


THE MALTESE NEWSLETTER

The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora

THE MOTTO - BUILDING BRIDGES NOT WALLS

EDITOR: Frank L. Scicluna OAM CONTACT - Email: honconsul@live.com.au



Maltese living abroad estimated at 900,000

In its news bulletin broadcast TVM reported on the estimated number of Maltese living overseas. According to statistics held by TVM the number of Maltese up to the fifth generation residing abroad around the world is estimated at about 900,000, which more than double the population living in Malta.

By far the largest number of Maltese descendants up to the fifth generation lives in Australia where, according to the news report, from the census they are estimated at 447,000. The second largest group of Maltese overseas lives in the United States numbering 220,000 and England with 91,000 is the third largest.

The surprising news was that there are Maltese who reside in places that one does not expect to find them, such as, Macao, Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, Samoa, Christmas Island, Vanuatu as well as Trinidad and Tobago. There are some, if only a few individuals, living in countries such as Iran, Iraq, Botswana and Congo.

Malta's membership of the European Union appears to have led to a substantial increase in the number of Maltese living in Belgium now numbering about 668. In continental Europe the Maltese presence includes 900 in Italy, 23 in the Vatican, 600 in France and 276 in the Netherlands.

There is also a large longstanding Maltese community on the Mediterranean island of Corfu numbering 7,000. Malta's commercial ties with the Middle East have led to an increase of Maltese presence in those countries including 733 in the United Arab Emirates and 36 in Qatar among others.

[Source: www.tvm.com.mt]



Mother has been waiting for children's Maltese citizenship for four years

'Identity Malta treats me like a number'



Elena Spagnol (Facebook).

A mother who has been seeking Maltese citizenship for her children for the past four years is asking the authorities to get their act together as she could no longer “suffer the wait and injustices by Identity Malta”.

The Russian woman, who became a Maltese citizen more than five years ago after marrying a Maltese man, said that despite spending hours queuing to ask Identity Malta about the state of the applications of her two children, aged 20 and 12, the only response she got was that she still had to wait.

“I applied for my children to be given Maltese citizenship more than four years ago. They have a right to citizenship because I am already Maltese. However, every time I go to Identity Malta in Valletta to ask about the state of the applications, all I am told is to wait and that the applications are still being processed.

“How can an application take four years to be settled? We are dealing with human beings here. It’s not acceptable

that this state of affairs continues in a supposedly modern European country,” Ms Spagnol said. She said Identity Malta officials came up with “all imaginable types of excuses”. On two occasions she was even told they had lost their applications, she added.

Ms Spagnol said she decided to speak to the Times of Malta because the situation was “really becoming intolerable”.

Her elder son, Semen Ovsyanik, who has been living in Malta for 11 years and works for a private company, was informed by his boss that if he did not become a Maltese citizen by 21 he would be fired, she said.

“Apparently, this is the law... This is not fair. It is not possible that he risks losing his job just because of Identity Malta’s inefficiency,” she continued.

Ms Spagnol said, though, judging by Russian friends’ experiences, the process of citizenship took long in some cases, she knew of nobody else who had to wait for four years. “It seems I’m not lucky enough to know some politician”, she said.

Asked about this case, a spokeswoman for Identity Malta said it was not prudent to provide information on individual applications.

“Upon his request, Mr Ovsyanik can be personally briefed on the status of his application and the issues which need to be resolved and [be] assured that the case is being handled in the appropriate manner,” she said.

She would neither say how many pending applications for Maltese citizenship were being processed by Identity Malta. However, sources at the agency told this newspaper more than 3,000 applications were open. Unlike citizenship by registration or naturalisation, the government has also introduced the option of gaining citizenship by investment. Applicants would have to pay €650,000 to obtain a Maltese passport.

Prof. Maurice Cauchi

The Maltese Diaspora: Changing Faces of Malta Abroad



Introduction: Some Landmarks in the history of migration

The aim of this introduction is to emphasize the changing pattern of migration and to give some idea of the movement of people that occurred particularly during the first three-quarters of the 20th century, until 1975, described as a water-shed in Maltese migration, when more people started to return to Malta than leave it.

Migration to the USA

Already in 1911, the Passport Office had issued passports to 438 emigrants (mostly for California), and New Orleans. That migrants were less than adequately prepared for this venture may be gleaned from Dr Mattei's recommendation that migrants who could not speak English should carry around their neck a piece of cardboard with his name and his destination written on it! One can only imagine the impression that these migrants must have made on the local population! This picture has been caricatured in Juan Mamo's book, *Ulied in-Nanna Venut fl-Amerka*. Migrants had to be healthy (many failed because of trachoma) and possess at least 25 dollars on landing.

Post-WW1, Malta suffered a severe economic depression. Employment with the Admiralty, 15,000 at its peak, was slashed and the majority could not find a job.

For a couple of years (1920-1921) the floodgates to US opened and around 3000 Maltese left for the US 'el dorado'. But this flow soon came to a stop with the 'First Quota Law' of May 1921, which limited the annual intake of immigrants to the US to 3% of the number of foreign-born persons living in the US in 1910. Further restrictions were introduced in 1924, with the Johnson-Reed Act which reduced the annual intake to US to 150,000. The actual result was that by 1928 only 60 Maltese could enter the US, with preference to family reunion. This was later raised to 380 by 1929 and to 540 two years later.

With the massive economic depression that hit the US in the late 1920s, many migrants found themselves without a job and returned home. Emigration to the US remained static at very low levels until after the second world war when there was another wave of migration (1948: 654, 1950: over 1,000; 1951: 1,293). Between 1946-1952 almost 5,000 migrated to the US. Severe restrictions followed the introduction of the Immigration and Nationality Act (Maccarran-Walter Act, 1952) and migrant numbers fell to 683 and later to below 300 per annum.

Because of the limited migration to the US since the early 1950s, the number of Maltese-born migrants in the US is currently around 8,000^[5] scattered over the main cities, particularly, Detroit, New York, and San Francisco.

Migration to Canada

In the early part of the 20th century, Canada required 'farmers' who were used to and prepared to work on the largely virgin and uncultivated land. As Attard points out,^[6] the definition of 'farmer' has distinctly different meaning in Malta and in Canada or Australia. In these countries it refers to large landowners often owning thousands of acres for grazing sheep or cattle, or for cultivating crops on a large scale, as opposed to 'farmers' in Malta who are usually small-scale market gardeners.

Since 1923, through the Privy Council Order, Canada had kept Maltese out of Canada. By 1939 there were about 1000 Maltese in Toronto, with smaller groups in Windsor and London, and to a lesser extent in British Columbia. Even by 1945, Canada was averse to accepting Maltese. On March 1st 1948, an agreement was reached between Malta and Canada to allow 500 men from Malta to migrate to Canada (their families would be allowed to follow as soon as the men

felt well-settled). Between 1945-1975, about 20,000 Maltese went to Canada. In some years (1951, 1964 and 1965), the number of migrants reached over 1000 pa.

The success of Canada as a place of settlement depended on choice of migrants imposed by the selection criteria, which also required some knowledge of English. The Government of Malta paid 75% of the fare at one time and the British government provided some grants. Each migrant paid only 10 pounds, teenagers half price, and young children were free. After 1961, economic conditions in Canada declined and Maltese migration fell to 371 in 1962. However, between 1963 and 1965, the number of migrants entering Canada reached 3,199.

Next issue Migration to UNITED KINGDOM, AUSTRALIA AND EUROPEAN UNION

‘These expatriates have a tendency to visit their country often and keep themselves up-to-date with what is happening.’

Table: Maltese living in various countries[:

Country	Generation	Ancestry	Total
Australia[14]	43,708	153,805	197,513
Canada [15]	30,000	75,568	105,568
EU [16]	—	—	500
NZ [17]	363	914	1,277
UK [18]	30,178	76,016	106,194
USA [19]	14,405	36,286	50,691
Totals	118,654	342,589	461,743

GOZO meaning “joy” in Castilian, is **the second largest Island** of the Maltese archipelago.

Though separated from mainland Malta by a mere 5km stretch of sea, Gozo is distinctly different from Malta, more rural and tranquil, its culture and way of life are rooted in tradition and yet open to the present. “The Maltese archipelago has more to offer than just the island from which it takes its name.



A mere 25 minutes by ferry from Malta, tiny Gozo is a destination in its own right, boasting a distinct history, culture and character. The Maltese flock here to enjoy the verdant scenery, superior food and relaxed pace of life. And it isn't just the locals that love it: none other than Brangelina chose it as their honeymoon destination. Most roads in Gozo lead to the capital, Victoria, an attractive jumble of markets, restaurants, quaint British gardens and diverting museums. Its high point – quite literally – is the ancient fortified Cittadella, with its magnificent 360-degree view of the island. Spread out below you are the island's chief sights: the scenic beach resort of Marsalforn, the world-famous Neolithic temples of Ggantija, and the legendary Calypso's Cave, where Odysseus may or

may not have taken a break during his travels. Believe us: come to Gozo, and you'll want to stay for more than just a pit stop.”

By Time Out Malta and Gozo



Casa Leoni Santa Venera

Casa Leoni or **Casa Leone** (Maltese: Dar l-Iljuni, meaning "House of the Lions"), also known as **Palazzo Manoel** (Maltese: Il-Palazz Vilhena),

is a palace in of purposes, including as an insurgent command base, an official residence, a museum depository and a school. It currently houses the Ministry for Sustainable Development, the Environment and Climate Change.

History

Casa Leoni was built in 1730^[a] as a summer residence for Grand Master António Manoel de Vilhena, and it was originally called Palazzo Manoel. The building is located close to the Wignacourt Aqueduct, in an area that was originally in the limits of Hamrun but which later became the separate locality of Santa Venera.^[3] It was designed by the French architect Charles François de Mondion.

During the French blockade of 1798–1800, Casa Leoni served as a command base for the Maltese insurgent National Congress Battalions. A grenadier company known as the Granatieri was set up specifically to guard this headquarters.

Casa Leoni subsequently became a residence for the Governor of Malta, and later for the Lieutenant-Governor. After World War II, it was used as a depository by the Museums Department. The building was converted into a museum in 1952, but the project was unsuccessful and it closed down soon afterwards.^[6] While serving as a museum, two gibbets from Villa Frere in Pietà were transferred to Casa Leoni.^[7] It later served as a government primary school until 1968.

The building was restored between 1977 and 1978, and it was briefly converted into a guest house for prominent visitors to Malta. It subsequently housed various government departments and ministries,^[1]

including the Ministry for Education and Culture.^[8] It currently houses the Ministry for Sustainable Development, the Environment and Climate Change.^[9]

The building was included on the Antiquities List of 1925.^[10] It is now a Grade 1 national monument,^[8] and it is also listed on the National Inventory of the Cultural Property of the Maltese Islands.^[2]

Architecture Palace and front garden

Venera, Malta, which was built as a summer residence for Grand Master António Manoel de Vilhena in 1730.^[a] It was subsequently used for a numbe



One of the four lion statues from which Casa Leoni gets its name

Casa Leoni is an example of Maltese Baroque architecture,^[11] with a simple but elegant design. Its

façade contains an arched doorway at the centre of the ground floor, with a balcony above it. The door and balcony are flanked by several wooden louvered windows surrounded by mouldings.^[2]

Casa Leoni has a small front garden, and its entrance consists of an ornamental arched gateway decorated with the coat of arms of Grand Master Vilhena. Two rooms are located on either side of the gate, and carved stone lions holding an escutcheon with Vilhena's coat of arms are found on the roof of each room.^[2] The name Casa Leoni is derived from these carved lions.^[8]

Back garden Romeo Romano Gardens

The palace also contains a large back garden, which is similar to that at San Anton Palace but on a smaller scale.^[12] It is the second largest Hospitaller-era garden in Malta after San Anton. A water lifting apparatus (Maltese: sienja) was installed in the gardens in the 19th century for irrigation purposes. Since 1977, most of the garden has been open to the public as Romeo Romano Gardens (Maltese: Ġnien Romeo Romano).





Our readers' say.....

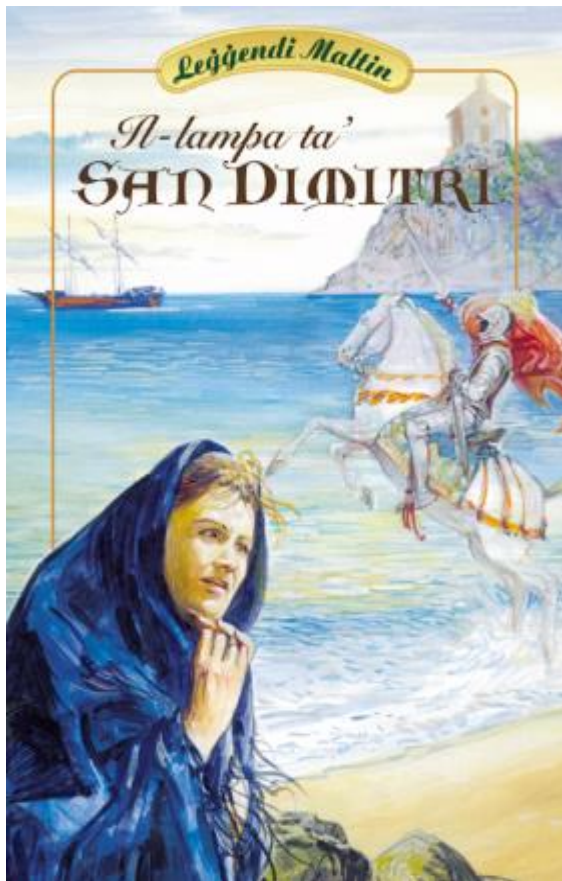
I read with great interest on The Maltese E-Newsletter 150 the article "Passports to Maltese Citizens Living Abroad". It was very informative and interesting. I agree that we, who according to the Malta Constitution, are citizens of Malta and living in other parts of the world. I believe we are not treated as citizens of Malta when we visit our island. We are treated as "tourists" or 'foreigners' and we do not enjoy the same privileges as the locals. I would like to mention also why we must wait so long to receive the citizenship certificates (sometimes more than 18 months). Is there such a big difference between Maltese citizens residing in Malta or abroad as far as the Identity and Senior Cards. I urge other readers of this magnificent Newsletter to voice the opinion on this matter.

Dear Frank, I read the article on the early Maltese to Brazil, and the rest of the newsletter, with great interest. Based on Mark Caruana's research, there was a Mose Augusto, age 56 (b.c. 1827, in Malta), to come to the United States, from Brazil, and arrived in the New York Harbor, on board the *Advance*, on March 17, 1884. Ray Coleiro of Cospicua is getting me interested in Giovanni Battista Azzopardi/Juan Bautista Azopardo who appears to have been the first Maltese immigrant to what became Argentina. Ray states that Azopardo established the Argentinian navy and has trace him back in Cospicua to his parents and paternal grandfather. See also Fr. Lawrence Attard, *Beyond Our Shores*, pp. 30-31. All the best, Dan Brock, London, Ontario, Canada

My name is Andrew A Bonello, I am a Maltese and was born in Melbourne, Australia. I am 20 years old. I was educated at Whitefriars College in Donvale where I studied for 6 years. After receiving a strong Atar from my final exams, I enrolled into a Bachelor of Laws at La Trobe University in Bundoora, Melbourne. I am currently in my second year of the degree after successfully completing my first. I have helped immensely with the operations of my Nannu's work through the Maltese community here in Melbourne. My Nannu (grandfather) Edwin E Bonello, has won the Meritorious Service to the Community award given by the Government of Victoria in 2009. Even though most of my time is spent on my studies I have helped with many of the works that my nannu is involved in for the last 53 years, in the Maltese community of Egypt, Libya, Turkey ect, for a greater Malta. I have great beliefs in an improved Malta and enhancing its recognition of Maltese living abroad. One day I would love to visit Malta and discover where my heritage began. Cheers....Andrew Bonello Melbourne

This Maltese Newsletter you kindly email me, is really great stuff. Well Done. It is full of interesting news the like of which one would hardly ever find. Keep up the great work. Regards John Farrugia – Vice-Consul for Malta in South Australia.

Prosit mill-gdid Frank. Is-sena t-tajba habib. Inti qieghed taqdi servizz utli hafna ghal dak il-Maltin li jinteressahom kif ukoll ghal ohrajn Mhux Maltin li b'xi mod jinteressaw rwiehhom fil-hajja taghna. Rigward dik it-talba ghall-ghajnuna finanzjarja lil H'Attard, rahal twelidi u trobbiti, ghall-ezempju sabiex inhajjar ohrajn jaghmlu bhali, nistqarr li jiena, minkejja li minix xi sinjur, iddonajt \$100.00 AUD is-sena l-ohra ghat-tiswijiet mehtiega fil-knisja parrokkjali. Ghal minn qatt ma zar din il-knisja parrokkjali ta' H'Attard nirrakkomandalu jzurha l-ewwel darba li jmur sa Malta ghaliex minkejja c-cokon taghha hija wahda mill-isbah, arkitettonikament, fil-Gzejjer Maltin. U hemmhekk ghandu jsib numru ta' affreski mpittrin minn hu nannuwi, il-Mastru Karm Debono li fuqu kien hemm artiklu dan l-ahhar fil-gurnal ufficjali ta' DIN L-ART HELWA jismu Vigilo. Insellimlek habib Rigu (Roderick Bovingdon)



Zgugina

*Dik Zgugina mara ghawdxija
Kienet toqghod l-Gharb il-gew
U fid-dinja kull ma kellha
Tifel biss jismu Matthew*

*Darba wahda gew it-Torok
U l-Mattew malli serquh
U gerrewh lejn it-Turkija
U go Ghawdex ma sabuhx*

*Din l-imsejkna ta' Zgugina
Tibki dejjem lejl u nhar
Dejjem titlob lil San Mitri
Li jerga jgibulha id-dar*

*O San Mitri gibli l-ibni
Ha nixghelek qazba zejt
Nixelilek minn fil-ghodu
U ddum tighxel sa bil-lejl*

*Dan San Mitri gab lil binha
Wara il-wedgha ftit sieghat*

**Gie fun ziemel u hawnekk halla
Difru mhaffer gewwa l-blat.**

The village of Gharb celebrates the traditional and popular feast of Saint Demetrius. The chapel is built on the edge of a promontory in Gharb, close to a cliff called Ras San Mitri (St. Demetrius' Cape) not far from Ta' Gordan Lighthouse. It can be approached by a country road from Gharb.



An older chapel was built by Dun Frangisk Depena early in the fifteenth century. However, Bishop Miguel Balaguer Camarasa deconsecrated it on 24th May, 1657 and fell into disrepair. In 1736, Dun Mario Vella caused it to be rebuilt, leaving an annual legacy of five scudi for its maintenance. On 11th April, 1809 the archpriest of Gharb, Dun Publius Refalo, blessed the chapel on behalf of Bishop Ferdinando Mattei. At the start of the second world war, at the request of the procurator Dun Paul Formosa, Papas Schiro` parish priest of the Greek Catholic community, celebrated Mass at this chapel that bears the name of a Greek saint.

There are several legends related to the chapel. The most popular legend says that the pirates stole Zgugina's son. Zgugina went to the chapel and prayed San Dimitri to get her son back. San Dimitri leaped from the portrait with his white horse and rode to the pirate ship over water. He fought the pirates and returned her son safely. Another related legend says that the original San Dimitri chapel was close to the cliffs. One day in a big earthquake the chapel fell in one piece to the sea. The legend specifies that a candle is alight day and night in this underwater chapel. Also the legend mentions that the chapel bell still chimes on special religious days.

With thanks to Jane Galea from Victoria



THE PASSING AWAY OF A GENTLEMAN GEORGE BORG-OLIVIER

Former Honorary Consul for Malta in Brisbane and Gold Coast

(Born 13/08/1937 - Died 11/01/17)

Written by his son Simon

Our father peacefully left us this morning at 3-30 am in his 80th year. I, his son, was with him when he passed and my sister Suzi Borg Olivier was able to be there minutes later. He will be dearly missed but he will always be with us. He passed away surrounded with love.

In life, George was filled with energy, love, generosity, kindness, courage, passion and charisma. In my books, George was truly a genius with a very sharp intellect and mind. He was able to do complex arithmetic in his head and give comprehensive unrehearsed speeches on many subjects to large groups of people. He was able to capture any audience. He was always a true gentleman in every sense of the word.

George had a fantastic sense of humour. He would always make everyone laugh. He was an excellent pianist, concert violinist, and used to run regularly in ultra marathons (only kidding about the music and the running, but I know he would have loved us to say that about him just for fun).

In his youth, George was an accomplished free-diver who could hold his breath for more than 6 minutes. In that capacity, he was my first yoga teacher who taught me how to hold my breath and swim underwater when I was 6 years old. In 1953, at age 16, he was given a medal for bravery by the Royal Humane Society presented by the Governor General of Malta, after he dived into the winter Mediterranean Sea at night to rescue a bus driver who was trapped in his bus after it had driven over the edge of a cliff.

George graduated from England's prestigious Sandhurst military academy in 1957 and, at age 22, was put in command of 200 men, many of whom were much older than him. He gained their respect because he never asked any of his men to do anything that he was not prepared to do first. As a father, he also would lead by example and that always made it easier to see his reasoning.

I am so grateful that he brought my mother (Maria Borg-Olivier), my sister Suzi, and I to Australia in 1968. In Australia, he proceeded to become a highly respected corporate businessman. He travelled the world and his work influenced many people in India and Papua New Guinea.

George was the Maltese Honorary Consul for Queensland. It was my honour to be his driver in a motorcade with him and the Maltese President when the president visited Australia a few years ago. As a father, he would always say he was 'strict but fair'. He was as tough as they come, like the Leo that he was, but he was often as gentle as a kitten and was so generous and so giving when anyone was in need. For me, he was the ultimate teacher in all things and my greatest inspiration.

Anyone who would like to pay their last respects to him at a memorial service being held in a few weeks, please contact zuziii@internode.on.net for the details.



THE LEGENDARY MANWEL DIMECH

Manuel Dimech (25 December 1860, Valletta – 17 April 1921, Alexandria, Egypt) was the pre-eminent social reformer in pre-independence Malta, a philosopher, a journalist, and a writer of novels and poetry.

Ninety six years after the death of one of the most loved and hated of Maltese social thinkers, Manwel Dimech lives on in the hearts of young idealists. An enemy of domination, repression and coercion, the “Maltese hero” passed away alone on April 17, 1921, during his exile in Alexandria, Egypt.

Born on Christmas Day in 1860, Manwel Dimech was brought up in extreme poverty. He made it in and out of prison 10 times, mostly on robbery charges, where he studied hard and mastered various arts. His 12-member family lived in a single room in a common tenement house with over 60 other people. At 13, Dimech committed his first recorded crime of petty theft, while at 17 he committed murder – a mistake that cost him a long prison term but also planted the seed for his long-term transformation.

While in prison, he discovered his love for languages and taught himself Maltese, English, French and Italian. Once out of prison at the age of 36, with around 20 years of imprisonment on his shoulders, he embarked on a revolutionary spree and in 1898 started issuing the weekly *Il-Bandiera tal-Maltin* (The Flag of the Maltese). The newspaper was his mouthpiece to delve in the structures of oppression in a country which had been a colony of Britain since 1800 and which was held tight in the Catholic Church’s grip.

Dimech proposed the education of the masses, insisting that Malta could become an economically self-sufficient independent republic. He dreamt of social transformation where the poor would be recognised as rightful citizens. He travelled to Tunis, Montenegro, Genoa and Milan among others before he returned to Malta ready to bring about social change. In 1911, he founded the renowned *Xirka ta’ l-Imdawlin* (The League of the Enlightened).

The Church, however, condemned *Il-Bandiera tal-Maltin* and *l-Xirka ta’ l-Imdawlin*, and excommunicated Dimech himself. Undaunted, he re-established his former organisation with the name *l-Xirka tal-Maltin* (The League of the Maltese) but he was arrested just over a year later.

At the beginning of World War I, Malta’s British governor accepted the allegation that Dimech was a spy for Germany and he was deported to Sicily. Arrested again and asked to leave to a country apart from Malta, he went to Egypt, where he spent seven years in prisons and concentration camps in Alexandria or Cairo living as an exile. In 1920 the reformist became half-paralysed following a stroke and was transferred to Sidi Bishr, in Alexandria, where he died alone a year later and was buried in an unmarked grave.

LET’S MAKE OUR JOURNAL GREAT IN 2017

KEEP ON SENDING YOUR COMMENTS, ARTICLES,
NEWS, STORIES, POEMS, PROFILES AND EMAILS

MALTESE NEWSLETTER

The Journal
of the MALTESE DIASPORA

honconsul@live.com.au



This article was published in THE ADVERTISER (South Australian Newspaper) in 1960

Leli Monsigneur (Malta/Australia)



Leli Monsigneur, one of the State's most experienced and dedicated players, will today (1960) play his 150th league game for Malta United. The brilliant, untiring half-back is a shining example for those critics who advocate that a soccer career should be started at an early age. Brilliant, untiring defender

Now 27, Leli played his first competitive match at the ripe old age of seven. His early promise as centre-half for Sliema Primary School in Malta was fulfilled when he was elected captain, a post he filled for seven years. During his term as captain, the school won five successive premierships.

In 1955 he migrated to Australia and signed for Adelaide George Cross. A 14-year-old boy with seven years professional coaching behind him, Leli was the type of player who any club would have welcomed with open arms.

George Cross, the State's leading Third Division team, was disbanded in 1955 and the following year Leli signed for the S.A. Railways Club. Although the youngest player in the Second Division side, he won the club's best and fairest trophy. The same year he played for the S.A. Junior team (under 21) against Western Australia.

Leli was one of the stars of S.A.'s 2-1 win at the Thebarton Oval. He was a loyal club man but naturally requested a transfer when Malta United was formed and accepted into Third Division in 1958. During the Association-Federation rift, he gained S.A. senior representation against Tasmania. He played four games in Hobart and Launceston and was never out of the best player lists in all four victories. The young Maltese star was met by Melbourne George Cross officials on his return from Tasmania.

He accepted an invitation to make two guest appearances and was highly praised for his skill and ability as centre half back. The Victorian State League club tempted Leli with a generous offer but he declined because of strong family ties in Adelaide. He proved his loyalty to Malta United by also rejecting offers from First Division clubs, Croatia, Polonia and Enfield City.

He compromised by "guesting" for Polonia during the Ampol night series in 1960. Last year was an outstanding season for Leli. He received the club's trophy for second best player, and won the Footballer of the Year Cup, a competition for Maltese sponsored clubs conducted by the Sydney Maltese Herald.

Malta United won the Broken Hill Bakery Cup in September and Leli was awarded the Craven A trophy for the best player of the two-day carnival. Malta won the Second Division Jaxen Cup the following week. During his nine seasons with Malta and previously with Railways, Leli has amassed an imposing tally of best and fairest trophies. As he takes the field against Windsor Athletic today for 150th appearance for Malta, he can take pride that he has never once been sent off, or even cautioned during his long career a fair record indeed.

This is a copy written by Allan Crisp, sports correspondent of THE ADVERTISER in 1960 during the glorious days of Malta United Football Club. Every player in the team played as if he was representing Malta. Leli Monsigneur, was born in Sliema 77 years ago. He was one of soccer pioneers, unfortunately now he is being looked after in a nursing home by the staff and his dear wife, Carmen.

Submitted by his brother Joe Monsigneur of Lockleys, South Australia



South Coast Register

MALTA SELECTS FALZON IN SQUAD

PROUD OF HIS HERITAGE: Nowra-Bomaderry Jets' Nathan Falzon has been selected in the Maltese squad for the upcoming International match. Photo: DAMIAN MCGILL

MALTA Rugby League has named their squad for the upcoming international fixture against the Philippines next month and Nowra-Bomaderry Jets star Nathan Falzon has been chosen in the Knights squad.

The clash will be the Knights first game since their 58-12 loss to Ireland last October at the Carlisle Grounds in Bray and only their second game on Australian soil in the last decade.

Peter Cassar will take charge of the team to face off against the Tamaraws and is eager to finally get a game under his belt. "Since the postponement of the game in Thailand last year due to the unfortunate passing of their Monarch, we've been keen to pull together and play some footy," Cassar said.

"We've been looking to add some players who have experience in a higher level of football, so there will be a few debutantes plucked out of New South Wales and Queensland competitions." Malta look set to enjoy a busy 2017 International schedule as the tiny nation seek to improve their ranking after dropping to 20th when the world body released the results back in November.

The match against the Philippines will take place on February 4, at New Era Stadium, kicking-off at 7.30pm, with the under 17s curtain-raiser from 4.15pm. Knights squad: Jake Attard, Nathan Benson, Tyler Cassel, Luke Cauchi, Nathan Falzon, Jake Grace, Aaron Grech, Kyal Greene, Jake Lennox, Blake Phillips, CJ Rapinette, James Redman, Beau Sciberras, Ben Stone, Matthew Thompson, Jonathon Trott, Anthony Vella, Thomas Vella, Jake Webster, Aaron Weston and Dean Zammit

ELVIS

All The Way From The U.K

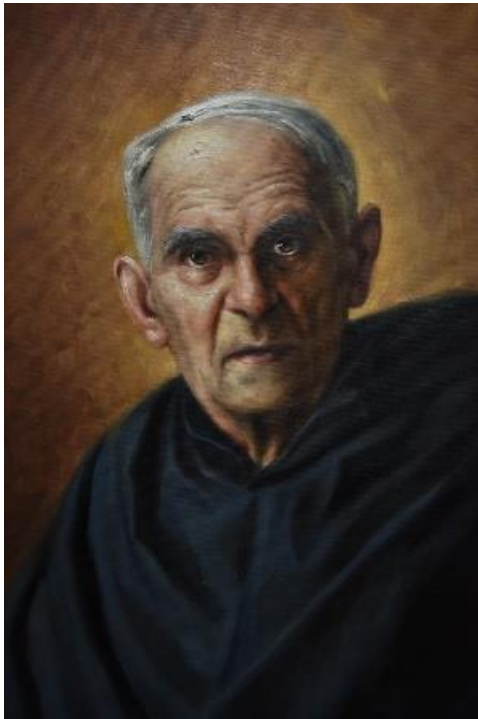
Gordon Davis & His Live Band

Saturday 6th May 2017
Doors Open @ 7:00pm

20 Euro Front Section
18 Euro Back Section
15 Euro Balcony

City Theatre
Valletta, Malta

A photograph of Gordon Davis performing as Elvis Presley. He is wearing a white jumpsuit with black trim and is holding a microphone and a guitar.



Jingħata bidu għall-Proċess tal-Beatifikazzjoni ta' Fra Grazzja Gauci OSA

mill-Kav. Joe M Attard Victoria, Għawdex

Fl-okkażjoni tal-200 sena mit-twaqqif uffiċċjali tal-Provinċja Agostinjana Maltija, qed isiru thejijiet għall-ftuħ tal-Proċess Djoċesan għall-Beatifikazzjoni u l-Qdusija ta' Fra Grazzja Gauci OSA li twieled fl-Għarb Għawdex fit-9 ta' Frar 1911 u miet fid-Dar tal-Kleru f'Birkirkara fit-8 ta' Frar 2005 fl-għomor ta' 94 sena. Nhar l-Erbgħa 8 ta' Frar 2017, sewwa sew 106 sena minn twelidu u 12-il sena minn mewtu, fil-Kunvent ta' Sant Wistin fir-Rabat Għawdex, fil-5.30pm il-Provinċja Agostinjana Maltija ser tiċċelebra l-ħajja sempliċi, umli u qaddisa ta' dan ir-reliġjuż twajjed li żgur ħafna Għawdxin għadhom jiftakruh tajjeb.

F'din l-okkażjoni ser issir ukoll l-inawgurazzjoni tal-pittura tiegħu maħduma mill-artist żagħżuġ Għawdx Manwel Farrugia kif ukoll it-tnehdija tal-pubblikazzjoni tal-Biografija tiegħu li ngabret minn Eman Bonniċi li mill-informazzjoni li għaddieli dan l-aħħar, sib t li dan il-Fra kien iben familja ta' bdiewa li issieheb fl-Ordni Agostinjan ta' tmintax-il sena fil-kunvent ta' Sant Wistin fir-Rabat Għawdex. Nazzarenu, għax hekk kien jismu, fis-16 ta' Marzu 1930, irċieva l-abitu Agostinjan u l-isem ta' reliġjuż ta' Fra Grazzja fis-sagristija tal-Knisja ta' San Mark r-Rabat Malta. Ftit xhur biss wara li kien irċieva l-professjoni sempliċi fl-24 ta' Jannar 1934 intbagħat iservi l-komunita' tal-Bazilika ta' Santu Wistin ta' Bona fl-Algerija fejn għal tnejn u erbgħin sena qeda d-doveri ta' sagristan, kok, purtinar, u ħidmiet oħra fil-kwalita' tiegħu ta' konvers. Kien propju f'din il-Bazilika li għamel il-professjoni sollenni tiegħu fil-15 ta' Awwissu 1937. Dejjem bi tbissima lesta fuq fomm, Fra Grazzja qatta' ħajtu fil-qadi u s-servizz lejn l-oħrajn, fil-ħabi u u-silenzju. Lura fostna Għawdex fil-Kunvent fl-1977, fl-1995 iddaħħal fid-Dar tal-Kleru f'Birkirkara fejn miet għaxar snin wara lejliet li kellu jagħlaq 94 sena.

Qaddej fidil tal-Vanġelu dan ir-reliġjuż għażiż qiegħed jigi pprezentat bħala eżempju mhux biss għar-reliġjużi iżda għal daww kollha li jirrikorru lejha sabiex barra milli jseħħu jkun dejjem aktar magħruf u maħbub, nimitawh sabiex inwettqu kliem l-Iskrittura Mqaddsa. 'Inti għandek tagħtih u la ssewwidx qalbek meta tagħtih, għaliex minħabba f'dan ibierkek il-Mulej Alla tiegħek, f'kull ma tmidd idek għalih.'

Intant, kulhadd huwa mistieden jieħu sehem f'din iċ-ċelebrazzjoni li qed issir bħala parti mill-attivitajiet li qed isiru biex ifakkru kif inhu xieraq il-200 sena mit-Twaqqif uffiċċjali tal-Provinċja Agostinjana Maltija li għażlet bħala motto: Fittixtek.....Sibtek.....Ħabbejtek -- kliem l-għaref u Duttur tal-Knisja, l-Isqof ta' Ippona, Sant Wistin!

I'M PROUD TO BE
MALTESE

That's why I read, support and share
THE MALTESE NEWSLETTER



EAT IN MY KITCHEN

I love to eat, I always have. One of my earliest photos shows me sucking on a roast chicken leg, I was still a baby, I could't even walk and could barely hold the leg myself. Nothing has changed since those days, my early passion evolved into a lifetime love of good food and the daily enjoyments created in and through my kitchen. To gather at our long wooden table with friends and family, to share a great time over food and wine, that's a daily feast to me, the part of the day I always look forward to, to cook, to bake, to eat and to treat.

My mother has always been my culinary guide on this journey, through her I learnt and understood cooking and baking as an essential part of my life and who I am, something I enjoy so much and love to share with all the special people around me. I gladly experienced so many wonderful moments at her table or later on at my own, true feasts which became my most beloved memories caressing my soul! To enjoy good food is magical, it's like music, it can put you in a different time, place and mood whenever you want.

Many of my recipes are inspired by my mother, her sense for good quality products and her sensual approach to food. I enjoy my kitchen experiences with all my senses just like her, I want to smell it, taste it, feel and enjoy it! Another big influence on my cooking is the beautiful island of Malta in the Mediterranean where my boyfriend's family comes from. He is Maltese/ American but grew up on this rock, that's what he calls his island home south of Sicily. We spend lots of time there, especially in summer and every year brings more recipes into my life. I love the island's amazing seafood, the herbs, vegetables, the famous Gbejna cheese, coarse Maltese sausage and the ripe fruits, especially the lemons and oranges from my mother in law's garden. I'm lucky, the family is as obsessed with food as I am, we spend nights over wonderful dinners at friend's and family's houses, discovering new restaurants, or just enjoying the sea sitting on the rocks with a glass of wine in our hands and nibbling some Maltese snacks.

My cooking grew a lot with these influences. The two worlds, Malta and my current home city Berlin unite in my pots and pans and offer an unlimited source of inspiration to write daily about my cooking and baking. I started *eat in my kitchen* in November 2013 with the intention to share a new recipe each day and so far I never felt let down by my passion or creativity. I enjoy this experience, to share what ends up on our dining table in our old flat on one of Berlin's wide boulevards. So often my friends ask me what I am going to cook for dinner, looking for some cooking stimulation. That's what *eat in my kitchen* is about, I would love to make you curious to try out whatever catches your appetite. Feel free to play with the recipes, to assimilate them to your taste and create your own kitchen entertainment.

The products I cook and bake with are mainly organic, especially eggs, meat and dairy products. I always prefer to cook seasonal but – if the quality is right – I am not dogmatic about it. I love to find and support small producers of regional products like my sea salt which is from Mr. Cini's salt pans in Gozo. To me it is the best salt in the world and, as I always spend some time in Gozo's sister island Malta in the summer months, I love to visit him at his salt pans to stock up my salt for the next year.

I feel thankful for all the great feedback I receive every day and I love to hear your opinion, questions or suggestions if you tried out some of my recipes. If you have any questions about *eat in my kitchen* please send me an email. If you don't want to miss any of *eat in my kitchen*'s posts feel free to subscribe here for the weekly newsletter, you will get my *eat in my kitchen* posts daily when you subscribe with the *Follow* button at the bottom. Enjoy! Meike Peters xx <http://eatinmykitchen.meikepeters.com/subscribe-2/>

eatinmykitchen@eatinmykitchen.meikepeters.com

Gluten Free Kannoli Tal-Irkotta (Ricotta Cannoli)



Today I woke up with the urge to make these Cannoli. They are not at all difficult to make, although you do need the metal tubes on which to roll the pastry. Just be very careful as they are very sharp. I was wiping them with a bit of oil so the pastry will not

stick.

So for the pastry you need (for approx 12)

150g Gluten Free Bread Flour (I used NutriFree but Dr Schar is good too)

15g of chilled butter

7g of Cocoa powder

1/2 tsp sugar

Pinch of Salt

1/2 tsp vanilla essence

70 to 80 ml of white wine

Ricotta Filling

250g Ricotta

150g Icing Sugar

1/2 tsp Vanilla essence

1/4 cup Candied peel

1/4 cup Chocolate bits

Put the flour and dry ingredients in a bowl, add the butter and rub in. Add the white wine slowly until it comes together into a dough. Place in a bowl, cover and leave to rest for not less than an hour.

In the meantime, you can prepare the filling by mixing the ricotta with the icing sugar, add the vanilla, the candied peel and the chocolate bits. Mix until combined.

Roll the dough and cut into circles. Grease lightly the metal tubes. Place the circle of dough on a ring and lightly moisten with water, where they overlap otherwise when frying they will fall apart. Heat some oil in a small pan, or use a deep fryer. When oil is hot enough, fry the Cannoli until golden brown. Drain on paper towels. When they cool down, fill the Cannoli with the ricotta and dip the ends in kibbled almonds if desired. Dust lightly with icing sugar and enjoy!!

Punic tombs and troglodyte caves on the Xemxija St. Paul's Bay round hill top

A Punic tomb and troglodyte caves are easily found on the Xemxija round or rolling hill top (near saint paul's bay malta). Find the Xemxija apiaries site and just follow the path up to the top of the rolling hill (not very far). the cairns with their signs will show you the location of the xemxija Punic (phoenician) burial cave (punic rock cut tomb). Keep going up the hill to find the troglodydes caves which are located behind the "farmers hovel"

Xemxija Hill another rounded or rolling hill top with Punic tombs or burial chambers



Why are the Punic tombs of Malta found on the tops of rolling or round hill tops? the punic tombs at the clapham junction cart ruts are found on a rounded hill top and also the punic rock cut burial chambers at bingemma gap are also found on a rolling hill top. Are the maltese punic tombs found on rolling hill tops because of the special geology found there? or is it to do with natural energies? are they even punic tombs or could they be something else? are the punic tombs always found near cart ruts and rolling hill tops? So many questions to answer.



WELCOMING ST. PAUL - St. Paul Milqi



Wikimedia Commons, the free media repository

Built on top of the hill overlooking Burmarrad – St. Paul's Bay, Malta 1616-1672. During excavations in 1964, remains of **two other churches** were found on the site, most probably medieval. This can all be found amidst the remains of a Roman house where tradition says Paul healed Publius' father and converted many Maltese to Christianity. 'Milqi' means Welcomed. An old Roman well excavated on the site beside the church is thought (by traditionalists) to be where Paul baptized the first Maltese. Nowadays though in fair shape, this chapel needs decorating inside.

Malta - St. Paul's Bay - Xemxija Heritage Trail - Roman Road - Pilgrims crosses From

Xemxija Roman road to Manikata and Golden Bay

The Roman road with its well defined kerb goes up from St Pauls Bay over the rolling hill top of Xemxija and meets up with another Roman road from Manikata (Golden Bay). The Roman road leading up over Xemxija hill is part of the path route for the Xemxija Heritage Trail and goes past the apiaries. The punice tombs and neolithic tombs/tanks (or energy structures) are found a short walk away from it.

Why was the Roman road built in along the Ridge and not on the valley floor? The long straight Roman road and a great walking route from Golden Bay (Manikata) to Xemxija was built into the side of Bajda Ridge



overlooking Mistra Valley and Mizieb Valley. Mizieb Valley is one or perhaps the last and least undeveloped valley in Malta.

A local man and farmer suggested that the Roman road built high up on the Bajda Ridge between Manikata

and Xemxija would have been used for transporting goods and people between the different sides of the island and Roman villas, depending on which way the wind was blowing at sea. The wind direction would have made it difficult or easier for Roman galleys to land at the bays at either end. Safe harbour for the Roman galleys visiting Malta to trade would also be another factor. Ask St Paul if you get to heaven about safe harbours and

landings on Malta during Roman times. There were large Roman Villas and roman industrial buildings in the areas, the Xemxija apiaries are a perfect example. But to build a Roman road between Golden Bay and St Pauls Bay would have meant it was important enough, with enough traffic to justify it.

So why was it built into the Bajda Ridge and not on the valley floor of Pwales Valley? If you are unloading and loading goods and then transporting them between Golden Bay and St Pauls Bay the easiest option is to build a straight Roman road between these 2 places.

Roman baths at Xemxija (Saint Paul's Bay)



Roman baths at Xemxija (Saint Paul's Bay) Malta -
interior of the Roman baths at Xemxija

The Roman baths at Xemxija (Saint Paul's Bay) Malta are round at the east end of the Roman road and below and near the cart ruts. If you get on the Roman Road then you will not be able to miss them. The interior of the Roman baths at Xemxija is not what you will be expecting if you have visited other Roman baths in the Mediterranean. It has virtually nothing left of the original Roman baths construction materials and is basically some bare caves or rooms cut into the rock. You can understand why it took so long before the Roman baths at Xemxija (Saint Paul's Bay) were recognised as such.

HILL OF CROSSES IN LITHUANIA

This is a site of pilgrimage about 8 miles north of the city of Šiauliai, in northern Lithuania. The Hill of Crosses has about 100 000 crosses, with the first crosses being erected here by the next-of-kin of the rebels that fell in the 1831 rebellion.

The Hill of Crosses is a historical architectural monument, it is a unique composition of folk art. It attracts many pilgrims with its peace, spirituality, authenticity and sacred nature. Even more crosses appeared after the rebellion in 1863. At that time the traditions of visiting and erecting crosses on the hill of crosses were being formed. This place was visited by Pope John Paul II on September 9, 1993.



A woman placing a cross among the 100,000 other crosses

T

THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS FOUND ON FATHER JULIAN'S

BLOG

http://fatherjulian.blogspot.com.au/2014_06_01_archive.html

Father JulianNn Cassar



Born in St Julian's Malta on August 27, 1952, I grew up within a loving family with two parents John and Mary Cassar, both deceased, and two older sisters Josephine and Rosemarie (husband Carmelo Garzia, deceased,) and two younger brothers, Paul (deceased,) married to Kay, and Marcel, married to Maria with two sons, Julian Jr and Peter. I was ordained a priest on June 19, 1977 and served for 4 years in my hometown St Julian's. In 1981, I started my pastoral ministry in New York, both on Long Island and upstate New York. In 2003, I moved to the west coast serving in the Diocese of Baker in Eastern Oregon. Presently I am the pastor of St Francis of Assisi parish in Bend, OREGON, starting my ministry there on October 17, 2013.



300 Free Wifi spots in public spaces

MALTA COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY

The Malta Communications Authority (MCA) has successfully installed 300 Free WiFi hotspots in public spaces across Malta and Gozo over the past years. Although we reached the target of 300 hotspots by end of this year, as established in the electoral manifesto, the MCA is still striving to improve and increase the network, by installing 100 more connections during year 2017. Therefore, aiming to reach 400 Wifi points. This will be placing Malta well on track to becoming a leading Wifi state. This was announced by the Hon. Dr Emanuel Mallia, Minister for Minister for Competitiveness and Digital, Maritime, and Service during a press conference held this morning

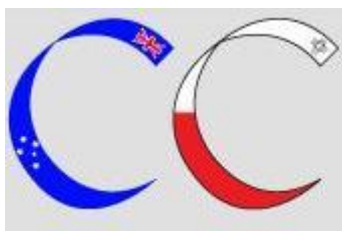
Coordinated by MCA in collaboration with other public entities, this initiative essentially facilitates access to the Internet through a secure broadband connection and promotes the use of connected devices. The hotspots are installed in information centres, public libraries, public gardens, town squares and Local Councils. Every connection is filtered in order to prevent illegal content in order to protect the end-user and especially, to protect minors. These free Wifi hotspots are easily identifiable as each hotspot is signposted. A mobile app can also be downloaded in order to identify the closest hotspot to any given location. One can identify the established Wifi centres thanks to the continuous work that has been done, and will continue to be done, with numerous public entities, which in turn are welcome to offer these services in their respective points.

Nowadays, access to internet based services has practically become a civil right. Citizens are demanding connectivity any place, any time, irrespective of device being used. Commenting on this initiative Minister Mallia stated that 'This government has long acknowledged the importance of digital inclusion and has placed this high on its agenda. This initiative will ensure that the Internet is accessible to everyone,' 'Malta is amongst the front runners in Europe in terms nationwide availability of high-speed broadband services. This is the result of forward looking regulatory regime, as well as continued investment by industry players. Whilst this is a positive development, we still have a portion of our population that is not online. We therefore need to aim higher,' continued Minister Mallia. 'Projects such as this, which result in the widespread availability of Wifi services not only serve to encourage people to get online, but also add greater value to Malta's value proposition and attractiveness, particularly in the tourism industry,' he concluded.

In 2017, the EC will be promoting Wifi Connections free of charge in public centres across Europe by funding the equipment used in the installation of Wifi Hotspots. Malta is already advanced in comparison to other European countries in terms of Wifi connection and through this initiative, it will further establish its present Wifi Network. During 2016, more than 2,500,000 end-users accessed these Wifi hotspots. The following table gives a snapshot of the most popular Hotspots:

Location	number of users in 2016
BUGIBBA MCA BUGIBBA SQUARE	121655
VALLETTA MCA ST GEORGES SQUARE	98994
PACEVILLE MCA ST.GEORGES BAY	84094
BALLUTA MCA TAORMINA AREA	60522
SLIEMA MCA ANNE SQUARE	55771
MARSALFORN MCA MENQA POLICE STATION	53081
MARSASCALA MCA MIFSUD BONNICI SQUARE	52652
BALLUTA MCA TOWER ROAD	52405
GOLDEN BAY MCA	48598
ST JULIANS MCA BALLUTA SQUARE	47246
VALLETTA MCA UPPER BARRAKKA	46936
SLIEMA MCA FERRIES	45719
PAOLA MCA A. DE PAUL SQUARE	40568
BIRZEBBEGA MCA PRETTY BAY	40235
MARSA MCA OPEN CENTRE	39199
MOSTA MCA ROTUNDA SQUARE	37862
XLENDI MCA SAINT SIMON STREET	36889
GHAJNSIELEM MCA LORETU SQUARE	33289
VICTORIA MCA INDEPENDENCE SQUARE	32839
MARSAXLOKK MCA POMPEII SQUARE	32316

AUSTRALIAN/MALTESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Victorian Branch

"Connecting Maltese Australians through business and cultural experiences"

Victorian Chapter now inviting new members!

Talk to us about:

- Business networking opportunities with AMCC members locally and nationally
- Our cultural experiences and events organised through the AMCC

- Our connections with Maltese businesses and influencers in Malta
- Becoming a member of the AMCC Victorian chapter

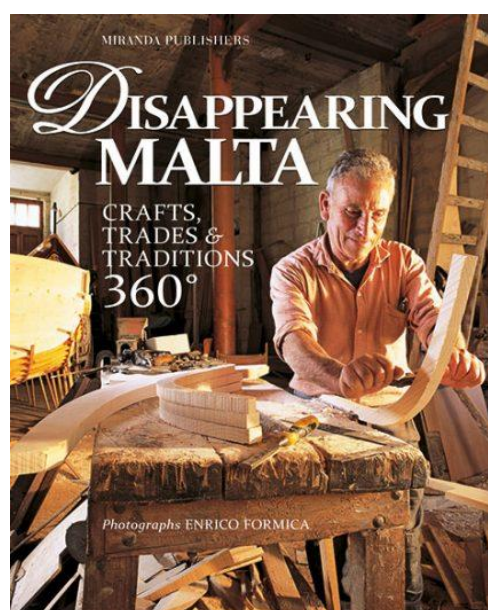
The AMCC VIC Chapter meets every last Wednesday of every month at:
713 Brunswick Road Nth Fitzroy (entrance is from Reid Street) 6:30pm start.
New members and guests are always welcome!

Our Mission

"Enabling Victorian based businesses professionals, organisations, entrepreneurs and individuals with Maltese heritage a supportive environment to effectively network business ideas and opportunities for mutual benefit."

Our Objectives

- To organise and facilitate regular meetings and events in the State of Victoria.
- Develop a framework/model for Victorian and Maltese based businesses professionals, organisations, entrepreneurs and individuals to facilitate trade and promote their Products & Services.
- Encourage the participation of Victorian/Maltese in the community to explore and learn about their Maltese Heritage.
- Develop and promote opportunities for Victorian/Maltese to work, study and perform (e.g. The Arts) in Malta (EU) and vice versa.
- Identify and engage corporate/government sponsorship to assist in the funding of "The Victorian - Maltese Network's objectives." Contact: <http://www.amcc.org.au/victoria/>



Hardback – 220 pages - €140.00 comes in a slipcase

Author; Fiona Vella

Disappearing Malta is a record of history in the making. The vanishing trades, crafts and skills. Portraits of men and women who bring their disappearing skills to what was once Malta's traditional way of life.

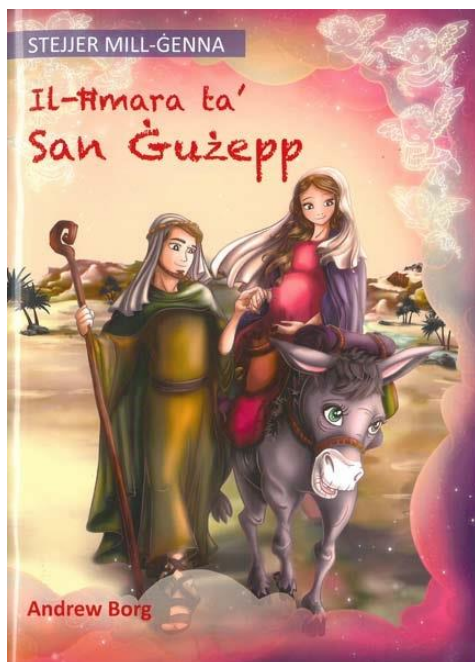
As the Islands move forward so traditional crafts and skills begin to fade away slowly, becoming a part of recent history. This book reflects a vanishing world once taken for granted with portraits and interviews of men and women who for many years added their natural expertise to the nation's way of life.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY ENRICO FORMICA

TEXT IN ENGLISH – PUBLISHED November 2016

FREE DELIVERY TO CUSTOMERS IN MALTA AND GOZO

<http://www.bdlbooks.com/heritage/6197-disappearing-malta-360.html>



IL-ĦMARA TA' SAN ĠUŻEPP ta' Andrew Borg

€7.50

Dan il-ktieb jirrakkonta leġġenda. Leġġenda hija storja li ma ġratx vera, iżda li magħha hemm marbuta xi ġrajja, post jew persunaġġ li eżista tassew. Din hija t-tieni leġġenda dwar San Ġużepp. Jekk tiftakru fi ktieb ieħor konna rrakkontajna leġġenda oħra dwar is-sellum ta' San Ġużepp.

Hawnhekk se nirrakkontaw storja dwar il-ħmara ta' San Ġużepp. Dik il-ħmara li dejjem naraw fil-presepu, flimkien mal-baqra. Naħseb ġie li smajtu jew kantajtu l-għanja "Jiena daqsxejn ta' ħmara?" F'din il-għanja jissemma s-sid li kien jaħqar lil din il-ħmara. Iżda dan is-sid ma kienx Ġużeppi tafux! Mela la ma kienx ta' Ġużeppi, kif spiċċat

għandu din il-ħmara. Aqraw l-istorja helwa ta' Natalina, l-iktar ħmara xxurtjata fid-dinja kollha.

<http://www.bdlbooks.com/children-s-books/6208-il-ħmara-ta-san-guzepp.html>



On the occasion of
2017 Maltese Presidency of the Council of the European Union
The Ministry of Foreign Affairs

in coordination with the
Consulate-General of Malta for Victoria

has the pleasure to invite the Maltese/Australian community
to attend for a special performance by the Maltese instrumental group ETNIKA

on Monday, 6 February 2017
at 1900hrs

at the Maltese Community Centre of Victoria
477 Royal Parade, Parkville Vic 3052

In view of the limited seating, it is advisable to make advanced
booking by calling the MCCV on: (03) 9387 8922

Dress Code: Smart Casual

No Entrance Fee Required

Drinks and food will be available at bar prices.

For further info. contact the Consulate-General of Malta: 03 9670 8427

Email: maltaconsulate.melbourne@gov.mt



FRA RICHARD DIVALL AO OBE

(Richard is in the middle)

I am very sad to report that Fra Richard Divall AO OBE passed away last Sunday. He was Conductor, musicologist and for thirty years Music Director of the Victorian State Opera, and Principal Resident Conductor of the Australian Opera. Amongst many other honours, he was a member of The Sovereign Military and Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta.

He was one of the founders of the MHA and a long time supporter of our group. He gave many interesting talks about Maltese Music and was involved in transcribing early Maltese composers, especially from the vperiod of the Knights, including the complete sacred music and operas by Nicolas Isouard (1773–1818) and was working on the sacred music and operas of Girolamo Abos (1715–1760). He will be greatly missed.

May he rest in Peace His Requiem Mass will be held on Wednesday 25 January 2017 at 10:30am at St Patrick's Cathedral. Charles Gatt MHA Secretary

Fra Richard was also an avid reader, contributor and supporter of THE MALTESE NEWSLETTER

THE FRIENDS OF PROVIDENCE HOUSE GROUP IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE HAMRUN CLUB

Are organising **A FUND-RAISING NIGHT** at the Hamrun Club,

100 Jackson Street Marsden Park on Saturday 18th February 2017 at 6.00 pm

For entertainment there will be: Charlie Muscat, MCA Choir, Katelyn Vella, Joe Apap, Alee, James Cassar, Charlie Camilleri, Martin Vella.

Donation of \$10 p.p. goes to the House of Providence, which offers a home for persons with disabilities. Besides, there will be chocolate wheel and even a raffle on the night.

Maltese food will be served such as rabbit with spaghetti, bake macaroni, bake rice, stuffed eggplants with mince, steak and chicken and lots, lots more. You can purchase Maltese lager, kinnie, Aussie beer, soft drinks, tea and coffee as usual from the bar.

Everybody is free to buy and drink what he prefers, but it can help the kitchen persons, if whoever want to eat, he should put an order first, so that they will know beforehand.

I urged you to come along and enjoy this wonderful evening and be happy in helping a very worthy cause. Any other free donations are mostly welcome.

For more inf. please ring Greg : 0411517187 or Jim :0418 825 591.



MALTESE NEWSLETTER

The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora

The magazine that builds bridges between
Maltese all over the world

Attention : Maltese Associations

Advertise your activities on this journal

for FREE

President invites Pope Francis to visit Malta during EU presidency

MALTA TODAY – MIRIAM DALLI - Dec 2016

Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca has invited the Pontiff to visit Malta during the six-month Presidency of the European Council and support the island's call for a lasting humanitarian solution to migration



The President has invited Pope Francis to Malta (Photo: Clifton Fenech/DOI)

Pope Francis has turned 80, and whilst he spent the morning receiving messages of congratulations from around the world and sharing breakfast with eight homeless people, he continued his day with meetings, including one with Maltese President Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca. The meeting comes ahead of Malta's six-month stint at the helm of the European Council, with the President taking the opportunity to invite the Pontiff to the island during the EU presidency. During the Presidency, Malta

will be pushing forward the issue of migration, hoping to unite Europe and follow its tradition of "bridge builder". Coleiro Preca, who in her Republic Day speech indicted the European deportation of long-term migrants, urged Pope Francis to give his support in finding lasting humanitarian solutions to irregular migration.

According to a statement released by the Office of the President, Coleiro Preca urged the Pontiff to assist Malta in this aspect with Member States. The President thanked Pope Francis for giving Maltese artists the opportunity to install a nativity scene in St Paul's Square. It features 17 figures dressed in traditional Maltese attire as well as replica of a Maltese boat – it represents the seafaring traditions of the island but also "the sad and tragic reality of migrants on boats". "In the painful experience of these brothers and sisters, we revisit that (experience) of baby Jesus, who at the time of his birth did not find accommodation and was born in a grotto in Bethlehem and then was brought to Egypt to escape Herod's threat," the Pope had said during the unveiling of the nativity scene. "Those who visit this creche will be invited to rediscover its symbolic value, which is a message of fraternity, sharing, welcoming and solidarity."

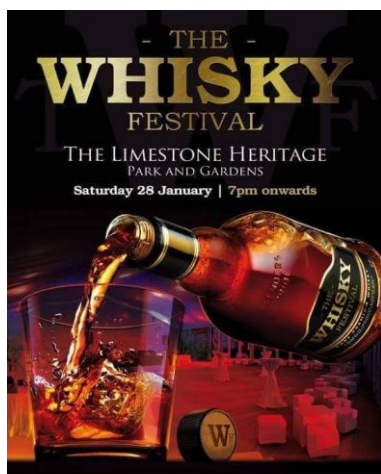
Coleiro Preca also conveyed the prisoners' messages of thanks, following the Pope's request to grant a 30-day amnesty to all prisoners. Accompanied by Foreign Affairs Minister George Vella and ambassador to the Vatican George Buttigieg, the President also held a meeting with Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican State secretary. The talks focused on Malta's EU presidency.



A Call to Prayer... Fr. Benedict Camilleri

When the fullness of time arrived, God has chosen Mary through whom He could send his son into this World. "Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son", said the Angel Gabriel to Mary, "and you shall call him Jesus." (Luke 1:31). She was the first priest to bring Jesus into this world. Mary was the first apostle to show who Jesus was, by making him perform his first miracle: - changing water into wine at Cana in Galilee. "This was Jesus' first sign. He manifested his glory, and his disciples believed in him (Rn 2:11). Finally, Mary was given to us by Jesus as a mother at the foot of the Cross'.

Mary endowed with such exceptional gifts, excelled in holiness and power over any other creature in heaven, on earth and in hell. After her Assumption into heaven, she remained God's main messenger to the world. Through Mary, God speaks to the Church and to all of us so that we bring the "Good News" to humanity wherever we are. This is what prompted us to build this communication channel, so that under Her guidance, it brings to whoever has the blessing to open it, the unity we share among Ethnic Groups and God's Good News from this Marian Hill, dedicated to "OUR LADY QUEEN OF THE FAMILY" TA' PINU SHRINE – BACCHUS MARSH -VICTORIA - AUSTRALIA



This is the first Whisky Festival brought to you by 2 Minds Events. It is being held on Saturday, 28 January 2017 at Limestone Heritage Park and Gardens, Siggiewi from 7pm onwards. A night full of free parking spaces, no booking required, free whisky glass, different whisky tasting, free entertainment, different dishes and more fun for all the family and friends.



It is my pleasure as Artistic Director of Moveo to officially announce our next production... For the first time, Moveo and Alegria Dance Company, in collaboration with Teatru Manoel, join forces to fuse Flamenco and Contemporary Dance to narrate this doomed romance.

What better way to portray the distinct characters of the fiery Carmen and the delicate nature of Micaela but through these two contrasting styles of dance?

The work is a Contemporary and Flamenco Dance adaptation of Bizet's oeuvre CARMEN. Carmen will be performed on the 3-4-5 February 2017 at Teatru Manoel at 8pm, all to live music. Tickets available from www.booking.teatrumanoel.com.mt Tel:21246389

Dorian Mallia Artistic Director Moveo Dance Company

<https://signedevents.com/malta/valletta/carmen-flamenco-meets-contemporary-dance/>



About Sliema Foods - Adelaide

Hello, my name is Carol Brown (nee Mercieca) and I am a first generation Maltese. I am very passionate about all things Maltese, the food, culture and history are all very close to my heart.

I am bringing a little bit of Malta and other European delicacies to Adelaide.

I was born in Sydney to Maltese parents and have lived in South Australia since 1982. I was constantly frustrated at not being able to buy Gbejniet (cheeses, both plain and pepper), Zalzett (sausage),

Kunserva (tomato paste), Pastizzi (pastries filled with ricotta etc), Kinnie (soft drink), and the list continues. My grandparents and the family migrated to Australia in 1956 and taught me so much about the importance of food in our culture. I have fond memories of my grandmother always at the stove cooking for her 7 children and grandchildren.

So, I have taken matters into my own hands and am now making these foods available to the public in good old Adelaide. I love meeting new people and Sliema Foods is really bringing out all the Maltese in our community.

I use only the best Maltese suppliers from Sydney and Melbourne. Taste and the use of quality ingredients are paramount. I encourage you to browse through my Facebook page, and please feel free to contact me via mobile (0413 024 932) or email info@sliemafoods.com.au if you have any questions. Carol Brown – Adelaide



Etnika - Direct from Malta

Some 15 years ago a small but enthusiastic group of friends on the Mediterranean island of Malta succeeded in achieving the unachievable: to almost singlehandedly revive the lost Maltese roots music genre.

**03 FEBRUARY 2017 WOLLONGONG TOWN HALL
– THE MUSIC LOUNGE**

was to infuse new life into these dusty treasures, to reinvent a fresh sound and provide a relevant contestant within the contemporary context. The unlikely yet irresistible result was enchanting and at the same time it challenged people's perception of their own musical identity, turning the tide toward a newly found national pride that soon made etnika an instant success. Always an unlikely mix of artists and characters, now in this reduced 6 piece band the quirkiness of the setup becomes acute: oud and biambo (jew's harp), Maltese flute and flamenco footwork, double bass and Maltese lullabies. The enchanting melancholy echoes over complex rhythms, old Maltese instruments find their way into the sizzling current soundscape on a fascinating musical journey of Malta and the Mediterranean. Expect a few detours, expect the unexpected, this port-cabaret band has a big heart.

Pricing

Seated Prices \$35 (Standing available once all seated tickets have sold out)

On arrival at the venue you will be allocated a table number once you present your ticket at the door. (A \$6.90 transaction fee applies to phone and internet bookings.) **Performance Times** General Public: Doors and Bar opens 7.30pm **Tickets On Sale**

Available Now <http://merrigong.com.au/buy.html?showid=2787>

I Miss you DAD

Nicholas Bonello OAM

Dad, not a day passes by without something or someone reminding us of you. Your death has left us bereft and this void can never be filled. We miss you greatly.

Carmen Baxter
NSW Australia

LEARN MALTESE

FOR PLEASURE, WORK OR TRAVEL

BEGINNER ADULT CLASSES STARTING

• 9th February, 2017

Don't let distance or work/family commitments stop you! Join us live online.

**WHERE: MALTESE COMMUNITY COUNCIL VIC Inc.
ROYAL PARADE -
PARKVILLE VICTORIA**
WHEN: THURSDAY AT 6.00 PM

Tel: 03 9387 8922 or 0412 115 919 after hours
<http://www.mccv.org.au/language-classes/>
Email: admin@mccv.org.au