

# THE JOURNAL OF THE MALTESE DIASPORA

## MALTESE NEWSLETTER



BUILDING BRIDGES BETWEEN MALTESE ALL OVER THE WORLD



## Malta: Beautiful, Exotic, & Vibrant Island

I was so nervous about visiting Malta.

This is where Mario grew up. This is the place that means more to him than

anywhere else on Earth. The stakes had reached the stratosphere. And while some of my friends had been to Malta and loved it, others had been and told me privately that they found it, well...a bit dull. What if I could never get on board with my darling's home country? As usual, I was worrying far too much about nothing. Malta is the least dull place on the planet. Malta sneaked into my heart, and I fell quickly, deeply, insanely in love with it.

*Kate McCulley* <http://www.adventurouskate.com/>



MALTESE NEWSLETTER  
THE JOURNAL OF THE MALTESE DIASPORA

Thank you for reading the MALTESE NEWSLETTER



Our aim is to make this journal  
informative, innovative and  
easy to navigate.  
We would appreciate any comments  
or suggestions that will help us  
to enhance this popular magazine.




**MALTA**ENTERPRISE

Malta Enterprise (ME) is the national development agency responsible for promoting and facilitating international investment in the Maltese Islands by offering investors excellent business opportunities and tailored services. The Malta Enterprise network operates in various countries around the globe, with offices or representation in embassies and consulates in North Africa, the Middle East, Asia, the United States and Australia. The Corporation also coordinates initiatives to promote the Islands' economic growth

attractiveness.

Moreover Malta Enterprise is also responsible for the growth and development of Maltese enterprises both locally and beyond our shores. We work hand in hand with our businesses to help them set up, expand, innovate and access global markets; thus sustaining economic growth and retaining and increasing employment.

Together with Malta Industrial Parks Ltd, the Corporation is responsible for the administration and maintenance of various industrial estates and the factories located within. Malta Enterprise strives to become a Model Agency and to continually improve on the services it offers. Malta Enterprise, work closely with the Better Regulation Unit, to ensure that Better Regulation principles and procedures are applied consistently throughout the Agency.

## STRATEGIC LOCATION

Malta is strategically located at the heart of the Mediterranean with very close ties to mainland Europe, North Africa and the Middle East. The island is considered the best choice for investments in knowledge based sectors and high end manufacturing. Due to its excellent port infrastructure, Malta is also considered an ideal logistical hub. This, together with EU membership, makes the country a perfect gateway to the Euro-Mediterranean region and further.

## Flights duration to main business hubs from Malta (in hours and minutes)

Algiers	Amsterdam	Berlin	Brussels	Dubai	Dublin	Edinburgh
1:15	3:10	2:55	2:55	5:00	2:55	3:00
Libya	London	Madrid	Milan	Moscow	Munich	Oslo
1:30	3:00	2:55	2:00	4:00	2:30	4:00
Paris	Prague	Rome	Stockholm	Vienna	Warsaw	
2:45	2:45	1:30	3:50	2:15		

Hi Frank We enjoy your newsletter extremely and forward it on to my relatives in Canada, America, Malta and Australia who have all expressed how much they enjoy it. Keep up the good work regards

Godfrey Spiteri – Melbourne AUSTRALIA

Dear Frank, I have to tell you again how happy my 95 year old Dad (Joseph Cappello) is when I visit him at the Aged Care Facility, Tarragal House in Erina and give him the Maltese Newsletters! The only thing that would make him happier was if there were some other Maltese gentlemen in the facility to talk too! Thank you so much!

Kind regards, Mary Warne – NSW Australia

## MALTESE OF NEW CALEDONIA – HUNDRED YEARS ON – NOVEMBER 1916

### MIGRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 6) 2001

Monday, 24 September 2001



Nick Bolkus is a former Federal Australian Senator and Minister and former Australian Labor Party politician. He was a member of the Senate from July 1981 to 2005, representing the state of South Australia. Here is a section of his speech in the Australian parliament regarding the Migration Legislation Amendment Bill 2001.

**Senator Bolkus said:** I support this legislation because it is the only option, but I am concerned about where it takes Australia. As immigration minister in 1995, I had the pleasure of launching a book. I will read some excerpts from that book. It was about a man called Emmanuel Attard, written by Mark

Caruana and Barry York. Emmanuel Attard was a man of special dignity, charm, intelligence, patience and reserve. He was born in the village of Qala, in Gozo, Malta, in 1898. At the time of his birth, Australia did not exist as a nation; it was six separate colonies. Malta's population was about 180,000. The life of Emmanuel Attard had, in its first seven decades, spanned all of, I suppose, the transition of the world at the turn of the century. He lived through a depression and through two world wars. The book states:

In the first global conflagration, he served at Gallipoli with the Malta Labour Corps and, in 1917, enlisted with the Australian Forces and served on Europe's Western Front.

Mr Attard was 96 years old when I launched the book. I hope that he is still alive now; I have had no contact with him since that time. Mr Attard was one of 214 Maltese migrants who travelled to Australia on the French mail boat, the *Gange*, in 1916. The *Gange* had assumed almost legendary status among Maltese-Australians as a tale of grave injustice and as an indictment of Australian racism. Emmanuel Attard was one man who experienced it. The 214 men who travelled to Australia on that French mail boat in 1916 had every right to believe that they would be allowed to disembark at an Australian port, but they were denied entry. They were declared prohibited immigrants and compelled to stay on the ship until it reached its final destination, the Pacific island of New Caledonia. Don't things ever stay the same!

There the men languished for nearly 10 weeks, until finally being returned to Sydney, where they were detained for approximately 20 days on an old hulk in Berry's Bay, Sydney Harbour. Finally, after a storm of protest about their treatment, the Australian Prime Minister, Billy Hughes, allowed them to disembark. Why did they finish up in New Caledonia? How did that happen? When they arrived in Australia—and they arrived here as British subjects—they expected that they would be allowed on board but when they reached Melbourne the actual prohibition took place. This is documented in the logbook of the *Gange's* captain. *When they reached Melbourne, the men were declared prohibited immigrants after failing the infamous dictation test which was applied to them in the Dutch language. Off they went to New Caledonia for 10 weeks. Why were they refused entry?* According to the book:

Essentially, the answer lay in two factors: the Maltese had become the meat in a domestic political sandwich and there was hostility in Australian society to any immigrants regarded as 'non-white'. The Australian people in those days were generally racist. In October 1916, for example, the Australian Workers Union described the Maltese as '**The Black Menace**'. In Australian immigration policy, the Maltese were regarded as '**semi-white**' until 1944 when, at the instigation of Australian External Affairs Minister, Herbert Vere Evatt, and after persistent lobbying by Malta's High Commissioner, Captain Henry Curmi, they were reclassified as '**white British subjects of European descent**'.

It is ironic that some 86 years further down the track we are now debating a similar situation. Responses have not changed all that much but you would have thought that during that intervening 86 years governments would have learned from the mistakes of the past—but I do not think this government has.



The Maltese remained on the *Gange* until it reached Noumea. They were there for 10 weeks. They were returned to Sydney on the *St Louis* on 22 February 1917 and stayed on the old hulk for some time. In Emmanuel Attard's case, he accepted an offer to be allowed into Australia so long as he join the armed services; he did that. His other colleagues on the boat were not prepared to do that.

It is amazing when you look back that since those days Australia has become the home of probably 350,000 or so Maltese migrants, all of whom have settled here and are a model community in terms of the migration process. It is also interesting to note that Mr Attard lived in Adelaide—and it is a coincidence that I had not realised earlier that he lived very close to where my parents lived. Eighty-six years later, we are still as a nation going through the same fear and the same concerns and the same need to protect our borders. For some period there in the eighties and nineties we found a better way of doing it. Unfortunately for this country's reputation, this government dropped the ball and missed the opportunity to do something effective over the last 12 months. We now find ourselves in a position where this parliament, I believe, does not have an option but to support this legislation, recognising full well that this is not the best way to go.

## THE GRANDMASTER'S PALACE – VALLETTA MALTA (Now Presidential Palace)



The State Rooms are the show piece of the Presidential Palace sited at the heart of Malta's World Heritage capital city of Valletta. The Palace itself was one of the first buildings in the new city of Valletta founded by Grand Master Jean de Valette in 1566 a few months after

the successful outcome of the Great Siege of Malta in 1565. The Palace was enlarged and developed by successive Grand Masters to serve as their official residence. Later, during the British period, it served as the Governor's Palace and was the seat of Malta's first constitutional parliament in 1921. The palace today is the seat of the Office of the President of the Republic and the House of Parliament.

It was Grand Master Fra Pietro del Monte who, back in the late 16th century, first commissioned the building of a Magisterial Palace that was improved upon, enlarged and embellished by his successors to reach its present structure by the mid-eighteenth century. Following the brief interlude of the French in Malta between 1798 and 1800, the Palace became the official residence of the British Colonial Governor of Malta. While it was mostly through the embellishments of the various Grand Masters that the Palace reached its current appearance and dimensions, the British Governors also contributed to the dynamic and at times rather complicated architectural history of this edifice. The damage suffered by the President's Palace as a result of the Second World War was considerable. Fortunately, the competent repairs after the devastating air-raids of February and April 1942 helped to revive the prime national and stately function of the Palace. The Palace subsequently became the seat of Malta's Legislative Assembly set up in 1947, Malta's first parliament following Independence in 1964 and subsequent legislatures till the present day.

Ever since the times of the Order of St John, the palace was the seat of a collection of works of art and heritage items some of which still grace its walls. Some were purposely produced and form part of the historic fabric of the building. Others were acquired, transferred or presented at different times throughout its chequered history.



GOOD NEWS TO ALL THOSE WHO ARE VISITING MALTA

## Brussels rules that 'tallinja cards' do not discriminate

**Visitors to Malta can have a tallinja card delivered to their home address.** Photo: Jason Borg

The European Commission has ruled in Malta's favour on a discrimination claim over the new tallinja cards. The claim was

made by a holiday maker and constituent of MEP Daniel Dalton, who subsequently asked a parliamentary question about it last October. Mr Dalton told the European Parliament that residents of Malta could fill out an application form providing either their Maltese ID card number or international passport details, and after a processing period they would receive a tallinja card allowing them to purchase a €26 monthly pass.

But those unable to register had to pay as much as €2 for a single journey or €21 for a weekly ticket, he complained, a price far higher than that paid by tallinja card holders. "Does the Commission agree this represents unfair discrimination against non-Maltese residents and an effective breach of the principles of the single market?" he had asked the Commission in his question. In its reply, the Commission said it did not consider that there was a public transport tariff discrimination against non-Maltese residents in Malta.

It explained that it had received several complaints about the Maltese public transport tariff system in 2014. Citizens claimed, in particular, that access to the personalised smart cards which provided passengers with the most beneficial prices was limited to Maltese residents. *It was possible to obtain a personalised smart card with a non-Maltese identity document*

The Commission said that following a pre-infringement procedure launched by the Commission services, the Maltese authorities ensured that the personalised smart card for adults became accessible to anyone irrespective of nationality or place of residence.

The Brussels executive also pointed to the homepage of the Maltese public transport company, which said it was possible to obtain a personalised smart card with a non-Maltese identity document. The card would be delivered to postal addresses outside Malta, provided that the applicant pays the relevant postal costs. The Commission therefore found that the discrimination claim did not subsist. Meanwhile, the Commission also told Maltese MEP Therese Comodini Cachia that the Maltese government was working on the transposition of the directive on measures to reduce the cost of deploying high-speed electronic communication networks.

In a question last November, Dr Comodini Cachia had asked the Commission about Malta's preparedness to implement the directive. She also asked whether the Commission was satisfied with the progress made in Malta to ensure that citizens have access to internet speeds higher than 30Mbps and that more than half of its households subscribe to internet connections with a speed above 100 Mbps.

The Commission replied that the Malta Communications Authority and Transport Malta were advising the government on the directive's transposition. A widespread consultation with various government entities was being carried out and a public consultation had closed. It added that the Maltese government was proposing amendments to local regulations to bring it in line with the directive.

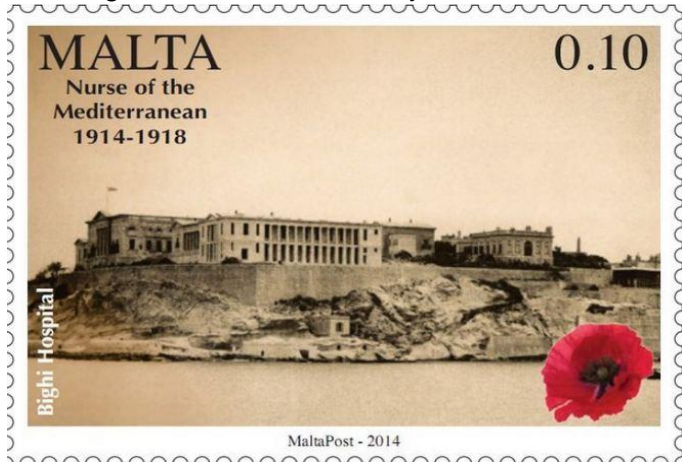


**building virtual bridges**  
MALTA AND THE DIASPORA



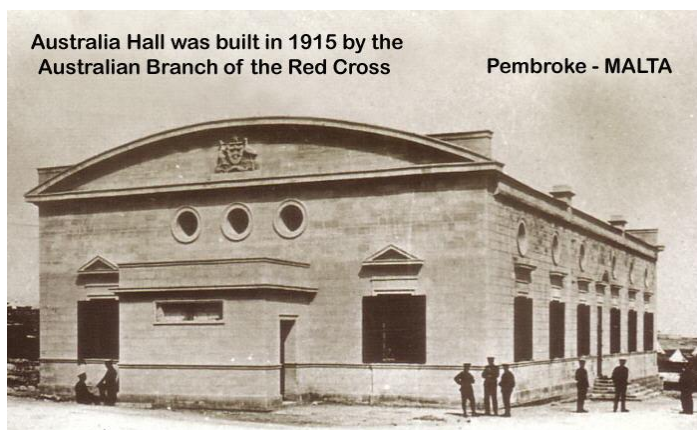
# Malta: Nurse of the Mediterranean

As the 25th of April draws near and plans for commemorating the 101th anniversary of the ANZAC troops



landing at Gallipoli gather momentum, I recently discovered an interesting aspect of the campaign I wasn't aware of until I read the book **MALTA AND THE ANZACS – THE NURSE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN** published by the Maltese RSL Sub branch (SA). Malta was part of the British Empire from 1800 to 1964 and still retains lots of cultural links with Britain. I was intrigued, delved further and was amazed to find that several thousands of casualty evacuation cases from Gallipoli were sent to Malta for treatment. Most of them recuperated but 300 ANZACS died and are buried in Malta.

It's logical as Malta would have been the closest British possession to Turkey at the time, but I'm surprised more hasn't been made of Malta's role in the things I've read and heard about New Zealand's campaign at Gallipoli. The tiny island really rose to the challenge of caring for the huge number of casualties transported there. In 1914 there were 278 military beds over four hospitals in Malta but by the end of the war there were 27 hospitals with 25,000 beds. Over 2,600 officers and 64,500 men from other ranks were evacuated and treated in Malta.



After a voyage from Gallipoli of around a week, each hospital ship was met by groups of Maltese women who worked in shifts to greet and comfort the men with sweets, cigarettes and drinks. A large sewing party provided pyjamas, shirts, socks and scarves for the patients. The women did all they could to create a homelike environment for those convalescing, with tea parties, excursions and concerts. Others also recognised the importance of entertainment to lift morale and the Australia Hall was built as a venue to provide entertainment for the New Zealand and Australian soldiers. Australia Hall was built in 1915 by the Australian Branch of the Red Cross

Little seems to have been written about Malta's contribution to the ANZAC effort, but it seems unquestionable that many more New Zealanders and Australians would have died but for the efforts of the Maltese people. I do hope that in the many books, documentaries and articles on Gallipoli the centenary has spawned there are some that give Malta the credit she deserves. I recommend this unique publication.

Written by L. Vassallo (Australia)



## The Miracle Church of Mosta, Malta

**If anywhere on the planet is more Catholic than the Vatican, it's Malta.**

From giant paintings of the Virgin Mary hanging in Maltese bedrooms to [religious festas](#) with saints carried through the street each summer to incredibly ornate churches thanks to generous donations from parishioners each year, Malta is a place where life revolves around the Catholic

faith. Malta is home to more than 360 churches in total — an incredible feat when you consider that the island is 122 square miles. There's the Church of St. Paul's Shipwreck in Valletta, which purportedly holds the wrist bone of St. Paul. There's St. Mary Magdalene's Chapel, a tiny, one-room church overlooking the Dingli Cliffs.



The church of Xewkija in Gozo has the second-largest church dome in Europe after St. Peter's Basilica in Rome.

**And then there was the Mosta Dome — the church that held a miracle.**

During World War II, Malta was heavily bombed, being a strategic outpost for the Allies. The bombing was so extensive that by the end of the war, Malta had become the most-bombed nation on the planet. On April 9, 1942, two German bombs fell on The Church of the

Assumption of Our Lady in Mosta, a city in central Malta. Mass was going on at the time, and more than 250 parishioners were in the church. Alarms rang out ahead of time, and while some people left the church, others stayed inside and prayed.

The first bomb pierced the dome, ricocheted, and fell onto the floor of the church. The second cleared the left side of the triangle on top of the church's facade. **Those bombs had every reason to explode — but neither of them did.** It was hailed a miracle. Somehow divine intervention prevented the church — and the town — from turning to rubble. The bombs were promptly defused by the military and later dropped into the sea.

**What is the point of bombing a church? Seriously, what is the benefit of this?** As horrible as war is to begin with, why would an enemy choose to drop bombs directly on a house of worship filled with innocent people? Why get people in the one place where they feel safe? It could have been that the bombs were released at the wrong time on the way to a port. Or maybe it wasn't. Maybe they intended to demoralize the population in the one place that meant the most to them. Believe me, in Malta the churches are sacred. It's a question that still resonates today, now the age of drone strikes. Today the Mosta Dome is celebrated for its miracle, and you'll even find a replica of the bomb that fell through the dome in the back.





# NATIONAL MILITARY VEHICLE MUSEUM SOUTH AUSTRALIA

10 Struton Road, Salisbury SA 5111



Welcome to our Museum, which is operated on a volunteer basis by members of the Military Vehicle Preservation Society of South Australia. The Society is one of many Military Vehicle Clubs across Australia and throughout the world and its members are dedicated to the preservation of vehicles that are of military origin. The museum was developed as a way of providing undercover storage for the vehicles and at the same time allowing the public to view them.

Opened in August 1993 at the old Messenger Press building at Port Adelaide and now relocated to a group of historic WW2 era buildings within the Defence precinct of Edinburgh Parks this museum is unique number of ways. The majority of the vehicles are privately owned by the Society members and therefore each member is responsible for their own vehicles. In addition the vehicles are not just restored to look at,

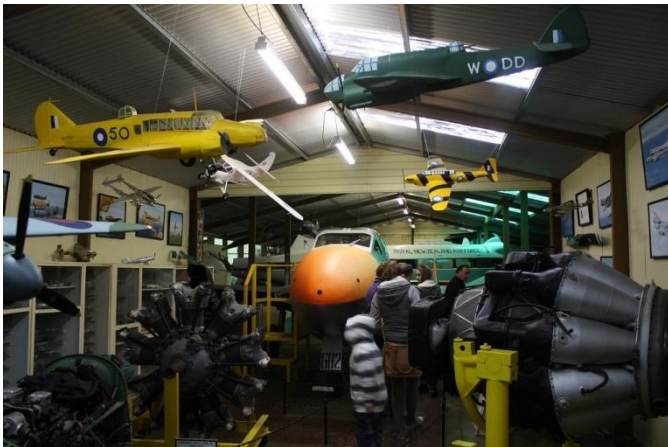
they are rebuilt to authentic running condition and most are road registered and driven regularly. Military vehicles and items range from the First World War to current times.

Should you require further information about the Museum or the Society one of our members in attendance would be pleased to assist. You are also invited to loan or donate items to the Museum for display purposes. Alternatively you can contact us or email us. Take a virtual tour through our Museum now on

[www.military-vehicle-museum.org.au](http://www.military-vehicle-museum.org.au).

The museum is **open every Sunday and Public Holiday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm**, with the exception of Good Friday and Christmas Day. The museum can also be opened at any time, by arrangement, for group bookings.

## Museum entry fees

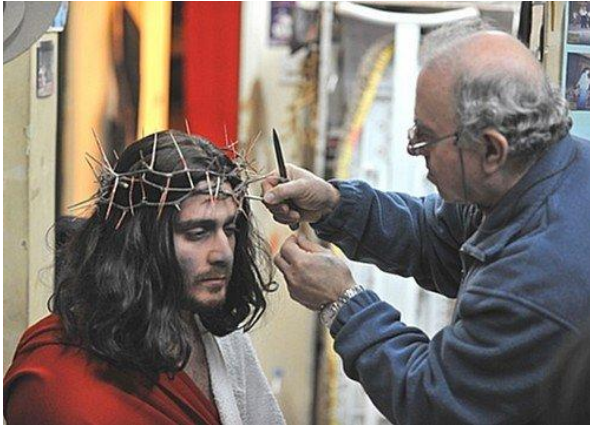


Thanks to Sam Cutajar





## A Different Passion play in April at the Astra, Gozo



### Ghaliex Jien? Il-Passjoni b'differenza

(Why Me? A Passion play with a difference) is the name of the upcoming production to be held at Teatru Astra in Gozo, in line with the approaching Lent and Easter festivities this spring.

Ghaliex Jien? Il-Passjoni b'differenza is different in the sense that the musical does not only retell the story of the Passion of Jesus in a traditional way but also seeks to transport the essence of certain values into a contemporary context. The plot questions certain decisions taken then and now, as well as attacks attitudes such as hypocrisy and injustice that were present in Jesus' times but also in today's social context. The story in itself also treats values such as love, loyalty, responsibility and the everlasting struggle between what's good and what's bad, as well as often ponders on the perennial question 'Why Me?' when things go really bad.

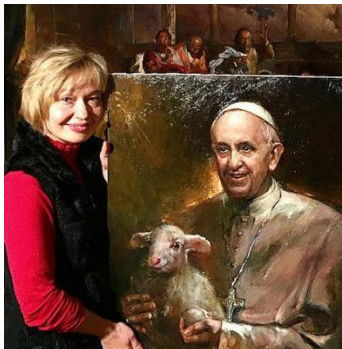
The three-act musical is written by Joe Chircop and composed by Patrick Vella, Andrew Zammit and Mark Tonna. The production, which is being put up by the Ghaqda Armar San Gorg Martri (made up of volunteers working all year round in preparation for the feast of St George in July) and the Membri Atturi Teatru Astra, will be held on Saturday 02 April at 7.30pm. It involves the participation of a number of actors that throughout the years have volunteered in productions at the Teatru Astra as well as a number of young actors. Stage direction is in the hands of the author Joe Chircop and Mario Tabone.

Rehearsals are currently in full swing, involving also the main cast that includes singers Mark Tonna and Georgina in two of the most important parts. Booking has recently opened, with tickets available at €10 from the Teatru Astra Bar or by calling 21556256 or 7925 6897. More information on <http://www.lastella.com.mt/>.

Photograph shows Michael Camilleri Cauchi applying make-up to actor Oliver Farrugia, who interprets the role of Jesus in Ghaliex Jien? Il-Passjoni b'differenza, to be held at the Teatru Astra in Gozo on Saturday 02 April.

## VATICAN OFFICIAL COURT PAINTER - NATALIA TSARKOVA

Born in Moscow, Natalia Tsarkova, followed in the footsteps of the great masters of the classical tradition when she was admitted to the fine arts school at the age of ten. Later, Tsarkova was also the only woman to enter the prestigious Academy of Art.



Traveling to Rome to deepen her knowledge of art, Tsarkova became an internationally recognized portrait artist receiving commissions from reigning monarchies to Roman aristocracy, politicians and cardinals. Even Pope John Paul II particularly admired her capacity to synthesize modern techniques with a more classical style, making the character and soul of her subjects shine through the canvas.

She painted three drawings and three oil paintings of Pope John Paul II. The first one on the occasion of the 2000 Jubilee in celebration of his 80th birthday, now on display in the Vatican Museums along with the portrait of Pope John Paul I; the second one was commissioned by the John Paul II Cultural Center of Washington. The third painting was donated by Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz to the Roman Basilica Santa Maria del Popolo, which contains masterpieces by Caravaggio, Bramante, Pinturicchio, Sebastiano del Piombo, Bernini, Raphael and Carracci.

Among Tsarkova's most important works, presented to the public in prestigious venues, is *The Last Supper* (2002) a canvas measuring 220 x 150 cm. innovative in its composition and its symbolism. This evocative painting has been on display in the Church of Santa Maria delle Grazie in Milan next to Leonardo da Vinci's famous *Cenacle*, the Basilica of Father Pio (designed by Renzo Piano in San Giovanni Rotondo) as well as in other venues. *Our Lady of Hope* (2004), dedicated to "The Mysteries of Light", was commissioned by Pope John Paul II who kept it in his private library for several weeks. The same painting has traveled to the United States, arousing great admiration and stupor in Congress.

Natalia Tsarkova was the first ever to be admitted to the Synod to portray the Holy Father with the synodal Fathers. In 2007, on the occasion of the celebrations for Pope Benedict XVI's 80th birthday, Natalia Tsarkova made a portrait of the current Pontiff. It is the image of the great theologian of our times, with his profound faith enlightened by the power of the Holy Spirit. The Patrons of the Arts in the Vatican Museums commissioned the artist to do the portrait.

In 2008, on the occasion of the Beatification of Father Jacques Haddad (*Abouna Yaacoub*) from Lebanon, Natalia Tsarkova made the official portrait of the Blessed. The portrait was blessed by His Holiness Benedict XVI in the Vatican and it is now displayed in the Church of St. Mary of the Sea in Beirut, where his sacred body lies. In 2009, Natalia Tsarkova painted the official portrait of the President of the Republic of Malta, His Excellence George Abela and in 2010 made the portrait of the Rev. Giuseppe Colombara, Director of the Photographic Service of *L'Osservatore Romano*

Qed nibghatlek dan il-poster dwar *a fund raising night* li se jittella mill-GENIES. Din l-assocjazzjoni volontarja jigbru l-fondi biex jghinu lit-tfal minn erba snin sa sittax-il sena li huma inkapacitati, fejn jaghtuom auto-wheel- chairs u equipment iehor bzonjus ghalihom. Dawn bdew fis-sena 2000 u huma jorganizzaw functions u jigbru fondi għall dawn l-angli, u irnexxielhom jigbru 'l fuq minn \$120 000 dollars biex jippruvaw jagħmlu l-hajja ta' dawn l-imberkin ahjar.

Greg Caruana.

The Australian Genies P.O. Box 5232 Greystanes NSW 2145 Phone: 0425 844 203

Email: [austgenies@optusnet.com.au](mailto:austgenies@optusnet.com.au) [www.australiangenies.com](http://www.australiangenies.com) ABN 83 094 813 948

### **FUND RAISING NIGHT**

Nhar is-Sibt 12 ta' Marzu 2016, fis-sitta ta' fill-ghaxija (6.00pm)  
Fill-Balmoral Function centre, Balmoral Street, Blacktown.

**Entertainment mir-ROC A TAC band & DJ ALBERT**  
**And Katlyn Vella and her sisters.**

**Il-menu huwata' Antipastoplate with continental bread - seafood platter (prawns, fish bites & calamari)**  
**U ghazla ta' scotch fillets jew chicken, fruit platter - With beer, wine and soft drinks.**  
**Donazzjoni ta' \$60 dollars - Tfal taht 12 il-sena nofs prezz.**

Għall iktar informazzjoni cemplu lil

**SAM Axiaq : 0425 844 203 jew John Zarb : 9679 8851.**



### **The Australian Genies We Grant Wishes Inc**

A wish granting organisation dedicated to granting wishes to seriously ill and traumatised children between the ages of 0 to 18 years. The genies are also dedicated to, where we can, assisting the families of these children and also families that may have suffered the trauma of losing a child.

Also, we endeavour to raise monies for equipment for individuals and

big ticket items for hospitals. In the granting of wishes, we neither look at race, creed, or colour. If they are Australian residents and need our help, we will do our utmost to be there for them.

The Aussie Genies is, we believe, the first 100% Australian children's wish granting charity.

The Australian Genies We grant wishes Inc P.O. Box 5232 Greystanes, NSW 2145

Ph: 0425 844203 Fax: (02) 9863 5569 Email: [austgenies@optusnet.com.au](mailto:austgenies@optusnet.com.au)



Do you know that the website **BUILDING VIRTUAL BRIDGES** at [www.ozmalta.page4.me](http://www.ozmalta.page4.me) has been visited more than 151, 000 times by readers from the four corners of the world. In this website you'll find the **MALTESE NEWSLETTERS** from 10 to the latest one..... preserved for present and future generations.





## LAMPUKI (DORADO FISH) THE MALTESE ISLANDS' FAVOURITE FISH

*Lampuki* (in the plural) or Lampuka (singular) is the Maltese name for the dorado fish. It goes by two other names as well - dolphin fish or mahi mahi fish. The lampuka has a beautiful silver and golden colour.

This migratory fish visits the Maltese Islands' waters from the end of August till early December, therefore fishing for this type of fish takes place between August (towards the end) and November.

### *How do Maltese fishermen fish for lampuki?*

They weave nets from palm trees into flat rafts. They then place the rafts on the surface of the sea. What happens is that the lampuka (dorado fish) schools under the rafts because these large rafts provide shade and shelter from the scorching sun. In Maltese, these types of "rafts" are referred to as *kannizzati*. The fishermen then use nets to catch the dolphin fish. It is believed that this type of fishing method has been in use since ancient Roman times!

The Maltese people are very fond of this type of fish and when in season, you can usually spot many lampuki vendors roaming the streets with small vans. In some old villages you will also come across women with prams selling them! Yes prams ... without the baby of course :)

What they do, is use the pram as a sort of trolley to carry the wooden fish crates on. (The type of prams that they use are usually very old, no longer in use ones). In the old days, women used to put the wooden fish crates on their heads and hit the streets to sell them. The lampuka grows really fast but the local fishermen usually aim to catch it when it weighs from 1 to 1.5 kilos maximum - just enough to sit nicely on a plate. This fish is a good source of vitamin B12, B6 and B3. The lampuka is a delicious fish and there's a huge demand for it. So much so, that local fishermen also export their catch to other countries.

### *How is the lampuka cooked?*

This popular fish can be cooked in various ways. However in Malta, the favourite way to cook lampuki is to make a pie with it. You can also simply plain shallow fry it. Another option is to cook it with tomato sauce, capers and green peppers. If you're visiting Malta from August till November, make sure to try this exquisite fish at least once!

Turn your Lampuki Leftovers... into a delicious Lampuki Fish Pie! Take out your Lampuki leftovers this month to turn them in one of Malta's most desired pies... *Lampuki Pie*. With many variations being produced since this recipe was invented, I've always wanted to recreate this tasty Lampuki Pie. With the Lampuki fish in season and you pay a cheaper price this month. This will suit everyone's needs as even with your leftovers you might have left in your freezer, this will turn to be a Pie feast. In my Lampuki Pie I use my Oregano Short-Crust Pastry, together with mashed up potatoes and spinach. Normally, the traditional Lampuki Pie my grandmother used to prepare is without using any spices and herbs which was still tasty. ~~~~~

## Ray White®

### Real Estate – Australia

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Web <https://www.realestate.com.au/agent/marco-carabott-1327761>

Office Location 193 North East Road, HAMPSTEAD GARDENS, SA 5086



**Malteser  
International**  
Order of Malta Worldwide Relief

## About us

Order of Malta Relief Organization in Lithuania (Maltos ordino pagalbos tarnyba) was established in 1991. At present, 28 MOPT groups operate in our country. Order of Malta Relief Organization has 35 permanent employees and more than 900 volunteers.

Maltesers mission in Lithuania, as well as around the world, is strictly humanitarian, impartial, and mostly voluntary.



campaigns and need of care projects. Maltesers integrate young people, teaching them kindness and compassion; every day they help the needy elderly and single people and children living in poverty; they spread the Order of Malta noble mission to help weak and

The goal of the MOPT is to carry out social and charitable support activities to help the neediest citizens of Lithuania. More than 100 different social projects were implemented in Lithuania over 20 years.

### MOPT ACTIVITIES:

- Social centers provide food, clothing and nursing measures (29 locations);
- Help of poor lonely old people (food and home care);
- Organization of Social Day care centers (10) for children from disadvantaged families;
- Youth Center Organization of youth social activities (28 young Maltesers groups);
- Courses of First aid and social care for volunteers (4 regions);
- Fundraising campaigns (campaign "Maltese soup" and charity concert on TV).

The Maltesers are involving volunteers in charity



## AUSTRALIA (MALTESE) GOT TALENT

Dear Friends I have been contacted by the parents of a young Maltese Girl by the name of Violeta Bozanic Grima, who is contesting in Australia got Talent to be screen on channel 9, 21<sup>st</sup> February. This young talented girl need our community support, as she only can advance by receiving a large number of votes. Please pass on this email to all your friends, and let us show our support and make Maltese proud of what we have to offer this wonderful country Australia. Let's support Violeta. E. Camilleri NSW





## The George Cross Falcons club supports the local community by providing a variety of services and participating in charity events.

Maltese migrants had immigrated to the South Coast of NSW long before World War 2. In the early 1950 Maltese started arriving in Australia in great numbers and many choose to settle in Port Kembla and predominately in the Cringila area where the Centre was build.



*Members of the Maltese Community of Wollongong working on the new property*

*for the Maltese George Cross Falcons Club Inc.*

In 1951, the Maltese migrants in Wollongong got together and decided to establish a club to help the new migrants, whom many could not speak English. Mr Lorry Pavia, Joe Magro Joe Cassar and John Mallia and others decided it was now time to start a proper community club so they organize a committee meeting which was held in a tin shed across from the club, and it was decided to purchase the blocks necessary to build the community Club.

Each member gave a fee of 10 cents per week and foundation members were created and all paid 42 pounds. The Centre over time had it's fair share of running concerns but serious issues arose ten years ago, when the financial viability of the Centre was in jeopardy.

*The Mural painted by Simon Thomas 4 years ago, he commenced to paint a new Mural 12 meters in length and is to be placed inside the club. Picture- members with the President Louis Parnis*



The foundation members unaware of the gravity of the situation the Club position approached Mr. Louis Parnis, son in law of Emanuel Bezzina foundation member to look at the books and to make some recommendations.

Mr. Parnis reported that although the Club was not covering the bills when due, lot's of hard work and numerous changes, he was confidant things can be turned around. Today after 10 years, with Mr. Parnis still as President with changes to original changed committee, the Centre is prosperous and supporting the community of Wollongong. The building now is modernized with all the comfort of larger Clubs; a woodwork workshop was

created to make toys for sick and kids in foster homes. We support a local group Greenacres where some 14 adults with disability attend every Monday lunch to participate in activities and even some working in the workshop.

2016 is a big year for the Community Centre as we celebrate 65 years since the Club was formed and in March the committee with donations by members and others pleased to be unveiling the second Mural painied by Simon Thomas local artist to be placed inside the club. Hope you can visit us when in the area of Wollongong, and please do not hesitate to ring the President Louis Parnis for information, 042085736. G.C.F.C.



inside St Spyridon Church CORFU

## MALTESE IN CORFU

**TIMES OF MALTA** (photos) Bernard Vassallo joined a group of Maltese visiting Corfu. (right) inside St Spyridon Church.

Corfu has a population of 120,000, with some 45,000 in Corfu Town, on the island's east central side. The residents are largely Greek Orthodox but some 2,000 are Catholic, and of Maltese descent.

The origins of this small community began in 1819, when the British governor of the Ionian islands, Sir Thomas Maitland, decided to build the palace of St Michael and St George, in order to represent British hegemony over Zante, Lefkada, Ithaca, Kefalonia and Corfu, with Paxos and Antipaxos, as well as the Maltese islands.

This majestic building was erected in the centre of Corfu Town, mostly by Maltese and Gozitan stonemasons, in Malta stone, imported expressly for this purpose on British warships.

Hundreds of Maltese settled on the islands and many married local girls. After some generations many gave up their Maltese language and adopted the local Greek, from the islands of Lefkada and Kefalonia to the main island Corfu (Kérkyra). Some Corfiot-Maltese surnames are Azzopardi, Cuschieri, Debono, Spiteris and Xuereb.

Their community grew to about 4,000 by the 1960s when, because of the fraught political and economic situation, many of them emigrated to Wales.

Today 2,000 remain, served by a Maltese-Corfiot archbishop, Ioannis Spiteris, and two priests of Maltese origin. This is a dwindling community that faces stiff taxes from the Greek State, as opposed to the Orthodox clergy, who regularly receive a stipend.

Indeed, the island's most famous church is an elaborately decorated Greek Orthodox one dedicated to St Spyridon, which contains the relics of Corfu's patron saint. Its red-domed bell tower is a local landmark, while inside its ceiling murals show the life of the saint, who was born in Cyprus and performed many miracles before he died in AD350.

*This is a dwindling community that faces stiff taxes* His remains are kept in a silver casket, which is opened four times a year to show his mummified face. The saint is then paraded through town to commemorate the fact he saved the island's residents from famine, Turkish invasion and twice from plague: these annual processions attract many local and foreign visitors. Despite being a minority, there is still a Maltese Catholic



church in the central part of Corfu Town. The Nazis destroyed their original church in 1944 and burned its centennial archives. The church of Saints Iakovos and Christophoros (SS. James and Christopher) was rebuilt in a simple Latin style and decoration after World War II. Today it is large but plain. Masses are said in Greek, and even in various languages on Sundays. This old Maltese Catholic community faces a difficult future and it may disappear altogether.



## JEWS IN MALTA

*Jacob Israel was born in Corfu in 1834 and came to Malta at the age of 35. He set himself up in business first of all as a ship's chandler and then as an importer/exporter. His wife, seated in front of him, was born in Sfax in Tunisia and came to Malta with her father, Rabbi Samuel Zanzuri, following a famine in the south of Tunisia which drove away many Europeans. Of the daughters, to Jacob's left, standing, Rachele, who alone of all the family stayed in Malta and had children there. In front of her is her sister Elise who married an Ottoman Jew and finally settled in Paris.*

The boy, seated in front, Daniel, studied Medicine at the Catolica Hospital in Rome, but practiced most of his life in Tunis. To the right of the father, standing, is Mary who married a businessman from Sfax and settled there. In front of her, seated, is Emilia who settled in Lyons in France where her husband was a textile manufacturer, a business taken over later by one of his sons. Missing from the photo are two elder brothers who had left for Peru where they became hugely rich in rubber. Another sister, Rebecca, settled in Cairo. This scattering throughout the Mediterranean was typical of many Jewish families and also of Catholic Maltese, Malta being such a small and once a very poor place with few opportunities.

Courtesy of Aline P'nina Tayar, UK. Rabbi Josef Tajar (Oil on Canvas). His name had been spelled Iusuf Tajar upon his arrival from Tripoli. He was the first rabbi to have a congregation on the island OF Malta since the expulsion of the Jews in 1492, the first rabbi in modern times. Courtesy of Aline P'nina Tayar, UK.



A descendant of Rabbi Josef, Ondina Tayar, as a young woman, around the time she was working on a written form of the Maltese language. Ondina graduated in Pharmacy and was one of the first woman in Malta to hold a university degree. She had wanted to study Medicine but had been barred from the course when she raised the matter of Darwin's theory of evolution, a forbidden subject in Catholic Malta at the time.



## WHAT THE HECK IS "QARCILLA"?

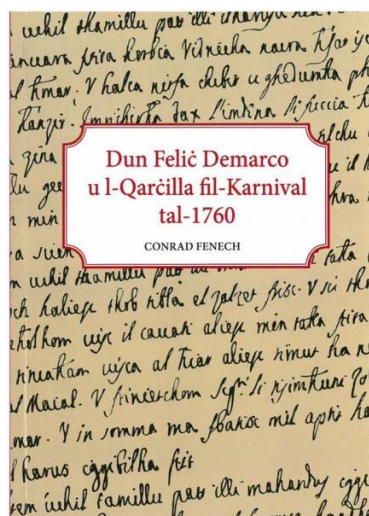


**Il-qarçilla** is a poetic farce in Maltese which up to a hundred years ago formed part of the Carnival celebrations held in Valletta and was also very popular in a number of villages. A man, acting as a notary, would in the presence of two youngsters, acting as husband and wife-to-be, read out a marital contract in verse filled with satirical innuendos and humour. The crowd would gather in the streets of Valletta to listen to the poem which, in some instances, could require an adult audience.

The first qarçilla on record was written for the 1760 carnival festivities by Cospicua poet Fr. Felic Demarco. Amongst the works of Demarco, one also finds *Iż-Żwieg la Maltija* (Marriage the Maltese way) which is the only one of his works which survived till this day. Heritage Malta once again treated its patrons to an original and unique Carnival event this year: **Il-Qarçilla at Fort St. Angelo in collaboration with I-Akkademja tal-Malti, il-Kunsill tal-Ilsien Malti and the Carnival Committee. The Qarçilla took place at Fort St. Angelo in Vittoriosa on Monday 8th February..** The programme included a short talk by **Olvin Vella**

about the linguistic value of the ancient *qrieċel*, a performance, light refreshments. The brand new Qarçilla is written by **Immanuel Mifsud**.

## Dun Felic Demarco u l-Qarçilla fil-Karnival tal-1760



Sthajjel ruhek f'Karnival Malti tal-imghoddi, b'harstek issegwi l-maskri grotteski u ż-zuffjett brijuz ta' madwarek. Bla ħsieb ta' xejn, għandek mnejn tisma' kuntratt bit-titlu "Żwieg la Maltija" qiegħed jithabbar minn nutar. Il-kantuniera mnejn ġej il-lehen tal-manifk issir il-lok fejn id-diskors burlesk dwar iż-żwieg jiltaqa' mad-dehra grotteska tal-maskarati għaddejnin fit-triq, biex flimkien dawn isiru karikatura waħda li testendi mill-aspett viżwali tal-Karnival saż-zuffjett imleñhen tal-qarçilla.

Dan hu ġeneru ta' reċtar burlesk li jagħmel għors sñiñ bil-pretensjonijiet tan-nutar, bil-kruhat fiżiċi tal-għarusa, saħansitra bil-faqar, bl-ingann, u bil-piki tal-popolin. Hu ġeneru li ma jaħfirha lill-ebda mill-isterjotipi Maltin ta' żmien, hi x'inhi l-provenjenza soċjali tagħhom. Bħalma tagħmel l-okkażjoni sñiña tal-Karnival, il-qarçilla tlibbes maskra grotteska lil kulhadd biex iddarri lill-komunità tinża' l-maskri l-oħra kollha tagħha ta' matul is-sena, ħalli b'hekk il-kotra titgħalliem tidhak bl-ipokreziji tagħha stess.

Bl-istħarriġ paċenzjuż ta' riċerkatur li verament ħabb is-suġġett tiegħu, Conrad Fenech irnexxielu jeskava mhux biss id-dokumenti li fadlilna tal-qarçilla, iżda wkoll dan l-ambjent kulturali sñiñ li fih nibtet u għal xi żmien għexet din l-għamla ta' produzzjoni. Bl-assoċjazzjonijiet interessanti li skopra fl-etimoloġija tal-kelma *qarçilla*, bid-deskrizzjoni tal-imġiba tipikament goffa tal-karattri, bi stharriġ interessanti tal-mekkanizmi burleski u vulgari tal-ġeneru nnifsu, Fenech idahħalna mill-gdid f'għamla ta' divertiment grottesk li donnu qiegħed jitlob biex jerġa' jingħata l-ħajja.

It-teži tal-B.A. (Unuri) fid-Dipartiment tal-Malti li fuqha huwa bbażat dan ix-xogħol tixhed kif ir-riċerka ta' student iddedikat tista tkun l-ewwel pass lejn pubblikazzjoni akkademika tassew oriġinali u rigoruża fit-trattament tas-suġġett tagħha.

Dr Bernard Micallef

Kap tad-Dipartiment tal-Malti, L-Università ta' Malta





## Stories from Maltese Living Abroad

Throughout history  
immigration stories  
have been used to

illuminate, to educate, to recount, to challenge and to engage. Every individual's life experience is unique and dynamic, particularly for those of us who have journeyed far from our homes to establish new lives in foreign countries.

Australia's migrant history has enabled this country to develop into the strong nation we are today. Personal stories and anecdotes are an important opportunity to enrich the public record and to embellish our history. The Maltese Newsletter encourages the collection of immigrant stories. By giving a voice to our immigrants, we hope to record significant experiences with increased depth. We envision an opportunity to connect generations and to build community via a comprehensive record of the distinctive immigration footprint of Australia.

### Jimmy Chetcuti – his story

I was the first born child of Sammy and Helen Chetcuti. I was born in Birkirkara Malta & was educated at the brothers St John Della Salle Collage Gzira. I played the trumpet with the Duke of Connaughts Own Band [ ta lahgma]. I worked in the NAAFI & was stationed at Marsa and then at Mtarfa in the canteen working in the kitchen. I decided to emigrate to better myself & was excepted to go to Canada but my family talked me into going to Australia instead because one of my cousins was in Australia and they thought until I settled down he might be able to keep an eye on me – little did they knew that he was living more then a hundred miles away! In September 1954 I had just turned 19 years when I left Malta for Australia by ship. It was the only trip the Castel Verdi ever did to Australia because it was being leased to carry American troops.

The crew were short staffed so I got the job part time helping in the kitchen and some nights I played the trumpet with the band and the payment was because I came to Australia with an assisted passage 10 pounds if for some reason I wanted to go back to Malta before the two years I could go back home with the Castel group for nothing. We stopped in Egypt to pick up more passengers. The Suez Canal was just reopened because during the war it was closed with sunken ships so we went through otherwise we had to go around the Cape which was an other two weeks. Next stop was Greece and more passengers; next stop was Eden and after 14 days and nights we arrived in Fremantle, West Australia and then my destination, Melbourne. I was met by my cousin who set me up in Fitzroy in a boarding house sharing four beds in one room. He could not take me were he was living because it was all bush [Yallourn] working at the power station or the open cut and I might not like it there.

So in the morning we went looking for work & in about an hour we found four jobs and "Can you please start now?". Australia has been good to me; after work I went to school and studied & I got myself multi trade certificates so I could better myself and in all the years in Australia I have never been out of work. In 1955 I married Jean an Australian woman and I send for my father and brother and then my father brought to Australia my mother brothers and sisters nana and uncle Jean. We had six children – Michael, Debbie,

Maryann, Veronica, Donna, who died tragically & Wayne. We are proud grandparents of sixteen and great grand parents.

Now I am retired and reaping the rewards. One of my hobbies is restoring old cars. We travelled around Australia. The highlights were Ayers Rock, Coober Pedy and Victory Downs cattle station. Every second year we travel to Europe and visit different counties but with all the travelling we have been doing Australia is best.

## Maltese Migrants on SS Asturias

In 1948 Australia signed an assisted passage agreement with Malta, the first that Australia had made with any country other than Britain. This resulted in large numbers of arrivals, peaking in the 1950s, with many hundreds travelling on the SS Asturias. The [passenger lists](http://www.ssasturias.net/maltesemigration.html) indicate that most were young tradesmen, many travelling with brothers but without their parents. Maltese passengers who arrived on the Asturias are invited to submit their stories for publication.



<http://www.ssasturias.net/maltesemigration.html> -  
[http://www.ssasturias.net/photos\\_paul\\_carbone.html](http://www.ssasturias.net/photos_paul_carbone.html) 1949 Paul Carbone and friends, before leaving Malta Photo supplied courtesy of Dr Barry York PhD OAM, Historian Maltese migrants on the deck of the Asturias

*Dr Barry York, PhD, OAM, is a widely published author and historian. Despite the surname - York - Dr. Barry York's dad is Maltese. He was born Loreto Meilak but he changed his name after the Second World War when the Air Force (which he joined in Malta) stationed him in London. Dr. Barry York's dad brothers and sisters, parents, etc., were all from Ghajnsielem, Gozo. The nickname was "tan-Nassi". His dad, however, being the eleventh child, happened to be born in Sliema, Malta, as the family moved there from Gozo around 1916. His dad was born in 1918.*



[http://www.ssasturias.net/linked/maltese\\_migrants\\_2.jpg](http://www.ssasturias.net/linked/maltese_migrants_2.jpg)[http://www.ssasturias.net/story\\_1.pdf](http://www.ssasturias.net/story_1.pdf) Giuseppe (Joseph) Farrugia was born 22 July 1911 in Msida, Malta, and died 8 July 1991 in Mildura Victoria. His parents were Annunziato (Lonza) Farrugia (1882-1938) and Maria Carmela Borg (1886-1962). His wife was Maria Rosaria Filletti (1915-1997). They had four sons and one daughter. Joseph, a plumber, travelled to Australia on the Asturias in May 1949. He had a choice to work at Woomera or Snowy Mountains (choosing Woomera), and at the time they were only accepting tradesmen to come out to Australia on a Free or assisted passage, but he needed to work for about 2 years before he could bring the rest of the family out. In June 1952, 3 of their sons (Charles, Joseph & John) travelled to Sydney also on the Asturias. They were aged 14, 10 & 8 respectively.



Their daughter, Maria Annunziata (Mary Nancy, aged 12) followed on the Toscana in September 1952 with the youngest son, Emmanuel (Bill) who was 5. His wife Maria stayed in Malta. These photos of Joseph and others on the Asturias have been kindly supplied by his grandson, Peter Williams



Mr Charles Cassar and Mr John Mangion pose with a priest after mass, Feb 1949 [Source: State Library of Victoria]

**NOSTALGIA**

Maltese  Newsletter

## A VERY RARE PHOTO OF THE MALTESE SCHOOL IN EGYPT IN 1903



*A 1903 photo of a Maltese School in Egypt; from 'Kullana Kulturali' series book: "L'Emigrazzjoni Maltija: Is-sekli Dsatax u Ghoxrin" by Lawrence Attard (1999)*

Lawrence Attard in his book about the story of Maltese emigration, states that "Alexandria, Cairo and Port Said were the most popular centres for the Maltese so much so that 5000 Maltese were living there" The Maltese community of Cairo, intermixing quite amicably with the local inhabitants, retained their fraternal attachment to each other and by 1895 they even started having their journal titled *Melita*. Those of Port Said on the other hand also published theirs which they called "*Il-Qari Malti*" (The Maltese Reading) which was still going strong right up to the middle of the 20 century. These Maltese Communities became well organized and thrived so much so that they even established their own schools over there.

The Maltese of Port Said were even given permission to build their own church over there which they dedicated to Saint Eugenia — the Saint protector of Empress Marie Eugenie, wife of Emperor Napoleon the third of France and, believe it or not, most of it was built by Malta stone brought over from Malta. In this same city, no less than two journals were being published: *Li Standard tal-Maltin* and *Il-Habbar Malti*. Up to the year 1927, Maltese residents and their descendants numbered no less than 20,000



## HISTORY OF THE TERRAMAXKA IN MALTA

The street-organ was called 'terramaxka' in Maltese, a word corrupted from *kitarra magica*, meaning magic guitar except this was no guitar but a mobile organ that was a popular feature in town squares in Malta from the end of the 19th century up to the mid-20th century, entertaining children and adults alike for a small donation. Street organs were always present

at the Mnarja festivities in Buskett and frequently entertained the public in local festas when the noisy bands were out of the way. In English, this instrument is given a variety of names including street organ, crank organ, barrel organ, fair organ and so forth. Street organs were imported to Malta from European countries such as France and Switzerland during the late nineteenth century.

A huge diversity of these organs could be found in Malta. The most common terramaxka was a very light weight organ usually hung round the neck of the busker, and rested on a small pole. These were operated using punched cards. All genres of music were played including the tango, operas, polka and waltzes. Some organs were operated by a crank turned by hand. Others were larger, usually decorated with flags and small wooden statues, these were driven by a donkey or the owner himself and attracted many young children. Similar to nowadays jukeboxes, were the coin-operated organs, called café organs, which were more

commonly found in cafés and pubs popular to sailors. Finally, there were also terramaxkas found in homes of wealthy people. These organs used to be richly ornamented with gold and precious stones.



The terramaxkas were very common in the Maltese islands and were frequently exhibited to the public in local festas where the noisy bands were out of the way. Unfortunately, these marvelous instruments have long been gone, some sold to Americans and others were broken. Luckily, we have the only terramaxka left on the Maltese Islands to bring back the memories of our

ancestors. [www.terramaxkamalta.com/](http://www.terramaxkamalta.com/)





## Mary Rose Mallia Darling of Maltese Song

From M3P

Mary Rose Mallia born in Żebbuġ Malta on the 9th of May 1953, is one of the darlings of Maltese song. Immersed in festivals at the age of fourteen, she won the Malta Song Festival a year later. She was awarded "Best Singer" on two separate occasions and participated in the "Split International Song Festival" in Yugoslavia and the "Yamaha Festival of Song" held in Japan. She was also a judge in one of the editions of the Eurovision Song Contest. At that early stage in her career, Mary Rose Mallia gave various shows in local night spots, hotels, television and radio.

In 1967 she featured with two tracks in the first vinyl LP released in Malta, with the songs *Ma Ora No* and *Xorti u l-Imħabba*, both written and composed by Ġorġ and Karmelina Zammit. In 1971 Mallia became the first Maltese singer to record her own stereo long play on vinyl in Maltese, through the album "Songs from Malta", that was recorded in London. The music was composed by Charles Camilleri and Joe Friggieri, is still a favourite. Penned by Friggieri at the tender age of 25, the lyrics were probably the first Maltese recording to be replete with fantastic characters. Songs included *It-Tfajla tal-Irdum*, *Rajt Raġel*, *Il-Bejjiegħa tal-Ward* and *Il-Pont ta' Wied Rummiena*.

In 1972 Mary Rose represented Malta in the World Popular Song Festival, in Tokyo at Japan with the *tal-Flagship* and "*Karmena Abdilla*". [http://www.m3p.com.mt/wiki/Mary\\_Rose\\_Mallia/](http://www.m3p.com.mt/wiki/Mary_Rose_Mallia/)

song *Id-Dinja Tagħna*. She also had a single track called *Nazju tal-Ibirba* written by Albert Marshall and composed by Austrian Freddy Kov. Throughout her career Mary Rose performed in Italy, the United Kingdom, Austria, Libya, Australia, Germany, Canada and Turkey. In 1982 she placed first in her category in the second "Maltese International Festival of Songs" and so won the right to represent Malta in the "Bizerte International Festival of Song" in Tunisia, which she won. From this festival she was invited to participate in a show in Germany together with international stars like Jennifer Rush, Imagination, Pupo and others.

During that show she met Teddy Lakis and they recorded the song *An Island Called Amore*. Promoting that record, Mary Rose gave a show for the fashion house "Sasch" where she was so well received, she was immediately offered a recording contract with Sasch record company. She was given the name "Mary Charles". Her first engagement with her new stage manager was an Italian tour with Eduardo Vianello ending in a very big show on Rai TV named "Notte Delle Stelle" with Claudio Villa, The Platters and many other Italian singers, with whom she toured for three months.

She then returned to Germany, where she recorded "Blue Summer Lies" and "A Star of Clay" composed by Mino Siciliano and Alfred C. Sant, which turned out to be her biggest success. From then onwards Mary had a lot of T.V. (Z.P.F.) Sat 1 and Sat 3 radio shows, also shows in theatres, discos and nights spots around Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

Mary Rose Mallia is also a renowned actress and had leading parts in numerous plays on stage and television, including leading roles in both successful television serials "Ir-Ronnie", "Vaganza f'Hal Bla Ras" and as Lieni in "Simpatici". In the 1982 rock opera *Ġensna*, she was given the task of the main female vocalist, facing the indomitable Bayzo, which they successfully surpassed with wide public acclaim. She also sang and acted main parts in operettas as "Die Fliedermaus", "Orpheus in the Underworld", "The Merry Widow", "The White Horse Inn", "The Land of Smiles", "Cin Cin La", "Il Paese dei Campanelli". the musicals "King and I", "Spiru Cefai", "Taħt Tlett Saltnet", "Żeża



This conference, to be held on the 23rd-25th November 2016, seeks to explore the social dynamics through which space – public, private and virtual– within a city serves as a site of discourse, contestation, and critical reflection within and between communities with a particular reference to the Euro-Mediterranean context and Valletta as European Capital of Culture in 2018.

The conference is centred on five main thematic areas:

1. Community Driven Spaces
2. Community Contested Spaces
3. Developing Creative Spaces
4. City Space as an Empowerment Tool
5. Online Community Spaces

The Valletta 2018 Foundation is inviting

contributions from academics, researchers, artists and practitioners related to any of these themes. The range of papers may cover theoretical and methodological perspectives, practical examples and artistic interpretations of the issues and challenges faced in cities by communities.

Applicants are invited to submit a proposal (abstract) of not more than 250 words by **no later than Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2016** to [research@valletta2018.org](mailto:research@valletta2018.org).

More information, including the full call for papers document may be available at the [conference website](http://conference.valletta2018.org) or by contacting the Valletta 2018 Foundation at [research@valletta2018.org](mailto:research@valletta2018.org) or (+356) 2124 2018.



**The State Library of Victoria** is a huge part of why Melbourne was named Unesco City of Literature in 2008. It has been forefront of Melbourne's literary scene since it opened in 1854, storing over two million books within its walls. The octagonal La Trobe Reading Room is the library's epicentre whose structure was completed in 1913, was completed in 1913.

The Reading Room's reinforced-concrete dome was the largest of its kind in the world and its natural light wonderfully illuminates the ornate plasterwork and writers who come here to pen their work.

Don't miss the two free permanent exhibitions: Ned Kelly's armour in the changing face of Victoria, and trace the history of books in Mirror of the World. Free guided tours are also available.

The State Library's collections include over two million books, hundreds of thousands of pictures, newspapers, maps and manuscripts, and masses of audio, video and digital material – all reflecting the culture of Victoria over the past 150 years. You can also enjoy fabulous artworks and exhibitions by visiting one of the free galleries: the Keith Murdoch Gallery, Cowen Gallery and Dome Galleries. You can also see what's showing on the media wall in Experimedia.





## Travel to the European Union

These questions and answers are general in nature. The information given does not take personal or specific circumstances into account and should therefore not be considered as constituting personal, professional or legal advice to the user. Users requiring personal or specific advice should

consult the relevant departments in the Member States.

### 1 Which countries are part of the Schengen Area?

The Schengen area covers 26 countries ("Schengen States") without border controls between them. These countries are: Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland. These countries apply the common visa policy for short stay visas.

### 2 What is a Schengen visa?

- A transit through or an intended stay in the territory of the Schengen States of a duration of no more than 90 days in any 180 day period ("short stay visa"),
- A transit through the international transit areas of airports of the Schengen States ("airport transit visa"). Generally the visa issued allows you to visit any of the Schengen States during the same trip, within the validity of the visa. A Schengen visa is not appropriate, if you wish to remain in a Schengen country for longer than 90 days, take up employment or establish a business, trade or profession.

### 3 Do I need a visa to enter a Schengen State?

Australian passport holders do not require a visa to enter the European Union or the Schengen States as long as your stay is no longer than 90 days within any 180 day period (and providing your visit is not for gainful activity). If you are not an Australian passport holder, you can consult the overview [on our website\\*](#) to find out if you need a visa to enter a Schengen state. If you need a visa to enter a Schengen State, please contact the relevant Embassy or Consulate in Australia. See FAQ no 5 on where to submit your visa application.

- [http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/borders-and-visas/visa-policy/apply\\_for\\_a\\_visa/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/borders-and-visas/visa-policy/apply_for_a_visa/index_en.htm)



Tahnina

Fil-bajja d-dghajjes zifnu  
Tahnina filghaxija,  
Mal-mewg jidbandal hieni  
Taht qamar kollu dija.

Minn fuq il-blat fil-gholi  
Tghaxxaqt d'dawk iz-zeffiena,  
Filwaqt li l-hemda nkisret  
Mit-tokki tal-qanpiena.

U xtaqt li ghal darb'ohra  
Nithannen bhal tarbija  
U norqod raqda helwa  
fi hdan il-poezija.

Charles Zahra