



Maltese e-Newsletter



The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora

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BUILDING BRIDGES BETWEEN INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES



**Eurovision 2019 Malta:
Michela Pace
"Chameleon"**



**President of Malta H.E. George Vella
at the ANZAC Day commemorative
service at Pieta Military Cemetery
on 25 April 2019.**

**Who will be the next Prime Minister
Bill Shorten or Scott Morrison?**

 **AUSTRALIA
VOTES**

We keep you informed

MAY 18

**The 2019 Australian federal election
will be held on Saturday 18 May 2019 to elect
members of the 46th Parliament of Australia**

Ticket to Tel Aviv: Meet Michela from Malta



With the song 'Chameleon', Michela will represent Malta this year. Michela is set to perform 11th in the second Semi-Final on Thursday 16 May in Tel Aviv, Israel. This is 'Ticket to Tel Aviv', our feature counting down to the 2019 Eurovision Song Contest.

As a then-unknown talent in Malta, Michela exploded on to the *X-Factor* stage, leaving the judges speechless. On the 26th of January Michela won the final which gave her the right to represent her country at the 2019 Eurovision Song Contest in Tel Aviv.

© Jonathan Brincat

Who is Michela? Michela has only just turned 18 years of age and currently lives on the tiny island of Gozo, part of the Maltese archipelago. Her voice is described by many as memorable and powerful, with a breathtaking breaking point. She loves a wide range of genres from pop and country to soul.

Michela describes herself as an average teenager. She explains: "...
but when I start singing, it's as if my voice takes over my entire being. Aretha Franklin once said that you sing soul with your whole body. I know exactly what she means."



You can follow Michela on the following social media platforms: [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)

In March, it was revealed that *Chameleon* would become Malta's Eurovision Song Contest entry. The song is written by Joacim

Persson, Paula Winger, Borislav Milanov and Johan Alkanas.

Michela says about *Chameleon*: *"From the first moment I heard this song I knew it was the one, I could imagine the audience singing in their cars to that song! The song is too catchy and has a feel good factor vibe to it which no other song had. Truth be told, I also wanted this song as it was totally different from the songs the Maltese audience was used to hear me sing during X Factor Malta. Whilst I do love ballads and maybe I am in this place today thanks to that genre of music, it is time for Michela to show that I can perform a wide variety of songs. Singing a song like chameleon feels natural to me and I can't wait to continue exploring different genres in this musical journey of mine!"* **LISTEN:** [Stream or download Chameleon via your favourite music service](#)

<https://www.tvn.com.mt/en/news/ara-michela-se-tiehu-watch-michela-will-sing-chameleon-at-the-eurovision-song-contest-2019-bchameleon-fil-eurovision-song-contest-2019/>

Do you think Michela will take Malta to the Grand Final of the 2019 Eurovision Song Contest? Let us know in the comments!

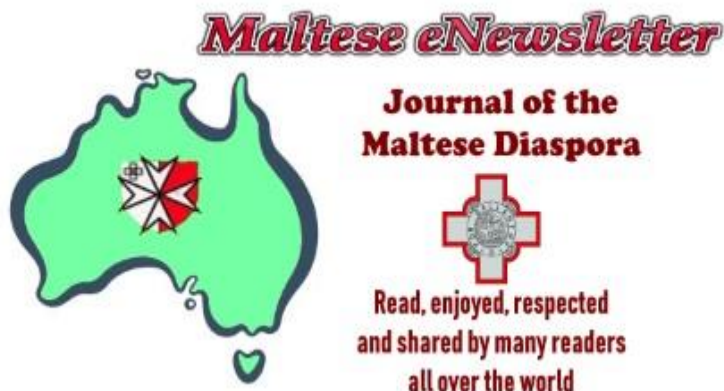


AUSTRALIA VOTES 2019

The **2019 Australian federal election** will be held on Saturday 18 May 2019 to elect members of the 46th Parliament of Australia. The election was called following the dissolution of the 45th Parliament as elected at the 2016 double dissolution federal election. All 151 seats in the House of Representatives (lower house) and 40 of the 76 seats in the Senate (upper house) will be up for election.

The second-term incumbent minority Coalition Government, led by Prime Minister Scott Morrison, is attempting to win a third three-year term against the Labor opposition, led by Opposition Leader Bill Shorten. Minor parties and independents will also contest the election, the most popular of which are the Greens and One Nation, according to nationwide opinion polls. The Greens, Centre Alliance, and Katter's Australian Party are defending one House of Representatives seat each.

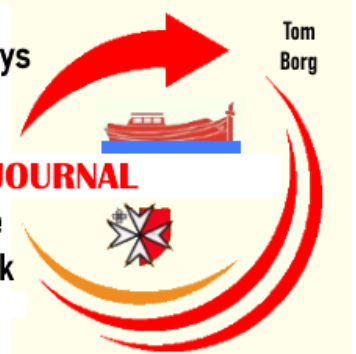
Australia enforces compulsory voting and uses full-preference instant-runoff voting in single-member seats for the House of Representatives and optional preferential single transferable voting in the proportionally represented Senate.^[2] The election will be administered by the Australian Electoral Commission.



It takes me days
to read the

MALTESE JOURNAL

I enjoy every page
and brings me back
lots of memories



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Australian High Commissioner for Malta, H.E. Ms Julianne Hince

**Malta remembers
the Australian and
New Zealand
soldiers who lost
their lives in WWI**



Minister of Foreign Affairs
and Trade Promotion
Hon Carmelo Abela
laying a wreath during
the ANZAC commemoration
at the Military Cemetery
Pieta - 25 April 2019
MALTA

Tony Dimech There were profound moments of silence at the Military Cemetery in Pieta' during the remembrance ceremony held for the thousands of Australian and New Zealand soldiers who lost their lives defending freedom during the battle of Gallipoli in World War One, some of whom were buried in this cemetery. Wreaths were placed at the foot of the monument in remembrance of these victims.

Around 56,000 soldiers lost their lives in the harsh battle of Gallipoli which began on 25 April 1915 against the Ottoman Empire which fought fiercely against the allies who wanted to capture Constantinople and the sea route through which supplies used to arrive.

The allied forces included Australian and New Zealand soldiers who were killed in this epic battle which lasted eight months. The victims continue to be commemorated each year on **ANZAC day**.

During the ceremony organised by the Australian High Commission in Malta, President George Vella, the Australian High Commissioner, Julianne Hince and Hon Carmelo Abela minister for Foreign Affairs laid their respective wreaths in honour of the victims. They were followed by a number of dignitaries from the political and diplomatic fields, representatives from groups and organisations as well as members of the public.

The remembrance ceremony ended with the playing of the Australian, New Zealand and Maltese national anthems.





ANZAC DAY IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

On ANZC DY 2019 Chev Charles Farrugia, President of the RSL Maltese branch together with Frank Scicluna, Consul for Malta in South Australia and Edgar Agius, President of the Maltese Community Council laid a wreath at the foot of the Monument at the Prospect Garden, South Australia in remembrance of the ANZACs who are buried in Malta during the Gallipoli tragedy of WW1. Mr Charlie Vidal, a war veteran, was also in attendance.

This monument was made in 2015 with funds received from the Australian ministry of Veteran Affairs. This monument carries the names of South Australian servicemen buried in Malta. The memorial was unveiled by the RSL state president Brigadier T. Hanna, accompanied by the president of the Maltese sub-branch, Chev. C. Farrugia — a veteran of the Royal Malta Artillery. Attending the ceremony were Frank Scicluna, the Hon Consul for Malta in SA, David O'Loughlin, Mayor of the Prospect City Council and Robert Banton, President Prospect RSL Branch. "Almost 58,000 ANZAC s were taken to Malta - 4000 alone in May 1915 after the first weeks of the landings - to be treated for their wounds," Brigadier Hanna said "This contribution resulted in Malta becoming known as the Nurse of the Mediterranean."

He added that Maltese immigrants had contributed significantly to the multicultural character of contemporary Australia. "It is most fitting," he said, "that the Maltese community in South Australia are amongst those doing something special to commemorate the centenary of the war which was supposed to be the end of all wars".



Keeping the Adelaide Maltese Community Informed and Entertained

Established in 1977, by Fr. Peter Paul Meilaq OFM, France Falzon, Geatan Grech, and Joe Monsigneur, began this Radio broadcast which was started to keep the South Australian Maltese public informed about religious, sporting, and social information both here and in Malta. This program, now broadcast on the Ethnic Station 5EBI Fm on the frequency of 103.1 from Byron Place in the city, was very well received and hence continued to flourish for these next 39 years. It was enhanced with Maltese News and Sporting results plucked from the Maltese Newspapers, the Maltese Chaplain delivered his religious messages, there were Community notices advising on coming events, and off course there were the very well liked Maltese songs.

Since then several presenters have come and gone having given their time, effort and yes sometimes even some "out of pocket " expenses. However the programs have flourished with the advent of the Internet we now have 'Fresher' News & Sport items, our music library has grown immensely with a great variety of Songs and Music, we have snippets of interesting stories, Folkloric, Romantic, and even comical. In fact, the Maltese Community in Adelaide can enjoy weekly, not only one, but 3 one hour programs, one on Sunday morning at 7.30am, one on Monday morning at 8.00 am, and even one on Monday evening at 6.00pm.



We the volunteers are encouraged by the compliments and the occasional donations from the listeners who get a 'Buzz' listening to these programs in their native tongue, and hence continue to promote our heritage and culture.

Meantime as we say from behind the mike at the end of each program, "Saħħa, we hope that you have enjoyed this program. I, Ron Borg, with my friends Bernadette Buhagiar, Carmen Debono and Fr, Gabriel Micallef wish you all a good day. You have been listening to the Maltese Community Radio on 5EBI FM the number one station.



MALTESE COMMUNITY RADIO PROGRAM

5EBI 103.1fm Multicultural Radio for Adelaide and South Australia

Listen to our Maltese program

Sunday at 7.30 am Monday at 8.00 am Monday at 6.00 pm

Website: <http://www.5ebi.com.au/>



Lifelong Learning Programme

What is Erasmus+?

<https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/>

Erasmus+ is the EU's programme to support education, training, youth and sport in Europe. Its budget of €14.7 billion will provide opportunities for over 4 million Europeans to study, train, and gain experience abroad.

Set to last until 2020, Erasmus+ doesn't just have opportunities for students. Merging seven prior programmes, it has opportunities for a wide variety of individuals and organisations.

Detailed information on these opportunities, including eligibility criteria, is available in the Erasmus+ Programme Guide. An indicative funding guide for some centralised opportunities is also available.

Individuals Erasmus+ has opportunities for people of all ages, helping them develop and share knowledge and experience at institutions and organisations in different countries.

Organisations Erasmus+ has opportunities for a wide range of organisations, including universities, education and training providers, think-tanks, research organisations, and private businesses.

Aims

The aim of Erasmus+ is to contribute to the Europe 2020 strategy for growth, jobs, social equity and inclusion, as well as the aims of ET2020, the EU's strategic framework for education and training.

Erasmus+ also aims to promote the sustainable development of its partners in the field of higher education, and contribute to achieving the objectives of the EU Youth Strategy.

Specific issues tackled by the programme include:

- Reducing unemployment, especially among young people
- Promoting adult learning, especially for new skills and skills required by the labour market.
- Encouraging young people to take part in European democracy
- Supporting innovation, cooperation and reform
- Reducing early school leaving
- Promoting cooperation and mobility with the EU's partner countries

Outcomes

The outcomes of Erasmus+ are available in reports and compendia of statistics, as well as through the Erasmus+ Projects Platform, which includes most of the initiatives funded by the programme, as well as a selection of good practices and success stories.

Statistics

Statistics on Erasmus+ are available from the statistics page. Information on progress towards the ET2020 benchmarks is available from the Education and Training Monitor.

Progress towards the ET2020 benchmarks can also be seen through a series of interactive maps. Similarly, information about the situation of young people in Europe can be found in the Youth Monitor.

Reports

The Erasmus+ Programme is the subject of a mid-term review, set to be completed in 2017, and an impact study, set to be published following the completion of the programme in 2020.

Following the completion of the Erasmus programme, an impact study highlighting the outcomes of the programme was published in 2014



Valletta's Ta' Ġiezu crucifix to be restored

17th-century crucifix to undergo studies and restoration

The 17th-century Ta' Ġiezu crucifix at the Franciscan Church of St Mary of Jesus in Valletta will undergo extensive conservation.

Attributed to Frate Innocenzo da Petralia, legend has it that the artist woke up one

morning and found the head of the statue complete.

The crucifix, which will be restored by the Arts Conservation Consortium through the support of Bank of Valletta falls under the responsibility of the Archconfraternity of the Miraculous Crucifix, a brotherhood with the sole aim to focus on the proliferation of the devotion for this crucifix.

Anton Cassar, Secretary of the archconfraternity said the crucifix had drawn "countless pilgrims for spiritual comfort as well as to admire a unique work of art".

"The proposed restoration works are expected to confirm - or otherwise - a number of myths surrounding the crucifix that will add historical value to this unique gem," he added.

The project's leader, historian Christian Attard noted that the historical and contextual study accompanying the restoration might throw new light on its authorship and the historical and artistic context in which it was made.

The project will include an in-depth scientific diagnostics and identification of the materials used, technical studies of the structure, physical examinations of the pictorial layers and a number of measures for preventive conservation. BOV is backing up this project because of the national significance of the crucifix.

MALTESE CELEBRITIES



Edward De Bono, Author/Psychologist/Philosopher

Edward De Bono is lauded as one of the most creative minds of the 21st century. The author, physician and psychologist became widely known for his extraordinary work in what is coined 'lateral thinking' – an indirect and creative approach to solving problems.

Born in Malta in 1933, De Bono has held faculty appointments at the universities of Oxford, Cambridge, London and Harvard, published 57 books in 34 languages and made several other contributions.



Kerry Ingram, Actress

A more contemporary rising star is Kerry Ingram, Princess Shireen Baratheon in Game of Thrones. Kerry also won an Olivier Award, the highest honour in British theatre, for her role in the hit musical Matilda. The 17-year-old British actress's grandfather is Maltese, and she has attended the Mqabba village feast every single year since she was born!

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HEAD of DIVISION, ANAESTHESIA and INTENSIVE CARE
PROGRAMME DIRECTOR, ACUTE SERVICES PROGRAMME

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WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Re: **FRANK L. SCICLUNA**, OAM
11 Anne Street, Royal Park, South Australia 5014.

It gives me a great deal of pleasure to write this reference for Frank Scicluna, one of the legends of the Maltese Communities in South Australia and New South Wales... and, indeed, further afield across Australia.

I have known Frank Scicluna for over 40 years and have always admired his dedication, application and stamina for all the projects he supported. He has been and remains one of the stalwarts of the Maltese-Australian community. He has achieved his aim of keeping all Maltese in Australia together and connected with Malta in two ways.

The first is the Journal of the Maltese Diaspora in Australia, an e-Newsletter, mostly in English, in its 233rd edition. Since the demise of The Maltese Herald, the Journal has become one of the only concrete press contacts with Malta. Frank Scicluna has, single-handedly, assiduously produced his masterpiece and distributed free of charge to all desirous of 'keeping in touch'. The e-newsletters, now about 25 pages per edition long now enjoys a prodigious distribution. Maltese-Australians everywhere will be forever indebted to Frank for the insightful, high quality content. At the Aged Care Facility where I have been Board Chairman for over 30 years, Frank's newspaper is printed and the multiple copies pass through multiple fingers and inform very many.

The second is Frank's engagement with the Maltese Government as a Prime Minister's appointee to the Council for Maltese Living Abroad. It is in this capacity that I have been most closely involved with Frank as CMLA co-member. His enthusiasm and erudition know no bounds. Indeed, the 'Linguistics and Maltese Language Teaching' portfolio is now entirely 'owned' by Frank. This *pro bono* work is supplemented by large community contributions as Honorary Consul for Malta in Adelaide and as Justice of the Peace. Frank is well-loved, outgoing and staunchly nationalistic – to both Australia and Malta.

I unreservedly recommend Frank Scicluna in the highest possible terms as a citizen of two countries who has made it his task to build bridges of friendship between the two countries.

He takes care of his SA 'flock' with great kindness, docility and aplomb. His work as a teacher of all sorts of disciplines over the years and of the Maltese language for some decades have been a consistent, high value feature of the South Australian landscape for as far back as I can recall. SA Maltese-Australianism are now synonymous with Frank Scicluna.

This giant of the Maltese-Australian Community thoroughly deserves all praise. In offering this letter of support and appreciation, I echo the sentiments of hundreds of my compatriots.

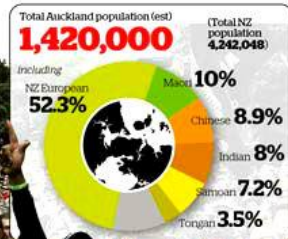
I am not particularly inclined to giving glowing references when these are undeserved but, credit where credit is due, Frank deserves the highest level of accolade.

Prof. Stephen Gatt
gattsp@gmail.com

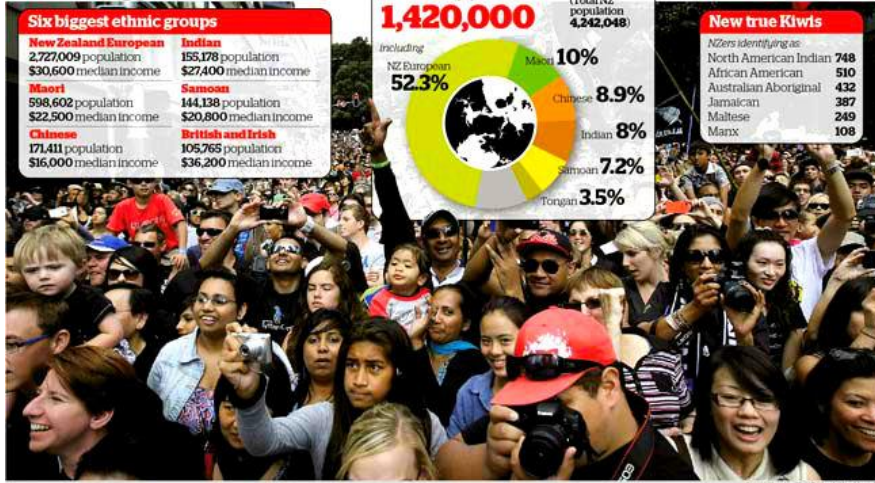
Maltese in New Zealand

NZ's melting pot

Six biggest ethnic groups	
New Zealand European	Indian
2,727,009 population	155,178 population
\$30,600 median income	\$27,400 median income
Māori	Samoan
598,602 population	144,138 population
\$22,500 median income	\$20,800 median income
Chinese	British and Irish
171,411 population	105,765 population
\$16,000 median income	\$36,200 median income



New true Kiwis	
NZers identifying as	
North American Indian	748
African American	510
Australian Aboriginal	432
Jamaican	387
Maltese	249
Manx	108



The last census put the figure of Maltese people resident in NZ at 222. There have never been huge numbers of Maltese in New Zealand, but we can trace the first one to within the first decade after the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi - which is the document that the British Crown signed with the indigenous Maori, and now forms the basis of our nation. In a study that Mark Caruana and I co-ordinated some

years ago, the earliest Maltese man we have discovered was Angelo Parigi:

He is listed at St Patrick's Church in Auckland as having married 16-year-old RoseAnne McMullen on 4 July 1849. He was described as "a boatman born in Malta". Others followed including a James Cassar for whom some letters remained unclaimed at the Auckland Post Office in 1864. In 1883, Francesco Saverio de Cesare, who you will know was tasked by the Government in Malta to assess the "suitability of the British Colonies in Australia as a field for Maltese Migration" reported that:

"At Auckland I met three Maltese, there settled for several years, and at Tauranga another one, employed as a cook; they are doing well; and have no idea of returning to Malta. They told me there are some other Maltese, whom they know, settled in Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin."

Since these times there have been small groups of Maltese who came out in drip and drabs, some after the first and second world wars, some jumping ship from British naval vessels, and others under a limited annual assisted quota system. Over these times there have also been those who arrived in NZ via Australia - after they saw the light! In 1989, a small group of Maltese formed the Maltese Association of Wellington (later incorporated) on 29 June (Mnarja). I was founding president. Source: Prof. Carmen Dalli

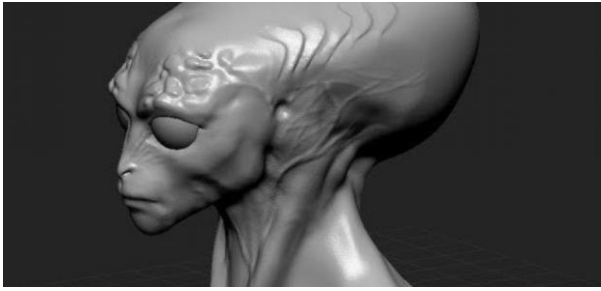


THE GREAT SIEGE OF MALTA 1565

Prior to the great Siege of Malta in 1565, the Ottoman Empire achieved a great victory over a fleet sent to Tripoli by King Philip II. In May 1560, the Battle of Djerba took place near the island of Djerba, in Tripoli.

It was an overwhelming victory for the Terrible Turks, with over 6,000 Spaniards killed, and they celebrated by making a tower of skulls of the victims. They planned on doing the same on

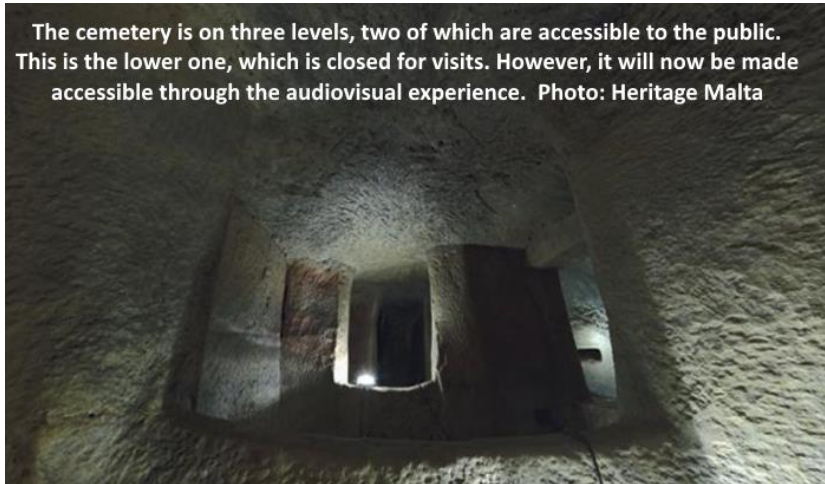
Malta The Tower of Skulls remained until 1848, when it was demolished and the bones were buried. After their victory at Djerba, Turgut and Piali sailed past Malta and they were very, very confident that another Tower of Skulls would soon adorn that island. Dragut and Piali were hoping to make a similar tower of skulls on Malta.



Malta's Hypogeum missing children, alien skulls and 7,000 skeletons

Hidden **history**, skulls of unknown origin, & strange harmonics in the *Hypogeum* of Ħal-

Saflieni a Neolithic subterranean structure dating to the Saflieni phase (3300 – 3000 BC) in Maltese prehistory.



The cemetery is on three levels, two of which are accessible to the public. This is the lower one, which is closed for visits. However, it will now be made accessible through the audiovisual experience. Photo: Heritage Malta

What is the Hypogeum?

The **Hypogeum** in Paola is probably Malta's most amazing building. It is the only completely preserved cult site from the Neolithic Age, i.e. from about 5000 years ago. Unlike the **supernatural** temples and tombs, it has survived the times largely unscathed - because the hypogeum is built into the earth. Three stories up to 14 m deep have been worked out of the rock on an area of 500 m².

Here you can find corridors and halls, chambers, niches and steps as well as remnants of wall paintings with mainly decorative motifs such as tendrils and spirals. The hypogeum was discovered by chance while excavating a cistern in 1902. 7000 skeletons and skeletal remains of more than 20,000 other dead people were found in the underground labyrinth, suggesting a burial site. Some scientists suspect that all these underground rooms were also a place of initiation for priestesses who served in the temples of the great Virgin Mary, the Magna Mater.

The Hypogeum in Malta is a temple complex discovered in 1902 and excavated by Fr Emmanuel Magri in the following years. The Ħal Saflieni Hypogeum complex consists of several large boulders. The construction is truly amazing. The oldest finds date back to 4000 BC.

When children 'disappeared' in the maze below

Years ago, one could walk underground from one end of Malta to the other, however all entrances have been closed by the government because of a tragedy.

Or so National Geographic magazine wanted its readers to believe in a 1940 article.

According to the author, a group of elementary schoolchildren vanished while on a visit to the tunnelled maze of the Ħal Saflieni Hypogeum.

For several weeks, people heard "wailing and screaming" wafting up from underground, but despite numerous excavations and searches, the children were given up for dead. Heritage Malta's Senior Curator of Prehistoric Sites, Katya Stroud, believes this myth – similar to ones tied to the Rabat St Paul's Catacombs – was made up to keep adventurous children away from such sites where they could easily get hurt. There have not been any discoveries of a collapse on site, nor have there been any printed records of the incident.

Access to the Hypogeum is limited to 10 visitors per tour. There are only a few tours a day and tickets are often sold out weeks or even months in advance.

THE MYSTERY OF MALTA'S LONG-HEADED SKULLS

*The Editor of
HERA, Italy's
Magazine of
Ancient Mysteries,
Unravels One of
the World's
Strangest Puzzles*

Long ago in the megalithic temple of Hal Saflieni, in Malta, were buried men with extraordinary cranial volume. Their skulls seem to observers today to belong to a truly alien stock. If properly understood, could these skulls provide a link between the ancient Mesopotamian and Egyptian cultures and a race of sacerdotal (priestly) men identified with the serpent?

We are back from a visit in Malta where we traced an ancient tale originating from megalithic temples to the Mother Goddess—adored in prehistoric times when the island was an important cult center. We were trying to resolve a mystery of truly stunning implications.

Before 1985 a number of these skulls, found in prehistoric Maltese temples at Taxien, Ggantja and Hal Saflieni, were displayed in the Archaeological Museum of the Valletta. A few years ago, though, they were removed and placed in storage. The public has not seen them since. Only the photographs taken by Maltese researcher Dr. Anton Mifsud and his colleague Dr. Charles Savona Ventura remain to testify of their existence and as proof of their extraordinary characteristics. Books by the two doctors, who helped us during our stay, provided the necessary documentation.

Illustrations in the books show a collection of skulls with unmistakable abnormalities and/or pathologies. Some revealed nonexistent cranial knitting lines, abnormally developed temporal



Two of Malta's mysterious skulls, the dolichocephalous (long-headed) one below.

partitions, and drilled and swollen occiputs (the back, or posterior, part of the head or skull; the region of the occipital bone), as might appear after trauma recovery. Most significantly, however, they included an odd lengthened skull, bigger and stranger than the others, lacking the median knitting. Such a finding leads to several possible hypotheses. A similarity with skulls from Egypt and South America found with this particular deformity—ancient (from approximately 3000 B.C.), yet unique in medical pathology—suggests this could be an extraordinary discovery. Was this skull the result of an ancient genetic mutation between different races or something else?

The Long-Headed Skulls

Our request for help from the museum's management would certainly have failed if not for the intercession of the minister of tourism, Michael Refalo, who we met at the end of a press conference organized by Dr. Robert Zammit, of the Maltese Provincial Tourism Board. The minister, whose interest in the matter we stimulated, accompanied us to the museum, and personally obtained the director's permission to bring out the mysterious skulls, kept for about 15 years far from the sight of curious onlookers and researchers.



GETTING MARRIED IN MALTA?

Offering a diverse range of wedding formats, from intimate sit down dinners and beachside ceremonies to church weddings and traditional receptions, Malta has a vast range of products and services available which make planning the ceremony relatively stress free and great value for money.



Malta offers both civil and religious ceremonies and in either case, the legal formalities are relatively simple and can even be done in advance from your home country. Gay weddings are also welcomed on the Maltese Islands.

Being predominantly Roman Catholic, the Islands boast around 365 beautiful churches, making Malta and Gozo the ideal destination for those desiring a religious wedding. The elegance and splendour of one of Malta's baroque parish church will provide a beautiful setting to a special day, or if intimacy and seclusion is desired, the many charming countryside chapels are ideal. However, couples of other denominations will also find their perfect place of worship for their dream wedding. For those opting for a civil wedding, since Malta has such a varied and colourful historical past, there are a number of interesting outdoor and indoor venues from which to choose. The grandiose will love one of the grand baroque palaces with stunning gardens,

and those preferring something more rustic can choose a beautiful farmhouse set in the quaint countryside of Gozo. For nature lovers, Malta's many beautiful sandy beaches, backdrops and countryside provide a location like no other.

Foreign visitors who wish to marry in the Roman Catholic Church will have some formalities to complete in advance. The process is very

straightforward and will involve providing documentation such as birth certificates and letters from the couples' diocese in their country of origin. These would need to be submitted to the Maltese Diocese for those planning their wedding in Malta, and Gozo Diocese for those intending to tie the knot on the sister Island of Gozo.

Several specialist tour operators feature both Malta and Gozo in their dedicated wedding and

honeymoon brochures, and offer the services of a personal wedding organiser, make-up and hair artist, photographer, bridal bouquet, groom's buttonhole and wedding cake.

A large buffet reception is very much part of the traditional Maltese wedding, but if you prefer a British style sit-down wedding breakfast, or indeed something more bespoke, the Islands have a range of experienced and professional caterers who offer a wide selection of luxury modern dishes in addition to local cuisine. Most hotels in Malta have a food and banqueting team who will be pleased to meet individual requirements and special requests for any size of wedding party.

Once married, the 'going away' ritual is a memorable moment. Whether you choose a horse-drawn Karrozzin, a sleek limousine or even a traditional Dghajsa boat in Valletta's Grand Harbour, you'll be sure to enter your married life in unforgettable style.



MALTA TRADE FAIR 2019

27 June-7 July Sunday Malta MFFC, Ta' Qali

Welcome to the 60th edition of the MFCC Malta Trade Fair. Celebrating 60 years has made us think of you the visitor in a very special way. This year's edition is jam packed with activity to make sure your experience here is a great one and you enjoy your visit to the max.

The over 200 exhibitors at this fair are sure to give you added value to your purchase by offering interesting discounts and giveaways. The item categories are – alternative energy, home improvements, kitchens, furniture, sofas and mattresses, household appliances, catering equipment, TVs and electronic equipment, aluminum works, doors, garage doors, bathrooms and tiles, outdoor and garden furniture, security systems, musical instruments, cars and electric motorcycles, financial services, telecommunications, travel, Sicilian artisan foods, food products, wellness products, pets and pet food, perfumes and cosmetics, hair and nail products, fashion items, books, arts and crafts and pottery. The International element within the fair includes participation from Germany, Italy, France, Portugal, India, Pakistan, Peru and Tunisia.

Additional to having a great opportunity to shop, the fair is also an opportunity to relax and enjoy an evening out. The Foodcourt is the ideal place to do this. Here you can savor one or more of the items on the menu and whilst grabbing your bite you can sit and enjoy some LIVE music brought to you by some of Malta's best bands. These include Bernie and Pod, Crosswalk, Xs5 and others. Every evening the activities at the food court start around 20:00hrs. Here we also draw the daily €1000 cash prize at 22:00hrs, and the Xirja prize worth €2600 worth of groceries from Gala Supermarket 15 minutes before closing time. The fair is open between 18:30hrs and 22:30hrs on weekdays and remains open until 23:00hrs on weekends and public holidays. It stays open until Sunday the 2nd of July. Hope you enjoy the visit, looking forward to seeing you again!

ENTRANCE FEE ADULTS €2.50 CHILDREN
(Under 12) FREE ENTRANCE
- *FREE voucher with every entry ticket for one child to visit the exhibitions at Esplora Interactive Science Centre (one per family) FREE Hot Dog (Before 8pm) Terms & Conditions Apply*



Rum and Rock n Roll will take us to the world of music, during WAR times. Pre war music to Post war music! A live band will accompany the cast of 15 performers all throughout the show.

Starting from the Andrews Sisters to Vera Lynn and more. During the first half of the show, one can see and listen to ex military war individuals telling us their experiences and how it felt to survive back in those days. Singing, live music and movement will be incorporated into acts and stories. Songs such as Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy, Lilli Marlene, Will Meet again and other classics will make the audience singalong.

"This is a war to end all wars."

In the second part of the show we will take our audience into the post war music era when rock n roll took over. The stage will change into fun and upbeat songs. Elvis Presley, Buddy Holly, Connie Francis and other legends will live on through music and dance. The second part will be colourful and joyful. This will show a comparison between both acts and how music mattered during and after war times. *We promise a performance of a lifetime... And yes!! Make sure you come dressed up in your best costume or uniform!*

VENUE St Agatha's Auditorium, Rabat, Malta Date: 04-May-2019



The JP2 Foundation commemorated three personalities during last year's edition

"IN MEMORIAM", Bishop Francis Adeodatus Micallef, Bishop Sylvester Carmel Magro and Mgr George Bezzina, in this year's edition, the Munxar Local Council together with the JP2 Foundation will be commemorating the Former Mayor of Munxar Ms Carmen Said and the Former Mayor of Fontana Mr Anthony Borg, whom both resided in Xlendi limits of Munxar, in a Musical Remembrance Evening featuring Gozitan Tenor Angelo Muscat accompanied on the Piano by Mro Dr. John Gelea. The event will take place on Sunday 5th May 2019 at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, ix-Xlendi starting at 6.45pm. The General public is invited to attend. Entrance to the event is free but donations are welcome.

Il-Fondazzjoni "JP2" fakkret tliet personalitajiet matul l-edizzjoni ta' "IN

MEMORIAM" tas-sena l-oħra, l-Isqof Francis Adeodatus Micallef, l-Isqof Sylvester Carmel Magro u Mons. George Bezzina. F'din l-edizzjoni ta' din is-sena, il-Fondazzjoni "JP2" se tikkommemora l-Ex-Sindku tal-Munxar is-Sinjura Carmen Said u l-Ex-Sindku tal-Fontana, is-Sur Anthony Borg, li t-tnejn għexu' fil-lokalita tax-Xlendi limiti tal-Munxar, f' serata ta' tiffkira mużikali li fiha jiehu sehem t-Tenur Għawdx i Angelo Muscat akkumpanjat fuq il-Piano minn Mro Dr. John Gelea. L-avveniment se jsir nhar il-Ħadd 5 ta' Mejju 2019 fil-Knisja tal-Madonna tal-Karmnu, ix-Xlendi, fis-6.45pm Il-pubbliku ġenerali huwa mistieden li jattendi, id-dħul għall-kunċerti huwa b'xejn imma d-donazzjonijiet se jkunu milqugħa.



Guess where the Maltese flag has turned up... Ray Galea

The Maltese flag has turned up at the Ramón Sánchez Pizjuán Stadium in Seville, among a group of supporters who had gone to watch a football match between Seville and Rayo Vallecano. It appears that the supporters included a Maltese national with pride in his country as well as with the Spanish team presently doing well in the competition. The game ended in a 5-0 win for Seville, with the team in fifth placing in the Spanish league.



Government working towards granting of automatic citizenship to children adopted by Maltese couples

Report: Glen Falzon Prime Minister Joseph Muscat has stated that Government is to propose amendments to the adoption law so that adopted children will automatically be granted Maltese citizenship when they are adopted by Maltese couples.

When he was addressing the first national conference on adoptions, Dr Muscat declared that the amendments will be reducing expenses and running around for adoptive parents.

As things stand right now, adoptive parents have to resort to the Court in Malta for children to be granted Maltese citizenship.

Dr Muscat further stated that discussions are in hand for adoptions to start from Bulgaria, Moldova and Poland, and talks are also being held with Nepal to enable Maltese couples to have access to a wider choice for adoption purposes.

“INFIORATA” VALLETTA’S COLOURFUL FESTIVAL RETURNS

Infiorata will have a message about the environmental harm of plastic



The sixth edition of the Valletta Green Festival opens in Valletta on Thursday May 9 at 9.30am and will run till Sunday May 12 at 8pm. This festival is being organised by the newly-launched Valletta Cultural Agency (VCA) and is part of the Valletta 2018 Cultural Programme legacy.

The organisers said St George's Square outside Main Guard and the Palace will once again be transformed into a huge bed of flowers, attracting thousands of

tourists, families and green-fingered enthusiasts to **Valletta**. The theme of this year's festival aims to raise awareness about the environment and particularly plastic pollution.

Valletta Cultural Agency chief executive Catherine Tabone said: 'The display this year will use natural flowers to depict the beauty of our land and sea, and waste collected from around the island to depict the harsh reality of the pollution we create and live with day by day.'

On Saturday, Maltese band Sterjo Tipi will perform in the streets, starting from City Gate and travelling down Republic Street to finish in style in St George's Square. The three-day festival is free for everyone to enjoy



“It was like watching what happened at Twin Towers”, “it was like a scene from a film” – G’Mangia residents

Report: Maria Muscat

The families who lived in the apartment block which collapsed on Wednesday night in Guardamangia, as well as their neighbours, are still traumatised by what happened, which has left them with nothing. They are extremely angry because they said they have long been reporting to the authorities that the excavation next door was causing damage to their building. Prime Minister Joseph Muscat said that the residents who have been affected would be given immediate assistance and while awaiting the conclusions of the investigations, he will ensure that if there has been any negligence, whoever was responsible would have to answer for it.

The residents of G’Mangia Hill are still under shock after they ended up on the street at around 10.20pm on Wednesday night when their block of three apartments collapsed. Next door to the block, there is a construction site where excavation is taking place. Luckily no one was injured because the three resident families managed to run out of their apartments when they felt the building, which had a number of cracks in its walls, start to give way. The apartment block is just down the road from the former St Luke’s mortuary. Located in the same building were the TM offices where the oral tests for driving licences used to take place, which, for now, have had to be suspended.

The residents said that despite weeks of reporting the cracks in their walls, no one had paid any attention to their complaints.

Carol Micallef, who lives in an apartment close by, said that when they heard the building next door collapse, she and her husband Winston ran

outside wearing their pyjamas and carrying their dog. Other neighbours did the same. Rosanne Lanzon explained how her brother got out at the nick of time and he has ended up with just the clothes on his back.

“He woke up and saw that his kitchen was covered by thick fog with the dust that was coming down, like a scene from a film. The cracks were wide open and he saw the stone blocks coming down and by the time they reached the pavement, everything had collapsed. Nothing is left.”

Alan Brown who lives very close to the collapsed building said that he heard a noise and began shouting for everyone to leave the building. “All at once it was like watching what happened at the Twin Towers. Dust was everywhere and the Police were running down, I was in shock because my mother is 80 years old.”

Mara Taljana who has a two-year-old daughter, and is expecting another child, also ended up outside. Jessica Rossitto said, “I didn’t see nothing for 2 minutes, I saw police and they told me to go outside and I was very afraid”.

The collapse of the three apartments meant that the area had to be evacuated, with the Police and members of the Civil Protection Department verifying that there was no one left in the building and that everyone who used to live there was safe and sound.

Around ten minutes after the building collapsed, another noise was heard and more stones began to fall. The stones fell in the middle of the road and buried a van which was parked in front of the apartments.

PM Joseph Muscat has made it clear that full responsibility has to be shouldered for what happened and that the Government would ensure this was done.

"I have requested a report to see whether the neighbours had filed any complaints. The Housing Authority has also intervened so that these families do not suffer. We will definitely not allow a situation where the necessary responsibility is not shouldered."

In a joint statement, the Home Affairs, Infrastructure and Family Ministries all said that apart from the ongoing Police investigation, the

Government is collecting information from various authorities. It was stated that according to the Building Regulation Office, the contractor who is building the new development had submitted all the necessary documents according to law. It was also stated that according to this office, no reports against the contractor had been filed by the neighbours.

Home Affairs Minister Michael Farrugia said that the necessary monitoring is taking place so that the other building which is next to the excavation is insured for any possible dangers.

Love for reading and writing takes Maltese kids to Rome

Posted On April 26, 2019 - Updated 26 April, 2019 3:13pm



Sixty children from Year 5 classes in State Schools of Malta and Gozo, participated in a Writing Stars day in Rome organised by the National Literacy Agency. The Writing Stars initiative is a creative writing opportunity for nine year-old children who have excelled in the writing component of the English and Maltese Annual Examinations.

During this trip in Rome, the children were engaged in reading and writing activities related to the capital city of Italy. Through a series of pre-writing strategies they produced drafts of a number of written pieces. Throughout the day the children had a guided tour of Vatican City including St Peter's Basilica, and met with His Eminence Cardinal Angelo Comastri, Archpriest of St Peter's Basilica. During this unique field trip the children visited also the gardens of the Vatican City, Fontana di Trevi, Piazza di Spagna and the Church of Trinità dei Monti.

The Writing Stars initiative was inspired by the family writing activities, *Xalati ta' Kitba*, organised monthly, by the National Literacy Agency, in various localities around Malta and Gozo. These activities are an excellent opportunity for parents and caregivers to spend quality time with their children in a fun and educational setting.



We received an acknowledgement of the receipt of our journal from readers from Malta, Gozo, Albania, Australian States and Territories, Canada, United States, Brussels, Spain, Kenya, Brazil, Peru, Italy, Israel, South Africa and New Zealand



IN PRAISE OF MUSIC

Ray Grech Photography

Caption turi lit-tliet protagonisti tal-Kunċert "In Praise of Music", it-tenur Angelo Muscat minn Għajnsielem, is-Sopran Ruth Portelli mill-Qala u l-pjanista Marita Debattista minn Nadur li sar nhar il-Gimgha filghaxija, 26 ta' April fil-Knisja tal-Patrijiet ta' Giezu tal-Imġarr Għawdex. Fetaħ il-Kunċert li għalih kienu prezenti xi Għajnselmizi u barranin, flimkien mas-Sindku Franco Ċiangura flimkien mal-Kunsillier Kevin Cauchi, Patri Gwardjan Fr Joe li għamel indirizz ta'

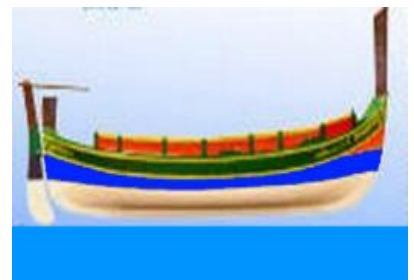
merħba.

Wara l-Kav Joe M Attard, li pprezenta l-programm, qara l-poezija tiegħu 'L-Għid it-Tajjeb' u għadda biex introduċa l-ewwel żewġ għanjiet: 'Per la Gloria datoravi' ta' G.B. Bononcini u 'Panis Angelicus' ta' Caesar Franc. Kien imiss imbagħad li nisimġu 'Lascia che io pianga' ta' G.F. Handel u 'Anima Christi' ta' Monsinjur Frisina. Bi hlewwa liema bħalha, it-Tenur Angelo Muscat interpreta imbagħad l-'Ave Maria' ta' Shubert waqt li flimkien mas-Sopran Ruth Portelli imbagħad smajna l-'Ave Verum' ta' Mozart. Il-Poeta żagħżuġh Francesco Pio Attard ħa imbagħad il-mikrofonu f'idejh biex qara l-poezija tiegħu '....u Qam Rebbieh'.

Dritt wara mill-ġdid komplja dan il-Kunċert tal-Għid biż-żewġ kantanti jinterpretaw l-ewwel 'Ombra mai fu' ta' Handel u 'You raise me up' ta' Reuben Morgan. It-tenur Muscat kanta 'pregħiera davanti al Crocefisso' ta' R. Calleja u wara flimkien mas-sopran Portelli, 'Pie Jesu'. Il-Kunċert għalaq bil-'Lord's Prayer' u b'The Prayer' ta' David Forster bl-applawsi misthoqqha ta' daww kollha li laqgħu din l-istedina li għamlilhom t-tenur żagħżuġh Angelo Muscat li nhar il-Ħadd 5 ta' Mejju se jkun mill-ġdid ikanta fil-Knisja tal-Karmnu fix-Xlendi akkumpanjat fuq il-pjanu minn Mro Dr John Galea f'okkażjoni ta' tifikira f'għieħ żewġ Sindki Għawdxin li hallewna qasir il-ghomor: Tony Borg. Ex Sindku tal-Fontana u Carmena Said ex Sindku tal-Munxar, okkażjoni mlaqqma In Memoriam organizzata mill-Fondazzjoni Papa Gwanni Pawlu t-Tieni.

Kav Joe M Attard Rabat – Għawdex

**This Maltese Journal may be found at the
Malta Migration Museum Valletta
Maltese/Canadian Archives - Gozo National Library
on FACEBOOK and Twitter
Website: www.ozmalta.com**



WHO KILLED THE DOMINICAN FRIAR? 1738

Murders, however obnoxious, always attract attention. The most gruesome seem to appeal the most. While bringing us face to face with the worst in us, murders also appear to remind us just how resilient, and sometimes heroic, we are when it comes to living with difficult others. Murders do not let us forget how low we, as human beings, can stoop, but they also bring out, indirectly, our best social and political qualities.

All of us, given the circumstances, are probably capable of murder. It is perhaps not infrequent that we covertly harbour murderous feelings towards



Dominican priest of thirty-four, Vincent Grimani, who was brutally stabbed to death in his own bed within the sanctuary of his conventual cell.

Almost instinctively, one's curiosity is piqued. Why was he slayed? Who had put him to death? Was the case solved? What became of the murderer?

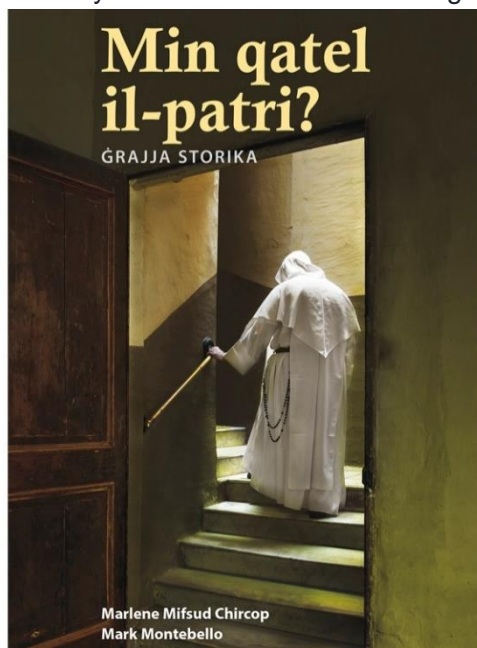
This Grimani wasn't exactly a nobody. He was the Rector of the University of Portus Salutis which the Dominicans had in Valletta since 1729. Though young, and not in possession of a Masters yet, his academic prospects seemed very promising. He might have grown up into one of the most illustrious members of the Maltese Dominicans.

His murder cut him short and, alas, consigned him to a forgotten past. Only one fortuitous detail, however, denied that his name went unnoticed for ever. It was a folk-song in Maltese (għana) composed in the wake of the murder and sung in the streets and taverns of Valletta. Opportunely, a priest took note of it and wrote it down in his records, thereby preserving it for posterity.

In the book, *Min Qatel il-Patri?* (Who Murdered the Friar?), published by Klabb Kotba Maltin, the folklorist Marlene Mifsud Chircop and the researcher Fr. Mark Montebello conduct a meticulous investigation into the murder of Grimani, its surprisingly complex background and its likely motives.

Fully researched from original manuscripts held in various archives in Malta and abroad, the research also studies the anonymous folk-song which drew attention to the murder in the first place, together with other compositions on the same murder written contemporaneously in Italian and Sicilian.

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/Grimani-1738-murder-300920646936999/>

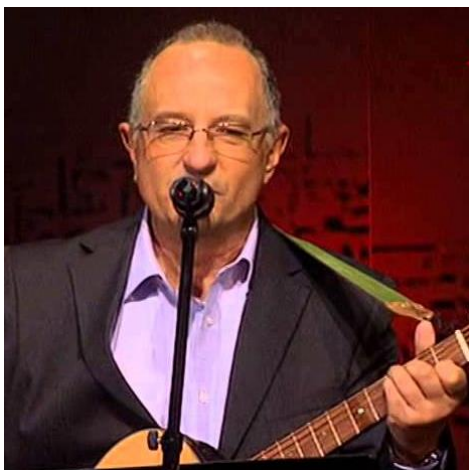


The front cover of the publication designed by Joseph Mizzi. Malta.

certain people. There may be many reasons for not carrying out such ruminations. Contrary to common perception, it is practically quite difficult to kill someone. What's more, today it is very unlikely to get away with murder, especially where the forensic sciences are highly advanced.

All of this was very different in the eighteenth century. A particular murder committed in 1738 might fascinate some of us for its intrigue, intricacy and bafflement. The victim was a young Maltese

<http://www.zaar.com.mt/projects/noli/>



NOLI - MARIO DEBONO

Fid-dinja tal-mużika hemm problema: hemm ħafna mużika kummerċjali ta' livell tekniku għoli imma li tinstema' biss għal ftit xhur u mbagħad tintesa u tmut mewta naturali. Din il-mużika u l-lirika tagħha ftit fiha valur, ma ttejjibx il-ħajja ta' min jisma' anzi tispicċa biex taljenah jew iġġibu aghar.

Għal min iħobb songs miktuba b'Malti mirqum, adattati għal kull età hawn għandu jsib minn fejn jagħzel. Huma songs originali, friski u attwali għax jikkellmu fuq temi soċjali tal-lum. Għandhom valur artistiku li jibqa' jgħodd tul iż-żmien. Meta kantajthom f'diversi okkażjonijiet, fosthom kunċert li sar fiċ-CAK u li għalih attendew 500

ruħ, dejjem intlaqgħu tajjeb mill-udjenza. L-istil ivarja: hemm songs satiriċi, umoristiċi, riflessivi, deskrittivi, ironiċi u deskrittivi. Is-suġġetti wkoll huma varji: il-lingwa Maltija, il-familja, id-delizzji, il-qerq, ir-refuġjat, il-fidi. Il-mużika hi mibnija fuq it-tonalità li għandha l-lingwa tagħna. Dan ix-xogħol hu kontribut għall-kultura Maltija.

Għal xix se ssir il-kampanja?

Il-kampanja qed issir biex jingabru fondi għall-produzzjoni u t-tnedija tas-CD u l-video. Għal min jixtieq jisma' tmintax-il song b'Malti sabiħ u bis-sens, Noli se jkun l-isem ta' CD u video godda li se noħroġ jiena, Mario Debono, kantawtur, dis-sena. Ic-CD jinkludi għadd ta' songs li bihom ħadt sehem u ġieli anki rbaħt bihom f' L-Għanja tal-Poplu. Magħhom hemm oħrajn godda.

Fejn se jmorru l-kontribuzzjonijiet?

Il-kontribuzzjonijiet se jmorru biex ikopru l-ispejjeż tar-recording, mixing u mastering tas-songs, duplikazzjoni tas-CDs, fotografija, artwork u stampar tal-cover, fuq is-CD u tal-ktejjeb bil-kliem, video promozzjonali tat-title track Noli u tnedija. Meta jithallsu l-ispejjeż, il-qliġh li jkun hemm imur għad-Dar tal-Providenza.

Min hu Mario Debono ?

- Beda jkanta ta' ħdax-il sena fil-kor tas-Seminarju ma' Patri Albert Borg OSA.
- Għamel sentejn fil-kor Ġesù Nazzarenu mmexxi minn Patri Salv Galea OP.
- Tgħalliem il-kitarra u beda jdoqq fil-folk mass ma' Valerie Navarro.
- Beda jikkomponi kant originali u ħa sehem f'L-Għanja tal-Poplu, ħafna drabi kien finalist, rebaħ erba' darbiet u darba ġie fit-tielet post.
- Daqq u kanta ma' Mro Brian Cefai, Valerie Navarro, Frank O'Neill, Manwel Mifsud, Merga, Sammy Bartolo, Martin Attard, Charles Dalli, Joe C. Grech, Mro George Debono, Mro Manoel Pirotta, Mark Spiteri Lucas, Mro Dominic Galea.
- Ħa sehem fid-daqq u l-kant ta' Kartolina, diska, cassette u CD ippublikat mill-YTC.
- Kien finalist f'The Malta Entry for the 6th European Union Cyprus and Malta Song Festival.
- Illum kantawtur ta' songs bil-Malti u jieħu sehem f'diversi okkażjonijiet mużikali, letterarji u kulturali.
- Ilu kantur f'Komunità Neokatekumenali sa mill-1981.
- Ippubblika l-cassette Il-Blata Tiegħi – Għanjiet ta' Aħbar Tajba.
- Uħud mis-songs tiegħu jinsabu fil-cassettes u s-CDs ippublikati mill-YTC.
- Noli se jkun gabra tal-aqwa diski tiegħu.

Recent studies show that 50% of the world's population is bilingual, whereas only 20% of Australians speak a language other than English at home. Yet interest in bilingualism and multilingualism in Australia has never been higher than during the last few years.



BIG FESTIVAL IN LITTLE MALTA

Join the locals and attend one of the many festivals in Malta. This country is a cultural treat for all those visit with its interesting and diverse heritage and traditions. Malta may only be a small country, but its citizens sure know how to throw a party. With incredible festivals full of color, fireworks, music and fun, you are bound to be entertained. Carnival, religious gatherings, medieval re-enactments, jazz evenings and fireworks will fill your stay with happy

memories of that perfect vacation in Malta.

Kings, Knights and Armor

Each year in May the small age-old town of Mdina is flooded with the past during The Medieval Mdina Festival. Visitors and locals partake in re-enactments; there are medieval markets, lectures, Jesters and more. With such a perfectly preserved city, this festival is much like re-living the past. Although these were more brutal times, they sure are interesting and make for a memorable trip to the islands. Check out a

battle, get spiritual with a tarot reading and be sure to attend the opening and closing ceremonies.



Religious Occasions

Being a Christian country, Holy days like Christmas and Easter are celebrations to behold. During Easter, the proceedings are somber and taken very seriously up until the Sunday where the festivities start to celebrate the resurrection of Christ. Locals march through the streets joyously with a statue of the risen Christ. There are also numerous feasts and festivities throughout different cities on

the islands. The Feast of St. Gaetan in Hamrun is especially interesting. There is a rivalry between two of the bands who hit the streets to win over the residents with their melodies. In St. Julian, there is also a feast on the last Sunday of August where locals play games, eat and party to the sounds of fireworks flashing in the sky. There are so many celebrations worth taking part in across Malta.



Fire in the sky

The Ministry for Tourism and Malta Tourism Authority organize a fireworks festival. lighting up the sky across the islands. Malta has a long history of using fireworks where firing muskets into the sky as a gun salute was used to celebrate. Now, the country has their own fireworks industry and set off spectacular displays on the anniversary of Malta being introduced to the European Union. The Malta Fireworks Festival is an incredible sight.

MALTA NEWS – Saturday, March 18, 1967

A party of 22 schoolboys from whom Malta's team to compete in the International Schoolboys Tournament to be held on March 30, 31 and April 1, 1967 will be chosen, have been named. They are:-



Malta Schoolboys Internationals line-up against Spain in the 1967 tournament

M. Caruana, A. Mifsud, A. Cassar, W. Vassallo, A. Meli, S. Vella, C. Aquilina, J. Sargent, F. Mifsud, F. Falzon, W. Sultana, D. Zarb Mizzi, J. Sultana, E. Grech, N. Mallia, A. Sant, J. Cauchi, R. Saliba, C. Pisani, A. Brimmer, V. Zammit and L. Arpa.

The boys represent nine schools, Technical Institutes, Lyceum, St. Joseph Sec. Tech., De La Salle, St. Albert, St. Patrick's, Stella Maris, Seminary and G.I.T.C.

Two games will be played on each day, the first one starting at 2.15 p.m. and the second kicking off at 3.30 p.m.

All the games of the tournament will be played at The Stadium. The boys are

training under Louis Borg and John Calleja at the Manoel Island Ground.

Four teams – Malta, Spain, France and Belgium – took part in this Tournament. Spain were the winners with Malta gaining second place followed by Belgium and France in third and fourth places respectively.

A typical Malta team line-up during this tournament was: Brimmer (Pisani), Zammit, Sultana, Falzon, Caruana, Mifsud, Saliba (Cauchi), Vassallo, Sant, Arpa, Camilleri.

Maltese singer, 10, stuns Britain's Got Talent



Giorgia Borg gets golden buzzer to book a place in semi-finals

Giorgia Borg' reaction upon seeing the golden buzzer

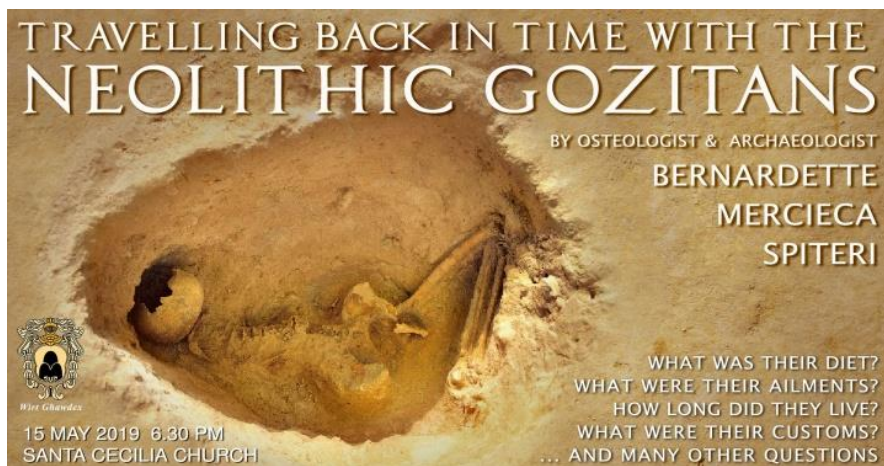
'Giorgia Borg' managed to become the darling of Maltese music in just over three minutes on Saturday night after a mesmerizing performance on Britain's Got Talent.

The Maltese singer, aged 10, stunned the judges to the extent that she even got the prestigious golden buzzer to automatically book a place in the

semi-finals. Singing an original song, that she wrote with singer/songwriter Muxu, Giorgia oozed confidence, overcoming her evident excitement when she first appeared before the judges.

But from her starting note, Giorgia captured the audience and the judges, including Simon Cowell who said: "I knew this was going to be a great day. This is amazing", before Alesha Dixon pressed the golden buzzer, which is just eligible to judges for five times during the entire season.

"You floored me, your lyrical capability, your vocal capability, you are 10 years old. This is unbelievable. You are a star," Dixon said. Giorgia, who had placed third in last year's Junior Eurovision, follows in the footsteps of Destiny and Anne Marie Borg, who had also succeeded in Britain's popular TV contest.



Neolithic Gozitans – is the next in the series of Wirt Ghawdex public lectures, during which osteologist and archaeologist Bernardette Mercieca Spiteri will reveal some intriguing details about the research being undertaken on ancient human bones that were discovered at the Xaghra Circle in Gozo.

What was their diet? What were their ailments? How long did they live? What were their customs?

These are just some of the questions that Bernardette Mercieca Spiteri will look at during the illustrated talk. Neolithic Gozitans, which will be delivered in English, is on Wednesday, the 15th of May, starting at 6.30pm in the Santa Cecilia Chapel. Wirt Ghawdex said that as seating is limited please make sure to reserve a seat on membership@wirtghawdex.org or by phone on 79771981.

Flavour in Din I-Art Helwa Bir Miftuħ music festival



Din I-Art Helwa is this year presenting the 23rd edition of the Bir Miftuħ Music Festival, which has established itself as one of the highlights of the cultural calendar. The beautiful chapel of Santa Marija ta' Bir Miftuħ, with its medieval archi-

tecture and frescoes, and perfect acoustics, provides a truly unique setting for these concerts.

The festival continues to develop its international flavour with the participation of outstanding musicians from Germany, Holland, France and Malta. This year's programme is as follows:

First concert Friday, May 3 at 7.30pm

Harp and soprano recital by Silke Aichhorn, harp, Christin Enke-Mollnar, soprano

Second concert Friday, May 24 at 7.30pm

Concert for Europe featuring a string quartet from the re:orchestra, formerly known as the Rotterdam Ensemble

Third concert Saturday, June 1 at 8pm

A violoncello and piano recital by 'The Modern Cello - Piano Duo' comprised of Daniel Sorour, violoncello and Clemens Kröger, piano

Fourth concert Saturday, June 8 at 7.30pm

'Promenade à Trois Voix' featuring Simona Marini, flute and percussion, Frédéric Martin, violin and lira da braccio, and Florian Villain, guitar and percussion.

For further information, contact Din I-Art Helwa office on 2122 5952/2122 0358. or send an e-mail to info@dinlarthelwa.org.

