



**CONSULATE OF MALTA IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA NEWSLETTER**  
**MARCH 2014 FRANK L SCICLUNA - LINKING MALTA AND AUSTRALIA**  
EMAIL: [honconsul@live.com.au](mailto:honconsul@live.com.au) Website: [www.ozmalta.page4.me](http://www.ozmalta.page4.me)

## **‘Marie Louise Coleiro Preca will be Malta’s next President**

**Prime Minister Joseph Muscat officially announces Marie Louise Coleiro Preca’s nomination as new President.**



*Presidential designate Marie Louise Coleiro Preca and Prime Minister Joseph Muscat. (Photo: Reuben Piscopo/DOI)*

**Miriam Dalli**

Marie Louise Coleiro Preca's nomination as President was today officialised by Prime Minister Joseph Muscat who this evening described the appointment as "historic" and "one step closer to the birth of the second Republic."

Stressing that Coleiro Preca was chosen because the next President "needs to have a lot of energy," Muscat said that the current family minister will be the country's "social soul."

Underlining Coleiro Preca's energy, Muscat said that the new President, who at 55 will be the youngest Head of State, "has a lot to offer to the country."

Despite acknowledging that the president's powers are limited, Muscat said Coleiro Preca's presidency "will not be ceremonial." He added that she would be given new social responsibilities and give the presidency a "new purpose."

He said the new presidency will be provided with more resources and tools, adding that "Coleiro Preca will be the government's point of reference and I am sure she will not shy away from publicly drawing our attention and she will also be the country's point of reference."

Addressing the press at Castile, Coleiro Preca said that although she never aspired to become President, she was prepared to serve the people "as I have always done throughout my career."

Muscat added that Coleiro Preca's energy will be greatly needed in the next five years given that Malta will be celebrating historic anniversaries, hold the EU presidency in 2017 and carrying out a Constitutional reform.

Moreover, Muscat said, Coleiro Preca will continue and build upon the sterling work of outgoing President George Abela.

Admitting that appointing Coleiro Preca as president would be a loss for his government, Muscat said that she will be at the forefront of the country's strategy to eradicate poverty.

Muscat also pointed out that appointing a woman as Head of state sent out "a strong message of change."

On Saturday, MaltaToday revealed that Social Policy Minister Marie Louise Coleiro Preca accepted a nomination by Prime Minister Joseph Muscat, to be the ninth President of the Republic of Malta.

She will be the second female president and the sixth nominee emerging from the Labour Party since Malta became a Republic in 1974. Muscat had decided on Coleiro Preca back in December of last year.

Coleiro Preca was initially reluctant to resign from her post as Social Policy Minister. Many of her political canvassers have expressed dismay at the decision.

Earlier today, Muscat held a meeting with opposition leader Simon Busuttil who said that he was not consulted about Coleiro Preca's nomination but was presented with a fait accompli.

In a statement issued this evening, the PN said "it's a pity that even on issues which demand national consensus, the prime minister Joseph Muscat persists with his political games."

While congratulating Coleiro Preca on her nomination, The opposition added that it would be taking an official stand over the appointment during a Parliamentary group meeting to be held in the coming days



## **THE MALTESE CELEBRATE GOOD FRIDAY IN SYDNEY AUSTRALIA**

Good Friday Activities 2014 Our Lady of Victories Parish, Horsley Park  
PROGRAM

Preparations for the Good Friday Procession in Horsley Park, NSW are well underway and the Organising Group wishes to advise readers of our newsletter of upcoming important dates and activities.

**Sunday 23 March from 3.00pm** Children and youth are invited to try on and collect costumes for the procession in the Church Presbytery

**Thursday 27 March, from 6.00pm** Helpers are needed to transport and arrange statues in the church.

**Friday 28 March, from 8.00pm** Helpers are needed to organise and prepare other procession objects in the church. The Last Supper exhibition is also organised.

**From Tuesday 1 April to Friday 4 April, at 7.00pm** Lenten exercises in Maltese led by Fr John Taliana

**Thursday 10 April from 7.00pm** Reconciliation in the Church

**Friday 11 April from 7.00pm The Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows.** The function begins with a celebration of the mass, followed by the Stations of the Cross outside and a procession with the statue of Our Lady of Sorrows back into the Church.

**Friday 18 April – Good Friday** Help is greatly needed early in the morning to install outdoor equipment necessary for the procession such as PA systems, lights and barricades.

The Church service begins at 2.30pm. The Church can only hold a certain amount of people, so think early. At 4.00pm, the Maltese Cultural Association NSW Choir begins performing traditional dirges and hymns, alternating with Our Lady Queen of Peace Maltese Band which will play funeral marches. [Sent to us by Antoine Mangion- Sydney Australia]

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## **St. Paul the Apostle Church Maltese-Canadian Parish**

3224, Dundas Street West, Toronto, ON M6P 2A3

Tel: (416) 767-7054; Fax (416) 604-4502

**April 7-11** Lenten Mission in Maltese at St Paul the Apostle Church.

**April 11** Our Lady of Sorrows Procession Accompanied by The Malta Band at St Pauls Church.

**April 13** Palm Sunday Concert at The Malta band

**April 18** Malta Band participation at the Good Friday Procession ..

**April 18** London Club Good Friday ravioli dinner

Maltese Language Classes are conducted every Wednesday and Saturday by Ms. Galea. Maltese Language Classes: contact Carmen Galea at qormija@sympatico.ca for further information.

Lehen Malti TV program is shown every Saturday and Sunday morning on the Omni Multicultural Channel .

*Let us all support each other to keep our Maltese Community alive and well.*

## **Lenten program for the Maltese Community in Adelaide**

### **At the Church of Christ the King – Lockleys South Australia**

**Friday 11 April** 700pm Our Lady of Sorrows – Stations of the Cross and sermon in Maltese by Fr. Alfred Farrugia

**Saturday 12 April** 6.00 pm Holy Mass - sermon in Maltese by Fr. Alfred Farrugia

**Sunday 13 April** 3.00 pm Palm Sunday Mass in Maltese sermon in Maltese by Fr. Alfred Farrugia

4.00 pm Ravioli Evening at the Church Parish Hall

**Wednesday 16 April** 8.30 am Mass and anointing of the Sick

**Thursday 17 April** 6.30 pm Commemoration of the Last Supper

7.30 pm Visit to the Holy Sepulcher

**Friday 18 April** 3.00 pm Commemoration of the Passion and death of Our Lord Jesus Christ

7.00 pm Stations of the Cross outside the Church . The Maltese Queen of Victories Band of

South Australia will participate

*Maltese families who wish to have their houses blessed ring Fr. Gabriel Micallef for an appointment 08 8354 3398*

*Fr. Gabriel will visit Malta for the provincial chapter from 29 April till the 28 June. In case of emergency ring Fr. Charles Gauci on 0407617607 or Fr Alfred Farrugia on 0425 144 317.*

**HAPPY EASTER FROM Fr Gabriel Micallef and the Maltese Chaplaincy Festivities Committee**

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## AUSTRALIA FOR EVERYONE



### **His excellency Charles Muscat – Malta High Commissioner in Australia**

Mr. Charles Muscat was born in Rabat, Malta on 30 July 1944.

With a business background and forty-one years of experience in the retail industry, he brings with him, extensive experience in management and marketing. Mr. Muscat was one of the founding members of the Australia Maltese Chamber of Commerce. He was also invited by the Department of Multicultural Affairs to take part in public forums during the federal government consultations in the initial building of the multicultural committees.

He is married to Victoria, nee Azzopardi, and has three children and five grandchildren.

**Mr. Muscat is paying an official visit to South Australia 27 - 31 March 2014**

More details next issue



## **Italian ricotta and Maltese irkotta - are they the same?**

*Smooth and creamy ricotta is a versatile ingredient that can be used in both sweet and savoury dishes or can be enjoyed as a tasty snack simply spread on bread.*



The creamy Italian ricotta differs from the Maltese variety in cooking processes

### **Rachel Zammit Cutajar**

Foodies will notice a difference between Italian ricotta and the Maltese made irkotta, and this boils down to the cooking methods.

The manufacturing process of the Maltese irkotta involves the cooking of milk, rather than of milk whey, with the addition of calcium chloride (a type of salt) to form a curd.

Italian ricotta, on the other hand, is actually a by-product of cheese making, using the milk whey left over from cheese production. Though most of the milk protein is removed when cheese is made - mainly casein - some remains in the whey - mostly albumin. The whey is left to become more acidic for 12 to 24 hours and is then heated to near boiling. The combination of the cheese acid and the high temperatures form a fine curd, which, once cooled, is sieved through a fine cloth. The creamy curds are white and sweet in taste, though are highly perishable and must be consumed immediately.

Ricotta, whether the original Italian version or the Maltese irkotta, is used in a number of savoury dishes including ravioli, lasagne or simply spread on bread with a drizzle of olive oil for a light snack as it contains significantly less fat than other cheeses at just 13%. The same as mascarpone, ricotta is a vital ingredient in many Italian desserts such as cheesecake, cannoli and cassatella siciliana.

In addition to its fresh, soft form, ricotta is also sold in three preparations which ensure a longer shelf life: salted, baked and smoked.

## **MALTESE COMMUNITY INVITATION TO THE SECOND GENERATION REUNION PICNIC IN ADELAIDE**

**It's on again! We Will be holding the picnic again with the intention of  
attracting  
even more families and friends!!!**



**DATE: March 30, 2014**

**TIME: 11.00am onwards**

**PLACE: Bonython Park, Port Road (Opposite Coca Cola)**

**(Area 11, north of the lake) Look for the Maltese Flags!!**

**BYO: Food, Drinks, Chairs, Shelter and any photos you may have**

***This is an open invitation to the Maltese Community of all ages and their families.***

For further information, you can contact either:

**Lawrie Caruana** on 0407 886 899 or email [lacaruana@bigpond.com](mailto:lacaruana@bigpond.com)

OR

**Catherine Saliba** on 0438 825 174 or email [catherine.saliba@yahoo.com](mailto:catherine.saliba@yahoo.com)

**PLEASE HELP SPREAD THE WORD!!!!**

In the event of inclement weather please contact the organisers for any updates.

## NOSTALGIA - PROXY BRIDES FROM MALTA IN THE 1950'S AND '60'S

*Tonina and Ted Farrugia on their wedding day.*



**Boatloads of 'proxy brides' brought a civilising balance to postwar Australia, writes Sonia Harford.**

TONINA FARRUGIA remembers her wedding day as "weird" because on her big day, a man she didn't wish to marry joined her at the altar, and the real groom didn't show up at all. Ted Farrugia was far away in Australia, while Tonina got married in Malta.

Tonina was one of thousands of young women who came to be known as "proxy brides" in the 1950s and '60s. Demand for wives was so great among postwar migrants in Australia that the men sent home urgent letters of proposal to childhood friends, sisters' friends, any young women they could contact.

After World War II, the influx of men from Italy, Greece and Malta arriving to labour on major projects in Australia created an imbalance, with too few women. Public opinion at the time feared the men might become "an unruly force without the tempering influence of women", according to *By Proxy*, a study of migrant brides by Susi Bella Wardrop.

So the search for a mate gathered strength through a formal, pragmatic scheme, organised by the Catholic Church, and accepted by the Australian government. In a defining decade for Australia, and particularly Victoria, huge transport ships brought young women from all over southern Europe to balance the male migrants. It was unthinkable for young women like Tonina to travel alone, unwed. Respect lay in being married.

The proxy came in the form of a ceremony, in which another village man would stand in for the groom, as a priest performed the wedding in his absence. Ring on finger, the girl would then board a ship bound for Australia as a married woman, due to be collected by her husband at journey's end.

Australian newspapers welcomed the exotic female fleet with colourful headlines and photographs. "Proxy grooms storm a bride ship" summarised a scene of men crowding onto a pier and actually clambering up the ship's hull to claim their bride, as shy girls looked down from an upper deck.

Now, after 52 years of marriage, Tonina considers herself lucky to have migrated as a teenage bride to a country she has loved since her first glimpse of Station Pier. Her union was a success, as were many others. Tomorrow, at a reunion organised by the Immigration Museum, many Melbourne couples like the Farrugias, who married at a distance, will share their stories.

Tonina was just 16 when she took a huge leap of faith in accepting Ted's proposal. She'd known him as a childhood friend in her village of Floriana but hadn't seen him for two years. They'd corresponded a little, then he outlined an ambitious plan: marriage and migration. For a girl who'd never left home, she was surprisingly open to the future.

"Floriana was so small - in one day you could walk around it. My mother was sick and died when I was 11." Tonina's father remarried but she and her stepmother didn't get on, so in 1956, she told her father her plans and approached the church for an odd sort of wedding on April 2.

"Ted's uncle had to stand in for him, and my uncle took my father's place, as my father was shy about this role. Then Ted's uncle answered all the questions in church, with the priest addressing him by Ted's name.

"I didn't even have a long dress, and when I went home my father had a small party with a little cake. I felt funny because after everyone had gone it was like any other day. But I didn't have to wait long."

Tonina was married on a Monday and left for Australia the following Sunday. Taking a trunk filled with sheets, towels, clothes, crockery, pots and bedding - all that she'd need to make a home as a wife - she went down to the Grand Harbour to board the ship, the Arosa Kulm, and the enormity of her decision hit home.

"I was so upset to leave the family, I didn't want to say goodbye," she recalls.

On board, crammed into a dormitory with about a dozen women and children, she was constantly sick during the six-week journey. Port Said, Colombo, Fremantle - she hardly noticed where they stopped en route to Melbourne. She knew no one, but a kind woman brought her food, and she made friends with five other proxy brides.

Dark stories swirled among women on the bride ships as many expected the worst. Some had married men they'd never met. From Australia, men sent photographs, sometimes substituting one of a more handsome brother. Will he like me, the women asked themselves. Will he look like the photo, and is the photo really him?

Some refused to leave the ship, some fell in love on board ship. For most there was a safety net; if a woman was miserable, she could have the marriage annulled before it was consummated.

The compromises were there at the outset - no courting, no wedding gown, no feast; perhaps a small party with a new husband's family on arrival, then straight into wifely duties, setting up house, bearing children, farm or factory work, and making a life in Coburg, Carlton, Lalor and other places where migrants gathered. Yet in the *By Proxy* study at least, very few marriages ended in divorce.

In Australia, there was criticism from those who viewed the proxy bride system as somehow backward, akin to an arranged marriage. "Even though it's a patriarchal society, women had a very influential role. They were mother figures for men, advising and supporting them. The largely all-male population had been very unhealthy.

"I've come across letters from men to their mothers, who write: 'I miss you dearly'. Aunts, sisters and cousins had all been involved in bringing them up as children in the village." Tonina says she was never disappointed. Half a century of marriage, two children and a grandson are testament to a contented life.

In her home, there's even a nod to the conventional wedding photo on most people's mantelpieces. In one frame, teenage Tonina is pictured in an elaborate wedding dress she borrowed for a photo shoot once she'd reached Australia. Posing with Ted, the couple is complete. Dressing up for the day, she choreographed the wedding she'd never had.

## **FIRST EVER VICTORIA CROSS FOR AUSTRALIA AWARDED**



Former Prime Minister Kevin Rudd commended the valour of Trooper Mark Donaldson, with the presentation of the first Victoria Cross for Australia. Trooper Donaldson was honoured for his bravery in Afghanistan in 2008.

In a media release, PM Rudd said "*This is a truly historic day. Trooper Donaldson's bravery will forever be engraved in Australian history. Generations of school children will now know of the story of Trooper Mark Donaldson.*

*It is a story all Australians should know. It is a story of a hero – one which will be told in classrooms, workplaces and watering holes for many years to come.*

Trooper Donaldson's courage and selflessness in the face of such unspeakable danger is not only a great



tribute to him and his family – it epitomises the spirit of the Aussie digger. The soldiers that he saved will be forever indebted to him. The nation will be forever indebted to him." Trooper Donaldson received the award for his actions in Afghanistan on September 2 last year, when, under heavy fire, he ran 80 metres to save an interpreter for the coalition forces and carried him to safety under sustained and accurate shooting.

*[Photo] Trooper Mark Donaldson VC with Charlie Farrugia OAM JP President of the RSL Maltese Sub-branch at a State reception hosted by the Premier of South Australia.*

Mark Donaldson, during a conversation with Mr. Farrugia, mentioned that he heard a lot about Malta and the gallant Maltese people who were awarded the George Cross in April 1942 by King George VI during World War 2.



## **AUSTRALIA HALL IN MALTA IN RUINS**

Posted on **October 28, 2013** by **Conrad Thake**

The former Australia Hall in Pembroke in Malta is today a sad carcass of a once dignified public building, with its interior totally gutted out and left in a state of utter dilapidation.

During World War I (1914-1918), Malta had a special role to play as a nursing station within the Mediterranean where several hospitals and convalescent camps were set up to tend to the casualties of the war. Australia Hall was built in 1915 by the Australian Branch of the Red Cross who raised funds to finance a combined recreation centre/theatre building that would serve to entertain wounded soldiers belonging to the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC).

In its heyday the hall could accommodate up to two thousand men as stage productions, dances, and other forms of recreation were regularly held there. Later a library and reading room were introduced and around 1921 a projection room was added to the structure so that the hall could also be used as a cinema.

When the British military facilities in St Andrew's Barracks were closed down in 1978, it was returned to the Maltese government and transferred to the Labour Party in exchange for other property. In December 1998, a fire gutted the hall's entire roofing system of metal trusses and sheeting. Only the external masonry shell has survived. Today the roofless shell of a building is vulnerable to the natural elements and vandals have left their marks on what remains of the building.

Public consciousness and awareness of the need to safeguard our historic architectural heritage has increased notably in recent times. However, I suspect that our appreciation for buildings and structures dating to the time of the Order of St John is distinctly greater than that of British colonial architecture, this being even more so in the case of military architecture.

British military buildings and complexes have explicit political associations loaded with the trappings of colonial rule. In asserting our identity as an independent island-state we seem to have unconsciously rejected the legacy of our former colonial masters. This is the sad predicament of an important part of our architectural heritage.

The former Australia Hall is crying out to be restored and rehabilitated to a use which would serve the needs of the local community. This begs the question as to how long all we will continue to close a Nelson's eye to this shambolic situation.

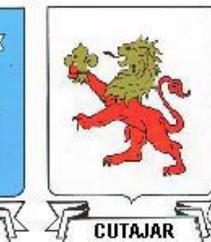
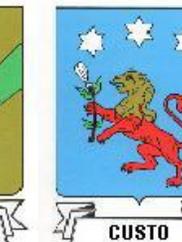
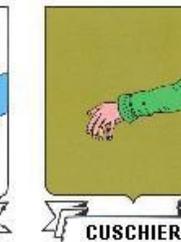
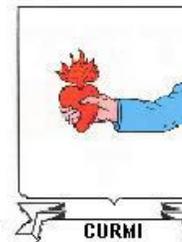
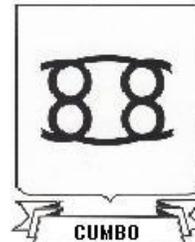
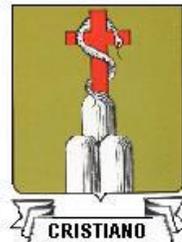
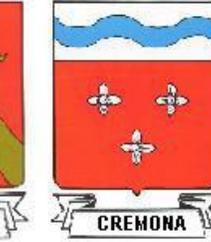
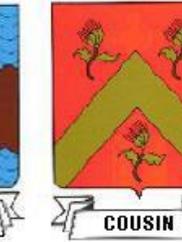
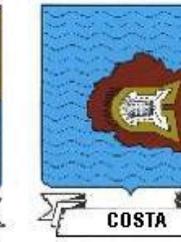
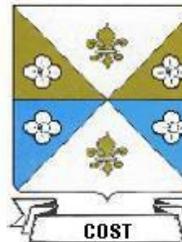
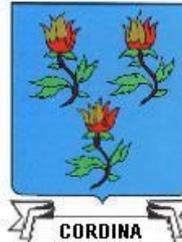
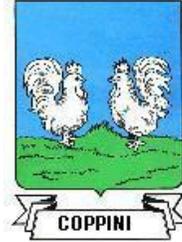
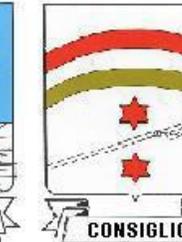
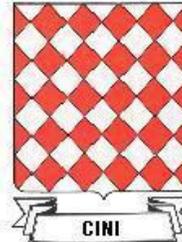
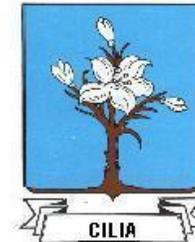
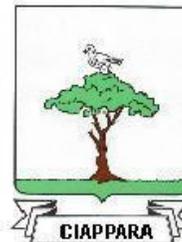
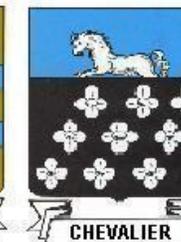
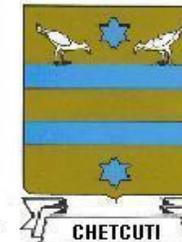
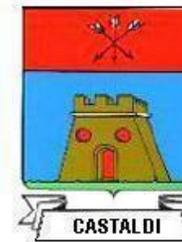
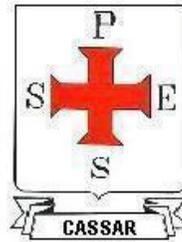
## **WE APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENTS.....**

I cannot express how grateful I am at receiving 21 pages of immensely interesting information ranging from surnames to balconies to San Anton Gardens. I kept reading one page after another non-stop. How wonderful all of you are. Your love for Malta and the nostalgic memories expressed are witnesses to this great love. Prior to your information I have been reading my cousin's Letteratura Maltija. How dedicated you are! We are so proud of you and genuinely thank you. Keep up your work which we appreciate so much. Warm regards, Godfrey Magri.

Ghandi narfek li ircevejt l-email tieghek sugget Maltese-E-Newsletter32 li minghajr dubju hija, l-aqwa l-isbah u l-ahhjar newsletter fil-veru sens tal-kelma u li tikkonsisti b'dak kollu li ghandek bzonn tkun taf jew jekk tigi bzonn xi haga litterarja speċjalment dwar x'qed jgri jew gara fil-komunitajiet Maltin ta' barra. Storja li ma tintesa qatt.

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**MALTESE SURNAMES** – CONTINUES - MORE IN FUTURE ISSUES



## WHAT ARE THE CART RUTS OF MALTA?



How are these strange geological features (Electroblemes?) formed around the Cart Ruts? How were the Cart Ruts created? Does it have anything to do with the Electric Universe? Were these ruts form during the building of the Neolithic Temples?

**Misrah Ghar il-Kbir** (informally known as **Clapham Junction**) is a prehistoric site in Malta near the Dingli Cliffs. It is best known for its "cart ruts" - a complex network of tracks gouged in the rock. The age and purpose of the tracks are still a mystery of Maltese history. In general, most archeologists presume that the site developed about 2000 BC after new settlers came over from Sicily to start the Bronze Age in

Malta.

It is reported that the "Clapham Junction" nickname was given by an Englishman, who later reported that it reminded him of the busy railway station Clapham Junction in London.

The tracks (known and signposted in Malta as Cart Ruts) can be found in a number of sites on Malta and on Gozo. Busewdien in St Paul's Bay, Naxxar, San Gwann and Bidnija are good examples of cart tracks found on the Island of Malta. Gozo's best Cart Ruts are on the Ta' Ċenċ plateau, Sannat. The Misraħ Għar il-Kbir site near the Dingli Cliffs in the south of the island is probably the most impressive – they form here a real "traffic jam".



Also called cart ruts, they are up to 60 cm deep and have an average distance between them of 110 to 140 cm. Some cross while others form junctions. This creates the illusion of a great railway station switching yard.

A cart ruts junction at Ghar il-Kbir There are numerous theories about how these tracks were created. The most discussed are the following:

Goods were transported here on sledges which gouged the tracks into the rock. The tracks are real cart ruts for transporting goods. It is an irrigation system.

There are also other attempts to explain the tracks:- The Maltese archeologist Anthony Bonanno thinks that the ruts are devices of the enicians, which would mean that the tracks were made more recently, in the 7th century BC.

Recent research suggests that these may have been caused by wooden-wheeled carts eroding soft limestone. An analysis was made of the stresses that would have been caused by a cart which would fit the ruts. Professor Mottershead of Portsmouth University said "The underlying rock in Malta is weak and when it's wet it loses about 80 per cent of its strength. The carts would have first made tracks in the soil but when that eroded, the cartwheels ran directly on the bedrock, making it easier for other carts to follow the same tracks.

The different types of Cart Ruts (Cart Tracks) that you find increases the puzzle and ancient mystery of how were the Cart Tracks of not just Malta but the world created? Were they created by heavy laden Carts? Were they ancient roadways or transportation systems? Were they for irrigation? Were they for something else? Are they man made or could nature have somehow created them? Are they evidence of the idea that Malta was Atlantis (the land of temples)?

No one actually knows. Those people who were around when they were created disappeared along with a lot of cultures around that time. When you see a single pair of Cart Ruts they do look like some sort of track. When you see the main



area of Clapham Junction or the San Gwann "spaghetti junction" it leaves you puzzled as to why so many tracks were needed either beside each other or intersecting at one point.

## Syracuse Cart Ruts similar to Malta's

Syracuse Sicily is home to the Greek amphitheater or Great Theater of Syracuse has a number of Cart Ruts that appear to have been made by Greek or Roman Chariots coming to watch the entertainment. The Syracuse (Siracusa or Siracuse as it is also known) Sicily Cart Tracks can be found at the back of the top of the hill where the Greek amphitheater has been formed out of the hillside.

Are these Chariot Ruts similar to the Cart Tracks found in Malta or are they of a different structure? Some Cart Ruts at Naxxar seem similar or is that just wanting them to look the same? Do the Syracuse "Cart Ruts" confirm that the Cart Ruts found around the world were made by wheeled vehicles? But why, especially on Malta, do you have so many found beside each other and crossing each other and why Clapham Junction? Is the only reason they were formed because the Syracuse Greek amphitheater was carved out of limestone or did the limestone attract whatever man made or natural force made the Cart Ruts?



## Sicilian Neolithic Temple Builders in Malta

by Carlo Trabia

Sometime around 4,000 BC (BCE), ancient Sicilians began building Europe's oldest free-standing monumental structures, which are among the oldest such constructions in the world (the temple at Göbekli Tepe in Turkey is older). These megalithic temples, built by a neolithic people culturally similar to the society of the Stentinello culture near Syracuse, are known by such names as Zebbug, Ggantija, Mnajdra, Hagar Qim and Tarxien. These temples pre-date by millennia the Egyptian pyramids and such structures as Stonehenge and similar megalithic monuments in north-western Europe. We know little of these earliest Sicilians, though they were probably part of an influx of neolithic farmers who arrived in the central Mediterranean from the east sometime before 10,000 BC, identified genetically with Y Haplogroup J2 (M172), and some of their pottery has been dated to around 5,200 BC. One might speculate that these neolithic builders were the ancestors of the Proto-Sicanians. And where can you see these remarkable megalithic temples?

In Malta. Yes, the earliest known inhabitants of Malta arrived from Sicily some time before 5,200 BC, and they quite literally laid the foundations of a culture which in many ways seems to have been far more sophisticated than anything else in Europe or the Mediterranean region at that time. Incidentally, they also invented the earliest rudimentary wheels, initially rounded stones which fit easily into the semicircular wedges carved into the bases of large rectangular megaliths, thus facilitating the rolling transport of these huge stones.

Not only did they build circular megalithic temples coordinated (like Stonehenge) to the position of the sun at key points during the year, these neolithic Maltese left behind realistic sculptures of the human figure in a range of sizes, from small clay figurines to life-size statues carved of the native limestone. Some are detailed enough to give us an idea of the dresses the women wore. Many of these realistic sculptures date to around 3,600 BC.

The Maltese temple builders had frequent contact with Sicily, as well as Lipari and Pantelleria, where they obtained flint, obsidian and red ochre.

One of the most curious constructions is the underground burial complex outside Valletta known as the *Hal Saflieni Hypogeum*. This is far more than a catacomb or decorated cavern. It is, instead, an expansive series of interconnected chambers carved deep into the limestone in imitation of the trilithons and other features of the temples present above ground. (The trilithon entrance of the Hagar Qim temple is shown here.) Surface construction began around 3,800 BC and continued for centuries. The hypogeum is truly unique. There is nothing quite like it anywhere else on earth. In Siracusa, a much smaller hypogeum houses the mikveh, a Jewish ritual bath carved during the seventh century.

The society of the temple builders appears to have thrived in Malta into the early Bronze Age (which began around 2,500 BC), but their numbers seem to have diminished considerably during this period. The Phoenicians arrived around 750 BC and re-colonised the Maltese islands.

It is noteworthy that nothing similar to the Maltese temples has been discovered in Sicily itself, even in the south-eastern region around Stentinello. The Sicanian temple at Cefalù is much more recent. It appears as if the Maltese temple-building culture represented a singular moment in the development of neolithic culture and technology in a relatively isolated environment. So far as we know, Sicily's own Proto-Sicanians developed nothing nearly so sophisticated, and the later Sicanians, about whom precious little is known, were doubtless influenced by other Mediterranean cultures to some degree.

## **St. Mary graduate is a Maltese baroness**

By Loretta Shea Kline The Catholic Key Reporter Kansas City USA



**Caroline Dingli-Attard**

Caroline Dingli-Attard, a Maltese baroness and graduate of St. Mary High School in Independence, is pictured in front of the Convent of the Sacred Heart in Malta, where she studied for two years.

More precisely, she's Caroline Imperia Dingli-Attard dei Baroni Inguanez - American teen-ager and member of the Maltese nobility. Caroline obtained the title of baroness on her 18th birthday, May 4. She inherited it from her father, Marcel Dingli-Attard, a native of Malta who died in 1998. The title of baroness holds much meaning for Caroline, not for status reasons but because of a love for her heritage instilled by her father. Marcel Dingli-Attard was a renowned expert in heraldry, the art of interpreting coats of arms and genealogies.

He was also a diplomat who focused his efforts on world peace and promoting the welfare of the illiterate, sick and poor in Latin America and elsewhere. Caroline said she learned from her father - who established two non-profit foundations to promote peace - that "nobility isn't a divine right. It's defined by your actions, what you do for humanity." Marcel Dingli-

Attard, who was consul for Malta in Kansas City, wanted daughters Caroline and her younger sister, Alexandra, a St. Mary High School junior, to experience life in Malta beyond the family's summer vacations, said the girls' mother, Mary Ann Dingli-Attard. So the family spent Caroline's first two years of high school living in Malta.

As a result of living there, the girls formed a close bond with Malta and its people, a bond that remained strong after her husband's death, said Mary Ann Dingli-Attard, who grew up on an Independence-area farm where her ancestors have lived for some 150 years. Had the girls not lived in Malta, it might have been too difficult for them to return after losing their father, who died less than two weeks after being diagnosed with leukemia, Mary Ann Dingli-Attard said. "I think he knew that they needed to go," she said. "Some things were meant to be."

Caroline spoke fondly of her time living and studying in Malta, a popular destination for European tourists located in the Mediterranean Sea, about 58 miles south of Sicily and some 180 miles east of Tunisia, the nearest point on the North African mainland. The Maltese archipelago consists of three main islands - Malta, Gozo and Comino - and two smaller, uninhabited islands.

Caroline talked of Malta's warm climate and beautiful beaches, relaxed lifestyle and emphasis on family (shop owners close from noon to 3 p.m. to have lunch with their families). She talked of Malta's rich history (St. Paul brought Christianity to Malta after he was shipwrecked there around the year 60) and architecture (neolithic temples on Malta are 5,000 to 6,000 years old). She talked of Malta's night life (dancing in discotheques is a popular activity for young people 16 and older) and strong Catholic influence (every town has a patron saint and celebrates the patron's feast day with fireworks, trying to outdo neighboring towns).

Ornate Catholic churches are a common site in Malta, Caroline said. Among the splendid churches is St. John's Co-Cathedral in Valletta, the capital. The church houses important works of art such as the Beheading of John the Baptist by Caravaggio. Caroline, a member of St. John La Lande Parish in Blue Springs, is thankful for the time she had in Malta getting to know the island and her relatives, making friends and studying at the Convent of the Sacred Heart. She is also thankful for the time she had there with her father.

"I was glad I got to spend that time with him before he passed away," Caroline said. "Malta kind of brought out the best of him." Caroline is committed to carrying out her responsibilities as baroness, though she isn't sure yet what those responsibilities will be. "It's all very new to me," she said.

While her father met regularly with Malta's president in his role as a diplomat, Malta is a republic, and the role of noble is primarily that of a figurehead, Caroline said. Maltese titles include three ranks: baron, count and marquis. The Inguanez family's title dates back to 1350, and is the oldest of those recognized by the British crown. The family's arms are engraved inside the main gate of Mdina, an old, silent (no cars are allowed) and fortified city in Malta.

Caroline said her ancestors came from Spain to settle in Malta, where they were given titles of barons and control over lands. They are believed to be descendants of El Cid, who fought against the invasion of Arabs and Moors, and was honored by the king of Spain for his valor, she said. Caroline's title is from the Spanish crown.

Caroline's friends in Malta are aware that she is a baroness, but it's not a big deal, she said. "I'm just basically a normal person to them," she said. "They see me for who I am, not what titles I have." Some of her friends in the United States, however, think the whole nobility thing is pretty exciting. "They always say that I'm a princess," Caroline said. "They ask

me if I have servants, a private jet and people bowing down to me in the streets." While that's not the case, she does have a tiara in Malta, which she has worn on a few special occasions. Caroline plans to visit Malta in June, and hopes to eventually study archeology at the University of Malta.

In assuming her role as baroness, Caroline said she will be mindful of what her father taught her. What makes you noble, she recalled him saying, is how you treat others.

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## THE AUSSIE VERSION OF CREATION

1. In the beginning God created day and night. He created day for footy matches, going to the beach and barbies. He created night for going prawning, sleeping and barbies. God saw that it was good. Evening came and morning came and it was the Second Day.
2. On the Second Day God created water – for surfing, swimming and barbies on the beach. God saw that it was good. Evening came and morning came and it was the Third Day.
3. On the Third Day God created the Earth to bring forth plants – to provide tobacco, malt and yeast for beer and wood for barbies. God saw that it was good. Evening came and morning came and it was the Fourth Day.
4. On the Fourth Day God created animals and crustaceans for chops, sausages, steak and prawns for barbies. God saw that it was good. Evening came and morning came and it was the Fifth Day.
5. On the Fifth day God created a bloke – to go to the footy, enjoy the beach, drink the beer and eat the meat and prawns at barbies. God saw that it was good. Evening came and morning came and it was the Sixth Day.
6. On the Sixth Day God saw that this bloke was lonely and needed someone to go to the footy, surf, drink beer, eat and stand around the barbie with. So God created Mates, and God saw that they were good blokes. God saw that it was good. Evening came and morning came and it was the Seventh Day.
7. On the Seventh Day God looked around at the twinkling barbie fires, heard the hiss of opening beer cans and the raucous laughter of all the Blokes, smelled the aroma of grilled chops and sizzling prawns and God saw that it was good .... well almost good. God saw that the blokes were tired and needed a rest.
8. So God created Sheilas – to clean the house, bear children, wash, cook and clean the barbie. God saw that it was not just good, it was better than that, it was bloody good. (No wonder they call Aussies **misogynists and sexists**)

## THE TRAGEDY OF NOVEMBER 2011

### Maltese-Australian man dies after Sydney nursing home fire

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An 82-year-old Maltese-Australian, Caesar Galea, has become the seventh fatality of the fire which destroyed a **Quakers Hill nursing home** for the elderly in Sydney Australia in November 2011.

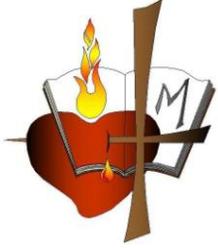
Mr Galea succumbed to his injuries at Hawkesbury Hospital. Maltese consular staff were in contact with his family.

An elderly Maltese woman was also in intensive care after the deadly blaze tore through the nursing home in New South Wales, Australia, on Friday. Manuela Cachia, 75, who has been living in Australia since 1955, was being treated at Westmead Hospital after inhaling smoke .

Another Maltese woman was believed to have resided in the nursing home. Her details about were still unclear. Thousands of Maltese migrants live in the western suburbs of New South Wales, located 40 kilometres west of the Sydney central business district. The Maltese chaplain of the diocese of Parramatta, Fr Benedict Sant, said the nursing home had over the years housed several Maltese. A local Maltese community member regularly visits nursing homes in the area, Fr Sant said when contacted. Dominican nun Georgina Sultana said the Dominican nuns had prepared a room to welcome any elderly people who needed to be housed, following the incident.

Roger Dean, 35, a registered nurse who worked at the home and started the fire had been charged with several counts of murder.

## Augustinian Sisters, Servants of Jesus and Mary – MELBOURNE AUSTRALIA



The story began in 1956 when there was an approach made to Rev.M General Sr.M.Caterina Galieti to supply the parish of North Sunshine with a team of nuns who would be involved in various parochial activities. Following much correspondence from His Lordship Bishop Fox, it was decided to allow the establishment of the first Augustinian convent in the Parish of St.Bernadette's Parish, North Sunshine, Therefore, in 1957 the first community of Augustinian Sisters, Servants of Jesus and Mary arrived in Melbourne: Sr.Evodia Bonnici (RIP) Sr.Leonide Caruana (presently in the B'kara community, Malta) Sr.Blandina Pace (RIP) Sr.Alessina Tabone (RIP)

As many people know, beginning in a new country has its difficulties. The sisters arrived yet the convent had not been completed. Fortunately the Sisters of St.Joseph (Josephites), under the care of Sr.John Forrester, in the Maidstone community, made room in their convent for the first Augustinian community. This 'boarding time' was to extend to 10 months. The Augustinian Sisters are forever grateful of the kindness and assistance shown to us by the Sisters of St.Joseph.

December, 1957: The sisters move into their convent at 59a Westmoreland Road.

Since our coming to Australia, the congregation has had houses in:

North Sunshine 1957 – Broken Hill 1964 – 1970 Frankston 1970 – 1982 Avondale Heights 1986 –

In all these parishes, the sisters have been involved in:

- Education: local parish school of North Sunshine Sr Connie Mamo, School Chaplain. Sr Lorraine Pastoral Care & Parent Liaison, Thomas Carr Secondary College, Sr Cresilda after school care program ;
- Pastoral care: visitation, bereavement ministry Sr.Connie Mamo home, Church ministry (Sr. Renata Cross, Sr. Marlene Falzon, sacristan/home visitation to St.Bernadette's Parish);
- Adult education for those preparing to enter the Church; marriage preparation, catechism classes.
- Organising and leading Parish Communion services for the many times that there are no priests available for weekly mass.
- Running retreat days for young adults and parish groups.

15<sup>th</sup> June, 2007: Mass of Thanksgiving, St.Bernadette's, Sunshine North. Main Celebrant, Fr. Terence Curtin. Co-celebrants: Fr.Anthony Kerin (Parish Priest, St.Martin De Porres, Avondale Heights), Frs. Ivano Burdian, John Taliana mssp, Sunshine North, Frs Denis Carabott, Edwin Aguis.

### North Sunshine Community:

*(Our First Community) established 1957 59a Westmoreland Road North Sunshine 3020*



(From left) Sr. Anna, Sr. Renata Sr. Marlene  
Sr. Anna Chircop (asjm) : **Pastoral Worker** St. Bernadette's Parish, Sunshine North St.Martin De Porres, Avondale Heights  
Sr. Marlene Falzon (asjm) : **Parish Visitation:** St. Bernadette's Parish  
Sr. Renata Cross (asjm): **Parish Sacristan:** St. Bernadette's Parish

### Avondale Heights Community:

*Established 1986 2 Venice Court Avondale Heights 3034*

(From left) Sr. Lorraine Sr. Connie Sr Cresilda



Sr Lorraine Testa (asjm): Parent Liaison & Pastoral Care, Thomas Carr College **Spiritual Director**  
Sr Connie Mamo (asjm): **School Chaplain** St. Bernadette's Primary School/Pastoral Support Avondale Heights  
Sr Cresilda (asjm) **Parish Catechist, After School Hours Carer**  
*Over the years in Australia, many sisters have left their homeland and given their service here in Australia. It is the Congregation's hope that their presence in Australia will*

*continue to grow and serve the Australian Church.*

## AUSTRALIAN CARDINAL PELL'S HOMILY TO THE ORDER FOR CORPUS CHRISTI

Mgr George Cardinal Pell



*Archbishop of Sydney  
Bailiff Grand Cross of Honor and Devotion  
and Conventual Chaplain ad honorem  
Sovereign Military Order of Malta*

ON THIS FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI it is appropriate that we welcome here the Knights and Dames of the Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem gathered from across Australia for their biennial meeting. Both the feast and the Order come from the Middle Ages. We know them as the Knights of Malta, but at an earlier stage for two hundred years they were known as the Knights of Rhodes, until their honourable defeat there by Sultan Suleiman II in 1522.

We know that Christ celebrated the first Eucharist on Holy Thursday the night before he died and that many of his followers had left him earlier when he promised to give them his flesh to eat. We have clear evidence from the Scriptures and the Church writings of the Fathers of the first Christians' belief that Christ was truly present in the Eucharist.

But this feast on the earliest free Thursday after Easter to celebrate the institution of the Eucharist only developed around 1230 in Liège under the influence of Blessed Juliana a devout nun. In other words this feast is a medieval development used to oppose those, like the eleventh century Berengar of Tours, who denied Jesus was really present in the Eucharist.

The Order of Malta will celebrate the 900th anniversary of its approval as a religious order by Pope Paschal II in 1113. It was then a low point in papal history with a number of anti-popes, a weak papacy in confrontation with the Holy Roman Emperor and one of the few bright spots had been the recapture of Jerusalem by the First Crusade in 1099 after Muslim rule since 638.



### Cardinal George Pell – Prefect of the new Secretariat for the Economy

The Holy Father Pope Francis appointed Cardinal Pell to a new senior role in the Vatican on 25 February, Prefect of the Secretariat for the Economy.

This appointment and the creation of a new Vatican office is seen as one of the Holy See's most significant reforms in a long time.

The former Archbishop of Sydney's role will be to modernise and improve the Vatican's financial processes to ensure they were more accountable and transparent.

Cardinal Pell will return to Sydney before relocating to Rome permanently to take up his new role. Deeply honoured by the appointment the Cardinal; "If we can get things in order in a couple of years it will be a substantial achievement of this papacy

. "If we make better use of the resources entrusted to us we can improve our capacity to support the good works of the Church, particularly our works for the poor and disadvantaged.

### **LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE.....**

A man suffered a serious heart attack while shopping in a store. The manager called 000, and the man was rushed to hospital, where he had to have an operation costing thousands. The man awoke from surgery to see a nun standing by the side of bed and as usual there was paperwork to fill out. The nun said, "Do you have health insurance?" He replied, "No health insurance." The nun asked, "Do you have money in the bank?". He replied "No money in the bank" "Do you have a relative who could help you with the payment?" He said, "I only have one sister she is a spinster and she is a nun." The nun went red in the face and announced loudly, "Nuns are not spinsters, nuns are married to God". "Perfect", the man replied, "Send the bill to my brother-in-law"

## The fallen Maltese-Australian soldiers killed in World War 1

ROLL OF HONOUR: The fallen Maltese ANZACs						
Name	Place of Birth	Rank	Date Fallen	Theatre of War	Age	
BONAVIA, Charles Emanuel	Sliema	Private	25/04/1915	Gallipoli, Turkey	27	
BROWN, Francis Alfred	Valletta	Gunner	5/09/1917	Belgium	31	
BELLIA, Francis	Valletta	Private	17/04/1918	Meteren, France	28	
RIZZO, Thomas	Melbourne	Private	19/05/1918	France	28	
BECK, Waldemar	Sliema	Private	6/07/1918	Nr Hamel, France (Battle of Hamel)	29	
BARTOLO, Francesco	Mellieha	Private	9/08/1918	Second Battle of the Somme, France	24	
CAMILLERI, Andrew	Mqabba	Private	1918	Belgium	26	

It is a fitting occasion to pay a special tribute to seven brave, young Maltese soldiers, who joined the ranks of the Australia and New Zealand Army Corps, better known as ANZAC, and gave up their life on the battlefields of Gallipoli and the Western Front in Europe during the First World War. Six were immigrants from Malta and one was a second-generation Australian Maltese from Melbourne. Their remains are buried in foreign soil at Gallipoli in Turkey and in cemeteries in France and Belgium.

On ANZAC Day we remember all Australians, New Zealanders and those from other countries who served and died in all wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping operations. Courage, mateship, and sacrifice are the human qualities that embody the spirit of ANZAC, which continues to have meaning and remains relevant to the Australian national identity. Commemoration ceremonies are held in towns and cities all over Australia to acknowledge the service of our veterans.

In the First World War the soldiers not only battled the enemy on the battlefield, but when in the trenches fortified with sandbags and barbed wire, which provided some protection, these men fought more deadly foes. Far from being comfortable, they had to fight disease, lice, rats, inadequate drainage and infections due to the infestation of rats and closeness of the bodies and not being able to wash for weeks.

The seven Maltese young men who paid the ultimate price with their lives on the battlefield ranged in age between 24 and 31 years. Four were killed in action in France, two in Belgium and one in Gallipoli, Turkey. The following table lists the seven heroic men in the order in which they had fallen: Another 30 Maltese Australians were engaged in combat in Gallipoli and the Western Front but were fortunate to survive and return to Australia as ANZAC survivors. A smaller number also served with the Australian Army as support personnel, such as, motor drivers and labourers.

### Brief profiles of the Maltese ANZAC heroes



**BONAVIA.** Private Charles Emanuel Bonavia *Charles Emanuel Bonavia* was born in Sliema and arrived in Australia as a bachelor aged 24 years. Son of Emanuel and Giorgina Bonavia of 331 Strada St Paolo, Valletta, Charles was a draughtsman by profession and enlisted with the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps in the Australian Imperial Force [Reg. No. 157] on 9 September 1914 as a Private (aged 27). A tall man with a dark complexion, Bonavia was allocated to the 11th Battalion of 'B' Company. Together with his unit, he left for overseas duty from Fremantle, Western Australia, on the Transport ship A11 *Ascanius* on 2 November 1914, and saw service in Egypt and Gallipoli. Private Bonavia's name on war memorial in Canberra, ACT.

A few months later, his father received a letter from the Army advising him that his son was missing in action somewhere in Gallipoli, Turkey. It was a great shock for the Bonavia family, all hoping and praying their son would be found alive and well. As was the procedure when a soldier

is missing in action, a Court of Inquiry was held in this case at Fletre, France, which concluded that it would be reasonable to assume that he was dead. Eventually came the official verdict that Private Charles Emanuel Bonavia had been killed in action. As he was never found, there is no known grave for him. It was a traumatic experience for his family, when they received the second letter confirming the bad news. Bonavia was one of the first soldiers to be killed in action on Anzac Day, 25 April 1915 and posthumously awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

His burial place is at Lone Pine Cemetery, Anzac Gallipoli Canakkale, Turkey. Plot: Final resting place unknown. Name listed on Panel 33 of the Memorial.

**BROWN.** Private Francis Alfred Brown *Francis Alfred Brown* was born on 4 February 1886 in Valletta and later lived at 213 Prince of Wales Road, Sliema. He applied for a passport to emigrate to Australia on 24 September 1913 and three years later he answered the call and enlisted with the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps [Reg. No. 31803]. Francis was the son of Joseph and Angiolina Brown of 12 McDonald Street, Leichhardt NSW. He enlisted on 16 October 1916 with the rank of Gunner, at the age of 30 and he was assigned to Medium Trench Mortar Battery, 5th Reinforcement, a very demanding mission. Together with his unit, he embarked from Sydney bound for Europe duty on board troop ship A67 *Orsova* on the 2 December 1916.

Nine months later he was killed in action on 5 September 1917 in Belgium and laid to rest at Ypres Reservoir Cemetery, Belgium in Plot I, Row D, Grave No.71. After his death, Gunner Brown was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

**BELLIA.** *Francis Bellia* was born on 21 September 1899 in Valletta and resided at 36 Sda Miratore, Floriana. He married Sarah Harriett and after applying for a passport to come to Australia on 17 October 1909, settled with his wife at Meroo, Tavistock Road, Flemington NSW. A man short in stature and weighing 116 lbs, he enlisted as a Private on 23 January 1917, at 27 years of age, giving his occupation as a driver [Reg No 7209]. After his basic training, and assignment to the 1st Battalion, 24th Reinforcement, he left Australia with his fellow trainees, embarking from Sydney per RMS *Osterley* on 10 February 1917. Sadly, Bellia was killed in action on the 17 April 1918 at the young age of 28 years. He is buried about 1,400 yards SSW of Meteren, at the Meteren Military Cemetery, France, and lies in Plot IV, Row K, Grave No.864. After his death, Bellia was decorated with the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

**RIZZO.** Private Thomas Rizzo's signed enlistment form. Although the only one of the seven heroes not born in Malta, *Thomas Rizzo* was born of a Maltese father, Antonio, and an Australian mother, Johanna, who lived in Melbourne Victoria. He attended St Francis Christian Brothers School in Melbourne, and at the age of 26 decided to enlist in the Australian Army for overseas service. This tall, young man with blue eyes and black hair filled out his Enlistment papers on 21 February 1916 in Melbourne and was assigned to the 22nd Battalion Australian Infantry - 13-18 Reinforcement with the rank of Private [Reg. No. 5084]. After months of training, his unit boarded the HMAT *Ayrshire* on 3 July 1916 and headed for foreign shores. Sadly, on 19 May 1918, he was pronounced *killed in action* at age 28, and buried in France at the Dive Copse British Cemetery Sailly-le-Sec, a small village about 14 kilometres south-south-west of Albert. In this cemetery are 494 UK, 47 Australian, 18 South African and 30 unidentified burials of the First World War. As Private Rizzo did not enlist until after 1 January 1916 he was not eligible for the 1914-1916 Star Medal, but he was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

**BECK.** Private Waldemar Beck *Waldemar Beck* was born in Sliema at 91 Strada Rudolfo. He was the son of Lawrence Edward and Carolina Beck. Whilst his occupation was that of a motor driver, Beck had attended the Royal University of Malta, earning the degree of Bachelor of Economics and Land Surveying. With this qualification he did a one-year apprenticeship with S. Sacco in Malta before emigrating to Australia. As a single man, 5 ft 7 ins tall with a fresh complexion, blue eyes and dark brown hair, he enlisted on 9 October 1916 from Perth when he was just 27 years old [Reg. No. 6969]. He was assigned to the 16th Battalion, 23rd Reinforcement, which embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia on the HMAT A35 *Berrima* on 23 December 1916. Some months later, the Battalion found itself in France. He was plagued with many health problems and after being admitted for treatment and rejoining his unit during his tour of duty, he was wounded in action in France near Hamel (during the Battle of Hamel) on 6 July 1918 and consequently died of gunshot wounds aged 29. Private Beck was later buried in the Bois Guillaume Communal Cemetery Extension (Row D, Grave No. 6B), France, and awarded the British War Medal and Victory Medal for his service with the ANZACS.

**BARTOLO.** Francesco Bartolo was born on 21 November 1893, son of Vincenzo and Carmela Bartolo of Mellieħa. A labourer, he applied for a passport to emigrate to Australia on 27 October 1913 and went to Tasmania to work in the mines where a number of Maltese were employed. Barely out of his teenage years, this slightly-built young man of typically Maltese features, enlisted to fight with the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps from Queenstown, Tasmania, on the 26 February 1915 [Reg. No.823]. In his enlistment form, Francesco stated that he served four years in the British Army in Malta prior to migrating. Although unable to write, Francesco still wanted to be part of the Battalion of Anzacs. He was assigned to 26th Battalion Australian Infantry, 'C' Company, sailing on Troopship HMAT A60 *Aeneas* for service overseas on 29 June 1915. During this tour of duty he was wounded twice but rejoined his

Battalion before falling sick and admitted to hospital on 2 March 1918 and again fought on with his Company from May 1918.

Prior to embarkation as a single man, he nominated his father Vincenzo in Malta, as his next-of-kin in his will. This was later changed to his wife Madeline Sims of Wood Green, London whom he married in 1917 after being wounded in action for the first time and was sent to England for hospital treatment. Sadly, on 9 August 1918 during the fighting in the second Battle of the Somme, France, he was killed in action and buried one month later by his fellow soldiers, in the Australian Section, 3<sup>rd</sup> Echelon, SHQ BEF, Plot 1, Row A, Grave 16 France, 526, Heath Cemetery, just 2500 yards north of Harbonnieres. He was posthumously awarded the 1914-15 Star Medal, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

**CAMILLERI.** *Andrew Camilleri* was a stone cutter by trade and migrated to Australia in 1913 at the age of 19 years. He was the son of Caterina Camilleri of Mqabba, Malta. Before migrating he served in the KOMR for a few months. Being used to military life he wanted to enlist in the Australian Army, so when he was 23 he filled in his enlistment papers at Victoria Barracks in Sydney on 24 January 1917 [Reg. No. 7212]. His papers show that he was 5ft 3¾ ins tall and weighed 150 lbs with a dark complexion, brown eyes and dark brown hair.

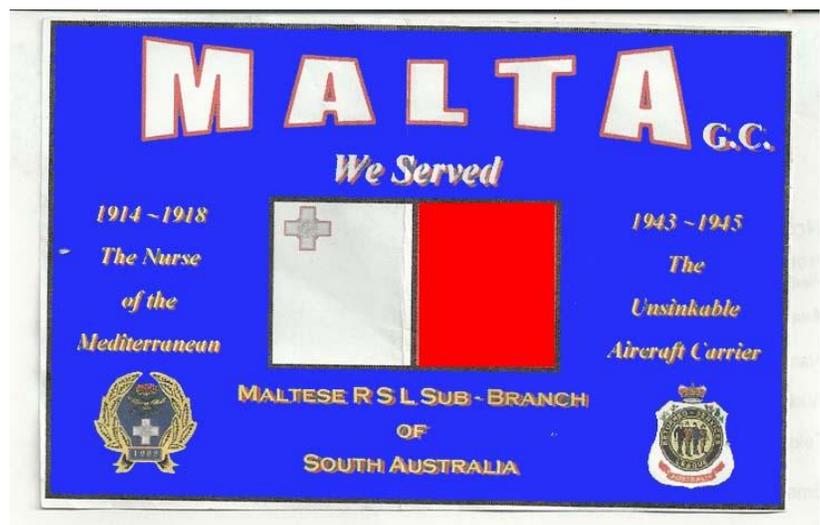
After the basic three months training he joined his fellow trainees who were assigned to the 35<sup>th</sup> Battalion Infantry and boarded from Sydney per Troop carrier RMS *Osterley* and later transferred to 62<sup>nd</sup> Battalion. His assignment in the battle fields was cut short as he was pronounced killed in action aged 26. Previously he had been reported as missing in action. Private Andrew Camilleri's place of burial is Tyne Cot Cemetery, Passchendaele, Belgium. He was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal after his death.



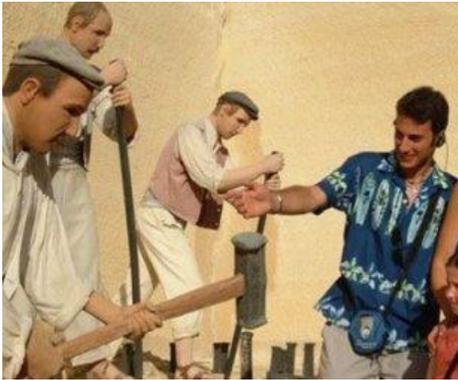
## IN OUR NEXT ISSUE

**THIS RSL BANNER WAS DONATED TO THE MALTA MIGRATION MUSEUM IN 2012 TO BE ENJOYED AND APPRECIATED NOT ONLY BY THE MEMBERS OF THE RETURNED AND SERVICES LEAGUE (RSL) BUT BY THE PEOPLE OF MALTA AND ALL THOSE WHO VISIT THIS MAGNIFICENT MUSEUM AT CASTILLE SQUARE, VALLETTA MALTA.**

**RSL MALTESE SUB-BRANCH  
SOUTH AUSTRALIA**



## Limestone Heritage Park



### **MALTA'S HERITAGE SET IN STONE**

THE LIMESTONE HERITAGE, PARK AND GARDENS

MONS M AZZOPRADI STREET

SIGGIEWI MALTA TEL: 00356 21464931

On the rough rocky surface of things, a tourist attraction dedicated to limestone hardly seems like one that's going to set the world alight. But this stuff has played a massive part in Malta's heritage and this visitor centre is aware that it needs to offer some fun activities to make rock ... well, rock! It is aware and the attraction works. It's won awards too!

Limestone is, in fact, one of Malta's greatest natural resources. It is the material from which the vast majority of its buildings are constructed. The golden, honey colour of the stones that tints Maltese towns and villages

with their unique shades that change subtly according to the time of day.

The virtues of the rock as a building material have been employed from early on in Malta's history. The island's very first Megalithic temples were built from limestone, as are the imposing fortresses built by the Knights of St John, the towering village churches, and the modern-day five-star resorts. All are constructed from stone hewn from local Maltese quarries.

So if you would like to learn more about Maltese limestone and how it has helped shape the nation's architectural history, there is no better place to start than at the Limestone Heritage Park and Gardens.

This place is particularly useful if you're feeling somewhat overwhelmed by the sheer volume of noteworthy buildings. Limestone Heritage provides a comprehensive background for many of Malta's finest structural attractions - such as the 'silent city' of [Mdina](#), the [Mosta Dome](#), or the many prehistoric temples that dot the archipelago.

Situated on the outskirts of the picturesque village of Siggiewi, the Limestone Heritage Park and Gardens hosts an impressive exhibition built within a disused quarry. You'll glimpse 5,000 years of history, starting with Malta's earliest freestanding structures that predate the pyramids of Egypt and Stonehenge in the UK.

A walk-through tour on what 20million years ago would have been the seabed, will display fossils etched into the rock and antique quarrying methods, including vintage vehicles and machinery as well as rare and original artefacts.

Apart from the open-air displays, visitors can also witness exquisite stonework being created in the adjoining indoor complex and you can even have a go at stone carving with the Sculpting Experience, though taking the results home on the plane can play havoc with budget airlines' measly luggage allowances!

The Limestone Heritage Park has easy access for people with special needs and also features a cafeteria and a gift shop. It's well worth timing your visit on a summer evening when it stages weekly Maltese Folklore Nights. At these you'll get to try traditional dishes like the delicious fenkata (rabbit stew) and majjalata (roast pig). More details on all the special activities are available on the web link below.

Admission to the attraction is €7 for adults and €3 for children on the door but discounts are available if you book in advance online. Siggiewi is southwest of Valletta and can be reached easily by road or on the bus.





**Viva  
Malta**



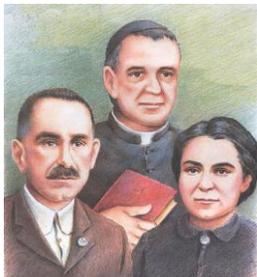
*The voice of the Maltese on the Central Coast*



Every second Thursday at 6:00pm Nathalie Gatt hosts Viva Malta. Nathalie will bring you Music by Australian Maltese artists and Maltese singers. You can catch up on Community news pertaining to events organised by the Maltese Central Coast Social and Recreational Club and you won't miss out on any important news about events held in Sydney organised by the Maltese Community Council of NSW, Maltese Cultural Association of NSW and Maltese Welfare (NSW) Inc. Listen to Interviews with Australian/Maltese people who make a difference in our community and some history about the Maltese Islands.

**Viva Malta every second Thursday at 6:00pm, follow this program on our program guide.**

Presenter Nathalie Gatt



### **THE SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE IN AUSTRALIA**

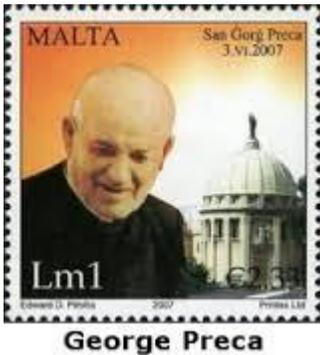
The Society of Christian Doctrine was founded by Father George Preca (1880 - 1962) in Malta in 1907. Saint George Preca based the foundation of the group on the words of St Paul to Timothy: **Take the teachings that you heard me proclaim in the presence of many witnesses, and entrust them to reliable people, who will be able to teach others also."**

Father Preca in the early 1900s aware of the urgent need in spreading the Word of God formed a group of very loyal followers and stressed on their adherence to the qualities of forgiveness and humility.

This early group evolved into a dynamic Society of lay catechists of men and women who today share in spreading the message of Jesus Christ.

In 1956, Fr George Preca commissioned six members to formally begin the work of the Society of Christian Doctrine in Australia. He wished that the SDC mission spread beyond Malta. SDC Associates are women and men who share in the richness of the tradition of the Society of Christian Doctrine. Australia was the first country to receive the fruits of the missionary outlook of the Founder of the Society of Christian Doctrine, Blessed George Preca, in those men and women who accompanied the Maltese immigrants more than half a century ago. This link from Malta and the many who have been connected with the SDC in Australia form the SDC Associates.

As friends of the SDC in Australia, you are welcome to:  
Live and share the spirituality of the SDC in your daily life. Support our work in your prayers.



In Australia, the Society was formed in Melbourne, Victoria in 1956. It now has Centres in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania and in Victoria. The Centres where activities are held are called Preca Centre in honour of the Founder, **Saint George Preca**. Some provide shared living for members

**MEETING of CULTURES**

Up to the Second World War, the Australian Catholic Church maintained a strong Irish character. Priests and often Bishops were of Irish descent. Many religious congregations founded in Ireland were subsequently established in Australia. The St Patrick's Day Parade held on 17 March each year was an integral part of the local Catholic culture, acknowledging the Irish influence of the church.

After WWII, immigration to Australia was encouraged with assisted passages for would-be immigrants, resulting in 150,000 new settlers arriving each year; a total of two million

in twenty years.

Australian Catholics were instrumental in welcoming the new Catholic migrants. Agencies were established to help them find jobs, housing and contacts with members of their own communities. Many Maltese people established themselves in Australia, particularly in Melbourne and Sydney.

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS in AUSTRALIA**

The establishment of Catholic schools in Australia does have some bearing on the work of the SDC. The strong desire to establish and maintain Catholic schools for Catholic children goes back to the earliest days of European settlement in Australia. This desire has seen co-operation between bishops, priests and many religious and lay people who have struggled heroically to build and maintain a catholic school system.



The schools represented the dream for a better future and the wish to sustain the Catholic faith. The SDC arrived into this very strong tradition, finding infrequently that young people were not encouraged and there was no need for Catholic school children to attend the SDC activities because they attended Catholic schools. This has always been a challenge to the early Members and even today.

It has been the SDC's 'rule of thumb' to insist that the religious education we provide complements the work carried out in the home and school albeit Catholic and government schools. This is often misunderstood.

Member of the society visiting the stature of Saint George Preca at the grounds of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne Australia





**THE MALTESE CHAPLAINCY FESTIVITIES GROUP INC**

Have the pleasure to present to the  
**ADELAIDE MALTESE COMMUNITY**  
**MARK BORG** from Sydney -  
the renowned  
Australian/Maltese  
Impersonator  
**ELVIS PRESLEY**



To celebrate this event  
an invitation is extended to all to attend  
this **SPECIAL SHOW**  
at the Lockleys Parish Community Hall  
456, Henley Beach Road, Lockleys, S.A.  
**on Saturday, 29 March 2014.**  
*Doors open at 6.30 p.m.*

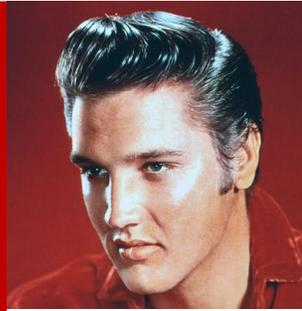


**PRICE: \$ 32 only**

Entertain yourselves to to a **3 COURSE MEAL.**  
**Soft Drinks, WINE and Spirits** from the Bar.

**BOOK EARLY – SEATS ARE LIMITED**

*For any further info contact: any member of the M.C.F.Group.*  
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Mrs Melita Aquilina Tel.No. 8396 3484; Mr Peter Mallia Tel No: 8443 7874  
Mrs Jane Agius Tel.No. 8268 7168; Mr Joe Caruana Tel. No. 8261 8320  
or Mr Tony Grima 8263 3731.



## ELVIS LIVES

**Elvis Aaron Presley** (January 8, 1935 – August 16, 1977), was an American singer, musician and actor. He is a cultural icon, often known as "The King of Rock 'n'

Roll", or simply "The King".

Presley began his career as one of the first performers of rockabilly, an uptempo fusion of country and rhythm and blues with a strong back beat. His novel versions of existing songs, mixing "black" and "white" sounds, made him popular—and controversial—as did his uninhibited stage and television performances. He recorded songs in the rock and roll genre, with tracks like **Suspicious Minds, Love Me Tender, Hound Dog and Jailhouse Rock** later embodying the style. Presley had a versatile voice and had unusually wide success encompassing other genres, including gospel, blues, ballads and pop. To date, he is the only performer to have been inducted into four music halls of fame.

In the 1960s, Presley made the majority of his thirty-three movies—mainly poorly reviewed musicals. In 1968, he returned to live music in a television special and thereafter performed across the U.S., notably in Las Vegas. Throughout his career, he set records for concert attendance, television ratings and

recordings sales. He is one of the best-selling and most influential artists in the history of popular music. Health problems plagued his career. His prescription drug abuse over the years severely deteriorated his health thus losing the battle in 1977. He was 42 years old.

*Thank  
You*

**AND**

**SEE YOU AGAIN SOON**

**GRAZZI HAFNA U SAHHA**

