



# Maltese e-Newsletter



The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora

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## THE PROTAGONISTS OF WORLD WAR 2



Roosevelt



Churchill



Hitler



Stalin



**A Boy from Malta heads north for next adventure as bishop of Darwin - Australia**



## Boy from Malta heads north for next adventure as Bishop of Darwin

Not everyone meets a saint in their lifetime, let alone two, but Bishop Elect of Darwin and much-loved Adelaide priest Father Charles Gauci can claim just that and more, as Jenny Brinkworth discovered when she spoke to him ahead of his ordination in Darwin next month.

When Maltese priest Father George Preca was canonised in 2007, Pope Benedict said the expression from St John's Gospel *Verbum caro factum est* (the Word became flesh) guided his soul and his every action. In choosing this same phrase for his episcopal motto, Bishop Elect Fr Charles Gauci is demonstrating his strong connection to the man who founded the Society of Christian Doctrine and whose legacy is the worldwide Preca youth movement.

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Not only was Fr Gauci an active participant of the Preca Community as a young boy growing up in Malta, he also lived in the same street as Fr Preca and knew him well. Much later, Fr Gauci was one of 10 priests and bishops asked to concelebrate his canonisation Mass in Rome, and he has been actively involved and chaplain to the Preca Community in Australia for many years.

Fr Gauci's other firsthand experience of saintliness was during a visit to Calcutta, India, to see his Jesuit uncle who invited him to celebrate Mass with Mother Teresa.

"I preached in front of her which made me feel very inadequate considering she is such a woman of God; I gave her communion and I had breakfast with her," he recalled. "She was most gracious."

As the seventh bishop of a diocese covering 1.3 million square kilometres (twice the size of France) and with one in three Catholics of Indigenous background, Fr Gauci is determined to follow Pope Francis' call to "wear the smell of the sheep and be a fellow traveller in the midst of life".

But he is fully aware of the challenges that lie ahead and is thankful that retiring Bishop Eugene Hurley will be close at hand to steer him through his early days. "He will be one of my chief advisers...I am very happy he is staying in the diocese," he said.

On a recent visit to Darwin, one of his first tasks was to find a suitable vehicle to travel the rough roads to remote communities. "I'll have an Outlander but I've heard about another bishop who has a caravan which might have some merit because I want to be able to stay with people without being intrusive," he explained. Fr Gauci is no stranger to long journeys, having travelled by ship to Australia from Malta with his parents, grandfather and four siblings in 1965.



*A young Charles Gauci after his first Communion in Malta.*

As a 13-year-old boy with a thirst for adventure, he couldn't wait to explore the "great outdoors" when he arrived in Melbourne. However, his first experience of the vast Australian landscape was from the back seat of a Valiant sedan where he and his mother, aunt and grandma nursed his three younger siblings and his cousin.

In the front seat was his Uncle Peter who was driving, his grandfather and his father nursing his brother Tony who had broken his leg on the ship.

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They left Melbourne at 3am and spent 12 hours on the road without stopping. "I remember it clearly," said Fr Gauci. "We were nursing four kids, there was luggage all around us, it was madness...Uncle Peter fell asleep at the wheel and my father grabbed it and saved us all, and he couldn't even drive!"

His maternal grandparents had come to Australia 16 years earlier with seven of their nine children. At the time his mother Violet had remained in Malta with her husband John and had not seen her parents since then.

After Malta gained independence, John Gauci decided to come to Australia for the sake of the children because of the uncertain economic future.



"He was an architectural draughtsman working in the government and he made a big sacrifice to come for his kids, he never really wanted to leave Malta.

"My mother never asked to go but as soon as my father said they were going, she burst into tears."

It was a joyful reunion as the family moved into his grandparents' home on Grange Road, Hindmarsh, and the children became acquainted with their many cousins.

Like most migrants, the family came with very little and had to start from scratch. His father asked if the payment of fees at Catholic schools could be deferred until he found work.

"We were two days in the country and it was Holy Week, and my father had no job yet so he asked if they could adjust the fees," Fr Gauci said.



*The Gauci family after settling in Adelaide (Charles is back left).*

"The Sisters of St Joseph said yes for the girls but a Catholic boys' college refused to do the same for my brother and I."

Fr Gauci attended Findon High School before moving the following year to the Marist Brothers Thebarton who generously adjusted the fees.

Tragedy struck the family in their first year here when four-year-old John died of pneumonia after a heart operation.

"I was there with my mum when he died on the 8th of August 1965 at the Children's Hospital...I was the big brother and used to look after him, I remember it as clear as yesterday," he said.

"That night my father got us all together and said: 'John is not nothing, he is in heaven with God and we can talk to him like the saints now' – that was so powerful, I've thought of it so many times, the strong faith he had."

His father had been a member of a religious order and on his way to the priesthood but left and then met Violet who was nine years younger. "They were each other's first boyfriend and girlfriend, they had a real Christian marriage," he said. "When she got sick later, it was so beautiful the way he looked after her."

A young Charles Gauci after his first Communion in Malta With a Jesuit priest and two nuns already in the family, Fr Gauci had thought as a boy that he would one day become a priest. But during his school years he seriously considered a teaching career and was accepted into teachers' college.

"I had a time of questioning my faith, even though I grew up in a strong Catholic family, not because of anything that happened, but because I said, okay I can see how good this is but is it real?"

"I asked a priest lots of questions, I read books, I talked to people. I thought I won't stay unless it can make sense but I won't throw it away either.

"In the end, the fact that there is a God made more sense than if there isn't; the fact that Jesus is the son of God amongst us made more sense than the alternative, and being Catholic was the right place to be."

After his 'reconversion', he made a commitment to be a Brother in the Preca Community while also discerning a vocation to the priesthood. Another tragic event influenced his final choice of the priesthood.

Fr Gauci had moved back to Findon High to complete Year 12 and one of his closest mates who had come to the school that year from Kangaroo Island died in a motorcycle accident.

"We all went to his funeral and because of my faith I knew where Paul was but my friends just had no idea, they were lost – there were things like that which made me think 'you really need to share what you have rediscovered'". [Southern Cross – Catholic Newspaper – Adelaide – South Australia](#)

**INVITATION - You are sincerely invited to send a message to the bishop-elect Charles Gauci on his appointment as Bishop of Darwin. Send your email to [maltesejournal@gmail.com](mailto:maltesejournal@gmail.com) and your message will appear in the next edition of the Maltese e-Newsletter. Bishop-elect Gauci still treasures his Maltese heritage and he always support all the members of the Maltese community of South Australia**  
Frank Scicluna - Editor

## How women ran Malta during World War II



**Dr. Irene Condachi**

One of the best kept secrets of World War II is that the island was being run on the work done by women, according to research on female unsung heroes.

"Wartime history has been written by men and, 70 years on, it is about time to share the story of the emancipation of a whole generation of Maltese women – albeit for a brief period – as a result of the war," Simon Cusens told this newspaper.

Irene Condachi, a doctor who single-handedly inoculated and examined at least 20,000 Maltese schoolchildren under war conditions.

Mr Cusens will soon be publishing a book based on research he recently carried while reading for his Master's degree, the first academic study into the role of women in WWII Malta.

Military intelligence staff pools, offices, laundries, schools, hospitals, entertainment venues and Malta's most influential newspaper – the Times of Malta – were mostly directed by women. Run by Mabel Strickland, the newspaper had a crucial role in uplifting the moral of people during the war, he said.

One of the favourite unsung heroes is Irene Condachi, who single-handedly inoculated and examined at least 20,000 schoolchildren under war conditions and without any means of transportation. A woman of Maltese and Greek Orthodox descent who lived in Luzio Street, Sliema, Dr Condachi was one of the only two WWII female doctors that Mr Cusens knows of.

In 1941 and 1942, she hitched rides and walked from one government school to another to examine between 10,000 and 15,000 children a year. Dr Condachi used to prescribe a petroleum-based ointment for those with scabies and she is credited with eradicating the condition from government schools.

As the war progressed, she was joined by an ophthalmic doctor and a dentist and the team started the school medical service.

Mr Cusens believes that, because of her Orthodox background, Dr Condachi was not under the Church's hold as much as fellow women were. In fact, women working outside of their home were frowned upon and considered taboo 70 years ago. But the looming war, which saw all men aged 16 and up conscripted for military service, led to a sudden shortage of public service and labour intensive workers.

From teachers to farmers, many men disappeared from the workforce and this led to a compromise between the Church and the government. The colonial government managed to persuade the Church to call on parishioners to join the passive defence services. At least 10,000 women came forward and enrolled as first aiders, air attack and anti-gas instructors, aid-detachment nurses and secretaries, among others.

One of these women was Mary Ellul, popularly known as 'Mary the Man', from Sliema. She was a woman with phenomenal strength, reputed for dealing with rowdy sailors by chucking them into the Sliema sea when she worked as a bouncer after the war.

During the war, the white-haired, tall and tanned air raid warden would rescue people from under the rubble and she is mostly remembered by those



### **MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER**

**The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora**

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# Henrietta Chevalier Scerri

## The unsung Maltese heroine

Marika Azzopardi



History is composed of facts and happenings eventually documented in history books and which change and shape the story of people's lives in a determined manner. What very often goes undocumented are scraps and snippets of private stories that back up the greater picture. Stories of people who remain out of the limelight, yet play a considerably important role in the bigger scheme of things. This is just such a story – that of a Maltese woman called Henrietta Chevalier.

Just a few months ago, her memory was commemorated with the inauguration of a tiny memorial garden dedicated to her and situated in the Malta Aviation Museum in Ta' Qali. Trying to fathom out the connection, I meet up with Ray and Mary Rose Polidano who volunteer with the the Foundation managing the museum.

"We 'discovered' Henrietta perchance, some two years ago whilst viewing a TV movie called 'The Scarlet and the Black'. The 1983 movie stars Gregory Peck in his later years, with the script being based a true story written in the 1967 book by J.P. Gallagher called 'The Scarlet Pimpernel of the Vatican.'"

"In the movie, the protagonist is an Irish priest called Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty, who, trapped in Rome when it was occupied by Nazi soldiers, managed to help hundreds of Jews and Allied prisoners of wars escape to safety.

"This he did at great personal risk and with the collaboration of several courageous civilians including, namely, Henrietta Chevalier.

"Although Henrietta is not mentioned by name in the movie, she is referred to with a code name of Mrs M. My wife and I were both intrigued by the story and the Maltese connection and began amassing as much information as we could, through old books and internet searches. At some point we reached a dead-end and nearly gave up on any further information coming our way. Then we came across a letter published in a local newspaper and written by a woman whose father had been interned and who had known Henrietta personally. We met this woman and eventually, as we researched further, we discovered that one of Henrietta's nephews was married to one of our own distant relatives, which was quite a strange coincidence. We met several other Maltese people who actually knew of her existence and eventually even traced more of her relations here in Malta and abroad."

But who was this enigmatic woman? Henrietta Chevalier was born Scerri to what seems to have been a well-to-do family living in Sliema, Malta. She married Thomas Chevalier, a Maltese man whose surname is now extinct on the islands. He worked with the British travel company 'Thomas Cook' and some time before the outbreak of World War II was sent to represent the company in Rome. The couple had six children before tragedy struck twice over. Thomas Chevalier died prematurely just before war was declared and Henrietta and her children found themselves trapped in Rome as Mussolini declared war in 1940.

"It is still unclear how she managed to avoid deportation or imprisonment for herself and her children, since she had a British passport at the time, as all other citizens of Malta did. She possibly sought protection from the Vatican. What is certain is that she became one of the few trusted people who helped O'Flaherty save hundreds of foreigners trapped in Rome. There were three other Maltese men involved, all of them priests, namely Fr Ugolino Gatt, Fr Egidio Galea, Brother Robert of Mary alias Louis Pace and Fr Aurelius Borg. We have information about all of these except the latter."

Henrietta's task was to act normal – the widowed mother of six children living in Rome. Yet she was instrumental to hiding several POWs and Jews in her home; preparing food to feed the several endangered people hidden in varied hideouts around Rome. Her life between September 1943 and June 1944 during which period the Rome Escape Line was active, was highly dramatic, with great risk-taking and danger.



Life on Malta during this period posed some hardships, including a lack of food, the blackout and the continual threat of invasion. Children pictured among the Stuka wreckage in 1941



MALTA DURING WORLD WAR 2

## Fortress Island Malta in WWII



### OPERATION PEDESTAL MALTA CONVOY ACTION

Convoy passed through the Straits of Gibraltar on 8th August, after repeated attacks by enemy aircraft. S.S. Ohio although gravely damaged with her steering gear, communication system and rudder shot away, she was carried lashed to a destroyer on either side into Valetta Harbour, Malta on

**15th AUGUST 1942**

S.S.  
OHIO

VALETTA  
MALTA



U.S. OIL TANKER, S.S. OHIO, loaned to British Ministry of War Transport, 13000 tons, one of the fastest tankers afloat.

Signed by Captain D. W. Mason George Cross

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15 AUG '86

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## Facts About Malta in World War 2

Nicola Collins

Making history in 1942, Malta became the most bombed place on earth. Ever. In total, 15,000 tonnes of bombs were dropped on this archipelago.

The World War Two Siege of Malta took place from 1940 to 1942. This tiny island's prime location meant it was in the spotlight for the war on the Mediterranean. Malta certainly got the raw deal during the war from start to finish. The very day after Mussolini declared war – on June 10, 1940 – Italian bombers commenced attacking the capital of Valletta. Holding the record for heaviest sustained bombing, Malta endured a staggering attack lasting 154 days and nights with a total of 6,700 bombs dropped. Air raids throughout the war over Malta totalled 3,343.

At a point, until Hurricane reinforcements were sent, the British had only three Gloster Gladiator biplanes protecting Malta, two of which were flying and one reserved for spare parts. Nicknamed later as Faith, Hope and Charity by a Maltese newspaper, 'Faith' still stands today in Malta's National War Museum in Fort St Elmo, Valletta.

Operation Pedestal, known in Malta as the Santa Marija Convoy, took place in August 1942. With only days of supplies left, including much needed aviation fuel, this British operation comprising a defective oil tanker (the SS Ohio) supported either side by two warships trudged into Valletta just in time. With Britain using Malta as a base for its warships, aircraft and submarines to attack the Axis forces in Egypt and Libya, Operation Pedestal is known as a vital part of the war. Axis shipping sunk by Malta based submarines totalled 390,660 tonnes.

For its continued bravery and heroism, Malta was awarded the George Cross by King George VI on April 15, 1942. Displayed in each town and village in Malta and Gozo post war until 1971, the cross is now kept securely at the National War Museum and Malta continues to be proudly known as the George Cross Island.



## MALTA'S POPULATION

### Growing, growing and growing

Malta added more than another Gozo to the size of its population in just three years, figures out last week showed. By the end of 2017, Malta's population had grown by 36,000 when compared to 2014, according to data published by Eurostat, an

EU agency. Growth during the three-year period stood at an impressive 8.2%.

The recent spurt in population growth is fuelled by foreign workers and their families, who are plugging a labour shortage caused by a thriving economy. The influx of foreigners is leaving its mark on the country's social fabric. Only last week the Hamrun council distributed leaflets on waste collection times in the locality that included instructions in Italian and Arabic, along with Maltese and English.

It is a sign of the increased numbers of foreigners who are making Malta their home, necessitating changes at community level. According to the National Statistics Office 11,738 EU nationals and 8,434 from non-EU countries were added to Malta's population last year. These were partially off-set by the departure of 2,508 EU nationals and 3,488 non-EU nationals.

Eurostat recorded that the population at the end of 2017 stood at 475,701 and is fast approaching the half-a-million mark. But while the figures of the past three years show impressive growth, they come on the back of a 6.2% increase in population between 2009 and 2014.

An analysis of population figures carried out by MaltaToday, using Eurostat data spanning back to 1959, shows that Malta last experienced significant increases in population between 1984 and 1994. In 1984, Malta's population had grown by 5.3% over the preceding five years. By 1989, population growth rose to 6.2%, accelerating further to 6.8% by 1994.

But in the 10 years that followed, population growth slowed down to an average of 3% every five years. EU membership in 2004 does not seem to have had an immediate impact. But statistics show that by 2012, the number of EU nationals coming to work in Malta started picking up.

A booming gaming sector attracted foreign workers, particularly Swedes. But workers from recession-hit countries like Spain and Italy also started to explore opportunities in Malta.

The foreigner boom picked up in earnest around 2014 and has not abated since.

**WHEN MALTESE WERE ENCOURAGED TO LEAVE** - However, the long-term analysis also gives a glimpse of a time when Malta's population had gone in reverse, aided by a government policy to help Maltese find new pastures abroad.

The numbers show how in 1964, the year when Malta achieved independence, the population had decreased by 6,600 over the previous five years. The decline was steeper by 1969, when the population contracted by 18,100 in five years. This was a time when it was government policy to encourage Maltese emigration, in the belief that the country was not able to provide enough work for its people.

By 1974 the population decline was brought to a halt, as the country diversified its economy and attracted manufacturing firms to open shop.

The profound changes in the country's economic and social landscape during the 1970s ensured that the departure of the British forces from Malta by the end of the decade, had little impact on jobs. During this period, the population started to grow again. At the end of 1979, the year the British military base closed down, Malta's population had grown by 13,370, or 4.4%, in five years. In 1979, Malta's population stood at 315,262 and it only recovered to the same levels as two decades earlier by 1984. [www.maltatoday.com.mt](http://www.maltatoday.com.mt) - Kurt Sansone



# JOE GRECH

10-12-1948 - 28-12-2010

## Remembering a bishop and an inspiration

By Philomena Billington



JOE Grech was a bishop of the people, loved by young and old. A generous, warm and passionate man of God he will be remembered as a great leader of the Catholic community of Sandhurst, of the Catholic Church in Australia and internationally. He died at the young age of just 62.

The Most Reverend Joseph Angelo Grech, to give him his full title, was appointed in 2001 as sixth Bishop of the Sandhurst Diocese whose cathedral is in Bendigo.

Born in Malta, he was the eldest of three children. After completing the first four years of studies for the priesthood in Malta, he arrived in Australia in 1971. He completed his last four years of studies at Corpus Christi College in Melbourne and was

ordained a priest in 1974. In 1999 Bishop Joe was appointed as auxiliary bishop of Melbourne before becoming Bishop of Sandhurst

At the time of his death he was a member of the Bishops Commission for Pastoral Life with special oversight for the pastoral care of migrants and refugees

Within the Commission for Pastoral Life Bishop Joe was also responsible on behalf of the Bishops of Australia for youth ministry. He was also a member of the Bishops Commission for Mission and Adult Faith Formation with particular responsibilities regarding Catholic missions. He was also a member of the International Catholic Charismatic Council representing Oceania.

A much-sought-after international speaker and preacher, Bishop Joe was particularly committed to the Charismatic Renewal movement and international priests' retreats. He was a much-loved champion of young people and was keenly involved in many World Youth Day celebrations across the world.

Monsignor Marriott, administrator of the Sandhurst diocese who was at Bishop Joe's bedside when he died, recalled his great love for young people. Monsignor said "Bishop Joe had a famous saying for young people - 'God doesn't make rubbish - there is good in each of us and we have to find it'.

"The Bishop led the Stronger Retreat for Young People in Echuca recently - he was thrilled with it and has always had such faith in our young people across the world. He was very committed to the priests and people of the Sandhurst diocese. He was always available for his people - he led Scripture workshops, visited schools and parishes regularly and knew the students well - they all loved him."

St Kilian's parish administrator, Father Rom Hayes, said Bishop Joe wasn't one to stand on ceremony and that says a lot about the sort of man he was. "He was known as Bishop Joe and that's what he liked to be called." Father Rom recalled that "he was thoughtful, outgoing and very concerned for people. He poured himself into his work and never backed off. I'll remember him as warm and caring and passionate about the things he believed in".

Bishop Joe was well known across the diocese, not only in the Catholic community. He was a prominent leader in Bendigo and was also well known in Australian diplomatic circles.

Bishop Joe was proud of his Maltese heritage and equally proud to be an Australian, the wonderful blend of these cultures manifested in the character of this truly great man. He was very close to his sister and brother and Aunty Mary, who still live in Malta; he would visit them each year. His Aunt Tess and Uncle Jim, who live in Australia, were like parents to him - they were at his side when he died.



Malcolm Hart, senior youth ministry project officer for the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, said: "If there is one thing that the youth ministry community of Australia should know is that Bishop Joe was as committed to youth ministry as he was in the other pastoral ministries.

"The diocese of Sandhurst has now lost a shepherd, the migrant and refugee community have lost one of their greatest advocates, the Charismatic Renewal movement around the world has lost one of its greatest preachers and leaders, and the Church in Malta and the Universal Church has lost a great son."

Australia's ambassador to the Holy See, Tim Fischer, said that Sandhurst diocese and Australia had lost a dedicated Bishop and citizen, who greatly inspired people, especially the young.

"Only in October he was larger than life here in Rome, leading a group of Sandhurst pilgrims to the canonisation of St Mary MacKillop. He returned to Australia via Malta and helped with the ordination of Sandhurst priest, Father Robert Gallea. "In the decade he was Bishop of Sandhurst, he gave generous, warm and open leadership, which will be hugely missed," Mr Fischer said.



## A street dancing queen is crowned

Cheryl Lofreda wows the crowds at Tritons Square

Local favourite Cheryl Lofreda won the first Red Bull Dance Your Style edition in Malta in a thrilling final night during which 16 competitors took part.

The event was held at Tritons Square, in Valletta, where the finalists presented different styles in the street-dance

contest.

Participants competed in one-against-one contests and were judged on style, creativity and rhythm. The winner was decided by popular vote among the audience by means of red and blue placards.

Besides Lofreda, the other finalists were Mark Scerri, Dave Duong, IJ Altriki, Leonel Viloria Aquino, Rebecca Millo, Marius Pitre, Christian Cali, Mariah Cutajar, Zeo James, Lawrence Mifsud, B Boy Nadeer, Antonio Whyte, Martina Borg, Luke Mizzi and Matthew Cilia.

Dance Your Style is a global event taking place in 16 countries.

The opener was held in Athens, Greece, and the final event is scheduled for December in Santiago, Chile.

The crowd-voted, all-styles concept battle aims to be a celebration of dance, music and performance with a touch of local influence. The opening two rounds of the competition were held on April 14 (Athens) and May 4 (Thessaloniki). [www.maltatoday.com.mt](http://www.maltatoday.com.mt) The Red Bull Dance Your Style was organised in collaboration with Bass Camp, VIBE FM and Reebok Classics from Eurosport Malta.



## In loving memory of Theresa Caruana (nee Fenech)

*Dearly loved by her husband Daniel (dec)  
and her children Carl, Lawrie, Ignatius  
Catherine and Andrew*

*Mother-in-law of Fiona, Ann-marie,  
John and Ann-marie*

*Loving Nanna of Clare, Emily, Amy  
Jason, Amy, Adam, Alice, Jacklyn, Rebekah  
Luke, Gemma and Jade  
and Great-Grandmother of Hugo, Audrey  
Lija, Layla and James*

**We convey our deepest sympathy to the Caruana family.  
May the Lord grant you strength, love and peace  
during these sorrowful times.**

**Born: Febr. 5, 1935 - Birkirkara, Malta  
Died: August 3, 2018 - Adelaide, S.A.**

**Editor - Maltese eNewsletter**



## Could Malta Actually Have Its Own Metro Soon? Studies Are At An Advanced Stage

Tim Diacono

[www.lovinmalta.com](http://www.lovinmalta.com)

*Tube Map' designed by Jonathan Galea*

It may sound very much like a pie in the sky, but Malta is actually seriously considering plans to set up a metro or a monorail train system to combat the island's traffic woes. "Studies are at an advanced level and we are already drawing up potential solutions," Transport Minister Ian Borg told TVM. "The government has not yet committed itself to a particular proposal, but will publish the expert report for public consultation when the time is right."

The studies are being carried out by Arup, a London-based engineering and consultancy firm, which has worked on some major global projects - including Sydney Opera House, the Silicon Valley headquarters of Apple, the Etihad Stadium and the London Eye. A mass public transportation system was a feature of last year's election campaign, with both Labour and PN pledging to conduct studies on the introduction of trains on the island. Should Malta go for a monorail or a metro?

## Friends of Providence House NSW (FOPH) Presentation of Donation from Australia at 10<sup>th</sup> Edition of The Volleyball Marathon at Id Dar tal-Providenza.



*(From left) Marisa and Sebastian Previtera, Fr Martin Micallef, Ms Elvia George, Chief Finance Officer BOV, Dorothy Gatt*

On 29 June this year, my family attended the opening of the 10<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Volleyball Marathon held on the grounds of Id-Dar tal-Providenza at Siggiewi. The Volleyball Marathon was officially inaugurated by H.E. Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca, President of Malta.

Fr Martin Micallef started his brief address by thanking the volunteers for their support all the year round,

and also the players who not only participate in the marathon but also undergo two months of gruelling training to make it to the final cut. "This marathon rests on pillars that are very dear to us – solidarity and sport. The altruistic spirit of everyone involved shines throughout the event, showing that 'where there is a will there is a way'. We are humbled by the public's support year after year."

Fr Martin gave an overview of the manner in which the Home evolved, saying that the big project for the coming year is the opening of another home in Balluta as well as a much-needed overhaul of Dar iż-Żerniq in Siggiewi, the very first Home in the Community for the residents of Id-Dar tal-Providenza."

I am happy to have been able to deliver in person, the donation of \$15,000 raised on behalf of The Friends of Providence House NSW. Most of this money was raised through the fantastic fundraising concert that was held earlier this year at the La Valette Social Centre in Blacktown in NSW which was so strongly supported by the local Maltese community. Over \$8,000 was raised on the night itself as well as a couple

of very substantial donations by two individuals from the Maltese community and our group's major sponsor, Breakaway Travel Blacktown, who supports our fundraising tours and events.

Fr Martin acknowledges and appreciates the generosity of the Maltese people in Australia, especially in Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide who remember their less fortunate brothers and sisters in at this Home.

Fr Martin, took me and my family on a tour of the Home and showed me the facilities which included a 'State of the Art' Heated Therapy Pool as well as the recently opened Music Therapy Room. Seeing first hand where the money is being spent and the first-class care being given to not only the residents who live there but also to those individuals who come to the Home for a respite period.

It was also wonderful to meet some of the residents, workers and volunteers who give up their time to help with the running of this Home.

This visit encourages me to continue, together with Jim Borg, who is the Coordinator of the group, our fundraising efforts here in NSW to help this Home and its residents. Anyone wishing to donate to this cause can go to any CBA Bank in Australia: Account Name: Friends of Providence House NSW BSB: 062 416 Account No: 1019 9448

## **Pope changes death penalty teaching, now 'inadmissible'**



Pope Francis has changed church teaching about the death penalty, saying in a new policy published Thursday that it is always "inadmissible" because it "attacks" the inherent dignity of all humans.

The Vatican said Francis had approved a change to the Catechism of the Catholic Church — the compilation of official Catholic Church teaching. Previously, the catechism said the church didn't exclude recourse to capital punishment "if this is the only possible way of effectively defending human lives against the unjust aggressor."

The new teaching, contained in Catechism No. 2267, says the previous policy is outdated and that there are other ways to protect the common good.

"Consequently the church teaches, in the light of the Gospel, that the death penalty is inadmissible because it is an attack on the inviolability and dignity of the person," and she works with determination for its abolition worldwide," reads the new text, which was approved in May but only published Thursday.

In an accompanying letter explaining the change, the head of the Vatican's doctrine office said the development of Catholic doctrine on capital punishment didn't contradict prior teaching, but rather was an evolution of it.

Francis has long railed against the death penalty, insisting it can never be justified, no matter how heinous the crime. He has also long made prison ministry a mainstay of his vocation. On nearly every foreign trip, Francis has visited with inmates to offer words of solidarity and hope, and he still stays in touch with a group of Argentine inmates he ministered to during his years as archbishop of Buenos Aires.

He announced his intention to change church teaching on capital punishment last October, when he marked the 25th anniversary of the publication of the catechism by announcing his intention to update it. The catechism, first promulgated by St. John Paul II, gives Catholics an easy, go-to guide for church teaching on everything from the sacraments to sex. At that 2017 ceremony, Francis said the death penalty violates the Gospel and amounts to the voluntary killing of a human life, which "is always sacred in the eyes of the creator." He acknowledged that in the past even the Papal States had allowed this "extreme and inhuman recourse." But he said the Holy See had erred in allowing a mentality that was "more legalistic than Christian" and now knew better.





## Professor Mark Schembri    School of Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences    Faculty of Science    - University of Queensland

Professor Mark Schembri is a prominent microbiologist with experience in combating the global health crisis presented by multi-drug resistant pathogens. Professor Schembri's expertise on the virulence of bacterial pathogens and his innovative analysis of biofilm formation aims to improve the outcomes of the >150 million individuals that suffer from urinary tract infections each year across the globe.

Through the application of genetic, genomic and functional studies on uropathogenic *E. coli*, Professor Schembri has identified targets to reduce the virulence of this pathogen, and will pursue the development of life-saving therapeutic and preventative advances with the assistance of an NHMRC Senior Research Fellowship. Professor Schembri has tracked the rapid emergence and global spread of a virulent, drug-resistant *E. coli* clone and used genome sequencing to understand its evolution and virulence.

**Links:** Professor Schembri collaborates with national and international research leaders, including in Denmark, where he was a lecturer. Professor Schembri has strong links with other international experts in his field, including at the Pasteur Institute and the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute in Cambridge. His research collaborations also span lead groups at UQ and other top Australian institutes, including Griffith and La Trobe Universities.

**Membership, Funding and patents:** Since 2011, Professor Schembri has been awarded over \$6 million in funding from competitive national research funding councils. He holds provisional patents for the development of novel therapeutic agents and vaccine antigens. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology, and is regularly invited to speak at international conferences in his field.

**Awards and Communication:** Professor Schembri was the recipient of the Frank Fenner Award (2010) for his outstanding original research contribution to the study of Infectious Disease. He was an Australian Research Council Future Fellow (2011-2015) and currently holds a National Health and Medical Research Council Senior Research Fellowship. Professor Schembri is the author of >170 peer-reviewed research manuscripts.

**YOUR SAY....** Thank you for providing the Maltese Community with the journal as I,m sure many folks waits for it as it is very easy to read and informative.Its always a way of keeping in touch of what happening in malta without any political agenda.Also the cultural side of its brilliant. Keep up the good work and god bless you: Regards: Philip Aquilina.

WOW. What a great Journal the Maltese journal 230 issue is. As always a great and well researched newsletter full with interesting stories so very well written. Where do I start? Well, I start by thanking you Mr. Frank Scicluna for your good work. I would also like to thank Mr. Greg Caruana who happen to be my brother in law for his article in this about Santa Maria because I know how hard he works every year for the Festa. Now I want to say something about the ANZAC Memorial. What does it take for who ever is in charge to fix such a small problem. About Australia Hall, I have read the story that you printed in previous journals. As an ex-service man I am very interested in what happens to Australia Hall. I do not like to get involved in politics of this matter, and as I have written to you before on what I think and who should restore it. You know what my opinion is. When we say "Lest we Forget" let us all mean it. I always share your newsletter with others. This one is going to the website of The Royal Engineers and others. I could go on forever about this wonderful journal. Sahha u grazzi hafna. Regards Henry Berry



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MEDIA RELEASE**

## **MCCV posthumously honours Daphne Caruana Galizia for her**

### **contribution to democracy in Malta Melbourne, Aust - 31 July 2018**

At a reception held on 21 July at the Maltese Community Centre in Parkville to celebrate the 60th anniversary since its formation, the Maltese Community Council of Victoria (MCCV) presented the 2017 MCCV Annual Awards. One of these awards was posthumously made to the late Mrs Daphne Caruana Galizia for general services to the broader Maltese community and her valuable contribution to democracy in Malta through her fearless investigative journalism.

Daphne's assassination on 16 October 2017 exposed the fragility of democracy in Malta. Truth, freedom of expression and press freedom are the fundamental pillars of democracy. Without them, true democracy cannot survive, let alone thrive. Daphne valued her search for the truth and reporting on it more than her own life. The public and horrific method of her execution sent a clear intimidatory message to others that freedom of expression comes at a hefty price. "Daphne paid the ultimate price with her own life for pursuing her altruistic and highly admirable mission. Far from being in vain, her untimely death needs to inspire other journalists and media houses in Malta to follow her lead and be as courageous as she was in using investigative journalism in search for the truth and serving democracy and the common good," said MCCV President Victor Borg. "It was an amazing response by the world media to Daphne's murder to have 45 journalists from 18 major news organizations agreeing to collaborate in a unique investigation to keep her stories alive by setting up The Daphne Project. Her painstaking investigations must be continued and brought to fruition," he said.

Participating in The Daphne Project are some of the best news organisations in the world, such as, Die Zeit and Süddeutsche Zeitung in Germany, La Repubblica in Italy, Le Monde in France, Reuters, The Guardian in the UK, Australia and the USA, and the New York Times in the USA. The Times of Malta is also a collaborating partner on the project. The MCCV's award to Mrs Caruana Galizia is a public recognition by the Maltese community in Melbourne of her significant contribution to democracy and the rule of law in Malta. The MCCV is particularly proud to join the many organisations around the world in recognising, remembering and honouring Daphne Caruana Galizia for her outstanding achievements with this posthumous award.

The European Parliament and several organisations promoting press freedom have acknowledged her achievements. Many bestowed posthumous awards on her, including the Commonwealth Press Union Media Trust, the Swedish National Press Club, the Tully Center for Free Speech at Syracuse University in the USA, the Reporter-Forum in Germany, the Ronchese Association of Journalism and the Tuscan Association of Journalists both in Italy, the Order of Journalists in Sicily, the Press Emblem Campaign's Award for the Protection of Journalists in Switzerland, and the Institute of Maltese Journalists. ABOUT The Maltese Community Council of Victoria, Inc. is a non-profit organisation which provides social, cultural, recreational and welfare support to all members of the Maltese Community in the State of Victoria. The MCCV is an umbrella organisation for some thirty-four Maltese associations currently affiliated to it. **Dr. Victor Borg - President**



The area of Malta that we live in is called St. Paul's Bay. It's in the northern part of the island of Malta and is a more recently developed area, being primarily built up in the 1960s and later.

Part of this area is called Bugibba, which is the area we live in specifically. Alongside Bugibba is an area called Qawra, which is one of my favorite areas nearby for a run or a Sunday walk.

Come take a stroll with us and see why we love walking around Qawra!

### The Area of Qawra

First things first, the letter Q is silent in Maltese, so this area is actually pronounced **OW-rah**. It includes the peninsula where the Malta National Aquarium is located all the way back to the salt pans until the coast road. The area is primarily for tourists and residents, with several large hotels along the water offering tourists a waterfront spot with on-site restaurants, bars, pools, and activities. Unlike in Bugibba where Bugibba Square was a planned neighborhood common space, there is no central common area in Qawra.

But the promenade all along the coast offers a beautiful space to walk, exercise, people-watch, or just take in the lovely views.

### The Promenade & Coast of Qawra

The walk from Bugibba to Qawra can be done all along the seaside promenade for a couple of kilometers. Palm trees line the sidewalk in several parts and rocky coastline provides a beautiful foreground to the hues of blue in the Mediterranean Sea beyond.

Bright white sailboats and powerboats fill the spaces in between. The colors here are vibrant and contrasting in every direction.

From Bugibba until the Malta National Aquarium and then again in Salini National Park, there are several spots with exercise equipment and benches for sitting and taking in the views. Whatever your desired level of activity, there's somewhere to stop along the way.

After the Aquarium is the fortress, where you can walk down to the main swimming areas of Qawra. During the week you'll spot lots of scuba divers heading out from this spot, while the weekends are busy for families and groups of friends taking in the sea air and enjoying a refreshing dip in the sea.

A swimming area is blocked off from boat traffic during the summer, but those marker buoys weren't there earlier in the year, so just be aware of boats in the harbor if there are no buoys!

Walking back up to the promenade, you'll pass by the Reggae Bar with its music echoing out along the rocky shore. It's a hugely popular spot on weekends especially.

### Walking Around Qawra

Heading further along, the promenade follows the harbor filled with fishing boats, powerboats, sailboats, catamarans, jet skis, and more. Swimming areas all along the shore are filled with tourists and locals alike.

Large hotels on the land side of the street offer views over the harbor; their restaurants, bars, and activity areas are all across the street right on the water. Most have dive shops on-site, plus pools and lounge areas and other water activity rental options.

If you're up for a long walk, keep going along the shore until you reach a park area – it's the Salini National Park and is a lovely spot that feels a world apart!

Malta is an arid place, so trees and green spaces are not at all common here. Even the palm trees fry and turn brown as the summer heat takes over.

In Salini National Park, you'll find lots of trees and shrubs – although in summer they, too, are fairly crispy.

Pathways lead you around the park area overlooking the salt pans below. That's where they used to harvest salt for commercial sales. It's not currently in use but the pans are still visible...and smell-able most days, too! Think sulfur and just plug your nose if the breeze is blowing this way!



As you reach the bottom of the park area, you'll come across the reason this part is named Kennedy Grove. That's right, a monument to an American in Malta in a prominent park...I just can't escape my roots!

There are tons of play areas for kids around here, as well as benches all around the fountains and along the tree-lined paths.

On a weekend day, families are out enjoying time together and lots of other people are walking about and having a chat on the benches. It's a lovely community space for all!

We spotted an abandoned wine picnic set up in the trees and there was also a massive birthday party at the entrance to the park. It was complete with characters in full dress leading kids in sing-alongs and dances. Those people just cannot get paid enough for their energy output! From the top of the park we headed back home through the neighborhood, which is decidedly less pretty, but it's still home for now!

Thanks for walking around Qawra with us! I hope you enjoyed this peek into our lives as expats here in Malta.



## **Pembroke-St George's tunnel will produce 100,000 cubic metres of waste**

**Together with the tunnel, the total amount of construction waste produced by the 37-storey tower project, will be increasing to 436,085 cubic metres, nearly half the amount of construction waste**

**produced in a single year - James Debono**

The 1.4km underground tunnel is being proposed to alleviate the daily increase of 7,000 car trips brought about cumulatively by the City Centre and Villa Rosa developments

A proposed tunnel to link the db Group's City Centre high-rise to Pembroke will produce a staggering 100,000 cubic metres of construction waste – half of which may be reusable in the tunnel structure itself. With the addition of the tunnel, the total amount of construction waste produced by the 37-storey tower project, will be increasing to 436,085 cubic metres, equivalent to nearly half the amount of construction waste produced in a single year.

50,000 cubic metres of the rock material could be reusable during the construction phase as part of the shotcrete used to layer the tunnel's walls. But tests still have to be conducted to assess the quality of this material and the feasibility of its use.

The 1.4km underground tunnel is being proposed to alleviate the daily increase of 7,000 car trips brought about cumulatively by the City Centre and Villa Rosa developments.

According to the latest plans by the db Group, the tunnel's western portal of the tunnel will be located on a new road connecting Triq il-Mediterran to the Coast Road, whilst the eastern section will link to three underground car parks at City Centre, and the Raddison Blu and Corinthia hotels.

The tunnel will be excavated by an underground rotary header and will pass under a Natura 2000 site, but the developers' environmental impact assessment reports that no habitat loss or damage is expected since the excavation work will be underground.

The excavated material will be temporarily stored on site in a stockpile in an area in Suffolk Street behind the proposed Chinese embassy – the stockpiles themselves will not exceed three metres in height and will be covered to minimise dispersion of fine dust particles.

Heavy vehicles will be on site at least every two days to collect the excavated waste and transport it to disused quarries. A total of 14,000 trips are envisaged throughout excavation phase in order to transport this material offsite. This would amount to between 50 and 80 trips a day. The trips will not be undertaken

during peak traffic hours, both morning and afternoon, in order to minimise the traffic impacts along the route.

Additionally, the material earmarked for shotcreting will be crushed either on site, or at the construction site closer to the former Institute of Tourism Studies.

The EIA warns that since the rocks to be excavated are quite resistant, the noise and vibration levels are expected to be very loud.

Works will be taking place over a period of 6-9 months but no reference is made to the impact the noise will have on residents living along Triq il-Mediterran.

Transport Malta has not yet taken any decision with regards to the funding of a proposed tunnel that will link City Centre to Pembroke. The land transfer contract clearly states that the government has to “undertake at its sole cost, risk, legal and financial liability” the “required improvements to the road and utilities infrastructure leading to the site”.

## Palm pruning threaten Malta's beloved 'lampuka' **Karl Azzopardi**

Fishermen claim lack of proper enforcement and diminishing number of palm trees, threaten one of the island's most famous fishing practices



With the Lampuki (Dolphin fish) season drawing closer, fishermen are facing an issue that looks to haunt them for years to come, if not addressed immediately.

One of the many tasks ahead of the fishing season, is the collection of palm leaves which are essential for the complete and fully functional construction of the apparatus needed in order to attract and catch the Lampuki.

In order to successfully catch a Lampuka, fishermen prepare rows of 'cimi' one after the other, which consist of a palm leaf knotted with a jablo float,

attached to a weight anchored on the sea bed.

Lampuki proceed to bask under the palm leaf, and fishermen surround the fish with nets and ensue to haul in the catch.

A fisherman who spoke to MaltaToday expressed his concern on the diminishing number of palm trees on the island, claiming that the improper way of pruning the leaves, makes the trees prone to further damage by the infamous palm weevil, resulting in further loss.

Peter Calamatta, a horticulturalist, told MaltaToday that when pruning the Phoenix Canariensis, spraying insecticide is critical to ensure that the palm weevil does not attack the tree, especially in highly dense areas.

The fisherman also spoke about the illegalities which have ensued down the years, claiming that fishermen resort to stealing palm leaves from public spaces like a roundabout when faced with no other option.

"I know of fishermen that instruct three or four unknowing foreigners that work for them, to go on roundabouts and bring palm leaves from the trees. While the foreigners prune the leaves, they wait around the corner and if any authorities come on site, they run away," the fisherman claimed.

The fisherman expressed his satisfaction with how the government had distributed palm trees for the upcoming fishing season, through a scheme by which fishermen could apply for a number of branches.

"I really liked the way the government has distributed the palm leaves this year. When you need about 200 to 300 palm leaves for each fishing vessel, it's nice to see fair distribution," he said.

Asked if a replacement can be found instead of the palm tree, the fishermen said that it has been common practice through the years as it provides an efficient way to catch the fish, while also harbouring a type of bug that attracts the fish.

Contacted by the newspaper on the issue regarding the decreasing number of palm trees on the island, Parliamentary Secretary for Fisheries, Clint Camilleri, said that no type of control in terms of distribution was enacted in previous years.

"Following discussions with the two fishermen co-operatives, the Parliamentary Secretariat through the Departments of Agriculture and Fisheries will be assisting the fishermen by centralising and coordinating the distribution of such palm leaves," he said.

"The palm leaves being distributed will be pruned from public spaces after being properly examined for the red palm weevil symptoms."

Camilleri also said that the recent shortage of palm trees was caused by the destruction of thousands of trees by the weevil itself.

"The Parliamentary Secretariat is analysing possible initiatives whereby a number of palm trees will be planted, earmarked to be distributed to fishermen in a controlled and safe way," Camilleri said when asked about whether the government is looking for a long-term plan.

## COOKING THE CLASSICS: MALTESE LAMPUKI PIE

BY NOAH CHARNEY



### WHAT IS LAMPUKI PIE? -

*Lampuka* is the Maltese name for mahi-mahi, a mild, delicious white fish that forms the heart of a dish that hints at English cooking (savory pies being one of the great British staples), with some Arabic flavours (mint, lemon peel and raisins add some exotic punch), and Italian verve (tomatoes, olives, capers).

### HOW TO MAKE MALTESE LAMPUKI PIE RECIPE

Also good for my inherent laziness is that this is a recipe of few pots (less to clean!) I sauté the sliced mahi-mahi fillet, and realise that the only way this can go pear-shaped is if you leave bones in the fillet, the fish isn't fresh or you overcook it. Cooking a whole fish, as is traditional, but rather unwieldy and fiddly.

In that case, you sauté the whole fish until it's golden brown, then remove it from the heat and let it cool, before pulling out (hopefully all) the bones. Then you fry the vegetables and herbs in the same pan, to soak up the fish flavor, before slipping it all into your puff pastry. I'd like to say that I handmade the pastry, with loving care, massaging it until the dough was soft as a baby's bottom, before rolling it with a pin dusted in flour, but...nah. I bought puff pastry and it was perfectly good. Lazy chefs unite!

**AN ICON OF MALTESE CUISINE** Popping the pie in the oven until its crust is nicely browned is all there is to it. The result is a **plateful of Maltese history**. The island nation was a military stronghold for centuries, home to the *Knights of Saint John* throughout the Renaissance, a brotherhood of Christian warriors from France, Italy and Spain primarily, meaning that each brought their tastes with them. Proximity to northern Africa and the Levant (for trade and frequent skirmishes) meant access to spices and flavours that were hugely exotic inland on continental Europe.

The island also allows for the development of **contained food traditions**: a magnet gathering influences from without, but bottling them up within to remain and grow into one of the most fascinating of gustatory incubators. Take some of Malta's other dishes, for example. Fenek Stuffat, stewed rabbit, was all the rage in the 18th century, both for its taste but also because eating it meant celebrating the restrictions on hunting that had been imposed throughout the island by the Knights of Saint John for centuries. *Aljotta*, a name which sounds Spanish (as it should) is a sort of fish and tomato bouillabaisse.



**A BITE OF MALTESE HISTORY** Malta was one of the first ports of call in Europe to feature tomatoes in its cuisine. We associate tomatoes with Italian food, but tomatoes are indigenous to the New World and the wealth of the Knights of Saint John allowed them to import exotic items like tomatoes which, for a long time, were believed to be poisonous (they are technically a member of the nightshade family of plants, many of which are poisonous). Then the date-filled imqaret pastry, somewhat like baklava, looks straight out of the Levant, while Maltese tagen is linked to tajine, the Moroccan conical clay pots for baking meat, rice and vegetables. And in 1800, Malta voluntarily joined the British Empire (leave aside the fact that the British were supposed to vacate the island in 1802, but failed to do so), and British traditions were added to the mix. Sometimes a fish pie is just a fish pie. That's what **Freud** would say, at least. But with a little background on history, culture and tradition, we know better. A fish pie, in this case, is an entire history lesson on a plate.

### THE LAMPUKI SEASON, WHICH OPENS ON THE 15TH AUGUST



### *Maltese sailors to take part in international sailing competition*

Angela vella

Four young Maltese sailors will be taking part in the Meisha Campus Topper Worlds Adventure in Shenzhen, China, between August 14 and 21. The sailors from the Viking Sailing Club – **Sean Zahra**, **Julia Portanier** and brother and sister **Andrea** and **Angele Vella** will be participating in different categories over the five-day competition which will see the participation of 260 sailors from 20 countries. It will be the largest World Topper Championship in history. Apart from the sailing competition, the participants will experience the great Chinese culture by visiting the Terracotta Warriors in Xi'An and The Great Wall of China, among others.

**MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER**  
The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora



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## ABBA Tribute Band to Perform in Malta

ABBA tribute band Revival will give a one-night-only charity concert at Gianpula, Rabat on the 9th November at 9.30 pm, with doors opening at 8.00 pm.



### Coryse Borg

Multi award-winning ABBA tribute band ABBA Revival will take to the stage in Malta later this year, promising an incredible night of singing and dancing at Gianpula on the 9th November in aid of the Save Valletta's Skyline appeal.

During this disco-tastic 90-minute show, audiences will be able to dance and sing along to ABBA favourites, including Waterloo, Dancing Queen, Mamma Mia and SOS, all on the legendary Gianpula dance floor. DJ Ian Lang – one of Malta's most popular DJs and the regular host of 'Isle of MTV' – will keep the vibe going with a pre- and post-concert party.

Best of all, it's for a good cause.

"The Valletta Skyline is a vital component of the beauty that is Malta," said organiser Kirsten Grenside, "Here is a chance for the local community – and ABBA fans – to help preserve Malta's unique history and iconic skyline."

Recently voted the UK's 2018 Official No. 1 ABBA tribute act, the ABBA Revival stage show has wowed audiences from Europe to the Middle East, as well as in the original band's homeland of Sweden. The SOS concert will not be the first visit to Malta for the tribute band, since it performed during an outdoor show for Malta's Independence Day to 20,000 people, which was televised to two million more.

Tickets are currently on sale on [www.ticketline.com.mt](http://www.ticketline.com.mt). They start from €37 for a standard ticket and €69 for a VIP ticket, with early bird discounts available.



## Skeda ghas-sajf 2018 fuq RTK 103FM

L-istazzjon **RTK 103FM** ħaseb sabiex f'din l-iskeda jinkludi programmi li jżommu kumpanija tajba matul ix-xhur sħan tas-

sajf, fejn normalment issibna aktar ġewwa għal frisk milli barra fis-sħana.

Filgħodu nqumu kmieni ma' George Galea għal **Breakfast @ RTK**, li bil-kumpanija ferrieħija tiegħu jzommna sad-9am, fejn imbagħad nsegwu **Ta' Kulhadd** ma' Christine Delicata, bl-ghajnuna ta' Massimiliana De Martino f'xi granet.

Wara nofsinhar, Albert Galdes iħejji l-programm ta' mużika **In the Mood** bejn is-1pm u t-3pm. Imbagħad fit-3pm jibdw serje ta' programmi interessanti fejn ta' kuljum tinbidel it-tema, fosthom: **Mewġiet mill-imghoddi** ma' Marvic Cordina; **Għażliet** ma' Tano Vella; **Il-Beltin** ma' Emanuel Cassar; **Hekk Nifhimha Jien** ma' Tano Vella, u **Intietef** ma' Lizzie Cutajar.

Id-DJ popolari Arthur Gareth isegwi b'**Gareth's Drive** sas-6pm, fejn imbagħad wara l-aħbarijiet insegwu serje oħra ta' programmi varjati, fosthom: **Golden Oldies; Dinja Ewropa** ma' Walter Sultana; u **Għidli Dwarek** ma' Fr Keith Bonnici.

Il-programm ta' grajjiet kurrenti **Newsline** ikompli b'xandira awdjo-viżiva fejn wieħed jista' jsegwi dak li jkun qiegħed jigril fl-istudjo fuq **Newsbook.com.mt** f'xandira diretta kull nhar ta' Sibt fl-10am. <https://www.newsbook.com.mt/rtk-player/>

## Cisk Impresses Judges at The Largest Annual Beer Competition In The World

**David Grech Urpani**



Along with Twistees, Kinnie, *pastizzi* and Eurovision, Cisk is one of the first things most people associate with Malta whether they're visiting for the first time or they've been living on the island for their whole lives. Now, another couple of medals

have been awarded to the national beer to confirm just how awesome it is.

Cisk Lager, the most popular iteration, won the silver medal at the Australian International Beer Awards, the largest beer competition in the world. The Pilsner iteration, on the other hand, took home the bronze in the German Style Pilsner category. And as you might have expected, this isn't the first time Cisk returned to our shores with honours.

The famous Cisk Lager alone has six other awards, one of which was a gold (and overall winner!) award at the 1995 edition of the same AIBAs. Ten years ago, it had even been crowned the World's Best Standard Lager, and it's been taking home prestigious awards ever since the U.K. Brewex Awards in 1980.

This is the first time that the Cisk Pilsner has won an award, but seeing as it was introduced just one year ago, it looks like it's already set for another round of perfect records. It sure seems like there's no stopping Cisk, especially in summer. Crack open a cold one for us!

## Maltese doctor awarded Order of the League of Mercy

Lord Robert Balchin Lingfield (left) presenting the Order of the League of Mercy award to Lt Col Charles Gauci.



Lt Colonel Charles Gauci, RAMC (Retd), president of the British Legion (Malta GC Branch), was recently awarded the Order of the League of Mercy at Mansion House, London, by Lord Robert Balchin Lingfield,

president of the board of trustees of the order and knight president of the Imperial Society of Knights Bachelor of the UK in the presence of the board of trustees, the Sheriff of London and Princess Katarina of Yugoslavia (descendant of Queen Victoria).

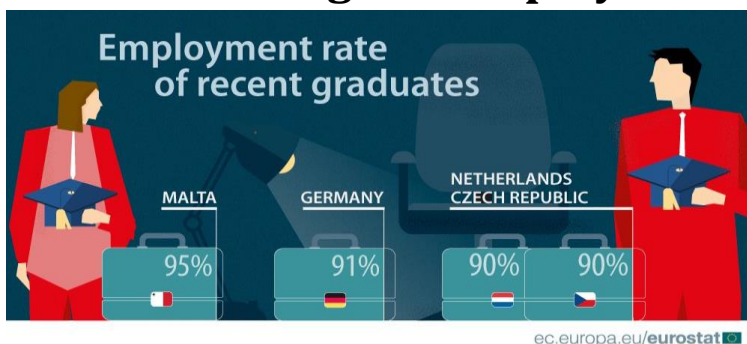
The order was founded in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland by a Royal Charter issued by the Queen-Empress Victoria in 1899. It was instigated by her son, the Prince of Wales (later King-Emperor Edward VII), who became its first Grand President.

Awards in the Order of the League of Mercy are made to long-service volunteers in the UK health service and are routinely published in the London Gazette. Dr Gauci has been involved in the field of pain medicine since the late 1970s, first while an officer in the British Army and later in the NHS. He has helped many patients, including cancer sufferers, to manage their pain.

Throughout his career he has carried out a significant amount of pro bono work in pain management, both in the UK and overseas. He is also a member of the World Institute of Pain, which involves travel all over the world teaching medical colleagues the complicated techniques of interventional pain therapy. TIMES OF MALTA



## Malta with highest employment rate for graduates in EU



Albert Galea

Malta has the highest employment rate for recent graduates in the European Union, a report by Eurostat shows. A recent graduate is defined by the report as people aged 20-34, who are not in education and training, and who completed their education at most three years ago. For the benefit of this study, the education level taken was that of upper-secondary, so as to include tertiary level education as well.

The rate of employment for this demographic in Malta stands at 94.5%, which is the highest across the whole of the EU, and is by far ahead of the EU average – which stands at 80.2%. This is despite the fact that the rate is actually a slight decrease on the figure for the previous year, which stood at 96.6%.

Behind Malta, Germany has the second highest rate of employment for recent graduates at 91%, followed by the Netherlands and Czech Republic who each have a rate of 90%. At the other end of the spectrum, Greece has the lowest rate of employment for recent graduates at just 52%, whilst Italy does not fare well either in the study, with a rate of 55%.

## Lucky Maltese kid accompanied Real's Varane at Russia World Cup Final



Julian Camilleri Konov (second from right), the McDonald's Player Escort from Malta, stands with Real Madrid and France defender Raphael Varane before the World Cup final against Croatia

Julian Camilleri Konov, the McDonald's Player Escort from Malta, was selected to accompany Real Madrid and France defender Raphael Varane onto the pitch for the FIFA World Cup final against Croatia in Moscow last month. Seven-year-old Julian from Birkirkara was chosen through the McDonald's Player Escort Programme in Malta.

More than 60 children took part in the McDonald's FootballPlus for Kids programme which included two football festivals for children aged six to 10. One child was chosen at random to appear at the World Cup final, while the runners up appeared as Player Escorts at the UEFA Nations League fixtures involving Malta.

Julian and his mother Svetlana Camilleri Konova travelled to Moscow courtesy of McDonald's and participated in a variety of activities for Player Escorts, including a boat trip on the river and a visit to the historical Kolomenskoye palaces, a former royal estate in southern Moscow. On the day of the final, Julian and other McDonald's Player Escorts were able to meet the players and practise for their big moment. "It was so exciting to be in the final," Julian said. "I will never forget the feeling of walking out onto the pitch with Varane."

McDonald's has been an official sponsor of the FIFA World Cup since 1994. "We have a long-held tradition of bringing sport to life for millions of customers around the world," the company said in a statement.



THE MALTESE GUILD OF SA INC.

*70th Birthday Ball*

**The Committee of the  
Maltese Guild of South Australia  
cordially invites you to the Malta National Ball**

**Saturday, 8th September 2018**

**From: 7pm - 12 Midnight**

**70<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary**

**Sicilia Social & Sports Club  
45a O.G. Road, Klemzig  
South Australia**

**Featuring Band "The Godfathers"**

**Adults: \$55 includes 4 course meal  
Children: \$30 (up to 12 years, children's menu)  
"Wine, beer and soft drinks are included"**

**For tickets contact:**

**Maltese Cultural Centre - 8243 0868**

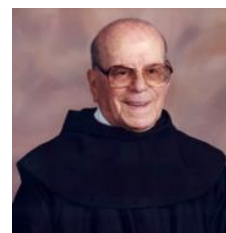
**Anthony Farrugia - 8182 4600**

Posters kindly donated by colourBOX Print

## BRIEF HISTORY OF THE MALTESE GUILD OF SA INC

### 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

On the 6th July 1948, Father Egidio Ferriggi OFM, a Maltese Franciscan priest arrived in Adelaide.



Up until that date, Maltese migration to South Australia had been low in numbers.

Foreseeing that the level of Maltese Migrants to South Australia would increase substantially, he instigated the formation of the first Maltese association under the name "The Maltese Community Society of SA".

The Guild organised socials, theatrical, spiritual and cultural activities and other functions for the increasing Maltese presence in Adelaide.

For over thirty years the Maltese Language and Folk-dancing School held their classes at the Maltese Cultural Centre.

Fr. Ferriggi was also instrumental in the building of the Christ the King Catholic Church in Lockleys.

The most popular event was the Malta National Day Ball held in September, a function that is still being organised each year, to this day.

In 1953, the "Maltese Community Society of SA" changed its name to "The Maltese Guild of SA", later becoming an incorporated body.

The Malta High Commission and the Consul for Malta in South Australia, Mr Frank Scicluna, use the Centre for consular services assisting the members of the Maltese community in applying for Maltese citizenship and passport. The Maltese Guild hosted numerous functions for dignitaries from Malta including Presidents, Prime Ministers, Parliamentarians and other distinguished visitors.

Today, the Guild is believed to be the oldest Maltese Organisation in Australia and the only one in Australia to own its own premises. These premises at 6, Jeanes Street, Beverley was purchased by the Guild in 1977 on behalf of the members of the Maltese Guild of SA, who are the titleholders of the land.

Today the Guild, as the Maltese Cultural Centre opens every Tuesday, is providing our senior citizens social activities and a cooked meal. The Committee of the Maltese Guild is looking to recruit the next generation of Maltese families to expand on our current activities and continue the work that our early Maltese Migrant pioneers started over 70 years ago.