



MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora

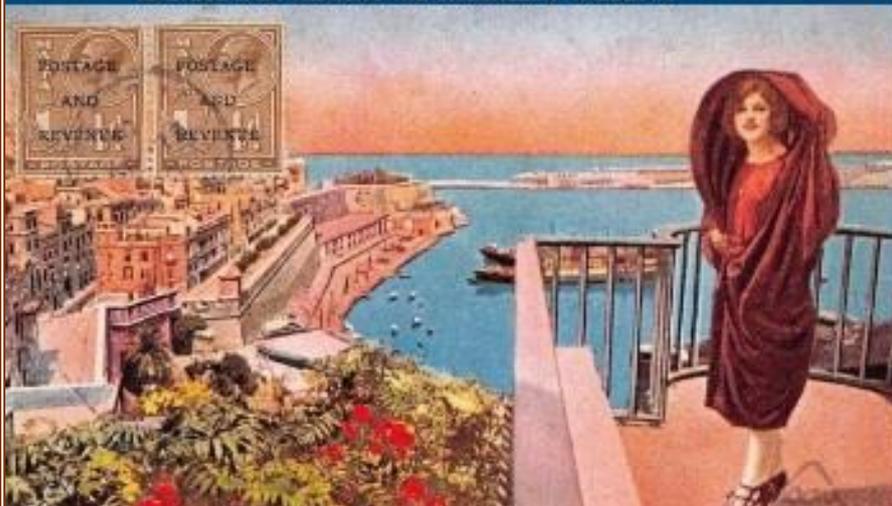
Editor: Frank L Scicluna OAM Contact: maltesejournal@gmail.com



**Maltese
Baritone
Charles
Buttigieg**

Charles Buttigieg, an 18-year-old baritone from Gozo, has been admitted to the prestigious Curtis Institute of Music in the US, the BOV Joseph Calleja Foundation has announced. He was selected after auditioning before an admissions panel in Philadelphia with the support of the Foundation. The Curtis Institute has produced some of the world's best musical talent over the years, including Leonard Bernstein. Mr Buttigieg said: "I am absolutely thrilled to have been accepted. I worked very hard to get to this stage and will redouble my efforts to make a success of this wonderful opportunity. "I would like to thank everyone that has helped me in my development so far, including Juliette Bisazza, the BOV Joseph Calleja Foundation, and of course Joseph himself who has been a pillar of support and inspiration."

MALTESE LADY WEARING THE GHONNELLA - FALDETTA



**The president of Malta
speaks about EQUALITY**

Queen's Birthday Honours 2018

Women outnumber men for top gongs on list

A diverse group of Australians from a wide range of fields have been recognised in this year's Queen's Birthday honours list.

Last year, just one woman was awarded the highest honour, the Companion of the Order of Australia. This year, there are six. It is the first time women have outnumbered men at any level in an Australian honours list.

MRS FRANCES BONNICI OAM



Mrs Frances Bonnici receiving an award from Mr Victor Grech - The former Maltese Consul General of Victoria

Mrs Frances Mary BONNICI, Watsonia Vic 3087 was awarded the Order of Australia Medal for service to the maltese community, and to education.

Service includes: President, Maltese Historical Association, 2002-2014 and Founder, Language Immersion Mornings. Tutor, Italian Language Classes, University of the Third Age, Box Hill, since 2013. Coordinator, Maltese Language Immersion Morning, Victorian School of Languages, 2004-2013. Area Coordinator, Italian Teachers (Primary level), Diamond Valley area schools, 1999-2002. Assistant Class Teacher, Lalor West Primary School, 2003-2005.

Teacher, LOTE Italian, Panton Hill Primary School, 1989-2002. Teacher, Fawkner Primary School, 1997.

Frances Bonnici was born in Paola, Malta. A teacher by profession, she trained as a teacher at the Mater Admirabilis Training College in Malta. In 1986 she arrived with her family in Melbourne, where she started teaching after completing conversion studies at the Phillip Institute in Coburg. Initially, she started as an emergency teacher, then as teacher of Italian, at a small country school, Panton Hill. She also taught Art, before progressing to classroom teacher.

An active member of our community, in 2002 Mrs Bonnici was elected President of the Maltese Historical Association, a position she held for some 12 years. She also held the position of MHA Treasurer for some time prior to her presidency.

In 2005 she started to look at encouraging students to learn Maltese and she organised student bursaries for this purpose. She established the Maltese language immersion morning activities, mostly conducted in the Maltese language. To run these immersion mornings she was assisted by the Maltese Literature Group and Newport Maltese Association.

She attended as a Victorian delegate at meetings of the Federation of Maltese Language Schools held in Canberra and Sydney.



BUILDING BRIDGES BETWEEN COMMUNITIES
A nation' culture resides in the heart, mind and soul of its people. Mahatma Gandhi

MS KIM ROSEMARY BUHAGIAR OAM**MEDAL (OAM) OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA IN THE GENERAL DIVISION**

Ms Kim Rosemary BUHAGIAR, Burraneer NSW 2230 For service to the community.

Service includes: Riverwood Community Centre: Consultant, 2014-2016. Pole Depot Community Centre (now known as 3Bridges Community): Led merger with Keystone Community Solutions and Menai Community Services to form 3Bridges Community, 2014. Centre Director, 1988-2014. Administration Officer, 1982-1988. Awards and recognition includes: Kim Buhagiar Community Hall in Penshurst named in her honour in recognition of her contribution to the local community.



Christian Zahra, has been made a Member of the Order of Australia for his work as a parliamentarian and service to regional and Indigenous communities. file photograph

CHRISTIAN ZAHRA AM

Christian Zahra of Maltese heritage credits his upbringing in the Latrobe Valley for developing his belief in fairness and social justice.

His principles carried him to Canberra when he was elected the member for McMillan and later took him to remote Australia to work with disadvantaged Indigenous communities.

As a result of his work, the former Traralgon resident was made a Member of the Order of Australia in the Queen's Birthday honours list. "You never do it to get recognised; you do it because you feel it's what you need to do and because it's right," Mr Zahra said.

Elected to Federal Parliament in 1998 after serving as the chief executive of the Central Gippsland Aboriginal Health and Housing Cooperative, the now 45-year-old spent two terms in opposition which included stints as parliamentary secretary to the shadow minister for communications and shadow minister for infrastructure, transport and regional development. In 2004, an unfavourable redistribution and the backlash against then-Labor leader Mark Latham ended his political career.

"Most people go into parliament as the last thing they do in their working life, for me that wasn't the case," he said. Following his electoral loss, Mr Zahra became a non-executive director of the Victorian Energy Networks Corporation and chairman of the Victorian Sustainable Timber Industry Council.

He continued to serve rural Australia, becoming the founding director of the Regional Australia Institute in 2011. Mr Zahra formed the institute in partnership with other regional Australians of all political stripes to seek better policy outcomes for people living outside the capital cities. The group's formation was brought about by the view that people in capital cities tended to view all rural and regional Australia the same.

Mr Zahra was also a director of the East Kimberley Aboriginal Development Corporation from 2015 to 2017.

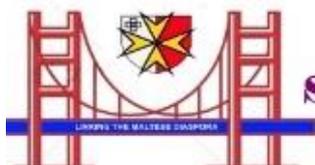
"When I was growing up in the Latrobe Valley in the '70s and '80s we may not have had very much but compared to Indigenous people living in the Kimberley or the Northern Territory we had a great deal more and we didn't understand that at the time," he said.

"But having gone and lived in the Kimberley as I did with my family for two years, you really see firsthand how much disadvantage there is in many of these remote locations still.

"When you're working alongside Indigenous people from that region, you hear their stories of incredible cruelty where people have been treated so appallingly."

Now based in Trentham, Mr Zahra still speaks glowingly of the Valley.

"Growing up in the Valley as a kid and then as a young man, really shaped my sense of social justice and my very strong belief in the need for there to be fairness in the way that regions are treated and in how Aboriginal people are treated," he said.

**MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER**

**Subscribe and start receiving this GOOD NEWS
and INTERNATIONAL Journal now**

We read regularly the Times of Malta, Malta Independent, MaltaToday, INEWS, TVM, several Maltese and overseas newspapers and magazines and surf the internet to keep ourselves updated with the latest information and provide you with the most a vibrant journal. We thank also our readers who supply us with articles, comments and news.

Spain offers to dock ship at heart of Malta-Italy standoff, New Socialist PM instructs boat to head to Valencia



Spain offered on Monday to take in a humanitarian ship stranded in international waters with 629 migrants aboard as Italy and Malta both continued to refuse to let it dock.

The European Union and the UN refugee agency had called for a swift end to the standoff involving the Gibraltar-flagged *Aquarius* ship, whose passengers include 11 children and seven pregnant women rescued off the coast of Libya at the weekend.

The ship had sailed north towards Italy but Matteo Salvini, the head of the far-right League party who became interior minister this month

vowing to curb an influx of migrants from Africa, blocked it and said it should go to Malta instead.

Malta refused, saying it had nothing to do with the rescue mission, which was overseen by Italian coastguard. The tiny island nation says it already accepts more refugees per capita than Italy, which has taken in more than 600,000 boat migrants since 2014.

"Saving lives at sea is a duty but transforming Italy into an enormous refugee camp is not," Salvini said on Facebook on Monday. "Italy is done bowing its head and obeying. This time there's someone saying no."

In a possible solution to the impasse, Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez, a socialist who took office just over a week ago, gave instructions that the ship be allowed to dock in the eastern port of Valencia.

Hearing of Spain's offer, Salvini said the standoff had been resolved thanks to the "good heart" of the Spanish but the EU could not rely on such one-off gestures to deal with migrants reaching Italy.

Speaking in central Italy during a visit to earthquake-hit towns, Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte thanked Spain. "This is an important turning point. Starting today, Italy is no longer alone," Conte said on Facebook. Now it is time for "more fair" EU asylum rules, he added.

Malta has agreed to offer medical assistance to some of the 629 people on board the stranded NHO ship, the *Aquarius*, following a request by the UNHCR.

This was confirmed by Prime Minister Joseph Muscat when he was briefing parliament on Monday evening about the stand-off, which saw Italy's new Interior Minister Matteo Salvini declare that his country's ports would be shut to the migrants.

Patrol boats were dispatched from Sicily on Sunday night, only stopping when they were some 20 nautical miles from the ship – by which time news of the port closure was hitting media headlines, with the Naples mayor defying his minister and saying that his town would welcome the migrants.

Since then, the *Aquarius* has been virtually static to the north east of Malta in territorial waters.

GIVE CREDIT WHERE CREDIT IS DUE

Your newsletter just keeps getting better and better! I found it hard to tear myself away from this issue as I read one article and was drawn to the next. Here, near London, Ontario, we have a parallel with the Ned Kelly story and that is of the Donnelly family. (They have connections in Australia, I believe, on the side of James Donnelly's wife, Johanna or Judy, who was a McGee.) Anyway, my article which appeared in Newsletter 221 showed the parallels between the Kelly and Donnelly families who originated in Co. Tipperary, Ireland and had their lives placed out half a world away at about the same time. I have written the article after consultation with two colleagues, Mark Caruana of Australia and Richard Cumbo of Canada. Already, I've forwarded your newsletter to our members. All the best, Dan Brock - Canada

Kunċert Uniku Mill-Kav Joe M Attard - Ghawdex



Naħseb li tista' ssejjaħlu Kunċert Uniku dak li ta ż-żagħżuġh baritonu minn Għajnsielem Charles Buttigieg nhar il-Ħamis 7 ta' Gunju fil-Knisja Parrokkjali tal-Madonna Ta' Loreto fejn ta' tfajjel serva bħala abbat. Akkumpanjat fuq il-pjanu minn Mro Stephen Camilleri, Charles kanta diversi siltiet li saħħar bihom lill-knisja mimlija nies mhux biss minn Għajnsielem imma minn Għawdex kollu flimkien ma' residenti barranin li jgħixu f'Għawdex li naħseb riedu jaqtgħu l-kurzita dwar dan iż-żagħżuġh ta' dsatax-il sena li

gibed l-attenzjoni tat-tenur magħruf Joseph Calleja tant li fi żmien qasir ser imur l-Amerika fejn se jissokta jistudja l-vuċi unika u soda li biha huwa mzejjen.

Bi ħlewwa u professjonalita Charles kanta fost l-oħrajn l-Ave Maria ta' Shubert, l-Ave Verum ta' Mozart, l'Il walk with God mill-Film The Student prince ta' Nicholas Brodsky, Non ti scordar di me li tkantat għall-ewwel darba fl-1935 minn Beniamino Gigli, kanzunetta kompożizzjoni tan-Naplitan Ernesto De Curtis u oħrajn flimkien ma' xogħlijiet li daqq fuq il-pjanu l-organista Furjaniz Stephen Camilleri li kienu jinkludu jekk niftakar tajjeb, Trmphet Voluntary ta' Jeremiah Clarke, Ombra mai fu ta' Haendel, Sifonia de Fanfares, Nina- Aria Anticha ta' Pergolesi, l-Overture 'Music for the Royal Fireworks u oħrajn.

Ninsab ċert li Charles Buttigieg fi ftit tas-snin oħra se jkun stilla li tidli fost kantanti oħra ta' fama mondjali għax kif jgħid il-Malti, 'il-gurnata minn filgħodu turik' u l-viċi sabiħa u soda li diġa iħaddan dan iż-żagħżuġh f'eta hekk tenera huma garanzija għall-futur. Dan ikkonfermah ukoll l-Arċipriet tal-parroċċa l-Kan Dun Frankie Bajada f'kelmtejn li għamel f'din l-okkażjoni. Grazzi lill-Fondazzjoni Papa Gwanni Pawlu t-Tieni li organizzat dan il-kunċert bl-għajnuna tal-Kunsill Lokali t'Għajnsielem u sponsors oħra u grazzi mill-ġdid lil din il-Fondazzjoni mwaqqfa f'Għawdex snin ilu li stednitni biex nipprezenta din is-serata ta' suċċess.

Sliema, Gżira properties given high-protection status



Buildings include Salesian School and former pumping station

The Gżira polyclinic.

A number of landmark buildings in Sliema and Gżira have been given a high protection status by the Planning Authority for their architecture and heritage value.

The buildings include St Patrick's Salesian School, the former Savoy Hotel, the original Imperial Hotel in Sliema and the existing

polyclinic building and ex-water and sewer pumping station in Gżira.

The highest level of protection, Grade 1, was given to the neo-gothic building which served as the water and sewer pumping station in Gżira and the buffer zone area around the Fort Sliema structure and the St Julian's Tower and Battery, known as Il-Fortizza and It-Torri respectively.

Both the fort and the tower had been scheduled in 1995.

The authority also scheduled, as Grade 2 buildings, three cluster of houses in Triq Stella Maris and Triq il-Madonna tas-Sacro Cuor in Sliema. Other residences which received the same protection status include Lancaster House in Triq il-Lunzjata corner with Triq Castelletti and Villa d'Argens in Triq Cuschieri.

Two authentic and rare grocery stores in Sliema - Victory Store and Colonial Grocery - were also given Grade 2 protection. These two retail properties carry a historical social significance and aesthetic/architectural value. Palazzo Capua, a 19th century neo-classical building which at the height of its grandeur included extensive gardens, typical of such stately home was also protected as a Grade 2 building.

This palazzo for a time served as the residence of the Prince of Capua (1811 –1862) and his wife Penelope Caroline Smyth while in exile. The facades' of the ex-Sliema telephone exchange and those of a homogenous set of properties in Triq Tigne' corner with Triq Sant' Antnin were also protected.

Over the past six months the authority issued a heritage protection status for a total of over 80 properties in Sliema and Gżira. The PA's announcement will come as a relief to many Sliema and Gżira residents who have seen dozens of old buildings torn down to make way for apartments which left much to be desired.

Want to know more about the new protected buildings?



Water and Sewer Pumping Station, Gzira, Grade 1 Imperial Hotel, Grade 2 Capua palace, Grade 2 Triq Stella Maris, Grade 2 properties Villa d'Argens, Grade 1 St Patrick's School, Grade 2 Savoy Guesthouse Sliema, Grade 2. Gzira ex-Primary School, Grade 2 Lancaster House, Grade 2



President Trump meets Kim Jong-Un

Donald Trump and Kim Jong-un have signed a document together at the end of their talks in Singapore, after the US president hailed the “historic meeting” and the North Korean leader said, “the world will see a major change”.



MALTESE SENIOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC



Mr Frank Grima
President

In the early 1983, a general meeting was held at the Maltese Community Centre at Beverley and a large audience attended. The hall was crowded, packed to its' fullest with young and old. Lots of chatting and noises went on for a while, until a speaker came out onto the stage and silence was in order. The question was put in for debate; do the seniors want to have their own club? It was unanimous and ballot papers went out to form a committee for this new club. A few elderly Maltese men were elected as committee members, so they grouped together and formed this club which better suited them for their needs. So it became "the Maltese Senior Citizens Association of S.A. Inc" These are the founders of the club and they are Mr. Andrew Coleiro, Mr. Frank Falzon, Mr. Emmanuel Grima, Mr. Paul Delia, Mr. Joe Barbara and Mr. Anthony Buhagiar. The seniors were meeting every week at the hall enjoying each other's company, eating pastizzi and drinking coffee while playing bingo and having fun. They organized dances and many bus trips to local places and to interstate like Queensland, Sydney and Melbourne where they have joined their fellow Maltese friends in festivities. The club was using the Maltese culture hall for a couple of years until they decided to move to a place of their own. Approaching the Port Adelaide/Enfield council, both parties agreed to use the Kilburn Progressive hall, at 49 LeHunte St, Kilburn.



It is here where the club is at its best and for many years the seniors are enjoying their time together. They have had a few special guests like the former Premier Mr. Mike Rann, Hon. Jennifer Rankin, the Hon Michael Atkinson, former Speaker of the SA parliament, His Excellency Charles Muscat, the Malta High Commissioner in Australia, and Hon Consul for Malta Mr. Frank Scicluna here in S.A; and from overseas, The President of Malta and The Deputy High Commissioner of Malta Ms. Denise Demicoli.

Many different committees have been formed throughout the years and new members are joining regularly. This year 2018 the club has reached its thirty fifth anniversary, a milestone at that and I am happy to be part of this club and have been to a lot of the functions it has put on. I am also proud to see my late parents' names on the honouree board as they were on the committee before.

I would like to congratulate Mr Frank Grima, the current president and the committee of the Maltese Senior Citizens Association in reaching this milestone of thirty-five years and I hope it will go on for many years more.



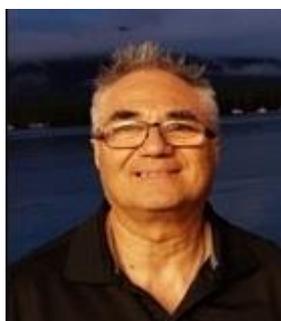
H.E. Charles Muscat, Malta High Commissioner and Mrs Muscat with Hon Consul Frank Scicluna, Mr Frank Grima and members of the Maltese Seniors Association during his official visit to South Australia



Anniversary Luncheon at Kilburn



Week end trip to Mildura SA



MR GODWIN GAUCI - Throughout the years, living in Adelaide, I have involved myself in a few of Maltese clubs; the first was the “The Maltese Youth Club” when I was sixteen and I joined the committee as the treasurer for some years, until just before I got married; this is when I had to resign. Raising my family took a while and a lot of my time until my three children were all grown up, and so in my late thirties, I joined the “The Maltese Guild” as a member and after a few years I also joined the committee and became the treasurer. After two years. I step down but stayed on as a member for several more years. Now I am a senior member of society, so I have joined the “The Maltese Senior Citizens Assoc of S.A. Inc” as the editor for their newsletter “The Bulletin” and I do enjoy it. I also enjoy the many functions they put on, like Celebration Dances, Bus Trips to special places and lunches on special festivities, like Mother’s Day and Father’s Day and so on.

In the last few hundred years, many Maltese men and women of all ages, some single and some with families have left their homeland and migrated to all parts of the globe. They travelled far by ships across deep and dangerous seas, by planes that took many hours flying the big blue and sometime scary grey skies to reach their destination and the end of their journey to make a new life.

Quite a few have settled in Adelaide, South Australia to begin a new life, some leaving their loved ones behind, their parents, their grandparents, families and their work mates and friends which they grew up with for many years. Some husbands left their wives and children behind to migrate to Australia first. They provided accommodation for them so that they can be reunited as a family.

These migrants may have left their loved ones behind, but brought with them the memories, captured in letters and postcards being sent between here and Malta, in photographs and home movies they have taken throughout the years, in newspapers and in Maltese books of the homeland that reminds them of home. I am one of those people who left my family behind, although I was only ten years old when I came to Adelaide in 1961, I was close to my grandparents and cousins that I left behind and school friends. Now I am a senior citizen and have a family of my own.

Australia is a big country and completely different to Malta with high mountains and deep valleys covered with winter snow, which none of these people have ever seen before. It was strange for me seeing this, and railroads and when I boarded a train from Melbourne to Adelaide. It has beautiful blue lakes, winding rivers with flowing water. Waterfalls cascading down in springtime. Large forests with tall slender trees at Mt Gambier, these are all new strange things, fruit orchards with abundance of different fruits in the Riverland, Sandy deserts that are endless at Cooper Pedy and grazing farms with flocks of sheep or cattle. These people needed to adapt to these many different aspects and also the climate, which a lot have done so, but with the miner few that went back. Here is a photograph of some of the migrants which left Malta and their loved ones. This is in the early sixties.



'Equality is not about destroying or distorting differences between women and men' – President

President of Malta Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca said that equality is about embracing diverse people of all genders, and creating a context in which each and every person can pursue their legitimate aspirations whilst their dignity is respected. The President was addressing the Opening Ceremony of the twelfth edition of the European Development Days, organised by the European Commission, which this year is focusing on women and gender equality. On the gender pay-gap, whilst quoting latest data from Eurostat, President Coleiro Preca stated that, full-time working women in the EU would need an average rise of 19% of their hourly rate, to match male wages.

The President also quoted the latest European Institute for Gender Equality Index, which states that, in some areas, the gaps, are even bigger than they were ten years ago. "I would like to encourage us all, during the European Development Days, to take up more effective strategies for the increased inclusion of women in the socio-economic sectors of our Union," The President said, whilst mentioning the implementation of access to free child-care centres in Malta, as an example of an effective strategy, which has contributed to a 6% increase of female participation in the Maltese workforce, over five years.

The President said that whilst Europe is making considerable strides forward in terms of legislation and policy, the same pace must be kept, to achieve the much-needed mental and cultural leap, to overcome prejudice, patriarchal oppressions, discrimination and socially-sanctioned abuses of privilege. One in three women in the EU has been a victim of physical and/or sexual violence, since the age of 15; one in 20 women in Europe has been the victim of rape; 55% of women have been victims of sexual harassment; and one in three women has experiences abused by a partner, she said.

The President said that the full participation of women in the economic life of our countries, cannot be achieved, while women and girls are still subject to unacceptable threats to their safety and wellbeing. In light of this, the President praised the powerful synergy between the European Union and the United Nations, who have come together to focus on the issue of ending violence on women and girls, through the Spotlight Initiative. President Coleiro Preca has strongly encouraged the European Commission to support the newly-founded Malta-based European Observatory on Femicide. President Coleiro Preca encouraged all those present to work together, to continue empowering women and girls; to effectively address the underlying challenges which are causing a widening gender-pay gap, and to end all forms of gender-based violence.

MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora, published by Frank L. Scicluna, Hon Consul for Malta in South Australia, and also at this convention, says he created this newsletter three years ago, He adds: "In my capacity as consul, I often am asked by many Maltese citizens to give them information about Malta. Many are planning to visit Malta or have friends who are considering it. Also, as a teacher of Maltese for more than 30 years, I accumulated 'heaps' of material on the culture and history of Malta. So, I decided to start writing a publication to promote the Maltese Islands. Scicluna said, "The number of readers is in the thousands and the newsletter is sent primarily to Maltese in every corner of the world. I collect, write, and collate the information myself although I receive regularly contributions from several readers and associations regarding their activities and functions."

Claudia M Caruana USA

Convention 2015 – Maltese Living Abroad - Malta 20-23 April 2015

Speculation rages over Papadopoulos tipster's role: Who was the Maltese professor Mifsud working for?



George Papadopoulos and Prof Mifsud



By Alex Pappas |
Fox News

The story of the professor from Malta is an important, mysterious and curiously uncovered part of the Russia investigation. While Mifsud is far from a household name, investigators say he was the one who told then-Trump campaign aide George Papadopoulos in

April 2016 that the Russians had

“dirt” that could damage Hillary Clinton’s 2016 presidential campaign.

Over drinks in London, Papadopoulos then told Australian diplomat Alexander Downer about his conversations with Mifsud. As the story goes, Downer informed U.S. officials, leading the FBI to open its Russia investigation during the 2016 election.

It has long been suggested – in court documents filed by Special Counsel Robert Mueller’s team, by Democrats on Capitol Hill and in the media – that Mifsud was connected to Russian intelligence.

But that assumption – that Mifsud was working on behalf of the Kremlin and reached out to Papadopoulos on the Trump campaign to tell him about hacked Clinton emails – is now coming under fresh scrutiny.

“The most fishy parts of the story are: Is Mifsud really a Russian agent?” former federal prosecutor Andrew McCarthy said Monday on “Fox and Friends.”

“No evidence has been presented to support the claim,” investigative journalist Lee Smith also wrote [in a lengthy story about Mifsud for RealClearInvestigations](#). “Although Mifsud has travelled many times to Russia and has contacts with Russian academics, his closest public ties are to Western governments, politicians, and institutions, including the CIA, FBI and British intelligence services.” [Court documents](#) from the special counsel’s office refer to Mifsud as “an overseas professor” with “substantial connections to Russian government officials.”



The Democrats on the House Intelligence Committee, [in their report on Russia’s attempted interference in the election](#) released in April, described Mifsud as “Kremlin-linked.”

But Mifsud also had Western ties at academic institutions like the Link Campus University in Rome, the University of Stirling in Scotland, the London Academy of Diplomacy and the London Center for International Law Practice.

If Mifsud wasn’t working for Russia when he approached Papadopoulos, then who – if anyone – was he working for? Fox News was unable to reach Mifsud, who has vanished from the public eye since his name surfaced in stories about the Russia investigation.

But Smith even raised the possibility that Mifsud may have actually been working with Western intelligence. “While most media accounts have simply repeated official claims that Mifsud is a sketchy character whose visits to Russia and academic contacts suggest he is working for Russian intelligence, a look at the available evidence challenges that narrative,” Smith wrote. “It also raises the possibility that Mifsud [may]...have actually been working for Western intelligence agencies.”

But that doesn't mean his conversation with Papadopoulos was part of any plot. In fact, Lee also suggested it is possible Mifsud wasn't working for anyone, and rather was a “man who wanted to seem important by repeating a rumor he'd heard to another man who also wanted to seem important.”

In a recent piece for [National Review](#), McCarthy also floated the possibility that Mifsud is little more than a “Maltese academic who had no real Kremlin ties and no inside information about whether Russia actually possessed damaging information about Clinton, in the form of emails or otherwise.”

In any case, Mifsud has become an important figure in Mueller's probe.

Papadopoulos, who was 28 when he worked on the Trump campaign, pleaded guilty in October to lying to the FBI about his conversations with Mifsud.

A February memo released by the Republicans on the House Intelligence Committee said the intelligence passed on by the Australians about the diplomat's meeting with Papadopoulos “triggered the opening of an FBI counterintelligence investigation in late July 2016 by FBI agent Pete Strzok.”

But Simona Mangiante Papadopoulos, the wife of the former Trump aide, told [Fox News' Tucker Carlson](#) that the discussion with Mifsud was little more than a “gossip conversation.” She openly appealed to President Trump for a pardon if her husband faces prison.

The questions about Mifsud come as Trump is drawing attention to reports that the FBI used another individual as a confidential informant in connection with the Russia case. The informant met with several campaign officials, including Papadopoulos, during the 2016 race.

House Republicans have pressed for more information about that informant, asking who asked him to reach out to campaign officials.

Freemasonry in Malta



<https://sglom.eu/freemasons-in-malta/freemasonry-malta/>

On behalf of our fraternity and of this constituted Link in the universal Chain of Regular Grand Lodges, I am honoured and privileged to bid you welcome to our website, and to Malta. The tradition of Maltese hospitality is world renowned and we have a warm embrace for those of our Brotherhood who might wish to visit our Islands and meet us.

To those who only know of Freemasonry through portrayals as a secret, self-serving, or sinister society, I must say I wish you could be persuaded otherwise. If you are a stranger enquiring of our organisation, of our purpose, or of our beliefs may I say at the outset that we are not a religious order but do believe in a universal all-seeing God; and through its precepts Freemasonry encourages members to follow that religion to which they belong. Worldwide Masonic membership includes men of all races, nationality, colour, and creed. As to Political persuasion we are strictly apolitical and positively forbid political debate when we gather together.

We claim no special place in society, and in applying strict disciplines upon ourselves we remain cognisant of weakness in our brethren and others in distress, and are moved to assist those in difficulty to the utmost of our ability. Our motivation is manifold and centres on developing inborn traits of

humility, tolerance, and charity, which we seek to hone to individual and to universal advantage; but, as with all mortals, sadly we often fall short of fully achieving our objectives and ambitions.

We mutually congregate in discreet and orderly fashion respecting traditions inherited over centuries past. Self-control and respect for authority are as cement to the cornerstones of our beliefs and our behaviour. We form ourselves in groups we call Lodges; each functioning individually with its team of officers headed by an elected Master; each operating through our Constitution, i.e. our internal rules and procedures; and all responding to the authority of our Grand Lodge.

We abide by the laws of the State and are critical of those in violation and expect similar from those around us. We recognise there are some who regard our titling of officers, our terminology, our formal dress codes, and our conduct, as rather quaint in a modern society: but we are unapologetic in adhering to our traditions. In conclusion may I commend for your reading the Historical Review that follows and whatever your motivation in contacting us I thank you for your interest and for this opportunity to tell you a little about ourselves. With our best wishes for every success in your ongoing honest endeavours,

Anthony A. Pisani
Grand Master

The Sovereign Grand Lodge of Malta.



6-7 Marsamxett Street, Valletta, Malta

All of our meetings are held at 6 – 7 Marsamxett Street, Valetta, Malta. This beautiful old building stands at the corner of Marsamxett Street and Saint.Michael's Street. The latter being a narrow ally flanking the south side of the house. It was built about 1650 and was originally known as the "Casa Viani", having presumably been built for a Knight of that name. It is a double – storey building and in the time of the Knights the owner or tenant lived on the upper floor, the 'Piano Nobile', while the "round floor, the Pianterreno", was given up to the domestic staff.

Access between the two floors was by a winding staircase at the back of the building, parts of which are still existing. Sometime in the eighteenth century the house was taken over by the Treasury under the rule whereby four-fifths of the property of a deceased Knight was inherited by the Order. When the "Casa Viana" was built, Strada San Michele (now Michael's St.) was a cul-de-sac leading out of the Strada Ponente (now West St.).

It's seaward end was blocked by solid rock. "Casa Viana" was No. 10 Strada San Michele and its main entrance, on the 'Piano Nobile' was reached by a flight of steps cut into the rock. The stone surround of the main entrance and the ends of the steps can still be seen from the Outside.

At a date, not known, Strada San Michele was cut through to Strada Marsamschetto, thus leaving the original main entrance in the air. The servants' entrance was converted into a handsome porchway and a staircase was built to give access to the upper floor.

Comparatively little is known about previous occupants of the "Casa Viani", but according to the Order's rent books it was let from 1767 to 1754 to the Commander Fra. Alberto Mirelli and from 1784 to 1798 to Conventual Chaplain Fra. Giovanni Domenico Barbaro.

The Maltese Government rent books show that from 1879 to 1901 the house was the Malta Headquarters of the Eastern Telegraphy Co. After remaining vacant for six years it was leased in 1907 by W.Bro. A.M. Macfarlane, DD, GM. For 25 years as a Masonic Hall, and has been in use as such ever since. Except for a short period during World War II when it was badly damaged by enemy action. By a Deed signed on 16th July 1952 the Masonic Hall Committee now holds 6 – 7 Marsamxett St. on emphyteusis for 99 years.

1950'S CANADIAN CULTURE



In 1952 the first Canadian Television Stations emerged in Montreal and Toronto. Although expensive, the overwhelming majority (90%) of Canadians had at least 1 television set in their households by the end of the decade. Canadian shows Hockey Night and Canada and Wayne and Shuster



were immensely popular. Many Canadians were able to watch American Television shows such as leave it to Beaver and Father Knows Best: these TV dramas re-enforced the nuclear family and gender stereotypes. The growing popularity and influence of American television, movies and music were concerning to Canadian policy makers, as a result the Massey Commission recommended that Canada need to be protected from American cultural influences.

By the mid 1950's Rock and Roll had been introduced to the Canadian youth culture, this created a generation gap as Elvis Presley, Buddy Holly and Paul Anka were vastly different than the conservative and traditional music of the early 1950's. Canada had a large youth population due to the Baby Boom and Rock N Roll music played an important role in the youth counter-culture that began in the late 1950's and continued into the 1970's.



1867-1922



1922-1965



1965-

The Baby Boom

The Baby Boom was a period of great increase in the number of births and lasted in Canada from 1945-1966. The baby boom in Canada lasted nearly 20 years. During that time, more than 8.2 million babies were born, an average of close to 412,000 a year. In comparison, the number of births in 2008, when the population was twice as large as during the baby boom, was only 377,886.

Canada's Flag History

The Maple Leaf flag replaced the Union Flag in 1965 and has lasted now for over half a century. In case you were unaware, February 15 is National Flag of Canada Day.

Disclaimer: all information and photos were sourced from Wikipedia.

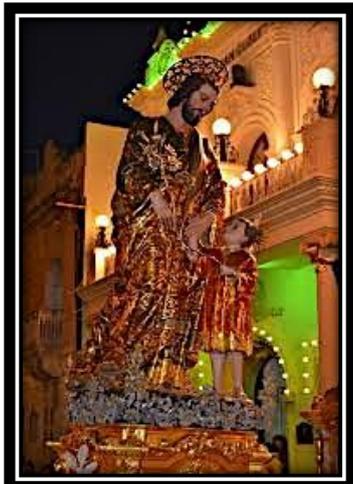
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San Guzepp at Hal Ghaxaq

Our Adelaide correspondent Ron Borg writes from Malta



This year while holidaying in Malta I had the privilege of attending the Saint Joseph Feast at Hal Ghaxaq with the kind help and courtesy of my friend 'Ninu' from Marsaxlokk.

It was lovely, on Sunday 3rd June, together with our wives we arrived at the Ghaxaq parish just in time to see the start of the procession with the beautiful statue of the Patron Saint emerging from the church to the tumultuous applause of the dedicated crowd, and the Band outside playing the Saint's Hymn. However this graceful scene was soon overwhelmed by the enormous thundering explosions of the fireworks (*Il- Kaxxa infernali*). As the Church bells tolled, it was an incredibly jubilant atmosphere. While the procession headed off into the street brightly lit with festoon lights highlighting the magnificently colourful drapes (*Pavaljuni*) and accompanied by the joyful marches of the Rabat Band, we went into the church to admire the décor.

The grand bright Chandeliers highlighted walls that were covered in the majestic Red Damask, and the artistic wooden '*Bradella*' that the Statue normally stands on was enhanced by the beautiful flower arrangements nearby.

The Altar was truly an awesome sight to behold with its shiny candelabras and the artistic statuettes.

We eventually ambled out of the church to the sounds of the Beland Band from Zejtun performing some delightful music on the Bandstand (*Plancier*) just outside the '*Zuntier*'. My friend Ninu then took us for a little drink

into the San Guzepp Band Club, where he showed us around the clubrooms ornate with glass showcases filled with band trophies and other prestigious pennants. I was then ushered to the high roof top (*fuq il-bejt*) where I enjoyed the panoramic view of the surrounding districts, but in particular the field where the fireworks were being set off! It was quite a site to behold. On the roof top I was lucky enough to meet and be introduced to the San Guzepp Band Conductor (*Is-Surmast Direttur tal-Banda*), Mro.Reno Busuttil.

He was a very friendly chap, and as I was introduced as a fellow musician from the Maltese Banda in Adelaide, we readily had a musical discussion about our bands. It was a delightful musical interaction!

As we left the San Guzepp Band Club, we wandered over to the other Band Club just two doors away, the Santa Maria Band Club of Hal-Ghaxaq, another eloquent band Club. Off course there is always the competitiveness between these clubs, with supporters of each one claiming that theirs is "obviously the best one", but who was I to argue!!!

The time was drawing near for the procession to return, so we waited on the '*Zuntier*', and sure enough at 9.00pm the Statue arrived in front of the St Joseph Band Club (*Il-Kazin*), and the Beland Band on the '*Plancier*' played the revered hymn '*Guzeppi Gilju li Jfewwah*', accompanied by the Choir and the crowd as well. Eventually, at 10:00pm, the statue was brought into the church as it was welcomed by spontaneous loud applause and bursts of short poetic praises shouted out by many enthusiasts. It was an exhilarating atmosphere among church crowd.

We eventually meandered out of the church, and as slow as our tired legs could carry us we wound our way through the streets with the smell of fast foods wafting from the number of food vans that lined the streets, but the ones that really stood out were the brightly lit Nougat Carts, (*Tal-Qubbajt*), with their colourful tinsel wrapped sweets and Nougats shimmering and inviting you to buy some. We succumbed to the temptation!!!! Eventually we got to our car, parked about a kilometre away, but as we were driven away we could hear the banging fireworks and the occasional spray of more beautiful fireworks that lit up the night sky, probably from the feast at the adjoining district of Hal-Tarxien.

You've got to say that the Maltese Festas are experiences that exhilarate the senses!!!!

Concert to mark 50th anniversary of the Mnarja Philharmonic Society

BY [GOZO NEWS](#)



Photo: Charles Spiteri

A musical concert – Big Band Adventures – is being organised to commemorate the 50th anniversary since the establishment of the Mnarja Philharmonic Society in Nadur, Gozo.

The official launch was announced at a press conference held at the main Square Nadur, addressed by the Minister for Gozo, Dr Justyne Caruana, Nadur Mayor Edward Said, the President of the Society James Buttigieg, and Mro Joseph Grech, Music Director of the Mnarja Philharmonic

Society.

Minister Caruana described this initiative by the Mnarja Band as a very important one, demonstrating the commitment of the musical organisation which operates on a voluntary basis, with the event now well established on Gozo's cultural calendar – showcasing local talent.

The Minister for Gozo praised the commitment and organisation of the Society, which she said, through its leadership, has managed to qualify twice for schemes issued by the Ministry for Gozo to assist Gozitan Voluntary Organisations.

Mayor Edward Said pointed out that Mnarja Philharmonic Society was the first society in Nadur to win the Gieh in Nadur Award for its commitment and contribution not only to the Nadurina community, but also to the island.

The President of the Mnarja Philharmonic Society James Buttigieg, thanked the Ministry for Gozo for believing in the event, and providing the support. He said that such activities continue to add value to Gozo. Big Band Adventures – is on Saturday, the 16th of June, at St Peter and St Paul's Square, Nadur, starting at 9pm. The concert will also mark the feast of St Peter and St Paul – patron saints of Nadur village.

Mnarja Band will be under the direction of its Music Director Mro. Joseph Grech and will include local guest singers Jolene Samhan, Francesca Sciberras, Tenor Stanley Portelli and Pop singer Ludwig Galea. The grand finale of the concert will include a spectacular synchronised fireworks show with live music. The general public is invited to attend and entrance is free of charge.

, guests can enjoy a full schedule of the best dance music 2018 has to offer. With DJs such as Steve Aoki,

MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora

*All Maltese should be proud of their country, its past and traditions.
No other small country can boast of such a rich history, and of a cultural fabric
which makes these islands one of the most interesting and beautiful places on Earth.*



Read and enjoy this wonderful journal of all the Maltese living in Malta and those living abroad. It's free, bilingual and non-political.

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New Maltese Nuncio hopes for reconciliation and reunification

The new Apostolic Nuncio to South Korea and Mongolia, 59-year old Archbishop Alfred Xuereb, is hopeful about improving relations between the two Koreas and the prospect of reconciliation. North and South Korea are technically still at war since the 1950-53 Korean War ended in an armistice, not a peace treaty.

“The peace process between the two Koreas, which began with the historic meeting between the two Korean leaders on 27 April, gives great hope,” said Archbishop Xuereb, who has served Popes John Paul II, Benedict XVI and now Francis. “The road is still at an early stage and will certainly be a long one with many obstacles to overcome,” he added.

Before starting his diplomatic mission, Mgr Xuereb celebrated Mass with Pope Francis on Thursday morning. Pope Francis has been closely following developments in the Korean peninsula since his visit to South Korea in August 2014, during which he dedicated his Mass in Seoul’s Myeongdong Cathedral to reconciliation on the Korean peninsula and urged all Koreans to reject a “mindset of suspicion and confrontation” and find new ways to build peace. Xuereb said the Pope assured him and the Church in Korea and Mongolia of his prayers and blessing and has invited the entire Church to support the parties concerned to build peace and so that future generation will live in harmony and prosperity.

The Archbishop said that “the Catholic Church has a very important role in this process of reunification and, following the mandate of the Divine Master, continues to evangelize and offer its contribution also at the diplomatic level in order to achieve the objectives so desired.” He observed that for the past 23 years, South Korean Catholics have been gathering at the feet of the Virgin Mary in Seoul Cathedral every Tuesday to pray for reunification. “I am sure that She from Heaven turns a benevolent gaze toward her children in Korea,” Xuereb said.

Mgr Xuereb will fly to South Korea on Sunday to start his new mission at a critical time. Yesterday North Korean leader Kim Jong Un made good on his promise to demolish his country’s nuclear test site, which was formally closed in a series of huge explosions centred on three tunnels at the underground site and a number of buildings in the surrounding area. A small group of journalists witnessed the demolition, which touched off landslides near the tunnel entrances and sent up clouds of smoke and dust. A closing ceremony was held afterwards with officials from the Korean nuclear arms programme in attendance. North Korea’s state media called the closure of the site part of a process to build “a nuclear-free, peaceful world” and “global nuclear disarmament.”

The demolition of the nuclear test site was meant to build confidence ahead of a planned summit in Singapore on 12 June between Kim Jong Un and President Donald Trump. However, Trump cancelled the meeting yesterday, citing “tremendous anger and open hostility” in a North Korean statement released earlier in the day which called US vice-president Mike Pence a political dummy.

It is becoming increasingly clear that Trump and Kim had vastly different expectations from the summit. While Trump was insisting on complete denuclearisation before offering any benefits to North Korea, the latter expected simultaneous security guarantees and other incentives. Kim had expected a process of equitable give and take but there is no indication from the US side that this would happen.

Supplied by Fr. Gabriel Micallef OFM

PRESS RELEASE BY THE OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER:

Speaker Farrugia meets President of the China-EU Association Wuyun Qimuge



Photo - DOI - Reuben Piscopo

Reference Number: PR181304, Press Release Issue Date: Jun 08, 2018

Speaker Anglu Farrugia recalled the excellent relations which have existed between Malta and the People's Republic of China following the establishment of diplomatic relations on 21st January 1972.

He was speaking during a courtesy visit by President of the China-EU Association and former Vice-Chairperson of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the

People's Republic of China Wuyun Qimuge.

Speaker Farrugia added that these relations have been enhanced by a steady flow of high-level visits, including the visits of Prime Minister Joseph Muscat in July 2014 and May 2015. He mentioned the courtesy visits which he has received in past years from Chinese dignitaries, including representatives of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, and of the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China.

Speaker Farrugia reiterated Malta's support for the 'One China' policy, on which Sino-Maltese relations are based, and noted that China is Malta's 10th largest trading partner. He referred to the China-EU Association, which was established in November 2001, and its various activities to promote China-EU economic, social, and cultural cooperation.

Wuyun Qimuge concurred with Speaker Farrugia regarding the longstanding and stable relations between the two countries and acknowledged that Malta was one of the foremost western countries to establish diplomatic relations with China. She referred to the 'One Belt One Road Initiative' proposed by the Chinese President Xi Jinping and also mentioned the importance of people-to-people contact. She went on to express the willingness of the Chinese people to cooperate with the Maltese and strengthen relations.

The Speaker was accompanied by Clerk of the House Ray Scicluna, Personal Assistant Ancel Farrugia Migneco, Director International Relations Eleanor Scerri, Director Peter Paul Mallia, and Adviser International Relations Giovanni Miceli.

Wuyun Qimuge was accompanied by Secretary of the President of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC) Fan Lanping; Deputy Director General of CPAFFC Lyu Hongwei; Wang Xichun, Senior Staff, General Office of the National People's Congress; Director of CPAFFC Liu Fang; Zhao Lei, Security Guard, President of China-EU Association; and Liu Chang, Staff of the CPAFFC.

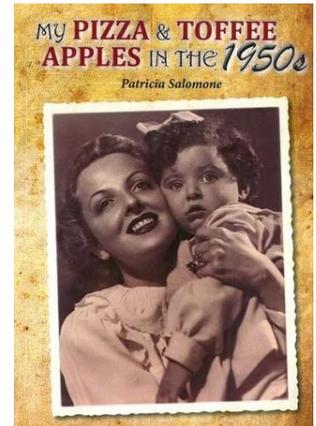
Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Malta Cai Jinbaio, and President of the Malta-China Friendship Society Reno Calleja were also present.



A brush with the past

Marie Benoît

Sister Daniela's First Holy Communion Day
My Pizza & Toffee Apples in the 1950's tells of the childhood of a little girl born in 1947, the baby boom year. Her family is made up of a mother, Italian to the soul and of a Maltese father, British in his upbringing and ways. Her little sister, Daniela, is part of the family but so is Pat's friend Roy, her childhood companion



It seems to me that as we get older we become nostalgic for the past but especially for people we have known and loved; people who have shaped us. Sometimes we even glorify them, now that they are gone. Pat Salomone's *My Pizza and Toffee Apples in the 1950s* starts at a brisk canter and continues so to the end. In it Pat records many details of household and family life as well as a lively social life. Her mother was an Italian from Taranto and judging from the photographs alone she was very attractive and stylish, qualities which have evidently rubbed off on Pat. Style, that indecipherable quality which few Maltese have picked up from our neighbours the Italians. Pat says that her mother stood out, at the school gates: 'a picture from the movies, elegant, pretty, coquettish, a film star, so outstanding that my school friends still remember her more than half a century later.'

Looking at the photos in this little book, whether of Anna Salomone's wedding, her daughter Pat's First Holy Communion. I too begin to feel nostalgic. As the author writes at the end of the book: 'I know that readers of my age have felt involved because my story is their story too....history is not only made up of great deeds of Kings and Queens but of the small lives of common people - the forgotten voices of those who made little noise but had so much to tell.' In these reminiscences Pat takes us into the heart of life in Malta in the '50s so that we can almost smell and touch it.

She recalls how the ships from Taranto, her mother's birthplace, brought not only wedding souvenirs with sugared almonds but also the first Panettone di Milano at Christmas time. I, too, well remember the first Panettone we ate at home brought to my parents, beautifully wrapped, by a Signor Peyra who came from Milano to do business in Malta. We felt very privileged. How times have changed. There is now Panettone everywhere at Christmas time. Somehow our first Panettone tasted better.

Every page of this little book demonstrates values and habits that are alien today: 'divided skirts' and not revealing shorts for sports; Bonello's kiosk at the Sliema Ferries as a meeting place. Gzira and Strait Street, Valletta were naturally taboo. 'Even more 'taboo' and for different reasons,' Pat recalls, 'there were taboo subjects, especially forbidden by the nuns at school - sex, birth and even death were not spoken of or only whispered about perhaps behind closed doors.' 'Why so much forbidden ground' in my childhood', Pat asks. Most women did not have jobs outside the home so they could spare the time to visit friends and chat over a cup of tea while their children played. Here are characters as varied as the details of a vanished era. All are brought to life.

Pat recalls having met her first boyfriend at the age of 16 and wanting to remain in Malta instead of going to Italy for the summer holidays, as had been the habit for her family. What, leave a daughter on her own? 'But no amount of nagging would convince my parents to leave me behind. I was still their child and as such subject to complete obedience of strict, unbending rules. The family had always gone off to Italy in the summer and nothing was going to change this particular summer...' Yes, strict obedience was expected and no amount of crying and locking herself in some dark room was going to change anything. Haven't we all experienced that rigid attitude, especially towards daughters? Moreover, Pat had reached an age, 16, when families looked forward to a girl's settling into marriage. Her Italian grandmother began choosing embroidered sheets and tablecloths for Pat's dowry. This word must have died with our generation for who talks about a dowry these days???



HISTORY OF BUSES IN MALTA

Before buses were even visible on Malta roads, the main mode of transport was by Rail (with a single line stretching from Valletta to Rabat and Mdina on the Eastern side of Malta), cabs, and horse-driven lorries. Primitive buses began operating in 1905 and this had a negative effect on the Malta Railway as buses became more popular. In the early 1920s, bus manufacturing took centre stage on the Malta Island. In the late 1920s, buses operated on public transport roads and there was a lot of

competition between operators.

In 1930 the fleet of buses in Malta counted 385 licensed route buses, several of these owned by the bus drivers themselves. With a high number of operating buses, competition was so fierce that buses were often overloaded and speeding became a regular occurrence, with drivers trying to complete more trips. However, in 1931, the Traffic Control Board was formed bringing in great discipline and regulation in the bus industry. New routes were introduced, with a formalised trip schedule, making the service increasingly efficient and organised.

With more regular and secure income, bus owners now began upgrading their buses to make them more attractive to the public. Since then, customization and decoration of Malta buses became a tradition. Buses were well maintained, kept clean and painted in various colours, depending on their designated route(s).



The 1970 reforms in Malta led to the centralization of bus operations with the formation of the Public Transport Association. The association had the mandate of day-to-day bus operation management.

In 2003, the government launched a scheme in which around 100 buses were scrapped and replaced by modern imported line buses from China. The government lowered the rates for bus tour services and traditional Malta buses were mainly in use. In December 2008, a major

proposed streamlining of the ownership and operation of Malta buses was declared. In mid-2011, Arriva was introduced as the new public transport operator and introduced a modern fleet of buses with more environmentally friendly engines and easier to access for the less abled passenger.

The transition was far from smooth. With numerous problems popping up ranging from the new routes to unwieldy bendy buses and to disgruntled bus drivers who saw their conditions worsened.

A change in government in 2013 helped the transition from Arriva (who were unable to run the service profitably and were looking for an early exit) to being managed by Malta Public Transport. Since 2015, Malta Public Transport is run by Autobuses de Leon – a Spanish company – although the operator's name was left unchanged.



JOHN HENRY O'CONNELL 'Jack' Medical Officer - RAF Ta'Qali 1940

This fascinating biopic of Ta'Qali's medical officer was sent by his daughter, Caroline Lockwood, along with the photograph. At the end she says 'Hope you found this interesting', it's not only interesting but fascinating also. Read and enjoy and if there is anyone out there old enough to remember Jack please get in touch.

"The description is sketchy as I am the youngest of 7 children and my dad died when I was very young (he was 51) his story is very fascinating.

He was from Belfast and qualified as a doctor at Queens University there - his diaries run from the day he left Belfast on troop carrier to the day he married my mother (who is Maltese) in 1942 - he was 25 and she was 18.

They were married by proxy as he was moved to be the Medical Officer in Gilgil Nairobi (which was an R&R camp for wounded etc.) and their plans to marry on the island were shattered by his new posting.

Only spouses of serving personnel could leave the island and as she was not yet married to Jack. Her father (my Maltese grandpa) arranged for them to be married by proxy (by letters to Lord Gort etc) Dad being in North Africa/Nairobi and she in Malta. Then she had to wait until the papers came through so she could fly out to join him.

She tells me she went every day to sit on the steps outside the war offices in Valletta to ask if the papers had come through, she is 92 now and recently told me that all Dads fellow RAF officers took it upon themselves to protect and help her and helped to effect the move as Dad was a much loved Medical Officer and had saved and treated many of the flying officers and personnel. She was flown out to Cairo initially in June 1942 in an RAF plane flown by one of Dads friends - who pointed out the flashing lights of the battle raging on the coast of N. Africa, El Alamein? She was only 18 and had never left Malta before ... Amazing story.

My dad was demobbed after the war and went on to become consultant radiologist in hospital Guildford/Aldershot as a civilian where the family grew to 7 children. In his mid to late 40's my dad was given a job as chief radiologist in Tasmania by the colonial office and the family emigrated.

He sadly died of a heart attack at the very young age of 51 - at which point my mother brought us all back to Malta. My youngest son (16) is the spitting image of his grandpa! I will try and dig up more pics - his name was John Henry O'Connell but known as Jack - hope you found this interesting!! RAF LUQA REMEMBERED <https://raf-luqa.weebly.com/>



'Hajja ħielsa mid-droga... flimkien b'għan wieħed'

Miktub minn iNews

L-Ispeaker tal-Kamra Anġlu Farrugia ħabbar li fil-jum internazzjonali kontra l-abbuż mid-droga se tinżamm il-konferenza nazzjonali 'Hajja ħielsa mid-droga – flimkien b'għan wieħed', nhar it-Tlieta, 26 ta' Ġunju 2018. Il-konferenza nazzjonali se tiġi organizzata mill-Ministeru għall-Familja, Drittijiet tat-Tfal u Solidarjetà Soċjali flimkien ma' Caritas Malta, il-Fondazzjoni Oasi u Aġenzija

Sedqa.F'kelmtejn tal-okkażjoni l-Ispeaker semma li madwar 89 miljun persuna fl-UE u eluf f'Malta huma milquta minn din il-problema. Tkellem dwar l-aspetti negattivi tal-abbuż mid-droga fuq l-individwi u fuq il-familjari tagħhom kif ukoll dwar il-problemi fis-soċjetà li jistgħu jwasslu lil dak li jkun biex jabbuża mid-droga. L-Ispeaker Farrugia fahhar l-impenn ta' dawk dedikati f'ħidma ta' għajjnuna u ta' appoġġ lil dawk milquta mill-abbuż tad-droga f'ħidma preventiva u riabilitattiva.

Iindirizzaw il-konferenza wkoll il-Ministru għall-Familja, Drittijiet tat-Tfal u Solidarjetà Soċjali Michael Falzon u l-kelliem għall-Oppożizzjoni Claudio Grech.

6 Cute Maltese Terms

Chucky Bartolo



1. PUPA / PUPU - The Maltese version of *doll*, usually used when calling or encouraging children.

"Ejja pupa, l-aħħar ftit" - any adult trying to convince a little girl to finish her broccoli/homework.

2. ĦANINI - "Darling" No, not the spreadable cheese or a boat. Ħanini is usually reserved for beings of great cuteness (i.e. all animals and some babies). "Ħanini! Irrid wieħed bħalu!" - any human watching a video of a baby sloth.

3. TEŻOR - "Treasure" Although this term of endearment hasn't been widely used since the knights roamed freely through our streets (in the flesh, not spectral form), calling anyone a treasure is an endearing thing indeed.

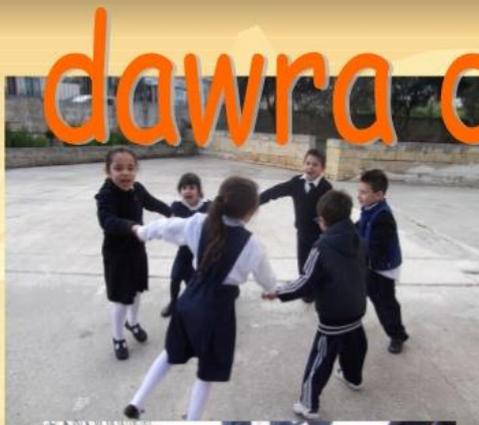
4. QALBI - "My Heart" Although it lacks any sense when translated literally, 'my heart' is one of Malta's most common (and sweetest) terms of endearment used for children, friends and significant others. **Things get dark when...**

It's used following a deep sigh. Nothing spells disappointment quite like a condescending look and a short 'qalbi...'

5. DUDU / DUDA - "Worm" Although at face value calling someone a worm may not seem like the sweetest of terms, but it's probably one of those that developed out of the love-you-so-much-it's-cool-if-we-insult-each-other school of thought.

6. SABIĦ / SABIĦA - 'Hello beautiful!' - not much room for offence here, right? Wrong. **Things get dark when** 'Eh' is tacked on the end, then it's suddenly 'sabiĦ eh!' and morphs into one of the most sarcastic phrases ever. Also if you're called a *sabiĦ/a* in traffic, the other driver you just cut off is in no way exchanging pleasantries.

Other common terms are: **XBIN u SIEHBI** - "mate"



dawra durella

This is a Maltese rhyme which the children used to sing whilst going round and round. When the rhyme comes to an end they all sit down.

*Dawra durella
qabża żigarella
čoff tal-bellus
čaqčaqhielu lill- għarus
axxa, axxa
missieru mastrudaxxa
mela wieħed, tnejn, tlieta !*




**IS THIS THE
MODERN
WAY TO
TOILET
TRAIN YOUR
CHILD?**



The Princess speaking to a woman dressed in a Maltese traditional Ghonnella.



Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip are given an enthusiastic welcome by children on the Floriana Granaries in 1950



Emotional emigrants leaving Malta by ship in the 1950s.



More Maltese emigrants leaving Malta during the exodus of 1940-60

Scenes from the past which we never forget



RELAXING AND ENJOYING AN AFTERNOON CHAT WITH THE NEIGHBOURS