



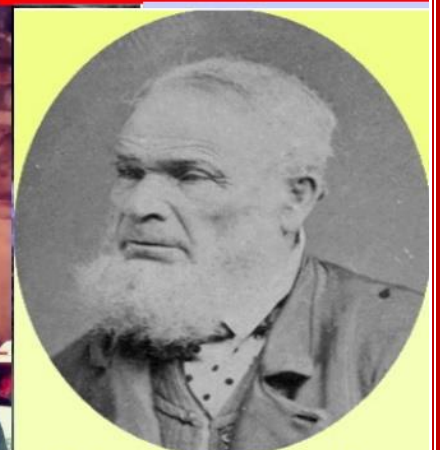
Maltese eNewsletter

JOURNAL OF MALTESE LIVING ABROAD

Editor: Frank L Scicluna



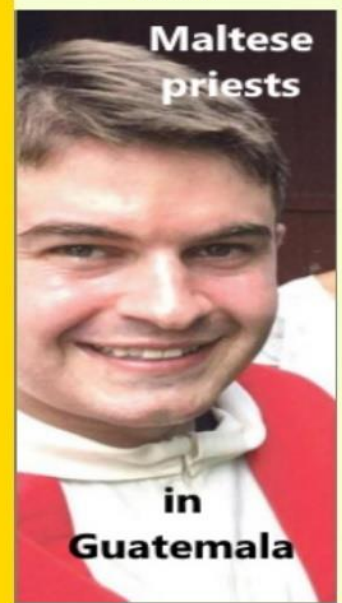
ORDER OF MALTA VOLUNTEERS



Antonio Azzopardi
Australia's first
Maltese free settler
1839



1994 MACKAY - QUEENSLAND
Inaugural Maltese Festival



**Maltese
priests**

**in
Guatemala**



**FIRST 70 YEAR OLD
MALTESE/CANADIAN**
To complete the
One Track Mind
24 Hour Challenge





Papal Honour for member of the Order of Malta, Greg Crafter AO

Pope Francis has appointed Greg Crafter AO as a Knight of the Order of St Gregory the Great.

Announcing the awards, Adelaide Archbishop Patrick O'Regan said the Order of St Gregory the Great was one of the highest awards for lay people, bestowed on Catholic men and women deemed to have made a significant contribution to the Catholic Church.

A lawyer before entering State Parliament, Mr Crafter served as the Member for Norwood for 14 years, seven as Education Minister. Since becoming involved with the Young Christian Workers movement as a young man, he has continued his active involvement in the local parish and the Adelaide Archdiocese, including chair of the Clergy Care Council, chair of the Diocesan Finance Council and as a member of the Order of Malta. At a national level, Mr Crafter served as chair of the National Catholic Education Commission for seven years during a period of complex political engagement with the Federal Government which led to long-term funding benefits for Catholic schools across Australia.

He was a director of the Little Company of Mary, which runs Calvary Health Care across Australia, for nine years, and has been heavily involved in fundraising for the Mary Potter Hospice in Adelaide.

In 2015 Mr Crafter was appointed by the Bishops Conference to the Truth, Justice and Healing Council which was established by the Australian bishops to liaise with the Royal Commission into Institutional Child Sexual Abuse.

In the wider community, he has held a number of positions on key government boards including the South Australian Housing Trust, was president of the Geneva-based International Baccalaureate Organisation and a member of the Council of the University of Adelaide which awarded him an honorary doctorate for his contribution to education. Mr Crafter was nominated for the papal honour by Bishop Greg O'Kelly on behalf of the Adelaide Archdiocese.

“Stretch out your hand to the poor” –



4th World Day of the Poor

The World Day of the Poor was established by Pope Francis in 2017 with the theme “Let us love, not with words but with deeds”. This year the theme was “Stretch forth your hand to the poor” (Sir 7:32). In announcing the theme for this year, Pope Francis concluded by reminding us that “In this journey of daily encounter with the poor, the Mother of God is ever at our side. More than any other, she is the Mother of the Poor.” Given the Order of Malta’s dedication to the poor and our Lady, this speaks to us directly.

To acknowledge this special day, members and volunteers of the Order of Malta across Australia

participated in both organised activities and personal acts.

With the easing of Covid restrictions in **Melbourne**, members and volunteers distributed Covid care packs directly to the homeless and through the Missionary Sisters of Charity. They also shared breakfast and warm coffee served with homeless in the city of Melbourne who were delighted to be greeted early Sunday with a smile.

In **Brisbane**, members, candidates and volunteers shared high quality, personal care packs and solidarity with many friends from the Emmanuel City Mission. During friendly conversations, attendees expressed appreciation for the thoughtful care packs and “early Christmas” sweets.

In **Sydney**, Conventual Chaplain, Father James McCarthy, offered Mass at his Parish, St Aloysius in Cronulla. After Mass, the Order of Malta Volunteers hosted a free BBQ next to our Order of Malta marque, where parishioners were invited to join our members and volunteers to learn about our activities to assist those in greatest need. In the **Northern Territory** members and volunteers packed 100 hygiene bags for the homeless in preparation for World Day of the Poor and connected with St Vincent de Paul to distribute the packs to the homeless who visit Ozanam House

Gieh in-Nadur lis-Sorijiet Frangiskani

Kav. Joe M Attrad – Nov 2020

Bil-ferħ ilqajt l-istedina
Illi nikteb dawn il-vrus
Miniex nigdeb, imm'emmnuni
Mill-qalb ħargu dawn il-ħsus!

Din is-sena ġew qaluli
Illi mess lis-Sorijiet
Illi jirbħu dan il-Premju
Illi jghixu hawn fis-skiet

Waqt illi dejjem jitolbu
Għan-nies kollha tan-Nadur
Biex fuqhom jissawbu dejjem
Gid u hena għall-futur.

Min jaf kemm tfal minn idejhom
Tgħallmu w trawmu tul is-snin
Biex illum għandhom familja
U qed jghixu lkoll henjin.

Servizz jagħtu wkoll fil-knisja
Illi tmiss ma' dal-kunvent
Sajf u xitwa, fil-ħarifa
U issa li ġej l-Avvent.

Madre Gemma, madre twajba
Għexet hawn għal bosta snin
Dejjem kienet ta' eżempju –
Qegħda issa tgawdi d-Divin.

Madre oħra hi Bertilla
Persuna b'qalb l-aktar kbira
Fin-Nadur twieldet u kibret
Bi tbissima, bla tgergira!

Mill-għatba tal-bieb 'l ġewwa
Issib hawn tliet sorijiet -
Swor Virginia, Dorothea,
U l-Madre m'għandhiex kwiet

Dejjem sejra sabiex tara
Li d-dar timxi bla inkwiet
U meta l-buqxiex le jwassal
Titfa' ħarstha fis-Smewwiet.

Fin-Nadur il-Kunsill ħadem
Sabiex jara n-Nadurin
'Il quddiem miexja fil-paċi
U għal dejjem magħqudin.

Bwiebu huma dejjem miftuħa
Biex isostni lil kulhadd
U l-għajnuna dejjem jagħti
Bla ma jħares lejn wiċċ ħadd.

Deherlu li kellu jiftakar
Ukoll f'dawn il-Frangiskani
Uljed Madre Margerita
Imferrxin mal-Oċeani!

Ejjew mela ma' dawn ħutna
Medhijin fix-xogħol u t-talb
Nifirħulhom, nawgurawlihom
Għomor twil, saħħa mill-qalb.

O Madonna tal-Carmelu
Itfa' l-ħarsa ħelwa tiegħek
Fuq din il-Komunita mbierka
Haġa waħda zommha miegħek.

U lil dawn iż-Żewġ Kolonni
Glorja w gieh in-Nadurin -
Harsuna minn dan il-Virus,
'Tuna jiem sbieħ u ħelwin.

Mulej itfa' ħarstek fuqna
U eħlisna minn dal-mewġ
Biex fis-sajf ngħajtu ferħana
'Evviva tagħna ż-Żewġ'!

Jalla jkollna Milied hieni
Sabiex ngħixu lkoll henjin;
Berah nifthu bibien qalbna
Biex jidħol Gesu' Bambin.

Wara dawna l-Mitt sena
X'sa nixtieq lis-Sorijiet!
Illi jghixu hawn ferħana
Jaħdmu w jitolbu fis-skiet.

**WE GIVE THANKS TO ALL OUR
READERS FROM GOZO**

THE WEBPAGE OF THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALTA IN CANADA, *In view of the measures taken to address COVID-19 (Corona Virus), the Republic of Malta and its Consulates are suspending all visa services as of 18 March 2020, until further notice. Visas will be issued only in extreme cases on humanitarian grounds or in the case of national interest or for the needs of health authorities.*

Information and Advice from the Ministry for Health

If you have coronavirus symptoms dial 111 or 2132 4086

If you are stuck abroad and need assistance dial 0036 2204 2200

If you are in quarantine and need help, including food or medicine delivery, dial 2141 1411

If you need education-related advice dial 2598 1000

Welcome to the webpage of the Consulate General of the Republic of Malta in the Commonwealth of Canada. This webpage exists specifically to inform and be of service to the thousands of Maltese citizens and Maltese-Canadians alike.

Over the past century, many Maltese have settled in Canada and today Canada is their adopted country and the birth country of subsequent Maltese generations. Malta and Canada enjoy excellent bilateral relations, primarily because in Canada, the Maltese Islands have the second largest diaspora community in the world.

The webpage of the Consulate General of the Republic of Malta, which is based in Toronto, provides information on consular services offered to you, the Maltese, their families and friends throughout Canada, to facilitate the wishes in relations to the Maltese Islands.

Whether you would like to visit, live, get married, study, work, retire, search your family history, buy property, invest or start a business in Malta, the Consulate General is here to help you!

Dr Raymond Xerri



ORDER OF MALTA: Serving the hungry with the Missionaries of Charity in Darwin

On 25 October 2020, two members of the Order of Malta joined the Missionaries of Charity in Darwin for their weekly feeding of the disadvantaged and homeless. Members met the sisters at their Convent in Fannie

Bay and prepared the bread and packed the food into Sisters' little bus about 5pm. They then proceeded to visit two locations in parkland where meals are served on a weekly basis. The first destination was a very pleasant area that overlooked the water of Darwin harbour. The second was farther away with large trees and situated adjacent to a very large public housing complex. At each location approximately 50 substantial meals of beef ragu pasta followed by fruit salad and custard. Most of those who attended were indigenous adults. This activity restarted after a shutdown related to COVID 19.

Receiving no government assistance, the Missionaries of Charity survive on the Providence of God. We are reminded that our attitude must be that of recognizing Jesus in every person. Accordingly we thank the Missionaries of Charity for their generosity and for their practical love for the "poorest of the poor".



Caring for people in need – together

Who we are Order of Malta Volunteer (OMV) is a group for volunteers and young members between the age of 18 and 35 participating in the works of the Order.

What we do We care for people in need. Order of Malta Volunteers work both locally and nationally with members of the Association on existing projects, create their own projects as well as involvement activities to share and develop their Catholic

faith.

Our motivation To give young Australians the opportunity to care for others and assist in the organising of activities true to the traditions of the Order.

Expand current and future works of the Order

To create an environment for Christian fellowship for young members

To identify and nurture future Candidates for the Order

Activities 2021 Asia Pacific Youth Camp September 2021- Gold Coast

- **Coats for the Homeless / Care Packages Homework and mentoring underprivileged**
 - Aged care visits Refugee Support Community Care Vans
 - International holiday camps for young people with disabilities
- Overseas volunteering opportunities ie: Medical Clinic – Timor Leste

A global overview Internationally, the Order of Malta counts on 80,000 dedicated volunteers for the successful running of many of its projects across the world. Year-on-year they care for the homeless living in isolation in cities, assist refugees arriving on European shores, provide first-aid and organise medical and social campaigns, respond to victims of natural disasters, accompany disabled guests on pilgrimages and summer camps, support the elderly, housebound and prepare nourishing food for people.

These permanent volunteers include people of all nationalities and faiths, inspired by the principle of the Order of Malta to serve the needy and the forgotten under the values of the eight-point cross. Opening oneself up to others nourishes the spirit of new generations, encouraging their growth as people and as citizens. It is a phenomenon that the Order's volunteers experience first hand, through the many projects and schemes where young people work alongside professionals: men and women who, thanks to their efforts, will become spiritually enriched and socially conscious in the future.

TO JOIN GO TO : <https://form.jotform.co/Orderofmalta/oomvolunteerinfo>



[Australian High Commission, Malta et Ambassade d'Australie en Tunisie](#)
High Commissioner Jenny Cartmill was honoured to attend a moving ceremony for [#ArmisticeDay](#) at the Saluting Battery. Malta, the “Nurse of the Mediterranean” cared for many thousands of wounded. 301 ANZACs buried here. With heartfelt gratitude to Malta, and may they Rest In Peace.
[Fondazzjoni Wirt Artna](#)

[WeWillRememberThem](#)

[Update on travel to and from Malta - 13th November 2020](#)



JOSEPHINE ZAMMIT CORDINA, A DEAR FRIEND OF ALL MALTESE LIVING ABROAD, IS 85

I, the editor, on behalf of all the readers of the Maltese Journal, wish a happy and blessed 85th birthday to Josephine Zammit Cordina, a wonderful woman, a wife, a mother, a friend and an iconic Maltese actor and broadcaster who has a special place in her heart of the Maltese living abroad. For many years Josephine brought a slice of life in Australia to Malta television screens and gave the Maltese emigrants the sense of nostalgia they craved.

Hers is the name that is synonymous with the popular TV program *Waltzing Matilda*. Zammit Cordina is the woman that has built many bridges between the Maltese community in Australia and that in Malta, bringing to TV screens the life of a typical Maltese family in Oz. The Government of Australia honoured Josephine with the award of Order of Australia.

Frank L Scicluna



Joseph Camilleri

I just did a One Track Mind 24 Hour Challenge in aid of 'Help Fill a Dream Foundation' which helps terminally ill children fulfill their dreams. This was at the Cowichan Sportsplex Track in Duncan, British Columbia, Canada.

On behalf of all the readers of the Maltese Journal we congratulate Joseph for such a magnificent achievement. WELL DONE



MMG CONCERT BAND OF VICTORIA - CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Help support our Band by purchasing a ticket in our Christmas raffle

\$15.00 per ticket (+0.50 transaction fee per ticket)

Raffle drawn Tue 1 Dec at 8pm live on our

Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/MMGConcertBandofVictoria

Only open for Australia (Ex.WA&ACT)

On Tuesday 1 December 2020 at 8:00 PM

LOCATION

The link to the online event to be provided by the event organiser



CHRISTMAS APPEAL

In Aid Of Id-Dar Tal- Providenza Malta !
Organised By The Friends Of Providence House NSW
Due to Covid-19 Pandemic, most funds from Donors and Sponsors are drying up.

Help Is Urgently Needed

As we cannot organise fund raising functions, I am asking all our Supporters across Australia and New Zealand, To Make A Donation at any Commonwealth Bank -CBA : The Friends Of Providence House NSW

BSB : 062 416 A/C : 1019 9448

No Fees Apply. Please supply contact details for acknowledgement

You may also contact:

Jim Borg : 0418825591 Marisa : 0414863123, Miriam : 0419476924.

The Maltese Journal supports id-Dar tal-Providenza – Malta

CONCETTA BRINCAT F'ILSIENNA

BY ADRIAN GRIMA POSTED ON NOVEMBER 11, 2020

www.adriangrima.org

Fit-tieni ġimgħa ta' Novembru 2020, deher servizz dwar l-awtriċi mhux magħrufa Concetta



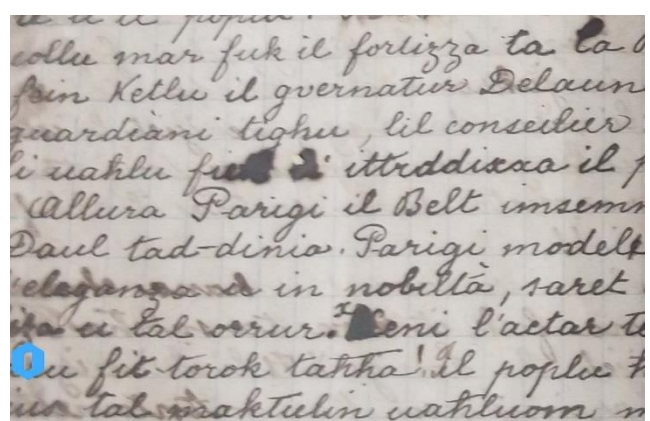
*Concetta Brincat mal-familja tagħha fl-ewwel snin tas-seklu 20.
Hajr lil Carmen Baxter tar-ritratt.*

Brincat fil-programm nru 31 tas-sensiela **Il-Sienna** fuq TVM. Din hija [promozzjoni](#) qasira ta' dan il-programm li dehret fuq Facebook:

Concetta Brincat, imwiolda Sciberras, kitbet żewġ rumanzi bil-Malti fl-1919 u l-1922. Minn dak li nafu, dawn huma l-eqdem żewġ rumanzi bil-Malti miktubin minn mara. Dawn iż-żewġ rumanzi storiċi, *Il-Familja de Valereux* jew *Louis Mitluf Ġewwa l-Bosk*, ambjentat fi żmien ir-Rivoluzzjoni Franciża, u *Is-Saħħara Nerelis*, ambjentat fi żmien l-imperatur Ruman Neruni, qed inħejjuhom għall-pubblikazzjoni mill-Klabb Kotba

Maltin.

Sadattant jien qed nagħmel riċerka storika biex ikollna idea min kienet Concetta Brincat, li twieldet B'Kara fl-1870 u mietet Tas-Sliema fl-1940. Mhux faċli tibni l-istorja ta' mara li bħal ha fna nisa oħra kienet ftit jew wisq invizibbli fin-narrattiva nazzjonali u fl-istorja soċjali tagħna. Ha fna mit-tfulija u ż-żgħożija tagħha Concetta qattgħetha mal-familja tagħha fl-Alġerija u hawn ukoll diffiċli ssib traċċi tagħha. Imma fl-istess ħin din hija l-istorja ta' ha fna familja f'qar Maltin u Għawdxin li marru l-Afrika ta' Fuq fi żmien il-kolonizzazzjoni Franciża biex isibu x-xorti li ma sabux f'pajjiżna.



Wieħed mill-pitazzi li fuqu Concetta Brincat kitbet l-ewwel rumanz tagħha Silta mill-manuskritt tal-ewwel rumanz ta' Concetta Brincat Wieħed mill-pitazzi li fuqu Concetta Brincat kitbet l-ewwel rumanz tagħha

Hajr speċjali lil mibki Nicholas Bonello, li kien ikkuntattjani u wrieni l-manuskritti ta' Concetta Brincat, u lil bintu, Carmen Baxter, il-proneputija tagħha.



KEEP THE DREAM ALIVE

**Sunday's at The Maltese Center, 27-20 Hoyt Avenue South, Astoria, NY 11102
MALTESE CENTER**

November 2020

This is a difficult letter to write to you since the Maltese Center officially opened its doors in the Fall of 1982, your support is needed more than

ever to help the Center survive during these unprecedented times.

The Maltese Center has not been immune to the hardship that the COVID-19 shutdown has caused. It has created significant financial challenges. Following NYS & NYC mandates since March 2020 the Maltese Center had to cease all operations, events, and close to members and visitors. By July 2020, the Center was permitted to open to a limited capacity of 25 people outdoors only. Still not enough to generate funds needed to cover monthly costs such as the basics of utilities, taxes, and immediate maintenance issues that are ongoing regardless if we are open or closed. It is anticipated that reduced gatherings and revenue will continue through 2021. Your leadership, support, and generosity are essential as we face these challenges.

This letter is an urgent appeal to help financially by either showing your support by becoming a member and/or making a donation now. Membership dues are the most important part of the financial health of the Center, you can join or make a donation in any amount, to meet **the Maltese Center's goal of \$20,000 by December 31st 2020.**

Your contribution will continue this living dream of a Maltese community. Don't let it die after 41 years. Donations are greatly needed, as is your membership. A full year's membership is \$120, which amounts to \$10 a month.

Here is how to donate today

Memberships and donations can be fulfilled in three ways:

Website - go here: www.themaltesecenter.com to pay online for membership dues or donations. Payments are processed through PayPal and you do not need an account.

Mail a check - payable to **The Maltese Center**, address; *The Maltese Center, attn: Joe Grech, 27-20 Hoyt Avenue South, Astoria, NY 11102*

In person – Sunday's at *The Maltese Center, 27-20 Hoyt Avenue South, Astoria, NY 11102*

The Maltese Center is that place that keeps the strong connection we have of being Maltese outside of Malta. When you become a member, the Center becomes yours and you part of it. This is the only Maltese Center based in the northeast and with your help it will be here for years to come. Let's not break that connection and the sacrifices the community of the past made for the Maltese community. If the Center closes there will be no place for you to come enjoy the Maltese spirit, taste a pastizzi, or just the fact of having a place for the Maltese community. Show your Maltese pride and support TODAY!

With gratitude, **The Maltese Center 2020 Committee**

***PS-**It was a dedicated group of the Maltese community more than 40 years ago who saw the foresight in working collectively to secure a permanent place for the Maltese to call their own. Through tireless volunteer work and generous donations, the dream was realized. The Maltese community, a tiny nation with a big city dream come true bringing a feeling of home here. With your contribution you can help keep that dream alive!*

NSW Greystanes parishioners keep 'maltese Festa' alive



By Lisa Bright,
October 2020

and Fr Anton Damato, a priest from Malta who was to travel to Australia for Festa this year. Maltese recipes were shared. Prayer intentions were offered. Sponsors were recognised. One could even have nougat and honey cakes delivered! All Masses over the weekend were Festa Masses. The Sunday 10am Mass, usually the focus of the weekend, was much

Whilst COVID-19 prevented the outside celebrations of the Our Lady Queen of Peace (OLQP) Festa for 2020, it enabled a brand new opportunity for the 55th celebration of the event with creativity and innovation – Virtual Festa 2020!

The OLQP Festa Greystanes has been a yearly event in the community for the past 55 years. The Festa, introduced to the community of Greystanes by Maltese immigrants, celebrates Our Lady, Queen of Peace in thanksgiving for her intercession and protection in three significant sieges across Malta's history. It also celebrates the parish community of Our Lady Queen of Peace and the growth and strength from its humble beginnings to a vibrant, multicultural community known today.

As with many events this year, COVID-19 brought challenges to Festa 2020. What would normally be a Mass with 800-1000 people and outdoor celebrations drawing around 2000 people culminating in a vibrant fireworks display, initially raised the question 'what are we going to do?' It was important to the Festa Committee and to the OLQP Community to commemorate the Parish Feast in some way.

Earlier this year Pope Francis encouraged all to respond to this pandemic with a 'creativity of love'. As a result, we have all been applying creative solutions to how we carry out our lives and the celebration of Festa in 2020 was no exception.

Over the weekend of 26 and 27 September 2020, the [OLQP Festa Facebook Page](https://www.facebook.com/olqp.festa) hosted 'Virtual Festa 2020.' Families and friends celebrated the spirit of Festa, enhanced by watching and engaging with the videos and posts shared on the Festa Facebook page. The Virtual Festa included interviews with author Rupert Grech who shared stories on wartime Malta,

smaller than Festa Masses from previous years, but reached a larger audience through live streaming made possible by generous volunteers.

The highlights of the Virtual Festa were the origin stories of Festa – a series of five short videos sharing the story of Festa beginning 55 years ago and growing into the community event of Greystanes that is known today. The OLQP Festa Committee was overwhelmed by the number of people who watched these origin videos, and with the feedback received. One lady was brought to tears listening to a story referencing her family and sharing memories she had not heard of before. Others expressed their pride when remembering the early faith community of Greystanes and the joy these stories had awakened in their hearts.

The weekend of the Virtual Festa may be over, but all videos and photos remain available on the OLQP Festa Facebook Page. Everyone is invited to watch, comment and share these posts so that the story of Festa can continue to live in the hearts and minds of a new generation.

Festa is the story of the Maltese migrants in Australia who built a parish community which they enjoy and celebrate the fruits of today. It is the story of the people of Greystanes who grew up with the OLQP Festa.

The Festa Committee are extremely grateful for the experience of the Virtual Festa 2020 and to have had the opportunity to continue a tradition in a new and exciting way.

Visit the OLQP Festa Greystanes Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/olqp.festa>

Lisa Bright is the President of the OLQP Festa Committee and the Project Officer for the Pastoral Planning Office, Diocese of Parramatta.
CATHOLIC OUTLOOK



First replica of Napoleon's letter presented to the President, others issued for sale

Heritage Malta presented a replica of Napoleon's letter to His Excellency the President of Malta, whilst announcing the issue of 40 other replicas for sale to the general public, with all proceeds going to the Malta Community Chest Fund.

The original letter The original letter, in which Napoleon commanded General Desaix to start planning the invasion of Malta in 1798, was acquired by Heritage Malta last July for the sum of €60,000. It is currently on display at the National Museum of Archaeology in Valletta and will remain there till the end of this month, before finding its permanent place at the Maritime Museum in Birgu where it will be the centrepiece in the newly refurbished section dedicated to the French period in Malta.

To commemorate the acquisition of this historic document which played an important part in shaping our country's history, Heritage Malta is issuing a limited amount of replicas, each individually numbered, so that their respective buyers may keep a part of our history in their homes whilst contributing to a just cause.

The replica The first replica was presented to His Excellency the President of Malta, Dr George Vella, at San Anton Palace by Heritage Malta Chairman Anthony Scicluna, Executive Director Mario Cutajar, Chief Executive Officer Noel Zammit, Chief Operations Officer Kenneth Gambin, and Principal Curator at the Maritime Museum Liam Gauci. Mr Noel Zammit said that following the public's enthusiastic response to see the original letter, Heritage Malta deemed it fit to offer a unique opportunity through these replicas, whilst doing its part to give a helping hand to the Malta Community Chest Fund. Replicas of Napoleon's letter are available online on our online shop and also at the National Museum of Archaeology in Valletta and the Ġgantija Temples in Gozo.

Ghar Dalam (Cave of Darkness) Malta's

Unexplained Cave of Bones



2000 years before the [Pyramids](#) and [Stonehenge](#), we have evidence of man's presence in the 'Cave of Darkness' – Ghar Dalam on the Mediterranean island of [Malta](#).

This remarkable cave provides evidence of man first setting foot on the Maltese islands. At that time the islands were joined to the mainland – we are talking 5200 BC; that's over 7000 years ago! By examining the different fossils contained in the cave's geological strata at different times and various depths, we learned of a remarkable assortment of animal life and unique plants.



MALTA'S MOST IMPORTANT PALEONTOLOGICAL SITE

During the Ice Age, which ended some 12,000 years ago, Malta and Sicily were connected. When an Ice Age occurs a significant amount of sea water is incorporated into polar ice masses that results in a drop in sea level. When the ice melts during an interglacial period, the sea rises again. This is what we believe happened about 12,000 years ago.

The entrance to the Ghar Dalam cave and museum in Malta.)

It was this land bridge between Sicily and the Maltese islands that enabled the migration of life to a warmer climate. It was

this process that was also responsible for the hollowing out of caves and caverns like Ghar Dalam. This is undoubtedly Malta's most important paleontological site!

ANCIENT REMAINS OF PIGMY AND DWARF ANIMALS?

The cave is about 145 meters (476 feet) long, however, it is in the unique composition of its depth that the real story is told. A sequence of remains of animals extending back as far as 130,000 years!

Most remarkable, however, is that many of the remains discovered are of pigmy and dwarf varieties. Yes, pigmy elephants and dwarf hippopotami! The more recent layers contain a large number of stunted forms of red deer, small brown bears, foxes and wolves have also been unearthed.

All this evidence is displayed in the caves' museum, under the direction of Heritage Malta's John J. Borg, who was my guide on my recent visit to the cave.

In 1917, archaeologist Giuseppe Despott discovered two, what appeared to be human bull teeth - taurodont molars! Did they belong to a Neanderthal man or his much later cousin a Neolithic man? A difference by the way of well over 25,000 years! I have over the last few years taken a keen interest in the carbon dating process in connection with my research into the mysterious image on the Sacred Shroud of Turin and was interested to find out from John, what and if any dating had been carried out on these remarkable remains?

WHAT CAUSED THE PIGMY EFFECT "There are two factors...1. The small size of the island and lack of food source ...2. The lack of predators. The result was that there was no need and little nourishment to grow huge." There is a case of gigantism - an animal that had grown larger than its today's counterpart...a Maltese rodent! There had been two different excavations at Ghar Dalam. The cave was first explored in 1647; its scientific importance was however not really appreciated until the 1800s, when an Italian archaeologist who was searching for evidence of Neanderthal man in Malta excavated a small trench in the cave and found remains of hippos and some pottery.

However, it was in fact some years later that an English school teacher discovered the true importance of the cave. Excavations stopped in the 1970s, however in 1995, John made a discovery of a pelvic bone and a molar of a lower jaw of a large hippopotamus. At the moment they are mapping the inner part of the cave, mapping out all the different fishers, tunnels and cavities, which are found beyond the area that is at present open to the public.



GREATEST UNEXPLAINED MYSTERY

"In 1917, archaeologist Giuseppe Despott discovered two, what appeared to be human bull teeth -taurodont molars! Sir Arthur Keith from the British Museum claimed that they belonged to a Neanderthal man. At that time, it was believed the taurodont teeth were peculiar to Neanderthal man. However, a Maltese dentist in the 1960s excavated two molars from a Maltese contemporary man disproving that theory!

Following this, there was carbon dating carried out at the British Museum by Sir Kenneth Oakley, and his readings indicated that the original teeth were not older than the Neolithic period. However, in the 1990s there were two Maltese medical doctors who claimed that there had been some playing about with the results. Therefore, the mystery remains!"

Rupert Grech



Rupert Grech is a first generation Maltese-Australian born of post-war immigrants to New South Wales, Australia, from the small Mediterranean island of Malta. In childhood, he lived in the low rent suburbs of inner Sydney, eventually moving to the west of the city. Grech graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Economics and a Diploma in Education from the University of Sydney. He also played in A-Grade Rugby League and was selected to try out for one of the professional clubs. Teaching being at heart, Grech became a highly acclaimed principal of two regional schools in low socioeconomic areas and under his leadership, educational innovations resulted in a greater than 50 percent reduction of the student discipline suspension rate and over 30 percent increase in student enrollment in three years. Grech is the author of the popular book ***Stories My Parents Told Me: Tales of Growing Up in Wartime Malta***. At present he spends time living alternately in Valletta, Malta and in the Blue Mountains, New South Wales, while trading equities on the Australian Stock Exchange, developing property and writing.

"The Bully of Hamrun" – Iz-Zus

R. Grech

Everyone who lived or worked in the vicinity of Hamrun, Malta, around the time of the Second World War feared and avoided the man nicknamed "Iz-zus", including the local police. Most people were terrified of him. Many people detested him. Some secretly fêted him. But all knew of his infamy.

Hamrun at that time was a poor, tough, working class town. It lies about three kilometres further along the conurbation that spreads south-west along the main road from the capital city, Valletta, through the historic town of Floriana and past the area known as Blata L-Bajda (white rock). The locality mainly consists of small flats and maisonettes housed in narrow, two or three storey buildings of very similar appearance that are attached to each other, side-by-side. The whole area known as Hamrun is around one square kilometre in area and around the time of the Second World War the municipality boasted 1 large parish church along with 2 smaller chapels, 2 band clubs, a police station located at the piazza and a bustling High Street lined with shops, bars and cafes. The people of Hamrun have an interesting traditional nickname.

Nicknames are popular and ubiquitous in Malta, probably because of the severely limited number of surnames and Christian names in circulation in the past (as recently as 2014, the most popular 100 surnames accounted for 75% of the population). Nicknames are assigned not only to

individuals and families, but also to the populations of entire suburbs, villages and towns. Possibly stemming from the fact that many men from Hamrun worked as stevedores on the nearby docks and carried a knife to work, or perhaps in reference to the community of Sicilians who settled there illegally in the 16th century, the people of Hamrun are nicknamed *Tas-Sikkina* (literal meaning: "of the knife") or *Ta' Werwer* (literal meaning: "of those who frighten").

Perhaps the all-time scariest of them all was a large man in his forties with slightly greying hair known as Iz-zus, nicknamed after the all-powerful Greek ZEUS god of thunder, king of all the gods.

Iz-zus was a huge and powerfully built man who towered over his compatriots. Well over six feet tall, muscular and barrel-chested, he resembled the archetypal 19th century circus strongman. Iszus walked with the slow, open gait of a dominant alpha-male. He always wore a traditional cloth cap and did not wear a normal collared shirt but instead, preferred a flannelette, sleeveless and button-less shirt that accentuated his powerful arms. It was said that there was no normal shirt that would fit him properly.

Iz-zus always had plenty of money even though he never seemed to have a job. He wore heavy gold chains around his neck as he roamed the streets of Hamrun during the day and night, terrorising residents as well as local businesses. He would often stroll into a café or bar, order a meal or drinks

and after having his fill, leave without paying. If any business owner dared to confront him about payment he would stare him down in a threatening way and order the foolhardy proprietor to put it on his tab - a tab that would never be paid.

Iz-zus would do the same type of thing at family run grocery stores, fruit and vegetable barrows, the local barber and even lottery booths. Sometimes, he would stop people in the street and demand cash from them. There were also times when he visited the homes of people he knew and

demanded a loan of money that would most likely never be repaid. People were too afraid to challenge him or report him to the police for fear of vicious retribution. Many had heard how violent he became when angered and about the brutal fights he had been involved in with other hooligans and bullies. The most famous fight involving Iz-zus was with a dark skinned, North Africanman from Valletta who was known as Paulo il-Tork (Paul the Turk). In the Maltese vernacular "tork" signifies of dark-skinned Arab origin rather than Turkish.

**WE THANK ALL OUR READERS FOR SUPPORTING THIS JOURNAL
AND MADE IT A STRONG AND EFFECTIVE LINK BETWEEN
MALTESE LIVING IN MALTA AND IN EVERY CORNER OF THE WORLD**



MALTESE IN CANADA A SUCCESS STORY

MEL HAMELIN nee Mifsud The Personal Professional

MEL HAMELIN

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647 236 4565



and my knowledge? I decided in one moment in the early hours of the morning to change how I was feeling and "Get a grip". I began to evaluate what was happening around me.

After 13 hours of sobbing, I had a solution to the problem. The problem was everyone needed help, but no one could afford to pay the minimum wage for the hours one must employ a part time person. The solution was help that could be expensed rather incurred as a cost of business. Out of the last \$71.00 in my account, I took \$60 and registered The Personal Professional. I took the cardboard backing off my pad of paper and printed 10 business cards. The next day I had 8 new clients.

WHERE WE BEGAN The company began in a small town in Ontario, Port Dover. I had moved to Port Dover when I was pregnant for the 6th time, yet not one child. After months of not working and being a stay at home mom, my workaholic self was craving something to do. I was seeking part time work within the seemingly busy shops of the "Main strip". After weeks of looking for part time work or full time, I was feeling dangerously hopeless. I spend hours one day sobbing, lost in the feeling of hopelessness. I was baffled at how could I found myself here with all my education, my experience

MALTESE- FRENCH CANADIAN My mother is the youngest of 6 children to the late Frank and Theresa Mifsud. Many people know my deceased grandfather. He was well known for his Pastizzi found at the Mutual Cigar Store; A 1970's variety store with a sit at counter serving coffee and

pastizzi. Nanu drowned with my Uncle Freddy in a boating accident in 1975. Many elders of our community remember this family tragedy.

I myself grew up in "Little Malta", a community in Canada that was built along and around Dundas St. West from Runnymede Road to Pacific Ave. It was here I attended mass in Maltese at St. Paul the Apostle, I attended Maltese language classes at James Culnan, and remained submerged in my Maltese culture with the many people that came and went from the family home I lived in on Vernon St.

OVERVIEW The Personal Professional provides professional entrepreneur services with a set of skills, education, value and passions that are simply not offered through administrative level services.

The service caters to the entrepreneurs direction, growth and development; and is produced in the form of writing, effectuation, licensing, research and communication.

We solve entrepreneur time restrictions to strategically plan and execute projects, problem solve, and develop growth with excellence while maintaining current demands.

We are located online, offsite and in person and have served over 100 entrepreneurs and effectively serviced over 135 companies.

I am a graduate with the highest honor of Business Administration and Management. I have completed Civil Technical Engineering as well as a contract law certificate program. This small business support is needed in many parts of Canada and around the world. The Personal Professional is licensing across Canada and quite possibly other locations; building a trusted reliable alliance for entrepreneurs in any industry to rely on.

MY CONNECTION TO THE MALTESE CANADIAN NETWORKING ASSOCIATION

I joined the Facebook group as I was moving my company to Toronto. Knowing I was expanding, accessibility was key and not everything I needed was in the small town of Port Dover. I began networking into Toronto and within the Maltese group I was once a part of to gain traction and trust. It was a place I was known and could build on my existing rapport to uphold my credibility as I moved my young business of 3 years



The magical illuminated trail: drive-thru edition

For the first time in Malta, the brand new and COVID-19 safe Christmas attraction at Gianpula Fields

Drive-thru the tunnels of light, the larger-than-life glittering structures like the five-meter-high candy house, a four-meter prince frog, the coral underwater world, the swan lake and many other creatures



and attractions at Gianpula fields in the limits of Rabat.

This year, the event of the magical illuminated trail is not only brand new and exciting, but COVID-19 safe, for something different this Christmas.

The route will also include some incredible showstoppers, amazingly illuminated trails, irresistible Photographic scenes and all the sight and sounds of the festive season for all ages to enjoy! The event is being held in collaboration with The Malta Community Chest Fund Foundation (MCCFF), and will take place

between the 4 of December and the 10 of January.

Originally planned to be hosted in one of Malta's most iconic Gardens like San Anton Gardens or the Majestic Verdala Castle, as everything else this year, we had to adapt to the new realities. Therefore, the event was evolved into the attraction as Malta's first & only immersive, contactless drive-thru Christmas attraction.



You never leave the safety of your car during this whole event from start to finish

Signage and staff members along the trail will guide you through the journey.

Put your windows down, and spot to larger-than-life structures as you drive thru the illuminated trail. The structures will be very close, irresistible photo opportunities all along the journey!

The safety of our guests, our staff and the general public is our top priority. We have designed the entire

experience in conformity to the current health guidelines and restrictions.

Christmas in Malta is known as "Il-Milied" and is celebrated on December 25th. In December the image of Maltese cities and villages rapidly changes. Streets are illuminated by countless festive lights and show window Christmas nativity scenes appear as well.

Most Maltese are zealous Catholics, so the mandatory program of Christmas holidays for the majority of them includes a solemn mass in one of the main temples of Malta, which lasts all night. The main event is held in the Metropolitan Cathedral of St. John in the capital of Malta. The centre for the more secular entertainment—evening promenades, shopping, and dining out is the main street of Republic in Valletta.

The Maltese people celebrate this day with family. They assemble in one house for lunch and stay there till evening. Christmas lunch in Malta traditionally consists of "dundjan" (turkey), "puđina tal-Milied" (Christmas pudding), and Qagħaq ta' l-Għasel, a traditional Christmas dessert.

Angelo Azzopardi Carlton's knight of Malta Australian Football League



Precious details emerge of former Carlton player Angelo Azzopardi, the son of Australia's first Maltese free settler. **By Tony De Bolfo, Carlton Media**

If multiculturalism means “the existence, acceptance, or promotion of multiple cultural traditions within a single jurisdiction” then AFL Carlton can surely claim football’s multicultural dominion.

Amongst the club's historic ranks is a solid collective born beyond Australian shores - from the Indian-born Fred Pringle through to the London-born Wayne Blackwell. Then there are those boasting generational links with the old world – from Wally Koochew, whose father was Chinese and mother of Nordic extraction, through to Anthony Koutoufides, the son of a Greek Egyptian-born father and Italian-born mother. Another such Carltonite was truly of another time.

His name was Angelo Azzopardi, whom history records was the son of Australia's first Maltese free settler. The much-resourced Carlton historic website www.blueseum.org, through its dedicated researcher Pete McLean, unearthed precious details of Australia's first Azzopardi family.

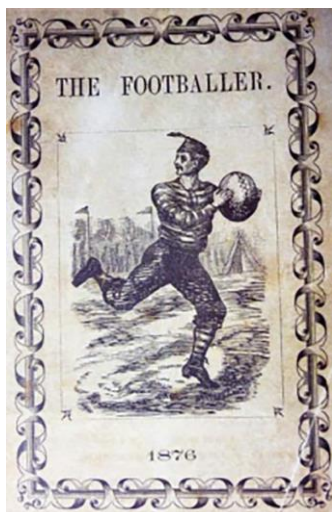
Angelo's father, the seaman Antonio Azzopardi, was born in Zejtun, a city in the south eastern region of Malta, in 1805. An image of him is included in the photographic montage published by Thomas Foster Chuck in 1872 entitled “The Explorers and Early Colonists of Victoria and he is listed as number 84, “A. Azzopardi”.

Antonio Azzopardi, Australia's first Maltese free settler.

Antonio disembarked the barque *Mary Hay* in Melbourne in 1839 - just four years after the city's founding by John Batman. Antonio initially toiled as a mail contractor before turning his hand to the publishing game as a canvasser with Melbourne's *The Herald* newspaper. In time he acquired RM Abbott's printing works and duly pursued a career in the printing profession. Antonio's son Angelo (later to represent the Carlton Football Club in its pre-VFA years), was born in this city on August 8, 1846 – one of four children (three brothers and a sister) raised by Antonio and his Scottish-born wife Margaret Hannah Sandeman, who had exchanged marital vows at the Congregational Church the previous October.

At one point, Angelo and his siblings followed their mother back to their homeland, and legend has it that on his return aboard the SS *Great Britain*, Angelo spoke with a Sean Connery-esque brogue.

Back in Melbourne, and according to The Dictionary of Australian Artists Online (DAAO), Angelo Azzopardi followed his father into the printing profession, and pursued a career as artist-engraver and publisher.



An early Azzopardi football engraving.

At some point in the 1870s, Angelo established an independent printing business headquartered in the Herald Passage - an old cobblestone lane tucked behind the city's GPO Building. For a time he worked in partnership with Oliver Levey, a subsequent owner of *The Herald*, and later Hildreth & Co. Angelo's presence obviously impacted on local planners, as a 1937 edition of Morgan's Melbourne street directory lists the passageway as "Angelo Lane".

That lane was later incorporated into the Myer complex.

Angelo also gained local fame as a watercolour painter who exhibited his works at the 1866 Melbourne Intercolonial Exhibition. He also pursued an interest as an engraver and silversmith by way of the Eureka Electrotype and Stereotype foundry out of 17-19 La Trobe Street, between Exhibition and Springs Streets at the top end of town.

According to newspaper records, Angelo turned out for Carlton through two stints - 1868-1870 and 1875. He was named for the club in five matches in his maiden season, which took on rivals such as Geelong, South Yarra and Emerald Hill, but it remains unclear as to how many matches he actually participated in.

The 19th century publication, "The Footballer", carries on one of its front cover a sketch of what appears to be a Geelong footballer in full flight as he carries the ball. Beneath the figure's left heel in small print, appears the name Azzopardi. Could this be the footballer or the artist?

Angelo James Azzopardi was 49 when he died in neighbouring Brunswick on January 18, 1896 – a year before Carlton became a foundation member

of the fledgling VFL.

A death notice acknowledged that Angelo died suddenly at his home, 74 Cassels Road, just off Moreland Road, and was survived by his dear wife Annie, who co-incidentally was also a Scot. Over one hundred and twenty years after Angelo's untimely passing

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History of Mackay's inaugural Malta Festival

Steven Pritchard, Mackay Historical Society and Museum Inc., Contributed 27th Aug 2020

A PETITION earlier this year to establish a 'Maltese Corner' in Mackay's CBD as a permanent reminder of Mackay's Maltese heritage hasn't been the only attempt to spotlight its heritage in the Mackay District. Tourism Mackay's promotional committee representative David Perkins, after identifying the Mackay Maltese community to be one of the largest in Australia, announced Tourism Mackay's plan to stage 'The Inaugural Festival of Malta Week' from May 1 to May 7, 1994 in a *Daily Mercury* article published on March 6, 1993.

It was later to be called the 'Mackay Maltese Festival.'

The *Daily Mercury* article stated the Maltese Consulate had been contacted and was willing to seek possible financial or other support from the Malta National Tourism Office.



The chosen date of May 1 was the 'Feast Day of St Joseph the worker'.

Carrying the Our Lady of Victories are (left to right): Nick Azzopardi, Joe Galea, Dean Camilleri, and Joe Attard. Picture: Contributed

On March 19, the Honorary Consul for the Republic of Malta, Albert Hili, visited Mackay to discuss plans for the proposed festival with members of Mackay's Maltese community.

While in Mackay, he also met with the Tourism Mackay's Promotions Committee. A Steering Committee to organise the festival was later established in Mackay by April 17. Almost 15 months of planning was to occur with Brian Camilleri and David Perkins to design the festival program.

The committee's chairman was Charlie Camilleri.

The first fundraising function for the upcoming festival was a dinner held at the Farview Tavern at Farleigh on June 18.

Other fundraising events included a dinner at the Andergrove Tavern; Mackay Electricity Board - Maltese cooking demonstration and cent sale and a New Year's Eve Street Party.

An art-union raffle, a trip for two to Malta along with the sale of

festival candles and maltesers, also helped with the fundraising.

The Maltese President, Dr. Censu Tabone, accompanied by his wife Maria, visited Mackay on June 20.

Dr. Censu Tabone attended a civic reception held at the Mackay City Council during his visit.

Committee members of the Mackay Maltese Festival committee members and representatives from MCC, Pioneer Shire Council and Tourism Mackay were also in attendance.

On October 4, 1993, Vikki Baldwin was appointed as festival coordinator for the upcoming Maltese Festival.

By December 31, 1993, a \$10,000 Queensland Government grant had been allocated to Tourism Mackay for a strategic plan to help involve the business community aiming to ensure long-term viability for the upcoming festival.

It was envisaged that the festival would be biennial with another Maltese Festival to be held later in 1996.

But due to financial difficulties, there have been none held since in Mackay.

By April 8, 1994, an information centre for the upcoming festival had been established at 41 Alfred Street, near Taylors Hotel.

The office would be inundated with queries from both residents and visitors.

Seventeen colourful banners incorporating Australian and Maltese themes were hung along Gordon Street on April 22 and April 26.

The banners had been prepared on October 8, 1993 during Malta Day Celebrations held in Mackay.

More than four months work had gone into the hand-sewn banners.

The Mackay Maltese Festival was to be eventually held from April 28, 1994 until May 7, 1994.

Among the first events on April 28 was a dance party for under 16s held at Manhattan's Nightclub.



Some of the many participants (names unknown) in the 1994 Mackay Maltese Festival Procession. Pictured

Also on April 28, Maltese Dance displays were to occur at the Caneland, Centrepont and Mount Pleasant Shopping centres as well as the RSL Club.

A rest day was to occur on April 29.

A photographic exhibition, *Malta at War*, was held during the festival at the Mackay RSL Club in Sydney Street from April 30 onwards. The display featured 90 photographs of Malta during World

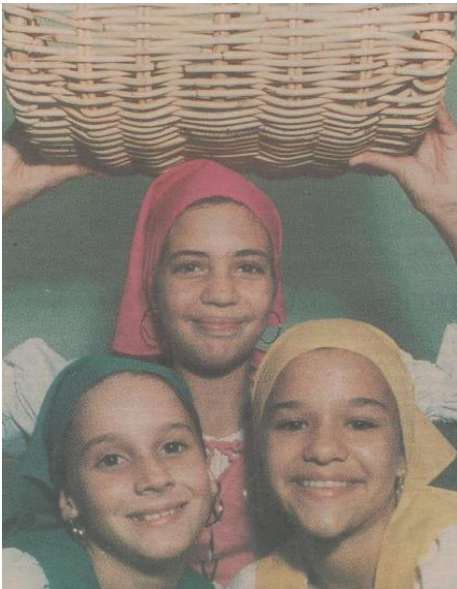
War II (1939 - 1945). An arts and crafts display including historic profiles was held at the Mackay City Library.

The official opening of the festival was held on May 1, 1994, with a blessing held at the St Patrick's Catholic Church in River Street.

This was followed by a street procession to the Mackay Showgrounds which featured the carrying of a replica of the Our Lady of Victories Statue.

Sharyn Benson, Cassie Pace, and Belinda Galea were three of the many who participated in the Mackay Maltese Festival dancing displays.

Picture: Contributed



The High Commissioner for Malta, George Busuttil, opened the Mackay festival. A Celebration Official Opening Mass was held at the St Patrick's Catholic Church featuring the Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton, Reverend Brian Heenan.

A bus tour of pioneering family farms including Glenella and the Richmond Sugar Mill site occurred on May 2 and May 3.

A Maltese prayer morning was held at the St Vincent De Paul Home on May 4.

A history seminar by Professor Barry York was held at the University of Central Queensland campus at Ooralea on May 5.

A blessing of the Fleet occurred at the Mackay Harbour on May 5.

A mass was held at St Brigid's Catholic Church and a festival dinner at the Farview Tavern on May 6.

Other events held were a wine and cheese night at the Mackay Entertainment Centre on April 30; Greyhound Racing and Soccer

Matches on May 2; Martial Arts Demonstration on May 2; Music Hall Night by the Valley Theatrical Players on May 2; Royleen Cruises, Brampton Island Trip on May 3; Trotting Race Program at Ooralea Racecourse on May 4 and also a baby photo competition.

A sportsman's dinner was also held at the Palladium on May 4 which featured special guests, rugby league players Martin Bella and Peter Sterling.

A Friendship, Lawn Bowls Day was held at the North Mackay Bowls Club on May 6.

Two movie screenings occurred during the festival: a screening of *Schindler's List* on May 2 followed by a screening of the 1941 film *The Maltese Falcon* starring Humphrey Bogart and Mary Astor on May 3 - both of which were held at the Mackay City Cinema in Gordon Street.

The closing ceremony, which was attended by more than 3500 people, was held at the Mackay Showgrounds on May 7, 1994 which featured a fireworks display.

It had been reported on April 22, 1994 that an expected 88 people were to come to Mackay from the Gold Coast, using two charter buses. Some 42 people were also expected from Sydney.

Inquiries had also been made from a group in Melbourne as well as from South Australia.

National Airlines, Ansett and QANTAS had both assisted with transporting celebrities and special guests for the Mackay festival.

The National SBS (Special Broadcasting Service) Radio Network, based in Melbourne and Sydney, broadcasted interviews in Maltese which had helped provide publicity for the inaugural festival.

The Mackay Historical Society would like to thank Mrs Carmel Baretta for her help with this article.



Mackay Maltese Club Inc.

Our club aims to foster Maltese cultural awareness among the descendants of Maltese immigrants in Mackay & District.

President - Rose Borg **Vice President** - Maree Bezzina **Treasurer** - Janis Vella **Secretary** - Veronica Gauci

The Mackay Maltese Club Inc. aims to foster Maltese cultural awareness, to promote traditional devotions to our Lady of Victories, and to act as a focal point of Maltese cultural awareness in Mackay and district.

Our club meets once a month to discuss, plan and organise a range of activities for our members. Activities conducted by our club include the annual Feast of Our Lady of Victories celebrations held in September, social functions for the gathering of locals, the promotion of Maltese history and culture through Photographic Exhibitions (local, interstate and overseas), Talks for community organisations and school groups, cultural and heritage displays and exhibitions, the retrieval,



preservation and display of local and Maltese migration, historic artifacts and oral histories, and liaison with local libraries, historical and genealogical societies.

In October 2007, the club established a Maltese Language School "Skola Maltija Mackay" which is affiliated with the Federation of Maltese Language Schools Inc. (Australia). The language school currently operates in Mackay.

We are proud of our Maltese Achievers

10th anniversary since death of



Bishop Cauchi of Gozo

Bishop Nikol Cauchi's burial place at the Victoria cathedral. Photos: Charles Spiteri

15 November marked the 10th anniversary of the passing away of Mgr Nikol Cauchi, the former Bishop of Gozo.

To mark this event, Cardinal-elect Mario Grech concelebrated Mass with the Cathedral Chapter at the Victoria cathedral on November 8. After Mass, Mgr Grech, together with the clergy, blessed Mgr Cauchi's remains in the side chapel of the cathedral where he is buried.

Born in Gharb, on March 2, 1929, Mgr Cauchi studied at the Sacred Heart Seminary and was ordained priest on March 29, 1952. He proceeded to the Pontifical Gregorian University of Rome, where he graduated Doctor of Philosophy and got a Licentiate in Social Science.

Back in Gozo, Mgr Cauchi was appointed lecturer at the seminary and parish priest of Fontana. He was founder and first president of the Moviment Azzjoni Socjali (Gozo). He also helped in the formation of the Gozo Civic Council in 1961.

Mgr Cauchi was considered to be one of the most gifted persons on the island. At 38, he was appointed auxiliary bishop to Bishop Joseph Pace on February 24, 1967 and, eventually, Apostolic Administrator. Mgr Cauchi became the seventh Bishop of Gozo on July 20, 1972.

Mgr Cauchi's bishopric spanned more than 38 years.

According to Gozo historian Joseph Bezzina, one of Mgr Cauchi's greatest achievements was the aggiornamento of the diocese on the norms of Vatican Council. Other attainments were the rejuvenation of the Gozo seminary and the foundation of a Church secondary school for girls in Gozo for which he laboured in silence for many years.

Mgr Cauchi will also be remembered for promoting dialogue between the Christian faith and culture through socio-cultural and religious initiatives. He contributed to this end by his words, writings and pastoral initiatives.

Bishop Cauchi died at Mater Dei Hospital on November 15, 2010, feast of St Albert the Great, a philosopher like himself and a saint he admired and emulated throughout his life.

Thank you

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BE NOT AFRAID Fr. Manuel Adami writes to us from Malta

The Corona Virus, so much fear around the globe. So much suffering, physical, moral; psychological. spiritual. People ask: Where is God? Is there any answer? Why? Let me help you by sharing what I learned and from my own experience. For your encouragement. So please make the sign of the Cross and in a prayerful silence of your heart read slowly the following reflection.

Dear Brother/Sister in Christ, Helpers, Benefactors, Friends, firstly we have to realise that suffering in life is a mystery. However, our faith helps us to understand much in this universal question of suffering. The pain of life's injustice. Accepting suffering with meaning, trust and hope, in faith, in Christ and not with denial is a great step forward to ease much of the inflicted pain trust on us. that is why the

greatest tragedy which one can suffer is the loss of faith.

You some time had been wronged, abused, humiliated, betrayed, falsely accused. Perhaps more than once. I can sympathise with you for I passed through tribulation one after the other like you. Now think that the action is of the one who did it.

Firstly all through life, we cannot live without a cross, big or small. Jesus Himself tells us that if we want to follow Him we have to take our cross and then follow Him. this is not pessimism but accepting reality. Jesus way is always perfect, best and gives us joy even in carrying the cross. Truly. Right? It helps us on the way to holiness. Jesus is like cushion to fall on in all troubles that befell us.

Then there is hope. Even when you cannot see the way out. Give your pain to Jesus. He will find a way for you, console you and give you peace of heart and mind. Are you glad to suffer for Jesus? He is the solution for you. Now please stop reading and sing the consoling song "Abide with Me."

Now let's continue. Another truth which helps you is that truth one day or another will come out. Even when you pass away. So take patience my friend with yourself and with others. you are not perfect like the lot of us. Suffering makes us pay the price for our imperfections and purify us.

I have to be careful not to create unnecessary suffering for yourself. God does not want this. He wants you to be happy. Avoid persons, places, circumstances that cause me trouble and sorrow. You see you cannot trust certain people though you love and pray for them. Prudence is a very helpful virtue.

Help yourself then that you cannot change anybody-only God can do that. Neither you can do what you cannot do. Nor change what happened in the past the past. trust again in Jesus completely. He wants you all for Himself. Contemplate Him every day live for Him. Go through it bravely with Jesus and call Mary to walk with you. Now pause for a moment and sing the hymn, "I sing a hymn to Mary."

Now you have surrendered yourself to Jesus and to Mary to. Entrust your cares, your plans which have fallen short to God and Mary have fallen to them. They will take care of you. They will not let you to stumble. They will support you. Live what you are. Give priority to what God has called you to do in life.

They do not want to see on your face gloom and doom like a dead man walking but strong and happy. Right? Decide to be like Mary a woman of faith. Now we tackle the fear of fear. Do not be a slave of your fear. Open your heart to Jesus and refuse to worry. Past, present and future are in God's Hands not yours. If pain and trials are not good for you, God will remove them. Jesus is telling you "do not be afraid". Believe in His words. His promise is to overcome the world with Him. I will finish now with a quotation from Mother Teresa.

Take away your eyes from yourself and rejoice that you have nothing, that you are nothing and that you can do nothing. give Jesus a big smile, each time your nothingness frightens you..... You and i must let him live in us and though us in the world. Cling to Our Lady, for She too, before She could become full of grace, full of Jesus, had to go through that darkness. How could this be done? She asked. but the moment She said "yes" She had need to go in haste to give Jesus to John and his family.

HAGA MOHGAGA

Augustine Borg

1. Billi żżomni labranzetta
bewsa minnek ma niehux.
Kull fejn tmur toħodni miegħek
basta ħalqi ma nifthux.
2. Jien twelidt ġo qiegħ il-baħar
u fuq l-art ma nħobbx indum.
Jekk t'arani iebsa ġebbla
għejd nixfet għax mejta nkun.

3. Għadda ż-żmien u sirt pjanura
meta darba kont mogħdija.
Naqta' dritt minn ġo foresta
li żgur hadd ma rifes fiha.

4. Naf li thobb t'għannaq u tbusni
fejn kulhadd jista' jarak.
Imma narak wiċċek aħmar
nibża li jtik Heart Attack

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Travelling in space and time – plans, memories, dreams

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Where would you like to travel? What do you want to see? The past or the future – which time would you like to visit? We are looking for your photos, stories, poems or any other kinds of text in German on the topic Reisezeit – Zeitreise. Travel and time travel are important for literature and the imagination! – At a time when travelling in the real world has become more difficult, we invite you to an imaginary journey! Send us your text (as PDF) + and your photo (as JPEG) and have the chance to win a smartwatch and other attractive prizes! Send to german.arts@um.edu.mt

REISEZEIT – ZEITREISE

Travelling in space and time – plans, memories, dreams

Deadline: 4th December 2020

Organised by the Department of German in cooperation

with the German-Maltese Circle and the Goethe Institut in the context of the Malta Book Festival 2020

More info:

<https://www.um.edu.mt/arts/german/writingcompetition2020> or

<http://www.germanmaltesecircle.org/reisezeit-zeitreise/>



UNIVERSITY OF MALTA
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Intact human remains and pottery found in Għaxaq Punic tomb

Superintendence of Cultural Heritage made the find during monitoring

7 minutes ago | [Jessica Arena](#) | 02 min read

Photo: Superintendence of Cultural Heritage

An intact skeleton and pottery remains were found during the excavation of a Punic tomb in Għaxaq, the Superintendence of Cultural Heritage has announced.

The rock-cut tomb was discovered during archaeological monitoring on a plot of land that is planned for development and is close to other tombs discovered in the 1990s along Tal-Barrani Road, on the border between Għaxaq and Żejtun.

It consisted of a rock-cut shaft and chamber tomb and was found sealed with a sealing slab.

The Heritage Data Management and Research Unit within the SCH found a skeleton and pottery vessels within the tomb, which will be studied by osteologists to determine more information about the person; whether they were male or female, how old they were when they died and whether they may have had any illnesses.

Archaeologists will also study the pottery to more accurately date the burial.

The SCH said that the tomb has been documented and will be given protection in line with the 2019 Cultural Heritage Act. It will also be listed in the national inventory, adding further data in the understanding of the area's archaeological landscape.

"The Consultations Unit within the Superintendence will continue to be vigilant with development applications in this area, as will the Monitoring Unit when directing monitoring surveillance work in the surrounding region through freelance archaeologists who monitor development works," the SCH said.

The area is known to be highly archaeologically sensitive, with clusters of tombs previously discovered along Tal-Barrani.

In 1965, three Punic rock-cut tombs were uncovered in the Tal-Ħotba area on agricultural land while in 2009 a further 14 rock-cut tombs were discovered during initial construction works on a private hospital.

In 1993, a late Roman burial site was also discovered along Tal-Barrani in Żejtun, with two multi-chamber catacombs discovered intact only 10 metres apart.

Opera star Andrea Bocelli spotted at St John's Co-Cathedral

Fiona Galea Debono timesofmalta.com



Opera singer Andrea Bocelli leaves St John's Co-Cathedral on Tuesday. Photo: Mark Zammit Cordina

Celebrated Italian tenor Andrea Bocelli is currently in Malta and was seen at St John's Co-Cathedral earlier today, although details about the singing star's visit, which has added a spark to the gloomy pandemic period, are yet to be announced.

It is not the legendary opera singer's first stop on the island, having performed here back in 2006 and returning to sing with tenor Joseph Calleja at his Granaries concerts in 2017 and 2019.

Fresh from launching his latest album, *Believe*, this includes a previously unreleased collaboration with the late Ennio Morricone and a duet version of *Amazing Grace* with country star Alison Krauss.

Bocelli is said to be following up his record-breaking Easter Sunday concert with a musical event, *Believe in Christmas*, from the Teatro Regio di Parma opera house in Italy on December 12. However, any Malta connections with this have not been confirmed.

Last Easter's *Music for Hope* performance was live-streamed from an empty Duomo in Milan during Italy's nationwide COVID-19 lockdown, and even the Parma opera house will not have an audience in attendance, but staggered primetime streaming times to attract viewers from around the world.

It had three million concurrent viewers, making it the largest simultaneous audience for a classical live-stream in YouTube history. It was seen 28 million times within the first 24 hours.

Believe in Christmas will, however, be a pay-per-view event and will not be available on-demand after it has taken place, according to *Variety* entertainment magazine. The only way to watch it will be to purchase tickets to the livestream broadcast.

Bocelli, who has been blind since the age of 12, is one of the biggest names in opera.

He shot to world fame in 1996 when, together with Sarah Brightman, they sang *Con Te Partirò*, which topped every record musical classification worldwide.

We thank all those who send us contributions, write-ups and news for publication. Share your story with your fellow Maltese who live away from the Island. Preserve it for future generations

HAGA MOHGAGA: 1 Portmoni 2, Sponza 3. Il-Ferq 4. Trumbunista



Maltese priest appeals for help after covid-19 and storms caused havoc in Guatemala

Fr. Anton Grech, a genuine kind hearted Gozitan had been away for 23 years in Guatemala on a mission to help communities survive, he gave his life to these people! Covid 19 has his community right at the heart and he is in need of resources to try keep these poor people as safe as remotely possible -

these last Covid days hundreds of people are knocking his door everyday, in need of food, shelter and basic needs. This virus can lead to catastrophic circumstances in such communities! I would to reach to help this community out - and would love to be joined by other kind hearted souls that I know

Fr Anton Grech said the recent storm knocked down many trees, flooded several rivers and destroyed several villages where many families were buried inside their homes. The rain fell continuously for five days and flooded a major river – Motagua -carried everything with it.

He said the aid from the Government took two days to start arriving and it was the companies that grow bananas in the vicinity that gave first aid. He added that they began to notice people who had been on the roofs of their homes for two to three days waiting for help. He said they started being rescued by ferries and helicopters.

He went on to say that one of the big difficulties was that people did not want to leave the little they had behind them, but still ended up losing the little they had. He said that the church in Guatemala is helping these people as much as possible and called for help so that they can continue to alleviate some of the suffering caused to these people by the storm. It is estimated that so far 150 people have died and many more have not been found.

One can send donations on the following bank account:

Name: Rev. Anton Grech Mission Account

Address: 34, St. Ursula Street, Victoria VCT1774, Gozo, Malta

Local Bank Account: APS - 368 449 200 15

IBAN: MT81APSB77013000000036844920015

SWIFT CODE: APSBMTMT

Website: www.guatemala.org



SCIORTINO'S *LES GAVROCHES*

The character of Gavroche appears in Victor Hugo masterpiece novel, *Les Misérables*, published in 1862. Gavroche is a boy who lives on the streets of Paris. In the novel, Gavroche helps his father, Patron-Minette and Brujon escape from prison at the request of Montparnasse.

The sculpture on display in the Upper Barrakka Gardens is a replica of the original sculpture created by Maltese sculptor Antonio Sciortino in 1904 and donated to the Government of Malta in 1907. Gavroche's name has become a synonym for a street urchin. The 124 x 150 x 92 cm bronze sculpture depicts Gavroche as the central figure. He is dressed in rags and holding the hands of two younger children, one on each side, hence the title of the sculpture *Les Gavroches*. The group is depicted walking, seemingly in a hurry.

To preserve the original sculpture, the original has been moved into Malta's National Museum of Fine Arts, where it is on display. A sign near the sculpture is inscribed:



<https://youth.gov.mt/>

<https://www.facebook.com/agenziazghazagh/>

Aġenzija Żgħażaġh (Malta) provides young people with the time and space to make friends, learn in new ways and develop their talents through our regional youth services and our extensive empowerment programme.

Through our interactive youth information service we provide information on services and opportunities for young people as well as listening to their views on issues that impact on their lives. Through Eurodesk, the European Youth Card and our participation in EU programmes, young people are offered the opportunity of exploring life, learning and work across Europe.

Min jiftakar dan iż-żmien?



OUR MISSION Our mission is to manage, implement and coordinate the National Youth Policy and to promote and safeguard the interests of young people.

Our empowerment programme provides young people with projects and activities in the visual arts, music, theatre, film, writing, and civic and political engagement at local and European level; as well as supports for voluntary youth organisations and a dedicated programme, Youth.inc, for young people experiencing difficulties in education and the transition to working life.

Our regional youth services provide activities in our youth cafes, youth hubs, schools and the youth activity centres in Dingli and M'Xlukk.

Young people should be respected, valued and listened to and be supported and encouraged in building fulfilling personal and social relationships and in developing their innate abilities and talents for the

benefit of themselves, their communities and society.



Good morning Frank and the Team for the Maltese e-Journal.

Thank you and well done for the e-newsletter

**We do circulate it to all our friends, staff and residents' relatives
who are so keen to know more!**

Once again thank you and keep up the great work. Greatly appreciated.

Kind regards, Sr. Doris Falzon OP Administrator

Rosary Home Aged Care Facility

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