

JOURNAL FOR MALTESE AROUND THE WORLD



**MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER**



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## FREEDOM DAY - 31 MARCH

Jum il-Ħelsien is a Maltese national day celebrated annually on 31 March.

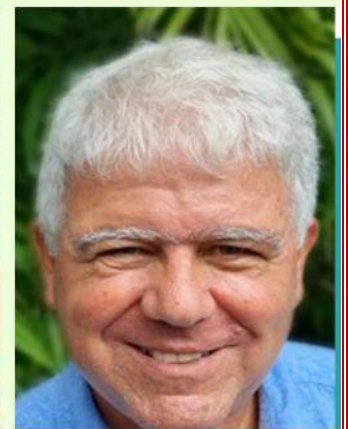
This is the anniversary of the withdrawal of British troops and the Royal Navy from Malta in 1979.



Good Friday in Malta



Peter Paul Portelli



Bishop Charles Gauci



The students of the Maltese Language School of Victoria had an opportunity to visit the museum in Morwell where they were greeted by Mario Sammut. A great way for our next generation to learn about our history and culture.





## 7 April 2023 GOOD FRIDAY PROCESSION IN MALTA

Malta is known as a religious country, with churches practically around every corner and feasts all year round. But the reason for this reputation is most evident during Holy Week, with activities and exhibitions all over the Maltese islands, including the Good Friday processions.

The most popular of these activities are certainly the Good Friday processions, during which streets are transformed into open-air theatres that pay tribute to the Roman Catholic beliefs of suffering, death and resurrection.

Every year on Good Friday, Christians around the world commemorate the death of Jesus Christ. His resurrection three days later is the Church's greatest feast and, for believers, the defining moment of their faith. For the Maltese, no other event captures the imagination quite as vividly as the annual Good Friday procession.

Nothing can prepare the visitor for the sheer volume of images and rituals crammed into these few spring days. On the evening of Holy Thursday, pilgrims flock between towns and villages, making the traditional **SEVEN CHURCHES VISITATION**; enthusiasts exhibit Last Supper salt and rice displays and sets of miniature statues, while confectioners make special 'fasting' sweets like kwareżimal, a delicious almond and honey biscuit.

The biggest attractions, however, remain the Good Friday processions which see the participation of many towns and villages.

### Where and at what time are Good Friday processions held?

Various villages in Malta and Gozo organise Good Friday processions, some more popular than others. The bolded villages organise the more popularly visited processions and most start at 17:30h on Good Friday.

#### Good Friday processions in Malta

- Żejtun – 5.00pm
- Żebbuġ – 5.30pm
- Mosta – 5.30pm
- Birgu (Vittoriosa) – 5.30pmh
- Isla (Senglea) – 5.30pm
- Valletta – 6.00pm
- Bormla (Cospicua) – 5.30pm
- Luqa – 5.30pm
- Naxxar – 5.30pm
- Paola – 5.30pm
- Qormi (San Ġorġ parish) – 5.30pm
- Rabat – 6.00pm

#### Good Friday processions in Gozo

- Victoria (Rabat) – San Ġorġ Basilica – 6.00pm
- Nadur – 6.00pm
- Xagħra – 6.00pm
- Żebbuġ – 6.00pm

### What's it like to attend a Good Friday procession in Malta?

Visiting a Good Friday procession in Malta is an experience to remember. Hundreds of actors dressed as Roman soldiers, Jewish priests, and important Biblical figures stroll along to the monotonous beat of funeral marches played by brass bands, following beautifully carved statues, some hundreds of years old, depicting the passion and death of Jesus Christ.

#### BISHOP CHARLES GAUCI

We celebrate the 71st birthday of Bishop Charles Gauci, Maltese-Australian, Bishop of Darwin, Australia. He is a regular reader of the Journal for Maltese living abroad. We wish him every blessing and good health as he celebrates this milestone on the journey of life. F. Scicluna



## Easter in Gozo – A Guide to Holy Week and Easter Celebrations in Gozo

### Gozo News

voto. Experience the flickering candlelit displays on various churches' parvises on Maudy Thursdays that give a

particular ambience to the night.

Spring in Gozo is bewitching. The countryside's enticing with nature's fresh awakening. If you're here during the months of March or April, your holiday might also coincide with Holy Week and Easter Celebrations in Gozo. Easter in Gozo can be the bonus of a [spring holiday](#) as there many things to do at Easter time.

Easter in Gozo is a special time that has many facets, most of which are evocative of the passion and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Holy Week and Easter in Gozo are the biggest Catholic celebrations on the island. Starting a week before Good Friday, Gozo dons a sombre outlook, fitting reverence for the procession of Our Lady of Sorrows that takes place in Victoria and several other villages.

Next comes the jubilation on Palm Sunday, reminiscent of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, another of Gozo's Easter events. The faithful crowd carrying palm fronds and olive branches is led by priests robed in red. All this is part of Gozo's Holy Week traditions.

Palm Sunday signals the beginning of the Holy Week in Gozo, a week that commands utmost devotion for the faithful as the Catholic church marks [Maudy Thursday and Good Friday](#). Typically, believers will flock to the liturgical services on these days. On Maudy Thursday, the churches are usually open till late at night. This is a perfect time to wander around Victoria and visit the many but overlooked churches, which will have an artistic representation of Christ's sepulchre complete with flower displays and fragrant with balm and incense. These solemn days of Holy Week in Gozo are marked by many religious exhibitions, sacred concerts, pageants, and processions. Witness the deep-rooted devotion of the procession participants who hide their identity behind full-head hoods as they haul heavy ankle chains in penitence or as ex-

Holy Week and Easter in Gozo cannot be complete without trudging up [Ghammar Hill](#) following the white Carrara marble statues presenting the stations of the cross. This hike can be taken as a moment of personal reflection or meditation for both believers and non, alike. There is no doubt that you'll find the top of the hill charging with an impressive majestic vibe. If you're in the area in the evening, you can also check out the Drive Through, on the way to Ta' Pinu. This is only one of the [Easter Events](#) in Gozo this year!

Gozo's Holy Week traditions include various plays featuring the passion of Christ. Easter traditions in Gozo are not all about the dark overtones. Gozo's Holy Week and Easter traditions have a culinary aspect too. During Lent most dishes revolve around fasting, abstinence and penance. You might want to try out the frugal non-meat dishes like the artichokes stuffed with tuna, olives, garlic and capers. For a quick bite get hold of tuna and spinach pies and 'qassatat'. Intended to be semi-sweet, 'Kwareżimal', hot cross buns and Apostles' ring are the sugary fares of the season.

The Saturday night Easter vigil service shatters the gloomy tone and once again it's Easter in Gozo! As the jubilant church celebrates the resurrection with brisk processions of the Risen Christ on Easter Sunday morning, make sure you get hold of traditional Easter figolli from artisanal bakers. Made of sweet pastry and loaded with fragrant sweet almond paste filling, 'figolli' are the top of [Easter traditions in Gozo](#). Easter figolli make the perfect gift to take back home!

Easter Sunday in Gozo is best celebrated by a visit to Villa Rundle Gardens and this too is one of the highlights of things to do at Easter in Gozo. A festival of family fun awaits, complete with Easter Bunny egg hunts, arts, crafts and fun games!

## CONFRATERNITY OF THE KNIGHTS OF ST. PETER & ST. PAUL

### Knights Convention in Malta

**25 - 29 June, 2023.**

The Knights of the Chapter of Malawi in Africa are attending a Convention of Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter & St. Paul hosted by the Grand Chapter of Malta based in Nadur, Gozo.



The knights will also be taking part in the church ceremonies during the celebration of the feast of St. Peter and St. Paul in the Basilica of Nadur. The Chapter of Malawi is approved by the Diocese of Karonga and the Diocese of Chikwawa. This will be an honour to have 3 priests Members of the Confraternity taking part in the feast of Mnarja in Nadur, Gozo.

It will be nice if we support these priests who will be travelling from a poor country to join us in Malta. Any donations to support these priests will be greatly appreciated by the bishops in Malawi. Donations can be left with the Treasurer, Chevalier Peter Said at the Nadur Local Council.

Thank you kindly. H.E. Chevalier Peter Paul Portelli Grand Master CKSPP



Miriam Friggieri



Jim Borg



Rita O'Dwyer



### [Friends of Divine Providence House Group NSW Australia](#)

The Group was founded in October 2011 with the aim of raising funds for Id-Dar tal-Providenza, Malta. The Friends of Providence House is the official Ambassador to Id-Dar tal-Providenza in New South Wales, Australia.

Mr Jim Borg, the Coordinator of the group wrote to us - Thank you for including our Latest Financial Report in your popular Journal for Maltese living abroad.

We believe in Transparency! Just a little update for your information.

Marisa Previtera had to relinquish her position as Secretary. Marisa held the position for 11 yrs. She will be greatly missed. We wish her all the best and good health.

Our new Secretary is Rita O'Dwyer a well known personality within the Maltese Community of Sydney. We welcome Rita to her new role with the Friends of Providence House NSW. She is a great asset.

This year the Friends of Providence House NSW will be celebrating Our 10Th Anniversary from when Fr Martin Micallef, Director of Id-Dar Tal-Providenza, Malta, officially launched the Group at a Function at the Wentworthville Leagues Club, Sydney on October 13th 2013. We have raised over \$160k Since then. Special thank you to the many hundreds supporting our Functions, Raffles and Tours



## Feast of the Annunciation and Open Day at Hal Millieri in Żurrieq



Chapel to open to public on Sunday, with two guided tours on agenda 20 hours ago | [Times of Malta](#) | 02 min read

The chapel and fresco.

The annual celebration in honour of the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary at the medieval church of Hal Millieri (Żurrieq) will this year be held on Sunday, March 26.

The chapel will be open to the public from 9.00am to 5.00pm. Holy Mass will be celebrated at 10.00 a.m., followed by the blessing of the adjoining churchyard.

Din l-Art Helwa, the volunteer heritage organization which holds the chapel in trust, will be offering two guided tours of the site at 11.00am and at 4.00pm. The church of the Annunciation at Hal Millieri is a major landmark of Malta's medieval past. The present edifice dates to around 1450, but archaeological excavations have shown that it was built over the site of an earlier, possibly thirteenth-century chapel, and a much older Roman rural complex.

The Hal Millieri church is best known for its medieval architectural features, and for the unique set of fresco paintings that adorn its side walls between the springing of the arches. This anachronistic cycle of holy effigies, which is believed to have been copied from the earlier chapel, is a fine exemplar of Maltese medieval vernacular art, and has been expertly restored through the efforts of Din l-Art Helwa. The church can be reached from Imqabba Road at the Żurrieq entrance to Blue Grotto Avenue; or from Diamond Jubilee Square (*Fuq il-Mentna*) at the end of the Imqabba bypass.

## Immigration nation: The migrants who helped build Australia



Between 1945 and 1965 roughly two million immigrants arrived in Australia. The decision by the Australian Government to open up the nation to non-British migrants was based on the notion of "populate or perish" that emerged in the wake of the Second World War. The migrants who came here in search of a better life helped to build a better Australia.

"My father was Maltese and cut cane in Tully for many years before he was able to save enough money to open his own mechanic shop. He had grown up helping his father tinker with tractor engines—he was obsessed with anything mechanical and could fix pretty much anything. He loved Australia and was very proud when he became a citizen after marrying my mother". — J Schembri

— Queensland, Australia.

New immigrants were coined "New Australians" in an effort to replace derogatory terms such as "pom", "dagos" and "wog", the first shipload of immigrants arrived in Australia in 1947 from



Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. Subsequent years saw ships arriving from the United Kingdom, Italy, Germany, Poland, the Netherlands, Ireland, New Zealand, Greece, the Former Yugoslavia and Malta. It took Sam Abela almost 18 months to save enough money to bring his wife Guza, her mother and baby brother out to Australia. Sam had secured a job with the council as a sewerage pipe inspector and this allowed them to rent a small house in west Brisbane with another migrant Maltese family.

family.

"My father worked very hard but my mother worked incredibly hard as well," Mary, Guza's daughter said.

"Mum spoke little English but she really put herself out there to make ends meet. They had a tiny backyard but she planted a garden of fruit and vegetables so we didn't have to buy much. She was a self-taught seamstress and made all our clothes. She did whatever small jobs she could to make money and taught herself to speak English.

"Really, you have to take your hat off to these women. Imagine being here alone with no family, raising babies and working your guts out to put food on the table and pay the rent. Most people treated them like second-class citizens. We were just 'bloody wogs'." Mary said, she will never forget the hard work and sacrifice her parents made to give her and her siblings a better life.

"My parents are no longer with us but they will always be my heart and my heroes. I think back to some of the stories they told me about the poverty they grew up with and the way people treated them when they came here, and really they must have had serious post-traumatic stress disorder. I'm fairly sure my mother had mental health issues that went untreated her whole life because you didn't go to the doctor unless you were dying, back then.

"Their sacrifice meant my brothers and I were able to receive good educations and live in a truly lucky country. I look at the way we treat refugees and immigrants now and think, has anything changed? I don't know."

Malta Square,  
27-20 Hoyt Ave South,  
Astoria, NY,  
United States,



## EASTER Prayer Service

Fr. Anthony Saliba will lead an Easter prayer service reflecting on the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus.  
Confessions before service.

The Maltese Center

APRIL 1ST, SATURDAY AT 7 PM  
ALL ARE WELCOME



**A food truck has opened in Japan with Maltese food! The food truck, called 'Arrow', is offering with multiple products like pastizzi, ftajjar & Cisk. 'Arrow' is situated in Yokohama, one of Japan's biggest cities. Every Maltese person should be proud that our local food is traveling overseas**





## President launches the second part of the 'L-ilsien Malti għal Qalbi' campaign

The President of Malta George Vella launched a digital booklet with information about the Maltese language and useful resources for students and parents that can help them in their studies. Access to this digital booklet will be through a QR code on bookmarks that will be distributed to all primary and secondary school students in Malta and Gozo.

During a launch at St Ignatius College Ħandaq Middle School, President Vella explained that this initiative is kicking off the second part of the 'L-ilsien Malti għal Qalbi' campaign to promote the correct use of the Maltese language.

### ADVERTISEMENT

"Since the beginning of my Presidency I have strongly and fully insisted on the proper use of the Maltese language. I insisted that this commitment must not only be made by the Maltese language organisations that are working together with my Office towards this goal", said the President. He added that each and every one of us must make this commitment, especially the institutions that have the duty and responsibility to drive the people to do this.

The President announced that next month the Office of the President and the Maltese language organisations will hold a conference, entitled 'L-ilsien Malti għal Qalbi – Konferenza dwar l-użu ta' lsienna fostna', which will bring together many decision-makers on how to use the Maltese language.

"I hope that the discussion that will drive this conference will lead to identifying the ways in which we can improve the use the language," stated President Vella.

Justine Somerville, on behalf of the Maltese language organisations, explained to the students that the purpose of the booklet is to serve as a point of reference for everything related to the Maltese language because it contains, among others, information about careers they can choose if they know how to use the Maltese language well, curiosities about the language and its development, instructions to download Maltese fonts on mobiles or tablets, and links to websites related to the Maltese language.

Regarding the conference, Ms Somerville explained that this will be an opportunity to reflect on the use of the Maltese language in public with the participation of speakers who will address different situations in which the Maltese language is used and how languages can make public services more accessible to citizens, among others. The Minister for Education, Sport, Youth, Research and Innovation Clifton Grima, and the Opposition's Spokesperson for Education, Justin Schembri, addressed the launch, stating that such initiatives are important to keep the Maltese language alive particularly among students.

The 'L-ilsien Malti għal Qalbi' campaign is organised by the Office of the President of Malta in collaboration with seven Maltese language organisations: Il-Kunsill Nazzjonali tal-Ilsien Malti, the Department of Maltese at the University of Malta, L-Akkademja tal-Malti, L-Għaqda tal-Malti – Università, L-Għaqda tal-Għalliema tal-Malti, Inizjamed, and L-Għaqda tal-Qarrejja tal-Provi tal-Malti.





### Quddiem Wirja ta' I-Istatwi tal-Gimgħa I-Kbira

Matul ir-Randan Imqaddes  
Hawn ninsabu miġburin  
Biex naraw x'għamel għalina  
L-Imgħallem tagħna Divin!

Drawwa illi ħadet sewwa  
Fil-gzejjer tagħna I-Maltin  
Hija illi tara għal wiri  
Għadd ta' statwetti ħelwin

Illi dawn flimkien idommu  
Il-mumentali tal-Passjoni  
Illi minnhom għadda Kristu –  
Swat, żebliħ, flaġellazzjoni!

Sa ma wasal fil-quċcata  
Tal-moħqrija w it-tbatija;  
Fuq Salib spiċċa mdendel –  
Tlett sigħat ta' agunija!

U dan kollu Kristu għamlu  
Sabiex jifdi lili w lilek;  
Ħabib li se tara I-Wirja  
Qis li tagħmel dejjem dmirek.

Biex mill-ġdid le terġa' ssallab  
Lill-Feddej tagħna I-bnedmin,  
Izda ismu nsebbħu, nfaħħru,  
Għal kemm għad itulu s-snin.

Gesu' fl-Ort ġewwa I-Getsemani,  
Mal-kolonna, il-Marbut,  
Bix-xewk rasu nkurunata,  
Bis-salib, mgħobbi, batut.

Statwa oħra turi I-laqgħa  
F'nofs it-telgħa tal-Qorriegħa  
Mal-Veronika Gesu' kellu  
F'tagħha I-Velu ħalla x-xbieha.

Aħna nħobbu nsejħulha  
Fost I-istatwi, I-Vara I-Kbira;  
Fiha bosta persunaġġi  
Ta' kulħadd tkun żgur il-mira.

Tigbor fiha id-Duluri,  
U I-Appostlu il-Maħbub;  
Ma' Longinu I-Maddalena  
U fin-nofs Gesu' mislub.

Statwa oħra illi nilmħu  
Hija ta' I-Addolorata  
B'binha mejjet ġo dirgħajha  
Minn kulħadd abbandunata.

L-aħħar statwa turi dejjem  
Gesu' f'qabar ġdid, midfun;  
Tlett ijiem jistenna jgħaddu  
Biex mill-mewt rebbieħ iqum.

F'dal-wirjiet xi drabi tilmaħ  
L-Aħħar Ikla ta' Gesu';  
L-Iskarjota inkiss joħroġ  
Moħħu mdallam, m'għadux hui

*Ecce homo!* Araw bħali  
O kemm bata I-Feddej  
Biex jifdina u jsalvana;  
Ma qagħadx jara għalih x'gej!

Ċert li dawn in-noti kiebja  
Li ddoqq il-Banda għalina  
Ifakkruna fit-tbatija  
Ta' Gesu' I-Qalb Ħanina.

Jalla dawn il-wirjiet sbejħa  
Joħolqu fina kuxjenza  
Ta' indiema, sogħba, maħfra,  
U b'xulxin nieħdu paċenzja.

Kav Joe M Attard Victoria-Għawdex  
Marzu 2023



## Traditional Easter Maltese Foods

Easter is just around the corner and what better way to spend it than with family, loved ones and good food? Malta has a long history of foods and dishes that were originally created by the Maltese people for the Maltese islands as well as dishes that were internationally and culturally inspired.

We take look at traditional Easter Maltese sweets that are found on the islands during Lent and over Easter.

**KWAREŻIMAL** Kwareżimal is a traditional Maltese sweet that is prepared throughout Lent and can even be made on Easter day. It is a biscuit of sorts finished with a drizzle of honey and a sprinkling of nuts. The original recipe was made vegan (of course without the addition of honey) as it contained no butter, milk or eggs in the mixture. Present day, some recipes opt for egg whites as it makes the texture lighter and fluffier. If you prefer a vegan version, simply follow the original recipe which excludes egg whites and swap the honey for agave or maple syrup to still achieve that sweet and sticky flavour and texture.

Gluten-free oat flour can also be used to make kwareżimal gluten-free. The beauty of these Maltese traditional Easter treats is that they can simply be made to fit anyone's dietary requirements and still have their distinct signature taste. When eating kwareżimal, you can expect to taste hints of spiced citrus, orange and almond, as well as the sweetness of the honey (or chosen alternative).

**FIGOLLI** Perhaps everyone's favourite, figolli is a much-loved Easter treat. They are often shaped into bunnies but are also commonly found in other variations such as easter eggs, butterflies, chickens or hearts to name a few. The dough itself once baked is buttery, slightly crumbly and highly addictive and to literally top it all off, coloured icing is iced atop to not only add colour and a pretty display but to also add a slight sweetness to the figolli. Chocolate and sprinkles are other popular toppings too, should you prefer. If that wasn't enough to make you want to try a figoli ASAP, they also contain an almond paste filling that adds an even deeper flavour.

Once you bake your figolli, you can store it in cling film for up to a month (if you can fight the urge to not eat all of it before then). Additionally, if you follow a



gluten-free diet, you can switch the recipe for gluten-free flour and xanthan gum which will help bind the ingredients together.

**QAGHAQ TAL-APPOSTLI** Known in English as 'Apostle's Ring Bread', this a specially crafted bread that is traditionally baked for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. It is found in bakeries and supermarkets throughout the Lenten time and is distinct due to its ringed shape and flavour. It is slightly sweet and topped with sesame seeds and almonds.

It is a much-loved and religious food in Malta around Easter time and with its soft centre and crunchy exterior, it is highly enjoyable. The extra added beauty of this bread is due to its very slight sweet flavour quality, a spread of butter or a handful of broad beans compliment the bread as although the flavours contrast each other, the butter or savoury condiment of your choice cuts through and perfectly balances out the flavours.

**KARAMILLI TAL-HARRUB** These little treats are specifically made for Good Friday but can be consumed at any time during Lent. They are made from carob and have a hard texture. Karamilli tal-Harrub can be found almost anywhere in bakeries and vendors on the streets who sell a selection of traditional Maltese foods. Nowadays, Karamelli tal-Harrub are often made using brown sugar but you can still find them with carob. They come prepared in square shapes and are eaten in moderation as the sugar content is quite high. They have a slight tang to them as they are also bursting with the flavours of many spices such as cinnamon, aniseed and cloves.

As much as we love these traditional Maltese Easter foods, it is also important to remember their history and religious importance as they hold a deep and meaningful position in Maltese culture and tradition.

# Praying and playing together

Jenny Brinkworth – Source The Southern Cross

Before migrating to Australia from Malta nearly four years ago, Robert D'Amato learned from a friend that there was a Preca centre in Adelaide.

He wasted no time getting in touch with Preca Community leader John Micallef who introduced the family of four to other members and invited them to meetings.

In Malta there are Preca centres in almost every town and members provide children with preparation for their sacraments.

"Everyone in Malta has in some way or another been in contact with the Preca community at some stage of their lives," Robert explained. Both D'Amato children – Jake and Julia – attended catechism lessons at Preca centres in Malta before moving to Adelaide.

Robert and wife Lorraine are members of the Adelaide Hills parish but they make sure that every Friday evening is kept free to "pray and play" with the Preca Community.

Robert said that coming to live in a place where they had no family or friends meant that the Community had quickly become their second family.

"Our common heritage immediately connected us with all the Preca members and we consider them as our extended family," he said.

"It was a good way for our family to continue practising and growing in our faith formation within a Catholic community enjoying similar values."

He said the 'Come and See' program gave Jake and Julia the opportunity to meet like-minded children of their age.

"Occasionally our children bring along a classmate or a friend, introduce them to the Preca Community and spend some quality time together," he said.

As well as Friday evening gatherings, there are other age based Preca activities every Saturday and some Sundays, including picnics, movie outings, baking and mushroom picking.

Easter and Christmas are celebrated with prayer,



pageants and parties, as are other feasts during the year, including that of St George Preca.

Each year, the Preca Community organises winter and summer retreats for families.

Robert said the children always looked forward to playing with their friends and parents after the short prayer sessions. 'Dads and lads' soccer matches were a highlight, he added.

Robert's own Catholic upbringing and education in Malta has left a "big imprint" on his life.

"As I grew older, got married and had children, life commitments reduced my participation in Church to Sunday Mass and special occasions," he said.

"Since we moved to Adelaide, we have had the opportunity to get to know the Preca members and their mission on a different level.

"The commitment, dedication and devotion of the Preca members and their example by trying to live like Jesus wants us to live, has helped me personally to rekindle my devotion, giving it a different and deeper meaning to my faith."

Acknowledging the challenge of children's faith formation "with all the distractions around us", he said the Preca Community has the "perfect recipe" with its blend of prayer, play, food and fun

**WE DON'T PUBLISH ARTICLES OR FEATURES ABOUT POLITICS. THE AIM OF THIS JOURNAL IS ONLY TO UNITE MALTESE LIVING ABROAD**



POWERED BY  
**U URBAN JUNGLE**

**FESTIVALS**  
Malta

**ROCKIN' MALTA**

**ROCK 410**  
**THE SOUTH**

**5.6.7**  
**MAY**  
**2023**

**PULLED APART<sup>(UK)</sup>**  
**BY HORSES** **BRODU**  
**BO NINGEN<sup>(JP/UK)</sup>** **AIM<sup>(IT)</sup>**  
**BEHEADED BNI**  
**BEANGROWERS**  
**SHOSHTAKOVICH'S BILA**  
**NIGHTMARE** **THE AREOLA TREAT**  
**MICHAEL AZZOPARDI KRISHNA**  
**MASSACRE HOUSE PARTY CLUB**  
**KYM PEPE HAINE BEESQUEEZE MURDER**  
**THE VELTS HEMPLIFIER MIRAGE FIVE YEARS**  
**CHER CAMILLERI DALAM FERRET FROM NOW**  
**MORSROT EDGAR ALLAN PAUL NIKET ROZA**  
**SILENT DISCO/BAND IN A CAMP POWERED BY WHITE NOISE**  
**THE VIOLENT VIOLETS ZKELETONZ<sup>(UK)</sup> DJ SET**  
**RADJU HAJ BLACK PLAGUE SPOTS AND STRIPES**  
**HANEK ALIAS 1 GHOSH CHILD ESTRANYESA DJ HADES TINA**

rockthesouthmalta.com

**Zi ON**

The Maltese Community Council of Victoria,  
In conjunction with the National Archives of Australia,  
proudly announce that on Saturday 6th May 2023  
we invite the Maltese Community to come and celebrate  
with us the 75th anniversary since Malta & Australia  
signed the Assisted Passage Agreement

I would like to thank the Multicultural Aged Care of South Australia for  
printing this JOURNAL every week and distribute it to our senior  
citizens free of charge. Frank Scicluna - Editor



## The World's First Deep-Water Archaeological Park In Xlendi -GOZO



First discovered in 1993 just off Xlendi Bay in Gozo, the site lies at 105 metres below sea level and is composed of an expanse of Punic archaeological material spread across 67,000 m<sup>2</sup>. The Underwater Cultural Heritage Unit within Heritage Malta is researching what could have led to the formation of this unique site, as it gradually documents the area and the artefacts found here through innovative methods which have not been used elsewhere. While deep-water wrecks are not uncommon attractions, the site's unparalleled value stems from the combination of thousands of ancient artefacts, such as amphorae and urns, dating back around 2,300 years and natural heritage in the form of rocky outcrops formed by extinct coral reefs.

"It is an honour for the Malta Airport Foundation to contribute to such an important undertaking, which will doubtlessly raise the visibility of the Maltese Islands among technical divers and international researchers. The Foundation also hopes to support Heritage Malta in bringing this project closer to people who are neither divers nor researchers but are keen to learn more about the

Maltese Islands' history through our underwater cultural heritage," said the Malta Airport Foundation Chairman Josef Formosa Gauci.

Heritage Malta's Chief Executive Officer, Noel Zammit, remarked that the exciting initiative of a deep-water archaeological park attests yet again the sound position of the national agency for cultural heritage at the forefront of its sector. He reiterated Heritage Malta's commitment towards the continued support of this venture and similar ones that may ensue in future, as through such endeavours our national heritage is enriched and made accessible – both physically and virtually – for study and enjoyment.

The underwater site is currently being mapped and documented by Heritage Malta's Underwater Cultural Heritage Unit, with the support of the University of Malta and the Superintendence of Cultural Heritage. The artefacts found at this site are being preserved under water, in line with the UNESCO Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage to which Malta is a signatory. While there are no plans to raise these objects from the seabed, the location of the artefacts, their type and condition are being entered in a geodatabase, which will have different levels of access.

The Xlendi deep-water marine park will also be made accessible to the public through 360-degree videos, images and 3D models uploaded on the [Underwater Malta](#) website, which is a virtual museum of the islands' underwater archaeological sites. Moreover, the Xlendi coastal watch tower, close to which the Xlendi marine park is located, will house a permanent exhibition, which is set to open its doors to the public in 2023.

 <p><b>Maltese Journal</b> 9 years MALTA</p> <p>Serving the Diaspora</p>	<p><b>Maltese eNewsletter</b></p> <p>Read Enjoy</p>  <p>Share Support</p> <p><b>Journal of Maltese Living Abroad</b></p>	<p>OUR READERS COME FROM MALTA, GOZO, AUSTRALIA, CANADA, UNITED STATES, NEW ZEALAND, UK, EUROPE AND SEVERAL OTHER COUNTRIES</p>
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## DONATION OF BOOKS TO THE MALTESE CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA IN ALBION

On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> of March 2023, the Consul-General of Malta in Victoria Ms Chirelle Ellul Sciberras visited the Maltese Cultural Association of Victoria in Albion where she presented 50 books to the President of the Centre, Mr Joseph Spiteri. The books will form part of a new library of Melitensia books that is being set up by the Centre.

In the last months, the Consul-General also donated a number of books to the Maltese Community Council of Victoria library, the Brimbank libraries and to the children's class of the Maltese Language Classes of Victoria. This initiative is part of the Consulate's ongoing commitment to reach out to the community with the aim to promote and preserve the cultural identity through the Maltese language among the Maltese diaspora. The books were donated courtesy of the Malta Book Council, Faraxa Publishing and Soċjetà Dun Filippo Borgia.

## PARTICIPATION OF THE CONSULATE-GENERAL OF MALTA IN VICTORIA IN STUDY OVERSEAS FAIRS AT TWO UNIVERSITIES IN MELBOURNE



The Consul-General of Malta in Victoria represented the University of Malta in two Study Overseas fairs in Melbourne, aimed at attracting students in Australian universities with which UM has an agreement, to study in Malta. The Consul-General Ms Chirelle Ellul Sciberras, visited the Victoria University campus in Melbourne on the 22 March and the following day the Parkville campus of the University of Melbourne. The Consulate had a stand at each university featuring information about the University of Malta, tourist information about Malta and various

promotional items from Visit Malta. There was a lot of interest from a number of students in the exchange programme between the universities as well as in visiting Malta.

The Consul-General reiterated that advantages of studying in Malta include English as the language of instruction and the fact that, for travel purposes, Malta is very close to Europe. Such participation is an attestation of the Consulate's ongoing commitment to strengthen the excellent relations and collaborations among the Universities by encouraging further students to participate in such programmes.

The Consulate is grateful for the assistance of the University of Malta, the Victoria Abroad office of the Victoria University, the Global Learning Office of the University of Melbourne and Visit Malta.

## MALTESE CANADIAN NEWS

The community and committee of the Maltese Canadian Association of the City of Hamilton gave a big welcome to the Consul General of Toronto on 15 March 2023



The Maltese Community in Hamilton ON paid tribute to members of the community who passed in the last year's, at St Francis Xavier Church, followed by a tour of miniature exhibition of sacred statues. Consul General, Denise Demicoli, was pleased to join them on this occasion and looks forward to the next opportunity to meet them again.



**MALTESE LIVING ABROAD**  
Malta in the World

**Edwidge Borg**  
Councillor  
Council of the Maltese Living Abroad

### Maltese Community Council of Victoria Scholarships



The MCCV MALTESE CULTURAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND (known as the Bishop Joe Grech Memorial Scholarship) is delighted to announce the sponsorship of Sienna Blair and Georgia Zammit, the two Gippsland netballers who will try out for Malta's national team ahead of European Netball Championships. Accompanying them to Malta will also be Judi Buhagiar from Traralgon who also mentors Malta's head coach. All players and coach are of Maltese descent. Also joining in this sponsorship is the Maltese Community Centre Latrobe Valley. If you or your Association wish to sponsor this squad and help these Maltese Community members achieve their goals, contact Mario Sammut at [aloysiusvclv@gmail.com](mailto:aloysiusvclv@gmail.com) or Edwidge Borg at [edwidgeborgatt@gmail.com](mailto:edwidgeborgatt@gmail.com)







## GOOD FRIDAY PROCESSION

OUR LADY OF VICTORIES CHURCH  
HORSLEY PARK

7 APRIL  
1PM LITURGY  
3PM PROCESSION  
Would you like to participate?  
Costumes and roles are available for all ages

CALL ALFRED CAUCHI  
0407 914 051



THE HISTORY OF  
MALTESE  
EMIGRATION IS AN  
IMPORTANT PART  
OF THE HISTORY  
OF MALTA  
AND GOZO



**Latrobe Valley Maltese Museum - Victoria**

Youth Day at the Maltese Community  
Centre & Museum in Morwell





## Australia's first Maltese Museum hosts school event



Packed: The Maltese Museum is stacked with Maltese artefacts, from throughout its history. Photos: Tom Hayes

By TOM HAYES – LA TROBE VALLEY EXPRESS

THE Maltese culture is widespread throughout the Latrobe Valley and that is no different in Morwell, where the first Maltese Museum in Australia currently is.

In 1883, the first organised migrant group of Maltese workers arrived in Australia, many of whom worked in Queensland.

Since then, the Maltese have continued to flock to Australia in their numbers, especially around the mid-1900s.

In Morwell sits Australia's first Maltese Museum, which contains many Maltese artefacts from its rich history, from clothing to utensils to models of buildings.

Last Saturday, the Maltese Language School from Caroline Springs came to visit the Museum, and around 50 children attended the event. President of the Maltese Community Centre, Mario Sammut believes it is a great opportunity for anyone, especially local Maltese people to get a sense of their history.

"People come and visit the Museum, its open every Sunday," Mr Sammut said.

"During the week, we have people come for lunch and visit the Museum.

"Very soon we'll start on the extension and the back, because we're running out of space!"

The brains of the operation was the youngest member of the Maltese Community Centre, Ali

Shlaibeq, who caught the attention of the Maltese Language School in Caroline Springs.

"They're very happy to have me on board, as someone younger, so I'd like to encourage more young Maltese people, particularly in the Valley to come and see what we have and to be involved if that's what they'd like to do," Mr Shlaibeq said. During previous attempts, the Maltese Museum failed to get a turn-out for events, but this week was much different.

"We put it on our Facebook page and that got some traction," Mr Shlaibeq said.

"It might be something that they, in the future would want to be involved with. At least they will come here and understand something of their heritage that they didn't know before."

As the children filled the hall, they were treated to classic Maltese cuisine – Pastizzi – a classic pastry, filled with either ricotta or curried peas.

While they ate their food, they were able to watch a brief video about Malta, provided by the committee, before they were able to see the contents of the Museum.

Tanya Attard from the Maltese Language School in Caroline Springs believes it was a great learning experience.

"I just thought it would be the perfect opportunity for them to come and see things that may represent where they come from and their roots, and have a bit of practical application," Ms Attard said.

"When you're talking to people and they ask where you are from and you say 'Malta', they go 'that's a place I'd really love to go to', I think this would be a great first stop, to get a bit of an understanding.

"The internet can explain so many things but seeing it in person or speaking to people who lived there, it just adds another layer to help develop that connection."





## VISIT FORT DELIMARA



Heritage Malta is offering the public the rare opportunity of being shown around Fort Delimara by a guide, on Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd April. Fort Delimara is a historical site usually closed to the public.

There will be eight guided tours each day. Those starting at 09:00, 11:00, 13:00 and 15:00 will be in Maltese while those at 10:15, 12:15, 14:15 and 16:15 will be in English.

Participants are requested to buy their tickets beforehand and be by the fort's gate 15 minutes before the start of their respective tour, wearing comfortable shoes.

Tickets for tours in Maltese or English, costing €5 for adults and €2 for children and Heritage Malta members, are to be pre-booked from any of our museums and sites, or online [/heritagemalta.mt/store/?category=283](https://heritagemalta.mt/store/?category=283).

Heritage Malta members will be asked to present their **Heritage Malta membership card**.

Tickets for admission without guided tour will be available at the same rates at the door on the day. Last admission is at 16:30.

**If you're into military strategy, artillery and historical warfare, then Fort Delimara is truly the place for you. Located at Delimara point, the fort was one of a ring of forts and batteries that protected Marsaxlokk harbour, along with Fort Tas-Silġ, Fort San Luċjan and Fort Bengħajsa.**

Fort Delimara was constructed between 1876 and 1878 as a flankless fortification. On its outskirts, it included a dry ditch and three counter-scarp galleries. The main gate was

completed in 1881, as the date inscribed above it reads. On the inside of the gate are separate accesses to the Communication Passage, Casemates Passage and the Parade Ground. The latter is very large when compared to other Victorian fortifications and comprises **several barrack blocks**. The fort's original armament of six 38-

ton RML guns was only superseded in size by the 100-ton guns of Fort Rinella and Fort Cambridge. Four of these guns are still in situ, being the **last remaining examples in the world** still standing on their original carriages and platforms.

In 1887, a re-armament with the new breech loading technology was proposed, consisting of one 9.2-inch Mk VI B.L. gun and two 6-inch Mk VI B.L. guns. New gun emplacements were constructed at Parade Ground level in 1891. By 1913, modification works on two new gun emplacements housing two 9.2-inch Mk X B.L. guns were ready as the new main armament of Fort Delimara.

Again, advancements in artillery technology forced the replacement of mounted guns and in 1938/39 the two 9.2-inch gun emplacements were modified to be armed with the smaller 6-inch Mk VII B.L. guns. During the **Second World War** Fort Delimara was bombarded by enemy air attacks and fired its guns against mine-laying operations. After 1945, the fort remained in use until the abolishment of coastal defence throughout the British Empire in 1956. Upon Malta's Independence on 21st September 1964, the fort was transferred to the local government.

Thanks for sharing! You do so much work and research for every edition you publish. We owe you great thanks for keeping us informed. Thank you. Happy Easter. Hope you have plenty of figolli.  
Irene Cooper

# GARDENS IN MALTA

“The gardens that can be found in the Maltese Islands are numerous but relatively small. What they lack in size they make up for in **historical and cultural content**, which when pieced together, relate the happenings of their inhabitants from the early 15th century to present day.

The flagship of all the gardens is beyond any doubt **San Anton Gardens** in Ԧ'Attard, built by Grand Master Antoine de Paul in 1623. However, other smaller gardens such as **the two Barrakkas** in Valletta offer breathtaking views of our Grand Harbour and the fortifications built by the Knights of Malta. Historical gardens were usually born as appendages to palaces and palatial homes of the rulers of the day. Even **Buskett Gardens** in Rabat grew out of a hunting lodge that was built in the mid-1500's by Grandmaster La Vallette. **Sa Maison Gardens**, which overlook the equally impressive Marsamxett Harbour, was the work of Grandmaster de Paul (1636), but it was later (1853) revisited by the British Military who used its vantage position for defence purposes and left interesting evidence of their presence by sculpting various coats of arms in the rock face of the bastions.

Equally important historical gardens include **Argotti Garden**, **St. Philip** in Floriana, **Hastings** in Valletta, **Palazzo Parisio** in Naxxar and several others, which are found in outlying areas. Modern gardens which are worthy of note include the **Chinese Garden of Serenity** in Santa Lucia, the **Ta' Qali National Park** and the **Independence Garden** on the Sliema Seafront.'

– *Peter Calamatta, Horticulturalist*

## ARGOTTI BOTANICAL GARDENS

Notre Dame Ditch, Floriana, Malta

Situated in Floriana, the Argotti Gardens were laid out in the 18th century as a private garden belonging to Grand Master Pinto.



## CHINESE GARDEN OF SERENITY

Triq Hal Luqa Santa Luċija, Malta

The Chinese Garden of Serenity is a lovely Chinese Garden situated in Santa Lucija in the South of Malta and has been open to the public since 1997.



## GARDJOLA GARDENS

Fort St. Michael, Senglea, Malta

Constructed on a grid pattern in 1551 by order of Grandmaster De La Sengle, the Gardjola Gardens in Senglea offer a panoramic view that includes the docks in Marsa, Valletta, the entrance to the Grand Harbour and Fort St. Angelo.



## HASTINGS GARDEN

St. John's Cavalier, Valletta, Malta

Located on top of the bastions on the west side of City Gate, the recently-embellished Hastings Gardens offer a magnificent view of...

Triq tal-Mużew, Mdina, Malta

Howard Gardens are one of the biggest public gardens in Malta, forming a natural border between Rabat and neighbouring Mdina.



## ENTERTAINING THE MATURE RESIDENTS

From our correspondent



soon the newly formed Choir/Dancing Group will be involved in similar community functions. The President is trying to embrace the wider community and not least the Maltese community of all NSW which seemed to be ailing currently.

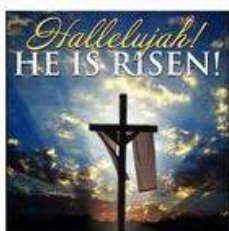


**Marco Polo**  
AGED CARE SERVICES

On Tuesday 28 March, 2023 the Maltese Cringila Dancers visited the Marco Polo Aged Care Home performing several popular Maltese Folklore dances.

The staff at the Marco Polo Nursing Home made them all welcome and the President of the George Cross Falcons Community Centre, Louis Parnis, introduced the members of the group to the residents. They started their performance with the Maltese anthem, followed by numerous dances. The resident enjoyed the entreaty performance immensely.

This is a great initiative by the association and



### La Valette Social Centre Inc. Revised Easter Programme

**Thursday**  
30 March 2023

Stations of the Cross (Via Sagra) at the Centre at 10.30am. Kitchen will be open as usual.

**Friday**  
31 March 2023

*Our Lady of Sorrows*. 6.00pm Procession with the statue and Rosary from the Chapel. 7.00pm Stations of the Cross (Via Sagra) in the Hall with folklore singing (Maltese Ghana).

**Saturday**  
1 April 2023

5.00pm Rosary at the Hall followed by the "Palm Sunday" Mass at 5.30pm including the blessing of Palms and Olive branches.

**Holy Thursday**  
6 April 2023

Function starts at 6.30pm in the Hall, which includes 'Washing of the Feet' and Eucharistic Adoration.

**Good Friday**  
7 April 2023

At 3.00pm Liturgical function in the Hall, The Passion of Jesus Christ.

**Easter Saturday**  
8 ta' April 2023

The Hall is open at 6.00pm for the Saturday Vigil. There will be no Mass at the Chapel. Centre will be open from 4.30pm.

**Easter Sunday**  
9 April 2023

Mass in the Hall at 10.15am followed by a procession of the Risen Christ. The band will play Easter marches.

**Everyone is invited to attend and take an active part in these Easter celebrations.**

For more information ring the Centre on 9622 5847



Join us at La Valette Social Centre Blacktown NSW for some Ghana -traditional Maltese folk music with Saver Bonanno and Friends. Catch the Mariners taking on the Wanderers in the A League Men's or try your luck at a game or two of Bingo



## Mary Spiteri

Maltese singer and television personality  
from Naxxar



**Mary Spiteri**  
**My life - 16 April,**  
**Mediterranean**  
**Conference Centre,**  
**Valletta**

With a grand career in singing spanning over 50 years, Mary Spiteri is among the most popular singers, loved by all Maltese and Gozitans. This sold-out show celebrates this iconic Maltese singer, her life and career by means of a repertoire of songs

and interviews with the participation of Mary Spiteri and guest singers. Mary Spiteri: My Life is the first biography of the sort to be produced live in a theatre.

