JOURNAL FOR MALTESE AROUND THE WORLD

MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

MALTESE DIASPORA MATTERS

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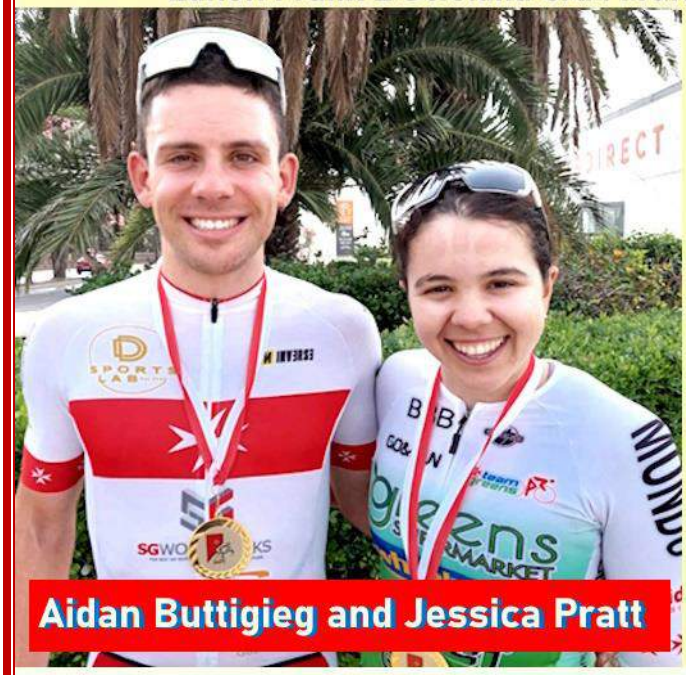
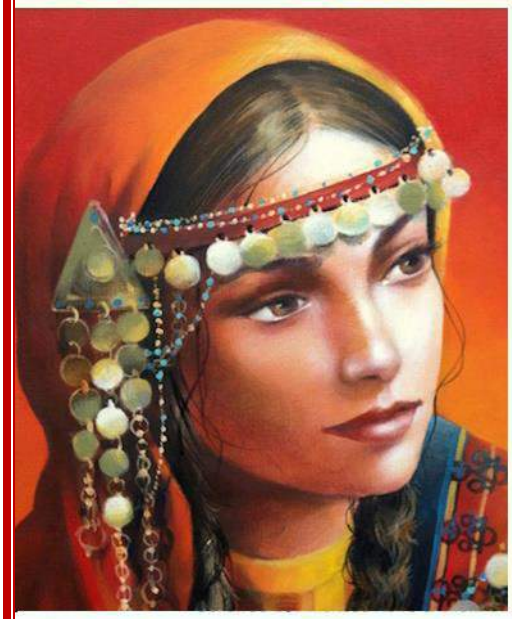
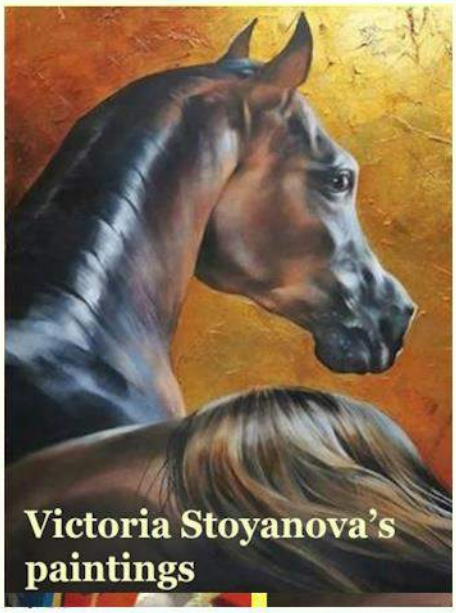


Aidan Buttigieg and Jessica Pratt

Paris: world pizza champion, "Peppe"





Victoria Stoyanova's paintings

Meghan Markle wearing Maltese Ghonnella

THE MALTESE HERALD

The Voice of the Maltese

(driven by the voice of its readers)

Last Publication 2013

Last Publication Feb. 2024

OUR JOURNAL IS THE ONLY ACTIVE VOICE FOR THE MALTESE LIVING ABROAD

IF YOU CAN'T AFFORD TRAVEL INSURANCE DON'T TRAVEL OVERSEAS

Why travel insurance is important

Travel doesn't always go to plan. The right insurance is as essential as a passport for travel overseas. You'll depend on your travel insurer for help if things go wrong. They can give both financial and practical support. Without it, you or your family could suffer financially.

Get insurance regardless of who you are, where you're going and what you're doing.

Think about your age and health

Travel insurance is essential if you end up sick or injured. Medical assistance is usually the highest unexpected cost for Australians overseas. Most countries won't give you free or subsidised care. You, or your insurer, must usually pay full price.

- Hospitals in some countries will refuse to treat you if you don't pay upfront or hand over your insurance details. Even if it means you might die.
- Hospitals in countries with a reciprocal health care agreement may treat you in an emergency. But you may still have to pay for some of your costs.

If you're older or have pre-existing conditions

Your age and health will impact the cost and type of policy you need. This especially applies if you have pre-existing conditions.

- You must tell your insurer about all pre-existing health conditions.
- If you're unsure your condition is covered, ask your insurer.
- Your insurer may ask for a health check.
- Most policies have an age limit. Mature Australians often pay more for cover.

It may be harder to get insurance if you have a pre-existing medical condition. You may need to

- find a specialised insurer
- get a policy that covers you for situations unconnected to your condition.

If you don't have insurance and can't afford to pay for healthcare

You'll have to cover the cost of treatment if you don't have insurance. If you can't pay, you'll have to ask your family or friends for money. If you don't pay your medical bills, you could be:

- arrested or jailed
- prevented from leaving the country until you pay
- sued by the hospital, even if you've already left the country.

The Australian Government can't pay your bills.

DO YOU STILL WANT TO HAVE A JOURNAL EXCLUSIVELY FOR YOU *MALTESE LIVING ABROAD?*

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

It is always sad to see the demise of a journal, especial a journal which belongs to the Maltese Diaspora. When the Maltese Herald printed its last edition in 2013 the Maltese community in Australia lost a bastion which defended them for 52 years and provided them with news, information, cultural and historical items. It strengthened the unity among the Maltese communities. During the last few years of its lifetime, things went difficult, It was a business venture and it was not financially viable to continue printing the journal because of the rising cost of printing, less sponsors and subscribers and people started to use the digital media. So, the editor, the late Lino Vella, decided to call it a day and the Maltese Herald ceased to exist.

Then two electronic journals emerged – the Voice of the Maltese and the Maltese e-Newspaper-the Journal for Maltese Living Abroad. They both grew strongly side by side but with different aims and ambitions. The Maltese eNewsletter on many occasions encouraged and invited the other media to combine their efforts, worked together, pull the same rope the same direction and support each other. Unfortunately, the invitation was never reciprocated, and the Voice chose to work alone and refused the hand of friendship and unity. In February 2024, because of a disagreement between the two co-editors of the Voice, the journal stopped its production immediately and unexpectedly. Now we are left with only ONE journal. Do you believe we should preserve it, support it and share it? Its survival depends on US. ***JJ Camilleri NSW***

NSW MALTESE PAST PUPILS OF DON BOSCO DISSOVED

In January 2024, the committee of the NSW Maltese Past Pupils of Don Bosco, announced the dissolution of this organisation that was formed in 1972. It has raised an average of $10,000 annually for the Don Bosco missions.

Although the association no longer exists, the spirit and charisma of Don Bosco will continue. In fact on the 14th January 2024 members of this association celebrated the annual feast of the Patron Saint with a special presentation of the statute of Don Bosco being donated to the Catholic Parish of Our Lady of Victories at Horsley Park.

A plaque to this effect was affixed to the statue to commemorate this donation. The statue will therefore be permanently on view at this Horsely Park parish, NSW, Australia

We look after what we have got left before its too late
Our associations are falling down like dominos.
MORE THAN BEFORE WE NEED TO UNITE TO SURVIVE

The beautiful island Meghan Markle feels she can 'blend in' which is a former British colony

The Scottish Daily Express

The Duchess of Sussex is proud of her Maltese heritage and has lavished praise on the country, saying for feels 'at home' there

Meghan Markle's great-great-grandmother Mary was born in Malta

Meghan Markle is known to be proud of her ancestry and has often spoken of her Nigerian roots. The **Duchess of Sussex** also boasts a bit of German, Irish and Dutch in her background but there is a stunning island nation where she has previously said she feels "at home".

Meghan's great-great-grandmother was born in Malta. The Mediterranean nation was a British colony when Mary was born there in 1862 and is known as one of the most beautiful islands in **Europe**.

She paid a visit there in 2015, visiting several different sites and taking in the local culture. She sampled local food and fashion and learned more about Malta's remarkable history.

At the time, she said Malta "feels like home" and lavished praise on the country. A keen **foodie**, she told local press she "loved the fresh goat's milk cheeses, particularly the pickled ones with the black pepper on them, she tried on Gozo.

Meghan also raved about spaghetti with rabbit and pastizzi with peas and ricotta, declaring: "Oh my goodness they're delicious! So my suitcase will be filled with all sorts of Maltese treats." During her stay, she was pictured wearing a traditional shawl and even spoke of how she was able to blend in.

She said: "Coming to Malta has been really important to me because my great-great-grandmother lived here, so we've been trying to trace the ancestry. This trip was mostly about trying to understand where I come from, my identity. There is something so lovely about fitting in a piece of the puzzle.

"To come somewhere where you so quickly settle in to feeling welcomed is really special. It's this Maltese hospitality that is really special to the place. Before I came, people were telling me, "When you go to Malta, everyone will look like you," and I started to say, 'Oh my gosh I do sort of blend in,' and it's the loveliest feeling. The Maltese people have been so kind." Malta is located around 70 miles south of Italy and became part of the British Empire in 1812. It played a key role in World War II with Britain's Mediterranean Fleet based there, making it a target for the Nazis. The bravery of the Maltese people saw the entire island honoured with the George Cross.

It is now one of the most densely populated nations on Earth and is a hotspot for tourists who flock to admire its warm climate, crystal clear waters and remarkable architecture.

On 23 December 1901 the Immigration Restriction Act came into law. It had been among the first pieces of legislation introduced to the newly formed federal parliament.

The legislation was specifically designed to limit non-British migration to Australia. It represented the formal establishment of the White Australia policy.

Attorney-General Alfred Deakin, 12 September 1901:

That end, put in plain and unequivocal terms … **MEANS THE PROHIBITION OF ALL ALIEN COLOURED IMMIGRATION,** and more, it means at the earliest time, by reasonable and just means, the deportation or reduction of the number of aliens now in our midst. The two things go hand in hand, and are the necessary complement of a single policy – the policy of securing a 'white Australia'.

Cartoon titled 'The Mongolian Octopus'

Why a 'white Australia'?

In the 1800s the majority of the white population of the Australian colonies shared attitudes towards people of different races that by today's standards were openly racist.

Criticisms of non-white groups were based on the idea that they were less advanced than white people in all ways, especially morally and intellectually.

In Australia, this idea focused particularly on people of Asian descent but applied to all non-whites, including Indigenous Australians, who were considered a 'dying race'.

Ironically, Australia saw itself as a utopia and a working man's paradise, a forward-thinking country that promoted equal rights and opportunities, for 'desirable' citizens at least. The nation aimed to attract a well-paid, male, white and skilled labour force to uphold this image.

Non-whites, and even sometimes working women, were seen as a threat to this ideal. Their perceived inferiority meant they were often paid less, and it was believed they could steal employment opportunities, undermining the stability of the white population.

Prior to 1901 the Australian colonies had seen a growth in non-white migration, especially during the gold rushes as many migrants arrived to seek their fortune. Reactions of white Australians to this trend were overwhelmingly negative.

The fact that many migrants had begun to relocate from the gold fields to cities, accepting work at lower rates of pay and selling goods cheaply in competition with white business-owners caused tensions.

This tension was aggravated by the introduction of indentured Pacific Island (known as 'Kanaka') labour in the north of Australia. Many people opposed the use of Pacific Island labour because it was a cheap alternative to paying 'proper' wages to white employees.

These attitudes led to each colony establishing its own economic and migration policies, some going so far as to exclude anyone of non-British descent.

White Australia represented at the Australian Henley regatta on the Yarra, Melbourne, 1910

Immigration Restriction Act

When Australia federated in 1901, parliamentarians felt it necessary to create a national law for immigration.

The Immigration Restriction Bill was one of the first Bills introduced to the new parliament and proposed a twofold approach to restricting non-white population growth. The Act came into law on 23 December 1901.

The Act gave immigration officers the power to make any non-European migrant sit a 50-word dictation test. This was initially given in any European language, and after 1905 in any prescribed language.
As the language chosen for the dictation test was at the discretion of the immigration officer, it was easy to ensure failure for migrants deemed undesirable, either because of their country of origin, possible criminal record, medical history, or if considered morally unfit.
Extremely small numbers of non-white migrants were ever allowed to pass. The test was administered 1,359 times prior to 1909, with only 52 people granted entry to Australia. After 1909 not a single migrant made to sit the test passed.
Small numbers of migrants were granted certificates of exemption from the test but often exempted people became separated from their friends and family members who did not pass and were deported.
The introduction of two accompanying acts (the *Pacific Island Labourers Act 1901* and the *Post and Telegraph Act 1901*) further limited access to Australia for non-white migrants by outlawing the use of imported labour and **making it mandatory to hire white workers** on any vessels transporting Australian mail.

Demographic impact

The White Australia policy had an immediate impact, rapidly changing demographics. By 1947 only 2.7 per cent of the whole population was born outside of Australia, Ireland or the United Kingdom. The effect was most obvious on the Asian population. Though only 1.25 per cent of the Australian population in 1901, it had shrunk to around 0.21 per cent by the late 1940s.
The government introduced many programs to encourage migration from Britain to increase Australia's white population and the available workforce. The schemes were fuelled by the 'populate or perish' government mindset, and included the famous the Ten Pound Pom program that operated after the Second World War.
In the late 1940s, it became obvious that British migration was not providing the desired numbers, and that strict adherence to the White Australia policy was an impediment to population growth.
After the Second World War, Arthur Calwell, the Chifley government's immigration minister, began to relax the policy to allow refugees from continental Europe to come to Australia. This included the 'beautiful Balts' whose image perfectly fitted the White Australia ideal, but also migrants from other backgrounds in regulated numbers.
This was the first of a number of steps that gradually eroded the policy until its basic dismantling by the Holt government in 1966. The Whitlam government completely eliminated it in the 1970s with the introduction of policies like the *Racial Discrimination Act 1975* and Multicultural Australia.

Grand Opening Ceremony of the Pendle Hill Civic Park Upgrade Project - NSW

The $17.5m Civic Park Upgrade Project in Pendle Hill has officially reopened to the community following a major transformation.

24 MAY 2024

The $17.5m Civic Park Upgrade Project in Pendle Hill has officially reopened to the community following a major transformation.

The official event included a special plaque unveiling and ribbon cutting ceremony, where residents, community members and visitors explored and enjoyed the park's exciting new features. From a new inclusive and accessible nature play space to outdoor fitness zone and table tennis, picnic areas, a half-court basketball court, new amenities and more.

Cumberland Mayor Lisa Lake said she was pleased to officially reopen the park to the community.

“This is a significant milestone for the Pendle Hill community. Civic Park holds a special place in the hearts of children, families and locals. These upgrades mean our community members can enjoy spending quality time outdoors in this new park with its improved amenities, play equipment and walking paths,” said Mayor Lake.

As part of the Civic Park Project, the Pendle Creek wetlands were also upgraded to include new pedestrian bridges and improved connections through the carpark to the Pendle Hill Town Centre, new gabion walls, island planting and litter collection rack.

Dr Hugh McDermott, Member for Prospect, said “the upgrade to Civic Park will ensure Pendle Hill and the wider Cumberland community has an inclusive and accessible green space for many years to come. The park will serve as a gathering space, where our wonderfully diverse community can meet and enjoy the great outdoors.”

“This project provides modern infrastructure and equipment for people of all ages. The new Civic Park is an excellent addition to our vibrant local community, and I am confident it will bring great joy to young kids and adults, alike.”

Minister for Planning and Public Spaces Paul Scully said the NSW Government had contributed $7 million to this park upgrade.

“The new playspace is the centrepiece of Council’s Civic Park masterplan which allows people of all ages and abilities to enjoy,” Mr Scully said.

“The adventurous playspace upgrade is easily accessible and will be well-utilised with lots of nearby housing and Girraween Public School only a short walk away.”

The Civic Park Upgrade Project is one of four projects being led by Cumberland Council who will deliver over $80 million in community infrastructure funded by the NSW Government’s Western Sydney Infrastructure Grants Program.

THE NUMBER OF SYDNEY READERS HAS MORE THAN DOUBLED IN THESE LAST COUPLE OF MONTHS. THANK YOU

The Sette Giugno monument at Civic Park

The Maltese Monument in Civic Park, Pendle Hill, NSW

The Maltese Community of NSW has a monument they are very proud of. It is situated at newly-upgraded Civic Park, Pendle Hill, a suburb very much linked to the early settlement of the Maltese in NSW. This suburb is better known as "Little Malta". The Maltese Monument in Civic Park, Pendle Hill was erected in 1988 as part of Australian Bicentenary celebrations and to recognise the history of Maltese immigration to Australia.

The Holroyd council area had the highest percentage of homes where the Maltese language was spoken, and upgrading the monument would recognise the contribution they have made to the community.

A visit to Civic Park at Pendle Hill in NSW, where we find the only Maltese monument in NSW, erected in 1988, one can now notice with a sense of pride that the major revamp by the Cumberland Council to the tune of $17 million has reached the finally been officially re-opened this month.

The Maltese Monument was built in the form of the eight-pointed cross and has not been disturbed but now stands in a much better environment.

The Time Capsule, first interred in 1988 near the monument, had to be relocated, It contains important information about the Maltese Community and is scheduled to be opened in 2038, fifty years after it was first placed in the ground. It is encased in concrete and buried below the sandstone plinth approximately 600mm from the ground level.

We encourage the Maltese to visit Civic Park to see what is really happening to this area where early pioneer Maltese settlers in the 50s,60s and 70s settled.

'ASPECTS OF THE CASTRUM MARIS' – HERITAGE MALTA

Experience dynamic re-enactments at Fort St Angelo, once known as Castrum Maris (Castle by the Sea), and discover its medieval past!

Heritage Malta invites you to 'Aspects of the Castrum Maris' on Sunday, 2nd June, a day where history comes alive through an engaging medieval re-enactment by the Historical Re-enactment Group of Malta (HRGM).

From 10:00am to 3:00pm, visitors will have the unique opportunity to explore Fort St Angelo as it was in the 1400s – not just as a monumental structure, but as a bustling medieval stronghold. Re-enactors will vividly portray the life of soldiers stationed at the castle, complete with period clothing and weaponry. Visitors will learn about the historical context of the fort, including fascinating details about the weapons and supplies that were essential for its defence during medieval times.

This event promises to be a captivating experience for people of all ages, offering a deeper understanding of the strategic importance of Fort St Angelo in Malta's history. Witness the past come to life at the very place where knights and soldiers once roamed and immerse yourself in the rich tapestry of Maltese heritage!

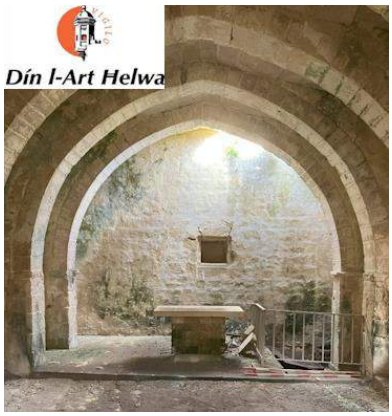
Ticket prices are as follows: Adults – €10, Students and Seniors – €6, Children – €4. Heritage Malta members and senior and student passport holders enter for free.

Book your spot now on our website or at any of our museums and sites.

PRESS RELEASE

DIN L-ART ĦELWA TO SAVE MEDIEVAL CHAPEL OF ST. MICHAEL IS-SAN ĊIR

PHOTOGRAPH: From left to right: Superintendent of Cultural Heritage Kurt E. Farrugia, Secretary General of Din l-Art Ħelwa, Simone Mizzi, Executive President, Patrick Calleja, and Chief Notary to Government Dr Paul Callus sign the historic guardianship deed for the medieval chapel of San Ċir today in Valletta



Din l-Art Ħelwa has been given the guardianship of the medieval chapel of San Mikiel is-Sanċir, also known as San Ċir, by the Government of Malta by virtue of an agreement signed with the Superintendence of Cultural Heritage.

The chapel of Sanċir is located in the limits of Rabat below Mtarfa and is one of the very few medieval chapels left in Malta believed to have been built between 1450 and 1500.

The chapel, which has an atypical pitched roof, lies in the middle of a magisterial estate known as Ġnien is-Sultan – which may have contributed to the fact that it remained largely unchanged, adding considerably to its heritage value. Much of what is known about it comes from pastoral reports written between 1575 and 1678. It was deconsecrated by Bishop Molina, who instructed that some of its roof slabs should be removed to ensure it remained unused. Over the centuries it was used as a rustic store, a pigsty, until the beginning of the 20th century a cow-shed, and then largely abandoned.

The name of the chapel is interesting: pastoral visitors attributed it to St Michael Archangel. The name of San Ċir, on the other hand, has led many to believe that it was dedicated to St Cyr or Cyriacus. The confusion was compounded by the fact that both the feasts of St Cyr and St Michael Archangel are celebrated on 29 September. The most likely version is that it was dedicated to St Cyr in Byzantine times and later was named after St Michael.

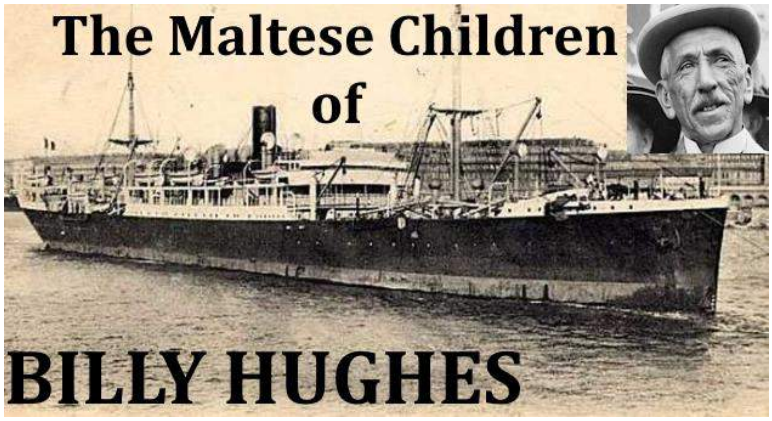
'We are delighted to have been granted the guardianship of this quite unique, but little known, medieval chapel, tucked away on the outskirts of Rabat. The late Monsignor Dun Ġwann Azzopardi had prompted Din l-Art Ħelwa Councillor Stanley Farrugia Randon way back in 2002 to take up its cause with the authorities, and he has continued to champion it ever since. Thanks to Dr Farrugia Randon and my immediate predecessor, Alex Torpiano, it is a great relief to know that the chapel will finally receive the much-needed attention that it deserves,' Din l-Art Ħelwa executive president Patrick Calleja said.

'It is presently in a very poor state of repair and requires considerable restoration work, both investigative and structural to save it. We hope to commence works very soon since the development permission was approved in November 2020. We are also grateful to the Superintendence of Cultural Heritage over these last years, and in particular its Superintendent Kurt Farrugia, for making this guardianship possible'.

The site is not an easy one to visit as there are no roads that lead directly to it. However, Din l-Art Ħelwa hopes to render it accessible, as an important example of the architecture of medieval chapels in Malta and to have annual masses on its feast days. 'It would make the perfect addition' continued Patrick Calleja 'to augment the heritage trail of places of worship saved by our organisation, which currently includes the Ħal Milleri chapel in Żurrieq, Bir Miftuħ church in Gudja, St Roque Chapel in Ħaż-Żebbug and the church of Our Lady of Victory in Valletta.

The NGO has estimated that the works would cost several hundred thousand euro and it is currently looking for corporate and individual sponsorships to complement what has already been pledged.

For further information contact admin@dinlarthelwa.org - Vanessa Macdonald



Coming to Australia with nothing and were not allowed to enter

From Malta to Australia and to New Caledonia and back to Australia

In 1916 a group of intrepid Maltese and Gozitans set sail to build a new life in Australia but ended up in somewhere else – namely New Caledonia. Joe Morana

Many in Malta, especially those who were not around during the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s, think that the early Maltese settlers in far away places had so easy and they were lucky that they have left Malta to find a better life for themselves and their families.

Hundreds of thousands of Maltese migrants worked hard, raised families and contributed positively to the communities and countries in which they settled.

The saga of the Maltese migrants of New Caledonia is testament to the spirit of adventure and intrepidness of a group of Maltese and Gozitan migrants who had sought to build a new life for themselves in Australia, and also the degrading, inhumane treatment and hardship they endured.

The events described here have been well documented and received extensive coverage in the Australian press of the day. *Six of the migrants were allowed to disembark as they were able to prove that they had been in Australia beforehand*

World War I was raging in certain parts of the world when the French Mail Steamer Gange departed from Valletta on September 12, 1916. The passengers included 214 Maltese migrants, among whom were a number of Gozitans. Records show some of the Gozitans were related to one another. The Gange sailed through Port Said, touched in at Colombo, Ceylon and reached Fremantle, Australia, on October 21, 1916. During the crossing from Colombo to Fremantle, a violent storm almost caused the vessel to capsize.

The arrival of the Gange at Fremantle created quite a stir among then prime minister Billy Hughes's government. The prime minister had scheduled a referendum vote for October 28, which centred on the question of whether Australia should conscript able-bodied Australian males in light of the ongoing war.

Australian and New Zealand troops had suffered devastating casualties and losses at Gallipoli. The unions were totally opposed to conscription on the grounds that a 'yes' vote would deplete their rank and file, and cheap, second-class labour would replace Australian workers.

Thus, the unexpected and inopportune arrival of the Maltese migrants gave credence to the widely circulated, but totally incorrect, statement that the government was introducing Maltese to take the place of Australian soldiers serving at the front. The referendum was subsequently defeated, however the unions continued to remain vocal against the prime minister.

The Maltese were therefore refused admission under the provisions of Australia's Immigration Act, which had proved highly effective in deterring Asian and other unwelcome immigrants. A penalty of 100 pounds for each prohibited immigrant was imposed on the masters, agents, charterers and owners of ships that brought such persons to Australia. Thus, after a few years of harsh experience, shipping companies dissuaded persons who stood a chance of being excluded at an Australian port from proceeding with their intended voyage.

The French shipping company Messageries Maritimes clearly had no idea that the Maltese on the Gange would be declared prohibited immigrants and thus excluded from Australia.

The Immigration Act involved a dictation test administered in 'a European language' by the authorities. The Maltese were made to take such a test while still on board the Gange, then berthed in Melbourne. The test

was conducted by a professor from the University of Melbourne, who promptly failed all the Maltese. The test had purposefully been conducted in the Dutch language!

Having failed the test, the Maltese became prohibited immigrants, prevented from disembarking anywhere within the Commonwealth of Australia and liable to six months' imprisonment and deportation should they somehow make it to the shore.

Subsequently, six of the migrants were allowed to disembark as they were able to prove that they had been in Australia beforehand. As the rest were not allowed to disembark at Sydney, on November 4, the Gange set sail for Noumea, in French New Caledonia, 1,207 kilometres east of Australia.

The Maltese landed at Noumea, pending further arrangements for their repatriation. But efforts to repatriate the Maltese were unsuccessful and they were brought back to Sydney after languishing in Noumea for 10 weeks. This cost the Australian government £2,332.

At Sydney Harbour they were housed on a derelict hulk named The Anglican under round-the-clock armed guard, at a cost of £743. The owners of the Gange were compensated £4,050 for the delays their ship had endured.

The Maltese migrants received significant support from relatives and friends already settled in Australia, foremost among them a certain Rev. Fr William Bonett, who was allowed to visit the imprisoned migrants and was also able to arrange for deliveries of fresh food and fruit.

Others condemned the Australian government, especially Hughes.

"Those men," said a certain Cann, a member of parliament, "are all British subjects, and have a perfect right to come to New South Wales if they wish." Another member stated: "They are more British than he is," presumably referring to the prime minister.

Others were more assertive: "Where would the boys have been on April 25, 1915, had not the Maltese kept up the line of communication? How many of them partook in the naval battle of Jutland? How did they treat the boys whom they got to Malta? And this is the way we repay them? O God, is this fair play? Are we playing the game? "Surely, if they obtained a passport from the Governor of Malta to proceed to Australia, no Governor in Australia could stop them from landing. And it is not as if they were assisted out, because they all paid their passage across."

Or: "About 214 Maltese are kept on the Gange, not allowed to land in Australia. But why? Are they not British subjects? Are they not white? Maybe they are whiter than some who at the present moment call themselves Australians." Obviously the entire saga had taken on racist overtones.

A final, scathing indictment of the Australian prime minister appeared in The Western Australian of Wednesday, May 2, 1917:

"Mr Hughes is dubbed by admirers 'a great Imperial statesman'. Let us see how he handled this matter, in which an issue of grave international character is involved. The Maltese are a white race. They are also British subjects. "Thousands of them are today fighting for the empire and for Australia. Others have received our wounded Australians into their homes at Malta and nursed them back to health.

"The permanent exclusion of Maltese from a part of the empire must necessarily embarrass the statesmen and generals charged with the conduct of this war. But Mr Hughes had no eye for the troubles of others. He saw only his own difficulty. Referendum day was approaching.

"Australians were being sent to Europe, and here was a body of Maltese coming to Australia to fill their places in our mines and fields and factories. So to surmount his difficulty for the moment, he dispatched the Maltese to Noumea, confined them later on a hulk in Sydney Harbour, releasing them eventually by compulsion of his new allies, Mr Joseph Cook and party. His goldfields admirers have not assisted Mr Hughes in forcing explanations from him about the Maltese.

"He cuts a pitiable figure throughout. He showed no consideration for Imperial interests by his action. He inflicted unmerited sufferings on the Maltese and their wives and children. For the sake of his own reputation, Mr Hughes should endeavour to consign the whole transaction, were it possible, into deep oblivion."

Eventually, the Maltese migrants were permitted to land at Sydney on guarantees being given that they would join unions and that employment would be found for them. The date was March 21, 1917.

Longest Day of the Year 2024 in Malta

Thursday, 20 June 2024 www.sunrisesunsettime.org/
The Summer Solstice occurs at 22:54

The Summer Solstice is the first day of astronomical summer, although the more logical metrological summer begins December 1st / June 1st (depending on hemisphere). To add further confusion this time of year is also known as Midsummer, although this is often cited as being on the 24th June.

For most of us the main feature of the Summer Solstice is that it is the day with the longest period of sunlight - or daylight at least! This officially occurs at the moment when the sun reaches a point directly overhead of the Tropic of Cancer (latitude 23.44° north) in the northern hemisphere or over the Tropic of Capricorn in the southern. At this point the respective hemisphere will receive sunlight at the most direct angle for that year.

I.e. there isn't a night... The **midnight sun** is a natural phenomenon that occurs in regions near the Earth's poles, notably in the Arctic and Antarctic circles. During the summer months, the Earth's axial tilt results in a unique occurrence where the sun remains visible above the horizon for an extended period, often throughout the entire night. This phenomenon is most prominent near the polar regions, where the sun's path barely dips below the horizon, creating an eerie but mesmerizing spectacle of perpetual daylight during the summer solstice. The midnight sun has profound cultural and environmental impacts, influencing the daily routines and traditions of communities living in these extreme latitudes, while also playing a crucial role in the region's ecosystems.

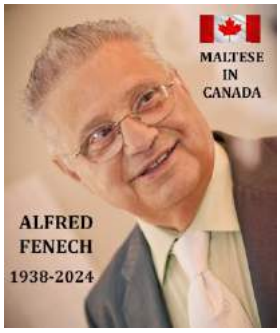
During the June Solstice the sun will appear at its highest and most in the sky. Whilst this delivers the longest day of the year the actual length of this day will vary according to location. Those in more latitudes will experience markedly longer days than those closer to the Equator. In fact those in the highest latitudes can experience 24 hours of daylight, i.e. the "midnight sun" for which regions above the Arctic Circle are known.

The evenings are already long at this time of year and the solstice is just the peak. So whilst it might seem like a day to celebrate, in fact days now start getting shorter. It is also worth pointing out that the Summer Solstice doesn't actually have the latest sunset - that occurs a few days later.

Heritage Malta is inviting you to celebrate the summer solstice in an unforgettable way at the mystical Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra Archaeological Park.

Just like the season of longer, warmer days it ushers in, this event is very popular and sells out like hot cakes. Therefore, we thought of sending you a gentle nudge to remind you to reserve your place before these run out, as one of the dates has already been fully booked.

Slots are still available for the 21st and 23rd of June 2024 on www.heritagemalta.mt/store



First and foremost, I would like to thank the editor, Frank Scicluna, for publishing the tribute to my beloved father in issue 521 who passed away on 7 May 2024 in Toronto, Canada

Now, I really want to share my dad, Alfred, with everyone - I'd love you to know him the way I know him. The eulogy I wrote now has a home on my website. Please honour my dad by getting to know him just a little better. My dear dad's love of Malta and connection to his homeland are directly responsible for the inspiration behind my life's work. I hope he knows just how much he shaped me.

Dad, Rest In Peace ❤️ *www.marthesefenech/a-tribute-to-my-dad/*

Paris: world pizza champion, "Peppe"

This year Giuseppe Cutraro opened a new restaurant in the heart of Paris.

After the opening of his first restaurant Peppe (20th), Giuseppe Cutraro, the best pizza maker in the world in 2019-2020, then best pizzeria in Europe in 2021, continues to open new restaurants all over France.

He never stops growing. Giuseppe Cutraro, nicknamed Peppe, crowned best pizzaiolo in the world 2019-2020, announced, on his company's Instagram page, that he was going to open a new restaurant in Paris.

The announcement delights his fans. "Another Peppe restaurant to try, so excited!!", comments one Internet user. "We can't wait, dear neighbors," says the official account of the Museum of Illusions.

Speaking to Lovin Malta, Peppe explained how he didn't have the easiest childhood growing up.

"I am an only child and have grown with a single parent, 'mia mamma'. I did not have an easy childhood, as my mother used to work in a 'Pelliceria' and lost her job when a lot of ateliers started closing. So, for this reason, I had to leave school early and help my mother with the income."

Peppe explained how he "left school at around 16 years of age", needing to find a job to help his mother. "I tried a few jobs here and there, until I found a job as a helper in a pizzeria," he said, adding very slowly, he "started to make my way up to becoming a 'fornaio'".

"Back in the day, opportunities were not given as easily, so you really had to be ambitious to make your way forward. Which is why I left Naples—to be able to expand and experiment in the sector."

"Pizza was my opportunity to travel the world," he continued, adding that he "was given the opportunity to go to New York at 18 years old and work in a pizzeria in New Jersey."

"From that day onwards we never parted ways, and it became my profession."

"In fact, pizza was the same reason why I came to Malta. You see, being an only child and having only one parent, America became an impossible dream to follow. So, I accepted another job opportunity which led me to Malta, precisely Marsascala where I stayed for about two years," where he worked at restaurant Cote D'Azure. **While in Malta, Peppe met his now wife Sarah, who was born in Gozo. Now, the pair have two boys, Gabriel who is nine years old, and Thomas who is one.**

"We spend our summer holidays in Gozo together with my in-laws, where I enjoy relaxing and spending my days by the beautiful beaches on the island, with my children, family and Maltese friends acquired during those years."

Now the whole family lives in Paris, where Peppe has just inaugurated his sixth restaurant in the city.

Peppe's success has been there since his world championship title. After opening his first restaurant just before the lockdowns, at the end of January 2020 in the 20th arrondissement, he has resisted well and has continued to develop his business.

Pizzas from 13 to 20 euros

Two other pizzerias have been opened in the capital at 61, rue des Martyrs (IXe) and 222, rue Saint-Jacques (Ve). In the meantime, his restaurant on Place Saint-Blaise in the twentieth arrondissement allowed him to obtain, in 2021, the title of best pizzeria in Europe (excluding Italy) by the specialized site 50 Top Pizza.

The best pizzeria in Europe

Peppe continued its rise with the opening of two other pizzerias in Boulogne-Billancourt and Levallois-Perret (Hauts-de-Seine). His restaurants offer pizzas from the more traditional Margherita for 13 euros to his signature pizza, which allowed him to become world champion, for 20 euros.

The former chef of Big Mamma cut his teeth in the neighborhoods of Naples, the capital of pizza, at the age of 15. Once he came of age, he flew to New York. "I felt a bit locked in Italy, because pizza makers were very traditional and a little closed to the evolution of the profession," he explained to Le Parisien.

After stints in Switzerland and Malta, Giuseppe has had time to refine his cuisine. A knowledge that many Internet users now hope to see exported throughout France. "When will we have a restaurant in Marseille?" asks a fan. "And in the South?" asks another. In the regions, priority would be given to the Gironde for the time being, with an opening planned in Bordeaux.

VICTORIA STOYANOVA IN MALTA

Art is a slap in the face to wake up the beholder from a dream – or a flying carpet to take us miles away in a dream, a fairy tale. Bulgarian artist Victoria Stoyanova's upcoming exhibition, Once Upon A Time, is the fairy tale of a long and colourful artistic journey.

"I've travelled all around the world, meeting different people and cultures, and enriching myself with new and interesting ideas," says Stoyanova who, in the past years, has exhibited her art in various cities, including Paris, Rome, Madrid, El Albir, London, Oxford, Stratford, Moscow, Sofia, Syros Island and the Isle of Man. hese travels fuel the artist's inspiration, while strengthening her determination which, 26 years ago, fuelled her decision to dedicate her life to art.

"Every day I wake up and go to sleep grateful for the courage to turn my back on real life and allow myself to experience this fairy tale," Stoyanova explains. "I have turned art into a way of living. It is my personal philosophy and faith. And so, in just 26 years I managed to make 50 exhibitions to come true while travelling in the real – and virtual – world. Art, in all its forms, is the most universal of languages – through which one can master emotions and arouse excitement in whoever sees it."

Stoyanova says that she chose Malta for her new exhibition, as the island is everything that a fairy tale needs.

"Malta has centuries of history, legends, and different cultures. I also chose Malta for my anniversary exhibition for personal reasons – as it is where my children live. I dedicate Once Upon a Time to my wonderful little grandson Michael with the wish that he will believe both in himself and in miracles and will create and experience a beautiful and meaningful fairy tale of his own.I wish the same to all the children of the world. Above all – let there be peace in this challenging new world we are all living in."

Once Upon A Time shows from May 19 till June 19 at The Xara Palace Relais & Châteaux, Mdina. For more information visit https://www.victoriastoyanova.com/.

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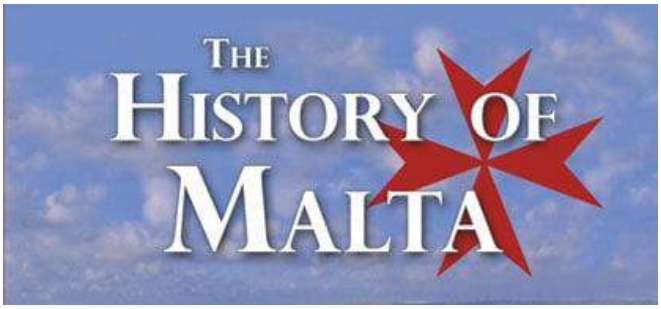
My bank details are Bank Commonwealth (Australia)
BSB - 065106 ACC - 00502597
Name - Frank Scicluna



CATHOLICISM NORMAN, SPANISH AND FRENCH RULE IN MALTA

It is said that in Malta, Gozo, and Comino there are more than 365 churches, or one church for every 1,000 residents. The parish church (Maltese: *"il-parroċċa"*, or *"il-knisja parrokjali"*) is the architectural and geographic focal point of every Maltese town and village, and its main source of civic pride. This civic pride manifests itself in spectacular fashion during the local village **festas**, which mark the feast day of the patron saint of each parish with marching bands, religious processions, special Masses, fireworks (especially petards), and other festivities.

Making allowances for a possible break in the appointment of bishops to Malta during the period of the Fatimid conquest, the Maltese Church is referred to today as the only extant Apostolic See other than Rome itself. According to tradition and as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles, the Church in Malta was founded by St. Paul in AD 70, following his shipwreck on these Islands. The earliest Christian place of worship in Malta is said to be the cavern in Rabat Malta, now known as St. Paul's Grotto, where the apostle was imprisoned during his stay on Malta. There is evidence of Christian burials and rituals having taken place in the general vicinity of the Grotto, dating back to the 3rd century AD.

Further evidence of Christian practices and beliefs during the period of Roman persecution can be found in the many catacombs that lie beneath various parts of Malta, including St Paul's Catacombs and St Agatha's Catacombs in Rabat, just outside the walls of Mdina. The latter, in particular, were beautifully frescoed between 1200 and 1480; they were defaced by marauding Turks in the 1550s. There are also a number of cave churches, including the grotto at Mellieħa, which is a Shrine of the Nativity of Our Lady where, according to legend, St. Luke painted a picture of the Madonna. It has been a place of pilgrimage since medieval times.

The writings of classic Maltese historian, **Gian. Francesco Abela** recounts the conversion to Christianity of the Maltese population at the hand of St. Paul. It is suggested that Abela's writings were used by Knights of Malta to demonstrate that Malta had been ordained by God as a "bulwark of Christian, European civilization against the spread of Mediterranean Islam."[30] The native Christian community that welcomed Roger I of Sicily[31] was further bolstered by immigration to Malta from Italy, in the 12th and 13th centuries.

For centuries, leadership over the Church in Malta was generally provided by the Diocese of Palermo, except under Charles of Anjou who caused Maltese bishops to be appointed, as did – on rare occasions – the Spanish and later, the Knights. This continued Malta's connections with Sicily and Italy, and contributed to, from the 15th century to the early 20th century, the dominance of Italian as Malta's primary language of culture and learning. Since 1808 all bishops of Malta have been Maltese.

During the Norman and Spanish periods and under the rule of the Knights, Malta became the devout Catholic nation it is today. It is worth noting that the Maltese Inquisition (more properly called the Roman Inquisition) had a very long tenure in Malta following its establishment by the Pope in 1530; the last Inquisitor departed from the Islands in 1798, after the Knights capitulated to the forces of Napoleon Bonaparte.

The Normans The population of Malta at that time amounted to no more than 1,119 households, of whom 836 were described as Saracens, inhabiting the island following the Norman invasion and before their ultimate expulsion. Under Roger II, King of Sicily, Christianity was restored as Malta's principal faith

The later years of Norman rule over Malta brought massive waves of immigration to the Islands from Sicily and from the Italian mainland, including clergy and notaries. Sicilian became the sole written language

of Malta, as evidenced by notarial deeds from this period, but this was eventually supplanted by Tuscan Italian, which became the primary literary language and the medium of legal and commercial transactions in Malta. A large number of Sicilian and Italian words were adopted into the local vernacular. Traces of Siculo-Norman architecture can still be found in Malta's ancient capital of Mdina and in Vittoriosa, most notably in the Palaces of the *Santa Sofia*, *Gatto Murina*, *Inguanez* and *Falzon* families.

Spain

Traces of the ascendancy of the Crown of Aragon in the Mediterranean, and Spanish governance over Malta from 1282 to 1530, are still evident in Maltese culture today. These include culinary, religious, and musical influences. Two examples are the enduring importance of the Spanish guitar (Maltese: *il-kitarra Spanjola*) in Maltese folk music, and the enclosed wooden balconies (Maltese: *gallerija*) that grace traditional Maltese homes today. It is also possible that the traditional Maltese costume, the Faldetta, is a local variation of the Spanish mantilla.

The Spanish period also saw the establishment of local nobility, with the creation of Malta's oldest extant title, the Barony of Djar-il-Bniet e Buqana, and numerous others. Under Spanish rule Malta developed into a feudal state. From time to time during this period, the Islands were nominally ruled by various Counts of Malta, who were typically illegitimate sons of the reigning Aragonese monarch; however, the day-to-day administration of the country was essentially in the hands of the local nobility, through their governing council known as the *Università*. Some of Malta's premier noble families including the *Inguanez* family, settled in Malta from Spain and Sicily during this time. Other Maltese families of Spanish origin include: *Alagona*, *Aragona*, *Abela*, *Flores*, *Guzman* and *Xerri*.

The period of Spanish rule over Malta lasted roughly as long as the period of Arab rule; however, this appears to have had little impact on the language spoken in rural Malta, which remained heavily influenced by Arabic, with Semitic morphemes. This is evident in Pietro Caxaro's *Il-Kantilena*, the oldest known literary text in Maltese, which was written prior to 1485, at the height of the Spanish period.

France

French rule over Malta, although brief, left a deep and lasting impression on Maltese culture and society. Several of the Grand Masters of the Knights of Malta had been French, and though some French customs and expressions had crept into common usage in Malta as a result (such as the expressions *"bonġu"* for "good day", and *"bonswa"* for "good evening", still in use today), Napoleon's garrison had a much deeper impact on Maltese culture. Within six days following the capitulation by Grand Master Hompesch on board *l'Orient*, Bonaparte had given Malta a Constitution and introduced the Republican concept of *Liberté*, *Egalite*, *Fraternité* to Malta. Slavery was abolished, and the scions of Maltese nobility were ordered to burn their patents and other written evidence of their pedigrees before the *arbre de la liberté* that had been hastily erected in St. George's Square, at the centre of Valletta. A secondary school system was established, the university system was revised extensively, and a new Civil Code of law was introduced to the legal system of Malta.

Under the rule of General Vaubois civil marriages were introduced to Malta, and all non-Maltese clergymen and women were ordered to leave the Islands. A wholesale plundering of the gold, silver and precious art of Maltese churches followed, and several monasteries were forcibly taken from the religious orders. The Maltese were scandalized by the desecration of their churches. A popular uprising culminated with the "defenestration" of Citizen Masson, commandant of the French garrison, and the summary execution of a handful of Maltese patriots, led by Dun Mikiel Xerri. With the French blockaded behind the walls of Valletta, a National Assembly of Maltese was formed. Petitions were sent out to the King of the Two Sicilies, and to Lord Nelson, soliciting their aid and support. The French garrison capitulated to Nelson in Grand Harbour, on 5 September 1800.

GREAT HONOUR FOR MALTESE TENOR

The Maltese tenor Joseph Calleja has been honoured with a medal by the French Ministry of Culture for his musical talent. The honour Ordre des Arts et des Lettres is given by the French Government to people who in one way or another have contributed to art around the world. This honour can be given to any person and Calleja was given the honour of Knight, something that can only be given to 200 people a year. Calleja, who in 2012 was appointed as the first cultural ambassador of Malta, said that he is very proud to have been honoured in this way and said that he has a strong connection with France.

Calleja said, "It was a privilege to receive the 'Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et Lettres.' My connection with France goes beyond opera thanks to Michael Tabone and our friends at Vins de Saint-Emilion. I would also like to thank Her Excellency Agnes Von der Muhll and her wonderful team! Ambassade de France à Malte Michael Tabone Atelier Michael Tabone Vins de Saint-Emilion.

Next up for the tenor is Bellini's "Norma" at the Bayerische Staatsoper. This summer he will also perform in Romania, Croatia, and Melbourne. He returns to the Metropolitan Opera in March for performances of Puccini's "La Bohème."

From the British isles

DATE: **25/05/2024**
TIME: **8:00 PM** till **9:30 PM**
Jun Kim *Conductor*
Alexander Kagan *Violin*
Programme
Hamish MacCunn *Overture Land of the Mountain and Flood*
Benjamin Britten *Four Sea Interludes*
William Walton *Violin Concerto*
Vaughan Williams *Symphony No. 5*

The MPO celebrates the musical legacy of the British Isles under the direction of award-winning conductor Jun Kim. MacCunn paints a spectacular Scottish landscape in Overture: Land of the Mountain and Flood, while Britten's Four Sea Interludes portray captivating sketches of the English seaside. Visiting violinist Alexander Kagan will interpret Walton's Violin Concerto, a work brimming with virtuosity and lyricism. Written amidst the raging war, Vaughan Williams' Symphony No. 5 masterfully evokes a sense of serenity, profoundness and hope for peace. LOCATION: **St Agatha's Auditorium, Rabat**

CYCLING - NATIONAL ROAD CHAMPIONSHIP 2024 FIRST RACE

Aidan Buttigieg and Jessica Pratt are off to a great start

Aidan Buttigieg of D Sports Lab and Jessica Pratt of Team Greens started with a bang in the first race of the National Road Championship. The two championships organized by the Maltese Cycling Federation, this year are being held again on three races per championship. Aidan Buttigieg on his return from Australia to defend the title he won last season, ended up dominating in the Elite Category, while Jessica Pratt did the same who won the Category reserved for Women', which races were held on Sunday 19 May 2024 in Fluer-de-Lys.

Aidan Buttigieg finished first in the Elite when he finished his race in a time of 1:14:15.18, almost two minutes ahead of Etienne Bonello of Team Greens (1:16:12.42). Pierre Borg of Mosta CC finished in third place (1:16:12.69). The Women's race resulted in one dominated by Team Greens cyclists, with Jessica Pratt in her National Championship debut finishing first in a time of 49:35.28, an impressive lead of 4 minutes and 38 seconds ahead of her partner Diana Muscat (54:14.12). Michelle Vella Wood also of Team Greens finished third (1:00:16.70).

Jacob Schembri of Mosta CC won the Under 23 Category in a time of 1:16:12.42. His teammate Clyve Chetcuti (1:16:14.31) and Luke Borg of The Cyclist (1:17:59.97) finished in second place.

The Masters 40+ Category was won by David Cushing of B'kara St Joseph in a time of 46:49.22. Mark Zammit of Mosta CC (46:50.85) and Carl Saydon of Team Greens (50:17.62) followed respectively. Stephen Grima of D Sports Lab for his part won the Masters 50+ Category in a time of 50:17.63. He was followed by Kevin Muscat of Mosta CC (50:18.50) and Joseph Caruana of Team Greens (57:24.34).

Ryan Gatt of The Cyclist won the Under 16 Male Category in a time of 33:07.30. Zia Fuji of Shamrock Stars won the Girls' Under 14 Category when she did her two laps in a time of 19:07.61. Jake Refalo of Shamrock Stars won the Under 14 Boys Category in a time of 17:57.65, while Ethan Cumbo of Mosta CC won the Under 12 Boys Category in a time of 09:05.57. ***J. Bajada***

Another beloved immigrant turns 100

I would like to share with you a magnificent story of my Mother-in-law - Christine Spiteri. She was born in Gudja, Malta on the 11 June 1924, which yes makes her 100 years old this next month - June.

She was born Christine Dalli, married to Emanuel Pisani during World War 2 from Senglea. Emanuel migrated to Australia in 1948 and Christine followed with their three children a year later.

Sadly, she arrived in Australia with only 2 children, Nina and Mary, as one passed away on the ship during her journey to Australia..

Few months after arriving in Australia she had one more child, her eldest a boy named John (deceased).

Christine's husband Emanuel passed away in 1982. In 1993 she married Laurie Spiteri, a widower and they had 6 wonderful years together. He also passed away in 1999. Christine has 2 daughters, 7 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren and one great great granddaughter.

On behalf of the all the readers of the Maltese Journal we wish Christine a wonderful celebration for her 100th birthday and May God bless her. Samuel V Axiak J.P

MALTESE COMUNITY COUNCIL OF VICTORIA INC.

447 Royal Parade Parkville, Victoria Australia

Avviż ta' Xogħol:

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Inħeġġukom tapplikaw jekk tissodisfaw ir-rekwiżiti msemmija.

LET'S SUPPORT THE MALTESE LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

online jew onlajn?

Bajsikil, Erkondixin, Plejer, Trejdjunjin, Rawndebawt, Windskrijn, Maws Televixin etc **Ilona Sciberras**

Qatt kellek diffikultà biex tikteb kliem mill-Ingliż li hu ffurmat minn żewġ kelmiet jew aktar?
Dan jgħidulu kliem kompost, u fil-Malti rridu nħalluh miktub bl-Ingliż ħlief għal dak il-kliem li daħal grammatikalment, pereżempju "trejdjunjoniżmu".
Fl-artiklu, "punti grammatikali u ortografiċi" maħruġ fir-rivista *l-aċċent*, Dr George Farrugia kiteb li kliem bħal online, air conditioner, part time, roundabout u windscreen għandu jitħalla bl-Ingliż. [1] Il-kelma "futbol" hija eċċezzjoni għax tinkiteb bil-forma Maltija minħabba li ndrat u għalhekk baqgħet tinkiteb b'dan il-mod. Din ir-regola ma tapplikax għal kliem bħal televixin jew television, jew ħeliport għax għandhom il-prefissi "tele" u "ħeli".
Is-suġġett tal-kliem Ingliż fil-Malti ġie ttrattat fir-rapport ta' *Deċiżjonijiet 2* fl-2018.
Farrugia, George., 2023. Seba' punti grammatikali u ortografiċi: Stephen Gatt minn ħidmet Dr George Farrugia, *l-aċċent*, ħarġa 22, id-Dipartiment tal-Malti tal-Kummissjoni Ewropea

The Outcome of Happy Parenting's International Conference on Parental Alienation and Shared Parenting by International and Local Experts to Professionals

Minister Julia Farrugia Portelli opened the Conference held at the Auditorium, Attard Parish Centre, Malta. Minister Julia Farrugia Portelli emphasised the importance of children not being used as pawns by parents to threaten each other. "Children are not soft toys we can display on the sofa, but part of our lives, our very own flesh and blood. Insistence on equally shared parenting is also not a feminist dictum but a stance for fairness. Minister Farrugia Portelli thanks Happy Parenting Malta for organising this fruitful conference on such a delicate subject.

The April 2024 Parental Alienation conference by HPMHC was about preventing parental alienation and shared parenting. An early deduction is a good way to prevent parental alienation. Ideally, both the victim and any professionals involved would be knowledgeable enough to spot it and take remedial action. Parental alienation is not proven in a lab or in an expert report. It is normally in the open for all to see if one is knowledgeable about what clues to look at. For example, medical doctors should question medical certificates of sickness and injuries if prima facie they suspect they can be used by alienating parents.

The early deduction can help alienation stop through therapy and avoid costly and sometimes unpractical reunification programmes. While on the one hand, early deduction helps, on the other hand, a good way to prevent any seeds of parental alienation from growing roots is through shared parenting. Shared parenting means both parents would be, to some degree, heavily involved in the upbringing of the kids. While in an ideal world, parents should not be separated, the truth is that circa 50% of parents are. So the next positive thing if parents are separated is two homes. Two homes bring a lot of long term stability in the welfare of the kids and while suitcases may be an inconvenience of separation, it is much more stable for kids to have the love of both parents present rather than a single parent with a distant parent.

A proper shared parenting is the best vaccine against parental alienation. Finally, in the conference, it transpired clearly that through well-informed and educated family court judges who avoid the adversarial system, Romania is light years ahead of Malta, with regards to family court, parental alienation and separated parents.

MALTESE eNEWSLETTER
If you have a story to tell
Send it to us and share it with others

The 17th edition of the "Bis-Sahha" Wine Festival, is back next month in the main square of the quaint hamlet of Santa Lucija in Gozo.

It is organised by NGO Ghaqda Kulturali ta' Klula – holders of the 2007-2008 European Destination Of Excellence Award.

The popular event is will feature top-notch entertainment for all the family, and promises a vibrant combination of culture, wine, entertainment and community spirit. With the participation of the JoyGivers and DJ Mario.

Visitors to the wine festival will have the option to purchase a wine glass which will entitle them to unlimited samples of a selection of red, white and rose' wines from Marsovin's cellars. There will be an array of locally produced wines, highlighting the flavours and characteristics of Maltese grapes.

The organisers said that food stalls will also be available with sweet and savoury options. The date to keep free is Saturday, the 1st of June and the evening gets underway from 8pm, entrance is free of charge. Nestled within rural countryside that dominates the western side of Gozo, Santa Lucija can be reached by bus number 313.

Australian High Commission, Malta et Ambassade d'Australie en Tunisie

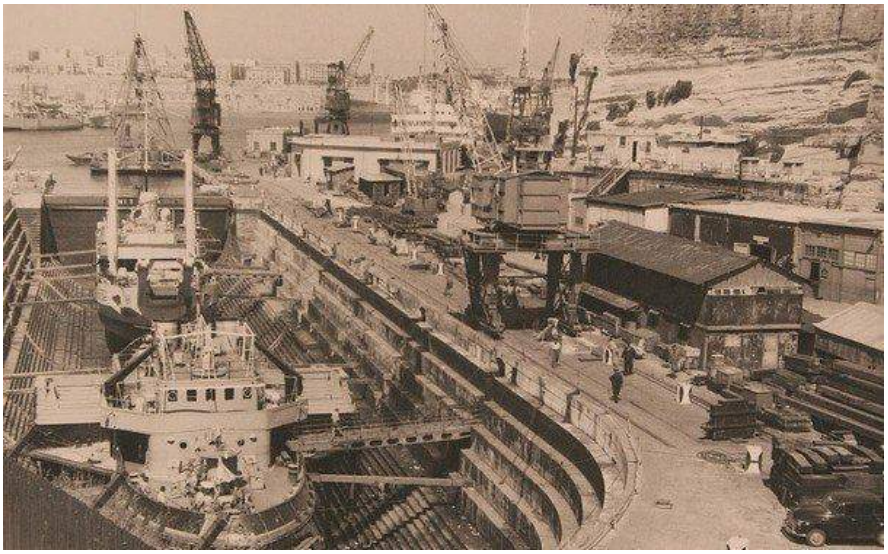
The High Commissioner met with Patrick Calleja and Joseph Farrugia of Din l-Art Helwa at the Park Nazzjonali in Ta' Qali, the new home of the Australia Bungalow.

The Bungalow was brought to Malta in the early 1920s so prospective Maltese migrants to Australia could familiarise themselves with Australian wood framed building techniques.

Scheduled as a Grade 1 National Monument by the then Malta Environment and Planning Authority in 2006, Din l-Art Helwa is working to ensure the bungalow continues to stand for another 100 years and remind of the strong community links between Australia and Malta (the final photo below shows how the Bungalow looked before the move).

The High Commission was pleased to be able to provide the new signage for the Bungalow so visitors to Park Nazzjonali will understand the significance of the Bungalow.

https://dinlarthelwa.org/heritage-sites/australian-bungalow/



Animated exhibition at Maritime Museum brings Malta Drydocks to life

IT-TARZNA

The recollections of craftsmen who worked in one of Malta's most iconic industries, the Drydocks, have been brought to life through an immersive experience at the Maritime Museum in Vittoriosa, which takes visitors into the dock itself.

During this experience visitors are able to watch and listen to a typical working day in what was considered as one of the most challenging workplaces.

The drydocks facilities were started by the Knights in the Grand Harbour to maintain their fleet, and later moved towards the cities of Cottonera, particularly Cospicua. For decades, thousands of workers earned their daily bread from this industry.

Nowadays the Malta Drydocks have been confined to the history books, but the memory of one of the biggest industries will live on, thanks to an exhibition in the Maritime Museum themed 'An island at the Crossroads.'

The last part that visitors will see when they see 'An Island at the Crossroads,' visitors will enter what we imagine is a Dockyard dock, there is a very large volume here, where you feel small compared to the size of the machinery, of ships, and then you start to realize how exposed you are to the dangers that the shipyard workers faced during their work.

Anthony Cassar, Head of the Technology and Experience Development Section, Heritage Malta

The immersive exhibition about the history of the Drydocks was created internally by Heritage Malta following extensive research.

The visual part was created by RD, what people watch are not videos by RD animations that were created from photos and scans of the Drydocks.

Anthony Cassar, Head of the Technology and Experience Development Section, Heritage Malta

The work to complete this part of the exhibition took 6 months. It is an exhibition that introduces visitors to an experience in which they not only see, but hear the sounds of work, of metal, of ships as they enter the dock, of cranes passing over the visitors' heads, which all recount the story of the Malta Drydocks.

Hello and thank you for your great effort in keeping up our Maltese heritage in Australia and beyond. My name is Francis Borg from Hamrun and have been living in the UK since 1972. It was great to see my cousin Jane Zammit nee Cassar on the edition 521 relating to their experience in Italy as internees. I just remember when she emigrated to Australia. I was still a young boy at the time. I would very much like to get in touch with her as we never managed to meet up in Malta when they were there. Would you be kind enough to pass this mail to her if you have her email address. I thank you in anticipation.

Francis Borg Liverpool UK.