeth's magical and carefree time in Malta allowed her to handle cash for the first time, drive through the narrow streets, and dance with Prince Philip in the ballroom of Hotel Meridien Phoenicia.

While Philip was on board Chequers, Elizabeth hosted tea parties and visited the local salon.

However, by 1951 King George's health was deteriorating rapidly, which ended the couple's relatively normal life.

Prince Philip left the Royal Navy on 'indefinite leave' in July 1951, ending his military career to stand by Elizabeth.

After battling a long illness King George died on February 6, 1952, suddenly elevating Elizabeth to Queen

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh's love affair with Malta did not end there, however, and they returned several times.



In 2007 the couple celebrated their diamond anniversary in Malta, and most recently in 2015 they were there for the Commonwealth summit in Valletta.

During that 2015 visit, the Queen said: "Visiting Malta is always very special for me.

"I remember happy days here with Prince Philip when we were first married."

During the trip former Maltese president Marie Louise Coleiro presented the couple with a watercolour of Villa Guardamangia.

Prime Minister Robert Abela led tributes to Britain's Prince Philip, saying the people of Malta will always treasure his memory.

The Duke of Edinburgh died on Friday morning at Windsor Castle, at the age of 99.

In a statement, the government said that Prince Philip's legacy will live on in Malta through the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award, and memories of his numerous visits.

Noting that he will be "fondly remembered" in Malta, on behalf of the government and the people of Malta, Abela offered his condolences to the Queen, Royal Family, and British people.

The Duke of Edinburgh had a fondness for Malta, having spent the first few years of his marriage on the island.

Later, the couple flew over on royal visits on various occasions, notably for the two Commonwealth Heads of Government Meetings held in Malta.

President George Vella also paid tribute.

On Facebook, he said: "I learned with deep sorrow about the demise of His Royal Highness Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh. On behalf of the People of Malta and Gozo, I convey my deepest sympathy and heartfelt condolences to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the members of The Royal Family and the People of the United Kingdom at these very difficult moments."











Queen Elizabeth
and Prince Philip
HAPPY DAYS SPENT IN MALTA







## What really happened to Prince Philip's mother Princess Alice?

#### THE PROJECTS WORLD

Tony Award-winning actress Jane Lapotaire stars as Princess Alice of Battenberg in The Crown season three. Princess Alice was the mother of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh (played by Tobias Menzies) and the mother-in-law of Queen Elizabeth II (Olivia Colman). Sadly, she passed away on December 5, 1969, at Buckingham Palace, two years after being reunited with her son.

## What really happened to Philip's mother Princess Alice?



Princess Alice lived a traumatic life, surviving two world wars, living in exile, and was diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia.

Born on February 25, 1885, in Windsor Castle, Princess Alice was congenitally deaf. She grew up in the United Kingdom, the German Empire and the Mediterranean.

In 1903, she married Princess Andrew of Greece and Denmark and lived in Greece until the exile of the Greek royal family in 1917.

During the inter-war period, the majority of the Greek royal family lived in Switzerland. The Greek royal family were once again forced into exile following the country's defeat in the Greco-Turkish War, 1919-1922, until the restoration of the Greek monarchy in 1935.

In 1930, Princess Alice was diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia by Thomas Ross, a psychiatrist who specialised in shell-shock and subsequently by Sir Maurice Craig, who treated King George VI (Jared Harris) before he had speech therapy.

The diagnosis was confirmed by Dr Ernst Simmel in Tegel, Berlin and she was committed to treatment at Dr Ludwig Binswanger's sanatorium in Kreuzlingen, Switzerland.

At the asylum, Princess Alice was treated by Sigmund Freud, who believed that her delusions were the result of sexual frustration. Historian David Cohen in his article, Freud and the British Royal Family, described how Freud recommended that Princess Alice should receive an x-ray on her ovaries to induce early menopause and stop her delusions.

During her stay at the sanatorium, Princess Alice pleaded her sanity and tried to leave the asylum numerous times. Her institutionalisation had an impact on her marriage and her family, and she lost all contact with her husband and children.

During her stay at the sanatorium, Alice's three daughters married German princes and Prince Philip was sent to live in England with her brothers Lord Louis Mountbatten (Charles Dance) and George, Marquess of Milford Haven.

Princess Alice and Prince Philip did not meet again until six years later, at the funeral of their daughter Cecile and her family. During the Second World War, Princess Alice remained in Athens and sheltered Jewish refugees for which she was recognised as a "Righteous Among the Nations" by Israel's Holocaust memorial insinuation, Yad Vashem.

After the war, she remained in Greece and founded an Orthodox nursing order of nuns known as the Christian Sisterhood of Martha and Mary. With the fall of King Constantine II of Greece and the imposition of military rule in 1967, Princess Alice was invited by her son and Queen Elizabeth to live in Buckingham Palace.

Her remains were transferred from St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle to the Church of Mary Magdalene, Gethsemane, Jerusalem.

# VALE: The Very Rev Mgr. Can. John 'Dun Gwann' Azzopardi, Conventual Chaplain ad honorem, Sovereign Order of Malta

© Confrere Professor Stephen Gatt, 2021.



The Order of Malta has just lost another of its great leading lights; one who has left the Order many precious works and artefacts. The Very Reverend Mgr. Can. John Azzopardi, better known in Malta as just 'Dun Ġwann', passed away at the age of 84 on February 19.

Dun Ġwann was an Honorary Canon of the Collegiate Basilica of St. Paul and Proto-Parish of Rabat in Malta. He was the Curator of the Mdina Cathedral, the Archivist of the Mdina Metropolitan Chapter and the Founder and Archivist / Librarian of the Wignacourt Museum in Rabat. He loved lecturing regularly at the Archbishop's Seminary.

Dun Ġwann was also considered a leading scholar on the Order of Malta and Pauline studies and traditions. He completed so many accomplishments in so many areas of endeavour that it is hard to comprehend the extent to which he moulded the activities and life of The Order.



Mgr. John Azzopardi and a cohort of fellow priests and members of religious orders who had been ordained 50

years earlier at a Concelebrated High Mass in St. John's Cocathedral, the jewel

in the crown of the Order of Malta, in 1912.

In an afternoon Facebook post on the day on which he passed into Paradise, Fr. Azzopardi wrote:

"I have embarked on a much-awaited journey to the Lord.



Please pray that I arrive safely".

In the 'cell' where he lived, composed his great works, prayed, catalogued his

Wignacourt collections and slept sat a gigantic Compactus archive gallery. He was always happy to take me straight to the source of his statements or

contentions in his beloved Compactus. He was the ultimate scholar and font of knowledge tinged with a wicked sense of humour. This cell was located over St. Paul's Grotto and above his 'baby', the Wignacourt Museum of SMOM.

Ever the consummate wordsmith with profound knowledge of his subject matter he authored many publications and books in Maltese histography and artistic heritage. His abiding passions were the Order of Malta, sacred art, Caravaggio (a somewhat errant knight of our Order), the Inquisition, sacred music, St. Paul's and St. Luke's visit to Malta and Jewish History in Malta. In all these areas he pioneered novel research from previously unexplored sources many of which eventually resided in his Compactus.

In every area of interest, Fr. Azzopardi has left us with a literary masterpiece: Albrecht Dürer, the German Renaissance master printmaker, painter and theorist – 'Dürer in Malta'; Sovereign Order of Malta – 'The Order's Early Legacy in Malta' and 'The Church of St. John in Valletta'; St. Paul – 'Marć Antonio Haxac & Malta's Devotion to St. Paul': The Cathedral –

'Archives of the Cathedral of Malta'; Malta Jews – Jewish History in Malta in the Middle Ages. On my every visit to The Wignacourt and Dun Ġwann he would give me a personal guided tour of the Order's artworks, artefacts and library followed by an exposition of his most recent researches with frequent trips to the hundreds of manuscripts in the Compactus archive. My brother, Mark Gatt, an enthusiastic part-time professional diver, who unearthed and 'brought up' from the seabed St. Paul's lead anchor stock from the waters outside Qawra Point, St. Paul's Bay, a discovery now authenticated

by The Vatican, was a great supporter of Fr.

Azzopardi. Indeed, while the original anchor stock

resides in the National Maritime Museum, a

reconstructed replica of the complete St. Paul Anchor

was installed in the courtyard of the SMOM

Wignacourt Museum.

My brother, Mark, was a firm friend of Dun Ġwann and a frequent visitor to St. Paul's Grotto, the Collegiate Basilica, the Roman Necropolis of St. Paul and Wignacourt Museum had this recollection / reflection on the life and times of Dun Gwann which he recorded in his obituary in the print and social media:

< I first got to know Dun Gwann when I needed help with my research on St. Paul [for my book, Pavlvs -The Shipwreck AD60]. Fifteen years ago, Monsignur Azzopardi and the late Paul Guillaumier were the people to go to for expert advice on Apostle Paul's voyage, shipwreck and his subsequent stay on Malta. Dun Gwann was welcoming and most generous with answers to my questions. For some years, his health had been steadily deteriorating. Whenever we met, he would seek my help with standing upright on his feet. Hanging onto my arm, we would then go for a walk in the Wignacourt courtyard or down the museum's passageways to discuss and chat. Later, in his office, he would pinpoint the book or reference to prove the matter we had been mulling over.

A few years ago, we were both giving consecutive talks in St Publius Church above St. Paul's Grotto to some tourists travelling in the Footsteps of Apostle Paul. He was to deliver the final lecture, right after mine. Un-planned, he took my final sentence to start his, expanding the argument and further enhancing my performance.

I can picture him now, arm in arm with St Paul in Paradise, asking Paul about the voyage and shipwreck that brought Apostles Paul and Luke to our shores, asking for his impressions of his three-month stay on Melita with our ancestors and discussing with him and St Publius the core values our 'modern' society has lost. Throughout his adult lifetime, Malta's [population's] erosion of faith pained Dun Gwann mightily. Dun Gwann would be asking St. Paul, St. Luke and St. Publius to intercede, on our behalf, for protection and guidance.

Farewell Dun Ġwann. I will forever cherish our friendship. Mark Gatt >

Dun Ġwann's crowning triumph was his organisation of The Order's Wignacourt Museum / St. Paul Complex with its magnificent Basilica, many chapels and churches above St. Paul's Grotto. In the *Motu Proprio* Decree – G/M Fra' Matthew Festing of 21 Oct 2015, the Wignacourt was placed under the patronage of the Prince and Grand Master of the Order as a repository of the spiritual and cultural heritage of the SMOM. Fr. John's vision was shared by many and his supporters made sure his mission was brought to fruition. Donations came from many angles and included substantial support from individual members of the Australian Association of the Order of Malta.



Fr. John Azzopardi offering service in his beloved St. Paul Sanctuary. Also shown is HE Marchesino Daniel De Petri

Testaferrata, Maltese Association President, giving an address in the presence of

A recognised annual pilgrimage of the Order is the Votive Lamp Pilgrimage to St. Paul's Grotto, where the Apostle Paul lived in Rabat while in Malta. The Votive Lamp (above) of G/M Fra' Angelo de Mojana is in the form of a Silver Galley of the Order.

Dun Gwann, Fr. John, the gentle giant of the Order of Malta has peacefully and serenely passed on into eternal life. He will be sorely missed but never forgotten. Requiescat in pacem.

## **Malta George Cross Memorial**

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Malta George Cross Memorial in London

The Malta George Cross Memorial, also known as the Maltese Memorial, is a war memorial in London, built to commemorate the siege of Malta in the Second World War, which led to the island's being collectively awarded the George Cross in April 1942. The memorial was unveiled in 2005, near All Hallows by the Tower.

The memorial is constructed from a large rectangular monolithic block of limestone from the Maltese island of Gozo. The block stands 3 metres (9.8 ft) high and weighs 8.5 tons. It bears an inscribed black slate panel on each of its four sides. The main panel to the southeast recounts the siege of Malta from 1940 to 1943, and the consequent loss of 7.000 lives of civilians Allied Maltese and and Commonwealth service personnel. A Maltese cross is displayed above this main panel. Further details of the siege are inscribed on a second panel on the northwest face of the memorial. The panel to the northeast gives details of the award of the George Cross, and the panel to the southwest has a map illustrating the Allied operations in the Mediterranean Sea.

The stone was presented by the Government of Malta and erected by the George Cross Island

Association in 2005, for the 60th anniversary of the end of the Second World War. It was unveiled on 15 August 2005 by the President of Malta Eddie Fenech Adami, and dedicated



by Vincent Nichols, Roman then the Catholic Archbishop of Birmingham, with a wreath laid by Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. The date was the 63rd anniversary of the arrival of the last surviving ship of the Operation Pedestal convoy at Valletta Grand Harbour that provided critical supplies during the siege. The unveiling was attended by approximately 100 Malta campaign, veterans of the representatives of Allied and Commonwealth forces.

There is a further memorial to the George Cross Island Association at the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas near Lichfield, and one in the Peace Garden of the former Anglican Church of St Luke, Liverpool.



# THE STRANGE FACTS OF THE STORY OF THE MALTESE GEORGE CROSS



An amazing tale of heroism, politics and pride during World War II

The award of the George Cross to Malta has never been officially published in the London Gazette.

It is the only exception since the gallantry medal was created by Royal Warrant by King George VI early in World War II with the details published in the London Gazette on January 31, 1941.

The cross was to be awarded "for acts of the greatest heroism or of the most conspicuous

courage in circumstances of extreme danger".

The award was a personal gesture of the King and not a decision of the British government.

It was announced by Buckingham Palace with the publication of a citation written in the King's hand in the form of a letter sent the Governor, General Sir William Dobbie.

It said: "To honour her brave people I award the George Cross to the Island Fortress of Malta to bear witness to a heroism and devotion that will long be famous in history".

The King's decision came at the height of the siege on April 15, 1942 when the Axis air forces were bombarding the island incessantly round the clock with wave after wave of bombers in a determined onslaught more intensive and prolonged than the Battle of Britain.

The towns and villages were being reduced to rubble and the population spending long periods in the shelters. Food was in short supply.

In an order of the day the Luftwaffe boasted: "During the period March 20 to April 28, 1942, the naval and air bases of Malta were put completely out of action.

"In the course of 5,807 sorties by bombers, 5,667 by fighters and 345 by reconnaissance aircraft, 6,557,231 kilograms of bombs were dropped..." This was almost as much as the total dropped by the Luftwaffe on the whole of Britain at the height of the Battle of Britain in September 1940.

Valletta was being pounded and on April 7 the area at the entrance to the city was deliberately bombed, the Royal Opera House demolished and most of the buildings in the vicinity destroyed.

The Italians were making plans to occupy the island and expecting the garrison and people to surrender. The Luftwaffe pilots did not know where to drop their bombs so great was the havoc seen from the air.

On Friday, March 23, three ships of Convoy MW 10 had arrived at Malta from Alexandria after a bitter naval battle against superior Italian naval forces and Axis aircraft sorties.

The Luftwaffe did not target the ships in force on Saturday because of very bad weather and the work of unloading the ships started but was halted on Sunday on the orders of the Governor who was a very religious person.

But the Luftwaffe attacked in waves on Monday and the ships were sunk and the cargoes lost.

One of these ships, S.S. Talabot whose holds were full of ammunition caught fire below Floriana bastion and the inhabitants of the town were evacuated as it was feared the harbour area would be destroyed if the ship blew up.

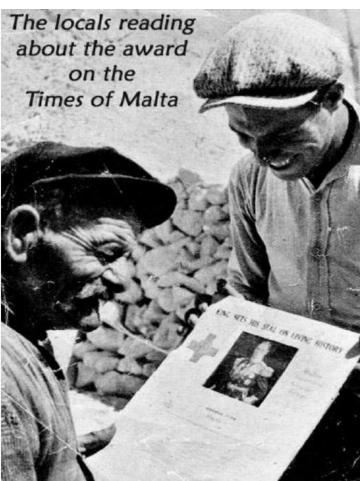
The situation was saved when an officer from the cruiser Penelope, Lieut. D.A. Copperwheat, swam to the side of the freighter and at great risk attached depth charges to the keel to blow holes and let the water in and flood the ammunition holds. He was awarded the George Cross.

The three services chiefs and the lieutenant-governor were furious at the governor and they petitioned the British Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, to replace him as "a tired man".

Churchill recalled General Lord Gort from Governor of Gibraltar to take over from Dobbie and to assess the situation, even to consider the surrender of Malta.

The George Cross medal was handed to the new Governor who carried it to Malta in his pocket on the flight to the island in a Sunderland flying-boat. It landed at Kalafrana at night on May 7 during a raid on the RAF base when some members of the welcoming party were injured.

Dobbie went home on the return flight and later regretted not having in the confusion asked to see the cross. Years later a number of individuals claimed barefacedly to have brought the medal to Malta. The George



Cross was formally presented to the people and garrison at a ceremony on the Palace Square in Valletta on September 13 later in the year when the raids had declined in intensity.

The medal had been displayed in turn at each town and village in Malta and in Gozo. After the war it was displayed annually on the Palace Square on the anniversary of the award until 1971 when a Labour Government led by Dom Mintoff, in a bitter dispute with the British government and reflecting the mood of its leader, withdrew it from view altogether.

There were threats that the George Cross, kept at the public library in Valletta, would be stolen and the Director of Museums F. X. Mallia, voiced his concern while on a visit to London to his friend, George Dougall, who had been broadcasting from the BBC a weekly programme called Maltese Miscellany. He took Mr Mallia to the medallist firm of Spink and they bought a replica which was displayed instead of the original.

The new librarian, Vincent Depasquale, on taking up his appointment, found to his horror that the King's letter had been glued to stiff cardboard.

He managed to retrieve it with care. At one

stage the Minister of Labour, Culture and Welfare, Agatha Barbara, asked for the Cross and this was sent to her by Mr Mallia. She discarded it and it was picked up by one of her secretaries, a Labour party zealot by the name of Manwel Schembri, who put a note in its case that the medal was not to be returned.

The cloth background to the medal was mauled and Mr Schembri wrote his name and the date 24-VII-81. When some time later the photographer of the Tourism Board sought to take a photograph of the cross he was referred to Mr Schembri who produced the box from the back of his office drawer with the remark: "Is this what you want, this junk!"

Mr Schembri took the cross home. It was recovered by the police when eventually Censu Tabone became President of Malta in 1989. The authorities tried to obtain another cross but were told that gallantry awards are only issued once with the name of the recipient and date and are never replaced if lost.

So the torn ribbon was replaced as was a new cloth background which was laid to cover the mess which is still today hidden under the cross although the thin strands of wire which pierced the case were removed. Only visibile is the tattered padding at the corner at left which could not be replaced because of the coat-of-arms.

## HENRIETTA CHETTA CHEVALIER

#### HENRIETTA CHEVALIER MEMORIAL GARDEN

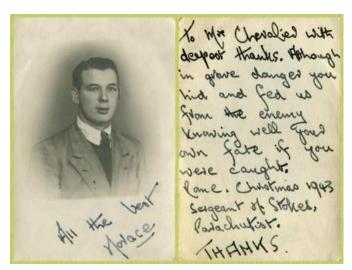
THIS MEMORIAL GARDEN IS DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF
HENRIETTA CHEVALIER B.E.M.
WHO TOGETHER WITH
REVEREND MONSIGNOR HUGH J. O'FLAHERTY C.B.E.,
REVEREND FATHER AURELIUS BORG B.E.M.,
REVEREND FATHER EGIDIO GALEA B.E.M.,
REVEREND FATHER UGOLINO GATT B.E.M.
AND

REVEREND BROTHER ROBERT PACE D.LITT. B.E.M.
RISKED THEIR LIVES TO PROTECT ESCAPED ALLIED P.O.W. s IN OCCUPIED
ROME DURING 1943 - 1944



Henrietta Chetta Chevalier BEM (1901 – 973), a Maltese woman of British nationality resident in Rome, was a critical node in Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty's "Rome Escape Line" network operating in the Vatican during World War II. Her third-floor flat on the Via Imperia was used as a depot for supplies, and to lodge escapees fleeing the Fascist regimes of Europe. She was known within the organization as "Mrs. M." The provenance of her *nom de guerre* — whether this was a reference to her home island of Malta, her mother's maiden name, or another factor

— is unknown.



Chevalier was born Henrietta Scerri to Emmanuel Scerri and his wife Maria née Mamo in Sliema, Northern Harbour District, Malta. She married Thomas Chevalier on 15 May 1920 at the church of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in Sliema. The couple lived in Rome, where Mr. Chevalier worked as an agent for British travel company Thomas Cook & Sons, and had several children. After the death of her husband and the imprisonment of one of her sons in 1939, the British widow found herself stuck in Mussolini's fascist state and responsible for the welfare of her children and elderly

mother. Recruited into O'Flaherty's network, Chevalier essentially gave O'Flaherty *carte blanche* to use her apartment as a storehouse and safehouse for people fleeing fascism. Despite several close scrapes — including one which one of her daughters, Gemma, hid from Chevalier — and being under constant surveillance by Hitler's *Sicherheitsdienst*, Chevalier and her family continued their clandestine activities under constant risk of death until being evacuated by O'Flaherty's network one by one to a farm on the outskirts of the city where they lived out the rest of the war in hiding themselves.

In 1945, Chevalier was awarded a British Empire Medal (BEM) for her extraordinary efforts to offer sanctuary to those in need. Her efforts are credited with directly offering assistance to 4,000 people during the war.

Chevalier passed away on her native Malta on 7 September 1973, and is buried at the Santa Maria Addolorata Cemetery. A memorial garden has been planted in her honour at the Malta Aviation Museum and was opened on 24 November 2012



# A Maltese Hospital brings hope to the poor in Ghana

We would like to make aware all the Maltese communities worldwide about this important project - "Holy Mission by the Maltese people amongst the poor and sick people in

Ghana - Africa".

African medical staff, international surgeons and Maltese benefactors have come together to fight breast cancer in Ghana, where 70 per cent of women are diagnosed too late.

Cancer interventions are carried out at a recently inaugurated specialised clinic within the HopeXChange Medical Center, better known as The Maltese Hospital, in Kumasi, the second largest



city of Ghana.

HopeXChange Medical Center is an innovative hospital that delivers state of the art clinical care to the poor and those in need, educates physicians, nurses, and healthcare professionals, and sponsors cutting edge collaborative research.

It is an initiative of the Institute for World

Evangelisation - ICPE Mission, an International Association of Christ's faithful of Pontifical Right. This started out in Malta by Mario and Anna Cappello in 1985. The ICPE Mission is dedicated to the formation and training of Catholics so that they may become more effective evangelizers.

During one of his visits to Ghana, Mario Cappello dreamed of building a medical centre to help the poorest of the poor. The then Bishop of Kumasi, which is the second largest city of Ghana, Mgr. Peter Sarpong supported the initiative and made available a 6.5 hectares' plot of land.

A Foundation, by the name of the Ghana Mission Foundation was established to promote the building of the medical centre and to collect funds for the same project.

During the same period, Saint Pope John Paul II established 100 projects in aid for the poor as part of the celebrations of the New Millennium. The HopeXChange Medical Center was chosen to be one of these projects and the first donation was given by the then Pope John Paul II.

The small clinic grew into a fully functional hospital of 100 beds and five operating theatres. The medical centre, which hosts a pediatric surgical department among others, sponsors local biomedical research and supports medical education. Specialists are flown in to teach medical students on a voluntary basis or to offer their services and operate on patients.

When the breast cancer clinic opened its doors, five specialized international breast surgeons, led by Riccardo Massetti, from the Gemelli Hospital, in Rome, travelled to Ghana and carried out several surgical interventions. They were supported by the local medical staff of the hospital.

According to Prof. Massetti, the Maltese hospital has the required standard medical equipment that allows for delicate and complicated operations. Local doctors from the sub-Saharan region can now be professionally trained in breast cancer interventions.

#### April 2021

HopeXchange Medical Center is accredited by the Ghana Ministry of Health and the Christian Health Association of Ghana. Clinical services are provided by a staff of full-time Ghanaian physicians and nurses and rotating international volunteer medical experts.

It is anticipated that HopeXchange Medical Center will perform at least 1,000 diagnostic and therapeutic surgeries, and attend more than 15,000 outpatient visits per year, in addition to maintaining high impact educational and research programs.

As an accredited teaching hospital, the Center's operational and staffing costs will be substantially underwritten by the Ghana Ministry of Health, thereby establishing a path to sustainability that is unique among many hospitals in sub-Saharan Africa.

The benefit and impact of the HopeXchange Medical Center, therefore, will extend far beyond the direct patient care that is provided to the most needy members of the population. Because we are introducing a completely new model of academic medicine, one that is firmly rooted in the highly respected traditions of excellent international medical institutions, HopeXchange Medical Center will have a catalytic and synergistic effect across Africa.

Most of the equipment at the clinic is funded by the Ghana Mission Foundation in Malta. Las year, the HopeXChange Medical Centre opened an ophthalmology department, following the installation of sophisticated equipment, also funded through donations from Malta. Simple eye operations, such as cataract surgery, are one of the safest and most effective surgical procedures normally performed in one or two days. However, in places such as Ghana, when this condition is not treated immediately, thousands of people are blinded yearly.

Those who would like to help can contact the Ghana Mission Foundation on <a href="mailto:qhanamission@hxcmc.org">qhanamission@hxcmc.org</a>. More information on http://hopexchangemedicalcenter.org. Mr. Nikol Baldacchino Development Director Ghana Mission Foundation



## High Commissioner in India spends Easter with Maltese Community in Mumbai - India

Reference Number: , Press Release Issue Date: Apr 07, 2021

## High Commissioner in India spends Easter with Maltese Community in Mumbai

On Saturday 3 April 2021, the High Commissioner of Malta in New Delhi, India, H.E. Reuben Gauci travelled to the Indian city of Mumbai to spend the feast of Easter with the Maltese Community currently living in the city. During his visit to Mumbai, the Maltese High Commissioner accompanied Maltese Nationals, Anna Maria Attard and Caroline Busuttil for the Easter Saturday Function which was held at the Catholic Cathedral of the Holy Name, which ceremony was presided by the Cardinal of Mumbai, His Eminence Oswald Gracias.

Following the ceremony, the High Commissioner and the Maltese Community had a private audience with Cardinal Gracias who passed his well wishes to the Maltese Nation for a Blessed and Healthy Easter within the difficult time of the COVID19 pandemic.

During his visit to Mumbai, High Commissioner Gauci also visited the Honorary Consulate of Malta in Mumbai headed by Honorary Consul, Ms Chandra Ruia and thanked her for her services to the Maltese Nation in this city.

## 30 MARATHONS IN 30 DAYS - IN AID OF PUTTINU CARES

#### Why 30 back-to-back marathons?

Some people might say that this sounds like a crazy idea, but for Drew Lang, this is the next milestone in his athletic career.

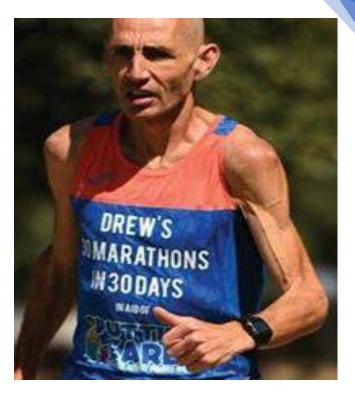
Drew has been preparing for this achievement for some time and has been eager to run in aid of cancer support ever since his wife recovered from her own experience with cancer in 2012. Lockdown restrictions have altered the original event which would have seen more people join in with Drew and walk jog or run during his last 5km of the day, however, he has not let the pandemic interfere with his plans and Puttinu Cares has

been incredibly supportive in Drew's vision for the marathon challenge. They have joined forces to get people engaging in the first challenge of this kind in Malta and pledging support with donations to Puttinu Cares throughout April.

Drew hopes that people seeing this will be inspired to support his athletic goal by directly donating to Puttinu Cares in support of their goal to help families with children suffering from cancer.

He hopes that his 30 back-to-back marathons inspire everyone supporting this fundraiser to take up their own fitness challenge. In 2018, Drew used his platform and running experience to launch a weekly 5km challenge on Saturdays in Ta'Qali. The Ta'Qali fitness Challenge has been a success and it has **created a supportive community for people wanting to challenge themselves and dedicate time to exercising**. He has watched beginners become more confident in their running ability by achieving and maintaining their personal best time. (*The TQFC is currently on pause but anyone is welcome to join once restrictions ease and allow for the event to return.* 

The Gerald DeGaetano - Ta' Qali - 5K Fitness Challenge



Visit <a href="https://puttinucares.org">https://puttinucares.org</a> for more information and to make your donation.

Follow this page and Drew Lang for updates as he prepares for this fundraiser event.

Drew Lang First milestone reached! Made it to day 10

Nearly 30 years ago Almost Drew Lang came to Malta from Scotland to participate in a running competition when one of his fellow Maltese athletes introduced him to the woman he went on to marry. Now, after 26 years of marriage, Drew is embarking on the toughest running challenge of his life – inspired by his wife's battle with cancer. FROM HIS FACEBOOK PAGE Thank you so much to Jimmy Saccofor running the full marathon with me, Daniel Cardona and Wally Galea for taking their time to come and take pictures for this challenge, Pawlu Brincat and Carmen Hili and also Anna Maria Gatt, her husband Keith and son Michele. Cardona did the first 10 k before taking photo.s. also Mark Gaglione ran 10 k, well done to both. A big thank you also to all of you supporting me from home and all of my sponsors. As usual please check our official page 30 Marathons in 30 days - in aid of Puttinu Cares for more information and daily updates. (20+) 30 Marathons in 30 days - in aid of Puttinu Cares | Facebook

#### What's the difference between a pandemic, an epidemic, endemic, and an outbreak?





Not all infectious disease terms are created equal, though often they're



mistakenly used interchangeably. The distinction between the words "pandemic," "epidemic," and "endemic" is regularly blurred, even by medical experts. This is because the definition of each term is fluid and changes as diseases become more or less prevalent over time.

While conversational use of these words might not require precise definitions, knowing the difference is important to help you better understand public health news and appropriate public health responses. Let's start with basic definitions:

- AN EPIDEMIC is a disease that affects a large number of people within a community, population, or region.
- A PANDEMIC is an epidemic that's spread over multiple countries or continents.
- ENDEMIC is something that belongs to a particular people or country.
- AN OUTBREAK is a greater-than-anticipated increase in the number of endemic cases. It can also be
  a single case in a new area. If it's not quickly controlled, an outbreak can become an epidemic.

# Traditional boat owners call for extension of restoration scheme

## Numbers of traditional vessels in sharp decline, group says



Photo: Shutterstock.

A newly formed association of traditional boat owners has called for the extension of a government grant scheme aimed at the restoration of these vessels.

The Malta Traditional Boats Association said on Saturday the scheme, announced this month, should be extended to all registration types for traditional wooden boats, and with no construction date cut-off as is currently the case.

Grants are currently limited to vessels registered under licences for full-time and part-time fishermen (MFA and MFB)

and excludes the more casual MFC and S licences.

The group also said grant beneficiaries should be bound to maintain and paint their respective boats in accordance with the characteristic Maltese traditional methods and colours.

In a statement, the association praised the scheme, which it said was helping to safeguard, preserve and promote traditional Maltese maritime heritage and culture.

It said traditional boats, such as the *luzzu*, *kajjik*, *ferilla*, *frejgatina*, *dgħajsa tal-pass* and *dgħajsa tal-latini* were progressively decreasing in number.

"his being partly due to the considerable added expenses involved in the necessary maintenance and repairs to keep these traditional wooden boats sea worthy," the association said.

"We believe that every Maltese traditional boat forms part of Malta's maritime and cultural heritage d consequently contributes to our country's unique and colourful characteristics, which define and embellish our harbours, bays and surrounding waters." This article appratrd on The Times of Malta

# Ta' Pinu Shrine Bacchus Marsh, Victoria Australia

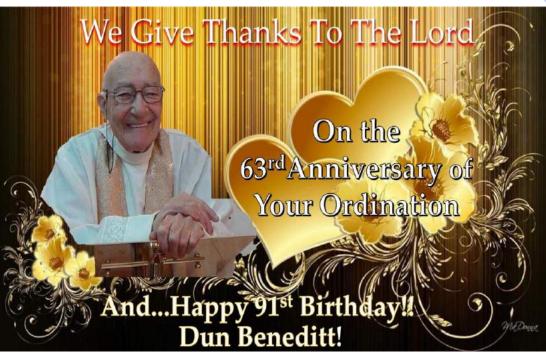
OUR MESSAGE
OF LOVE TO
YOU, DUN
BENEDITT ON
THE FEAST OF
MERCY AND
LOVE( An

MERCY AND LOVE( An extract..) "We are here today to ask Christ for the gift of mercy, to meet His love and mercy in the sacraments," But we are also here to give thanks for allowing us to share the gift He gave us by your presence and your exemplary thirst to ALWAYS want to feel God's closeness and tenderness, We give thanks also for all the years of teaching and preaching you have selflessly devoted to encourage this Marian Community to be more capable of mercy,

Some 70 odd years ago, you heard the Lord's call and you answered it. Then faithfully and honorably 63 years ago, you have entered the life of priesthood. Not too many of us have been by your side for that long but Our friend Emmanuel Cauchi has been one of those. I understand that he was a young altar boy at your ordination and today he stands firm on your side to honour this day and I am sure he will be by your side till the day God will call you to join His Side.

patience, forgiveness, and love."

God has given you many graces, Dun Beneditt and in priesthood, He gave you many of his children to minister to and to care for. We all know how much you long to have someone else to relieve you from this encumbrance and

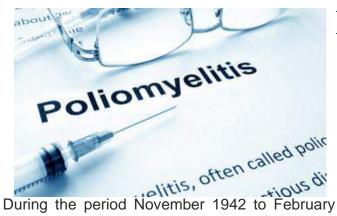


we thank you for your priceless dedication. Some of your Children have gathered here and many others have and continue to send their prayers. We come from many corners of the world and I can say for myself and for many that you have and you are The Father( Monsignor), the Teacher, the Preacher, the Dad- I have never thought of discovering in you.

You are someone with big dreams for the Sake of Jesus and His Beloved Mother Mary and it seems like NOTHING IS STOPPING YOU AS YET... In the days to come. Dear Brothers and Sisters, I am sure that Dun Beneditt will reach out to you to help him and his dedicated friends, ( You know who you are!!!) to accomplish one of his mammoth DREAM – THE FINAL GIFT he has been preparing for us all together with many devoted friends in particular John Sant who has done so much for this place, and also Silvio Debrincat to name a few...

Dun Beneditt You have also reached another milestone- Turning 91 years of AGE and in Celebration we come today so together we sing in unity.... Happy Birthday to You!!! Love from Josette, Rita, Charlie, Chris and the rest of TEAM Ta' PIN

## THE POLIOMYELITIS EPIDEMIC IN MALTA 1942



During the period November 1942 to February 1943 there was an epidemic of anterior poliomyeitis in the islands of Malta and Gozo. There were 483 cases in all, 426 civilians and 57 men in the services. The incidence fell most heavily on Maltese children under five years of age (82 per cent.); 61 persons over the age of 20 years were affected, and of these only four were Maltese, the remainder, the service cases, being from the United Kingdom.

The mortality rate was high in the services (19-3 per cent.) and low among the civilians (3-5 per cent. +), the chief cause of death being respiratory paralysis. That the virus was an indigenous strain was suggested by the following facts:

Poliomyelitis has been endemic in Malta for many years, though the annual number of notifications has always been small, and there has never before been an outbreak that could be described as an epidemic.

The disease affected civilians first.

There was no evidence that the virus had been brought in by men in the services.

H. J. Seddon, Thomas Agius, H. G. G. Bernstein, R. E. Tunbridge - 1945

The adult Maltese were almost completely unaffected, and there were no cases among Maltese soldiers.

Although all service personnel, apart from the Maltese, came from the United Kingdom where poliomyelitis is endemic, they were severely affected; the case incidence was 2.5 per 1,000, the mortality rate much higher than that of the native children, and the residual disability among the survivors considerable.

There were several unusual circumstances:

Great overcrowding, which seemed to play little part in promoting spread of the disease.

Lack of food and vitamins, which also appeared irrelevant.

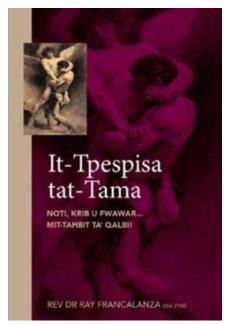
The use of sewage in certain parts of Malta for manuring of crops. If it could be assumed that the excreta of a considerable number of persons harboured the virus, then the disease might have been spread by contamination of the water supply or of crops. Such evidence as is available suggests that the water was not contaminated, and it is unlikely that the crops were. It is tolerably certain that the disease was not spread by flies. Dried milk was distributed to both islands, especially to children and to men in the services. It was, however, impossible to trace any connexion between the distribution of this article of food and the geographical incidence of cases of poliomyelitis.



#### THE JOURNAL OF MALTESE LIVING ABROAD

Is archived a the MALTA MIGRATION MUSEUM - VALLETTA MALTESE-CANADIAN ARCHIVES, Schools, libraries, Aged Care Facilities, Maltese Social Clubs in Australia, Canada, EU and the United States.. many readers share and email it to their relatives and friends in Malta and overseas.

Some Maltese Embassies, High Commissions and Consulates. Fund us also on FACEBOOK, website- www.ozmalta.com and on the webpage of the ministry of Foreign Affairs



## Musings and prayers

Noel Grima www.independent.com.mt/

It-Tpespisa tat-Tama. Author: Ray Francalanza. Publisher: Horizons / 2021. Pages: 312pp

Fr Ray Francalanza is an Augustinian priest who has held various offices in his Order in Malta and who has generated a following of mainly young people inspired by his unconventional approach to faith Born in Zejtun, he spent his childhood in the UK where his family was living. Then they returned to Malta and the young Ray became an altar boy. He however joined the Augustinian Order and studied in Italy.

He was ordered priest in Malta in 1990. His first pastoral mission was to foster vocations. Next he became rector of St Augustine's College in Pieta where he stayed for six years until 2000. Concurrently he was chosen to form part of a parliamentary commission on education and also chairperson of Church schools in Malta. In 2000, he moved to Paceville and became the rector of the Augustinian church there,

creating the youth group, Lift - Living in friendship together - at around the same time, I reckon, that the Millennium Chapel was active there.

influenced by a good priest from Zejtun, whose daily Meanwhile, he continued with his studies a Mass he served, Dun Karm Galea. I remember this obtained a doctorate. In 2010, he became pari priest even if I was not living in Zejtun then.

priest of St Augustine parish in Valletta and thr Fr Ray says this priest had a walking disability but years later was elected as Provincial of his Order was made fun of "by those who ought to have been Malta. While occupying this post, he beg better".

exercising his priestly mission in far-off Bahr I remember the priest and I also remember the cruel where he still remains.

laughter. It is to Fr Ray's credit that he followed the

This book is a collection of his musings, interspers priest's example rather than joined those who with prayers, accumulated through all these years scoffed at him. Here in Zejtun there are others who have dwelt so long on the various roles he heremember the priest with gratitude.

occupied because in a way they shed light on l'Most of the reflections and prayers he penned are of various roles through the years. the intimistic sort, without any social context

Many of his musings/prayers seem to be speakirprovided. That is clearly a choice and leaves a notes or even sermon notes. Others are moreader rather at a loss. On the other hand, to be more personal reflections and musings.

clear and explicit, would possibly drag the author

A sizeable amount of them complain about lack down to the level of controversy.

support or even worse from those around hillConsidering the vast amount of reflections included, Considering the amount of offices to which he withis book is the product of many years of writing. elected, this is rather strange, or rather not strange of the reflections are quite stunning and he at all, in most communities, even religious ones. sometimes comes up with some surprising insights. Of course Fr Ray is never specific, except on one

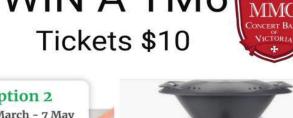
occasion. He says that when still a boy he was



WE ARE DELIGHTED THAT OUR READERS SEND
THE JOURNAL TO THEIR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS
ACCORDING TO OUR SURVEY THIS JOURNAL
IS READ AND ENJOYED IN FIFTY (50) DIFFERENT
COUNTRIES ALL OVER THE WORLD











#### WE HAVE LAUNCHED **OUR VERY FIRST** ONLINE RAFFLE FOR 2021!

THERMOMIX Bundle to the value of \$2463.95. support our band, purchasing a ticket and go into the draw to WIN this amazing bundle, which includes-Thermomix Thermoserver

 1 x Blade cover **Tickets** are \$10 each.

Note - there is an additional

0.50 transaction fee per ticket purchased.

Ensure you get in quick, this is one you don't want to miss. Raffle only open for Australia, excludes WA and ACT. 400 tickets available for purchase.

Raffle is being drawn on Wednesday 5 May at 8.30pm live on our Facebook page. BUY YOUR **TICKETS HERE** https://www.trvbooking.com/BQJRR



What an awesome weekend celebrating the Feast of Maria Annunzjata!! Congratulations to the Tarxien Social Club Victoria for a wonderful celebration, desipite the weather!

It was beautiful going down memory lane seeing the history behind the feast being celebrated in Malta and right here in Melbourne.

#### Former ambassad or to Malta gets top US diversity post

#### Gina Abercrombie-Winstanley was ambassador to Malta until 2016

A former ambassador of the United States to Malta has been made the State Department's first chief diversity officer, a position created to make the US diplomatic corps more representative.

The appointment of Gina Abercrombie-Winstanley was announced by Secretary of State Antony Blinken.

Introducing Abercrombie-Winstanley, Blinken said the department and the country were at a "moment of reckoning" on racial equality, referring to the Black Lives Matter movement and attacks against Asian



Americans. Abercrombie-Winstanley, a career diplomat since 1985, served as US ambassador to Malta between 2012-2016, showing a keen interest in local affairs. Blinken said the lack of diversity at the highest levels of the department was alarming but could be traced through its history and seen in the portraits of former secretaries that line the corridor to his office. "It's hard not to notice that almost every one of the secretaries along the hallway is a white man," Blinken said. "We are at a particular time in America, and the world is watching us," Abercrombie-Winstanley said at the ceremony.





You may save the Maltese Journal on a USB stick





F'gheluq 1-20 sena mill-programm Marċi u Bandalori fuq NET FM

Ghoxrin sena ġew u marru Kif jitgerbu b'heffa s-snin! Daqshekk issa ilu magħna Semmiegħa Maltin w Għawdxin.

Ghax 'Marċi u Bandalori' Hu programm hekk popolari Illi daħal fid-djar tagħna Żgur li ħafna jagħmlu bħali!

Dan il-Mosti Joe Chetcuti Issa rabba l-esperjenza Bil-mikrofnu quddiem fommu B'għoxrin sena t'eżistenza!

Kien f'April li beda jxandar NET FM dan il-programm Illi tant intlaqa' tajjeb Ghax bena fuq il-blat samm.

Ix-xandir minn dejjem saltan F'qalb dan il-preżentatur Illi żgur jista' iħares Bil-kuraġġ lejn il-futur! Il-Maltin u l-Għawdxin kollha Iħobbu l-marċi Maltin Li tisma' fil-festi tagħna Matul il-ġranet sajfin.

Kif ifeġġ ir-Randan fuqna Tisma' mbagħad il-marċi funebri Ġewwa l-knisja bil-gandlieri U mżejna bil-kandilabri!

Fil-programm Chetcuti jtina Ghadd sabih ta' marċijiet B'tagħrif siewi, interessanti Dwar ħafna surmastrijiet.

Illi mas-snin l-imgħoddija Tawna ħafna xogħlijiet Illi jinżlu mas-semmiegħa Matul dawn iż-żmenijiet.

Ghaziż Joe jien nawguralek Aktar snin sbieh ta' xandir; Bi tbissima kompli tina Biex nibqghu mexjin harir.

Jalla 'Marċi u Bandalori' Jibqa' magħna tul is-snin; Għaliex issa fil-qalb daħal Tal-Maltin u tal-Għawdxin!

L-Assunta w żewġha Ġużeppi Illi int tant thobb mill-qalb Żommhom jgħammru ġewwa darek U toħroġhom qatt mit-talb!

Kav Joe M Attard Rabat – Ghawdex Marzu 2012



# Caring for people in need – together



#### **Order of Malta Volunteer Policy**

**Who we are** Order of Malta Volunteers (OMV) is a group for volunteers and young members between the age of 18 and 35 participating in the works of the Order.

What we do We care for people in need. Order of Malta Volunteers work both in local regions and nationally with members of the Association on existing projects, creating their own projects as well as involvement in activities to share and develop their Catholic faith.

#### Our motivation

- To give young Australians the opportunity to care for others and assist the organising of activities true to the traditions of the Order.
- Expand current and future works of the Order
- To creative an environment for Christian fellowship for young members
- To identify and nurture future Candidates for the Order

**Activities** 2021 Asia Pacific Youth Camp September 2021- Gold Coast

- Coats for the Homeless / Care Packages
- Homework and mentoring underprivileged
- Aged care visits
- Refugee Support
- Community Care Vans
- International holiday camps for young people with disabilities
- Overseas volunteering opportunities ie: Medical Clinic – Timor Leste



A global overview Internationally, the Order of Malta counts on 80,000 dedicated volunteers for the successful running of many of its projects across the world. Year-on-year they care for the homeless living in isolation in cities, assist refugees arriving on European shores, provide first-aid and organise medical and social campaigns, respond to victims of natural disasters, accompany disabled guests on pilgrimages and summer camps, support the elderly housebound and prepare nourishing food for people.

These permanent volunteers include people of all nationalities and faiths, inspired by the principles of the Order of Malta to serve the needy and the forgotten under the values of the eight-pointed cross. Opening oneself up to others nourishes the spirit of new generations, encouraging their growth as people and as citizens. It is a phenomenon that the Order's volunteers experience at first hand, through the many projects and schemes where young people work alongside professionals: men and women who, thanks to their efforts, will become spiritually enriched and socially conscious in the future.



The Queen, then princess, talking to Carmela Agius, wearing the Ghonnella during her visit to Malta in 1949

#### Order of Malta - Australia



#### March 31 at 2:49 PM ·

March has been a busy month for the members and volunteers of the #OrderofMalta In Thailand.

At the beginning of March, five wheelchairs, nappies, protective bed sheets, disposable gloves and dry food, were delivered to St. Louis #Elderly Care Centre in #Bangkok for the residents.

A week later members visited remote Health Centres in Ubon Ratchathani and donated 50 blood pressure monitors to be used by nurses and volunteers when visiting the sick at home.

On the 16th March, the Order donated nappys, protective bed sheets and dry food to Fr. Reynaldo Xaverian Missionaries of Tak Provinces to assist with displaced adults and children from Thai and Burmese communities.

All of the work is undertaken by the 13 members, three aspirants, two friends and a Magistral Chaplain. All projects are funded by the members who are committed to serving the less fortunate.

The Order of Malta Thailand will continue to visit Klong Toei( Bangkok slums) on a regular bases, bringing food, pampers, face masks, hand gels and support to the community.

\_\_\_\_\_



## Russian Centre for Science and Culture in Malta

April 9 at 7:31 PM ·

Dear friends of the Russian Cultural Centre!

We launch an online project "Poežija Russa bil-Malti" – a series of talks on Russian poets and poetry translated into the Maltese language by Russian-Maltese poet and translator Yana Psaila, author of Antoloģija tal-poežija Russa.

Our first talk is on Bella Akhmadulina, a Russian poet who was born on April 10, 1937



Follow updates on the poetry project's playlist at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/.../UC|zLq]dFhYowbLaayn.../playlists">https://www.youtube.com/.../UC|zLq]dFhYowbLaayn.../playlists</a>

## Russian Centre for Science and Culture in Malta

· Russian Cultural Center and Mgarr discussed joint projects On April 5, 2021, Irina Pereverzeva, director of the Russian Cultural Centre in Valletta had a meeting with Mayor Paul Vella, at the City Hall of Mgarr.

Ms Pereverzeva and Mr Vella discussed the Center's participation

in Festa Frawli in 2022.

Ms Pereverzeva presented her Maltese colleagues a new project "Writers' delight" that will be launched at the Russian Centre in Valletta in the near future. She invited Mgarr local council delegation to the Centre where this unique project will be discussed in more detail.

Parties noted that the Writers' delight project has lots in common with cultural policy of the Mgarr local council, in particular, with Festa Frawli.

The Strawberry Festival (Festa Frawli) is an annual event hosted in Mgarr since 2007 bringing together all strawberry growers. The event is known for its cultural program that showcases Malta's traditions of farming strawberries as well as the island's cuisine. Mgarr local council plans to establish connections with strawberry growers from all over the world. "Writers' delight" (Literaturnoe varen'e") is a Russian cultural and educational project with elements of a cooking show. For more information read Facebook - <a href="https://www.facebook.com/rcscmalta/">www.facebook.com/rcscmalta/</a>

## **TENISHA THORNTON - Maltese lifters in Moscow**

Malta Weightlifting team made up of athletes Tenishia Thornton and Yazmin Zammit Stevens together with Jesmond Caruana as team leader, represented Malta in the European Senior Championships in Moscow.

This was one of the most high-level competitions since this was the last chance for seniors athletes to qualify for the Olympic Games.

First in competition was 15-year old Tenishia Thornton, the youngest athlete in the competition, in which she took part in the 49kg category and finished with 70kg in the Snatch and 89kg in the clean and jerk.

The 89kg Clean and Jerk was a 5kg improvement on her previous best. She broke a total of five national records with all her clean and jerk attempts at 85kg, 87kg and 89kg, and with her two totals at 157kg and 159kg.

Besides she also broke two Commonwealth youth records in Snatch and Total. Thornton finished in first place in the 49kg B group and 10th in the overall.

This was the best result ever for the Malta weightlifting in the European Seniors. With a total of 159kg Thornton scored 489 Olympic qualification points and in the MWA rankings she moved to Diamond Level.

Yasmin Zammit Stevens was the second team member competing. Zammit Stevens has been out of competition for. A few months due to a back and wrist injury and also had to undergo wrist surgery only 8 weeks ago.

Despite this, she managed two new national records in the Snatch phase of the

competition with her 86kg and 88kg attempts in the 71kg category.

She also managed her second attempt in



clean and jerks at 102kg, finishing with a total of 190kg and scored 383 Olympic qualification points.

This was Zammit Stevens third appearance at these championships, which was the last senior Olympic Qualification for her.

During these championships the European Weightlifting Federation organised the Electoral congress for the next Olympic cycle 2021-2024.

Jesmond Caruana, president of Malta Weightlifting Association, was elected as Executive Board Member of the European Weightlifting Federation (EWF).

Caruana had been a member of the European technical committee since 2012 where he was elected for the first time for the period between 2012-2016 and again 2016-2021.

Tenishia Thornton is now preparing for the IWF World Juniors set to take place in Tashkent, Uzbekistan from 21st to 31st May. This will be the last Olympic qualification competition.

Meanwhile Malta Weightlifting would like to thank the Malta Olympic Committee and SportMalta for their support. Source: http://www.maltasport.com/





Nostalgia and History
On 26 Dec. 1949, British naval ship HMS Chequers
entering Malta Grand Harbour
The Dure of Edinburgh was assigned on it
(Picture 2) The Royal Family together with the crew.
Tony Buttigieg



HAMRUN CROWNED MALTA FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS
Hamrun Spartans clinch their first Premier League title
in 30 years, following a
Malta Football Association executive
decision to stop the competiton
because of COVID-19 restrictions

THE JOURNAL THAT PROMOTES
THE MALTESE CULTURE, HISTORY
AND LANGUAGE AMONG THE
MALTESE
LIVING SROUND THE WORLD