

Maltese eNewsletter



Editor: Frank Scicluna OAM MQR JP

Email: maltesejournal@gmail.com



Stephanie Borg

**Meet
Stephanie
Borg**

artist and
surface pattern
designer

Facts and Figures

**FOREIGN RESIDENTS MAKE UP
ALMOST 30% OF THE TOTAL
POPULATION OF MALTA**

The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora

On the 9th and
10th November
2024

No, that the
Malta Comic Con
weekend



GHOSTS STORIES FROM MALTA



artscouncilmalta@gov.mt

The National
Agency for Arts
and Culture in
Malta



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Mr Louis Parnis

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Consul General of Malta
for New York City**

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GEORGE CROSS FALCONS COMMUNITY CENTRE - NSW



ARTS COUNCIL MALTA



Culture Pass 2024 launched

A scheme designed to provide high-quality professional cultural and artistic experiences to

students, from kindergarten to postsecondary schools

Minister for the National Heritage, the Arts and Local Government Owen Bonnici and Minister for Education, Sports, Youth, Research and Innovation Clifton Grima launched the 2024 Culture Pass together with the Directorate for Culture, Arts Council Malta, and the Ministry for Education, Sport, Youth, Research and Innovation.

Culture Pass is a scheme designed to provide high-quality professional cultural and artistic experiences to students, from kindergarten to postsecondary schools, as well as to educational institutions which provide education up to MQF level 4. In this manner, the value of cultural education as a curricular subject will increase while also touching upon trans-curricular themes. The scheme also helps creative practitioners to create and develop new work for young audiences, while also increasing the programming capacity for longer periods with the aim of adding both artistic and non-artistic disciplines to the students' curriculum.

Minister Owen Bonnici noted that Culture Pass is another example of how the government is solidly investing in the artistic and cultural sectors of our country. "We are once again launching Culture Pass for the scholastic year which has just started in order to encourage students to participate in the arts and creativity. For this scholastic year, there are 47 recommended projects. This government always insisted on the importance of including projects and cultural and creative activities as part of our educational processes. By investing in experiences such as those provided by Culture Pass, we are promoting the full potential of the arts when these are creatively melded with education", Minister Bonnici said.

From his end, Minister Clifton Grima insisted that over the years this initiative gave and is continuing to give access to Maltese culture in an artistic manner which leads to informal teaching in our country's education sector. "We have to raise our youths to not only appreciate culture, but to also encourage them to possess within themselves an appreciation for artistic expression, and in that manner increase the creative potential of students. Through these cultural activities, we are helping our children to recognise that education is not just that which is delivered in classrooms, but also something which goes beyond the curriculum, a means through which students can explore their abilities. This is the holistic education that we want to continue giving to our students throughout their educational journey which helps them in their eventual career journey", Minister Clifton Grima said.

Mary Ann Cauchi, Chief Operations Officer Funding and Strategy within Arts Council Malta, said that the Council is continuing to give priority to education in the arts and that through collaborations with artists, youths' exposure to arts is continuing to increase. She continued saying that the Culture Pass is once again continuing to recognise cultural and artistic education at all levels, while continuing to ensure accessibility for artistic accessibility.

Alex Farrugia, Director of Culture, spoke about how the success of Culture Pass is evident from the fact that every year there is an increase in the number of producers, as well as in the number of productions and interest which this programme is generating, so much so that every year it is reaching an ever-increasing number of children and youths.

The 2024 Culture Pass complements the National Curriculum Framework, while also increasing the value of arts education and other curricular subjects. From its launch, it is estimated that tens of thousands of students benefitted from the Culture Pass programme. For more information visit www.artscouncilmalta.mt.



REMEMBERING THE MESSAGE OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF MALTA CHARLES JUDE SCICLUNA AT THE CONVENTION FOR THE MALTESE LIVING ABROAD IN 2015

May I start by saying a big thank you. First of all as I owe so much to Canada, the land in which I was born and where I was baptised. My *papà* was one of those eleven thousand who went to Canada in 1953. He came back to find a lady, and he found *mamà*. They went back to Canada in 1958, but they decided to return just over a year after. They did not leave the baby behind, so I was brought to Malta in April 1960, at eleven months.

Our presence here at Dar tal-Emigranti in this extraordinary space, which is not only about memory but also about heritage, reminds us about the need to remember to be able to share – sharing and teaching the history of emigration to our young generations, as you have been doing. This is an important aspect of the formation of future generations because this memory will help the present as well as the future.

We Maltese in particular need to remember the history of our emigration because now we have become a hosting nation. This reminds me of the word of Scripture: “Be kind to the pilgrim, remember that once you were a pilgrim yourself”. May I add to this, ‘Be kind to the immigrant, remember you were once an immigrant’.

We Maltese have been blessed with the, not so easy process of finding new countries, and indeed I think we have made a very good name for us. I do not want to canonise every person who went away because I do not think this is a process of canonisation; we are not going to proclaim every person a saint, as we also had people who have been refused re-entering into Australia.

Certainly it will be lost within 25 years, but the mission of this place is to teach Maltese people, especially the young, what so many thousands of Maltese went through to find a new home. My prayer is that this sort of formation will help us be a new home to those who need one, to those who need safety, who need a haven, even if it is for a few months or a few years.

I did go back to Canada in 1999, when I turned 40. I wanted to go with my parents, as I wanted them to show me the house where we used to live, I wanted to see the hospital, and I wanted to say mass in the Church where I was baptised. I was very lucky, because after I celebrated mass, I met the Maltese priest, Fr Vella, who had baptised me 40 years before. I went in to meet him and say thank you. He was going to celebrate his 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood, and he said “thank you, I have baptised lots of people, two of them became priests, Scicluna and Fr Jimmy Zammit, a Franciscan”. Back in March this year, during my Solemn Installation, I visited the Franciscan church on my way to the Mdina Cathedral, and I was given the birth certificate from St Paul’s in Canada.

Our presence here today is important, not only for what we receive during such Conventions, and I’m sure that the Government is always interested in organising Conventions to see what they can reap from such an extraordinary wealth, but it is also very important for us to have you with us to realise that we are not talking about film heritage, but we are talking about living people, which I hope will go on through the generations.

May I end by recommending a special prayer for the Egyptians who in 1956 were expelled from Egypt. This experience helps us realise that we also have dark moments in the history of our experience. We should not forget those as well. We should not forget for example, that part of the Australian experience was also sad. When we tell our history, we need to be able to share the light and the darkness because that is the source of true wisdom. Thank you.

† **Charles J. Scicluna** Archbishop of Malta

FOREIGN RESIDENTS MAKE UP NEARLY 30% OF TOTAL POPULATION IN MALTA

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QUALIFICATION IS REQUIRED

It is noteworthy that In 2024 the foreign residents is made up of nearly 30% of Malta's population and are mostly youths, balancing out the growing local ageing population. Large Maltese families is a thing of the past. A recent report made by The National Statistics Office, shows a leap in Malta's foreign population, standing at around 160 000 individuals.

Between 2022 and 2023, the foreign

population grew by 15.3%, in comparison to the mere 0.1% local population growth. In terms of age and sex, the Maltese population sits at a balanced 49.8% males and 50.2% females, with the median age being 43-years-old.

Meanwhile, the foreign population contains a male majority, with the sex being 61.1% of the population, while 38.9% are female. However, in contrast to the locals, foreign residents are primarily made of individuals standing at a median of 32 years of age, a full 10 years younger than that of the nation. With the rapid increase in foreign residents consisting primarily of young adults ranging from mid-twenties to thirties, the statistic sets off a stark contrast in the current Old-Age Dependency Ratio (OADR). Most of the Maltese elderly depend on foreigners for caring especially in domestic assistance, in Homes for the Aged and in hospitals. A large proportion of workers in the hospitality industry are from overseas.

The report shows that within the Maltese population, the ratio has substantially increased annually, from 28.2 in 2012 to 41.8 in 2023. The increase, apart from being affected by the growing ageing population, could also be attributed to the fact that Malta has one of the lowest fertility rates in the continent.

Meanwhile, the foreign population's increase contributed to a decline in the foreign Old-Age Dependency Ratio , where in 2012 it was 17.0, and currently stands at 4.4 as of 2023. Despite the climbing population of ageing Maltese individuals, the corresponding increase in foreign youths balances out the total ratio. How will Malta look like in 2050?

The olive tree, the symbolic plant of the Mediterranean



There are special loves, resisting everything, and when everything around collapses, they become stronger than before.

Years, centuries, millennia... this symbiotic love between men and olive trees in the Mediterranean last since 6000 years!

The prince of the Mediterranean cuisine

It's the prince of the Mediterranean cuisine, lifestyle, and landscapes, the olive tree is an extraordinary concentrate of beauty and generosity, decorating countryside and gardens, providing wood, olives and above all the extra virgin olive oil.

It's easy to say olive oil... but this is the Med, nothing is simple and straightforward here, there's an infinity of languages, wines, bread, architecture, boats, music, philosophies and religions. No ways Olive Oil can escape this rule!

Olives everywhere... We have hundreds of different varieties called "cultivars", scattered along the coasts of the entire Mediterranean basin. Each country has its own peculiarities, some true some perhaps less true, but still beautiful to tell. During the Roman rule of Malta one of the main characteristics of the Maltese landscape was the relatively large number of villas which included an area set aside for the processing of olive oil and for other agricultural activities.

Maltese Olive Oil is cultivated in any soil, but favors the Mediterranean climate, including Malta but not the wind-swept areas. It requires very little care and it is fully exploitable: as wood, leafage, fruit and sub-products. The poor quality, alkaline soil that we find on the Maltese hillsides and valleys contribute to the extremely low acid content in our soil, which is below 0.5%. Olives coming from older trees are practically devoid of acidity. Gozo Olive Oil is definitively one of the favorites!

Spain is the biggest producer in the world. Portugal is famous for intensive cultivation. In Morocco and Tunisia, they have cultivated olive trees since Roman times. Greece has the highest consumption per capita. In Cyprus, they have been producing perfumed essences for over 3000 years. In Croatia were produced the finest Olive oil of the Roman Empire. In Turkey, the consumption was so high that they had to import it from Puglia. In Malta, the olive trees grow in pits filled with seawater. In Lebanon, there's is "The Sisters" olive grove, the oldest trees in the world. In Israel, there was the Garden of Gethsemane. Finally Syria, Jordan and Palestine, where it all began

ZAGOR: A TIMELESS HERO – IN CONVERSATION WITH THE CREATORS



Zagor stands as one of the most enduring and successful main characters in Italian comics. Created in 1961 by Sergio Bonelli (1932-2011), at the helm of Italy's most popular comic book publishing house, which has been active since 1940, Zagor's iconic appearance was crafted by Gallieno Ferri (1929-2016), who drew the series' covers until his passing.

Over the past sixty years, Zagor's adventures have been penned and illustrated by a host of distinguished writers and artists. Despite the crisis that has been threatening newsagents in recent years, the character continues to enjoy a devoted, multigenerational following, not only in Italy but also in countries such as Croatia, Serbia, and Turkey.

The key to Zagor's remarkable success lies in a brilliantly simple formula: a fictional universe that seamlessly blends the Old West of the early nineteenth century with elements of science fiction, mystery, horror, and unbounded adventure.

Zagor is a steadfast vigilante who eschews summary justice, instead advocating for peace among diverse peoples, cultures, and

languages. The Native Americans, who often see him as a powerful ally, regard him as a god, yet Zagor wields no powers beyond his physical strength and indomitable courage. Alongside him is the comical Cico, a hearty eater, who proves fiercely loyal and surprisingly resourceful despite his fears. Together, they operate from Darkwood, a richly imagined realm that fuses the features of forests, swamps, and jungles.

As a postmodern hero, Zagor's tales intentionally pay homage to cinema, literature, and popular culture in general. He faces off against a wide array of foes: criminals and bandits, mad scientists, necromancers, extraterrestrials, vampires, werewolves, and monstrous beings of every kind. His stories delight both discerning readers and those simply seeking entertaining escapism.

To explore the legacy of this legendary character and comic series, the Embassy of Italy in Malta, the Department of Italian and the M.A. in Film Studies, both within the University of Malta's Faculty of Arts, cordially invite you to a roundtable discussion on 6th November 2024 at 6pm, at the Italian Cultural Institute in Valletta, located in St George's Square. This event will feature Moreno Burattini, one of Zagor's scriptwriters since 1991 and editor of the eponymous series since 2007, along with acclaimed illustrator Walter Venturi and colourist Mad Cow. The roundtable will be moderated by Fabrizio Romano, Italian Ambassador to Malta, and Fabrizio Foni, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Italian and the M.A. in Film Studies, who specialises in popular culture.

Organised in collaboration with the Italian Cultural Institute in Valletta and the NGO Wicked Comics, this event is free to attend and will be held in Italian.

The Enigmatic Islands of Malta and Gozo

It's spooky season, so we've hit the books in search of ghost stories and legends set in Malta with a safe scare-factor. Check out these scary stories – they're all set in Malta, so you can take it up a notch and recount these stories where they took place.

THE DINNER PARTY



It was New Year's Day in 1731 and Father Antonio Vella of the Church of Saint Paul decided to celebrate by inviting some other priests for lunch. He prepared a hearty plate of couscous (or the Maltese *kusksu bil-ful*, no one really knows which one it was). Everyone ate, but when the guests returned home, there was a lot of violent throwing up involved.

Turns out Father Vella cooked the cuscus in the same copper pot he used earlier to mix poison. Nobody died, but Fr. Vella's reputation was seriously tarnished – and who knows why he used the same pot? Dinner at Fr. Vella's, anyone?

THE MUMMY IN VALLETTA



When builders started pulling down the church next to the Sacra Infermeria in Valletta to build a new one, the person who had built the church in the first place was not pleased. This man was called Fre Giorgia Nibbia and he loved his Church so much that he was buried in it.

When his tomb was opened, they found a mummy. His body was there, still complete, just with very dark skin. The sheet covering him was gone – all that was left was the eight pointed cross that had been embroidered on it. Needless to say, the persons who opened the tomb were seriously spooked out at the sight – who knew Valletta had its mummies, too?

THE GALLEY THAT GOT STUCK

On stormy days and nights, legend has it, many ships sought shelter in calmer bays in Malta and Gozo. Around 1726, one galley sheltered in the bay of Marsalforn. While they were there, the crew visited the church of Saint Paul, and one of the sailors liked what he was seeing a tad too much.

There on the altar lay a beautiful cloth, perfectly embroidered with intricate gold work that dazzled the church. He left, only to return later. He couldn't resist its beauty so he tucked it beneath his shirt and made his way back to the galley.

The storm passed and the ship and its sailors prepared to sail – but the anchor wouldn't budge. They tried and tried, but still, the anchor remained firmly in place and the galley couldn't move.

Thinking about what he had done, the sailor started getting worried that this was a sign from God. So he disembarked and returned to the church with the stolen altar cloth, and wham!, the anchor lifted easily and off they went!

THE GHOSTS OF TAL-GHONQ

In the middle of the older part of Victoria, there was a tiny shop where a cobbler worked every day. Amongst all his tools, he kept an old chocolate tin with a tiny opening on top, enough for his customers to drop in loose change. To encourage his customers to donate, he glued a picture of souls in purgatory,

with several people engulfed in flames from the waist down. He used the small change he collected to buy candles which he placed in front of the cemetery at tal-Ghonq.

One day, as he was walking back home from his usual trip to the cemetery, he felt unwell and collapsed. Suddenly, he saw a procession of people dressed in white coming towards him. As they got closer, they smiled at him and lifted him. Next thing he knows, he finds himself stretching out on his sofa at home! Looks like the ghosts he lit candles to landed him a helping hand when he needed it!

These Malta ghost stories have been adapted from Malta: A Second Collection of Tales and Narratives by Robert Attard and Forty Legends from Gozo by Joseph Bezzina.

Malta, with its sun-soaked shores and ancient history, is a place where legend and reality intertwine. Beyond its famous landmarks and stunning scenery lies a world of mystery and intrigue. The island's history is filled with tales of the supernatural, ancient secrets, and long-lost treasures. Are you ready to dive into the mysteries of Malta? Let's explore some of the most fascinating legends that have captivated locals and visitors alike for centuries.

THE LEGEND OF CALYPSO'S CAVE: A HOMERIC TALE



One of Malta's most famous legends is tied to Homer's epic *The Odyssey*. According to local lore, the island of Gozo, Malta's sister island, is home to Calypso's Cave, where the nymph Calypso is said to have imprisoned the Greek hero Odysseus for seven years. Located near Ramla Bay, this cave overlooks the stunning red sands and azure waters of the Mediterranean.

Standing at the cave's entrance, you can almost imagine Odysseus longing for his return home as Calypso tried to keep him on the island forever. While there's no definitive

proof that Gozo is the mythical Ogygia from Homer's tale, this legend adds a layer of enchantment to an already breathtaking landscape.

THE WITCH OF ŻURRIEQ: A CURSED FISHERMAN

Żurrieq, a quaint village in southern Malta, holds a chilling legend about a cursed fisherman. The story goes that a local fisherman fell in love with a beautiful woman who, unbeknownst to him, was a witch. After rejecting her advances, she cast a spell that condemned him to a life of misfortune. The fisherman's luck turned overnight—his boat sank, his family suffered, and he lived in misery for the rest of his days.

Even today, some locals believe that certain parts of Żurrieq are cursed, and stories of strange occurrences continue to circulate. Whether you're brave enough to visit the village or prefer to hear the tale from a safe distance, this legend adds a mystical dimension to the area's charming streets.

THE HIDDEN TREASURE OF ST. PAUL'S ISLAND

St. Paul's Island, located just off the northern coast of Malta, is steeped in biblical lore. According to the *Acts of the Apostles*, it is here that St. Paul was shipwrecked on his way to Rome, an event that marked the beginning of Christianity in Malta. But beyond its religious significance, the island is also the subject of a legend involving hidden treasure.

It's said that during the time of the Knights of St. John, a treasure of gold and relics was buried on the island to protect it from invading forces. Over the years, treasure hunters have searched the island's rocky terrain, hoping to uncover the lost riches. While no treasure has been found to date, the legend continues to inspire explorers and dreamers alike.

THE SILENT CITY OF MDINA: GHOSTS AND KNIGHTS



Mdina, known as the Silent City, is shrouded in mystery. This ancient walled city, with its narrow streets and medieval architecture, is said to be haunted by the spirits of knights and noble families who once lived there. By day, Mdina is a peaceful, almost serene place to explore. But by night, the atmosphere changes—many claim to have seen shadowy figures or heard the soft clink of armor from a bygone era.

One of the most enduring legends is that of a headless woman said to roam the streets, searching for her lost lover. Whether you believe in ghosts or not, Mdina's haunting beauty and stillness will transport you back in time, and it's easy to understand why the city has sparked so many eerie tales.

THE LEGEND OF GĦAR DALAM: A PREHISTORIC ENIGMA

Għar Dalam, meaning "Cave of Darkness," is a fascinating prehistoric site in Malta, but it also carries its share of mysteries. This cave, filled with ancient fossils and bones, was once home to Malta's earliest inhabitants. However, local legends suggest that it was also a hiding place for giants and strange creatures long before humans set foot on the island.

The cave's eerie atmosphere and the discovery of massive animal bones have fueled the belief that something otherworldly once roamed Malta. Whether it's the result of ancient folklore or scientific curiosity, the legend of Għar Dalam continues to captivate visitors, making it one of the island's most intriguing spots.

EMBRACE THE MYSTERIES OF MALTA



Malta's legends are more than just stories—they are an integral part of the island's cultural heritage, passed down through generations. Whether you're exploring ancient caves, wandering the silent streets of Mdina, or standing at the edge of Calypso's Cave, these legends add depth and intrigue to your experience of Malta.

As you uncover the island's mysteries, you'll feel a connection to the past and a sense of wonder that will stay with you long after your journey ends. So, are you ready to unveil the secrets of Malta? The island's

legends are waiting to be discovered.

THE CURSED FORT OF MANOEL ISLAND

In the heart of Marsamxett Harbour lies Manoel Island, home to the imposing Fort Manoel. Built by the Knights of St. John in the 18th century, the fort has a dark past that has given rise to several legends. One of the most famous stories is that of the "Black Knight," a ghostly figure said to patrol the fort's grounds. According to legend, the knight was a warrior who was murdered under mysterious circumstances, and his spirit now guards the fort.

Visitors have reported strange sightings and inexplicable occurrences within the fort's walls. Whether it's just the power of suggestion or something more supernatural, Manoel Island's haunted reputation makes it a must-visit for anyone interested in Malta's darker history.



Joseph Calleja with 'Il Volo' at an unforgettable Christmas concert

[Damian Micallef](#)

Malta will be hosting a Christmas Concert featuring world-renowned Maltese Tenor Joseph Calleja and Italian opera's pop trio 'Il Volo' on 20 December. The concert, which follows last year's Christmas concert with Andrea Bocelli, promises to raise the spirit of the season by offering a mix of classical and contemporary operatic excellence. 'Il Volo', composed of Gianluca Ginoble, Piero Barone, and Ignazio Boschetto, are celebrities globally for their strong vocal synergy and will join Joseph Calleja in a rare collaboration.

The concert is being organised by a greatt with the support of VisitMalta, the Ministry for Tourism,

and Bank of Valletta. Tickets for the exclusive event will be available on 19 October from 10am on showshappening.com. Music enthusiasts are encouraged to book early to ensure they don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Bank of Valletta plc, synonymous with the local arts and culture scene, is proud to be associated with this event and looks forward to welcoming visitors to experience what will surely be an unforgettable evening.

Joseph Calleja, one of the best tenors of the operatic of our time, has a career spanning two decades, earning accolades from audiences and critics around the world while the 'Il Volo' group, is one of the most famous Italian trios in the world, which this year is celebrating its 15th anniversary.



THE MALTESE PRESENCE IN NORTH AMERICA

E-NEWSLETTER



COMMUNITY OF CANADA BY DAN BROCK

Thanks to Ms. Denise Demicoli, the Consul General of Malta in Toronto, photos of the event appeared on Maltese National News. A

Mass of Thanksgiving was celebrated at St. Paul the Apostle Church, Toronto, the next day, followed by a reception in the Lower Hall. The Maltese Ambassador of Malta to the United States was among the dignitaries at the Club celebrations in Dearborn on the evening of Friday, September 20th.

The evening of the 21st saw the 2019 winner of Malta's version of The X Factor performing at the Club in San Francisco. On the previous day, Maltese American Friendship and Heritage Day was proclaimed at City Hall and the Maltese flag was raised.

While in town for the September 24th -30th gathering of world leaders at the United Nations, Malta's Prime Minister took the opportunity, on Saturday, September 28th, to pay a visit to the Maltese Center in Astoria, NY.

Meanwhile, the Melita Soccer Club of Toronto had held a Malta Day dinner party on Saturday, September 14th. New York City now has its first Consul General of Malta in the person of Ms. Denise Demicoli/

who had previously been the Consul General in Toronto. More in this in the October issue. Once again, on Saturday, September 28th, a pastizzi demonstration was conducted by Lisa Buttigieg-LiGreci at the Maltese American Community Cub in Dearborn. (See pages 28- 29.)

The Maltese community in the London, Ontario area continues to flourish. Owing to the kindness and efforts of Evelyn and Dennis Simmons of California, all issues and the latest “Table of Contents” are posted on the web page of the Maltese-American Social Club of San Francisco at <http://malteseamericanscsf.org/home.aspx>. Click on to “News & Resources.”

To receive this interesting and informative E_NEWSLETTER contact Dan - dbrock40@worldline.ca



 UNIVERSITY OF
CANBERRA

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA
Outgoing international exchanges

H.E. Mr Matt Skelly the High Commissioner for Australia in Malta is not only a proud Canberran but a proud graduate of the [University of Canberra](#). The [University of Malta's](#) (UM) latest student exchange agreement with an Australian University was signed with the University of Canberra (UC) in 2023, and we are excited that

UM has announced funded placements for three UM students to study at UC in 2025. Canberra, also known as the bush capital, is a safe, friendly city with plenty for students to do. If you are a UM student, consider applying!

<https://www.um.edu.mt/.../internation.../erasmus/erasmusicm/>

<https://www.um.edu.mt/international/outgoingexchanges/>

[International Office](#)

Outgoing international exchanges

As a registered UM student currently reading for an undergraduate degree programme (Level 6) you are eligible to participate in an International Exchange mobility at one of the UM Partner Universities. Generally, the duration of the exchange lasts one semester. Some scholarships may even last one academic year. In order to be eligible, you must have completed the first year of university for undergraduate study cycles and be not less than 18 years of age during the exchange period.

This year's call includes a new opportunity for UM students. Starting from 2025/6, three UM students will have the [OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CANBERRA](#) through an Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility agreement. All selected Erasmus+ ICM beneficiaries will receive an Erasmus+ grant through the International Office, which will partially cover the expenses incurred abroad.

If you are in your final year during this academic year 2024/25 you cannot apply for an exchange programme.

CONSTANTLY I RECEIVE EMAILS FROM ELDERLY MALTESE WHO FIND COMFORT AND CONNECTIVITY WHEN READING THIS JOURNAL IN THE HOMES OR AGED CARE FACILITIES. IT EASES THEIR LONELINESS AND BRING BACK HAPPY MEMORIES.



A PLAQUE IN HONOUR OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE GEORGE CROSS FALCONS COMMUNITY CENTRE OF CRINGILA – NSW

On Saturday 19 October the Cringila Centre held a ceremony open to the public unveiling a plaque recognising the President Mr. Louis Parnis work for the last 19 years.

The association committee invited numerous dignitaries for the special day as it reached a great milestone since the formation of the Association in 1951. The association in 2005 faced financial difficulties and there was a great possibility of closing down.

Mr. Parnis at the time was approached to help the foundation members save the association the only Maltese Building in the area on the South Coast in NSW. Louis was still employed and had to decide in the best interest of his family but in respect for his father-in-law, Mr. E. Bezzina, he accepted to help for a short period.

The task at hand was very difficult but Mr. Parnis applied his skills in accounting and management in finding a way in bringing the financial situation back on track. It was clear from the outset that big changes were necessary and Mr. Parnis recollection of that difficult time, when very little help was forwarded from the Maltese bodies affiliated with at the time.

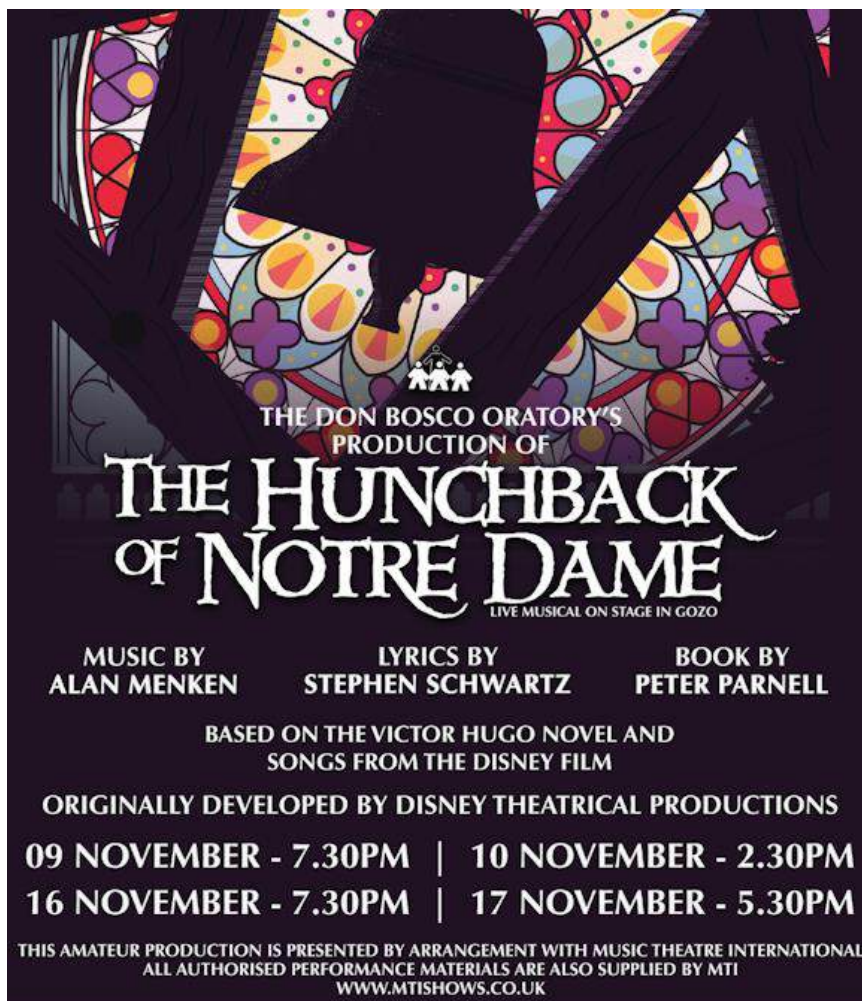
Nineteen years later the association is a front-runner as a Multicultural Centre in NSW with the support of the Local, State and Federal Governments and many benefactors who are very happy to support morally and financially and physically.

The afternoon ceremony started with a thank you speech by the president in welcoming all to the Cringila Centre. Lord Mayor Tania Brown (Wollongong Council) and Lord Mayor Chris Homer (Shellharbour Council) unveiled the plaque received with everyone clapping and well thanking him for the sacrifices he made over this long period of time.

Lunch was provided to all attendees and afterwards a concert was held by Christabelle Scerri who came over from Malta and James Cassar a well-known local entertainer.

The message in this wonderful story is that we must work together and support each other, as the last thing we want to see is the Maltese Community to disappear over time, and it is imperative in leaving a legacy for the next generation.





“THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME”

live musical on stage in Gozo

What makes a monster and what makes a man? This is the central theme of *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, a grand-scale musical from Disney Theatrical. Based on the 1996 Disney film and Victor Hugo’s 1831 novel, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* tells the story of Quasimodo, the hunchbacked bell-ringer of Notre Dame, and his desire to one day be part of the outside world. When he summons the courage to attend the Feast of Fools, he meets Esmeralda, a compassionate gypsy who protects him from an angry mob. But at the same time, Quasimodo’s master, the archdeacon Dom Claude Frollo, and the new captain of the guard, Phoebus de Martin, fall in love with the beautiful girl.

Adding to Quasimodo’s struggle is his punishment and derision from Frollo, following years of psychological abuse, and the danger posed by the gypsies, who are willing to kill any outsiders who venture into their secret hideout. But before Paris is burned to the ground, will Quasimodo be able to save Esmeralda from Frollo’s lust and anger? Will she return Quasimodo’s affection? Who is the true monster of Notre Dame?

This November the Don Bosco Oratory Theatre of Victoria will be staging for the first time in Malta the musical: **“THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME”**. This musical, with music by Alan Menken, lyrics by Stephen Schwartz, and book by James Lapine, is based on the 1996 Disney film “The Hunchback of Notre Dame”.

The stage production of the musical, originally named as *“Der Glöckner von Notre Dame”*, (literally translated in english: “The Bellringer of Notre Dame”) opened on [June 5, 1999](#), at the Musicaltheater Berlin (now Theater am Potsdamer Platz). After a successful run, it closed in June [2002](#). This was Disney’s first musical to premiere outside the US, and it became one of Berlin’s longest-running musicals to date. As with [Beauty and the Beast](#) and [The Lion King](#), *Der Glöckner Von Notre Dame* opened three years after the release of the movie it is based on. In April [2013](#), an English adaptation of *Der Glöckner von Notre Dame* by The King’s Academy Fine Arts Department was staged in [Florida](#), and later had a largely successful run in the US up till 2015.

Now thanks to the license and the relevant permits from *Music Theatre International* of London, as well as with the financial support of the Directorate of Cultural Heritage of the Ministry for Gozo and

the French Embassy in Malta, this same musical is being staged live in English at the fully-airconditioned theatre of the Don Bosco Oratory in Gozo, on the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of this same Theatre.

“THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME” musical is a 2 hour and 30 minutes show of enchanting music, songs and dancing, which together recount the emotional story of the Hunchback of Notre Dame as depicted by Victor Hugo. This show is coinciding as well with the completion of the restoration works of the iconic Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. Amongst the most popular songs of the musical we will hear *“The Bells of Notre Dame”*, *“Topsy Turvy”*, *“Out There”*, *“Rhythm of the Tambourine”*, *“God Help The Outcasts”* and *“Top of the World”*, as well as *“Hellfire”* and *“Esmeralda”*, together with many other beautiful melodies so much loved by musical theatre patrons. The best local artists will be taking part, together with some special guest artists from Malta. Ludwig Galea will be interpreting the main part of Quasimodo, whilst the young promising artist Krista Mercieca would be portraying the other main role of Esmeralda. Other characters are being interpreted by Andrew Buhagiar, Karl J. Buhagiar, George Camilleri, Louis Andrew Cassar, Fabian Galea, David Grech, Matthias Mercieca and Casey Sacco, together with a cast of about eighty other persons, including musicians, singers, choristers and dancers. The Musical Director Mark Gauci will be conducting the orchestra, whilst the choir director is Antonella Rapa. Artistic direction of the show is in the hands of Jamie Camilleri, whilst Mario Grech and Frances Zammit are in charge of the choreographic numbers. Scenography has been left in the hands of the young Paul M. Cassar together with a group of volunteers from the Don Bosco Oratory Theatre.

The opening night of **“THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME”** will be on Saturday 9th November at 7.30pm, with a repeat performance on Sunday 10th November at 2.30pm (*matinee show*). Then there will be two other performances, one on Saturday 16th November at 7.30pm, and a last performance on Sunday 17th November at 5.30pm. This musical is surely one of the most challenging musicals ever to be staged at the Don Bosco Oratory Theatre of Gozo.

Booking is now open. Tickets for **“THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME”** can be obtained from the Don Bosco Oratory of Gozo every day between 5.00pm and 6.00pm, or else by phoning on 21556616 or 99487751. Online booking is also available through the website theatre.donboscoGOZO.org or donboscoGOZO.org.



POLO

Team Coca Cola won the King of Sweden Cup when they earned the maximum points from the four chukkas they played. This team consisted of Greg Gera, Sarah Manduca, Simon Psaila and Matthew Borg.

Team Coca Cola defeated Team Finestral 5-2 and Team Stella Artois 3-2 in order to score maximum points from this competition that has been held for many years. Team Finestral was composed of

Jeremy Besancon, Bradlee Farrugia, Ivan Camilleri and Matthew Grech while Martin Arrigo, Chris Delia, Jean Vella and Luca Gatt Pace More formed Team Stella Artois.

The umpires of these six chukkas were Gaston Etcheberry and Mark Darmanin, with the third officer to be Philip Wismayer.

This competition was held with the support of EquestriMalta.

INTERCONTINENTAL ARCHAEOLOGY MELITE CIVITAS ROMANA PROJECT



Intercontinental Archaeology Melite Civitas Romana Project **DIG ROMAN MALTA** SEASON 4

The Melite Civitas Romana is looking for people interested in joining its excavation team for its fourth season in the only unexcavated land within the Island's ancient Roman town. This is an excellent opportunity to be part of a highly experienced, international team seeking to answer long-standing questions on Malta's Phoenician and Roman past.

Date of excavation:

June 9 - June 28 2025

Interested parties should contact
int.arch.malta@gmail.com

For any students/early researchers considering joining us in Malta next year, the British School at Rome has just opened the Simon Keay Award in Mediterranean Archaeology.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS IN ARCHAEOLOGY This award, established in 2021 in memory of Professor Simon Keay, is for research on any aspect of Roman archaeology in the Mediterranean. Applications are welcomed in research areas similar to (but not limited by) those of Professor Keay, including trade, ports, Portus, and ceramic studies. Applications are now open - apply by Dec 2!

<https://bsr.ac.uk/awards-residencies-humanities/>

https://bsr.ac.uk/.../2024/10/Simon_Keay_info_2025_6.pdf

Rob Writes

Hello Frank Always love reading the newsletter and was really happy to see a story from my colleague Andrew Wilkinson on Australia Hall.

We are just starting to plan for our June 2025

archaeological season in Rabat at the Domus Romana and I would be very happy to contribute to an upcoming newsletter.

The Melite Civitas Romana Project will start a 4th excavation season next year, its 7th year of operation. The project is a joint research venture between Intercontinental Archaeology (Australia), Heritage Malta and the University of South Florida (US).

Intercontinental Archaeology is an Australian not for profit company and puts together the majority of the volunteer workforce for the project. In most years more than 30% are Australian volunteers, many of whom have Maltese family backgrounds. Other volunteers come from around the world and a number are also local Maltese residents. We were proud that our 2024 season saw our first Indigenous archaeological student as part of the team. Fiona Veld-Brown, our volunteer coordinator and IA Director, is of Maltese background and currently working through the processes of applying for her Maltese citizenship. Her parents are from Hamrun and St. Julians emigrating to Australia in the 1960's.

With the next 3-year MOU being signed next year with Heritage Malta I am keen to be more visible to the Australian Maltese community. The Maltese government and the Australian High Commissioner in Malta love that the project is bringing Malta and the wider Maltese diaspora in

Australia closer together. I am hoping that with visibility I might also be able to generate some funding opportunities that will help us achieve two goals; a scholarship position for an Australian student of Maltese background on the project and secondly, to raise some additional funds that will assist the project with testing of archaeological material and publication of results.

Kind regards **Rob Brown Intercontinental Archaeology Melite Civitas Romana Project**



3 days... the *Cats of Malta* PBS premiere is close!

Hello friends,

Our PBS premiere is looming...there are only 3 days until October 26th when *Cats of Malta* airs across homes in the US. Just in time for National Cat Day 2024!

Can you believe we got here? Team *Cats of Malta* can, as we have worked on making this happen for two years. so this was well worth the wait. The program is proudly sponsored by

Visit Malta US.

Air times will be posted here as exclusive updates when we have them and also across the *Cats of Malta* social media:

Instagram: @CatsofMaltaFilm Facebook: @CatsofMaltaFilm Twitter: @CatsofMaltaDoco

You can also **check for airdates on your local PBS station's broadcast TV schedule through the PBS app or www.PBS.org.**

American friends, if you do catch the film airing in your state, take a picture and email us at sj@catsofmaltafilm.com and we will share and tag you!

And of course, **share this news around, let's get *Cats of Malta*'s PBS broadcast seen by more people and raise the viewership numbers.**

There is more good news for the film to come, but let's celebrate one win at a time for now and savour this moment together. Until next update, stay pawsome and love cats,

Sarah Jayne & Ivan Malekin

Cats of Malta the Movie

WATCH ON CATS OF MALTA WORLDWIDE:

[Stream Cats of Malta](#)

IF YOU HAVE WATCHED *CATS OF MALTA*, we kindly remind you to **please leave a Rotten Tomatoes, IMDB or LetterBoxd review** (even just a few stars helps too).

Verified reviews on Amazon, make a huge difference.

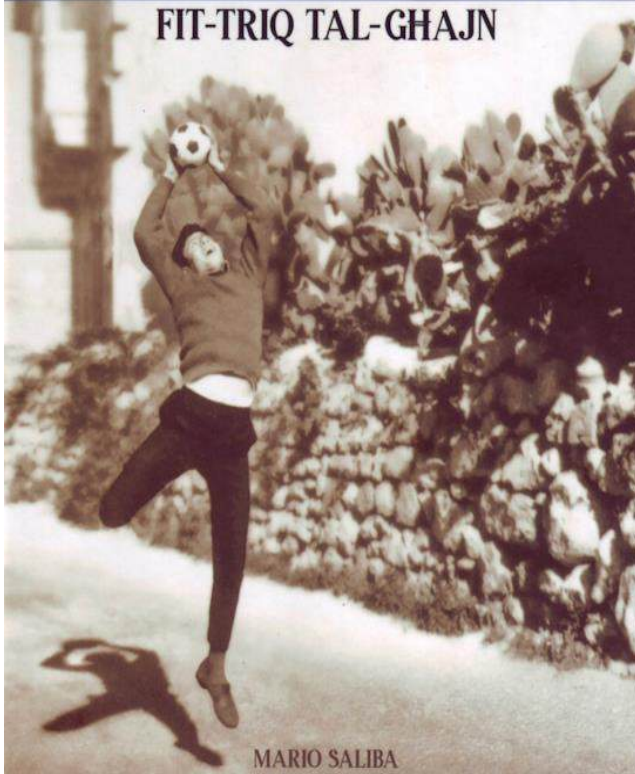
Leaving a review assists us in getting *Cats of Malta* seen by more people, and to rise in the rankings so more people know the film exists. You may need to sign up for an account before reviewing on these platforms.

Review on Rotten Tomatoes: <https://bit.ly/48ETqX4>

Review on IMDB: <https://imdb.to/3LMQJjw>

Review on Letterboxd: <https://letterboxd.com/film/cats-of-malta/>

MILL-ALBUM TA' TFULITI FIT-TRIQ TAL-GHAJN



Dawn il-granet giet f'idejja din il-pubblikazzjoni li ħarġet mill-pinna tat-Tabib Mario Saliba li twieled il-Fontana Għawdex fl-1956 iżda issa ilu residenti fin-Nadur għal dawn l-aħħar 40 sena. Studja fil-Liceo t'Għawdex u fl-Universita' ta' Malta mnejn laħaq tabib fl-1982 u ftit taż-żmien wara għamel taħriġ Post Graduate fil-Mediċina Iperbarika ġewwa Aberdeen fl-Iskozja. Fl-2009 temm Masters fil-Mediċina tal-Familja fl-Universita' ta' Malta. Huwa ħadem għal numru ta' snin fil-Mediċina tal-Kommunita' fis-Servizz tas-Saħħa Primarja u bħala Tabib tal-Familja għal dawn l-aħħar 40 sena. Huwa Fellow tal-European College of Baromedicine u mill-2013 kien responsabbli mill-Kamra Iperbarika tal-Isptar Ġenerali t'Għawdex. F'Jannar 2021 irtira mis-servizz bħala Konsulent fil-Mediċina Iperbarika. Minbarra r-riċerka tiegħu f'dan il-qasam, it-Tabib Saliba għamel riċerka dwar l-istorja tal-Mediċina u kiteb numru kbir ta' artikli f'diversi rivisti u perjodiċi dwar temi soċjali, kulturali, storja soċjali tal-mediċina u saħħa. Fl-

2004 huwa kiteb ktejjeb bil-kollaborazzjoni tal-Kunsill Lokali dwar sitt mixjiet fin-Nadur li kien reġa ġie stampat ftit wara. Għamel ukoll riċerka dwar l-Influenza Spanjola u l-ħajja soċjali f'Għawdex fin-Nadur fi żmien l-Arcipriet Dun Martin Camilleri li huwa ħareġ fi ktieb bl-isem ta' 'Ħajja u Mewt. Issa mill-pinna ta' dan il-Membru tal-Akkademja tal-Malti għandna din il-ġabra ta' rakkonti u grajjiet mill-perspettiva ta' żagħżuġh li għex it-tfulija u ż-żgħożija tiegħu fil-Fontana, fl-ewwel deċennji tal-aħħar nofs tas-seklu għoxrin. Memorji li jirriflettu wkoll l-iżvilupp soċjo-kulturali mportanti, li għaddiet minnu l-Fontana flimkien mal-kumpliment tal-gżira t'Għawdex f'dawk iż-żmenijiet. Il-perspettiva reġjonali toħroġ ukoll bħala sfond f'diversi partijiet ta' dan ix-xogħol awtobijografiku.

Huwa xogħol li fih jispikkaw diversi elementi, li ħafna minnhom għadhom ukoll ħajjin fil-memorja ta' ħafna Fontanin li għadhom jgħixu fil-Fontana sal-ġurnata tallum. Żgur li ħafna minn dawn in-nies, meta jaqraw dan il-ktieb, se jpoġġu lilhom infushom fl-istess sigġu tal-awtur u jmorru lura fis-snin bi ħsebjiethom bħalma għamel it-tabib Mario Saliba.

L-awtur jistqarr li f'dal-ktieb huwa qed jirrakkonta l-esperjenzi tiegħu, il-memorji tiegħu ta' tfulitu u l-ħsebjiet personali tiegħu. Huma affarijiet sempliċi li juru s-sinċerita u l-kontentizza tal-ħajja ta' dak iż-żmien. Dak li kien iħoss meta kien għadu żgħir, u li ma kellux il-kuraġġ li jesprimeh inkella jiddefendi lilu nnifsu minn xi sitwazzjonijiet li kien għaddej minnhom. Illum li l-awtur kiber u kiseb l-esperjenza tal-ħajja, jista' jgħid dak kollu li jħoss mingħajr biza. Dawn huma t-tifkriet ta' ħwejjeg żgħar ta' kuljum imma iżjed sinjikkattivi minn dawk kbar. L-għan ieħor huwa li l-istorja ma tintesiex

Dan l-aspett nostalgiku flimkien mat-testimonjanza diretta ta' żagħżuġh, li ġej minn lokalalita' żgħira fi gżira żgħira, li minkejja l-isfidi kollha rnexxielu jkompli bl-istudji tiegħu u jiggradwa b'mod eċċellenti (jien niftakru fuq il-bankijiet tal-Liceo fejn kont ngħallem), huma lkoll fatturi interessanti li għandhom ukoll jispiraw qarreja iktar żgħar fl-eta'.



Il-ktieb huwa sponsorjat mill-Kunsill Lokali tal-Fontana li ħass li jkun floku li jilqa' t-talba tal-awtur biex joħroġ l-ispejjes kollha tal-pubblikazzjoni. Dan anke fl-ambitu tal-politika li jhaddan bħala Kunsill li hija mmirata wkoll biex tikkonserva u tippromwovi l-wirt kulturali intangibbli tal-lokalita' tal-Fontana. Bla ebda dubju f'dan ix-xogħol jispikkaw aspetti storiċi, soċjali u reliġjużi intrinziċi li huma magħġuna fl-istorja tal-Fontana. Jiena naħseb li l-appoġġ li qed jagħti l-Kunsill lil dan ix-xogħol huwa ħolqa oħra f'katina ta' inizjattivi

biex kemm jista' jkun jinżammu ħajja l-karatteristiċi ewlenin li jagħtu identita' partikulari lil dan ir-raġal pittoresk u l-inħawi rurali tiegħu li matul iż-żmien kiber bħal subborg tal-Belt Victoria.

Jalla dan il-ktieb iservi, fi kliem l-ex Sindku Salvu Borġ, bħal mezz validu li permezz tiegħu il-wirt kulturali u storiku tal-lokalita' tal-Fontana, ikun jista' jitgawda kemm mill-ġenerazzjonijiet tal-preżent kif ukoll minn dawk tal-futur.

Il-ktieb għandu disinn tal-qoxra u restawr diġitali ta' Paul Falzon u stampat għand il-Gutenberg press Ltd ta' Ħal Tarxien.

Kav Joe M Attard Rabat - Ghawdex

PUNIC BURIAL COMPLEX FOUND DURING CAR PARK WORKS AT MATER DEI HOSPITAL



Human remains, cremation urns, and other funerary artefacts found in three rock-cut chambers.

it was reported in the Times of Malta (22/10/2024) that a tomb complex was found during works for a new car park near Mater Dei Hospital.

A Punic tomb complex dating back approximately 2,300 years has been found during works on a car park for staff opposite Mater Dei Hospital, the Foundation for Medical Services and the

Superintendence of Cultural Heritage said.

The discovery was made during trenching works for potable water installation, which is part of the road formation associated with the project. The superintendence has been overseeing the site.

The foundation, which is responsible for the works, said the discovery included three rock-hewn burial chambers, each accessed through a central shaft, characteristic of Punic and Roman period tombs. The entrance to each chamber was sealed with original slabs, and the contents inside included human remains and burial tools.

Human remains and burial items found near Mater Dei Hospital.

A team of experts, including archaeologists and osteologists, has been working on site to excavate, document, and interpret the remains, some of which have been transferred to the laboratory of the superintendence for further analysis.

"The findings, which include skeletal remains, cremation urns, and other funerary artefacts, provide a valuable insight into the ancient community that once inhabited the region. Preliminary analysis indicates a Punic timeline, although some artefacts suggest an extended period of use into the early Roman era," the foundation said.

Efforts are already underway to ensure the tomb is retained in its entirety, with plans for permanent controlled access to allow for further study and preservation.

The car park will accommodate over 130 vehicles.



PINK OCTOBER

by Mary Gauci
Happy Parenting October 2024
Malta

October really makes me think
about the beautiful colour pink
We need to alleviate sorrow
for a prosperous tomorrow
But what can we do to assist?
Cries for help we cannot resist.

Better than cure is prevention
To our health we give attention.
Early detection is vital
Look for any sign or signal
Therapy is needed at times
So painful to compose these lines

Yet if diagnosed there's more pain
Seek help you will find health again
Let's support as best as we can
Make patients feel better again
Be patient, listen, do your best
And God will surely do the rest

europadonnamalta.org.
mt/
**EUROPA DONNA
MALTA**

Europa Donna Malta was set up to bring about an awareness of breast cancer and the importance of breast care in Malta. It was started by three ladies back in 1987 as the Mastectomy Support Group but was renamed the Breast Care Support Group (BCSG) in 1989 to include anyone affected by breast cancer in any way. In 2004 the group was affiliated with Europa Donna, the European Breast Cancer coalition, which advocates for optimal breast cancer treatment for all women in the European Union. Now there are 46 countries affiliated with Europa Donna.

AWARD WINNERS FOR 2024 ANNOUNCED

by [Gozo News](#)



Minister for Health and Active Ageing Jo Etienne Abela and Parliamentary Secretary for Active Ageing Malcolm Paul Agius Galea host the 'Premju Anzjanità Attiva' Awards Ceremony under the distinguished patronage of the President of Malta Myriam Spiteri Debono

The Active Ageing Award 2024 has been celebrated with a ceremony that recognised the commitment, dedication, and contribution of individuals and organisations that do extensive work in favour of Active Ageing.

This annual activity under the patronage of the President of Malta was part of the October celebrations – the month dedicated to the elderly.

Minister for Health and Active Ageing Jo Etienne Abela, and the Parliamentary Paul Agius Galea attended the ceremony.

In their addresses, they praised the tireless work of all those involved so that the quality of life of the elderly continues to be improved, while also emphasising the importance of the elderly being respected and given the opportunity to form an integral part of the community.

In her message, which was read out by the Minister, President Myriam Spiteri Debono, said that Maltese society should feel grateful, and above all, duty bound to recognise the elderly as its pillar of society. "We need to appreciate the dedication and active commitment of those elderly people among us who, dedicate part of their time and mental and physical energy to the rest of society."

During the event, the winners were announced in six distinct categories. This year, the selection board also received applications from entities and groups that, with their projects, promoted Active Ageing in areas such as technology, intergenerational solidarity, and sport.

The winners are:

- **Active Ageing Award: Joseph Mallia**
- **Innovation and Technology Award: Emanuel Pace**
- **Elderly Cultural Award: Karmenu Mallia**
- **Elderly Sport Award: Joe Bajada**
- **Elderly Voluntary Award: Doris Zammit**
- **Intergenerational Solidarity Award: Mellieha Home: Janet Farrugia and Josef Zahra Cutajar.**

Photo: DOI/Clifton Fenech

THIS SPACE COULD BE YOURS AND REACH THOUSANDS OF MALTESE AROUND THE WORLD



Meet Stephanie Borg

artist and
surface pattern
designer

My name is Stephanie Borg, and I am a local artist and surface pattern designer based in Rabat, Malta. My contemporary lifestyle brand, Stephanie Borg®, celebrates cultural heritage through vibrant patterns, intricate illustrations and unique pieces, each of which tell a story:

www.stephanieborg.com

I am writing to explore potential opportunities for collaboration with the Maltese High Commission and the various Consulates in Australia. Given the rich cultural heritage and shared connections between Malta and Australia, I believe there is great potential for collaboration.

Allow me to suggest possible ways of collaboration how my Malta-inspired work can reach the Maltese community in Australia:

Exhibitions and Collaborations: Organise an exhibition in collaboration with local galleries or cultural institutions that can also attract attention from the Maltese community in Australia. In the short-term, consider virtual exhibitions and Studio tours to engage a wider audience.

Social Media: Utilise platforms like Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn and TikTok targeting the Maltese community in Australia, highlighting the brand's various collections whilst also promoting the Online Shop that ships worldwide.

Partnerships with Australian-Maltese Organisations: Collaborate with organisations representing the Maltese community in Australia for joint events or presentations to raise awareness of the brand.

Influencer Collaborations: Partner with influencers in Australia who resonate with my work to promote the brand to their audiences.

Feature in Australian-Maltese Media: Reach out to newspapers, magazines, and online platforms catering to the Maltese community in Australia for potential features or interviews.

Newsletter: With your assistance, reach the Maltese-Australian community via our monthly newsletters where we update subscribers on new work, news, and events.

Corporate Gifting: We can curate a specific and unique gifting guide that adheres to your budget and any specific requirements.

Tokens during events: Tokens of appreciation that can be distributed at events celebrating Maltese culture.

NWAR Tablescape Rental: Our award-winning NWAR Blue Blossom Collection is available for sale but also for rent. This hand-painted dinnerware & vases collection complemented by premium stationery will add a touch of elegance and prestige to any lunch/dinner, afternoon tea or any other event you may be hosting.

<https://stephanieborg.com/nwar-tablescape-rental/>

Distribution in Australia: We are interested in exploring opportunities for exporting the Stephanie Borg® brand to Australia. Given the large Maltese community in Australia, we believe that our products would be well-received in the market. We are keen to discuss the possibility of finding a potential distributor to help facilitate this process. Any insights or connections you might have that could assist us in this endeavor would be greatly appreciated.

We would be honored to invite you to our Studio Boutique in Rabat, Malta, upon your next visit. This would be an opportunity for you to view the full collection of works and discuss potential collaboration strategies to promote Maltese art and culture in Australia. Moreover, we are keen to explore any

initiatives or projects supported by the High Commission that could align with this vision. We truly believe that together we can strengthen our cultural ties and promote mutual appreciation for our art and culture.

MEET STEPHANIE BORG

Stephanie Borg is a leading artist and surface pattern designer based in Malta. Her inspiration comes from the love for her home island, Malta – the nation of colour vibes and patterns seen all around the island from wrought iron to tile patterns, charming doors to iconic Luzzu boats and the all the vivid cultural activities.

Her passion for heritage preservation was the key trigger in setting fashionable trends for tile patterns, door and wrought iron designs. Today, after a journey of 11 years of hard her work, Stephanie brought back the focus on the beauty of Malta's heritage through her art and products. This has resulted into a trend that has caught the eye of young artists and designers who are now inspired by her efforts and work and following the lead on the trend!

“My own state of being always ——plays an important role in my choice of colour, medium and form. This awareness helps me keep redefining myself ~ casting off the old me in search of the new. That is why I don't like labelling my work, I find that limiting. Experiences, influences and thinking affect the working process of an artist, and these can bring unpredictable and exciting changes.”

Stephanie Borg® has so far created over 400 products which are enjoyed in beautiful homes and offices around the world. Available from her charming Studio Boutique in Rabat and from her online shop with worldwide delivery.



To send a small donation use the info below, Here are my bank details

Bank - Commonwealth Bank of Australia

BSB: 065-106 Account Number - 0050 2597

Name - Frank Scicluna