



 **Maltese eNewsletter**
Journal of Maltese Living Abroad
Editor: Frank Scicluna OAM MQR
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**HAPPY
CANADA DAY**



**Thursday
1 July 2021**

**Happy
4TH OF JULY
INDEPENDENCE DAY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**



**We
move
forward
together**

**President
of Malta
George Vella**



Pope meets Spiderman

 **We acknowledge and are proud of
Maltese Achievers Living Abroad** 



Alzheimer's Disease International

Malta Dementia Society

www.alzint.org/member/malta-dementia-society

Let's talk
about
dementia

People with dementia and their families, relatives and friends can share these resources and tips to help our community better support people living with dementia, so they can live their lives to the fullest.

Close to half a million Australians live with dementia - a collection of symptoms caused by disorders affecting the brain - and that number is expected to double in the next 25 years. Many Australians will start experiencing the impact of dementia amongst their own family and friends in the coming years. People from CALD communities also face extra challenges around access to information and services.

With so many people impacted now and into the future, it is vital we clear up some of the prevailing misconceptions about dementia. People living with dementia can continue to live active and rich lives many years after diagnosis. It is our role as a community to do the best we can to support people living with dementia to live well for as long as possible.

Culturally diverse Australians living with dementia 'face extra challenges'

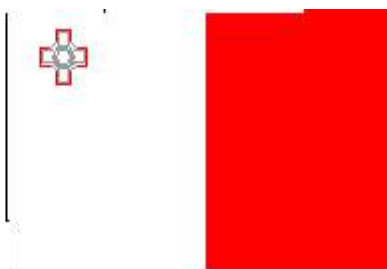


The number of Australians living with dementia from non-English-speaking backgrounds is estimated to be around one in eight or as high as one in six in Victoria. According to the survey released by Dementia Australia this week, it is alarming that three in four Australians living with dementia said people do not keep in touch like they used to, and those with non-English-speaking backgrounds are facing additional challenges around access to information and services. Some of the difficulties for multicultural communities include the lack of understanding of the disease and

the support services that are available. Some languages do not even have a word for dementia. Additionally, many people from a CALD background revert to their language of origin or mother tongue as their dementia progresses, and this can leave them to be misunderstood by carers and even their own families. Dementia Australia has fact sheets and resources available on their website in 43 languages to assist CALD community members to understand the disease. Dementia Australia provides wonderful support services that are linguistically and culturally sensitive to address the unique needs of people from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds living with dementia.

The recent survey also revealed that almost two in three respondents say people that they know have been avoiding or excluding them. So, in this Dementia Action Week, I ask our community and our world to continue to be open to people living with dementia, with the theme of action week being 'A little support makes a lot of difference'. Find resources translated into more than 40 languages including Arabic, Armenian, Assyrian, Bengali, Cantonese, Croatian, Dari, Dinka, Dutch, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hazaragi, Hindi, Hungarian, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Lao, Latvian, Lithuanian, Macedonian, **Maltese**, Mandarin, Polish, Portuguese, Punjabi, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Somali, Spanish, Swahili, Tagalog, Tamil, Thai, Turkish, Ukrainian, Urdu and Vietnamese on the Dementia Australia website at: <https://www.dementia.org.au/languages>

We are proud of our Maltese Achievers



Malta donates 5000 face shields to Nepal

Press Release Issue Date: Jun 15, 2021

Malta donated 5,000 visors to Nepal. The consignment arrived at Nepal's Kathmandu

International Airport on Sunday 13 June 2021 after having been transported from Malta to Nepal via Austria through the collaboration of the Civil Protection Department of Malta and the EU Civil Protection Mechanism.

Malta's Ambassador Designate to Nepal, H.E. Reuben Gauci, who is also the resident High Commissioner of Malta in New Delhi, India, said that the visors were donated by the Maltese Company 2KR Designs Ltd, which also designed and manufactured these facemasks.

In view of the current COVID19 crises in Nepal, the Nepali Government made a request for assistance via the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. The EU Delegation in Nepal, headed by Ambassador H.E. Nona Deprez requested all Embassies of EU Member States to reach out to their respective Capitals to supply aid.

Nepal is a landlocked country in South Asia and has eight of the world's ten tallest mountains, including Mount Everest, the highest point on Earth. Diplomatic Relations between Malta and Nepal were established in 25 September 198. The Malta High Commission in New Delhi, India is currently accredited as Malta's non-resident Embassy to Nepal.



GOVERNMENT OF MALTA
MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN
AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS



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Housing authority CEO Leonid McKay (left), social accommodation minister Roderick Galdes (centre) and President Emeritus Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca at the signing of the agreement.
Photo: DOI/Jeremy Wonnacott.

Villa In Birkirkara Will Be Converted Into Malta's First Music School For Autistic Children

The Government will be helping in the regeneration of an old building in Birkirkara to transform it into a music centre for children with disability and autism. Through the Housing Authority, the Government will be

giving the sum of 58,543 euro to the Malta Trust Foundation for the restoration of Villa Bianca and its use for this purpose.

Social Accommodation Minister Roderick Galdes, Malta Trust Foundation Chairperson Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca and Housing Authority Chief Executive Leonid McKay were present for the signing of the agreement.

Minister Galdes explained that the villa had been given to the Malta Trust Foundation by Maurice and Francina Abela for use by children and youths with disability.

The Minister added that as a result of this agreement, families having children, friends or relatives with autism or disability will be able to make use of this centre.

President Emeritus Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca, who heads the Malta Trust Foundation, described this project as historic and one that will fill a space in the music and performing arts sector for children with various needs who up to now have not had an opportunity to develop these skills.

Whilst thanking Minister Galdes for this assistance, President Emeritus Coleiro Preca explained that the project will have cost the Malta Trust Foundation a capital sum of 100,487 euro and an investment of 250,000 euro in children with different abilities every year.



[Down Syndrome Association Malta \(dsa.org.mt\)](http://dsa.org.mt)

Welcome to the website of the Down Syndrome Association Malta. Here you will find all the information you need on what we can do for you and your family and how to get all the support you need. If you don't know who to turn to, we offer family support. Do contact us. We are here to help you.

Our **MISSION** is to provide the means necessary to empower individuals who have Down syndrome to reach their full potential.

Our **VISION** is to become a model organization that will not cease until every person who has Down syndrome is a valued member of society.

THE AIMS OF THE ASSOCIATION

- + To encourage people who have Down syndrome to fulfill their potential for successful and happy lives, in a society that recognises their abilities and is supportive of their needs.
- + To contact parents of newly born babies who have Down syndrome as early as possible and to provide counselling and support particularly in the early stages of a baby's life.
- + To represent the interests and needs of people who have Down syndrome in all aspects of life and individuals' needs, as members of the family and the community.
- + To increase public awareness and understanding of the nature of Down syndrome people so they can lead a rewarding and full life.

- + To press for better services and greater choice in the facilities offered to children and adults who have Down syndrome, such as education, therapy, training and independent living.
- + To support professionals in their work and research of Down syndrome.

YOU CAN HELP THIS ASSOCIATION

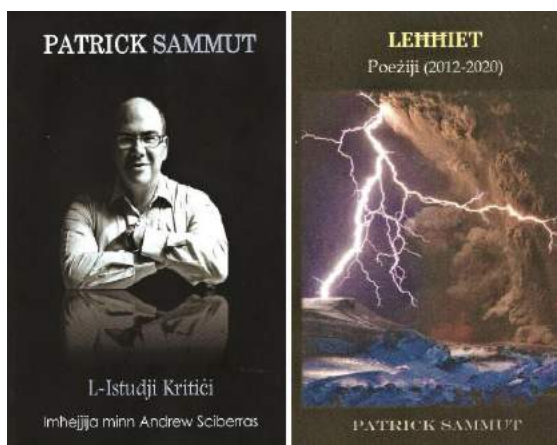
The Association is a voluntary non governmental organization (V/O 0159), established and run by parents of persons who have Down syndrome. It relies entirely on voluntary donations to continue with its work. The work of the Association depends upon the generosity of its members and the general public through donations that help in meeting the administrative costs and the subsidisation of the services offered. All donations to the Association are also tax deductible.

Membership: €2.50 Annual €25.00 Life Member

Associate Membership: €5.00 Annual

€35.00 Life Member

Parents / Guardians / Carers of children who have Down syndrome and adults who are 16 years of age and over who have Down syndrome are strongly encouraged to become members. You can also become an Associate Member and thus help us achieve our aim. If you would like to become a member, e-mail now to the Secretariat info@dsa.org.mt or call on telephone number 21235158. You can also download membership form the website.



PATRICK SAMMUT, IMĦEJJIA MINN ANDREW SCIBERRAS

Dr Andrew Sciberras għadu kemm għabarli f'żewġ volumi attraenti għadd ta' poeżiji magħżula li jiena ktibt bil-Malti bejn l-2012 u l-2020 (il-gabra **LEHHIET**), u għadd imdaqqas ta' studji kritiċi/reċensjonijiet li ktibt u dehru f'gazzetti differenti matul dawn l-aħħar snin (il-volum **PATRICK SAMMUT. L-ISTUDJI KRITIĊI**).

LEHHIET jiġbor fih mal-40 poeżija u għadd ta' ħajku,

b'Daħla Kritika ta' Tarċisju Zarb u Postfazzjoni ta' Dr. Andrew Sciberras. Fil-volum **PATRICK SAMMUT. L-ISTUDJI KRITIĊI** jidhru studji dwar publikazzjonijiet ta' dawn il-kittieba:

Maltin: Mario Azzopardi, Jonathan Balzan, Charles Bezzina, Maurice Mifsud Bonnici, George Borg, Paul P. Borg, Kellin Vella Haber, Lina Brockdorff, Sammy Calleja, Emmanuel Attard Cassar, Joe Camilleri, Ronald Camilleri, Charles Casha, Victor Fenech, Anthony Farrugia, Charles Flores, Anton Grasso, Lino Grech, Sergio Grech, Charles Magro, Karmenu Mallia, Alfred Massa, Charles Mifsud, Achille Mizzi, Immanuel Mifsud, Walid Nabhan, Therese Pace, Alfred Palma, Roman Païen, Terence Portelli, Joe Saliba, Anton Sammut, Salv Sammut, Vanni Sant, Andrew Sciberras, Carmel Scicluna, Omar Seguna, Joseph Vella, Mark Vella, Frank Zammit, George Said-Zammit, Għaqda Poeti Maltin.

Barranin: Edmondo de Amicis, Lou Drofenik, Umberto Eco, Deborah Ellis, Khaled Hosseini, Rajender Krishan, Tim Willocks.

Dan il-volum ta' 574 paġna għandu Daħla minn Dr Andrew Sciberras stess.

Iż-żewġ kotba qed jinbiegħu bi prezz speċjali ta' 25 EWRO, posta inkluża. Min hu interessat għandu jibgħat direttament f'dan l-email: sammutpatrickj@gmail.com



THE BEAUTY OF BROTHERHOOD – EURO2020

Greg Caruana NSW

The EURO 2020 football (or soccer) games are currently being held in Europe. These were supposed to be held last year, and were postponed due to the Covid19 pandemic. However, they are now being held in various cities such as London, Rome, Amsterdam, Bucharest, Glasgow, Seville, St. Petersburg, in Azerbaijan, Munich, and Budapest in Hungary. There are 24 teams taking part and they are divided into six groups of four teams. These European cities were badly affected by this pandemic but now as the situation is gradually improving they are slowly opening up. If it was not so, it would naturally cause much madness and frustration to the fans of the participating teams.

It was last Saturday 12th June in the city of Copenhagen Denmark, during the match between Denmark and Finland when in the first half after some 25 minutes of play the famous Danish player Christian Eriksen suddenly fainted, fell to the ground and did not move. The players surrounded him, and in fact one of his friends promptly pulled his tongue out so as not to choke. According to the doctors the heart of this famous player, a former Tottenham player and now playing for Inter Milan, had stopped altogether. It was the timely intervention of the professional first aid CPR and the use of the defibrillator that saved his life.

And this is exactly how I want to get to my main point. Firstly, that we are nothing! A strong player, 100% fit, doing his job professionally, when all of a sudden his heart stops, he virtually dies! Thankfully with the professional intervention of the doctors he is now stronger and recovering in the hospital (because as the same thanks to it we would forget the differences between all peoples and someday eternal peace could reign doctors said),

"We got him back!" and he could probably continue to play another season.

But what struck me most in these moving moments is that the situation suddenly changed from one of joy and brilliance to a critical and moving one. At that moment, we started to see the players blown away, with some of them sobbing and consoling each other, even from both teams, mind you. We saw the wife of this player who came out on the ground crying and being comforted by the same players. At that moment I was also struck by a scene where an opposing player was caught from the camera kneeling with his hands raised in prayer and looking very emotional. Naturally, in a lot of commotion, the player was picked him up on the stretcher and surrounded by his friends, was taken to the ambulance to transport him to hospital, while all the standing spectators were seen clapping and shouting Christian on one side and Eriksen on the other.

Believe me I don't know, who of you were watching this match that was broadcast all over the world, where we witnessed an extremely moving scene, to say the least. While it moved me to tears, I said to myself, at least the humanitarian theme still exists where peoples come together for humanitarian principles.

And I thought no wonder the late Les Murray of SBS (RIP) called the soccer game "The World Game" because this game unites the peoples of the world all together when for those few weeks the game being played, political differences that in many places are destroying the world, are forgotten. This brings on that lasting brotherhood that the world so desperately needs. If only this football game, is played constantly all over the world as maybe

**We say 'Thank you' to all our
correspondents from all different
parts of the world**

JUAN BAUTISTA AZOPARDO (1772 – 1848)

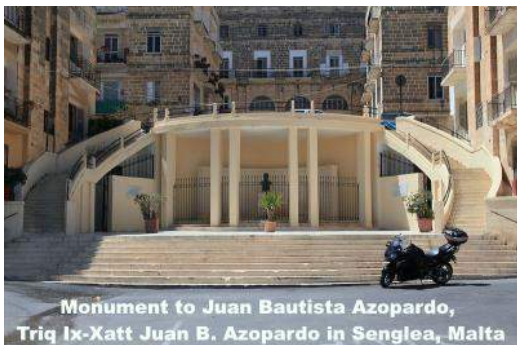
Founder of the Argentinian Navy



On 16 June 2001 on Senglea's waterfront the bust commemorating the Senglean Juan Bautista Azopardo was unveiled during a significant ceremony. Born on **19 February 1772**, his parents Rosina née Romano and Salvatore also from Senglea, MALTA.

Juan was a promising student and was granted a scholarship to study naval architecture in Toulon. Served with the French and the British Fleets the latter under the command of Admiral John Jervis and was captain of the tartan San Antonio e l'Anima del Purgatorio.

His connections with Argentina started in 1799. Seven years later Britain invaded Buenos Aires, while he was in Montevideo collaborating with the Spanish and the patriotic forces headed by the French Santiago de Liniers, a Knight of Malta who managed to resist the invaders. In 1807 Juan became Captain of the City Regiments and in 1808 promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in the Buenos Aires Militia.



Monument to Juan Bautista Azopardo,
Triq ix-Xatt Juan B. Azopardo in Senglea, Malta

He was forced to relinquish his post after the 1809 revolt by order of Viceroy Cisneros. President Saavedra of the Junta enrolled him in the Corps of Gredaniers soon after the Revolution of 25 May 1810 to assist the Argentines to seek Independence.

Jaun Bautista Azopardo is the founder of the Argentine Navy when on 15 August he formed and organized the first naval squadron. Assumed command of the schooner Invincible the same title bore by his hometown Senglea. His ships battled against the Spanish Fleet and being outnumbered the

Argentines were defeated, Juan was captured and imprisoned accused of rebelling against Spain. In 1820 he was liberated and returned to Argentina as a national hero in the wake of the Spanish Liberal Revolution of General Riego. Was appointed Harbour Master and was active in the Battles of Colastine and Los Pozos and in 1824 became Colonel of the Navy.

He spent his last years with his wife Maria Sandalia Perez Rico and his son Luis Alberto. He died at the age of 76 on **23 October 1848**. His name is held in high esteem and traditionally Argentine warships and numerous sites throughout the country including an important naval base are named in his honour. Part of the Senglea Marina was also named after him.



Pope meets Spiderman

Pope Francis has had an unusual meeting at the Vatican – with a 27-year-old youth dressed up as Spiderman. Mattia Villardita dresses up as this superhero and visits children's hospitals to boost the patients' morale. After a short chat, Villardita presented the Pope with a spiderman mask. In December Villardita received an award from Italian President Sergio Mattarella in recognition of his humanitarian efforts in children's hospitals.

A Vittoriosa bastion is restored to its former glory



€200,000 project restored stepped wing of Santa Margherita fortifications

Photo: Kottonera Foundation

Restoration works to return part of the Santa Margherita fortification line surrounding Vittoriosa and Cospicua to their former glory have been completed.

Works involved restoring the stepped wing on Triq San Dwardu that links Vittoriosa to Firenzuola Bastion as well restoration works on fortification walls at Xatt ir-Risq, at a combined cost of €200,000.

The six-month-long works on form part of a broader €8 million project to restore 25 historical sites across Cottonera that was launched last year.

Works on the bastion were completed just weeks after an extensive four-year project to [restore the St John Almoner bastions](#) surrounding Cospicua. Those bastions, which had fallen into a state of disrepair with the passage of time, were repaired by the government's restoration directorate.

Cottonera-wide restoration works are being coordinated by the Kottonera Foundation, a government-run entity set up to implement, monitor and review a strategy for the Cottonera area. The foundation is chaired by Labour MP and Cottonera local Glenn Bedingfield.

"The regeneration plan for Cottonera is taking shape and I am very happy with the work being done so far," Bedingfield said.

"Restoration works are an important element in our strategy and the Restoration Directorate is doing a magnificent job in restoring 7km of fortifications in and around the three cities and Kalkara."

Bedingfield said he was also looking forward to more projects in the pipeline "especially those creating new open spaces within cities which are densely populated."



JULY 1

154th Canada Day

Canada Day (French: *Fête du Canada*) is the national day of [Canada](#). A federal statutory holiday, it celebrates the anniversary

of July 1, 1867, the effective date of the [Constitution Act, 1867](#) (then called the *British North America Act, 1867*), which united the three separate colonies of the Province of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick into a single Dominion within the British Empire called Canada. Originally called Dominion Day (French: *Le Jour de la Confédération*), the holiday was renamed in 1982, the year in which the Canadian Constitution was patriated by the Canada Act 1982. Canada Day celebrations take place throughout the country, as well as in various locations around the world, attended by Canadians living abroad.

Dom Mintoff's biography launched



Fr. Mark Montebello launched Dom Mintoff's biography - *The Tail that Wagged the Dog: The life and struggles of Dom Mintoff. 1916-2012*. It is a 640-page book which according to the author applies for all Maltese and Gozitan citizens.

The Tail that Wagged the Dog is Mintoff's first scientific biography. It was worked out by Fr. Montebello over the course of

seven years from prime sources in Malta and abroad, especially in England. Fr. Montebello explained that every statement in the book is based on original documentation. It was emphasized that as the first work in its genre, this biography had to be meticulous and thoroughly reliable



"With this first scientific biography of Dom Mintoff we get to know 'Il-Perit' as never before. Though many are acquainted to bits and pieces of him, none know him completely. This biography invites one and all to revise whatever is known about him until now."

Mark Montebello

Mr. Joe Borg, Executive Director of SKS, the biography's publishers, stated that Fr. Montebello was chosen in 2012 from a small pool of possible candidates for the work, and was promised and left in total freedom to do his job without any interference. Furthermore, the Labour Party gave Fr.

Montebello full access to all its internal archives and records.

The book contains original photographs of Mintoff, and also some appendixes of considerable historical interest. It will be available at Malta's leading bookshops as from 1 July 2021 at €30. The book can also be bought online from SKS publishers website. The Independent - Malta

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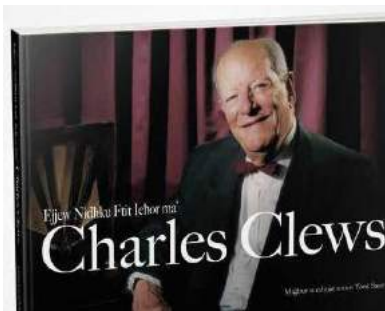


**If you have an interesting story to tell,
share it with others.**

**Send it to us on
maltesejournal@gmail.com**



Charles Clews - Maltese Comedy Icon



The late Charles Clews, one of the most loved comedians of the Maltese had a particular style of humour. His jokes were well timed and never embarrassing or

dirty.

Have a look at this popular joke of his entitled

JIEN IN-NANNU TIEGHI STESS:

X'bicca gratli kemm hi kbira
Kont bla ghaqal ta ghoxrin
Issewwigt mort wahda armala
Helw' avolja ta hamsin.

Kellha tifla kwazi daqsi
U gmiel bhalha ma rajtux
Hadet grazzja ma missieri,
Wara ffit ma zzewwgitux!

B'hekk missieri hawn gie hatni
X'kunfuzjoni ajma ma!
Terga binti hawn giet omni
Ghax mizzewga lill-papa.

Biex inkomplu dit-tahwida
Gie twelidli baby boy
Kont ghamiltlu festa kbira
U fettilli nsemmih Roy.

It-tifel li kelli jiena
Gie hu l-mara tal-papa
Jigi mela z-ziju tieghi
Tiskantawx b'din ir-rarita

Billi ibni wkoll bin marti
U hu l'mara tal-papa
Omni tar-rispett giet binti
Ghax mizzewga lill-papa

Sabiex tifhmu din l' affari
Irid mohhkom jaghmel sforz
Jekk mart'missieri tigi omni.
Ommha, nannti ta bil-fors.

U jekk marti tigi nannti
Dina bixxa ta nteress,
Billi jiena huwa zewgha
Jien n-nannu tieghi stess.





Should people be forced to wear face masks in public? That's the question facing governments as more countries unwind their lockdowns. Over 30 countries have made masks compulsory in public, including Germany, Austria and Poland. This is despite the science saying masks do little to protect wearers, and only might prevent them from infecting other people.

Nicola Sturgeon, the Scottish first minister, has nonetheless announced new guidelines advising Scots to wear masks for shopping or on public transport, while the UK government is expected to announce a new stance shortly. Meanwhile, US vice president Mike Pence has controversially refused to mask up. This all has echoes of the great influenza pandemic, aka the Spanish flu, which killed some 50 million people in 1918-20. It's a great case study in how people will put up with very tough restrictions, so long as they think they have merit.

THE SPANISH FLU IN MALTA This pandemic had wiped out 5% of the world population. There were strange warnings such as not to spit on the floor and to allow sunlight in the room. Malta wasn't immune either and when the flu hit the island and there were various information campaigns and quarantine was ensured.

The first Case that Hit the Island The pandemic reached the Maltese islands in May of 1918. 16K cases were reported in the 12 months but influenza but probably had affected a little over 50k people. The death rate reached 1000 people, and 1 in 10 was recorded in Gozo. Considering the time, when the population was much lower than today... that's quite a number!

a

Areas Affected The villages that were most affected by this disease were Valletta, Floriana, Hamrun, Caspicusa (Bormla), Vittoriosa (Birgu), Senglea (Isla), and Zejtun.



Schools remained closed and other public areas were disinfected. Albert Bernard, who at the time acted as the Chief Government Medical Officer, recommended that schools remain closed to control the spread of the Spanish Flu.

The Government ordered every cinema and places of entertainment to be kept clean and ventilated, however, this did not exceed the capacity to prevent overcrowding. They had the places disinfected daily and schools were to be kept clean. The public health was given the right to close any premises that weren't kept clean.

The most affected by the Spanish Flu in the island were the ages between 20 to 40, mostly women who would have been infected by their children since at the time, women used to care for children and their nutritional intake was poor, so women were in much higher risk.

At the time, there were the railway services that used to run from Valletta to Hamrun, Birkirkara, Attard and Rabat which it was suspected it was a major factor for spreading the flu.

The severe cases were forcibly isolated at home or the Infectious Disease Hospital. All cases that occurred in the Charitable Institutions, prisons and ships in the harbour were isolated at the infectious Disease Hospital at Manoel Island.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT - There are over a million Maltese living abroad if you include 2nd and 3rd generations

BONEGILLA NSW - MIGRATION



For over 25 years Albury City NSW has been collecting objects owned by former residents of the Bonegilla migrant reception centre; things that people brought from their homeland that gave them comfort, photographs, domestic appliances, children's toys, books and clothing.

'In the middle of sunny fields and on the banks of Australia's greatest river, the Murray, lies Bonegilla, the reception camp established by the Australian Government for European citizens. The new arrivals spend their first weeks in their new homeland here in order to become acquainted with its customs and mores and thereby ease their

passage into the Australian way of life.' (Advertisement to encourage Displaced Persons to come to Australia).



Between 1947 and 1971 the Bonegilla Migrant Reception and Training Centre was the first home in Australia for up to 320,000 migrants from more than 30 nations. It was the first, the largest and the longest operating migration reception centre in Australia. It is of national significance as a place associated with and demonstrating a defining change in Australia's immigration policy following the war.

Most of the migrants and refugees who passed through Bonegilla were drawn from non-English speaking European countries. This shift from prioritising Anglo-Celtic sources would transform political and social

expectations and ultimately the cultural diversity of Australia. Bonegilla received Australia's highest heritage honour on 7 December 2007 when it was included in the National Heritage List.

For over 25 years, Albury City has been collecting objects owned by former residents of the migrant reception centre; things that people brought from their homeland that gave them comfort, photographs, domestic appliances, children's toys, books and clothing. Albury City also actively collects written memories from those who passed through Bonegilla.

These memory pieces, photographs, documents, objects and other memorabilia, now housed in the Albury Library Museum's Bonegilla Collection, provide evidence of and insights into post-World War II migration and refugee experiences. The collection illuminates immigration policies and procedures that changed the composition and size of the Australian population, and thus transformed the nation economically, socially and culturally. There are currently 1,295 museum objects and photographs in the Bonegilla Collection.

TEACH YOUR CHILDREN THE HISTORY OF EMIGRATION OF THOUSANDS OF MALTESE WHO LEFT THE ISLANDS OF MALTA AND GOZO DECADES OF YEARS AGO FOR A BETTER LIVING AND FOR THE FUTURE OF THEIR CHILDREN

Inter Supporters Club Gozo (Malta)

They also celebrated the winning of the Iscudetto by going to donate blood

A group of supporters members of the Gozitan Inter-Club, led by Joe Bajada and Alvin Grech, President, and Secretary respectively of the Club went to donate blood to bring to an end their activities that they organized on the occasion of winning the 19th Italian title.



Joe Bajada said that this is the true essence of the celebratory activities that we come to donate blood so that we can express our knowledge to help, as well as show our love to those in need of a transfusion. He also called on fans to encourage each other to donate blood, so that they can continue to undergo operations in hospitals. Bajada added that those who are attracted, and perhaps never found the time or courage to take the step to go so that they also donate blood wherewith satisfaction with the group was also the member David Zammit who donated blood for the first time.

Joe Bajada, while thanking his colleagues who, despite the pandemic overcame fear and came forward to donate blood and support thousands of those in need also thanked the nurses and workers in the field of health that does not stop doing the work of blood transfusion.

As part of this donation, Joe Bajada presented a club banner to Alexander Lautier, Acting Manager of Blood Donation Services who in turn expressed appreciation for this noble gesture where he said that such grants bode well for society, because despite the difficulties that Covid-19 has brought, life must still go on.

Meanwhile, Inter Supporters Club Gozo is urging more fans to follow on all social media to see the places where they can go and donate their blood.

CHATTING ON FACEBOOK

Keeping up
with technology
trends



**UNITE
TO
SURVIVE**



OUR MOTTO

We are all in the same boat

€50 gold coin celebrating Prince Philip



The Central Bank of Malta has announced the issue of two gold bullion coins dedicated to him. The Central Bank of Malta, in collaboration with the Commonwealth Mint & Philatelic Bureau Ltd UK, wishes to issue 2 one-ounce gold coins, legal tender, commemorating His Royal Highness Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. These coins will have the following specifications and mintages:

- 99 bullion coins with a face value of €50, weight 31.1gms, gold grade of 999/1000 in BE quality
- 49 bullion coins with a face value of

50€, weight 31.1gms, gold grade of 999/1000 in matte BE quality (sold out at the Central Bank of MALTA).

These coins are designed by artist Jody Clark, who also designed the official effigy of HM Queen Elizabeth II that has appeared on Royal Mint coins since 2016.

The Central Bank of Malta will be making a very limited number of these gold BE coins available to its customers.

Sources: Banque Centrale de Malte and NUMISMAG©.

2020 -

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMED FORCES OF MALTA

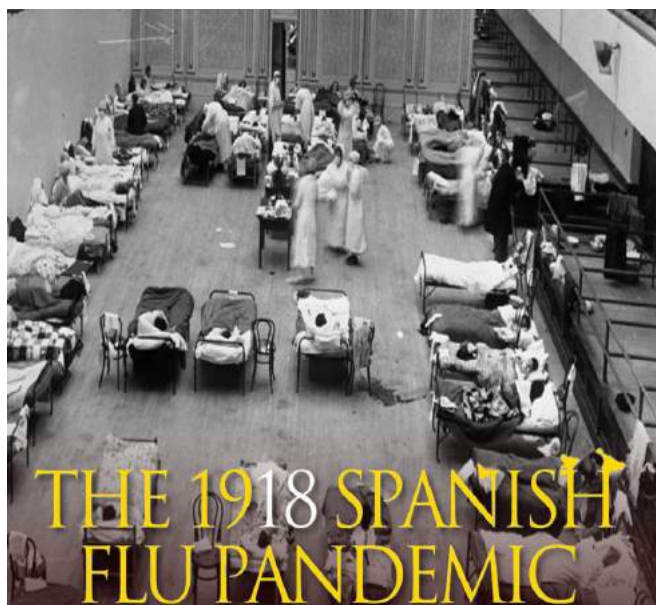


The Malta Armed Forces Act, which came into force on 22 September 1970, made provision “*for the raising and maintenance of armed forces in Malta and to provide for matters connected therewith or ancillary thereto*”. With this instrument, Malta could set up its own standing armed forces.

On 1 October 1970, 500 Maltese officers and men of the Royal Malta Artillery, an old and distinguished regiment, ceased forming part of the British Army and became part of the Malta Land Force, which some time

later was designated as the Armed Forces of Malta.

On the reverse, the coins feature the regimental badge of the Armed Forces of Malta on a red-on-blue coloured background. On the obverse is the coat of arms of the Republic of Malta together with the year of issue.



The Spanish flu pandemic of 1918, the deadliest in history, infected an estimated 500 million people worldwide—about one-third of the planet's population—and killed an estimated 20 million to 50 million victims, including some 675,000 Americans. The 1918 flu was first observed in Europe, the United States and parts of Asia before swiftly spreading around the world. At the time, there were no effective drugs or vaccines to treat this killer flu strain. Citizens were ordered to wear masks, schools, theatres and businesses were shuttered and bodies piled up in makeshift morgues before the virus ended its deadly global march.

Before the COVID-19 coronavirus... National Archives releases excerpts from government documents from the 1918 Spanish Flu. A century ago, a pandemic wiped out 5% of the world's population.

Warnings to avoid spitting on the floor and allowing sunlight into one's house were today's equivalent of getting vaccinated and washing one's hands.

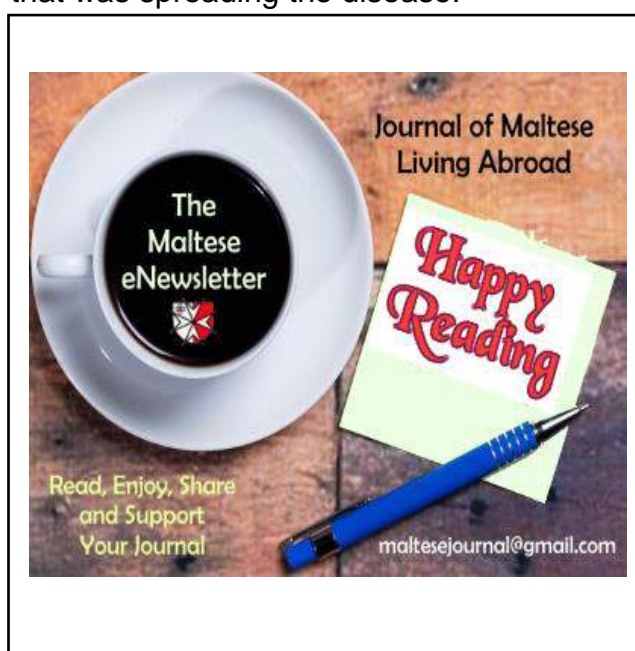
And so was Malta not safe from the Spanish flu, but a widespread awareness campaign and rigorous quarantine ensured the island suffered the smallest number of casualties.

The pandemic reached Malta with the first definite case reported in May of 1918. 16,000

cases were reported over a twelve-month period, but the influenza probably effected some 50,000 persons. The death toll reached one thousand, one in ten of which were recorded in Gozo.

19 September 1918, The Spanish Flu hits **Malta**. The urban areas were the most affected, chiefly Valletta, Floriana, Hamrun, Cospicua, Vittoriosa, Senglea, but also Zejtun. **Schools remain closed**. The Acting Chief Government Medical Officer Albert Bernard recommending that schools remain closed to control the spread of the Spanish Flu.

The Governor orders every cinema and place of entertainment to keep all premises clean and thoroughly ventilated; not to exceed maximum capacity to prevent overcrowding; to have the place disinfected at least once daily; that all schools be kept clean and ventilated; and that the Superintendent for Public Health be given powers to close down any such premises that is not kept clean. The Commissioner of Police seeks the authorisation to engage boy scouts to perform the duties of orderlies since many policemen were ill with the Spanish Flu. In a letter to the Governor, Councillor Antonio Dalli speaks of persons who were not approaching their doctor out of fear of ending in quarantine at the Lazzaretto hospitals, even though they had contracted the Spanish flu, something that was spreading the disease.



Maltese American Heritage



Lisa LiGreci

My name is Lisa LiGreci, maiden name Buttigieg, and I am proudly 100% Maltese. My father was born in Paola and came to the United States when he was only 3 months old. My mother's side, the Mirabitar family, was from Sliema. She was born in the U.S. but I consider myself a 1st generation Maltese American because my father was born in Malta. I suppose that's cheating, but I stand by it.

My parents always instilled a deep pride for Malta in all of us and as far back as I can remember, I've always been proud of being Maltese. Growing up, most of my friends were of mixed nationalities, and in America, it's hard to find anyone who is 100% anything. Being 100% Maltese made me feel special and unique.

Especially since Malta was a tiny island nation that no one ever

heard of, it seemed so exotic. But that's about as far as it went. I was Maltese, proud of it, and never questioned why.

I went my entire life not knowing very much about Maltese culture, other than the food and a little of its history. My parents wanted to "Americanize" themselves, so I had a typical American upbringing. Like many others we never learned to speak Maltese. The only time we heard it was when we were at family gatherings or when my parents didn't want us kids to know what they were talking about. I've always regretted that.

It wasn't until I recently went to Malta for the first time that I truly embraced the Maltese culture. As soon as I got there, I looked around and said to myself, "These are my people." I can't explain the feeling I had, but I felt as if I were home. I could feel it in my bones and in my soul.



I fell in love with Malta. Not a day goes by that I don't think about my trip or go online to learn something new about Maltese history and way of life.

As soon as I returned, I immediately joined the Maltese American

Community Club, (MACC) in Dearborn. The first time I walked in it took me right back to my childhood hearing everyone speaking Maltese. I don't go as often as I would like to, but I try to get there at least once a month and go to all the special events.

When I saw the post about Maltese American Day on Facebook, I was so excited. I thought to myself, "It's about time! We have been a big part of this community for nearly 100 years!" I had no idea we had a State Representative of Maltese descent. I knew that I just had to go, and figured others would feel the same way. The Michigan State Capital building in Lansing on September 20, 2017.

I immediately started asking if a road trip could be organized so we could all go as a group and volunteered to help any way I could. The next thing I knew, there was an announcement telling people a group trip was being organized and they should contact me for more information.

What?! It was a bit of a shock! So, that's how I got involved putting this whole thing together. I didn't do it myself. This trip would have never happened without the help of Mark and Margaret Purdy. They deserve a big thank you!

During Rep. Camilleri's opening remarks, I sang both the American and Maltese national anthems in the rotunda of the capital building. I even sang the Maltese Anthem in Maltese. This was a once in a lifetime opportunity that I will remember the rest of my life. I was also very surprised and honored that I was called up to accept a Special Tribute to the MACC. It is a framed document detailing the contributions of the Maltese American immigrants and their descendants from the State of Michigan. It was signed by both Rep. Camilleri and Dearborn's Rep. Hammond. Quite an honor indeed!

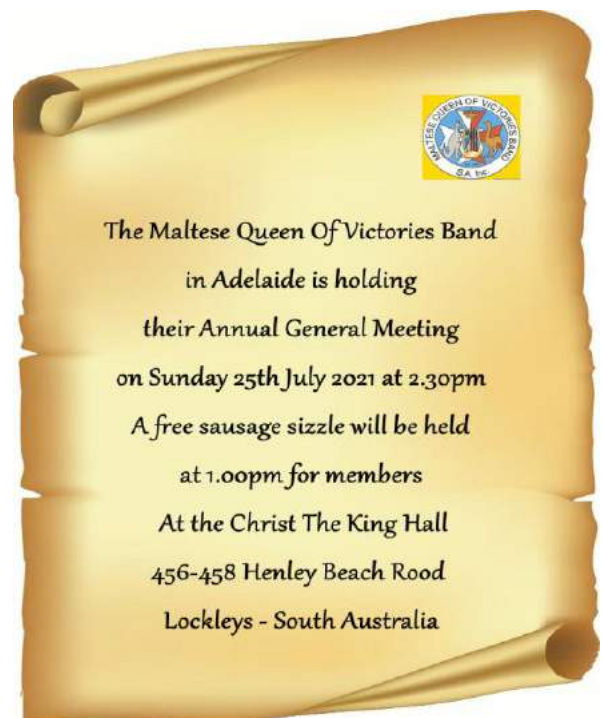
The Special Tribute to the Dearborn Club. Both MABSI and MACC received Special Tributes for their community efforts.

During the house session, my chest was so full of pride when I saw 50 Maltese Americans come together from all over Michigan to witness this event. We nearly filled the House chamber gallery. Representative Camilleri spoke so eloquently about Malta and our heritage and history in Detroit that I nearly cried. When the resolution was adopted and I heard that gavel drop, my heart leapt with pride and we all stood up and cheered with joy!

For me, the day was just as much about being together on the trip to Lansing as it was about the event itself. It was about making new friends and the comradery. It was about listening to the stories about what it was like growing up in Malta during WWII. It was about sharing Maltese recipes and who had the best pastizzi making technique (I think I do!). It was about hearing what it was like to leave your entire family to come to a strange new country. It was about learning what it was like to be in a foreign land so young and alone with hardly any money and not speak the language. It was about hearing stories about being persecuted for being a foreigner.

The group assembled with Rep. Camilleri in the Rotunda of the State Capital.

But most importantly, it was about sharing the whole experience together. That is why it was so rewarding for me. I felt it was important for us to go as a group, because I wanted us all to be together to witness this historic event. To see our people's hardships and accomplishments were finally being acknowledged. That was my goal and I can proudly say my mission was accomplished!



San Ġorġ tagħna baqa' ġewwa!



San Ġorġ tagħna, din is-sena
m'intix ser iddur mat-toroq,
imma sejjer tibqa' ġewwa
mirfud sewwa taht ix-xoroq.

Għaliex din il-pandemija
holqitilna bosta nkwieta,
harbtitilna r-rutina
u ma halliet lil hadd bil-kwieta.

Għadd ta' xhur tgerbu u marru
magħluqin ġewwa d-dar,
għaliex bżajna li ningidmu
minn dal-virus, minn dal-far.

Tgħid il-poplu tagħna nesa
lill-maħbub Sid il-Holqien
u waddbu f'xi kantuniera
ġewwa rokna ta' xi ġnien!

Lil Dak illi halaq kolloxx
nehtiguh kuljum, kull hin,
flimkien ma' dik l-Omm imbierka,
max-Xirka tal-Qaddisin,

illi fosthom żgur jispikka
il-Martri Ġorġi ta' Lidda,
l-isplendur, it-Tribun qawwi
li mal-globu dejjem idda,

li matul it-tielet ġimgħa
kif xahar Lulju jfegġ fuqna
arah lil kulhadd iġennen,
lejn il-knisja dlonk isuqna!

Iktar mis-snin l-imghoddija
ghad-dell tat-tribuna mmorru;
muż'ka, dwal u ferh ingarrbu,
lil San Ġorġ f'qalbna ngorru.

M'ahniex ser naraw it-tlietaq
jew nisimghu l-isparar,
lanqas ser nimxu mal-banda
kif fl-imghoddi dejjem sar!

Imma xorta se nifirhu
u nzejnu t-toroq tagħna,
u bosta mill-emigranti
bla dubju jingħaqdu magħna.

Għaliex dan il-Patron tagħna
lil hadd ma jhalli bil-kwieta,
warajh saħħar ġnus kotrana
bil-eluf u bil-mijiet.

Maż-żmien bnejnielu żewġ tempji
ta' rham u deheb żekkin
illi għaġġbu l-poplu tagħna
u miegħu tant barranin.

Għalkemm sejjer tibqa' ġewwa
minhabba l-pandemija,
Ġorġi tagħna, itfa' harstek
fuqna b'dil-pesta mifnija.

Regga' fuqna t-tbissima
mal-innu tal-*Ġorġi tagħna*,
jigri x'jigri int ser tibqa'
minn gos-Sema tindukrana!

Kav. Joe M. Attard
Lulju 2021



THE MALTESE CENTER

1832 Michigan Ave

Detroit, MICHIGAN
48216

Tel 313-961-8393

Saturday June 26th 7pm

It's that time of the year to celebrate L-Imnarja and this year we will also honor the feast of San-Gwann. RSVP for a reserved seat in order of receipt. Limited reserved seating availability. Donation \$25.

Attention Members if you have children under the age of 12 they can now have their very own complimentary membership card as a

**MALTESE AMERICAN BENEVOLENT SOCIETY INC.**

1832 Michigan Avenue, Detroit, MICHIGAN USA 48216

Find us on FACEBOOK

NEWSLETTER - JUNE - 2021

October General Membership Meeting

Sunday, 24 October 2021 @ 3:00 p.m.

Mark your Calendars

**General Membership Meeting****STEAK & HAMBURGER FUNDRAISER****Friday, 16 July @ 6 p.m.**

Club will Open at 5 p.m.; Food Served at 6 p.m.

Advance Ticket Purchase Required

Limited Extra Food will be Available

No Reservations w/out Advance Payment

Menu: Steak or Hamburger, Potato Salad,
Pasta Salad, Baked Beans, Dessert**WANTED****MONTHLY MASS COORDINATOR:**

We are looking for someone to own the responsibility of coordinating mass with Fr. Mallia for the Third Friday of the Month, securing volunteers the day-of to help set-up the altar downstairs, set-up for food sales, sell food and clean-up; If you are interested email the club or private message us on Facebook.

BINGO WORKERS:

We are in need of committed bingo workers; All days available (Tue-Fri-Sat); Callers needed and ticket sellers who are fast and accurate; All workers help keep the hall clean during \after bingo and call back bingos; \$40 CASH DAILY allowed by State of Michigan; Call Carmen if you are interested (313.310.9121)

This photo, originally published in Life magazine in the US, goes back to 1950... but where in Malta was it taken?



WE DIDN'T HAVE AN X-BOX TO PLAY WITH WHEN I WAS A KID. WE JUST HAD A BOX.



**Traditional
Maltese
street game
'IC-CIRKU'**



N O S T A L G I A



**Malta
To
MOTOWN**

Maltese American Community Club Of Dearborn

Meet with old friends and
make some new ones!

5221 Oakman Blvd, Dearborn, MI 48126

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Our newsletters are an easy way
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Send us an email
maltesejournal@gmail.com



[Marty Micallef](#) [Maltese American](#) [Community Club Of](#) [Dearborn](#)

Great day today for our Carshow !!

Thanks to all the Volunteers, Brian Vella , Mary R Micallef , Rita Vella Cruz , Margaret Muscat Purdy , Delores Micallef Durkin ,

Neal Durkin, Joe Formosa, John Abela, John Cassar, John Galdes , Makenna Vella, Lisa Buttigieg LiGreci and Michael Anthony Cutajar ! Thank You to Miranda Micallef for designing the flyer and tee shirt designs ! Awesome job from Mike Cruz for preparing the pulled pork for us !!

It isn't an outdoor event without live music from the Maltese Mafia !! Thank You to the Grima family !! Another big thanks to our sponsor Jeff Maltese from Oval Auto for the shirts, Christine Micallef-Smith from Fast Time Racing Engines and John Seguna and Chris Mizzi for the give aways !! And it was a nice touch to have Grace Muscat-Harris , Rachael Ceedee and Rena Xuereb sell their Maltese Themed products ! And Thanks to all that brought cars!! **Congratulations** to Chris Mizzi for winning Car Owners Choice Award !



LANGUAGES OF MALTA

Maltese (Maltese: Malti) is a Semitic language spoken by the Maltese people. It is the **national language** of Malta and the only Semitic official language of the European Union.

The language of Malta are **Maltese** and **English**. Malta was a British colony for over 170years. But the language spoken by the people of Malta is Maltese.

Maltese, a language of Semitic origin written in the Latin script, is the national language of Malta. Over the centuries, it has incorporated many words derived from English, Italian and French. **Italian** is also widely spoken.

The Maltese language is a source of fascination to both visitors and linguists. The Maltese speak a unique language, Malti, the only Semitic language written in Latin characters.

Through the ages, many foreign words, particularly English and Italian, have become part of the language. English, which is also an official language, is widely and fluently spoken and is the language of international business.

What is surprising is that the islanders managed to retain a unique language in face of so many others brought by various powers over the centuries. Maltese was largely only a spoken language until the latter half of the 19th century when its grammatical rules were defined and written down.

The earliest written evidence of Maltese is a ballad by Pietro Caxaro, (d.1485). The Knights attempted to script it as well. The survival of the language is perhaps testament to the resilience of the Maltese to remain a distinct people and culture. Malti is thought to derive from the language of the ancient Phoenicians who arrived in Malta in 750 B.C.

The influence of the Arabs who made the Islands home from the 9th to 13th centuries is clear in the Maltese language whose roots are closely akin to Arabic. Place names and numbers are the most obvious examples of Arabic influence on the language.

For non-native speakers trying to learn Malti, the most awkward sound is similar to the Arabic q - an almost silent, but difficult to master, glottal stop. If you are interested in learning Maltese, several language schools on the islands and overseas run courses in Maltese for non-native speakers

You may also search the internet and I can assure you will find hundreds of websites on Teaching and Learning the Maltese Language.

WHERE DO MALTESE NICKNAMES COME FROM?



One often hears that in many Maltese and Gozitan villages, most people are much better known by their **nickname (laqam)** rather than by their Christian name or surname. Nicknames have been used in the Maltese islands from time immemorial, perhaps due to the frequency and impersonality of certain popular names and surnames at the time. Nicknames therefore gave one the chance of using a more personal or individualised form of naming a person, while retaining the use of official names and surnames established by society only for the dotted line of the birth register.

The relation between an individual, or his/her family, and their nickname grew to be an intimate one. Maltese nicknames reveal the popular mind and bring back to life the world in which our forefathers lived. They are charged with social significance and can relate to particular cultural issues and mind-sets.

The use of nicknames has been prevalent in Malta and Gozo at all ages, and although very few written records have survived prior to the 15th century, one can still trace their evolution. Many of these, for example, were introduced from certain Maltese Semitic surnames or words possibly dating from the period of Arabic domination, while others reflect the close proximity of Malta to Sicily and Italy.

Maltese nicknames are formed by prefixing the definite article 'l-' to a noun or an adjective, ex. 'l-ghannej' (the singer) or 'l-ahmar' (the red-faced). In general, it may be said that this type of nickname denotes the first person to be so called, however his descendants or relatives may also share the same nickname, adding the pre-fix 'tal-', for example 'tal-Kutu' (the family of the quiet one). To the present day in Malta, people describe themselves and are

Melisande Aquilina

known by their descent, for example 'Ġanni ta' Pawlu' (John son of Paul). Nicknames can also relate to geographical origin, like 'tal-Ingliż' (the family from England) could pertain to the children or grandchildren of an Englishman. These kinds of nicknames originate as the result of population movements, or following marriage or migration.

Physical nicknames are by far the most expressive, and at times can be even crude and offensive. They are usually taken from some aspect of the personality, or from a physical trait. For example 'iz-zopp' (the one with the limp) may refer to someone with a mobility impairment, 'il-ginger' (the one with the ginger hair) could refer to a blonde, 'in-niexef' (the lean one) could refer to someone who is excessively thin, and so on.

Another class of nicknames derives from plants and trees. For example 'tal-harruba' (of the carob tree) could refer to a family who owns a prominent carob tree, as would be the case for 'tal-bajtar' (of the prickly pears). Names of animals too could inspire certain nicknames, such as 'tal-fenek' (of the rabbit) which could refer to a family who owned or sold rabbits or rabbit meat. The most numerous types of Maltese nicknames are undoubtedly those which describe particular occupations. These are usually hereditary and very old, passing from one generation to another. Thus we find 'tal-Kaptan' (the captain's family), 'tal-Barun' (the baron's family), or 'tas-Saqqafi' (the roof constructor's family), etc. There are even nicknames which derive from particular tools of a person's trade, like 'tal-Mingel' (of the sickle) or 'tal-Mekku' (of the weaver's shuttle).

The last century or so has also seen the emergence of new nicknames having a clear link to other sections of Maltese social life. We find nicknames which refer to band clubs, like for example 'tal-Ajkla', which refers to a La Vallette Club and 'tal-Vitorja', in reference to the Naxxar Parish band club. Nicknames are a link to the ever changing perceptions of the Maltese population – they map our history, our traditions and even our states of mind. They also serve as a clear indication of the way Maltese language changed and evolved, while retaining ancient words and word formations that are no longer in use today.

WORLD
NEWS

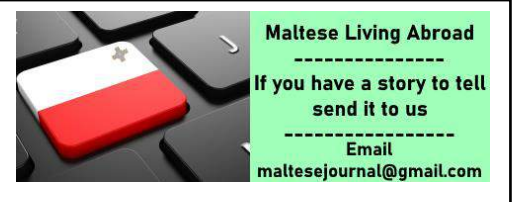
Wonders of Malta

Bettany
Hughes
www.youtube.com/watch?v=TnkBKjg1Gvc

Part 1: Sanctuaries and Sieges

At only 17 miles in length, it may be the world's tenth smallest country, but don't be misled by its size. Bettany Hughes discovers Malta, a cultural hub laden with some of the world's most precious treasures. This is an island where civilisations from east, west, north and south have met and cross-fertilised across centuries.

In this episode, at Fort St Angelo, home of crusader knights, Bettany reveals their bloodthirsty story and learns how Caravaggio created masterpieces and was imprisoned on the island. Bettany also gets unique access to Villa Guardamangia, Queen Elizabeth II's royal residence, when she was a young princess and newly wed in 1951.



AUSTRALIA HALL – MALTA

We are seeking to gather interest in the potential restoration of Australia Hall, Pembroke, Malta. Built in 1915 to provide respite to ANZAC soldiers, the building suffered a catastrophic fire in 1998 and has remained subject to deterioration ever since. The building was constructed as a recreational facility for Australian and New Zealand troops (ANZACS) evacuated to Malta while serving in Gallipoli, Turkey during WWI.

It is the only 1915 ANZAC HALL in
the world

**Ktieb g'did
ta' PaulJon**

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Image credit: Marlene Zammit

BAMBINELLA HONEY PUDDING

THE **bambinella** fruit is a special variety of pear originally grown in Malta. They are much smaller in size and crispier in texture, and are now also cultivated in other parts of the world including Australia, USA and the United Kingdom.

Our bambinella trees on the farm in Australia surround our home, and I love it when the fruit is ready to be picked. Our only problem was fruit bats, who'd always get their fair share first. In fairness to the fruit bats, they still left us some bambinella fruit to enjoy.

These fruit are usually just eaten in their natural state, but you can use them in so many ways, including in cakes and many other types of desserts. I recently developed this **bambinella honey pudding**, which is a very moist and softly textured dessert that I've complemented with macadamia nuts, thyme and honey. Macadamia nuts and thyme go wonderfully with honey and bambinellas, or indeed regular pears. Macadamia nuts are also indigenous to Australia, so I thought it would be perfect to combine my Australian and Maltese background in this pudding. Thyme and honey are of course also produced and grown in Malta. Enjoy this pudding with cream or crème fraîche.

Bambinella Honey Pudding

Ingredients:

6 bambinellas, chopped and cored (you can use pears)
250gr flour
2 teaspoons bicarbonate soda
Pinch of salt
50gr macadamia nuts, chopped
2 teaspoons fresh thyme leaves
8 bambinellas diced and cored, and 3 bambinellas halved and cored
2 eggs, beaten
250gr yoghurt
200gr honey
60ml olive oil



Image credit: Marlene Zammit

Method:

#1. Place the 6 chopped bambinellas in a small pot with enough water to cover them.

#2. Simmer for about twenty minutes, and then puree with a hand blender. Leave aside to cool.

#3. Sift the flour, bicarbonate soda and salt in a large bowl and leave aside.

#4. Preheat the oven to 180°C and grease and flour a medium sized cake tin or bunt tin.

#5. In another bowl, mix the remaining ingredients. Add in the bambinella puree.

#6. Slowly mix the wet ingredients into the flour mixture.

#7. Pour into your cake tin and place in the oven.

#8. Bake for 45 minutes or until a skewer comes out clean.

#9. Allow to cool and serve with cream or crème fraîche, fresh bambinellas and thyme leaves.

