



# Maltese Newsletter

Journal of Maltese Living Abroad

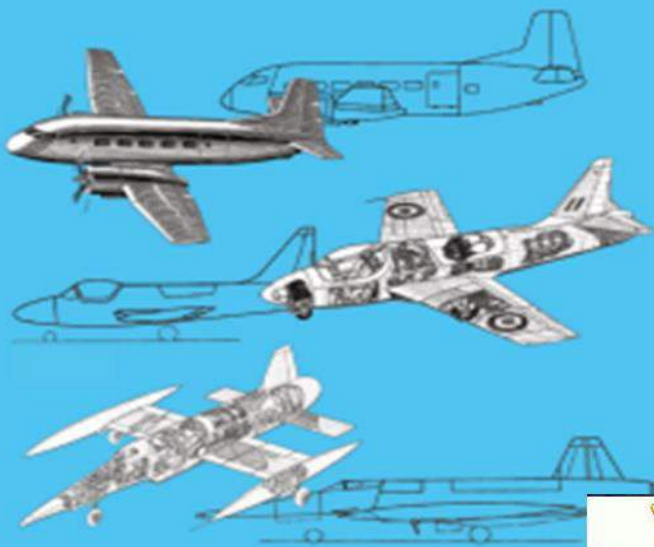
Editor: Frank Scicluna

OAM MQR JP

Contact: [maltesejournal@gmail.com](mailto:maltesejournal@gmail.com)



## Aircraft Projects of the Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation

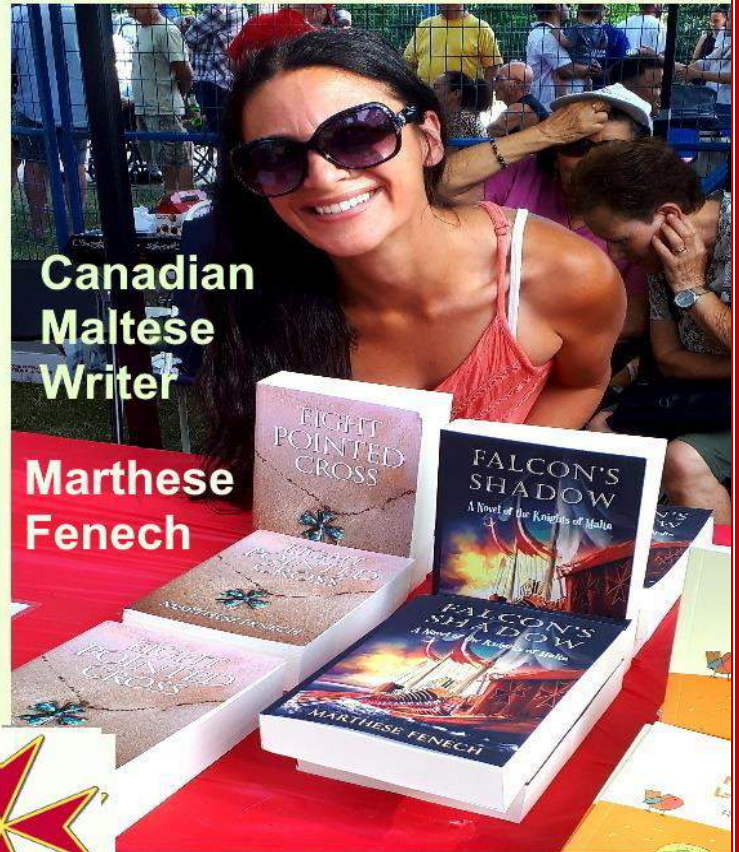


**Joe Vella**



**Canadian  
Maltese  
Writer**

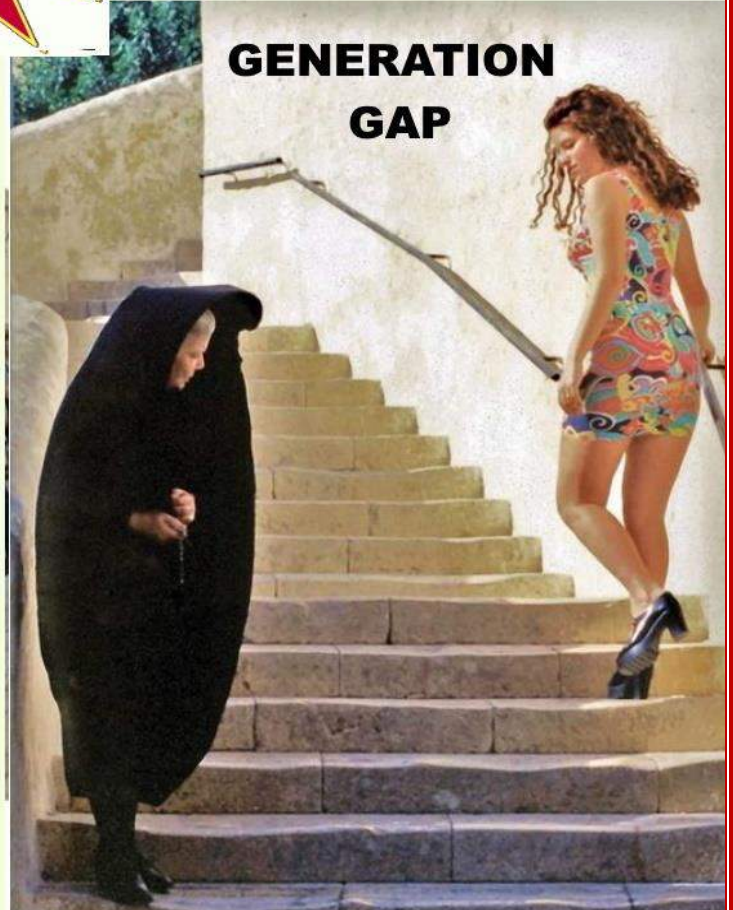
**Marthese  
Fenech**



**MADSAN TRIO**



**GENERATION  
GAP**



**80TH  
ANNIVERSARY  
OF MALTA  
RECEIVING  
THE  
GEORGE CROSS**

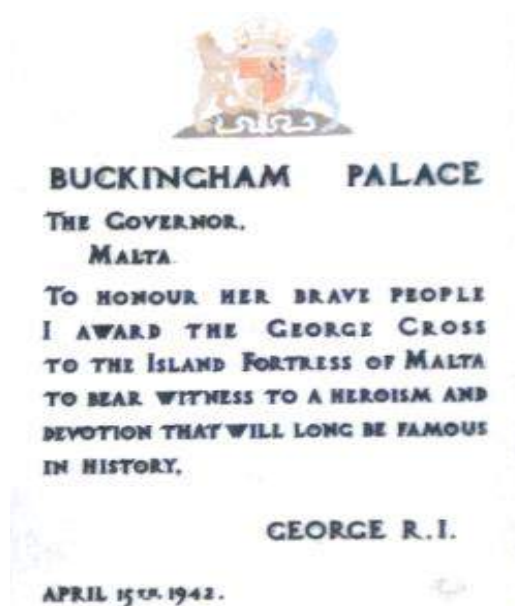




80 years ago, on the 15th April 1942, the island of Malta was awarded the Commonwealth's highest civilian decoration for courage and heroism by King George VI with the citation:

***"To honour her brave people I award the George Cross to the Island Fortress of Malta to bear witness to a heroism and devotion that will long be famous in history".***

The medal was carried by the new governor to the island, arriving at Kalafrana seaplane base on May 7th during one of the many daily air raids endured by the island. It was then formally presented to the people on the 13th September once the air raids had declined to an acceptable level in a ceremony on the Palace Square, Valetta. The George Cross was incorporated into the Maltese flag in 1943, appearing in the upper left-hand corner. The medal was displayed throughout Malta and Gozo and after the war it was displayed annually on the Palace Square until 1971 when it was withdrawn from view. The medal can now be seen at the Malta National War Museum in Valetta.



**F'kamra ssiġġillata ma' erbgha min-nies morda bil-COVID.**

KITBA TA' TONY C. CUTAJAR OAM



Kien it-Tnejn filghodu meta waqajt hdejn is-sodda li la l-mara u lanqas il-helper tagħna ma felhu jqajmuni mill-art. Bl-isforzi ta' sitt idejn irnexxielna iżda f'it wara rġajt waqajt qabel qbadt ninzel it-taraġ. Kont sturdut u ħassejt nuqqas ta' saħħa f'saqajja,

għalhekk il-helper marret titlob l-għajjuna ta' wieħed mill-ġirien tagħna waqt li kienet pronta ċomplet għall-ambulanza.

Wasalna Mater Dei u f'siġġu tar-roti ħaduni f'kamra kemxejn żgħira, mudlama u mingħajr twieqi. Fuq barra kellha miktub COVID ZONE. NO ENTRY. Jiena ħadt qatgħa għax ma kontx naf li kelli l-epidemija. Imma l-akbar qatgħa ħadtha meta sibt ruħi ġewwa. Kienet kamra kerha mimlija komodini, sodod, purtieri u magni jaħdmu l-ħin kollha mal-ħitan. Lanqas kien hemm fejn tiċċaqlaq. Kamra ffullata anke b'numru ta' infermieri lebsin stramb u ħadd ma jgħid kelma.

Ħassejtni qisni diehel San Quentin jew Quantamo. L-infermieri ma kienux jingħarfu jekk hux irġiel jew nisa. Kollha dehru li kienu minn pajjiżi differenti, speċjalment mill-Amerka jew l-Afrika ta' Isfel. Kollha kienu lebsin żewġ maskri, b'oħra fuq rashom, bl-ingwanti u bi lbies tal-plastik twil sa saqajhom. Ħadd ma seta' jidhol biex jiġi jarana. L-uniku kuntatt li kellna ma' tad-dar kien permezz tal-mobile.

Darba minnhom jien tfixkilt u minflok dħalt mill-bieb tat-toilet kont ħiereġ fejn kien hemm tal-għassa. Trid tara l-mossi tal-idejn u l-eċċitament eżaġerat biex nerġa' lura.

tan-negozju. Wara sirt naf li wara li kien ħa l-aħħar booster kellu jgħatta' ġimghat sħaħ jingħata terapija intensiva qabel iddaħħal f'dik il-kamra sitt ġimghat qabel. Ma sata' jzomm xejn fl-istonku tiegħu.

Faċċata tiegħi kien hemm raġel ieħor b'nofs siequ maqtugħa barra. Kien jeqred u spiss jibki li wliedu ma ridux jafu bih u lanqas riedu jixtrulu mobile. Ipprovajt nissimpatizza ruħi miegħu iżda tant kien jittellem minn taħt l-isien li qatt ma stajt nifhmu. Kien jisfoga billi jgħajjat "Xi dwejjaq għandi! Xi dwejjaq għandi." Bl-lejl minflok jorqod kien jipprova jaqbad xi diskursata twila ma' xi ħadd. Għalxejn konna nsikkth.

Fuq kull naħa tiegħu kien hemm żewġ nisa, tant differrenti minn xulxin. Waħda kienet xiħa għakka, fuq ruhha, allavolja kollha mkemmxa, tipprova tkompli ma' kulħadd iżda f'it jagħtu kasha. Kultant kienet taqbad twerżaq għalxejn b'xejn – l-istess dwejjaq li kellha, b'mod speċjali bil-lejl. Xi ljieli bl-kemm stajt norqod minħabba t-twerżieq tax-xwejha jew it-tgedwid u l-għajjat imdejjaq ta' dak li kien quddiem.

In-naħa l-oħra kien hemm tfajla ta' xi 25 sena, mara misterjuża għall-aħħar. Kienet titħalla tippassiġġa l-ħin kollu b'daħqa sarkastika, tgħaddi minn qalb il-purtieri u tara kif tagħmel biex turina t-tpiġġiet kbar li kellha ma' saqajha u ma' għonqha. Rari kont taraha liebsa sew, speċjalment fuq in-naħa ta' wara. Kellha xeħta' ta' saħħara b'dik it-tbissima falza hi u titkellem waħedha u tagħmel ċerti sinjali lil ħadd speċjali. Jiena qatt ma smajtha titkellem għax dejjem kienet titkellem jew waħedha minn taħt l-ilsien jew bis-sinjali.

Il-kbar kienu jinjorawha għalkollox, iżda kienet saret popolari ma' xi wħud mill-infermieri żgħażaġħ li kienu jjeqfu jittawlulha u anke jkellmuha. Never a dull moment, irrespective. Meta dħalt l-isptar it-tabib qalli li ma ridniex nibqa' fis-sodda iżda nimxi kemm nista' biex insaħħaħ l-muskoli ta' saqajja. Jien hekk xtaqt iżda fejn stajt timxi f'post ristrett bħal dak? Fuq kollox, l-infermiera ma tawnix permess inniżzel saqajja mal-art.

Fit-tieni jum ideċidejt li nagħmel waħda minn tiegħi. Tlabt lil wieħed infermier Tork biex ineħħili l-labra li kienet torbotni minn driegħi mas-sodda biex ningħata d-destrosju. Għall-ewwel tkerrah u xengel rasu kemm-il darba, imbagħad donnu ried jgħinni.

Iżda l-mod kif ċarratli l-labra minn driegħi b'ċerta supervja ħariġli ħafna demm. Ma setax iħallini hekk u kien pront iffaxxali l-ferita li baqgħet immarkata sal-aħħar ġurnata.

Kont ġibtha żewġ u qbadt nippassiġġa għal ftit minuti t- tul qasir tal-kamra fost il-ħars ikrah tal-infermiera l- oħra. It-tielet jum kellna grupp ġdid ta' infermiera li xejn ma kellhom x'jaqsmu ma' ta' qabilhom. Mhux talli hallewni mill-irbit għal ħin qasir ħalli nkun nista' nippassiġġa, talli anke mxew miegħi.

L-għada kmieni waslet infermiera u bla kliem u bla sliem qabdet tippakkjali kollox f'boroż suwed tal-pastik. Staqsejtha x'kienet qed tagħmel u għaliex iżda bqajt mingħajr twegħiba. Hsibt li forsi kont sejjer id-dar. Rikkbitni fuq siġġu tar-roti u għamilna ħin twil resqin lejn parti oħra tal-isptar. Kienu swali u passaġġi wesgħin u sbieħ ħafna. Hassejtni f'xi palazz. "Kemmm hu kbir hawn," għeditliha.

"Mela int qatt ma ġejt hawn? Kemmm ilek toqgħod hawn Malta?" staqsietni b'aċċent barrani. "Illi 85 sena, mindu twelidt." Wara ħin twil sewwa wasslitli f'sala ferm differenti mill- ewwel waħda. Kien post wiesa' imdawwal bi twieqi kbar jagħtu fuq ġonna u bini. Kien post immarkat ukoll bil-kliem COVID ZONE. NO ENTRY. Xorta waħda sibt ruhi magħluq u maqtuġħ mill-kumplement tad-dinja iżda l-infermiera kienu ħafna aktar rilassati u umani, anke jekk ħafna minnhom ma kontx tifhimhom kelma waħda. Hawn stajt ninzel mis-sodda biex nippassiġġa fil-kamra. Wara jumejn ħassejtni tajjeb u stajt nintbagħat id-dar. Il-kura li ngħatajt għamlitli tajjeb u reġgħet tatni s-saħħa.

Nirringrazzja lill-Mulej u lit-tobba Maltin li għamlu xogħol tajjeb u ferm dedikat. Iżda n-nies morda bil-Covid baqgħu dejjem deħlin Mater Dei.



The Republic of Malta will compete at the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham, England between 28 July and 8 August 2022. It will be Malta's fourteenth appearance at the Games.

Malta entered the Commonwealth in 1964 but made their debut at

the 1958 Games in Cardiff, Wales. Since then they have attended all Games bar 3 editions and have enjoyed medal success in judo and shooting. With the latter Malta enjoyed silver and bronze success at the 2006 Games in Melbourne. They participated in athletics, lawn bowls, shooting, squash and wrestling at the 2010 Games in Delhi.

In 2003 the Mediterranean island successfully hosted the Games for the Small States of Europe and were chosen as the venue for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in December 2005 and again in 2015.

The Malta Olympic Committee is affiliated to the International Olympic Committee, Comité International des Jeux Méditerranéens, Commonwealth Games Federation, and the European Committee of the Games of Small States of Europe. The NOC is responsible for its participation in the Commonwealth Games and Commonwealth Youth Games.

**BUILDING BRIDGES NOT WALLS**





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

Press Release 12/2022  
 5/07/2022

**Subject: Floods warnings in New South Wales**

The High Commission of Malta for Australia urges all Maltese in areas affected by flooding in New South Wales to heed the warnings and advise of the local authorities. Updated emergency situation information may be accessed from <https://www.ses.nsw.gov.au/>.

The High Commission of Malta in Canberra and the Consulates General of Malta in Sydney and Melbourne may be contacted at :

Malta High Commission in Canberra  
 Tel: 02 6290 1847; 65290 1724 & 6290 1573  
 Mobile: 0433 799 746  
 Email address: [highcommission.canberra@gov.mt](mailto:highcommission.canberra@gov.mt)

Consulate General of Malta in Sydney  
 Tel: 02 9262 9500  
 Mobile: 0430 402 177  
 Email Address: [maltaconsulate.sydney@gov.mt](mailto:maltaconsulate.sydney@gov.mt)

Consulate General of Malta in Melbourne  
 Tel: 03 9670 8427  
 Mobile: 0430 378 407  
 Email Address: [maltaconsulate.melbourne@gov.mt](mailto:maltaconsulate.melbourne@gov.mt)



## **L-IKEL TAN-NANNA! HELU MANNA**

Il-ħoss tal-ispiritiera kien jibda' jistema' minn kmieni filgħodu meta lanqas tkun għada feġġet ix-xemx. Il-pitrolju ta' ġo fiha kien ikompli jżid mal-irwejjaħ tad-dar.

Pero' ftit wara din ir-riħa kerha, kienet tinbidel f'waħda li timla' d-dar b'riħa tfuħ u taqşam ta' ikel li kien jissajjar bil-mod il-mod matul il-ġurnata.

L-istess riħa kienet tasal tul it-triq kont, fejn kont ixxomm l-irwejjaħ ta' kull haġa li qed issir minn kull min joqgħod fl-inħawi.

U sakemm l-ikel kien qed itektek, kont probabbli tisma' l-ġara qed tħabbatlek (sakemm ma taqbadx

u tidhol ukoll!) għax naqasha xi naqra tewm, jew bżonn ta' xi ftit tursin. Jekk mhux għal haġa, ibqa' ċert li kienet tiġi għal oħra.

Imma l-ikel tan-Nanna kien ikun tajjeb wisq. Kien joġġob lil kulhadd, tant li kulhadd kien isib xi skuża sabiex jgħaddi jżurha u fl-istess ħin iduq ftit minn dik it-tjubija. Dan kien iwassalni li mhux l-ewwel darba ma ridtx xejn biex minn dak li kienet tlesti ommi, u nispiċċa niekol xejn. Jaħasra, minn kollox kienet tagħmel biex forsi niekol minn tagħha.

Darba niftakar in-Nanna għamlitli laħam fuq il-fwar, u ma setgħax jonqos, la kien tan-Nanna, kiltu kollu. Lil ommi għidtilha li ma tagħmlux tajjeb daqs tan-Nanna! Niftakar sew, li kien niżilli għasel!

Pero', meta kbirt sirt naf li dakinhar il-laħam kien minn ta' ommi, u lestietu n-Nanna!



## **MMG Concert Band of Victoria**

**3 others**

at **Bunnings Warehouse Australia (Sunshine).**

**Melbourne, VIC**

How do you like the Bunnings Sausage?

Our members of the crew are in and ready for your orders at Bunnings Sunshine.

We would love your support.



## MARTHERSE FENECH WRITES FROM CANADA

### Hello Friends

First, I hope you are happy and healthy. I know I am. And am I ever grateful to be. After an almost year-long absence from blogging, I'm so pleased to share my latest post, an emotional piece detailing not only the condition that forced me to travel to Europe for critically-needed surgery but also how writing helped save me. Fans of *Stranger Things* will understand the title of my blog post, *The pain was my Vecna; the writing, my Kate Bush*. If, however, this reference is meaningless to you, the article will provide some context. Click here to read about my journey.

And while on the subject of joyful things, I would also like to extend a wealth of gratitude to the wonderful organizers of this year's *Imnarja* Festival in Toronto (also known as Malta Fest) for having my novels on display and available for purchase even though



I could not guarantee my attendance due to my continued recovery from the above-mentioned medical procedure. Fortunately, I *did* manage to make it out for a couple of hours. Such a fun, memorable event that drew over a thousand people. I really enjoyed reconnecting with the Maltese community after Covid

forced the cancellation of previous events. The Kinne flowed, the sun shone, and the bouncy castle... bounced.

A vendor had some fabulous *Mela* t-shirts for sale as well. For those unfamiliar, the term has a plethora of meanings: *Of course! Certainly, Sure, So...*, and even a sarcastic, *Yeah, right*. It starts with sentences. Ends them. It's often just filler.

A massive congratulations and well-done to the organizers, sponsors, performers, volunteers, and vendors. And so much gratitude for including my work at *L'Imnarja - Malta Fest*. You can read about the festival here.

*Ash Fall*, the third novel in my *Siege of Malta* trilogy remains on track for its September 8 release. *Mela*, till we speak again, my friend, Marthese Fenech – Canada

### MALTA'S POPULATION INCREASES BY NEARLY 100 000

Last year, Malta's population reached 520,971 – an increase of 98,462 over the 422,509 figure registered in 2012.

The increase in persons born in the country decreased from 712 in 2012 to 232 in 2021 – this was the lowest natural increase registered during the past 10 years.

The migration increase trend continued with 2021 registering 4,639 more arrivals than departure of persons. 18,148 persons arrived in Malta while 13,509 emigrated from the country last year. The figures were issued by the National Statistics Office on the occasion of the World Population Day.

THE 2022-23  
**HOROSCOPE**  
BY PAULJON

exclusively on  
**amazonkindle**

Namaste PaulJon Aquilina <dspiritualist@pauljon13.com>



## Episodes from the history of migration we never forget



Giuseppe (Joseph) Farrugia was born 22 July 1911 in Msida, Malta, and died 8 July 1991 in Mildura Victoria. His parents were Annunziato (Lonzza) Farrugia (1882-1938) and Maria Carmela Borg (1886-1962). His wife was Maria Rosaria Filletti (1915-1997). They had four sons and one daughter.

Joseph, a plumber, travelled to Australia on the Asturias in May 1949. He had a choice to work at Woomera or Snowy Mountains (choosing Woomera), and at the time they were only accepting



tradesmen to come out to Australia on a Free or assisted passage, but he needed to work for about 2 years before he could bring the rest of the family out.

In June 1952, 3 of their sons (Charles, Joseph & John) travelled to Sydney also on the Asturias. They were aged 14, 10 & 8 respectively. Their daughter, Maria Annunziata (Mary Nancy, aged 12) followed on the Toscana in September 1952 with the youngest son, Emmanuel (Bill) who was 5.

His wife Maria stayed in Malta. These photos of Joseph and others on the Asturias have been kindly supplied by his grandson, Peter Williams (Qld).



**A group of Maltese boys before leaving Malta in 1950**

## Did you know... that 310 Maltese child migrants were sent to Australia?

*Maltese children at Bindoon Boys' Town 1952. Reproduced courtesy State Library of Western Australia, The Batty Library 005086D.*

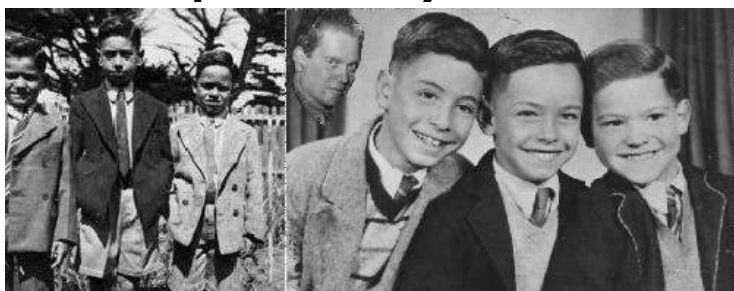
### Stolen Childhoods

Hundreds of Maltese children were shipped to Australia after World War II, only to be stripped of their identities, used as slave labour and abused. Years later, they still bare the scars of their savage treatment.

In 1928 Perth-based Maltese priest Father Raphael Pace urged the Christian Brothers to include Maltese children in its emerging migration scheme. Negotiations between the Maltese and Western Australian Governments continued through the 1930s but the first Maltese child migrants did not arrive in Australia until after World War II. Between 1950 and 1965, 259 boys and 51 girls were sent to Catholic institutions in Western Australia and South Australia.

Most parents believed their children would receive a better education in Australia. Instead many were put to work on the Christian Brothers' building projects and left to endure the same punishments and abuses as their British counterparts. Some were forced to stop using their Maltese language and never learned to read or write English.

## The Azzopardi Family



Mary and her three boys - Tony, 5 years, Roger, 4 years and Godwin, 3 years - migrated from Malta to Australia, arriving on 25th August 1949. Father 'Edgar Azzopardi' had arrived earlier to work on a farm in Narrawong, near Portland, Victoria. The family was sponsored by the farmer as there was a shortage of farm hands after the war. Our parents felt there would be a better future for the children in Australia. As a four year old on the SS Asturias I recall getting lost on this enormous ship, and the purser eventually taking me back to my mother. I also recall my mother

buying wares off the boats that came out to the ship in the Port of Aden. They would raise baskets on ropes with the wares in them and then lower them again with money to pay for them. There are many members of the extended families now, and all are residing in Australia. Roger Azzopardi Melbourne February 2010

*In 1948 Australia signed an assisted passage agreement with Malta, the first that Australia had made with any country other than Britain. This resulted in large numbers of arrivals, peaking in the 1950s, with many hundreds travelling on the SS Asturias.*

*The passenger lists indicate that most were young tradesmen, many travelling with brothers but without their parents. Maltese passengers who arrived on the Asturias are invited to submit their stories for publication.*



**This nostalgic photo captures the spirit and journey of other new arrivals to Australia.**

**In this picture Mrs Mary Borg, a Maltese migrant, is with her nine children arriving in Australia on the 3 May 1971 on the liner Achille Lauro.**



**LIFE IS DIFFICULT WHEN YOU CANNOT SPEAK***CHARLES ABELA family gathering.*

*Charles Abela suffered a debilitating stroke some years ago which left him unable to speak and forced him into early retirement. His body language and non-verbal communication skills are the cues he uses to express himself in all matters.*

*Although these skills are highly developed just imagine for yourself the frustration of communicating your every need in this way for the rest of your life, and still maintain a sense of humour as this man has*

*done.*

*We are grateful to his son, David, for providing the story of his father's migration experience.*

"Dad first came out to Australia by himself on 21 May 1949. He was 18 years old.

Dad spent six years working in Australia sending money to his mother and family. He worked on the railways as a shunter. He bought his first home in Brunswick and took in boarders to help pay it off.

Soon after arriving in Australia dad's brother, Joe came out and lived with him for a while before moving to Canberra.

In 1957 dad decided to go back to Malta for a while and worked there as a dockyard policeman. In this time he met mum (Tessie Bonett) and got married. Mum was 23 years old.

At the time two of mum's brothers were in Australia and were keen for the rest of the family to come out, so when dad and mum got married mum's parents and her two sisters and four brothers came out with them by ship. It took one month to sail to Australia and this was mum and dad's honeymoon.

When everyone arrived, the family rented a house in Brunswick for a year until buying their own houses. Dad got a job on the tramways as a tram conductor where he spent thirty years before having to retire due to his stroke four years ago. Dad worked hard, doing lots of overtime to pay off his new house and raise his family.

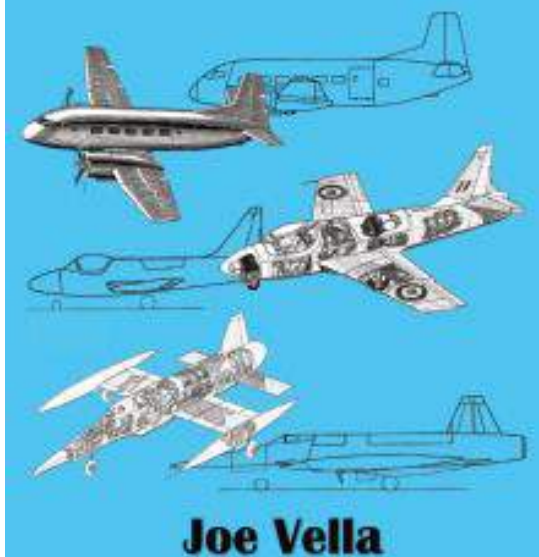
Dad and mum had three boys; David who was born in 1959,

Frankie in 1962, and Martin in 1971. The family grew up firstly in Rennie Street, Coburg and then moved to the present house in Reservoir.

Since dad's stroke, he has missed working as a tram conductor

where he enjoyed meeting and talking to people. The thing dad and mum find most difficult now is dad not being able to communicate as easily as before and it sometimes takes hours to get a simple message through. However, it is getting better. There is more understanding and eventually mum and dad work things out.

Dad enjoys the socialising he does at the Maltese Community Centre and other places he goes to and this gives mum a chance to catch up on things she wants to do such as going shopping or visiting friends. Unfortunately mum does not drive so it is difficult for them to go out together without one of the sons driving them."

**AVIATION HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA****RECORDING THE NATION'S AVIATION HERITAGE****Aircraft Projects of  
the Commonwealth  
Aircraft Corporation**

The AHSA is pleased to announce the publication of an exciting new book by AHSA member Joe Vella – *Aircraft Projects of Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation*.

Joe began writing this book in 1983 when he was invited by the management of CAC to conduct an independent review and compilation of the company's historical archives. When the company was taken over by Hawker de Havilland in July 1985 the official impetus for a company history evaporated. But Joe continued with his writing and tried unsuccessfully to attract interest from publishers.

The hand-typed manuscript languished in storage for many years until the concept of self-publishing and print on-demand came into vogue. With some encouragement and mentoring in desktop publishing software, Joe decided to move down this path and so the typed manuscript was scanned and optical-character-recognition employed to convert the files to editable text. The manuscript was also extended to cover the years beyond the takeover by Hawker

de Havilland and other entities, a period not included in the original work.

The finished book is an invaluable reference to the aircraft projects commenced by CAC – a total of 106 projects are described. These include projects which were brief conceptual works all the way to projects which entered series production. The political and economic context of the projects is also explained. The projects are outlined in chronological order, making the book easy to follow. A major feature of the book are 114 line drawings prepared by Joe specifically for this publication, which illustrate the projects and complement the many CAC factory drawings also included. Data tables covering performance and dimensions for most of the project also complement the narrative.

The book contains 408 pages, including a comprehensive index. Chapters in the book are as follows: i. Introduction: A brief company history (29 pages)

- 1) Build-up to war
- 2) First-generation jet fighters
- 3) Basic trainer thinking
- 4) Fast jets and Sabre prospects
- 5) Winjeel derivatives, private aircraft venture and naval work
- 6) Supersonic trainer/attack aircraft
- 7) Commuter aircraft, helicopters and naval exports
- 8) System upgrades, MB326H concepts and submarine detection
- 9) Light transports and light military support aircraft
- 10) Advanced and basic trainer aircraft concepts – a last fling
- 11) Post company merger projects
- 12) Aero engine work

(317 pages for the above chapters)

The book also includes comprehensive appendices:

- 1) CAC Company Data



- 2) The Government's Control of the Aircraft Industry
  - 3) CAC Logos
  - 4) Selected Design & Program Management Personnel (brief biographies)
  - 5) An Explanation of Constructor Number Revisions
  - 6) Design Families
  - 7) Organisation Charts
  - 8) Factory Layout
  - 9) Contract Number List (As issued by CAC)
  - 10) Production Aircraft List (As issued by CAC)
  - 11) Aircraft Constructor Numbers
  - 12) CAC Project and Drawing Number Systems
  - 13) Design Origin Background
- (18 pages for the above appendices)



Also included is a 23-page photographic addenda of images collected during the editing of the book. A comprehensive index is also included.

The book is available through online bookstores for a recommended retail price of \$65. ISBN 9780645185904

See the following distributors, and search for the best price on offer:

[Booktopia](#) [Amazon](#) [Fishpond](#) [Angus & Robertson](#)

## **The Muxrabija By Old Houses Malta**

[www.oldhousesmalta.com](http://www.oldhousesmalta.com)

Muxra xiex? In reality they are not very common in Maltese houses anymore. However, it is said, that the Muxrabija is the great ancestor of the Maltese wooden balcony.

### **The Origin**

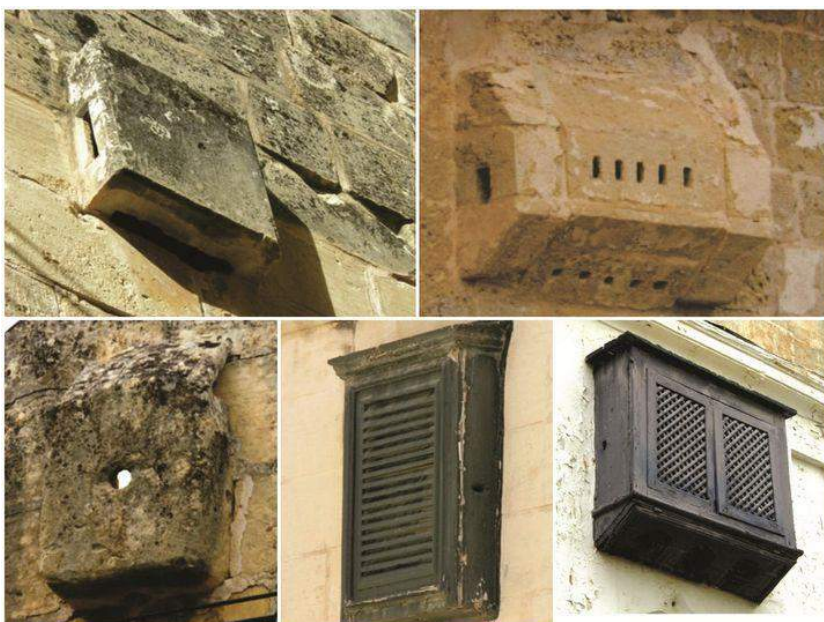
In Maltese architecture, the earliest version of the muxrabija, dates back to the late Middle Ages (1300-1400) and were probably introduced through cultural contacts the islands had with the Arab world.

The Muxrabija, or Muxrafija is a creation of the Islamic culture. Mushrabiya in Arabic means in

literally a peep hole, looking from the inside outwards. The oldest mushrabiya dates back to the IX century and could have also been introduced on the islands indirectly by the Spanish or Sicilians.

### **The Purpose**

In most common cases the Muxrabija was a wooden frame which screened the window space completely. This allowed the person on the inside to observe outside, and yet not being visible to the people on the street. At the time, the Islamic traditional society was completely dominated by men. Women were not allowed to socialize with the world outside. So, practically the muxrabija was a window to the outside world for women at the time. This kept them safe and shielded from prying eyes. They



were also used as a cooling device for water storage and as a security measure to see who was at the door or on the approaching roads.

### **The Design**

Older muxrabiji in Malta were made of stone, since at the time trees were scarcely found on the islands.



These can be rarely found these days, in fact one can mostly find 'muxrabiji' made of wood. One of the strangest muxrabiji can be found in Tal-Karmnu Street, Victoria Gozo, in the 'Mandragg' area, the Arab quarters of Victoria. Another one can be found on the roof of 84, Santu Rokku Street, Birkirkara. The house where the well-known Censu Borg (Brared) used to reside during the French rule in Malta. This is a stone 'muxrabija' with a decorative style incorporated to it.

Some of the 'Muxrabiji' found around Malta and Gozo

- Tal-Karmnu Street, Victoria Gozo, Sqaq il-Qajjied, Siggiewi, Santu Rokku Street, Birkirkara Ta' Ghammar, Gozo Il-Knisja Street, Gharb Doni Street, Rabat Malta
- Ta' Monita, Marsascale

The Muxrabija is also mentioned in one of Sir Temi Zammit's stories 'Lejla Bint Hassan' from the collection of short stories 'Nies bla sabar u stejjer ohra'.

## **TRIBUTE TO MALTA'S SACRED MUSIC PATRIMONY**



It was a great honour to have been invited and attended the special concert encompassed in the research and execution process addressing the "REVIVAL OF OUR MUSIC HERITAGE".

Saturday 7 May 2022 is a landmark date in the appreciation of our national sacred music goldmine, set in the magnificent Church of St Philip of Agira in Haz-Zebbug, an event excellently organized by the 12<sup>th</sup> May Band and Social Club. As a result of this Society's diversification approach, the execution of researched sacred music compositions was rendered by a well-balanced orchestra complemented by soloists and choir of the Cappella BEL CANTO under the professional baton of Mro Hermann Farrugia Frantz.

I strongly cherish this special program that brought to light sacred works several of whom performed after many years and re-discovered in the Archives of the Gozo Cathedral, of Mdina, of Wignacout, Rabat and of the Haz-Zebbug Parish Church.

**CAV DOTT TONIO PORTUGHESE**

**International Business and HR Management Consultant Promoter of Culture**

Most of the Maltese composers feature in the golden age of Malta's music evolution, great names that deserve to be regularly recognized, great composers including those of Francesco Azopardi, Luigi Grech Grandolini, Pietro Paolo and Riccardo Bugeja, Paolo Nani, Lorenzo Gatt, Paolo Felice, Giuseppe Caruana with his famous Antiphona "In Sepulchrum" in festa S. Philippi de Argyrione.

A high level concert that is a tribute to our national patrimony. I understand that the Society intends pursuing further opportunities after kick-starting this valuable initiative.

Our patrimony and legacy in sacred music received a strong boost through this special concert characterized by an excellent organization in terms of a balanced sound between soloists, choir, orchestra; researched content that enriches our patrimony; excellent level of performance with full respect of the original compositions in the Latin language.

I feel confident that the 12<sup>th</sup> May Band and Social Club will continue its reinforcement and enhancement of our musical, artistic and cultural potential





## Muscat & Mackenzie ARE WE THERE YET ? SOMMES-NOUS DÉJÀ LÀ ?

You are cordially invited to an exhibition of work by Toronto artists Joseph Muscat and Ian Mackenzie at Propeller Gallery between July 13 and 31, 2022.

Reception on Saturday, July 16 between 1 and 5:30pm.

*Vous êtes cordialement invités à une exposition des œuvres des artistes torontois Joseph Muscat et Ian Mackenzie à Propeller Gallery du 13 au 31 juillet 2022.*

*Réception: Le samedi 16 juillet entre 13h et 17h30.*

**Are We There Yet?** brings together the work of two seasoned artists who have risen to the challenge of

commenting on the past two and a half years of pandemic lockdowns and isolation and how they both found creative resolve and self-fulfillment at the same time. Joseph Muscat and Ian Mackenzie, both members of the Ontario Society of Artists ( OSA ) and both active in Toronto 's Arts Community, will bring together their mix media works in this captivating and meditative presentation at Propeller Gallery between July 13 and 31, 2022.

*Sommes-nous déjà là? rassemble le travail de deux artistes chevronnés qui ont relevé le défi de commenter les deux dernières années et demie de fermetures et d'isolement pandémiques et comment ils ont tous deux trouvé une résolution créative et un épanouissement personnel en même temps. Joseph Muscat et Ian Mackenzie, tous deux membres de l'Ontario Society of Artists ( OSA ) et tous deux actifs dans la communauté artistique de Toronto, réuniront leurs œuvres mixtes dans cette présentation captivante et méditative à la Propeller Gallery du 13 au 31 juillet 2022.*

**Joseph Muscat OSA AOCA**

Visual Artist / Art & Exhibition Consultant

[muscat@interlog.com](mailto:muscat@interlog.com)

[www.josephmuscatartist.com](http://www.josephmuscatartist.com)



### Maltese Historical Association

Meet up with other like-minded individuals who have a passion or curiosity to learn more about Maltese history, stories, people and more.



Dear Members and Friends of the Maltese Historical Association of Australia We are delighted to announce our upcoming presentation for the month of June. We really hope you can join us. The presentation will be held on Zoom on Tuesday 19th of July 2022 at the time of 7:20pm. The Zoom link will be provided on the email. Antoine Bonello is a Historian and member of the Sovereign Hospitaller Order of St John.

Antoine's studies and dissertation are focused on the History of the Order of St John and his first publication will be out soon. The Book is entitled the Origins and Histories of the Sovereign Order of St John of Jerusalem. This month's lecture will be the first in series of lectures about the history of the order and will be discussing the conquest of Rhodes and the search for the Order's independence. It will detail one man dream that was ultimately fulfilled by his successor and the journey that changed the Order forever.

## MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE CENTRE – MALTA

PRESS RELEASE



PROUDLY PRESENTS

# an evening with the MASDAN TRIO

NICOLA MOGAVERO - SAXOPHONE • GIUSY CASCIO - PIANO • LUIGI SFERRAZZA - VIOLIN

**Wednesday 27th July 2022 at 19:30**

Girolamo Cassar Hall, Mediterranean Conference Centre, Valletta

Duration: 60 minutes • Tickets: €10 • Children under 12: Free Entrance • Tel: 2559 5750

**Giacomo Cuticchio**  
Moto Perpetuo  
Moto perpetuo • Corrente  
Allemanda • Un sogno

**Astor Piazzolla**  
Quatro estaciones  
porteas  
Primavera porteña  
Verano porteño  
Otono porteño  
Invierno porteño

**Dimitri Shostakovich**  
Five pieces for  
two violins and piano  
Prelude • Gavotte  
Elegy • Waltz • Polka

**Mariella Cassar Cordina**  
To you



MCC presents an evening with the **MASDAN TRIO**

The Mediterranean Conference Centre, Valletta proudly presents an evening with the **MASDAN TRIO**.

This event will be held on Wednesday, 27 July 2022 at 19.30 at Girolamo Cassar Hall, Mediterranean Conference Centre, Valletta.

MASDAN TRIO joined forces together way back in 2018. The three musicians all come from Sicily and all have a great music experience, especially during concerts.

This trio consists of Nicola Mogavero on saxophone, Giusy Cascio on piano and Luigi Sferazza on violin.

Duration of this event is 60 minutes, tickets at only 10 euros, while children under 12 years free entrance.

For tickets kindly visit [www.showshappening.com](http://www.showshappening.com) and for more information call on 2559 5750.

**Tickets: [www.showshappening.com](http://www.showshappening.com)**



**MARK ANDREW TABONE as**

**Marku**



**BY POPULAR DEMAND, MARK ANDREW TABONE IS BACK AT LA VALETTE!**

Mark Andrew Tabone performs as his Maltese fun-loving character 'Marku The Maltese From Gozo' and as his most requested character Elvis Presley.

Tickets are for Show Only Food & Drinks at Bar prices.

Sunday 28 August 2022 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM (UTC+10)

**La Valette Social Centre**

**175 Walters Rd, Blacktown NSW 2148**



## Medical Maltese: two new books



**CHARLES DANIEL SALIBA** has recently completed two new books, *Maltese Grammar Essentials in Context for Healthcare Professionals* and *Speaking Medical Maltese from Zero*, following his previous work on medical Maltese.

Dr Saliba states, “My experience in teaching Maltese as a Foreign Language (MFL) and Medical Maltese at Barts and the London School of Medicine and Dentistry (QMUL), Gozo Campus, enabled me to learn more about the challenges faced by students learning medical Maltese. This experience proved to be beneficial when designing and planning these books, as I was able to address their challenges. Additionally, my experience in designing and facilitating accreditation (through the Malta Further & Higher Education Authority [MFHEA]) for the three courses taught at QMUL—Award in MFL MQF 1 (5 ECTS), Award in Medical Maltese MQF 1 (5 ECTS), and Award in Medical Maltese MQF 2 (5 ECTS)—was very fruitful”.

*Maltese Grammar Essentials in Context for Healthcare Professionals* is a bilingual grammar book in Maltese and English. It teaches Maltese grammar in an easy-to-follow format, using various situations commonly encountered in hospitals. The exercises and activities are designed to teach the language in a real-life context in a cyclical manner, while simultaneously aiding vocabulary acquisition as well as effective comprehension and communications skills. Each chapter also contains a cultural section related to healthcare in Malta, including Malta’s public and private healthcare system; Catholicism and its

manifestation in hospitals and care homes; hospital security; sick-leave rules and procedures; current health issues; the National Patient’s Charter of Rights and Responsibilities; elder abuse; and medication mistakes among patients. This book will familiarise readers with the health sector in Malta and make them feel at home while working in the country.

*Speaking Medical Maltese from Zero* contains 42 dialogues (with parallel translations) to help medical Maltese students improve their reading, listening, and communication skills to enable them to converse in real-life situations in medical settings. After some dialogues, readers will find a box with important Maltese phrases and medical expressions, along with their English translations. Saliba has also updated the accompanying audio files related to the Maltese for Foreigners series so that learners can listen to native Maltese speakers reading the text and performing the dialogues.

Dr Saliba adds, “These books are suitable for medical and healthcare personnel and students who need to use Maltese in their work or study to communicate with patients and colleagues”.

These books are available from [www.bdlbooks.com](http://www.bdlbooks.com) and for more information about these books and Dr Saliba’s other work, please visit [www.charlesdanielsaliba.com](http://www.charlesdanielsaliba.com)

### Photo:

*Dr Charles Daniel Saliba presenting the latest Medical Maltese publications to Professor Anthony Warrens, Dean for Education, Barts and the London School of Medicine and Dentistry (QMUL) and Professor Catherine Molyneux, Deputy Dean for Education, QMUL, Gozo Campus.*

**Frank, thank you for informing us that the High Commissioner for Malta in Australia is coming to Adelaide. It is a great honour and we wish him well and the Maltese community wish him a fruitful and an enjoyable visit in our beautiful State. JM**



## **Zoe Bettison MP**

**Zoe is the Minister for Tourism and Multicultural Affairs in the South Australian Malinauskas Labor Government.**

She is focused on building back the visitor economy from the uncertainty and impacts of COVID-19, with attention on South Australia's brand pillars of 'natural therapy', 'accessible provenance', 'wildlife encounters', 'boutique capital' and

'loves a party'.

From 2018-2022, Zoe held the role of Shadow Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment.

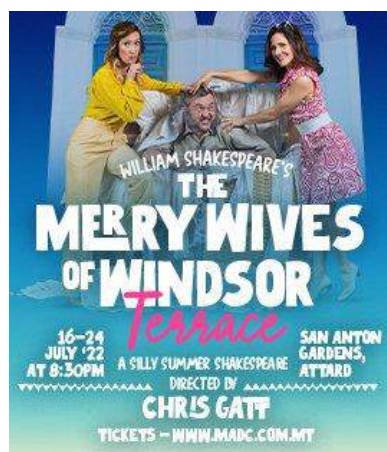
Zoe became a Minister in 2014 and worked progressing the South Australian Government's reform agenda on ageing, multicultural affairs, social housing and youth. During her time as Minister, she made energy bills cheaper for concession-holders, introduced the Cost of Living Concession, tripled the budget for multicultural affairs and gave people living in Retirement Villages a stronger voice.

Zoe was elected to the South Australian Parliament as the Member for Ramsay in 2012. She has a longstanding interest in education, training and business investment. Participation in the economy for all South Australians is a key driver for her interest in politics.

Born in Whyalla, Zoe lived in Gawler and Kapunda where she attended Kapunda High School. She now lives in Salisbury with her husband and son.

She has a BA from Flinders University and a MBA from the University of Adelaide.

Prior to her election Zoe worked for an iconic Australian tourism operator and was a director of a public affairs company.



## **The Merry Wives of Windsor**

**By William Shakespeare**

**PG Directed By: Chris Gatt**

**Venue: San Anton Gardens**

**Dates: 16 July 2022 - 24 July 2022**

**Doors Opening Time: 20.00**

**Starring:** Edward Thorpe as Falstaff, Antonella Axisa and Kim Dalli as the Merry Wives, Francesca Briffa, Brendon Thearle, Tennessee Whitney, Tyron Grima, Alex Weenink, Kyle Borg, Franco Sciberras, Gianluca Bianco, Aldo Zammit, Myron Ellul, Nicole Sciberras, Craig Abela and Daryl Vassallo.

And finally, MADC's unmissable Shakespeare production in the beautiful surroundings of San Anton Gardens is back with the comedy favourite, The Merry Wives of Windsor (Terrace). Yes, you read correctly....this

year's offering will have a local twist and is set in Malta's Windsor Terrace in Sliema. To make it even more entertaining, the story is set in the late 1970's/early 1980's!

Falstaff decides to fix his financial woes by seducing the wives of two wealthy merchants. The wives find he sent them identical letters and take revenge by playing tricks on Falstaff when he comes calling.

William Shakespeare's The Merry Wives of Windsor (Terrace), directed by Chris Gatt, runs DAILY from 16-24 July at 8:30pm and features a super cast - Edward Thorpe as Falstaff, Antonella Axisa and Kim Dalli as the Merry Wives, Francesca Briffa, Brendon Thearle, Tennessee Whitney, Tyron Grima, Alex Weenink, Kyle Borg, Franco Sciberras, Gianluca Bianco, Aldo Zammit, Myron Ellul, Nicole Sciberras, Craig Abela and Daryl Vassallo.





## Cherry Almond Muffins

These cherry almond muffins are made with fresh seasonal cherries! The cherries are a pop of flavour whilst the almonds give an extra crunch to the muffins. A perfect breakfast or snack to make for when you have too many cherries on hand!

Every summer, cherries come in season in bulk. One day there is none and the second they are everywhere! I love buying a huge pack of cherries as I'm obsessed with eating these little sweet and crisp dark red fruit. However, one thing that I'm not a fan of, is that they go bad easily. A great way to fight this, apart from eating cherries round the clock, which I don't complain about, is to bake with cherries. Cherries are a versatile fruit and is actually pretty easy to cook with! Either in sweet or savoury dishes, these little gems are always delicious.

How to store these Cherry and Almond muffins

After completely cool, you can store these muffins in an airtight container at room temperature (if it's not too warm) for about 5 days. Another great way to store them is to let them cool and then freeze them, where they could last up to 3 months. Just let them thaw before eating and enjoy!

These cherry almond muffins are made with fresh seasonal cherries! The cherries are a pop of flavour whilst the almonds give an extra crunch to the muffins. A perfect breakfast or snack to make for when you have too many cherries on hand!

Prep Time 10 mins

Cook Time 20 mins

Total Time 30 mins

Course: Breakfast, Dessert

Cuisine: European, Mediterranean

Keyword: Almonds, Cherry, Muffins

Servings: 12

### INGREDIENTS

150 g plain flour

80 g almond flour

150 g cherries *pitted*

60 g sliced almonds *extra for toppings*

50 g castor sugar

50 g brown sugar

2 eggs

85 ml neutral oil *vegetable/canola/sunflower*

125 ml milk *or almond milk*

1/2 tsp salt

1 tsp baking powder

1 tsp baking soda

1 tsp almond extract

1 tsp vanilla extract

### INSTRUCTIONS

Preheat the oven to 180°C or 350°F and prepare a 12 cup muffin tin with liners.

In a bowl mix together the flour, almond flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt. Set aside.

To the bowl add the sugars, eggs, milk, neutral oil, almond extract and vanilla extract. Mix well together.

Start adding some of the flour to the wet mixture, and mix it in the batter.

Finally, gently fold in the pitted halved cherries and the sliced almonds.

Divide the batter between the 12 muffin liners. Don't worry if the batter reaches the top of the tin. Sprinkle on top some extra sliced almonds.

Bake the cupcakes for about 20 minutes or until a cake tester/toothpick comes out clean.

Remove from pan and let cool completely on a wire rack.



**Well Done Frank** - Another amazing edition of the **Maltese Journal** but this time you gave me a shock, with the announcement of Fr. John Caruana passing away in Brazil.. Gianni and I grew up together... Ghatieh O Mulej il-mistrieħ ta'dejjem u d-dawl ta'dejjem jiddi fuqu Amen.  
(Vale my friend, John.) Till we meet again. Warm Regards **Greg. Caruana NSW Australia**



## Sr Marcellina Tabone gave her life to mission work in Pakistan

Certainly, one of the saddest occurrences is the assassination of Sister Marcellina Tabone who was a missionary in Mirkurphas, Pakistan.

Antoinette, as she was christened at baptism, was the daughter of Ġanni Tabone, one of the best-known bakers of Victoria, and Ġużeppa.

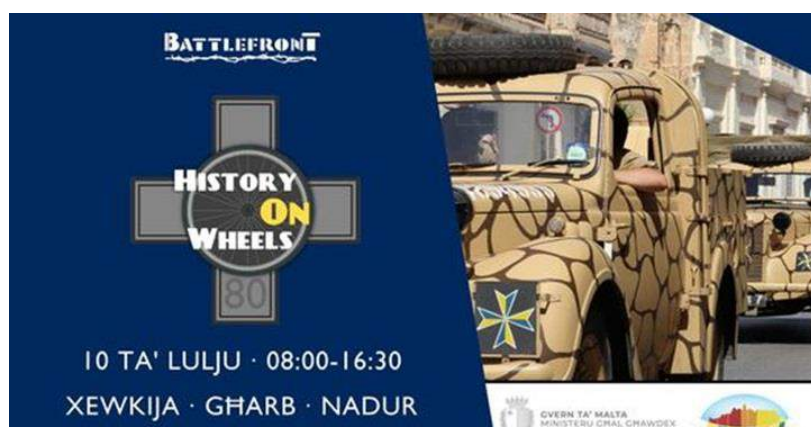
Marcellina joined the Franciscan Congregation in 1967 and from the following year she opted to work as a missionary in Pakistan. Through benefactors from Malta and Gozo, the sisters had built a school for the very poor boys and girls in the region as well as a clinic for people who did not know what was health care. In 1971, the Pakistani government took over the school and clinic without giving compensation to the sisters. They continued to work there among enormous difficulties. The school was returned to the sisters in a dilapidated condition in 1995.

On June 28, 1997, an hour past midnight, an armed burglar who had knowledge of the premises, entered the convent and fired at Sister Marcellina, who was then superior of the mission. She died on her way to hospital.

On August 15, 1880, Dun Ġużepp Diacono, a humble but bright priest from Victoria and a group of pious youths that he had guided spiritually for various years, gathered in a house that he called Casa di Carità.

They were to become the nucleus of the future Congregation of the Franciscan Sisters of the Heart of Jesus. Soon afterwards, the direction of the group was taken over by Margherita De Brincat, a holy youth from Kerċem who is rightly considered, along with Dun Ġużepp, the co-founders of the congregation.

Madre Margherita and her fellow sisters dedicated their life to the instruction of the poor, including the teaching of lace-making and weaving to earn a living. Throughout its 140 years, the congregation has gone through innumerable ups and downs.



## History on Wheels marks 80th anniversary of WW2 events in Gozo

GOZO NEWS ·

Members of the Battlefront Living History Group brings History on Wheels to Gozo. 2022 marks the 80th anniversary of several major local WW2 events and a special edition of History on Wheels: 80 was held at the villages of Xewkija, Gharb

and Nadur. Battlefront Living History Group members aim to open a window back in time to 1942, recreating scenes of wartime Malta and Gozo right in the heart of the communities.

They explained that it will "go beyond previous events and further explore the offensive role Malta played in the Battle of the Mediterranean."





**Sir Paul Boffa.**  
**Oil painting by Raymond Pitre'.**

## **Celebrate Sir Paul Boffa's life and heroic service on the 60th anniversary of his passing**

*Sir Paul Boffa is a decorated war hero.*

Over 60 years ago, Sir Paul Boffa passed away at the age of 72 leaving behind quite the impressive legacy.

War efforts aside, Sir Boffa also wanted to help improve Maltese people's way of life. For this reason, he became involved in politics throughout his adult life. Sir Boffa joined the Labour party in 1923 eventually and was elected as Malta first ever Labour Prime Minister in the November 1947 general election. During his time in politics, Sir Boffa was absolutely instrumental in granting women the right to vote.

Apart from that, he also fought for the recognition of the Maltese in the courts of law at a time when the language was considered to be too colloquial and undeserving of a high status. He championed educational rights that many now take for granted, including making education compulsory until the age of 14. Additionally, he introduced the pension system that so many Maltese elderly still rely on to this day. When interviewed by the Times of Malta, Sir Boffa's nephew, Fr Marius, spoke in length about his uncle's greatness.

"I admired him even more for who he was, his humanity, his sense of justice. No one ever accused him of any scandal while he was in office and I do not know of anyone who claimed he was hurt by him", he said. "He was, essentially, a doctor, a good doctor, who gave free medical service to the poor twice a week, and I think his politics were only an extension of what he felt was his mission as a doctor", he continued. In 1976, the formerly known King George V Hospital was renamed after Sir Boffa to honour the late doctor's service. *Thank you for your services Sir Boffa!*

Unbeknownst to many, many elements of modern Malta would cease to exist without this historical icon's selfless dedication.

Sir Paul Boffa was born on 30th June 1890 in the historic city of Birgu. In 1921, he married Genoveffa Cecy, with whom he had four children – Salvino, Hilda, Joseph, and Carmelina.

Sir Boffa had studied at the University of Malta and managed to become a doctor. Soon after graduating, he put his medical degree to heroic use by enlisting with the Royal Marine Corps, wherein he helped injured World War I soldiers in Malta, Salonika and even hospital ships.

His service as a doctor extended to World War II as well, throughout which period he served with distinction as a District Commissioner and ARP Medical Officer around the Cottonera, Paola, Tarxien, and Luqa areas.

For his efforts for both wars, Sir Boffa was decorated with pretty much every British Army Medal you can think of – this includes the OBE, the 1914-18 Star, the General Service Medal, the Victory Medal, the Coronation Medal, and the Defence Medal. He was also knighted by Queen Elizabeth in 1956.

*Written by Emma Galea*

*Emma is a Gozitan writer who loves all things related to English literature and history. When not busy studying or writing you will either find her immersed in a fictional book or at the cinema trying to watch as many films as she possibly can!*

**THANKS TO ALL OUR READERS AND CONTRIBUTORS**



## **2,700-Year-Old Phoenician Shipwreck Found near Malta In 2014**

<http://www.sci-news.com/>



Underwater archaeologists from the Groplan project, led by Dr Timmy Gambin of the University of Malta, discovered the remains of a sunken Phoenician merchant vessel in the waters off the Maltese island of Gozo. The site of a 2,700-year-old Phoenician shipwreck. Image credit: © Groplan project / Timmy Gambin, University of Malta.

The Phoenicians – the direct descendants of the Canaanites of the south Syrian and Lebanese coast – were a great maritime people who had developed a high level of ship-building technology.

They used galleys, or man-powered vessels, and are credited with the invention of the bireme (galley with two decks of oars).

The Phoenicians established trading colonies all around the Mediterranean, Babylon, in North Africa, the Italian peninsula, Sicily and Corsica.

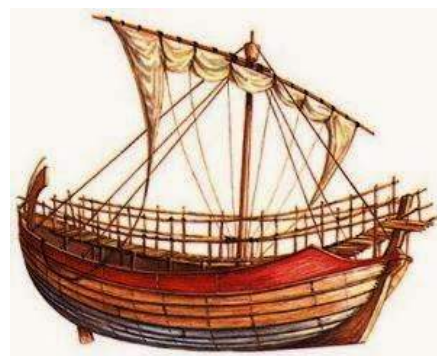
Phoenicia thrived as a maritime trader and manufacturing centre from 1550 to c. 500 BC when the main territory was conquered by the Persian

king Cyrus the Great.

According to Dr Gambin and his colleagues from Texas A&M University and the French National Research Agency, the Phoenician shipwreck they discovered at a depth of 125 meters dates to around 700 BC. "This shipwreck may offer new and significant information about Phoenician seafaring and trade in the central Mediterranean during the archaic period. To date, little is known about the earliest contact of Phoenician mariners with the Maltese islands," Dr Gambin said in a statement.

The scientists believe that the Phoenician vessel was sailing from Sicily to Malta when it sank.

It was about 15 meters long and carried a cargo of 20 grinding stones (about 35 kg each) and 50 amphorae of seven different types – indicating the ship had been in different harbors.



***A typical Phoenician trading ship.  
The Phoenicians were the sea  
traders of the ancient world.***



**stone and  
ceramic objects**

Dr Gambin said:  
"this discovery

may be considered as one of the best-preserved archaeological sites in Malta datable to the early Phoenician period."

### **The Discovery**

In 2007, during an offshore remote sensing survey aimed at mapping Malta's Underwater Cultural Heritage, a small anomaly was noted in the sonar data.

Situated at a depth of 110m off Xlendi Bay in Gozo, the Phoenician shipwreck consists of an intact and well-preserved mixed cargo datable to the 7th century BC. The mixed contents of stone and ceramic objects are shedding light on the economic history and trade networks of the Central Mediterranean during the Archaic period. In addition to the archaeological benefits – including the study of hitherto unknown ceramic typologies as well as a wide variety of scientific tests in the post excavation phases – this site presents other challenges and opportunities regards methodologies and access, as well as the communication of such a site.

**Our journal is printed by the Multicultural Aged Care of South Australia  
and distributed to the members of the Maltese community in Adelaide**





## **CELEBRATING 100 YEARS - THE MALTA METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE**

The Malta Meteorological Office on Sunday marks 100 years since the Maltese Islands national weather services provider was established, the office said in a statement.

During the past 100 years, the Meteorological Office has operated from four different locations, with the first move seeing it transfer its operation from Pietà to Saint John's Cavalier in Valletta, where forecasting was conducted underground during the war. The second move happened in 1946, bringing the weather services provider closer to the island's Flight Information Centre and air traffic control services at Luqa airport, allowing it to focus on the provision of weather-related services to the then-flourishing civil aviation industry.

The Meteorological Office has been operating from its fourth location on the Malta International Airport campus since 2002, providing its services to different industries, as well as the general public through the airport website

The sea surrounding the Maltese islands is not only an important part of Malta's environmental heritage and identity, but also influences the weather the islands experience as it moderates the air temperature on land and contributes to atmospheric humidity. This gives rise to conditions which are very rarely cold or dry enough for the Maltese islands to experience proper snowfall, with soft hail or graupel being a more likely occurrence.

The records kept by the Met Office show that the sea is coldest in February in Malta, with the month having maintained an average temperature of 15.1°C over the years, and warmest in August, with the average temperature for the month standing at 25.7°C. Zooming in on records for the past five years reveals that the lowest sea temperature was recorded on 4 February 2019 at 14.4°C, while the highest was reached on two consecutive days in August 2020 at 28.8°C.

Besides recording sea temperature, the Malta Met Office conducts other marine observations. Weather models are used in determining wave height and direction, while radar and satellite are used in monitoring live atmospheric weather, such as thunderstorms, at sea. Forecasts stemming from these observations are then used by seafarers and regularly support entities in safely conducting search and rescue operations at sea.

Marine forecasting is but one of the services provided by the Met Office, with the ability to read models, together with a thorough knowledge of prevalent currents and Mediterranean topography, being essential skills for this branch of forecasting locally. The Met Office – through a 12-strong team of forecasters, observers, and administrators – provides an array of weather services and historical data to members of the public, entities requiring precise meteorological information for safe day-to-day operations, and students conducting research.

To further improve its services, the Met Office has invested in a new radar system which allows for a more detailed weather analysis in real time and complements the recently installed Automated Weather Observing System (AWOS).

The team is composed of forecasters, observers and two administrators, one of whom manages the office's archival records; a trove of hand-plotted synoptic charts, which formed the basis of weather forecasts prior to the advent of technology, and daily weather observations. The first ever observation, which was recorded on the morning of the 10 July 1922, shows that 100 years ago at 7.00am, the temperature stood at 27.3°C, the visibility was good, and a force 2 wind was blowing from the West Northwest.

For more weather updates and interesting facts, we invite you to follow the Met Office on Instagram – @maltametoffice – and on [maltairport.com/weather](https://maltairport.com/weather).

## **SHAUN PARNIS IS SET FOR BIRMINGHAM COMMONWEALTH GAMES**

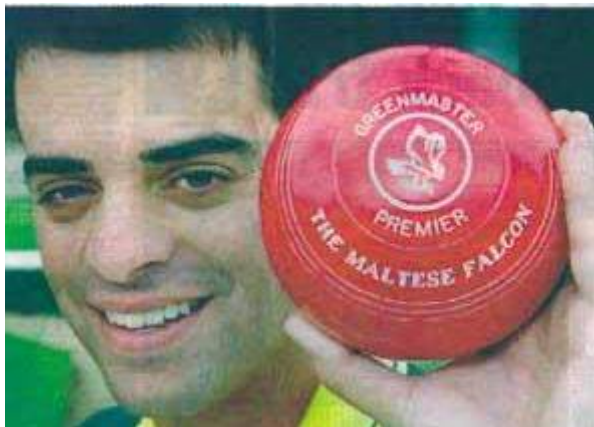
The Malta Lawn Bowls Association (also known as the Maltese Falcons Team) represents Malta in the sport of Lawn Bowls in both Men's and Women's events.

The great history of Malta Lawn Bowls commenced two years prior to the 2000 Sydney Olympics, when Mr. Louis Parnis contacted Malta Olympic Committee with the idea of a future Malta Lawn Bowls team in Sydney.

Few weeks before the Maltese Olympic team was to travel to Sydney, Mr. Parnis was contacted by Mr. Joseph Cassar of MOC requesting a meeting at a location in Parramatta. Both Louis and his son Shaun followed Mr. Cassar's instructions and, on the day, an Australian official driving a Commonwealth car picked them up.

Mr. Cassar asked Mr. Parnis to give him a short brief due to time restrained and one can imagine the information provided in around 15 minutes.

After the 2000 games completed, Louis Parnis kept in touch with MOC and his perseverance paid off. Mr. John Zammit (deceased) residing in Melbourne contacted Mr. Parnis informing him that Malta gave him the authority to elect a team for the Melbourne Commonwealth games.



The news was worth a celebration and within a few weeks Parnis and his son Shaun travelled to the headquarters in Melbourne to hold the selection trials. There were many players of Maltese descent that came forward for selection



but only 6 were selected, including Shaun and the names were sent to Malta to be registered with the Malta Olympic Committee.

Mr. John Zammit informed the group that Shaun Parnis will be the first ever player to represent Malta in Melbourne as a single player, as this was voted by the group.

Mr. John Zammit passed away some time later and Mr. Alan Gauci took helm of the association in Sydney. Today, all the members are proud of Joe Saragozza and his team especially Rex Johnston (coach).

Shaun Parnis was born in Bankstown, New South Wales, Australia and he is the CEO of the Dapto Citizens Bowling Club. He represented Malta in 2006-2010-2018 Commonwealth Games and soon he will be travelling to Birmingham with the team. In 2018 Commonwealth Games at the Gold Coast in Queensland Parnis reached the semi-finals of the pairs with Brendan Aquilina.

At the 2018 Commonwealth Games (Gold Coast) the Malta Ladies team secured its very first medal in Lawn Bowls.

We hope that history will be made in Birmingham for Malta Lawn Bowls as Shaun Parnis will be playing his fourth participation in the Commonwealth Games. On behalf of the Maltese Community, we also wish the ladies and the men's teams a great success.



***We are proud of our Maltese Achievers***

**THE ONLY NON-POLITICAL, BILINGUAL AND CULTURAL JOURNAL  
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## LAST MAN STANDING

### MAJOR PRIZE

**\$7000 Sat August 13**

**7pm till late**

\$100, available from the canteen and Georgies on Vista. There are 350 tickets available.

**Georgies on Vista, 46 City Vista Cct, Fraser Rise, turn down Royale Drive.**

Tickets will be drawn in lots on the hour with the numbers NOT drawn still in the draw until there are only 4 tickets left!

The final 4 ticket holders will have the opportunity to split winnings, if one person says "no" then a ticket is drawn until there is one person standing. The prize money may differ if all tickets aren't sold! Must be 18 and over to purchase tickets. Multiple cash prizes drawn through out the evening

### MINOR PRIZES

First number drawn wins \$100 Every 20th number wins \$100 50th number wins \$200

100th number wins \$200 150th number wins \$200 200th number wins \$300 250th number wins \$300 300th number wins \$500

## Discover French in Malta



The Alliance Française de Malte-Méditerranée is an association promoting the French culture and language since 1959 in Malta. It offers French courses and examinations to more than 400 students every year, as well as cultural events.

The association found its roots in 1946 at the University of Malta, with the Circle named Amis de la Culture Française at the time. It is the only accredited centre in Malta for the DELF and DALF examinations, which are French certifications awarded by the French Ministry of Education. It also proposes examinations such as the TEF and others from the Chamber of Commerce and Industry

of Paris and La Sorbonne Nouvelle.

Through its aim of promoting the French language and culture, the Alliance Française de Malte-Méditerranée organises cultural events throughout the year, such as the French Film Days festival which offers French film screenings every month, or the Beaujolais Nouveau wine tasting event, the Respire festival, and many more.

The Alliance Française de Malte-Méditerranée offers courses for all levels and all ages, and during different sessions throughout the year. The Summer Course Session started on July 4 and will end the first week of September. The course offers are available on the website, and the winter session will be announced at the end of the summer. Visit: [www.alliancefrmalta.com/](http://www.alliancefrmalta.com/)





**Knights of Malta Merchandise**  
[www.facebook.com/knightsofmaltamerchandise](http://www.facebook.com/knightsofmaltamerchandise)  
[maltainoz@bigpond.com](mailto:maltainoz@bigpond.com)



*Joint Celebration of*  
**MALTA NATIONAL DAY**  
*and*  
**QUEEN OF VICTORIES FEAST**

To be held at  
**CHRIST THE KING PARISH HALL**  
**456 HENLEY BEACH ROAD**  
**LOCKLEYS**  
 on  
**SATURDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022 AT 6:30PM**

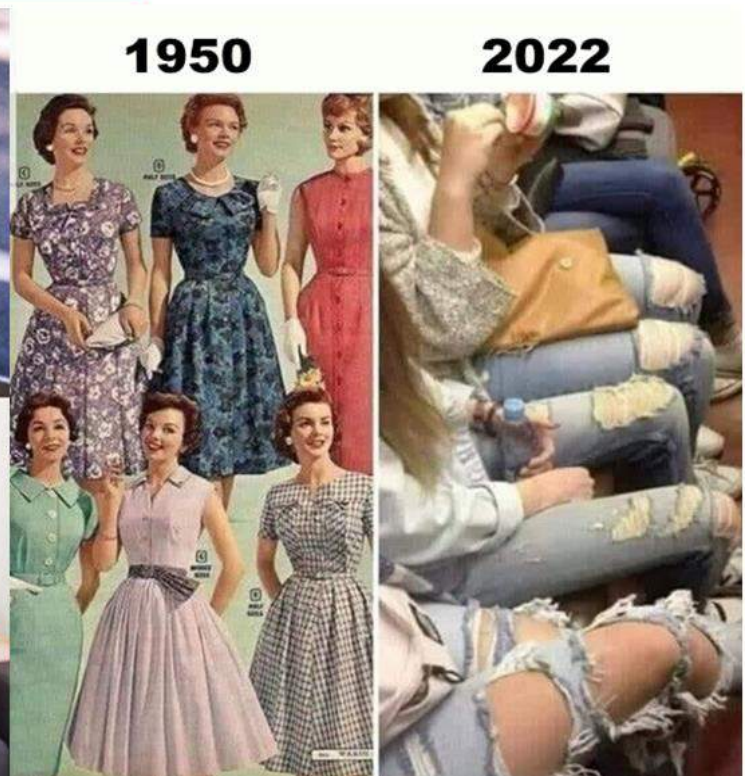
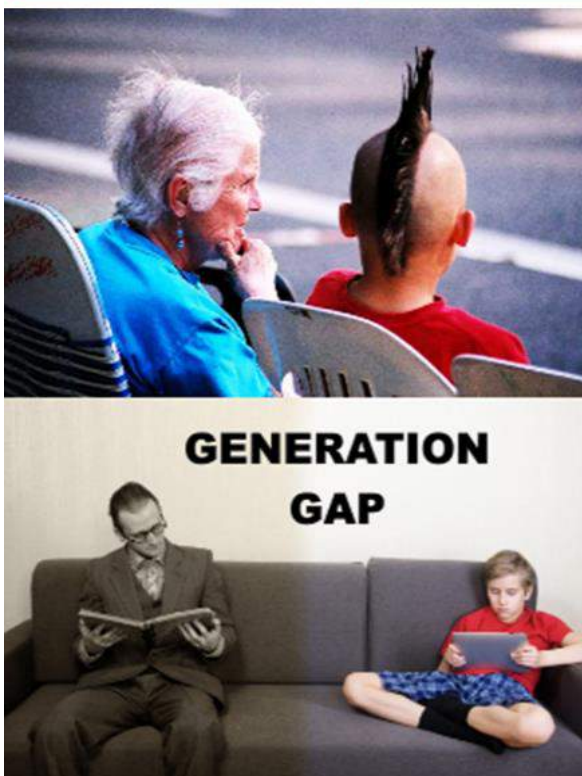
Admission:  
 \$40.00 Per Head includes 4 Course meal

Entertainment by:  
**- STACEY SALIBA and DJ ERIC**

Refreshments are available from the Bar at moderate prices

For Admission Tickets please contact:

MARTESE KEHOE:	0404094170
CARMEN SPITERI:	0401136673
MALTESE GUILD OF SA:	0435797487



**MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER**

**The Journal of Maltese Living Abroad**

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