



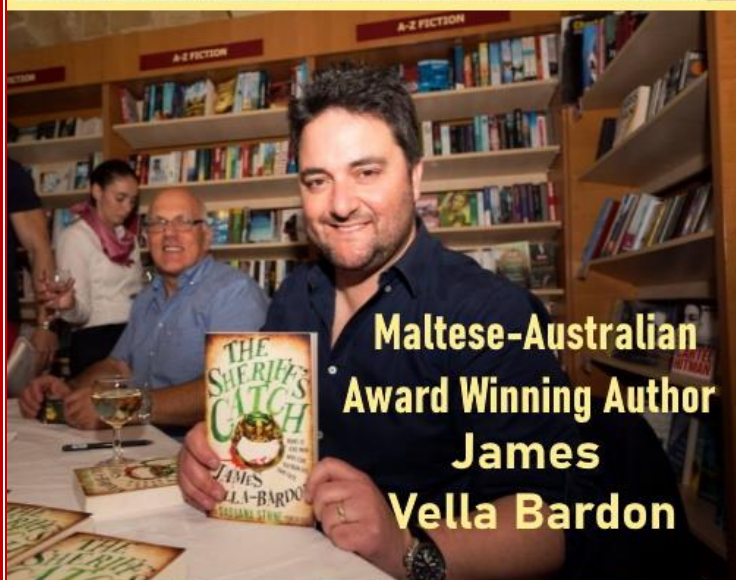
Journal for Maltese around the world

# MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

Editor: Frank Scicluna OAM MQR JP



**PHYSIOTHERAPIST MARIKA SCICLUNA AND STAFF RECEIVED THE NORTH WEST SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR 2022 AWARD**



**Maltese-Australian  
Award Winning Author  
James  
Vella Bardon**



**Filmed in Malta**

**Maltese/Canadian  
Valerie Buhagia  
"Carmen"**



## New Consul On The Move toolkit



Reference Number: PR221053, Press Release Issue Date: Aug 09, 2022



The Maltese embassies abroad have invested in a new Consul On The Move (COTM) toolkit through an investment of around €250,000 from the Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade.

The COTM programme caters for Maltese communities living abroad by providing government services closer to their home, such as new applications/renewals of passports, applications for citizenship and registrations of birth/death/marriage certificates. This service is undertaken in five countries: Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, the United States and Canada.

The new state-of-the-art COTM toolkit consists of a tablet which includes a camera, fingerprint reader, passport scanner, signature pad, barcode scanner and lighting. It incorporates all the 6 pieces of hardware that were previously used into one unit weighing only 4kgs, in contrast to the previous toolkit that weighed 15kgs. This improvement means that the toolkit is now more portable, easily handheld, and occupies far less space when required to be set up on a desk, facilitating the

travel and set-up process for the consuls on duty.

Due to the increase in demand for these services, and upgrades in the information system available for officials carrying out such visits, the Ministry felt it necessary to change the COTM toolkit to a more practical device that optimises the programme in terms of efficiency and usability.

The new toolkit is also equipped with the improved latest software updates and comes with a Wi-Fi feature. A sim card installation feature is additionally available for 3G use. This offers the functionality of remote support as well as the ability to issue passports when off-site.

The COTM programme is an essential service offered by the ministry that conforms to the government's vision to have governmental services closer to its citizens. With this new equipment, the ministry aims to further improve the quality of service that is provided through the COTM programme, whilst increasing efficiency and simplicity in its application.

*To see the International schedule, go*

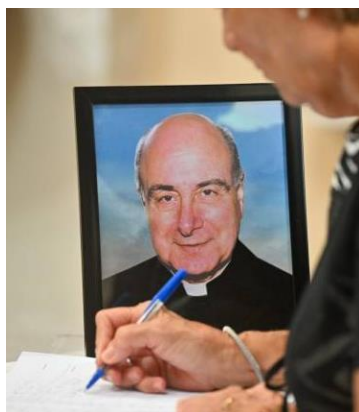
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**We are proud of our Maltese Achievers**   
**The Journal of Maltese Living Abroad**  
connecting communities  
around the world



## A BROTHER TO ALL THE **MALTESE LIVING ABROAD**



In 1958, the experience of the first years of the Emigrants' Commission in its pastoral and social work prompted Archbishop Michael Gonzi to elevate it to a Diocesan Commission and appointed Fr Philip as the first National Director for Migrants in Malta.

Fr Philip made it his mission to leave no stone unturned to assist migrants and their families in the best creative, effective and efficient way possible. His basic vision for the Emigrants' Commission was that of a non-governmental, non-profit making voluntary organisation of a social, moral and charitable nature, operating on behalf of the Church in Malta and inspired by Christian values.

Under his leadership, the Commission helped thousands of Maltese migrants in various ways. It also sought to defend their rights wherever they established themselves and helped them keeping in touch with their

relatives in Malta. The Commission's activities developed to the extent that Fr Philip felt the need of a new and better operational space. He went on to be the founder of Dar l-Emigrant at Castille Place, Valletta, which started operating on December 2, 1972 and quickly become a bee-hive of activity.

Fr Philip's skills, especially in the field of migration, led to international experiences and recognitions.

In 1969 he was appointed chaplain of His Holiness the Pope and awarded the medal *Pro Ecclesia et Pontefice* (PEP).

Also during 1969, he was appointed Council member and then treasurer of the International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC), Geneva, while just four years later (1973) was chosen as ICMC's Administrative Secretary. In this capacity he attended many international congresses and conducted and participated in official visits to Australia, the Far East, North America, and many countries in Europe.

Further in 1969, Fr Philip headed the organisation, by the Emigrants' Commission, of the first Maltese Migrants' Convention, while in 2000 he was Vice-Chairman of the second Convention organised hand in hand between the Government of Malta and the Emigrants' Commission.

Refugee Samaritan.

Following the 1971 signature, by the Maltese Government, of the 1951 United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, Fr Philip started pioneering Malta's response to the needs of people reaching Malta and seeking international protection. His leadership in this sector included an increasingly close collaboration with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

On December 2, 1987, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) appointed Mgr Philip Calleja's Emigrants' Commission as its Operational Partner in Malta, responding to UNHCR's Branch Office in Italy.

The 1990s saw Mgr Philip dedicating himself to the needs of the first groups of people reaching Malta seeking international protection and solidarity. Under his inspiring and assiduous leadership, during the decade the Emigrants' Commission catered for almost 3,000 asylum seekers from 39 countries, defending their refugee rights and making sure they had a roof on their heads and all the humanitarian assistance their required according to their human dignity.

In 2003, Mgr Philip passed on the directorship of the Emigrants' Commission to Fr Alfred Vella (later Monsignor), who became his successor.

Mgr Philip continued to serve in the role of President of the Commission. He constantly remained at the side of Mgr Vella in his efforts to further develop the Commission's services to asylum seekers and refugees, primarily through providing space for around 400 persons in the refugee homes run by the Commission. He additionally accompanied Mgr Vella in his efforts to bring to fruition a Digital Migration Museum at Dar l-Emigrant – a project which Mgr Philip had been visualising for a number of years.

Mgr Philip continued to regularly dedicate himself to personally assisting people seeking international protection and shelter in Malta. He kept directly helping asylum seekers in their needs until 2020, when, at the age of 91, he had to start staying away from his regular presence at Dar l-Emigrant due to the Covid 19 pandemic precautions. Meanwhile, in January 2021, Mgr Alfred Vella was appointed Head of the Marriage Office at the Archbishop's Curia and the directorship of the Emigrants' Commission passed on into new hands. *Compiled by Charles Buttigieg*



## BODY MIND WELLNESS PHYSIOCARE HENLEY BEACH - ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Marika Scicluna, Director and Founder of Body Mind Wellness Physiocare, completed her Bachelor of Applied Science in Physiotherapy in 1997 and has since practiced in a variety of private practice settings, in Australia and abroad including Malta and Ireland. Marika Scicluna is passionate about enhancing each client's quality of life by correcting their movement dysfunctions and empowering them to manage their own conditions using her skills and experience in Pilates Rehabilitation, Manual Techniques, Musculoskeletal, Sports and Acupuncture Physiotherapy. Marika also has special interests in Women's health, including pre/postnatal care. Marika has diverse experience having worked with people from different age groups, cultural backgrounds and athletes of different levels.



With over 20 years of clinical experience, Marika's practice follows the philosophy that therapy is most successful when people are treated as whole human beings, not as individual parts, and her work is focused on finding and treating the root causes.

The Body Mind Wellness Physiocare received the prestigious award of Small Business of the Year 2022. This awarded was presented to Marika at the [Palais Hotel Semaphore](#) on 17 August 2022.

**After she accepted the plaque Marika said;** "We are very grateful to the North West Business Alliance for giving us the honour of receiving the award of Small Business of the Year 2022 last night. Thank you to all our clients in the northwestern community and our great team of staff all of whom help make coming to work everyday a pleasure! We aim to continue supporting our local community with Body Mind Wellness Physiocare

**It was also very humbling to be in a room with such wonderful attendees, finalists and winners. We have some awesome people and businesses in the north west. Thank you to the North West Business Alliance and City of Port Adelaide Enfield for hosting and organising these awards. We congratulate Marika, Chris and the staff for this great achievement.**

Marika was also the physiotherapist for the Lifecycle Malta, a group of 20 Maltese cyclists who cycled from Paris to Madrid in 10 days in 2004 while she was working at Inspire Foundation at Marsasclala. She had established Rehabcorp Physiotherapy and been in partnership for nearly ten years but in 2017 she branched off into her own solo practice, Body Mind Wellness Physiocare at 1/63 Cudmore Terrace, aHenley Beach, South Australia [www.bmwphysio.com.au](http://www.bmwphysio.com.au)





## The men who died on HMS.Glorious ..... and their connection to Malta.

By Saviour Azzopardi Chairman of the GLARAC Association Malta

On the 8<sup>th</sup> June 1940 the aircraft carrier HMS.Glorious along with her two escort destroyer escorts HMS.Ardent and HMS.Acasta were sunk by two German pocket battle ships Scharnhorst and Gneisenau as they sailed independently from Narvik in Norway to Scapa Flow in Scotland. The

Norwegian campaign launched by the allied forces had failed and the evacuation of the allied forces was ordered between the 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of June.

The sinking of the Glorious and her two escort destroyers, with the loss of over 1,531 men, resulted in huge debates in the British Parliament. The relatives of the men lost on the three ships and the general public wanted answers to their many questions, but unfortunately none were forthcoming. Because of the added pressure on parliament and the looming fear of invasion from the German forces the British government decided to seal all documents to this tragedy for a period of a hundred years. HMS.Glorious remains as the only aircraft carrier to have a 100 year Secrecy Act imposed on it.

The men serving on HMS.Glorious had spent a lot of time here in Malta when Glorious replaced her sister ship Courageous in the Mediterranean Fleet in 1930. They grew to like the people and their customs. Some became friends and some even married into Maltese families with their children and grandchildren now part of our society. A large number of Maltese ratings served on HMS.Glorious. The raw ruggedness of the Maltese landscape at that time also contrasted with the rich culture that Maltese history had to offer. Many of these men tried to capture these elements on film. One such young man was a 22year old Wireless Electrical Mechanic corporal from Topley in Yorkshire by the name of John James Parsons. Family and friends usually called him Jack. He was stationed at Hal Far and the surrounding area was something that Jack found fascinating. He would write to his mother and father and in his letters he would include interesting photos and information about activities in Valletta as well as around the island.

### Jack Parsons

His younger sister Daisy Joyce Parsons, or Joy as she was fondly known, joined the Navy as a WREN. Whilst serving in Gibraltar she met and married an Australian carpenter in the Australian Air Force by the name of Jim Perry. I met their son John and his wife Ros when they came to visit Malta in the hope of retracing John's uncle Jack's footsteps in Malta.

### Jim and Joy Perry on their wedding day in Gibraltar

He showed me photographs and letters that his uncle Jack wrote about Malta. Some of these photos gave an interesting insight into the family and society in general. John and Ros were kind enough to give me a DVD containing all the information and photos to do with Jack's family and history.





When Jim and Joy returned to Australia as a married couple they worked tirelessly to try and bring Joy's parent to live with them in Adelaide. When her parents eventually went to Australia they brought with them all the photos and letters Jack had written to them.

**Carnival 'Maskaruni' in 1938. Photo taken by Jack Parsons.**

Photos of rural families, fisherman, carnival, as well as opera presentations in the opera house showed Jack's love for

photography. Wherever he went his camera was his companion. As a very young boy Jack's mother taught him the piano and as he grew older he came to appreciate the fine arts. He was an accomplished pianist with a taste for musicals and operas.

#### **One of John and Ros favourite photos 'Fisherman pulling out to sea'**

10<sup>th</sup> June was the day that the Ministry of Defence accepted the fact that the Germans had indeed sunk the *Glorious* and her destroyer escorts. The effect of this news here in Malta as well as the UK was devastating. Families here in Malta could not believe what they heard or read. No clear news as to how and why this happened was given. Pressure was growing on the British Parliament to conduct a full enquiry. **But in a memorandum that came to light years later, the head of the military branch, Mr. Powell, wrote and advised strongly against a detailed investigation into the tragedy of the *Glorious*. He wrote; 'A full report at this date would make for dismal reading and would invite Mr. Stokes and other MP's to ask why this or that was not done'.** Here in Malta not much could be done as news trickled and then stopped shortly afterwards. Malta was now being bombed by the Italians and was feeling the first direct effects of the war with men and women killed in air raids or losing their homes due to their destruction by the bombs dropped by Italian planes.



When Jack's mother first heard the news about the *Glorious*, she was slightly relieved because they told her he was a POW. However, after months of trying to reach him failed, Jack was declared as 'Missing Presumed Killed' by the M.O.D. This was the case even here in Malta, where my wife's grandmother lost her son Francis Polidano on the *Glorious*. She was asked to give parcels of food and clothing for her son erroneously given as a POW. One hearing this news Jack's mother closed her piano and never played the piano again. She never got over the loss of her son Jack.

More than 80 years have passed and we are nowhere near the truth than our relatives were 80 years ago. I think that enough time has passed and all documents to do with the tragedy should be available to the public. Information to do with this story is still sought by relatives and friends of all who died on the three ships. The Admiralty is still causing a lot of pain by refusing to release all the documents to do with this story. The men who died on the three ships certainly deserve better from a country they served with loyalty, ultimately paying with their own lives. The Glarac Association hopes to be able to conduct its annual Service of Remembrance for all the men lost on the three ships, and especially for the Maltese ratings, on the 12<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

I would like to invite anyone who would like to share a story with us to contact me through this e-newsletter. Thank you and keep safe. My thanks and appreciation to John and Ros Perry from Lismore N.S.W. Australia for their help in making this feature possible.



CARMEN opens in Canadian theatres, Friday Aug. 19  
You have ONE WHOLE WEEK to see CARMEN on the big screen.

Find a theatre near you ~~~

Opening Friday August 19:

Varsity, Toronto ON – Q&A with the Director on Friday Aug 19

Bytowne, Ottawa ON

Landmark, Whitby ON

Landmark, Kanata ON

Princess Cinema, Waterloo ON – Q&A with the Director on Saturday Aug 20

Westdale, Hamilton ON – Q&A with the Director on Sunday Aug 21

International Village, Vancouver BC

Opening Friday August 26:

The Bookshelf, Guelph ON – Q&A with the Director on Friday Aug 26

Hyland Cinema, London ON – Q&A with the Director on Saturday Aug 27 Tickets for the Toronto show:

<https://www.cineplex.com/movie/carmen>

Maltese film Carmen has won the best feature film award at this year's Canadian Film Fest.

Inspired by real events and set in a village in Malta, Carmen is the story of a woman who found her voice.

Carmen (played by Irish actress Natascha McElhone) has looked after her brother, the priest at the local church, since she was 16 years old. Now

## CARMEN IN CANADA

almost 50, she is suddenly left to start a new life. Facing her past, Carmen brings colour to the lives of the villagers.

Shot in Malta, the film was described by jurors as “divine from start to finish... it has a kind of fairy tale feel but is rooted in honest and authentic characters”.

They found the film funny, charming and whimsical: “It was life-affirming in a time when we needed most. It was a story that told us that happiness can be found even in the darkest of times... We’re thrilled to award the best feature to Carmen...”

The film, directed and written by Valerie Buhagiar, was produced by Pierre Ellul, Anika Psaila Savona and Coral Aiken.

Ellul and Psaila Savona said: “It has been a long road for us to get this film released. It shows glimpses of a Malta that once was and bringing to life a story inspired by a little known tradition. We are delighted that the film is being so well received in Canada creating interest and curiosity about our islands whilst at the same time showcasing the talent of our cast and crew. The collaboration between the Maltese and Canadians worked so well to bring Valerie’s story to life, and we can safely state our belief that co-productions are the way in which we can build a film industry and take it to that next level.”

The film is currently is set to be released later on in the year in Malta, Canada and the US.

This is Buhagiar’s third feature film as a director. She first burst on the scene as a performer in such classic Canadian films as Roadkill (1989) and Highway 61 (1991).

The cast also includes Steven Love and Michaela Farrugia.

Carmen adds to the growing list of acclaimed Maltese films which include *Luzzu*, Malta's *Oscar contender* for best international feature film, *Simshar*, *Limestone Cowboy* and *Is-Sriep Reġgħu Saru Velenużi*.





## LAURIE VASSALLO

### A BELOVED GRANDFATHER DIES IN HOUSE FIRE

Police were called to the house in Pooraka, an Adelaide suburb, South Australia, just before 1:30am

Laurie Vassallo from Malta, 89 years old, has died following a house fire in Adelaide's northern suburbs in the early hours of 14 August 2022.

Police were called to the home on Nalpa Street in Pooraka just before 1:30am after a neighbour

reported sounds of smashing glass. Police said the home was fully engulfed in flames when they arrived. Fire crews quickly arrived and extinguished the blaze.

When crews checked the home after the fire, they found the body of an 89-year-old man who police believe to be the occupant. Police said the incident was not believed to be suspicious.

Neighbours have described the 89-year-old as a "really lovely man" man who enjoyed fishing and cooking. Binh Tran said he arrived home to find emergency services on his street.

He said his neighbour had lived at the house for around 10 years and the pair were friends, helping each other with odd jobs.

Mr Tran said he could not sleep after hearing the news about his neighbour, who he described as "very nice". "The whole night I couldn't sleep, I'm thinking about him," he said.

Mr Tran said his neighbour enjoyed cooking and used to bring him fresh fish he had caught. "He loved fishing," he said. Another neighbour, Kate Solway, said the incident was "terribly sad".

"I feel for the family, absolutely," she said. Laurie was also a loved member of the Maltese community in Adelaide. We give our condolences to his family and relatives.



**CISK NON-ALCOHOLIC BEER IN INDIA**

## Importation of Maltese Non-Alcoholic Beer in India

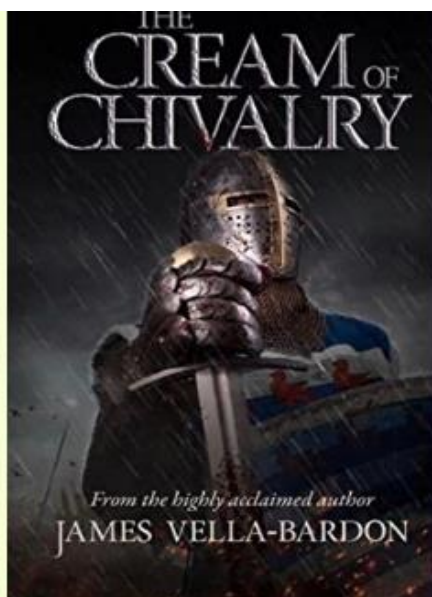
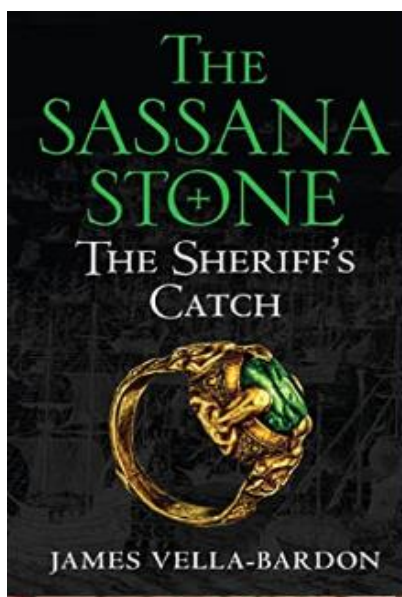
Reference Number: , Press Release Issue Date: Aug 09, 2022

On 5 & 6 August 2022, the Maltese Beer Cisk ( non - alcoholic version )was launched in New Delhi and Jalandhar for the first time in India by Simonds, Farsons, Cisk plc-Malta and A&Z Exports International-India. The High Commissioner of Malta to India H.E. Reuben Gauci, his spouse Dr Olga V. Gauci and the High Commission diplomatic and local staff were in attendance.

The launch, which took place at the Panchshila Club in New Delhi on 5 August and at the Jullundur Gymkhana Club in Jalandhar, Punjab on the 6 August was also attended by Mr Michael Farrugia and Mr Stephen Sultana from the Maltese company Simonds Farsons Cisk plc, who travelled from Malta to India for the occasion.

The launch was organized by the Indian Importer, Mr Sahil Tandon of A&Z Exports International-India





### James Vella-Bardon – Award Winning Author

Once every so often you encounter an author who, while not yet a household name, is certainly destined for greatness. Prodigious literary talent James Vella-Bardon is one such writer who, with his gripping debut novel *The Sheriff's Catch*—an underdog adventure set during the late 16th century—has shown that he is well on the way to becoming the new king of historical fiction.

James lives in Sydney with his young family and a maniacal caboodle. Recipient of a few international literary awards and nominations, he enjoys reading gritty thrillers filled with moral dilemmas and a real sense of danger.

[www.jamesvellabardon.com](http://www.jamesvellabardon.com)

Readers across the world were recently alerted to the impressive talent of Maltese writers when *The Sheriff's Catch*, debut novel of prolific Maltese expat writer James Vella-Bardon, was named "Must-read of the week" by *The Scotsman*, which also proclaimed the Maltese author as "the new king of historical fiction".

As a result, Vella-Bardon's debut was noted by other leading outlets, with US best-selling consumer magazine *Reader's Digest* calling it "sensational" and publications like *The London Economic* praising its "sheer quality, historical integrity and emotional resonance".

Vella-Bardon's award-winning debut also features a Maltese-born and bred protagonist, Abel de Santiago, who enlists in the army of Imperial Spain. Santiago is subsequently forced to join the Spanish Armada, only to find himself shipwrecked in Ireland, where he is hunted down by English troopers called *Sassenachs*, who want him tortured and killed. Along the way Santiago unwittingly rescues an Irish princess, with the unlikely pairing forced to reach the territory of Irish rebels in the north of Irish Connacht.

2022 has been a year of impressive output by the Maltese writer, who claims that he feels "like a bat out of pure Covid lockdown hell". On 15 July his new publisher Tearaway Press published a masterful audio book of *The Sheriff's Catch*, narrated by the leading UK narrator of historical fiction, Jonathan Keeble, who famously read Bernard Cornwell's highly popular book *The Last Kingdom*.

This audiobook was also preceded by a stirring standalone novella named *Mad King Robin*, which features Vella-Bardon's favourite historical figure Robert the Bruce. This punchy story bristles with face-melting intensity, as it describes one of the most famous David vs Goliath clashes in military history, in which a vastly outnumbered Scottish force stood up to the largest English army to ever march onto foreign soil.

While possessing the raw power of a Conn Iggulden title, it contains a humane sensibility found in works by the likes of Diana Gabaldon, as it also takes a profound look at the lot of Bruce's wife, Elizabeth de Burgh. Elizabeth is forced to survive a dangerous confinement by her husband's enemies, while desperately clinging to a seemingly impossible hope of freedom, shared by her husband's oppressed people.

Its predecessor, *Mad King Robin*, also proved a smash hit on international online book club The Pigeonhole, with over 200 readers from around the world signing up to read its serialisation. Gail Wylde, a reader based in the UK, took to Goodreads to describe it as "Another fast paced, heart-stopping insight into periods of history brought to life with James' brilliant writing" and Wales' Rebecca James, founder of a popular Ken Follett Facebook Group declaring "*Mad King Robin* is the best book I've read this year" in her Amazon review. Popular Maltese actor Chris Dingli even hopped onto Amazon to state "I read this book in a single sitting".

Vella-Bardon also treated The Pigeonhole's readers to a surprise read of a short story prequel to *Mad King Robin* which he also wrote this year, entitled *The Cream of Chivalry*. This story explains how the Bruce went from being king of Scotland to the "outlaw king" recently popularised in a recent Netflix series. It is also available for free to readers who sign up to Vella-Bardon's newsletter on his website homepage.

When asked about his feelings for Malta, the expat was effusive in his affection for his country of birth. "It's the place that gave me my passion for literature and history; it's the place that first acknowledged my writing, the place that first made me a bestselling author."

Vella-Bardon has not yet forgotten how his debut unexpectedly climbed to third place on Agenda Bookshop's national bestseller list in English, even outselling titles by John Grisham, an author much loved by the Maltese reading public, as well as Pope Francis, at the time.

Vella-Bardon is also hoping that the Maltese reading public will enjoy his standalone novella *Mad King Robin*, currently being stocked by Maltese bookshops in the wake of his international acclaim, as well as the long-awaited sequel to Santiago's first adventure, *A Rebel North*, which will be internationally released this month on 12 August.

For more information visit [www.jamesvellabardon.com](http://www.jamesvellabardon.com)

## Immigration History from Malta to Victoria



The first Maltese to arrive in Australia were spoken at home by 63% of community convicts, transported in the 1810s for deserting members, while most others spoke English. their British regiments. Malta was then a British colony. Today, the community is concentrated in Sunshine and Keilor. They are evenly spread across the employment spectrum. Almost everyone in the community is Catholic, and the church has played a vital role since the early years of settlement. Many other organisations in Victoria also help to maintain the rich legacy of Malta, a small, resource-poor country, and Maltese history, language, music and religion, Britain encouraged emigration as part of a coordinated by the Maltese Community Council strategy of populating the Empire with white of Victoria. British subjects.

Britain's intentions conflicted with Australia's 1901 Immigration Restriction Act, which kept the number of Maltese arrivals low in the early 20th century. During World War I Maltese immigration was severely restricted, and a quota system for Maltese immigrants was introduced in 1920. International pressure resulted in the quota being raised in 1923, and 395 Malta-born people lived in Victoria by 1933.

In 1948 an assisted passage agreement was signed with Malta, the first such agreement Australia had made with any country other than Britain. This resulted in large numbers of arrivals

breaking in the 1950s. By 1966, the Malta-born population of Victoria was 26,452.

Since the mid-1970s there have been far fewer immigrants from Malta, and the number of Malta-born Victorians has declined slowly. In 2016, Victoria had the largest Malta-born population in Australia, with a total of 17,872 people. Maltese

**We advise contributors and Maltese associations to send their advertisement early.**

**As our communities are getting smaller, we urge groups to amalgamate and support each other**



## Proposed apartment block near Ġgantija Megalithic Temples



Gozo's **Ġgantija temples**, one of the world's oldest structures, is facing threat after yet another planning application for an apartment block was submitted in the area. Applicant Carmel Attard and architect Alexander Bigeni submitted plans to demolish a house in Xagħra and construct a three-storey apartment block with a pool.

Jessica Arena wrote in the Times of Malta "A plan to build the three-floor, 27-apartment block near the megalithic Ġgantija temples has been given the blessing of the Superintendence of Cultural Heritage after original plans were scaled down.

The proposed development, which would replace an old building and a field on Triq il-Parsott, in Xagħra is just 150 metres away from the UNESCO World Heritage Site in Gozo.

"Heritage Malta also considers that the latest proposal is compatible with the management plan of Ġgantija and that it will not negatively impact the site's Outstanding Universal Value, a key component of recognition as a UNESCO World Heritage Site." The SCH added that an archaeological evaluation had been carried out at the site and some features related to agriculture were noted. It added that no rock cutting would be acceptable at this location and that works must include an archaeological monitor. Original plans would have seen the single-storey dwelling and surrounding fields turn into a five-floor block, however, recent drawings show that this has been scaled down to three floors.

The photomontages submitted by the applicant also show that the proposed building is more in keeping with surrounding residences and does not appear to be excessively visible from key points within the Ġgantija site.

Such news makes us question whether our historical heritage will take precedent over development. Other sites around the island that also date back to the Bronze Age include:

1. Tarxien Temples
2. Borg in-Nadur near Birzebbugia
3. Ghar Mirdum in Dingli
4. Il-Wardija ta' San Gorg in Dingli
5. Dolmens – altar-like structures made of very large slabs of stone
6. Menhir – upright stone (an example can be found in Kirkop)
7. Cart ruts at Clapham Junction and San Gwann
8. Buġibba Ancient Temples
9. Hal Saflieni Hypogeum



PH

## Malta and Saudi Arabia in agreement for more commercial cooperation

Reference Number: PR221070, Press Release Issue

Date: Aug 12, 2022

During the meeting there was agreement on the need for the Joint Commission on the Economy to continue with its work and thus increase the opportunities for business and trade between the two countries. Minister Borg went on to say that he believes that three other sectors with strong potential for cooperation are the educational, cultural and tourist sectors. Minister Borg also discussed the energy sector and dependence on different sources. During this meeting, Malta's commitment to continue to be a voice in favour of international peace and security in the United Nations Security Council was reiterated. Minister Borg went on to say how on a European level, Malta will continue to support European relations with Saudi Arabia while ensuring that the Persian Gulf region continues to be given the strategic importance it deserves.

During his interventions, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud said that he is very optimistic that this visit to Malta will serve to strengthen the excellent relations that exist between the two countries not only on the political level but also the commercial one. He claimed that as a country, Malta's support in international fora was always appreciated and he wished our country success in the United Nations Security Council. Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud made an official invitation to Minister Ian Borg to visit the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia together with a commercial delegation.

Malta and Saudi Arabia agreed on the need for more cooperation between the two countries on several sectors, primarily when it comes to trade. This emerged from a bilateral meeting held by the Minister for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade, Ian Borg, together with the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia, Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud.

This is the first time in 47 years of bilateral relations that a Minister for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia has decided to visit our country with the sole purpose of having a bilateral meeting with the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Malta. From his end, Minister Ian Borg said that this fact shows how instrumental and important this meeting was. "Through this strategic meeting we are sending a clear message that the time has come for our relationship to develop to a better one particularly in the sectors of economy and culture among others", claimed Ian Borg.

Dr. Borg stated that he believes that there is a need for a strengthened strategic relationship intended to facilitate business between the two countries.

**I thank you for a new edition of Maltese E-Newsletter that reached my In-Box this morning. I am ever so thankful to you for bringing all the latest news about our islands and for making the world aware, of a great heritage that continues to be adopted from one generation to another. Old customs never die and I thank you for bringing this to the attention of many who read your newsletter. Best of luck and happiness – George Stagno Navarra – Malta**



**More news about our festival run for Cat of Malta -- the film has been selected for the 13th annual Chagrin Film Festival, Chagrin Falls, Cleveland. The tentative date for our screening is 8th October, 1pm.**



Here is the official selection **announcement of films**, where you will find Cats of Malta in the International section. Cats of Malta will also screen online as part of the festival after the festival ends.

We will be in attendance as **we are also attending CatCon '22 in Pasadena, California** at the

start of October and then finishing off our US journey with NY York Cat Festival, in our favourite American city, **New York, where Cats of Malta screens on the 23rd October at 11am.**



Here is a photo of Chagrin at festival time we love

Speaking of **CatCon**, **we are also submitting as virtual vendors** -- our plan is, *if we are selected for the conference*, to get eyes on the film from our niche audience -- cat enthusiasts--, hopefully booking virtual and live screenings, selling merch, but also selling tickets to a virtual event we will set up for November, hopefully with a partner attached. **A percentage of the screening money made will go to a stray cat NPG in Malta.**

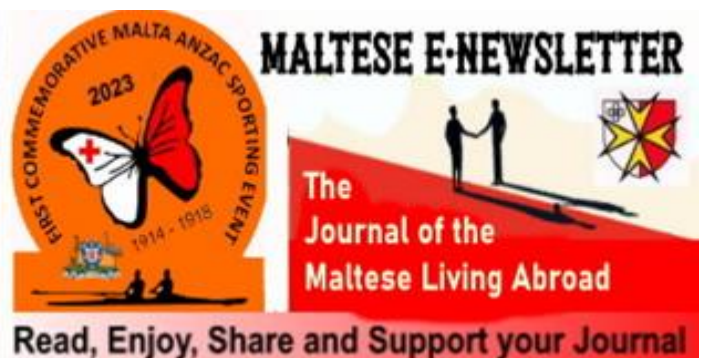
SJ has a lot of work to do to attach a partner to the proposed event with so little time between now and November. We will be submitting to Cat Con either today or early next week, so we should know our result soon. So it's all *pending*.

Last bit of news is that **we were chatting with Tracie from the NY Cat festival yesterday evening for her podcast in preparation for the festival media push**, and it was really fun to talk about the film with an outsider. Once we have the link, we will share it.

Until we have more news, have a lovely day and keep being wonderful.

Sarah Jayne & Ivan Malekin

PS Here's the link again: [www.catsofmaltafilm.com](http://www.catsofmaltafilm.com)





# Expats in Malta

As Malta's population surpassed the half-million mark, the amount of foreigners reached 20%, exceeding 100,000, according to figures supplied by the National Statistics Office.

The population of Malta rose by at least 100,000 people compared to 2010 and the number of Maltese people stood at 411,000 people while

103,000 foreigners were recorded in Malta. The sharp increase in the foreigner population is a far cry from 2010 when the foreign population numbered at only 19,000.

You will find nationalities from all over the world living in Malta – the number has increased steadily over the last 10 years to around 24,000 and are estimated to [increase by 27,000 more people in the next 18 years](#). By far the largest group (roughly half) of foreign nationals are British however over 150 other countries are also represented from as far afield as The Seychelles and Togo. With Malta ranking as the third best in the world for expats (Expatriate Insider 2015), the numbers are likely to keep growing. As a consequence, there are lots of expat resources too.

## British expats

For Brits, the British Residents Association has a 40-year history of working to “foster friendly and harmonious relations between members of the Association and with the people of the Maltese Islands and to assist and advise members”. Their patron is the British High Commissioner. There are five different groups spread across the islands. They organize events and provide a support system. Members tend to be a little older.

## Other expats

For other nationalities, [www.internations.org/malta-expats](http://www.internations.org/malta-expats) and [www.expatriate.com](http://www.expatriate.com) are good general resources. Other websites are more geared to meet-ups, offering regular Friday night drinks, boat trips and dinners. Your local embassy will most likely be able to provide you with good contacts too.

## Can I live and work in Malta?

If you're from the EU, EEA (European Economic Area) and Switzerland, then get ready to embrace pastizzis, festa fireworks and beautiful beaches – you have the right to live and work in Malta. .

If you're a Third Country National (TCN - i.e. the rest of the world), things are a little more complicated. You will need your employer to apply for a work permit for you..

## Will we fit in with the Maltese?

The Maltese are very friendly, welcoming and hospitable. If you're from Northern Europe or North America, it might take a while to get used to the Mediterranean culture - a perfectly civil conversation might sound like an argument at first especially since they like to gesture with their hands when they speak! When real disputes do flare up, they are quickly forgotten.

It's worth remembering that the Maltese are used to seeing lots of foreigners come and go and they have their own lives and families. For that reason, it might take longer to get into their 'inner circle' but if you stay long enough in Malta, you'll have friends for life. The Maltese really come through in a crisis - they will rally round if you find yourself in need.

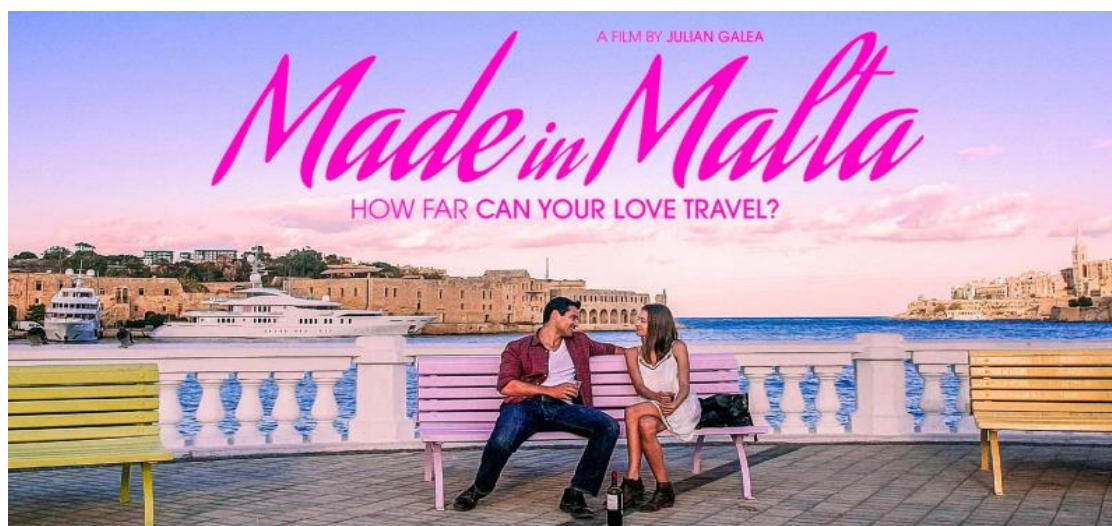
## How hard is it to learn Maltese and should I bother?

It would be wonderful to report that you'll be conversing freely in Maltese in a matter of months. The truth is that Maltese is a tricky language to learn, especially when it comes to the verbs. This is a Semitic language, where verbs are 'trilateral' and conjugated with prefixes, suffixes and infixes (i.e. three different consonants denote the general meaning of the word, and the combination of vowels before, after and in between those consonants denote the tense or specify the meaning). For speakers of Latin based



languages, it's a difficult concept and makes it hard to pick up the language from listening or reading without a fair amount of study. Maltese is peppered with familiar English and Italian words however, which helps you to get the context and many speakers weave in and out of English and Maltese naturally. The other hurdle is that the Maltese will inevitably speak to you in English all the time, so it's quite difficult to practice the language. Still, free lessons are available through the government and it's certainly not impossible to learn if you put in some effort..

## Complicated Love In A Straightforward Story



[Daniel  
Hart](#)

*Made in Malta* is a film about the pitfalls of young love. By the time you hit your 30s, I think we can all assume we've had that one spiralling connection with someone that occasionally creeps in your mind while sloppily eating each mac and cheese for the fourth night running in your lonely, but well-organised home. **It's the kind of young love that is as addictive as cocaine.** An all-consuming drug that turns makes you both crazy, mostly because your brain has not fully formed yet, and it's creating unruly chemistry imbalances that you cannot rationalise.

Imagine if that young love that desperately fell apart because you both wanted different things returns five years later. Imagine being given that perspective, that opportunity for an extended period and space, and then met up again to discuss the past with a more mature, chemically balanced mind.

*Made in Malta* follows a character that has those experiences; Vincent ([Greg Audino](#)) is a filmmaker whose entire personal structure was torn apart by Annalisa ([Ariadna Cabrol](#)).

Five years later, when his film career was finally on the brink of lighting, Annalisa finds him at his

premiere in Malta and is eager to reconnect at coffee shops and locations they used to enjoy.

[‘The Aftermath’ \(2019\) | Film Review](#)

If you enjoy a human case study, then *Made in Malta* articulates the scenario to an extreme point. Both characters reminisce, laugh, enjoy long conversations on different philosophical outcomes, but also briefly argue on their past and what a new future would look like. *Made in Malta* wants to be the cornerstone story of what many souls would only dream of having – that second opportunity.

An issue that is glaringly obvious from the start in *Made in Malta*, is that the director [Julian Galea](#) seemed so desperate to fill screen time, that he either filled it with montages of the in-love couple wandering the streets of Malta, with lovely music to accompany it, or he filled any remaining space with dialogue. *Made in Malta* deserved patience. A characters' thoughts or feelings do not have to be relayed by conversation only; there can be silences that portray a character's body language or expression

## Socjeta Filarmonika Pinto Banda San Sebastjan

### 160<sup>th</sup> Anniversary By John Camilleri

By John Camilleri

The Socjetà Filarmonika Pinto Banda San Sebastjan was founded in 1862. The main aims of the society are: The formation of a band and the teaching of music. The promotion of cultural activities Providing a social place where the members can meet and enjoy themselves together. This year the society is celebrating its 160th anniversary since it was founded in 1862.



Looking at the events during all these years one can see that the society was always alive and active. It is important to notice that the band was one of the earliest in Malta. The band grew and became one of the best in Malta and this could be seen from the number of participations of the band around different localities in the Maltese islands.

As like with every living thing the society and the band passed from good times, bad times, difficult times and moments of glory. The most important of all is that during all times the society and the band had many admirers and benefactors that stood by the society and helped throughout all times. The society is a voluntary organisation and it was the result of hard work, sacrifice and assistance of all those that believed in it.

The society grew and achieved all. Today we are proud of our ancestors who have founded the society and worked hard to see that the society reaches all expectations. The society has a great and glorious history and it is important that such events are documented so that those interested know all facts about the history of the society.

It is our aim to continue what our ancestors started and leaving it better for those who come after us. The information written not only documents the history of the society but also show the treasures one can find in the Palazz Narbona the club of the society.

I hope that this information will be interesting and beneficial for all the followers that live abroad especially in Australia. In this book one will find information on the name of the Society. The premises of the society Palazz Narbona. Information on some of the treasure that one finds in the club, Documents, Music, the Chapel, Artistic collection donated by Ms Maria Stellini, Chev. Emanuel Borg Gauci and his works in Palazz Narbona and Marco Montebello and his works in Palazz Narbona.

*John Camilleri will be writing more articles about the Socjeta Filarmonika Pinto Banda San Sebastjan in future editions of our journal.*



## Lisa - Malta and Gozo, Malta



You should know before reading this blog that if you aren't prepared to spontaneously buy a plane ticket, you probably shouldn't keep reading...

"Inhobbok Nanna" Gozo, Malta

Malta is by far the most beautiful, most culturally diverse, unique place I have ever visited. Being fortunate enough to spend four days in Malta, thanks to UCL's "Reading Week" where no one actually reads, I was able to see some sights and really talk to the Maltese people about their

country. Malta has been at one time attack, invaded, or ruled by almost every country. You see knights everywhere because there were twenty-five knights from eight countries (eight points on the cross, one for each country) who protected Malta. Most recently, the Turks tried to invade Malta, but luckily Turkey is so far away that resources ran out leading to an inevitable retreat.

That leads me to another point which is, for those of you who don't know, Malta is in the Mediterranean Ocean just 93 km south of Sicily. It has three main regions, from the north to the south: Gozo, Comino, and Malta, and only 400,000 people live in the main region of Malta. Many villages make up Malta and due to a Maltese law no building built before a certain year could be destroyed. Therefore, all the limestone buildings have the same structure with which they were originally built and even in the fields of grass one can see the rubble and left over structures of once standing buildings. Even along the seaside road from Valletta, the capital, to St. Julian's, the younger party area where we were staying, there are crumbling buildings. But beauty can be seen in the age of the shattered windows and discoloured buildings. Even in Gozo this is seen, and the farther from the centre, the newer and more

modern the buildings, but still holding the same architectural design. All this limestone comes from the land in Malta itself, and we were lucky enough to stumble across one of the mines.

Lastly, Malta is Catholic with 365 churches on its island, one for every year is the way to remember it. And although our personal driver, Antonella Grech Borg, told us that only 50% actually go to church, they still stand beautifully erected around the city. The most famous one that is dome shaped and called Mosta Church. This church had an atomic bomb fall through its roof but the bomb never went off. To repair the dome 800 eggs were sold to pay for its reconstruction, an effort the city came together to do.

### MALTESE CENTER NY



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

tel: (718) 728 - 9883

#### SUNDAYS

Time: 2:15 - 3:15 pm

October 16

November 6 & 20

December 4

January 8 & 29

February 12

March 5 & 26

April 23

June 4 & 11

## Titkellem bil-Malti

### ADULT CONVERSATIONAL MALTESE PROGRAM 2022-2023

This class will be a conversational Maltese program for absolute beginners to basic knowledge. Build your confidence and learn to express yourself easily through conversation, light debate and role-playing. Our conversational Maltese for beginners will cover grammar and vocabulary too, so you can get to grips with these important features of the language.

Free for Adult Members 18+. If you are 15 - 17 years old your parent must be a current member. Carefully review the class schedule before registering. When you register it is a commitment from October 2022 to June 2023. Classes build upon each other. Lessons coincide with school terms and are designed to introduce students in various topics of the Maltese language and culture. Maximum 10 students. Material fee \$35

**PRIORITY REGISTRATION  
FOR CURRENT MEMBERS  
BEGINS AUGUST 22, 2022**



REGISTER AT [WWW.THEMALTESECENTER.COM](http://WWW.THEMALTESECENTER.COM)

## ST PAUL'S BAY: MALTA'S NEW LARGEST TOWN

	2011	2021
<i>Inhabitants/sq.km</i>	<b>1,129</b>	<b>2,206</b>
<i>Average age</i>	<b>39.7</b>	<b>39.1</b>
<i>% under 14</i>	<b>15%</b>	<b>12.3%</b>
<i>% over 65</i>	<b>14.5%</b>	<b>12.4%</b>
<i>% not Maltese</i>	<b>18.4%</b>	<b>53.9%</b>
<i>Total population</i>	<b>16,395</b>	<b>32,042</b>



St Paul's Bay Mayor Alfred Grima said that "if one had to look at the years between 2009-2019, one could already notice an increase in the locality's population by around 56%. This means that the increasing trend has been going on for quite a while". Asked about why he thinks non-Maltese residents choose St Paul's Bay as a place to reside in and not any other locality, he said that this is due to two main reasons.

"Firstly, I believe that since St Paul's Bay is considered to have a significant amount of property available at a lower price when compared to other places, this is an advantage over other localities. Secondly, considering that more than half of the population in this locality is foreign, and are therefore used to the diversity and culture of different people, it tends to be much easier for

newly arrived expats to connect with the residents."

St Paul's Bay has overtaken Birkirkara as Malta's largest town, with its population nearly doubling from 16,395 in 2011 to 32,042 in 2021. This represents a veritable demographic explosion when one considers that back in 1995 the town's population amounted to just 7392, four times less than today.

The number of Maltese residents has increased by 1,496 over 2011, in an indication that the town still attracts migration from other localities, probably because of cheaper rents. But the town has also seen an increase of 14,259 in the number of foreigners who now constitute 54% of the locality's population.

And despite being one of Malta's largest localities in terms of space as it includes swathes of ODZ countryside, its density has now doubled from 1,128 to 2,206.

This remarkable growth also raises questions on whether the town's various 'hamlets' like Qawra, Xemxija and Burmarrad deserve recognition as separate towns, in a bid to make to improve governance in this sprawling town.

The increase of foreign workers living in the town is also reflected in a decrease of both children and over-65s, with the proportion of both segments declining from 15% to 12%.



### THE MALTESE E-NEWSLETTERS ARE ARCHIVED AT

The Malta Migrant Museum - Valletta  
 Maltese-Canadian Museum - Toronto, Canada  
 Gozo National Museum - [www.ozmalta.com](http://www.ozmalta.com)  
 Facebook - [www.facebook.com/frank.scicluna.3](https://www.facebook.com/frank.scicluna.3)  
 Website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Malta  
 Website of the Maltese Community Council of Victoria  
 At clubs of several Maltese Associations  
 At Maltese Language Schools and libraries  
 Many readers preserve them on their USB

**The Maltese  
 eNewsletter  
 is 8 years  
 old  
 This is 438th  
 edition**



## Malta sees 609 residential building permits approved in first three months of 2022

This represented a significant year on year increase

By Solomon Cefai May 16, 2022

A total of 609 building permits were approved in the first quarter of 2022, representing a total of 3,203 new dwellings. This latter dwellings figure represents a 59.6 per cent increase on the 2,007 recorded in the same period in 2021. These figures came via the National Statistics Office (NSO) as part of its quarterly reports on the number of residential building permits issued.

The highest number of approved new dwellings this quarter was for Naxxar (235). This was followed by San Pawl Il Baħar (209), Fgura (172), Swieqi (153) and Mosta (135)

Apartments developments were the most numerous, representing some 71.3 per cent of the total number of approved new dwellings.

This came as the trend towards apartment developments continued, and the number of apartment approvals increased by more than any other category of dwelling (except the 'other' classification which was statistically negligible).

The 3,203 new dwellings approved was significantly higher than the 2,638 recorded in the first quarter of 2020, while the number of buildings approved was also higher in Q1 2022 than 2020.

In the Gozo region, the number of new dwellings also increased, but by a less significant amount, rising only 35.7 per cent year-on-year to hit 559.

The Northern Harbour region (including Gzira, Sliema and St Julians) had the lowest increase in new permits, at 33.6 per cent year on year, but still had largest number of new dwellings approved, at 736.

## Every approved permit translates into nearly five new residences in Malta



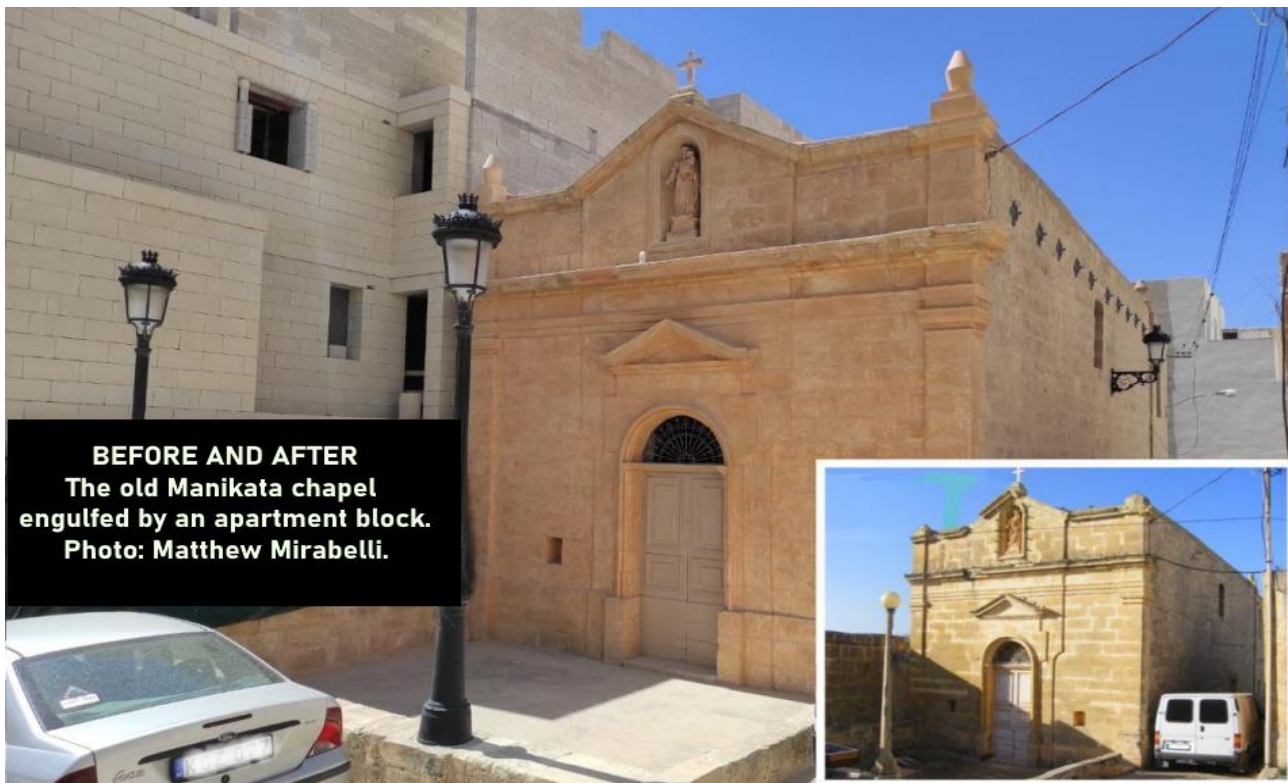
Permits approved between April and June In the three months between April and June this year, the Planning Authority issued 438 permits for new developments, this being 2.8% more than for the same period last year.

The PA also approved 2,164 new residences, which is 16.4% more than for the same three months of last year.

Statistics released by

the National Statistics Office show that on average, every issued permit translates into nearly five residential units. This is an increase of half a residential unit more on every permit issued last year.

Apartments are more popular, so much so that seven out of every ten new residences fall into this category. Penthouses are the second most popular with 15.5%, followed by maisonettes with 8.8%, and terraced houses with 4.3%. Bungalows, farmhouses and villas, grouped together, amount to 0.8% of all new approved residences.



## €46,000 offered to carry Mġarr parish statue

This year, the imposing 450-kilogramme statue of Our Lady of the Assumption in the Mġarr feast was carried for the sum of €46,000.



The group, known in Mġarr as “ta’ Wistin” presented the highest offer. It is a tradition that on the feast day, at around mid-day, Mġarr residents gather near the church, as the parish priest calls on statue bearers to start making their offers.

This until one group makes the highest offer and the other group or groups stop bidding. The raised money will be used for the Mġarr church needs.

The tradition dates back to 1922 when the Mġarr parish priest bought the statue. However, he was so overwhelmed with requests to carry

it during the procession that he decided to give the honour to those who made the biggest donation..

The statue was made in Marseille and cost £60 and 16 shillings. It was restored in 1958 when the skin colour and the other hues including the drapery were changed.



# The Chapels of Malta



The Maltese and Gozitan countryside is dotted with numerous ancient chapels; **there is no other Christian land in Western Europe that can boast of such a great number of chapels per square kilometre.** This is clear evidence of the steadfast love the Maltese and the Gozitans have always had for their Catholic faith, and the devotion they have always shown to God, his Holy Blessed Mother, and the saints.

**Every original settlement had at least one church, but many, such as that of Bir Miftuħ and Hal Millieri, can also be found standing alone in the open countryside.** Several of these chapels now seem to be isolated because the villages associated with them were abandoned centuries ago, but other chapels were, and still are, purposely built in remote locations—for instance the cliffs of Dingli, or very fertile valleys like that of Wied l-

Lunzjata in Gozo.



*Chapel of the Annunciation, Hal Millieri, Żurrieq*

Photo by Joseph Sammut on behalf of the Żurrieq Local Council

In the midst of the green countryside situated in the ancient village of Żurrieq, we find a medieval chapel dedicated to the Annunciation. It is very ancient, **as the first chapel was built during the 13th century.** **Before the chapel was built, the site was occupied by a Roman villa, the remains of which can still be observed within the vicinity of the chapel.** The

present building was erected around 1480. The chapel is rustic, built in the style of a box, devoid of any windows or oculi, which are so common in other country chapels. The roof is supported by four pointed arches in Siculo-Norman style. The last arcade leads to the main altar and apse. **Remains of what was once a gate before the sanctuary, known as an *iconostasis*, can still be seen, which shows the influence of the Orthodox-Byzantine religious tradition and art in medieval times.** The chapel grounds used to serve also as a graveyard, and this was the case even when the first chapel was built.

On the right side there is a small door that leads to the cemetery. During the plague of 1813, many of the dead were buried here. **The chapel is famous for the 11 frescoes adorning its walls.** It is probable that the frescoes are copies of those in the original chapel. **Almost all the frescoes represent Orthodox-Byzantine Saints, including St. Leonard and St. Nicholas.** Devotion to them was more popular prior to the 13th century than in the 15th century when they were painted. During the 1960s the chapel was entrusted to the care of the NGO *Din l-Art Helwa*. Several extensive restoration works have been carried out to keep the chapel in good condition.

## Qagħaq tal-Ġbejniet

### Bread rolls filled with Maltese cheese by Yesenia

Qagħaq tal-ġbejniet are soft fluffy buns with a crunchy crust that are filled with a cheesy and herby mixture! These bread is ideally enjoyed the same day that they are baked. However, if you have some leftover qagħaq simply warm them up before serving or toast them slightly. You can freeze these qagħaq individually for about 3 months.

#### Recipe

#### INGREDIENTS

##### **Qagħaq dough**

- 500 g bread flour *or plain flour*
- 4 g sugar *1 tsp*
- 10 g salt *1 1/2 tsp*
- 7 g active dry yeast
- 15 ml olive oil
- 100 ml water *lukewarm*
- 250 ml milk *lukewarm*
- 50 g butter
- extra sesame seeds/nigella seeds/poppy seeds

##### **Ġbejniet Filling**

- 100 g ġbejniet cheese
- 2 tsp pepper
- 1 tsp chili flakes
- handful of fresh parsley

#### INSTRUCTIONS

1. In a small bowl mix together the lukewarm water, milk, yeast and sugar. Set the mixture aside until it froths. This usually takes about 15 minutes.
2. In a mixer or in a large bowl, mix the flour and the salt together and make a well. Add the olive oil and the yeast mixture in the well.
3. Start kneading or mixing the dough in the mixer. If you are going to knead the dough by hand it should take you about 20 minutes. Whereas with the mixer the dough should be done in 10 minutes. The dough should be sticky, so don't add any extra flour to it.
4. Place the dough in a bowl, cover and let it proof for about 1 hour. After this resting time it should be double in size.
5. Chop the ġbejniet and mix with the parsley, chili flakes and pepper. Set aside
6. Preheat the oven to 200°C or 400°F. Line a baking tray with parchment paper. Set aside.
7. Once rested, punch the dough down and divide into 10 pieces. Open each piece of dough flat to about 20 cm and spread some butter over it while opening it with your hands.
8. Spread some filling horizontally in the middle of the opened dough. Roll the dough into a log with the filling in the middle and join both ends together. Place on the baking tray. Brush the ring with some water, sprinkle the sesame seeds or poppy seeds. Cover and let rest for 30 minutes.
9. Bake the qagħaq for about 30 minutes until they have a nice golden brown colour.
10. Let it rest before serving. Serve warm or at room temperature.

If you have any questions, feedback or comments on this recipe, please leave a comment below. [www.apronandwhisk.com/](http://www.apronandwhisk.com/)



**Please, keep on including Maltese recipes. I love and miss the Maltese food and since I left Malta in the 60s It is difficult to find restaurants which have Maltese food on the menu. Joseph Micallef - Canada**



# Dinner Dance



Come & Dance the Night away.



Live Entertainment  
by: Charlie Muscat  
& Joe Xuereb

**3 Course Meal**  
Drinks purchased on the night.

**Sat 19 Nov 2022 Doors open 7:00pm**

Good Shepherd Parish Hall  
130-136 Hyatts Road, Plumpton NSW  
(Plenty of Off Street Parking Available)

For more information please contact: Tickets: Adults \$45, Children Under 10: \$20  
President: Emanuel Vella 0405 677 064 Kids Under 4 Free, No Door Sales  
Public Relations Officer: Stella Vella 0414 188 226 Tickets Non-refundable

Proudly Sponsored by: **CASTLE GROUP**



## Saint Nicholas Festa Committee

Presents

### The Big Traditional Fete & Car Show

On Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2022

At

The Good Shepherd Parish Hall  
130-136 Hyatts Road Plumpton NSW



**Classic Car Display @ 8.30am,  
Followed by**



**Fete, Spinning Wheel**

&  
Entertainment for the whole family.  
Starting at 1.30pm



There will be Music & Singing featuring  
**The Heartbeats**



Pastizzi, Hobz biz-zejt, Hot Chips  
drinks, tea & coffee  
will be available for purchase.

And **FREE** ice cream for all children



**ENTRY IS FREE AND PLENTY OF PARKING**

So come along, bring your family and friends!



#### UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2022

Dinner Dance - Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2022  
The Feast of St Nicholas - Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2022



For more information please contact  
President: Emanuel Vella on 0405 677 064 or  
Public Relations Officer: Stella Vella on 0414 188 226



## Joint Celebration of MALTA NATIONAL DAY and QUEEN OF VICTORIES FEAST

To be held at

**CHRIST THE KING PARISH HALL  
456 HENLEY BEACH ROAD  
LOCKLEYS**

on

**SATURDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022 AT 6:30PM**

#### Admission:

\$40.00 Per Head includes 4 Course meal

#### Entertainment by:

**- STACEY SALIBA and DJ ERIC**

Refreshments are available from the Bar at moderate prices

For Admission Tickets please contact:

MARTESE KEHOE: 0404094170  
CARMEN SPITERI: 0401136673  
MALTESE GUILD OF SA: 0435797487

## THE MALTESE MACKAY CLUB INVITES YOU TO Our Lady of Victories



### Festa Mass - Friday 9th September

Procession begins at 7pm, Mass to follow  
St Francis of Assisi Aged Care Home  
2 Dupuy St, Mackay. Outdoors. Pending COVID  
Supper to follow, Please bring plate of food to share

### Festa Dinner - Saturday 10th September

7pm - The Metropolitan, 17 Gordon St, Mackay  
\$35 Per Person, 2 Course Meal

Raffle Prizes, Lucky Door & Membership Draw to be won  
RSVP by Monday 5th September, Pay at time of RSVP  
Contact Rose Borg 0418 788 363





**On Sunday 11th September 2022,  
the Festa of the Bambina  
will be held at St. Mary's Star of the Sea Church,  
North Melbourne. At 2.30 pm start the Rosary,  
followed by Eucharistic Celebration and procession.  
Everyone is welcome to attend for this event.  
Fr Lonnie Borg mssp**



A group photo of the children who participated in the celebration.  
PHOTO: CHARLES SPITERI

## Children mark Don Bosco birthday

A special activity for children – 'DB Celebration' – was held at the Don Bosco Oratory yesterday to commemorate the birthday of St John Bosco, patron saint of children.

Bishop Anton Teuma celebrated Mass for around 170 children.

His message was that their love for God should be expressed in their love for others. Later on, Mgr Teuma spent some time chatting and sharing a few light moments with the children.

After Mass, a magic show was held at the oratory ground, where children also enjoyed face-painting, a bouncy castle and a band march by a group of youths.

Don Bosco's birthday cake on the occasion was cut by oratory director Fr Effie Masini.

John Melchior Bosco, popularly known as Don Bosco, was born on August 16, 1815. He was an Italian priest, educator and writer.

While working in Turin, where the population suffered significantly from the ill-effects of industrialisation and urbanisation, he dedicated his life to the betterment and education of street children, juvenile delinquents and other disadvantaged youths.

Don Bosco developed teaching methods based on love rather than punishment, a method that became known as the Salesian Preventive System.



**MALTESE AMERICAN  
COMMUNITY CLUB  
ANNUAL BOB FARR TRIBUTE PICNIC  
AT KENSINGTON.  
7 AUGUST 2022**