MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

Journal of Maltese Living Abroad

Editor: Frank Scicluna OAM MQR

Catholic Diocese of Darwin - Northern Territory - Australia
2021 Confirmation Group Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish - Wadeye.
with Bishop Charles Gauci

THE MALTESE JOURNAL IS READ IN FIVE CONTINENTS

Dame Cindy Kiro the next Governor-General of New Zealand and the current Governor- General the Rt Hon Dame Patsy Reddy

New Zealand's first indigenous woman as Governor-general

- **She promised to reach out to minority and refugee communities.**

New Zealand's first indigenous Maori woman to be named Governor-general, Dame Cindy Kiro, was formally sworn into the largely ceremonial role in parliament in Wellington on Thursday, pledging to reach out to migrants and marginalised citizens.

Speaking to a small audience at the swearing-in ceremony, Dame Cindy said she was proud of her dual Maori and British heritage.

The Governor-general carries out constitutional and ceremonial duties in the former British colony on behalf of the British monarch, who remains the country's official head of state.

"Communities develop resilience when people feel connected, have a sense of belonging, and have a place to stand," Dame Cindy said in a speech at the ceremony.

She said: I will connect to new migrants and former refugees, and celebrate the many diverse cultures and religions gifted to our nation by those who have chosen to make New Zealand their home.Many Maori, who account for about 17% of New Zealand's population, are still disadvantaged socially and economically.

Maori are over-represented in statistics for criminal justice and health problems, and the majority of children ending in state care are from the community. Thousands of Maori hit the streets in 2019 demanding social justice and land rights.

Governor-General Dame Cindy Kiro poses after signing the Parliament Visitors' Book during a swearing-in ceremony at Parliament.

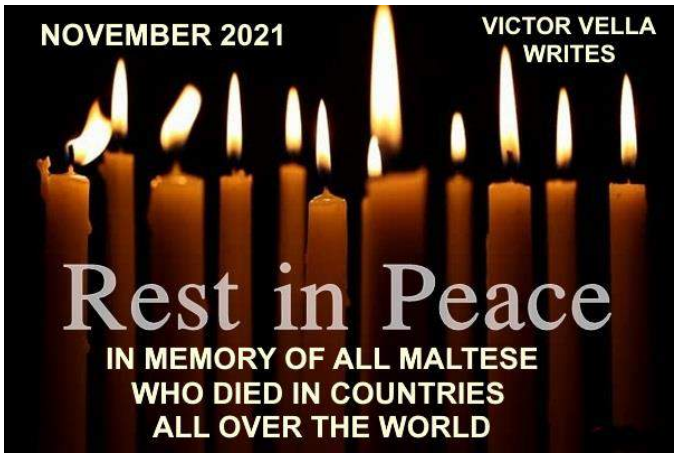
Dame Cindy has had a career in academics and held leadership roles at several New Zealand universities. She holds a PhD in Social Policy and an MBA (Exec) in Business Administration from the University of Auckland and Massey University, and was the first in her family to achieve a university qualification.

Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern welcomed Dame Cindy's appointment in a speech at the swearing-in ceremony.

Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said: "I know as the first Maori women to hold this role you are mindful that your opportunity here also provides inspiration that reaches far and wide for many from all walks of life". The PM appointed the country's most diverse parliament after she secured a second term as Prime Minister in 2020, including a high number of women among legislators.

MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER
The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora
Our Journal is reaching readers from all over the world.
It is serving as a link especially among the Maltese living in Malta and those living overseas.
It is free non-political and easy to read. Share it with your relatives and friends. Become a member of our family - contact: maltesejournal@gmail.com

IX-XAHAR TAL-MEJTIN
EMIGRANTI MALTIN LI HALLEWNA



(Dan hu id-diskors tac-cirkostanza li Victor Vella ghamel fl-okkazzjoni tal-kommemorazzjoni ta l-Emigranti Maltin mejtin fic-cimiterjuju ta Pine Grove, Sydney, N.S.W.)

Qegħdin fuq art imqaddsa . Bla dubja ta xejn dan ic-cimiterju li fih hawn midfunin ħafna minn ħutna emigranti Maltin, fosthom xi wħud mill-ewwel emigranti li rifsu fuq din l-art, nistgħu nsejħulu art Maltija. Xi ftit minnhom kien għadhom fil-fjur ta ħajjithom; oħrajn għajjenin bil-toqol tal-ħajja u tas-snin ħallew din id-dinja u għamdu din il-parti ta l-Awstralja tagħhom... bil-mewt tagħhom.

Kien hemm żmien u żmien mhux fil-bogħod meta l-emigranti fl-Awstralja specjalment dawk Taljani u Griegi u Maltin li l-aħħar xewqa tagħhom kienet li wara mewthom jindifnu f'art twelidhom. . Fil-fatt numru ġmielu kienu jiġu meħudin lura lejn arthom meta kienu jmutu . Dan għal-raġunijiet diversi ftii li xejn għadu jsir. Daż-żmien billi l-emigrant sar iħossu iħjed at home fil-pajjiż il-ġdid tiegħu kapaci iżjed jaccetta l-fatt li dan hu pajjizu u għalhekk sa jibqa hawn għal dejjem fil-ħajja kif ukoll wara l-mewt. B'hekk l-emigrant jieħu pussess iżjed ta l-art fejn għażel li jgħix għax l-art tagħmilha tiegħek mhux biss billi tgħix fiha imma iżjed u iżjed billi tmut u tindifen fiha. B'hekk tissiġilla l-kuntratt tar-residenza.

U llum specjalment meta qegħdin niftakru fil-Maltin Awstraljani mejtin ,għandna nitfgħu ħarsa ta apprezzament ħarsa ta kuraġġ u ħarsa ta tama lejn dawk li ġew u marru qabilna ...dawk kollha li qasmu l-baħar u dawk li kellhom iħabbtu wicchom mal-barrani u jsofru l-umiljazzjoni il-preġudizzji u forsi wkoll insulti . Kienu dawn li ħabbtu wicchom mal-bogħod, mal-biża ta-bush max-xogħol iebes u mat-taqtigħ il-qalb tal-pijunieri. Għax fil-fatt kull emigrant hu b'xi mod jew iehor pijunier. Għax kull emigrant bħal kull xitla lli titħawwel f'ħamrija ġdida, irid darba jew oħra jidra jfendi għal- rasu u jaqta bi snienu stess u mhux iserraħ fuq ħaddieħor.

Għal ħafna il-bidu kien iebes; bla familja, bla ħbieb, forsi wkoll bla flus, u bla għajnuna ta ħadd, ... ma jistax ma tgħaddix minn magħmudija tan-nar. U barra it-tbatija tal-ġisem żgur li kien hemm l-incertezzi, moħbijin taħt mitt mistoqsija bħal: Hawn x'ġejt nagħmel? Hawn xogħol biss hawn..? Għax tbiddilt.... m'għadnix li kont? Ghax il-mistoqsijiet tal-hajja normali jirdoppjaw meta titlef i-tradizzjonijiet jew l-irmiġġi tal-ħajja bhal ħbieb, familja u l-valuri u l-kenn ta pajjiż żgħir.

Fid-dinja tal-lum hu facli li ssir u taħseb biss fil- ħwejjeg li jidhru u li jgħaddu. Hu facli ħafna li tintilef fix-xogħol, u fil-qliegħ tal-flus fil-kumdita u fil-lussu, fl-ambizzjoni u fil-ġlieda għal xi tip ta poter. U l-emigrant iżjed u iżjed jista u x'aktarx jagħmel dawk l-iskopijiet principali tal-ħajja tiegħu. Jista jigri li jasal li jinsa il-mistrieħ, jinsa l-familja jinsa r-relazzjonijiet ma l-oħrajn u jinqata għalih ghax ma għandux ħin, għax jibza li ħadd ma jifhmu u li ħadd ma jimpurtah minnu.

B'hekk tidħol il-marda li l-emigrant jibda jħoss ruħu waħdu u li ma jista jiftaħ qalbu ma ħadd l-anqas mat-tfal tiegħu stess.

Din il-marda biex insejħilha hekk tolqot iżjed li dawk li s-sjuf u x- xtiewi Awstraljani u Maltin ħallew ftit tikmix ġmielu fuq ġbinhom. Għax l-emigrant avanzat iħoss iżjed u iħjed in-nuqqas ta sħabu, tamparu li jekk ikellimom jifhmuh u hu jifhimhom. Forsi jibda jħoss ukoll in-nuqqas ta sodisfazzjon li mal-ġid materjali li kien kapaci jakkwista ma rnexxilux jiżviluppa moħħu u ruħu.

Hu facli li titkellem u tiddeskrivi l-vapur li ġab l-ewwel emigranti jew li ġabu eluf u eluf ta emigranti dawn l-ahhar mitt sena jew iżjed . Mhux daqshekk facli li tiddeskrivi l-ħsibjiet li u it- taqtig ta qalb u wkoll l-isperanzi u l-ħolm li ġabu magħhom l-emigranti . Min jaf kemm pjanijiet ġew imfarrka min jaf kemm ħolm indifen ħesrem bla ma gie mwettaq. U min jaf mill-banda l-oħra kemm successi gew milħuqa mingħajr ma kienu mistennija.

U tidhol f'dar ta emigrant xiħ u tisma u tmiss u tara b'għajnejk il-ħajja ta bniedem . U tifhem u tara d-dramm tal-ħajja li ma jidhirx u ma jigix apprezzat fuq palk u fuq il-gazzetti imma jinħadem fil-kwiet tal-qalb tal-bniedem. U tammira il-bniedem bal dan, mhux imħabba il-flus li għamel mhux minħabba l-palazz li bena.. Imma tammira l-iżjed il-kuraġġ, id-determinazzjoni u r-rieda li kellu. Fuq kollox tammira l-ħolma il-kbira li kellu meta medd l-ewwel pass biex jibda il-vjaġġ ta l-għaxar t'elef mil.
Il-ħolma ta -emigrant setgħet ma seħħitx kollha . Setgħet wkol indifnet mieghu, bhal ma forsi ndifen hawn ħafna ħolm fiż-żogħzija tieghu. Forsi tghidu," X'hela, x'hasra' Imma huwa l-ħolm bħal dan li hu l-lixka li tqabbad fjammi kbar bħal ma qabbdu dawn ħutna Maltin-Awstraljani midfunin hawn u f'mijiet ta cimiterji mxerrdin ma l-Awstralja.
Avolja ma nistgħux narawhom huma qeghdin jaqsmu magħna dan is-sagrificcju tal-ħajja u tal-quddiesa. Qegħdin iħajruna biex bħal ma huma bil-ħolm u bis-sagrificcju li għamlu u li bihom għamlu dan il-pajjiż aħjar milli sabuh aħna wkoll inkunu kapaci ngħaddu t-torca ta l-emgrarazzjoni u tal-kultura Maltija lil ġenerazzjonijiet ta madwarna .
Il-mewt tiġi imma mhux kollox imut!. Hekk kiteb il-poeta nazzjonali tagħna, Dun Karm . U dak li kiteb fil-poezia tiegħu *Non Omnis Moriar,* japplilka ferm għal dawk li qegħdin niftakru fihom illum u għal dak kollu li ħallew warajhom ... dawk l-emigranti Maltin Awstraljani li l-leħen tagħhom għadu jidwi fostna għax l-ilhna tagħhom, kienu

ilħna ta nies qalbiena, li raw il-ġrajjiet tal-bnedmin, mhux il-qawwa li teqred, izda is-setgħa li ġġedded, setgħa li mic-ckejken, tnissel il-kbir, mit-tajjeb, l-aħjar , hekk fil mil-qamħa, toħroġ bil-mewt iż-żbula ....

Consulate General of the Republic of Malta to Canada

MEETING MALTESE CANADIAN BUSINESSES
Dr. Raymon Xerri, Consul General

Kipling Tire in Etobicoke, Ontario, Canada

After 18 months of lockdowns, Dr Raymond Xerri, the Consul General of Malta to Canada recommenced his visits to Maltese Canadian businesses. The scope of these visits are to get to know Maltese Canadian entrepreneurs, continue to expand the Canada-wide network of Maltese Canadian businesses, inform the Maltese Canadian community to support such businesses and to inform Maltese Canadian businesses of opportunities which Malta offers them if they decide to invest in the Maltese Islands. Kipling Tire is located at 837 Kipling Ave. in Etobicoke, Ontario M8Z 5G8, Tel (416) 233-5551 as an automotive repair, tire, and wheel center.
Kipling Tire have spent the last 39 years delivering auto repairs, tires, and wheels to satisfied customers.
Kipling Tire Co. Ltd. was established in Toronto in 1982. By providing good, old-fashioned customer service through the years, Maltese Canadian proprietors Jason and Justin Naworynski have gained a loyal following in the community. Kipling Tire provides:-

- Shop industry leading tire brands like MICHELIN®, BFGoodrich®, and Uniroyal®.
- Improve tire performance and life with quality tire services; see us for computerized wheel balancing, flat tire repairs, low-profile tire installations, tire rotations, and TPMS repairs.
- Restore vehicle performance with our auto repair services; see us for brake repairs, wheel alignments, steering and suspension system repairs, electrical system repairs, and exhaust system repairs.
- Maintain proper vehicle performance with preventive maintenance; see us for replacement of belts and hoses, cooling system/radiator service, and lube and oil changes.
- See us for glass repair and replacement.
- Wheels. Run-flat tires. Two fullwaiting rooms with Wi-Fi.

Kipling Tire has been serving the general community in Etobicoke, ON, Toronto, ON, Mississauga, ON, and surrounding areas for the last 39 years

Dik l-istatwa ta' San Gorġ

Kav Joe M Attard
emarjos@hotmail.com

Quddiem il-Knisja u l-Kunvent tas-Sorijiet Dumnikani Ta' Pompej, fil-Victoria, imperrċa fuq ħajt hemm statwa ħelwa u qadima tal-megalomartri San Gorg li fl-għomor li għandi niftakarha dejjem hemm. Xi kultant xi ruħ tajba tieħu ħsieb tiżbor pjanta li tikber madwarha u kemm kemm ma tgħattihiex. Xi ħadd qalli li qabel ma kienet ħawn, kienet tinsab x'imkien ieħor u allura wieħed jista' jaħseb kemm għandha żmien. Dawn il-ġranet waqt li kont għaddej minn hemm nilmaħ tabella li tgħid li dan il-bini fejn tinsab din l-istatwa qadima issa sa jinħatt u jitilgħu xi djar ġodda imma ma jidher imkien fil-pjanta li din l-istatwa ser terġa' tieħu postha fil-faċċata ta' dan il-proġett. Allura jien nistaqsi x'sa jsir minnha din l-istatwa li minn quddiemha ta' kuljum ipassu biżibilju ta' nies! Ma nafx hix tas-sid ta' din il-binja inkella hix ta' xi ħadd ieħor! Li jinteressani hu li meta titneħħa minn hemm, terġa' ssib postha f'xi mkien fejn titgawda min-nies. Fir-Rabat jeżisti il-Mużew Il-Ħaġar tal-Parroċċa ta' San Gorġ li ċertament jilqa' bil-pjaċir din l-istatwa (dan biss suġġeriment). L-importanti li din l-istatwa nibqgħu nibżgħu għaliha għax tagħmel parti mill-wirt storiku ta' pajjiżna.

Għall-grazzja t'Alla se nkomplu bil-pubblikazzjoni tagħna li nafu li tant għal qalbkom id-dilettanti tal-festi Maltin u Għawdxin u għal qalb dawk li jħobbu dak kollu li jikkaratterizza l-patrimonju artistiku Malti. Fil-fatt, nistgħu ngħidu bla tlaqliq, li l-proġett li ħlomna bih issa qed joqrob lejn tmiemu u dan grazzi għalikom.

Intant, wasalna biex iniedu **l-għaxar volum**, u kif għamilna dawn l-aħħar snin, lilkom li wrejtu interess ġenwin f'din il-pubblikazzjoni u dejjem ħallastu minn qabel, qegħdin navżawkom personalment b'ittra privata, biex tkunu tistgħu terġgħu tgawdu mill-offerta tagħna ta' qabel il-pubblikazzjoni.

Filfatt ma' din l-email għandek issib formola t'applikazzjoni li qed nistednuk timlieha u tibgħatha flimkien ma' ħlas ta' €35 (flok €45). B'dan inti mhux biss tkun qed tassigura l-kopja tiegħek bi prezz imraħħas, iżda tkun qed tgħin lilna nwettqu dan il-proġett li qed jiswielna l-eluf kbar ta' ewro. Napprezzaw ħafna anzi jekk inti tħeġġeġ lil oħrajn jagħmlu bħalek u jħallsu bil-quddiem għall-kopja tagħhom.

Nieħdu din l-okkażjoni biex nirringrazzjawk mill-ġdid tal-interess tiegħek fil-pubblikazzjonijiet tagħna. Nies bħalek jagħmlulna kuraġġ biex inkomplu l-mixja li qbadna sena ilu u li fi ħsiebna nkomplu fis-snin li ġejjin. Inheggek tghaddi din l-email lil haddiehor.

Tislijiet mingħand, Andrew Borg u Mark Micallef Percont

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Bishop Charles Gauci
in his Diocese of Darwin
AUSTRALIA

CHARLES GAUCI – MALTESE-AUSTRALIAN BISHOP

Mgr. Charles Gauci (born 1952) is an Australian priest who was appointed Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Darwin on 27 June 2018. He had been a priest in the Archdiocese of Adelaide since his ordination in 1977. His immediate previous post was as administrator of St Francis Xavier's Cathedral in Adelaide. He was consecrated bishop at St Mary's Star of the Sea Cathedral, Darwin on 26 September 2018.

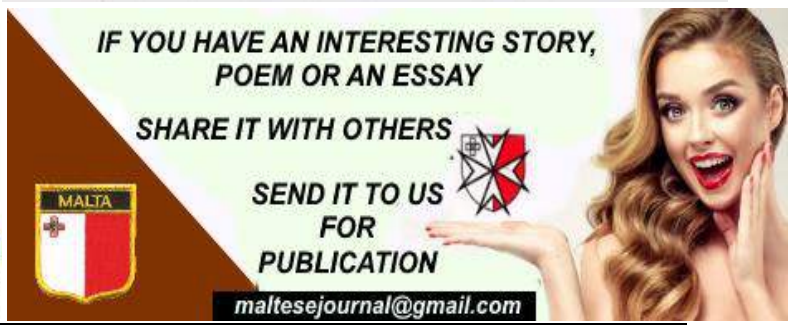
Early life Gauci was born in Malta and moved with his family to Australia when he was 13 years old. He was ordained in 1977 and served in several parishes in the Archdiocese of Adelaide, including the Southern Deanery with Kangaroo Island from 2012 to 2017.

Diocese of Darwin consists of people from almost every part of the world. Many of these people, dislocated from their own culture and homeland, look to the Church for comfort and reassurance. They will look to you as their bishop for understanding and support." In his homily, Bishop Hurley

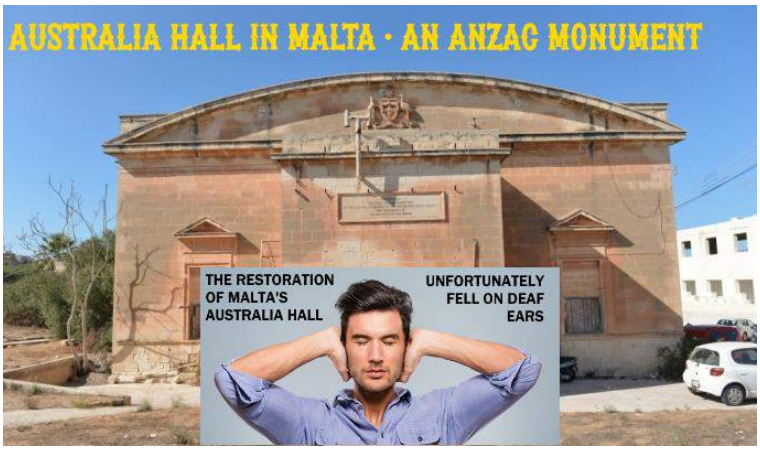
At the conclusion of his ordination Mass, Bishop Gauci declared: "I am now a Territorian – and very, very glad to be here as one of you."

Hi, My Name is Herbert Guillaumier and I reside inTarxien, Malta. I collect business cards from all over the world and my collection is over 64000. I have two old cards dating back to 1936. May I ask your readers to contact me if they have any they don't want. I may be contacted also on 7929 1247 or email me guilh01@gmail.com.

Herbert Guillaumier



Malta's Australia Hall forms an integral part of Malta's important role in ANZAC history

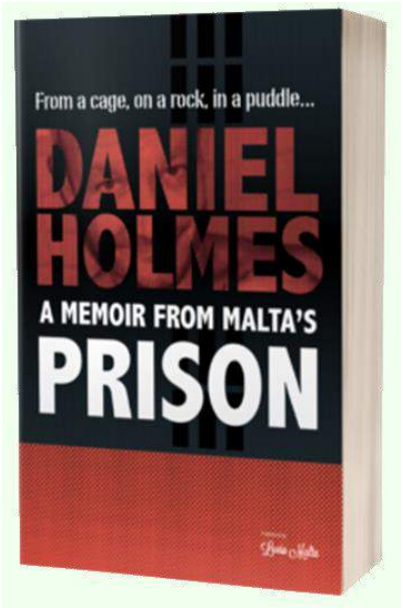


T here is considerable concern within the MalteseAustralian community in Australia regarding the future of the historic building of Australia Hall located in Pembroke, Malta. This building was constructed to provide a place for entertainment and refreshments for the thousands of ANZACs who were wounded in Gallipoli and taken to Malta for medical treatment and convalescence. Australia Hall was built by the Royal Engineers and took two months to complete. It was officially opened on 22 January 1916 by the Governor Field Marshal Lord Methuen. The Australian Red Cross contributed £2,000 towards its construction cost. Some 58,000 soldiers had been nursed in various hospitals and nearby tented hospitals specially erected to deal with the large influx of wounded soldiers arriving on the island. When the British military facilities in St Andrew's Barracks were closed down in 1978, Australia Hall became the property of the Maltese government. In 1979 it was granted to the Labour Party on a long lease as compensation for the compulsory acquisition of land that the party owned in Marsa for use by Malta Shipbuilding Corporation. Unfortunately, in December 1998 Australia Hall suffered severe damage when its ceiling of metal trusses and sheeting was gutted by fire. However, its sturdy four external walls still remained standing. Today the building with no roof is in a derelict state, open to the elements and damage by vandalism. In 2010 the Labour Party was taken to court for failure to keep Australia Hall in good condition, as was required under the 1979 contract.

These charges were dropped in October 2013, after the Labour Party was returned to government. On 1 September 2014, the Labour Party sold Australia Hall and some surrounding land to a private company for €582,343, an amount considered grossly below its market value. It was reported that no money changed hands on this deal, and instead, the Labour Party's pending debts with the company were paid off. While it is not known what the new owners of Australia Hall have in mind for the site, since 1996 the building has been classified by the Malta Environment and Planning Authority (MEPA) as a Grade 2 building of historic, architectural and contextual value (as it forms part of a larger protected military complex). Thus, development in the area is so far restricted. The history of Australia Hall forms an integral part of Malta's important role in ANZAC history. It is a fitting reminder of the valuable services provided by many volunteer Maltese nurses and medical practitioners to thousands of Australian and New Zealand servicemen.

Malta has an environment which is day-after-day going from green to grey – from grass to concrete, and from trees to tarmac?

Their efforts earned Malta the title of "Nurse of the Mediterranean". We urge the Maltese communities in Malta and those living abroad to insist that this unique Anzac building should be restored to its former glory as a monument to the excellent longstanding relations between Malta and Australia.



Daniel Holmes: A Memoir From Malta's Prison €18.99

For eight years, Daniel Holmes spent his life inside the walls of Malta's prison. Now, almost a decade since he was sentenced for growing cannabis in Gozo, the ex-convict-turned-author details his experience in harrowing detail.

A painful and important story of injustice, depression and survival.

Imagine moving to the Mediterranean for a simple life, only to find yourself in and out of court until you're told you must spend the next 10 years in jail.

That's what happened to Welshman Daniel Holmes who was caught growing his own cannabis plants and tried in the Maltese courts as a major drug trafficker.

Raw, unflinching and emotional, this long-awaiting memoir was penned from his prison cell and is the first tell-all account of his harrowing experience of Maltese law courts and the humiliation sand deprivations of jail.

Malta eventually decriminalised cannabis possession, partly because of the outrage surrounding this case. But Holmes was only released after eight years on good behaviour. He was bundled off to the UK in the middle of the night and remains banned from Malta until 2023.

With his debut novel now available for purchase exclusively via Lovin Malta, you can join him as he relives his time inside Kordin in a powerful and compelling narrative the likes of which have never been seen before in Malta.

vDaniel Holmes: A Memoir From Prison eBook Edition available now!

Get your hands on the eBook edition of Daniel Holmes' gripping memoir right here, available in both epub and .mobi formats fnd compatible with most mainstream ereaders.

NOSTALGIA
1993 MEMORIES

The delegates of the three Maltese community councils met in Adelaide for a national conference.
Standing: Emmanuel Grima (dec. SA), Frank Scicluna (SA), Harry Bugeja (SA), Lawrence Dimech (NSW), Alfred Fenech (dec. NSW), Edgar Agius (SA), Joseph Borg (VIC) and Victor Borg (dec. Vic)
Front: Mark Caruana (NSW) and Charles Farrugia (SA)

It-Tlieta, 20 ta' Lulju 1993 THE MALTESE HERALD

Konferenza Nazzjonali f'Adelaide, SA 1993

Kapitlu iehor fl-Istorja tal-Kunsill Federali Malti

It-tieni Konferenza Nazzjonali tal-Kunsill Federali tal-Awstralja saret nhar is-Sibt u nhar il-Hadd 10 u 11 ta' Lulju 1993, f'Adelaide. Din kienet inizjattiva tal-Kunsill Malti tas-South Australia li ghall-gimghat shah ghamel il-preparazzjonijiet ghal din il-laqgha hekk importanti li jekk inharsu lejn ir-rizultati kienet success fenominali.

Gew mistiedna l-Kunsilli kollha Maltin (NSW, Vic., Qld., WA u ACT) imma minhabba li l-Gvern ma pprovdiex fondi, uhud mill-Kunsilli ma setghux jattendu ghax l-ispejjez kienu kbar. Id-delegati li ppartecipaw f'din il-Konferenza kienu Lawrence Dimech u Alfred Fenech AOM, president u segretarju tal-Kunsill ta' NSW rispettivament, Mark Caruana mid-dipartiment tal-Edukazzjoni ta' NSW, Joseph Borg u l-Avukat Victor Borg, President u Vici President tal-Kunsill ta' Victoria. L-ezekuttiv u d-delegati tal-Kunsill Malti tas-SA ukoll hadu sehem attiv.

L-ewwel sessjoni saret fic-Centru Kulturali Malti, Beverley. Ic-Chairman tal-Konferenza, Mr. Frank Scicluna, li huwa wkoll il-President tal-Kunsill Malti tas-SA ghamel diskors ta' merhba u fisser l-ghan li ghalih gie msejjah dan is-Seminar. Is-Segretarju tal-Kunsill, Mr. Harry Bugeja, qara messagg mibghut mill-Kummissarju Gholi ghall-Malta, l-E.T. George Busuttil fejn awgura lid-delegati tal-Kunsill Federali successi u solidarjetà u fl-istess hin esprima tifhir u ringrazzjament lill-Kunsilli Maltin ghax-xoghol siewi li qed jaghmlu ghall-gid tal-komunità Maltija.

Is-suggetti li gew diskussi kienu (1) il-Problemi tal-Anzjani Maltin fl-Awstralja u (2) iz-Zghazagh Maltin, il-generazzjoni t'ghada. Mark Caruana u Laurie Dimech fissru kif tahdem is-sistema fi NSW u kkwotaw l-istatistici li jallarmawna bil-kobor ta' din il-problema li kull ma tmur qed tikber.

Il-membri tal-Kunsill Federali ddiskuta fit-tul u accetta unanimament il-Kostituzzjoni b'amendi minimi. Kull Kunsill ta rapport dettaljat dwar l-attivitajiet li jaffetwaw is-socjetajiet u l-komunità Maltija ta' li Stat taghhom. Ittiehdet rizoluzzjoni li fil-futur il-Kunsill Federali jinghata f'idejn li Stati alternattivament u tissejjah Konferenza Annwali.

Il-Hadd il-laqgha saret fis-Sala tal-patrijiet frangiskani, Lockleys. Father Sebastian Camilleri OFM, AM fetah it-tieni sessjoni tal-Konferenza b'diskors qasir imma kommoventi fejn emfazizza l-importanza tal-ghaqda fost il-Maltin/Awstraljani halli ntejbu l-istatut tal-Komunità tal-prezent u dik tal-gejjieni.

Joseph Borg qara l-karta li pprepara Dr. Barry York, mill-Università ta' Canberra li ma kienx possibli ghalih li jattendi s-Seminar. Is-suggett kien 'Iz-Zghazagh Maltin fil-prezent u fil-gejjieni'. Dr. York qal: 'Iz-zghazagh tal-lum li huma t-tieni jew it-tielet generazzjoni Maltin, ghalkemm ma jurux il-kultura esternament bhal ma wrewha missierna u ahna, imma dawn xorta wahda ghadhom ihobbu u japprezzaw dak li hu Malti u jfakkarhom fil-Kultura tal-genituri jew in-nanniet taghhom. Tkellem ukoll fuq il-familja Maltija, ir-Religjon, l-Istorja u l-Ilsien Malti li huma l-eghruq tal-identità taghna. "Il-Futur qieghed f'idejhom ghax ahna l-emigrazzjoni minn Malta ilha wieqfa ghall-bosta snin. Ahna l-Maltin li emigrajna fl-1950-60-70 poggejna l-pedament u issa nheggu liz-zghazagh biex ikomplu jibnu u jsahhu dak li bdejna," ikkonkluda Dr. York.

Waqt id-diskussjoni Joe Borg u Victor Borg taw il-perspettiva mill-angolu tal-komunità ta' Victoria fejn semmew diversi attivitajiet kulturali u lingwistici fejn il-parteċipitazzjoni tat-tfal u z-zghazagh hija nkoragganti.

MAKARIOS SAFE IN MALTA, MAY FLY TO U.N. SESSION; FOES WIDEN CYPRUS RULE - 1974

The Cypriot Archbishop Makarios paid a state visit to Malta in 1973 and was greeted by the then Prime Minister of Malta Dom Mintoff

Credit...The New York Times Archives July 17, 1974,

Archbishop Makarios, deposed as President of Cyprus by a coup that heightened international tensions, flew to Malta yesterday amid reports that he would proceed to the United Nations to press he cause of his ousted Government.

The 60-year-old prelate, whose fate had been uncertain after Greek-led Cypriote Army insurgents rebelled and toppled his Government on Monday, reached the island of Malta after having taken refuge at a British air base in Cyprus. He flew on a Royal Air Force transport.

After day-long reports of continued fighting in Cyprus, well-informed Greek sources said the town of Paphos, A Makarios stronghold and the archbishop's home town, had fallen to rebel forces. Sources in Athens reported that the town of Limassol had also fallen during the night.

New York Visit Planned

Although a spokesman for the Cypriote Embassy in London said the. Archbishop planned 'to fly to New York almost immediately, the British Government would not comment on his ultimate destination.

Last night, informed British sources said the archbishop was expected in Britain today. How long he would stay was not immediately known.

Meanwhile there were reports of spreading rebel domination of Cyprus, which, with its ethnic Greek majority and Turkish minority, has long been a source of friction be

Greece and Turkey and thus a threat to the stability of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Both countries are members.

Launch of the 12th edition of the President's Solidarity Fun Run

The 12th edition of the President's Solidarity Fun Run, taking place on Sunday 21st of November, was launched. Present for the launch were President of Malta George Vella, his wife Miriam Vella, as well as Mark Cutajar, Chairman of the Organising Committee of the Fun Run and Chief Executive of Sport Malta; the President of the Local Councils Association, Mario Fava; Enemed Executive Chairman, Kevin Chircop; the Opposition's Spokesperson on Sport, Clyde Puli; as well as the Parliamentary Secretary for Sport, Clifton Grima. For his part, Cutajar said that with the return of the Fun Run, this year the format will be slightly different as

it will take the form of a walk in every locality in Malta and Gozo. He explained that the Fun Run will take place in accordance with the protocols of the Health Authorities and that anyone applying for and attending the Fun Run must present the vaccine certificate.

In a speech at the launch of this year's edition, President George Vella explained how such an occasion unites all the people and said that he is confident that once again, The Malta Community Chest Fund Foundation will find the support of the people. He thanked everyone involved in the event, and thanked all the sponsors. Anyone wishing to take part in the Fun Run 2021, can register with a donation of €10, either by visiting the local council of their locality or by applying through the website mccf.store.

Kunċert ta' Mużika Sagra fil-Bażilika tal-Bambina fix-Xagħra

Kav Joe M Attard

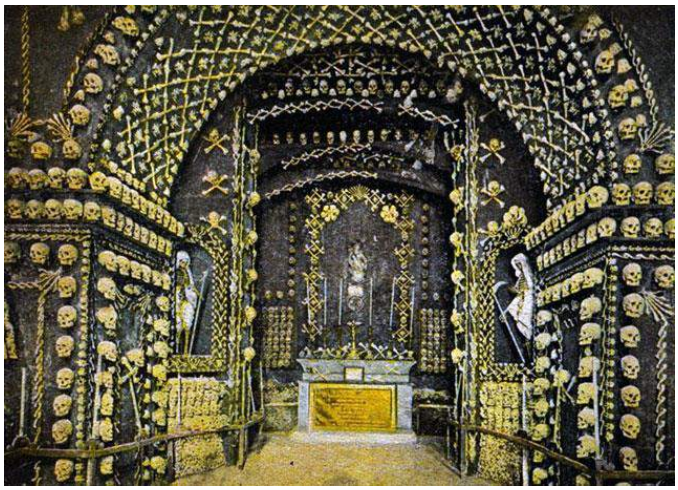
Nhar il-Ħadd filgħaxija, 24 ta' Ottubru, il-'Cappella Musicale Ċeċiliana' ippreżentat Kunċert ta' Mużika Sagra bl-isem ta' 'M' Angelo and Friends Sacred Concert' fil-Knisja Bażilika ta' Marija Bambina fix-Xagħra taħt id-direzzjoni ta' Mro Abram Damato u bis-sehem tal-Solisti l-Baritnu Albert Buttiġieġ, is-Sopran Astrid Cacciatore, il-klarinettista Jessica Ellul u t-tenur Angelo Muscat li kien il-moħħ wara din l-attivita' li ntlaqgħet ferm tajjeb minn dawk kollha preżenti fil-knisja parrokkjali tax-Xagħra.

Il-kunċert fetaħ b'Introduzione' kompożizzjoni ta' Dun Alwiġ Fenech mill-Birgu wara li l-Kav Joe M Attard qara l-poeżija li kiteb lil Marija Bambina. Imbagħad it-tenur żagħżugħ Angelo Muscat kanta l-'Ave Maria' ta' Nani u warajh daħal fix-xena l-baritnu Albert Buttiġieġ bl-interpretazzjoni tas-'Salve Reġina' ta' De Cesare. It-'Tantum Ergo' ta' Bugeja tkanta mit-tenur u l-baritnu Muscat u Buttiġieġ rispettivament biex imbagħad l-orkestra żagħżugħa daqqet l-'Intermezzo' ta' Pietro Mascagni. Kien imiss li tidħol fix-xena s-sopran żagħżugħa Astrid Cacciatore li kantat il-'Laudate Dominum' ta' W.A. Mozart. Wara stajna nisimgħu lid-duo Astrid u Angelo ikantaw flimkien 'O mio Signore' ta' George Frederick Handel segwiti mill-'Ave Maria' ta' Donizetti li tkantat mill-baritnu u t-tenur. Jessica Ellul imbagħad tatna 'Clarinet Concerto' li tant intlaqgħet tajjeb u l-programm kollu resaq lejn tmiemu b'żewġ interventi mit-tenur Angelo Muscat billi kanta 'Salve Regina per Tenore' ta' De Cesare u t-'Tantum Ergo' ta' Galea. Kien hawnhekk li l-Arċipriet tal-Parroċċa Monsinjur Dun Karm Refalo radd ħajr lit-Tenur Angelo Muscat li għoġbu jagħżel din il-Bażilka għal dan il-kunċert prestiġġjuż waqt li stieden lil Daphne Caruana tippreżenta l-pubblikazzjoni tagħha bl-Ingliż dwar il-Bażilika tax-Xagħra. Huwa rringrazzja wkoll lil JP2 Foundation li kienet ukoll qed tfakkar b'dan il-Kunċert it-30 sena minn mindu l-Papa Qaddis Gwanni Pawlu t-Tieni kien żar il-gżejjer Maltin, il-100 sena minn twelidu, l-40 sena minn meta meta kienu sparawlu fil-pjazza tal-Vatikan u l-15-il sena minn meta l-Fundazzjoni kienet waqqfet monument life size f'ġieħ dan il-Prelat Pollak li jinsab fil-bidu tat-triq li tieħdok lejn is-Santwarju Nazzjonali tal-Madonna Ta' Pinu.

Il-kunċert għalaq bis-sehem tal-orkestra u s-solisti jkantaw l-Antifona tal-Bambina, kitba ta' Bugeja fost l-applawsi tal-folla li attendiet dejjem skont ir-regulamenti tal-Pandemija.

The Lost Chapel of Bones in Malta

Charlie Hintz



Somewhere beneath the ruins of the Nibbia Chapel in Malta is an ossuary decorated in human bones exhumed from a nearby cemetery.

Crypt beneath the Nibbia Chapel of Bones in Valletta, Malta

For nearly a hundred years a small church in Malta's capital of Valletta served as a place of powerful religious devotion, as well as a macabre tourist destination. Known as the Chapel of Bones, the vaulted crypt beneath the church was elaborately decorated with human skulls and bones exhumed from a nearby cemetery in the mid-1800s. Bombs dropped on the city during the second World War, on February 14, 1941, left the chapel damaged. What remained was later demolished sometime in the 1970s. Only the sarcophagus of the chapel's builder Fra Giorgia Nibbia, along with remnants of the foundation, were left standing.

The Nibbia Chapel was built in the year 1612. Nibbia, a member of the Knights of the Order of St. John (who controlled the island at that time) funded the construction of the Roman Catholic chapel beside a cemetery where deceased patients of the nearby Sacra Infermeria hospital were laid to rest. It was dedicated to the *Madonna della Misericordia*, or Our Lady of Mercy, and was originally called *Taz-Zuntier*, a Maltese word for "cemetery." The altar had a Latin inscription that, according to the *Times of Malta*, "lamented the ephemerity of life and requested prayers for the dead."

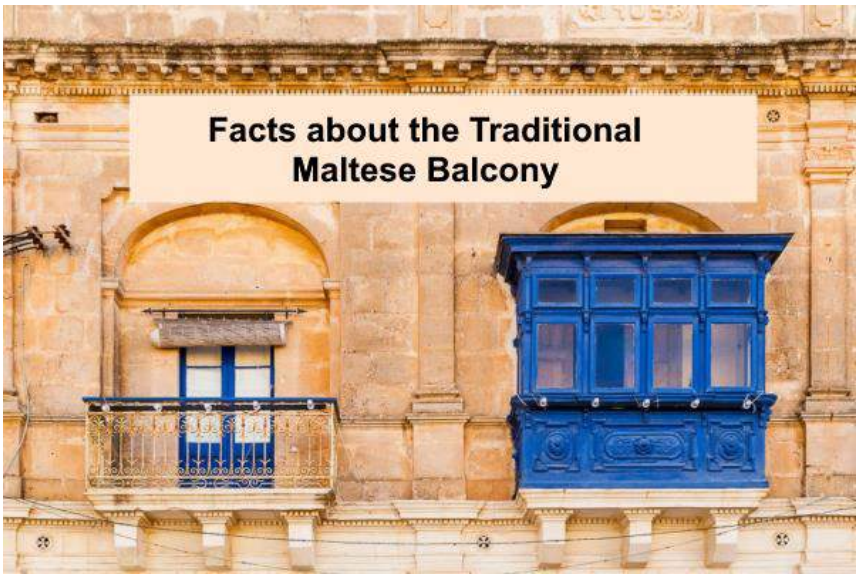
When Nibbia died in 1619, he was entombed in a stone sarcophagus within the chapel.

The official opening of the new Maltese Centre in November 1983.

Bishop Kelly blesses the foundation stone of the Maltese Community Centre at Parkville, Victoria which had been shipped from Malta with (from left) Fr Tarcisio Micallef MSSP, Richard Curmi, Paul Borg, Joe Bartolo and Victor Borg .

The building of the Centru Malti in Parkville was the of the most important project for the MCCV and its opening in December 1983 constitutes one of the most important landmarks in the annals of Maltese settlement in Victoria.

The Foundation stone for community centre was presented at the council meeting held on 4 February 1981. It is the work of the Maltese sculptor Mr. Marco Montebello. It was laid in September 1983.



Be it by locals or visitors, our traditional balconies, and the myriad of colours and styles they come in, frequently find themselves the centrepiece of photos uploaded on Instagram and other social media channels. Malta's distinct 'enclosed wooden boxes' sitting on the facade of many older houses (and in some cases, newer buildings who borrow a note or two from our history) have become a distinct icon of Malta's identity.

It makes sense, along with the doors, windows, and panelling, our balconies inject colour into our limestone shaped towns, articulating our sepia-toned streetscapes with their unique composition and intricate accents. Like the Maltese cross on our flag, the 'luzzu' with the eye on the bow, and our now lost old, traditional buses, balconies are a staple of Malta's identity. These are some facts about the Maltese Balcony:

THE FIRST MALTESE BALCONY The first balcony in Malta is the grandmaster's palace

Built in 1679, the corner balcony of the Grand Master's Palace in Valletta is believed to have been the first to become enclosed with a wood and glass structure. This fashion spread to the villages during the 18th century.

THE KNIGHT'S DECREE During the 17th century, Knight's Order issued a decree stating that all the houses in Valletta had to have some sort of design element to it.

People decorated their facades in three distinct ways, by adding religious images, through pilaster and cornices that matched the architectural style of the elevations, or balconies that wrapped themselves around the block.

OF THE THREE ABOVE, THE BALCONIES WERE THE LAST TO BE INCORPORATED

Due to the lack of ties to global trade, and its position in the middle of the Mediterranean, timber was hard to come by before the 19th century in Malta. This delayed the adoption of the Maltese balcony to other villages.

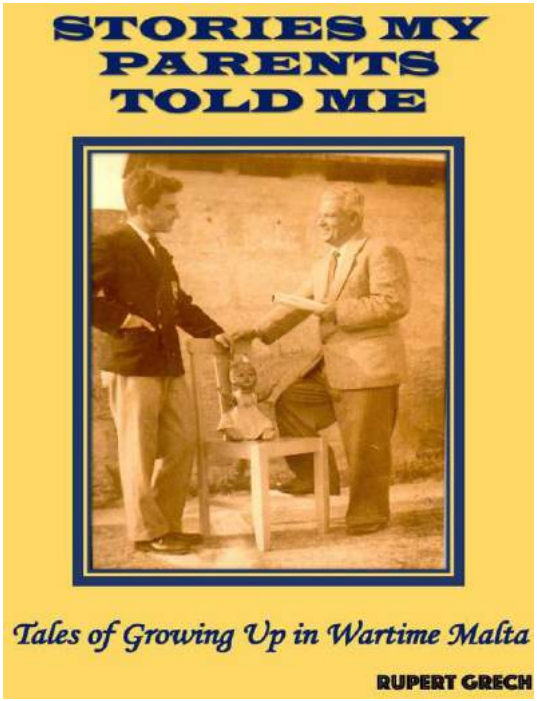
THE MALTESE BALCONY'S FOREIGN ORIGINS… The knights stayed in Malta for 268 years, and during this time, they 'imported' many North African and Turkish slaves who were experts at building these type of balconies and were then incorporated within the streets of Valletta, but didn't really become popular until the 19th century.

THE INFLUENCE OF THE 'MUXRABIJA' (LOOK-OUT-PLACE) Consensus is that the Balcony's origins can be traced back to North African – specifically Moroccan – prototypes derived from the Arabic Muxrabija (look-out place).

The Muxrabija was a wooden frame which entirely screened the window save for small holes or apertures through which the person on the inside could observe the street outside while remaining hidden. At this period in time, women in the Arab world were not allowed to socialize with the world outside – the Muxrabija was their way to look at the outside world without being seen. They were also used as a cooling device for water storage and as a security measure to see who was at the door or on the approaching roads.

MALTA DID NOT HIDE ITS WOMEN, BUT… The Balcony, unlike the Muxrabija, offers a much easier view of the outside, but its function was not entirely different. Maltese housewives rarely went out unless accompanied by their husband, and the balcony was their way of observing the world while retaining their privacy.

WE DON'T CHARGE FOR ADVERTISING



Stories My Parents Told Me: Tales of Growing Up in Wartime Malta Paperback

Stories My Parents Told Me: Tales of Growing Up in Wartime Malta by Rupert Grech, FARAXA Publishing , 2013. 148 pp. T ales of Growing Up in Wartime Malta is a collection of seven short stories by Rupert Grech based on actual events during World War II on the Mediterranean island nation of Malta. The stories describe a difficult time for children and their families where survival was paramount and family ties were what sustained them.

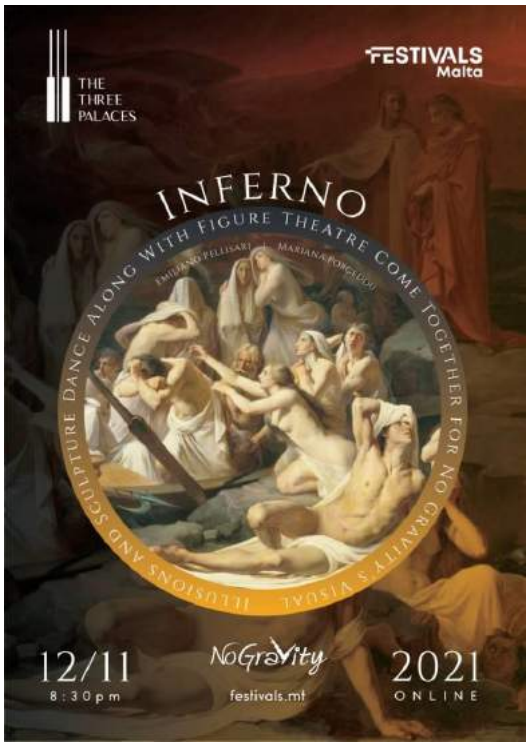
These stories are interspersed with snippets of history, factual details and descriptions which establish a setting for tales which are, at times, emotionally moving and, at other times, bring a smile to your face. The stories also describe a culture of a time past for a deeply religious and frugal people. Rupert Grech is a recently retired school principal from the Central West region in NSW, Australia. He is of Maltese parentage.

During one his visits in Malta he was fortunate enough to have his book published by Faraxa Publishing. Grech's book is receiving very positive reactions from readers and is creating interest in Malta. He has been asked to participate in several book signings. He has been featured in a supplement in The Sunday Times of Malta and he was recorded for a Maltese TV show on books and authors.

The author has also been interviewed on ABC Regional radio in Australia by Angela Owens on her breakfast program http:// bit.ly/1AK6Ajt. Mr Grech says the he feels honoured that his book has a foreword by Dr Barry York Ph.D, OAM, Director of the Australian Museum of Democracy and author of The Maltese in Australia. Continued from page 10 Barry York's wrote: Rupert Grech's 'Stories My Parents Told Me' is a lovely collection, based on stories his parents handed down of Malta during the period of World War Two. Rupert Grech has conveyed the stories with skill and charm. They make for a very engaging read, and one learns about Malta in the process.

Through tales about dolls and grapes and a 'house without rent' and four others, the reader feels immersed in Malta – its folklore, its history and culture. Through these stories, told with enormous affection, we experience the backdrop of war and suffering but also the foreground of human spirit, family life and the unexpected. Religion, social divisions, 'Empire Day', memorable individual characters (including a "Quasimodo type"), lampuki, prickly pear, Gozo, local music bands, Dun Gorg and Il Muzew, ghosts… and, of course, emigration, all feature in the tapestry that has been so finely woven by the author.

The book is available in both paperback and ebook editions from Amazon, Book Depository and major booksellers worldwide.



Festival starts this November

For the second consecutive year, Festivals Malta will be hosting an online edition of the Three Palaces Festival, though this time, the festival features a different theme than usual.

The festival's artistic director Michelle Castelletti explained that this year's theme is that of 'Sacred and Profane', where one will see a contrast between the Chiaroscuro fronted by Caravaggio and the tale from hell to heaven found in Dante Alighieri's Divina Commedia.

"I wanted to use the past as a mirror for the future, embracing the digital world we are living in, whilst gripping tightly to our exceptional history. Both Caravaggio as well as Dante have fascinating links to Malta and I wanted to merge this with Malta's remarkable architectural heritage," concluded Dr Castelletti.

Festivals Malta

A noteworthy aspect this edition of the festival is that the performances were chosen through an open call for artists."We published an open call for artists because we wanted to do our part in helping the artistic sector stand back on its feet. Five distinct yet complementary projects featuring interdisciplinary areas of performing arts," said Dr Castelletti.

Together with these five performances from local artists, the internationally acclaimed dance company 'No Gravity' will present a phenomenal acrobatic spectacle which defies all notion of gravity in their project *INFERNO*. This project will merge illusion and sculpture together with figure theatre through six acrobats who will interpret Dante's Inferno together with inspiration from other themes.

The Three Palaces Festival will be held between the 8th and 12th November on the YouTube Channel and Facebook pages of Festivals Malta and The Three Palaces Festival with shows premiering every day at 8.30 pm.

For more information and for the full schedule, visit **the website**.

This content was supplied by Festivals Malta

Maltese in Malta and in other parts of the world are interested to read what you or your association is doing. Share your story and it is recorded in history

Eħlisna mill-pandemija, o Verġni Mbierka Marija!

Kav. Joe M. Attard Il-Belt Victoria, Għawdex, 2021

Evviva l-Immakulata
illum ngħajtu ferħanin
għaliex naħseb qrib ninsabu
mill-imxija meħlusin!

Ma jistax ikun mod ieħor
għaliex inti l-Omm setgħana
li kif aħna lejk induru
inti tisma' l-karba tagħna!

Fis-smewwiet int dejjem lesta
biex bil-ferħ tidħol għalina,
u kif jista' jkun mod ieħor,
Verġni mbierka u ħanina!

Lil dal-poplu int fl-imgħoddi
lilu ħlist mill-pesta u mard,
għax f'idejk il-grazzji kollha,
Reġina tas-sema u l-art!

Din is-sena b'qalb muġugħa
mhux se ddur mat-toroq tagħna
minħabba ċ-ċirkustanzi
li dal-virus kiber magħna.

Iżda għalkemm magħluqa tibqa',
sew mirfuda taħt ix-xorok,
ġewwa ħdanek sejra tiġbor
lil niesna minn ġewwa t-toroq.

Biex għad-dell ta' dak mantarek
ilkoll jingħabru ferħanin,
iċapċpulek, ikantawlek,
innijiet, bid-dmugħ, henjin!

Mill-bogħod jaslu l-emigranti,
u ma' dawn salt barranin,
u quddiemek dawn jinxteħtu –
wara ġmielek imsaħħrin.

Fil-maqdes imżejjen sewwa
tiġi n-nies minn kullimkien
lilek titlob b'ħerqa kbira –
inti ssaltan fuq iż-żmien.

Mhux se jkollna dawk it-tlielaq
u t-tqassim tal-paljijiet,
lanqas mhu se ddoqq il-banda
u nimxu mal-marċijiet.

Il-grupp illi tan-Nar għandna
xi ħarqa mhux se jtellfuna,
bħalma jagħmlu ta' kull sena
bl-ispettaklu jpaxxuna!

Ta' quddiem il-knisja l-misraħ
bl-Armar ifur waħda sew;
bandalori, statwi, bnadar,
pedistalli u trofew.

Ġewwa l-Qala, ġewwa Bormla,
in-nies tiffolla biex tarak,
mill-iżgħar sal-ikbar wieħed
bla dubju kulħadd jistmak!

Mill-qalb ilqa' dawn il-versi
għan-nom tagħna l-Għawdxin,
żommna għall-kenn tal-mantell tiegħek
u taħt ħarstek magħqudin.

Mal-irħieb, patrijiet twajba,
ħu ħsieb din il-gżira tiegħek,
tħallihiex minnek titbiegħed
u fit-tajn tal-għelt titmiegħek.

Aħsbilna għal futur hieni
wara din il-pandemija,
sabiex nibqgħu miexja hienja
fil-paċi u fl-armonija.

German orchestra in Malta

JP2 Foundation

On the occasion of the 15th anniversary from the unveiling of the national monument dedicated to Pope Saint John Paul II which took place on the 16th October 2006, the JP2 Foundation hosted the youth orchestra Eurode Jugendorchestra Herzogenrath from Germany.

This is the third time that the JP2 Foundation hosted this youth orchestra that was under the music direction of Mro Joseph Grech.

The 25 members of the German Orchestra jointed local musicians who are members of the Gozo Youth Wind Band and Orchestra. They participated during the 11.30am Mass at the Gozo Cathedral on Sunday 17th October 2021.

Miss Antonella Portelli animated the mass with her tender voice gave a glamorous touch to the orchestra.

Today Friday 22nd October 2021 is the Liturgical Feast of Pope Saint John Paul II. 'Messa Totus Tuus' will be executed for the first time. Michelangelo Muscat composition for orchestra and choir will be performed during a Thanksgiving Mass celebrated by Rev Mons Carmelo Refalo. The commemoration will start at 6.30 pm at the Nativity of Our Lady Parish Church Xaghra.

JP2 Foundation

The events commemorating this feast will end on Sunday 24th October 2021 with a Sacred Music Concert under the music direction of Mro. Abraham D'Amato featuring the orchestra "Cappella Musicale Cæciliana", with the guest musician Clarinettist Jessica Ellul and soloist Tenor Angelo Muscat, Soprano Astrid Cacciatore and Bass Albert Buttigieg at the Xaghra Basilica starting at 6.00 pm. *This content was supplied by the JP2 Foundation*

After the imposed hiatus, Gozo's Il-Ħaġar museum is happy to be able to resume its popular fundraising events. On Sunday 14 November @ 12.30pm the traditional *Ikla ta' San Martin* is being held in the Dining Hall at St George's Parish House.

The mouthwatering menu is in the able hands of chef Malcolm George Camilleri, guaranteeing quality and quantity! The four-course lunch offers pumpkin soup, penne, pork cheeks and dessert: more mouthwatering still are the recipe descriptions. Additionally, free-flowing water and wine confirm the attractiveness of the occasion. All this for just €25 per person!

This opportunity is especially unmissable since another restoration project is being launched: an important painting (presently included in the Joseph the Silent Witness temporary exhibition which runs till 30 November) which is clearly described in the accompanying Il-Ħaġar GEMS #14.

Do book early through events@heartofgozo.org.mt or on 79059704 since space is obviously limited. Only vaccined individuals and accompanying children will be accepted.

Keeping Maltese Communities Connected

MALTESE PIANIST CHRISTINE ZERAFA

www.christinezerafa.com/biography

Maltese Soloist and chamber musician Christine Zerafa has appeared as a soloist and chamber musician in various concert series and festivals around the Maltese islands and overseas. Performances have taken her to major world-renowned venues and festivals including the Royal Festival Hall, Wigmore Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, St John's Smith Square, Cadogan Hall, St Martin in the Fields and St James Piccadilly, amongst others. She has performed in Oxford Lieder Festival and appeared on BBC Radio 3 as well as BBC television.

Christine has been recipient of various awards including first prize in the Malta National Bice Mizzi Competition, the Royal Northern College of Music Clifton Helliwell Memorial Prize, the Royal Academy of Music Scott Huxley prize for accompaniment and the Schumann Lieder pianist prize. She was also awarded the Eric Brough Memorial Award and the John B McEwen Prize for good work, conduct, and achievement during her studies at the Royal Academy of Music. She is a Park Lane Group Artist and she was also an award winner on the Tunnell Trust Artist Scheme.

Christine enjoys a very busy performance schedule in London and across Britain. Besides performing, Christine also enjoys coaching singers and instrumentalists and she is frequently invited as a visiting staff pianist at the Royal College of Music, and the Royal Academy of Music, where she works with students from woodwind, vocal and string faculties in master classes, competitions, exam recitals and entrance auditions. Notably, she has accompanied public master classes led by Maxim Vengerov, Miriam Gauci, Juliana Koch (LSO principal oboe), Michael Hasel (Berlin Philharmonic principal flute), Simon Diricq, and she has accompanied instrumental/vocal lessons for students in the classes of Sarah Walker, Mark Wildman, Lillian Watson, Natalie Clein, György Pauk, Timothy Lines, and Kyle Horch, amongst many others. She has accompanied her duo partners in important competitions, which performances led to various awards, including the Tillet Trust award, ROSL Gold Medal award, Philip and Dorothy Green Making Music Award, Tunbridge Wells International Competition, Young Concert Artists Trust (YCAT), and BBC Young Musician.

Christine gained a Master of Music in solo performance from the Royal Northern College of Music where she studied with Norma Fisher and Paul Janes, after which she moved on to study with Andrea Lucchesini at the Scuola di Musica di Fiesole in Florence. Having a great passion for collaboration with singers and instrumentalists, she then read for a Master of Music degree in piano accompaniment, which she completed with distinction at the Royal Academy of Music under the tuition of Michael Dussek, Malcolm Martineau and Ian Brown. She is currently approaching the final stages of her PhD at the Academy, which focuses on the role of the pianist in the art of song and duo chamber music.

Christine is an ABRSM examiner and she has most recently been appointed as Senior Research Officer at the Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology, where she drives and inspires research activity in the Institute for the Creative Arts.

Diamond is Forever

DAVID J SHERRY

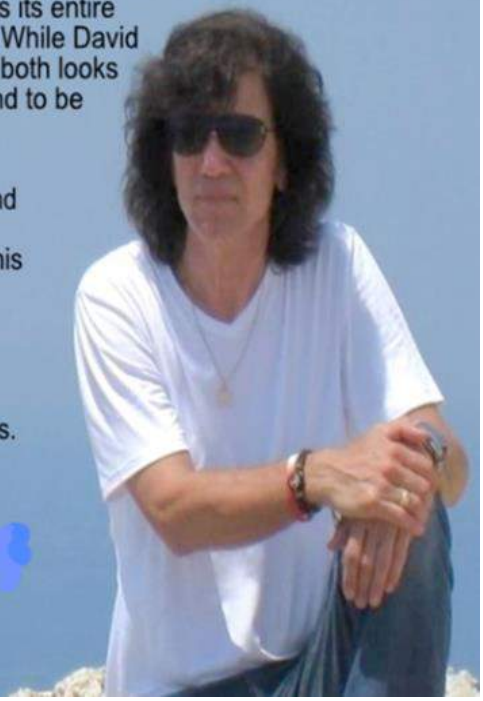
The Neil Diamond Experience

DAVID IS OF A MALTESE LINEAGE AND LIVES IN USA

HIS FAMILY NAME IS "XERRI"

The Diamond Is Forever! project was the brainchild of David J. Sherry who in 2005 envisioned a music project based on the Neil Diamond songbook that focused on the authentic delivery of Diamond's music and lyrics. With a strong background in musical drama and a striking resemblance both physically and vocally to Neil Diamond, David found it easy to fall into the tribute format. The music was the real challenge--that is, putting together a band with the right sound and feel with musicians who were inspired to get it right. David met that challenge so successfully that Diamond Is Forever! quickly became one of the leading Neil Diamond Tributes in the United States.

Although immensely successful David found the pretending-to-be-someone tribute format limiting. His focus, first and foremost, was the authenticity of the music with the emotional vocal delivery that these songs deserved. What he really wanted was a "reverence band," a format defined as a band that devotes its entire repertoire to a specific artist without impersonation of people or performance. While David could not avoid the fact that he bore a strong resemblance to Neil Diamond in both looks and timbre, his real goal was to make people "Feel the Neil" rather than pretend to be someone he is not.



The solution can been seen in David's "Diamond Is Forever! The Neil Diamond Experience" in which David unleashes his own personality and showmanship in concert while preserving the integrity of the music and lyrics and supplementing his dialogue with stories of Diamond's inspirations and motivations behind his songs. It has been a winning format with audiences that can both enjoy a Neil Diamond concert experience and a a personal connection to this charismatic entertainer.

In 2012-2013 David recorded "Glory Road," a CD of sixteen Neil Diamond songs. In July, 2013 the album was officially released first in Malta as a nod to his Maltese lineage and Malta's early influence in providing a gateway to David's career in entetainment. "Glory Road" received a favorable review by Maltese music critic Michael Bujega from the Times of Malta in August, 2013. | This review was followed a month later with a full page article about David, his career and his ties to Malta. | | As of this writing the album sits high on the European charts in Malta at number 1. "Glory Road" has been released globally and is available on CD and digital download.

Wife: I have a bag full of used clothing I'd like to donate.

Husband: Why not just throw it in the trash? That's much easier.

Wife: But there are poor starving people who can really use all these clothes.

Husband: Honey, anyone who fits into your clothing is not starving.

Husband is recovering from a head injury now

These photos are taken at the two functions the 38th Anniversary of the Association and Christmas in July 2021

Godwin Gauci

MALTESE SENIOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC

Milestone - 38th Anniversary of the Association

Back in Nineteen Eighty Three (1983), a group of elderly Maltese men in South Australia got together and decided to branch away from the Maltese Guild, set up a committee and formed the Maltese Seniors Club. The club has been going on and improving every year. This year, 2021 in May, the Maltese Senior Citizens Assoc of S.A. Inc has celebrated their 38th Anniversary and even we have lost a few community members throughout those years, it is still going strong. We celebrated with a special function at the Progress Hall, LeHunte Street, Kilburn attended by a good number of members. The first pictures at the top left is the President , Mr. Frank Grima,committee members and volunteers cutting the anniversary cake.

Celebration of '*Christmas in July*' at the Empire Hotel

Here in Australia, we celebrate Christmas twice a year. The international world know celebration of Christmas on the Twenty Fifth (25) December each year and our Special Christmas in July, because it is our winter month and the eastern state actually have snow falling down, which makes it perfect like the rest of the world when they celebrate their Christmas. The lunch was held at the Empire Hotel, in Prospect Road Kilburn and it was very well attended. Guests were Frank and Josie Scicluna. The president Mr Frank Grima would like to thank, Jane Grima, Maggie Scicluna, Thomas Borg, John Ellul and Eddie Camilleri and all the other volunteers for their assistance to make these two functions a resounding success.

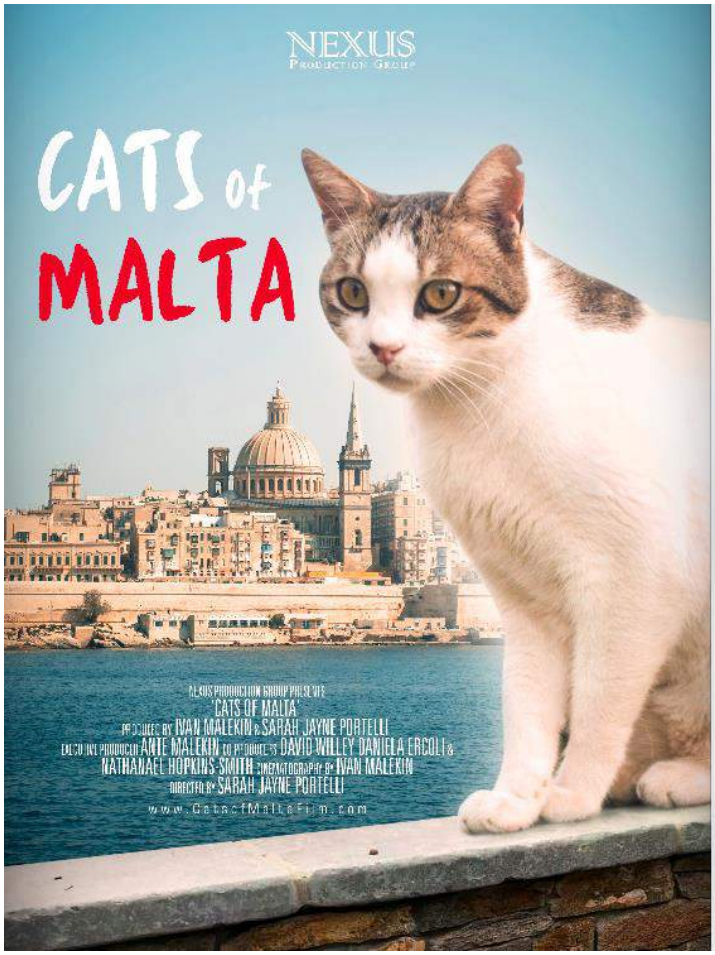
COMING ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION

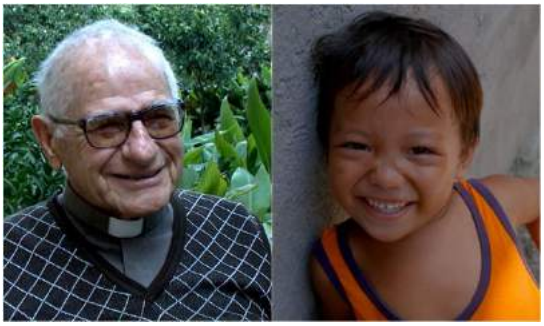
5 November – All Souls Mass followed by lunch
26 November - Christmas Lunch
3 December - Immaculate Conception Mass
10 December - Members Christmas Party

CATS OF MALTA reached picture lock last weekend! Yep, we have a film. We wanted to announce this, but we didn't want to spam you all twice during a week, so we held off as we knew more news was to come.
The second part of the news is that we set two independent screenings up for Malta. We figured we made it in Malta, with Maltese people and crew, so it's only fair to share it with the Maltese audience before we release the film worldwide next year.
For the 'premiere', we have Eden Cinemas on the 25th November and for the encore, we have Spazju Kreativ cinema on the 27th November. Only the Eden event has been announced, so the latter is still hush-hush, for your knowledge only right now.
At Eden Cinema there will be time to mingle in the foyer beforehand and a Q&A afterwards.
Here is the Eden website so you can see it and if in Malta buy tickets: https://bit.ly/3b58RLJ

Sarah Jayne & Ivan Malekin

PS...Please forward this email to friends, family, co-workers... anyone you think would be happy to receive a loud meow from Malta and join the Cats of Malta community. The more the merrier! Here's the link again: www.CatsofMaltaFilm.com





Maltese priest spent 42 years among the poor in Perù

Report: Fiorella Pace

Several Maltese have left everything behind them and dedicated their lives to others in missionary lands. On Mission Day, the news centre spoke to Father Vince Magro from the St. Paul's Missionary Society, who along with two other priests was a pioneer of the society's mission in Peru. Fr Vince Magro spent 42 years of his life in Peru with the poor in the suburbs of the second largest city – Arequipa – and in Aplao – a large valley separated by a river with 23 villages.
When you do good to others you feel a certain sense of satisfaction. As Leo Tolstoy, a famous Russian poet, said, you feel greater satisfaction when you do good to others whoever they may be. My friends and I used to enjoy seeing people happy because of something we had done. "
Father Vince Magro is now 82 years old. At the age of 28 he became a priest with the Missionary Society of St. Paul and three years later he left for Peru. He was with the first group of MSSP priests in Peru and said that among the difficulties he encountered initially was the fact that he felt alone without knowing how to speak Spanish. He said that little by little people began to trust the missionaries in the 23 villages they were in.
Father Vince Magro said that Peru was rich in its culture and history, however there was poverty. "Candle light was more apparent than electricity and I spent a lot of time celebrating mass by candle light. One time I remember we spent six months without light. Secondly there was no running water like we have today.

We used to get water from the river and in the summer i.e. from December to March, the water is very dirty like the colour of chocolate, but we would get a shovel , put it in the bucket, and eventually after separating the dirt, we'd drink from it … we depended on the bus and would say the act of contrition before going up the bus because it's not the first time their brakes stopped working. "

Among the work of the MSSP missionaries in Peru, an educational college has been set up which today welcomes 550 children. Father Vince said this was done because as missionaries they always believed in giving Christian formation to the locals. He said that their work is possible because of the generosity of the Maltese, also from the Create a Smile marathon. Returning from a 42-year mission, Father Vince Magro remained involved in pastoral work in various parishes in Malta.

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