

**MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER****Journal of Maltese Living Abroad**

Editor: Frank L Scicluna OAM MQR

**THE ONLY DIGITAL
AND PRINTED
JOURNAL FOR
THE MALTESE
DIASPORA****A STREAM OF CONGRATULATIONS
FOR ROBERTA METSOLA
THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**

The President of Malta – Dr George Vella
The Prime Minister of Malta – Hon Robert Abela
The Leader of the Opposition – Hon Bernard Grech
The Archbishop of Malta – Mgr Charles Scicluna
The Parliamentary Speaker – Hon Anglu Farrugia
The Labour and Nationalist parties
The EPP Group in the European Parliament
All the Governments in the European Union
All the people of Malta and Gozo and
all Maltese Living Abroad
and many more

**YOU MADE US PROUD
TO BE MALTESE**

Well done!
JENISE SPITERI
to represent
Malta at the
Beijing Winter
Olympics 2022
in the snowboarding
category

'Rough diamond'
Marsa kicks off
capital of
culture
year
2022

**Marsa Cultural City
2022****Reflect
Respect
Celebrate****HAPPY
AUSTRALIA
DAY
26 JANUARY****Message from H.E. Jenny Cartmill, Australian High Commissioner to Malta**



AUSTRALIA DAY 26 January 2022

Message from Her Excellency Jenny Cartmill, Australian High Commissioner to Malta

Warm greetings from us all at the Australian High Commission on Australia Day 2022!

It's a day to reflect on what it means to be Australian, to celebrate contemporary Australia and to acknowledge our long history. Indigenous Australians, as the traditional custodians of the land, have a fundamental role in our 60,000 year old story. At the same time, we weave in the newer stories of generations of people from across the world,

including many from Malta. As a nation of 25 million people now, we're continuing the story together of building a peaceful, prosperous and multicultural society.

We aren't able to celebrate with a large event due to the ongoing pandemic, but I will be hosting a smaller official lunch honoured by the presence of the President, HE Dr George Vella and Mrs Vella. We'll toast both Australia and Malta and hope for a better year for all.

Best wishes for a wonderful day on the 26th January. Warm regards for a brighter 2022,



This is the Story of Australia - the story of an extraordinary nation. The Story begins 60,000 years ago. New chapters are written every day. On Australia Day, we reflect on our history, its highs and its lows. We respect the stories of others. And we celebrate our nation, its achievements and most of all, its people.

We're all part of the story.

On Australia Day we celebrate all the things we love about Australia: land, sense of fair go, lifestyle, democracy, the freedoms we enjoy but particularly our people.

Australia Day is about acknowledging and celebrating the contribution that every Australian makes to our contemporary and

The Story of Australia

dynamic nation. From our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people - who have been here for more than 60,000 years - to those who have lived here for generations, to those who have come from all corners of the globe to call our country home.

The marking of 26 January is an important date in Australia's history and has changed over time: starting as a celebration for emancipated convicts and evolving into what is now a celebration of Australia that reflects the nation's diverse people.

Australia Day continues to be hugely popular, with 3 in 4 Australians believing it has a bigger meaning beyond being just a day off.

More than half of all Australians participate in Australia Day attending events organised by State Governments, local councils, community groups or getting together with family and friends. In addition, over 16,000 new Australians become citizens on Australia Day.



Porte des Bombes - Floriana

Designed by Pietro Paolo Floriani, Floriana's fortifications were started in 1636 in order to keep enemy troops as far as possible from Valletta. Work on Floriana's fortifications continued until the 1720s. The area between the Floriana Lines and the Valletta land front began to be built up in 1724, when Grand Master António Manoel de Vilhena founded the suburb Borgo Vilhena.

Porte des Bombes, originally known as "Il-Bieb tal-Bombi" Porta dei Cannoni, is the main gateway into Floriana. This gate, originally had only one porte and was designed by Mondion and constructed in 1721 by Grand Master Perellos. The coat of arms at the top of the gate is that of Grand Master Perellos.

In June 1798, the Knights of St John lost the Maltese islands to the French. One of the few sorties took place here when Napoleon's troops attacked and threw open Porte des Bombes. This gate passed through various transformations as the traffic into Valletta and Floriana increased. It was Sir Patrick Grant, Governor of Malta 1867-72, who saw the need of adding a second entrance to the gateway. This was inaugurated on 17th August, 1868, at a cost of £900, thus allowing for the passage of two means of transport at the same time. The writing on one side of the gates says: 'Whilst I fight the Turks everywhere I am secure in my seat'. A second inscription on the other side reads: 'For the greater comfort of the population – 1868'.



Floriana Local Council
Borgo Vilhena

Book about the 300 years of Floriana

A pre-booking offer is launched – Freddie Tonna

May 9 marks the foundation of the suburban town of Floriana. The 300th birthday of this locality will be celebrated in 2024.

For this historical landmark the local gazette 'IL-FURJANA' will be publishing a book about Floriana. It is anticipated that this publication will be of interest not only to the Florianites but also to *Melitensia* collectors.

The 300 years Floriana project was officially launched on February 7. The production team is being led by Dr Joan Abela who is the Editor of the publication.

Renowned accademicals and writers are participating in this venture. Among others the list of contributors includes:

Dr Joan Abela, Eddie Attard, I-Imħallef Emeritu Giovanni Bonello, Dr Andre P. DeBattista, Dr Sandro Debono, Rev. Dr. Nicholas Doublet, Prof. Henry Frendo, Dr Albert Ganado, Joseph Schirò, Prof. Raymond Mangion, Rev. Dr. Martin Micallef, Prof. Charles Savona Ventura, Dr Giannantonio Scaglione, Dr Stephen C. Spiteri, Prof. Conrad Thake, Rev. Dr. David Torpiano, Dr. Theresa Vella, Prof. William Zammit, Dr Julian Zarb, Tony Terribile, Mario Xuereb, Noel d'Anastas, Mario Calleja, Paul P. Agius, Nigel Holland, Kenneth Cauchi, Publio Agius, Jesmond Moore, Stephen Tonna, and Martin Camilleri.

This book will have 400 pages, replete with hundreds of historical photos many of which have rarely been published before. It also includes specialised historical articles about various aspects of Floriana.

Pre-publication special offer

A pre-publication booking order for the book will entitles you to acquire it at reduced price of €60 instead of the post publication price of €75, saving €15.

Those who do not want to pay the €60 in a lump sum, a scheme of payment spanning over 4 years was launched - €20 paid with the pre booking form this year; €10 next year (2022), and €10 the following year (2023). The last €20 will be paid when the book is picked up in 2024.

If payments are to be affected by cheque, they should be made payable to 'IL-FURJANA' and addressed thus:

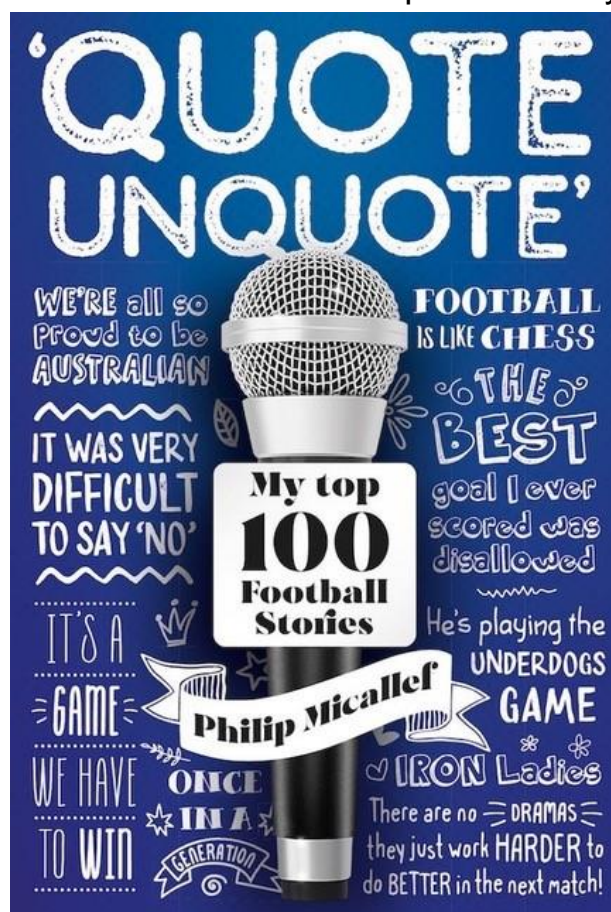


Sydney-based Maltese journalist produces football memoir

Philip Micallef

Sydney-based Maltese journalist Philip Micallef has compiled a collection of 100 football stories for a publication that will be available worldwide on February 1.

'Quote, Unquote' is Fair Play Publishing's first book for 2022, featuring some of Micallef's best work for News Limited and SBS over a period of 40 years.



The publication covers several aspects of the game in Australia and abroad.

Its most appealing part is that comprising one-on-one interviews with such big names as Pele, Diego Maradona, Michel Platini, Franco Baresi, Gary Lineker, Claudio Gentile and Sepp Blatter.

"The game has become too big with too many interests attached," the late Maradona says in the book.

"There is too much money at stake and too much pressure on footballers and it's not fun anymore." Lineker talks about the way he was frozen out of the England team by manager Graham Taylor while Platini says he is privileged to have played in the 1982 World Cup semi-final because it was probably the greatest game ever played.

You can sample these and so many other stories by ordering the book online from Amazon or Fair Play Publishing.

Contact the author;

Philip – micallefphilip6@gmail.com



MARSA CULTURAL CITY 2022

*Sailboat-themed
Marsa 2022 logo
reflects 'waves and
challenges'*

Jessica Arena TIMES OF MALTA

"Marsa is a rough diamond. It has a strong sense of identity and culture and that's why it was chosen for this," he said.

A sailboat parting the seas has been chosen to highlight the "waves and challenges" of rehabilitating Marsa as it becomes Malta's first capital of culture.

The logo for Marsa 2022, a special [Facebook page](#) and a series of events beginning at the end of this month were announced on Thursday by mayor Josef Azzopardi.

First [announced](#) in September, the title of capital of culture sees localities awarded a €200,000 grant to plan and host events.

Azzopardi said the logo represented the vision and demands of the year ahead.

"Yes, there are waves and challenges we are going to have to face, but our sails are unfurled and together with the community, we hope to stir the ship forward and elevate the locality," he said.

The first event on Marsa's cultural calendar will be a festival on January 28, featuring traditional music, fireworks and literary readings. The event will be held in front of the Holy Trinity parish church and feature artists who were raised or live in the locality.

Next month, there will be a Qarçilla, a satirical farce traditionally performed during carnival.

Speaking at the launch, Culture Minister Jose Herrera urged the central government to invest in rehabilitating Marsa, as it had done in other localities.

ADVERTISING

Herrera contests elections on the first district, which includes Marsa as his constituents.

"I hope the attention Marsa gets throughout this year will force the central government to focus on this community.

"There were regions in the past, such as the Cottonera area for example, where you can see what a difference has been achieved after efforts were made to rehabilitate them. I think it's high time that Marsa gets that treatment as well."

Marsa is characterised by the many heavy industries, particularly in the shipping sector, which operate out of the locality, often causing strain on residents.

The area is home to an incinerator as well as an open centre that houses irregular migrants.

Locals are also currently fighting to prevent oil cleaning tanks from relocating to Marsa from Kalkara.

The locality is still largely characterised by traditional houses of varying architectural merit and enjoys a long history rich in tradition dating back to the Roman period.

Azzopardi has said he views the title as an [opportunity](#) to rehabilitate the public's perception of Marsa and attract more help in carrying out projects that would help regenerate the community.



*This is an appeal by Victor V. Vella Dip M. Ed., B.A, M.A. (Sydney Univ.)
High School teacher (ret) a writer, broadcaster and journalist*



In my talk to the "IV Maltese Living Abroad Convention (2015)" entitled '*The Writer in Exile*' I referred to the hazy future of contributions in Maltese which over the years have been published in Australia by Maltese writers in the form of books, articles and c-d's ..There has been a significant number of writers of various genre such as poems, articles, novels in Maltese which would be spread around the country or countries but not collected in a way that they could be in the future, a source of research about migration .. These resources would assist in the future study of the 'unofficial' history as well as as a 'foreign' contribution to Maltese writing/ literature.

The only centre I know which caters in some way to keep the flame alive is the library of the Maltese Community Centre at Merrylands. in NSW . Hopefully there are similar centres libraries /collections in other states too. However by the passing away of Committees because of dwindling numbers the future of this 'Melitensia with an Aussie flavour' is in doubt. This doubt is shared by a number of Maltese -Australian writers who are uncertain re the future of their past contributions which would offer a beneficial resource for future studies about the history of migration . settlement, pioneers...etc

I am hereby appealing to those Maltese writers who fall in this category to contact me, to be able to make a joint appeal either to The Dept. of History or the Dept of Maltese Language and Culture at the Univ. of Malta about the feasibility of this plan and whether they would be willing and able to offer a future shelter for these resources.

If you happen to be one of these contributors and interested in such a plan, please forward your name, address and a list of your publications to me via my email address <victorvella39@gmail.com>..... so that a formal and joint petition will be forwarded to the Heads



Fenkata, more than a delicious meal of rabbit. It came to be a symbol of peasant resistance



I watched the waiters cross the floor, their hands carrying plates of steaming rabbit dishes, a first course of pasta with rabbit sauce to be followed by the rabbit as a second course. A procession of rabbit meals made its way to the diners sitting at tables spread across the tiled floor. The aroma of Fenkata made its way towards our table. Sitting in an Mgarr restaurant, my mouth watered, ready to devour what I had been assured would be the best meal of rabbit in Malta.

Rabbit has a long history in Malta. It was believed that either the Romans or the Phoenicians introduced the animal to the Maltese islands. However, it was the arrival of the Knights of St John in 1530 that would lead to the rabbit becoming a symbol of resistance.

The Order of St John's authoritarian rules on hunting and land rights would set off a sequence of rising tensions that would reach a crescendo of disobedience in the 1770s.

Before the arrival of the knights in 1530, Malta enjoyed a level of autonomy under the Kingdom of Sicily. While the local government was controlled by an elite group of landowners, it was upon the arrival of the Knights that the population experienced a shift in power; the Knights becoming more a feudal overlord than a local system of government.

The Knights, who loved to hunt, took control of the island's local administration and land management which saw the redesignation of substantial public areas across Malta, Comino and Gozo into private lands. During the rule of the Order of St John, these controls were gradually tightened, restricting local citizens' access to areas for hunting. This affected both the peasants who were hunting rabbit for food and the farmers who needed to control rabbit populations. Farmers, desperate to limit the damage to agricultural lands, were recorded as killing up to 1,000 rabbits a day.

Over the 1600 and 1700s there were sporadic clashes over the local rights of Maltese peasants and the authority of the Order who drew the laws ever tighter. Eventually the hunting of rabbit, hares and partridge was limited to a season from December to July. Tensions continued to rise as courageous farmers and peasants who stood up for their hunting and grazing rights were imprisoned by the Order.

As restrictions grew tighter the punishments for transgressors became harsher. The Knights increased the severity of sentences from fines to punishments which included imprisonment and even consigning "criminals" to years of rowing on a galley.

What were once public lands became designated private areas, as the Grand Masters and the propertied class acquired ever larger swathes of land across the archipelago. The Order treated hunting as sport, a common practice across the European elites. While their hunting was used to train for war and the catch would be served in banquets, peasants need access to food for survival. The average Maltese diet was based primarily on bread and grains. Rabbit was a cheap and accessible protein source for lower class citizens to supplement their diet of grains. Rabbits that were caught were small in size, which required people to cook several rabbits before turning the meat into a pie. The impact of hunting restrictions extended to the Mnarja festival

celebrations on 29 June where rabbit pie was the main dish at the festival to celebrate the feast day of St Peter and St Paul. This all raised further animosity towards the Order.

In the 1760s adverse weather events and the financial maladministration by the Knights, left the Order unable to purchase the required volume of duty-free grain. The availability of meat, including rabbit, became critical to compensate for the lack of imported grain. The calamitous financial situation caused by the Knights was compounded by the continued restriction of hunting rights during the 1770s.

Newly appointed Grand Master Ximinese de Texada introduced more austere regulations in late 1773. Public dissatisfaction against the Order grew, as the rising price of grain drove more people into poverty.

The impoverished rural population needed small scale hunting to maintain an existence. They found an ally in Bishop Giovanni Pellerano, who became so alarmed at the damage caused by rabbits to his property that he supported the peoples' hunting rights.

In January 1774 a law banning citizen hunting further inflamed the discontent. The ban was opposed by Bishop Pellerano and members of the clergy. Throughout 1774 the local population instigated a campaign of civil disobedience until frustrations reached a boiling point in September 1775.

On the first of September 1775 a small group of 40 people, including 18 priests, embarrassed the Knights by occupying Fort St Elmo and the battery of St James Cavalier. At both sites they removed the flag of the Knights and in its place hoisted the red and white flag of the Maltese state. Within a few short hours the so-called Priests' uprising was suppressed. The citizens of Valletta were placed in lock-down and the rebels were captured. In the aftermath the rebels were variously executed, exiled or imprisoned.

The collective rights of peasants continued to clash with the private hunting rights of the Order and the Maltese elite, triggering ongoing civil disobedience and acts of resistance.

The strength and resilience of the peasants, led to the laws being gradually loosened from 1776, which restored to peasants and farmers, small rights to the hunting of rabbits.

So, the next time you taste rabbit consider it as more than a tasty a meal. It was a symbol of peasant resistance in Maltese history.

Written by Sean Richardson, with thanks to Professor Carmel Cassar, University of Malta

Baby Names of 2021

During the year 2021, a total of 4,164 babies were born in Malta. 2,123 of the babies were boys, whilst 2,040 were girls. There was also one baby who was registered as gender-neutral.

Below are the top 5 most popular names for baby girls and baby boys of 2021!

Baby Girl Names:

Valentina, Ella, Emma, Mia and Emily

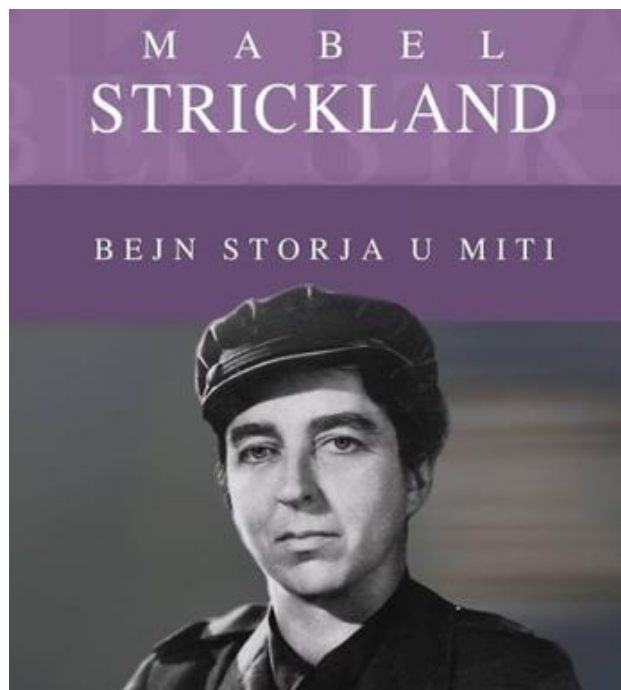
Baby Boy Names:

Noah, Jake, Matteo, Luca and Adam

What's your favourite baby name from the list?



WHO WAS MABEL STRICKLAND?



The Honourable **Mabel Edeline Strickland** OBE (8 January 1899 – 29 November 1988), was an Anglo-Maltese journalist, newspaper proprietor and politician. Mabel's father was Sir Gerald Strickland, 6th Count della Catena, 1st Baron Strickland, (24 May 1861 – 22 August 1940). He was a Maltese and British politician and peer, who served as Prime Minister of Malta, Governor of the Leeward Islands, Governor of Tasmania, Governor of Western Australia and Governor of New South Wales, in addition to sitting successively in the House of Commons and House of Lords in the Parliament of the United Kingdom.

Having never married or had children of her own, Mabel Strickland's chosen heir was her great nephew Robert Hornyold-Strickland. Mabel Strickland lived the most of her life at Villa Parisio in Lija, Malta.

Strickland founded a newspaper group in Malta with her father and her stepmother, Lady Strickland, DBE (Margaret, daughter of Edward Hulton). In 1935 she became editor of *The Times of Malta* and "*Il Berqa*" before taking over as Managing Director of the Group on the death of her father in 1940. The paper never missed an issue throughout the Siege of Malta in World War Two, despite taking direct hits on several occasions. She formed and led the Progressive Constitutionalist Party during the 1950s and was one of the principal political leaders of the 1950s, participating in the integration talks in 1956-57 as well as opposing independence in 1964. She was elected to the Maltese Parliament again in 1962.

She always fought passionately for a free and independent press and to maintain Malta's ties with Britain and the Commonwealth. On her retirement she has established the Strickland Foundation in the name of her family. Mabel Strickland died on 29 November 1988 and is buried in the family crypt in the Cathedral in Mdina, Malta. Her tombstone lies near that of her father, who was the principal influence in her life.

Mabel Strickland, OBE, died on November 29, 1988, a month short of her 90th birthday. She was an indomitable woman and, in her prime, was very much part of the fabric of Malta, especially to anyone who had been in Malta during World War II and in the ensuing 25 years.

Those who knew her personally admired her spirit and determination; she was a colourful character, mixing easily with people from all nationalities, social



backgrounds and across all differing political persuasions. She was first and foremost an editor and publisher but she also made time to pursue a political and business career. While some people found her larger than life, others found her passionate and caring who had an infectious and mischievous sense of humour and a deep, booming voice that many have tried to imitate

over the years. She was trusting of most people she came in contact with – except some politicians. That might have been because she was a woman in a man's world or because her ownership of the Times of Malta and The Sunday Times of Malta made her wary of people befriending her for possibly the wrong reasons.

Having been a politician herself, she was acutely aware of how politicians behaved in a small island culture, balancing their legitimate responsibilities of representing their constituents' concerns and guiding their country against the lures of personal profit, power and prestige. I well remember my aunt illustrating the pitfalls of politics and the need for a strong, inner moral compass when she explained the "personal sacrifice" she made when she gave up her job in 1950 as editor of the Times of Malta (a job she loved) to serve her country as a politician. Although born in Malta, Mabel Strickland grew up in Australia, where her father had a succession of governorships.

PROF. MICHELLE PACE



Originally from Malta Prof. Michelle Pace is Professor of Global Studies at RUC. She is also Honorary Professor in Politics and International Studies at the University of Birmingham in the UK. She has been PI on a Carlsberg Foundation funded project on “The Struggle of State-Building in Palestine: Exploring “State-less”-Society Relations in the West Bank” and also a PI on a large FACE/DAPP/Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Denmark funded project entitled “Change in exile: Re-invigorating principles of reform and social stability amongst young Syrian refugees in Denmark and Lebanon” (<http://face-programme.dk/index.html>). She is currently the Danish

partner lead on an H2020 EU project SIRIUS (Skills and Integration of Migrants, Refugees and Asylum Applicants in European Labour Markets, 2018-2020) <http://www.sirius-project.eu/>

Her research areas of interest include: migration/refugee studies, liminality, ethnographic research, memory studies, emotions in IR, human rights, identity politics, perceptions of democratisation in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), the development of the public sphere in the MENA region since the Arab “Uprisings”, de-democratisation, governance and pluralism in the Middle East, Egypt, Palestine. Projects she was PI on while she was at Birmingham University include a British Academy funded project on A ‘Modern’ Islamist Democracy? Perceptions of democratization in the Arab-Mediterranean world and an ESRC funded project on Paradoxes and Contradictions in EU democracy promotion efforts in the Middle East. She has supervised a study of the Danish Arab Partnership Programme and was the academic evaluator on the Danish engagement in Palestine.

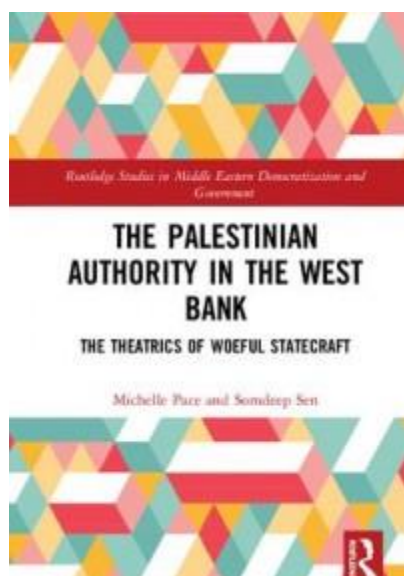
She is co-editor of the peer reviewed journal Mediterranean Politics. She was founder and convener of the British International Studies Association Working Group on International

Mediterranean Studies (until 2013) and of the research group on the EU and democracy promotion efforts in the Middle East (2008 – to date). She is a member of the Global Political Sociology research group at ISE, Roskilde University.

Author: micheel Pace - Publisher: Routledge Taylor and Francis Group Published Date: January 2019

The Palestinian Authority in the West Bank explores the manner in which the Palestinian Authority’s performative acts affect and shape the lives and subjective identities of those in its vicinity in the occupied West Bank. The nature of Palestinians’ statelessness has to contend with the rituals of statecraft that the Palestinian Authority (PA) and its Palestinian functionaries engage in. These rituals are also economically maintained by an international donor community and are vehemently challenged by Palestinian activists, antagonistic to the prevalence of the

statist agenda in Palestine.



THE NEW ALPHABET

Posted by Harry Bugeja (Adelaide)

Now, A's for arthritis; B's the bad back,
C is for chest pains, perhaps cardiac.
D is for dental decay and decline;
E is for eyesight, can't read that top line.

F is for fissures and fluid retention,
G is for gas, which I'd rather not mention.
H is high blood pressure--I'd rather it low;
I for incisions with scars you can't show.

J is for joints, out of socket, won't mend.
K is for knees that crack when they bend.
L for lethargy, what happened to vim?
M is for memory, I forget what comes next?

N is neuralgia, in nerves way down low;
O is for osteo, the bones that don't grow!
P for prescriptions, I have quite a few,
Just give me a pill and I'll be good as new.

Q is for queasy, is it fatal or flu?
R for reflux, one meal turns to two.
S for sleepless nights, counting my fears.
T for tinnitus; there's bells in my ears.

U is for urinary; big troubles with flow;
V is for vertigo, that's "dizzy" you know.
W is for worry, NOW what's going round?
X is for X-ray, and what might be found.

Y is another year I'm left here behind,
Z is for zest that I still have--in my mind.

I've survived all the symptoms, my body's
deployed
And I've kept twenty-six doctors fully
employed!!

May your troubles be less,
your blessings more
And nothing but happiness come through
your door.



GEORGE CROSS FALCONS COMMUNITY CENTRE - CRINGILA NSW

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MALTESE CENTER NY



27-20, Malta Square,
Hoyt Ave. South,
Astoria, NY 11102

tel: (718) 728 - 9883



Left-right: Sr. Anacleta de Araujo Ferreira: Congregational Bursar; Sr. Marta Gadaleta: Councillor & General Secretary; Mother General: Sr. Pauline Kasila; Sr. Miriam Grech: Vicar General; Sr. Alphonsa Kanakkassery: Councillor; Sr. Rowena Talibid: Councillor. (Posted: Sr. Lorraine Testa)

The Congregation of Augustinian Sisters Servants of Jesus and Mary elected the new General Council

The missionary service from the Maltese religious continues to be sought out. **Sr. Miriam Grech** has been elected Vicar General of the Augustinian Sisters, Servants of Jesus and Mary. She joins the General Council which resides in Rome, was elected by the Congregational members at their recent International gathering which came together to discern the mission and vision of the Congregation for the coming six years.

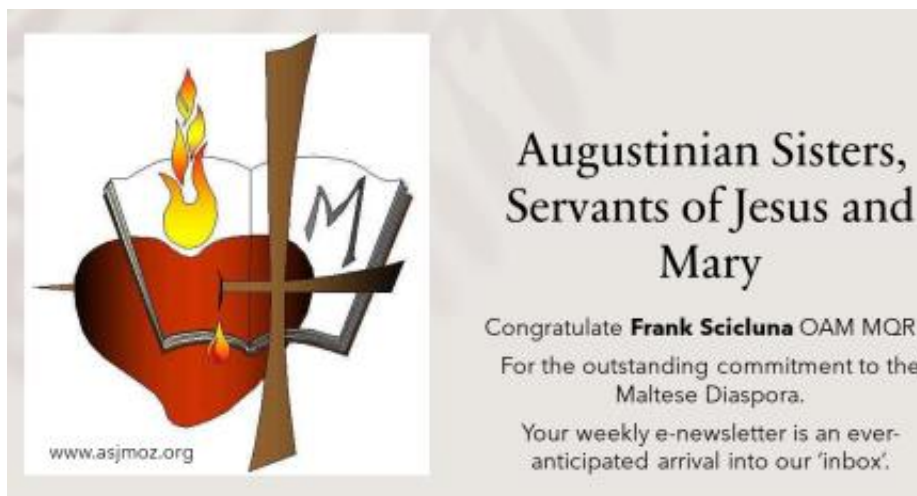
Sr Miriam Grech is not new to missionary service. In the past she has served as Provincial for the Maltese Province of the Augustinian sisters, Formation mistress, School Principal (St Monica, B'Kara) Provincial Councillor. Her service to the Church in Malta and beyond has never been hampered by distance or age. Sr Miriam continues to be open to hearing the cries of the Church to reach out and travel to wherever the need to serve is.

Last year, despite the challenges of COVID19 **Sr Miriam Grech** travelled to Nigeria to begin

the process of opening up another missionary apostolate.

This challenge bore fruit as the Congregation is pleased to have three Nigerians in formation.

Truly, **Sr Miriam Grech** continues to exemplify the true spirit of the Maltese Religious and Priests who left – and continue to leave, family and country to minister to



God's people all over the world. .



PHOTO : DOI - Omar Camilleri

Maltese artists perform unique spectacle in Dubai

tvmnews.mt

The Maltese identity emerged spectacularly during Malta Day at the Dubai Expo with an unique spectacle in the pavilion in the currently largest world fair.

The country's best artists performed a concert backed by the Malta Tourism Authority the aim of which was to enlighten visitors to the great potentials that

Malta has in the cultural and artistic sectors.

This reflected the highest standards as targeted by the Authority to reflect the legacy of the country's artistic, cultural and historical inheritance.

Joe Julian Farrugia and Elton Zarb who were the brains behind the spectacle said the whole show reflected all that is Maltese.



PHOTO : DOI - Omar Camilleri

Farrugia said the games of children reflects Maltese superstition. Zarb said the spectacle reflected the country's historical inheritance, Maltese festas and their band marches and the eight points of the Malta Cross surrounded by traditions and the love of melodies that despite the geographical smallness show its grand inheritance.

The Executive Head of Tourism Malta, Johann Buttigieg, said the MTA strived to show that Maltese arts combined to give a spectacle at this most important fair. He said

every effort had been made to ensure that Maltese talent is on a par with all other countries.

The celebration stretched well into the evening with the Maltese flag in a digital manner weaving over all the presentations as well as a performance by the Versatile Brass Band.

We are proud of our Maltese Achievers

A fascinating life of Maltese emigrant - Angelo Serra in Puerto Rico

by *Crypto Taíno* in *Puerto Rico News*



The island of Puerto Rico, located in a strategic position in the Caribbean, was an important military outpost for the Spanish Empire. The island was inhabited by the Taino Indians when the Spanish first arrived in 1493. Subsequently, African slaves were introduced to supplement the limited workforce. By the end of the 18th and beginning of the 19th century, other non-Spanish immigrants started to arrive on the island. This new

immigration was caused by different events in Europe and in the Americas. Some of these causes were the independence wars in the Spanish colonies in the Americas, the Napoleonic wars in Europe, and the 1815 Spanish Royal Decree for Puerto Rico.

Map of Puerto Rico. The star marks the location of Peñuelas where Serra settled after emigrating from Malta, aged 22, in 1800. He eventually became mayor of the town in 1838, aged 60.

During my genealogical research, I found out that a certain Ángel Sierra was one of my ancestors. At first glance, his name appeared to be Spanish, and, for many years, that was my presumption. So I was surprised when I discovered that he was not Spanish, but a native of the island of Malta.



As a researcher, I am intrigued why Sierra decided to emigrate. It is possible that Napoleon Bonaparte's invasion of Malta in 1798 caused poverty on the island that may have pushed Sierra to emigrate in search of better opportunities. Additionally, for many years, the Spanish Crown promoted European immigration to Puerto Rico to encourage the economic development of the island. These new white Europeans would bring capital, slaves and technical knowledge to transform the cattle-ranch economy into an agrarian plantation economy. The Spanish Crown issued a royal decree in 1778 to encourage new colonists to start sugarcane farms in Puerto Rico and develop a society of agricultural landowners.

A worker carrying sugarcane in Puerto Rico. Serra owned four farming estates on the island totalling over 600 acres of land. Photo: Wikimedia Commons

I also found that there was another person who emigrated from Malta to the town of Peñuelas, Puerto Rico, a few years before Sierra. His name was Salvador Caquias (Salvatore Cachia) and he had lived in Puerto Rico since 1794. It is possible that Caquias benefited from the royal decree. Perhaps he knew Ángel in Malta and the latter had told him about the opportunities in Puerto Rico, and in conjunction with the events in Malta in the late 18th century, influenced him to emigrate.

Although we do not know the specific circumstances of why Ángel chose Puerto Rico, I have been able to conclude that he quickly integrated into the Peñuelas society and became a successful businessman who got involved in the town's public and political affairs to the point of becoming mayor.

David Walliams Is Hosting the Malta Film Awards



2022

Lara Agius
Bay.com.mt

Ladies and gentlemen meet your host David Walliams! Yes, that's correct Walliams is officially the host of the Malta Film Awards, the first-

ever of its kind in Malta celebrating the talent of many Maltese artists in the film industry.

The British comedian, actor, writer and television show presenter David Walliams will be hosting the Malta Film Awards on the 29th of January at the Mediterranean Conference Centre in Valletta. David Walliams will promote this event on an international scale and thus more people will discover Malta. In 2012, Walliams joined the iconic BGT panel of judges with Simon Cowell.

Walliams also does a lot of voluntary work related to the sports community. Moreover, he has received the title of Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) back in 2017.

A total of 90 nominees are competing in 18 different categories at the Malta Film Awards, which will be live on TVM on Saturday 29 January at 9 pm. The winner of each of these categories will be announced live during the ceremony. For more information about the awards and nominations click [here](#). – www.maltafilmawards.com

The Film Commissioner, Johann Grech announced that despite the pandemic, the film industry generated €98 million between March 2020 and December 2021. Stay tuned for The Malta Film Week which will commence on Monday 24th until Friday 28th January. Next week there will be events, masterclasses, panel discussions and screenings all over Malta leading up to the Awards.



MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

JOURNAL OF
MALTESE
LIVING ABROAD

The rape and murder of Duminka Pace in 1869

Duminka worked with her brothers in her father's fields in Naxxar. In the afternoon of April 14, 1869, her brothers stopped working some time earlier than usual. Duminka went on with her work and, before leaving, she asked for some water. As the jug was empty, her brothers suggested that she should fetch some water from the well adjacent to their fields.

When Duminka did not turn up for supper by 5pm, her parents started to get worried and one of her brothers returned to the fields to fetch her. Duminka was not found and, later, other members of the Pace



family went to look for her in the adjacent fields and farmhouses. One of these farmhouses was owned by the Schembris and when 24-year-old Francis Schembri was asked whether he had seen Duminka, he answered in the negative.

A well in a field similar to that

where the corpse of Duminka Pace was found.

By nightfall, Duminka had not returned home and the Naxxar police were informed about the missing girl. Meanwhile, the search continued till nearly midnight with torch lamps. Early next morning, the search was resumed and a search party combed everywhere to find her.

Finally, one of her brothers suggested that they should search for their sister in the well adjacent to their fields. On reaching the well, they again met Francis Schembri and when the same question about Duminka was made to him, he was reluctant to answer. His hesitancy aroused suspicion and the police were immediately informed.

After a search in Schembri's farmhouse, the police found a pair of trousers stained with blood. When

asked about the trousers, Francis said that, some days earlier, he had spat blood on it.

When the search was resumed in the well, the lifeless body of Duminka was found. The post-mortem examination revealed that the girl had been raped and strangled.

Under police questioning, Schembri denied that he had raped or strangled the girl and kept insisting that he had not seen her. However, the police found a witness who was ready to testify that he had seen Schembri talking to the girl on April 14.

Schembri was charged with rape and murder and his trial opened on June 4, 1869. The court heard the evidence of three medical experts, two professors at the University of Malta and the police physician of Valletta, who were appointed by the court to examine the stains on the trousers of the accused.

The court experts said that after an examination "principally by spectroscopy and microscopy, they obtained such satisfactory results" that they felt convinced that the blood stains examined were human.

However, G. Gulia, professor of legal medicine at the university, thought that the biological sciences had not yet attained that high degree of development as to constitute reliable and efficient certainty in distinguishing dried human blood from that of animals.

In support of his contention, Gulia quoted extensively from Swayne Taylor's Medical Jurisprudence (London, 1858) and from works of contemporary German and French medico-legal authors. (Note: it was in 1900 that Paul Uhlenhuth discovered how to test blood to find out if it was human.)

A farmer testified that he had seen the girl in Schembri's field and another witness repeated the statement he had made to the police, namely that he had seen Schembri talking to the girl near the well.

The accused was found guilty with a verdict of six against three and he was sentenced to life imprisonment.



GuideMeMalta.com Well done! Jenise Spiteri to represent Malta at the Beijing Winter Olympics

Jenise will be representing Malta in the snowboarding category.

Emma Galea

The Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics are fast-approaching, and this year Malta's sending its very own athletes to compete!

29-year-old Maltese-American Jenise Spiteri is set to make the country proud by competing in the snowboarding category. "I got the crazy dream to try and go to the Olympics at 20," Jenise wrote on social media.

"I competed in my first pro halfpipe event at 22. I came one spot away from making it to the 2018 Olympics at 25. And now at 29, I've earned entry to the 2022 Olympics", she continued.

The Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games will be taking place from 4th to 20th February. *Wishing you the best of luck, Jenise and Shannon!*



TONIO PORTUGHESE **Remembering landmark** **anniversaries**

"There is no doubt unfortunately that this COVID-19 pandemic has effected drastically all aspects of our life impacting heavily on human relations, work organization and cultural enrichment. However 2021 marks a couple of landmark anniversaries in our national calendar, namely the foundation in 1981 of the new SGS-Ates semiconductor plant in Kirkop, and the memorable first-ever television debate between Prime Minister Dom Mintoff and the then new Leader of the Opposition Dr Eddie Fenech Adami. It is also a special year for me, characterized by the conferment of my appointment as UFFICIALE OMRI *Ordine al Merito della Repubblica Italiana* by the President of Italy Sergio Mattarella. Looking forward, it sets the ground for a much-requested operetta concert by Italian performers, now rescheduled for 2022.

I have vivid memories of the start-up work together with the Managing Director of SGS-

Ates, Ingegnere Pasquale Pistorio, for a semiconductor manufacturing plant in the ex-GIE facility in Kirkop. At the time I was in charge of the Italian desk at the Malta Development Corporation but joined this international business guru by accepting the senior managerial role of Human Resources and External Relations. Pistorio already knew the strengths of Malta as a global manufacturing base since in the mid-seventies he had led the Motorola Corporation delegation which had come to assess if Malta was suitable for their investments. He was aware of the exceptional potential Malta had having conducted feasibility studies and due diligence. I worked closely and learned the fundamentals of business management from this world leader who entrusted me not only to perform a leading role in the development of the SGS plant in Malta, but to share and execute these experiences in the other assembly and testing operations in Ain Sebaa and Boskoura in

Morocco, Muar in Malaysia, Shenzhen in China and Toa Payoh in Singapore.

These unique field applications and methodologies are incorporated in my publication entitled *People Engagement for Business Excellence and Social Well-being*.

The 1981 general elections in Malta were held in a highly confrontational environment exacerbated by the acceptance of then Prime Minister Dom Mintoff to hold the first-ever television debate on then Xandir Malta, with the new Leader of the Opposition Dr Eddie Fenech Adami. The two political parties under the guidance of the Malta Broadcasting Authority could not agree on a mutually accepted chairman to facilitate this debate. I had left the MDC and was acting as the "lunga mano" of the Italian investor in Malta. Initially I tried to avoid the chairmanship but when considering the national importance of this much-awaited debate, I decided to accept. Prior to the recording of the programme, I had preparatory sessions with the representatives of the two parties, namely the late Joe Grima and Karmenu Vella for the Labour Party, and Michael Falzon and Louis Galea for the Nationalist Party. That evening the country came to a standstill with thousands of televiewers watching this extraordinary debate. I am told I managed the proceedings pretty well, with balance and impartiality in line with the Constitution.

The year of this 2021 COVID-19 pandemic will be cherished and remembered by me for the special appointment by the President of Italy, Sergio Mattarella, as *UFFICIALE OMRI Ordine al Merito della Repubblica Italiana*. The official signed decree underlines my long standing promotion of Italian industrial interests and the unwavering appreciation of Italian culture. Mention is made of the constructive working relations with the various governments, unions and employees, thereby strengthening the special relations

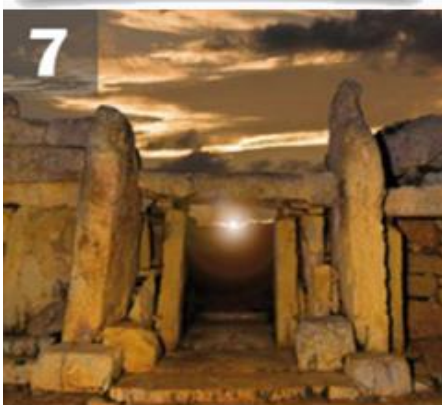
between Italy and Malta, a priority objective for me.

The decree highlights as well the development of excellent synergies with RAI *Radiotelevisione Italiana* through a beneficial Collaboration Agreement signed with RAI's President Marcello Foa'. Closely linked and associated with Italy, the decoration as Cavaliere OMRI was conferred back in 2001 by the late President Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, subsequently I was also appointed as Malta's Delegate of ANCRI, *Associazione Nazionale Italiana Insigniti della Repubblica*. I am proud as well to belong to the Albo Ex Alumni of the Italian Foreign Ministry and International Cooperation.

I was honoured to receive this decoration from the Italian Ambassador to Malta Fabrizio Romano in a dedicated if restrained ceremony due to the pandemic restrictions.

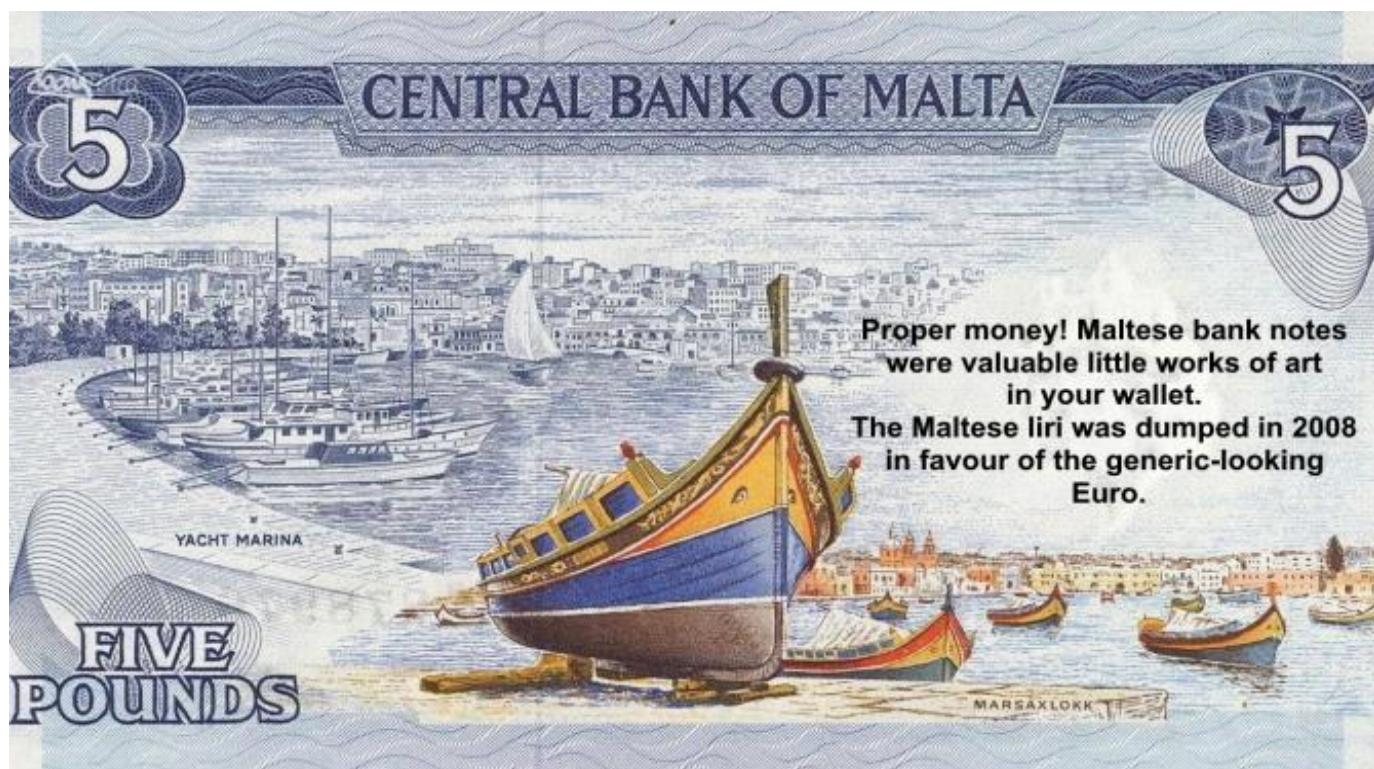
This UFFICIALE OMRI recognition enriches my international awards as Officier in France's Légion d'Honneur; Malta's National Order of Merit; Gozo's Service Decoration, and others by STMicroelectronics in Geneva and the European Broadcasting Union.

This year I had to postpone the much requested *Grande Serata all'Operetta* at the Manoel Theatre which I have been organising for a number of years. The aim is to hold it at the end of 2022, COVID-19 permitting, but preparations are in full swing with the Italian operetta artists who will respond to relentless requests for its overdue revival in Malta. We all look forward to another wonderful operetta performance that will bring back some sort of normality with its spoken dialogue, humour, lively songs and dances. The gran finale with popular selections from *Il Paese dei Campanelli* and *Cin ci Là* will reach the serata's climax with the encore of 'E' scabroso le donne studiar!' We all need to be cheered up after months and months of lockdowns, restrictions and masks."



1. Malta was known as 'Melita' by the ancient Greeks and Romans. This means 'the island of honey'.
2. The Pharaoh Hound is the National Dog of Malta. In Maltese, the breed is known as Kelb tal-Fenek
3. The University of Malta is the oldest university in the Commonwealth outside of Great Britain.
4. Malta puts on 75 villages feasts to honour local patron saints between June and September. The feast, or *festa* in Maltese, is a fabulous event with fireworks, bands and a religious procession.
5. The Knights of St. John of Jerusalem were given control of Malta in 1530 by Charles V of Spain.
6. Grand Master, Jean Parisot de la Valette, who gave Malta's capital its name (Valletta). He laid the first stone to the city in 1566.
7. The earliest evidence of human settlement in Malta dates back over 7,400 years and the Megalithic temples are the oldest free-standing stone structures in the world.
8. The highest point on the island of Malta is at Ta' Dmejrek, some 253 metres above sea level.
9. The dome of the Mosta Dome, famously surviving a fallen bomb during WWII, is the third largest in Europe.

Know your Malta




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Call for Artistic Content

APS Summer Festival 2022

Photo: Elisa von Brockdorff
Carmen by Moveo Dance Company
APS Summer Festival 2021

The APS Summer Festival is a Contemporary, Inclusive and Sustainable Arts Festival that aims to Entertain and to Inspire audiences and artists alike.

The Festival first came to life in 2020 as an emergency response to the situation created by COVID-19, which practically wiped out the arts and culture calendar for that Summer. In line with APS Bank's vision of supporting the community, the Festival was not only intended to provide entertainment but also to sustain artists, established and emerging, in those challenging times.

After the success of the second edition in 2021, the APS Summer Festival 2022 will seek to feature content that promotes Inclusivity, Sustainability and a more International perspective of art. It aims to create a hub where artists dream, express, collaborate, co-create, develop and deliver artistic content that represents them and their art. In the process, delivering a bespoke experience to the audiences by curating an authentic Festival with art and the artists at its core.

Preparations for the 2022 Festival are well underway and we would like to spot talent and discover interesting projects that could form part of this year's Programme. With this in mind and through this call, we are looking for content that demonstrates Excellence, Creativity, Sustainability and Uniqueness, in the following forms:

- Artistic projects that can be performed and presented outdoors on the main stage: from performing arts to live music and visual arts.
- Artistic projects that can be performed as street performances.
- Interactive Artistic Installations that can be exhibited outdoors and that can be both entertaining or that convey a message and is thought provoking.

The Festival will take place between the third and fourth week of July 2022, in Malta and is happening outdoors.

The Festival is looking for a complete artistic cast and crew setup, so productions should come with their own crew (Stage Manager and Stage Hands) if the project requires this. The Festival will not be supplying the services of a stage manager or stage hands for any specific performance.

The approval or rejection of each submission is at the sole discretion of the APS Summer Festival Artistic Director and Team and in line with the Bank's overall vision for the Festival.

The deadline for submission is end of day of 7 March 2022.

A final reply about each submission and whether it has been shortlisted for the final Festival Programme will be towards the beginning of April 2022, a good 3 months ahead of the event.

The Festival will, at all stages, strictly follow the COVID-19 protocols as issued by the Department of Public Health in Malta and will work within those parameters to execute and deliver the Festival.



Annual All Members Meeting & Committee Elections

Sunday, January 30th 2022

11:30 am

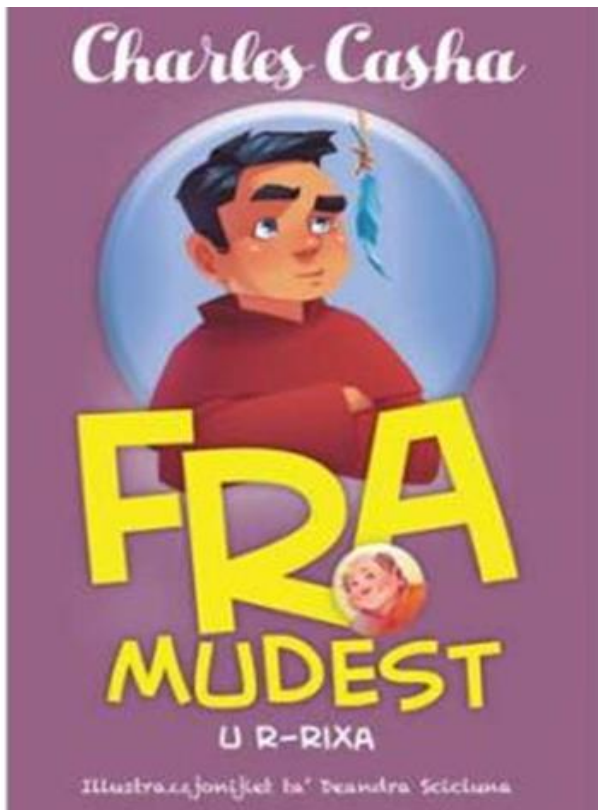
Committee Members
Advisory Board Members
All Members in good standing
All are strongly encouraged to attend

Overview of Agenda

- 2020 & 2021 annual review
- Budget
- Committee Elections
- 2022 mission /vision

Candidate forms will be available Jan 2, 2022

Fra Mudest, the jolly friar and his antics



Last update: about 3 days ago
 Author: Charles Casha. Illustrations:
 Deandra Scicluna. Publisher: Merlin

The most popular friar in Maltese literature has done it again. He cannot seem to make one move without getting into some sort of trouble!

Fra Mudest u r-Rixa tells of another adventure of this character so popular with multiple generations of Maltese children. Penned by much-loved author Charles Casha, this story forms part of the revamped series of books about the jolly friar - *Fra Mudest u l-Figolla tal-Pirjol* and *Fra Mudest u ċ-Ċagħaq*.

Merlin Publishers created this new series to introduce this iconic character in Maltese literature to a new generation of young

readers. Fra Mudest has been given a modern look by illustrator Deandra Scicluna who, although retaining the 70s ambience, years in which the first antics of Fra Mudest were written, gave a face lift to the characters and environment to appeal visually to today's young readers.

These three Fra Mudest books form part of a series of books aimed to be accessible to children who find it hard to read in Maltese as well as children with dyslexia and other realities that effect their ease of reading. The series includes *Rigal għal Samantha* by Carmel G. Cauchi and *Il-Fatat Kaħlani* by Clare Azzopardi and Leanne Ellul.

The books in this series consist of one story, divided into short chapters, with a limited amount of text, intentionally aimed for children aged seven and over who would have built enough confidence to read alone. Moreover, this series has been printed on yellowish matt paper and makes use of a font purposely created to help children with dyslexia to read.

Parents and teachers alike have welcomed this new series and children are snapping them up. Many a times we hear that there is need for simpler books in Maltese to be able to reach the younger readers. In fact this series has continued to fill this void in Maltese literature and therefore Merlin will continue to strengthen this series with more stories and adventures by children's favourite authors.

'Fra Mudest u r-Rixa' and all the above-mentioned books are available from all leading bookshops or directly online from merlinpublishers.com



De La Salle College (Malta)

De La Salle College is a private Catholic boys' school run by the [Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools](#) in [Cospicua, Malta](#). It was founded by the [Christian Brothers](#) in 1903, and was the first school in Malta established by them. The College consists of a primary section, secondary school and a coeducational [sixth form](#)

HISTORY OF THE COLLEGE De La Salle College was founded in November 1903 with permission from [Sir Charles Clarke, Governor of Malta](#). The school was closed during the 1910s due to the lack of students but reopened several months later.^[2]



The College was not spared during the [Siege of Malta](#) in 1940. Due to structural damage to school buildings the Brothers and students stayed with other Catholic communities for the duration of the war.^[3] In 1961, boarding was introduced and the school magazine *Lasallian* was first published. A [sixth form](#) was opened in 1966 as a joint venture between the College and fellow Lasallian school Stella Maris College in [Gżira](#).^[4] Due to a dispute between church and educational authorities, the college was closed for part of the 1983-84 academic year. Girls have been admitted to the

sixth form since the 1970s.

ACHIEVEMENTS De La Salle College established a name for itself in the field of sports and physical education. Many former students went on to represent their country in football, handball, water-polo, athletics, tennis, squash, badminton, basketball, hockey, sailing, karate and others. In inter-college sports, De La Salle is always prominent. The college built the first full-sized sports hall in Malta, which became the venue for various sports associations to hold their national competitions. Outdoor playing fields for various sports form an integral part of the school premises.

THE DE LA SALLE MONUMENT In 1951, the 1,500 schools and colleges of the De La Salle Order celebrated the third centenary of the birth of St. John Baptist de la Salle. The students who at De La Salle College were preparing to enter H.M. Dockyard, Malta, resolved to donate their first weekly salary towards the erection of a statue of the saint in the event of their being successful at the very competitive Dockyard Entrance Examination. The proposal met with general approval and thus it was that from 1951 to 1959, successive groups of candidates contributed the grand sum of Lm 874, 17s, 8d to a special fund.

The monument stands on a circular base 24 ft in diameter in the centre of which rise a 35 ft. concrete column 8 ft wide and 3 ft.4 ins thick. The face looking towards the College Drive represents the Founder of the Brothers with on his right hand two teenage apprentices surrounded by the tools of their trade. The whole scene is made up of 100,000 pieces of mosaic of 120 colours blended together. On the opposite side of the monument, an inscription in bronze reads:

"TO HONOUR ST. JOHN BAPTIST DE LA SALLE COLLEGE STUDENTS DOCKYARD APPRENTICES 1951 – 1959"

The monument was unveiled on Friday, 26 May 1967 by Charles Henry, Superior General, and blessed by Archbishop [Mikiel Gonzi](#). To commemorate the erection of this monument, the Former Students' Association organises each year several religious and sport activities.

THE SCHOOL'S BADGE After the [Second World War](#), the brothers and their staff wished to adopt a uniform and a badge or coat-of-arms for their students.

Some wanted a green blazer and grey trousers, but the majority preferred a dark blue blazer. As for the tie, Bro. Dominic's (director '49-'55) choice of a tie with a red background and narrow blue stripes obtained wide approval and was adopted.

When the time came to design the badge, suggestions were plentiful. The first was Bro. Victor's who suggested the inclusion of a STAR and a COTTON BRANCH separated diagonally by two fields one RED and the other BLUE, these being the colours of our college. But we also wanted to include some symbol of our profession as teachers, so AN OPEN BOOK was added. In this way, after more discussions on the subject, all agreed that the badge should be as it is today.

To be on the safe side, however, we sent the proposed badge to the U.K. To seek the views of persons well versed in the rules of heraldry and, having received from them a favourable reply, we went ahead with our project.

Why did we agree on this type of badge? Principally, because we wanted a badge that would be truly representative of what this lasallian college stands for. That is why we chose: A STAR which symbolizes the FAITH (Religion) and is present in the coat-of-arms of the Institute. An OPEN BOOK which symbolizes learning. A COTTON BRANCH which forms part of the coat-of-arms of Grand Master Cottoner with whom the Cottonera area fortified by him and, on which the college is situated, is closely connected.

As for the MOTTO, after we had been through long lists of possible ones, that submitted by Bro. Dominic: SCIENTIA VALIDA FIDE = TEACHING BUILT ON FAITH, found favour, for it coincided with our Ideals as Brothers of the Christian Schools.

The first time our College Badge was seen in public, its originality and design drew much admiration. Let us hope it will continue to embellish the uniforms of the hundreds of students who are attending and will attend De La Salle College in the years to come.

As for the MOTTO, after we had been through long lists of possible ones, that submitted by Bro. Dominic: SCIENTIA VALIDA FIDE = TEACHING BUILT ON FAITH, found favour, for it coincided with our Ideals as Brothers of the Christian Schools.

The first time our College Badge was seen in public, its originality and design drew much admiration. Let us hope it will continue to embellish the uniforms of the hundreds of students who are attending and will attend De La Salle College in the years to come. Bro. Henry (1919-1981)

Times of Malta invites writers to tell their story online

First serialised story features a future Malta devastated by climate change

Times of Malta is inviting creative fiction onto its website. Photo: Shutterstock.com

Author Patrick Tabone will kickstart a new fiction segment on the *Times of Malta* website, with his story *We are not angry enough* serialised online as from Saturday, January 22.

We are not angry enough, is set in Malta and Europe in the near future. In the form of a letter from a mother to her daughter Maddy, it shows a family trying to navigate the crisis in the region caused by a rapidly warming climate.

The author notes that, besides being a gripping human story, the narrative touches on a number of important themes that will have an impact on us all in the years to come, namely climate change, good governance, global inequalities and international refugee flows.

Are you a writer interested in finding an audience for your work? Get in touch on editor@timesofmalta.com with 'storytelling' in the subject line.

Note from author Patrick Tabone

The story in these pages is not my prediction of what is going to happen.

It is a description of the way things *could* go if we don't act decisively in the face of the climate crisis.

So far we have been sleepwalking towards disaster. It feels like we are maybe beginning to stir, to wake up, but it's doubtful whether we will do so in time.

With all the bleak news stories coming from all round the world it's easy to feel disheartened. It just seems too big a problem.

But there is still a little time, if not to fix climate change, then at least to avoid the worst of it, and to mitigate its worst effects. That would make a huge difference to billions of lives, and to the besieged and beleaguered natural world that we love and so depend on.

We won't get these results by waiting for them. We *might* get them if we fight for them.

So please don't get disheartened.

Get angry instead and do something useful with your anger.

We are not angry enough.

Anyone wishing to contact Patrick Tabone can do so on wearenotangryenough@gmail.com. The fee for this story has been donated to Malta Wildlife Rescue Team.