



# The Voice of the Maltese

*(We are for the Greater Malta)*

**October 26, 2021**

**Issue  
261**

**A fortnightly print  
and digital magazine**

**Malta: Spectacular  
view at Dingli Cliffs**

*Photo: Allicia Coates*



# Dwar l-ilsien Malti u l-vantaġġ li tkun taf lingwi oħra barranin



**Joseph CUTAJAR**

**G**ħal raġunijiet differenti, nies minn madwar id-dinja jagħzlu li jitgħallmu ilsna (lingwi) differenti. Issib lil uħud li jitwieldu fil-lingwa tal-familja tagħhom, filwaqt li hemm oħrajn li jkollhom jitgħallmu ċerti lingwi, fosthom dawk li għal xi raġuni jiġu sfurzati jagħmlu hekk. Imma hi x'inh i r-raġuni, li titkellem aktar minn lingwa waħda hija dejjem ta' vantaġġ.

L-aktar u l-aktar f'dawn iż-żmienijiet, jiddependi fejn tghix u x'tagħmel biex taqla' l-

ħobza ta' kuljum, li tkun taf aktar minn lingwa waħda hija wkoll għodda u sa ċertu punt arma.

Il-Malti huwa l-ilsien nazzjonali tal-pajjiż. B'danakollu, skont il-kostituzzjoni, flimkien mal-Malti, l-Ingliż ukoll hu mitqies bħala ilsien uffiċjali għall-ġens Malti, anke jekk hafna jqisuh biss bħala t-tieni lingwa.

Sal-1934 l-ilsien uffiċjali f'Malta kien it-Taljan, u fis-sekli 19 u 20 kien hemm dibattitu lingwistiku u politiku qawwi li baqa' magħruf bħala l-Kwestjoni tal-Lingwa, dwar it-tliet lingwi, il-Malti, l-Ingliż u t-Taljan.

Il-ġens Malti huwa ġeneralment magħruf li kapaċi jikkomunika f'lingwi li mhumie x dawk tal-pajjiż fejn twieldu, partiklarment l-Ingliż u t-Taljan.

Skont s'tharriġ li sar fl-2012 mill-aġenzija tal-Unjoni Ewropeja magħrufa bħala l-l-Ewrobarometru, 98 fil-mija tal-Maltin għandhom i-hila li jgħallmu bil-Malti, 88% bl-Ingliż, 66% bit-Taljan, u aktar minn 17% bil-Franċiż.

Fl-istharriġ intwera li mill-1995 kien hemm zieda fl-għarfien tal-lingwi mitkellma b'ċerta faċilità. Dak iż-żmien 98% tal-popolazzjoni Maltija kienet titkellem bil-Malti, filwaqt li 76% kienu jgħallmu bl-Ingliż, 26% biss bit-Taljan, u 10% bil-Franċiż.

F'dik li hi l-lingwa Taljan, kien hemm zieda qawwija mqabbel ma' meta t-Taljan kien ilsien uffiċjali tal-pajjiż. Dan kollu hu dovut prinċipalment għad-dhul tat-trasmissjonijiet tal-istazzjonijiet tat-televiżjoni Taljani f'Malta.

Skont iċ-ċensiment tal-2011, 377,952 (jew 82.1%) tal-popolazzjoni f'Malta ta' 10 snin jew aktar kellha l-hila titkellem mill-inqas b'livell medju ta' Ingliż, filwaqt li 93,401 (43.7%) kienu kapaċi jgħallmu b'livell medju tat-Taljan.

Il-lingwa Maltija hija ta' oriġini semitika li żviluppat minn djalett Għarbi li jixbaħ hafna djaletti mitkellma f'pajjiżi li ssibhom fil-punent tad-dinja Għarbiya, bħall-Alġerija u t-Tuneżija. Fil-Libanu wkoll id-djalett tagħhom jixbaħ hafna dak Malti.

Jingħad ukoll li l-ilsien Malti ġie influwenzat mil-lingwa li jgħallmu l-Isqallin, u tul is-sekli ddaħħlu fih ukoll kliem ġej, mhux biss mill-Ingliż, imma wkoll, l-aktar mit-Taljan u mill-Franċiż.

Il-Malti hu wkoll mitqies bħala l-unika forma ta' Għarbi li jinkiteb bl-alfabet Latin, allura ma jixbaħ xejn lil dak Għarbi.

Hu ta' vantaġġ kbir għall-istudenti fl-iskejjel Maltin li minbarra li jibdwew jgħallmu l-Malti u l-Ingliż, mill-iskejjel tan-nuna (kindergarten), fl-edukazzjoni sekondarja u terzjarja, għandhom ukoll iċ-ċans li jgħallmu lingwi ferm magħrufa u meħtieġa oħra, l-aktar it-Taljan, il-Franċiż, il-Germaniż u l-Ispanjol. Għal xi snin, meta kien jidher li Malta setgħet tapprofitta ruhha mill-ħbiberija mal-Libja f'dak li hu negozju, iddaħħal ukoll it-tagħlim tal-Għarbi.

Minbarra fl-iskejjel permezz tal-ambaxxati tagħhom f'Malta, ċerti pajjiżi wkoll bdew u xi wħud għadhom, jagħtu lezzjonijiet b'xejn fl-ilsna ta' pajjiżhom. Ewlenin fost dawn kien hemm il-Libja bit-tagħlim tal-Għarbi, u r-Russja li kienu jgħallmu r-Russu li għal xi żmien kienu wkoll pjut-tost popolari.

Għalkemm l-interess fit-tieni lingwa bl-ebda mod ma jista' jgħid bħala xi sfida lill-ilsien ta' twelidek, minn żmien għal żmien issib lil min jgħid li t-tagħlim ta' lingwa oħra jista' jgħallmu l-lingwa tal-pajjiż.

Minkejja li hemm min isibha diffiċli jgħallmu l-ilsien Malti f'livelli oġġa, b'danakollu, l-ilsien Malti huwa l-pedament tal-identità u l-wirt nazzjonali tagħna. Żgur li din l-identità qatt mhu se tisparrixxi.

Minkejja li f'xi rħula ssib xi djaletti differenti, b'xi mod jew ieħor, il-Maltin kollha jgħallmuha, huma minn liema raħal jew belt huma, forsi b'xi djalett li hafna jqisuh ta' tgħawwiġ.

Imma l-għeruw hemm qegħdin u meta tikkunsidra li l-ilsien Malti baqa' ħaj tul eluf ta' snin, tasal tgħid, allura għaliex il-plejtu kollu minn xi wħud li l-ilsien Malti jista' jispicċa?

Kuntrarju għal dawk li minn xi daqqiet jgħidu l-hekk im-sejha esperti, il-fehma ġenerali hi li sakemm l-iskejjel jibqgħu jgħallmu l-prinċipji li fuqhom hu mibni l-ilsien Malti, f'idejn l-individwu li jispicċalizza f'dan il-qasam.

Nghiduha, ma tantx jgħin li hafna saru jippreferu jiktbu bl-Ingliż milli bil-Malti, inkluz fil-blogs, fil-messaġġi fuq il-mobles u/jew fil-facebook, u li hemm oħrajn li meta jiġu biex jibagħtu messaġġ lil shabhom jew lil tal-familja bil-Malti, ma jagħtux kas l-ortografija jew xi ittri bħall-GH jew H (akka). Donnhom l-aqwa li l-messaġġ jasal u jinfthiem.

Mistoqsijin dwar dan, uħud, qalulna li bħala eżempju, jippreferu jiktbu l-blogs tagħhom bl-Ingliż għax iħossu li huma strument ta' komunikazzjoni ma' dawk li ma tantx jafu dwar Malta jew is-sugġett li jkunu jridu jgħallmu dwaru, u mhux għax għandhm xi preġudizzju kontra l-ilsien Malti.

Biss sibt ukoll lil wħud jgħidu li l-lingwa Maltija fiha wisq regoli u jsibuha diffiċli jiktbuha f'dinja ta' kitbiet moderni u komunikazzjoni. Allura ma jhossux li jistgħu jkunu prattici jew kreattivi, u joqogħdu lura. Mhux ta' b'xejn li wara li tħabbar li se jkollna iċ-ċekkjatur Malti, hafna qed jgħidu "iġri jasal".

Hekk għidilhom lill-kittieba magħrufa Maltin li tant żejnu l-ilsien Malti b'kitbiethom, kemm jekk b'kotba, proża jew poeziji.

L-ilsien Malti għandna nkunu kburin bih. Iżda tajjeb li wiehed ikun ukoll midħla ta' ilsna oħra differenti għax permezz tagħhom jista' jhossu li hu iktar dinja u mhux biss Malti. Imma jekk int Malti, tmur fejn tmur jew tagħmel x'tagħmel, ara li tqis l-ilsien Malti bħala l-ilsien ta' ruhek.

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

# No more Certificates of Title in NSW: update on transition to 100% electronic conveyancing in NSW

by Paul Sant

From 11 October 2021, the NSW Land Registry Services (LRS) shut down its Certificate of Title printing machine in one of the final steps for conveyancing in New South Wales becoming 100% electronic, completely paperless.

All Certificates of Title are now cancelled, and a property owner no longer has to provide proof that they have control of the right to deal with a property.

The LRS is no longer accepting any paper documents for property transactions. All transactions must be completed electronically through the Property Exchange Australia (PEXA).

## What does this mean for me?

If you own any property unencumbered, you would have in your possession, or stored with your lawyer or bank for safekeeping, the Certificate of Title (also referred to as a Title Deed) to that property.

Since 11 October 2021, that piece of paper is no longer a legal document – it means nothing, nada, zip. It will simply be a memento and in years to come, a piece of history of an earlier time in humanity. Presently, some banks are still requesting certificates of title where you apply for a mortgage over an unencumbered property, so you should still keep them safe.

You should take steps to confirm the whereabouts of your title deeds, as we are no longer able to carry out an online enquiry to determine where a title deed was last delivered. We would suggest reaching out to your solicitor or bank if your contact details may have changed as they may be attempting to contact you to make arrangements to return documents to you,

or otherwise dispose of them.

## What proves I own my property?

From 11 October 2021 a title search is the only proof of who owns a property. All transfers of property are recorded on the Torrens Title register which is securely stored and backed up by the LRS and the Office of the Registrar General.

A title search produces a record from the Torrens Title register that confirms who the owner or owners of a property are.

Previously, if you bought a property outright, or paid off your home loan and discharged the mortgage, you would receive your paper Certificate of Title. There is no electronic certificate of title in NSW.

At the time of settlement, the LRS registers the transfer that records that you are the owner of the property. You will not receive anything from the LRS to prove ownership. Your lawyer or conveyancer can order a title search to prove that you are now the registered owner, or you can purchase a title search online.

When selling your unencumbered property, a title search is always included in the contract of sale, and that is the ultimate proof to the purchaser that you are the owner and are authorised to sell the property.

## All property transactions will require a lawyer or conveyancer

Electronic conveyancing services through PEXA can only be completed by registered PEXA users, which are lawyers and conveyancers. This means that any transfers of interests in a property must be done through a lawfirm or conveyancer, as individuals cannot register to use PEXA.

PEXA requires all lawyers and conveyancers to undertake verification of

identity of all of our clients. If you are selling your property, your lawyer will usually want to meet you in person and take copies of several documents proving you are you, to ensure that you are the same person described on the title search for your property.



Accordingly it is now a good time to check that you have enough evidence to prove your identity e.g. drivers licence, current passport, photo ID card, birth certificate, Australian citizenship certificate, marriage certificate.

Different types of identity documents constitute proper verification of identity. It is thus essential that your identity documents all identify you under the same name.

PEXA also requires all lawyers and conveyancers to retain a signed authorisation form from you, which records your authorisation for us to complete a transaction through PEXA on your behalf.

## The silver lining

There is justification in removing the requirement for paper Certificate of Title to be produced in order to sell or transfer interests in unencumbered properties.

If the document could not be found or located, previously you would be required to submit an application for a replacement Certificate of Title to the LRS, which involved demonstrating the searches made and listing all previous known locations and the last known location of the document.

This procedure was particularly common with deceased estates, where grieving family members would have an extra step to take before a property could be sold and proceeds of sale distributed in accordance with your Will.

Now, if a Certificate of Title cannot be found, a title search can be ordered which proves ownership and there will be no delays or extra costs in obtaining a replacement Certificate of Title.

## Conveyancing and property services

Longton Legal has been transacting with PEXA for a number of years. We have decades of experience in all types of property transactions. If you need legal assistance or representation for a property transaction please contact our office.

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



LONGTON  
LEGAL

**PAUL SANT**

(SOLICITOR)

**PARTNER AT LONGTON LEGAL**

For All Your Legal Needs

Now at:

21 George Street

**Parramatta**

Phone: 8599 8877

Also at:

Level 4, 370 Pitt Street, Sydney. Ph: 8355 9999

Email: [paul.sant@longtonlegal.com.au](mailto:paul.sant@longtonlegal.com.au)

Maltese Spoken





**SBS Radio are at it again ...**

## The Maltese community demands fair and equitable share of airtime

**W**ith their usual flair for publicity, every five years, to coincide with the national Census and Statistics results, SBS Radio in Australia dust-off the usual exercise they call community consultation. They appeal to the ethnic community to assist them in devising fair and equitable criteria for their radio programs. The exercise considered to be smokes and mirrors ignores a large cohort of listeners, the elderly that are not computer savvy.

The last two consultations in 2012 and 2017 were predictable and favoured the larger communities. The Voice of the Maltese is of the view that the present criterion is still fundamentally flawed, grossly inequitable, and unfairly disadvantageous to communities of medium and small size communities like the Maltese.

The SBS present criteria – by which time slots are allotted – are based on flawed assumptions that the information needs of a community are commensurate with the size of the population. Such an assumption leads to the absurd result that the largest six communities are allocated 14 times more broadcasting hours than the smallest. With some communities even missing out completely.

Its funding and launching of a dedicated radio station transmitting 24/7 exclusively, specifically to an ethnic community best illustrate this. Still, the same community would retain 14 broadcasting hours per week allocated under SBS Radio. It is estimated that the six largest ethnic communities have been allocated more than one-third of the available hours, with the rest having to share what is left.

Basing criteria on radio broadcasting



hours so heavily on census data relating to the number of persons in a community, who state they speak their native language at home, is a flawed and unfair way to allocate radio time. The Voice of the Maltese is adamant that more emphasis should be placed on the specific needs of a particular ethnic community, especially the elders; many of them do not have access to digital platforms.

The larger communities have many other non-SBS sources of information available to them, like daily radio programs, even daily newspapers in their own language. Smaller communities haven't these luxuries available to them.

To make allocation of program hours to "large" communities simply on the basis of their size without applying "high need" test to them is to discriminate against the remaining small and emerging

communities. SBS Radio should consider listeners' surveys if they really want to gauge where listeners are.

For the criteria to be equitable and fair, it should be applied to all communities regardless of the size of their overseas-born and/or language speaking population in Australia.

No community irrespective of its size should be allocated more than seven hours a week in order to free up sufficient airtime to adequately meet the information needs of several mediums to small-sized communities.

The Maltese community is looking forward to approaching 50 years of Maltese broadcasting on SBS, as one of the eight founding communities that established that station. Indeed we are harshly and shabbily treated by the SBS Radio hierarchy. We say enough is enough.

## *Italian Holiday* by the Maltese Own Band of Victoria

**T**he Maltese Own Band Philharmonic Society in Victoria is always busy with new ideas to stay ahead and keep its members and supporters among the Maltese community interested in

its activities. It has managed to do it even during the COVID-19 pandemic.

While some people have spent lockdown 6.0 watching Netflix and learning to cook, the MOB has been working very hard behind the scenes. Its latest innovation has been the band's third virtual performance on their Facebook page, "Italian Holiday".

This tribute to all the holidays many have missed is due to the work by Mario and Fiona Cassar in putting the individual recordings together.

Anybody can follow this performance by logging to: <https://www.facebook.com/MalteseOwn-Band/videos/934837857106637>





# Activist in South Australia

*Our selection for the Personality of the Month for October is a prominent member of the South Australia community. This year Harry Bugeja celebrates two great lifetime events, 64 years of marriage and the same years living in Australia. He is a man who has made a lasting impact in the State of South Australia.*

## Harry Bugeja

Year 1957 was when Australia introduced conscription. On reaching the age of twenty-one every Australian citizen or British Subject had to serve three months in the Army. After a while, the selection criteria changed from three months to two years. Names were called up by potluck through the lottery system. Many of the selected had to endure service in Vietnam; others returned to their home countries to avoid being conscripted. Harry Bugeja was conscripted and served when called.

Immediately after marrying the love of his life, Mary nee Portelli at the church of Our Lady of Mt Carmen at Fleur-de-Lys, on 1st October 1957 the couple left Malta for Australia on board m/v Aurelia.

God blessed Mary and Harry with five kids (two boys and three girls). They are also grandparents to nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, and another one is on the way.

Harry told *The Voice of the Maltese* that they are so proud of their children's achievements. Three of our children are university graduates. Adrian is a senior social worker, Josette a school principal and Jeffrey a project director, while Veronica owns her own beauty salon and Grace is a shop assistant.

Harry was born in Hamrun on the 13th March 1936, the son of Lewis and Gorgina Bugeja. They were a family of eleven, two girls and nine boys and lived in Villambrosa Street. He had an uncle in Australia who migrated before WW2 and four other brothers. They all decided to settle in South Australia.

Harry received his education in Malta, at the Hamrun primary school, St Albert the Great College in Valletta and at the Hamrun Technical School, where he took a course in Marine engineering.

On arriving in Australia he furthered his studies by undergoing a mechanical engineering course at the then school of mines (now Adelaide University). He has also gained an Australian tradesmen Certificate.

In his youth in Malta Harry was a promising soccer player and played as a defender for Hamrun Eagles (MFA Junior league). In 2002 he returned to Malta for the nostalgic 50th re-



Harry Bugeja

union held at Bonaci Café' opposite the San Gejtanu Parish Church that was also attended by the then President of Malta, Prof Guido Demarco, a good friend of his and a resident of Hamrun. Harry is still good friends with two of the players, Fred Richards (Adelaide) and Lawrence Dimech (Sydney).

After more than 35 years of community involvement in South Australia, Harry and

Mary retired to spend more time with the family and to follow their pastime of Old Time Ballroom dancing (New Vague).

He was President, secretary and treasurer for the Maltese Community Council of South Australia, secretary and treasurer of the Malta United Soccer Club, President, secretary and treasurer of the Enfield Victoria Soccer Club and also of the St Catherine Social Club.

He also held the prestigious position of treasurer of the Multi-cultural Communities Council of South Australia, and for 20 years he was the treasurer of the Neighbourhood Watch for which he was awarded a special medal from the Commissioner of Police for his voluntary work.

His wife Mary started the first Maltese Language School in South Australia and was the only NAATI qualified translator at the time. She also organised the first Miss Malta United Soccer club Quest in that State.

In late January 1973, Mary and Harry along with their four kids, left Adelaide for a six months holiday to Malta which was extended to five years as Harry was offered a position as production manager and later became general manager with Toly Products, a plastic extruding company that specialised in the manufacturing of cosmetic containers and many other products.

Back in Adelaide, Harry was employed with Simpson Pope (later Simpson Products) at Woodville North as a production Manager.

He retired in 1995.

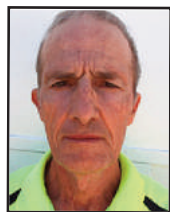
## PERSONALITY OF THE MONTH OF THE MONTH

The Bugeja clan: Harry and his wife Mary with the rest of the family



*Adrian Warburton the legendary maverick ace pilot of WWII (part 1 of a 2-part feature)*

# The uncrowned king of Malta



**Joseph Buttigieg**

Every Maltese, man, woman or child who lived through World War II would remember the three Gloster Gladiator Biplanes which engaged Mussolini's 'Regia Regia Aeronautica'. My mother who was only 15 years old at the time remembers their names: Faith, Hope and Charity, they had a maximum speed of 257 mph, much slower than the Italian Macchi C.202 that had a speed of 313 mph. But who were these brave volunteer pilots who flew these single-seater biplanes, the only flying machines at the beginning of the war?

George Burgess, a Coastal Command flying boat pilot was one of the ace 'fighter boys' command-

ing these three gladiator planes. Another certainly worth mentioning was Adrian 'Warby' Warburton a Royal Air Force (RAF) maverick pilot and flying ace of the Second World War.

Adrian who? One might ask. It seems that Adrian's destiny was to be a pilot in Malta during the war. He was born in Middlesbrough on 10th March 1918, the only son of Commander Geoffrey Warburton DSO, a highly respected RN submariner, and Muriel Warburton, née Davidson. Adrian was christened on board a submarine that happened to be in Malta in Grand Harbour, Valletta at the time.

Warby as he was known, always had the desire to be a pilot but initially he had lapses into circular take-offs and violent zigzag landings with tailspins that would have tested the morale of any regular in the RAF.

Fortunately, an Australian Field Commander, Tich Whitely saw the potential in this young man and saved him from oblivion because he felt that Warby was loaded with guts and had no fear of self-preservation. How Warby ended up in Malta is intriguing, the RAF wanted to get him out of the country as quickly as possible before the law caught up with him.

It had something to do with money, women and the law. So to kill two birds with one stone, they assigned Warby to be a navigator on one of the Marylands planes being rushed to Malta in the hoping that he would rehabilitate himself on the island.

He became legendary in the RAF for his role in the defence of Malta and was described by the then Air Officer Commanding in Chief Middle East, Air Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder, as 'the most important pilot in the RAF'.

When Warby arrived in Malta, he was made the flight's photographic officer.

As a young girl, along with others, my mother recalls looking up to the sky and say "ġej to l'itratti" (here comes the photographer) the Italian photo reconnaissance pilot would fly his plane high up in the sky to get his photos; but not Warby.

On a return flight from Tripoli, Warby noticed a new airstrip to the south of Misurata. As he approached for a closer look in order to count the number of planes, a green light was given out from the airfield

control. Warby responded by pretending to land and when only a few feet up aimed his Maryland at a line of big SM79's, and with front guns blazing shot them up leaving three of them in flames.

Moreover he managed to get a few quick snaps with his hand-held camera. As they sped away, his gunner Paddy Moren brought the rear gun into play to add to the confusion and damage. Warby always completed his missions. He frequently flew at 50 feet to ensure that photographs could be taken.

Warby found another way of getting even with the Germans who were making life hell for the Maltese people. So he thought, if I could surprise the Italians why not do likewise to the Germans in Sicily. They spotted an airfield in Catania and saw the green light, so he said to his gunner Paddy, "I'm going in".

He put down the wheels pretending to land and approached the centre of the airfield. Paddy was flabbergasted: "What the hell do you think you're doing, this is Catania not Luqa," Warby replied, "now watch."

He told Paddy to aim his guns and as they came close Paddy fired at the transporters, destroying one and seriously damaging two other planes before they went straight out to sea leaving a bunch of very surprised Germans behind them

As they sped away from the danger zone, Warby said to Paddy "The Germans would be wondering what kind of Italian plane was coming in and the Italians would be wondering what kind of German plane was arriving!"

At one time it was decided to launch an attack on the Italian island of Pantelleria, which was very well defended. It required close-up pictures of the best landing beaches and also of the coastal guns embedded in the cliff face. Warby took it upon himself to do it on his own.

As usual he managed to bring back pictures that surpassed all expectations. He had flown in so low and so close that one



of his pilots, Keith Durbidge said: [Warby was the only pilot I ever heard of being fired on by AA guns from above"]

Warby made at least four such dangerous top flights while he was under fire.

Warby was very undisciplined which is probably why the RAF got rid of him and sent him to Malta, the most heavily bombed place on earth. During his reconnaissance missions, he was cool as a cucumber even in dangerous situations; he would have a cigarette in one hand and fly the plane with the other.

He was reprimanded several times by his superior officers, but at the end they gave up and ended up putting a cigarette ashtray in his plane. The reason being that he was the number one ace pilot on the island and they knew they could rely on him to complete any dangerous missions.

*\*Part 2 in the next issue*



# A Gozitan Ghost Story!

## *Hemm Dar il-Qala*

### (The Weeping House of Qala)

From the 12th of November, a gripping thriller set in the quaint little village of Qala in Gozo; *Hemm Dar il-Qala* (The Weeping House of Qala) will soon be available to watch in Australia on SBS On Demand. It is the work of Mark Doneo, an Australian born Maltese screen-

#### Value of sales of property in Malta between January and Sept. reaches €2bn

By January 2022, those working in the property sales sector in Malta will be required to have a license to carry out their commitments.

When it comes to sales of property, in the first three quarters of this year, 10,440 new contracts were made with a total value of over €2bn. (A\$3.09932bn).

In the same period three years ago (2018) there were 9,400 contracts worth over €1bn (A\$1.55bn).

The increase this year compared to 2018 is about €500 million (A\$775 million).

writer and actor known for his various acting roles and for directing self-penned TV drama series that have since gained cult status in the Maltese television community.

Mark Doneo, known in Malta for his TV drama series such as, *Shelly Rayner* (1999-2001), *L-Ispettur Lowell* (2002-2003), *Solitaire* (2005) and *Miriana Coljero* (2007), is passionate about making Maltese films in Maltese and using English sub titles to reach the global audience.

One of Mark's latest feature films, *Hemm Dar il-Qala*, which he produced and directed, tells the story of "Emily Edevane" a woman who was abandoned with her three little children by her husband. Four decades later, a Maltese documentary crew agrees to spend a day at the now desolate and decaying mansion, hoping to find out what became of the family.

The film shoot takes a turn for the nightmarish when the crew encounters strange phenomena and dark forces in the house



Mark Doneo

that they can't explain. The film has it all and will keep one guessing till the very last minute!

Recently, Mark also gained recognition for his role as the titular burglar in his feature film debut *Silhouette* (2013) based on his own *Solitaire* TV series, of which he also penned, produced and directed.

MarisaPREVITERA

## Julie Owens MP FEDERAL MEMBER FOR PARRAMATTA

### Seniors locked out of aged care

Seniors from diverse backgrounds need to overcome extra hurdles to access aged care services and all too often end up with services that don't meet their language and cultural needs. If this is affecting you or your loved ones, scan the QR code or visit [julieowens.com.au/agedcare](http://julieowens.com.au/agedcare).



### Cuts to Medicare under cover of COVID

In July Scott Morrison snuck through almost 1,000 cuts and changes to Medicare. These changes mean patients could face out-of pocket costs of up to \$10,000. If you want Scott Morrison to abandon these changes scan the QR code or visit: [julieowens.com.au/savemedicare](http://julieowens.com.au/savemedicare)



### Support payments slashed

The Morrison Government is cutting COVID support payments with no plan for Parramatta's economic recovery. If you are worried about how these cuts will affect you or your family, scan the QR code or visit [julieowens.com.au/covid19](http://julieowens.com.au/covid19) for more info on the support still available.



If I can be of any help please phone me on 9689 1455 or write to 1/25 Smith St, Parramatta NSW 2150 or email [julie.owens.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:julie.owens.mp@aph.gov.au) [f julie.owens.mp](https://www.facebook.com/julie.owens.mp) [www.julieowens.com.au](https://www.julieowens.com.au)

Authorised by Julie Owens MP, Australian Labor Party, 1/25 Smith Street, Parramatta.

# 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.

#### Editors:

**Malta:** Joseph Cutajar

#### Australia:

Lawrence Dimech: MOM,  
OAM, JP Rt

#### email address:

maltesevoice@gmail.com

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.



Now you can also  
join us on facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/thevoice-ofthemaltese>

## Your letters/ L-ittri tagħkom ...

# A job very well done

*Anth. Bugeja from London, UK writes:*

What an excellent article (VOM Oct 12) *The Lessons Malta has learned*. Only God knew the pandemic was coming. Was it a coincidence that Dr. Chris Fearn MP was appointed Malta's Health Minister?

All those around the world should read the article. What Malta has achieved is tremendous. It was not easy when you had the Medical Association playing politics. Malta did triumph over the virus.

Thank you Dr. Chris Fearn. You, the health authorities that you lead and the Maltese

Government did an excellent job during the COVID-19 pandemic. In fact, Malta did much better than many other countries.

## A small country but a great nation

*Michael Camilleri from Brisbane writes:*

Although not officially, the Voice of the Maltese has become acknowledged as the mouthpiece of the Maltese living abroad, particularly in Australia. It is not just an ordinary magazine but also a learning curve for all those who read it. I also appreciate the fact that you even reported the news of the presentation of the budget in Malta the same day that the local media did.

What makes it even more amazing the fact that the content of *The Voice* is written by correspondents who are in the know, and are experts in their subjects. I congratulate you for managing to convince your latest addition Veronica Barbara to join your team.

Reading the bio-note about her in the article about the Inquisitor's Palace should be enough to convince us, the readers, that we should do our utmost to spread the word around, especially among the new generation of Maltese youths, that this is the one publication in Australia they should lay their hands on in order to learn about the country their parents or grand parents came from.

It would help the second or third generation Maltese to appreciate and be proud of this small country but great nation, to visit the island where we came from and take in all it has to offer, which is much.

## Some common sense at last

*Tom Abela from Strathfield NSW writes:*

The expose on Australia Hall in Pembroke Malta in the last issue of *The Voice* hit the nail on the head. If Australia and New Zealand do not recognise this building as part of the ANZAC history in Europe, we are behind the eight ball.

Australia has done wonders with sites commemorating the ANZACS in Gallipoli, etc., but the hall in Malta was not even recorded as having some historical value.

Imagine what value official recognition will add to the importance of Australia Hall. The RSL representatives in Australia must take this matter into their own hands and stop listening to the few agitators who are more concerned with creating confusion in line with their political beliefs.

## Success f'pandemija

*Stefan Gatt minn Sunshine Victoria jikteb:*

Rajt b'attenzjoni kbira l-artiklu tal-Ministru tas-Saħha Malti Chris Fearn fl-aħħar haġġa ta' *The Voice of the Maltese*. Hassejtni kburi b'dak li qal fl-artiklu. Hadt pjacir naqrah għax spjega sew s-sitwazzjoni ta' pajjiż li kien maħkum mill-pandemija u hadem sew biex johroġ minnha.

Kemm txaqt li l-politiċi fl-Awstralja li tant għamlu zbalji koroh tkellmu bl-istess ċarezza ta' dan il-ministru Malti responsabbli mis-saħha ta' pajjiżu. Mhux ta' b'xejn li hu magħruf bħala wiehed mill-aqwa Ministri ta' Saħha, u mfahħar minn pajjiżi u mexxejja ta' istituzzjonijiet internazzjonali.

Segwejt x'sar u qed isir f'Malta u iva, nifrah li dan hu Ministru Malti li flimkien mal-awtoritajiet tas-saħha taht il-Professur Gauci mhux biss innexxielhom jakkwistaw kunsinna ta' doġi iktar milli Malta kellha bżonn iżda wkoll mexxew il-proċess b'kalma u effiċjenza li f'it qatt rajna bħala.

Grazzi mill-Maltin li jgħixu barra u li għadhom jifirhu bis-suċċessi li tagħmel Malta tagħna.



## Dr Hugh McDermott MP State Member for Prospect

### For issues concerning:

Ageing and disability - community services - education - environment - health - housing - planning - Police - transport - water

P: (02) 9756 4766

E: [prospect@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:prospect@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

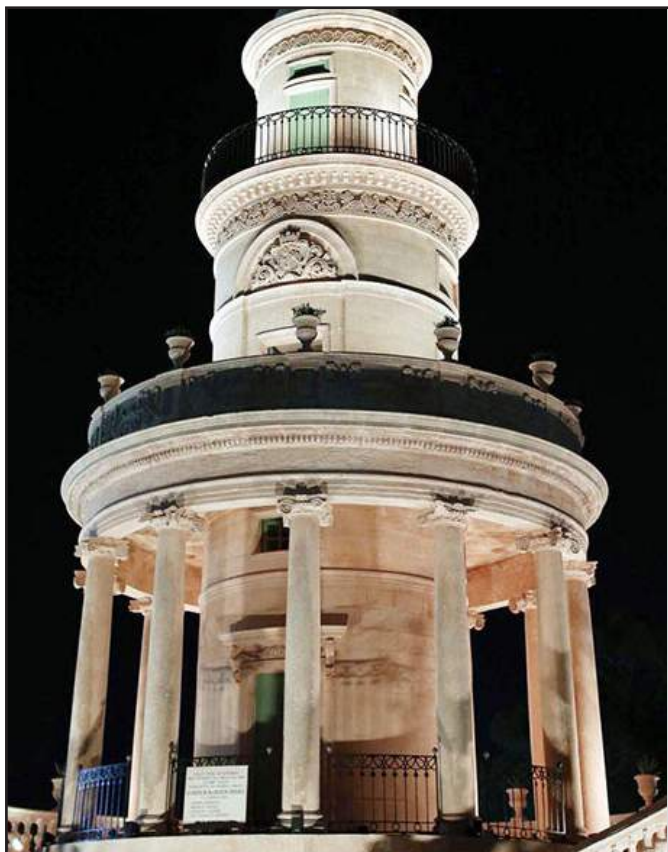
2679 The Horsley Dr, Smithfield NSW 2164



## The changing face of Malta - 6

Continuing our series in which we highlight the various projects, infrastructure and/or otherwise, that are changing the face of the Malta that many of the Maltese currently living abroad, particularly those who emigrated decades ago, don't know much about.

# The iconic Belvedere Tower in Lija



The much loved and architecturally beautiful Lija landmark iconic Belvedere Tower in Lija that was designed in 1857 by the Maltese architect Giuseppe Bonavia has been fully restored to its former glory. The restoration was carried out by the Malta Tourism Authority at an investment of €140,000.

The tower was built in the middle of the orange groves and garden at Villa Gourigon belonging to the the Marquis Depiro and his family that over 100 years ago served as the meeting place for Maltese politicians where they discussed the Bill for the Constitution that gave Malta autonomous leadership.

When the buildings opposite the Lija Parish Church were pulled down in the 1950s to make way for the opening of Transfiguration Avenue the belvedere retained its original position to become a landmark building.

Between 1995 and 1996 the

belvedere was restored by the 'Giro-lamu Cassar School of Masonry and Restoration' with financial aid from the Ministry of Education.

The latest restoration and conservation project intervention earlier this year helped the Belvedere Tower to retain its attractiveness.

Today, this beautiful piece of architecture and a landmark, which is also referred to as '*It-Torri ta' Hal-Lija*' in the village's most beautiful and certainly its most popular road, now forms part of a tourist attraction in a walking tour of Lija, Attard and Balzan, known as 'the three villages'.

The Belvedere Tower that currently serves as a traffic Island in Transfiguration Avenue is in the hands of the Lija Local Council and forms part of the heritage in Lija.

## Nadur access road rebuilt on columns

In Gozo a main access road to Nadur has been rebuilt from scratch with a section lifted on columns to avoid slippage caused by the clay slopes. Triq l-Imġarr connects Nadur with the road network that leads to Mġarr.

The impressive undertaking is the first structure of its kind to be used in Gozo after the road had to be closed off because of severe structural damage that developed over the years.

Parts of the road had to be reconstructed using structural reinforced piles at a depth of 22 metres and raised (*marked below*) on surface columns to make it safe. Before commencing the works, extensive ground tests had to be made to understand the underlying geology.

# The 21-storey tower in Gzira



A 21-storey tower rising to 93.2 metres into the sky, the subject of heated debate by residents was built in Gzira, on the site of the former United Garage close to the former Empire Stadium. It has a very prominent visual impact even from far away.

The tower that was proposed by ADMG Estates was the first high-rise development to be approved under the PA's 2015 high-rise policy.

Initially, the tower was to be a 16-storey building. Subsequently, the developers applied to add eight new storeys. However, the application was later amended to reduce the additional storeys to five.

The Gzira Tower, which is now 21 storeys high, is built on a triangular-shaped plot of land fronting three roads, the Gzira road, Sliema road, and *Triq ir-Rebħa*, which formerly housed the United Garage building.

The tower (left) is also 150 metres away from Gzira parish church.





# 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**



## It-televiżjoni tar-realtà

**B**halissa qed jiġi mxandar serje ġdida ta' *Bachelorette* fuq it-televiżjoni Awstraljana. Dan huwa programm fejn protagonista femminili tipprova ssib l-imhabba, meta diversi parteċipanti jippruvaw jattiraw l-attenzjoni u jiżviluppaw relazzjoni magħha, waqt li joqogħdu flimkien għal perjodu ta' żmien.

Dan il-programm din is-sena fil-fatt, għandu ftit tal-interess mhux tas-soltu, għax il-protagonista għall-ewwel darba hija bissewali, u għalhekk il-parteċipanti huma kemm irġiel kif ukoll nisa.

Fl-episodji li ġejjin, wiehed wiehed (jew waħda waħda), daww il-parteċipanti li l-protagonista tiddeċiedi li ma jgħoddux għaliha jibdeu jintbagħtu d-dar, sakemm fl-aħħar jintgħażel ir-rebbieh (jew tintgħażel ir-rebbieha).

Teżisti wkoll serje simili (*The Bachelor*) fejn il-protagonista jkun raġel.

Dawn il-programmi, u hafna u hafna oħrajn bħalhom madwar id-dinja, jaqgħu f'ġeneru ta' programmi, irreferuti bħala televiżjoni tar-realtà (*reality TV*).

Dawn għandhom il-karatteristika li jkun hemm grupp ta' persunaġġi, ġeneralment imma mhux dejjem li ma jkunux jafu 'l xulxin, li jgħixu flimkien għal perjodu ta' żmien, b'kameras u mikrofonu kważi f'kull rokna tal-post li jkunu qegħdin fih.

L-għan tal-parteċipanti ġeneralment ikun li xi hadd minnhom jirbah xi premju (per eżempju somma flus, jew fil-każ ta' *Bachelorette* jew *The Bachelor* li jsibu sieheb jew siehba).

Ftit ftit il-parteċipanti, jew il-kontestanti, jiġu eliminati, jew b'vot tagħhom infushom, jew b'voti tal-pubbliku jew xi ġudikant.

Il-programm ikun jikkonsisti f'biċċiet mill-hajja ta' kuljum tagħhom, f'dak li jkunu qegħdin jagħmlu, jgħidu, jiddiskutu, jilgħbu, jiġġieldu eċċ eċċ, u ġeneralment ikun ukoll hemm kummentarju, jew mill-produtturi tal-programm inkella mill-parteċipanti nfushom.

L-ewwel darba li kont raġt programm ta' dan it-tip kien *Big Brother*. Oħrajn li xxandru f'diversi pajjiżi madwar id-dinja bl-istess skema ġenerali huma *Survivor* (jgħixu f'xi post imwarrab bħal ġungla jew gżira), *Idol* (ikantaw), *My Kitchen Rules* (isajru) eċċ eċċ.

Dan il-ġeneru huwa interessanti fil-prinċipju, imma nsib hafna oġġezzjonijiet għalih.

L-ewwel haġa hi li s-sitwazzjoni hija manifatturata jew artifiċjali. Mhux normali, jew komuni li tkun imdawwar b'kameras jew mikrofonu (jew tkun qed tilbes wiehed u jkollok kuntratt li jgħid li għal kważi l-ebda raġuni ma tista' tnehhih).

Meta tkun taht dan it-tip ta' sorveljanza kontinwa, aktarx li tagħxi differenti milli tkun fil-privatezza ta' darek, anke jekk ak-



Uħud mill-kontestanti fis-serje tar-realtà *Bachelorette* tal-2020

tarx li anke l-sorveljanza tista' tindara u kważi tintnesa jew tiġi injorata xi ftit.

It-tieni hija li l-produtturi tal-programm hafna drabi jiddrammatizzaw l-andament tal-hajja tal-post, billi jenfasizzaw aspetti u jnaqqsu oħrajn, tant li jagħtu impressjonijiet partikulari ta' dak li jkun ġara, b'mużika, effetti tal-hoss, dwal eċċ.

Ikun hemm min ikun impinġi li jkun simpatiku, u iehor li jkun antipatiku, oħra li hija manipulattiva, iehor dimonju eċċ.

Mhux l-ewwel darba li parteċipanti jistqarru li wara li l-programm ikun spicċa, jsibu li jkunu rabbew fama hażina li tef-tettwalhom hajjithom u anke jkollhom problemi ta' saħħa mentali li ġġielhom jiddispjaċihom li jkunu pparteċipaw.

Imbagħad hemm is-sitwazzjonijiet li jkun kkreati b'xi fini partikolari, parteċipanti li jkunu mdahhla b'xi skop miftiehem bil-moħbi mal-produtturi eċċ.

Hawnhekk qed nitkellmu dwar realtà jew artifiċjalità?

Jien ngħid għaliha, dan il-ġeneru ma jikkonvinċini xejn. Li nara hu li l-programm huma mmirati biex jistimulaw interess bi kwalunkwe mod possibbli, għal skopijiet purament kummerċjali, punt.

Nammetti li veru li kultant tegħlibni l-kurżità meta ninzerta xi programm minn dawn, speċjalment meta l-mara tkun qed tara xi wiehed ambjentat fuq it-tisjir, jew xi wiehed fuq il-kant bħal *The Voice*, imma ġeneralment dawn il-programmi nahrabhom bħall-bard ta' Jannar (ta' Malta!).



**Breakaway Travel**

Blacktown

website: [www.breakawaytravel.com.au](http://www.breakawaytravel.com.au)

**Breakaway Travel 94 corner of Main & Campbell Streets, Blacktown NSW**

..... Will be back soon.....watch this space

**A proud sponsor of  
 The Voice of the  
 Maltese**

**Tel (02) 9622 7799**

**[blacktown@breakaway-travel.com.au](mailto:blacktown@breakaway-travel.com.au)**



I have been an avid reader of *The Voice of the Maltese* for years, that is, since a Maltese friend of mine in Sutton pointed it out to me. I enjoy it as it always makes interesting reading, particularly to somebody like me, who never tires of visiting and

reading about the island and also closely follow its progress and achievements that have made it what in the opinion of many, is perhaps the most successful among the EU member states. This short feature is my contribution to this magazine, and its readers.

# Malta: A tiny island with more than enough history and sights to fill a holiday

Trevor DAVIES

There is enough proof in Malta that the island has been the ultimate Mediterranean destination for more than 7,000 years, when the first Neolithic visitors pitched up here in search of dwarf rhino. Greeks, Phoenicians and Romans followed them, over many millennia. Then came medieval knights and Muslim invaders, and much later – came the British.

Malta obtained Independence from Britain in 1964 and on 31 March 1979 the last British Forces left Malta. That meant that for the first time in a millennium, Malta was no longer a military base of a foreign power, and after 150 years, it was no longer part of the British Empire. However, the long period of imperial rule left its legacy, as witnessed in the left-hand drive road system, just to mention one glaring proof.

After visiting on numerous occasions – I had to skip my frequent visits in the past two summers due to COVID-19 – I regard Malta as the most popular island in the Mediterranean. But as Malta knows its cost, this also has its drawbacks. Her fortified towns and harbours bear the scars of countless brutal invasions.

One of the more fascinating military attractions is the Lascaris War Rooms that houses the ultra-secret underground bunker used by General Eisenhower and his supreme commanders. It was the place where they drew up plans for Operation Husky, the invasion of Sicily.

In fact, the fate of the western world was decided in the Operations Room, still laid out with vintage maps, phones and a complex communications system that allowed Eisenhower to keep in touch with his commanders in the field.

Although the bunker has the feel and smell of the Second World War, the tunnels actually date from an even more violent era in Maltese history. They were originally built by the Knights of St John, who had settled on the island some four centuries earlier.

Their greatest triumph as all Maltese would tell you, came in 1565, when their

Greeks, Phoenicians and Romans followed them, over many millennia. Then came medieval knights and Muslim invaders, and much later – came the British. Ottoman invasion backed by 40,000 crack troops. It was the most unequal showdown in history, one that should have ended in a thumping Turkish victory. But the embattled Maltese knights clung onto their castle, their city and their lives.

Their Valletta fortifications, rebuilt and strengthened in the aftermath of their victory over the Turks, were designed to be impregnable and they worked: for the next 200 years, no one dared make another attempt on this tempting island paradise. I walked around the top of the ramparts – a half-mile tour that starts at the city gate.

Malta is tiny yet there are more than enough sights to fill a holiday. One of the most evocative is Mdina, the earliest surviving citadel, which sits in the geographical centre of the island. It's a fortified town of labyrinthine alleys, leafy squares and the ancestral mansions of the Maltese nobility.

From my experience I venture to suggest anybody visiting the island, to see and enjoy the sights in the daytime but to return in the evening when the tourists have left and the little restaurants are overrun with chattering, gesticulating locals.

In my view, its majestic rival in Valetta,



The St John's Co-Cathedral in Valletta

the St John's Co-Cathedral that was built by the Maltese knights, dwarfs Mdina's parochial-sized cathedral. From the outside it looks plain and austere, but step inside and a miracle unfolds. Every inch is covered in gold, marble, mosaics and glass.

The sumptuous interior was the result of intense rivalry between the different nationalities of Maltese knights. Each had a chapel here and each competed for the most outlandish decoration.

Although successive waves of invaders have left their mark on Malta, it's the original Stone Age immigrants that bequeathed the island its most extraordinary monuments. The Hal Saflieni Hypogeum is a dazzling underground burial complex that predates Stonehenge by as much as a millennium. I learned that this mysterious three-level underworld once housed 7,000 corpses.

At the lowest level is a 'Holy of Holies', a carved burial chamber that contained the very oldest bodies. The nearby prehistoric temples of Mnajdra and Hagar Qim are also at the top of the Maltese hit list and, like Had Saflieni, infinitely more complex than Britain's Stonehenge.

If all these old stones leave one thirsting for more, don't forget to visit Clapham Junction. Its crazy criss-crossing of tracks and paths are a reminder that even Stone Age travellers had to deal with heavy traffic at peak periods.

## Malta donates 130,000 vaccine doses to Rwanda

While it continues to show solidarity with countries in need, the Government of Malta has donated over 130,000 vaccine doses to the Government of Rwanda. It was delivered in a special seven-hours Air Malta direct flight to Kigali, Rwanda coordinated by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs.

In line with the Ministry's Affairs' Strategy for Africa, in recent months, Malta began a campaign of donating tens of thousands of vaccine doses to countries that have been struggling to obtain enough of them. Collectively, this vaccination sharing campaign has involved almost 200,000 vaccine doses, not only to Rwanda, but also to Libya and Egypt. Additional donations expected to be finalised in the coming weeks and months.

Officials from the Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs and the Ministry for Health, working closely with the Civil Protection Department jointly lead the vaccination-sharing effort.



## Roundup of News About Malta



# EU accepts Malta's request to protect citizens from increasing energy prices

The European Union Council in Brussels has accepted the request made on behalf of Malta by Prime Minister Robert Abela (pictured right) to protect citizens from increasing energy prices.

At the end of a two-day meeting in Brussels, during which the current price of energy was the dominant theme, Robert Abela said the Council accepted that the EU's member countries should have the necessary flexibility to protect citizens and

enterprises from the energy prices increases according to their country's needs.

Dr Abela insisted with the other leaders of the 27 EU member states at the meeting, that each member should be given the tools to help them to carry the burden of the international increases in the prices of gas and energy and that care should be taken that the respective citizens would not be affected.

The EU Leaders also discussed the decision of Poland's Constitutional Court that affects the obligations of this country to observe the Rule of Law.

The Prime Minister expressed a sense of satisfaction that although in recent years Malta had faced difficulties in this regard, there was no longer any criticism and in fact Malta is being quoted as a model for reforms to be carried out by other countries.



## Scope Rating Agency retains A+ rating for Malta

The German credit agency, Scope has confirmed Malta's rating at A+ level with stable prospects, stating that as long as the Government continues with the reforms in the money laundering sector, its rating will continue to be sustained through fiscal prudence and the economic growth that the country is expected to register.

Referring to the FATF decision to place Malta on the grey list in June, Scope Ratings indicated that it would have little or no immediate impact on Malta's rating.

A Scope analyst stated that Malta's shortcomings within the framework of the fight against money laundering and financing of terrorism are already assessed in the rating for Malta. He added, however, that the FATF decision can have an impact on Malta's rating in the event this disrupts the economic recovery and the support to strengthen the country's finances.

He further stated that in the event Malta lingers on the grey list, this can reduce the country's attraction to investment, and that the gaming and financial services sectors might suffer if there is a delay in Malta's removal from the grey list.

Malta has made notable progress in strengthening its fight against money laundering and financing of terrorism and dedicated substantial resources in the regulatory, supervisory and investigative agency sectors.

Scope also referred to the decision taken by MONEYVAL that recognised Malta's technical conformity with FATF standards, and said that in recent years it has shown a will and ability to strengthen financial surveillance and regulatory sectors.

However, the positive momentum should be retained to ensure Malta's economic growth, which is expected to reach 3.5% and strengthen its public finances by reducing the country's debt to a pre-pandemic level.

Malta's economy is expected to recover at a fast rate and by 2023 the debt level should be reduced considerably, Scope said.

## FATF: Malta makes progress in its action plan but more work needs to be done

The President of the The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Marcus Pleyer said that Malta has made "good progress"

in implementing an action plan to see it removed from the FATF's grey list that it was placed on in last June. However, it needs to do even more to be removed completely from the grey list.

Addressing a news conference, Pleyer said that since four months ago Malta has made good progress in its action plan, including imposing an increase in the number of penalties against companies that incorrectly register company owners, and passing on more financial intelligence to the Malta Police leading to further steps being taken against people accused of money laundering cases.

He said that the FATF has seen good initial steps from the authorities, encouraging them to address all items in the action plan.



**CHRIS BOWEN MP**  
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR MCMAHON



FEDERAL MEMBER FOR MCMAHON  
Shops 3 & 4, 398 Hamilton Road, Fairfield West NSW  
P (02) 9604 0710 F (02) 9609 3873  
f Chrisbowenmp t @bowenchris  
E chris.bowen.mp@aph.gov.au  
[www.chrisbowen.net](http://www.chrisbowen.net)







## Roundup of News About Malta



Minister Silvio Schembri (third from right) with PressEnter's CEO and employees

# iGaming company chooses Malta as HQ

**P**ressEnter, an iGaming company that has been in Malta for some years, has announced further investment in Malta by choosing the island as its headquarters from among other European countries.

The company, that will have a new six-storey headquarters in the heart of Sliema, has quadrupled its workforce over the past year and said it would continue to increase its workforce to 250, creating 150 new jobs.

The company's expansion plans were announced by Minister for the Economy and Industry Silvio Schembri who said that PressEnter's decision is a clear testament to the trust this industry has in the government's policy.

## Aiming towards cleaner transport

**W**hen it comes to schemes in favour of less polluting vehicles, in Malta, for another year, the measures relating to the purchase of electric vehicles, and in order to achieve cleaner transport the government has increased the financial grant to incentivise the purchase of new electric vehicles or plug-in hybrids by €3,000, from €9,000 to €12,000.

In addition, the financial grant for scrapping polluting vehicles in Gozo is to be increased. The amount will go up to a maximum of €3,000.

## Malta summer time ends on 31st October

**T**his year's summer time in Malta along with the other EU member states, ends at 3 o'clock – local summer time – of the last Sunday of October, that is on 31st October 2021

He said that 25% of the company's current workforce is Maltese, and that in order to further bolster the locals' talent, Malta would be signing an agreement with UNITY so that lecturers can be trained to teach the language in this field.

PressEnter's Chief Executive Lahcene said that, when they were searching for a location to continue with their expansion, their focus fell on several European jurisdictions, however it was immediately decided to expand in Malta.

He said that a key factor is that Malta offers the best sought-after talent in this industry. Coupled to that is the support that this sector requires, including the good relationship between the regulator, the Malta Gaming Authority and Gaming Malta.

Despite Malta's greylisting, he stated that Malta still remains the best choice for several companies within the sector.

Ivan Filletti, CEO of Gaming Malta pointed out how the iGaming sector is continuing to grow, as well as creating and welcoming new opportunities. He said that seeing companies such as PressEnter Group increase their activity and investment, along with highly talented workers, further strengthens Malta's credentials as a Home of Gaming Excellence.

## Evarist Bartolo attends International conference on stability in Libya

**A**ddressing the first ever international conference on stability in Libya, Malta's Foreign and European Affairs Minister Evarist Bartolo said that the international community has to help the Libyans rebuild their home. This was the first such conference held in Libya after the revolution 10 years ago.

Minister Bartolo was among Foreign Ministers from European, Arab and African countries, the US, Russia, Turkey and the UN, and other delegations at the first such conference ever to be held in Libya.

Minister Bartolo stated that despite it being one of the richest countries in the Mediterranean, for close to seven million people, Libya is their demolished home, and two-thirds of them are living below the poverty line. Thousands of homes, schools and hospitals were destroyed, and there is a shortage of electricity and water supplies.

He said that the country has to be rebuilt from scratch, by the Libyans and for the Libyans, but in order to do it, the Libyans have to find ways to live and work together.

Minister Bartolo maintained that reconciliation is needed among Libyans, and that the enemies of yesterday and today have to be tomorrow's partners.

## President receives the Queen's Baton

**I**n anticipation of the XXII Commonwealth Games to be held next year in Birmingham, the UK, President of Malta George Vella was presented with the Queen's Baton (pictured below).

On receiving the baton, the President congratulated the Malta Olympic Committee for making arrangements to receive the baton and commended the various local councils for participating in the relay to take it into the midst of the communities.

He explained that next year's Games are centred around the concept of sustainability both in the running and organisation of the event itself, as well as the basis of a general rule for all stakeholders to observe and abide with.

He thanked the three Ambassadors of the Queen's Baton





# Il-Baġit: ir-reazzjonijiet

**L**-istennija għall-Baġit – li ġie ppreżentat għimagħtejn ilu – ma għadhiex dik li kienet qabel. Għadda dak iż-żmien meta lejliet il-baġit jibda x-xiri tas-sigaretti, xorb u xi ħwejjeġ oħra li s-soltu kienu jispicċaw joghlew fil-pezz minhabba li kienu jiddaħhlu taxxi godda fuqhom.

Fil-fatt f'dawn l-aħħar ftit snin ma rajna l-ebda taxxi miżjuda fid-diskors tal-estimi u allura waqt id-diskors tal-estimi daww li jkollhom paċenzja jagħmlu madwar sagħtejn u nofs jisimġu d-diskors tal-baġit – u llum ferm inqas nies minn qabel qed jagħmlu dan – x'aktarx li jkun jistennew dik il-parti tad-diskors fejn jithabbru xi ziddiet fil-pagi, fis-servizzi soċjali, tnaqqis fit-taxxa tad-dħul eċċ, eċċ.

Kif qal l-Editur tal-*Independent* dan lanqas kien baġit kif kien ikollna żmien ilu meta toqrob l-elezzjoni:

*"For a budget that is the last one to be presented during this legislature, this was certainly not your typical pre-election budget. Not that is a bad thing. For pre-election budgets have become a thing of the past over the past seven or eight years."*

*"Gone are the days when pre-election budgets are something all of us waited for with bated breath, eager to learn how the government would be showering us with countless goodies in hopes of catching our vote."*

Għalkemm xorta dan il-baġit kellu għadd ta' miżuri li żgur se jhallu aktar flus fil-but



**Il-Ministru tal-Finanzi Clyde Caruana waqt il-qari tal-baġit għall-2022**

tal-poplu, għalkemm sintendi mhux kulhadd kuntent b'li se jiehu, u saħansitra jkun hemm minn sintendi jgħid li l-baġit laqta hażin.

Interessanti li fi sħarriġ li għamlet il-gazetta *The Times* kien hemm perċentwal qawwi li sostna li l-baġit ma kellu l-ebda effett fuq – *no impact* – xi haġa li ma tantx wiehed inizzel għax kull estimi b'xi mod jew iehor jagħmel ċertu mpatt fuqna lkoll: jista' jkun impatt qawwi, u jista' ma jkunx daqshekk qawwi. Jista' jkun pożittiv

jew negattiv... imma li ma halla l-ebda mpatt ma tantx inniżzilha.

La semmejna l-impatt, minn dak li qalu daww li jhaddmu u l-unjins, jidher li kien hemm ċertu qbil li l-baġit kien wiehed tajjeb. Dan ma jfissirx li ma kienx hemm xi kritika wkoll fejn dawn l-għaqdiet hassew li l-Gvern ma lahaqx l-aspettattivi tagħhom. L-aktar unjins li kellhom kritika għall-estimi kienu daww tal-għalliema, bl-MUT issostni li n-nuqqas ta' konsultazzjoni wassal biex qed naraw ir-riżultat ta' dan in-nuqqas.

Qalu li minflok baġit li jagħti viżjoni lill-qasam edukattiv, għandna wiehed li qed ikompli jinjora l-isfidi fil-qasam. Għaldaqstant, f'dan il-baġit, bħal haġa oħrajn qablu, wiehed jinnota l-aktar dak li thalla barra aktar milli dak li ntqal.

Skont l-MUT l-baġit halla barra wkoll pjan biex jiġu mirbuha għadd ta' sfidi fl-edukazzjoni. Thalla barra, il-pjan għall-kriżi ta' nuqqas ta' għalliema, li bħalma nafu fl-aħħar ġimghat halliet konsegwenzi fuq għadd ta' edukaturi li rċewew *deployment* fl-aħħar jiem qabel bdiet l-iskola.

Wiehed kien jistenna li għallinqas tiġi rikonoxxuta bħala problema bi pjan għas-snin li ġejjin. Thallew barra wkoll inċentivi biex jiġu attirati żgħażaġħ lejn il-professjoni. Thallew barra miżuri biex l-edukaturi jingħataw l-ghodod biex jahdmu. Thalliet barra viżjoni fit-tul għall-qasam edukattiv li l-pajjiż tant għandu bżonn, qalet l-MUT.

## X'intqal fl-editorjali tal-gazzetti ...

**L**-Editorjali tal-ġurnali li ma għandhomx l-rabta fil-qrib mal-partiti politiċi, kienu aktarx pożittivi, bl-*Independent*, speċi tmur kontra dak imbassar, billi tgħid li dan ma kienx eżattament baġit ta' qabel l-elezzjoni:

*Not exactly a pre-election budget, but that's not a bad thing ....*



L-Editur sostna li kien baġit rijalistiku fejn, minkejja d-daqqa li l-COVID-19 tat lill-ekonomija Maltija, xorta thabbru ċerti miżuri li filwaqt li se jiswew flus kbar xorta l-Gvern qagħad attent li ma jonfoqx aktar milli jiflah.

Minkejja tnaqqis fid-dħul minhabba l-COVID-19 il-Gvern xorta rnexxielu jsalva eluf ta' mpjieggi mingħajr ma dahhal taxxi godda. Min-naħa l-oħra l-Gvern se jiehu miżuri li se jgħinu lill-familji fil-bżonn u l-pensjonanti.

L-editur kiteb li l-proposti dwar l-ambjent,

fosthom il-bini ta' Buskett fin-naħa t'isfel ta' Malta, se jintlaqqu tajjeb.

Huwa ttamat li bil-miżuri li ħabbar il-Gvern, fosthom li t-trasport pubbliku jkun b'xejn u l-possibiltà li ssir metro, tiġi solvuta l-problema tat-traffiku.

U bħal ma għamlu l-Unjins, dan l-editorjali ma naqasx li jagħmel ċerta kritika meta temm l-artiklu tiegħu hekk:

*"But we must be wary when it comes to environmental proposals. Every budget announced over the past eight years included some very interesting proposals on the environment, but the situation on the ground has not improved. To the contrary, it has worsened."*

*"So, only time will tell whether these new environmental proposals will lead to tangible positive change."*

Min-naħa tiegħu, taħt it-titlu: Solid growth based on tax collection programme, l-Editur tal-Maltatoday, qal li filwaqt li l-Prim Ministru harab milli jgħid jekk dan kien baġit ta' qabel l-elezzjoni, dan kien wiehed

**maltatoday**

kuraġġjuż, billi huwa pjan li jahseb għal:

*"A stronger social safety net, reduced tax burdens for those who chose to work more, including pensioners, greater incentives for electric car purchases and property buys in urban conservation areas, and a sustained public spending programme that seems to be underpinned by a more consistent tax collection effort."*

Għalkemm hemm min isostni li l-Gvern mhux bilfors jilhaq il-pjan tiegħu li jiġbor s-somma li qed jippjana mit-taxxa tad-dħul u l-VAT, żgur li l-miżuri li qed jithabbru se jgħinu biex kemm jista' jkun ma jkunx hemm daqshekk nies u kumpaniji li jevadu dawn it-taxxi, kif ukoll li tal-inqas jidhlu haġna mill-miljuni kbar ta' taxxi li qatt ma thallsu, u li issa jingabru.

*\*Ikompili fil-paġna li jmiss.*



# Mix-xena tal-ħajja Maltija

minn Ġużè Camilleri



Il-Prim Ministru Robert Abela



Il-Kap tal-Oppożizzjoni Bernard Grech

## Iż-żewġ mexxejja tal-partiti politiċi jgħidu tagħhom

**I**l-Kap tal-Oppożizzjoni, Dr Bernard Grech, sostna li l-Gvern wiegħed hafna u ta f'tit filwaqt li qed idejjen lil Malta.

Skont Grech, id-dejn li għandu pajjiżna mhux tort il-pandemija, iżda frott il-korruzzjoni, in-nuqqas ta' direzzjoni, il-hala u affarijiet oħrajn.

Huwa sostna li fil-baġit, il-Gvern nesa għadd ta' haddiema bħat-tobba, l-edukaturi, il-pulizija u l-bdiewa flimkien mar-

Sostna li li dan huwa l-aktar baġit b'miżuri soċjali fl-istorja ta' pajjiżna, u jemmnen bis-shih li dan huwa riżultat ta' hidma kongunta bejn il-poplu u l-Gvern, għal għan komuni, li rridu Malta aħjar għal uliedna.

Huwa zied jgħid li wara dawn l-aħħar xhur, il-pandemija affetwat lil pajjiżna minn kull lat, inkluż prezz oghla tad-dawl, ta' fjuwils u zieda fit-taxxi, imma dawn ma ġewx mghoddija lill-poplu.

"Fl-aħħar ġimgħat rajna li aħna nkomplu naħdmu bil-galbu biex niproteġu lin-nies tagħna minn dawn il-piżijiet u llum ressaqna pjan li hu mibni fuq sostenn u fiduċja li johloq investment," sostna

Huwa sahaq dwar l-importanza li jisma' mill-poplu u l-htiġijiet tal-għejjer Maltin u kien għal-hekk li l-Gvern introduċa t-trasport pubbliku b'xejn għal kull persuna, ta' kull età, filwaqt li saru aktar incitenti u għajjuna finanzjarja biex, fost l-oħrajn, il-poplu jithajjar jixtri aktar vetturi elettrici li ma jħammgux l-arja.

Fil-fatt, il-Gvern wiegħed lil kull min irid jixtri vettura li taħdem bl-elettriku €3000 oħra b'zied mad-€9,000 li diġà kien qed jagħti, biex hekk għotja telgħet għal €12,000, kważi daqs nofs kemm tiswa vettura li taħdem bl-elettriku.

### L-editorjali/minn paġna 14

Filwaqt li l-Gvern qed idahħal miżuri soċjali u oħrajn li se jittgħu aktar flus f'but il-poplu, iżda ma ziedx il-paga minima. Biex jgħin lil dawk il-haddiema li għandhom paga baxxa u jbatu biex ilaħħqu mal-ħajja.

Dan l-edittur irrefera għal dak li qal il-mexxej tal-Oppożizzjoni wara li nqara l-baġit, fosthom il-kritika li għamel meta sostna li bil-miżuri li habbar il-Gvern kien se ikabbar id-dejn ta' Malta, li jlaħhaq il-€5 biljun fit-tliet snin li ġejjin, bl-Editor jgħamel ċerti mistoqsijiet:

*"Where is the problem in this? Would Bernard Grech as prime minister during a world crisis such as the COVID-19 pandemic refuse to increase public debt to finance the economic bounce-back? If the Opposition need to show itself credible even during such a pre-electoral budget, it should pick on the Budget's real shortcomings."*

### TIMES MALTA

L-Editor ta' *The Times* ha spunt mill-COVID-19 u semma' l-editorjal tiegħu: *The right economic vaccine?*

Qal li dan il-baġit sar fi sfond ta' ekonomija mnezza' mill-pandemija u l-greylisting, iżda l-baġit ipprezentat fih miżuri biex jerga' jpoġgi l-ekonomija fuq sisien sodi. L-Editor qal li dan il-baġit qed jagħmel tentattiv biex l-emfasi ma tkunx fuq bini ġdid, imma li jsir użu minn bini mitluq.

Tajjeb ukoll li se jittiehdu passi biex jingabru dawk il-miljuni f'taxxi li qatt ma thallsu. Filwaqt li fahhar il-miżuri soċjali, fakkar fl-isfidi kbar li għandha Malta fosthom il-greylisting, l-introduzzjoni tal-global corporate tax eċċ.

Filwaqt li l-miżuri mhabbra mill-Gvern jistgħu iżommu l-moral tal-poplu għoli, wiegħed ma jistax jaqta' għal kollox il-possibiltà li fil-futur ikollhom isiru taxxi biex jithallas l-infieq li qed jiġi proġettat.

*"The tactics announced in the wow budget are the right ones. But fiscal rectitude, even if measured by new metrics will soon have to return. What we spend today has to be repaid tomorrow,"* itemm l-Editorjal.

rahhala u s-sajjieda. Ikkritika ż-żieda "miżera" tal-gholi tal-ħajja, biex issa "biex tlaħhaq mal-ħajja, il-Labour qed jgħidlek mur sib xogħol iehor."

Grech fahhar ċerti miżuri, fosthom l-ghoti tal-medicini lil dawk il-persuni li jagħmlu l-IVF, iżda qal li dawn kienu "miżuri li l-PN ilu jinsisti dwarhom u li meta hu tkellem fuqhom, dawn ġew ikkritikati min-naħa tal-Gvern".

Mistoqsi minn ġurnalista tal-*MaltaToday* dwar jekk Gvern Nazzjonalista kienx jissellef flus biex ikopri għall-infieq kawża tal-pandemija, Grech wiegħed li "bħala Gvern għaqli, Gvern Nazzjonalista kien jissellef imma kien jahseb kif kontinwament jista' johloq il-ġdid."

Temm jgħid li s-self li se jkollu jagħmel il-Gvern f'dawn l-erba' snin li ġejjin huma riżultat ta' "Gvern b'nuqqas ta' viżjoni li ma holoq l-ebda industrija ġdida hlief li biegh il-passaport Malti."

Fir-replika tiegħu i-Prim Ministru, Dr Robert Abela qal li "Dan il-baġit jirrifletti l-prijoritajiet ta' dan il-Gvern u tan-nies."

## Tgħid ikollna xi sorpriża?

**S**tharriġ wara l-iehor dwar is-sitwazzjoni politika hekk kif qed toqrob l-elezzjoni, qed juri li l-Partit Laburista jinsab fuq quddiem, sewwa bl-aħħar riżultat tal-istharriġ tal-*MaltaToday* juri li kieku kellha ssir elezzjoni bħalissa, hemm ċans kbir li l-Partit Laburista jkollu maġġoranza ta' 50,000 vot fuq il-Partit Nazzjonalista.

Iżda dawn ir-riżultati jidher li mhux qed jaqtgħu qalb il-kap tal-Partit Nazzjonalista, Dr Bernard Grech, li meta ffaċċjat b'dawn ir-riżultati qal li kienu avvicinawh persuni li qalulu li 'jgħidu x'jgħidu s-servje għamel kuragg għax hemm persuni Laburisti li mhumieq se jivvutaw fl-elezzjoni ġenerali li jmiss'.

Qal li hemm maġġoranza silenjuża li dakinhar tal-elezzjoni se tagħti risposta u allura qal lill-partitarji jagħmlu kuragg.

Zied jgħid: "Veru li s-servjejs juruna li m'ahnieq nimxu 'l quddiem, iżda hemm 80,000 ruh li mhumieq jittkellmu imma se jittkellmu dakinhar tal-elezzjoni".

Grech kien qed jirreferi għall-fatt li fl-aħħar stharriġ li semmejna, kien hemm aktar minn 40,000 elettur li ma tawx il-fehma tagħhom u 40,000 oħra qalu li ma kienux se jivvutaw, allura jidher li Grech huwa fiduċjuż li jistgħu jiġu konvinti biex jivvutaw għall-partit tiegħu.

### Il-kirxa u l-mazzit

**P**ermezz ta' investment f'impjant ġdid fil-biċċerija pubblika fil-Marsa se jkun jistgħu jerggħu johorgu fis-suq lokali prodotti tradizzjonali Maltin, fosthom il-kirxa u l-mazzit li għalkemm kienu popolari, hafna donnhom li nsewhom



A quick glimpse at Australia

## Aussies say “NO” to more migrants

**T**he Australian Population Research Institute reveals while the Morrison government, businesses, and employers are demanding a lift to immigration levels back to around 240,000 per year, only 19 per cent of voters agree.

The rest of those surveyed said they would like to see less immigration, including 28 per cent who wanted to see no net migration at all – with the level of those leaving and arriving balancing each other.

The report found that the attitudes towards immigration had hardened over the course of the covid-19 pandemic, with a massive shrinkage number of voters who want our nation to return to the 240,000 arrivals per year occurring before the pandemic.

Among the surveyed, 61%, think that Australia should train up workers locally rather than import more skilled migrants. A similar number of voters should focus on local students rather than continue being so dependent on those from overseas.

Immigration has not been an election issue in Australia since 1990 because Labor has adopted a bipartisan position of support for Big Australia policy, however, this may not be the case in the run-up to the 2022 federal election.



## The SIEVX tragedy - was there a coverup?

**A** memorial in Canberra stands in the shadows of federal Parliament for 353 mainly Afghans and Iraqis who died on a fishing boat known only as SIEV X. They drowned 20 years ago after leaving Indonesia in the first major - and worst - asylum seeker boat tragedy on record of those trying to reach Australia.

The incident, on 19 October 2001, remains subject to claims of a coverup by the Australian Government and the exact circumstances around its sinking remain unknown. 'SIEV' stood for 'suspected illegal entry vessel', and it was given the 'X' designation because unlike other boats that were given a number as they were intercepted and returned by Australia, this ill-fated one, and its 421 passengers, was not.

The tragedy happened as John Howard's Government hardened its stance on asylum seekers ahead of the federal election and came just weeks after the Tampa affair and the "children overboard" claims. Mr. Howard claimed the SIEV X sank in Indonesian waters, and so was Indonesia's responsibility.

But whistleblower and former Australian ambassador Tony Kevin gave evidence to the Senate inquiry suggesting it sank in international waters. "It sunk in the Indian Ocean, in the Australian maritime surveillance zone, and in a zone where Australian ships could have very readily and easily gone to the rescue," he said ahead of the 20th anniversary.

Mr Kevin said what happened was a "coverup". "Absolutely, there was a coverup, a coverup of the Australian involvement in the people smuggling disruption programme in Indonesia."

Following the Tampa affair, the Howard government hardened its policy on asylum seekers by introducing boat turnbacks. SIEV X then sank a week before Mr. Howard delivered his famous line: "We will decide who comes to this country and the circumstances in which they come".

## Call for post-pandemic overhaul of the migration system

**L**abor Party Home Affairs spokesperson Senator Kristine Keneally (pictured right) has weighed in to Australia's post-COVID-19 migration debate, questioning the federal Government's progress that could take Australia's migration programme in the "wrong direction".

She did push for a renewed focus on permanent settlement, quoting former Prime Minister John Howard: "you either invite someone to come here permanently, or you don't invite them at all." The Federal Government's advisory body on infrastructure has also indicated a migration boost is needed to address skilled labour

shortfalls.

Infrastructure Australia recently released a report finding that more migration will be needed to fill the forecast shortfall of 105,000 jobs. The Labor senator raised concerns that temporary migration had risen to a "historic high" under the Morrison government and "made it harder for people to settle permanently or become citizens". She said it has taken Australia's migration program in the "wrong direction".





## A quick glimpse at Australia



The Hon. Alex Hawke MP

## A message from the Immigration Minister

**T**he Hon Alex Hawke, the member for Mitchell, thanked the Prime Minister for appointing him to Cabinet as Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs.

Hon Hawke told the Voice of the Maltese that coming from Western Sydney and a migrant family, he understands how important a well-managed migration programme is for our society and for our economic prosperity.

Under the Morrison Government, Australia continues to successfully integrate people from so many different cultures

and backgrounds into our values and way of life. It is a privilege to be part of that great tradition.

The Hon Hawke also thanked every person who makes this possible for him, his loving family, and the many people that he seeks advice from every day. To his community, it is a moment of quiet pride for him to be able to be the first Cabinet Minister to represent the Federal electorate of Mitchell since its inception in 1949.

He said, "Thank you for your immense support in continuing to represent you and our beautiful country in our Parliament."

## Pushback on euthanasia

**C**atholic Health Australia said federal Attorney-General Michaelia Cash's decision demonstrated a common-sense approach to a very sensitive issue.

In her correspondence to the Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory, Senator Cash is reported to have said that quality palliative care is the preferred option for people with a terminal illness who are seeking relief from pain and suffering.

CHA's director of strategy and mission Rebecca Burdick Davies said the Commonwealth's view aligns with that of the Catholic health and aged care services sector.

"We welcome the Attorney-General's advice that the Government will not roll back laws protecting the vulnerable in the ACT and the Northern Territory," Ms Burdick Davies said. "We will always back the compassionate alternative, and our members will continue to offer compassionate care to everyone in the final stages of their life."

Meanwhile, a vote on euthanasia laws in New South Wales has been unexpectedly delayed until next year, with the bill being referred to an upper house committee.

The proposed legislation is still expected to be debated in the lower house this year. If it passes, the bill will then be examined by the upper house's Committee on Law and Justice, which will report back by the first sitting day of 2022.



Rebecca Burdick Davies

Both Premier Dominic Perrottet and Labor leader Chris Minns have indicated they will vote against the bill but will allow a conscience vote among party members.



## 11/11: We remember

**R**emembrance Day marks the anniversary of guns falling silent on the Western Front in the First World War: the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month (November 11).

The Australian nation stands in silent reflection for one minute each year to commemorate and honour the more than 102,000 Australians who have suffered and died in wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping operations. It is important that their service and sacrifice is never forgotten.



**Michelle Rowland MP**

Shadow Minister for Communications  
Federal Member for Greenway



### Please Note

If interested in advertising in *The Voice of the Maltese* magazine in order to reach the widest audience possible, particularly among the Maltese diaspora, write for details to: [Maltesevoice@gmail.com](mailto:Maltesevoice@gmail.com)

Level 1, Suite 101C, 130 Main Street, Blacktown

PO Box 8525, Blacktown NSW 2148

(02) 9671 4780

[Michelle.Rowland.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Michelle.Rowland.MP@aph.gov.au)

[MRowlandMP](https://www.facebook.com/MRowlandMP)

[www.michellerowland.com.au](http://www.michellerowland.com.au)

# Tagħrif dwar il-kitba bil-Malti



## Il-varjanti tal-ortografija Maltija (Is-sitt parti)

**I**nkomplu ngibu għall-attenzjoni tal-qarrejja d-deċiżjonijiet tal-Kunsill Nazzjonali tal-Ilsien Malti dwar forom li għandhom jintużaw fil-kitba bil-Malti halli jkun hemm uniformità.

### Il-prefissi

**Il-prefiss jinkiteb mal-kelma bħala haġa waħda, jiġifieri minghajr l-ebda žieda bejniethom (hlief fil-każijiet imsemmija).**

**EŻEMPJU:** awtosuġġestjoni, indipendenti, kofinanzjat, poliklinika, semifi-nali, sottokumitat

**Nota 1:** Dan jghodd ukoll meta l-prefiss ikun jispiċċa b'vokali u l-kelma tkun tibda b'vokali wkoll.

**EŻEMPJU:** antieroj, awtoanalizi, gastrointestinali, kontrożami, psewdointellettuali, semiawtomatiku.

**Nota 2:** Meta l-prefiss ikun jispiċċa b'vokali u l-kelma tkun tibda bl-istess vokali, hemm tendenza li fil-pronunzja waħda mill-vokali tinxtorob. F'dawn il-każi tista' tinkiteb jew vokali doppja jew singla.

**EŻEMPJU:** antiinflammatorju jew antinflammatorju, kooperattiva jew koperattiva, koordinatur jew kordinatur

**Meta l-prefiss jiġi qabel kelma li tibda b'ittra kapitali, bejniethom jidhol sing.**

**EŻEMPJU:** anti-Taljan, pro-Ingliz, pan-Afrikan, inter-Mediterranju

**Meta quddiem kelma bi prefiss jiddied prefiss iehor, dan jinkiteb magħqud magħhom bl-istess mod.**

**EŻEMPJU:** bużbużnannu, arċiimmatur, postpost-Modernizmu

**Hemm xi elementi jixbhu l-prefissi li**

**joqogħdu quddiem il-kelma imma bi drawwa ma jingħaqdux magħha.**

**Dawn huma:** *agent, assistant, deputat, gran, kap, viċi u magħhom:* *prim, sekond, terz (fil-fem. prima, sekonda, terza, jew imqassarin prim', sekond', terz').*

**EŻEMPJU:** assistent kummissarju, deputat kap, Gran Mastru, Kap Kmandant, prim'awla,

Prim Ministru, sekond kuġin, terza persuna, terz'ordni, viċi sindku

**Nota 1:** Kull prefiss li jista' jiġi quddiem dawn jibqa' mifrud minnhom.

**Nota 2:** Xi espressjonijiet b'dawn l-elementi ilhom stabbiliti miktubin kelma waħda u jibqgħu jinkitbu hekk.

**EŻEMPJU:** primadonna, grankè, viċirè

**\*Fli jmiss inkomplu dwar il-PREFISSI u nittrattaw dwar il-prepożizzjonijiet.**



Il-korpusant ta' San Valentinu fil-knisja parrokkjal ta' Hal Balzan

## X'inhu l-Korpusant?

**I**l-kelma korpusant (jew korpsant) qegħda għal ġisem (korp) ta' qaddis u fil-fatt huma r-relikwit jew ahjar il-fdalijiet tal-ġisem tal-qaddis li jkun xi knejjes normalment ikollhom fil-knisja għall-qima tal-fidili f'xi kappella jew artal laterali.

F'tagħrif miġjub f'ilmiklem.com jissemma bħala eżempju l-korpsant ta' Santa Ewfemja li l-Ordni ta' San Ġwann ġab miegħu lejn Malta minn Rodi. Jissemma wkoll li lejn nofs is-seklu sbatax il-Katidral tal-Imdina kien akkwista żewġ korpsanti, ta' Santa Fawstina u ta' Santa Agata.

Mhux biss, imma fis-seklu tmintax bosta knejjes raw kif għamlu u ġabu Malta, l-korpsanti ta' qaddisin oħrajn l-aktar mill-Italja. Xi wħud minnhom kienu jkunu fdalijiet ta' xi skelettri li jkunu nstabu f'xi katakombi, x'aktarx f'Ruma. Hafna kienu malajr jemmnu li dan l-ghadam kien ta' xi qaddis li miet matri waqt il-persekuzzjoni Rumana.

Fl-istess tagħrif jingħad ukoll li b'kollox fil-gżejjer Maltin hawn xi 32 korpsant li f'it minnhom huma popolari. L-oħrajn huma kważi anonimi. Fost il-korpsanti l-aktar meqjuma hemm dak ta' Santa Liberata fil-knisja tal-Kapuċċini fil-Kalkara li minkejja li patrijiet kienu ddedikawha lil Santa Barbara l-knisja hi magħrufa

għal din il-qaddisa.

Korpsant iehor magħruf hu dak ta' San Valentinu fuq l-artal ta' San Mikiel fil-knisja parrokkjali ta' Hal Balzan. Kull sena f'dan ir-raħal issir il-festa tiegħu meqjusa bħala festa sekondarja. Sa f'tit tas-snin ilu kienet saħansita issir b'pompa kbira, bil-marċi u anke bil-logħob tan-nar.

F'Hal Balzan hemm anke triq ewlenija msemmija għal dan il-qaddis li jiġi wkoll imfakkar fil-festa tal-maħbubin fl-4 ta' Frar. Anzi hafna jstosnu li dan ir-raħal f'it li xejn japprofitta ruħu minn din il-festa tal-maħbubin u joqgħod lura milli jikkummerċjalizzaha Fl-istess raħal għadek issib hafna rġiel imsemmiha għal dan il-qaddis.

L-aktar korpsant reċenti hu tal-uniku qaddis Malti, San Ġorġ Preca, meqjum miżmum fil-kappella tal-Madonna Mirakoluża, fil-knisja tas-Socjetà tad-Duttrina Nisranija (MUSEUM), fil-Blata l-Bajda.



## Maltese Funerals

In conjunction with Hills Family Funerals.



**Richard Spiteri**  
0407 202 167  
(02) 9659 0900

**Castle Hill  
Seven Hills  
Windsor and  
all suburbs**

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

—

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



# Imfakkar il-Poeta Nazzjonali f'jum il-150 sena minn twelidu



Mill-Gżira  
Għawdxija

Charles Spiteri



**F**l-okkażjoni tal-150 sena mit-twelid tal-Poeta Nazzjonali, Dun Karm, il-Kumitat Ċelebrazzjonijiet Nazzjonali u Reġjonali fi hdan il-Ministeru għal Għawdex, b'kollaborazzjoni mas-Sixth Form tal-iskola Sir Michelangelo Refalo organizzaw lejla ta' tifikira fil-Knisja Katidrali tar-Rabat, Għawdex.

Joe Camilleri (*xellug*), awtur ta' gabriet ta' novelli bil-Malti, introduċa il-programm b'diskors mir-qum u interessanti dwar il-hajja u l-produzzjoni letterarja u poetika ta' Dun Karm, filwaqt li l-istudenti tas-Sixth Form qraw il-poeżiji patrijottiċi *Għaliex: Jedd l-ilsien Malti, L-Għanja tar-Rebha, u l-Innu Malti*.

Poeżiji oħra tal-Poeta ġew ipprezentati bħala kanzunetta, b'kant mill-istudenti, akkumpanjati fuq il-pjanu minn Amy Rapa b'arrangament miżikali ta' Maria Mifsud.

F'diskors għall-okkażjoni ċ-chairperson tal-Kumitat Festi Nazzjonali u Reġjonali, l-ET Mons Dr Joe Vella Gauci, poġġa l-valuri li Dun Karm jersponi fil-poeżija tiegħu f'konfront mal-valuri tal-Maltin illum.

Il-Ministru għal Għawdex, Clint Camilleri kellu kliem ta' tifhir għall-organizzazzjoni ta' din il-lejla u wera ir-rieda tal-Ministeru tiegħu biex jinkoragġixxi l-kultura Maltija u Għawdxija. Il-lejla kulturali ntemmet bil-kant tal-Innu Malti.

# Kunċert sagra korali fix-Xagħra

**I**l-kor Gaulitanus, l-organizzatur ta' Gaulitana: *A Festival of Music*, tella' l-kunċert fil-Bazilika tax-Xagħra intitolat *Songs of Praise* b'repertorju li kien jikkonsisti f'għadd ta' xogħlijiet sagri bl-Ingliż.

Is-siltiet varjaw minn klassici Brittanici bħal *Abide with me* u *The Holy City* ta' William H. Monk u Stephen Adams rispettivament għal siltiet Amerikani aktar kontemporanji u popolari bħal *Be Not Afraid* u *On Eagle's Wings* ta' Bob Dufford u Michael Joncas rispettivament.

Ix-xogħlijiet kollha kellhom arrangamenti specifikkament għall-Kor Gaulitanus matul is-snin, l-aktar mis-surmast direttur



u fundatur tal-kor, Colin Attard, li wkoll idderieġa il-kunċert. Il-kor u s-solisti kienu akkumpanjati minn Stephen Attard u mill-

vjolinista Pierre Louis Attard.

Il-kunċert ittella' bil-kollaborazzjoni tal-Kunsill Lokali u tal-Catenians Association.

# It-12-il edizzjoni tas-Symphony of Lights

**B**hal f'kull sena, fl-24 sena mit-twaqqif tagħha fid-19 ta' Ottubru l-banda San Gorgor ta' Kerċem kienet protagonista fil-kunċert *Symphony of Lights* fil-pjazza ta' Santa Luċija taht id-direzzjoni ta' Mro Mark Gauci. L-ispettaklu kien organizzat mill-Kunsill Lokali bil-ghajnuna tal-Ministeru għal Għawdex.

Il-Banda wriet il-hiliet versatili tagħha meta nterpretat b'mod eċċellenti siltiet ta' ġeneri differenti, minn films, musicals, valzi, pop, eċċ, u l-

innu tal-komunità ta' Sta Luċija.

Uhud mis-siltiet kienu wkoll akkumpanjati minn kantanti bħal Joline Samhan, Christabelle Formosa, Emma Micallef, Josephine Marie Grima u Anna Bonello. Tfaġliet minn *Dance Narratives* urew ukoll hilit-hom b'zifniet klassiċi.

L-udjenza wriet li apprezzat ta' dak li ġie offrut, u fit-tmiem. Il-lejla ntemmet bi spetaklu ta' loġhob tan-Nar mill-Għaqda 13 ta' Diċembru. tal-komunità ta' Santa Luċija

Waqt il-kunċert mill-banda San Gorgor fil-pjazza ta' Santa Luċija





# Helping the Maltese to cherish their links with the Maltese islands



**T**he Maltese in New York, the US, have a very active social club, the Maltese Centre. It was established in 1979, while its building in Astoria was officially opened 39 years ago (October 16, 1982) by then Maltese Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dr Alex Sciberras Trigona.

The mission of the Centre, which is regarded as one of the most active in the Northeast of the United States is three-fold, that is, to preserve the Maltese language and culture through organised events with traditional themes; maintain a space where the Maltese Community can gather, and help and promote Maltese culture through its various activities.

Since its foundation, the Centre helps the Maltese community that still cherishes its links with the Maltese islands to keep its presence alive especially with celebrations that are characterised by Maltese culture.

The most recent occasion was to encourage the Maltese community in particular, to watch the award-winning Maltese film, *Luzzu*, currently showing in New York (October 15-28) that earned its lead actor Jesmark Scicluna the Sundance Jury Prize.

One of the first to watch the film was the Maltese Centre's secretary, Ms Carmen Debono, she took to the Centre's newsletter to explain how she felt after watching Jesmark struggle to hold onto his beloved Luzzu that defines who he is, his life past and present that made him realise that he must make a transition.

She said she realised how important it is to hold onto the Maltese Center. She emotionally adds the following comments.

We all have had to make transitions as you, your parents or grandparents who left the "old" country for the "new" country. Arriving or being a child growing up as a 1st or 2nd generation was the beginning of that struggle.

What do we hold onto? What do we let go of to move on and

grow? My answer is I can hold onto both. So what makes me Maltese? I was born in New York and I don't speak Maltese and had a last name I couldn't pronounce until the 1st grade.

The outside world was New York and at home it was Malta. What did my parents hold onto that made home Maltese? They held onto everything in their quiet way. It was always around me without me even knowing it, becoming the fabric of me, defining me. They continued speaking Maltese, practicing their faith, keeping close ties with family and friends, and home-cooked meals (like no other friend would have in their home)!

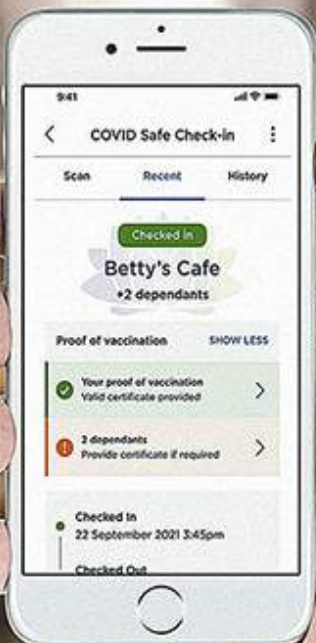
My parents did let go of going back home to Malta so my brother and I would not struggle. Jesmark too has to find a way to provide for his newborn son so his child will flourish and not face hardships. So what does this all have to do with the Maltese Center and holding to both past and present.

There is a scene in the movie where the local fishermen gather around Jesmark's Luzzu that is ashore for repair and one of the fishermen tells a story to Jesmark. (Yes, a group of men around a Luzzu chattering is very Maltese.) It captures an essence of community that warmed my heart.

An old way of gathering, in person and not on cellphones. This is what the Maltese Center means to me. A gathering place for keeping traditions even if it is just the simple routine of having a tea or coffee with a pastizzi and listening to the chatter of Maltese - to me this is Maltese tradition - to me it is Maltese culture - a microcosm of daily Maltese life encapsulated inside the Maltese Center.

It can hold onto "old" and still be "new". Things change over the years but somehow there is something timeless, familiar, and heart-warming with that simple routine and it feels right. I never want to see it go.

COVID-19



## Easy proof of vaccination and check in

Add your COVID-19 digital certificate to the Service NSW app to quickly check in and show proof of your COVID-19 vaccination wherever it's required.

### Step 1

1. Create a MyServiceNSW Account if you don't already have one.
2. Make sure you have the latest version of the Service NSW app on your device. You can download or update it via the App store or Play store.

### Step 2

Sign in to your myGov account using a browser on your device.

1. Select **Medicare**
2. Select **View proof** in Proof of vaccinations
3. Select **View history**, then select your **name**
4. Select **Share with check in app**
5. Select **Service NSW**

### Step 3

Log in to the Service NSW app on your device and follow the prompts to add your COVID-19 digital certificate to your profile.

Select **Show more** to show you have a valid certificate when you check in.

You can also add your COVID-19 digital certificate to the Service NSW app using the **Express Plus Medicare app**.

If you can't access your certificate online, have your doctor print your immunisation history statement for you or call the Australian Immunisation Register on 1800 653 809 to have it mailed to you. If you need an interpreter, please call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National) on 131 450. For more information about this and other digital and printed options to show proof of vaccination visit [nsw.gov.au/covidvaccineproof](https://nsw.gov.au/covidvaccineproof)

**> HELP NSW STAY COVID SAFE**

For more information visit [nsw.gov.au](https://nsw.gov.au)







# President highlights potential of restoring historical link between Malta and the Order of St John

**P**resident of Malta George Vella said that the Sovereign Order of Malta and the Republic of Malta have still got huge potential to restore the historical link between them and, once again, work together to revive and keep alive the presence of the Order in Malta.

He said this at the opening of the symposium in the Presidency Culture Symposia Series, that was held under the theme 'Malta and the Sovereign Order of Malta: Historical Relations, Future Histories', took place in hybrid format at Sant'Anton Palace and via a video conferencing service. It was also broadcast live on the President of Malta's official Facebook page.

The Sovereign Order of Malta was the focus of a number of papers and interviews, discussions, and conversations seeking to explore the political, cultural, and institutional relationship between Malta and the Order of Malta.

Special focus was directed on the history of diplomatic relations and the history of the Order following its departure from Malta in 1798, the artistic and cultural patrimony of the Order of Malta today, as well as the function, role, and purpose of the Order of Malta.

The Presidency Culture Symposia Series is aimed at spearheading conversations around cultural diplomacy and has also contributed to the fostering of better inter-State relations at the highest Office of the State.

President George Vella recalled that, during its rule in Malta, the Order of St John gave the country its fortress identity with the ever-increasing construction of fortification lines that not only kept enemy and foe at bay but also securely held the cultural heritage treasures that were then, and still are today, the pride and joy of these islands.

He said that the Order also took Malta into the mainstream cultural and artistic developments that were taking place in mainland Europe. The Order of St John bequeathed much of Malta's architectural, cultural and artistic heritage to the country.

"The bonding of the Order with Malta did indeed lead to Malta

giving its very name to the Hospitaller Order of St John of Jerusalem to become the Order of Malta. It is this legacy, he said, that binds Nation and Order together in the strongest of relations for posterity, the President said.

Explaining that the symposium was a moment of reflection, he added that the history of the Order of St John has its fundamental relevance and significance that continues to be underpinned, valued, and celebrated till his very day.

The symposium was opened with a welcome message by Augusto Ruffo di Calabria, the Ambassador of the Sovereign Order of Malta to the Republic of Malta and by Sandro Debono, adviser to the President on Cultural Affairs. Another speaker was George Buttigieg, Ambassador of Malta to the Sovereign Order of Malta.

Among the special guests were Douglas Graf Saurma-Jeltsch, a member of the executive board of Malteser Hilfsdienst in Germany and former ambassador of the Sovereign Order of Malta in Lithuania, as well as Dominique Prince de La Rochefoucauld-Montbel, Bailiff Grand Cross of Honour and Devotion in Obedience.

## Four authors get Naz. Vassallo award

**I**n the same week, George Vella also presided over the eighteenth edition of the Nazzareno Vassallo Award ceremony that recognises the work of individuals or organisations for the benefit of the elderly. During this ceremony, the President said that such an occasion convinces him to continue working on national unity, "as we already have clear examples of the many ways in which the people of Malta and Gozo can give to others, and because we have a lot of things that already unite us, as we saw during the pandemic."

The President expressed his appreciation for the commitment of all workers in the field of care and health of the elderly, and urged the elderly to be active participants and a source of inspiration for youths.

Four authors, Charles Casha, Joseph Debono, Rita Saliba and Trevor Zahra, won the Nazzareno Vassallo Award that was instituted in 1998. They were selected from among thirteen nominees.

## A TELL GOOD Story

Every year in June the Salvation Army do a door-knock appeal. I received an email inviting me to volunteer door-knocking in my street. Of course, I ignored it because I feel uncomfortable asking people for donations.

After a few days, I received a reminder: This time, I thought, what the hek, I'll give it a go. Therefore I replied that I don't feel comfortable knocking on people's doors asking for donations, however, this time it was OK, so for Christ's sake, I will do it.

They replied and said, "Joe we are delighted that you have decided to collect 'for Christ's sake because he'll be walking beside you all the way.'"

Well, I asked for that didn't I? If Jesus was going to help me out, this was HIS chance to do it.

I have a neighbour two doors down from my house. We haven't talked for 25 years over a big disagreement, so I started with him. I knocked on his door; he opened it looking at me through the security screen and I said to him, "I'm door-knocking for the

Salvation Army, would you like to give a donation?

He then opened the screen door (I thought, God help me wondering what he was going to say to me). He looked at me and said: "Is that you Joe?" I said yes it was his good neighbour Joe. He gave me a big smile, stretched out his hand to shake my hand and told me, "Joe I'm so glad you came knocking at my door, it's great to talk to you again."

Well, we had a friendly conversation for about 10 minutes, sorted out our differences, and he gave me a \$10 donation and shook hands again before I left. Thank Christ for that!

There's more to the story. It gave me enough confidence to knock on the doors of the rest of my neighbours. To my surprise, most of them said: "You're the bloke with the Parramatta shorts, you've been running around here for as long as we've lived in this neighbourhood."

We talked about rugby league and they wanted to know how long I had been running, etc. As a result, they were very generous.

I expected to collect around \$120. Instead, I raised almost double, \$232.

Joseph Buttigieg



## Il-Logġa tal-Banditur

Fil-belt l-antika ta' Malta, l-Imdina hemm rikkezzi ta' storja ta' Malta. Fost dawn, kif tidhol u tmur lejn it-triq tal-lemin lejn il-lukanda Xara Palace - Boutique Hotel, hemm l-Logġa tal-Banditur, jew 'arengo'. Dan kien il-post fejn kienu jinqraw lill-pubbliku l-bandi uffiċjali tal-Qorti Muniċipali. Il-logġa għandha tliet arkati fil-livell t'isfel u kont tidhol fiha mill-Palazz Muniċipali.




MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN  
AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

## High Commission & Consulates of Malta in Australia

### High Commission of Malta - Canberra

H.E. Mr. Mario Farrugia Borg  
High Commissioner for Malta to Australia  
38 Culgoa Circuit, O'Malley, ACT 2606

 (02) 6290 1724 / 1426 / 1573

 0433 799 947


 [www.foreignandeu.gov.mt](http://www.foreignandeu.gov.mt)


 [mario.farrugia-borg@gov.mt](mailto:mario.farrugia-borg@gov.mt)


### Consulate General - Sydney

Mr. Lawrence Buhagiar (Consul General)  
St. Martins Tower, Suite 10.04, Level 10, 31 Market St, Sydney NSW 2000

 (02) 9262 9500

 0430 402 177

 (02) 9264 4722


 [maltaconsulate.sydney@gov.mt](mailto:maltaconsulate.sydney@gov.mt)  
[lawrence.c.buhagiar@gov.mt](mailto:lawrence.c.buhagiar@gov.mt)

### Consulate General - Melbourne

Ms. Chirelle Ellul Sciberras (Consul General)  
Suite 613, 6th Floor, 343 Little Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

 (03) 9670 8427

 0413 621 177

 (03) 9670 9451

 [maltaconsulate.melbourne@gov.mt](mailto:maltaconsulate.melbourne@gov.mt)



# Community News



**MALTESE VOICES**  
WITH MARTHESE CARUANA

**SUNDAYS AT 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM**  
AN HOUR OF MUSIC FROM MALTESE ARTISTS

LISTEN FROM WHEREVER YOU ARE  
[www.893fm.com.au](http://www.893fm.com.au)  
LISTEN LIVE OR ON DEMAND,  
ALSO AVAILABLE ON TUNEIN

**2GLF-fm 89.3**  
4000 KHz. STATION



**MALTESE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF NSW**  
PROGRAM FOR THE MALTESE

**SUNDAYS AT 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM**  
AN HOUR FILLED WITH NEWS AND INFORMATION




**MALTESE LANGUAGE SCHOOL OF NSW**

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

**Learn Maltese** Due to the covid restrictions, we are only conducting lessons online.

Applications are also welcome for paid positions from people to assist in language teaching and/or administration. For more information, call 0419 476 924. Email: [malteselanguageschoolnsw@hotmail.com](mailto:malteselanguageschoolnsw@hotmail.com)






**La Valette Social Centre**

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

**NOTICE:** La Valette Social Centre has started operating again on Thursdays and Saturdays. Upon entry patrons will need to prove that they have received a double dose COVID-19 vaccination approved in Australia. Until further notice, no masses will currently be held, while rosary will be recited on Thursdays from 10:15am. Mask wearing is mandatory indoors.





**Ebejer & Associates Lawyers**  
Pty Ltd.

We offer legal services in Melbourne (Lt Collins Street) and Werribee.

Family law is our specialty.

- wills, powers of attorney,
- manage deceased estates, and provide
- purchase and sell property
- purchase and sell businesses.
- divorce, children, property,
- child support, intervention orders.
- Maltese Wills, Powers of Attorney
- Maltese Property matters.

*Marlene Ebejer (speaks Maltese) is an accredited family law specialist*

Phone: 03 9741 1722  
[www.ebejerlawyers.com.au](http://www.ebejerlawyers.com.au)  
email [reception@ebejerlawyers.com.au](mailto:reception@ebejerlawyers.com.au)

*We get to the point, provide the right advice and get the work done at a reasonable price.*



**Events for 2021**

*Saturday November 14:*  
**Dinner Dance**  
*Sunday December 5:*  
**Festa San Nikola**

## Tune in to Radio and Television

**MELBOURNE:** on 3ZZZ 92.3FM or on [www.3zzz.com.au](http://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-is-tazzjon 2GLF 89.3FM. Also On Demand on I-Internet: [www.893fm.com.au](http://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](http://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.

**SBS MALTESE NEWS:** *L-Aħbarijiet* are now on SBSTV Viceland HD Chan-

nel 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](mailto:bernadettebuhagiar@gmail.com) Ron Borg: 0418 843 850. Email [ronborg@mac.com](mailto: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



## Argo wins Line Honours at MSR 2001 yacht race

**O**n Sunday evening, the USA yacht MOD70 Argo (USA) crossed the finish line to take Multihull Line Honours in the 42nd Rolex Middle Sea Race that started spectacularly on Saturday morning. Argo finished the 606 nautical miles long race organised by the Royal Malta Yacht Club (RMYC) in an elapsed time of 33 hours 29 mins 28 secs to smash both the existing multihull record of 56 hours 31 mins 31 secs, set by Maserati Multi70 in 2020, and the outright race record of 47 hours 55 mins 3 secs, set by Rambler in 2007.

The start had been a magnificent sight, with the impressive bastions of Valletta, Vittoriosa and Senglea providing a fitting setting for the international fleet of 114 yachts representing 25 countries.



## Hibernians now lead by three points F1 season with 23 GPs

**D**espite dropping points in a 1-1 draw against Valletta, by the end of Day 7, Hibernians still managed to increase their lead at the top of the Premier Football League in Malta to three points over runners up Birkirkara who surprisingly let slip a two-goal lead to lose 3-2 to Sirens, who in turn finished the match with nine men.

Thanks to the win, Sirens leapfrogged into third place.

After back-to-back defeats, Balzan returned to winning ways by beating Gzira United by 2-1 with two goals in

Spartans defeated Gudja 3-1, while Mosta denied Floriana victory with a late equaliser in a 1-1.

Sliema's disappointing campaign continued. They could only figure in a scoreless draw against Sta Lucia, so stay bottom of the league ladder.

On Day 6 two players distinguished themselves by scoring hat-tricks. Jurgen Degabriele obtained one for Hibernians in their 3-0 victory over Sliema Wanderers, while Mario Fontanella did it for Valletta as they returned to winning ways by beating Sirens 3-1.

Hibernians beat Sliema 3-0, even though they were reduced to 10 men, After three successive defeats Valletta

tasted victory to beat Sirens 3-1 with Mario Fontanella's hat-trick.

Birkirkara defeated 2-0 Gudja United with two Leandro Aguirre goals, both from freekicks.

**F**ormula 1 has announced its calendar for the 2022 season that will be made up of 23 races, the longest ever. There's a star-spangled duo with Austin and Miami. It will have more street races with Montreal, Melbourne and Singapore. Fan favourites Imola and Japan are back.

The biggest change to the expected calendar is the removal, for the third year running, of the Chinese Grand Prix, with Imola stepping in to host its third Grand Prix in three years. As in 2021 the season will begin in Bahrain at Sakhir.

The full schedule:  
20 Mar.: Bahrain GP  
27 Mar.: Saudi Arabian GP  
10 Apr. Australian GP  
24 Apr. Emilia Romagna GP  
8 May: Miami GP  
22 May: Spanish GP  
29 May: Monaco GP

12 Jun.: Azerbaijan GP  
19 Jun.: Canadian GP  
3 Jul.: British GP  
10 Jul.: Austrian GP  
24 Jul.: French GP  
31 Jul.: Hungarian GP  
28 Aug.: Belgian GP  
4 Sep.: Dutch GP  
11 Sep.: Italian GP  
25 Sep.: Russian GP  
2 Oct.: Singapore GP  
9 Oct.: Japanese GP  
23 Oct.: US GP  
30 Oct.: Mexican GP  
13 Nov.: Brazilian GP  
20 Nov.: Abu Dhabi GP

### DAY 7 RESULTS

Hibernians v Valletta 1-1  
Sirens v Birkirkara 3-2  
Balzan v Gzira U 2-1  
Floriana v Mosta 1-1  
Hamrun S. v Gudja U 3-1  
Sliema W v Sta Lucia 0-0

### DAY 6 RESULTS

Hibernians v Sliema W 3-0  
Birkirkara v Gudja U 2-0  
Floriana v Balzan 2-1  
Gzira U v Hamrun S 1-0  
Valletta v Sirens 3-1  
Sta Lucia v Mosta 2-2

was Paul Zammit's first game as their coach in charge after replacing Mark Miller. In a similar comeback to form champions Hamrun

### Floriana pay for racial abuse

**F**loriana FC have been fined €3,000 and handed a suspended three-point penalty after they were found guilty of racial behaviour by their fans during their Premier League match against Sta Lucia FC earlier this season.

## IOC criticises FIFA's biennial World Cup plan

**T**he International Olympic Committee, IOC, has suggested that with its proposal to hold the World Cup every two years instead of every four years, the International Football Federation, FIFA, is putting money ahead of sport. Therefore it has called for discussions over the plan.

FIFA's 211 member associations are set to vote on the proposal in December. The football governing body's president, Gianni Infantino, who is also an IOC member is currently travelling the world to rally support for the plan, fronted by the former Arsenal manager Arsène Wenger.

Continental and national federations, players' groups as well as supporters have been fiercely criticising the plan with the European Football Union, UEFA, citing numerous concerns about the impact of such a switch including the "dilution" of the World Cup's value, risks of players being overworked and women's football suffering.

Meanwhile in a statement, the IOC's executive board said that number of international federations of other sports, national football



federations, clubs, players, player associations and coaches have expressed strong reservations and concerns regarding the plans to generate more revenue for FIFA.

It said these concerns related to three main areas: the "undermining of the diversity and development of sports other than football"; "the increase of men's events in the calendar creating challenges for the further promotion of women's football"; and

player welfare.

The statement said: "The plans would create a further massive strain on the physical and mental health of the players."

The IOC said it shares these concerns and supports the calls of stakeholders of football, international sports federations and major event organisers for a wider consultation, including with athletes' representatives, which has obviously not taken place.

European and South American clubs, leagues and confederations are confident they can stop the plan, regardless of the outcome of a vote, raising the prospect of a damaging split in the international game.

Sponsors have also not held back, arguing there already is a European Championship, and a Copa America, and that one should also leave space for other things.

Defending his, Infantino said: "The prestige of an event depends on its quality, not its frequency. You have the Super Bowl every year, Wimbledon or the Champions League every year, and everyone is excited and waiting for it."