



MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER
THE JOURNAL OF ALL MALTESE LIVING ABROAD
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**A FUNDRAISING FUNCTION ORGANISED BY THE
MALTESE COMMUNITY IN ADELAIDE - 1942**



Troy Cassar-Daley



The Maltese Concert Band of NSW participated in the ANZAC parade 2022 in Sydney.
Thank you to everyone for honouring those who died in all wars and
our service persons who continue to protect our country.



**Keep Calm and
Read the Maltese Journal**





Australian High Commission, Malta et Ambassade d'Australie en Tunisie

ANZAC DAY 25 APRIL 2022 · PIETA MILITARY CEMETERY - MALTA

**Honoured to commemorate ANZAC Day 2022 in Malta this morning,
with HE President George Vella, New Zealand High Commissioner HE Mr Nigel Fyfe,
Turkish Ambassador HE Mr Kerem Kiratlı,
British Deputy High Commissioner Mr Tristan Gilchrist,
New Zealand Honorary Consul Mr Kevin Bonnici
and Commonwealth War Graves Commission's
Mr Mark Fitzgerald, Ms Elaine Zerafa and Mr Lino Camilleri**



On ANZAC Day 25 April 2022, the High Commissioner of Malta H.E. Mario Farrugia Borg attended a ceremony at the Embassy of France in Canberra and laid a wreath at the Memorial to pay tribute to all soldiers who fought alongside France during World War I and to all victims of past and present conflicts.



A small contingent of Maltese marching in the streets of Adelaide- Australia for ANZAC DAY 25 April 2022



Australian High Commission,

Malta et Ambassade d'Australie en Tunisie

JENNY CARTMILL

A great day with the Mackay Maltese Club! DYK

Mackay has one of the

largest Maltese communities in regional AUS

Many thanks to President Rose Borg,

Vice President Maree Bezzina and

committee for the warm welcome,

tour of flourishing Mackay,

where so many Maltese

originally came to work

in the cane fields, & the lovely lunch.

Really special to be back

in North Qld again (I'm from Brisbane).

Such generous community & volunteer

work is the glue that holds us all together



From the archives of the Maltese Community of South Australia

FUNDRAISING FUNCTION ORGANISED BY

BY THE MALTESE COMMUNITY IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA DURING WORLD

WAR II



World War II hit Malta on 11 June 1940 and it may be safely said that the enemy hostilities lasted till the capitulation of Italy, which was officially announced on 8 September 1943. Malta suffered heavy losses and many of its historical buildings and homes were destroyed. The Maltese people suffered moral and physical pain and hunger they had never experienced before. During a five-month period between December 1941 and May 1942 more than 800 Maltese were killed and nearly one thousand severely injured in action. Four thousand buildings were reduced to rubble.

The Maltese Community of South Australia in 1942, although very small in numbers (only 20 families) did try to help alleviate the sufferings of their compatriots back home. They organised a special celebration to raise money to be sent to their relatives and friends in Malta. The organisers and participants as well as those who supported this function received well-deserved admiration from the rest of the South Australian community for their charitable and heroic gesture.

The photo above shows the main participants in this unique occasion:

Standing from left to right: Connie Vella, Eris Vella, Jane Sciberras, Doris Camilleri, Jeane Camilleri, Rita Schembri, Mary Camilleri. Doris Sciberras and Mary Grima.

Sitting: Amy, Clare and Rita Grima.

[The information and photo supplied by Mrs. Rita Muscat nee Schembri and the late Daniel Caruana]

“German-Maltese Society” the Maltese-German Association in Germany



German-Maltese Circle



Through events organized by both, the German-Maltese Circle in Malta and the German-Maltese Association here in Germany, people of both countries get to know each other to promote friendship between them."

These are the words of the former Maltese President H. E. Dr George Abela during his visit to Germany at the state banquet on March 11, 2014.

And H. E. Marie-Louise Coleiro-Preca, the following President of Malta, mentioned the DMG in her speech on the German national holiday in Malta:

"It is noteworthy to also mention and praise the good work that is carried out by the German-Maltese Association based in Adenau and the Malta Centre at the University of Bremen."

There is only one Maltese-German Association in Germany.

The "German-Maltese Society" (Maltese-German Association) in Germany is the partner organization of the German Maltese Circle in Malta. It was set up at following contacts between Dr. Albert Friggieri and the former Mayor of the town of Adenau, Bernd Schiffarth. In 1991 the DMG was founded to promote Maltese-German relations and to strengthen the friendship between the two countries through cultural and social activities.

The DMG is a voluntary organization, non-political and non-denominational.

H. E. Ambassador Dr. Albert Friggieri congratulated the DMG on the occasion of its 25th anniversary.

The aims of the DMG

Promotion of youth work and exchanges

Schools are supported by information about Malta and by part-financing of school trips to Malta.

In recent years, the DMG has also supported Maltese medical students who spent a month of medical training in German hospitals.

The DMG supported the Maltese Victory Kitchen with a large sum of money during the Corona period.

Exhibitions and Cultural Events

A number of Maltese artists have presented their work in Germany with the support of the DMG. On show were for example paintings by Ruth Bianco, Godwin Cutajar, George Farrugia, Stephen Grima, Adrian Camilleri, Anthony Caruana, Joseph Casapinta and sculptures by Charles Sammut, Sina Farrugia and Joe Xuereb.

DMG-members found their way to Frankfurt and Cologne in order to attend performances of the Maltese Tenor Joseph Calleja.

During the annual Europe Day in May in Bonn and at local festivals in Adenau and other places the DMG advertises Malta. On the occasion of 'Malta EU Council Presidency 2017', the DMG organized "Malta-Days" in Cologne and Adenau.

For 'Valletta – European Cultural Capital 2018', the DMG organized lectures about Valletta held by Historian Dr. Dieter Bangert and Dr. Michael Losse with the young Maltese artist Emma Cutajar, accompanied by her father. Also, in 2018 the DMG supported the dance-performance "It's Schiller", shown at Teatru Salesian in Sliema.

The St Paul Choral Society's tour to Germany, France and Luxembourg in 2019 was co-sponsored by the DMG.

Member trips are organized annually – usually to places with a relationship to Malta.

In 2011 there was one-week trip to Malta with special sightseeing and an invitation to the residence of the German Ambassador H. E. Bernd Braun in Lija. In 2013 DMG members travelled to Bremen in the North of Germany, including a visit to the Malta Centre at Bremen University with a lesson by Professor Dr. Thomas Stolz about the Maltese language.

In 2014 the destination of our membership tour was Potsdam. This trip included a friendly invitation by the Maltese Ambassador H. E. Dr. Albert Friggieri and his wife, Ms. Catherine Friggieri-Bertucat to their residence in Berlin-Zehlendorf.

Other destinations have been Vienna and a meeting with 'Malta-Friends of Austria' for example or Leipzig and Utrecht.

The annual journeys offer members plenty of opportunity to get to know each other and share their experiences.

Information for Members and the German public

The DMG frequently answers to questions about sightseeing in Malta, travel arrangements for groups

and individuals, translation of the Maltese language etc..

These activities, important events or latest developments in Malta are being published in the association's **Newsletter** (in paper and by e-mail) which appears quarterly.

The newsletter is a platform for the presentation of the DMG-work and thus for the members a valuable source of information.

In addition, the DMG provides up-to-date information for its members about current events and - especially in these Corona times - about travelling from and to Malta.

DMG-members present a cross-section of the German population including pensioners and students who all share the love for Malta. The Maltese Ambassadors and all honorary consuls for Malta in Germany are also members of the DMG.

Currently the Association's membership stands at 165 people.

The membership fee is 21, - € p.a. (single-membership).

A little bit Italian, a little bit Middle Eastern, a little bit British... and a lot of beauty. Malta is a unique melting pot of cultures - on display through its striking architecture, diverse people and historical sites.



GUIDE TO GNEJNA BAY, MALTA

If you're visiting **Gnejna Bay**, read on to find out more about this sunny beach. Includes how to get to Gnejna Bay, things to do, and facilities on Gnejna Bay, Malta.?

Why should I visit Gnejna Bay?

Gnejna Bay is a golden-sand scenic beach that's popular with locals, but somehow never too

crowded. It sits around 1 kilometre away from the village of **Mgar**, on the west coast of Malta island.

GOLDEN SANDS OF GNEJNA BEACH, MALTA

With its bright blue water, on a bright summer's day, Gnejna Bay is the perfect setting for a beach outing. What makes Gnejna Bay so unique is its rocky limestones and green surroundings. Unlike other beaches, Gnejna Bay is a multi-faceted beach, and a visit here probably won't be a simple beach affair.

WHAT CAN I DO AT GNEJNA BAY?

Apart from relaxing at the beach itself, there's a small settlement on one side of the beach with your typical Mediterranean architecture. As you look above you, you'll also see green hills, and **Lippija Tower** overlooking the golden beach (if you're daring enough, you can

hike up to the tower to catch a breathtaking view). Within the beautiful panorama are islets that you can see far out into the sea.

LIPPIJA TOWER OVERLOOKING GNEJNA BAY

If you're interested to learn more about the history of this fascinating beach, you should also look up the **Legend of Castello Zammitello**, a really fascinating story of how the daughter of a wealthy man was abducted 300 years ago in the area!

ANOTHER LOOK AT LIPPIJA TOWER

There's usually a few ice cream or snack trucks parked by the beach, as well as rental facilities to rent out umbrellas, sun beds, kayaks and paddle boats.

YOU'LL SEE MANY THINGS AROUND GNEJNA BAY

Up for a more adventurous visit? We're not encouraging you visit, but the northern tip of the beach is a secluded part of the bay for nudists. It's technically illegal to go nude here, but seems to be a bit of a 'let's turn a blind eye to this' situation with authorities!

DO YOU DARE VISIT THE NUDIST PART OF GNEJNA BEACH?

How do I get to Gnejna Bay?

By Car Consistent with our advice about getting around in Malta, we firmly believe that **driving** is the best way to get around the island. Yes, Malta's public transportation is very good for global standards, but driving really does save you so much time.

DRIVING A CAR IS THE BEST OPTION TO GET AROUND MALTA

If you're driving, all roads will lead to **Triq il-Gnejna**. From **Sliema**, the journey will take around 30 minutes. From the capital city of **Valetta**, it will take around 35 minutes. Depending on where you're coming from, the drive might be a little twisty and turny, as chances are you're going to pass a windy street going down the **Gnejna Valley**.

Parking is easy as there is a large designated parking section that is rarely full.

By Bus It's entirely possible to get to Gnejna Bay by bus, but it is considerably more time consuming. From Sliema, it'll take about 1 hour and 30 minutes, and from Valetta, it'll take about 1 hour and 15 minutes. This is probably because you'll have to walk for a large portion of your journey, possibly for over 25 minutes.

Decided on taking the bus? You're looking for **bus numbers 225, 101 or 44**.

Is there anything else I should know about Gnejna Bay?

Gnejna Bay was probably our favourite beach to visit in Malta. Even though it's a bit unheralded and not many people really talk about it, we loved it because it was so secluded. We were literally the **only visitors** to this glorious beach for 2 hours.

[/www.beyondthebay.co/malta/gnejna-bay-malta-guide#why-visit-gnejna-bay](http://www.beyondthebay.co/malta/gnejna-bay-malta-guide#why-visit-gnejna-bay)

Thousands of readers around the world are interested to read your story or the events of your association, club, school or your link with Malta and the Maltese Language. Send it to us for Publication



SEA TRANSPORT BETWEEN THE HARBOUR TOWNS (1830S)

In his *Histoire de Malte*, (published in 1841), Dominique Miège, the French Consul for Malta, gives a detailed description of the sea borne communication system that existed in the Grand Harbour towns, during his time in Malta. Miège compares the hustle and bustle of the traffic between the towns of the Cottonera and Valletta to that of Venice. Boats were constantly available to provide their service thus ensuring the much required communication between Birgu, Senglea, Cospicua and Valletta. Such transport service at the time was of ultimate importance to the daily business between the harbour towns. Equally important, albeit not so intense, was the passenger boat service in Marsamxett which at the time served exclusively as quarantine harbour.

What follows is a brief resumé translated from the French text of Miège's report. This is accompanied frequently by my own comments in [square brackets] whenever the need to elaborate further is necessary. 19th century depiction of the Grand Harbour by Edward Caruana Dingli

Regulations for boat owners – The Grand Harbour

Miège states that at the time of writing, there were some 1,200 boats being operated by some 3,000 oarsmen, [Maltese. *barklori*] in between the harbour towns. All the boat owners providing this

ancient taxi service in the Grand Harbour and Marsamxett were obliged to register and carry an identification number. The owners of the boats were responsible for all safety issues as well as for any faults committed by them or any oarsmen that they employed in their stead. According to Miège, all passenger boats that operated were to be built in the same shape and size and had to be certified sea worthy. [From contemporary paintings of the Grand Harbour scenery, one will note that back in the early decades of the 19th century passenger boats were built in the style of the traditional *dghajsa*, albeit boat seems slightly broader from its sides than the ones extant today].

Regulations for oarsmen

It was prohibited for oarsmen to take on more passengers than the seating capacity allowed. It was also not permissible for boatmen to ply their trade after 10 pm during the summer months and after 8 pm in the winter months. Once night fell, those oarsmen permitted to work after dusk were to see to it that their boat carried a lamp that allowed the boat to be visible during trips to avoid any mishaps. Miège also adds that it was 'strictly prohibited' for oarsmen to insult, threaten or else be aggressive in any way towards passengers!

Depiction of a passenger boat by Charles Frederick de Brocktorff

Old map of the world produced by Gozitan scientist acquired by Heritage Malta



A 320-year-old Dutch reprint of a world map originally produced in 1582 by Gozitan Antonino Saliba finds its way into Heritage Malta's national collection

Saliba's map of the world acquired by Heritage Malta was printed in 1700 and is a version of the original first crafted in 1582

A 320-year-old map of the world, originally produced by Gozitan Antonino Saliba, a contemporary of Galileo Galilei, was acquired by Heritage Malta for the national collection.

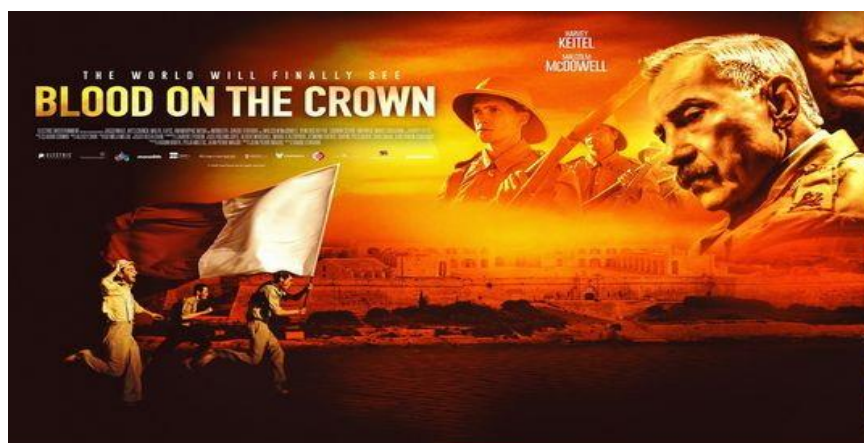
The original version of Saliba's map was engraved by Mario Cartaro of Naples and published in Italian in 1582.

Heritage Malta said the original was copied many times over by important European map makers for longer than a century, as it was considered to be a very fine piece of work. Only one example of the 1582 original is known worldwide and this copy is preserved in Germany at the Herzog August Bibliothek, Wolfenbüttel.

The version purchased by Heritage Malta is in Dutch and was printed in Haarlem, the Netherlands, in around 1700. It was issued by Ambrosius Schevenhuyse, a seller of charts and works of art. Heritage Malta acquired it from a London dealer of rare books.

Saliba, a Gozitan who lived in the time of Galileo Galilei and Johannes Kepler, and who possibly knew at least one of them, graduated in Canon and Civil Law. He was a Doctor of Philosophy and excelled in mathematics, astronomy and astrology.

Heritage Malta said that it is thought that Saliba was educated outside Malta since in those times such studies were impossible to pursue locally. He was also the first Maltese to earn international fame as a scientist, and the first Maltese to have his work printed since the



The Consul-General Chirelle Ellul Sciberras opened the firstever Maltese Film Festival held at the Bowery Theatre in Melbourne, showing 3 amazing Maltese films *Cats of Malta* Film *Luzzu* Film and *Blood on the Crown*. One of the projects that the Consulate has embarked on along with Maltese Community Council of Victoria, Inc. as part of its cultural promotion through the film industry.



JOSEPH MATINA – NEW TREASURER MALTESE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF VICTORIA



Joseph recently joined the Maltese Community Council of Victoria and is a passionate about promoting Maltese Culture, Heritage and Language.

Joseph is an accountant and operates an accounting practice in the city and Point Cook.

He also holds a full Real Estate Agent Licence and is a responsible officer for an Australian Financial Services Licence.(AFSL)

Joseph is an active member in various communities and associations and has served on various Boards. He believes that having the right people with the right skillset combined with strong compliance and governance is important to have a successful team that will deliver the desired outcome.

The Executive's recent meeting appointed Joseph as the MCCV Treasurer due to his professional qualifications

Joseph loves music, the arts and theatre. He participated in the Festival tal Kanzunetta Maltija in 1983 with his own composition and lyrics and have won a number of competitions in ballroom dancing.

Two years ago, Joseph wanted to capture his father's life story and documented this both in writing and digitally.

He is proud to have been one of the first participant in the Oral, Sound and Visual Archive – Memorja program which was launched in Malta to the public mid-November 2021. (1)

The program was created to document various community stories in various categories which include the arts and theatre, WW2, culture, etc.

Joseph's contribution to Memorja can be seen by using this link (2).

Joseph Story was also documented digitally. Maltarti Production completed the work and appeared on Malta TV this month. (3)

Joseph Vision of Memorja was presented to the Executive to promote this program to our Maltese Community at large.

We want members of the community to reach out to the MCCV to be involved in providing their beautiful stories of their past.

Whether it is a period during World War two, or the month-long ship voyage, immigration, life in Malta etc. We have recently completed filming three stories that Joseph documented on film. One of the story include the experience of a person who was present at the church service when the bomb fell on the Mosta church's dome, the other exciting story is a lady who celebrated her 100th birthday and discussed her life in Malta before the war, after the war , times in the shelter and the rations of food. Very captivating information.

Joseph and the rest of the members of the Executive are thrilled to be able to provide this opportunity to our Maltese community. However, its success depends on your participation in this program.

If you have a great story to tell or have a collection of photos from he past or a great old recipe that you would like to share, please contact the centre so we can organise an interview with you.

1

<https://www.facebook.com/NationalArchivesMalta/videos/384243710236682>.

TROY CASSAR-DALEY WINS HIS 40TH GOLDEN GUITAR

Troy Cassar-Daley was born in the Sydney suburb of [Surry Hills](#) to a Maltese-Australian father and an [Aboriginal](#) mother from the [Gumbaynggirr](#) and [Bundjalung](#) people.

Records have been broken at the 2022 Golden Guitars in Tamworth, with 17 awards presented for the event's 50th anniversary year.



Troy Cassar-Daley was named Male Artist of the Year and his album *The World Today* took out Top Selling Album of the Year. Meanwhile South, his duet single with Ian Moss, was named Vocal Collaboration of the Year. It has brought his record number of Golden Guitars to 40, surpassing Slim Dusty's and Lee Kernaghan's 38 awards.

"I've never counted Golden Guitars until I've heard that," he said.

At a very young age, he moved with his mother to [Grafton](#) in north-eastern [New South Wales](#). Troy Cassar-Daley is regarded as one of Australian country music's finest singer/songwriters. He is a hugely successful artist, much adored by country music fans across Australia. Troy is also well known for his generosity and is well respected by his peers and the greater music industry. All of this is reflected on a mainstream level by the many industry awarded accolades for his work as a successful recording artist.

Troy's career has spanned 10 studio albums over 30 years. Throughout this time he has been awarded numerous accolades including 4 ARIA's, 36 Golden Guitars, 2 APRA Country Song of the year awards, 9 Deadlys (Australian Indigenous Artist Awards), 4 CMAA Entertainer of the Year awards plus 2 NIMA's. In 2017 Troy was the 50th inductee into the prestigious Australasian Roll Of Renown, such an incredible honour for Troy. He has sold in excess of 450,000 albums and received gold and platinum records.

Troy is a man who believes deeply in community and giving back to the industry. Troy is a proud member of the Bundjalung nation who has a true connection to his land and people. Most significantly, through his generosity of spirit as a man, artist, husband, father and son, he reminds us of what is real, of what matters and what doesn't, through his music.

It is said that in art it takes a lifetime to make something appear extremely simple, and yet

this is what Troy has achieved. Troy's music is beautifully honed, and crafted so seemingly effortlessly, that people feel a real connection to Troy & his songs. Troy's music is honest and true, the emotions, remembrances and yearnings spoken of are common feelings we can all relate to. A great chronicler of the human heart Troy's live show is an experience to be revered. Troy Cassar-Daley the much loved and lauded Australian musician, a living treasure of country music and country Australia.

invention of printing.
"Saliba's map is truly beautiful and fascinating, consisting of nine concentric rings representing the world as seen from the eyes of a 16th century astronomer. The spheres depict fire, comets, winds, clouds, storms, people, houses, trees, and even the subterranean world and the inferno," Heritage Malta said.

The map will form part of the national collection and in time will become one of the star items in the future display of the Gozo Museum, the agency said.



Archbishop Charles Scicluna leads traditional St. Gregory pilgrimage

Church.mt Archbishop Charles Scicluna led the traditional St. Gregory pilgrimage in Żejtun on Wednesday morning. The pilgrimage, traditionally held on the first Wednesday after Easter Sunday, began at St. Clement's Chapel and proceeded towards the Church of St. Catherine, better known as St. Gregory's.

The pilgrimage of St. Gregory has been taking place in Malta since the 16th century and finds its origins in a vow thanking God for freeing the Maltese islands from the plague in 1519.

The procession used to start at the Mdina Cathedral and proceed to St Gregory's Church in Żejtun. Nowadays the route has been shortened but it is still associated with the first swim of the year.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, last year only a mass was celebrated in the old parish church of St Catherine, while last year Archbishop Charles Scicluna led a private pilgrimage. At the time, the Archbishop had decided that the pilgrimage should take a penitential approach and that a special prayer should be said to the Lord to help us during the pandemic.

Rachael Cini Darin shared a [post](#).



Would you like to support a metro Detroit owned business and also get gifts for mom? Look no further than [Petite Patriots](#)!! Free shipping on \$35 dollars or more!!

Link below, located in Royal Oak!

Petite Patriots is in **United States**.

Hey y'all! I know it's been a minute but I've been trying to develop some new products, as well as get ready for Mother's Day!

Speaking of [#mothersday](#) have

you started your shopping yet? If not we have you all the way hooked up!

and if you're just looking for a last minute item or you haven't even started, please check out our link below for all of our great items for mom! Link to order: <https://etsy.me/2Xb9zz1>

as always, free shipping in the US with a purchase of \$35 or more. Fast shipping, and Quality [#madeintheusa](#) items you won't find anywhere else!

Artists for Ukraine exhibition draws 74 participants



An appeal by artist and photographer Stephanie Mizzi, prompted seventy-four local artists to band together to exhibit their works in the “Artists for Ukraine” exhibition. Each artist is donating the proceeds from the sale of their works to a fund specifically set up for Ukrainian refugees.

The exhibition, being held at the Cavalieri Art Hotel in St Julians, will be running for a week, opening to the general public on April 30th.

Photo by Stephanie Mizzi

When asked about what inspired her to set the exhibition’s wheels in motion, Stephanie Mizzi said: “Just imagine that you are Ukrainian and until a few weeks ago you lived a relatively quiet, comfortable life. Your country is suddenly invaded by your neighbour, and you are forced to flee your home, your country. You leave everything behind.

Your loved one has to stay on to fight in this war, unbeknown to you as to whether you will ever see them alive again. The only one thing you have left to save is your life and that of your children.”

It was this scenario that instigated her to call on artists to participate in this project. The response was overwhelming, with a large number of artworks donated to the cause.

In his foreword to the 160 page book being published to mark the exhibition, Professor Richard England writes: “Art here is not only celebrated, but elevated to the level of a force to alleviate the sufferings of war.” And that is specifically the aim of this collective.

hoto by Stephanie Mizzi

The public is invited to visit the exhibition and buy the art. The art can also be viewed on the exhibition’s [Facebook page](#).





THE CARMELITE ORDER

The Carmelite Order began around the start of the 13th century, when a small group of Western pilgrims settled on Mt Carmel in Palestine. They lived a simple life of prayer and manual labour, and followed a 'rule' or 'formula for life' given to them by St Albert of Jerusalem.

When the situation in Palestine became unstable, the hermits moved back to Europe. They adapted to their new conditions, adopting the lifestyle of itinerant preachers alongside other orders of friars such as the Dominicans and Franciscans.

Women too were attracted to the Carmelite values of prayer and community, silence and solitude. At first they gathered in small informal communities, but from 1452 they were allowed to form proper monasteries and became official members of the Order.

In 1535 St Teresa of Avila entered one of these monasteries in Spain. The community had grown large, and Teresa recognised that some of the original Carmelite ideals had become lost. In 1562 she established a new house of just 13 nuns (although this was later increased to 21). They were to live as a small community of friends entirely dedicated to prayer, silence and solitude.

Over the next twenty years Teresa founded another 16 of these monasteries. She visited them regularly and wrote several books outlining her understanding of prayer and how the nuns should live.

After Teresa's death in 1582, her reform spread across Europe and the New World, and Teresian Carmelite monasteries are now found throughout the world. Times and conditions have changed, but Teresa's basic vision has proved to be as relevant in the 21st century as it was five hundred years ago. It is this life that the Carmelite nuns live today.

Our Crest

The Carmelite crest is shared by all members of the Carmelite Family. It first appeared at the end of the 15th century and has subsequently developed with the addition of new features.

There are various interpretations of the symbolism of the crest, but the basic elements can be understood in the following way.

The mountain at the centre of the shield represents Mt Carmel and the original home of the Order. It is sometimes topped with a cross, representing Christ as the goal of our spiritual journey.

The three stars have been variously interpreted as representing Christ, Mary, and Elijah; or Mary and the two prophets Elijah and Elisha. Other interpretations suggest that the two stars at the top symbolise Mary and Elijah, while the star still ascending the mountain stands for Carmelites still journeying to God.

The crown above the shield symbolises the kingdom of God, from which emerges the fiery sword of Elijah who burned with zeal for God. His statement, 'Zelo zelatus sum pro Domino Deo exercituum' (I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts), surrounds the shield.

Finally, the twelve stars surrounding the shield represent the queenship of Mary as envisioned in the book of Revelation 12.1; 'a woman clothed with the sun [...] and on her head a crown of twelve stars.'

The Carmelite Nuns in Malta

This unique Carmel has a three hundred year history – one of the few Carmels not founded from another community. Two priests in 1726 provided support for a group of young girls wanting to become Carmelites. In 1731 a decree from Rome recognised the group as a Third Order of the Discalced. The famous rulers the Knights of St. John were some of their early benefactors. A small monastery was built near a chapel dedicated to St. Margaret – hence included in its name: 'St. Margaret's Convent'. In 1739 a further decree gave the Carmel the status of Discalced Carmelite Nuns.

World War Two made a huge impact not only on the country but on the Carmel too because of the proximity of the Grand Harbour. Till some restoration had been done the sisters had to be evacuated.

In 1967 the community came under the jurisdiction of the Order and ever since have enjoyed the close brotherly assistance of our friars, whose historic church, founded in 1626, was the first to be dedicated to St Teresa; it is within walking distance of St Margaret's Convent.

The sisters are a much loved presence in Malta and their daily mass is attended by a full congregation. The country is justly proud of its ancient ancestry – inhabited for over 5,900 years, complete with megalithic temples; its hospitality to St. Paul; and the legacy of a succession of foreign powers vying for its use as a naval base. All these factors have left their mark on the culture of the country and so too on the Carmel.

The sisters recite the Divine Office in Maltese. Arabic words and sounds add an interesting note.



HISTORY - British Rule in Malta

French and protect the islands. They first appealed to the King of Naples but since Naples itself was having trouble with Napoleon, help instead came from the British, at the time allies of Naples and at war with Napoleon's France.

In February 1799 Captain Alexander Ball was appointed president of the National Congress. In March 1799 the Congress petitioned King Ferdinand IV of Naples to transfer his rights over Malta to King George III of Great Britain. King George accepted the Maltese request and granted the Maltese full protection and the enjoyment of all their rights. In October 1801 the National Congress declared not to surrender the islands to any power other than Britain, nor would they accept back the Order of St. John. The British were here to stay and by 1813 Malta was declared a Crown colony. However, Maltese patriots felt cheated because they wanted Malta to be ruled by a Maltese elected assembly and the role of the British would have been only that of protectors of the islands.

British rule brought an immediate boost to the economy, leading to the establishment of banks, as well as improvements to the education and medical sectors. However, a 1813-14 outbreak of bubonic plague killed some 4,500 and hampered trade as other countries imposed restrictions on goods from Malta. Smallpox ravaged the population in 1830 and in 1837, and a cholera epidemic, also in 1837 killed 4,000 inhabitants. Meanwhile the Maltese never forgot that they had asked the British to come to Malta to expel the French and longed for self rule. In 1849, a new constitution was drawn up, empowering the Maltese to elect the members of the government council. Although decisions taken by this council were still subject to approval by the British in London, this was a major milestone in establishing the democracy in Malta.

The Crimean war in March 1854, when Britain and France came to Turkey's aid to limit Russian expansion, was an economic boon for Malta as wounded soldiers were brought to Malta for medical care, a role repeated in World War I when Malta became known as 'Nurse of the Mediterranean'. The opening of the Suez Canal led to an increase in shipping movements in the Mediterranean, boosting the Maltese economy.

In 1882, a sea ferry service linking Sliema and Valletta was launched, followed by a train service connecting Valletta to many towns and villages. In 1905, a tram service was introduced, however by 1931, neither trains nor trams were required, as buses replaced them.

As soon as World War I ended the Maltese petitioned the British for self-government. After WWI widespread unemployment, price hikes and severe food shortages stirred major unrest which culminated in the bloody 'Sette Giugno' riots in Valletta on the 7th June 1919. The British troops attempted to control the riots and several Maltese were killed in the process. A National Assembly was set up, with the intention of drafting a constitution for self governance. On 1 November 1921 a joyful populace attended the opening ceremony of the first Maltese Parliament by the Prince of Wales.

At that time, Italian was the language of the Church, of the law and of 'society' and the question of English or Italian being taught in schools became a major political issue. This problem combined with





issues regarding the Governor's powers resulted in the constitution being revoked. In 1939 a constitution allowing for a parliament with a minority of Maltese citizens was granted, but the beginning of World War II caused local government to be suspended.



During the first years of British rule the island was not given much importance but its excellent harbours became a prized asset especially after the opening of the

Suez Canal. The island went on to become a military and

naval fortress, the headquarters of the British Mediterranean fleet. Malta's strategic position during WW II led to it suffering heavy bombing with many casualties and widespread destruction of buildings. It was during the worst of this period, in 1942, that Malta was awarded the George Cross "To honour her brave people I award the George Cross to the island fortress of Malta to bear witness to a heroism and devotion that will long be famous in history". To this day the George Cross forms part of the Maltese flag.

After World War II the islands achieved self-rule once again which was followed and a national debate on whether Malta should be integrated with Britain or achieve independence occupied the Maltese for over a decade. Independence was granted in 1964 and in 1974 Malta became a Republic with a Maltese President as head of state. The decreasing strategic importance of Malta to the Royal Navy meant that the British government was increasingly reluctant to maintain the naval dockyards and by 1979 Malta stopped being used as a British military base.

To this day the presence of the British influence in Malta is felt throughout the islands, from the use of English as one of Malta's official languages to its administration, system of education and parliamentary structure. The British introduced the Neoclassical style of architecture to Malta, evident in the Greek revival portico of the parish church of Sta. Marija Assunta in Mosta, and in the soaring spire of St Paul's Anglican Cathedral which dominates the Valletta skyline. Neo-Gothic architecture was also introduced to Malta during this period, in the Chapel of Santa Maria Addolorata at Malta's main cemetery, and in the Ghajnsielem, Gozo. Sliema which developed from a sleepy seaside village into a bustling, cosmopolitan town during the British period, once boasted an elegant seafront that was famed for its Regency style architecture, strongly reminiscent of the British seaside town of Brighton. (source:culturemalta.org)



THANKS TO ALL OUR READERS AND CONTRIBUTORS





australian-
maltese
**Michael Zerafa
scores massive
second-round
knockout over**

Issac Hardman

Michael Zerafa has defeated Issac Hardman via second-round knockout in their highly anticipated grudge match in Melbourne on Wednesday night.

Hometown boy Zerafa dropped his younger opponent with a left hook early in the second round before following up with a brutal barrage of punches to see the referee step in and stop the fight.

The 30-year-old now sits in the box seat for a crack at Brazil's Esquiva Falcao for the vacant IBF middleweight title with champion Gennady Golovkin expected to move up to super-middleweight.

At a raucous Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, Hardman was handed the first loss of his 13-fight professional career, but at 25, still has plenty of time on his side.

Hardman appeared a step behind his more experienced opponent in the first round, Zerafa controlling distance well and scoring with his jab while avoiding the Queenslander's power shots.

An even more aggressive Hardman came out for the second round but Zerafa looked happy to trade with him and landed his left hook which spelled the beginning of the end.

After significant animosity in the build-up and an emotional outburst from Zerafa following the stoppage, the pair appeared to bury the hatchet and embrace once the official decision had been read out, even sharing a Ric Flair strut.

"I didn't even do this for me – all the haters, thank you," Zerafa, who improved to 30-4, said after the bout.

"You put fire in the belly, I did this for you. You all doubted me."

Zerafa also addressed the pre-fight bad blood between the pair

"There was a lot of animosity between me and Hardman, nothing but love and respect, we fought it out," he said.

**MAJJALATA
BBQ NIGHT**
May 21 at 7pm
The Maltese Center

Pre-purchase tickets online or from a committee member by MAY 18th at
www.themaltesecenter.com

\$25 MEMBERS and SPOUSES
\$30 NON-MEMBERS
\$35 NO RSVP/WALK-IN
FREE for Under 12

MALTESE CENTER NY

27-20, Malta Square,
Astoria, NY 11102
tel: (718) 728 - 9883

MOTHER'S DAY
**BINGO
BRUNCH**
SUNDAY MAY 1
1pm

Brunch Buffet
Bagel station with lox and assorted spreads - Quiche
Assorted Wraps - Veggie Salad - Fruit Salad
Assorted Muffins & Pastries
White Sangria - Red Sangria
Orange Juice - Coffee - Tea

\$15 to enter
Reservations required
Pre-purchase tickets online
www.themaltesecenter.com

For more information contact:
Pauline Zammit or Rita Bajada

"May the best man win, it was me on the night. Credit to him and his team for coming down. The man's a tough son of a b*tch. "I clipped him with that left hook and I knew he was gone. That's boxing, it was my night tonight. I knew it, I knew it all along. "World title coming up next. I'm bringing it back to Melbourne."

Monuments and buildings in Malta restored

Beautiful and historical buildings and monuments were selected to be restored as part of a restoration scheme, run by the National Heritage Ministry. Here's a list of all the buildings that are set to be restored

1. **STATUE OF OUR LADY IN BALZAN** This statue is one of the two works by sculptor Sigismondo Dimech found at the entrance of the vestibule of the parish church. The Bishop Vincenzo Labini had given special indulgences to those who prayed in front of these iconic statues
2. **LION'S COLUMN IN VALLETTA** This stone pilaster has a lion sitting above it, with its right paw raised and resting on the coat of arms of Grand Master Antonio Manoel de Vilhena, who was Grand Master between 1722 and 1736. The lion's head turns to the right and looks over the Grand Harbour.



3. **SAINT PUBLIUS STATUE IN FLORIANA** Sculpted by Vincenzo Dimech, Saint Publius Statue was completed in 1811 and is situated in the parish church of Floriana. Saint Publius was Malta's first saint and also its first Bishop. According to tradition, he received St Paul when he was shipwrecked on the island, as recounted in the village of Iklin.

4. **ROUND WATER TOWER IN HAMRUN** The round tower is a water inspection site built on the hill of St Nicholas and was part of the impressive aqueduct connection built by the Knights of St John. The tower bears the Wignacourt coat of arms and a Latin inscription that translates to: "as there is

life in water, life started from water."

5. **GHAJN TAL-HASSELIN IN MSIDA** This multi-arched 'loggja' wash house is found on the left of Valley Road in Msida and was built hundreds of years ago with funds offered by the Knight Bailiff Fra Wolfgang Baron von Guttenberg in around 1705. It provided people with a place to use the channelled water to wash their clothes and food items.
6. **DEJMA CROSS IN QORMI** The tradition of the Dejma Cross, which can be found in many village and town centres, dates back to the Knights. It played an important role during the attacks of the Ottomans, as they were the spot where local militia would gather before intercepting the enemy.

Diary by LORANNE VELLA: Another writer at large



This article was published in www.independent.com.mt, 20 March 2022,

Brussels-based Maltese writer, translator and performer LORANNE VELLA is the award-winning co-author of The Fiddien Trilogy, the author of MagnaTM Mater and Rokit, and translator of several titles in the Rumanzini series, all by Merlin Publishers. Her short story collection mill-bieb 'il gewwa (2019, Ede Books), came out in translation as what will it take for me to leave by Praspas Press (UK) last November. Rokit, winner of the National Book Prize in 2018, has recently been translated into Arabic and published by Noon Publishers (Egypt). In 2017 she launched Barumbara Collective, a performance art project which focuses on performative events in collaboration with various artists in Malta and abroad. Her new novel is Marta Marta (Ede Books). Which was launched this month.

"The last "normal" pre-Covid-19 event I remember is travelling to Malta with Barumbara Collective to put up Imagined more than Woman at Muza in February 2020. We were walking down the streets in Valletta when one of the performers, Serena, was telling us about the exaggerated measures, such as closing down schools, they were taking in her home town in Italy because of the virus. I remember us all rolling our eyes. One month later, instead of travelling to Spain to put up our next performance, we were cancelling all our events, as Belgium, like most of Europe, went into total lockdown. I remember saying, it's just for a few weeks, and anyway I need a bit of rest. Between 2017 and early 2020 travelling twice a month had become an exciting but also exhausting normality for me. I knew the pattern would soon have to change. So when confinement was imposed, I welcomed it. And when we were ordered to work from home, I felt things couldn't be better for me. Little did I know, back then, that I would lose friends and relatives to Covid-19, that we'd still be talking about the pandemic in 2022, and that I would, by then, be yearning to go back to my hectic routine. So in March 2020, I put on my pyjamas and switched from performance mode to writing mode, a possibility which, unlike many other performers, I was lucky to have, and focused, among other things, on writing a new novel, Marta Marta, now almost ready and set to come out in April 2022, by Ede Books.

In December 2019, together with Joe Gatt, we started filming the MagnaTM Mater book-reading episodes (available on Youtube), a project I had been dreaming about for years, knowing I had to wait till 2020 to make it happen. The action in MagnaTM Mater (Merlin Publishers), my YA novel published in 2011, takes place in the near future, precisely in 2020. Back in 2010, I remember having this feeling that something bizarre was going to happen in 2020 which would change the world as we know it. I was thinking of climate change rather than a pandemic. Still, as we were forced to change plans and film the rest of the episodes from home, I felt that this could not be more appropriate in showing how everything turns upside down in 2020.

Technology has thankfully made it possible for events to still take place, at least online, during this pandemic. In 2020, together with Merlin Publishers, Simon Bartolo and I celebrated the 13th anniversary of Sqaq L-Infern on Zoom. The Book Council also did an amazing job to transform that year's book festival into an online one, and I still managed to participate while remaining at home, as well as "attend"

all the activities in their programme. But nothing compares to living these encounters in the flesh. I was overjoyed when, in June 2021, Rokit was published in Arabic in Egypt, but also disappointed that there was no live book launch to make it feel like it really happened. These virtual encounters make me feel this is all just a dream.

My house slowly became both my work space and my living space, and more than ever before, there is a strong need to demarcate space and ritualise activities at home. My new Covid-19 home routine has been revised day after day to perfection. Coffee time is not just any time, and meals are not just meals. We too have baked our own bread. Being away from Malta for the longest ever meant we had to make our own ġbejniet and prepare comforting meals such as qarabaghli mimli, kusksu bil-ful, ravjul and qassatat. After the first lockdown, lunch and dinner fused into one meal around 2pm, since two such meals a day quickly translated into 6kg of extra body weight. I have, during all this time, moved furniture around, refurbished bedrooms, emptied drawers and cupboards, threw away stuff I'd been carrying around from one country to another for decades. As weeks slowly flowed into one another, they became indistinguishable, and I find myself referring to last year when I actually mean 2020.

Towards the end of 2021 we were finally talking about live events again. It was great attending Rye Arts Festival at the end of last September with Praspar Press for their presentation of Scintillas, New Maltese Writing, and the Malta Book Festival last November to present Merlin Publishers' new titles in their Rumanzini series for young readers, and launch, also with Praspar Press, the English translation of my short story collection what will it take for me to leave. Now I am looking forward to the mini-book fest organised by Kixott between 29th April and 1st May 2022



After the AGM last Monday 14th March 2022, the members of the Maltese Concert Band have elected the following committee for the year 2022-2023.
President: Roderick Pirotta Vice President: Robert Cutajar Secretary: Adrian McCann
Treasurer: Charles Cauchi Committee Assistant: Karen Attard.
Thanks the outgoing committee members - Rosemary Barbara and Chris Borg for their contribution and dedication to the band.
Welcome our new members Adrian McCann and Karen Attard. After couple of difficult years, we are hoping to resume our band programs and commitment to promote the Maltese culture through our music and bring joy to people!



Mosta wartime shelter



Gabriel Schembri

The wartime shelter dug underneath the main square in Mosta has been reopened to the public after many years. This time, the organisers want to offer something which is related to this time of year. That is why the 15 t'Awwissu band club has decided to combine the shelter's World War II history to the solemnity of Holy Week.

The Malta Independent paid a visit to the shelter, which is not particularly large, and met with Fr David Muscat, who showed us around this underground attraction. "You will not be impressed with the size or complexity of this shelter," Fr Muscat warned as we entered the chilly underground space

Photos and video Baskal Mallia

Surprisingly, there was no strong smell of humidity. What immediately got our attention was the smell of wine and incense, typical of Good Friday traditions. The hundreds of cars and people walking above us did not disturb the silence in the shelter. Somehow, the hard rock in which the dugout was built provides enough insulation to keep the noises out.

The type of rock found in this area of Mosta was a very relevant factor to how the shelter was constructed. "This shelter, unlike the shelters in the other localities round the island, is not built in a way to fit a lot of small rooms. In fact, this one is simply formed by three interconnecting corridors."

Fr Muscat explained that when works started, the diggers realised that the rock was very hard – not easy to dig. Although small, the shelter still has the most important elements of any other wartime bomb refuge. This one, for instance, has multiple exit and entry points - four in all. One of the rooms is covered in tiles. It appears that the tiles were used to keep the place as clean as possible, and that it was used as the room where women would give birth.

Interestingly enough, the shelter was not always the first option for the Maltese fleeing the streets as the Germans bombed our island.

"In the beginning, people would seek shelter inside the Mosta church. For some reason they believed that the place where the coffins used to be stored (il-kenniera) was actually safer."

They soon realised that while the church provided spiritual shelter, it could not protect them from the bombs.

The shelter features the iconic Last Supper table and the seven Ladies of Sorrows. It does not feature the Via Sagra, as most Good Friday exhibitions do, but it does offer the audience something extra. In fact, the main corridor in the shelter is full of old photos showing some very interesting events which took place at around the same period when the Mosta Dome was hit by an aerial bomb.

"This Easter period is particularly important for us here in Mosta. It was during this period, some 75 years ago that Malta was being peppered with German bombs, including the famous incident in Mosta."

One can also observe rare photos such of that marking the occasion when Mons Mikiel Gonzi was made Archbishop of Malta. The photo shows the Archbishop Gonzi on the back of horse amid the religious celebration.

"I am the first hairdresser in Gozo."

At 17 I had gone to work in my brother's fruit and vegetable shop in Australia. Then one day



I saw an advertisement on a bus which read: "Do you want to become a hairdresser?" I had a desire to start practicing as a hairdresser. I was afraid to tell my brother that I wished to follow a hairdressing course so instead I told one of his employees. She had told him and my brother had said that it was my life and he supported me. I wanted to build a future for myself. There I had the opportunity to learn. Then my brother made a space for me in one of the rooms adjacent to the house where I could work. He even purchased the equipment I needed to function.

I spent four years in Australia then returned back to Gozo. There were no hairdressers here. Just barbers. The women who wished to style their hair had to go to Malta. My first shop was in Vajringa Street, next to the Victoria school in Gozo. The children used to throw

stones at me because at the time cutting hair was considered to be a disgusting occupation. I started progressing slowly until I became so popular that I was interviewed by the rediffusion. The hair which I cut I used to donate to make wigs or else put in a bag and give to the clients themselves especially in the case of women whose hair went all the way down to their butt. When my daughter was 17 she wanted to follow my example. I encouraged her and sent her to Australia where she attended the same hairdressing college I had learnt in.

I used to work all week except Mondays. I never regretted taking this career. I used to attend the 6am mass first thing in the morning at St George in Rabat. Then I used to go shopping, cook, prepare the children for school and then go to the shop. I used to hire a nanny to take care of the children after school. I always supported my children in whatever they needed. All three of them wanted to study abroad and they all had my full backing. My husband Salvu used to help me out in the shop as well. It was not habitual for a woman to work and run her own business in the sixties.

I was also one of the first women in Gozo to drive a car. This goes back to the 60s. Adventurous and determined...that is what I am. In life you need to have a goal and progress."

– Nancy www.facebook.com/thepeopleofmalta



Kummissjoni Għolja tar-Repubblika ta' Malta

High Commission for the Republic of Malta

Press Release 09/2022 26/04/2022

Subject: Telephone lines of Consulate General of Malta in Melbourne are fully operational The High Commission of

Malta is pleased to announce that the telephone lines at the Consulate General of Malta in Melbourne are now fully operational, and may be contacted using this telephone number: +61 (03) 9670 8427

The High Commission would like to thank the general public for their cooperation and apologies for any inconvenience caused.



ANZAC DAY SERVICE

23 April 2022

Lest We Forget

George Cross Falcons Community Centre
Cringila - NSW

President: Mr Louis Parnis M.C.: Mr Andrew Magro
President Maltese RSL Sub Branch: Charles Mifsud OAM MQR JP
Official Guest: Rear Admiral Bruce Kafer AM CSC RAN



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The first La Valette Choir NSW



La Valette Choir 1999



MMG CONCERT BANK OF VICTORIA

GOOD FRIDAY PROCESSION IN MELBOURNE AUSTRALIA

Was great to see so many people including our next generation taking part in the day, getting dressed in costume along with attending the festivities and keeping our traditions alive here in Victoria.

6 Helene Street, ARDEER, VICTORIA



Biggest Maltese Morning Tea

In support of people impacted by cancer

11:30 am on Sunday 29th May 2022
Dapto Ribbonwood Centre

Members \$18 | Non-Members \$20 | Children \$10
Entry includes Morning Tea with a selection of Sweet and Savoury Maltese treats, tea and coffee

Games Raffles Trivia
Face Painting Kids activities

Proceeds will be donated to Cancer Council NSW

Book via the form by Monday 23rd May
 Contact us on 0405 126 444
illawarramalteseaustralians@gmail.com

Proudly supporting
Cancer Council
 Australia's Biggest
 Morning Tea

Find us on Facebook: [Illawarra Maltese Australians](#)
 Join the Facebook Group: [Illawarra Maltese Australians](#)

When the Illawarra Maltese Australians was formed, we wanted to highlight the great altruism of the Maltese community. We wanted to make sure that we made a difference in our community by supporting worthy causes.

This year, we're holding a Biggest Maltese Morning Tea in support of people living with cancer, with proceeds going to Cancer Council NSW.

We will have games, kids activities, raffles and of course a yummy Maltese morning tea. The venue also has a playground for our youngest Maltese-Australians!

WHEN: 11.30am, Sunday 29th May 2022

WHERE: Dapto Ribbonwood Centre, Dapto, NSW

ENTRY: Members - \$18, Non-Members - \$20, Children - \$10

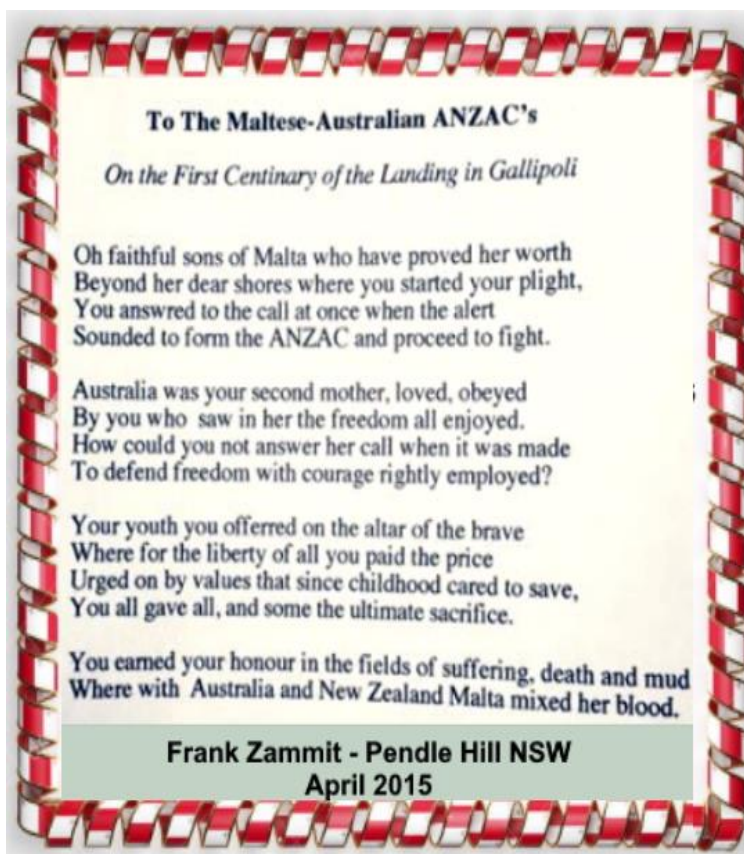
More information in the poster below!

Book via the [form](#) or by contacting us via email or on 0405 126 444.

Donate to our fundraising effort [here](#).

We thank you for your support of this worthy cause, and hope to see you all there!

Illawarra Maltese Australians



To The Maltese-Australian ANZAC's
On the First Centenary of the Landing in Gallipoli

Oh faithful sons of Malta who have proved her worth
 Beyond her dear shores where you started your plight,
 You answered to the call at once when the alert
 Sounded to form the ANZAC and proceed to fight.

Australia was your second mother, loved, obeyed
 By you who saw in her the freedom all enjoyed.
 How could you not answer her call when it was made
 To defend freedom with courage rightly employed?

Your youth you offered on the altar of the brave
 Where for the liberty of all you paid the price
 Urged on by values that since childhood cared to save,
 You all gave all, and some the ultimate sacrifice.

You earned your honour in the fields of suffering, death and mud
 Where with Australia and New Zealand Malta mixed her blood.

Frank Zammit - Pendle Hill NSW
April 2015



Are you looking to buy or sell your property in Adelaide, South Australia?
 or just want to find out what your property is worth?

Feel free to call Robert on 0452 544 668 to book an appointment and discuss further.