

THE JOURNAL OF THE MALTESE DIASPORA

MALTESE NEWSLETTER

OUR MOTTO: BUILDING BRIDGES

Editor: Frank Scicluna Email: honconsul@live.com.au

Joint Press Release: EU Australian Leadership Forum launches in Brussels



The European Union High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Federica Mogherini, and Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Hon. Julie Bishop MP, have launched the EU-Australia Leadership Forum at the headquarters of the European External Action Service in Brussels.

The Leadership Forum will provide a platform for leaders, senior and emerging, from the fields of business, media, non-governmental organisations, civil society, think tanks, politics and academia from both countries to collaborate on new ideas to promote and deepen the relationship between the European Union and Australia.

"Our relationship with Australia already benefits from high levels of cooperation, as you would expect from close partners", said the High Representative/Vice-President, Federica Mogherini ahead of the launch. "I am hopeful that the Leadership Forum will help to bring together creative minds, of all ages and of all backgrounds, to take our cooperation still further", she added.

"The Leadership Forum will encourage senior and emerging leaders across industries in Australia and the European Union to work together on ideas to further strengthen the Australia-EU relationship and promote close collaboration on addressing global challenges", the Australian Foreign Minister, Julie Bishop said.

The Leadership Forum will be composed of an EU-Australia Senior Leaders' Forum, and an EU-Australia Emerging Leaders Forum, held back to back annually, alternately in Australia and in Europe, with the inaugural event to be hosted in Australia in the first half of 2017, and regular sectoral policy workshops covering topics including security, counter terrorism, trade, education, innovation, migration and development.

The launch of the Leadership Forum reflects the overall strengthening of relations between the European Union and Australia. Recent progress on an EU-Australia Framework Agreement, the joint scoping for a free trade agreement and now the Leadership Forum are exciting developments enhancing an already strong relationship. The High Representative also looked forward to welcoming Ms Bishop to Brussels on 4-5 October for the Brussels Conference on Afghanistan.

The relationship between the European Union and Australia is based on shared values and a common commitment to the rule of law, global norms and support for international stability and security. In confronting the challenges posed by terrorism, Australia is pleased to join the EU and the Philippines in chairing an ASEAN Regional Forum workshop on countering violent extremism in early 2017 demonstrating the work the EU and Australia can do together in the area of security.

GREETINGS TO ALL MALTESE LIVING IN MALTA AND ABROAD



MALTESE CHAPLAINCY FESTIVITIES GROUP

Back: Tony Grima, Jane Agius, Carmen Spiteri,
Mary Saliba, Joe Caruana

Front: Joe Cassar, Father Gabriel Micallef, Melita Aquilina

SOLEMN FEAST IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY QUEEN OF VICTORIES PATRONESS OF THE MALTESE COMMUNITY IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA Christ the King Parish Church, LOCKLEYS S.A. 30 Sept – 2 Oct 2016

Program

Friday 30 Sept: The statue of Our Lady will be brought in procession from the

Franciscan Sisters' Regional House to the Parish Church accompanied by the Queen of Victories Band of SA. Various representatives of Maltese and Parish societies will present their tribute to Mary while prose and poems in her honour will be read.

Saturday 1 Oct: Social event at the Parish Hall at 6.30 pm Entertainment by DJ and Italian singer Eric together with Stacey Saliba and the Born Again ELVIS (Mark Borg)

Sunday 2 Oct: At 3.00pm Solemn chanted Mass by HG Mgr. Philip Wilson, Archbishop of Adelaide. The Choir under the direction of Sister Bonnie FCJ, organist Linda Eysers and the Indian Choir of Daniel DiSilva will participate. At 4.15 pm Procession with the artistic stature of Our Lady Queen of Victories on the surrounding streets. Holy Rosary will be recited. The Maltese Queen of Victories Band will accompany the procession playing religious and festive marches. From 7 pm onwards there will be social and culture activities at the parish grounds. Members of the Maltese community, families and friends are invited to attend.

APPRECIATION

On behalf of the Maltese Chaplaincy and the Maltese Chaplaincy Festivities Group I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the couples – Joe and Pauline Monsigneur, Emmanuel and Carmen Monsigneur and Peter and Georgina Mallia who have retired due to ill health. Thanks for the services provided to the Maltese community of Adelaide for so many years.





Trouble texting in Maltese? There's a free app for that

You can now download a predictive Maltese keyboard on your Android. Photo: Mark Zammit Cordina

Do you find yourself switching off your predictive keyboard on your phone when you are texting someone in Maltese?

You do not have to do so any more, as a free app has been developed to predict your messages in Maltese... and it sometimes manages to predict a whole sentence. And once downloaded, you can even write in both Maltese and English, as many do. SwiftKey, a London-based start-up recently acquired by Microsoft, makes predictive keyboard for Android devices, and is used by over 40 million users.

"We support over 120 languages, so it's a bit of a mystery how Maltese managed to escape until now. We follow user requests and, over the years, enough people requested that we add Maltese support, so we did," Julien Baley, a software engineer for the company said.

Asked how difficult it was to get the necessary resources, Mr Baley, who has been with the company for almost five years and has worked on over 30 languages, said it was "surprisingly easy".

We support over 120 languages, so it's a bit of a mystery how Maltese managed to escape until now

"Maltese has a lot of easily accessible resources for us to make a predictive keyboard. For a speaking population of half a million people, that's really unusual," he said, adding that through the process he was also helped out by Lincoln Gixti, a SwiftKey user.

University lecturer at the Maltese Department Michael Spagnol, who uses the app, said it not only sped up writing but also predicted whole expressions and common phrases. For instance, if one types grazzi, the keyboard predicts ħafna and għal, two words which typically follow grazzi. Similarly, if you type il-ġimgħa, the predictor suggests li għaddiet and d-dieħla.

Dr Spagnol believes it is a good tool for those unsure of the spelling of a particular word, however for the time being, some uncommon or infrequent words might be spelled incorrectly, while in a few cases, the keyboard omits the dot on the ċ, ġ, ż, and the stroke on the ħ.

This is probably because some words, like qiegħda and imġiba are often written incorrectly, that is, as qegħda and imġieba, so the keyboard gives both options. "Needless to say, it is also very helpful for those with dyslexia where recognising a correctly spelt word offered by the predictor can be easier than thinking how to spell it in the first place," Dr Spagnol noted.

Asked about incorrect spellings, Mr Baley said the company welcomed feedback to fix such problems.

When contacted, senior lecturer and director of the Institute of Linguistics Albert Gatt said it took a while for Maltese to start being supported as these systems worked by generating predictions using statistical models, and such models were built using large quantities of linguistic data.

He believes the main bottleneck for "small" languages is that it takes a while for the data to become available in sufficient quantities.

Meanwhile, there are also the commercial dynamics.

"SwiftKey has become something of a de facto go-to app, and earlier this year was bought by Microsoft, an indicator of its success. As such apps become more widespread, demand for new services begins to grow."

But it is difficult to predict whether there will be as much of a need for predictive typing on computer keyboards. Predictive typing is useful on phones, where space is limited, but on computers, people usually have room to be more expressive and verbose as well.

People can download the SwiftKey Keyboard for free on their Android phone from the Google Play store, and then choose Maltese as their preferred language

FOR PERMANENT RESIDENTS IN AUSTRALIA

Why should I become a citizen?



Australian citizenship is an important step in your migration story. Becoming an Australian citizen means that you are making an ongoing commitment to Australia and all that this country stands for. It is also the beginning of your formal membership of the Australian community. It is the step that will enable you to say 'I am Australian'.

Australian citizenship is a privilege that offers enormous rewards. By becoming an Australian citizen, you are joining a unique national community. Our country has been built on the combined contributions of our Indigenous people and those who came later from all over the world. We celebrate this diversity and at the same time, strive for a unified and harmonious nation.

The strength of the Australian community means that we work together to solve problems and to make Australia the great country that it is. We have a stable system of government and Australians respect the authority and laws of the government. Our stability, our culture and our laws have been shaped by our history. By joining the Australian community, you will inherit this history and you will be in a position to contribute to it.

Responsibilities and privileges of Australian citizenship

As a permanent resident of Australia, you have already enjoyed living in a free and democratic society. When you become an Australian citizen, you will have new responsibilities. You will also have a range of new benefits.

Responsibilities - As an Australian citizen you must:

- obey the law
- defend Australia should the need arise
- serve on a jury if called to do so
- vote in federal and state or territory elections, and in a referendum

Privileges - As an Australian citizen you have the right to:

- vote in federal and state or territory elections, and in a referendum
- apply for work in the Australian Public Service or in the Australian Defence Force
- seek election to parliament
- apply for an Australian passport and re-enter Australia freely
- register children born overseas as Australian citizens by descent.
- You might also be able to seek consular assistance from an official overseas.
- Australia's democratic beliefs, rights and liberties
- At the citizenship ceremony, you pledge that you share Australia's democratic beliefs and that you respect the rights and liberties of the people of Australia.
- Our democratic beliefs:
 - Parliamentary democracy
 - The rule of law
 - Living peacefully
 - Respect for all individuals regardless of background
 - Freedom of speech and freedom of expression
 - Freedom of association
 - Freedom of religion and secular government
- Our equalities:
 - Equality in Australia
 - Equality of men and women



7 ta' Settembru 2016

Naqbel ma' Fr Mark Montebello! Kav. Joe M Attard

Forsi mhux dejjem qbilt ma' dak li gie li harbex dan il-Patri, imma din id-darba naqbel mieghu perfettament li sa issa l-Gvern għadu ma għamel xejn biex jgħin lil dawg l-Għawdxin li jkollhom lil xi hadd qed jgħaddi xi jiem fl-isptar ċentrali ta' Malta, il-Mater Dei, għal xi operazzjoni jew tip ta' kura oħra.

Dawn il-povri Għawdxin arahom ta' kuljum jaqsmu l-Fliegu biex imorru jżuru lill-qraba tagħhom rikoverati fl-ispar għal xi raġuni jew oħra u arahom jiġġerrew mat-toroq, kemm fil-maltemp kif ukoll taht xemx tisreġ fil-hinijiet li ma jkunux jistgħu joqogħdu hdejn il-morda tagħhom matul il-gurnata. Kif irrimarka tant tajjeb dan ir-raheb Dumnikan mill-Ordni tal-Predikaturi, meta forsi l-awtoritajiet tal-isptar xi darba ihallu lil dak li jkun jgħaddi l-lejl hdejn is-sodda tal-marid, dan irid jorqod fuq pultruna mhux dejjem komda biżżejjed biex isservi ta' sodda u għalhekk arah filgħodu jqum bil-partijiet kollha ta' gismu mfarrka!

Possibbli l-Istat ma jista' jagħmel xejn biex isolvi din il-problema li l-Għawdxin kontinwament qed iħabbtu wiċċhom magħha! Hutna l-Maltin din il-problema lanqas biss taħbat ma' moħħhom, għax dawn għandhom il-kumdita kollha li jaqbd u l-Bus inkella l-lightcar tagħhom u jżuru lill-morda tagħhom bla ebda inkonvenjent. Ma tistax tinholoq xi hostel jew xi tip ta' akkomodazzjoni oħra biex dawn l-Għawdxin ikollhom fejn jgħaddu l-lejl u mhux kull darba jridu joqogħdu jaqbd u l-vapur, maltemp u mhux, barra l-ispejjes, ta' kull darba li jkollhom lil xi hadd l-isptar! Nitlob lill-Parlamentari Għawdxin biex jagħtu kas din in-nota li dwarha kiteb Patri Mark Montebello u li issa qed nikteb dwarha jien ukoll b'appoġġ shiħ għal dak kollu li nebbahni nsemma leġni dan id-Dumnikan!

L-Għawdxin daqs il-Maltin qed iħallsu t-taxxi u għalhekk nifhem li għandhom ikunu stmati l-istess! Bla dubju s-servizz huwa wieħed tajjeb fil-fehma tiegħi u jien irrid ngħid grazzi lil dawg kollha li hađu ħsiebi kemm domt hemm xi ffit taż-żmien ilu u rrid ngħid Prosit lil dawg il-voluntiera (ara ritratt) li jiddedikaw xi ffit tal-hin liberu biex imorru jferrhu lit-tfal u lil pazjenti tal-Mater Dei. Għadda minn għala widnejja li anke fl-isptar Ġenerali t'Għawdex din tal-voluntiera se tidhol ukoll jekk mhux diġa bdiet. Jalla l-gid!



MOST POPULAR BABIES' NAMES IN MALTA



Reading out the attendance in a primary school nowadays has become a very interesting exercise. Many parents in Malta take pride in naming their son or daughter a name which is not common. We tend to find names from all over the world and then choose a slight variation in the spelling or pronunciation to make sure that the name is different from others. Some parents even create their own baby name by coining two different names. It is also interesting to note that the request for Maltese baby names has grown over the years. But the question that arises is, do we really have

names that are purely Maltese?

When we think of Maltese names, we think of names like Peppi, Rita, Karmena, Ganni, Wigi and Kola. But strictly speaking, these names are just the abbreviations of the proper name that our ancestors were baptised with.

If one had to take a look at an old registry of Maltese persons, most of the names that one would find would be Italian names the likes of Giuseppe, Carmela, Giovanni, Nikola, and Luigi, amongst others. These names would then be shortened to a simpler version for everyday use. At the times of the Second World War, most babies were given English names. This was probably due to Malta being an English colony. Common names at that time were Carmen, Mary, Doris, Joseph, Paul and James.

In the past years, parents that came up with a 'strange' name for their child would be brought back on the right track by the parish priest before baptising the child. The priest would only baptise the child if the name corresponded with one of the saints, a pope maybe, a king or a queen, or a person from the Holy Bible. Therefore, parents tended to go for the proper Italian or English name on paper. This would then be abbreviated to something easier for everyday use. Giuseppe would become Guzeppi, Zeppi, or Peppi. Carmela would be called Karmni, Angela would become Golina or Gulina, while Luigi would be called Wigi. Emanuele would be shortened to Leli, while Mary would then be referred to as Marija.

Top baby names from Malta

Maltese girls 1-20

1. Elena
2. Eliza
3. Maria
4. Christina
5. Amy
6. Emma
7. Julia
8. Martina
9. Aaliyah
10. Lea
11. Mikela
12. Hannah
13. Sarah
14. Chloe
15. Maya
16. Katrina
17. Hailey
18. Jade
19. Nicole
20. Jasmine

Maltese boys 1-20

1. Luke
2. Matthew
3. Jake
4. Kaiden
5. Isaac
6. Michael
7. Nathan
8. John
9. Jaden
10. Aiden
11. Zachary
12. Alexander
13. Nicholas
14. Andre
15. Kyle
16. Kieran
17. Joseph
18. Liam
19. Daniel
20. James



Cart Ruts of Malta

Cart Ruts Malta – the islands of Malta and Gozo are the most famous location of these mysterious and ancient paired grooves in the rock (also known as Cart Tracks). There are more **Cart Ruts being discovered in other countries** in Europe and America.

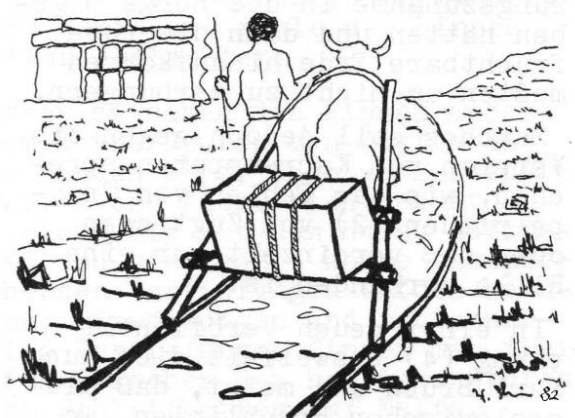
The most popular area in Malta for them is

Clapham Junction (Misrah Ghar il-Kbir as it is known by the Maltese) due to the high number in total, multiple pairs beside each other for some unknown reason and that they even intersect each other in crazy spaghetti junctions.

What are the Cart Ruts?

What are the Cart Ruts? These are deep ruts, rilles, tracks, grooves, channels left in Malta's limestone but in such numbers, variety and confusion that they leave more questions than answers.

They are located all over the islands of Malta and Gozo and were even said to have been found on the small island of Fila. If they were created and used by some form of vehicle then how did they move along some of these when the pairs of ruts are nearly a meter deep?



Why? Cart Ruts mystery

Why do the Cart Ruts on the islands of Malta and Gozo **lead straight off high cliffs and isolated headlands?**

Why are some of them found **leading into the sea and on the seabed floor?**

Why do the Malta Cart Tracks areas have **curious geology** like the **Clapham Junction Triangle?**

If these apparant ancient green roads and tracks were man made then for what purpose? **Why were the Cart Ruts created?**

Where in Malta and the world?

There are also other **Cart Ruts locations around the world**, with the internet helping othes be 'discovered' or brought to peoples attention. These can be similarly confusing and chaotic but some of them seem to have more substantial evidence that they were man made.

How were Malta's Cart Ruts created?

How were Cart Ruts in Malta formed? Were they made by vehicles like wooden sleds or wheeled carts? Are they natural? Were they created for or by **aliens/UFO's?** There are no records or mythology left by those who were around when these meandering paired tracks were created.

Who made the Cart Ruts?

Who made the Cart Ruts? Was it the Maltese Temple Builders, Romans, Phoenicians, Malta's Bronze Age people or other original Maltese civilisation and people?

Visit the **Cart Ruts Blog** for a list of all the posts about **Malta and Gozo's Cart Tracks** and also those that are found **around the rest of the planet**.

Read more: <http://www.messagetoeagle.com/maltatraces.php#ixzz36n1HTm2d>



Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) Cemeteries and Memorials

MALTA AND THE ANZACS

All of the cemeteries listed below contain graves from both world wars:

The Malta (Capuccini) Naval Cemetery; Imtarfa Military Cemetery; Pembroke Military Cemetery;

Pieta Military Cemetery; Addolorata Cemetery; Marsa Turkish Cemetery.

Hospitals and Convalescent Camps

To cater for the over 135,000 sick and wounded from the Gallipoli and Salonika campaigns there were numerous hospitals and convalescent Camps throughout Malta and Gozo. The Australian and New Zealander soldiers were treated in various hospitals and convalescent camps. Listed below are but a few of the many hospitals and convalescent camp that were on Malta to treat the sick and wounded.

Station Hospital

The Station Hospital which is now the Mediterranean Conference Centre located at Mediterranean St, Il-Belt Valletta. Tours are conducted through this Centre by the Malta Experience.

Lazzaretto Hospital

Lazzaretto Hospital on Manoel Island can still be viewed from any of the tour boats conducting the harbour cruises from Sliema.

Bavière Hospital

The Bavière Hospital was situated in the Auberge de Bavière. The Auberge de Bavière has an ancient and honourable history, having been the headquarters of the Anglo-Bavarian Knights of St. John located at San Bastjan, Valletta. It now houses the main offices of the GPD, including the Director General's Office, the Finance & Administration Directorate, The Estate Management Directorate, the Land Directorate and the Joint Office Directorate.

St. Elmo Hospital

The St. Elmo Hospital was previously a government school that was converted in to a hospital. St. Elmo specialised as a surgical hospital. The hospital was located at Fort St. Elmo at the north end of the Grand Harbour. It was well ventilated and overlooked the breakwater.

Fort Chambray Hospital Gozo

The Fort Chambray Hospital served as an excellent Convalescent Depot (camp) during the First World War, relieving the crowded camps on Malta.

Mtarfa Hospital

The hospital was commissioned in 1912. It was used during World War I to hold many of injured Australian and New Zealand troops from the Gallipoli landings. It was expanded enormously during the Second World War.

In the 1950s it was renamed the David Bruce Royal Naval Hospital after the doctor who discovered the root cause of Malta fever, or Brucellosis. It has since been converted to a state secondary school, named after Sir Temi Zammit, part of St Nicholas College.

Cottonera Hospital

The Cottonera Hospital is now providing an excellent all round education, including an IB 6th Form, to its students and also very proud of its heritage as the Cottonera Hospital.

Visit the beautiful grounds of St Edward's College and get a feel of what it may have been like as an Australian or New Zealand soldier to have been a patient at the Cottonera Hospital during the First World War. St

Edward's College have also set up a permanent display of the history of the College when it was known as the Cottonera Hospital.

St Edward's College is located in Triq Dan Dwardu, Birgu (Citta Vittoriosa) Cottonera.

Ghajn Tuffieha Camp Hospital

Ghajn Tuffieha is situated 10 miles directly west of Valletta in a charming valley near the sea with hills on either side. Ghajn Tuffieha had already been used as a camp in peace time, partly by the army and partly by the navy, being in great request as a summer holiday resort both by officers and men. There is abundant room for exercise and games of every description; the bathing facilities are unrivalled, and the summer heat is greatly tempered by a cool breeze; in fact Ghajn Tuffieha was eminently suitable for making men, softened by wounds or sickness, hard and fit for service. The area is still a very popular area for tourists; there are numerous walking tracks, and swimming and other water sports may be enjoyed from the sandy beaches in Golden Bay.

Australia Hall

The area around Pembroke had a number of convalescent camps such as All Saints, St Paul's, and Spinola Camp. Australia Hall was built after the sum of £2,000 (pounds) was raised through donations by the Australian Branch of the Red Cross, at the time, to provide a place of amusement and social activities. Australia Hall was used for shows for the Forces between the wars and also during the Second World War.

What's in a Name? A Lot if it's in Malta.



by **Nanette Johnson**

There's not much diversity in surnames here in Malta and a mere handful go to making up most of island's phone directory. We're asked time and again by foreign visitors about this repetition of Maltese family names. So, at Malta Inside Out, we decided to explain the naming game, thanks to guest blogger, **Nanette Johnson**, aka Ms Gourmet, of www.gourmetworrier.com.



Nanette lives in Melbourne, Australia, but is the daughter of a Gozitan father and a Maltese mother who emigrated in the '60s. She relates a warming tale, told to her on holiday 'back home' in Gozo, of how the Maltese get around the same-name phenomenon by inventing a wonderful system of nicknames! To get the full story, you'll need to know that her blog has a bumblebee and honeycomb symbol on it.

How it came to Bee - My father is originally from the island of Gozo, Malta's sister island. Gozo is a tiny island and it is predominantly Catholic. Traditionally parents would name their children after Saints – Mary, Marija, Joseph, Josephine, Nazarene, Victoria, Victor, Anthony, Antoinette, Francis, Francesca et al. As you can imagine there are a whole lot of Joe's & Mary's running around on that tiny island.

One of the ways they overcame this name overlap was to give families nicknames. So Joe Bonello would be referred to as Joe tal Korkos (which is in fact my paternal grandfathers family nickname). Don't ask me what 'Korkos' means, or to translate it into English or how it came to be. I have asked my relatives this at least a hundred times and every time I am met with that look that says 'what island are you on?'



My paternal grandmother's family nickname is 'zunzana' and thankfully this nickname is translatable. Hence, one of its meanings is 'bumblebee'. In Maltese, a bee is also a 'nahla' but 'zunzana' is onomatopoeic in that it refers to insects that make that 'znznzn' noise and that sting. When I was in Gozo recently I asked my aunt if she knew how the 'zunzana' nickname evolved. Was it because the women on my grandmother's side of the family had a sting to them? Or did they have a sharp, unforgiving edge about them?

Again I got that blank stare that said 'what planet were you raised on child'?

And so my aunt then explained that the name 'zunzana' – the 'bumblebee' is symbolic for cleverness, industry and life. My great grandmother, grandmother, great aunts and aunts not only raised huge families and ran households and estates, but they also tended to the fields, were great mothers and homemakers and brilliant cooks. In essence they were immortal.

I knew instantly that I wanted the bumblebee to be a part of my blog, Gourmet Worrier. Thus, the humble little bumblebee is my subtle tribute to all of the wonderful women in my family who were great mothers, creative souls and brilliant cooks! But it is it wise to know whose car it is? *Main Photo: Walter Lo Cascio Inset Photo: courtesy of gourmetworrier*

What is R U O K?

R U OK? Day, 8 September 2016, was a national day of action dedicated to encouraging all



people to regularly and meaningfully ask "are u OK?" to support those struggling with life. On average, more than 2,300 Australians suicide each year (2012) and an estimated 65,000 people attempt suicide each year. Suicide is the biggest killer of Australians aged 15 to 34 years.

To decrease these numbers, mental health strategies such as R U OK? Day are essential. This organisation encourages meaningful conversation and a

conversation like this could What is R U Ok? Day?

R U OK? Day, 8 September 2016, was a national day of action dedicated to encouraging all people to regularly and meaningfully ask "are u OK?" to support those struggling with life. On average, more than 2,300 Australians suicide each year (2012) and an estimated 65,000 people attempt suicide each year. Suicide is the biggest killer of Australians aged 15 to 34 years.

To decrease these numbers, mental health strategies such as **R U O K** are essential. R U OK? Day encourages meaningful conversation and a conversation like this could change a life. **Here are some useful tips about how to start a conversation**

- take the lead and ask: “are you OK?” Put the invitation out there, let the person know you’ve got time to talk. Often just spending time with a person lets them know you care.
- use ice breakers. Use open-ended questions which require more than a ‘yes’ or ‘no’ answer.
- practise your listening skills. Listen to what a person is saying, be open-minded, non-judgemental and patient. Let the person take their time.
- be encouraging. Make suggestions that encourage physical health, self-care and professional help if required.
- be helpful. It is unhelpful to tell people to just “snap out of it”, say they simply need to keep busy, suggest alcohol or drugs, or assume the problem will just go away.



Gibraltar to get a Maltese Bishop

Gibraltar is to have a Maltese bishop, with Pope Francis having appointed Gudja local Mgr Carmelo Zammit to the post. The 66-year-old Judicial Vicar of the Archdiocese of Malta was announced as Gibraltar's next Bishop during a press conference at the Cathedral of St Mary the Crowned in

Gibraltar. He will replace Bishop Ralph Heskett, who in 2014 was made Bishop of the Diocese of Hallam, Liverpool. He will replace Bishop Ralph Heskett, who in 2014 was made Bishop of the Diocese of Hallam, Liverpool.

Mgr Zammit said it was a great honour to have been trusted by the Pope, and that he would do his utmost to serve the Church in his new capacity as Bishop of Gibraltar. He is no stranger to Gibraltar, having spent more than 20 years in the Diocese's service between 1976 and 1998. He was appointed Judicial Vicar throughout his stay there, and also served as a Chaplain in the Boys' and Girls' comprehensive schools between 1976 and 1987.

Throughout his stay in Gibraltar he served as the Bishop's delegate on the Religious Education Board for Government Schools, and during his stay in Sacred Heart Parish he served as Prison Chaplain and as a member on the Prison Board.

Mgr Zammit studied at the University of Malta between 1967 and 1974, where he obtained a B.A. degree in Philosophy, Italian and Economics, and a Licentiate in Theology, and at the Pontifical Lateran University, Rome, between 1974 and 1976 where he obtained a Licentiate in Canon Law.

Upon returning to Malta following his time in Gibraltar, he was appointed Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Malta and a Judge in the Tribunal of Second Instance between 1999 and 2007. He was then appointed Assistant Judicial Vicar in the Metropolitan Tribunal of First Instance. He also serves in the Parish dedicated to the Assumption of Our Lady, Gudja.

In 1997 he was bestowed with the title of Prelate to His Holiness, whilst in 2005 he was appointed Canon of the Metropolitan Chapter. In 2010 he was elected President of the Metropolitan Chapter and since 2009 he is serving as a Council member of the St John's Co-Cathedral Foundation.

Mgr Carmel Zammit was ordained as Bishop of Gibraltar in a ceremony that took place at the Mdina Cathedral on 8 September on the feast of Our Lady of Victories, Malta's National Day.



SMARTCITY – MALTA

SmartCity is a technology park under development in Kalkara, Malta. The plan is to transform

the Ricasoli Industrial Estate into a state-of-the-art information technology and media city on the models of Dubai Internet City and Dubai Media City. Wikipedia

Address: Triq Santu Rokku, II-Kalkara, Malta

Phone: +356 2164 6666

SmartCity Malta is a joint venture between the Government of Malta and SmartCity Dubai, with the Government of Malta holding a 9% equity stake. SmartCity is the international arm of TECOM Investments business parks and is envisioned to develop and manage a network of interconnected business townships across the world, in order to replicate the astounding success TECOM has seen throughout its 11 business parks across 5 sectors in Dubai. These business parks attract 50,000 knowledge workers every day.

SmartCity Malta is designed to serve as a business hub for Malta's knowledge economy, attracting both local and international companies. The project aims to:

- Become the leading destination for knowledge-based clusters
- Generate jobs in the knowledge sectors for the people of Malta
- Attract FDI to the knowledge sectors
- Make a significant contribution towards increasing the share of knowledge industries towards Malta's GDP.

Xaghra's Victory Square receives a facelift in time for the feast

Xaghra's newly refurbished Victory Square and 8th September Avenue, together with the restoration and regeneration project of the parvis of the Parish Church of the Nativity of Our Lady in Xaghra, were inaugurated on Tuesday evening by the Minister for Gozo Dr Anton Refalo, in the presence of Xaghra Mayor Joe Cordina and Xaghra parish Archpriest Mgr Carmel Refalo who blessed the square.



The entire embellishment project was estimated to have cost around €1 million, the Ministry for Gozo said. The work was made possible through part funding between the LEADER Programme Measure 313 of the European Union and the Ministry for Gozo. Entrances to World War II shelters were discovered during the embellishment work carried out around the

square. The Ministry said that these have been integrated into the design of the finished square, with the view of opening them to the public in the future.

Victory Square and 8th September Avenue have been finished in a dark red tarmac, the first time it has been used on the islands, this part of the project also included seating, together with the construction of a stormwater culvert, new electricity infrastructure and paving. All have been completed in time for the Xaghra feast celebrated on the 8th of September. The newly restored Basilica parvis was also being inaugurated. Work included the removal of the statues of Our Lady and St Joseph for restoration.

Other embellishment works were the replacement of existing concrete tiling with natural stone paving (travertine); repaving of main and side stairways with natural stone; building of a new ramp to improve access to the parvis; and conversion of the existing lighting system to an energy saving one and the restoration of the parvis perimeter wall. A financial agreement was reached between the Xaghra Parish Church and the Ministry for Gozo, who financed the materials and supplies required for the parish project which amounted to around €106,000. Photographs: MGOZ/George Scerri

Tifhira lil Malta

Int sabiha, o Malta taghna!
Mhux ghax Malti nfaħħrek jien;
issemmik id-dinja kollha,
magħruf ġmielek kullimkien.

Imghottija bl-isbaħ sema,
l-ghona dawl ix-xemx tagħtik,
ma xxawtekx, bil-ħlewwa
ssaħħnek,
ġid iġġiblek u tqawwik.

Fik il-bard lil ħadd ma jikser
meta x-xemx tgħaddilek bġid,
ma jġix inhar tul sena
illi ma jsaħħnekx xi ftit.

U l-art tiegħek kulma tagħmel
kollu tajjeb, kollu bnin;
ġewwa bliethom il-frott tiegħek
jixtiquh wisq barranin.

Illi l-ġid bil-wisq tagħtina
qaluh fl-ibgħad żminijiet
filli tagħti, għad li żghira,
tisboq 'il bosta artijiet.

B'kull tifhir, o gżira mbierka,
il-ghorrief semmewk, kitbuk;
għal insiġ idejn uliedek
elfejn sena ilu faħħruk.

Liema ħaġa li fik tinbet
tieba u benna ma turix?
Il-laringa, il-frawla tiegħek
min fid-dinja ma jsemmix?

U x'ingħid mill-ghasel tiegħek,
liema bniedem ma jfaħħrux?
Jekk iduru d-dinja kollha
oħla minnu ma jsibux.

Fik il-qronfla, fik il-warda,
biex thawwilhom l-angli ġiet
imkien ġmielhom, imkien bħalhom,
fihom riha tas-smewwiet.

Ġewwa fik, o gżira taghna,
ħlief il-ħlewwa ma tidhirx;
u kif le, jekk ismek, ismek
ħlief il-ghasel ma jfissirx?

Gan Anton Vassallo 1817 – 1868:
Vassallo is one of Malta's
foremost Patriot

MALTA A GEM IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

You are a lovely gem..
In the Mediterranean sea.
Not because you are my country..
but your beauty, is there
for everyone to see.

The sun is always shining.
Winter is somewhat mild
We have no avalanches..
nor rivers running wild

We have, no high peaked mountains.
Nor waterfalls and lakes.
But we have love and warmth..
and friendship for the take.

Although ruled by many..
You were always ready to fight back.
Never letting anyone , abuse you
You were always there, facing attack.

The rugged landscape ...and spectacular
coastline. Await to be explored
Sandy beaches , almost for anyone..
Nobody , can get bored.

Vast, golden beaches like Ghadira
Also known as Mellieha Bay.
Flat topped cliffs, that are so picturesque
Envelope Ghajn Tuffieha and Paradise
Bay.

Your treasures are priceless.
And your buildings speak of history.
Flemish Tapestries and Auberges..
There is nothing that is worthless.

Tourists visits you for pleasure.
Finding warm and friendly people.
Roaming about, your historical treasures
They are sure to remain feeble.

Seeing all this Folk and Traditions..
At almost every turn..
You will be always remembered,
and for you everyone yearn.

To come and live in this small island..
with so much wealth and rest to give
So long live Malta and the Maltese..
They do it better.. No offence please.



This is my first letter to you and I wish to express my thanks and congratulations for this superb newsletter- The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora. I was introduced to this about two years or so ago by my treasured cousin Sister Vittoriana DeBattista of the Franciscan Community in Adelaide. I am just amazed at the numerous articles that you manage to collate each week to bring to us. In particular, (I think Newsletter 132) the article on Naxxar which is my place of birth. I migrated with my parents to Australia in 1949 (being only 18th months of age) but my dear father related to my sister (Australian born Maltese) and to myself many stories of Malta and of course in particular Naxxar

where both he and I were born. My mother hailed from Birkirkara and when she and my dad married they made their home in Naxxar be it only for a short time before they migrated. Also I pass this newsletter on to other cousins in Sydney who like me are enjoying reading it so much. Might I also add that my mother who is 89 years of age and lives with me also manages to read the newsletter and I truly enjoy hearing a chuckle or two from her whilst she is reading it - I guess it is bringing back many memories for her. Mr, Scicluna, thank you again for your hard work and your expansive knowledge about our wonderful Malta (which I have fortunately been able to visit three times so far) and may I look forward with much enthusiasm to future newsletters. sincerely, Vivienne and Roger Darwon (nee Attard)

I had a good read to this newsletter and I like to thank you for mentioning the Monash Maltese Seniors Social Group on page 17. It is always a pleasure to see you coming to the club when you are in Melbourne and do a speech in Maltese to the members. Thanks Jane Galea

Grazzi mil-qalb u prosit tassew. Mons Philip Calleja

Very interesting reading covering a wide spectrum of topics which should be of interest to Maltese and lovers of Maltese culture and heritage. Keep it up! Best regards and VIVA MARIJA BAMBINA !!! J. Pirotta Canberra

I cannot thank you enough for your Newsletter, which is actually a Maltese encyclopaedia. I have learnt so many facts about Malta and its history and culture that I have never knew before. I always print them myself and give them to my relatives and Canadian friends to learn more about Malta. How about collating all the newsletters and print them as a book? Charles Gauci.

GOOD MORNING FRANK

JUST A BIT OF INFORMATION YOU MIGHT HAVE HEARD ABOUT THIS. IN MELBOURNE IN OCTOBER THERE IS A MALTESE COOKING COMPETITION I BELIEVE IT SHOULD START ABOUT THE 20 OCTOBER IT WILL BE NICE IF YOU CAN GET THE INFO AND THEN PUT IT IN THIS GREAT NEWSLETTER THAT YOU HAVE BEEN DOING SO WELL. ALL I HEARD IS THE COMPETITION IS ON FOR SIX HOURS OF COOKING. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK YOU HAVE BEEN DOING WE ALL LOVE ALL THE NEWSLETTER AND WE 'RE SENDING IT TO MELBOURNE SYDNEY AND MALTA AND ENGLAND. KIND REGARDS ANDREW BORG (ADELAIDE) (See page 16 – Editor)

Every time I receive your Newsletter I print it and give it to my parents who live in a retirement village because they do not have a computer. They read it and enjoy it and remember the good old days when they were much younger living in Malta. S Coleiro – Queensland Australia





FILIPINO FESTIVAL

Please join us **on Saturday October 1st** in Celebrating a vibrant Filipino Culture and Cuisine right in the heart of Adelaide- Victoria Square (*Tarntanyangga*) commencing at 11am and finishing at 4pm –we expect over 3,000 members of the extended Filipino Community to come from all parts of South Australia to help us to showcase the Philippines to the broader South Australian Community –we will be joined by

Hon Zoe Bettison- Minister for Multicultural Affairs

The Right Honourable The Lord Mayor of Adelaide Mr Martin Haese

Ms Grace Portolesi –Chair South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission

I know it is Grand Final Day ! and a long weekend –however, you are most welcome to come along sample the diversity, food, warmth and generosity of the Filipino people who call South Australia home –and ask that you promote this event within your Communities.

@@



Autumn on the islands with flocks of raptors and the magic of migration

Autumn will soon be upon us and for all those who love birdwatching in Malta, the coming weeks will bring with them a spectacle in the skies as the

autumn migration slowly picks up.

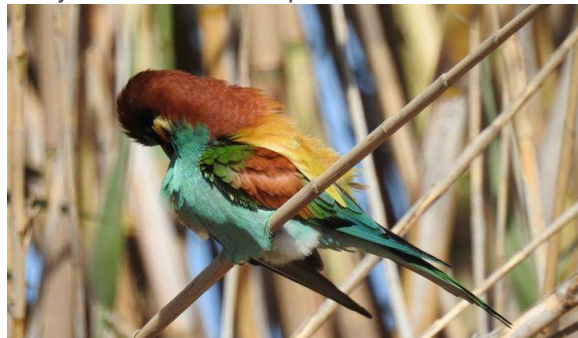
BirdLife Malta said that the stars of this spectacle are the raptors...in other words birds of prey, which have already started reaching these islands, although it will take a couple of more weeks to reach the peak of the autumn migration.

Notwithstanding this, a number of other birds can already be observed at this exciting time of year – such as herons, egrets, bee-eaters and smaller passerines."It will probably be mid-September when we get the first thunderstorm and as the weather starts changing, raptors flying from Sicily will start landing on Malta. This will be the peak of season. Marsh Harriers (Baghdan Ahmar) and Honey Buzzards (Kuccarda) usually fly in in their hundreds, looking for a place to spend the night," said BLM

BirdLife added that, the woodlands at Buskett and the valleys under Laferla Cross within the outskirts of Siggiewi become the stage for one of the most spectacular wildlife performances in Malta, as flocks of these wonderful birds of prey gather in the sky, circling and converging over the area. "Being the largest wooded area in Malta with a very high altitude, Buskett is the right place to be at this time of year to watch birds of prey. Here, daily observations are made by local birdwatchers to monitor the autumn raptor migration."

BirdLife Malta, explaining the migration route said that every autumn many migrating birds crossing the Mediterranean Sea on their way to Africa seek shelter on the Maltese Islands after having spent their summer in Europe.

"Europe's birds use three main routes to travel between their European breeding grounds and African wintering grounds – in the east over the Bosphorus, in the west over Gibraltar, and in the central Mediterranean via Italy, Sicily and Malta." This places Malta on one of the migration routes – better known as 'flyways' – for these



majestic creatures crossing over between mainland Europe and Africa. Which makes September and October the best months to look out for these birds on migration in Malta, said BLM.

The routes followed by migratory birds are numerous, and while some of them are simple and easily traced, others are extremely complicated. Differences in distance travelled, in time of starting, in speed of flight, in geographical position, in the latitude of the breeding and wintering grounds and in

other factors all contribute to great diversity.

BirdLife said that although bird migration is generally thought of as a north-and-south movement, no two species follow exactly the same path from beginning to end.

"In so many words, Malta has an important role as an island on its own migration flyway and we should consider ourselves lucky that during the coming months we will be able to witness the beauty of this phenomenon as birds such as Black Kites, Ospreys, Honey Buzzards, and Marsh Harriers together with some kestrels, falcons, vultures and eagles...but also others such as Bee-eaters and Hoopoes and the occasional Black Stork and White Stork, stop over Malta while travelling large distances from northern Europe to central Africa," said BirdLife.

"This is the magic of migration...a magical time that is for everyone to enjoy. If you have some free time, in particular at the highest points of the island, look up and keep your eyes focused so that even you witness the raptors on their journey to Africa." *Photos: A Marsh Harrier at Buskett earlier this week (Photo by Aron Tanti) and A Bee-eater at Ghajn Rihana (Photo by Sean Bonello)*

All set for the Great Maltese Cook-Off

The cooking traditions of Malta are once more being celebrated and families of the west, Maltese and otherwise, are being invited to test their skills in the Maltese Cook-Off. Top honours at last year's cook-off were claimed by Werribee's Portelli family.

Matriarch Carmen, with son Luke and daughter Annie, won with broad bean soup with fresh cheeselets and prickly pear ice-cream with an almond slice biscuit. "It was an amazing experience," Carmen said. "It allowed me to be immersed in my culture and hear everyone speaking Maltese around me."



This year's annual event will be on October 23 in Melbourne at William Angliss Institute. Details: www.nisga.org

The Malta Lace Club - Klabb Bizzilla Maltija Keeping the Maltese lace tradition alive!

Founded in 2005, the Malta Lace Club (or Klabb tal-Bizzilla Maltija, as it's known in Maltese) is the place where lace makers meet, socialize and share their interest in the beautiful traditional craft of Maltese lace. Club meetings are held from October till June, every second Wednesday of the month from 5.30pm till 7.30pm. Venue: The Catholic Institute in Floriana.

Background Information on Maltese Lace

Bobbin lace in Malta goes back to the Knights of Malta period. The Knights of St. John ruled the Maltese Islands from 1530 till 1798.

The knights introduced bobbin lace as a clothing accessory to embellish fashionware of nobility and ecclesiastical vestments. At one point, lace making in Malta was on the verge of being forgotten. What was left were images on old photographs and paintings portraying Maltese lace used as a decoration on ecclesiastical vestments and nobility fashionware.

Maltese Lace Today

Today, the Malta Lace Club actively promotes the craft of lace making and encourages its members to keep the craft alive. Members are encouraged to come up with new ideas and approach the craft of lace making with an innovative flair.

In fact, club members meet once a month to discuss and share ideas and patterns. They also participate in workshops and talks which the club committee organizes from time to time.

To motivate its members further, the Malta Lace Club organizes a **YEARLY CHALLENGE**. This event encourages club members to participate with a competitive and creative approach.

The results of this challenge speak for themselves. Entries for this event continue to be of the highest standard in both design and technique, year after year!

Where can you see Malta lace being made?

The club periodically accepts invitations from local entities to participate in events where the public can see club members making lace live! Past events were held at **Baystreet Complex** and **Birgufest**.



(PICTURE) Visitors at Birgufest admiring the talented lace makers at work!

These events are always a huge success with both locals and tourists. In such events, visitors have the chance to see club members making lace, ask questions and also have a close up look at amazingly beautiful bobbin lace doilies and many other lace products. Various Maltese lace products are also on sale during these events. Perfect for that special souvenir to take home with you! The Club organizes a popular lace event called **JUM BIZZILLA FIT-TRIQ** (or Lace in the Street, as it's known in English.)



the help of a member.

During this event, lace makers from all over Malta join club members to work lace in the street, just like it used to be back in the old days! Every lace worker is welcomed to join in for free.

<- Beginners Corner at a past Jum Bizzilla fit-Triq event.

If you've always wanted to try your hand at lace making, during the event a special **Beginners Corner** is set up so that anyone interested can have a go at lace making for the first time with



Waltzing Matilda is Australia's best-known bush ballad, and has been described as the country's "unofficial national anthem".

The title was Australian slang for travelling on foot (waltzing, derived from the German *auf der Walz*) with one's belongings in a "matilda" (swag) slung over one's back.^[2] The song narrates the story of an itinerant worker, or "swagman", making a drink of billy tea at a bush camp and capturing a jumbuck (sheep) to eat. When the jumbuck's owner, a squatter (wealthy landowner), and three mounted policemen pursue the swagman, he commits suicide by drowning himself in a nearby billabong (watering hole), after which his ghost haunts the site.

The original lyrics were written in 1895 by Australian poet Banjo Paterson, and were first published as sheet music in 1903. Extensive

folklore surrounds the song and the process of its creation, to the extent that it has its own museum, the Waltzing Matilda Centre in Winton, Queensland, where Paterson wrote the lyrics. In 2012, to remind Australians of the song's significance, Winton organised the inaugural Waltzing Matilda Day to be held on 6 April, the anniversary of its first performance.

The song was first recorded in 1926 as performed by John Collinson and Russell Callow.^[1] In 2008, this recording of "Waltzing Matilda" was added to the Sounds of Australia registry in the National Film and Sound Archive which says that there are more recordings of "Waltzing Matilda" than any other Australian song. Here are the lyrics of the first two stanzas

**Once a jolly swagman camped by a billabong,
Under the shade of a Coolibah tree,
And he sang as he watched and waited till his
billy boil,
You'll come a Waltzing Matilda with me.**

**Waltzing Matilda, Waltzing Matilda,
You'll come a Waltzing Matilda with me,
And he sang as he watched and waited till his
billy boil
You'll come a Waltzing Matilda with me.**

**Down came a jumbuck to drink at that
billabong
Up jumped the swagman and grabbed him
with glee,
And he sang as he shoved that jumbuck in his
tucker bag
You'll come a Waltzing Matilda with me.**

**Waltzing Matilda, Waltzing Matilda,
You'll come a Waltzing Matilda with me,
And he sang as he shoved that jumbuck in his
tucker bag
You'll come a Waltzing Matilda with me.**



Celebration of the Feast of St. Peter and St. Paul in Melbourne, VICTORIA

Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter and St. Paul
Grand Chapter of Melbourne

The Grand Chapter of Melbourne held the celebration in honour of St. Peter and St. Paul on Saturday 2nd. and

Sunday 3rd. July, 2016.

On Saturday the Annual Dinner Dance was held at Club Italia in Furlong Road, North Sunshine. It was another wonderful event. The Master of Ceremonies of the night was Mr. Emmanuel Brincat and he presented the program very well.

The program started with a procession in the hall by the Knights of the Black Cross represented by Chev. Vincenzo Schirripa and Pasquale Barbaro, followed by Chevalier Dino De Marchi Vice Chancellor of the OSJ. Knights of St. John of Jerusalem and then by the Knights of St. Peter & St. Paul.

The music was provided by DJ Reno Spiteri and the Maltese United Brass Band.

Our guests had a wonderful time. Thanks for the members of the Supreme Council and all those who helped in anyway.

On Sunday the knights and ladies of the Grand Chapter of Melbourne attended a Solemn Mass at St. Martin De Porres in Avondale Heights. Fr Ivano Burdian, Provincial Superior of the MSSP celebrated Holy Mass.

After Holy Communion Paolo Tartaglia President of the feast of Madonna delle Lacrime was invested as a knight in the Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter & St. Paul.

Many thanks to the knights and dames of the Supreme Council for their tireless work during the year and all the knights and dames for their contribution to our Confraternity.

Chevalier Peter Paul Portelli

Grand Master

HERE WE WOULD HAVE A BETTER LIFE — Manwela Zammit



We had a very hard life in Malta, that is why my family and I migrated to Australia. We arrived here in 1946 or 1947, just after the war. My twenty year old son, the eldest of our four children lost his job in Malta and was not able to find another so he decided to try his luck in Australia.

He was lucky to have had Mabel Strickland as his past employer. She was also a neighbour of ours in Lija and she helped him with the formalities to migrate. She advised my family and I to come to Australia because here we would have a better life.

My son worked steadfastly and in a short time he helped his two sisters come to Australia as well. Together they prepared a home for my husband and I in St Albans. My other son was married and stayed in Malta.

I never went out to work as I could not speak English, but I took in a couple of boarders which helped maintain our rather large house and I looked after my family. Now that my husband is dead, I live in a bungalow at the back of a house next door to my daughter. She keeps a close watch over me. I have a pension and do not need for anything. My children take good care of me. I never thought I would go to Australia to live, but I thank God that since that day I have never needed anything again. I am very happy here and grateful to everyone, But I still miss Malta.

STORIES OF MALTESE MIGRATION EXPERIENCE

nisga



nisga is an Australian-Maltese fusion that exists to enhance and encourage cross cultural and intergenerational story telling via the arts. nisga aims to pass the Maltese identity to Australian youth via various cultural events, thus strengthening a sense of Australian-Maltese identity amongst current and ensuing generations. By weaving together the different colors, textures and threads that tell our stories, we hope to foster greater strength of relationship with Malta and her people so an authentic community can exist. To contact nisga please call +61 499 077 920 or visit our website-nisga.org
www.nisga.org

