

Brussels based EU traineeships now accepting applications



Registrations for the next round of traineeships in the European Commission and institutions (starting in March 2017) are now open. These traineeships are for a period of five months, paid (monthly grant of approximately €1,120) and every semester there are about 650 places available. The places are open to candidates from around the world, including Australia to graduates possessing a bachelor's degree (3 years of study), very good knowledge of English, French or German and very good knowledge of a second EU official language. Selected candidates will get hands-on experience in an international and multicultural environment. Applications are processed on a dedicated Commission European site and registration closes on 31 August 2016.



Successful *Consul-on-the-Move* launched in Adelaide



Mr. Victor Grech, Consul General in Melbourne together with the Honorary Consul for Malta in Adelaide, Mr. Frank Scicluna, and the 1st Applicant of the initiative, Consul on the Move, Mrs. Frances Spiteri;

Left– Venue of COTM in Adelaide

Consul-on-the-Move (COTM), an initiative of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Malta, was launched in Australia on the 8th and 9th July in the city of Adelaide

where there is quite a significant Maltese community. The project is intended mainly to reach out to Maltese citizens who do not need to travel themselves to either Melbourne, Sydney or Canberra to renew a passport or avail themselves of other consular services.

Mr. Victor Grech, Consul General for Malta in Melbourne, Victoria, was the pioneer in the project as he was the first Consul to travel purposely to Adelaide process applications for passports. Mr. Grech was assisted by the Honorary Consul for Malta in Adelaide, Mr. Frank Scicluna, and received the first group of *Consul-on-the-Move* applicants in two centres in the heart of Adelaide.

The first trial of the initiative was a success and the High Commission in Canberra is already coordinating the next visits to Tasmania, New Zealand and Queensland scheduled for August and November.

Inizjattiva tal-Ministeru għall-Affarijiet Barranin, Consul-on-the-Move, giet inawgurata b'success fl-Awstralja fit-8 u d-9 ta' Lulju fil-belt ta' Adelaide fejn tghix komunita' Maltija konsiderevoli. L-ideja wara dan il-progett hija li jintlahqu Maltin li jghixu boghod mic-centri urbani u b'hekk ma jkollomx għalfejn jivvjaggjaw Sydney, Melbourne jew Canberra biex igeddu passaport jew japplikaw għal wiehed gdid. Barra passaporti din l-iskem toffri anke servizzi konsolari ohra.

Il-Konslu Generali ta' Malta f'Melbourne, is-Sur Victor Greck, kien il-pijunier billi huwa l-ewwel Konslu li ivvjaggja apposta u zar Adelaide biex jipprocessa l-applikazzjonijiet tal-[passaporti.. Is-Sur Grech kien assistit mill-Konslu Onorarju ta' Malta f'Adelaide, is-Sur Frank Scicluna, u ircieva l-ewwel grupp ta' applikanti f'zewg centri differenti fil-qalba tal-belt ta' Adelaide.

L-ewwel prova ta' dan il-progett kien success u l-Kummissjoni Gholja ta' Malta f'Kanberra diga bdiet il-preparamenti għaz-zjarat li jmiss f'Tasmania, New Zealand u Queensland li se jsiru f'Awwissu u Novembru ta' din is-sena.

The Consul-on-the-move will be back in Adelaide next November if there is sufficient demand. If you want to make an appointment, please, contact the Hon Consul Frank scicluna on honconsul@live.com.au as soon as possible

TRIVIA NIGHT
Fundraiser

COME & SUPPORT THE MALTESE YOUTH OF SA
Entry - \$15 per person
Doors open 6pm

Make a table of 10 or we can help you make one!

Lucky Door Prize, Raffle, Games and a Night Full of FUN!

BYO- Food and Drinks
Drinks available for purchase at the bar

FOR BOOKINGS CONTACT
Stacey on 0431 419 852
or
Tessa on 0410 890 225
or
www.facebook.com/malteseyouthsa
RSVP: 9th September 2016

WE ARE HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE OUR FIRST KICK-OFF EVENT

A Trivia Night Fundraiser will be held on the 17th of September 2016

All proceeds will go towards the establishment of the Maltese Youth Association in South Australia and our first official meet and greet event!!! We'd love to see you all there! So spread the word, gather your friends and family, and come enjoy a night full of fun!!!! Grazi

On behalf of the newly established 'Maltese Youth in South Australia', we are writing this letter to address our endeavours in rebuilding and connecting the younger Maltese generations here in South Australia.

During the recent visit of Her Excellency Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca, President of Malta, she stressed "how important it is to keep the youth connected with the land of their forefathers as there is quite a lot that we can share, even though we live in two different hemispheres".

This has inspired the establishment of the 'Maltese Youth in South Australia' aiming to gather and connect the younger Maltese

generations to promote and enhance our culture, to learn and sustain our traditions and to develop and grow our Maltese Australian connection. In saying this, it is not only the responsibility of the youth themselves to stay connected to their roots but the responsibility of the older generations to assist and guide them in doing so. Therefore, we are asking for the support of current active Maltese associations and groups to help us promote and grow our group. SEE US ON FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/malteseyouthsa/>



**THE MALTESE NEWSLETTER STRONGLY SUPPORTS THIS IMPORTANT
INITIATIVE AND THE EDITOR IS WILLING TO HELP THIS NEW ENTHUSIASTIC
GROUP TO BE ESTABLISHED, GROW AND FLOURISH.**





The next Australian Census will be on Tuesday, 9th August, 2016.

As you may know, the Maltese community has been severely punished for not including all those with a Maltese background (including particularly those from the second generation) who have in the past indicated that they do not speak Maltese.

NOTE:

The Census Question 16 asks: Does the person speak a language other than English at home?

- Note: it emphasizes a language other than English.
- It does not require that you speak Maltese fluently, or only, or even mainly.

I see no reason why every second generation person cannot answer this as follows: YES - MALTESE.

The vast majority of second generation Maltese persons speak some Maltese at some stage, whether it be on phone or personally, with parents etc.

Please help the Maltese community and ensure that you indicate that you speak Maltese.

For the first time this year there will be a "No Religion" option.

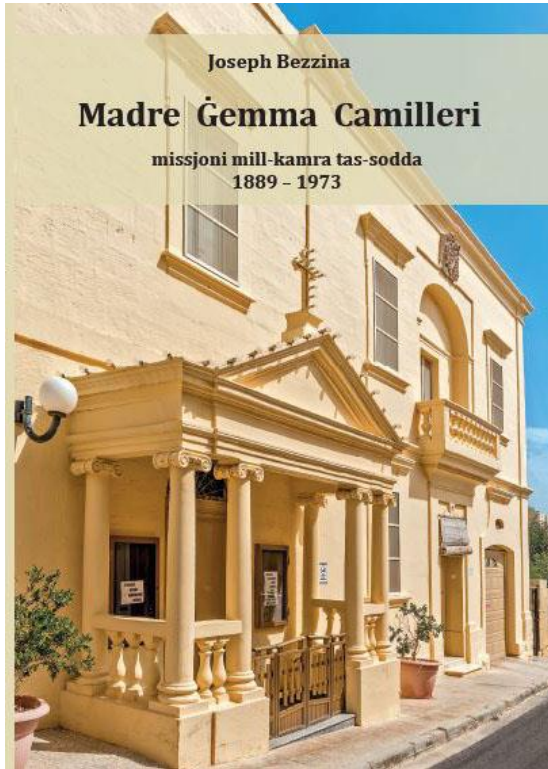
Please be careful how you answer this question.

Bear in mind that although many Australians have no religion these days, or have another religion which they will all declare - *this fact will be counted to ascertain what type of country we are in regard to religion*. Even though you may now have no religion, please consider entering the religion you were christened or born into, when answering this question. The Australian Bureau of Statistics Census will reflect the number result. For Australia's future please pass this message on to your family members and friends.

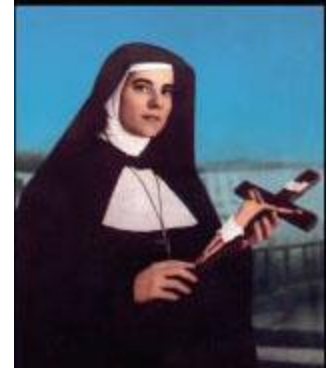
THE CENSUS IS YOUR MOMENT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND HELP SHAPE AUSTRALIA



UNMISSABLE MALTA – A TYPICAL VIEW DURING MALTESE SUMMER



Madre Gemma Camilleri Missjoni mill-kamra tas- sodda



Matul dawn il-jiem, fil-knisja ħelwa tas-Sorijiet Franġiskani tal-Qalb ta' Gesu fin-Nadur, fejn insibu wkoll l-iskola u l-kunvent ta' dawn is-segwaċi tal-Fqajjar t'Assisi San Franġisk, ġie llanċjat il-ktieb dwar Madre Gemma Camilleri li għexet bejn l-1889 u l-1973, xogħol l-istoriku Għawdx Monsinjur Dr Joseph Bezzina, Assistent Arkivist Nazzjonali ta' Malta u Kap tas-Sezzjoni tal-Arkivju Nazzjonali t'Għawdex li waqqaf hu nnifsu fis-sena 1989.

Bla dubju din il-pubblikazzjoni tittratta l-ħajja ta' din is-soru Għawdxija li twieldet in-Nadur u li mietet b'fama ta' qdusija wara li qattgħet l-aħħar 25 sena ta' ħajjitha f'qiegħ ta' sodda f'kamra tal-kunvent tar-raħal fejn twieldet u fejn illum insibu t-triq imsemmija għaliha. Kif jixhed parti mill-isem tal-ktieb, din il-Madre twajba nistgħu ngħidu li werttqet

missjoni mill-kamra tas-sodda tagħha għax ħafna kienu dawk li jirrikorru għandha għal xi parir u biex titlob għalihom. B'xorti ħażina ftit iżda kienu dawk li ħallewlna xhieda tal-laqqgħat tagħhom ma' din il-mara qaddisa tant li l-awtur kellu jagħmel ħafna tiftix biex seta' jippubblika dan x-xogħol u kellu jirrikorri għal Kronaka li s-Sorijiet kienu jżommu fl-erbat idjar fejn kienet Madre, jiġifieri fid-Djar tagħhom tal-Isla, Ruma. Il-Casa Madre u n-Nadur fejn Swor Gemma serviet ukoll bħala Madre. Kif tistqarr is-Superjura Generali Sr Vitaliana Zammit, sa mill-bidu tal-ħajja reliġjuża tagħha, Madre Gemma xorbot mill-ispirtwalita' tal-Fundaturi ta' dan l-Ordni, Dun Gużep Diacono u l-Venerabbli Qaddejja t'Alla Madre Margerita de Brincat. Għexet il-ħajja tagħha b'fedelta' kbira, b'fervur u mħabba lejn Alla u lejn il-Kongregazzjoni. Din ix-xhieda ta' ħajja Madre Gemma ħallietha wkoll fil-qalb tas-sorijiet li għexet il-ħajja kkonsagrata tagħha. Kienu ħafna dawk il-lajċi li waslu biex jagħrfu l-ħniena u l-ħlewwa ta' Alla permezz tagħha. Marija Camilleri, tfajla fuq tagħha ta' 20 sena min-Nadur, fl-1909 daħlet mas-Sorijiet Franġiskani tal-Qalb ta' Gesu'. Ingħatat l-isem ta' Madre Gemma tal-Ewkaristija, isem li nebbahha fit-tfassil ta' ħajjitha. Hadmet kemm felħet meta kienet f'saħħitha u komplet taħdem meta ħakimha l-mard. Din il-bijografija hija magħmula minn tlieta u tletin taqsima. L-ewwel parti (1-6) hija dwar it-tfulija tagħha fin-Nadur u dwar l-ewwel snin tagħha bħala soru; it-tieni (7-15) hi dwar iż-żmien li qattgħet bħala Sperjura l-Isla, Ruma, l-Casa Madre fi Triq De Soldanis Victoria, fejn twelidt jien sebgħin sena ilu, u n-Nadur; it-tielet (16-28) hi dwar diversi aspetti tal-ħajja reliġjuża u spiritwali tagħha, u r-raba' (29-33) hi dwar l-aħħar snin ta' ħajjitha, forsi l-iktar dawk diffiċli u ta' saġrificċju.

Waqt li kien qed jirċievi kopja tal-ktieb m'għand l-awtur, l-Arċipriet tan-Nadur Dun Jimmy Xerri ħeġġeġ lill-parruċċani tiegħu biex ma joqogħdux lura milli jksbu kopja ta' dan il-ktieb li bla dubju jiftaħ tieqa fuq il-ħajja soċjali tar-raħal fejn twieldet u qattgħet l-ewwel snin tagħha din il-Madre u fejn għaddiet ukoll l-aħħar 25 sena tagħha qabel għalqet għajnejha għal dejjem għal din id-dinja. Nota tal-aħħar; dawn is-Sorijiet ta' Madre Gemma nsibuhom ukoll fl-Awstralja fejn qed jagħmlu ħafna ġid mhux biss fost hutna l-emigranti imma wkoll fost tant popli li għażlu lil **downunder** bħala t-tieni dar tagħhom.

Kav Joe M Attard *Victoria Għawdex*

House: London, England

Franciscan Sisters of the Heart of Jesus

Our community in London was established in 1960 for the purpose of welcoming sick people and members from their families if they were accompanied by them. These were sent from Malta, by the Ministry of Health, in order to receive special treatment in the various hospitals of London, such as that in Oxford and other places on the outskirts of London. Many of the sick are accepted as patients in the respective hospitals, while others are accompanied daily by the sisters to the different hospitals for the necessary treatment.

We try our best to help the sick and their families, in their material, moral and spiritual needs, so that they may find relief from their pain, in such difficult moments. The sisters often visit those patients who have to be kept in the hospitals. They comfort them and make them feel that someone cares and that they are not alone, even though they are away from their family and from their country.

Franciscan Sisters of the Heart of Jesus

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London SW IV 4DJ England

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E-mail: fransisuk@btopenworld.com

THE MALTESE NEWSLETTER

The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora

Thousands of readers can't be wrong

That is why they love, respect, read and share it

Our Lady Queen of Peace Maltese Band NSW Inc.

40th ANNIVERSARY



As we continue to celebrate our 40th anniversary year, the following is a piece written by former president Oreste Aquilina.

Forty years for a band in Malta seems to be a short period but for us here in our new home Australia, for a life of a community band is quite an impressive longevity. I, on behalf of my wife also, like to congratulate the committee, the Bandmaster, band persons and associates for the hard work they do to ensure that the Band standards are kept and to continue to give pleasure to the community with its selection of band programs.

Of course we should also give credit to the wives, husbands and partners in their support of the members of the band both at practice nights and at various band concert venues.

I feel honoured that as a non-playing, associate member, I was chosen from Vice President to become the second President after Eric Rizzo, also from Siggiewi. I did play the cymbals later on with the Band.

As you know, the late Mro Joe Darmanin used to conduct the St Nicholas Band (in Malta). During the hot summer evenings, I used to enjoy listening and viewing the band practice on the club roof from across my bedroom window in Siggiewi - which was a stone's throw away from it. By the way, that's about three quarters of a century ago.

Three decades ago, we celebrated the tenth anniversary with a magnificent 50-strong band, after we had paraded a new banner donated by associate members, issued a new uniform to all members of the band, and taking part in a concert at the Sydney Opera House Concert Hall. The Band also received a grant to record a tape with marches. We had also started to some marching in the church grounds in preparation to eventually take part in the Anzac Day march.

During that period, we almost bought a parcel of land offered to us by Blacktown Council. We also welcomed both her excellency the President of Malta and the Archbishop of Malta. We organised trips to Melbourne, took part in Canberra and Illawarra festivals and even a trip to the snow fields. Mind you not without worries, with those long coach journeys. While we had some problems like any organisation would, we remained as one cohesive band.

Over the years, the Band has achieved a lot under different presidents and should be very proud. This is done with the help of a good, hardworking director, the Committee, members and associates. It is a great achievement to celebrate 40 years of existence when the Maltese community is getting older. As for me, it is great to see some old faces, even some of those who founded the Band and others during my tenure as President. I feel very encouraged for the Band's future to see a good number of young band persons and thank them and their parents for their commitment. Music is an international language and one gets a great satisfaction from playing or singing. I encourage young people to take up an instrument and join the band's music tuition program.

So here we are, 40 years on and OLQP Maltese Band still strong under the direction of a youthful President and committee. Again my sincere congratulations to all members of the Band on this great occasion. And I wish the Band many, many years of service to the community.

Sadly, we miss Band stalwarts who have passed away, including the recent bereavement of past President, my ex-secretary and friend Joe Camilleri. Our sincere condolences to all members of his family. Let us remember those members of the Band who have passed away.

Thank you Oreste Aquilina Past President, 1983-1986

SCUBA DIVING IN MALTA AND GOZO



On a map of the Mediterranean Sea, if you let your eye fall to the center – just South of Italy's heel and to the west of the Mediterranean's heart – you'll find an enchanting archipelago comprising Malta, Gozo and Comino, along with the smaller, uninhabited islands of Cominotto, Filfla and St. Paul. The administrative capital for all the islands, Valletta, is on Malta itself under the watchful gaze of impressive fortifications commissioned by the Knights of St. John in 1524. Malta's geographic position was beneficial for both trading and military purposes for centuries. More recently, however, the Maltese Islands are noted more for their scuba diving than for their long and checkered past. The clear blue Mediterranean sea offers some unique diving experiences with reefs, caves and wrecks to explore. These are some of the most popular dives:

Comino – This small island, flanked by two larger neighbors, is well worth a visit for its rural charm and superb diving. The dive at Blue Lagoon ranges in depth from about 2-15 metres/7-450 feet and is sheltered making it an ideal nursery for a wide variety of aquatic animals. The sandy areas are home to Mediterranean flounder and flying gurnards, while octopus abound in the rocky areas and young barracuda are frequently encountered.

The Wreck of the *Um el Faroud*– Some consider this the best wreck dive in the Mediterranean. It's mostly intact, more than 100 metres/330 feet long, and was prepared and scuttled in 1998 as a dive attraction. She lies upright on the seabed, with the propeller and rudder at about 33 metres/108 feet. If you have the time and the air, you can also explore the ledges and caverns on the adjacent reef.

Regqa Point – Perhaps the best shore dive on Gozo, the entry here puts you on a nearly vertical wall. Late in the season dorado (lampuki) come in to hunt small schools of fish, making for some spectacular predator versus prey action. Macro life populating the rocky ledges keep divers interested when the pelagics don't show.

dDouble Arch Reef – A short boat ride from Marsalforn on Gozo are two archways rising from about 40 metres/130 feet to 18 metres/60 feet. Sea bream and barracuda can be spotted here against a stunning backdrop.

HMS *Maori* – This wreck sank in Valletta Harbour, Malta, in 1942. She lies in 16 metres/55 feet or less which makes her accessible to divers of all levels. She's pretty well scattered over a relatively soft bottom so careful buoyancy control is rewarded with the best possible visibility. Keep an eye out for John Dorys and conger eels.

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OR EVEN BETTER SEND US AN ARTICLE FOR
PUBLICATION – honconsul@live.com.au**





Craniofacial cause close to Harry's heart

By Lauren Henry

Photo: Harry Vidal is on a 1,500-kilometre trek to raise money for Craniofacial Australia. (ABC Riverland)

For Harry Vidal, his trek in a horse and cart is not only achieving a long-held dream but raising money for a cause that is close to his heart.

Craniofacial Australia raises money for the treatment, research and care of people born with some form of anomaly — just like Harry's brother, who was born with a cleft palate. Harry witnessed his brother's suffering as a child, something that has stayed with Harry for a lifetime. Inspired by his dream of travelling via horse and cart from his home town of Murray Bridge, South Australia, to see his friends in Lightning Ridge, Harry is aiming to raise \$20,000 along his journey.

Photo: Harry Vidal with one of his Clydesdale horses takes a rest day during his trek from Murray Bridge to Lightning Ridge. (ABC Mildura: Lauren Henry)

After spending years designing and building the cart, Harry is being led by his two Clydesdale horses George and Henry and accompanied by his dog Akeesha.

"I've never done fundraising before. When I was building the wagon, I thought I wanted to do something for kids, and I thought it would be good if I did some fundraising," he said.

"The reason why I've chosen Craniofacial Australia is because it's doing something for young kids. "I saw the suffering [Harry's brother] went through and I thought it would be nice for another child not to have to go through that." Four weeks into their four-month journey, Harry stopped off at Mildura this week, visiting schools and nursing homes in the Mallee. The travelling foursome are clip-clopping their way to Pooncarie, Menindee and Wilcannia then heading to Bourke and Walgett before finishing at Lightning Ridge in August. "The reason I chose that route was because of the Darling River," Harry said.

"I thought I could get water for the horses but I heard there wasn't much water there — it's a bit polluted, so I'm hoping to rely on farmers to help me out as I'm going through there."

~~~~~  
Hi Frank and Josie, Greetings from Malta.....



Joe and I visited the Anzac Memorial ATHE Argotti Gardens, Floriana during our visit to Malta yesterday. It was lovely. Although I wonder if you have seen it recently, we were shocked to see that most of the wording has almost worn off and it is impossible to read a lot of the names. I don't know if you have any pull to ask for it to be re-done as it seems a pity to have it spoilt, especially so soon after it was laid.

Regards, Katie and Joe Cassar – Adelaide. 29/07/2016



## APPREZZAMENT U KRITIKA

Jekk titgħallem tikkritika titgħallem tapprezza u jekk titgħallem tapprezza titgħallem tikkritika. Issib ħafna li ma jaqblux ma din l-ispeci ta 'ħaġa m'oħġaġa' għax għal-ħafna speċjalment għalina l-Maltin il-kritika neħduha bħala xi stint naturali. Imdorrijin nikkritikaw u forsi wkoll li insibu jew almenu nipprovaw insibu ix-xagħra fl-għaġina. Imma ma tantx nagħtu kaz kif issib din ix-xagħra: jew x'aktarx naslu biex nikkritikaw ic-c bla tikka jew l-h mingħajr rasgħha maqtuha.

Ġeneralment il-kritika sew ta xi kitba, jew xi film jew xi opra jew xi song ecc.. hi din: Le ma toġġobnix. U wara jaqa is-silenzju ..silenzju vojta, silenzju li jfisser ħafna, li jfisser speċjalment li iva ma għoġbokx il-ktieb etc.. imma m'intix kapaci tgħid jew tesprimi għaliex dik il-kitba u l-bqija ma għoġbitekx. Jew min-naħha l-oħra...għaliex għoġbitek.

Ir-risposti għal din il-mistoqsija? Għaliex għoġbitek jew għaliex m'għoġbitekx? fiha l-qofol li titkellem fuq l-apprezzament ta xi ħaġa. Dan l-apprezzament hu l-qofol tal-kultura u fuq kolloxx tal-kitba u tal-letteratura ta pajjiż.

Biex il-kritika tkun ħaqqa l-isem ta 'kritika' vera trid tkun oġġettiva. F'kelma waħda trid tkun diretta lejn dak li hu miktub mingħajr ma tagħti kaz ta min kitbha, x'kulur politiku hu jew hi minn kitbha u wkoll li dak li jikkritika hu wkoll 'indipendenti' meta jiġi biex jikkritika. Barra minn hekk il-kritiku irid ikun 'ta l-affari tiegħu', jiġifieri jekk qiegħed jikteb /jittellem fuq rumanz, tajjeb li jkollu idea ta l-istorja tar-rumanz, tal-lingwa u ta l-istil jew l-istili in ġenerali li jagħmlu rumanz interessanti u ta min jaqrah.

F'ħaġa tar-rivista ta 'Il-Malti' publikazzjoni ta ta l-Akkademja ta l-2011 hemm eżempju tajjeb kif ma għandhiex issir kritika ta rumanz. Ir-rumanz li fuqu qiegħed nitkellem hu, Fil-Parlament ma jikbrux fjuri ta Oliver Friggieri. Dawk li iltaqgħu biex jgħaddu ġudizzju fuqu inqas fi tnejn ibbażati fuq iż-żewġ partiti politici Maltin, li dak iż-żmien kienu bħal kelb u qattus, kontra xulxin.

Ir-rumanz li fuqu qiegħed nitkellem sar bħal ballun ix-xottjat min sieq għall-oħra imma il-ballun innifsu ma nfetaħx.. jew ma nqasamx biex naraw eżatt x'kien. Il-kritika imxiet fuq linji politici u ħadd ma semma per.eż. jekk .. ngħidu aħna jaħdimx bħala rumanz, bħala xi ħaġa fittizja iva, imma li tinħass jew tidher vera, bil-persunaġġi u bl-incidenti fi fih jew kienux persunaġġi realistici jew tal-kartapesta bħal pasturi tal-presepju ..bla ħajja, bla persunalita, bla identita. Dan kollu jidher kif jaġixxu u iżjed u iżjed kif jittelmu.. X'kienet it-tema jew is-sugġett tar-rumanz u jekk hux qrib jew ikkopjat mil-verita li ma jibqax jew li ma hux interessanti bħala rumanz. Il-messaġġ ta naħha, jew ta grupp ta kritici kien: li qiegħed iffaħhar il-politika tagħna u tan-naħha l-oħra, li qiegħed jikkundanna il-politika tagħna.

Miskin hu min ipprova jfittex xi guideline fuq xhiex jiddeciedi jaqrah jew le! Jew x'fih li l- qarrej seta jew jista japprezza. Għalhekk għadhom joħroġu kotba ta kritika /apprezzament ta Shakespeare biex insemmi eżempju... għax fil-kitba tiegħu tant hemm wieħed x'jesplora li l-kritika/apprezzament u l-esplorazzjoni għadha sejra.... Din hi parti mill-edukazzjoni., kemm dik sekondarja u iżjed u iżjed dik universitarja. Jekk l-edukazzjoni ma twassalx għal-kritika kostruttiva ..kritika ta ideat, ta storja, ta stili, ta filosofiji, ta modi u kulturi, allura l-edukazzjoni tiġi propaganda. Jekk il-bniedem ma jasalx biex jikkritika bis-sens allura ma tistax tinħoloq kultura u identita u inqas u inqas kitba li tista tissejjaħ letteratura. Għax hi l-kritika li sservi bħala għarbiel li ssaffi ir-ramel mil-ġebel jew tissepura l-qamħa mit-tibna. Kont se nżid u joħroġ is-sabieħ mhux biss tal-kitba imma ta dak kollu li jissejjaħ kultura minn-binja ta dar sa bicca pittura.

Aħna bħala poplu nibzġu mil-kritika, avolja nieħdu pjacir nikkritikaw.. Dan jiġri u ġara għax il-kritika trid tkun kostruttiva u mhux distruttiva, jiġifieri kritika li tgħin u li tagħmel sens, kritika fil-fond, li hija nieqsa fil-kultura tagħna. Tajjeb li ngħid li wara kolloxx mhux biss aħna bħala Maltin. Meta Stalin li kien il-mexxej/dittatur ta l-Imperu Sovjetiku fl-1956mar jara l-opra Macbeth ta Shostakovich kkundannaha bħal opra burġuaġiza (skuzawni!)...jiġifieri tal-klassi medja. Nesa l-muzika u dahhal il-politika! Il-Macbeth saret kapulavur ta Shostakovich!

Nispera li hawn minn ma jaqbilx u li juri li ma jaqbilx. Għalhekk imbagħad tisma minn jgħid: 'hawn kolloxx jgħaddi.' Għax certa gwida hi importanti għal dak li jkun speċjalment għal dawk li jhobbu l-letteratura u li tista wkoll ddakkar lil dawk li avolja ta ftit skola jibdew jaraw is-sbuħija tal-kitba. Tajjeb li inżommu quddiem għajnejna is-sentenza li 'jekk qatt ma tfaħharx jew almenu tapprezza m'għandekx dritt tikkritika'.

Ma jfissirx li nistenna li se jqum xi moviment biex iwettaq jew jistudja li qiegħed ngħid. Il-kritika għandha mil-bajtar: trid tiegħu iż-żmien biex issir. L-aqwa li tinbet u tiżviluppa ...biż-żmien...



### NOSTALGIA

Submitted by  
Anthony Valletta

I remember the corned beef of my childhood,  
And the bread that we cut with a knife,  
When the Children helped with the housework,  
And the men went to work not the wife.

The cheese never needed a fridge,  
And the bread was so crusty and hot,  
The Children were seldom unhappy,  
And the Wife was content with her lot.

I remember the slap on my backside,  
And the taste of soap if I swore  
Anorexia and diets weren't heard of  
And we hadn't much choice what we wore.

I remember the milk from the bottle,  
With the yummy cream on the top,  
Our dinner came hot from the oven,  
And not from a freezer; or shop.

The kids were a lot more contented,  
They didn't need money for kicks,  
Just a game with their friends in the road,  
And sometimes the Saturday flicks.

I remember the shop on the corner,  
Where biscuits for pennies were sold  
Do you think I'm a bit too nostalgic?  
Or is it....I'm just getting Old?

Bathing was done in a wash tub,  
With plenty of rich foamy suds  
But the ironing seemed never ending  
As Mum pressed everyone's 'duds'.

Do you think that bruised our ego?  
Or our initiative was destroyed?  
We ate what was put on the table  
And I think life was better enjoyed.

Author, Unknown...

If you can remember those days...  
Continue to enjoy your Retirement







## MALTESE TRADITIONAL WEDDING

Modern marriages in Malta are quite similar to those in other European countries, but this was not the case in the past. The daughter was not always consulted in the choice of her future husband. When the girl's parents realised that it was time for their daughter to get married,

they would display a pot of sweets on a stone bracket on the outer wall of their house.

Once a young man would notice the pot, he would then go to find an older man who could act as a marriage broker (*ħuttab*) so that his message could reach the girl's parents. If they agreed, a contract would be settled upon and the girl's dowry stipulated. The young man would send his beloved a fish with a gold ring in its mouth. The betrothal feast would then be celebrated. This was referred to as "*Ir-Rabta*".

During this feast the bride used to be introduced to her future husband in the presence of both sets of parents. She would be presented with an engagement ring in the form of two engraved hands joined together, as a symbol of fidelity. She would reciprocate by presenting her future husband with a handkerchief edged with lace.

On the wedding day, a group of musicians and singers would accompany the couple to church singing verses of praise to the new couple. Grain, nuts and wheat were showered on them on their return from the church. The guests would stay on for the wedding banquet to which they often contributed by offering wine as well as food. The bride would dine in a separate room but at the end of the meal she would join her husband by sitting near him and even drink from his glass.

Sometimes there would be dancing with castanets, a custom which may have originated during Aragonese rule in the 15th century. During the meal the guests placed gifts on the bride's lap while she sat at the top end of the room. Eight days after the wedding day the bride would leave her father's house. This is referred to as "*Il-Ħarġa*". She used to be received with pomp by her husband in their new home.



[www.visitMALTA.com](http://www.visitMALTA.com)

During the first year of marriage, the husband accepted to take his wife to two major fesats - namely the feast of **St. Gregory**, which is celebrated on the first Wednesday after Easter at Zejtun and Marsaxlokk, and to the "**L-Imnarja**" at the end of June. This feast commemorates the martyrdom of St. Peter and St. Paul. On the eve of this feast day, many people gather at Buskett, a small forested area outside Rabat, to eat rabbit stew and drink wine as well as to listen to folk singing, known as "*l-għana*".

The bride used to wear a different headdress for her wedding. If she wore the "*għonnella*", also known as "*faldetta*", this meant that the bride had already been married. During those times, many women became widows as men usually were employed as soldiers or seamen and many lost their lives when still young. If the bride was a maiden, she would wear either a hat (*kappell*) or a veil (*mant*). The hat was usually fawn while she wore a silver-grey dress. The veil and the dress were usually white.

## Your Lovers' Tree in Malta

Are you considering tying the knot in the Maltese Islands?

Let your love be symbolised by nature.

The Malta Tourism Authority has teamed up with Nature Trust (Malta) and Identity Malta in an initiative that involves planting a commemorative tree at the Xrobb I-Għagin Nature Park for foreigners who are getting married in the Maltese Islands.

Let your union grow strong as your commemorative tree



greens the Maltese Islands that witnessed your everlasting promise of love.

Over the years, your living monument will grow and strengthen as it builds strong roots and provide shelter to local wildlife.

A heart-shaped plaque with the couple's name, date of marriage or civil union and the country of origin will be attached to the tree. As a memento, couples will be also receiving a certificate with the photo of the tree or of the couple planting the tree. For more information contact: Identity Malta

- Phone: 356 25904200
  - Email: [pubreg.marriage@gov.mt](mailto:pubreg.marriage@gov.mt)
  - Website: <https://identitymalta.com/>
- Download [The Lovers' Tree leaflet](#)



## FOOD AND DRINK IN MALTA



Maltese cuisine is the result of a long relationship between the Islanders and the many civilisations who occupied the Maltese Islands over the centuries. This marriage of tastes has given Malta **an eclectic mix of Mediterranean cooking**. Although the restaurant scene is a mix of speciality restaurants, there are many eateries that offer or specialise in local fare, serving their own versions of specialities.

**Traditional Maltese food** is rustic and based on the seasons. Look out for *Lampuki Pie* (fish pie), Rabbit Stew, *Bragioli* (beef olives), *Kapunata*, (Maltese version of ratatouille), and widow's soup, which includes a small round of *Gbejniet* (sheep or goat's cheese). On most food shop counters, you'll see *Bigilla*, a thick pate of broad beans with garlic. The snacks that must be tried are '*hobz biz-zejt*' (round of bread dipped in olive oil, rubbed with ripe tomatoes and filled with a mix of tuna, onion, garlic, tomatoes and capers) and *pastizzi* (flaky pastry parcel filled with ricotta or mushy peas).

A trip to the **Marsaxlokk fish market** on Sunday morning will show you just how varied the fish catch is in Maltese waters. When fish is in abundance, you'll find *Aljotta* (fish soup). Depending on



the season, you'll see *spnotta*(bass), *dott* (stone fish), *cerna* (grouper), *dentici* (dentex), *sargu* (white bream) and *trill*(red mullet). swordfish and tuna follow later in the season, around early to late autumn, followed by the famed *lampuka*, or dolphin fish. Octopus and squid are very often used to make some rich stews and pasta sauces.



#### Favourite dessert

**delicacies** are *kannoli*(tube of crispy, fried pastry filled with ricotta), Sicilian-style, semi-freddo desserts (mix of sponge, ice-cream, candied fruits and cream) and *Helwa tat-Tork* (sweet sugary mixture of crushed and whole almonds)..

Malta may not be renowned like its larger Mediterranean neighbours for wine production, but **Maltese vintages** are more than holding their own at international competitions, winning several accolades in France, Italy and further afield. International grape varieties grown on the Islands include

Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Syrah, Grenache, Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay, Carignan, Chenin Blanc and Moscato. The indigenous varieties are *Gellewza* and *Ghirghentina*, which are producing some excellent wines of distinct body and flavour.

The main wineries organise **guided tours and tastings**. Depending on the season, tours cover the entire production, from the initial fermentation through to the ageing process. They also include wine history museums and opportunities to taste and buy a variety of vintages.

### **Żjara lil Visitors' Centre – CITTADELLA – GOZO - MALTA**

Dawn il-jiem waqt li kont qed nerga' nzur lic-Cittadella li ma kull pass li mmidd ma tiqafx tissorprendini, dhalt inzur lil Visitors' Centre u ma hafna nies ġejt milqugh mill-gwidi li qagħdu jispjegawli x'kont qed nara u stednuni noqghod nara u nisma' d-dokumentarju tassew imhejji tajjeb u li bl-effetti tiegħu jduru madwarek kontinwament jiehduk lura fiż-żmien meta Ghawdex safa attakkat mit-Torok fis-sena 1551 li kaxkru fil-jasar il-popolazzjoni kollha Ghawdxija ta' madwar hamest elef ruh bl-eċċezzjoni ta' xi żgħażaġh li rnexxielhom jixxabtu man-naħa ta' wara tas-swar. Il-Kavallier Bernardo de Puo li kien fdat bit-treġġja tac-Cittadella safa mejjet taħt id-daqqiet tax-ximitarri u xwabel Torok wara li ddefenda kif seta' lill-familja tiegħu.

Id-dokumentarju jissokta jirrakkonta l-istorja tagħna matul is-snin u jfakkarna wkoll fil-miġja tal-Franċiżi li ma mxewx tajjeb magħna u allura taħt it-tmexxiġja tal-Arċipriet Saver Cassar, dawn sfaw imkeċċija minn Ghawdex biex għamlu wisa' għall-Inglizi. Id-dokumentarju ma jhallix barra lit-tempju qadim tal-Assunta li jinsab 'l ġewwa mill-bibien tac-Cittadella fejn issir festa mill-aqwa lil Marija Mtellgħa s-Sema f'nofs Awwissu ta' kull sena. Min jaf kemm hluq sejra tara c-Cittadella fl-Għid mtal-Assunta biex igawdu din il-festa u biex jiskopru dan il-bini storiku li issa ha xejra ferm aħjar wara x-xogħol kbir ta' restawr li sar hawnhekk matul dawn l-aħħar snin!

Xtaqt ngħid Prosit ukoll lil min ha hsieb dan l-aħħar dawwal ferm tajjeb il-faċċata tal-Librerija Pubblika u l-iskola Primarja tal-Victoria fi Triq Vajringa matul il-lejl. Fihom issa daqqa t'għajn stupenda iktar u iktar jekk minn żmien għall-iehor niehdu hsieb ukoll nagħtu zabra lis-siġar li nsibu hawnhekk! Naf li l-Librar ta' kull sena jiehu l-inizjattiva biex idawwal dawn is-siġar matul il-jiem sbieħ tal-Milied! Kultant bi ftit tar-rieda tajba jsiru l-mirakli u hafna drabi bi ftit investment tal-hsieb pajjizna jaf jagħmel qabza tajba fil-kwalita'! **Kav. Joe M. Attard**





## Olympics: *Swimmer Andrew Chetcuti to be Malta's flag bearer in Rio*

Swimmer Andrew Chetcuti will be Malta's flagbearer during the upcoming Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro.

This was announced by the Maltese Olympic Committee during a news conference during which it said that seven athletes are being lined up to form part of the Malta contingent for the upcoming Games.



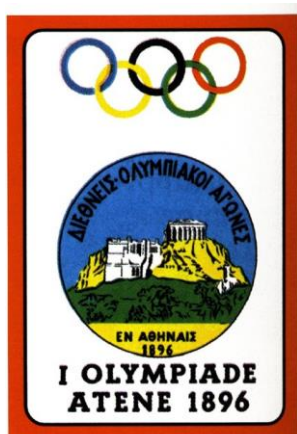
The Malta team will be formed by shooters William Chetcuti and Eleonor Bezzina, swimmers Nicola Muscat and Chetcuti and weightlifter Kyle Micallef .

In track and field Charlotte Wingfield has been joined by Luke Bezzina, who has been provisionally named as a replacement for Kevin Moore, who is facing a doping hearing after returning a positive test last month.

Maltese Olympic Committee president Julian Pace Bonello said that Malta is fielding its biggest contingent for the past 16 years and their goal is that every athlete produces its best ever performance or result in their particular discipline.

Mr Pace Bonello hit out at reports that there was any preferential treatment in the selection of athletes and said that the MOC did everything it could so that it could compete with its best possible team. The games open on August 5. Source: The Times of Malta

## Olympic History: 1896 Summer Olympics



**It is the 120th anniversary of the first modern Olympic Games, and we take a look back at the event that started it all.**

The 1896 Summer Olympics, officially known as the Games of the I Olympiad, was a multi-sport event held in Athens, Greece, from 6 to 15 April 1896. It was the first international Olympic Games held in the modern era. Because Ancient Greece was the birthplace of the Olympic Games, Athens was considered to be an appropriate choice to stage the inaugural modern Games. It was unanimously chosen as the host city during a congress organised by Pierre de Coubertin, a French pedagogue and

historian, in Paris, on 23 June 1894. The International Olympic Committee was also instituted during this congress.



## AUSTRALIA AND THE OLYMPICS

**Australia** has sent athletes to almost all editions of the modern **Olympic Games**. Australia has competed in every Summer Olympic Games, competing as Australasia in a joint team with New Zealand in 1908 and 1912. As well as every Winter Olympics, bar 1924-32 and 1948. The Australian Olympic Committee was founded and recognised in 1895.

Edwin Flack was the first athlete to represent Australia at the Olympics. He won gold in both the 800 metres and the 1500 metres, competed in the marathon and won a bronze medal in tennis doubles at the 1896 Summer Olympics in Athens, Greece. In 1908 and 1912 Australia competed with New Zealand under the name Australasia. Australia's kit is green and gold.



Australia has hosted the Summer Olympic games twice. In 1956 in Melbourne and in 2000 in Sydney Australia finished 3rd and 4th in the respective medal counts. In the Summer Olympics since 2000, Australia has placed 4th, 4th, 6th and 10th\* respectively. (\* Australia finished in 8th position in 2012 if the redistributed gold medal to Jared Tallent is considered). Given Australia has a population of only around 20 million people (ranked 53rd in the world<sup>[4]</sup>) this fact is frequently cited as noteworthy by the mainstream Australia media due to a strong sporting culture.

Other observers have suggested this may also be a result of the generous funding the Australian Government has invested into elite sports development with the specific intention of improving performance at the Olympic games Prior to Montreal, there was no government funding, however.

Many of Australia's gold medals have come in swimming, a sport which is popular in Australia, with swimmers from Dawn Fraser to Ian Thorpe ranking amongst the sport's all-time greats.

## **Maltese 14-year-old tennis champion Helene Pellicano becomes the first Maltese tennis player to win the junior European championship**

27 July 2016, 6 Miriam Dalli



**Maltese tennis player Helene Pellicano, 14**



**Helene with the Prime Minister**

It started as a hobby at just four years of age but today, 14-year-old Helene Pellicano, is a world-famous tennis player after securing the title in the European Junior Championships and retaining her top spot in the world ranking for six months.

"My dream is to win the Wimbledon," the shy tennis player told MaltaToday, minutes after meeting Prime Minister Joseph Muscat at Auberge de Castille. Pellicano's love for sports started at a very young age. Both her parents, Robert and Elaine Pellicano, used to play basketball with Hibernians. Pellicano is the first Maltese player ever to win the European Junior Championships, when she won the match in Pilsen, Czech Republic.

"I couldn't really believe it ... I was so happy and amazed ... I can't really describe it," she said, of the moment she realized she had won the championship. Last October, Pellicano became the first Maltese player ever to win a Tennis Europe Junior Masters title, and earlier this year became the first to reach the Tennis Europe Junior Tour's number 1 ranking. At age 10, Pellicano decided she wanted to become a professional tennis player and, at 11, found her opportunity.

Coached by Fabio Lavazza, Pellicano and her mother relocated to San Remo, Italy, where she trains for five hours every day from Monday to Friday and two hours on Saturday. She goes to school every day for three hours and takes English and Mathematics lessons through Skype with a Maltese teacher. Her word of advice for ambitious young player is to never stop believing: "You have to fight hard and giving up is not an option. Make your dream come true."

## **Pope Francis in Poland.... He says the world is at war, but it's not a war of religions**

27 July 2016,



The world is at war, but it is not a war of religions, Pope Francis said Wednesday as he traveled to Poland on his first visit to Central and Eastern Europe in the shadow of the slaying of a priest in France.

The killing of an 85-year-old priest in a Normandy church on Tuesday added to security fears surrounding Francis' five-day visit for the World Youth Day celebrations, which were already high due to a string of violent attacks in



France and Germany. Polish officials say they have deployed tens of thousands of security officials to cover the event.

Pope Francis spoke to reporters on the papal plane en route from Rome to Poland. Asked about the slaying of the priest, Francis replied: "It's war, we don't have to be afraid to say this."

After greeting reporters on his papal plane he returned to the topic to clarify that when he speaks of war, he is speaking of "a war of interests, for money, resources. ... I am not speaking of a war of religions. Religions don't want war. The others want war."



Upon arrival at Krakow airport a pensive Francis was greeted by Poland's President Andrzej Duda, First Lady Agata Kornhauser-Duda and other state officials, and hundreds of faithful who had waited for hours to see him. The Polish Army band played the anthems of the Vatican and of Poland.

The main welcoming ceremony with speeches is to be held later in the day at the Wawel Castle in Krakow. In the evening Francis is to appear in the window of the residence of Krakow bishops, where he will be staying, and chat with some among the hundreds of thousands of pilgrims from around the world

gathered for the World Youth Day celebrations that will run through Sunday.

"Let's live WYD (World Youth Day) in Krakow together!" the pontiff tweeted before departing from Rome for Krakow, southern Poland, on Wednesday afternoon. Just hours before Francis' arrival for the major Catholic event, groups of cheerful young pilgrims were seen in the streets of Krakow.

Relics of St. Mary Magdalene came to the church from France, for the duration of World Youth Day, and were displayed in a case by the altar. Their presence helps us concentrate on our prayers and brings us closer to God," said Nounella Blanchement, 22, from the French Caribbean island of Guadeloupe.

She was one of the volunteers helping with security and logistics at the packed St. Casimir Church, where a Mass was being held in French for pilgrims from France, Belgium and other countries. Poland, a predominantly Catholic country is still proud of the late pontiff, St. John Paul II, who served as priest and archbishop in Krakow before becoming pope.

The sense of expectation was apparent in sunny Krakow on Wednesday with papal white-and-yellow flags and images of Francis and John Paul II decorating the streets. Stages were put up at many locations for concerts and other activities that are being held by and for the pilgrims in Krakow. There was a heavy presence of police and other security forces across the city, as crowds were increasing everywhere.

"I have never seen so many people in Krakow, it's difficult to move around even though offices have closed (for the event) and many people have left the city," said Anna Gazda, 43, owner of a souvenir shop.

## UK Newspaper lists Malta as one of Europe's safest Tourist Destinations

Wednesday, 27 July 2016,



British newspaper The Express has published a map showing the more dangerous and safe countries in Europe in light of recent terror activities, with Malta being listed as having no or limited known terror activity.

The Express says it released the information in order for Brits to be better informed when it comes to choosing their holiday destinations.

They state that most British people are looking at Spain for a holiday, however add that Spain currently has a high terror warning.

Aside from Spain - France, Belgium, Turkey, Germany, the UK, and Russia are all on the paper's high threat from terrorism.

Those listed as having a low threat of terrorism, aside from Malta, include Estonia, Iceland, Poland, Switzerland and others.

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Thank you for giving a synopsis of the President's visit to Australia. I must say it was a very successful event that both Mrs. Marie Louis Coleiro Preca and the Maltese in Australia will always remember and treasure. G. L. Sammut

I am so grateful that when I miss your Newsletter I may always read it on www.ozmalta.page4.me. A very beautiful website. Julie Gauci.

Source: *TIMES OF MALTA* Kim Dalli

It's 'fire extinguisher' not 'fajerekstingwixer' - Maltese

language proposals finally unveiled

Civil society organisations welcome proposals

The words "fajerekstingwixer", "xater" and "erkondixiner" drew collective gasps from the seminar audience, who could hardly decipher them as the Maltese spelling for fire extinguisher, shutter and air conditioner.

But the



word *helikopter* (helicopter) did not look as bad. So which is the right way and which is the wrong way to spell such words? We might now finally have the answer.

The National Council for the Maltese Language unveiled its final proposals for the spelling of English loan words, which have been drafted after seven years of extensive research and consultation.

The council is basing its proposals on the following basic principles:

- An English word or expression should only be used if a Maltese one does not exist.
- Not every word which, at first sight, might appear to be superfluous is necessarily so.
- There are differences in the acceptability between the spoken word and the written language.
- A word is considered integrated in the Maltese language because it is accepted by Maltese speakers. Therefore, orthography must find a way of writing it.
- A word borrowed from English can be pronounced in Maltese in more ways than one.
- A person who writes in Maltese should not need to refer to a long list of words that have to be continually updated. This means that the writer must exert a mature choice and be consistent in his writing.

The final proposals presented by the council are the following:

- Words that have been assimilated in to the Maltese grammatical form should be written in Maltese. (for example: *čansijiet*, *kejkiġiet*, *jikklikkja*).
- All the forms of the same noun or verb should, as far as possible, keep the same orthographic stem - both in Maltese and in English. So it's either *brejk* - *brejkijiet*/*brejks* or brake - brakes if the original English orthographic all form is to be retained.
- The choice of whether to write a word in English or in Maltese is in the writer's hands when it comes to the spelling of nouns. So the word 'computer' may be spelt *askompjuter* or computer (but not *komputer*). This does not mean that a verb stem written in Maltese has to be the same as a noun. So we may write *skenja*, *niskenja* and *skenjajt* in Maltese but, when it comes to the related noun, there is a choice: scanner or *skener*, scanning or *skening*.
- Many writers are used to the English written form of loan words and resist spelling them in Maltese, since they feel that the Maltese spelling distracts them and slows them down when reading or writing. Words whose Maltese orthography is very unlike the English spelling should be written in English: so it's fire extinguisher not *fajerekstingwixer*.

Members of the public can express their opinion about the proposals presented by writing an e-mail to kunsilltalmalti@gov.mt by July 2.

'Well done, we've worked together', says organisations



The Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel – Zurrieq 2016

Submitted by – Mark Micallef Perconte (Malta)



The Maltese Newsletter
Best Wishes from Downunder



HBIEB - SAHHA U SLIEM