



CONSULATE OF MALTA IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA NEWSLETTER
MARCH 2014 FRANK L SCICLUNA - LINKING MALTA AND AUSTRALIA
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END OF TERM OF OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF MALTA H.E. DR. GEORGE ABELA [2009-2014]



**H.E. George Abela and Hon Consul
F. Scicluna during a courtesy visit in
2012**

Dr. George Abela was elected President of the Republic of Malta on 4 April 2009 following a Parliamentary resolution, which unanimously approved his nomination as the eighth President of Malta. His nomination marks a historical development in the constitutional history of our Island since, for the first time after thirty-six years, the President was elected by the unanimous approval of both political parties represented in Parliament. It is also the first time that the Government of the day nominated a President with different political leanings. Dr. Abela was born in Qormi on the 22nd April 1948 and is the son of a registered port worker. He was educated at the Lyceum and the University of Malta where he first obtained his Bachelor of Arts Degree in English, Maltese and History and later on his Law Degree. He furthered his studies in European Law and obtained his Magister Iuris Degree in 1995. He also holds a Diploma to practice as a lawyer before the Ecclesiastical Tribunals in marriage annulment cases.

The Constitution establishes the Office of President. The President and the House of Representatives compose Parliament. The President is also the head of the executive (government) and chairman of the Commission for the Administration of Justice. In addition, he carries out other duties established by law or by administrative decision. Some of his duties have been inherited from colonial times. President Abela's term ends next month and the parliament is due to elect a new president on 4 April 2014.

The Prime Minister Hon Joseph Muscat officially confirmed the appointment of Marie Louise Coleiro Preca's nomination as the next President of Malta. The Prime Minister described the appointment as "historic" and "one step closer to the birth of the second Republic." Stressing that Coleiro Preca was chosen because the next President "needs to have a lot of energy," Muscat said that the current family minister will be the country's "social soul." Underlining Coleiro Preca's energy, Muscat said that the new President, who at 55 will be the youngest Head of State, "has a lot to offer to the country."

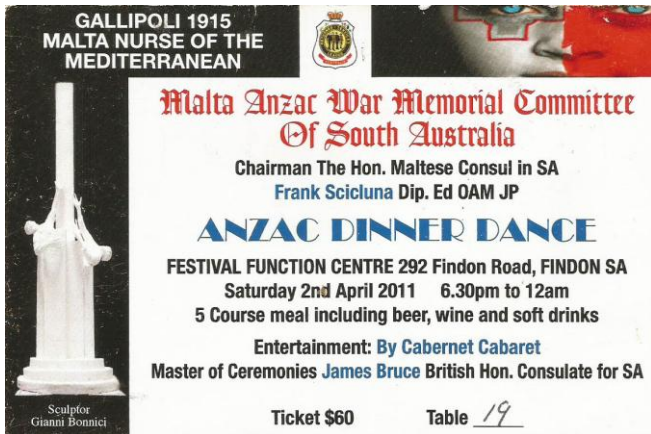


New Head of E.U. Delegation Mr Sem Fabrizi

H.E. Mr. Sem Fabrizi, Ambassador-designate and Head of Delegation of the European Union to Australia and to New Zealand, arrived in Australia last year, replacing H.E. Mr David Daly.

An Italian career diplomat, Mr Fabrizi served in various capacities in the External Relations area in the European Council. Prior to that, he was Diplomatic Advisor for EU and Asian affairs in the Italian Prime Minister's Office in Rome, and Head of the European Parliament Office in the Italian Permanent Representative Mission to the EU in Brussels. He also served in Geneva at the Italian Permanent Mission to the WTO and other International Organisations, and in Beijing at the Italian Embassy.

Married with three children, he was born in Italy, and holds degrees in International Law and International Economy from La Sapienza University in Rome.



DINNER DANCE ORGANISED BY THE MALTA ANZAC MEMORIAL COMMITTEE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA - 2 APRIL 2011



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CONTRIBUTION

Main speech delivered
by the Governor of
South Australia His
Excellency Rear
Admiral Kevin Scarce
AC CSC RANR



It gives me and my wife Liz great pleasure to be amongst you this memorable evening and I thank the chairman, Frank Scicluna, the Honorary Consul for Malta in South Australia, and all the members of the Malta ANZAC War Memorial Committee for inviting me to share this special occasion with you.

The establishment of a memorial to Australian and New Zealand servicemen who died in Malta as a result of war wounds, especially as a result of the Gallipoli landing in World War One, is a most admirable gesture.

Hundreds of Australian and New Zealand soldiers who fought at Gallipoli were sent to the Island of Malta for medical treatment. As a result of their injuries, over 200 Australians died and were buried in Malta.

I understand that every year on ANZAC DAY a special ceremony is held at the War Memorial in Valletta, attended by the President and Prime Minister of the Republic of Malta and the Australian High Commissioner. Now that Malta will be having a specific ANZAC monument, I am told that the dawn service will take place at Floriana, where the monument is to be erected.



History tells us that Malta, which was then a British colony, played a strategic role during both WWI and WWII. Moreover, a number of Maltese immigrants to Australia joined the Australian forces. Many of them were wounded and died at Gallipoli and their names may be found at the Roll of Honour at the National War Memorial in Canberra. Therefore, it is entirely fitting that this strong, albeit sad, connection between Malta and Australia is commemorated by the proposed monument. Mr Chairman, please convey my thanks, appreciation and admiration to the members of your committee and to the members of the Maltese community of South Australia who have worked so hard to raise funds for this purpose.

I hope to be informed when the monument has been completed. It will be situated in the middle of Argotti Gardens overlooking the Grand Harbour of Malta. I am certain that many Australian and New Zealanders who will visit the Island of Malta in future will want to seek it out.

Thank you once again.

(Left) Mgr Philip Calleja blessed the Anzac War Memorial at the Argotti Gardens, Floriana Malta during the unveiling of the monument.

(Right) Charles Figallo, CEO of the Anzac Committee [SA] with Mr. Nicholas Bonello - Chairman of the Anzac Committee [MALTA]



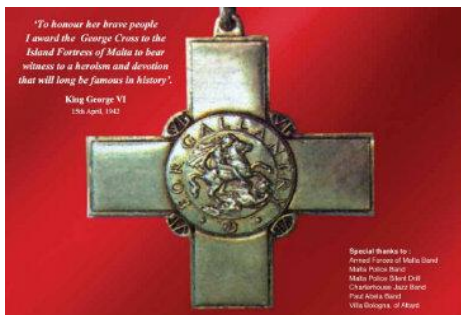


DO YOU RECOGNISE THESE TWO YOUNG FELLOWS?

**ON THE LEFT IS THE LEADER OF THE
OPPOSITION
HON. SIMON BUSUTTIL
ON THE RIGHT IS THE PRIME MINISTER OF
MALTA
HON. JOSEPH MUSCAT
BOTH ARE OLD SCHOLARS OF
ST. ALOYSIUS COLLEGE AT BIRKIRKARA**



George Cross Award commemorative celebration by the MTA



George_Cross_Commemoration_2014.jpg" style="MARGIN: 3px 5px 0px 0px; WIDTH: 363px; DISPLAY: inline; FLOAT: left; HEIGHT: 244px" title="George Cross Award special commemorative celebration by the MTA" height="244" width="363" alt="George Cross Award special commemorative celebration by the MTA"/>"To honour the brave people I award the George Cross to the Island Fortress of Malta to bear witness to a heroism and devotion that will long be famous in history."

This proclamation was issued by King George VI, on 15 April, 1942, to honour the people of Malta. The honour bestowed was a sign of appreciation by the British Monarchy for the bravery and tenacity that was being shown by the

Maltese people during the darkest moments of the war

The actual George Cross medal was brought over to Malta by Lord Viscount Gort, VC., who had just been appointed and sent to Malta as Governor and Commander-in-Chief. It was presented to the people of Malta during a ceremony that was held on 13 September in St George's Square, Valletta. Chief Justice Sir George Borg received the medal on behalf of the Maltese nation. On the occasion of the 72nd anniversary, the Malta Tourism Authority will be presenting a commemorative celebration that will recall this historic episode. On Sunday, the 13th of April.

The programme will start with the marching in of the Armed Forces of Malta Band who will be carrying the George Cross medal inside the President's Palace and will then present a musical marching display. The Malta Police Band will follow with their own marching display inside St George's Square. Then it will be the turn of the Malta Police Silent Drill Squad. This will be followed by a 15 minute film that will recount the war time events that led to the George Cross award ceremony.

Following on there will be a staged musical programme featuring tunes from the Second World War period, performed by the Paul Abela Band in St George's Square, Valletta. Admission is free, however seating will be available only if pre-booked. The commemorative celebration gets underway in St George's Square - Valletta at 7.15pm and will conclude at 9.15pm For further information please call 356 22915440/1.

Our Philosophy – Building Bridges not Walls

"Bring us to you and we will bring you together".

We value diversity and believe that it is an essential ingredient in creating balance within a group and within the world. We sincerely believe that

- Each person is unique and has gifts, love and respect to share with those around him or her;
- People are an important part of nature, and our most basic roots come from nature - our ultimate goal is to be the caretakers of the Earth and pass this wonderful on to future generations safe and sound;
- We must respect, value, and be open to learn from all those who are around us – family, friends and neighbours because we are all precious.

MALTESE QUEEN OF VICTORIES BAND OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

THE BIRTH OF A BAND - IT-TWELID TA' BANDA

By Ron Borg - Adelaide SA



'Il Bambina waslet fostna' The most welcomed statue of Our Lady Queen of Victories had arrived in Adelaide, so it was no wonder that the feast took place with such enthusiasm in that year of 1980.

For our Maltese community that had been so far from their beloved Malta for so long, this feast re-captured the jubilation of the 'Festa' that they had left behind in their homeland, especially when the sound of the Maltese Own Band of Victoria playing those vibrant Maltese marches, rekindled the spirit of the 'Festa Maltija'!

It's no wonder then, that the Maltese community, enthusiastically supported the idea to establish our own Maltese Band in South Australia. Through the endeavours of the late Mr France Brincat, 1981 saw the establishment of the new Maltese Queen of Victories Band in South Australia under the direction of the late William Azzopardi and the assistance of his wife

Antoinette teaching the new 41 music students but the numbers soon escalated to 61.

The first "sweet music to our ears" was heard from the humble 'plastic recorders' but after 'fund raisers, 12 brass instruments were purchased, a Trumpet was donated by the Maltese Franciscan Friars, some instruments were loaned from the Azzopardi family, and with some musicians that had their own instruments, the band was able to officially



perform along side the Maltese Own band of Victoria at their first Queen of Victories Feast at Lockleys, and later that year, also at the St Catherine feast in 1981.

The band had its first Annual General meeting with Joe Monsigneur as president and a constitution was established. With great pride the new band emblem was inaugurated. Designed by the late Mr France Falzon, it was comprised of the Maltese cross signifying our Maltese heritage, the Crown representing Our Lady Queen of Victories, the Lyre because of our musicality, and the Kangaroo & Emu representing our Australia. The earnest amongst the new bands men was high, and this reflected in the results of their Australian Music Examination Board examination where they continued to achieve good passes, Credits, and even Distinctions in their exam results!

The band was enhanced with the sound of Clarinets when 7 girls started lessons under Emanuel Camilleri In 1984. The Band was very well received when it performed on several occasions at the feasts of St Paul, and the Queen of Victories in Melbourne, but these interstate trips, although tiring, were a great buzz for the bandsmen and those that accompanied them on these trips. Performances for the Maltese Community grew over the years to include feast of, St Paul, Good Friday, Mnarja, Christmas Carols, St Mary, St Peter, Christ the King and many others. The Band was also very much appreciated by the Maltese dignitaries that visited our state. Such distinguished visitors on these auspicious occasions were; President Miss Agatha Barbara, Archbishop Joseph Mercieca, President Censu Tabone, Prime Minister Lawrence Gonzi, Archbishop Paul Cremona, Joseph Muscat (now Prime Minister of Malta) and many others. It was with a sense of pride that the band represented admirably the Maltese Community on these important occasions.

The Queen of Victories Band was also a distinguished ambassador for the Maltese Community when it was invited to perform on the many prestigious State occasions such as; the Multicultural Festivals, The Celebrations of Australia



VE Day in Rundle Mall, The 150th State Jubilee, and even on the most auspicious occasion of the visit by Pope John Paul 2nd in 1986. It had been said that the performance that the Band did in conjunction with the Maltese Folk Dancers at Her Majesty's Theatre during The World Showcase was one of the best presentations amongst all the Nationalities of that day.

The good reputation of the Maltese Queen of Victories Band soon spread because even the Italian Community soon sought the bands participation in it's many feasts, some 30 of them even as far as Port Pirie for the Madonna Di Martiri. Despite the attrition of our musicians due

to deaths, marital status, educational commitments etc, the band continued to improve in quality, due to the excellence of our musical directors; William Azzopardi in 1981, Barry Sadler in 86, Cosmo Cavauiolo in 87, John Chetcuti in 96, Pasquale Carpinelli & Rosemarie Andreachio in 2002, Samantha Chivers in 2005, Sharon Burgess in 2006, and our present conductor in 2012.

With the help of the Bands Patroness, Our Lady Queen of Victories the Band will continue in it's endeavor to achieve musical success and bring pride to the Maltese community in South Australia as its ambassador.



MALTESE TENOR JOSEPH CALLEJA

Joseph Calleja: There's no place like Malta

"Malta is really my everything," says Maltese tenor Joseph Calleja in Air Malta's latest video.

Mr Calleja, who has spent his life travelling to share his talent was asked what Malta meant to him as he buzzed around the island in a red vintage sports car.

The following was his reply: "Malta is really my everything.... You cannot possibly be interested in the history of human civilisation and not come to Malta. It still remains one of the most interesting, beautiful, warm, spiritual, historic, places I've ever been to. I remember the bells in Naxxar

We also like building bridges





GOZO PLACED SECOND IN VITA AWARDS

Gozo was awarded the prestigious Vistas award for sustainable and responsible tourism. The international programme VISTAS (Vision, Innovative, Sustainable Tourism Award Series) award ceremony was held at the international tourism expo at the ITB Berlin 2014.

The aim of this programme is to encourage tourism destinations to identify, exchange and apply good practices in sustainable tourism worldwide.

VISTAS is managed by five leading international networks: Vision, ECOTRANS, EDEN, EUCC-Quality Coast, and Alpine Pearls, under the umbrella of the DestiNet Innovation Group (DIG).

This follows another award won by Gozo in 2012. On that occasion, Gozo had won the Quality Coast Gold Award for its sustainable practices. In VISTAS Awards 2014 event at the ITB Berlin, Gozo was one of the 20 final nominated destinations. Cascais, a coastal town in Cascais Municipality in Portugal was placed first.

MALTA DAY - WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL - LONDON



Our congratulations to the people of the island of Malta, and to the Maltese community in Britain, who yesterday celebrated their second national day after Independence Day, called Malta Day, kept on the Saturday nearest to Our Lady's Birthday.

It is also called Victory Day, as they share with the Order the joy of the lifting of the siege in 1565. They also celebrate this day the lifting of the second great siege in 1942, equally attributed to Our Lady's intercession.

Mass was celebrated in Westminster Cathedral by Monsignor Carmello Scerri, delegate of the Archbishop of Malta, assisted among others by our chaplain Father David Irwin, who is also Diocesan chaplain for foreign missions, in the presence of the President of Malta, His Excellency

Dr George Abela, and Mrs Abela, and His Excellency Joseph Zammit Tabona, High Commissioner, and many local dignitaries. The music was provided by the Saint Paul's Choral Society of Malta who are on a concert tour of London. Some twenty knights and dames of the Order were present in choir.

The Mass was followed by a procession through the streets of Westminster to the Sacred Heart Horseferry Road of *Bambina* - the Child Mary - to celebrate our Lady of Victories, accompanied by the St Sebastian's Wokingham Brass Band, and firework displays at the beginning and end of the procession. In the evening the High Commissioner hosted a Reception at the new and very luxurious Corinthia Hotel in Northumberland Avenue, to which members of the Order were most graciously invited.

The High Commissioner sends a message of solidarity to the Maltese Community in Morwell.

H.E. High Commissioner Charles Muscat sent a message of solidarity to the Vice Honorary Consul in Victoria Mr. Mario Sammut. This message was sent to the Vice Hon. Consul so he may inform the Maltese community of Morwell and the surrounding region that the High Commission is in solidarity with the Maltese Community during this difficult period as they are suffering from the smoke that is coming out of the burning in the old coal mine.

Mr. Mario Sammut was interviewed on SBS Radio by Mr. Joe Axiaq, Head of Maltese programs SBS. It was a very informative interview for the Maltese community of Morwell and the state of Victoria.

During the program The Vice Hon Consul passed on a message of solidarity prepared by the High Commission in Canberra and the Consul General in Victoria and urged anyone needing any assistance to get in touch with their offices.

Canberra, 14 March 2014

GBEJNIET – MALTESE CHEESE



Ġbejna (plural *ġbejniet*) is a small round cheese made in Malta from sheep's milk, salt and rennet. Most sheep's milk produced in Malta are used for the production of these small cheeses. Until the early 20th century, ġbejniet made from unpasteurised milk were one of the causes of the spread of Brucellosis which was so prevalent as to be called "the Maltese fever".

Ġbejna is shaped in a cheese hurdle made of dried reeds, although now plastic ones are also used. They are traditionally dried in small ventilated rooms, with windows protected by a special mesh mosquito net. It is said that in the past sea water, rather than rennet, was used as a curdling agent. Ġbejniet are prepared and served in a variety of forms: fresh (*friski* or *tal-ilma*), sundried (*moxxa*, *bajda* or *t'Ġhawdex*), salt cured (*maħsula*) or peppered (*tal-bżar*). The fresh variety have a smooth texture and a milky flavour and are kept in their own whey in a similar manner to mozzarella. The sundried variety have a more definite, nutty almost musky taste, and are fairly hard. The peppered variety are covered in crushed black pepper and cured, after which they may be stored in oil or pickled in vinegar. Their sharp taste becomes more piquant the more they age and they also develop a crumbly texture.

Ġbejna is an important element in a number of dishes such as *soppa tal-armila* (widows soup). It is often added to pasta dishes or soup to enhance flavour,^[3] as a pizza topping or the filling for *ħobż biż-żejt* (bread with oil)..



Kummissjoni Gholja tar-Repubblika ta'



High Commission of the Republic of Malta

Media Release 06-2014

The High Commission of the Republic of Malta is pleased to inform about a visit made by the Sutherland and St. George Maltese Group from Sydney. The bus tour of 50 people visited the Malta High Commission in Canberra on Wednesday, 12th March 2014.

The group was led by Mr. Charles Mifsud, who thanked the High Commissioner for opening the doors of the High Commission and presented him with a gift. High Commissioner Mr. Charles Muscat thanked everyone for attending and addressed the crowd in Maltese and English. He spoke about the current Maltese Government and holding on to our Maltese identity. He further stated that his appointment reflected that he was one of them.

In between afternoon tea, the group were shown around the High Commission and everyone got a chance to meet with the High Commissioner, H.E. Mr. Charles Muscat, Mrs. Victoria Muscat and Dr. Joseph Pirotta, Deputy High Commissioner.

H.E. Charles Muscat Canberra, 13 March 2014



THESE MEDITERRANEAN ISLANDS,

OUR MOTTO IS 'BUILDING BRIDGES' BETWEEN MALTESE LIVING IN MALTA AND MALTESE LIVING ABROAD. WE PROMOTE THE BEAUTY OF THE CULTUR, HISTORY AND MALTESE IDENTITY TO ATTRACT MORE PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD TO INCLUDE MALTA IN THEIR ITINERARY WHEN THEY ARE TRAVELLING. THOSE WHO TRAVEL TO MALTA CAN ENJOY THE GENUINE HOSPITALITY OF THE LOCALS AND VISIT HISTORICAL SITES UNIQUE TO

Australian/Maltese business people

Macro Meats kangaroo makes big leap to Chinese market



Macro Meats chief executive Ray Borda, wife Narelle and daughter Rachael Trott at Macro Meats in Athol Park. Picture: Mark Brake Source: The Advertiser

MACRO Meats game producer Ray Borda, of Maltese parents, is on the verge of achieving a long-held dream to supply kangaroo meat to the dining tables of China.

Ray is the Managing Director (and founder) of multi award winning Company, Macro Meats – Gourmet Game, which is Australia's and one of the world's leading producer of wild game meat, specialising in kangaroo. In 2009, Ray was named Central Region and National Entrepreneur of the

Year.

Working with state and federal governments, Ray helped develop quality control procedures and guidelines for the game meat industry. Working closely with high-profile chefs, Ray has progressively educated consumers (the public) into accepting game meat as a high-value food source, rich in protein and nutrition. This has elevated kangaroo meat to being a gourmet product for health-conscious consumers and in the process has built Macro into a major Australian business employing 300+ employees and operating three processing plants each with export licences.

Ray is also the President of the Kangaroo Industry Association of Australia and is involved in many consultative boards around Australia involved in kangaroo management and conservation. In addition, he is a long-standing member on Rural Industry Research and Development Corporation's Kangaroo Advisory Committee.

Ray Borda is a strong advocate of animal welfare and sustainability and has built his business around these values. For over 30 years Ray has pioneered kangaroo meat product globally. Macro has been the industry leader in R & D of wild game meat products, employing many microbiologists, food scientists and researchers. Ray also works closely with State and Federal Government Departments to ensure the regulations in kangaroo harvesting and processing deliver the highest standard of humane treatment of the animals and maintain the "world's best practice" principals in animal welfare, conservation management, environmental issues and meat safety/hygiene.

Another Successful Australian/Maltese Businessman

SA business Basetec Services signs \$1 billion deal with Chinese investors



AN ADELAIDE company specialising in high-pressure pipes for oil and gas projects hopes to access a global market worth \$1 billion after entering a joint venture with Chinese investors.

Rostrevor-based Basetec Services has struck an agreement with state-controlled firm Sinoma Jingling, allowing its hi-tech pipes to be built in China and sold to major markets including the Middle East.

The deal was announced at the South Australia-Shandong Co-operation and Development Forum, attended by Premier Jay Weatherill as part of his current trade mission to China. The company builds pipes with extremely low breakdown rates that carry oil, gas and water. Basetec has already worked with BHP

Billiton, Santos and Woodside Petroleum and plans to increase its Adelaide workforce from 35 to 100 under the new deal. It is also forecasting a significant boost for other firms supplying parts and technical support.

Speaking from Dubai yesterday, Basetec Services managing director Charles Figallo (picture), of Maltese parents, said he hoped to soon sign a deal to supply gas fields in the Middle East and had plans to expand into Russia and central Asia. "This is all because of the joint venture," he said. "We have state-of-the-art facilities in China, which cannot be produced in Australia simply because of the amount of labour that is required to do this sort of work." Mr Weatherill, the Premier of South Australia, said the joint venture could generate \$100 million in revenue from the Australia market, where coal-seam gas is emerging as a major industry, and \$1 billion from global buyers.

How to Select, Store & Freeze Strawberries

Strawberries are extremely versatile – they can be a sweet dish, a savoury delight or even a refreshing drink! Here are our top tips for selecting, storing and freezing this fabulous fruit.



Selecting Strawberries

Size plays no part in determining the perfect strawberry. In fact, small strawberries are equally as sweet and juicy as large ones. The perfect strawberry should be fully coloured, firm, bright, plump and shiny. Make sure the cap (calyx) is attached, green and fresh-looking.

Storing Strawberries

The moisture content of strawberries is high, so always remove fruit from punnets and place in a large container lined with absorbent paper. Strawberries are best stored at 4°C,

either uncovered or loosely covered. Serve at room temperature. Only remove their caps after washing and just prior to use.

Freezing Strawberries

Are you disappointed when the strawberry season comes to a close? You're not the only one! But there's really no need to say goodbye to the berry – freeze some strawberries for winter instead! Freezing strawberries is easy – the key is to remember to freeze them individually as this will ensure maximum firmness once they're defrosted. You can safely keep strawberries frozen for up to one year, which gives you plenty of time to turn them into jams, sauces and desserts or to use them in smoothies and other delicious drinks like daiquiris or punch.

Pick plump, ripe berries to freeze, then rinse them in iced water and drain well. Next, hull the strawberries before laying them out on a tray in a single layer. This is so the strawberries freeze individually and don't clump together. Place the strawberries in the freezer until frozen, then transfer them to containers or freezer bags to store. If you opt for the freezer bag, expel as much air as you can to prevent freezer burn. Note down the use by date as one year away – but knowing strawberries lovers, they'll soon be long gone!



The Maltese Hedgehog IL-QANFUD

The hedgehog is a cute little animal and it is a mammal. In Maltese it is called "Qanfud." It has spines on its back and usually rolls up into a ball when it is frightened or in danger. There are two types of hedgehogs in Malta. These are pale and dark in colour.

Maltese hedgehogs love to eat beetles and they are very clean animals. In Malta this cute animal is associated with someone who is tidy and keeps his environment spic and span. They are mostly found near agricultural areas. Sometimes, hedgehogs are also found at Għajn Tuffieħa.

Unfortunately these cute animals are victims of road casualties. Since roads are often close to their habitat areas, they wonder on to these roads and often end up being run over by cars. People need to be aware of this especially in areas with heavy traffic close to areas where the hedgehog lives especially during the night. Hedgehogs are also in danger because many people are destroying the habitat where the hedgehog lives to build houses and other buildings and so this animal is not finding a place to live.

This animal lives in fields. Farmers who own fields are using pesticides and insecticides to kill insects and worms which harm their crops and so the hedgehog is dying because his food is becoming poisonous. The hedgehog is protected by law in Malta and people cannot catch it and keep it as a pet. Hedgehogs are nocturnal animals that roam at night in search for food. At Springtime, it is common to see adult hedgehogs walking around followed by their young ones.

ABORIGINAL AUSTRALIANS - Cultural Heritage

The Indigenous cultures of Australia are the oldest living cultures in the world. One of the reasons they have survived for so long is their ability to adapt to change.

Australian Museum Photography Unit © Australian Museum

Culture: the total of ways of living built up by a group of human beings, which is passed on from one generation to the next.

Heritage: that which comes or belongs to one by reason of birth. "Maintaining one's culture, values and traditions is beyond price. Human beings cannot live without that. We are glad to share our culture with Europeans and other migrants but we will never give them up."

Getano Lui, jnr, Thursday Island, 1994

Indigenous Australia has been influenced by other peoples who have come to Australia to stay and peoples who visited Australia for trade or other reasons but did not stay. Indigenous peoples also exchanged ideas and goods among themselves. Goods were exchanged and other things such as songs and dances were traded. Songs and dances were exchanged often at large ceremonial gatherings when many people collected together. These gatherings often occurred at a time and place when there was plenty of particular foods. Although Indigenous cultures are very strong, years of European misunderstanding and indifference have affected them. Today, Indigenous communities keep cultures alive by: (a) passing their knowledge, arts, rituals and performances from one generation to another (b) speaking and teaching languages (c) protecting cultural property and sacred and significant sites and objects

The Oldest Living Culture

"We've been here a long, long time" Koori Mail, October 1996

The long history of Indigenous people is found in the many significant archaeological sites throughout Australia. Archaeological sites provide information about how Indigenous people lived, used resources and were able to adapt to environmental changes in the past. These archaeological sites also illustrate how Indigenous cultures have changed over time. Archaeological investigations in the northwest of Australia suggest that Indigenous people may have occupied Australia for at least 60,000 years.

Sites of cultural significance are protected by law. Any activities which could damage these sites must be cleared by the relevant Indigenous communities. - See more at: <http://australianmuseum.net.au/Indigenous-Australia-Cultural-Heritage#sthash.J1sgc6su.dpuf>



MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER - LINKING MALTA AND AUSTRALIA

BUILDING BRIDGES

WE BUILD TOO MANY WALLS BUT NOT ENOUGH BRIDGES



NOSTALGIA



Trasport fi żmien il-gwerra bin-'nemnebus'.



Transport during WW2

Tram at the Valletta gate same era

Classical photos – Scenes we never forget



DO YOU KNOW THAT ALL THE COUNTRIES OF THE EUROPEAN UNION CAN FIT IN THE CONTINENT OF AUSTRALIA

Malta marks World Women's Day



Women's day, March 8, was celebrated in Malta during a Business Breakfast entitled "Equality for Women is Progress for All". The event was organised by the Ministry for Consumer Affairs, Social Dialogue and Civil Liberties, the CHOGM 2015 Taskforce, and the Australian High Commission in Malta.

H.E. Jane Lambert, Australian High Commissioner, said that unlike usual discussions which tend to victimise the female plight, today should serve as a celebration of the progress women have achieved. The Ambassador hailed the Maltese Government for the positive steps taken towards achieving greater gender equality, mentioning amongst other things the

appointment of the new female members to the judiciary, the imminent introduction of free childcare services, and the appointment of Dr Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca as President of Malta.

In her address Mrs Michelle Muscat spoke of the long way women have come both locally and worldwide, however, she said that the need to celebrate women's day shows that there is still a way to go. Mrs Muscat said that while on paper improvements are significant, certain realities experienced when carrying out home visits do not always reflect this.

Mrs. Muscat urged women to empower themselves and not wait for empowerment to fall on their lap. She said that while finding work- family life balance might not be easy, women today are equipped with more tools than ever before to help them succeed especially now that child care facilities will be offered for free by the state.

THE FIRST MALTESE NEWSPAPER 14 July 1798

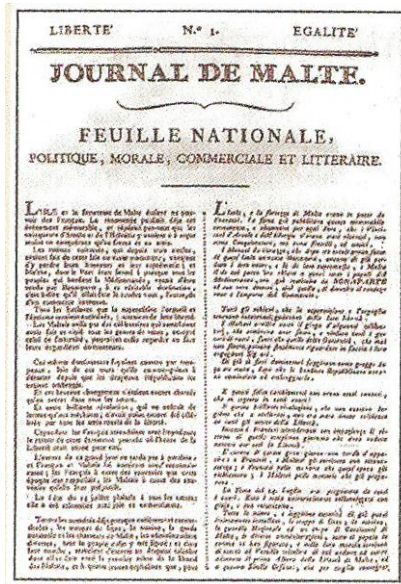
The short French rule in Malta introduced two important reforms: the abolition of censorship and the publication of the first newspaper. The printing office of the Order of St. John was renamed Imprimerie Nationale.

The French Commission du Government assented to a request for the removal of press censorship by announcing the publication of a newspaper which was at first to be called *Malte Libre* but actually named *journal de Malte*. This newspaper christened *feuille nationale* was to be a political moral, commercial and literal newspaper.

According to a letter dated 28 July 1798, the President of the French Commission of Government in Malta, Regnaud de St. Jean d'Angeley, informed General Bonaparte, then in Egypt, that a journal was about to be published in Malta with two principal aims :to praise Napoleon Bonaparte's further and glorious enterprises and to enlighten the Maltese about the advantages of their union with France. It is worthy of note that the **journal de Malte** and all other publications carried the republican motto *Liberte' Egalite' Fraternite'* did not feature in any of the French publications in Malta. The newspaper was printed in two columns - one in French and the other bearing a translation in Italian. Issue number one was dated 14 July 1798. This was an event of historical importance that happened 200 years ago.

This newspaper was shortlived. The last copy, number 10 and was dated 26 September 1798. This meant that the last issue was published 24 days after the insurrection of the Maltese against French rule. After this date there did not seem to

be any *raison d'être* for further issues.



First Maltese journal indexed in US medical database

Prof. Victor Grech created Images in Paediatric Cardiology in 1999.



Images in Paediatric Cardiology is the first Maltese journal to be indexed in PubMed, a leading and free database of references and abstracts published in academic journals on life sciences and biomedical topics.

The decision whether or not to index a journal is based on scientific policy and quality. The database is maintained by the US government via the

National Library of Medicine at the National Institute of Health. There are almost 2.5 million articles indexed in the database. The world-wide users of PubMed are researchers, health care practitioners, educators, administrators and students.

Over 5,000 journals are represented in the database. The decision whether or not to index a journal is based on considerations of both scientific policy and scientific quality. The journal must have sufficient scope and coverage, with technical merit in the articles represented. The journal must also demonstrate features that contribute to the expected levels of objectivity, credibility and quality in its published papers.

Images in Paediatric Cardiology was created in 1999 by Prof. Victor Grech from the Paediatric Department of the Malta Medical School, University of Malta, in conjunction with a prestigious international editorial



Photo - DOI - Jeremy Wonnacott

The Economist: The future of Europe

“The Eurozone economic crisis and the general lack of political will have seen Europe under use its own clout. It has lacked the self-confidence to push through; It’s as if Europe remained at the starting block, paralysed by itself”, the Maltese Prime Minister Joseph Muscat said in his opening keynote speech at the Economist Business Roundtable with the Government of Malta.

Furthermore, Dr Muscat mentioned that indeed Europe has what it takes to exert hard and soft power around the globe and any attempts to suggest otherwise would either be doing injustice to its successes or focusing on a narrow definition of power.

The Prime Minister made reference to ongoing threats, such as terrorism, cyber security and proliferation of weapons that—according to Mr Muscat—certainly leave no room for complacency. “Whether by circumstances or by choice, Europe has to act”, he stated. Additionally, he expressed the opinion that EU has to remain open to enlargement believing that it is a process that both reinforces and reviews it. “Closing the door to enlargement will close the door to Europe’s future”, he characteristically said.

As for the immigration issue, the Prime Minister extended his plea to the international community to do more in the face of the ongoing situation, which —as Mr Muscat said “remains the tragic evidence of our global failures”.

The euro crisis isn’t over yet, according to The Economist’s Europe editor John Peet, co-chairman of The Economist Business Roundtable with the Government of Malta. Making reference to challenges that Europe is facing, John Peet said that the fiscal crisis is beyond, but today Europe is facing growth and job crisis. Moreover, he stated that democratic confidence of European citizens is low.

Our region needs to be seen as one region with common interests, according to Morocco’s Prime Minister Abdelilah Benkirane. There will be no prosperity in Europe if the Mediterranean turns again into a dead sea, according to Italy’s Former Prime Minister Enrico Letta.

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Malta & Gozo Voted 2nd Best Diving Destination in the World



The Maltese Islands have been voted as the 2nd ‘Best Diving Destination’ at two separate award ceremonies that took place recently in London, namely the Diver and Sport Diver Awards, making the Maltese archipelago the top diving location in the Mediterranean.

Winners and nominees were voted by readers of Diver Magazine, Sport Diver Magazine and visitors to their respective websites.

The Diver Awards ceremony took place recently at the main LIDS hall at Excel London during the International Dive Show, presented by diving explorer and celebrity, Monty Halls.

This year, Malta and Gozo managed to surpass the Maldives and were awarded 2nd place due to their range of

exciting wrecks, variety of marine life, topography and shore-diving.

The ‘Best Diving Destination Of The Year’ awards saw a strong category of diving spots across the globe with Egypt taking first place and the Maldives in third place. Presented by Editor-in-Chief Mark Evans and Diving Explorer Monty Halls, the Sport Diver Awards took place at Aston’s Champagne and Wine Bar, London.

The Maltese Islands received the runner up place in the category for ‘Best Destination’ fighting off competition from the Maldives, Indonesia and Thailand while Egypt was awarded 1st place in the category. The awards for ‘Best Customer

Service' and runner up for 'Best Overseas PADI Dive Centre' were also received by Divewise one of Malta's leading Dive centres.

Commenting on these awards, Mr Josef Formosa Gauci, the CEO of the Malta Tourism Authority said: "We are truly honoured to accept these distinguished awards and the recognition they bring with it. We are continuously striving to enhance our diving product to provide visitors with an unforgettable diving experience. Malta and Gozo are a unique diving destination with clear blue waters, a wealth of wrecks and an exquisite range of marine life. Receiving these prestigious awards will make us work even harder to maintain and improve on these positions next year".

The 'Inspire' Foundation



is the leading non-profit provider of health, education and recreational services to persons with a disability in Malta. We believe that everyone has potential to contribute to a holistic society and play an active part in the community. We aim to support as many people as possible achieve their goals and become independent to the extent that they can make their own mind up about how they wish to live their life.

We work closely with parents to ensure that our services fit with the needs of the ever-growing population and we lobby government to make the appropriate changes to legal, fiscal and societal frameworks to favour inclusion in the school, workplace and recreation. Inspire works with other NGOs, the government, corporate benefactors, individuals and parents in order to maximise the value of persons of different abilities in society, by creating opportunity and choice for a more cohesive community.



Affiliated with the National Autistic Society of the UK, Inspire leads the way in special education for children with autism. Other areas of specialisation include special education for children with Down's Syndrome, employment training, independent living skills development, therapy services, school support programmes, parent training, Paralympic sports academy, swimming academy, multi sensory therapy, therapeutic

tic horseback riding and more.

The services offered by our fitness centre are many and include physiotherapy, personal training, weight control and fitness programmes, and rehabilitative treatment after injury or surgery. Persons with a disability are offered complimentary services, whilst able bodied persons are offered 3 mts, 6mts or yearly membership at a charge. Membership funds are used to fund Inspire's Disability Programmes.



For more detailed information please visit the [Inspire website](http://www.inspire.org.mt): www.inspire.org.mt or call +356 2189 0000



BUILDING VIRTUAL BRIDGES
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www.ozmalta.page4.me



The Great Siege of Malta (1565)

The Knights Hospitaller shared a lot in common with the Templars, but instead of giving up on the Crusades and being wiped out by a French King in 1312, the Hospitallers moved from island to island in the Mediterranean and continued fighting whatever Muslims they could find well into the 17th century.



The nearest Muslims to the Knights' base on Malta were the Ottoman Turks. The Ottomans, back then, controlled just about everything along the Mediterranean Sea except Italy, France, and Spain—none of which stopped the Knights from attacking every Ottoman ship possible.

So, the Ottomans sent an armada and nearly 50,000 men to take the fortress on Malta and kill the few thousand knights and civilians inside. Big mistake for the Ottomans.

Here's a lesson from history: never besiege a city ruled by a man named Jean who loads his cannons with his prisoners' heads. Chief Malta Knights - The Knights of St John defeated Ottoman

forces in the famous "siege of Malta" in 1565

Knight Jean Valette didn't even blink when the Ottomans overran Malta's outer fortifications and killed 1,500 Maltese. For weeks, the Ottomans rained thousands of cannonballs on Valette and his defenders. When the main walls were finally breached, Ottoman soldiers poured into the fort, expecting little resistance.

Instead, the Ottomans found Valette and a few hundred of the best knights in the history of sword swinging. They were a little rusty, maybe, but more than capable of slicing their way through a few thousand Turks in the narrow breach. After four months, the Ottomans still couldn't take Malta and lost 10,000 of their comrades.

When a relief force of 8,000 Christian corsairs arrived off the coast of Malta, the Ottomans finally had an excuse to retreat and leave those crazed Knights to their Hospitalling. And those Maltese hospitals were full, because the defenders suffered close to 100 percent casualties.



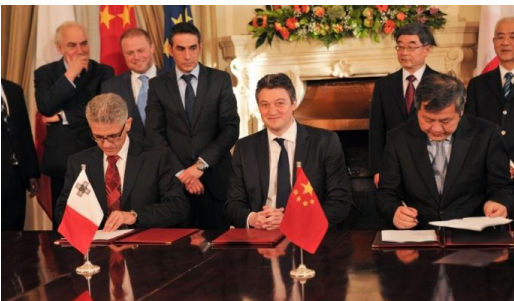
Thank you for your News letter which if receive regularly ,I found it very well presented ,and informative . In issue number 33 an article referring to Maltese ANZAC, This subject was recorded many times in some other publication, but not their full

military records where published as shown in this article.

I am sure that you are aware , that on the 12th.of May 2013 the ANZAC Memorial was Inaugurated At the Argoti Botanical Gardens, in Floriana Malta ,Commemorating the Servicemen of Australia and New Zealand Buried in Malta .It would have been fitting if the Maltese Australian Association in Malta , also Honored the Maltese-Australians who served with the Australian Imperial Forces and lost their life in action in the First World War. Some of these gallant men have no resting place ,others are buried in many War Cemeteries in Europe . The M.A.A. in Malta, should consider to honour these Maltese -Australian ANZAC Servicemen to record their names on the ANZAC Memorial in their Mother Country . As we are approaching the Centenary of the Gallipoli Campaign . I am sure that all the Maltese communities in Australia will welcome this gesture by the Maltese Australian Association in Malta to Honour some our own ANZAC.

Joseph Montebello

€320 million Enemalta share transfer with Chinese finalised



€320 million energy deal between Chinese state-owned company and government finalised • includes new joint ventures for production of renewable energy and servicing power plants.

Chinese-state owned company Shanghai Electric Power will be purchasing the BWSC plant for €220 million, €70 million of which will go for the conversion of the plant to gas. A separate €100 million by the Chinese subsidiary will be used as capital injection into Enemalta plc, a company that will not be set up by a parliamentary act. The capital injection will be an investment in the distribution system, the state corporation's bleeding

ground.

The total €320 million investment by Shanghai Electric Power does not include two joint venture projects to be carried out by the Maltese government and the Chinese company. The Chinese investment will see China owning a 33% stake in the corporation, while Enemalta's debts will be halved. Late this afternoon, Enemalta chairman Charles Mangion and Wang Yundan, chairman of the board of directors at Shanghai Electric Power, signed the €320 million equity investment.

According to Energy Minister Konrad Mizzi, Enemalta's debts would stand at €300 million of which €100 million would be shouldered by Shanghai Electric Power. "Shanghai Electric Power will carry its weight and government guarantees committed for the state corporation will reduce drastically. At the end, the government will be carrying around €200 million in debts," he said. Mizzi said the BWSC's debts will be paid in full: the Chinese company will transfer the money to Enemalta and Enemalta would then transfer the shareholding asset. An associate company will be set up. The deal between China Power Investment Corporation and government was signed today, paving the way for a confirmed €320 million investment in Malta's state-owned energy company Enemalta. The Chinese shareholding will be of 33%, and Enemalta's debt is expected to be halved and be brought down to approximately €300 million. The deal was brokered during Prime Minister Joseph Muscat's visit in China in September 2013, when a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by energy minister Konrad Mizzi and Lu Qizhou, Chief Executive Officer of China Power Investment Corporation. The deal will be brought into parliament for a resolution to be passed by MPs and amendments presented to the Enemalta Act.

THE FIRST MALTESE MIGRANT IN ADLEIADE – FABRI FROM BIRGU

We do not know who was the first Maltese to settle in South Australia. However, Francesco De Cesare, a Maltese scholar and officer of the Maltese Government who travelled across Australia during the 1880s, recorded a very interesting but sad story of Adelaide's first Maltese he encountered. His name was C. Fabri and his occupation was a land surveyor.

Decesare stated in his work (28 June 1883) *Reports Upon the Unsuitability of the British Colonies in Australia as a Field Maltese Emigration* that he met Fabri who at that time was employed by the government as a draughtsman.

Unfortunately, he was retrenched due to economic measures taken by the government. To survive he had to sell his professional instruments and books.

Decesare wrote "*In Adelaide, retired at the Destitute Asylum, I found a Maltese by the name of C Fabri, who says he was a perito agrimensore [a skilled land surveyor], and that he went there in search of employment as land surveyor; that he travelled on foot several hundreds of miles inland; was employed for sometime by the Government as draughtsman but afterwards dismissed as they reduced the number of employees in the Survey Department, and that,, not having any means to live upon, he was obliged to pawn all his professional instruments and books and his clothes, so that he was reduced to a state of starvation; and from a sense of humanity, the Government lodged him for some time in that Asylum. The Director of that establishment told me that according to the regulations he could not keep him any longer, and that he had written to the Chief Secretary.*

The Under Colonial Secretary showed me a correspondence which had passed between the said Fabri and Sir William Robinson, the Governor, the result of which was that the Governor recommended that he should be kept there till they found some employment for him.

However, they say, that they have kept him already long enough and that they could not keep him any longer; and moreover, that they had offered him an employment at seven shillings a day, which he refused. I asked what that employment was; and when I was told that it was a manual one, for carrying earth in a wheel barrow, I remarked that it was not expected that a professional man would adapt himself to such work. In fact, when questioned by me, Fabri said that he would die of starvation rather than humiliate himself to that degree.

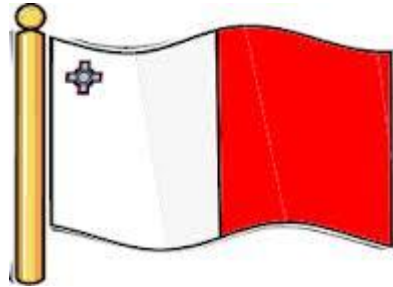
As the Government were not authorised to pay his passage to Malta and send him back to his country, and even if they were disposed to do that for him, serious objections might arise against their action, in as much as it would be a bad precedent, which might be cited on other occasions. I agreed with them to keep him at the Asylum till I arrive in Malta, report the case to the Government or the family of Fabri, who live at Vittoriosa, would send the necessary amount for paying his passage to Malta. I beg therefore to submit this matter to the consideration of the Government in order that, if they think proper, the necessary steps may be taken as to enable him to return to Malta."

His health deteriorated so much that he finished up in Adelaide's Destitute Asylum where he eventually died.



Monument to commemorate Freedom Day.

On 31st March 1979 the last of the British forces left the Maltese Islands. This day is known and celebrated as Freedom Day and is one of the five national holidays in Malta and Gozo. This monument is situated at Vittoriosa - Birgu



Dom Mintoff alongside Sir Anthony Mamo when Malta was declared a republic.

- 1964 - Malta Independence within the British Commonwealth
- 1974 - Malta becomes a Republic
- 1979 - Last British services leave Malta
- 1987 - Change in the 1974 Constitution

Malta becoming an Independent State and later a Republic

In 1947, another constitution was granted to Malta but the people were still unhappy and the Maltese pushed for independence. Malta was finally granted independence on **21st September**

1964, after many discussions and negotiations with the United Kingdom. Under the new constitution **Queen Elizabeth II** was still head of state with a **governor** – general exercising executive authority on her behalf. Independence day is now commemorated with a [national holiday](#).

Malta as a new Independent State

Dominic Mintoff led the Malta **Labour Party** in 1971 and also won the general elections which pushed Malta to become a **republic** on 13 December 1974. Dominic Mintoff also weakened the ties with the United Kingdom so that the last British military men left Malta in 1979. In 1980 Malta adopted a policy of **neutrality**.

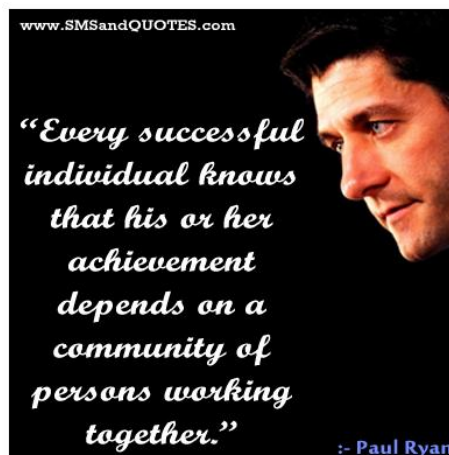
Malta's membership in the European Union

Malta applied to join the European Union in 1990 with the help of the foreign minister **Guido de Marco**.

This issue divided the Maltese population in half; and after negotiations and a intensive referendum campaign, Malta joined the EU on the **1st of May 2004**. On the 1st January 2008 Malta joined the **Eurozone**.



**MALTESE GUILD BILLIARD COMPETITION
AT THE MALTESE CULTURAL CENTRE
6 JEANES STREET BEVERLEY SOUTH AUSTRALIA
11 MARCH 2014
FINALISTS
PAUL CUTAJAR AND HOVER BORNHOVER
WINNER - PAUL CUTAJAR
ORGANISER - JOHN MANGION**



THE SIX RULES FOR BAKING by [Sammy and Bella](#)



Ever had a baking disaster? Use this guide from Sammy and Bella to discover all the basic rules of baking and create your very own masterpieces!

1. Thou shalt always lick the spoon

The first rule of cake club is that you must always lick the spoon! My fondest memories of baking come from when I was “about this high”, barely seeing over the kitchen bench, and waiting patiently with big sorrowful puppy dog eyes till I received the ultimate of prizes – the spoon.

Baking is all about precision, so although they look very artistic, cakes are really more

of a science. So for this reason, there are many rules to follow. Despite the somewhat unemotional set of procedures involved, baking warms the heart and soul like no other form of cooking. So follow the rules of bake club, and enjoy every delicious mouthful!

2. Thou shalt have all the right equipment

It's important to have all the right equipment, especially a good oven with even temperature and good air flow to avoid burned bottoms and uneven rising. A stand mixer will make life much much easier, and a good set of non stick baking pans in different sizes will also help.

3. Thou shalt measure ingredients precisely:

Measurement is also crucial, so it's important to have a set of measuring cups, and even better, a set of electronic scales.

4. Thou shalt time everything impeccably:

Timing is everything. Whether its how long to mix a batter (to get just the right level of gluten) or how long you bake for. It's also a good idea to invest in an electronic timer.

5. Thou shalt respect technique:

The tender melt in the mouth texture of cake is caused by tiny light little air bubbles and they start in the process of **creaming** butter and very fine caster sugar. During this creaming process, tiny pockets of air are carried along the rough edges of the sugar crystals and are then trapped in the fat of the butter.


Beating in egg is the next crucial step, as the proteins coat the bubble of air and fat, and stop it from collapsing during baking. Modern baking powders do a good job, but it's still worth taking these steps seriously for the best texture.

Finally, we **fold** in the flour. Flour should be soft (with a low protein content, not hard like the flour used for pasta or bread) and it essentially provides structure to the cake and sets the egg-fat-air mixture. Gently folding in flour not only helps to avoid breaking those little air bubbles, it also helps to reduce the amount of gluten developed, resulting in a softer texture.


6. Thou shalt not over bake:


Baking takes place in 3 stages: rising, setting, and browning. Every oven has a slightly different temperature so it's important to look out for clues to say it's ready. The edges will begin to come away from the tin slightly, but the best way to tell is to insert a skewer. If it comes out clean, the cake is ready. If your cake turns out heavy and dense, the temperature was too low. If it is cracked on top, it's likely the temperature was too high.


WHAT OUR READERS ARE SAYING!!!


 GC: Thank you very much for sharing this newspaper. I am **French from Maltese origine**. I am living near Paris . My Grand Mother, was called Louise Scicluna. Her husband, my Grand father was called François Chetcuti . Georges Chetcuti.


Thank you very much for sending the E-Newsletter 33 it's not only of a great News letter but putting me back on old memories of South Australia,. In early 50's I had an uncle was a priest at Lockleys Henley beach road in a half round tin Army shed his name was Fr. Vittorin Alessandro O.F.M. with Fr. Ferriggi, my father , my brother and self visit him from Victoria a few times. Please tell me of any changes to the old Church since. I shall thank you very much, and keep the Newsletter coming. Tisljiet, Alfred Alessandro


 Thank you for the Newsletter. I enjoy reading about other immigrants as I have mum's family in USA, Canada, and UK. My cousin lives in Detroit at Ann Arbor and her husband used to work for Ford now their son is a Car Tester and has a prominent job with Ford too. One day it will be good if you will write an article about Maltese working for Ford. I will send you the details of my cousin Sam Mangion. I am going to forward this Newsletter to them so they will take pride of the guy mentioned in this issue. Well done and please keep it free from a one sided politics so it keeps rolling to more success. I like the cultural notes such as Easter and the food. This should be sent to all Maltrese School in Australia. Regards Antoinette


 Ghaziz Frank grazzi hafna ta' l-ahhar Maltese E Newsletter 33 .Hija wisq interessanti u informattiva u hadt pjacir hafna naqraha.Proset tax xoghol I qed taghmel b'din in newsletter & Keep up the Good Work .Inselli ghalik u ghall Josie u nixtieqilkom L Ghid it tajjeb ,Sahha. Carmen DeBono


 Din l-E-Newsletter napprezzaha hafna u nghaddiha anke lill- "contacts" li ghandi Malta. Proset tax-xoghol li qed tiehu. Rose Lofaro.

 Really enjoying your newsletters and I am so pleased to hear you are making recipes a regular feature in future. You have achieved a good mix of Maltese and Australian content – all of it very interesting. I always print the newsletter off to give mum a copy since she does not have a computer. She looks forward to it every week just as much as I do.Thanks Frank not only for a great newsletter but also a great insight into both our Maltese and Australian heritage. **Kind Regards,** Rosemary Norton


 Ghaziz Frank, prosit u prosit tassew ghall-Newsletter 33. Jiena dejjem insib l-Newsletter tieghek ferm interessanti u nformattiva. Inselli ghalik hafna Carmen Galea


 My name is Carmen and I like to say thank you for the Maltese newsletter that I enjoyed so much . I live in **Bendigo VICTORIA** and we don't see anything like this not even the radio .I have to go on the computer to know what is going on . So thank you again Carmen.


 Thanks for the newsletter - good interesting topics. Thank you for this newsletter it is so interesting my wife and I have thoroughly enjoyed reading it . Carmel Axiaq

 I hope that you are well as all of us here in **Canada** are as well except for the extra long cold winter that we are having this year. Frank,I thought of dropping you a few words to let you know how much I enjoy reading your newsletter. It is very informative and diverse ,keeping the reader looking out for more new items to read. I often consider starting a newsletter for the Maltese community here in Canada but unfortunately I am very short on time. In the meantime I will keep enjoying your newsletter and wish you all the best. Keep up the good work. Joe Sherri President Maltese Canadian Federation

I cannot express how grateful I am at receiving 21 pages of immensely interesting information ranging from surnames to balconies to San Anton Gardens. I kept reading one page after another non-stop. How wonderful all of you are. Your love for Malta and the nostalgic memories expressed are witnesses io this great love. Prior to your information I have been reading my cousin's Letteratura Maltija. Hpow dedicated you are! We are so proud of you and genuinely thank you. Keep up your work which we appreciate so much. Warm regards, Godfrey Magri.

 Thank you for sending me this newsletter. I hope you and your family are keeping well. I am definitely going to make the Maltese Kwarezimal Lenten Almond Cakes now that its Great Lent. I'll let you know how they go. Kindest regards, Vicki Antoniou.

 Thank you once again for a very informative and delightful newsletter. It is, I think important to have some condensed knowledge of Malta. I feel very confident in saying that many readers would share this view. Cettina Marsh

 Thank you very much for sending me this interesting link between Australia and Malta. Although I have relatives living in Australia for so many years never told me about such an informative link. This is also important for so many maltese can share other news, culture, social, religiouspolitical etc. Well done and good luck. Thank you again till the next issue. Antonio Bartolo



REMEMBERING THE PAST

Migrants in Employment - Cane Sugar –
Maltese and Italian cane cutters in Mackay Queensland.
Australia

A Maltese cane cutter in sugar cane fields near Cairns.

CATEGORY: Photograph

PRINCIPAL CREDIT: Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous
Affairs (DIMIA)

FORMAT: b/w negative

TYPE: cellulose acetate STATUS: preservation material

Date : 1970

MaltaPost Maritime Malta Series II – ‘Commemorations’



MaltaPost issued a set of four stamps on the 18 March, 2014 commemorating 35 years from the End of Military Facilities Agreement and the 200th anniversary of the Malta Police Force.

The stamps have a face value of €0.26 and €1.55 and depict police boats and navy vessels respectively. On 31 March 1979 the last British Forces left Malta and for the first time in recorded history, Malta was no longer the military base of a foreign power.

Symbolically, the Royal Navy was the main protagonist in the event having been the first of the British forces to arrive in Malta in 1800. The two vessels portrayed on the stamps, HMS Alexander (1800) and HMS London (1979), are depicted in the vicinity of Fort St. Angelo and Fort St. Michael respectively.

The Malta Police Force is one of the oldest in Europe. It was founded in its present form on 12 July 1814 by the Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Malta Sir Thomas Maitland. Since then, responsibility for the management and control of the executive

police rested with the Inspector General of Police (now the Commissioner of Police), who received his orders from the Governor.

Following the granting of self-governance in 1921, the Police Department became the responsibility of the Malta Government. The police boats depicted on the stamps appear against the background of two harbours, that of Marsamxett and of Sliema.

A police station appears in the background of each one. The stamps have been designed by Cedric Galea Pirota and will be issued in sheets of 10 stamps. Each stamp measures 40mm x 33mm with a perforation of 13.9 x 14.0 (comb.) bearing the Maltese Crosses watermark. Printex Ltd will print 96,000 stamps of the €0.26 denomination and 48,000 of the €1.55 stamp. The stamps were made available as from Tuesday 18 March from all Post Offices in Malta and Gozo.

Orders may be placed online at www.maltaphilately.com or by mail from the Philatelic Bureau, MaltaPost p.l.c. 305, Qormi Road, Marsa, MTP 1001; Telephone: 2596 1740, e-mail: info@maltaphilately.com.



MALTESE PAST PUPILS OF DON BOSCO

NSW AUSTRALIA

The Maltese Past Pupils of Don Bosco NSW Australia Incorporated is an Association of Salesian old boys who frequented in their youth a Salesian college, school, oratory, etc. In addition to the above, the Association embraces in its fold, men and women who although did not frequent in their youth any Salesian college, etc. nevertheless, because of their strong desire to get to know the work of his Salesian Congregation, are welcome to join the Association, provided they are willing to accept and abide by the rules and regulations of the Constitution of the Association.

The Association was originally founded in 1972 as "The Salesian Old Boys Association of NSW", by three "old boys" of the Salesian Oratory in Sliema (Malta), namely Fr Carmelo Sciberras, Alfred Fenech, and the current President, Joseph Zerafa. Members such as Charles Catania, Philip Bonnici, Charles Muscat, Joseph Borg, Victor Fenech, Louis Sammut and Albert Borg (deceased), were among the thirty original members that formed the nucleus of the fledgling Association. They were a happy group of ex-Sliema Oratorians, who had migrated to Australia in the early fifties. By the early seventies as hard working family men they felt the need to somehow rekindle their enthusiasm for their Salesian upbringing and love for Don Bosco, by forming the original Association known then as mentioned earlier, as "The Salesian Old Boys Association of NSW." However, the Salesian Old Boys Association of the seventies, which was neither incorporated nor established on fundamental professional lines, lasted unfortunately for about seven odd years. Nevertheless, a lot of good and worthwhile time was had by all, as we had already formed by then a very strong bond of Salesian friendship between us.

It was in the latter stages of 1986 when the well-known Mark Caruana, an ex-Sliema Oratorian himself, on a visit to Malta, was greatly encouraged by the Rev. Fr. Joseph Mangion SDB, (deceased July 1997) to try to resurrect the Association from its long slumber. Mark did not waste any time, and true to his promise, on his return home contacted Joseph Zerafa, and together started the ball rolling to once again hoist the banner of Don Bosco and his Salesians by the ex-Salesian Oratorians of both Sliema and Victoria (Gozo). The year 1987 will always be one to be remembered. For exactly in January of that year, all those ex-Salesian Oratorians, who were contacted earlier, assembled in a festive mood for a historical reunion at La Valette Social Centre in Blacktown, NSW.

Frs. Paul Barron and Ugo De Maria celebrated Holy Eucharist in the St. Francis Chapel, which was packed for the occasion. A memorable, moving homily on the life of Don Bosco was given by Fr. Ugo thus providing a very strong impetus to the re-forming of the Association. On that same evening, during a social get-together that took place after the religious service, it was unanimously and happily agreed upon, to immediately go ahead with plans to re-establish the Association, on proper solid foundations and guidelines. An interim Committee was then formed and, with the help of God and Don Bosco, the Association slowly but surely started gaining momentum. One can truly say in all humility, that the rebirth of our Association was nothing short of a living miracle.

On advice from the hierarchy of the Salesian Congregation, the original name of the Association (Salesian Old Boys Association) was changed to "Maltese Past Pupils of Don Bosco" to properly reflect the composition of the Association, having already embraced both male and female participants. In compliance with established standards, steps were taken to ensure that the Association was legally incorporated, and subsequently registered and approved as an authorised fund raiser Association. These measures were the first initiatives which the then Management Committee took to build the Association as a truly professional movement, inspired by the charisma of Don Bosco and the Salesian way of life.



LEST WE FORGET

The Origin of the 9 O'clock Ceremony

While this impressive ceremony was only adopted by the Returned and Services League (R.S.L.) since World War II, its origin dates back to World War I. Indeed, the service is still held nightly at the Menin Gate, famous World War I landmark on the battlefield of Ypress, France.



Hundreds of millions all over the world regularly listen via the B.B.C. to the ringing of Big Ben, the giant bell in the Tower of the Houses of Parliament in London. Although they know the preliminary chimes, because they broadcast at least once every 24 hours at 9 o'clock each evening, only a small fraction of listeners realise the full significance of Big Ben. The chimes and the strikes have been heard since November 10, 1910, but the origin of all this goes back to World War I. The scene is a mountain near Jerusalem, they say, early in December 1917. In a billet at the mouth of a cave, on the eve of battle, two British officers are in conversation. They were close friends. One of the two, a man of unusual character and vision, feeling instinctively that his hours of life on earth were numbered, said, "I shall not come through this struggle".

You will survive and see a greater and more vital conflict. When that time comes, remember us. We shall long to play our part, whatever we may be – we shall not fight with material weapons then, but we will help you if you will help us. We shall be an unseen but mighty army - you will have 'time' available as your servant. Lend us a moment of it each day, and by your Silence, give us our opportunity. The power of Silence is greater than you know..." The speaker was killed in action the next day, the friend he addressed was severely wounded, left with the enemy, escaped, recovered and went back to England with a mission. His name was Major Tudor Pole. He became Chairman of the Big Ben Council. The one who died knew that he would die soon. He also saw in his vision, the future and still greater, the Second World War. He enlisted his friend's cooperation, and won it. This is how the idea of a daily moment of unity in silence was born. Ultimately, it became known as a Silent Minute and it is now signalled by the chiming and stroking of Big Ben at 9 o'clock each evening. It took years until the dying wish of this soldier was fulfilled from 1917 to 1940. The signal for the Silent Minute was broadcast for the first time by the B.B.C. on November 10, 1940, also to indicate to the world that England had not been overthrown by the enemy, and has been repeated each evening since then.

Chev. Charles Farrugia – President RSL MALTESE SUB-BRANCH SA

SEE YOU AGAIN SOON - SAHHA U SLIEM