



MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora

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25 April
ANZAC DAY
LEST WE FORGET



MALTA AND THE ANZACS

1918-2018

THE NURSE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

100 YEARS ON - THE SPIRIT LIVES





COMMEMORATIVE PUBLICATION

Source: Merhba Newsletter – Maltese Historical Association (Australia) Inc – August 2015

I was delighted to receive my copy of **MALTA AND THE ANZACS: THE NURSE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN** by Frank L Scicluna OAM. It is a quality production, hard covered and printed on 150 pages of glossy paper, with superb photographs and illustrations throughout.

The introduction by His Excellency Charles Muscat, High Commissioner for Malta to Australia and New Zealand, the Foreword by Chev Charles Farrugia OAM JP, President of the RSL Maltese Sub-branch South Australia, messages from several MPs and many others all pay tribute to the important role this book plays in commemorating Malta's contribution during World War I, on the hundredth anniversary of the ANZAC tradition. Around 80,000 wounded soldiers owe their lives to the care they received in Malta. 276 never made it home and found their permanent resting place in Malta.

The book describes the events of World War I, the development of the ANZAC tradition, and some of the people involved through diaries, firsthand accounts and old photographs.

Although Malta did not play a direct part in fighting, the Maltese were active in repairing ships, as well as crewing them. Over 600 Maltese were killed, mostly at sea. The number of Maltese serving with the Australians is unknown but it is estimated that 15000 served in some capacity in the army, including 7,000 in the Maltese Labour Corps, 1000 of whom unloaded ships at Anzac Cove.

27 hospitals were established in Malta, catering for up to 135,000 sick and wounded, including 20,000 ANZACs. Frank describes them in detail and also describes some of the personalities involved, and the many complications they had to deal with, such as leprosy and malaria, dysentery, typhoid and trench fever. An interesting section in the book deals with hospital ships during the war; another on the prisoners of war held in Malta.

Frank lists details of the 276 ANZACs buried in Maltese war graves, which are cared for by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. During World War I, 2692 Australian nurses volunteered for service. Twenty-five died on active service; some are buried in Malta and are remembered, as are 7 known Maltese ANZACs who were killed, and a number of Maltese migrants to Australia who served in the armed forces. The book shows Maltese stamps commemorating WWI as well as the bronze memorial plaque, known as "Dead Man's Penny", which was issued to the families of those who died.

Photographs and descriptions of the military cemeteries in Malta, including the Turkish cemetery, are given, as well as a memorial to the 68 Japanese sailors buried at Kalkara Naval cemetery in Malta. Frank describes the now dilapidated Australia Hall, earmarked for conservation, and details the inauguration celebrations of the ANZAC memorial in the Argotti gardens in Floriana. He concludes with the anthems of Australia, New Zealand and Malta. What a thoroughly enjoyable, detailed and informative book this is; a must for your library! **MALTA AND THE NURSE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN.**

ANZAC CONNECTION

ANZAC Day is commemorated on the anniversary of the fateful pre-dawn landing of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) on the Gallipoli peninsula in Turkey, on 25 April 1915. The battle by Allied soldiers to capture and hold the Gallipoli Peninsula was one of the hardest fought, but ultimately futile, campaigns of the First World War. As the troops landed on the beaches of the Peninsula, they were cut down by sustained and concentrated machine-gun fire.

In the nine-month campaign that was to follow, both sides would suffer a disastrous loss of life. Of the 51,472 members of the Australian Imperial Forces — from a total Australian population of just five million — to serve at Gallipoli, 8,141 were killed during the campaign. As many as 66,000 Turkish lives are believed to have been lost.

This heavy toll of dead and wounded carved deeply into the psyche of the of Australia and New and since the first anniversary of the 25 April has been observed in both countries of solemn remembrance. The significance of Day has only over the years as remembers those who have laid down their lives in the many conflicts in which have served since the Gallipoli campaign.

Recognizing the association stretching back to the Gallipoli campaign between the AN ZACs and Malta, the Australian High Commission has, for many years, observed ANZAC Day with a Commemoration at Pieta Military Cemetery, one of five cemeteries in Malta in which ANZAC troops are buried. Shared duty has long brought the two nations together. There were six Maltese members of the 7th Australian Brigade which earned fame for its part in the Gallipoli landing.

History remembers Malta as the 'Nurse of the Mediterranean', with 57,950 of those wounded in the Dardanelles campaign, including several thousand ANZACs, evacuated to Malta for treatment. For some the island was also to become their final resting place – there are 229 Australian and 79 New Zealand war graves in Malta.

Today, 100 years after that first ANZAC Day, there are no longer any living survivors of the Gallipoli campaign, but the legacy and traditions forged on those forbidding shores are an ever present memorial to those who served, suffered, and sacrificed their tomorrow for our today.



The ANZAC Memorial at the Botanic Gardens, Floriana, Malta (Nicholas Bonello)

**ANZAC CENTENARY
1914 -1918
ALL GAVE SOME
SOME GAVE ALL**

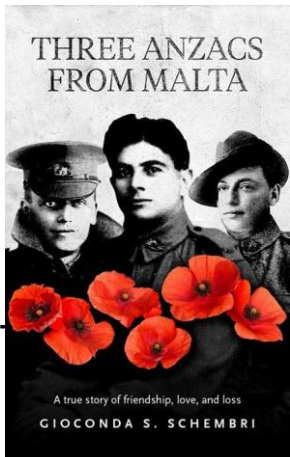
We remember the sacrifice, contribution and courage of all those who were involved in the Between 2014 and 2018, Australia, New Zealand and Malta commemorate the Anzac Centenary, marking 100 years since the nations' involvement in the First World War.

The World War 1 was one of the most significant events of the 20th Century, claiming the lives of more than 16 million people across the globe. Even now, 100 year on, we are all connected to the Anzac Centenary through our own family history, the heritage of our local communities or the lasting impact it left on generations of Australians and New Zealanders.

From the Declaration of War, to the various bloody battles and surrenders, and finally to the armistice and the global impact left in its wake, every detail has been recorded in hundreds, if not thousands, of books.

During the Anzac Centenary, we remember not only the original Anzacs who served at Gallipoli and the Western Front but commemorate more than a century of service by Australian and New Zealand servicemen and women.

Even the little island of Malta, in the middle of the Mediterranean Sea, played an important part during the First World War so much so that it earned the title of The Nurse of the Mediterranean.



On 25 April 1915, the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (Anzacs) commenced their campaign to capture the Gallipoli Peninsula. This campaign is often considered the birth of national consciousness in both countries. It consisted of submarine incursions into the heavily mined Sea of Marmara at the entrance to the Black Sea and was the naval bombardment of the fortifications at the narrow entrance to the Sea of Marmara and the landing of troops and land warfare.

The heavy losses prompted the Allies to cease any further attempts to take the straits by naval power alone leading to the third phase. WWI was marked by large forces engaged in static trench warfare that sustained many casualties. Gallipoli was no exception. About 480,000 allied troops took part in the campaign.

They endured nearly 290,000 casualties including 59,000 dead. Turkish casualties are estimated at 250,000 with 65,000 deaths. The Anzacs suffered 2,000 killed on the first day. One of the first to be killed was Private Charles Bonavia, a Maltese migrant who joined the Australian 11th Battalion in Perth. At least six other Maltese were killed in action serving with the Australians and a much higher number serving with British contingents.

The number of Maltese serving with the Australian is unknown although we found that about 22 served with the Anzacs but the exact number is not known because not all records have been preserved, of the anglicising of Maltese names, and some served under assumed names. Maltaoz.com

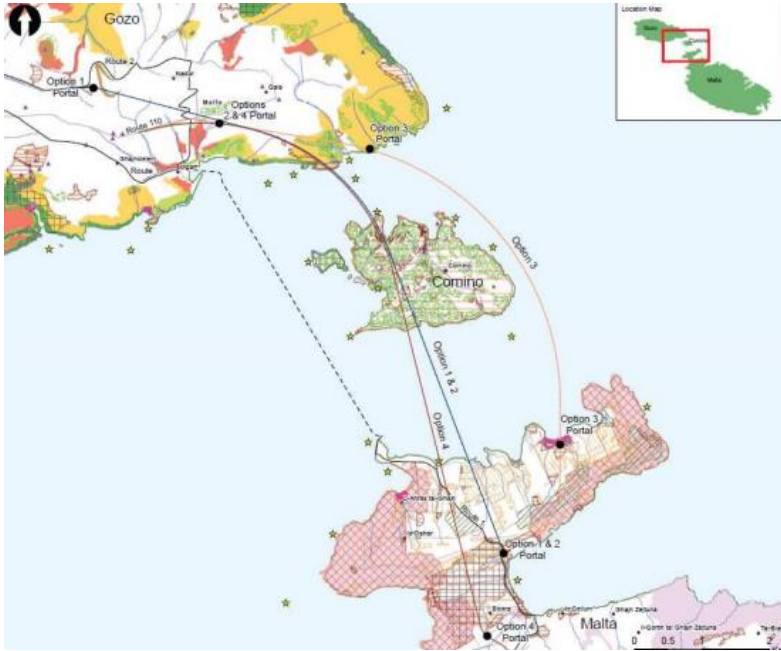
ANZAC DAY IN MALTA

To commemorate Australian and New Zealand personnel who have served their country during times of conflict and crisis, a service will be held on the anniversary of the Gallipoli landings at ANZAC Cove. **WHERE:** Pietá Military Ceremony **WHEN:** 10am, Wednesday 25th April 2018

The commemorative service & wreath laying ceremony is open to the public who are requested to be seated at 9.45am. Members of the public who wish to lay a wreath are welcome to do so, once invited by the Master of Ceremonies. Military medals may be worn. Guests may wish to wear sunhats and other protection against the sun.

To order copies of these two books contact:

THREE ANZACS FROM MALTA - Dr. Gioconda Schembri – giocondaschembri@yahoo.com
MALTA – NURSE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN – Frank Scicluna – maltesejournal@live.com.au



Proposed routes presented back in 2015.

Ivan Martin and Bertrand Borg TIMES OF MALTA

Malta-Gozo tunnel could run from Manikata to Nadur, minister indicates

13km-long, 70m-wide tunnel would cost as much as Gozo ferry

An undersea Malta-Gozo tunnel would run between Manikata and Nadur, according to studies currently being considered by the government.

Transport and Infrastructure Minister Ian Borg revealed the proposed tunnel's most likely entry and exit points during a press conference held on Tuesday afternoon, though he made it clear that the possibility of having different tunnel entry points remained on the table. The current proposal would lead to the creation of a 13km-long tunnel with a 70 metre radius and one traffic lane heading in either direction, with an additional safety lane.

Tolls would be the same as those currently charged by the Gozo Channel ferry, Dr Borg said.

Excavating the tunnel would likely take three years, with further time needed to complete the works.

Norwegian experts SINTEF, who have been hired to work on tunnel plans, told reporters they favoured the Manikata entry point as it featured a natural slope while being close to sea level.

Dr Borg said the Manikata entry point would hopefully also help ease traffic in Mellieħa, with Gozo-bound motorists diverted to the tunnel instead.

Traffic analysts predicted that around 6,500 vehicles would use the tunnel on a day-to-day basis.

A decision about the ideal tunnel route is expected to be taken by August.

Studies into the possibility of a tunnel have picked up pace in recent years, with Prime Minister Joseph Muscat saying support for the project was "enormous" among Gozitans and that a tunnel could be operational by 2024. Scientists at the University of Malta have completed studies into the sea depth and bed between Malta and Gozo, with an international consortium having also assessed coring samples. University experts are now working to build a full geological study of the proposed site.

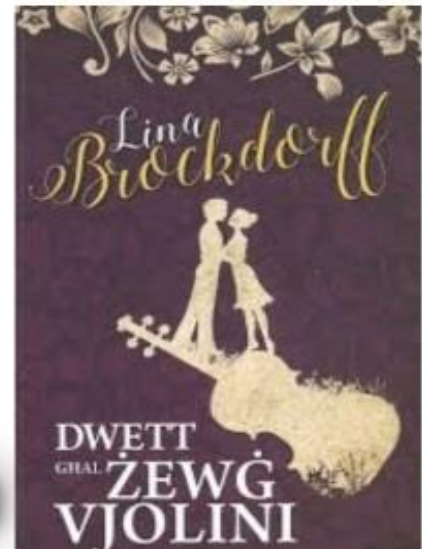
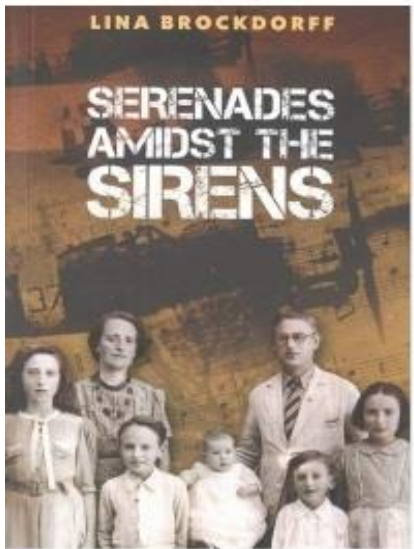
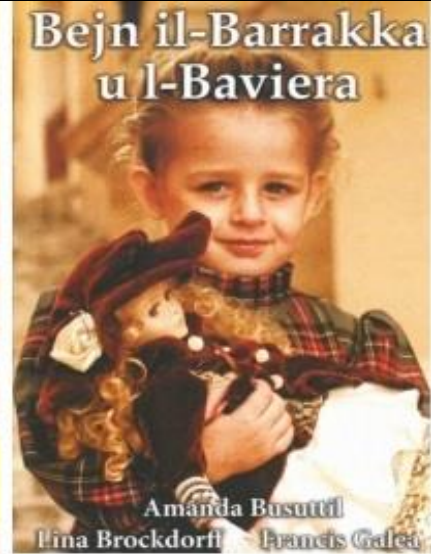
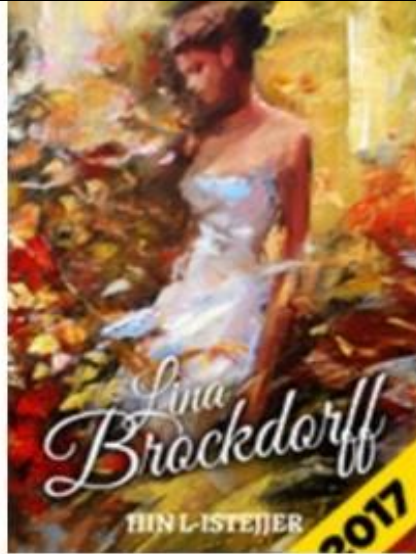


IMFAKKRA L-ERBĠHIN SENA MILL-BIDU TAL-PAPAT TA' ĠWANNI PAWLU IT-TIENI

Fl-okkażjoni tal-Erbgħin sena minn mindu kien beda l-Papat ta' Ġwanni Pawlu t-Tieni, il-Fondazzjoni Papa Gwanni Pawlu t-Tieni li kienet waqqfet Monument life-size f'għieħ dan il-Papa Pollakk illum qaddis fil-

belt Victoria qabel ma taqbad triqtek lejn is-Santwarju nazzjonali tal-Madonna Ta' Pinu, għamlet quddiesa fil-Katidral tal-Imdina li tqaddset mill-Arċisqof Charles J. Scicluna li kien assistit mill-Kapitlu tal-istess Katidral, nhar il-Ħadd filgħodu 8 ta' April 2018, festa tal-Ħniena Divina li kienet twaqqfet minn dan l-istess Papa. Ħadu sehem żewġ korijiet Ingliżi minn Sheffield, Mount St Mary's College and Barlborough Hall School li kienu magħmula minn madwar disgħin student subien u bniet sal-eta ta' tmintax-il sena.

Joe M Attard – Victoria Ghawdex



Some of the many books written by Lina Brockdorff

LINA BROCKDORFF – HER STORY

Claudia Calleja



Lina Brockdorff started studying late in life and got her Masters degree when she was already over 70. The bubbly woman has a mantra that keeps her going: to make use of every minute of her day.

“Time is the stuff that life is made of, no? I don’t like to waste time,” she says, insisting on spending a large chunk of it with her family and friends. Ms Brockdorff, a mother of four and grandmother of seven, wants people to understand that it really is never too late to start studying.

“Some say: What’s the point in studying at this age? There’s always a point. It gives you a scope in life. If you take up some studies you meet people; it opens up a window into the world... Learn computer and you’ll never feel lonely,” she said.

Ms Brockdorff, a published author of Maltese novels and short stories, traces her passion for learning back to her childhood. “I was a war child. I was nine when war broke out and my studies were interrupted,” she recalled in a nostalgic tone. When the war was over, her father wanted her to continue studying and she went back to school.

“There were no textbooks. We had one copy of a book for each subject and had to share it among all the class. I remember mummy and daddy madly copying books and passages from them so that I could sit for my O levels,” she said.

As a teenager, she started writing short stories and reading them out on Rediffusion (a cable radio network). She wished to study medicine but her family did not have the money to send her to the University. So her mother enrolled her into a teacher’s training course without telling her.

“I was furious, I wanted a medical career. But the minute I started I said this was made for me and I never regret it. Even today, what I miss most is not being in a classroom,” she said. Ms Brockdorff started her teaching career in a primary state school. She stopped when she got married and, as she raised her four children, she focused on writing.

"I was rocking the babies, one on each side, and writing on the typewriter," she said. She eventually resumed her career as an English language teacher at St Aloysius College. "Then, in 1991, I said to myself: The children are all grown up now, I want to start a University course," she said. She decided it would be theology, a subject that always interested her given her religious upbringing.

Together with a friend she signed up for a one-year introductory course in theology to test the waters because she was worried about her memory failing her. After that it was a five-year Bachelors' evening course and, in 2002, she got her Masters' degree at the age of 72. She then started mulling over the idea of starting her doctorate. But this gave rise to an internal thug of war as she had to decide whether to study or keep writing. She chose her writing and published her most recent novel *Sireni u Serenati* (Sirens and Serenades) in which she told her war experience as a child.

Ms Brockdorff just finished her 170th short story and is taking a writing break. However, she still reads a lot about theology and still writes articles for various religious magazines. "You hear elderly people say: What am I living for? I might as well die. I have a pain here and my leg isn't moving and la-di-da. But there is a scope. Life is beautiful, if we make it beautiful. "I look forward to each day. It doesn't mean you don't get aches and pains at my age. That's the cycle of life... My message is: Don't isolate yourself. Don't try to bury yourself before it's time," she said.



Bring some colour into your life this Spring at Colour Fest, Valletta Waterfront

Have you ever been to Valletta Waterfront's Colour Fest?

If not, you have no idea what you've been missing out on. Well, ladies and gentlemen, your weekend is sorted. For the fourth consecutive year, the historic

waterfront will burst with colour and excitement as children and parents alike are invited to take part in countless free activities.

The weekend-long event, held between the 13 and 15 of April will include live music, giant outdoor games, various stalls, crafts, children's animation, street entertainment and so much more.



Inspired by the iconic coloured doors of Valletta Waterfront, Colour Fest also includes a children's art competition. Open to all public, private and church school goers, of grades ranging from kindergarten to Form 5, kids nation-wide will have the opportunity to show their artistic skills, to the theme of *The Colourful Aspects of Maltese Culture and Traditions*. Will you be attending Colour Fest this year? We know we will be! For more information, visit the

Valletta Waterfront website.





Address: 131 - 133 Ballandella Road - Pendle Hill, NSW 2145
 Zammit Ham & Bacon Curers Pty Ltd (Zammit Smallgoods) is a family owned and operated company whose humble origins date back to 1954. Francis Zammit, a butcher by trade, migrated from Malta to Australia and with the help of his sons, began producing Maltese sausages for the local community.

In 1958, the Zammit family expanded its business and began manufacturing hams – the products for which the company is now renowned. Zammit Ham & Bacon Curers handle the production of smallgoods through all its stages, starting with selecting the finest quality meats. They create a unique balance by utilising the latest technological efficiencies to control and monitor the curing, cooking and packaging of the products all within their factory premises, whilst still keeping their traditional foundations. This is all achieved under great vigilance, with over 60 years experience within the industry. Zammit Ham & Bacon Curers are HACCP approved, organically certified and apart of the Woolworths supplier excellence program.

prestigious competitions. Since the company

The quality of Zammit’s hams is evident through their results in first began entering the hams in the Sydney Royal Easter Show in 1990, it has not failed to take home one or more first placing’s in various categories each and every year. In recent times, Zammit’s were also awarded as the 2016-2017 best national artisan bacon award for it’s full rasher bacon.



the management and staff of the company.

While growing slowly and steadily right from the early days, 1997 heralded the beginning of a boom period of growth and expansion for the company. Zammit’s premises were significantly enlarged and enhanced, and sales consequently went with it – another testament to the continued quality of the Zammit’s products, which are supplied to leading hotels, clubs, restaurants, butchers and caterers Australia wide.

Today, Zammit Ham & Bacon Curers is well established and considered amongst the elite in the business of smallgoods. The Zammit brand is synonymous with premium quality ham and bacon and this reputation brings great pride to



Fireworks are a yearlong pastime in Malta, and a major part of local *festi* – village festivals that celebrate their respective patron saints. Taking place all the year round but particularly so in summer, these *festi* are always lively and colourful. The colour, of course, is best provided by the fireworks that impeccably light the Maltese skies.

2018 sees the 17th edition of the Malta International Fireworks Festival, organised by the Ministry for Tourism and the Malta Tourism Authority. In particular, it will be

taking place on Saturday 21st, Friday 27th and Monday 30th of April 2018. Year after year, the festival a guaranteed time of excitement for locals, tourists, as well as the fireworks factories around the island that get the chance to show off their skills with more gusto than ever. International pyrotechnic companies also make their way to Maltese shores to participate. Previous editions of the festival have seen entries from countries all the way between Australia and Italy.

If you wish to learn more about this event kindly visit [the Malta Intenational Fireworks Festival website](#).



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 Email Address: admin@mccv.org.au

AVVIŻ GĦAL KOMUNITA'

Borża ta' Studju - MCCV MALTESE CULTURAL SCHOLARSHIP 2018

Il-Kunsill Malti tal- Victoria qed iniedi l-iskema ta' boroż ta' studju biex jinkoraġġixxi ż-żagħżagħ jieħdu interess fil-Kultura Maltija.

Il-Kunsill qed jipprovdi fondi biex persuna jew persuni iżuru Malta biex jipparteċipa f'attivitajiet kulturali Maltin u biex wieħed japprezza il-kultura Maltija mil-qrib.

Jekk trid tirċievi informazzjoni u formola ta' applikazzjoni uffiċjali ibgħat email lill-Kunsill Malti tal-Victoria fuq admin@mccv.org.au

Il-Kunsill Malti ta' -Victoria qed jilqqa' applikazzjonijiet għal- *MCCV Maltese Cultural Scholarship* sat-tletin ta' Ġunju 2018.

Edwidge Borg - Maltese Language Classes Co-ordinator
Maltese Community Council of Victoria



MALTESE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF VICTORIA **MCCV Maltese Cultural Scholarship 2018**



The Fund was established to commemorate and honor the legacy of the late Bishop Joe Grech. The aims of this scholarship are to encourage young persons' interest in Maltese culture.



For this purpose, the Scholarship will provide funds to assist one or more persons to visit Malta to participate in various cultural activities and appreciate the Maltese culture at first hand.

For further information email: admin@mccv.org.au

ATTENTION MEMBERS & FRIENDS:

The **PRESIDENT OF MALTA** is *no longer visiting our club* on Friday, 27 April 2018.

Due to scheduling issues, the President will NOT be able to visit the Michigan Clubs and other stops.

However, the remaining contingent, including **THE PRESIDENT'S HUSBAND - GENTLEMEN MR. EDGAR PRECA, THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS & TRADE PROMOTION – HON. CARMELO ABELA, THE MALTESE AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S. & Canada – H. E. PIERRE CLIVE AGIUS** and others *will be visiting our club on Thursday, 26 April 2018 around 4:30 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.*

If you plan on attending, *please purchase your tickets in advance and arrive at the club before 4:30 p.m. on Thursday.* Our tickets are \$15 and will include dinner to be served at 6:00 p.m. after the contingent leaves. This will allow for everyone to hear from the group and take pictures before dinner is served and they leave for the Dearborn Club visit.



LUNCHEON AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE ELDERLY IN ADELAIDE

Every Friday from 10am till 3pm at the Progressive Hall, LeHunte Street, Kilburn organised by the Maltese Senior Citizens Association

Every Tuesday at the Maltese Cultural Centre, 6 Jeanes Street, Beverley from 10am till 3pm organised by the Maltese Guild of South Australia



Dr. George M. Boffa, MD OAM (1933-)

Senior Consultant Anaesthetist (Emeritus)

Dr. Boffa was born in Balzan and was educated at the Lyceum and the Royal University of Malta, where he graduated B. Pharm. (1955) and MD (1960). He followed a course in medical statistics and epidemiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (1964), and later studied anaesthesia at the Royal College of Surgeons in London (1965) and at the University of Copenhagen (1967). Boffa is also a fellow of the Faculty of Anaesthetists, Royal College of Surgeons - England (1971), of the Faculty of Anaesthetists, of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland - of the International College of Surgeons - Anaesthesiology (1976) - and of the Faculty of Australasian College of Surgeons. He also practised with the Academy of Traditional Chinese Medicine in Peking.

Before he migrated to Australia following the politico-medical problems in 1977, Boffa had been a Senior Consultant at St Luke's Teaching Hospital, honorary clinical teacher, and demonstrator in the Departments of Anatomy and Physiology of the University of Malta. He has served as consultant anaesthetist in various hospitals, including United Dental Hospital (Sydney), St John of God Hospital (Burwood), Wesley Hospital (Ashfield), Sydney Eye Hospital, Concord Repatriation Hospital, and Starthfield Private Hospital. He was Director of the Department of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care at Lewisham Hospital in Sydney (1978-87).

Boffa has been very involved with the Maltese community in New South Wales. He was president of St Dominic's Village Association for seven years. He has also been a regular contributor on medical topics on Maltese Radio (SBS-2EA) for over 17 years, delivering over 800 talks many of which were also broadcasts in other states in Australia. He was also an active member of the Maltese Cultural Association of NSW and a Justice of the Peace. Dr. Boffa has written several papers on medical topics. He has also translated *La Nostra Storia*, the history of the Maltese community in Tripoli and a written treatise on the Passion of Christ which was serialized in a Maltese paper in Sydney. He has published many articles and letters on various subjects both in Australia and in Malta. Dr. Boffa is married to Laura Serracino Inglott and they have four children. *Source: Maltese Biographies of the Twentieth Century (1997), editors Michael J. Schiavone and Louis J. Scerri*

WELCOME RESTORATION FOR SAN PAWL MILQI CHAPEL



Work at San Pawl Milqi chapel, where St Publius – venerated as the first Bishop of Malta – is traditionally said to have greeted St Paul when he was shipwrecked, are under way.

The Roman-period agricultural villa and pagan temple in Burmarrad is associated with St Paul's shipwreck primarily because this was the closest Roman structure to St Paul's islands, Heritage Malta curator David Cardona explained.

The work at San Pawl Milqi forms part of various projects currently being drafted and implemented by Heritage Malta to improve the preservation and accessibility of its closed and lesser-known sites.

San Pawl Milqi is one of the main closed sites, and includes the largest Roman villa ever excavated in Malta.



The restoration project is a foundation for a long-term plan which will eventually include works on the Roman ruins.

Includes largest Roman villa excavated in Malta

Ongoing works are twofold, Dr Cardona told the Times of Malta. Archaeologists and curators started to digitally document the entire site through a detailed archaeological plan and three-dimensional documentation.

"This is essential for any work to be carried out on the site and is also essential to map the current state of the sites as well as to monitor rates of deterioration, conservation and structural stability," Dr Cardona said. The foundation walls of both chapel and sacristy, which had been exposed since the site's excavation, are also being restored. The restoration of all outer walls, including the facades, of the chapel and sacristy will follow.

The work will also address basic amenities like electrical systems, but will also include new interpretation and glass flooring which will enable visitors to see the remains below the chapel. The work carried out is in itself a foundation for a long-term plan for the site, which will eventually include restoration of the Roman ruins, Dr Cardona said, adding that it was difficult to calculate the restoration costs since this depended on the type of intervention required on the chapel's interior.

The present church was built in the mid-17th century on the remains of an earlier chapel, possibly dating back to the 14th or 15th century. Both were built on the ruins of an extensive Roman villa with a very long history of use, possibly starting in the Punic period.



By [Serena Estrella](#)

Reasons Why You Should Visit Kangaroo Island

When you visit Australia don't write off Adelaide, specifically Kangaroo Island, as one of the premier spots on your family's itinerary either. So, what's so special about Kangaroo Island, and why would you

find it absolutely magical?

IT'S CALLED KANGAROO ISLAND. - Seriously, the name alone sounds like something out of "Peter Pan." Who wouldn't be curious about a place that has loads of these majestic creatures hopping around?



KANGAROOS AREN'T THE ONLY WILDLIFE TO BE SEEN. - Sure, there's an abundance of these iconic marsupials hanging around, but kids will be delighted to see other Australian animals like wallabies and koalas in their natural habitats.

If you go to a place like the Kangaroo Island Wildlife Park, you can experience feeding these same creatures with your own hands! You can even feast your eyes on some little penguin colonies in Penneshaw and Kingscote! Or perhaps you prefer something that has feathers and can fly? The Raptor Domain ought to be just up their alley,

with its collection of rare birds and interactive bird shows that go on every day.

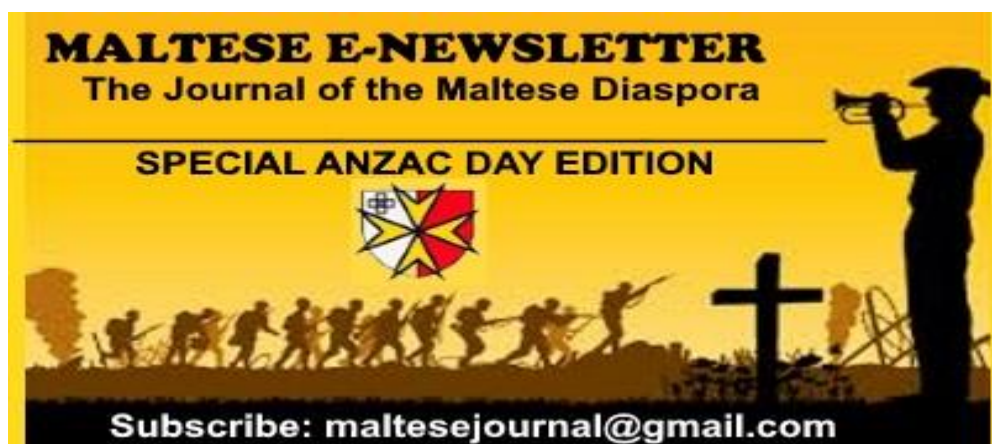
INDULGE THEIR INNER STEVE IRWIN ON THE ISLAND. - One of the best things about Australia is that you don't just see a copious variety of wildlife, but you can actually reach out and touch them. Kangaroo Island is no exception. Along with the bird shows and displays, the aforementioned Raptor Domain also has a "Fang-tastic" reptile display that ought to thrill any youngster who wants to be a Crocodile Hunter someday. And for the truly brave little ones, Paul's Place has some very friendly snakes that wouldn't mind being held for a minute or two

THE BEST OF SAND AND SEA CAN BE FOUND HERE. If you want to go for a swim, you can do so safely at Snellings Beach, Emu Bay, or Stokes Bay. If you're in the mood for something a little more sedate, Kangaroo Island is also great for stargazing. The conspicuous lack of pollution here means that you can see all of the constellations in the heavens once the skies go dark. West of Seal Bay is great for surfing, as are the Little Sahara Desert's sand dunes.

RELATIVELY UNTOUCHED BY URBAN DEVELOPMENT, a visit to Kangaroo Island is like going back in time. Unlike the many CBD's (central business districts) the world over where generic skyscrapers and condominiums stand in place of traditional dwellings, much of the structures and relics from the island's early settlers are still very much around.

One of the first three cottages ever built in Kingscote now serves as the Hope Cottage Folk Museum, and it's got car memorabilia and old farm machinery on view alongside photographs of what the old settlement looked like. The original whaling equipment used by the first settlers on Kangaroo Island are also exhibited in another museum, as are the dried-up seal skins from the same time period.

The locals are also known to treat visitors in a very old-fashioned way, that is, with good old warmth and unflinching cheer. If you're lucky, they might even invite you to try your hand at farm activities like sheep-shearing. When you've got a sea with dolphins and penguins nearby, wildlife parks with scaly, feathery, and furry creatures of all shapes and sizes that you can pet and feed with your bare hands, and the odd lighthouse that's been standing for more than a hundred years and is open to the general public for exploration, the words "I'm bored" aren't likely to come tumbling out of your kid's mouth.



Government launches incentive for elderly people to return social accommodation



A 20% incentive will be provided to those senior citizens who enter or are in government care homes and return their social accommodation back to the government.

In a press conference held outside the St Vincent de Paul Residence, Parliamentary Secretary Roderick Galdes, explained that the scheme will be voluntary and will be available to those in government homes and those who occupy government owned beds in private accommodation.

Galdes appealed to individuals to apply for the initiative, stressing the importance of social justice.

“It is time for those homes you needed all those years ago are given to those who need it now,” he said.

The scheme is inter-ministerial initiative and will involve three government entities, the Housing authority, the Department of social security and the Department for the elderly.

Currently people pay 60% of their pensions to reside in government owned care homes, 80% should they require medical assistance. This will be reduced to 40% and 60% should their social accommodation be returned to the state.

Minister Michael Farrugia echoed Galdes’ sentiments and stressed that social housing is a limited commodity in Malta.

PS Anthony Agius Decelis said that the project worked on two levels by improving the conditions of pensioners and the vulnerable members of society. The scheme is inter-ministerial initiative and will involve three government entities, the Housing authority, the Department of social security and the Department for the elderly



Alexandra Zammit

Chief Executive Officer

Thomas Holt

Alexandra’s current role is the CEO of Thomas Holt and has worked in the aged care industry for the past 10 years. Previously, Alexandra worked in the public health system for 25 years holding senior management roles which included a broad range of positions in the areas of clinical care, teaching, research and corporate services. Thomas Holt is a community not for profit PBI delivering services in retirement living, residential care and home care.

Alexandra holds tertiary qualifications which include a Bachelor of Nursing and post graduate qualifications in Science Medicine specialising in pain management and health management. Alexandra is also a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Alexandra has a passion for human and community services and is known for her experience in corporate governance. Alexandra is Chair of The Australian Kookaburra Kids Foundation Board of Directors which provides support for children who live with families affected by mental illness.

Alexandra is also a Director and Vice President on the Board of Aged and Community Services NSW/ACT, the peak body for aged care providers in the not for profit, church and charitable sector. She is also a member of the Aged and Community Services Australian Advisory Council.

Since commencing the CEO role in 2011 Alexandra has been the recipient of several industry awards:

2016 Finalist for Best Dementia Care Programme

2015 Finalist for Ageing Asia Pacific Best Facility

2013 NSW/ACT Retirement Living Manager of the Year

2013 Property Council of Australia’s NSW / ACT Manager of the Year for Outstanding Leadership – Retirement Living

2013 The Aged & Community Services Association NSW “The Exceptional Human Resources Management” Award. 2012 The National Information Technology in Aged Care Award

<https://akolade.com.au/events/australia's-future-of-aged-care-summit/>

•



Dun Mikiel Xerri, Maltese Patriot Executed by the French 1799

That Napoleon Bonaparte, he simply can't leave well enough alone. He already conquered Malta. Most of the Maltese were even okay with it. But then he started disassembling the Maltese nobility and restricting the church. This displeased Dun Mikiel Xerri, and it was on this date in 1799 that Xerri was shot dead for spearheading a Maltese revolt against the French.

Born on September 29, 1737 in Zebbug, Malta, Xerri studied as a young man at various universities throughout Europe. Learned, he became a Roman Catholic priest and dabbled in both philosophy and mathematics, living warmly under the rule of The Knights of St. John. Then, Napoleon came.

It was 1798 and Napoleon's fleet was traveling to Egypt on expedition. Napoleon asked for safe harbor on Malta to resupply his ships. The Maltese refused him water and so Napoleon ordered a division of troops up to Valletta, the Maltese capital city. Ferdinand von Hompesch au Bolheim, the 71st Grand Master of the Order of St. John, thought again on his stance on the water issue but Napoleon was already beginning to be entrenched in Maltese life, looting the Order's assets and administering control. Not wanting to fight fellow Christians (the French), Hompesch did little to quell the influx of French soldiers. In fact, he quickly signed a treaty handing over sovereignty of the Island of Malta to the French Republic.

This initially pleased some Maltese, tired of the Knights' rule, but the honeymoon didn't last long. Xerri, and many others, believed a revolt was the only way to regain people's rights due to the fact that the rights of Maltese nobility were figuratively stripped, and the treasures of the Maltese church literally so. Outraged Maltese rose against the French garrison headquartered in Notabile. Outraged Maltese formed a National Assembly. Outraged Maltese raised open rebellion on the islands.



The French retreated to the fortified cities around the harbor where their ships were anchored. The Maltese, in arms, implored the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies (run by King Ferdinand I) and Great Britain (then under the rule of King George III).

It was to no avail. During the blockades, hundreds of people, Maltese and French alike, died from starvation and deprivation.



*The French executed these Maltese rebels 1799.
A memorial found at Mdina's Dungeons*

MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora

*All Maltese should be proud of their country, its past and traditions.
No other small country can boast of such a rich history, and of a cultural fabric
which makes these islands one of the most interesting and beautiful places on Earth.*



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To start receiving the journal regularly contact:
Frank Scicluna - Editor: maltesejournal@gmail.com

Desperate, within the fortress, Xerri the patriot and others decided to attack French forces in Valletta and Cottonera. The plot, however, was discovered by the French and before it

BAZAR

B'RISQ

IČ-CENTRU PASTORALI

SGHAJTAR, NAXXAR

27, 28 U 29 T'APRIL

4, 5 U 6 TA' MEJJU

Il-Gimgha mill-4.30 sas-7.30

Is-Sibt mid-9 sa 12 u mill-4.30 sat-8

Il-Hadd mid-9 sa 12

IKUN HEMM HELU, PJANTI, KOTBA,
AFFARIJET GHAD-DAR,
RIGALI, ĠUGARELLI
U HAFNA AFFARIJET OHRA



Qed jingabru affarijiet godda
jew użati biex
jinbieghu waqt il-bazar
Napprezzaw hafna l-ghajnunna

Grazzi mill-Qalb!

could be executed, 49 people were arrested for the plotted insurrection, Xerri among them. The archbishop of Malta, Vincenzo Labini, met with Xerri and Xerri's companions the morning of January 17, 1799. Prayers were offered, quiet words of salvation exchanged. Xerri was taken from Fort Saint Elmo to the Palace Square. French troops awaited him. Xerri, moments from death, gave a silver watch to the official on duty. He asked to be shot through the heart. "May God have pity on us!" he shouted with the others. "Long live Malta!" He was then shot dead, taken away, and buried near the Church of Saint Publius in Floriana. Malta did not gain its independence until September 21, 1964



RESKEON SENIORS GROUP (RESKEON MALTESE ASSOCIATION AND RESKEON SENIORS GROUP INC)

Contact: **Paul Vella, Secretary**

Email: paul.vella44@gmail.com



Paul Vella

The late Father George Xerri, of the Missionary Society of St Paul, sent Father Victor Shields, MSSP, to help form a group of the Maltese Community in the suburbs of Reservoir and KEON Park (hence the name RESKEON). A committee was formed and that was the start of the association with its first President being John Gauci. This group is mainly for Maltese-speaking older/retired persons. The association's aims are to encourage, foster and conduct, educational, cultural and social activities for and on behalf of the Maltese Community; to promote participation in celebrating National Festivities; to promote and encourage sporting activities; to undertake welfare work for and on behalf of and for the benefit of the Community; and to provide social and Recreational activities especially for older persons of Maltese background.

The principal objective is to preserve Maltese language and Maltese culture and heritage. This group provides weekly social activities: Ladies play Bingo, Men and Ladies play Bocce. They can have Tuna or Ham and Cheese Rolls, tea and coffee and Maltese pastries (pastizzi) for a small charge. We have outings, restaurant



days, etc. We also have lunches at a reception centre for Mother's Day, Father's Day and Christmas Break-up. We welcome new members who live in Darebin, preferably those with Maltese background. The Association publishes a quarterly newsletter which is circulated free of charge to its members and friends. In 2016 they celebrated the 40th anniversary of the social group and the 20th anniversary of the seniors group. One of the main events of the association is the celebration of the Feast of Marija Bambina, also known as the Vitorja. On 8th September a Mass is celebrated at the Maltese Centre, attended by around 200 plus people. The statue of Marija Bambina is placed in the hall which is transformed into a chapel for the day. After a break of half an hour after Mass, where those present can have a cup of tea or coffee with some Maltese food, such as pastizzis, mqaret, qaghaq tal-ghasel, etc, the program continues with a concert of marches and other music provided by brass band.

Then on Sunday is the day of the Feast of Marija Bambina (Vitorja) which is organised by Reskeon on behalf of the Missionary Society of St. Paul. This is held at St. Mary Star of the Sea Church in West Melbourne, also called 'the church of the Maltese', because a great number of early Maltese migrants used to make their home and live in West Melbourne. In this very church the early Maltese had their marriages, baptisms and funerals there and these early settlers remember this church very well. The church is always filled. All other Maltese associations take part and bring their banners with them. Young children are dressed in Maltese costumes. Members of the Order of St John of Jerusalem and those of the Maltese Ex-Services Association of Victoria also take part.

SALVU CAMILLERI – MY MALTA

As a youngster, I always liked to draw. The walls were my easels.

Not far from where I lived in Żurrieq, there was a cobbler and I used to sit in his shop, sketching knights in armour and birds on paper. He suggested that I attend art classes in Valletta, but at that time it was out of the question!

In the early 80's I eventually started going to evening classes under Mr. Harry Alden. I kept on painting and started to enjoy it even more! I had a job as a sign-writer, and that kept me closer to paints and brushes.

As time went by I started painting in oils, and kept improving despite having limitations in my hands. I tried watercolours and pastels; it felt really good! I also used to paint outdoors whenever I had time- I just took my paints, brushes & easel and enjoy the scenery!

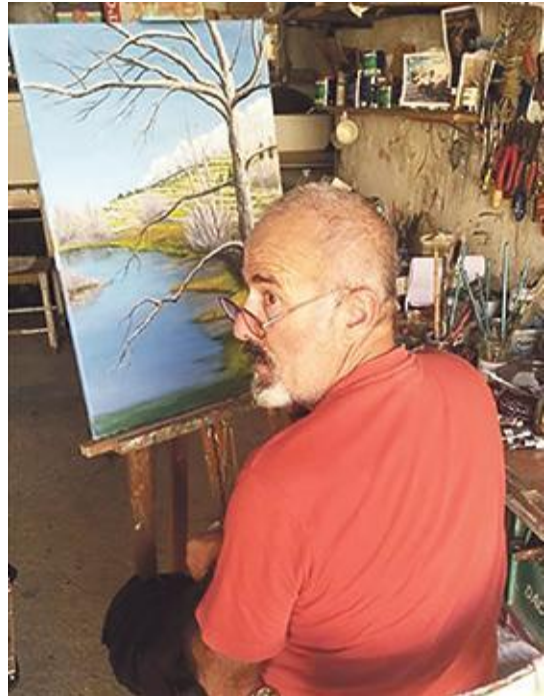
I then joined the army and painting took a halt. I would still occasionally make some sketches and a few drawings, but during this period in life I went to my field more frequently. I grew fruits and vegetables for the pleasure and personal satisfaction agriculture gave me. The outdoors was simply the food for my soul, close to nature but away from art.

Unfortunately, I lost the use of both my knees. I require the use of callipers and a walking stick. Without them I am bound to a wheelchair.

The urge to paint revived within, and I used all kinds of media, and this time I also began to frame my work. It is truly satisfying to see my work hanging on walls.

I chose "My Malta" for this exhibition, as this is the Malta I remember. Technology was a black-and-white television and a dial telephone ...if you were lucky. Traffic was mainly carts, and a car or van few and far apart. Boats were hand-made out of wood, and fishermen would manually haul them from the sea after their catch. Painting these episodes takes me back in time. What remains the same are our blue skies, seas and sun-kissed buildings.

I participated in a few joint exhibitions with other artists, and my work was appreciated. Now I have the opportunity of going solo thanks to the support of my family, especially Sean, and beloved wife Maria.



FROM 'BIRDLIFE' NEWSLETTER



Last month, Conservation Manager Nicholas Barbara, alongside British naturalist and BBC presenter Chris Packham, took part in a round table discussion on spring hunting at the European Parliament in Brussels. The session, hosted by MEP Anja Hazekamp, called on the European Commission to open an infringement procedure against Malta as the current derogation applied does not meet the necessary conditions.

Following the presentations, she also announced that she will be calling for an EP plenary debate in May on spring hunting in Malta. During the event a video documentary filmed in Malta and produced after a visit made last year by Hazekamp to the Maltese Islands was shown. **Spring hunting season 2018** - The spring hunting season for Quail is now underway. In the run up to the season opening on the 1st April, we launched a campaign aimed at raising awareness on how to identify and report illegal hunting activity by highlighting the differences between the Quail and the protected Turtle Dove. On the 6th of April we received the first known casualty of the season from members of the public who found a shot Marsh Harrier in Gozo and just two days later another illegally shot Marsh Harrier was recovered from Miżieb. Although these were the first shot protected birds received during this year's spring hunting season, on the first day of the season an injured Pallid Harrier was observed flying at Delimara with another Pallid Harrier with a dangling leg observed on 10th April at Safi.



Festa Frawli - Strawberry Festival

The picturesque parish square in the agricultural village of Imġarr, will once again host 'Festa Frawli' - the annual Strawberry Fair - Sunday 8th April. Now in its 12th edition, this event is a much-awaited fixture in the Maltese calendar.



The Imġarr Strawberry Festival represents the vibrant Imġarr community bringing together farmers and local volunteers in a communal celebration of the spring strawberry harvest. The Strawberry Festival is establishing its own tradition, growing in popularity year after year through the preservation of this heritage. Central to its focus, the Festival continues to preserve and enhance the agricultural and historical legacy of the renowned local strawberry and the Imġarr agriculture.

Thousands of strawberries are picked, prepared and packed. Due to the high demand for strawberries on the day, native farmers continue to hand pick fresh strawberries during the event itself so that a steady fresh supply of strawberries is available throughout. However, fresh strawberries are not the only thing on sale at the Festa Frawli, as you can also find a range of exquisite strawberry-inspired desserts such as jam, ice cream, cheesecakes, smores, dumplings, spring rolls, arancini, pastries, cakes, lemonade, smoothies and milkshakes. At the festival

you can purchase strawberry wine, liquors, and strawberry cocktails at the Gin Bor. Manuel from Aroma Kitchen will present various recipes. Vegans and Gluten free stall also available.

This Spring festival offers something for everyone. Various eco-activities, interactive games will be organized by a dedicated team of animators. Festa Frawli will also be filled with plenty of traditional Maltese entertainment throughout the day, with folk groups playing traditional Maltese instruments, such as iż-żaqq (Maltese bagpipes), it-tambur (Maltese tambourine) and il-flejguta (Maltese folk flute), special guest this year – DJ Pierre Cordina & saxophone and more of our local talent

The area surrounding the village is rich in natural landmarks such as the characteristic plateaus, cliff landscapes, beaches and typical Mediterranean garigue. For the first time, trail walks (starting at 9 am, then every hour until noon) and a photo hunt will be organised for visitors to experience the rustic surroundings that embrace several scenic spots linking various sites of immense archaeological, historical and natural value such as Bingemma and the coastline extending from Għajn Tuffieħa Bay to the sheltered bay like Ġnejna.

On the occasion of Festa Frawli, Heritage Malta will be opening Ta' Ħaġrat at the re-duced price of 3 Euro. Guided tours: 09.30hrs (English), 10.30hrs (Maltese), 11.30hrs (English), 12.30hrs (Maltese), 13.30hrs (English) and 14.30hrs (Maltese). To ensure visitors enjoy a personalized tour of the site a maximum of 25 persons will be accepted for each tour. Tickets can be purchased on the day from Ta' Ħaġrat.

More than a software company

Microsoft shaping the digital future



Photo - DOI - Jeremy Wonnacott

According to Microsoft's Regional Country Manager PEGGY ANTONAKOU, Microsoft is "more than a software company. We shape the digital future. If you think your future is a digital one, Microsoft should be your partner." Antonakou was in Malta this week for the signing of a major strategic agreement with the Maltese Government covering areas such as Blockchain, Artificial Intelligence and the Internet of Things. In this exclusive interview with The Malta Independent on Sunday, she discusses the most salient aspects of this agreement, aligned to support the country's strategic vision to become a digital economy

Microsoft's presence in Malta spans 15 years. How has it, to date, fulfilled its promise to help Malta strengthen its economy through IT?

Microsoft's mission has always been that of empowering every person and every organisation round the world to achieve more, and this is exactly what we have been doing here in Malta over the past 15 years.

These have been very fruitful years, which have given us the opportunity to empower Malta's citizens, businesses and the country as a whole to achieve more. We have supported all aspects of Malta's ICT eco-system, from the private to the public sector, from the education to financial services. We are proud to have been the leaders when it came to supporting start-ups and education - also thanks to our very own Microsoft Innovation Centre, one of only 40 MICs we have around the globe, where we have hosted more than 150 start-ups and over 12,000 students, teachers and professionals. The fact that, today, Malta is fully prepared to leverage the opportunities of new technologies such as blockchain, AI and Internet of Things is proof that we have fulfilled that promise.

When, at the turn of the millennium, Malta started its journey to become a regional centre of excellence, there was innovation at the core. Back then, we were among the first - if not *the* first - global company to commit ourselves to partner Malta to make its vision a reality. Today, as a company that is helping to drive technology innovation in this new era, we recognise our responsibility to work in partnership with government and communities to help advance social and economic progress. Over the coming years, our commitment and mission will remain that of supporting Malta, its government, its organisations and all its citizens to enter this new era, lead in excellence and create a better future and quality of life for all.

‘GOOD CATHOLIC GIRL’ WINERY

South Australia - Deus Benedicat



My story begins with my paternal Grandmother Dorothy Douglas Wilson, the quintessential good catholic girl. She was one of four children, the youngest being her only brother James Brazill Wilson. As a child I was always fascinated by the gold locket that my grandmother wore, always requesting she open it and show me the photos inside. All she would say was, *“This is Jim my brother, and this is Neil my youngest son.”*

I was happy with those answers and left it at that, not realizing that my grandmother was too heartbroken to give me any further details for fear, I suspect, that I would keep asking questions and she would become upset. It was many years later and long after my beloved grandmother had died that I found a tiny piece of yellowed newsprint (94 years old in fact) which read; WILSON.- In loving memory of Lieutenant J.B.Wilson, 52nd Battalion, A.I.F., killed in action at Mouquet Farm, France on the 3rd September, 1916. – Inserted by his mother, father, and sisters.

Dorothy went on to marry Fred Barry a Christian Brother’s scholar and they had four children. When her first son was born, my father, she named him in honour of her deeply missed and loved brother James Brazill, a name my father carried with pride throughout his life. The other photo in the locket, if you are wondering, was of her youngest son Neil who died at the age of 8 after a tonsil operation, an operation my father made sure none of his six children had! Dorothy’s faith was deep and strong as was she, and it was her faith, I have no doubt, that sustained her through her darkest moments, I know she would be delighted that I have named my Limerick Shiraz after two very important and loved people in her life.

To keep the bloodlines pure, my one hectare of high ground was planted with cuttings from my father’s famed Armagh Shiraz Vineyard just across the paddock. The first release of ‘THE JAMES BRAZILL’ Shiraz was in 2005 which was picked on 2/4/05 the day Pope John Paul 11 departed for Heaven. I followed this with the release of my ‘TERESA’ Riesling in 2008. By the grace of God it has been full steam ahead ever since, and I am delighted to report that I now have a swag of GCG devotees. Many of whom are convinced that the consumption of Good Catholic Girl wines will fast track them to heaven!


Good Catholic Girl is the venture of Julie Ann Barry, one of the many children of the late Jim Barry. She says, “Having been born into a Catholic wine family, in vintage, my fate was sealed. My Limerick Vineyard was planted in the Armagh area of the Clare Valley in 1997, with cuttings taken from my father's famed Armagh shiraz vines planted across the paddock.’ The Shiraz is named The James Brazill, Jim Barry's Christian names. She takes up the story thus: ‘In 2008 I made my first Clare Valley Riesling, ‘Teresa’, named after my mother, who is the true GCG (good catholic girl), and loves Clare Riesling, and who may in time consume my entire production of 108 dozen!’ 2011 dealt Julie a double blow with the loss of the fruit for the James Brazill Shiraz and the contract-grown Teresa Riesling. Exports to the US. Author: James Halliday

in GUARDIA

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In Guardia Parade – Fort St. Elmo

The **IN GUARDIA PARADE** is a re-enactment portraying the inspection of the fort and its garrison by the Grand Bailiff of the Order of the Knights of St John in charge of military affairs. This is the recreation of an authentic event that took place regularly inside Malta's major fortifications.

During the re-enactment of the fort's garrison, some 50 re-enactors kitted out in their uniforms perform their military drill to demonstrate to the Grand Bailiff their state of readiness in case of military threat.

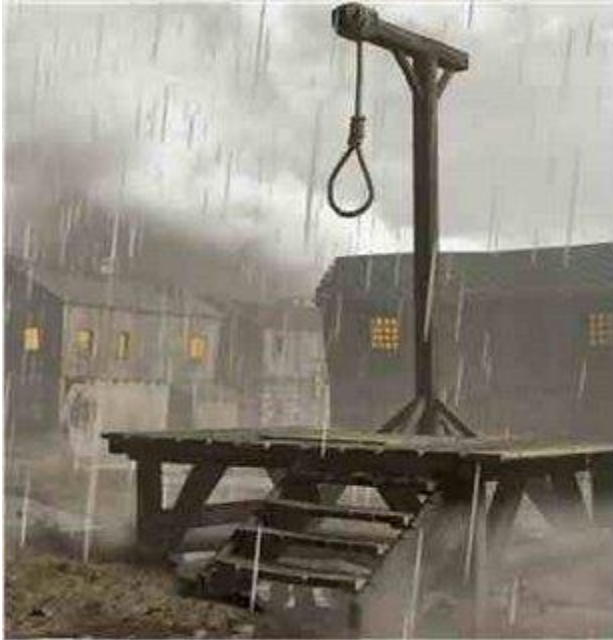
The show lasts around 45 minutes and tickets entitle visitors to watch the re-enactment and to visit the upper part of the fort. In case of inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstance the event may be cancelled without prior notice.

The show starts at 11.00 hrs. Admission: As from Sunday 1st April 2018, entry fees will be as follows: Adults - €10 Children aged between 6 and 12 years - €5. This re-enactment takes place at Fort St. Elmo, Valletta. However, in the months of June and July the shows are shifted to the Grand Master's Palace. Please refer to the [online events calendar](#) for more information. The In Guardia Parade is organised by the MALTA TOURISM AUTHORITY. For further information please write to info@visitmalta.com.

WHAT OUR READERS ARE SAYING

- Thank you for sending me your very interesting and informative Newsletter. I like the variety of selected subjects and the combination of articles in Maltese and English. There is something of interest to your readers of various ages whether it is history or achievements of our compatriots in this distant continent. I *always make sure to pass it on to other readers*. The articles do really cast a wide range of information and makes me feel proud of my Maltese blood which my parents gave me. Keep up the good work. Well done.
Fr Dom DeGiorgio
- I look forward to your weekly Maltese eNewsletter full of interesting, useful material and nostalgia Maltese love to read. A fantastic publication which I am proud to often share with others. NANCY SERG OAM
- Thanks a lot, I find the electronic newsletter very interesting. Amazing how certain news I read them for the first time on your paper. P. Barbara Enjoying reading the eNewsletter - keep up the good work. Currently in Malta and recently started on my work on WWI and going well. Have meetings with President and others in the next 2 weeks with regards to WWI . Will give you an update to your readers in due course. John Calleja
- Thank you so much, the magazine gives my mother (& I) so much pleasure reading all the articles. Sorry for the delay in responding. Cheers. Margi Breeding
- Dear Frank I like to thank you for the news letter I apologise for not thanking you before. I cannot explain the joy it gave me to read it still have some more to read please keep up the good work it really lift our spirits to dead so much about our dear home because no matter how long we have missing, Malta is always our home. I hope that you and all the family are well we will keep in touch. Once again thank you regards. Joe and Doris Attard
- Hi Frank, just a short note to let you know how much I appreciate all the work that goes to give us this newsletter. I have just forwarded this last newsletter to my cousin in America who I know would enjoy reading it. Keep up the good work and may God bless you. Regards Olga Ellul. Sent from my iPad

THE CASE OF NINU “XKORA” TONI AZZOPARDI



[Denise Formosa](#)

Ninu Xkora, Toni Azzopardi, has become a legend and part of our Maltese folklore. This man was hanged as he had killed his daughter's lover, a thirty year old man who was seducing Xkora's fifteen year old daughter.

Did this father have no right to defend his daughter from this pedophile? Was he given a fair trial, when the whole courtroom spoke Italian, as was customary in those days, and he did not understand what was being said against him? Was he given a decent burial?

All these questions arise when we speak about this man who was unjustly treated by eighteenth century society.

The story starts when Ninu, grieved by his wife's death and the death of 4 of his offspring, used to drink and play cards only to end up in considerable debt with Joseph Camenzuli – who eventually became his daughter's lover. He used to refuse to go home and eat with his 2 remaining daughters

and found refuge in Camenzuli's inn, drinking and spending money uncontrollably.

One night, Stella his daughter, came to tell her father that their maid had supper laid on the table, and that everyone was waiting for his arrival. He shouted at Stella to go home and that he was not returning home, before he finished playing cards with his mates.

Before leaving, Joseph told Stella if she would like to come and see him in the coming days at his inn, so that they could chat and get to know each other better. Stella immediately fell in love with Joseph and a love story between the two soon ensued.

Ninu was not at all happy when he learnt about this and forbade the two from speaking to each other again. Unfortunately, they did not pay attention to his words, and this brought a catastrophe...

One morning, exactly on the 6th December 1907, as Joseph was opening his inn, preparing for a day's work, Ninu rushed towards him and struck him 14 times with a dagger in his chest. When the magistrate heard the case, Ninu's verdict was that he was to be hanged. His burial took place a few hours after his death and many are of the belief that he was buried alive.

Legend has it that Ninu's spirit still haunts the Prison Cemetery as a lady relates the story when she went to place some oil so as to light a lantern on his tomb and found the cemetery to be closed. No sooner had she turned around to start walking home, a man called her and asked if she needed anything. The lady told the man that she wanted to place some oil in a lantern to light Ninu's tomb. The man offered that he would do this himself and took the oil from the lady's hands and thanked her heartily.

When the lady related the story to two guards who were there in the following days, she was shown a photo

and asked if she recognized the man in the picture. She did not hesitate to utter that the man in the photo was the same man who had taken the oil and offered to place it on Ninu's grave. The guards then gave her the shocking news, that the man was no-one else except Ninu Xkora himself!

Readers around the World

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 Ftakar li lilha bil-oġġa dawl libbist.

Agħti kbir Alla d-dehen lil min jahkimha
 Rodd il-hniena lis-sid, sahha 'l-haddiem
 Seddaq il-għaqda fil-Maltin u s-sliem.

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The Journal of the MALTESE DIASPORA
Maltese e NEWSLETTER

CARNIVAL IN MALTA
9 - 13 FEBRUARY 2018



What do you find inside: Maltese/Australians honoured on Australia Day 2018, Feast of St. Paul and Kammial in Malta, Rev Denis Spiteri O. C. in Queensland 1930, The Maltese Detroitter, Joanne Azzopord from Australia and Judge Rosemary Aquilina from USA, Malta and Italy, The Macina Building - Valletta and much more


THE JOURNAL THAT REACHES MALTESE ALL OVER THE WORLD

MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER 214 APRIL 2018

MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER
The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora

Frank L. Scicluna OAM - Editor Contact: maltesejournal@gmail.com

Valletta - European Capital of Culture 2018
TRITON FOUNTAIN - VALLETTA - MALTA




MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER 7 January 2018

MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER
The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora

Editor: Frank L. Scicluna OAM JP Email: maltesejournal@gmail.com

V.I.8 VALLETTA
EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE 2018



From 1 January 2018, Valletta, the capital city of Malta is holding the title of European Capital of Culture for one year. The opening celebrations for Valletta will take place from the 14 to the 20 of January across the city, inspired by the traditional Maltese festa (village feast).

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MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER
The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora

Editor: Frank L. Scicluna OAM JP Email: maltesejournal@gmail.com


WE STILL LOVE MALTA

When a Maltese parliamentarian visited Australia an elderly lady, a grandmother, approached him with tears in her eyes, and begged him: "When you go back to Malta please tell that we still love Malta. Tell them that we never stopped loving our country. We can't come back because our children and grandchildren live here." This grandmother's story is very common in Australia among the many Maltese who settled in Australia and other countries.

Il-Bewsa tan-Nanna

Waqf il Toninu
kien qiegħed jaqra
B'gattus ma genbu
U kelb daqs naqra
Dahlet in-nanna nkiss inkiss
U tatu bewsa, kif kien imiss

Poezija miktuba
Prof. A. Cuschieri
Karmettan



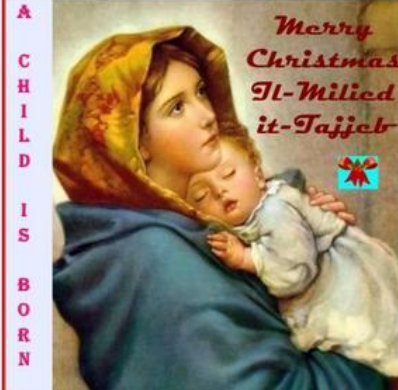
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Merry Christmas
Il-Milied it-Tajjeb



Christmas Edition
Dedicated to all Maltese living all over the world

MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER 199 January 2018

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WELCOME THE NEW YEAR 2018

We wish all our readers health, peace and happiness

Fireworks in Sydney AUSTRALIA

NEW YEAR'S EVE AT VALLETTA WATERFRONT - MALTA
Time to Celebrate the New Year!
End the year with a bang and join in the New Year 2018 celebrations: entertainment for old and young will be provided with live bands and roaming children's animation. At the stroke of midnight, there will be an aerial fireworks display coupled with confetti on the Valletta Waterfront promenade, overlooking the historic port and fortifications.



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Maltese e NEWSLETTER

In the lands that I work, I walk, and I live, I respect and acknowledge the traditional custodians and cultural knowledge holders of these lands: Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders

The Maltese Parliament building in Valletta



In this edition:
European Song Festival, Mackay Maltese Community, Nostalgia - Rediffusion, Order of Malta, Greek Orthodox Church, Aboriginal Australians, Santa Venera, Aetra Theatre - Gozo, Naval Disaster 1913, And much more

Hon. Anglu Farrugia - Speaker
Parliament of Malta

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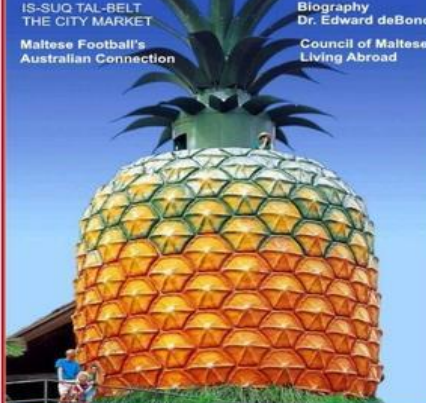
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IS-SUQ TAL-BELT
THE CITY MARKET

Biography
Dr. Edward deBono

Maltese Football's
Australian Connection

Council of Maltese Living Abroad



THE BIG ICONIC THINGS OF AUSTRALIA
THE BIG PINEAPPLE

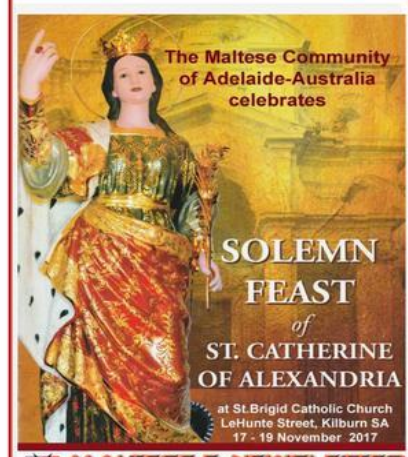
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The Maltese Community of Adelaide-Australia celebrates

SOLEMN FEAST
of
ST. CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA


at St Brigid Catholic Church
LeHunte Street, Kilburn SA
17 - 19 November 2017

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MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER
The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora

*All Maltese should be proud of their country, its past and traditions.
No other small country can boast of such a rich history, and of a cultural fabric which makes these islands one of the most interesting and beautiful places on Earth.*



Read and enjoy this wonderful journal of all the Maltese living in Malta and those living abroad. It's free, bilingual and non-political.
To start receiving the journal regularly contact:
Frank Scicluna - Editor: maltesejournal@gmail.com

ABOVE YOU CAN SEE THE FRONT COVER OF SOME OF THE PREVIOUS ISSUES

PLEASE, KEEP ON SUPPORTING US TO MAKE IT EVEN BETTER AND ENJOYED BY MANY ALL OVER THE WORLD

MALTESE CHILDREN'S TRADITIONAL RHYMES

Posted by [Melisande Aquilina](#)

The first nursery rhymes (taqbiliyet), and songs are sung to the children while they are still in the cradle, then later, as they rock on their parents knees, playing with a baby rattle (čekćieka), or clapping their hands. Children's rhymes are evocative, conjuring up recollections of our earliest existence and childhood activities, of games and emotions long since forgotten. Apart from being humorous, containing amusing tongue twisters, perhaps counting formulas, riddles, prayers and

singing games, nursery rhymes are also of historical value, since their content reflects beliefs, priorities and practices which used to be at the centre of daily life in and even before, the middle ages. Nursery rhymes everywhere also serve to measure a child's progress with regards to the ability to talk, memorise, and repeat what the child hears.

Banni bannożzi, ġej it-tata ġej -	Clap, clap your hands
Bil-pastizzi u bil-habbtej -	Daddy's coming bringing food and money
Kollox għal (child's name) -	Everything for (child's name)
W għal (second child's name) xejn -	Nothing for (second child's name)

Some lullabies also highlight the importance of the Catholic religion on our islands, identifying the motif of the Madonna and child with that of motherhood.

Orqod ibni orqod -	Sleep, sleep my child
Fil-benniena tal-ħarir -	In a cradle made of silk
Dik ommok il-Madonna -	The Holy Virgin is your Mother
Missierek Ġesù Bambin -	Jesus Christ is your Father

Other rhymes are more serious in tone, portraying daily struggles and problems, such as, for example, a preoccupation with lack of rain for the crops.

Ghamel, xita, ghamel -	Rain, rain, rain
Halli jinbet il-ħaxix -	So that grass may grow
Il-ħaxix intuh lill-moġħża -	We shall give grass to the goat
U l' moġħża ttina l-ħalib -	The goat will give us milk

Rhymes and songs were also often cautionary tales, with the aim of teaching children a lesson, that is, that certain actions have unpleasant consequences.

Ajma żaqqi kemm tuġġhani -	I've got a tummy ache
Għax kilt l-ġheneb mhux misjur -	Because I ate unripe grapes
Iddendilt mal-kannizzata -	I climbed up the vine trellis
Qisni kelb tal-kaċċatur -	Like a hunter's dog

Rhymes often accompany certain games as well, and although some meanings did reflect daily life and modes of living, others were purely fanciful and even nonsensical. Still, nursery rhymes are valuable in that they provide not only a link to Malta's past, but also a link to our own childhood, and as such they should be cherished and preserved.

Pizzi pizza kanna -	Pizzi pizza kanna
Duluri ta' Sant' Anna -	Dolores of Saint Anne
Sant' Anna tal-Marina -	Saint Anne of the Marina
Habba biċċa pellegrina -	Because of a piece of Pellegrina
Mgharef tal-fidda -	Spoons made of silver
Bandiera tal-ħarir -	A flag made of silk
Noli kannoli -	Noli Kannoli
Insara Qaddisin -	Christians and Saints

IL-FESTIN

Kien hemm wahda mara l-Imdina
li ghamlet festin f'gheluq sninha,
irnma hbieb ma stidnitx
ghax nies ma riditx
u stiednet sittax-il xadina.

IL-QAQOCC

Naf mara li thobb il-qaqocc
tnax tiekol kull kwarta bl-arlogg,
u biex ma tahlix
il-qxur ma tarmix
imma thithom u taghmel papocc.

IZ-ZALZETT

Hawn ragel, qrajt darba f'gazzetta
li jiekol kuljum elf zalzetta,
u mbaghad xarba nbid
u jorqod mhux ftiit,
u jonhor bhal hoss ta' trumbetta.

KAMILLA

Naf mara jisimha Kamilla
li mliet is-saqqu bis-silla
Imma zewgha ma riedx
ghax qal li dak hmieg
u mlietu minflok bil-bigilla.

Church to provide €8 million property for palliative care to Hospice Movement



Malta's first hospice facility for palliative care services will be established in St Venera on church property. Maltatoday.com.mt

by Tia Reljic

The church has donated a property worth €8 million for a state-of-the-art hospice palliative care complex. The complex, St Michael's Hospice, will be dedicated entirely to providing comprehensive palliative care, and the first patients are expected in 2021 following refurbishment.

The Archdiocese will provide the land and buildings formerly known as Adelaide Cini Institute in St. Venera for a period of 50 years.



This will give rise to Malta's first hospice facility which will aim to enhance the currently available palliative care services, and allow for an in-patient unit.

Day therapy services and clinics, as well as educational training courses for the continuous professional development of staff will also be delivered on the premises.

Signing of agreement between the Archdiocese of Malta and the Malta Hospice Movement for the establishment of St Michael's Hospice

The agreement for the establishment of the hospice was signed by the Archdiocese of Malta and the

Malta Hospice Movement at the Archbishop's Curia in Floriana on Monday.

The land and existing property covers a floor area of 9,000 square metres over two floors and another 6,800 square metres of outside garden area, equivalent to three football grounds.

Infrastructural works are expected to begin once the necessary permits are obtained from the Planning Authority, and the works will be carried out over a 3-year period, during which the Hospice Movement will raise funds for the project.

The agreement was signed by Administrative Secretary Michael Pace Ross on behalf of the Archbishop of Malta and by Chairperson Maria Gatt and Secretary Vincent Zammit on behalf of the Malta Hospice Movement.



Eurovision Song Contest 2018: Lisbon

Eurovision Song Contest 2018 will be held in Lisbon in 8-12 May 2018. The Eurovision week will have three shows: Semi-final 1 on Tuesday May 8, Semi-final 2 on Thursday May 10 and the Grand Final on 12 May Saturday:

Malta takes on Taboo subject with Christabelle's song. Christabelle is hoping to get Malta back into the Eurovision final. Malta are hoping that Christabelle is on course to return one of the Eurovision Song Contest's smallest nations to the Grand Final this year after missing out in 2017. Taboo is a strong pop entry with deep lyrics and dark lighting in the national final gave the song additional strength on stage. The song speaks to inner strength and fighting against the rising tide of social hostility and bullying.

Christabelle is a strong performer with plenty of experience and Malta should compete strongly for a place in the 2018 Eurovision Grand Final. She has been working hard to promote Taboo across Europe, featuring at the Eurovision preview events in London, Moscow, Tel Aviv and Amsterdam. It's been going down well with the fans.