



# Maltese e-Newsletter

The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora



Editor: Frank L Scicluna OAM MQR JP

Email: [maltesejournal@gmail.com](mailto:maltesejournal@gmail.com)



H.E. Charles Muscat  
Malta High Commissioner  
and Denise Demicoli  
Deputy  
High Commissioner

MALTA at the National Multicultural Festival in Canberra  
22 February 2020



*Joseph Vella*



Dr LYNN

Miss St. Julians  
Hannah Giacchino  
wins Miss Malta 2020



MALTA  
WOMEN'S  
SQUAD  
for  
EURO 2021

Photo: Joe Borg



St. Paul The Apostle Parish  
**MISSION GROUP**  
**MALTESE-CANADIAN  
COMMUNITY NEWS**



### MALTA ANZACS HELD A BEYOND GALLIPOLI FUNDRAISING DINNER DANCE

On Saturday 29 February 2020 At the Sicilia Social and Sports Club – Klemzig, South Australia

An excellent function attended by over 180 people. It was organised by John Calleja and several volunteers. Parliamentarians, Knights of Malta, Army and Navy representatives, businesspeople and members of the Maltese community participated in this event. Frank Scicluna, the Honorary Consul for Malta in South Australia was the guest speaker. He gave the history of the Nurse of the Mediterranean in WW1. Mr. Calleja's project is the organisation of a regatta at the Valletta's Grand Harbour on Anzac Day 2021.



His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd) Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

*Left – The Message of the Governor-General*

### THE ANZAC MEMORIAL AT THE BOTANIC GARDENS FLORIANA - MALTA

Friendships formed during service are special and enduring. Tonight's function highlights the friendship formed during World War I between Australia, New Zealand and Malta. The function will help raise awareness of the role played by Malta during the war as a haven for 58,000 wounded and sick allied soldiers and of an upcoming event to honour the island's status as 'Nurse Island of the Mediterranean'. On Anzac Day 2021, rowing boats and not hospital ships will grace Malta's Grand Harbour. Crews from Australia, New Zealand and Malta will compete in an under-18 regatta. The staging of a sporting event on water in honour of those who served is significant for two reasons. First, the hundreds of nurses and doctors whose lives were also at risk were housed in hospital ships moored off the coast of Malta. Second, after the signing of the Armistice in 1918, battle-worn Anzacs were eager to return home. Many sought solace in sport as part of repatriation activities undertaken at the end of the war. I commend the organisations involved in both events for recognising all those who served in and who supported the Allied war effort. I am sure the regatta will be well received by their respective descendants.

Lest we forget.  






## THE KNIGHTS OF MALTA The Auberge d'Italie VALLETTA

The Auberge d'Italie is one of the finest buildings in Valletta. This Auberge has a symmetrical façade, is rectangular in plan, and is surrounded by streets on three sides - Merchant's Street, its main entrance, as well as Zachary Street, and Melita Street. It housed the Italian langue, composed of seven Grand Pories; Rome, Lombardy, Venice, Barletta, Capua, Pisa and Messina. The Auberge d'Italie, residence of the Italian Knights, was among the first to be

built. The Italian langue was quite prominent mostly because of the geographical proximity between Malta and Italy, as well as because of the Presence of the Pope, who at the time, wielded considerable political and economical power.

The current Auberge d'Italie was the second structure so-named to be built, since the first one was constructed in 1570 and was situated in Saint George Square, in Valletta. This was found to be too small in size and was integrated into another building a year later. The second, and current, Auberge was built in Strada San Giacomo, now Merchant's Street, under the direction of architect Girolamo Cassar. Construction started in 1574 – the plan comprised a central courtyard around which rooms and halls were to be built. In 1576, the Italian langue began erecting its own chapel within the Auberge, as well. Originally the Auberge had only one storey, however the Knights decided to enlarge the building further in 1582, adding a second one. Cassar built the Auberge in his typical Mannerist style, however he varied the design of the corner rustications, as well as the mezzanine window frames, to reflect typical features of Italian renaissance architecture. In 1680, the whole façade on the side of Merchant's Street was remodelled by Mederico Blondel, though features of Cassar's rustications, as well as the cornice, were retained.

The pilier or Chief of the Italian Knights was traditionally the Grand Admiral of the Order of the Knights of Saint John, commanding the fleet, the arsenals, the naval officers, the troops, the crews, and all maritime affairs.

As with most buildings in Valletta, the Auberge d'Italie had various occupants after the departure of the Knights in 1798. When the French occupied the islands, it became the French Military Command. Under the British administration, it was utilised as a Corps Headquarters, as well as an Officers' Mess until the 1920's, when it started to house Malta's Museum of Archaeology. During World War II, the Auberge was severely damaged, and after the war a significant part of the building had to be reconstructed. In 1956 the Auberge was being used by the Department of Museums as a School of Art, while in 1971, extensive works were carried out to accommodate the Posts and Telephones Department. Since then, it has also housed the Water and Electricity Department, the Agricultural Department, and the Central Office of Statistics.

The Auberge d'Italie comprises the Offices of the Maltese Ministry for Tourism. Parts of it are sporadically open to the public, as Maltese and international artists use its courtyard as well as a number of other spaces to mount exhibits and artworks. Melisande Aquilina





**STQARRIJA GHALL-ISTAMPA –  
KURJA – ARCIDJOCESI TA’  
MALTA  
KOR FL-OKKAŻJONI TAŻ-ŻJARA  
TAL-PAPA FRANĠISKU  
F’MALTA**

Bi tnejnija għall-Vjaġġ Appostoliku tal-Papa Franġisku f’Malta ser jitwaqqaf kor biex

janima Quddiesa li ser issir fuq il-Fosos tal-Furjana nhar Ghid il-Flamsin, il-Ħadd 31 ta’ Mejju 2020.

Il-kor ser ikun iffurmat minn tfal u

adulti, u ser ikun taħt it-tmexxija ta’ Mro Christopher Muscat, Maestro di Cappella tal-Katidral Metropolitan u Direttur Mużikali tal-Arcidjoċesi ta’ Malta. Tfal u adolexxenti bejn id-9 u l-14-il sena għandhom japplikaw għall-kor tat-tfal filwaqt li dawk minn 15-il sena ’l fuq japplikaw mal-adulti. Għalkemm mhuwiex neċessarju, tagħrif bażiku fil-qari tal-mużika jitqies ta’ vantaġġ.

Il-Kumitat Organizzattiv Interdjoċesan taż-żjara tal-Papa Franġisku jhegġeġ lil dawk kollha interessati biex japplikaw fuq [papafrangisku.mt/kor](http://papafrangisku.mt/kor).

L-auditions tat-tfal ser isiru nhar il-Ġimgħa 13 ta’ Marzu waranofsinhar, u l-għada s-Sibt filgħodu, 14 ta’ Marzu.

L-auditions tal-adulti ser isiru nhar il-Ġimgħa 20 ta’ Marzu waranofsinhar, u l-għada s-Sibt filgħodu, 21 ta’ Marzu. L-applikanti ser jiġu avżati bil-ħin tal-auditions li ser isiru fil-Kurja tal-Arcisqof, il-Furjana.



The Gozo Cultural Events Fund Scheme worth €250,000 has been launched by Minister for Gozo Clint Camilleri

The Minister said that this amount will come from a € 900,000 fund which is earmarked for cultural activities and initiatives organised by the Ministry for Gozo.

The Gozo Cultural Events Fund is a Ministry for Gozo measure for community-led creative and artistic activities in Gozo. It provides the opportunity for the development of artistic

projects led by the community for the community, while celebrating cultural diversity, the Minister said.

“The fund is looking to co-finance projects which encourage active cultural participation, promote local talent and boost the community’s creative expression or appreciation of its identity,” he said.

The Objectives of the Gozo Cultural Events fund are: • To enhance Gozo’s Cultural Calendar. • To support creative and innovative initiatives in Gozo by individuals and organisations with the objective of promoting Gozo through its tangible and intangible cultural heritage. • To promote cultural understanding in a diverse society. • To encourage active participation of local communities in the culture and arts sector.

The Director of Culture John Xuereb said that the applicants may be voluntary organisations, independent individual, or group, entities and local councils who wish to put up some cultural activity. The applicant must also be a Maltese citizen and have a permanent address in Gozo.

The Minister for Gozo Clint Camilleri thanked the Directorate of Culture for their dedication in organising these activities.



### QUDDIESA BIL-MALTI F'LOCKLEYS GHALL-KOMUNITA' MALTIJA T'ADELAIDE

Nixtiequ infakrukom li il-Fladd 8 ta' Marzu, ghandna il-quddiesa bil - Malti gewwa Lockleys fit- 3.00 pm. Nghamlukom premura mill ikbar biex taghmlu kull sforz li biex tattendu u ninghaqdu flimkien biex nuru kemm ghandna bżonn il -Kappillan Malti hawn maghna, biex jaqдина fil-bżonnijiet pastorali taghna il-Maltin ta Adelaide.

Bl'attendenza taghna nuru ukoll l-apprezzament taghna lill Fr.Alfred Farrugija, talli qieghed jigi jaghmel din il-quddiesa ghalina u barra minn hekk nuru ukoll lill-parocca ta' Lockleys li aħna il Maltin konna ll-pijoniri ta din il – parocca u ghadna nixtiequ inkomplu l-użanza kattolika taghna gewwa din il-parocca kif dejjem ghamilna matul is-snin mill-1949.

Mela ħbieb, nitlobkom b'qalbi kolla biex taghmlu kull mezz u tiġu u iġġibu lill kull kull minn tistaw maghkom biex nuru is-solidarjeta fix-xewqa taghna li jkollna l- Kappillan Malti maghna u nżommu t-tradizzjonijiet Maltin tal-fidi taghna. Ejjew il-lum ghal quddiesa tat tlieta gewwa Lockleys, u wara il quddiesa ikun hemm kikkra Te jew Kafe fill hall tal-Parocca. Ron Borg



### IL-VIA SAGRA BIL-KANT MALTI FI GREYSTANES NSW

L-Għaqda Kulturali Maltija ta' NSW se ttella l-Via Sagra bil-Malti miktubha min Frank Zammit, nhar il-Gimgha 27 ta' Marzu fis-7 ta' filghaxija fil-Knisja t'Our Lady Queen of Peace, Old Prospect Road, Greystanes. Iċ-ċelebrant principali se jkun Frank Zammit. Il-Via Sagra se tkun animata mil-Kor tal-Għada Kulturali Maltija, u wara kullhadd huwa mistieden għal-kikkra te jew kafe fis-sala ta' San

George Preca. Għal aktar informazzjoni ċemplu lil-Charles Mifsud fuq 0421 662 298. Tony Pace-Feraud for the Maltese Cultural Association of NSW



### GEORGE CROSS COMMUNITY CENTRE – CRINGILA – NSW FUNCTION NIGHT SATURDAY 23 MAY WITH CHARLIE CAMILLERI CELEBRATING 15 YEARS OF PROGRESS

Our community is celebrating 15 years of progress when the Illawarra Maltese Community decided that this Centre will become alive again and the front runner with programs to serve the whole of the Community, rather than just selling pastizzi and Kinnie!!! Come and celebrate this great achievement with us. Tickets are limited so do not wait so that you will not be disappointed !! only \$25.00!!! on

Saturday 23 May 2020.

This centre manages a Maltese Language School, Men's Shed, luncheons for the whole family and other entertainment. The centre is like a mini museum and there are also Maltese plaques depicting the history of Malta and also the history of Maltese migration to this region. Louis Parnis, the president of the Maltese George Cross Falcons Community Centre at Cringila was interviewed by Lindsay on Tuesday 3 March on 97.3 ABC Illawarra, NSW. Louis spoke about his migration story from Malta to Australia and about the history of Maltese immigrants especially to the Wollongong region and the successes of the Maltese Centre at Cringila. Louis also hosts his own Maltese program *Voice of Valetta* on 106.9 Vox FM. Everyone can listen to this magnificent program via live streaming at [www.voxfm.org.au](http://www.voxfm.org.au) **WELL DONE**



Louis Parnis

## Seasonal Philately @ Il-Ħaġar

The Gozo Philatelic Society has set up a new exhibit in their showcase on level -1 at Il-Ħaġar (Pjazza San Ġorġ - Victoria) – related to these special liturgical and religious weeks.

“Lent to Easter” offers an international assortment of stamps and covers featuring art connected with the Passion and Resurrection, as well as vintage Easter cards – mostly colorized.

This exhibition can be viewed – together with other temporary exhibitions - during normal opening hours of 9am-5pm seven days a week. There is no entrance fee.

## Filatelija Staġjonali fil-ĦAĠAR

Il-*Gozo Philatelic Society* irrangat wirja ġdida fil-*vetrina* li għandha fil-livell -1 tal-ĦAĠAR (Pjazza San Ġorġ - Victoria) – konnessa ma’ dawn il-*ġimġhat* speċjali, liturġiċi u reliġjużi.

“*Mir-Randan għall-Għid*” toffri assortiment internazzjonali ta’ bolli, b’*enfasi* fuq arti turi l-*Passjoni* u r-*Reżurrezzjoni*, flimkien ma’ kartolini tal-*Għid* minn xi seklu ilu – il-*biċċa* l-*kbira* mogħtija l-*kulur* bl-*idejn*.

Tistgħu żżuru din l-*esibizzjoni* – flimkien ma’ diversi oħrajn temporanji fil-*ħinijiet* normali tad-9am sal-5pm sebat ijiem fil-*ġimġha*. M’hemmx ħlas tad-*dħul*.



## **Watch: Hannah Giacchino wins Miss Malta 2020**

Miss St Julians 2020 Hannah Giacchino is now Miss Malta 2020 after she was crowned the new queen at last night’s Grand Final at MFCC.

Giacchino will now represent Malta in the prestigious Miss Earth 2020 pageant held later this year.

Miss Giacchino succeeds 2019’s Miss Malta Alexia Tabone who was present at last night’s event to crown the new queen. Miss Sliema Natalya Galdes came in at a close second which earned her the title of Miss Republic of Malta 2020. She was followed by Miss Qrendi Amanda Bezzine who won the title of Miss Tourism Malta 2020.



## DrLYNN releases new single 'Treading on Eggshells'

DrLYNN has released her new single – 'Treading on Eggshells'- Music by Lynn Faure and lyrics by Richard Rogers.

The Singer won the Malta Song for Europe in 2003 and represented Malta in the Eurovision Song Contest in

Latvia with the Song 'To Dream Again'.

DrLYNN composed this song in 2006, the year when she decided to embark on a life-long learning journey which so far has exceeded her expectations. She believes that personal growth is the key to overcome the seemingly difficult obstacles.

At that time, she was struggling to reach a balance between her commitments as a television presenter and executive producer of a daily educational programme which went on for a couple of years and was broadcast live on National TV and Education Channel.

In the meantime, DrLYNN was also committed as a resident pianist/singer in various local entertainment establishments and hotels. In 2006, she met Richard Rogers, with whom she co-wrote 'Treading on Eggshells'. The lyrics of this song were inspired by the way Lynn had described herself and her Eurovision experience to the writer, which conversation instantly transposed into lyrics. Incidentally, she had already an original piece of music in mind which she had composed on the piano. Instantly, the music and lyrics turned out to be the perfect combination for the song which was later titled as 'Treading on Eggshells'.

By time, DrLYNN understood the validity of her feelings. Even though she went through many difficulties in her life and had to take multiple

decisions on her own, the overwhelming spiritual driving force was fundamental for her to face reality. Ultimately, she never gave up on her dreams and sought to make every one of them come true.

*"I would not have liked anyone else to carry the burden of my decisions, especially when I was faced with difficulties and challenges which were too heavy for me to carry on my own, but I did"*, stated Dr LYNN.

In a nutshell, the lyrics claim that it's hard to walk into someone else's shoes. Some would become bitter even though it is likely that after a while they would not like such a taste. The song provides the effects of an intense moment in time and the inability of an individual to sleep at night with the consequence that the day becomes hard to face. Only a few can appreciate pain when it becomes unbearable. Life would equate to a bitter pill when the road ahead is too steep and during such hard times, hope is the only way forward. There is no point in looking back!

DrLYNN concludes with an affirmation - *'No more treading on Eggshells, no Kiss and Tells, I made it on My Own'* with the aim to encourage others going through difficult times in life and motivate them to have faith. Alongside to her musical talent, DrLYNN is a practising advocate specialising in Child Protection matters and Children's Rights.

Who would have thought back in 2006 that the writer's reference to the law in the song would motivate Lynn to pursue the law course at the University of Malta in 2009!

Among musicians, DrLYNN is better known for her raw and heart-warming musical style, having the ability to impress her audience with the emotional and unique strength of her vocals.

You are encouraged to grab a copy of 'Treading on Eggshells' single by sending an email to [drlynnmalta@gmail.com](mailto:drlynnmalta@gmail.com)

For more information about DrLYNN you are invited to visit her facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/DrLYNN.mt/>

**SUCCESS WHEN WORKING TOGETHER**

## Il-PBS bi ftehim mar-RAI li jiftaħ il-bibien għal tiżni fit-taħriġ tal-ħaddiema

Il-Public Broadcasting Services (PBS) u Radiotelevisione Italiana (RAI) saħnew il-kooperazzjoni ta' ħidma bejniethom fil-qasam tax-xandir permezz ta' ffirmar ta' Memorandum ta' Qbil li sar f'Ruma. Dan ġie ffirmat miċ-Chairperson tal-Bord tad-Diretturi tal-PBS, Tonio Portuguese, u mill-Kap Eżekuttiv tar-RAI, Fabrizio Salini. Iċ-ċerimonja saret fis-sede amministrativa tar-RAI waqt laqgħa li fiha ħadu sehem il-Ministru fl-Uffiċċju tal-Prim Ministru, li fost l-oħrajn huwa responsabbli mix-xandir nazzjonali, Carmelo Abela, u l-President tar-RAI, Marcello Foa.

Il-Ftehim jiftaħ il-bibien għal programmi ta' kooperazzjoni fl-oqsma tat-televiżjoni, tar-radju, u tal-internet, li jkunu jinkludu l-partecipazzjoni ta' ġurnalisti Maltin fl-iskola tal-ġurnalizmu tar-RAI f'Perugia; kooperazzjoni fit-taħriġ professjonali fis-settur tal-komunikazzjoni lill-ħaddiema tal-PBS, skambju ta' produzzjonijiet televiżivi u tar-radju; u sehem f'esebizzjonijiet bi produzzjonijiet u dokumentarji f'attivitajiet speċjali organizzati mir-RAI.

Wara l-iffirmar tal-ftehim, id-delegazzjoni Maltija f'Ruma, immexxija mill-Ministru Carmelo Abela u akkumpanjata minn Dr Portuguese u l-Kap Eżekuttiv tal-PBS Charles Dalli, ġew mistiedna jżuru l-facilitajiet u l-istudios fiċ-ċentru prinċipali tar-RAI ta' Saxa Rubra waqt ix-xandir live tal-aħbarijiet u programmi televiżivi popolari ta' matul il-jum. Huma iltaqgħu mat-tim tat-tmexxija, mal-ġurnalisti u mal-ekwipaġġ tekniku fejn qasmu informazzjoni fuq il-metodi ta' ħidma.

Il-Ministru Abela semma l-importanza li Malta u l-Italja jaħdmu aktar flimkien fuq diversi temi u issa anke fejn tidhol il-kwalita' tax-xandir u fuq kif il-PBS, permezz ta' kollaborazzjoni fil-livell nazzjonali u anki internazzjonali, jista' jsaħhaħ dan flimkien mat-taħriġ tal-istaff tal-PBS. Qal kif wara produzzjonijiet ta' livell għoli bħalma joffri l-istazzjon tar-RAI ikun hemm ħafna ħila, ħin, u xogħol. Saħaq li permezz ta' din il-kooperazzjoni l-ħiliet tal-istaff tal-PBS se jkomplu jitrawmu permezz tal-ħiliet u l-esperjenza ta' dawk li jaħdmu mar-RAI.



l-Chairman tal-PBS, Tonio Portuguese, stqarr li dan il-ftehim jirrikonoxxi snin ta' kollaborazzjoni bejn ix-xandir pubbliku ta' Malta u tal-Italja, żewġ pajjiżi b'għanijiet komuni fi ħdan il-European Broadcasting Union. Huwa radd ħajr lil Simona Martorelli, Direttriċi Internazzjonali tar-RAI, u lill-Kap Eżekuttiv tal-PBS, Charles Dalli, għat-tweqqig tal-programm strateġiku, kif ukoll lill-Ministru Carmelo Abela għal kemm jemmen fil-PBS.

Wara l-impenji mar-RAI, il-Ministru Carmelo Abela kellu laqgħa mal-Kardinal Peter Turkson, Prefett tad-Dikasteru għall-Promozzjoni tal-Iżvilupp Integrali tal-bniedem fi ħdan is-Santa Sede. Fil-kapaċità tiegħu ta' Ministru responsabbli mill-Iżvilupp Sostenibbli, huwa qasam mal-Kardinal Turkson ideat dwar l-aħjar prattiki b'rabta' mal-għanijiet għall-iżvilupp sostenibbli tan-Nazzjonijiet Magħquda, li huma wkoll marbuta mal-kooperazzjoni ma' pajjiżi li qed jiżviluppaw. Fost it-temi diskussa, tkellmu dwar l-ekonomija soċjali sostenibbli; twemmin soċjali li jara l-iżvilupp fis-soċjeta' ta' integrazzjoni f'kull tip ta' relazzjoni, valuri morali u soċjali fin-negożju u fl-ekonomija, l-ekonomija ċirkulari li tpoġġi l-valur ta' kull ħaddiem u tnaqqis ta' inugwaljanza fiċ-ċentru tagħha. Huwa kien akkumpanjat mill-Konsulent Ekkleżjastiku Onorarju Fr. Edmond Caruana.

Bħala l-Ministru responsabbli mid-djalogu soċjali, il-Ministru Abela kellu mbagħad laqgħa bilaterali mal-Ministru tax-Xogħol u l-Politika Soċjali tal-Italja, Nunzia Catalfo. Huma ddiskutew, fost l-oħrajn, kif il-pajjiżi jistgħu jinkoraġġixxu iżjed partecipazzjoni tal-mara fis-suq tax-xogħol, il-futur tal-ħolqien ta' impjegi fid-dawl tal-ħolqien ta' prodotti teknoloġiċi ġodda li qed iġibu bidla kbira fil-mod ta' kif isiru ċertu prattiki fil-ħajja ta' kuljum. Il-Ministru Abela qasam magħha wkoll il-ħidma tal-Gvern Malti fuq il-miżura tal-manifest elettorali ta' *ħlas indaqs għal xogħol ta' valur indaqs u l-gender pay gap*. la Muscat.



## Celebrating Maltese culture

Oct, 2019

Written by Rachel Bailey

[Victoria Aged Care](#) » [Sydenham](#)

The Maltese community is continually growing at Arcare Sydenham.

Due to the large number of Maltese clients residing at Arcare Sydenham, the lifestyle team decided to find a way to support and celebrate the Maltese heritage of clients.

A Maltese club was initially formed at Arcare Sydenham, for clients to come together to communicate in their native language, enjoy some traditional Maltese foods and music. When the group was first formed, only a few clients attended, with many being reluctant to become involved and take a step out of their comfort zone. Family members were soon informed about the group, and many felt inspired to become actively involved themselves. Many family members started coming along to the Maltese group's activities to encourage their own loved one to become involved. After visiting one or two times, a handful of family members even started to permanently volunteer their time to run the Maltese group.



The group now meets on a fortnightly basis to share stories, play games, enjoy sweets and embrace Malta.

In September, clients from the Arcare Burnside community were invited to join Arcare Sydenham's Maltese group for an afternoon of delicious food, bingo and traditional music.

Around fifteen Maltese clients from both residence came together for the afternoon. Surprisingly several of the clients already knew one another, with some even being close friends.

Josie and Maria have been friends for a number of years, however over time, the pair had lost touch with one another. Maria currently resides at Arcare Sydenham and Josie at Arcare Burnside. Neither knew about the other being in aged care, and they couldn't believe that they were reconnecting at Arcare's Maltese group, of all places!

*"We have known each other since forever,"* Maria said, *"I can't remember how long ago we met; it's been that long!"* Instead of engaging in the game of bingo the ladies took better use of their time together by catching up. The pair chatted to each other in Maltese throughout the afternoon, often speaking over the Bingo caller, not caring what numbers were being called or who was winning; their relationship was more important.

*"We used to be a part of the same community group, many many years ago,"* Maria clarified, *"That's how we know each other... we used to be very close."* Hugs and kisses were shared, as they reminisced about their past and enjoyed each other's company. The clients enjoyed playing several rounds of bingo, with some of numbers even being called out in Maltese.

Arcare Burnside's lifestyle coordinator, Alex said *"Bingo is always one of our clients' favourite games to play, no matter if it's called in English or Maltese."* After everyone had finished playing bingo, some traditional Maltese songs were played to get everyone up and dancing.

Family members lovingly dancing around the room with their loved ones, who appreciated the comforting sounds of home. Everyone enjoyed dancing and clapping along to traditional rhythm and beat of Malta.

*"It is very rewarding to run a group such as this,"* One volunteer said, *"You can really see the impact, that reconnecting to [Maltese] tradition and culture has on the clients."*

## THE MALTA GARDEN AT MACKAY, QUEENSLAND

### AUSTRALIA

*The Malta Garden is the first of five themed gardens and precincts within the Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens that pay homage to the cultural heritage of Mackay.*



Photo: 'Maltese' Arch, Mackay Botanic Gardens.

*Immigrants from the islands of Malta in the Mediterranean came to Australia in their thousands after Australian Federation in 1901, to seek a better life. Many settled in the then small city of Mackay primarily to work in the sugar industry, harvesting sugar cane by hand. Today, Mackay boasts the largest population of Maltese immigrants and descendants in an Australian regional centre.*

*The garden features several iconic and interpretative themes to represent Malta. A stylised aqueduct or viaduct - a system of bridges and channels primarily used to transport water, is represented here in stone and metal and is based on several impressive solid stone structures that can still be seen today in Malta built in both Roman and recent history. A sand Bocce Court represents a vanishing style of the popular ball game that was traditionally played on sand, which many people around the world today play on grass.*

*Malta has experienced thousands of years of trade and invasion and flora from around the world has been brought to and flourished in the sunny, dry climate. This garden features plants that originates in arid and semi-arid climes, or are drought tolerant, that will grow in Mackay's wetter climate.*

*Special and usual plants include:*

*Carob Tree – Ceratonia silaqua – used today as a coffee or chocolate substitute, this tree from northern Africa and the Mediterranean also has special significance in biblical and modern day agricultural uses in Malta.*

*Ruby Saltbush - Enchylaena tomentosa var. tomentosa – the orange fruited form of this Australian native succulent has silver leaves and is taller than coastal varieties. Ruby Saltbush often grows in harsh locations such as intertidal zones and mangrove fringes as well as inland salt lakes and marshes. Like many plants important to the peoples of Malta – the small fruit is edible.*

*Desert Rose - Adenium obesum - a perennial succulent from Arabia's semi-arid regions and tropical Africa that has a distinctive fleshy, bottle-shaped trunk and beautiful flowers. Desert Rose is related to Frangipani and Oleander and makes an excellent pot plant.*

*Bismarck Palm – Bismarckia nobilis – a striking palm from Madagascar with large silver-grey fan shaped leaves. This palm suits dryer, exposed conditions in warm climates.*

*This is an 'unfinished' garden that will in future also feature traditional stone walls, shade structures and a rockery with more unusual Australian native and exotic succulents.*



## CEKCIK OUR STORY

**Cekiċ** is a Maltese word having multiple meanings, mostly referring to knick-knacks or loose and random stuff. It also means a rattling or clinging sound. The name is pronounced as *check-cheek* and is an onomatopoeia, meaning that the sound of the word resembles the sound it describes.

It all started with a chance encounter, an opportunity and a calculated risk that saw our little family set up a small portable stall selling incense, fabrics and small articles of furniture from India at a number of locally organised events. It set us on the path of meeting a wide spectrum of people who were genuinely enthusiastic about the products we were offering.

Our little business grew and we felt that the time had come to set up a shop - a little corner where we could really show off what had

caught our fancy. And where better to do that than in the magnificent capital city of Valletta with its grandiose buildings, its narrow side streets and colourful inhabitants?



So we found a charming spot steeped in four hundred years of history in Melita Street, a veritable cave of treasures showcasing an abundance of original local architectural features creating the ideal backdrop to our eclectic range of products.

We love cute and functional things and we are sure that there is a little something at **Cekiċ** for everyone's taste.

Don't just take our word for it... come over and check out all that **Cekiċ** can offer you for yourself.

My husband and I popped into this fabulous shop on a whim and are so glad we did. If you love vintage and one-of-a-kind items or are looking for just the right gift for someone special, this is a great place

to spend some time. The well edited and thoughtfully curated selection of useful, beautiful objects includes vintage Italian leather handbags, colorful hand-painted ceramics (the little bowls are great for holding jewelry), beautiful glass mosaic lamps, little coin purses, unique clothing designs, jewelry, vintage Maltese soda bottles, and even a selection of antique radios and cameras. There truly is something for everyone in this little jewel box of a shop. Don't forget to check out the fabulous exposed stone walls and arches ... the architecture adds to the experience! Last but not least, the owner is a genuinely friendly person with a great eye for color and design.

## President to meet Queen during official visit to United Kingdom



President George Vella will be meeting Queen Elizabeth during a four-day official visit to the UK, which started this week.

They will be meeting her in Buckingham Palace and will also visit Prince Charles in Clarence House.

The President, who is accompanied by Mrs Vella, will be addressing a conference on the current challenges of security in the Mediterranean region.

He will also visit Maltese patients currently in London for treatment, and who are staying with Franciscan and Augustinian sisters or in apartments run by the Puttinu Cares organisation. Dolores Cristina will be acting president while Vella is away.



# Wardija Punic Temple, Gozo

Martina Brtnicka | Photo Blogger

[www.maltatina.com](http://www.maltatina.com)

Thinking of visiting Gozo but wondering if there is something to do? At the end of the day the island is only 14km long and 7km wide, but I can promise you there is an endless list of activities and places to visit.

I've spent quite a few days in Gozo in the last month showing around my visiting friends and family. Taking them to familiar places as well as on discovery hikes, when no one know what's behind the corner. Luckily I'm surrounded by like-minded people who don't mind getting lost and discovering new places. 😊

This time I got a recommendation to visit the Wardija Punic Temple in Gozo. I wasn't really sure what to expect or how to get there, but me and my two girlfriends were in adventurous mood.

We drove as long as we could on this bumpy off road, with a pretty nice views along the way and stopped just next to the San Raflu Lake also know as L-Ghadira ta Sarraflu. This pond is the only natural 'large' waterhole on the island. The fresh water supports miniature ecosystem of plant life and about dozen of ducks. It is quite a nice surprise to see this tiny lake in the middle of nowhere!

Our next stop is the Wardija Punic Temple. After checking Google Maps, we knew where to go, but weren't really sure what's the best way to get there. We opted for the pathway that the map was suggesting. There were pretty nice views of the countryside on the way. On couple of occasions we had to take a detour as we ended up in a private property, but eventually we joined the pathway right on the edge of the cliffs and managed to reach the temple.

The Wardija Punic Temple is located on the Ras il-Wardija promontory in the limits of San Lawrenz, on the southwest coast of Gozo. The views of Dwejra, Fungus Rock and the nearby cliffs are absolutely astonishing! I've visited Dwejra countless times, but I don't think I ever appreciated the beauty of that area as much as I did now!

And here we are! I remember being in the area before, but I never actually reached the temple. So what's this Wardija Punic Temple anyway? The historians suggest that the area of Ras il-Wardija was probably first inhabited in the Bronze Age, in around 1500 BC. In the 3rd century BC during the Punic period, a religious complex, the Wardija Temple, was established in the area.

This Punic sanctuary was first excavated by Italian archaeologists from the Missione Archaeologica Italiana a Malta (Archaeological Mission of Malta) between 1964 and 1967. The area around Ras il-Wardija was also used for defensive purposes during World War II.

The Wardija Punic Temple consists of a rock-hewn chamber, a water reservoir and a bell-shaped well as you can see in the pictures. It is a very interesting places to visit with a great historical importance and let's not forget the views!

However this sanctuary is located on a private land (surprise, surprise) and according to VisitGozo website you have to contact the owner prior your visit.

I would highly recommend to visit this site. It is a bit of a walk, but who doesn't like to escape the every day busyness and enjoy some peace and quite accompanied with great views along the way. Plus look at the gorgeous natural creations all around me. Great place to just sit down for a moment and enjoy the beauty around you and the magical energy.





## Watch: Survey shows that 41% of Maltese are concerned that Malta is overpopulated

Despite their small size, the Maltese islands attracted a number of rulers during the centuries. Among others, their central

geographic position was an important factor.

During [‘TVAM’](#), sociologist Dr Maria Brown stated that the Maltese island are still popular, especially due to the climate, job opportunities, the good economic situation and the fact that Malta is a European Union member state which in itself facilitates mobility.

During the same programme, Dr Vincent Marmara, a University lecturer, spoke about a recent survey he made and asked what are the most issues that worry the Maltese. Among others, the survey showed that 41% of Maltese are concerned about the fact that Malta is overpopulated.

Dr Marmara added that in a period of 10 years – between 2008 to 2018 – Malta’s population increased by some 82,000 people. His study indicates that in 2008 there were some 16,000 foreigners which increased to around 83,000 within 10 years.



## MALTESE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF VICTORIA participating in this year's Moomba Parade!

**Proud to be Maltese... you should be.**

Come and join us as we join the Moomba Parade celebrating the Maltese culture. Only a slow 4km walk, dressed in costume which will be provided. Participants must be over the age of 10 years old. Grab your family, friends, neighbours and join us... the more the merrier.  
**Saturday, 07 March from 2.30pm to 5pm** Parade Rehearsal at Melbourne Grammar School  
**Monday, 09 March from 8am to 1pm** Moomba Parade from Melbourne Grammar School  
 For further information or if you wish to register your interest, please contact us or phone our office on **9387 8922**.

### MCCV NEWS Nursing Home Visitation Program



*Antonia, a resident and Joe Camilleri*

On Friday the 7th of February 2020, the MALTESE Community Council of Victoria Vice President, Antonia Camilleri together with her husband Joe Camilleri answered a call by the St Bernadette nursing home in North Sunshine, Victoria to visit an elderly Maltese resident. The resident was finding it difficult to settle in and was experiencing isolation. The activities coordinator, Kerry Goral, asked the MCCV if someone could visit to keep the Maltese cultural link alive. The elderly gentleman was delighted to have company and Antonia and Joe also assisted him by making a call to his son. While visiting St Bernadette's Antonia and Joe met other Maltese residents and even came across an old friend.

St Bernadette's is looking for Maltese volunteers to regularly visit the Maltese residents. Antonia and Joe visit about 4 nursing homes in the Western Suburbs every 2 months. They often take out Maltese snacks, music and books. Residents in nursing homes really enjoy the company and the opportunity to speak Maltese.

We need more volunteers like Antonia and Joe to assist with these visits across Victoria, so if anyone is interested we would be happy to provide training and resources to assist

Contact the MCCV on **03 9387 8922** or email [admin@mccv.org.au](mailto:admin@mccv.org.au).



### Lovin Daily Is Here And These Are The Five Biggest Stories We Covered This Week!



By [Julian Bonnici](#)

Last week, Lovin Malta launched its very own daily morning show, which looks to bring you the latest news and opinions on the Maltese islands in bite-sized chunks. Airing every day from Monday to Friday at 10am, each episode has covered the most important news items you need to be following.

With five episodes out already, here are some of the biggest stories you might have missed.

<https://lovinmalta.com>



**MALTA IN CANADA 🍁 Malta Street, Toronto**  
 Did you know that in the Birchcliffe-cliffside suburb of Toronto one can find a street, named, 'Malta Street'. Here it is.



**NEWS FROM THE CONSULATE-GENERAL**

The Consul General attends the celebration marking Japanese Emperor's Birthday  
 The Consul General of Malta to Canada attended and represented [Malta](#) at the big celebrations organised by the Consulate General of [Japan to Canada](#) to mark the [Birthday](#) of the [Emperor](#) of Japan 皇 Naruhito.  
 The celebrations included traditional Japanese group performance, official speeches and [Japanese](#) foods from the Japanese 店 Restaurants in [Toronto](#). Former Honourary Consul General of Malta 米 Milo and Rita Vassallo were also present.  
 Dr Xerri had a brief chat with Japanese 店 Consul General in Canada, Takako Ito and her husband

Claude Ito.

**Thanks for sending me the Maltese Journal – and for your hard work on this great reading and connecting with Maltese Culture! I am passing this on to colleagues at work with Maltese Heritage for their interest. Sincerely, Peter Burke (Born in Malta to Maltese Mother and English Father lived as a child mainly in Moe Victoria so good to hear about the Maltese Museum in Morwell!) – March 2020**



**CELEBRATING INFLUENTIAL MALTESE WOMEN 29/02/2020**

We say ‘Thank you’ to the MMG Concert Band of Victoria for putting on a great lunch so we could hear from 4 vibrant Maltese women. Not only did we hear their wonderful journeys in life but met old friends and made new ones. George Cross Soccer Club put on a great lunch in an award winning venue. Feeling proud to be Maltese.



**Gatt names squad for Women’s EURO qualifier against Georgia**

Mar 2, 2020

Posted in: [www.mfa.com.mt](http://www.mfa.com.mt)

**General UEFA Women's EURO 2021 Qualifiers**

Malta will face Georgia and Bosnia & Herzegovina in their next UEFA Women's EURO 2021 qualifiers.

Malta women’s coach Mark Gatt has named a squad of 20 players for the UEFA Women's EURO 2021 qualifying match against Georgia. The Maltese girls host Georgia this Thursday before taking on Bosnia & Herzegovina the

following Tuesday (March 10), both matches being played at the Centenary Stadium (kick-off: 18.30).

For his team's first qualifier of 2020, Gatt has kept faith with most of the players who were part of the squad for the last two Group B qualifiers – against Israel at home and away to Italy. Captain Dorianne Theuma, of Swieqi United, is one of the experienced players selected by coach Gatt as she closes in on becoming the first player to reach 100 caps with the women's team. Theuma has made 98 appearances so far.

Gatt's squad includes a host of foreign-based players, including Rachel Cuschieri of PSV Vrouwen, Sunderland Ladies' Maria Farrugia, Emma Lipman (Florentia San Gimignano) and Martina Borg (Sassari Torres). However, Gatt can't rely on three important players for Thursday's commitment as Nicole Sciberras, who plays for the youth team of Juventus, Pink Bari's Shona Zammit and Ylenia Carabott, of Chievo Fortitudo, are not available for the Georgia match. The trio may rejoin the squad for the second qualifier against Bosnia & Herzegovina.

BOV Women's League leaders Birkirkara are the most represented club in the Malta women's squad with six players selected.

Gatt has awarded a first call-up in this qualifying campaign to young forward Haley Bugeja, one of five Mġarr United players in the squad. Bugeja scored her first international goal in the 2-1 friendly defeat to Turkey last January.

Before their game against Turkey, Malta played Switzerland in another warm-up match which also formed part of their preparations for the March qualifiers. Against the Swiss, ranked 19th in the world, Malta came from behind twice with goals from Stephania Farrugia and Carabott to earn a hard-fought 2-2 draw.

Meanwhile, Malta opened their account in Group B of the UEFA Women's EURO 2021 qualifiers following a 1-1 home draw against Israel last November with Maria Farrugia netting Malta's goal in the first half.

Georgia are still without a point in these qualifiers after losing their opening five games in this group. Bosnia, for their part, opened their campaign with two straight wins over Georgia (7-1) and Malta (2-0) and also defeated Israel 3-1 in their last group outing in November. They have suffered identical 2-0 defeats to Denmark and Italy.

#### **MALTA WOMEN'S SQUAD**

**GOALKEEPERS** Janice Xuereb (Birkirkara); Jodie Attard (Raiders Għargħur); Patricia Ebejer (Mġarr United).

**DEFENDERS** Stephania Farrugia, Ann-Marie Said, Alishia Sultana (all Birkirkara); Emma Lipman (Florentia San Gimignano, Italy); Charlene Zammit (Swieqi United).

**MIDFIELDERS** Gabriella Zahra, Veronique Mifsud (both Birkirkara); Rachel Cuschieri (PSV Vrouwen, Netherlands); Jade Flask, Dorianne Theuma, Emma Xuereb (all Swieqi United); Roxanne Micallef, Claudette Xuereb (both Mġarr United).

**FORWARDS** Brenda Borg (Mġarr United); Maria Farrugia (Sunderland AFC Ladies, England); Haley Bugeja (Mġarr United); Martina Borg (Sassari Torres, Italy).

## **Creating opportunities for students within performing arts sector**

By Gozo News



Minister for Education and Employment Owen Bonnici has visited Mikiel Anton Vassalli College, a school which has a specific focus to improve and coordinate the visual and performing art education in Gozo and Malta.

Apart from the Malta Visual and Performing Arts School, the college caters for over 4,000 registered learners who attend classes on a part time basis, with students ranging from 6-year olds to 92-year olds.

Minister Owen Bonnici made reference to the importance of introducing the performing arts from an early stage, such as the Malta Visual Performing Arts School, which was based on an electoral promise by the government, in order to enhance the arts within our community.

He said that, "through this school, we are offering young secondary school students another choice in their educational journey. We are providing young artists with the opportunity to further

enhance their artistic ability by way of consolidating their actual talent levels, whilst also continuing to strengthen their proficiency in core academic subjects.”

Minister Owen Bonnici was present for visual, performing arts and music lessons, and also held a meeting with the College Principal Mr Victor Galea, educators and staff of the college.



The poster features the Audi logo at the top, followed by the Audi brand name. Below it is the Malta Music Awards logo, which consists of three stylized 'M' shapes in a gradient of colors. The background is a dark purple with a pattern of small, glowing dots. The text 'LINE UP - 07.03.20' is prominently displayed in white. Below this, the names of the performing artists are listed in yellow and white text: GAIA CAUCHI AIDAN, RED ELECTRICK, MATTHEW JAMES BORG, LAPES ft PETRA, OWEN LEUELLEN AMBER, IRA LOSCO TOBY, and AIRPORT IMPRESSIONS.

## MALTA MUSIC AWARDS 2020

The Malta Music Awards ( MMA ) were first held in 1995. The MMA's vision has always been for the organization to act as a catalyst for the promotion, growth and expansion of talent within the local music industry. It's main objective is to showcase the local talent with the aim of helping its growth and achieving International success, while increasing the public's interest in the local industry. After an absence of five years, the Malta Music Awards will be back with a Bang, celebrating Twenty Five Years of Award shows. The Awards show will present the best of Maltese music talent with 12 performing artists and 14 Awards in various genres of music. International artists are also invited to attend and

perform during the show to be held in Malta's top venue, The Malta Fairs & Conventions Centre, with an audience of 6,000 people. The MMA's are organised by Mega Music Malta, in collaboration with PBS, the National TV station and Magic Malta 91.7

· Were you still waiting for the Audi Malta Music Awards LINE UP to get your tickets?

**NOW THE WAIT IS OVER!**

👉 Gaia Cauchi 👉 AIDAN 👉 Ira Losco 👉 Red Electrck 👉 Airport Impressions 👉 Amber  
 👉 Matthew James Borg 👉 Leuellen 👉 Tobymusic Productions 👉 Il-Lapes ft Petra Music

It's going to be one of a HELL NIGHT! Get your tickets now! 👉 <https://bit.ly/2OAasi0>

More info on Magic Malta 91.7 and on our website [maltamusicawards.mt](http://maltamusicawards.mt)



## 'Ta' Barbetta' among one of the oldest bakeries. Lenten confectionery at its very best

Report: Melvic Zammit

[tvm.com.mt](http://tvm.com.mt)

When entering Manwel Zammit's bakery, the aroma of confectionery titillates the palate.

For Manwel there are no Sunday's and no feast days or public holidays. At 2.30 am every morning he is at his bakery to start the day's work.

Better known as Ta' Barbetta, Manwel said he had first put foot into the bakery 36 years ago when he was employed by his uncle. Today he is 62 years old and often deliberates about his intended retirement but at the same time he is reluctant to leave a bakery trade and its roots over the years. Over and above the normal confectionery, at this time of the year, bakeries prepare Lenten confectionery, including 'kwareżimal', a highly-sought confection during Lenten abstinence for those that have a sweet tooth.

He said people seek such confectionery and ask for it and even those that try to abstain experience the temptation.

Manwel said that when Good Friday approaches he starts preparing for carob 'karamelli' and Apostles' Rings studded with almonds that are much sought after at this time of the year. He said the dough is prepared for these and to make the bread crusty they are lightly baked because strong heat fails to create a crust.

Asked about the origin of these rings, Professor Carmel Cassar said these had a different significance than the present. He said these used to be baked and then distributed to the poor in the parish during feast days.

He said that what used to be the Retirement Home for the Jesuits in Floriana and is now the Curia building there was a painting that went back to the mid-18th Century showing edible food products, including Apostles' Rings studded with almonds.



St. Paul The Apostle Parish

**MISSION GROUP**

## MALTESE-CANADIAN NEWS

It is with great pride and enthusiasm that St. Paul the Apostle Mission Group presents its Official Logo.

Over the last several weeks, our member Isaac Bartolo has devoted countless hours designing this logo for our Group.

Thank you, Isaac your efforts are genuinely appreciated.

The following is an explanation of our Logo:

In the background, the Canadian Maple Leaf embraces the entire Logo because we are founded in Canada. Inside the Maple Leaf, is a dark navy blue circle broken up in four quadrants. Each quadrant is separated by a solid navy blue dot representing four heads. The lines on both sides of each head represent arms stretched out forming a human chain symbolizing the Mission Group members working collectively for one common goal as stipulated in our Mission Group Statement: 'Our primary goal is to inspire in all people a love for Christ, a passion for justice and to improve the well-being of our brothers and sisters as inspired by the life of Jesus Christ.....without discrimination'.

The arms collectively embrace the eight-pointed cross of the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Knights of St. John of Jerusalem commonly known as the Sovereign Military Order of the Knights of Malta. This incorporates as well as symbolizes how we are a Catholic Organization, founded in our Maltese/Canadian Parish of St. Paul the Apostle Roman Catholic Church where most of our members are of Maltese descent.

Last but not least, permission was granted to us by our spiritual director and pastor Fr. Mario Micallef to add the letters MSSP to the top of the Maple Leaf. This further reiterates how our mandate from the inception of our Mission Group back in late 2016, was, and remains, that as lay missionaries we primarily reach out and assist the MSSP Order wherever they may be.

My hope is that all members are just as proud and excited as I am about the unveiling of our new logo and I would sincerely like to thank all that were involved in its creation and execution.

Thank you, John Vella



## Msida Football Tea 1908

*The only known photograph of St Joseph's United, one of the original five members of the Maltese Football League in 1909-10. Back row: Caruana, Rizzo, Psaila, Caruana, J. Troisi. Centre: Vella, Bonello, Sammut, Ferrante, Azzopardi. Front: Briffa, Salvu Troisi, Wilfred Caruana.*

The origins of football in Msida stretch back to, at least, 1908. As far as we could ascertain the first team to be founded in the district was Msida United. This team played its maiden game on November 7, 1908 against the

Lyceum FT, losing heavily by four goals to nil.

Msida United continued to play the occasional game of friendly football up to March 1910 when they took part in the Junior Cup competition organised by the MFA.

As luck would have it, Msida United were drawn against another team from Msida in the semi finals. St Joseph's United had just been founded when the two rivals met at Rinella Football Ground on March 10, 1910.

Msida United won a hard-fought game 2-1. In the final however, Msida United lost 1-0 to Sliema United. In 1910, the National Football Ground was opened in Pietà. Huge crowds filled this venue, no matter which teams were playing. This prompted the owners of the ground to organise a cup competition between the best Maltese teams of the time.

Msida United met Valletta United in the quarter-finals on April 9, 1910.

Being primarily a youth team, the Msidians could not cope with the burly Valletta players and they were well and truly beaten by four goals to nil. This defeat spelt the end of Msida United. After this game, they disappeared completely from the local football scene.

In the meantime, St Joseph's United were busy enhancing their reputation with some excellent displays of fast flowing football.

The star of the team was undoubtedly Salvu Troisi who was destined to become one of the greatest Maltese footballers ever. The support of the people of Msida was diverted from Msida United to St Joseph's United. Therefore, it was the latter who went down in the history books as the first team to represent Msida in the Maltese Football League.

In November 1909, the editor of the Daily Malta Chronicle offered a cup to the students of the Lyceum and University to be used for a cup competition.

The offer was accepted but, later on, lack of participation forced the organisers to hold the competition in the form of a league. St Joseph's were one of the five founder members of the Civilian Football League.



# It's not just us! People all over the US are going crazy for pastizzi thanks to this guy



**Joseph Gauci, Owner of Malta Joe's in Tucson, Arizona**

*We meet the man behind the Arizona business, Malta Joe's. Vanessa Conneely*

While *pastizzerias* are on almost every corner of Malta and Gozo, they are a rarer sight aboard. And it's that unique selling point which has allowed one man to crack the notoriously competitive American food market.

Joseph Gauci owns a *pastizzi* shop in Tucson, Arizona, with the straight-to-the-point name of [Malta Joe's](#). As well as serving locals from his shop, Joseph says he's the only company in America which ships the traditional Maltese snack all over the States.

But how did it start?

"I was born in Westchester, New York. My mother was from Tarxien and my father was from Paola. They moved to the States in 1950. I spent my life in New York and had a wonderful career as a recording engineer in Manhattan for more than 30 years."

"During this time, I started making *pastizzi* over the holidays for my neighbours. They all said that I should do something more with this idea. So, I did. But I had no background in food or business. I had learned to make *pastizzi* from my mother as we ate it all the time growing up, but to make it for the masses I had to step up my game. So, I travelled to Malta and met with Chef Mario of Primavera Caterers in Tarxien. He allowed me to train with some of the top *pastizzi* makers on the island. They were happy to show me the ropes of mass production, as long as I showed them my plane ticket back to the States, since they didn't

want any more competition in Malta!"

***Joseph's parents leaving Malta in the 1950's***



"I chose to base myself in Tucson as it's a beautiful city and is a very foodie type of place, where people will try all kinds of dishes. I set up my business in 2016 and it was an instant smash. All it took was giving people a sample of some *pastizzi* and they were hooked."

"I started out with a simple menu at first - including the traditional ricotta cheese and split pea and curry variety - but over the next three-years I branched out to include the *tal-pizelli* version - which includes a blend of beef, onions, garlic and green peas - as well as creating something especially for the people of Tucson called The South West. Branching out As well as catering for locals, Joseph also expanded his network of customers by adapting his recipes to include vegans.

"I have many vegan friends who don't have a lot of options when it comes to snacks, so I decided to try and bake them an alternative split pea and curry *pastizzi*. Vegans don't eat margarine, so I found a vegan friendly vegetable spread. It took me a long time to get the recipe right, but when I nailed it, they just took off! I also make Apple Strudel Pastizzi and Nutella Pastizzi for special occasions and holidays." *Vegan pastizzi adapted to suit the American market*

**Staying on top** So how does Joseph plan to push his business forward?

"Right now, our customers are mostly Maltese. We sell all over the United States and I am the only business shipping *pastizzi* with a website! On May 1st we plan to get our first food truck on the road which we've called The *Pastizzi Express*. I think it will be a great way for people to build a relationship with *pastizzi*."

*We knew it was just a matter of time before the rest of the world realised how addictive they are!*



**NOLI**  
MARIO DEBONO

20 kanzunetta originali  
bil-Malti li whud minnhom  
hadu sehem u rebhu  
L-Għanja tal-Poplu

15/3/2020  
Tnedija ta' CD u USB, kuncert u riċeviment żghar  
19/3/2020  
Masterclass  
DHUL B'XEJN

Project House, Beltissebħ, Il-Furjana, fis-7.00pm  
RSVP Mobile 99834730 - *specifika għal xiex ġej*

## MARIO DEBONO

Local musician Mario Debono is launching the NOLI CD a collection of his original Maltese-language songs.

Debono hopes that NOLI gives Maltese music-lovers the chance to enjoy timeless, locally-connected songs. "This is a CD collection of 18 songs written in beautiful Maltese, which are suitable for every age and have an artistic value that withstands the test of time," he says. "While the songs are all original, fresh, and address today's social themes, they are also built around the tonality of the Maltese language, and so are a contribution to Maltese culture."

With a lifetime of experience as a singer and songwriter, Mario Debono is a five-time winner of the L-Għanja tal-Poplu festival, has featured in multiple CDs published by YTC and was a finalist to become the Malta entry for the 6th European Union Cyprus and Malta Song Festival. In NOLI, Debono's original songs vary in style and explore diverse themes such as family, pastimes, fraud, refugees, faith, and the Maltese language itself, but are all intrinsically linked to Maltese modern culture.



**Joseph Vella**

**The Conductor  
who introduced new  
Choral and Orchestral  
Works in Malta**

Exhibition  
28 February - 24 March 2020  
Il-Ħaġar | Heart of Gozo Museum  
Level 2

The Joseph Vella Music Archive can be visited all year round on Level 3

IL-HAĠAR HEART OF GOZO FONDAZZJONI BELT VICTORIA

**FONDAZZJONI BELT VICTORIA**  
VO/0762 Gozo NGOs Association  
*founding member*

Pjazza San Ġorġ, Victoria VCT 1101

[info@heartofgozo.org.mt](mailto:info@heartofgozo.org.mt)

Media release

Joseph Vella exhibition

@ Il-Ħaġar

As part of the commemoration of Maestro Joe Vella's sudden demise two years ago, a documentary exhibition in the level 2 video room at Il-Ħaġar museum (Pjazza San Ġorġ, Victoria) can be visited till 24 March. "Joseph Vella: The Conductor who introduced new Choral and Orchestral Works in Malta" uses newspaper cuttings highlighting performances of works by - among others - Beethoven, Bernstein, Britten, Mahler, Mozart, Orff, Puccini, Rossini, Sibelius, Strauss and Stravinsky.

As is well known, Professor Vella donated his manuscripts to this cultural centre just a few hours before his death! These archives are on level 3. There is no entry fee during the normal 9am to 5pm seven days a week.

THE MCBNA PRESENTS:

# A TASTE OF MALTA



## LIVE COOKING DEMOS

PASTIZZI. ROSS IL-FORN. TORTA. BRUNGIEL MIMLI & MORE

**\$45**  
PER PERSON

Buffet Dinner  
Rabbit, Chicken,  
Roasted Potatoes, Imqarrun,  
Salad, Hobz Biz-Zejt & more  
CASH BAR

### MALTA BAND CLUB

5745 Coopers Ave, Mississauga, ON

**Thurs Mar 26th @ 6:30pm**

Tickets must be purchased in advance

A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE ST PAUL THE APOSTLE MISSION GROUP



\$20 each

**SATURDAY**  
21st MARCH 2020  
FROM 2.00PM

### GEORGE CROSS FALCONS COMMUNITY CENTRE

THE COMMITTEE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MALTESE CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF NSW PRESENTS

LUDWIG GALEA MALTA'S MOST LOVED ROCK TENOR!

CHARLIE CAMILLERI BACK UP SINGER

\$20 includes light refreshment tea and coffee

We, Maltese living abroad, must stick together and support and respect each other

Like one big happy family

**This popular annual event sells out quickly.**

**Tickets must be purchased in advance.**

**Sales will close once seating capacity has been filled.**

**DON'T BE DISAPPOINTED- BOOK NOW!**

**27-20 Hoyt Avenue South, ASTORIA NEW YORK USA**

Visit our website: [www.themaltesecentre.com](http://www.themaltesecentre.com)

# DON'T MISS OUT!



## LEJLA MALTIJA 2020

Book your tickets now before they're all gone!  
\*limited seating

**DATE: Saturday March 28th**

**TIME: 7:00 pm**

Location: The Maltese Center Lower Hall

**Maltese Food - Theatre - Music**

RSVP: Eddie Debono (917-807-2874)  
[info@themaltesecenter.com](mailto:info@themaltesecenter.com)

## THE SIGNAL March 2018

### MALTA AND THE ANZACS - THE NURSE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

*Pictured: Cover of the book*

Malta was declared a military hospital base in early 1915 and within a short time was in a position to cater for 20,000 wounded ANZAC soldiers. A large number of public buildings, including schools, were converted to hospital use. In all, 27 hospitals were established. The convalescent camp at Ghajn Tuffieha, which had over 4,000 beds, was one of two tent cities catering for the wounded. The first 600 wounded arrived in May 1915 and by March of the following year the Governor estimated that over 60,000 wounded had been cared for. It is estimated that the hospitals and convalescent camps dealt with over 135,000 sick and wounded, primarily from the campaigns in Gallipoli and Salonika. This included 20,000 Anzacs. While the vast majority of Anzacs transported to Malta did recover and returned to Australia or to the European Front, for others Malta was their final resting place. The number of Australian deaths would have undoubtedly been higher but for the work of Maltese doctors who served with the Anzacs. The low percentage of sickness among the troops of this Division is largely attributable to the work of a Maltese physician. In the first four months of the campaign, the dressing station at Anzac Cove treated over

15,000 wounded, under the guide Dr. Mattei, who served in the Boer War as well as with the ANZACs.

On 15 April 1916, the first Anzac Day was commemorated in Malta at the Pieta Cemetery, possibly the first Anzac ceremony in the world. At that time there were 107 Anzacs laid to rest. The number had increased to 204 Australians and 72 New Zealanders by the end of the campaign. It increased further as the result of WWII and today about 220 Australians are buried on the island. An ANZAC memorial was erected in 2013 at the Botanical Gardens in

Floriana, Malta in honour of the 300 ANZACs who succumbed to their injuries after reaching Malta and who lie buried on the island.

Under the auspices of the RSL Maltese Sub-branch of SA, Frank L Scicluna OAM published a commemorative book *Malta and the ANZACS the Nurse of the Mediterranean*, commemorating the invaluable and lasting friendship that exists between the people of Australia, New Zealand and Malta formed during the Gallipoli campaign in 1915, which continues today.

