

**CONSULATE OF MALTA IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA NEWSLETTER**  
**DECEMBER 2013 FRANK L SCICLUNA - HON CONSUL - LINKING MALTA AND AUSTRALIA**  
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**Prime Minister Joseph Muscat hails Malta's links with royal family**

Prince Charles drew riotous laughter from guests at a Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting on Friday evening when he recounted a colourful anecdote of waterskiing with Malta's former Prime Minister Dom Mintoff.

Speaking at Friday's CHOGM banquet, Prince Charles recalled how, as a student, he had

gone waterskiing with Prime Minister Mintoff and, despite having been nicknamed 'the Action Man Prince', Mintoff had bested him at the athletic sport and left the Prince treading water in his wake.

In his speech, the Prince recounted stories about world leaders he had met and the countries he had visited over the past decades. At one point, the Prince of Wales recounted how he had gone waterskiing with Mintoff until he could not handle it anymore and let go of the rope.

"I let go of the rope, he went on and I never saw him again!" Prince Charles recounted, reportedly leaving his heads of governments audience in 'hysteries', according to reports from insiders at the banquet.

Although he did not say exactly when this incident had taken place, outdistancing the young and very active prince was quite a feat, considering the fact that Mintoff was 32 years older than the Prince.

Prince Charles added: "The result of all this over all these years is that I feel very much part of a family, it's in my blood – I hate to tell you – and I've been brought up in the family.

"And I think that what we are renewing here are those family ties, those family associations, and above all those family values. I feel proud, if I may so, and enormously privileged to be a part of it all."

**Commonwealth 'the grandfather of the modern world' – PM Muscat**

In his own toast at the banquet, current Prime Minister Joseph Muscat hailed the Commonwealth as the modern world's grandfather.

Recalling his recent address to the United Nations General Assembly, Dr Muscat said: "If the United Nations is the father of the modern world, I think we can describe the Commonwealth as – and I hope your Royal Highness will excuse me for introducing this term – the grandfather.

"By George, there's nothing wrong with being a grandfather – being respected for your wisdom, experience and achievements.

"I should say to your Royal Highness that your own grandfather [King George VI] has a special place in the hearts of the Maltese. It was he who awarded the George Cross for bravery to our island in the darks hours of the Second World War. Later, your parents, the then Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh, were to begin their married life living in Malta. "I know other countries have similar stories of their relationship with the Royal Family and there is no doubt that Her Majesty and you have proved to be the glue uniting us all. We rest assured that through your son and grandson the Commonwealth will be in good hands for generations to come."

Dr Muscat concluded: "So, let us celebrate the existence of the Commonwealth and the force for good it is in the world."



Maltese citizenship, just like citizenship of any other EU Member States, automatically confers upon the holder citizenship of the European Union.

Article 9 of the Treaty on European Union states that: In all its activities, the Union shall observe the principle of the equality of its citizens, who shall receive equal attention from its institutions, bodies, offices and agencies. Every national of a Member State shall be a citizen of the Union. Citizenship of the Union shall be additional to national citizenship and shall not replace it.

The notion of EU citizenship was first introduced into the EU legal order by the Treaty of Maastricht in 1993. EU citizens' rights were reinforced in 2009 by the Treaty of Lisbon and the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights.

EU citizenship is not an abstract concept. It brings with it tangible rights and duties. Most obvious of all are rights such as that of voting to elect the members of the European Parliament (EP), and the freedom of movement for all EU citizens that includes the right to live, work or study in any EU Member State.

2013 has been designated the European Year for Citizens to take stock of the situation twenty years after the introduction of EU citizenship. This year, on Europe Day, the European Commission launched its Citizenship Report aimed at identifying and overcoming obstacles that EU citizens still face in their everyday life and democratic participation.

The main rights enjoyed by EU citizens are the right:

- ❖ not to be discriminated against on grounds of nationality;
- ❖ to move and reside freely within the EU;
- ❖ to vote and stand as candidates in local and EP elections wherever they live in the EU , under the same conditions as nationals of the Member State in which they reside;
- ❖ to be assisted in a country outside the EU by the embassy or consulate of another EU country under the same conditions as a citizen of that country should their own country not be represented there;
- ❖ to petition the EP, apply to the European Ombudsman and address the EU institutions; and
- ❖ to organise or support, together with other EU citizens, a citizens' initiative to call for new EU legislation.

The Citizenship Report recognises that obstacles still remain for the full exercise of these rights. It, therefore, proposed twelve new actions in six key areas to remove these obstacles. The six areas identified are:

- ❖ Removing obstacles for workers, students and trainees in the EU;
- ❖ Cutting red tape in the Member States;
- ❖ Protecting the more vulnerable in the EU;
- ❖ Eliminating barriers to shopping in the EU;
- ❖ Targeted and accessible information in the EU; and
- ❖ Participating in the democratic life of the EU.

The proposed actions are concrete and range from the revision of the social security coordination regulation and an extension of the export of unemployment benefits for longer than the current mandatory three months, to the introduction of optional uniform European identity and residence documents for EU citizens, or facilitating the recognition of vehicle roadworthiness certificates in the EU.

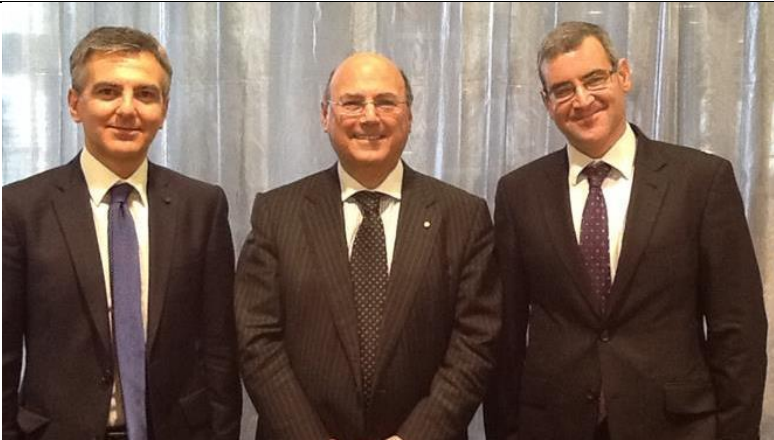
MEUSAC is the national contact point in Malta for this European Year of Citizens. We have endeavoured, through various initiatives, to engage with the public to make them more aware of what EU citizenship actually means. Surveys of public opinion carried out in Malta constantly indicate that the Maltese are well informed and knowledgeable. The Eurobarometer survey commissioned last June by the EP to gauge Europeans' opinion of the European project, the EU and the possibilities offered by the 2014 EP elections also highlights some interesting indicators.

When asked what would strengthen most their feeling of EU citizenship, 31% of Maltese replied that it would be a harmonised European social welfare system (health, pensions, etc.) whereas 30% Maltese replied that it is the right to vote in all elections wherever you live in the EU even if you are not a citizen of that Member State.

In the words of European Commission Vice-President Viviane Reding, "We cannot build the European Union without citizens, we can only build the EU with the people it is made for and based on their ideas. European citizenship is the cornerstone of EU integration."

### **List of the 28 countries of the European Union** (year of entry)

Austria (1995) Belgium (1952) Bulgaria (2007) Croatia (2013) Cyprus (2004) Czech Republic (2004) Denmark (1973) Estonia (2004) Finland (1995) France (1952) Germany (1952) Greece (1981) Hungary (2004) Ireland (1973) Italy (1952) Latvia (2004) Lithuania (2004) Luxembourg (1952) Malta (2004) Netherlands (1952) Poland (2004) Portugal (1986) Romania (2007) Slovakia (2004) Slovenia (2004) Spain (1986) Sweden (1995) U. K. (1973)



From left: PN leader Simon Busuttil, Australian Senator Arthur Sinodinos, and former health minister Joe Cassar

### **LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION AND OF THE NATIONALSI PARTY IN AUSTRALIA**

PN leader Simon Busuttil, who is currently in Australia on a one-week visit, yesterday met with Senator Arthur Sinodinos, Assistant Federal Treasurer and member of the Cabinet led by Prime Minister Tony Abbott. Dr Busuttil spoke about the Maltese community in Australia and how the Opposition is willing to contribute to strengthening relations between Malta and Australia. Later on in the evening, Dr Busuttil was

invited to a dinner hosted by Syd Borg, the president of the Australian Maltese Chamber of Commerce. Dr Busuttil is in Australia to participate in the Global Forum of Parliamentary Champions for Diabetes, organised by the International Diabetes Federation. When MEP, Dr Busuttil had been awarded the 2012 MEP of the Year Award for Health in recognition of his work in the European Parliament in favour of people suffering from diabetes.

While in Sydney and Melbourne, Dr Busuttil is expected to meet several members of the Maltese community in Australia, including the Maltese Community Council of New South Wales, the Maltese Community Council of Victoria, the Maltese Shelter of Peace, the Rosary Home (Care Centre for the Elderly run by the Dominican Sisters) and numerous Australian MPs. Dr Busuttil is accompanied by former health minister Joe Cassar. The two are expected to return to Malta on Tuesday.

**PLEASE NOTE:** It seems that certain dignitaries who visit Australia are under the impression that the members of the Maltese community reside only in Melbourne and Sydney. We, the members of the community of Adelaide, Perth, Tasmania, and Queensland (Gold Coast, Mackay, Brisbane, Ipswich and Cairns), are always forgotten, left out and ignored as if we do NOT exist. We are proud that we are not only Australians but also Maltese and please, whoever decides to come and visit us, the Maltese community of Australia, make sure that you include US as well in the itinerary. Some weeks ago Dr. Angelo Farrugia, the speaker in the house of Malta's parliament visited the Maltese community of Australia and he ended up in Sydney and Melbourne only. *I understand that Australia is a vast continent and you need more than a week and a lot of expense to travel from state to state. Many Maltese have the same problem when they try to apply for a Maltese passport.* (Sent from my ipad - T. Camilleri from Adelaide)



## University of Malta - We invite you to complete and submit the survey



The University of Malta is the highest educational institution in Malta offering undergraduate Bachelor's Degrees, postgraduate Master's Degrees and postgraduate Doctorates. It is a member of the Association of Commonwealth Universities. [Wikipedia](#)

[Address:](#) Msida MSD 2080, Malta

[Founded:](#) 1591

My name is Arvin Eslami and I am working on a project in association with Dr Gordon Sammut from the University of Malta. I have been directed to you by the Directorate for Maltese citizens living outside Malta within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Malta. I am writing with regards to a study we are presently undertaking concerning Maltese people living in Australia, either as migrants themselves or as second or perhaps even third generation immigrants. We are interested in comparing the identities of Maltese living in Malta with identities of Maltese migrants overseas, in an effort to better understand the situation of Maltese migrants abroad as well as what strategies have enabled their successful settlement.

We are presently undertaking an online survey to study these processes. The questionnaire is attached to this email and can also be found in the following link:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1HoG-EfUrKZiBhmqFe\\_xV3PFVNP7zXnE4AI0CPARxC54/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1HoG-EfUrKZiBhmqFe_xV3PFVNP7zXnE4AI0CPARxC54/viewform)

The questionnaire can therefore be completed and submitted online, or returned to us by email ( [arvin.eslami@stud.unifi.it](mailto:arvin.eslami@stud.unifi.it) ) using the document attached, or even printed and posted at the following address:

Dr Gordon Sammut - Department of Psychology University of Malta Msida Malta

## MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS – MALTA

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**Q: I have run into difficulty while abroad and need the assistance of Malta's diplomatic mission. Where can I find contact details for the nearest diplomatic mission?**

**A:** See Malta's Diplomatic & Consular Representation website: [www.mfa.gov.mt](http://www.mfa.gov.mt). Alternatively you can go to any Embassy or Consulate of an EU Member State for consular assistance. You must present your valid Maltese/European passport

**Q: Do I need an Identity Card or Passport to enter another EU Member State?**

**A:** As a citizen of the European Union, all you need is your valid National Identity Card. It is advisable, however, that is also best to have your Passport available should you be required to prove your identity, should the former be misplaced. If public order or national security so require, checks at internal borders may be carried out for limited periods.

**Q: I am a Maltese citizen residing abroad; where can I renew my Passport?**

**A:** You can renew your Passport through your nearest Maltese Embassy or High Commission. For details of your nearest diplomatic mission, please see Malta's Diplomatic & Consular Representation or refer to list below.

**Q: I am a Maltese citizen wishing to work/study/travel in another EU country. Where can I find information about how to do it?**

**A:** Please visit the Citizens First website; run by Europa, the European Union's portal. The site contains information about living, working, jobseeking, studying, training, doing research, buying goods and services, travelling and equal opportunities.

**Q: How can I register a birth, death or marriage in Malta whilst abroad?**

**A:** You should register a birth, death or marriage at your the High Commission in Canberra (see details below).



## **Consulate of Adelaide – VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

### **Consular Services**

The Maltese Consulate in Adelaide provides services with regard to the issuance of Passports, Citizenship, Authentication of documents, Legalisations Oath of Allegiance and others.

### **Opening Hours**

The Consulate's opening hours are as follows:

Monday to Friday from 9.00am – 4.00pm.

Applicants requiring the services of the Consul need to call the Consulate for an appointment.

### **1. Passport Services**

Maltese citizens residing in South Australia may apply for a passport through the Maltese Consulate. Applicant must personally submit to the Maltese Consulate a duly completed passport application form, the expired passport, and all the necessary relative documentation. Applicants may apply for Maltese certificates online on [www.certifikati.gov.mt](http://www.certifikati.gov.mt). Passport application forms may be downloaded from [Passport Application Form](#)

The newly issued passport, together with the cancelled passport will be returned to applicant. Valid visas that are still affixed to the old passport are not cancelled.

Passport sized photos, which must be identical and in colour, should not be more than 6 months old. One of the photos is signed by the recommender, if applicant is applying for a passport for the first time or if applicant is under 18 years of age. Photographs must be in line with ICAO standards.

	<b>Fee</b>
Passport for persons who are sixteen (16) years of age and over, valid for ten (10) years	\$A185.00
Passport for minors who are ten (10) years of age but have not attained their sixteenth (16) birthday, valid for five (5) years	\$A120.00
Passport to minors who have not attained their tenth birthday (10), valid for two (2) years	\$A85.00
Emergency Passport or any travel document not otherwise provided for in lieu of a passport	\$A35.00

### **Passports for Children**

Both parents need to give their written consent by signing the application form in the presence of the Maltese Consul or of one of the Maltese Hon. Consuls. Parents must produce an acceptable form of official identification.

### **Payment**

Payment of fees may be made by cheque or money/postal order, payable to the *Malta High Commission*

### **2. Citizenship**

Applications for citizenship will be furnished by this Consulate. Guidance will also be given with respect to requirements and fees payable. Upon receipt, the completed applications, accompanied by the relevant certificates, will be forwarded by the Consulate to Malta High Commission in Canberra for processing. Persons who were born in Malta and their children are automatically citizens of Malta.

### **3. Authentication of Documents / Signature**

Authentication implies certifying a stamp, seal or signature as genuine. The Maltese Consulate in Adelaide may authenticate official stamps or seals issued by a Maltese Government Authority. Such documents may either be sent by post or delivered by hand. The Maltese Consulate may also authenticate a signature. In this case the individual, who must produce a valid identification card, must sign in front of the Consul.

#### **4. Visas**

Applications, will be submitted, duly completed and accompanied by the required documentation, to the Consulate, in person. Following initial relevant enquiries carried out by the Consulate, applications and relative documentation, are referred to the competent authorities in Canberra for processing.

#### **5. Other Services**

The Maltese Consulate in Adelaide may also administer oaths and certify true copies of original Maltese documents.

#### **Malta High Commission**

The Malta High Commission represents Malta and New Zealand in Australia. This office offers updated information on Malta and their relations with Australia.

Australian and New Zealand passport holders travelling to Malta as tourists for less than 90 days don't need a visa. Anyone else can apply for a visa at the High Commission in Canberra, Sydney or Melbourne. The Malta High Commission also facilitates Maltese passport renewals and pension assistance and citizenship applications.

The Malta High Commission is in the suburb of O'Malley approximately 10 kilometres south of the city centre.

##### **Contact Details**

Address : 38 Culgoa Cct O'Malley ACT 2606  
Telephone : 02 6290 1724 Fax : 02 6290 2453  
Email : [highcommission.canberra@gov.mt](mailto:highcommission.canberra@gov.mt) Opening Times Weekdays: 9am - 5pm

#### **Below are the details of the consular corps:**

##### **ADELAIDE** *with jurisdiction over the State of South Australia*

Mr FRANK L. SCICLUNA, Hon. Consul  
12 Camroc Avenue, Prospect, 5084, South Australia  
Home Tel: 0061 (8) 8269 2948  
Mobile: 0061 422 438 288  
email: [honconsul@live.com.au](mailto:honconsul@live.com.au)

Mr JOHN J. FARRUGIA, Hon. Vice-Consul  
1 Norman Gibson Court, West Lakes, 5021, S.A.  
Home Tel: 0061 (8) 8243 1223  
Mobile: 0061 409 744 920  
email: [john@spendapenny.com.au](mailto:john@spendapenny.com.au)

##### **ASCOT VALE** *with jurisdiction over Gippsland and La Trobe Valley*

Mr MARIO A. SAMMUT, Hon. Vice-Consul  
16, Evans Street, Morwell, Victoria 3840  
Tel: 0061 (3) 5134 8963  
Mobile: 0061 (412) 411 719  
email: [maltaconsul.ascotvale@gov.mt](mailto:maltaconsul.ascotvale@gov.mt)

##### **BRISBANE** *with jurisdiction over Brisbane, Bundaberg, the Gold Coast, the Sunshine Coast and Roma*

MR GEORGE A BORG OLIVIER, Hon Consul  
10 Quartz Place, Carrara QLD 4211  
Tel: (07) 5596 5756  
Mob: 0419 299 037  
Email: [gabo.data2k@internode.on.net](mailto:gabo.data2k@internode.on.net)

##### **CAIRNS**

*with jurisdiction over the Far North Region of Queensland, including the areas of Mt. Isa, Hughenden and Cloncurry*

Mr JOSEPH GEORGE VELLA, Hon Consul  
108 Mulgrave Road, PO Box 1011, Parramatta Park, Cairns. QLD.

4870  
Tel: 0061 7 4040 4444  
email: [joe@jvib.com.au](mailto:joe@jvib.com.au)

##### **MACKAY**

*with jurisdiction over the Central Coast Region of Queensland, excluding the Bundaberg area*

Ms CARMEL MARY BARETTA, Hon Consul  
'Dawntarna' Mail Service 656, 172 Habana Road, Mackay, QLD 4740  
Tel: 0061 7 4942 1661  
email: [cmbarett@easynet.net.au](mailto:cmbarett@easynet.net.au)

##### **MELBOURNE**

*\* with jurisdiction over the State of Victoria*

##### **CONSULATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALTA**

Suite 613, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor 343, Little Collins Street,  
Melbourne, VIC 3000 Tel: 0061 (3) 9670 8427; (3) 9600 3953 Email:  
[maltaconsulate.melbourne@gov.mt](mailto:maltaconsulate.melbourne@gov.mt)  
MR VICTOR GRECH *Consul General*

##### **PERTH** *with jurisdiction over the State of Western Australia*

ANTHONY VICTOR SCIBERRAS, Hon. Consul  
Rudloc Road Medical and Dental Centre, 40, Rudloc Road,  
Morley, Western Australia 6062  
Tel: 0061 08 6188 5555  
Email: [malti@ausdoctors.net](mailto:malti@ausdoctors.net)

##### **SYDNEY** *\* with jurisdiction over the State of New South Wales*

##### **CONSULATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALTA**

Suite 10.04, Level 10,  
31, Market Street, Sydney, NSW 2000  
Tel: 0061 (02) 9262 9500  
Email: [maltaconsulate.sydney@gov.mt](mailto:maltaconsulate.sydney@gov.mt)  
MR CHRISTOPHER MERDIECA *Consul General*

# **MALTESE CITIZENSHIP**

For a full description with regards to individual situations, it is best to check the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' website .

## **Descendants of Maltese nationals**

Since August 1<sup>st</sup> 2007 anyone from Maltese descent can claim citizenship by registration. Birth, marriage or death certificates proving direct descent from two generations born in Malta, must be shown. If you have parents, grandparents, etc. that are alive and who are also direct descendants themselves, they will also have to make applications.

The registration procedure may take place at any Maltese Embassy, High Commission, Consulate, or at the Department for Citizenship and Expatriate Affairs in Malta. Residence in Malta is not required.

## **Maltese citizenship by marriage**

If you are married to a Maltese you can claim citizenship after five years of marriage. Residence in the island is not required. The same is true for widows and widowers of Maltese citizens who have died within the first five years of marriage. In this case the citizenship application can be submitted five years after the date of marriage.

**The Gozo Branch of Nanniet Malta** was inaugurated on the 23rd of November in Sannat, during a Thanksgiving Mass, which will be celebrated by the Bishop of Gozo, Mgr Mario Grech, at 6.00pm at the Sannat Parish Church.



Special distinguished guests were in attendance, among whom will be the Acting Speaker of the House, Censu Galea, President Emeritus Dr Fenech Adami, the Minister for Gozo, Dr Anton Refalo and MP Giovanna Debono, among others.

Grandparents Day in Malta was created on the 23rd of September 2013, by Philip M Chircop after obtaining, on this day, with the

Distinguished Patronage of HE Dr George Abela, President of Malta.

The 'Day' is being established for the first time in Malta by "Nanniet (Grandparents) Malta," an NGO founded by Philip Chircop, with the aim to instil in our siblings respect for our forefathers and to encourage them to look up to their Grandparents not only on this day, but throughout their lives. 'Jum in-Nanniet' (Grandparents Day) was celebrated for the first time this year, on Sunday, the 20th of October, when the Church celebrated Missions Sunday, also highlighting Grandparents' Mission in the Maltese Family Life, and will continue to be celebrated on the 3rd Sunday of October, thereafter. [For more information see https://www.facebook.com/NannietMalta](https://www.facebook.com/NannietMalta)



## Updated – Labour Party will restore Australia Hall, Prime Minister says,



### PL gives up claim to take Freedom Press back

Prime Minister Joseph Muscat had defended the government's decision to drop a case which the former administration had instituted against the Labour Party to recover Australia Hall from the party.

The historic Australia Hall, in Pembroke, had been transferred to the Labour Party in the 1970s as part-compensation when the then Labour government took possession of Freedom Press, the former Labour headquarters in Marsa. Freedom Press was incorporated into Malta Shipbuilding.

Prime Minister Joseph Muscat said this evening that the court action by the Director of Lands to recover Australia Hall from the Labour Party had been an act of vindictiveness against the party.

Reacting in parliament to criticism that the government had given the PL a €10m gift when it dropped the court case, Dr Muscat said that at the outset, it needed to be remembered that the properties which included Australia Hall in Pembroke were given to the Labour Party in compensation for the properties taken from it in Marsa for use in the Malta Shipbuilding properties.

## The Valletta Indoor Market (Is-Suq tal-Belt)

I was saddened to read Sherry Ott's article about Valletta's indoor market on We Blog The World. The author's conclusion that "the (market) culture is dead" may, at face value, appear to be correct. But the author, a traveller who was probably here for not more than a couple of weeks, probably did not have the time to delve a bit deeper into this issue; into why this happened.



In truth, for many years, Valletta did have a thriving market. I remember going to the Valletta market in the mid-70s when the place was a bee-hive of activity. Fishmongers, vegetable sellers, butchers and grocers proudly displayed their wares, advertising them at the top of their lungs. The noise and the intermingled smell of raw fish and meat were over-powering. But it was an organised type of chaos. This was the Valletta market in its heyday - a place of smells, yells and bustling humanity.

In 1982, the government of the day took a decision to relocate the market to Floriana (it always makes sense to transfer a thriving market to a different town and expect loyal customers to follow). The Suq tal-Belt was hastily refurbished and an enterprise called 'Ixtri Malti' (Purchase Maltese Products) was born. The project was doomed from the start, especially since most of the items on sale would have felt right at home in Soviet Russia, China or Libya. One by one, the shops closed down and the building's gates were padlocked for a number of years.

In the late 80s the market returned to Valletta and, although no longer quite as busy as it used to be, started to re-attract customers. Unfortunately, the fact that people had got used to shopping elsewhere, coupled with the dwindling and ageing population of Valletta, ensured that its death knell had been rung.



Today, it is a mere shadow of what it used to be. It feels like one of those abandoned towns in the American Wild West - the signs are still hanging, the infrastructure is in place, but the only footsteps that echo down the empty hallways are the ghostly echoes of times past.

What about its future? There is talk of turning it into a museum of contemporary art or into an arts and crafts market. Both ideas could work, given the necessary financing and restoration that needs to take place. Personally, I would like this building to be returned to its roots. It could so easily be a thriving place once again like Firenze's Mercato Centrale. Market stalls, craft booths, a couple of florists, maybe a few specialty stores and small outlets selling street food. I am sure it would not take that much effort to breathe some life into the place. As long as it is not a half-hearted effort and is imaginatively done, it will work.

## porta reale- putirjal – city gate(s)



**First City Gate - *Porta San Giorgio*** The original gate, known as *Porta San Giorgio*, was designed by military engineer Francesco Laparelli de Carotona during the reign of Grandmaster Jean Parisot de Valette, and was erected between April 1566 and 1569.

**Second City Gate** In 1632 *Porta San Giorgio* was replaced by a more ornate gate designed by the Maltese architect Tommaso Dingli, during the rule of Grandmaster Antoine de Paule. Dingli's design consisted of a central archway with a smaller arch at each side, and a wooden drawbridge across the deep, dry moat that lies immediately outside the walls of [Valletta](#).



## **Third City Gate - Kingsway**

City Gate celebrations 1853, at the height of British rule over Malta, a new gate designed by a certain Col. Thompson of the Royal Engineers was erected, consisting of two central arches with two smaller ones. Throughout the 19th and early 20th centuries, City Gate was known as *Porta Reale*, which became "*Putirjal*" in Maltese, and "*Kingsway*" in English.

## **Fourth City Gate**

The fourth City Gate was inaugurated in 1964 and it was part of a project that never materialised, that of redeveloping the entrance to Valletta and the Royal Opera House. Its Italian modernism design was the source of much controversy. Recent years have witnessed growing public interest in the redevelopment of City Gate and the Royal Opera House, situated nearby. Celebrated Italian architect Renzo Piano,<sup>[1]</sup> and local Maltese architect Richard England both submitted designs for a new City Gate, but the project stalled at the time due to poor public reaction. This gate was demolished in May 2011 to make way for the fifth city gate.

Valletta and the Royal Opera House. Its Italian modernism design was the source of much controversy. Recent years



## **Fifth City Gate - Renzo Piano's Project**

The entrance to Malta's capital city and its surrounding environment will be transformed following the MEPA Board decision to grant a development permit for the construction of a new city gate for Valletta, Parliament building, piazza and performing space. The extensive project will be taking shape at the site of the former Royal Opera House

and landscaping works along the ditch are also set to be carried out.

One of the key components of the development application submitted for the project was the redesign of City Gate and Bridge. The whole design hinges on the removal of the existing city gate and redesigning the entrance using three large monoliths 'punctuated' by metal inserts and the demolition of the large part of the existing bridge to expose and restore the 16th-century bridge, which is still existing within the fabric of the present structure.

The Parliament building which will be built in the present Pjazza Helsien, is composed of two blocks set back from Triq ir-Repubblika to create a wider open space at the entrance. One block will accommodate the parliament assembly chamber and the other, the supporting offices and an exhibition area at the ground floor.

The site of the ruins of the former Opera House is to be redeveloped into a piazza and performing space with supporting facilities. While the existing ruins will be restored, the existing lower level beneath the podium of the Opera House, will be used as entrance and foyer.



The original outer columns on the elevations of the theatre, which are missing to different degrees, will be reintroduced by a series of steel columns. The Ditch area underneath the entrance to City Gate will feature landscaping works for recreational purposes. Street paving works around Pjazza Helsien and the new proposed square adjacent to Auberge d'Italie will consist of hardstone material.

The old blends with the new at Valletta's City Gate project, which has raised concerns at Unesco.

Photo: Matthew Mirabelli

Unesco is concerned about the impact of Renzo Piano's City Gate plans on Valletta's World Heritage status and intends to send a team of

experts to Malta to assess the project, Times of Malta has learnt.

Unesco's Petya Totcharova said the concerns were about the potential impact of new development on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of Valletta, for which it has been inscribed on the Unesco World Heritage List.

Unesco is in contact with the Maltese authorities, said Ms Totcharova, chief of the Europe and North America Unit at the World Heritage Centre in Paris.

City Gate is in the process of being transformed, in an €80 million project commissioned by the previous government and designed by renowned Italian architect Renzo Piano.

The project includes a new Parliament building and the conversion of the bombed-out Opera House into an open-air theatre. It is expected to be completed next year.

Ms Totcharova confirmed that Unesco intends to send an "advisory mission of experts" to Malta to assess the state of conservation and potential impact of the project on the city and its OUV. The visit is likely to happen in the "near future" although no date has been confirmed, according to Ms Totcharova.

The assessment team will be made up of experts from the International Council on Monuments and Site (ICOMOS), an advisory body to the World Heritage Committee.

If a threat is identified, the mission report should include a list of conclusions and recommendations for the Maltese authorities.

Furthermore, if a serious existing or potential threat is identified, the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS may present a state of conservation report for examination by the World Heritage Committee at one of its next sessions.

According to Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, signatories should inform the World Heritage Committee of their intention to authorise major constructions which may affect the Outstanding Universal Value of World Heritage sites.

Notice should be given as soon as possible and before making any decisions that would be difficult to reverse, so that the Committee may assist in seeking appropriate solutions to ensure that the Outstanding Universal Value of the site is fully preserved.

Asked if Malta had informed Unesco of the City Gate plans in advance, Ms Totcharova replied that the project was discussed during a visit of a Unesco official in 2011. Works began at City Gate in April 2010.

The project has also proved to be controversial among the Maltese since it was announced in June 2009. There has been criticism from some sections of society about the decision to build a Parliament instead of something for the people, as well as the failure to build another Opera House.

## Capital's World Heritage status

Malta's capital Valletta was officially recognised as a World Heritage Site in 1980.

With 320 monuments within an area of 55 hectares, Valletta is "one of the most concentrated historic areas in the world" according to the Unesco website.

Unesco, a branch of the UN, stands for United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation. Following the establishment of the 1972 World Heritage Convention, member states were able to submit both naturally and culturally significant sites for inclusion on the World Heritage List. World Heritage sites have to satisfy at least one of 10 criteria to demonstrate that they have outstanding universal value to humanity that must be protected for future generations.

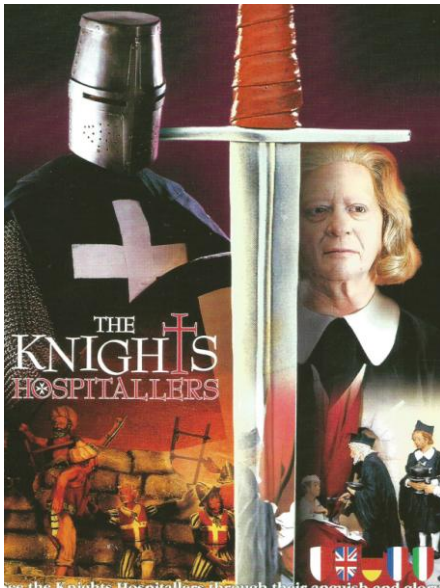
Besides Valletta, Malta's other Unesco World Heritage sites are the temples at Ħaġar Qim and the Hypogeum.



## Sovereign Military Order of Malta

The **Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of Saint John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta** (Italian: *Sovrano Militare Ordine Ospedaliero di San Giovanni di Gerusalemme di Rodi e di Malta*), also known as the **Sovereign Military Order of Malta (SMOM)**, **Order of Malta** or **Knights of Malta**, is a Roman Catholic lay religious order of, traditionally, a military, chivalrous and noble nature.[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sovereign\\_Military\\_Order\\_of\\_Malta\\_-\\_cite\\_note-5](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sovereign_Military_Order_of_Malta_-_cite_note-5) It is the world's oldest surviving order of chivalry.[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sovereign\\_Military\\_Order\\_of\\_Malta\\_-\\_cite\\_note-6](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sovereign_Military_Order_of_Malta_-_cite_note-6) The Sovereign Military Order of Malta is headquartered in Rome, and is widely considered a sovereign subject of international law.

SMOM is the modern continuation of the original medieval order of Saint John of Jerusalem, known as the "*Fraternitas Hospitalaria*" and later as the Knights Hospitaller, a group founded in Jerusalem about 1050 as an Amalfitan hospital to provide care for poor and sick pilgrims to the Holy Land. After the conquest of Jerusalem in 1099 during the First Crusade, it became a military order under its own charter. Following the loss of Christian held territories of the Holy Land to Muslims, the Order operated from Rhodes (1310–1523), and later from Malta (1530–1798), over which it was sovereign.



Although this state came to an end with the ejection of the Order from Malta by Napoleon Bonaparte, the Order as such survived. It retains its claims of sovereignty under international law and has been granted permanent observer status at the United Nations.<sup>[9]</sup> The order is notable for issuing its own international passports for travel, postal stamps, along with its formal insignia, often portrayed as a white or gold Maltese cross. The order nominally invokes the Blessed Virgin Mary under the venerated Marian title of "*Our Lady of Mount Philermos*" as its patroness and spiritual intercessor.

Today the order has about 13,000 members; 80,000 permanent volunteers; and 20,000 medical personnel including doctors, nurses, auxiliaries and paramedics in more than 120 countries.<sup>[3]</sup> The goal is to assist the elderly, handicapped, refugeeed, children, homeless, those with terminal illness and leprosy in all parts of the world, without distinction of race or religion.[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sovereign\\_Military\\_Order\\_of\\_Malta\\_-\\_cite\\_note-M13000-3](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sovereign_Military_Order_of_Malta_-_cite_note-M13000-3)

In several countries—including France, Germany and Ireland—the local associations of the Order are important providers of first aid training, first aid services and emergency medical services. Through its worldwide relief corps—Malteser International—the Order is also engaged to aid victims of natural disasters, epidemics and armed conflicts.



Cross of the Knights of Malta

In February 2013 the order celebrated its 900th anniversary recognising the Papal bull of



sovereignty "*Pie Postulatio Voluntatis*" formally issued by Pope Paschal II on 15 February 1113, with a general audience given by Pope Benedict XVI<sup>1</sup> and a Holy Mass celebrated by Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone at Saint Peter's Basilica.



## **Christmas in Gozo.** **A night at the Aurora Theatre**

With a busy fare-free weekend past, many now set their eyes on Gozo for the Christmas – a season when Gozo is proving to be an easy-access holiday destination with many Maltese.

For many, a festive week in Gozo is ideal for relaxation. Families tend to capitalize on children's school holidays and seclude themselves in self-catering

establishments, having gatherings and dinners in a home away from home. Depending on the weather, winter walks are another favourite with many. But Christmas in Gozo is also abundant of music and theatre.

### *The Leone Grand Christmas Show*

While being known for its annual opera, the 1600-seat Aurora Theatre, Malta's largest indoor opera venue, is busily gearing towards its own Christmas variety show. Many theatres around the globe present their in-house Christmas production during the Christmas festival period. *The Leone Grand Christmas Show* is the spectacle modelled on the most successful entertainment recipes, imported in Malta, and dressed the Maltese festive costume.

The background and context to this colourful evening are set by an 80-piece band, the Leone Band – Gozo's first. It will be supported and complemented by a strong troupe of singers, dancers and choirs. The line-up, which customarily includes seasonal medleys, the most-loved joyous tunes, humour and spectacle, will be announced in due course. However, the Aurora Theatre has got some of the finest talent on board, promising a feast for the eyes and music to the ears.

*The Leone Grand Christmas Show* will be held on the last Saturday of the year – at the heart of the most shimmering weekend of all – right in between Christmas and New Year. So set your calendars, Saturday, December 28<sup>th</sup>, starting at 8pm. Regular tickets are priced at €5.00. Tickets for children under 10 years of age are free. With every 4 paying tickets, patrons are given a fifth one for free. These (and further information) may be obtained from [www.teatruaurora.com](http://www.teatruaurora.com) or from the Aurora Box Office, which may be contacted on 21559452 or via [info@leone.org.mt](mailto:info@leone.org.mt).

## **AUSTRALIA - Kangaroos**



### **Building Virtual Bridges**

The kangaroo is one of Australia's most iconic animals, and most species are endemic to Australia. There are over 60 different species of kangaroo and their close relatives, with all kangaroos belonging to the super family *Macropodoidea* (or macropods, meaning 'great-footed'). The super family is divided into the *Macropodidae* and the *Potoroidae* families.

The *Macropodidae* (macropod) family includes kangaroos, wallabies, wallaroos, pademelons, tree-kangaroos and forest wallabies. Species in the macropod family vary greatly in size and weight, ranging from 0.5 kilograms to 90 kilograms. The *Potoroinae* (potoroid) family of kangaroos includes the potoroo, bettong and rat-kangaroo, which live only in Australia. Kangaroos of different types live in all areas of Australia, from cold-climate areas and desert plains, to tropical rainforests and beaches.

### **Life and habitat**





Kangaroos are herbivorous, eating a range of plants and, in some cases, fungi. Most are nocturnal but some are active in the early morning and late afternoon. Different kangaroo species live in a variety of habitats. Potoroids, for example, make nests while tree-kangaroos live above ground in trees. Larger species of kangaroo tend to shelter under trees or in caves and rock clefts.

Kangaroos of all sizes have one thing in common: powerful back legs with long feet. Most kangaroos live on the ground and are distinguished from other animals by the way they hop on their strong back legs. A kangaroo's tail is used to balance while hopping and as a fifth limb when moving slowly.

All female kangaroos have front-opening pouches that contain four teats. This is where the 'joey', or young kangaroo, is raised until it can survive outside the pouch.

Most kangaroos have no set breeding cycle and are able to breed all year round. Because they are such prolific breeders, a kangaroo population can increase fourfold in five years if it has continuous access to plentiful food and water.



## **THE BLUE MOUNTAINS – NSW AUSTRALIA**



A trip to New South Wales would not be complete without a visit to the Blue Mountains. Less than two hours from Sydney by road or train, the World Heritage-listed Blue Mountains are one of the country's most spectacular icons. The picturesque towns of Blackheath, Faulconbridge, Katoomba, Leura, Megalong Valley, Mount Victoria, Springwood, Wentworth Falls, Hartley, Lithgow and Oberon afford breathtaking views, a wide variety of restaurants, accommodation and so many fun things to do. And for a one-of-a-kind experience, don't miss Jenolan Caves.

Bushwalks abound in the region, and there are trails to suit all comfort levels. When you've had enough walking and fancy a spot of shopping, you'll find quaint gift shops featuring confectionary, Australianana, fine art, books, antiques and more. The Greater Blue Mountains was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2000 and was one of 15 World Heritage places included in the National Heritage List on 21 May 2007.

There's always something going on in the Blue Mountains, from village festivals and flower festivals to classic car meets, musical events, sporting events and markets. The Blue Mountains make for the perfect holiday destination for families, nature lovers, and adventure seekers. For up to date information see NSW Tales for Blue Mountains news.

### **Traditional Owners**

We acknowledge the Aboriginal Dharug, Gundungurra, Wanaruah, Wiradjuri, Darkinjung and Tharawal Nations as the traditional owners of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area.



# MALTESE LANGUAGE FOR FOREIGNERS



## THE AUTHOR

Charles Daniel Saliba, B.Ed. (Hons.) Maltese, Dip. Arabic (Distinction), MA in Mediterranean Historical Studies, M.Phil (Sheffield), lectures on Maltese linguistics and literature at the intermediate and advanced levels at the Sir M.A. Refalo Centre for Further Studies. He has published over 30 books on the Maltese language. Saliba won a prize for his book *Realtà* in the *Prose for Adolescents* category at the National Book Awards in 2007. Saliba is also a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Sheffield, specialising in teaching Maltese as a foreign language.

Saliba represented Malta as a main speaker at the 2011 Interdisciplinary Colloquium on Proverbs (ICP11) in Tavira, Portugal, where he presented his research *Maltese proverbs: a reflection of Mediterranean history and culture?* In 2012, he presented his research *Skyjacking—its character, effects and decline* at the conference 'A Wonderful Future Beckons for Young Gozitan Historians', organised by the History Department of the University of Malta.

## Research Interests

- Teaching Maltese as a foreign language
- Language teaching methodology
- Various aspects of the Maltese language, especially its history
- Proverbs
- History of the Mediterranean

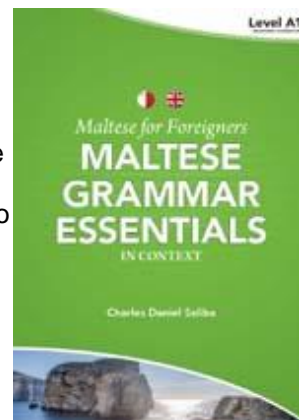
**Website:** [www.charlesdanielsaliba.com](http://www.charlesdanielsaliba.com)

## Level A1 (Beginners–Elementary)

### *Maltese Grammar Essentials in Context*

*Maltese Grammar Essentials in Context* is a bilingual grammar book in Maltese and English. It teaches Maltese grammar in an easy-to-follow format using various readings and situations commonly encountered in daily life. The exercises and activities are designed to teach language in a real-life context in a cyclical manner, while helping in vocabulary acquisition and effective comprehension and communications skills. *Maltese Grammar Essentials in Context* is perfect to use in a beginner's course and is suitable to use on your own, in groups or at school. With this book you can:

- Discover Maltese grammar basics;
- Enrich your vocabulary;
- Learn Maltese expressions, idioms and proverbs;
- Improve your reading, writing, listening and speaking skills;



• Explore the Maltese culture and geography.

## ROCKS OF AGES –NEOLITHIC TEMPLES

### *OLDER* THAT THE PYRAMIDS OF EGYPT AND THE STONEHENGE OF ENGLAND

Egyptian pyramids are one thing, Stonehenge is another, but the Ggantija temples (pictured below) on the Maltese island of Gozo are something else. These two temples are the oldest freestanding stone structures on earth, the oldest one circa 3600 BC, but you've probably never heard of them. That's Malta

for you. unassuming.

The temples themselves are unassuming, too; at first sight they look like a jumble of old stone ruins. But with a guide on hand to explain their significance you appreciate how the rounded shapes mimic those of fertility figures found here and at other ancient sites across the islands. You can make out faint spiral carvings on rocks, signifying eternity. You can almost picture the blood of animal sacrifices dripping onto the altars, and appreciate the extraordinary skill that went into manoeuvring 50-tonne rocks to construct these phenomenal neolithic structures.

One theory - supported by the recent excavation of underwater ruins off Malta's coast - says the temples are part of the lost city of Atlantis. The site was excavated in the late 1820s by Colonel Otto Bayer of Germany, and a Mr James Somerville (the latter was the Scottish grandfather of my guide Alfred Micallef Somerville, and the author of Malta's first dictionary.)

On Malta's islands you can walk over fossils that are millions of years old, visit the unique underground ossuary of the Hypogeum and explore many more ancient temples such as those at Tarxien and Mnajdra.

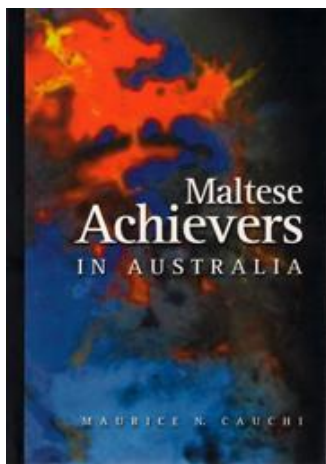
### Maltese Prehistoric Chronology

(Based on recalibrated radiocarbon dating)

Period	Phase	Dates BC c.
<b>Neolithic</b> (5,000-4,100 BC)	Ghar Dalam	5,000-4,300 BC
	Grey Skorba	4,500-4,400 BC
	Red Skorba	4,400-4,100 BC
	Żebbuġ	4,100-3,700 BC
<b>Temple Period</b> (4,100-2,500 BC)		3,800-3,600 BC
	Mġarr	
	Ġgantija	3,600-3,200 BC
	Saflieni	3,300-3,000 BC
	Tarxien	3,150-2,500 BC
<b>Bronze Age</b> (2,500-700 BC)	Tarxien cemetery	2,500-1,500 BC
	Borġ in-Nadur	1,500-700 BC
	Bahrija	900-700 BC

See:Wikipedia [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Megalithic\\_Temples\\_of\\_Malta](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Megalithic_Temples_of_Malta)

## MALTESE ACHIEVERS IN AUSTRALIA



In his foreward, the author, Professor Maurice Cauchi, summarised his reasons for publishing this book as follows:

*"Firstly, Maltese as a whole are well known to be rather diffident in projecting themselves within society. This is an attempt to publicise their work and give credit where it is due. Publication of this information in book form ann in the English language would, one hopes, make possible also non-Maltese readership.*

*Secondly, the achievements of many persons mentioned in this book are mostly unknown except perhaps to those from the same profession. One is indeed surprised to see the extent of involvement of Maltese-background persons in society in Australia.*

*Thirdly, it is hoped that other members of the younger generation would be inspired by the achievement of persons of Maltese origin and would come to have a more positive appreciation of those with a Maltese background having pride in our culture is also a weakness which has cast a shadow on Maltese settlement in Australia."*

**This book is available for sale from the Maltese Community Council of Victoria office in Parkville, Victoria.**



## Kannoli tal-Irkotta (Ricotta-filled Cannelloni) Recipe



**Origin: Malta    Period: Traditional**

This is a traditional Maltese recipe for a classic dessert of home-made fried cannelloni filled with a mix of ricotta cheese, chocolate and cherries.

### Ingredients:

240g plain flour  
2 tbsp sugar  
2 tbsp drinking chocolate  
2 tbsp margarine  
2 tbsp lard  
2 tbsp red wine  
115ml cold water

### For the Filling

420g Ricotta cheese  
60g plain chocolate  
120g glacé cherries  
60g icing sugar  
120g blanched [almonds](#), toasted

### Kannoli tal-Irkotta (Ricotta-filled Cannelloni) Preparation:

#### Method:

For the pastry, rub the margarine and lard into the flour until the mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Stir in the sugar and drinking chocolate powder then stir in the red wine and enough of the cold water to bring the mixture together as a dough.

Turn the pastry onto a lightly-floured work surface and roll out until very thin. Cut the pastry into strips and place each over a tube, pinching the ends closed. Heat oil in a deep fryer to 180°C and when hot, add the cannelloni, a few at a time, cooking until golden brown. Remove from the oil with a slotted spoon and drain on kitchen paper and set aside to cool

In the meantime, beat the Ricotta cheese in a bowl until soft. Chop the chocolate, cherries and almonds then work into the ricotta cheese before adding the sugar and stirring to combine. Use this mixture to fill the fried and cooled cannelloni then

chill in the refrigerator before serving. Yummy... yummy...ENJOY **The Limestone Heritage Park &**



**THE LIMESTONE HERITAGE  
PARK AND GARDENS**

The Limestone Heritage takes a hands-on approach towards education; With the aid of our craftsmen anyone visiting the park can carve out anything, from simple engravings to small figurines or helping you to create any statue you want.

At the Limestone Heritage one can see all the processes through which globigerina limestone, common only to Malta, is quarried & transformed into magnificent statues & gave character to Maltese Culture. To this the park was also certified as a 'Quality Assures Visitor Attraction 2010'

### Gardens, winner of the 'Malta Crafts Award 2011'

The Limestone Heritage Park & Gardens was awarded the 'Malta Crafts Award 2011' for raising awareness & promoting Maltese crafts - in this case, stone sculpting!



Visit website: [www.limestoneheritage.com](http://www.limestoneheritage.com)



## **DISCOVERING THE ISLANDS**



### **Gozo: Salt Pans**

The Xwejini Saltpans on Gozo's northern coast just outside the resort of Marsalforn are still used today for the collection of sea salt. Hewn out of the coastal rock, the saltpans were part of the island's first industry. Centuries ago salt was used as a bartering currency for consumables not available locally.

Nowadays, salt collected from the Xwejini Saltpans can be found in most supermarkets on the Maltese Islands. The Salt Pans form an incredible backdrop for an elegant dinner under the stars or a team lunch after a

diving session as Xwejini is also a popular dive site for beginners.



### **Valletta: Valletta Waterfront**

The gateway to the capital Valletta, the Waterfront is a complete mix of retail, dining and leisure experiences housed in 19 Baroque warehouses dating back 250 years. Stretching along the water's edge and the historical Quay Wall where the Knights of St John and European merchants used to unload their wares, the Waterfront is now a trendy entertainment hotspot. The expansive 275m promenade with all its facilities including the Magazino Hall, the old Power House and the quays can be used for special events.

## **ANZACS AND MALTA**

During the two world conflicts Malta gave its valued part in defeating the enemy. The connection between Malta and ANZACs is hardly ever observed. The connection started in the First World War during the Gallipoli Campaign in 1915 and continued right until the 1950s.

Malta, situated in the centre of the Mediterranean, has always held a strategic position. Malta was a British naval base because of its strategic position in the Mediterranean and the good dockyard facilities that it offered.

During the Gallipoli campaign in World War I, thousands of wounded British and ANZAC soldiers were taken to Malta to recover. In fact, Malta was called the "Nurse of the Mediterranean". Some 250 ANZACS died in Malta and are buried there, mostly at the Pieta cemetery, which is only opened to the public by special permission on ANZAC day.



At first the wounded soldiers were taken to Egypt, but the hospitals filled quickly and they had to find another place. Malta was chosen, though the Island was unprepared for this. Schools were converted to serve as hospitals and camp hospitals were set up too. Between July and September of 1915, around 2000 soldiers were nursed in Malta.

During WW2, the ANZACS were also linked with Malta. Malta assisted the ANZACS of the 8th Army in North Africa. They left from Malta by air and sea towards Egypt to hamper the German convoys supplying the German army. Also, there were ANZAC pilots and ships in Malta. They contributed to the defeat of the enemy on its attacks on Malta. It was an ANZAC who piloted the Sunderland which transported the George Cross medal to Malta.

Every year on ANZAC day, there is a service at the Pieta Cemetery. Among the distinguished guests, the Australian High Commissioner for Malta and the New Zealand counterpart preside over it. The next time you or anyone else you know visits Malta, a must see is the ANZAC monument located in Argotti Botanical Gardens, in Floriana.

An initiative by the Malta ANZAC Memorial Committee, the monument is believed to be the first ANZAC memorial to be erected outside of Australia, New Zealand and Gallipoli.

## His Excellency Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce AC CSC RANR



### THE GOVERNOR OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA PRAISES MALTA'S CONTRIBUTION TO ANZACS

It gives me and my wife Liz great pleasure to be amongst you this memorable evening and I thank the chairman, Frank Scicluna, Consul for Malta in South Australia and all the members of the Malta ANZAC War Memorial Committee for inviting me to share this special occasion with you.



and New Zealand soldiers who fought at Gallipoli were sent to the Island of Malta for medical treatment. As a result of their injuries, over 200 Australians died and were buried in Malta.

I understand that every year on ANZAC DAY a special ceremony is held at the War Memorial in Valletta, attended by the President and Prime Minister of the Republic of Malta and the Australian High Commissioner.

Now that Malta will be having a specific ANZAC monument, I am told that the dawn service will take place at Floriana, where the monument is to be erected.

History tells us that Malta, which was then a British colony, played a strategic role during both WWI and WWII. Moreover, a number of Maltese immigrants to Australia joined the Australian forces. Many of them were wounded and died at Gallipoli and their names may be found at the Roll of Honour at the National War Memorial in Canberra.

Therefore, it is entirely fitting that this strong, albeit sad, connection between Malta and Australia is commemorated by the proposed monument.

Mr Chairman, please convey my thanks, appreciation and admiration to the members of your committee and to the members of the Maltese community of South Australia who have worked so hard to raise funds for this purpose.

I hope to be informed when the monument has been completed. It will be situated in the middle of Argotti Gardens overlooking the Grand Harbour of Malta. I am certain that many Australian and New Zealanders who will visit the Island of Malta in future will want to seek it out.

Thank you once again.



**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR ENEWSLETTER**

**GRAZZI HAFNA HAFNA HAFNA**

*Next issue will be a special Christmas edition*

