



MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora



Frank L Scicluna OAM - Editor

Contact: maltesejournal@gmail.com

13 May 2018

**Happy
Mother's Day!**

'Thank you' seems
very small to say
when I think about
all the sacrifices you
have made for me.
I love you
dearest Mommy.
Happy Mothers day
to you.

A warm welcome
by the Maltese living
in San Francisco USA
upon the arrival of the
President of Malta
Marie Louise Coleiro Preca



THE PRESIDENT IN THE UNITED STATES 2018



Maltese community of the Sacramento region.

that wherever in the world they set their roots, the Maltese always contribute positively to their adopted homeland and make Malta proud. She invited and encouraged all to re-visit Malta, and that we and our offspring will always be welcomed "home". The reception was followed by lunch which included samples of Maltese dishes such as Bigilla, Qaghaq tal-Ghasel, Maltese bread (borrowed from the French), Maltese chocolate and various biskuttini. A great time was had by all.

Fred and Ida Aquilina



The President of Malta - Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca and her husband, Edgar met with the Maltese community of the Sacramento region. The reception was held at the Leland Stanford Mansion on May 4, 2018 in Sacramento, CA after she had met with the governor of California. The President was quite gracious, and personally met with all and inquired about their immigration to America. In her remarks, she stated

Fred and Ida Aquilina with the President and her husband

**We thank the
members of
the Maltese
communities
of USA

For their
support
and friendship**



Infakkru Jum l-Omm

*She is the earth fire that makes four walls home,
No room is dark or cold when she is near;
She is the lamp lit when the shadows come;
The answering voice that robs the night of fear.
She is the lost thing found; the healing kiss
Balm for youth's griefs; the heart that understands;
All comfort and all light are where she is
And all of heaven she holds in her two hands.*

B'din is-silta meħuda mill-poeżija "The Mother" ta' Margaret C. Gibbins xtaqt niftaħ din il-kitba tiegħi dwar l-Omm fl-okkażjoni tal-festa tagħha **I-Hadd 13 ta' Mejju**, għaliex naħseb li din is-silta hija definizzjoni eżatta ta' dil-krejatura, ta' dil-bewsa li tfejjaq, il-qalb li tifhem, u fuq kollox, il-balzmu t'uliedha, b'mod speċjali matul is-sigħat tad-dwejjaq. Min daqsha jista' jifhem u jagħder! Hija l-Omm li m'għandhiex sabar toqgħod passiva jew tosserva bla ma tagħmel xejn. Imbagħad ma rridux ninsew li niġu fid-dinja permezz tagħha wara li tkun ilha għorrna fil-ġuf għal disa' xhur shah; tgħinna meta nkunu żgħar u tikkunslana meta nkunu kbar. Da żgur li jixirqilha li jkollha din il-ghodwa ddedikata lilha. Jum l-Omm immela għandu jkun għalina l-Jum għażiż li fih aħna niftakru f'ommijietna. Wieħed qatt ma jasal biex japprezza oġġett daqskemm meta jkun għandu u mbagħad jtilfu. Sakemm ommna għadha hajja nsibuha dejjem lesta ma' djuġna biex taqşam magħna l-ferħ u n-niket ta' hajjitna.

Bla dubju mhux kulhadd qiegħed igawdi lil Ommu. Xi wħud tilfuha darba għal dejjem u għalhekk dan il-Jum iġibilhom ħafna tifikiriet sbieħ tal-imghoddi. Huma tifikiriet li ma jmutu qatt u li jgħibu l-faraġ, is-sabar u l-ferħ. Għalkemm il-firda hija dejjem kerha, din għandha tinbidel f'ferħ meta wieħed jiftakar li permezz tagħha, l-Omm tinsab fit-tgawdija tal-Ġenna, premju tassew misthoqq tax-xogħol li wettqet fi hdan il-familja u s-soċjeta' kemm damet tgħix fostna. Dawk l-ulied li tilfuha huma fid-dmir li f'dan il-Jum joffrulha r-rigali tagħhom; mhux ir-rigal li jinxef u jitmermer bħal bukkett fjuri ta' fuq il-qabar, iżda t-talb imhegġeġ tagħhom flimkien mal-quddiesi u t-tqarbina ta' dan il-jum. Fil-gżira tagħna, il-Moviment ta' Kana għamel żmien jagħmel quddiesi f'dan il-Jum fil-Kappella ta' Ċimiterju ta' Santa Marija (tal-Barmil).

Dawk fostkom imbagħad li għadhom igawdu lil ommhom, jaraw li ma jonqsuhix; għal kuntrarju, jgħożżuha u jhobbuha lil din l-aqwa krejatura tal-ħolqien, u f'dan il-jum għażiż juruha l-gratitudni kollha tagħhom billi qabel xejn, jieħdu riżoluzzjoni li jirrispettawha u jhobbuha dejjem aktar. Dawk l-ulied li forsi joqogħdu 'l bogħod minn darha, tajjeb li jżuruha f'dan il-jum tagħha u juruha l-imħabba tagħhom bħal meta kienu żgħar. Telefonata m'għand iben emigrant jista' jtellagħha s-sema lil għażiża ommu. L-ikbar rigal li nistgħu nagħtuha huwa dak li aħna nkunu ulied tajba li ommna tħossha kburiya bina.

L-ewwel kelma li tennejna kienet 'ma'; l-ewwel kelma f'mument ta' biża' jew ansjeta' kienet 'ma'; l-ewwel kelma li toħroġ minn fommna meta nwegġgħu hija 'ma'; l-ewwel kelma f'mument ta' sorpriża bla ma nittendu hija 'ma'! Dan kollu juri li l-memorja u x-xbieha tal-Omm qatt ma jgħibu minn quddiem għajnejna sew jekk għadna żgħar u sew jrkk kbirna fl-eta'. Dan ma jistax ikun mod ieħor għaliex l-omm tagħmel elf sagrafiċċju biex tara lil uliedha sewwa. Sa ma qabel jifthu għajnejhom għall-ewwel raġġi tax-xemx hija tara x'tagħmel biex iżżommhom protetti minn għajnejn seksieka, minn xi disgrazzja li tista' ggħib xi ħsara fil-ġisem li jkun għadu qed jifforma; tħares iktar mis-soltu lill-persuna tagħha, tiekol mill-aħjar u ssostni ruħha, tnaqqas ċertu taħbit u tbatija żejda. Biex tarana f'saħħitna, taħrab kull vizzju u mitt haġa oħra sabiex lid-dinja tkun tista' tagħtiha wild għdid, sabiħ bħal tulipan imperreċ għall-ewwel qtar tan-nida ta' filgħodu.

Għalkemm il-missier irid jagħti s-sehem shiħ tiegħu wkoll lil iben jew bint li jkunu ġew fid-dinja, hija l-Omm li tagħti l-akbar sehem fit-trobbija tal-ulied. Hija tindokra waqt li l-missier ikun barra għax-xogħol, tixtri, titma, taħsel, tonxor, traqqa, tnixxef, tlibbes, issewwi, tħajjat, issajjar, tgħallem u tishar fuq uliedha bla serħan. Is-servizz tagħha jtul erbgha u għoxrin siegħa kuljum. Qalbha tieqaf meta tara lil xi hadd minn uliedha f'qiegħ ta' sodda. Kemm wegħdi u sagrafiċċji tagħmel biex tarahom fuq saqajhom mill-għdid!

Xieraq għalhekk li din l-Omm tiegħu tal-inqas gurnata vaganza darba fis-sena. Kien għalhekk li nholqot il-“Mothering Sunday” fiż-żmien l-imghoddi magħrufa llum bħala l-‘Mother’s Day’. F’dan il-jum għandna nagħtuha btala xierqa lil ommna, iżda biex din tkun kompluta, irridu nibqgħu nuruha dan is-sens ta’ qima u rispett il-jiem kollha ta’ hajjitha.

Fi ftit kliem, biex niġbru kollox, l-omm taf tagħder u ma tistenniex wisq; iżda huwa d-dmir tagħna lkoll li bħala uliedha, inħobbuha s-sena kollha, nobduha u ma ninkwetawhiex. Dawk imbagħad li x-xorti riedet li tilfuha diga (bħalma sfortunatament ġara lili), jitolbu għaliha, iżuru qabarha f’dan il-jum u mal-bukkett fjuri li jqegħdulha fuq il-lapida kiesha tal-irham, flimkien mal-poeta jgħidulha:

Għaliex int mitt biex tgħix, tgħammar ġo qalbna

B’demmek biss shuna;

U jekk tħabbat il-qalb, tħabbat int magħha

Għalkemm midfunna.

W għalhekk fuq qabrek fejn tinsab mistrieħa

Sikwit tismagħna

Niġu nħabbtulek ftit, biex tbexxaq l-għata

U tqum tarana.

Kav Joe M Attard

Victoria Ghawdex

THE BRITISH ROYALS



On April 23, 2018, Kensington Palace shared the joyful news that Duchess Kate and Prince William welcomed their third baby, a son. Four days later, they announced his name: Prince Louis of Cambridge. And Wonderwall.com couldn't help but wonder... Who's now in line for the throne? Join us as we take a look at the 25 royals of the house of Windsor who are in the line of succession... beginning with the eldest of Queen Elizabeth II's children, Prince

Charles. The royal, whose official title is Charles, Prince of Wales, is first in line to assume the highest seat in the British monarchy. Upon Charles' ascension to the throne, however, his wife, Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, will likely not be crowned Britain's queen consort because of bad blood following her and Charles' affair during his marriage to the late Princess Diana. Instead, in keeping with the same tradition followed by Queen Elizabeth II and her husband, Prince Philip, Camilla will be known as the princess consort. Keep reading to see who's next in this regal line.

Upon the death of Prince William's father, Prince Charles (who will become King Charles), William will ascend the throne and be crowned king of England. Unlike Camilla Parker-Bowles, however, Duchess Kate will be crowned queen consort, meaning she'll hold the title of queen but will not have the privilege of ruling. Many surmise that Kate will be known as Queen Catherine upon William's coronation.



TIFKIRA TA' OMM

Tard filgħaxija meta jisktu l-ħsejjes
 u tistrieħ il-ħajja għaġġelija
 nagħlaq għajnejja għal xi waqtiet
 u nħossni ninqata' mill-art
 intir ħafif 'il fuq 'il fuq
 u nerga' nistħajlek tiftaħli l-bieb ta'
 tfuliti mill-ġdid
 tilqagħni b'dirgħajk miftuħa u bi
 tbissima lisserraħ minn kull inkwiet
 tmexxini sal-qalba tad-dar...
 u għalkemm naf li dan seħħ bosta snin
 ilu u li inti issa 'l bogħod xhur u xhur
 twal
 inħossni għal darb'oħra qribek
 u nibki bil-ferħ, biki liberatorju,
 inħoss f'dis-siegha solitarja d-dmugħ
 jizżerżaq ma' sisien ħaddejja
 u lehen minn ġewwa jitolbok
 biex tibqa' dejjem ħdejja
 fid-dawl u fid-dlam, fis-sħana u fil-
 ksieħ,
 int li kont, għadek u tibqa'
 OMMI, għażiża ommi.
 Inħobbok, inħobbok daqs il-vojt
 ħondoq bla qiegħ
 ta' ġo fija u li minnek firidni u seraqli
 kull mistrieħ.

PATRICK SAMMUT

REMEMBERING MOTHER

Translated in English by Alfred Palma

Late evening when all noise is still and silent
 and hectic life seeks out its own repose
 I close my eyes for a few moments
 and feel myself a-rising from the ground
 and fleetingly go up and further upwards,
 and see you once again upon the doorstep
 of my own childhood days,

and once again you greet me on
 with open arms and that endearing smile
 that eases all unrest, and guide me on
 right to the very heart of what was home...
 and though I know this has been years
 behind me,

and you have been away for months on end,
 once more I feel you here and I am near you
 and weep with joy, hot liberating tears,
 and feel in this lone hour more teardrops
 falling

sliding in silence down my pallid cheeks,
 an inner voice inside me soars and begs you
 to stay forever here, forever near,
 in light of day, in dark of night,
 in warmth or coldish times,
 you, who just were, still are, and will forever
 be

my own, my mother dear,
 you whom I love, as much as the void chasm,
 nay one bottomless pit,
 which has lain here, inside me,
 has kept me far from you
 and stole from me each vestige of repose.

We love reading

THE TIMES OF MALTA - MALTATODAY – THE MALTA INDEPENDENT- IL-PONT
 GOZONEWS – AHNA LILKOM – MAWAI NEWSLETTER – MHA NEWSLETTER
 RESKEON NEWSLETTER – ST. EDWARDS COLLEGE GAZETTE – MSSP NEWS
 LEHEN IL-MALTI - MCCV NEWSLETTER – ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE BULLETIN
 (CANADA) – VALLETTA2018 NEWS - SA HISTORY NEWS - INIZJAMED PROJECTS



The Architecture of Malta

Malta's architectural landmarks form a journey through the islands' exciting past as each building – from the prehistoric temples to the grand Baroque churches - is a "witness in stone" keeping history alive.

The Maltese temple structures are amongst the earliest such constructions in the world, long before the Pyramids of Egypt. Built between

c.3500 and 2500 BC, the temples reflect, and were part of, a period of great artistic and architectural development in Malta and Gozo. Whether over-ground or underground, as is the case with the Hypogeum, it is very hard to imagine how primitive man could have set such huge boulders in place with only the crudest tools, and in fact the temple in Gozo came to be known as 'Ġgantija' – as it was

thought to have been built by giants.

The Phoenician and Punic period in Malta is another important point in the islands' architectural development. The most important monument that survives from this period is the famous Temple of Astarte, located in an area known as Tas-Silġ, outside Marsaxlokk.



remnants of which are beautifully preserved in the Domus Romana, a town house originally located almost at the centre of the Roman town of Melite. An important example of a typical rustic Roman house was unearthed at San Pawl Milqi, Burmarrad. Another large villa complex still being excavated outside Zejtun is a fine example of the architectural sophistication introduced to Malta by the Romans. The Early-Christian and Byzantine period is important for the large complex of underground cemeteries, known as catacombs or hypogea. The majority of these burial grounds were discovered in the Rabat area, outside the limits of the Roman Melite. The catacombs were used by Christians, Jews and pagans. The most important complexes that have survived here are those dedicated to St. Paul and St. Agatha.

Not much of Malta's Medieval architecture has survived time, modernising redevelopment and the Messina earthquake of 1693 which destroyed many of Mdina's medieval structures. Still, features of 'Norman architecture' may be seen in surviving grand houses built in the 'Chiaromonte' style imported from Sicily, while traces of this style may be seen in the pointed door-frames and windows of humbler Mdina homes. Several wayside chapels found in Malta's countryside date back to this period. However, the Baroque style was destined to have the most enduring impact on Maltese art and architecture.

Malta faced a turning-point in its architectural history when the Knights of St. John occupied the islands in 1530. For the first time ever, European building styles were introduced on a grand scale in Malta. With the help of Italian engineers and architects, the Order of St. John founded today's capital Valletta in 1566 and built the impressive fortifications around the Grand Harbour.

Today's architecture in Malta has had mixed success due to inconsistent standards and streetscapes. The preference for low buildings made of Maltese limestone which gives buildings their typical honey colour is giving way to new materials, colours and heights. The conversion of old buildings to be used for different purposes is a positive development, even extended to the Knights' fortifications, as seen at the Fortifications Interpretation Centre, an interactive museum on fortress-building within Valletta's bastions.

“The President of Malta meets inspiring Maltese-Canadian Youth” 28 April 2018

Her Excellency Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca, the President of Malta, began her working visit in Ontario, Canada accompanied by the Hon. Carmelo Abela, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Promotion by meeting with young Maltese-Canadian descendants in Mississauga, Ontario.

Her Excellency emphasised the importance of making young people feel connected to the Maltese islands by praising the many contributions made by the Maltese diaspora, who have helped Canada to prosper and flourish. Furthermore, President Coleiro Preca focused on the need to harness and encourage the energy and enthusiasm of young people in the Maltese diaspora. In this context, she encouraged the young people to explore dual citizenship and the opportunities this provides within Europe.



President meets inspiring Maltese-Canadian youth as she begins Ontario visit

Her Excellency mentioned Malta's impressive economic growth, low unemployment rate, and need to import workers from overseas as compelling examples of how the diaspora can reconnect with the Maltese Islands.

“Coming to live and work in Malta will be like coming back home”, said President Coleiro Preca. Moreover, the young people shared their lived experiences, including those of Christine Bartolo, the newly appointed

Maltese-Canadian Youth Ambassador. Bartolo said that she was working closely with Maltese-Canadian young people, and their participation is steadily growing in the community.

All the young people present for the meeting with the President said that there was the need to use digital technology more effectively and in more innovative ways, to create new connections between young people in the Maltese Islands and in the diaspora.

For this reason, Her Excellency encouraged spaces for youth-to-youth connections, which should take place in a more structured way, between the Canadian-Maltese youth community and the youth community in Malta. In this way, young people could discuss shared issues, concerns, and experiences.

Speaking about the uniqueness of Maltese identity, Her Excellency said that “the Maltese language gives us a sense of strength and connection.” The President described the preservation of the Maltese language in Canada as an example of a celebration of diversity.

The President also praised Canada for having one of the first policies towards embracing the importance of diversity and multiculturalism. Such policies, said the President, reduce social tensions and foster a strong sense of solidarity in society.

Echoing the President's remarks, a young Canadian-Maltese person concluded the meeting by saying that, “The government of Canada is supportive of diversity, and that helps us to value our Maltese culture”.

**We thank the Maltese-Canadian communities in Canada for their enthusiastic support to
The Maltese e-Newsletter – The Editor**

City of Whittlesea



Australian local government area
The City of Whittlesea is a local government area located in the outer northern suburbs of Melbourne, the state capital of Victoria, Australia

Area: 489.9 km² **Founded:** 1862

Mayor: Kris Pavlidis (2017–2018) **Population:** 197,491 (2016) (21st)
State electorate(s): Bundoora, Mill Park, Thomastown, Yan Yean **Whittlesea 2040**

What do you think your local area will look like in the year 2040? Share your ideas with us and WIN!

What are the things you love about your local area? What are your hopes for your local area by the year 2040?

The City of Whittlesea is building a long-term vision for the municipality, and we want to hear from you about your aspirations for the local area for you and for the future generations.

By having your say, you go into the draw to win some great prizes including iPads, Coles/Myer vouchers and double passes to Village Cinemas.

For Information Contact: Kirsten Van Diggele on 03 9127 2293 or email: W2040@whittlesea.vic.gov.au

For more information or to participate visit www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/whittlesea2040



Two young Maltese singers making waves away from home

Singers Emma Muscat on Italy's Amici show and Amy Marie Borg on Britain's Got Talent have been making the foreign news by **Massimo Costa**

Emma Muscat (left) and Amy Marie Borg (right)

Two Maltese teenage singers, 18-year-old Emma Muscat and 16-year-old Amy Marie Borg, have been making waves away from our island, through their singing talents.

Emma, a singer, pianist, songwriter and university student, is taking part in the Italian TV talent show Amici, where young people aspiring to becoming professional singers compete with each other. After being selected over hundreds of Italians to compete in the show, she has worked her way through the various stages and ended up winning fans' votes and making it right to the final. Last Saturday she mesmerised the public in a duo with fellow contestant, Italian rapper Biondo, with whom she has struck up a relationship. The two sealed off their performance with a kiss.

Another rising star is Amy Marie, a soprano who wowed Britain's Got Talent judges with her voice during her audition on the show on Saturday, hitting all the right notes as she sung the classical crossover Nella Fantasia.

After receiving a standing ovation from the judges - including Simon Cowell, who called her performance "glorious" - and leaving the audience impressed, Amy Marie progressed to the next round.



Utility of Maltese Language

Francis Zammit Dimech

Representing the people of Malta within the European Parliament includes identifying those subjects that are of a direct interest to us as a people and speak up about such matters after consulting stakeholders and others who would like to share with me their concerns, ideas and suggestions.

It is my firm belief that mobile applications should be available in Maltese to ensure that the Maltese language is considered equal with other languages in an ever-increasing digital world.

As we speak, Maltese is one of four European languages at risk of being severely diminished due to underutilisation in technology.

Considering this fact, as a member of the European Parliament, I am currently actively engaged in meeting stakeholders in Malta to submit proposals which, among others, would facilitate the development of digital literacy programmes and introduction of language technology training and tools in education to live up to linguistic expectations in the digital age.

Several academics and leaders in the Maltese language already helped me articulate a number of proposals directed to increase investment in research and provide the facility to academic institutions to create their language technology platforms.

These are just a few proposals within a wider set of a language equality package for the digital age we are working on, because ultimately the European Union is all about unity in diversity, yet we need to constantly see how to live up to our expectations in a changing environment.

I am glad that through my role we identified education as the primary policy tool to secure the future of language equality in the digital age because education is the mother of all reforms.

Multilingualism presents one of the EU's greatest assets of cultural diversity through its 24 official languages and more than 60 national and regional languages within it; but it is a challenge as well. It is an EU objective to enable our citizens to communicate well in our mother tongue plus two other key languages precisely to manage European multilingualism properly.

Concurrently with my efforts in convincing colleagues that the Maltese language needs to be boosted on digital platforms in the face of a deepening digital divide between widely-used and lesser-used languages, our government has put forward 14 proposals to "develop a more varied curriculum" and an "alternative curriculum".

Quite ironic, to say the least, considering that this Labour government is going at a complete tangent from what we are strategically doing in the European Parliament.

Furthermore, whereas a PN government worked to make the Maltese language an official language of the European Union, the Labour government wants to make the Maltese language a foreign language in our own country. This unjustified stand will not help but will neither discourage me from sustaining my efforts on the tasks which I am working on within the European Parliament.

I am proud of my language and I make it a point to intervene in Maltese whenever possible in the European Parliament because I understand the significance of the heritage that my language carries in terms of national patrimony and cultural identity.

Not only should our language be taught with the dignity and esteem that it deserves, it must also start being given greater importance on digital platforms, just as we are doing to promote the use of language technologies within exchanges between European citizens within programmes such as Erasmus+ to incentivise intercultural dialogue among native mother language speakers and host foreign language ones, especially in written and audio-visual expression. I believe that multilingualism is one of the most important assets of Europe, while it poses one of the most substantial challenges for the fulfilment of a sufficiently functionable Digital Single Market.



RITRATT

kitba ta Victor V. Vella M.A.

Kien ilni naraha fil-vetrina minn meta twelidt. Kienet ma' ħamsa oħra bħala u daqsha eżatt, kollha miġburin madwar *teapot* bl-istess disinn, donnhom flieles imdawrin ma' qroqqa. Qatt ma tajt kasha hafna bħal meta ħaġa toltok għall-ewwel darba, tara li ma tistax tmissha u thalliha f'postha u taħbat tinsija. Imma bħal fatta meta kultant kont inhares lejha u insibha fl-istess post hemm imwaħħla

mal-ixkaffa kienet tagħtini ċerta sigurtà u kont inhoss li la għadha hemm fil-post tagħha tas-soltu qalb il-hafna *gojjelli* oħra, hadd ma jista' għaliha!

Kienet kikkra, waħda minn sett ta' sitta. X'aktarx li kienet magħmula l-Ingilterra, imma ż-żmien għadda u ħa miegħu l-iskrizzjoni b'kollox. Id-disinn ta' madwarha għadu hemm: dgħajsa bi tlett iqluġ, wiehed isfar u t-tnejn ta' wara ħomor, poġġuta f'daħla żgħira, b'siġra fuq ix-xelleg u bi ftiit djar b'isqfa ħomor kemm kemm jidhru fil-bogħod. Id-dawl mitfi ġej mix-xemx li ma tidhirx għax niżlet wara l-għoljiet u halliet ċerta ħmura li biddlet il-kuluri ta' kollox li x-xemx fl-għabex biss taf thalli.

Kellha ż-żmien; ommi kienet tgħidli li s-sett kien rigal tat-tieg meta żżewġet lil missieri. Meta qasmet il-baħar u waslitli f'pakkett kollu tajjar mat-tagħhida l-oħra, x'hin qbadtha b'idi bqajt skantat u hassejt bħal demgħa ġġelben ma' haddejja. Poġġejtha fuq tavolina u donnha bħal Pinokkju, stħajjltha bdiet titkellem u tgħid grajjitha.

Bħal din il-kikkra, ommi kienet dejjem hemm, le mhux fil-vetrina, imma fil-kċina tqaxxar il-patata, jew taħsel l-art jew il-hwejjeġ, jew ukoll barra fuq banketta tagħzel is-suf u tagħmlu ħjut lest biex naqra ta' ganċ żgħir, tagħmlu lożor jew xi xall għal-festa. Għall-festi kellha fid-demmi biex iżżanżan xi libsa sabiħa u eleganti u toħroġ tiltaqa' man-nies u tgħid erba' kelmiet bħalma kienu jhobbu jagħmlu. Fil-festi, ahna ta' tfal li konna, konna ngħidu, 'Il-lejla brodu.' Kienet titfa biċċa ċanga ma' karfusa u nitfa kunserva u thalliha tagħli sa ruħ ommha għax fil-festi, wara l-ikla jew, ahjar ngħid pranzu, ta' nofs-in-nhar, it-tisjir kien jieqaf ... ħlief il-brodu jgħali u jbaqbaq fuq l-ispiritiera mnewnija ta' bi tlieta.

Biex tigri kellha seher u kienet dejjem issib fejn tmur, daqqa sa Għajn Żejtuna biex tlaqqat qoffina melħ abjad li kien jinżel għasel fuq xi bukkun bil-hobż u ż-żejt, daqqa ma' xi pellegrinaġġ tax-Xirka jew għal xi xirja l-Belt. Li taqsam il-fligu u tmur Għawdex kienet okkażjoni ta' kull sena jekk mhux ta' darbtejn fis-sena, u x-Xlendi u ta' Pinu kienu l-iktir postijiet li kienu joghġbuha. Għadni naraha teħodha ma' sewwieq ta' *taxi* għax deħrilha li talabha hafna iżjed mis-soltu u ħsibt li se terġa tibda it-tielet gwerri dinjija! Qatt ma kont bsart li taht dik il-faċċata ta' wiċċ kwiet u l-biċċa l-kbira manswet, kien hemm ukoll dak in-nar jew porvli li ma jridux wisq biex jisplodu.

Bħal hafna ommijiet Maltin, għall-indafa kienet fitta imma ma kienetx tiffitta fuq ġisimha. Il-madam kien dejjem ileqq u kellha riċetta sħiħa kif tipprepara t-taħlita tal-ilma biex taħslu. Meta darba, ma kienetx għadha tiflaħ u xi hadd issogra jaħsel l-art u ġie imdennes kien hemm episodju iehor li ma tantx kien sabiħ. L-istess meta konna xtrajna l-ewwel *washing machine*, ma nafx x'ma qalitx kontra tagħha: li tkisser il-buttuni, li taħli hafna ilma u li dak it-tidwir kollu jgħerri l-hwejjeġ li titfa' fiha. U baqgħet baqgħat sakemm tagħtha daqqa ta' sieq, għattietta b'liżar biex tibqa' shuna, u kompliet toġħrok il-bojod, tagħmillhom dik in-niskata blu halli toqtol dik is-sfurija u tgħallihom fuq l-ispiritiera tal-istess. Imbagħad x'hin tniżżilhom minn fuq il-bejt tgħidlek: 'Ara ħa kemm ġew sbieħ u bojod. X'maxin, maxin!' Donnha li r-rivoluzzjoni industrijali għaliha ma kienetx għadha bdiet, u mingħajrha kienet tgħaddi bħal ma kienet tgħaddi għall-*washing machine*.

Ma tantx kienet tgħid wisq imma kultant kienet toħroġ b'xi sentenza li kienet toltok u thawwdek u thallik taħseb jekk tagħmilx sens. Bħal meta kienet tnaddaf kullimkien, iġġerri l-purtieri tal-loġoġ u tibqa' tara xi raġġi ta' dawl. Kienet thobb tgħid: 'Kemm nixtieq nagħlaq fid-dlam halli nara n-nadif.' Jew, 'jiena sejra għax dalwaqt jigu ...' u tkompli sejra bit-tpaċpiċ tagħmel nofs siegħa oħra tara ftiit kif sejra l-biegħa. Wara xi xirja u speċjalment meta kienet tara kemm flus nonfqu daż-żmien kella ħabta tgħid: 'Daż-żmien, il-flus bħal-----' u żżid kelma li

kienet imżewġa imma mhix sabiha wisq biex tgħidha jew tiktibha. Din il-kelma kienet ukoll tkompli xi sentenza bħal 'Mhux kapaċi ----' għal xi hadd li mingħalih lahaq is-sema u ma kienx jisthoqqlu.

Kienet kaptan li għaddiet minn ħafna mewġ imma l-ebda waħda ma beżżagħtha u kompliet sejra bil-ħajja tagħha u tagħna. Kienet tifhem li l-ħajja titbiddel u saħansitra aċċettat il-fatt li kelli nħalliha biex naqşam il-baħar u nibda ngħix eluf ta' mili l-bogħod minnha.

Kont inħobb nittantaha u ngħidilha: 'Ma, meta se nieħdu bela' t'è fil-kikkra tal-qluġh?' Kienet tgħidli: 'Xi darba noħroġiekk u nagħmlu festa.' Ix-xi darba ma waslitx, jew aħjar waslet wara ħafna snin u għaxar t'elef mili bogħod. Il-kikkra bil-qluġh b'kollox kienet f'idi ... li kienet nieqsa kienet omni.



MATTHEW ABELA - MALTA'S VERY OWN BADMINTON STAR,

will be representing YoBetit during his attendance at a number of international tournaments this year. The Maltese player and brand ambassador for Yobetit is making his way to the top with an international ranking of 656th. Matthew is focusing on improving his ranking to make it to the top 300 in men's singles category by the beginning of next year.

Yobetit will be providing the advancing player with the added boost he needs to grow and improve as a player. With the financials out of the way, the 20 year old will be able to focus on improving his technique and remain focused on

what truly matters; playing the game.

Matthew Abela grew up with sports at the centre of his day to day life, so it was inevitable that he would excel in sports. His father played badminton at a national level and carried on to coach the sport. A number of his family members also played badminton and some still play today. It was early on in his life that Matthew's badminton career began. His father had signed Matthew and his brother up for a 'badminton summer club for juniors' organised by Joanne Cassar. Matthew has since established himself as the best player in Malta and intends to keep moving forward.

Matthew hopes to continue on as number one, while proudly representing the Yobetit brand. His resilience is inspiring, so there is no doubt that he will continue on to master the sport. Couple his determination with the support from Yobetit and the possibilities are endless.

When speaking with Matthew, his determination to excel is exuded through his words. The player shared that his main aim is to improve as much as he can by working hard in the Centre of Excellence to take him to the 'next level'. Yobetit is doing their part to make his dream come true.

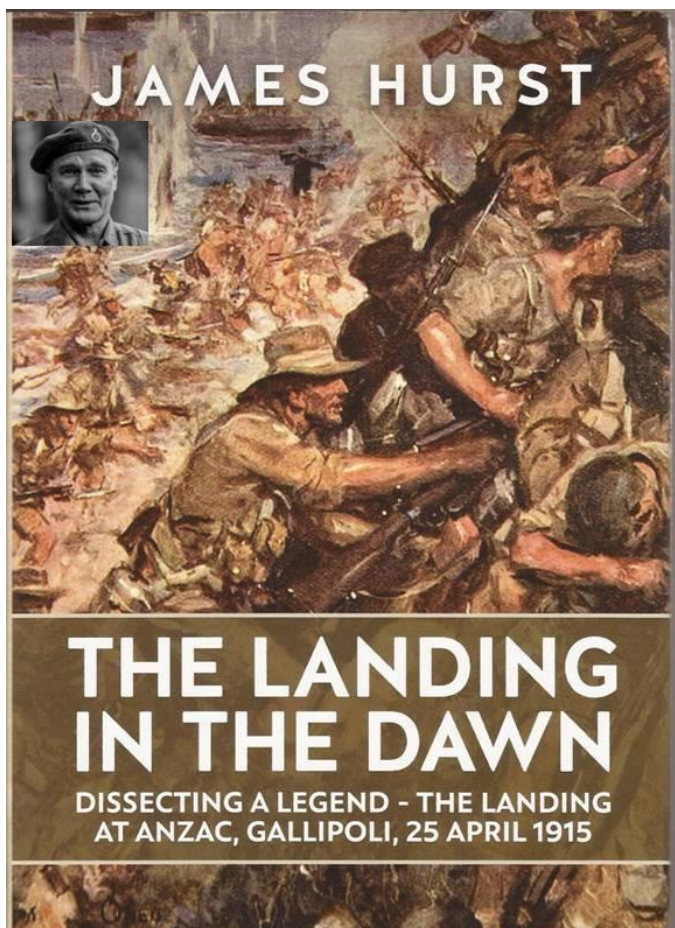
"Yobetit is a friendly company with a hard-working team, and they made me feel welcome from the first meeting we had together," Matthew said; "We already have a good communication together and I am looking forward to growing with Yobetit and getting more results thanks to their help."

Matthew also caringly took some time to give aspiring players some advice, he emphasised;

"If you have the opportunity and you are willing to work hard, take it. Learn as much as you can, but most of all have fun and don't give up on your dreams."

Yobetit CEO Nikolai Livori strongly feels that Matthew's attitude and approach resonates well with the Yobetit brand. He said; "Matthew is hard working and dedicated to achieving his dreams, which epitomises the Yobetit brand. We are so glad to be able to help him on his journey towards success. We wish him all the best, and we are doing everything we can to help him succeed."

This year will be a challenging and exciting year ahead for Matthew. With the support from Yobetit, and hard work and determination, he will be able to soar through the tournaments. The next tournament you will see Matthew competing in is the Latvia International on 31st May, which will be covered by Yobetit. So, look out for the Matthew Abela, he will be wearing the Yobetit brand with pride and competing until the very end.



AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

Dr James Hurst is the author of *Game to the Last, the 11th Australian Infantry Battalion at Gallipoli*, Oxford University Press, 2005, now in its third printing with Big Sky Publishing. He has had historical articles published in a range of journals and newspapers, and presented papers and talks in Australia, Canada and Turkey. He was awarded his PhD from the Australian National University, Canberra, for his doctoral thesis 'Dissecting a Legend, Reconstructing the Landing at Anzac, Gallipoli, 25 April 1915', published April 2018. He previously earned his Bachelor of Science degree majoring in Biochemistry and Microbiology, from the University of Western Australia. He is currently writing a book on the Life Guards during the 1815 campaign against Napoleon, culminating in the Battle of Waterloo. The book: *The Gallipoli Landing of 25 April 1915* is arguably Australia's best known battle. It is commemorated each year with a national holiday, services, parades and great media attention. 2015, the centenary of the Gallipoli Campaign, was marked by great publicity and the release of many books, articles, films, documentaries and television series. Despite this attention, the Landing is still a poorly understood battle

with the historiography coloured by a century of misinformation, assumption, folklore and legend. *The Landing in the Dawn: Dissecting a Legend – The Landing at Anzac, Gallipoli, 25 April 1915*, re-examines and reconstructs the Anzac Landing by applying a new approach to an old topic – it uses the aggregate experience of a single, first-wave battalion over a single day, primarily through the investigation of veteran's letters and diaries, to create a body of evidence with which to construct a history of the battle. This approach might be expected to shed light on these men's experiences only, but their accounts surprisingly divulge sufficient detail to allow an unprecedented reconstruction and re-examination of the battle. Thus it effectively places much of the battlefield under a microscope. The use of veterans' accounts to re-tell the story of the Landing is not new. Anecdotes have for many years been layered over the known history, established in C.E.W. Bean, *Official History of Australia in the War: The Story of ANZAC, Volume I*, to cover the existing narrative. Here, detail extracted from an unprecedented range of primary and secondary sources, is used to reconstruct the history of the day, elevating participants' accounts from anecdote to eye-witness testimony. This shift in the way evidence is used to reinterpret the day, rather than simply painting it into the existing canvas, changes the way the battle is perceived. Even though more than 100 years have passed since the Landing, and well over 1,000 books have been written about the campaign, much can be learned by returning to the "primary source the soldier." *The Landing* has not been previously studied at this level of detail. This work complements Bean's by providing new evidence and digging deeper than Bean had the opportunity to do. It potentially re-writes the history of the Landing. This is not an exclusive Australian story – for example, one third of the battalion examined were born in the British Isles. This volume, the most current and comprehensive study since Bean's, has been rightly described as a major contribution that will change the way the legendary amphibious landing is viewed.

<http://www.helion.co.uk/the-landing-at-the-dawn-dissecting-a-legend-the-landing-at-anzac-gallipoli-25-april-1915.html>



Knights of Malta elect new Grand Master

Fra' Giacomo Dalla Torre del Tempio di Sanguinetto was elected by the Knight of Malta as the 80th Grand Master for the Order.

He previously served for a year as the lieutenant of the Grand Master. The election was made by secret vote among the 54 members of the Council Complete of State. The new Grand Master succeeds Fra' Matthew Festing who resigned amid differences with the Vatican. The newly elected Grand Master will swear his oath before the Pope's Special Delegate to the Order, Archbishop Angelo Becciu, and the members of the Council Complete of State on Thursday.

The Order said the new Grand Master will be responsible for continuing the reform of the Constitution of the Order of Malta to adapt it to the development that the Order has experienced in recent

decades. The Order is present in 120 countries with over 2,000 projects in the medical-social field. The Order of Malta has more than 120,000 volunteers and medical staff.

Pope extends mandate of Knights of Malta envoy.



Pope Francis has extended the mandate of his envoy to the Knights of Malta lay religious order to oversee reforms, further sidelining Francis' conservative critic, Cardinal Raymond Burke.

The Vatican on Friday released Francis' letter to Monsignor Angelo Becciu asking him to remain his delegate and "exclusive" spokesman for Knights issues. Francis penned

it May 2 after the lay religious order elected Fra' Giacomo Dalla Torre as its 80th grand master, a life term. Francis had named Becciu to oversee the Knights. The previous grand master, Fra Matthew Festing, was forced to resign. Burke, whom Francis named his envoy to the Knights in 2014, had been an ally of Festing but was sidelined during the crisis.

Readers around the World

this e-newsletter is preserved at the

MALTA MIGRATION MUSEUM - VALLETTA
MALTESE-CANADIAN MUSEUM -TORONTO
GOZO NATIONAL LIBRARY
FACEBOOK - TWITTER
WEBSITE: ozmalta.page4.me/

Subscribe:
maltesejournal@gmail.com

Another interesting issue as per usual. Interesting reading Ron Borg's write up about the Malta Armed Forces marching in Valletta. I recall quite vividly, my father used to take me and one or more of my other brothers to Valletta on Saturdays to watch the changing of the Guards at the Palace Square. I used to thoroughly enjoy it. Nick Cutajar (Adelaide)

STAR OF STRAIT STREET

A MUSICAL SHOW FROM MALTA

Cultural Diplomacy Fund Project Australia 2018

Granted by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and
Trade Promotion of the Republic of Malta

SUNDAY - 27 MAY 2018 from 2.00 till 5.00 pm

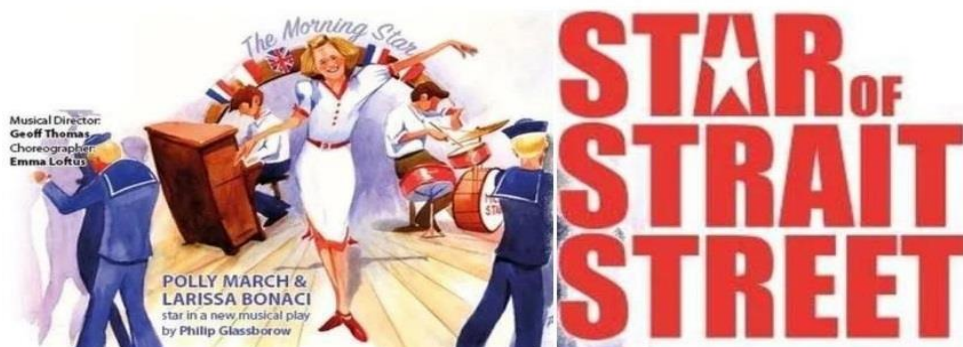
MALTESE CULTURAL CENTRE

6 Jeanes Street, Beverley SA

THE MALTESE QUEEN OF VICTORIES BAND WILL PARTICIPATE

TICKETS: \$10

It's a feast for theatre and music lovers, enthusiasts of Maltese history, and anyone for a good show. Definitely one to watch. The show takes us back to the wild days of Valletta's famous street in WW2



**For tickets and more information contact:
Frank Scicluna - maltaconsul.adelaide@gov.mt**



The Feast of
St. Helen is
celebrated in
the town
of Birkirkara in
Malta
In August

Report from the Department of Emigration for the year 1948-49

With full employment during the six years of war, and with a reconstruction programme extending over eight to ten years thereafter, the economic position of the Island has been reasonably satisfactory, the standard of living has been raised and, in spite of a big decrease in the birth rate during the worst years of the war, the population increased from 250,000 in 1939 to 305,000 in 1948. The net natural increase in population in 1948. The net natural increase in population in 1949 was 8,000.

The density of population in these Islands is 2,511 to the square mile. The working population is 92,956 and well over one-third are employed in the Services including the Imperial Service. Manufactures absorb only one-fifth of the working population and agriculture only one-eighth. The building trade accounts for one-tenth. It will thus be seen that industry and agriculture, which are the principal resources on which the economy of any country is normally built, account for only one-third of the working population. The remaining two-thirds depend on entirely fortuitous circumstances, namely, employment with the Services, reconstruction and trade - the first rising and falling with the international political barometer of time, the second rapidly coming to an end, and the third largely depending on the fate of the first two.

The solution to an economic situation of this kind would normally be found in an expansion of industry and of agriculture - but the lack of natural resources in Malta makes such an expansion difficult. The drive that has been initiated in a few industries will, it is hoped, help to absorb quite a few men, but compared with the disproportion in the unstable openings for employment existing on the Island, the effect will hardly be perceptible.

It should be realized that during the next ten years no fewer than 30,000 boys will have attained the age of nineteen years, and nearly 10,000 men will have been laid off the various branches of reconstruction. Even if the present rate were to be maintained in other employment, the absorptive rate for replacing outgoing workers is not likely to exceed 1,000 a year. So that out of 40,000 workers that will be seeking employment only 10,000 are likely to find it.

The balance of thirty-thousand unemployed wage earners is almost equivalent to the present number of workers in employment with the Services, or to a third of the working population. On an average of three dependents to each worker it will be found that in ten years' time we shall, except for a bigger and vigorously sustained emigration drive, have a population of 120,000 unprovided for, with terrible consequences to the standard of living, the life and the economy of the Island.

Even before the publication of the 1948 Census, which enables us to look so revealingly into the future, there was general agreement that emigration was our only salvation, but there was never adequate appreciation of the problem in the way the Census has placed it before us. On the above basis it is necessary for our people to emigrate at a minimum rate of 12,000 a year, and the magnitude of this foremost problem of the Island's emigration figures.

The number of prospective migrants on the Register of the Department as on the 31st March 1949, was 42,120 made up as follows:

Country	Men	Women	Children	Total
Australia	8,701	4,723	7,033	20,457
Canada	4,546	4,704	5,780	15,030
S. Africa	117	34	70	221
New Zealand	12	4	12	28
U.S.A.	2,677	662	1,345	4,639
Argentina	1,048	220	477	1,745
All countries	17,038	10,365	14,717	42,120



During World War 2 1939-45 Malta found itself at the heart of a raging battle between Allied and Axis powers for naval control of the Mediterranean. Why the Allies invested so much effort in defending the island? During the Second World War, Malta was the most bombed place on earth. More than 14,000 bombs were dropped, destroying about 30,000 buildings but Malta still fought on. More than 1,500 civilians were killed in Malta during the Second World War, which I find astounding. The devout Maltese Catholics, were convinced Malta wouldn't fall down. In 1942 a bomb fell right down through the roof of Mosta church. This was one of the biggest churches and there were hundreds of people in it. No one was killed and this was considered as a miracle. A replica bomb is now in the church.

Malta ANZACs



Australian Hall 1915

John Calleja
malta.anzacs@gmail.com

Mob. +61 (0) 414932481; South Australia / Australia.
ABN 70648925052

JOHN CALLEJA FROM ADELAIDE TO MALTA WITH A MISSION

Recently, John Calleja made a trip to Malta with a noble mission to bring awareness to the broader communities' particular in Australia and New Zealand behind the scenes of WWI and the connection between the ANZACs and Malta.

The Malta ANZAC campaign in Malta during April 2018 was very successful and was supported from various organisations, Government and also the Malta President. This now allows stage 2 to take place - talks with Australia and New Zealand. Up to 3 sport events being proposed with number No. 1 priority is introducing ocean coastal rowing Regatta in Malta similar to current Regatta races held in the end of March and 8th Sept to remember the Great Siege and WWII victories.



John Calleja with the President of Malta,
Marie Louise Coleiro Preca

The importance of the proposed new Regatta on ANZAC days will allow TV coverage across EU countries as well as NZ & Australia. Coastal Rowing boats are different boats from the Maltese Regatta races and allows women to compete.

The Malta President accepted a newly designed remembrance badge approved by Canberra and designed by Malta ANZACs as symbol of Malta's contribution in WWI including ANZACs in Malta, etc and to be worn on ANZAC days across all 3 countries – see photo.

Australian Hall was discussed with the President providing options to return this historical building to the people of Malta and to be managed by *Wirtartna* and supported by sponsorships. The President will have talks with the government and will advise in the coming weeks.

John visited the Military Hospital at Cottonera. This hospital was built in 1875 and was very busy during WWI nursing the Australian and New Zealand soldiers who were wounded at Gallipoli. The hospital was closed and converted into a private college in 1920. A persevered locked room which was used as a theatre room was open up and during my visit I was allowed to take a number of photos ...turning the clock back 100 years.

John held a meeting with Ray Aguis – Malta's popular artist now partly living in USA to provide watercolour paintings to depict the story of ANZACs in Malta ...wounded transported by ship...taken to Hospitals...Red Cross ..Australian Hall, etc. Paintings can be used for exhibitions across Australia. This project can be supported by the readers of this eNewsletter/functions ...more details to follow.



Maintaining one's language, history
culture and heritage is beyond price

THE MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

The Journal of the
MALTESE DIASPORA

Hobb l-ilsna barranija imma qatt tinsa
l-Malti li bih kont tuza minn tfulitek

Linking Maltese living
in Malta and Gozo
and Maltese Living
Abroad

Oz Rosary #53

A virtual rosary around Australia
Sunday 13th May, 2018.

There are 53 Hail Mary's in the rosary and we are looking for 53 or more locations across Australia from coast to coast.



Join with us in praying for Australia and our Youth in your nearest church or beach with other Catholics at locations across Australia.

For more information or to make your church a location contact ozrosary53@gmail.com or Jane 0476 535 595



Search 'Oz Rosary #53' on Facebook for locations and times.

TA PINU MARIAN SHINE BACCHUS MARSH – VICTORIA – AUSTRALIA

On Sunday 13 May 2018 the Marian Feast of Our Lady of the RosaryTa' Pinu Shrine at Bacchus Marsh, Victoria Australia, with weather permitting, we invite all Marian Devotees to join us at the Shrine:

1.00 pm praise and worship at the statue of our Lady situated at the entrance.

1.30 p.m Procession along the Rosary Way. The four (Joyful, Glorious, Sorrowful and Luminous) Mysteries will be recited at each post

3.00 p.m Divine Mercy Chaplet at the Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Family

3.30 p.m Holy Mass led by Msgr Benedict Camilleri

Army of jellyfish invade Malta



Mauve stingers appear at several spots along island's east coast

Photo: Alan Deidun, coordinator Spot the Jellyfish campaign

The shores of Marsascala turned a sea of mauve on Saturday as swarms of jellyfish took over the area.

A similar 'invasion' was also witnessed by a reader in Gżira. Alan Deidun, who coordinates the Spot the Jellyfish citizen science campaign, said the persistent easterly winds experienced by the Maltese islands in the past few weeks brought the bloom close to shore along vast swathes of the eastern coastline - from St Thomas Bay all the way up

to Sliema.

The bloom, he said, consisted of just one species - the mauve stinger *Pelagia noctiluca* - which, in Maltese waters, normally bloomed in late May, early June.

Prof. Deidun said this year's bloom had been anticipated by a few weeks, possibly due to the onset of an anomalously dry and warm January, known to trigger the annual spawning/reproduction of the species, which normally happens in late winter.

Prof. Deidun said the species has become a mainstay of Mediterranean and east Atlantic waters since the early 1980s, when its first large blooms started to appear.

The bloom, reported as part of the Spot the Jellyfish campaign, is expected to last no more than a few weeks. The campaign is run by the International Ocean Institute and supported by the Malta Tourism Authority.

The public is encouraged to keep supporting the campaign through the jellyfish sighting reports, which can be submitted on the [campaign website](http://campaignwebsite), facebook page and also via email - alan.deidun@gmail.com

IL-PAPÀ MAR XTARA MOBILE...

Il-papà mar xtara mobile,
Mudell ġdid tassew sabiħ!
Nesa l-video u l-gazzetti,
Ilu ġimgħa ħsiebu fih.

“X’meravilja!” jibda jreden,
“Žgur bħal dana qatt ma rajt,
Anki jdoqqlok Happy Birthday,
W għall-Milied: is-Silent Night.

“Fih il-logħob bħal tal-kompjuter,
U messaġġi li jkellmuni...!”
U dam siegħa mrekkien waħdu
Medhi jagħfas il-buttuni!

Liz-zijiet ċemplilhom kollha,
Lill-ħbieb tiegħu u l-ġirien,
Lin-nanniet u lill-kuġini,
Il-card ħlieha f’tlitt ijiem.

Ma’ kull ħarġa, ma’ kull qadja,
X’battikata, x’waħda din!
Dlonk tarah bil-mobile miegħu,
Bħal pistola f’cintorin.

Hu u jsuq iħobb iċempel,
Jagħmel l-isbah diskussjoni,
Għad xi darba jaqbd u l-Warden
U jċapċaplu ċitazzjoni!

Fi triqitna għal għand in-nanna,
Illi toqgħod in-Naxxar,
Dorna lura mħabba l-mobile
Għax insieh warajh id-dar.

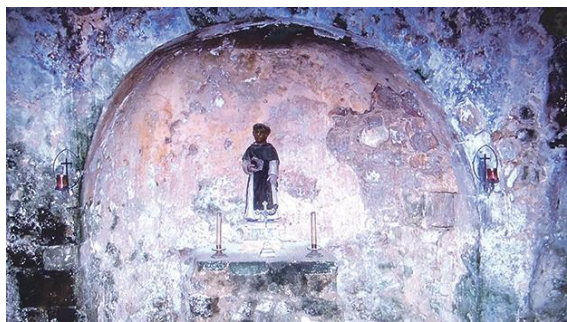
Il-Ħadd l’għadda, fil-quddies
Smajt ħoss ċkejken, mużikali,
Kien il-mobile qed iċempel
F’nofs is-Salm Responsorjali.

Fid-dar tagħna l-ħajja nbidlet,
Għandna ċerta serjeta’,
Sirna aktar effiċjenti
B’dan il-mobile tal-papà.

U x’hin rani mmissu nitfa,
Trid tarah... qajjem irvell!
Ħatafhuli minn idejja,
Qalli: “Dak mhux ġugagarell”.



Irreparable damage at Ghar San Anard



Ghar San Anard before its degradation.

The iconic cave-church of St Leonard (L-Ghar San Anard), located in an idyllic oasis of unspoiled old Maltese rural charm at Wied Liemu (also known as Wied il-Lunzjata), limits of Rabat, is a site of notable artistic and archaeological interest meriting the highest degree of protection.

It is in many ways the finest surviving example of a late medieval rock-cut church dating to before 1418, when its cult was sufficiently well established to give its name to the district,

which was recorded as 'Sancto Leonardo' in the testament of the Royal Kinswoman Donna Margarita d'Aragona, who owned the land.

Devotion to St Leonard, hermit saint of Noblac, was introduced by the Normans to whom he was one of the

great saints because of the belief that it was through his intercession that Bohemund was freed from Muslim captivity in 1103. This established his reputation as Patron Saint of Captives and Slaves. In Malta, he enjoyed remarkable veneration. A church was dedicated to him in Kirkop, and in the church of Hal Millieri his monumentally rendered image occupies the place of honour to the right of the altar in the cylindrical apse.

The new painting in the cylindrical apse.



The Wied Liemu cave-church could have been the central nucleus of a community of hermit monks. Its most remarkable feature is a built cylindrical apse that had a painting of which only daubs of painted plaster survived. I discussed them on site with Sharon Cather, Professor of Conservation Studies at the Courtauld Institute, London, about 10 years ago and she thought them worthy of scientific investigation.

This is now no longer possible. The apse has, in the last couple of years, been scraped clean to receive a new wall-painting of St Leonard and the Virgin in sham Byzantine style, destroying in the process the precious art historical and archaeological evidence. This is a flagrant example of what ignorance, incompetence and insensitivity can do to the national heritage. Ghar San Anard has been degraded and robbed of an important diagnostic potential. The irony is that this sad intervention was presumably carried out with the best of intentions to give the cave a new cultic appeal and that those responsible are happy with what they have achieved. This heightens the tragedy of Ghar San Anard.

Kif nghiduha bil-Malti

bawling (bowling).
ekspresso (espresso)
ekstejnxins (extensions)
indikejter (indicator)
plaaastijk (plastic)
scaf-FOWLD-ink (scaffolding)
stuwdjient (student)
bajsikil (bicycle)
vejs (vase)
winskrin (windscreen)
tixu (tissue)



Silent city in fanfare frenzy for medieval festival



Mdina Medieval Festival organised by the Mdina local council attracts scores of onlookers in an immersive cultural experience

Thousands gathered in Mdina to observe reenactments, battles, and medieval music at the annual Mdina Medieval Festival over the weekend. The two-day event, which took place over the weekend, included shows by both foreign and local reenactors, as well as concerts and medieval music. The festival, which is being organised for the sixth consecutive year in Mdina, was once again home to a medieval market, medieval kitchen, and a number of children's activities.

Performances included battles, skirmishes, re-enactments of scenes from the medieval period, sword fighting, archery, magic shows, live music, and more. Falconry and a number of birds of prey have also

made their usual appearance, joined by an array of different animals including reptiles and sheep. Festival-goers could also benefit from special reduced prices and extended opening hours of all tourist attractions in Mdina. The festival serves to shed light on the history of Mdina and Medieval Malta – offering an opportunity to local and foreign talent to exchange experiences and disseminate the cultural heritage of the era.



Linking communities all over
The world

Nurses a Voice to Lead: Health is a human right – Parliamentary motion

BY [GOZO NEWS](#) .

Nurses' Day is celebrated annually on the 12th of May by the International Council of Nurses (ICN) – the anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birthday, and it also marks the contribution of nurses to society.

This year's theme is 'Nurses a Voice to Lead: Health is a human right.' The right to the highest attainable standard of health is recognised in the constitution of many countries and numerous binding international human rights treaties.



In a statement today, the Department of Nursing, at Faculty of Health Sciences within the University of Malta, has said that it will commemorate International Nurses' Day 2018, by drafting a parliamentary motion regarding the role of the nurse in Malta in addressing health as a human right.

The Department said that the motion will be presented by Dr Roberta Sammut, Head of Department of Nursing, Dean Faculty of Health

Sciences. This will be discussed during a debate among a number of student and qualified nurses and Members of Parliament.

The debate will be take place at the Chamber of the Parliament of Malta in Valletta on the 10th of May at 10am. Mario Galea, a qualified nurse, will lead the debate which will be chaired by the Speaker, Dr. A. Farrugia.

The Department asked "what does, the right to health, mean to different individuals, to different communities, to different groups in a population? Universal Health Coverage (UHC) necessitates placing the health and wellbeing of all individuals and all communities at the centre of the health system and of the economic development of the country (ICN, 2018)."

It added that, "as policy makers grapple with this problem, nurses have an indispensable role to play in answering this question. Nurses are believed to have a central role to play towards ensuring health is achieved by all."

"Nurses act as dual agents, or may be said to have a dual role, in health care systems vis-a-vis honouring the contention/statement health as a human right."

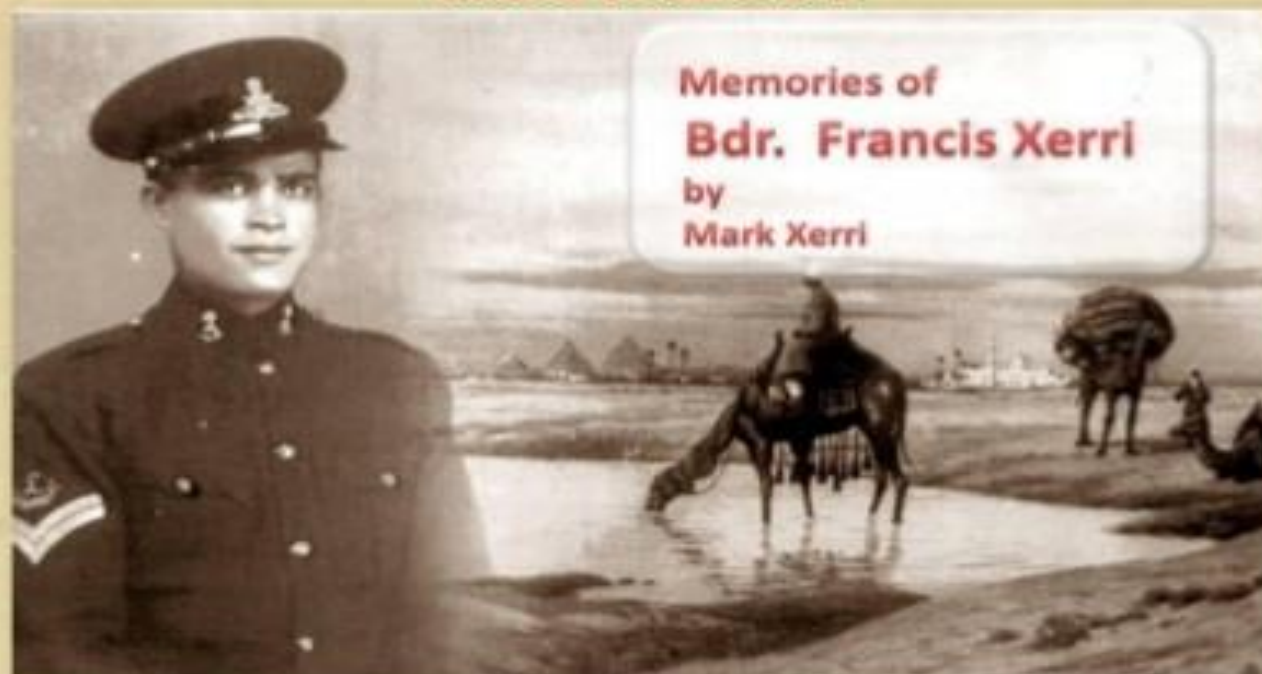
The speakers in the debate will include Dr. Anthony Scerri, Mr Kevin Gafa', Ms Vanessa Mifsud, Ms Antoinette Attard, Ms Lucyanne Ragab, Ms Marika Podda Connor, Ms Amy Zahra Camilleri and Ms Maria Navarro. *File photograph*

Charity Fair next Sunday for Friends of the Sick and Elderly Gozo

There will be a Charity Fair in Victoria on Mother's Day, organised by the Friends of the Sick and Elderly Gozo. Next weekend's Charity Fair will take place along the private road between the Secondary Schools, almost adjacent to Arkadia, on Sunday, the 13th of May, between 7.30am and 1.00pm, gates open at 7.00am. As usual, there will also be various charity NGOs with stalls set up on the day, so please go along and have a look around, and help support these worthy causes.

Everyone is invited to take along any unwanted items, bric-a-brac etc and turn them into cash. A donation of €10 from sellers is requested. There is no need to book, sellers can just turn up on the day .

The Friends of the Sick and Elderly has said that at the end of each event participants are requested to remove their own rubbish and not leave anything behind.

SGT. FRANCIS XERRI**NOSTALGIA**

My late father Sgt. Francis Xerri served with the only Maltese army unit to serve outside Malta during WWII. He served in Egypt in 1940 under Capt G.C. Micallef Eynaud, who later became Colonel of the 3LAA Regt. RMA. My father used to recount how his unit left Malta for Egypt on Tuesday 7 May of 1940. Under the command of Major JV Abela, more than 200 men from the 5HAA Battery were given a very big farewell as they marched down to Grand Harbour, Valletta to board the SS Strathmore for Alexandria. On arrival in Egypt the Battery, with their 3.7 Heavy guns, was positioned at Aboukir. From about August of that year, there were several German air-raids on Aboukir and Alexandria with some direct hits and several casualties. At that time General Wilson, the British C-in-C visited the Maltese Battery. My father also recalls the help received from the Maltese community of Alexandria. About Christmas time that year, the Maltese soldiers received the bad news that Malta was under siege and was suffering from shortage of food. Several food parcels were organised by the Maltese Battery and sent to Malta. My father Sgt Francis Xerri returned to Malta with his Battery in March 1943 and passed away on the 22nd of December, 2007.