

**MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER**  
**555** Journal for Maltese  
 Living Abroad  
 Malta in the World

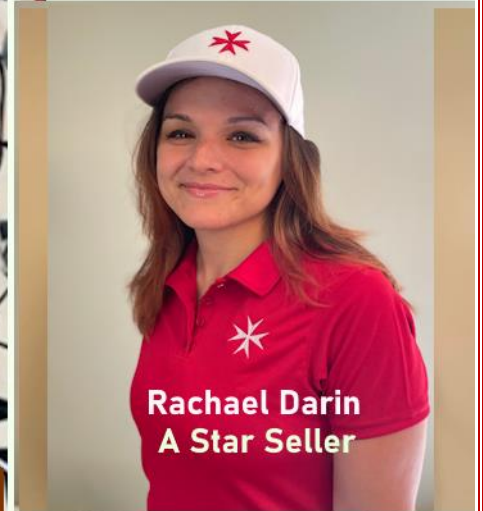


The coat of arms of Saint-Barthélemy

Editor - Frank L Scicluna OAM MQR  
 Email - [maltesejournal@gmail.com](mailto:maltesejournal@gmail.com)



MA-RA f'Hal G'harghur minn Dwal Godda



Rachael Darin  
 A Star Seller

PetitePatriots  
<https://www.etsy.com>  
 Michigan, United States

**NORWOOD INTERNATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL**

2025  
 COMMEMORATIVE MALTA ANZAC COASTAL ROWING REGATTA  
 1914 - 1918

**NORWOOD INTERNATIONAL ROWING CLUB**



ORDER OF MALTA

**31ST March**

**MALTA FREEDOM DAY**

## CONSUL-ON-THE-MOVE

The **Consul-on-the-Move Programme** was launched on 5 May 2016, in accordance with the Passports Office within *Identità* Agency, and conforms with the Government's vision to have Governmental services closer to the citizens. It provides a number of Consular services (that are normally available at Maltese Embassies and Consulates) in different locations.

The need for this Programme was mostly felt after the introduction of biometric passports, that led Maltese applicants living abroad to go physically to the nearest Maltese Embassy or Consulate in order to capture biometric data. This was resulting to an inconvenience, especially due to additional expenses related to costs for travel and accommodation.

This Programme is currently available in **Australia, Canada, the United States of America, the United Kingdom, and New Zealand**. All Consular services currently available at the Maltese Embassies and Consulates continue to remain available.

For certain services provided, an **additional administrative fee** applies.

In accordance with Legal Notice 221 of 2016, the administrative charge for passport applications is €100 for each application, whilst that for citizenship applications is €50 for each application, over and above other related fees.

The following is the **updated list of the provisional scheduled visits for 2025**:

<b>High Commission of the Republic of Malta in Canberra, Australia</b>		
<b>City/State/Province</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Venue/s</b>
Brisbane QLD	14-16 May 2025	TBD (To Be Decided)
Adelaide SA	20 May 2025	Maltese Guild of SA, Beverley
Perth WA	22 – 23 May 2025	Maltese Association of WA, Bassenden
Auckland NZ	13 August 2025	Europe House, Auckland University of Technology
Wellington NZ	15 August 2025	Victoria University Murphy Building Kilburn
Brisbane QLD	8 – 10 October 2025	TBD (2 <sup>nd</sup> visit if required)
Mackay QLD	13 October 2025	TBD (2 <sup>nd</sup> visit if required)
Cairns QLD	14 October 2025	TBD (2 <sup>nd</sup> visit if required)
Adelaide SA	24 November 2025	Maltese Guild of SA, Beverley (2 <sup>nd</sup> visit if required)
Perth WA	26 November 2025	Maltese Association of WA, Bassenden (2 <sup>nd</sup> visit if required)

<b>Embassy of the Republic of Malta in Washington, United States</b>		
<b>City/State/Province</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Venue/s</b>

San Francisco	2-5 March 2025	Honorary Consul Louis Vella's Office
Michigan	Second half of the year	Honorary Consul Paul Borg's Office
San Francisco	Second half of the year	Honorary Consul Louis Vella's Office

#### High Commission of the Republic of Malta in London, United Kingdom

City/State/Province	Dates	Venue/s
Cardiff, Wales	May 2025	TBD
Edinburgh, Scotland	August 2025	TBD

#### Consulate General of the Republic of Malta in Toronto, Canada

City/State/Province	Dates	Venue/s
Edmonton/Calgary – Alberta	Aug/Sep 2025	TBD
Vancouver – British Columbia	Aug/Sep 2025	TBD
Edmonton/Calgary – Alberta	Oct/Nov 2025	TBD
Vancouver – British Columbia	Oct/Nov 2025	TBD

It is worth noting that the service is available **by confirmed appointment only**. For further information, one may wish to contact the respective location focal point as follows:

Location	Email address	Contact number
Australia/New Zealand	<a href="mailto:consul.canberra@gov.mt">consul.canberra@gov.mt</a>	+61 (02) 6290 1724
Canada	<a href="mailto:consul.toronto@gov.mt">consul.toronto@gov.mt</a>	+1 (416) 207 0922 /0989
USA	<a href="mailto:consul.washington@gov.mt">consul.washington@gov.mt</a>	+1 (202) 530 9750 /9751 /9752
UK	<a href="mailto:consul.london@gov.mt">consul.london@gov.mt</a>	+44 (0) 207 292 4800

It is highly recommended that closer to the scheduled date/s of the visits, one consults the relevant Mission/s coordinating the visits to ensure that there are no changes in dates and venues.

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All this information may be obtained from the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Tourism <http://www.malteselivingabroad.gov.mt/consul-on-the-move/>

THE WEBSITE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TOURISM

<https://foreign.gov.mt>

HON. IAN BORG - Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Tourism

A MESSAGE FROM

# Multicultural Affairs

# Information sharing

## Stop, check and protect from scams

### Advice from Consumer and Business Services

Translated information is now available to help South Australian consumers stop, check and protect themselves from scams. Scammers target everyone, costing Australians billions of dollars each year. Awareness is the best defence against scammers.

Consumer and Business Services (CBS) has resources available in 22 different languages to help you share the message: 'Stop. Check. Protect.'

These three small steps can help keep you safe from scammers.

Visit [scamwatch.gov.au/translated](https://scamwatch.gov.au/translated) for scam information in your language.

#### How to make your community aware:

- Share the [attached information](#) on your website and in your newsletters, emails or blogs
- Use the attached information and image to create your own content
- Share Consumer and Business Services' posts on social media, via [Facebook | Consumer and Business Services](#) and [X/Twitter | Attorney-General's Department \(SA\)](#).

Further resources are available at [Scamwatch | campaign resources](#).

#### For more information

#### Consumer and Business Services – Communications

**Phone:** (08) 8429 9464

**Email:** [CBSCommunications@sa.gov.au](mailto:CBSCommunications@sa.gov.au)

**Connect:** [Facebook | Consumer and Business Services](#)

**Visit:** [cbs.sa.gov.au](https://cbs.sa.gov.au) *Authorised by Justine Kennedy, Director, Multicultural Affairs*



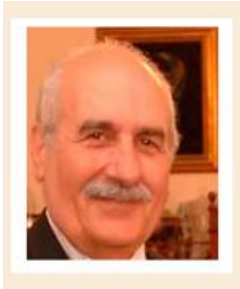
#### Governor of South Australia Multicultural Award Frank Scicluna, OAM, JP

Very warm congratulations on your becoming the recipient of the Multicultural Award from the Governor of South Australia, HE The Hon Frances Adamson.

The Maltese Community across Australia will never be able to pay you enough for the unstinting, dedicated work you have put into fifty years of voluntary, unremunerated service to Maltese Australians and those across the Maltese diaspora.

I have had occasion to see you in action and collaborate with you in many forums – the Council for Maltese Living Abroad (CMLA), the Maltese Language Schools, the Federation of Maltese Abroad (FOMA), the Journal of the Maltese Living Abroad – the Newsletter, the launches and promotion of Maltese literary and film production, Maltese Culture, the visits of our PMs and Presidents, the Diplomatic Service, the Community Councils and, undoubtedly, many others – and you are now not only at the vanguard of all Maltese-Australian initiatives but the glue and bridges that hold our, now mature, Maltese and Gozitan communities together and afloat.

Your Award is a testament to your commitment and dedication to 'the cause' and an inspiration to many who will follow us and who, like you, have been bitten and smitten by a profound love for our tiny island home. Proset hafna. **Professor Stephen Gatt – NSW Australia 12/03/2025**



Dear Frank, I cannot but fully agree with the message from Marion that is shown hereunder.

The E-Newsletter that I receive regularly, keeps me well informed about current events taking place in Malta. It also digs into the history of the Maltese Islands with plenty of news, reporting from events that have happened in the past.

I cannot also forget the wonderful news of a recent award to the EDITOR of this E-Newsletter namely Frank Scicluna. Very well merited dear editor and I wish you continued success for the future. Your newsletter, keeps Maltese people united, no matter where they can be living. The sharing of heritage news, current events as well as reporting from past and present, certainly makes me feel happy when your latest copy of E-Newsletter arrives on my computer screen.

**Thanks again and best regards George Stagno Navarra – Malta**



Congratulations Frank and well deserved award.

The Maltese e-newsletter and its presentation including stories continue to reach a high level standard of quality reading supported by photos.

Next month, my family will be joining me in heading off to Malta for our 2nd ANZAC sports on ANZAC Day: U18 Rowing regatta featuring U18 students from SA and NZ schools from the North Island competing with Malta U18 Students on 25th April 2025. I will send you photos of the event on my return to Adelaide.

One special project during our stay will be at the Australia Hall ...Our group with the help of locals will add a fresh smell of rosemary plants in front of the Hall grounds. My 20-month-old grandson [5th generation] will join in a family photo in front of the Australia Hall where both my grandfather WWI and my father during WWII spent time at St Andrew's barracks and often mentioned the Australia Hall. The Australia Hall is on the agenda in setting up an Australia Hall Foundation ...it's early days and will keep you and your readers informed. Best regards

**John Calleja - Adelaide, Australia Malta ANZACs**



## Harmony Week 'Everyone Belongs'

From 17-23 March 2025, Australians will come together to celebrate our

nation's cultural and linguistic diversity by living the Harmony Week message, 'Everyone Belongs'. Harmony Week is a time to reflect on where we have come from, where we are today, and where we want to go as a proudly multicultural, multifaith state.

It is also an occasion to honour the profound contributions our diverse communities make to the economic, social and cultural life of our great state. Midway through Harmony Week, on 21 March, we will join with communities around the world to observe the UN International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. This is a call to action for each of us to stand up and speak out against prejudice and discrimination, for a more inclusive, welcoming South Australia. We encourage you to be part of Harmony Week celebrations this year and signal your commitment to a creating a fairer and more equitable society where everyone can belong.

Peter Malinauskas  
**PREMIER OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

Zoe Bettison  
**MINISTER FOR MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS**



## 2025 COMMEMORATIVE MALTA ANZAC COASTAL ROWING REGATTA

In April 2025, Norwood International High School will travel to Malta to participate in a significant ANZAC Rowing competition, commemorating Malta's crucial support of ANZAC forces during World War I. This event will honour the historical alliance between Malta and the ANZAC troops, who relied on Malta as a vital base and medical hub during the conflict. The competition will showcase athletic skill and students from Norwood International High School will join teams from around the world, celebrating history and forging new connections through the spirit of rowing. This experience will challenge them to perform for their country and allow the development of a deep understanding and appreciation of our Anzac history. Although this important international experience will be rewarding, it is an expensive and logistically challenging exercise. Students, staff, and families are actively fundraising to subsidize student costs and to also provide a suitable uniform that proudly represents our country and school. The coordinator of the regatta is John Calleja from Adelaide and he will keep us informed of the event in due time.



## FREEDOM DAY – REGATTA – HERITAGE MALTA

On Monday 31st March, Freedom Day, Heritage Malta invites you to experience the traditional, heart-pounding Regatta competition from one of the best vantage points in the Grand Harbour – the majestic Fort St Angelo.

An event steeped in Maltese tradition and maritime skill, the Regatta sees rowing teams from several Maltese cities competing for a prize called the 'Palju', in 11 races with four different types of rowing boats.

Fort St Angelo will open its doors at a **reduced admission fee**, offering visitors the ultimate opportunity to immerse themselves in the thrilling rowing races taking place in the creek below. Once more, visitors will also be able to see the historic Magistral Palace, nestled in the upper reaches of the fort. This medieval gem, once the very first official residence of the Grand Masters of the Order of St John from 1530 to 1558, will be open for exploration, allowing guests to step back in time and walk through the halls where history was shaped.

Beyond the Regatta and the mesmerising setting the fort offers, the day will be complemented with engaging activities for all ages. From 10:00 am to 11:30 am, young visitors can unleash their creativity in a unique art activity taking place in Egmont Hall, whilst In Guardia re-enactors will transport audiences back to Malta's Hospitaller era, with amusing displays all around the fort. Join us for a day of history, heritage, and competitive fun – an unmissable celebration of Maltese identity at one of the island's most iconic locations! Tickets are available for purchase at our [online store www.heritagemalta.mt/store](http://www.heritagemalta.mt/store) and at any Heritage Malta museum or site. One may also purchase tickets at the door. Last admission is at 6:30 pm.

### **GHANA MALTI QADIM C. 1825 TA' DR OLVIN VELLA - Taħdita u Tnedija**

L-Akkademja tal-Malti u Heritage Malta jistednuk għat-tnedija ta' Ghana Malti Qadim (c.1825) ta' Dr Olvin Vella f'serata li żżewweġ l-istorja tal-lingwa u l-melodija li se ssir nhar il-Ġimgħa 21 ta'

Marzu 2025 fil-Mużew Marittimu ta' Malta, il-Birgu.

Dr Vella bena din il-pubblikazzjoni fuq sett ritratti li juru l-eqdem ġabra ta' għana Malti, datata madwar l-1825. Għal xi żmien, ir-ritratti tal-24 għanja kienu jinsabu għand Ġużè Cassar Pullicino. Il-



biċċa l-kbira minnhom inkitbu minn letterati zgħażaġh. Hmistax-il għanja huma ta' Giuseppe Zammit 'Brighella', tnejn ta' Wiġi Rosato, u tnejn oħra huma miktubin bi shab: waħda bejn Cesare Vassallo u Giuseppe Zammit, u l-oħra bejn Cesare Vassallo u Giovanni Antonio Michallef. Jifdal hames għanjiet anonimi.

Sal-iskoperta tagħhom, konna għadna ma nafux li tnejn mill-awturi tagħha – Dun Ġużèpp Zammit Brighella u l-biblijotekarju Cesare Vassallo – kienu jiktbu poeziji bil-Malti.

L-edizzjoni ta' Vella, imxandra mill-Klabb Kotba Maltin, fiha traskrizzjoni tal-għanjiet flimkien ma' tagħrif ġdid grammatikali. Fid-daħla tal-ktieb Dr Vella jistqarr li ma kienx jaf fejn kien jinsab il-manuskritt oriġinali, u kien wara li l-ktieb ħareġ għall-bejgħ li rċieva messaggġ mingħand Liam Gauci, dak iż-żmien kuratur tal-Mużew Marittimu, li qallu li dan il-manuskritt kienet xtratu Heritage Malta ftit snin qabel mingħand kollettur privat.

It-tnedija se tibda fis-7:00pm u matulha Dr Vella u s-Sur Gauci se jiddiskutu l-valur lingwistiku u storiku tal-manuskritt, b'akkumpanjament mużikali mill-kantawtur Vince Fabri, li se jagħti l-ħajja lil uħud mill-għanjiet.

Il-biljetti huma bla hlas iżda għandhom jinqatgħu minn qabel – jew online minn hawn [Store - Heritage Malta](http://Store-HeritageMalta) jew inkella mill-mużewijiet u s-siti ta' Heritage Malta – billi l-postijiet huma limitati.

Segwi l-WhatsApp Channel ta' Heritage Malta biex tibqa' aġġornat!

Ircievi avvizi importanti, inkluż aġġornamenti dwar il-possibbiltà ta' ċaqliq tad-data jew tal-hin tal-avvenimenti minħabba ċirkostanzi mhux

imbassra: [whatsapp.com/channel/0029Vb4UJxw1yT29ko3Gkq2F](https://whatsapp.com/channel/0029Vb4UJxw1yT29ko3Gkq2F)



Experience timeless Maltese classics brought to life by contemporary singers, celebrating iconic artists like Dominic Grech - The Tramps, Bayzo, The Greenfields, Enzo Gusman, Joe Cutajar, Tony Gauci, Jon Lucas Woodenman, Joe Grech and Sammy Bartolo. Under the direction of Paul Abela, this performance breathes new life into beloved songs, celebrating Malta's rich musical heritage.



## MA-RA f'Hal Għarghur minn Dwal Ġodda

Minn [Frederick Zammit](#)

Dwal Godda Grupp ta' ġurnalisti, iffissati fil-fatti, ma jafux għandhomx jindagaw l-ironija li, fil-Malti, l-kelma MA-RA fiha l-ewwel ittri tal-kelma mara [ma], kif ukoll raġel [ra]. Jisfidaw lilhom infushom, iridu jiskopru jekk kliem u

għemil in-Nazzarenu għadux iqanqal lill-bniedem fi żmienna, kif isostnu xi wħud.

Jiddubitaw jekk għandhomx jistaqsu: *Min kien in-Nazzarenu?...* jew: *Min hu?*; jew jekk għandhomx jittwaddbu midimba quddiemu biex jikkundannhom. Tgħid għadu jagħzel grupp ta' nisa biex jieħdu hsieb il-ħtiġijiet tiegħu u ta' dawk ta' madwaru? Qed jiġrili l-istess: L-ewwel jgħajtulu 'OSANNA', imbagħad din l-għajta tinbidel f'"SALLBU"? Jerġgħu jkunu l-awtoritajiet reliġjużi u politiċi li jaqtgħuhelu għall-mewt? L-istess ġurnalisti jiġu wiċċ imb'wiċċ ma' persunaġġ misterjuż li l-ħin kollu jipproponi kif l-Maltin għandhom u jistgħu jgħixu f'armonija bejniethom. Bla ma jafu, isibu ma' wiċċhom il-*buzzwords*: 'Going back to the basics'

Il-produzzjoni '**Ma-ra**', li hejjiet l-Għaqda Teatrali Dwal Ġodda bħala preambolu għall-Ġimgha Mqaddsa f'pajjiżna tifi – ukoll permezz ta' nies li jressqu 'il quddiem l-istess ġurnalisti – jekk man-Nazzarenu tistax tibqa' sieq 'l hawn u sieq 'l hemm, bejn temmen jew ma temminx fih.

L-Għaqda Teatrali Dwal Ġodda tippreżenta l-produzzjoni '**Ma-ra**' fl-iSpazju Teatrali ta' Hal Għarghur:

- **Mill-Erbgħa 9 sas-Sibt 12 t'April fit-7.30pm;**
- **Il-Ħadd 13 t'April, fit-3.00 pm, halli wara titgawda l-purċissjoni tradizzjonali tal-Ġimgha l-Kbira li f'Hal Għarghur isseħħ nhar Ħadd il-Palm;**

Dhul b'xejn, kulhadd mistieden, meħtieġ *booking*.

Kif xieraq, l-appoġġ tal-udjenza jkun apprezzat.

Din hi l-50 produzzjoni għal żmien il-Ġimgha l-Kbira minn din l-Għaqda tul 55 sena ta' hidma teatrali tagħha. Kull sena nbidel l-iskript kif jinħass li aktarx tinbidel ir-relevanza ta' kliem u eġm il in-Nazzarenu mal-ħajja tal-bniedem, fil-ħajja tagħna l-Maltin.





Dr Saliba presenting Dr Bonnici with a copy of the covers of the forthcoming publications *Learning Maltese 3* and *Learning Maltese 4*

## Gozitan Author Meets Minister Owen Bonnici

Gozitan author and MCAST academic Dr Charles Daniel Saliba recently paid a courtesy call on Dr Owen Bonnici, Minister for the National Heritage, the Arts, and the Local Government.

During the meeting, Dr Saliba spoke about the importance of foreign nationals who come to work in Malta learning the Maltese language and culture, as this facilitates integration for everyone. Moreover, he noted that this helps preserve Malta's linguistic and cultural heritage and ensures that the Maltese archipelago remains a place where the national language is actively spoken and maintained. Saliba stated,

'Now, the teaching and learning of the Maltese language—both as a foreign and as a native language—is more crucial than ever, considering Malta's low native birth rate and the influx of foreign nationals'.

Dr. Saliba also discussed the methodology behind the bilingual books he published for teaching Maltese as a foreign language. These books are used by foreign nationals of different age groups to learn Maltese, by people of Maltese descent living abroad—such as those in Australia—and by scholars of Semitic languages. Saliba elaborated, 'The way these books are designed, the fact that they are bilingual, and the emphasis they place on Maltese culture make them promoters of the Maltese language and culture and thus valuable tools for cultural diplomacy'.

At the meeting, Dr Saliba presented the Minister with the Maltese for Foreigners series, a collection of 22 books designed to teach Maltese as a foreign language to adults, as well as the new children's series entitled Maltese as a Foreign Language for Juniors, which consists of *Learning Maltese 1* and *Learning Maltese 2*. He also provided the Minister with a preview of the forthcoming publications *Learning Maltese 3* and *Learning Maltese 4*.

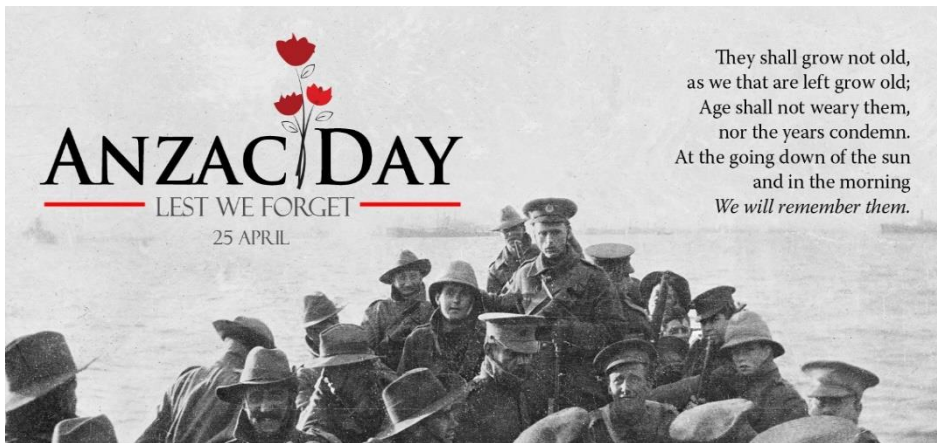
For more information about these publications, please visit: [www.charlesdanielsaliba.com](http://www.charlesdanielsaliba.com).



## A.L.P.S

It is with a heavy heart that  
**THE ASSOCIATION OF LYCEUM PAST STUDENTS**  
 announces the passing of one of its members  
**His Grace Archbishop Emeritus Mons. Pawl Cremona O.P.,**  
 He was a light in this world, and now we need to continue  
 showing his light by carrying it with us in our own lives  
 Holy Mass at the Pwales chapel will be offered  
 on Saturday the 29<sup>th</sup> March 2025 @ 16.30 hrs.  
 for the repose of the soul of H.G., Mons. Pawl Cremona,  
 who was a much loved and respected  
 member and friend to us all in ALPS.  
**MAY HE REST IN PEACE - AMEN**

## VISIT MALTA ON ANZAC DAY 25 APRIL 2025



They shall grow not old,  
as we that are left grow old;  
Age shall not weary them,  
nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun  
and in the morning  
*We will remember them.*

An Anzac Day Commemorative Service & Wreath Laying Ceremony is held annually on the 25th of April. This service is dedicated to all those Australians and New Zealanders who lost their lives at Gallipoli in 1915 and to acknowledge the role of

Malta in the care of the sick and wounded.

- **25 April 2025 From 9:00 am to 10:00 am**
- **Pietà Military Cemetery, Triq Id - Duluri, Pietà, Malta**

Anzac Day has been commemorated in Malta since 1916. This service, co-hosted by the High Commission of Australia and Honorary Consul of New Zealand, is dedicated to all those Australians and New Zealanders who lost their lives at Gallipoli in 1915, and in all subsequent military and peacekeeping operations, including those that are currently still active.

Malta played a significant role during both the Gallipoli and Salonika campaigns, including through the care of many Australian and New Zealand casualties evacuated to Malta for medical treatment. From the spring of 1915, hospitals and convalescent camps were established on the islands of Malta and Gozo to deal with over 135,000 sick and wounded. Despite the courageous efforts of the doctors and medical staff, some of the casualties could not be saved and they were buried in Malta. The Anzac Day commemorative service in Malta acknowledges Malta's role in the care of the sick and wounded, as well as the sacrifice and service of so many others in times of conflict.

The service is open to the public. Members of the public who wish to lay a wreath are welcome to do so, once invited by the Master of Ceremonies. Military medals may be worn.

Visitors to the service are requested to check the High Commission's social media or the 'Events' tab on the Australian High Commission's webpage for details on start times as these may vary from year to year.



### THE COAT OF ARMS OF SAINT-BARTHÉLEMY

is a shield divided into three horizontal stripes (parted per fess), three gold fleurs-de-lis on blue, above a white Maltese cross on red, over three gold crowns on blue, and "Ouanalao" is what the indigenous people called the island. On top of the shield is a mural crown.

The fleurs-de-lis, Maltese Cross, and gold crowns are heraldic reminders of the island's history as a colony ruled by first the Kingdom of France, then the Knights Hospitaller and in turn the Kingdom of Sweden. Eventually, the island returned to French rule. On a white background,

the arms serves as an unofficial flag for Saint Barthélemy.



**JOE BAJADA, SEGRETARJU ĠENERALI TAL-FEDERAZZJONI MALTIJA TAČ-ĊIKLIŻMU** ġie elett mill-ġdid għat-tielet mandat ta' erba' snin konsekuttivi bħala delegat tal-Votazzjoni tal-UCI b'37 vot. Dan ġara l-Ħadd li għadda, 9 ta' Marzu 2025, waqt is-37 Kungress Elettiv tal-UEC 2025 tal-Unjoni Ewropea tač-Ċikliżmu fi Bratislava, is-Slovakkja.

F'din il-kariga vitali fi ħdan din l-Unjoni Ewropea tač-Ċikliżmu, matul l-erba' snin li ġejjin, huwa se jiffirma parti minn 15-il delegat li se jkollhom id-dritt tal-vot f'isem it-52 pajjiż affiljat Ewropew, waqt il-Kungressi Ġenerali Annwali tal-Federazzjoni Internazzjonali tač-

Ċikliżmu. Ma' dawn il-15-il delegat Ewropew, se jingħaqdu magħhom 30 delegat ieħor mill-erba' konfederazzjonijiet l-oħra, li huma ACC (Asja), COPACI (Pan America), CAC (Afrika), u l-OCC (Oċeanja).

Fl-elezzjoni ta' din is-sena, ġew nominati 29 delegat minn Federazzjonijiet u Assoċjazzjonijiet differenti fi ħdan l-UEC, fejn 15 ġew eletti bħala Delegati tal-Votazzjoni u 8 oħra bħala Delegati sostituti. Minħabba l-istatut tal-UEC, ġew eletti l-ewwel erba' nisa u rġiel u Joe Bajada kien wieħed minnhom. Is-seba' kandidati l-oħra bl-aktar voti ingħaqdu magħhom. Maħtura ma' Joe Bajada kienu: Gilles Da Costa (Franza), Alejandro Martin Garcia (Spanja), Camille Dahm (Lussemburgu), Livia Hanesova (Slovakkja), Jaroslava Krakovcova (Repubblika Ċeka), Umberto Langellotti (Monaco), Krzysztof Golwei (Polonja), Toni Zoric (Bosnja u Ħerzegovina), Marino (Bosnja u Ħerzegovina), Alfredo Tajrahi (Albanija), Vanja Banovic (Montenegro), José Luis Ribeiro (Portugall), Kjersti Storset (Norveġja), u Martin Wolf (Ġermanja).

F'dan il-Kungress tal-Union Européenne de Cyclisme, bil-partecipazzjoni ta' delegati ufficjali minn 49 mill-51 federazzjoni membru, ikkonferma b'akklamazzjoni lit-Taljan Enrico Della Casa bħala President għall-perjodu ta' erba' snin oħra 2025-2029. Imbagħad, il-membri fil-Bord ta' Tmexxija tal-UEC ġew eletti wkoll bħala Viċi Presidenti: Katarina Jakubová (Slovakkja), Raivo Rand (Estonja), u Georgios Georgiou (Ċipru), Bernd Dankowski (Ġermanja) bħala Teżorier, u Dafna Lang (Iżrael) u Sabrina Tsakona Twiss (Greċja) bħala Membri.

Ikkonferma wkoll Alasdair MacLennan (Gran Brittanja) bħala s-Segretarju Ġenerali tal-UEC.

Elezzjoni oħra kienet għall-Kumitat tat-Tmexxija Ewropeja tal-UCI fejn ġew eletti: Rocco Cattaneo (l-Iżvizzera), Agata Lang (Polonja), Tom Van Damme (Belġju), Michel Callot (Franza), Serena Danesi (Italja), José Vicioso Soto (Spanja), Katerina Nash (Repubblika Ċeka), Henrik Jess Jensen (Danimarka), Emin Muftuoglu (Turkija) u Pavel Mardonovic (Slovenja).

Kuntent hafna b'dan ir-riżultat, Joe Bajada rringrazzja lil dawk is-37 pajjiż Ewropew kollha li għal darb'oħra wrew fiduċja sħiħa fih bil-vot tagħhom biex issa flimkien mal-14-il delegat l-oħra se jirrapprezentawhom waqt il-Kungress li jmiss tal-UCI, skedat għall-25 ta' Settembru 2025 waqt il-Kampjonati tad-Dinja tal-UCI Road f'Kigali (Rwanda).

Wara dan ir-riżultat Joe Bajada qal, 'Irrid nesprimi l-gratitudni tiegħi lil kull min appoggja l-kandidatura tiegħi bil-voti tagħhom u lill-Federazzjoni Maltija tač-Ċikliżmu għall-isforzi kontinwi tagħha biex tippromwovi u tiżviluppa č-čikliżmu f'Malta u lil hinn. Grazzi lill-kollegi tiegħi John Zammit u Daniel

Borg Olivier tal-appoġġ u l-fiduċja tagħkom. Is-sodisfazzjon personali tiegħi huwa l-elezzjoni mill-ġdid tiegħi, li hija xhieda tal-fiduċja li d-delegati reġgħu wrew fija. Grazzi lill-Federazzjonijiet Nazzjonali kollha talli reġgħu appoġġjawni għal din il-pożizzjoni. Onestament huwa unur immens għalija. Dan jimmarka pass sinifikanti u se nkun qed inġares aktar 'il quddiem għal aktar sfidi u naħdem għall-ġid tal-isport tagħna.' Zied jgħid li dan ir-rizultat jirrifletti fuq kollox l-hidma sfiqa tiegħu, li kienet innutata u kompliet tiġi apprezzata anke fix-xena internazzjonali.

Dan is-suċċess kollu ddedikah lill-familja kollha tiegħu għall-appoġġ kontinwu li dejjem jagħtuh. Xtaq jirringrazzja lill-President John Zammit u lill-kollegi tiegħu u lill-membri tal-Federazzjoni Maltija taċ-Ċikliżmu, lill-Uffiċjali tal-UEC, partikolarment lill-President Enrico Della Casa, u lill-Federazzjonijiet Internazzjonali li bagħtulu l-awguri wara dan ir-rizultat. Huwa feraħ lil Enrico Della Casa għall-konferma mill-ġdid bħala President tal-Union Européenne de Cyclisme u l-Bordijiet ta' Tmexxija tiegħu. Prosit marret ukoll lill-kollegi tiegħu delegati tal-Votazzjoni tal-UCI, kif ukoll għall-Kungress organizzat tajjeb mill-Federazzjoni Slovakka taċ-Ċikliżmu taħt il-presidenza ta' Peter Privara u l-Unjoni Ewropea taċ-Ċikliżmu. Fi tmiem il-kummenti tiegħu dwar dan ir-rizultat prestiġjuż, Joe Bajada qal li dan huwa sodisfazzjon personali u suċċess għall-Federazzjoni Maltija taċ-Ċikliżmu, Malta u Għawdex.-----



### **MAL-MELODIJA' PROJECT BRINGS MALTESE LITERATURE TO LIFE THROUGH MUSIC**

The 'Mal-Melodija' project was launched last year to bring Maltese students closer to Maltese literature beyond the classroom by integrating it with music.

The project recently

reached its peak with a special event organised by the Maltese Language Centre—a concert-lesson performed by the group Kantera for five Year 8 classes at San Benedittu College Middle School.

Present for this celebration of Maltese language, folklore, music, art, and culture were Minister for National Heritage, Arts, and Local Government Owen Bonnici and Permanent Secretary Kevin Mahoney. Minister Bonnici explained that 'Mal-Melodija' started as a pilot project to merge two key cultural elements—Maltese literature and music. Now, it has become an integral part of the Maltese curriculum. He emphasised how the initiative helps students appreciate literature and music while strengthening cultural identity and fostering creativity.

Maris Camilleri, Acting CEO of the Maltese Language Centre, highlighted that the project is expanding beyond literature into language itself, making learning more interactive and engaging for students with different abilities and interests.

Charmaine Pisani Grixti, Head of Kirkop Middle School, expressed pride in being the first school to participate, as students experienced Maltese poetry in a more immersive way. The initiative will now extend to other schools. Source – Malta Daily.



## JITEB IL-HABIB TAGHNA IL-KAV JOE M ATTARD MINN GHAWDEX – MALTA

Nifraħlek minn qalbi għall-unur prestigġjuż li għadek kemm inghatajt, sinjal tax-xogħol kollu li qed tagħmel biex dejjem iġġib l-għaqda fost il-popli permezz tal-Journal. Inizjattiva mhux faċli imma nassikurak li hija apprezzata ħafna u li dejjem qed iżżid fin-numru għax ħafna jgħiduli ta' kull meta nikteb fuq il-Journal. Jalla l-Mulej jisilfek iktar għomor u saħħa biex tissokta tgħix hieni ma' martek taħt l-istess saqaf, (wara 52 sena jien kelli nitlef lil marti, sena iżgħar minni fit-8 ta' Novembru li għadda) u tissokta tippublika din

in-Newsletter interessanti u varjata. Minn qalbi Ad Multos Annos!

NB Waħda mill-poeżiji li ta' spiss niġi mitlub nikteb għal fuq is-Santa tal-funeral meta jmut xi hadd f'Għawdex. Jaqbilli nhejji tiegħi ukoll għax iż-żmien qed jagħfas! U ħin bla waqt nista' nsib ruħi quddiem il-Ħallieq!

### Fil-Jum li fih Gużeppla Buttigieg marret tiltaqa' mal-Mulej 11 ta' Marzu 2025

Tgħix kemm tgħix minn hawn trid titlaq  
Anke' k'taqbeż id-disgħin;  
Gużeppla issa it-triq qabdet  
Sabiex thallas tagħha d-dejn

U tiltaqa' mal-Imgħallem  
Illi jaħkem fuq il-ġnus  
Illi warajh irrid naħseb  
Kienet żgur dejjem issus!

Mal-maħbub żewġha tiltaqa'  
L'għadda ħajtu sagristan  
Fil-kampnar minn jaf kemm drabi  
Daqq il-qniepen: dinn, donn, dann!

It-tisjir kien tant għal qalbha,  
L-għasafar tal-għana trabbi –  
Il-kanali minn tal-ewwel  
Dan il-fatt ma tistax taħbi!

Imdawra b'uliedha mietet  
Taħt is-saqaf minn tad-dar  
Kienu s-sitta illi bkewha  
Ma' uliedhom żgħar u kbar.

Fis-Sema sabet jilqgħuha  
Lid-Duluri w San Gużeppla;  
Magħhom kien hemm Margerita -  
Għax kienet qalbha tad-deheb.

Strieħ fis-sliem twajba Gużeppla,  
Hu minn Alla l-premjju tiegħek;  
Mal-erwieħ u qraba gawdi  
Sa ma l-Ġenna niġu miegħek.

Ta' insara d-dmir għandna  
Li nitolbu għall-mejtin;  
Lil Gużeppla Mulej daħħal

**GRAZZI HAFNA LILL-QARREJJA TAGHNA GEWWA  
GHAWDEX U MALTA LI JZOMMU KUNTATT MA  
HUTHOM MALTIN U GHAWDXIN LI JGHIXU BARRA**



I had the privilege to attend one of the shows, Nina Simone-A musical Life, at the Garage International – Adelaide with my wife and some friends and I must confess we were mesmerised. It was a show of nostalgia from the beginning to the end. Bonnie and the band provided us with a captivating journey through Nina Simone’s life. Interwoven with her songs were covers of Screamin’ Jay Hawkins, I Put a Spell on You, gospel music inspired, Sinnerman, Sea Line a cover of a 1930s song by the Shipp sisters and many more of Simone’s covers and originals. The audience ended UP spellbound.

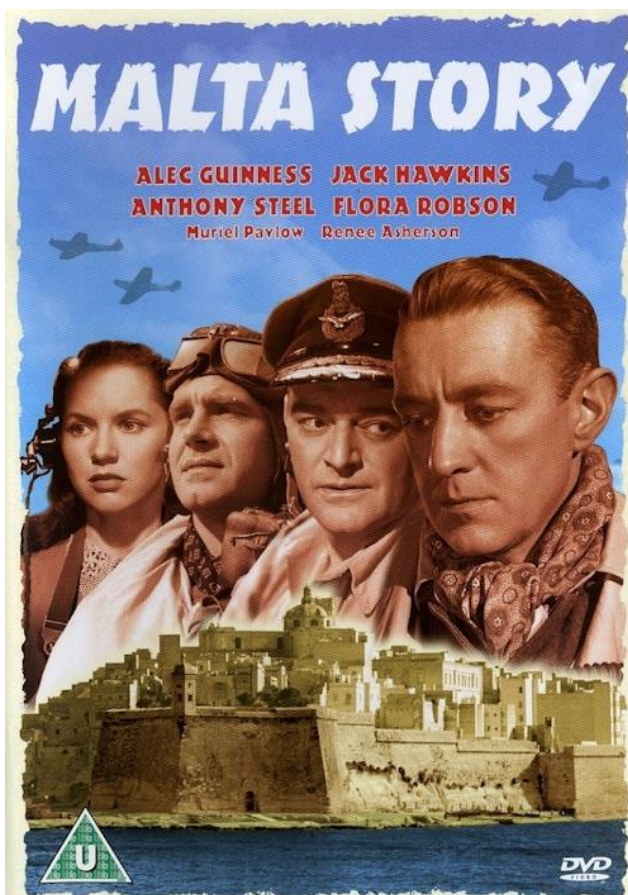
#### **Frank Scicluna**

*Such a splendid experience this Fringe mostly FULL HOUSES all Venues. Parker Estate Coonawarra, The Jade, Woodville Town Hall. Thank You for Having Us! With over 100 people singing along at each show, remembering NINA SIMONE & her music. Great Audiences! Thank you. **Bonnie Lee Galea!***

**NINA SIMONE** was one of the most extraordinary artists of the twentieth century, an icon of American music. She was the consummate musical storyteller, a griot as she would come to learn, who used her remarkable talent to create a legacy of liberation, empowerment, passion, and love through a magnificent body of works. She earned the moniker ‘High Priestess of Soul’ for she could weave a spell so seductive and hypnotic that the listener lost track of time and space as they became absorbed in the moment. She was who the world would come to know as Nina Simone.

When Nina Simone died on April 21, 2003, she left a timeless treasure trove of musical magic spanning over four decades from her first hit, the 1959 Top 10 classic “I Loves You Porgy,” to “A Single Woman,” the title cut from her one and only 1993 Elektra album. While thirty-three years separate those recordings, the element of honest emotion is the glue that binds the two together – it is that approach to every piece of work that became Nina’s uncompromising musical trademark.

By the end of her life, Nina was enjoying an unprecedented degree of recognition. Her music was enjoyed by the masses due to the CD revolution, discovery on the Internet, and exposure through movies and television. Nina had sold over one million CDs in the last decade of her life, making her a global catalog best-seller.



## The Malta Story Fact or Fiction?

**Written by Anthony Grima**

In the annals of World War II, Malta's defiance against Axis powers stands as one of the most remarkable stories of resilience. The island's relentless battle for survival, its people's courage, and the strategic importance of its military role are unforgettable. Yet, how much of this incredible tale is captured accurately in the 1953 film *The Malta Story*? Does the film truly reflect the reality of Malta's wartime experience, or does it take creative liberties to serve the narrative?

### **Malta: The Island at the Crossroads of History**

At the heart of the Mediterranean, Malta's location was a double-edged sword during World War II. As a British colony, Malta became a vital base for Allied forces, serving as a linchpin for naval and air operations against Axis powers in North Africa and Europe. But this strategic importance came at a cost. From 1940 to 1942, Malta endured relentless

bombing campaigns that left the island in ruins. Thousands of bombs rained down on its cities, and the islanders, both civilians and soldiers, found themselves in the midst of an unending struggle to survive.

In *The Malta Story*, we see these air raids in dramatic fashion. British officer Flight Lieutenant Alex Foster, played by Alec Guinness, coordinates Malta's defense against the waves of enemy bombers. His efforts and the heroic resolve of the Maltese people form the crux of the film's narrative. But is the tale the film weaves a true reflection of what really happened on the island?

### **The Characters: Real People or Fictional Heroes?**

One of the most intriguing aspects of *The Malta Story* is its portrayal of characters. Alec Guinness's character, Flight Lieutenant Alex Foster, is a composite figure—fictionalised for dramatic effect. But what about the real heroes of Malta? Were their stories as heroic as those depicted on screen?

The film presents British forces as the central protagonists, with the Maltese often relegated to supporting roles. While the bravery of the British airmen is unquestionable, the film raises the question: where is the acknowledgment of the Maltese civilians and soldiers who played a critical role in defending their homeland?

In truth, Malta's defense was a joint effort. The British airmen, while brave and crucial to the defense, were not the only heroes. Maltese pilots, many of whom were flying older aircraft and enduring significant hardships, fought valiantly to protect their island. And the civilians? Their endurance through air raids, food shortages, and the destruction of their homes deserves far more than a passing mention in the film.

While *The Malta Story* does show glimpses of the islanders' bravery, it certainly glosses over the internal struggles and the nuanced feelings of the Maltese people during this time. Many Maltese, though fiercely patriotic, were torn by their position as a British colony. Could they trust their colonial

rulers, or was the wartime alliance merely a necessity? The complexities of this relationship are barely touched upon in the film.

### **The Aerial Campaigns: High Drama or Historical Accuracy?**

The film's aerial combat sequences are some of the most intense and thrilling moments in *The Malta Story*. Enemy bombers attack relentlessly, and Malta's sky is a battleground. But while the drama is gripping, how accurate is the film's portrayal of these aerial campaigns?

The real air raids were indeed horrific, with the Maltese forces and their British allies scrambling to defend the island against overwhelming odds. However, the film sometimes stretches the truth for cinematic flair. Some of the intense dogfights and high-stakes moments of combat, while exhilarating on screen, were likely exaggerated for dramatic effect. The technical aspects of the air battles, the role of specific planes, and the timeline of certain events are not always aligned with the historical record.

Yet, there's an undeniable authenticity in the way the film conveys the pressure of being under constant bombardment. It is this relentless tension that strikes at the heart of the true story of Malta's defense. The islanders were not just fighting bombers; they were fighting to maintain their very way of life in the face of overwhelming destruction.

### **The Legacy: What Is the True Malta Story?**

As the film moves toward its conclusion, it emphasises the heroism of the British forces, but what about the unsung heroes—the Maltese who endured the brunt of the suffering? *The Malta Story* touches on their resilience, but it doesn't delve deeply into the emotional and political complexities that shaped their experience during the war.

Malta's contribution to the Allied victory in the Mediterranean cannot be overstated. It was for this reason that, in 1942, Malta was awarded the George Cross by King George VI, a symbol of the island's extraordinary courage. Yet, *The Malta Story* does not explore the full scope of Malta's wartime reality. The film portrays a simplified version of events, focusing more on the British military narrative and less on the nuanced and layered experiences of the Maltese.

But what is the real story of Malta during World War II? Was the island truly a pawn in a larger geopolitical struggle, or was it a place of profound human endurance? *The Malta Story* offers only one perspective, but there's much more to discover.

### **So, Was *The Malta Story* True?**

As you reflect on the events depicted in *The Malta Story*, you may find yourself asking: How much of what I've just watched was real? Was the bravery of the characters on screen an accurate portrayal of those who defended Malta, or were their stories more fiction than fact? The characters, the air raids, the struggles—all serve to tell a story of courage, but how closely does it mirror the truth?

Perhaps the true answer lies not in the details, but in the spirit of the story. The real Malta Story is one of resilience, unity, and unwavering determination. The film captures the essence of that spirit, but to uncover the full truth, we must look beyond the screen and dive into the history that lives in the hearts of the Maltese people.

### **Congratulations to Frank Scicluna on receiving the Governor's Award.**

**You deserve this acknowledgment after all these years dedicating yourself to the Maltese Journal the so much-loved newspaper. Every time I read this newspaper there is always something new and interesting in it. Frank, I thank you so much for creating so much good news around the world.**

**Jane Galea from the Monash Maltese Seniors Social Group Victoria Australia**





83 year ago. The Battle of the Coral Sea, a major naval battle in the Pacific Theater of World War II, had no direct connection to Malta. It was fought in the Coral Sea, southwest of the Solomon Islands and eastward from New Guinea, and involved the Imperial Japanese Navy against US and Australian naval and air forces. Here's a more detailed

breakdown:

**What it was:** The Battle of the Coral Sea was a significant naval engagement during World War II, specifically in the Pacific Theatre.

**When it happened:** The battle took place from May 4 to 8, 1942.

**Where it was fought:** The battle occurred in the Coral Sea, a large body of water located southwest of the Solomon Islands and eastward from New Guinea.

**Who was involved:** The Imperial Japanese Navy (IJN) faced off against the naval and air forces of the United States and Australia.

**Why it was important:** It was the first aircraft carrier battle ever fought, and the first naval battle in which the opposing forces of surface ships at no stage sighted or fired at each other. All attacks were carried out by aeroplanes. It was also a major strategic victory for the Allies, as it prevented the Japanese from capturing Port Moresby and securing a vital supply route.

**Malta's Role:** Malta, an island nation in the Mediterranean Sea, was a key location in the European Theater of World War II, playing a vital role in the defence of the British Empire and the Allied war effort. However, it had no direct involvement in the Battle of the Coral Sea, which took place in the Pacific Ocean.

As fitting as, it is not to forget April 25 and what it stands for, it is as important and appropriate that we should never forget those conflicts. Especially the **Battle of the Coral Sea in May of 1942.**

That was fought right on our doorsteps.

Over the years, the Australian American Association, with the support of the US Ex-Servicemen's Association and Navy Commemoration Committee of Victoria, Legacy members, Federal and State Government Ministers, US Consul General, Japanese Consul General, Business Representatives, Members, and Friends have together commemorated and remembered those that protected our nation.

The **Battle of the Coral Sea**, fought during 4–8 May 1942, was a significant Naval Battle in the Pacific Theatre of World War II between the Imperial Japanese Navy and Naval and Air Forces from Australia and the United States of America, resulting in a strategic Allied victory and which reversed the tide of World War II in the Pacific.

How fortunate we are today that if it were not for the Seamen, Crewmen, and Airmen who fought and successfully defeated the Imperial Japanese Navy, we could have lost our great Country, Australia.

Furthermore, we now also acknowledge the strong relationship and alliance forged between the peoples of Australia and Japan.

I invite you and your family to join us again for this vital event commemorating the "**Battle of the Coral Sea**" and this significant date in our Australian History.

**COMMEMORATION SERVICE in ME;BOURNE, AAUSTRALIA**

**Date Sunday, May 4 2025 Time: 11:30 for a 12:00 (noon) start**

**Afternoon Tea provided Where: Shine of Remembrance St Kilda Road VICTORIA**

**Sam CJ Muscat JP, KSJ**

**President Australian American Association Victoria**

## The wonderful balconies and doorknockers of Malta

by [Anne Betts](#)



If you enjoy getting lost in architecturally rich neighbourhoods, you'll love Malta. Art is reflected in its balconies, door-knockers, and exquisitely adorned corner niches. These, and more, are reasons to spend many pleasurable hours wandering the

streets of towns and villages while absorbing the magnificent **balconies and door-knockers of Malta**.

### TRADITIONAL MALTESE BALCONY

The Maltese *gallarija* is an enclosed, painted wooden balcony with glass windows. It's a prominent feature of Maltese architecture, oozing in antiquity and tradition.

*Gallariji* enhance the visual appeal of Malta's urban landscape with its grand avenues and narrow alleys. Open-stone balconies are the oldest type of Maltese balcony. They reflect the availability of soft workable stone and the scarcity of lumber on the islands.

This balcony on Gozo was probably built at two different times. During the British era, lumber became less expensive and within reach of residents. At the corners of buildings, ornamentation includes wrap-around balconies.

Or they boast sculptural adornment comprising street corner niches and statues.

Origins of the Maltese *gallariji* can be traced to North African influences. The *muxrabija* was a wooden frame around a window. Small holes in the frame allowed a person on the inside to observe the goings on outside while being hidden from view. This was especially important for women in traditional Islamic society to be shielded from curious eyes and unwanted attention. [Muxabijii](#) were also a security measure in villages whose residents lived away from the safety of Mdina and other fortified cities. Unfortunately modern houses do have these beautiful features anymore.

## MALTESE DOOR-KNOCKER

The Maltese *il-habbata* (door-knocker) embellishes residences and public buildings.

A relatively recent addition to building facades, these intricate works of art entered the picture when knocking replaced the practice of scratching at the unlocked doors of medieval times. They've survived mechanical and electric doorbells and more modern inventions in many buildings. While doorbells exist, door-knockers still grace the doors of Malta's houses.

In fact, in 2008, Malta Post [issued four stamps](#) to acknowledge their contribution to Malta's unique architectural heritage.

Door-knockers serve the dual purpose of announcing one's presence and opening and closing heavy doors more efficiently. A common feature of modest dwellings is a simple brass or metal ring.

Others are quite elaborate, reflecting the residents' status, personality, occupation, or family history. When there was a death in the family, the door-knocker would be removed to indicate a period of mourning and that the residence would be closed for several days.

While not endemic to the Mediterranean, lions are a popular design. They're said to represent strength, power, pride, and protection. A lion-head door-knocker acts as a guardian to the home, and therefore, watches over the residences they adorn. There are many variations of lion-head knockers gracing the doors of Malta and Gozo. Raisa.

The dolphin with a trident-shaped tail is very common, with its sleek lines and smooth surface.

I also saw designs featuring a pair of dolphins touching at the mouth and tail to form a circle, with the Maltese cross as a base. Perhaps it's a connection to Malta's first post-independence coat of arms that featured a pair of these remarkable creatures. The Maltese cross is associated with the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, who ruled the Maltese islands between 1530 and 1798. The cross has become an integral part of Malta's culture and heritage, and a much-cherished symbol by the Maltese.

Just as attractive were the doors, plain or decorative, featuring bold colours, cracked mouldings or peeling paint from decades, if not centuries, of existence. Imagine what treasures and history are behind those doors.

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## [Australian High Commission, Malta et Ambassade d'Australie en Tunisie](#)

[14 March at 22:53](#) ·



The Australian High Commissioner for Malta H.E. Matt Skelly was pleased to represent Australia at the [United Nations](#) Conference on National and Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategies in. Consultation and sharing of experience achieve outcomes much greater than we can achieve on our own.

High Commissioner Skelly shared Australia's experience in developing 's 2025 Counter Terrorism and Violent Extremism Strategy. This highlighted the importance of a whole-of-nation approach in responding to the evolving global threat environment, including consultation with community and within

government, and coordination with regional neighbours.

<https://www.nationalsecurity.gov/.../australias...>



Comino Island is a haven for snorkelers, divers, and windsurfers from around the planet. Named after the cummin that grows all over the island, this incredible place is thick with fragrant wild herbs and flowers.

While the smell is amazing, the real jewel of this Maltese island is the famous Blue Lagoon.

One of the most beautiful beaches in Malta, the the Blue Lagoon on Comino Island is well worth the trip. Located on the tiny, car-free islands of Comino, it's

the perfect Mediterranean escape. Here's my experience taking a day trip to the Blue Lagoon in Malta!

### **What to Expect**

The boat ride to Comino Island is incredibly picturesque. Have your camera ready for shots of the beautiful caves and sea cliffs along the route there. It's a quick trip from anywhere in Malta and the journey is Instagram-worthy from beginning to end.

As soon as you arrive at Comino Island, you will see how crazy popular this place is. There are always tons of people arriving at once. Normally, anything so touristy puts me off a bit, but this place is worth it. You can't blame tourists for crowding in to see this gorgeous spot! The Blue Lagoon is shallow. It's basically a giant swimming pool. The water is calm, shallow, and crystal clear. It's a good place to snorkel or just enjoy the warm water.

Try to get to Comino Island early so you can beat the crowd and maximize your day— it's all about basking in the sun so try to maximize your hours of daylight.

**Getting There** The Maltese archipelago is made up of three main islands, Malta, Gozo and Comino, along with many smaller uninhabited islands. The big three islands are close together and it's easy to travel between them so you plan to check them all out even on a short trip.

Gozo Island and Comino Island are both less than 30 minutes from the main island of Malta.

There are tons of boats and ferries that bring people to Comino Island, however, I'd recommend getting a private charter boat. When you go with a private company, you can arrive early and enjoy the water instead of being stuck on shore.

**You'll probably only spend one day boating around Comino Island so it's best to make the most of it.**

## **MORE THAN 85 FIREWORKS TEAMS FOR MALTA INTERNATIONAL FIREWORKS FESTIVAL 2025**

by [Gozo News](#)

This year's Malta International Fireworks Festival is taking place in Gozo and the Grand Harbour Malta between the 22nd and the 30th of April.



More than 85 local and international fireworks teams will be participating in the festival, including Ghaqda tan-Nar Kercem, the winners of last year's festival.

The first two nights, with several local and international fireworks teams competing in different categories, will take place at the Grand Harbour on Tuesday, the 22nd and Friday, the 25th of April. The third evening, Saturday, the 26th of April, takes the festival to Nadur, in Gozo, in collaboration with the Gozo Ministry.

On the fourth night, on Wednesday, 30th April, the Festival returns to the Grand Harbour, as Malta celebrates the 21st anniversary of its EU membership.

This finale will include displays by several fireworks teams, including Ghaqda tan-Nar Kercem, as well as a concluding surprise show, which will illuminate the historic Harbour with a synergy of pyrotechnics and technological innovation.

Organised by the Malta Tourism Authority (MTA), the annual festival is a spectacular celebration of the Maltese Islands' rich pyrotechnic heritage, blending tradition, artistry, and entertainment.

For the first time, this year the Fireworks Festival will also include the participation of band clubs from several localities, supporting another important pillar of Maltese culture.

## **ORDER OF MALTA - Peace in Ukraine discussed during private meeting at the Vatican**



Sovereign Order of Malta has Peace in Ukraine discussed during private meeting at the Vatican

Sovereign Order of Malta has been providing humanitarian assistance since the war broke out in February 2022

Exante's Patrick O'Brien with Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Holy See and to the Sovereign Order of Malta, Andrii Yurash, at the ambassador's offices at the Vatican, this weekend.

Writer Patrick O'Brien attended a private meeting at The Vatican this weekend to offer his holiness, Pope Francis, a speedy recovery and to meet with the Ambassador of Ukraine accredited to the Holy See, Andrii Yurash.

They discussed many topics related to the proposed peace talks for Ukraine, as well as the ongoing humanitarian needs within Ukraine.

Ambassador Yurash confirmed the deepest appreciation of the Ukrainian government and people for receiving fundamental humanitarian assistance from agencies and from the Sovereign Order of Malta who have been assisting since the war broke out in February 2022.

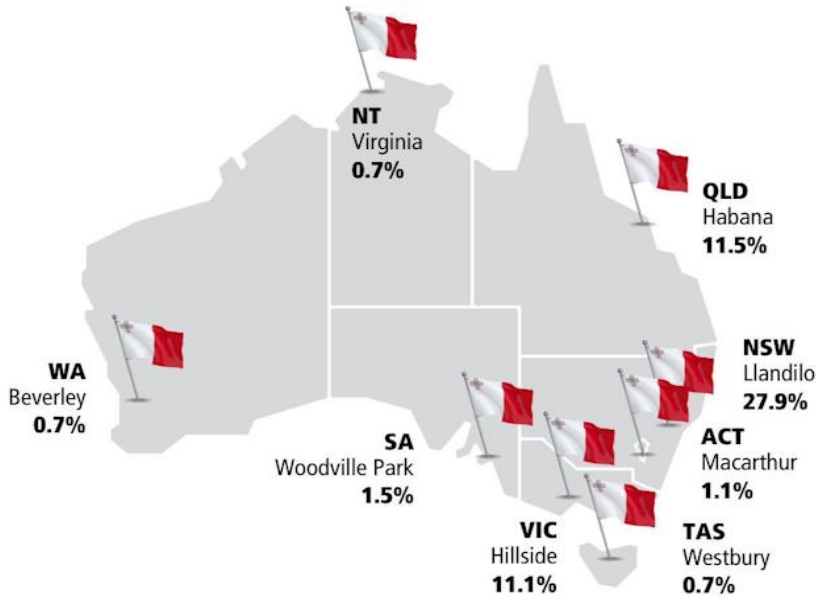
The ambassador also expressed his gratitude towards the relief operators in Ukraine who work with great commitment and dedication under very difficult circumstances.

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**Keep the Maltese e-Newsletter alive**

## Top suburbs for people with Maltese ancestry in each state and territory



Note: Based on place of usual residence, by Suburbs and Localities for places with over 1,000 residents. Excludes overseas visitors.  
Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2021

Here are the top suburbs in each state and territory for people with Maltese ancestry. **Llandilo, NSW** takes the top spot with **27.9%** of residents in this suburb having Maltese ancestry. Note: 'Hillside' refers to the suburb in the Cities of Brimbank and Melton (area code SAL21193).

## MALTESE AMERICAM COMMUNITY CLUB OF DEARBORN USA



[Mark Trzeciak](#) -

Here is another one I came across. Not sure where I got it from, nonetheless I thought you'd enjoy. A mid-century version of the Maltese Soccer Club is pictured here prior to its league match in 1956 at Patton Park in Detroit. Coach Charlie Xeureb (Namru) is seen on the left of the photograph. Back Row: Charlie

Xuereb, George (?), Carl Barrett (?), Charlie Muscat, (unknown), Louis (?), Charles Boweman, John Gatt, Frank Mifsud - Manager, Charles Schiana (?)

Front Row: Larry Tabone, Pius Xuereb (?), (unknown), (?) Micallef, Tony Spiteri, (unknown)



## 50 years of Maltese Program on SBS Australia

Mrs Josephine Zammit and Dr. Joe Abela  
16 March 2025

SBS Maltese was one of the first seven language groups in 1975 on SBS Radio Station.

In the first episode commemorating 50 years of Maltese broadcasting on SBS, the Maltese Program highlights the work, contribution and voices of the first Program Coordinators, Mrs Josephine Zammit (Radio 2EA) and Dr Joe Abela

(Radio 3EA) who were at the forefront with Mr Al Grassby Commissioner of Community Relations, establishing multicultural broadcasting in the 1970's. With the Maltese Program being one of the first languages to broadcast in June 1975, Josephine Zammit and Joe Abela, became household names in New South Wales and Victoria respectively, not only as community leaders but also as the first Maltese broadcasters in Australia.

<https://www.sbs.com.au/.../50-sena-ta-sbs.../q97os0y4y>



**Rachael Darin - <https://petitpatriots.etsy.com/>**

Representing small countries with big hearts and pride

I am a product of German and Maltese Immigrants. While I could find everything under the sun German, little to no results for Maltese items ever came up (except occasionally jewelry, and items relating to firemen or the cute puppy). My passion for my Maltese roots, like many Maltese and others from smaller countries is deep. There is an obvious under representation of small countries and ease to find products online, which is why I created Petite Patriots. A part of my proceeds go to benefit the Maltese Olympic Skier, Elise Pellegrin. Sharing my most recent creation - if you are interested in a custom zip hoodie, regular hoodie or a polo - let's chat! We have the following last names: - **Abela Agius Borg Buttigieg Chetcuti Cini Cuschieri Darmanin Galea Micallef Muscat Portelli Vella** Don't see your last name? Don't be discouraged! We are happy to add yours. Let's talk. All orders must be paid upfront. No exceptions. Thank you for understanding.