

THE MALTESE NEWSLETTER

The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora

THE MOTTO - BUILDING BRIDGES NOT WALLS

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MALTA WAS A BRITISH COLONY FROM 1813 TO 1964

THE TRADITIONAL MALTESE BOAT



Until a short time ago our justifiably famous Valletta Grand Harbour, so often the scene of the madness of war and the courage of men, was almost crowded with hundreds of boats and water taxis, which plied the harbour creeks on both sides of Valletta.

These were largely used to ferry passengers, especially sailors, from their ships to land, and vice versa. These colourful Maltese boats are referred to as *Dghajsa* or *Luzzu* and are also used for fishing, these days often fitted with an inboard engine.

History of the luzzu and dgħajsa

Let us not forget that it was mainly from Malta's shores that the invasion was launched that brought Italy to its knees in World War II. Indeed, the Second World War, unlike the First, was largely fought out in the Mediterranean basin. The battle for the control of the Mediterranean lasted for almost three years – from Italy's entry into the war in June 1940 to the final surrender of Axis forces in Tunisia in May 1943. Never has our Grand Harbour been so busy as during that

period. Malta had achieved an importance in world affairs, as it had done in 1565, quite out of proportion to its size. And the Grand Harbour was littered with Maltese *luzzu* boats in those days of war.

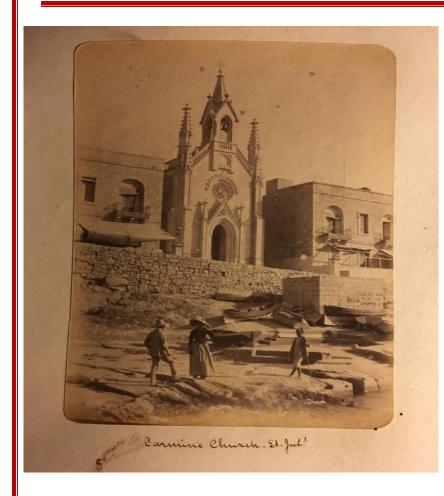
But the heydey of the *dgħajsa* is well and truly over and the number of these boats in Grand Harbour has dwindled considerably. This is due to several factors but certainly, the death blow came with the rundown program of the British Forces in Malta in the late fifties and the diminishing size of the British Mediterranean Fleet.

The colourful *dgħajsa* has an equally colourful companion which is of considerably bigger dimensions: the *luzzu*. Like the Maltese cross, this is one of the symbols of Malta and is featured on the reverse of the older series of Maltese lira coins. The Mediterranean sea, which is ever present has, throughout the ages, made men excellent mariners and this ubiquitous sea has always attracted men to fish.

Like the *dgħajsa*, the *luzzu* is also a uniquely Maltese boat. Painted in the traditional colours of red, blue and yellow, it is a sturdy and reliable sea craft and can be put to sea in almost every kind of weather. Primarily, the luzzu is a fishing boat but it has other uses such as ferrying locals and tourists across the Grand Harbour.

Many *luzzijiet* (plural) have the eye of Osiris painted or carved on the bow, a symbol said to have been brought to Malta by the Phoenicians. This seems to suggest that craft of this type must have been common in the harbour since the time of the Phoenicians and Carthaginians.

It is hard to imagine a more tranquil and soul-satisfying sight than that of a dead-calm sea on a clear summer's day when the Mediterranean is magnificent and regally serene, blue and seemingly infinite. The sight of a dghajsa out at sea on such a day is truly beautiful.



Carmelite Church of St Julian's

The old Carmelite Church, without the two wider naves it had built instead of the neighbouring houses: today's parish church is higher and wider than the original seaside 'chapel'. Images of bystanders by the rocky pier down below convey an almost bucolic impression of the sleepy village. This old photo, most probably dating from the second half of the 19th century, was found in a personal archive of Giuzeppi Calleja (1828-1915) who lived in St Julians near Balluta Bay.

Below; the same church today



Danielle Asciak - Everyone Wants a Piece of Malta! by Tricia Ziemer



All aboard Malta Airlines with Cabaret Singer Danielle Asciak

Thanks to Weekend Notes, I was delighted to score two tickets to "Everyone wants a piece of Malta" and by the end of the show, I did want a piece of Malta.

Danielle Asciak, cabaret singer and comedian, takes you on a journey as she tries to determine her real roots and culture. In Australia, we claim to be a "multicultural" society, but for Danielle, as a young girl growing up in Australia, with roots in other cultures around the world, she was confused by the words over the true actions of people towards her.

She was constantly being asked 'where were you born?', 'where do you come from?', 'what is your background?' because of her "exotic" looks. I say more "gorgeous good looks". And it hurt her, as she has grown up all her life in Australia and felt like, "Why am I being singled out for my skin colouring in this day and age? So she journeyed back

to Malta, to meet her family, stretch her boundaries, seek her soul and truly discover who and what she is.

What she has brought back and to the stage and her life is a truly inspirational story filled with comedy, compassion, and class. It is a compelling tale that has you laughing along with her at her antics and discoveries. She takes you on the highs and lows and scary hairy events in all senses of the words, from Malta taxis to body hair. Language mistakes have you in stitches along with Danielle learning love and free with food. lt's And she does it seamlessly with remarkable story telling, clever costume changes, and stunning singing. With just a few slight song changes she brings alive a wonderful set of old time classic songs and makes them new and fresh and funny. She has also written several of the songs and delivers them with magic vocals.

And along with that voice, (oh that voice! oh la la), she is a wonderfully expressive actress, so she really takes you to her world and gives you a small slice of Malta. The show went for an hour, but it seemed so much quicker, as it was so much fun.



MALTESE NEWSLETTER

The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora

The magazine that builds bridges between Maltese all over the world Every Edition is Precious

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PACKED WITH NEWS

INFORMATION, HISTORY

CULTURE AND HERITAGE



COASTAL TOWERS IN MALTA

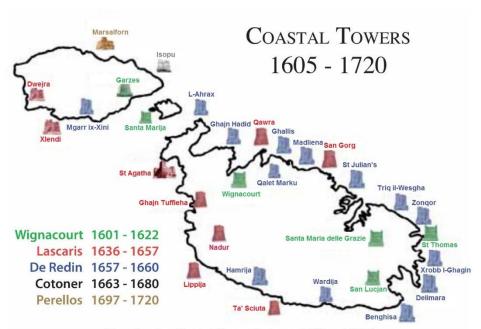
Għallis Tower (Maltese: *Torri tal-Għallis*), originally known as *Torre delle Saline*,^[1] is a small watchtower in Salina, limits of Naxxar, Malta. It was completed in 1658 as the second of the De Redin towers. Today, the tower is in good condition.

Għallis Tower was built in 1658 on the eastern shore of Għallis Point (Maltese: *Ras I-Għallis*), commanding the entrance to Salina Bay along with Qawra Tower, one of the Lascaris towers. The

tower was built on or near the site of a medieval watch post.^[2] It follows the standard design of the De Redin towers, having a square plan with two floors and a turret on the roof. The external wall is made of upper coralline limestone which is weather resistant while the inner wall is made of the softer globogerina limestone. It originally had a garrison consisting of a bombardier and three gunners, who manned a three-pounder iron cannon.

During the British period, Għallis Tower was modified by opening a doorway at ground level and the insertion of roof slabs. On 16 July 1955 Toninu Aquilina, 35, was found died in the well of the tower. It was a case of a murder. [3]

By the 1990s, Għallis Tower was in a state of disrepair, with parts of its exterior being covered with plaster and cement, and many weeds growing around it. The interior was also damaged due to soot from the many fires lit inside the tower.



Map showing Coastal Towers between 1605 and 1720

Din I-Art Ħelwa restored the tower between 1995 and 1996, and many stonework had to be replaced. Today, it is still under the control of Din I-Art Ħelwa and is in good condition.[4] It is open to public appointment.^[5] In 2015, an LED lighting system was installed at Għallis Tower. Since the tower is off Malta's electricity grid, the energy was provided by solar panels installed on the tower's roof.[6]

For centuries the coastline of Malta has been dotted with lookout

posts or watch towers that were built by the Knights of Malta during the 17th century. These towers were manned nightly to watch the seaward approaches and to raise the alarm in the event of imminent threat. The positioning of these towers was planned as such so that one could see both neighbouring towers, which acted as an early warning system against invaders. As soon as one tower spotted a suspicious event, a fire signal was started which was picked up by the neighbouring towers, in so doing carrying on the message.

A number of coastal towers were built during the reigns of Grand Master Alof de Wignacourt (1601 – 1622), Grand Master Paul Lascaris Castellar (1636 – 1657) and Grand Master Martin de Redin (1657 – 1660). The aim was to strengthen Malta's coastal guarding system.



FIRST: The good life... Gloria Camilleri The Independent

When Gloria Camilleri inherited her father's estate she redirected her energy into converting the property into a 100 per cent organic farm, and last year the estate was awarded a full EU certification. She cultivates and imports organic produce – living

on the very land on which she works and has always held dear. I have a little taste of what it's all about, and grill her for more information. Lily Agius. Photographs by Jonathan Borg.

There is a constant flow of customers at Vincent's Eco Farm in Zebbiegh, so it's hard to have an uninterrupted conversation with Gloria Camilleri, but that's fine with me as it gives me a chance to choose a selection of vegetables and fruit for tonight's supper and take in the surrounding landscape.

It is no wonder that Gloria gave up her life in town as a fashion retailer for this. Just seeing the farm shop ahead of me as I drove towards it made my eyes involuntarily widen with surprise and glee. She has created an attractive organic vegetable and food shop in the middle of nowhere and, more importantly, shows that it can be done.

Her telling me this reminds me of when I was pregnant and I suddenly ask myself why I have once again become more complacent about using perfumes and 'big brand' body washes, when I was so strict with myself carrying and breast-feeding my daughter... Do we turn a blind eye only when it suits us? And can the risks really be true?

Unfortunately, the fact is cancers are on the rise - apparently one in three people will get cancer at some point in their lives - and exposure to air pollution and chemicals, and the use of artificial sweeteners and pore-blocking deodorants, could be to blame. Gloria tells me that some of her customers - who are parents or cancer patients or who have relatives with cancer are more conscious of what they put in and on their bodies. "It takes having cancer or being a parent to even think about it, when knowing what is healthy and what is not should be a lifestyle choice."

When asked which country is the most health conscious, she smiles and answers with immediate certainty "the Scandinavians". While she has a lot of French and German customers, as well as a few Italians, it is really the Scandinavians who - without a doubt - are at the top of the ladder when it comes to health-conscious eating. "The Maltese haven't been exposed to enough healthy eating. I think that, for some, it's just a simple lack of awareness of what is and isn't good for you. Just because a food item, including meat and eggs, is labelled as 'fresh', it doesn't mean that it isn't without pesticides or hormones, for example. Mass-produced foods are made to sell - and for a profit - so not all the producers care what they are feeding you."

I browse through the packaged products inside the shop, mostly picking up the ones that my toddler has carried or thrown from one side to the other, and outside - some with ingredients that I've never even seen before - and Gloria holds one out to me to explain that you don't need to investigate the label as you would in a regular shop after she has sourced and selected everything from organically-certified producers. How refreshing: I spend ages reading the small print on packaging in the supermarket!

So, I ask myself - and Gloria - why aren't we all living this way and why has it taken so long for Malta to get anywhere close? I was corrected and told that Malta has seen big changes over the years and that people are more knowledgeable than they were, but organic living can be costly if your mindset is to spend less money on food, and it will take more time for it to be an integral part of society here. Farmers need to be shown how to use organic farming techniques and told how important it is not to douse our crops in artificial fertilisers, herbicides and pesticides, since these go straight back into our bodies and the soil.

And why is she living this way? She says: "My dream is that everyone will go organic. I have an electric car, and I have made this my life. It's because our island is so small that we could do so much more! We could all have - or more of an incentive to own - an electric car, and access to free energy. It is possible! When are people going to start switching off the light when it isn't theirs, or stop only thinking about the bill?" Good question!

Mgarr woman is Miss World Malta 2017



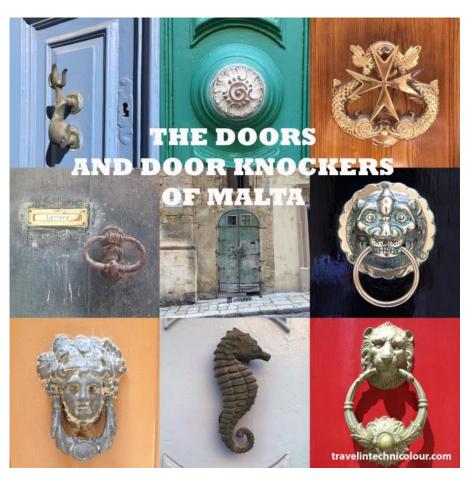
the festival.

Michela Galea, 19 of Mgarr, has been crowned Miss World Malta 2017 and will represent Malta in the Miss World International Beauty Pageant.

The 21st edition of the Miss World Malta contest was held on Saturday at Pjazza Teatru Rjal. It was organized by Modelle International under the direction of Sue Rossi and Claudia Calleja.

Miss World Malta 1st runner up was Amber Debono followed by Alexia Vella.

Jessica Borg won the People Choice Award. 28 contestants took part in



The legend goes that in the past people did not knock on doors but they used to scratch at them, so 'il-Habbata' were invented to save their poor fingernails!

If you want to express your own personality in the form of a brass knocker, you can buy them in the old town of Mdina. But be aware, it'll cost ya!

Which is your favourite? Mine has to be the dolphin, closely followed by the seahorse. And now I want to go back to Malta...

Wonders of Malta and Google Street View to enrich Malta's digital profile



The reasons people travel haven't changed much over the years. But how we look for information, about where we'll go or what the local customs are has increasingly moved online. Google Trends tells us that the majority of tourism-related search queries general--things like hotels transportation options. But in Malta, called the "Gem of the Mediterranean," as much as 43% of total tourism-related are focused on cultural attractions, historical sights, and famous buildings.

This kind of demand for information doesn't just help Malta's visitors find

what they're looking for--it has become a concrete opportunity for local tourism businesses and for cultural institutions to grow their audiences online.

There's more. According to a soon-to-be-released report "The Impact of Online Content on European Tourism" carried out by Oxford Economics for Google in Southern European countries, clear and accessible online information can power growth in local economies. This in turn leads to new job creation and further GDP growth. This is particularly true and relevant for countries like Malta where tourism remains a significantly important economic sector, accounting for up 26% of the national GDP.

With this in mind we worked with Heritage Malta to create the "Wonders of Malta" project on Google Arts & buildings. This kind of demand for information doesn't just help Malta's visitors find what they're looking for--it has become a concrete opportunity for local tourism businesses and for cultural institutions to grow their audiences online.

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With this in mind we worked with Heritage Malta to create the "Wonders of Malta" project on Google Arts & Culture. This is a unique collection offering viewers from across the world the opportunity to experience the most spectacular collection of Maltese treasures all in one place, at g.co/wondersofmalta.

From your smartphone or PC you can now walk across the Ġgantija Temples, the oldest, free-standing monument in the world, or immerse yourself in the Hal Saflieni Hypogeum, considered one of world's most important prehistoric monuments. In a few taps on your smartphone you can move to Valletta and visit the National Museum of Archaeology and its rich collections. The Wonders of Malta project is made

of more than 600 new assets, including photos, videos and other documents, 13 super-high resolution "gigapixel" images, more than 35 new exhibits, as well as 28 cardboard tours that will guide users through the diversity and richness of the Maltese culture.

That's not all. After driving more than 2,500 kilometres across all of Malta and Gozo and taking thousands of 360 degree pictures of many locations, starting today we are also making Street View available in Malta. Users can get an immersive look at the maltese natural landscape, cultural and historic sites, including heritage and touristic attractions, from Valletta to St. Julian's and Victoria as well as many others, through panoramic street-level images. Organisations and businesses can also benefit from the Street View technology. The street-level imagery of the location in fact can help them promote and increase awareness of their business - whether it's a restaurant, hotel, local attraction or any other point of interest.

Platinum selling artist Raye for Isle of MTV

British singer completes Isle of MTV's 2017 line-up

UK Platinum selling artist Raye is set to open this year's Isle of MTV music festival at the Granaries in

Floriana.

Raye, 19, has been confirmed as the festival's final act.

The British singer, 19, will join past collaborator *Jonas Blue*, along with *DNCE* and *Chainsmokers* for what will be the 11th year of the free music event on June 27.

Raye has seen her name in the UK charts multiple times in the last few months, having collaborated with fellow IOMTV performer *Jonas Blue* on the single 'By Your Side' and with Jax Jones on the hit 'You Don't Know Me'. The latter reached number three on the *Official UK Singles Chart*, has been certified Platinum in the UK alone and has garnered over 100 million streams to date. Her infectious new single 'The Line' is out now.

Raye told *MTV*: "I can't wait to party with you at this year's Isle of MTV! Looking forward to seeing you all there in Malta on June 27th"

On top of this line-up, MTV has announced that *The Grind,* the hit '90s dance party, will be making a special return. The re-imagined pool party will take place on Sunday, June 25 at Café Del Mar, featuring DJ Mag's Top 100 DJ and record producer Martin Jensen.

"This reimagined return of *The Grind* gives fans a chance to relive an old favourite in the context of today's social music culture, while introducing younger *MTV* fans to a legendary *MTV* dance party. We're excited to breathe new life into one of our favourite *MTV* shows," commented head of music and music talent, Viacom International Media Networks (VIMN), Bruce Gillmer.

ISLE OF MTV MALTA MUSIC WEEK 2017

Friday 23 June: Cheat Codes & Club MTV @ Gianpula Saturday 24 June: Pacha on Tour with Don Diablo @ Aria

Sunday 25 June: MTV's The Grind featuring Martin Jensen @ Café Del Mar (1pm – 5pm) Sunday 25 June: Café Del Mar Sunset Party featuring Kungs @ Café Del Mar (from 6pm)

Tuesday 27 June: Isle of MTV 2017 featuring The Chainsmokers, DNCE, Jonas Blue & Raye @ II

Fosos Square

Tuesday 27 June: Isle of MTV Malta Official After Party @ Uno Wednesday 28 June: HedKandi House Sessions @ Cafe Del Mar



Muslim woman Moutia Elzahed, charged over refusal to stand in court, considers challenge in NSW

AFP PHOTO / FADEL SENNA A woman wearing a niqab.

The lawyer for a Muslim woman who was charged after she refused to stand in court for a judge says she is considering a constitutional challenge.

Moutia Elzahed, 49, from Revesby,NSW is facing nine charges of disrespectful behaviour in court for not standing when Sydney District

Court Judge Audrey Balla entered or left the court room during a civil hearing in November and December 2016.

Ms Elzahed had brought a lawsuit against the NSW and Federal Police, claiming she was assaulted during a counter terror raid at her home in 2014. She is the wife of convicted Islamic State recruiter Hamdi Alqudsi, who is currently serving a six-year jail sentence for helping young Australians travel to Syria to fight.

Ms Elzahed is the first person in NSW to be charged with the offence of disrespectful behaviour in court since it was introduced last year. During the civil hearing, Ms Elzahed's barrister Clive Evatt told the court his client "won't stand for anyone except Allah".

Ms Elzahed's solicitor Zali Burrows said she has been speaking to two barristers about launching a constitutional challenge but could not provide any more details at this stage. She said her client had not been disrespectful. Ms Elzahed was supposed to appear before the Downing Centre Local Court today, but Ms Burrows said her client was unwell and could provide a medical certificate. The matter will return to court on July 20

BIG funding helps Josephine return to recall her 'Malta Story'



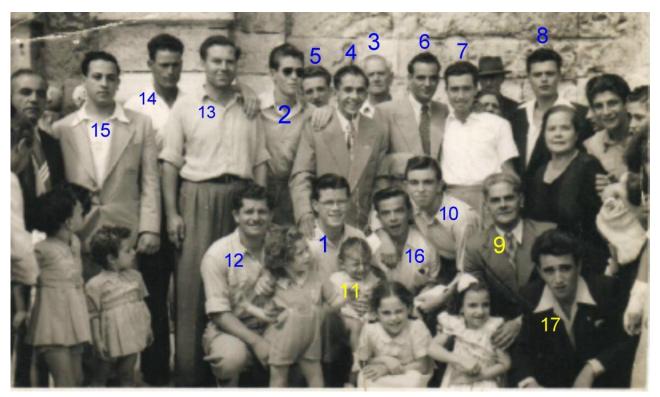
Thanks to a grant from the Big Lottery Fund's Heroes Return 2 program, a war veteran from North Wales recently returned to her native Malta to recall the role she played in defending the strategically important Mediterranean island from falling into the clutches of Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy during the Second World War.

Malta Story, a classic 1953 British war film depicts the love story between an RAF pilot, played by **Alec Guinness**, and a Maltese girl during the heroic air defence of Malta when the island was under siege.

Josephine looks through some old photos and memorabilia from WWII with her son, Paul Roberts.

85-year-old Josephine Barber from **Rhyl** returned to her native Malta with her son, **Paul Roberts**, to recall her very own 'Malta Story', which bears an

uncanny resemblance to the love story depicted in the wartime classic. Josephine was a plotter in the **Lascaris** underground **War Rooms** during the conflict and had the important job of directing British Forces to engage enemy aircraft and monitor their activity.



PEOPLE OF BIRZEBBUGA – MIGRANTS 1951

This photo was taken by reporter of The Times of Malta on Monday 10th Sept. 1951. The day I left Birzebbuga for Melbourne Australia on the English liner. Five men from Birzebbuga migrated to Australia on that day.

- 1. Myself. William J. Coxhead. Melbourne
- 2. My brother Johnny Coxhead who played football with St Peters of Birzebbuga 1953, 3rd Div Champions. Migrated to Aust 1954.
- 3. My father. William N. Coxhead. He was in charge of the Power Station at R.N. base Kalafrana (Passed away 1953. RIP)
- 4. Joseph/Zeppi Cutajar of Birzebbuga, nickname ' ta' Fidiel '. Migrated to Melbourne but returned to Malta a few years later. (RIP)
- 5. Frankie Borg Falzon of Birzebbuga. Also played football with St Peters of Birzebbuga 1953, 3rd Div Champions. (RIP)
- 6. Tony Camilleri of St Georges Bay / Birzebbuga. Migrated to Melbourne. Lived and passed away in NSW Australia. (RIP)
- 7. Tony Camilleri's friend from Birzebbuga.
- 8. Mikiel Farrugia of Birzebbuga. Migrated to Melbourne. Passed away in Melbourne (RIP)
- 9. A Maltese migrant to Australia. No name
- 10 Lolly Savona. Migrated to Melbourne. Lolly's parents operated the Belle Isle Theatre at Birzebbuga during the 1940 1950s. Lolly lives in Melbourne.
- 11. Baby Joseph Calleja. My nephew. Son of Ninu Calleja (of Zurrieq Road) and Emily Calleja nee Coxhead. Joseph and his parents migrated to Melbourne March 1958 on the ill fated MS Skaubryn. The ship caught fire and sank in the Indian Ocean, April 1958. Joseph lives in Melbourne.
- 12. Toni Gauci of Birzebbuga. His family nickname 'ta Beccuna' He was a Sgt in the Army.
- 13. Eddie who owned and drove the Birzebbuga Bus No 1212. The bus was named VICTOR and he was known as 'Eddie tal Victor' (RIP)
- 14. This person was from Birzebbuga. He was called 'it Tunezin'
- 15. A Maltese migrant who sailed on the SS Asturias.
 - 16. A friend of Lolly Savona. Both of Birzebbuga.
 - 17. A Maltese migrant who sailed on the SS Asturias

Often when I travel, what I crave more than anything else is a good, unexpected surprise.

POPEYE VILLAGE IN MALTA Christina Guan



After all, there's nothing more thrilling than peeling back the layers of a new destination, thinking you 'get it' then bam, being thrown a curveball that leaves your head spinning. And just when I thought I had wrapped my head around the honey washed limestone buildings of Malta, brimming with history and intricate tales of conquests come and gone, just like that, my curveball came.

And that curveball was called Popeye Village.

Yes, Popeye. The spinach binging, bulgey-

armed hero of comic book fame. His village... a colourful cluster of run-down fishing shacks, all huddled along the turguoise waters of Malta's Anchor Bay.

What at first glance looks like a strange glitch in the country's programming is actually a legacy of the Popeye movie that filmed here decades ago in the 80s... today reborn as a venue for tourist visits, birthday parties and what I can imagine are some *seriously wild* corporate retreats. A theme park with admirable dedication to its theme.



Most often, giggly visitors will stop for a quick photo opportunity en route to the Gozo ferry. I mean, with the set's Disney-perfect appeal, it'd be rude not to. BUT, with an attraction as unique as this, how could a curious girl just snap a photo and move on? I needed to know what was inside. For real, what was this place?

we entered the park, I caught my first glimpse of the colourful cast, led by a smirky, squinty-eyed Popeye. Behind him, a squad of actors and dancers (some dutifully in costume, others in yoga pants), waiting. Then out of nowhere, the music hit... and I kid you not, they erupted into dance.

3 rows, Madcon blasting... rhythmic foot shuffles and dramatic air trumpets. Add on the fact that Popeye was basically teaching the dance to his squad, I almost melted into a puddle of stupid joy. This was real. This was actually happening. I couldn't believe it.

I just stood there, smiling like a crazy person. Sure, the dancers weren't all in sync... In fact, I'm 90% sure it was like a training day for new cast members because one left-footed fella in the back barely moved his body at all... BUT, I loved this moment because in my mind, it's brilliantly imperfect moments like this that lend a place charm, quirk and character. The chirpy girl playing Olive Oyl (Popeye's main squeeze), explained

Our tiny off-season crowd (in the morning no less) meant that the cast to visitor ratio was almost 1:1. Besides myself, my boyfriend and guide, there was a handful of families, a noisey group of youths and what appeared to be a straight-up, extreme biker gang.

Have you guys even seen leather-clad motorcyclists emotionlessly sip beer at a Popeye theme park? No? I assure you – it was wild.

Make no mistake – Popeye Village is a destination *probably* best enjoyed in the summer, when sunshine permits the boat rides, giant water inflatables, mini golf and amusement park rides that make this place the perfect family outing. BUT, even in the rainy off-season, on a drizzly morning when we had the park almost all to ourselves, I still had an absolute ball. In fact, it's one of the memories from my trip I find myself constantly talking about. After all, where else in the world would you find something like this?

Each day, the park organizes a schedule of events, from cast meet and greets to actual filming opportunities. Besides that, there's (weather dependent) boat rides, a 15 minute documentary on the history of the park and yes, a room where they do nothing but screen the ENTIRE movie in full. ... I spent longer in that room than I care to admit.

The rest of our short visit was spent exploring the insides of set houses, complete with plastic props and memorabilia. For lovers of Popeye, this would have no doubt been an explosion of childhood dreams come true. For me, more of a Pokemon and Tin Tin girl, it was still a fun novelty. From the cast members dutifully in character spooking and messing with guests, to a variety of random freebies like a postcard, souvenir photo and small sample of wine punch, I'd say Popeye Village is a sure recipe for a fun time, especially for kiddos (or emotionally immature non-adults like myself).

So, while on this particular day, the off-season wind and rain meant the closure of most activities, I still got a feel for makes Popeye Village so darn interesting and special. For Popeye lovers, it's a place to wallow in nostalgia and indulge one's inner child, for families, it's a charming kid-centric outing, and well, if you're just a random overly-curious blogger, there's discoveries for you too. ... Just don't forget to snap a cheesy photo!

Popeye Village has grown from its days as the 1980's film set to one of Malta's major tourist attractions.



Popeye Village, also known as Sweethaven Village was built as the film set of the 1980 Musical Production 'Popeye' produced by <u>Paramount Pictures</u> and <u>Walt Disney Productions</u>. It is located in Anchor Bay, just two miles from the village of Mellieha and was constructed in 1979. The village consists of nineteen wooden buildings. Filming for the musical production commenced on the 23rd of January, 1980. Today, the film set has been converted into a tourist attraction and is open to the public as an open-air museum and a family entertainment complex all throughout the year.

Robin Williams

Date of Birth 21 July 1951, Chicago, Illinois, US. Date of Death 11 August 2014, Tiburon,

California, USA.

"You're only given a little spark of madness. You mustn't lose it." Robin McLaurin Williams was born on Saturday, July 21st, 1951, in Chicago, Illinois, a great-great-grandson of Mississippi Governor and Senator, Anselm J. McLaurin. His mother, Laurie McLaurin, was a former model from Mississippi, and his father, Robert Fitzgerald Williams, was a Ford Motor Company executive from Indiana.

Robin briefly studied political science before enrolling at Juilliard School to study theatre. After leaving Juilliard, he performed in nightclubs where he was discovered for the role of "Mork, from Ork", in an episode of Happy Days (1974). The episode, Happy Days: My Favorite Orkan (1978), led to his famous spin-off weekly TV series, Mork & Mindy (1978). He made his feature starring debut playing the title role in Popeye (1980), directed by Robert Altman. Williams' continuous comedies and wild comic talents involved a great deal of improvisation, following in the footsteps of his idol Jonathan Winters. Williams also proved to be an effective dramatic actor, receiving Academy Award nominations for Best Actor in a Leading Role in Good Morning, Vietnam (1987), Dead Poets Society (1989), and The Fisher King (1991), before winning the Academy Award for Best Actor in a Supporting Role in Good Will Hunting (1997).

On Monday, August 11th, 2014, Robin Williams was found dead at his home in Tiburon, California USA, the victim of an apparent suicide, according to the Marin County Sheriff's Department. A 911 call was received at 11:55 AM PDT, firefighters and paramedics arrived at his home at 12:00 p.m., and he was pronounced dead at 12:02 p.m.



Il-Maltin ma ridux il-patata u bdew jikluha biss meta spiċċaw bil-ġuħ

www.tvm.com.mt

Rapport: Ruth Castillo

Il-kċina Maltija evolviet u se tkompli tevolvi. Illum ir-riċetti Maltin tħalltu ma' riċetti ta' pajjiżi oħra. Mal-Professur Carmel Cassar nanalizzaw kif żviluppa I-

ikel Malti, b'xi riċetti jmorru lura sa żmien I-Ordni u anke qabel. Fi żmien il-Kavallieri, I-imqarrun, il-kirxa u I-kawlata kienu fost il-platti li kont issib fil-kċina tal-ibliet madwar il-Port, waqt li fl-irħula kont isib I-aktar il-minestra u t-torta tal-fenek. "Jidher minħabba I-liġijiet li kienu jagħmlu I-Kavallieri, jidher li kienu jaqbdu I-aktar fniek. Fniek miż-żgħar tax-xiber, mhux issajjar wieħed imma trid taqbad diversi. Jidher li wieħed mill-mod faċli li kienu jagħmlu I-fniek kien billi jagħmlu t-torta tal-fenek," spjega I-Istoriku, il-Professur Carmel Cassar.

II-Professur Cassar spjega li kien hemm differenza bejn il-kċina tal-ibliet madwar il-Port u l-ikel tal-irħula u Għawdex, fejn kienu jgħixu żewġ terzi tal-Maltin. Ir-raħlin kienu jieklu l-prodotti li jkabbru fl-għelieqi tagħhom stess u għalihom il-kaċċa kienet neċessità.

Il-kirxa kienet popolari tant li b'kontra sens daħlet ukoll fid-dizzjunarju tal-espressjonijiet Maltin meta jgħidulek 'qatt ma kilt kirxa miegħek'. "Wieħed mill-postijiet famużi fejn kienu jieklu l-kirxa fl-antik kien wara s-Suq. Tiekol il-kirxa jiġifieri tagħmel in-negozju, naqblu... nifthiemu fuq xi ħaġa... u din interessanti ferm, tagħmilha l-Belt li tiekol il-kirxa, u ma tagħmilix f'xi raħal," gal il-Prof Cassar.

II-Professur Cassar irrimarka li ħafna ikel fil-kċina Maltija ssibu f'partijiet oħra tal-Mediterran. Semma' li I-bigilla ssibha wkoll f'Lecce fin-naħa t'isfel tal-Italja, b'differenza li minflok jużaw it-tewm u t-tursin, jużaw l-oregano.

L-Ingliżi wkoll ħallew impatt fuq I-ikel tal-Maltin u daħħlu I-ikel tal-bott, bħal corned beef, frott u saħansitra ħalib tal-bott. II-Professur Cassar qal li dawn ippruvaw idaħħlu I-patata, li għalkemm kienu jkabbruha I-Argotti lejn nofs is-seklu tmintax, ma tantx kienet popolari mal-Maltin, li bdew idaħħluha fid-dieta tagħhom minħabba I-ġuħ.

"Daħlet bi sforz kbir min-naħa ta' Sir Alexander Ball immedjatament kif ġie," fisser Prof Cassar dwar il-patata. "Għaliex I-Ingliżi, speċjalment il-baħrin, kienu mdorrijin jieklu I-patata. Imma damet ħafna biex taqbad, ma riduhiex il-Maltin. Bl-ebda mod ma riduha."

II-Professur Cassar spjega li kien hemm differenza bejn il-kċina tal-ibliet madwar il-Port u I-ikel tal-irħula u Għawdex, fejn kienu jgħixu żewġ terzi tal-Maltin. Ir-raħlin kienu jieklu I-prodotti li jkabbru fl-għelieqi tagħhom stess u għalihom il-kaċċa kienet neċessità.

II-Professur Cassar żied li waqt li fis-seklu dsatax I-imqarrun il-forn baqa' popolari man-nies tal-ibliet, fl-irħula kienu jagħmlu r-ravjul, platt meqjus tal-okkażjoni. Il-Maltin addataw ħafna mill-platti tal-Ingliżi bħas-Sunday Roast, li minflok iċ-ċanga jew il-ħaruf bdew jagħmluh bil-majjal, platt li għadu popolari sal-lum.

Maż-żminijiet ħafna mill-ikel biddel is-sinifikat, bħal qagħaq tal-għasel, il-kwareżimal u l-biskuttini, li llum issibhom is-sena kollha, meta dari kienu għal okkażjonijiet partikolari biss.



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Jikteb il-Kav. Joe M Attard minn Ghawdex

L-10 Edizzjoni ta' 'Leone Goes Pop'

L-10 edizzjoni ta' Leone Goes Pop li saret fi Pjazza Indipendenza Victoria nhar il-Gimgħa 16 ta' Gunju 2017 bejn id-9pm u l-11pm kienet waħda ta'

success u ghaliha attendew nies minn kull rokna ta' Ghawdex flimkien ma' ghadd sabih ta' barranin li jinsabu mferrxa ma' gżiritna. L-atmosfera kienet wahda tal-ghageb u kulhadd seta' jiddeverti u jifrah matul dawk is-saghtejn li ghaddejna bilqeghda ghal frisk. Il-pubbliku seta' anke minn hin ghall-iehor jipparteċipa għall-istedina li kienet issirlu mill-preżentattriċi tas-serata Angie Laus li ta' kull nhar ta' Ħadd minn nofs inhar 'I quddiem timlieli I-hin tal-ikel waqt li tkun qed tipprezenta I-Programm popolari 'II-Hadd Għalik' fuq it-Television tal-Istat. Il-Banda Leone kienet imhejjija sewwa għal dan il-programm li matulu kellha tadatta ruħħha u tinqata' mill-programmi klassiċi u operistiċi li aħna mdorrijin bihom u tagħtina għadd ta' kanzunetti pop kif jixhed l-isem ta' dan l-ispettaklu li issa jidher li daħal fil-kalendarju kulturali Għawdxi. Mro Colin Attard dejjem bravu u attent ħa ħsieb jinkludi xi strumenti li ssoltu ma tismaghhomx fil-programmi tal-banda biex seta' jaghti hajja u sahha lil ghadd ta' kanzunetti popolari u tal-widna li nafuhom ilkoll, anke jien li ksirt is-sebgħin. Il-kunċert kien imżewwag ukoll b'kantanti bravi u ta' fama bħal Mario Caruana, Pamela Bezzina, Chiara u iktar li paxxew lill-udjenza li kienet tinkludi lill-Ministru l-gdid ghal Ghawdex Dr Justyne Caruana, is-Sindklu tal-belt Victoria Dr Samuel Azzopardi u mistednin distinti ohra li ma stajtx nara billi jien kont fl-ahhar filliera. Insomma kienet esperjenza sabiha oħra li għoġobha tirregalalna s-Soċjeta Filarmonika Leone fil-bidu tas-sajf li huwa miżgħud bil-festi popolari u kkuluriti tagħna. Dnub li dis-sena s-Soċjeta Filarmonika La Stella ma rnexxielhiex tagħtina lkuncert annwali taghha fuq I-istess linji li wkoll kien jintlaqa' tajjeb u joffri spettaklu!

Inawgurati u Mbierka x-xogħlijiet tal-Mużajk fuq iz-Zuntier tas-Santwarju tal-Madonna Ta' Pinu

Nhar il-Hadd filghaxija 18 ta' Gunju 2017, ghadd sabih ta' Ghawdxin bilqeghda ghall-arja friska quddiem is-Santwarju tal-Madonna Ta' Pinu setgħu jassistu għall-Inawgurazzjoni u t-Tberik tax-xogħlijiet tal-Mużajk li jirrapreżentaw il-misterji tar-Rużarju li saru miċ-Ċentru Aletti ta' Ruma mmexxija minn Padre Marko Ivan Rupnik SJ fejn għal dawn l-aħħar erba' snin konna nsibu jistudja lil Dun Roberto Gauci, saċerdot minn Ta' Kercem li fil-fatt fetaħ din is-serata billi tkellem dwar l-esperjenza tiegħu f'dan ix-xogħol u x'kien jinvolvi sakemm illum wieħed jista' jgawdi dan il-frott li jżejjen iz-zuntier tal-Knisja Bażilika tal-Madonna Ta' Pinu fejn sa ftit tax-xhur ilu hawnhekk kien jintuża bħala parkeġġ. F'din l-okkażjoni ħadu sehem flimkien mal-Isqof Mario Grech, I-Acisqof ta' Malta Mons Charles J Scicluna kif ukoll I-E.T. Mons George Bugeja OFM Vigarju Appostoliku ta' Tripli u Amministratur Appostoliku ta' Bengħażi. It-tlett Isqfijiet kif ukoll ir-Rettur tas-Santwarju Dun Gerard Buhagiar bierku u jnawguraw l-għoxrin misterju tar-Rużarju (l-Isqof t'Għawdex bierek u jnawgura l-Misterji tal-Ferħ, L-Arċisqof ta' Malta dawk tad-Dawl, Mons Isqof George Bugeja dawk tat-Tbatija u fl-aħħar iżda mhux lingas Fr. Buħagiar inawgura u bierek l-ħames Misterji tal-Glorja.) L-erbgħa li huma ghamlu wkoll riflessjoni qasira dwar ir-Rużarju. Lejn tmiem din is-serata li hadet madwar saghtejn dawk kollha preżenti nghataw kuruna tar-Rużarju u kienu mhegga biex ma jhallu qatt barra mit-talb talgurnata t-talba sabiĥa u gawwija tar-Rużarju li hija tant għal qalb l-Omm tagħna Marija. Fuq screen apposta stajna wkoll naraw u nisimgħu lill-Papa Frangisku jwassal messagg specjali għal din l-okkażjoni. Il-Q.T. deher bil-kuruna tar-Rużarju f'idejh iħeġġeġ lil kulħadd biex din it-talba tar-Rużarju jagħmilha tiegħu għax tant togħġob lill-Madonna u hija tarka daqstant qawwija quddiem Alla l-imbierek.



WOW MALTESE RADIO SHOW

PROGRAM MALTI FUQ IR-RADJU "WOW100.7 FM,
IMTELLA GHALLIKHOM MINN JOE BORG, MICHAEL MALLIA U LINO VELLA,
MILL LI STUDIO TA' ST. MARY'S GEWWA SYDNEY FL'AWSTRALJA....
DAN IL PROGRAM IMBAZAT B'HAFNA MATERJAL MINN MALTA,
BHALL, RTK NEWS, NISGA ETC.

DORIAN CASSAR DIRETT MILL-KOTTONERA 98 FM MALTA
EMMANUEL BRINCAT DIRETT MINN 98.9 North West FM MELBOURNE.
RUMANZ: IL-MARA LI GHEXET

KANZUNETTI MALTIN U UKOLL BL-INGLIZ u BI TALJAN UKOLL, PERO IL-KANTANTI HUMA MALTIN MINN MALTA U MINN HAWN FL-AWSTRALJA KIF UKOLL MILL BQIJA TA' DINJA.

L-ISPORTS MINN LINO VELLA.

AVIZZI TAL-KOMMUNITA...

IL-PROGRAM JINSTEMA "LIVE" IL-GIMGHA MIS- 7:00 SAL- 10:00 (TA' FILGHAXIJA) SYDNEY TIME... JEKK ITRIDU CEMPLUNA GHALL XI REQUEST JEW GHALL XI BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARJI JEW XI KAS TA' MEWT ETC. DAN HUWA IN-NUMRU: 02 9833 1444

http://gdaymaltaussiesshow.com/.../wow-100-7-fm-maltese-rad.../...



FATHER CLAUDE BORG MSSP

Passed away, Saturday 17 June 2017
The Funeral Was held on Friday 23 June at Our Lady of Victories, Horsley Park, New South Wales
MAY HE REST IN THE PEACE OF THE LORD

Tiramisu Tradition

New Years is the time in our house when we always make a Tiramisu, a tradition started more than 13 years ago, before children, before moving to Malta...back when we were living in England, in a small Victorian flat near the sea, in a city called Brighton. It was a chilly windy night, but inside it was cosy, candles, cards, music and laughter.

We had friends from our post grad days over for a meal and some new years celebrating, together we represented the countries of Australia, Italy, Nigeria, Venezuela, Portugal, Malta and the US. Our friends from Italy came over in the afternoon to prepare a Tiramisu, a family recipe from Louisa originating from Turin, in Piemonte and which she shared with me, and which now finds our way into our ending beginning of every new year..



Tiramisu Recipe

500 grams Marscapone
5 eggs
5 Tbs sugar
3 Tbs brandy
Savoiardi biscuits (2 packs)
3-5 shots of espresso
cocoa for dusting

Step 1. Separate the eggs and combine the egg

yolks and the sugar in a large bowl.

Step 2. Add in the marscapone and stir till smooth.

Step 3. Beat the egg whites with the salt till they form stiff peaks.

Step 4. Fold the egg whites into the marscapone mixture then add in the Brandy.

Step 5. Make the espresso and add in some cold water (1/2 cup or so)

Step 6. Dip the biscuits one by one briefly into the espresso and line onto the dish, after the layer of biscuits in in place spoon in a layer of the marscapone mixture, then add a second layer of dipped biscuits and finally a layer of marscapone on the top then dust with cocoa and refrigerate for at least 2-4 hours. Serves 8

We have returned to Malta now and after many months away from the Capers and Olives space I am moved to come back. It is with the closing of the year that I step back to this place, to share small whispered observations, inspirations, little views from this world of Malta that I call home.

If you are visiting Malta this year, don't let your inner foodie down. Give Maltese cuisine a try and don't miss out on the islands' tasty desserts. Here's one of my list of top desserts the islands have to offer.

Qaghaq tal- Ghasel Maltese Honey Rings

Although the literal translation for these Ring-shaped desserts, are 'Honey Rings'

there is no honey present in the filling or the pastry. The main ingredient is treacle. The crunchy biscuity pastry together with the moist treacle filling is great when complemented with a cup of tea or coffee in the afternoon.



experience for all of us (our group Club 50+)

Brazilian student thanks EC, for offering English Courses for Adults in Malta

First I would like to say that I am a very lucky person because, when I first decided to look around in internet to find an interchanging I couldn't imagine such a happy experience I would be included in. I would like to thank Laura for her time with us. She is an specialist in Malta's history, and I liked her very much. Her effort, kindness to provide a good

All the information and changes I had to make were very well completed by the staff. Thank you for your kindness. The place to eat and drink that you have was very nice and attentions. You provided to us a good knowledge of Malta, Gozo and Comino...what a country...small in size, but large in heart. I miss Malta and the school days. thank you for all your love and concern...I love you all Thank you EC for Offering an English Courses for Adults in Malta.



Worth every Penny! Ilana Mendes Alves Barboza

Travelling to Europe has been a dream since I was eight years old. After a few years saving money, my father was able to help me realize that dream. And I realized that doing an exchange would be the best way. When I chose Malta, I did not know much about the country, but it was in Europe, and it was not that expensive. It was perfect for me. Last but not least, I was shown EC English Courses for Adults in Malta, where I had the best moments of the trip. Of course getting to know other places was amazing, but meeting other people was much more. I'm leaving EC and leaving a piece of my heart

here. The feeling I have is that I really do not want to leave, I want to stay longer. Malta was a piece of paradise in the middle of the Mediterranean, and EC was a piece of a new idea that popped into my head. Do you want to learn English? EC is going to be the best school. Worth every penny, and I will never forget what I lived here. Officially I'm leaving, but mentally, I want to stay. Thank you EC for everything I've experienced.



Japanese Prime Minister in Malta on short visit

27 May 2017

Trade relations and other bilateral issues topped the agenda of the talks between Prime Minister Joseph Muscat and the Prime Minister of Japan Shinzō Abe, with Prime Minister Muscat referring to Mr Abe's visit as a tool to make a quantum leap in relations between the two sides. The Department of Information said Prime Minister Muscat also referred to the ongoing negotiations between the European

Union and Japan on a trade agreement. The Japanese Prime Minister said that he will strive to increase political, economic, and trade relations between the two countries.

Maltese actor features in film about life of Enzo Ferrari

Joseph Vassallo landed the role of the father of Ferrari



Few Maltese actors can boast of having made it big abroad, especially in the cut-throat world of film in the US, yet Joseph Vassallo seems to be the exception.

Moving to New York 30 years ago, Mr Vassallo shows no signs of slowing down, with his most recent endeavour – the portrayal of race car driver and entrepreneur Enzo Ferrari – involving computer-generated imagery.

Mr Vassallo, who has appeared in over 100 advertisements in the US and worked alongside actors like Ashton Kutcher, Forest Whitaker, Damon Wayans, Jason Alexander and others on television shows as well as big-budget films, recently landed the role of the father of Ferrari.

He portrays the character in a short film that is screened at the recently-opened Farrari Land at Barcelona's PortAventura Park. Premiering on April 7, the short film sees Mr Vassallo transformed into the iconic character in hologram form, offering viewers a history of the family and their success in building the Ferrari brand.

Ferrari Land is the latest addition to PortAventura World which is located on Spain's Costa Dorada, close to Barcelona, and attracts thousands of visitors every year. While the actor has played numerous roles over the years, Mr Vassallo admitted that portraying Enzo Ferrari earned him "the best and most humbling compliments" of his career after Enzo's son Piero said he was impressed by the portrayal of his father.

Mr Vassallo's passion for the film industry was sparked following a visit to the set of movie Midnight Express which was filmed in Malta and in which his father was an extra. He then joined the Manoel Theatre and while working on the luxurious cruise liner Queen Elizabeth II, Mr Vassallo travelled to New York often. He soon relocated there, pursuing an acting career, and then moved to Los Angeles where he trained at various academies.

Egg-yolk jellyfish spotted in Maltese waters for the first time www.timesofmalta.com |

Species can grow up to 60cm in diameter

A large jellyfish with a bell diameter of up to 60 cm has been spotted for the first time in Maltese waters.

The egg-yolk jellyfish (*Phacellophora camtschatica*) preys on smaller jellyfish species and provides shelter to the juvenile stages of carangid fish species such as jacks and mackerels. The egg-yolk jellyfish only imparts a mild sting. Despite its imposing size, the species only imparts a very mild sting.

The species, which is often found in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans but rarely in the Mediterranean, was spotted locally by marine photographer Pete Bullen and identified by the University of Lecce's Stefan Piraino. Almost 40 jellyfish species are known to date from Maltese waters, with the Spot the Jellyfish campaign contributing almost 10 new species records since it began in June 2010.

Submissions to this campaign, supported by the MTA, Blue Flag and the International Ocean Institute, can be made through the campaign website, Facebook page or by emailing coordinator Alan Deidun from the Department of Geosciences at the University of Malta.

A new set of Spot the Jellyfish seaside jellyfish boards will be installed at local beaches by early May. An improved jellyfish dispersion model developed within the ambit of the MED-JELLYRISK project will be released for public use in the coming weeks, in time for the swimming months.



Fresh from Malta Eating Local

Claire Borg

A tiny island in the middle of the Mediterranean was one day invaded by a monster. The Mega Supermarket appeared... big, bold and very new. Driven by curiosity and lured by very cheap prices the mass was attracted like bedazzled mozzies to a bright light.

Why do I feel so offended at the appearance of this 'new' venture? Did they need their 499th outlet on Gozo? Really? And to add insult to injury...why are they offering tasteless fruits and vegetables on their shelves from overseas?

Gozo is quite small and remote. Some people call it "the place where the devil forgot his slipper". A tiny and beautiful island. Our arid, yet fertile land, the sun and the Mediterranean breezes are three key factors that contribute to the production of fantastic agricultural produce. We have amazing tomatoes, world famous oranges, perfumed wild indigenous chamomile, bountiful crops of broad beans and artichokes, prickly pears and figs that grow wild, sweet summer fruits and glistening bright red Pomegranates that taste like no other.

Not only do our fruits and vegetables taste better, they are grown by hardworking folk that are driven by passion. Working the land is no easy 9 to 5 job. Pruning, trimming, planting, sowing, watering, harvesting, picking..... does it ever end?

I meet people like Lucia and her husband _ working hard in their asparagus fields, Lina and Joe in their orange groves, Gianni with his tomato fields, Pawlu with fields of broccoli and cauliflower, and many others like them.

It is so beautiful to see seasonal crops appear in the market. Rewarding too, after waiting eagerly for the arrival of new produce. Broad beans and artichokes in March. Strawberries in April.The first Summer fruits in June. Pomegranates in October and the first mandarins in December. As one leaves the stage (our kitchens!) a new 'protagonist' moves in to steal the limelight....

So, I have made my choice. In respect of my land and out of respect for the hard working faces that express love for my land. I buy and eat local.



THE MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora

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NOSTALGIA - The remarkable images show life in Malta in the late 1950s.



FRIENDS GATHER FOR A CHAT IN RABAT-MALTA

A MONK FISHES FOR HIS SUPPER AT PIETA CREEK



CARS HEAD THROUGH THE KING'S GATE IN VALLETTA



A HAWKER SELLS POTS AND PANS IN PIETA



GHAQDA TA' KITTIEBA MALTIN - MELBOURNE, AWSTRALJA

Ringiela ta' wara: Manwel Nicholas Borg, Guzi Abela, Joe Briffa, Charles Vella, Joe Scerri, Karmenu Borg Ringiela tan-nofs: Manwel Cassar, Fr. Lawrence dimech, Josephine Cassar, Carmela Nicholas Borg Ringiela quddiem: Danny Cassar u I-ahwa Doris u Monica

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW INSTITUTE AWARDS THE PROFESSOR WALTER MÜLLER PRIZE



Ms. Nayomi Malina Kahawita (Sri Lanka) was awarded the Professor Walter Müller Prize for the Best Maritime Legislation Drafting Project during the Institute's 28th Annual Graduation Ceremony held at the Malta Maritime Museum, Vittoriosa, Malta on 27 May 2017. The Prize was awarded by Hon. Anglu Farrugia (Speaker, the House of Representative of Malta).

Ms. Nayomi Malina Kahawita (Sri Lanka) receiving the Professor Walter Müller Prize for the Best Maritime Legislation Drafting Project from Hon. Anglu Farrugia (Speaker,

the House of Representative of Malta).

The Prize (the Professor Walter Müller Prize for the Best Maritime Legislation Drafting Project) is awarded to a student whose Maritime Legislation Drafting Project is adjudged best for the academic year. Ms. Nayomi Malina Kahawita, the winner of the Prize for the 2016-2017 academic year, is a State Counsel of the Attorney General's Chambers of Sri Lanka.



Rediffusion in Malta

1935 www.tvm.com.mt

Report: Antonia Micallef Photo: Archives PBS Rediffusion Malta Ltd began operating as a radio station for Malta and Gozo by means of a license issued by the British Governor, November 1935 when Malta was still a British colony.

The service consisted of two channels – one which used to transmit BBC programmes originating from the UK which used to arrive in Malta via short wave, while the other used to broadcast programmes from other foreign stations,

especially Italian ones.

The popularity of this medium grew when the news in English and Maltese also began to be transmitted. Twelve years after radio broadcasting began in Malta in 1947, the concept of advertising began. In 1955, the Rediffusion was also introduced in Gozo where a small station was opened. In the 50s, broadcasting started to give more importance to female listeners by dedicating special programmes for them. In fact, Carmen Carbonaro started these women's programs 65 years ago. In the 50s and 60s there was a musical explosion as great singers with different styles emerged.

On 23 January, 1958, broadcasting in Malta had its first official building with the opening of Rediffusion House in Guardamangia, the same building which today houses the PBS Creativity Hub. In 1962, Television Malta was introduced, which at first used to transmit from the same building which housed the radio station, as the building known as Television House, did not yet exist. This was completed 16 months later on.