



## THE MALTESE NEWSLETTER

### The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora

THE MOTTO - BUILDING BRIDGES NOT WALLS

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# MALTA



SPRING



## MALTAPOST SEASONS' STAMPS

'Spring' is illustrated in the 26c stamp and includes a woman dressed in a Maltese folk costume against a Maltese landscape featuring Gozo's Cittadella. The Cittadella, is a small fortified city in the heart of Victoria, Gozo.

Residents would take refuge within the Cittadella in times of unrest. One such instance was in July 1551 when a force of 10,000 Ottomans invaded Gozo and besieged the Cittadella. Gozo's population of 5000 to 6000 people had taken refuge within the Cittadella, and were all taken as slaves when the city fell



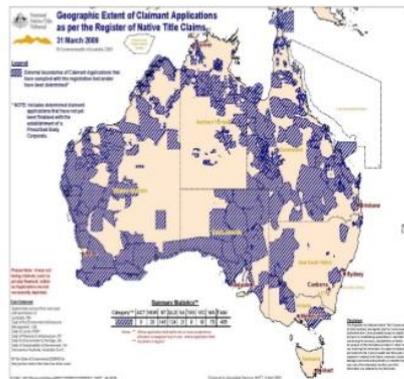
# Terra Nullius

In 1770 Captain James Cook landed in Botany Bay, home of the Eora people, and claimed possession of the East Coast of Australia for Britain under the doctrine of 'terra nullius'. According to the international law of Europe in the late 18th century, there were only three ways that Britain could take possession of another country:

- If the country was uninhabited, Britain could claim and settle that country. In this case, it could claim ownership of the land.

## No more Terra Nullius

- **Eddie Mabo died before the decision but his people now owned their land**
- **Terra Nullius had been abolished**
- **Native title is now available all over Australia**



- If the country was already inhabited, Britain could ask for permission from the indigenous people to use some of their land. In this case, Britain could purchase land for its own use but it could not steal the land of the indigenous people.

- If the country was inhabited, Britain could take over the country by invasion and conquest- in other words, defeat that country in war. However, even after winning a war, Britain would have to respect the rights of indigenous people.

Strange y Britain did not follow any of these rules in Australia. Since there were

already people living in Australia, Britain could not take possession by "settling" this country. However from the time of Captain Cook's arrival the British Government acted as if Australia were uninhabited. So, instead of admitting that it was invading land that belonged to Aboriginal people, Britain acted as it were settling an empty land. This is what is meant by the myth of terra nullius.

Source:

*The myth of terra nullius NSW Board of Studies, 1995  
Reproduced in the Sydney Morning Herald, 26 October 1996*

# What Rights did he want for Indigenous People?

Eddie Mabo proved **terra nullias** wrong so when he was in Queensland he **established** whose land it was. The court case allowed all **indigenous** people to claim land if they were using it. Unfortunately, Mabo didn't live to see that he got the land back and that he won the case.

Sunday, 6 July 14



Australian  
Human Rights  
Commission  
everyone. everywhere. every day.

## Indigenous languages are critically endangered

- .....
- Prior to colonisation, Australia had 250 distinct languages which expanded to 600 dialects.
  - Today only 18 Indigenous languages are currently spoken by all generations of people within a given language group.
  - 100 Indigenous languages still exist in some form in Australia, many of them are in an advanced stage of endangerment. Small numbers of older people are the only full speakers of these languages.
  - Without intervention Australia's Indigenous language knowledge will cease to exist in the next 10 to 30 years

## Tastes of Malta and South Africa served up in Mackay –

### Queensland Australia *Tara Cassidy*



**GOURMET GOODS:** *Julia Mullamphy is serving up Maltese and South African cuisine to the Mackay region online.*

THE tastes of Malta and South Africa are being served up in Mackay, thanks to the launch of new online business, 'Souk Gourmet'.

Having travelled the world through work for the past 10 years, mother of one Julia Mullamphy wanted to figure out a way of making international foods more available in Mackay.

She combined her love of cooking, travels and Maltese background with the need to find a job that would allow her to spend time with her new son Jack, and so 'Souk Gourmet' was born.

"I was visiting all the souks in the Middle East and Africa and I just came up with this idea that I wanted to create a place where people could buy food from all parts of the world," Ms Mullamphy said.

Julia Mullamphy's travels inspired her new business. "I was working part-time after coming back from maternity leave and I wanted some flexibility to be able to spend time with my son. I'd been thinking about doing it (the business) for years and just figured now's the time to do this.

"My original idea was to open a store, but with a young family I thought it could be hard, so I came up with the concept of an online store where we do deliveries and provide a unique experience for customers."

Ms Mullamphy said her love for cooking and food began at home, learning from her Nuna and Auntie Joyce, then travelling to her family's home country and the rest of the world.

She is in the process of adding a variety of her family's Maltese recipes to the Souk Gourmet website for customers to try and learn different ways of using the products.



*Julia Mullamphy is selling Maltese and South African cuisine online.*

"I've got some great Maltese recipes that people are enjoying cooking so I decided a recipe section would be a good way of explaining how to use my products and give them a new style to try at home," she said.

"We've been running for five weeks and the feedback I've gotten so far is that people are enjoying being able to cook something different, easy and that tastes really good.

"They're also loving the human contact aspect, they can come and talk to me and put in requests for things they want that they wouldn't at a big supermarket."

Ms Mullamphy hopes to expand the business in future, to include North African, Zimbabwean and Islander food products.

"Those are definitely communities I'd like to explore, if the demand is there, and I'd also love to be able to reach and provide service to areas more north, south and west of

Mackay," she said.

"In the long term I'd love to have an international grocer/cafe where people can come and talk about the food, purchase the food and eat the food, with good coffee, of course."

To purchase Souk Gourmet products, you can head to [www.thesoukgourmet.com.au](http://www.thesoukgourmet.com.au)

**Daily Mercury**



*Songs from Classic Hollywood*

Do you remember the old Burnside Ballroom in Tusmore?  
Well ...  
**YOU MUST REMEMBER THIS**  
on SUN 23 JULY, at 3pm, Tickets \$15  
we are performing with a fabulous 6pc band & have a  
special guest.

So get dressed up like you used to for the Ballroom and  
join..

Bonnie Lee Galea on voice  
Quinton Dunne on double bass & voice  
Mark Ferguson on keys  
Steve Todd on drums

Peter Raidel on keys  
Lazaro Ernesto Numa Pompa on trumpet &  
Special Guest Leo Capurso on voice

By the way you can also see our gigs listed on our website <https://bonnielegalea.com/>  
[down the right side of page]  
or click the Follow button on the right  
if you want to find out more or find out the next closest show to you....

**STAY WARM & SEE YOU SOON**

#####



**TOP MODEL MALTA 2017 - CHRISTINA ELLUL VINCENTI**

Sliema model Christina Ellul Vincenti is to take part in the next Top Model Competition. Christina will be representing Malta at the competition in Lebanon between the 18 July and 15 August where she will be competing with other 50 contestants from around the world. Christina was chosen to represent her country in the international competition held in Malta last April.



## Fra' Giacomo Dalla Torre inaugurates the new Day Clinic in the San Giovanni Battista Hospital, Rome

The Lieutenant of the Grand Master, Fra' Giacomo Dalla Torre del Tempio di Sanguinetto, received the Secretary of the Italian Council of Ministers Maria Elena Boschi in the San Giovanni Battista Hospital, Rome. The facility, specialised in neuromotor rehabilitation, is run by the Order of Malta's Italian Association and the occasion was the inauguration of its new day hospital. The hospital's top management and the Italian Association's president, Prof. Riccardo Paternò di Montecupo, were present.

Addressing the hospital's doctors, nurses, other staff and managers, the Honourable Boschi (pictured above) expressed her appreciation for their commitment and dedication in treating the patients while paying particular attention to their psychological and emotional needs: "For someone in hospital, affection and attention can change just one day or even an entire life," said Maria Elena Boschi who had already visited the hospital last year. "I remember I was impressed by the trust the patients had in all of you, and by your capacity for human interaction," the Secretary continued. She then pointed out the efficacy of the cooperation agreement between the Italian State and the Sovereign Order of Malta, enabling the recent extension of the hospital with the new facility inaugurated yesterday.

"The new Day Hospital testifies to the commitment of our doctors and nurses to Our Lords the Sick and the excellent relations with the Italian State," asserted Fra' Giacomo Dalla Torre. After the ribbon-cutting ceremony, the two delegations visited the new Day Hospital where the Secretary, accompanied by the Lieutenant of the Grand Master, visited the patients, family members and the medical staff, stopping to have a few words with them. One of the most important activities in the San Giovanni Battista hospital is the re-awakening service, specialised in treating patients with brain injuries in the delicate post-coma stage.

## SPECIAL LOCATION FOR 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL EDITION OF OPERA VS POP UNDER THE STARS - 2017 - Kav. Joe M Attard



Ever since its inception in 2002, The Gozo Youth Wind Band & Orchestra, consisting of two (2) separate groups of young and promising musicians, have been entertaining the general public with a wide range of stylistic repertoire to the enjoyment of all age-groups. Hailing from all over Gozo (and enriched with proficient guest musicians including foreign residents residing on the island), these young musicians meet regularly to prepare a wide spectrum of musical genre to be performed in various high-caliber events held from time to time in Gozo and Malta.

The whole concept behind this project, (originating after a successful tour by The Derbyshire City & County Youth Wind Band & Orchestra in 2001), besides creating the opportunity to young talented musicians perform in the collective manner, is to create a new approach to concert performances by nearly-similar ensembles and strives to explore new/innovative aspects of presenting its performances.

### OPERA VS POP UNDER THE STARS – 10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL EDITION

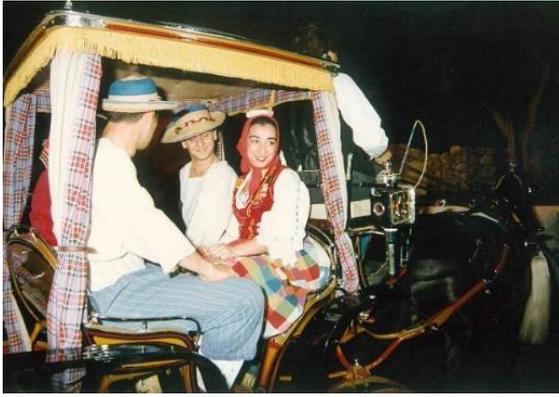
-NEW VENUE – Villa Rundle – Victoria Gozo

Following our nine previous successful editions of Opera vs Pop Under the Stars, The Gozo Youth Orchestra in collaboration with The Ministry for Gozo and Embassy of the United States of America presents: "Opera vs Pop Under the Stars – 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Special Edition" by the Gozo Youth Orchestra. The concert will be held Monday 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2017 at Villa Rundle, Victoria, Gozo at 8.30 p.m. Patrons are requested to be seated at 8.15 p.m. The concert will be hosted by the Hon. Minister for Gozo – Dr. Justyne Caruana and the Ambassador for the United States of America H.E. G. Kathleen Hill.

The concert will feature Soprano Pamela Agius (*New York*), Bass Noel Galea (*Gozo*) and Pop Singer Ludwig Galea (*Malta*) and joined by guests singers Francesco Joseph Nicodeme (*Italy*), Francesca Sciberras (*Gozo*), Jolene Samhan (*Gozo*) and Stanley Joe Portelli (*Gozo*). The first part of the program will consist of classical and operatic songs and arias, followed by an array of lighter pop arrangements from soundtracks and musicals in the second part. Patrons are invited to an after-concert treat. Tickets strictly by reservation and available by emailing: [gozowindbandorchestra@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gozowindbandorchestra@yahoo.co.uk) or 7942 1611/9942 1611.

This event is being put up in collaboration with the Ministry for Gozo, the American Embassy, the Culture Section within the Ministry for Gozo, HSBC Bank, Hotel Ta' Ċenċ, The Central Bank of Malta, Banif Bank, Michael Grech Financial, Joseph Portelli Projects, Karkanja Ltd, and General Soft Drinks Co. Ltd.





## SAN GIRGOR 2017

Deeply rooted in Malta's history, the feast of San Giorġo has been a popular traditional event since the 1500s. The event, which according to popular belief is related to a general vow by the public on their deliverance from the plague, goes back to 1543 but may have started as early as 1519. The popular event is celebrated on the first

Wednesday after Easter Sunday and originally consisted of a pilgrimage by confraternities from all Maltese parishes starting from Mdina and ending with a religious ceremony at the Żejtun parish church.

Today, the pilgrimage is somewhat shorter and starts from the chapel of St Clement in Żejtun. From there, participants – accompanied by the archbishop and the metropolitan chapter, the archpriest, the clergy, and the Archconfraternity of St Joseph of Rabat – go to the Żejtun parish church where the *miserere* is sung. The pilgrimage then continues to Żejtun's old parish, popularly known as San Giorġo, where mass is said with the participation of all present. After the religious function, the crowd makes its way to Marsaxlokk to relax and enjoy the rest of the day with traditional music and *għana*, food, and – for brave ones – their first swim.

In its drive to encourage and strengthen the traditional and folk elements of this feast, the Festivals Directorate within Arts Council Malta will be supporting the event. This year, In Guardia re-enactors will take on the role of knights from the Order of St John and will accompany the procession to the old parish church, San Giorġo. Along the way, artisans will be working on their particular traditional crafts.

After mass, a group of *għannejja* and musicians will entertain the crowd with short traditional songs. They will then get on two animal-drawn carts prepared for the occasion and make their way to Marsaxlokk, following the old route to the fishing village. At Marsaxlokk, two platforms will be set up where, throughout the afternoon, a folk programme which will include two of the main types of traditional *għana* – *daqq tal-prejjem* and *botta u risposta* – will be held. Nearby, there will also be a number of stalls with traditional crafts such as the loom, filigree, pottery, cane work, glass and lace. It will surely be an interesting afternoon, which can be enjoyed by Maltese families and foreigners alike. An event which will continue to strengthen our folk traditions, deeply-rooted in history while at the same time keeping them alive and relevant to today's society. This event is organised by Arts Council Malta in collaboration with the Żejtun Local Council and the Marsaxlokk Local Council. **The celebrations were held on Wednesday 19th April at Żejtun and Marsaxlokk Bay**





## Solemn Feast of the Assumption of The Blessed Virgin

*Our Lady Ta Pinu Shrine*

*All Nations Marian Centre*

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2017**

From 2.00 p.m.

Rosary Procession, Holy Mass & Benediction

*Principal Celebrant*

**Bishop Terrence Curtin**

Animated by Filipino Chaplaincy Chamber Choir.

*Featuring Presentation of Children to the Blessed Virgin.*

forward to be a Sunday Event to ensure that this invitation to all family members and friends, so that they may join us and take part in the Blessings of their children on that day.

**Our Lady Ta'Pinu Shrine - All Nations Marian Centre - 15 Flanagans Drive Merrimu 3340 (Bacchus Marsh) Victoria Australia**

### Ta Pinu Shrine - Australia

<infotapinu@optusnet.com.au> You are invited to attend: **Sunday 13th August 2017 Starts 2.00 p.m.** Rosary Procession, Holy Mass and Benediction led by H.L Bishop Terry Curtin STD DD VG EV Episcopal Vicar for the Northern Region & for Evangelisation and Mission Parish Priests, Asst Priests, Chaplains are all invited to join in concelebrating with Msgr Benedict Camilleri, Msgr Joselito Asis, Rev Emmanuel Bonello, Rev Ted Rostovski and other members of the clergy. Music Ministry by FCCM (Filipino Chaplaincy Chamber Choir of Melbourne).

*This Solemnity has been brought*

### IT MAKES FEEL LIKE WE ARE TOGETHER WHILE I`M READING IT.

#### What Our Readers Say About Us!

Have Your Say!



Hello Mr. Scicluna,

My name is Vince Bugeja, I live in Windsor, Ontario, Canada. I came to Canada in June 1952. After a 12 days journey on the boat we reached the New York harbour; from there boarded the train taking us to Toronto, Canada. I lived there for nearly three years and then moved to Windsor and settled here for all these years. Windsor is situated across the river from Detroit. Windsor just like Detroit is a motor city; General

Motors Company was here until five years ago, Ford Motor Company and Chrysler of Canada are here. There are two ways to go to Detroit, either take the Ambassador bridge or the Windsor tunnel, which is beneath the bottom of the river. Up until that terrible incident, 9/11, it was fairly easy to enter into USA. but after that became a little hard. At the customs you're asked all kinds of questions.

I was introduced to your News letter by someone from Melbourne, Australia. This person and I never met and yet we are the best of friends; parents are from Rabat Malta, and so am I. I really enjoy reading the News letter, I find it very interesting and informative. Reading about Maltese people no matter where they live, and things about Malta, our home country, makes it of value. As for me, it makes feel like we are together while I'm reading it.

Unlike Toronto, Windsor is a small city and the number of Maltese people living here is much smaller but we do have a club, Malta United Society of Windsor. The number of members is small but some events are held every now and then.

July 1st is Canada Day. every year we have a huge cake in the form of the Canadian flag and everybody (of course those who want) get a free piece of that cake. The fireworks display is held on the Detroit river. This year it was bigger because Canada turned 150 years old.

Lastly, I want to congratulate you on the beautiful work you're doing. Keep up the good work.

Kind regards. Vincent Bugeja.

## Top Maltese Chef Marvin Gauci to Open Restaurant in Budapest

Chris Peregini



Top Maltese chef Marvin Gauci - who this year brought Dinner In The Sky to Malta - will next year export his much-loved Caviar & Bull restaurant to the Hungarian capital Budapest.

"We are ready for the next level. It's time to take our innovative product abroad and help put Malta on the gastronomical map. I want to help develop Malta's food reputation globally so that top foodies all over the world will see what we're doing and travel to Malta to try more. It's time to put Malta on the radar of the Michelin guide," Mr Gauci told Lovin Malta.

The restaurant will be located within the Corinthia's palatial Budapest hotel, just off the Grand Boulevard in the centre of the city. It will open early next year. "A big part of this business is confidence, and let's face it, I don't lack it," he said, adding that with the support of his colleagues, wife, family and Corinthia Group, he was convinced the concepts that worked well in Malta for a population of 400,000 would be just as successful in a bigger city with even more tourists.

Mr Gauci also runs the popular St Paul's Bay restaurant Tarragon – probably the most awarded restaurant in Malta's history. Famed for his molecular gastronomy and attention to detail, his restaurants are consistently top ranked. Caviar & Bull has a 4.5 star rating on TripAdvisor and is marked at one of the top three restaurants in St Julian's. It specialises in haute cuisine, cocktails and molecular gastronomy.

After just three months operating, Dinner In The Sky was ranked the best restaurant in Malta. Last year, Mr Gauci was also named Chef Of The Year by the *Definitive(ly) Good Food Guide*.

**Know of anyone else representing Malta with pride and making a good name to the Maltese Islands abroad? Tell us about them on [maltesejournal@gmail.com](mailto:maltesejournal@gmail.com)**

Sometimes ago I wrote to you to ask you about the long delay in obtaining Maltese citizenship certificate for Maltese living abroad. Still after many attempts I haven't got a reply or explanation. Why everytime we try to get information from Malta no one seems to listen to us?

Try to contact

Citizenship - Identity Malta (Expatriates)

Evans Building, St Elmo's Square, Valletta

Identity Malta (Citizenship)

Evans Building, St Elmo's Square, Valletta

(+356) 2590 4600 Email: [citizenship@gov.mt](mailto:citizenship@gov.mt)

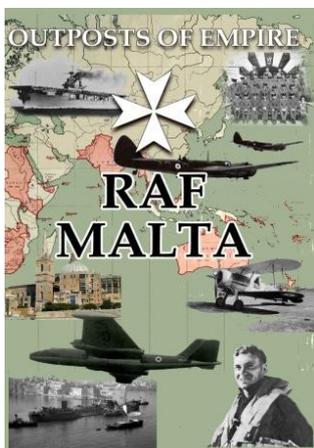
# The site for anyone stationed at any of the Air Bases in Malta over the years. <http://raf-luqa.weebly.com/>

These crests were created by Steve Clements for the 'Air of Authority' website of Malcolm Barras.



## OUTPOSTS OF EMPIRE - MALTA

RAF Malta is the first of several documentaries being produced by Tod Nicol as part of the “outposts of Empire” Project. This 90 minute programme tells the story of the RAF on Malta from its humble beginnings at Royal Naval Air Station at Kalafrana in 1917 to its final days at RAF Luqa prior to the British withdrawal in 1979. Through interviews with veterans and historians we hear how the Island became an outpost of Empire during the Napoleonic Wars, the Head Quarters of the Royal Navy’s Mediterranean fleet.



The second siege of Malta is shown in archive film from the World famous Imperial War Museum Film Archive illustrating the memories of veterans who flew from Malta and ran the gauntlet in the Malta convoys to resupply the Island with Spitfires. The Cold War era is recalled by the men who flew and supported NATO anti-submarine patrols in Shackleton, Canberra and Nimrod aircraft tracking down Soviet shipping and peering over the Iron Curtain to photograph activities in Russian controlled territories the Gulf and Middle East. The final months are also remembered with sadness as the British finally withdrew after 160 years to become an independent country and a thriving member the

European Union. To purchase a copy of Outposts of Empire, RAF Malta or further information on the Outposts of Empire project visit [www.outposts-of-empire.co.uk](http://www.outposts-of-empire.co.uk) or contact Tod Nicol at [tod\\_nicol@msn.com](mailto:tod_nicol@msn.com).



## HOME AWAY FROM HOME

THE CITY OF TORONTO IS KNOWN AS ONE OF THE MOST MULTI-CULTURAL CITIES IN THE WORLD. THROUGH THIS TITLE MANY DIFFERENT "TOWNS" HAVE BEEN CREATE THAT CATER TO THE SPECIFIC NEEDS OF THE ETHNIC GROUPS THAT LIVE HERE.



### HISTORY OF THE MALTESE COMMUNITY

The Maltese community started immigrating to Canada during the 1900s. St. Paul the Apostle Parish, built in the 1930s was the first place in Toronto to really bring the Maltese community together. The Church still stands today in the center of Little Malta. With world war two, there was a huge amount of Maltese that immigrated in Toronto. Bring the need to increase places that could be the community such as the Malta Band Club and The Maltese-Canadian Society of Toronto. This helped Toronto to have one of the largest Maltese communities outside of Malta.

38780 Maltese Population in Canada (2011)  
 6870 Maltese in Toronto (2011)  
 270 Maltese population living in the Junction  
 1805 Matlese population in Toronto (1996)  
**MALTA BAKE SHOP**



Owned by Maltese immigrants Charles and Antoinette Buttigieg, Malta Bake Shop has become one of the premier places in Toronto to find delicious Maltese treats. This shop is located in the heart of Little Malta 3256 Dundas Street West, within walking distance of Malta Park and St. Paul the Apostle Parish. The shop has been in the community for over 33 years and offers home made treats and sweets.

### LITTLE MALTESE TREATS

Food is really what helps keep these little communities stay strong. From Malta Bake Shop to Om Restaurant, food along with other activities in the communities have helped these areas develop their names. Little Malta really makes you feel as if you have transported into Malta. The food and the pictures in Malta Bake Shop really help people picture what it would be like to spend a day in Malta. Being such a small area they have done a good job of presenting this homey feeling. Along with the park and the church the presence of this community has not decreased. Om Restaurant allow people to be transported to Tibet. Located in the middle of Parkdale, Little Tibet has also made a name for itself even with a declining population. Walking down Parkdale, every restaurant you see will be Tibetan. Even with the community moving out to Toronto, it seems that Tibetan roots will remain in Parkdale far into the future.



## SAINT UBALDESKA CHURCH IN PAOLA, MALTA



**St. Ubaldesca Church** (Maltese: *Knisja ta' Sant'Ubaldeska*) is a 17th-century baroque church built during the Order of St. John in Paola, Malta. The building is a historic landmark, being the oldest church established in the locality and is listed on the National Inventory of the Cultural Property of the Maltese Islands (NICPMI).

The church is dedicated to Saint Ubaldesca Taccini, who was born in Calcinaia, near Pisa, in 1136, and joined the Order of St. John of Jerusalem at the age of fifteen.

On 31 July 1629, Pope Urbanus VIII issued a papal bull granting the Order the permission to erect a church in the name of St. Ubaldesca, of whom the current grandmaster was very fond, with the following words: "We accept this request and to the aforementioned Antonius, with the Apostolic authority granted by this bull, we give the authority that in the mentioned town in a location of his preference, as long as it is comfortable and just, a church can be built in honour of the aforementioned Saint."<sup>[3]</sup> On 12 November of the same year, the Order agreed to erect the church. Its foundation stone was laid on 25 August 1630 under the auspice of Antoine de Paule, who was elected as the 56th Grand Master of the order on 10 March 1623. The feast of Saint Ubaldesca was commonly celebrated as the official village feast on 28 May years following the foundation of the original chapel.

After the Military Order left the island, the church became property of the state. After the 19th century, the population of the parish began to flourish and the church struggled to meet the spiritual needs of the people. In 1883 the archbishop received a letter from the parish expressing their wish for the church to fulfill its role for the growing community. On 17 July 1901, the ownership of the church was relinquished to the ecclesiastical authorities, at the request of bishop Peter Pace, to serve as a parish church. During that year, a committee, presided by Marquis Giorgio Crispo Barbaro di San Giorgio and Fr. Francis Attard, was founded to take upon itself the task to foresee that materials were gathered and upgrading works were done on the church. Upgrading works were completed on 15 September 1901.<sup>[4]</sup> In 1902, the church was enlarged and its original altarpiece, a painting by Bartolomeo Garagona, was replaced by a painting by Lazzaro Pisani.

The church ceased to be the parish church of Paola in around 1928 when religious rituals began to be held within the church of Christ the King, which had been appositely built to cater for the growing population in the town. Between 2007 and 2008 the church underwent restoration works. Prior to the time, the facade had fallen in disrepair, with various structural damages to the sides and roof



SBS Radio encourages young Australians to participate in the SBS

**National Languages Competition 2017**

Visit [sbs.com.au/NLC17](http://sbs.com.au/NLC17) to enter the competition

from 24 July- 1 September

*Nearly 1.3 million people have migrated to Australia during the past five years, with a substantial increase in the number of people who speak a language other than English at home.\* Reflecting on Australia's growing multicultural society, SBS hopes to inspire young minds by contributing to language retention with a nationwide competition.*

To celebrate a love of learning languages, the SBS National Languages Competition, is back for 2017 and it is bigger and better. In its inaugural year, the competition received close to 20,000 entries in partnership with the Community Languages Association (CLA) and with participation only from CLA students. This year, the nationwide initiative is open to all school students across Australia, who are learning a language other than English. Young Australians, aged four to 18 years, can enter the SBS National Languages Competition 2017 online by going to [sbs.com.au/NLC17](http://sbs.com.au/NLC17). The competition will be live from 9:00am on Monday 24 July, 2017 until midnight on Friday 1 September, 2017.

With a guardian/parents' consent, participants will need to create a 30 second video summarizing, "What learning a language means to me?" in a language other than English. The more creative the better and entrants can choose to sing, enact, dress up in national costume, or simply describe their love for languages. Once the video is uploaded, they will also be required to fill in an entry form along with an English transcript explaining the video content.

SBS Director of Audio Language and Content, Mandi Wicks, said: "As one of the world's most multicultural and multilingual broadcasters, SBS Radio is proud to run this fantastic competition to encourage young Australians to explore and celebrate their language learning. The competition will highlight Australia's cultural and linguistic diversity and we look forward to receiving many entries from children showcasing their language skills for their chance to win."

Entrants are categorised into four groups: Junior Primary (Aged 4 – 7); Primary (Aged 8 – 12); Junior High School (Aged 13 – 15); Senior High School (Aged 16 – 18). There are four grand prizes, one winner from each age category, who will each receive an iPad Pro 12.9 inch 256GB for the winner and one for their school. The winner along with one guardian will also be invited to the awards ceremony to be held at SBS in Sydney; along with a full day pass for two to Luna Park in Sydney. \*Source – Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016 Census of Population and Housing

For interviews and information, please contact:

Uma Sandeep | M: 0429 212 659 | E: [uma.sandeep@sbs.com.au](mailto:uma.sandeep@sbs.com.au)

Sur Editur

## San Gorg "b'searlight" wiehed!

Xi ftit taż-żmien ilu ktibt artiklu fuq l-istaġun tal-festi f'Għawdex u nieħu gost ngħid li l- ġurnali ewlenin li joħorġu fil- għejjer tagħna tawh prominenza, sinjal li l-kitba tiegħi toġġobhom. F'dak l-artiklu kont temmejt il-kitba tiegħi billi għidt li l-istatwa ta' San Gorg li hemm imperrċa fuq il-ħajt faċċata tal-Knisja u kunvent tas-Sorijiet Dumnikani qabel ma tibda triqtek lejn ir-raħal ta' Sannat, jinsab nofsu fid-dlam billi wiehed miż-żewġ searchlights li jdawluh matul il-lejl issa ilu maħruq u ħadd għadu ma ndenja jmur jibdlu. Jien lest li nħallas l-ispejjes biex issir it-tiswija meħtieġa għalkemm nemmen li din ma hix kwistjoni ta' flus imma ta' indifferenza min-naħa tal-awtoritajiet. L-istess jista' jingħad għal wiehed miż-żewġ globi sbieħ li hemm imwahnha mal-faċċata tal-knisja tas-Sorijiet Duminkani tefgħa ta' ġebbla bogħod; dan ilu issa mitfi għal xi żmien!

Jista' xi ħadd jagħti każ għal dawn iż-żewġ ilmenti żgħar li tant imma jagħtu fil-għajn hekk kif jibda jidlam! Ċert li kieku l-Onor Justyne indunat b'dawn iż-żewġ ilmenti, żgur li kienet tieħu passi għax naf kemm tieħu l-affarijiet bis-serjeta'!

Intant il-fsti f'Għawdex qed jitgerbu ġmielhom u sa ma tidher din il-kitba diġa jkunu ħarbu nofshom. Nittama li jissuktaw jagħtu gost waqt li ħadd ma joħroġ saqajh barra mill-friex imma kuħadd jagħti sehmu biex hekk ikollna festi sbieħ u qaddisa waqt li jipprovdu ferħ u allegrija b'mod speċjali lill-ġenerazzjoni zaġħżuġha li naf kemm thobb tiddeverti! **Kav Joe M Attard - Rabat Għawdex**



Henry and Inez Casolani with their daughter Sr Cecilia.

## Beatification process for Maltese couple in international media

Only child, Sr. Cecilia Casolani, says: **“They returned unkindness with generosity”**

The news agency Rome Reports reported on the life of the Maltese couple Henry and Inez Casolani and the beginning of

the Diocesan process for their beatification and canonisation.

The formalities started last August when the Archbishop set up the tribunal which is hearing the initial cases, the first of their kind in Malta, of this married couple, to study them in detail in order to certify whether it is God’s will for them to be beatified and made saints.

Rome Reports said that there are only a few couples around the world who turned their marriage into a Christian celebration like Henry and Inez Casoloani did.

Inez had always shown dedication towards her faith from the time she was young and was well-known for her devotion towards the Eucharist. Ines was a teacher who used to give free lessons to poor children her whole life. She continued taking care of her own family even when her The formalities started last August when the Archbishop Charles Scicluna set up the tribunal which is hearing the initial cases, the first of their kind in Malta, of this married couple, to study them in detail in order to certify whether it is God’s will for them to be beatified and made saints.

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*Pope John Paul II blessing Inez. Photos published in biography A Couple Moulded in Christ.*



Inez had always shown dedication towards her faith from the time she was young and was well-known for her devotion towards the Eucharist. Ines was a teacher who used to give free lessons to poor children her whole life. She continued taking care of her own family even when her health started to deteriorate.

Her husband Henry was an artist and a poet whose work focussed on Catholic subjects while he earned his living as a draughtsman. He was known as a very quiet, introverted man

who still managed to bring people together with his sense of humour. What particularly stood out in the documentation which was compiled about him, was that Henry never had a bad word to say about anyone and used to see the good in every person.

In the next few weeks, around 180 people will appear before the tribunal to testify, while 60 sworn declarations will be presented of people who have since passed away.

Following their death, people claimed they received graces after praying through the intercession of the couple. A premature baby who the doctors said would not live and who has grown into a healthy boy, is among the cases mentioned.

Despite their kind nature, they were still disciplined with their children. “They were strict with me. My mum would scold me with tears in her eyes, telling me she had to be cruel to be kind,” Sr Casolani recalled. “They were extremely generous and when people asked them how they were going to let go of me, they replied they would not stop my vocation,” said their daughter, who became a nun when she was 19.

When people asked them how they were going to let go their only daughter, they replied they would not stop her vocation. Sr Casolani, currently resides at the convent of the Suore di San Giuseppe Di Apparizione in Rome.

## SECOND BOOK FROM RAF LINTON-ON-OUSE BASED AUTHOR



Paul McDonald, author of the well-regarded personal account of the Cold War, *Winged Warriors – The Cold War from the Cockpit*, has written a new and dramatic book to coincide with the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginning of the 1940-1942 Siege of Malta. Published by Pen & Sword, it is called *Malta's Greater Siege & Adrian Warburton DSO\* DFC\*\* DFC (USA)*. The subtitle – 'The Most Valuable Pilot in the RAF' – was used by Marshal of the RAF Lord Tedder to describe the man known to many as 'Warby'.

The author, Paul McDonald, who is currently a Tucano Simulator instructor at RAF Linton-on-Ouse, was an RAF recce pilot based in Malta thirty years after the events described in this wide-ranging work. He embarked on a quest to establish the importance of Malta to the man behind the medals and the truth about his relationship with a girl described as, 'Christina of George Cross Island'. The story begins in a cemetery in Bavaria and ends in another cemetery in Malta. In between, the reader is taken on a journey full of drama to wartime Malta, then forward to present day locations on the island, all closely linked with characters met on the way.

The tale opens with high drama: Warburton in a PR Spitfire desperately trying to attract the attention of the enemy to the plight of some of his fellow airmen, ditched in the Mediterranean and in need of rescue.

The son of a decorated Royal Navy submarine commander, Adrian Warburton was seen by many as a loner and a misfit. He had a dubious start in the RAF only just making it through pilot training. He was sent to Malta not as a pilot but as a navigator, only becoming a recce pilot when someone went sick. Within three months, he was involved in the Battle of Taranto which contributed to his first Distinguished Flying Cross. Thereafter, gallantry awards came Warby's way every six months, all six being awarded for service from Malta.

In Malta, Warburton met the vivacious Christina Ratcliffe and their relationship developed amid a desperate and close-run siege and air war. She was a cabaret artiste stranded on the island when Italy declared war. One of the most attractive girls on the island, she was a member of the *Whizz-Bangs* concert party before becoming an aircraft plotter in the top secret world of Lascaris, which lay deep beneath Valetta's fortress walls. Later as Captain of her watch and then assistant controller, she was decorated for gallantry. She and Adrian became local celebrities and part of Malta's folklore. Their story highlights the tensions and fears of an island under siege whilst being inextricably linked to the story of Malta, the RAF, the Royal Navy, and the Merchant Marine in the conflict.

The words of many bring this Malta story to life and illustrate how very real the situation was and how harrowing a time it was for most. The character which shines through is that of Malta itself and its resilient people.

Christina remained in Malta; she never married, living out her life in an apartment she shared with Warby. She died there alone and unnoticed in 1988, a sad and forgotten recluse. It was months before she was discovered. She was then buried in a shared grave.

*Malta's Greater Siege & Adrian Warburton* is a true story of war in the air, at sea and on land. It is also a tragic and touching tale of two people thrown together amidst dramatically unfolding history. It is aimed at both the history and military reader alike and anyone with an interest in Malta. The author invites the reader to travel back to what the Maltese call their Greater Siege to retrace the steps of the main characters over the forever changed face of the island following the Second World War.

## Jane Austen features on new British 10-pound note

Associated Press



Two hundred years to the day after Jane Austen died, a new 10-pound note featuring an image of one of England's most revered authors has been unveiled - right where she was buried.

At the unveiling Tuesday of the new "tenner" at Winchester Cathedral in southern England, Bank of England Governor Mark Carney said the new note celebrates the "universal appeal" of Austen's work.

Austen, whose novels include "Pride and Prejudice," "Emma" and "Sense and Sensibility," is considered one of the most perceptive chroniclers of English country life and mores in the Georgian era. Combining wit, romance and social commentary, her books have been adapted countless times for television and film. The new note, which is due to go into circulation on Sept. 14, is the bank's latest effort to make its notes more secure by using plastic, not paper.

It's printed on polymer, just like the recently re-launched 5-pound note, which features Winston Churchill. A new 20-pound note that will feature the landscape painter J.M.W. Turner is also in the works and scheduled to be rolled out in 2020. The new note also includes a new tactile feature to assist the visually impaired, which was developed in conjunction with the Royal National Institute of Blind People.

Apart from Queen Elizabeth II, whose portrait is on all U.K. currency, Austen is only the third woman to feature on a modern-day British bank note, after medical innovator Florence Nightingale and social reformer Elizabeth Fry. She was chosen after a campaign for more female representation.

As well as a portrait of Austen commissioned by her nephew in 1870, the note features a quote from "Pride and Prejudice": "I declare after all there is no enjoyment like reading!" Some Austen fans questioned the choice of the quote - spoken in the novel with deep insincerity by the unlikable Caroline Bingley.

Carney said that the quote was quintessential Austen: It could be read straight or enjoyed ironically. "It works on many levels," he said. A tenner, as it's commonly known in Britain, doesn't go that far anymore. It's worth about \$13 and it could yield an Austen novel or maybe two, a couple of pints of beer (at best), and at a stretch a trip to the cinema to see one of those Austen adaptations.

Analysis by the insurance firm Aviva shows how inflation has bitten into the value of the pound to the tune of 99 percent since Austen's death. Aviva says something that cost 10 pounds in 1817 would cost 786 pounds today. "Today's new 10-pound note allows us to powerfully demonstrate the impact of inflation over time," said Alistair McQueen, Aviva's head of saving and retirement.

Those holding the current 10-pound note, which features Charles Darwin, have only until the spring 2018 before they are withdrawn. An exact date will be announced three months in advance, the Bank said.

## TASH SULTANA TALKS GENDER FLUIDITY AND OUR GENERATION ACCEPTING DIVERISTY



*Tash Sultana is one of Australia's fastest rising musicians having taught herself the guitar from the age of three and being known as a 'one man band,' using guitars, a harmonica and even infusing beatboxing into her live shows. We were lucky enough to chat with Tash about some of the meanings behind her lyrics, gender fluidity and our generations role in accepting diversity.*

You started playing when you were 3? Yeah I did, I just used to gravitate towards instruments when I was a little kid, like just things in the shape of an instrument or whatever.

How old are you now? I'm 20, so I'm still a child. So I started when I was three, my grandfather gave me a guitar and I've played the guitar every single day since that day.

**What's your background?** I'm half Australian, half Maltese.

**Has that ever influenced your life at all, the fact that you're half Australian and half Maltese?** Being from Melbourne, no, because it's very culturally diverse. I've never experienced anything racist towards me, which is wonderful. I frequently go to Malta, to see my family. It's nice to see how Maltese you actually are.

Do you go back there often? Yeah every two years, I was there a few months ago after a 3 month stint in Europe, it was good.

That sounds awesome. **Our next question is about a song of yours we really like called 'Higher.' Can you tell us a bit about the song and what it's about?** I wrote that about someone making me feel like I was under what I was capable of. You stumble across people who consume the majority of your mind and your time and unless you notice, they can actually be quite manipulative of you, especially when you love that person. At the time I was in a relationship, I've recently got out of it, and I wrote that song about rising above and still claiming your independence within a relationship. Because you can't be in a relationship if you're two people dependant on one another, you need to be two people that coincide with one another.

The post you posted yesterday, about gender fluidity. I think people took it a bit too seriously. I was being a little bit sarcastic, and I've just read some comments of people being like, 'oh I can't tell if it's a boy or a girl'. But that doesn't bother me because I've been a tomboy for the majority of my life, had a shaved head up until I was 13, wore boy's clothes, still wear boys clothes. But yeah, who gives a shit, to be fair. Like, that is just my anatomy, that is anyone's anatomy. Your gender is your anatomy, it's nothing to do with who you are as a person. I think people just took it to the extreme, just like 'be who you are as a person', and I'm like man, I am just saying, whatever, rock on, peace and love. I got a lot of support, not that I was asking for support, but I got a lot of support.

Towards gender fluidity? Yeah, I feel like it shocks people when you go past the barriers of the norm. And I feel like it shouldn't. But I feel like that's been drummed into you because of the structural system that you've had. Like, this a boy; this is a boy's toy. This is a girl; this is a girl's toy. And you associate certain colours with certain gender roles and certain things with certain gender roles, and it's kind of like 'fuck that, what age are we in?' And I don't feel like it's particularly people in our age group, it's people that are quite a few years beyond that. I feel like our generation and the generation surrounding us, 10 years above or behind, are embracing diversity. Racial diversity, cultural diversity, sexual diversity, identity diversity, anything. And it's just like, it's just turning tables of evolution.

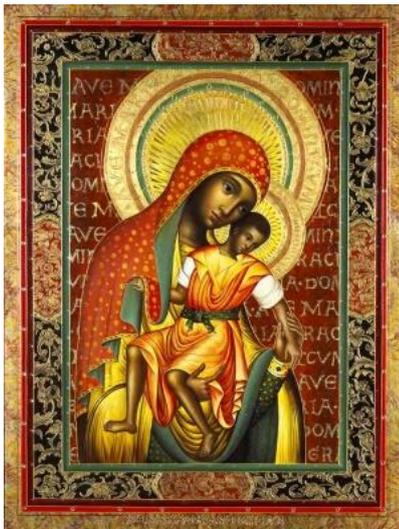
# The Black Madonna

The [Black Madonna of Czestochowa](#), Poland



Black Madonna of Outremeuse in a procession of the Blessed Virgin Mary in which she, and oftentimes the infant Jesus, are depicted with dark skin, especially those created in Poland in the medieval period or earlier. The Black Madonnas are generally found in Catholic and Orthodox countries. The term refers to a type of Marian statue or painting of mainly medieval origin (12th to 15th centuries), with dark or black features. The statues are mostly wooden but occasionally stone, often painted and up to 75 cm (30 in) tall. They fall into two main groups: free-

standing upright figures or seated figures on a throne. The pictures are usually icons which are Byzantine in style, often made in 13th- or 14th-century Italy. There are about 400-500 Black Madonnas in Europe, depending on how they are classified. There are at least 180 *Virgines Noires* in France, and there are hundreds of non-medieval copies as well. Some are in museums, but most are in churches or shrines and are venerated by devotees. A few are associated with miracles and attract substantial numbers of pilgrims.



## Studies and research

Important early studies of dark images in France were done by Marie Durand-Lefebvre (1937), Emile Saillens (1945), and Jacques Huynen (1972). The first notable study of the origin and meaning of the Black Madonnas in English appears to have been presented by Leonard Moss at a meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science on December 28, 1952. Moss broke the images into three categories:

- (1) dark brown or black Madonnas with physiognomy and skin pigmentation matching that of the indigenous population;
- (2) various art forms that have turned black as a result of certain physical factors such as deterioration of lead-based pigments, accumulated smoke from the use of votive candles, and accumulation of grime over the ages, and
- (3) residual category with no ready explanation.

**Hello Frank, I too am Frank too and I am the Social Media Administrator for the Malta Society of New Zealand. I would be happy to promote your publication (THE MALTESE ENEWSLETTER) on our page as long as it is in line with our charter of providing Connection for ExPats from Malta now in New Zealand. Do you include information relevant to Maltese - New Zealand relationships? Many thanks, Frank. Doherty**

## How is this for stirring memories Spitfire and Hurricane over Grand Harbour

Thanks to Bob Croton for bringing this to our attention



Closest translation of the Maltese motto on the station badge I can come up with is 'Never captured by it's enemies'. My friend, Grace Aquilina, gave a literal translation of 'the airport has never been won by the enemies'.

I was stationed at RAF Luqa September 1972 to February 1974, short toured due to promotion to Corporal and shipped back to the UK. RAF Luqa has a long and meritorious history, particularly during World War II. From 1941 to 1943 the RAF base was very important for British forces fighting Italian and German navies in the Mediterranean. Support of troops fighting in North African also played a big part in the bases' history and proved it's strategic worth time and again.

The air battles over Malta are well documented as is the staunch support of the Maltese people which earned them the George Cross. Other airfields were built on Malta apart from Luqa. TaQali and HalFar, Safi, Qrendi and even on the island of Gozo.

Since the war Luqa has taken part in the Suez crisis of 1956 as well as serving as the civilian airport for Malta, sometimes being referred to a Valletta Airport.

When I was posted to Malta in 1972 we were just returning after being requested to leave by the, then, Prime Minister Dom Mintoff. On our return there was much refurbishment to be undertaken and the communications relay station at Siggiewi had to be re-equipped. This meant the terminal communication centre at Luqa airport had to act as relay centre until control could be handed back to Siggiewi. It was a happy day for the terminal common staff when that happened!

While there we had a squadron of Photo Recon Canberra's and Maritime Nimrods stationed permanently at Luqa but often had visiting aircraft, not least of all the compliment of HMS Ark Royal (Phantoms etc.) as they were unable to take off from the ship while in harbour.

We left again in 1979 after a dispute between the British and Maltese governments about continuing the lease. There was also a disastrous crash over the village of Zabbar involving a Vulcan bomber which affected feeling towards the RAF presence.

Depite political conflicts, causing us to leave, the relationship between Malta and the United Kingdom is excellent, as is the relationship between the respective populations. It's a wonderful place to visit for the history and friendly welcome that is always extended to visitors.

**Crests of RAF Bases in Malta**  
**Courtesy of the War Museum, St Elmo.**  
**Photograph of the plaques was taken by David Gerrard and**  
**is on the *Tal Handaq Nostalgia* website**



Hal Far

Kalafrana

Luqa

Ta Kali

Safi

Air

HQ

Krendi

**It's all about me me me!** - David Rose RAF Luqa, September 1972 to February 1974. Got posted back to RAF Boddington on promotion to Corporal. This is me now (left), see below for a photo that you might recognise if you knew me in Malta in 1972-74. I look just the same, a little less hair maybe! The photo above is me in RAF Gan flight watch, same equipment as used in RAF Luqa Flight Watch, next to the Operations Room under the Air Traffic Tower.



I've started this site because I've noticed a sad lack of information about RAF Luqa on the internet. There's lots of photographs on Service Pals but no information as such. I loved my year and a half in Malta, some thought it was too small but the people, and the sailing, were just great and I feel a great affection for the people and the country even after 4 decades. **As you may have known me!**



**David (Geordie) Rose Enjoying a Hop Leaf (never really got into Cisk) outside a Sliema Bar in 1973.**

**Email: [djrose007@live.co.uk](mailto:djrose007@live.co.uk)**

## Cyclists return home after pedalling 1,200 kilometres



### They cycled from Copenhagen to Warsaw **TIMES OF MALTA**

The group of cyclists who pedalled from Denmark to Poland in aid of cancer research returned to Malta yesterday. Photo: Chris Sant Fournier

A group of 45 cyclists who pedalled eight hours every day for a whole week for charity have returned home.

People can still support the cyclists for living up to the challenge by donating money in aid of cancer research in Malta.

It was a fun but hard week for the group, which cycled some 1,200 kilometres from Copenhagen to Warsaw. This was the first time that the Remax Alive 2017 Cycling Challenge included a mountain-bike trail and a separate one for road bikes.

This was also an international first for cycling challenges of the sort, in that the logistics of both routes were planned ahead and the cyclists had to keep within the set path, co-founder of the Alive Charity Foundation Elton Barry told this newspaper. Over the past five years, the foundation has raised €335,000 for research, and in collaboration with the Remax and Friends Foundation, it invested €80,000 in a recreation centre for children at the Sir Anthony Mamo Oncology Centre.

"We enjoyed ourselves, but it was pretty hard and more challenging than previous years. Around 70 per cent of the mountain-bike route was off-road, with the path being made of gravel and sand. "We also had a couple of rainy days, meaning we had to pedal through mud for nearly the whole week.

"Meanwhile the road-bike team had to cover 100 kilometres more than the mountain-bike team, and they too had their own challenges," he added. Asked about next year's cycling challenge, the foundation's co-founder said the route had not yet been decided but the path will be a hilly one.

To help the foundation raise funds, log on to [www.alivecharity.com](http://www.alivecharity.com) or look up the Facebook page ALIVE Charity Foundation for more details.

**MY TEACHER POINTED ME  
WITH HIS RULER AND SAID:  
"AT THE END OF THIS RULER  
THERE'S AN IDIOT!"**



**I GOT DETENTION AFTER  
ASKING WHICH END.**

## Cruise passengers visited Gozo in Q2, up by 69% – NSO



A total of 4,179 cruise passengers visited Gozo during the second quarter of 2017, the National Statistics Office said today, this is an increase of 69.0% on the same period last year, when the figure stood at 2,474.

On a national level, total cruise passenger traffic during the second quarter of 2017 amounted to 183,143, this was a decrease of 8.6 per cent over the corresponding period last year, the NSO said.

115 cruise liner made calls during the second quarter of 2017. The NSO said that this was seven more than last year.

Transit passengers accounted for the absolute majority of total traffic,

reaching 143,918 or 78.6 per cent, while 14,517 passengers spent at least one night on board their berthed cruise liner. The NSO pointed out that on average, every vessel that berthed in Malta carried 1,593 passengers, 263 less than last year. EU Member States comprised 74.0 per cent of total visitor traffic, the major markets being the United Kingdom, Germany, Italy and France.

Passengers from Non-EU countries stood at 47,580, of whom 39.4 per cent came from the United States. Female passengers made up 53.6 per cent of the total. The NSO said that the largest share of passengers fell within the 60-79 age bracket and were followed by those aged between 40 and 59.

During the first half of the year, total cruise passengers stood at 268,358, a rise of 11.9 per cent over 2016. Of these, 72.1 per cent came from EU Member States. The biggest increase was recorded from the British market, which advanced by 26,081 passengers.

Female passengers numbered 143,313 and were in the majority. Most passengers were between 60 and 79 years old, amounting to 110,921. These were followed by passengers aged 40-59, reaching 81,568. On a national level 149 cruise liner made calls during the first six months, with an average 1,801 passengers per vessel, compared to 125 calls and an average 1,919 passengers per vessel in January-June 2016, the NSO said. Photographs: MGOZ/George Scerri MV Seabourn Odyssey on Gozo visit in June

LET'S MAKE OUR JOURNAL GREAT IN 2017

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

MALTESE NEWSLETTER

The Journal  
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