

THE JOURNAL OF THE MALTESE DIASPORA

MALTESE NEWSLETTER



BUILDING BRIDGES BETWEEN MALTESE ALL OVER THE WORLD

H.E. Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca,

President of Malta IN
ADELAIDE

Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca is the ninth and youngest President of Malta, following a forty-year career in politics. Coleiro Preca founded the Foundation for the Wellbeing of Society, and is an Honourary Professor at Warwick University. President Coleiro Preca is frequently invited to speak in International Fora, on various areas including Children,

Social Inclusion, Peacebuilding and Migration. (See next page)

During her visit to South Australia the President will have the opportunity to meet local dignitaries as well as the members of the Maltese community of Adelaide.



Professor Carmel Cefai, Director, Centre for Resilience and Socio-Economic Health, University of Malta

Professor Carmel Cefai is the Director of the *Centre for Resilience and Socio-Emotional Health*, and Head of the Department of Psychology, at the University of Malta. He is Joint Honorary Chair of the *European Network for Social and Emotional Competence*. His research interests are focused on how to create healthy spaces which promote the resilience, wellbeing and psychological wellbeing of children and young people.

**THE MALTESE NEWSLETTER AND THE WHOLE COMMUNITY OF
ADELAIDE WELCOMES THE PRESIDENT OF MALTA TO OUR
BEAUTIFUL STATE
OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

SWAPv Conference 2016 In Adelaide



Student WellBeing and Prevention of Violence Research Centre (SWAPv)

Inaugural Conference 2016

Enhancing child and adolescent well-being and preventing violence in school and early childhood settings

The SWAPv inaugural conference, in partnership with **Flinders Educational Futures Research Institute, Office of Indigenous Strategy & Engagement, The Wellbeing and Resilience Centre (SAHMRI), headspace, Relationships Australia (SA)**, is bringing together national and international researchers in the field of promoting student wellbeing, positive mental health, preventing violence and aggression, bullying and cyberbullying, and other related fields. Important foci include Indigenous conceptions and understandings of wellbeing and violence prevention and a focus on youth voice involving members of headspace.

Opening Address by President Coleiro Preca of Malta- The President's Foundation for the Wellbeing of Society. (<http://www.pfws.org.mt/>)

Performance: 'Bound and Unbound' by members of the Office of Indigenous Strategy and Engagement, Flinders University.

Keynote Speakers

- **Professor Carmel Cefai**
 - *Director, Centre for Resilience and Socio-Emotional Health, University of Malta*
- **Professor Catherine Blaya**
 - *President of the International Observatory of Violence in Schools, The University of Nice Sophia Antipolis, France.*
- **Mr Agio Pereira**
 - *Honorable Minister of State and of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Timor-Leste.*
- **Mr David Kelly**
 - *SAHMRI Wellbeing & Resilience Centre, Adelaide.*
- **Ms Vikki Ryall**
 - *Head of Clinical Practice, headspace National Office.*
- **Dr Jamie Lee**
 - *Principal Researcher, Relationships Australia, South Australia.*
- **Dr John Halsey**
 - *Professor of Rural Education and Communities, School of Education, Flinders University.*

The program comprises more than 50 papers, posters, round table discussions, workshops and symposia. The conference links research with translation, dissemination and implementation. The program has taken up three main themes including, research and early career, policy and practice and schools and education.

Venue details The Conference will be held at the Flinders University Tonsley campus. The address is 1284 South Road, Clovelly Park. See Tonsley campus map: Flinders **Papers and Posters** **Posters submissions are OPEN until 30 June 2016.**

Conference Dinner A conference dinner will be held on Wednesday 13 July at Alere Restaurant at Flinders University, Bedford Park campus from 6-9.30pm. Cost is \$65.00.



Election Day - Saturday 2 July 2016

A federal election to determine all 226 members of the 45th Parliament of Australia will take place on Saturday 2 July 2016 after an extended eight-week official campaign period. It is the first double dissolution since the 1987 election.

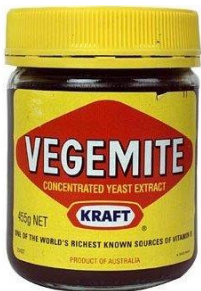
Elections in Australia use a full-preferential system in one vote, one value single-member seats for the 150-

member House of Representatives (lower house) and is changing from full-preferential group voting tickets to an optional-preferential single transferable vote system of proportional representation in the 76-member Senate (upper house). Voting is compulsory.

The Coalition won the 2013 federal election with 90 of the 150 seats in the House of Representatives, on a swing of 17 seats or 3.6 points on a two-party basis, defeating the six-year Labor government. Labor holds 55 seats, and crossbenchers hold the remaining five.

By Westminster convention, but subject to constitutional constraints, the decision as to the type of election and its date is for the prime minister, who advises the governor-general to set the process in motion by dissolving the lower or both house(s) and issuing writs for election.

What is Vegemite?



Vegemite is considered as much a part of Australia's heritage as kangaroos and the Holden cars. It is actually an Australian obsession that has become a unique and loved symbol of the Australian nation. A Vegemite sandwich to an Australian kid is the equivalent of a peanut butter and jelly sandwich to an American kid - but the taste is QUITE different!

Vegemite is one of several yeast extract spreads sold in Australia. It is made from leftover brewers' yeast extract (a by-product of beer manufacture) and various vegetable and spice additives. It is very dark reddish-brown, almost black, in color, and one of the richest sources known of Vitamin B. It's thick like peanut butter, it's very salty, and it tastes like - **well let's just say that it is an acquired taste!**

Australian children are brought up on Vegemite from the time they're babies. It is said that Australians are known to travel all over the world with at least one small jar of Vegemite in their luggage, for fear that they will not be able to find it.

Did You Know?

22.7 million jars of Vegemite are manufactured in Australia every year - that's 235 jars per minute.

30 jars are sold in Australia for every one exported.

Vegemite is in nine out of ten pantries in Australia.



*Thank God
It's The Maltese Newsletter
The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora*

A QUIET ACHIEVER

**Hon Consul for Malta in Western Australia
and Patron of the Maltese Association of WA Inc.
Dr. Anthony Sciberras retires**



All of us are proud of, and grateful to Dr Tony Sciberras, for his achievements and accomplishments in his career. Indeed, he has helped put in place the very foundations that have made our club such a successful centre for our community. The good Doctor has established himself as the epitome of all that is best in a true and caring professional.

We have much to thank him for:

Representing Malta and its people in Western Australia, at official functions,

for 29 years, with no remuneration whatsoever.

Patron of our Club since the 1990s

Available for medical attention to patients at home at all hours.

Consul Document Services to the Maltese in Western Australia.

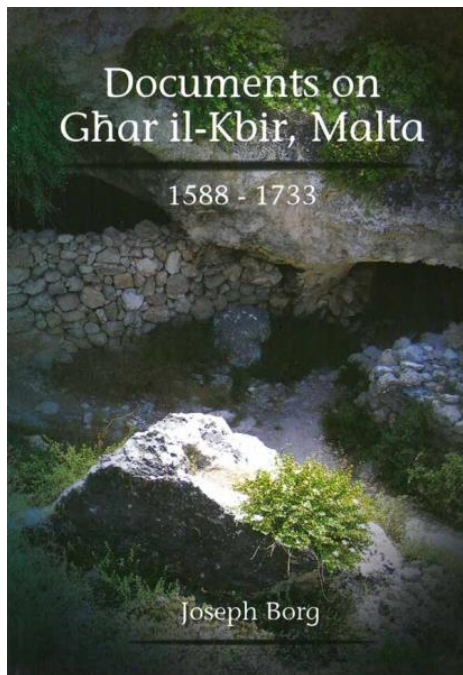
Teaching Maltese language, after long hours at his G.P practice.

September 8th speeches at King's Park, celebrating Malta's National Day. (Tony just loves Malta's rich history!)

There is so much more that Dr Anthony has done well, efficiently, unassuming and always very modest about everything. May God bless you Tony and Connie —All of us in WA wish you the very best, here in Australia and on your long visit to Malta. Tony Zammit

Ghar il-Kbir, Malta. Marriage documents 1588-1733

Discovered by Joseph Borg, transcribed and translated by Prof. Horatio Vella of the University of Malta.



This book contains eighteen transcribed and translated Latin documents, falling into the period from 1588 (Doc. 1) till 1733 (Doc. 18).

These documents are only a sample of a larger number that have been discovered and collected by Mr Joseph Borg over the years, and do not show, by any means, an exhaustive picture of the Great Cave. But they certainly reflect a lot on a habitation covering a century and a half (1588-1733). Out of his own resources, Joseph Borg commissioned Prof. Horatio Vella of the University of Malta to transcribe and translate them.

These documents are notarial deeds of couples going into marriage, promising and declaring what goods they were bringing into the marriage. The very fact that the inhabitants of the Great Cave (Ghar il-Kbir) went to a Notary before marriage shows how these people were not completely cut off from the legal and

religious practices of the rest of the island.

These documents refer to who represented whom in the notarial deeds; what fields or other goods, including clothes and animals, were being pledged, and what conditions were imposed should the marriage have failed and so on. As such they are also invaluable to those doing genealogical research in this period. The book (248 pages) can be purchased from Book Distributors Ltd (BDL) on the following link: <http://www.bdlbooks.com/social-aspects/4584-documents-on-ghar-il-kbir-malta.htm>

Award winning bed & breakfast in Marsaxlokk Duncan welcomes you.

Duncan's Guest House has been run by the same family since the hotel first opened over a hundred years ago in 1897. The present owners are the fourth generation to manage the hotel, so catering to people's needs is more a way of life for them, rather than a mere occupation.

Michael, and John look forward to giving you a warm Maltese welcome in their family-run guest house in the fishing village of Marsaxlokk.

The guest house is situated in a scenic location directly overlooking the harbour which has retained its character and appeal. From here, visitors can easily enjoy the numerous attractions that Malta has to offer.

Malta is a country steeped in history, so it is appropriate that the hotel should be named after a Royal Navy anti-submarine frigate which was used to escort ships bringing food to Malta during wartime, thereby ensuring that the population was well provided for.

Indeed, the restaurant itself has enjoyed a long-standing reputation amongst locals for the delicious food it offers at excellent value for money. It is especially renowned for its homemade pizzas, cakes and wines, as well as its large selection of dishes, all of which are served in ample portions.

Likewise the personalised service and comfortable accommodation available has enabled people from all over the world to enjoy a holiday tailored to their individual needs at a price they can afford. Their guest book is testimony to the fact that if you want to be looked after during your stay on Malta, there is nowhere better.

www.duncanmalta.com

Pope Francis pets a tiger, and both show mercy

By Rosie Scammell



Pope Francis caresses a tiger during a Jubilee audience for the circus performers and street artists in Paul VI Hall at the Vatican on June 16, 2016. Photo courtesy of REUTERS/Tony Gentile

VATICAN CITY (RNS) Pope Francis got to pet a tiger cub and was treated to an acrobatics performance on Thursday (June 16) in the Vatican's latest — and perhaps most unusual — celebration for the Jubilee of Mercy.

The Argentine pontiff smiled as he stroked the 6-month old tiger, though both Francis and the big

cat seemed wary of each other at first. But a minder distracted the tiger with a feeding bottle and the pope later joked about the experience.

Francis was also presented with a bird of prey and was given a white magician's hat, part of the Jubilee for Circus and Traveling Show People.



WORLD SUMMIT ON ARTS AND CULTURE IN MALTA

The 7th World Summit on Arts and Culture is being held at the Mediterranean Conference Centre in Valletta between October 18 and October 21, 2016.



Previous World Summits have been held in Canada, Singapore, England, South Africa, Australia and Chile, and have proven their potential for stimulating international cooperation, learning and information exchange for arts support agencies, artists, arts managers and policy makers worldwide.

The summit will see more than 400 arts policy makers, government representatives, arts managers, researchers and cultural practitioners from around the world get together in Malta to take part in a rich programme of debate, learning and information exchange.

The World Summit will be jointly hosted by the International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies (IFACCA) and Arts Council Malta, the Maltese Government's national agency for development and investment in the cultural and creative

sectors.

Dr Nina Obuljen Koriinek, an expert in the field of cultural and media policies with special focus on cultural diversity and international cultural relations and co-operation, has been appointed programme director for the 7th edition of the summit.

More information on the World Summit on Arts and Culture can be found on the summit website — www.crtsummit.org

HELP NEEDED



Dear frank. I love receiving the newsletter via an Australian cousin...the newsletter today shows the Maltese names on it...I am intrigued by the Debrincat name from Munxar at Gozo...do you have any knowledge if Brincat comes from that.....as you don't list a brincat in your letter. .we are a family that has been traced back to Malta 1780...but it states brincat.....I cannot get to the bottom of this brincat. Name at all so are you saying it's a rarer name from where? any help from your readers would be appreciated.....thank you from England Carole.....

The amazing village of GHARGHUR – Malta



This is one of the old villages of Malta. Recently a long controversy was carried out in some local papers about its name: Gharghur or Gargur?

Ancient records like the Militia list (1419-20) and the earliest parish documents call it Casali Grigori, Casal Gregorio, Casal Gargur. In certain maps of those times it appears as San Gregorio, or Gregorio, or Galgour. Throughout history the Maltese had a popular devotion to St. Gregory the Great, and in our village near Tal-Ferħa there was a chapel dedicated to him, mentioned by Mons. Dusina (1575). Even today in the vicinity a few fields are known as “ta’ Girgor”.

Since 1419-20 the name has undergone a series of variations by notaries and history writers. Agius de Soldanis gives Gargur and Gharghur; Vassalli's Lexicon includes Gharghur, Gregorius, Gregorio, Ħal Gharghur (column 321). After him Ħal Gharghur gained ground, while Gargur was still in vogue up to Second World War. Today official documents give Ħal Gharghur. History lovers are divided. Others follow their sentimental preferences.

The Locality

Ħal Gharghur is one of the smallest villages in Malta having an area of around 2 square kilometres and a population of about 2,658 people (as published on gov.gazette 01.06.2012). It is a characteristic rural village situated between Naxxar and Madliena to the west and east respectively. The locality is an important example of a typical village still today surrounded by rural areas of good quality agricultural land. This provides for the quiet, serene atmosphere found within this locality with abundant green natural areas around it. Ħal Gharghur still retains a natural delineation all around the village, separating it entirely from surrounding localities. The village possesses a particular rural setting and character, which is important to conserve and protect.

The urban part of Ħal Gharghur is predominantly residential in character with a typical village core surrounding the prominent church and square. Commercial and retail activities are limited to local shopping provision mainly within the Church area.



Some of the best examples of areas of ecological value are found bordering Ħal Gharghur. These include Wied Anġlu, Wied il-Faħam, Wied ta' Santa Marija taż-Żellieqa, Wied ta' Pisswella, Wied ta' Santa Katerina and Wied id-Dis. The Great Fault also passes within the limits of Ħal Gharghur. Ħal Gharghur in fact is situated on high ground and its prominent position overlooking the coast of Baħar iċ-Ċagħaq was found suitable for the location of the existing Broadcasting

Transmission Station (previously the ex-Naval Signal Station). The Victoria Lines (1870-1899), a historical feature with recreational and tourism potential, is also present in the locality.



Feast of St. Peter and Paul at Nadur Gozo



The first picture of the group - MNARJA FOLK GROUP -
SO MANY BEAUTIFUL MEMORIES
Thanks to all of you
Monica Grima



Photo: On the right Dame Veronica Camilleri
Cauchi and Dame Marlene Muscat second from
the left.

Mnarja is the principal folk festival of Malta and

a public holiday there, thought to have been originally a harvest festival.

It is held in Buskett Gardens, a park with extensive vineyards and orange and lemon orchards not far from Mdina, Malta's medieval capital.

The name of the festival is a corruption of the Italian luminaria, meaning "illumination," since in long-ago times, the bastions around Mdina were illuminated by bonfires for the event.

At one time, Mnarja was such a popular and important feast that a husband traditionally promised his bride on their wedding day that he would take her to Buskett on Mnarja Day every year.

Festivities begin on the eve of Mnarja with an agricultural show that continues through the next morning and folk-singing (ghana) and folk-music competitions.

The traditional food of the evening is fried rabbit. On the following day, bareback horse and donkey races bring the feast to an end. The winners receive palij, "embroidered banners," which they donate to their town church. Submitted by H.E. PeterPaul Portelli

Ganni Bonnici's Anzac memorial immortalized on Australia Post prepaid stationery

Mathias Mallia Monday, 28 March 2016,

Sculptor Ganni Bonnici's Anzac Memorial at the Argotti Botanical Gardens in Floriana has been immortalized on an Australia Post prepaid postal stationery envelope. The envelope shows the memorial in its entirety and the bronze figures are highlighted separately on the imprinted postage stamp. The photography was taken by Renee Figallo while the design of the envelope was done by Sharon Rodziewicz.

Ganni Bonnici is one of the dominating figures in Maltese sculpture who made a name for himself throughout the years with monuments such as the Independence Monument in Floriana as well as a large number of religious statues all over Malta and Gozo. He was the first man to bring ceramic art to Malta, the first to design and make medals on the island, the first man to study art after WWII and he also designed one of the official commemorative Papal medals.

The back of the envelope gives details about the memorial's inauguration on 25 May 2013, saying that Mr Bonnici's work expresses the "human pathos during the Gallipoli Campaign in the First World War", as artist and designer Alfred Caruana Ruggier wrote in his extensive article on the subject.

Mr Caruana Ruggier further explained how, "Many died from their injuries with a good number of bodies being repatriated to their home countries. More than two hundred and seventy soldiers were however buried in Malta."

The Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) was a First World War army corps of the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force. It was formed in Egypt in 1915, and operated during the Battle of Gallipoli. General William Birdwood commanded the corps, which comprised troops from the First Australian Imperial Force and 1st New Zealand Expeditionary Force. The corps disbanded in 1916, following the Allied evacuation of the Gallipoli peninsula and the formation of I ANZAC Corps and II ANZAC Corps.



In a book entitled 'Malta and the Anzacs - The Nurse of the Mediterranean', Mr Bonnici's memorial is shown in a full page illustration. This is most notably due to the fact that this particular memorial is the only Anzac Memorial which is outside of Australia. Bonnici was one of six entries in a competition to choose the design of the monument. As explained by Mr Caruana

Ruggier, "It expresses human suffering without images recalling war or weapons. It is a heroic symbol of those who defended and gave their lives for their countries."

The monument itself shows two figures, one male and the other female, with pleading open arms depicting a struggle for survival while, at the same time, awakening a spirit of victory. The base features the names of the Anzac soldiers which were buried in Malta. Ganni Bonnici is also a notable figure in the world of philatelists or, in layman's terms, stamp collectors. His work has been featured on stamps in Malta since 1985 and his designs have won first and third place in the International Vote-A-Stamp Referendum and Contest.

One of Mr Bonnici's stamps showing the three wise men, was actually reproduced in 23 carat gold foil as a British private local stamp by the owner of Staffa, an island in Scotland with no official postal service. According to Mr Caruana Ruggier, "They were permissible under British law and used in payment for the service of private delivery from Staffa up to the official Post Office on the island of Mull. His memorials and ceramic figures are also featured on the highest value stamps in Malta in 1991 and 2006 respectively.

Thanks for the lovely Newsletter (124). As soon as I receive it I read it from cover to cover. Every article is so interesting and informative. I like also the format .. it is easy to read and follow. Then I forward it to all my contacts (Malta, USA, UK, Australia and Canada)and they all love it. I wonder how you manage to collect all that material. One day I will send you some information that I collected over the years.

Joseph P Ellul



Important milestone in EU-Australia relations

The European Union has signed a 2m euros (\$A 3m) contract to run the EU-Australia Leadership Forum, a project that will raise the

EU-Australia relationship to an even higher level. A new project funded by the EU, the EU-Australia Leadership Forum (EUALF), aims to broaden the bilateral relationship based on the forthcoming EU-Australia Framework Agreement and EU-Australia Free Trade Agreement negotiations. The EUALF will run from June 2016 to June 2019.

EU and Australian leaders have described the Forum as a unique platform to nurture the future of the relationship. The contract has been awarded to a consortium led by MWH (Belgium) in partnership with the Australian Institute of International Affairs, the German-Australian Chamber of Industry and Commerce and Agriconsulting Europe. The project team has considerable experience in analysing the political and policy context of Australia.

EU Ambassador to Australia Sem Fabrizi expressed appreciation regarding the launch of this new project. The EU is the biggest investor in Australia. The EU and Australia are like-minded in promoting prosperity and security. The EU will work closely with the Australian Government and all stakeholders in making the Forum an important feature of the growing EU-Australia partnership. The EUALF will see senior and emerging leaders from the EU and Australia engage in discussions around the future of the EU-Australia relationship.

Lascaris War Rooms

Lascaris Ditch, Valletta; tel: +356 21234717; <http://www.wirtartna.org>

Open Daily, from 10:00am to 5:00pm; Closed on New Year's Day, Good Friday, Easter & Christmas Day. Regular Ticket: €10; Subsidised ticket (Senior citizens and students): €8; Under 16's: €5; Family ticket (2 Adults + 3 children): €25



Tucked away in the rocky sub-terrain beneath the bastions of Valletta, the Lascaris War Rooms may be easily overlooked by the casual visitor to the city.

Visitor – enter this location with reverence; behold in awe! It was here that the course of Mankind's history was forever altered. *Operation Husky!* It was here that the liberation of Sicily from the evils of the Axis forces took root and paved the way for the redemption of

the European continent.

Despite its minuscule size, Malta's position between the African and the European continents is strategic; as General Erwin Rommel succinctly stated: "Without Malta the Axis will end by losing control of North Africa". The Axis forces were intent on crippling the island's defence capacity by

cutting off access to essential supplies and incessant aerial attacks. Indeed Malta was amongst the most heavily bombed locations in the world during the war years. In April 1942, Malta was showered with 6700 tonnes of bombs, yet did not surrender to the enemy.

The Lascaris Rooms are so called due to their proximity to Fort Lascaris, built by the British governorship in 1856. Their construction was necessary since the facilities inside St. John's Cavalier were no longer sufficient to meet the demands of Malta's stepped-up response to aerial aggression. Rooms were hewn out of rock inside a pre-existing network of tunnels to give a complex from which military operations against enemy aircraft could be launched. These war rooms became operational in 1943.

Information regarding impending enemy air-attacks intercepted by the four radar systems around the island used to be relayed to the *filter room* and plotted onto a grid. The plots would provide a sound basis on which the fighter controller in the *Fighter Control Room* would select the defence strategy.

This complex would not cease to function in the post-war period as Lascaris would be used by NATO for its operations in the South Mediterranean until the early 1970's. The habilitation of the War Rooms was entrusted to Fondazzjoni Wirt Artna in 2009. Visitors will be treated to a tour by guides who are quite evidently passionate about their work. There is also an audio-visual presentation about the Santa Marija convoy



The Jackson's- the family reviving Malta's traditional music

Edmond Jackson's passion for music is a family love affair spanning several generations and three countries. His father was an Irish musician stationed in Malta with the Royal Irish Fusiliers during Malta's years as a British colony, while his grandmother was Scottish. When Edmond's father fell in love with a Maltese woman – later to be Edmond's mother – he did utmost to stay in Malta and eventually settled here.

He played several forms of bagpipes, and passed on his knowledge to Edmond, but he never learnt the Maltese bagpipe called the 'zaqq' (bagpipe). He used to tell Edmond of a man he knew while in the army who was the only person he'd met who knew how to play the zaqq. He used to help this musician out, supplying him with cane drone reeds which the

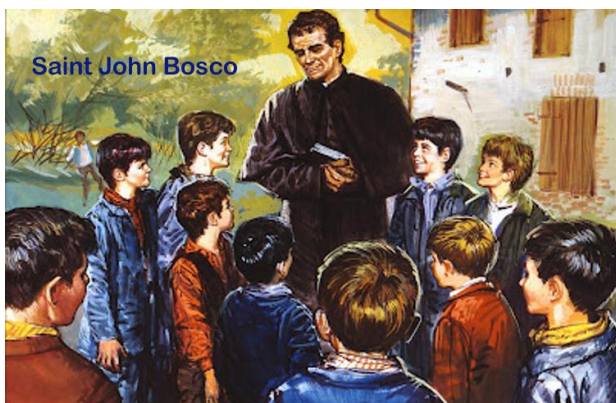
man used for making instruments. Unfortunately, over the years, Edmond's father lost track of him and in the end could not even remember his name.

Edmond was determined to find the bagpipe player in the hope of learning how to play the instrument himself. Despite the smallness of Malta, his search proved a massive challenge. Bad luck and wrong leads meant his search lasted over 25 years. Until one day, a friend of Edmond's told him that he may have come across the person he was looking – a man nicknamed Il-Hammarun – living in Naxxar.

Edmond and Il-Hammarun soon struck a very strong friendship. An old photo did indeed reveal that the elderly musician was the person Edmond's father knew all those years before. Il-Hammarun then took it upon himself to teach Edmond how to play the zaqq. The zaqq which he used was made up of a part of a British military plane which had crashed in the war 1942, a bull's horn shaved with glass so it was wafer thin, and sheep or calf skin to make the bag. When he passed away in 2004, he left this instrument to Edmond. Nowadays, Edmond attaches his father's military musician badge onto the bagpipe horn.

Music is an essential part of the Jackson family. Every family member plays an instrument. Edmond and his son, Anderson, play the zaqq; the tanbur (Maltese frame drum, which is played using several parts of the body including knees and elbows); the zavzava (friction drum); the flejguta (a Maltese instrument similar to a flute and made from local cane); the zummara (reed pipe made from cane derived from Maltese valleys); and the cuqlajta (clappers). His three daughters play the tanbur and the zavzava, and his wife also plays several instruments. Together they form the group '**Jackson's Zaqq u Tanbur Folk Group**', a pipe band which is also registered internationally.

The group, which includes some non-family members as well, participates in various cultural festivals and events around the islands organised by local councils. Edmond gives music lessons in Marsa that have a particular focus on traditional Maltese instruments. If you're interested in lessons or learning more about the instruments just go on contact us webpage: www.jacksonspipeband.com



Saint John Bosco And the Salesians In Malta

Being young is also about running about, enjoying oneself and making friends. This is all we are about at our Oratories and even all other Salesian realities.

Enjoying the experience being lived is crucial for the young. We strive to offer a space where this is done in a healthy manner. All realities while offering positive recreational experiences are still managed with a holistic approach.

Salesjani Sliema - The Salesian Oratory in Sliema is a space for young people to relax, meet friends while being challenged for personal growth. Well in a few words a Youth Center the Salesian way! The Oratory has a number of branches including the brigades, Theater and a Church with service for everyone.

Dar Dun Bosco – Dingli This is the Salesians Oratory in Dingli. Similar to the one in Sliema it is a space to grow in a family atmosphere. Formation meetings together with sport and play are part of this reality

Live-ins and Camps - Both offered in Dingli, as part of the Vocation Promotion Section. Various live-ins are organised over the year with the 'Camps' experience offered in Summer. Other realities also offer formation live-ins.

Boscofest - Boscofest is a Christian educational experience for young people from all over Malta through the mediums of art, music and drama. Young people united together for the summer months work together in a Salesian environment.

St Philips – Senglea A reality still in its infancy. The Salesian Community present there is providing experiences to the youth of the area to have fun and grow in a healthy environment

Canada Day Celebrations to be held in Gozo on July 1st



BY GOZO NEWS · JUNE 17, 2016

This year Canada will be celebrating its 149th birthday and exactly 20 years ago, in 1996, The Maltese Canadian Association (Gozo) was inaugurated. The association, made up of Maltese Canadian expatriates, proud of their Canadian traditions, meet and

discuss various local and Canadian issues pertaining to themselves and their children, as well as organizing various functions throughout the year.

This year's annual Canada Day function will be held on July 1st and will be attended by the Consul of Canada. The function is being held at the Country Terrace at Mgarr and all Maltese Canadians and friends are invited to attend.

Celebrations will start at 7.00pm with the playing of the two countries national anthems and the raising of their flags in front of the Country Terrace. The Canadian Anthem will be sung by the Canadian/Maltese Tenor Victor Micallef and the Maltese Anthem will be sung by Daphne Xuereb. This will be followed by a hot and cold buffet together with entertainment by DJ Daniel Said.

Tickets for adults are priced at €25 and tickets for children cost €12. For tickets or further information kindly call or sms Marlene Muscat on 79557580, Connie Grima on 79564269, Alfred Camilleri on 99246043 or email info@mcagozo.com.

The association said that it would also like to thank all past, present and future sponsors who contribute to keeping the Association alive and encourage more Maltese Canadian expatriates to join the association.

The Maltese are everywhere

Written by Andrew Galea Debono



Most Maltese stay put, but you'll still find them the world over.

Despite Malta having a small population, it's not unusual to stumble across a Maltese person in the most unexpected of places around the world. Perhaps the claustrophobia of life on a tiny island makes some get itchy feet and roam the world.

Having been on the move overseas working on international human rights issues, I've often found myself in the remotest of places yet even then, I've come across a Maltese person or someone who knows one. They say that there are six degrees of separation between every person on earth. At times like those, I think there are even fewer.

Once, I was on a secluded beach in northern Colombia. I had just come back from a conflict zone and decided to chill out a bit. Getting to the Tayrona area required a very long journey on some rickety buses. Once I got to my chosen secluded bus stop, I walked for about four hours and arrived at a beach. Without piped water and electricity, it was totally cut off from the world... or so I thought!

I met an Irish girl who was living in a nearby little village and when I told her I was Maltese, she said: "Yeah, I know a Maltese guy who lives in the nearby village of Taganga. He's a diving instructor!" The guy turned out to be the son of a friend of mine who owns the bar next to my house in Malta. I'd once shared a hospital room with him after smashing my knee.

Another time through my job, I met a Maltese priest who was working in Burundi with the same humanitarian agency I was. While in Africa, he'd met a Maltese nun who was working in Tanzania – the sister of my mum's best friend.

I was once in London for a meeting, and since I was working for a low-budget NGO, I decided to stay at the house of a former colleague; an Australian who'd worked with me in India. As I was preparing to go to the airport, an English friend of her flatmate walked through the door. During a brief chat, he said he was pleasantly surprised to find out I was from Malta, and told me he knew a Maltese person very well. It turned out his friend is the brother of a former class-mate of mine.

On a train in London, without me even opening my mouth, a little Maltese kid looked at me and told his mum: that guy looks Maltese! But how can a Maltese person be recognisable from other Mediterranean people without us even opening our mouths? Indeed, I can generally tell a Maltese person from a Sicilian or a Tunisian (our closest neighbours) – but somehow the only people I mistake for Maltese without them being so are the Lebanese. Perhaps our Phoenician roots are evident after all.

Maltese people are everywhere! And soon we may also have the first Maltese on Everest. It's probably the only spot on earth never to have been set foot on by a Maltese person; but not for long!

Photo: Walter Lo Cascio

Source: <http://www.maltainsideout.com/1321/the-maltese-are-everywhere/>

Folk healers and herbal medicine

By Anton Attard: 'I was living in Victoria, which means at the centre of [the island of] Gozo. At the time, paralyses were a major and worst illness found here. If you take a look at a newspaper of those times, you will read that a lot of children suffered from severe paralyses: meaning that they had their hands or feet paralysed stiff, dry up and become useless. It was a very serious disease. Today we know much about it but when I was a young lad there was very little knowledge and a person who contracted this disease was sure to have it for life and that's it!

Well there was Frenċ tal-Għarb, I think that I have to tell you that it was not only Frenċ who used herbal medicine but, even my father, for example, had some four herbal recipes which were not given to him by Frenċ tal-Għarb ... but by other farmers.

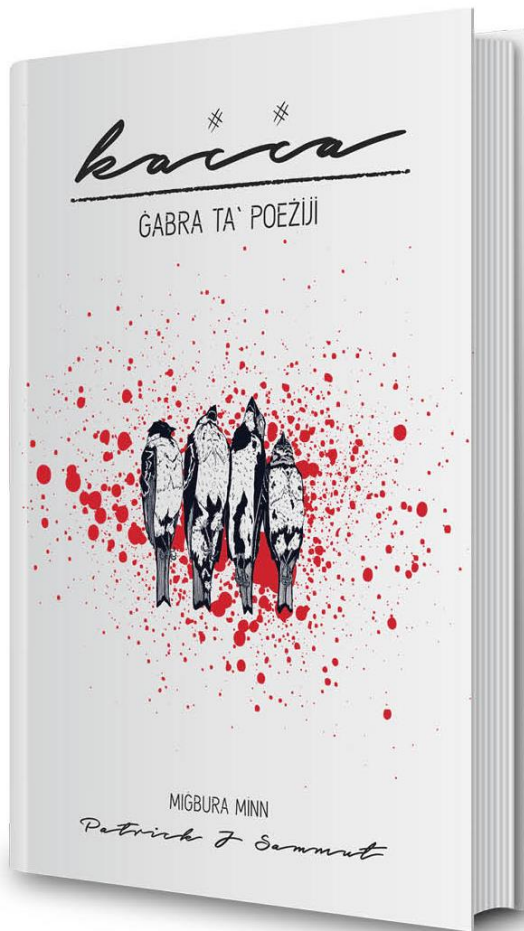
Farmers themselves knew about herbal medicine and used it very frequently as from time immemorial. For instance my father himself used to fry... what do they call it ... the rue [shrub]! and then would spread its oil on that part of the body which was sore. He also used "x'het ir-riħ" by boiling it and spread against other pains...., cough drops to relieve a cough. The difference is that persons went to Frenċ tal-Għarb and he prescribed them a particular medicine which he prepared for their requirements, but I think that if persons came to them for help they would have provided them with this or that. It means that this knowledge was passed from the old to the younger farmers in time. Do you understand me? there was a myriad of recipes of suitable herbs, especially herbs like rue, grass and "x'het ir-riħ" and others that many used against specific pains and for particular remedies of the body such as aches in the bones and arthritis. Drinkable compounds were the most difficult to do and needed precision. Some had to contain alcohol and these were the more popular. Honey with lemon and whiskey, or hot wine, were two of the most popular and all knew about them...others needed more knowledge and skilful hands.

On the other hand, there were other healers of a different type such as, for instance, Kristina taz-Żebbuġ. Once I went to her not because I required her messaging but I knew someone who had sprained his arm and went to her to be healed ... and she did put it right! Kristina was a strong woman ... in fact, to put this person's arm back to normal, she grasped it between her hands and manipulated it hard... dragged it with full strength and you could hear the bones cracking and sliding back in place. This means that I saw her doing this with my own eyes ... although, keep in mind, that Kristina was more specialised on bone adjustments rather than herbal medicine...she could handle any problems connected with the bone structure and gave messages as well.

To be sure, the first thing she did was to see if the arm, or any other bone, was broken, because if it was she would not handle it, and he was advised to seek a doctor. This shows that she was not a person that abused others...that she was responsible. If, on the other hand, she saw that the bone was not in its right place, she would tell the persons that she was going to put it back in place... she would grip it with all her strength, manipulate it and place it back. She was a responsible person because if she thought that she was not competent enough she would refer the person seeking her help to the doctor or send him to the hospital.

Kacca – gabra ta' poeziji migbura minn Patrick Sammut

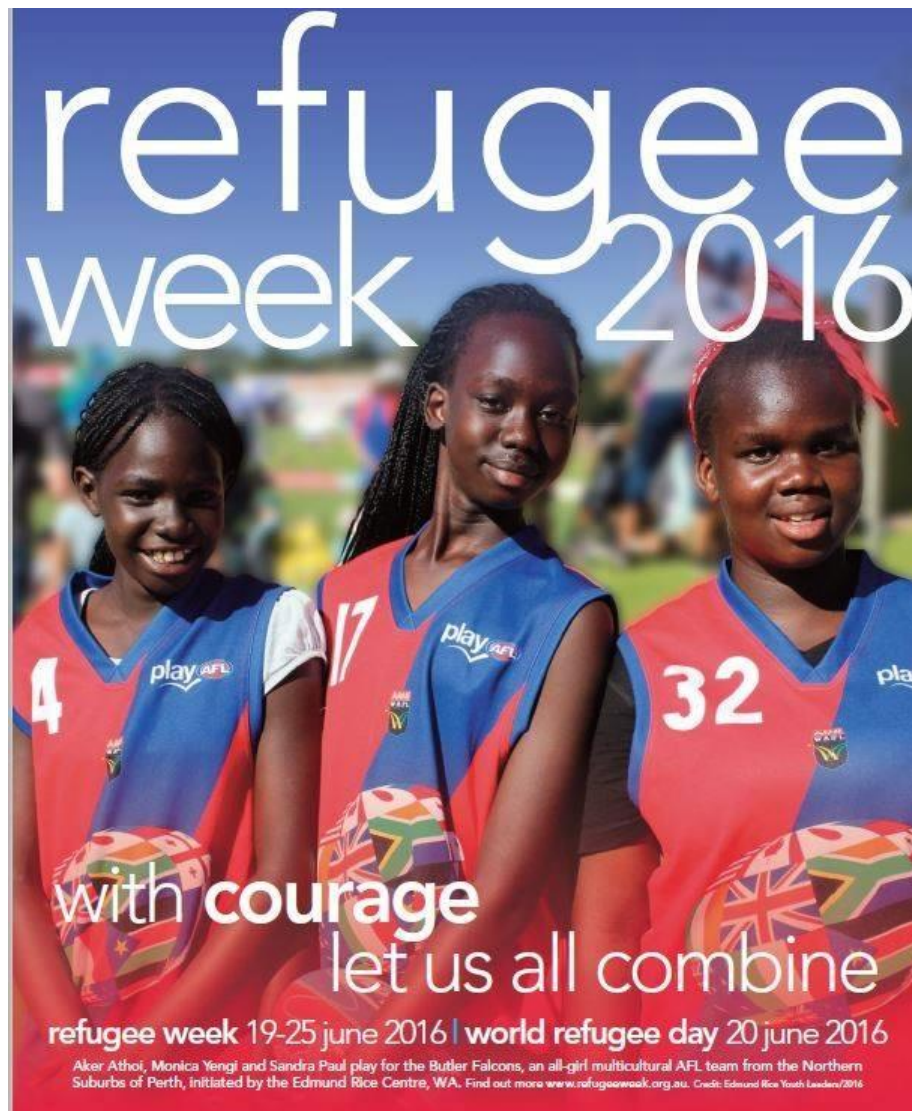
L-idea ta' din l-antologija poetika hija li dawn il-poeziji — miktubin minn 16-il poeta ta' etajiet differenti - ma jintilfux imma ingabru f'post wiehed biex permezz taghhom il-qarrejja jibqghu jiftakru li minkejja li r-Referendum intrebah minn dawk li riedu li l-kacca fir-rebbiegha ma tinqatax, xorta wahda l-kacca tibqa' qtil ta' kreaturi innocenti. Antologija bhal din ghandha wkoll tfakkar lill-kaccatur responsabbli li jobdu l-ligijiet li r-riizultat tar-Referendum t'April 2015 serva fuq kollox biex tinhoqu kuxjenza fost il-poplu Malti favur it-tjur li jpassu fuq il-giejjer taghna. Dawn il-kreaturi mhumie x taghna imma huma wirt naturali dinji u ghalhekk kull tajra li tinqatel hija tajra misruqa lill-popli tad-dinja kollha, inkluzi wliedna u wlied uliedna li ghadhom sahanitra ma twildux.



Hawn huma inkluzi wkoll numru ta' poeziji li nkitbu qabel ir-Referendum tal-2015 imma xorta wahda jintrabtu mas-suggett jew jiehdu l-perspettiva ta' poeziji protesta kontra l-qtil tat-tjur jew il-perspettiva li tghinna napprezzaw l-isbuhija ta' hlejjaq bhal dawn. Hemm poeziji fejn il-protesta tinhas b'sahhitha, f'ohrajn takem iktar ir-riflessjoni pacifika, f'ohrajn hemm is-sens romantiku li jitpaxxa u japprezza l-isbuhija u s-semplicita' ta' dawn il-hlejjaq ckejkinn.

Patrick J SAMMUT





As the Refugee Council of Australia says:

It takes courage to be a refugee: As people who have faced persecution because of who they are (their race, nationality or membership of a persecuted group) or what they believe (their religion or political opinion), refugees need courage:

- The courage not to deny identity or beliefs in the face of persecution.
- The courage to leave all that is familiar and step into the unknown in search of peace.
- The courage to keep going in the face of devastating loss, difficulty and despair.

The courage to begin again, to work hard and to maintain hope in an unfamiliar land.

Lake Malta in Poland



Of Poznań's many lakes it's Malta - to the east - that is the best known, and its surroundings are well worth further investigation. Formed in 1952 as a result of damming the Cybina, this 2.2km long lake is the largest man-made lake in the city, with an average depth of 3.1 metres. Surrounded by parks and woodland, it is today one of the principal recreation areas in the region - in both summer and winter - with an [ice-rink](#), [ski slope](#) (the first in former communist Europe), a world-class [regatta course](#), [zoo](#), [water park](#), and dozens of other attractions, including several [historical sights](#). Just east of the centre, but miles from the madness of the [market square](#), if

you're in town to decompress, head to Malta.

History What you see before you wasn't always a lake, more of a river running by Poznań. In 1178 Prince Mieszko invited representatives of the Knights Hospitaller to the region, and they in turn built [St. John of Jerusalem Church](#) - now regarded as the oldest brick place of worship in the country. By 1530 the West European branch of the Knights had resettled on Malta, and so their order found itself renamed The Knights of Malta. The chaps who had come to Poland followed suit, and soon the locals were also referring to the area they decamped to as 'Malta.'

For the next few hundred years Malta went largely unnoticed, and it was only in the 19th century that the people of Poznań suddenly realised they had a great place to head for a weekend stroll, or wobble around on a newfangled contraption called a bicycle. Adding to Malta's appeal was its dense greenery and relative isolation from prying eyes, making it popular with frisky couples. After WWI numerous ideas for Malta came to the fore, but all eventually hit a wall with the exception of Adam Ballenstaedt's 'Freedom Mound.' Not ones to faff around and wait for planning permission it was the Nazis who actually changed Malta to the Malta we know today. It was on their initiation that thousands of slave workers were drafted in and began damming the river to create a lake, and while they never saw their plans realised, the communists who took over did. The job was finished in 1952, and the results you can see for yourself.

Between 1980 and 1989 the lake was completely drained, and the surrounding area given a facilities facelift in time for the World Canoeing Championship in 1990. Today it's still regarded as a top-quality course, as proved by the decision to hold the 2009 World Rowing Championships here. An enormously popular leisure destination for people throughout the region, new attractions and facilities are constantly being added as the area's allure continues to grow.



St. John of Jerusalem outside the walls POLAND

Photo: Church of St. John of Jerusalem outside the walls

Church of St. John of Jerusalem outside the walls - Roman Catholic parish church in the city of Poznań. The original church on this site was built in the late 11th century, making it one of the oldest churches in the city. The epithet "behind the walls" came because the church was located outside the medieval defensive

wall Poznań.

The first church was built here in the late 11th century in honor of St. Michael the Archangel, located on the crossroads leading to Syremu and Giechu. The chronicle says that it is May 6, 1170, Prince Mieszko III and Bishop of Poznań established a shelter for pilgrims. In 1187 the church and hospice were transferred to the **Order of the Knights of Malta**, who at the beginning of the 13th century began to build a new church. Built and then the church is the building that we see today. It was one of the first stone churches in Poland, it was naved with a pitched roof. Baroque chapel was built in the eastern part of the church.

After a fire in the late 15th century, the church was rebuilt in the Gothic style. The triptych at the altar was set up in a local workshop in 1520. In 1736, on the south side there was a baroque chapel.

After the start of World War II, the church of St. John of Jerusalem was used as a warehouse, and during the Battle of Poznań in 1945, was badly damaged. Restoration work was completed in 1948. In 1992 the church was returned to the Order of the Knights Hospitallers, after which there was a center opened outpatient cancer patients.

RELATIONS BETWEEN MALTA AND POLAND

The diplomatic relations between the Republic of Malta and the Republic of Poland were formally established almost half a century ago. Since their foundation, these relations never looked back and have been strengthened in particular after the accession of both countries to the European Union in 2004 and to Schengen in 2008.

Cultural links between Malta and Poland are best personified by the common colours of the Red and the White of the two national flags. But the cultural ties go far beyond this. In 2007, a Maltese-Polish Friendship Society was established with the aim to foster people-to-people links while a town twinning agreement was concluded between Gzira in Malta and Walbrzych in Poland.

The economic relations between the two countries are also very encouraging with statistics indicating an impressive expansion of trade and commerce. Tourism traffic between the two countries has also increased considerably and a new all-year-round flight has been established between Malta and several cities in Poland. https://foreignaffairs.gov.mt/en/Embassies/Me_Warsaw/Pages/Me_Warsaw.aspx

NOSTALGIA

PAUL, TONY JOE CALLEJA - 1929

FROM WESTERN AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM ARCHIVES

Origin **Birkirkara, Malta**

Accompanying Family **Joe's wife, Emmanuella(Emma)** arrived in Fremantle on 3/10/1929 on the **SS Barrabool**. **Tony's wife Carmena** and 2 sons, **Emmanuel(4)** and **Paolu (3)** followed him to **Australia on the SS Balranald** which arrived in Fremantle on 10/11/1930

First settled in **Perth, WA**

Paul Calleja was the father of Tony and the uncle of Joe. Paul was listed as Plasterer on the ship's manifest, Tony as Bricklayer(Tiler) and Joe as Motor Driver. Paul worked as a painter and caretaker until he had to return to Malta to be with his wife. He was for a time the assistant to Master Painter Mr Nash who did the original DINGO FLOUR sign on Stirling Hwy, Leighton. Mr Nash was given the job in the late 20's or early thirties. Tony worked as kitchen hand, cook, orderly and orchardist. Joe worked as orderly, kitchen hand, cook and factory labourer. Tony was in the army during WW2. Joe was in the land army.



Remember Ghar-id-dud tas-Sliema?

The Chalet, which was built in the area known as Ghar id-Dud in the centre of Sliema, was constructed on a reef projecting out from the shoreline. It was completed in 1926 to the design of the British architect B.W. Cordwell. The chalet at Ghar id-Dud was a popular rendezvous as an open-air café and dance floor until the

early 1960s, when it was closed down due to severe deterioration that had rendered the structure unsafe. Il-Bajja ta' Ghar id-Dud is a cove in Malta and is nearby to Sliema beach, Il Ponta ta' Tas-Sliema and Sliema. Il-Bajja ta' Ghar id-Dud is also close to Il-Fortizza ta' Tas-Sliema, Cambridge Battery and Il Fortizza ta' Tigne.

**IF MISSED ON PREVIOUS EDITIONS THAY ARE
DOWNLOAD AT www.ozmalta.page4.me**



Isle Of MTV Malta 28th June Isle of MTV is a free outdoor music event held in Il-Fosos Square, Malta. The music extravaganza has seen global acts such as Snoop Dogg, Lady Gaga, David Guetta, The Black Eyed Peas and Scissor Sisters perform in front of an audience of more than 50,000 people. outdoor music event held in Il-Fosos Square, Malta. See More

isleofmtv@vimn.com <http://www.isleofmtv.com>

TICKETS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO ATTEND THE EVENT. VIP TICKETS ARE UNAVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.

TIME: 18:00 – 23:30 **FACILITIES:** Bars, Food Stalls, Toilets **AGE RESTRICTIONS:** No age restriction within the square, however areas selling alcohol in restricted areas.

