THE JOURNAL OF THE MALTESE DIASPORA

MALTESE NEWSLETTER

BUILDING BRIDGES BETWEEN MALTESE ALL OVER THE WORLD



MALTESE MOVIE SHOWN IN ADELAIDE FROM SEPTEMBER 29 AT TOORAK GARDENS

Charles Mifsud (NSW) writes

I am sure you have all heard of the Maltese Movie **SIMSHAR**, a film co-written & directed by Rebecca Cremona & based on and inspired by the Simshar tragedy that took place on the high seas, and one which generated a lot of interest & even some uninvited "stories", some even up to to-day. However Rebecca Cremona, the Maltese young lady professionally trained in the UK & the USA, probed, learnt & found out what really happened on that tragic day in July of 2008, and that is exactly what we will all see before our eyes, and once & for all we will know exactly what happened.

This is a very professionally made film, staring some of Malta's best actors as well as international actors, the film also deals with the Mediterranean refugee crises. Shot in 21 different locations in Malta it captures the various aspects of the Maltese Culture.

This is the first Maltese Film ever that was entered and accepted in Los Angeles for the Academy Awards, a truly great honor for Rebecca Cremona & the Maltese Film Industry. My wife & I were fortunate enough to see it in Malta last year, before we had actually met with Rebecca. I can not but heap praise on the Film and Rebecca's work. Therefore I urge you to not only see the Film but to promote it with ever one you know, it's a must, so please take time out to see it & share this wonderful experience with all relatives, friends & acquaintances.

SIMSHAR will be released in special theatres around Australia from the first of October with some pre-releases in some theatres even before that date. We owe it to ourselves, to our Culture, to Malta and to Rebecca Cremona who is risking so much to bring SIMSHAR to Australia for us to see, enjoy & be informed. The film is showing in Europe in Africa & soon to be relaesed in the UK, Canada, the USA & to other parts of the world later on.

For any further information re SIMSHAR in Australia please do not hesitate to contact me by email <u>cnmifsud@gmail.com</u> or on my Mobile 0421 662 298.

Rebecca will be with us in Australia from the 21st September to the 4th October visiting Melbourne Sydney Canberra Brisbane & Adelaide & is looking forward to meeting with the local community. From these columns I sincerely thank Rebecca for her work & for giving us Maltese-Australians the opportunity to see & appreciate her talents, her work and the product SIMSHAR. Thank you Rebecca and thank you Ladies & Gentlemen. I look forward to seeing you in the theatres....**Charles N. Mifsud J.P.**.

Rebecca Cremona

Writer/Director Kukumajsa Productions (+356)79068065

INTERCULTURAL MANAGEMENT - MALTA

BEING A MANAGER IN MALTA

Cross cultural management in Malta is more likely to succeed if you understand that although status tends to be derived from social class and family background, getting along with others is the recipe for business success in Malta.

Since joining the EU, Malta has become one of Europe's fastest growing economies due to the influx of foreign investment. The country has made a concerted effort to promote international trade and become a leading service centre in the Mediterranean region. The country relies on international business to sustain its growth and economic situation. As such, most businesspeople

you will meet will be accustomed to working with people from other countries and cultures.

The Maltese workforce tends to be well-educated and highly skilled. International surveys have found that the flexibility of the local workforce is one of the country's greatest assets. For the most part, people quickly adapt to changing technological and market needs. When managing in Malta, it is important to keep in mind managers recognize and value the specialised knowledge of their staff. To ensure successful cross cultural management managers should be able to harness that wisdom by encouraging workforce participation to achieve business objectives.

Malta's intercultural adaptability and readiness for change is developing all the time. Malta is a culture that tolerates change and risk quite well. The people are known for their flexibility and ability to adapt to changing circumstances. At the same time, people prefer to understand the rationale for a change and work best when they comprehend the practical advantages. Since tradition is highly valued, the fact that something is new does not necessarily make it better.

Mediterranean influence makes long siesta breaks and spending quality time with family a priority for most Maltese. Therefore, it is not common for businesspeople to work additional hours except when there is a pressing business emergency. Being able to leave the job at the end of the day indicates that you have planned your day well and made the best use of your work day.



22, Suite 6, Airways House Triq it-Torri, Msida MALTA

The Malta Institute of Management (MIM) is located in Pembroke in the north of Malta. Founded in 1964, MIM is a non-political, non-negotiating and non-profit making professional body for persons in Malta concerned with and involved in management. Our mission is to enhance the profession of management in Malta within a broad international framework focusing on the competence and effectiveness of managers.

The Institute has long been a pioneer in the management development field in Malta. It runs a wide range of management education and training programmes at different academic levels and of varying duration. Indeed MIM's training arm is today recognised as the leading business and management school in Malta. The combination of unrivalled experience in management tuition and practice, the groundbreaking development tools, together with its ever increasing portfolio of benefits mean MIM provides a real competitive advantage to its members by ensuring that participation in the Institute's activities maximises its members' business opportunities.

Tel: (+356) 21 456 819 Fax: (+356) 21 451 167 Email: education@maltamanagement.com Website:<u>http://www.maltamanagement.com</u>

VALLETTA SUMMIT WILL ADDRESS MIGRATION CHALLENGES



The Valletta Summit on Migration, between the EU states and key African partners, will serve as an opportunity to address the challenges of migration flows into Europe with important African countries of origin and transit, Speaker Anġlu Farrugia said yesterday.

Addressing the 4th World Conference of Speakers of Parliament, which the Inter-Parliamentary Union is organising at the UN Headquarters in New York, Dr Farrugia said Malta firmly believed that the challenges of irregular migration in the Mediterranean

could only be addressed holistically by affording protection to the vulnerable but also by working with partner countries in Africa to stem the flow of irregular migrants.

The Valletta summit is being held in Malta in November. Dr Farrugia also referred to climate change and urged "national governments worldwide to collaborate and coordinate concerted efforts towards overcoming the challenges posed by climate change".

He spoke on religious freedom, saying that democracy could not be placed at the service of peace unless religious freedom was respected. "We live in a free society where all beliefs are equal. We should love and respect each other irrespective of religious belief; without this love and tolerance we cannot build the world the people want The Maltese Parliamentary delegation in New York is composed of Censu Galea, Deborah Schembri, David Agius and Deo Debattista.

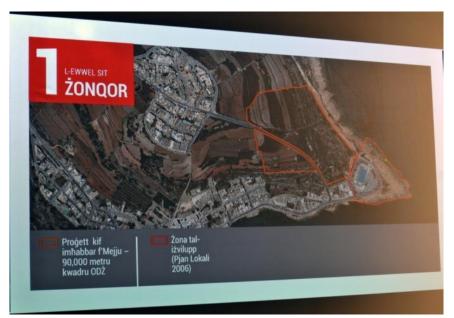
Bullying and cyberbullying Bullying can happen to anyone. It might happen to you, your friend or someone online. People being bullied often feel powerless and alone, or worried about what the bully might do next. The impact of bullying can last longer than the bullying itself. Experiencing bullying can increase a person's chances of developing anxiety or depression.

What is bullying? Bullying is behaviour that is meant to be hurtful, targets a person or group of people, happens more than once and embarrasses, threatens or intimidates the person being bullied. It may happen in person but can also happen out of sight or online. Bullies don't always work alone. The impact of bullying can be even greater when a group of people begin to act together. Cyberbullying happens at least every few weeks to about one in 10 young people, and workplace bullying is also a common experience reported by young people.

The impact of bullying The experience of being bullied is different for everyone. People may feel alone, anxious, scared, miserable and powerless, while others may feel overwhelmed by sadness, ashamed or rejected. They may feel there is no escape from the bully or that there is no hope that things will change. Anger is another common reaction, as the attack from the bully is unfair and unwarranted. Bullying can affect every part of a person's life, including relationships with their friends and family. It can affect a person's confidence and performance at school, in a sports team or at work. The person being bullied might change how they look or act to try to avoid being bullied further. They might also withdraw from social activities or use unhelpful coping strategies, like drugs and alcohol or self-harming, to manage painful feelings.

SAY NO TO BULLYING

DIN L-ART HELWA WELCOMES UNIVERSITY AT COSPICUA, REJECTS ZONQOR DEVELOPMENT



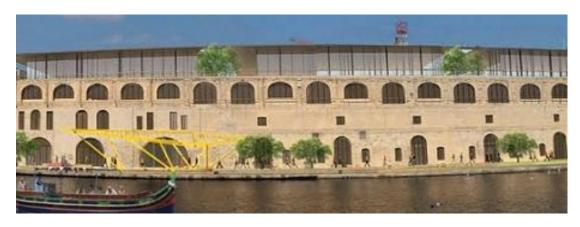
Environmental organisation Din I-Art Helwa has expressed mixed feelings over the siting of the 'American University of Malta' project, welcoming its partial housing at Dock 1 in Cospicua but condemning development at Zonqor Point.

"Dock 1 is crying out for restoration," DLH said in a statement. "The sensitive re-use and conservation of historic buildings is certainly the way forward as a means of preserving the unique architecture of the country and limiting the uptake of land and open spaces."

The final project, announced by Prime Minister Joseph Muscat on Thursday, will incorporate 31,000 square metres at

Zonqor Point- 18,000 square metres of which will be land at outside development zones, 80% less ODZ than the original plan.

The Zonqor site will include student dormitories and three faculties, with the buildings rising to a maximum height of five storeys, half of what is permissible under the floor-to-area ratio policy, while the foreshore will remain untouched. The government will also build a new water polo pitch along the Marsaskala shoreline to replace the former national pool which will be demolished for use by the university. Muscat has said that the "compromise" on the university location at Zonqor Point was "one in favour of common sense".



However. Din I-Art Helwa criticised the government for "encroaching on an ODZ area, when it should be the one to lead bv example". They also warned that the re-location of the water polo pitch along the Marsaskala foreshore will encroach on the present

swimming zone, and said that the proposal must be studied to ensure the least possible impact on the area.



PIJUNIER MALTI ORDNAT SACERDOT 50 SENA ILU



Fr. Emmanuel hu mill-Birgu. Huwa s-sitt wild minn familja ta' tmint itfal. Mid-dar huwa rċieva formazzjoni nisranija soda, flimkien ma' karattru

edukat u ģentili. Dawn huma karatteristici li żamm u li malajr tintebaħ bihom.

L-edukazzjoni primarja bdiha f'Ħal-Balzan, fejn il-familja kellha tevakwa ruħha minħabba l-gwerra. Imbagħad kompla l-edukazzjoni tiegħu l-Birgu, u wkoll fil-Kulleġġ ta' De La Salle. L-edukazzjoni sekondarja ħadha fis-Seminarju. Sadanittant huwa kien abbati fil-Knisja ta' San Lawrenz, u membru attiv fil-Mużew fejn dam sa Ottubru tal-1957, meta beda n-novizzjat f'Sant'Agata.

II-kors tal-filosofija u t-teoloģija għamilhom fI-Università ta' Malta, u fit-3 ta' April ta' ħamsin sena ilu, ģie ordnat saċerdot. Wara I-ordinazzjoni, għamel sentejn bħala "House Father" fid-Dar ta' San Ġużepp, Santa Venera u qatta' sentejn oħra fI-Oratorju ta' B'Kara.

II-ħajja pastorali barra minn Malta kienet varjata ħafna. Beda fl-Awstralja, fejn ħadem f'Melbourne, Perth, u Sydney, fejn kien kappillan tal-parroċċa ta' Horsly Park.

Mill-Awstralja fl-1977, ġie mitlub imur il-Perù. Hemm għamel 10 snin f'diversi djar tas-Soċjetà. Minn hemm irritorna l-Awstralja fejn issa ilu 23 sena sħaħ. Bħall-Fathers Maltin l-oħra, huwa Chaplain tal-Maltin, imma jeżerċita wkoll il-ministeru saċerdotali tiegħu mal-komunità Taljana. Huwa jitkellem ukoll l-Ispanjol.

Fr. Emmanuel ihobb jikteb materjal reliģiuż, u anke stampa xi kitbiet minn tieghu dwar il-Madonna u l-Ewkaristija. Ghalkemm kif ghidna, issa ilu 23 sena l-Awstralja, minn żmien ghal żmien imur ghal xi xhur il-Perù, il-pajjiż li tant habb.

Kif jgħid hu stess, għadda minn ħafna provi kbar imma dejjem ħass I-id t'Alla miegħu.

Din il-kitba dehret fil-harga ta' Lulju ta' **AHNA LILKOM – HOLQA BEJN IL-HBIEB.** Editur:Fr. Norbet Bonavia MSSP <u>norbertbonavia @gmail.com</u>



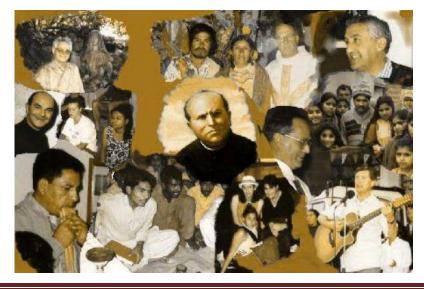
Missionary Society of St Paul Provincial House in Australia 477 Royal Pde, Parkville – Victoria 3052

Our story at Parkville goes back to 1955. It was on November 7 that year that *St Mary's Mission House* was shifted from Carlton to the bettersituated site at Parkville. After temporarily moving up the road to Brunswick, the old residence at Parkville was demolished, and a new one was built. This new building, officially opened in 1983, houses our Provincialate in Australia and the *Maltese Community Centre of Victoria*.

Paulist Missionaries who worked in Australia over the years.

Fr Joe Barbara Fr Charles Borg Died in Malta, November 25, 2002 Fr Alfred Cachia Fr Dominic Cachia Fr Robert Cini Br Emmanuel Gafa Died in Malta on November 06, 1980 Fr Honoratus Galea Died in Australia on April 30, 1982 Fr Louis Gatt Died in Malta on May 08, 1995 Fr Augustine Grech (first Paulist in Australia) Died in Malta on February 02, 1992 Fr Vincent Magro Fr Ignatius Micallef Fr Mario Micallef Br Michael Rosario Micallef Died in Malta on May 06, 2009 Fr George Scerri

Died in Australia on August 04, 1980 Fr Mario Scerri Fr Frances X Schembri Died in Malta on October 16. 2007 Fr Conrad Sciberras Fr Victor Shields Fr Emanuel Adami Fr Edwin Agius Fr Noel Bianco Fr Claude Borg Fr Ivano Burdian (Provincial Superior) Fr Denis Carabott Fr Paul Kierce Fr Tarcisio Micallef Br Joseph Saviour Pantalleresco Fr Jude Pirotta Fr Benedict Sant Fr John Taliana Fr Raymond Zammit



CAPTURE THE TASTE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN





Kinnie's heritage dates back to 1952 when it was first created by Simonds Farsons Cisk in Malta, at the heart of the Mediterranean, as an alternative to

the innumerable colas that had proliferated post-war Europe. Its distinctive characteristics have made it Malta's favourite original soft drink and it has been loved ever since by the millions of tourists who visit the Mediterranean every year.

Due to evolving lifestyle trends, Diet and Light versions are also available. While the outer packaging of the product has developed over time, the one element that has not changed is the unmistakable taste of Kinnie that has remained true to its original formula and ice-cold Kinnie is delicious drunk straight, with a taste of orange. Its bitter-sweet chinotto taste also lends itself well to and enhances most alcoholic drinks. It is also ideal as a top-up in a variety of different cocktails.



frequent visitors after they'd been out carousing.

Crystal Palace Bar is tucked

away on Triq San Pawl (Street Saint Paul), Malta

. It's royal blue awning is dwarfed by advertising for Kinnie- a local soft drink flavoured with orange and aromatic herbs. It's the sort of place where local workers come at the end of a shift and taxi drivers park themselves at 2 am. You'll probably come across a few local seniors perched outside, drinking sweet tea, smoking and shooting the breeze. Crystal Palace is one of the few spots in Malta which still has home made pastizzi for sale- many other bars and delis will buy frozen in bulk. Crystal Palace has been in the same family for more than 40 years. The name was crafted to help conjure some familiarity for the English sailors who were

Unlike some Australian Maltese cafes where the stuffing types stretch into scores, in the islands you'll only find two. There are the pastizzi ta' l-irkotta – filled with a fluffy ricotta and pastizzi tal pizelli, which are stuffed with a lightly spiced mushy split pea mix. I'm sure the pea were partly designed to placate the brits.



Kullma trid tkun taf fuq Google - Google.com in English

Google translates into and from Maltese

The Maltese cannot escape the global phenomenon that is Google. After launching a version of Google search in the Maltese language several years ago, Google has introduced an English-Maltese/Maltese-English translation service in its Google Translate. Maltese was added few years ago with Turkish, Estonian, Albanian Thai, Hungarian, and Galician.

"The rollout of these seven additional languages marks a new milestone: automatic translations between 41 languages (1,640 language pairs!). This means we can now translate between languages read by 98 per cent of internet users," said Google's product manager Jeff Chin while making the announcement on the official Google blog. He claimed that Google Translate is the first freely available machine translation system for several languages.

"Of course, there's always room for improvement, and we're working hard to improve translation quality. "Our statistical models are built from vast quantities of monolingual and translated texts using automated machine learning techniques." i-Tech tried it out with mixed results. It could translate simple words such as book and car very easily. However, it faltered when prompted to translate thunder into Maltese or karrozzin into English, proof that this service is for simple and light use.

Google Translate is not the first English-Maltese dictionary service online, as the first Maltese website, created by migrant Grazio Falzon 14 years ago, published a list of translated words. Then there is www.maltadictionary.com, which has been around for a few years offering English-Maltese translations and recently was also made available for mobile phones. http://www.google.com/translate.

GOZO FOLKLORE



Gozo Folklore embraces all the Habits and Customs, the Way of Life in all its aspects, Old-time Trades and all Forms of Entertainment such as the simple and healthy Children's Games of long ago.

Street Venor, a common sight in old-time Gozo.

Gozo Folklore may be considered to embrace all the habits and customs of our civilization, all its numerous activities, the quality of the houses people lived in, the dress they wore, the food they produced and ate, their social dealings with one another, their education and religious life, their festivals and amusements, together with beliefs in the afterworld, superstions like the evil eye as well as innumerable other facets of human life.

Maltese and Gozo folklore is concerned with all this. It explores the history,

literature, folktales, old wives tales, old-time trades, legends, children's rhymes and games, traditional herbal medicine, nicknames, proverbs, birth and death rituals, feasts, long-forgotten sensational incidents like unsolved murders and old customs from Malta and Gozo.

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SEPTEMBER 2015



Lace making in Gozo is still practised although in a much smaller volume than years ago. Writing this article is making me remember my young days, how we used to play in the streets every evening after school and on Saturday mornings. In those days Gozo was free from cars and we had the streets all to ourselves. We used to have so much fun playing together that our mothers found it very hard to make us quit and go in for supper. I also remember how every night before going to sleep I used to watch my great-aunts at work making lace (bizzilla) far into the night - - Bless their Souls.

Gozo folklore - - On this small island old customs die hard and this is particularly true in the case of Nicknames and some religious rituals related to superstition like the evil-eye. On the contrary the use of Maltese proverbs in everyday language has completely disappeared.

Typical Maltese balcony, made of wood and closed.

'Ghana' means folksinging and is pronounced - Ah nah. It is still practised today but on a much smaller scale than formerly and in Malta more than in Gozo.Some people today regard the Ghana as 'low' like fit only for the low people and would like to see it die a natural death.On the other hand there are others who aim to keep the Ghana alive and growing in popularity. This group includes University professors and learned people from all walks of life who believe that the Ghana is an integral part of our folklore. During an Ghana session there is inevitably a guitar player who 'accompanies' the singer musically . Sometimes there is more than one guitar, one playing some lead notes and 2 or 3 others who do the accompaniment.



When there are 2 or more singers they sing in turn and usually they 'answer' one

another. This usually brings a smile to the listeners and onlookers since the singers like to pull each other's leg. The guitar is at times assisted by a tambourine and a piano- accordion. Long years ago the Ghana was the main item of entertainment in many occasions especially during **Carnival** and the traditional feast of St. Gregory. This is also true with regards to brass bands.



Maltese Brass Bands.

Gozo Folklore - Village Festas and Brass Bands

Brass Bands are very common in Malta and Gozo. Almost all the towns and villages have their own Band and its main function is to play band marches during the feast of the patron saint of the village. The Festa Season is band marches galore. Every week a Festa is held in one village or another in honour of the patron saint. Newly composed band marches are played along the principal streets by the local band and also by bands from other villages who are invited to take part.

A brass band in Gozo is usually made up of 70 to 80 members while in Malta they may top the 100. All the brass bands of the Island take part in national holidays such as at Christmas and the New Year and especially during the 5 days of Carnival in February.

YOU MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE NEWSLETTER BY CONTRIBUTING AN ARTICLE OR EVEN ADVERTISE FUNCTIONS OF YOUR COMMUNITY FREE OF CHARGE

Famous Australian inventions



Many of these devices and technologies have become an integral part of our daily lives, but did you know that they were all invented by Aussies?!

<u>1. The Hills Hoist</u> After a request from his wife, Lance Hill's clothes hoist became a symbol of Australian home life in the 1950s. But Lance Hill did not invent the rotary clothes hoist; Gilbert Toyne patented one in Adelaide in 1926, which was sold in small numbers until the early 1960s.

2. Google Maps Created by Sydney-based brothers Lars and Jens Rasmussen, at a time when the technology required to deliver their idea was still being developed the brothers formed a mapping technology company. A year later it was acquired by Google and Google Maps was born.



3. Ute In 1932 a farmer wrote to the boss of Ford Australia to ask, 'Please make a two-in-one car and truck, something I can go in to church on Sunday, and carry pigs to market on Monday.'

Lewis Bandt was given the job to develop such a multi-purpose car. His solution was to graft a high-sided open or 'utility' back onto a two-door Ford V8 Coupe. What made it different from a truck was that the interior was as luxurious as a coupe, and the side panels and roof were pressed in steel like a car.

4. Black box In 1956 Australian engineer, Dr David Warren of the Aeronautical Research Centre in



Melbourne, produced a prototype flight recorder called the ARL Flight Memory Unit which improved on earlier models by including voice recordings of the cockpit during the flight.

Unfortunately the Australian aviation authorities overlooked his invention and it took the British and US to develop and manufacture the device. The flight recorder (or 'black box' as it is commonly known despite being orange) is now standard equipment on all commercial aircraft. It has proven to be extremely valuable for investigating the causes of aeroplane crashes, not just through

voice recording but also through incidental sounds captured during flight.

5. Ultrasound machine In the 1950s, doctors grew concerned about the effect of taking X-rays on pregnant women to determine the health of their babies. In 1961 David Robinson and George Kossoff, working at the Ultrasonic Research Group of the Commonwealth Acoustic Laboratories, built Australia's first ultrasound scanner, called the CAL Echoscope. While others had used the same ultrasound technology for similar purposes around the globe, it was discovered in 1962 that the results from the Australian version – called grey-scale ultrasound – were technically superior to other scanners, as well as being the first commercially practical option.

6. Wi-Fi technology Researcher John O'Sullivan of the CSIRO was looking for exploding black holes when he came up with the basis for Wi-Fi. By the time the patent expired in November 2013 the CSIRO had earned over \$430 million in royalties and settlements arising from the use of this technology, which is in more than five billion devices worldwide.

VALLETTA'S STRAIT STREET: THE FORMER SEEDY "GUT" OF MALTA'S CAPITAL CITY



Walking around Malta's capital, Valletta, one finds a combination of old and new, the British colonial footprint vs. the underlying ancient history, and a bustling UNESCO site experiencing a renaissance of urban planning and building. If you time your visit right, you can catch "Alarme," a re-enactment of the struggle between the French and British troops following Napoleon's landing and conquest of the islands in 1798.

One of the best-known and interesting streets in Malta is Valletta's Strait Street, or Strada Stretta. Strait Street was the favorite destination of military men who were docked in the harbor. They frequented the street from the early nineteenth century until the mid-twentieth century, when the conservative Catholic element in a newly independent Malta, along with the sharp decline in the numbers of servicemen on the island ended the street's heyday.

Strait Street was like New York City's Bowery during its glory days, full of bars, restaurants, bordellos, rooming houses, music venues and many shady characters. Ladies of the Evening were a prominent feature of the street, there to assist the servicemen in, ahem, relaxing after their many days at sea.

Alcohol and money were flowing like water, prompting illicit behavior and regular

bouts of violence as servicemen showed their drunken fighting skills to the crowds. In the earlier days of the street, duels were not uncommon. The street was also called "The Gut," a name that appropriately indicated its reputation as the seedy [but fun] underbelly of Valletta.

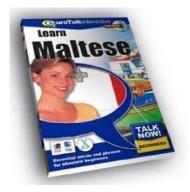


As I enjoy seeking out living antiques – whether they are in human form or as a part of a city – I was drawn to this street. After missing it a few times wandering around the narrow streets of Valletta, what I found was quite different that I had imagined. I came upon a Strait Street that was merely a shadow of its former self, a street frozen in time and at the same time void of life. The bars, music venues, and life are all history.

What remains are the structures that served to house Strait Street's seedy past in a style of urban decay strangely beautiful in its own way. Walking down the street you can still get a sense of the street's glory days, as some of the bar signs are still there, and the many small doors that once welcomed patrons can still

be found. If you transport yourself, you can imagine how it must have felt to be in the middle of this very narrow "gut" with action all around you. For those of you with an active imagination and who enjoy standing in a vestige of the past, Strait Street is site worthy of your time.

LEARNING THE MALTESE LANGUAGE IN THE UK



Hi all - I'm half Matlese, British born, living in Kent, working in central London. I really want to learn the language but can't find lessons in and around the London/ Kent area. I've searched online for the past couple of years but nothing ever seems to be offered. Does anyone know of anywhere I can either take a course or get private tuition? I'm not bothered about it having to be the most professional organisation I just want to be able to practice speaking and reading the language. Any help would be much appreciated. Thanks. MGrima

I've the same problem, courses are not really to expect. Private tuition hard to find. Here a few books:

Antoinette Camilleri: Merħba Bik

to me, not really helpful. The book itself doesn't have a key, nearly no English translations, not much English explanation. In short: you need a teacher beside.

Lydia Sciriha: Beginning Maltese and Continuing Maltese are ok. The only thing I can't stand is the beeping sound on the CD, between words and sentences.

Joseph Aquilina: Concise Maltese-English English-Maltese Dictionary is ok.

Joseph Aquilina, Maltese - English - Maltese Dictionary. Very good, for beginners the 2 Maltese volumes are sufficient. http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/3618 ... ix-volumes

For self-studies I recommend: "Learn Maltese, why not?" Joseph Vella, as printed book or to download:

http://www.ebook3000.com/Learn-Maltese- ... 44055.html . All explanations in English. Al Maltese sentences translated. There is a key to all exercises.

Lorna Vassallo, Maltese through English. A new book (2012), very good, all explanations in English, all translated. But not for a beginner. <u>http://maltapark.com/item.aspx?ltemID=2160826</u>

The CDs EuroTalk, TalkNow! Tghallem il-Malti. Different levels.

Just to listen to: <u>http://www.campusfm.um.edu.mt/pages/web ... m#series 2</u>

If anyone have other suggestions please let us know. GRAZZI HAFNA Good luck



COMING TOGETHER IS A BEGINNING KEEPING TOGETHER IS PROGRESS WORKING TOGETHER IS SUCCESS Henry Ford

THE GRAND PRIORY OF ENGLAND History of the Order



The symbol of the Order, a white eight-pointed cross on a black background, is an international symbol of First Aid. It is known as the logo of St John Ambulance, emblazoned on the sides of ambulances and on the uniforms of its highly trained volunteers. However, the eight-pointed cross was also worn on the robes of those first Brother Knights in the hospital in Jerusalem, and it has remained unaltered through the centuries, as an enduring emblem of humanitarian care, and of a charity that dates back almost 1000 years.

By 1080, a hospital had been established in Jerusalem by a group of monks under the guidance of Brother Gerard. Its purpose was to care for the many pilgrims who had become ill on their travels to the Holy Land. The men and women who worked there were members of a new religious order, officially recognised by the Church in 1113. Known as the Hospitallers, they cared for anyone, without distinction of race or faith.

After the Crusaders captured Jerusalem, the Hospitallers also took on a military role. They became known as the Knights of the Order of St John of Jerusalem. When Palestine was recaptured by Muslim forces in 1291, the Order moved briefly to Cyprus and then, in 1309, to Rhodes. The Order remained on Rhodes until 1522, when the Turkish Sultan, Suleiman the Magnificent, conquered the island. From Rhodes, the Order moved to Malta. After a famous siege by Suleiman in 1565, which the Knights and the Maltese people survived, a new capital city, Valletta, was built. The Order's ships patrolled the Mediterranean and remained on Malta until 1798, when the island was surrendered to Napoleon.

The original Roman Catholic Order still has headquarters in Rome; its full title is the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta. It remains a sovereign entity in international law and is engaged in international charity work.

The Clerkenwell Priory

In the 1140s the Priory in Clerkenwell was set up as the English headquarters of the Order. When King Henry VIII split from the Catholic Church and established a new Anglican Church, the Order in England was dissolved and all its lands and wealth were seized by the Crown. The Order was restored briefly by Henry's Catholic daughter, Queen Mary, who granted it a Royal Charter. However, on the accession of her Protestant sister, Queen Elizabeth I, the Order in England was dissolved for good. The buildings in Clerkenwell were put to different uses in the years that followed. During the sixteenth century, they were used as the offices of the Master of the Revels. Thirty of Shakespeare's plays were licensed here.

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The modern Order of St John in England was granted a Royal Charter by Queen Victoria in 1888. Humanitarian in its aims and purpose, the modern Order recognised the need for public First Aid and ambulance transport services, as no such system existed in newly industrialised England. In addition, the Order established an eye hospital in Jerusalem, following the principles of the Order's first hospital, treating all those in need, regardless of faith or wealth. The Order's full title is The Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem. Its principal charitable foundations today are the St John Eye Hospital in Jerusalem, and St John Ambulance.



The Priory at Clerkenwell, after an engraving by Wenceslaus Hollar, 1661

About the Museum

The Museum at St John's Gate has been welcoming visitors for over a hundred years. The extensive collections include paintings and illuminated manuscripts, rare armour, a bronze cannon given by Henry VIII, ancient coins, decorative furniture, ceramics, silverware and textiles.

Across St John's Square from the Gate is the Priory Church, with its twelfth century Crypt. The Church and Crypt are open to all visitors during Museum opening hours. The Church's Priory Gallery features an exhibition on life in the medieval priory and Clerkenwell through the ages. The Church Cloister Garden provides a tranquil space for members of the public to enjoy, and its range of herbs gives an idea of the medicinal gardens that would have been cultivated by the Knights Hospitaller during Medieval times.

In September 2009, the Museum of the Order of St John closed to the public to begin a £3.6 million Heritage Lottery Funded redevelopment. Fourteen months later, it reopened with new galleries and visitor facilities, including a dedicated learning space which allows for the provision of various workshops and events for community groups and schools. The redesign has also revealed more of our wonderful Tudor building. Through the use of audio-visual displays everyone will now be able to learn about and enjoy the heritage of the Order of St John.

The Museum of the Order of St John is one of the great hidden treasures of London, tracing the continuous history of a charity that dates back over 900 years. The Order of St John, an international charity, has a remit to provide humanitarian aid and medical support worldwide, and the Museum cannot draw upon its funds.

The Museum of the Order of St John

St John's Gate, St John's Lane Clerkenwell London, EC1M 4DA museum@sja.org.uk Monday – Friday, 10am – 5pm Saturday, 10am – 5pm Sunday, 10am – 5pm (July, August, September

NELSON MANDELA - ORDER OF ST JOHN (SOVEREIGN MILITARY ORDER OF MALTA)

From: suedickinson.co.za



In celebration of the 900th anniversary of the Order of St John, the South African Post Office issued a special miniature sheet and an official commemorative cover on 23 June 1999. The miniature sheet has a R2 face value and features President Nelson Mandela, who is a Knight of Grace of the Order, wearing the mantle of the Order. It also depicts Glenshiel, a stately mansion which has been the National Headquarters of the Order in South Africa since 1950. Situated in the suburb of Westcliff in Johannesburg, Glenshiel is lent to the Order in perpetuity by the Haggie Trust, established by Major Gordon Haggie.

The Order of St John in England was centred around the Priory of Clerkenwell in London in the 12th Century and reached its zenith of power and influence at the beginning of the 16th Century. The dissolution of the monasteries put an end to the Order in England for nearly 300 years, but it was revived in 1831 and was active in attending to the sick and wounded in the Franco-Prussian War of 1870. The order was granted a Charter by Queen Victoria in 1888.

Her Royal Highness Queen Elizabeth II is its Sovereign Head. The Grand Prior, currently the Duke of Gloucester, is always a member of the Royal Family. Today there are 20 000 members of the Order worldwide. Membership is granted under the crown to those who strive to fulfil the Order's ideals.



Watercolour Painting of St John Ambulance Brigade Members attending to a patient at a Duran-Duran concert; "Glenshiel", headquarters of the Order of St John in South Africa; President Nelson Mandela, wearing his Knight of Grace mantle.

In South Africa the first mention of the work of the Order comes from Grahamstown in 1883. In the absence of accurate records, it has been decided that two first

aid and home nursing classes held there should be regarded as the beginnings of the St John Ambulance Foundation in this country. There are now branches of the Foundation in most large centres in South Africa. Today the work of St John has expanded from first aid training, to home care of patients with AIDS and the establishment of eye clinics.

A limited edition print of 2 000 first day covers have been issued by the Post Office bearing the date 24th June. This particular date is of great significance to the Order of St John as it is traditionally recognised as 'St John the Baptist Day', the patron saint after whom the international non profit organisation takes its name.



TA' QALI CRAFTS VILLAGE

is situated on part of an historic World War II airbase in central Malta. Nearby there is the National Park, the Malta Aviation Museum and a busy Sunday market. During World War II the airbase suffered heavy bombing and after the war the airbase, complete with hangars and Nissen huts, was abandoned and stayed that way for a number of years until a glassblower started using the old hangar as a workshop. Ta'Qali Crafts Village was born. At Ta'Qali local experts create all kinds of beautiful artefacts from blown glass to Maltese lace and from pottery to intricate jewellery. An ideal

day out with the chance to see craft people at work and to buy something unique and original to take home.



Mdina Glass Crafts Village, Ta Qali Tel: +356 21415786 http://www.mdinaglass.com.mt/ info@mdinaglass.com.mt





Xi ftit tal-jiem ilu Monsinjur Mario Grech, Isqof t'Għawdex ħeġġeġ lill-Għawdxin biex jattendu għall-Ordinazzjoni Episkopali li kellha ssir fis-Santwarju Nazzjonali Ta' Pinu nhar il-Ġimgħa filgħaxija ta' wieħed mill-patrijiet tal-Franġiskani Minuri li nsibu fil-kunvent ta' Sant'Antnin fl-Imġarr,

Għajnsielem. II-ħajja ta' Patri Gorġ Buġeja mwieled ix-Xagħra fl-1 ta' Lulju 1962 issa jkolli ngħid, inbidlet bħal-lejl min-nhar, għaliex minn Gwardjan f'kunvent issa jrid jirgħa I-merħla li I-Papa fdalu f'idejħ, madwar ħamsin elf nisrani li jgħixu fi Tripli I-Libja li qed jgħixu spalla ma' spalla ma' miljuni ta' Musulmani u persuni ta' twemmin ieħor. Kulħadd jaf li fil-Libja

għadha ma teżistix il-paċi u t-trankwillita' li nsibu fil-gżejjer tagħna wara l-mewt tad-Dittatur Muammar Ghaddafi. Id-Demokrazija li ġġieldu għaliha l-Libjani tidher li għadha ma qabditx l-art u dan hu l-kamp li fih intbagħat biex jaħdem Patri Gorġ, bniedem twajjeb u umli li fl-omelija li għamillu l-Isqof Mario Grech li ordnah wiegħdu t-talb u s-sapport kollu tal-poplu Malti u Għawdxi w anke għarrfu li sa dak il-mument kienu diġa nġabru mal-erbatax-il elf ewro bħala għajnuna b'risq dawk I-insaru li fosthom kien sejjer jaħdem fi ftit jiem oħra. Monsinjur Isqof kompla jinkoraġġixxi lil dan I-Isqof Għawdxi biex ma jaqtax qalbu għax il-miżerikordja t'Alla hija bla tarf u I-Madonna ta' Pinu, li taħt il-ħarsien tagħha Patri Gorġ kien qed igiegħed I-Episkopat tiegħu – Sub Tuum Praesidium – ma kenitx ser tħallih waħdu.

Lil dan I-iben tal-Bambina, kont iltgajt miegħu xi ftit tal-ġimgħat ilu meta kont qed nippreżenta serata mużiko Letterarja fil-Knisja tal-Patrijiet minuri fl-Imġarr fejn kien għadu qed iservi bħala Gwardjan, organizzata mill-Fondazzjoni Papa Gwanni Pawlu t-Tieni. Niftakar tajjeb kemm kien laqagħna u kompla magħna; ftit kliem imma bi tbissima. F'Ta' Pinu I-vuċi tiegħu kienet soda u għalkemm f'mumenti deher ħafna kommoss, rajtu mhejji tajjeb għall-ministeru ġdid li kien dieħel għalih. Latmosfera fis-Santwarju kienet waħda sabiħa u għadd ta' isqfijiet kienu preżenti, fosthom I-Arċisqof ta' Malta u n-Nunzju Appostoliku għal Malta u I-Libja. Ma setax jonqos il-kumpajżan tiegħu Monsinjur Joe Bonello, Isqof ta' Juticalpa fil-Honduras. F'isem il-President ta' Malta attenda s-Sur Preca, kif ukoll I-Onor Ministru għal Għawdex u s-Segretarju Parlamentari għall-Anzjani, Dr Chris Said f'isem I-Oppożizzjoni, flimkien mas-Sindki tal-Għarb u tax-Xagħra u dinjitari u mistednin oħra fosthom anke I-Imam tal-Kommunita' Musulmana f'Malta. II-poplu Għawdxi ma baqax lura tant li barra s-Santwarju ntrama wkoll big screen biex ħadd ma jibqa' barra. Iċ-ċerimonja kienet waħda twila u għalkemm taħt is-saqaf kienet is-sħana, kulħadd kien attent għal dak kollu li kien għaddej għax ħatra ta' Isqof ma tiġrix kuljum imma, kif tenna I-Isqof djoċesan, Għawdex għal darba oħra kien qed jiġbed I-attenzjoni tal-Papa Franġisku u jaħtar wieħed minn uliedu għall-Episkopat.

Importanti issa li nitolbu għal dan ħuna li se jsalpa f'baħar imqalleb biex il-Mulej iżommu kontinwament taħt il-ħarsa ħelwa u ħanina ta' għajnejh u jagħtih id-dehen biex imexxi l-merħla fdata f'idejh. Ix-Xagħra għandha tassew biex tifraħ tara bosta minn uliedha jagħtu sehemhom għaliex fl-imgħoddi dejjem ħadet ħsieb it-tfal tagħha. Jaħbat ma' moħħi hawnhekk l-ex Arċipriet Mons Eucatistico Sultana li dawn il-jiem fakkar il-50 sena tas-saċerdozju tiegħu, bniedem li sa mill-bidu fehem l-importanza tal-kura taż-żgħar jekk trid li fil-ģejjieni jkollok il-vokazzjonijiet. Min jaf kemm il-darba rajtu b'ċorma tfal jiġru warajh, jgħallimhom, jieħu paċenzja bihom, joħroġhom u jiddevertihom. Dak li tiżra' taħsad; illum

ix-Xagħra tista' tiftaħar li mill-ġdid qed tagħti lill-Knisja wieħed minn uliedha – l-Isqof Patri Gorġ Buġeja li minn dawn ilkolonni nixtequlu mill-qalb Ad Multos Annos. Kav. Joe M Attard Victoria Ghawdex

SEPTEMBER 2015



The imposing and monumental parish church of St Helen is considered by many to be one of the finest examples of Baroque architecture on the island. The design, attributed to Salvu Borg and built between 1727–1745 is situated within the centre of Birkirkara. The church overlooks a conical shaped open square which in turn is engulfed by dense urban low rise buildings further accentuating its grand status

BIRKIRKARA MALTA

The façade is divided into three bays with pairs of superimposed decorative

Corinthian pilasters further accentuating the divisions. The upper part of the façade is reduced in height to the lower façade separated by a plain set of intermediate entablature. A further set of entablature finishes off the upper façade and provides a base for the low height bell towers and centrepiece.

It is believed that the architect of the church, Salvu Borg, was an understudy to Lorenzo Gafa during the construction of the parish church of St Paul in Rabat. The façade is believed to be modelled after Gafa's Mdina Cathedral.

Birkirkara is one the largest, oldest and most heavily populated city in the centre of Malta with 25,775 inhabitants in an area of 2.7 km². The Old Railway Station, a memory from Malta's railway past, can be found in Birkirkara and can still be visited today, with a public garden around it. Malta's perhaps most beautiful church, St Helen Basilica can also be found in this town. Besides its beauty, the church is also famous for having Malta's largest bell. St Helen is also the main religious feast in Birkirkara and the main attraction of the feast is a procession during which, a large wooden statue of St Helen (created by Maltese Salvu Psaila) is carried through the city. The procession leaves the basilica at 08:00 to return at 10:45 on the first Sunday following the 18th of August. The timing of the procession is unique as these events usually take place in the evening.

Today most of Birkirkara is modern but the town still kept some of its traditional Maltese characteristics of narrow streets and alleys. The city's older part is separated from the newer part by a small garden. The larger houses in the town are often used as band clubs or offices for political parties.

Birkirkara: Things to do and see

bell, installed around 1932 and the statue of St. Helen, which was completed in 1837 by the Maltese artist Salvu Psaila.

Ta' Ganu Windmill: The windmill is located on Naxxar road and is one of the few remaining windmills in Malta. Ta' Ganu Windmill was built in the earlier part of the eighteenth century during the principate of Portuguese Grandmaster Antonio Manoel de Vilhena. The building has recently been restored.

<u>The Old Railway station</u>: The railway only had one single line, which ran from Valletta to Rabat and was set up due to the demands for better transport. The sidings and the forecourt were moved into a public garden during the restoration in 1970.

<u>Aqueduct:</u> This aqueduct was founded in 1610 by Grand Master Wignacourt, and was used to bring water from Rabat to Valletta. A large section of the 16-km (10-mile) can still be seen in Birkirkara.

http://www.malta.com/en/about-malta/city-village/birkirkara

STONEHENGE'S GIANT BIG BROTHER UNEARTHED IN UK

A huge ritual monument which dates from the time of Stonehenge has been discovered hidden under the bank of a nearby stone-age enclosure.

Durrington Walls, a roundish "super-henge" has long puzzled archaeologists because one side is straight while the rest of the structure is curved. As early as 1810, historian Richard Colt Hoare claimed its shape had been left "much mutilated" by centuries of agriculture. But now ground-penetrating radar has found that the straight edge is actually aligned over a row of 90 standing stones which once stood 5 metres high, and formed a C-shaped arena that has not been seen for thousands of years.

The stone line is likely to have marked a ritual procession route and is thought to date from the same time as the sarsen circle at Stonehenge.



"Everything previously written about the Stonehenge landscape and the ancient monuments within it will need to be rewritten," said Paul Garwood.

Archaeologists believe the stones were pushed over and a bank built on top, but they are still trying to work out exactly why they were built. Nothing exists like it in the Neolithic world.

"It's utterly remarkable," said Professor Vince Gaffney, of the University of Bradford. "It's just enormous. It is definitely one of the largest stone monuments in Europe and is completely unique. We've never seen anything like this in

the world.

"We can't tell what the stones are made of, but they are the same height as the sarsens in the Stonehenge circle, so they may be the same kind. It was probably for a ritual of some sort, or it could have marked out an arena. These monuments were very theatrical. This [is] a design to impress and empower."

"Not only does the new evidence demonstrate a completely unexpected phase of monumental architecture at one of the greatest ceremonial sites in prehistoric Europe, the new stone row could well be contemporary with the famous Stonehenge sarsen circle or even earlier."

Durrington Walls, a couple of kilometres north-east of Stonehenge, is one of the largest known henge monuments, measuring about 500 metres in diameter and built around 4500 years ago in the Neolithic age. It is surrounded by a ditch of up to 16 metres wide and a bank of more than one metres high and is built on the same summer solstice alignment as Stonehenge.

Some archaeologists have suggested that the builders of Stonehenge lived at Durrington. A nearby wooden structure, called Wood Henge was thought to represent the land of the living while Stonehenge was the realm of the dead. But the discovery of the stones suggests that Durrington Walls had a far earlier and less domestic history than has previously been supposed.

The Bradford archaeologists have been working alongside an international team as part of the Stonehenge Hidden Landscapes project, using the latest technology to map the area.

Ad Feedback

"Everything previously written about the Stonehenge landscape and the ancient monuments within it will need to be rewritten," said Paul Garwood, senior lecturer in archaeology at the University of Birmingham and principle prehistorian on the project.

Dr Nick Snashall, National Trust archaeologist for the Avebury and Stonehenge World Heritage Site, said the new results added "a whole new chapter to the Stonehenge story".

THAT'S ALL, MATES, SEE YOU AGAIN SOON - DAK KOLLU GHALISSA - SAHHA U GRAZZI