

Kummissarju Gholi ta' Malta



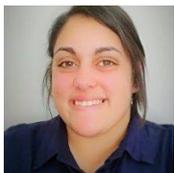
High Commission for Malta

MHC Press Release 04/2017

New Malta Based Officer at the High Commission in Canberra

The High Commission in Canberra would like to announce the arrival of the new Malta Based Officer (MBO), Ms. Denise Demicoli, Second Secretary, succeeding former Deputy High Commissioner, Dr. Joseph Pirotta. Ms. Demicoli, who assumed office on 20 March 2017, shall oversee the Consular section at the High Commission in Canberra whilst performing the duties of Deputy to the High Commissioner. Prior to this appointment, Ms Demicoli was assigned to the Directorate General Political, EU Affairs and Maltese Abroad within the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Valletta.

ABOUT DENISE DEMICOLI



Ms. Demicoli was the Second Secretary at Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Malta Location Coventry, United Kingdom Industry International Affairs

Current: Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Malta,

Previous: Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Malta,

Education: EF Education First Malta - St Julians

EF Education First,

Postgraduate trainee at Coventry University, University of Malta

Being a hard-working individual who is able to take my own initiative, I am interested in exploring inter-disciplinary fields of policy to provide solutions in various fields. The main fields of interest and research cover are, but not solely restricted to:

- contemporary art and cultural diplomacy
- urban planning as a tool for thriving urban spaces
- social assessment of art and urban planning on communities in different settlements

She is a speaker of Maltese, English, Italian, French and Spanish

We, at the Maltese E-Newsletter, wish Ms Demicoli a very happy, fruitful and successful tenure in Australia

CONSUL- ON- THE- MOVE.....

The Consul-on-the-Move programme was launched on 5 May 2016 and is providing certain consular services normally available at Malta's Embassies and Consular posts, in different locations. Such services include the collection of biometric passport applications. This programme conforms to the Government's vision to have governmental services closer to the citizen.

This program is targeting 5 main areas which are Canada, USA, Italy, UK, Australia and New Zealand. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs saw the need to work on such a program after the introduction of biometric passports, for which the applicant has to personally visit an Embassy or a Consular Office for biometric data to be collected. This was resulting in an inconvenience for the Maltese citizens living abroad especially since there were added expenses for travel, lodging, and other related costs. This project is being launched after an agreement was reached with the Passport Office in Malta to enable this 'roaming service' to take off.

For certain services being provided, an additional administrative fee will apply. The additional administrative charge for passport applications is €100 for each application over and above other related fees.

All consular services currently available at Malta's Embassies and Consular Offices continue to remain available. An indication of visits for 2017 is already available. The list of scheduled visits is indicated below. Other locations may be considered, depending on the need.

Contact information

Location	Email	Telephone
Canada	consul.toronto@gov.mt	+1 (416) 207 0922/0989
USA	consul.washington@gov.mt	+1 (202) 4623611/2
UK	consul.london@gov.mt	+44 (0) 207 292 4800
Italy	consul.rome@gov.mt	+39 06 687 9990
Australia	consul.canberra@gov.mt	+61 (02) 6290 1724

A PROJECT OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS - MALTA

Consul-on-the-Move 2017		
Adelaide (South Australia)	24 March	The Community Centre Progressive Hall, 47 Le Hunte Street, Kilburn, SA 5084
Adelaide (South Australia)	25 March	The Maltese Cultural Centre, 6 Jeanes Street, Beverley, SA 5009
Perth (Western Australia)	27 - 28 March	Maltese Association of Western Australia, 1 May Holman Drive, Bassendean, WA 6052
Cardiff	18-19 April	Cardiff and Vale College, City Centre Campus, Dumballs Road, Cardiff, CF10 5BF

Milan	27 April	Via Cesare Battisti, 15- 20122 Milano
Brisbane, Queensland	28 Friday -Sunday (am) 30 April	Lavalla Centre, 58 Fernberg Road QLD 4064
Mackay, Queensland	1 May (pm) - 3 May	Lanai Riverside Apartments, 20 River Street, Mackay Qld 4740
Cairns, Queensland	4 May (pm)- 5 May, 2017	Honorary Consulate of Malta, Vella Plaza Building, Level 1, 108 Mulgrave Road Cairns, QLD 4870
Edinburgh	15- 16 June	Venues yet to be determined
Vancouver	12 -13 October	Venues to be confirmed at a later date
Edmonton	14-15 October	Venues to be confirmed at a later date
Adelaide (South Australia)	September	Venues and dates to be confirmed at a later date
New Zealand	November	Venues and dates to be confirmed at a later date

CONSUL ON THE MOVE (QUEENSLAND)

The following consular Services will be available in Queensland (28 April to 5 May 2017) for Maltese/Australians.

- * acceptance of applications for the issue of Maltese passports (first-time applicants as well as renewals)
- * acceptance of applications for Maltese citizenship
- * acceptance of applications for registration in Malta of events affecting civil status (e.g., marriage Maltese citizens overseas, birth of children, etc).

The consular services will be available only to those who have made an appointment in advance after having established contact the Malta High Commission either by phone: (02) 6290 1724 or by email: consul.canberra@gov.mt The Malta High Commission will then send a list of the documents that need to be produced on the day of appointment. In the case of documents issued by a foreign government - other than those issued in Australia – the applicant needs to be ascertain that these are apostilled and translated into English (if the original document is not in the English language) prior to the appointment - this is the responsibility of the applicant. Consular fees will be accepted by Bank transfer or Bank cheque payable to the Malta High Commission (no credit cards).

The representative of the Malta High Commission in Australia will be conducting the consular services at the following venues between 9.30 AM and 1600 PM:

from Friday 28th April to Sunday 30th April (am) 2017 - Lavalla Centre, Fernberg Road, Paddington QLD 4064 BRISBANE

from Monday 1st May (pm) to Wednesday 3rd May 2017 - Lanai Riverside Apartments, 20 River Street, Qld 4740 MACKAY

From Thursday 4th May (pm) to Friday 5th May 2017 - Honorary Consulate of Malta Vella Plaza Building - Level 1 108 – 110 Mulgrave Road QLD 4870 CAIRNS

One may also obtain information on the upcoming consular visit by contacting the Consulate-General of Malta in Melbourne.

T: (03) 9670 8427 E: consul.melbourne@gov.mt



Every Edition is Precious
READ IT
ANYTIME, ANYWHERE, ANYHOW
PACKED WITH NEWS
INFORMATION, HISTORY
CULTURE AND HERITAGE

COMMONWEALTH LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE

SAVE THIS DATE
 21-24 NOVEMBER 2017
 www.clgc2017.org

2017
 Commonwealth Local Government Conference
Fit for the future:
 resources and capacity for
 effective local government
VALLETTA MALTA
21-24 NOVEMBER 2017

One world. And it's local

MINISTRY FOR JUSTICE, CULTURE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
 LOCAL COUNCILS ASSOCIATION
 clgf

Fit for the future: resources and capacity for effective local government

Having adequate resources and capacity is critical to enabling local governments to deliver on local needs and priorities and to enable them to play an integral role in responding to national, regional and global challenges. The 2017 CLGF conference will look at strategies for boosting local government's resource base and capacity to improve performance, governance and service delivery and to ensure it is fit for purpose to meet the demands of the

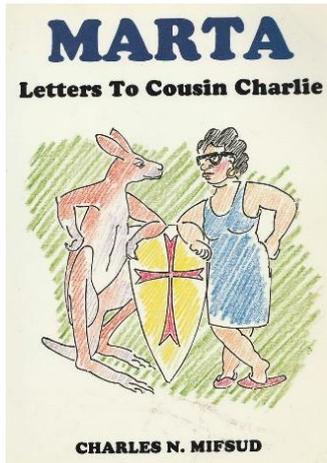
future.

Commonwealth Local Government Conferences are held every two years in different regions of the Commonwealth.

In 2017 it will be held for the first time in Malta. The conferences bring together some 500-600 top local government policy makers, practitioners and other stakeholders – including heads of government, ministers, mayors and council leaders, senior officials, and partners from development agencies, academia and civil society and the corporate and finance sectors – to discuss policy developments, share and learn about new ideas and innovative solutions and products to help councils and local governments improve their processes and services.

www.clgc2017.org

@clgf_news www.clgf.org.uk clgf



ANOTHER GEM FROM MACKAY

Dear Charlie,

how are you all? Hope you are all well, hadida eh!

I will *make a bet you will not cut* (*nghamillek imhatra li ma taqtax minn ser jizzewweg*) who is getting married. I tell you -my husband's sister Grace. Yes, and we are all happy about it. I tell you her fiance is a very lucky man, because *she has a very good heart.* (*Ghandha qalbha tajba*). Toni my husband is *making the wedding* (*ser jaghmel it-tieg*) and he will be taking her up on the altar. Last weekend we had a party for them, you know for "the engage". It was very good, plenty dancing, plenty good music, plenty people and plenty drinks and food. So much food and drink that it went over the

heads. Raymond her fiance paid for it.

He is, as we say, "of the good" (*tat-tajjeb*) because his family own cane farms. Toni wanted to pay for this party too, but Raymond said "No thanks, I want to pay for this one, anyway your heart I saw it." (*Rajtha qalbek*)

Anyway, our son Peppi is starting a new business with this chap Louis. They have got two old American cars and they hire them out, one is called a "Dutch" and one is a "Stupid-baker". I am not very happy about it because Louis is *not from the best* (*mhux mill-ahjar*) you know. I told Peppi, I said "This chap Louis when he lived in Sydney he was always in trouble. He used to live at Lightcar (*Leichhardt is a suburb of Sydney*). I think that's why he likes cars, and he came to Mackay *quickly quickly* (*malajr, malajr*) and if you trust him *he laughs with you.*" (*jidhak bik*) But dear Charlie, he does not hear from me so I pray to the Lord *to open his brain.* (*jiftahlu mohhu*)

Anyway, my friend Maria is very happy because her son Eddie now made the exam and he came from the first. Oh, yes Eddie is very smart - *his head is good plenty.* (*rasu tajba hafna*). All the young people up here are excited because Madonna is coming to Brisbane for concerts. I asked Toni if we can go, but he said no, oh he hates her. I like to go, but Toni said there are three things wrong with her - "She is overpaid, oversexed and over here!" So, anyway I said to him "OK then, we go to the U2 concert" but he does not know them, and he said to me "U ejja U2 me3, who are they?" I said to him "Gee you fall *everything for the fun.*" (*Inti tiehu kollox bic-cajt*)

You see, Toni does not like these things, he likes to watch TV or a good film, especially *if it is of the laugh.* (*Jekk ikun tad-dahk*). So I say to myself, oh well it is not going to fall, the world, and after all from the *lost take what you can.* (*mill-mitluf tiehu li tista*).

But then I think how can you take something from something that's lost?! Insomma Kugin, Sahha thats all for today. All the best to you all.

Your Cousin - MARTA

The special feature, Letters from Cousin Marta, which appeared on Newsletter 158 was very well received by our readers. This publication is a book of Maltese-Australian humour, logic and more by Charles N. Mifsud from NSW is available once again, it will delight you with it's clean humour...you will not want to let it out of your hands...Price \$10:00 only plus Postage and Handling \$5:00...for inquiries ring Charles on 0421 662 298 or email <cnmifsud@gmail.com>. You will not ever regret taking Cousin Marta into your home, guaranteed to put a smile on your face & love in your heart.



L-IMSALLAB FI TRIQATNA

L-Ghaqda Dilettanti Gimgha I-Kbira (Ghawdex) isejra ghal darb' ohra ttella' d-dramm tal-Passjoni ta' Sidna Gestu Kristu maghrufa bl-isem "Imsallab fi Triqatna" fl-1 ta' April 2017. Dan id-dramm issa ilu jittella' madwar it-triqat tal-Belt Victoria, Ghawdex sa mis-sena 2000. Id-dramm beda dejjem jikber fil-popolarita' tieghu fil-gzejjer Ghawdxin tant li fis-snin li ghaddew, id-dramm ittella' wkoll mill-Ghaqda Dilettanti Gimgha I-Kbira (Ghawdex) anke f' lokalitajiet diversi f' Malta fosthom fil-Belt Valletta, f' Hal-Qormi, Marsaskala, Mtarfa u l-Imqabba.

L-originalita' ta' dan id-dramm huwa li l-pubbliku jkun jista' jsegwi episodi saljenti mill-Passjoni u Qawmien ta' Sidna Gesu Kristu filwaqt li jhoss li huwa wkoll parti minn dak li jkun qed jigri madwaru. In fatti, l-atturi lkoll jaghmlu l-parti taghhom fost il-pubbliku biex b' hekk il-pubbliku jkun qed jippartecipa wkoll f' dan id-dramm bhala l-folla ta' nies li kienu dejjem jsegwu lil Gesu' Kristu kull fejn kien imur.

Il-preparamenti ghal dan id-dramm huma impenjattivi hafna ghall-Ghaqda Dilettanti Gimgha I-Kbira(Ghawdex). L-iscrypt tad-dramm jigi mibdul perijodikament sabiex jigu aggunti xeni godda. Din is-sena fost ohrajn sejra tigi introdotta x-xena tas-Samaritana li tiltaqa' ma' Gesu' fejn bir ta' l-ilma. Jigu mibnija props godda biex ikomplu jzidu ma' l-armor li jigi mtella' mil-istess Ghaqda Dilettanti Gimgha I-Kbira (Ghawdex) f' postijiet prominenti fil-Belt Victoria sabiex b' hekk il-pubbliku jidhol ukoll fl-atmosfera li kien hemm f' dawk iz-zminijiet li ghalihom qed jirreferi d-dramm. L-istess Ghaqda tiehu hsieb li taghmel kostumi godda biex b' hekk il-personaggi dejjem jikbru u d-dramm jikber ukoll maz-zmien.

Id-dramm jibda nhar l-1 ta' April 2017 fis-sebgha ta' filghaxija minn Pjazza San Frangisk, Victoria Ghawdex b' parata ta' suldati Rumani li timxi matul Triq il-Vajringa. Il-parata tibqa' ghaddejja ghal Pjazza Sant' Wistin sabiex minn hemm jibda d-dramm bl-episodju ta' Hadd il-Palm. Hawnhekk, il-pubbliku jkun jista' jsegwi d-dhul ta' Gesu' Kristu gewwa Gerusalem fejn gie milqugh minn diversi tfal u nies ohra.

Id-dramm jibqa' sejjer ghall-parti ohra minn Pjazza Sant' Wistin fejn ser tittella' x-xena tal-mara midinba hdejn il-bir. Imbaghad, fi Triq Vajringa, precizament quddiem l-iskola primarja tal-Belt Victoria, Ghawdex isseh ix-xena tat-Tempju fejn Gesu' jirrabba mal-bejjiegha tat-tempju xhin jara li t-tempju ta' missieru gie konvertit f' suq. Fl-istess post, il-pubbliku jiltaqa' ma' l-apostlu Guda l-Iskarjota u Malku qaddej tal-Qassisin il-Kbar Lhud li flimkien jiftehmu dwar kif Guda kien ser jittradixxi lil Gesu'.

Id-dramm ikompli fi Pjazza San Frangisk fejn tittella' l-Ahhar Cena u imbaghad matul Strada Palma, il-pubbliku jkun jista' jsegwi lil Gesu' jittlob fil-Gnien tal-Getsemani kif ukoll jara lil Gesu' maqbud mis-suldati Lhud wara l-bewsa tal-Apostlu tieghu Guda l-Iskarjota.

Matul Triq ir-Repubblika, id-dramm jipprosegwi b' diversi xeni fosthom dik ta' l-akkuzi migjuba kontra Gesu' quddiem il-Qassisin il-Kbar Lhud u l-akkuzi migjuba quddiem Ponzju Pilatu. Il-pubbliku jiltaqa' wkoll ma' R-Re Erodi u z-zeffiena tieghu kif ukoll jsegwi lil Gesu' Kristu jigi msawwat u flaggellat sakemm finalment jigi kkundannat ghal mewt u mgħobbi bis-Salib. Id-dramm ikompli b' Gesu' jibqa' miexi ghal go Pjazza Repubblika fejn jaqa' ghal tlett darbiet bit-toqol tas-salib u jiltaqa' ma' ommu Marija, mal-Veronika, u ma' nisa ohra. Matul it-Triq, il-pubbliku jara wkoll lil Xmun ic-Cirnew li jitghabba bis-salib flimkien ma' Gesu'.

Il-climax tad-dramm isehh fit-telgha tac-Citadella fejn Gesu' jigi msallab flimkien ma' zewg hallelin ohra. Lkun hemm xena ta' qsim il-qalb meta omm Gesu' tara u zzomm fi hdan il-gisem mejjet ta' Gesu Kristu. Id-dramm ikompli bid-difna ta' Gesu' Kristu li sseh fi Pjazza Repubblika sakemm imbaghad it-tmiem tad-dramm jigi raffigurata fl-Irxox. Dan id-dramm certament sar issa avveniment importanti fil-kalendarju ta' l-attivitajiet kulturali Ghawdxin relatati mal-festi tal-Gimgha I-Kbira u l-Irxox. Certament mhuwiex ta' min jitilfu. Id-dhul huwa b' xejn izda kwalunkwe donazzjoni hija ferm apprezzata.

Jamie Camilleri - President - Ghaqda Dilettanti Gimgha I-Kbira Ghawdex

Mibghuta mill-Kav. Joe Attard – Victoria Ghawdex



History in brief

Joseph Calleja approached Father Cini of the Missionary Society of St Paul's with the aim of forming a Maltese club. He agreed to assist and between them, they recruited Joseph Calleja's brother Felix and Fred Wright to form an interim Committee. The first meetings were held at Joe's home in Anzac Terrace Bassendean. Felix Calleja suggested "Maltese Settlers Association of Western Australia" as a title for the newly formed club which was unanimously adopted. Joseph Calleja was elected President, Fred Wright as Secretary and Father Cini as Treasurer. The first AGM of this new Association was held at the Australian Labor Party's hall in Broadway Bassendean on Sunday June 7th



1959 which later became their club premises.

The Maltese Association of WA is a place where people of Maltese descent can meet and interact to learn about and preserve their Maltese Language, culture and Heritage.

Address: 1 May Holman Drive

Bassendean, Western Australia, Australia

Webpage: <http://www.malteseassociationwa.org.au/>

Email address: mawai@bigpond.com

Attivitajiet ghax-xahar ta' Marzu/April 2017

CELEBRAZZJONI TAL-GHID GEWWA ADELAIDE

- 29.30.31 Marzu 7.00pm. Ezercizzi bil-Malti tar-Randan. fil-Knisja ta' Kristu Re, Lockleys
- 7 t'April 10,30am Quddiesa ta' l-Ewwel gimgha bil-Malti fil-Knisja ta' St Brigid's, Kilburn.
- 9 t'April 3.00 p.m. Quddiesa ta' }Hadd il-Palm fil-Knisja ta' Lockleys, Henley Beach Road
Wara RAVJULATA fis Sala tal-Parrocca.
- 13 t'April 6.30 p.m. Hamis ix-Xirka – Tifkira tal-Ahhar Ikla tal-Mulej fil-Knisja ta' Lockleys.
Wara l-VISTI TAS-SEPULKRU u Agape fis-Sala
- 14 t'April 3.00 p.m. Gimgha l-Kbira - Celebrazzjoni tal-Passjoni ta' Kristu fil-Knisja ta' Lockleys.
7.00 p.m. VIA SAGRA fil-berah magenb il-Knisja ta' Lockleys.
- Sacerdoti li jitkellmu bil-Malti: Fr Charles Gauci P.P. Mob. 04 0761 7607
Fr Fred Farrugia P.P. Mob. 04 2514 4317.
- Father Gabriele Micallef OFM – Kappillan tal-Maltin fis-South Australia



OUR LADY OF VICTORIES – HORSLEY PARK NSW
1788 The Horsley Drive, Horsley Park NSW 2175
Good Friday Activities 2017

The members of the Maltese community are invited to attend

Our Lady of Victories Parish, Horsley Park Preparations for the Good Friday Procession in Horsley Park, NSW are well underway and the Organising Group wishes to advise readers of upcoming important dates and activities.

Thursday 23 March, from 6.00pm Helpers are needed to transport and arrange statues in the church.

Friday 24 March, from 7.30pm Helpers are needed to organise and prepare other procession objects in the church. The Last Supper exhibition is also organised.

Monday 27 to Thursday 30 March, at 6.30pm Lenten mission in Maltese led by Fr Noel Bianco

Sunday 2 April from 3.00pm Children and youth are invited to try on and collect costumes for the procession in the Church Presbytery Thursday 6 April from 7.00pm Reconciliation in the Church

Friday 7 April from 7.00pm The Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows. The function begins with a celebration of the mass, followed by the Stations of the Cross outside and a procession with the statue of Our Lady of Sorrows back into the Church.

Friday 14 April – Good Friday Help is greatly needed early in the morning to install outdoor equipment necessary for the procession such as PA systems, lights and barricades.

The Church service begins at 2.30pm. The Church can only hold a certain amount of people, so think early. At 4.00pm, the Maltese Cultural Association NSW Choir begins performing traditional dirges and hymns, alternating with Our Lady Queen of Peace Maltese Band which will play funeral marches.

The procession begins at 5.00pm. All participants should be present by 4.00pm to change and prepare for the procession, rain, hail or shine.

There is the possibility that there will be costumes available to wear, especially for adults. For more information about costumes, or for any other thing, please call **Fred Cauchi on 0407 914 051**.

Submitted by Antoine Mangion

PROGRAMM TAL-GHID - EZERCIZZI SPIRITWALAI MILL-MISSJUNARJI
TA' SAN PAWL TA' SYDNEY

It-Tnejn 27 ta' Marzu sal-Hamis 30ta' Marzu, Ezercizzi spiritwali fil-parrocca ta' Our Lady Queen of Peace Greystanes. Nibdew fl-10.30 am. Jipriedka Fr Mark Grima MSSP. Ikun hemm quddiesa, priedka u barka sagramentali.

It-Tnejn 27 ta' Marzu sal-Hamis 30ta' Marzu, Ezercizzi spiritwali fil-parrocca ta' Horsley Park Our Lady of Victories, fis-6.30 pm jipriedka Fr Mark Grima MSSP. Ikun hemm quddiesa, priedka u barka sagramentali.

It-Tlieta 4ta' April sal-Gimgha 7ta' April, Fil-Kapellata' San Pawl De Prio House Stanley Street Sydney, jipriedka Fr Benedict Sant MSSP. Din il-gurnata tahbat il-festa tad-Duluri, festa ghaziza ghalina l-Maltin u tigi 'kkommemorta il-festa tad-Duluri. fis-7.00pm



What are Qaghaq ta' I-Appostli? (APOSTLES' BREAD)

This traditional Maltese bread is essentially a circular loaf of bread which is very soft on the inside. The bread is decorated with roasted almonds and sesame seeds on the top.

You can find this type of bread in bakeries and supermarkets. You will also find these circular loaves being sold near the main churches of each town and

village on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, especially during the time that religious functions and activities are being held. These vendors will usually also have a special type of Lenten sweet called *Karamelli tal-Harrub* (Carob sweets). The tradition of baking these Apostles' bread rings goes back hundreds of years and is still very much popular and a family favourite to this day! **How do you eat these bread rings?**

Simplicity is key here. Just spread the bread with salted butter and you're good to go. You can also add some cheese too. *Insider tip:* Always try to pick the part of the loaf where there are the roasted almonds :) Simply delicious!

Altars of Repose – IL-VISTI TAS-SEBGHA KNEJJES



of Repose at Mount Carmel church, Valletta

One of the most solemn days in the life of the church is Holy Thursday, the day the Eucharist and the Priesthood were instituted, both at the Last Supper which Jesus hosted for his 12 apostles. The foot washing ceremony takes place during the evening Mass, re-enacting the humble gesture Jesus did to his beloved apostles, encouraging them to do the same to others, humbly serving them, the mission of every priest.

Following the Mass, a procession with the Blessed Sacrament is held, placing the Eucharist in a special Altar of Reposition, usually a side altar, away from the main altar. The main altar is then stripped of altar cloths, candles, flowers, etc. Many churches decorate the Altars of

Reposition in a magnificent display of flowers, candles, angels and other symbols of the Eucharist. These photos show just a few of the altars decorated in Maltese churches in 2010.

People then visit these altars out of respect towards the Eucharist and pray until midnight. These visits continue also in the morning on Good Friday until noon. The tradition of visiting seven churches on Holy Thursday is an ancient practice, originating in Rome, traditionally started by Saint Philip Neri, who took the members of his Oratory to visit the 7 major basilicas as penance. These churches are Saint John Lateran, Saint Peter, Saint Mary Major, Saint Paul-outside-the-Walls, Saint Lawrence-outside-the-Walls, Saint Sebastian-outside-the-Walls, and Holy Cross-in-Jerusalem.

Source: <http://fatherjulian.blogspot.com.au/2015/03/altars-of-repose.html>



EASTER FIGOLLA

Spring is the perfect time to try new and different recipes, so I welcomed the challenge to find a new holiday cookie from somewhere exotic to make this spring. After searching I found these traditional Maltese Figolli Cookies, which are tasty pastry filled with almond paste.

The cookies are made with a buttery, lemon dough that is rolled and cut into spring shapes. Before baking a small amount of almond paste is spread onto a cookie, and an identical shape is placed on top. I used purchased almond

paste, but you could make it from scratch.

I made the strategic error of making these the day after my daughter returned to college for spring break, and she is much better at decorating cookies than I am!

So I tried and failed to pipe designs onto the cookies, and then I gave up and simply flooding the cookies with Royal Icing and added candy.

It is traditional to top these Figolli Cookies from Malta with a foil wrapped Easter Egg, so I did that with some of the cookies and decorated the rest with pastel colored M&Ms and Sixlets.

I love the combination of the lemon flavored pastry with almonds, and of course the candy on top is an added bonus.

Maltese Figolli Cookies

Serves: 20

Ingredients

Cookies

1½ cup. flour ½ cup butter ½ cup sugar pinch salt 1 egg yolk zest of 1 lemon 2 Tablespoon water, or more almond paste

Decorations

1½ Tablespoon Meringue powder 2 cup powdered sugar 3 T. water
candy and foil eggs

Instructions

1. To make the dough put the flour and butter in a food processor and pulse until crumbly.
2. Add the sugar and salt and pulse to mix.
3. Add the egg yolk and lemon zest and mix.
4. Add the water, 1 Tablespoon at a time until the dough forms into a ball.
5. Wrap the dough in plastic wrap and chill for an hour.
6. Preheat the oven to 350 F.
7. Roll out the dough on a floured surface and cut out Easter shapes.
8. Put a shape on a cookie sheet, then cut some almond paste and place on the dough. Top with another shape.
9. Bake the cookies for 15-20 minutes until lightly brown.
10. Cool on wire racks.
11. When the cookies are cool mix the meringue powder with the powdered sugar and water until it is of spreading consistency.
12. Use lollies to decorate the cookies

The Maltese e-Newsletters are archived at
MALTA MIGRATION MUSEUM - VALLETTA
and at the website: www.ozmalta.page4.mr

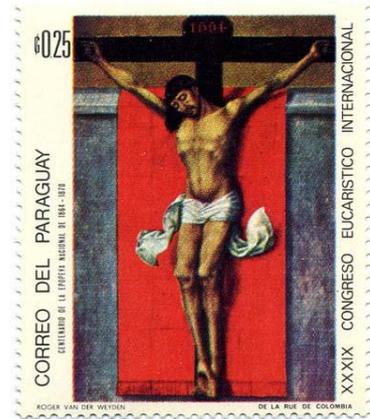
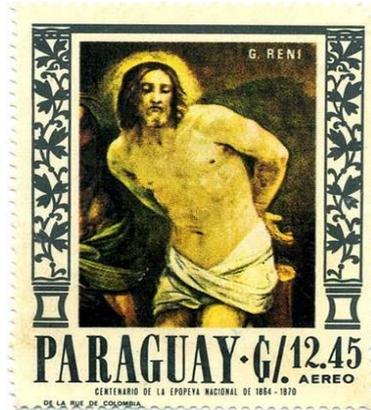




Holy Week Stamps

The Last Supper by Fra Angelico (Argentina)

I share with you today more stamps that depict the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus. Philately has been in the forefront in presenting beautiful stamps remembering special religious events.



A STORY OF A MALTESE MIGRANT

Malta to Melbourne on MS Skaubryn

August -September 1955

The Skaubryn at anchor in Valletta, MALTA



I read with great interest on your Maltese Newsletter website, the article on the passenger liner/migrant ship, MS Skaubryn. I do so with great memories of having been a 12 year old passenger from Senglea - boarding at Valletta Malta - to Melbourne Australia in August/September 1955. Although the journey was quite a dramatic one, it is rarely mentioned online or in other links, newspapers etc. In fact, the voyage could easily have become one of the great shipping disasters of modern times. It was on this voyage that the ship could quite easily have sunk in the Indian ocean off the coast of Aden where indeed, Skaubryn ultimately met its fate just three years later in 1958. Eerily, that latter event occurred almost in the same spot as the event in September 1955.

Although only twelve years old and such a long time ago, I remember the frightening event as if it was yesterday. It started with a woman running through the passageways on the lower deck screaming that the ship was on fire. I recall that we were all told to put on our life jackets - doubtless as a precaution – albeit that it would have made no difference if the ship had sunk, given that there was a huge sea resulting from monsoon winds with waves so high and strong, that I doubt anyone would have survived. Indeed, my father who was a long-serving seaman, had looked extremely worried by the state of the sea and the effect it was having on the ship. I remember asking him what the "creaking" sound the ship was making before the fire and why he looked so worried. He told me it was caused by the ship being raised to the top of a wave amidships and the weight on either side of the ship was stressing the rivets holding the iron plates together. It took me no time to realise, the potential for the ship to break in two!



Needless to say, that fear, coupled with what we now knew was happening in the engine room (where the fire had started) had most on the ship praying for a miracle. Fortunately for all of us, the fire was put out but the rough sea continued unabated for some time. If that was not enough, we were then told that the ship had lost one of its propellers after which the ship drifted aimlessly in the Indian ocean for around three days. That meant that the scheduled 27day voyage to Melbourne was stretched out to 33 days. **(Photo: Joe Briffa and his mother)**

Although I remember clearly that when we eventually docked in Melbourne the ship was standing at a quite serious angle, I am not sure whether the list was caused in the Indian ocean, or after we left Perth for Melbourne somewhere in the Great Australian Bight. I do recall seeing a newspaper report on that situation showing a guy lighting another guy's cigarette with both standing at a precarious angle. I have not been able to locate a copy of that report, but would dearly love to do so.

Despite the fear caused by the events south of Aden, the voyage itself was a great adventure for a 12 year old child. I loved all the great activity and roaming around the myriad nooks and crannies of the ship and overall, had a great time. Not so for my mother and sister, who spent most of the trip in our cabin suffering chronic sea-sickness.

Regrettably, the food on offer for those migrants on the lower decks was very poor indeed and the water so horrible one could hardly drink it. Not so for those on the upper decks who enjoyed great food, wine and beverages. I recall one day when there were so many complaints about the food - eg: little white paper cups of glue-like gelatin looking and tasting substance, accompanied by raw almonds - still in their green skin - being served as dessert! On that occasion, a fellow passenger from Malta who had lived in Australia for some 50 years, got a few other disgruntled passengers to go to the edge of the long table, each to grab a section of the table cloth folded it over the "food", drinks, cutlery and crockery, and marched it out to the edge of the deck and through the lot overboard, all to the loud cheering of the passengers! We did notice some improvement in the food after that.

For the life of me, I cannot understand why this particular voyage has not been the subject of much that has been said and written about Skaubryn. Thank you very much for your extremely interesting website which is so vital in the recording of shipping history. I have attached a copy of my passport photo with my mother, taken in 1955 for our voyage to Australia. **Best regards, Joe Briffa Melbourne Australia**



CAPTAIN HENRY CURMI FIRST COMMISSIONER IN AUSTRALIA

Melbourne, Vic. 25 April 1944. Captain Henry C. Curmi, OBE, Commissioner for Malta, walking up the steps of the Shrine of Remembrance to lay a wreath shaped as the traditional Maltese Cross, on the Stone of Remembrance, during the Anzac Day Ceremony.

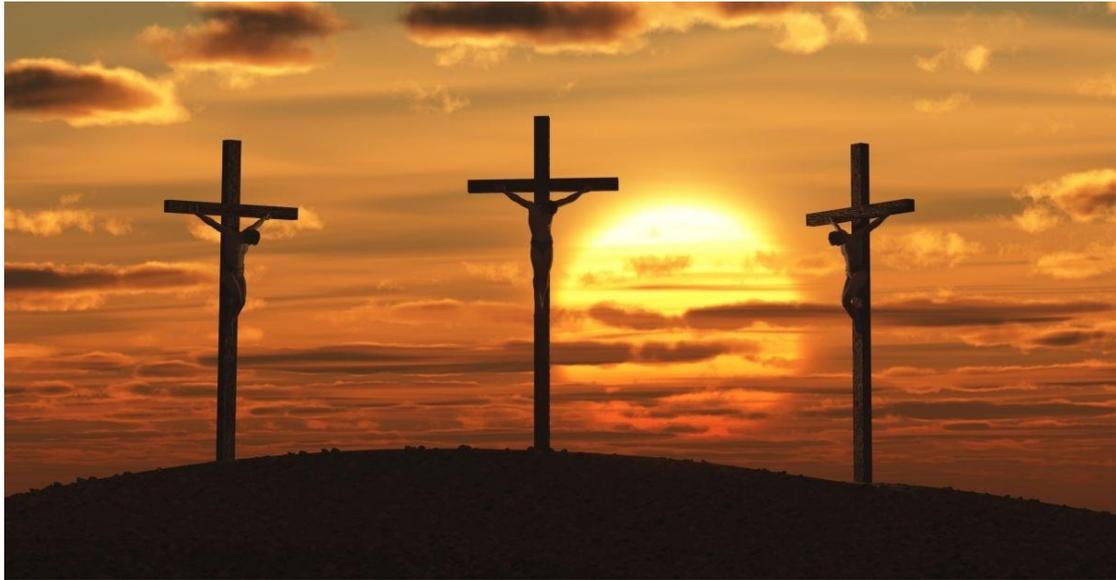
Captain Curmi occupies a very important niche in the history of Maltese migration. He was Malta's first Commissioner in Australia at a time when Maltese migration reached its peak.

At 18 years he joined the Malta civil service. In 1910 he enlisted with the King's Own Malta Regiment, and saw action during the First World War in Egypt, Palestine, Gallipoli and Mudros where he was mentioned in dispatches. He went to Australia for the first time on January 1, 1929 as Maltese Commissioner, but had to return home the next year because of ill-health. He was back there six years later. His main aim was to improve the Australian understanding of the Maltese migrant, through his writings and contacts.

The number of migrants to Australia prior to the 2nd World War was not large, but he helped organised 'reception committees' to ensure that they were welcomed and jobs found for them. This committee was also active collecting food and clothing to send to the people of Malta during the war.

Australian policy to migration after the war changed dramatically, partly through the realisation of the need for an increase in population for defence purposes. The Immigration Minister at the time, Mr Arthur A. Calwell, as well as the trade unions became converted to the need for more migrants. A financial agreement, the Australia - Malta Passage Assistance Agreement was reached in May 1948, where adults would pay £10 and those between age 14-19 would pay half-price (children below that age went free of charge).

Captain Curmi was very much involved in all these negotiations and was instrumental in ensuring their success. He was also very much involved with the migrants themselves. Between 1949 and 1952, more than 15,000 Maltese had migrated to Australia. Captain Curmi retired in 1952, aged 62 years. His main aims had been to obtain better recognition of Maltese in Australia, to improve the general tone of their life there, and to promote Maltese emigration. He died in Kew, in Victoria, aged 77 years. [For further information see: Profiles in Maltese Migration by Fr Lawrence E. Attard, 2003, PEG, Malta] <http://www.maltamigration.com/>



F'dan iż-żmien Qaddis...

F'dan iż-żmien qaddis tas-sena
Għandna ħafna drawwiet sbieħ
Li jagħżluna minn ġnus oħra:
Tas-smewwiet dawn il-muftieħ!

Niesna ssum u qatigħ titlob
Tul il-ġranet tar-Randan
Erbgħin jum ta' penitenza –
Għalhekk jiġi żmien bħal dan!

Għarkubbejha tirrifletti
Minn kemm għadda tbatijiet
U fit-Triq tas-Salib tilmaħ
Kristu fl-istazzjonijiet.

Tmur ukoll għall-Eżerċizzi
Sabiex tisma' l-Kelma t'Alla
Għalkemm Kristu bata w sofra
Tal-Kbarat il-pjan kien falla.....

Tagħmel l-almu sabiex tħaffef
Lejn il-Knisja tal-parroċċa
Għall-funzjonijiet mill-isbaħ
Mal-familja bħal qaqqoċċa.

B'devozzjoni wkoll tingabar
Fil-ġurnata tad-Duluri

U fil-kanisja b'damask vjola
Qima w għożża lilha turi.

Tfeġġ imbagħad Ħamis ix-Xirka
Lis-Sepulkru nagħmlu żjara;
Min bl-imħatra jagħmlu l-isbaħ
Tassew dehra jkun fih x'tara!

Żgur li l-qofol ta' dan kollu
Hi bla dubju l-Ġimgħa Mqaddsa;
Kristu bata, miet, irxoxta,
Bla ma qies kulur jew razza.

Bil-gżuż għadha n-nies tiffolla
Sabiex tara l-Purċissjoni
Li fil-Ġimgħa l-Kbira toħroġ
Wara tal-kanisja l-funzjoni!

U jekk ma' treqatna tigri
Tara ħafna mill-wirjiet
Ta' statwetti illi jdommu
Tal-Passjoni il-ġrajjiet.

Jalla daż-żmien qaddis jiġi
U jimliena bil-barkiet
Illi Kristu bil-Passjoni
Tiegħu lilna għamel ulied.

Kav Joe M Attard
Rabat-Għawdex



The Book Festival on Campus 2017 will take place at University on the 4-5-6th of April, starting 10:00 hours and continuing till late. The purpose of the Festival is to promote literature as a whole, while at the same time giving publishers and book distributors a space in which they can promote their material with a mature audience, such as university students.

The publishers and distributors participating in the festival are HORIZONS, FARAXA BOOKS, SENSIELA KOTBA SOĊJALISTI (SKS), STUDENTS PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, EDE, KOTBA CALLEJA, and BDL, some of whom will be setting up events of their own. Among these we find HORIZONS who will launch a poetry collection by Prof. Kenneth Wain, entitled 'Who looks at the sun anymore' and FARAXA who have also prepared a poetry evening. KOTBA CALLEJA will be holding two workshops on the art of book binding.

Apart from the publishers and book distributors, other participants in the Festival have contributed to the programme. The poetess Miriam Calleja will lead a workshop on the topic of creative writing which is open to all writers of all levels. The event will involve a number of exercises and games, prompts and guidelines, as well as advice on how to improve one's writing. The event will close with a reading of Calleja's poetry both in English and in Maltese. Other events of academic interest include 'Il-Malti u l-Barranin', set up by Kunsill Nazzjonali tal-Lsien Malti, where a number of people who studied Maltese as a foreign language will talk about what motivated them to learn Maltese and why Maltese of all the languages in the world, and 'X'naqbad ngħid?', a talk and discussion on linguistic variations in Maltese, which will be led by Michael Spagnol.

As we have already announced in a press release of last week, the special guest of the festival is Caroline Smailes, the renowned author of 'In Search of Adam', 'Like Bees to Honey', '99 Reasons Why' and 'The Drowning of Arthur Braxton', which is currently being made into a film.

Caroline Smailes, who is of Maltese descent, was born in Newcastle and has studied creative writing. During the festival she will be leading workshops on the subjects of creative writing, aspects of narration such as the choice of dialogue diction and location, the need for convincing and consistent characters and the question of linguistic inheritance. There will also be an activity in which excerpts of Smailes' work will be read and members of the public will be able to address the author directly.

Every year the programme of the Festival includes a musical performance, which this year will be given by the HipHop act Marmalja, whose performance will close the first night of the Festival, that is 4th April.

We ask the public to read well the programme and to learn about the events that have been prepared as they are sure to find much more than one event that piques their interest. The programme will be available in print form and distributed in public places in the coming few days

Sign up to e-newsletter so you don't miss a thing

ARE you one of the thousands of people signed up to receive The Maltese e-Newsletter free regularly? If not, then what are you waiting for?

With exclusive history and cultural items, special features and the latest news to interviews with Maltese migrants and profiles of prominent Maltese in Malta and overseas delivered straight to your inbox, our newsletters are an easy way to keep informed and entertained. Thanks to the popularity of the e-newsletters, they are archived at the Malta Migration Museum, Valletta, Malta and on our website www.ozmalta.page4.me/

"We've seen a huge rise in readers signing up to our newsletters beyond our expectations." The editor Frank Scicluna said. "It's a great way for members of the Maltese Diaspora to keep their finger on the pulse - and the e-newsletters can be accessed from their home computer, tablet or smart phone. "The best thing is, it's so easy to subscribe- and it's free!" SEND AN EMAIL TO: honconsul@live.com.au



**MALTESE AGED CARE
ASSOCIATION
OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

MACASA

*Assisting the seniors' community to remain in their own homes.
A volunteer-based service that provides in-home support
for seniors, and younger people with disabilities.*

The Maltese Aged Care Association (SA) Inc. (MACASA) was founded in 1994 with the intent of establishing ethno-specific aged care services for our Maltese elderly in South Australia. The development of **MACASA** over the years has been rewarding, and at times very challenging. Here is a brief look at our achievements.

HISTORY OF MACASA

In 1994, a group of Maltese volunteers recognised the need for some form of residential care for our Maltese elderly. A committee met on a regular basis and incorporated our Association under our present name.

In 1995, we undertook a survey of 100 Maltese families in South Australia who were interviewed in their own homes. An extensive list of questions was put to these people regarding their health. This survey presented an opportunity for **MACASA** members to speak directly to our older people and discuss their needs with them. It also was an opportunity to inform them about the activities of **MACASA**, and to supply them with information about aged care services that were currently available to them plus possible future options.

The results from the survey identified the need for help at home, and help with Maltese meals, transport and Residential Care. **MACASA** members volunteered their time for this since no financial assistance was received specifically to conduct this survey.

Home-delivered or Frozen Pick-up Meals

In 1998, funding was made available to provide a culturally-appropriate meals service. Thanks to the survey previously conducted, we knew where the majority of the elderly Maltese were located, and we were able to plan our kitchen in a central area. In collaboration with the Maltese Guild of SA, we opened our first kitchen in Beverley at the Maltese Cultural Centre in the Western area. As this was a new venture for us, it was no easy task. It was thanks to the resilience and persistence of Charles Bezzina, our Maltese cook at the time, and **MACASA** that we managed to deliver this service. We are proud that **MACASA** in South Australia is the only Maltese Association providing a Maltese Meals Service in Australia.

Over time, the demand for Maltese meals grew. In 2003, due to further expansion of the Meals Service, it was necessary to look for a bigger kitchen. After moving to the RSL facility in West Croydon, we eventually relocated our Office and Kitchen to: **Cheltenham Community Centre 62 Stroud Street North Cheltenham SA 5014**

Our current Services Manager, works with a dedicated group of volunteers who deliver the meals and other services to our clients. The fact that our community owns this service is invaluable; a "little Malta" is created in the busy buzz of our kitchen, as the cooks and volunteers happily participate in the preparation and delivery of approximately 50 meals per day. The value of Maltese volunteers delivering the meals lies in the fact that our clients look forward to chatting with them on a regular basis.

Hot meals are delivered fresh daily from Monday to Friday in certain areas. For many people who would like meals but live outside our delivery areas, we have developed a Frozen Meals Program. This program is also available Monday to Friday, and any number of meals can be picked up from our facility either on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis.

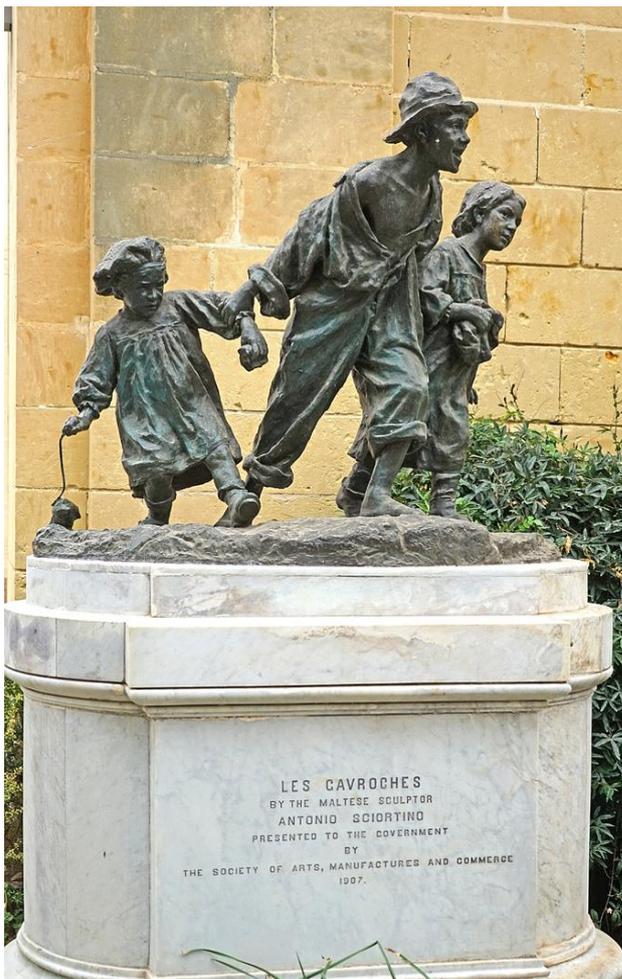
In 2003, an opportunity arose with the then Uniting Care Wesley at Regency Green. Funding was being offered to provide a residential house for ethnic communities. We met, and discussions started, the result of which is our present Maltese wing called "Melita House". We have Maltese residents at present. **MACASA** volunteers visit the residents on a weekly basis, and monitor the service to ensure it is ethnically-appropriate.

These **MACASA** volunteers visit and give Holy Communion to our residents regularly. Father Gabriel also performs Mass for all the residents of Regency Green regularly. The residents find comfort in the fact that they are within their own culture with regard to company and appropriate food. Our Kitchen regularly delivers Maltese meals to those residents.

The role of **MACASA** is to:

- *Initiate and develop services for our Maltese elderly & wider community,*
- *Refer clients to relevant services,*
- *Ensure that information is appropriately given out through the Maltese media and wider community, community clubs, etc.,*
- *Assist in the ongoing monitoring and assessment of services, and*
- *Most of all we ensure that these services are culturally- and linguistically-appropriate.*
- As you can see at **MACASA**, we are constantly planning and monitoring all services to continue improving and expanding, particularly seeking where we can develop new services that meet the needs of our community.
- The evolution of **MACASA** since 1994 has been beyond our expectations; we are proud of our achievements. The foundations have been well-laid, and we can only look to the future now.

WEBSITE: <http://www.malteseagedcare.org.au/>

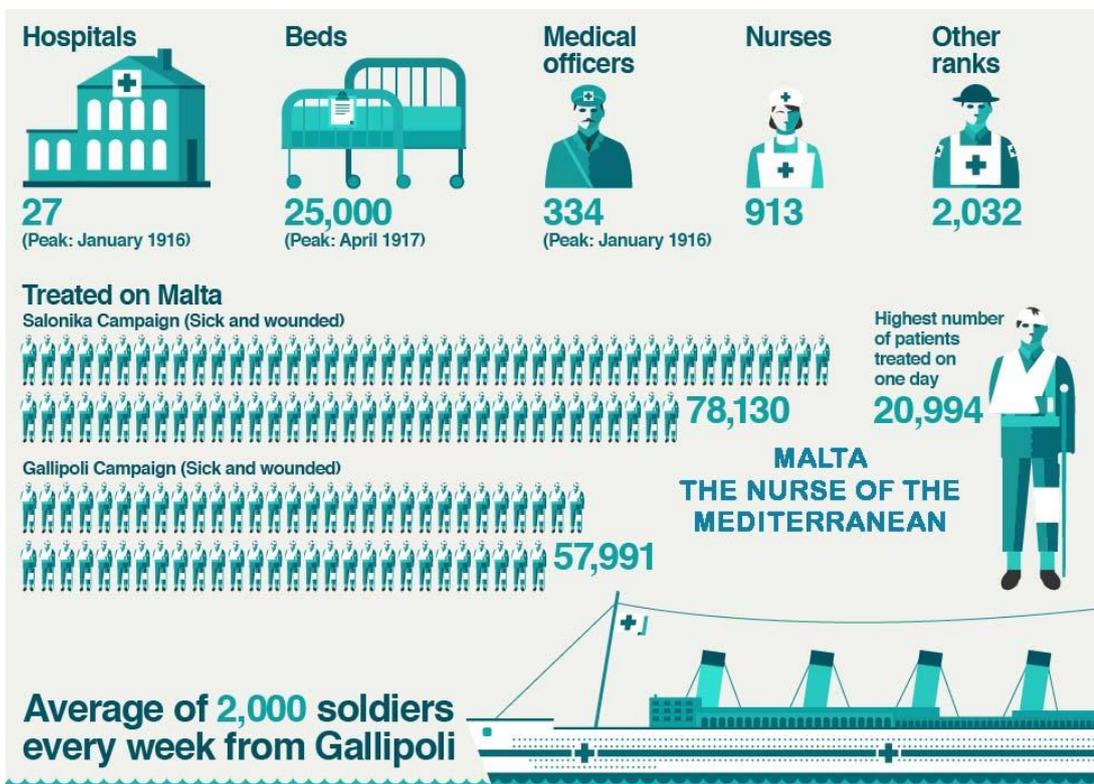


Les Gavroches | by Antonio Sciortino

Description

Antonio Sciortino created this masterpiece when he was only twenty four years old. The statue represents three poor street children (Urchins) who roamed the streets of Paris during the tumultuous days of the 1848 revolution, inspired from the great novel *Les Miserables*, by Victor Hugo. For this work the sculptor was influenced by the Impressionists and by the French sculptor August Rodin (1840-1917). The sculpture was inaugurated in Malta in 1907, however, it had been already successfully exhibited in Rome and Paris by 1905. Until some years ago it was displayed at the Upper Barrakka Gardens in Valletta, from where it was removed and brought to the National Museum of Fine Arts for conservation purposes, due to its exposure to the elements which had led to considerable deterioration.

Repository/Location: National Museum of Fine Arts (Valletta, Malta)



**ANZAC
CENTENARY
1914-1918
2014-2018**

In 1915, as Europe's armies faced stalemate, World War One spread beyond the Western Front. To try to break the deadlock Britain and France led new campaigns at Gallipoli in Turkey, and Salonika in Greece.

New battle fronts meant new places to treat the wounded would be needed. But the allies had more than just combat casualties to deal with. Climate and conditions brought malaria and dysentery. Very quickly, there were tens of thousands of soldiers in need of urgent and ongoing care.

The answer was a tiny rock in the Mediterranean Sea. At a safe distance from the front line, Malta became a hospital island for more than 136,000 men. By the end of the war it had earned itself the nickname the "Nurse of the Mediterranean". Hospitals were opened up at a frantic pace to keep up with the thousands of sick and wounded soldiers brought to Malta.

**Maltese Community Council of Victoria and the
Missionary Society of St Paul**



are celebrating
**The 50th Anniversary of the
Ordination of
Fr Tarcisio Micallef, mssp and
Fr Denis Carabott, mssp to the
Priesthood**



Mass will be concelebrated with the participation of MSSP
Provincial Fr Mark Grima, mssp

Venue: Mass at St Paul's Chapel followed by a reception at the Maltese
Community Centre 477 Royal Parade, Parkville

Date: 22nd March 2017 **Time:** 6.00 pm **Donation:** \$10.00

For further information contact the Maltese Community Centre on

(03) 9387 8922



Photo: DOI - Clifton Fenech

COMMONWEALTH DAY IN MALTA

“As we join other fellow member countries in commemorating the Commonwealth and celebrating peace, we salute the shared diversity and uniqueness of our global family” - Minister George W. Vella

Press Release Issue Date: Mar
13, 2017

Today marks Commonwealth Day, a date when the countries of the Commonwealth commemorate the foundation of the Commonwealth.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs in conjunction with the resident Commonwealth High Commissions in Malta of the United Kingdom, Australia and Ghana, with the participation of students representing different colleges across Malta and Gozo, this morning took part in a 'Walk for Peace' in order to celebrate the theme of Commonwealth Day. The students, accompanied by the Minister for Foreign Affairs George W. Vella, representatives from the Commonwealth High Commissions in Malta as well as college principals, walked from the Parliament building to the Saluting Battery in Upper Barrakka Gardens. There, the schoolchildren received a short explanation on the Saluting Battery, followed by the firing of the salute at noon.

The ceremony continued at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs where the students read out a number of messages for peace, followed by a concluding speech by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. The resident Commonwealth High Commissioners also delivered speeches.

Dr Vella said, “in celebrating the Commonwealth, we are celebrating the shared efforts and endeavours towards promoting peace and harmony within the Commonwealth. Above all, we are voicing our shared commitment towards strengthening our community. As we look towards the future, we seek to achieve greater commitment to harnessing our full potential towards achieving a greater understanding among the Commonwealth community”.

Minister Vella said that today we are also celebrating positivity. The Minister referred to the messages of peace read by the schoolchildren and remarked that these were so carefully and thoughtfully inscribed by our youngsters, our future, and it is quite evident that adults can learn so much from listening to our future generations, who are unbiased and untarnished by the life experiences that adults go through and are affected by. Minister Vella said that, “no wonder the Commonwealth is investing so much in youth. Enough to mention the Youth Networks, the Youth Health network, the Youth Human Rights and Democracy Network, and the Youth Peace Ambassadors' Network with its 'No Hate Speech Movement'.”





Ambassador André Spiteri meets Japanese participants at the Malta Marathon

Press Release Issue Date: Mar 14, 2017

On 5 March 2017, the Ambassador of Malta to Japan, H.E. André Spiteri met and congratulated Japanese participants at the Malta Marathon. This year saw the participation of 92 athletes from Japan, which showed the result of hard promotional work of the Malta Tourism Overseas Representative office in Tokyo. Participants said that they found this marathon unique, as they could view historical buildings, the countryside and the Mediterranean Sea with picturesque views of Valletta, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Moreover, they praised the excellent organization and expressed the desire to participate also next year. This year's edition of the Malta Marathon was also promoted in Japan with the kind collaboration of the EU-Japan Fest and the Valletta 2018 Foundation. Collaboration between the EU-Japan Fest and the V18 Foundation started in 2014 with the organization of various cultural projects between Malta and Japan. A special participant in this year's Malta Marathon was Mr Michio Endo, who turned 80 last November. Mr Endo was instrumental to come up with the initiative to include the walkathon in the Malta Marathon, hereby also known as the 'Endo' Walkathon in his honor. Mr. Endo worked for over 25 years to promote Malta in Japan. The high number of Japanese visitors to Malta would not have been possible without his hard work and dedication.

Ambassador Spiteri with the Japanese participants of this year's Malta Marathon. This year saw the participation of 92 athletes from Japan. This year's edition of the Malta Marathon was also promoted in Japan with the kind collaboration and assistance of the EU-Japan Fest and the Valletta 2018 Foundation



Three gold, six bronze medals for Maltese bowling team

In the first edition of the Small Nations Cup, Malta also beat Cyprus to win the mixed team event.



Malta's bowling team secured three gold and six bronze medals during the first Small Nations Cup, held in San Marino. The team also won the Mixed Team Event after beating Cyprus in the final. Sue Abela and Justin Caruana Scicluna won the gold in the mixed doubles, while Sara Xuereb and Mauro Anastasi won the bronze in the same event. Xuereb then went on to win Malta's third gold medal by finishing first in the Masters, with Abela, Caruana Scicluna and Anastasi winning a bronze medal in the same category. The Maltese bowling team is a volunteer association, supported by SportMalta and government's parliamentary secretariat.