



The Voice of the Maltese

(We are for the Greater Malta)

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The Valletta Green Festival 2021

Malta held the Valletta Green Festival across the island's capital with the theme "zero pollution". It started with a garden inspired by the formal gardens of the past at Freedom Square, in front of Parliament (above) and continued with the eighth edition of the *infiorata*, decorated with flowers and plants was held at St. George's Square.

(See report on page 3)



Tasting again the Maltese bread that helped win the war (Part 1)



MartinGDebattista
(Institute of Tourism Studies - Malta ·
Centre for eLearning Technologies PhD
Candidate - MSc in Digital Media)

On the 75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War the Institute of Tourism Studies conducted an experiment to recreate the traditional Maltese loaf of bread – the hobza – according to the wartime recipes. The nearest Malta came to surrender to the enemy, in the summer of 1942, was not because of the threat of invasion but the result of the tightening of the siege that blocked vital food and military supplies from reaching the island-garrison. Re-creating and tasting the bread baked according to wartime conditions re-opened a chapter on one of the cataclysmic events in Maltese history.

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The re-creation

ITS culinary arts lecturer Steve D’Anastasi volunteered to re-create the wartime loaf according to the specifications at the time that I researched. The process was filmed for the TVM series *Malta fil-Gwerra* (Malta at War) aired between March and June 2020.

“It was extremely interesting for me to learn that the recipes were dictated by the central government to reflect the shortage and/or surplus of certain food products. If somebody were to try to do the same nowadays I think it would spark a rebellion,” Mr D’Anastasi said while sharing his experience.

“Indeed, I was very sceptic about the use of potatoes in the bread however the final result was surprisingly a very good and light loaf of bread resembling a brioche.”

The order to mix up to 30% of a loaf of bread with cooked potatoes was introduced in 1941 to exploit a good potato harvest in the Maltese Islands, at a time when the stocks of imported white flour were not at all secure as merchantmen were targeted by the Axis forces on their way to Malta.

When siege around Malta was tightened by the Axis forces in 1942, the supply of white flour became even more tenuous and the government had to order the mixture of other cereals like rye, corn and barley with white flour to make up the weight, giving the loaf a distinct darker colour. The newspapers of the time published a daily stream of government notices and these included directives to farmers, millers and bakers relating to the production of flour and bread.

One of these announced that up to 30% of a loaf of bread could consist of baked potatoes.

Recreating the wartime loaf of bread from government notices in newspapers needed some experimentation but nothing that Mr D’Anastasi could not handle: “Some playing about with the recipe had to be done with regards to the yeast and water, however after a couple of trials the recipe yielded the expected results.”



Mr D’Anastasi used Rogolin bakery in Balzan, which still uses a traditional wood-fired oven that was already in operation during the Second World War. Both the 1941 recipe with mashed potatoes and the 1942 version with other types of flours were baked. They were used as props for the TVM series and then shared for tasting.

Bread recipes

1941 bread recipe

700g	White wheat flour
300g	Mashed potatoes
35g	Yeast
20g	Fine salt
400ml	Warm water

1942 bread recipe

300g	Whole meal flour
100g	White wheat flour
50g	Barley flour
50g	Corn flour
10g	Fine salt
20g	Yeast
300ml	Water

“The main difference is the type of commodities used for the production of the bread. Nowadays they are more refined and of better quality. There are no limitations whatsoever compared to those times,” concluded the ITS culinary arts lecturer.

**to be continued in the next issue*

Culinary arts lecturer Steve D’Anastasi



Il-qawwa taċ-ċittadinanza waqt il-pandemija

Huwa fatt li l-pandemija holqot hafna diffikultajiet mhux

Lawrence Dimech

biss fil-pajjiż li ngħixu fih iżda madwar id-dinja. Kienu eluf kbar li nqabdu bejn pajjiż u iehor. Hafna xtaqu li waqt żmien ta' incertezza li jista' jeffettwalhom hajjithom, ikun ahjar għalihom li jirritornaw lejn pajjiżhom jew lejn il-pajjiż li għamlu bħala l-art tagħhom.

Smajna fuq li smajna dwar l-eluf ta' Indjani li ma setgħux jiġu lura lejn l-Awstralja anke jekk dawn kienu mwielda l-Awstralja jew li għandhom ċittadinanza jew residenza permanenti Awstraljana.

Il-liġi kostituzzjonali ta' kull pajjiż tippovdi, taht obbligu legali, li l-pajjiż irid jiddefendi u jagħti kull appoġġ liċ-ċittadini tiegħu, jkunu fejn ikunu qed jgħixu fid-dinja. Għalhekk, l-Awstralja mhux biss moralment iżda legalment kellha mhux biss tgħin iżda li tara li ċ-ċittadini tagħha jiġu lura lejn pajjiżhom.

Bħala eżempju, niftakru li meta għadd ta' Maltin inqabdu l-Awstralja meta faqqgħet il-pandemija, il-Gvern Malti pprova kull għajjnna halli dawn ikunu jistgħu jirritornaw lejn Malta. Hekk titlob il-liġi ta' pajjiż sovrani. Kienu hafna dawk li ngħataw għajjnna, kienu f'liema pajjiż kienu.

Ninnutaw kemm hija qawwija u ta' saħħa li jkollok iċ-ċittadinanz tal-pajjiż li għazilt biex ikun d-dar permanenti tiegħek. Mat-twelid, jew anke meta takkwista ċ-ċittadinanza, tkun ksibt l-appoġġ, il-protezzjoni u s-sigurtà tal-pajjiż u allura jrid jappoġġjak anke meta tinqabad f'pajjiż iehor.

Iżda kif jgħidu għal kull liġi hemm l-eċċessjoni. Għalhekk inqalet il-kontroversja jekk il-Gvern Awstraljan kellux iġib lura lill-Indjani li huma ċittadini Awstraljani li nqabdu f'pajjiż mahkum bl-ikrah bil-COVID-19.

Il-liġi Awstraljana hekk imsejja Biosecurity Act tagħti s-setgħa lill-Ministru li johroġ ordni "to prevent and control" id-dhul u il-ħruġ mill-Awstralja meta jkun hemm każ ta' mard uman. Din l-ordni, jew aħar il-Biosecurity Act, gie applikat għall-ewwel darba



u dan qajjem dibattitu kbir.

Dan l-att jindika li l-Gvern habbat wiċċu mad-dritt fundamentali tal-liġi komuni li ċittadin Awstraljan, u anke dawk li għandhom residenza permanenti, għandhom id-dritt legali li jidhlu lura f'pajjiżhom.

Sindenti, kien hemm il-biza' li dawk ġejjin minn pajjiżi infettati b'mod esagerat mill-COVID-19, jekk jithallew jidhlu, jistgħu jinfettaw lil dawk tal-lokal u b'hekk tissokta tinxtred il-pandemija.

Il-Gvern Awstraljan inqabad bejn il-basla u qoxritha. Minhabba l-pressjoni politika, għalkemm il-Gvern ta x'jifhem li se jkun kawt iżda fil-fatt fil-każ tal-Indjani kellu jkompli jdahhal lura ftit ftit il-madwar disat elef persuna li nqabdu fl-Indja.

Dan il-każ juri kemm mhux biss hi importanti, iżda ta' qawwa tremenda li tkun ċittadin tal-pajjiż li int tkun għazilt bħala l-art permanenti tiegħek. Ahna l-Maltin, li rnexxielna nakkwistaw iċ-ċittadinanza doppja wara hafna snin ta' tilwim u tahbit, illum nistgħu naraw kemm ahna siguri u protetti għax għandna mhux pajjiż wiehed iżda tnejn li jridu jieħdu hsiebna u jipproteġuna.

Quddiem il-Parlament issa jikbru l-fjuri



Aktar hajja u kuluri quddiem il-Parlament Malti

Kull sena għall-okkażjoni tal-Valletta Green Festival bhal dawn iż-żminijiet, f'Misrah San Ġorġ fil-kapitali Maltija l-Aġenzija Kulturali tal-Belt Valletta tohloq "l-infjorata" speċi ta' ġnien quddiem il-Palazz. Imma din id-darba minbarra f'dan il-Misrah, inhloq l-ġnien żgħir iehor, li se jibqa', quddiem il-binja tal-Parlament, fi Triq ir-Repubblika.

Din li ġiet imfissra bħala l-akbar edizzjoni tal-festival b'100 siġra taċ-ċipress tul Triq ir-Repubblika, siġar taċ-ċitru u siġar indigeni fosthom tal-prinjol u rand ġew ukoll poġġuti fi Pjazza De Valette. Dawk ta' Pjazza Helsien se jibqgħu hemm isebbhu l-inhaw biex jibqgħu jitgawdew mill-pubbliku. Id-disinn jippermetti li jista' jiġi aġġustat meta jsiru attivitajiet oħra hemmhekk bhall-Karnival.

L-inawgurazzjoni saret fi tmiem il-ġimgħa meta jiġi mfakkar Jum l-Omm. L-ispettaklu ewlieni kienet l-infjorata quddiem il-Palazz fejn 80,000 qasrija bi fjuri, pjanti u siġar iffurmaw fekruna tal-baħar ikkulurita fuq disinn, tal-artist Zach Ritchie. Il-mod kif sar seta' jitgawda minn kull angolu (ara l-faċċata ta' quddiem).

Meta mbagħad nhar it-Tieta li għadda 11 ta' Mejju ġiet żarmata l-infjorata fi tmiem il-festival, kwart tal-qasri baqgħu fil-Belt. L-oħrajn tqassmu fost għaxar kunsilli lokali.

Fl-inawgurazzjoni tal-infjorata, il-Ministru tal-Wirt Nazzjonali u l-Gvern Lokali, Josè Herrera, qal li l-festival hu parti mill-viżjoni tal-gvern li jkabar it-thaddir urban u li jsir l-aqwa użu ta' spazji pubbliċi.

Dan kollu seħh fi żmien li l-poplu u s-sidien tar-ristoranti setgħu jgawdu l-ewwel jiemi wara li fil-11 ta' Mejju wara xahrejn magħluqa, r-ristoranti reġgħu fethu biex iservu lill-klijenti sal-5 pm. Iċ-ċans it-tiehed mill-ewwel għax kien hemm konkorenza tajba hafna.

Andrew McKinnon presents

JOSEPH CALLEJA

The Maltese Tenor
with **Amelia Farrugia**
and **Piers Lane**

Joseph Calleja is one of the most exciting lyric tenors in the world today.

Blessed with a golden-age voice which routinely inspires comparisons to legendary singers from earlier eras, Calleja is now a superstar in all the greatest opera houses and concert halls.

His extensive discography includes a thrilling Verdi album and a hugely popular tribute to Mario Lanza, whilst his performance of Puccini's famous *Nessun dorma* at The Last Night of the Proms at The Royal Albert Hall was nothing short of electrifying.

In this, his eagerly anticipated debut Australian tour, the Maltese born singer described as the young Pavarotti will be joined by two of Australia's best-loved artists, soprano **Amelia Farrugia**, who is also of Maltese heritage, and internationally acclaimed pianist **Piers Lane**, in an unforgettable performance.

"His rock-solid yet ever-malleable voice and blazing stage presence could light a thousand lamps."



Amelia Farrugia



Piers Lane

2021 AUSTRALIAN TOUR DATES

PERTH

Perth Concert Hall

Wednesday 1st September 2021 – 7:30pm

Presented by Andrew McKinnon in association with West Australian Opera

SYDNEY

City Recital Hall

Sunday 5th September 2021 – 5:00pm

Presented by Andrew McKinnon in association with Opera Australia

BRISBANE

Concert Hall, Queensland Performing Arts Centre

Thursday 9th September 2021 – 7:30pm

Presented by Andrew McKinnon in association with Opera Queensland

ADELAIDE

Adelaide Town Hall

Saturday 11th September 2021 – 7:30pm

Presented by Andrew McKinnon in association with State Opera South Australia

MELBOURNE

Hamer Hall, Arts Centre Melbourne

Monday 13th September 2021 – 7:30pm

Presented by Andrew McKinnon in association with Opera Australia

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A diplomat, teacher, and author

This month's personality first arrived in Canberra as a diplomat days after the change of Government in Malta in 1998. She had to assume the role of Deputy High Commissioner for nine months until the new HC finally arrived in Canberra. She is currently employed by the Consulate-General of Malta in Melbourne.

Dr Gioconda S. Schembri

Our personality for May, Gioconda Sarah Schembri was born in the quiet southern village of Mqabba. After graduating as a Doctor of Laws from the University of Malta, she joined the public service. She gained valuable experience working at various Government Departments, including the VAT Department and the Ministry of Commerce.

After joining the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Principal Officer, Multilateral Affairs Department, in Valletta, she served at the Malta High Commission in Canberra as First Secretary for three years (1998-2001), and also as Acting High Commissioner for several months, pending the arrival of the new High Commissioner.

Gioconda returned to Malta in 2001 but was back in Australia a year later as a migrant. She has worked with the Maltese Community Council of Victoria as a Welfare Programme Coordinator, and volunteered as a Maltese Language teacher. She also worked with the Australian public service (as Customer Service Officer at Centrelink, the Government welfare agency).

She is currently employed with the Consulate-General of Malta in Melbourne and also works as a freelance translator and interpreter of the Maltese language with various agencies.



PERSONALITY OF THE MONTH OF THE MONTH



In 2017, Gioconda self-published a nonfiction book 'Three Anzacs from Malta, a true story of friendship, love, and loss', which tells the true story of three young Maltese men who joined the ANZACS during the First World War after migrating to Perth.

In 2020, she published her second book (and her first children's book) 'Il-Milied it-Tajjeb ta' Ġoġo' (left)

(Ġoġo's Merry Christmas). Previously she had also researched her thesis "Marital Rape: Time for reform?", submitted for the conferment of the Degree of Doctor of Laws from the University of Malta. After a working visit to Brussels,

organised by Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (a German organisation), she compiled a study on the implications of European Union membership.

Gioconda's interests are varied. They include history, theatre, music, literature, international politics, sustainability, travel, and craft. She lives in Melbourne with her husband Darren and their son Thomas.

*Facebook and Instagram: 'GS Schembri, Author'.



Recollections of a Maltese octogenarian – My Eighties (continued)

New amendment enacted in Parliament leads to NP's 1987 election victory

**Joseph Lanzon**

Following the result of the 1981 election that had been described as perverse, on the instigation of Prime Minister Dom Mintoff the parties started discussing how to amend the Constitution in a way that the party that wins the largest number of votes, not seats, would earn the right to govern. Following lengthy discussions both sides agreed on the new amendment that was enacted in Parliament in time for the 1987 elections.

The Nationalist Party went into this election with Dr Eddie Fenech Adami as its leader, while the Labour Party was led by Dr Karmenu Mifsud Bonnici – a former trade unionist, advisor, intelligent, honest and humble person – but in my view, definitely not a politician.

Once again the Labour Party won the majority of seats but not the majority of votes, therefore due to the recent Constitutional amendment the Nationalists won the right to govern the country and for the first time, Dr Fenech Adami was sworn in as Prime Minister.

There were many reasons why Labour lost and the result was not that surprising. Labour had been in Government for 16 years, too long a period seeing the same old faces, the same answers to questions for an unsatisfied public. Furthermore, the attitude of some Ministers had become arrogant and careless to the needs of the people.

It was quite evident to those who cared to listen that the winds of change were on. As the results began to roll in, it was clear that the Nationalist Party was heading for a resounding victory.

Parliamentary Business

It is often said that Parliament is the highest institution in the land. And so it should be. It is here that legislation is enacted for all Maltese citizens – irrespective of class, wealth or position – to follow at all times.

In the five years that I have roamed the corridors of this supreme institution, I have come to know and befriend most ministers and members from both political parties. The perception that these are battle-axe persons and anxious to fight their opposing MP's does not hold here once they are elected and they take their seat in the House of Representatives.

Members of both parties have camaraderie between them, are friendly, drink together at the bar, enjoy a joke and help and comfort each other in times of personal grief.

MPs have so much to tell. And there is so much to tell about them too! Being of an observant nature, I have myself noticed so many things.

I used to hear so many things about the MPs of both sides. I heard stories that make you laugh about members who seemed so serious, so upright and so withdrawn.

I also heard stories of sadness and sorrow about members who seemed ever so happy, always laughing and cracking jokes. Life can be so cruel at times without any distinction of a person's class, standing in society and bank account.

I remember a Parliamentary member who often used to enter the House smelling of alcohol, unsteady on his feet, practically drunk; another who used to find a corner in the bar where he would sit reciting the rosary; another with his jacket filled with holes from cigarette burns. Then there was the one who would gently ask one of us to get him a cup of coffee and sandwich, but would never pay back his dues. There were so many different characters.

Two Stories about Dom Mintoff

Here I want to recount two interesting stories about Dom Mintoff told to me in 1976 when I would wait with other ministerial secretaries for the end of the Parliamentary sessions to return home in late evenings.

The first story was in 1957 at a time when Mintoff and the Labour Government were negotiating for 'Integration' between Malta and Britain. It was a time of political turmoil because Labour had the Church Curia, the other political parties and the media against it.

The Cabinet was meeting at the Auberge d'Aragon to draft a reply to the British Government for its latest letter regarding the 'Integration' proposal. The discussion was animated and tense as it was a delicate situation. The Labour Government was replying

The parties' publications

The Eighties were turbulent years in Maltese politics. The two large political parties had their own newspapers – the Malta Labour Party LP had *Il-Helsien* and the Nationalist Party, *Il-Poplu*. However, as far back as the Seventies, when elections were becoming hot issues, the parties even started publishing humorous and satirical newspapers.

The LP had *Ix-Xewka*, Lino Cassar's brainchild and the NP, *In-Niggieza*. They published poems, articles, stories and satirical caricatures they dared not publish in their regular party papers. It was a battle of damaging the credibility of the other side in an attempt to win votes for the respective parties.

The Maltese have always loved humorous publications, in fact, they loved humour as long as it is not at their own expense!

In the Fifties there was *Il-Gannett*, which started publication in 1949. It was good entertainment. Other humorous satirical publications before my time included *Don Chiscotte* in 1892, *Il-Gahan* in 1906, *In-Nahla* in 1909, *Il-Hmar* in 1917, *Dr Brombos* in 1938 and *Ic-Cajtier* in 1949.

to the objections being raised with the British Government by Labour's political adversaries including the Church.

**Continued on opposite page*



Recollections of a Maltese octogenarian – *My Eighties* / from page 6

In the corridors outside the Cabinet room, the secretaries and officials including Lino Cassar who was a prolific journalist with the Union Press and the founder and editor of the humorous and satirical paper *Ix-Xewka* were huddled together listening to a radio commentary of a World Cup football match between England and some other team. England won that match and some secretaries requested Lino Cassar – a great friend of Mintoff – to inform him that England, his favourite team, had won that match.

Lino was sceptical. “What?” he replied, “and risk a harsh rebuke while being kicked out of the room?” His friends insisted that it was Mintoff himself who told us before he entered the Cabinet room that he wanted to be informed of the result immediately the match was over.”

“Then I’ll go”, replied Lino, and he approached the messenger at the door of the Cabinet room. When he was asked the reason for his urgency, Lino told him, “I have an important message for the *Prim*. He is waiting for it”, Lino Cassar replied. The messenger told him, “OK, come, then I’ll let you in.”

Lino as tall as a giraffe, with his ever-present smile on his face, entered the sombre room and went straight to Mintoff and whispered in his ear, “*Prim*, England have won!” Angry

The clash between Gonzi and the Church, and Mintoff and the Labour Party is finally over

to be interrupted, Mintoff replied, “What? I don’t know what you’re talking about.”

“It is about the football match, it just finished, I thought I’d let you immediately know that England have won” Lino said.

Mintoff was as angry as a bull in a Spanish arena. “What the hell do I care about football? We are in a cabinet meeting here you know. Malta’s destiny is at stake, and you come here to tell me about a football match. Get out of here immediately. I’ll speak to you later, when we are finished”.

It was then that Lino realised that his friends had set him up.

The second story occurred in 1970. Archbishop Gonzi and the Church curia had been at loggerheads with Dom Mintoff and his Malta Labour Party. But following years of a bitter dispute, they were negotiating a peace agreement between them. Dom Mintoff and Archbishop Michael Gonzi were meeting at the Archbishop’s Palace in

Valletta to finalise this agreement.

Outside the meeting room three Ministers and three Monsignors anxiously waited for the two strong leaders to sign the peace accord.

All of a sudden shouts, and banging on the table were heard coming out of the room. It sounded as if a war was going on inside. “Shall we enter and see what’s happening?” asked one. “One of them may be hurt and needs help,” said another. One of the ministers said that it was better not to interfere. They kept staring at the door of the meeting room, waiting anxiously and concerned.

After a while, the door opened and Mintoff and Gonzi came out their faces beaming.

“Ignore what you just heard, it’s part of the discussion”, Mintoff told those staring at them in total disbelief. “Both of us come from Cottonera. We tend to lose our heads rather easily, shout at each other, say what we have to say, but we also understand and respect each other like brothers”, he continued.

Gonzi looked at Mintoff, obviously in agreement, and said: “We have now agreed on all points, we’ll issue a press release shortly for the media!”

The bitter clash between the Labour party and the Church Curia was finally over.

**Continued in the next issue*



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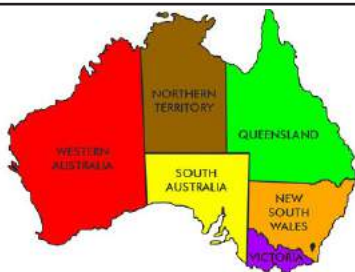
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Have your say/Xi trid tgħid?



The Voice of the Maltese

Print & Digital 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 ...

Fejn huma l-"esperti"?

Albert Saliba minn Springvale, Victoria jikteb:

Tassew intwera kemm il-pubblikazzjoni *The Voice of the Maltese* għandkom għal qalbkom u tinteressaw ruħkom fil-bżonnijiet tal-Maltin li huma mxxerda madwar id-dinja.

L-aħħar artiklu dwar il-propost forum ta' esperti Maltin biex jgħinu lill-pajjiż bl-idejat tagħhom (VOM Mejju 4) hija ideja tajba hafna. Imma ma nafx min jistgħu jkunu dawn l-esperti għax safejn naf jien hafna minnhom diġà gew magħzula biex jiehdu sehem fil-Kunsill tal-Maltin ta' Barra. Biss żgur li hemm hafna iktar.

Problems with vast distances in Australia

Joe Mark from Broome, W. Australia writes:

My fellow country persons from the USA have every right to complain about the tyranny of distances from where they happen to live to deal with a Malta Government office. I know what it means as I myself live in Broome, Western Australia.

To drive from my home to Canberra is a 5298 km journey or a flight of about 3276 km. A friend of mine works in Broken Hill in NSW and to reach Sydney he has a drive of 1151 km.

Therefore even in the same State the distances are enormous. But then again the Malta Government has limited resources and cannot deal with every individual case. It is good to highlight these distances, as those living in small countries may not comprehend the distances between towns and of living in a continent.

Jien nahseb li jkun aħjar lil dawn l-"esperti" l-ewwel jibdwu jgħinu lill-komunità Maltija biex inzommu haġ isem Malta, it-tradizzjonijiet, il-memorji u x'naf jien.

Nittama wkoll li dawn "l-esperti" ilhom li gew identifikati. Ninsab konvint li l-Gvern Malti diġà jaf, u għandu f'moħħu dawn minn huma.

Imsomma proposta tajba.

The way forward

J. Debono from Fairfield NSW writes:

Iread with interest your report about the new sports club at La Valette Centre. My appeal to these persons would have been to concentrate their efforts to make sure that the Maltese community will not lose the lease on Melita Stadium, due to expire in two years' time.

You may have a centre but to make it in football you need to progress from playing on paddocks to a proper Stadium.

It took the Maltese community 30 years to build their own stadium. Are we now to let go of what we have achieved to start all over again?

Meanwhile, I wish the Knights all the best.

Betraying the country

Mario Farrugia from Newtown NSW writes:

Ikeep wondering why some people in Malta, among them politicians, seem to have it in their DNA to tarnish Malta's name or belittle the country's achievements in the international fora.

It saddens me that these same so-called Maltese citizens use the international media to throw mud unnecessarily at the country hoping to win some mileage for their party.

Little do these traitors know that if in the end their actions lead to their party getting the go-ahead to govern, they would have to start all over again to build the reputation they themselves actually worked against.

Grazzi tassew

Mario Griscti minn Ta' Xbiex, Malta, jikteb:

Grazzi ta' *The Voice of the Maltese* għarġa Nru 252. Dejjem b'artikli mibnija b'intelligenza, imparzjalità u dinjità gurnalistika mill-aqwa.

Rappurtagg ta' aħbarijiet b'fedeltà mas-sima lejn il-fatti u ritratti li jqanqlu nostalgija, interess u apprezzament. Pubblikazzjoni ta' kultura li hu dejjem pożittiv, progressiv u attiv. Grazzi ħbieb.



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Another service offered by The Voice of the Maltese providing legal information to our readers

My parent left their whole Estate to my step-parent, their “new” partner.

Can I challenge the Will?

by Paul Sant

The short answer is, yes. Whether you are an only child, or one of five siblings, as a child of the deceased, you (and your siblings) fall into a class of “eligible person”, who can bring a family provision claim to challenge the Will. A claim should be brought within 12 months of the date of death.”

Your parent may make a Will leaving their entire estate to their new partner. Or, if they have not made a Will, their new partner may be entitled to their whole Estate, or a significant part of it, under intestacy laws.

What you need to show

Even if you have been left nothing in your parent’s Will, you are not automatically entitled, or guaranteed, to receive something. You must first satisfy the court the Will does not provide you with adequate provision for your maintenance, education and advancement in life.

The court then has discretion to assess what provision it will grant, if any, after considering various relevant matters.

You will have to provide evidence about your financial circumstances, income, assets, superannuation, and debts including credit cards and mortgage. If you have a partner, their income, assets, and liabilities also need to be provided. Whether you have any dependents, such as children under 18, in your care.

If you suffer from any health conditions or physical ailments that impact your ability to earn income, you include medical information and reports. Whether you are solely dependent on a govern-

ment pension, or will be when you retire.

Your evidence should set out any contributions that you made toward your parent’s Estate. If you completed any work to improve a house, such as painting or renovations, or if you carried out cleaning or gardening to maintain a house.

It is also important to include details of any financial assistance you may have received from your deceased parent. If you do not, and the defending Estate brings this to the court’s attention (or any information you may have forgotten to include about your income or assets), your credibility as a witness would be negatively affected.

Other relevant considerations for the court

The size of your parent’s Estate: if the Estate is modest (say under \$500,000), and your parent’s partner is able to demonstrate financial needs, over and above your needs, the Court may not be convinced it should alter the wishes of your parent as set out in their Will.

If the Estate is over \$1,000,000, and the court finds that you were not left adequate provision, and that any competing claims (such as from your parent’s partner) can be met, the court may be more likely to exercise discretion and provide a portion of the Estate to you.

The court must also consider the whole relationship between you and your deceased parent. We have previously written an article about estrangement.

If there has been estrangement, and you

were responsible for it, this may decrease the amount a court might grant you.

The court also considers the relationship between your parent, and any other person who has a legitimate claim on the Estate, such as your parent’s partner, or any other children to any partner.

So do I challenge it or not?

Every case has its own circumstances. The court does not have a formula it applies to automatically divide an Estate in equal chunks to each eligible person.

Where your parent has been in a relationship for a long period of time, 20-30 years, and built up their Estate with their partner, it is less likely a court will make orders that would require a property that your parent and their partner lived in to be sold, or subject to a large mortgage.

This was the result in *Henry v Hancock* [2016]. The court commented that a step-parent may have a moral obligation to provide for step-children (where you have lived in the same household as your parent and step-parent).

Whilst there do not appear to be many court decisions where a parent has been with and left the entire Estate to that partner, it is common for family provision claims to settle before a final court hearing, through negotiation or at a mediation.

Conclusion

Australians have freedom to leave their property by their will as they wish with one exception: a person must fulfil any moral duty to make proper and adequate provision for those whom the community would expect such provision to be made (*Stewart v McDougall* 1987).

In order to advise you as to whether your parent may have failed to meet a moral duty in making adequate provision to you, we need an understanding of circumstances outlined above. Please contact us if you are in this situation.

We have provided you with an overview of the topic above but you should consult a professional for advice specific to your circumstances.



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Maltese Spoken



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



Narawkom

Gieli kkummentajt kemm il-gvernijiet Awstraljani, kemm federali kif ukoll statali, irnexxielhom irazznu l-imxija tal-COVID, speċjalment meta mqabbla ma' pajjiżi oħra bħal dawk Amerikani, Ewropej, il-Brazil eċċ. Għamel dan b'diversi mizuri, fosthom l-intraċċar ta' każijiet, rata tajba ta' nies li jagħmlu t-test meta jhossu sintomi relattivi u, forsi l-iktar waħda harxa, restrizzjonijiet kbar fuq is-safar internazzjonali.

Dan l-ahħar, però, il-gvern federali Awstraljan ħa deċiżjoni stramba li ili ħafna ma nara waħda bħalha tiġi mibdula daqshekk malajr.

Hemm splużjoni ta' każijiet fl-Indja, li issa laħqu 1-400,000 każ kuljum u għelbu lill-Istati Uniti fl-agħar perjodu tagħha, parti miż-zieda hija attribwita għall-varjazzjoni B1617 tal-virus li hija iktar infettiva mill-oħrajn li nstabu s'ssa.

Is-sitwazzjoni fl-Indja tant hi gravi li l-isptarijiet huma mimlijin, provvisti ta' ossigenu huma baxxi jew spicċaw, u hafna nies qeghdin imutu d-dar għax ma tilhaqx tinstabilhom sodda l-isptar jew provvista privata ta' ossigenu.

Bi twegiba ghal din is-sitwazzjoni, il-gvern Awstraljan għalaq kompletament it-titjiriet minn dan il-pajjiż sa nofs Mejju, u anke heddedd b'multi kbar u ħabs lil dawk l-Awstraljani li forsi jithajru jiġu lura mill-Indja lejn pajjiżhom billi jgħaddu minn xi pajjiż iehor.

Iġġustifika din id-deċiżjoni billi nnota li l-kazijiet pożittivi tal-COVID-19 fil-kwarantina kienu żgħier, u ried jagħti ċans lill-faċilitajiet statali ta' kwarantina biex jirkupraw.¹

Il-gvern stqarr li din id-deċiżjoni kienet meħuda biex jipproteġi lill-Awstralja u lill-Awstraljani, imma jidher li l-Awstraljani li bħalissa jinsabu l-Indja mhumex jitqiesu bħala tali. Wieħed malajr jikkonkludi li l-gvern Awstraljan ħasel idejھ minnhom għal perjodu ta' żmien, u telaqhom għal riħhom, issa meta litteralment r-riskju għal ħajjithom hija l-ikbar li kienet mill-bidu tal-pandemija f'Diċembru tal-2019.

Nghid ghalija dan jindika li s-sistema ta' kwarantina li għandna fl-Awstralja mhix attrezzata u dimensjonata adegwatament, anke wara tant xhur li l-marda ilha ddur mas-saqajn.

Ta' min ifakkur li għe deċiż mill-bidu tal-pandemija li l-kwarantina tkun funzjoni tal-gvernijiet tal-istat, u mhux tal-gvern federali bħal ma hi miktuba fil-kostituzzjoni, għalhekk kull stat jimplementa s-sistema ta' kwarantina tiegħu.²

Għalhekk, il-facilitajiet ta' kwarantina fuq bażi nazzjonali mhu-
miex dawk primarji li qed jintużaw. Jien inżid ngħid li facilitajiet
statali ma jistgħux jiġi mistenni minnhom li jieħdu hsieb krizijiet
nazzjonali, bħal ma hi din.

Ir-reazzjoni kontra din id-deċiżjoni Awstraljana kienet negattiva



L-ewwel Awstraljani ripatrijati iġu ttestjati kif waslu f'Darwin mill-Indja s-Sibt

ghall-ahħar tista' tghid minn kull rokna, inkluzi bosta elementi fi hdan il-koalizzjoni fil-gvern u kummentaturi normalment simp-
pateteċi tal-lemin.

Tant l-oppożizzjoni kienet mifruxa u qawwija, li l-gvern mal-lewwel beda jara kif se jreggagħha lura, l-ewwel li dawk il-pieni ta' multi u l-habs ma kinux se jiġu mogħtija lil min jinqabad jikser ir-restrizzjonijiet, u flit wara li t-titjiriet ta' ripatrijazzjoni se jtkomplew mill-15 ta' Mejju qabel ma skada ż-żmien.

Kien hemm ukoll każ il-qorti li qed jalleġa li d-deċiżjoni tal-gvern hija saħansitra illegali. S'issa l-qorti ħadhet din l-interpretazzjoni. Jien ma nistax nikkummenta dwar l-aspett legali, imma naqbel biss ma dawk il-hafna li ħassew li d-deċiżjoni kienet waħda immorali.

Aktarx ukoll bhala reazzjoni ghal din is-sitwazzjoni, il-gvern Awstraljan qal li l-facilità federali ta' kwarantina ta' Howard Springs u xi ohrajn se jkunu dalwaqt jistgħu jilqgħu fosthom 850 persuna kull ħmista.

Nhar is-Sibt it-titjiriet ta' ripatrijazzjoni ta' Awstraljani mill-Indja reġġu bdew, u f'Darwin niżel l-ewwel ajruplan bi 80 ruh. Nittama li l-Awstraljani kollha jerġġu jkunu meqjusin denji ta' protezzjoni, kemm f'pajjiżhom u kemm le.

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An aerial view of the ANZAC War memorial at the Hyde Park Gardens

An icon dedicated to the fallen in the heart of Sydney

Standing tall in the beautiful gardens of Hyde Park south near Liverpool Street Sydney CBD is an impressive icon known as ANZAC War memorial. The State-owned property was added to the NSW State Heritage Register on 23 April 2010.

The Anzac Memorial was designed as a sculptural monument, a unique collaboration between architect Charles Bruce Dellit and sculptor George Rayner Hoff; it is arguably one of the finest examples of the union of architecture and art in Australia.

The building is a striking architectural form, symmetrical on both axes. It uses elements reminiscent of traditional Gothic architecture (buttresses, cathedral win-

dows, high ceilings) in the Art Deco style.

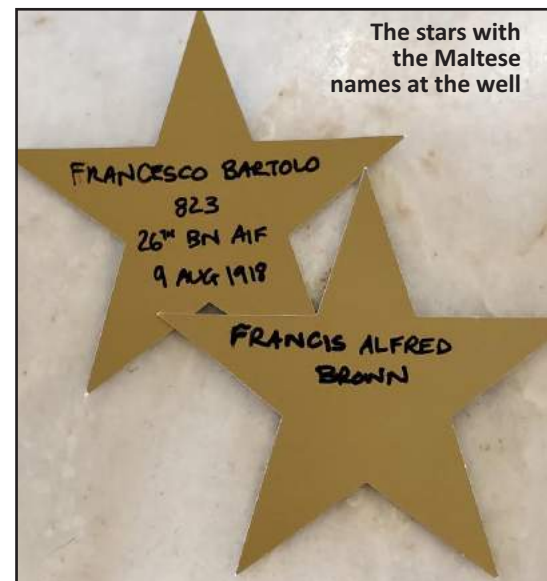
The Memorial is adorned externally with twenty sculptures representing the units of the Australian Imperial Force (AIF). These are the sentinels of the building, keeping watch while representing the fallen to whom the building is dedicated.

A physical expression of the spirit and legend of the Anzac – Honouring service, and the Courage, Endurance, and Sacrifice by all servicemen, servicewomen and their families.

The Anzac Memorial was intended to be a memorial to all Australians who lost their lives in service during the First World War, not just the soldiers from the Gallipoli campaign to whom the term “Anzac” was first attached. The imagery and symbolism in the statues and artwork, and the inscriptions in the building itself, reflect all of the campaigns involving Australians and all of the armed forces and auxiliary services that took part.

Crowning the Hall of Memory is a domed ceiling 26 metres high covered with approximately 120,000 golden stars. The stars are a symbolic representation of the men and women from New South Wales who embarked for overseas service during the Great War.

The stars are made from plaster covered in gold paint and glued into position. The Book of the Anzac Memorial, NSW (1934) describes: ‘this Golden Galaxy symbolises all those men and women from New South Wales who served in the war – one star for every man or woman who heard the call – a constellation



The stars with the Maltese names at the well

of honour and memory. These stars, placed high above the eye of the spectator and lit by the amber glass of the great windows, makes of the interior of the Hall a place of sacred memories.

All visitors to the Memorial are welcome to take a commemorative star bearing the name of an Australian serviceman or women killed on active service.

With the 2021 restrictions caused by COVID-19 preventing him from laying the commemorative wreath, the Consul-General of Malta in NSW, Lawrence Buhagiar nominated two ex-servicemen from World War I, Francis Alfred Brown from Sliema and Francesco Bartolo from Mellicha. They were both attached to Australian regiments. He deposited the two stars with their name in the well.



Consul-General of Malta in NSW, Lawrence Buhagiar at the well



Roundup of News About Malta



On way to recovery: herd immunity by May 19

As COVID-19 cases have continued to drop in light of the country's impressive vaccination campaign Malta will be reaching the 70% mark of vaccinations that the authorities have set, this week, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Health Chris Fearnle has confirmed that Malta would reach herd immunity by 19th May.

The vaccine rollout has been impressive and herd immunity is being reached two months before forecast with over a third of Malta's adult population fully-inoculated with two doses, or the single shot Janssen vaccine. Malta is currently using vaccines from Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca and Janssen (Johnson & Johnson).

Malta has the highest per capita rate of administered vaccinations in the world, surpassing Israel and the UK. It is the first country to open vaccination up to the entire population eligible for jabs; those aged 16 to 30 are requested to apply for the COVID-19 vaccine on Monday (May 17).

Up to the time of publishing the magazine, around 425,000 doses had been registered.

Dr Fearnle hailed the progress being made in the vaccination programme and thanked nurses and all medical frontliners for their work in the COVID-19 emergency.

On May 10, restrictions on restaurants and snack bars were partially lifted to be allowed to open for lunch until 5p.m. with only four people on each table. As of May 24 they will be allowed to open until midnight allowing for six people per table. Brisk business has been reported. Passengers were also allowed to travel to and from Gozo and thousands took the occasion to make daily trips to the sister island.

From May 24 pools are being allowed to reopen until 8pm for swimming only; gyms can reopen but no classes allowed; day centres will reopen, and contact sports training will resume for those aged over 17. Com-

petitions of non-contact sports will resume, without spectators.

From June 1 tourism restarts and hotel owners are expecting a revival to the industry, following a good number of bookings, especially from Europe. The hoteliers' representative said on TV that they are expecting around 900,000 tourists up to the end of the year.

The English Language Schools can reopen and the use of masks on beaches and at pools, though still recommended, will not be enforced by law. From June 7 cinemas, theatres, bars and clubs can reopen, following protocols. Competitions of contact and team sports will resume for those aged over 17, without spectators.

For now, outdoor Church feast celebration processions will not be allowed.

Malta ratifies ILO's Domestic Workers Convention

Following the Cabinet's approval Malta has ratified the Domestic Workers Convention of the International Labour Organisation (C189), and Minister for Foreign and European Affairs Evarist Bartolo has signed the instruments of ratification.

The Minister within the Office of the Prime Minister Carmelo Abela presented the ratification during an ILO meeting in Geneva, Switzerland to the Director General of the ILO Guy Ryder.

It recognises the significant contribution of domestic workers to the global economy, which includes increasing paid job opportunities for female and male workers with family responsibilities, greater scope for caring for ageing populations, children and persons with a disability, and substantial income transfers within and between countries.

The convention considers that domestic work continues to be undervalued and invisible and is mainly carried out by women and girls, many of whom are migrants or members of disadvantaged communities.

Maltese endemic plants for treatment of leukaemia

A project funded by the Malta Council of Science and Technology (MCST) through the FUSION programme, Agent NovoBio, is bringing together academics and the private industry to study the use of various bioactive agents extracted from Maltese endemic plants for use as potential novel treatments for leukaemia.

Minister for Research, Innovation and the Coordination of the Post COVID-19 Strategy Owen Bonnici praised the priceless efforts of the Maltese team working on this project that was initiated with the aim of developing the technology, knowledge, and expert skills required to scale up the extraction of bioactive agents that could have immense potential in the treatment of cancer.

Restrictions lifted and off to the sister island on a crowded Gozo Channel vessel last Wednesday



Norwegian Viking cruise liners to make Malta their home port

Two Viking luxury liners, Viking Venus and Viking Sea will start using Malta's Grand Harbour as their home porting base for their 11 Mediterranean cruise itineraries, visiting ports in Croatia, Italy, Greece and also Gozo

These cruise liners ships that are expected to draw American clients who are already vaccinated against COVID-19. As the cruises would start from Malta tourists flying to Malta would spend nights on the island and the country's economy would benefit from their stay.

Making the announcement, Minister for Tourism, Clayton Bartolo said that the visiting ships would follow all necessary health protocols and both crewmembers and passengers would be subject to "non-invasive saliva PCR test".

He said that that Viking's decision was a clear sign that the Tourism Ministry had managed to ensure that both public health and tourism would synchronise well. More talks are ongoing in a bid to attract more cruise lines to homeport in Valletta.

He said the manner in which Viking operates is a clear example of how public health and tourism can comply with each other. American tourists will be able to spend nights in Malta to the benefit of the country's economy.

Cruise Port CEO Stephen Xuereb, noted that the cruise liner industry has worked with a number of stakeholders on projects such as the Grand Harbour Clean Air initiative in which €59.9 million have been invested with the aim of cutting air pollution in the Grand Harbour by 90%.



Roundup of News About Malta



From left: Ministers Evarist Bartolo, Clyde Caruana and Libya's Najla El-Mangoush

Malta wants to be a bridge between Europe and Libya

Minister for Foreign and European Affairs Evarist Bartolo hosted Libya's Foreign Minister Najla El-Mangoush for a bilateral meeting that follows a visit a Maltese delegation led by Prime Minister Robert Abela made to Libya last month.

Evarist Bartolo stressed that Libya is not only a geopolitical reality or an issue of oil and irregular migration, but a sovereign state with a population of about that has suffered a lot and still does, with a lack of daily needs. He promised that Malta would continue to work for peace and stability in Libya.

He said that Malta remains open to serve as a bridge between the rest of Europe and Libya and to achieve security and peace there that would contribute towards peace and security in the Mediterranean and in Europe.

Both sides agreed that border protection and management is a priority, more importantly for Libya's national security. In this context, they spoke of the need for peace and stability in Africa so that its borders with the Sahel would no longer threaten Libya.

Minister Najla El-Mangoush and Minister Bartolo, were later joined by the Minister for Finance and Employment Clyde Caruana for talks on the importance of starting flights between Malta and Libya with the aim of opening doors for trade and investment.

They spoke about the historical trade links between the two countries and expressed their commitment to boost trade operations of Maltese companies present in Libya, and to facilitate new investments that would be mutually beneficial for Malta and Libya.

Later, the Libyan Minister El-Mangoush also met President George Vella at Sant' Anton Palace.

Strong Malta–USA links highlighted in virtual meeting

In a very busy week, for Minister Bartolo he had a virtual meeting with the Eurasian Affairs Acting Assistant Secretary, within the State Department of the USA, Philip T. Reeker in which they highlighted the strong partnership between Malta and the United States, demonstrated, inter alia, through collaboration on the rule of law.

They agreed to continue building on the strong cooperation between both countries in

different areas including in the fight against organised crime, money laundering and terrorist financing.

Secretary Reeker commended the Malta initiative on the successful Malta Workshops held earlier this year, and expressed the USA's full support towards such efforts.

They also discussed regional issues, including stability in the Mediterranean; irregular migration related challenges and the Libya situation.

Dr Anglu Farrugia participates in Conference of EU Speakers

The Speaker of the House of Representatives Anglu Farrugia (right) participated in the online Conference of EU Speakers hosted by the German Parliament, as the last event of the inter-parliamentary dimension of the German Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

The main theme of the conference dealt with the risks and opportunities for representative democracy in the context of digitalisation and the changing public sphere.

In his intervention, Speaker Farrugia outlined the importance of using digital tools, in particular during these unprecedented times. He said that national parliaments have managed to exploit the tools available to them in order to continue their representative function throughout the pandemic. He pointed out, however, that the fast pace of the digital transformation that the world has undergone since the widespread accessibility of the Internet has not been met with a comparable development in relevant legislation.

He outlined the dangers of data leaks and manipulation impact on the users' trust, the difficulty in distinguishing between fake and real news, and in particular one of the greatest threats to anyone trying to obtain genuine, unbiased information via social media platforms especially when these appear alongside each other.

He concluded that one cannot but acknowledge that a healthy democracy depends on citizens who are well-informed on important issues and public affairs, and that democracy also depends on a diversity of viewpoints that have not been skewed to one side or another by some intermediary.



Love knows no gender campaign; Our hearts open to diversity

Love knows no gender and Our hearts are open to the diversity of our children are the themes for a month-long campaign that has been launched on the island of Gozo on the occasion of the International Day against Homophobia, Biphobia, Interphobia and Transphobia, that was celebrated Monday May 17.

The aim of the campaign that was launched by the Ministry for Justice, Equality and Governance and the Ministry for Gozo is to continue to increase the visibility of the presence of LGBTIQ persons in Gozo and to

transmit two principal messages.

The messages are: firstly, that families take different forms, all of which should be accepted and celebrated, and secondly, that children should be accepted for who they are, irrespective of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Meanwhile, Malta is expected to keep its first place ranking in the ILGA-Europe Rainbow Index for the sixth consecutive year.

The Special Eurobarometre on Discrimination in the European Union of 2019 found that 20% of Maltese and Gozitan re-

spondents do not agree that lesbian, gay and bisexual persons should have the same rights as heterosexual persons.

The same survey also found that only 38% of Maltese and Gozitan respondents feel completely comfortable with a same-sex couples showing affection in public.

During the launch, Minister for Justice, Equality and Governance Edward Zammit Lewis emphasised that government is committed to continue in its efforts to promote equality in all areas, including for LGBTIQ persons in Malta and Gozo.

Mix-xena tal-hajja Maltija

minn Ġużè Camilleri

Jerga' jerfa' rasu

Sentenza mogħtija mill-Qrati Maltin dwar libell li d-deputat tal-partit Nazzjonalista, Dr Jason Azzopardi kien għamel waqt it-tellieqa għal-*leadership* tal-Kap tal-Partit Nazzjonalista wasal biex terga tinfetħ il-kwestjoni tal-firda fi hdan il-Partit Nazzjonalista.

Azzopardi kien għamel il-libell kontra persuna mill-aktar qrib tal-eks-kap tal-Partit Nazzjonalista, Adrian Delia.

Meta l-Qorti tat raġun lil Azzopardi, dan malajr mar fuq il-paġna tal-Facebook tiegħu biex kiteb dwar ir-rebħa u għadda xi rimarki xejn kumplimentużi, li kulhadd fehem li kienu b'referenza dirretta lejn Adrian Delia.

Il-kap tal-PN jirreaġixxi

Quddiem din is-sitwazzjon, il-kap tal-Partit Nazzjonalista, Bernard Grech ma setax ma jirreaġixxi, għax sostna li partit mhux magħqud ma setax jimxi 'l quddiem. Fuq kollox f'dan il-każ kienet inkisret l-ordni li kienet ingħatat lid-deputati Nazzjonalisti biex ma jgħaddux kummenti ta' kritika lejn xulxin fuq il-midja soċjali.

Għalhekk, Grech ressaq din il-kwestjoni quddiem l-Eżekuttiv tal-Partit, u inkiteb hafna dwar dak imbassar li kien se jsir mill-Eżekuttiv, bit-tensjoni titla' sewwa, għax saħansitra kien hemm min stenna li xi partitarji Nazzjonalisti, dak inhar tal-laqgħa tal-Eżekuttiv, kienu se jingabru quddiem il-kwartieri tal-partit biex japoġġjaw lil naħa jew l-oħra.

Saħansitra Delia appella lil min japoġġjah biex ma jersqux lejn il-kwartieri.

Iżda meta t-tensjoni kienet fl-aqwa tagħha u kollox kien imhejji halli tibda l-laqgħa, il-Partit Nazzjonalista hareġ stqarrija fejn qal li l-laqgħa tal-Eżekuttiv giet imħassra għax iż-żewġ naħat laħqu ftehim u saħansitra inhargħet stqarrija ffirmata minnhom li fost kollox ingħad li:

- Fil-post imtella' minn Jason Azzopardi ma kien hemm l-ebda intenzjoni li tinftehem xi referenza għal Adrian Delia
- Li iż-żewġ deputati jagħrfu rispettivamente f'xulxin politiki impenjati bis-shih fil-ġlieda kontra l-korruzzjoni fil-hajja



Adrian Delia (xellug) u Jason Azzopardi

Min-naħa tiegħu, tal-aħħar irreaġixxa mill-ewwel u fost kollox fit-twegiba tiegħu sa sfida lil Azzopardi biex jekk irid jagħmillu libell.

Il-batibekk bejn iż-żewġ deputati Nazzjonalisti, li f'dawn l-aħħar snin xejn ma kienu jħarsu lejn xulxin bil-hlewwa, qajjem reazzjoni qawwija u reġa' hargħet fiċ-ċar il-firda li kien hemm bejn diversi deputati u /jew fazzjonijiet ben partitarji tal-partit, li donnu kien biss inkines taħt it-tapit u reġa' mill-ġdid refa' rasu.

Rebħa, jew ...?

Sintendi dan il-ftehim ikkalma xi ftehim l-affar-Sijiet u aktarx evita' aktar nkwieta għall-PN, speċjalment, jekk kif gie rrapportat mill-gazzetta *illum*, fil-laqgħa tal-Eżekuttiv kienet se titressaq mozzjoni li ma kinetx se thalli lil Adrian Delia u Jason Azzopardi jikkontestaw l-elezzjoni. Dan sintendi x'aktarx kien jirriżulta f'telf sostanzjali ta' voti għall-PN.



Bernard Grech, Il-Kap tal-Partit Nazzjonalista

Il-kap Nazzjonalista, u l-midja tal-partit fahru l-ftehim bil-kap al-PN jishaq: "Illum għamilna pass ieħor li se ikompli jsaħħah il-partit. Wara llum il-PN se jkun iktar b'saħħtu milli kien il-bierah jew dalgħodu sabiex jista' jkun tassew l-alternattiva li għandu bżonn il-poplu Malti u Għawdx.".

Iżda, għalkemm b'dan il-ftehim deher li Bernard Grech heles minn għoqla fuq l-istonku, mhux kulhadd qies din bħala rebħa għalih.

Hekk li fost hafna, Manuel Delia, li jappoġġja bi shih lill-PN u jmessi għaqda li għandha wkoll hafna influwenza fil-PN, sostna li Bernard Grech ma kellu l-ebda rwol fil-kompromess li seħh, u li d-deċiżjoni ta' Grech li jsejjaħ laqgħa tal-Eżekuttiv dwar il-każ kienet diżastruża.

L-artiklu kompli juri kif billi ma keċċiex lil Delia u ma pproteġiex lil Jason Azzopardi, Grech issa tilef il-kontroll taż-żewġ fazzjonijiet fil-partit.

Saħansitra kien hemm min sostna li wara li Jason Azzopardi rtira diversi allegazzjonijiet li kien għamel dwar Delia, kien iqum il-punt dwar kemm kienet valida it-tneħħija ta' Delia minn mexxej Nazzjonalista, meta l-allegazzjonijiet li kien għamel Azzopardi kienu kruċjali biex it-tesserati tal-partit inehhu li Delia minn kap tal-Partit u appoġġjaw lil Grech

Mix-xena tal-ħajja Maltija

minn Ġużè Camilleri

Ir-reazzjoni tal-gazzetti

*ikompli minn paġna 14

Ma naqsux lanqas il-kummenti dwar il-hiliet ta' tmexxija ta' Bernard Grech bl-Editur ta' *The Times* saħansitra jgħid li "Grech continues to wade in a swamp of indecision."

Għalkemm imbagħad l-Editur tal-*Malta Independent* sostna li Grech beda juri snien, meta wara li sar dan il-ftehim qal li ma kienx se jkompli jittollera incidenti bħal dawn. Iżda fl-istess nifs, l-istess Editur wera d-dubbi tiegħu kemm ir-rivalità bejn Azzopardi u Delia se tieqaf hemm:

"To us, the statement was nothing but a feeble attempt at damage control and we seriously doubt that the two MPs really believe what was written, or that this will be the end of the story."

Daqqa kbira l-Isfel

Propju f'itjem wara din is-saga hareġ ir-riżultat tas-soltu sħarriġ li tagħmel il-gazzetta *Maltatoday* li reġa' tefa lura lill-Partit Nazzjonalista u l-mexxej tiegħu.

L-istħarriġ juri li Grech jitlef 10% mill-appoġġ li kellu biex niżel fl-aktar livell baxx ta' 25.7%, u bil-Prim Ministru Robert Abela iżid b'madwar 2% biex kiseb il-fiduċja ta' 49.6%

L-istess sehh fil-każ tal-partiti fejn id-differenza bejniethom, minn 23,000 tagħet għal 39,000 favur il-Partit Laburista.

Meta kkummenta dwar dan ir-riżultat, il-kap Nazzjonalista tefa' t-tort tar-riżultat fuq l-battibekk li kien hemm bejn Azzopardi u Delia, għalkemm ammetta wkoll li seta' kien hemm raġunijiet oħra.

Nahseb li għalkemm il-konflitt Azzopardi vs Delia kellu effett fuq l-istħarriġ, ir-raġuni tmur lil hinn minnekk, kif wara kollox ikkonfermaw xi ġurnali li żgur ma jitqiesux li huma pro-Laburisti.

Bit-Itlu "When a party fails to inspire", f'*The Times* intqal li hemm diversi raġunijiet għaliex il-Partit Nazzjonalista ma jistax

...u l-protoganisti

Wara dan il-battibekk, jidher li kien Delia li hareġ minn fuq, għax Azzopardi kellu jirtira allegazzjonijiet serjissimi kontrih, bil-*Maltatoday* tiddekrivi d-dikjarazzjoni taż-żewġ deputati bħala "shock declaration: 'It does not result that hundreds of messages were exchanged between Yorgen Fenech and Adrian Delia'"

Mhux ta' b'xejn li Delia mar fuq *Facebook* u kiteb: "2 sigħat ilu rebaħ is-sewwa. Rebaħ il-Partit Nazzjonalista. Il-ħidma tiegħi se tkompli. Għad tirbaħ Malta wkoll"

il-Libsa jew il-Kanzunetta?

Matul din il-gimgha, bejn it-Tlieta 18, (u nittamaw), is-Sibt 22 tax-xahar, il-Maltin li jgħixu l-Awstralja se jkollhom id-dritt li jivvutaw għall-kanzunetta ta' Malta fil-Eurovision. Skont ir-regolamenti tal-Eurovision f' Malta ma nistgħux nivvutaw għax l-ebda pajjiż li jiehu sehem ma' jista' jivvota għall-kantant/a ta' pajjiżu.

Bi thejjija għal dan il-kuntest f'Rotterdam, il-kantanta Maltija, Destiny it-Tlieta se tiehu sehem fl-ewwel semi-finali, u jekk tikkwalifika, Sibt tkanta fil-finali.

Fi tmiem il-gimgha li għaddiet il-Maltija ta' 18-il sena ħadet sehem fil-provi u sa mill-ewwel prova fuq il-Facebook qamet polemika li xterdet ukoll fil-midja Maltija imma għal kif Destiny kienet liebsa.

Kien hemm min qal li l-libsa roża tagħha ma kinetx addattata għal tfajla mbaċċa bħal Destiny u ma kienu xejn komplemen-

tużi. Oħrajn fahhru l-kuraġġ tat-tfajla u saħqu li min qed jikkritikaha, ma fhemx xejn il-messaġġ li qed tipprowa twassal.

Kumment li għoġbni kien dak li attwalment il-qofol ta' kollox kien minn liema lat thares lejn il-kwestjoni.

Jekk thares lejha mil-mod li mdorrijin bih, fejn insostnu li hemm ilbies li ma jixraqx lil ċertu nies, forsi wiehed jista' ma jaqbilx jew jitkaża bil-mod kif libset Destiny.

Iżda jekk thares lejn il-fatt li din it-tfajla li qed tagħmel minn kollox biex tgħaddi messaġġ li min hu bħala, mhux xi tfajla b'figura li meqjusa idejali, għandu dritt li jilbes bħal tfajlijiet oħra, wiehed jista' jam-mira l-kuraġġ tagħha.

Attwalment Destiny innifisha nsistiet li l-ghan kien li twassal messaġġ qawwi ta' "empowerment". Sostniet li kuntenta haf-na bil-libsa li għazlet u kunfidenti li l-libsa tmur mal-messaġġ tal-kanzunetta 'Je Me Casse' li hi dwar l-empowerment tan-nisa.

Qalet li temmen f'ja nnifisha u thossa tajba fuq il-palk, għalhekk ilbist kif libset. "Nidher sabiha u kuntenta hafna kif nidher. Inhossni kunfidenti. Nista' niċċaqlaq, nizzegleg u nizzen," qalet

Sostniet, "Maybe I am not the size six society is used to, maybe the dress or image is more important than an artist's performance, but I am here to do my job."

U f'kuntest tal-kant, x'inhu l-aktar importanti l-libsa jew il-kanzunetta u kif titkanta? Fuq hekk għandu jkun l-emfasi.

Dawk li jistgħu jivvutaw għall-kanzunetta Maltija, il-messaġġ ta' Destiny jridu jpoġġu l-ewwel: il-kanzunetta Maltija u mhux il-libsa ta' min ikantaha.



Maltese Funerals

In conjunction with Hills Family Funerals.



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A quick glimpse at Australia

The Federal Budget – how will it affect you?

The Coalition (Liberal/Nationals) led by Scott Morrison has unveiled its second federal budget since the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic. The budget, handed down by Treasurer Josh Frydenberg, his third, revealed a deficit set to reach \$161 billion this year – \$52.7 billion lower than what was expected around six months ago.

Josh Frydenberg hasn't totally given up on returning future budget surpluses, but for now his main aim is to drive the unemployment rate lower.

The Treasurer's third budget is still forecasting sizeable budget deficits over the next few years and a surplus is not projected in at least the next decade.

*Following an initial \$452 million pledge in March, there's a new \$17.7 billion package aimed at revamping an aged care sector that was heavily criticised in a damning royal commission report. The money will go towards 80,000 new home care packages, increasing the amount of time residents have with front line care staff, training 33,000 more personal carers and more.

*The government has pledged \$2.3 billion over the next four years to better the mental health of Australians.

*The government has pledged nearly a billion dollars over four years for measures aimed at women and children experiencing domestic and sexual violence, including a two-year trial program offering women fleeing a violent relationship up to \$5,000.

*This year's budget contains a new tax cut for low-and middle-income earners. The government says it will save individ-

uals \$1,080 and couples \$2,160 in the next financial year.

*A half-a-billion-dollar extension of the JobTrainer program is expected to provide nearly 200,000 cheap or free training places in areas of skills need, including aged care and IT. A new \$1.5 billion injection into the Boosting Apprenticeship Commencements wage subsidy aims to help more women break into non-traditional trades.

*New migrants will be forced to wait four years before accessing most government welfare payments under a significant cost-cutting measure that will save the Government \$671 million over five years.

According to a joint media release by Home Affairs Minister Karen Andrews and Immigration Minister Alex Hawke, the government intends to maintain the 2021-22 Migration Programme ceiling at 160,000 places, including 79,600 skilled



Treasurer Josh Frydenberg MP

and 77,300 family stream places.

The budget papers contain no new major welfare measures. The budget assumes temporary and permanent migration won't restart until at least mid-way through 2022.

Vaccine roll-out vital to industries

In his year's federal budget, apart from the health threat, it is the virus that had an impact.

The nation's vaccination rollout, hit by logistical delays, supply issues, and concerns over vaccine hesitancy, is posing some potential fiscal problems.

While Australia's overall economic recovery is strong, there are some sectors desperately relying on the vaccine for their survival.

A successful vaccine rollout will help the centre, and others like it to get back on

track. Vaccination is the key long-term to get the industry going again.

The more that's delayed, the more negative press, the more shortages of supply, the inability to vaccinate large numbers of people during this time is going to be critical. It is estimated that Australia is nine to twelve months behind where it should have been with the vaccine rollout.



Medicare extension until 17/09/2021 for Maltese in Australia on Temporary Visas



The High Commission of Malta in Canberra is informing all Maltese currently in Australia on Temporary Visas, that through the Reciprocal Health Care Agreement (RHCA) between Malta and Australia, the Medicare coverage has been extended for another six (6) months (17th March to 17th September 2021).

Services Australia will send the new Medicare Card to one's address if that is known. Those who do not have a card may call the Medicare Programme at 132011 to get their Medicare card number that may be used instead of a card.

More information is available on:

<https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/medicare/reciprocal-health-care-agreements/when-you-visit-australia/visiting-from-malta>

Euthanasia in Sth Australia

The State of South Australia's upper house has passed a bill that proposes to legalise euthanasia. It is the first time in the state's history that a euthanasia bill has passed a chamber of Parliament.

The Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill passed the upper house, after more than six hours of debate. Fourteen members voted for it and seven voted against it.

The proposed laws will now go to the lower house, where it will be subject to further debate. It is the state's 17th attempt to legalise euthanasia in

25 years.

The latest bill, introduced by Labor MLC Kyam Maher, proposes access to euthanasia for people living in South Australia for at least a year, who are aged 18 or older and diagnosed with an incurable disease, illness, or medical condition that is advanced, progressive, and is expected to cause death within weeks or months.

Their condition must also be causing suffering that cannot be relieved.

South Australia will become the fourth state in Australia to legislate euthanasia.



A quick glimpse at Australia

Domestic violence ... and where to get help

Fter the successful information session organised by The Maltese Welfare and the SBS TV "See what you made me do" about domestic abuse, we add further information.

According to national violence prevention agency *Our Watch* violence against women can take many forms, including relationship and family violence, dating violence, workplace sexual harassment, street harassment, online abuse and coercive control.

Australian women are nearly three times more likely than men to experience violence from an intimate partner. It happens in homes, on the street, in workplaces, schools, or online, and is usually perpetrated at the hands of a man known to the woman, that. A broad understanding of the issue is needed to prevent all forms of violence.

Applying a gendered approach to the prevention of all forms of violence against women and addressing the many structural inequalities that affect women's lives are key to stopping it before it starts.

One in three Australian women have experienced physical



and/or sexual abuse perpetrated by a man since the age of 15, according to 2017 ABS data.

Research from *Our Watch* also found one in two Australians finds it difficult to recognise non-physical abuse in a relationship, with ABS data also finding one in four women has experienced non-physical abuse from a partner.

Where can I get help?

First and foremost, if you feel unsafe, contact police on 000 or a crisis service in any state or territory. If you're unsure what to do, calling 1800RESPECT on

1800 737 732 can help to connect you with local services to access the support you need.

Watch CEO Patty Kinnersly says "That applies to not only the woman herself but also family, friends or work colleagues who can reach out to us to see what they can do. Let's trust our own instincts. What we would suggest is that even if you're unsure, reaching out to a service like 1800RESPECT to have a conversation is a really good step" she said.

Australia – China relations suspended

China has formally suspended all contact falling under a key economic forum with Australia as relations between the countries strain even further.

The move officially cuts off the China-Australia Strategic Economic Dialogue, with China blaming "ideological discrimination" on the part of the Australian government.

Finance Minister Simon Birmingham has downplayed the significance of the decision, saying Beijing hasn't engaged with Australia through the framework since 2017.

Senator Birmingham described China's refusal to participate in the discussions as "regrettable" and questioned why they had decided to now announce the suspension in talks.

"This has been a position that they have held and frankly just continue right now and it's disappointing because the best way to work through differences is through dialogue," he told SBS News.

The move marks the first major response from the Chinese government since the Morrison government cancelled Victoria's Belt and Road agreement in March.

Senator Birmingham said Australia's door remained open despite China's sudden departure.

Opposition leader Anthony Albanese described the deepening diplomatic freeze as unfortunate, saying Australia needed to maintain dialogue with China. "We do need dialogue, it can't be just on their terms, though. It's got to be on both countries' terms and so this is regrettable," he told reporters.

Tasmania stays Liberal



The Liberal Party has won a historic third term in Tasmania's 25-member lower house

In Tasmania's Hare-Clark voting system, there are five electorates and five candidates are voted to each electorate. The proportional representation model makes it difficult for governments to achieve land-slides.

Labor leader Rebecca White conceded defeat congratulating the Liberals for achieving a strong result. During the election campaign, the Liberals focused on Mr Peter Gutwein's handling of the coronavirus pandemic, while Labor campaigned on the state's struggling health system and affordable housing shortage.



Michelle Rowland MP

Shadow Minister for Communications
Federal Member for Greenway



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Tagħrif dwar il-kitba Maltija u dawk li matul is-sekli hadmu għall-iżvilupp tal-ilsien Malti

F'din is-sensiela diġà ttrattajna żewġ kittieba li baqgħu jsemmew bil-kunjom ta' Mifsud Bonnici. Dawn kienu Gużé u Ganni. Illum għandna tlieta oħra bl-istess kunjom – tnejn minnhom ħut Ganni – Pietru Pawl u Klement – li minkejja

li mhumieq magħrufa daqs it-tnejn l-oħra wkoll għinu biex il-kitba bil-Malti kisbet l-importanza li s'hoqqilha. Sfortunatament ma kienx possibbli li niksbu daqstant tagħrif dwarhom.

Tliet Mifsud Bonnicijiet

Pietru Pawl

L-ewwel fost dawn it-tliet kittieba Mifsud Bonnici huwa **Pietru Pawl** li twieled Hal Qormi fl-1841 u miet fis-7 ta' Lulju, 1881 fl-età ta' 40 sena. Kien poeta u edukatur iben Dr Felice Mifsud Bonnici.

Pietru Pawl studja fl-Iskejjel Elementari tal-Gvern u fil-Liċeo, u kien meqjus bħala bniedem tal-affari tiegħu u intelligenti.

Wara li temm l-istudji tiegħu huwa sar għalliem u nġhata r-responsabbiltà bħala surmast biex imexxi l-Iskola Primarja tal-Gvern tal-Mellieha. Kien ukoll magħruf għall-paċenzja li kellu mal-istudenti u l-metodu speċjali tiegħu tat-tagħlim.

Tul il-karriera ta' għalliem għaraf iħarreg għadd ta' studenti fil-ġografija u l-aritmetika. Kellu wkoll mod uniku kif jgħalliem lill-istudenti t-Taljan u l-Ingliz, tant li kien iwassalhom biex jiktbu komponimenti u anke xi xarada bil-Malti.

Pietru Pawl, li kien iħobb jiffirma bil-pseudonimu P.M. (Pawlu Mifsud), kien poeta magħruf u għadd ta' poeziji minn tiegħu ġew ippubblikati fil-ġurnal "In-Nahla Maltija" li kien immexxi minn Gużé Muscat Azzopardi ħabib kbir tiegħu. Hames poeziji oħra minn tiegħu ġew ippubblikati wkoll flimkien ma' ta' oħrajn, fil-pubblikazzjoni Is-Sirena.

Minbarra l-poezija Pietru Pawl kiteb ukoll għadd sabih ta' xaradi helwin, kurjużi u ta' taħbil il-mohħ.

(Uhud minn dan it-tagħrif inkiseb mid-Diz-zjunarju Bijo-Biblijografiku Nazzjonali tan-neputi ta' Pietru Pawl, Rob Mifsud Bonnici).

Klement

Klement Mifsud Bonnici jiġi hu Pietru Pawl, u iehor li wkoll ta' ħafna lill-ilsien Malti, Ganni li ktibna dwaru fil-ħarġa ta' *The Voice* Nru 229.

L-aħwa kienu wlied Dr Felice Mifsud Bonnici bin Dr Clemente (l-ewwel Mifsud Bonnici), li kien it-tabib distrettwali ta' l-istess raħal.

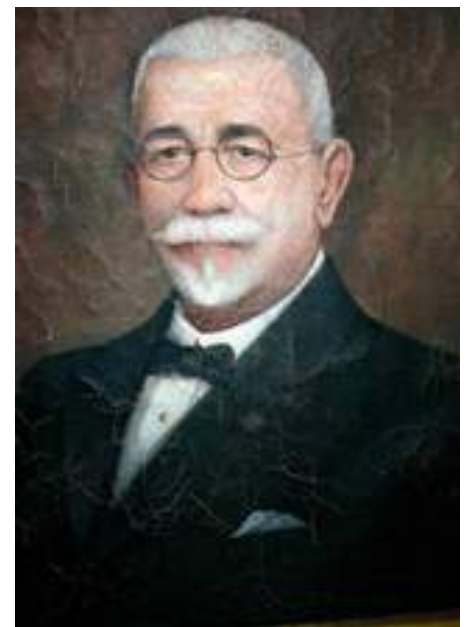
Dan il-poeta, skrittur u ħabib ta' l-Isien Malti, twieled ukoll f'Hal Qormi fl-1844 u miet meta kien għad kellu biss 43 sena fis-16 ta' Mejju, 1887.

Klement beda l-istudji tiegħu fl-Iskola Elementari tal-Gvern ta' Hal Qormi stess, u wara ssokta jistudja fil-Liċeo. Bħal hutu Pietru Pawl u Ganni ħabrek ħafna għat-tagħlim u l-edukazzjoni tal-kotra li f'dak iż-żmien kienet nieqsa ħafna mill-Iskejjel tal-Gvern u tal-privat.

Kien ukoll wiehed mill-ewwel imsieħba tal-Għaqda Letterarja li twaqqfet fl-1876 u li kienet magħmula mill-aħjar letterati ta' dak iż-żmien, fosthom Annibale Preca, Gużé Muscat Azzopardi, Napoleone Tagliaferro, Achille Ferris u Gavino Gulia.

Klement Mifsud Bonnici ippublika għadd ta' poeziji u ta kontribut kemm seta' biex jgħalliem b'kitbietu, fil-ġurnal "In-Nahla Maltija", tal-edittur u direttur Gużé Muscat Azzopardi, l-awtur tar-rumanz "Matthew Callus" li kien iddedikah lil Klement.

Bħal hūh Pietru Pawl hu wkoll kellu 13-poezija ippubblikati ma' f'Is-Sirena.



Rikard

Rikard Mifsud Bonnici (*fug*) kien kemm poeta kif ukoll rumanzier. Huwa twieled il-Mellieha fl-1877 u miet fit-23 ta' Settembru tal-1948 fl-età ta' 61 sena.

Rikard kien iben Pietru Pawl u Virginja Vassallo u ha l-ewwel edukazzjoni tiegħu fl-Iskola tal-Gvern tar-raħal u bħal ħafna tfał li riedu jkompli l-istudji tagħhom u javvanzaw, għadda biex jissokta l-edukazzjoni tiegħu fil-Liċeo.

Hu tant kien iħobb l-ilsien Malti li ried li fost l-istudji tiegħu jinkludi wkoll dak tal-Malti. Kiteb għadd kbir ta' poeziji, fil-biċċa 'l kbira bil-Malti.

Rikard kien membru attiv fl-Għaqda tal-Kittieba tal-Malti u membru maħtur apostlu fil-M.U.S.E.U.M. taħt id-direzzjoni tal-fundatur u llum qaddis, Dun Ġorġ Preca.

Wara mewtu halla warajh għadd ġmielu ta' manuskritti fosthom: Santu Formosa, rumanz li kien ġie ippremjat fil-konkurs inniedi mill-Gvern fl-1936, u Vokabularju Malti, li sfortunatament ma laħaqx lesta qabel miet.

Fost il-pubblikazzjonijiet tiegħu tis-semma l-Kristoloġija tal-1937, ġabra ta' poeziji tiegħu dwar Kristu, 'Kemmi hi Ħafifa l-Ħajja tar-Ruh' (1937)

CHRIS BOWEN MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR MCMAHON



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Mill-Gżira
Għawdxija

Charles Spiteri

Talb għat-tmiem tal-pandemija

Il-Papa Franġisku ta' widen għax-xewqa ta' tant In-sara biex fix-xahar li qegħdin fih, ix-Xahar Marjan ta' Mejju, il-Knisja kollha tingħaqad fit-talb lil Ommna Marija għat-tmiem tal-pandemija.

Għalhekk il-Kunsill Pontifiċju għall-Promozzjoni tal-Evangelizzazzjoni ha l-inizjattiva li f'kull jum, fis-6p.m. f'Mejju, minn santwarji Marjani differenti tixxandar t-talba tar-Rużarju li fiha jkun jistgħu jiehdu sehem il-fidili Nsara tad-dinja kollha. Il-Papa Franġisku fetah u jagħlaq din il-"katina ta' talb" billi jitlob minn żewġ postijiet Marjani sinifikattivi fil-Vatikan.

Fost it-tletin santwarju minn fejn qed isir dan it-talb ingħazel ukoll is-Santwarju Nazzjonali tal-Madonna Ta' Pinu f'Għawdex minn mnejn nhar il 25 ta' Mejju, fis-6pm, se jixxandru bil-Malti l-Misteri tat-Tbatija mmexxija mill-Isqfijiet Maltin, b'intenzjoni speċjali għall-ghalliema u l-edukaturi. Wara, l-Arċisqof Charles J. Scicluna se jmexxi quddiesha għall-edukaturi fis-Santwarju.

Sadanittant, ta' kuljum matul Mejju qed ikun imxandar ir-rużarju



Il-mixegħla tal-lampa taż-żejt

fuq il-mezzi soċjali tad-Djoċesi ta' Għawdex u tas-Santwarju Ta' Pinu u Xejk TV, imma dawk li jixtiequ, jistgħu jitolbuh f'Ta' Pinu stess fejn għe armat skrin apposta.

Minbarra r-rużarju f'għaqda ma' xi santwarju Marjan fid-dinja, ta' kuljum fis-6pm fil-Kappella tal-Madonna Ta' Pinu qed isiru żewġ mumentni ohra ta' talb, fit-8.15am, il-Mixegħla tal-Lampa taż-Żejt, fis-7.15pm, it-Tislima lill-Verġni Mbierka (nhar ta' Erbgħa fl-10.00pm u nhar ta' Hadd fis-6.45pm). Dawn ukoll jixxandru fuq il-mezzi soċjali.



Xogħol fuq il-Bażilka ta' San Ġorġ

Issa ilu mhux hażin għaddej ix-xogħol ta' restawr mal-faċċata tal-Bażilika ta' San Ġorġ fir-Rabat u hu tmat li kollox jitlesta sal-festa ta' San Ġorġ fit-tielet ġimgħa ta' Lulju. B'konsultazzjoni mal-periti halli jitharsu r-regoli ta' konservazzjoni x-xogħol ewlieni jinkludi t-tibdil u r-restawr tal-gebel tal-kampnar tal-punent li kien qed iġarrab diversi hsarat, minhabba li ssaddad iċ-ċinturin tal-hadid fin-naħa ta' fuq wassal għal diversi hsarat u li għadd ta' gebel iddeterjora.

Ċertu lavur ta' gebel jinhtieg paċenzja u attenzjoni biex ma ssirx hsara. Sar ukoll qbil li minflok tinbidel il-gebla kollha din tissaħħah u titwaqqaf id-detrjorazzjoni bi trattament kimiku. Minbarra fuq il-kampnar sar xogħol ieħor fuq il-faċċata, bħal tikkil u mili ta' fili.

Il-Port tal-Imġarr fil-mużika

Il-Grupp mużikali Għawdxij *The JoyGivers* li twaqqaf f'it il-xhur ilu għadu kif vara l-ewwel kanzunetta tiegħu bl-isem ta' Il-Port tal-Imġarr.

L-ghan ta' dan il-grupp, li hu magħmul minn Loredana Agius (kantanta u pjanista), Albert-Lauren Agius (kantant u fuq il-bass guitar), Gordon Mifsud (l-acoustic/electric guitar), Jessica Bugeja (pjanista) u Albert Agius (drums), hu li johloq ferh bil-mużika. Il-grupp hadem bi shih biex jipproduċi l-ewwel kanzunetta oriġinali bil-Malti.

Kienet ix-xewqa ta' kull membru tal-grupp li l-ewwel kanzunetta tkun dwar gawhra li f'Għawdex – Il-Port tal-Imġarr – u hu għalhekk li semmew il-Kanzunetta għal dan il-post bi kliem ta' Mario Borg u l-mużika tal-grupp stess.

Wiehed jista' jara l-vidjow mużikali tal-kanzunetta b'din il-link fuq youtube: https://youtu.be/mvGrB_akCGE.

The JoyGivers għandu wkoll il-paġna tiegħu fuq Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/thejoygiversband>. Min irid jikkomunika mal-Grupp jibgħat email lil: thejoygiversband@gmail.com.





Ġnien ġdid fuq il-bejt fil-Belt

Minbarra l-postijiet storiċi u r-rikkezz ta' whud mill-binjiet li jagħmlu lill-belt kapitali Maltja Valletta fost l-aktar interessanti fl-Ewropa, min iżurha seta' wkoll jirrilassa fit-tliet għonja pubbliċi li huma magħrufa daqs l-aqwa bini tal-post, fil-Barrakka ta' Fuq u f'dik T'isfel, u l-ġnien ta' Hastings. Issa għandhom hemm ġnien ieħor ġdid, innovazzjoni, fuq il-bejt tal-Valletta Design Cluster.

Bhall-għonja l-oħrajn, dan qed ikun ukoll miftuħ kuljum matul il-jum u hu aċċessibbli b'lift li jgħaqqad dan l-ispazju mal-pjan terran u l-bitha ċentrali ta' dik li kienet il-Biċċerija l-Qadima, fiż-żona tal-Berga tal-Baviera n-naha t'isfel tal-belt.

Dan il-ġnien pubbliku li qed jagħti nifs ġdid lill-kapitali Maltja, hu parti ewlenija mill-proġett ta' riġenerazzjoni urbana mwettaq mill-Aġenzija Kulturali għall-Belt fiż-żona tal-Baviera. Gie inawgurat uffiċjalment dan l-aħhar mill-Ministru għall-Wirt Nazzjonali, Arti u Gvern Lokali Jose Herrera li spjega li l-kunċett tal-ġnien hu

bbażat fuq l-idea ta' santwarju aħdar jew oasi li jipprovdi spazju għat-tigdid għannatura u għan-nies f'kuntest urbanizzat hafna iżda storiċament rikk.

Żied jgħid li kien ilha tissemma l-htieġa, u kienet ilha tiġi mbuttata l-idea tal-hekk magħrufa bhala urban greenery. Xi hadd ried ikollu l-kuraġġ li jagħmel l-ewwel pass, qal, dan il-ġnien, li d-disinn tiegħu kien imsejjes fuq kunċett ta' perit ibbażat fil-Gappun bl-isem ta' Tetsuo Kondo.

Il-kunċett kien li dahhal arbuxxelli żgħar u sigar l-aktar ta' orġini lokali jew Meditteranja, vaska naturali żgħira, żoni żgħar fejn wiehed jista' jpoġġi bilqiegħda, u għadd ta' spazji li jistgħu jintużaw mill-istudenti għal workshops u sessjonijiet oħra ta' gruppi.

F'wahda mill-inhawwi tal-ġnien hemm anke padiljun żgħir tal-ħġieġ li jista' jinfetħ u li jippermetti li l-ispazju jkun jista' jintuża għal laqgħat.

Proprjament, il-ġnien huwa s-saqaf tal-hekk imsemmi Valletta Design Cluster li gie inawgurat f'Marzu li għadda u li qed

i.ervi bhala spazju kreattiv u kulturali ġdid, iddedikat lid-disinn fil-Belt Valletta.

Il-post, li hu mahsub li jkun id-dar tal-kreattività qed johloq opportunitajiet godda għal persuni kreattivi fil-qasam tad-disinn li jkun jistgħu jiżviluppaw il-proġetti tagħhom u jilhqqu livelli godda. Dawk kollha li jissieħbu mal-Cluster jistgħu jagħmlu użu mill-ghodda, makkinarju u l-ispazji li fih, biex ikunu jistgħu jaqsmu l-għarfien tagħhom u jimxu 'l quddiem.

Dawn il-facilitajiet qed jgħinu studenti, professjonisti, organizzazzjonijiet fl-oqsma relatati mad-disinn kif ukoll għaqdiet Beltin biex jilhqqu l-aspirazzjonijiet tagħhom.

Meta l-Prim Ministru inawgura l-post, kien qal li permezz tiegħu qed tingħata lura binja storika lill-poplu Malti li wara proċess ta' riġenerazzjoni, inbidlet fi spazju modern fejn l-artisti Maltin jistgħu jimirhu fil-kreattività tagħhom.

Il-proġett ta' madwar 3,552 metru kwadru li sar ukoll b'investiment ta' €4.3 miljun f-fondi Ewropej qed jipprovdi aktar appoġġ lill-intrapriżi u lil daww kollha interessati fl-arti u fil-kultura billi jingħata spazju biex jiddiskutu ideat godda.

L-ewwel darba li ssemma l-proġett kien f'Ġunju tal-2015 meta l-Fondazzjoni Valletta 2018 habbret li ż-żona ta' wara l-Berga tal-Baviera fil-Belt Valletta kellha tingħata nifs ġdid permezz tal-Cluster.

Il-binja fil-qalba ta' dik li kienet biċċerija kienet mibnija fis-seklu 17 u matul is-sekli giet użata għal diversi funzjonijiet, oriġinarjament bhala biċċerija u aktar riċenti bhala fran u residenzi. Imma mbagħad kienet giet abbandunata.

Qabel beda x-xogħol fuq il Cluster kienet fi stat ta' telqa u abbandun li effettwa negattivament mhux biss l-istat tagħha bhala binja storika, imma wkoll lir-residenti u lin-negozji tal-akkwati. Issa saret binja ta' min jiftahar biha.



Gold Coast to host Order of Malta Youth Summer Camp in September

For over thirty years, The Order of Malta has held Youth Summer Camps across the globe, and for the first time in September 2021 (19th - 24th), the Australian Association is set to host the Asia-Pacific Region Youth Camp on the Gold Coast.

Each camp is designed for young people with physical or intellectual disabilities (aged 18 - 35), to join with their personal carers, as well as young volunteers, to enjoy a range of activities, meet new friends, broaden their horizons, and most importantly, have fun!

This year's camp will be based at the

Gold Coast Performance Centre, a state-of-the-art sports and accommodation facility.

Thanks to the generosity of its members and supporters, the Order of Malta will be providing for all guests, carers and volunteers, free of charge: Group transfers to and from Brisbane Airport and Brisbane CBD; five night's accommodation; all meals all activities and en-try fees. Activities, include visits to theme parks, cultural, live



ORDER OF MALTA
ASIA PACIFIC
YOUTH CAMP
AUSTRALIA 2021

performances, music and dancing, sports events, team building and the traditional Christopher Cup croquet tournament.

The Voice of the Maltese has been informed that the Order of Malta is welcoming expressions of interest for participation in the camp from any young person (aged 18 - 35) with physical and/or intellectual disability, accompanied by a carer that must be 18 years old or older; from young (at heart) volunteers, to assist guests and carers at the camp (18 years old or older).

Those wishing to lodge an application to attend the camp as a guest, carer or volunteer need to complete the online form to be found on <https://form.jotform.com/Orderofmalta/2021CAMPEOI>. One form is needed for each participant.

Applications close on the 22nd May, with invitations for limited positions to be released on the 31st May.

Current COVID-19 restrictions are limiting positions, and the number of available places will be regularly reviewed in adherence to updated Queensland Health guidelines and rules. Additionally, all applications will be subject to the approval of The Order of Malta's medical assessment team.

In support of bushfire victims

The Order of Malta and the Shoalhaven Rising from the Ashes centre co-hosted a Men's Mental Health evening at the Lake Conjola Bowling Club that brought together men from the community, impacted by the bushfires. Guests enjoyed a meal and talks from guest speakers.

First guest speaker Dr Tad Tietze, a psychiatrist who currently works at Shellharbour hospital and is responsible for psychiatric crisis response for acute presentations to the Emergency Department, spoke about the need for men to look after their mental health and the importance of sharing their feelings and concerns with a trusted friend.

Another speaker, Stuart O'Neill, author of the best-selling book "Just One Reason" – a personal account of his battle with depression and suicidal thoughts on the

breakdown of a relationship, spoke from the heart and captivated the audience with his honesty and openness.

His supported Tad's message in encouraging men to stop and seek help if needed. He provided the attendees with a copy of his book.

At the end of the night both speakers waited around to talk to the gathered audience and this was greatly appreciated.

Finally, Stephen Chinnock, a local poet from Conjola recited one of the poems he has written since the fires. He spoke about the importance to have an outlet to express your feelings, and how his had been through the art of his poetry.

The evening concluded with a few speeches of thanks, and hours of conversation amongst the crowd and speakers. It was a great success and was very much appreciated by the community members.

Maltese Seniors Social Welfare Day Groups

Llandilo Maltese Seniors

Meets on the first Wednesday of each month at the Llandilo Community Hall, 257 Seventh Avenue, Llandilo 11am to 1.00 pm. Group holds regular Information Sessions/Workshops & Bus Trips. Group Leader: Helen Azzopardi.

Daceyville Maltese Seniors

Meets the last Wednesday of the month in Meeting Room One, No. 3 General Bridges Crescent, Daceyville. Note: The Groups also arrange regular Bus Trips. Join us and make new friends. Group Leader: Doris Sicluna

Merrylands Social Maltese Seniors

Meets every second Friday of the

month. Miller Room, Memorial Avenue Merrylands from 10.30am to 12.30 pm. Group Leader: Salvina Falzon.

Greystanes Maltese Seniors

Meets on the second Monday of each month at the George Preca Parish Centre Our Lady Queen of Peace (OLQP) Church, 198 Old Prospect Road, Greystanes from 10 am to 12 noon. Group holds regular Information. Sessions/Workshops & Bus Trips. Group Leader: Frances Montesin.

Fairfield Active Maltese Seniors

Meets on the last Tuesday of the Month. Group meets in St Theresa's Parish Hall, cnr of Stella Street & The Boulevard, Fair-

field Heights from 10 am to 12 noon. Group Leader: Dorothy Gatt.

Maltese of Bankstown

Group meets 3rd Wednesday of month in the Bankstown CBD area. Every other 3rd Thursday an outing. Enquiries call: Sam Galea 0410 269 519.

The Sutherland & St George Maltese Group

Meets First Wednesday of the Month from 10:00am-1:00pm. Meetings/Get Togethers are interesting, informative & entertaining, so come join us and make new friends. For more information contact our Coordinator: Charles Mifsud JP Phone (mb) 0421 662 298.

***(All Groups are co-ordinated by The Maltese Community Council of NSW) with sponsorship from Multicultural NSW. Please contact the MCC Welfare Officer: Marisa Previtera JP on 0414 863 123.**

The MCC offices are at 59b Franklin Street (Cnr Young St) Parramatta West NSW (next to West Parramatta Primary School).

Il-Komunitá Maltija reggħet bdiet tirranka

Il-komunitá Maltija madwar l-Awstralja tidher li reggħet lura lejn in-normal wara l-pandemija, al-menu fejn jidhlu l-laqqħat soċjali li tant huma importanti għall-anzjani. Din il-paġna hi stampa ċara ta' dan.



La Valette Centre

lejla ta' *The Three Maltesers* li biha fetah mill-gdid l-attivitajiet soċjali f'dan iċ-ċentru tant popolari fi Blacktown.

FUQ: Iċ-ċentru Malti La Valette ta' Blacktown kellu sala mimlija għall-fetħ mill-gdid l-attivitajiet soċjali f'dan

Iċ-Ċentru ta' Parkville

f'Melbourne laqqa' l-komunitá Maltija tal-inhawwi biex flimkien jiċcelebraw Jum l-Omm waqt High Tea.

Iċ-ċentru ta' Parkville

Daceville Group

LEMEN: Il-Maltin anzjani li jil-taqhu fl-inhawwi ta' Daceville, Kingsford eċċ (naħat tal-Eastern Suburbs), dan l-aħħar kellhom fosthom lis-Sindku ta' Randwick, Danny Said li huwa ta' dixxendenza Maltija (mill-Egittu) kif ukoll lill-Konslu Generali ta' Malta fi NSW, Lawrence Buhagiar.

Gringila Group

TAHT: Kull nhar ta' Tnejn fil-ghodu fl-inhawwi ta' qrib Wollongong, iċ-ċentru Malti George Cross Falcons jigbor fih hafna Maltin, anke min-naħat ta' Sydney li jattendu għall-attivitajiet li jsiru hemmhekk. Fost kollox ikolhom ikel Malti u jorganizzaw il-bingo u attivitajiet oħra.



Laqgħa ta' tagħrif dwar il-Vjolenza Domestika u kif tefettwa lill-familja

Ir-restrizzjonijiet ta' salvagward tal-pandemija COVID-19 ġew kollha osservati waqt laqgħa interessanti hafna ta' informazzjoni dwar il-vjolenza domestika li giet organizzata mill-Maltese Welfare NSW fis-St George Preca Hall, OLQP Church fi Greystanes (*fug*).

Il-kelliema ewlenija f'din il-lejla kienet il-family Councillor Carmel Gauci c.c C/M CAPA li trattat it-tema dwar kif il-vjolenza domestika tefettwalill-familja kollha x'għandu jsir biex wiehed iwaqqafha.

Community News

Tune in to Radio and Television

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 De-



mand on l-Internet: www.893fm.com.au

On Demand: Ethnic Maltese Council 11am) Il-Hadd 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 Thursdays 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

Programmes on 89.3 Fm 2GLF

Maltese voices: One hour of Maltese talent, songs from Maltese artists. Sundays @ 10.00 am to 11.00 am. Marthese Caruana: 11.00 a.m.: MCC programme

These programmes are also on Demand for 4 weeks from the website of 2GLF 89.3 FM - follow - Ethnic - Sunday 10.00am and 11.00 am

MALTESE LANGUAGE SCHOOL OF NSW



A division of the Maltese Community Council of NSW Inc.
Established in 1999

Learn Maltese

All age students are welcome to enrol in our classes held on Saturday mornings at Horsley Park, NSW.

Online classes are also available on Tuesday evenings and Saturday afternoons.

Applications are also welcome for paid positions from people to assist in language teaching and/or administration.



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La Valette Social Centre



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

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

Flexible Respite and Centre-based Respite are operating normally.

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

Boćci pitches are operating again with some restrictions.

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

MASS: Saturdays at St Francis Chapel from 5pm, following rosary at 4.30pm, and Thursdays 10am at main building (subject to availability of a priest)

Next event: L-Imnarja: Feast of St Peter & St Paul, Sunday 27 June from 10am onwards. There will be music and għana; jumping castle & free popcorn for kids; Maltese Concert Band; Maltese food and drink; exhibition of vegetables, fruit, birds and crafts. Those wishing to be exhibitors are urged to contact the centre or Joe Abela on 0416971484.

L-aħbarijiet tal-PBS (Malta)

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



Events for 2021

Sunday July 4: L-Imnarja

Sunday October 17: Fete

Sat. November 14: Dinner Dance

Sun. December 5: Festa San Nikola



Rolex Middle Sea Race fleet building steadily: 47 yachts already registered



Photo: Kurt Arrigo

With five months to go to the start of the 42nd Rolex Middle Sea Race on Saturday October 23, the Mediterranean's premier 600-mile offshore classic looks well set. Some 47 yachts from 17 countries have entered, currently ranging in size from the mighty 42.56 metre (140 feet) ClubSwan 125 Skorpions down to the 9.14m (29.12 ft) Pogo 30 One & Only. Following last year's successful running of the race, the Royal Malta Yacht Club is quietly confident that not only will the 2021 edition take place, but it is on track to do so with a sizeable fleet, COVID-19 allowing.

The headline contest looks to be between the soon to be launched Skorpions and the 30.4m (100 ft) racing Maxi Comanche, which will also be making its race debut. An intriguing tussle should be in store and there will be more on this story in the weeks to come.

In the meantime, the Rolex Middle Sea Race has always been a melting pot of nations, just as the island of Malta itself. A quick look at the Double-Handed Class confirms this. The division has steadily grown over recent years, in keeping with the global offshore racing trend.

So far, nine entries coming from Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom have made the commitment.

George Cross increase their lead to five points

On a bitterly cold night in front of around 2000 spectators at the City Vista stadium Caroline Springs George Cross increased their gap at the top of the league ladder to five points following a 2-0 win over the high-ranked Essendon Royals, while second place Brimbank lost 1-0 to Altona City.

Two first-half goals from Rhys Saunders and Daniel Kuczynski gave the Georgies their 7th

win in the opening eight rounds to maintain their unbeaten start to the Victoria State League 1 North-West season.

This win follows the previous round's 2-0 victory over Keilor Park. It was a game that the Georgies dominated but had to wait until the final 10 minutes to obtain their goals, through Rhys Saunders (81st) and Francesco Stella in injury time.

Parramatta suffer third defeat

In the NSW NPLA 4, Parramatta FC suffered their third home loss of the season, going down 3-0 to UNSW FC at Melita Stadium.

Without Adrian Epifanino suspended, strikers Ali Dulleh and Milorad Cubrilo injured and defender Stipe Simundic, the depth of this Eagles squad is surely being tested. However, they still dominated without threatening.

It was the visitors who scored against the run of play (31st min). Then with the Eagles in search of an equaliser in the second half,

they subsequently suffered two red cards and the visitors scored two more goals (75th & 88th).

The previous week, at the end of a match of missed opportunities at both ends of the field, Parramatta FC grabbed their first draw of the season, 1-1 against Prospect United SC in Rooty Hill.

With Ali Dulleh out injured and Charles Abou Serhal suspended, the Eagles had much of the possession in the first half, but conceded in the 32nd minute, only for substitute Noel Disha levelled for Parramatta (49th min).

71-year old Maltese Canadian flies Malta flag at Marathon

Maltese Canadian athlete Joseph Camilleri, better known as Joe Crazy Legs in the running community, once again proved that at 71 years of age he is still a force to be reckoned with, as he took part in the Global Marathon organised by the Abbott World Marathon Majors May 1-2 and finished in 3:23:02.

The Abbott World Marathon Majors is a series consisting of six of the largest and most renowned marathons in the world.

Participants could run this marathon anywhere worldwide and had to record their time on a GPS (Global Positioning System) device, and submit their results electronically.

Joe chose the Flightpath around the Victoria International Airport in British Columbia, Canada for his challenge. This is a

traffic free path. To complete the marathon distance of 42.2 km Joseph had to run 4.5 loops of this route.

His time of 3:23:02, which is also a personal best time of close to three minutes over his previous marathon in 2019. It placed him second overall in his Age Category out of 18 runners. Just as impressive, he placed 197th overall out of 1,094 runners worldwide in the open category.

Since this was a Masters race, all runners were 40 years and older.



With this performance Joseph has now been invited to the Masters World Championships in 2022, for which the location has yet to be announced.