



CONSULATE OF MALTA IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2014 FRANK L SCICLUNA - LINKING MALTA AND AUSTRALIA

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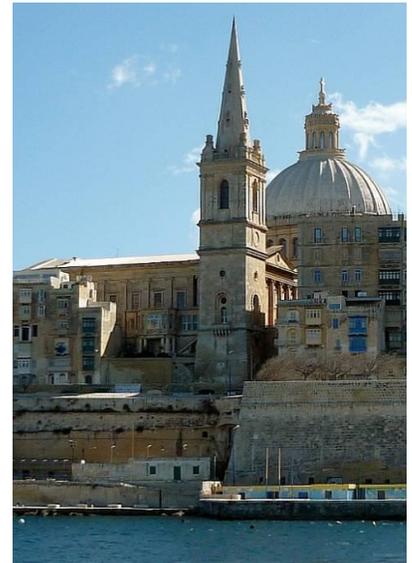
ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL – VALLETTA MALTA



Queen Adelaide, widow of King William IV

The British took over Malta in 1800 after having expelled the French. Malta was officially declared a British enclave in the 1814 Treaty of Paris. The Islands became popular with the British particularly as a health resort and were visited by VIP's such as Benjamin Disraeli, Lord Byron, Sir Walter Scott and Queen Adelaide, widow of King William IV.

This notwithstanding, facilities for Anglican worship were far and wide for many decades and at best unsatisfactory. What used to be the kitchen in the Grandmasters' Palace was converted into an *ad hoc* Malta Government Chapel. The acoustics here were inadequate; an organist was only available on occasion. This lack of Anglican temples needed to be addressed. But how? Suggestions were received from England to use St. John's Cathedral for Anglican services. Governor Maitland was strongly opposed to the idea. A proposal to occupy the Jesuits' Church was similarly abandoned.

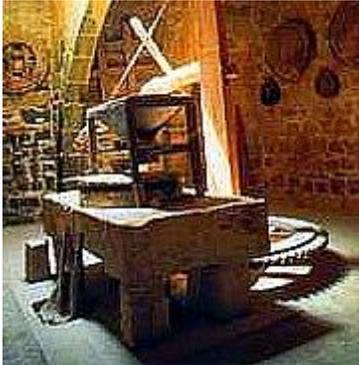


After Maitland's death in 1814, two offers were submitted by Sir Richard Plasket for the building of a Protestant church. Work commenced in 1825 near the Lower Barracca but the project was suspended and eventually abandoned altogether due to unexpectedly high costs. Hastings once again turned down the idea of using the Jesuits' Church and wrote-off the St. Giacomo Church in Strada Mercanti as being too small.

Adelaide was born into the German Royalty and was married to the Duke of Clarence, son of King George III of England in 1818. The Duke acceded to the throne as King William IV and ruled for seven years until his death. Thereafter, Adelaide suffered a spate of ailments and decided to spend the winter months in Malta. She arrived on November 30th, 1838 and was dismayed that there was no proper Anglican church on the island. She decided to provide funding for this project to go ahead. On the 20th March 1839 – a mere twelve days before she left Malta, Queen Adelaide laid the foundation stone amid much pomp and ceremony on the previous site of the Auberge d'Alemagne.

The architect to whom this project was entrusted was Richard Lancasheer. He died in 1841 and although it was reported that he succumbed to ill health, speculation was rife that he committed suicide after his plans were condemned as unsafe. Naval Architect William Sconce who improved the design replaced a spire by a 60-metre steeple of his own design. The final cost of the building was put at £20,000. Adelaide herself made the funds available but she was not able to meet the expenses for the endowment of the church interior thereafter. The church was consecrated by Bishop George Tomlinson on November 1st, 1844. The spire was completed in 1845.

THE GOZO FOLKLORE MUSEUM AT THE CITADEL, RABAT GOZO



Dubbed as one of the *most charming Gozo museums*, the Gozo Folklore Museum is hidden away in one of the Citadel's charming and quiet narrow streets in Rabat Gozo. If you'd like to be transported back to another time and experience Gozo's simple and relaxed way of life, then this is the Gozo museum to go to.

For some, the building which houses the museum is even more interesting than the museum itself. The building dates back to around 1500 and is a medieval Siculo-Norman house full of nooks and crannies.

The museum is actually located in a cluster of these medieval houses which are today interconnected. In the old days, these houses belonged to rich families. They are the only ones of their type which remain in Gozo. Similar houses can be found in Mdina and Vittoriosa.

The Folklore Museum was opened in 1983 and its many exhibits provide a good peak at how life was on Gozo island in the old days.



A large number of the museum's exhibits relate to rural trades and skills, such as agriculture and carpentry.

Here, you will see a vast amount of old agricultural tools such as spades, winnowing forks, ploughs, grinding mills of various sizes, etc.

In this charming museum, you can also see old tools which were used by carpenters and blacksmiths. Some of the displays relate to wine-making.

An interesting section of the museum focuses on exhibits which relate to domestic crafts such as lace-making, weaving and book-binding. Gozo is indeed famous for its exquisite lace!

On the first floor, you will get the chance to see displays which mainly relate to traditional pastimes. So on this floor, you can see old bird-trapping and hunting equipment and also tiny church models.

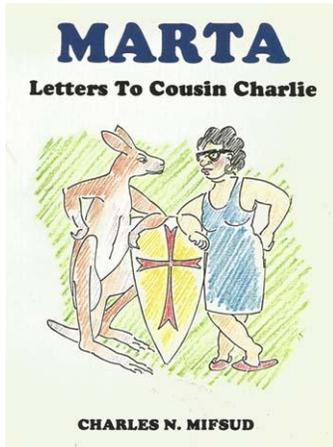
These miniature church models require a lot of skill and patience to make and have been and still are a popular pastime both in Gozo and Malta.

At the Gozo Folklore Museum there is also a beautiful collection of traditional costumes, clay statuettes and some old furniture items. If you'd like to learn more about the Gozitan people's rural and domestic traditional lifestyles, then this is one of the main Gozo attractions that you wouldn't want to miss!

Grazzi hafna tal-Maltese Newsletter li tassew napprezza ghax waqt li naqraha nhossni b'xi mod misterjuz qed ninghaqad ma' tant huti Maltin li ma nafhomx u li jinsabu mxerrdin l-Awstralja, fl-istess hin niftakar li ahna lkoll demm wiehed Malti. Grazzi mill-qalb. Lina Brockdorff
[Lina, grazzi hafna lilek– Frank]

EXTRACT FROM THE BOOKLET OF CHARLES N. MIFSUD (NSW)

Silta mill-ktejjeb ta Charhles Mifsud (NSW)



Gem From Mackay - Cousin Marta loves keeping in touch - sharing her experiences and wisdom - her letters to me are real gems. This is the first of ten gems from Mackay.

My dear Charlie, today is Holy day, *Friday the Big (Il-Gimgha l-Kbira)*. It's me, Marta. How are you and where *is your head (Fejnha rasek?)*. We are all right. Since we came back to Mackay from your place in Sydney, Toni, my Toni has been very busy. He throw himself into the work *with his soul and body (B'ruhu u b'gismu)*. Not like his brother Pawlu, he does not want to work; *he just turns with the clothes(idur bil-hwejjeg)*.

Toni get very cranky, he complain all the time for his brother, I tell you *he takes my head (johodli rasi)*. His friend Salvu, you know him, he went back to Malta, ticket one way because he said *he is going for everything(ser jmur ghal kollox)*. You know Gamri il-Ginger - the one who *comes from us (li jigi minna)*, miskin, he is very sick in hospital. I go to see him and I tell him - "Gamri *don 't cut your heart (taqtax qalbek)*" and he say to me allura "as we went - we went" (*kif morna, morna*).

Our son Peppi, he is 34 now, I wish he marry, I always pray he find a nice girl then I can *rest my brain (inserrah mohhi)* before Toni and *me close our eyes (qabel nghalqu ghajnejna)*, because you know we only have two children, Peppi and Nina, and Toni and me *love them as much as the light of our eyes (inhobbuhom daqs id-dawkl t'ghajnejna)*.

Our daughter Nina still the same you know, she cannot stop eating, *her eyes are bigger than her belly (ghajneha ikbar minn zaqqha)*. She is going to get engaged to a fellow, a Maltese chap, his name is Victor *Garlick (Theuma)*. He is a very nice boy. He is a big fella too *he brought his soul a lot (gab ruhhu sewwa)*, and he has his own business, you know, *he works for his head (jahdem ghal rasu)*.

His family are very nice people, you know - *they are people of their things (nies tal-affari tagghom)*. But not his brother Guzi, he never works, just gets money from his father - oh yes, he knows how *to eat the head of the fish (jaf jiekol ir-ras tal-huta)*. Last week he came here and I told him - "why don't you find a job?" Anyway, I made for him and I told his father, I said "everyone *should think of his head (jahseb ghal rasu)*." I did this because these people , when Nina an Victor marry are going to be *people from the inside (isiru ta' gewwa)*.

Yesterday Victor took Nina and me into town to look at a wedding dress, I was so afraid, he drives like a lunatic and *my bowels went down in my feet (imsami nizlu f'saqaja)*. I said to him, "Proset hey, there isn't any for you" and he just laughed. I was mad so I made for him also. But Nina she *jumps for Victor (Nina taqbes ghal Victor)* so I told her "Nina, don 't take for you (*tiehux ghalik*)" but I take a taxi back home.

Charlie, I tell you all this because you are my cousin and *you come from me (tigi minni)*. Insomma, better enough today. *Sahha and leave your head where you find it (halli rasek fejn issibha)*. - Your cousin Marta

I WILL PUBLISH MORE LETTERS IN FUTRE PUBLICATIONS.

ABORIGINAL WORLD WAR I HISTORY

About 500 Aboriginal people served in World War I, in WWII there were about 5,000 Aboriginal Diggers. But accurate numbers might never be known.



One reason is that lists of the Department of Veterans Affairs only lists names but not cultural backgrounds because at that time this wasn't a requirement.

During World War I, Aboriginal men were excluded from joining the military, but many Aboriginal Diggers worked around this by pretending to be Maori, Indian or Pacific Islander.

The same rule applied in the Second World War, but due to high losses in the early stages of the war, Aboriginal

and Torres Strait Islander people were allowed to join the forces, resulting in a much higher number.

There was no requirement to identify their cultural background until after the Vietnam War.

When Aboriginal men and women who tried to enlist were rejected they were sent back to their communities and often arrested because they were not allowed to leave their prescribed area.



Coloured Digger displaying his war medals. Australia's Aboriginal war veterans hardly get the recognition and respect their white counterparts receive.

Upon their return to Australia, instead of recognition and grace, Aboriginal Diggers received ignorance and racism, were not eligible for returned servicemen land grants or even membership of Returned Services League (RSL) clubs, and sometimes even found that the government had taken their children away while they defended their country.

"I know of at least one Aboriginal veteran of World War I who was not only denied his pay packet and

his pension, but upon his return was given the very same rags he had been wearing the day he volunteered, and sent back to work on a station, as if the trenches and mud and the fighting had never happened".—Gracelyn Smallwood's letter

I AM A MALTESE/AUSTRALIAN. MY GRANDPARENTS WERE BOTH BORN IN MALTA AND SO MY GREAT GRANDPARENTS. I APPLIED FOR MALTESE CITIZENSHIP NEARLY A YEAR AND A HALF AGO(IN 2013) AND I AM STILL WAITING FOR THE CERTIFICATE TO ARRIVE. WHAT IS THE REASON FOR THIS ANNOYING DELAY..... I NEED IT TO TRAVEL TO UK TO WORK. PLEASE, EXPLAIN!!!!!! JOE SPITERI

MALTESE DGHAJSA (BOAT)!



If there's one thing more difficult to avoid on this island than the annoying couple that insists on sitting next to you in the hotel restaurant and boring you rigid throughout each meal, it's the Mediterranean. On a small island like Malta, encounters with the sea are inevitable so you should endeavour to make them as pleasant as possible ... in Malta that means ride in a dghajsa!

It's widely accepted that you'll get the best views and photographs of Valletta by going into the middle of the Grand Harbour on some kind of floating craft. There are many types of them to choose from too but the dghajsa is perhaps the quietest, most relaxing and certainly the most romantic.

DGHAJSA - That's because though it looks like the result of someone dropping their coffee cup on the keyboard, it's actually the correctly spelled name of a traditional Maltese water taxi.

They are small colourful boats, the Malta version of a gondola, powered by a boatman but using two oars not one, and you'll find them departing from the recently refurbished Valletta Waterfront complex, which itself is well worth a visit.

The Waterfront was developed around a line of centuries old former storage warehouses that were built and operated by the Knights of Malta. The buildings have recently been transformed into a selection of fine bars and restaurants, all with quayside tables. These provide perfect venues for a scenic evening meal. You gaze across the harbour as the sun sets on another baking hot day. The primary reason it's all there is that it's the docking place for the many cruise liners that stop off at Malta.

Once on board your own much smaller and cuter vessel you will tour the harbour, while the boatman points out all the pertinent points of interest. They range from the old fortifications built by the Knights of Malta in the 16th century to the many magnificent vistas of the capital city.

You will be paddled around the various inlets of the harbour, heavily used and still busy commercial centres. You'll see the historic Three Cities – incorporating the former homes to those Maltese knights – plus the bombed breakwater, Siege Bell memorial and the area used as a set for the Hollywood blockbuster, *Gladiator*.

On some trips, as you glide around, you can listen to a multilingual audio guide that will take you through your trip. The commentary is available in English, Maltese, Italian, French, Spanish and German. Passengers are also provided with a map that will help them to get their bearings within the harbour. If you get confused at any point then the friendly dghajsa boatman is on hand to answer your queries. The trips are reasonably priced and leave throughout the day when there is a cruise liner in port as passengers from these giant boats provide the majority of business for the boatmen.

OUR OBJECTIVES:

The aim of this newsletter is research an Australia-wide documentary to portray the faces and stories of Maltese migrants and their children and grandchildren in Australia. By providing these stories I wish to provide a visual human bridge between the Maltese living in Malta and Gozo and those living in Abroad. After all we are all Maltese citizens. My aim is to increase awareness, knowledge and significance of the important role Maltese people in Australia and all over the world played in Malta's recent social history and culture.

TUNISIAN FOOD COMPANIES SEEK TO EXPAND IN MALTA



Tunisian food companies seek to expand in Malta

An exhibition of Tunisian food and beverages at Malta Enterprise's new premises provided the backdrop for a series of one-to-one meetings between Maltese and Tunisian businesses operating in the bio-food industry.

Organised by Malta Enterprise with the support of the Tunisian Embassy in Malta, the incoming delegation comprised nine Tunisian companies who were looking at the trade and investment opportunities that Malta offers whilst showcasing their products to prospective partners in Malta.

Products on display included fruit juices, fresh and dried fruits, baby food, olive oil, dates, fresh vegetables, couscous and pasta, amongst others.

On their part, the local companies had the opportunity to look into the possibility of expanding their business overseas in Tunisia, as well as learning more about the business environment in Tunisia following the revolution that started the democratization process in the country in January last year.

Discussions also centred around the possibility of sourcing packaging products from local companies, the use of the Freeport for the transshipment of goods and the establishment in Malta of joint ventures for the production of agro-based products.

The business delegation forms part of the initiatives being taken by both Malta and Tunisia to strengthen their commercial ties, particularly during this transitional period when Tunisia is seeking economic recovery and opening further up to foreign trade and investment. Amongst others, the initiatives included two separate business delegations organised by Malta Enterprise to Tunis last year, as well as the setting up of the Malta-Tunisia Business Council by the Malta Chamber of Commerce, Enterprise and Industry and l'Union Tunisienne de l'Industrie, du Commerce et de l'Artisanat (UTICA) in Tunis.

NOSTALGIA - FOR THE HISTORY BOOKS



Maltese toolmaker at General-Motors Holden in South Australia - Vince Zammit -CATEGORY: Photograph PRINCIPAL CREDIT: Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA) FORMAT: b&w negative TYPE: cellulose acetate STATUS: preservation Immigration - Migrants in Employment - Automotive Industry - Maltese toolmaker at General-Motors Holden in South Australia - Vince Zammit -CATEGORY: Photograph PRINCIPAL CREDIT: Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA) FORMAT: b&w negative TYPE: cellulose acetate

Date : 1971

(Right) Migrant arrivals in Australia - Arthur Calwell _Australian Minister for Immigration meets Alfred Bayliss, 25,000th Maltese migrant to arrive in Australia CATEGORY: photograph FORMAT: b&w negative TYPE: cellulose acetate STATUS: preservation material

Date : 1960



Australian Minister for Immigration - AL GRASSBY receives Maltese Knighthood The Malta High Commissioner Joseph Stafrace and Emmanuel Bonello, Prior of the Order are also in the picture. CATEGORY: Photograph PRINCIPAL CREDIT: Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA) FORMAT: b&w negative TYPE: cellulose acetate STATUS: preservation material

Date : 1973



Title : TITLE: Immigration - Migrants at leisure - Film production of 'Cleopatra' by Maltese youngsters - Frank Farrugia, from Malta, is a boiler-maker's apprentice in Melbourne by day, but by night and at the weekends, he is a dedicated movie film producer. Frank has now embarked on his third and most ambitious project - a one hour production of Cleopatra". Frank, who makes his films on a shoe string, uses his father's garage for a studio and his brothers and sisters for actors and actresses. He uses an expensive cine-camera with no gadgets. Frank Farrugia, pans in on his sister, Sally, 13, playing the lead in Frank's latest film, "Cleopatra". Crowning the Egyptian queen is his brother, Leonard, 15, playing Mark Anthony. Another brother, Michael, 11, checks his lines **CATEGORY:**

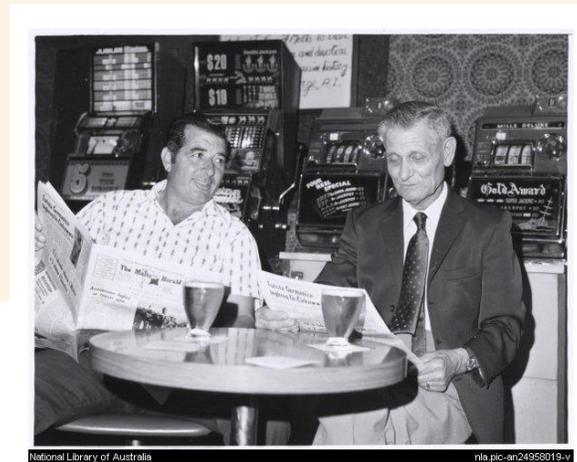
photograph **FORMAT:** b&w negative **TYPE:** cellulose acetate **Date :** 1965



National development

In the early 1920s, EJ Brady, a journalist, publicist and author, captured public imagination when he published a glossy book called *Australia Unlimited*. He argued that Australia should develop its natural resources and population as quickly as possible. The potential for expansion and growth was evident and Australia was expected to rival the USA in size and power. In this expansive spirit, the states and federal governments created massive public debt as they embarked on ambitious nation-building projects. The prime minister, Stanley Bruce, supported this optimism and won successive elections with slogans about getting more 'men, money and markets' into the country. In 1925, the Assisted Migration Scheme between Australia and British Empire (Including Malta) was established to provide approximately 450,000 migrants over a ten-year period.

A 1928 poster encouraging British people to migrate to Australia



Members of the NSW Maltese community in the Phoenician Club of Australia, Sydney, reading the Maltese Herald, 1975 [picture]

(National Archives of Australia: A434, 1949/3/21685)



All smiles: Prime Minister of Australia Tony Abbott, Governor-General of Australia Peter Cosgrove and NSW Premier Mike Baird are presented with Socceroos jerseys during the Australian Socceroos Official Farewell Dinner, ahead of the World Cup in Brazil. Photo: Getty

AUSTRALIAN RECONCILIATION



Wayne Quilliam, [Reconciliation 2008]. Courtesy of Manningham Gallery.

Reconciliation is about unity and respect between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and non-Indigenous Australians. It is about respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage and valuing justice and equity for all Australians.

The reconciliation movement is said to have begun with the 1967 referendum in which 90 per cent of Australians voted to remove clauses in the Australian Constitution which discriminated against Indigenous Australians.

As a result of the referendum, Aboriginal people were to be counted in the census. The referendum established citizenship status and confirmed voting rights for all Indigenous Australians. The right to vote for Aboriginal people was legislated for by the Commonwealth in 1962 and by all States by 1965 when Queensland, as the last state, provided for Indigenous enfranchisement.

As a consequence of the referendum result, Aboriginal affairs was seen as a joint Commonwealth-State responsibility and an Office of Aboriginal Affairs was established by the then Prime Minister, Harold Holt. This later became the Department of Aboriginal Affairs. It was almost ten years later before the power given to the Commonwealth by the 1967 referendum was actually used by the Commonwealth Government under Prime Minister Gough Whitlam to make laws for the benefit of Aboriginal people.

WALK FOR KIDNAPPED NIGERIAN SCHOOLGIRLS



Rachel Daniel, 35, holds up a picture of her abducted daughter Rose Daniel, 17, as her son Bukar, 7, sits beside her at her home in Maiduguri, Nigeria. Rose was abducted along with more than 200 of her classmates on April 14 by Boko Haram militants from a secondary school in Chibok, Borno state. Photo: Joe Penney/Reuters

A voluntary organisation, that works to improve the lives of women around the world, will today be holding a walk in support of the 200 Nigerian schoolgirls being held captive by militant Islamist group Boko Haram.

The organisation, called Soroptimist International of Malta, will also be presenting an appeal to Prime Minister Joseph Muscat, urging the Maltese government to put pressure on the Nigerian government to resolve the situation and free the girls. "We hope to be able to help these girls by creating awareness. This is being done all over the world. Maybe, hopefully, we can make a difference," said Mary Rose Bonello, from the voluntary organisation.

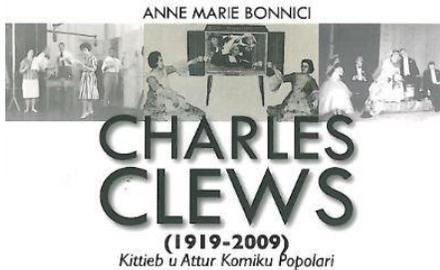
Soroptimist International has over 80,000 club members in 129 countries. They work at a local, national and international level to educate, empower and enable opportunities for women and girls.

The Maltese network is joining forces with the international effort that has become known as the Bring Back Our Girls campaign. It also joined its international counterparts to put pressure on governments to intervene to help the 200 girls snatched from a school on April 14, an incident which sparked worldwide condemnation.

Boko Haram has threatened to sell the girls and has informed the Nigerian government it is prepared to exchange some of the girls for imprisoned Islamist militants. Since the kidnapping took place, Nigeria's government has been under international pressure to do more to tackle the group and bring about the girls' release. Today's walk (29 May) starts at 3.45pm from St George's Square in Valletta. Participants will then take part in a symbolic walk to Castille while carrying banners containing messages relevant to the cause.

At the end of the walk, an appeal will be presented to Dr Muscat urging the government to put further pressure on the Nigerian government. "We will also be encouraging the Prime Minister and all Parliamentarians to work together with other world leaders towards honouring the basic human right to education for all girls and women," Ms Bonello said.

CHARLES CLEWS ON THE REDIFFUSION



The son of William George Clews and Maria Scerri, Charles was born in Senglea on the 27th Sep 1919. He was educated at the Lyceum, Valletta and at the Dockyard Technical College as an Engine Fitter Apprentice.

During World War II Clews was a member of the Dockyard First Aid Squad and was presented with a Certificate (3-Chevrons) for his services.

In the midst of the Second World War, Charles and some friends formed a *Concert Troupe*, which performed comical shows to the workers at the Dockyard. The Naval Authorities approved these shows as they heightened the morale of the workers during such a difficult time.

These shows were becoming increasingly popular, and encouraged by many spectators, Clews together with Nestu Laiviera (later Speaker of the House of Representatives), Fred Underwood, Johnny Catania and Laurie Bellizzi formed *Stage Commandos Variety Company* and started giving shows in theaters all over Malta.

With "*Radio Muskettiere*", which he co-founded in 1945 with Catania and Armando Urso, Clews introduced a new kind of humorous show and a novel kind of comedy sit-com for Cable Radio, known in those days as Rediffusion and Radio, Series like *Toto Tanti*, *Fredu Frendo Sghendo*, *Mabbli I-Fabbli I-Kuntistabbli*, *Ninu u Karmena Abdilla* were very popular among the Maltese.



Clews had two very successful tours to Australia, in 1964 with Johnny Navarro and in 1984 with Johnny Catania, where they had shows at the Royal Opera House in Sydney. He left the Dockyard as a Surveyor and in 1964 started his career as a journalist with the Union Press. He has also been contributing a humorous column to *It-Torca* for several years. He is the author of seven booklets of a humorous nature in Maltese and of a great number of scripts for radio, comedies and sketches, and songs for the stage. His play *Dar Fuq ir-Ramel* has been translated into English, and included in Prof. A. J. Arberry's *Maltese Anthology*.

Clews was chairman, Board of Film and Stage Censors (1955-58) and member, Film and Stage Censors' Board (1971-87). In 1996 he was awarded the *Midalja għall-Qadi tar-Repubblika* (MQR). The Broadcasting Authority presented him with a Trophy for long service on Stage and Radio in 1998.

Johnny Catania and Charles Clews

MALTA SALUTES 300 OF OUR FALLEN ANZACS – THE CENTENARY



Exhausted machine-gunners passing Casualty Corner after coming out of Poziers, France, in 1916 during WWI. Picture: Australian War Memorial Source: Adelaide No 2012

FUNDS were raised by the ANZAC WAR MEMORIAL COMMITTEE (SOUTH AUSTRALIA) to erect a memorial to more than 270 Anzacs who are buried on the island of Malta.

Supporters of the plan say many Australians do not realise that Gallipoli veterans were buried on the Mediterranean island. It is believed it will be the first Anzac memorial erected outside of Australia, New Zealand and at Gallipoli, Turkey.



Many wounded Anzacs were evacuated to Malta from Gallipoli in 1915 when the island earned the title "Nurse of the Mediterranean". A 6m-high monument - which will cost about \$200,000 - was designed and sculpted by Gianni Bonnici, and is erected in the Argotti Botanical Gardens in Floriana, Malta.

More than 4000 wounded soldiers were evacuated from Gallipoli and in hospital in Malta. Many passed away on the island and their remains returned to Australia and NZ, but there are more than 200 Australians and more than 70 New Zealanders still buried there. A fundraising dinner dance was held at Findon SA to raise funds to complete the memorial.

In her letter, Ms Gillard, the former Prime Minister of Australia, said "Australia and Malta share a proud history of standing together in the face of war. These bonds were forged during the fateful Gallipoli campaign of 1915 - a campaign which profoundly impacted Australia's national identity," she says. Mr Abbott, the present Prime Minister, has described it as "a worthy venture".

Malta War Memorial Committee chief executive Charles Figallo said that it was a project dear to the heart of the Maltese. This Anzac memorial will attract more visitors to the island. "Everyone goes to Gallipoli to honour the Anzacs, but no one goes to Malta to honour the 300 who are buried there," Mr Figallo said.

The Hon. Maltese Consul for Malta in SA Frank Scicluna said that for many Maltese commemorating the Anzacs, who are buried on the island, was "a way to say thank you to Australia".

Mr. Nicholas Bonello, the chairman of ANZAC Memorial Committee-Malta and former High Commissioner for Malta to Australia said, "We are grateful to the Malta Anzac Committee, the associations and members of the Maltese community of South Australia for their generosity in raising funds to assist in building the monument at Floriana, Malta."

HISTORY OF THE AUSTRALIAN LAMINGTON

THE HUMBLE AUSTRALIAN LAMINGTON - CREATED IN QUEENSLAND IN 1901



The world-famous Australian lamington is 113 years old.

Despite some dubious claims from New Zealand, the lamington is as Australian as meat pies, kangaroos and Holden cars, ranking alongside the other true Australian icons of the pavlova, peach melba and Vegemite. This Australian culinary icon, which consists of sponge cake dipped in chocolate and liberally sprinkled with fine desiccated coconut, was created through an accident at work by a maid-servant to Lord Lamington, the thoroughly-British eighth Governor of Queensland.

The maid-servant was working at Government House in Brisbane when she accidentally dropped the Governor's favourite sponge cake into some melted chocolate. Lord Lamington was not a person of wasteful habits and suggested that it be dipped in coconut to cover the chocolate to avoid messy fingers. Lord Lamington devoured this new taste sensation with great delight and the maid-servant's error was proclaimed a magnificent success by all! Here is the recipe:

Ingredients

- 125g butter, softened
- 1 cup caster sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 3 eggs
- 1 3/4 cups self-raising flour, sifted
- 1/2 cup milk
- 2 cups desiccated coconut

Icing

- 3 1/2 cups icing sugar mixture
- 1/4 cup cocoa powder
- 1 tablespoon butter, softened
- 1/2 cup boiling water

Method

Step 1 Preheat oven to 180°C/160°C fan-forced. Grease a 3cm-deep, 20cm x 30cm (base) lamington pan. Line with baking paper, leaving a 2cm overhang on all sides. Using an electric mixer, beat butter, sugar and vanilla until light and fluffy. Add eggs, 1 at a time, beating well after each addition (mixture may curdle).

Step 2 Sift half the flour over butter mixture. Stir to combine. Add half the milk. Stir to combine. Repeat with remaining flour and milk. Spoon into prepared pan. Smooth top. Bake for 30 minutes or until a skewer inserted in centre comes out clean. Stand in pan for 10 minutes. Turn out onto a wire rack. Cover with a clean tea towel. Set aside overnight.

Step 3 Make icing: Sift icing sugar and cocoa into a bowl. Add butter and boiling water. Stir until smooth.

Step 4 Cut cake into 15 pieces. Place coconut in a dish. Using a fork, dip 1 piece of cake in icing. Shake off excess. Toss in coconut. Place on a wire rack over a baking tray. Repeat with remaining cake, icing and coconut. Stand for 2 hours or until set. Serve.

THE MALTESE-CANADIAN SID C. ATTARD

Sid C. Attard (born September 29, 1950, Birkirkara, Malta) is a Canada-based thoroughbred horse racing trainer. Members of his family emigrated to Canada in the 1960s, and his older brothers Joseph and Tino became racehorse trainers. Larry became one of the top jockeys in the country and a member of the Canadian Horse Racing Hall of Fame.

A trainer since 1977, Attard is based at Toronto's Woodbine Racetrack, where he has led all trainers in wins four times. On December 6, 2008 he won his 1,600th career race with Forever Gleaming. On November 14/2010 he won his 1,700th career race in the Autumn Stakes with Stunning Stag. In February 2011, the *Brampton Guardian* announced that Sid would be a 2011 inductee of the Brampton Sports Hall Of Fame. A resident of Bramalea, Ontario, Attard and his wife Janice have three children. Their sons Paul and Jamie have followed in their father's footsteps and are trainers at Woodbine Racetrack.

To properly appreciate Sid Attard's Hall of Fame credentials, one only has to examine what it takes to condition nearly 1,800 winners during a workman-like thirty-six year career. Getting down on your hands and knees every day, often on frigid mornings, and toiling seven days a week for ten months a year will achieve the status he earned. Days off because of ill-health were not allowed. Just ask the backstretch guys about the 62-year-old Maltese-born trainer, who often is the first guy through the stable gates each morning.



Hall of Fame Jockey Larry Attard (l) welcomes brother Sid Attard into the Hall in the Thoroughbred Trainer category while Sid's wife Janice and granddaughter Sophia look on

Attard's work ethic was noted by his owners, who agreed that he is possibly the hardest working trainer in the industry. You have to be to saddle over 10,000 horses for owners who place their faith in his skill of improving a horse's look and performance. He is an extremely gracious gentleman, one noted for his honesty and integrity. Attard's impressive stats of winning numerous training titles, finishing consistently among the top ten trainers in wins each year and more than 70 stakes wins with earnings of \$53 million are significant.

He gained his license in 1977 and is basically a stay at home type of trainer, rarely making forays into the U.S.

with his public stable. He did win the Maryland Million Distaff with Heavenly Punch in 1996 at Laurel, Md. Her jockey was Sid's younger brother Larry Attard, who would later be inducted into the HOF. But Sid's early successes after joining his brothers Joe and Tino at Woodbine were in claiming and allowance races. He did have a good eye with his claims, one of which was \$40,000 for a filly making her first start. She went on to win more than \$1.3 million for the Tucci Brothers' stable and nine stakes races. Her name: One For Rose.

Attard's career was largely highlighted by three horses –Numerous Times, Ginger Gold and One For Rose. All three were Sovereign Award winners. "Rosie" won three in a row as champion older filly or mare, while another of his pupils, Ginger Gold, dominated the 2-year-old filly ranks in 2001, winning the Natalma, Princess Elizabeth and Shady Well Stakes en route to her Sovereign Award. However, the horse he was probably the proudest of was Numerous Times as he steered him to a perfect six-for-six start at ages three and four year. Purchased for US\$156,000 at the Keeneland yearling sales by Bob Harvey, the man who gave Sid his first horse to train, the colt won all three starts at three and kept the streak going into his sixth start in 2001 when he won the \$1 million Atto Mile and a Sovereign as champion turf male. He upset the defending Atto champ and Horse of The Year Quiet Resolve.



THE SIXTH CHINA ART COMPETITION AWARD CEREMONY IN MALTA

The Chinese Ambassador H.E. Mr. Cai Jinbiao and Hon. Minister for Culture Dr. Owen Bonnici jointly handed out prizes to winners of the 6th China Art Competition at the China Cultural Centre on Friday evening 16th May 2014. Fifteen young boys and girls from 6 primary schools in Malta participated in this competition themed 'China Through My Eyes' by submitting their own painting works depicting the China in their mind's eye.

- 2014 Chinese Film Festival Launched in Valletta (2014/05/14)
- Chinese Ambassador Called on Minister for Culture (2014/05/13)
- 2014 World Taiji Day in Malta Held in Valletta (2014/04/27)
- Chinese Ambassador Called on President Coleiro Preca (2014/04/17)
- Chinese Ambassador Met Minister For Energy and Health (2014/04/15)
- Chinese Ambassador Visited the Chinese Corner at St Margaret College, Boys' Secondary, Verdala (2014/04/09)

2014 CHINESE FILM FESTIVAL IN MALTA KICKS OFF



VALLETTA, May 14 -- 2014 Chinese Film Festival in Malta kicked off Tuesday evening at St James Cavalier Centre for Creativity in Valletta, capital of Malta. Malta's Minister for Justice, Culture and Local Government Owen Bonnici, Minister for Education and Employment Evarist Bartolo, Chinese Ambassador to Malta Cai Jinbiao, Deputy Director of film bureau at the State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television (SARFT) Luan Guozhi attended the opening ceremony.

In his speech at the opening ceremony, Ambassador Cai introduced that the eight films screened were produced in recent years, covering a wide range of themes, each movie provided a snapshot of China's contemporary social life and showcased latest achievement of Chinese film arts.

Bonnici said that this was the first time ever for the Chinese film festival held in Malta, they were looking forward to watch the films. He was also very glad to see that the Malta Film Commission has been working side by side with Chinese counterpart here in Malta to make sure further collaboration. The six-day film festival is organized by China Cultural Centre in Malta, in collaboration with Malta Film Commission and St James Cavalier Centre for Creativity. Eight films in Chinese with English subtitles including Lethal Hostage, The Grandmaster, Finding Mr. Right will be on show during the festival.

MALTESE PIANIST IN BELGIUM



Clifford Borg

Saison en Musique is an annual cultural event that takes place in the Belgian town of Silly. This year's edition of the two-day event kicked off yesterday at the Maison de Normandie and comes to an end later this evening.

Among its main protagonists, the event featured Maltese pianist and composer Clifford Borg, who gave two piano recitals based on his own compositions as part of the event's guest artist career showcase.

No stranger to performing abroad, Borg has previously performed in the UK, Holland, Belgium, Germany, France, Sicily and Egypt, with his performances earning him very positive comments and critique. He has also performed countless times in Malta, the most recent being a performance for the President of Malta last February.

To date, Borg has released two albums, Drifted and Origin, the latter recorded in Brussels, which is promoted by independent German label Timezone, as a result of which Borg has had some of his work used and aired in a number of German TV and radio shows.

He is currently working on his third album, which will see him cross over into different musical genres to create a record with a chillout vibe tinged by world music characteristics.

IL-MALTIN FIL-BELGJU

- Maltin fil-Belġju asbl Assocjazzjoni twaqqfet fl-2010 bl-iskop li:
 - żżomm il-kuntatt bejn il-Maltin fil-Belġju biex tgħinhom jaddattaw irwiegħhom għall-ħajja Belġjana
 - żżomm ir-rabtiet ma' Malta u l-ħajja kulturali tagħha
 - tħares l-interessi tal-Maltin fil-Belġju f'kull kwistjoni li tikkoncernhom bħala Maltin ta' barra.

Website: - <http://maltinfilbelgju.wordpress.com/english/>

POPE FRANCIS CHOOSES TO PRAY AT BETHLEHEM WALL

Pope Francis touching the wall that divides Israel from the West Bank on his way to celebrate Mass in Manger Square next to the church of the Nativity in Bethlehem yesterday. The Pope made a surprise stop at the hulking wall Palestinians see as a symbol of Israeli oppression, minutes after begging both sides to end a conflict that he said was no longer acceptable. Photo: Mheisen Amareen/Reuters



Pope Francis made a surprise stop at the wall Palestinians abhor as a symbol of Israeli oppression, and later invited presidents from both sides of the divide to the Vatican to pray for peace.

In an image likely to become one of the most emblematic of his trip to the holy land, Pope Francis rested his forehead against the concrete structure that separates Bethlehem from Jerusalem, and prayed silently as a child holding a Palestinian flag looked on. He stood at a spot where someone had sprayed in red paint “Free

Palestine”. Such imagery seemed likely to cause unease among Israel’s leaders, who say the barrier, erected 10 years ago during a spate of Palestinian suicide bombings, is needed to secure its security. Palestinians see it as a bid by Israel to partition off territory and grab land they want for their future state.

Pontiff invites Palestinian and Israeli presidents to the Vatican

On the second leg of a three-day trip to the Middle East, Pope Francis delighted his Palestinian hosts by referring to the “state of Palestine”, giving support for their bid for full statehood recognition in the face of a paralysed peace process.

But, speaking at the birthplace of Jesus in the Palestinian-run city of Bethlehem in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, he made clear that a negotiated accord was needed, calling on leaders from both sides to overcome their myriad divisions.

Pope Francis invited the Israeli and Palestinian presidents to come to the Vatican to pray for an end to the enduring conflict, just a month after the collapse of US-backed peace talks.



CHRIS AGIUS INAUGURATES THE INSPIRE KINDER SWIMATHON

The Parliamentary Secretary for Research, Innovation, Youth and Sports, Chris Agius, has inaugurated this year’s charity Swimathon. The Inspire Kinder Swimathon is a six-day marathon organized by the Foundation for inclusion; Inspire.

The charity caters for 1,000 disabled persons both children and adults.

During the official launch, Hon. Agius spoke about the importance of such ventures to help Inspire Foundation reach its goals. He stressed that the Government was giving importance to swimming since it is believed that, being an island, such a sport could bring success for Malta.

Inspire's CEO, Nathan Farrugia encouraged everyone to join this initiative. He insisted that the marathon was open to everyone, not just veteran swimmers.

Besides collecting funds, Inspire is promoting healthy living through sports. People can take part in the marathon either on an individual basis or in a team. Participants can swim lengths of the pool individually, or with friends, covering as many laps as they like for as long as they like, while enjoying entertainment.

Participants can opt to swim in a team of 12 swimmers or less and challenge other teams to cover as much distance as possible, either in one of the participating pools or a pool of their choice.

The Inspire Kinder Swimathon started on Monday 26 May in the presence of Hon. Agius, Inspire's CEO Nathan Farrugia and representatives from the national Waterpolo team, and ends on Saturday, 31 May. Participants can choose to swim in the Indoor Pool of Inspire Marsascalea, Tal- Qroqq National Pool or the MFA Pool in Ta 'Qali.



The Maltese Community Council



The MCC of NSW is the umbrella body of 16 associations (as per letterhead), three of which have their own premises/clubhouses.

The MCC is composed of delegates from each of the affiliated associations with equal voting rights. Delegates meet regularly every month and discuss issues affecting the Maltese Community in NSW as a whole. The office bearers are elected every year from among the delegates and nominations are submitted by the affiliated associations.

One primary aim of the Council is to assist the affiliated associations in delivering their various services to the Community.

The Council holds two major functions each year – a celebration of Australia Day on the Sunday before or after Australia Day and the Remembrance of Sette Giugno on the Sunday closest to 7 June. Sette Giugno is one of Malta's five national feast days and remembers the victims of the insurrection against the British in 1919. It is regarded as the start of the road to independence from Britain.

With the assistance of a grant from the Community Relations Commissions of NSW, the Council provides a part time welfare service to the Community conducted from various locations close to where the need exists.

The Council conducts the Maltese Language School in NSW which currently operates from two campuses in two locations in Sydney. The Council regards the School as a vital means of maintaining the Maltese language and culture in Australia.

Within the Inner West Neighbour Aid, the Council conducts a home visitation scheme for isolated Maltese elderly persons. Home visits are undertaken by delegates and other members of the Maltese Community.

For a number of years the Council has organized citizenship ceremonies for those Maltese persons wanting to become Australian citizens. These ceremonies are held in a dignified way and stress the importance of Australian citizenship highlighting the benefits and responsibilities.

The Council keeps the Community informed of community events, activities and services in NSW and developments in Malta through a weekly radio program. The program is conducted on a voluntary basis on community radio station 2 GLF 89.3FM, every Sunday at 11.00am.

Over the years the Council has taken the initiative in many issues affecting the well being of the Maltese Community in Australia including the Dual Citizenship for migrants, the children of migrants and more recently for grand children of migrants. The campaign for Dual citizenship was started by a call for Dual Citizenship in a petition to all the Members of the Maltese Parliament in 1974. Various other approaches and media campaigns followed till the grant to migrants in 1989, to children of migrants in 2000 and to all applicants of unbroken Maltese descent in 2007.

The Council also played an important role in the introduction of the reciprocal working holiday agreement between Australia and Malta and played a pivotal part in the negotiations for the Reciprocal Social Security Agreement.

SEE YA LATER. ALLIGATOR!!!!