

THE JOURNAL OF THE MALTESE DIASPORA**MALTESE NEWSLETTER**

BUILDING BRIDGES BETWEEN MALTESE ALL OVER THE WORLD



**Marie Louise Coleiro Preca KUOM
President of Malta**

WELCOME TO ADELAIDE

From the Maltese Community of Adelaide

Marie Louise Coleiro Preca, born in December 1958 at Qormi, Malta, is a Maltese politician and the 9th President of Malta since her appointment on 4 April 2014. Previously, as a member of the Labour Party, she was a Member of Parliament in the Parliament of Malta from 1998 to 2014 and served as the Minister of the Family and Social Solidarity from 11 March 2013 to 29 March 2014.

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H.E. MARIE LOUISE COLEIRO PRECA
President of the Republic of Malta
is delivering the opening address at the conference
Student WellBeing and Prevention
of Violence Research Centre (SWAPv) 2016
At Flinders University
South Australia

*Enhancing child and adolescent well-being and preventing violence
in school and early childhood settings*

The SWAPv inaugural conference, in partnership with *Flinders Educational Futures Research Institute, Office of Indigenous Strategy & Engagement, The Wellbeing and Resilience Centre (SAHMRI), headspace, Relationships Australia (SA)*, is bringing together national and international researchers in the field of promoting student wellbeing, positive mental health, preventing violence and aggression, bullying and cyber-bullying, and other related fields. Important foci include Indigenous conceptions and understandings of wellbeing and violence prevention and a focus on youth voice involving members of headspace. **Performance:** 'Bound and Unbound' by members of the Office of Indigenous Strategy and Engagement, Flinders University.

The President of Malta will have the opportunity to meet the members of the Maltese Community of Adelaide at a reception at the Adelaide Convention Centre hosted by the Premier of South Australia the Honourable Jay Weatherill on Tuesday 12 July 2016. Her Excellency will be accompanied by her husband Mr. Edgar Preca. The Maltese Queen of Victories Band will participate in the function together with hundreds of Maltese/South Australians and many other local dignitaries.



AUSTRALIAN OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN

Nominating gives someone the chance to take their message to the nation. Know someone worthy of attention? Nominations are open now www.australianoftheyear.org.au

Nominate Your Local Heroes and Admirable Aussies for Awards

Australians are being asked to nominate their local heroes and admirable Australians for the 2017 Australian of the Year Awards.

The Australian of the Year Awards rely on the public to submit nominations for fellow Australians they would like to see recognised by the Awards.

There are four Awards categories:

- Australian of the Year
- Senior of the Year (65 years and over)
- Young Australian (16 - 30 years)
- Australia's Local Hero

How the Awards process works:

- Members of the public submit nominations for the Awards – a nomination must be submitted for an individual before they can be considered for the Awards,
- Up to 3,000 individuals are nominated in the Australian of the Year Awards each year,
- Once nominations close on 7 August 2016, they will be sorted into the four Award categories in each State and Territory,
- Up to four finalists are selected in each category, from which Award recipients in each State and Territory are announced in late 2016 (it's these people who then go on to be considered for the national Awards),
- The national Awards are decided by the Board of the National Australia Day Council and are announced on January 25, 2017.

Who's eligible:

- Visit australianoftheyear.org.au where you can submit a nomination
- There are four Award categories:
 - Australian of the Year
 - Senior Australian of the Year (65 years and over)
 - Young Australian of the Year (16 to 30 years)
 - Australia's Local Hero
- Nominees must be Australian citizens

- You don't have to know the person you're nominating – you just need to tell us why you think they are worthy of recognition and provide brief details of what they've done
 - You can't nominate yourself
 - The Awards judging criteria considers:
 - Demonstrated excellence in their field
 - Significant contribution to the Australian community and nation
 - An inspirational role model for the Australian community
 - The Local Hero Award acknowledges a significant contribution at local community level
- For more information on the Awards process, visit [http://www.australianoftheyear.org.au/the-awards/criteria/Download DOCX \(73.47 KB\)](http://www.australianoftheyear.org.au/the-awards/criteria/Download DOCX (73.47 KB))

Sr Connie Mamo ~ Golden Jubilee Celebration



The question isn't **WHY DID YOU JOIN?** The question, after 50 years of religious life is **WHY DID YOU STAY?** The Eucharistic Mass of Thanksgiving celebrated all the reasons why Sr Connie Mamo chose to live her life amongst the Augustinian Sisters, Servants of Jesus and Mary. Of the 50 years 41 were lived in Australia. In the presence of the parish priests she worked with, her Australian community members and the visiting General councillor from Rome some 500 people gathered around her in the parish church of St Martin De Porres, Avondale Heights to celebrate and remember all the God who has graced her so much over all these years.

As teacher, school principal, pastoral worker, community worker, Sr Connie has travelled many a mile giving witness to all that wonders God has worked for her. 50 years of religious life cannot be achieved without the fidelity she showed to God who, at times, asked much of her. Yet, through all the joys and struggles, living very far from the only brother she has, she voiced the reasons for 'staying': God's fidelity to her, the love and the ongoing trust and support of all those who have been part of her 50 year journey. We wish Sister Connie AD MULTOS ANNOS.

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Contact the Editor
 Frank Scicluna by sending an email
honconsul@live.com.au



Fl-Għodwa tas-17 ta' Lulju 2016: L-Għid ta' San Ġorġ

Kif San Ġorġ t'April jitlaqna
mill-ewwel nitfgħu ħarsitna
lejn din l-għodwa qrib nofs Lulju
li warajha dlonk titlifna!

Għax għalina din tkun tisser
ta' San Ġorġ festa mill-kbar
li ġgennen għal warajha
xjuħ, irġiel, nisa u tfal!

M'għandix kliem sabiex infisser
xi nħoss fija dawn il-jiem;
donnu demmi jrid jispara,
u jbaqbaq f'dan iż-żmien!

Kif quddiemni tfeġġ l-istatwa
ta' Mastru Pawl Azzopardi,
ninqata' mill-folla nħossni
u magħha rrid noqgħod waħdi

u nitkellem ma' dal-Martri,
beraħ miegħu niftaħ qalbi:
"Grazzi" ngħidlu, waqt li nolfoq,
f'dal-ġimghat li sema' talbi!

O kemm tlabtek, Ġorġi tagħna,

waqt il-mard u n-niket tiegħi –
illum nistqarr kollni hieni:
hemm fuq soddti sibtek miegħi!

Ersqu lejn dat-Tribun qawwi
l'għal twemminu bata u miet,
għaliex issa l-Mulej Alla
tefgħu fl-ogħla tas-Smewwiet

minn fejn qatt mhu sejjer jehda
jieħu ħsiebna, jindukrana;
għalkemm sekli ġew u marru,
Ġorġi jibqa' t-tarka tagħna!

U kif darba huwa rebaħ
fuq il-qilla tad-dragun,
anki llum lest biex jeħlisna
minn kull għelt, minn kull kaġun.

"Ġorġi tagħna, min qatt bħalek!"
tisma' jgħajtu folol kbar
waqt li dmugħ ta' ferħ iġelben
minn għajnejn anzjani, iż-żgħar!

Kont għadni daqsxejn ta' sabi,
missieri laqqagħni miegħek;
tgerrbu issa sebgħin sena,
qed nixjieħ, 'mma għadni tiegħek.

Għinni nsaħħaħ din ir-rabta,
din l-imħabba l'għandi lejki
sa ma tasal il-ġurnata
li niġi għal dejjem ħdejk!

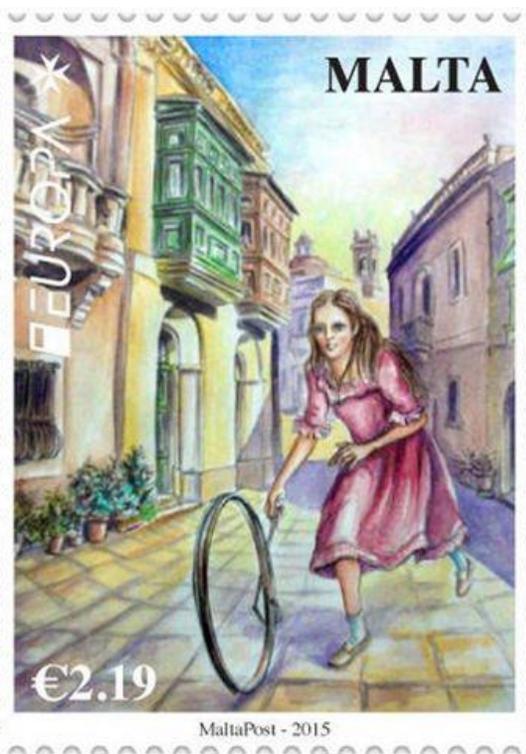
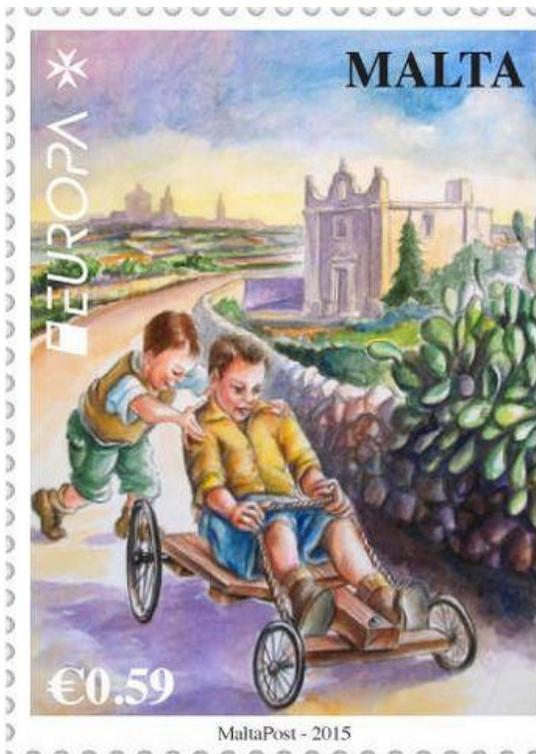
Meta l-Ħadd flgħaxija toħroġ
kburu ddur fuq l-ispallejn,
itfa' ħarstek fuqna kollha
u berikna b'dawk l-idejn

illi darba x-xabla ħafnu
biex jissieltu mat-tiranni
u bil-qawwa tal-kbir Alla
ġibt fix-xejn tilwim u nganni!

**Joe M. Attard Il-Belt Victoria,
Għawdex**



I feel so sad
My Maltese
partner is not
going to be happy
with me....
I nearly burnt
the pastizzi
in the oven
and I forgot
to buy him
Kinnie,
Qubbajt
and
Qaghaq-tal-Ghasel



TRADITIONAL CHILDRENS' GAMES IN STAMPS (see article below)

Ic-Cittadella – saret biċċa xogħol bil-ghaqal!



Dawn il-jiem mort inżur ic-Cittadella fil-belt Victoria wara x-xogħol kbir ta' restawr professjonali li kien ilu sejjer is-snin bil-ghajnuna ta' fondi li l-Gvern ġab mill-Ewropa; (imbagħad tisma' li r-Renju Unit hareġ minn dan is-suq ta' tant miljuni ta' nies! Mur ifhem id-dinja!) Huwa mertu taż-żewġ Gvernijiet, kemm dak tal-PN kif ukoll dak tal-Labour li issa c-Cittadella

tinsab fi stat tant tajjeb.

Għalkemm ma kontx mistieden għall-Inawgurazzjoni li saret mill-Prim Ministru l-Hamis wara nofs inhar, inzertajt f'hanut qed nixtri u stajt insegwi parti mill-ftuh fuq it-Television; hadt gost nisma' lill-Monsinjur Joe Vella Gauci juri l-apprezzament tiegħu lejn l-ex Ministru għal Ghawdex Giovanna Debono li fi żmienha tat ukoll is-sehem tagħha f'dan ix-xogħol ta' restawr. Bla dubju issa ngħidu Prosit lill-Gvern prezenti, b'mod speċjali lill-Ministru għal Ghawdex li wassal fi tmiemha opra bħal din.

Min bħali jiftakar lic-Cittadella fi żmenijiet l-imghoddija jista' issa jxebbah u janalizza x-xogħol kbir li sar biex dan l-imkien jissokta jiġbed lejha għadd kbir ta' barranin. Personalment hadt gost li dik l-arkata li kienet infetħet fil-Hamsinijiet (fi żmien Agata Barbara) issa reġgħet ingħalqet b'mod u manjiera li tkun tista' tinfetaħ biss f'okkażjonijiet speċjali biex b'hekk ic-Cittadella tista' żzomm il-karattru uniku u l-identitta' singolari tagħha. Xi darba xi hadd biċ-ċajt kien irrimarkali "li dak li ma għamlux il-Barberi għamlitu Barberina!" Imma kemm hawn ilsna hżiena hux!

Il-pubbliku issa jista' jżur ic-Cittadella billi jidhol mill-entrata l-qadima u oriġinali tagħha u b'hekk iħoss is-seher li tohloq dil-gawhra storika tagħna. Importanti li issa nibzghu għaliha wara dawn l-ispejjes kollha li saru u nuru r-rikonoxxenza tagħna lejn daww kollha li hadmu f'dan il-proġett tas-seklu!

Għeżiež Maltin u Ghawdxin toqogħdux lura milli tmorra żżuruha issa li għandha hafna iżjed x'toffri; għaddu mid-dell u gawdu l-fewġa u tistgħu anke tistrieħu intom u telghin għax issa sar ukoll 'railing' tassew sabiħ u komdu li qatt ma eżista qabel. Żuru l-irkejjen kollha u ifhmu xi swietlu lill-Gvern Malti li reġa' tana lura lil dan il-post storiku li jhaddan fih ukoll il-Knisja Katidrali li fil-15 t'Awwissu jiffestegġja bil-kbir l-Ghid tal-Assunta!

Kav Joe M Attard

CHILDHOOD TRADITIONS

By Doris Fenech

Maltese families always considered children as a great gift from God. Babies were given birth at home, with the help of a midwife ("qabla"), village women use to help the mother to give birth to the child, when the midwife was not found. Due the lack of medicine and hospitals many infants did not live long.

It was very common to hear the church bells tolling the death of a baby ("frejħa"). A priest accompanied the coffin reciting prayers with some alter boys. Children throughout flowers in front of the little white coffin, cared on hands by the baby's brothers and sisters on the way to church. Many babies were baptised by a family member on the same day they were born, because they believed that if the Lord call the baby, he or she will go to limbo ("limbu"). If the mother was in good health in the next two days, she will accompany her husband to church on foot for the child baptism.

As a sign of respect the first babies were named after one of the grandfather or grandmother. Relatives members were chosen to be the baby's godmother and godfather. A young lady use to hold the baby all dressed up in baptism clothes during the ceremony, while the priest administer the Christening sacrament in Latin.

Mothers breast ("tradda"), their babies and were swathe in swaddling-band ("fisqija"), to protect their back. Diapers were made of a cotton cloth ("qlejba"), over a piece of toweling cloth ("ħarqa") and fasten with a safety pin ("labra tas- sarwal").

With great affection mother rocked ("tbennen"), her baby in a cradle made of a sack spread out and hung in a corner of the house to serve as a hammock ("bennienna"), and pulled with a rope to make it swing. A dummy was dipped in honey and given to the child not to cry and lullabies ("għanjiet tat-fal"), were sung to soothe the child to sleep.

The first nursery rhymes ("taqbiliet"), and songs ("għamjiet"), where sung to the children while rocked on their parents knees, trilling a baby rattle ("čekćieka"), or clapping the baby's hands.

Dialect and baby talk were spoken to the infants, all the words had none to do with the grownups Maltese language example: bread "ħobż - pappa", cheese "ġobon - ġuġu", egg "bajda - kukka", dress "libsa - buba", drink "ixrob - bumbu", eat "kul - pappi", sweets "ħelu - ćejća", sit down "bilqeda - beqqi" and many others.

Maltese Lullaby

Banni Bannożżii

Banni bannożżi,
gej it-tata gej.
Kollox għal-Baby
u għad-Daddy xejn

Banni banniżż
daddy is coming soon.
Everything for Baby
and for Daddy none at all

Some villages had nursery-school ("skola tan-nuna"), run by elderly women. In 1938, Daughters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus ("Uljed il-Qalb ta' Gesu"), had the permission to run a convent at 104, "Strada Reale" (1859 -1942), Mellieħa. The nuns converted three rooms of the convent as nursery school. The infants who attend the kindergarten had the ages from three to five years. Since Mellieħa people were very poor, the nun' s fee was only 25c for the hole month ("żewġ xelini fix-xahar"). The

school started at 8.00a.m until noon.

All the children use to wear a black dress as uniform, decorated with red trimmings around the collar and on the waist of the dress. Girls used big white bows on their hair.

Children had great fun with the sister' s activities. A Christmas gift was given to each child, the favorite one who we all remember was a little decorated paper hand basket with a small baby Jesus in the middle. Children were very thankful for the present because they did not received many gifts.

Religion Rhymes *Pace Kulaci*

Pace kulaci

L-Madonna fuq rasi

Kristu fuq l-artal

qed ibierek it-tfal żgħar

dawn it-tfal imberkin

għax se jsiru qaddisin.

Madonna ta' Pompeii

Harisna bi nhar u bil-lejl.

For Mellieħa people the Sister's congregation was a gift from God, they were very grateful for the great work they made in the community. Early in the morning nuns even use to help the priest with the children catechism at the Sanctuary square rooms. In 1944 nuns moved to a new premises at 142 - 143, Triq il-Kbira (1943), with larger classrooms and a space for the children to play. For school activities they where given permission by the church to use the building "il-barrakka" at the back of the valley. The building was erected in 1940, on church land by the King's Own Regiment (KOMR), to be used as mess and a kitchen for the soldiers stationed at Mellieħa, Selmun, Għadira and L-Aħrax.

Children' s books were hard to find, teachers had to teach all the nursery rhymes, folktales ("ħrejjef"), tongue twisters ("xolji lingwa") and prayers ("talb"), by repeated over and over again, until the children memorised them by heart.



Tfal jilghabu l-passju

FARSONS – THE BEER FESTIVAL

Written by Sabine The Farsons Beer Festival is one of Malta’s most beloved celebrations of all things beer and music. This is a free, family friendly event that showcases the best of Maltese music (and beer, of course) as well as a lot of aspiring new musicians. Why not book flights to Malta and bring your friends along to what will most definitely be another successful addition to The Farsons Beer Festival.



This year marks the 36th edition of this long-running event that will take place from Friday 22nd to Sunday 31st of July at Malta’s Ta’Qali National Park. What better way to compliment the hot midsummer sun than a few cold ones? Malta’s beloved beer, Cisk which can undoubtedly be found

in every pub, club and bar in Malta, takes centre stage at this event. Every year Farsons showcase the growing number of varieties available from their award-winning selection as well as a huge variety of international beers. With over thirteen bars and well over sixty draught pumps it’s safe to say you’ll be very pleased with the collection of beers available. Of course, the beer is only one side of the festival. Why not take a gander, pint in hand, through the many quirky and cool stalls that will be set up around the festival? Maybe grab something to eat from the street food stalls before heading to check out the stages where some of Malta’s best musicians will be performing. Who knows, you might even find your new musical obsession among the many acts.

Last year’s event saw amazing performances from the UK’s Ram 1 and Gyamma as well as an outstanding show by the Juuls Reggae Party. There was also an acoustic stage added for the first time. Needless to say there’s music, food and beer for everyone’s tastes.

Every year this event attracts thousands of people who come to experience the good vibes, sunshine and jovial ambiance. It truly is a must for anyone looking for a good time on holiday in Malta. Follow the Farsons Beer Festival Facebook page to keep updated about the event.



Traditional Maltese

Nougat has been served since the induction of *festas* back in the time of the Knights of St. John. It has since then, become a symbol of *festa* season treats. This nougat comes in a huge variety of flavours with many different types of roasted nuts. Maltese honey, some of the tastiest honey you can get your hands on, is added to give it a mouthwatering taste.

University of Malta bids farewell to Juanito Camilleri, welcomes new Rector Alfred Vella



Friday, 1 July 2016 TIMES OF MALTA

Professor Juanito Camilleri handed over Rectorship of the University of Malta to Professor Alfred Vella at a special ceremony held yesterday.

The newly introduced Handing Over Ceremony for the Installation of the New Rector which was presided by the Chancellor, Professor David Attard, started with a Procession of the Academic Body from Valletta Campus

to the Church. On this occasion, Mr Anthony Mangion, former Librarian of the University of Malta, was Mace Bearer.

The University's ceremonial mace was re-introduced during this ceremony and will be used in future for the official opening of the academic year and at the granting of doctoral and honours causa degree ceremonies. Like many of its long-established counterparts abroad, the University of Malta originally enjoyed the privilege of having its own mace, which is known to have been used on ceremonial occasions in the late 1700s.

The mace stands for a university's internal authority and autonomy, its prerogative to grant degrees, and its academic integrity as a seat of higher studies and custodian of an enduring tradition of learning. It also represents the authority of a university's higher officials such as the Chancellor and the Rector, and the institution's constitution as a confederation of faculties. Above all else, the ceremonial mace constitutes a symbolic and tangible link with a university's past, signifying continuity in prestige and in the maintenance of high standards. As highly symbolic and prestigious artefacts, maces continue to feature prominently in university ceremonial.

The President of Council, Dr Michael Sciriha, read the Declaration of Council. This states that Professor Juanito Camilleri was completing his terms of office as Rector of the University of Malta on the 30 June 2016. It also affirms that at a meeting of Council of the University, which was convened on the 18 March 2016, an election was held for the appointment of the new Rector. Professor Alfred J. Vella was elected to take up Office on 1 July 2016.

Subsequently, Rector Professor Juanito Camilleri unrobed and Professor Alfred J. Vella was robed as the new Rector. The University Chancellor gave the scroll to the Rector Elect, who then read his affirmation. President Marie Louise Coleiro Preca attended the ceremony, which was held at the church of the University of Malta.

Government issues tender for the €1.5m restructuring of the fruit and vegetables market in Ta' Qali



the work can start as soon as possible.

The Parliamentary Secretary was speaking during the government public consultation meeting "Gvern li Jisma" held at Castille. The works which will be carried out in Ta' Qali are expected to cost some €1.5 million.

During this evening's session, Minister for the Environment, Jose' Herrera, who also participated in the event, insisted that developers can also be environmentalists, and that the two do not need to be distinguished from each other. The Minister said he is committed to keep making a difference and to improve the natural environment in Malta. Dr Herrera said that natural environment does not only interest the environmentalists, but it also effects future generations to come.



According to the Minister, the next big environmental issue in Malta will be that on dealing with waste accumulation.

On the pilot project of the organic bag, Minister Herrera said that already, some 1,000 tonnes of organic waste was collected. This is why, he said, that the government intends to expand the initiative.

Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture, Roderick Galdes said that agriculture constitutes 40% of the total budget of the European Union. He said Europe is facing a crisis in agriculture, including in the production of milk. The Parliamentary Secretary said that the importation of pork has affected local

farmers and the government had to intervene to avoid a natural death. On animal welfare, Dr Galdes said that the government is ready to lend an ear to all environmental NGOs.

The Parliamentary Secretary said that the local authorities are discussing proposals to safeguard swordfish population in Maltese waters. He confirmed that during the Maltese EU presidency, the government will dedicate a session which will include meetings with Ministers from Africa to discuss measures related to fishing.

He said that the government does not agree with the EU quotas. "These quotas will kill the Maltese fishing tradition, as our percentage compared to countries like Italy, is very small," he added.



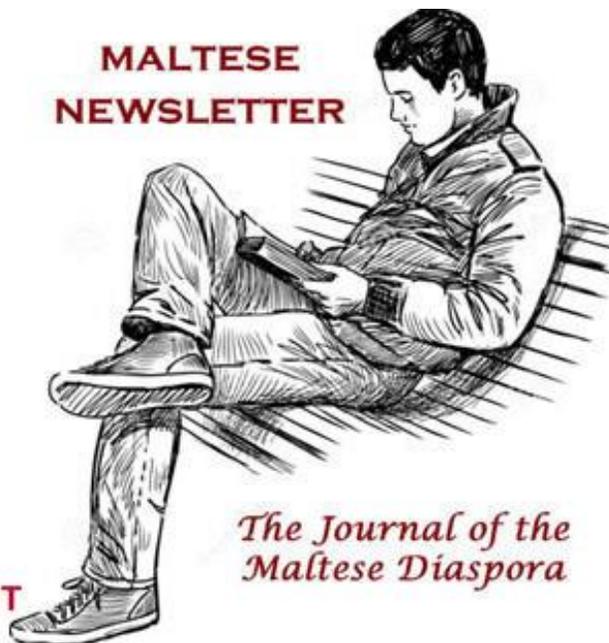
On the Azure Window, Minister Herrera said that in the coming weeks, he will announce a number of measures which will preserve the area. He explained that the government will be launching a management plan headed by a University Professor. But details on this measure are expected to be announced in a separate press conference. He only revealed that a UNESCO representative will be participating in the master plan.

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**MALTESE
NEWSLETTER**



*The Journal of the
Maltese Diaspora*

The aftermath of Brexit



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The shock “Leave” vote is still sinking in and being digested, not only in the UK but also around the world. The dramatic irony, from a simple analysis of the result, is that the older generation in the UK thought about themselves and not about their children or the younger generation. This is in deep contrast to what Malta experienced in our “join or not join the EU referendum”. We all thought of the future of our children and how

important it was to indeed join the EU, for their sake.

The British young voted overwhelmingly to remain in while the older generation, unfortunately still living in the past and thinking the UK is still the great Britannia ruling the waves, opted to go back to their past, which they will soon find out does not exist anymore.

The British Empire is no longer there. Sovereignty is not the same as it was in the past. Today its means getting your way because you have the money. Money talks, money decides and money rules.

Greece lost its sovereignty when it virtually declared itself bankrupt. People quickly forget that Britain once nearly lost its sovereignty in the 1970s, ironically not to Europe, but to the IMF when it had to go on a three-day week working basis and then had to borrow some \$4 billion and succumb to the heavy demands of the IMF to reduce public expenditure.

Now with the UK out, each country’s contribution to support the EU will definitely increase

This Brexit vote cannot be changed, albeit, it seems to have been won on lies and admitted deceit. The result will have a devastating impact not only on the UK itself, but also on its trading partners and allies, and it could also include a break-up of the UK, with Scotland and Northern Ireland seeking independence or to remain in the EU. Spain has already made a step forward to jointly govern Gibraltar.

THE HALL OF SHAME AUSTRALIA HALL

A spot of respite ... servicemen enjoy a dance at Australia Hall. Picture: Richard Ellis / Archive MaltaSource:Supplied

During the centenary commemoration of the Gallipoli campaign, the Australian Government is hoping to gain financial support to bring the military hall back to its glory.

It was built as an entertainment and recreation hall for convalescing Aussie and Kiwi troops in November 1915.



The story of the large sandstone edifice is well known on the island and forms a critical part of the ANZAC Gallipoli story and the bond today shared between Malta and Australia.

The hall, built for the 1915 Gallipoli campaign, survived military service in WW2 but is today a shell of its former self with no roof, a suspicious gutting fire and developers now circling its prime location on the corner of ANZAC Street and Alamein Street on the northern coastal tip of Malta.

There are so few of the lasting physical links between our two cultures, it would be a shame if



something was not done to preserve this historical building.

With a bit of effort and determination the authorities you could get it back to what .it was."



Australian and New Zealand nurses at war

In December 1914, the first women volunteers for the Army Nursing Service sailed from Australia bound for the Great War. Diverted to Egypt in preparation for the Gallipoli campaign they served in Alexandria, Gallipoli, Malta, Lemnos and on the Western Front. Through shocking hardship they experienced exceptional friendship, passionate love, success and heartbreak.

They served in places such as Malta, Burma, India, The Persian Gulf, Egypt, Greece, Italy, France and England.

The record of service for these Sisters is a brilliant one, and one which set a very high standard for all who were to follow. The following statistics are noteworthy:

- more than 2286 nurses served overseas
- more than 423 served in Australia
- 25 died in action
- at least 388 were decorated (seven Military Medals were awarded to Australian Nurses for their courage under fire).

ALL THE EDITIONS OF THIS NEWSLETTER ARE PRESERVED FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS ON TWO WEBSITES www.ozmalta.page4.me and www.ozmalta.com and AT THE MIGRATION MUSEUM, VALLETTA, MALTA



AUSTRALIAN ELECTION 2016 What Just Happened?

Australia is waking without a winner from last night's federal election.
How did we get here?

Malcolm Turnbull's Coalition Government is facing a desperate fight to hang on to a majority in Parliament. On the count so far it has won 67 seats, nine fewer than the 76 needed to command a majority in the Lower House.

While Bill Shorten and Labor look set to fall short of being able to form even a minority government, they have staged an amazing comeback that has again highlighted the volatility of modern Australian politics.

So where does this leave us?

Mr Turnbull says he has "every confidence" the Coalition will be able to form a majority government but he has conceded a final result is not likely before Tuesday at the earliest. While it seems unlikely Labor will get the seats required to form even a minority Government, there is no guarantee the Coalition will get the required seats either.

