MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

Journal of Maltese Living Abroad

Editor: Frank L Scicluna OAM MQR

Bringing Maltese and Gozitans living in Malta and Gozo and around the world together

Let's celebrate

400the Edition

Congratulations for such an outstanding achievement A heartfelt thanks from Global Malta

Hon. Evarist Bartolo

Bishop Charles Gauci

Anglu Farrugia

Dr. Raymond Xerri

WINNERS OF THE GOLD MEDAL
"Gieh L-Akkademja tal-Malti"

Prof. Manwel Mifsud (2021)

Lina Brockdorff (2020)

Grand Master Matthew Festing to be buried in the Grand Masters' crypt at St. John's Co-Cathedral, Malta

THE MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER Bringing Maltese and Gozitans together

Hon Evarist Bartolo – Minister for Foreign and European Affairs

Maltese have been emigrating to all corners of the world for centuries. At first most of our people who emigrated sought a better life in neighbouring Mediterranean countries. Then since the 1800s they started venturing in faraway countries like Argentina, the United States and Australia. No wonder that even today there are Maltese and Gozitans and their descendants in around 194 countries, practically in every country in the world. Like thousands of other Maltese I have relatives in at least three other countries on different sides of our planet.

It is estimated that there are about 120,000 first generation and 300,000 second and third generation Maltese living in other countries. This means that we have a diaspora of about 420,000, as many Maltese and Gozitans as we have in our islands.

A 2019 World Bank report shows that even today 24 per cent of all Maltese live outside Malta, putting the rate of emigration for the Maltese population as the highest out of any EU country. The destinations have changed as today we have new diasporas in Brussels and Luxembourg reflecting our membership of the European Union.

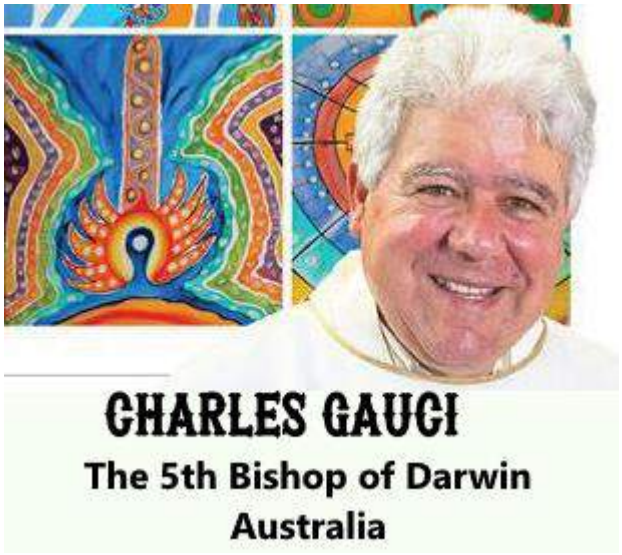
Despite all this I still feel that in our islands we are still not aware enough of the reality and history of emigration of our people throughout the centuries. I still feel that we still consider our history and reality of emigration as parallel to our history and reality on the islands.

I think that we need to address and move towards becoming more aware and forging more links among the Maltese and Gozitans in the whole wide world and considering ourselves as one.

The technology of communication is at least making it more possible to have a closer community and to be more in touch with each other across the continents. We must strive to get even closer. Thank you, Frank, for providing a platform and network where you bring Maltese and Gozitans together.

L-Akkademja tal-Malti tifraħ lill-*Maltese e-Newsletter* fl-400 ħarġa tagħha u ssellem lill-Maltin imferrxin mad-dinja kollha u tħeġġiġhom biex jibqgħu jużaw ilsien art twelidhom ma' qrabathom u nieshom.-

Joseph Borg - Segretarju Nov. 2021



CHARLES GAUCI – BISHOP OF DARWIN AUSTRALIA

"I CALL MYSELF MALTESE AUSTRALIAN"

A Regular reader of the Maltese Journal

I arrived in Australia April 1965 . My maternal grandparents arrived in 1948 and 1949, grandpa Karmenu Briffa came first and Grandma Nina arrived with seven of the children a year later .Mum already married stayed behind and John who had a scholarship in England also stayed behind . He was supposed to join the family in Australia later . He fell in love got married in the UK .

John is still in England at the age of 91 with his English family, we stay in close contact .

My family came to Adelaide . I have a big family in Adelaide . All eight siblings , including mum married .Typical of many Maltese families in the diaspora they married people from many nationalities.Only two of my grandparent's children married Maltese mum and uncle Joe who married Mary Pace in Adelaide .

I turned 13 the day we crossed the equator on the Flotta Lauro ship , ' The Roma ' as we travelled to Australia.

I was excited to meet so many relatives who I had only known through phots and letters .

Form April till September we lived with my grandparents at 36 Grange Rd Hindmarsh .

While still in Hindmarsh my youngest brother John who was four snd a half years old died after an operation at the children's hospital .I remember that event like as if it was yesterday. He was the youngest in our family of five siblings . Then we move to 8 Dean St Kidman Pk .

We settled well , dad found good work as a Quantity Surveyor Estimator for a large building company .I was ordained a priest in 1977 for the Archdiocese of Adelaide . I spent 41 years ministering in South Australia .

I was very happy in my ministry and was very surprised when I got the phone call from the pope's representative inviting me to be bishop in the Northern Territory.

I am in a very different world here There are very few Maltese people here . I love being here snd feel that I belong . Yet I miss so of the Maltese culture down South .

I call myself a Maltese Australian .

As I get older and find myself away From many of the Maltese connections in a physical way I really value the use of the media in keeping they connection .

One of those means of connection is this magazine . I always look forward to reading it and am grateful to you in a special way Frank It helps me to keep in touch .I often look back to my childhood in Malta.

I know how that background helped to shape me , how it contributed in such a big way as to who I am .I am still in touch with my relatives in Malta having started to reconnect especially after my first visit in 1991 snd several times since . Watts Up has been a great help .

As the oldest grandchild among many of my generation in the family I try to keep our Maltese heritage flame alive in my encounters with my family .

We are expecting my parent' s 14 th great grandchild anytime as I write , number 13 was born three days ago !When I have the opportunity I share some Maltese words with them . I talk about their grandparents and my grandparents .

Do my Maltese heritage is very important to me . As I travel the vast stretches of our diocesan of over Ks 1300000 I often listen to Maltese music , it helps to keep me in touch .

So thanks again Frank and anyone else who helps you ,

God bless all the readers !

+ Charles Gauci Bishop of the NT in Australia.

The Malta Journal – 400 Journals for the Maltese Diaspora

Sean Richardson (Australia)

I handed the story about Hamrun from the *Malta newsletter, the Journal of Maltese Living Abroad,* to my father-in-law, Charlie. The story of his hometown that he left over 70 years ago for Australia, rekindled memories of his Maltese childhood. The Malta journal sparked a twinkle in his eye and an animated discussion of those times that have been replicated in Maltese households around the globe.

The journal is the brainchild of Frank Scicluna who as Principal of the Maltese School of Adelaide, in South Australia, teaching and promoting the language and culture of the Maltese Islands detected a desire from students and their families to establish or maintain links with their heritage. "With the demise of the Maltese Herald in Australia in 2011, the local community had no source of information about Malta and about the activities of the Maltese associations in Australia. Therefore, I was encouraged to produce the newsletter to fill the void."

From Frank's first edition in May 2013, a modest publication of 4 pages shared with a handful of family and friends, the regular journal has grown to approaching 400 editions with a regular publication of 24 pages, that is directly received by over 7,000 people across many countries. Connecting the Maltese diaspora with everyday life in Malta, and its vibrant history, it also celebrates the Maltese influence across the globe with stories of Maltese contributions from all walks of life in their local society. This labour of love is produced through researched content and individual contributors, becoming a valuable link with Maltese around the globe and is a welcome distraction in these days of COVID-19 lockdowns, travel bans and restrictions.

Originally from Vittoriosa, Frank has maintained a deep connection with Maltese life visiting regularly and being involved in local issues, including participating in the Conventions of Maltese Living Abroad. He has dedicated years to fostering the Maltese communities in Australia and across the world. Such is his passion and commitment that Frank was appointed as the Australian delegate on the Council of Maltese Living Abroad (CLMA). The value of Frank's work in producing and editing the journal has been recognised by the Maltese and Australian governments. In 2018 he was recognised in Malta by being awarded the Gieħ ir-Repubblika medal (MQR). The Australian Federal Government acknowledged his services to the Australian Maltese Community and multiculturism, awarding him with the prestigious Order of Australia Medal (OAM).

The journal includes snapshots of local life in Malta along with the island's history and culture, and it celebrates significant achievements from the many places where those with Maltese heritage can be found. Scicluna aims to keep the journal "a free, bilingual and non-political journal". Just as for my father-in-law, Charlie who consumed the stories in the journal about the long-lost crafts and life that he once knew as a boy, it brings joy to many more people than the 5,000 direct recipients of the journal. It is a chance to relive special memories and celebrate their heritage as well as staying connected with other Maltese people around the world.

If you would like to be part of this connected community, you can contact Frank at maltesejournal@gmail.com and catch up with the journal at www.ozmalta.com

LOUIS PARNIS – PRESIDENT – GEORGE CROSS FALCONS COMMUNITY CENTRE – CRINGILA NSW

On behalf of the committee and members of the Maltese Centre I congratulate our friend Frank Scicluns for his great achievement in publishing 400 issues of this wonderful journal which is loved by so many thousands of Maltese around the world. The Maltese journal is a great supporter of our club and we thank Frank for having our centre at his heart and he always help us in many ways. He is always welcome at our centre.

MESSSAGE BY MGR PUBLIUS XUEREB – DALLAS USA

Congratulations on your outstanding accomplishment of the 400th edition of the Maltese e-Newsletter. I am Mons. Publius Xuereb, living in Fort Worth, a city 35 miles West of Dallas, Texas. I was ordained in 1968, the first Ordination class that then Bishop Nicol Cauchi had. I have been living in Texas 52 years. I am always eagerly awaiting your newsletter. It carries a variety of interesting articles that appeal to people from all walks of life. If you have Maltese DNA, each issue of the Maltese e-Newsletter connects you and updates you about your beloved Motherland in language, history, customs and current events. For 400 editions, you have been an important link between Maltese living abroad. You are a blessing to all of us, living away from Malta and Gozo. You are greatly appreciated. Keep up the good work. Mons. Publius Xuereb.

MESSSAGE BY DR RAYMOND XERRI, CONSUL GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALTA TO CANADA

On the occasion of the 400th Edition of *The Maltese eNewsletter – The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora*

A HEARTFELT THANKS FROM GLOBAL MALTA

It is very easy to say to Frank Scicluna congratulations on the 400th edition of the ***Maltese e-Newsletter – The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora*** with ignoring all the tireless hours of planning, researching, imputing, compiling, sorting, editing, and proofreading all those newsletter editions. I do have an idea what this laborious task entails, since I was editor of many newsletters on a local, regional, national, and continental level. It's a lot of work which needs passion and love for the cause.

Frank L Scicluna has always had this mission, passion, love, and connection to Global Malta. The Maltese Living Abroad were and still are kept in the inner core of his heart and mind. I can say this, since I have known Frank for decades and during the same time his passion grew larger and larger than his person and today is known as one of the main authorities on Global Malta. I am not only a regular reader but also of the ***Maltese e-Newsletter – Journal of the Maltese Diaspora***, but also find it compliments very well my three-decade-long research into the story of Global Malta.

Firstly, as a son of returnee family from the United States of America to Gozo; secondly, having lived, studied and worked in the major host countries of Global Malta:- 13 years in the United States; three years in Australia; four years in the United Kingdom and two and a half years in Canada have increased my love and passion for Global Malta for which Frank has been there all along this journey; thirdly, as the first Director for Maltese Living Abroad within the Ministry for Foreign Affairs (2012-2019) for which Frank always provided a helping hand especially when he served Global Malta as Councilor on the Council for Maltese Living Abroad (2011-2017) and when I was Vice-President and then President of the Europeans Throughout The World (E.T.T.W.), an organization based in Brussels, Belgium which represented the 350 million Europeans (citizens and persons of European ancestry) between 2014 to 2019, Frank was there to assist.

Both in Malta and now in Canada, the ***Maltese e-Newsletter – Journal of the Maltese Diaspora***, is a very valuable source of information, provide a good source of Global Malta news and a focal point which unites Maltese and Gozitans everywhere in Global Malta. I enjoy seeing

Maltese and Gozitan Canadians pick up a copy of this newsletter from the Consulate General of the Republic of Malta to Canada, from the Malta Bake Shop, also found at the Melita Soccer Club and the Malta Band Club amongst other outposts. Countless students use the newsletter as a prime or secondary source for their assignments, presentations, and homework they have about their ancestorial country, Malta.

Frank, thank you for your priceless time, your constant and consistent perseverance, great efforts and unwinding dedication to Global Malta and to producing such a publication in a timely manner. The ***Maltese eNewsletter – The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora***, is a beacon of hope to all Global Malta and a testimony to the constant struggle Global Malta for ultimate recognition. Malta needs to mature and fully embrace its population outside its territory as all other European countries do and beyond. Global Malta is grateful and thankful to you Frank.

MESSAGE FROM FR. GABIREL STEPHEN MICALLEF OFM - GOZO, MALTA

Dear Frank, may I thank you for giving me the opportunity to join all those who are indebted to you for providing us the Maltese enewsletter full of information about old and new customs on the Maltese islands, and within the Maltese Communities allover the five continents, on its 400 publication.
May I take the opportunity to greet all my old parishioners and friends over South Australia, especially around Adelaide. Lately some of our oldies have left us – the service they rendered to the Community will be highly remembered and appreciated.
Some seven weeks ago, I gave a message through zoom to the Maltese Community gathered at Lockleys for the occasion of the annual Feast of Our Lady Queen of Victories, "Il-Bambina", patroness of the Maltese migrants all over the world. In fact it's celebrated
in almost every State in Australia. The message I gave was all in Maltese and at the end, some of our friends gathered for the occasion, requested me to share my thoughts with them too, in English. Believe it or not, I found it hard to do that – I was breathless.
My health is not at its best, and because of the Corona Virus, I tend to stay indoors since I am highly vulnerable to catch it up. I am highly pleased that our customs are still being obbserved and last weekend, I was able to have a glimpse of what went on at the Feast of St. Catherine of Alexandria at Kilburn on FB.. Sorry for the bad weather which hindered your
outside festivities. Some of those present I did not know, perhaps they were from interstate.
At our St. Anthony's Friary on Gozo, I'm really having it easy and my only duty is to give service at Villa San Lawrenz old people's Home where my brother is hospiced. The big number of nephews and nieces I've got here tend to make sure that I'm well taken care of and looked after.
Dear Frank, keep doing the good job. It keeps us attacched. Hope to see you all in Malta

. MGR. GEORGE FRENDO O.P.- ALBANIA

METROPOLITAN ARCHBISHOP OF TIRANA-DURRES, ALBANIA

Dear Frank, Thank you very much for the precious gift you have given us throughout these years sending us this very interesting Newsletter. It is a very important means to keep us Maltese, residing in so many different countries, to remain united and informed about our culture, achievements, etc. May God bless you.

GODFEY VELLA - SPAIN

Once again I sincerely thank you for sending me such a wonderful and informative newsletter. I enjoy reading it especially when I read about Malta in the past, it reminds me of my hildhood. Congratulations on reaching the 400th edition.Well done for producing such a most welcoming newsletter, I am pretty sure there are many others like me waiting every week to receive it and read it. Kind regards

HON ANGLU FARRUGIA – SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - MALTA

I am a regular reader of the Maltese e-newsletter the Journal of the Maltese living abroad edited regularly by Frank Scicluna of Adelaide, Australia. I have to admit that I am a great follower of all the Maltese living abroad and also a freelance researcher on the Maltese diaspora since my teenage years. The regular contribution of Frank for these last twenty years have always been priceless and I have always been convinced of his passion and love towards our country, Malta. I admire the constant perseverance and total dedication of Frank in carefully and regularly issue this important if not unique in its style this newsletter to us all. Even here in parliament together with other contributions we do follow the contents of this newsletter and sincerely hope and wish Frank to continue the good work for the benefit of all the Maltese wherever they are. Thanks again Frank.

MRS CARMEN SPITERI – ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA

The Honorary Consul for Malta in South Australia, Mrs Carmen Spiteri together with her husband Venny offer congratulations to Frank Scicluna on the 400th edition of the Maltese Journal. Truly a wonderful milestone. Frank does an excellent job of producing the Maltese Journal which is a "must have" for every Maltese household. Frank, we encourage you to keep up the good work. Many thanks.

GREG CARUANA – NSW, AUSTRALIA

Dear Franh…I would like to congratulate you for your wonderful achievement on the 400 edition. I've been reading and forwarding your Newsletter since Number 1. where I forwarded it to relatives and friends in Malta and overseas,,like USA; ENGLAND ; ITALY ; HAWAII , CANADA.. And as you know every now and then I contribute with some articles. But what I like about it the way you set it up its so good …and its reaching lots of second generations Maltgese ,where ever they are. Well done FRANK GOD BLESS YOU And KEEP IT UP

JOHN CALLEJA – ADELAIDE AUSTRALIA

Dear Frank, your input to each Maltese Newsletter edition is very much appreciated . Your hard work is providing us all informative upto news from Maltese Abroad and of course Malta news. We hope to see you reach the next milestone. Regards

HARRY ZAMMIT COEDINA - MALTA

I cannot find the right words to thank you enough for the Maltese Newsletter which you have been producing for such a great number of years. It is not only a means of bringing together all the Maltese diaspora all over the world but it is so informative and produced in such a way as to keep its readers aware of so many subjects that are dealt with in every edition. Please keep up your very good work Frank towards your great love for everything that is Maltese.

FR. LONNIE BORG MSSP -VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

I would like to take this opportunity to say THANK YOU and GRAZZI HAFNA to Mr. Frank Scicluna who generously for these last eight years, published the much-awaited Journal of the Maltese living abroad. It reminded me of the Almanac which our Founder Joseph De Piro used to publish in his life time to connect with the Maltese in Malta and abroad. The Journal of the Maltese is a well-loved publication and without any doubt has been a vital link and a means of support to so many of us who left our dear Malta and Gozo and today they are present in so many parts of the world. This publication has brought us closer to learn, and to discover more our Maltese heritage and keep us up to date. It is a lifeline to connect and rediscover our roots and appreciate who we are. It also helped all to appreciate our connection with one another. Thanks again for your hard effort to set up and send us the journal. It is a work of love, without any doubt. God bless you and all the readers.

MICHELLE OLLIFFE NSW AUSTRALIA

Just like to let you know how much my friends and I enjoy your Maltese Journal. I live in Sydney, Australia. Love to read both your Maltese and English language articles. This keeps me in touch with my Maltese language and news in Malta.. I don't have many Maltese people to speak to in our native language. My Australian friends are very interested in the Maltese history and are fascinated with the beauty and culture of our islands. I do hope that you will continue to produce your journal and the pleasure you give us migrants all over the world is unsurpassed. Thank you again

GEORGE STAGNO NAVARRA – MALTA

Congratulations for such an outstanding achievement

My dear friend Frank J. Scicluna, the little that I have known you, convinces me that you are just like the first person to scale Mount Everest, your achievement is testimony to ambition and perseverance. Your bi-weekly newsletter confirms, you will be able to climb over any challenge that comes your way. Some people have dreams, but it must be quite a challenge to take action and turn those dreams into a reality. Coming up to a **400th edition of the E-NEWSLETTER** is a great achievement. In a world we live in, it can be hard to find someone who puts their whole heart into everything they do. You are one of them. With the amount of love and passion you show towards your work, it's no wonder why you've been able to reach this goal A sowed seed grows underground, pushing its way through the earth to find the light of the world above. Just like that seed, you have pushed your way through to find success. With your sense of hard work and dedication, I am convinced that you will only continue to blossom. No house can be built without a solid foundation and the same can be said about success. Your drive and ambition have that solid base and your achievement here is one of the many bricks building that house. I must say, your achievement is outstanding, and you stand head and shoulders above the rest. Keep on growing, keep on achieving. Your readers will simply want you to notice the many incredible things in store for your future. In todays' world , many shy away from hard work, but you are different. You seem to enjoy working at everything you do with your whole heart in it .

Frank, congratulations on this milestone achievement. I wish I was fortunate like you to have published so many editions of a newsletter, that is always so full of interesting articles, to rekindle a past that we all yearn to remember. Making people go back in years and remembering from their younger years, can be so satisfying for you. You deserve much recognition for your success. Enjoy all that life and your accomplishments bring. I believe, that an achievement is a time to take a step back and reflect on how far you've come to get to this moment. We the readers of E-Newsletter, feel so proud of your sheer grit in striving for excellence. Well done. Your success is truly outstanding. I am so pleased for you and send many congratulations. The best part of your success is how it will inspire others and you should be very proud of yourself. With the forthcoming publication of E-Newsletter number 400, you strengthen the foundation for your future. You have shown so far that you are made of: hard work and endurance. Everyone receiving the newsletter should be truly happy for you and your wonderful success. Congratulations and all the best, for everything your future holds. This message comes to you primarily as a friend and a reader of E-Newsletter. Secondly, it also comes from each and every member of **The Association of Lyceum Past Students (ALPS)**. We all feel proud to have had some of our articles published in past issues of E-NEWSLETTTER

RONALD ANDREWS FROM SOUTH AFRICA

In answer to your question, I can assure you I enjoy every second, particularly when you cover various aspects of historical Malta, which brings back many memories. I always await your mail with great interest. Unfortunately the Maltese emigres in South Africa have reduced in numbers through age, as the bulk arrived in South Africa straight after the war up to 1950. Their dependants, which are now third generation, particularly through marriage, have lost interest in Malta. It is sad scenario and it has become an issue of concern to me when these dependants want to go back to Malta, not knowing what to expect. The lifestyles are so different that eventually most move onto England.Keep up your good work. Many thanks again, and God Bless.

JIM BORG – SYDNEY AUSTRALIA

Well done frank on such a milestone of the 400th edition of your Maltese Journal. ly is such a refreshing enewsletter. no politics just great informative reading. Every Sunday morning I always check my email box for the new edition. I enjoy updating myself over a cup of coffee and a couple of pastizzi. So refreshing. Y i always make sure i share it with my family members and friends ! May I also take this opportunity to, on behalf of the friends, of Providence House NSW express our sincere gratitude on your unwaivering support ! Once again congratulations on such a milestone. Good luck and God bless!

FRED AQUILINA – VACAVILLE - USA

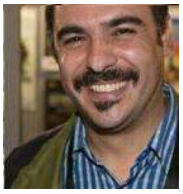
IL LISTRINA! Hard to believe you're on number 400. I was first introduced to your Newsletter in April of 2014 when a friend forwarded edition #39. Have faithfully followed the Newsletter since then, and it has enhanced my knowledge of Malta's people, mores, history, culture, art and achievements. The publication is like an encyclopedia with a wealth of knowledge which deepens my appreciation for the country of my birth. Thanks for opening so many doors of learning about the "Island of sunshine and history" and may God bless you for all you do.

I feel much the same about *The Maltese Presence in North America*. It's become more than a full-

CARMEN APAP

Hello Frank, Carmen from NSW Australia. Congratulations on 400th edition of an excellent magazine catering to the needs of the Maltese diaspora. I look forward to it and enjoy reading it.

LAWRENCE XERRI – ILLAWARRA NSW



Congratulation on the 400th edition of the Maltese Journal. It is with great joy and dedication that you give to the Maltese community all over the world. Well done! Prosit! From, the Illawarra Maltese Australians Group, NSW. Australia

HENRY BERRY – VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

Sur Frank Scicluna. First let me Congratulate you on reaching the 400th, edition of The Maltese e-Newsletter. It is always a great read, very informative and covering a wide rang of subjects.I have learned a lot about things that I never knew before. I am always very happy to receive it and share it with others. I am in the Committee of The Pakenham Senior Citizens Inc. and The Men's shed. I am the only Maltese member the rest are Australians, Italians and from other Countries. They all like your Newsletter. I would very much like to thank you for the good work that you are doing it is very much appreciated. I like to say a special thanks for the cover you put on my Friends that died in the air crash of the Re Malta personnel at North Africa and also the cover about the Child migrant as I am one of them. As an X service man I would like to see The Australia Hall that you write a lot about restored and turned into a Museum in remembrance of all that were treated and also died there. I am sure that New Zealand and Australia could react some agreement with the Maltese Government. Every year we say Lets we forget but what about doing something about it. I now what to thank all those people who like my brother in law Greg Caruana from time to time write in the Maltese Journal.Thank you all.

NICOLE OSBORNE – VICTORIA - AUSTRALIA

Congratulations on reaching an amazing milestone! As a first generation Maltese-Australian, one of my proudest moments in life was taking my dad back to Malta a couple of years ago and walking the narrow laneways and streets of the war record suburbs with dad story telling how he was raised and showing me the street corners that my grandfather was known for as a busker - he would draw the crowd with his tambourine and words of hope - I'm proud to be named after my grandfather 'Nicola'. Reading your publication allows me to continue to learn and reflect on my heritage and I appreciate all of your efforts in making this possible - grazzi!

FR EMANUEL PARNIS - CANADA

Congratulations! Frank. I feel that you are keeping all of us Maltese, especially those who live abroad well informed with all that you are sharing. It is very important that our history, tradition, customs and moral values be shared because all this treasure means our heritage and our

identity as part of our culture. I do appreciate your efforts in preparing every publication because it needs so much time for research and distribution, but it is really worthed. We need to continue to work on our language too, especially for those Maltese living abroad. It is a must that we keep our language alive otherwise we will lose it to other important languages. If you need any help such as information regarding my activities as a Maltese missionary for your journal I will pass that to you. Perhaps that will be of help to others to know how the Maltese Church is helping the missionary aspect abroad. Frank thanks once again and I will keep you always in my daily prayers.

NZZARENO ZERAFA – BRISBANE – QUEENSLAND

Nixtieq li minn qiegħ qalbi nifraħlek fl-okkażjoni tal-400 Edizjoni tal- 'Maltese e-Newsletter' li twaslilna kull ġimgħa b'tant ħeġġa u dedikazjoni. Napprezza ferm ix-xogħol, il-ħin, is-sagrifiċċji, l-impenn u l-imħabba li tati sabiex regolarment twaslilna aħbarijiet, kummenti, artikli t'interess u informazzjoni oħra biex iżżomna dejjem aġġornati ma dak kollu li għandu x'jaqsam u li jkun għaddej fl-isfera tal-Maltin li jgħixu madwar id-dinja u dwar dak li jkun għaddej f'Malta, Art twelidna. Grazzi ħafna u j'Alla li l-Mulej ikompli jsedqek bis-saħħa u l-menti biex tkun tista tkompli b'dax –xogħol tant siewi u fejjiedi li jgħaqqadna flimkien. Il-Maltin kollha, huma min huma, u huma fejn huma għandhom jibqgħu dejjem grati lejk.

POEZIJA GHALL-0KKAZJONI TAL-400 HARGA TAL-GURNAL

Kav. Joe M Attard

Dal-ġurnal qed jagħlaq żmienu
Mindu tfaċċa għall-ewwel darba;
Min jaf kemm sema' qarrejja
Min b'xi storja jew xi karba!

Jasal għand dawk il-familji
Imxerrdin mad-dinja kollha
U jekk tmur f'xi pjazza kbira
Hemm issibu qalb l-folla

Bosta huma s-suġġetti
Li jitratta l-ġurnal
Ibqgħu ċerti jinteressa
Kemm lill-kbar u kemm lit-tfal.

Bl-akbar ħeffa u ċarezza
Kull ħmistax sa ssibu miegħek
Jibqa' dieħel bla ma jħallas
Għax dan l-aqwa ħabib tiegħek.

Is-suġġetti huma varji –
Folkor, storja, u ambjent,
Sport, Fidi, Aħbar Tajba -
Lil kulħadd jagħmel kuntent

Għażiż Frank irrid nifraħlek
Illi dħalt għal dan l-impenn
Kulħadd jgħidli 'ħaqqek Prosit'
Għal dil-biċċa xogħol tal-ġenn!

Jalla jżejnek b'aktar għomor
Il-Mulej Sid il-Ħolqien
Sabiex tkompli b'din il-ħidma
Għalkemm għad itul iż-żmien!

Kompli ferraħ, kompli għallem
Lill-mijiet w eluf ta' ħluq
Li jedhew b'dak li tiktbilhom
B'dak li jkun għaddej fis-suq!

F'isem il-qarreja kollha
Grazzi ngħidlek jien mill-qalb;
Ibqa' ċert li ser inżommok
F'ta' kuljum tiegħi t-talb!

Kav Joe M Attard
Victoria – Għawdex
11 November 2021
emarjos@hotmail.com

MMG Concert Band of Victoria

CONGRATULATIONS on your 400th edition of the Maltese Newsletter. What a fabulous achievement, bringing our Maltese Culture to us from all around the world right to our emails, to read, celebrate and pass on our Maltese Culture and Traditions to future generations.

Regards
MMG Concert Band of Victoria AUSTRALIA

I join the thousands of other readers to congratulate the Maltese Newsletter - the Journal of the Maltese Living Abroad for this admirable achievement of publishing 400 issues of this unique journal – During these difficult times of Covid-19 I find this journal very refreshing and feel connected with other Maltese around the world. F. Scerri London UK

Kummissjoni Għolja tar-Repubblika ta' Malta
High Commission for the Republic of Malta

Press Release

High Commissioner of Malta to Australia H.E. Mario Farrugia Borg visit to the New South Wales

The High Commissioner of Malta, H.E. Mario Farrugia Borg, embarked on his first visit to New South Wales, accompanied by Consul General of NSW Lawrence Buhagiar, from Thursday 11 till Monday 15 November 2021 since his appointment as High Commissioner of Malta to Australia in January 2021.

Upon arrival, the High Commissioner met with Mr. Paul Zammit OAM, Managing Director of Zammit Promotional Sales and former Member of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia.

On 12th November 2021, the High Commissioner visited the Consulate General in Sydney, where HC held a meeting with all the staff. The High Commissioner had the opportunity to personally thank them for their hard work & care for the community.

Thereafter, the High Commissioner H.E. Mr. Mario Farrugia Borg paid a courtesy call to the Governor of New South Wales, Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazely AC QC. Both stressed the excellent and longstanding relations between Malta and Australia and the many contributions of the Maltese of NSW to the Australian society.

The High Commissioner also was welcomed by the Maltese Community Council in NSW, led by its President, Ms. Miriam Friggieri, at the Maltese Resource Centre in West Parramatta, to discuss future ways of cooperation and develop new opportunities. The High Commissioner committed the Malta High Commission's support and assistance to promote the interests of the Maltese community in Australia.

Subsequently, the High Commissioner visited the Members of the Preca Society in Sydney (M.U.S.E.U.M.), to whom he expressed his appreciation towards the dedication and the good values the society instills in the students who have crossed their paths. His Excellency also reiterated that the society makes Malta proud: a society that was founded in Malta and that today is found across the globe, with Australia being one of the first outposts.

In the evening, the High Commissioner and Consul General met with the Australian Maltese Chamber of Commerce (AMCC) led by National President Chev. Sydney Borg where they discussed possibilities for further trade engagement and delegations.

Accompanied by his family and Consul-General in Sydney, the High Commissioner visited the residents of the St. Dominic's Elderly Home in Blacktown, on 13 November 2021. The delightful evening was featured by a mass celebrated by Fr Tarcisio Micallef MSSP, and later on by a community dinner event organised by the La Valette Social Centre, Blacktown NSW. During his speech, the High Commissioner recalled that in Malta, the Maltese community in Australia is still dearly held in everyone's thoughts – especially since most have relatives and loved ones in this geographically distant country. HC also reiterated the fervent need to keep Maltese cultural roots and values alive. H.E. Farrugia Borg met and thanked the President and members of the St. Nicholas Festa Committee for their hard work to retain the tradition as this feast is now part of an established Australian culture.

The following day, the High Commissioner and his family attended to mass, celebrated by Fr Tarcisio Micallef at the St Paul Fathers Chapel in Darlinghurst, followed by a visit to the Hamrun Club in Marsden Park. The Club President Joe Borg presented the High Commissioner with a plaque to commemorate this visit.

On the last day of his visit, the High Commissioner paid a visit to the George Cross Falcons Club in Cringilla, Wollongong where he met with the President and members of the Club. High Commissioner laid a wreath at the Anzacs Memorial of the George Cross Falcons Community Centre. H.E. Farrugia Borg thanked the club and its volunteers for their services to the Maltese community.

Finally, the High Commissioner ended his visit by meeting Fr. Leonard Testa OFM Conv. who presented High Commissioner a memento containing a photographic collection of the first Maltese who settled in Wollongong. H.E. Farrugia Borg expressed his gratitude for his work and dedication for the Maltese community.

Prof. Manwel Mifsud (2021) Lina Brockdorff (2020)

WINNERS OF THE GOLD MEDAL
"ĠIEĦ L-AKKADEMJA TAL-MALTI"

Il-Prof. Manwel Mifsud huwa eżempju ċar ta' kif ħidmet lingwista bħalu tista' tħalli l-frott tant mixtieq meta tmiss mal-ambjenti u l-imkejjen fejn titħaddem il-lingwa.
Prof. Manwel Mifsud is a clear example of how the work of a linguist like him can bear much desired fruit when it comes in contact with the environments and spaces where language is used.

Huwa bis-saħħa ta' *The Maltese e-Newsletter* li eluf ta' Maltin imferrxin mad-dinja kollha qed jibnu l-pontijiet u bilfors li trid tkun bl-Ingliż għax illum nafu li hemm ġenerazzjonijiet ta' Maltin li ftit li xejn jafu l-Malti. B'danakollu, xi artikli bil-Malti jagħmlu ġid u joħolqu kurżità u għal min għadu jaqra bil-Malti aktarx li jieħu gost bihom.

Kemm qed nieħu gost tgħidli li int ukoll kont tgħallem il-Malti u għaddew mijiet ta' studenti minn taħt idejk ġewwa Adelaide. Bħala Akkademja tal-Malti f'Ottubru konna mħabbtin sew għax kellna tliet kommemorazzjonijiet f'ġieħ Dun Karm f'għeluq il-150 sena minn twelidu.

Ilbieraħ ukoll kellna Ġieħ l-Akkademja tal-Malti taħt il-patroċinju tal-President ta' Malta u l-midalja tad-deheb din id-darba rebaħha Prof. Manwel Mifsud. Qed ngħaddilek l-istqarrija u xi ritratti. Grazzi tal-ħidma kollha minn tant bogħod u daqstant qrib, fl-istess ħin!

Saħħiet,
Joe Borg - Segretarju

. THE MAGICAL ILLUMINATED TRAIL IS BACK

…This time as a WALK THRU* experience at the Enchanting Verdala Palace in Buskett. **As per current regulations, all events in Malta are currently restricted to vaccinated attendees only. (See FAQs for more details.)A magical after-dark adventure for all the family, with loads of new attractions.*

Join us between the 3rd December till the 9th January at The Verdala Palace Buskett. Following the success of the last year's Magical Illuminated Trail Drive Thru edition, we are thrilled to announce that this year the event will be held as originally intended with a majestic Walk Thru experience at the Magical Verdala Palace in Buskett. A spectacular walk about journey through the walkways of one of Malta's National Historic Gems, featuring hundreds of NEW larger than life lantern illuminated sculptures, Light Installations, Projections and much more.

ring your family and your loved ones to see these fantastic glittering structures like the Huge Winged Dragon, the Midnight Express Train, the Arctic World, Candy Land and lots of other marvelous creatures.

Walk through the light tunnels, twinkling with thousands of fairy-lights and the mesmerising Palace gardens washed with colourful lights. The route will also include some incredible showstoppers, amazingly illuminated paths, irresistible selfie scenes as well as an impressive Projection on the Presidential Palace.

*Given the event is all outdoors, we recommend you dress appropriately. We always recommend wearing comfortable walking shoes with good grip as well as a suitable jacket, and bringing along an umbrella just in case it rains a little bit.*The Illuminated Trail Malta is supported the Ministry for Tourism and Consumer Protection, The Malta Tourism Authority and Arts Council Malta. The event will once again be held in aid of the Malta Community Chest Fund Foundation.

MONS. JOSE' AGIUS – BRAZIL, SOUTH AMERICA

Ghaziz Frank, Nittama li tinsab tajjeb wara l-vaganza f' Malta, art twelidna.

jien minn dejjem kelli xehta ghal-poezija u dejjem ktibt fil-pagni letterarji tar-rivisti Maltin sa minn mindu kelli 15 il-sena. U bqajt nikteb sal-lum. L-akbar sentiment li jiflini hi ezattament il-firda tal-emigrazzjoni. Dan ghaliex jien stess jien emigrant u l-bicca l-kbira ta niesi huma wkoll emigranti fl-Awstralja (Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Broken Hill, Tasmania) Il-firda nhossha wisq. Ghalekk, il-muza Maltija dejjem nebhitni n-nostalgija ta' niesi 'l boghod. Ghalekk, qed nibghatlek l-ewwel wahda minn dawn il-poeziji bhala omagg lil emigranti kollha Maltin tal-Awstralja. Grazzi hafna tal fuljett ghax veru joghgobni. Ikun fih taghrif li qatt qabel ma kont qrajt. Grazzi.

F'INZUL IX-XEMX

Hemm inhares il-barra mix-Xlendi
Fejn il-bahar ibus is-smewwiet
U ghal wara Ras Mahrax fi nzulha
Xemx dehbija tlellix fl-ilmijiet.

Wahdi nhares nitghaxxaq bid-dehra
Illi bhalha mkien iehor ma hemm
Waqt li l-mewg qed jitliegheb mal-blata
Sa ma d-dija tal-ajru tintemm.

U jixirfu bil-mod kwiekeb sofor
Li jizdiedu mal-medda tal-hin,
Qamar kwinta, sultan tal-iljieli
Jifrex dawlu fuq qtar imfarkin.

Hsiebi jimrah il-boghod minn gziriti
U jittajjar f' Repúbliki kbar
Fejn nies Malta mgieghlin mit-tbatija
Marru jfittxu ghixien wisq ahjar.

Hadu maghhom l-imhabba lejn arthom
U d-drawwiet f' liema gew imnisslin,
Hemm fil-boghod xhin ix-xemx tkun fi nzulha,
X' nostalgija tal-gzejjer Maltin.

U minn qalbhom jibghatu t-tislija:
"Xemx li tiddi fix-Xlendi dal-hin,
Jew ja qamar li d-dalma tindokra,
Aghti bewsti lil niesi mbieghdin".

Experiencing Malta in Four Seasons

By Nicolette Wong

If Malta's breathtaking views aren't enough to make you want to visit, it might pique your interest to know that Malta has also been said to have the best weather in the world. Sitting south of Sicily in the Mediterranean Sea, it encompasses the islands of Malta, Comino, and Gozo. You might recognise Malta as home to the famed Azure Window, which was a natural rock formation and one of the most awe-inspiring sights on the Mediterranean coast before its regrettable collapse in a storm. Malta might also ring a bell as the preferred landscape of Caravaggio, whose iconic work, "Beheading of St. John the Baptist" can still be viewed in the Oratory of the Co-Cathedral of St. John, Valletta. The country's surreal beauty and rich heritage have made it an increasingly popular travel destination, and here are some ways you can make the most of your time on the archipelago, while enjoying its temperate seasons.

Summer: Beaches, beaches, beaches Sun, sand and surf may be the oldest trick in the book when it comes to summering, but it's for good

reason. You might think that beaches are all the same: just sand and sea, but their compositions do vary vastly from shore to shore. Even Singapore's own Changi Beach has its distinctive character; beaches are anything but homogenous. So take your #SummerGoals game up a notch by going diving or snorkelling in Malta's fine selection of clear waters such as Mellieħa Bay, or visit Comino's Blue Lagoon, a swimmers' favourite for its teal waters and clear sand. Meantime, the inaccessible Fomm ir-Riħ promises great tranquility and wondrous views of the coast.

Autumn presents the perfect opportunity for you to watch the circle of life restart around you. Only a fifth of Malta is urbanised, which means there's a whole lot of nature left for you to explore. Bursting with lush vegetation, the Maltese village communities still thrive on agriculture and fishing. In both Gozo and Malta, sheep and goats roaming free are a common sight, reminding the busy city-dweller that life exists outside of modernity and all of its trappings. Taking a walking tour around islands also means that you'll get to fully appreciate the views that Malta has to offer as they unfurl around you. Replete with plunging cliffs and valleys, nature asserts its grand authority at every turn.

Winter: Rock Climbing Rock climbing might not be the first thing that comes to mind when you think of winter activities, but hear me out. The Maltese winters are a comfortable 17°C-20°C, so the weather is nice and cool, but you can still get away with packing light. The Maltese love their extreme sports, and the terrain allows you to choose between climbing, bouldering, deep-water soloing, abseiling and ziplining on one of their many coralline limestone rock outcrops. You'll be spoilt for choice with hundreds of climbing routes, catering to every level of proficiency. To really make the most of the winter, visit Mġarr ix-Xini Gozo, a bay on the island of Gozo which boasts a crag with a plethora of routes, set against the backdrop of a magnificent canyon. Soak up the winter sun and let every step of the climb be a reminder of all that you have to be thankful for.

Spring: Mgarr Strawberry Festival Ah, Spring. There's nothing like springtime, when you can do everything you'd do in the summer, sans the heat. It's time to wake up and smell the flowers, or in this case, strawberries. The annual Festa Frawli, or Strawberry Festival, marks the arrival of spring and is held in Mġarr, a small agricultural village whose strawberries are renowned the world over. Their strawberries are grown locally and are made sweeter by the almost-palpable taste of love Mġarr's farmers put into their craft.

If you're in the mood for something more experimental, why not head for the strawberry ravioli? In keeping with the flavour of the festival, local acts perform folk and ethnic music each year, in homage to the indigenous Mġarr culture. When you've sated your appetite with the assortment of strawberry-*everything:* from jams to cakes to wine, wash it all down by taking in the sweet sights of the surrounding Mediterranean landscapes such as Għajn Tuffieħa bay's coastline or Ġnejna bay.

Preserve Gozo's cultural and natural heritage, the situation is "desperate" BY GOZO NEWS

Photo by: Daniel Cilia – Koalizzjoni Ghal Ghawdex said that it believes that "we are still in time to save the unique characteristics of the island of Gozo for future generations, if we act now."

Koalizzjoni Ghal Ghawdex – is a coalition formed by three key Gozo-focused environmental and heritage NGOs, namely – Din L-Art Helwa Ghawdex, Ghawdix and Wirt Ghawdex, who have pledged to work together to protect and preserve the Gozitan built and natural heritage.

It stressed that "the situation is at a tipping point, and there is no room for complacency, procrastination or political maneuvering."

The Coalition stressed that, "the situation is desperate, and sanity must be restored to planning policies and their underpinning political decisions to avoid further disasters for the island of Gozo." The three organisations represent diverse segments of Gozitan society

and long-term, committed, Maltese and foreign residents of Gozo.

In a statement on Friday, Koalizzjoni Ghal Ghawdex said that, ”whilst continuing to operate as independent NGOs, the three organisations will speak out in one united voice to fight the many outrageous developments negatively impacting the Gozitan built environment, coast and countryside, reflecting the alarm and despair felt by most Gozo residents.”

Koalizzjoni Ghal Ghawdex said that it believes that, ”if we act now, we are still in time to save the unique characteristics of the island of Gozo for future generations.”

Koalizzjoni ghal Ghawdex explained that it will initially be focused on two elements. Firstly, lobbying the Government and the Planning Authority to close the existing loopholes in planning laws allowing unfettered inappropriate construction to destroy Gozo’s landscape.

Secondly, pressing the Government and planners to draw up a new long-term vision for Gozo, protecting its key resources, inherent beauty and tranquillity, that have drawn many people to its shores for decades.

They argued that Xlendi and Hondoq ir-Rummien are not St. George’s Bay and Bugibba. San Lawrenz, Qala and Xaghra are not Sliema, Msida and Gzira. ”The present ‘one-size-fits-all’ planning policies are not fit for purpose and need to be reviewed after proper consultation with communities, local councils, NGOs and the Gozo – based business bodies.”

Ghawdix, Wirt Ghawdex and Din L-Art Helwa Ghawdex, under the banner of Koalizzjoni ghal Ghawdex, declared that ”the situation in Gozo is at intolerable levels, and IMMEDIATE ACTION is necessary.”

The Coalition stated that it will ”work with the Government, mobilise public debate and opinion, and pursue every legal and constitutional avenue possible in defence of Gozo and its environment to ensure that public entities and officials do their duty.”

FacebookTwitterWhatsAppPinterestTumblrRedditShare

During the visit in NSW, the High Commissioner of Malta in Canberra H.E. Mario Farrugia Borg , accompanied by his family and Consul General for NSW Lawrence Buhagiar, also visited the Saint Dominic Elderly Home run by Maltese Franciscan sisters.

. GRIGADIER ALFRED GATT

Also known as the Dardanelles campaign, the eight-month battle of the Anzacs on the Turkish peninsula at Gallipoli is regarded as a microcosm of the violent tactics employed during World War I.

British forces veteran Alfred Gatt (right) – was one of four Maltese to be awarded the Military Cross. Main photo: Chris Sant Fournier

Alfred Gatt had served as part of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps in Gallipoli. It was not likely he was on the front lines, but he played an integral part in the supply and running of equipment on the battleground.

He was one of four Maltese to be awarded the Military Cross "for distinguished service in the field" and led a long military career which at one point saw him appointed commander of the fixed defences in Malta, with the rank of Brigadier

NOVEMBRU, GHALINA LI NEMMNU

minn Grech Caruana NSW

Novembru, ghalina l-insara li nemmnu, li il-hajja taghna hawn go dina l-art, hija qasira u li bhal ma ghamlu l-genituri taghna (il-bicca l-kbira minnha telqu, ghal ghand il-Hallieq). Hekk ukoll irridu naghmlu ahna. Dan ix-xahar ta' Novembru, naghtuh importanza specjali. Tara fjuri u dwal fuq l-oqbra ta' l-antenati taghna u nqimuhom iktar mis-soltu.

U L-Evangelu li taghtina l-knisja huwa ta' meta Sidna Gesù Kristu gie imsallab fuq is-salib fejn kellu zewg hallelin imsallbin mieghu. Wiehed minnhom (hekk imsejjah il-halliel il-hazin), beda jinki u jghid lil Gesù: "Jekk int tassew is-Sultan, fejna s-seta' li ghandek? Ehles lilek innifsek u lilna mieghek". Izda siehbu, fuq in-naha l-ohra, sikktu u camfru u qallu "Ahna haqqna li qedin hawn imsallbin. Imma dan ir-ragel huwa nnocenti, u gie msallab bla htija". Imbaghad dar lejn Gesù u qallu, "Gesù, ftakar fija meta tkun fis-Saltna tieghek". U Gesù wiegbu "Tassew tassew ,inghidlek li illum stess tkun il-Genna mieghi".

Il-halliel it-tajjeb, ghalkemm ghex hajja xxellerat, ma qatax qalbu u talab mahfra. U Gesu' wiegbu "Illum stess tkun il-genna mieghi", il-qalb ta' Gesù ma damitx ma hafret lil dan l-imsejken midneb. U hawn, ghandna ezempju klassiku, li Alla l-imbierek, ma jghajja qatt jahfer. Huwa jaf li ahna midimbin u facli li naqaw sikwit, imma, il-Mulej huwa hniena bla qies u nerga nghid ma jghajja qatt jahfrilna n-nuqqasijiet.

Imma tghidu, kif ahna, nistghu, immorru ngawdu l-hena ta' dejjem? Gheziez semmiegha, din ir-risposta hadta fil-funeral ta' missieri l-ghaziz (u hawn nixtieq nghid li d-demm tal-Volontarjat, li ghandi go fija, gej minn ghand missieri. Ghax missieri, kien fil-Legion of Mary, anzi kien fil-kumitat nazzjonali ta' Malta. U bhal ma jaf kulhadd, dawn, ix-xoghol volontarju taghhom hu Li jzuru l-morda, lix-xjuh, go djarhom u fid-djar tal-anzjani, izuru lil habsin u hafna xoghol iehor, individwali li jaghamluh fis-skiet tul-hajjithom.

Issa ghall-funeral ta' Missieri kien hemm zewg busses ta' anzjani li missieri kien imur izur ta' sikwit, jekk mhux kuljum. U ghall-quddiesa tal-funeral il-Pa kellu zewg sacerdoti lecturers fl-universita ta' Malta. U waqt l-Omelja li wiehed minnhom kien qed jaghmel, dwar l-ghaziz missieri, dan is-sacerdot qal lil kongregazzjoni migbjura. "Ir-Religjon taghna hija imsejsa fuq l-opri tal-hniena li jmissu l-gisem, u jekk tridu prova, li l-Mulej laqa' lil GANNI b'idejh miftuha, HUMA DAWN L-ANZJANI li Ganni kien, imur izur u jikkonforta. U hawn hi r-risposta, tigi waheda, irridu nuru rispett, u mhabba lil tal-familja u lil qrabatna.u ta' bnedmin li ahna, irridu nipprovaw, kemm nistghu nahfru lil min iweggana. Naf li min jwegghek mhux facli li tinsa; izda, tnejn hziena ma jghamlux wahda tajba. Ghalhekk ejjew ma naqtghux qalbna u ma ninsewx lil gheziez taghna. Ghaliex lil gheziez taghna, Gesu qalilhom ukoll, li tkunu il-Genna mieghi.

Personalment, jien ghadni nemmen hafna f'missieri l-ghaziz.u meta nkun taht il-madmad tal-inkwiet tal-familja indur lejh, u nitolbu jghejni. U emnuni li meta nghidlu, PA ghini, ma nafx, inhoss bhal shana helwa go sidri, li timlini bil-kuragg, biex nibqa ghaddej u ma naqtax qalbi. Wara kollox il- hajja hekk. Missieri kien jghidilna l-hajja mizzewga hija bhal sigra tal-ward, fiha l-ward sabieh kieku…imma fiha wkoll ix-xewk, u rridu jew ma rridux, jkollna naccettaw ix-xewk ukoll. Ghalhekk l-ahwa, ma ninsewx lil gheziez taghna li bosta minnhom, ghamlu sagrificcji kbar ghalina imsieken. Aghtihom O Mulej il-mistrieh ta' dejjem u d-dawl ta' dejjem jiddi fuqhom u jistriehu fis-Sliem. Hekk ikun.

Grand Master Festing to be buried in the Grand Masters' crypt at St. John's Co-Cathedral, Malta

Fra' Matthew Festing, the former Grand Master of the Order of Malta, died on Friday at the age of 71.

Festing served as the 79th Grand Master of the lay religious order, founded in Jerusalem in the 11th century, from 2008 to his resignation in 2017.

The order's Grand Magistry **said** that Festing felt ill after attending a solemn profession of religious vows at St John's Co-Cathedral in Valletta, Malta, on Nov. 4. He was admitted to hospital and died on Nov. 12.

Robert Matthew Festing was born on Nov. 30, 1949, in Tarset, northern England, the youngest son of Field Marshal Sir Francis Festing, a senior British Army officer.

Grand Master Emeritus of the Order of St. John Fra Matthew Festing will be the 12th Grand Master of the Order to be buried in the crypt of St. John's Co-Cathedral which has not seen any burials take place for hundreds of years.

This, after the Festing family accepted the offer made to them by the Maltese Government to bury Grand Master Festing in Malta.

The news centre is also informed that Pope Francis, under whom the Order of St. John falls, will send Cardinal Tomasi to concelebrate the funeral of the 79th Grand Master of the Order.

The crypt of the Grand Masters is located under the Co-Cathedral of St. John, considered Valletta's cultural jewel and the most significant contribution and monument by the Knights in Malta because it was the conventual church of the Order

IF YOU HAVE A STORY TO TELL SHARE IT WITH OTHERS.
SEND TO US FOR PUBLICATION

maltesejournal@gmail.com

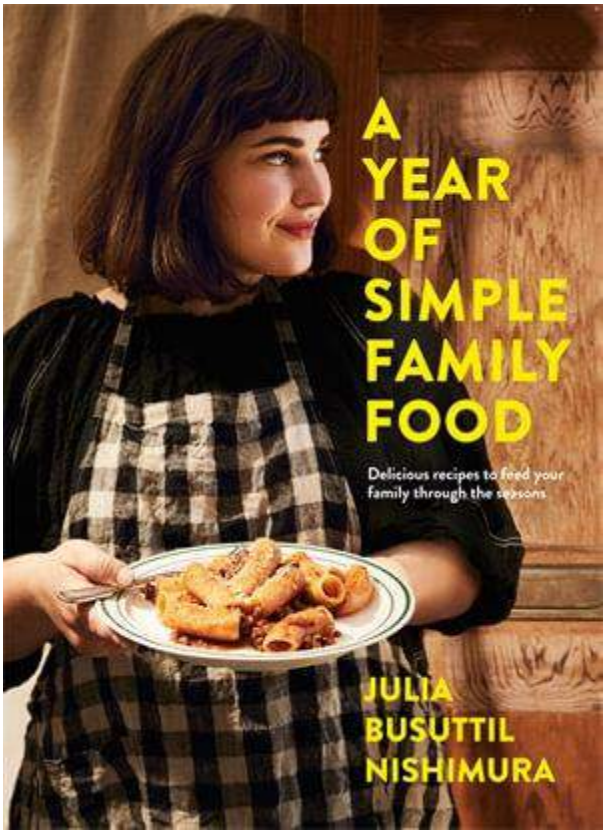
MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

CONNECTING COMMUNITIES
BUILDING BRIDGES

Journal of Maltese Living Abroad

maltesejournal@gmail.com

Readers from these countries sent us emails - Malta, Gozo, Albania, Canada, United States, UK, Spain, Brazil, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand



JULIA BUSUTTIL NISHIMURA

is a cook, author and teacher, based in Melbourne, Australia.

Her food celebrates simple ingredients and seasonal produce and is influenced by her Maltese upbringing and time living in Italy. She is a regular contributor to Australian and international publications such as The Design Files, Country Style Magazine, ABC and Good Food.

Julia is the author of two best-selling cookbooks. Her first cookbook, Ostro, was published in 2017 and shortlisted for the 2018 ABIA 'Illustrated Book of the Year' and named in Gourmet Traveller's 'Best Food Books for 2017'. Ostro was re-released with a new cover in 2021 and was named by Booktopia books as a 'Modern Australian Classic'.

Julia's second cookbook A Year of Simple Family Food was published in 2020 and sold out before before it's release date! It has already been reprinted several times, cementing it as one of the favourite Australian cookbooks of 2020. It was names Kinokuniya Cookbook of the year 2020 and shortlisted for the 20221 ABIA 'Illustrated Book of the Year'. *Julia's third book is due for release in 2022.*

WHEN THE BRITISH EMPIRE WAGED WAR ON THE MALTESE GOAT

Malta's hidden treasures: 'Offending the goat offended the local lifestyle'

Jessica Arena

Boy milking goat into a glass as children in Valletta wait to drink the goat's milk. Postcard courtesy of Caroline Farrow

For nearly a century, the British waged war on the Maltese goat, a humble farm animal blamed by the occupiers for an illness that had swept over their troops.

But the goat was an important element in the local food chain, and the Maltese resisted the occupiers' attempts at eradicating goats from the islands until they were threatened by food security in World War II.

During the war, the island's isolation threatened its food supply, a scenario that Malta relived in 2020 when COVID took the world by storm."I think food security has, and will always be, an issue in Malta. When COVID-19 hit there was absolute havoc. We are small and so dependent on food importation, that the fact food may not reach our shores obviously gives rise to panic," National Archives researcher Horace Vella told *Times of Malta*.In 1942, the situation was quite dire, and goats were being slaughtered left, right and centre to feed the locals, depleting the goat population once and for allPeople were promised new flocks in exchange for the slaughtered ones, but by the end of the war, the northern European tradition of cow's milk had trumped Malta's relationship with the goat. This relationship was first threatened during the Crimean War, around 1854. "The British needed their troops in Malta to be as healthy as possible, but several were being found sick or maligned with a specific undulant fever. The fever was coming and going in waves, something the British found strange.

"One of the military's investigating doctors, Captain David Bruce, discovered the bacteria that was causing the diseases. It was later named brucellosis after him. Then in 1905, Sir Temi Zammit discovered that the goat was carrying this fever."

In order to protect its local garrison, the British government ordered the slaughter of sick goats.

'Offending the goat offended the local lifestyle'

Laying the blame for the Malta Fever on the goats did not go down well with the Maltese, who relied on goat's milk as a part of their daily nutrition.

The goat had adapted well to the Maltese climate: Malta is a semi-arid Mediterranean island with limited vegetation, and the goat's digestive system meant the animal could thrive on garigue flora while yielding a good amount of milk. Milk was supplied directly from the goats

The slaughter order found huge opposition from herdsmen whose business was suddenly dealt a blow, but also the general populace, who found the provision system of goat's milk quite convenient.

"The Maltese like to be spoiled in all aspects. Much like how in some places we can get bread on our doorstep, the herdsmen used to take their flock through village roads providing fresh milk directly from the goat.

"People used this milk in their day-to-day lives. They put it in their drink and food and fed infants with it. The goat was ingrained and entangled in our daily life, so when you offend the goat, you were also offending the local lifestyle."

Despite the locals' resistance, the undulant fever was not going away anytime soon. Cases continued to grow in the 1930s and so did the assault on the Maltese goat.

The British government sought to eliminate the presence of the goat by trying to eliminate dependence on it. It did not want another riot like that of 1919 triggered by bread prices and food shortage, so in 1932 the British pushed for pasteurisation.

Herdsman were required to take goats to milking stations in Ħamrun, San Ġwann and Tarxien, where the milk would be pasteurised, and by 1938 goats vanished from Valletta streets.

Today's Mediterranean Conference Centre, known during the British rule as the Valletta Station Hospital

It was only in WWII, when the Empire had to tighten its belt and introduce rationing, that the Maltese goats once again featured in a slaughter policy.

In 1942, Jack Cecil Drummond took stock of the food situation in Malta and it was clear that the British biochemist did not look on the Maltese goat favourably.

City Gate Valletta

"According to Drummond, the goat was an 'uneconomic unit' trampling the roads… and leaving its droppings all over the place. He differed with what locals reported of its milk quality and said that it could not compare to British goats."

Drummond recommended a slaughter policy, closing a long chapter on the Maltese goat.

This article is being published as part of a series called Malta's hidden treasures, a collaboration between the National Archives of Malta and Times of Malta.

Knights, dames and priests invested at St John's Co-Cathedral

Agostina Galea Cavallazzi Cassar being invested as a dame by Cardinal Fernando Filoni. Photo: Ian Noel Pace

Seven knights, seven dames and three priests were invested during a ceremony by the Knights of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem at St John's Co-Cathedral in Valletta last Saturday.

The knight investees were Josef Aquilina, Joe Bajada, Richard Nicholas Cassar, Clayton Luke Mula, Anthony Saliba, Mark Sciberras and Kenneth Vella while the dame investees were Clementine Aveta, Lydia Buttigieg, Cynthia de Giorgio, Daphne Fenech, Agostina Galea Cavallazzi Cassar, Amy Sciberras and Miriam Sciberras.

The priest investees were Robin Camilleri, Lawrence Sciberras and Louis Suban.

Two special awards were conferred: Mgr Knight Grand Officer Paul Cremona, OP, Archbishop Emeritus of Malta, was awarded the Gold Palm of Jerusalem, while Mgr Alessandro D'Errico was awarded the Cross of Merit with Silver Star.

The ceremony was celebrated by Cardinal Grand Master Fernando Filoni in the presence of the Order's Grand Prior, Mgr Charles Scicluna, Apostolic Nuncio Mgr Alessandro D'Errico, the Lieutenant for Malta Roberto Buontempo and Governor General Leonardo Visconti di Modrone and the lieutenants of Central Apennine Italy, Sardinia and Sweden-Denmark, as well as the Ambassador of Italy to Malta, Fabrizio Romano.

The newly invested knights and dames, including three ecclesiastical knights, after the investiture ceremony at St John's Co-Cathedral, on November 6. Photo: Ian Noel Pace

The members of the EOHSJ Malta during the investiture ceremony. Photo: Ian Noel Pace The ceremony was also attended by Daniel de Petri Testaferrata, president of the Maltese Association of the Sovereign Military and Hospitaller Order of St John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta.

Prior to the ceremony, on November 4, Mgr Scicluna visited Santa Maria Ta' Doni church, in Rabat, to bless a commemorative plaque on the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem in Malta. The church was transferred to the Maltese Lieutenancy in 2020.

A Vigil of Arms was held at the basilica of the Nativity of Mary, in Senglea, on November 5.

THE ORDER IN MALTA

Many historians trace the Order's origins to the First Crusade and the conquest of Jerusalem by Geoffrey de Bouillon in the year 1099.

It has been present in Malta since the mid-19th century but it was not constituted as an official body until a few decades ago. In 1994, Chev. Louis Gera Lauron dei Marchesi Testaferrata, a member of the Order, embarked on a project to set up an official jurisdiction of the Order. With the assistance of the late Victor Licari, he embarked on this project which came to fruition through the intervention of Mgr Emmanuel Gerada, titular Archbishop of Nomentum and Apostolic Nuncio to Ireland who retired and settled in Malta in 1995. The lieutenancies of Ireland and Scotland contributed to the birth of the Maltese jurisdiction.

Cardinal Fernando Filoni praying inside the Chapel of the Holy Sacrament before the Vigil of Arms at the Basilica of the Nativity of Mary in Senglea on November 5. Photo: Ian Noel Pace

The Magistral Delegation of Malta was installed by Grand Master Cardinal Caprio by decree of March 10, 1996. On September 14, 1996, the first investiture of the Magistral Delegation of Malta was held at the church of Holy Mary of Jesus, in Valletta, by Grand Master Cardinal Furno.

On May 25, 2000, the Magistral Delegation of Malta was elevated to a lieutenancy by decree of Cardinal Furno. The first lieutenant was Knight Grand Cross Victor Licari, followed by Knight Grand Cross Eric Fenech Pace.

In January 2019, Knight Grand Officer Roberto Buontempo was appointed. In the year 2020, Mgr Scicluna, Archbishop of Malta and Grand Prior of the Order, granted the Maltese lieutenancy the use of the church of Santa Maria ta' Doni in Rabat as its ecclesiastical seat.

PURPOSES OF THE ORDER

The purposes of the Order are multifold. It aims to strengthen in its members the practice of Christian life, in absolute fidelity to the Supreme Pontiff and according to the teachings of the Church, observing as its foundation the principles of charity which make the Order a fundamental means of assistance to the Holy Land.

It also works to sustain and aid the charitable, cultural and social works and institutions of the Catholic Church in the Holy Land, particularly those of and in the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, with which the Order maintains traditional ties.

Another one of its missions is to support the preservation and propagation of the faith in those lands, and promote interest in this work not only among Catholics scattered throughout the world, who are united in charity by the symbol of the Order, but also among all other Christians.

Last, but not least, the Order strives to uphold the rights of the Catholic Church in the Holy Land. The Order is a central entity of the Catholic Church.

BECOMING A KNIGHT

Joining the Order means making a lifetime commitment to witness to the faith, practise Christian life and carry forward charitable works for the moral and material support of the Christian communities of the Holy Land, always acting with that discretion which distinguishes Christian charitable efforts.The purpose of joining the Order is to serve the Catholic Church and promote initiatives to preserve the Christian presence in the Holy Land in a dynamic of dialogue and peace with followers of other religious traditions. The purpose of joining the Order is not to become a member of a prestigious organisation in order to boast of one's status or acquire personal benefits and advantages.

Usually, though not always, a candidate is presented by an existing member of the Order. In Malta, an admissions commission appointed by the Lieutenant assesses the candidate at an initial interview. If his/her attributes are generally considered to meet requirements, the candidate can begin a period of formation of no less than 12 months. This includes attending a number of formation lectures, after which the Lieutenant writes to Rome, with the Grand Prior's endorsement, recommending the individual to be admitted.In Rome, another commission studies the dossier and if it is approved, the file goes to the Cardinal Grand Master. The last step is the issuing of a diploma from the secretariat of the Vatican state. Times of Malta

Valletta's underground labyrinth of tunnels now open to the public

A visit to our capital city may now be enhanced by experiencing Underground Valletta, a newly launched Heritage Malta site which sheds light on the different uses of the passageways beneath Valletta along the centuries while enabling visitors to admire the marvellous engineering entailed in the construction of this city. The underground spaces now open to the public consist mainly of the tunnels that provided sanitary facilities for the new city built by the Knights on Mount Sciberras, the wells and cisterns where water was stored hundreds of years ago, and the shelters dug out in the Second World War, where Valletta residents sought refuge during air raids.

The Knights used Valletta's underground spaces for military purposes and for grain storage, but the tunnels were also essential for two other crucial reasons: water and drainage. Both were vital for the city's survival under siege, but also in times of peace. Valletta's water supply was used only once during a siege—when the French were blockaded inside the city by the Maltese, who immediately cut off the water supply from the aqueduct but could do nothing to prevent the French from using the millions of gallons of water stored in Valletta's underground cisterns.

Many years later, during the Second World War, the last important chapter for subterranean Valletta unfolded with the increase of its tunnels and their use as shelters. Thousands spent nights crammed down there, deprived of decent sanitary facilities and sufficient food supplies, spurred on by the hope that another raid raid would soon be over and that they would manage to get out safe and sound. Underground Valletta was officially launched in the presence of Minister for the National Heritage, the Arts and Local Government José Herrera, and Heritage Malta's top management.

Minister Herrera said that Valletta, a World Heritage Site, cannot be fully appreciated without experiencing that which lies beneath it. Thanks to Heritage Malta, the public now has the opportunity to experience the capital city more completely and appreciate some of its facets that previously may have been overlooked.

Heritage Malta's Chairman, Anthony Scicluna, said that through Underground Valletta, Heritage Malta will be exploring the use of a subterranean resource across two distinct periods – the Knights' rule and World War II during the British rule. The curatorial aim is to garner as much knowledge as possible so as to disseminate it in various ways to different audiences.

Mario Cutajar, Heritage Malta's Executive Director, said that for today's generations Underground Valletta represents inaccessibility itself due to its very nature, and they can barely imagine that in the early 1940s the Maltese made use of this inaccessible place to shelter from the bombings of the Second World War. Heritage Malta is giving new meaning to accessibility by putting within reach what was previously out of reach. Accessibility is not just ramps and exhibitions but also delving behind the scenes of our history to make it available for all. Mr Cutajar remarked that those who built our capital city wasted no resources but created cisterns and passageways out of quarries that became the foundations of a city destined to be a world heritage site.Heritage Malta's Chief Executive Officer, Noel Zammit, spoke of Heritage Malta's constant commitment towards increasing public accessibility to Malta's heritage. He said that by opening this unique site beneath Valletta, Heritage Malta is offering visitors a more holistic and satisfactory experience of the historic sites within the capital city, as envisaged in the agency's strategy for Valletta.

The entrance to Underground Valletta is in St John Square. Guided tours of the site will commence as of next Sunday, 7th November. There will be four tours per week—two on Wednesdays and two on Sundays. More information about tickets and opening hours may be found at www.heritagemalta.org.

Man's perception of death on the Maltese Islands, from the times of the Phoenicians and the Romans until the period of the Knights, will be explored in the third webinar organised by Heritage Malta in the 'Malta Oskura' series.

Webinar Registration
DEATH CUSTOMS IN MALTA
Facebook Twitter LinkedIn Microsoft (Outlook) **HERITAGE MALTA**

Following the success of the first two webinars in the series, which featured Mdina and Rabat as well as the history of judicial hanging in Malta, 'Malta Oskura: Il-Mewt' will descend into the darkness of various old burial sites and attempt to answer several questions.

What was death to the early inhabitants of these islands? Was it merely a cessation of life where the deceased were to be respectfully laid in the final resting place? Was sacrifice necessary? Was death to be feared, or was it a source of supernatural power and knowledge for those who knew how to wield it?

The webinar will also provide insight into the reasons behind old practices that have long aroused our curiosity but always remained shrouded in mystery, such as the Roman gladiatorial games. It will recount how the so called 'Dark Ages' brought along a different approach to death, and how the Knights of the Order of St John introduced a new concept of death, namely holy war.

'Malta Oskura: Il-Mewt' will be aired on Tuesday 30th November at 20:30. It will start with a short documentary, approximately 20 minutes long, which will be in Maltese, with English subtitles. This will be followed by a question and answer session.

Time Nov 30, 2021 08:30 PM in Rome Malta's funeral customs are known for their detailed rites. These customs are rooted in a Catholic tradition and are similar to those of nearby Sicily.

CELEBRATION - Death is not a taboo subject in Maltese culture. Citizens celebrate death and several daily routines reflect the Maltese respect for death. Every Maltese village has a high concentration of churches, which ring their bells at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. to mark the beginning of funerals. Funeral processions are elaborate, with large flower-covered coffins that shut down traffic in the city regularly. Obituaries are announced over the radio each morning.

SALT - One of the oldest traditions is the practice of placing salt on the stomach of the deceased, known as being "salted for the pit." In the pre-modern period, families often preserved bodies in a saline solution, but many families simply placed a small amount of salt in a dish and laid it on top of the body, believing this helped preserve it. Many families still follow the practice today as a tradition.

COVERING MIRRORS Prior to the funeral, the body is kept in the family's house. According to the Journal of Folklore, Maltese people traditionally cover all mirrors in accordance with the traditional belief that mirrors are supernatural portals for spirits. Some families will remove mirrors from their rooms altogether and extend the practice to paintings in the death chamber where the body lies. Similarly, family members often remove furniture from the room to avoid tainting it with the presence of the dead.

OTHER TRADITIONS Maltese citizens follow a number of other traditions that reflect the various cultures that passed through the country at different times. Family members often wash the body of the deceased before covering it with a shroud. They also close the eyes of the deceased if left open and raise the chin with a white kerchief. Finally, family members remove all knobs and knockers from their doors and leave their doors shut for several days, and neighbors follow suit by leaving their doors half-closed

NEW SOUTH WALES

A MILSTONE FOR THE CRINGILA MALTESE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Mr. Parnis, the club' president, Mario Farrugia Borg, Malta High Commissioner and Lawrence Buhagiar Consul-general of Malta came together to mark the 70th anniversary of the club.

THE Maltese community celebrated 70 years as a central pillar of the Cringila community yesterday. The George Cross Falcons Club was built in 1951 to serve the Maltese community in the Illawarra region. Club president Louis Parnis said the club was built to solve the homesickness of new Maltese migrants, but over the years had evolved into something far beyond its original purpose. "A group of men decided they would build a place to congregate, where visiting dignitaries from Malta could visit to make them feel more at home,"

Mr Panis said. "The foundations were built with garden picks, not jackhammers; there are people who are 86 now who were young kids helping move the bricks." Today the club is home to the local Country Women's Association Branch, Men's Sheds and supports local charities. It has hosted celebrations, Including the annual feast of Our Lady of Victories, commemorating the end of the Siege of Malta of 1565 and that of World War 2. "Maltese celebrations are all about togetherness," Mr. Parnis said. The second and third generations still come together to celebrate their grandparents' legacy:

Mr. Parnis thanked the center staff, Local, State and Federal governments for their support. A function will be held at the club on December 4 to reminisce about the past 70 years - ZOE CARTWRIGHT

BRITISH EMPIRE waged war on the Maltese goat

Malta's hidden treasures: 'Offending the goat offended the local lifestyle'

Jessica Arena

Boy milking goat into a glass as children in Valletta wait to drink the goat's milk. Postcard courtesy of Caroline Farrow

For nearly a century, the British waged war on the Maltese goat, a humble farm animal blamed by the occupiers for an illness that had swept over their troops.

But the goat was an important element in the local food chain, and the Maltese resisted the occupiers' attempts at eradicating goats from the islands until they were threatened by food security in World War II.

During the war, the island's isolation threatened its food supply, a scenario that Malta relived in 2020 when COVID took the world by storm."I think food security has, and will always be, an issue in Malta. When COVID-19 hit there was absolute havoc. We are small and so dependent on food importation, that the fact food may not reach our shores obviously gives rise to panic," National Archives researcher Horace Vella told *Times of Malta*.In 1942, the situation was quite dire, and goats were being slaughtered left, right and centre to feed the locals, depleting the goat population once and for allPeople were promised new flocks in exchange for the slaughtered ones, but by the end of the war, the northern European tradition of cow's milk had trumped Malta's relationship with the goat. This relationship was first threatened during the Crimean War, around 1854. "The British needed their troops in Malta to be as healthy as possible, but several were being found sick or maligned with a specific undulant fever. The fever was coming and going in waves, something the British found strange.

"One of the military's investigating doctors, Captain David Bruce, discovered the bacteria that was causing the diseases. It was later named brucellosis after him. Then in 1905, Sir Temi Zammit discovered that the goat was carrying this fever."

In order to protect its local garrison, the British government ordered the slaughter of sick goats.

'Offending the goat offended the local lifestyle'

Laying the blame for the Malta Fever on the goats did not go down well with the Maltese, who relied on goat's milk as a part of their daily nutrition.

The goat had adapted well to the Maltese climate: Malta is a semi-arid Mediterranean island with limited vegetation, and the goat's digestive system meant the animal could thrive on garigue flora while yielding a good amount of milk.

Milk was supplied directly from the goats

The slaughter order found huge opposition from herdsmen whose business was suddenly dealt a blow, but also the general populace, who found the provision system of goat's milk quite convenient.

"The Maltese like to be spoiled in all aspects. Much like how in some places we can get bread on our doorstep, the herdsmen used to take their flock through village roads providing fresh milk directly from the goat.

"People used this milk in their day-to-day lives. They put it in their drink and food and fed infants with it. The goat was ingrained and entangled in our daily life, so when you offend the goat, you were also offending the local lifestyle."

Despite the locals' resistance, the undulant fever was not going away anytime soon. Cases continued to grow in the 1930s and so did the assault on the Maltese goat.

The British government sought to eliminate the presence of the goat by trying to eliminate dependence on it. It did not want another riot like that of 1919 triggered by bread prices and food shortage, so in 1932 the British pushed for pasteurisation.

Herdsman were required to take goats to milking stations in Ħamrun, San Ġwann and Tarxien, where the milk would be pasteurised, and by 1938 goats vanished from Valletta streets.

Today's Mediterranean Conference Centre, known during the British rule as the Valletta Station Hospital

It was only in WWII, when the Empire had to tighten its belt and introduce rationing, that the Maltese goats once again featured in a slaughter policy.

In 1942, Jack Cecil Drummond took stock of the food situation in Malta and it was clear that the British biochemist did not look on the Maltese goat favourably.

"According to Drummond, the goat was an 'uneconomic unit' trampling the roads… and leaving its droppings all over the place. He differed with what locals reported of its milk quality and said that it could not compare to British goats."

Drummond recommended a slaughter policy, closing a long chapter on the Maltese goat.

- *This article is being published as part of a series called Malta's hidden treasures, a collaboration between the National Archives of Malta and Times of Malta.*

THE MALTESE-AMERICAN BENEVOLENT SOCIETY, INC. (DETROIT)

The club for the Maltese in the heart of Detroit's historic Corktown District

Annual Festa Il-Victoria

History of the Festa

Each September 8th the Maltese gather to celebrate Our Lady of Victory, Maria Bambina. September 8th is the Birth of Our Lady, the Mother of God and is tied to two important dates of victory and rebirth in history. The first victory is known as the Great Siege of 1565. This is where the Ottoman Empire was set out to crush Christianity in Europe and established base in Malta. For five months the island defended the shores and on 8 September 1565 the remaining Turkish army left Malta. Then again during the Second World War, after three years of withstanding bombs from the Italian air force, the Maltese people and British forces defended the islands and the siege was truly lifted on 8 September 1943 when Italy ceded.

CelebrationThe Maltese American Benevolent Society has been hosting the Festa Il-Victoria for the past 12 years. This is a day of joyous celebration. The day begins with a Mass at Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church followed by festivities at the Maltese American Benevolent Society in Detroit, Michigan. Traditional Maltese dishes are served as well as American cuisine. In addition to food, there are Maltese vendors and a 50/50 raffle. This event is the pinnicle of Maltese Celebration in Detroit.

On September 11th, 2021, we held our 12th annual festa. With the COVID-19 pandemic, it was incredibly exciting to finally host an event filled with Maltese people. The day started with Mass at Most Holy Trinity. The club introduced a beautiful new statue of Our Lady of Victory, commissioned in Malta, and blessed by Monsignor Kosanke. The day was warm and nice with a large turnout. Rabbit Stew and Baked Macaroni were the highlighted Maltese dishes. Our vendors included Rachel Cini-Darin with Petite Patroits, Paul & Maria Galea with homeade Maltese cheese, Mary Anne Hart with etched insulated drink bottles and apparel, and Gract Muscat Harris with stained glass and jewelry. Overall, it was a great event! Be on the lookout for details for the 2022 festa

Godfrey Sultana and the La Valette Committee welcome the Maltese High Commissioner in Australia H.E. Mario Farrugia Borg and Lawreence Buhagiar Consul-general for NSW at the La Valette Social Centre - Blacktown NSW

HE Mario Farrugia Borg High Commissioner of Malta, accompanied by Consul General for NSW Mr Lawrence Buhagiar , met with HE the Hon Margaret Beazley Governor of New South Wales.

This Journal is archived at Museums, Schools, Libraries Maltese Clubs, Aged Care Homes and on FACEBOOK and the Website www.ozmalta.com

I THANK ALL THOSE WHO READ AND SUPPORT THIS JOURNAL AND ALL THOSE WHO SENT A MESSAGE OF THANKS AND CONGRATULATIONS. IT'S NOT TOO LATE, YOU STILL CAN JOIN THE OTHER MALTESE FELLOWS AND BE PART OF THIS VENTURE

MALTESE CENTER
ASTORIA - NEW YORK
USA

It was a great honor to welcome
Hon Dr. Jose Herrera
the Minister of National Heritage,
the Arts and the Local government
with his delegation,
and Ambassador Vanessa Frazier
the Permanent Representative
to the United Nations,
and Consul of New York
Giovanni Buttigieg.

WE SUPPORT ALL THE MALTESE COMMUNITIES AROUND THE WORLD. THEY DO A GOOD JOB

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU NEXT TIME
STAY SAFE AND TAKE CARE