



## THE MALTESE NEWSLETTER

### The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora

THE MOTTO - BUILDING BRIDGES NOT WALLS

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**Maltese folk singing known  
as 'Ghana'**

### HISTORY OF MALTESE GHANA

Ghana is traditional Maltese folk singing. This type of singing has a number of different variations. e.g. 'Ghana tal-Fatt', where the singer recounts a story in verses that relate to a tragic past event. Another genre is 'Ghana spirtu pront': two singers hit out at each other with sharp and witty retorts as one sings out and the other responds with spontaneously thought out lyrics; and 'Ghana fl-Għoli' wherein the stanzas are sung in an extremely high note/pitch remotely similar to a flamenco folk song - this singing is also known as ala Bormliża.

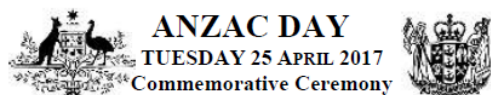
*Painting  
Chev E. Caruana Dingli*

**THE MAGAZINE OF THE MALTESE COMMUNITIES LIVING  
IN MALTA AND ABROAD**

**Keep on sending us your contributions, emails, stories and  
comments to keep this magazine alive.**







To commemorate Australian and New Zealand personnel who have served their country during times of conflict and crisis, a service will be held on the anniversary of the Gallipoli landings at ANZAC Cove.

**A COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE  
& WREATH LAYING CEREMONY  
10.30hrs at  
PIETÀ MILITARY CEMETERY**

The Service is open to the public who are requested to be seated at 10.15 hrs. Members of the public who wish to lay a wreath are welcome to do so, once invited by the Master of Ceremonies. Military medals may be worn.

Guests may wish to wear sunhats and other protection against the sun.

[www.malta.highcommission.gov.au](http://www.malta.highcommission.gov.au)  
[www.facebook.com/AusHCMalta/](https://www.facebook.com/AusHCMalta/)



**Australian High  
Commission,  
Malta ANZAC  
DAY  
CELEBRATIONS  
2017 in Malta.**

- 25 April 2017
- Hundreds attended the official Anzac Day commemoration in Malta this week

organised by the Australian High Commission. The moving service and wreath-laying ceremony at Pietà Military Cemetery was attended by Malta's President, H.E. Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca, representatives from the Government of Malta members of the diplomatic corps.

In a poignant speech, Australian High Commissioner Julianne Hince paid tribute to the courage, devotion to duty, and sacrifice of Australians and New Zealanders from the Gallipoli landing in 1915, to the present day. High Commissioner Hince also spoke of the deep bond that exists between Australia and Malta that was forged in both the first and second world war.



John Thompson presented a commemorative plaque from Stephens RSLA (QLD), to High Commissioner Hince, in memory of Gallipoli casualty Trooper Marshall Jury



Left to right: Mr Johannes Nijssen (Dutch Ambassador to Malta), with Julianne Hince, Mr Padraig MacCosair (Ambassador of Ireland to Malta), Amy Smith (Deputy Head of Mission, British High Commission), Mr Stuart Gill UK High Commissioner to Malta, and Secretary to the President Carmel Briffa.



Left: Ms. Hince laying a wreath at the War memorial

Right: Greeting her Excellency Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca, President of Malta at the Pietà cemetery.



# INVESTING IN MALTA CHINESE CULTURE

## Malta Embassy, Interest In Malta, Chinese Business Culture And Customs



Investing in Malta Chinese culture was a wise decision back to the 70's. Malta was the first European country to establish relations with China

The government of the time, decided to start relations with the Chinese government. It was mutual as China also showed an interest in Malta. Despite the vast distance between Malta and China, the government succeeded in attracting various investments and

bilateral help to Malta. For the Chinese this was a possibility for them to get closer to European countries.

One such example was the construction of the Red China dock. This was negotiated through a large loan without interest and with a considerable number of Chinese workers and engineers to help in the construction. Malta was capable to handle the largest dry-dock in the Mediterranean.

Another project was the construction of a freeport at Marsaxlokk port in the South of Malta.

**Malta Embassy at Beijing** The embassy in China is at Beijing and serves as a link between our countries facilitating exchanges in various areas such as political, economic, commercial and cultural activities. Geographical differences between China and Malta are significant in terms of size, climate, culture and population. But the warmth of these two nations has made it possible for these two nations to create a bond for many other European countries to look on.

**40th Anniversary** Since 1972 forty years have passed. The European map has changed. Business in China has flourished and is becoming the strongest economic power in the world. The Malta industry climate has developed. Many Maltese have understood that business motivation towards investing in China has filled a gap that was missing both for local and international business.

During this time all successive governments in Malta have continued to strengthen relations with China. Just to mention a few fields: broadcasting, education, the promoting of the teaching of both languages in both countries. Malta as a film destination for film companies from China to use the incredible facilities Malta has to offer.

## Chinese Business Culture And Customs

The Chinese cultural centre in Malta helped to facilitate and spread the culture of Malta and China so people are aware of the opportunities in both countries.

Investing in Malta Chinese culture has helped many people from China to experience what Malta has to offer in terms of tourism, education and business opportunities, and more of our compatriots to do the same in their country





Dear Frank, thank you for including Carmen's story and wonderful snapshot of her life achievements. She was an avid supporter of your wonderful publication which reinforced her much loved link to her home land. My family are honoured to see her story in this reputable newsletter. We take comfort in the legacy she has left behind and miss her dearly.  
Regards, Frank Testa and family

## Increase in tourists for the first three months 2017



**Inbound visitors for March were estimated at 141,266, marking a total an increase of 22.3% when compared to the corresponding month in 2016**

Inbound visitors for March were estimated at 141,266, marking a total an increase of 22.3% when compared to the corresponding month in 2016. Visitors who travelled by air witnessed an increase of 26,155 persons, reaching 138,298, while sea travellers decreased by 752 (-22.3%) to 2,624.

A total of 105,080 inbound tourist trips were carried out for holiday purposes, while a further 20,017 were undertaken for business purposes. Inbound tourists from EU member states went up by 23.4% to 123,063 when compared to the corresponding month in 2016. The majority of inbound tourists were aged between 45 and 64 (47,783 visitors, an increase of 7,197 over the previous year), closely followed by those within the 25-44 age bracket (47,295 visitors, an increase of 12,597 over the previous year).

Total nights spent went up by 6.8% when compared to March 2016, amounting to 856,920 nights. The largest share of guest nights (70.3%) was spent in collective accommodation establishments. Tourist nights in private accommodation increased by 9.2%

when compared to March 2016. Total tourist expenditure was estimated at €96.5 million, an increase of 11.8% over the corresponding month in 2016.

**January-March 2017** Inbound tourist trips from January to March 2017 reached 348,890, an increase of 24.0% over the same period in 2016. Total nights spent by inbound tourists went up by 11.1%, reaching nearly 2.3 million nights. Total tourism expenditure was estimated at €237.2 million, 13.3% higher than that recorded for 2016. Total expenditure per capita stood at €680, a decrease of 8.6% when compared to 2016

## Malta Television Awards return

On Saturday, 6 May Mermaid Media Entertainment will host the final night of this year's 'The House of Beauty' Malta Television Awards.



The Malta Television Awards were first held in Malta in 2006 with the objective to identify, recognise and award local talent in the television industry. They served to set a bar for quality and innovation in local productions and performances. Each year the industry saw the standard going up a higher notch.

In 2011, Mermaid Media Entertainment decided to halt that year's Awards following a dispute and unreasonable demands from some television stations. After an absence of five years, MME has launched the Malta Television Awards again after an intense exercise of refinement in collaboration with the main TV stations and the Broadcasting Authority. The latter agreed with the MME to monitor the judges and judging procedures. Dr Joanna Spiteri BA's CEO has taken the task under her wing.

On the Awards Night, the red carpet will be rolled out for Maltese TV personalities and all those who strive to achieve the best in local television. There will be 30 statuettes for 30 outstanding people and productions. One

of the statuettes, the coveted Charles Arrigo Lifetime Achievement Award, will be awarded to someone for his/her contribution to television, be it technical, creative or performance related. There will be no nominations announced for this prestigious award.

The general public will soon be also given the opportunity to cast their vote for Malta's Most Popular TV Presenter and Malta's Most Popular TV Programme. Noelene Miggiani, director and spokesperson for MME, said that Nominations Night will be announced at a later date. Together with Ms Miggiani, Charles Foca and Analise Bondin, directors of MME, will both be working in their specialised field to guarantee a night to remember.



Welcome to Malta Fashion Week & Awards  
Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week Malta is one amazing week of superb fashion shows, parties and events that reach the highest standards of similar fashion weeks held in other fashion capitals worldwide. The magnificent capital city of Valletta showcases some of Malta's best talent in the fashion industry from fashion designers to catwalk models, stylists and make-up artists, photographers, bloggers, writers and other fashionistas. The week of events culminates at Chamilla Malta Fashion Awards show where the country's top talent is awarded for their hard work in the previous year.

Preparations for the final awards night start months in advance with the setting up of a selection board to invite applications from eligible candidates. Once these are vetted for conformity with the regulations, an adjudication panel shortlists up to four nominees for each award category. These panels change annually in each edition.

<http://www.fashionweek.com.mt/>

**The more you know about Malta  
The more you love it**

## **Pope Francis appoints a new Apostolic Nuncio in Malta**

April 2017

Pope Francis has today appointed His Excellency



Monsignor Alessandro D'Errico, Titular Archbishop of Carini and currently Apostolic Nuncio in Croatia, as the new Apostolic Nuncio in Malta.

Archbishop Charles J. Scicluna and Bishop Mario Grech, in a statement, welcomed the appointment by Pope Francis. of the new Apostolic Nuncio in Malta.

The Bishops said that they promise Archbishop D'Errico their prayers and those of the Catholic faithful in Malta and Gozo.

Archbishop Scicluna and Bishop Grech thanked His Excellency Archbishop Mario Roberto Cassari, Apostolic Nuncio, who has since retired.

H. E. Monsignor Alessandro D'Errico was born in Frattamaggiore in Naples, Italy, on the 18th November 1950. He was ordained priest on 24th March 1974 and he was incardinated in the Diocese of Aversa. He holds a Doctorate in Philosophy.

He studied at the Pontifical Ecclesiastical Academy in Rome and joined the Diplomatic Service of the Holy See on the 5th March 1977. He then served in the Apostolic Nunciature in Thailand, Brazil and Greece. He also served within the Prefecture of the Papal Household and later served in the Pontifical Representations in Italy and in Poland.

On the 14th November 1998 he was appointed Titular Archbishop of Carini and Apostolic Nuncio in Pakistan. Then on the 21st November 2005 he was appointed Apostolic Nuncio in Bosnia-Herzegovina. He was appointed Apostolic Nuncio in Montenegro on the 17th February 2010 and on

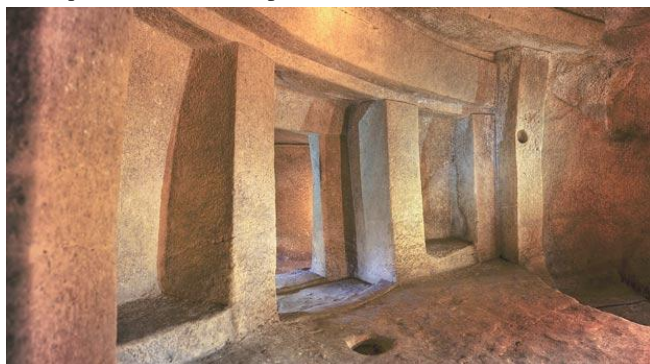
the 21st May 2012 he was appointed Apostolic Nuncio in Croatia.

As the Apostolic Nuncio in Malta, Archbishop D'Errico will represent the Holy Father and the Holy See both with regard to the Catholic Church in Malta and Gozo, as well as to the Civil Authorities. He will also be the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps accredited to the Republic of Malta.

The Church said that it is the duty of the Papal Representative to strengthen the bonds of communion between the Apostolic See and the Catholic Church present in the country where he is posted.

For this reason, it is the responsibility of the Apostolic Nuncio to assist the Bishops of Malta and Gozo as they carry out their pastoral role. At the same time, the Nuncio will promote and facilitate the relations between the Government of Malta and the Holy See.

## **Hal Saflieni Hypogeum to reopen for public May 15, 2017**



After months of major conservation works, the Hal Saflieni Hypogeum will re-open its doors to the public on May 15, Heritage Malta said yesterday.

These works reviewed and redesigned the environmental management of the Hal Saflieni Hypogeum and also included new visitor facilities.

The project was supported by a grant from Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway through the EEA Grants 2009-2014.

Tickets are now available online and can also be bought from Fort St Elmo and the Gozo Museum of Archaeology.

Tours of the underground prehistoric cemetery will still be held every hour. There will be a total of eight tours a day.

Thanks to new technology, those visitors who do not manage to book a ticket for the regular tour will still have the opportunity to explore this prehistoric site through a new immersive exhibit installed in the redesigned interpretation centre.

70 tickets for the audiovisual show will be available daily. The tickets are available through the same website. The Hal Saflieni Hypogeum, an underground, prehistoric cemetery used from around 4000BC to 2500BC, is one of the most extraordinary archaeological sites in the world.

It has been recognised by UNESCO as a site that "bears unique testimony to a civilization which has disappeared".

The prehistoric site consists of a series of rock-cut chambers set on three levels. Carved in the living rock, some of the chambers of the Hypogeum are very similar to contemporarily built megalithic structures.

The walls and ceilings of some of the rooms are also painted in red ochre. The preservation of the ochre paintings remains the site's main conservation concern.

Scientific missions aimed at assisting the Maltese government in preserving the site underlined the importance of maintaining climatic conditions within it stable.

An environmental control system was installed in the 1990s, however technological advances and an improved understanding of the challenges faced on this site have necessitated the review and redesign of its environmental management. *The Holy of Holies at the Hypogeum. Inset: Red ochre spiral design*

**The Maltese e-Newsletters are archived at  
MALTA MIGRATION MUSEUM - VALLETTA  
and at the website: [www.ozmalta.page4.me](http://www.ozmalta.page4.me)**







## THE FRIENDS OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION (MALTA)

The officers of the FOAA (Malta) were received by the new Australian High Commissioner Julianne Hince on Thursday 27th April 2017 at the Australian

High Commission building in Ta' Xbiex. Led by the President Virgil Bugeja OAM, the officials consisted of Chev. Tony C. Cutajar OAM who had been President of the FOAA for 37 years, the Deputy President Myriam Pavia, the Treasurer Joseph Pavia and Tania Walters. The Secretary Frank Micallef was indisposed.

It was an official and friendly meeting during which Her Excellency got to know all about the services being offered by the Association to members and non-members alike, especially every Tuesday morning at *Dar l-Emigrant*. These voluntary services include information on Maltese and Australian pensions, emigration qualifications, citizenship of both countries, passports and ID cards for returned migrants, employment in Malta in liaison with ETC, advice on taxation and on the purchase of property in Malta.

Although this can be very time-consuming, especially where complicated application forms are concerned, the officials are pleased to be able to help returned migrants. Various social and educational activities are also organised for members during the year in order to keep regular contact.

This year the FOAA will be celebrating their 40th anniversary during which the High Commissioner

will be participating at the special reception being held at *Dar l-Emigrant* on Friday 26th May 2017. She will also be taken round to see the newly refurbished museum of the history of Maltese migrants put up by the dedicated Mgr. Philip Calleja. The various exhibits and photos recall the thousands of Maltese who emigrated abroad, especially to Australia, in order to start a new life



*Tim Davies (AHC) – Chev Tony Cutajar OAM – Virgil Bugeja OAM, President FOAA – Myriam Pavia, Vice President FOAA – Tania Walters, Member FOAA and AHC – Her Excellency Julianne Hince – High Commissioner for Australia – Joe Pavia, Treasurer FOAA – Photo: Joe Pavia*



## GENERAL ELECTION 2017

Malta's Prime Minister the Honourable Joseph Muscat has called a snap general election for 3 June, a year before his term ends.

## **CONSUL-ON-THE-MOVE**

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](mailto: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 following are the bank account for those who will be doing a direct deposit:  
Malta High Commission Swift Code CTBAAU2S BSB 062 902 ACC 00000025

The representative of the Malta High Commission in Australia will be conducting the consular services at the following venues between 930hrs and 1600hrs:

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](mailto:consul.melbourne@gov.mt)



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



# Judge Anthony Borg Barthet

**Anthony Borg Barthet** (born 25 March 1947 in Valletta, Malta) is a Maltese judge at the European Court of Justice, and former Attorney General of Malta.



**Biography** He was born 25 March 1947 in Valletta, Malta to Victor Borg and Mary Barthet and is a nephew of the famous Maltese Artist Esprit Barthet (1919–1999) and has five siblings: Anna; Henry; Charles; Victor; Paul. He married to Carmen Busuttil in 1974 and has three children Jacque; Maria Paula; and Justin. Following spinal injury in 1960 – disabled left leg – Stoke Mandeville Hospital – Rehabilitation

Centre – Aylesbury, England. He graduated in law in 1974 and joined the Civil Service in 1975. He transferred to the Malta Attorney General's office in 1978. He was Senior Counsel to the Republic in 1979 and assistant Attorney General in 1988. He was appointed to the post of Attorney General in 1989.

**Education** The Lyceum and then at the University of Malta. He was president of the students' council between 1970–71.

**Degrees and diplomas** 1972 – Diploma Notary Public 1973 – Doctor of Laws

**Awards and scholarships** Holder of Redifusion Scholarship at Royal University of Malta 1968–71.

**Extra curricular and other** Active member of Student Representative Council at Royal University of Malta (1968–1972), Secretary General (1968–1970), President 1971 Student Representative Faculty Board of Laws, Senate and Council.

**Professional activity** Admitted to the bar in Malta 1974

- 1974–1975 – private practice as Advocate – Valletta
- 1975–1978 – Notary to Government
- 1978–1979 – Counsel for the Republic
- 1979–1988 – Senior Counsel for the Republic
- 1988–1989 – Assistant Attorney General
- 1989–2004 – Attorney General

appeared for the Government of Malta in Civil and Constitutional Cases. Prosecuted before the Higher Criminal Courts in Malta. Agent for the Government before the European Court of Human Rights, Strasbourg. Represented Government of Malta in various committees of Council of Europe, at Commonwealth Law Ministries Conferences (New Zealand, Mauritius, Trinidad), European Minister of Justice Conferences (The Hague, Ottawa, Istanbul, Nicosia, Bucharest, Moldova, Lugano, Budapest, London, Prague, Malta, Morocco, Sofia) and at other meetings and in bilateral negotiations, co-chaired joint meetings OECD -Co-operative Jurisdiction on unfair tax practices.

**Merits** - Honorary member of Romanian Union of Jurists since 1995. He is also an Official of the Italian Ordine al Merito della Repubblica, an award given by Italian President Scalfaro in 1995



Australians all let us  
rejoice  
For we are young and  
free  
We've golden soil and  
wealth for toil  
Our home is girt by sea  
Our land abounds in  
nature's gifts  
Of beauty rich and rare  
In history's page, let  
every stage  
Advance Australia Fair  
In joyful strains then let  
us sing  
Advance Australia Fair



**Visit: <https://www.australiaday.org.au/>**



## JOE CAMILLERI

### MALTESE/AUSTRALIAN LEGEND



**Joseph Vincent "Joe" Camilleri,**<sup>[1]</sup> (born 21 May 1948 in Malta) aka **Jo Jo Zep** or **Joey Vincent**, is an Australian vocalist, songwriter and saxophonist. Camilleri has recorded as a solo artist and as a member of Jo Jo Zep & The Falcons and The Black Sorrows.<sup>[2][4]</sup> Jo Jo Zep & The Falcons' highest charting single was "Hit & Run" from June 1979, which peaked at #12;<sup>[5]</sup> Jo Jo Zep's "Taxi Mary" peaked at No. 11 in September 1982;<sup>[5]</sup> and The Black Sorrows top single, "Chained to the Wheel", peaked at No.

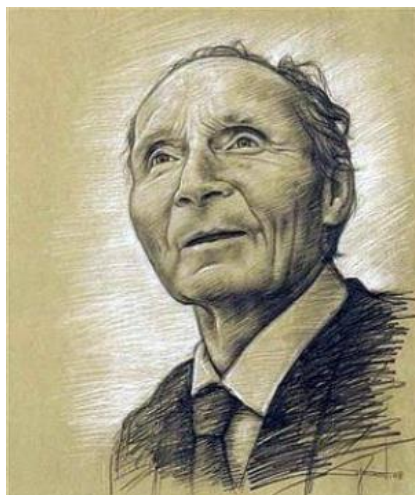
9 in March 1989.

Camilleri has also produced records for The Sports, Jo Jo Zep & The Falcons, Paul Kelly & the Dots, The Black Sorrows, Renée Geyer and Ross Wilson.<sup>[4]</sup> Australian music journalist, Ian McFarlane, described him as "one of the most genuinely talented figures in Australian music",<sup>[3]</sup> and, as a member of Jo Jo Zep & The Falcons, Camilleri was inducted into the Australian Recording Industry Association (ARIA) Hall of Fame in 2007.<sup>[7][8]</sup>

**Early years** - Joe Camilleri was born the third of ten children in Malta in 1948. The family migrated to Australia when he was two.<sup>[9]</sup> Camilleri grew up in Port Melbourne and listened to rock music on the radio.<sup>[9]</sup> His mother called him Zep and he became known as Jo Zep. Camilleri began his music career in 1964 when literally thrown onstage to sing with The Drollies.<sup>[9]</sup> He played blues and R&B in the mid-1960s with The King Bees,<sup>[4][9]</sup> and was then a member of Adderley Smith Blues Band.<sup>[4][10][11]</sup> In 1968, lead singer for the band, Broderick Smith had been conscripted for National Service during the Vietnam War.<sup>[9]</sup> Camilleri lasted a year with Adderley Smith, and enjoyed working with the band including guitarist Kerryn Tolhurst (later in The Dingoes with Smith).<sup>[9]</sup> According to Australian music journalist Ed Nimmervoll, Camilleri was sacked for sounding too much like Mick Jagger and upstaging other band members.<sup>[10]</sup> After Adderley Smith, Camilleri was a member of various bands, including The Pelaco Brothers during 1974–1975. If there was ever a time Joe Camilleri could be forgiven for slowing down, it would be after four decades in the music industry.

But the vocalist and multi-instrumentalist, famous as the face of Jo Jo Zep & The Falcons and The Black Sorrows, is still touring and songwriting, and cannot fight the daily urge to make and play music. This month Camilleri is hitting the road as part of 'the A Day on the Green tour' alongside Elvis Costello & The Imposters, The Sunnyboys, Tex Perkins & The Dark Horses and Stephen Cummings. But it will not mark a return to touring for the musical veteran, who is still touring heavily with The Black Sorrows. Indeed, he will play Sorrows gigs between the eight A Day on the Green shows across the country in January and February.

*I always look forward to receive The Maltese eNewsletter. I, not only only, read it myself and but I also pass it on to all my relatives and friends. They all say that they enjoy reading it and feel that they belong to the Maltese family around the world. Please, do keep up the excellent work and you are credit to all the Maltese living abroad. You make us feel proud to be MALTESE. Amanda Cox nee Borg*



**Frenċ tal-Għarb  
F'għeluq il-50 sena  
minn mewtu  
19 ta' Mejju 2017**

Insellmilkom ħbieb, il-lejla  
Aħna ltqajna lkoll flimkien -  
Hamsin sena taru, maru,  
O kif jitgerbeb żmien!

Mindu Frenċ tal-Għarb ħalliena  
Biex jiltaqa' mal-Ħallieq  
Li lejha dejjem irrikorra  
U baqa' f'tiegħu t-triq

Sakemm huwa għajnejh għalaq  
Għal did-dinja tal-bnedmin  
Fejn kiber, ħadem u bata -  
Ma ħeliex tiegħu l-ħin.

Kien għadu daqsxejn ta' tifel  
Sewwa sew ta' tnax-il sena  
Meta kellu t-tagħlim jitlaq  
Biex fl-għelieqi l-futur bena.

Sabiex il-familja tiegħu  
Magħmula minn tnax l-ulied  
Loqma ħobż tkun tista' tiekol  
B'ħafna mħabba mingħajr fsied!

Il-palk f'raħlu kien iħobbu  
Sehmu tah mingħajr tnakkir  
U il-parti minn tal-buffu  
Qalghetlu ħafna tifhir!

Ħafna nies lejha kienet tersaq  
Meta jirkibha l-inkwiet  
Frenċ bit-talb u l-pjanti tiegħu  
Lilha jbiegħed mill-imwiet!

F'Ta' Pinu w fl-Ewkaristija  
Frenċ kien jafda lejli u nhar  
Għidli ftit kien spiss itenni  
F'min nista' nafda aħjar!

Illum lilhom qed igawdi  
Fil-għoli minn tas-smewwiet  
Minn hawn mar u ħalla kollox  
Matul is-Sittinijiet!  
Niesna ma nsietx lil dar-raġel  
U għamlitlu monument  
Sabiex fih tiftakar, titlob  
F'ta' ħajjitha kull mument!

**Kav Joe M Attard  
Victoria Għawdex  
01-V-2017**

Another edition  
of the  
Maltese Journal  
for your  
enjoyment

**When only the best  
will do**

The Maltese  
e-Newsletter



**We thank all our readers from Gozo - your support and respect are  
immensely appreciated – The Editor from Australia**



## Clubbing Scene in Malta



**Bang in the middle of the Mediterranean, Malta offers a vibrant nightlife which is both lively and entertaining.**

With a huge range of nightclubs, Malta's club scene has been expanding and growing increasingly over the years competing with other countries' club scenes such as that of Ayia Napa or Ibiza.

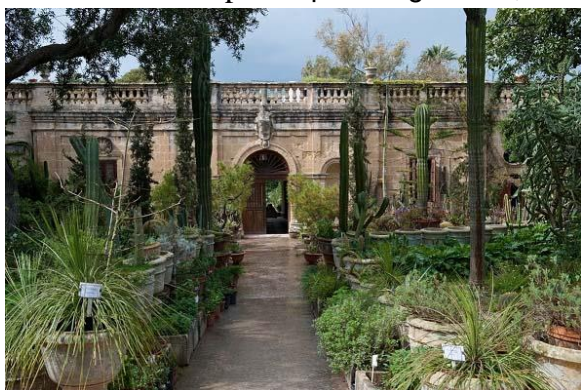
Having attracted top DJs from all over the world to its shores, **Malta** offers state of the art venues that can welcome larger crowds. From open-air nightclubs to the many bars lining up the streets of

**Paceville, Malta hosts some of the best parties in Europe.**

What makes Malta stand out though is the fact that both entrance fees and drinks are quite affordable with the added advantage of not having to spend a fortune on transport. Combined with incredible weather and the Mediterranean climate, the islands lure tourists to its shores. Paceville is the home of a myriad of various nightclubs, bars and discos providing various music genres – from RnB to commercial and trance music, there is a venue that caters for everyone's tastes. Top DJs that have played in Malta include **Carl Cox, Roger Sanchez, Armin Van Buuren, David Guetta and Avicii** amongst many more who have returned to the island to perform on multiple occasions.

Situated between Spinola Bay and St George's Bay, Paceville is a leisure area, only a few minutes away from Sliema which also hosts a much calmer nightlife with beautiful views of Valletta across the sea.

**Argotti Botanic Gardens & Resource Centre**, which initially started as two separate private gardens, were built in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century. One was owned by the



Knight Don Emmanuel Pinto de Fonseca and the other by Bailiff Ignatius de Argote y Gusman. In 1741, after Pinto's election to Grandmaster, De Argote purchased Pinto's part of the garden and annexed it to his own. During the Knights' period however, a formal botanic garden did not exist here.

Argotti's history as a Botanic Garden is partly connected to a physic garden created in 1674 by the Knights of St John at Fort St Elmo near the Sacra Infermeria. When the British arrived in Malta, the medicinal plants and other botanical specimens were moved from St Elmo to Il-Mall in Floriana under the guidance of the Carmelite

monk and Professor of Botany Carolus Giacinto who was appointed Chair of Natural History by the University of Malta in 1805. After Giacinto's death in 1855, the botanic gardens were relocated from the Mall and other locations in Floriana to Argotti Gardens by Professor Stefano Zerafa who was a Professor of Natural History at the time.

Zerafa's contribution was very significant to the gardens' botanical assets. Apart from writing the first account on Maltese flora, "Thesaurus of the Flora of the Maltese Islands", he is most remembered for

the discovery and naming of our National Plant, the endemic *Cheirolophus crassifolius* (Maltese Rock Centaury).

The gardens received contributions to the collections by other influential Maltese botanists such as Count Alfred Caruana Gatto and Professor John Borg which resulted in collections of indigenous and Mediterranean flora, cacti and succulents. In 1945, the wife of late Prof. Borg contributed his world-famous private cactus and succulents collection to the University of Malta and is housed at the Argotti.

The gardens passed over to the Department of Agriculture in 1973 after 150 years of University tenure. The inner part was returned to the University of Malta in 1996 for rehabilitation. From that point onwards the University has embarked on a number of restoration projects of architectural assets as well as the reorganisation and expansion of the plant collections.

**Opening Times** The Gardens at Floriana are open to the public from Monday to Friday during the following hours:

1 October – 15 June from 0900hrs to 1500hrs

16 June – 30 September from 0900hrs to 1200hrs

## Mgr. Charles Scicluna - Coloured vision

Vanni Xuereb photo Matthew Mirabelli



It had been quite a few years since I last attended the Easter Vigil celebration at St John's Co-Cathedral. St John's has always fascinated me. It is our greatest national treasure and tells a good and fascinating story about this country and its history.

It also caught the attention of the leaders of the 28 heads of state or government of the European Union as they were ushered into the building during the summit held in Malta on February 3. I followed this live on TV and could not help noticing the

expression on the faces of these men and women of power as they raised their eyes to gaze at the vault and then went on to view Caravaggio's *The Beheading of St John the Baptist*.

As a child, for the first few years, we lived in Valletta and went to Mass at St John's every Sunday. We also attended the Holy Week celebrations there and I can faintly recollect the late Archbishop Michael Gonzi presiding the Holy Saturday celebration.

After a long absence, I was back, as a seminarian, at the co-cathedral for Holy Week for six consecutive years. However, this was almost 20 years ago and hence I'm not sure what truly drew me back this year. Probably, it was my curiosity to see what influence Archbishop Charles Scicluna is exerting on the liturgical celebrations in our cathedrals and the news that since Ash Wednesday, there is a new and young maestro di cappella, Hamish Dustagheer, at the cathedral.

More than ever, this year I somehow really desired to celebrate Easter in a meaningful manner. Living in Żejtun, with the Good Friday procession passing right in front of our home, Easter tends to be a bit of an anti-climax. Hence, we decided to go to Valletta.

We were not to be disappointed. Arriving rather early, it was nice to see that the church was already rather full. The lighting was dimmed in expectation of the blessing of the fire and the lighting of the paschal candle and the proclamation of the 'Light of Christ'.

It was wonderful to see the church being gradually lit up as the candles we all held received the Light from the Paschal Candle. This has always been one of my favorite moments together with the chant of the Exultet which is the Easter proclamation sung by the deacon. It was a beautiful celebration with many significant moments such as the intonation of the Gloria and the ringing of the bells after their silence from Maundy Thursday evening, accompanied by an organ fanfare.

Another beautiful moment was the proclamation of the Hallelujah by Mgr Arthur Said Pullicino who, despite his venerable age, managed to convey the solemnity and joy of the Easter message in a manner that truly



struck me. Mgr Scicluna is managing to redefine the model of the Church in Malta in the spirit of Pope Francis

It was a long celebration, highlighted by the baptism of a number of adults and children. It was also an opportunity for those present to renew their baptismal vows and to be sprinkled with newly blessed water. Archbishop Scicluna made sure that my partner and I received a rather significant blessing! I recall how in my first commentary published in this newspaper (The Times of Malta) in March 2015, I had described the appointment of Charles Scicluna as Archbishop of Malta as a 'new beginning' for the Church in Malta.

Undoubtedly, throughout these past two years, Mgr Scicluna has already left his mark not only on the Church itself but also on Maltese society as a whole. Internally, he is carrying out a process of renewal of the structures which had been largely left untouched during the tenure of his immediate predecessor.

He is involving the laity much more significantly in positions of responsibility. In brief, he is trying to bring the Church in Malta into the modern age although there is still a long way ahead.

With regard to the relevance of the Church to Maltese society, here is a man who refuses to be held hostage by the perceived errors of his predecessors. I will not enter into the whole issue of the extent to which his frequent tweets have stirred up controversy. However, it is good that he has something to say and that people are taking notice of what he says. He also knows how to exercise prudence having declared that he will be restraining his temptation to tweet in the current pre-electoral climate.

Mgr Scicluna is managing to redefine the model of the Church in Malta in the spirit of Pope Francis. I wonder whether this would have been the case had Joseph Ratzinger still been pope. In truth, this change in approach can also be witnessed in Gozo. I was very positively struck by the interview which Bishop Mario Grech gave to the The Sunday Times of Malta on Easter Sunday. Both our bishops seem to have a good understanding of contemporary Maltese society and, as a result, no longer remain stuck in the nostalgia of an era when the Church was possibly the most dominant force in these islands for better and for worse.

In his interview, Mgr Grech comes across as a man who is at ease rather than feeling threatened by a changing society. He used expressions such as not being able to see certain situations such as "irregular families" from a black-and-white perspective and that no two situations are the same. The Church is a Church of mercy and not of rules, he adds. Amen to that. The same newspaper also carried an opinion piece by Mgr Scicluna. His thoughts reflect the homily he delivered at the Easter Vigil in St John's. The sentence in the homily that truly struck me most was that Christ's resurrection is not an act of violence that imposes itself onto mankind's free will. In the newspaper the Archbishop repeats the same thought: "He does not impose himself on us, he respects our freedom

### **Labour's 2013 manifesto had promised that expats will be allowed to cast their vote in their countries of residence**

#### **MALTESE EXPATS PETITION FOR RIGHT TO CAST VOTE ABROAD - *Tim Diacono***

A group of Maltese expats have written to the Prime Minister, urging him to allow them to vote in an embassy of their choice in the upcoming election. A Facebook page has also been set up. In an open letter, the expats noted that Labour had pledged in its 2013 manifesto to allow expats to vote in their countries of residence without having to fly down to Malta. The PN and Alternattiva Demokratika had come up with similar promises. "Four years down the line, there is nothing to show for that rare moment of cross-party unity," the letter reads. "With a snap general election now barely a month away, we urge you to safeguard our right to vote on 3 June, ensuring the most appropriate use of taxpayer money in the process." vote in the 2015 spring hunting referendum, on top of the €70 paid by each voter. "The misdirected generosity of successive governments on this particular issue has done our entire country a disservice, distracting resources away from what the Maltese community abroad really needs: a cost-effective and convenient way for us to vote abroad." AD chairperson Arnold Cassola was quick to back their call, saying in a Facebook post that "what is normal in the rest of the world should become normality in Malta".

## Malta-born Australian and his wife refused US re-entry

The Times 27/04/2017



A Malta-born Australian man and his wife were left stranded in Canada when US border authorities cancelled his visa and refused him entry into the United States, Australian media has reported.

David Sciberras was travelling in the United States with his wife Renate. They interrupted their US trip with a visit to Canada, but he was then refused re-entry to the US - days after President Trump gave US Border Security more power to deny entry.

The couple up having to give up two weeks of their holiday and fly home.

Mrs Sciberras told 7 News (Australia) that they arrived in Los Angeles on March 28 and had no entry problems. They spent two weeks travelling along the US West Coast before crossing to Canada, visiting Toronto and Montreal.

They had then planned to fly to New York and spend another two weeks travelling down the East Coast to Miami and had already booked and paid for accommodation, a baseball game and a seven-day Caribbean cruise, along with their flight home from Miami.

But Mr Sciberras, travelling on an Australia passport, was stopped at Montreal and denied re-entry to the US.

The couple found that his Electronic System Travel Authorisation (ESTA), approved in November, had been cancelled while they were in the US. They were never told why, despite five days of frantic enquiries to various US and Canadian departments, Australian officials as well as the US embassy.

Mrs Sciberras said her husband, who was born in Malta and was taken to Australia when he was 18 months old, had no criminal record.

Cancelling half their holiday meant losing the money they had spent on their accommodation and they also had to spend an \$3500 for new flights home from Canada. They arrived home on Sunday.

## Malta's tunnel ferry from Valletta to Sliema clinches UNESCO's green light

**It will take just 20 minutes to travel from Sliema to the Three Cities thanks to a tunnel ferry system that will connect harbour towns and capital Valletta**

Matthew Vella



The tunnel drilling project being proposed by the AX Group under Valletta to will link Sliema with Cottonera has [been given approval by UNESCO](#), according to [tvm.com.mt](#).

The tunnel is the brainchild of developer and hotelier Anglu Xuereb who has clinched a concession to create the first ever ferry tunnel beneath Valletta to link Sliema to the Three Cities - the original completion date was



scheduled to be summer 2017, to be functional by 2018, in time for the city becoming the European Capital for Culture.

It is a €10 million project launched through a concessino from Projects Malta, which Xuereb is confident can be completed within 18 months after the conclusion of government agreements.

€10 million ferry tunnel under Valletta to be functional by 2018

“The new system will see the already operating ferry services from Sliema to Valletta, and from Valletta to the three cities, but it will give commuters the possibility to travel straight from Sliema to the three cities and vice versa,” Xuereb has said, explaining that the tunnel will through Valletta from near Marsamxetto harbour near the water polo pitch, running all the way underneath Valletta and exiting near Lascaris Wharf.

A trip from Sliema to the Three Cities is expected to take some 20 minutes, through a tunnel 7m wide with a system of traffic lights to make sure that only one boat passes at a time. AIG Projects, who helped design the 14km underground tunnels for the Msida flood relief project, are involved in the project.

The project naturally has government backing, with minister Konrad Mizzi, who runs Projects Malta, and transport minister Joe Mizzi saying this is one of the alternatives to current transport modes that will also reduce carbon emissions. “Our aim is to keep the service running on the early hours of the morning to allow people to use the service even at night,” Xuereb has said of the ferry, which can be expected to projected to have over 1.5 million passengers over the first 10 years.

## First Malta World Music Festival in May



Photo: DOI - Jason Borg

Malta's first World Music Festival will take place in May at Fort St Angelo, the Arts Council announced today. The festival will take place on May 19 and 20. Festival artistic director Renzo Spiteri said he would like the festival to be seen as a celebration of cultural diversity and a dynamic platform for the exchange and dialogue of artistic ideas.

This year's edition will be opened by Brodu, an alternative Maltese band formed in 2011. Playing rock music with influences from various genres, Brodu will bring music in the native Maltese language to the festival.

Other performers are Tsuumi Sound System, an eight-piece Finnish modern folk music band rooted in Nordic folk traditions and Tiwiza, a Franco-Algerian group with a North African tradition based on the notion of solidarity as their name.

The Khoury Project, a trio of brothers playing contemporary music which combines identifiable Arabic forms with globalised rhythms, will open the second day of the festival. Sona Jobarteh's voice, known through her contribution in film scores will also be heard during this edition of the festival. The festival will close with BandAdriatica, a project in which music is created from the encounters and exchange of people and their traditional repertoires, contributing to the continuous development of traditional music and in keeping with the festival's aim of celebrating cultural diversity.

Culture Minister Owen Bonnici said that during this legislature it was recognised that artistic expression and cultural activity are important not only as a means of entertainment, but also because

it carries enormous importance for society's development. Early bird tickets for the festival are available until April 15, selling at €10 for single tickets and €18 for block tickets. Tickets will then be sold for €12 and €20 for block tickets from April 16. Tickets can be purchased from the Teatru Manoel box office, or online from [www.teatrumanoel.com.mt](http://www.teatrumanoel.com.mt); More information about the festival and participating artists can be found on [www.maltaworldmusicfestival.org](http://www.maltaworldmusicfestival.org).

## The nurse of the Mediterranean Dr. Kevin Fong

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".



Wounded ANZACS in Malta

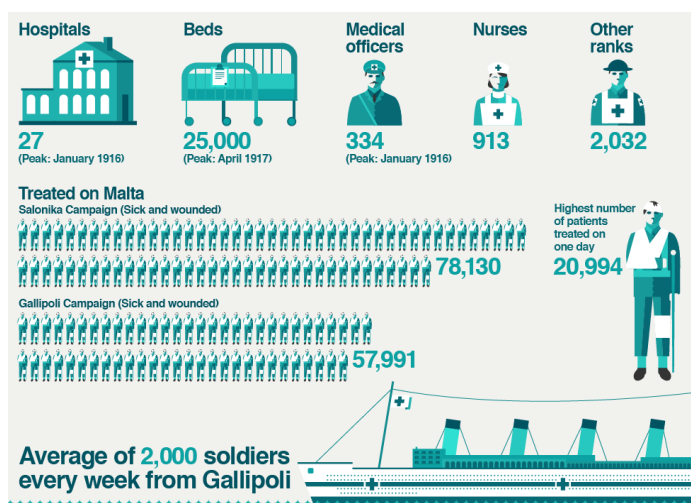
**2. A sanctuary across the sea** - Thousands of soldiers were shipped from Gallipoli and Salonika on hospital ships to the island of Malta. Although Malta was located relatively near to the new battlegrounds, it was still separated from them by hundreds of miles of sea.

**The Gallipoli campaign** - At Gallipoli, a force of 70,000 men was sent to attack the Ottoman Empire. British, French, Australian and New Zealand soldiers launched an amphibious assault on the Turkish peninsula in an attempt to take the city

of Constantinople. It was hoped that Germany would be forced to divert troops from the Western Front to support their Turkish allies.

The first batch of patients from the battlefield arrived in Malta in March 1915. The soldiers had to travel 850 miles across the Mediterranean to reach the safety of the island. Thousands of patients made the week-long journey on hospital ships. Gallipoli was a military disaster for the allies and after eight months of fierce fighting, both ground and naval forces had to withdraw.

### The Salonika campaign



At Salonika, British and French forces landed on the northern Greek coast in 1915, in an attempt to relieve Serbian forces fighting the Bulgarian army. Fighting continued for many months, and the allies were forced to dig in. The sick and wounded were taken from the battlefield and brought to Malta by ship.

In April 1917, after several hospital ships were sunk by German submarines, the allies decided the journey to Malta was too dangerous. Many hospitals on the island were closed and replaced with new facilities in Greece.

**3. Medical Services General History** - Hospitals were opened up at a frantic pace to keep up with the thousands of sick and wounded soldiers brought to Malta.



**4. Pioneering heart surgery** - Robert Hugh Martin was shot in the heart at Salonika in 1917. Evacuated to Malta, he underwent one of the first successful heart surgeries of World War One.

**5. Rest and recuperation** - Medical care on Malta went beyond emergency treatment. The rest and recuperation of recovering soldiers was taken very seriously. Many of the troops were afflicted with dysentery, fever and malaria and needed ongoing care. Several convalescent hospitals were set up on the island to help those who were still not fit to return to the front.

In May, 1915 tea rooms were set up in Sliema to provide rest and refreshment for the sick and wounded soldiers. The tea rooms were manned by a band of local volunteers and hosted weekly concerts. They proved popular with the soldiers and during the course of the war around 50,000 men were served.

Australia Hall was built on Malta in 1915 by the Australian Branch of the Red Cross. How it is today!!!!



In October a Gymnasium in Valletta was converted into a facility for convalescents. It was equipped with a library, bar, a billiard table and a fully equipped stage. Over 80,000 men passed through its doors. Around this time Australia Hall was built by the Australian Red Cross. It was a combined recreation centre and theatre and provided entertainment for wounded soldiers of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps.

## Scouts and Girl Guides celebrate voluntary work

Photos: Mark Zammit Cordina



Over 4,700 girl guides and scouts marched from Floriana to Valletta yesterday to celebrate the voluntary work they do.

The annual parade of the Scout Association of Malta and the Malta Girl Guides kicked off with Mass celebrated by Archbishop Charles Scicluna together with the national chaplains of both associations. The scout groups and girl guide units then assembled at the Floriana Granaries to form up.

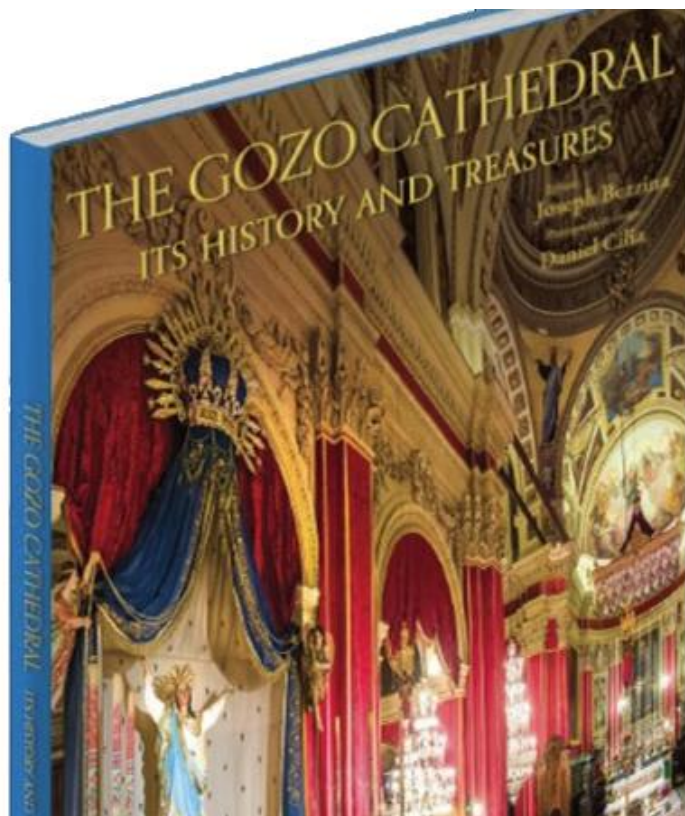


This year, the parade was led by the central district, followed by the Gozo, north and south districts. The Scout Association of Malta is divided into four districts.

As per tradition, the groups marched from the Granaries to Republic Street, in Valletta, making their way through St George's Square, where President Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca took the salute.

The groups then made their way to Pjazza De Valette.

Several bands participated as hundreds of people, including many parents, proudly watched.



## Pre-publication offer: 'The Gozo Cathedral - its history and heritage'

'The Gozo Cathedral its history and heritage' is edited by Joseph Bezzina, photographs are by Daniel Cilia. This book is divided into nine parts with a total of sixty chapters and consists of 288 full-colour pages.

**Part 1** focuses on the religious significance of the citadel hill throughout the millennia. Religion played a very important role in the life of the Gozitan community, and the citadel hill seemingly assumed a high degree of religious aura that was to shape most of the anthropogenic activity that took place there.

**Part 2** discusses the roots of Christianity in Gozo, the most constant element in the

identity of the island.

**Part 3** deals with the consolidation of the Latin Church in Gozo and the emergence of the Matrice as the major church of the island endowed with a collegiate chapter of fourteen canons. It further illustrates its architectural development and its vitality prior to the tragedy of 1551, a disaster that obliterated the collective memory of the Gozitans about their *Matrice Collegiata*.

**Part 4** outlines its history from the middle of the sixteenth century onwards, from the severe setback of 1551 to the slow but steady recovery in the centuries that followed providing, for the first time, a detailed plan of how the medieval Matrice looked like.

**Part 5** opens with a detailed account of the planning and the building of the new church, its consecration in 1716, and its growth during the following century and a half until its establishment as the Cathedral of Gozo in 1864. It proceeds by outlining its growth until present times. The last four parts of the book delineate various aspects of the church.

**Part 6** highlights the prestigious architectural and artistic heritage lying behind the thick walls of the Cathedral.

**Part 7** describes the silver church plate from late medieval to neoclassical times at the Cathedral treasury.

**Part 8** relates how the church became the religious musical fulcrum of the island from the late eighteenth to the twentieth century as reflected from its music archives.

Part 9 reviews the liturgical celebrations at the Cathedral throughout the year; in their majority, they are presided over by the bishop from his *cathedra*.

For further details about the pre-publication offer and the *Tabula Gratulatoria* contact: [gozobj@gmail.com](mailto:gozobj@gmail.com)



## Maltese Footballers That You Might Have Heard Of

Julian Delicata

Malta is hardly renowned for its football successes with the national side having won only four competitive matches. Ahead of Malta's Euro 2016 qualifying match against the mighty Italy, here is a list of five Maltese players whose

careers have been a bright light for Maltese football over the past three decades. Two of these are likely to start against Pirlo and co.

**1. Michael Mifsud** By far Malta's best player over the past decade, Mifsud has been Malta's main attacking threat ever since the turn of the millennium. The list of clubs on the diminutive forward's CV includes Kaiserslautern, Coventry City, Barnsley (where he joined Daniel Bogdanovic, another Maltese striker who also played for Blackpool), Lillestrom and, more recently, Melbourne City. That's really quite impressive for the captain of the 155th ranked nation in the world where only a handful of players actually are full-time footballers.

With 39 goals to his name, Mifsud is comfortably Malta's record top scorer and his most striking attribute is his lightening pace that has in the past embarrassed some of the more famed defenders of our time. Unfortunately, age has now taken its toll but his eye for goal and attacking instincts are still very much alive.

**2. Andre Schembri** With Mifsud's powers on the wane, Schembri is the obvious heir to the Sliema Wanderers striker. The 28-year-old is comfortable playing as a striker or attacking midfielder and has represented various clubs in Cyprus, Hungary, Germany, Austria and Greece with his current side being FSV Frankfurt where he is already showcasing some of his undoubted talent.

Despite not being a prolific goalscorer for the national side, Schembri scored both goals in the historic 2-1 victory against Hungary in 2006. Less than a year later, Schembri scored once more during another historic result for Malta - a 2-2 result against Turkey.

**3. Gilbert Agius** The current Valletta FC coach possessed talent that most of his peers in the country could only dream of. No doubt, one of the highlights of the Valletta legend's career was the brace he scored against Welsh champions Barry Town that allowed the *Lillywhites* to progress to the second round of the Champions League qualifiers in 1999 - a truly rare feat for any Maltese club. Apart from a short-lived spell in Italy with Pisa, Agius is a one-man club having stayed with his hometown club in the midst of a financial crisis a decade ago.

**4. Luke Dimech** As no-nonsense a defender as you're ever likely to meet, Dimech's appearance is enough to send a slight chill down attacker's spines. In his heyday, Dimech possessed a healthy turn of pace despite his stocky figure. Strong in the air and confident in the tackle, Dimech had qualities rarely seen in a Maltese defender. Currently on the books of Valletta, the Floriana-born defender has a relatively distinguished CV having successfully worn the shirts of Shamrock Rovers, Macclesfield Town, Mansfield Town, Chester City and AEK Larnaca.

**5. Carmel Busuttil** Considered by many local pundits as the best football player to have ever worn the Maltese eight-pointed chest on his chest, Busuttil's talents were a thing to behold. After winning the league with his boyhood club Rabat Ajax, Busuttil's intentions were clear - he wanted to further his career overseas making him the first Maltese player to play for a top-flight club in Europe.

## Famous Maltese Shipwrecks

Malta is an absolute treasure trove for diving, with many shipwrecks across the coast. This summer, why not hop on a boat and dive into the gorgeous Mediterranean Sea surrounding the Maltese islands for yourself, to discover these Maltese shipwrecks for yourself?



### HMS Stubbrown

The name for this 66-metre-long S-class submarine couldn't be more ironic. In her heyday, the HMS Stubbrown was used during World War II, operating just off the Scandinavian coast. She was responsible for the demise of many German convoys, before ultimately being sunk on 30 April 1946 as an ASDIC (a form of SONAR developed by the UK prior to the war) tactic. The wreck of this submarine lies 4 km off Qawra point, and sank to her watery grave in April 1945. Source and photo credit: Dive Magazine



### Um El Faroud

In 1995, the Libyan vessel Um El Faroud sank whilst being worked on in the Maltese dry dock after a gas explosion which killed 9 Maltese workers. In 1998, the wreck was scuttled to her current location at Wied Iż-Żurriq where she lies undisturbed as an artificial reef and diving attraction.

Source: Dive Site Directory

Photo Credit: Maltaqua

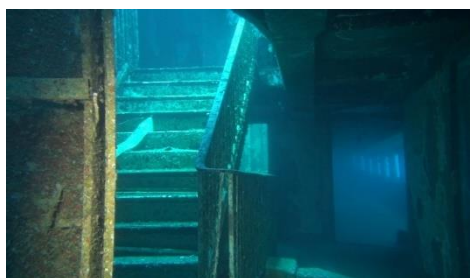


### HMS Maori

The HMS Maori was a Tribal class destroyer that served as part of the Mediterranean fleet during World War II and was sunk by a German bomber in 1942 in the Grand Harbour. The wreck was raised and scuttled to the Marsamxett harbour, just off Fort St. Elmo, where it now serves as a diving attraction.

Photo Credit: malta.com

### MV Karwela



If you're looking for a shipwreck around our sister island of Gozo, you might want to consider a visit to the Karwela (also known as the MS Frisia II and Nordpaloma). The Karwela was originally launched in 1957 before operating as a ferry from Gozo to Comino until she was decommissioned and sunk as an artificial reef in 2006 alongside the MV Cominoland. The MV Karwela lies west of Mgarr.

Source and photo credit: Gozodive.com



### The Blenheim Bomber

Although not technically a shipwreck, this sunken plane is still definitely worth a visit. Located 800 metres off Xrobb L-Għagin in Delimara, this World War II bomber plane landed upright at the bottom of the sea, losing the front of the cabin and the nose wheel – making this the perfect dive site.