



Maltese e-Newsletter

The Journal of Maltese Living Abroad

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SWEDISH
Jessica Schulz



JAPANESE
Masahiro Taniguchi



FATIMA PAYMAN

The first Afghan-born
and Jihab-wearing
politician
in Western Australian
Parliament



H.E. DR. GEORGE VELLA - PRESIDENT OF MALTA
LAUNCHED 'THE MALTESE LANGUAGE' CAMPAIGN

THESE FOUR YOUTHS SPEAK MALTESE



CHINESE
Jingjing Xu



RUSSIAN
Yana Kirienko

Maltese American Community Club



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MOTOWN

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make some new ones!

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PRESS RELEASE BY THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT:

"We must safeguard the correct use of the Maltese language" – the President at the launch of 'l-ilsien Malti għal qalbi'

President of Malta George Vella launched the national campaign 'l-ilsien Malti għal qalbi', in collaboration between the Office of the President and seven Maltese language organisations, for the benefit of the Maltese language.

At the campaign launch at Sant'Anton Palace, the President remarked on the need for the correct use of the Maltese language. He said that the aim of this campaign is not to exclude other languages in order to introduce Maltese, but to use the Maltese language where required as a national language, and above all to use it correctly. President Vella referred to research conducted by Il-Kunsill tal-Malti on the state of the Maltese language, which clearly shows that 97% of Maltese people recognise the Maltese language as their first language.

In his speech, the President remarked the importance of the Maltese language as a mark of a strong identity. Since the Maltese language is part of our culture and identity, the President stressed that we must safeguard it because it is also an element that unites us. With the aim of keeping the language alive and active, the President called for a continuous update that respects the roots and structure of the language rather than an update of convenience.

President Vella said that there should be more opportunities for us to express ourselves in Maltese, and appealed to broadcasters,

particularly newscasters, to seek the help and cooperation of language professionals.

On behalf of the working committee, Kit Azzopardi said that this campaign seeks to raise awareness of a cultural aspect that sets our nation apart from others. Today the Maltese language, said Mr Azzopardi, is not only the main tool of teachers and writers, but also of many other professionals, from journalists and lawyers to clerks, translators and those working in advertising. He remarked that this campaign recognises the importance of the Maltese language for many workers and shows how effective our language is in other areas of which we may not be aware.

The 'l-ilsien Malti għal qalbi' campaign also recognises current realities, such as the use of the Maltese language by foreigners living and working in Malta, as well as multilingualism. During the campaign, every month, the focus will be on these and other topics such as education and literature, with the participation of various personalities and on different media, including print, digital and audio-visual.

The Maltese language organisations involved in this national campaign are Il-Kunsill Nazzjonali tal-Malti, the Department of Maltese at the University of Malta, L-Akkademja tal-Malti, L-Għaqda tal-Malti Università-1931, L-Għaqda tal-Għalliem tal-Malti, Inizjamed, and L-Għaqda tal-Qarrejja tal-Provi tal-Malti.

**MALTA – AN ISLAND OF HALF A MILLION PEOPLE, HAS ITS OWN UNIQUE LANGUAGE
L-ILSIEN MALTI**

IL-ILSIEN MALTI

Prof Frank Bezzina named Acting President



Frank Bezzina

Dolores Cristina

Pictures: Mark Bezzina and Dolores Cristina

The government announced that Professor Frank Bezzina will be serving as acting president when President George Vella is away.

The appointment was made according to Article 49 of the Constitution. Bezzina is Pro Rector for International Development & Quality Assurance at the University of Malta, and is the author of academic studies. He is a visiting professor in several universities overseas. Prof Bezzina said "I am very honoured to take on this new role, a very important role which comes with great responsibility, and I will do my best for the people and this nation."

The government thanked Dolores Cristina who served as acting president several times in the last nine years.

Maltese Australians Gattaldo



They speak Maltranian (a modified Maltese) and they're keen on keeping traditions alive. I interviewed Maltese Australians on their thoughts about Malta and what sort of itinerary they plan when they visit.

In 1948 an assisted passage agreement was signed between Australia and Malta and a substantial number of Maltese emigrated to Australia in the 1950s. By 1966, the Malta-born population of Victoria was 26,452. According to the 2016 Census, there were 175,563 people of Maltese descent in Australia and 37,614 Malta-born people residing in the country at that precise moment. That's equal to almost half of the population of Malta in 2016.

Most of the people I spoke to were second generation except for **Sandie Ayling** who moved to Australia in 1974. Sandie is fascinated by the island's rich history so it stands to reason that on her latest visit to Malta 6 years ago, her time was taken with scouring the various museums and temples scattered around the island. Although Malta's sun and sea were an important feature of her stay, Sandie says she also found great satisfaction in revisiting places from her childhood and in

sampling Maltese cuisine she'd yearned for. I guess it must have been a lovely trip down memory lane for Sandie. With our second generation interviewees, I found that Malta's culture and history were also high on their list, as was their personal history - the places their parents had told them stories about and the Mediterranean dishes their family had introduced them to. It seemed that, without exception, they were all keen to trace the steps of their ancestors. I couldn't help feeling it was very much a personal journey of discovery for each of them. **Bernardette Vella** told me that *St Paul's Bay* and *Xaghra* both had familial significance to her, and were certainly first on her list of places to visit 7 years ago when she travelled to Malta. Bernardette says that despite the fact that she's very much a hotel-by-the-beach-person, her family's history led her to stray beyond the sun and sea. She loves a sea view, and that, she says, explains why she chose to stay by the sea.

Most mentioned wandering around aimlessly as one of the things they'd indulge in when in Malta. It is after all the best way to take in the character of a place without sticking to a guide book which dictates your journey.

Michelle Tyerman was very clear about what she would look out for on her visit. She was last in Malta 10 years ago where she visited the church her grandparents married in, her parents' childhood homes and their local

churches in Sliema and Paola. *"We enjoyed using buses,"* she adds *"to expose ourselves to as much of the real Malta as possible."*

Michelle says she's fascinated by *"the traditions in past clothing, in particular the għonnella"*, the headdress similar to a Turkish *Çarşaf*, but starched around a curved frame instead of tight around the head.

She specifically sought out restaurants and local shops for the authentic tastes of typical/traditional Maltese foods - *"They are never the same here in Australia"*. The thing most special to Michelle however is the Maltese lace (bizzilla) she bought to bring back home and get married in.

I asked Michelle if there was anything unusual about Malta she'd had to work out. *"As a child,"* she told me, *"whenever I heard the Maltese speak, I remember getting the impression that they were angry with each other, but with my first visit, I understood it was just their way. It didn't help that I had little or no grasp of the language."* Michelle says that one of the things she'd like to do on her next visit is to practice speaking the language.

Times have changed and news travels wide and fast, so Maltese Australians can now keep in touch with whatever's happening back in Malta. I asked what was the latest thing they'd heard about the island. I got different answers to this. Some mentioned a soccer win for the Maltese, one mentioned crime, quickly adding *"crime is crime & its everywhere unfortunately"*. A couple mentioned that they had read about the increase in tourism and high-rise buildings and another mentioned October 2017's murder of Daphne Caruana Galizia - *"I saw a story on tv about a journalist that was killed because she uncovered mafia money laundering. That pretty well shocked me."*

It amazed me how on the whole, even if Malta is so far from Australia, it still is deeply entrenched in the minds and hearts of the *Maltin Awstraljani*. Well, next time you're in Malta, do pass by for a coffee and a chat.



In the mid-16th Century, a long running conflict between two of the most powerful world religions is building up to a climactic battle in the Mediterranean for the very soul of Europe. Facing each other are two highly trained forces. The knights of the Order of St. John, a small but formidable Christian military Order and the Muslim Janissaries, the fearsome crack troops of the Sultan.

The historic events are told through the eyes of Hasan, a pressganged Greek boy who is conscripted into the Ottoman army, and his arch-rival, the ambitious novice warrior monk Raymonde. From an early age, both are trained to fight with no mercy in the name of God, and Allah. Only one will survive.

The drama led documentary is supported by historic re-enactment on original locations, and a full-size replica galleon. Spectacular CGI and gripping drama make up 70% of the films. Eps 1 looks at the build-up of the Great Siege of Malta in 1565. Eps 2 focuses on the dramatic battle for Fort St. Elmo. Co-produced 2021 by Urban Canyons and Parker Films.

Visit - www.urbancanyons.tv/godssoldiers



Challenge started in 1955.

The traditional Regatta races are national events held twice yearly, that on the 31st of March on Freedom Day to commemorate the withdrawal of the British troops and the Royal Navy from Malta in 1979, and 8th September known as Victory Day. The latter has several roots as it marks the end of the

Great Siege of Malta in 1565 and the end of French occupation on Malta in 1800, as well as the armistice of the Fascist regime in Italy in 1943, which saw the close of the Italian bombardment of the Maltese Islands.

The programme offers four to five hours of spectacle, with the best crews forming part of the rowing teams from the cities bordering the Grand Harbour. Cospicua, Kalkara, Marsa, Marsamxett (Valletta), Senglea, Vittoriosa and also Birzebbuga, participate in 10 races under two different categories using typical traditional Maltese boats like the 'frejgatini', 'kajjikki' and 'dghajjes tal-pass and tal-midalji'. These boats were traditionally normal working watercraft which plied the local harbour. Over the years these boats have evolved into racing craft with certain modifications. These are also examined and weighed before the start of and end of the races. The first three placings in each race are awarded a number of points and at the end of the Regatta, the club with the highest number of points, in the respective categories, is presented with the Aggregate Shield.

In the past small flags in different colours were tied to the forestems of racing boats for purposes of recognition. The colours were allotted by the Collector of Customs. Colours have changed considerably over the years. Today the clubs can be recognised by their traditional colours which include Birzebbuga (Red-White-Blue), Cospicua (Light Blue), Kalkara (Green), Marsa (Red-Blue), Marsamxett (Valletta) (Yellow), Senglea (Red-Yellow), and Vittoriosa (Red).

The 1,040 metre race course is set up in the Valletta Grand Harbour where the magnificent Fort St Angelo provides an imposing backdrop to the sleek and colourful Maltese boats. A good crowd of spectators and supporters converge along the waterfront and the surrounding bastions to watch the races, which is sure to be a colourful and spectacular event worth watching. The races can be viewed from the water edge of the three cities (Birgu, Cospicua, and Senglea) or Valletta.



Order of Malta aid to Ukraine

ORDER OF MALTA HELPS PEOPLE OF UKRAINE

The lives of millions of people have been shaken since war broke out on 24 February 2022. Women and children who fled the fighting have been separated from their husbands, sons and fathers. Many people who have had to leave their homes are heavily dependent on aid.

The Order of Malta has been serving the people of Ukraine for almost 30 years. The Order of Malta Aid Service in Ukraine and surrounding countries were among

the first to respond to this disaster and to initiate relief efforts. Malteser International has supported them and we will continue to do so as long as needed. Three months after the outbreak of the war, the Order of Malta family continues to support those affected – in Ukraine, neighbouring countries and worldwide. Since 24 February 2022, we have sent over 3,700 tonnes of relief supplies from Germany to Ukraine and the surrounding countries.

In Ukraine so far:

- Over 235,000 people have been provided with meals.
- Over 1000 psychosocial counselling sessions have been provided.
- Almost 50 cities in Ukraine have received relief supplies.
- Over 10,000 first aid trainings have been organized.



On behalf of the **Augustinian Sisters, Servants of Jesus and Mary**, I write to let your readers know that on 21st of June, 2022 **Sr Renata Cross (asjm)** entered the house of our Heavenly Father.

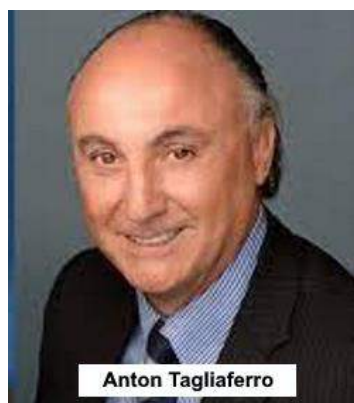


Sr Renata's death adds another loss to the number of 'pioneer priest and religious' who left their homeland Malta to come to Australia and serve the Maltese Diaspora.

Sr Renata was born in Kalkara, Malta in 1930. In 1947 Sr Renata joined the Augustinian Sisters, Servants of Jesus and Mary. Until 1964 Sr Renata was living her religious life in Malta across our convents of Gzira, B'kara and Qormi. 1964 Sr Renata – like so many religious from Malta, answered the call to come to Australia and minister to the Maltese people. Her first posting was to Broken Hill after which she truly found her home in Sunshine North where she has been to serve for 56 years.

Sr Renata will be remembered for her work as 'Sacristan' of St Bernadette's Parish Church. Over all her years there she has come to be known by hundreds of parishioners and the many for whom Sr Renata ensured that the flowers for special events – weddings in particular, radiated the joy of the occasion being celebrated.

Sr Renata will be sorely missed by the many whom she encountered during her work in the Church. May she rest in peace and may the loving embrace of God be such that she will forever be rewarded for her work amongst God's people. Sr Lorraine Testa (Melbourne)



Anton Tagliaferro

A MALTESE-BORN RECEIVES MEDAL OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

We are delighted to be able to share with you the news that **Investors Mutual Founder and Investment Director Anton Tagliaferro** received the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the Queen's Birthday 2022 Honours List. Anton was recognised for his service to charitable organisations and the investment sector. We extend our congratulations.



Facts And History of the Maltese Language

It is an official language of Malta Island. It is closely associated with the various dialects of Arabic, Tunisia, and Algeria. Even though it has an Arabian Influence it is written in Latin Alphabets and has an

influence on the language spoken in Sicily. It has a Semitic influence as the people belonging to the Semitic group played a very prominent role in the development of Maltese and other languages in the Middle East for over four thousand years.

Origin The Maltese Language has Semitic origin. Even though it has an Arabic origin it is written in Latin Alphabets. It was mentioned in a ballad that was first written by Caxaro Pietro in the fourteen hundreds. Moreover, the Knights of Malta also tried to write and define the characters of the Maltese language. It is also a widely held belief that the Phoenicians who came to the island of Malta in 750 BC were responsible to lay the foundations of the Basic Maltese language which was further developed and influenced by the various invaders and civilizations that ruled the region. It was mainly after the Norman Conquest of 1090 that the process of the evolution of Maltese began.

Speakers Almost around half a million people speak Maltese language all over the world. The percentage of people speaking the Maltese language outside Malta is very low.

It has an Arabic Influence: Back in the nineteenth century, Malta was populated by Arabs who managed to make a mark on this land for four hundred years. It is, for this reason, Arabic food, music, and culture have a huge impact and influence on the Maltese language particularly the name of weeks, places, numbers, and some extremely basic conversational phrases. The surnames of people in the Maltese language are quite similar to Arabic and the name of God in Maltese is the same as Arabic i.e. "Allah".

Many Words are the same as English and Italian (Loan Words) Around twenty percent of the loan words from English make up the vocabulary of the Maltese language. However, according to some sources this percentage is the amount is not more than six percent. This discrepancy probably exists because some new words in the English language have not yet been included in the Maltese Dictionaries. There are various words in the Maltese language that are similar to English and Italian for example futbol as football, Frigg as fridge, klabb as club, and basketbol as basketball. The influence of Italian Language can be seen in words such as repubblika as repubblica, gvern as governo, and skola as scuola.

Official Language Along with the English language, the Maltese language is considered as the co official language of Malta.

Alphabet The Maltese language has 30 alphabet letters and 6 vowels.

French Influence Maltese also has a bit of French Influence which can be proven by certain words such as Qmis as Chamissie Shirt, Ingravatta as Cravat tie Bonjour as Bongu and, Bonswa Bon Soir as Good Evening.

Script The Maltese language is written in the Latin script. It is actually the only Semitic language that still follows the Latin script.

Dialects: There are six popular dialects of the Maltese language. These are Gozo, North Maltese, East Maltese, Zurrieq, and West Maltese. The rural Maltese is significantly different from the Urban Maltese which is closer to the standard Maltese. The rural dialects are mostly more Semitic and their plurals are more broken down than the standard Maltese language.

THE THEATRE OF ORESTE CALLEJA



Palk Malti Kontemporanju

Born in Ħamrun, (Malta) Calleja studied at the Lyceum and St. Michaeli's Training College for Teachers (1964-66). He left Malta in 1974 to study at the University of London, Birkbeck College, and then in 1990 he attended North Florida University, and Jacksonville University, Florida, from where he obtained a BA in Art and French.

Calleja was a committee member of the Moviment Qawmien Letterarju in the sixties. At the same time he started writing plays for the stage, radio, and television. These include *Anestesija* (1969), *Għargħar* (1979), *Ċens Perpetwu* (1969), *Satira* (1970), *Jum Fost l-Oħrajn* (1970), *En Passant* (1970), *Iġsmajhirs* (1970) and *Għażiż Angelo* (1971). Before he emigrated in 1974, he published *Erba' Drammi* (1972) which is still used in secondary schools as a text in Maltese literature. Since his return to Malta in 1991, he has written and published three other plays, *Għasfur ta' Ċomb* (1993), *Il-Belliegħa fil-Bir* (1994) and *U l-Anglu Ħabbar...* (1995). Calleja's success as a dramatist is mainly due to his integration of the



Maltese wartime harbour pilots (from left) Domenico Attard, Abram Darmanin (for P&O), Wenzu Attard, Joseph Zahra (chief pilot), and Frans Attard.

A portrait of Wenzu Attard the harbour pilot who steered Ohio into Grand Harbour.



Tanker OHIO
entering the
grand harbour
14 August 1942

An unsung Maltese hero as Ohio brings salvation to besieged Malta

Lina Brockdorff

Maltese wartime harbour pilots (from left) Domenico Attard, Abram Darmanin (for P&O), Wenzu Attard, Joseph Zahra (chief pilot), and Frans Attard.

Several books have been written about Operation Pedestal of August 1942, dealing with the British convoy which, despite crippling losses, finally made it to Malta on August 14-15, 1942, saving the island from surrender.

A portrait of Wenzu Attard, the harbour pilot who steered Ohio into

Grand Harbour.

Wenzu's wife, mother and brothers tried to dissuade him. The tanker was still full of fuel. If there was another attack it could explode- Lina Brockdorff

Unless readers are given the detailed background to this story they simply cannot appreciate what this convoy, known as the *Santa Marija* Convoy (because it coincided with the feast of the Assumption of Our Lady, or *Santa Marija*), meant to Malta.

Operation Pedestal was intended to get desperately needed supplies to Malta at a time when the island was effectively under siege, blockaded by Axis air and naval forces. To sustain the island, Britain had to get convoys through at all costs. The most crucial supply was fuel, delivered by the *Ohio*, an American-built tanker with a British crew.

At that point Malta was at a complete standstill, both because food supplies were scarce and because it lacked fuel and ammunition to defend itself. Malta was on the brink of surrender.

Before Operation Pedestal there were two other attempts to send supplies of food and ammunition to Malta. These were Operation Vigorous from the east and Operation Harpoon from the west, which unluckily both ended in disaster.

After this failure everyone was questioning how long Malta could hold out on its steadily diminishing supplies. Yet the British did not give up. Operation Pedestal was an attempt to run more than 50 ships through the Mediterranean, which was well guarded by German U-boats, Italian E-boats as well as by the *Luftwaffe*, the German air force, and the Italian *Regia Aeronautica*.

This operation has gone down in history as an important British strategic victory of World War II. But it was achieved at the cost of more than 400 lives, with only five of the original 14 merchant ships finally reaching Grand Harbour.

Of these five ships, *Ohio* steals the limelight as it had both the most fundamental role and the most dramatic survival of the whole convoy.

The following is an account of *Ohio's* last three days before the tanker defied all odds and managed to limp into Grand Harbour with its precious cargo of fuel.

August 12: The Operation Pedestal convoy entered Gibraltar in heavy fog two days earlier. The Germans suspected that the fleet could only mean an imminent invasion of Sicily. They mounted continuous air attacks resulting in heavy Allied losses.

August 15: Although details of this hazardous voyage were not available locally, still every Maltese knew that something ominous was happening just on their doorstep. All the Maltese knew it involved the remains of what was once a convoy. All over the island prayers were offered for the safety of the sailors and that Malta might finally obtain some food and fuel. At 6 a.m. news spread that whatever was near our shores was trying to enter harbour.

The battered shores and bastions of the Barrakka, St Angelo and Senglea were soon covered with people anxious for news. Maltese tugs were ready to help and soon the stricken but brave tanker was seen limping into harbour while men and women waved and cheered and a brass band played *Rule Britannia*.

It was customary for Maltese pilots to steer ships into harbour; there was, in fact, a schedule which was duly observed. Yet, in those turbulent days of constant attacks such a detail was usually disregarded and the Admiralty normally asked the captain himself to steer the ship into harbour.

However it seems that on this particular occasion the Admiral decided that a Maltese pilot should be asked to assume such a responsibility; and because of the interrupted schedule it was not quite clear who should have been on duty. It was up to the chief pilot, Joseph Zahra, to decide who should steer *Ohio* into Grand Harbour.

It seems none of the pilots was eager to call for duty. Lorenzo (Wenzu) Attard, whose three brothers Domenico, Frans and Wiġi were also pilots, as were his cousin and uncle, decided to do the job. His son George relates how his father loved to narrate this event.

As soon as he decided to leave his home in Vittoriosa, Wenzu's wife Antonia (*née* Persico), mother and brothers tried to dissuade him, telling him he was mad to try such a risky venture.

The tanker was sinking, and was still full of fuel. If there was another attack it could explode, causing a disaster in the Three Cities and for all involved.

But Wenzu was adamant. His answer was: "We are all dying of hunger anyway... if anything happened it would only mean that I died a few days before my time, but I simply have to try and save Malta."

And with those words he rushed out towards the harbour where, without loss of time he had to manoeuvre his way up a scramble-net to the *Ohio*.

As soon as the tanker came in, besides all the cheering and band-playing there was also an incessant beehive of activity on the wharves. The 10,000 tons of fuel oil started to be pumped by HMS *Boxall* while pipes were hauled aboard and emergency salvage pumps began to discharge the kerosene. The *Ohio*, which made port just six inches (15 centimetres) above the water, could be seen sinking lower and lower. *Ohio* also carried a substantial amount of wheat and other much needed food supplies, which was saved and stored within a few hours. It is generally recognised that *Ohio* was the saviour of the beleaguered island. Its captain was later awarded the George Cross. Although such a triumph was of utmost importance for the Maltese, it had a more significant effect on the battle for North Africa.

Many historians trace the turn of the tide and the Allied victory to this single event – which boosted the hope and morale of the Maltese with renewed prospects of survival.

It is sad to note that 70 years after such an important historical event, the heroic act of Wenzu, the Maltese pilot, has not been given its due. There is not a single marble slab to honour him. Yet Malta's public gardens and squares are adorned with statues and monuments of various statesmen, poets and lesser known citizens.

The national poet, Dun Karm, had chided the Maltese for their ingratitude of not acknowledging their brave forefathers. No poet has ever spoken or written words of praise for Wenzu.



Dear Frank, your Journal is a shining gem and I don't have enough words to describe the variety and depth of its contents. I have been a writer and a journalist for over 50 years but the content and presentation simply amazes me. I firmly believe it is one of the best online Journals in the world and I am sure that Maltese and Gozitans abroad as well as those having Maltese and Gozitan roots treasure this Journal. Keep up the splendid work and wishing you very best regards,

ALBERT FENECH - MALTA



Prior to the passage of the Commonwealth Immigrants Act of 1962, there were few restrictions on Maltese migration to the UK. Malta had experienced significant emigration, particularly as a result of the collapse of a construction boom in

1907 and after World War II, when the birth rate increased significantly. In the nineteenth century, most migration from Malta had been to North Africa and the Middle East, with high rates of return migration, but in the twentieth century most emigrants went to destinations in the New World, particularly the United States and Australia. Numbers opting for the UK were smaller, despite the colonial links. Indeed, prior to World War I, there were very few Maltese in the UK, except for a community in Cardiff. The UK was seen as a distant and cold country by most Maltese.^[2] Between 1919 and 1929, 3,354 Maltese were recorded as sailing to the UK, with 1,445 of these returning in later years. The remainder did not necessarily all stay in the UK, however, with many subsequently moving on to Australia. Nonetheless, by 1932, a street adjoining Commercial Road in London was home to a Maltese community. Many of these Maltese people worked in London's docks. Similar communities existed around the docks in Chatham and Portsmouth.

After World War Two, Malta's Emigration Department would assist emigrants with the cost of their travel. Between 1948 and 1967, 30 per cent of the population emigrated. After 1962, Maltese people required vouchers to migrate to the UK, but these were relatively easy to obtain from the Emigration Department until 1971. The Emigration Department would arrange for prospective migrants to be interviewed by British firms in order to allow their passage to the UK to fill labour shortages. At this time, it was also common for Maltese women to marry British military servicemen, and for Maltese to join British merchant ships. Migration statistics recorded in Malta and the UK differ in terms of the number of Maltese migrants recorded. Maltese statistics suggest that 8,282 people left Malta for the UK between 1963 and 1970 (inclusive), with 949 recorded as returning. British statistics, meanwhile, suggest that 8,110 Maltese migrants arrived in the same period, excluding students, diplomats, seamen, visitors and their families.^[3] Between 1946 and the late 1970s, over 140,000 people left Malta on the assisted passage scheme, with 57.6 per cent migrating to Australia, 22 per cent to the UK, 13 per cent to Canada and 7 per cent to the United States.

Significant seasonal migration to the UK started in 1962. This year saw 70 Maltese women recruited to work in British fruit and vegetable canneries for six months. By 1967–69, 250 Maltese people per year were moving to the UK for seasonal work, mostly in the canning, ice cream manufacture and hotel and catering sectors. The seasonal migration of female workers was organised by the Emigrants' Commission of the Catholic Church in Malta.

According to the Malta Emigration Museum, between the end of World War Two and 1996, a total of 31,489 migrants left Malta for the UK. 12,659 subsequently returned to Malta. Net migration over the period was therefore 18,830.



Masahiro Taniguchi

A Japanese man speaks Maltese

TVM NEWS

Masahiro Taniguchi, a young Japanese man, came to Malta 12 years ago as a tourist. He now lives and works here. The love he has for the Maltese language has led him to even sing the anthem for the feast of St Paul's Shipwreck.

I am Masahiro Taniguchi from Japan and I love the Maltese language.

The anthem of St Paul's ended up being sung by this Japanese man who has become fluent in Maltese in the five years he has lived here.

"Ifirġu wlied din il-gżira li sibtu dan id-dawl, bierku l-Mulej li baġħtu ɡo artna lil San Pawl."

Masahiro Taniguchi had the opportunity to sing the anthem during a Mass at the St Paul's Collegiate Church in Valletta. It is

not difficult because music is a language and music is my language. He visited Malta for the first time in 2010. At first he thought the language was complicated...until he began interesting himself in folklore singing.

I went to Zejtun because it is famous for *għana* and what is known as *botta risposta* (spontaneous replies). He is living in Gozo because he was captivated by the beautiful views in Qala. He mentions an episode on hearing the Gozitan dialect for the first time. At a shop I heard the words 'aħjor', and I said what is this word? I don't know it, and then I realised it was the dialect for 'aħjar'.

He is determined to encourage more Japanese people to learn Maltese because it is a beautiful language.

A SWEDISH WOMAN SPEAKS MALTESE

A Swedish woman who learnt fluent Maltese in just 16 months is looking into how bilingual islanders use the two official languages in different contexts and how this links to their memory, attention and decision-making.

Jessica Schulz, a Swedish national, moved to Malta with her family in 2008, aged just 14. Throughout the four years she spent here, she did not pick up the language and only managed to learn it properly once she moved to the UK to further her studies.

After completing a masters in bilingualism and attention in children in the UK, the University of Edinburgh student decided to focus her doctorate on the links between language, cognition and decision-making by collecting evidence from Maltese-English bilingual adults.

The research will be the first of the sort and Jessica is also planning a future study that looks at the way language relates to attention. She is looking for research participants aged over 18

who live in Malta and who speak both Maltese and English. Jessica Schulz was fluent in Maltese in just 16 months of learning

Jessica, who speaks six languages – Swedish, German, Spanish, French, Maltese and English – is intrigued by the spoken Maltese language and although the pronunciation could be quite challenging, especially for those opting to learn it in their adulthood, she refers to it as a "beautiful language".

Jessica is intrigued by the spoken Maltese language

She herself started learning the language in her free time in September 2020 by listening to the radio and TV while carrying out house chores and also by signing up for online lessons. She feels that knowledge of the Maltese language brings her closer to the place she calls home.

Jessica's research is a cooperation between the University of Edinburgh and the University of Malta, and her supervisors are Dr Thomas Bak and Dr Sarah Grech (TIMES OF MALTA)



Jessica Schulz

Chinese woman masters Maltese language in six months

By [Ritianne Agius](#)

She is enamoured of many things Maltese, especially the language. Jinjing Xu, a Chinese woman who has been living here for six months, learned to speak Maltese in no time at all and now has a desire to teach Maltese in her own country. "My make is Jinjing. I am in Malta to learn Maltese," she said.

At first glance you'd think she was a tourist on a visit to the University, but Jinjing is learning Maltese hoping to be able to teach the language in China. "There are many expressions which are similar in Maltese and Chinese. For instance, 'one foot in the hole' ('sieg waħda fil-ħofra') and 'what wind brought you here?' ('x'riħ ġabek hawn?')

What she finds most challenging and taxing is different meaning of the same verbs. For instance 'qasam' – 'he cut the cake'; he crossed the road; he cut open his head; or the verb 'qabez' – to stick up for a person versus to jump on a person.

She loves Maltese bread, and any related idioms go down a treat. For instance "he lost his livelihood" (tilef ħobžu), "he's not worth his salt" (ma jiswiex ħobż) it's not his thing: (mhux ħobż għal snien u so on. "The phrase I like a lot is "bread and butter" ('ħobż u sikkina') which denotes two things that get on very well together, like me and the Maltese language."

"Words such as "abruptly" (dlonk) and "wisdom" (dehen) fascinate her but the list continues to grow. "The best expression I've heard so far which I absolutely loved was 'ċiċi beqqi' and the word for cod "bakkaljaw", is also very good."

Jinjing was given the opportunity to learn the Maltese as a result of collaboration between the University of Malta and Beijing. The Head of the Maltese Department, Michael Spagnol, said he was surprised that Jinjing mastered the language so quickly.

"Truthfully I did not expect her to learn it so well in such a short time – we are talking about 5/6 months. But she is determined." Jinjing talks about her fascination with the Maltese language on the program

Insights which airs on TVM on Sunday evening. **"There is certain fear about the**

Maltese language" – Russian woman who speaks and writes in good Maltese

By [Ritianne Agius](#)



Yana Kirienko is Russian, however she is capable of speaking and writing in Maltese more than many locally-born Maltese.

During an interview on TVM's 'Mustaċċuni' programme, Yana said that she has been living for 17 years in Malta, however she immediately was interested in our national language and started learning it.

Her parents are both Russian and therefore she had no previous knowledge of Maltese. She started with the alphabet and seven years later sat for the Maltese language Advanced Level, achieving good marks. Today, Yana writes poems in Maltese and even translates from and to Russian.

Asked about her impressions about the way that Maltese persons look at their language, Yana stated she feels there is certain fear among Maltese and that she met Maltese who told her that they prefer to write in English because Maltese is difficult, or even that the Maltese language is not useful because it is only used here and that it is an inferior or a "kitchen" language. She stressed that it is not true that the Maltese language is difficult to learn and that she is a clear example that everything is possible. The important thing is that one loves the language and is disciplined.



IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

Kindly note that as Honorary Consul for Malta, I am not authorised to certify copies of documents or witness signatures. You can contact a Justice of the Peace (who is not related to you) in your area for these processes. You can find a JP in Western Australia at the following

link <https://www.wa.gov.au/service/justice/civil-law/find-justice-of-the-peace-your-area> .

Registration of Certificates: kindly be advised that that from 1 January 2022, the Public Registry will only accept Apostilled foreign/non-EU life certificates (apostilles must be affixed by the issuing authority of the certificate i.e. if the birth/marriage/death certificates are issued in Australia they must have an Apostille by the Australian Passport Office) for registration at the Malta Public Registry. This is an important step for applicants who need to register births, marriages, divorces, deaths in Malta as part of their passport applications.

Mr Joseph Calleja Honorary Consul of Malta Western Australia

Email: maltaconsul.perth@gov.mt



MMG Concert Band of Victoria



**The MMC of Victoria
celebrated the
feast of
St John the Baptist
in Melbourne,
Sunday 26 June 2022
Holy Eucharist Church
St Albans South
Melbourne
VICTORIA**

====

**Holy Mass
procession
fireworks**



I encourage all Maltese living abroad to love and retain their language and culture and promote the rich history of the Maltese Islands wherever they are. We should be proud of our heritage and identity.
Former President of Malta - Marie Louise Coleiro Preca

Familji Maltin jirraprezentaw il-Knisja f'Malta gewwa Ruma Il-Familji Cassar u Laferla f'Ruma



Il-familji Maltin li qed jipparteċipaw fil-Laqqgħa Dinjija tal-Familja flimkien mal-Kardinal Malti Mario Grech u Dun Krystof Buttigieg fil-Vatikan

Zewg familji Maltin bħalissa jinsabu f'Ruma biex jirraprezentaw lill-Knisja f'Malta waqt il-Laqqgħa Dinjija tal-Familja (World Meeting of Families) li tintemm nhar il-Ħadd li ġej, 26 ta' Ġunju 2022. Il-Familja Cassar u l-Familja Laferla qed jattendu l-Laqqgħa Dinjija tal-Familja li ssir kull tliet snin u l-ewwel darba li saret kienet fl-1994 fuq xewqa tal-Papa Ġwanni Pawlu II. Il-koppja Mark Anthony u Nadia Cassar ilhom miżżewġin 14-il sena u għandhom żewġ itfal, Julia u Louisa. Il-koppja

Claudio u Antoinette Laferla ilhom miżżewġin 29 sena u għandhom żewġ itfal, Michele u Maria. Is-Sur Laferla hu wkoll is-Segretarju tal-Bord tal-Moviment ta' Kana.

Din l-10 edizzjoni tal-Laqqgħa Dinjija tal-Familja se tagħlaq is-Sena "Amoris Laetitia" fejn matul dawn l-aħħar xhur, f'diversi parroċċi, djoċesijiet, universitajiet, movimenti tal-Knisja u entitajiet oħra li jaħdmu mal-familji saru inizjattivi spiritwali, pastorali u kulturali bil-għan li jifgħu dawl fuq l-importanza u l-ġmiel tal-imħabba fil-familja.

It-tema magħżula din is-sena mill-Papa Frangisku hi: "L-imħabba tal-familja: vokazzjoni u t-triq għall-qdusija". Il-Papa xtaq li kull djoċesi toħroġ b'diversi inizjattivi li jirriflettaw din it-tema u juru s-sbuħija tal-familja fis-soċjetà.

Fl-okkażjoni tal-Laqqgħa Dinjija tal-Familja, l-Arċisqof Charles Scicluna wassal **messagġ** ta' kuraġġ lill-familji Maltin u Għawdxin, fejn awguralhom jibqgħu skejjel ta' mħabba minkejja d-diffikultajiet u l-limiti li jkollhom. "Jalla l-familji tagħna jgħixu din l-imħabba u jkunu tassew skola ta' maħfra, skola ta' paċenzja, skola ta' tolleranza u tal-akkoljenza reċiproka," qal l-Arċisqof.



14-year-old Chayenne Abela is the winner of the Premju Ġwanni XXIII għat-Tjubija 2022

Dr. George Vella, President of Malta together with Fr Dijonisju Minto, presented the Premju Ġwanni XXIII għat-Tjubija to Chayenne Abela, a 14-year-old student who embraces the noble values of friendship and altruism.

Every day she supports Szintia Ladocki and helps her express herself with teachers and participate with ease in the classroom.

In his address the President remarked that the bond between Chayenne and Szintia reminds us that through empathy and compassion, we can overcome all difficulties and achieve goals beyond our imagination.

On behalf of the people of Malta, the President thanked Father Dijonisju Mintoff who was a pioneer in promoting peace and inclusion in our country. His work at the Peace Laboratory, said the President, has been a driving force in fostering kindness and unity. This work was clearly acknowledged by Pope Francis during his visit to the Peace Laboratory.

Founder of the Peace Laboratory Father Dijonisju Mintoff - founder of the Peace Laboratory - stated that, "Peace is formed on school tables". He said that education is not about saying things that you have already said, repeating them year after year, but that education is about connecting words to reality, and by practicing what you preach

Filipino community in Gozo mark their country's 124th independence anniversary Times of Malta



On June 12, the Filipino community in Gozo, Malta held a celebration to mark their country's 124th year of independence at the Legion of Mary headquarters in Victoria. Roger Strickland, Jr honorary consul for the Philippines, attended the ceremony, which started off with a thanksgiving Mass celebrated by Mgr Saviour Pace, followed by games, lunch and a singing contest.

Maltese eNewsletter

The Journal of Maltese Living Abroad
connecting communities
around the world

OUR JOURNAL IS READ AND RESPECTED IN
MALTA, GOZO, UK, USA, CANADA
AUSTRALIA, SOUTH AFRICA, GERMANY,
FRANCE, ITALY, SPAIN, PHILIPPINES
BRUSSELS, ALBANIA AND MANY COUNTRIES
IN SOUTH AMERICA

Murder story of young woman dumped at sea 'like a scary movie'



Claudia Calleja

Therese Agius's body was found on October 12, 1999, over a week after she was reported missing.

Sometime after the badly decomposed body of a 20-year-old woman, previously reported missing, was found at sea, her tormented friend told the police he had seen her overdose on heroin after a man injected her with the drug.

A few days after the body of Therese Agius was found, about 11 miles off the coast of Delimara, her friend Pawlu Micallef – known as the body builder – went to the police to open up about what he had witnessed on

the night of October 1, 1999, Police Superintendent Carmelo Magri told jurors at the start of a murder trial.

Mr Micallef recounted how he was present when Joseph Azzopardi, known as Iz-Ziki Zok, injected Ms Agius with heroin on her request. Mr Micallef said he cautioned Mr Azzopardi not to give her more drugs since she had taken pills and already looked high.

Superintendent Magri was testifying before Mr Justice Lawrence Quintano in the trial of Mr Azzopardi, 40, of Tarxien. He is pleading not guilty to the murder of Ms Agius and trafficking in heroin in October, 1999. Superintendent Magri said the testimony of Mr Micallef, who died in 2006, was pivotal in police investigations.

Mr Micallef described how, after Mr Azzopardi injected the young woman – in a Gżira apartment where she prostituted herself – she started foaming at the mouth, turned blue, fell to the ground and started shaking.

He recommended calling an ambulance but Mr Azzopardi refused for fear of ending up in court, adding this was not the first time this had happened and she would be fine. He then saw Mr Azzopardi wrap Ms Agius in a sheet and carry her to his van, thinking he was going to take her to some hospital. The following day, October 2, Ms Agius was reported missing by her parents.

A few weeks later, on October 12, her badly decomposed body was found by a man on a boat out at sea.

Her body was tied around the neck, wrists and ankles, the superintendent said. Ms Agius's sister, Charmaine, identified the body after recognising her clothes, a heart-shaped tattoo on her back with the name Silvio near it, and a ring which the sisters shared.

The missing person's report became a murder investigation and police questioned several people, including the accused. Investigators also spoke to Charlie Debono, known as Il-Maradona or It-Tobby, who owned two apartments in the notorious Testaferata Street, Gżira.

Mr Debono was a pimp who lived with two women and rented out another apartment to Ms Agius and another two prostitutes who each paid him Lm5 (about €12) a day. Ms Agius lived with her parents in Paola and had to be home by 1 a.m.

Initially police investigations were derailed by a fabricated version of events built up by people living in the area. This was aimed at protecting Mr Azzopardi who himself changed his versions when questioned by the police but insisted on denying his involvement in her death.

In the first statement to the police, on October 14, Mr Azzopardi said he had known Ms Agius for three months through her boyfriend Silvio Buttigieg, known as Iż-Żingla, whose name she had tattooed on her back. When Mr Buttigieg ended up in jail, Mr Azzopardi started dating her.

Mr Azzopardi said he last saw Ms Agius the day before she went missing when he took her to Gżira, for work, and waited for her in his van but she never returned.

Some time after that, Mr Micallef told the police what he had seen. Ms Agius went to the Gżira apartment on October 1, 1999, after a long absence as she was attending a drug rehabilitation programme.

Mr Micallef met her and Mr Azzopardi there, after buying drugs from a certain Lawrence Attard known as Wenzu l-Għawdx. Ms Agius had bought heroin for her and Mr Azzopardi who injected it into her arm since she did not know how.

That was when Mr Micallef saw her overdose and Mr Azzopardi take her away wrapped in a sheet. In a second statement, which Mr Azzopardi released on January 30, 2000, he was confronted with this new information. He insisted on not having anything to do with Ms Agius's death but chose not to reply to most questions.

Superintendent Magri said Mr Micallef later told him he had been threatened to change his version. Mr Micallef had been arraigned for heroin possession and admitted to the charge.

As prosecuting lawyer Aaron Bugeja, from the Attorney General's office, outlined his case to jurors, he said this was the end of a tragic story that started 11 years ago and was "like watching a scary movie".

"I'm showing you Therese's photo because you are not going to see her... All you will see is the face of a skeleton," he said while holding up a picture of the pretty 20-year-old.

Police inspector Ramon Cassar, who was a scene-of-crime officer at the time, said Ms Agius had been tied with three strands of rope. The rope went around her ankles, over the waist and round to her back, where her wrists were tied, and continued being wrapped around her neck. Inspector Cassar pointed out that this type of tie, known as hogtie, made it easy for a body to be carried "like a handbag".

Superintendent Sharon Tanti, who investigated the missing person's report, said that prostitutes she spoke to said it was unlike Ms Agius not to call her mother since she phoned her every day.

Lawyer Malcolm Mifsud is representing Mr Azzopardi.

Australia's newest senator Fatima Payman is the first Afghan-born Australian elected to parliament.

The 27-year-old from Perth will also be the first elected representative to wear a hijab.

The Australian Electoral Commission confirmed Ms Payman's win on Monday, which also marked World Refugee Day.



Having picked up three Senate seats in Western Australia at the election, the government will have 26 seats in the upper house, requiring one minor party or independent vote on top of the Greens' 12 votes to pass legislation. The senator-elect will be one of three Muslim Australians in the Labor government, alongside Ed Husic and Anne Aly in the lower house.

The win fulfils Ms Payman's goal to be the first hijab-wearing parliamentarian.

It's an important message she says shows Australian

diversity and the strength in unity.

Ms Payman's journey to the upper house was inspired by her father, who travelled to Australia by boat in 1999 from Afghanistan after fleeing the Taliban.

After leaving immigration detention, he worked multiple jobs to save enough money and sponsor his family to join him in Australia. When she was eight years old, Ms Payman, her mother and three younger siblings arrived in Australia. Her father died from leukaemia, aged 47, in 2018.

As a former refugee, Ms Payman understands the struggles of people who have been separated from their families. Temporary visa arrangements preventing refugees living in Australia from reuniting with family members is a policy area she wants to look into. Greens senator Mehreen Faruqi congratulated Ms Payman on her election.

"Really great to have another Muslim woman join the Senate," she said on Twitter.

"Representation matters and I look forward to working with Fatima. Congratulations."

In a statement on Facebook, Ms Payman thanked people for their love and support.

"We did it!" she said. Crikey.Com.Au

Opera vs Pop Under the Stars

**Joe M Attard,
Għawdex, Malta**



L-14-il Edizzjoni

darba il-programm ser isir taħt il-Patroċinju tal-Ministru għal Għawdex l-Onor il-Perit Clint Camilleri u x-Chargé d’Affaires tal-Ambaxxata Amerikana għal Malta Gwendolyn “Wendy” Green flimkien mad-Direttorat tal-Wirt Kulturali fi ħdan il-Ministeru għal Għawdex. Il-ħin ikun fit-8.30pm bis-

Sa mill-bidu tagħha fl-2002, il-Gozo Youth Wind Band & Orchestra, li tikkonsisti f’żewġ gruppi separati ta’ mużiċisti żgħażaġh u promettenti, minn dejjem kellha l-għan li tferraħ u tiddeverti lill-pubbliku ingenerali b’għażla kbira u varjata ta’ mużika li tilhaq l-etajiet kollha.

Gejjin minn kull rokna f’Għawdex u mgħejjuna minn xi elementi ta’ esperjenza anke dawk residenti barranin li jgħixu fostna, dawn il-mużiċisti jiltaqgħu regularment biex ihejju għażla kbira ta’ mużika ta’ livell għoli li tindaqq kemm f’Malta kif ukoll f’Għawdex. Kienet żjara f’Għawdex mid-‘Derbyshire City & County Youth Band & Orchestra’ fl-2001 li tat il-bidu għal dawn iż-żewġ gruppi mużikali Għawdxin taħt id-direzzjoni ta’ Mro Dr Joseph Grech.

‘Opera vs Pop under the Stars’ se tkun l-14-il darba li sa tippreżenta il-‘Gozo Youth Orchestra’ bl-appoġġ sħiħ tal-Ministeru għal Għawdex u l-Ambaxxata Amerikana għal Malta nhar it-Tnejn l-1 ta’ Awwissu 2022 fil-bitħa tal-Ministeru għal Għawdex. Bil-problema tal-pandemija ma’ saqajna, dan l-ispettaklu mużikali ta’ bħal lum sena ma setax isir kif kien ipprogrammat. Din id-

sehem ta’ diversi kantanti magħrufa.

Fil-kunċert sa jieħdu sehem s-solisti is-Sopran maltija Nicola Said, il-Baxx minn Għawdex Noel Galea, it-Tenuri Pop Ludwig Galea u Francesco Nicodeme, u l-Pop Singer żagħżugħa Għawdxija Sarah Bonnici flimkien mal-kantanti Francesca Sciberras u Fabian Galea. Fl-ewwel parti tas-Serata l-orchestra dejjem taħt id-direzzjoni tal-Fundatur tagħha Mro Dr Joseph Grech tesegwixxi siltiet mużikali mill-opri u mużika klassika ta’ kompożituri

magħrufa filwaqt li fit-tieni parti nkunu nistgħu ngawdu arrangamenti Pop u mużika minn sound tracks tal-films u musicals popolari. Tickets jinkisbu billi wieħed jibbukja:

gozowindbandorchestra@yahoo.co.uk jew iċempel 99421611, 79421611.

Opera vs Pop under the Stars – l-14-il Edizzjoni ser issir bil-kollaborazzjoni sħiħa tal-Ministeru għal Għawdex, l-Ambaxxata Amerikana għal Malta, Direttorat tal-Wirt Kulturali fi ħdan il-Ministeru għal Għawdex, Arts Council Malta, The General Soft Drinks, Duke Boutique Hotel, Karkanja u MTA.

Kav Joe M Attard – PRO.



**The journal is a highlight of my week,
It's free, friendly and non-political**



J. Buttigieg

Enjoy an evening of Opera vs Pop Under the Stars in Gozo

[Gozo News](#)



Following thirteen previous successful editions of Opera vs Pop Under the Stars, The Gozo Youth Orchestra in collaboration with The Ministry for Gozo and Embassy of the United States of America said that it is presenting "Opera vs Pop Under the Stars – 14th Edition" with an "enhanced layout and a strong line-up of singers.

The concert will feature Soprano Nicola Said (Malta), Bass Noel Galea (Gozo, Malta), Pop Tenor Ludwig Galea (Malta), Pop Tenor Francesco Nicodeme (Malta) and Pop Singers Sarah Bonnici (Gozo, Malta) joined by Francesca Sciberras and Fabian Galea Pop singers from Gozo.

The Gozo Youth Orchestra will be under direction of its founder/musical director Mro Dr. Joseph Grech.

The first part of the programme will consist of classical and operatic songs and arias, followed by an array of lighter pop arrangements from soundtracks and musicals in the second part.

The concert is on Monday, the 1st of August, starting at 8.30pm. Patrons are requested to be seated at 8.15pm. The concert will be hosted by the Minister for Gozo Clint Camilleri and the Chargé d'Affaires, U.S. Embassy, Gwendolyn "Wendy" Green.

Tickets strictly by reservation and available by emailing: gozowindbandorchestra@yahoo.co.uk or phone on 9942 1611, 7942 1611.

Ever since its inception in 2002, The Gozo Youth Wind Band & Orchestra, consisting of two separate groups of young and promising musicians, have been entertaining the general public with a wide range of stylistic repertoire to the enjoyment of all age-groups.

Hailing from all over Gozo (and enriched with proficient guest musicians including foreign residents residing on the island), these young musicians meet regularly to prepare a wide spectrum of musical genre to be performed in various high-calibre events held from time to time in Gozo and Malta.

MISSIERI

Missieri dejjem jaħdem
f'temp ikrah jew sabiħ,
u meta jiġi lura
inkun qed nistennieh.

Għax-xogħol filgħodu jbakkar,
ma jħobb li jasal tard.
Il-kowt fix-xitwa jilbes
biex jilqa' ftit mill-bard.

Kultant joħroġni dawra
għalkemm ikun għajjen.
Ġieli sal-Belt immorru
jew mixja fil-widien.

Kultant jgħidli xi storja
illi xi darba grat,
waqt l-ikel jew flgħaxija,
ftit qabel hin l-irqad.,

Missieri jħobb il-festi
bil-baned u t-tiżjin,
il-knejjes tal-irħula
u t-toroq imzejnin.

Jien dejjem immur miegħu
biex nara n-nar tal-art,
u ndumu ħafna barra
meta jispiċċa tard.

Fid-dar ikollu x'jagħmel
tiswija jew tibjid.
La nikber nibda ngħinu
nagħtih xi daqqa t'id.

Poezija għat-tfal

F'JUM IL-MISSIER
19-06-2022



CHARLES CASHA

Dear Frank, it is so great getting the newsletter from you full of events, History', Maltese successes all over the world. Yes, Malta is so small that it is often left out of maps and yet there is so much going on everywhere where Maltese live! Some years ago my husband and I went for a holiday to Norfolk Island having read so much about its history. of course we visited the museum where the items from the mutiny on the Bounty had ended up. We went on a trip on a glass bottom boat and the man who took us around was of Maltese descent and married to a direct descendant of Fletcher Christian.

Regards and thanks again

Sincerely,,
Georgina Scillio
Melbourne



Qarabali Mimli – A Maltese Stuffed Courgette Recipe (Vegan)

Healthy Food / By Geraldine Bartolo

Qarabali Mimli is a Maltese stuffed courgette recipe. At just 70 calories per serving, this vegetarian dish is the perfect recipe for weight loss.

Qarabali mimli il-forn is one of Malta's most loved comfort foods. 'Qarabali' in English translates to courgettes or marrows or zucchini, depending on your location.

In Maltese cuisine, qarabali mimli refers to stuffed round courgettes and not the long 'stuffed zucchini boat'. In this part of the Mediterranean, round courgettes are much more popular than the cucumber looking type.

Since this is a hugely popular traditional Maltese recipe, I grew up eating it very frequently. Although I must admit, as a kid, it was never really one of my favourites. Mainly due to the fact that I didn't quite like vegetables in general. My mum struggled to make me and my brother eat our greens and always used to come up with every possible invention to sneak some veggies into our food.

As my tastebuds matured, I grew to love this Maltese food and it became a staple in my meal planning. I love to prepare a large batch of this delightful treat and keep it stored in the freezer for those days when I have 0 time to cook.

Qarabali Mimli are traditionally stuffed with minced meat in tomato sauce and topped with a generous helping of Cheese. This one's a vegan twist on the classic, making it a fantastic recipe for weight loss.

How to make stuffed courgettes

This vegetarian stuffed courgette recipe is fairly simple to make. All you need to do is boil the lentils and meanwhile, stir fry the main ingredients in olive oil. You then add the lentils and some seasoning to the mix and stuff it into the cored marrow. The hardest part is waiting patiently for the courgettes to bake for around 45 minutes.



And voila, you've got yourself a totally filling, divine tasting, healthy lunch or snack.

What's not to love about food which is nutritious and healthy yet tastes just as incredible?

These lovely lentil and mushroom stuffed courgettes surely taste like a treat and are an awesome twist on the well-loved food. And to top it all, lentils come packed with numerous health benefits. They're a great source of protein and dietary fibre and are also rich in iron, minerals and B-Vitamins. Not to mention that they're an inexpensive and easy to cook ingredient, what more could you possibly wish for?

Did I mention that this stuffed courgette recipe contains ONLY 70 calories per serving? Now that's an awesome treat, especially for those on a diet! And I can promise you that it tastes so much more decadent than the calories it contains! If you're set on losing weight, tasty recipes like this one can be a real godsend. It's nice to eat something that really tastes like comfort food without the calories.

If you're wondering what to do with the courgette flesh, don't throw this away. You can use the zucchini flesh to make soup, fritters, or even some zucchini bread if sweets are more your thing. Speaking of which, don't forget to check out the [diet recipes](#) section for a bunch of guilt-free sweet recipes that will make you forget you're on a diet.

Want to discover more Maltese recipes? Check out this [stuffed aubergine \(brungiel mimli\)](#) recipe and this low calorie [baked pasta casserole](#)!



Why were 2,000 Maltese civilians interned in Italian Concentration Camps during WW2?

Norma Saliba

A TVM investigation has uncovered the harrowing story of 2,000 Maltese individuals who during the Second World War were removed for internment in Italy. This fate was shared by all members of the Maltese community in Tripoli, a good number of whom were born in Malta or Gozo. The vast majority of them survived the war years in concentration camps alongside internees from Slovenia and Croatia, Italian political prisoners and Jews.

New TVM documentary sheds light on their forgotten plight

Mario Xuereb meets former Maltese internees and other members of the Tripolini community in Australia – they gather every Wednesday at the Tripoli Social Club in Melbourne

Researched and written by TVM journalist Mario Xuereb, the documentary “Maltin Internati fl-Italja – Storja Vera” (Maltese Internees in Italy – a True Story) will reveal the hitherto unknown ordeal hundreds of families passed through during the war away from their place of birth. The first episode of the documentary is scheduled for transmission on Tuesday 25 September on TVM at 9.30pm (CET).

Evidence of the forgotten plight of the Maltese Tripolini is found in the historical documents held in several archives all over Italy. The documents caught TVM's attention as Italian researchers were conducting research on concentration camps built by the Italian Fascist Regime for the confinement of war internees.

The documents include lists with scores of Maltese names of individuals who between 1940 and 1945 were interned in Italy. The documents also include references to single anecdotes and to the sufferings experienced by the Maltese



during their time in Italy: hunger, imprisonment, beatings, rape and death.

A group of Maltese internees at Fossoli concentration camp in 1944

The majority of the internees returned home at the end of the war in 1945 only to find that they had lost everything and had to start afresh.

During its investigation TVM identified and interviewed a number of Maltese who survived the concentration camps and the internment in various Italian communities..

Most of the interviews were conducted in Melbourne in Australia where a good number of former internees re-built their lives. Others shared their stories from Canada and Malta. A TVM crew carried out interviews and filmed on site at two major Fascist Concentration Camps, set up by the Italian Regime during the Second World War, the remains of which are still standing.



The former internees themselves have spoken to TVM about the painful memories and the brutalities themselves and their peers had to endure. They also confirmed the contents of the documents as recorded by the Italian Fascist bureaucracy and prison guards.

An interview with former internee Jane Zammit nee Cassar

The stories of the Maltese who lived in the concentration camp

Concetta Ellul tells of the day when her father was mortally wounded in the concentration camp at Le Fraschette and also of how her sister was raped by

German soldiers.

Rita Meilak, at the time Camilleri, recalls how all the Italians at Fiumi were fascists who viewed the Maltese with contempt. Jane Zammit nee Cassar speaks about how Italians in central Italy looked down upon the Maltese because of their roots and taunted them about the outcome of the war.

On the other hand, Piero Grech praises the citizens of Modena and Carpi for showing mercy and for lending a helping hand to the Maltese held at Campo Fossoli.

In 1943 there were 800 Maltese internees at Le Fraschette concentration camp

The TV documentary provides insights into life in the concentration camps with exclusive photos showing hundreds of Maltese inside the concentration camps.



Italy attacks Malta - 1940



IN LOVING MEMORY OF



NINU
5 YEARS



NINA FARRUGIA
25 YEARS



JOE
4 YEARS

FIRST AIR RAID VICTIMS AT 6.30 AM
WHO LOST THEIR LIVES THROUGH ENEMY ACTION
ON TUESDAY 11TH JUNE 1940
AT PIETA



Malta Summer Festival - Opera Gala

The MPO performs in a star-studded night at Fort St Elmo in its first concert as part of the Malta Summer Festival.

Considered as one of the finest tenors of his generation, Vittorio Grigolo leads the artist line-up in a gala night celebrating opera. Marina


Monzó and Maltese soprano Nicola Said join the fray with the MPO under the baton of Festival Artistic Director Oliver Díaz interpreting a number of renowned works from the genre's repertoire.

This concert is part of the Malta Summer Festival presented by the MPO in collaboration with Arts Council Malta and Malta Tourism Authority with the support of Hilton Malta and the Ministry of Gozo.

DATES: 16/07/2022 TIME: 8:15PM LOCATION: Fort St Elmo, Valletta

MORE INFO: <https://maltaorchestra.com/events/opera-gala/>





It is estimated that there are
950 000 Maltese all
over the world

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We Wish all our Maltese Canadian readers

1 JULY
HAPPY
**CANADA
DAY**



St. Nicholas Feast at Plumpton NSW

Maltese American Community Club

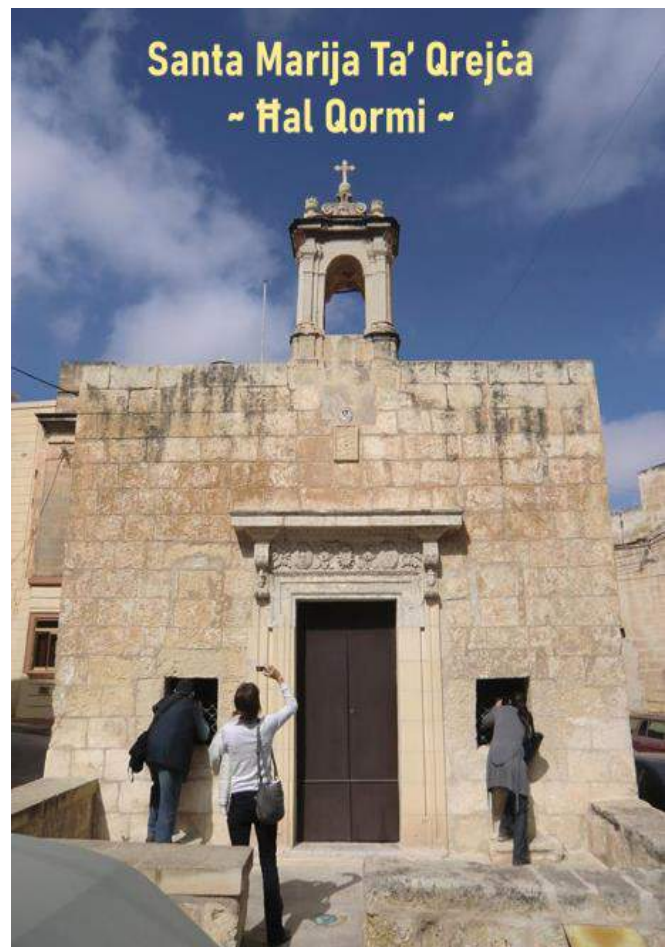


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~ Ħal Qormi ~**

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