



Maltese e-Newsletter

The Journal of Maltese Living Abroad

Editor : Frank L Scicluna OAM MQR JP



**"You are not alone
Malta stands with Ukraine"
Rime Minister Abela**



**Ukraine President
Zelensky asks
Malta to take a stand**

**MALTESE LIVING ABROAD
NEWS AND INFORMATION**



1700

2022

**CELEBRATING
MARRIAGE
IN
MALTA**



THE UKRAINIAN PRESIDENT SPEAKS TO MALTA PARLIAMENT



The Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy addressed the Maltese Parliament on Tuesday afternoon and called the Maltese government to freeze the assets of Russians who bought the Maltese citizenship through the sale of passports scheme. He called on Malta to confiscate Russian property and yachts, warning the Maltese government not to let Russian oligarchs hiding them in Malta.

“Do not allow your island be abused. Carry out the necessary

checks to prevent the Russians from hiding in Malta”, insisted Zelensky. Also called on the Maltese government to intercept all vessels under the Maltese flag from transporting Russian oil. The Ukrainian president likened the war in Ukraine to what happened in Malta 80 years ago. “Your country has stopped the tyranny of the enemy and defined the future of Europe.” He said Ukraine also needs planes, helicopters and weapons to “destroy the ambitions of the current aggressor, accusing Russia of targeting civilians in Ukraine” and to “stop the tyranny that is happening in Ukraine”.

His video address was followed by brief interventions from the Maltese Prime Minister Robert Abela and Opposition leader Bernard Grech.

The Maltese Prime Minister declared that although the conflict is geographically far from Malta, the Maltese will continue to welcome more refugees and will also provide more medical assistance. He added Malta will continue to encourage all parties to reach a ceasefire agreement and stated that the withdrawal of the Russian troops from the Ukrainian territory is the key to resolving the conflict, followed by dialogue and effective peace talks. On the issue of golden passports, Abela said his government froze applications for Russian and Belarussian citizens, and had also revoked citizenship for a Russian individual who was eventually impacted by the sanctions.

The leader of the Opposition spoke favourably on the issue of the EU membership and declared that when that happens, Ukraine will return home after a long absence. He added “during that absence you will be supported by friends and allies, and consider us one of your friends and allies.” On behalf of the Nationalist Party, Bernard Grech expressed solidarity and declared that this war is a concern to the whole world and not only to Ukraine. He referred to Roberta Metsolàs visit, as European Parliament president, who was the first politician to visit Ukraine and meet with Zelenskyy to show solidarity on behalf of the European Parliament.

I am pleased to inform you that after contacts with the Bank of Valletta we have been informed that the Bank has set up a Customer Service exclusively for clients living in Australia. This service can be reached on: Email address:

customerserviceaustralia@bov.com

Alternatively, clients may contact the Bank on Customer Service Centre Number +356 2131 2021.

You may wish to bring this information to the



MALTESE LIVING ABROAD
Malta in the World

attention of Maltese diaspora in Australia.

Joseph A Xerri Secretary, Council for Maltese Living Abroad - Malta

European Commission launches future-oriented 3D platform 'Voice your Vision' during European



Year of Youth 2022

Announcing the European Year of Youth in 2022, President Ursula von der Leyen stressed that the European Union must listen carefully to its young people. Their voice is needed to make the European Union even better. As a central part of this European Year of Youth, the European Commission is therefore launching the brand new 3D digital platform Voice your Vision, an interactive stage on which young Europeans can make their own and unique sound heard. Literal.

The aim of 'Voice your Vision' is to give young Europeans, regardless of background and origin, the space to speak out about their own future. How do they feel about issues such as employment, integration, peace and security, climate change, education, mental health and much more?

In the aftermath of the global pandemic and in light of the ongoing war in Ukraine, the voice and vision of young people are becoming increasingly important. At the advanced, interactive online meeting place 'Voice your Vision', young people are given the space to express and record their own, personalised message, and to share their opinions and ideas on the topics that concern them.

The platform is available in all official EU languages (plus Norwegian, Turkish, Serbian, North Macedonian and Icelandic). Each voice generates its own unique 3D waveform, which is connected to every other shot on the platform. So anyone can listen to any voice, in any language, on any device, at any time.

EU Youth Commissioner Mariya Gabriel welcomes 'Voice your Vision' and highlights the meaningful, dynamic and open spirit of joint creation underlined by the European Year of Youth: "It is an initiative that gives young Europe the opportunity not only to speak out, but also to share their concerns and ideas about the future. The timing of 'Voice your Vision' also makes the launch even more special: after all, young people are not only European citizens, but are also part of a society that is now under pressure more than ever."

Commissioner Gabriel added: "We call on all young people to stand up and put their shoulders to the wheel. With their voice, they help build Europe's path to growth, knowledge, innovation, opportunities and better, more relevant youth-centred solutions. We will listen carefully and ensure that youth policy can be developed in an open atmosphere and together with others. Not only in this special year, but also in the future, we want to hear the vision of all young people."

In order to make young people enthusiastic about the various activities, Member States contribute to the European Year of Youth campaigns at national and local level. In the Netherlands, more than 20 activities have already been organized as part of the year. According to Nusret Musa, national coordinator European Year of Youth in the Netherlands, at least 50 more activities are planned for the coming months. A few examples are the Day of the Youth Worker, For the Youth Day, a large festival for young people in the autumn and a

conference on inclusive youth participation for professionals who work with and for young people.

The new platform 'Voice your Vision' is the linchpin in these activities and will continue to play a central role after the European Year of Youth 2022. With the voice of young people as a driver of change and co-designer of future policy.

About European Year of Youth 2022
The European Commission launched the European Year of Youth as "a year dedicated to the young people, who have given so much to others", as President von der Leyen stated in her State of the Union address last year. It is a year entirely dedicated to young people. The aim is to empower them, encourage them, offer them new opportunities and find ways to play an active role in society.

The overall aim of the European Year of Youth is to encourage young people to make their

voices heard and to participate actively, by sharing their views on the key themes of the Year^[1] and their wishes for the future of Europe. European values must also be made more visible and highlighted, while at the same time spreading expressions of solidarity among young people and supporting Ukraine together through all kinds of activities.

But the European Year of Youth is also dominated by joint creativity and large-scale involvement. Hundreds of youth organisations and stakeholders play an active role in this process. This is reflected in all kinds of national and local activities. More than 1,650 activities across Europe have already been uploaded to the European Year of Youth website: young people seek each other out to shape the year in a positive and meaningful way.

Malta Book Fund 2022 is now open for applications



Applications for the 2022 Malta Book Fund are now open. New to this year, the Malta Book Fund has a total value of €120,000. It still comprises of two main distinct grant areas funding both the publication and the translation of books, but as of this edition the Fund sees the introduction of two new categories funding the translation of book excerpts and the publication of new editions of

out-of-print works.

As part of its vision to take the role of a cultural-agent within society and become a proactive and progressive contributor to the cultural, educational and intellectual development of our society, the National Book Council developed the Fund to foster cultural growth in the local book market, with the objective in mind to counter the effects of its relatively small size, which seriously limits the capital available for quality publications, research and development, translation and marketing.

For the eighth year in a row, the National Book Council is opening the public call for applications for the Malta Book Fund to encourage authors, translators and publishers not to shun projects on the grounds of lack of commercial viability, and to boost confidence in such initiatives and to ensure their fruition, in order to support local authors, translators and publishers who tend to either curtail their more ambitious projects or take the financial risks involved in pursuing them.

The National Book Council is currently receiving applications for four types of grants: Publishing Grants for New Books; Publishing Grants for New Editions of Out-of-Print Works; Translation Grants (divided into two categories: Translation of Maltese books and Translation of books into Maltese); and Book Translation Pitch Grants.

With the aim of supporting the publication of quality literature and/or works of research, the Publishing Grants for New Books are allocated the annual sum of €50,000. Preference is given to ambitious projects of high cultural value and relevance to the target local market, particularly if such projects face difficulties relating to

commercial viability. The grants support applications for the publication of original works of literature, including novels, poetry, drama, biographies, literary nonfiction and graphic novels, as well as academic and scholarly books including monographs, edited collections, and critical editions. Books based solely on imagery or photography books are not eligible.

New to the 2022 edition, the Malta Book Fund Publishing Grants for New Edition of Out-of-Print Works, with an annual allocated budget of €10,000, form part of the National Book Council's strategy to boost the publication of books in the local market by subsidizing the publication of books in Melitensia. This strand of the Fund aims at bridging the gap between the need to read classics and books of considerable cultural, educational and intellectual importance to society, and their unavailability in bookshops, with an eye to specifically subsidize the publication of new editions of books that are out of print and were published at least 20 (twenty) years before the launch of the current Malta Book Fund call. The applicant, who must ensure to include as part of the application pack the research outcome performed to identify rights holder of the book, must include an editorial plan for the new edition of the out-of-print work and illustrate the nature of the project, and make a case that the out-of-print book applied for under this Fund should find again its way into the publishing market, hit the shelves and reach as wide an audience as possible.

The Translation Grants within the Malta Book Fund are allocated an annual budget of €55,000 – €40,000 to support applications for the translation projects of Maltese books (published in the Maltese or English language with a Maltese ISBN) into any other language, with the aim of increasing the international exposure of Maltese creative and academic writing. Through a separate funding category, the annual sum of €15,000 is allocated to fund the translation projects of books from any other language into Maltese, thus supporting Maltese language translators in bringing international works of literature and research to a Maltese-reading public.

With an annual allocated budget of €5,000, for a maximum of €500 euro per book translation excerpt pitch application, the new Malta Book Fund Book Translation Pitch Grants supports applications for the translation of excerpts: of Maltese works published in the Maltese or English language in Malta with a Maltese ISBN into any other language; of works originally published in any other language into the Maltese language; of works originally published in any other language which are going to be pitched through an English language bridge translation. Applicants must also ensure to identify the rights holder in their application and must include a letter of agreement from the text's author or the rights' owner (or owners) for the text being translated. This identification has to include the book translation pitch.

All of the grants within the Malta Book Fund adhere to the provisions of the Writers' Charter of Economic Rights. The grants will be awarded to successful applicants following a competitive adjudication process. A specially-appointed adjudication board evaluates each project to ascertain both the value of the project and funding

requirements. All grants awarded may support up to 100% of the proposed project up to a maximum of €5,000 for all grants except the Book Translation Pitch Grants, which may support up to a maximum of €500 euro per pitch proposal. Interested applicants are encouraged to carefully read the guidelines and regulations of the respective grants for information relating to eligibility and the evaluation process before applying. The guidelines and regulations, together with the application form and other relevant information, can be accessed and downloaded from the [Malta Book Fund webpage](#).

The order of classification of applications submitted will be published within eight weeks from the application deadline. The call for applications closes on Wednesday 30 June 2022 at noon. Regards, National Book Council



Update: Travelling to Malta from Australia

Countries are no longer classified as 'red' or 'dark red' and there is no longer the requirement of filling out the Passenger Locator Form.

Travellers entering Malta will still need to present a [valid COVID-19 vaccination certificate](#) or a [recent negative test result \(PCR or RT\)](#) or a [recovery certificate](#) upon arrival. Those failing to do so will be required to quarantine for up to 10 days. Children aged 6 and under are exempt from these requirements.

Please keep following the below website for the latest updates and information :
www.deputyprimeminister.gov.mt



maltaconsulate.melbourne@gov.mt

Culture

Maltese Wedding TraditionsBy [Maureen](#)

Marriage in Malta was always a big deal and like many other countries, it had its own set of wedding traditions which are no longer practised. Here we will look at a few of them.

MALTESE MEN AND WOMEN WOULD RARELY MEET IN PUBLIC UNLESS THEY WERE RELATED

This meant that many people would have never seen their future spouse before they asked for their hand in marriage.

When a family had a daughter of marriageable age, they would put out a plant on the window ledge and wait for a suitable groom. If a man would be interested in the prospect of marriage and he would spy a plant outside, he would visit the local *ħuttab* or matchmaker. The matchmaker would approach the girl's parents and if they agreed to the man in question a dowry would be settled on.

ALTHOUGH THE MALTESE SEEM TO BE LESS INTO SONG THAN THEY USED TO, MUSIC USED TO BE AN INTEGRAL PART OF MALTESE CULTURE

On the wedding day itself, there would be an entire procession to the church headed by a group of musicians and singers singing beautiful songs about the couple. This would be followed by a man carrying wine and candles, another two men carrying the wedding cake and various sweets and pastries and yet another throwing nuts and coins in the street for the crowd. Finally, the bride would appear under a *baldakkin* or canopy accompanied by her father.

TRADITIONALLY, MALTESE BRIDES DID NOT WEAR WHITE ON THEIR BIG DAY

In fact, this custom only started in the mid-nineteenth century. Before then, brides would usually wear a pretty, festive dress with the most common choice of colours being dark red and black. Guests tended to wear black too. We must not forget that the black *għonella* was still widely being worn till about seventy years ago.

AFTER THE WEDDING DAY, THE HUSBAND AND WIFE DID NOT IMMEDIATELY TAKE UP RESIDENCE TOGETHER

In fact, the bride would go back to her home alone and spend a further eight days there with her family until she went to her new, marital home. Her first trip to the marital home was called *Il-Ħarġa* or the outing because it was her first big outing as a married woman.

Dear Frank, Thank you for the tribute on the death of my brother Peter included in your last journal. The thoughts, prayers and condolences have been of great comfort to the family. Despite his status as a judge of the District Court his humility and the belief that no human is above any other was an example to all. The family is very proud of his achievements, particularly my parents who made many sacrifices migrating to Australia so that we all had a bright future. A fact that many Maltese who took that step seeking a better future for their children can relate to.



Regards Joe Zahra

Gozo aqueduct to be restored at a cost of €2 million

BY [GOZO NEWS](#)



The Gozo aqueduct was built by the British between 1839 and 1843 to bring water from Ghar Ilma cave in Santa Lucija to Victoria, where it was stored in a reservoir within the Cittadella ditch. This icon of the island is to be restored in a project aimed at the structural consolidation and preservation of the structure.

This project is being carried out by a

multidisciplinary team of experts led by conservation architect Dr Hermann Bonnici and is expected to cost €2 million and will be completed by the end of 2025.

The first phase of works, the urgent consolidation of the vulnerable parts of the aqueducts, [was completed in 2017](#) under the then Gozo Minister, Justyne Caruana.

Announcing this next phase of the project, Gozo Minister Clint Camilleri said on Tuesday that, “this much-needed restoration will begin after all the necessary studies have been completed and permits have been issued by the competent authorities. Extensive restoration will ensure that this historic heritage, located to the west of the island, is preserved and eventually further enjoyed.”

John Xuereb, Director for Cultural Heritage within the Ministry for Gozo, said that the project is divided into a number of phases, with the first phase ready, which involved a geological investigation of the subsoil with the main aim of understand the nature of the aqueduct foundations and to determine the composition of the underlying geological strata.

In the second phase of the project, which will start in the coming weeks, there will be a temporary shoring of the main arch while the third and final phase of the project will focus on the structural consolidation of the foundations and the aqueduct conservation.



THE PRESIDENT OF IRELAND PAYS A VISIT TO THE PRESIDENT OF MALTA

At the State Dinner, President George Vella expressed his agreement with the call by the President of Ireland Michael D. Higgins, to “reconnect with the European Street”. President Vella spoke about the affinities and similarities between Malta and Ireland, which go beyond the bilateral context. He remarked, among other things, that the two countries are neutral countries with a firm belief in the

European project. He added that they are both strong supporters of multilateralism as a tool for achieving global justice.

Thank you for the beautiful journal full of information and knowledge. I live in Australia but my sisters live in Canada and they enjoy it too. Yes we need to promote the Maltese.

God bless you and your work

Ps a little Maltese poem

IL-MILJA TAŻ-ŻMIEN

Il-milja taż-żmien li tikber bil-ħin,
Il-ġrajja li fih titwal u tiċkien,
Il-ħarsa ta' bidwi fil-bogħod fiż-żernieq.

Il-ġhajta ta' wieħed li jghajjat u jbiegħ,
It-toroq mimlija b'karretti mexjin,
Iż-żwiemel iġorru lil hawn u lil'inn,
Miġemgħa li tħabrek biex tasal fil-ħin.

U jagħtini x'naħseb, kif iġhaddi iż-żmien.
U jħalli warajh dak kollu li jsib.

Il-lum kull ma tara karozzi u ċpar,
U dħaħen li jħallu tax-xarabank,
U l-miġemgħa li tgerger u tghid li l-ħin għab.

Jiġini li ngħid, dan kollu għalfejn?
Biex dari nimliha, bla spazju ta' xejn!

Mela ejjew nieqfu u naħsbu xi ftit
Kif nistgħu ingawdu dal-ħin hekk qasir,
U nħallu warajna dil-frugħa ta' ġid.

Maria Sammut
1/08/2021

AUSTRALIA NEWS IN MALTESE WILL BE TELEVISED DAILY ON THE NEW CHANNEL 35 SBS WORLDWATCH

**L-aħbarijiet bil-Malti
se jibdew jixxandru
fuq stazzjon ġdid**

Maltese News | PBS | Valletta

CHANNEL 35

Starts Monday 23 May

Daily 4.30pm

SBS WORLDWATCH

LOOKING FOR BUSINESS CARDS

May I introduce myself to you. I am Herbert Guillaumier from Tarxien Malta and I receive regularly your electronic newspaper Which I find very interesting. Although I do not live in Australia. I've been to Australia three times in the last twenty years. I have relatives in Sydney bearing the same surname. My eldest brother emigrated to Australia way back in 1961 and four years later my other brother emigrated too. Both of them are now gone and resting in peace but their families still live and flourish in the Sydney area.

As I said, I travelled to Australia three times The first time I was there, it was with my wife and kids. The second time, I travelled with my son, together we travelled to Queensland and further north to Darwin. From there we went south to Alice Springs and drove all the way across the desert to Uluru – Ayers Rock. It was a fantastic drive. The third time I went to Australia was with my daughter. And this time we travelled to Tasmania. We had quite a good time on Fraser Island as well.

I collect business cards from across the world and one of my nephews collects Australian business cards for me. I would appreciate it very much if you could promote my name in your journal as a collector of business cards. Besides business cards, I practise another hobby, I paint on glass (in old times all shops' names used to be this type).

I have the Australian coat of arms which I'd like to present to anyone. I simply love Australia. I wish I could visit another time

Herbert Guillaumier

The future of Maltese society Social Policy - a time to plan ahead



Denise Fiorentino

Meeting the aspirations of citizens requires a robust vision which enables government to plan ahead with a view to addressing future needs and challenges. With this objective in mind, government has embarked on an ambitious initiative which aims to develop a vision for the social sector entitled 'A Social Vision for Malta 2035: shaping the future of our society'.

Malta's Social Vision is intended to build upon the principles of social justice and solidarity and provide the opportunity for citizens to aspire for a better quality of life. In ensuring that a comprehensive approach is

adopted in developing this vision, a pre-consultation process was undertaken. Sectors identified include: persons at risk of poverty and social exclusion; children; persons with disabilities; youths; older persons; families; persons with addiction problems; re-integration of ex-offenders; violence, abuse and exploitation; LGBTIQ+ and migration.

The pre-consultation has contributed towards the development of the first draft of Malta's Social Vision which is expected to be launched for consultation in the coming weeks. Malta's Vision for the social sector is expected to provide the necessary direction and be complemented by a number of policy documents and action plans to be published in the future. This approach is expected to contribute towards improving the efficiency and effectiveness of measures implemented within the sector as well as contribute towards improving synergies amongst the different policy areas.

Children are the future of our society and warrant due attention particularly children who are at risk of poverty.

Within this context, government has developed Malta's National Action Plan in achieving the European Child Guarantee. This Action Plan, portrays current and future initiatives which contribute towards the prevention of social exclusion whilst further strengthen efforts to guarantee access to quality services for children in need, particularly in areas including: education and early care of children, education (including school-based activities), healthcare, nutrition and housing.

In addition, plans are under way to initiate a pre-consultation process in relation to the development of a policy framework focusing on families. The rationale is to provide appropriate policy instruments which address today's realities and provide the necessary support to families with a view to improve their quality of life.

In recent years, efforts are being undertaken with a view to adopt a citizen centred approach. In this regard, the Division has embarked on an extensive initiative aimed at evaluating the relevance and adequacy of the current Social Security Act. In addition, as part of this initiative, efforts are being undertaken to simplify legislative instruments and avoid any unnecessary administrative burden, where this is possible.

Adopting a citizen centred approach requires clear communication. In this regard, the need was felt to ameliorate and simplify communication with the general public with the objective to make it more understandable by the target audience. This is particularly relevant when such communication involves legal jargon, targets children, and more. Within this context, the Division in collaboration with the European Commission Representation in Malta is addressing a conference focusing on the concept of Clear Writing. This event will focus on the concept of simple writing in documents/letters with a view to enable the reader to understand the message in a clearer manner, thus ensuring more effective communication with the general public.

Society's needs are changing and government as policy maker needs to plan accordingly with a view to meet the aspirations of Maltese citizens. It is within this context, that government is focusing its efforts to consolidate its policy framework in order to better address current and future challenges while meeting citizens' expectations.

This is one of a series of articles in commemoration of Social Justice Month organised by the Ministry for Social Policy and Children's Rights.

Denise Fiorentino is Director General (Research, Policy and Operations), Ministry for Social Policy and Children's Rights.

The special atmosphere of the Maltese feasts



Anna Spiteri Borg

Malta is a Roman Catholic country and patron saints are really important in the locals' minds. From May to September, you will enjoy the celebration feeling and the folklore in every Maltese town.

Also named 'festas', Maltese Feasts are parts of the culture on the islands. More than religious, village feasts play an important role in the story of Malta and they represent its folklore. For sure, Religious periods are also important. Indeed, Maltese people highly celebrate Christmas and Easter and you will enjoy seeing the decoration during these seasons. You will be surprised by the many events you should attend in any villages in this country!

VILLAGE FEASTS

Bringing a sense of communal spirit, Maltese feasts are perfect events for summer holidays. You will love to spend time with your family discovering a village throughout its traditions!

Religion is the centre of Maltese Folklore and every village has its own patron saint. For example, Santa Marija is the most popular one, and has also become a National Holiday! One can also notice the importance of the Maltese culture which is embraced in village festas thanks to the traditional sweet and delicious 'Qubbajt' (which is the traditional *nougat*). Food

stalls are set up in the street leading to the village square also known as the 'pjazza'. You will be able to taste basic comfort food as well as Maltese specialities. Music is also an important part of the festas and village bands will perform during these events. Throughout the entire summer, you will be able to attend these unique celebrations, and most of them offer a beautiful firework display when night falls. Malta is one of the best places in the world when it comes to pyrotechnic displays and you may want to enjoy this

spectacular entertainment!

Another important part of a feast is the statue highlighting, as it is a strong symbolic tradition in the feasts. The statues are located next to the churches or the central place of the village and the crowd meet there to celebrate the patron saint.

Even if you are not a religious person, you may not want to miss attending to a village festa and see the street decorations and the intricate detail in the decoration of the church in each village. The illuminated churches with prismatic colours become the most important place in the village.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

Christmas and Easter are really important celebrations. During the Holy Week just before Easter, locals take part in the 'seven visits'. This event consists of visiting seven churches to pay homage to the Altar of Repose.

Maltese culture offers a large importance to food. That's why during these periods, large banquets or lunches are organised with family and friends to celebrate being together.

You will enjoy being here during Maltese feasts because of the positive and festive atmosphere. Don't miss anything and contact us for further information. You can also reach our blog on Upcoming Events, on which you should find any event you would like to attend.



MALTA AGRIFAIR 2022,

Come and join us on the 20th, 21st & 22nd May to celebrate local agriculture and fisheries together under one roof at MFCC Ta' Qali!

#AgriFair2022 <https://agrifair.gov.mt/information-for-visitors/>.

Mal-Beata Armida Barelli fit-13 ta' Mejju



Il-beatifikazzjoni t'Armida

Barelli, fundatriċi – fost l-oħrajn – tax-Xebbiet tal-Azzjoni Kattolika Taljana u tal-Università Sacro Cuore, saret fl-aħħar t'April.

L-Azzjoni Kattolika f'Għawdex qed tfakkar din id-devota kbira tal-Qalb ta' Ġesù b'siegha adorazzjoni u tagħlim fil-parroċċa hekk dedikata l-Fontana fit-13 ta' Mejju. F'waħda mill-Ġimgħat bi thejjija għal dis-Solennità, l-istedina hi miftuħa għal kulhadd – membri u le – fil-5pm.

Peress li jkun l-anniversarju tal-ewwel Dehra tal-Madonna f'Fatima, il-programm se jinkludi anki aspekk marjan – u lanqas jithalla barra l-Wucwo Day (Jum Dinji ta' Talb min-Nisa Kattoliċi).

The beatification of Armida Barelli (founder, among others, of Italian Catholic Action Female Youth and Università Sacro Cuore) took place on 30 April. A prayer service in Maltese is being held in honour of this strong Sacred Heart devotee in Fontana on 13 May (5-6pm), one of the Fridays leading to the Solemnity. Being the anniversary of the first Apparition of Our Lady in Fatima, the programme includes a Marian aspect – ideally incorporating WUCWO Day too.

THE MALTESE GOAT -An ambitious plan to reintroduce the Maltese goat, a breed which disappeared from the island after the discovery of Brucellosis in goats' milk by Sir Temi Zammit by **James Debono**



Goats at St George's Bay with St George's Barracks in the background (Courtesy MaltaRMC/QA Archives photo album 1914-1918)

After securing a permit for the controversial reconstruction of a derelict hotel in the pristine Kalanka cove, hotelier Kenneth Abela, wants to erect a massive Nissen hut (230sqm.m) over his landholding of 23,000sq.m.

His aim? An ambitious plan to reintroduce the Maltese goat, a breed which disappeared from the island after the discovery of Brucellosis in goats' milk by Sir Temi Zammit, which prompted the British authorities to encourage farmers to replace goats with cows.

Abela, himself a registered farmer, has always insisted that his plans for the surrounding area at the Delimara Hotel are purely agricultural.

insisted that his plans for the surrounding area at the Delimara Hotel are purely agricultural.

Apart from the goat farm, the development on Abela's estate foresees the development of a coop for the Maltese black chicken, an indigenous species reared for centuries in backyards, which survives up to this day. The British-era Nissen hut that will host his goat farm was itself previously located in the Tal-Handaq school.

"In this way, a no-go area previously frequented by hunters and trappers will be dedicated for a useful and innovative project," Abela said in defence of his project.

Abela insisted he has tried to keep the developable footprint as low as possible while ensuring that his business venture remains "feasible and sustainable".

The Planning Authority has already approved three other applications presented by Abela in the same area. The first was to sanction a number of rural structures previously used by bird trappers. A few

months later the PA approved another application to "consolidate" a series of old structures into a brand new agricultural store. Greenhouses on some 735sq.m of land were later approved, but against the advice of the Environment and Resources Authority which objected to the "piecemeal approach" to development in an area that is scheduled for its landscape value. 41 trees will be grown to minimise the visual impact of this development.

Goats from Sicily

Abela explains that the key to his project to reintroduce the Maltese goat is the survival of this breed in Sicily. Before the breed disappeared from Malta it was common for farmers from other countries such as Sardinia and Sicily to come and buy goats from Maltese farmers.

Abela traced the Maltese goats in Sicily by referring to the "libro geneologico caprino" – a genealogical book listing goat breeds in Italy and where these are bred. This led Abela to establish contact with an organic farm in the vicinity of San Cataldo owned by Luca Cammarata. The idea is to import the Maltese

goat directly to Malta from this farm.

50 to 100 goats will be bred in a purposely-built farm in Delimara. The herd will eventually be used to produce milk products made from the goats' milk, on the same lines as those which are already being successfully produced and marketed in Caltanissetta, where the goat's milk is used to produce organic yoghurts, and a vast selection of typical cheeses made from Maltese goats' milk.

"We believe that by marketing these highly artisanal products, we will indirectly create a demand for rearing the Maltese goat, which eventually will lead to the final phase of the project, that of breeding extra goats to supply local farmers who show interest in rearing this breed," Abela said..

Abela also wants to collaborate with the Agribusiness department at MCAST and other educational institutions to offer hands-on experience at the farm to students wishing to pursue this line of business.



SIR TEMI ZAMMIT

The veterinary authorities have already approved the reintroduction of the Maltese goat from Azienda Cammarata after confirming the farm was free from disease, describing the reintroduction as one of “high value” due to its impact on the conservation of the species.



No 100% pure-bred goats have survived in Malta, mainly due to the discovery of Brucellosis in the goats' milk by Sir Temi Zammit

The Maltese goat story

The Maltese goat is a long-haired hornless white goat characterised by a raven-black area on the top and sides of the head and long pendulous black ears which turn outwards at the tip. It originates in Asia Minor, and takes its name from the island of Malta. It is raised mainly in southern Italy, and particularly in the islands of Sicily and Sardinia.

A report published in the Pacific Rural Press in 1905 describes the Maltese goat as “a very superior animal, not only on account of its milk, but as a breeder.”

The report provides some insights on how vital goats' milk was to the nutrition of the Maltese describing them as “wholly dependent upon goats' milk”.

“Only a few cows are kept here, but their milk is not regarded with favour, owing to lack of pasturage. In addition to the limited herbage, the sustenance of the goats is added to by feeding them with carob beans and mixed cotton seed and bran, the extra feed costing about 7 cents per day per goat.”

No 100% pure-bred goats have survived in Malta. The drastic decline of this breed from the Maltese Islands was due to the discovery of Brucellosis (*Brucella melitensis*) in the goats' milk by Sir Temi Zammit. A mistaken belief that only goats' milk contained the disease, led many Maltese farmers to look for other milk-producing farm animals.

The British government contributed to the eradication of the Maltese goat through a scheme through which a cow was given in exchange for five goats.



MARISA PREVITERA WRITES

I am writing to you today with some disappointment on your article about the situation of the Maltese Communities being in danger of becoming extinct!

I have to strongly disagree with your report, as we in NSW are

Marisa Previtera seeing new Associations forming and in fact, we now have a few young groups who are active in the community. These groups are not run along the lines of the ‘older established associations and are growing in popularity and membership. Recently, the Maltese Community Council of NSW welcomed the Illawarra Maltese Australian Association, who as you well know are indeed very active and have had many events in the last year alone.

Our aim at the MCC of NSW is to encourage and support initiatives by these newer groups and of course we maintain our strong ties and affiliations with the older Associations.

Also, smaller groups have now evolved as groups in their own rights such as the Llandilo, Greystanes, Daceyville, Fairfield and Merrylands Social Welfare Day groups whose membership is also growing and

these continue to grow as people retire and look to join a social group.

Nothing stays the same, and the Maltese associations of old may not be attracting the membership that they once had, however, I have strong faith in the younger members of our community, who do things differently to the old established groups, but nonetheless, are making their mark in the community. Let us encourage them, not take a negative approach.

Also, you mention that the Maltese Associations need to be united, and with that I agree to a point. We need to support each other's events and not try to undermine each other. All associations need to have respect and work together when needed to achieve our goals to have an active presence in Australia.

PS: Since then we have been contacted by two priests in Malta who showed interest in coming to Australia to assist the members of the Maltese community in their spiritual needs. More information will be given in due time. More comments from readers will be appreciated – Frank Scicluna - Editor

Malta Opera launched with gala concert and opportunities for local talent

Launch at the Casino Maltese, Valletta, on Thursday, May 5



Malta Opera founder and artistic director, soprano Nicola Said with Gala Concert compère Joseph Chetcuti.

“Opera has always held a special place in our hearts, our culture and society. And although today it competes with popular musical genres and entertainment, our love for opera has certainly not dimmed. In our case, it gave birth to a dream – Malta Opera,” said Nicola Said, soprano, founder and artistic director of the newly launched collaborative opera initiative.

With a rich and diverse programme organised by Nicola Said and featuring 15 established Maltese opera singers who were joined by young and emerging singers, the ballroom was packed with VIP guests, friends and families. The programme covered a broad repertoire of music by well-loved international composers Handel, Mozart, Léhar, Donizetti, Gounod, Gilbert and Sullivan, Bernstein, Verdi, Puccini, Sorozábal and Maltese

composer Camilleri.

Malta Opera is a unique concept for the Maltese Islands. It is a professional collaborative opera initiative bringing together Maltese singers, experienced and professional management, artistic production, and internationally renowned conductors with long-standing connections with Malta. Shortly before the launch, Malta Opera held a Masterclass at the Malta Society of Arts in Valletta - *The German System: What's Your Fach?* - during which eight local talented singers were coached by international masters, conductor Ben Woodward and director Detlef Sölter.

As Nicola explained, “We believe that investing in the future of opera is the key to giving opportunities to those singers who study and perform both locally and internationally. We also believe that it is important to promote the work as a multidisciplinary platform and develop a community of supporters.”

It is a well-known fact that the Maltese have a deeply rooted infatuation with opera culture. From global superstars like Oreste Kirkop and Joseph Calleja, to internationally acclaimed singers such as Miriam Gauci, Lydia Caruana and Antoinette Miggiani, they bring out the best of local talent and the Maltese communities. Today in Malta there is a completely renewed cohort of talented opera singers following important international professional opera careers. In addition, there are many other great and promising Maltese voices among opera students studying at home and abroad.

Unfortunately, such talent is not always adequately appreciated due to the lack of local opportunities. Young singers leave Malta to pursue their dreams abroad, with little hope of returning to pursue a full-time artistic career. They do however shine in highly acclaimed productions overseas productions. This is the gap that Malta Opera has set out to fill. It is the stage for society and local Maltese communities to appreciate the enduring and beautiful aspects of the opera's art form through local talent.

Nicola adds, “Our dream is to grow the company and have world-class opera productions that bring together Maltese talent from all over the world. We are also planning to develop exchanges with international opera singers, productions and companies. Whether it is education through masterclasses, exploring innovative ways to bring work to life through emerging technology and media, or opportunities through multidisciplinary concerts and opera scene productions, we want opera to be the beating heart of our communities.”

Present for the launch were various personalities from culture, politics and industry, including Owen Bonnici, Minister for the National Heritage, the Arts, and the Local Government; Fabrizio Romano,

ambassador of the Italian Republic in Malta; representatives from the German and Spanish embassies; Alfred Camilleri, Permanent Secretary, Ministry for Finance and Employment; and soprano Lydia Caruana. Malta Opera could not have come to life without the sponsorship and support of the travel partners AirMalta, Arts Council Malta, the Janatha Stubbs Foundation, RISC Institute, Malta International Airport and APS Bank, as well as the support of the Malta Society of Arts, the Malta Philharmonic Orchestra and the Casino Maltese, together with Market Accents and Culture Ventures, advisors, Paul Nailor, volunteers and friends.

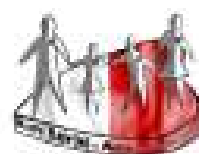
Malta Opera will be releasing details of its future programme and activities on the website (www.maltaopera.com) and on social media. It is also available for cultural activities, corporate events and commissioned productions. For more information, please e-mail hello@maltaopera.com.

Happy Parenting - Malta (For Happier Children)

seminar2022@happyparentingmalta.com

(+356) 7760 3330

Press Release



Happy Parenting Malta's 2nd International Seminar 2022 6 May from the Royal Hall of the AX Palace Hotel, Sliema and online

Kristin Cavallari says coparenting after divorce has given her the 'perfect balance'.

"I got divorced two years ago and it's sort of forced this perfect balance on me. I have my kids for a week now and then I don't have them for a week. So what I've decided to do is that when I have them, I'm mom. That's it. I really don't even go to the office when I have them because I'd rather be home prepping dinner and going to the grocery store and doing all the mom stuff. But then when I don't have them, I'm in L.A., I'm in New York, I'm at the office later, I'll see my friends. That's when I can catch up on my personal life too and do all the work I need to do. So in that sense, I'm lucky." **Happy Parenting Malta's 2022 seminar on 6 May 2022, organised at the Royal Hall of the AX Palace Hotel, brought together national and international coparenting thought leaders with a live transmission reaching 26 national coparenting organisations globally.**

Coparenting is boosting children and gives many divorced or separated parents the 'perfect balance'. It is the new normal in many parts of the world, and it is starting to reach Malta.

Happy Parenting Malta is committed to support all involved locally to make coparenting known.

We are after positive coparenting, seek to teach how this can be achieved and maintained as a win-win situation for both parents leading to special benefits for the children. Please reach out anytime HappyParentingMalta.com/seminar

Happy Parenting - Malta (For Happier Children)

seminar2022@happyparentingmalta.com (+356) 7760 3330



Wasal il-Karnival

Din is-sena dawn il-granet
Waslu fuqna m'cajprin
Għaliex dan l-imbieriek
virus
Qerdilna s-sigħat henjin

Ta' daż-żmien li s-soltu
jkollna
Nammiraw it-trakkijiet
B'għadd sabiħ ta'
maskarati
Mal-irhula u l-ibliet.

Għalkemm b'dan is-saram
kollu
Ejjew xorta niddevertu;
Inzommu sew id-distanzi
Sabiex b'hekk ikollna mertu

Biex neqirdu din l-imxija
Li dahlet mill-għatba 'l
gewwa
U naqtgħulha rasha barra
Jew bis-sewwa jew bid-
dnewwa.

Niesna thobb dal-jiem
ta' bluha

Thobb il-giri u t-tbahrid;
Għal mument tagħlaq
għajnejha
Tinsa il-piż tas-Salib.

U tingabar ġol-enclosure
Sabiex tgawdi l-
ispettaklu
Żfin, baned u kumpaniji
Min sa jirbaħ tghid il-
palju!

Il-Kunsilli go l-irhula
Jagħtuna serati sbieħ
Anki meta x-xita traxxax
Jew jinżel xi ftit tal-ksieħ.

Dis-sena tal-Għarb
stednuni
Nippreżenta l-Karnival
U għalkemm is-sebghin
qbizthom -
Mhux darbtejn insiru
tfal!

L-iskejjel ukoll issibhom
Jagħtu sehemhom sew
bi shiħ
Johorgulek bil-kostumi
U spejjes jonfqu qatigh!

Dawn il-festi folkloristiċi
Lura jmorru sew fiż-
żmien
Ma narax illi xi darba
Għad jaraw tagħhom it-
tmien.

Għax in-nies darba fis-
sena
Trid tiżvoga kif imiss
U titbellah, tiġri, taqbez
Mhux kif tagħmel
kuljum, spiss!

Tan-Nadur ihejju sewwa
Għall-jiem sbieħ tal-
Karnival
Ta' taħt fuq jaqilbu r-
raħal
Jitbellhu iż-żgħar, il-kbar.

X'hemm ħazin ħbieb
wara kollox
Li niddandnu f'żmien
bħal dan!
Dari wara dawn il-festi
Jigi fuqna ir-Randan!

Kav Joe M Attard
emarios@hotmail.com
Gozo - Mejju 2022



Ben Reeve

Selmun Palace was built in 1783 on a plan designed by architect **Domenico Cachia**. Although it looks like a military building, it was actually used as a meeting place of the **Knights of the Order of Saint John** who would use it as their summer hunting residence.

There is a hotel just behind the palace, which was owned by Air Malta before closing in 2011.

Our Visit

We popped over to Selmun Palace on one of those impulsive changes of directions that typify great adventures. Unlike the stories of ancient explorers, there was no guiding star, man with magic beans or divine intervention that got us to turn off the route to our original destination, but a big brown sign that said 'SELMUN PALACE, NEXT RIGHT'. I'm pretty easily distracted at the best of times, but when someone shoves up a big brown sign with words like that on it I'm in. I'd not heard of any palaces on Malta, so they hooked my in without a second thought.

And to be honest, if I'd read about Selmun Palace in advance, I'd question if we'd have dropped by. It's a big old beautiful building that's for sure, but that's about it. It's rather typical of Malta, looking a little bit sad and lonely as a lot of the historical buildings can on this island. In the UK this would have been snapped up by the National Trust or English Heritage long ago. There'd be signs everywhere, over-priced car parking, lots of old people hanging around and a cafe serving gut-busting scones. In Malta what you get is a building that now seems to serve no purpose other than being a luxury sparrow nesting site.

So it would be easy to write it off, but let's not be too hasty. There's a certain charm in finding an

Why Visit Selmun Palace?

abandoned place like this. You get it all to yourself, no crowds, no guides, just you forming your own opinions. If it wasn't for the big brown sign, and occasional farmer chugging by in a clapped-out pickup, it would be easy to pretend you were adventurer, discovering an old castle hidden away in the country. We all had those amazing powers of imagination as children, and this rekindles the flames of those lost parts of our brain. We used to play by an old Roman road at the back of our village, looking for treasures and tools in the grass and making up stories of centurions. Imagine the stories we would have told ourselves if this place was nearby.

Just round the back is a deserted hotel that just adds to the mysterious glamour. It feels like they just downed tools and walked off. We walked round in search of the cream tea that was still advertised on notice boards. I was genuinely surprised when the lights were off as everything seems set to reopen tomorrow. I couldn't believe it when I read that it had been closed since 2011, another interesting quirk of property management in Malta.

The view from the walk

If none of these interests you then it's well worth a stop off just for the walk down behind the palace. There is a gravelly path that snakes its way between fields of crops, fuelled by an innovative irrigation system. It leads you downhill towards the sea giving a fantastic view out across to the **Tower of Ghajn Hadid** and the Mediterranean waters beyond. So there we have it, Selmun Palace! You're certainly not going to occupy yourself for too long here, but if you're in the north of Malta on the way to one of the more popular tourist attractions like **Popeye Village**, then pull over for half an hour or so and experience

a rare quiet moment on the busy island of Malta. and the Mediterranean waters beyond. So there we have it, Selmun Palace! You're certainly not going to occupy yourself for too long here, but if you're in the north of Malta on the way to one of the more popular tourist attractions like **Popeye Village**, then pull over for half an hour or so and experience a rare quiet moment on the busy island of Malta.



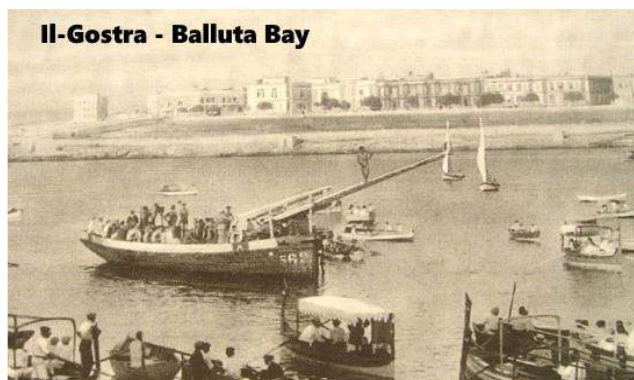
Pretty Balluta Bay



Concrete Jungle - Balluta



Maze



Il-Gostru - Balluta Bay

THE TRANSFORMATION OF BALLUTA BAY



A Man asked a Fairy to make him desirable and irresistible to all Women.

She turned him into a credit card.



HUSBAND:

I want you to have this bracelet. It belonged to my Grandmother.

WIFE:

What does it say?
"Do not resuscitate?"



The Maltese Journal is truly a treasure of the Maltese living around the world. Thanks to all the readers helpers, supporters and contributors



Running TV programmes for Maltese in Canada — **Alfred Fenech**

Alfred Fenech emigrated to Canada in 1958 not because he

was in search of employment but because he was encouraged to do so by his mother after the fireworks factory he used to work in, exploded, killing two people.

She preferred to lose her son to emigration than to death.

Mr Fenech, of Mosta, was just 22 then. He is now a very well-known name among the Maltese in Toronto, having run television programmes for the Maltese community for the past 30 years. He has been given awards for his voluntary work by the federal, municipal and provincial governments.

In Malta on his 15th visit since emigrating, Alfred recounted how the programmes had their origins and how they have developed since.

He and his brother Tony had been bothered by the fact that the station dedicated to ethnic programmes, Graham Cable Television, did not do a Maltese show. So one fine day in 1972 they went to speak to the company to discuss the issue.

They were told they would be given an hour a week if they could guarantee a series of programmes for six months. The two brothers accepted. The station trained them and Joe Zammit, who now works for Calypso Radio, and they launched Siegha Maltija.

The programme could be viewed in the whole of Toronto, which then had a Maltese population of some 22,000. It featured entertainment by Maltese groups as well as news from Malta which used to be taken from newspapers provided by the Malta Trade Commission.

After five years, the station's management decided that one hour was too long and cut the programme to half an hour - so it became Nofs Siegha Maltija.

When new management took over the station the programme became Bejnietna l-Maltin and a new jingle was created. It was merged with another

Maltese programme, Mill-Maltin għall-Maltin, and became Lehen Malti, which is broadcast to this day. Lehen Malti, which Mr Fenech produces with Mr Frank Attard, is sponsored by HSBC (Malta) plc. Mr Fenech considers among his programmes' greatest achievements the thousands of dollars it has collected for Dar tal-Providenza over the years following appeals initially made by Mgr Mikiel Azzopardi and more recently by Mgr Philip Calleja and Mgr Lawrence Gatt.

The first fund-raising programme for the home, which drew some \$6,000, was held only six months after the series was launched.

Money for the home is now being collected through activities organised by the Maltese-Canadian Federation. Another highlight for Mr Fenech was his interview in hospital with Toronto parish priest Lawrence Bonavia six months before he died.

He has also interviewed President Guido de Marco, Prime Minister Eddie Fenech Adami and Labour leader Alfred Sant. Mr Fenech now also takes care of the Canadian part of an internet programme on allmalta.net, organised by John Cassar, who lives in Scotland.

He is also involved with a programme on Super 1 called Qrib Taghkom, aired every Tuesday between 2 and 4 p.m.

The programme invites Maltese to record messages for their relatives in Canada and Australia, and Mr Fenech calls the relatives in Canada and plays them the recording. If they have a return message it is played on the programme.



This space could be yours – write to us



FACTORY IN MALTA CARMELO DELIA

Thank you very much for the remarkable information you compile to produce the Maltese e-Newsletter. With reference to the article on page 9 of this month's issue, namely "Gorgeous! This Malta-style enamel sign in Valletta is giving us major nostalgia", I would like to point out that one can also see other still installed pieces of Carmelo Delia's enamel signs in St Mark Street, Valletta. These are also visible if one accesses google maps on this link:

<https://www.google.com/maps/@35.8993092,14.5094899,3a,90y,233.43h,89.78t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1sESI37Viwu2KJKI5INtBEIw!2e0!7i13312!8i6656>

Regards Godwin Borg



Book your tickets as Cinema City returns this May and cast your vote for our Valletta Design Cluster which is among the finalists of the 2022 edition of the #NewEuropeanBauhaus. Films and family friendly films

Cinema City Returns this May!

This open-air five-day mini film festival returns this month from the 24th till the 28th at Laparelli Gardens. The film festival features a community element with the films chosen by 10 individuals hailing from different backgrounds following an open call.

This year's edition includes a mix of themes featuring Modern Classic Films, Animation, Maltese Films and family friendly films.

Tuesday 24th May, 9pm - Little Miss Sunshine (16)

Wednesday 25th May, 9pm - Simshar (12A)

Thursday 26th May, 9pm - The Matrix (12A)

Friday 27th May, 9pm - La Vita e Bella (PG)

Saturday 28th May, 9pm - The Iron Giant (U)

Valletta Design Cluster among #NewEuropeanBauhaus Award nominees

Visit <https://prizes.new-european-bauhaus.eu/> and vote for the Valletta Design Cluster shortlisted in the 'Regaining a sense of belonging' category until 16 May 2022. This is your chance to choose which projects or ideas will shape our future living spaces towards more beauty, sustainability and inclusiveness.

The New European Bauhaus is a creative and interdisciplinary initiative that connects the European Green Deal to our living spaces and experiences. It calls on all of us to imagine and build together a sustainable and inclusive future that is beautiful for our eyes, minds, and souls. Beautiful are the places, practices, and experiences that are artistically enriching, sustainable and inclusive.

Bejn Sema u Ilma This is your last chance to experience *Bejn Sema u Ilma*, the first in a series of installations in South Street throughout 2022, which will be on until the 31st May. *Bejn Sema u Ilma* is inspired by the Grand Harbour and the sea that surrounds and defines Valletta. The piece, which is 40m long, uses metal and fabric in colours that mimic the changing shades of the sea as waves form on our shores to create the illusion of water hanging overhead.

Premju għall-Arti nominees Arts Council Malta has just announced the 29 shortlisted nominees for the Premju għall-Arti 2022.

The Secret Garden, a Valletta Cultural Agency and Lignin Stories production was shortlisted in the *Best work for young audiences category*. Meanwhile, the contemporary visual arts exhibition **fuse** produced by the Valletta Cultural Agency is among the nominees for *Best Project in the Community*. **ŻfinMade** by ŻfinMalta, in collaboration with Spazju Kreattiv and the Valletta Cultural Agency has been shortlisted for the *Innovation Award*.

Vote for **Threaded Fine**, a project by ŻfinMalta, in collaboration with the Valletta Cultural Agency which has been selected for the Audience's Choice category. Click on www.premju.mt until noon of **9th of June 2022** and vote on the basis of your ID card number. Now in its 5th edition, il-Premju għall-Arti is a celebration of the main achievements of the Maltese cultural and creative industries.

A MALTESE DELICACY GOES INTERNATIONAL

**'I'm Doing It For Malta':
€100,000**

**Shark Tank Investment
Could Make Pastizzi
Big In Canada**

Tereza Bugelli



5,492 views Apr 25, 2022

Tereza Bugelli comes in the Shark Tank in Malta from Canada with a plan to take to Canada the Maltese delicacy, pastizzi to Canada by means of a travelling food truck. Incredible but true... one of The Sharks got more than hungry and invested heavily in this vision and plan.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OTBLizHQfPU>

**The Maltese Journal
supports all
associations
and businesses in
Malta and
overseas**

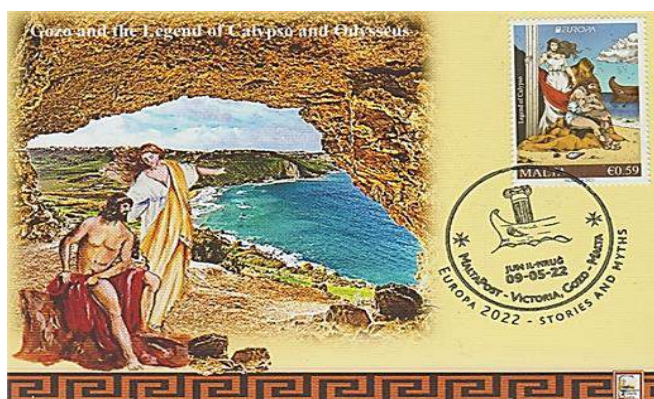
Mama Malta Thank YOU for all the support & encouragement!! To answer some questions... it will be a year round operation not seasonal, travelling to many events and we are even going to have a locator app so you can find us. It is not just going to be PASTIZZI, it will be a variety of other Maltese foods and imported products from Malta. The business is valued at \$1million, not grossing \$1million in a year and YES the investor does see the possibility of franchising but first we need to get the prototype Food Truck rolling. This is not a "new" idea, there are Pastizzi food trucks in US & Australia already. The ultimate mission is it make MALTA more well known & the connection of food to culture has always been a keyway to do it.



THE MALTESE CENTER IN NEW YORK HOSTS A SCHOOL VISIT

The Maltese Center presented the students with a lesson of everyday Maltese words and phrases, a sampling of traditional foods such as ftira, pastizzi, and pastries, and a PowerPoint presentation with an overview of Malta. The students enjoyed every lesson and every bite! We would like to thank our members who volunteered and donated their time. It made for a memorable experience and a wonderful Maltese impression on the visiting students.

We wish them a most enjoyable visit to Malta & Gozo!



Gozo Philatelic Society

On 9 May 2022 MaltaPost issued a set of 2 stamps in its Europa series. This year subject is 'Stories and Myths'. One of the stamps, the Euro 0.59 has Gozo connections and features The Legend of Calypso and Odysseus. In classical mythology, Calypso was the queen of the island of Ogygia on which Ulysses (or Odysseus, the hero of Homer's Odyssey) was shipwrecked.

She promised him immortality should he accept to remain with her-rather than return to his Penelope. Although the exact location of Calypso's island is uncertain, this legend has long come to be associated with Gozo-and specifically a cave in Xaghra overlooking Ramla Bay.

It is hoped that this tourist attraction can again become accessible soon. Ince this stamp has Gozo connections, The Gozo Philatelic Society, as usual issued an attractive post card in a limited edition of 100 individually numbered cards. If interested in acquiring one of these cards just send an email to Anthony Grech on zewwieqa18@gmail.com of further information.

Vittoriosa Museum reopens



By **Jurgen Balzan** NEWSBOOK.COM.MT

-Devotional Greek sanctuary dedicated to the BVM Damascene Vittoriosa where De La Vallette's Battle Sword and Hat are preserved. The Vittoriosa Museum in the Oratory of St Joseph in Vittoriosa Square has reopened after closing down during the Covid pandemic.

The Museum forms part of St Lawrence Collegiate and was founded in 1990 on the occasion of the 9th

centenary of the Vittoriosa parish.

The location could not be more appropriate since the Greek Sanctuary of Our Lady Damascene, a small chapel adjacent to St Joseph Oratory, proudly houses the precious Great Siege relics of Grand Master Jean De La Vallette, namely his Battle Sword and Hat.

The idea of setting up the Museum came from the Vittoriosa Historical & Cultural Society which put together the exhibits. Besides, the Society is entrusted with the custody of the Museum with members volunteering to act as museum attendants.

Apart from the De La Vallette mementos, the Museum possesses various historical artifacts including paintings, ecclesiastical silverware and vestments and a selection of old books.

The museum contents has lately been creatively reassessed and where possible exhibits have been skilfully arranged according to a thematic display. With funding from the Malta Council for the Voluntary Sector under the SiS scheme, a number of stands with historical information have been set up to guide visitors through the different themes. Under the same project, similar stands are being placed in St Lawrence Church.

The opening ceremony will take place on Wednesday, 18 May 2022 at 7.15 pm at St Joseph Oratory, led by the Archpriest of Vittoriosa, Rev. Can. Carmelo Busuttil Magister Iuris, S Th. Dip. MA. Mayor of Vittoriosa John Boxall will be in attendance.

A Marian prayer in Byzantine rite will be recited within the Sanctuary of Our Lady Damascene by the Rev. Hon. Can. Greek Papas Prof. Martin Zammit.

The event will include a presentation to the Rev. Archpriest of a copy of the superb recently published Heritage Malta volume *Swords of the Religion* by Franco Davies, with magnificent photography by Daniel Cilia, which prominently features the Vittoriosa Sword of De La Vallette. The presentation will be made by the author himself.



**I THANK THOSE WHO SENT A DONATION
TOWARD THE PRODUCTION OF THIS JOURNAL WHICH
I HAVE BEEN PUBLISHING FOR 8 YEARS VOLUNTARILY.
If you wish to send a donation here are the details
Commonwealth Bank (Aust) BSB:065106 ACC. NO.: 0050 2597
NAME: Frank Scicluna**

Cisk 0.0 collects Gold at the ‘Oscars’ of the brewing industry ceremony held in London



Photo: from left, Mr Paul Hegarty, Honorary Secretary of the All-Party Parliamentary Beer Group who sponsored the International Non & Low trophy award, Mr Michael Farrugia, Executive Director – Operations & Business Development and Mr Eugenio Caruana, Chief Operations Officer. The official awards ceremony for the International Brewing and Cider Awards 2021, also known as the ‘Oscars’ of the brewing industry, was held recently at the Guildhall in London.

Last November, Cisk 0.0 was declared a Gold medal winner in the *Non & Low Alcohol Beer – Class 1* category as well as overall Trophy winner of the Gold winners of the three classes of the same category, that included zero alcohol, low alcohol and ultra-low alcohol.

Judging took place between 16th and 18th November at the National Brewery Centre in Burton-upon-Trent, UK and comprised working professionals in the brewing and cider making industries from across the globe, led by Chair of Beer Judging, Rob McCaig and Chair of Cider Judging, Gabe Cook.

Brewers and cider-makers from 24 countries received accolades in the 2021 edition of the International Brewing & Cider Awards. In total, 126 medals and 12 trophies were awarded to beers and ciders from all over the world, including entrants from Australia, China, Japan, Luxembourg, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand,

USA and the UK. Nine beer Trophy winners were announced which included winners from Japan and Malta.

The Cisk 0.0 Gold Medal and Overall Trophy awards were collected by Mr Michael Farrugia, Executive Director – Operations & Business Development and Mr Eugenio Caruana, Chief Operations Officer.

According to Mr. Caruana, this important and prestigious competition is technically unrivalled since the beer is judged by working professionals in the brewing industry from across the globe. “With new zero alcohol categories introduced to the awards for the first time, we are extremely proud that Cisk 0.0, introduced just last year, was not only awarded a Gold Medal in its class but also the overall Trophy from all Gold Medal Winners within the three classes of the Non & Low Alcohol Beer category.” Regarded by many brewing professionals as the ‘ultimate challenge’, the creation of the highest quality and award-winning alcohol-free beer is testament to the skilled and experienced brewing team at Farsons.

“This accolade will no doubt help boost our efforts as we continue to grow our international business in new regions and markets in the Middle East, Asia and Africa, where an attractive non-alcoholic beer segment exists,” added Mr Farrugia.

The International Brewing and Cider Awards date back to 1886 and have a long history of championing the world’s best brewers and cider-makers. The competition’s unique approach to the judging process sets it apart from other awards, earning it the reputation as the ‘Oscars of the brewing and cider world’.

**WE ARE PROUD OF ALL MALTESE ACHIEVERS
IN MALTA AND OVERSEAS**

MALTESE RESTAURANT - Sunday 22 May 2022

MENU

Starter Maltese Antipasto

Galletti, Zebbug, Gbejniet, Fazola.

Main

- 1 *Stuffat tal-Fenek u Spaghetti.
Rabbit Stew and Spaghetti*
- 2 *Lasanja Maltija / Maltese Lasagne.
(Meat or Vegetarian)
(Served with salad and chips)*
- 3 *Qarabali il Forn
Stuffed Maltese Zucchini.
(Served with baked potatoes)*
- 4 *Bragoli tal-Laham / Beef Olives.
(Served with baked potatoes.)*

Dessert +++ Maltese Kannoli and Sweets.

Meals... \$25.00 each. Rabbit Stew \$30.00

Full Bar Service.

Maltese Kinnie, and Cisk Beer, Soft Drinks, Wine, and Aussie Beers, Spirits, Orange Juice and Bottled water.

Please bookings are a must. 0412511718

IMNARJA Maltese in Canada

MALTA FEST ✠

A MALTESE CANADIAN FEDERATION EVENT IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE MCBCNA JUNE 25 2022

VENDORS WANTED!

SELL . PROMOTE . ENGAGE



Imnarja - MALTA FEST 2022
June 25, 2022 @ 2:00 PM
Runnymede Park
221 Ryding Ave Toronto Ontario
email: maltafestemcbna.com

**Maltese Community
Centre Latrobe Valley**

**The popular Maltese
Restaurant is back.**

**Lunch and a visit
to the Museum.**

**Centre opens at 11.00am
and lunch is served
from 12.00 noon.**

**Please make sure
to book on 0412511718
as placings
are limited to 50.**



**MALTESE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF
VICTORIA INC.**

LEARN MALTESE FOR PLEASURE, WORK OR TRAVEL.
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WORKING TOGETHER = UNITY MEANS STRENGTH

Maltese/Lebanese Fair in Adelaide Saint Catherine Society of SA



199 Franklin St, Adelaide
South Australia 5000, Australia
The Maltese will greet you with the word "Merhba" The Lebanese will greet you with the word "Ahlen" both mean "Welcome". Members of the Lebanese and Maltese communities have combined to showcase their beautiful history, culture and exhibiting a variety of music, dancing and cuisines. Our special feature was Maurice Lateu with his piano accordion. Those who attended enjoyed the dancing, costumes, music and sampling an array of 'goodies' with tea and coffee.

WELL DONE – Committee of St. Catherine Society of South Australia
More photos on Facebook page of Bernadette Buhagiar.



On the initiative of
The Maltese Center
it announces

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We would like to thank the following for their help



Mr. Keith Farrugia
Chief Retail Banking Officer
Mr. Geoffrey Ghigo
Head Retail Network



Mr. Karol Gabarretta
Secretary General



Amb. Vanessa Frazier Permanent Representative to the United Nations
Amb Keith Azzopardi of Malta to the USA
Hon. Evarist Bartolo
Advisor Charles Zammit



*Hawn min jghid biex tmexxi tajjeb
Trid bilfors tkun xi zaghzugh
Waqt li ssib ohrajn li jghidu
Li bilfors trid tkun max-xjuh.*

*Mhux bla sens iz-zewg estremi?
It-tnejn jizbaljaw bil-kbir.
Zghazagh biss zgur jghaffgu hafna.
U xjuh biss xejn gdid ma jsir.*

*Biex ma tibnix fuq ir-ramel
Imma tibni fuq il-blat,
Ghandek bzonn tahlita tajba
Ta' prezent, futur, passat.*

Evarist Bartolo - Malta