



# The Voice of the Maltese

Issue  
275

*(We are for the Greater Malta)*

A fortnightly print  
and digital magazine

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It was Carnival time again in Malta and Gozo in the weekend. This time in May to make up for the shortcomings in the subdued event held last February, and for the absence of the last two years due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

Enthusiasts and tourists had the chance to let their hair down and enjoy the occasion as best they could.  
(see also page 15)

*Picture by Charles Spiteri shows one of the carnival floats in Gozo*



Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, with his son, Nathan, and partner, Jodie Haydon, addressing the nation after his election victory. (Janie Barrett 9NEWS)

# Labor party wins power in Australia

The Labor Party ended three terms of Liberal/National Coalition rule by winning the 2022 Federal election in a decisive victory. As of Sunday night (Australian Time), it was being predicted that Labor could form a government by winning the required 76 seats with Anthony Albanese to be the 31st Prime Minister of Australia. Official results will take some weeks to be finalised. This also applies to the Senate election.

Labour has waited 15 years for an outright victory, as jubilant Albo (as he is commonly known), given a feverish reception by the party faithful, said he was humbled by the victory and an honour to serve. "I hope that my journey in life inspires Australians to reach for the stars," he said.

Scott Morrison graciously conceded defeat and immediately announced that he would not seek the leadership of the Liberal Party again. Addressing supporters soon afterwards, Morrison said, "I as a leader take full responsibility for the wins and the losses, this is the burden, and that is the responsibility of leadership."

The Sun Herald's heading was Seismic Shift, and the poll morphed into a major climate change referendum. The Sunday Telegraph, lead by Party Crashers, Teals, women claim big scalps. Other comments: "Morrison has not only lost power by surrendering all traditional Liberal values. He has caused the Liberal Party its bedrock support base. He bulldozed his party into electoral oblivion".

In a quick survey of all the names on the ballot papers, we could only identify two

Maltese sounding names, Marie Saliba in McMahon NSW (United Australia Party) and Justin Borg in Melbourne, also UAPP.

The three individual Members of the Federal parliament that used The Voice of the Maltese during the electoral campaign were all elected convincingly. Susan Templeman, who held the seat of Macquarie, the most marginal seat in the country, improved her vote; the same can be said of Chris Bowen and Michelle Rowland. We congratulate them and thank them for their interest in the Maltese community.

**Facts:** Albanese visited 70 and Morrison 77 seats during the 41 days of the election campaign. There were 1203 candidates running for the House of Representatives. There were 7878 polling centres on election day. 17.2 million enrolled to vote across Australia.

Report by Lawrence DIMECH

## Kumment

### Il-kontijiet magħluqa u spjegazzjoni mill-BOV

Ir-relazzjonijiet bejn il-Bank of Valletta u l-Maltin li jinsabu fl-Awstralja u pajjiżi oħra bdew meta fl-1986 dan il-bank iddecieda li jiftaħ f'erghat f'dawn il-pajjiżi biex jikkonvinċihom ipogġu flushom fil-bank Malti. Din l-istrategija rrendit miljuni kbar ta' depositi/investimenti għall-Bank.

Matul iż-żmien dahl u hafna regoli internazzjonali godda bankarji u l-bank sab li hafna minn dawn il-kontijiet ta' Maltin li ma jghixux f'Malta m'ghadhomx ta' qligh kummerċjali għall-bank u forsi wkoll ikunu ta' xi dubju. Għalhekk ha d-decizzjoni kritika u hafna drabi kattiva li jghalaq dawn il-kontijiet.

Il-bank għandu dritt legali li jagħlaqleq il-kont iżda wkoll fid-dmir jispjegalek għaliex se jagħlaqleq il-kont u kif se jibghatleq il-flus li kont fdajtl.

Għal xi raġunijiet strambi l-BOV ittratta mal-klijenti tiegħu b'mod li jmur kontra kull regola ta' diċenza u normalità. Għalaq il-kontijiet bla ma ta l-ebda spjegazzjoni u għalhekk anke fejn kien hemm ġustifikazzjoni farrak kull rispett li l-klijeti kellhom lejha.

Biex tkompli tikkomplika s-sitwazzjoni, meta tipprowa tikkuntattja lill-BOV minn barra minn Malta ssib quddiemek diversi sezzjonijiet differenti li hadd minnhom ma jagħtik spjegazzjoni ċara u twegiba definitiva.

Il-BOV għadu ma jistax jifhem kemm hawn nies fl-Awstralja (biex insemmi biss dan il-pajjiż) li huma rrabjati għall-mod kif ġew ittrattati mill-bank. L-awtoritajiet tal-BOV żgur li jifhemu l-konsegwenzi li dan jista' jikkawża mal-awtoritajiet ta' barra, l-aktar fejn jidhlu l-pensjonijiet.

Kien hemm min ipprova jintervjeni f'din is-saga bejn il-BOV u l-Maltin li jghixu barra minn Malta, fosthom il-Kunsill tal-Maltin ta' Barra, tant li issa, quddiem it-talbiet tal-CMLA u anke The Voice of the Maltese, il-BOV nieda sezzjoni speċjali biex tilqa' l-ilmenti tal-Maltin fl-Awstralja.

(ara l-avviż taħt)

### Thanks to CMLA: Now BOV customer service for diaspora

Joseph A Xerri, the secretary of the Council of the Maltese living Abroad, wishes to inform the Maltese diaspora in Australia that after further contact with the Bank of Valletta (BOV), it has been informed that the bank has set up a Customer Service exclusively for clients living in Australia.

This service can be reached by email on: [customerserviceaustralia@bov.com](mailto:customerserviceaustralia@bov.com) Alternatively clients may contact the Bank on Customer Service Centre: Phone No.+356 2131 2021.

The Voice of the Maltese wishes to thank the CMLA for its intervention in this matter, as they have been persistence in their communications with the bank on our behalf. We appeal again to the BOV to be sensitive and understand the situation that Maltese in Australia have to deal with at this end.

(See also opinion piece on this page.)



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

# What is the difference between a Will, power of attorney, and Enduring Guardian?

by PaulSANT

**T**here are three documents that most lawyers collectively refer to as 'Estate Planning' documents. In this article, we explain the difference and what the purpose of each document is.

## Your Power of Attorney

This legal document is for use during your lifetime. There are two types of Power of Attorney documents. In both, you are referred to as the Principal, and you appoint an Attorney as a person you entrust to act in your best interests in dealing with your money and/or property, such as carrying out a specific transaction, or to manage your finances if you become unable to do so.

A **General Power of Attorney** is often limited to a specific transaction, such as buying or selling a property or dealing with a legal matter in New South Wales (such as obtaining a grant of Probate) if you are located overseas, and it is required that you have an attorney appointed in that country, who will sign off on the paperwork.

A person who is in jail may also use a General Power of Attorney to enable a relative to operate bank accounts and manage their during their imprisonment, or to access funds from their bank accounts to pay a lawyer to represent them.

An **Enduring Power of Attorney** will remain in effect even if you lose capacity, so that your Attorney will be able to manage your affairs and finances on your behalf, and in your interests, if you become unable to do so.

For example, if you were in an accident and ended up in a coma, or if you under-

went surgery and were on life-support, or if you lost your mental faculties from Alzheimer's or similar, your attorney would be able to access your money to meet payments on your mortgage or council rates, for medical costs and prescriptions, day to day living costs and the like.

## Your Enduring Guardian

This legal document is also for use during your lifetime, in the event you lose capacity to make decisions regarding your medical care, to ensure someone can consent to medical treatment or surgery on your behalf, or arrange appropriate accommodation dependent on your medical needs.

In an Enduring Guardian, you are referred to as the Appointor, and you appoint a Guardian who you entrust to make important decisions about your medical care (including if you reside in aged care or a nursing home), and about your accommodation.

Your Guardian will be able to determine whether to consent to or refuse ordinary medical treatment on your behalf, if you are terminally ill, permanently unconscious, in a persistent vegetative state, or unable to survive without life-support.

It is important that you discuss what type of treatment, if any, you wish to receive, and you can include specific limitations and directions in your Enduring Guardian document.

You may also wish to complete an Advanced Care Directive to further set out your wishes, should you become terminally ill and unable to speak for yourself.

You do not need to do this with your solicitor, but it may assist your loved ones in making difficult decisions if they are

aware of what your wishes are, or can refer to them in this document.

## Your WILL

This important legal document sets out how you want your Estate to be distributed upon your death. It has no legal effect whilst you are alive.

In Australia, you need to appoint an Executor, who is a person that you trust to carry out the administration of your Estate – that is, liquidating your Estate into cash.

You will need to name your beneficiaries and what each is to receive – often; it is expressed as a percentage of the rest and residue of your Estate. Your Executor is responsible for distributing your Estate to your beneficiaries in accordance with your Will.

Your Will can also provide that a person may reside in your home for a specified period of time and if they pay outgoings related to the property.

Most Wills also refer to 'Executor and Trustee'. The role of Trustee comes to exist once assets are transferred into the Estate, and the Executor is holding them on trust, pending distribution to your beneficiaries.

If there are any trusts created in your Will, such as for minor beneficiaries, who you direct are to receive their inheritance upon reaching the age of say 21 years, your executor's role as Trustee will remain in place until those ages are reached, and inheritances distributed in accordance with the terms of your Will.

Wills often include a standard set of powers for your Executor and Trustee, such as postponing the sale of any asset, or investing monies held on trust for a minor beneficiary.

## Conclusion

We generally advise that for each document, you appoint at least one alternate executor/attorney/guardian, in case the person you appoint is unable to act, or predeceases you.

If you do not have any of these documents in place, or wish to update your documents, please contact the writer.

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



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Maltese Spoken



# Tony Abbott: the 28th Prime Minister of Australia To be a Priest or a Politician?

18 September 2013 – 15 September 2015)

**T**he eldest of four children, Anthony John Abbott was born in London England on the 4th November 1957 to his Australian mother Fay and his British father Richard Henry Abbott. In 1960 at the age of two, together with his family and younger sister Jane, migrated to Australia on an assisted passage on SS Oronsay, and settled in Sydney where he started his primary schooling at St. Aloysius College and his secondary schooling at St. Ignatius College.

Researched by RonBorg

**B**y 1981 Tony Abbott had graduated with a Bachelor of Economics and Law, and then resided as President of the Student Representative Council at St. John's College, and completed his Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics. Influenced and thought by the Jesuits at St. Ignatius, he earned "2 Blues", the highest award as a student boxer at Oxford, where he was a Rhodes Scholar.

In 1984 at age 26, after completing his studies in Britain, he returned to Australia and decided to become a priest, so he joined St Patrick's Seminary at Manly NSW. However, this was not to be, because after three years he had had doubts about his vocation.

In his own words in *The Bulletin*, he wrote; *"I was aghast to realise that something within me, long sickening, had quietly died and felt as a husband might feel who, in the fourth year of his marriage, suddenly knew that he no longer had any desire, or tenderness, or esteem for a once-beloved wife; no pleasure in her*

*company...."*, implying that he had lost his passion to become a priest.

Tony Abbott did not complete his studies at the seminary, leaving St. Patrick's Seminary in 1987.

Following his departure from the seminary, Abbott met and married Margaret "Margie" Aitken, a New Zealander working in Sydney. The couple had three daughters (Louise, Bridget, and Frances), and became grandparents in 2021.

He then became a journalist and got involved in national politics, while he began to write articles for newspapers and magazines like 'The Catholic Weekly' and national publications like 'The Bulletin', and also wrote for the newspaper 'The Australian'. Between 1990 and 1993 he worked as an advisor and press secretary



for the Federal leader of the Opposition Dr. John Hewson.

In 1993, he renounced his British citizenship and hence became eligible for election to the Australian federal parliament, and was consequently selected for the Division of Warringah in 1996.

He was promoted to cabinet in 1998 and served as Minister for Employment Services (1998-2001), and Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations (2001-03).

As Minister for Employment Services, he looked after the implementation of the 'Job Network' and for the government's 'Work for the Dole' scheme. He served as the Minister for Health and Ageing between 2003 and 2007, but in 2006, he ran into controversy when he opposed the idea of abortion labeling it as a murder. In the 2007 elections, he was re-elected as Minister for Health, although the National-Liberal Coalition lost the elections that year.

In November 2009, Tony resigned from his shadow ministry in protest of the Liberal Leader Malcolm Turnbull's support for the "Emissions Trading Scheme", but in December won his party's leadership ballot and replaced Turnbull as the Leader of the Liberal Party in opposition.



Tony Abbott being sworn in as Prime Minister by Quentin Bryce 18 September 2013

\*Continued on page 5



# Tony Abbott: Australia's 28th PM

*\*Continued from page 4*

In 2013 Tony Abbot led the Liberal/National coalition to victory over the then Labor government, led by Kevin Rudd and assumed the role of Prime Minister. Under his leadership the Government introduced new border control measures known as Operation Sovereign Borders in an effort to stop illegal maritime arrivals, and abolished the Minerals Resource's foreign policy.

Abbott's foreign policy, continued its military engagement in the Middle East, amid the worsening Syrian conflict, agreed to resettle an additional 12,000 refugees from the region, challenged Russia at the United Nations over the shooting down of Malaysian Flight MH17 in Ukraine, and launched the New Colombo Plan to encourage educational exchange with the Indo-Pacific region.

Abbott also campaigned for recognition of Indigenous Australians in the Australian Constitution and promised a referendum on the issue of same-sex marriage.

After suffering a period of unpopularity and leadership instability, in September 2015, Abbott was defeated in a vote for the Liberal leadership by Malcolm Turnbull who replaced him as prime minister.

Tony Abbott served as the Prime Minister for only one year and 362 days to become

the 10th shortest Prime Minister in Australian history.

Abbott stayed in the party as a backbencher, until he lost his seat of Warringah at the 2019 federal election. In Sept- Sep-tember 2020, he was named adviser to the British gov-

ernment's Board of Trade to promote free and fair trade and advise on UK trade policy to the International Trade Secretary.

In 2008 Abbott spent three weeks teaching in an Aboriginal settlement in Coen on Cape York; he is a volunteer member for the Davidson, NSW Rural Fire Service, and Queenscliff Surf Life Saving Club.

The former Australian Prime Minister has published four books: *The Minimal Monarchy: and why it still makes sense for Australia* (1995), *How to Win the Constitutional War: and give both sides what they want* (1997), *Battleline* (2009), and *A Strong Australia* (2012).

Journalist Michelle Grattan wrote in 2010 that while Abbott has always "worn his Catholicism on his sleeve"; he is "clearly frustrated by the obsession with [it] and



**Tony Abbott as a surf life saver**

what might hang off that". Abbott has said that a politician should not rely on religion to justify a political point of view.

Speaking about his religious outlook, Abbott said; "*The Jesuits helped to instill in me this thought that our calling in life was to be ... 'a man for others' ... I am a pretty traditional Catholic... I'm not an evangelical, a charismatic Christian, I'm not. I try to attend Mass, but I don't get there every Sunday anymore... Faith has certainly helped to shape my life, but it doesn't in any way determine my politics*".

*\*Next to be featured will be Harold Holt, the PM who disappeared at Cheviot Beach on Victoria's Mornington Peninsula on December 19 1967 and was never found.*

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

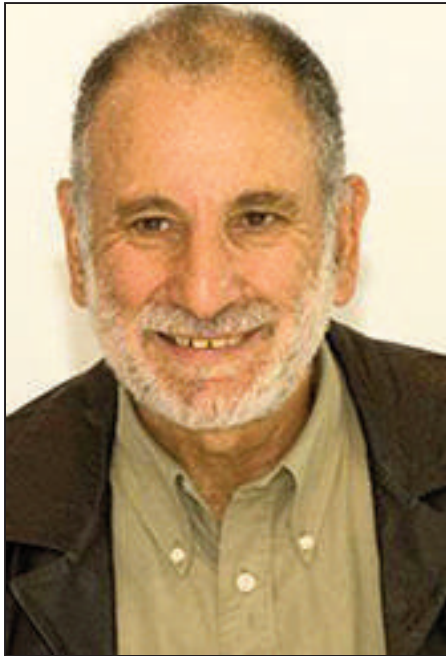
## Maltese News | PBS | Valletta

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# SBS WORLDWATCH



**Eddie Micallef, a former Australian State politician of Maltese descent, and present Chairperson of the Ethnic Community Council of Victoria**

# The Victorian budget and the ECCV reaction

**T**he 2022-23 State of Victoria Budget delivered earlier this month elicited an immediate response from the Ethnic Community Council of Victoria (ECCV). The Council headed by Eddie Micallef as chairperson welcomes the strong emphasis placed on investment in health infrastructure, mental health, employment, and education in the Victorian Budget, but is concerned that a more targeted approach will be needed to ensure funding reaches migrant and refugee communities, which have been harder hit across the board by the COVID-19 pandemic.

While ECCV are pleased to see \$3.7 million allocated to continuing the work of the CALD Communities Taskforce, the overall reduction in targeted COVID-19 funding does not address the ongoing need for our state's diverse communities to be supported on the path to COVID-19 recovery.

"It would be a shame if many of the gains

made during the pandemic were only temporary, one-off initiatives. This would be a missed opportunity to embed sustainable and long-term programmes to support multicultural communities," ECCV Chairperson, Eddie Micallef said.

As part of the Budget's sweeping investment in healthcare, it is critical to ensure sufficient funding is allocated to culturally appropriate and sensitive services, consultations with CALD communities and increased access to language services.

At a glance, the Budget includes \$23 million in new funding for regional settlement support, upgrades to multicultural community facilities, and the delivery of multicultural festivals and events. The ECCV are pleased to see renewed funding for the Strategic Partnership Programme, which addresses gaps in settlement services for newly arrived refugees and plays a crucial social role in connecting people from new and emerging communities.

Other positive initiatives supporting migrant and refugee communities include:

- increased capacity to provide safe and responsive mental health care
- investment in early childhood education
- health programs targeting migrant and refugee women
- programmes to divert children from the youth justice system
- improved health services for refugee and asylum seekers.

The Budget does not include any additional funding for anti-racism initiatives, which we hope will be addressed in the lead-up to the state election. "ECCV has a long history of empowering Victoria's multicultural communities. We look forward to using our expertise and trusted relationships in the sector to work with the state government to secure equitable outcomes for our communities," Mr Micallef said.

Edward Joseph "Eddie" Micallef was born 1 August 1941 in Brunswick (Melbourne). He is of Maltese descent, and a former Australian State politician.

In 1983 he was elected to the Victorian Legislative Assembly as the member for Springvale in a by-election. He was promoted to the front bench in 1992, serving as Shadow Minister for Industry Services and also assisting the Shadow Minister for Industrial Relations.

Ethnic Affairs was added to his portfolio in 1994, but he stepped down from the front bench in 1997. Micallef lost preselection prior to the 1999 state election and retired from politics.<sup>[1]</sup>

<sup>[1]</sup> Eddie Micallef attended Catholic schools before studying at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology and becoming an apprentice fitter and turner in 1958. He completed his apprenticeship in 1963, becoming a turbine fitter in 1965. In 1968 he joined the Labor Party, and became vice-president of the Reservoir branch from 1973 to 1974.

## Vale Judge Peter Zahra SC

**T**he Maltese community is mourning this Honour Judge Peter Zahra SC, one of the most senior judges on the NSW District Court, who has been described as "an esteemed judge and a very good man". He was born in Malta in 1955 and visited the island many times. He died peacefully in Sydney on Sunday May 8th, surrounded by his family.

Judge Zahra even took part in the 2015 ANZAC Day Commemorative Service, which marked the Centenary of the start of the Gallipoli Campaign ceremony that was held at Pietà, Malta, where he was one of the main speakers.

The State of NSW expressed gratitude not only for Judge Zahra's work as a judge of the District Court but for his significant contribution and service to the law and legal profession over many decades.

Before being sworn in as a District Court Judge in 2007, he practised extensively in criminal law. He was appointed a Public Defender in 1989 and then Senior Public Defender in 2001, appearing in major murder and drug trials throughout NSW. His Honour took silk in 2001.

Judge Peter Zahra was considered an outstanding leader in the Public Defenders Chambers. He was known as a hard working, a fine advocate and dedicated to developing and maintaining the highest standard in the work undertaken by Public Defenders. He was also a well-respected legal author on drug and criminal laws.

During his 15 years on the District Court bench, Judge Zahra earned the deep respect of his judicial colleagues, those at the Bar who appeared before him and the profession more broadly.



The judge's family described him as a "special soul who touched the lives of everyone he met".

"He had a big heart and wanted to see everyone achieve more than what they ever thought possible," a family statement said.

In 2001 he was appointed as Senior Public Defender before his elevation to the District Court of NSW in January 2007.

The Supreme Court of NSW said in a statement that Judge Zahra was sworn in as a Judge of the District Court in 2007 and before joining the bench he was involved in a number of significant matters throughout his distinguished career as Crown Prosecutor, Public Defender and Senior Public Defender.

His funeral was held at St. Mary's Cathedral Sydney last Friday.

On behalf of the Maltese community, *The Voice of the Maltese* offers our sincere condolences to his wife Shelly and his three surviving adult children Frances, Dominic, and Edward.



# RE-STONE: teknoloġija ġdida għar-riċiklar tal-ġebel tal-kostruzzjoni

**G**ħad kif ġiet żviluppata inizjattiva ferm interessanti li tnehdiet dan l-aħħar, magħrufa bħala Re-Stone, biex skart tal-ġebbla tal-franka jibda jiġi riċiklat u jkun jista' jintuża halli jinholqu prodotti tal-bini riċiklati.

Il-proġett hemm warajh l-Università ta' Malta permezz tal-Fakultà għall-Ambjent tal-Bini (*Faculty for the Built Environment*), immexxija mill-Professor Spiridione Buhagiar u l-perit Franco Montesin, b'kollaborazzjoni ma' Halmann Vella.

Il-proġett ġie ffinanzjat mill-Programm Fusion tal-R&I, amministrat mill-Kunsill Malti għax-Xjenza u t-Teknoloġija (MCST) b'fond ta' madwar €200,000.

Kif spjega s-Segretarju Parlamentari għaž-Zgħażaġh, ir-Riċerka u l-Innovazzjoni Keith Azzopardi Tanti, proġetti bħal dawn huma fundamentali għall-iżvilupp ta' Malta għax b'hekk ikun żgurat li bħala nazzjon isir użu sostenibbli mir-riżorsi naturali tal-Gżejjer Maltin permezz tar-riċerka u l-innovazzjoni, anke fl-industrija tal-kostruzzjoni.

Din l-inizjattiva diġà ntużat b'mod sperimentali fl-ewwel kamra mibnija b'dan il-mod hdejn il-Villaġġ tas-Snaja f'Ta' Qali. Azzopardi Tanti qal li issa jinsab herqan ihares 'l quddiem sabiex dan is-settur jissokta jtkabbar u tiġi implimentata r-riċerka u l-innovazzjoni f'diversi oqsma halli b'hekk ikun jista' jintwera l-frott tat-teknoloġija fit-kabbir ekonomiku u t-trasmazzjoni fis-soċjetajiet tagħna Maltin



**Ġebel riċiklat minn skart tal-ġebbla tal-franka magħruf bħala Re-Stone għall-wiri**

Sadanittant, waqt it-tnedija tal-inizjattiva li saret fiċ-Ċentru Interattiv tax-Xjenza Esplora, ir-rappreżentanti ta' Re-Stone spjegaw li din kienet riżultat ta' għaxar snin ta' riċerka u li l-punt tat-tluq tiegħu kien l-ammont ta' skart tal-kostruzzjoni u tat-twaqqigh fil-gżira.

Skont kif intqal, l-iskart jgħaddi minn proċess proprjetarju halli jiġi kkonvertit

għall-prodott b'valur miżjud ta' kwalità għolja, bħal blokki tal-bini, u kisi tal-hajt, fost prodotti oħra.

Fil-proġett Re-Stone skart tal-ġebbla tal-ġir, blokk tal-bini jew skart skavat jingabar u jiġi pproċessat billi jitghaffegħ u ssir il-gradazzjoni, filwaqt li jiġi pproċessat aktar halli jinbidel fi trab iggradat. Wara, it-trab jiġi kkonver-

tit f'paste biex ikun jista' jiġi fformat mill-ġdid.

Imbagħad, it-tahlita possibbilment se tofri soluzzjoni għall-isfida li qed taffaċċja l-industrija tal-kostruzzjoni, u l-isfida li l-ġebbla tal-franka qed issir riżorsa dejjem aktar limitata. Dan il-prodott jista' jintuża f'aktar minn ciklu wiehed.

Il-Professor Spiridione Buhagiar, koordinatur tal-proġett, qal li l-iskart tal-kostruzzjoni tal-lum ċertament se jkun riżors għall-bini ta' għada u għalhekk, sabiex nirnexxu, tinhtieg rieda u impenn b'saħħtu halli nirriċiklaw l-iskart tagħna.

Sadanittant, id-direttur tal-Esplora Clayton Cutajar semma li wiehed mill-ghani-jiet ewlenin ta' Esplora hu li jitqarreb aktar id-distakk bejn ir-riċerka u l-pubbliku ingenerali. Żied jgħid li fost il-hafna modi li entitajiet jistgħu jagħmlu dan, hemm li jessponu riċerka lokali bħalma huwa l-proġett Re-Stone.

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# Have your say/Xi trid tgħid?



## The Voice of the Maltese

### Print & Digital magazine

This is a bi-lingual (in English and Maltese) fortnightly magazine that specifically targets all Maltese living abroad with emphasis on the Australian and Maltese scenes.

The magazine can be read in flip-book or PDF format online. A pdf copy is sent via email on request.

Hard copy subscription is also available at a cost.

#### Editors:

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**Australia:**

Lawrence Dimech: MOM,  
OAM, JP Rt

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Letters for publication in *The Voice* magazine, either in Maltese or English should include name, e-mail address and residence of the writer, and be e-mailed to: maltesevoice@gmail.com.



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## Your letters/ L-ittri tagħkom ...

## Australia's new surveillance laws – Is this some kind of censorship?

Paul O'Farrell from Rockingham WA writes:

Is the Australian Government censoring us? After reading an article by James Jin Kang and Jumana Abu-Khalaf from Edith Cowan University, it looks that way. They said that a new law has been enacted that gives Australian police unprecedented powers for online surveillance, data interception, and altering data.

I believe that I should bring this information to the notice of the readers, particularly as Kang and Abu-Khalaf point out that these powers, that are outlined in the Surveillance Legislation Amendment (Identify and Disrupt) Bill, raise concerns over potential misuse, privacy, and security, and that in essence, it allows law-enforcement agencies or authorities (such as the Australian Federal Police and the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission) to modify, add, copy or delete data when investigating serious online crimes.

## Recycled criticism

Arthur Vella from South Australia writes:

Recycling, unfair and inaccurate criticism of years ago (fortunately not on the pages of this magazine) against the NSW Maltese community does not speak highly of those using the same community to raise money for charity.

Similar ambiguous remarks regarding the South Australian Maltese community show the frustration, rejection by one being pushed aside.

The community today is less stressed and controlled. It is less manipulated and less amoral. Financial rewards are no longer heading in the same direction.

The Human Rights Law Centre says the bill has insufficient safeguards for free speech and press freedom. Digital Rights Watch calls it a "warrantless surveillance regime" and notes the government ignored the recommendations of a bipartisan parliamentary committee to limit the powers granted by the new law.

What's more, legal hacking by law enforcement may make it easier for criminal hackers to illegally access computer systems via the same vulnerabilities used by the government.

Do we just have to grin and bear it while the new bill gives agencies unprecedented interception or "hacking" powers?

## Being non-political

Mario Sant from The Ponds NSW writes:

Hot-cross buns! You do not expect such an article on a legal page. However, in the April 26 issue (page three), there was a gem of an article on the history of hot-cross buns and other tidbits arising from Easter.

Well done to the writer. And what about the front page of the May 10 issue? Real magic.

I am also so pleased with the way you handled the articles about the general elections, both in Malta and in Australia. They were fair and balanced.

Being non-political does not mean you have to keep political comments from your readers.

Keep up the good work.

## Nitghaxxaq b'rahal twelidi Hal Qormi

George Farrugia minn Castle Hill NSW jikteb:

Qed nikteb bħala Qormi li ilni snin twal bogħod minn dan raħal twelidi li minn dak li rajt l-aħħar li żortu tliet snin ilu tgħaxxaqt bil-progress li sar fih u s-sbuhija tiegħu. M'ghadux magħruf biss għall-hobża bnina Maltija.

Illum irrid ngħid kemm jien kburi li wild dan ir-raħal, Robert Abela kiseb mandat daqstant sod biex imexxi lil Malta minn Prim Ministru. Minn dan ir-raħal haġu wkoll żewġ Presidenti ta' Malta, missier Robert, l-ET Gorġ Abela, u l-ET Marie Louise Coleiro Preca. Hemm ukoll Ministru, Roderick Galdes.



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# Why visit Malta?



Joseph CUTAJAR

utors to the island's economy as it directly supports around 33 180 jobs, which is a high percentage of the country's employment.

The last year before the outbreak of COVID-19, 2019, was an exceptionally good one for Malta's tourism industry as it attracted 2.02 million inbound tourists.

Then due to the COVID-19 pandemic the global economy experienced substantial disruptions, and mainly during the second quarter of 2020 and in 2021, the tourism industry was hit particularly hard when international travel was brought to a halt to contain the spread of the virus.

When it comes to Malta, especially, it is very easy to compare the adverse effect the pandemic had with the 2019 record of arrivals. The overall total of international visitors in the first year of Covid in 2020 was just around 659,000, a decrease of over 1.5 million. Indeed a hard blow.

According to the Central Bank of Malta's 2020 second Quarterly Review, the drop in tourist arrivals, as well as the associated containment measures, had a deeply negative impact on the collective accommodation sector in Malta as the total number of guests in collective accommodation establishments dropped by 97.0% compared to the corresponding quarter in 2019.

The decrease in guest nights was of a similar magnitude. They fell from 2.8 million in the second quarter of 2019 to just 64,161 in the second quarter of 2020.

To limit the spread of COVID-19, the Maltese Government had to implement several containment measures that severely restricted international travel. Aside from these travel-related containment measures, other measures impacted tourism-reliant enterprises, including the closure of restaurants, bars, and museums.

Were it not for government's measures in response to the pandemic the blow to the tourism industry and the economic consequences would have been much harder.

The Government implemented many economic support measures aimed primarily to

**R**esulting from the Covid-19 pandemic, the past two years have been tough on everybody, most of all perhaps, on the tourism industry, which is one of Malta's most important contrib-

support affected businesses and preserve employment, and enterprises, and employees linked with the tourism sector benefitted in no small way from the economy-wide stimulus measures, and

## Tourism industry picking up again

other specific measures intended to directly support the tourism sector.

Tourist arrivals ensure that the sector remains a major contributor to the Maltese economy and, according to the World Travel and Tourism Council, accounts for 27.1% of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) when the wider effects of an investment in tourism and its supply chain are taken into account. It represents a contribution that is much higher than that in Europe and the World.

Tourism in Malta is one of the top five contributors to the economy. Therefore everybody on the island is happy to see that with the easing of travel restrictions the tourism sector has started to recover. We are now again experiencing a great increase in the activity in the tourism sector.

### Malta's attractions

Visitors to Malta find it very easy to understand why the island, so small, is such a magnet for tourists. It has many advantages. The attraction is not just the friendliness of the locals. And it is not just the locals that get excited about the island and all that it has to offer.

Some even describe Malta as Europe's hidden gem of experiences

In a walkabout in Valletta after visiting some cultural and historical sites, Ireland President Michael Higgins who was on a three-day official visit to Malta said: "*I can understand why people want to visit Malta*".

Yet he did not see all that is to see of the island's attractions. Perhaps he would when he takes up President George Vella's official invitation to return for the meeting of non-executive Presidents of the European Union, Arraiolos later in the year.

Like other tourists to Malta, he would be well advised to visit more, sites especially the nine Heritage Malta attractions that received the 2020 Travellers' Choice Award from the world's largest travel platform *Tripadvisor* in recognition of their outstanding service and quality.

The Malta attrac-



The iconic facade of Haġar Qim

tions receiving the prestigious award are the megalithic temples of **Haġar Qim** and **Ġgantija**, the **Hal Saflieni Hypogeum**, **St Paul's Catacombs**, **Fort St Angelo**, and **Fort St Elmo** (including the **National War Museum**), the **National Museum of Archaeology**, the **Palace Armoury** and **Ta' Kola Windmill**.

The award programme was based on the quality and quantity of the millions of reviews, opinions and ratings collected before the COVID-19 pandemic in 2019.

In *Tripadvisor's* view, through this programme, travellers can benefit from the real-life experiences of other people so that they can plan the perfect trip that meets their needs, budget, and style.

Winners of the Awards earn great reviews from travellers and are ranked within the top 10% of the sites on *Tripadvisor*.

When considering how tough the past two years have been for the industry, such news is most welcome. Everything little helps. Daily life in Malta is returning to normality. The traditional religious village festas and mass entertainment are again being celebrated.

*Isle of MTV Malta 2022*, Europe's biggest free music festival, featuring a lineup of international acts is also returning after an absence of two years. It is set for 10th July.

Recently published figures indicate that the industry is picking up once again. Last April Malta International Airport registered its strongest monthly recovery, as 513,979 passengers travelled through its terminal. This marked a recovery of 78.7% of pre-pandemic passenger numbers.

Reaching 77.8%, the seat load factor (SLF) for April was just 5.6 percentage points below pre-pandemic levels, indicating an encouraging demand for travel.

Several important factors contributed to April's positive results, including the launch of the airport's summer flight schedule that offers better connections together with the easing of Malta's entry restrictions.

The week between April 18 and 24 proved to be that month's busiest for MIA as it welcomed 133,267 passengers, a total roughly comparable to the traffic handled in the first month of the year. April's traffic augurs well for the upcoming months.

The easing of Malta's recent restrictions certainly makes the island a more attractive destination, even though a European Travel Commission survey in April 2022 showed that 56% of Europeans who were planning to travel in summer had already chosen their destination.



Piazza d'darmi at St Elmo

# Perspettiva

## Boeing

Għal kważi kemm ilni niftakar, dan l-isem għaliya u għal hafna kien sinonimu mat-titjir bl-ajruplan. Fil-fatt, l-ewwel prodott iddisinjat minn William Boeing u George Conrad Westervelt fl-1916 kien ajruplan tal-baħar (*seaplane*) bi għwienah tal-għażel (*linen*). L-isem tal-kumpanija fil-bidu kien Pacific Aero Products Co, u nbidel għal Boeing Airplane Co. sena wara.<sup>1</sup>

Illum The Boeing Company mhix imdahhla biss fl-ajruplani kummerċjali, imma wkoll fid-difiża (ajruplani militari) u l-ispazju (satelliti, vetturi spazjali u l-mekkanizmi tat-tluġ tagħhom).

Fil-qasam tat-titjir kummerċjali, matul is-snin Boeing inkorpora organizzazzjonijiet magħrufa oħra f'dan il-qasam, bħas-Sikorski (magħrufa fost l-oħrajn għall-elikotteri), il-Pratt and Whitney (magħrufa għall-magni tal-ajruplan) u l-McDonnell Douglas (ajruplani).

Fil-bidu kienet ukoll topera linji tal-ajru hi stess, qabel mal-industrija giet imġieghla tissepara l-produzzjoni tal-ajruplani. Jekk xi darba tirtu lejn l-Istati Uniti, forsi wżajtu l-United Airlines - din darba kienet taqsima tal-Boeing.

F'dawn l-aħhar snin, l-isem tal-Boeing tilef hafna mil-lostru tiegħu, wara t-tigri ta' żewġ ajruplani mill-aħhar varjazzjoni tal-venerabbli 737, imsejjah 737Max, li kien beda jtir biss fl-2017.

Dan kellu sistema ġdida fuqu msejha *Maneuvering Characteristics Augmentation System (MCAS)*, li xogħolha kien li jikkompensa awtomatikament jekk imnieher ajruplan jitqies li jkun għola wisq. Din is-sistema, mitmugħa minn senser wiehed li nzerta li kien bil-hsara, ikkawża d-dizastri tal-Lion Air fl-Indonesja fl-2018 u dak tal-Ethiopian Airlines sena wara li flimkien hallew 346 ruh mejta.

Wara dawn id-dizastri, dan l-ajruplan gie mwaqqaf mit-titjir għal iktar minn sena. L-investigazzjoni li saret wara kixfet għadd ta' karatteristiċi xejn sbieh, mhux biss ta' din il-kumpanija imma wkoll tar-regolatur Amerikan tal-industrija tat-titjir, il-Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

L-ewwel aspekt kien li l-MCAS lanqas kien magħruf li kien jeżisti mill-piloti, għax ma kienx inkluz fit-taħriġ li kien jingħata lill-piloti fuq dan l-ajruplan. Kien gara li l-Boeing kienet b'xi mod ikkonvinċiet lill-FAA li s-sistema MCAS kienet tirrendi lill-ajruplan 737Max qisu kien verżjoni ta' qablu, u għalhekk tagħrif fuq din is-sistema tnehhiet mit-taħriġ u l-manwali tal-ajruplan.<sup>2</sup>

Wiehed irid jiftakar li dak inhar, il-Boeing kienet taht pressjoni kummerċjali kbira għax il-kompetitur ewlieni tagħha, l-Airbus, fl-2010 kien hareġ ajruplan ġdid A320Neo li kien iktar effiċjenti mis-737 ta' dak inhar, u l-klijenti tal-Boeing kienu qed jitolquha bi għarhom.

Dawn il-manufatturi ġganteski tal-ajruplani ppreferew jibdlu biss

A version of this series in English may be found in the author's blog at:  
<https://ivancauchi.blogspot.com>

kitba ta'  
**IVAN  
CAUCHI**



il-magni tal-ajruplani eżistenti tagħhom, halli jiffrankaw biljuni ta' dollari fl-iddiżinjar tal-ajruplani kompletament godda. Imbagħad, ikunu jistgħu jargumentaw li dawn it-tipi ta' ajruplani huma biżżejjed simili għal dawk ta' qabilhom li jisthoqqlhom ikollhom l-istess ċertifikat mir-regolatur li huma tajbin għat-titjira.

Dan iqassar il-hin tal-proċess ta' ċertifikar, u jiffranka l-flus għall-linji tal-ajru għax titnaqqas il-htieġa ta' taħriġ għall-piloti. Fil-fatt, il-kors fuq id-differenzi tas-737Max minn ta' qablu kien qed jingħata fuq iPad!<sup>3</sup>

Instema wkoll li l-FAA wkoll kienu taht pressjoni biex jiffrankaw il-flus, u kellhom l-użanza li jiddelegaw lill-manufattur sabiex jagħmel hu stess l-ivverifikar tas-sigurtà - kunflitt ta' interess ċar. Illum dan l-ajruplan sarulu modifiki fis-sistema MCAS li ġew inkorporati u issa reġa' beda jtir. Tard wisq għal dawk li mietu, u l-familjari tagħhom naturalment.

X'taġhlmi jistgħu jittiehdu minn din l-istorja?

Diversi, u l-ebda wahda minnhom mhi ġdida.

L-ewwel, li l-ebda regolatur ma għandu jafda zżejjed lil dawk li jkun qed jissorvelja, u wisq inqas jiddelegahom funzjonijiet li suppost qed jagħmel tal-ewwel.

It-tieni, li hemm limitu kemm jistgħu jitqanqxu fondi minn organizzazzjonijiet qabel ma dawn jibdeu jithajru jaqtgħu xi proċess fil-qasir, u din jista' jkollha effetti fuq il-kwalità, fuq it-tul ta' żmien ta' proġetti, fuq is-sigurtà eċċ, effetti li jistgħu jkunu fatali bħal ma rajna.

It-tielet hu li ma tistax, sfortunatament, tafda li xi hadd dejjem se jagħixxi etikament, minkejja l-fama jew reputazzjoni li jista' jkollu.

Hu l-fama u mur orqod, mhux dejjem tapplika!

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# A community silent achiever

*Our choice for this month's Personality of the Month can best be described as one of the community's silent achievers. No-fuss, nor pre-tentious, she has been the driving force behind a group of elderly persons meeting every week at the Greystanes church hall continuously, come hail or shine, for the last 22 years.*

## Jessie Gatt

Jessie Gatt was born in Xaghra Gozo as Fortunata Sultana, the youngest of seven children. Her parents, Pauline and John, are both from the village of Xaghra. The family emigrated to Australia on the m/v Toscana in 1952 when Jessie was only two. She was educated at Mount Carmen Catholic School in Wentworthville and the McArthur Girls High in Parramatta.

"We grew up in a very mixed community, with different nationalities and various languages. We did look different. Discrimination was more in high school. I could always stick up for myself. Generally, we were accepted. We learned to live with it. There were many children from different nationalities, and we mixed well. Because by then we were so many, we were not pushed around". Jessie told *The Voice of the Maltese*.

Our Personality married Andrew when she was twenty years old. They have three boys Stephen, Paul, Adam, and seven grandchildren. Like so many Maltese at the time Jessie got her first job with Arnott Biscuit factory at Homebush and finally at Westmead Hospital's food service division.

When the lady who was running a Maltese group at the Greystanes Catholic Church decided to call it a day she approached Jessie to take over as she identified Jessie as a person that connects well with women.

The group was already established when Jessie took it over 22 years ago with about 25 members. Currently, it still holds about the same average regular members. The group meets every



## PERSONALITY OF THE MONTH OF THE MONTH

Wednesday at George Preca Hall from 10 am to 12 noon. Once a month, they go out on organised outings.

Jessie told us: "We provide a bus that picks up/returns from the church. It's a good group specifically aimed at elderly Maltese women. It

gets us all out, especially the ones who do not get many such opportunities. They feel safe with us as we provide that kind of environment. I love to see them have a good time and connect. It is very rewarding and fulfilling. Meetings are fun, and those attending are allowed to express their views on all aspects of their lives".

Community Wheels Inc. has been providing safe and accessible transport since 1986 in Parramatta & Cumberland LGAs, and Jessie Gatt speaks highly of the service and its solid connection with the Maltese group. She is a member of the management committee and connects their social programme to the group with satisfactory results.

The Gatts are known as the Orchard specialist. They have been growing orchards for over 20 years. They belong to the Orchid Society of Parramatta and Districts and participate in many shows and exhibitions, mainly from May to August.

The Gatts have won many prizes and feel very proud of what they have achieved. They are also proud of their garden and have sufficient knowledge of shrubs and plants to be regarded as "green thumbs".

◀A smiling Jessie (top row first left) is seen with members of her family. Jeremy, and Cory (on her left); Sec row: Nicholas, husband Andrew and Jack; and (front): Chelsea, Aimee and Eva







## Roundup of News About Malta



# Maltese economy is expected to register 4.2% growth this year - EC

In its economic prediction for Spring, the European Commission has stated that it expects Malta to continue with its strong economic growth trend and that the Maltese economy will this year grow by 4.2%...the third highest in the European Union which will have an average growth of 2.7%.

For next year, the European Commission is also predicting that Malta will have the second-largest economic growth and the second-lowest inflation rate in the EU.

Due to the Ukraine war, the European Commission had to revise downwards the economic growth in the EU, among others, to the increase in energy prices that led inflation to reach record levels in the Euro Zone. It noted that the food prices increase will also affect European economies due to uncertainty in supplies caused by the Ukraine war, among other factors.

However, despite these challenges, the EC said the Maltese economy will this year increase by 4.2%, the third-highest after Ire-

land and Portugal, while next year, the Maltese economy will be expected to register the second-highest growth among the 27-member states, with a rate of 4% while the EU average growth is expected to be 2.3%.

In its report on Malta, the EC stated that economic growth will be motivated mostly by a robust increase in domestic demand, export growth, and the strong recovery in the tourism sector following the removal of pandemic restrictions.

The European Commission also referred to Malta's listing in the FATF grey list in June last year, saying that risks linked with this listing continued to decrease when last February, the FATF stated that Malta implemented the action plan. FATF's final decision is expected in June.

Referring to the cost of living rate, the Commission noted that last year inflation in Malta remained low because the Government subsidized energy prices and the existing hedging agreement for gas supply. The



economists predict that this year, inflation will be 4.5% and go down to 2.6% next year....the second-lowest rate in the EU.



## Rating agencies Fitch, and Moody's affirm Malta's economic stability



Two international rating agencies Fitch and Moody's published Malta's credit ratings that indicate that post-Covid-19, it is one of the countries that are best recovering from the drawbacks resulting from it.

Fitch Ratings has affirmed Malta's Long-Term Foreign-Currency Issuer Default Rating (IDR) at 'A+' with a Stable Outlook, though it revised prospects from positive to stable, while Moody's agency classified Malta in level A2 with stable prospects.

Malta's rating is supported by high per-capita income levels, a large net external creditor position, and a pre-pandemic record of strong growth, sizeable debt reduction.

Its experts added that these strengths are balanced against its large banking sector, the small size of its economy, which is highly vulnerable to external developments, and a recent deterioration in public finances with large fiscal deficits, which have led to a sharp increase in the moderate public debt burden.

They said that the Maltese economy rebounded strongly in 2021, following a severe contraction in 2020. Real GDP rose by 9.4% in 2021, significantly exceeding its November forecast of 5.7%. Fitch has lowered its growth forecast to 4.2% from 6.1% for 2022 due to the stronger-than-expected 2021 recovery.

It said that Malta's direct economic and energy ties to Ukraine, Russia and Belarus are limited but, as a small and open economy, it is highly exposed to the weaker economic outlook in key tourism markets in the EU and the UK. It however expects Malta's tourism sector to further recover this year with tourist arrivals.

Private consumption and services exports are projected to further increase in 2022/23, albeit more moderately compared with our previous forecast. It projects that inflation will reach 4.1% in 2022.

Maltese households have so far remained largely unaffected by a sharp increase in international wholesale gas and electricity prices due to Government's fixed-price purchase agreements, protecting real disposable incomes and private consumption.

The government also remains committed to limit the increase in energy prices as it is taking measures to control them. They include sizeable subsidies to the public utility company to cover the loss from keeping electricity prices stable and a reduction in excise duties for petrol and diesel.

Government is also intervening in the food market to cap the increase in wheat prices.

Meanwhile, Moody's economists said that the A2 rating with stable prospects is due to the sustained economic growth that Malta registered in recent years. They also observed that the country has good reserves, low government debt level and the fact that the government may take local loans.

**CHRIS BOWEN MP**  
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## Roundup of News About Malta



### Strengthening cooperation with the UK; – sharing European values and principles

Minister Ian Borg (right) in his meeting in London with British Minister James Cleverly

Minister for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade Ian Borg told a bilateral meeting with British Minister for Europe and North America James Cleverly that Malta wanted to continue to strengthen its bilateral relationship with the United Kingdom to ensure that trade and citizens' rights in both countries continue to be strengthened.

Minister Borg said that Malta was committed to continue to carry out the necessary reforms in the country and explained the significant progress that it has made in terms of the rule of law.

The discussion also focused on the ongoing war in Ukraine and how both countries.

Minister Cleverly wished Minister Borg every success in his new post and said that he looks forward to further technical discussions so that even in the light of the EU Withdrawal Agreement, trade between the two countries remains strong. He reiterated his government's aims to continue to offer several resources to Malta in specialised sectors.

Minister Ian Borg also had a meeting with the Secretary General of the International Maritime Organisation Kitack Lim.

Minister Borg's meeting follows his participation earlier in the Foreign Affairs Council meeting in Brussels, where he reiterated Malta's solidarity with Ukraine and its people, and called for an unconditional ceasefire to be implemented in Ukraine, for the resumption of peace negotiations.

At the meeting, in which the Council held a discussion with the ministers of the Western Balkans and exchanged views with Ukrainian Minister Kuleba on the Russian aggression, Minister Ian Borg also expressed full support for enhanced engagement with the Western Balkans.

He said that the EU must prioritise the Western Balkans, take heed of their EU



membership aspirations, and continue to inspire and incentivise its partners in the Western Balkans.

Minister Borg expressed Malta's support for Albania and North Macedonia's membership aspirations.

He also restated Malta's support for the EU's efforts to tackle food and energy challenges beyond the European borders, and later participated in the Joint Ministerial EU-Canada Committee meeting with Canadian Foreign Minister Mélanie Joly, during which a EU-Canada Joint Declaration was adopted.



### Wizz Air to launch new airline in Malta

The Minister for Transport, Infrastructure, and Capital Projects Aaron Farrugia has announced that Wizz Air will set up a new airline – Wizz Air Malta – with its principal place of business in Malta. “This,” he said, “is another indication that Malta is truly the preferred jurisdiction in the aviation industry.”

Meanwhile, on its part, the airline said that Wizz Air Malta would give the airline group financial benefits and a strategic position in Europe and North Africa.

The announcement was made after discussions between the Civil Aviation Directorate (CAD) within Transport Malta, Wizz Air, and the European Aviation Safety Agency.

The minister explained that this airline would register a substantial amount of aircraft in Malta, further increasing the number of our already strong 9H fleet.

Wizz Air maintains that it is Europe's

fastest growing ultra-low-cost airline and one of the most sustainable. It said that based on the “Arrangement on Reallocation of Responsibility” document just signed, it intends to file an application for its Maltese subsidiary to be granted an Air Operator's Certificate (“AOC”) with EASA and an Operating Licence (“OL”) with CAD.

Wizz Air stated that adding Malta doesn't only make financial sense; it also gives the airline Group a strategic position from which to expand its services in Europe and beyond.

Located just south of Sicily, all of Western Europe is close at hand, allowing it to

launch more services into key geographies such as Spain, France and Germany.

Malta would continue to support investors who choose Malta as their jurisdiction for the benefit of this very important industry, and ultimately for the strength of our economy.



### Shore-to-Ship Clean Project system

### New lease of life for the 17,000 families in Grand Harbour area

Infrastructure Malta is finalising the placement of underground high voltage cables that will convey electric energy from the shore-to-ships passenger ships entering the Grand Harbour that will reduce air pollution in the Grand Harbour area by 50%.

When completed by next year, through this Clean Air Project, an environmental investment of almost €50 million, the 17,000 families residing around the Harbour area will have pollution emissions reduced by 90%. By this project, instead of continuing to use their engines in the harbour, they would be provided electric energy from shore.

Studies indicate that in 20 years' time

Malta will have saved €375 million in expenses allied to environmental pollution. It will have an effect on health, the environment, the infrastructure and agriculture.

Parliamentary Secretary Chris Bonett said that 85% of this project is being financed by EU Funds. The Shore-to-Ship will benefit from €45 million from EU Funds, €22 million from the Connecting Europe Facility and a further €23 million to be utilised next year from the Just Transition Fund.

The first phase of the Grand Harbour Clean Air Project will also decrease by 39.6% of carbon dioxide emissions, these being the case of climate change.

### Malta first for 7th year in a row in Rainbow Europe Map

For the seventh year in a row, Malta continues to occupy the number one spot in the LGBTIQ+list with a score of 92%, 18 points ahead of second-placed Denmark on the Rainbow Europe Map.

Denmark improved its standing mainly fuelled by the amendments to its hate crime and equal treatment legislations.

Malta obtained the highest points from 49 nations with regards to the rights of the families

## Mix-xena tal-ħajja Maltija

minn Ġużè Camilleri

# Għamluha fatta!

Jekk il-midja hix ir-raba' pilastru tad-demokrazija jew le hi kultant diskutibbli, imma li hu żgur li l-midja, u issa aktar u aktar dik soċjali, qed tinfluwenza bi kbir parti mill-popolazzjoni, mhux biss Maltija, imma wkoll barranija.

Dan intwera dan l-aħħar meta f'analizi dwar min jista' jsir Papa li kieku kellu jwarrab jew imut il-Papa Franġisku f'analizi li għamlet it-Times ta' Londra, fost il-kardinali li ssemmev bhala li huma "Papabbli" (kelma li bdew it-Tal-jani u li dahlet fil-vokabolarju ta' diversi pajjiżi – li tisser li meqjus li għandu ċans li jsir Papa), hemm propju l-Kardinal Malti Mario Grech.

Skont The Times, il-Kardinal Grech, meqjus bhala konservattiv, kapaċi jgħib voti anke minn dawk il-Kardinali li huma aktar progressivi u dan għax huwa qrib ħafna l-Papa Franġisku u t-tagħlim tiegħu.

Skont The Times, li tkellmet ma' diversi Vatikanisti, il-konklavi li jmiss se jkun "battalja" bejn il-forzi konservattivi u dawk aktar progressivi.

Il-gazzetta sostniet li f'konklavi l-Kardinal Grech, li huwa s-Segretarju Ġenerali tas-Sinodu tal-Isqfijiet, kapaċi jgħib voti miż-żewġ naħat u għalhekk għandu ċans tajjeb li jilhaq il-Papa li jmiss.

Dan kollu nqala' wara li beda jingħad li saħħet il-Papa marret lura. Dan billi wara li gie f'pajjiżna, minhabba problemi fl-irkoppa hassar uħud mill-pjanijiet li kellu. Is-sitwazzjoni sfortunatament aggravat tant li l-Papa, li issa għandu 85 sena, għall-ewwel darba fl-aħħar jiem deher f'sigġu tar-roti.

Imma naħseb li hawn min diġà għamilha fatta li dan il-Papa se jagħmel bhala ta' qablu u jirtira.



Il-Kardinal Mario Grech jitbissew f'waħda mil-laqqgħat kordjali mal-Papa Franġisku

Ma nafx x'inh i s-sitwazzjoni, għax mhux qed jingħad wisq dwar jekk il-Papa għandux xi mard iehor barra l-problema tal-irkoppa. Ma naħsibx li jekk hija kwestjoni tal-irkoppa, se jirriżenja, aktar u aktar meta wiehed iqis li jekk dan isehh nispiċċaw bi tliet Papiet, tnejn irtirati u dak li jiġi mahtur.

Imma lanqas għandna nħallu l-midja tinfluwenzana daqshekk u naghmluha fatta li se jkollna Papa Għawdxi, għalkemm wiehed japprezza l-fatt li l-Kardinal Mario Grech qed jingħata daqshekk importanza.

FTIT TAL-INFORMAZZJONI: Bħalissa fil-Vatikan hemm 117-il Kardinal li għandhom inqas minn 80 sena u li allura huma eligibbli biex jivvutaw f'konklavi. Minn dawn, 67 inħatru mill-Papa Franġisku, 38 mill-Papa Benedittu u 12 fi żmien il-Papa San Ġwanni Pawlu II

## Il-Kinnie, ikona popolari Maltija

Fil-bidu ta' ħamsinijiet, il-Maltin, li qabel kienu l-aktar mdorrija jixorbu xi luminata magħmulha Malta, bdew jaqilbu għal dawk x-xarbiel ġejjin minn barra, bħall-Pepsi u l-Coca. Bil-mod il-mod bdew jiehdu post il-luminati Maltin, għalkemm f'it li xejn għamlu differenza lix-xarba alkoholika, tal-birra, fejn il-birer ta' Farsons (dak iż-żmien Simonds Farsons Cisk) baqgħu fuq quddiem.

Imma bhala reazzjoni għad-dħul tax-xarbiel barranin li semmejna, id-ditta Farsons taħt id-direzzjoni ta' Chairman u d-Direttur Maniġerjali, il-mibki Anthony Miceli Farrugia, hasbet biex tipproduċi xarba mhux alkoholika għada, għal kollox differenti mil-luminati li kienu jsiru f-Malta f'dawk iż-żminijiet.

U hekk, propju sebghin sena ilu, twieldet il-Kinnie li hi magħmula mill-estrazzjoni tal-essenzi naturali tal-laring u ta' ħwawar aromatiċi u eżotiċi li jgawwu t-toġhma originali tagħha u jagħtuha l-lewn dehbi u orangjo.

Kif kien jgħid Miceli Farrugia, "Meta hrigna l-Kinnie, fl-1952, ma kellna l-ebda ħsieb li nidhlu fis-suq b'soft drink bħal tad-ditti internazzjonali popolari. Ridna li x-xarba l-għada tagħna jkollha karattru distintiv halli nidentifikawha minn tal-kompetituri."

L-għan tagħhom intlaħaq u bi kbir... għax il-Kinnie saret popolari mal-Maltin, tant li anke dawk li hallew xtutna lejn l-Awstralja xtaqu li jkomplu jixorbuha... u x-xewqa tagħhom inqgħatet meta sar ftehim ma' ditta Awstraljana biex timporta l-Kinnie minn Malta.

Bil-mod il-mod din ix-xarba waslet fis-swieq bħar-Renju Unit, il-Polonja, Franza, il-Ġermanja, ir-Repubblika Ċeka, u l-Olanda u l-Kanada.

F'dawn l-aħħar żminijiet ħargu varjazzjonijiet għada ta' din ix-xarba fosthom Diet Kinnie, b'in-qas kaloriji li tnediet fl-1984; u Kinnie Zest, verżjoni bla zokkor u b'toġhma aktar qawwiya ta' laring imfittxija iżjed mill-generazzjoni

ż-żgħira tal-klijenti l-għoda, li tnediet fl-2007.

Imbagħad fl-2021 inħareġ b'suċċess kbir l-aperittiv Kinnie Spritz, b'4% alkohol u li fih taħlita unika ta' ħwawar naturali morri, spirti botaniċi, u nbid abjad frizzanti Taljan.



Wiehed mill-ewwel flieksen tal-Kinnie fl-ħamsinijiet magħmul mill-ħgieġ qabel bdew isiru tal-plastik. Illum raritá, collectors' item, u jiswa l-flus



Il-Kinnie al-lum fi flieksen tal-plastik



# Mix-xena tal-ħajja Maltija

minn Ġużè Camilleri



## Il-Eurovision u d-diżappunt

**L**-aħbar li l-kantanta Maltija ma rnexxix tagħmilha għall-finali tal-Eurovision f'it tal-jiem ilu kienet bħal doċċa kiesha għall-Maltin li jistennu dan il-Festival bil-herqa sena wara l-oħra.

B'kantanta li qed tagħmel isem fl-Italja, Emma Muscat, tant li kanzunetta tagħha sa rnexxiha titla' fit-tielet post tal-klassika Taljana, kien hemm tama qawwija li mhux biss tghaddi għal finali, imma li tmur tajjeb fil-fażi finali.

Għalkemm sa minn qabel kien qed jingħad li se jkun diffiċli biex Malta tghaddi għall-finali.

Sintendi, r-riżultat ġab miegħu xita' ta' kummenti, hafna minnhom repetuti kull sena, fosthom li pajjiżna m'għandux jibqa' jikkompeti f'dan il-festival. Oħrajn sostnew postna hu fil-festival għax jgħin fil-pubblicità lill-pajjiżna u lill-kantanti li jir-rappreżentawna.

Sintendi ma naqsux il-fehmiet dwar għax ksibna dan ir-riżultat fosthom il-kwalità tal-kanzunetta, il-kantanta, il-hbiberija bejn il-pajjiżi li jidher ċar li jivvutaw għal xulxin, u mitt raġuni oħra.

Interessanti stħarriġ (poll) ta' *The Times* li staqsiet *What was to blame for Malta's Eurovision failure?* Sakemm qed nikteb kienu vvutaw mat-3500 li ivvutaw hekk: *The song*: 55%; *The performer*: 4%; *The local organisers*: 30%; *Others*: 10%.

Għalkemm minix xi dilettant kbir ta' dan il-Festival fil-fehma tiegħi għandna nibqgħu niehdu sehem, biex nagħtu ċans lit-talent Malti li jidher quddiem udjenza hekk kbira, kif ukoll għax permezz tiegħu Malta tingħata pubblicità kbira. Li ma għandiex nagħmlu hu li nagħtu importanza esagerata lir-riżultat.

## Sar il-Karnival kif hafna xtaqu

**F**i tmiem il-gimgha li għaddiet id-dilettanti u wkoll daww mhux wisq tal-Karnival fil-Gzejjer Maltin ingħataw bonus għaliex bejn il-Gimgha u l-Ħadd sar dak li qed jitqies it-tieni Karnival din is-sena, imma li din id-darba seta' aktar jiġi mqabbel mal-karnival tas-snin ta' qabel il-pandemija.

Fi Frar, ix-xahar proprju tiegħu kienet ingħatat biss toġhma tal-Karnival kif nafuh f'Malta billi saru biss stallazzjonijiet statiči fil-kapital Maltija Valletta u f'Għawdex. Did-darba saru l-installazzjonijiet grottestki fuq il-karrijiet, u saret l-isfilita bihom mat-toroq ewlenin tal-belt.

L-istess sar f'Għawdex li għamlu użu mill-karrijiet li kienu ilhom żmien lesti imma ma setgħux johorġuhom biex ipaxxu lid-dilettanti.

Il-kumpaniji taż-żfin kellhom ukoll xalata għax wettqu dak li kienu ilhom ihejju għalih sa minn qabel il-pandemija, kemm fi Pjazza San Ġorġ fil-belt Valletta, kif fi Pjazza Indipendenza f'Victoria.

Xi irhula hađu wkoll l-okkażjoni u bħal snin twal ilu organizzaw il-karnival spon-tanju li għal darb'oħra ġibed lejha fololl kbar. Ewlenin fost dawn kienu tan-Nadur f'Għawdex u Ħal-Għaxaq f'Malta.

## Aħbarijiet mill-aktar pożittivi ...

**F**ilwaqt li d-dinja kollha qed tesperjenza pressjoni kbira fuq il-prezzijiet kawża ta' fatturi bħall-hruġ mill-pandemija u issa l-konflitt armat fl-Ukrajna, statistika maħruġa kemm mill-Uffiċċju Nazzjonali tal-Istatistika (NSO) u dik tal-Unjoni Ewropeja, il-Eurostat juru li fixx-xahar li għadda Malta rreġistrat l-inqas rata ta' għoli tal-hajja fl-Unjoni Ewropea u fiż-Żona tal-Ewro.

Filwaqt li x-xahar li għadda, ir-rata tal-inflazzjoni fl-Unjoni Ewropea kienet ta' 8.1%, f'Malta kienet 5.4%, jiġifieri 2.7% iktar baxxa. Fl-istess hin, ir-rata kienet 2% iktar baxxa mir-rata ta' 7.4% taż-Żona tal-Ewro.

Rapporti oħra ferm pożittivi kienu daww li haġu mill-agenziji internazzjonali ta' kreditu, Fitch u Moody's. (*Għar-rapporti tagħhom ara paġna 12*)



### Maltese Funerals

In conjunction with Hills Family Funerals.



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

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

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

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





A quick glimpse at Australia

# Great Barrier Reef and climate change

The annual 'Reef Summer Snapshot 2021-22' - prepared by the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA) with the Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS) and the CSIRO - was leaked before the election.

This year the initial confirmation of severe and widespread mass coral bleaching in March coincided with a UNESCO inspection of the reef, in preparation for a meeting to decide whether to re-list the 350,000 square kilometre World Heritage Site as "in danger". Last year UNESCO decided not to put the reef on the list after intensive global lobbying from the Australian government.

SBS News has obtained a transcript of an AIMS staff briefing this week on the un-



released report by researcher Dr Neal Cantin detailing the fifth mass bleaching in two decades.

"It's not a good sign and it's happening more frequently and it happened for the first time during a La Niña event, so it is a clear sign of climate change escalating at the rate the reef isn't keeping up with," he said.

"I would expect the next El Niño - unless we get lots of cyclone activity along with the heat - to present a riskier summer, something as bad or worse than 2016," Dr Cantin said.

In the first mass bleaching event in 2002, about 50 per cent of the surveyed reefs were affected which escalated to 97 per cent in 2016, the worst on record.

Dr Cantin said it remained at that level through mass bleachings in 2017, 2020 and this year. But he said the surveys conducted from December to March along the length of the reef from the Torres Strait to the Whitsundays found bleaching began earlier than usual - and lasted longer.

## Peter Dutton - he's at it again

The Chinese Foreign Ministry says the Chinese surveillance ship off the Western Australian coast is staying in international waters and obeying international law.

Defence Minister Peter Dutton (*pictured below*) claimed the incident was an "act of aggression" and the ship had crossed into Australia's exclusive economic zone was accused of making sensational comments aimed at fear-mongering.

"The Australian politician concerned should view the situation with objectivity and calm, instead of making sensational comments aimed at fear-mongering."

The Chinese warship did not enter Australian waters; Scott Morrison said the Chinese vessel, which was sighted 250 nautical miles northwest of Broome, had freedom of navigation.



## Needed – a national youth policy



Zahra Al Hilaly

tion, the humanitarian and migration programme, education, and employment and

The Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network is urging the incoming government to develop a national youth policy with a focus on five key areas: mental health, youth representation,

income support.

The network has held regular round-tables around the country, including regional Australia, over the past six months involving a couple of hundred multicultural youths.

The issue of mental health emerged as a big theme among the participants, after more than two years of the pandemic.

Twenty-one-year-old Zahra Al Hilaly, born in Australia to parents from Palestinian and Iraqi backgrounds, says discrimination is a lived experience for her and it was a factor in her decision to study law and journalism.

"I think, as a young advocate, wearing the hijab and being a most visible Muslim, I've unfortunately faced the [worst] of discrimination and racism within this country across many years of my life.

"So working within this area really did help actually expose the issues of young people not actually putting their hand up to take part in politics."

Ensuring better gender and cultural diversity at all levels of leadership in society is something she wants to see.

That is why Hilaly is backing MYAN's call for the development of national youth policy recognising the needs of multicultural youth.

## Buy now, pay later beware

More than 100 organisations, including Anglicare Australia and Financial Counselling Australia, have signed an open letter calling on the next parliament to make buy now pay later and wage advance products safer.

The "easy loan" industry has exploded its product range, selling unregulated credit products using a loophole in credit laws to bypass basic consumer protections.

A 2020 Australian Securities and Investments Commission report found more than half (55%) of people with buy now pay later loans had more than one loan at a time.

In addition 20 per cent of people with buy now pay later loans had missed a repayment and 20 per cent also went without essentials to make a repayment.





A quick glimpse at Australia

# Who pays for political advertising?

**W**ith the Federal election done and dusted you are bound to ask who pays for political ads; are they taxpayer-funded?

After each federal election or by-election, the AEC distributes money to eligible political parties, candidates, and Senate groups to reimburse them for their election

spending provided they receive at least four per cent of first preference votes in an election.

There's a formula to it. The value of the election funding entitlement is calculated by multiplying the total number of first preference votes by the current election-funding rate of \$2,914 per vote. This covers anything from the insurance for volunteers, to mailing expenses for flyers.

Total election funding paid by the AEC in relation to the 2019 election was \$69,647,101.79.

The top three payouts were as follows: the Liberal Party of Australia received \$27,569,610.09, the Australian Labor Party received \$24,684,039.58 and the third was Pauline Hanson's One Nation which received \$2,840,766.45.

But - as this money doesn't come until after the election season, parties rely on donations to raise revenue.

As you'll probably know, there is a "do not call" register that stops telemarketers from calling you. And there are laws requiring people who send you texts and emails to have your permission and give you a choice to opt-out.

But politicians and political parties are completely exempt from these laws - as are government bodies and charities.



## Final fix for the tyranny of distance

**A**ustralians will be able to travel to London, Paris and New York on non-stop ultra long-haul Qantas flights from late 2025. Qantas, which has been working on the no-stopover trips under Project Sunrise for a number of years, is ordering 12 Airbus A350-1000s wide-body aircraft to service the routes.

"It's the last frontier and the final fix for the tyranny of distance, the cabin is being specifically designed for maximum comfort in all classes for long-haul flying," CEO Alan Joyce said.

The new planes are 25 per cent more fuel-efficient than previous generation aircraft and will carry 238 passengers in four classes, including first, business, premium economy and economy, and have a "well-being zone" in the centre.

The first flight is due to take off from Sydney by the end of 2025. Before the coronavirus pandemic erupted, the so-called Kangaroo route between Australia and the UK was one of Qantas' busiest international operations.



**Michelle Rowland MP**

Shadow Minister for Communications  
Federal Member for Greenway



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MRowlandMP

www.michellerowland.com.au

World War II diary:  
24th May 1942:

# Malta on the attack as enemy bombers stay away

Malta's forces for the campaign against Axis convoys supplying Rommel's forces in North Africa were strengthened on this day in 1942 by the arrival of a delivery flight of nine new Wellington bombers.

Three Wellingtons of 104 Squadron assisted by S/D Flight attacked a southbound convoy of one merchant vessel of 5000 tons and one of 1000 tons plus two destroyers 135 miles from Benghazi.

Observers reported a successful hit. One of the destroyers was

also machine-gunned during the attack.

Meanwhile, on this day the island's skies were free of enemy bombers as the Axis count their losses in the recent battle for supremacy in the air. Even the endless fighter sweeps were kept at bay by a constant series of patrols by the Island's Spitfire squadrons.

In the two air combats today, one JU 88 reconnaissance aircraft and two Italian Macchi fighters were destroyed and a third Macchi damaged.

Monitors following Radio Roma heard them describe the plight of the Italian bomber pilots sent to attack Malta by night as "a hard lot. We are blinded by searchlights, hammered by the AA guns, pursued and ambushed by night fighters. There is no seeing the enemy till the British guns start spitting death at your bomber."

Thanks to them, for the first time in many weeks Malta's inhabitants enjoyed a quiet night, with no air raid sirens.



Wellington bombers

## Extra Wellingtons allow for renewed offensive



## Sette Giugno Commemoration of the 7th June 1919 Uprising

The Maltese Community Council of NSW is holding the "Sette Giugno" Commemoration Ceremony at the Maltese Bicentenary Monument Civic Park, Pendle Hill on Sunday 5th June 2022 at 11:00am

The ceremony will take approximately 90 minutes and includes a commemorative speech about this historic event and musical segments from the Maltese Concert Band and the Maltese Cultural Association Choir

Please Note: In the event of bad weather an announcement will be posted on the Maltese Community Council of NSW Facebook page prior to the scheduled start time.

Contact: Miriam 0419 476 924 or Marisa 0414 86 123

\*\* This event complies with current Covid-19 requirements \*\*

# L-UKRAJNA

# GĦANDHA B'ZONN

# L-GĦAJNUNA

# B'URĠENZA

L-Ukrajna tinsab fi kriżi kbira. Il-poplu għandu b'zonn urġenti tal-għajnuna b'urġenza. Hafna nies qed jaħarbu mill-vjolenza mingħajr xejn hlief il-hwejjeġ li kellhom fuqhom. Huma qed jiddependu fuqna. Ahna mhux se nabbandunawhom. Għinna nkomplu ngħinuhom.



Aid to the  
Church in Need

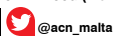
ACN MALTA

[www.acnmalta.org/donate](http://www.acnmalta.org/donate)

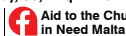
Aid to the Church in Need (Malta), 35, Triq l-Imdina, H'Attard, ATD 9038, Malta



Cempel  
2148 7818



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Aid to the Church  
in Need Malta



acn\_malta

Aid to the Church in Need hija Fondazzjoni Pontifiċja fi ħdan il-Knisja Kattolika u registrata f'Malta Reg. No. LPF-212, bħala Fondazzjoni ta' it-tieni slied tal-Kodiċi Civili (Kap. 16) tal-Liġijiet ta' Malta. VO/227



TRASFERIMENT BANKARJU

APS ACCOUNT NO.:

MT72APSB77057008577220001771733

SWIFT CODE: APSBMTMT





**L**-Uffiċċju fi hdan il-Kamra tal-kummerċ għal Għawdex, fit-13 ta' Mejju organizza żewġ attivitajiet għal Jum l-Ewropa f'Għawdex, *breakfast* għall-imsiehba soċjali f'din il-gżira, fuq in-*Next Generation EU* u b'mod iktar iffukat dwar il-pjan ta' rkupru u reżiljenza tal-Unjoni Ewropeja.

Daniel Borg, il-Kap Eżekuttiv tal-Kamra tkellem dwar l-importanza tal-Unjoni Ewropeja l-aktar f'dan iż-żmien ta' kriżi, filwaqt li tkellmu wkoll, Theresa Zahra, aġent kap tar-rappreżentanza tal-Kummissjoni Ewropeja f'Malta, Mario Sammut, il-kap f'Malta tal-European Parliament Liaison Office, u s-Segretarju Parlamentari responsabbli mill-Fondi Ewropej Dr Chris Bonnett.

Saru wkoll preżentazzjonijiet minn rappreżentanti tal-Kummissjoni Ewropeja kif ukoll min-naha tal-Gvern

## Jitfakkar Jum l-Ewropa f'Għawdex

dwar il-pjan ta' rkupru u reżiljenza fuq livell Ewropew, kif ukoll nazzjonali. Iddiskuta l-pjan u l-impatt tie-għu fuq il-gżira Għawdxija.

Aktar tard filgħaxija saret diskussjoni maż-żgħażaġh dwar it-tibdil fil-klima li fiha hadu sehem kemm dawk attivi fil-volontarjat u whud li diġà jahdmu fil-qasam tas-sostenibilita fix-xogħol tagħhom. Il-kelliema kollha

sahqu dwar l-importanza li din il-problema tissokta tiġi ndirizzata mill-gvernijiet ta' kullimkien.

Tnediet ukoll ir-raba' edizzjoni tal-*Youth4Entrepreneurship Gozo*, li dis-sena se jikkonċerna dwar idejat innovattivi li għandhom x'jaqsmu ma' Għawdex, bil-ghan ewlinei li jitnaqqas l-impatt tat-tibdil fil-klima.



L-imsiehba tal-Kamra tal-Kummerċ Għawdxija waqt il-business breakfast



## L-ewwel single minn DCapitals Big Band u Francesca Sciberras

**I**l-big band Għawdxija, DCapitals flimkien mal-kantanta residenti Francesca Sciberras harġu l-ewwel *single*, kanzunetta bil-Malti "Jekk Trid" b'likrika ta' Etienne Micallef, mużika ta' Mark Spiteri Lucas, u bl-arrangement għall-band ta' Joe Brown.

DCapitals Big Band, li ilha mwaqqfa tmien snini fiha 15-il element mużikali him-mexxija mid-direttur mużikali George Apap.

Il-kanzunetta "Jekk Trid" flimkien mal-video mużikali se jittellgħu fuq il-pjattaformi mużikali ewlenin.

Dan il-proġett qed isir bil-kollaborazzjoni tad-Direttorat għall-Wirt Kulturali fi hdan il-Ministeru għal Għawdex



Id-diskussjoni maż-żgħażaġh dwar it-tibdil fil-klima

## Titthejja l-bajja tar-Ramla l-Hamra biex ibejtu l-fkieren

**I**s-sezzjoni ta' Nature Trust – FEE Malta f'Għawdex nehdiet kampanja ta' tindif tal-bajja tar-Ramla l-Hamra f'Għawdex fejn hu magħruf li jittilgħu jbejtu l-fkieren komuni (*Loggerhead turtles - Caretta caretta*).

Nature Trust torganizza dan it-tindif b'mod regolari l-aktar qabel jibda l-istaġun li fih ibejtu l-fkieren. Għalhekk ġemgħa ta' voluntiera mill-Wildlife Rescue Team organizzaw it-tindifa tal-bajja u l-gharam tar-ramel (*sand dunes*) – fil-maġġoranza boroż u oġġetti tal-plastik u eluf ta' biċċiet ta' ġablu li jiffarrak u jehel mal-pjanti protetti tal-inhawi.

Voluntiera mill-għaqda Cast Out u studenti mill-Iskola medja tal-Kulleġġ ta' Għawdex taw ukoll l-ghajnuna tagħhom.

Fl-attività jingabru wkoll tappijiet tal-fliexken tal-plastik, loqom ta' sigaretti, stieki ta' cotton buds u l-lollipops, b'hejjeċ żgħar ta' ħbula, u oġġetti oħrajn li jithallew

fuq il-bajja.

F'temp ta' sagħtejn f'għurnata minnhom il-25 voluntiera ġabru 13 kg. Il-materjal kollu miġbur jiġi magħdud u d-data tinbagħat lill-għaqda li tanalizzaha ma' oħra f'bijjiet minn madwar id-dinja kollha.

Bhalissa, u mill-15 ta' Mejju, voluntiera, kull lejl u ma' sbieħ il-jum jiċċekkjaw il-bajjiet fejn magħrufa li telgħu fkieren biex ibejtu halli jaraw hemm sinjal ta' bejta biex tiġi protetta għal 24 siegħa kuljum sakemm ifaqqsu l-bajd.







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## Celebrating a centenary

On behalf of the readers of *The Voice of the Maltese* we extend our sincere best wishes to Mary Galea (right), on reaching the venerable age of 100 years. She celebrated this event with all her family and friends.

Mary Galea nee Cutajar now residing at Bupa Age Care Facility in Bankstown was born in Tarxien on 17th May 1922. She married Alfred Galea on 18th September 1943 and lived with his parents in Zejtun. Six children, three boys and three girls were born from that marriage in Malta.

Alfred Galea emigrated to Australia in December 1954 via KLM and the rest of the family followed in August 1955 via m/v Skaubryn. They lived in Blacktown NSW.

A few years later, they had another son.

\*Information provided by her daughter Josie Azzopardi.



## SBS World Watch

**L**-SBS WorldWatch huwa channel multinazzjonali tat-televizjoni free-to-air li jipprovdi aħbarijiet internazzjonali f'aktar minn 35 lingwa differenti lil udjenzi fl-Awstralja/

Udjenzi televiżivi jistgħu jsegwu l-aħbarijiet bil-Malti li jixxandru mill-PBDS f'Malta kull jum bejn l-4.30 – 5.00 pm fuq Channel 35.

Barra minhekk, programmi li jixxandru fuq l-istess Channel jistgħu jinqabdu wkoll f'kull hin fuq SBS On Demand.



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# Maltese and Lebanese showcase their heritage and cultures in SA

In keeping with the present celebrations of South Australia's History Festival, on the weekend of May 13–16, two friendly communities in Adelaide combined to showcase their beautiful Heritage and Cultures to the people of Adelaide with a varied exposure of exhibits from their countries.

The Maltese & Lebanese Fair took place in a sizeable undercover venue in the heart of the city. No entry fees were charged and no articles were on sale. It was a pleasant welcome greeting in Lebanese of "Ahlen" and the friendly Maltese "Merħba".

The organisers were the Australian Lebanese Association of Adelaide and the St. Catherines Association of SA. They took on this task at short notice to display the Maltese community culture in South Australia and also promote the eight Maltese societies in this state that are part of the Maltese community.

Many individuals and groups supported this fair by lending Maltese artifacts and exhibits for the displays and even donated homemade 'Maltese Goodies' to accompany the free tea and coffee offered to the visitors.

The exhibits were many and varied. Amid the array of large colourful wall-mounted posters with magnificent views of the Maltese Islands, were posters of the old Maltese buses, the so-called "xara-banks" and even little models of these relics displayed on tables.

On display were also items of fine Maltese Lace, Maltese books, models of the Maltese 'luzzu', the typical Maltese balconies 'gallarija', a Maltese stone stove, 'fuklar', and even an old Maltese plough, 'il-mohriet'. But what would a Maltese Heritage display be if it did not include the traditional 'Ghonnella' (the faldetta) with its mystical old charm?

The Lebanese contingent also displayed some of their interesting artifacts, books, and other traditional items.

To add to the enjoyment of the visitors, they also had a brightly costumed folk group dancing to their cultural music. Musically the Maltese were also very lucky to have a very talented musician entertaining the visitors in a very traditional way.

Maurice Lateu was introduced to the audience as an example of the buskers who used to perform in the Maltese village square, 'Il-Pjazza', to entertain the kids dancing the traditional 'Dawra Durella' while the parents clapped and joined in songs like, "Lanca Gejja u ohra sejra, Gejja Marjanina, Katarin, and Rozamarie".

Playing all these folk tunes and many others reminiscent of the old days, out of the goodness of his heart, piano accordion virtuoso, Maurice Lateu, provided these tunes along with other continental songs that had people dancing and flexing their vocal cords!

At one stage Maurice's music had Lebanese and Maltese joining hands and dancing vibrantly to "Zorba the Greek"! What talent!

The venue for this wonderful fair was graciously provided by favourite Maltese philanthropist Mr. Charles Figallo who regularly sponsors and helps many charitable organisations, especially in this state. Several Maltese societies and the Maltese community in SA has greatly benefitted from this Maltese gentleman. the generosity. Thank you, Charles!

Besides successfully exhibiting the interesting and colourful heritage and cultures of Lebanon and Malta, this Fair displayed what can be achieved when communities of different ethnic groups are willing to work together.

The atmosphere was clearly on display when Maurice sang and played "We Are Australians" with the crowd of Lebanese and Maltese erupting and with one voice to sing, "I am... You are.... We are Australians"!!

It was a Grand Fi-



Trying on the "Ghonnella" at the Fair

nale to a wonderful three days of the event. In this present world of turmoil between so many countries, it was like a breath of fresh air to see these communities unite to enjoy life together, albeit they are two tiny communities living in their new homeland of wonderful Australia!

RonBORG



The Grand Finale as the crowd sings "I am, You are, We are Australians!" with Maurice Lateu on his accordion



Maltese artifacts on display at the fair





## A trip to the Entrance by the MCANSW

It was a glorious autumn day for an excursion by bus to the Central Coas for members and friends of the Maltese Cultural Association of NSW who departed by coach from Greystanes

On arrival at The Entrance (via Wyong some 102 km away), members from the Central Coast area that included Joe and Josephine Galea, Emanuel Pisani, John Sciberras and others, welcomed them.

This was the MCA NSW's first activity post-Covid-19. President Charles Mifsud said that many other activities are being planned.

## #NewEuropeanBauhaus Valletta Design Cluster among award nominees

Visitors to the <https://prizes.new-euro-pean-bauhaus.eu/> had the chance to choose which projects or ideas will shape our future living spaces towards more beauty, sustainability and inclusiveness. As such, they could vote for the Valletta Design Cluster that was shortlisted in the 'Regaining a sense of belonging' category in the #NewEuropeanBauhaus Award nominees.

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.

## Premju għall-Arti nominees

Arts Council Malta has just announced the 29 shortlisted nominees for the 5th edition of *Premju għall-Arti 2022*, a celebration of the main achievements of the Maltese cultural and creative industries.

**The Secret Garden**, a Valletta Cultural Agency and Lignin Stories production has been shortlisted in the *Best work for young audiences category*, while the Valletta Cultural Agency contemporary visual arts exhibition **fuse** 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*.

**Threaded Fine**, a project by ŻfinMalta, in collaboration with the Valletta Cultural Agency is selected for the *Audience's Choice category*.

# Maltese Seniors Social Welfare Day Groups

### Llandilo Maltese Seniors

Meets on the first Wednesday of each month at the Llandilo Community Hall, 257 Seventh Avenue, Llandilo 11am to 1.00 pm. Group holds regular Information Sessions/Workshops & Bus Trips. Group Leader: Helen Azzopardi

### Merrylands Social Maltese Seniors

Meets every second Friday of the month Miller Room, Memorial Avenue Merrylands from 10.30am to 12.30 pm.

Group Leader: Salvina Falzon.

### Fairfield Active Maltese Seniors

Meets on the last Tuesday of the Month. Group meets in St Theresa's Parish Hall, cnr of Stella Street & The Boulevard, Fairfield Heights from 10 am to 12 noon.

Group Leader: Dorothy Gatt.

### Maltese of Bankstown

Group meets 3rd Wednesday of month in the Bankstown CBD area. Every other 3rd Thursday an outing. Enquiries call: Sam Galea 0410 269 519.

### Daceyville Maltese Seniors

Meets the last Wednesday of the month in Meeting Room One, No. 3 General Bridges Crescent, Daceyville.

Note: The Groups also arrange regular Bus Trips. Join us and make new friends. Group Leader: Doris Scicluna.

### The Sutherland & St George Maltese Group

Meets First Wednesday of the Month from 10:00am-1:00pm. Meetings/Get Togethers are interesting, informative & entertaining, so come join us and make new friends. For more information contact our Coordinator: Charles Mifsud JP Phone (mb 0421 662 298).

### Greystanes Maltese Seniors

Meets on the second Monday of each month at the George Preca Parish Centre Our Lady Queen of Peace (OLQP) Church, 198 Old Prospect Road, Greystanes from 10 am to 12 noon.

Group holds regular Information Sessions/Workshops & Bus Trips. Group Leader: Frances Montesin.

### Men's Group

Meets every last Tuesday of the month at the MCC Centre at 59b Franklin Street Parramatta West (next to the Primary School), from 10 to 12 noon. Discussion, information and renew friendship.

Pastizzi, Kinnie etc. available. Contact Fred or Laurie 9631 9295.


**\*All Groups are coordinated by The Maltese Community Council of NSW with a sponsorship from Multicultural NSW.**

**Please contact the MCC Welfare Officer: Marisa Previtera JP on 0414 863 123.**

**The MCC offices are at 59b Franklin Street (Cnr Young St) Parramatta West NSW (next to West Parramatta Primary School).**



# Community News




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

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



**MALTESE LANGUAGE SCHOOL OF NSW**

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

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

Applications are also welcome for paid positions from people to assist in language teaching. For more information, call 0419 418 547. Email: [mls@mccnsw.org.au](mailto:mls@mccnsw.org.au)





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**La Valette Social Centre**

Inc. 175 Walters Road, Blacktown Tel. 96225847



La Valette Social Centre is open for business as usual on Thursday for Respite and on Saturdays for Mass and entertainment. The bar and restaurant are available.

The next activity is the postponed Annual General Meeting for the association's financial members which is to be held on Friday 27th May from 7pm.

**St Nicholas Festa Committee Plumpton -NSW**

**The Events for the rest of 2022**

Sunday July 10: Imnarja  
Sunday, October 16: Fete  
Sat. Nov. 19: Dinner Dance  
Sunday December 4: Festa

## Tune in to Radio and Television

**SBS RADIO:** 97.7 FM Tuesdays 12:00pm; Friday 12:00pm. Listen on Digital Radio or Live Streaming on [www.sbs.com.au/radio/](http://www.sbs.com.au/radio/) or on TV Channel 38.

On Demand and podcasts on [www.sbs.com.au/maltese](http://www.sbs.com.au/maltese)

**SBS TV:** Channel 32 (Viceland). Sundays 8:00am; Thursdays 8:00am L-AHBARIJET latest news bulletins direct from PBS Malta.

**VICTORIA**

**3ZZZ 92.3FM:** Mondays 5-6pm, Fridays 5-6pm and Saturdays 10-11am. Presenters: Paul Vella, Mario Sammut, Liz Phillips. Listen live on [www.3zzz.com.au](http://www.3zzz.com.au)

**98.9 North West FM:** Mondays 7-8pm and Fridays 6-7pm. Maltese Program. Presenter: Emmanuel Brincat.



[www.893fm.com.au](http://www.893fm.com.au) or On Demand on [www.893fm.com.au/on-demand/](http://www.893fm.com.au/on-demand/)

**WOW-FM 100.7:** Tuesdays 6pm to 9pm. Maltese program with Joe Borg and Michael Mallia. Listen live on [www.wowfm1007.com.au](http://www.wowfm1007.com.au)

**VOX FM 106.9:** Mondays 5pm to 6pm. Voice of Valletta – Illawarra Maltese program presented by Louis Parnis. Live streaming on [www.voxfm.org.au](http://www.voxfm.org.au)

**QUEENSLAND**

**4EB FM 98.1:** Tuesdays 6:00am to 8:00am; Presenter: Lucy Stewart. Music, news from Malta, topics of interest, song requests, community announcements. Live streaming on [www.4eb.org.au](http://www.4eb.org.au) or On Demand on [www.4eb.org.au/shows/program-bill-multi-global-maltese/](http://www.4eb.org.au/shows/program-bill-multi-global-maltese/)

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

**5EBI FM 103.1:** Maltese Community Radio Program from Adelaide. Sunday: 7.00am; Monday: 8.00am; Monday: 6.00pm. Presenters: Bernadette Buhagiar and Ron Borg. Listen live or On Demand on [www.5ebi.com.au](http://www.5ebi.com.au)

Listen live on [www.northwestfm.org/ethnic-radio/](http://www.northwestfm.org/ethnic-radio/)

**97.9 FM Melton:** Tuesday 6.00pm to 8.00pm Maltese Program. Presenter: Miriam Vella. Live streaming on [www.979fm.com.au](http://www.979fm.com.au)

**NSW**

**2GLF FM 89.3 Maltese Voices with Marthese Caruana:** Sundays 10:00 am to 11:00am. One hour of Maltese talent, songs from Maltese artists.

**2GLF FM 89.3 Maltese Community Council programme:** Sundays 11.00am to 12:00pm. News from Malta, music, information, culture, interviews, community notices and topics of interest. Listen live on





Photo: Walter Sargent

## Floriana wrap up season with 21st FA Trophy win

**F**loriana made it 21 FA Trophy victories when they beat arch-rivals Valletta 2-1 in extra time after a 1-1 in 90 minutes.

It was a fitting finale to quite a remarkable 2021/22 season for them in a campaign in which they challenged Champions Hibernians for the Premiership all

the way.

This competition is only second to the Premier League title in importance, however, it proved as satisfying to them as much, particularly as it arrived after an absence of three decades, and was achieved by defeating neighbours Valletta in the process. They therefore reached Slie-

ma Wanderers' total of FA Trophy victories.

At the end of the 2021/22 football season, Hibernians qualified to the UEFA Champions League. Floriana and third-placed Hamrun will play in the UEFA Europa League, and fourth-placed Gżira Utd in the UEFA Europa Conference League

## Australia Cup: Eagles qualify to Round 6

**P**arramatta FC qualified to the 6th round of the 2022 Australia Cup, after defeating St. George FAC Arncliffe Aurora FC, 2-1 at Arncliffe Park.

Fielding a mixture of 1st Grade and Under 20's players, the Eagles were favourites to win, however, it was not all one way traffic as the home side, had a lot of possession and created numerous scoring chances in the in the first half.

They also missed a penalty in the 36th minute and were made to pay for it as goals from Matthew Joseph (38th min.) and Noel Dishie (45th) put Parramatta two goals up at the half time break. The hosts reduced the arrears (52nd min).

## NSE 3 Mens League

**I**n the NSW 3 Mens League Parramatta FC's disappointing campaign continued on Sunday when they lost 2-0 away to Fraser Park who were still pointless before hosting Parramatta. They managed their first points by scoring a goal in each half (30th and 57th).

It was Parramatta FC's fifth loss from seven matches and stay eighth, third from bottom with six points.

The loss came a week after beating Western Rage in Seven Hills by 5-2, which in turn arrived after five long weeks without a win.

In this match Parramatta Marko Jez (19th) gave them a 1-0 interval lead. They then conceded the equaliser (54th), but regained the lead through Allie Jayee (57th). The game saw-sawed after that. The Rage levelled from a penalty (66th), while Marko Jez, (70th) and Santiago Rodriguez with a brace (77th & 80th) earned the win.

## Special Olympics Invitational Games Malta 2022

### An incredible experience as Malta wins 192 medals

**A**fter four days of activity, the Special Olympics Invitational Games Malta 2022 came to a successful end, with Malta proving to the visiting participants from 23 countries not only its high level organisational skills as a host but also for the family atmosphere it created, and the competitiveness of its own athletes who won a total of 192 medals.

The event was the first international Special Olympics event held in Europe in almost two and a half years.

After an impressive opening ceremony and an equally interesting closing ceremony on Tuesday with the lowering down of the flag, the final message from the President and managing director of Special Olympics Europe Eurasia David Evangelista, and the Special Olympics Malta President Dr Lydia Abela declaring the closing of the Games, it was time to take stock of the medals won.

Out of the Maltese athletes' total, 65 of the medals were gold, 60 silver, and 67 bronze.

Most gold, 17 were won in swimming, 16 in athletics, another 16 in bocce, 14 in bowling, and one each in table tennis, and football.

The organisers described the Games as "a very remarkable and exciting four days of practical inclusivity through sport," while David Evangelista said they created endless memories and called it "an incredible experience". He said it was a closing day for the Games but it was a starting line for the legacy.

