

Maltese  
Diaspora



**Matters**

**MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER**

**Journal for Maltese Living Abroad**



Editor: Frank L Scicluna OAM MQR JP

maltesejournal@gmail.com



**RESIDENTS OF HAMRUN WATCHING THE MORNING  
MARCH ON THE FEAST OF SAN GAETANO**

Photo: Matthew Mirabelli



**LEANNE  
ELLUL**



**Lampuki**

**Season**



**Farewell  
Sister Georgina  
and  
Thank You**



**Gardens should be  
preserved,  
not turned  
into concrete**

**Prime Minister  
of Malta  
Robert Abela**



**Bishop Cefai with the Consul General  
of Malta in Toronto Denise Demicoli**

**THE MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER**



**We would like to pay our respects  
to the Maltese migrants past and present  
who made Malta proud**





## The story behind the Siege Bell Memorial

Every day at noon, the largest bell in Malta rings gravely, its boom resonating over the peaceful waters of Grand Harbour. Once a theatre of war, the harbour's tranquillity today belies its turbulent past.

During World War II, Malta was subjected to incessant bombing raids, particularly between 1940 and 1943. They brought the island to its knees - its spirit crushed, but never defeated. My generation grew up listening to our parents and grandparents recounting stories of everyday hardship and heroism during those distant days of unimaginable horrors: my grandmother gave birth in an air raid shelter, and my father remembers queuing at victory kitchens for food.

*"More than 7,000 civilians and servicemen and women died during the three year siege."*

Between February and June 1942, the Siege of Malta (as it was known), intensified to such an extent that only two out of 24 merchant vessels arrived and successfully unloaded their cargo, bringing much needed supplies to the island. During the first half of 1942, Malta endured 154 days and nights of continuous bombing.

The siege was finally broken with the arrival in August of 1942 of 14 Merchant Navy ships, escorted by the largest and most powerful escort the British fleet had ever assembled in what became known as Operation Pedestal. Only five of these ships eventually limped into Grand Harbour, rescuing Malta from starvation. As many as 400 Allied troops lost their lives in that operation. More than 7,000 civilians and servicemen and women died during the three-year siege.

Every single person was a hero in one way or another, whether on the frontline or at home praying for an end to the atrocities. The Siege Bell Memorial in Valletta commemorates all those heroes who gave their life to protect others.

Malta's defiance and courage during World War II were already acknowledged by King George VI when he awarded the island the George Cross *"to bear witness to a heroism and devotion that will long be famous in history"*. 50 years later, the **George Cross Association** commemorated that momentous award with a new memorial designed by Michael Sandle.

The association chose a secluded location on Castille bastion, the furthestmost point of Valletta within Grand Harbour, to instil a sense of quiet reverence and contemplation, away from the distracting hustle and bustle of the city. Unveiled by Queen Elizabeth II in 1992, the colonnaded belfry, designed in the form of an elliptical neo-classical temple, contains a bourdon bell, the largest in Malta. The bell was cast on 10th February 1992 by the world's largest bellfounders John Taylor & Co Founders of Loughborough, England. A Latin inscription quoting a verse from Psalm 140 adorns the mulley groove. The inscription reads *Obumbrasti Super Caput Meum In Di Belli MCMXL - MCMXLIII* which translates to "You cast thy shadow upon my head during the time of war 1940-1943". Next to the belfry is a bronze catafalque overhanging the bastion parapet, symbolising the burial of the corpse of the unknown soldier at sea.

*The annual ceremony commemorating the award of the George Cross to Malta is held in April at the Siege Bell Memorial. Author-Adriana Bishop*

## **'SAHHA' THE CONGREGATION OF THE DOMINICAN SISTERS OF MALTA CONCLUDES A MEMORABLE CHAPTER IN NSW AUSTRALIA**

The readers of the Maltese Journal join the thousands of members of the Maltese community in Australia to farewell the Dominican Sisters of Malta and sincerely thank them for their sterling work in the field of education at Greystanes where they run a primary school and for operating the St. Dominic's Home for the Elderly at Blacktown in NSW. The home was established and administered by the Dominican Sisters since 1988. When they decided to close it down, they were unable to find a provider to take over the facility despite a three-year search. For nearly 40 years the Sisters cared religiously for elderly Maltese and also residents of other nationalities. We would like to thank Sister Georgina and her community for their support they always gave to the journal for Maltese Diaspora. We wish them God's blessings and every success in future missions.

[www.facebook.com/lavallettesocialcentre](https://www.facebook.com/lavallettesocialcentre)

Farewell to the Dominican sisters last Saturday (12 August) leaving Blacktown after 40 years of service to the Maltese Community. They will be sadly missed. Sister Georgina, Sister Olivia Falzon and Sister Priyanka Paul will be going to Melbourne on Tuesday 15 August. Sister Georgina and Sister Olivia will be returning to Malta sometime in September. **Godfrey Sultana** – La Valette Social Centre Blacktown

Farewell to the Dominican Sisters who served the elderly in our community with such dedication and sacrifice. Your departure from Sydney is an immense loss to our aging community, but we wish you well in your future endeavours as you continue your mission in Melbourne and Malta. May God shower you with blessings. **Maria De Carlo**

The Dominican sisters will never be forgotten from teaching at Pendle Hill and at Blacktown Aged Care Hostel our sisters served diligently and with commitment. We salute all Dominican Sisters who



served the Lord's people through all ages. We wish you a happy settlement back home. XEWQAT sbieh ta' sahha fil-paci. Awguri minn qalb. Well done Godfrey Sultana and Antoinette Caruana both hardworking personnel at La Valette Social Centre the heartbeat of the community run by volunteers.

**Antoinette Mascari**

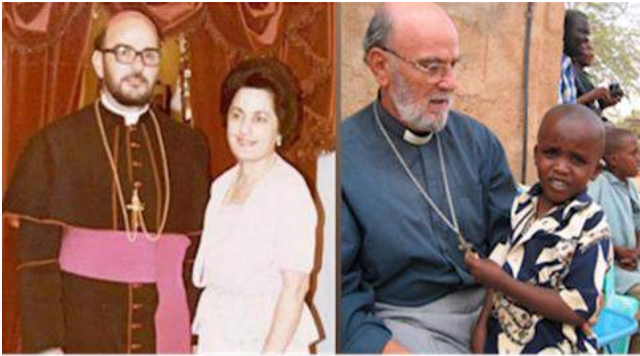
The Dominican Sisters have written a huge Chapter in the History Book of Maltese Migration to Australia. Our families have been blest by their competence, diligence, kindness and compassion. Let us all combine in a prayer of thanks for the enrichment they have brought to our lives and our community. **John Aquilina.**

### **Thank You**

**Since the beginning of migration  
the Maltese who emigrated  
to settle and built their families  
and future in countries like  
the North of Africa, Australia,  
Canada, the United Kingdom,  
the United States and other places  
were assisted by a large number  
of Maltese priest, nuns and  
lay organisations (M.U.S.E.U.M) in their  
spiritual and social needs and  
helped them to remain loyal  
to their Catholic faith.**



## Bishop Paul Darmanin and Sister - Laid to Rest



### Catholic Information Service for Africa

**ŻABBAR, AUGUST 8, 2023 (CISA)**- Bishop Emeritus Paul Darmanin of the Order of the Friars Capuchin who died on July 25 at the age of 82 was laid to rest on August 3, 2023, with Archbishop Charles Scicluna of Malta describing him as a “disciple of the kingdom of heaven.”

In his homily during the funeral of Bishop Paul Darmanin and his sister Mary in Żabbar, Archbishop Scicluna said “as we give our last Christian respects, full of faith and hope, we remember Bishop Paul as the disciple, the wise writer, a teacher who truly became a disciple of the kingdom of heaven.”

Bishop Darmanin was the first prelate of the Catholic Diocese of Garissa in Kenya between 1984 and 2015 and eventually returned home to Malta, where he lived in the friary of the Franciscan Capuchins in Floriana.

During the August 3 funeral, the archbishop highlighted Bishop Darmanin's devotion to Mary, pointing out that “in his Franciscan Capuchin vocation he remained the son of the mother of Jesus and when the Lord called him to be the successor

bishop of the apostle, he chose as a motto the words: “led by the mother of Jesus, by Mary.”

He added that Bishop Darmanin was a disciple of the kingdom of heaven, in all circumstances of his life, as a Capuchin monk in Malta, a provincial, then bishop “who out of the depth of the love of his heart gave both the new and the old.”

“The old reflected in his loyalty to the teachings, the tradition of the Church, with the apostolic fervour that testified to the name he was given at baptism: Paul the Apostle, our Father, the missionary apostle. But even the new; he dedicated his life to seeing the dream of Garissa becoming a diocese led by the Franciscan Capuchins come true and grow into a community of faith, hope and love, it was also the adventure of his life, the love of his life. He did not do it alone. He was a man who with his gentleness, with his considerate word, also knew how to encourage others to be disciples of the Lord like him.”

Bishop Darmanin's sister Mary who was also laid to rest on August 3, was eulogized by Archbishop Scicluna saying “today we also say goodbye to his sister who took care of him and he took care of her. The Lord called them within a few days of each other. In the mystery of the Lord's mercy, we look at him and adore him. To understand him, we must first meet him face to face and on the day we meet the Lord face to face, together with our brothers Bishop Paul and his sister Mary. We really don't care why but we are lucky enough to meet the love, the mercy, the sweet embrace of the one who truly loves us.”

Following the funeral, Bishop Darmanin's burial took place in the crypt beneath the Holy Cross Church in Floriana. *Adopted from NEWSBOOK, Originally*

*Posted on August 3, 2023*

## Pope urges politicians to address the “open wound” of migrant deaths.



### Vatican Media

Pope Francis encouraged political and diplomatic efforts to address, in a spirit of solidarity, the open wound of migrant deaths. He also encouraged the efforts of those who work to prevent shipwrecks and those who rescue migrants.

In his traditional Sunday message following the Angelus prayer, the Pope recalled the latest shipwreck earlier this month during which 41 people died saying he had been praying for them.

“With both pain and shame we must declare that already almost 2,000 men, women and children, have died in that sea while attempting to reach Europe since the start of the year,” the Pope said.

According to the International Organization for Migration, more than 22,000 people have died or gone missing in the Mediterranean Sea over the last 9 years.

The Pope also called for prayers for Ukraine and for the victims of the wildfires in Maui, Hawaii. 93 people died from the fires, making it the deadliest U.S. wildfire in more than a century.



## Australian Maltese youth dances for the pope at Lisbon

A former student of St John XXIII Catholic College and I asked my mum Helen whether I should HAD the opportunity to express her two biggest apply, and she said there's no harm in applying loves – dance and faith – at one of the world's and to just go for it - *probably won't settle in until biggest stages. I've hopped on the plane.*

19-year-old Antonia Zammit, a Maltese Australian, Antonia has been dancing since she was five years from St John XXIII Parish, Glenwood-Stanhope old at her local studio and has learnt Tap, Jazz, Gardens, Ballet and Contemporary dance styles. Growing

NSW was selected to be part of "Ensemble23" – a up in the Catholic faith, Antonia and her family group of volunteer artists and performers that will have been hugely involved in the parish, which be a central part of the upcoming World Youth she described as her "second home and my Day in Lisbon, Portugal. second family".

Joining over 40 people from around the world, "It's a chance to mix two big parts of my life," she Antonia travelrd to Lisbon for six weeks of intense said.

rehearsals ahead of World Youth Day Week, where she performed in front of Pope Francis and millions of young Catholics during the Welcome Ceremony, the Way of the Cross and the Night Vigil.

"For as long as I remember, both dance and my faith have been two important aspects of my life," she said.

"I was interested in attending World Youth Day as a pilgrim with the Diocese of Parramatta, but I wasn't 100% sure. On Mother's Day, I saw an ad pop up online calling for dancers and performers

"I think there's a connection between faith and dance because you're able to tell stories and express emotions through dance and maybe inspire somebody else through those movements.

"I wanted to share my gifts and passions through my faith with others at such an important event in another part of the world.

"This opportunity will allow me to experience new things whilst creating amazing memories with like-minded people from various parts of the world doing something we love."

Antonia's mother, Helen – a Regional Coordinator in the Diocese's Confraternity of Christian Doctrine and one of the Diocese's World Youth Day group leaders – was extremely proud of her daughter taking this leap of faith.

"Antonia's normally an anxious person, so this was a huge thing for her to go out of her way and apply for it. It's a huge achievement for her to put herself out there.

"I'm so happy to be travelling to World Youth Day for my own faith journey, but it's special that we'll be able to experience some of it together. "This experience is going to be so special for my faith and I hope she gets that same inspiration and she's filled with the same spirit."

**The only Journal**  
**for Maltese Living**  
**Abroad which**  
**connects us**  
**with each other**  
**and with our**  
**homeland**  
**MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER**

maltesejournal@gmail.com





## Order of Malta participates in World Youth Day in Lisbon Portugal

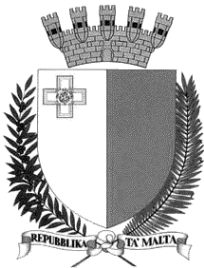
For the 2023 World Youth Day in Portugal from 1 to 6 August, the Order of Malta's Portuguese Association has prepared an extensive programme of activities. The WYD2023 will bring 1.2 million young people to the city of Lisbon alone.

A multimedia exhibition has been set up in the Portuguese Association's premises on the Order of Malta, its history and activities, both in Portugal and around the world. The exhibition is divided into several sections, dedicated to the secular history of the Order of Saint John of Jerusalem, Rhodes and Malta from its origins to the present day, to spirituality and pilgrimages, to its medical, humanitarian and social activities worldwide, to the

specifics of the Order of Malta's humanitarian diplomacy and, last but not least, to the projects carried out by members and volunteers in Portugal. Since its inauguration, an average of 800 people a day have visited the exhibition. Some hundred Order of Malta volunteers from eight nations have arrived in Lisbon. The Portuguese Association has organized a special place for them called "Villa Malta", where they can sleep, eat and socialize during the international event.

The official WYD programme includes a "Vocational Fair" in which all religious orders, Church initiatives, communities and international movements can present their proposals for a Christian pathway. The Order of Malta has a stand at this Fair, illustrating its spirituality and humanitarian works worldwide. Here, pilgrims from different countries can come into contact for the first time with the Order of Malta and learn about its specific humanitarian activities in their country.

The WYD began in 1985 on the initiative of Pope John Paul II to promote meetings of spirituality and culture among young Catholics. The WYD at international level is celebrated every two or three years in a specific city chosen by the Pope. The last international meeting was held from 22 to 27 January 2019 in Panama.



## Consul-On-The-Move (COTM) 2023 services in Australia and New Zealand

The High Commission of Malta is pleased to announce that we are planning the COTM visits for Adelaide, Perth in Australia and New Zealand, subject to the number of applicants interested in the service.

Applicants who may wish to receive consular services during COTM, must either fill in the form online by using the following link: <https://forms.office.com/e/uWAGgrp2JL> or

contact the High Commission by email on [consul.canberra@gov.mt](mailto:consul.canberra@gov.mt). Interest must be submitted by no later than 18 August 2023 c.o.b.

Our team at the High Commission will be in contact with you to provide you with the appropriate form(s), depending on the service required. Appointments will only be scheduled once payment for the service has been confirmed.

The tentative schedule dates and locations for the visits are as per details below. Please also note that scheduled dates and locations for the visits are subject to change based on the number of registered applications and on any unforeseen issues that may arise in the meantime.

1. **Adelaide: 10 and 11 November 2023 @ Maltese Guild of SA, 6 Jeanes St, Beverley SA 5009**
2. **Perth: 13 till 15 November 2023 @ Maltese Association in WA**
3. **Auckland: 20 November 2023 @ Europe House, Auckland University of Technology**
4. **Wellington: 22 November 2023 @ Victoria University, Murphy building, Kelburn**

For further information contact the

**MALTA HIGH COMMISSION IN CANBERRA, ACT**

38 Culgoa Circuit, Canberra, ACT, Australia, Australian Capital Territory



(02) 6290 1573



[highcommission.canberra@gov.mt](mailto:highcommission.canberra@gov.mt)





**Independence Day**  
Celebrations at  
The Maltese Community  
Centre

**When: Saturday 16 September**  
**Where: 477 Royal Parade Parkville**  
**Time: Mass at 6:00pm**  
**Celebrations at 7:00pm to 10:00pm**  
**Style: Cocktail Food**  
**Fee: \$35.00**  
**For Booking call 9 387 8922**

## Maltese Community Council of Victoria, Inc.



The Maltese people have always shown resilience and pride when it comes to the Maltese islands. Our ancestors fought hard to maintain our identity and it is important to continue to acknowledge that courage and pride by celebrating these victories that have Malta what it is today. For this reason, we are inviting the Maltese community to come and enjoy

the celebration of our country's Independence Day. The day where the Maltese governed for Malta and the Maltese without the interference of foreign influence.

Come and show your pride and acknowledgement of those who fought hard to achieve our independence. Despite being one of the smallest community in Australia, we can show the larger communities that we are as strong as they are in representing our history and heritage.

For those who recently attended the 75th year of the anniversary of the assisted package, they experience our rich history and shared their own experiences through their stories.

This is again an opportunity to come and enjoy the celebrations of Independence Day and to share your recollection of the day with other fellow Maltese who will be attending this great event.

The Maltese Community Council have been active in keeping these historical days alive. But our success will depend on your participation. So we encourage you all to join us and all the members of the executive will be happy to welcome you. We also encourage you to bring with you any memorabilia that you might have that we can display on the day.

When : 16 September 2023 Where: Maltese Community Centre

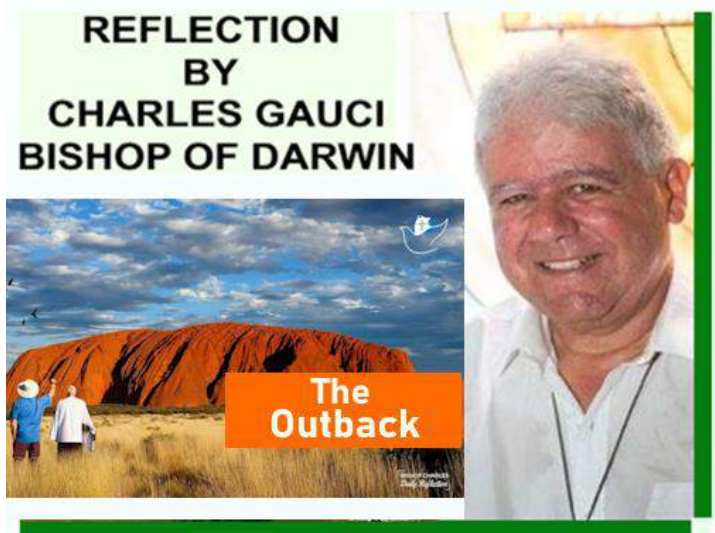
477 Royal Parade Parkville, Victoria, Australia Time: 6:00 pm Church service followed by celebrations until 10:00pm, Entry \$35per person Tickets can be purchased by calling 9387 8922.

-  
This week while I am in central Australia, with the local priest, I drove out several kilometres outside of Alice Springs. We walked into a gorge where there was permanent water. The wild beauty was breathtaking. There were amazing hues of reds and a mixture of so many other colours. You could hear the silence broken by the occasional call of birds. The nights around inspired awe. Words from the poetry of Gerard Manly Hopkins SJ came to mind. 'A bird of prey hovered in the air above.

We sat down and spent some time in prayer. We prayed the rosary as well as part of the Prayer Of The Church. It is no wonder that so many have been attracted to the wilderness for prayer in the history of the church. Nature has so often been called God's first revelation.

Indeed without the distraction of phones (my phone was out of range) and so many other things, we get unencumbered and predisposed to being open to prayer. Of course, we can pray anywhere.

However, the setting and environment can certainly be helpful. Prayer is about union with and openness to God. It is about uniting our will with the will of God. It also connects us with a deeper love and connection with each other. There is a time to pray alone and a time to pray with others. Healthy Prayer leads us to deeper communion with God and with each other and connection with all creation. The world is charged with the grandeur of God.



**MALTESE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF VICTORIA****Operation Pedestal Commemorative Event – Sunday 13 August 2023****Andrew Gatt and Antonia Camilleri****At the Shrine of Remembrance  
Melbourne - 13 August 2023****Joseph Matina and Benedict Soler**

Madam President Antonia Camilleri congratulated Mr Benedict Soler and the Maltese Australian Association for a great commemorative of the 81st Anniversary of Operation Pedestal Malta Convoys at the Shrine of Remembrance in Melbourne, Australia on Sunday 13 August. Madam President also had an opportunity to lay a wreath on behalf of the MCCV at the memorial and read a piece of literature called Malta for Peace.

The event was attended by over 80 people and was an honour to be present and be part of the event.

The MCCV was attended by the President Antonia Camilleri, Andrew Gatt Secretary and Joseph Matina Treasurer.

These events are an important part of the Maltese history and it is important that we continue to hold these celebrations to remind us of our culture and history.



The Summer Carnival will return in three villages spread across Malta: Birzebbuga, Bugibba and Marsaskala. This event is being organized by Festivals Malta in collaboration with the respective local councils, and will be staged in these locations on different days between the 18th and 20th of August from 8pm onwards.

These details were announced by the Minister for National Heritage, Arts and Local Government, Owen Bonnici, who said that the Summer Carnival is another opportunity for artists working in the carnival field to exhibit their talents to the public and the tourists who visit us on summer days.

"The Summer Carnival is not only an opportunity for the people living in Malta to experience the colours, the floats and the dances that the Malta Carnival brings with it on a smaller scale, but it is

also a means to with which we can spread the knowledge about the carnival as a type of artistic handicraft," said Minister Bonnici.

"Every year, the Malta Carnival that we organize in February manages to attract thousands of Maltese and tourists. However, most of the tourists who visit our country in the summer do not have the opportunity to experience the arts and crafts of the carnival. Thus, the Summer Carnival is a means of spreading the talents of carnival enthusiasts to a wider audience at the time when our country sees the most tourists during the year", said Aaron Zahra, the -Chairman of Festivals Malta.

"This activity has considerable importance for Festivals Malta. This is because while we give another opportunity to carnival enthusiasts to show their brilliant work, we also give the people living in Malta and Gozo a taste of what they can expect at the Malta Carnival which takes place in February". said Frans Agius, the CEO of Festivals Malta.

"After a break of three years, the Summer Carnival returns in three localities: those of Bugibba, Marsaskala and Birzebbuga. These evenings will be decorated with dance and joy as the participants of the Maltese carnival know how to do", continued Jason Busuttil, the Artistic Director of the Malta Carnival. For more information on the 2023 Summer Carnival programme, visit [www.festivals.mt/karnival](http://www.festivals.mt/karnival)



**Towns and  
Villages****RABAT · MALTA**

**Rabat** is a town in the Northern Region of Malta, with a population of nearly 15 000. It adjoins the ancient capital city of Mdina, and a north-western area formed part of the Roman city of Melite until its medieval retrenchment. The Apostolic Nunciature of the Holy See to the Republic of Malta is seated in this village. The Local Council of Rabat is also the administrator of Baħrija. In December 1999, Mtarfa was split from Rabat to form a separate Local Council by Act XXI, an amendment to the Local Council Act of 1993 (Act XV).

The name of the village means a 'suburb' in Semitic,

as it was once the suburb of Mdina, the old capital city.

In the 15th century, while the area served as a shelter from constant pirate attacks, several religious orders arrived in Rabat, remaining there ever since. When the Order of St. John arrived in Malta, Rabat earned significance for its close proximity to Mdina, St Paul's Grotto, the Covent Schools and for the arable farmland in the village.

During the late 19th century, under the British Rule, Rabat saw the introduction of a number of new social services, such as the building of the first primary school, the initiation of medical and postal services, the upgrading of spring water, street lighting and the start of the train service between Valletta and Rabat. It was also in those times when the two music band clubs, L'Isle Adam and Count Roger were established.

The 20th century brought about major developments in Rabat. The population increased to around 15,000 after the Second World War. This growth encouraged the construction of new housing areas such as Tal-Virtu and Ghajn Qajjet. Nowadays, this remarkable development distinguishes the old part of the town from the new.

Rabat contributes to the Maltese economy by exploiting tourism and agriculture. Parts of the film Munich and Black Eagle were shot in Rabat, while the Apostolic Nunciature of the Holy See to the Republic of Malta is located in Rabat too.

**The Catacombs:** Rabat hosts the well-known Catacombs of St. Paul and St. Agatha. These were utilized in Roman times to lay the dead to rest, as the Romans thought it unhygienic to bury the dead in the city.  
**Domvs Romana (Roman Villa):** The Domvs Romana hosts the remains of a valuable townhouse that has excellent mosaics found in the Peristyle and the surrounding rooms. The mosaic pavements rank among the finest and most ancient mosaic compositions in the western Mediterranean, along with those of Pompeii and Sicily.

**St. Paul's Grotto:** During the Roman rule, the city of 'Melita' extended up to the Parish Church of St. Paul. The ditch surrounding the city was full of caves that were utilised as graves by the residents. Tradition holds that the Apostle St. Paul used one of these caves as a base for his apostolic work, which became a meeting place for the first Christian community. This grotto could thus be considered as the foundation site of the Catholic Church in Malta, a declaration that was done in 1617. Since then, the grotto has been considered as a sacred space, and many influential people showed their respect for this grotto, including His Holiness Pope John Paul II in 1990. Malta.com

**JUM IR-RABAT** 2 September 2023 From 7:15 pm to 10:00 pm

Music, singing, and painting in a community-based union bringing together Rabat Local Council, Band Clubs, Political Clubs, Parish Church, other churches and convents and most of all the people of Rabat.

## **Bishop Cefai visits the Consulate General of Malta in Toronto - Canada**

Denise Demicoli had the honour and pleasure to welcome Bishop Giovanni Cefai MSSP, Prelate of Santiago Apóstol de Huancané, Peru, and Fr David O'Connor.

This first outreach trip to by Bishop Cefai & Fr O'Connor intends to share experiences of impoverished communities in Huancané and plans for the Prelature of Huancané to build community capacity to overcome famine, fear, lack of basic

essentials and access to the most fundamental human rights. In Canada, the St Paul the Apostle Church Mission Group consistently helps through its volunteers and contributors, by supplying containers of essentials and funds to the mission in Peru. Anyone interested in making charitable donations to the cause, should contact @St Paul the Apostle Mission Group.



**Monday 11 th September 2023  
8.30p.m. – Mgarr Marina, Mgarr, Gozo**

The Gozo Youth Wind Band within the The Gozo Youth Wind Band & Orchestra is proud to present a spectacular concert titled Stage and Proms on the Sea. Youth musicians hailing from all over Gozo augmented with foreign and Maltese musicians are currently in full swing preparing the 8 th Edition of Stage and Proms on the Sea.

Stage and Proms on the Sea is reminiscent of London West-End shows and evergreen masterpieces from the Proms. The audience will be able to enjoy a galore of excerpts and medleys from musicals as also classic encores performed in Proms Final Night held

at the Royal Albert Hall. Pop singers Ludwig Galea and Sarah Bonnici will be accompanying the Gozo Youth Wind Band under the direction of its founder and musical director Mro Dr Joseph Grech. This year, guest singer Neville Refalo will join forces with Sarah and Ludwig to perform brand new arrangements while including encore numbers from past events at the patron's requests.

Stage and Proms on the Sea will be held Monday 11 th September 2023 at 8.30 p.m. at the Mgarr Marina, Mgarr, Gozo. Free Entrance (Standing). Optional Premium VIP Designated Seated Area including Welcome Drink and Food available strictly by reservation.

Info and reservation: 7942 1611, 9942 1611, [gozowindbandorchestra@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gozowindbandorchestra@yahoo.co.uk) This initiative is being supported by the Ministry for Gozo, The Cultural Heritage

Directorate within the Ministry for Gozo and in collaboration with: MTA, Visit Gozo, General Soft Drinks Ltd, Paul Stellini Design Studio, The Duke Boutique Hotel and Mgarr Marina.

The Gozo Youth Orchestra would like to inform the public that following the September concert at the Mgarr Marina – their next large-scale event will be: Rock Classics of the 60's & 70's on Friday 27th October 2023 @ 8.30p.m. at Aurora Theatre. Booking for this show is open from [www.teatruaurora.com](http://www.teatruaurora.com). These events are also supported by Festivals Malta





## MALTA MEDITERRANEAN LITERATURE FESTIVAL

Press Release

Monday 21 - Saturday 26 August 2023

Valletta Design Cluster

Fort St. Elmo, Valletta

**Tanja Bakić (Montenegro) | Claudia Gauci (Malta) | Maria Grech Ganado (Malta) | Simone Inganez (Malta) | Adania Shibli (Palestine) | Joelle Taylor (United Kingdom) | Karin Tidbeck (Sweden)**

The XVIIIth edition of the Malta Mediterranean Literature Festival organised by Inizjamed will be held between Monday

21st and Saturday 26th August 2023. All events are going to be held at the Valletta Design Cluster and Fort St. Elmo, in Valletta. Seven writers from five countries are reading at the festival, which also features poetry films, a jazz band, local singers, a book stall curated by Mallia & D'Amato, drinks and a selection of food. The authors participating in this XVIIIth edition are Tanja Bakić from Montenegro, Adania Shibli from Palestine, Joelle Taylor from the United Kingdom, Karin Tidbeck from Sweden and Claudia Gauci, Maria Grech Ganado and Simone Inganez from Malta.

Readings will be mostly in Maltese and English, but some short works will also be read in their original language. This year's festival is supported by Arts Council Malta through the Investment in Cultural Organisations fund. The Festival is also part of the Literary Europe Live platform funded by the Creative Europe programme of the European Union and managed by Literature Across Frontiers. The festival is also supported by Valletta Design Cluster, Heritage Malta, I-Għaqda tal-Malti – Università and the Polish Embassy. —

On Monday 21st August, Ray Fabri will moderate a roundtable discussion in English about "The expression of gender in literary writing", with the participation of writers Simone Inganez, Karin Tidbeck, Joelle Taylor and Tanja Bakić. On Tuesday 22nd August, local poet Antoine Cassar will lead an event commemorating the centenary of the birth of Wisława Szymborska, a Polish Nobel Prize winner poet and essayist.

The special guest will be Michał Rusinek, Szymborska's former secretary. This event will be held in collaboration with the Embassy of Poland. All events leading to the final nights of the Festival will be held at the Valletta Design Cluster and will start at 7.00pm, unless specified otherwise. On Thursday 24th August, a masterclass with Joelle Taylor will be held at the Valletta Design Cluster.

The masterclass will start at 9.00am. Thursday 24th August The first evening will be a multilingual Open Mic with special guests Tatev Chakhian and Ruqaya Izzidien. Writers and singer-songwriters will be given the opportunity to read or perform their works on the main stage. Friday 25th August At 7.00pm, an event will be held with Nigerian-Irish poet, performer and playwright Felispeaks, together with Tobi Bello, with the support of local artists Noah Fabri and Ġagħel Dingli. This event is part of Project Ulysses' Shelter 3. The writers reading during this evening are: Maltese poet Simone Inganez; the prominent Montenegrin poet Tanja Bakić; renowned Maltese Poet Laureate Maria Grech Ganado; and the multi-award winning British poet, author and playwright Joelle Taylor.

An interview conducted by Immanuel Mifsud will be held with Maria Grech Ganado. This night will also feature a poetry film and live music, which will be provided by the resident jazz trio, led by Effie Azzopardi. Local singer Cheryl Camilleri will also perform a number of songs. Saturday 26th August The writers reading on Saturday 26th August are: Maltese poet Claudia Gauci; Swedish author of fantasy Karin Tidbeck; and renowned Palestinian author and essayist Adania Shibli.

An interview led by Adrian Grima will be conducted with Adania Shibli. This third and final evening will also feature the screening of another poetry film and live music, which will be provided by the resident jazz trio, led

by Effie Azzopardi. Local singer Claire Tonna will also perform a number of songs. Some of the literature read during the festival might require an adult audience.

The writers will be in Malta throughout the week of the festival to take part in the Malta LAF Literary Translation Workshop led by Nadia Mifsud. They will be translating each other's works, and reading some of these translations during the festival. Following the festival week an event will also be held at Dar Kenn għal Saħħtek.

The 2023 edition of the Malta Mediterranean Literature Festival and the Malta LAF translation workshop are being held in partnership with Arts Council Malta and Literature Across Frontiers, and with the support of Heritage Malta, Għaqda tal-Malti – Università, Valletta Design Cluster, Studio Solipsis, and Project Ulysses 3. The MMLF is the recipient of the EFFE, Europe for Festivals, Festivals for Europe label. The new Festival logo and other promotional material were designed by artist Naomi Gatt. More information is available on Facebook on pages of Inizjamed Malta and the Malta Mediterranean Literature Festival 2023 and at [inizjamed.org](http://inizjamed.org). Most of the events are free unless indicated otherwise. Tickets for the final nights may be purchased from [www.showshappening.com](http://www.showshappening.com).

## ABOUT INIZJAMED

Inizjamed is a voluntary non-governmental cultural organisation (registered as a Voluntary Organisation in Malta, VO/0355) founded in 1998 in Malta that is committed towards the regeneration of culture and artistic expression in the Maltese Islands and actively

promotes a greater awareness of the cultures of the Mediterranean. Inizjamed is a secular, non-partisan organisation that acknowledges that every generation must seek to create its own language and both respond to realities of its day and look beyond them.

The organisation is project-based. Its lean internal structure reflects its emphasis on concrete action and fruitful collaboration with all those with whom it shares common goals. Inizjamed believes that cooperation and partnership are far more effective in the long-term than competition.

Inizjamed is happy to collaborate with **Studio Solipsis** in Rabat, a creative space that provides Inizjamed with its official address and meeting place.

Inizjamed will be hosting the 18th annual Malta Mediterranean Literature Festival in Valletta in 2023. The festival is recognised by the **European Festivals Association**. Details may be found here: <https://www.festivalfinder.eu/festivals/malta-mediterranean-literature-festival-2023>.

The festival is part-funded by **Arts Council Malta** through its multiannual support programme for festivals and organisations. Inizjamed has garnered support for the next three years up till 2025. More details may be found here: <https://www.artscouncilmalta.org/pages/funds-opportunities/schemes-2022/investment-in-cultural-organisations-malta/>.

Since 2022 Inizjamed has joined the consortium managing the **Creative Europe** multi-annual project for residents authors Ulysses' Shelter 3. Up till 2025 all seven partners from seven different European and Mediterranean countries will be supporting young emerging writers in developing their skills, experiences and audiences. For more information visit: <https://tovar.hr/>.

Inizjamed regularly works with different members of the variety of communities that live in Malta through creative writing. In 2002 the **Niġru Ġrajja** process commenced with migrant communities. This project is supported by Arts Council Malta.

## LEANNE ELLUL

Leanne Ellul was born in Oct 1989. She writes poetry, plays and novels. She lectures Maltese at post-secondary level. Leanne won the 'Novels for Youths' Contest and Premju Francis Ebejer, and received a national award for best emerging writer







## Book Review

### The Colours of Autism

**'The Colours of Autism' is a 4sight publication and is written by Dr Yanika Attard and Melvin Attard with illustrations by Gorg Mallia**

Nowadays, many talk about the beauty of diversity among humans. But few imagine how much that same diversity can be the cause of much suffering, such as social exclusion, for people who are different from the majority.

People with the condition of autism have characteristics that also make them different from the rest of society. The book *Kuluri tal-Awtizmu* will be showing the various colours of

autism, to help us better understand this difference.

The contribution of experts in the book, as well as parents of children who have autism, and even individuals who have autism, will be crucial to help us understand what is behind this difference.

Autism is a condition that a person is born with. Thus, the idea that the person can catch autism later in the years is not a correct one. Research shows that when the baby and its brain are forming in the womb, something happens that causes this condition of autism.

This indicates that a person with autism has their brain which is made differently from that of the typical population. As a result, her experience in life is different and can be much more difficult as well.

Apart from that, as a condition, Autism will remain there in the life of the individual and therefore we call it a condition because it is conditioning the lives of individuals with autism due to these difficulties that we have mentioned.

The book 'The Colours of Autism', which has just been published, is the first book in Maltese that goes into detail about autism, a condition related to brain development that directly affects perception and the way a person socializes with other people. The condition may include limits in certain behaviour, which may lead to repetitive actions.

The book presents the various aspects of autism, to help the reader better understand this reality.

It contains 13 chapters with the participation of experts in autism as well as parents of children who have autism and even individuals who have autism themselves.

'The Colours of Autism' is a 4sight publication and is written by Dr Yanika Attard and Melvin Attard with illustrations by Gorg Mallia. This article is supported by Arts Council Malta.

**[www.the.worldnews.net](http://www.the.worldnews.net).**



## **Malta Autism Centre – Foundation for Education and Research**

Non-governmental organisation (NGO) -

Glormu Cassar Street, Mosta, Malta      [centre@autism.org.mt](mailto:centre@autism.org.mt)

The Malta Autism Centre is to serve as a national point of reference in educational interventions, support, and knowledge on autism. This Centre aims to help individuals who fall within the autism spectrum through the different stages of their lives from birth to old age. Guided by autism specific expertise, the Centre will help people with autism to become equipped with the essential tools that facilitate their independence and social inclusion in the community life, and thereon enhance their quality of life. This Centre will also offer continuous support to the families of people with autism and generate autism awareness among the general public. The Centre recognises the importance of conducting research in the Maltese context to guide professionals in their intervention and consequently promote good autism practice



The chapel dedicated to St. Vincent is central to the well-designed institute complex for poor girls. It is built in a Neo-Classical architectural style, with one altar inside, above which hangs the titular painting by the Roman artist Domenico Bruschi (1840-1910).

The first stone of this small chapel was laid in 1876.

**VINCENZO BUGEJA** The Marquis Vincenzo Bugeja, being the philanthropist he was, after building the Conservatorio in Santa Venera decided to build another institute for orphaned

boys. This became the Istituto Tecnico Vincenzo Bugeja, now more commonly known as the Bugeja Technical Institute.

**THE FIRST TRADE SCHOOL IN MALTA** This institute, built in 1903 on St. Joseph High Street and Triq Fleur-de-Lys, was intentioned to provide a place where these disadvantaged boys could learn an industrial craft which would enable them to find work when they entered the adult world. Providing poor youths with the opportunity to learn and facilitate their life to face the world of work was something unheard of at the time.

The Istituto was initially run by the nuns. Bugeja's wife left them a considerable some of money. The Bugeja couple continued with their charitable deeds amongst the poor and left them a considerable some of money on the 18th of May, 1881.

**A CHAPEL DEDICATED TO THE PROTECTOR OF ORPHANS** The palatial building is surrounded by a palisaded boundary wall and a monumental gate with a secondary columned portal of classical architectural features within which is a bronze bust of Vincenzo Bugeja.

Within the gate are two guardrooms. A statue of St. Vincent Ferreri, protector of orphans, stands in the centre of the front garden. The main building consists of a circular chapel at the centre. Two porphyry sarcophagi in the chapel contain the remains of Marquis Bugeja and his wife.

The chapel is flanked by two large wings connected by a wide corridor. The wings are surrounded by an arched veranda. The windows are arched and others have pediments, with panelling and pilasters. The parapet wall is composed of stone balustrades.

Mepa scheduled the Conservatorio Vincenzo Bugeia at Sta Venera as a Grade 2 National Monument as per Government Notice no. 628/08 in the Government Gazette dated July 12, 2008.

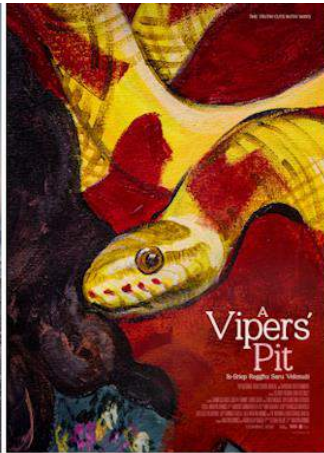
**PRESENT DAY USE** The Institute today is used for the care of the disabled and houses the centre for social work known as Ċentru Hidma Soċjali. It is taken care of by the Board of Trustees of the Conservatorio Vincenzo Bugeja. Within it there also is a museum displaying the craft tools, light industrial machinery and instruments which were used by the boys attending or living in the institute.

**VINCENZO BUGEJA** The Marquis Vincenzo Bugeja was born on February 16, 1821. He was married to Marquess Annetta, daughter of soprano Camilla Darbois, but they had no children. Annetta was born in Naples in 1830 and met Vincenzo during a visit to Malta when her mother came to the country to sing at the Manoel Theatre in Valletta. Since Vincenzo was an entrepreneur at the same theatre, this was the occasion for them to meet, despite her young age.

Bugeja was a famous person in the trading sector and an expert in gambling at the 'Casino tal-Ewropa'. He would also organise concerts at the Manoel Theatre. He was one of the first shareholders of the Casino of Monte Carlo in Monaco, established in 1856. Nicknamed 'the Maltese Matador'. All of this business helped him grow his personal wealth, which helped his will to always embark on bigger projects. Bugeja entered politics and was part of the Reformist Party. Elected twice, he was in favour of the British. A huge philanthropists, Bugeja contributed more than half his enormous wealth to charity. For this, and also thanks to his renowned support for the British in Malta, he was shown appreciation by the Prince of Wales who honoured him with the insignia of



Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George (C.M.G.). Pope Leo XIII bestowed the title Marquis on him and made him a Knight Commander of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre. Kappa Vision / Jean-Paul Borg. References: - The Times Of Malta; - Wikipedia. For all my latest photos, please visit and like Kappa Vision on Facebook and kappavision\_gram on Instagram.

**18 August****19 August****20 August**

## GOZO FILM FESTIVAL - 6TH EDITION

So, following the success of the first five editions, the "Gozo Film Festival" is proud to announce its sixth edition. With the main focus of the event coming this summer from the Friday 18th to Sunday 20th of August 2023. A three-day+ long

event promoting local (Gozitan and Maltese) and foreign filmmakers, with workshops dedicated upcoming filmmakers and more of every age. The festival will be held on the picturesque bastions of Gozo Citadel, in the heart of the island's capital with indoor and outdoor events. The Gozo Film Festival combine quality International short and feature movies with local movie productions, including children sessions and Film Making workshops. The event is being sponsored by the Cultural Heritage Directorate within the Ministry for Gozo.

## Startup Festival Malta 2023

The third edition of the Startup Festival will be held between the 5th and 6th of October 2023, at the Malta Fairs and Conventions Centre (MFCC) and the adjacent park in Ta' Qali, Malta.

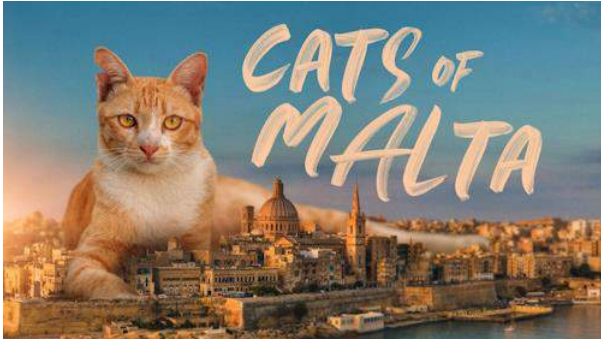
In its first two editions, Startup Festival Malta has hosted some of the best entrepreneurial minds in Malta and has managed to attract hundreds of new local and international businesses, representing various sectors including FinTech, Digital Gaming, VR/AR, Metaverse, Medicinal Cannabis, BioTech, MedTech and the Blue Economy. We aim to bring to you an even better and bolder event!

Apart from keynote talks by headline international guests and thought-provoking panels this year we shall be adding tailor-made practical workshops. Our expanded exhibition space will embody the vision for an event which is coming of age, while our mindfulness area shall seek to offer an

experience that appeals to both mind and body. The festival will once more offer a matchmaking opportunity for startups and scaleups looking at raising funds via local and international business angels and VCs.

For the first time we will also have our own pitch competition – named 'Pitch Black' which aims to shine a light on you and your MVPs prospects. Here founders will present their accomplishments and vision to a professional panel of judges, and compete for a final awards service package. Additionally, during both days of the festival, Malta Enterprise will also be launching its brand new podcast 'Business Matters'.





Finally!

You've all been so patient since we shot [Cats of Malta](#) many moons and a whole pandemic ago. And now, on International Cat Day, we are thrilled to **share our European release dates + territories**.

Our award-winning family (and feline) friendly documentary will be **released on Apple TV and Amazon** on the following dates and in the following territories:

- September 21st — Malta + Spanish-speaking Latin American territories
- September 25th — UK and Ireland
- October 11th — France , Belgium, Luxembourg, Switzerland

A week before these dates there will be a pre-sale, so we will send another update closer to the date as a reminder.

The documentary will be available in English, Spanish, and French.

Of course there are more territories to come, including the US and Australia. But for now, if you live in one of the territories above, **mark the dates in your diary**.

We think today is a fitting way to share this news with you, and we wish you and your kitty friends a happy and safe International Cat Day.

MEOW FROM MALTA Sarah Jayne & Ivan Nexus Production Group



The Malta Junior Eurovision Song Contest 2023 has finally come to an end with the Grand Final which consisted of twelve acts competing for the chance to represent Malta at the Junior Eurovision Song Contest this year in Nice, France.

The format in the Grand Final is the same as the semi-final rounds where each act has to perform a cover of a popular song.

Out of the twelve acts that competed in the Grand Final, it was Yulan Law who emerged victorious with her powerful rendition of "Reflection" by Christina Aguilera which was part of the soundtrack for the Disney animated adaptation of Mulan.

It can be recalled that during the semi-final round, Yulan earned a spot in the Grand Final with her cover of "Hold My Hand" by Lady Gaga from the soundtrack of Top Gun: Maverick.

MJESC 2023 isn't Yulan's first time in the national final. In fact, she has been competing as early as

## Yulan Law is Malta's representative to Junior

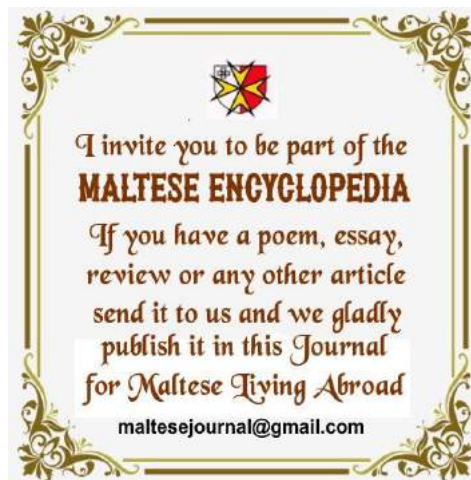
### Eurovision Song Contest 2023

2019, with her most recent participation before this year being in 2021. After taking a one year break from the national final, she returned and managed to emerge victorious from it.

#### So what is next for Malta?

Now that Malta has picked its JESC 2023 entrant, the next step for them is to pick a song for Yulan Law to sing in Nice. An open call for song submissions will be announced by TVM soon, with the release date of the song to be slated on September 15th.

Visit Yulan Law's social media accounts: [Facebook](#) / [Instagram](#) / [Youtube](#) / [Spotify](#)







## U l-Assunta reggħet magħna!

Kif Awwissu l-pass imattar  
Tkun waslet Santa Marija,  
Din l-Omm tagħna, gawhra  
sbejha –  
Kull rokna timla bid-dija

Illi lil għajnejna tgħammex  
U ma tħalli 'l hadd bil-kwiet,  
Lil kulhadd barra minn daru  
Toħroġ dlonk għal marċijiet.

Bla dubju, u dawn mhux kollox;  
Ejji' nibdew mill-Katidral  
Fejn il-mużika u l-mixegħla  
Ipaxxu lil kbar u t-tfal!

Mhux biss imma l-Kwindicina  
Tkun bla dubju mistennija  
Għax matulha lkoll nitgħallmu  
Din l-Omm x'għamlet dlonk  
għalija.

Nhar it-Tlieta, Jum il-festa  
Kulhadd jimla 'l-Knisja mzejna  
Sabiex l-Isqof ikellimna  
Kif Marija tħallas dejnna

U għalina dejjem tidhol  
Quddiem Binha fuq salib  
Illi ha l-ehrex passjoni  
Għax għadd ruħu ta' ħabib!

It-treqat ukoll inzejnu  
Biex minnhom tgħaddi Marija  
Sabiex tbierek lil dan Għawdex  
Li jagħtiha kull foħrija.

Ma' tant baned il-'Leone'  
Idoqqulha marċi sbieħ  
Li niesna ma tixbax tisma'  
U jferrhu lil qalb qatigħ!

Minn Ruma 'Francesco Rosa'  
Kienu tawna dan il-gmiel -  
Statwa illi lilna ssahhar  
Sbuhitha qatt ma titbiel!

Lejha aħna lkoll nersqu  
Għax fiha nsibu s-serhan  
Lesta dejjem biex tismagħna  
Lil kulhadd tagħmel ferhan.

Ma nafx għala, l-festa tagħha  
Tigbed nies minn kullimkien;  
Is-Sultana hi tal-martri  
Ir-Regina ta' kull żmien.

Il-belt tagħna tfur bil-folol,  
Il-Maltin ma toqgħodx lura;  
L-emigranti l-ajru jaqdbu  
Għax tal-ġnien din l-isbaħ fjur!

Mingħajr tebgħa giet imnissla  
It-twelid tat lill-Bambin  
Miegħu baqgħet sakemm ratu  
Bilmod fuq salib inin.

W allura bilfors treqatna  
F'dawn il-jiem ixiddu l-libsa  
Biex isellmu lil Omm tagħna  
U bl-imħatra min imissha.

U fil-Ġnien ta' Villa Rundle  
Nies tiffolla bil-mijiet  
Sabiex tara l-prodotti  
Annimali, frottijiet!

Fit-triq tagħna ewlenija  
Isiru t-tlielaq tal-bhejjem  
Għalihom in-nies timbotta -  
Tistennihom sa minn dejjem!

Nar tal-art u nar tal-ajru  
Ma jonqsux matul dal-jiem,  
Tal-Vampa jagħmlu ħilithom  
Iħallu 'l kulhadd bla kliem.

Bla dubju l-Purċissjoni  
Hija l-qofol ta' dil-festa  
Illi timla l-qalb bil-hena  
U teħlisna minn kull pesta.

Meta t-Tlieta O Marija  
Int toħroġ fuq l-ispallejn  
Itfa' ħarstek fuq dan Għawdex  
U ixxotta dawk l-għajnejn

Li forsi bħalissa għaddejja  
Minn xi niket, minn xi mard;  
Reggħa' lura s-sliem u l-hena  
Fejn hemm xewk, nibbet il-ward

Biex dil-festa tkun għalina  
Għajn ta' ferħ, sogħba u ndiema  
Illi timla bit-tgawdija  
Xjuħ, tfal, żgħażaġh u  
ħaddiema.

Illi lkoll naħseb jixtiequ  
Xi darba jiġu jgawduk;  
Minn hawn isfel xewqa  
għandhom  
Imħabbithom qed juruk!

U allura ħalli ngħajtu:  
Evviva Santa Marija –  
Int l-Assunta, is-Sultana,  
Li jisthoqqlok kull foħrija!

Sebgħa w sittin sena ilu  
Sibt ruhek fil-Katidral –  
Rigal tal-Banda Leone  
Li għalik taqbez fin-nar!

Kun Int issa li tħarisna,  
Tiskansana mit-tigrib;  
Fik nafdaw għax Inti Ommna,  
Eħlisna minn kull taqlib!

**Joe M Attard – Gozo 2023**





## **THE BLESSING OF BOATS READY FOR THE LAMPOIK SEASON**

84 Colourful fishing boats in Marsaxlokk harbour were

blessed by the parish priest of the fishing village this evening before they set off for their first *lampuki* catch of the season.

The boats were ready to go, heavily laden with stone slabs used as weights for the nets, floats and palm fronds which provide shade under which the fish gather and get trapped in *kannizzati* nets.

The season continues up to December.

Fishermen are hoping for a good season after landings dropped by as much as 70 percent last year, mostly due to bad weather.



### **What are lampuki?**

Lampuki are a type of fish that is typically found in and around the waters of Malta. They go by various other names, depending on where you are from, such as the dorado, dolphinfish or the mahi-mahi. They migrate through the Maltese waters between the end of August and the end of December and it is one of the most popular, traditional autumnal Maltese dishes. A white, meaty fish with a delicate flavour, it lends itself to a variety of sauces and accompaniments- making it one of the most versatile fish you can choose to eat. They grow from pinhead-sized dots to three kilograms in six months.

Parliamentary Secretary for Fisheries, Aquaculture, and

Animal Rights Alicia Bugeja Said was present amongst many fishermen and residents. She described the ceremony as a clear symbol and representation of the appreciation the Maltese have for the traditions and culture linked to fishing, and that all should appreciate the skill and work of our fishermen. "This sector is an important part of our identity as a nation because it is one that marries the traditional element with today's sustainable and technological practices." She regarded the important role that fishing plays in our country and said that the work of local fishermen should be greatly appreciated throughout the year.

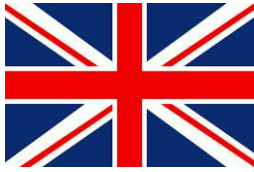
The mass and ceremony were blessed by members from the Diocese of the locality and the Marsaxlokk Parish Priest, Reverend George Spiteri.

**I sincerely thank all those who sent a small  
towards the production of this free weekly journal**

**If you would like to help me these are my bank details:**

**Name: Frank Scicluna  
Bank: Commonwealth (Australia)  
BSB: 065-106  
ACC: 0050 2597**





## MALTESE MIGRATION TO THE UK

Fr Dominic Coppola (1914-1998)

Life dedicated to the Maltese Community in London UK  
Maltese emigration to Great Britain achieved significance only when World War 2 came to an end.



But even before that a number of migrants with connection with British forces and with Merchant Navy, had left Malta for the UK with the intention of finding jobs over there. Prior to 1914 there were Maltese working in the docks in London and Cardiff. They were very few but others joined them after 1918, The real migratory movement from Malta to UK began in earnest after 1945.

Fr Coppola is best known for his work with the Maltese migrants in London.

During the War, he served as chaplain with the Maltese Forces with whom he stayed for five years. Soon after, he went to Libya because of the problems of Maltese were experiencing there at the time. He was to visit North Africa on a number of occasions later on.

In 1951 he accompanied a group of young female migrants to Lancashire where they found work at the cotton mills. From 1953 onwards he was chaplain to the Maltese in London.

Fr Coppola worked hard to establish a Maltese centre in London. One was eventually found in Pimlico, officially blessed by Mgr Gonzi in 1958. In 1963 they moved to a better place in Poplar. The final move was to St George' Drive in Victoria which was much more centrally situated (near the Victoria railway station).

By 1993, Fr Coppola retired in Malta aged 79 years of which 42 years had been spent in London helping Maltese migrants.

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## WELCOME TO HAMRUN

### The town celebrates the feast of St Cajetan with the march of the two bands – **TAL-MISKINA U TAT-TAMAL**



*The streets of Hamrun turn into a sea of blue and red during the annual feast of the patron saint – Gaetano. The march is held on a Sunday morning.*

Hamrun's two rival band clubs will turn the town into seas of red and blue today as they celebrate the feast of St Cajetan today.

The town has been decorated with banners and statues for several days as marches and concerts took place in the locality.

But it is the morning's march that will attract most festa goers to Hamrun. It is certainly the most popular march in Malta,

Hamrun is not known for decorations or fireworks, but it is known for its party atmosphere, The St Joseph band club, known as *Tal-Miskina*, and the St Cajetan band club, known as *Tat-Tamal*, take off from their clubhouses at the same time. The two clubhouses are only some 200 metres apart.

*Tal-Miskina* and *Tat-Tamal* revellers, dressed in blue and red respectively, march to their rivals' clubhouses as they jump and sing to their marching band's tunes. The two bands then continue their march back to their home turf as they bring the march to its riotous conclusion.



## **THE PRIME MINISTER TALKS ABOUT EXCESSIVE BUILDING**

Just because a property is private, there are still obligations towards the nation which need to be safeguarded, said Prime Minister Robert Abela on Saturday.

In a political interview on the Labour Party's media, Abela said that the Planning Authority has an obligation to be in line with the vision of the government and that it has every right to reject planning applications. Moreover, he said that when a private property is bought with a

garden, it should be preserved rather than be covered with concrete.

Referring developers in general "because as a PM I try to not comment on any particular case", he said that it is useless for them to submit planning applications which are classified as "nonstarter applications". By this he meant that such applications go against PA rules and laws in general.

By submitting such applications, developers are not only shocking the community but are further strengthening the community's dislike towards submitted projects with every ratification of the project to try and get it approved.

Describing such developers as "cowboys who think they can pressure PA into their ways," he insisted that the PA needs to ensure that the government's strategic planning is endorsed.



**8 MARCH 1951**  
Fr George Preca  
blessed the  
foundation stone  
of St Michael School  
Santa Venera  
in the presence  
of the major  
superiors  
of the Society of  
Christian Doctrine.



**The Journal of all Maltese Living Abroad**







**Mary Agius**



**Mabel Strickland**



**Josephine Burns Debono**



**Winifred Cutajar Beck**



**Carmela Turner  
nee Cortis**



**Christina Ratcliffe**



**Maria Porsia Miele**



**Irene Condachi**



**Aileen Clayton**



**Henriette Chevalier  
nee Scerri**



**Gemma Sands  
Chevalier**



**Mary Ellul**

## **The Women of George Cross Island The Unsung Heroes of Malta**



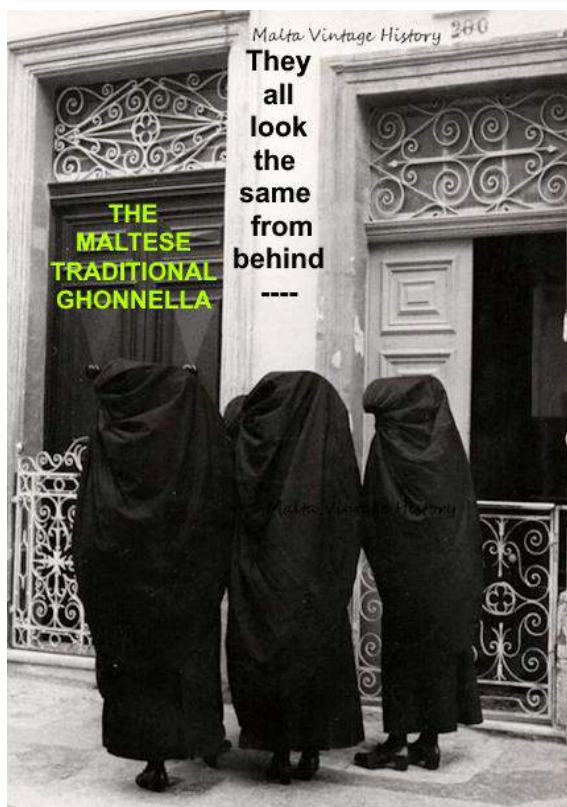




## The Women of George Cross Island

Henrietta Chevalier nee Scerri played by Simone Spiteri  
This Maltese woman in 1940 became a widow stuck in Rome under Mussolini's fascist state with eight children to care for. She put her life on the line after joining Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty's 'Rome Escape Line' network operating in the Vatican, which is credited with directly offering assistance to 4000 Jews and escaped allied prisoners during the war. In *The Women of George Cross Island*

*island* Henrietta is played by amazing Simone Spiteri.



**9 SEPT**

**IL-VITORJA CELEBRATION**  
The Maltese Center  
27-20 Hoyt Ave South  
Astoria, New York USA

**THE MALTESE CENTER**  
**BBQ PARTY**

**COME CELEBRATE**  
Il-Madonna tal Vitorja &  
Victory Day

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[www.themaltesecenter.com](http://www.themaltesecenter.com)  
FOOD - DRINKS - MUSIC

**\$30 - members**  
**\$35 non-members**  
**Children under 12 - Free**  
**Doors open at 7 pm**

**MALTESE LIVING ABROAD IS A STRONG MOVEMENT IF WE ARE UNITED. ALTHOUGH WE LIVE FAR AWAY FROM OUR HOMELAND, WE STILL MAINTAIN OUR MALTESE CITIZENSHIP AND WE ARE STILL PROUD TO BE CALLED MALTESE**