



The Voice of the Maltese

(We are for the Greater Malta)

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**A traditional Maltese
house in Haż-Żebbuġ**



VisitMalta

Imfakkar il-Konvoj ta' Santa Marija 80 sena ilu



Joseph Cutajar

Wahda mill-aktar festi popolari, jekk mhux l-aktar, fix-xhur tas-sajf hija ta' Santa Marija li tigi mfakkra f'ghaxar irhula Maltin, tmenja minnhom fl-istess jum, fil-15 ta' Awwissu. Imma din id-data mhux biss hi konnessa ma' festi religjużi, imma ma' mument storiku 80 sena ilu, għaliex kien appuntu f'dan il-jum, fl-1942 li hafna jsostnu li Malta giet salvata milli forsi taqa' taht idejn l-ghadu fit-tieni gwerra dinjija, meta rnexxielu jidhol fil-Port il-Kbir, dak li kien fadal mill-Konvoj li laqqamnih bhala l-Konvoj ta' Santa Marija.

Fejn kellhom x'jaqsmu l-provvisti, kemm tal-ikel u wkoll munizzjon, Malta kienet tiddependi għal kollox minn provvisti li jigu minn barra l-pajjiż, mibghuta mir-Renju Unit, li wara kollox konna qed niggieldu l-gwerra tagħhom.

Minbarra li jfornu lill-poplu Malti, il-provvisti kienu jfornu wkoll lit-truppi Ingliżi li mal-Maltin kienu qed jiddefendu din il-gzira kontra l-qawwa tal-Germanja u l-Italja.

Minhabba li l-provvisti kienu jaslu bil-baħar, kien hemm il-problema kbira li l-vapuri li jkunu jsalpaw lejn Malta kienu l-mira tal-ghadu li kien jibbumbardjahom, għalhekk kienu jsibuha ferm diffiċli li jiskappawha.

L-aħħar vapuri f'konvoj ta' tmienja mghobbija bil-htigijiet tal-Maltin qabel din id-data tal-15 ta' Awwissu kienu kważi sena qabel, f'Settembru tal-1941, li kellhom b'85,000 tunnellata ta' provvisti, għalhekk l-iskarsezza bdiet tinhass sew.

Biex jagħmel tajjeb għal dan, fi Frar tal-1942 kienu salpaw minn Lixandra tliet vapuri mghobbijin b'dak li kien jinhtieg, imma l-ebda wiehed minnhom ma rnexxielu jasal għax ġew mgherrqa wara attakki mill-ajru mill-qawwiet tal-ghadu.

Imbagħad f'Marzu 1942 salpa lejn Malta konvoj ieħor għal darb'ohra magħmul minn tliet vapuri u *oiler*. Li din id-darba kellu miegħu skorja qawwija ta' erba' u 16-il *destroyer*. Fl-istess hin salpaw minn Malta *cruiser* ma' xi vapuri ohra bhala skorta salpaw minn Malta biex jiltaqgħu magħhom.

Fil-fatt, din l-iskorta rnexxielha żżomm 'l bogħod mill-konvoj vapur tal-gwerra Taljan, tliet *cruisers*, u 10 *destroyers*. Imma dawk fil-konvoj li kienu qed iġorru t-tagħbija għal Malta sfaw attackkati qrib Malta minn ajruplani tal-gwerra Germaniżi. Wiehed mill-vapuri ġie mgharraq

imsejha *Operation Pedestal*, li wara sarmagħrufa bhala bhala l-Konvoj ta' Santa Marija li fost kollox kienet magħmula minn vapuri 'moderni' fosthom il-Kentucky u l-SS Ohio.

It-tanker SS Ohio kien ġie varat fl-20 ta' April 1940 fit-tarzna tal-vapuri ta' Chester, f'Pennsylvania fl-Istati Uniti għall-kumpanija taż-żejt Texas Oil Company (illum Texaco). Kien vapur ta' 9,263 tunnellata, twil 485 pied (kważi 148 metru).

Flimkien mal-OHIO u l-Kentucky kien hemm 14-il vapur ieħor, mimlijin sa ruħhom bi provvisti li bdew il-vjaġġ mill-Iskozja lejn il-gzira ta' Gibiltà, il-Mediterran, u finalment lejn Malta, li kellhom il-protezzjoni ta' 90 biċċa tal-baħar, fosthom erba' *aircraft carriers*.

Fil-lejl ta' bejn l-10 u l-11 ta' Awwissu l-konvoj wasal fl-ewwel tappa, Gibiltà, u beda l-kalvarju, għax l-ghadu beda jattakka bil-kbir fit-tentattiv tiegħu li jwaqqaf il-konvoj. L-ghan tiegħu deher li seta' jintlahaq, tant li sat-12 ta' Awwissu kienu diġà ntaqtu l'parti 'l kbira tal-vapuri merkantili; sebgħa minnhom sfaw mgharrqa, fosthom l-*aircraft carrier* Eagle li ntaqat minn erba' *torpedoes* Germaniżi. Fl-atakki, mietu 260 bahri.

It-tanker Ohio intlaqat ukoll hafna drabi, imma b'miraklu rnexxielu li minn hawn u minn hemm jibqa' fil-wiċċ. Ma setax jiġi abbandunat minhabba li kellu fuqu 10,000 tunnellata ta' fuel li kienu meħtieġa jibqgħu jithaddmu, kemm l-ajruplani, kif ukoll it-sottomarini bbażati f'Malta.

F'manuvra mfissra bhala stramba, żewġ *destroyers* għinu biex l-Ohio jżomm fil-wiċċ u fil-15 ta' Awwissu jidhol fil-Port il-Kbir protett mill-*isptifires*, biex hekk seta' jwassal il-htigiet li kien hemm bżonn biex Malta setgħet tistejjer u jsalva lil Malta.

Kien l-aħħar vjaġġ tal-Ohio għax tant sofrat tifrik li wara li ħadt, ittieħed fil-bajja tar-Rinella u nqasam fi tnejn. Erba' snin wara, l-fdalijiet tiegħu nħargu barra l-*breakwater* u ġew mgharraq.



L-SS Ohio, parti mill-Operation Pedestal, kważi meqrud għal kollox, mgħejjun iżomm fl-wiċċ minn żewġ *destroyers*



Sa fl-aħħar, dak li kien fadal mill-SS Ohio jidhol fil-Port il-Kbir fil-15 ta' Awwissu 1942 u "jsalva" lil Malta

madwar 20 mil bogħod minn Malta, fil-waqt li l-*oiler* għeraq tmien mili biss minn Malta.

Iż-żewġ vapuri l-ohra rnexxielhom jaslu fost il-ferħ u l-ghajjat ta' apprezzament mill-Maltin, imma sfortunatament, sfaw mgharrqa fil-Port il-Kbir qabel setgħu jbattlu t-tagħbija kollha li kellhom.

It-tentattivi ta' konvojs ohra ssoktaw imma kull darba l-qawwiet Germaniżi jew Taljani ċaħħduhom milli jaslu Malta għax jew għerrquhom f'nofs ta' baħar, inkella tant werwru lil dawk li baqgħu fil-wiċċ li dawwru denbhom lura u reġgħu lura minn fejn bdew il-vjaġġ.

Kull ma wasalu kienu żewġ vapuri, li iizda kienux qed iġorru l-htigijiet li kellhom bżonn il-Maltin.

Dan beda jwassal għal disperazzjoni. X'ma tiddisprax meta taf li kemm l-ikel kif ukoll il-munizzjon kienu waslu fl-aħħar!

Il-Maltin u l-alleanzi kien għoddhom qatgħu qalbhom, imma donnu li ntagħbet l-aħħar karta għax giet ippjanata l-hekk

Q. I am planning to retire in a few months' time, as I am now 65. I have about three weeks of leave plus another ten weeks of long service leave. I am wondering whether to take the leave as a lump sum payment when I retire or whether to take my leave and long service leave now and hand in my resignation when I come back. Can you direct me on what is my best option?

A. A. What you need to look at is that if you were to take your leave and long service leave and then hand in your resignation your employer will need to continue to pay the Superannuation Guarantee (SG) contribution of 10.5% into your super fund.

If you took the funds as a lump sum, you will not be entitled to the SG contribution on this leave. Therefore, by taking your leave first and handing in your resignation after you will have more funds in your super when you retire.

We would also recommend you discuss this with your accountant as there may be further tax implications in taking a lump sum payment as opposed to 'working out' your leave.

Q. I am 64, divorced and planning to retire in six months' time. I have around \$200,000 in one super fund and about \$170,000 in another super fund. This money is all from employer contributions and salary sacrifice. I was told that my son, who is my sole beneficiary, would have to pay tax on the money he receives from my super funds once I pass away. Is there anything I can do to reduce the tax he will have to pay on these funds??

A. You are correct in that non-financially dependent adult children will have death benefit tax deducted from any taxable element

of the benefit they receive from your superannuation.

It may be possible to alleviate some of this tax by using what is known as a retribution strategy. This involves taking some funds from superannuation and recontributing these as untaxed "non concessional" contributions to superannuation. This strategy can be quite complex, but may allow you to reduce the likely tax by a nondependent quite significantly.

Q. I am my husband's carer and have been receiving the carer allowance for the last few years. I am planning an overseas trip and will be away for five or six weeks. Will I lose my carer allowance when I go on my trip?

A. . If you leave Australia temporarily without the person you care for, you will continue to receive the carer allowance for the first six weeks of your trip or until you run out of breaks from caring. You can use respite care for up to 42 days and still continue to receive the carer allowance. You do however need to advise Centrelink that you plan to be away prior to going.

This is a monthly service offered by The Voice of the Maltese in which Marie Louise Muscat from the Fiducian Financial Services helps our readers understand the complexities associated with financial planning. If you need more advice send an email to Marie Louise via: maltesevoice@gmail.com.



Q. My mother who was in an aged care facility, passed away a couple of weeks ago. They had paid a refundable accommodation deposit (RAD) of \$450,000. My father still lives in the family home and is currently on the age pension. Once he receives the RAD money, he will be above the asset test limit and will lose the age pension completely. Is he able to gift my siblings and me the RAD money in order for him not to lose his pension?

A. If your father is your mother's sole beneficiary then he cannot pass the RAD money onto his children. He can gift the funds to them, but Centrelink will still treat these funds as his money (a deprived asset) for the next five years.

Q. I am 61 and just retired. I sold some shares last week and cashed in a managed fund in order to pay the funds on the mortgage I have outstanding on my holiday home. I have about \$66,000 of capital gain on these sales. Is there a way of reducing the tax that I will need to pay on this capital gain? This year my taxable income should be around \$45,000 not including these gains

A. A way of reducing tax is by reducing your taxable income. Although you are no longer working you are still able to make concessional contributions into superannuation. The maximum amount that one can make in concessional contributions is \$27,500.

It is likely that only half of your capital gain will be added to your taxable income, which will likely bring you in the 32.5% marginal tax rate. On concessional contribution you will only pay 15% contributions tax. Therefore, by opting to make a concessional contribution into super you may be reducing your tax payable. Your accountant should be able to advise you on this.

This document contains factual information only and is not intended to provide any recommendation or opinion in relation to the topic's discussed. Fiducian recommends that you seek advice from a professional to address any issues that may be raised by this article. Fiducian accepts no liability for any loss suffered by anyone who has acted on any information in this document

Investing or Retiring?

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Marie-Louise Muscat is fluent in Maltese and English and can assist you in:

- Wealth Creation
- Pre Retirement and Retirement Advice
- Maximising Centrelink Benefits
- Tax effective strategies in retirement e.g. sale of property
- Rearranging finances to minimise ongoing fees prior to entering Aged Care facilities



Marie-Louise Muscat
CFP, Dip FP
Senior Financial Planner

Call Marie-Louise for a complimentary consultation on:
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Malcolm Bligh Turnbull AC – Australia's 29th Prime Minister

Opposed racism and division at every turn

At a time of growing nationalist sentiment across the world, Malcolm Turnbull opposed racism and division at every turn, ensuring that Australia remains the most successful multicultural society in the world.

**Held office from 15 Sept 2015
to 24 August 2018**

Malcolm Bligh Turnbull was born in Sydney, Australia, on the 24th of October 1954, the only child of Bruce Bligh Turnbull and Coral, Magnolia Lansbury (cousin of the British actress Angela Lansbury). His father was a hotel broker.

Malcolm's parents married in December 1955, fourteen months after his birth, and separated when Malcolm was nine, with his mother leaving him to be brought up by his father.

Malcolm attended Vaucluse Public School in Sydney for three years and then boarded at Sydney Grammar School in St. Ives and continued on a partial high school scholarship at the College Street campus while living at the Randwick boarding school.

In 1973 he attended Sydney University, where he graduated with degrees in arts in 1977, and Law in 1978, winning a Rhodes Scholarship and attended Braesnose College, Oxford, where he graduated with honours in 1980.

*Researched by
RonBorg*

nours in 1980.

At the same time he worked for *The Sunday Times*, and also wrote for magazines in the USA and Australia.

Shortly before going to Oxford, in 1980 he met and married Lucy Hughes, the daughter of the former Australian Attorney-General Tom Hughes, and returned to Australia later that year.

In 1981 Malcolm Turnbull was admitted to the bar, working as a barrister and general counsel and secretary for the media magnate Kerry Packer's Australian Consolidated Press until 1985.

He established his own law firm with Bruce McWilliam, and in 1986 successfully defended the former MI5 British Intelligence Officer against the British Government, that was trying to suppress his publication of the book *Spycatcher*, making Turnbull a well-known figure in Australia and the UK.

A year later, Turnbull created an investment banking firm, Whitlam Turnbull & Co Ltd, in partnership with the former Labour Premier of New South Wales and with Nicholas Whitlam, son of the former Labour Prime Minister Gough Whitlam and former Chief Executive Officer of the State Bank of New South Wales.

He left this firm to become managing director and partner of Goldman Sachs Australia and director of Star Technology Systems from 1993 to 1995.

He then became chairman of Axiom Forest Products, a "clear felling operation" of Forest products. During this period, he was also successfully involved in the purchase and sale of OzEmail.

Turnbull rejoined the Liberal Party, won the seat of Wentworth in the 2004 election, and in 2006 was promoted to the position of Environment Minister. He retained his seat in November 2007 election.

In September 2008, Liberal leader Brendan Nelson called for a vote of confidence, but Turnbull defeated him by four votes to become Liberal Party leader.

**Continued on page 5*



◀Malcolm Turnbull and his wife Lucy Turnbull in January 2012

Loses party leadership but regains a little later

**Continued from pag 4*

However, because of his support for government legislation that would reduce carbon pollution, in December 2009, he narrowly lost a leadership vote to Tony Abbott, who became Prime Minister after defeating the Labour Party leader Kevin Rudd in the 2013 election.

On 14th September 2015 he regained the party leadership when he defeated Tony Abbott in a party leadership vote, and the following day he became Australia's 29th prime minister and the fourth since 2013. In the 2016 federal elections, the Liberal-National Coalition retained power by a narrow margin and Turnbull was returned to office.

At the end of January 2017 relationships between the USA and Australia had soured after a heated phone conversation Turnbull had with the newly inaugurated US President Donald Trump.

Turnbull asked to honour an agreement made by the previous US President Barack

Obama regarding the resettlement of refugees at detention centres on Manus island. Trump called the agreement "stupid, disgusting, and horrible".

However, the US senator John McCain, contacted the Australian Ambassador Joe Hockey to express "unwavering support for the US/Australia alliance, and the ill feeling seemed to have disappeared when Trump and Turnbull met in May 2017 aboard the aircraft carrier Intrepid to celebrate the US-Australian victory over Japan in the Battle of the Coral Sea.

In November 2017 postal survey to the question of 'Same-Sex Marriages' showed that out of nearly eight million responses, there were 61.6% "YES" votes and 38.4% "NO". Having been an advocate of this idea, Turnbull cheered this result, and on the 7th December, "Same Sex Marriage" was legalised. The first of these marriages in Australia occurred on the 9th January 2018.

During his visit to Australia, on the 5th April 2018, the then Prime Minister of Malta Joseph Muscat had a very amicable meeting with Malcolm Turnbull and discussed issues like 'The European Free Trade Agreement and The Agenda for the Heads of Government Meeting in London'.

During that same year there was turmoil in the Liberal Party and although Turnbull survived a leadership spill with a vote of 48 to 35 over the Home Affairs Minister, Peter Dutton, a majority of Liberal MPs pressured him to stepdown just a few days after the Dutton leadership challenge.

The party treasurer Scott Morrison became leader of the Liberal Party and Prime Minister of Australia, and in August 2018 Malcolm Turnbull resigned from Parliament.

In June 2019, he returned to the private sector as a senior advisor to major global private equity firm Kohlberg Kravis Roberts, and in January 2021, joined the board of the International Hydropower Association..

Personal life

Malcolm Turnbull married Lucy Hughes in the Church of England on the 2nd



Malcolm Turnbull greeting Malta Premier Joseph Muscat in 2018

March 1980 at Cumnor, Oxfordshire, England.

Besides holding a number of prominent positions, Lucy Turnbull was the Lord Mayor of Sydney from 2003 to 2004. Living in the eastern suburbs of Sydney, they have two adult children, Alex and Daisy, and as of July 2016, they had three grandchildren.

With a net worth of A\$133 million, Malcolm was said to be Australia's richest parliamentarian in 2005, and as of that year his estimated net worth was in excess of A\$200 million.

Malcolm was raised in the Presbyterian religion, turned agnostic in his early adult life, but became a Catholic in the mid-2002s. His family is also Roman Catholic.

Having found himself at odds with the church's teaching on Abortion, Stemcell Research, and Same-Sex Marriage, he supported the legislation relaxing restrictions on the abortion pill.

Despite vocal opposition by the then Archbishop of Sydney, Cardinal George Pell, he also voted in favour of the legislation for Somatic cell nuclear transfer

On 1st January 2001, Turnbull received the Centenary Medal for services to the corporate sector and in the 2021 Australia Day Honours, he was awarded Companion of the Order of Australia for "Eminent service to the people and Parliament of Australia", particularly as

Prime Minister, through significant contributions to national security, free trade, the environment and clean energy, innovation, economic reform and marriage equality, and to business and philanthropy".

**Next to be featured will be Sir William McMahon, the 20th Australian PM who had the longest continuous ministerial service in Australian history from 1908 to 1988. He was a government minister for 21 years.*



Malcolm Turnbull (right) with US President Donald Trump in 2017

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Malcolm Turnbull with his family when he was Prime Minister



The High Commissioner (centre) and Honorary Consul with leaders of the Maltese Community

High Commissioner of Malta visits South Australia

The High Commissioner of Malta for Australia and New Zealand, HE Mr Mario Farrugia Borg, recently paid a two-day visit (July 18-20) to South Australia to meet with relevant officials of the Government of South Australia and the various Maltese groups in Adelaide.

Accompanied by the Honorary Consul for Malta in South Australia, Mrs Carmen Spiteri and her husband Venny, they later visited the Maltese Cultural Centre in Beverley for a meeting with leaders and committee members of the various Maltese associations where he was warmly and enthusiastically welcomed.

Mr Farrugia Borg enforced the commitment of Canberra to the Maltese community in South Australia, and answered questions from the attendees that were mainly in relation to passport and citizenship issues.

The HC's first port of call the next day was an appointment with Hon Emily Bourke MLC, Assistant Minister to the Premier and Mr Peter Geytenbeek, Chief of Staff to the Hon Zoe Bettison, Minister for Multicultural Affairs. Topics for discussion included the possibilities of state grants for the Maltese cultural events organisations' involve-

ment in community events, and the inclusion of the Maltese language on official government forms.

He later met Malta's former Consul in Adelaide, Mr Frank Scicluna, and followed that up by a visit to the 5 EBI FM Radio Station for an interview with Mr Ron Borg and Mrs Bernadette Buhagiar for Maltese Community Radio.

During the interview he gave information about consular services offered by the High Commission, Consulates in Sydney and Melbourne, the Honorary Consuls, the Consul-on-the-Move (COTM) initiatives and bilateral relations with Australia.

On Tuesday evening the High Commissioner attended at the premises of the Preca Society for a meet and greet with members, associates and families. All enjoyed a delicious dinner prepared by

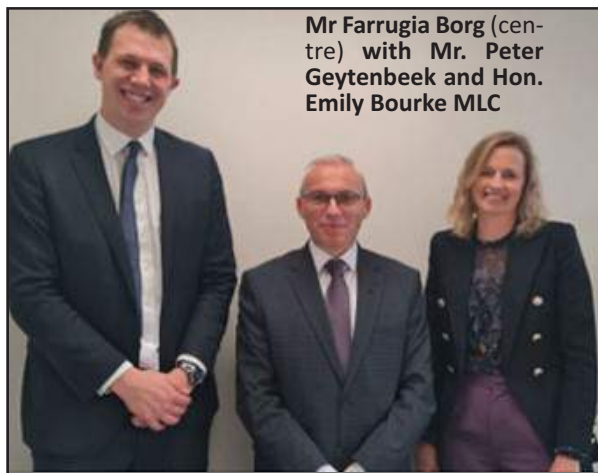


HC Mario Farrugia Borg with the Hon Consul Carmen Spiteri (left) and Her Excellency the Governor of SA, Frances Adamson

one of the Preca Society members. A most convivial evening was spent sharing memories of Malta, discussing Maltese traditions, culture and food.

On the last day of his visit the HC, and the Hon. Consul, paid a courtesy call on Her Excellency the Governor of South Australia, the Honourable Frances Adamson AC.

They discussed bilateral interests, including achieving further contributions by the Maltese in South Australia and enhancing the excellent relations and international co-operation between the two countries.



Mr Farrugia Borg (centre) with Mr. Peter Geytenbeek and Hon. Emily Bourke MLC



Mr Farrugia Borg during the interview on Maltese Community Radio

Malta, which is 100 km south of Sicily, Italy, is become to be regarded by many as the sort of island country where people seem to live forever. The country is actually made up of three islands (Gozo and Comino) where Malta is the largest. With Malta being accessible by boat, and knowing it is rich in history, and that there is an abundance of temples, catacombs, medieval settlements, awesome beaches and a few funky bars waiting for the visitor, it's a great place to spend a week or so.

The Megalithic Temples of Malta

Between them, Malta and Gozo have seven megalithic temples, each the result of an individual development. The two temples of Ġgantija on the island of Gozo are notable for their gigantic Bronze Age structures. On the island of Malta, the temples of Hagar

Qim, Mnajdra and Tarxien are unique architectural masterpieces, given the limited resources available to their builders, while the Ta' Hagra and Skorba complexes show how the tradition of temple-building was handed down in Malta.

For the benefit of our readers, particularly those visiting Malta for their relaxation, and are interested not just in the sun, the sea, and the entertainment provided almost daily by organisations most of them sanctioned or sponsored by the Malta Tourism Authority, MTA, but also our readers in Malta, from time to time, *The Voice of the Maltese* would be featuring these megalithic temples. This article just an introduction.

The seven temples mentioned are also listed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), among the world's cultural and natural heritage properties that need to be safeguarded, and therefore the organisation encourages their conservation.



UNESCO recognises the Megalithic Temples of Malta (Ġgantija, Hagar Qim, Mnajdra, Skorba, Ta' Hagra and Tarxien) as prehistoric monumental buildings constructed during the 4th millennium BC and the 3rd millennium BC.

The sites, excavated during the course of the 19th and 20th centuries, rank amongst the earliest free-standing stone buildings in the world and are remarkable for their diversity of form and decoration.

The form and layout of these buildings, as well as the artefacts found within them, suggest they were an important ritual focus of a highly organized society.

Each complex is a unique architectural masterpiece and a witness to an exceptional prehistoric culture renowned for its remarkable architectural, artistic and technological achievements.

In its description of the sites, UNESCO explains that each monument is different in plan, articulation and construction technique. They are usually approached from an elliptical forecourt in front of a concave façade. The façade and internal walls consist of upright stone slabs, known as orthostats, (*squared stone blocks much greater in height than depth that are usually built into the lower portion of a wall. They are so called because they seem to "stand upright" rather than to lie on their sides*) surmounted by horizontal blocks.

The surviving horizontal masonry courses indicate that the monuments had corbelled roofs, probably capped by horizontal beams, a method of construction

that for its time was a remarkably sophisticated solution. The external walls are usually constructed in larger blocks set alternately face out and edge out, tying the wall securely into the rest of the building.

The space between the external wall and the walls of the inner chambers is filled with stones and earth, binding the whole structure together.

Typically, the entrance to the building is found in the centre of the façade, leading through a monumental passageway onto a paved court. The interiors of the buildings are formed of semi-circular chambers usually referred to as apses, symmetrically arranged on either side of the main axis.

The number of apses varies from building to building; some have three apses opening off the central court, whilst others have successive courts with four, five, and in one case even six apses.

The temple builders of the time used locally available stone, hard coralline limestone for external walls and the softer globigerina limestone for the more sheltered interiors and decorated elements.

Decorated features found within the buildings bear witness to a high level of craftsmanship, consisting mainly of panels decorated with drilled holes and bas-relief panels depicting spiral motifs, trees, plants and various animals.

The Megalithic Temples are remarkable not only because of their originality, complexity and striking massive proportions, but also because of the considerable technical skill required in their construction.

Integrity

UNESCO regards the six components of the property to be in a reasonably good state of conservation, although the Tarxien complex is less well preserved than the others. All their key attributes are within the boundaries of the property.

Surviving vestiges attest to the techniques used in the building of these complex structures, and the knowledge and skill of the people who built them. However, the structures are vulnerable to both material and structural deterioration, so research continues to be conducted to identify preservation strategies for the buildings.

Authenticity

The six components of the property have a high level of authenticity. They consist of well-preserved remains of megalithic temples, with evidence of different phases of construction in Antiquity.

The components have been recorded in travel accounts since Early Modern times, while photographic records of some components go back to the early 1900s.

Various restoration interventions have been carried out on five of the six components since their excavation. These included moving decorated blocks indoors to protect them from weathering, and capping the surviving blocks with cement.

It has to be said that international standards, guidelines and charters guide current conservation interventions.

Have your say/Xi trid tgħid?



The Voice of the Maltese

Print & Digital magazine

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

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

Hard copy subscription is also available at a cost.

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



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Your letters/ L-ittri tagħkom ...

Never a dull moment in Malta

Ray Cassar from Sutton, UK writes:

It is not true that British tourists visit Malta in the summer months mainly for the weather. It does help, but if it were for that alone, than this summer they can enjoy it at home.

I can tell you, now from experience, and especially after meeting many of my friends from the UK who like me, are currently enjoying Malta, that before they embark on a trip to Malta for their holidays in the summer months, they also take into consideration many other factors.

After over thirty years in the UK I made many friends. Most are frequent visitors to the island. I recently organised for them a trip to two local pubs.

On each occasion, soon as we settled down, and even before we ordered the beer, we were lavished with appetisers. After that, beer flowed and we talked about what they enjoy most in Malta.

The clear blue sea and the clean sandy

Enough is enough

John Brincat from Ascot Vale, Victoria writes:

I am an ardent fan of the daily news from Malta. But I am more than disappointed with what is going on SBSTV. With today's technological progress, you would think that getting one segment from Malta TV to SBSTV would not be that difficult.

I really do not care who is at fault, but it is a shame to wait for 4.30 pm in front of the TV set awaiting the news from Malta, and all I can see is a blank screen.

SBSTV would not even put some Maltese scenery instead. Too hard I presume. Instead, we get worldwide weather reports.

Indeed, SBSTV should have a spare half hour about Malta ready to air when the normal programme does not arrive.

Come on SBSTV, enough is enough!

beaches were high on the list, but the island's friendly people, the historic sites, the food, the entertainment, especially the amazing array of festivals, concerts and events, many of them free of charge are also listed.

They agreed that there's never a dull moment during the summer months as there's something happening every day in Malta. They are so glad that they are not in Britain at the moment.

In the end I completely agreed with them.

More than satisfied

Tony Cassar from St Albans, Victoria writes:

I am sure that I must be one of the first subscribers of *The Voice of the Maltese* magazine. I was very satisfied with the first issue and I am equally satisfied (in fact much more) with what this publication has become.

I am an avid reader of newspapers and magazines, be they Australian or international. I am also a keen observer and I can honestly say that the professional way that you manage this publication is second to none.

The features that are published and the way that the news is presented, particularly those about, or emanating from Malta keep me glued to *The Voice* every time I receive it. In fact, soon as I receive it, most often late on a Monday evening, I try to read most of it before it is time for me to go to sleep, around midnight. The rest I read the first thing the following morning.

One other thing that I feel I should commend you for, is the choice of features and *The Voice* correspondents, especially when you have opinion pieces.

I live in St Albans, where it seems all members of the Maltese community are not only aware, but also readers of *The Voice*. I have several friends who instead of receiving the magazine in their inbox, are more interested in reading it on *issuu.com*

Respecting the readers

W. Muscat Bankstown NSW writes:

Reading *The Voice* is always a pleasure, but then again, as I meet with my usual group of Maltese, mostly elders, we discuss its contents. Most of us are very grateful to read the local news.

Although the news is now available to all instantly, *The Voice's* news is selective and is aimed at the needs of the local community.

Even the news from Malta is nothing like we see on TV or online. It is written for us in Australia, not cut & paste here. I am glad the editors have respect and the professional sense to appreciate their readers.

Keep up the good work.



Dr Hugh McDermott MP State Member for Prospect

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Celebrating the l-Imnarja festa

L-Imnarja, the feast of St Peter and St Paul is commemorated annually by the Maltese community in Australia. In NSW it was recently celebrated at Plumpton by the St Nicholas Association (*pictured right*) and at the La Valette Centre in Blacktown.

The Seniors Group of the MCC at Greystanes commemorated the occasion with a feast of food, and entertainment by Patrick Bartolo on his accordion, and some comical sketches.

The St. Nicholas Festa Committee celebrated l-Imnarja on 10th of July. Exhibitors set up a variety of stalls that included a nice display of a wide variety of fruit and vegetables that were donated to SNFC.

The day started with a procession with the photo frame of the saints and flowers that were carried to the front of the hall where Fr. Bollar Barreto opened the event with a prayer and blessing. It was followed by the entertainment provided by Charlie Muscat and Victor Mifsud (*il-Bukket*).

Food was in abundance and all those present enjoyed themselves as they mingled with each other. There

were also several raffle spins of fruit trays and rabbits, including a special one for the kids, who had a field day as they participated Maltese traditional games, and a clay sculpture corner where they could play and make their own designs.

From the feedback, everybody seemed to enjoy the occasion, especially the kids.

In the end, the Saint Nicholas Festa Committee thanked all the exhibitors, and the donators of the fruit and vegetables that were eventually raffled among the attendees.



*Charles Dingli of Old Toongabbie exhibited his collection of recycled Christmas cards which he intricately turns into work-of-art.



Enjoying The Voice

We keep getting pictures of our avid readers from across the states enjoying the full printed coloured version of *The Voice of the Maltese* magazine.

Following photos of readers from Victoria in a previous issue, we have now received more pictures from NSW, and South Australia.

We have more but for today's issue we are only publishing the one on the right, from Greystanes, and the two below from South Australia.



Maltese Community Radio presenters in Adelaide seen reading The Voice of the Maltese magazine during their programmes

Perspettiva

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

Kitba ta'
IVAN
CAUCHI



Il-monkeypox

Wara ftit iktar minn sentejn mill-pandemija tal-COVID19, huwa ċar li dan il-ħmar il-lejl għadu m'għaddiex, b'tant eluf ta' nies madwar id-dinja għadhom jiġu infettati (ħamsin elf kuljum fl-Awstralja biss, u miljun kuljum madwar id-dinja), b'madwar elfejn ħajja kuljum tintilef madwar id-dinja.

Wara l-għejja mentali u l-istress ekonomiku li l-COVID ikkawża, żgur li l-aħħar haġa li kulhadd ried jisma' kienet il-feġġa ta' marda ġdida.

Fil-fatt, fl-25 ta' Lulju 2022, id-Direttur Ġenerali tal-Organizzazzjoni Dinjija tas-Saħħa (*World Health Organisation - WHO*) Tedros Ghebreyesus, iddikjara li l-monkeypox hija emerġenza internazzjonali tas-saħħa pubblika.

Il-monkeypox l-ewwel tfaċċat fl-1970 f'tarbiġa ta' disa' xhur fil-Congo u sa ftit ilu kienet ikkunsidrata bħala kkontrollata, u misjuba f'individwi li jkunu żaru xi pajjiż tal-Afrika ċentrali jew tal-punent. Iżd'issa jidher li l-marda saret tittiehed minn persuna għall-oħra, u qed tiċċirkola f'pajjiżi li qatt qabel ma kienu assoċjati magħha, l-iktar fl-Ewropa.

Sal-20 ta' Lulju 2022, kien hemm ftit iktar minn 16,500 persuna infettati fi 68 pajjiż.¹

Persuna bil-monkeypox ikun sfigurata, għax jitiġhulu ponot viżibbli ħafna madwar gismu xi jumejn jew tlieta wara l-infezzjoni. Ġeneralment, dan ikun l-ikbar effett ta' din il-marda, u wara ftit (bejn ħmistax u xahar) ikun mistenni li tmur waħedha.

Sfortunatament il-marda tista' wkoll tkun fatali, bir-rata ta' fatalità tal-monkeypox f'dawn iż-żminijiet tkun ta' madwar 3-6%.²

Il-virus li jikkawża l-monkeypox jiġi mill-istess familja (orthopoxvirus) bħas-smallpox, li ġie meqrud fis-snin tmenin wara kampanja intensiva ta' vaċċinazzjoni.

Fortunatament, it-tilqim kontra s-smallpox huma effettivi wkoll kontra l-monkeypox, u fil-fatt huwa maħsub li tal-aħħar tfaċċa għax it-tilqim kontra s-smallpox tista' tghid li waqaf. Il-fatalità tas-smallpox kien ħafna iktar għoli, madwar 30% tal-infezzjonijiet.³

Dan il-virus huwa wiehed li għandu l-karatteristika li jiġi fil-bniedem oriġinarjament minn xi annimal. S'issa mhux magħruf minn liema annimal il-monkeypox oriġina, hemm diversi kandidati imma dan ma kienx determinat.

Il-ġlieda kontra l-monkeypox għalhekk għandha tkun iktar faċli min dik ta' kontra l-COVID, għax it-tilqim ilu jeżisti u l-



Eżempju ta' kif tidher l-infezzjoni tal-monkeypox fuq il-bniedem awtoritajiet tas-saħħa jkunu jridu jakkwistaw il-vaċċini partikulari u mbagħad jamministrawhom fil-popolazzjoni. L-effettività ta' dawn il-vaċċini huwa ta' madwar 85%.⁴

Apparti t-tilqim li oriġinarjament kien għas-smallpox, qed jiġi żviluppat ukoll tilqim speċifiku kontra l-monkeypox.

Kura prospettiva għall-monkeypox teżisti wkoll - tekovirimat, li kien oriġinarjament żviluppat għas-smallpox. Wiehed jistenna xi provi kliniċi qabel ma dan jibda jintuża b'mod mifrux.

Huwa kurjuż li ħafna mill-persuni li ġew infettati bil-monkeypox huma irġiel omosesswali u mhux magħruf għaliex. Il-kurżità tiġi mill-fatt li l-marda ma tiġix imxerrda neċessarjament mis-sess, imma mill-kuntatt personali mill-qrib - nifsijiet, partijiet tal-ġisem infettati jew oġġetti reċentement infettati. Huwa tajjeb li jiġi evitat l-istigma ta' dan il-grupp vulnerabbli, bħal ma kien gara snin ilu bit-tixrid tal-HIV.

Nistenna b'interess il-pariri li se jingħataw mill-gvernijiet ta' madwar id-dinja bħala prevenzjoni kontra, u l-kura għal, din il-marda.

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L-anzjani f'Malta huma t-tieni l-aktar fi stat tajjeb ta' saħħa fost is-27 stat membru tal-UE

Cifri mahruġa mill-uffiċċju tal-istatistika tal-Unjoni Ewropea, il-Eurostat urew li matul l-2020, Malta kienet it-tieni l-aktar pajjiż fost is-27 stati membri tal-organizzazzjoni fejn in-nies igawdu l-aktar snin ta' hajja fit-tul u fi stat tajjeb ta' saħħa. L-ċifri jghoddu l-ghadd ta' snin li persuna

tghix bla ma tkun limitata milli tagħmel xi attività. Juru wkoll li n-nisa f'Malta jghixu medja ta' 70.7 sena fi stat tajjeb ta' saħħa, filwaqt li l-irġiel jghixu medja ta' 70.2 sena fi stat tajjeb ta' saħħa.

Intwera wkoll li fl-Unjoni Ewropea, kollha kemm hi, in-nisa wkoll jghixu fi stat tajjeb ta' saħħa aktar mill-irġiel. Tant li skont il-medja tal-pajjiżi msieħba fl-UE n-nisa jghixu madwar 64.5 sena fi stat tajjeb ta' hajja, u l-irġiel 63.5 sena.

Mill-istatistika johroġ ukoll li hi biss l-Iżvezja fejn in-nies jghixu aktar snin ta' hajja fi stat tajjeb minn Malta u hu ċar li huma biss fl-Iżvezja u Malta minn fost is-27 pajjiż tal-UE u Malta fejn kemm in-nisa kif ukoll l-irġiel jaqbbu s-70 sena ta' snin ta' hajja fi stat tajjeb ta' saħħa.



Arcisqof Spiteri jinhatar Nunzju Apostoliku tal-Messiku

Dan l-aħhar il-Papa Franġisku hatar lill-Arcisqof Malti Joseph Spiteri bħala n-Nunzju Apostoliku tal-Messiku.

Il-Malti, li għandu esperjenza vasta fid-diplomażija tal-Vatikan se jkun ir-raba' pajjiż fejn se jikkupa kariga bħal din, inkella jkun rappreżentant tal-Vatikan.

Mons Spiteri li għandu 63 sena, twieled f'Tas-Sliema fl-1959 u gie ordnat saċerdot fl-1984. Wara l-istudji tiegħu fil-Ligi Kanonika, huwa nġhaqad mal-korp diplomatiku tas-Santa Sede, fejn ta servizz fil-Panama, l-

Iraq, il-Messiku, il-Portugall, il-Greċja u l-Venezwela.

Fl-2009 Mons. Spiteri kien gie mahtur bħala l-Arcisqof Titulari ta' Serta u Nunzju Appostoliku ta' Sri Lanka. Erba' snin wara nhatar Nunzju Appostoliku tax-Xatt tal-Avorju u fl-2018 in-ghata l-inkarigu bħala n-Nunzju Appostoliku għal-Libanu, fejn għadu jservi sal lum.



Covid-19 on the rise, ... so what do we do?

As Australia battles through a significant rise in COVID-19 cases, authorities are renewing calls for people to follow expert health advice to keep the community safe.

Health Minister Mark Butler said there have been 300,000 cases in one week but warned hundreds of thousands more infections are forecast for the coming weeks, with the peak of the BA.4 and BA.5 Omicron wave expected in August.

So, what do we do about it?

From wearing facemasks and working from home to vaccines and antiviral drugs, here is the latest health advice that experts have strongly recommended in order to reduce hospitalisations and deaths across the country.

In a statement, chief medical officer Paul Kelly issued clear advice on facemasks: wear them "in crowded, indoor environments, including on public transport".

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has repeated his opposition to mask mandates, arguing they are futile if they aren't effectively enforced. The truth is that if you have mandates, you've got to enforce



them."

He said he has sufficient trust in Australians to act responsibly without being told they must wear a mask by their respective leaders. "We do want to encourage that behaviour. People have been incredibly responsible during this pandemic. People have done it tough. People have looked after each other, and I'm confident that they'll continue to do so."

Mark Butler said it was "good practice" for all employers to encourage their staff to work from home, but it must be considered on a case-by-case basis.



Il-Ministru ġdid għat-telekomunikazzjoni

Mar-rebħa tal-partit Laburista fl-aħhar elezzjoni federali fl-Awstralja, Il-Prim Ministru l-ġdid Anthony Albanese hatar lill-Membri Parlamentari Michelle Rowland, li tirrappreżenta l-elettorat ta' Greenway fl-inhawi tal-western suburbs, bħala l-Ministru għall-Komunikazzjoni.

Hija għandha l-uffiċċju tagħha fiċ-ċentru ta' Blacktown u hija magħrufa sewwa mal-qarrejja ta' *The Voice of the Maltese*. F'dawn iż-żmienijiet, sar meħtieġ daqs il-hobż li jkollok aċċess komplet tal-Internet u s-servizzi tal-mobile, għalhekk kien naturali li mal-ewwel inizzjattiva li hadet il-Ministru Rowland kienet li tiżgura li dawn is-servizzi qed jaslu kemm fil-kampanja u anke f'subborġi mwarrba l-aktar fejn hemm it-tfal. "Hemm bżonn aktar kordinazzjoni bejn it-tliet livelli tal-Gvern" qalet il-ministru.

Il-Ministru tat l-eżempju ta' nuqqas ta' servizz ta' Internet li kien hemm fis-subborg ta' The Ponds NSW li wara l-intervent tagħha gie rranġat. Il-Covid-19 ġab miegħu hafna tibdil u illum huma hafna dawk li jkun jridu jahdmu mid-dar, għalhekk il-Wifi għandu jkun bżonnjuż għal kulhadd.

Hija qalet li thossha kburija li giet mahtura Ministru bħala persuna li twieldet fi Blacktown u għexet hajjitha kollha f'dawn l-inhawi.

Il-Ministru Rowland bdiet bħala ġurnalista mad-*Daily Telegraph* iżda komplet tistudja u laħqet avukat tispeċjalizza fit-telekomunikazzjoni li hi l-passjoni tagħha. Hija rebbet is-siġġu ta' Greenway għall-ewwel darba fl-2010 u baqgħet tiġi eletta f'kull elezzjoni.

"Irridu nagħtu opprtunitajiet ugħwali lil kulhadd u bħala Ministru se nkompli naddem għal dan il-ghan," qalet.

Fil-harġa ta' *The Voice of the Maltese* tas-7 ta' Diċembru 2021 kellna intervista mal-familja Maltija Pace Bonello minn Ponds fejn qalulna kemm Michelle Rowland MP kienet ta' għajnuna għalihom u għal dawk kollha tal-madwar biex jiksibu servizz aħjar tal-mobile.



Roundup of News About Malta



Malta exempted from mandatory EU gas reduction

Malta has secured an exemption from a European Commission's regulation that introduces mandatory reductions of 15% for gas use by member states in case of security of supply emergencies.

During an extraordinary meeting of the Energy Ministers in Brussels, Energy Minister Miriam Dalli presented Malta's case as an island member state that is disconnected from the European gas network.

She strongly upheld that in Malta's specific situation, where switching of fuels is not a viable option, such a mandatory reduction would be detrimental for both households and businesses.

Unlike many of the EU's member states, Malta is not connected to the Union's gas network and its use of LNG is exclusively restricted for electricity generation. In fact, the island receives deliveries based on a committed predetermined schedule of shipments through a gas supply agreement.

Minister Dalli stated that Malta stands united together with the rest of the European Union in sending a strong signal of solidarity and cooperation to safeguard its citizens and ensure security of supply.

"Even though Malta is exempt

from a mandatory reduction of 15% in reducing its gas use, we will continue working hard to increase our share of renewables and incentives for businesses and households, to promote a switch to energy efficient operations and renewable energy models", she said.

The European Commission recently proposed a blanket mandatory target for all EU countries to cut gas use by 15% from August to March, compared with their average consumption in the same period during 2016-2021.

The so-called 'Union Alert System' would turn a voluntary reduction into a compulsory action.

The Minister pointed out that not having access to distributed gas does not mean that Malta is immune to the financial costs experienced across Europe.

"It needs to continue to act because definitely this is not a 'business as usual' situation", she said.

Minister Dalli maintained that the realities that are being faced today show the importance of completing both hydrogen ready and electricity networks to the EU as a matter of urgency. Malta is currently working hard to ramp up its share of renewables and shift towards clean energy.



Minister Miriam Dalli making her point at the EU Commission

Public Service first in eGovernment out of 35

Malta's Public Service has been ranked first in Europe in terms of eGovernment services by obtaining an average score of 96%. It was followed by Estonia (90%) and Luxembourg (87%).

This results from the 'eGovernment Benchmark Reports 2022' that have just released by the European Commission after analysing online government services of 35 European countries.

The exercise evaluates the provision and delivery of eGovernment services across Europe, that include the 27 EU member states along with Iceland, Norway, Switzerland, Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey.

The Maltese Public Service ranked first came first in all the criteria of this exercise. Its score was 28% higher than the average.

In his reaction, Mr Tony Sultana, the Head of the Maltese Public Service said that this result certifies the high level of the public services rendered in our country.

He added that such a result would not have been possible without the dedication of the public officers, and the investments made and still to be made so that the Public Service remains at the forefront, with the best digital tools and talent at hand.

The European Union undertakes the benchmark annually to determine how effectively the public administrations offer their services using modern digital tools and channels.

False report about President George Vella

The Office of the President has drawn the attention of the public to a false report titled, 'SPECIAL REPORT: President Calls This Maltese Lucky "Economic Support Payment 2.0" that has been circulating on the Internet using his image and 'quoting' him in the most misleading way.

President Vella has never given such an interview, and his office has filed a report with the Cyber Crime Unit of the Malta Police Force, which is investigated.

Gnien Calvagna inaugurated at Mosta

An open space in Mosta spanning 4,000 m², using sustainable materials, for everyone to enjoy has been developed in the *Gnien Victor Calvagna* that has now been officially inaugurated in the presence of relatives of Dr. Victor Calvagna, after whom this garden was named.

With a million-euro investment this space has been transformed into an urban greening project that will be accessible to all and can host different local activities.

First Maritime Awards set for October

The first-ever Malta Maritime Awards, described as a good platform to recognise the hard work and dedication of individuals and companies that have contributed towards the establishment of Malta as a centre of maritime excellence, will be held during the Malta Maritime Summit Week, between October 3 and 7.

The maritime sector is regarded as one of the main pillars of the island's economy and the lifeline to the island's connectivity with the rest of the world.

Announcing the Maritime Awards, Minister Aaron Farrugia,

who is responsible for the transport portfolio mentioned a number of success stories in this sector over the years, such as a leading jurisdiction for ship and yacht registration, a main transshipment hub in the Mediterranean, a main cruise port and leading ship repair and yachts facilities.

He added that such successes are a confirmation that Malta is establishing itself as a centre of maritime excellence, which was possible thanks to the dedication and commitment of many people who work tirelessly to put Malta on the world map.



Roundup of News About Malta



Tourism: MTA, MIA confident of a complete recovery by year 2024

The Malta Tourism Authority (MTA), and Malta International Airport are confident that in two years' time (2024) tourism in Malta would reach the pre-Covid 19 pandemic levels of 2019. Top officials from both entities said that there are several indicators and factors that could affect this recovery and lead one to believe in this recovery.

In its half-yearly update, compared to the same period the previous year, in which it had to contend with restrictions brought about by the pandemic, the number of passengers that made use of the airport facilities topped 2.3 million as the performance recovered well in the second quarter, balancing a slow start to the year. It made a good recovery in April and June.

MIA's CEO, Alan Borg said that Malta International Airport expects to end the year with 5.4 million passengers, which is equal to the traffic handled by the airport in 2016 and 2017.

He pointed out that France, Poland and Hungary exceeded the numbers in 2019, while Italy and France recorded an increase of 5% and 32% respectively.

However, in other markets, such as the United Kingdom, which is historically regarded as one of the most important markets for the Maltese Islands, the German and Spanish markets registered decreases of 33%, 36% and 24% respectively compared to 2019.

Despite the challenges faced by the aviation industry, the MIA estimates that by the end of this year, with the increase in routes and seat capacity it expects to welcome a total of 5.4 million passengers. The winter

connections are to be expanded to 83 routes – about 80% of the connections the airport had before the pandemic – and North Macedonia and Romania.

MIA could welcome 5.4m. tourists by the end of this year

The Chief Executive of the Malta Tourism Authority (MTA) Carlo Micallef said that the results in the second quarter of the year were paving the way for better prospects in the future.

The Chief Executive of the Malta Tourism Authority (MTA) Carlo Micallef said that the results in the second quarter of the year were paving the way for better prospects in the future.

pects in the future.

The Authority observed that June arrivals to Malta were 82% of what it had in 2019. Regarding the future, there is a lot to consider, both within its control and outside of it, including the economic situation. Mr Micallef said, however, "by working together we are aiming for a repeat performance of 2019 in 2024".

The figures published recently published indicate that the airline Ryanair dominated the carriage of passengers with 263,582 followed by the national airline Air Malta with 147,052.



Malta International Airport terminal

11 greening projects in various localities to benefit residents

Thanks the 'Urban Greening' scheme, operated by Ambjent Malta, 11 environmental projects are to be carried out by Local Councils and financed by the government would be embellishing different areas within the community for the benefit of the residents.

Each submitted project was evaluated based on five criteria that include the environmental aspect of the project, originality, the cultural aspects and the benefits towards the community, the aesthetic design, and the implementation period of the project.

Through funds provided by the Ministry of Environment, Energy and Enterprise, local councils can implement greening projects that help in the beautification of urban localities and create a better environment, new urban spaces and regenerate abandoned gardens for a cleaner environment for their residents.

Israeli medical cannabis company announces €6 million investment

An Israeli medical cannabis company, Panaxia, has plans to further expand its local production plant and is making a €6 million investment to deepen its connection with Malta.

The company has just obtained the GMP license for the facility in Malta upon the completion of the first phase of investment and will export its first products to Germany in the coming weeks.

Apart from the Malta plant, Panaxia also operates from locations within the United States, Canada and South Africa, and is also in the process of registering products in Portugal, Greece, Poland and Brazil amongst others.

Its range of pharmaceutical products, over 60 in all, are mainly based on cannabis plant extracts and treating a variety of ailments including nausea, anxiety and depression.

Panaxia aims to enrich the Maltese production portfolio with products aimed for both Europe and Latin American markets, therefore the Malta facility will diversify into an array of products ranging from production of tablets, oil and extract production, as well as clinical trials, stability experiments and research and development.

During a visit to Panaxia's plant in Hal Far, the Environment, Energy and Enterprise Minister Miriam Dalli

described Panaxia as an early success story for one of Malta's newest economic niches.

Mr Dadi Segal, CEO of Panaxia (left), expressed his appreciation towards the company's local team and thanked Malta Enterprise for its support



Mix-xena tal-ħajja Maltija

minn Ġużè Camilleri

Fl-aħħar iffirmit

Thabbar li s-saga twila tal-emendi tal-Att tal-IVF, fl-aħħar intemmet. Dan billi wara li ġew approvati b'maġġoranza kbira mill-Parlament, l-emendi sabu ntopp iehor.... il-firma tal-President.

Kull Att li jgħaddi mill-Parlament, ma jgħid, kif jgħidu l-avukati, *'in vigore'*..... fis-seħh qabel ma dan jiġi ffirmat mill-President.

Skont il-Kostituzzjoni ta' Malta, meta liġi tgħaddi mill-Parlament għandha tiġi ffirmata mill-aktar fis possibbli mill-President. Infatti l-Artiklu 72 tal-Kostituzzjoni jitleb li *"meta jkun hemm liġi li tiġi ppreżentata lil President għall-kunsens tiegħu, dan għandu jagħmel dan mingħajr dewmien."*

F'Malta m'hemm is-sistema bħal f'ċerti pajjiżi, fejn meta l-President jew ir-renjant ma jaqbilx mal-liġi għandu d-dritt li jibagħtha lura lill-Parlament. Teknikament, l-uniku triq li għandu President f'Malta, jekk jibqa' jinsisti li ma jiffirmax il-liġi, hija li jirriżenja.

Allura, meta l-President ta' bħali-



ssa, Dr George Vella, deher li qed jaħsibha jekk jiffirmax il-liġi jew le, minhabba li kif jingħad għandu oġġezzjoni ta' kuxjenza dwarha, nibtet is-sejha biex irriżenja.

Il-Partit ADPD mar aktar 'il-bogħod minn hekk, billi insista li la President ma ffirmar

il-Liġi meta għadda ċertu żmien u li dan lanqas ma rriżenja, talbet lill-Prim Ministru jlaqqa' l-Parlament biex titressaq mozzjoni ta' impeachment biex il-President George Vella jitneħħa.

Sadanittant, kull meta il-President kien qed jiġi mistoqsi dwar dan il-kwestjoni kien iwieġeb li l-att kien se jiġi iffirmit mill-President.

Fil-fatt hekk seħh, għaliex kif il-President beda mawra uffiċjali fl-Inglilterra, biex jattendi għaċ-ċerimonja tal-Ftuħ tal-Logħob tal-Commonwealth f'Birmingham, kif ukoll biex iżur morda Martin li jinsabu fl-isptarjiet fir-Renju Unit u postu ttieħed mill-Agent President, il-Professor Frank Bezzina (*stampa fuq*), tal-aħħar mill-ewwel iffirma l-emendi, biex issa l-miżuri jistgħu jibdeu jithaddmu.

Ir-reazzjoni

Sintendi, ir-reazzjoni għal li seħh kienet varjata, b'dawk sodisfatti li fl-aħħar mill-aħħar din il-problema giet solvuta, b'ohrajn jikkritkaw lill-President u jinsistu li kellu jirriżenja.

F'intervista l-Kap tal-Oppożizzjoni, Bernard Grech qal li lil hinn minn kif ivvota l-Parlament, il-Kostituzzjoni titkellem b'mod ċar dwar l-obbligi tal-President tar-Repubblika ta' Malta, u li b'dak li għamel meta ħalla lisostitut tiegħu jiffirma għalih, irrenda l-Parlament ineffettiv għal kwazi tliet ġimgħat.

Żied jgħid li l-President Vella għandu kull dritt ikollu problema morali b'dak li jitpoġġa quddiemu biex jiffirma, imma ma kellux l-għażla li jevitaha u jhalli l-agent President jiffirmaha.

Grech qal kulhadd jifhem l-għażla li tal-gvern biex jahtar agent President, halli jiffirma l-liġi tal-IVF, li wara kollox xorta għaddiet mill-Uffiċċju tal-President.



L-uniku kumment minnaha tal-Gvern kien dak tad-Deputat Prim Ministru u Ministru tas-Saħħa, Dr Chris Fearn, li fuq Twitter kiteb:

Illum l-Uffiċċju tal-President iffirma l-liġi l-għadda tal-IVF wara li aktar kmieni dan ix-xahar il-Parlament approva b'maġġoranza kbira. Din il-ġimgħa stess nippubblikaw l-Avviż Legali bil-protokol aġġornat.

Folla ta' 30,000 għall-Isle of MTV

F'Malta das-sajf qed isiru hafna attivitajiet muzikali ta' prestigju minn artisti magħrufa tal-massa bla wiehed iħallas biex jattendi. Fosthom irritoma ftit ilu l-Isle of MTV, l-akbar spetaklu muzikali f'xjn l-Ewropa li ġibed lejha folla ta' 1 fuq minn 30,000

Hasra: Nuqqas ta' membri tal-kleru; kunvent se jagħlaq

Ta' sikwit nisimghu u naqraw ilmenti, minn komunitajiet Maltin li jgħixu barra, li ma jsibux membru tal-kleru Malti fil-komunità tagħhom, u li minkejja l-appelli tagħhom lill-Kurja Maltija, xorta jibqgħu fejn ikunu.

Ikun hemm min jahbat jirraġuna li dan juri nuqqas ta' interess fil-Maltin li jgħixu barra l-pajjiż. Imma, il-fatti huma xort'ohra.

F'pajjiż fejn snin ilu l-għadd tal-membri tal-kleru kien wiehed biex ngħidu hekk, aktar milli jinhtieg hteġ il-pajjiż, issa l-

istampa inbidlet billi l-għadd ta' vokazzjoni sirt tghoddhom, kultant fuq is-swaba ta' id waħda,

Is-sitwazzjoni tant marret għall-aħħar li ċerti parroċċi qed isibuha diffiċli li jlaħħqu mal-impenji tagħhom, filwaqt li xi kunventi x'aktarx li se jkollhom jagħlaq l-bien tagħhom.

Sahansitra għadu kif ġie mhabbar li l-kunvent tal-Patrijiet Karmelitani fi Fleur-de-Lys, li ilhom preżenti f'din il-parroċċa sa mill-1946, se jagħlaq. Il-Knisja tal-Karmelitani fi Fleur de Lys kienet saret parroċċa fl-1975.

Skont rapporti f'xi gazzetti bħalissa qed isiru taħdidiet biex il-knisja taqaf' f'idejn l-Arċidjoċesi u tidda titmexxa minnha. Jekk dan iseħh, il-parroċċa tinsista' li tibqa' tiffunzjona.





CHRIS BOWEN MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR MCMURDO

If you require assistance with Federal Government matters, including:

- Immigration
- Penalties
- NIS
- Communications

Please contact my office on (02) 9604 0710 or via Chris.Bowen.MP@aph.gov.au

Chrisbowenmp @bowenchris

Shops 3 & 4, 398 Hamilton Road, Fairfield West, NSW, 2165



Labor



Passaport fost l-aqwa

Għaliex il-passaport Malti huwa tant imfittex? Forsi għal dawk li jgħixu barra l-Unjoni Ewropej jwiegħbu, għax jekk ikoll passaport Malti tkun tista' tidhol fil-pajjiżi kollha missehbha fl-Unjoni Ewropeja mingħajr xkiel.

Attwalment, x'aktarx li dan hu li jhajar li dawk li jifilhu jhallsu, li jagħmlu minn kollox biex jiksibu passaport Malti.

Imma l-vera raġuni tmur bogħod minn hekk. Kull min b'xi mod, għandu dritt li jakkwista' l-passaport Malti, għandu jagħmel dan, għax il-passaport Malti huwa

sahħa ta' passaport?

Ewlieni fost kollox il-fatt li permess ta' dan il-passaport tkun tista' tivvjaġġa għal diversi pajjiżi mingħajr il-htieġa ta' visa, barra sintendi li l-passaport ikun wiehed sigur.

Dan l-aħħar l-aġenzija Henley & Partners għamlet stħarriġ dwar il-passaporti ta' għadd kbir ta' pajjiżi tad-dinja u mill-istħarriġ tagħha hareġ li l-passaport Malti jinsab fit-tmien post fid-dinja. Dan billi bih wiehed jista' jivvjaġġa lejn 185 pajjiż mingħajr il-htieġa ta' viża minn qabel.

Flimkien ma' Malta, fit-tmien post hemm l-Awstralja, il-Kanada, ir-Repubblika Ċeka u l-Greċja.

Fl-ewwel post hemm il-Ġappun filwaqt li s-Sirja, l-Iraq u l-Afganistan huma meqjusa l-aktar tliet pajjiżi bl-aħħar passaport.

Fl-aħħar snin, iċ-ċittadini Maltin beda jkollhom passaport gdid mill-aktar siguri, b'elementi differenti ta' sigurtà li huma kemm vizibbli għall-għajnejn u oħrajn li tinhtieġ apparat forensiku biex tivverifika l-awtenticità tiegħu.

Minhabba l-għadd kbir ta' talbiet għall-ħruġ u t-tigdid ta' passaporti, fl-aħħar xhur, Identity Malta nediet ukoll sistema online għall-appuntamenti biex wiehed ikun jista' jagħmel il-passaport.

Miljuni ta' Ewros f'Benefiċċji Soċjali

Malta hija wiehed mill-pajjiżi magħr-ufa għall-benefiċċji soċjali li toffri liċ-ċittadini tagħha. Infatti fl-ewwel sitt xhur ta' din is-sena n-nefqa fuq dawn il-benefiċċji laħqu s- €628 miljun.

Matul l-ewwel sitt xhur ta' din is-sena kien hemm zieda qawwija fis-somma li ntefget f'dawn il-benefiċċji ta' €45 miljun.

Din iż-żieda hija dovuta għall-introduzzjoni ta' miżuri soċjali li bdew jingħataw mill-bidu tas-sena. Fosthom, iż-żieda fil-pensjonijiet kollha u l-introduzzjoni ta' mekkanizmu biex jiġu agġustati l-pensjonijiet tar-romol.

In-nefqa dwar il-pensjonijiet tal-irtirar, tar-romol, tal-invalidità kif ukoll dik mhux kontributorja tal-età laħqet il-€465.7 miljun – li tirrapreżenta aktar minn 74% tan-nefqa globali.

Dahket Bihom!

F'lekk jista' jwassal il-vizzju tal-logħob għall-flus hareġ ċar minn każ li tressaq fil-Qorti, meta mara ta' 60 sena nstabet hatja li ffordat lil diversi nies billi talbithom flus tgħidilhom li kellha bżonnhom għal trattament tal-kanċer tagħha jew ta' binha.

B'dan il-mod irnexxielha tikseb total ta' €470,000 mingħand tliet vittmi. Imbagħad, minflok dawn il-flus nefqithom biex tikura l-kanċer, li kien invenzjoni tagħha, użathom biex tiffinanzja l-vizzju tagħha tal-logħob tal-azzard, l-aktar fil-Casino.

Hija nstabet hatja ta' frodi, misappropriazzjoni u hasil tal-flus u ntbagħtet erba' snin ħabs u kienet immultata €70,000.

Il-Qorti ordnat ukoll il-konfiska tal-assi kollha tal-akkużata li jmorru għand il-Gvern, u talbitha tħallas is-somma ta' €2,219 bħala spejjeż.

Suċċess

L-isport mhux il-linja tiegħi, imma Lxtaqt ingib għall-attenzjoni tal-qarrejja ta' dawn il-paġni xi haġa li laqtini minn dan s-settur.

Minkejja li fl-aħħar snin sar titjib fil-qasam tal-Isport, għadna nbatu f'ħafna oqsma fejn jidhlu l-kompetizzjonijiet Internazzjonali, l-aktar fil-futbol, li minkejja li għandu tradizzjoni antika – il-logħba tal-futbol bdiet ferm qabel diversi pajjiżi Ewropej – f'it li xejn sar progress.

Imma li ma sarx fil-futbol qed isir fi sport ieħor tal-ballun, ir-Rugby, li għalkemm f'Malta m'għandux storja twila jew ħafna sostinaturi, f'qasir żmien xorta għamel

progress, tant li fir-Rugby League Malta rnexxielna naghmluha mal-aqwa għaxra fid-dinja. Iva, pajjiżna jinsab fl-10 post mat-timijiet internazzjonali f'dan l-isport.

Mill-15-il post fil-lista internazzjonali li kien jikkupa qabel, it-tim Malti tar-Rugby League avvanza ħames postijiet. Fost it-timijiet li ġew qabel Malta hemm Franza, l-Ingliterra, Wales, New Zealand, Fiji, u l-Awstralja, li lkoll għandhom storja ferm twila u riżorsi f'dan l-isport.



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A quick glimpse at Australia



The wealth gap between the rich and the poor

Australia remains one of the richest countries in the world but has a significant wealth gap between the rich and the poor. According to Credit Suisse's 2020 Global Wealth Report, Australia is the fourth richest country in the world, only behind Switzerland, the United States and Hong Kong.

The findings released by the Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS) found that Australia's richest 10 per cent of households have an average household wealth of \$6.1 million - almost half of the entire country's wealth combined.

The majority of Australians remain on the lower scale of wealth, with 60 per cent of the population only pocketing 17 per cent of the country's wealth. In 2021, the richest 1 per cent of Australians held 50 times the wealth of the lower 60 per cent of Australians and 11 times the wealth of the average-income household.

UNSW Director of the Social Policy Resource Centre Carla Treloar said the findings were a reminder of the stark gap between the rich and poor in Australia. "Once again, this report reminds us that wealth in Australia is distributed very unevenly," she said.

Most diverse new Parliament

The 47th parliament started in Canberra with a traditional Welcome to Country ceremony on the forecourt of Parliament House. The new parliament is the most diverse in Australia's history with the arrival of 35 new MPs into the house of representatives.

New MPs have been sworn in, with a new Speaker, Labor MP Milton Dick, and Senate President, Labor Senator Sue Lines, also elected into the positions.

Mr Albanese started the day attending a traditional church service in the Canberra suburb of Forrest ahead of the opening of parliament. He described the start of the new parliament as a "momentous day" with his government holding a "mandate to implement change".

"I want more unity, less division. I want to bring the country together with a sense of our common purpose which is there," he told reporters. "We have big challenges as a nation going forward."

The new government is set to introduce 18 pieces of legislation in the first sitting week, as it takes over after nine years on the Opposition benches.



Parliament House in Canberra

An assault on the Solomon Islands

The US Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman and US Ambassador to Australia Caroline Kennedy plan to visit the Solomon Islands, where their fathers fought in World War II and the United States is in a modern-day battle for influence with strategic rival China.

Ms Sherman and her delegation will commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Battle of Guadalcanal, and the US is to open an embassy in the capital, Honiara.

Caroline Kennedy - whose father was assassinated US President John F. Kennedy, took part in the Solomon Islands campaign as a patrol boat captain in World War II.

The State Department official said the visit would also be of personal interest to Ms Sherman, whose father, Mal Sherman, was a Marine wounded at the Battle of Guadalcanal, which began between US and allied and Japanese forces in August 1942.

The six-month battle marked the start of US-led offensive op-



Caroline Kennedy

erations in the Pacific, showing the strategic importance of the Solomons that endures today. In Honiara, Sherman will deliver remarks at a US-organised ceremony on Skyline Ridge, site of the US Guadalcanal Memorial, as well as at a Solomon Islands-hosted memorial at Bloody Ridge.

She also will attend memorial events organised by the Solomon Islands and Japan, now a close US ally. "These events will recognise the service and sacrifice of those who fought in the Battle of Guadalcanal, including US and Allied forces, the people of Solomon Islands, and the people of Japan," the official said.

A State Department spokesperson said Washington was seeking to "significantly deepen" engagement with the Pacific islands and embark on a new positive chapter ... "with increased American presence" where they will commit to work with the Pacific Islands in the short- and long-term to address the most pressing issues they face.



A quick glimpse at Australia

Abortion is a health issue

A proposal requiring public hospitals to provide abortion services as part of their federal funding arrangements will not be revived, the prime minister of Australia says.

Despite Labor taking the policy to the 2019 election in opposition, Anthony Albanese said he is not considering it in government.

Although public hospitals receive funding from the Commonwealth, it's up to the states to decide what services are offered, "We don't control the health system, states control the health system, and they deal with these issues," the PM said.

But national gender equity organisation Fair Agenda is calling for all levels of government to work together to ensure reproductive and sexual health services are affordable, accessible and safe in Australia.

"There are significant barriers in Australia for people in regional and remote as well as culturally and linguistically diverse communities. It shouldn't be a postcode lottery dependent on where you live."

Abortion should be treated as the health issue it is and be fully covered by Medicare and the PBS, Fair Agenda said.

'Don't trust the government, trust HIM'

The former prime minister Scott Morrison travelled to Perth on the 24th of July to celebrate the 27th birthday of the Pentecostal Victory Life Centre church, founded by the controversial tennis star Margaret Court.

In a 50-minute Sunday sermon, he asked the congregation how much faith they had, even though tests and hardship.

"We trust in Him. We don't trust governments.

Pandemic leave payment on again

Following an expedited national cabinet meeting, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese announced the restoration of pandemic leave payments for workers impacted by COVID-19.

The payment system ended on 30th June but has now been reinstated until 30 September.

In order to receive the payments, applicants must meet certain eligibility requirements.

To qualify, applicants must have lost at least eight hours or a full day's work. They are also required to have liquid assets of less than \$10,000 on the first day of the time period being claimed.

Couples can both claim the payment but must lodge separate claims. Payments to be backdated to 1 July to ensure those eligible who were unable to work due to isolation periods during this period will also be covered.

Applicants are encouraged to submit their claims online and will need a myGov account along with a Centrelink customer reference number.

Legal action against Pell and the Church

In December 2018 Cardinal George Pell was convicted of abusing two choirboys in the 1990s when an archbishop of Melbourne. But, two years later in a unanimous decision, the High Court quashed the convictions and the cardinal, who has always maintained his innocence, walked free.

In 2014 one of the former choirboys died of a drug overdose. His father, who cannot be named, was told by police about the alleged abuse of his son a year later.

The father has now launched legal action against Cardinal Pell (pictured right) and the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne in the Supreme Court of Victoria.

In the statement of claim lodged to the court, the father is suing both

the cardinal and the Church for "damages for nervous shock" relating to finding out about allegations of sexual abuse.



No early exit for the Catholic Church

The big takeaway from the 2021 Census data, according to recent media coverage, is the apparent decline and pending disappearance of the Catholic Church from Australian public life – a perennial obsession for the nation's secularists.

What follows are calls for the Catholic and other Christian churches to be ignored, put on the sideline, and relieved of any "preferential" treatment or consideration they may receive, all because the scoreboard shows the game is almost over.

While Census data showed the proportion of Catholics in Australia fell to 20 per cent, those who wish the Church an early exit should prepare for disappointment.



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Tagħrif dwar il-kitba bil-Malti

Il-varjanti tal-ortografija Il-hmistax-il parti)

Inkompju ngħibu għall-attenzjoni tal-qarrejja l-Appendiċi li huma nkluzi f'dan ix-xogħol tal-Kunsill Nazzjonali tal-Ilsien Malti li ttratta l-forom li għandhom jintużaw fil-kitba bil-Malti biex ikun hemm uniformità. Dan il-kliem għandu jinkiteb magħqud meta jkollu tifsira waħda, kif għandu fl-eżempju.

Appendiċi A

bħalma

Bħalma lkoll tafu, wasalna biex intemmu hidmitna.

bilfors (+ ta' bilfors)

Bilfors li ma ftehemniex. Dan dmirek u trid tagħmlu ta' bilfors.

bilgri (tfisser "dlonk";

ara wkoll f'Appendiċi B: bil-giri) Malli lemahni telaqhom u gie bilgri hdejja.

bilhaqq

Bilhaqq, għax kont sa ninsa, inti taf li

llejla għandna laqgħa, hux?

bilkemm

Bilkemm lahaq dahal li ma bediex jargumenta.

billejl

Hafna mis-serq isir billejl biex id-dalma tostor kollox

bilqiegħda

Mhux rispett li meta jidhol is-surmast fil-kamra tibqa' bilqiegħda.

bilwieqfa

Meta jindaqq l-Innu Malti nqumu bil-wieqfa Nippreferi naħdem billejl milli binhar.

bizżejjed

Issa bizżejjed għax ħadtli rasi!

dalghodu

Qed nipprova nispiċċa xogħli dalghodu, imma fil-każ inkompju llejla.

dalwaqt (ġieli mqassra: daqt)

Stennieni ftiit; dalwaqt/daqt inkun miegħek.

dakinhar

Mela nsejt x'kont għedtlek dakinhar?

daparti

Daparti tiegħi, qatt ma nqastu f'xejn, imma haddiehor ma nafx.

daqshekk

(+ għal daqshekk, minn daqshekk) Mhuwiex daqshekk importanti li timla din il-formola.

Għal daqshekk għamilt qorti? Minn daqshekk, ma nistax ingerger minnha.

daqskemm

Qed inhossni stordut daqskemm għandi guh! Dalwaqt ninstabat mal-art daqskemm qed inhossni għajjen.

daqskieku, daqlikieku

Il-ġolf refa' l-karetton b'id waħda, daqlikieku kien banketta.

Ikompji fil-ħarġa Nru 280



Il-Ministru Owen Bonnici (it-tieni mix-xellug) f'diskussjoni mat-tfal dwar il-kultura u l-arti

It-tfal jgħidu tagħhom dwar il-kultura u l-arti

Għadd ta' studenti bejn id-disgħa u t-13-il sena ħadu sehem f'laqgħa ta' diskussjoni fil-preżenza tal-Ministru għall-Wirt Nazzjonali, l-Arti u l-Gvern Lokali Owen Bonnici li matulha setgħu jsemmgħu lehinhom u jgħidu tagħhom dwar affarijiet marbuta mal-kultura u l-arti.

L-għan tal-laqgħa kien li jingābru diversi ideat u sugġerimenti u li jiżdied l-għarfien dwar ix-xewqat tal-istudenti dwar il-kultura f'Malta. Fost il-punti msemmija kien hemm il-ħtieġa li jissoktaw jissahħu t-tradizzjonijiet u l-identità Maltija, kif ukoll

li wiehed jifhem aħjar it-tipi u l-aspetti differenti li toffri l-kultura minnha nnifisha.

Matul il-laqgħa, il-Ministru Bonnici saħaq dwar l-importanza li jingħata lehen u spazju lit-tfal biex jgħidu dak li jahsbu, u li l-adulti jagħrfu l-ħtieġa li tingħata l-priorità misħoqqa lill-ħsibijiet tal-generazzjoni li tiela'. Sahaq li t-tfal għandhom ikunu nvoluti aktar fil-komunitajiet tal-pajjiż.

Il-Ministru qal li l-ministeru tiegħu se jkompli jisma' l-ideat tat-tfal, anke għaliex huwa kruċjali li minn etā żgħira jkunu qrib il-kultura u l-arti.

Stedina

Il-Fathers Maltin

Qed jistiednu lill-Kommunitā Maltija, għall-festa tradizzjonali **tal-Vitorja**

nhar il-Ħadd 11 ta' Settembru.

Fis-2.30 pm tibda l-purcijsjoni fejn jingħad ir-Ruzarju.

Wara tibda l-quddiesa li se tiġi kkonċelebrata

fil-Katidral ta' St Mary's College Street Sydney.

Ejjew u ġibu magħkom lill-familja u lill-ħbieb.

L-istedina hi miftuħa wkoll għal dawk li għandhom xi għaqda.

Dawn qed jiġu mhegga mhux biss li jiġu huma imma wkoll li jgħibu magħhom il-bnadar jew standardi tal-għaqda.

Qed jiġi sugġerit li min se jiġi jahseb kmieni.

Grazzi hafna lil dawk li dejjem attendew u ħadu sehem f'din iċ-ċelebrazzjoni tal-Vitorja.

Rev Fr Tarcisio Micallef MSSP

Chaplain għall-Komunitā Maltija f'Sydney. Phone: 9380 8398



150 sena mit-twaqqif tas-Sorijiet Sależjani

Mal-150 sena ilu, f'Mornese (fl-Italja ta' Fuq) San Ġwann Bosco flimkien ma' Madre Maria Domenica Mazzarello waqqfu komunità ta' 11-il tfajla, l-*Uljed Marija Ghajnuna tal-Insara* bħala segwitu tat-twaqqif tas-Salezjani ta' Don Bosco.

L-ghanijiet ewlenin tagħhom kienu li jahdmu b'risq it-tfal u ż-żgħażaġh l-aktar f'qar u emarginati fi żmienhom. Iż-żewġ istituti kibru u xterru, u t-tnejn ġew stabbiliti bħala kongregazzjonijiet li jahdmu fost iż-żgħażaġh, fl-Italja u madwar id-dinja.

L-ewwel tentattivi biex tiġi mwaqqfa komunità ta' Sorijiet Sależjani fil-Gżejjer Maltin bdew 19-il sena wara, iżda kellu jghaddi hafna aktar żmien qabel ma' din twaqqfet ukoll f'Għawdex, bl-ewwel sorijiet jaslu fid-dar fir-Rabat fl-1963 u bl-ewwel Aspirantat jinfetħ fl-1966 fl-Għasri.

Matul l-aħħar 59 sena l-komunità ta' *Uljed Marija* f'Għawdex kienet primarjament impenjata fl-edukazzjoni tat-tfal mill-ewwel snin tal-kindergarten sal-aħħar sena tal-edukazzjoni primarja permezz tat-twaqqif tal-iskola Laura Vicuna fl-Għasri u fiċ-ċentru tal-kindergarten anness mal-kunvent fir-Rabat.

Matul is-snin mijiet ta' tfal u studenti, bniet u subien ibbenefikaw mill-hidma u d-dedikazzjoni tas-sorijiet u l-istaff tal-iskola. Hafna oħrajn attendew għal-lezzjonijiet tad-duttrina u whud ghadhom membri attivi f'diversi gruppi fosthom tal-*past pupils* u l-koperaturi.

Fl-aħħar 14-il sena twaqqfet ukoll komunità f'Tas-Sliema u l-membri tagħha jahdmu f'inizjattivi u kollaborazzjoni mal-Oratorju tas-Salezjani f'Tas-Sliema, fil-parroċċa tax-Xgħajra, fl-MCAST u fi hdan il-Grupp Vokazzjonali f'Malta.

Il-komunitajiet lokali tas-Sorijiet Salesjani fakkru l-anniversarju tal-150 sena mit-twaqqif tal-kongregazzjoni billi l-Kardinal Mario Grech flimkien mal-Isqof t'Għawdex Anton Teuma, ikkonċelebraw quddies ta' radd il-hajr fis-Santwarju tal-Madonna Ta' Pinu. Fost il-preżenti kien hemm ukoll Mons. George Borg il-kappillan tal-kappella tas-sorijiet f'Għawdex għal dawn l-aħħar 44 sena, Fr Eric Cachia SDB u għadd ta' patrijiet salesjani, Fr Colin Apap kappillan tal-parroċċa tax-Xgħajra, u saċerdoti oħra.

Mument sinifikattiv kien meta s-sorijiet gedded il-wegħdi tal-professjoni tagħhom.

F'kelmtejn tal-okkażjoni l-Kardinal Grech fisser l-importanza li bħala komunitajiet jakkumpanjaw lit-tfal



Mill-Għawdex
Għawdxija

Charles Spiteri

ċkejknin u ż-żgħażaġh, l-aktar fiż-żmienijiet tal-lum meta r-*role models* naqsu.

"Huwa importanti li ngeddu l-impenn nisrani fis-soċjetà u nisimgħu t-tnehida tal-bniedem tal-lum, anke ta' dak li għadu ma twelidx, u li nakkumpanjaw lill-bniedem biex jasal għand Gesù li jimlielu hajtu bil-ferh," qal.

Fi tmien iċ-ċerimonja Marie Louise Attard, President tal-Grupp tal-*Past Pupils* t'Għawdex, għamlet messagg għall-okkażjoni, waqt li Sr Marie Angeles Diaz, mill-komunità ta' Tas-Sliema qrat messagg speċjali mibgħut mill-Madre Generali tal-Kongregazzjoni Suor Chiara Cazuola.

Sr Antoinette Pace, li għal 38 sena serviet bħala l-kap tal-iskola Laura Vicuna, ipprezentat żewġ pitturi originali magħmulin apposta għall-okkażjoni mill-artist magħruf Għawdx i-Kav. Paolo Camilleri Cauchi.

Il-benefattriċi ewlenija tas-Sorijiet Sależjani f'Għawdex kienet is-sinjorina Olimpia Bondi.

Logo ġdid għall-banda Sannat

Għall-festa ta' Santa Margerita li giet iċċelebrata, fl-24 ta' Lulju, is-Soċjeta' Mużikali Santa Margerita ta' Sannat nediet il-logo l-ġdid tal-banda li gie ddisinjat mill-artist Għawdx i George James Cutajar Zahra.

Biex tfakkar il-25 sena mit-twaqqif tal-banda s-soċjeta' nediet ukoll CD bil-marċi li jinkludi sett ta' 11-il marċ ġdid u l-innijiet tal-banda u ta' Santa Margerita.

L-Istrumenti kollha tal-banda (43), li kienu jiswew Lm24,583, waslu nhar is-Sibt 4 ta' Lulju, 1998 u tbierku minn Mons Isqof Nikol G. Cauchi f'it jiemi wara. Imbagħad fil-11 ta' Lulju kien sari l-kuntratt tax-xiri ta' post biex ikun il-każin tas-soċjetà.

Fit-18 ta' Lulju kienet ittelligħet għall-ewwel darba bandiera fuq il-bejt tal-każin li dakinhar infetħ għall-ewwel darba għall-pubbliku.



Il-President tas-soċjetà,
Dr Charles A. Gauci
(lemin) u s-Segretarju
Paul Vella waqt l-inawgurazzjon tal-logo il-ġdid

MARY PORTELLI bdiet b'passatemp ... issa professjonali ta' stoffa fl-arti tal-mużajk



Charles SPITERI

Mary Portelli hi artista tal-mużajk minn Nadur, Ghawdex. Kienet bdiet taghmel il-mużajk bhala passatemp fl-2008, fi żmien li ma tantx kien hawn gharfien dwar din is-sengha, u ghalhekk kienet tftitex fuq l-Internet u tesperimenta wahidha.

Aktar tard Mary attendiet kors ta' filghax-ija u fl-2013, flimkien ma' żewgħa Peter, marru Ravenna fl-Italja fejn hadu kors fit-teknika tradizzjonali tal-mużajk fl-iskola ta' Luciana Notturmi.

L-ewwel proġett fuq skala kbira li Mary fasslet, kien *Merħba bil-Fjuri*, proġett, rebbieh ta' sejha għal proposti ta' xogħlijiet tal-arti immedija mill-Ministeru għal Ghawdex, fl-2010 twaħhal ma' hajt fl-Imgarr faċċata tat-terminal tal-Gozo Channel.

Fl-2014 hi żiedet 7.5metri mużajk mat-tlettax li digā kien hemm. Il-m e r h b a f ' G h a w d e x imżewqa bil-mużajk ma waqfitx hemm, tant li s-sena ta' wara għamlet *Qawsalla Fjuri*, u hames snin wara l-*Flower Ribbons*, ukoll fl-Imgarr.

Proġett ieħor għall-qalb Mary, huwa 'Reflections and Connections', f'Għajnsielem, rebbieh tal-kompetizzjoni tal-Ministeru għat-Trasport u Infrastruttura *Public Art in Malta*. Bil-kollaborazzjoni tal-kunsill u l-partecipazzjoni diretta tar-residenti u għaqdiet volontarji, Mary hadmet koll l-ewwel tarag tal-mużajk f'Malta. Uħud mill-partecipanti tant għogħom li l-kunsill t'Għajnsielem waqqaf *Team Mosaic Ghajnsielem* taħt it-tnexxija tagħha, li flimkien għamlu sitt proġetti ta' tisbieh madwar ir-raħal.

Mary qalet li thossha kburija li fl-2021, taħt it-tnexxija ta' membru tat-tim il-grupp hadem mużajk ta' 14-il metru kwadru.

Hi nnifisha hadmet ma' diversi kunsilli oħra, fosthom ta' San Lawrenz fejn hemm l-ewwel ismijiet tat-toroq fil-mużajk fil-

Gżejjer Maltin.

Hadmet ukoll diversi trofej lill-Kunsill ta' Kerċem, filwaqt li fin-Nadur holqot monument li jfakkar il-laqgħa tal-European Charter for Rural Communities, kif ukoll 'panel' li tfakkar fl-abbundanza tal-uċuh tar-raba'. Din tinsab inwahaħla mal-faċċata ta' l-istess Kunsill.

Hija stinkat hafna biex tip-promovi din is-sengha, tant li mexxiet għadd ta' gruppi ta' tfal, żgħażaħ u adulti biex flimkien holqu xogħol tal-mużajk.

Ta' min isemmi:

- *Il-Hajja Sabiha* maħduma minn nies li għaddew minn problemi ta' saħħa mentali.
- 'Mosart', proġett minn żgħażaħ membri ta' NGO's u l-pubbliku, kif ukoll żgħażaħ eks-pazjenti tas-*Psychiatric Ward*.

- *Illum Hallini Nghidlek Storja Jien*, tfal tal-Kindergarten 2 holqu stejjer u hadmu fuq mużajċi li ntużaw biex sebbħu il-ktieb li fih ġew ippubblikati.
- *Sant'Anton fid-Deżert* maħdum minn tfal

minn Sant'Anton fix-Xagħra waqt il-vaganzi tas-sajf.

- *Możajk taħt il-Baħar* minn studenti tal-Form 4 tal-Bishop's Conservatory Secondary School.
- *Inspire Mosaic Project* li fih tfal b'disabilità u l-voluntiera li jiehdu hsiebhom.
- *San Frangisk* magħmul minn tfal u adulti fiċ-Ċentru Sant' Antnin f'Għajnsielem.
- Proġett ma' adulti b'disabilità li jattendu iċ-Ċentru Santa Marta.
- Lezzjonijiet lit-tfal tal-iskola matul is-sena skolastika u fil-btajjel tas-sajf
- Lezzjonijiet lil anzjani mill-*Active Ageing Unit* u liż-żgħażaħ li jattendu l-Għajnsielem Learning Hub.

Minbarra li għalmet direttament lil hafna persuni, Mary qasmet l-għarfien tagħha



Il-Ministru Ian Borg jippreżenta lil Mary b'tifkira fl-inawgurazzjoni tat-tarag *Reflections and Connections*

ma' għalliema tal-arti fi skejjel tal-knisja u *activity facilitators* fid-djar tal-anzjani, biex holqot katina ta' tagħlim tal-mużajk.

Biex tkompli trawwem l-għarfien u xxerred l-imħabba lejn din l-arti, organizzat, jew hadet sehem f'attivitajiet li jinkludu partecipazzjoni attiva mill-pubbliku ġenerali, fosthom edizzjonijiet ta' *MarsalMużajk* f'Marsalforn u l-*presepu* haj Bethlehem f'Għajnsielem.

Hi temmen li meta tagħti l-hiliet baziċi, is-sengħa tal-mużajk se tibqa' hajja. Biex tilhaq dan l-għan u tippromovi din l-arti hadet sehem f'diversi wirjiet tal-arti u programmi fuq ir-radju u t-telewizzjoni.

Temmen ukoll fl-importanza tal-kollaborazzjoni ma' artisti oħra, tant li fl-2018 hadet sehem fl-*Artist-in-Residence programme* tal-Valletta18, fejn ikkollaborat ma' artista Pakistana biex holqu biċċa xogħol tal-mużajk.

Onorata li ġiet ikummissjonata tiksi żewġ hitan bil-mużajk f'Malta fil-knisja tal-Iklin, kif ukoll is-slaħeb tal-konsagrazzjoni. Imxiet fuq id-disinn tal-artist Manuel Farrugia. Użat smalti Venezjani, dawk tad-deheb 24 karat u *terresse* mill-gebel tal-qawwi t'Ghawdex, filwaqt li fl-2016 irrestawrat iż-żewġ medaljuni tal-mużajk fil-faċċata tal-Knisja ta' Sabina fir-Rabat.

L-espressjoni artistika ta' Mary hija riflessa ukoll f'diversti xogħolijiet f'ċimiterji, ismijiet ta' djar u mużajk f'inkwadri. Jispikka s-sett ta' mewġ maħdum minn ġgieg tal-fliexken.

Il-mużajk tal-Ghawdxija wasal ukoll fl-Italja, l-Istati Uniti u fl-Awstralja.

Fl-aħħar snin qed aktar tiffoka fuq espressjoni artistika permezz tal-mużajk, bħal fil-wirja *Every Road is a River* ta' ftit ilu.

Għal darbtejn, Mary rebhet *Gieħ l-Artiġjanat Malti*, fl-2013 ġiet l-ewwel fis-sezzjoni tal-Aktar Prodott Innovattiv f'Artiġjanat mhux tradizzjonali u fl-2016 ġiet it-tieni għal *Inizjattiva Artiġjanat*.

Fl-Awstralja għandha diversi qra min-habba li hut ommha (Carmen imwiela Muscat) u hut missierha (Emanuel Grech) emigraw hemm fis-snin hamsin u sittin.



Mary taħdem fuq id-dghajsa ta' Triq iż-żewwieqa, Għajnsielem



Mary waqt Betlem f'Għajnsielem turi lit-tfal kif isir il-mużajk



Is-salib taċ-Ċimiterju tal-Hniena Divina

Two new books about Medical Maltese

Following his previous work on medical Maltese, Charles Daniel Saliba has recently completed two new books, *Maltese Grammar Essentials in Context for Healthcare Professionals* and *Speaking Medical Maltese from Zero*.

Dr Saliba told *The Voice* that his 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 him to learn more about the challenges faced by students learning medical Maltese.

He added, "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.

What is even more interesting the fact that each chapter also contains a cultural section related to healthcare in Malta, including Malta's public and private healthcare sys-



Dr Charles Daniel Saliba (right) presenting his latest 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.



tem; 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 should 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 would be able to listen to native Maltese speakers reading the text and performing the dialogues.

Dr Saliba said that 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.bdl-books.com. For more information about them and also Dr Saliba's other work, one should visit www.charlesdanielsaliba.com

Joseph Calleja on tour in Australia and New Zealand

After the disappointment of having had to cancel his tour of Australia last year due to the pandemic, one of the world's most thrilling tenors, Maltese-born Joseph Calleja, is making his eagerly anticipated Australian and New Zealand debut 13-day tour in October and November this year.

A superstar in all the world's greatest opera houses and concert halls, Joseph Calleja, who is blessed with a golden-age voice that routinely inspires comparisons to legendary singers from earlier eras, will be performing in five Australian cities and in Auckland, New Zealand.

The Maltese tenor will be joined by guest soprano Amelia Farrugia, a star of Australian opera who is also of Maltese heritage, and internationally acclaimed piano virtuoso Piers Lane. Together they will perform some of opera's most exciting arias and duets, along with a wide selection of other romantic song by popular com-



Joseph Calleja (centre) flanked by Amelia Farrugia and Piers Lane

posers.

The tour kicks off at the Sydney City Recital Hall on Monday 24th October. Then they will cross over to New Zealand to perform at Auckland's Kiri Te Kanawa Theatre, Aotea Centre on Thursday 27th October. Joseph returns to Australia two days later for his concert at Adelaide's Town Hall on the 29th.

The final three performances will all be made in Australian cities, in Melbourne, at the Hamer Hall, Arts Centre on 31st October, in the Brisbane Concert Hall, Queensland Performing Arts Centre on 3rd November, and finally in Perth's Concert Hall on 5th November.

Joseph Calleja's programme is to be presented by Andrew McKinnon in association with West Australian Opera

Ix-xahar dedikat lil Santa Marija



Ix-xahar ta' Awwissu huwa wiehed speċjali għall-Maltin, għal għadd ta' raġunijiet, ewlenin fosthom għall-festi liturġiċi ta' Santa Marija, li hi meqjusa bħala l-Patrna Speċjali tal-Gżejjer Maltin li jiġu ċelebrati f'għaxart irhula f'Malta u Għawdex (mhux kollha fil-15 ta' Awwissu – ara l-kalendarju tal-festi taht).

Dax-xahar ifakkar ukoll grajja storika, tal-Konvoj ta' Santa Marija (ara paġna 2), u huwa wkoll meqjus soċjali, b'hafna haddiema tal-fabbriki jgawdu l-btajjel għax ikunu bix-shut down, u bl-isabbilimenti tad-divertiment u tal-ikel, l-aktar dawk f'Għawdex jistennew bonanza ta' negozju.

Tant tinghata importanza lil dan ix-xahar li l-ewwel sett ta' bolli li nħareġ mill-Maltapost fis-serje ta' *Festa Maltija* kien ukoll iddedikat lil Santa Marija (*stampa fuq*).

Dan kien jikkonsisti minn 10 bolol bl-is-tatwi titolari li wiehed isib fl-għaxar parroċċi li jiċcelebraw il-festa. Meta nħargu nħatfu f'kemm trod salib. Kien sinjal ċar tal-interess qawwi tal-Maltin u l-Għawdxin fil-kultura u l-festi tradizzjonali.

Fl-2017 il-Bank Ċentrali ta' Malta wkoll approfitta ruħu mil-lat storiku ta' dan ix-xahar tant li ħareġ munita kommemorativa tal-wasla f'Malta tal-Konvoj ta' Santa Maria 80 sena ilur, li turi d-daħla tal-SS Ohio fil-Port il-Kbir.

Il-festi liturġiċi fl-irhula, u fl-ibliet f'Awwissu

- 6: Is-Salvatur, **Hal-Lija**
- 7: San Pietru fil-Ktajjen, **Birżebbuġa**
- 7: San Ġuzepp, **Il-Qala, Għawdex**
- 7: Madonna ta' Lourdes, **San Gwann**
- 7: San Duminku, **Il-belt Valletta**
- 7: San Gejtanu, **Il-Hamrun**
- 10: San Lawrenz, **Il-Birgu (Vittoriosa)**
- 15: Santa Marija: **L-Imqabba, Il-Qrendi Il-Mosta, Il-Gudja, H'Attard, Hal-Ghaxaq, Ir-Rabat (Victoria) Għawdex, Hal-Muxi Haż-Żebbuġ**
- 21: San Piju X, **Santa Luċija**
Santa Marija Ass., **Żebbuġ, Għawdex**
Santa Marija, **L-Imġarr, Malta**
Sant' Elena, **Birkirkara**
Madonna ta' Lourdes, **Rahal Ġdid**
Stella Maris, **Tas-Sliema**
- 28: Santa Marija, **Had-Dingli**
San Leonardu, **Hal Kirkop**
San Duminku, **Il-Birgu (Vittoriosa)**
Madonna ta' Loreto, **Għajnsielem, Għawdex**
San Bartilmew, **Hal Għarghur**
Marija Regina, **Il-Marsa**
San Ġuzepp, **Il-Manikata**
Il-Konverżjoni ta' San Pawl, **Hal Safi**
San Ġiljan, **San Ġiljan**
Santu Wistin, **Valletta**

Maltese Seniors Social Welfare Day Groups

Llandilo Maltese Seniors

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

Merrylands Social Maltese Seniors

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

Group Leader: Salvina Falzon.

Fairfield Active Maltese Seniors

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

Group Leader: Dorothy Gatt.

Maltese of Bankstown

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

Daceyville Maltese Seniors

Meets the last Wednesday of the month in Meeting Room One, No. 3 General Bridges Crescent, Daceyville. Note: The Groups also arrange regular Bus Trips. Join us and make new

friends. Group Leader: Doris Scicluna.

The Sutherland & St George Maltese Group

Meets every first Wednesday of the month in July, September, November & December and in February, April & June 2023. From 10:00am to 12noon at the Miranda Community Centre 93 Karimbla Rd cnr Kiora Rd Miranda. Meetings are interesting & informative. Membership is free, so is Morning Tea/Coffee/Cake. Outings every other month. Come & make new friends. For more information contact our Coordinator: Charles Mifsud JP Phone (mb 0421 662 298).

Greystanes Maltese Seniors

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

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

Men's Group

Meets every last Tuesday of the month at the MCC Centre at 59b Franklin Street Parramatta West (next to the Primary School), from 10 to 12 noon. Discussion, information and renew friendship. Pastizzi, Kinnie etc. available. Contact Fred or Laurie 9631 9295.

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

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

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

Community News



MALTESE VOICES
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MALTESE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF NSW
PROGRAM FOR THE MALTESE

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



La Valette Social Centre

Inc. 175 Walters Road, Blacktown Tel. 96225847

Bus for Festa Santa Maria at Central Coast

On Sunday 14th August

Bus Leaves from La Valette Centre at 8am, and 8.30am from Greystanes. LUNCH at Wyong Leagues club at your own expense or bring your own. COST: \$45 for coach and Morning tea. MASS starts 3 pm procession.

Afterwards fireworks (weather permitting). Bus for return journey leaves at 6.30 pm For booking: Frances: 0412320432 or any committee member. For more information phone: the Centre: 9622 5847.



MALTESE LANGUAGE SCHOOL OF NSW


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

Learn Maltese

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

Due to the covid restrictions, only conducting lessons online.





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St Nicholas Festa

Committee Plumpton -NSW

The events for the rest of 2022

Sunday. October 16: Fete
 Sat. Nov. 19: Dinner Dance
 Sunday December 4: Festa

Tune in to Radio and Television

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

On Demand and podcasts on www.sbs.com.au/maltese

SBS TV: SBS TV news from Malta every day at 4.30 pm on Channel 35 also on demand.

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

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



Listen live on www.northwestfm.org/ethnic-radio/

97.9 FM Melton: Tuesday 6.00pm to 8.00pm Maltese Program. Presenter: Miriam Vella. Live streaming on www.979fm.com.au

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

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

www.893fm.com.au or On Demand on www.893fm.com.au/on-demand/

WOW-FM 100.7: Tuesdays 6pm to 9pm. Maltese program with Joe Borg and Michael Mallia. Listen live on www.wowfm1007.com.au

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

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

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



Historic night for Maltese football clubs in Europe

ABOVE: Hibernians celebrate their second successive qualification in a UEFA competition; BELOW: Hamrun players and supporters do the same

Two more for George Cross

*With three matches still to go in the NPL competition in Victoria, George Cross continued to make progress with two wins, 1-3 away at Clifton Hill, and a 4-1 home win over Kellor Park. They now stand six points ahead of their nearest challengers, Essendon Royals (46 to 41).

*In the NPL Green Gully SC had an important 2-0 win at Hume City, but their game on Sunday away to Heidelberg was washed out. Their hopes for a top six finish stand, especially if they get points from their game in hand against Heidelberg who have the same number of points (39) but with a game more.

*In the NSW 3 League Parramatta beat Hawkesbury City 1-0 with a goal by Pellettier

Last Thursday was a historic night for Maltese football when three clubs managed to qualify to the third qualifying round of the Europa Conference League. It was the first time ever since the locals started to compete in Europe that three clubs made it to this stage, and on the same day. The clubs that achieved it are Hibernians, Gżira United and Hamrun Spartans.

Hibernians had earlier been eliminated from the Champions League and were relegated to the Conference League where they fared much better and in fact beat their opponents from Estonia, Levadia Tallinn to progress to the next round on 4-3 aggregate after a 3-2 win at home and 1-1 away.

Having also progressed to this stage last season, the Paolites now have to

contend with a clash against Latvia's RFS, in the third qualifying round this week.

Gżira United enjoyed a dramatic outcome in the second leg of their clash with Serbia's Radnicki. After drawing their home tie in Malta 2-2, elimination was staring Gżira in the face as with seconds to go they were a goal down in Serbia. But then they levelled and with the score 3-3 forced extra time.

The next 30 minutes failed to separate the two sides and the game was decided by the taking of penalties, which the Maroons won by 3-1 to earn next week's first leg tie against Austria's Wolfsberger.

Hibernians, Gżira United and Hamrun Spartans were undefeated as they saw off opponents from Estonia, Serbia and Bosnia Herzegovina respectively.

In the other match Hamrun Spartans had been drawn to face Velez Mostar from Bosnia Herzegovina. Hamrun obtained a most satisfying 1-0 win away and then did the same at the Centenary Stadium in Mlata for a 2-0 aggregate score and qualification. Like the other two teams, the Spartans kick off the third qualifying round of the UEFA Conference League this week with the first leg against Bulgaria's Levski Sofia.



Draw for 2022/23 Premier League season made; kick off August 19

Malta's National football League draws establishing the first matchday and the sequence of fixtures for all clubs (for the respective divisions) have been established. The first weekend of the Premier League, made up of 14 teams, has been set for the weekend of August 19, 20, and 21.

The first high-profile clash should be between the Champions, Hibernians, and Val-

letta, while the three newly promoted teams, Zebbug Rangers, Pieta Hotspurs and Marsaxlokk have what appear to be tough tasks against seasoned Premier League opponents.

Sta Lucia, who were promoted last season regained their place after Pembroke, who had won promotion chose to forfeit their new position and to stay in the Amateur League.

The full programme of matches on the opening day:

Birkirkara v Sirens
Balzan v Zebbug Rangers
Floriana v Pieta Hotspurs
Gżira United v Santa Lucia
Valletta v Hibernians
Mosta v Gudja United
Hamrun Spartans v Marsaxlokk