



MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

Journal of Maltese Living Abroad

Editor: Frank Scicluna OAM MQR

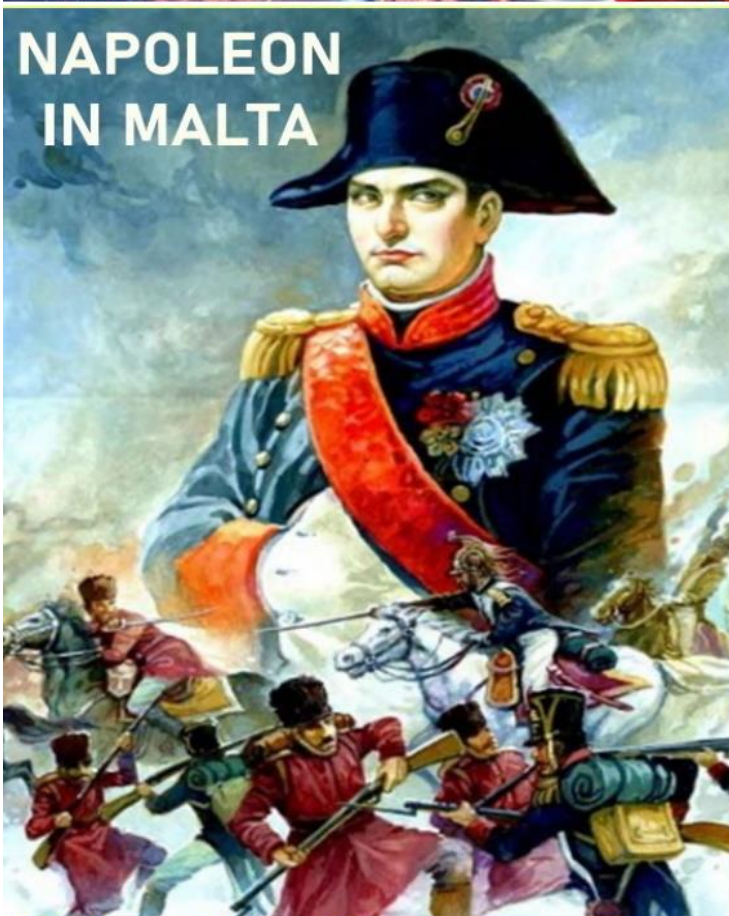


maltese-canadian community NEWS



The Maltese Diaspora follows closely the developments regarding the setting up by the Presidency of the Foundation for National Unity and is willing to contribute to Malta's social and political transition.

NAPOLEON IN MALTA



Maltese e-Newsletter

**8 YEARS OF SERVICE
TO OUR COMMUNITIES**



**Christopher Saliba, RMCP
Gozitan Canadian**

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Maltese living abroad are waiting eagerly to visit Malta and their relatives again





President invites Maltese diaspora to contribute to Malta's social and political transition

Friday, 17 September 2021, 12:26 Last update: about 21 hours ago

President of Malta George Vella called on the Maltese diaspora to follow closely developments regarding the setting up by the Presidency of the Foundation for National Unity and to contribute to Malta's social and political transition. The President was addressing guests at an event organised by the Maltese embassy in Rome to celebrate Malta's Independence Day.

Relations between Malta and Italy continue to flourish and embody the historical friendship and deep-rooted cooperation at the diplomatic, commercial, cultural, and people-to-people level, President Vella said. The sustained and open dialogue at both the bilateral and multilateral levels is built on mutual trust and recognition. Year after year, the two neighbouring countries continue to realise that cooperation continues to be at the core of their common future - both within the European Union and as regional players within the Mediterranean region and further south.

On the latest developments in Malta, the President said that, as is necessary and normal in every society and reflecting modern-day realities, Malta has been

experiencing several changes to its social fabric and is undergoing important reforms meant to strengthen the rule of law. "I too, as President of the Republic, have played and will continue contributing to this process, as guided by the Constitution of Malta and in line with the parameters allocated to my Office," he affirmed.

"In recent days, I have taken full note of the recommendations contained in the Report of the Public Inquiry on the assassination of journalist Daphne Caruana Galizia, and have already started working on the areas where I have the authority to act. We are at a critical juncture that necessitates an inclusive and open dialogue across the whole spectrum of Maltese society which at the same time underlines the important nexus between the State, the institutions, and the people, both Maltese and all foreigners living among us." In this light, he referred to the several initiatives taken so far by the Presidency in the current year, aimed to bring together and in closer dialogue professionals, academics, politicians, journalists, civil society organisations, and the people in general.

The world now has become a global village and we are all interconnected using the digital technology. So, there is a need for all Maltese living in Malta and Abroad to get together and exchange views and networking to strengthen the important links with each other and safeguard our unity. Although we are far from our homeland we are still interested in Malta's cultural, social and political affairs and our wish is to see all the Maltese, wherever they are, united and prosper for the sake of future generation.

MALTESE CANADIAN COMMUNITY NEWS



Travelling to Malta

As of tomorrow, Friday, September 17th, 2021, Malta will be accepting Canadian vaccine receipts/certificates. Passengers are required to upload their vaccine receipts/certificates into an app called VERIFLY with EMA (European Medicines Agency) approved vaccines; 2 doses of Pfizer, Moderna or AstraZeneca (or a combination of any of these), or one dose of Janseen. This applies to those who have taken both EMA approved vaccines and 14 days have passed from the last dose taken.



Thus far, this new arrangement does not apply to Canadians/Maltese Canadians vaccinated in the Province of Manitoba. Therefore, Manitobans travelling to Malta, must quarantine for 14 days and provide a negative PCR test 72 hrs prior to arriving to Malta. The same rules apply to children of all Canadian provinces and territories aged 5 to 11. VERIFLY is working towards obtaining the same arrangement for Manitobans. Downloading VERIFLY is free and easy to use.

Basically, you are requested to;

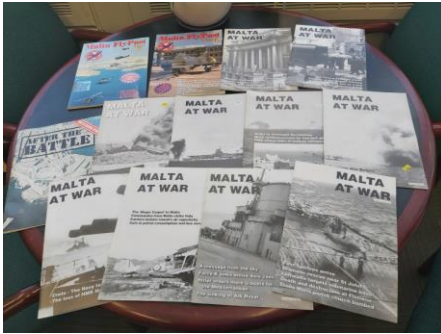
upload your COVID19 Vaccine receipt/certificate

complete a public health travel declaration form as well as a passenger Locator form which can be downloaded from: <https://www.maltaairport.com/declarationforms> and be presented upon arrival.

Once you have completed the passenger Locator form you are to scan the QR Code to the VERIFLY app. Lastly, kindly ensure that you have completed the final checklist on the VERIFLY at least 4 hours prior to arrival in Malta.



WE THANK THE MALTESE CANADIAN COMMUNITY FOR THEIR SUPPORT



More learning Maltese Language educational materials available at three libraries, soon at four locations in the GTA and beyond

The Consulate General of Malta to Canada recently compiled over 200 educational materials from various institutions around the Maltese Islands, and has donated copies of each to the Libraries of the Melita S.C., the Malta Band Club and Consulate General itself. In the near future, copies of the same publications will be provided to the Library of the Malta United Society of Windsor and of

Runnymede Long-Term Care Facility Library.

After being contacted by a number of Maltese Canadian parents and students, it has been decided to inform all of the educational materials donated in accordance to category.

The educational materials are related to learning the Maltese Language. If you are members of any of these clubs you can request to make use of them.

Further educational materials will be shown in future posts.



CONSUL GENERAL OF MALTA TO CANADA REPRESENTS MALTA AT A HISTORIC CEREMONY OF THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE BUILDING OF THE RUNNYMEDE LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY IN MALTA VILLAGE – TORONTO CANADA

The Maltese Community in Canada counts over 147,000 from coast to coast of Canada, the second largest Maltese and Gozitan community living outside of the Maltese Islands after Australia. In the case of the first generation of

Maltese and Gozitans who came to Canada the number is decreasing slower than before since a growing number of Maltese and Gozitan families who have specific profession(s) Canada requires are being accepted and are gradually migrating to different parts of this vast country. An ever-growing elderly population require specific needs such as long-term care facilities.

For decades the Maltese Canadian Federation (established in 1972) lead by Joe Sherri and others lobbied tirelessly for such a facility near the centre of the Maltese Canadian Community in Malta Village. This dream is finally becoming reality where 50 beds from the new Runnymede Long-term Facility will be specifically dedicated for Maltese Canadians. This Maltese Canadian group has converged with the Connie Dejak, the Maltese Canadian President and CEO of Runnymede Hospital who announced in this milestone achievement in the presence of Province of Ontario Premier, Doug Ford and Ontario Health Minister Rod Philips at press conference on the site.

The Consul General of the Republic of Malta to Canada, Dr Raymond C. Xerri was one of the special guests to this ceremony. Just over four years prior to this ceremony in May 2017, Dr Xerri formed part of the Presidential Delegation to Canada and the United States whereby the former president of the Republic of Malta, H.E. Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca not only visited the site but also made a financial donation towards this project – at the time was still on plans - on behalf of the Government and People of Malta. Consul General Dr Xerri since taken up his post in Toronto in July 2019, he has followed and acted as a liaison between all parties concerned in order for this landmark to be possible.

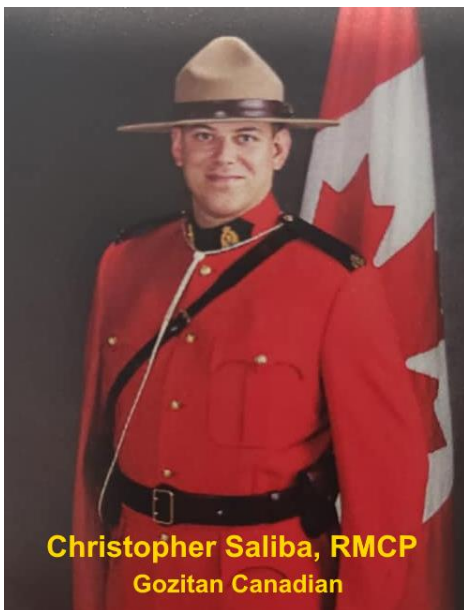
The Maltese eNewsletter - The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora can be obtained by emailing the editor Frank L. Scicluna on maltesejournal@gmail.com. Copies can now be obtained from Malta Info Stations at the Consulate General of the Republic of Malta to Canada, Malta Bake Shop, the Melita Soccer Club and the Malta Band Club.



A FRIEND OF MALTA, IAN H. MITCHELL DONATES PUBLICATIONS TO THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF MALTA TO CANADA'S SPECIALIZED MALTESE CANADIAN DIASPORA AND HISTORY LIBRARY

A couple of months ago, a specialized Maltese Canadian Library was established by the Consul General of the Republic of Malta to Canada with the aim of assisting Maltese Canadian academics and students studying Maltese Canadian diaspora history and their ancestors. Donations of publications, multimedia tools and educational aids have been entrusted to the Library. Several students of all academic levels have

already made use of this resourceful library and have been assisted and encouraged by the Consulate General of Malta to Canada to pursue their studies in one or more aspects of Maltese Canadian Diaspora history. Ian H. Mitchell, a friend of Malta has donated publications to the library from his lifetime family collection. Consul General Dr Raymond C. Xerri thanked Mr Mitchell for responding to Dr Xerri's public appeal and for this much welcomed and useful donation whilst continued to encourage others to follow by example.



Christopher Saliba, RMCP
Gozitan Canadian



MEETING MALTESE CANADIAN STARS

Christopher Saliba, first Gozitan Canadian to graduate to a Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP)

The Consul General of Malta to Canada, Dr Raymond Xerri was a guest of honor to welcome Christopher Saliba, RMCP home back to the Province of Ontario from the RCMP Academy training and his graduation in Regina, Province of Saskatchewan.

Saliba is one of only 19,000 RCMP in all of Canada, a specialised force which is different from police officers which Canada has 70,000. It is a great honor to any family and community to have nurtured an RCMP. RCMP Saliba will be posted in Fort Nelson in the Province British Columbia for the next four years. Congratulations and all the best Christopher on your new posting and prestigious job as an RCMP, remain a proud Gozitan Canadian

**WE ALWAYS KEEP THE MALTESE LIVING ABROAD IN THE NEWS AND
SUPPORT THE MALTESE ASSOCIATIONS AROUND THE WORLD**

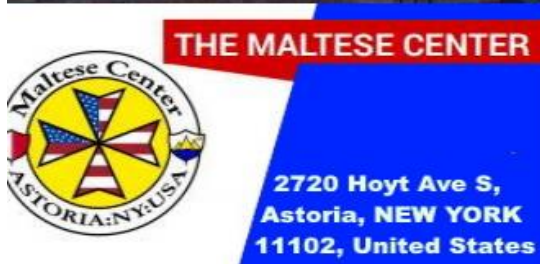


Little Malta in Astoria, New York!

By Eirene Arholekas

Posted: August 31, 2021

New Yorkers typically know Astoria as an ethnic enclave of Greeks, Italians, Brazilians, Colombians, and now, Midwesterners. While the neighborhood has adapted and slightly changed its identity with each succeeding wave of migration, what most people may not realize is that before Astoria was “Little Athens,” it was “Little Malta,” thanks to Maltese Americans who put their stamp on our history. In fact, the Maltese Center, an unassuming, brick building crested with the red Maltese cross at the foot of the RFK Bridge has been the gathering place for the cultural community since it opened in 1982. In 2008, the street in front of the Center was renamed “Malta Square” to commemorate the legacy of the community in the neighborhood.



The Maltese have been emigrating to the US since the 18th century. After WW1, a surge of immigrants came at the heels of the closing of the Royal British Dockyard in 1919, first settling in New Orleans, then Detroit, then NYC and other major cities like San Francisco and Chicago. After WW2, the Maltese government encouraged emigration when it agreed to pay for passage to the US. As a result, close to 10,000 Maltese came to America between 1950 and 1970; massive

for a nation that averaged 350,000 citizens over 122 square miles. And thus, Astoria became home to a Maltese community.

Malta itself, nicknamed the “mouse that roars,” is an archipelago of seven islands, but its main three, Malta, Gozo, and Comino, are famous for their grottos: the shipwreck of St. Paul and the pivotal part it played in the Crusades and in WW2. At the crosscurrents of the three islands, Malta has held a strategic post in the Mediterranean since ancient times when Phoenicians settled there. Maltese heritage is often confused with Italian, but its roots are actually Arabic from the Levant mixed with Italian and French.

Long-time Astoria resident Charles Scibberas, whose parents moved to Astoria in the 1950s, has been a real estate agent in the neighborhood for 45 years. **“Once you are a Maltese, you are a unique human being because of your history,”** he says. He can trace his own history to Egypt and Mount Sciberras, the hill where a citadel stands in the capital of Malta, Valletta. He claims his physical features can be traced to an illustrious ancestor whose portrait can be found there in a piece of artwork called “The Great Siege of Malta” by El Greco.

Scibberas explains that NYC’s first Maltese immigrants lived on 23rd Street and 1st Avenue near Beth Israel, attracted to Astoria for its sense of community and the chance to own their own single family homes instead of cramped apartments. He remembers the Maltese coming from all over Queens to play soccer on Sundays in a field outside LaGuardia Airport: “After that, we would have BBQ and spaghetti with rabbit” rabbit being a staple dish in Maltese culture. In fact, the rabbit stew cooked at the Maltese Center on special occasions, “stuffed tal-Fennek,” is one of the oldest Maltese recipes in existence, dating back to Phoenician times. According to Scibberas, the Maltese found it easy to fit in with the other Mediterranean cultures that made up Astoria because of the shared value in keeping close family ties.

While many Maltese Americans have taken the path toward upward mobility that their hard work has garnered them by moving out of Astoria and into the suburbs, there are still vestiges of the

Maltese community among us. There was Joe Galea, famous for the Maltese Bakery on 36th Avenue, who employed hundreds of workers. There used to be a Maltese-American Friendship Society on 45th Street between Broadway and 31st Avenue and even a Maltese auto repair shop on 34th Avenue and 42nd Street.

Today, besides the Maltese Center, there still stands Leli's Bakery on 30th Avenue. Sometimes mistaken for Italian, bakery owner Emanuel Darmin, now in his 70s, continues to keep Maltese staples on his shelves; there's the pastizzi, a flaky pastry dough covering several fillings, some savory, some sweet; the pezili pastizzi with a filling of meat and peas; the more popular juben filled with ricotta; and the spinach and feta pastizzi. And we can't forget the Atalasa or molasses ring, a sweet that dates back to the Arab/Phoenician traders that's filled with dates and semolina.

The Maltese Center is open on weekends and welcomes any and all visitors. If the kitchen is open, you can get pastizzi and various other great fare. September 8th is National Malta Day and there are traditional dances and other festivities planned, so be sure to stay tuned!



MALTESE
CENTER
ASTORIA
NEW
YORK
CITY
Friday

September 24th. 2021

Please join us for Open Day as we welcome the *Minister for Foreign and European Affairs the Honorable Evarist Bartolo* along with members of the delegation. RSVP's are required. Proof of vaccination such as NYS Excelsior Pass with photo ID upon entry. Time will be announced early next week.

www.maltesecenter.com or www.facebook.com/MalteseCenterNYC/



Maltese Community Council of Victoria, Inc.

· MASS FOR YOU AT HOME

Mass with Fr Lonnie in Maltese every Sunday at 10.30 am join us. Use the link below it will continue on zoom until lockdown ends.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89768861722...>

Meeting ID: 897 6886 1722

Passcode: 714434



1991

THE Maltese Centre of Astoria, New York City, recently participated for the fourth time in the annual "Salute to America" international cultures parade with this float depicting Malta and showing a miniature *dghajsa*. A group of adults and children (top) dressed up in traditional Maltese costumes and marched up Madison Avenue together with other contingents from various ethnic groups. The float, which was adorned with the Malta republic emblem and various posters, generated a lot of interest and enthusiasm because of its design which was markedly different from the other floats in the parade. (Photographs by Victor Pantalleresco).



Maltese dish a genuine hit in Unanderra NSW

D GEIGER

Serving Maltese ravioli – or ravjul – “just like mama used to make” is a big call in a city as culturally diverse as Wollongong. For Ray and Doris D’Amato however, the

call was already made for them the day “Nana Anna” decided to help out at the family restaurant in Unanderra.

So far, Anna’s hand-made dish has been a roaring success, particularly with the Illawarra’s middle-aged Maltese.

Mr D’Amato says as first generation migrants begin dying out, their children are left missing that special home-made taste.

“You get people our age where mum and dad have passed away, they don’t have it no more,” he says. “They’re the only ones that can do it so once they find out we’ve got it here they come and say ‘Oh, just like my mother used to make’.”

Nana Anna is Doris D’Amato’s mother, real name Anna Apap.

At 70 years young, Mrs Apap visits the store twice a week to create her special pasta, taking about six hours from start to finish to prepare the recipe from scratch.

And once it’s done, the ravjul sells like hot cakes.

“She can’t make enough of them,” Mrs D’Amato says.

“It’s something she’s been doing for years – it’s exactly the way her mother made them.”

The decorations adorning the walls of the cozy restaurant are evidence of how the Maltese community has embraced D’Amato’s.

Customer-donated photos and maps of the Mediterranean island sit above the tables and chairs, and a jersey worn by a member of the first rugby league team to travel from the Illawarra to Malta occupies a prime spot.

Specialties listed on the lengthy menu include the Maltese Connection – a gourmet pizza using Maltese sausage, Maltese pepper cheese and freshly baked ricotta, among other ingredients.

There’s also the Maltese Mouse – a popular dessert Mrs D’Amato admits is a “bit of a cheat”.

“It’s got Maltesers in it,” she said.

The couple have also introduced temporary items to their menu as blackboard specials in the past. One such meal was rabbit stew or “stuffat”, which was available last father’s day. Mr D’Amato said it was incredibly popular: “We could not keep up with it.”

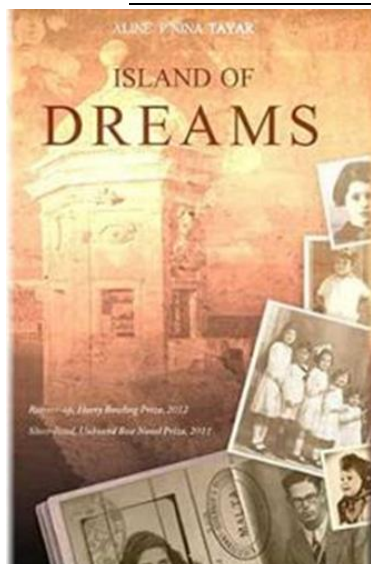
“A lot of Maltese bought it because we eat a lot of rabbit.”

The D’Amatos purchased the restaurant and the building on Central Road, Unanderra about 12 months ago after the previous incarnation, in existence for about 40 years, came up for sale.

Mrs D’Amato said Unanderra was a “great stopping point” for people making their way into Wollongong in the evening.

“We’ve found a lot of people are coming, having dinner and then venturing off to Wollongong. It’s a great area, a growing area, but in saying that we get people from places like Thirroul and Kiama.” D’Amato’s Family Restaurant is located at 106 Central Road, Unanderra and is open 10am to 2.30pm for lunch Monday to Friday and 5.30pm to 8.30pm Monday to Sunday.

Mr Louis Parnis, the President of the George Cross Falcons Community Centre of Cringila, NSW, thanks D’Amato Family Restaurant for their continuous support



Revealing the truth behind Malta's letter bomb murder

Noel Grima

Island of Dreams.
 Author: Aline P'Nina Tayar. Published:
 Ondina Press / 2012.
 Pages: 272pp

The Toledano family is an old, extended, established, Jewish family in Malta, who has been on the island ever since great-grandmother Beatrice was persuaded to leave her native Florence and marry a man she hardly knew and, much to her regret, later, relocate to Malta, an arid rock in the middle of an inhospitable sea.

The family lived in an old and crumbling house in Lapsi Street, St Julian's, surrounded on all sides by newly-developed buildings, with the one next door purchased by Russians who never come to Malta. The previous views down to the sea have now disappeared.

The family has had its share of tragedies, especially the death of Sarita, blown up by a letter bomb during the doctors' strike when Mintoff was prime minister. She may have inadvertently picked up the envelope which was not intended for her.

The blast broke up the Toledano family. Alberto Sacerdote, Sarita's husband, took his daughter Claire and left Malta. The family still retained links and some came back regularly to Malta, others less so. The book focuses on three cousins, second generation Toledanos - Eleonora (Ellie), Vanna and Claire. Claire lives in Brussels and has recently seen her marriage break up. Ellie is well-known in Australia where she lives. Her visit to Malta makes the Australian news because this well-known human rights campaigner got involved when a boatload of migrants foundered and the survivors clung to a fish-farm for days before they were rescued.

She is also involved with saving migrants and, characteristically defying the family's Jewish history, vociferously pro-Palestine. Vanna, the least regarded of the trio, had been taken to Israel by her parents but she is now back in Malta battling the cockroaches in the house and upholding the family history and tradition. She is fat and always munching something.

The three have been brought up in Catholic schools but defied all efforts to convert them. Though this book was published in 2012, there are uncanny references to Daphne Caruana Galizia and her murder by a bomb in 2017. Actually, there is at one point a reference to the earlier attempt on Daphne's life through fire-bombing her house, quoting from this same paper.

The issue, which brings the three cousins back to Malta, regards the precarious state of their two old spinster aunts who everyone agrees cannot be left alone in the crumbling house, nor can they be relocated to a Church-run home for the elderly, out of fear the priests would try to convert them. Vanna comes up with the idea of spiring them with her to Israel where she would be able to take care of them.

But before this can be done, a mystery is solved. As Claire and Ellie are taking part in a confrontation with Alleanza Nazzjonali on Palace Square, a woman breaks through the Police ranks and rushes at the two girls, spitting on them and calling their father a murderer.

For all the speculation about the letter-bomb, this is an angle that has not been investigated: the bombing may not only have got the wrong person but was aimed at a father, a doctor obeying strike orders who did not visit a sick girl as a result of which she subsequently died

Special opening of 4 Heritage Malta sites on Independence Day



Heritage Malta

Let yourself wander through our islands' astounding history on the 21st of September – Independence Day – as Heritage Malta opens four of its museums and sites which would otherwise be closed on Tuesdays, namely Fort St Angelo, the National Museum of Archaeology, St Paul's Catacombs and the Palace Armoury.

Starting off in the heart of Rabat, St Paul's Catacombs will take visitors into

Malta's mysterious ancient and medieval period. The catacombs are located on the outskirts of the old Roman capital Melite (today's Mdina), as Roman law prohibited burials within the city. Serving as a burial ground from Punic and Roman times, the site represents the earliest and largest archaeological evidence of Christianity in Malta. Its association to the saint derives from the myth that this cluster of catacombs was once connected with St Paul's Grotto.

Heritage Malta

Up next is the National Museum of Archaeology housed at the Auberge de Provence in Valletta, one of the most elaborately decorated Baroque buildings in the city. The outstanding collection on display here spans from the 5th to the 1st millennium BC, featuring some of the earliest prehistoric tools and artistic representations. Currently visitors may also get a glimpse of the famed Ħal Saflieni Hypogeum skulls, in the exhibition 'Alien Headaches? The Hypogeum Skulls Enigma', running till the end of this year.

Heritage Malta

Just a few steps away, the Palace Armoury will be another must-visit in your stroll around the capital. The Armoury is a showcase of the opulence of the Knights of St John. The most notable artefacts include suits of armour which were owned by Grand Masters Alof de Wignacourt and Jean de la Valette, armour and weapons used by the Ottoman Empire during the Great Siege of 1565, and a selection of artillery pieces.

Heritage Malta

Standing mighty across the Grand Harbour, Fort St Angelo will also be welcoming visitors on the day. During the past thousand years, whoever gained control of Fort St Angelo could effectively rule the Maltese Islands. Therefore, no other fortress has been engaged with the same intensity in the shaping of Malta's destiny. Nowadays, this fort is considered as the boldest memorial of the strategic importance of the islands and of the innumerable lives which were sacrificed for their dominion.

Opening hours for all of the above-mentioned museums and sites will be from 10:00 till 16:30 hrs.

This special opening is being held in strict adherence to Public Health regulations related to the Covid-19 pandemic. Visitors must wear a face mask and respect social distancing measures. Heritage Malta reserves the right to deny access to anyone with a temperature higher than 37.2 degrees Celsius or feeling unwell.

For more information, visit the website. www.mheritagemalta.org/

This content was supplied by Heritage Malta

**I hope this newsletter will continue to
grace our emails in the inbox
Michelle.**

FORT PEMBROKE – Malta

Photo: a polygonal fort in Pembroke, Malta

It was built between 1875 and 1878 by the British to defend part of the [Victoria Lines](#). The fort now houses the Verdala International School.^[1]

History Fort Pembroke was built by the British to defend the [Grand Harbour](#) as well as part of the [Victoria Lines](#). The building of the fort was proposed in a defence committee recommendation in 1873, and construction started on 24 January 1875 and was finished in

December 1878. The fort has an elongated hexagonal shape, surrounded by a ditch and glacis. It contained underground magazines and casemated garrison quarters. It was armed with three [RML 11 inch 25 ton guns](#) and one [64-pounder gun](#), which were mounted *en barbette*.

Fort Pembroke ditch

By the mid-1890s, the fort's armament became obsolete, and instead of upgrading the armaments, the nearby [Pembroke Battery](#) was built.^[3] The fort became an ammunition depot and storage area for small arms ammunition. Its gate was widened and a fixed metal bridge replaced the original rolling bridge.



In [World War II](#), the fort was used as a [prisoner-of-war camp](#), housing German prisoners. The British military establishments in Pembroke were closed in 1978 and the fort remained unused for nine years until 1987.

Present day Verdala International School moved into the fort in 1987. Since then, the school has grown from 110 to 400 students. Due to this increase, the school has expanded to include some barrack blocks close to the fort. The campus is leased by the government to the school until the year 2072.

The fort was scheduled by the [Malta Environment and Planning Authority](#) (MEPA) as a Grade 1 national monument in 1996. The protection status was revised to include the surviving glacis of the fort in 2009.

Dear Frank, thank you for your latest newsletter (391) and all the previous ones, that I have read. So many interesting stories, you keep on delivering... you are amazing!! I loved the stories of Agnes from Zimbabwe and Nicky from Nigeria. Both stories are so inspirational, I hope that the young people of today will be inspired by the two ladies, as how courageous and strong to come to a strange country by themselves. I hope Agnes will reunite with her family soon and will succeed to become a nurse. wish both ladies will live happy ever after in our beautiful island of Malta. Thanks again for all your hard work, it's very much appreciated.
Regards Dolores Muscat – Adelaide, Australia



ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL IN MALTA

The cathedral was commissioned by the Dowager Queen Adelaide during a visit to Malta in the 19th Century when she found out that there was no place of Anglican worship on the island. Prior to this Anglican services were held in a room in the Grand Master's Palace.^[2] Built on the site of the Auberge d'Allemagne (the conventual home of the German Knights Hospitaller), the cathedral was designed by William Scamp and was built between 1839 and 1844. Queen Adelaide laid the foundation stone on 20 March 1839 and her banner hangs above the choir stalls. The original plans were designed by Richard Lankasheer; however, the building proved unstable, thus work had to resume on plans by Scamp in 1841. Scamp's designs located the altar on the west side of the church, but the Bishop of Gibraltar had a more conservative view, thus the designs were altered, and Scamp designed an apse inside the great doors to hold the sanctuary on the east side.

War period and repairs During World War II the cathedral received minor damaged and the roof collapsed, but most of the structure remained intact. During restoration works the original designs by Scump started to take shape. A quire and rood screen were built on the west side of the cathedral. A pulpit was also incorporated with the screen dedicated to Sir Winston Churchill. The new chancery was dedicated by the Archbishop of Canterbury Geoffrey Fisher on 2 December 1949 in the presence of Princess Elizabeth. The east side of the cathedral was then transformed into a baptistery. The under-croft, constructed from remains of the basement of the Auberge d'Allemagne was never used. In 1928, the Bishop of Gibraltar Nugent Hicks opened the under-croft as the new parish hall. In 1938, it was transformed into a gas-proof air raid shelter, which in the early days of the conflict was used by the chaplain, his wife and scores of Maltese citizens. In 2005 it was restored and upgraded.

Interior A Valletta landmark due to its spire rising over 60 metres, it is constructed with Maltese limestone in a neo-classical style.^[1] The cathedral has columns with capitals of the Corinthian order while the capitals of the six columns of the portico are of the Ionic order.^[5] The internal dimensions of the building are 33.5 metres x 20.4 metres. Behind the main altar is a painting titled *Ecce Homo*, the work of A E Chalon, donated in 2014.

Steeple The cathedral's steeple is a landmark on its own being notably visible in the Marsamxett Harbour.^{[5][6]} The church building is listed on the National Inventory of the Cultural Property of the Maltese Islands. On 9 February 2017, the church council launched a project to restore the building and steeple with the aim of raising €3,000,000 to cover the costs.^[8]

Organ Above the entrance to the cathedral is located the organ that originated in Chester Cathedral in northwest England. The one-manual instrument was built in 1684 by Bernard Smith.

There is a long-held tradition that it was played by George Frederick

Handel when on his way to Dublin for the first public performance of the "Messiah". It is believed he carried out some final rehearsals to

fine-tune some of the choruses at Chester Cathedral in 1742 when the organ was housed in the Cathedral. However, it has been changed and rebuilt several times, most recently by Kenneth Jones of Dublin.

Association with British military forces The oak panels around the High Altar are a memorial to the Allied units which took part in the defence of Malta between 1940 and 1943. Twelve flags hang in the aisles representing amongst others the Royal Air Force, the British Merchant Navy, and the Royal Navy.





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MALTESE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF NSW
PROGRAM FOR THE MALTESE

SUNDAYS AT 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM
AN HOUR FILLED WITH NEWS AND INFORMATION



BRIEF HISTORY OF THE IMPERIAL BAND CLUB OF MELLIEHA



The Imperial Band Club derived its origins from "The Constitutional Orchestra Club" which was set up on 31 st August 1924. Four years later, a decision was taken to establish a Band Club, under the name of "The Imperial Band Club. In February 1929, the Club acquired its first instruments, 45 pieces to begin with and percussion instruments. On 21 st

September 1930, The Imperial Band Club gave its first musical programme in the Mellieha Village Square. Since then, it has never looked back!

On July 23rd 1949 the Band travelled to Sicily and, in the famous Villa Bellini Gardens in Catania, delivered its first musical programme abroad, under the able direction of Mro. Anthony Sammut. Between July 2nd and July 9th 1995, the band travelled to Sousse, Tunisia, where it delivered several concerts under the direction of Mro. John Mamo. In October 1999 the Imperial Band delivered several concerts in Germany under the Direction of Mro. Anthony Borg. In November 2007 the Imperial Band under the direction of Mro. Anthony Borg participated in 'Novello in Festa' an annual cultural festival held in the town on Leverano (LE) in the region of Puglia in Italy. Apart from its regular commitments in the Village, the Band proceeded to involve itself in numerous engagement outside Mellieha and in a host of official celebrations on a national scale.

Prominent amongst these, it is worth mentioning, the Imperial Band's participation in the Coronation Celebrations of King George VI in 1937, the festivities for the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953, and its participation in the Carnival celebrations in 1958, in 1972, when the Band carried off the First Prize, and again in 1973 when the Band proved itself once more by placing second.

Between 1969 and 1979, The Imperial Band Club, organized a yearly song festival, called Vocalissima, open to participants from all over Malta. The Imperial choir was formed in 1998 with the aim to perform during activities organized by the Imperial Band Club. Since then the Imperial Choir never looked back. Besides participating in concerts jointly with Imperial Band, the choir proceeded to involve itself in numerous engagements. Prominent amongst these were the joint choral concert with The James Lambert Singers from Wales, the successful tour in Germany in November 2004 and in November 2007 together with the Imperial Band at Leverano in Italy. The Imperial Choir also participated in numerous religious engagements amongst them worth mentioning singing in masses officiated by Mgr Mario Grech Bishop of Gozo, by Mgr Paul Cremona Archbishop of Malta and by the Apostolic Nuncio for Malta Mgr Tomaso Caputo respectively. Its repertoire includes sacred music, classical, pop, folk and traditional Maltese music. Since October 2005 the choir's director is Mro. Shirley Helleur.

Today, the Band consists of about 50 musicians with its structure resembling that of a Military band, basically made up of wood, brass, and percussion instruments. Its repertoire includes Maltese marches, Maltese Folk music, classical and popular music from international sources.

The Imperial Band takes great pains to teach musical theory to its trainee musicians and to hold regular rehearsals for these budding bandsmen.

The Band's Musical Director is Mro. Anthony Borg, while the President of the Club is Mr. Josef Borg. The Imperial Band Club has its premises at Number 7, Parish Square Mellieha, MLH1072. VO/0841

Malta's lengthy medical history is an integral part of its national heritage



ALBERT FENECH

Thermal-baths-used-to-operated-by-Bighi-Hospital

Thanks to the presence in Malta for three-and-a-half centuries of the Knights of the Order of St John of Jerusalem, also known as The Knight Hospitaliers, the country has a long and experienced medical history and in World War I was regarded as "The nurse of the Mediterranean" for its medical treatment of wounded and injured British and Australian military personnel.

The role and importance of the Order has today declined but their presence is still felt by the work of the St John Ambulance Brigade, the role they perform and the insignia they use – its central focus being the Maltese Cross.

Bighi-was-a-British-military-hospital

The Knights first came to Malta in the early years of the 15th century after being expelled by the Turkish Moors from Rhodes. The source of their foundation was a Nobility Order dedicated to treating the injured and wounded during the Crusades in the Holy Land and later treating Christian pilgrims.

By 1530 they had arrived and begun to settle in Malta which was "given" to them by the Sicilian King Charles I of Spain and his mother in exchange for a rent of a Maltese Falcon annually!

Now-fallen-into-disrepair-and-urgently-needing-renovation

One of their tasks was to construct an Infirmary Hospital in Valletta after this city was constructed and inaugurated in 1568 following the great victory in 1565 after the Great Siege imposed by the Turkish Moors.

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websites; ozmalta.com., Maltese Community Council of Victoria
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Right down to World War II this hospital continued to function but later was sadly abandoned until the 1970s when the Maltese Government renovated and converted the building into what is now known as The Mediterranean Conference Centre.

The-building-now-converted-into-a-science-and-technology-centre-ESPLORA

The Knights remained in Malta until 1798 until they were expelled by Napoleon Bonaparte and his French military who had taken over the island and whose one of the first actions was to expel the Knights because of their nobility heritage, a major blot in French Republican eyes.

By 1803 the British under Lord Horatio Nelson had dispelled the French and following Malta's request, Malta became a part of the British Empire.



At British behest an old and decrepit villa built by the Knights at Bighi was converted into a military hospital and became Bighi Hospital.

The-insignia-used-by-the-St-Johns-Ambulance-Brigade

Bighi lies on the inner northern part of the Grand Harbour rim near Kalkara and The Three Cities of Cospicua, Senglea and Vittoriosa and was chosen so that naval vessels could immediately deliver their wounded and injured directly into the hospital. Its conversion to a hospital took place around 1827.

However, was there another reason?



Many people in Malta itself do not know that at the tip of Bighi, at water level, there are structured thermal baths and these were highly utilised by the British for patients with joint and muscle pains and other related illnesses and thus requiring thermal cures.

Admiral-Lord-Horatio-Nelson-who-resided-in-Malta-for-a-while

The coastal terrain in the area was ideal for the structuring of such baths,

The baths used to be filled with cold or warm sea water as required and produced by a pumping room with water being directly drawn from the

sea. Seawater contains magnesium, zinc, iron and potassium and helps cure inflamed skin and protect it.



With the introduction of more sophisticated treatment, the baths were abandoned and the years of lying directly on the sea shore began to take their toll. The structures began to crumble and were in danger of being lost completely.

The-Malta-Cross-the-centrepiece-of-the-insignia-of-the-St-John-Ambulance-Brigade

However, the heritage foundation FWA has now stepped in and has applied great pressure for these to be renovated and preserved as they are part of the Grand Harbour panorama and are depicted in many paintings of the area.

This is once more proof that Malta and Gozo are resplendent in historical heritage and although being among the smallest countries in the world their contribution to humanity has been great and by far out-reaching their geographical dimensions.

The Bighi Hospital has now been converted into the ESPLORA science and technology centre to maintain the utility of its importance to the history of Valletta's Grand Harbour.

French-Emporer-Napoleon-Bonaparte-resided-in-Malta-for-a-few-days-and-carried-out-many-changes

Gozo

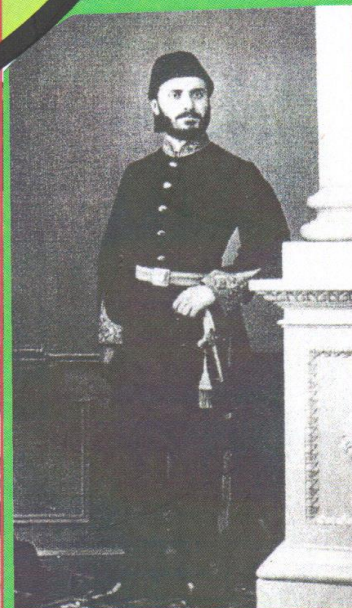
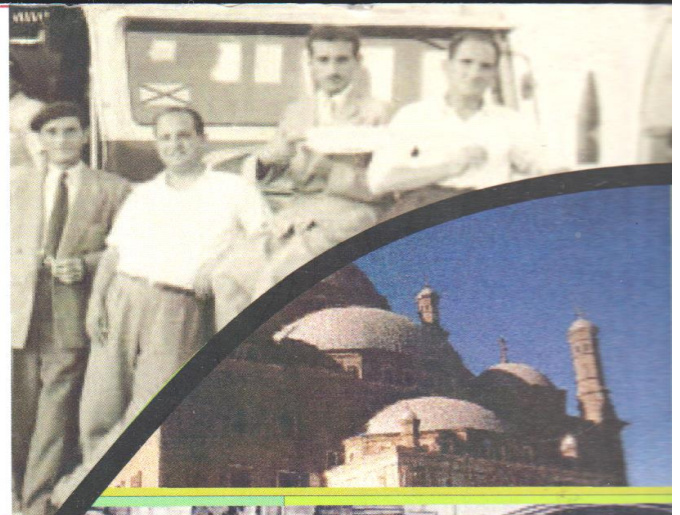
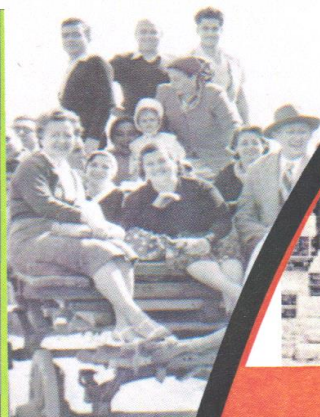
Victoria

A TRANSIENT COLONYThe history of the Maltese
Community in Egypt**MALTA**

St. Julians

Valletta

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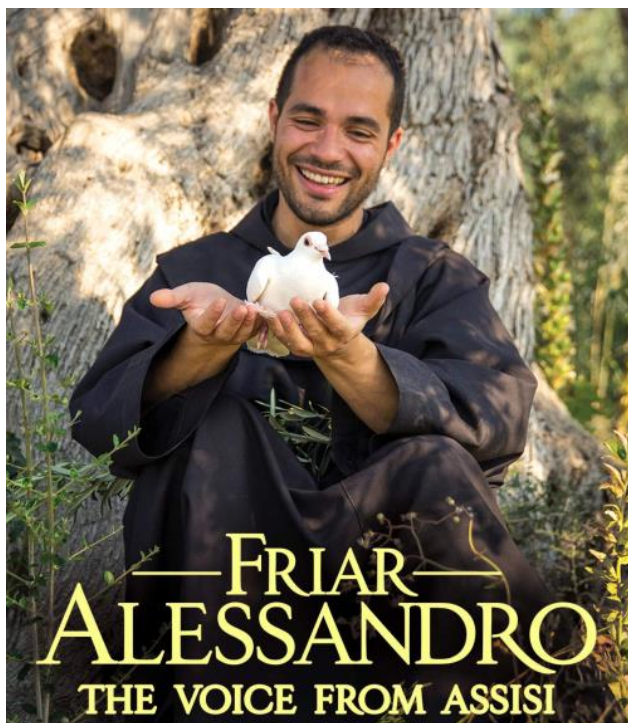
**NICHOLAS
CHIRCOP
OAM**

VALLEY OF THE NILE is the history of Maltese free settlers that migrated to Egypt during the 19th and 20th Centuries. Their settlement proved not always to be an easy transition, as they found themselves embroiled in political and religious upheavals. Their final exodus from Egypt took place abruptly at the time of the Suez Canal debacle of 1956-57. The work discloses and tries to preserve for posterity the patrimony of a proud Colony/Community that resided in the Valley of the Nile for over a century. It gives to newcomers interested in the history of Maltese Migration, a brief introduction to the Maltese Islands and the Maltese as well as a brief background of Egypt, the land chosen by the Diaspora. An estimated 10,000 of their descendants now reside in Australia, where their contribution to the prosperity of the country is quite evident. A similar figure may be quoted for the United Kingdom, including some Countries in Europe and North America. In general, this comprehensive work on the history of the Maltese Community of Egypt, ended with the Exodus of 1956-57 in majority to the United Kingdom and Australia, where the uprooted settlers blossomed in their respective Zion. For the writer, it was a challenge in the face of fierce personal hardship, preconceived prejudice and some community indifference.

Frate Alessandro jkanta f'Ghawdex

Jikteb Joe M Attard minn Ghawdex

Fuq inizzjattiva tal-Fondazzjoni Papa Gwanni Pawlu t-Tieni li qed tfakkar il-100 sena minn twelidu u t-30 sena mindu kien żar il-gzejjer maltin, nhar il-Hadd 19 ta' Settembru ngab f'Ghawdex Frate Alessandro minn Assisi mwieded Perugia, illum meqjus kantant ta' fama internazzjonali għall-vuċi sabiha li għandu. Daħal mal-Patrijiet u għall-bidu kien jagħmel ix-xogħol ta' mastrudaxxa fil-kunvent sakemm il-patrijiet skoprew li kellu vuċi mhix komuni u mexxewh 'l quddiem tant li rrrekordja kemm fl-Istati Uniti kif ukoll fir-Renju Unit. Il-kunċert li ta lil għadd kbir ta' nies dejjem skont l-ordnijiet li gābet magħha il-Pandemija, sar fil-Knisja Parrokkjali tal-Madonna ta' Loreto f'Għajnsielem u ntlaga' tajjeb ferm.

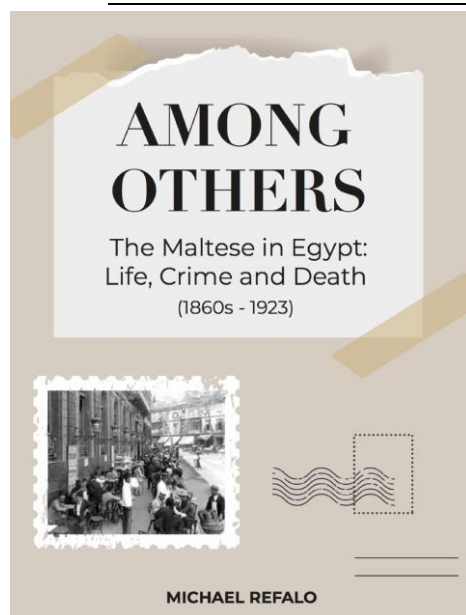


Hadu sehem ma' dan is-solista l-JP2 String Quartet flimkien mal-Chorus Urbanus Junior Choir taħt id-

direzzjoni ta' Maureen Zerafa kif ukoll is-solisti tal-Chorus Urbanus, Yvonne Galea, Noel Galea, Hilda Grima, Mary Xerri, Angelo Muscat (li iktar kmieni dil-ġimgħa ha sehem f'diversi lunch time concerts gewwa Dubai) u Ruth Portelli lkoll taħt id-direzzjoni ta' Mro Dr John Galea. Kienu diversi x-xogħlijiet li ndaqqu matul is-sagħtejn li dam sejjer dan il-kunċert ta' mużika reliġjuża fosthom l-esekuzzjoni ta' ħames Avemarijiet ta' Saint-Saens, Caccini, John Galea, Pietro Mascagni u Schubert. Il-pubbliku seta' jgawdi wkoll xi siltiet li ħargu mill-pinna tal-Fqajjar t'Assisi bħal ngħidu aħna 'Dolce Sentire' (Diehla go Qalbi), 'Make me a Channel of your peace' (Aghmilni strument tal-paċi tiegħek), flimkien ma' 'Amazing Grace', 'How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the Gospel', 'Panis Angelicus' ta' Cesar Franck, 'Lord God of Abraham' mill-Elijah ta' Felix Mendelssohn, 'Forza Gesu' – Versione Piccolo Coro dell'Antoniano, il-'Lord's Prayer' ta' Malotte u 'Look at the World' tal-kompożitur Ingliż John Rutter.

Bal dubju dan il-kunċert kbir ma kienx ikun possibbli kieku ma kenitx l-għajnuna ferm siewja tal-isponsors, ewlenin fosthom il-Ministeru għal Ghawdex, id-Direttorat tal-Kultura fi hdan l-istess Ministeru, il-Kunsill Lokali ta' Għajnsielem, u l-Arċipriet u l-Parroċċa t'Għajnsielem fost l-oħrajn. Preżenti għall-kunċert kien hemm fost l-oħrajn l-E.T. l-Isqof ta' Tripli mwieded ix-Xagħra Monsinjur Gorg Buġeja li kien hawn fostna għal ftit jiem ta' mistrieħ, is-Sindku u l-Kunsuliera u l-istaff tal-Kunsill Lokali t'Għajnsielem flimkien ma' diversi patrijiet fosthom il-Gwardan tal-Patrijiet ta' Giezu Patri Marcello Ghirlando li kien qed jilqa' għandu fil-kunvent tal-patrijiet fix-Xatt, lil dan huh fl-Ordni Frangiskan, Frate Alessandro. Fost il-folla stajt nilmaħ ukoll il-figura tal-Patri anzjan Dionisju Mintoff.

Fi tmiem il-kunċert Patri Alessandro radd ħajr lil Alla u lill-folla li laqgħetu daqstant tajjeb kif ukoll lill-orkestra u lis-Surmast Mro Dr John Galea li min-naħa tiegħu pprezentalu CD *Il Cuore di Gesu'* (Il-Qalb ta' Gesu') li kien ħareġ iktar kmieni il-Chorus Urbanus. *Il Paese del Sole* huwa wiehed mis-CD's li ħareġ dan il-Frate Frangiskan. Matul il-ġurnata dan il-mistieden tal-JP2 kien imdawwar ma' xi nhawi fi gżiritna fosthom is-Santwarju tal-Madonna ta' Pinu.



When Britain assumed its 'veiled protectorate', Egypt became more attractive to the Maltese who, themselves, were British subjects in virtue of the earlier colonization of their island by Britain. Based upon the records of the British Consular Courts in Egypt, this book delves into the relationships, the lives and deaths, the successes and the failures of this community which made Egyptian centres their home.

Among Others, The Maltese in Egypt: Life, Crime and Death (1860s-1923), Michael Refalo

Egypt was not the most popular migrant destination for the Maltese. Nevertheless, the opportunities for work (those connected to the Suez Canal among others), and the British quasi-colonial status of the country for most of the period covered by this book, attracted many Maltese to Cairo, Alexandria, Port Said and other Egyptian centres.

This book is based upon primary sources which have never been used by Maltese historians to date. It analyses in detail the lives of those migrants and their descendants. Particular attention is devoted to the family, the residence and the neighbourhood, the crimes they committed, their death and their succession strategies. Not all Maltese were financially successful; many languished at the bottom rungs of society. All, somehow or other, managed to make of Egypt their home and managed to adapt in a heterogeneous community that included migrants from different localities as well as Egyptians

www.kitegroup.com.mt/product/among-others-the-maltese-in-egypt-life-crime-and-death-1860s-1923-michael-refalo/.

Or www.bdlbooks.com

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Maltese writer and dedicated biology teacher Guido Lanfranco passes away:



Some remember him as one of their most inspiring teachers of biology, others have been introduced to his well-researched publications about local traditions and Malta's natural history and folklore.

Guido Lanfranco's death at the age of 90, announced publicly on 8 September 2021, and the reactions it garnered are testament to the undoubtedly rich legacy of research and knowledge he left in his efforts to educate the public on Malta's flora, fauna and culture.

He was born in Sliema in 1930, and received his education at Stella Maris, the St Michael's, then the University of Malta and finally the Dale Field Studies Centre in Wales.

He was a long-standing academic, a member of the University's Biological Society, and served as the first President of Birdlife Malta and of Nature Trust.

He inspired many to "take a deeper interest in Malta's natural history", [a Times of Malta article said](#).

In a dedicated Facebook post, the University's Faculty of Science expressed its sincere condolences to his son Dr Sandro Lanfranco, the current head of the Department of Biology and his family, and also to his brother Edwin Lanfranco, who was for decades a member of staff of the Department of Biology.

[Malta University's Website]



[The formation of the Maltese Community Council of Alexandria, Egypt, at the Alhambra Theatre, Alexandria, 1925]

Malta set for Ridley Scott's Napoleon epic 'Kitbag' with Joaquin Phoenix



Hollywood giant who filmed *Gladiator* in Malta back in 2000 set to return in early 2022 for Napoleon flick

Luke Vella maltatoday.com.mtt

Ridley Scott will direct Joaquin Phoenix in Malta once again for his Napoleon movie *Kitbag*

Ridley Scott, the filmmaker behind classics like *Alien*, *Gladiator* and *Blade Runner*, is working on a Napoleon Bonaparte epic, set to be filmed in Malta sometime in early 2022.

Oscar-winning actor Joaquin Phoenix is expected to star in the movie, having already teamed up with Scott in Malta in 2000, when they worked on the historical epic *Gladiator*, winner of five Academy Awards including Best Picture.

The movie, *Kitbag*, has been acquired by Apple Studios and is set to star Phoenix as the French emperor and military leader.

The production is set to begin in early 2022 and the film is taking the title from the saying, "There is a general's staff hidden in every soldier's kitbag".

Polish cinematographer Dariusz Adam Wolski, known for his work on the *Pirates of the Caribbean* film series, had posted on Instagram that he was on his way to Malta to start work on location scouting.

A Napoleon war feature film has been the dream of many filmmakers like Stanley Kubrick, who famously failed to make it happen. Ridley Scott is keen to take over the baton.

"Napoleon is a man I've always been fascinated by. He came out of nowhere to rule everything — but all the while he was waging a romantic war with his adulterous wife Josephine. He conquered the world to try to win her love, and when he couldn't, he conquered it to destroy her, and destroyed himself in

the process."

The film will take a personal look at the origins of this history giant and his climb to power, through the view of his love, Josephine. It will be also portraying Napoleon's most famous battle, as well as his relentless ambition and astounding strategic mind.



ILLAWARRA MALTESE AUSTRALIANS

We are a group of Maltese Australians of all ages and generations, passionate about keeping our Maltese Culture and Traditions alive in the Illawarra and surrounds. We aim to create a vibrant, welcoming community, celebrating all that makes us Maltese-Australian!

Who We Are ➔

What We Do ➔ We aim to hold events for all Maltese Australians, their families and friends. We will bring together both young and old, as this is how our traditions are passed down from one generation to the next. We want to promote the Maltese-Australian heritage in a modern way, appealing to the next generations of Maltese-Australians. Picnics, parties, outings and cultural events are just some of the things we have planned.

Become a Member ➔ Your contribution to a Membership to Illawarra Maltese Australians will enable us to establish our association, to be able to bring fun, novel and engaging events for all ages. Membership will support Illawarra Maltese Australians to organise events, and members will have discounted entry to paid events. Get in touch with us for a membership form!

Get Involved ➔ Individual Membership: 1 year for \$5 or 3 years for \$12
Family Membership: 1 year for \$10 or 3 years for \$25

If you would like to get involved in any way, big or small, please get in touch! We would love to hear your ideas!

CONTACT US

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 illawarramalteseaustralians@gmail.com

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New theatre production inspired by artists' own dreams



Opening Doors | Elisa von Brockdorff

Tista' taqra bil- **Malti**.

To desire is human. We all have wants, needs, wishes. Yet, the path to what we yearn for is not the same for everyone. Sometimes that path is obstructed, sometimes we might feel like there is no bridge to the other side, sometimes we might feel completely alone in wanting and reaching out for it. Sometimes you must forge ahead and just be fabulous.

Since January 2021, award-

winning playwright Simone Spiteri and theatre director and producer Toni Attard have been co-creating a new theatre production with artists from Opening Doors – Malta's arts organisation for people with intellectual disabilities. *Is-Sigra tat-Tin* is an inclusive theatre work that intertwines the artists' own dreams like the roots of a fig tree that grow down to the forest floor. Through movement and dramatic scenes co-created by the artists, in Maltese and English, the performers share their own stories and aspirations with the audience.

The production will be performed by 10 artists from Opening Doors and three guest actors who are well known in Maltese theatre and television. The cast is composed of Cheyenne Aquilina, Caroline Bajada, Angela Bettoni, Sharon Bezzina, Denise Camilleri, Kurt Castillo, Peter Fenech, Benjamin Grech, Sarah Micallef, Jacob Piccinino, Justin Spiteri, Kal Wirth and Mark Zammit Cutajar.

'We worked intensively with the performers through workshops in movement, creative writing and improvisation to develop a script that is built on the wonderful material created by each performer', said Toni Attard.

This process reflects the association's ethos to promote creative processes and artistic skill with adults with intellectual disabilities in processes that facilitate the creation of their own work and aesthetic.

'Through our work we want to provide the performers with a creative space that empowers them to take ownership of their work and process. This production adds a new dynamic to our work with the inclusion of guest artists to the process', said the association's artistic director, Ilona Baldacchino.

This production will also mark Opening Doors' physical return to the theatre since the pandemic forced all of its activity to shift online.



Tickets are available from the **Spazju Kreattiv website**. *Is-Sigra tat-Tin* is supported by Spazju Kreattiv and produced by Culture Venture within the project AMASS University of Malta Acting on the Margins: Art as Social Sculpture, partnered in Malta by the Department of Arts, Open Communities, and Adult Education, within the Faculty of Education. AMASS received financial support from the research and innovation programme Horizon 2020 of the European Union under agreement nr 870621. *Is-Sigra tat-Tin* is part of an arts programme created by Culture Venture and supported by Arts Council Malta.

Have a laugh and watch Lela Abela - Maltese in Self - Isolation - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xkSjxLERAg&t=4s>

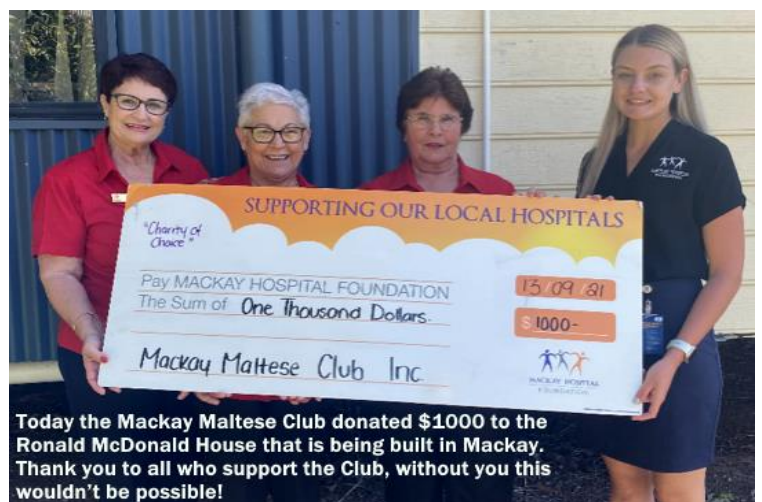


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**I THANK ALL MY FRIENDS AND
READERS FOR SUPPORTUNG ME**

Jerma Hotel to be transformed into 8-Storey Complex



The former Jerma Palace Hotel in Marsaskala, which is facing demolition, is set to be redeveloped into an eight-storey hotel with 500 rooms, 130 residential apartments, and a public square in front of St. Thomas Tower.

The construction is the project of magnet Joseph Portelli. He said that he can't wait to show people the design of the project, it's beautiful.

The complex will be rising 9 metres over the St. Thomas Tower, as the Jerma Palace Hotel development is limited to 32 metres above sea level. That would make for about 8 storeys in total. Jerma Palace was opened in 1982 and closed down in 2007 and the building has been left abandoned.

The hotel will be operated by an international company but has not disclosed the name. He claims the new project will not be high-rise, but it will blend in with the beautiful surroundings of Marsaskala with shops and restaurants, and a huge square in front of St Thomas Tower, which will be able to hold large public events,

The complex will include a central plaza and landscaped, public open spaces to reintroduce a visual link between the historic tower and the sea and people will be able to view the sea from the tower." Joseph Portelli said that they chose a design by a Maltese architect, "because he envisioned the concept differently to all the others."

Although the Jerma Complex no association with the Marsaskala yacht marina plan but Joseph agrees with the construction of a marina because it will contribute greatly to the economy and aesthetic of the south of Malta.



Nina, Frank and Carmen

The Maltese Guild of South Australia celebrated Malta's Independence Day on Tuesday 21 September at the Maltese Cultural Centre, Beverley. The special guests were Carmen Spiteri, the honorary consul and Frank Scicluna, the former honorary consul and editor of the Maltese Journal.



Carmen and Frank explained the significance of the commemoration of the Independence Day. Then those present were treated with lunch and dessert. Mrs Nina Abela, the President of the Guild, thanked the guests and all those who attended this important celebration