



THE MALTESE NEWSLETTER

The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora



THE MOTTO - BUILDING BRIDGES NOT WALLS

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**THE MALTESE DIASPORA
READS, ENJOYS, SHARES
AND SUPPORTS
THIS JOURNAL**

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**PACKED WITH ITEMS OF  
INFORMATION, CULTURE,  
HISTORY AND HERITAGE,  
ARTS AND MUSIC AND  
PROFILES OF MALTESE  
LIVING IN MALTA AND  
BEYOND ITS SHORES**

## **Folk Dancing in the Village Square in Malta**





## THE GAME OF BRILLI

Brilli is a game still played by adults in Gharb Gozo. Part of this remote area is undisturbed by cars, where streets have retained their function as a meeting place for the villagers.

**To play you need these objects** Nine skittles (brilli) and a spherical wooden ball. The skittles are arranged to form a square with three rows, each row containing three skittles. A different term is used to describe the skittles according to their position in the square. The four brilli at the corners are called qriemec, while the central skittle is referred to as is-sultan. The remaining four skittles are known as is-sekondi. Each skittle is conical in shape, stability being provided by a metallic ring placed around the base. Is-Sultan has a spherical projection at its top to distinguish it from the other brilli.

**To Play the game** At least five to six people are needed for the game to be played. The place chosen for the first throw (messa) is marked by a stone. The first throw (il-moll) gains points according to the number and type of skittles dropped. Thus is-sultan gains 18 points, is-sekond 12 points while the qriemec 1 point. If however more than one type of pin is dropped (example: sultan and qarmuc) only 2 points for each dropped pin is gained.

A line (il-Hazz) is drawn at the place where the ball stops after the first throw. The second attempt is thrown from this line and gains two points for every skittle dropped.



<https://www.facebook.com/frank.scicluna.3/>

**100 Sena mi-Dehriet ta'**  
**Fatima**  
**13 ta' Mejju 1917**



Ghaddew, tgerbu, hbieb Mitt Sena  
 Mindu gewwa l-Portugal  
 Il-Madonna kienet dehret  
 Ghodwa wahda 'l tlett itfal.

Illi kienu darba wahda  
 Jiggerrew qalb il-kampanja -  
 Tfal neqsin mill-ghelt u l-hazen  
 B'qalbhom hielsa minn kull tbajja'!

Ta' ffit skola, in-nghag jirghu  
 Qalb l-ghelieqi kollha hdura,  
 Jigru, jaqbzu lkoll ferhana,  
 Wara, d-dar imorru lura!

Izda darba fost il-gimgha  
 Waqt li kienu ferhanin  
 Jiggerrew f'Cova da Iria,  
 Qalb il-ward u l-gizimin,

Semghu vuçi wisq sabiha  
 Li hasdithom wahda sew  
 U qaltihom li r-**Rużarju**  
 F'hajjithom qatt ma jinsew,

Izda jagħmlu l-almu kollu  
 Biex joffruh għall-midinbin  
 Sabiex it-tlieta li huma  
 Ma jmorru mal-mitlufin.

Francesco w oħtu Giacinta  
 Marru jgawdu lis-Sinjura

Illi lilhom kienet kellmet  
 Ġewwa Fatima l-pjanura.

'Mma Luċija spiċċat soru  
 Ġo kunvent fil-Portugal  
 Minn fejn xandret lil MarijaTul  
 għomorha, għal snin twal.

Imma issa t-tlieta l'huma -  
 Darba tfal żgħar u henjin  
 Jinsabu gewwa fil-Ġenna  
 Imdawrin bil-Qaddisin.

Kien il-hames xahar tas-sena  
 Minn Mejju kellna tlettax  
 L-annu kien l-elf, disa' mija  
 U magħhom ngħoddu sbatax.

L-Ewwel Gwerra kienet ġmielha  
 Qegħda tkagħbar sew lill-ġnus  
 U l-poplu taht il-bombi  
 Kien iħossu wisq magħfus!

Għal sitt xhur din l-Omm Imbierka  
 Dehret lil dat-tlett itfal  
 U talbithom penitenza  
 Biex il-hemm ma jfurx sax-xfar.

Minn Fatima din is-Sinjura  
 Regina tas-Sema w l-art  
 Għadha qegħda ssejhlina  
 Biex tehlisna minn kull mard

Basta naqbd u l-kuruna  
 U r-Rużarju ma nwarrebux  
 Għaliex dan hu l-aqwa tarka -  
 Kif nistghu dan ma ngħożżuhx!

San Gorg Preca dlonk qalilna  
 Dit-talba ngħidu kuljum  
 Għax Marija tistenniha  
 Sa ma l-ġirja jtemm il-jum.

**Kav Joe M Attard**  
**Victoria Ghawdex**



## Consul-on-the-Move (COTM)

### Two successful visits to Perth

Victor Grech with the statue of the Migrant children at Fremantle. Perth enjoyed two highly successful COTM visits in 2017 by Victoria's Consul General, Victor Grech. Mr. Grech paid a scheduled visit in January and an unscheduled one in March to complete an earlier application and to deal with other applicants who missed out in January. During the two visits applicants frequently expressed their appreciation of avoiding the need of visiting the east to have their biometrics captured.

Mr. Grech interviewed and captured biometrics for up to 70 applicants during his two visits. He also visited a number of businesses including Transcontinental Group, Austal Ship and Cordina Marine to present them with possibilities to increase their commercial activity with Malta.

Mr. Grech's visits were significantly assisted by the Maltese Association of Western Australia (MAWAI) who provided administrative facilities for the interviews.



Victor Grech with Stephan Cauchi. President of the Maltese Association of W.A.



*Capturing biometrics- Photographing*



*With Simon Trevisan - Managing Director and Fleur Hudson - Director*



*Biometric Passports: Fingerprinting*



# Carmen Testa OAM MQR

eulogy by her daughter Sr. Lorraine Testa



We know a lot of facts about Carmen Testa nee Grixti – a snapshot of her life looks like this: Mum was born in Birkirkarra, Malta on 8 March 1934 to Michael and Helen Grixti. Mum had one sister and seven brothers. At aged 18, in 1949, and having to let go of her dream to enter teachers college, mum with her mother and five brothers, immigrated to Australia to join her father who had left nine months

earlier to prepare for his family a humble house in the suburb of West Sunshine. In her words: We came to this room with nothing else. And we were so shocked. We came in summer and by winter we lived with mud, mud and more mud. But we were happy.

Against the cultural norm and expectation, Mum started work in an office at Drayton's Pottery one week after she arrived. In her own words: I was expected to stay in this paddock all day, doing nothing at all, but I went to the factory and asked Mr Drayton for a job. He said I don't have one, but I was persistent and showed him my school results. He started me the next day'

Carmen Testa worked at Drayton's until she married, my dad, Frank who followed Carmen Testa ten months after her arrival in Australia. Carmen Testa and dad married in 1953 and moved into the family home built in Glengala Road by Dad and my grandfather. There they raised seven children, welcomed their children's partners and supported the comings and goings of sixteen grandchildren and their partners and seven great grandchildren.

Carmen Testa's community involvement spanned some 52 years. This involvement began before we were at primary school – as a volunteer helping in various ways. Carmen Testa said: I helped in the primary school running the Mother's Club and Tuckshop. For women back then, there was a language barrier – so I helped out as an interpreter

While doing all this, raising a family and supporting her own Carmen Testa and dad and brothers and sisters, encouraged by Sr Laserian, Carmen Testa managed, in 1980, thirty five years after leaving her dream behind in Malta, Carmen Testa fulfilled her dreams of becoming a teacher. Carmen Testa taught at St Paul's School and Mother of God School.

In 1970 Carmen Testa joined the St Paul's Feast Committee– organising a week of celebrations that continues 46 year later. 30 years ago, Carmen Testa began the Maltese Women's Group, with a membership of 100 women, for housebound Maltese women, meeting weekly and facilitating many monthly day trips, weekends away and in the earlier years with dad, group trips overseas for those who would not otherwise have had the courage or support to travel.

Following her teaching days, Carmen Testa completed an interpreter's course and became a much called on Maltese interpreter for the Maltese Community.

Carmen Testa also delivered, with her great friends, the weekly Maltese radio program which reaches, to this day, the Maltese community and keeps them in touch with their language and culture.

Carmen Testa was locally, nationally and globally recognised for her community work. With an Order of Australia, a Medal for the Maltese Republic, the Premiers Award, Senior Citizen's award, Brimbank's Living Treasure, Multicultural Award, to name a few. A skilful community worker Carmen Testa attracted various community grants needed to resource the many community programs that became available to the Maltese Women's Group.

Note: Carmen Testa was an avid reader and great supporter of THE MALTESE eNEWSLETTER. Regularly, Carmen used to write to us thanking us for the magnificent publication – The Editor



## Things of Beauty: France's Ambassador to Malta shares her most treasured possessions

14th April 2017 – Jo Caruana



*In the first of a three-part property special, HE Béatrice Le Fraper Du Hellen, France's Ambassador to Malta, lets us into the French Embassy's official residence in Zebbug, which has been her home since January 2015. The décor reflects her jovial approach to life, including her love for interesting conversation, good books and fabulous entertaining. Photos by Alan Carville*

"I moved to Malta from New York, where I was head of the Human Rights sector and legal advisor of the French Permanent Mission to the United Nations. I loved this house – which dates back to 1761 and was bought by France in 1987 – as soon as I saw it, and am especially fond of the symmetry and perspectives. I could immediately envisage all of the lovely receptions

we would throw here for the Maltese people to celebrate the special relationship shared by Malta and



France."The second I spotted this fireplace, I knew this room would become my favourite part of the house. I love to sit here chatting with colleagues or friends, or whiling away the evening reading. I think the gold surround perfectly complements the Maltese stone, and also adds a pop of glamour.

"The day after moving in and having unpacked most of my things, I decided to explore the basement. That's where I spotted this discarded stone structure and I was intrigued by it. I decided to turn it into a table, and it's since become one of my favourite conversation pieces. Although my guests over the years have had lots of ideas as to its original use, so far, no one has been able to tell me exactly what it is

"I am a traveller by nature and have lived in 10 countries since I started my career in 1985. Moving house is exciting but continuity is important, so there are a few themes that follow me wherever I go. One such theme is 'reading women', and I have a number of framed pictures of women reading dotted around the house, as well as this book – which is a collection of prints showing women reading. I have so many memories of reading books in all sorts of places all over the world that I find this collection sentimental.



"I love throws, and have them draped across furniture around the house. This floral silk piece is a favourite of mine, given to me by my mum, who's an antiques collector. I remember that she opened a cupboard in her shop and lots of old fabric came tumbling out – this was my favourite so she gifted it to me.



"This bookcase holds lots of my favourite things – including my champagne glasses! I love champagne, and enjoy the elegance of it. Next to them is a book about my hometown in France – De Garrigues en Costieres – and it's a constant reminder of where I am from. The candle, meanwhile, was a gift from our President, François Hollande, who has visited Malta three times since I moved here. I know that he always enjoys his time on the island."



## The Alliance Française

The Alliance française of Malta was created in 1959 and forms a part of a network of more than 1200 Alliances over 137 countries in the world. Its work in collaboration with the French Embassy.

Every year, the Alliance welcomes more than 800 students, children, teenagers and adults who wish to learn French for pleasure or for job. It provides with every kind of course, general French lesson and conversation, special course for companies and puts in place new workshops to learn French with entertainment.

The aim of this non-profit-making association is to promote French culture and language in Malta. It acquired a reputation of excellency in the academic field, thanks to its ressources and the quality of its professors and methods.

Website of the Alliance Française

Details of Alliance Française

Alliance française de Malte

Casa Sir Luigi Presiozi

108, St Thomas Street Floriana FRN 1129 MALTA

## 10 Interesting Facts About **FRANCE**



- ⌄ France is the largest nation in Western Europe, with countries like Spain, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Belgium, and Monaco sharing its boundary.
- ⌄ It is also referred to as L'Hexagone, which means the hexagon, due to the geometrical shape of the country.
- ⌄ It has nearly 3000 miles of seashore, with three major water bodies: the Atlantic Ocean, Mediterranean Sea, and the English Channel.
- ⌄ The Palace of Versailles, which was occupied by the kings of France, have been said to be haunted by Marie Antoinette, the beheaded Queen of France.
- ⌄ France is also home to the Louvre, one of the largest art museums in the world. It's in the Capital, and is easily reachable by the Paris hop on hop off bus.
- ⌄ One punishment for an adulterous wife in medieval France was to make her chase a chicken through town naked.
- ⌄ Beer is considered a luxury drink saved for special occasions, wine is free with most meals.
- ⌄ The concept of Jean clothing was born in the Languedoc-Roussillon city of Nîmes, France, from where it was imported by Levi Strauss to California to make tough clothes for gold diggers.
- ⌄ Though traditionally there are around 300 to 400 varieties of French cheese, there are in fact over 1000 different types available in the French market.
- ⌄ France is one of the most visited countries in the world. In 2007, it attracted as many as 81.9 million tourists. This number was greater than its population!





DIPARTIMENT TAL-INFORMAZZJONI  
DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION  
MALTA

## Press Release

### ANZAC ART EXHIBITION



*Speaker inaugurates an art exhibition to mark ANZAC Day and the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Malta and Turkey*

Speaker Anġlu Farrugia inaugurated an art exhibition to mark ANZAC Day and the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Republic of Malta and the Republic of Turkey. In his speech, the Speaker referred to the historical events of the Gallipoli landings in April 1915 and the ferocity of the military campaign which caused a great number of

casualties and deaths. The ultimate sacrifice and loss of human life in that and subsequent wars and regional conflicts leads one to question the effectiveness of post-World War international institutions to prevent wars and regional conflicts. The international community of nations has failed take effective action to:

Respect the fundamental rights and freedoms, the dignity and worth of the human person;

- Respect the obligations emanating from international law and treaties;
- Promote social progress and better standards of life in freedom;
- Practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours;
- Enhance efforts to promote international peace and security, and;
- Promote the economic and social advancement of all nations.

During World War I, Malta served as the “Nurse of the Mediterranean”, where wounded servicemen, irrespective of whether they were “friend or foe”, found refuge and medical care. Malta is a peace-loving country, and its constitutional provision prescribes Malta as a “(...) a neutral state actively pursuing peace, security and social progress among all nations by adhering to a policy of non-alignment and refusing to participate in any military alliance.”

Though small in size, Malta actively pursues forms of multilateral collaboration, regional and global, aimed at conflict prevention through confidence-building measures, and the enhancement of human development through economic and social progress. Though distant and apart from one another, their distinct cultural characteristics, the familial bonds, and the common interest to further progress, has led their respective governments to collaborate in a friendly manner. Minister for Foreign Affairs George Vella, Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey Reha Keskintepe, and High Commissioner of Australia Julianne Patricia Hince, were in attendance.

The art exhibition consists of paintings by Mr Raymond Agius, a Maltese and Australian citizen, and Mr. Hikmet Cetinkaya, a Turkish citizen. The general public is invited to call at the foyer of the House of Representative of Malta, to view the exhibition up to Sunday, 30 April 2017, from 09.00h to 17.00h during weekdays, and on Saturdays and Sundays from 09.00hrs to 12.30hrs





## Maltese Aged Care Association South Australia Inc

**Address** 62 Stroud Street North. CHELTENHAM, South Australia 5014

**Tel:** (08) 8241 0266 [reception@malteseagedcare.org.au](mailto:reception@malteseagedcare.org.au)

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.

In recognition of the fact that the Maltese Community in South Australia is one of the fastest ageing within this State and that its particular needs, at the time of incorporation, are not being met within the wider community, the Association will, on a non-profit basis, research the specific needs of this community and facilitate and develop the provision for services and resources to meet such needs.

The Intent of Maltese Aged Care Association SA Inc: to develop services to meet the need of the elderly and disabled in the Maltese community. To further this aim we become involved in community service networks and activities that will assist in the development of these services and provide options for our clients. Our clientele consists of individuals and families from various backgrounds as well as the Maltese community. Services provided: Meals - Home delivered and/or Pickup

Accomplishments of Maltese Aged Care Association SA Inc:

Approximately 7 - 8 years ago our organisation formed a partnership with the Adelaide Central Mission that enables us to offer Community Aged Care Packages to the Maltese elderly as part of their Multicultural Homecare Program. The Maltese Meals service was developed approx 4 years to deliver Maltese meals to the elderly and disabled on a daily basis. The past year has seen the development of the Home & Community Care service. This service aims to provide volunteer support to meet various needs of our clients in their own home. After years of negotiations with Port Adelaide Central Mission we have been successful in securing a residential house for our clients who are in need of residential care. Melita House is situated at the Regency Green Aged Care Facility.

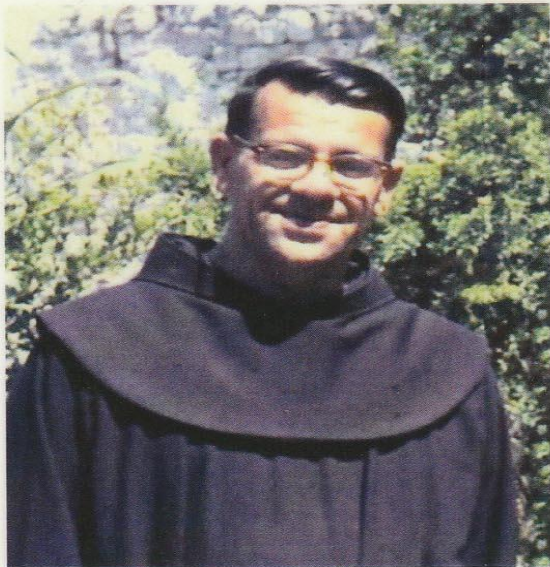
## Pope sets May 13 as canonization date for Fatima siblings



Pope Francis has confirmed he will use his upcoming visit to the Portuguese shrine at Fatima to canonize two Portuguese shepherd children who say they saw visions of the Virgin Mary 100 years ago. Francis



convened his cardinals on Thursday to formally set the May 13 date for the saint-making Mass. Originally, Francis had planned to travel to Fatima on May 12-13 to merely mark the anniversary of the apparitions, which turned the tiny Portuguese town into one of the world's most popular Catholic pilgrimage sites. But last month, Francis signed off on the miracle needed to make siblings Francisco and Jacinta Marto saints, leading to speculation he would the occasion to canonize them.



**Fr Leopold Giuzeppi Farrugia**  
O.F.M.

**Born:** Msida, Malta 13th October 1919

**Parents:** Giovanni and Bernadette

**Joined the Franciscan Order**  
September 1935

**Ordained Priest**  
Valletta, Malta - March 1944

**First Fr. Superior** at the newly  
erected Friary at Hamrun, Malta

**Built the Chapel in honour of**  
**Our Lady of Perpetual Succour**  
Blessed 2nd February, 1954

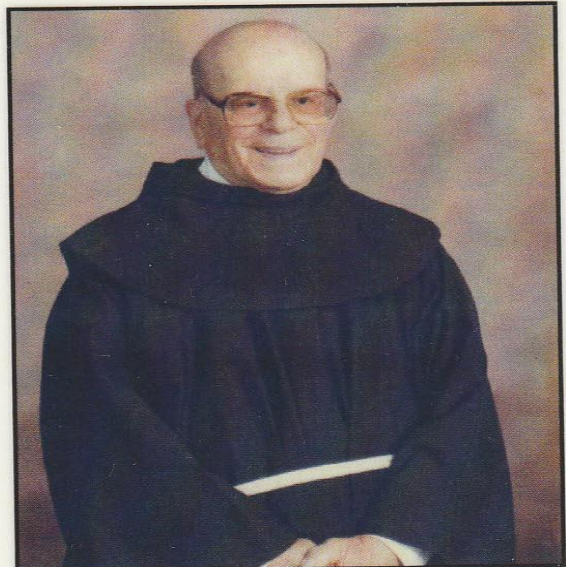
**Arrived in Adelaide** 1961  
as assistant to Fr Giles at Lockleys

**First Parish Priest** at the newly  
erected Parish at Taperoo,  
Our Lady of the Visitation – 1967

**Retired due to ill health**  
to Lockleys - 1969

**Collapsed due to heart attack**  
at Lockleys Community House  
13th June 1976

**Funeral:** 16th June 1976  
Christ the King Parish Church



**Fr Giles Carmelo Ferriggi**  
O.F.M.

**Born:** Sliema, Malta 27th April, 1911

**Parents:** Michael and Evangelista

**Joined the Franciscan Order**  
29th September 1927

**Ordained priest**  
Valletta, Malta 29th July 1934

**Parish Priest in Sacro Cuor**  
**Parish Sliema and**  
**Army Chaplain during**  
**2nd World War in Malta**

**Arrived in Australia as**  
**Chaplain to the Maltese Community**  
28th May 1948

**1st Parish Priest at**  
**Christ the King Parish, Lockleys**  
1952 – 1979

**Projects:** Lockleys Parish 1952,  
Christ the King Church 1961,  
St. Francis School 1966,  
Parish Community Hall 1980,  
St. Raphael's Hospice 1987.

**Died:** Fulham S.A. 21st January, 2000  
Funeral: 27th January, 2000  
St Francis X. Cathedral

Fr. Gabriel Stephen Micallef OFM, the Diocesan Maltese Chaplain in Adelaide, is delivering in April 2017 the remains of Fr. Leopold Farrugia and Fr. Giles Ferriggi to the Province of the Franciscan Fathers in Malta to be buried with the other Franciscan friars at the Santa Maria Addolorata Cemetery, Paola, MALTA



## FORGOTTEN OPERA SINGER: Icilio Calleja (Tenor) (Corfu / island, Greece 1882 - Milan, Italy 1941)



Icilio Calleja's grand-father was born in the small town of Zebbug on the Island of Malta. A cook by profession in the employ of a Maltese noble family, he decided to leave

Studio portrait of Calleja in 1907, when he was 25. Source: Emy Scicluna's personal archives.

Malta, and together with his wife and children emigrated to Alexandria. His son Giovanni, who later became one of the Directors of the Anglo-Egyptian Bank, married a young lady by the name of Concetta Polito who had come to Alexandria from Corfú. In 1882 the British attacked Alexandria and the newly married Giovanni with his now pregnant wife decided to get out of Egypt. They were undecided whether to travel to Malta or to Corfú but to keep the wife happy, Corfú was the chosen destination. Their child

was born on the 25 June, 1882 and was registered in the baptismal records of Corfú with the names of Antonio, Federico, Icilio Calleja, destined to become one of the world's leading tenors. In an interview published in 1924 in the Italian newspaper "Il Piccolo" of Trieste, Icilio Calleja explained how his family had moved to Alexandria and later to Corfú but declared that his family came from Malta, and that he was proud to be Maltese.

He studied law at the Paris Sorbonne before finally turning to singing. He took vocal lessons from M. Foà in Milan. He made his Debut in 1906 at the Teatro Verdi in Firenze as Canio in "Pagliacci".

Already in 1907 he appeared at La Scala in "La Wally" under Arturo Toscanini. In 1908 he sang again at La Scala, this time as Don Alvaro in "La forza del destino" and came back in 1913 to sing Otello. In 1914 he repeated the role of Otello at the Teatro Regio in Parma. In 1908 he guested at the Teatro Comunale in Bologna as Radames in "Aida", then at the Teatro Massimo in Palermo. In 1912 he appeared in Chicago as Radames in "Aida", performing also in "I Gioielli della Madonna" and "Pagliacci". In 1913 he sang at the Teatro Carlo Felice in Genoa in the Italian première of "I Gioielli della Madonna". In 1914 he made guest appearance at the Teatro Liceo in Barcelona, in 1915 at the Teatro Real in Madrid as Otello. In 1914 he sang at La Scala in the premiere of A. Smareglia's opera "Abisso".

In 1916 he again appeared at La Scala in G. Spontini's opera "Fernando Cortez". He sang his favorite role Otello also in 1915 at the Teatro Costanzi in Roma and at the Teatro San Carlo in Napoli. Temporarily he appeared in 1917 as baritone: as Tonio in "Pagliacci" at the Teatro Costanzi in Roma and as Gérard in "Andrea Chénier", however, returned soon again to his tenor repertoire. In the 1922-23 season at the Teatro San Carlo in Napoli he appeared as Tristan in Wagner's opera "Tristano e Isotta". 1923 at the Teatro Donizetti in Bergamo he sang the part of Siegfried in the première there of R. Wagner's opera. In 1923 at the Teatro Comunale in Bologna he appeared in "Walkiria". He stopped with Siegfried at Parma 1929 retiring to Alexandria. Calleja was the first to sing Otello at La Scala since Tamagno 26 years before!

On my final night I return to Valletta. Renzo Piano, in addition to rebuilding the city gate and the Parliament building, recast the once ornate Royal Opera House, which was largely destroyed in World War II by German bombs. Piano's design kept the structure roofless, a choice that, dismayingly to some Maltese, makes it appear unfinished—but leaves it open to the oranges of a dawn sky and the pinks and purples of dusk. (Piano said he wanted to create "a place of virtual sound and virtual setting, including all the possible techniques that are absolutely new ... a way to push Malta into the future.")

## UK applications for Maltese citizenship doubled since Brexit

Julian Bonnici -MALTA INDEPENDENT



Britons applying for Maltese citizenship have doubled since the Brexit referendum in June 2016, figures provided to The Malta Independent by the Ministry for Justice, Culture, and Local Government have revealed.

In 2016, the government received a total of 424 applications (35 per month), a sufficient increase from the 204 (17 per month) and 152 (12 per month) applications received in 2015 and 2014 respectively. A spokesperson for the ministry informed this newsroom that there are various grounds on which individuals can claim Maltese citizenship.

The most commonly used grounds are descent, which is where applicants prove that two consecutive generations of ascendants in the direct line were born in Malta; marriage, when applicants would have been married to a Maltese citizen for at least five years; and residence which is when individuals apply for naturalization under article 10(1) of the Maltese Citizenship Act.

The increase in the number of applications has also had a direct relation with the amount of applications that have been approved. The citizenship unit at Identity Malta approved 181 applications in 2016, compared to 84 in 2015, and 135 in 2014.

There have been 57 applications approved this year. The sudden increase in interest in Maltese citizenship is undoubtedly the result of the British public's decision to leave in the EU in June 2016, with the number of applications practically doubling the following July; 29 in June and 52 in July.

The result was separated by a 3.78% margin, meaning that there was a difference of roughly 1.2 million people in the 33 million strong voting population.

For a number of British citizens, particularly those who voted to remain, there are several implications to leaving the European Union. By surrendering their EU citizenship, British nationals will no longer be able to enjoy their right to freedom of movement within the EU, or the right to reside and find employment in any member state.

They will also lose their right to equal treatment; social and tax advantages by leaving the EU. As EU citizens, individuals also have the right to medical treatment in another EU country on the same terms and cost as people living in that country.

Beyond Malta's access to the EU and its economic success, it is easy to see why Malta appeals to a number of British citizens. The weather of course, but the country's colonial history means that people drive on the same side of the road, speak English, and have the same serious problem with obesity.

### Kappara flyover taking shape



The first steel structure of the Kappara flyover is being installed today as works on one of Malta's busiest junctions continue in full swing. The flyover will eventually link the upper part of Regional Road coming from St Julian's towards Msida. Works on the €26 million Kappara junction have almost reached the halfway stage, and the project is set to be completed within the set timeframe by the end of this year. Transport Minister Joe Mizzi recently that apart from alleviating the traffic

bottleneck in the area, the project would provide better accessibility to pedestrians crossing from Kappara to Gżira by means of an underpass.



## FAMILJA MIGRAZZJONI



An exhibition was set up in Valletta inviting the visitor to discover the singular itineraries of different people with unparalleled migratory routes.

Katel Delia, also known as Katelia, is French but deeply attached to her Maltese origins. She has been living in Malta for a year now and starting from her own family story, she created a new genealogical tree of diversity with Familja migrAzzjoni.

The beginnings go back to 1920, when unable to obtain a divorce, her great-grandmother fled from

Malta to Tunisia along with her six children. Fast forward to 1956, shortly after Tunisian independence, when her grandfather returned to Malta with his family. Soon after, at the age of 21, Katelia's father himself migrated from Malta to the country of his dreams, France.

This exhibition documented the artist as she met different people on their unique migratory routes, leading her to enlarge 'her' family with new members from all over the world. She photographs them, listens attentively to them and then replicates in her own writing their periods of life, their journeys strewn sometimes with pitfalls, their expectations, difficulties and hopes.

Familja migrAzzjoni run at St James Cavalier in Valletta in March/April as part of the Spazju Kreattiv programme. The exhibition featured excerpts in Maltese, English and French. A lecture with the artist and guest authors too place on March 22. For more information, visit [kreattivita.org](http://kreattivita.org).

### Description:



**Katel Delia**, also known as Katelia is French deeply attached to her Maltese origins, and has been living in Malta for a year. Starting from her own family story, she creates a new genealogical tree of diversity. All starts in 1920, when unable to divorce her great-grandmother flees from Malta to Tunisia alongside her six kids.

In 1956 shortly after the Tunisian independence, her grandfather returned to Malta with his family. However, when just 21 her father migrated from Malta to the country of his dreams, France. Katelia meets different people with unparalleled migratory routes, leading her to enlarge "her" family with new members from all over the world. She photographs them, listens attentively to them and then replicates in her own writing their periods of life, their journeys strewn sometimes with pitfalls, their expectations, difficulties and hopes. Katelia's exhibition "Familja migrAzzjoni" invites you to discover their singular itineraries and their sensitive faces: humanity. This initiative is part of the Spazju Kreattiv Programme.



## Malcolm Turnbull, Australia's Prime Minister, is planning more changes Australia's citizenship rules

The Turnbull government is looking at tightening the rules to become an Australian citizen.

The prime minister hinted at changes during a speech to the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the wake of announcing the end of the 457 working visa program.

"Our changes to citizenship will also enable our migration program to contribute still further to our social cohesion while enhancing our security," he told the ACCI. "Australia must continue to attract people who will embrace our values and positively contribute - regardless of their nationality or religious beliefs.

"This is important for temporary visas and vital for permanent residency and citizenship. Citizenship must be valued and we are making changes so that the practices and principles of those obtaining citizenship are consistent with our cultural values.

"Our reforms are designed to get more out of our migration system, to realise its potential to contribute to our economy."

[Sky News is reporting](#) that a cap on sitting the citizenship test is among the changes being considered by the government, as well as changes to the test itself, which asks about the government and legal system

The test was introduced in 2007 in the final weeks of the Howard government, originally with 30 questions, which has since been reduced to 20. More than 700,000 people have taken the online test, but since the "pass" mark was raised several years ago, the number of people failing the test has increased, along it remained relatively low 2,200 people, 1.9%, in the 2014-15 financial year. To pass, an applicant needs to get at least 75% - 15 out of 20 - correct.

Sky News say the government will let people sit the test a maximum of three times. Under the existing arrangements, a course is offered if someone fails three times and they are tested again.

As part of its replacement of the 457 visa scheme, the government said the two-year temporary visa will no longer offer permanent residency when it ends

## 75th anniversary George Cross Award to Malta – Special hand postmark



Award of the George Cross to Malta  
75th Anniversary

15 April 1942

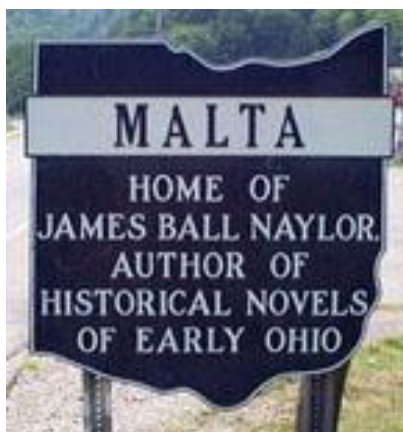


A special hand postmark and personalised cover were issued last Saturday by MaltaPost in commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the award of the George Cross to Malta by King George. MaltaPost said that orders may be placed online at [www.maltaphilately.com](http://www.maltaphilately.com) or by mail from the Philatelic Bureau, MaltaPost p.l.c. 305, Triq Hal Qormi,

Marsa, MTP 1001 – Telephone 2596 1740 – e-mail: [info@maltaphilately.com](mailto:info@maltaphilately.com)



## The History of Malta, OHIO USA



The Village of Malta dates back to the earliest days of the State of Ohio, USA. During the War of 1812, an ex-sailor, Simeon Pool, and his son-in-law, John Bell, settled in this particular area. These gentlemen laid out the first lots of Malta in 1816. Mr. Pool named this new town in commemoration of his visit to the Island of Malta in the Mediterranean Sea. The original plat for Malta contained one hundred and fourteen lots.

Since this beginning, the town has grown through a number of additions made by William B. Young, William B. Young, Jr., William Palmer, Francis A. Barker. In addition, the Malta Real Estate Company added 38 lots to the Village of Malta.

In many respects, Malta will always be linked to the early settlement of the state. One of Malta's most famous sons, James Ball Naylor, is one of the most prolific writers of early Ohio history. Living from 1860 to 1945, Naylor wrote a number of poetry books and historical novels focusing much of his attention upon the main figures involved in the struggles between frontier settlers and Indian tribes in the Ohio territory.

Malta is located in the heart of Morgan County, a county rich in history, particularly in the military arena. Just a short drive from Malta in South-eastern Morgan County, one can discover the site that marked the start of four years of warfare in the Ohio territory between frontier settlers and various Indian tribes



Named for the broad Muskingum River floodplain, Big Bottom, represents the site of the skirmish between Ohio Company settlers and a party of Delaware and Wyandot Indians on January 2, 1791. Malta and Morgan County also played a very significant role in the Civil War. Although small in population, this area produced three Civil War Generals: Joseph Bailey, Jeremiah Rusk and Otho Strahl. In order to gain a glimpse of the history of Malta and Morgan County of the 1800s, visitors should view the landmarks around the Malta Town Hall at the intersection of Main Street and 5th Street. Next to the Town Hall, visitors can see the Rock Hollow

School that was used from 1877 to 1934 in nearby Ringgold as well as the reconstructed Morgan County Dungeon that was in operation from 1833 to 1839



### MEMORIES OF THE PAST

The Princess (H.M. Queen Elizabeth II) holds on to her hat on a blustery visit to a priory in the Maltese town of Rabat where she met Dominican friars during her stay in Malta in the late 40s

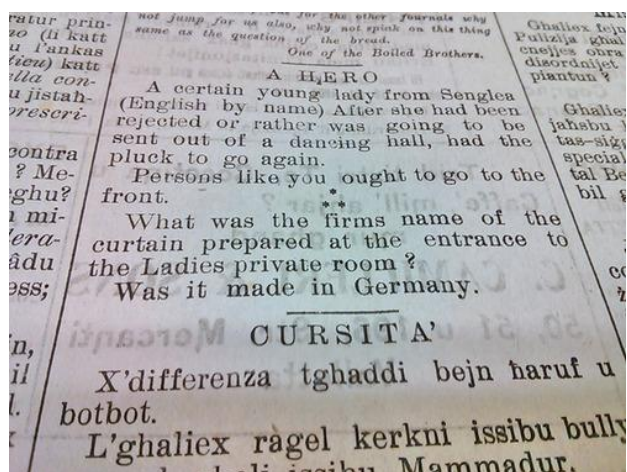
## Redi for Acxion (Ready for Action) Lessons from THE DONKEY (IL-HMAR) WW1



Hillary Briffa carried out an analysis of the implementation of Pro-British propaganda in Maltese newspapers during World War One. As a research tool, Waite vouched for the utility of newspapers by claiming they provide 'much valuable, public evidence' (Waite, 1967, p. 4). Although the writing itself is alluring, it is the notion of public evidence in which historians place the greatest stock: newspapers provide a means to evaluate public opinion during an era in which public opinion polling did not exist or was not carried out (Waite, 1967, p. 5).

Three colonial newspapers were taken as case studies, amongst which one finds *Il Hmar* (The Donkey) - a Maltese-language humorous newspaper (Ellul Galea, 1999, p. 35) issued once a week, on Saturday. Editor Guglielmo Arena was viewed by politicians, as a great patriot, committed to the development of the Maltese language (Mifsud, 2006, p. 78).

*Il Hmar* was printed at the press of Paolo Camilleri in Valletta and cost approximately one and a half pence (*Il-mar*, 3rd August 1918). The paper was geared towards the working class and lower classes, seeking to voice the plight of the poor. It offered a channel of information for those who preferred to read in Maltese, and enjoyed particular popularity amongst the Dockyard workers (Mifsud, 2006, p. 74). The fact that the mission statement of *Il Hmar* was '**jitchellem bic-cajt fuq l'actar huejjeg serji**' (*speaking jokingly about the most serious matters*) is evidence of the humorous nature of the publication. In fact, its motto was the Latin axiom 'Ludendo Castigat Mores' (satirically censuring customs) indicating that it would make light of the political scenario. This was approached by way of rhyming poetry, featured on the first two pages of the four-page newspaper. The subject matter ranged from the political situation, to work, the war abroad, and the behaviour of women (Mifsud, 2006, p. 75). In examining the sample articles taken from this satirical lampoon, it is worth noticing how pieces were intentionally published in broken English. This served as a social commentary criticizing the spread of the English language at the expense of the vernacular, especially since this new language was far from expertly commandeered by the populace.



There are four key lessons which may be learnt from this paper's propagandist mechanisms: the use of humour to foster anti-colonial sentiment, the ability to sway opinion when there is no pre-conceived outlook, the reassertion of gender roles, and the blatant dichotomy between the approach to reportage directed at external happenings, and that of internal circumstances. The last of these in particular will be honed in upon during the 'Languages and the First World War' conference as it is revealed how a journalists' choice of frame is determined by ideological and institutional factors that may prevent objective reportage, particularly in light of the pervasive nature of propaganda and the complexity of warfare itself.





## FESTA BEBBUX U IKEL TRADIZZJONALI MALTI

AWTUR: KULLHADD

It-Taqsima Festi Rurali fi ħdan is-Segretarjat Parlamentari għall-Biedja, Sajd u Drittijiet tal-Annimali ser torganiżza attività' bl-isem ta' Festa Bebbux u Ikel Tradizzjonali Malti f' Ħal-Qormi, nhar is-Sibt 29 t'April mis-18.30 'l quddiem.

F'din l-attività' wieħed jista' jsib riċetti varjati tal-bebbux, fenek imsajjar tradizzjonali Malti, kirxa, arjoli, platters lokali bil-bigilla, tadam imqaded u ikel tradizzjonali ieħor.

Jkoll inbid varjat Malti, divertiment u ser ikun hemm ukoll tlett stages, fejn wieħed minnhom ser jilqa fuq r, ieħor żfin minn skejjel Maltin u l-ieħor għana tradizzjonali. Ser ikun hemm 'stalls' b'ħelu tradizzjonali bl-artiġjanar Malti, *kids area* bil-bouncing castle, trampolini u ħafna aktar.

Bebux hija attività u festa tradizzjonali Maltija b'ikel tipiku Malti.

Itta hija għall-familja kollha, u d-dħul huwa b'xejn.



## MALTA INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL

Malta's unique fortified medieval city Mdina will be hosting the 3rd edition of the Malta International Food Festival on the 9th, 10th and 11th June 2017; 3 days of gastronomic alfresco eating and drinking, as well as entertainment for everyone.

Over the recent years, the festival has

managed to attract pronounced attention from thousands who have visited the festival to taste the food from over 10 international cuisines. In total, an estimate of 30,000 people have attended during the 2015 and 2016 edition.

During this festival, patrons can indulge in freshly-prepared food. Desserts and surprises, together with live cooking shows and spectacles are the order of the day. Designated food areas are carefully decorated to give the visitors the opportunity to virtually transport themselves to the countries and regions being depicted through the culinary expertise of the chefs.

Patrons are entertained with live performances on two different stages offering the likes of Malta's finest artists which shall compliment to the atmosphere. Children will also have their share with activities and ongoing animation to their delight.

Watc

Sponsored by: **Malta Tourism Authority, Miracle Foods, Cisk, Kinnie - Malta's own favourite soft drink, The Convenience Shop, Lambrand and Wasteserv.**

For more information visit

<https://goo.gl/yCzRTi>.





Australian Genies  
Rock & Roll Night  
20th May 2107  
6.30 PM

47 BALMORAL STREET

BALMORAL FUNCTION CENTRE BLACKTOWN



DJ ALBERT

## FEATURING ROC A TAC



*Menu includes...*

*Antipasto plate, continental bread.*

*Penne in white sauce or Spinach & Ricotta Cannelloni*

*Choice of Eye Fillet Steak with Mash & veges or Fontan Chicken Breast with white Mushroom sauce, fried rice or roasted potato and mixed veg.*

*Cuorre Matto Gelato Ice cream*

*Fruit Platter*

*Beer, wine and soft drink. All this for only \$60/person— under 12 half price.*

**BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISSAPPOINTMENT.**

**SEATS ARE STRICTLY LIMITED.**

### CONTACTS

**SAM - 0425 844 203**

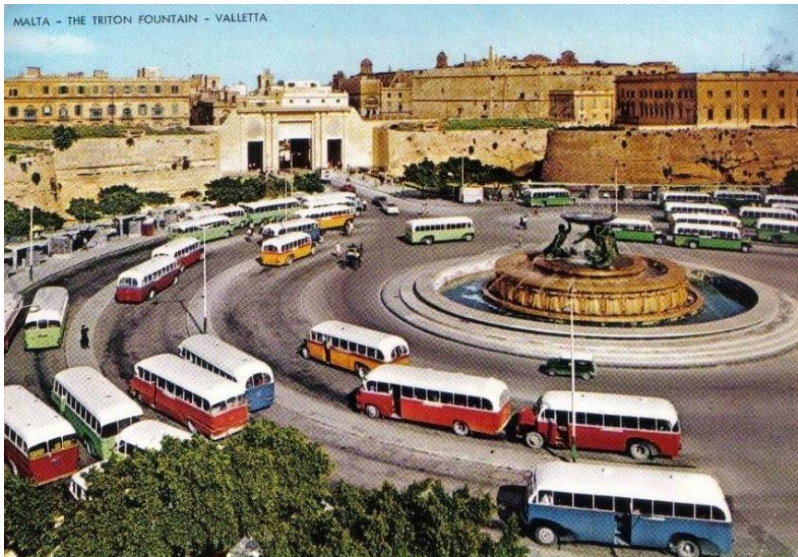
**JOHN ZARB— 0411 166 386**

**LARRY— 0430 377 412**

THE AUSTRALIAN GENIES IS A REGISTERED CHARITY DEDICATED TO GRANTING WISHES TO CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 0-18 WHO SUFFER FROM VARIOUS PROBLEMS. IT IS OUR INTENTION TO HELP THESE CHILDREN TO ATTAIN A BETTER STANDARD OF LIVING THROUGH GRANTING A WISH TO HELP WITH THEIR DISABILITY. THE AUSTRALIAN GENIES IS RUN BY VOLUNTEERS AND GUARENTEE THAT 100% OF ALL MONIES RAISED GO TOWARDS THE CHILDREN. ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTABLE. [www.austgenies.com.au](http://www.austgenies.com.au)

# Valletta kiosks shut down as work on new Triton Square takes shape

Tim Diacono



The square by Triton Fountain at the entrance of Valletta will be converted into a pedestrian zone

Kiosks at the entrance to Valletta have been shut down pending their demolition. Kiosks at the entrance to Valletta have been shut down pending their demolition.

Photos: Before and After

The kiosks surrounding the entrance of Valletta have been shut down, pending their demolition as part of a major project to revamp the entrance to the capital. Street vendors have also been removed from the entrance, while white taxi drivers have been informed that they will soon be relocated to a nearby location. The Grand Harbour Regeneration Committee in July announced a major project to beautify the entrance to Valletta, to be completed before the city is named European Capital of Culture in 2018.



An artist's rendition of the revamped Triton Square

As part of the project, the Triton Fountain will be restored and the square around it will be converted into a fully pedestrian area, complete with several

trees. The Valletta ditch will be turned into a garden and a new roundabout will be built on Great Siege Road near the education and transport ministries. Sunday newspaper Illum reported in August that parliamentary secretary for planning Deborah Schembri has ensured the kiosk owners that they will not lose their jobs but that they will be given new buildings that will be incorporated into the final project.



**MALTESE NEWSLETTER**

The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora

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**KEEP ON SENDING US YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO SHARE WITH OTHERS**



# MALTA INTERNATIONAL FIREWORKS FESTIVAL

22/04/2017 - 30/04/2017



Fireworks in Malta have a long tradition which is centuries old. Indeed the craft of pyrotechnics in Malta goes back to the time of the Order of the Knights of St John. The Order which was conventual, aristocratic and military used to celebrate the most important feasts by special pyrotechnic displays. Such firework displays were an expression of rejoicing on special occasions, such as the election of a Grand Master or a Pope, as well as on the birth of a prince.

Pyrotechnics must have been inspired by cannon shots and musket fire. The feu de joie which was a salute by the musketeers produced a celebratory welcome to any dignitary. From this developed the musketterija which today is a series of hundreds of explosions of crackers firing in rapid succession. These are attached to a string placed on the roof top of a church or other large building.

The solfarelli d'aria were a series of colourful weak shots fired in quick succession into the sky, The Jigifogoooh (Italian: gioco di fuoco) is better known as St Catherines wheels (irdieden). This is a mechanized and rotating set of wheels attached to a pole on the ground which provide a rotating movement for the burning gas tubes. This centuries-old tradition is still very much alive in the crowded calendar of village festas that take place all over Malta and Gozo. Were you to fly to Malta any time between June and mid-September you will be surprised to find that firework displays is taking place practically every weekend starting on Friday.

There are some 35 fireworks factories and double that number of towns and villages where these displays are part of the traditional celebrations of patron saints. In between these celebrations there occur unfortunately also periods of mourning. This is related to the accidental death of pyro-technicians whose life is cut short by unexpected explosion mishaps during the course of the preparatory work.

Still fireworks production in Malta is an all year round occupation for enthusiasts which will fascinate thousands of people both Maltese as well as foreign.

The 16th edition of the Malta International Fireworks Festival is a showcase of the best of Maltese aerial pyrotechnic talent that vies with international firework companies. The Festival will be taking place on three nights between Saturday 22nd April and Sunday 30th April 2017 in three different locations around the Maltese Islands, namely Xaghra (Gozo), Marsaxlokk and Valletta. The event kicks off in Gozo on Saturday 22nd April, followed by a performance in Marsaxlokk on Friday 28th April, and the Grand Finale taking place in the Grand Harbour, Valletta on Sunday 30th April 2017. For more information visit <http://www.maltafireworksfestival.com>.





## Europe's new €50 banknote

by Ivana Kottasova

The orange banknote has a number of new security features, including a secret window on its left side. When held against the light, it reveals a portrait of Europa, a figure from Greek mythology.

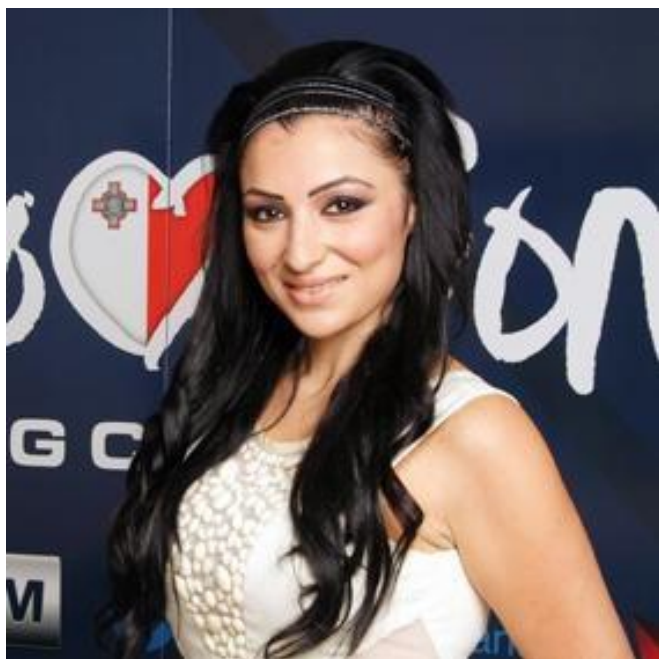
The bill's design includes features that "disappear" when viewed under infrared and ultraviolet lights,

which should help cash handlers determine whether a banknote is authentic.

The front side of the banknote also includes a shiny number that changes color from emerald green to deep blue when tilted.

"The introduction of the new €50 will make our currency even safer, its state-of-the-art security features help protect our money," said Yves Mersch, an executive board member at the European Central Bank.

Euros are used by 338 million people across the 19 countries of the euro area. The new €50 banknote started circulating in April 2017.



## “BREATHLESS” CLAUDIA FANIELLO OFF TO EUROVISION SONG CONTEST AT KYEV -UKRAINE

**Tiny island, big voices, huge passion — the Malta Eurovision Song Contest 2017 is almost here!**

Maltese Eurovision fans have the chance to meet their entrant for this year's competition, Claudia Faniello, and wish her well before she heads to Ukraine for the 2017 contest.

Claudia Faniello will be representing Malta at the Eurovision Song Contest in Ukraine after beating stiff competition from a song performed in

her song *Breathless* won 4,966 votes, beating Janice Mangion's *Kewkba* to second with 4,544 votes, while Giorgio, a former winner of *Swedish Idol*, placed third with the song *Follow* (2,502 votes).

Her song was chosen solely through televoting with the jury being dropped from the selection process. It came out of a glitzy show screened live on TVM, and watched by tens of thousands.

Of 16 finalists took part in the final which took place at the Malta Fairs & Conventions Centre in Ta' Qali. The evening was dominated by heavy make-up and the quality of songs ranging from the catchy to the not mediocre.

Claudia, 28, is a seasoned singer who first performed at the Malta Eurovision back in 2006. The winning song, also composed by Philip Vella and Sean Vella and written by Gerard James Borg, was cheered loudly among the crowd present at Ta' Qali. "I had a break after four years because I wanted to focus on my career and because I wanted to be back with the right song... and I really believed in *Breathlessly*," she told a news conference after the contest. The winning singer's brother Fabrizio had also represented Malta at the Eurovision Song Contest in 2001.