

**MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER**

**The journal of the Maltese Diaspora**



### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE ST. CATHERINE SOCIETY

Tessie Mansueto

The time has come again for our society and the Maltese community of Adelaide to celebrate the feast of our dear and beloved patron, Saint Catherine of Alexandria VM. I would like to invite and encourage everyone to attend and be part of the activities, that, we the committee, have prepared for you during the three days of the feast, especially those held in the church. After all, these are the prime objects and the highlights of the feast of Saint Catherine.

In August our society held its Annual General Meeting, and again I was elected as the President of our society. I wish to thank all those who encouraged and inspired me to nominate for the position once again. I will continue to do my best so that our club can keep moving forward. I wish to acknowledge and thank my preceding president Bernadette Buhagiar, who during the last three years has stepped in to fill the position when I was unable to continue due to personal health issues.

I wish to thank the new committee who continue to volunteer their experiences and valuable time to the society. A special welcome to the three new members, Horace Bianco, Charlie & Valerie Baldacchino, we hope you will enjoy and get a lot of pleasure from your new role.

I wish to thank the outgoing committee members who decided to have a break after many years of service to our association, Bernadette Buhagiar, Tony Chetcuti, Katie Camilleri, and Benny Agius, we will miss your talents and skills. It will always be a great pleasure to have you back whenever you are ready to continue.

We are very lucky that we have so many others who are always so ready to help such as, our Chaplain and Spiritual Director Fr. Gabriel Micallef OFM, Mr Frank Scicluna Hon. Consul of Malta in South Australia, Mr Charles Zarb Church Co-ordinator, Sister Bonnie Attard, Linda Ayres and the Maltese Chaplaincy Choir, Fr Leon Czechowicz and the Clearview/Kilburn Parish Council, all our Sponsors, Ron Borg Editor of this Feast Booklet, the Maltese Community Radio, the Maltese Queen of Victories Band, The SA Police Traffic division, all the Maltese Societies and clubs, and the many volunteers and helpers. VIVA SANTA KATARINA.

### PROGRAM OF THE FEAST OF ST. CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

**Friday 17 November 2017 – from 7.00 pm Tribute to Saint Catherine by the Maltese community and societies inside the Church of St Brigid, LeHunte Street, Kilburn South Australia led by Fr. Gabriel Micallef OFM.**

**Saturday 18 November 2017 – at 6.30 pm till midnight - Annual Feast Gala Dinner Dance at the Sicilia Club, OG Road, Klemzig.**

**Sunday 19 November 2017 – at 3.00 pm Solemn Mass celebrated by the Maltese Chaplain, Father Gabriel Micallef with the participation of the Maltese choir of the Maltese Chaplaincy Festivities Group under the direction of Sister Bonnie Attard and organist Linda Evers, followed by procession with the artistic statue of St Catherine. Following the procession there will be a social program in the parish hall including a musical concert by the Maltese Queen of Victories Band of South Australia.**

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Send your emails, comments, articles etc. to the Editor – Frank L Scicluna on  
[maltesejournal@gmail.com](mailto:maltesejournal@gmail.com)

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## Funeral warning for Malta journalist Daphne Caruana Galizia's killers



**Crowds make the peace sign, applaud the coffin and sing Malta's national anthem as Daphne Caruana Galizia is laid to rest.**

The funeral has taken place for anti-corruption journalist Daphne Caruana Galizia, with Malta's archbishop warning her killers "you will never escape from the justice of God".

More than 1,500 people packed the Rotunda Parish Church near to where the 53-year-old was

Hundreds gathered outside applauded as her coffin was carried into the church, and Archbishop Charles Scicluna warned the journalist's murderers: "However hard you try to evade from the justice of men, you will never escape from the justice of God." Mourners included Ms Caruana Galizia's husband, her three adult sons and European Parliament President Antonio Tajani.

Malta's top politicians stayed away at the request of her family, who have criticised the government for not dealing with the corruption she covered in her blog, Running Commentary.

Ms Caruana Galizia also wrote twice a week for the Malta Independent and at the time of her death was being sued in 42 libel cases. Witnesses described seeing two explosions coming from her car and the vehicle skidding down the road at high speed, before ending up in fire in a field.

Her son, Matthew Caruana Galizia, said he found his mother's body in pieces. The assassination sparked outrage in Malta, and among many journalists and politicians in Europe and worldwide, who view it as an attack on free speech.

Archbishop Scicluna used his funeral address to make a direct appeal for Ms Caruana Galizia's contemporaries to continue her work. "Dear journalists, we need you," he said. "We need people in your profession who are unshackled, who are free, intelligent, inquisitive, honest, serene, safe and protected."

People outside the church sang the national anthem and clapped as the coffin was carried out by Ms Caruana Galizia's sons. The journalist's articles probed issues such as government officials named in the Panama Papers leaks, Malta's reputation as a tax haven, and links with Libya.

Europol, the EU law enforcement agency, has confirmed it has sent three experts to the Mediterranean island to help investigate. "They are working directly with the investigation team established by Malta police and their task is to support the investigation wherever it may lead," said Europol spokesman Jan Op Gen Oorth.

Police are looking at similarities with five other unsolved car bombings in Malta over the last two years. Malta's prime minister, Joseph Muscat, often a target of Caruana Galizia's articles, has vowed no stone will be left unturned, and has offered a €1m (£890,000) reward to bring her killers to justice. [SKY NEWS](#)



**Maltese community in London commemorates Daphne Caruana Galizia** Photos by John Micallef Moreno

While in Malta, thousands gathered in Valletta to commemorate slain journalist Daphne Caruana Galizia, the Maltese community in London gathered in front of the Maltese High Commission in London.

Maltese citizens met at 3pm at the Winston Churchill statue on Parliament Square, later

walking up Whitehall, past Trafalgar Square at Cockspur, up Regent Street St James, and left on Piccadilly to the High Commission, where photos of Daphne were affixed to the main door.

**AUSTRALIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION (VIC)**



*Dear Members and Friends,*

*Today we stand strong again with our American family and we are deeply shocked and saddened by the unprecedented and dastardly terrorist attacks in New York which resulted in the loss of innocent lives and injury and trauma to many more.*

*I wish to convey our deepest condolences to the bereaved families and we pray for them and with them during this time.*

*We together must condemn terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.*

*May God be with each one of those that have lost a loved one, May He even now begin to heal broken families and wounded souls. We stand with them. We bow our heads and send prayers for peace and comfort.*

*We send our love and sympathies, and we want them to know that you're not alone in your suffering.*

*Sam CJ Muscat JP - President Australian American Association Victoria*

**XAGHRA ASSOCIATION OF NSW INC**

**Cherry Picking at Orange for the Day**

**When: Sunday 10th December 2017 Riverstone. Bus will leave 6:00am from St John's Church Mc Culloch Street, Riverstone Blacktown. Bus will leave 6:30am from Bus stop near Blacktown Workers Greystanes: Bus will leave 6:45am from Bus stop opposite Greystanes church (close to Braeside Road). Morning tea, lunch & dinner will be provided.**



**Contact: Ray/Josephine Bigeni: 9627 4182, 0439 974 182 M'Ann Teuma: 4579 6771**



## MALTA EMIGRANTS' COMMISSION

Dar L- Emigrant, Castille Place, Valletta, VLT 1062 Malta  
Tel:- (+356) 21 232545, 21 222644, 21 240255 Fax(+356) 21 240022

Send an Email to:- [sales.mectravel@go.net.mt](mailto:sales.mectravel@go.net.mt) or [joe.mectravel@go.net.mt](mailto:joe.mectravel@go.net.mt).

Those interested in sending **CHRISTMAS GIFTS (Cakes, wines, to their relatives or friends through the services of the Emigrants Commission are kindly requested:**

- to make their order by not later than Monday 11 December 2017
- To send their name, surname, address and telephone number of the person they intend to send their gift to. Please write clearly in **BLOCK LETTERS**.

Kindly note: All correspondence should be sent by airmail payments can be **done as follows:-**

**Payments By SWIFT:**

Beneficiary: Emigrants Commission,  
Dar I-Emigrant Castille Place, Valletta, Malta  
SWIFT Code: VALLMTMT Account no : BOV -10212582018  
IBAN NO MT67VALL22013000000010212582018

OR **Bank Drafts** should be made payable to the:-  
Emigrants Commission Malta

Mons. Philip Calleja – President      Mons Alfred Vella – Director

### INTERVERRANNO

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*Professore di Italiano*  
*Università di Malta*

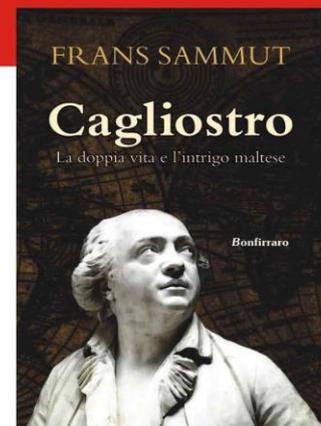
**Henry Frendo**  
*Professore di Storia Moderna*  
*Università di Malta*

### INVITO

alla presentazione del libro

**CAGLIOSTRO**  
la doppia vita e l'intrigo maltese  
di Frans Sammut

**Domenica 12 novembre ore 17,00**  
**SPAZIO COMUNE**  
**Malta Book Festival**  
**Mediterranean Conference Centre**  
**VALLETTA**



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**Bonferraro**  
**Editore**



Patrick J Sammut



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## Revised masterplan for restoration, redevelopment of Manoel Island published

### Consultation period to commence with PA and ERA

MIDI's revised masterplan for the restoration and redevelopment of Manoel Island seeks to ensure that the island's important heritage buildings and sites, foreshore and significant green park spaces are restored and preserved for the whole community to enjoy, the company said this evening.

It said in a company announcement on the

Malta Stock Exchange that its revised plan had been submitted to the Planning Authority for consideration and to Environmental and Resources Authority for Environmental Impact Assessment evaluation. A period of public consultation will now commence with both the PA and ERA.

MIDI said that its earlier masterplan has been significantly amended in response to valuable feedback received from the broader community, the Gżira council and NGOs.

It said it was sensitive to the views of the local and wider communities and would continue to work closely and transparently with all stakeholders.

"MIDI will continue to regularly listen, engage and provide updates throughout the project, ensuring the delivery of significant benefits to the community for the long term," it said adding that works include €50 million in the restoration of historical buildings.

It said it expected total investment in Manoel Island, estimated at more than €400 million, to significantly benefit local business, skills and apprenticeships during the construction phase.

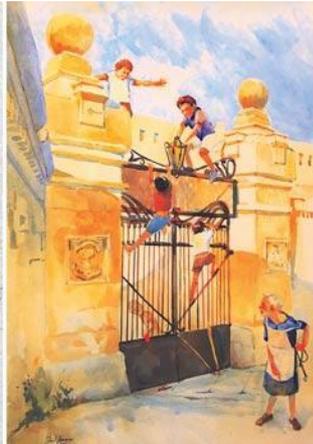
The masterplan provides that:

- MIDI will preserve, improve and deliver more than 80,000 square metres of new green/family park space around Manoel Island, including Fort Manoel and the Island's foreshore, for the general public to enjoy for the long term.
- Fort Manoel is destined to become a centre for Culture and the Arts, comprising galleries, museums, shops, restaurants and a Parade Ground for open air events, all with full public access; the Chapel will also be used for community events, weddings and celebrations. This helps to ensure that Fort Manoel will become one of Malta's most visited attractions.
- The Lazzaretto, which has been adapted for various uses across the centuries, will be restored as a Five Star Hotel with serviced apartments.
- The residential component of the development is concentrated at the western part of the island and will comprise of a series of low rise (three to four floors) urban blocks.
- An animated retail offering is sensitively designed around the Island's open public spaces and pedestrian streets. There will not be a shopping centre complex.
- The South shore yacht marina will be significantly upgraded to a world class yacht marina catering for a mix of small scale and large yachts.
- Vehicle parking and circulation will be located below ground, creating a largely pedestrianised car-free streetscape.
- Unique public spaces will be created at street level connecting the pedestrianised streets to a series of open spaces and piazzas for the enjoyment of the public.

The revised plans can be viewed on the [Manoel Island website](#), which is being supplemented by a static exhibition on Manoel Island from November 17 to December 1. The exhibition will then be moved to the Piazza at Tigné Point on December 4 and remain on site until December 15.

Early next year, MIDI also intends to hold a series of open days at Manoel Island, enabling the community to see the extensive restoration work which has already been carried out and to view the proposed designs.

## STRADA STRETTA - The street where dreams never ended



Daniel Brooks was in Malta in 1940 during the last war on board HMS Calypso. The photo was taken in a studio in Strait Street, Valletta. Right: A recollection by Paul Caruana who painted the watercolours for Strada Stretta, Aktar dawl fuq it-triq li darba xegħlet il-Belt. Boys enjoyed climbing over the gate of Fort St Elmo where they would play 'Knights and Turks'

or 'Cowboys and Indians'.

An erudite woman met George Cini the other day and suggested that as a subtitle to his two books on Strada Stretta he ought to have added the word 'survivors'.

Survivors, this avid reader said, because the people who toiled along Strait Street in Valletta managed to keep their heads above water through their ingenuity and inventiveness. "How could it have been otherwise when most people around the island only managed to scrape a living?" she said.

Whether or not you agree with this interpretation, it would be intriguing to see what Mr Cini will have to say about the people and denizens of Valletta who had forged close ties to this famous alley, during a talk in Maltese on Friday at 7pm. The venue is ir-Razzett tal-Markiż Mallia Tabone in Mosta. Entrance is free.

To come back to the lady who called the people who worked along Strait Street 'survivors', with her analytical mind, she added: "These people were 'innocent' in the sense that they, when the going was good, assisted families and single mothers financially. They spoke of their experiences without batting an eyelid and wore their hearts on their sleeves. And although the rest of the people looked down on them as lost souls, they followed as best they could the tenets of their religion." *The Strada Stretta book is on*

*Facebook.*

*Strada Stretta* sets out to do two things. First, to give "The Gut" a fair hearing by letting it tell its own stories. Second, to take the reader back to the days of the *flotta* (the fleet refers to warships in harbour and sailors crowding the streets of Valletta) and rescue for posterity some of the charm, sounds and light of the city's most colourful street. Mr.Cini does this in a straightforward and unpretentious way (indeed this is one of the things I like about the book), by bringing us what are pretty much the transcripts of 18 interviews with some of what remains of the protagonists.

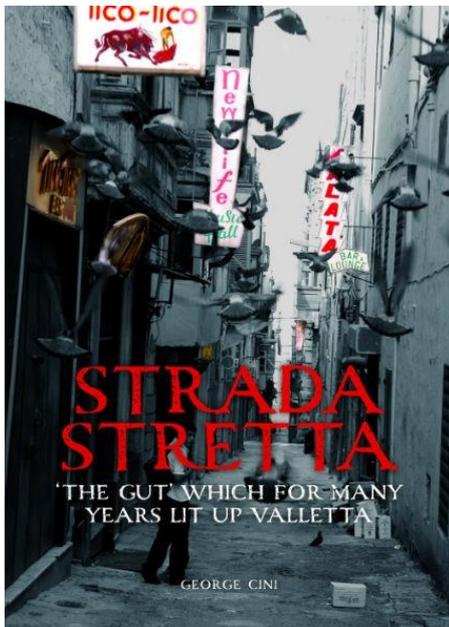
There is much richness in his materials. We learn of women from poorer families who moved to Valletta to make a living, of the charmed lives of the bar and music hall owners, and of the dynamics of a city living off its maritime connections.

I particularly like the sections on music, musicians, and entertainers. The last included Rita Cordina, nicknamed "Sparrow" who apparently could do interesting things with a bottle...

I can well figure why *Strada Stretta* is flying off the shelves. Mr. Cini has come up with an eminently readable and enjoyable book, one that will go down well especially with people whose family roots go back

to Valletta it may not be terribly thorough, but then the Gut was all about a bit of fun – with or without a bottle – in the first place.

*Part of a book review – The Times, Tuesday, June 21, 2011 – by Mark-Anthony Falzon, an anthropologist and head of the Department of Sociology at the University of Malta*





## Schizophrenia by Dr. Victor Chircop-Sullivan



As I mentioned in my last article titled "The fact about Mental Illness" that there are two categories such as Psychosis and Non-psychosis. In this article, I will start with the Psychotic illness of Schizophrenia. So what is Schizophrenia, Schizophrenia is a severe mental disorder in which people interpret reality abnormally. Schizophrenia may result in some combination of hallucinations, delusions and extremely disordered thinking and behaviour that impairs daily functioning and can be disabling.

**Symptoms** - Schizophrenia involves a range of problems with thinking (cognition) behaviour or emotions. Signs and symptoms may vary, but usually involve delusions, hallucinations or disorganised speech, and reflect an impaired ability to function, they include: -

**Delusions** - These are false beliefs that are not based in reality, like, you think that you are being harmed or harassed, certain gestures or comments are directed to you, you have exceptional ability or fame. Delusions occur in most people with schizophrenia.

**Hallucinations** : - These usually involve seeing or hearing things that don't exist. Yet for the people with schizophrenia they have the full force and impact of a normal experience. Hallucinations can be in any of the senses, but hearing voices is the most common.

**Disorganised thinking (speech):** Disorganised thinking is inferred from disorganised speech. Effective communication can be impaired and answers to questions may be partially or completely unrelated. Speech may include putting together meaningless words that can't be understood.

**Extremely disorganised or abnormal motor behaviour:** - Behaviour isn't focused on a goal so it's hard to do tasks. Behaviour can include resistance to instructions inappropriate or bizarre posture, a complete lack of response or useless and excessive movement.

**Negative symptoms:** - Reduced or lack of ability to function normally. . The person may neglect personal hygiene or appear to lack emotion or doesn't make eye contact does not change facial expressions, or speaks in a monotone. **The** person may have lost interest in everyday activities, socially withdrawn or lack the ability in experience pleasure.

Symptoms can vary in type and severity over time, with periods of worsening and remission of symptoms. Some symptoms may always be present.

**Suicide thoughts and behaviour:** - Suicide thoughts and behaviour are common with schizophrenia. If you have a loved one who is in danger of attempting suicide or has made a suicide attempt, make sure that someone stays with that person and call emergency number immediately, or take the person to the nearest hospital emergency room.

**Causes:** - It is not known what causes schizophrenia, but researchers believe that a combination of genetics, brain chemistry and environment contributed to development of the disorder. Problems with certain naturally brain chemicals, including neurotransmitters called dopamine and glutamate may contribute to schizophrenia.

**Prevention** - There is no sure way to prevent schizophrenia, however, early treatment may help get symptoms under control before serious complications develop and may help improve the long time outlook. Sticking with the treatment plan can help prevent relapses or worsening of schizophrenia symptoms. In addition researchers hope that learning more about risk factors for schizophrenia may lead to earlier diagnosis and treatment.



## FATHER AVERTAN FENECH O.CARM

Thanks for sending me the Australian Maltese Newsletters regularly. I always look forward to them and I keep them in my records for future reference. I always find them interesting and very informative.

I never learned so much about Australia as I did since I started reading your newsletters. I also send it to relatives of mine in Malta. Both me and my wife have a lot of relatives in Australia. My wife has brothers and sisters living in different parts of Australia as well.

In the last newsletter you

included an article about Patri Avvertan Fenech. As you wrote, yesterday evening in St. John's Co-Cathedral began the long road to his possible canonization. But unwittingly or because of lack of space you left something important out which the Mosta-Maltese-Australians would have liked to read.

Patri Avvertan Fenech (Carmelite) was born on 1<sup>st</sup> November 1871 in MOSTA and grew up in MOSTA. He only moved to Mdina where he spent his whole life, only when he was ordained Priest. We have a street named after him in Mosta and a monument dedicated to him in a public garden at the back façade of the Rotunda which was inaugurated on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014. This monument was made by a young Mosta sculptor Savio Deguara.

I am sending you two photos which I took. One is of his portrait in the Rotunda and the other one of his monument. Thanks again and regards. Keep up the good work. **Victor B. Caruana**



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## Four ways to use up that leftover Halloween pumpkin

**Pumpkin season is here. Try these delicious recipes to get your family eating more of this golden vegetable**

If you have kids you have most likely been digging out pumpkins all weekend. Though we only need the shell for a scary Jack O'Lantern, all that beautiful orange flesh shouldn't go to waste. Hold onto it and make some of these recipes to have your family eating pumpkin all week and hardly even noticing!



**Roasted butternut squash and bacon soup** Roasting veggies before you put them into the pot to make a soup adds depth of flavour. These veggies have been roasted with coriander seeds, bacon and sage for incredible flavour.

**Roasted butternut squash and bacon soup** Roasting veggies before you put them into the pot to make a soup adds depth of flavour. These veggies have been roasted with coriander seeds,



**Roasted butternut squash with coriander seeds and bacon** - This has to be the easiest pumpkin recipe out there. Simply add all the ingredients to a baking tray and bung them in the oven. Though the bacon fat gives the pumpkin lovely flavour, if you are avoiding meat simply leave it out. There is still plenty of flavour from the coriander seeds and the sage. Use these roasted veggies to put on top of salads, to serve alongside a main meal of meat or fish or use as a base for a soup, such as the one that follows.



**Pumpkin, fennel and Taleggio tart** - Simple roasted veggies on top of some puff pastry makes for the most delicious starter or could be served as a main meal for a light lunch. The creamy melted cheese pairs perfectly with the warming roasted pumpkin cooked with nutmeg and cinnamon along with the roasted fennel with fennel seeds. This goes perfectly well with a glass (or three)

of crisp white wine.



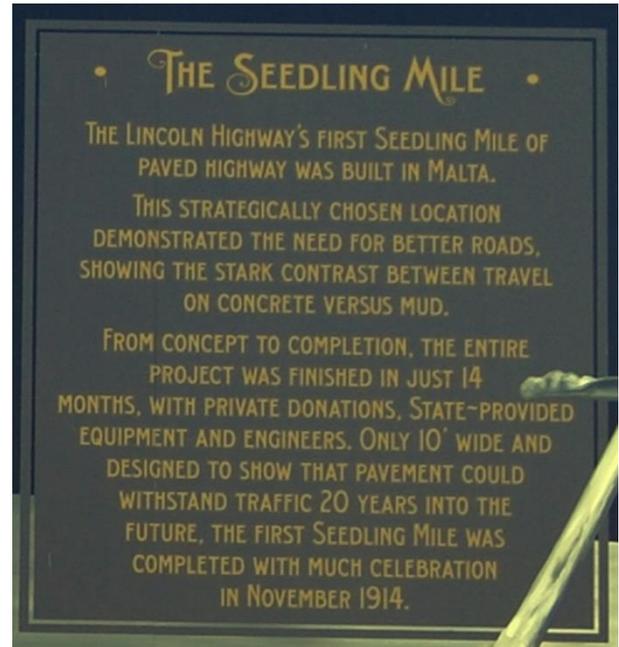


## Lincoln Highway, Malta, ILLINOIS 60150, United States of America

A place called Malta in USA

The Illinois Lincoln Highway Coalition has produced thirty five Interpretive Murals along the Illinois Lincoln Highway National Scenic Byway and its corridor in northern Illinois.

An artist's favorite, Malta's mural showcases (see below) the Lincoln Highway's very first seedling mile of paved highway. This strip of paved road was made to use as a "show and tell" demonstration of the advantages of travel on concrete versus mud, in an effort to obtain donations to fund the construction of paving the Lincoln Highway in Illinois. Depicting larger than life images, the mural displays a detailed painting of the workmen in Malta pouring the concrete with a steam operated mixer and a foreground view of men smoothing the surface. Stark contrasts in the vintage images are outstanding, clearly demonstrating the early style road construction.



For more information about the Malta mural visit: [dekalbcountycvb.com](http://dekalbcountycvb.com).

**YOU MAY READ THE MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER IN BOOK FORM**  
[http://issuu.com/frank.scicluna/docs/news\(83 to 192\)](http://issuu.com/frank.scicluna/docs/news(83%20to%20192))

## THE MALTEASER~SUZANNE PISCOPO'S BLOG

L-GHADAM TAL-ERWIEH – IL-MINESTRA TAL-ERWIEH – IL-HANŽIRA TAL-ERWIEH  
SOULS' BONES – SOULS' SOUP – SOULS' PIG

So Halloween has come to Malta big time. Up till a few years ago you would perhaps hear of a Halloween party here and there among university students or other groups where there were a few individuals visiting from the USA. But nowadays the shop windows and shelves are full of Halloween paraphernalia. I have even seen specially designated crates in supermarkets and local corner shops with bagfuls of packaged trick-or-treat sweets. So why am I writing about this?

As a Home Economist... I feel this sharing of special holiday rituals is something which helps us appreciate each other's cultures and also enriches our life experiences. I also think this is a great opportunity for children and young people to be creative; perhaps designing their own original costumes and producing them by reusing materials available at hand; or carving out pumpkins and other fruit or vegetables to make their own special lanterns.

I am afraid that the commercialisation of this holiday event is really rampant and that perhaps it could lead to overspending on items of limited lasting value. How many children will want to wear the same costume the following year, or still be able to wear it size-wise? (Of course costume-swapping could be an idea to consider.)

As a Maltese Home Economist... I think it's good to see Maltese children and youth finding another opportunity to get together and do things as groups; also getting some physical exercise by spending a few hours touring their neighbourhoods on foot, or dancing away at some organised party.

I am concerned however that this will become yet another occasion for children to overeat and store up on lots of sweets and high-sugar, high-fat foods as they go round trick-or-treating. I am also concerned that Halloween is stealing away from the focus on our local traditions related to this time of the year. Apart from the religious rituals attached to **JUM IL-QADDISIN KOLLHA** (All Saints' Day, November 1) and **JUM L-ERWIEH** (All Souls Day, November 2), I am also thinking of the folklore and food associated with these



feasts. I commend the confectionery shops which have continued to produce the traditional All Souls Day sweet – a bone-shaped almond paste-filled pastry called **GHADAM TAL-ERWIEH** (Souls' Bones). Symbolically, they were meant to encourage Christians to remember their deceased loved ones and friends and to pray for the souls of the dead who were not yet in paradise. I also commend any organisation, company or catering outlet which is trying to revive awareness of the All Souls Day

**MINESTRA TAL-ERWIEH** (Souls' Minestrone) and **Hanzira tal-Erwieh** (Souls' Pig); two dishes which were meant to encourage generosity with the poor. On All Souls Day, Franciscan priests used to set out huge pots or cauldrons in the town and village streets and the locals could add any vegetables they had available at home. Eventually, these pots were placed over a heat source and the Minestra tal-Erwieh was cooked. This soup was then made available to the poorer residents of the locality.



**IL-HANŽIRA TAL-ERWIEH** was another charitable tradition. A few weeks prior to All Souls Day, one of the wealthier village or town residents would buy a pig, tie a little bell around its neck and let it loose in the neighbourhood. People could hear the pig approaching from inside their homes and would go out and feed it. On All Souls Day this fattened pig was captured and slaughtered. The pig was then cooked (often roasted) and also shared with the poor of the locality so that they would be able to have some meat.



IDEA! Maybe the **BORŽA TA' SAN MARTIN** (St Martin's Bag) tradition could become our day for Maltese children to go trick-or-treating. On the feast of St Martin, celebrated each year on November 11, Maltese children traditionally receive a bagful of nuts (e.g. walnuts, hazelnuts, chestnuts), dried fruit (e.g. figs), a special sweet dough bun (**Ħobża ta' San Martin**) and seasonal fruit (e.g. tangerines and pomegranates). Rather than find the bag hanging on their bedpost, children could go round their neighbourhood collecting tasty, seasonal nutritious goodies for their borża.

## Fighting fear through storytelling | Giuliana Fenech



Teodor Reljic speaks to Giuliana Fenech about 'Of Fairy Tales and You' – an upcoming workshop for kids forming part of this year's edition of Žigužajg, and part of Fenech's wider initiative, Lignin Stories, which attempts to harness the eternal power of traditional storytelling while adapting it to contemporary realities



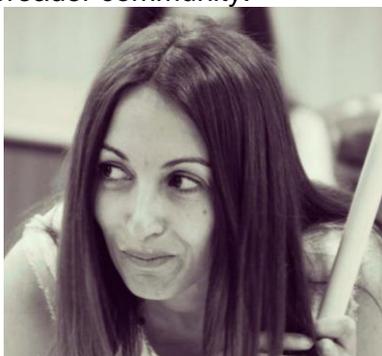
*Illustration by Charles Vess for Neil Gaiman's Stardust – a modern fairy tale retelling which proves the idiom's ongoing power and relevance*

**First off, how would you describe the 'function' of fairy tales in today's context? And is the pedagogical or didactic dimension of fairy tales the most interesting aspect of them for you, at least for the purposes of this event?**

Fairy tales have been present in literature and popular culture for hundreds of years. Their setting in a faraway land and time is appealing because it allows us to project our desires and fears onto a landscape that we only partly recognise. Over the years, and through the various retellings and

adaptations, the tales have morphed to reflect changing cultural constructions of childhood and in contemporary culture they are a good reminder of how powerful magic, hope, and courage are. In this workshop for children, we return to the fairy tales of Perrault, the Brothers Grimm, Andersen, and Wilde for inspiration. They provide a blend of familiarity and strangeness that allows children to relate to the stories but also leaves them free to create their own version. Rather than turning to the tales for pedagogic or didactic purposes, we use them to ignite the imagination, empowering children to see themselves as storytellers and storytelling as a way of connecting with others.

**Which aspects of the fairy tale 'genre' do you hope to make use of during the workshops, and how do you think they would be beneficial for the young participants?** - Many children are familiar with the cinematic versions of the tales, for example Walt Disney's adaptations, but during this workshop they get to know the original stories, which are more poignant. Andersen's little match girl who freezes to death outside a stately home, Wilde's selfish giant who understands loneliness and giving too late, and the wonderful musician and his encounter with the wolf in the Brothers Grimm tale are among the characters we work with. Each child is left free to associate and work with any character from the stories and to explore what would happen if the character made different choices. Using various storytelling techniques, they tell and retell the stories to one another until they feel ready to share them with their families and the broader community.



Giuliana Fenech

**How will the event be structured, and why did you go for this structure in particular?** - 'Of Fairy Tales and You', endorsed by the Scottish Storytelling Centre and the Centro Storytelling Italiano, is part of the Žigužajg and Spazju Kreattiv programme. I wanted the children to have the opportunity to experience an intensive workshop, to really dive deep into the material and have the time it takes to build confidence before speaking and storytelling in public. An open call will see a group of 12 participants, aged 8+, joining. We will meet in the afternoon of November 3, all day on November 4 and in the morning of November 5. Throughout this time, we will workshop various storytelling skills that also help public speaking, creative writing, and general self-confidence. Each participant

will then workshop one story to tell to an audience during the Žigužajg festival, at the Auberge de Castille vaults.

**Finally, how would you say this event fits into the overall ‘mission’ of Lignin Stories, and what’s next in the pipeline for Lignin after this event?** - Lignin Stories is a storytelling platform for people of all ages, nations, and beliefs. The founding ethos is to create a space for paying it forward, sharing personal experiences, knowledge, and resources in order to foster connection, inspiration and soulful change, unbinding the unrealised potential in every person and every moment. Storytellers know that when people come together in a circle, each equal and valued, they are able to connect and inspire one another. In traditional societies this circle, often formed around a fire, symbolised cultural heritage and belonging. It allowed the young to draw upon the wisdom of the elders and the elders to lean upon the strength of the young. Each person, harnessing the energy of the circle, is able to grow and like the oak tree, draws sustenance from the Earth to stretch up to the sky, overcoming personal limitations and fears. In ‘Of Fairy Tales and You’, children experience a storytelling circle, discover that they are worthy, and that what they have to say matters.

Over the coming months, Lignin Stories will be running a series of workshops for children and adults and will be collaborating with various organisations in community storytelling projects. Ongoing between October 2017 – June 2018, ‘Parallel Universe’ is our Culture Pass storytelling programme, designed for schools in collaboration with Esplora and the Malta Arts Council. ‘Points of Contact’ is the next adult storytelling workshop, organised in collaboration with FPM and the Victor Pasmore Gallery, taking place in December 2017 and again at various points in 2018. A research project titled ‘Widnet il-Bahar’ will be launched in spring 2018. **READ MALTA TODAY ON LINE** – [www.maltatoday.com.mt](http://www.maltatoday.com.mt)



## THE ORDEAL OF MALTA IN WW2

*Squadron Leader JJ Lynch sits in his Spitfire in April 1943 after shooting down what was thought to be the 1,000th Axis victim of Malta-based units. An airman chalks the landmark on the plane. (Cody images)*

From the start of the siege of Malta, getting supplies through to the island was difficult. Some could be delivered by air, but this accounted for a very small proportion. Realistically, nearly all had to come by sea, and that meant the Mediterranean, which, in all other regards, was closed to British merchant vessels.

Life was tough on the island in the first 20 months of the siege, yet it was as nothing compared to the summer of 1942. Bombing destroyed flour mills, roads, electricity and water supplies, so that not only was food and water scarce, it was also extremely difficult to distribute. Documents from the chief medical officer on Malta, Dr AV Bernard, have recently been discovered on Malta and they show a bleaker picture than has been traditionally understood, and reveal a quite apparent sense of desperation. “The flushing of lavatory pans after urination to be prohibited,” Bernard orders in one document from May 1942. “Where necessary urinals to be flushed twice a day by a person detailed for such duty.”

But a month later, an even harder instruction was being issued. “Drinking and washing of hands under running taps to be absolutely prohibited and stringent action taken against offenders.” Washing hands, as we know, is the very basis of medical hygiene, yet such was the shortage it was considered better to risk the spread of disease than use more water than was absolutely necessary. In the second half of 1942, Malta was struck by a series of polio, TB and dysentery epidemics.

Could Britain have done more? Probably not, although there was one dark stain on the island’s leadership. In March 1942, three ships safely reached Malta, yet despite the critical importance of the supplies they brought, no plan was put in place to use service personnel to help with the unloading. And, despite poor weather and low cloud, for two whole nights, no unloading took place at all. When the skies cleared, the Luftwaffe returned, and sank all three. Just 5,000 tonnes out of 26,000 were eventually salvaged. The next convoy in June failed, so that it was not until the Pedestal convoy in August – the most heavily defended convoy of the entire war – that Malta received any meaningful resupply again.

Poor planning had led to the catastrophe of the March convoy and Malta's leaders – the three service chiefs, governor and lieutenant-governor – were to blame. Governor Dobbie was fired soon after, and Air Vice-Marshal Lloyd replaced in July – and not before time.

**James Holland is a historian, author and broadcaster. He is the author of *Dam Busters: The Race to Smash the Dams, 1943* (Bantam, 2012).**



## MALTA YOUTH FILM FESTIVAL

The Malta Youth Film Festival (MYFF) will be organized by the Malta Film Foundation, Agenzija Zghazagh and the Parliamentary Secretariat for

Youth, Sport & Voluntary Organisations within the Ministry of Education and Employment. The festival forms part of the Malta Film Foundation's artistic programme supported by the Cultural Partnership Agreement through the Arts Council Malta. The festival is also supported by the Malta Film Commission.

**For guidelines, application form and consent form go the website; <https://www.maltafilmfoundation.com/malta-youth-film-festival>**

**Eligibility** - Submissions can be made by individuals or groups whose ages range between 16 and 30 years on the closing date of applications. In the case of applicants 16-17 years, a signed consent form for each applicant is also to be attached to the submission.

**Genre** - The festival is open to all genres including animation, drama, thriller, music video, documentary and others. Adverts and/or Public Service Announcements are not eligible.

**Applicant/s** - The primary contact submitting the entry form must be authorized to submit the film for consideration from all members of the group. It is essential that the application is filled in accurately. The organizers of the Malta Youth Film Festival cannot be held responsible if there are errors on the application or if the titles of the films on the application and film do not match.

**Duration** - The maximum duration of the films is 10 minutes including the credits. There is no minimum duration.

**Language** - The film can be in Maltese or English.



*"Lest we forget"*

*"They shall not grow 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 shall remember them"*

11th Hour

11th Day

11th Month

## Essentials Sounds of Brass and Wind

Jikteb il-Kav. Joe M Attard minn Ghawdex



Nhar is-Sibt fil-għaxija 4 ta' Novembru fuq il-palk tat-Tejtru MBC fin-Nadur, banda mlaqqa' apposta taħt id-direzzjoni ta' Mro Jonathan Borg, li huwa s-Surmast Direttur tal-Banda tal-Forzi Armati ta' Malta, tat kuncert tassew ħelu bis-sehem tas-solisti Marvin Grech fuq il-klarinet, Jason

Camilleri (Surmast tal-Banda 'Viżitazzjoni' tal-Għarb) fuq it-Trumpet u l-percussionist u tenor Georg Zammit.

Il-pubbliku li attenda kellu l-okkażjoni li japprezza ftit mużika mill-aqwa meħuda minn diversi stili ta' kompożituri magħrufa bħal Giuseppe Verdi, Leoncavallo, Jean Sibelius, Massimo Bertaccini, Edward Antonsen, Dizzy Stratford, Herbert L. Clarke, kittieb Amerikan, Didier Ortolan, Percy Code, kompożitur Awstraljan, u Anthony Dvorak. Siltiet bħal 'From the New World', 'Finlandia', 'Divertimento', 'Vidda' meħuda mis-CD "Landscapes" ta' Ole Edward Antonsen, 'Questa o Quella' mill-Opra Verdjana - "Rigoletto", 'Der Trompeten, għanja tradizzjonali Germaniża, 'Salsburg Impressions' meħuda minn sonata ta' Mozart, 'Serenata d'Arlecchino' mill-Opra "I Pagliacci", il-Polka 'Maid and the Mist' miktuba lura fl-1912, 'Jazz band' li nkitbet b'tislima lil Hengel Gualdi, wieħed mill-aqwa Jazz Musicians fl-Italja u fl-Amerika li miet fl-2005, 'Zelda' (Caprice) ta' Percy Code kif ukoll 'Antonin's new World' ilkoll niżlu tajjeb ħafna mal-udjenza. Billi ninsabu fix-xahar ta' Novembru, il-Banda daqqet ukoll silta ferm sentimentali 'Vita e Lux' b'edika speċjali lill-bandisti u benefatturi mejtin tas-soċjeta' filarmonika 'Mnarja' kif ukoll lis-Surmast Ronnie Debattista li miet dan l-aħħar.

Tassew Prosit lis-Surmast Jonathan Borg għall-għażla varjata ta' dan il-kuncert kif ukoll lill-banda u lis-solisti li tawna spetaklu mużikali ta' madwar siegħa u kwart u mhux linqas lid-Direzzjoni tal-Banda Mnarja li ħadet din l-inizjattiva.



**WORLD  
WAR  
TWO  
1939-45  
AIR RAID  
SHELTER**

## WHEN YOU ARE IN MALTA



**RIVALRY:** *Pika* makes Malta go round. Like the German *schadenfreude*, *pika* doesn't translate well, but the closest word is something like "rivalry". Towns and villages strive hard to outdo each other at their feasts, with fireworks displays, sports, or the height of the village flagpole. This probably explains why a village of 3,000 in Gozo built the world's third-highest unsupported dome, and why the town of Mosta has the world's fourth-largest unsupported dome. Intra-community *pika* can be stronger still: If

one town's band club builds new premises, the other is likely to beg, steal, and borrow to build a larger one. For a long time the spire of the Anglican Cathedral was Valletta's highest pinnacle, until the Roman Catholic Carmelites built a huge dome next to it with the lantern stretching a few crucial feet higher than the "heathen" spire.



**SUMMER FEASTS:** In summer, you can't avoid the *festa*. All Maltese towns and villages celebrate their patron saint in style with weeklong activities leading up to feast day, which climaxes with a procession, music, and fireworks. The most impressive fireworks displays are in the south of the island, where the villages of Żurrieq, Mqabba, Qrendi, Għaxaq, and Gudja compete fiercely. Santa Marija in August brings fireworks geeks from all over, because several feasts are celebrated simultaneously, naturally with fireworks befitting the occasion.



**VILLAGE BANDS:** Every village has a band. Sometimes two. A relic of British regimental marching bands common during the Empire's heyday in Malta, philharmonic band clubs started up in the 19th century hand-in-hand with village *festas*, and are an integral part of village life, with their bars functioning as popular local hangouts. They are generally a mix of volunteer and semi-professional musicians brandishing woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments. But band clubs do far more than perform music: They organise town social events, and are the linchpin of the loud and proud *festas* that dominate Maltese summers. A *pika*-

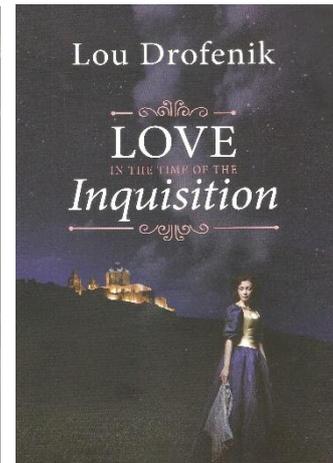
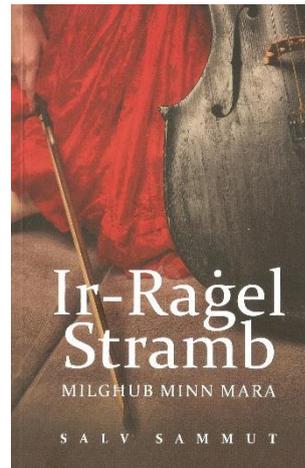
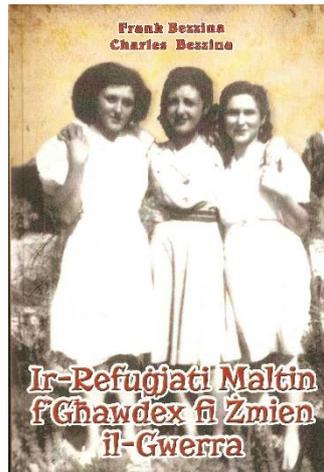
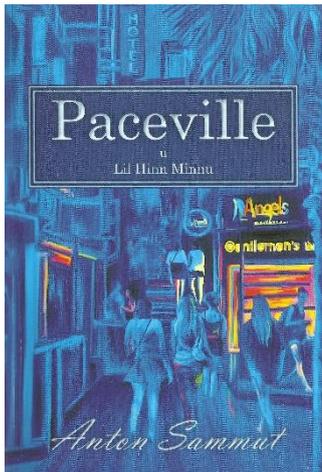
fuelled highlight is the ritual of trash-talk-slash-chanting between rival band clubs. The most boisterous band marches are held in Ħamrun and Żabbar.



**THE ANZAC MEMORIAL  
AT THE  
BOTANIC GARDENS  
FLORIANA – MALTA  
Unveiled on 25 May 2013  
COMMEMORATING THE  
ANZAC CENTENARY  
1914/18 – 2014/18**

This photo was sent to us by the late  
Nicholas Bonello OAM  
Chairman, ANZAC Memorial Committee

## AKTAR KOTBA GĦAL MATUL IL-FESTIVAL TAL-KTIEB 2017 ad al



Għeżiež Hbieb tal-Ktieb Malti,

Hawn qed nibgħatilkom ritratt tal-qoxra ta' erba' kotba oħra li ħarġu ftit ilu u li tistgħu takkwistaw mill-Festival tal-Ktieb bejn it-8 u t-12 ta' Novembru:

3 rumanzi:

*Ir-Raġel Stramb* ta' Salv Sammut - dan mhux l-ewwel rumanz ta' Salv Sammut. Sammut jikteb dwar temi attwali b'lingwa li tintfieh hem bla ebda problema.

*Paceville u Lil Hinn Minnu* ta' Anton Sammut - rumanz qasir ta' dan il-kittieb li għandu għal qalbu l-filosofija u l-kitba riflessiva. Din id-darba jdewwawna ftit mill-ħajja frivola u superficjali tal-belt tad-divertiment.

*Love in the Times of the Inquisition* ta' Lou Drogenik - Il-kitba ta' Drogenik hija esperjenza sabiħa tassew ibbażata fuq riċerka storika serja u mwassla lilna permezz ta' proża mexxejja, poetika, fejn imġhoddi, preżent u gejjieni spiss jidhru fi djalogu bejniethom.

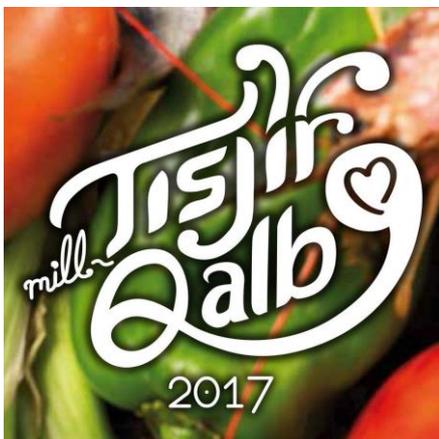
Ktieb ta' riċerka storika:

*Ir-Refuġjati Maltin f'Għawdex fi Żmien il-Gwerra* ta' Charles Bezzina - Dan mhux l-ewwel ktieb li Charles Bezzina kiteb dwar l-istorja ta' Għawdex. Din id-darba jagħtina bosta taġħrif dwar l-eluf ta' Maltin li matul it-Tieni Gwerra Dinjija sabu kenn fil-gżira Għawdxija. Insiru nafu kif matul dan iż-żmien Maltin u Għawdxin għexu flimkien u għenu lil xulxin b'modi differenti.

Il-Ktieb Malti kiber tassew f'dawn l-aħħar snin bħalma kiber ukoll il-Festival tal-Ktieb. Nagħtu daqqa t'id lill-kittieb u lill-ktieb Maltin, anki billi niftakru li l-Milied qrib u l-ktieb jista' jkun rigal adatt għall-persuni li għandna għal qalbna.

**Patrick Sammut Editur IL-PONT**

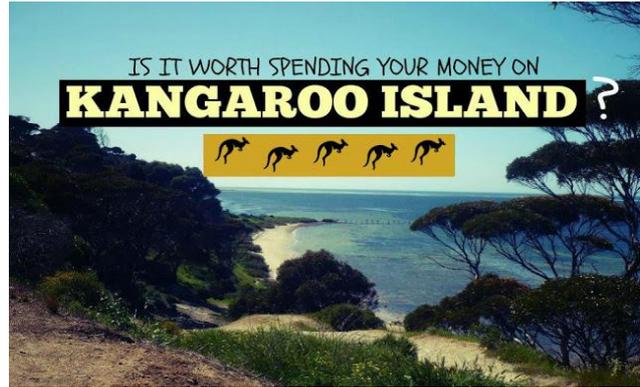
## TISJIR MILL-QALB



The annual recipe book *Tisjir Mill-Qalb 2017* is out for sale, raising money for the Malta Community Chest Fund. Apart from a celebration of culinary delights, the publication recognises all those Maltese chefs who have sought a future away from the island's shores and yet remained loyal to their roots.

"This year's edition of *Tisjir mill-Qalb* is an expression of gratitude to all those who have throughout history continued to perpetuate whatever defines the Maltese nation," the Office of the President of Malta said. Book your copy online on [www.mccf.store](http://www.mccf.store) or from the Malta Community Chest Fund Foundation offices in Valletta and San Anton and from leading

book shops around Malta. Call on 2122 6226 for further information.



Think of an island with 509km of Coastline, 155km from the East Coast to the West Coast and area 4405square kilometres and population 4450. With native bushland, wildlife, adventure & exploring. Where pristine beaches, local wines & sunsets are on your doorstep. You'll need longer than you think!

"There really aren't enough adjectives to accurately describe the beauty of Kangaroo Island. In fact, words can almost spoil the moment. Even photos don't do this wildly gorgeous destination justice". Isaac Bober, Symmetry, Australia.

Kangaroo Island, 13 kilometres (8 miles) off the coast of South Australia and 30 minutes by plane from Adelaide, is brimming with native animals, some of which aren't found anywhere else. It is also home to an established

artisanal food scene, and one of the world's best hotels. More than one third of the island is protected by conservation areas and national parks, while lush farmland and small towns make up much of the rest. The island, known to the locals as "KI", is divided into seven regions, with four major towns: Kingscote (the island's relaxed capital), Penneshaw (where daily ferries disembark), American River, and Parndana. Most major areas are connected by sealed tarmac roads, and there are gravel roads elsewhere. **Below : Seal Bay KI**





**DARK SIDE OVER VALLETTA  
ROCK ORCHESTRAL CONCERT  
TRIBUTE TO PINK FLOYD  
"BUILDING ON SUCCESS"  
SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2017  
at 8.00pm Mediterranean  
Conference Centre VALLETTA**

We are pleased to announce, that following our highly successful production of the rock orchestral, **Dark Side over Gozo** in March 2017 at The Aurora Theatre in **Gozo**, we are now taking the show to **Malta**. The new production will be titled **Dark Side over Valletta** and the event will take place on **Saturday 25th November, 2017 at the Mediterranean Conference Centre, Valletta.**

Following the very positive feedback we received, when it was staged in Gozo, we were approached and encouraged to do a second show in **Malta**. We felt it would be a pity that such energy, talent and effort was expended on only one show. As in the last production the featured rock band is Cash and Band, who have a loyal following in Malta, accompanied by The Gozo Youth Orchestra under

the baton of Maestro Joseph Grech. The Orchestra features regularly at major events on Gozo throughout the summer season mainly Opera vs Pop Under the Stars.

The **Maltese production** will feature slight changes to Part 2 of the show.

The new set list is as follows:

Part 1 Pink Floyd - The full rendition of **Dark Side of the Moon.**

1. SPEAK TO ME 2. BREATHE (In the Air) 3. ON THE RUN 4. TIME 5. THE GREAT GIG IN THE SKY featuring guest vocalist Jorje Bosios. 6. MONEY featuring guest vocalist Kevin McGowan. 7. US AND THEM 8. ANY COLOUR YOU LIKE 9. BRAIN DAMAGE 10. ECLIPSE

Part 2.

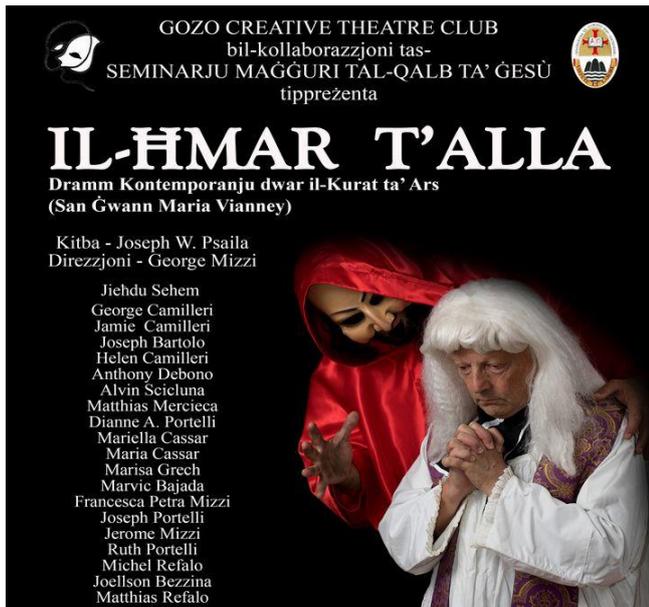
1. SHINE ON YOU CRAZY DIAMOND, 2. WISH YOU WERE HERE, 3. ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALL, 4. COMFORTABLY NUMB, 5. HIGH HOPES featuring guest vocalist Keith Anthony., 6. HEY YOU, 7. COMING BACK TO LIFE.

Get your tickets now online at [WWW.MCC.COM.MT](http://WWW.MCC.COM.MT) or Ticket Helpline 2559 5750

Submitted by Chev. Joe Attard

**This space could be yours**

**SEND US YOUR STORY - IT WILL BE RECORDED IN HISTORY**



## Il-Hmar t'Alla – this month at the Sacred Heart Seminary

Il-Hmar t'Alla – a contemporary play by Joseph W Psaila, is the Gozo Creative Theatre Club's latest production, directed by the artistic director George Mizzi.

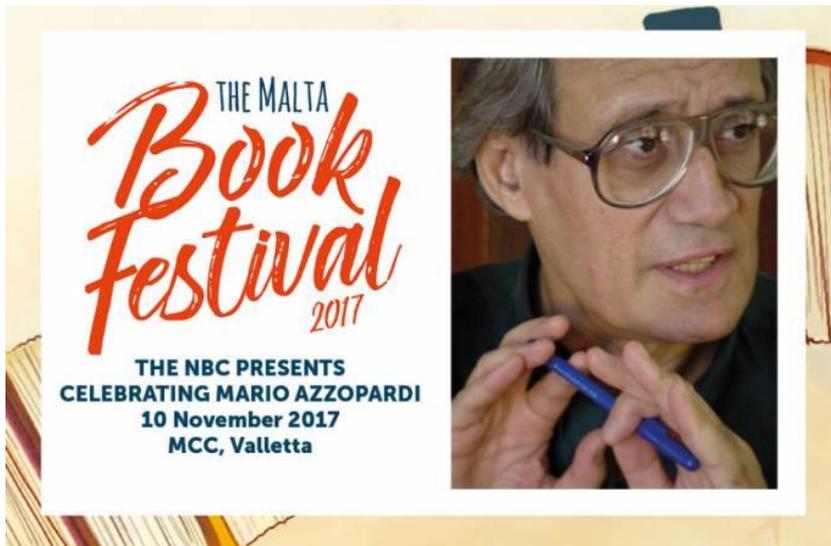
It is being presented in collaboration with the Sacred Heart Seminary of Gozo, to mark the 150th anniversary of the Seminary's inauguration.

Inspired by the life of the Curé d'Ars, John Maria Vianney, patron saint of parish priests, Il-Hmar t'Alla, portrays the struggle, on a spiritual level, between the hero and the anti-hero, which can still rouse our conscience even today.

The cast for the production features George Camilleri, Jamie Camilleri, Joseph Bartolo, Helen Camilleri, Anthony Debono, Alvin Scicluna, Matthias Mercieca, Dianne. A. Portelli, Mariella Cassar, Maria

Cassar, Marisa Grech, Marvic Bajada, Francesca Petra Mizzi, Joseph Portelli, Jerome Mizzi, Ruth Portelli, Michel Refalo, Joellson Bezzina and Matthias Refalo.

The play will be staged at the Sacred Heart Major Seminary Hall in Victoria, Gozo, on Friday, the 17th of November, at 7.30pm, Sunday the 19th, at 3.00pm and again on Saturday, the 25th November, at 7.30pm. Tickets are €5.00 each for adults and €3.00 each for children. For bookings please contact the Sacred Heart Major Seminary reception either through telephone: 21556479 or e-mail [majorseminary@gozodiocese.org](mailto:majorseminary@gozodiocese.org) Tickets will also be available at the door, but seating is limited and will be on a first come first served basis.

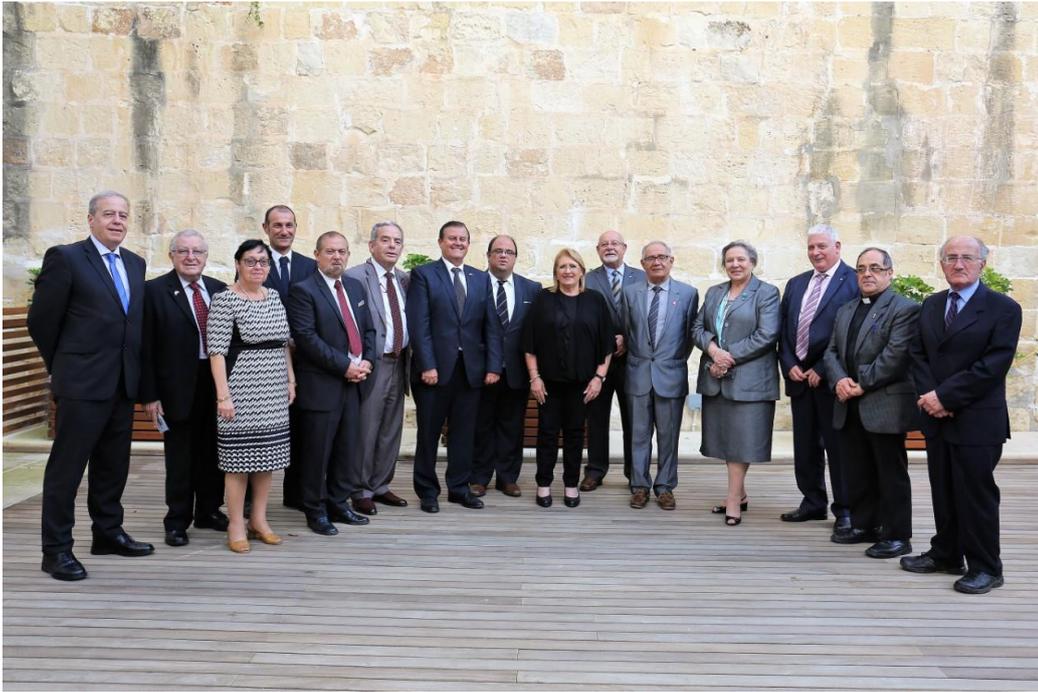


## MARIO AZZOPARDI HONOURED

Mario Azzopardi will be a special guest of the Malta Book Festival 2017, where he will be honoured with an event dedicated to him and his work as the winner of the 2016 Lifetime Achievement Award. The event, which will take place at Sir Temi Zammit Hall, MCC, on Friday 10 November should attract quite a crowd of former students, former colleagues at the theatre, fellow teachers and members of the public who have followed his articles and writings during his illustrious and long career. Azzopardi was born to working class parents in a

run-down area in Ħamrun.

He has remained loyal to his roots throughout his long career. Having pursued his studies at University after attending Il-Kulleġġ tal-Għalliema (Teachers' College), he graduated with an M.Phil in Theatre Studies with a thesis on the concept of the communal theatre, a deeply socialist concept first formulated by the innovative Polish theatre director Jerzy Marian Grotowsky. It should not be surprising that a couple of years later he would be asked by the Prime Minister of the time, the late Dominic Mintoff, to set up Ibsen's *Hedda Gabler* in Maltese. [MALTATODAY.COM.MT](http://MALTATODAY.COM.MT)



**The members of the Council of Maltese Living Abroad held a meeting in October 2017.**

**In this photo – the delegates paid a courtesy visit to H.E. the President of Malta Marie Louise Coleiro Preca**

The Council, composed of 15 members and led by a Secretary and the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Promotion as *ex officio* chairperson, discusses,

proposes, recommends and decides on various issues affecting Maltese communities abroad. The outcome of the Council meetings serves as the basis upon which the Directorate for Maltese Living Abroad within the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Trade Promotion works, in conjunction with line ministries and government agencies, to implement the proposals of the Maltese Diaspora. The Council convenes once a year in Malta following a year of internal consultations among councillors and externally with the communities that they represent around the globe.

On this year's agenda 28 items were discussed, including the teaching of the Maltese language and the history of Maltese emigration, the dissemination of Maltese culture, the effects of property laws and taxation rates on Maltese living abroad, dual citizenship, distance voting in European Parliamentary elections and establishing a register for diaspora organisations and prominent Maltese living abroad. Other subjects include bank services for Maltese communities abroad, possible European Union funding for events, the establishment of a radio station, a website, and the exchange of talent and know-how in various fields between Maltese in Malta and those abroad. The Maltese government will continue to give the necessary attention to this aspect in addition to the Government's electoral programme. treatment.

## **MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER**

**The journal of the Maltese Diaspora**

**The Maltese Diaspora consists of Maltese citizens and expatriates residing in various countries - including Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Belgium, Canada, Egypt, France, Italy, Jordan, Luxembourg, the United Arab Emirates, South America, the UK and the USA.**