



Malta and Australia 27

CONSULATE OF MALTA IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2014 FRANK L SCICLUNA - LINKING MALTA AND AUSTRALIA

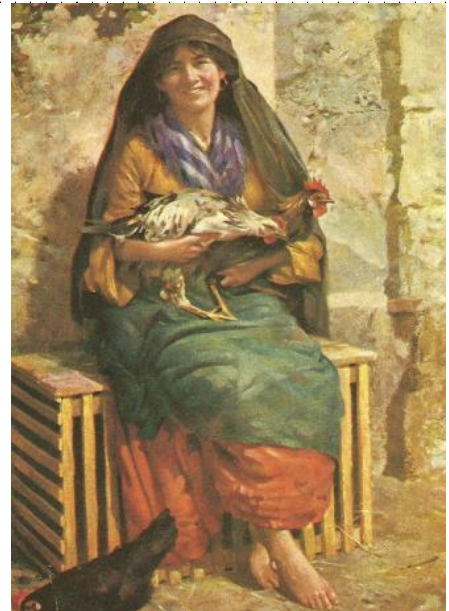
EMAIL: honconsul@live.com.au Website: www.ozmalta.page4.me



MALTESE FARMER



SELLING GOATS' MILK



THE CHICKEN HAWKER

From paintings of Chev. Edward Caruana Dingli (1876-1950)



Chev. Edward Caruana Dingli was born in Valletta, Malta of a family of artists in 1876. In 1898, he was commissioned in the Royal Malta Artillery. He studied art under the celebrated Guze Cali (1846-1930) and at the British Academy in Rome, Italy. He excelled himself as a painter of Maltese landscape and folklore.

Edward Caruana Dingli is the twentieth century painter many Maltese are likeliest to know by name and by fame, and some of his works have long attained iconic status. So highly regarded was he in his own lifetime that in the 1920s he was utilized by the officials responsible for the marketing of the fledgling tourist industry, and in fact the colourful images of Malta and of Maltese people he produced created what contemporary managers would call “branding” for Malta.

WE FULLY AGREE WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MALTESE CULTURAL INSTITUTE

Many Maltese are now resident in foreign countries, resulting in an urgent need for the promotion of Maltese culture in these countries. It is a fact that there is the potential of Maltese communities abroad to contribute positively to Maltese culture and the do our utmost to facilitate and encourage their active participation. This is one of the aims of this e-newsletter.

The National Cultural Policy launched last year includes a chapter dealing with International Cultural Cooperation. It emphasizes the potential for Malta to act as a creative hub in the centre of the Mediterranean. It is an aim to place Malta as an "attractive and contemporary creative centre in the Mediterranean region". It is proposed to establish a Maltese Cultural Institute, which will be strategically placed as an important element for our cultural and creative international presence.

We realise the importance of Malta as an "international platform where creative workers, local and international, can create and develop services that have a regional, European and global significance."

Apart from the list of 'present shortcomings', there is room for the strengthening of ties with the Maltese Diaspora and the role of individuals of high quality and enterprises that operate on international level and as such Malta can maximise on the fact that it already has Maltese creative workers on an international level.

One of the aims of the Maltese Cultural Institute is the development of a Scheme of Cultural Ambassadors that publicly acknowledges international achievements of Maltese artists and cultural workers.

It is expected that this Institute will be established through an agreement between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Environment. The success of this institute depends on the cooperation of these two ministries as well as the participation of other players in the field, including the Council of Maltese Living Abroad, public and private institutions, voluntary organisations locally and overseas and the Local Councils.

This is a summary of the aims of the Institute, namely of:

- providing effective governance for cultural diplomacy,
- coordinates annual allocations from a number of agencies and authorities so as to assist in the mobility of artists and other cultural workers and artistic works and collections of cultural heritage, whilst at the same time binding the allocation of these resources to cultural promotion programmes,
- ensures overseas promotion of Maltese culture with an emphasis on excellence and innovation, and
- consolidates the link between culture, tourism and diplomacy where synergy will result in economic benefits and the creation of jobs in Malta.

This is about strengthening the Maltese cultural, economic and political ties with other countries through an active dialogue and cultural cooperation. Cultural diplomacy shortens distances between countries, serving as a powerful tool in bringing nations closer, in bringing people closer together and building virtual bridges, to better understand and empathise with the other. Art and culture's language is universal and therefore it can reach where any other language fails.



CHINA CULTURAL CENTRE IN MALTA : 173 Melita Street, Valletta, VLT1127, Malta.



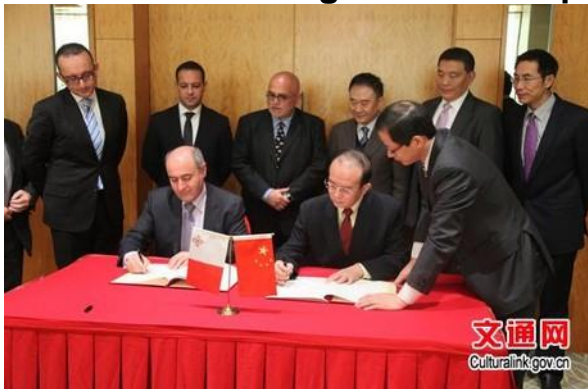
Gu Hongxing, Director of China Cultural Centre in Malta, welcomes you



2014 Happy Chinese New Year in Valletta

Under the patronage of the Parliamentary Secretariat for Culture and Local Government of Malta and the Embassy of the People's Republic of China, China Cultural Centre and Valletta Local Council will once again jointly hold the 2014 Happy Chinese New Year in Valletta to share the joy and happiness of the Year-of-Horse Spring Festival. The China Zhangjiajie Art Troupe consisting 30 outstanding artists will present spectacular Chinese art performance to our Maltese friends.

Malta and China sign Cultural Implementation plan³



China's Deputy Minister of Culture Ding Wei has met Malta's Culture Secretary Jose Herrera.

Deputy Minister Ding Wei recalled the strong support given by the Maltese government during the evacuation of Chinese citizens from Libya in 2011.

Under a joint initiative China established the first European Cultural Centre in Malta.

After the talks Deputy Minister Ding and Parliamentary Secretary Herrera signed the " Government of the People's Republic and the Government of the Republic of Malta 2014-2018 Cultural implementation plan ."

HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL – ALTONA – VICTORIA



Merħba; Maltese Exhibition at the Louis Joel Arts and Community Centre

MAYOR COUNCILLOR ANGELA ALTIER

Did you know that nearly 4.4 per cent of all Hobsons Bay residents have a Maltese ancestry, including just over 1,300 of Hobsons Bay's residents who were born in Malta?

Currently, Hobsons Bay City Council has two elected councillors of **Maltese origin**, including Mayor Cr Angela Altair, who was Australia's first Maltese-born female Mayor, and immediate past Mayor Cr Tony Briffa.

Cr Altair announced a special Maltese exhibition opening on 14th June to recognize this strong heritage.

The Merħba exhibition is a cultural display of the Mediterranean islands and has been put together by the Council in partnership with the Louis Joel Arts and Community Centre.

"Merħba is a celebration of the Maltese community; their stories and their photos," said the Mayor.

"Hobsons Bay residents can enjoy personal stories and photos of local Maltese people and their families, learn about the islands of Malta, the journeys to Australia, and the vibrant Maltese community in Hobsons Bay.

"We are probably unique in local government in Australia, in that we boast three past Mayors of Maltese origin, including Renee Caruana and my colleague Cr Briffa. It's fitting that the exhibition is being held in Altona, given the very large Maltese community that has settled here and I am proud that we are saluting one of our major and oldest ethnic groups."

Curated by Heather van Heerwaarden, the exhibition opens on Friday, 14th June from 6.30pm and runs until Friday, 28th June at the Louis Joel Arts and Community Centre. The gallery is open Monday to Thursday from 10.00am to 4.00pm and Friday to Sunday from 11.00am to 4.00pm.

There will also be Maltese storytelling sessions on Sunday, 16th June from 2.00pm to 3.00pm; Tuesday, 18th June from 11.00am to 12.00pm; and Sunday, 23rd June from 2.00pm to 3.00pm.

Merħba means welcome and is the second in a series of biannual cultural exhibitions presented by the Council in partnership with the Louis Joel Arts and Community Centre, following on from Anamnisis, stories of the Greek community, in 2011.



Merħba means Welcome

Did you know Maltese died alongside Aussie soldiers in the Great War? That thousands of our wounded ANZACs were hospitalised on the tiny Mediterranean island? Many ANZACs owed their lives to the kindly islanders who mobilised the entire island to treat the wounded from Gallipoli. In May 1916 one soldier telegraphed home: 'Wounded in foot, am in heaven in Malta.'

These fascinating facts come from an interesting book by historian Barry York (despite the name he has Maltese heritage) titled *Empire and Race: the Maltese in Australia 1881-1949. (NSWUP, 1990.)* The book traces Malta's long, and sometimes dark history in Australia, dating from the 1880s when Queensland's notorious 'blackbirders' turned to cheap Maltese labour to harvest sugar cane. Like all southern Europeans, early Maltese immigrants faced racism and discrimination, with an infamous incident where a boatload of Maltese labourers was turned away and forced to sail to Noumea.



Happily all this changed with the signing of the Assisted Passage agreement in 1948 (the first outside Britain) triggering a flood of Azzopardis, Micallefs and Fenechs landing at Station Pier to man the booming factories and dockyards of post-War Australia. Many made their home in Hobsons Bay, especially Altona and Williamstown.

On the left - My original passport photo with my parents. Another civic leader of Maltese heritage was local teacher Renee Caruana who was Mayor in 2004 Today people of Maltese birth or descent comprise one of our city's biggest migrant groups. High profile locals include Shaun Micallef in Williamstown, Borg's Cakes in Altona and Chevalier Joe Attard everywhere! Hobsons Bay City Council has had three Mayors of Maltese birth or descent including Councillor Tony Briffa and myself, arguably unique in

Australian local government. There's no doubt we Maltese have made our mark in Hobsons Bay. **The Merħba Exhibition** – it means welcome – opens this Friday at 6.30pm at Altona's Louis Joel Gallery and features photographs profiles and stories of the local Maltese community members. There will be story telling sessions and artifacts. Hope you can join me and Cr Briffa at the opening of this wonderful celebration of Maltese culture and history. Who knows I might even break into *ghana* (the gh is silent) the traditional Maltese folk singing!

A SAD DAY IN THE HISTORY OF MALTESE SETTLEMENT IN AUSTRALIA - 1980 **MALTESE GENTLE PRIEST BRUTALLY MURDERED**



Father George Scerri MSSP., was born on May 16, 1910, in Qormi, Malta, and registered as Francesco, second of six surviving sons of Carmelo Scerri, a shopkeeper, and his wife Vincenza Zerafa. Educated at St. Aloysius' College, Birkirkara, and St. Mark's Theological School, Rabat, he joined the Missionary Society of St. Paul in January 1929, and took the Religious Name of George. He was ordained to the Priesthood on April 2, 1938, and assigned to St. Joseph's Technical Institute, Ħamrun, a home for orphans and underprivileged children. While there, he ran a printing-press which published a daily Catholic newspaper.

Between 1958 and 1961, Father Scerri served as Chaplain on a number of ships which took thousands of Maltese migrants to Australia and Canada. Based in Canada from 1960 until 1962, from time to time he also attended to the spiritual needs of immigrants at London, Ontario, and Detroit, Michigan, United States of America. In 1963, through an arrangement between the MSSP and Cardinal Norman Gilroy, Archbishop of Sydney, Scerri arrived in Australia. He was sent to minister in East Sydney, a district known for its concentrations of newly arrived immigrants, crowded boarding houses, gambling dens and brothels. Next year he opened a small chapel in

a property purchased at Stanley Street and named De Piro House after the Society's founder, Monsignor Joseph De Piro.

Appointed Provincial of the MSSP in Australia in 1971, Scerri moved from Sydney to Melbourne. The Society had been established there in 1948, and the city was home to Australia's largest number of Maltese, with some 23,000 born in Malta. He had a major impact, not only as a priest who developed trust and respect, but as an individual who was determined to unify the Maltese community. The handsome and modern Centru Malti (Maltese Centre), built on MSSP premises in Royal Parade, Parkville, testified to his dedication towards this goal.

On July 13, 1980, Scerri was savagely assaulted in the society's residence, St. Mary's Mission House, Sydney Road, Brunswick, by a person or persons unknown, for a plastic wallet and just \$20 in cash. He died from his injuries on August 4, that year in Royal Melbourne Hospital and was buried in Melbourne General Cemetery. The death of 'Dun Ġorġ', as he was affectionately known, horrified and stunned the Maltese community and the public at large. His death was also reported in Malta, where a Requiem Mass was held.

Remembered as having a kind smile for everyone, Scerri was, at the time of his death, one of the most experienced of the MSSP's seventeen priests in Melbourne, Sydney and Perth. Like other members of the Society, he led a frugal life. He had the ability 'to listen and to offer advice'. Fr. Stanley Tomlin, the MSSP's Superior General in Malta, praised him as a man who 'never drove a car, and yet could be seen in any church, hospital and home at any time'. An obituary in the "Times of Malta" described his life as 'saintly and exemplary'.





Maltese Aged Care Association (SA) Inc.

ABN 71 724 767 571

Homestyle meals for the Maltese & wider Community



Friendship



Kitchen staff



Meals



Volunteers

Home Delivered Meals and Community Services

Phone: (08) 8241 0266
Fax: (08) 8241 0299
Email: reception@malteseagedcare.org.au
Website: www.malteseagedcare.org.au
Address
62 Stroud Street North CHELTENHAM SA 5014
Postal Address PO Box 6004 ALBERTON SA 5014

In recognition of the fact that the Maltese Community in South Australia is one of the fastest ageing within this State and that its particular needs, at the time of incorporation, are not being met within the wider community, the Association will, on a non-profit basis, research the specific needs of this community and facilitate and develop the provision for services and resources to meet such needs.

The Intent of Maltese Aged Care Association SA Inc:

Our organisation aims to develop services to meet the need of the elderly and disabled in the Maltese community. To further this aim we become involved in community service networks and activities that will assist in the development of these services and provide options for our clients. Our clientele consists of individuals and families from various backgrounds as well as the Maltese community.

Services provided: Meals - Home delivered and/or Pickup

Recent Accomplishments of Maltese Aged Care Association SA Inc:

Approximately 7 - 8 years ago, our organisation formed a partnership with the Adelaide Central Mission that enables us to offer Community Aged Care Packages to the Maltese elderly as part of their Multicultural Homecare Program.

The Maltese Meals service was developed approx 4 years to deliver Maltese meals to the elderly and disabled on a daily basis. The past year has seen the development of the Home & Community Care service. This service aims to provide volunteer support to meet various needs of our clients in their own home.

After years of negotiations with Port Adelaide Central Mission, we have been successful in securing a residential house for our clients who are in need of residential care. Melita House is situated at the Regency Green Aged Care Facility.

Current Activities of Maltese Aged Care Association SA Inc:

The Meals Service prepares approx 50 meals per day that volunteers deliver to each client at their home. Volunteers currently visit the elderly and provide companionship and religious services if requested in their own home and also to our clients in residential care.

We are currently planning an activities program that will involve recreational activities and bus trips for our clients and volunteers.

Participation in Maltese Aged Care Association SA Inc:

The group is open for everyone to join or participate in our work as a volunteer.



MALTA RUGBY LEAGUE ASSOCIATION (Australia)

VISION OF MALTA RUGBY LEAGUE ASSOCIATION

The Malta Rugby League Trust aims to support Malta Rugby League's mission "Promote and Develop Rugby League within the Maltese community". The MRL Trust will mobilise resources and generate initiatives to increase membership, enhance member involvement, expand missions, and stimulate new fields of activity for the Malta Rugby League.

MALTA RUGBY LEAGUE ASSOCIATION (Australia)

MRL Trust Association Profile

Australian links lie in the form of an MRL Trust based in NSW that enables the foundation to promote the legacy across Australia. The MRL Trust is governed by a group of 5 appointed Trustees. Volunteers give their time to provide a safe environment for members of all ages to participate in the sport of rugby league. The association fosters community spirit through hosting competitions and social events, and encouraging participants to develop their abilities.

Trustee Office Bearers: Mark Sultana, David Axisa, Veronica Vella, Daniela Grech and Bradley Clews .

Malta Rugby League is an Official Observer of the Rugby League European Federation (RLEF) and a member of the governmental Kunsill Malti għall-iSport (Malta Sports Council). The organisation was formed in 2008 following the merger of the now defunct Maltese Rugby League Association (formed in 2004 in Australia) and the local Kumitat Nazjonalni tar-Rugby League f'Malta (2006), in a move that was designed to homogenise Maltese rugby league's structure and further its European dimension.

Full European integration occurred in 2011 when the remaining Australian-based Directors resigned, paving the way for locals to take their place. The four-person Board oversees MRL policy, with an operations team in Malta & Gozo who are responsible for the day-to-day running of the sport. The Under-13s Academy team, launched in 2011, is one of four sections of rugby league played in Malta, alongside senior men's, women's, wheelchair and schools. In addition to its exemplary approach to equity and diversity, the MRL boasts strong media relations both domestically and internationally as well as a strong visibility of the sport throughout Maltese Islands.

Board of Directors: Anthony Micallef, Roderick Attard, Daniel Grima and Clifford Debattista. Board of Directors Contact: amicallef@malteserugbyleague.com



The Maltese Bowlers Social Group NSW, Australia, Inc.

The Maltese Bowlers Social Group NSW, Australia, Inc. was founded on the initiative of Moses Mifsud. The scope of the association was to create an opportunity for lawn bowlers of Maltese origin to get together on a regular basis to play and promote their sport in a friendly environment, socialise, make new friends and have a good time with bowlers of the same background.

On the 6th December 1998, nine Maltese-Australian bowlers met for their first official game at the Bexley Bowling Club and gave birth to this new Sydney based association. Thanks to those founding members and the great enthusiasm and continuous hard work of Moses Mifsud, the association developed and matured having been built on sound foundations.

The Maltese Bowlers of NSW, as they are known for short, made their first official home base at the Auburn Bowling Club in July 1999. A couple of years later, in June 2001, they were certified as an incorporated association by the Department of Fair Trading. After the closure of the Auburn Bowling Club, they moved to the present home base, the Rosehill Bowling Club, on the 1st of May 2005.

They organise monthly friendly games of lawn bowls at different NSW bowling clubs. Pairs and Triples championships are organized within the club every year and trophies are presented to the winners. At every game the bowlers wear the official club gear and the association's flag is flown. From time to time they hold social functions and day trips for their members and friends. Currently the club, that is managed by a committee of nine, averages 90 members of both genders who play at their respective registered bowling clubs in all grades and who, through their activities, uphold the Maltese culture, heritage and good standing in the community of which they are all very proud. They are also proud to belong to a well respected and well run association.

They are a combined member with The Royal NSW Bowling Association Inc. and support the Australian division of the Malta Lawn Bowls Association in its activities. The club is an active member of the Maltese Community Council of NSW.

They are honoured to have the Hon. John Aquilina MP, Leader of the House, as their Patron and greatly appreciate the assistance they receive from their major sponsor Breakaway Travel as well as from BCIB Insurance Brokers, The Maltese Herald and The Bank of Valletta. They also receive good publicity support from the Maltese language radio programmes broadcasted in Sydney on 2GLF, 2RRR and SBS.

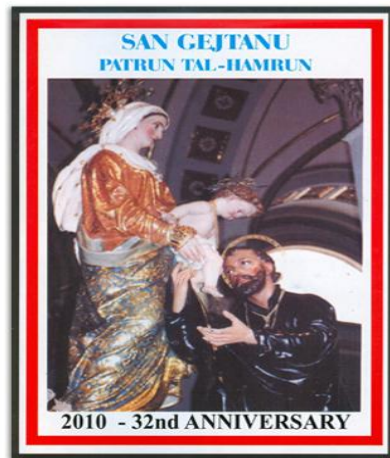
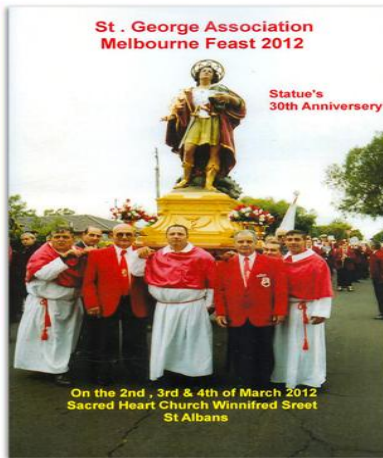
The Maltese Community in Victoria Australia *Written by Teresa Zammit*

– Tobin Brothers Funeral Planner

When I was a small girl in Australia, I grew up in Springvale and was brought up within the Maltese Community. Our involvement as a family within the Maltese Community has stemmed through generations. One of the main forces through the Maltese Community is the involvement of the **Missionary Society of St Paul** who originated in Malta and came to Australia to service the Maltese Community with the migration of many Maltese families in the 1950's.

With a great need, a non profit organisation which provided social, cultural, recreational and welfare support to its members was established in July 1958. This organisation is called the **Maltese Community Council of Victoria**. Within this organisation, many clubs were formed throughout Victoria. Many Maltese, when migrating to Australia, brought their own traditions and religious affiliations with them. Maltese families lived in villages/suburbs in Malta, and the main influence in each village was a Church base and patroned by a Saint. Families would celebrate the Saints feast day by week long festivities and groups were established to formulate these festivities.

So of course these traditions have been carried thought to their new found country. [Tobin Brothers Funerals](#) supports many of these Clubs in Australia, such as: **St Helena Maltese – Australian Social Club, Reskeon, St George and St Gaetan’s Society** to name a few. These clubs hold their own festivities every year, such as St George in March. The Missionary Society of St Paul has also been a big influence on my life and that of my families as my Uncle, Fr Pius Zammit who passed away some time ago after injuries in a car accident. So my association with the priest of this order has not only been professional but also personal. In recent times, support to the Clubs is given in the way of St. SHelena festivities last AugustHelena and St Gaetan in August advertisements and donations and attendance to festivities, where ever possible, such as my attendance at the.



Funerals and the Maltese Community

Traditionally in Malta, Rosaries were held in the family home and led by a family member. The following day the funeral would be held in the Church and family would walk to the nearest cemetery for burial, due to the heat in Malta and no cooling systems the funeral was held within 24 hours of the death. In Australia, time lines are different due to the facilities provided. Rosaries are held the night before the funeral and passing the house en route to the cemetery are not a Maltese tradition, but have inherited these from other cultures.

Rosaries held the night before was once thought that if mourners could not attend the funeral, they could at least attend the night before. More and more, Maltese families are now opting for the Rosary prior to the Mass and rather than passing the house families are opting for the hearse to depart from the family home to the funeral service. This option gives families the comfort that their loved one has come home for the



Our newsletter is featured regularly on <http://www.starsandstripesmalta.com/>

A very talented youngster - Oliver's Journal

Oliver was born in Pieta', Malta on the 19th of October 2004, (he will be 10 this year) moved with his parents to the south of England in December 2007, and then to Melbourne, Australia in January 2010.

He wrote his travel journal during the weeks leading up to his 8th birthday while holidaying in Malta during September / October 2012 with his adoring younger brother Alex, Italian-Australian mother Sandra and Maltese-Australian father Mark.

Most of Oliver's extended family on Mark's side, including his paternal great-grandmother, grandparents, great uncles & aunts and second cousins, live in Malta. They are loving, warm and very funny in a typical Maltese way. Yet what really sets them apart is their appetite for adventure, fun, and storytelling (especially as any of the aforementioned relate to the sea) - all of which capture a child's heart and imagination. As a result, Oliver and Alex have built very special relationships with their Maltese relatives (as well as several like-minded Maltese friends of the family) -



relationships which can happily lie rather dormant for extended periods when seventeen thousand kilometres (give or take) between Malta and Melbourne separates the family and friends, but relationships which immediately spark to life stronger than ever during each visit.

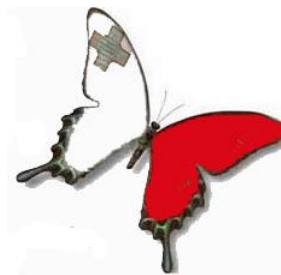
Of course the back-drop for all of this is Malta - the jewel in the centre of the Mediterranean - steeped in history, culture, colour, pageantry, flavour, texture and everything that makes this part of the world so special.

The original idea for Oliver's travel journal came from his year 2 teacher in Melbourne. The intention was that, while Oliver was away from class on holiday, he would email his class regularly describing what he was getting up to - a homework exercise. As the instalments were submitted from Nanna's (Grandma's) computer in Sliema, Malta and received seconds later on a computer at Oliver's school in Williamstown near



Melbourne, Australia, the journal began to take a life of its own: It prompted class studies about Malta, Maltese food, history, etc. Mothers and fathers of Oliver's school mates got to know not just what Oliver and his family were up to on the other side of the world, but, through their children, also started finding out 'facts' about Malta. Oliver's large Italian-Australian extended family in Australia soon got wind of it - they made copies, shared copies with others and it went on. At one point it seemed like the community was abuzz about this humble homework assignment - even Alex's kindergarten teacher heard about it, asked for a copy and printed it as a keepsake. Eventually, Oliver's and Alex's Nanna (Grandma) suggested that the MTA might be interested in publishing it for sharing with, well, anyone - and so, here it is.

<http://www.visitmalta.com/en/oliversjournal>



We thank all our readers from Malta, Gozo, Australia, United States, Canada, United Kingdom and Europe for their kind support. We appreciate your feedback, comments, contributions and suggestions on how we can improve our publication.

Promoting the Maltese Culture, history and heritage is our aim!!

CENTRAL COAST COMMUNITY RADIO



Viva
Malta



The voice of the Maltese on the Central Coast

Every second Thursday at 6:00pm Nathalie Gatt hosts Viva Malta

Nathalie will bring you Music by Australian Maltese artists and Maltese singers.

You can catch up on Community news pertaining to events organised by the Maltese Central Coast Social and Recreational Club and you won't miss out on any important news about events held in Sydney organised by the Maltese Community Council of NSW, Maltese Cultural Association of NSW and Maltese Welfare (NSW) Inc.

Listen to Interviews with Australian/Maltese people who make a difference in our community and some history about the Maltese Islands.

Viva Malta every second Thursday at 6:00pm, follow this program on our program guide.

Malta offers citizenship for 650,000 euros

Most Malta MPs have approved a plan to sell citizenship of the country for 650,000 euros. **Source:** AAP
MALTA'S parliament has voted to sell citizenship with practically no strings attached for 650,000 euros (\$A946,210) to help reduce the country's deficit.

The plan, approved on Wednesday, is expected to go into effect within a few weeks.

Opposition Nationalist Party MPs have vowed to repeal the law and revoke all citizenships sold if their party returns to power.

Prime Minister Joseph Muscat predicted that selling citizenship will bring 30 million euros into government coffers annually and help ease the country's deficit.



In Brussels, European Union spokesman Michele Cercone noted that Malta and other member states have full sovereignty to decide how and to whom they grant citizenship.

The European Court of Justice has on several occasions confirmed the principle of international law that it is for each member state to lay down the conditions for acquisition of its citizenship.

Anyone 18 or older will be able to become a citizen of Malta, which has a population of 418,000.

Due diligence will be given to applications, such as criminal background checks, but neither investment on the island nor residency will be required. Purchasers are entitled to buy Maltese passports for immediate relatives for 25,000 euros.

Maltese American From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

  Maltese American
Total population
Maltese 35,103 American 0.01% of the U.S population (2010)
Languages
<u>English, Maltese</u>
Religion
<u>Roman Catholicism</u>

Maltese Americans are Americans with ethnic origins in the southern European nation of Malta.

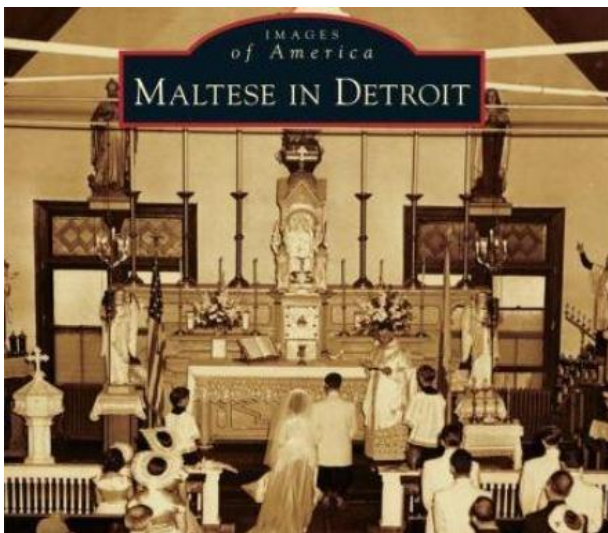
The first immigrants from Malta to the United States arrived in this country during the mid-eighteenth century to the city of New Orleans, Louisiana. Many Americans assumed Malta was part of Italy. In some cases "Born Malta, Italy" was put on tombstones of Maltese because of the confusion. However, at this time and in the nineteenth century the Maltese who emigrated to the United States were still scarce. In fact, in the 1860s, only between five and ten Maltese emigrated to the United States every year. The majority of them were agricultural workers, and, in the case of New Orleans, market gardeners and vegetable dealers. After World War I, in 1919, Maltese immigration to the US increased. Thus, just in the first quarter of 1920 more than 1,300 Maltese immigrated to the United States. Detroit, Michigan, with jobs in the expanding automobile industry, drew the largest share of immigrants. It is believed that in the following years, more than 15,000 Maltese people emigrated to the United States, later getting U.S. citizenship.



A significant percentage of early Maltese immigrants intended to stay only temporarily for work, but many settled in the US permanently. In addition to Detroit, other industrial cities such as New York City, Los Angeles, and San Francisco, California, attracted Maltese immigrants. Later, after World War II, the Maltese Government committed to pay passage costs to Maltese people who wanted to emigrate and live at least two years abroad. This program led to increased emigration by the people of the island and made up approximately 8,000 Maltese who arrived to the United States between the years 1947 and 1977. Also during this century, the island's government also promoted the Maltese emigration because the island was overpopulated. A Maltese community thrives in San Pedro and Long Beach.

The majority of Maltese immigrants arrived in the first half of the twentieth century, settling in cities like Detroit, New York City, San Francisco, Houston, and Chicago. The majority of Americans of Maltese descent now live in these five cities, particularly Detroit (approximately 44,000 Maltese) and New York City (more than 20,000 Maltese), the latter mostly concentrated in Astoria, Queens.

The 2010 American Community Survey estimated 35,103 Americans of Maltese ancestry.^[1] Of these, 24,202 have Maltese as their first ancestry. This includes Maltese born immigrants to the United States, their American born descendants as well as numerous immigrants from other nations of Maltese origin. As in their country of origin, Maltese Americans predominately practice Roman Catholicism as their religion. Many are practicing Catholics, attending church every week and actively participating in their local parishes.



American reporter writes book on Maltese in Detroit

American newspaper reporter documents emigration of Maltese to the Motor City!

Diane Gale Andreassi, a reporter for the South Lyon Herald, has published 'Maltese in Detroit', a book documenting the emigration of Maltese, to the US city known for its automobile industry.

Detroit is in fact home to one of the largest Maltese communities outside the country,.

Published by Arcadia Publishing in the Images of America series, the book is filled with pictures of early immigrants and introduces readers to settlers and current residents.

Pictures of Most Holy Trinity in Detroit and the Maltese clubs in Dearborn and Detroit offer a flavour of life among the Maltese today.

From 35,000-70,000 people of Maltese heritage live in the United States and the Detroit area has the largest concentration. In fact, it is one of the

largest Maltese populations in the world outside the Mediterranean.

"The response to the book has been overwhelming," said Andreassi, who was born in Detroit of parents who left their homeland to settle in the large Maltese-populated Corktown neighbourhood of Detroit. "It was wonderful to meet so many Maltese people and to learn about the pride they have in their heritage,"

The book illustrates the importance of the Roman Catholic church in Malta and among the Maltese immigrants in their new land. It introduces readers to the Maltese priests who were among the notable people who welcomed and helped acclimate the others as they arrived.

It took a year to assemble Maltese in Detroit, but it was a labour of love for Andreassi, who graduated from the University of Michigan-Dearborn with a double major in economics and English.

She started her career in journalism at the Dearborn Heights Leader and the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers as a reporter and a lifestyles editor before taking a leave to raise a family.

Andreassi has worked on countless free-lance stories for a number of publications, including Gale Research, working on encyclopedia entries, one of which was about Malta and its people.

She was active in Livonia's St. Colette religious education program for more than 10 years and worked as a substitute teacher and volunteer in Livonia Public Schools. Andreassi is an avid reader of books and newsprint.



FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF THE HEART OF JESUS AT LOCKLEYS – SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The Franciscan Sisters of the Heart of Jesus continue to gladly minister to the Local Church in Australia through the apostolic ministries entrusted to them by the Church and the Congregation and faithful to the words of their Foundress, the Servant of God, Mother Margherita make that the 'Love is loved' by all those they minister to.

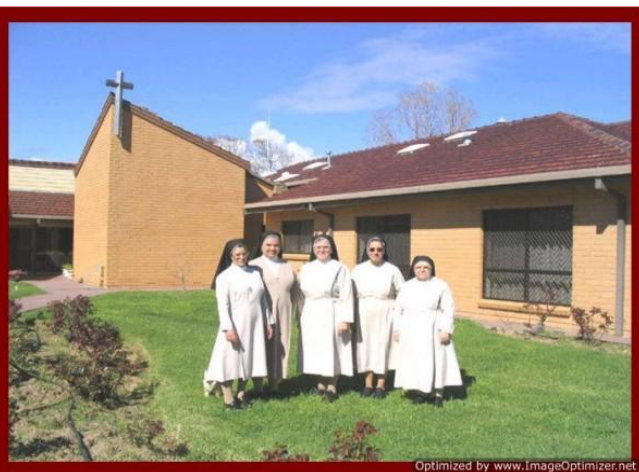
Our Community in Lockleys – "St. Raphael's Home"



Our mission at St. Raphael's Home for the Aged began in Fullarton, South Australia in 1971, but in 1987, the residents were transferred to a new location in Lockleys where a new Home was built together with a Convent for the Sisters by our Congregation.

The Community of our Sisters at St. Raphael's Convent consists of five Sisters who administer and look after the residents together with a staff of over twenty lay personnel.

St. Raphael's home strives for excellence in promoting, maintaining and restoring the holistic and optimum well-being of its thirty-three residents and staff. The law of Love guides their actions to provide high quality care in a peaceful, happy, safe and fulfilling environment for those who live, visit or work at St. Raphael's Home. The Chapel is available to all residents for prayers and reflections throughout the day. The Eucharist is celebrated everyday in the Chapel for which a good number of residents attends and the sacraments are performed to them on regular basis.



St. Raphael's Home for the Aged

2 Franciscan Avenue
Lockleys 5032
South Australia
Tel: 08-83536994



CANADA **Spiritual Beach for Little Malta**

Malta may be one of the world's smallest countries, but at one time Toronto was home to two different Maltese neighbourhoods: one in the Junction, and one downtown, near Dundas and McCaul.

Malta Bake Shop, Toronto, 2012 (photo © by Davina Choy).

When Maltese immigrants arrived in Toronto in the early 20th century, fleeing over-population and unemployment, many of them were unable to speak English. Although they were able to get by, they found themselves unable to take part in every aspect of their Catholic faith, as there were no Maltese-speaking priests who could hear their confessions. Several Maltese priests visited Toronto in the years between the world wars, and found themselves listening to several years' worth of confessions! These priests soon started the ball rolling towards establishing a Maltese church in Toronto.

St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church was established for the Maltese Catholic community in 1930, starting as a simple basement church. By the 1940s, the Junction had become the centre of Toronto's Maltese community and as immigration increased after the Second World War a larger church was needed. In 1956, a new building was erected, and a rectory and an auditorium added four years later. Franciscan fathers of the Province of Malta run the parish.

In recent years, the stretch of Dundas between Runnymede and Clendenan has been recognized on street signs as "Little Malta," and is one of the few Maltese neighbourhoods outside of Europe.

Shaun Micallef - Australian comedian retraces Maltese past

Orphan emigrant hears story of mother's wartime death on hit family tree show Australian comedian Shaun Micallef with Lydia Camilleri (first from right) and her two sisters at her house on Patrick Stuart Street, Gzira



Australian comedian Shaun Micallef's great fear upon embarking on Who Do You Think You Are?'s invitation to retrace his Maltese roots was that it would reveal very dull people.

The Australian press has now been saturated with what turned out to be the flipside to Micallef's low expectations: the famous broadcaster, comedian and author - not known to the Maltese TV audience - learns of his great, great, great grandfather Patrick in a former Turkish war hospital, his brush with Florence Nightingale and his involvement in the Crimean War.

Then he heads to Malta, for the first time in his 49-year existence, where he visits his father's childhood home in Gzira, uncovers the painful childhood of his father in World War II, and finds out his great-grandfather died in the Battle of Jutland in 1916 on the HMS Black Prince.

It's a great story. Because on his return home, Micallef rejoins his father Fred - whose silence on his childhood in wartime shelters was never discussed at home - in opening up about his past. "If I'd ever wondered why he wasn't particularly chatty about his own childhood and his father's life it certainly explained why, because his father was very similar," he told the Sydney Morning Herald. "I understand why he would have been a bit reticent to talk about what had happened because it was all very sad."

Micallef's story was a hit for SBS when it aired last week. The comments of so many Maltese migrants on the comments-board of the SBS website are a testament to the emotiveness the Second World War elicits in so many emigrant families. But for 72-year-old Doris Mifsud, his story hit home in the most unexpected of ways.

When Micallef visits his father's childhood home on Patrick Stuart street, in Gzira, next-door neighbour Lydia Camilleri is the only person on the street who remembers his grandmother Rosina. They bonded during the war, both their dads fighting overseas in the British forces. The intensity of the German bombing campaign left an indelible mark on the young

minds of children and teenagers waking up to the sounds of the sirens and being rushed to the nearest underground shelter.

On her rooftop, Lydia points towards a row of houses that were obliterated in a horrific New Year's Eve raid in 1942. One of the stories handed down to Shaun Micallef is when his father emerged from the shelter during an incessant round of German raids, to find a good part of the street's houses had been reduced to rubble.

As Lydia recounted the story to Micallef, her distinct reference to the death of a pregnant mother and the survivor - a three-year-old child saved from beneath the rubble of the houses - was being seen on TV by none other than Doris Mifsud herself in Melbourne.

Her pregnant mother Mary, whom Lydia mentions in her story to Micallef, died with her father who was home on leave from the army. Her sister was with an aunt that night - not in Patrick Stuart street - surviving the bombing. Doris was just three years old, one of the few survivors from the raid, when someone heard her crying and pulled her out of the rubble. A priest tried to save the baby inside her mother's womb by cutting the dead woman's stomach: the infant lived for just an hour.

Writing on the SBS comments board soon after the programme aired, Mifsud said that when she heard Lydia talking about a pregnant woman and the priest trying to save the baby, "I said 'God, that is my mother... my family had told me about it, but to hear it from someone who was there made it a reality.'"

"Growing up, my mother Doris heard the story Lydia recounted," Mifsud's daughter Monica told the SBS producers. "That her mum was pregnant, and after she was found dead a priest tried to save the baby by cutting him out of the womb. Apparently he survived less than an hour." Both Doris and Rosie were placed in an orphanage after the NYE bombing, but at the age of 12 they emigrated to Australia with their grandmother, and both have lived long and happy lives there. Doris had seven children and many grandchildren. "She watched the programme with us and she was incredibly moved. It's indescribable how much it meant to her that someone remembered her mother and the story. It was though it was made real," Monica said.

Maltese Traditional Instruments

The *çuqlajta*



The *çuqlajta* is an instrument which on the Maltese Islands has very strong associations with Holy Week. *Iċ-çuqlajta* encompasses a large number of different shapes and sizes of clappers and ratchets which produce their sound in different ways. Most are made totally of wood but a few are made of wood and metal or even out of *Arundo donax* reeds. One particular type of clapper has existed in Malta since Roman times and can still be seen in folk bands particularly in Gozo.

Il-qarn



Another early, natural instrument is the horn, *il-qarn* or *il-qrajna*. Horns have long had protective properties on the Maltese Islands and for this reason were often placed over farmhouse doors to protect the inhabitants from the 'evil eye' of strangers arriving at the house. Cattle horns were also used as sound instruments when blown through a reed or reed and pipe (hornpipe). Horns were particularly associated with Carnival, suggesting a previous connection with spring ritual.

The *bedbut*



Simple whistles are commonly made out of corn or wheat stems and the *Arundo donax* reeds (Maltese *qasab*). These are known as *il-bedbut*, *pl il-bdiebet*. They were often made and used by children and then unceremoniously discarded. The *bedbut*, a down-cut single reed is made out of the *Arundo donax* plant and is also used as part of other more complex instruments.

The žummara



Another very simple folk instrument is the mirliton or kazoo known in Malta as iż-žummara. This is made out of a section of Arundo donax reed into which a hole is drilled and on one end of which grease-proof paper is tied with string. One then hums a melody into the hole thus producing a rough raspy sound.

The flejguta



Malta's folk flute is known as il-flejguta. This is made out of a length of Arundo donax reed and is constructed on the principle of the penny whistle and recorder. It has a varying numbers of fingerholes.

The tanbur



The Maltese tambourine is known as it-tanbur in Malta and it-tamburlin in Gozo. It usually accompanies the bagpipe and other more recent instruments such as the accordion. The tanbur is made up of a round wooden brightly-coloured frame with a membrane tightly stretched on one side of it. It is known to have been of varying sizes, the largest reaching a diameter of about 60cm. It frequently has metal discs and pellet bells attached.

Iž-žaqq



The Maltese bagpipe, known as iż-žaqq, is particularly important because it is not exactly like any other bagpipe. However, there are certain similarities, most strikingly with the Greek tsambouna. The Maltese žaqq is made out of the skin of an animal – generally of prematurely-born calf, but also of goat or dog. The complete skin is used including all four legs and tail. The chanter (is-saqqafa) is made up of two pipes, one with five fingerholes (left) and another with one (right). The chanter terminates with one large cattle horn..



Chatting on the laptop

Catching up with modern technology

Somewhere in Gozo

RESEARCH ON MALTA'S MUSIC AND MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Many of Malta's folk instruments have unfortunately been silent for a number of years. However, Anna Borg Cardona has for several years been carrying out methodical fieldwork among the elderly people still recalling the instruments and has also been collecting documented and iconographic evidence. She has published results of her archival and field research on individual instruments in both Maltese and foreign journals. She has also reconstructed several of these instruments for use in performances of the Ġukulari Ensemble. Anna Borg Cardona is a member of the *Għaqda Maltija tal-Folklor* (Maltese Folklore Society), the Galpin Society, The American Musical Instrument Society and the Bagpipe Society, UK.



DAQQ, GHANA U ŻFIN MALTI

Il-Maltin, xejn inqas minn nies ta' pajjizi oħra, għandhom it-tradizzjonijiet muzikali tagħhom. Fil-ktejjeb DAQQ, GHANA u ŻFIN MALTI Anna Borg Cardona tiġbor ftit tagħrif fuq xi strumenti Maltin u fuq id-daqqqaqa, l-għana, u ż-żfin tradizzjonali. Hawn mill-istrumenti, d-daqq u l-għana li niltaqgħu magħhom f'dan il-ktieb jistgħu jinstemgħu fuq id-diska kompatta Doqqli Daqqa!

DAQQ, GHANA u ŻFIN MALTI (Maltese traditional instruments, song and dance), is Anna Borg Cardona's most recent book aimed primarily at the younger Maltese reader. With the constant aim of reviving folk instruments in mind, the author gives basic details on Malta's musical instruments, singing (*għana*) and traditional dance in a bright, colourful layout. The book is enhanced by references to tracks on the CD DOQQLI DAQQA.



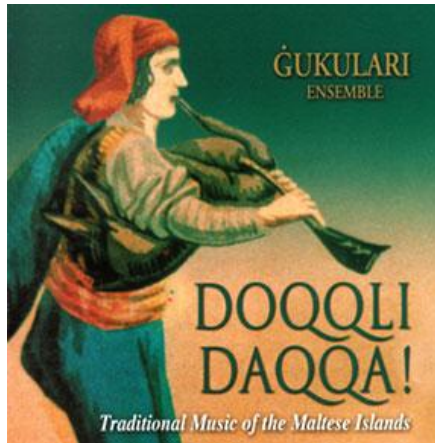
Australian/Maltese young people in Maltese costume from Adelaide – Australia
Participating in the Australia Day celebrations 2013

MALTA'S MUSICAL LEGACY



A Musical Legacy reveals some exciting new Malta-related music discovered in libraries in Italy, France and England. It includes the different types of music and dance of a cross-section of Malta's society. The book unveils some 40 new melodies, escorting the reader through masked balls at the Manoel Theatre, 17th century castanet dances of the town's people, Pilgrim's dances, as well as the lively airs and Carnival dances of the Maltese rustic folk. Of particular interest is a set of sumptuous 16th century *alla turca* dances created by the Knights of St. John - both dance steps and different versions of this music fortunately survive. The author has managed to gather together a rich inheritance of music for piano, harp, flute, baroque string quartet, and unspecified instruments. She has carried out detailed research on

each of the musical works giving profuse historical background information.



DOQQLI DAQQA (PLAY ME A TUNE)

This well-illustrated book, containing musical treasures dating from the 16th to the 19th century, should appeal to all Melitensia collectors, music lovers and dance enthusiasts alike.

The CD *Doqqli Daqqa!* (Play me a tune!) includes traditional songs and melodies of the Maltese Islands – some still commonly heard today, and others which have slipped out of recollection. The tracks, as performed by *The Ġukulari Ensemble*, contain seasonal music of Christmas, New Year and Carnival, melodies pertaining to travel and the sea, women's work songs, a wedding dance a lullaby and ballad melodies. Some melodies, songs and dances as well as certain musical instruments always return at the same time of year and remain typical of that particular period, suggesting their probable association with

bygone seasonal ritual. For further information regarding the books, music, research or the Ġukulari Ensemble, please use the contact details below.



The Ġukulari Ensemble was formed by Anna Borg Cardona in 2002, with the specific aim of recording music researched and published in the book *A Musical Legacy: Malta-related music found in foreign libraries*. The Ensemble has since continued to perform at various venues reviving music ranging from formal dances of the knights of St John to music of the Maltese town dwellers, lively airs of the humble folk, as well as ghanas melodies. The musicians generally perform in elegant 18th century costumes. The Ġukulari feel a firm commitment to the revival of Malta's music and musical instruments, all of which strengthen Malta's musical identity.

In 2005 the Ġukulari Ensemble went on to record a second CD of Maltese traditional music entitled *Doqqli Daqqa!* (Play me a tune!).

Mrs. Anna Borg Cardona

Address: 20, Ċiklamina, Triq il-Qarcilla, Ħal-Balzan, BZN 1633 Malta, **Telephone:** (00356) 21 496 485

Email: musicallegacy@hotmail.com

MALTESE IN GIBRALTAR

A **Maltese community** has existed in Gibraltar since shortly after its capture by an Anglo-Dutch fleet in 1704. Gibraltar, Malta and Cyprus were the three stepping stones whereby Great Britain controlled the Mediterranean and the vital route to the Suez Canal and thence to India. When the British conquered Gibraltar, the majority of the Spanish inhabitants fled and sought refuge principally in the nearby Spanish town of San Roque, leaving behind a garrison to be serviced by immigrants, mostly from Malta and Genoa. Immigration from neighboring Spanish towns soon followed giving the colony a very cosmopolitan population. Years of coexistence and intermarriage on the Rock soon led to a coalescence of Maltese, Italian

and Andalusian culture, preserving the Mediterranean and Catholic uniqueness of the colony despite centuries of British occupation.

Gibraltar prospered by the arrival of 19th century trade with North Africa and the presence of the Royal Navy. This prosperity attracted immigrants from neighbouring Mediterranean lands and in 1885 there were about 1,000 Maltese

people living on the Rock. Early in the 20th century the British undertook vast naval works and improvements to the existing fortifications of Gibraltar to make the colony practically impregnable. The naval base in Gibraltar was to prove its strategic value in the two world wars. It was only to be expected that, given the common cultural bond between Malta and Gibraltar, some Maltese would be lured by the prospect of lucrative employment there.

By 1912 the total number of Maltese living in Gibraltar was not above 700. Many worked in the dockyard and others operated businesses which were usually ancillary to the dockyard. However, the economy of Gibraltar was not capable of absorbing a large number of immigrants from Malta and by 1912 the number of Maltese was already in decline as they returned to the Maltese Islands. Eventually those who stayed in Gibraltar became very much involved in the economic and social life of the colony, most of them also being staunch supporters of links with Great Britain. The situation in Malta was very different, where a rising sense of nationalism resulted in the eventual establishment of the Maltese republic.

Keith Azzopardi QC, former leader of the Progressive Democratic Party and former Gibraltar Social Democrat Deputy Chief Minister.

Davina Barbara, TV presenter of the Gibraltar Broadcasting Corporation.

Charles Caruana CBE, former Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Gibraltar.

Peter Caruana QC, former Chief Minister of Gibraltar.

Georgina Cassar, rhythmic gymnast and 2012 Olympian for Team GB.

Gerard Teuma, TV and presenter *head of radio* of the Gibraltar Broadcasting Corporation



RSL MALTESE SUB-BRANCH - SOUTH AUSTRALIA
1968 FIRST COMMITTEE
LEFT TO RIGHT: JA. VELLA, G. PISCOPO, L. ZAMMIT, J DEFELICE
FOUNDERS - C. SACCO AND C. FARRUGIA



The Catholic Church of Christ the King was officially blessed on September 3, 1961 and on the same land the Franciscan Fathers built St. Francis Primary School and was opened in 1966. Adjoining the friary the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus started running St. Raphael's Home for the Aged in 1987. The first Parish priest was Father Giles Ferriggi OFM and the parish was served for several years by Maltese priests. Malta's national feast "IL-Vitorja" Our Lady Queen of Victories is held in this church every year and is organized by the Maltese Chaplain Father Gabriel Micallef and the Chaplaincy Festivities Group and is well attended by associations and members of the Maltese community of Adelaide.



TRADITIONAL CHILDHOOD GAMES

Bank of Valletta has produced its third calendar in a series that captures times past... and judging by interest shown in these calendars, nostalgia is a powerful magnet.

BOV launched the nostalgia series two years ago when it focussed on old trades, many of which are dying out. It followed it up last year with a look at the musicians who used to play in Strait Street's mecca of bars, taking them back to the old Splendid Guest House to recapture the glorious past.



This year's calendar, brainchild of the bank's marketing team who worked in collaboration with JP Advertising and photographer Joe P. Smith to take a look at the toys and games that formed part of childhood many years ago.

This simple concept plunged the team into a complex project, involving research into the subject matter, a large number of extras including elderly people from one of the residential homes, props from a toy museum, and of course, historical accuracy. Some of the toys came from private collections or from people who had been treasuring these toys since their childhood days.

BOV commissioned well-known historian Guido Lanfranco to provide details of the toys and games.



"The toys were very simple – pieces of rope, wooden slats, stones and beads – but there is a lot more to toys than just the item itself. For example, hopscotch represents the nine months of pregnancy," Guido Lanfranco explained.

"In spite of the simplicity of the toys, we could not find everything we needed and had to improvise in some cases. For example, children used to blow bubbles through a length of macaroni but you don't get long pasta tubes, so we used rolled up copybooks," Mr Lanfranco added.



The calendar cleverly juxtaposes young children with elderly people who would have had first-hand memories of the toys. Photographer Joe P. Smith also staged the photos in locations that could easily have come out of post-war Malta – whether unspoiled alleys in village cores, or open air fields, all of which capture the times when children could play outdoors without the fear of traffic and without the distractions of computers.

"The photos were taken in September, that wonderful month when children are still enjoying the summer holidays, when friendships are forged for life, and the long days are filled with freedom and fun. "For me, the look on the face of the elderly people we used for the

photos say so much about the memories they had of those times..." Mr Smith said.

BOV has made two videos about the making of the calendar and brief information about each game narrated by Guido Lanfranco, which are both available on the bank's YouTube channel, accessible via its website www.bov.com, or via its BOV Club Facebook page.

Žibeg Various games could be played, where children would compete for beads dealt out by every individual player. The most common game involves making a shallow depression in the ground (ħofra) into which beads are flicked using the fingers. In some games the colours of the beads have different values.

Karretta u Skuter Like most pre-war toys, these were home made. A set of three or four metal ball-bearing wheels were needed for the cart. The rider controlled the steering block with slim ropes. The scooter used two or three wheels, was pushed by one foot which also pressed on a wooden, hinged flap over the hind wheels to act as a brake.

Boċċi Several varieties and forms of games are possible with marbles. Before the advent of glass marbles, children made do with hazelnuts. Pre-war Codd-Stoppered ginger bottles had a plain glass marble as a stopper and children often broke bottles to get it out.

Habel Girls play with skipping ropes individually or in groups. In one popular game a girl calls out a series of possible attributes of an imaginary future husband as she skips and, when the rope hits her legs, she stops on the word assumed to predict the type of husband she would have.

Tajra The traditional basic model is made from thin, light, coloured paper stretched over thin strips of cane disposed in a bow and arrow position. The paper used to be glued with starch or flour heated in a little water. The fancy tail is added for stability.

Taż-Žiemel Two boys play at horse and rider, one acting as the horse the other as the rider, exchanging roles at intervals. Children enjoyed making the reins themselves, weaving odd, discarded, coloured cotton-wool using pins on a wooden reel. Horse and rider couples often race each other.

Passju The rough diagram with nine, numbered compartments scratched on the ground represents the nine months of pregnancy, with the ninth month section drawn with a bulge. Girls cast a stone from the starting point, hop towards it, to trip it on to the next number. Completing the set results in 'having a baby'.

Ċirku Any hoop, of any size, free from spokes and hubs, used to be seen frequently trundled along the ground with the help of a piece of wire bent at one end to guide the rim of the hoop. Boys usually played on their own but sometimes hoop races were organised for the extra thrill.

Bżiežaġ tas-Sapun These provided a pastime for all ages. A good mixture of soap in water blown slowly through a short length of cane tube produced beautiful, colourful bubbles. Commoner than the cane is a page from an old exercise book rolled, taped and trimmed into a tube.

Žugraga To spin a wooden top children wound a string several times around it and learned to throw it sharply while holding on to the end of the string. This made the top spin for a short while. Humming tops could be readily bought but others were home-made from wood, hollowed out and started with a string.

Pupa Mothers of most pre-war girls could not afford the luxury of buying dolls but made rag dolls from odd pieces of cloth and cotton-wool. Girls played 'mother' with rag dolls and often recruited a boy to join them as the 'father' normally to be ignored, uninvolved or scolded.

Bombos This popular game could be played in several styles but all involve a boy at the front, well bent forward, whilst the other vaults over him, using his hands, in leap frog fashion. The game continues by alternating leaps and bends. Sometimes two groups run parallel to race each other.

Xixu A small length of wood (formerly used to be an odd wooden bobbin or reel) is placed on a rigid edge on the ground and with a stick or rod is hit sharply on one end to make it fly as high as possible into the air.

Australian heatwave: Adelaide becomes world's hottest city



16-18 January 2014 Heatwave brings fires, blackouts, health dangers as Adelaide becomes world's hottest city.

Fire authorities in Victoria and South Australia have issued warnings over several out-of-control bushfires as heatwave conditions persist in south-eastern Australia.

The states are bearing the brunt of near-record heat. Adelaide was confirmed as the hottest city in the world by the Bureau of Meteorology soon after midday and the mercury sat at 43.5 degrees Celsius at one point this afternoon.

It was forecast to reach 46C. Melbourne is facing its longest run of 40C days since 1908, when there were five straight days recorded.

Victorian fire authorities have issued warnings over two out-of-control bushfires burning near the Grampians National Park and one in the Big Desert National Park near Telopea Downs.

Hundreds of firefighters have been deployed along with eight water-bombing planes to the Grampians fires, while residents have been advised to leave their homes immediately.

One of four students at St. Paul's School are foreigners

25.1% of the students attending St. Paul's Primary School are foreigners, posing challenges to educators.



Educators in Malta believe that there is a huge stigma in state schools.

Jerome Caruana Cilia

The social, cultural and ethnical changes in St. Paul's Bay are well-known. However, statistics might still be quite astonishing.

Illum revealed official statistics from the Ministry for Education, which stated that 25.1% of the students attending St. Paul's Primary School, within Maria Regina College, are foreigners. From a total of 838 students, 628 are Maltese, whilst 210 are foreigners.

Sources who spoke with illum, said that there are also a lot of foreigner students in the Gzira Primary school. As a matter of fact, from a total of 174 students, 138 are Maltese and 36 are foreigners. This implies that 20.7% of the total students in the Gzira Primary school are foreigners.

These statistics pose a greater challenge to all those that operate within the education sector.

Sister newspaper Illum also investigated the stigma state schools still face. "Church schools built a certain tradition due to the common entrance exam, which used to filter and enrol the best students in academic terms. If state schools face a stigma, this is very unjust. However, state schools offer the same level of education as church and private schools" the MUT President said.

A 24 year old state school teacher who spoke to Illum and insisted that stigma still exists in state schools.

"I believe that there is a huge stigma. It might be perceived because families of a certain economic background send their children to private schools, whilst in state schools one finds students with different backgrounds. However, this doesn't imply that students who go to private schools are academically better than state school students."



My name is Carol Brown (nee Mercieca) and I am a first generation Maltese. I am very passionate about all things Maltese, the food, culture and history, are all very close to my heart. I believe you are the contact for the Maltese RSL. I am bringing a little bit of Malta and other European delicacies to Adelaide.

I was born in Sydney to Maltese parents and have lived in South Australia since 1982. I am constantly frustrated at not being able to buy Gbienjet (cheeses, both plain and pepper), Zalzett (sausage), Kunzerva (tomato paste), Pastizzi (pastries filled with ricotta etc), Kinnie (soft drink), etc and the list continues. My grandparents and the family migrated to Australia in 1956 and taught me so much about the importance of food in our culture. I have fond memories of my grandmother always at the stove cooking for her 7 children and grandchildren.

So, I have taken matters into my own hands and am now making these foods available to the public in good old Adelaide. I love meeting new people and Sliema Foods is really bringing out all the Maltese in our community. I use Maltese suppliers from Sydney so now we don't have to miss out. I only use the best suppliers. Taste and the use of quality ingredients are paramount. I encourage you to browse through my product list, and please feel free to contact via mobile (0413024932) or Facebook if you have any questions. I do not have a shop, but I am happy to deliver. I speak Maltese fluently so, if your family members do not speak English it is not a problem. I look forward to hearing from you.

GATO'S PASTIZZI:

Ricotta	600gms (12)	\$ 5.70
Ricotta & Spinach	600gms (12)	\$ 5.70
Pea & Beef	600gms (12)	\$ 5.70
Curry Beef	600gms (12)	\$ 6.40
Mushy Peas	600gms (12)	\$ 5.40
Chili Con Carne	600gms (12)	\$ 6.70
Chicken & Mushroom	600gms (12)	\$ 6.70
Chicken & Vegetable	600gms (12)	\$ 6.40

RAVJUL (RAVIOLI)

Ricotta Ravjul	500gms	\$ 5.20
Ricotta Ravjul	1kg	\$ 9.50

GBEJNIET (PEPPER CHEESE):

4 x pack		\$ 7.90
2 x pack		\$ 4.00

ZALZETT (ZAMMIT'S MALTESE SAUSAGE):

1 kg packs		\$16.00
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KINNIE & KINNIE LIGHT:

24 x carton		\$38.00
12 x carton		\$19.00

TRADITIONAL DELIGHTS BISCUITS:

GALETTI (Water Cracker)	250 – 260gms	\$5.00
MQARET (Date Filled Diamonds)	250 – 260gms	\$6.00
PASTI TAL LEWZ (Almond Biscuit)	4 pack	\$5.80
QAGHAQ TAL GHASEL (Treacle Rings)	4 pack	\$5.50
BISKUTTINI TAL LEWZ (Almond Biscuit)	200 – 220gms	\$6.00
BISKUTTINI TAR RAHAL (Village Biscuit)	255 – 265gms	\$5.50
QAGHAQ TAL GULGLIEN (Sesame Rings)	255 – 265gms	\$5.00
COCONUT MACAROON	250 – 255gms	\$5.20

YOU CAN CHECK SLIEMA FOODS OUT ON FACEBOOK!

