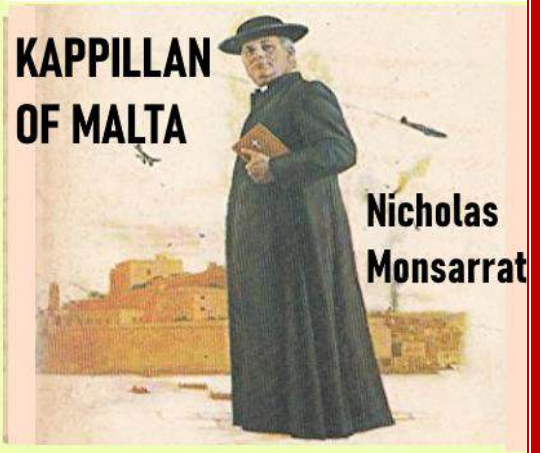
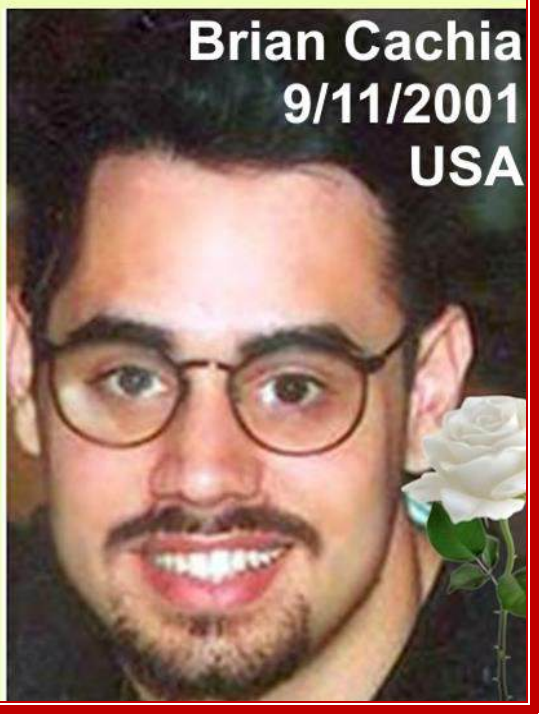
JOURNAL FOR MALTESE AROUND THE WORLD
MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER
Editor: Frank L Scicluna OAM MQR JP - Adelaide - Australia





MALTESE GUILD
OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA
MALTESE CULTURAL CENTRE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE MALTESE GUILD OF SA - 2025

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to the Maltese Guild of South Australia for a successful Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday, September 23, at the Maltese Cultural Centre, located at 6 Jeanes Street, Beverley.

The turnout was impressive, sparking vibrant discussions and exciting proposals. Mr. Frank Scicluna expertly guided the meeting and facilitated the election of the new committee.

For the term of 2025-26, the new committee consists of: - President: Antonia Abela - Secretary and Treasurer: Margaret Abela - Delegates: Gus Vella, Vince Abela, Angelina Camilleri, and Rita Abela The Guild, one of the oldest associations in Adelaide, provides its members and friends with a delicious meal every Tuesday at the centre, in addition to hosting various social and cultural activities.

They also provide a selection of authentic Maltese traditional food at very reasonable prices—an endeavour that has become quite popular! With regular shipments, the local community is now aware of their offerings. Don't miss out on their delightful PASTIZZI, RAVIOLI, and the newly introduced QASSATAT, with even more products on the horizon!

For orders, pickups, and inquiries, please reach out at 0479 127 448.

The photo on the left showcases the talented Maltese dancers, choreographed by Mrs. Mary Scarbossa, and they were part of the Maltese Language and Folk Language and Dancing School. The principal of the school was Mr. Frank Scicluna for over 30 years. Sadly, the school had to close due to a shortage of teachers and students. We wish the new committee a prosperous year ahead, and we encourage everyone to support the Maltese Guild as it continues to grow and thrive for the benefit of the Maltese community in Adelaide.

THE MALTESE JOURNAL SUPPORTS ALL THE MALTESE ASSOCIATIONS ALL OVER THE WORLD

MARSA" AND "BORMLA" TAKE PART IN THE FIRST MALTESE REGATTA IN AUSTRALIA

16 thousand kilometres away from home

Louis Parnis

At the distant shores of Wollongong Harbour, a piece of Malta came alive on Sunday, September 21, 2025 - an extraordinary day when the Maltese Diaspora celebrates Malta National Day.

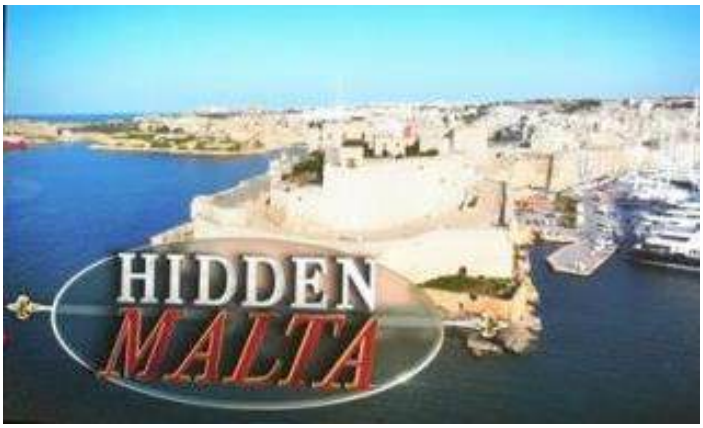
This marked the very first Maltese Regatta in Australia, attracting a sizable crowd eager to witness an event steeped in Mediterranean -Maltese tradition. Organized by Louis Parnis, president of the George Cross Falcons Community Centre, the regatta aimed to revive a cherished childhood memory for Louis, one that he wished to share with a new generation here in Australia. "For years, I dreamed of seeing the boat races we enjoyed as kids in Marsa, Malta," he reflected. Recalling his youthful days, he added, "As a nine-year-old, I would walk to the harbour with my father, younger brother, and our dog". The vibrant spectacle of boats and adorned in various colours and flags was unforgettable. "After my father passed, those memories became even more precious."

This innovative event unfolded in partnership with the Wollongong City Surf Life Saving Club and received generous support from BlueScope and the WIN program. The day began with a warm welcome from the Lord Mayor of Wollongong City, Cr Tania Brown, followed by remarks from the Consul General of Malta in NSW, Anneliese Sammut and in her address she said she was also honoured to welcome NSW Minister for Planning & Public Space, the Hon. Paul Scully MP, Alison Byrnes MP, Carol Berry MP, Lord Mayor of Wollongong City, Cr Tania Brown and Mayor of Shellharbour, Chris Homer, to the celebration. The event was a proud celebration of Maltese heritage, culture, and community. the Consul General highlighted the significance of the date, 21 September – Malta's Independence Day – a day of pride for all Maltese people.

Two boats and ten rowers participated in the exhibition race, beginning just outside the lighthouse. Louis expressed heartfelt gratitude to everyone involved in turning his dream into reality. "This is the first-ever Maltese regatta since the beginning of Maltese migration to Australia," he noted.

"We're have had a splendid show, and buses brought people from Sydney to enjoy this special occasion." He also acknowledged the overwhelming community support, thanking contributors from Malta, the Builders Club, Frankie's Auto Electric, and local leaders from Wollongong, Shellharbour, and the Malta Consulate General. "We're making a certificate of appreciation and a donation to the Clubs. We also thank the editor of the Maltese Journal for Maltes Living Abroad who supported us all the way by advertising this unique event.

THE HIDDEN MALTA IN THE USA



The Malta Tourism Authority (MTA) hosted a significant event in New York on Thursday night for the U.S. premiere of *Hidden Malta*, a captivating one-hour global television special. Produced and narrated by Peter Greenberg, CBS News' Travel Editor and multiple Emmy Award-winning journalist, the documentary will be broadcast this fall on PBS-TV in the United States and will later be available for streaming on platforms such as Amazon Prime, Apple TV+, and YouTube. This premiere is a milestone in Malta's effort to enhance its global tourism profile, offering a unique glimpse into the lesser-known side of the island.

A Premier Event for Malta's Tourism

The event saw a gathering of prominent figures, including Malta's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Tourism, Ian Borg, Malta's Ambassador to the United States, Godfrey Xuereb, Malta's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Natasha Meli-Daudey, MTA CEO Carlo Micallef, and MTA Representative in North America, Michelle Buttigieg, alongside other MTA officials and industry leaders. Their presence underscored the importance of the event as part of Malta's ongoing efforts to strengthen its tourism presence in the U.S. and beyond.

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A Significant Week for Malta-U.S. Relations

Deputy Prime Minister Ian Borg highlighted that the premiere of *Hidden Malta* took place during a particularly pivotal week for Malta-U.S. relations. This week also marked the announcement of Delta Airlines' direct flights between Malta and New York, making it easier for American travelers to visit the island. This direct air link between the U.S. and Malta is expected to enhance accessibility, allowing more American visitors to explore Malta's culture and history. Borg emphasized that the launch of the documentary marks the beginning of a new chapter in which Malta not only becomes more accessible but also more memorable for visitors.

A Decade of Effort Behind the Documentary

Peter Greenberg, the creator behind *Hidden Malta*, shared his experience of working for over a decade to bring Malta's story to a global audience. The documentary aims to shed light on the island's lesser-known treasures, focusing on aspects of the country not commonly featured in typical tourist guides. Greenberg detailed the significant effort and research that went into uncovering Malta's hidden gems, with the goal of offering a deeper, more authentic view of the island's culture and heritage.

MTA's Long-Term Commitment to the U.S. Market

Carlo Micallef, CEO of the Malta Tourism Authority, pointed out that the premiere of *Hidden Malta* was a culmination of years of dedicated efforts to position Malta as a premier tourist destination in the U.S. market. Micallef acknowledged that the U.S. market has significant potential for Malta's tourism industry, and this event was another step in strengthening that relationship. The documentary is not just about showcasing Malta's rich history and traditions, but also about reaffirming the island's commitment to attracting American travelers.

Showcasing Malta's Hidden Gems

Hidden Malta goes beyond the typical tourist attractions and highlights the island's authentic and unique experiences. The documentary uncovers the lesser-known aspects of Malta, such as the salt pans of Gozo, the intricate artistry of Maltese tiles, the traditional luzzu fishing boats, and time-honored games that have shaped the island's cultural landscape. These hidden gems paint a picture of Malta that is often overlooked by mainstream travel guides, offering a fresh perspective on the island's charm and authenticity.

Advertisement

The documentary presents Malta's character as an island rich in culture, history, and tradition, providing an opportunity to showcase its lesser-known attractions. It is a celebration of Malta's unique qualities, representing a significant moment of cultural diplomacy as the country shares its story with the world. This is a crucial step in raising Malta's profile on the global tourism map, reaching new audiences and enticing millions of potential visitors to discover the island's hidden treasures.

The Impact on Travel and Tourism The premiere of *Hidden Malta* is more than just a television event; it is a powerful marketing tool that will help attract tourists from around the world. As the documentary airs on PBS and becomes available on popular streaming platforms, it is expected to generate significant interest in Malta, especially from American audiences. The increased exposure from *Hidden Malta* will likely encourage more visitors to explore the island, both for leisure travel and for those looking for authentic, off-the-beaten-path experiences.

By featuring the island's hidden gems, *Hidden Malta* provides travelers with new reasons to visit Malta beyond the usual tourist attractions. The documentary's success is expected to increase the island's tourism numbers and expand its global reach. As more travelers become aware of Malta's rich cultural heritage and traditions, the island's profile as a must-visit destination will continue to grow.

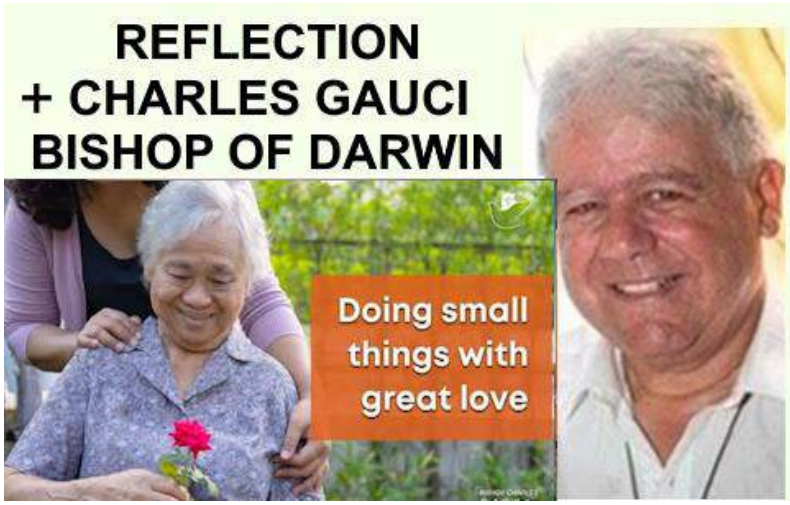
The U.S. premiere of *Hidden Malta* marks a major milestone for the Malta Tourism Authority and the island's travel industry. By unveiling the lesser-known sides of Malta, the documentary offers a unique opportunity for travelers to explore the island in a more authentic and meaningful way. With the added benefit of direct flights from New York and the widespread distribution of the documentary, Malta is set to enhance its presence on the global tourism map and continue its growth as a top travel destination.

David Muscat appointed Malta's representative to State of Palestine

The Malta Independent

President Myriam Spiteri Debono presented the Letters of Appointment to David Muscat, as Malta's Representative to the State of Palestine, the government said Tuesday. Muscat succeeds Franklin J. Aquilina, who was recently appointed Ambassador to Libya. Muscat's appointment as Malta's Representative to the State of Palestine took place on the same day that Malta, through Prime Minister Robert Abela, **formally recognised the State of Palestine** during the United Nations Assembly in New York, United States of America. During the meeting, held at San Anton Palace, the President highlighted that Malta's historic step, taken together with other nations, may serve to advance the cause of lasting peace.

Muscat reiterated the importance and the need for the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip to continue receiving the necessary humanitarian assistance, noting that in recent days the Maltese Government had dispatched a consignment of 250 tonnes of flour.
The President further appealed for this historic step to be regarded as an opportunity to continue building and strengthening the relationship between Malta and the State of Palestine.



Yesterday, I celebrated Mass at the Missionary Sisters of Charity residence here in Darwin. At the end of the celebration, marking the feast of St Mother Teresa of Kolkata, Sr Jasmin Rose, the local superior, delivered a message.
During her message, she quoted Mother Teresa: **"We are not all called to do great things, but we are called to do small things with great love."** This message resonates deeply with our Christian faith. The Incarnation revealed God's profound connection with creation — a remarkable bond of love.
"Through Him all things were made." God is **LOVE**. The more we love, the more we respond in love to our amazing God, who loves us so deeply. The more we live in this love, the more authentic we become… the more truly ourselves we are… and the more we are able to experience genuine happiness, true joy, and lasting peace. We know that love is not merely sentimentality or romantic feeling. While romantic love has its place, mature love is courageous — it's gutsy. Jesus reminded us that while we naturally love our families, our love is called to extend beyond them, reaching out to all. That's why Mother Teresa chose to serve the poorest of the poor. The more we love through our everyday actions, the freer we become.

Hi all! My name is Lance, and am very happy to have found this group. Below is a little bit about me and my goals: My grandmother is Maltese, her last name is Galea. She moved across when she was younger from Gozo to Broken Hill, NSW. However, her family was quite ostracised there, and as a result she did not pass down the language and culture to her sons. I would like to change that. I am reaching out for someone who would be willing to take me on as a student on an ongoing basis, to learn the Maltese language and everything there is to know about Malta so I can inherit what should have been passed down. I would also like to get connected with the community in general! I currently attend Stella Maris Catholic Church in Maroochydore, so if anyone is there and is interested in catching up, please let me know!! Thanks, Lance Conway

Facebook page of the **Sunshine Coast Maltese Friends Club,QLD.**

In Togo, mother and child at the heart of the Order of Malta's care

In the corridor of the midwives of the regional hospital of Elavagnon in Togo. Photo credit: Ordre de Malte France.

The Elavagnon Regional Hospital, managed by the Order of Malta France since 1981, is strengthening its commitment to maternal and child health, particularly for disadvantaged populations. Its recently renovated Mother-Child Centre has been fully operational since May 2025, with an official inauguration in September.

ORDRE DE MALTE FRANCE

Since 1981, the Elavagnon Regional Hospital, managed by the Order of Malta France, has been working for maternal and child health, particularly for the most disadvantaged. A maternity hospital was integrated into it in 2016. Like the rest of the country, this region is experiencing significant population growth, of the order of 2.5% per year. This requires an adaptation of infrastructure and health services. Its modernised Mother-Child Centre has been fully active since May 2025 and was **inaugurated in September**.

The new Mother-Child Centre: a necessity This hospital is strengthening its services through the training of more than 60 staff members and the deployment of a mobile clinic for gynaecological and pediatric care in remote areas. High-risk pregnancies are referred to the hospital, **ensuring safety and comfort**. The project includes the restructuring of the Mother-Child Centre, which now has a maternity ward, a surgical block, a paediatrics unit and a neonatology unit.

For Valérie Péchard, head of the International Hospital Directorate of the Order of Malta France: "*This deployment will greatly reduce the number of complications and deaths among mothers and children*". Since its opening in May 2025, POME has **enabled more than 800 deliveries**, including several complex cases requiring specialized care. New hygiene standards have been introduced to safeguard the health of mothers and babies.

« *This deployment will greatly reduce the number of complications and deaths among mothers and children* »

The new phase of the project and the inauguration of the Mother-Child Centre (POME) were celebrated on 12 September, in the presence of the Togolese Minister of Health, the President and the Ambassador of the Order of Malta, as well as numerous authorities. The ceremony, marked by a mass and the blessing of the building by the Bishop of Atakpamé, also **consecrated the hospital's chapel in the name of Saint Carlo Acutis**, recently canonized.

EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALTA IN FRANCE

The Embassy of Malta in France, together with the Permanent Delegation of Malta to UNESCO, celebrated the National Day of Malta with the diplomatic community and the Maltese community in Paris.

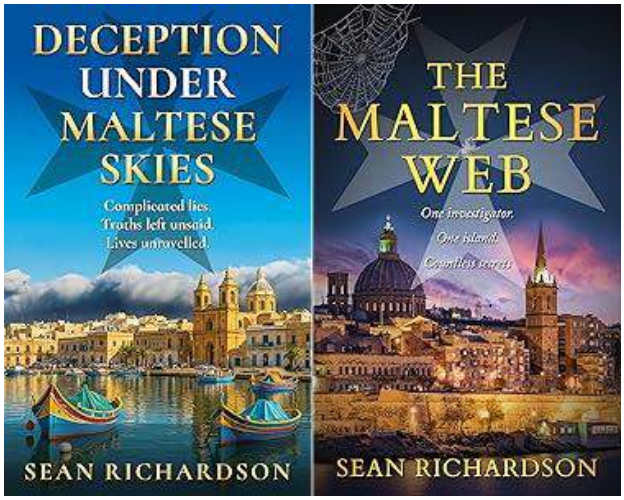
The occasion was a celebration of the deep-rooted friendship between Malta and France as European and Mediterranean partners bound by historical, cultural and social ties spanning generations. The event also underscored the common progressive vision and shared international commitments of France and Malta.

In the face of continued threats to peace, democracy and human rights, Malta and France remain promoters of their shared and inalienable values in their bilateral relations, in Europe, and in the multilateral sphere.

THE AMBASSADOR OF MALTA TO FRANCE

The Ambassador of Malta to France is Carmelo Inguanez. He is a Maltese diplomat who joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1987 and has held other diplomatic roles, including First Secretary in Brussels and Counsellor in Tunis, before becoming the Ambassador to France.

- Served as First Secretary at the Embassy of Malta and Permanent Delegation to the EC in Brussels (1990–1995)Worked as Counsellor at the Embassy of Malta in Tunis (1998–)



OUR CORRESPONDENT Sean Richardson

In the heart of the Mediterranean lies Malta, an island nation known for its sunlit harbours, striking architecture and layers of history. But beneath the postcard-perfect surface, Malta's strategic location has made it a target for international crime networks and foreign interests seeking to exploit its financial systems. Meet Marica Debono, Malta's top financial investigator, who takes centre stage in this gripping crime thriller series. Relentless and principled, Marica uncovers complex money trails and exposes hidden truths that others overlook or fear to face. But each case draws her deeper into a world of influence, deception and personal risk. With everything on the line, she must confront just how far she'll go to protect the people and the island she loves from the ambitions of outsiders and the betrayals of those within.

Perfect for fans of strong female leads, financial crime thrillers and atmospheric suspense, The Malta Series blends high-stakes investigations with the emotional toll of chasing justice in a place where trust is fragile. Welcome to Malta—where beauty runs deep, danger runs deeper, and those who care must fight to protect it.

For further information visit Sean's website - www. seanrichardson.com.au

EAGER TO PRESERVE THE MALTESE CULTURE IN ADELAIDE

One of the active members of the Maltese Community in Adelaide is Bernadette Buhagiar.

Bernadette, a fellow migrant from Malta, arrived in Australia with her family in 1986 and quickly became actively involved in preserving and promoting Maltese culture. For several years, she brought her children to the Maltese Language and Folk Dancing School, while also completing the South Australian Certificate of Education in Maltese herself.

Over the years, Bernadette has been deeply engaged in community life through many associations. She has contributed to the Maltese Chaplaincy Group at Lockleys and the Maltese Aged Care Association of South Australia. Since 1998, she has volunteered as a broadcaster with Maltese Radio on EBIfm, where she continues to serve today as President of its committee. The program, delivered in Maltese, keeps the community informed about events in Malta and Adelaide while also preserving the Maltese language and traditional music for younger generations.

Bernadette has also provided remarkable service to the St Catherine Society. She first joined in 2009 and was elected President in 2019, a role she still holds. Under her leadership, the society has maintained its tradition of monthly functions for members and its annual November celebration honouring St Catherine—the patron saint of Żejtun and Żurrieq, the hometowns of many Maltese migrants in Adelaide.

Her community service extends beyond the Maltese community. She has supported various charitable initiatives, including the South Australian Sports Girl Quest for the Channel 7 Christmas Appeal (1997), the Miss Junior SA Quest for the Epilepsy Association (1994–1995), and knitting scarves for the homeless at the Adelaide Day Centre in Queen Street. Through decades of voluntary service, Bernadette has devoted countless hours to uplifting others and preserving the cultural heritage of the Maltese community in South Australia. Her leadership, commitment, and generosity make her an outstanding member of the Maltese community of South Australia.

THOUSANDS ATTEND LATEST FESTA ĦUT EDITION

For another year running, Festa Ħut proved to be a resounding success, drawing thousands of families to Mellieħa and Marsaxlokk for two evenings of celebration.

The festival placed Malta's fishing and aquaculture sector at centre stage, offering visitors the chance to enjoy fresh fish while engaging with the traditions and maritime heritage that shape the nation's coastal communities. Organised by the Parliamentary Secretariat for Fisheries, Aquaculture and Animal Rights, the event had a dual purpose.

It celebrated the quality of Maltese fish and also encouraged awareness of sustainable fishing practices, ensuring that future generations will continue to benefit from the sea's resources.

The lively atmosphere across both days was marked by bustling fish stalls, educational exhibitions, live music, games and entertainment for children, together with displays of local craftsmanship and cultural performances.

Parliamentary Secretary Alicia Bugeja Said highlighted the significance of the event, noting that it brings attention to the hard work of fishermen and reinforces their essential role in providing fresh and local produce for Maltese and Gozitan families.

She also expressed her gratitude to ministry staff, agencies, local councils and organisations whose support allowed Festa Ħut to expand into a two-day celebration enjoyed in different parts of Malta. #MaltaDaily

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ONE OF THE PIONEER WOMEN OF MACKAY – QUEENSLAND TERESA BORG

Teresa Borg was born in Malta around the turn of the 20th Century. A handsome red headed young man would enter her life through a *Ghannej,* a singer sent by her husband-to-be Carmelo Mifsud to her home to request courtship. Teresa "loved the little Island of Malta with its narrow streets, stone buildings and beautiful churches."

Teresa Mifsud. Picture: Through Our Eyes, Maryann Lister

Carmelo and Teresa married in Mosta Church on 15th April 1921. Carmelo was just 22 years old and Teresa was 20.

Carmelo decided to join his brother in a new land of opportunity - Australia - sending for his family later. In 1925 Teresa and their daughter Mary joined Carmelo in Australia.

"As she watched the ship *Oronsay* carry her beautiful brown eyed daughter Teresa and her granddaughter Mary to the far away land, Maria Borg knew in her heart she would never see them again." And she never did.

" Teresa turned and took one last look at her family and her little island Malta as she sailed out of Valetta Harbour to a country unknown."

It was dark when Teresa and Mary eventually joined Carmelo in Mackay. There were no other houses around. "Where are the crying babies? " Teresa asked. "There were no babies they are the noise Koalas make" Carmelo told her and so began Teresa's life in Australia.

This land so far from anywhere, so far from her family, and so different to Malta.

Carmelo and Teresa had bought a cane farm in Habana but times were hard. Teresa took all that she learned in Malta and was well known for making bread and for dressmaking. "She thought of Habana as little Malta. It wasn't so bad. Sunday afternoons were often spent at Eimeo beach with other Maltese families."

Teresa and Carmelo went on to have 11 more children. Teresa was so far away from her mother through the death of two of her children. She was a tiny quiet lady but very well respected in the community. The couple owned several sugar cane farms in Habana, Homebush and Alligator Creek, until retiring in West Mackay.

Teresa and Carmelo went on to have 38 grandchildren and even to enjoy quite a few great grandchildren before Teresa died in June 1979 and Carmelo passed away 3 months later.

"They have instilled in us a great love of family, religion and Australia and a great pride in our Maltese heritage." *Maryann Lister author of "Through our eyes, The Mifsud Journey.*

Mackay in Queensland has a significant and active Maltese community, which began with immigrants working in the sugar cane industry and has grown into the largest Maltese population outside of a capital city in Australia. The community's rich heritage is celebrated through groups like the **Mackay Maltese Club Inc.** and the **Mackay Maltese Community Group**, and it is honoured by the **Malta Garden** at the Mackay Botanic Gardens and a proposed statue at the historic "Maltese Corner".

"As soon as it rains the prickly pear season ends" – a prickly but very nourishing fruit"

Andrea Rossitto

With the harsh summer sun now starting to mellow, and with the rains about to come down in bucketsful any day now, the Maltese and Gozitan countryside will start being revived. And as soon as the September rains start, the prickly pear palms which are such a feature of the countryside start shedding their fruit. A fruit which is enjoyed by many.

Teddy Farrugia is one of the farmers who at this time of year have whole corners of their land overflowing with prickly pear palms. In a comment to tvm.com.mt Teddy explained that prickly pears should ideally be harvested in the morning when the thorns are still soft after the night dew. Once the sun rises, the thorns become stiff.

All prickly pears are good, whether red, yellow or green. Nutritionist Dr Antonella Grima told tvm.com.mt that prickly pears contain fibre, vitamin C, natural sugar and only some 40 calories per 100 grams. Despite this, Dr Grima said prickly pears should be eaten in moderation and ideally washed down with a drink of water. Asked whether the taste of the prickly pear varied, Teddy explained that fruit from a young tree is sweeter in taste and has fewer seeds.

9/11/2001 SA- Maltese man who lost his life on that day

An unfortunate twist of events sealed Brian Cachia's fate

September 11th will forever be remembered as the day that changed the course of contemporary world history and this year marks 24 years since the tragic events unfolded in New York.

Amongst those who lost their life 19 years ago was Brian Joseph Cachia, an American citizen of Maltese descent. His grandfather, Joseph, originally from Zabbar, had emigrated to America during WWII and started a new life on the continent.

On the day of the attack, Brian had been called in to work earlier than usual. A technical problem caused the computer whizz to rush in to fix it. His office, situated on the 103rd floor of the North Tower, was within the trajectory of American Airlines flight 11 when it crashed into the tower at 8:46am. Facebook / Todd Hauser

In comments given to Times of Malta, family members narrate how at the time, 26 year-old Brian was one of the company's newest employees. He had been working for the company for approximately a month, and had proposed to his partner the week prior to the tragic events. “If only he hadn’t gone in early… we never heard from him after the plane hit”, Joseph reflects.

Facebook / Tedd Hauser

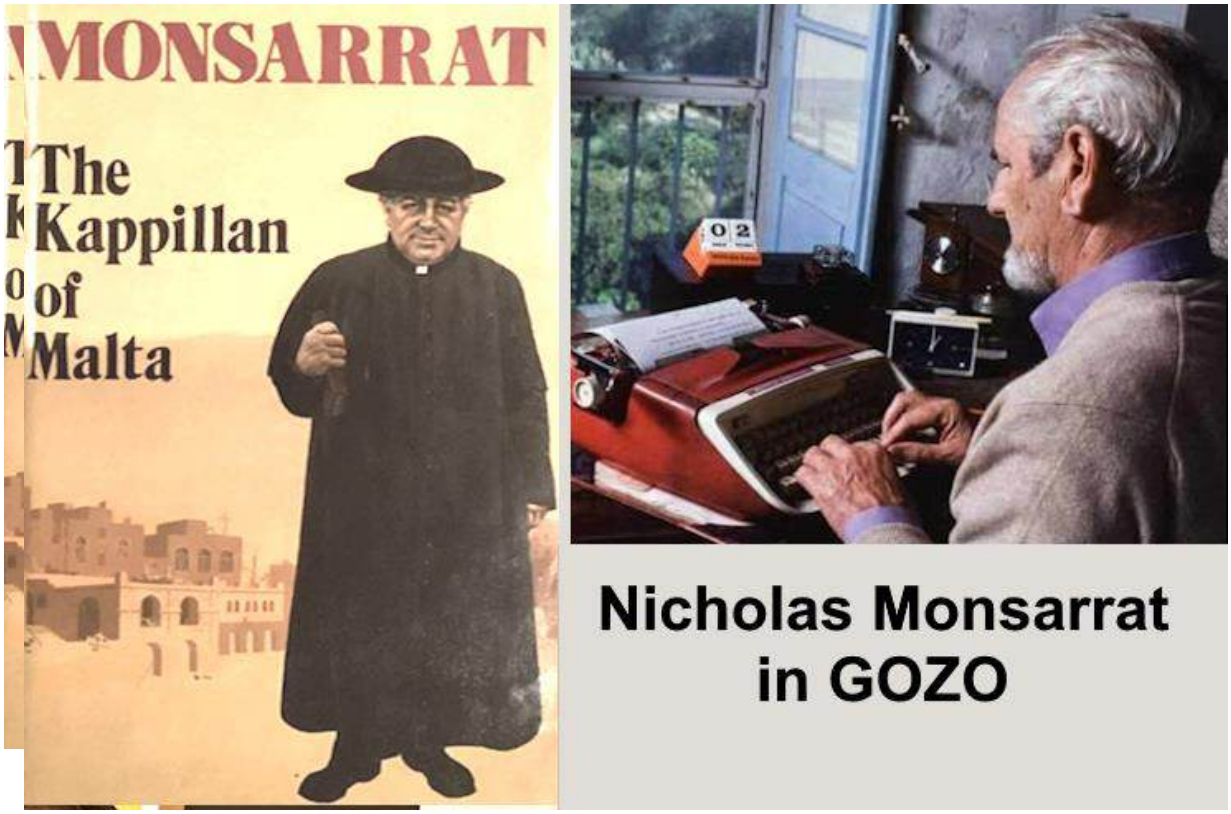
In a haunting YouTube video published on September 20th 2008, user kpharloff (a.k.a Kevin Harlow) posts a tribute to his family friend, and recounts intimate memories of their childhood together. Kevin recalls how in times past, Brian had owned a little keyboard and used to write melodies. In an ode to his friend, Kevin recreates one of his tunes and adds his own twist to it. “Wherever you are now, my personal belief is that the mind cannot cease, it goes beyond the body but that’s my belief. Brian wherever you are, this is to you”.

In total, 2,977 people perished that day - including over 400 firefighters and law enforcement officers – with more than 6,000 civilians and servicemen sustaining serious injury.

A TRIBUTE TO BRIAN JOSEPH CACHIA

Brian Joseph Cachia was one of the victims who tragically lost his life in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. He was 26 years old and worked as a bond trader for Cantor Fitzgerald on the 105th floor of the North Tower of the World Trade Center. Brian was from Bayside, Queens, New York. He was remembered as a loving son, brother, and friend, with a warm personality and a deep love for his family. Friends and loved ones recalled his sense of humour, kindness, and passion for life.

SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 — Never Forget.



Monsarrat paid special attention to include Gozo in the KAPPILLAN OF MALTA novel. Monsarrat loved Gozo and did not want to leave the Gozitans out of his tribute to the Maltese people. Nicholas Monsarrat is an unjustly neglected author. If you have read any of his novels it will be *The Cruel Sea*.. His dates are 1910 – 1979 and, although he was born in Liverpool, he went to Winchester and Trinity, Cambridge. In the war he served in the Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve (RNVR), rising to command a frigate by the end of the war. After the war he combined a career in the Foreign Office with writing novels, often sea stories. He eventually retired and went to live on Gozo NEAR small island off Malta. *The Kappillan of Malta* is a wonderful novel, ostensibly about just six days between June 1940 and August 1942 in Malta. In fact he weaves into his war story the history of the island – and what a rich and interesting story that is. Yet again I was reminded how fortunate England is not to have been invaded properly since 1066.

Malta's history starts in about 6,000 BC; its megalithic temples are not to be missed should you visit Gozo. But I was really more interested in the waves of more recent conquest: Phoenicians, Romans, Arabs, Normans, Spain. Spain did not place a high price on the island and in 1530 almost gave it away to the Order of Knights of the Hospital of Saint John of Jerusalem – better known as the Knights of Malta today. This ancient order of noble, Catholic knights from all over Europe had been chivied out of Jerusalem, Cyprus and Rhodes by the Ottomans. Malta was a gift from the Holy Roman Emperor, Charles V, in return for an annual tribute: a Maltese Falcon. I digress but the 1941 film, *The Maltese Falcon*, is a real, film noir, cracker and I have just ordered Dashiell Hammett's 1930 novel of the same name, on which the film is based.

The Knights were conquered by Napoleon, and in his turn he relinquished the island to the British. I was captivated by Monsarrat's story and not just because I'm going to Valletta later this month. Two other threads in this literary tapestry are Catholicism and the role of the Royal Navy in the Mediterranean in WW II. He populates his story with a cross section of the unfortunate population besieged on the island. Perhaps he is too generous to the British and the Royal Navy but that reflects his background.

As part of this year's edition of The Three Palaces Festival, the festival will be curating an exhibition of paintings, etchings, and drawings linked to its theme for 2025 – Conversations – at The Grandmaster's Palace in Valletta.

THE THREE PALACES

Organised by Festivals Malta, The Three Palaces festival focuses on the premise that "our ordinary is actually extraordinary". In Malta, we are surrounded by magnificent buildings that we pass by every day and take in our stride, perhaps barely noticing their beauty. We embrace the philosophy that everyone should have access to our Heritage, Art and Culture. Audiences experience intimate performances in the grandeur of some of Malta's finest palaces and indulge in forms of artistic expression that reflect the identity of the nation and beyond. Emerging artists perform alongside the finest established artists in Malta and internationally, thus celebrating this wonderful cultural melting pot that is the Mediterranean.

The Cabinet of Dr Caligari – silent film with live improvised music

27 October 2025 | 7pm St Catherine's Church, Valletta

The festival opens on Monday, 27 October at Santa Caterina d'Italia, Valletta, with a haunting cinematic experience: *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari*, the silent German expressionist classic, will be brought to life through live improvisation by guitarist and composer Glen Montanaro.

Melomania: melos = music | mania = madness - solo violin & solo dance

28 October 2025 | 7pm

National Museum of Archaeology, Valletta

On Tuesday, 28 October, the Gran Salon at the National Museum of Archaeology in Valletta hosts *Melomania*, a unique "danced concert" created by dancer/choreographer Stéphanie Brochard and baroque violinist Bojan Čičić. The performance spans centuries, culminating in Sally Beamish's *Intrada e Fuga* and Bach's *Sonata No. 2 in A minor*.

Chiaroscuro (Exhibition Opening Night)

29 October 2025 | 6:30pm

Grand Master's Palace, Valletta

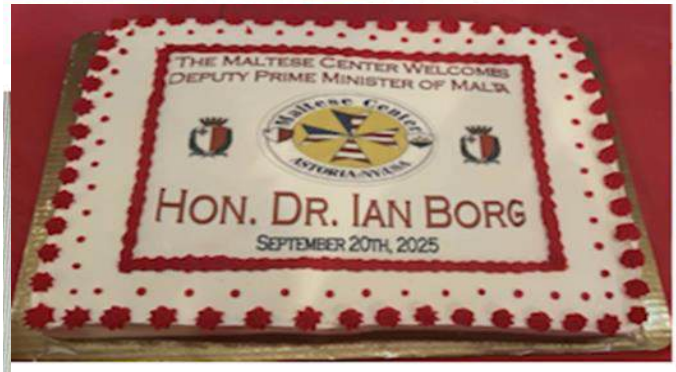
Wednesday, 29 October sees the opening of *Chiaroscuro*, a visual arts exhibition at the Grandmaster's Palace in Valletta. Curated as a conversation between light and shadow, it includes work by international artists like James Gemmill and rising Maltese talent. A dramatic opening night and artist conversations will accompany the launch.

God Save Malta, Australia, Canada and USA

This is the frontage of a house in Xaghra, Gozo with a reference to a country to which Maltese migrated to. One can find several such references - be they house names, flags or logos - on the residences of Maltese migrants who have returned to their native land, usually in their old age. Kangaroos, maple leaves and eagles: an unmistakable link to the main countries of the New World - Australia, Canada and the United States - involved in the phenomenon that saw a good amount of Maltese emigrating to a foreign land in the early 20th century, as a result of the collapse of a construction boom, and again after World War II, when the birth rate increased significantly. https://www.facebook.com/kappavision/God Bless these countries that helped so many Maltese when they, heart-broken, left Malta in the 50s, May God bless Malta,Australia, Canada and USA.

GOZO - PROPOSED 13-FLOOR DEVELOPMENT IN XLENDI

The Maltese Community Council of Victoria Australia Celebrating Malta's National Day



The Maltese Community of New York celebrates il-Vitoria Festa and greets the Deputy Prime Minister of Malta - IAN BORG at the Maltese Center - Astoria NY, USA

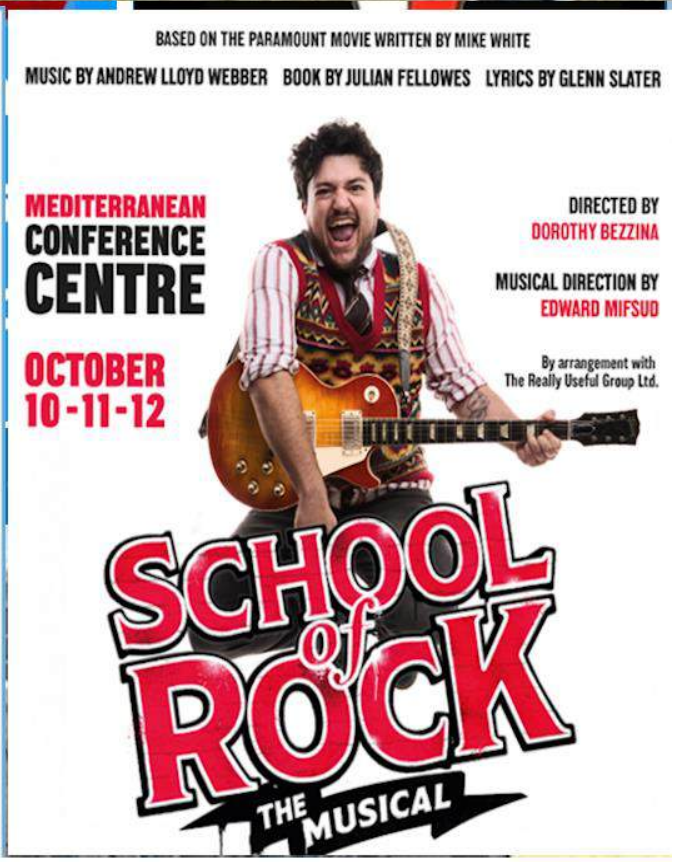
On Saturday 21 June Cairns and Region Maltese Association along with the Maltese Community celebrated the Feast of Madonna ta' Pinu at St. Monica's Cathedral. The main celebrants were Mgr. Charles Gauci, Bishop of Darwin and Bishop Joe Caddy at Preca Community Visitation Mass.

They joined us after Mass at St. Monica's College Catherine McAuley Centre to partake in Maltese calinary delights - Maltese pastizzi, ghagin il-form (baked backed macaroni) and ross il-forn (baked rise and more.

Bishop Joe commented - Tasting authentic Maltese food added an extra layer of cultural richness to the eevent creating lasting memories for all those who attended. My favourites - pastizzi tal-pizelli were next level.

The Aussies who took part in the
Maltese Regatta at
Wollongong NSW
21 September 2025
Marsa versus Bormla

OUR LADY
QUEEN OF
PEACE
OLQP
Festa
60 YEAR ANNIVERSARY
save the date
Sunday
28th September
2025
GREYSTANES
NSW


BASED ON THE PARAMOUNT MOVIE WRITTEN BY MIKE WHITE
MUSIC BY ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER BOOK BY JULIAN FELLOWES LYRICS BY GLENN SLATER
MEDITERRANEAN
CONFERENCE
CENTRE
OCTOBER
10-11-12
DIRECTED BY
DOROTHY BEZZINA
MUSICAL DIRECTION BY
EDWARD MIFSUD
By arrangement with
The Really Useful Group Ltd.
SCHOOL of ROCK
THE MUSICAL

He still wears his grandfather's wedding suit which is 120 years old

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We should not be consumed by materialism. It is good to put something away for a rainy day although, as the saying goes, we are all dead in the end. Sometimes an item from the past can put a smile on our face and can bring back a flood of memories as soon as we come across it. It could be an item which might remind us of our loved ones who are no longer with us.

Apart from the photos and number of letters he has collected over the years, John Cilia from St Paul's Bay still has the wedding suit which belonged to his grandfather Wistin. However, John has not left this suit on the shelf. In comments he gave to tvm.com.mt John said that if a special occasion crops up when he needs to dress elegantly, he wears the suit in which his grandfather got married. He estimates that the suit he inherited is over 120 years old, since his grandfather got married in 1907.

Although the suit is old, John says that the jacket and trousers are in perfect condition and it has never been moth-eaten. John added that he sometimes decorates the suit with one of the medals which his father received when he was with the Royal Malta Artillery. Among these is a medal given to his father by the British Governor Sir Robert Laycock.

His youthful smile is always there. His sweet character, for which he is known, charms everyone he meets. Every day, he keeps himself extremely occupied. He goes for a walk, goes swimming and does every sort of odd job which needs doing.

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My Old Kitchen in Malta

The late Queen Elizabeth admiring the MALTA BIZZILLA

Two tiny islands off Malta's northern coast hold one of Christianity's most significant stories, where **the Apostle Paul's legendary shipwreck in 60 AD introduced Christianity to the Maltese archipelago**. St. Paul's Islands (locally called Il-Gżejjer ta' San Pawl offer visitors a unique blend of biblical history, stunning Mediterranean views, and authentic adventure – all just 90 meters from Malta's Selmun Beach yet uninhabited since World War II.

Perfect for history enthusiasts, religious pilgrims, nature lovers, and anyone seeking spectacular Mediterranean scenery, these limestone islets covering just 0.1 square kilometres serve as living monuments to Malta's conversion to Christianity nearly 2,000 years ago. Today's visitors can **walk where legends began**, enjoying breathtaking panoramic views while connecting with one of the Mediterranean's most important religious sites.