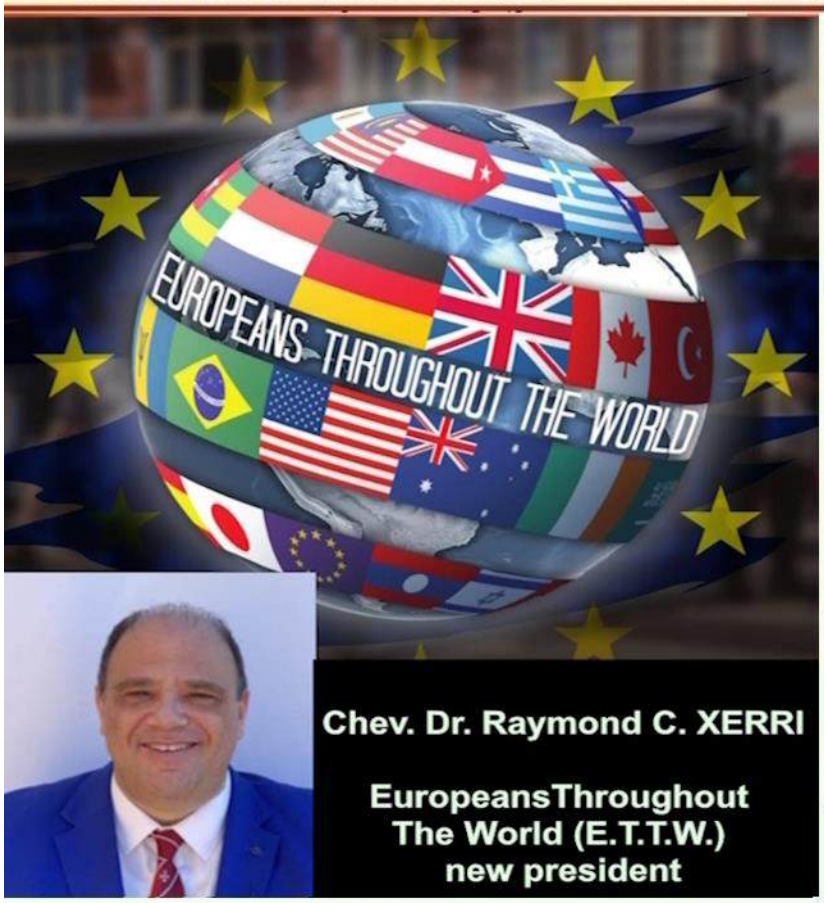
JOURNAL FOR MALTESE AROUND THE WORLD

MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

Editor: Frank Scicluna OAM MQR JP Email: maltesejournal@gmail.com



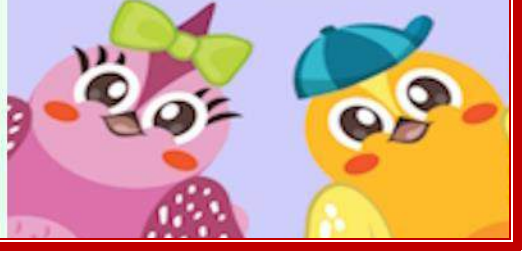
Chev. Dr. Raymond C. XERRI

EuropeansThroughout The World (E.T.T.W.) new president

We ♥ our Journal

The Perfect Finger Food

New APP
NINA U NINU



PRESS RELEASE - NEW E.T.T.W PRESIDENT

One of Europe's largest NGOs - EuropeansThroughout The World (E.T.T.W.) has electedanewpresident from the tiny MediterraneanislandofGozo, Malta

Chev. Dr. Raymond C. XERRI, K.H.S., Ph.D.(Australia), M.A.(Dip.St.)(Malta), D.D.S., E.U.Sch(E.U.Law)(F.R.G.), B.A.(Hons.)(U.S.A.), the only doctoral graduateandexpert in Maltese Diaspora from the islands of Gozo, Maltahasjust been unanimously elected as the next President of E.T.T.W. (2025-2029) by the General Assembly of EuropeanDiasporaorganizations and individual expert-members.

Elected for the second time as president, Chev. Dr. Xerri previously served in the same position between between2016and 2019 leaving a good mark on E.T.T.W. after rising uptheranksas one of the five vice-presidents between 2013-2016representing the *Council of the Maltese Living Abroad*

Thanks to the Maltese Journal we are aware of the establishment of the COUNCIL FOR MALTESE LIVING ABROAD. We now know the objectives and mission of the Council and the names of the delegates and which country they represent. From the reports we have received we know now about the sterling work our Council is doing. Recently, the minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon Ian Borg, who is the president of the Council, established regional committees to work hand in hand and assist the council. These Maltese citizens are representing us and serve as a link with Malta and the Government. We hope that the Council will keep us informed of all the proceedings and they make themselves available in case we need to consult them or discuss issues which impact the Maltese living abroad. We need to know how to contact them – so far only two sent us their profile and the point of contact – John Calleja (malta.anzacs@gmail.com) representing regional South Australia and Louis Parnis (louie.parnis@gmail.com) representing regional NSW. We invite the other members to provide us information about themselves and how they can be contacted.

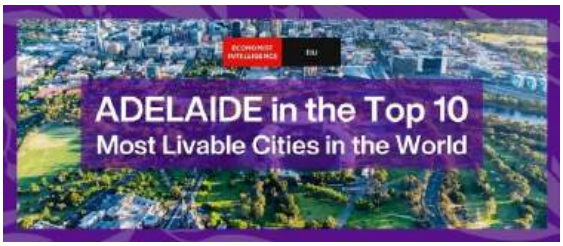
Miriam	**Friggieri**	**AUS-NSW**	**CMLA**
Antoine	**Mangion**	**AUS-NSW**	**CMLA**
Sydney	Borg	AUS-NSW	Regional
Lawrence	Gatt	AUS-NSW	Regional
Sandra	Grech	AUS-NSW	Regional
Louis	Parnis	AUS-NSW	Regional
Frank	Testa	AUS-NSW	Regional
Annemarie	Thind	AUS-NSW	Regional
Sandra	**Micallef**	**AUS-Rest of Australia**	CMLA
John	Calleja	AUS-Rest of Australia	Regional
Joe	Vella	AUS-Rest of Australia	Regional
Martin	Debono	AUS-Rest of Australia	Regional
Edgar	Agius	AUS-Rest of Australia	Regional
Amie	**Cardona**	**AUS-VIC**	**CMLA**
Judith	**Buhagiar**	**AUS-VIC**	**CMLA**
Elton	Cutajar	AUS-VIC	Regional
Andrew	Gatt	AUS-VIC	Regional
Ryan	Axiak	AUS-VIC	Regional
Declan	Mentzing	AUS-VIC	Regional

The Council for Maltese Living Abroad

We are here to help you

CONTACT US

ADELAIDE – THE BEAUTIFUL



Congratulations ADELAIDE! Yes, our beautiful city is ranked in the top 10 of most livable cities in the world.

The **Global Liveability Index** is a yearly assessment published by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), ranking 173 global cities for their quality of life based on assessments healthcare, education and infrastructure, stability, culture, and environment.

We are proud to be living in the top 10 most livable cities and we must acknowledge and thank everyone who contributed to this enviable position.

But more can be done. We shouldn't be complacent - we should look for new policies, opportunities and innovative ways to make our lives and livelihoods better, our community safer and our economy stronger.

Find out more **here**, or see the report by the **Economist Intelligence Unit**.

MaltaPost is commemorating Malta's Presidency of the Council of Europe with a special stamp issue. The stamp, featuring a €2.50 denomination and a logo designed by Shelly Borg, will be available for purchase. Malta is currently holding the Presidency of the Council of Europe until November 14th, presiding over the Committee of Ministers. Here's a more detailed breakdown:

Malta's Presidency: Malta is presiding over the Council of Europe, specifically the Committee of Ministers, until November 14th.

Special Stamp Issue: MaltaPost is issuing a new stamp to mark this occasion.

Stamp Design: The stamp will feature a €2.50 denomination and a logo created by Shelly Borg.

Other Commemorations: In 2017, the Central Bank of Malta and MaltaPost also collaborated on a numismatic product (a silver coin and stamp replica) to celebrate Malta's first Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

MaltaPost's Role: MaltaPost is the national postal operator and a major player in postal services in Malta. They handle mail delivery, philatelic items, bill payments, and more.

Philatelic Journey: MaltaPost also holds an exhibition called "Echoes of Malta, A Philatelic Journey" at the Malta Postal Museum.

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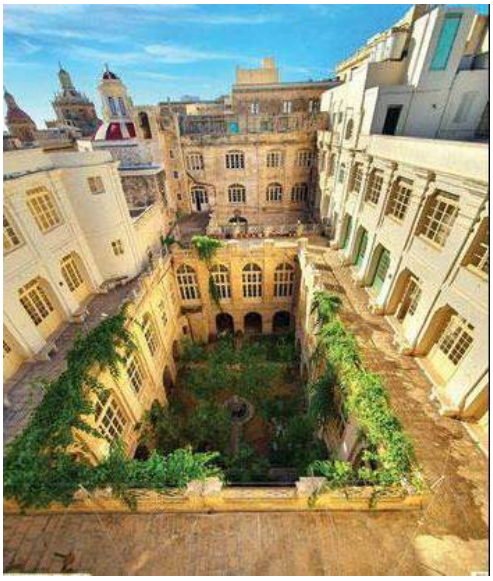
MYSTERIUM FIDEI MONASTERY & SECRET GARDEN



St Catherine's Monastery.

Hidden away in the heart of Valletta, Mysterium Fidei offers a unique experience within the walls of St Catherine's Monastery. The monastery has been closed to the public for 400 yrs and is, to this very day the home of the 'closed order' of Augustinian nuns.

The free audio tour, gives a fascinating insight into the humble life lived by the nuns over the centuries.When joining the order the nuns vowed never to leave the Monastery. You can experience how they lived a 'self sustainable' life which facilitated them never having to go out into the outside world. You can even visit the Crypt, their final resting place.Enjoy the serenity of the garden, escape the hustle and bustle of the busy Valletta streets and appreciate the beautiful architecture within the cloisters. See the old vines, once harvested to make wine, growing high up towards the sun at the top of the monastery. The sound of the water in the fountain is soothing and adds to the tranquility of the garden, a rare space in Valletta where gardens are not common place.The audio tour is available in eight languages and takes approximately 40 minutes to complete, you are then free to spend time in the garden and cloisters, soaking up the peaceful atmosphere within the walls of Mysterium Fidei. To access the tour you simply download our Wi-Fi and install the App 'Mysterium Fidei'. QR codes are strategically placed at 15 information points around the complex. Should you prefer not to download the audio tour, you can read the information boards which give an edited version of the history (are available in English).

Mysterium Fidei is a truly unique experience in the heart of Valletta. Located in St Christopher Street on the corner with Strait Street, you can find Mysterium Fidei on Google Maps. They are open 7 days a week :- Monday - Saturday from 0930am - 4.30pm last entry 4pm Sunday from 0930am to 4pm, last entry 3.30pm. Audio Tour available in Maltese, English, French, Italian, Spanish, German, Polish and Russian.

MALTESE QUEEN OF VICTORIES BAND OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC. (MQVB)

is holding its

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday the 27th of July 2025 at 2.00pm

at CHRIST THE KING - Parish Hall

456-458 HENLEY BEACH ROAD LOCKLEYS SA

I further notify you that completed Nomination Forms for the positions on the 2025/2026 MQVB Committee should be forwarded to the Returning Officer at the address below by the 13th of July 2025 to:

The Returning Officer - MQVB

5 Woodfield Drive Salisbury Downs SA 5108

All General Business items must be forwarded to the Secretary at the above address, in writing, and be received at least 14 days prior to the AGM. (closing date13th July 2025)

Marthese Kehoe MQVB Secretary **smarties843@gmail.co**

HAPPY 48TH ANNIVERSARY TO THE MALTESE OWN BAND PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA SISTER BAND OF THE MALTESE QUEEN OF VICTORIES BAND OF SA.

1MQVB Musical Director Cosimo Cavaiuolo conducting the Mass band consisting of the MOB and the MQVB at the Feast of St Paul's in Victoria in 1990

Those of us who were involved in our band between 1981 to approx. 2005 can remember the many friendships we made, over that period with the members of the Maltese Own Band (MOB). One can see from the MOB photographs below how big this band was when it was formed back in 1977. Since 1980, when they were just three years old, they have been making the trip to Adelade to help celebrate the feast of Our Lady Queen of Victories.

I can recall the MOB coming up with 95+ musicians one year. Imagine the Maltese Chaplaincy Group and our MQVB members back then, the work that went on working hand in hand e.g. waking up early on a Saturday morning to get to Lockleys, waiting for the MOB Coaches to arrive from Victoria who travelled 12 hours during the night. We waited for their phone calls to hear that they arrived safely, we waited to greet them, hug them, thank them, share many a story and a joke with them and of course feed them breakfast before they checked in at their school or Glen Osmond hotel accommodation.

One could imagine himself or herself being in a Maltese Village Festa. Some 140 musicians giving it their all. These were to continue for many years until the expense to bring the band to Adelaide started to be felt by both parties.

It was a sad day indeed when on the Monday morning after another successful festa weekend and after a cooked breakfast, we had to say farewell to our friends, the Committee and musicians of the Maltese Own band for the very last time coming to Adelaide for our Festa for 25 years.
We did get to see our sister band on many occasions when our band travelled to Victoria to perform at the Feasts of Our lady Queen of Victories, St. Paul, the Good Friday processions, Feast of the Risen Christ and at San Gaetanu.
Our Festa in Adelaide was never the same since those days, but we thank the organisers and the MOB for the great memories and the joy they gave the Maltese Community of South Australia that will live in our memories forever.
Congratulations to the Maltese Own band on your 48th Anniversary.
May Our Lady Queen of Victories protect and help you grow to continue playing music for many more years to come. *Ad Moltos Annos*.

We thank Raymon Grima – the Editor of the MQVB Newsletter for supplying this material to use in THE MALTESE JOURNAL

The Maltese Own Band Philharmonic Society of Victoria Inc

Maltese Own Band of Victoria in Adelaide for the feast of the Bambina near the St Raphael's Home for the aged

The Lockleys Driveway dressed up for the feast of the Bambina Our Lady of Victories

MALTA SALUTING BATTERY - VALLETTA

The Malta Saluting Battery dates back 500 years and is one of the oldest of its kind to still be operated. In addition to providing the vibrant spectacle of the gun firing for visitors, the Malta Saluting Battery is also a great place for views of the harbour which it has historically protected. The gun is fired daily at noon and 4pm.

Malta Saluting Battery history

The saluting battery is located high along Valletta's eastern historic ramparts and has spectacular views of the Grand Harbour and its surrounding fortified towns. Likely one of the oldest saluting battery still in operation in the world, it was built along with the city itself in 1566 by the Order of St. John on the design of the military engineer Franceso Laparelli.

The building of Valletta followed the end of the Great Siege of 1565. During that conflict, the full length of the Valletta promontory was easily overrun by the Ottomans who built several powerful siege batteries to keep the Knights of St. John and the Maltese contained within Fort St. Angelo and the walled towns of Vittoriosa and Senglea. The battery's time service dates back to 1824, when a similar service was the Royal Navy at Portsmouth. This indicated the exact hour at mid-day so that ship-masters could calibrate their ship clocks.

The noon-day gun service in Malta was provided from one of the guns at the Saluting Battery and went on, uninterrupted until November 1923 when its place was taken by the telegraphic signal sent out from the Greenwich Observatory. Throughout its long period of use, the Saluting Battery saw the full range of the principal artillery types that chart the historic evolution of artillery.

The battery was a key part of both World War One and World War Two in Malta and sustained serious damage during the Blitz. The battery was shut down in 1954 following 398 of uninterrupted service. It lay derelict for many years until the property was surrender to the civil government in 1965 which meant that the battery could be turned into a garden.

The battery was restored in 2004 and in 2011 new working cannon replicas were installed.

Malta Saluting Battery today

Today, the Saluting Battery is one of Malta's most vibrant visitor attractions and sees hundreds of thousands of visitors each year. There are guided tours available in multiple languages and Noon-day gun firings still occur.

Getting to Malta Saluting Battery

Follow the directional signs leading to the Saluting Battery starting from the main entrance into Valletta. These will take you along South Street onto Castille Place past the Auberge de Castille and to the Upper Barracca Gardens. The battery can be entered from both the Gardens and Battery Street adjacent to it.

MALTESE-LANGUAGE APP NINA U NINU MARKS SECOND ANNIVERSARY WITH NEW WORD GAMES FOR KIDS

Francesca Borg Bellanti's Magic Games Factory expands its flagship educational app to help children aged 2–8 build stronger Maltese language skills in an English-dominated digital world

Francesca Borg Bellanti's Magic Games Factory expands its flagship educational app to help children aged 2–8 build stronger Maltese language skills in an English-dominated digital world

One of Malta's few Maltese-language educational apps for children is celebrating its second anniversary with a major content update designed to boost kids' vocabulary and language skills in engaging ways.

Nina u Ninu, developed by ed-tech company Magic Games Factory, has become a trusted screen-time companion for parents seeking meaningful Maltese-language content for children aged 2 to 8. To mark the app's milestone, new features aimed at older children (5+) have been added, including a daily "Il-Kelma tal-lum" (Word of the Day) and an interactive spelling game called "Imla l-vojt" (Fill in the Blank).

"We're celebrating an important milestone with new content that underlines the success that Nina u Ninu has enjoyed over the past years," said Francesca Borg Bellanti, the founder and CEO of Magic Games Factory.

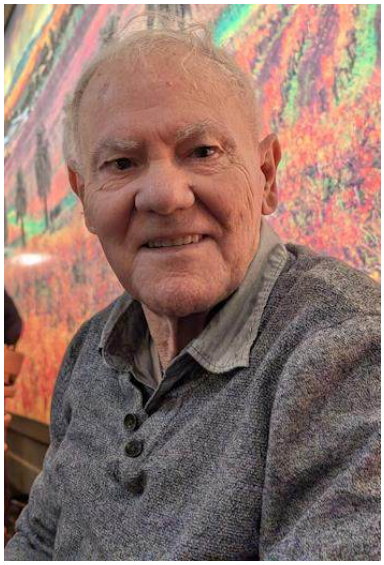
The ad-free app, available via the Apple App Store and Google Play, offers playful mini-games to support vocabulary, literacy, numeracy, and logic. Unlike many subscription-based children's platforms, Nina u Ninu charges a one-time fee.

Borg Bellanti, a parent and entrepreneur, launched the app after realising there was a significant lack of Maltese-language content available in the digital space. "Streaming platforms like Netflix offer easy language switches between English and Italian, but we lack high-quality, modern digital content in Maltese – a language that is central to our identity, and a fundamental requirement for educational attainment and job progression," she said.

Under her leadership, Magic Games Factory has grown into an independent studio made up of parents, educators, and creatives with a shared goal: to create educational experiences that are both child-friendly and culturally relevant.

In addition to Nina u Ninu, the company is also developing Parlini Land, another Maltese-language ed-tech product, as part of its mission to promote linguistic development through innovation and play.

SOME PEOPLE TOOK THEM A WHILE TO ACCEPT OUR JOURMAL BUT NOW THEY ENJOY IT – WE ARE RESILIENT AND WE BUILD BRIDGES NOT WALLS



WE SALUTE ONE OF OUR PIONEERS TOM BORG from Adelaide

Among the many pioneers of the Maltese community of Adelaide today we want to introduce to our readers of the Maltese Journal the ex-President of the Maltese Senior Citizens Association of South Australia Mr. Thomas Borg.

Tom, as he is well known by everyone, was born in Birkirkara, Malta. His is a sibling of 8, - 5 boys and 3 girls. He migrated to Australia in 1963, and he was one of the first migrants who made the journal to Australia on a Quantas plane.

He decided to emigrate because after a few years working at Marsa, Malta he ended up unemployed. He was sponsored by his friend Paul Delia of Adelaide. He joined him soon after. Tom lived all these years in the State of South Australia together with his wife and four children, John, Dean, David and Fiona.

As soon as he arrived in Adelaide, he managed to find job at the Royal Adelaide Hospital as a storeman where he held this employment for over 40 years.

We acknowledge Tom's vast contribution to the Maltese community, especially through his involvement in the Maltese Seniors Association.

Tom was always active within the Maltese community. He was member of several associations and participated in many functions and events organised the all the associations. He was secretary, treasurer and ended up as president of the Maltese Senior Citizens Association of South Australia. During his presidency the club organised successfully weekly luncheons for the Maltese elderly, Bingo and Carpet Bowling and organised Bus trips, Dinner Dances, and other functions such as Father's and Mother's Day, Easter and Christmas celebrations etc. He was, and still is, well loved and respected by his fellow Maltese members of the community Tom now is a resident of St. Raphaels Home for the Elderly, but he still attends the functions organised by the Maltese Seniors.

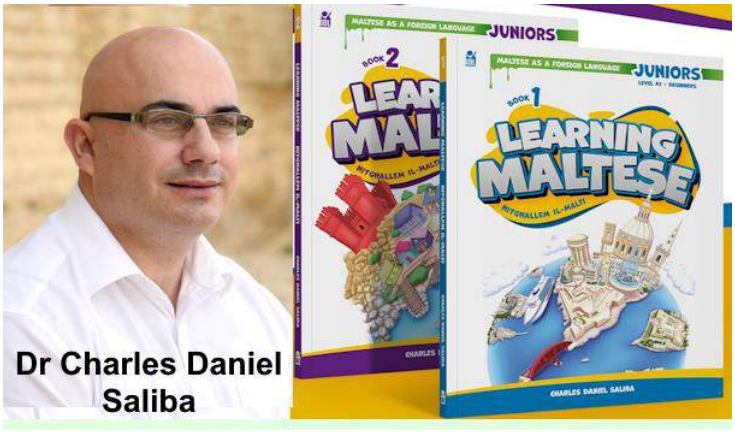
We wish Tom health, happiness and God's blessings for now and the future.

Beethoven and Scriabin

On Saturday, 26th July 2025, the Malta Philharmonic Orchestra presents a stirring programme of emotional depth and radiant artistry. Under the baton of Sergey Smbatyan, acclaimed violinist Ji Young Lim — winner of the Queen Elisabeth Competition — performs Beethoven's Violin Concerto in D major, a work of lyrical beauty and virtuosic elegance that has captivated audiences for generations.

The concert continues with Igor Stravinsky's Le Baiser de la Fée (The Fairy's Kiss), a ballet inspired by Hans Christian Andersen's tale The Ice-Maiden. This neoclassical gem weaves themes from Tchaikovsky's music into a dreamy homage to the Russian master. Closing the evening is Alexander Scriabin's Le Poème de l'Extase (The Poem of Ecstasy), a lush, rhapsodic symphonic poem that channels the composer's spiritual vision through vivid orchestration and rich harmonic language.

Gozitan Academic Delivers Lecture at 2025 LangVIEW Seminar



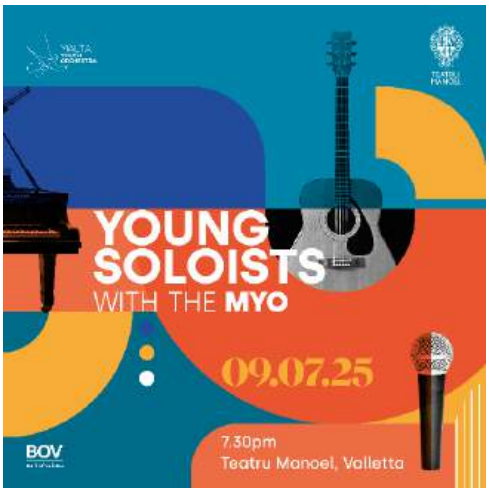
Dr Charles Daniel Saliba, senior lecturer at the Malta College of Arts, Science & Technology (MCAST), Gozo Campus, was recently invited to deliver a lecture as part of LangVIEW's 2025 seminar series, organised by Eleni Zimianiti, Yangchen Roy and Lilia Ben Mansour.

The Consortium on Language Variation in Input Environments around the World (LangVIEW) is an international network of scholars and professionals dedicated to studying how young children across diverse settings use the language input they receive at home and beyond to acquire their native and ambient languages. The consortium hosts monthly seminars covering a range of linguistic topics – from lexicon to phonology – with a focus on under-represented languages and cultural contexts.

In his talk, entitled 'Malta, its sociolinguistic landscape and the methodology behind the *Maltese as a Foreign Language for Juniors* Series', Dr Saliba explored several key themes: the characteristics of the Maltese Archipelago, the history and structure of the Maltese language, the current sociolinguistic context and its challenges and the pedagogical framework behind the Maltese as a Foreign Language for Juniors textbook series. He discussed how children's language behaviours and experiences directly informed the development of this methodology.

Reflecting on the experience, Dr Saliba said: 'It was an honour to take part in this seminar, which offered a valuable opportunity to engage with fellow scholars and professionals on the Maltese language, its sociolinguistic context and approaches to teaching Maltese as a foreign language to children. The continued academic interest in the Maltese language and culture motivates me to keep working towards greater international recognition of its unique character'.

For more information, visit: https://charlesdanielsaliba.com/events.html



YOUNG SOLOIST WITH MALTA YOUTH ORCHESTRA

In their final orchestral concert of the season, the Malta Youth Orchestra will showcase three talented young soloists: pianist Luke Muscat, soprano Gabrielle Portelli and guitarist Karol Aquilina, all under the direction of the orchestra's music director Michael Laus.

The concert opens with selections from Edvard Grieg's *Peer Gynt*, followed by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's *Rondo* for Piano, Heitor Villa-Lobos' *Guitar Concerto*, and a medley of operatic arias. The evening culminates with Benjamin Britten's *Soirées musicales*, bringing the season to a stylish close. Book your seats now! *Concessions on tickets for Senior Citizens and Full Time Students.*

DATE: Wednesday 9 July, 2025 TIME: 7:30 PM LOCATION: Teatru Manoel, Valletta Tickets are available from Teatru Manoel For more information on our events, kindly visit www.maltaorchestra.com

DELICATA CLASSIC WINE FESTIVAL 2025

Posted by Cellar Hand on Mar 6, 2025 in Events, The Winemaker's Journal

Wine lovers, mark your calendars!

The Delicata Winery is pleased to announce the 22nd annual Delicata Classic Wine Festival.

This 3-day weekend of great Maltese wines, delicious food and a star-studded line-up of local musical talent is planned to take place at the Upper Barrakka Gardens, Valletta, on 8, 9 and 10 August 2025.

The Delicata Classic Wine Festival is Malta's first and longest-running festival celebrating quality wines of Malta and the Maltese grape harvest. It attracts thousands of tourists and Maltese wine lovers alike with vinous and culinary flavours and experiences unique to the Maltese islands.

The winery's team, the many helpers, the entertainers, caterers, charity partners, suppliers, sponsors, and the Valletta community have been making this event the success that it is since the first festival took place in 2002.

Come sample award-winning Maltese wines and engage with a broad culinary community this summer and find out why the Delicata Classic Wine Festival is Malta's foremost wine celebration of the year. Save the date: 8, 9 and 10 August 2025, Valletta. Entrance is free.

Updates about the festival and advance glass and wine coin sales will be communicated via the Delicata website and the winery's Facebook page.

For more information AND UPDATES contact the Emmanuel Delicata Winery on 2182 5199 or via email on info@delicata.com. https://www.delicata.com/wine-festivals/

INNU LIL GHAWDEX

Insellmulek Ghawdex taghna,
Art sabiha, l-ohla gnien
Art hanina, art mahbuba
Art imbierka mill-holqien

Art tal-ghasel, tal-bizzilla,
Art l-eghejjel l-iktar bnini
Art tal-bdiewa, tal-bahhara
Art id-dghajjes tal-Latini

Fejn hemm wiehed minn uliedek
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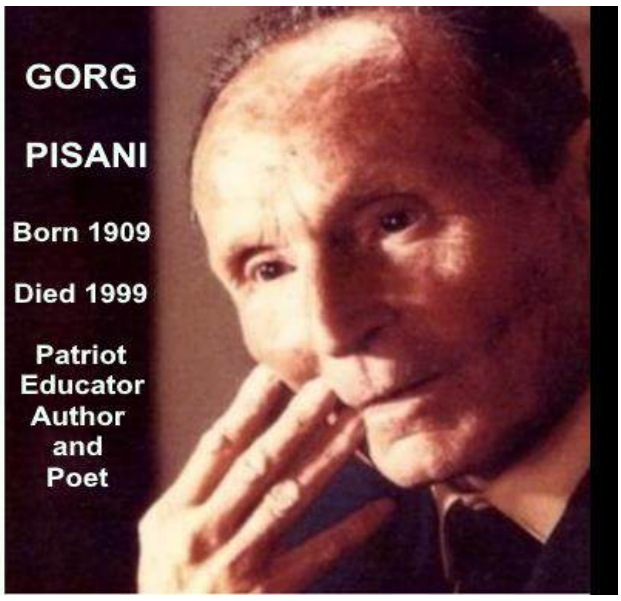
Tixghel kewkba kollha dija
Jiddi l-gmiel tat-Tliet Ghaljiet



THE MUSEUM OF THE ORDER OF ST JOHN HAS A COLLECTION OF MORE THAN 60,000 OBJECTS, RANGING FROM HISTORIC ARMS AND ARMOUR THROUGH TO MODERN FIRST AID EQUIPMENT.

Dating from 1528 or 1529, this cannon is the earliest known gun still in existence which is without a doubt British. It is adorned with the coat-of-arms of the Grandmaster of the Order of St John as well as that of Henry VIII showing that the King had it specially made for the Order. Since then it has spent time all over the Mediterranean – in Italy, Malta, Tripoli and Cyprus – and, after many years at the bottom of the sea, it has now found its way back to Britain and the Museum of the Order of St John.

For over 200 years, from the early fourteenth century, the island of Rhodes in the Mediterranean was the home of the Order of St John and the location of its hospital. However, on 18 December 1522 the Grand Master of the Order, Philippe de l'Isle Adam, finally surrendered to Ottoman forces under the command of Suleiman the Magnificient. Two weeks later, on 1 January, he was allowed to sail out of Rhodes harbour with the honours of war, along with the surviving members of the Order and those islanders who chose to accompany him.

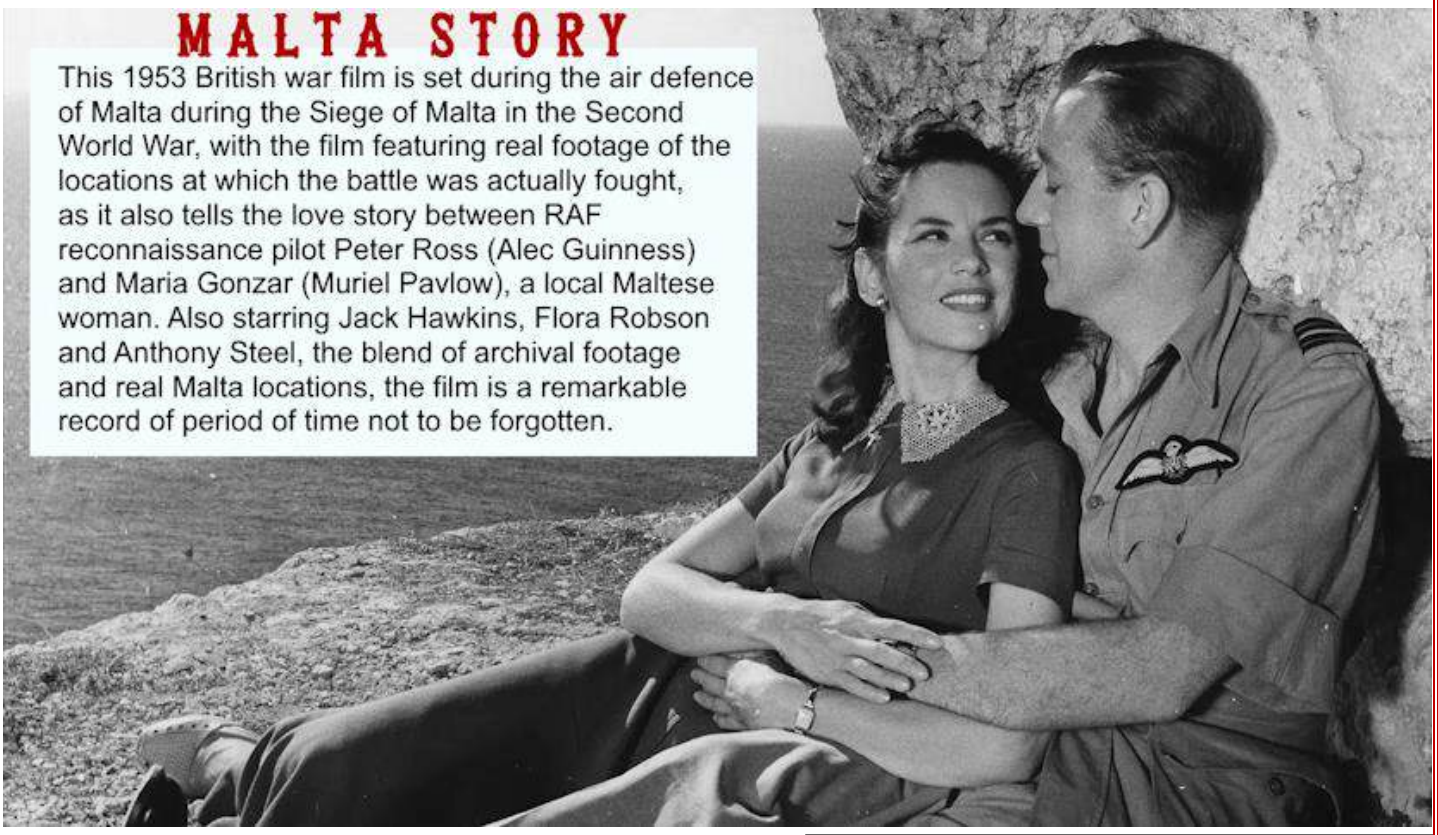
For some years afterwards the Hospitallers – as the Knights of the Order of St John were also known – were without a home. During this period Philippe de l'Isle Adam came to England to raise support for the order. In 1528 he met the then king, Henry VIII, who promised him 20,000 ducats (ducats being the trade coin used in Europe at time) towards an expedition for the recovery of Rhodes. In the end, this gift took the form of nineteen bronze cannons, of which this is one, as well as 1,023 cannon balls. The cannons could fire cannon balls of 4lb. in weight up to three-quarters of a mile, with a point-blank range of 250 yards

Henry VIII had set up Britain's armament industry by importing foreign gunfounders, including Francis Arcana who arrived from Italy in around 1523. It is believed that it was Francis Arcana who made the nineteen cannons for the Order in 1528 or '29 in the family foundry near the present Blackfriars Bridge. It is because Britain's armament industry was so new at the time, that this cannon comes to be the oldest known surviving example of a British gun.

On 23 March 1530, the Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire, Charles V, granted the Order of St John sovereignty of the islands of Malta and Gozo and the North African city of Tripoli. There was no longer the same need to recapture Rhodes and so Brother John Sutton, one of the Knights of St John, brought the cannons to the Order's new home of Malta, travelling via Syracuse in Italy. Later the Order took the cannons to their other new home, Tripoli, but, in 1551, after six days of fighting, Ottoman forces captured Tripoli from the Knights and seized the cannons. The Ottoman forces took some of the cannons, including this one, to Cyprus, where they used them in the Siege of Famagusta. Before the siege, Famagusta had been the last city in Cyprus under Christian control, but the siege resulted in the Ottoman forces taking it in 1571. The cannons were lost.

Over three hundred years later, in around 1906, a sponge-diver happened to find this cannon, half buried in sand and mud, under the sea in Famagusta harbour. It was dredged up and placed outside Government House in Nicosia, the home of the British Governor of Cyprus. In 1960, when Cyprus gained its independence from Britain, the cannon was presented by the last British Governor to the Order of St John in Clerkenwell. For many years it was in the Cloister Garden, and it is now on display in the Museum's Order Gallery, not far from where it was made nearly five-hundred years ago in Francis Arcana's foundry.

MALTA STORY



This 1953 British war film is set during the air defence of Malta during the Siege of Malta in the Second World War, with the film featuring real footage of the locations at which the battle was actually fought, as it also tells the love story between RAF reconnaissance pilot Peter Ross (Alec Guinness) and Maria Gonzar (Muriel Pavlow), a local Maltese woman. Also starring Jack Hawkins, Flora Robson and Anthony Steel, the blend of archival footage and real Malta locations, the film is a remarkable record of period of time not to be forgotten.

SCHOLA CANTORUM TRICHIANENSIS

An Italian Choir from the locality of Trichiana, Provence of Belluno ~ Region of Veneto.

in concert

Thursday 26 June 2025 ~19.30hrs
St. Paul's Parish Church ~ MUNXAR GOZO

Friday 27 June 2025 ~19.30hrs
St. Paul's Parish Church ~ HAL-SAFI

Saturday 28 June 2025 ~20.00hrs
St Augustine Parish Church ~ VALLETTA

Sunday 29 June 2025 ~19.30hrs
Annunciation of O.L. & St. Dominic Church ~ BIRGU

Organised by

JP2 FOUNDATION
POPE SAINT JOHN PAUL II FOUNDATION

Contact:

Maltese American Benevolent Society, Inc. (Detroit, MI

STEAK & HAMBURGER
SUMMER BBQ FUNDRAISER

Join us on
Saturday, July 12th at 6 p.m.

Members $20
Non-Members $25

Tickets Available after June 20th
Cash & Credit Cards Accepted (Visa & MC)
maltese_american_benevolent_soc@yahoo.com
Advanced Ticket Purchase Required
Limited extra food will be made!
Don't wait until it's too late!

GATO'S PASTIZZI
A LEGACY OF FLAVOR

Email us info@pastizzi.com.au

At Gato's Pastizzi, we're more than a pastry company; we're a family-owned business carrying forward the timeless art of pastry-making. With recipes, techniques, and traditions passed down through generations, we proudly craft high-quality pastry products that blend skill with heritage.

Our specialty? Manufacturing wholesale pastizzi for retailers and food service operators, where every pastry is a testament to our commitment to quality.

At Gato's, we place a firm focus on presentation, taste, and premium ingredients, ensuring our pastizzi are always light, flaky, and utterly addictive.

The Gato's Pastizzi Story

The Gato's story began with our founder, **Geytano Hili** a Maltese emigrant who arrived in Australia with a dream of rebuilding his life after his family home was destroyed in the Second World War. In the fifties, Geytano's passion and resilience led him to establish a small pastizzi business in Sydney, feeding Maltese immigrants at community clubs across Darlinghurst. Alongside his dedicated wife, Theresa, Geytano built Gato's Pastizzi into a cherished institution in Sydney, a legacy that continues today.

Pastizzi: A Taste for Everyone

Each pastizzi is a hand-formed, golden pastry parcel with a range of fillings to please every palate. From savoury classics to unique flavour combinations, our nine filling varieties offer something for everyone, perfect for parties, board meetings, buffets, or simply as a treat at home. With a quick reheat in the oven, these crunchy delights are ready to serve, with or without a dipping sauce.

Gato's Pastizzi—a perfect choice for gatherings, large or small.

Fresh & Tasty Pastizzi every day

We bake fresh and tasty pastizzi daily in our factory outlet. If you have any functions coming up, please contact us to see how we can help you with catering.

Visit us on FACEBOOK and/or our website https:// pastizzi.com.au

We produce traditional, handmade, Maltese Pastizzi, using the finest ingredients. Our recipe has been passed down from generation to generation. We also produce the finest Pasta Ravjul.

Kannoli

with Fresh Strawberries, White Chocolate & Pistachio

From Ainsley's Taste of Malta, ITV

Kannoli (or Cannoli in Italian) are a Sicilian treat of sweetened ricotta filled pastry rolls and they're one of the most popular desserts in Malta. They're sold in cafes and bakeries across the archipelago with a variety of fillings – including chocolate, nuts, candied peel and fresh fruit. I've taken the delicious fresh strawberries of the island (a fruit so popular it has its own festival – the Festa Frawli!) and paired them with white chocolate, pistachios and zesty lemon. I've also added mascarpone to the ricotta filling to add a little tang and richness to the cream, but you can stick with the more traditional ricotta if you prefer. While cannoli shells are best when fried you can bake the tubes in a hot oven for 15-20 minutes until golden brown.

Method

Put the flour, sugar, salt and cinnamon in a large bowl. Add the butter and rub it in with your fingertips until it resembles breadcrumbs. Add the egg yolk and the wine, mixing everything together using your hands until thoroughly combined and adding enough water to be able to hold together in a ball. Knead the dough on a lightly floured surface for a few minutes until you get an elastic dough. Wrap the dough and leave to rest at room temperature for 30 minutes or chill for longer.

Meanwhile, make the filling. Put the drained ricotta, mascarpone and icing sugar in a bowl. Beat using an electric whisk or wooden spoon until well combined and smooth. Beat in the lemon zest and then gently fold in the chocolate chips and diced strawberries, cover and chill.

Heat the oil in a heavy based pan or deep-fat fryer to 170°-180C.

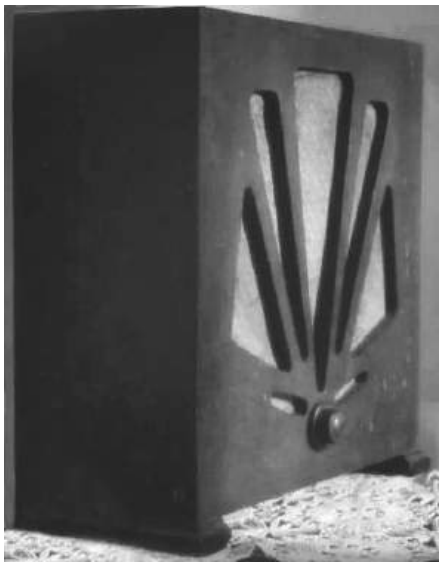
Unwrap the dough and knead for a further 4-5 minutes. On a floured surface and using a lightly floured rolling pin, roll out the dough thinly to approx. 3mm thickness. Use a 10cm biscuit cutter to cut out circles. Lightly brush your cannoli tubes with oil and roll the dough circles around the tubes, using a little egg white to seal the edges together. Depending on how many tubes you have you may need to do cook them in batches.

Carefully lower the kannoli on their tubes into the hot oil, 3 or 4 at a time, and fry for 1-2 minutes or until golden brown and lightly blistered all over, carefully turning to allow for even cooking. Remove and drain on kitchen paper.

Once cool enough to handle, carefully remove the tubes from the pastry and set the kannoli aside to cool on a wire rack. If needed, wipe the tubes and repeat until you have finished cooking all the pastry circles.

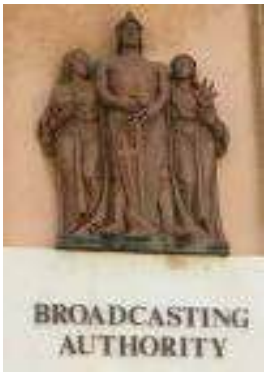
Just before serving, fill the kannoli tubes with the ricotta cream using a piping bag with a wide nozzle/opening. To make it easier – fill from the centre to one end, then repeat on the other side. Dip one end in the pistachios and top the other end with chopped strawberries. Dust with icing sugar to serve. Best eaten on the same day once filled. Makes about 20

nostalgia



NOSTALGIA

REDIFFUSION IN MALTA



In 1935, radio broadcasting began in Malta by a company called Rediffusion (Malta) Limited, which had been given the power and authority by the Government of Malta to operate sponsored radio programmes as well as ordinary commercial radio programmes.

The station: Rediffusion Radio was initially launched, with the aim of countering Fascist propaganda from Italy. It had been given a complete monopoly of broadcasting of news, features, music and entertainment to about 50,000 subscribers. In February 1960 the Government of Malta issued a statement on the future of television and sound broadcasting, saying that Malta should have its own television service as soon as it could be introduced.

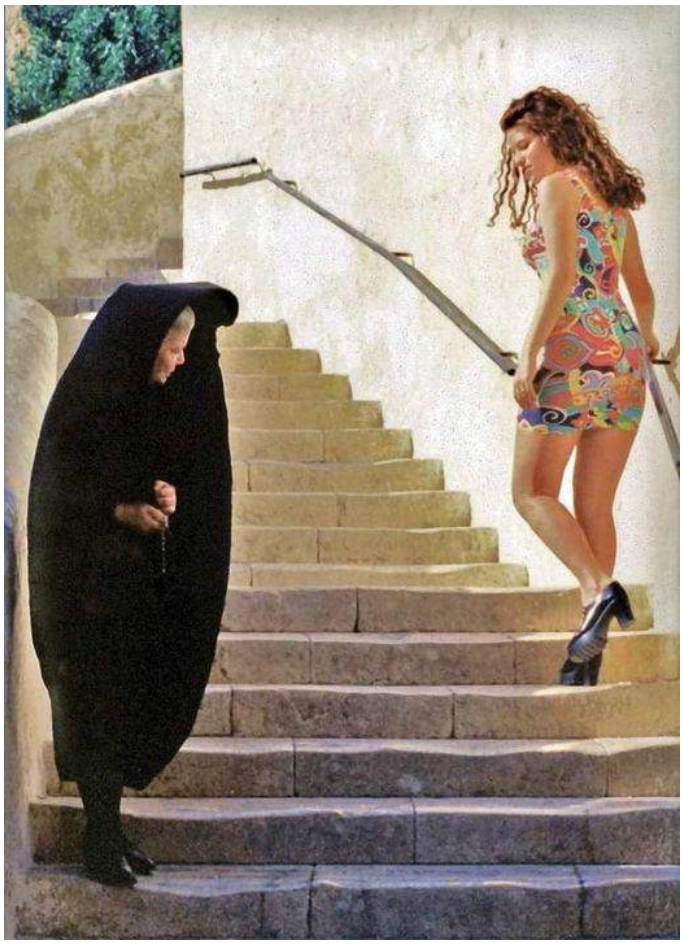
Since not all the people had the Rediffusion service at home, loud speakers were placed in public squares to transmit the news to the public. During World War II, whenever Malta was under enemy fire, Rediffusion radio served as a source to inform the people when an air raid was possible, and after it has ended.

The Governor of Malta entered into discussions with Rediffusion Malta, Ltd., with a view to negotiating an agreement with them for the provision of a television service and the continuation of sound broadcasting in Malta and Gozo. This meant the Government decided that the firm which already had a monopoly of sound broadcasting was also to be given a monopoly for television broadcasting. Rediffusion Malta was to have the sole right of presenting news, views, entertainment, either on sound radio or television to the people of Malta. Rediffusion Malta made available for sponsorship a wide variety of transcribed programmes, featuring top line stars, from the finest production houses in Britain, America, Canada, and Australia.

They were available to British advertisers from approximately £2 15s. 0d. (£2 . 75) net per quarter hour and pro rata and clearly enjoyed the benefits of radio sponsorship and made a lot of money out of it. Television sets were a very expensive luxury to the Maltese and radio was still the dominant form of entertainment well into the 1970's. In 1975 broadcasting services passed under the control of the State after decades of being a monopoly in the hands of Rediffusion.

Public Broadcasting Services Limited (PBS) subsequently acquired a controlling interest in both Radio and Television broadcasting in Malta.

GĦONNELLA OR MINISKIRT???



What would our ancestors say about the way we dress today? James Stewart

Back when I was child and I still lived in Scotland, my mother would always make it a point to tell me stories about Malta and its history. She would explain the importance of the Great Siege of 1565, how Malta was considered to be 'the nurse of the Mediterranean' during WWI, and how her grandmother used to wear the għonnella – or as some people may refer to it, the faldetta. Since then, traditional Maltese clothes have always fascinated me, particularly the ones worn by the general population rather than the nobility. The first thing that always hits me when looking at photos and drawings from the past, it's easy for us to think of our ancestors' clothing as costumes. Seriously, what were they thinking when they designed the għonnella?

It looks absolutely bizarre. And why would men wear a colourful beanie-like hat made out of wool? Or the terħa – a girdle/belt? Take the għonnella, for example. Its sail-like structure helped capture the breeze during Malta's unforgiving summers. Its design also allowed for it to fit closer to the wearer should they want it to, providing more warmth in the winter.

It was actually a genial invention and garment. Plus, can you imagine how exotic our streets must have looked with women billowing in them? And that weird-shaped hat that hung down the back of our forefathers' heads? That was for warmth in the winter. It's easy to forget that just 100 years ago, many people didn't have electricity or gas heaters. Their bedding was also quite Spartan – no goose-feather duvets or electric blankets. And can you imagine working in the field in the midst of winter?

Most of these things went out of fashion after the war, however – a time of unprecedented Maltese Newsletter 123 June 2016 Newsletters preserved at: www.ozmalta.page4.me 9 change for the Maltese, with greater influence from the outside world, independence and the advent of television and other technology. That has slowly shifted us to today's fashions, and while you may still spot a nanna wearing a scarf over her head, most women wouldn't dream of wearing one nowadays.

And that's not all; better pay and a decline in the church's influence has also got us to wear bolder outfits. Would our ancestors approve of them? Hardly, but they'd have probably worn the same thing if they lived in this day and age! Which fashions do you prefer? Today's or those of yesteryear?

The stuff that legends are made of

Joseph Camilleri: Ġabra ta' Leggendi, Wise Owl Publications, 2010, 64pp. €6.99

The word 'legend' is one of those words which unfortunately has for many in today's fame-obsessed age lost its original exotic meaning.

As a child, on hearing this word, I would immediately get a dreamy look in my eyes as castles, ogres, dwarves and other mythical creatures sprang to mind.

I know my mind was colonised with these images from British lore but these were the only legends I could find to read at the time.

Fortunately, I grew up in a story-telling community which in the summer evenings used to meet outside our homes among the adults' chairs and the children's adventurous play acting. There was one particular woman who had such a natural gift for narrating stories that silence would fall since all listeners felt pity for the Mosta bride, was petrified in the darkness of Hassan's cave, and together went on other exciting exploits.

These stories raised a strange sense of nostalgia for things we had not really experienced but which seemed thrilling enough to make us want them to be true.

It was with the same yearning that I picked up Joseph Camilleri's Ġabra ta' Leġġendi, which promised to take me back not only to these tales' past but also to my innocent childhood days.

Legends are obviously stories which, according to folklore expert Guze Cassar Pullicino, spring from people's fantasy. It is not important whether these legends have in reality happened or not. What is important is these narratives are connected with a situation or character which is real. In fact, this is what distinguishes legends from fables. Although fables too are entirely made up, they are not connected with reality, although they reflect it. Such anecdotes call for a suspension of belief and what is interesting about them is the creative imagination involved in spinning a stirring tale.

Many legends have in fact come down through generations by word of mouth as they were retold by adults to the young ones. Such 'loose' repetition has indeed led to variations on the original stories but this too is of interest as it divulges how people's outlook on life changes through the ages.

In fact, such legends present a good anthropological study of any society as at their core they have the main people's beliefs and fears. Camilleri's book is divided into various parts which present a cross-section of the Maltese psyche.

Some of the stories deal with the roots of the Maltese population which give very imaginative possibilities of how the first people came to these islands.

According to Camilleri, there are stories stemming from Tripoli, Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco that have left great influence on the Maltese legends, which might indicate that our origins can be traced back to any of these countries. Moreover, the importance of religion for these islands is evident in the many sections dedicated to stories which tend to revolve either around statues representing Christ, Our Lady and other saints. Obviously, there could not but be a whole batch of anecdotes dedicated to St Paul and the fact that he brought the Roman Catholic religion to our shores.

Another section deals with stories connected to the historical figure of Count Roger and his famous flag which many believe inspired the Maltese flag.

It is understandable that since Malta is an island, many of these tales also deal with the sea. It is interesting that some stories tend to change even from village to village and that some tend to be localised to particular villages rather than connected with general Maltese history. What is important is that from each legend a moral message is derived.

THE MALTESE CHAPLAINCY FESTIVITIES GROUP

would like to advise that the feast of the Apostles of St. Peter and St. Paul - the National Feast of Imnarja - will be celebrated again this year, next Sunday, 29th June. On this special day, mass will be conducted by Fr. Alfred at 2.30pm at Christ the King Catholic Church, 456 Henley Beach Rd, Lockleys. After mass, we'll gather in the church hall for a lovely evening of food, as well as a beautiful concert put on by the Maltese Queen of Victories Band. There will also be a raffle, and drinks will be available at the bar for moderate prices. It'll be greatly appreciated if anyone would like to bring a plate to share. As an Imnarja tradition, we will be holding a display of vegetables, fruit, art and a variety of Maltese souvenirs. Those who wish to present any items are asked to bring them to the church hall at 2.00pm, half an hour before Mass.

We encourage EVERYONE IN South Australia to come along with friends and family and join us for a lovely Maltese gathering!

Saint Catherine's Society of South Australia

A community organization aimed at bringing people together who have an interest in the Maltese community in South Australia.
43 Le Hunte Street , Kilburn, SA, Australia, South Australia.
Another successful luncheon on
Sunday 15 June 2025

Next event on Sunday 20 Juy 2025

MALTESE SENIOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION OF SA

Community Hall, 49 LeHunte Street, Kilburn SA
Lunch and Social Activities
Every Friday 9.30 am till 3.30 pm
Members and Friends are all welcom
Come a taste the Maltese culture
and friendly atmosphere

MALTESE GUILD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC

Maltese Cultural Centre, 6 Jeanes St. Beverley
Everey Tuesday 10am - 300 pm
Delicious Meals and social activities
We welcome everyone who loves
the Maltese food and culture

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As part of Xjenza Malta's mission
to boost the global visibility
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can join the network
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https://lnkd.in/eyX-gBWu,
selecting the "researcher" category.
Joining this network
is a direct link to stay in touch
with R&D developments
in Malta including
opportunities for networking
and collaboration

CHRISTMAS IN JULY

MMG Concert Band Victoria

Get ready for a night of music, laughter, and festive cheer – mid-year style!

- Live entertainment by **DJ Roderick** from Greenroom Entertainment
- A **Photo Booth** to help us create lasting memories
- **BYO nibbles & alcohol**
- **A light supper, soft drinks, tea, coffee will be provided**
- **Free** for Band Players + one guest
- $10 for Members | $15 for Non-members
- **RSVP by Friday, 11th July** to **Amie Cardona** (for catering

Event Details

- **Saturday 19th of July**
- **From 6:30pm**
- **St John Paul II Polish Hall** - 6 Helene Street, Ardeer

Come along for a relaxing evening filled with great company, music, and mid-year festive vibes. Take a break from the winter chill and warm up with laughter and good times!

WE THANK

OUR SPONSORS,

OUR READERS

AND ALL THOSE

WHO HELP US

TO MAKE THIS JOURNAL

NUMBER 1

AROUND THE

WORLD

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EDITIONS