



Maltese Newsletter

Journal of Maltese Living Abroad

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OAM MQR JP

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"THE NY CAT FILM FESTIVAL IS VERY MUCH ITS OWN ANIMAL."
The New York Times

Felines on Parade special feature

Festival screening Cats of Malta.

2022-2023

NEW YORK CAT FILM FESTIVAL

A COLLECTION OF SHORT FILMS EXPLORING THE MYSTIQUE OF THE FASCINATING FELINES WHO SHARE OUR LIVES.



KANTERA



SAZ MIFSUD



Ilwien il-Festi Maltin

Mark Micallef Perconte

LA CAGE AUX FOLLES

BOOK BY HARVEY FIERSTEIN
MUSIC AND LYRICS BY JERRY HERMAN
BASED ON THE PLAY BY JEAN POIRET

DIRECTED BY CHRISTOPHER GATT
MUSICAL DIRECTOR KRIS SPITERI
CHOREOGRAPHER FRANCESCO NICODEME

October 2022
21 - 23 / 26 - 30

TICKETS FROM TEATRUMANOEL.MT

Spring Awakening

Spazju Kreattiv Theatre
St James Cavalier, Castille Place Valletta, Malta

Restoration of Floriana's Mall Gardens

Infrastructure Minister inaugurates restored garden



Photo: Infrastructure Ministry
A historic garden in Floriana has been given a €4 million facelift. The Mall Gardens has received new paving, upgraded lighting and irrigation systems and had monuments restored and rebuilt where necessary. It has also been equipped with Wi-Fi facilities and a CCTV camera system. Built in 1656 during the reign of Grandmaster Lascaris and used by the Knights of St John as an area to play a form of croquet,

the Mall Gardens was converted into a public garden in 1805 by Sir Alexander Ball. Its 400m-long strip serves as a recreational area for locals and tourists and hosts a number of monuments commemorating Maltese personalities. All those monuments, along with arches at the garden's entrance, have been restored. A fountain was rebuilt from scratch. Workers installed 7,500 square metres of new paving inside the

garden as well as 2,000 square metres of new paving for a pavement that surrounds it.

Photo: Infrastructure Ministry
Works were led by the Grand Harbour Regeneration Corporation and the garden will now be maintained by state agency Ambjent Malta. "We listened to the local council and residents of Floriana, who consider this garden to be an iconic one in their locality, and took action," said Infrastructure Minister Aaron Farrugia as he inaugurated the project on Friday evening.

"Among other things, they pointed out the lack of security in this garden in the evening. We took on board the advice of experts in restoration, who pointed out that the fountains, monuments and walls all needed to be restored. Above all, we wanted to continue to fulfil the government's vision of creating more open spaces. We look forward to see this garden enjoyed by everyone and kept in a decent state," he said.

We cordially invite groups and other organisations to participate in this journal by forwarding me write-ups, photos, notices, etc. of activities of your clubs so that the information can be shared with the readers in Malta and in several other countries. This is your newsletter the purpose of which is to assist in bringing Maltese living abroad together by promoting your activities and telling your stories. We can't do this without your assistance. We thank all those individuals, clubs and associations in Australia, USA, Canada, UK, Malta, Gozo and many other countries who have been sending me information and photos and submitting articles. This invitation is for all those who have never contributed yet. We are eager to know about you and your organisation and remember this journal is archived in many places and this service is FREE. We don't accept political articles.

The Editor and team

VALLETTA – MALTA'S CAPITAL CITY

Founded in 1566, Valletta is a marvellous and breathtaking place. Guests will love taking pictures against the backdrop of its beautiful Mediterranean sea or its butterscotch-colored city buildings. The city also houses important historical tourist spots such as the Upper Barraka Gardens. It is a scenic garden with a panoramic view of the sea and city. Valletta looks like a giant limestone castle. It's a cascade of golden palaces and cobblestone pedestrian alleys sandwiched between three bodies of water.

Grandmaster La Valette built it, Napoleon stayed here. St. Paul was shipwrecked here. The late Queen Elizabeth II lived here and Russell Crowe dined here. Valletta is one of Malta's biggest success stories.

Before, it was a dead city. You had all the government departments, all the ministries and eventually over the years they started moving out of Valletta. Shops used to closed by 7 o'clock and it was a dead city. It was probably the deadest capital city in

the world. But then they started reviving it.

Things changed in 2018 when Valletta was named European Capital of Culture. A UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1980, Valletta received another facelift. Historical sites got cleaned. New High-end restaurants opened. So did boutique hotels. As a result, Malta greets millions of visitors each year. Valletta's new City Gate with 25-meter blades meant to resemble knights' sabers. Valletta reminds you of a cross between two of beautiful cities: Beirut and Syracuse — the one in Sicily. Malta is like Sicily but Maltese speak better English than their neighbours. One hundred fifty years of British rule and proximity to Italy have made the island trilingual. English is an official language along with Maltese, which is a rhythmic mix of Arabic and Sicilian. Italian is also spoken fluently in Malta. To greet the wave of tourists in 2018, the city built



a new City Gate. It's two long, wide gently descending staircases that lead down to two towering, 25-meter metal blades resembling knights' sabres. The gate is similar to the original entrance from 1633.

The gate opens up to a pedestrian street and the new Parliament Building. Like the City Gate, renowned Italian architect Renzo Piano designed the Parliament Building in 2014. It features two massive blocks of stone that appear hovering in air but are actually held up by small stilts. The 600 square meters of photovoltaic panels on the roof generate enough energy to cool the building in summer and heat it in winter.

In a city that hadn't changed much since the 17th century, the building looks out of place, like a hotel next to the Pyramids. Besides the modern, architectural genius, it represents a new Valletta looking to the future.



MALTA LOST A GENTLE MAN ROBERT ARRIGO

Robert Arrigo was a well-known and successful businessman, hotelier, and A VERY respected AND WELL-LOVED politician from Malta. He established many businesses, including the Maltese tourism company, Robert Arrigo and Sons Ltd.

Robert was also the Mayor of Sliema and once served as Vice President of the Neptunes Waterpolo club. The list of his achievements and titles go on and on.

But sad news spreads all over Malta when it was confirmed that the renowned Maltese political figure and hotelier has passed away peacefully at the age of 67..

For a while, Robert Arrigo had battled cancer. He began chemotherapy recently as part of the

treatments to remedy his quickly deteriorating health.

However, today on October 18, the veteran politician gave up the fight. He left behind his wife Marina and two sons, Andrew and Alan.

Before his unfortunate demise, Arrigo had arranged for a charity event in December to support a cancer NGO. The program which was supposed to be a buffet dinner will now be organized as a memorial in honour of the late sponsor.

Meanwhile, sympathies are flowing in from his fellow politicians from both sides of Parliament, colleagues and friends all over the world to Arrigo's family. Many of his peers have shared very kind and honourable tributes about him online as well.

Expressing his condolences, Prime Minister Robert Abela described Arrigo as a "gentleman" who always showed respect. "It's not easy to speak about Robert Arrigo, he was a friend to me. Today, Malta lost a gentleman," Abela told the House.

WE CONVEY OUR CONDOLENCES TO HIS FAMILY.



Pilgrimage International Day of the Order – Ta' Pinu Pilgrimage Oct 15, 2022



The Maltese Association's National Pilgrimage to the most revered Shrine of Our Lady of Ta' Pinu at Gharb, Gozo, was resuscitated on Saturday 15th October 2022 after a gap of just over 3 years caused by the terrible pandemic that was COVID-19 which just like with so many other activities had disrupted this cherished hospitaller event.

The Pilgrimage, which this year marked its 31st edition and coincided with the National Day of the Order of Malta, was held in glorious weather, and was led by the President of the Maltese Association, Marchesino Daniel de Petri Testaferrata.

This year's event witnessed a record number of participants, both in terms of Our Lords the Sick who were our distinguished guests and numbered over 150, as well as in terms of Members and Volunteers. There appears to have been a general urge amongst all to make up for lost time.

Our Lords the Sick coming from Malta hailed from St. Vincent de Paule Residence, Dar tal-Providenza and Mt. Carmel Hospital, whilst those joining from Gozo hailed from the Gozo General Hospital and from Dar Arka. Dar tal-Providenza once again utilised one of the Iveco tail lift vans which had donated to them by the Association pursuant to the Dar tal-Providenza Transport Project through special finding received from the Global Fund, proudly bearing the distinctive insignia of the Order.

In keeping with traditional dress code for the Pilgrimage, Knights were attired in grey trousers,

blue shirts and tie of the Order, whilst Dames donned black skirts and white blouses. Volunteers from the Association's various peripheral organisations being Members of the Volunteers of the Order, the Order of Malta Volunteers in Gozo, the Maltese Cross Corps and the Canine Search and Rescue Unit were kitted out in white T-Shirts and blue jeans.

This year's event was also special in that a 20-strong contingent from the *Ordine di Malta Corpo Italiano di Soccorso* participated in the Pilgrimage under the leadership of Dott. Graziano Cascone, Capo Gruppo Ragusa, looking very distinguished in their red jackets and berets.

The contingent gathered at Cirkewwa at 8.15 a.m., boarding a special Gozo Channel ferry service at 9.00 a.m. Once berthed at Mgarr, the contingent proceeded to the Sanctuary grounds, where Our Lords the Sick were assisted in disembarking, entering the Shrine and settling down.

Holy Mass was then celebrated at 11.00 a.m. by Monsignor Paul Vella, who delivered a pointed homily on the absolute necessity to give true witness – from the Greek word μαρτύριο from which the word martyrdom is derived – to Our Lord Jesus Christ throughout our lives, no matter the circumstances. The Reading was delivered by our confrere Giovan Pace, whilst our confrere and President of the Order of Malta Volunteers in Gozo read the bidding prayers. The *laudate pueri* choir under the direction of Monsignor George Frendo lead the congregation in singing the various Church hymns which were sung throughout the Eucharistic celebration.

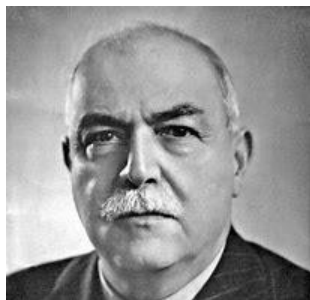
In a brief ceremony after Mass Dott. Cascone presented mementos of appreciation to the Hospitaller Dr. Kevin F. Dingli and to the President Daniel de Petri Testaferrata, and this was then followed by a group photograph taken outside on the Shrine's beautiful parvis

Next was a 3 course lunch at Villa Fiorita Hall, where Members and Volunteers donned the Association's smart red tabards and were of service to our special guests throughout. Guitarist Spiro Sillato provided the entertainment, at times accompanied vocally by members and volunteers and even some of our guests who joined in the singing.

All good things unfortunately come to an end, so that shortly after 3.00 p.m. Our Lords the Sick were assisted in boarding their respective transport vehicles which then headed back to Mgarr harbour in time for the dedicated 4.30 p.m. return ferry to Cirkewwa.

The Maltese Association wishes to thank the members

of the Ta' Pinu Pilgrimage Committee and the Order of Malta Volunteers in Gozo for organising the event so successfully, all Members and Volunteers and in particular this year all members of the *Ordine di Malta* accompanied our special guests, Mrs. Rose Bartolo and members of staff at Villa Fiorita who accommodated us at their venue and catered for the *Corpo Italiano di Soccorso*, members of the Maltese Cross Corps and members of the Canine Search and Rescue Unit who gave of their time to attend the pilgrimage, as well as Monsignor Paul Vella who celebrated Holy Mass, Fr Gerard Buhagiar Rector of Ta' Pinu Sanctuary, the *Laudate Pueri* Choir under the direction of Monsignor George Frendo, the



Dr Enrico Mizzi

Prime Minister for 3 months

PRIME MINISTER OF MALTA (1950)

Liz Truss is the shortest serving Prime Minister in the history of the United Kingdom. She resigned only from her post less than five weeks she was chosen for the role..

It has sent the country into a political crisis with the Conservative Party into turmoil. Mizzi was first elected to the Council of Government from Gozo in 1915 as Member of the Comitato Patriottico. While Mizzi was striving to obtain a liberal Constitution he was arrested at his residence on

7 May and court-martialled on charges of sedition in 1917 under the Malta Defence Regulations for writings and statements against the British. He was sentenced to a year's imprisonment with hard labour, the loss of civil rights and the withdrawal of lawyer's warrant. The sentence was commuted by Governor Methuen to a "severe censure", while his civil rights and warrant were restored following the cessation of hostilities in 1918. Mizzi founded the Circolo Giovane Mala and was life president of the Societa' Dante Alighieri. In

and the process has tried to find replacement while the Labour Party is calling for an election. Short-term Prime Ministers are rare in Malta but that doesn't mean they haven't been before, even if none have served as little time as Truss.

Take a look at one of Malta's shortest serving Prime Ministers: - Enrico Mizzi.

Born in Valletta on the 20 September 1885, Dr Enrico 1919 Nerik Mizzi was elected Secretary of the National Assembly (NA) and was also to serve as delegate to the NA between 1945-47.

In 1921 he formed the PDN to contest the elections to Malta's first responsible Government. Mizzi's party formed a coalition government with the UPM in 1924 and he became Minister of Agriculture. Later the PDN merged with the UPM to form the Partito Nazionalista. He was co-Leader with Sir Ugo Mifsud (1926-42).

Nerik Mizzi was Minister of Industry and Commerce (1924-27), Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Posts (1932), Minister of Education (1932-33). He was member of the legislative assembly (1921-30), (1932-33), (1947-50); and Leader of the Partito

Mizzi popularly known as Nerik Mizzi, was the son of Fortunato Mizzi (founder of the Nationalist Movement) and of Maria Sofia Fogliero de Luna. He was educated at the Gozo Seminary, Flores College and at the Royal University of Malta where he graduated in literature and science in 1906. He read law at the Universities of Rome and Urbino from where he obtained his LL.D. degree in 1911. Nazionalista (1942-50), and Leader of the Opposition (1947-50).

On 30 May 1940 while Mizzi was at the Malta Printing Press, he was arrested and together with another 47 Maltese citizens, was interned for their alleged Italian sympathies and later deported illegally to Uganda in 1942. He was repatriated on 8 March 1945 and resumed his seat in the Council of Government. After the 1950 elections, Nerik Mizzi was asked to form a minority government and in September 1950, he became Prime Minister, only to die three months later at his residence in Valletta and was given a state funeral. Nerik Mizzi founded the ECO di Malta e Gozo, organ of the PDN in 1921, and founded as well as edited MALTA, organ of the PN (1926-40).

The Victoria Lines The Great Wall of Malta

Research of Greg Caruana from NSW (Wikipedia).

The Victoria Lines is a line of 12 kilometers of fortification, reinforced with forts, that crosses Malta from Fomm ir-Riħ to Madliena. The line divides the north of Malta from the south which is much more populated. It is a known fact that even the Knights of St. John, before the British, had thought how they could fortify the natural Great Divide in -rock that we find dividing Malta from Fomm ir-Riħ to Madliena. Proof of this are the trenches dug by the Knights in strategic places such as Ta' Falka and San Pawl tat-Tarġa.

The main purpose of the Victoria Lines was the defense of the Maltese Ports. In the Ports (Port il-Kbir and Port of Marsamxett) there was the shipyard, warehouses for unloading and loading goods, in a word there was everything. The majority of the Maltese population was also gathered around the Ports. The Ports of Malta were constantly used by the British Navy, so important for the control and administration of the British Empire.

In 1872 Brigadier General Adye arrived in Malta. Adye suggested the building of forts during the Great Divide. This is where the idea of the Victoria Lines came from. In case of an invasion from the upper part of Malta, the enemy is kept away from the Ports. The ports had to be closed with a ring of fortifications. The Ports were to remain behind the Victoria Lines (North East) natural cliffs (in the



South) and batteries and forts (North and East).

Important developments in military art in the Nineteenth century were those of the rifle and artillery. These were the two important concepts that the British wanted to incorporate in the building of the Victoria Lines.

At first the British built four forts: Bingemma Fort (1874) The Fort of Mosta (1878) The Madliena Fort (1878) Pembroke Fort (1878)

The British military experts believed these four fortresses alone were not enough to prevent the enemy from reaching the ports. In 1878 itself, the year in which three of the four aforementioned forts were completed, General Simmons suggested that the trenches dug by the Knights between Ta' Falka and Naxxar be repaired. The Dwejra lines near Binjemma were also built.

Therefore, the Victoria Lines connected these four important fortresses. We also find a number of batteries and a number of fortifications incorporated in the Victoria Lines project. The Victoria Lines make use of the natural Great Rift in the rock that divides Malta from Fomm ir-Riħ to Madliena. We find a number of valleys Bingemma, Mosta, Gharghur and Madliena that

interrupt the divide. So the engineers, to continue the defensive line, built stone walls known as stop walls. Special holes in the defensive walls known as loop holes allowed the soldiers to fire their rifles from behind these walls.

The building of the Victoria Lines was a project that provided work to many Maltese workers. In 1892 the entire defensive line was given the name we still know it by today, Victoria Lines. Queen Victoria was celebrating the Jubilee of her coronation. Further technological developments rendered the Victoria Lines obsolete in less than 20 years. Manoeuvres in 1900 showed that the Victoria Lines were not in a position to receive an attack from a foreign power if it landed in any of the northern beaches of Malta. The Victoria Lines provide some of the best vantage points from which to discover the Maltese countryside and have themselves become a striking feature within the passage on which they sometimes have a most dramatic effect. A walk along the Victoria Lines is a unique experience that reveals the stunning beauty of Malta's natural passages and offers views for many miles.

The Malta Music Festival



The Three Palaces Festival Early Opera & Music Festival is a 10-day festival that takes place during the first 2 weeks of November. Organised by Festivals Malta, the festival focuses on the premise that “our ordinary is actually extraordinary”, which is coming from the fact that in Malta we are surrounded by magnificent buildings that we pass by every day and barely notice their beauty. It gives life to the philosophy that everyone should have access to heritage sites, to the transcendent beauty of art, as well as the right to participate in the expression of music. Education in the arts is a cornerstone of The Three Palaces Festival Early Opera & Music Festival, and broad access is given through school participation, arts tourism and musician gatherings that see emerging artists perform alongside the finest established artists in Malta and internationally.

Festivals Malta launched the 10th edition of The Three Palaces, Early Opera and Music Festival, which will take place between the 1st and the 12th of November. With the past two editions happening entirely on the digital sphere, the festival now returns in its traditional format. This time, the programme has been curated by a joint artistic team consisting of Michelle Castelletti and Kenneth Zammit Tabona, who brings an element of baroque opera to the festival.

1 November 2022 | 7:30PM

Venue: Archaeology Museum, Valletta

A chamber music concert featuring works by Debussy Trio for Flute, Viola, and Harp, a work by Maltese composer Alex Vella Gregory, as well as a Lament for the people of Ukraine by Canadian composer David Jaeger.

Quatour

2 November 2022 | 6:30PM

Venue: Archaeology Museum, Valletta

World-renowned British Mezzo-Soprano Sarah Connolly will be taking us across the beautiful world of lieder together with Malcolm Martineau on piano.

Preceding the recital, Maltese Soprano Nicola Said introduces us to the lushness of the Vienna Secession with a song cycle by Richard Strauss. Sarah Connolly Recital Pre-Concert Nicola Said

3 November 2022 | 6PM Venue: St John's Co-Cathedral, Valletta

In a time of religious extremism, William Byrd & Thomas Tallis lived in fear of persecution. ORA Singers celebrates their music, alongside modern reflections. Fear and Trust, ORA Singers

4 November 2022 | 7:30PM Venue: Manoel Theatre, Valletta HWV27

Handel's HWV 27 opera, which premiered at the King's Theatre in London in 1730, will be performed by HGO Trust Ltd & Cappella Neapolitana di Antonio Florio Ensemble.

St Paul's Metropolitan Cathedral, Mdina

Rewwixta is a poetic drama in three acts; that makes use of dramatic features and poetic elements, penned by Oliver Friggieri and set to music by Joseph Vella.

Rewwixta - Oratorio by Joseph Vella

6 November 2022 | 6PM

Venue: Manoel Theatre, Valletta HWV27

Handel's HWV 27 opera, which premiered at the King's Theatre in London in 1730, will be performed by HGO Trust Ltd & Cappella Neapolitana di Antonio Florio Ensemble.

Handel's Opera Partenope

8 & 9 November 2022 | 6PM

Venue: St John's Co-Cathedral, Valletta HWV61

Music director Steven Devine will be conducting the remarkable three-act operatic Oratorio by Handel, with the Valletta Baroque Ensemble and KorMalta, with the participation of soloists Gillian Zammit, Marvic Monreal, Cliff Zammit Stevens, Albert Buttigieg and Hadar Halevy.

Handel's Oratorio Belshazzar

9 November 2022 | 7:30PM Archaeology Museum, Valletta

A trip around the solar system in jazz, with Holst's classic themes re-imagined through the lens of the great Duke Ellington.

Buy tickets <https://www.ticketline.com.mt/bookings/SelectTickets.aspx?ShowId=2341>

Philip came to me today,
and said it was time to go.
I looked at him and smiled,
as I whispered that "I know"

I then turned and looked behind me,
and seen I was asleep.
All my family were around me,
and I could hear them weep.

I gently touched each shoulder,
with Philip by my side.
Then I turned away and walked,
With my angel guide.

Philip held my hand,
as he led the way,
to a world where kings and queens,
are monarchs every day.

I was given a crown to wear
or a halo known by some.
The difference is up here,
they are worn by everyone.

I felt a sense of peace,
my reign had seen its end.
70 years I had served my country,
as the people's friend.

Thank you for the years,



for all your time and love.
Now I am one of two again,
in our palace up above.

Author Unknown



**Our Journal is free of
charge and non-political
We respect everybody's
Belief and Opinion
We need your
Support to continue**



FROM OUR READER IN HAWAII MALTESE PHOTOGRAPHER WHO LIVES IN HAWAII, USA

By Anthony Calleja

<https://www.anthonycalleja.com/>

I have been a Canon Camera Man most of my life! My camera of choice is the Canon EOS 5D Mark IV, and an assortment of Canon pro lenses. For lighting, I like the Flashpoint System.

Proposal, a Waikiki Honeymoon, or Just Because :) Romantic Waikiki Honeymoon photo sessions with Beautiful Hawaiian seascapes.

If you plan a long-distance Oahu, I can assist you with Referrals! for an Officiant, Makeup Artist, or Florist! I am an equal opportunity photography service provider and have photographed marriages of all cultures and religions.

Suppose you live on the Island of Oahu and are thinking of booking a photographer for a beach portrait sitting. In that case, my photo services are very affordable if you consider getting some candid portraits of your little one! I offer affordable on-location lifestyle Child Portraits. My Hawaii Portraits are creative, tell the story, and are cherished for years to come.

If your plans include visiting the Hawaiian Islands, booking a photo session for your Vacation or Honeymoon will be a fun and memorable treat. My Photo Retouching Services bring out the beauty of your portraits and gives a more youthful, natural appearance without any artificial look.

I am available to photograph your event on the Island of Oahu and service Honolulu, Waikiki, Koolina, Kailua, and other locations on Oahu. I am happy to provide you with a custom quote for your destination wedding anywhere on the Island. Let's stay in touch! I'd love to hear from you! Visit my website at <https://www.anthonycalleja.com>

(CONTINUE NEXT PAGE)

Aloha! My name is Anthony Calleja, and I am a Professional Oahu Photographer based in Kapolei, Hawaii. I have 30+ years of Oahu portrait photography experience, and I have an A+ Rating with the Better Business Bureau. I offer affordable Oahu photography services with beautiful Oahu

You can find details regarding my camera gear on my FAQ page.

My Oahu Photo Packages include an SD Card straight out of the camera (SOOC Images). No waiting! Perfect for sharing with family and friends via social media without any delay.

I provide fun Oahu family



**My parents Theresa and Pacifico Calleja
Circa 1993
Married in Mosta Church Sept. 1942**

Seascapes as a backdrop.

I specialize in on-location photo sessions for Portrait Photography, Couples Portraits, Engagement Proposal, Senior Pictures, Swimsuit Modelling Portfolios, Maternity Photos, pet photography, Beach Weddings, Business Portraits, and Social Events.

photography photo sessions throughout the Island, including Honolulu, Waikiki, Kapolei, KoOlina, Waianae, Makaha, Aiea, Waimanalo, Kaneohe, Kahala, Waialae, Kailua, Lanikai, Laie, and the North Shore. Oahu Couples photos are a lovely way to commemorate your Relationship. Photo Sessions could be for an Anniversary, an Engagement



VICTOR B CARUANA

I wanted to dedicate this feature to my cousin Victor B. Caruana, a photographer in Malta and my mentor.

Victor B. Caruana was born in Mosta, Malta, on the "Island of Sunshine and History," on February 23rd, 1944.

He had his first Kodak Brownie camera when he was 11 years old and started experimenting with it. When he was 16 years old, he bought a Johnson's Photography Book, set up his first darkroom, and developed his first films himself. While still studying, he spent all his free time in photography.

When he was 18 years old, he shot his first wedding instead of a photographer friend who happened to be sick. Since then, he has photographed various social occasions but focused mainly on covering different sports activities for various clubs and local

newspapers.

A teacher by profession, he continued with photography, especially on weekends and holidays. He participated in



various exhibitions in Malta and abroad, even solo exhibitions. He has photos printed in multiple magazines, books, and national newspapers locally and abroad. He is most keen on outdoor photography and fireworks display photography.

He switched to digital photography in 2006 and made strides to capture and document the History of the Island of Sunshine, Malta.

In early 2017, He was honoured by Mosta, Malta, for all of his years of contribution to the community.

I was fortunate to spend some time with him during my visit to Malta in 2017. He died on May 30th, 2018, of a sudden

heart attack. May he rest in peace.

FROM OUR READER in HAWAII

Hello Frank, How are you? I know this is past due, but I want to take a moment to thank you for all your hard work and dedication. I have enjoyed reading the Maltese Newsletter for many years now, and I can't thank you enough for what you have given the Maltese Communities across the Globe. Wishing you the very Best! Peace and Aloha from Anthony Calleja



Eddie Micallef from Victoria - Australia

Representing Maltese Community Council of Victoria

Eddie Micallef is currently the Chairperson of Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria (ECCV), the peak policy and advocacy body representing diverse multicultural communities in Victoria.

Prior to serving as Chair of ECCV, Mr Micallef served for two years as the Chairperson of ECCV's Drugs Task Force and Convenor of the ECCV's Health Policy Sub-committee.

He served in the Victorian Parliament from March 1983 to September 1999, during which time he held numerous responsibilities covering Health, Industrial Relations, Work Cover and Multicultural Affairs.

Mr Micallef has a background in Occupational Health, with more than 30 years' experience in Community Health, where he supported policy and programs

enabling culturally diverse communities to respond to the drug and alcohol challenge. He is currently a Director at Inner South Community Health Service.



SAZ MIFSUD

Designer Saz Mifsud was one of the ongoing exhibitors at this year's Malta Fashion Week. Her scarfs were draped across different parts of the room – hanging from the ceiling, across pieces of furniture – the effect was enchanting. Photos shot by Kurt

Paris with the scarfs worn by model Amy Zahra were also hanging around ...

Local designer Saz Mifsud has just launched a new collection inspired by 5th-century Maltese pottery, depicting dreamy hues in varied shades of claret and teal in silk attire.

The stunning collection, Scirocco, which takes the form of scarves, bags, and hair accessories is

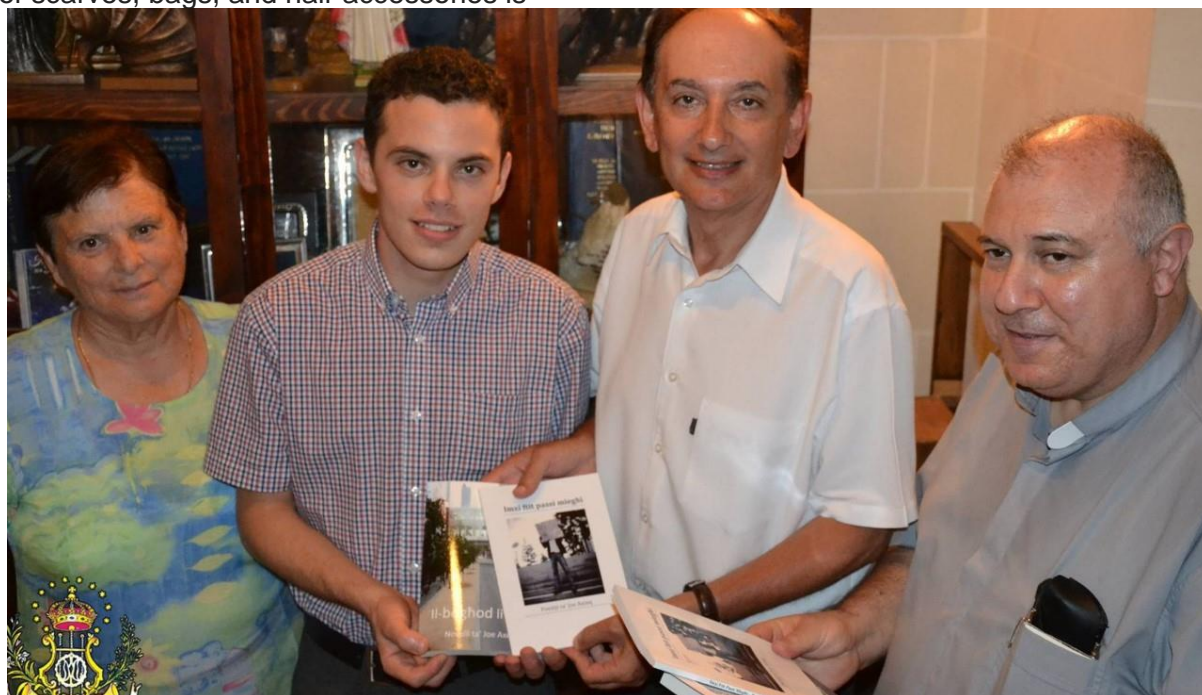
poignantly important to the designer, because of its strong connection to her homeland: Malta.

"This collection is a particularly special one because it takes me back home; where an archaeologist handed me a Maltese pottery fragment from 7,000 years ago. He showed me its wonderful textures under a microscope, formally referred to as fabrics," Saz Mifsud explained.

"These fabrics are important to him, as they tell stories of the past, its people and their craft, helping him understand who they were and how they lived."

The fabrics in turn took on a special meaning for Mifsud, which she has immortalised in her silk designs.

To view and purchase the collection visit 128, St Lucia Street, Valletta, or shop online at www.sazmifsud.com



The article about the publication "**Stories of the Maltese in Australia**" which was published in the previous newsletter (Edition 446) was written by Fr. Godfrey Attard. This book and several other publications of Joe Axiaq may be bought from the author – joeaxiaq@bigpond.com.au.

In this photo Joe Axiaq is seen donating some of his books to the executive of the Philharmonic Society Santa Maria of Zebbug, Gozo.

GERMAN CLASSIC *SPRING AWAKENING* BY FRANK WEDEKIND TO SPAZJU KREATTIV

Adrian Buckle (formerly of Unifaun Theatre Productions) is bringing German classic *Spring Awakening* by Frank Wedekind to Spazju Kreattiv, as part of the Spazju Kreattiv Season, in November 2022. The play is produced by Buckle in collaboration with the Malta Drama Centre and is supported by the Malta Arts Fund. The story follows a group of youths as they come of age, discover sex, battle with their studies, and put their friendships to the test. The play was originally written and set in 19th century rural Germany but is being adapted and set in contemporary Malta by award-winning playwright Brad Birch. It will be directed by top UK director James Grieve, the former Artistic Director of UK maverick Theatre Company Paines Plough, and who has also directed a number of musicals including *Les Misérables* and *Cabaret* in Europe. "I am thrilled to be back in the producer's chair with this Malta-set version of *Spring Awakening*," says Buckle. "Although our version of the story takes place over 100 years after Wedekind's original, its central themes are timeless, as a group of young people grapple with numerous challenges, compounded by an unwanted pregnancy. It is undoubtedly an emotional story – yet, despite the seriousness of the central topic, the play is light in nature, with many comic moments."

The ensemble includes Jamie Busuttill Griffin, Alex Weenink, Gianluca Mifsud, Richard Siauciulis, Greta Holland, Ann-Marie Buckle, Sophie Staples, Julia Camilleri and Hannah Gatt, with Pia Zammit and Paul Portelli taking on the adult roles.

"I am truly energised by the opportunity to collaborate once more with my friend and frequent collaborator Brad Birch, and with prolific director James Grieve. Not to mention the excitement of seeing some of Malta's best up-and-coming young actors going through their paces to bring the play to life," continues Buckle.

"*Spring Awakening* promises to be a powerful and thought-provoking piece of theatre, not least due to its Malta setting, which will I hope – as ever – generate much discussion!" he concludes.

Spring Awakening is produced by Adrian Buckle in collaboration with the Malta Drama Centre. It is suitable for audiences aged 16+. Performances will take place on 4, 5, 6, 11, 12 and 13 November 2022 at Spazju Kreattiv, Valletta. Visit [https://www.kreattivita.org/en/event/spring-](https://www.kreattivita.org/en/event/spring-awakening/2022-11-04/)



Paul Portelli and Pia Zammit. Photo: Darrin Zammit Lupi

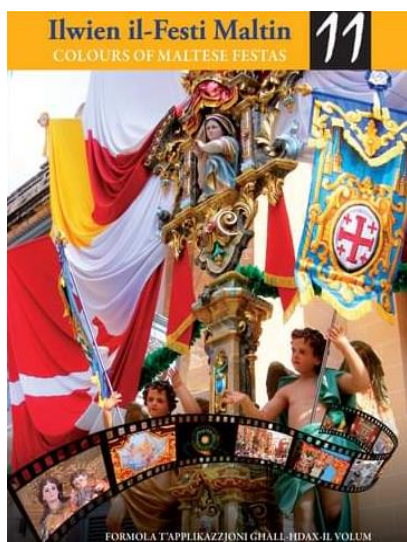
awakening/2022-11-04/ to book tickets and for further information. This project is supported by the Malta Arts Fund.

Spazju Kreattiv

Spazju Kreattiv is within the heart of Malta's capital city, Valletta. Situated in Castille Place and a few metres away from Parliament, MUŻA, Auberge De Castille and Upper Barrakka Gardens, Spazju Kreattiv is the perfect stop for anyone visiting Valletta. With something always going on related to any and every art form, there's always something at Spazju Kreattiv for anyone — no matter your age is and what sparks your interest.

Spazju Kreattiv is a programme of creative arts and culture events that take place primarily across Malta and Gozo. Established by Fondazzjoni Kreattività in the year 2000, our home is in St James Cavalier, Valletta, a 16th century fort converted into the National Centre for Creativity. We host a range of exhibition spaces, a cinema, a theatre in-the-round, an artist in residence programme, and operate a number of festivals, including **ŽiguŽajg**. The Programme is composed through a combination of projects and events submitted through an open call and from others specifically created, commissioned or co-produced with us. For more information about collaborating with us, please drop in on one of our regular **IKKREA** sessions where you can meet one of our programmes coordinators. <https://www.kreattivita.org/>

Those who spend
their time **looking for**
the faults in others,
usually spend no time to
correct their own.



We are continuing with our publications which we know are very popular among the Maltese and Gozitans especially those who love everything that characterizes the Maltese artistic heritage. In fact, we can say

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● markmicallef1985@gmail.com

ILWIEN IL-FESTI MALTIN COLOURS OF MALTESE FESTAS

without hesitation, that the project we dreamed of is now nearing its end and this is thanks to you.

Meanwhile, we are about to launch the eleventh volume, and as we have done in recent years, to those of you who have shown genuine interest in this publication and have always paid in advance, we are informing you personally by private letter.

This year, unfortunately, the price of paper has risen sharply. We have done our best not to increase the price too much. Meanwhile, with this letter you will find an application form that

we are inviting you to fill in and send along with a payment of €40 (instead of €50)*. We would really appreciate it if you would encourage others to do the same and pay in advance for their copy.

The National Book Festival 2022 will take place between Wednesday 23 and Sunday 27 November at the Ta' Qali Fairs and Conventions Center (MFCC).

We take this opportunity to thank you again for your interest in our publications. People like you give us courage to continue the journey that we started a year ago and that we intend to continue in the coming years.

ROLICKING MUSICAL LA CAGE AUX FOLLES TO DAZZLE AUDIENCES AT THE MANOEL THEATRE

Audiences can now grab tickets for FM Theatre Productions and Teatru Manoel's next unmissable musical, which will take to the stage at the national theatre at the end of October.

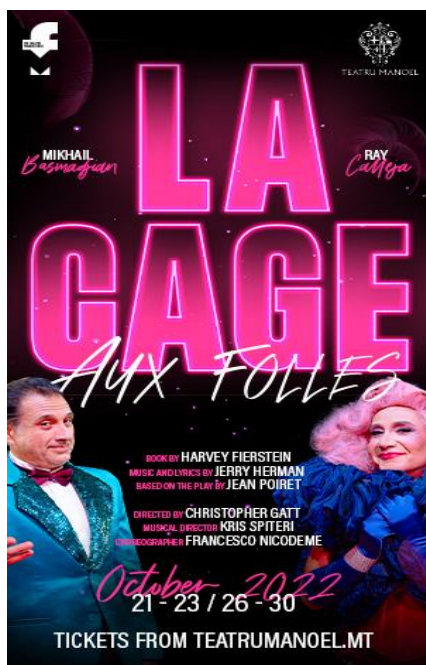
Booking is now open for *La Cage Aux Folles*, and the FM Theatre Productions and Teatru Manoel co-production will continue the legacy in Malta of this internationally acclaimed musical, which has won multiple Tony Awards including Best Musical, Best Score, Best Book and Best Musical Revival, as well as a Laurence Olivier Award.

"We can't wait to present *La Cage Aux Folles* at the Manoel this October," says FM Theatre Productions founder and managing director Edward Mercieca. "This crowd-pleasing, rollicking and heart-warming musical about family, commitment, show biz and drag is one of musical theatre's all-time biggest hits and is sure to become one of Malta's as well."

Based on the 1973 French play by Jean Poiret, *La Cage Aux Folles* tells a funny and moving story that also served as inspiration for the much-loved movie *The Birdcage*, starring Robin Williams and Nathan Lane.

After 20 years of partnered bliss, gay couple Georges and Albin run a drag nightclub in Saint-Tropez, where Albin is the star performer known as Zaza. When Georges' son announces his impending marriage to the daughter of a bigoted, ultra-conservative politician, M Dindon, Georges reluctantly agrees to masquerade as 'normal' to meet the family of the bride-to-be – but Albin has other plans, with hilarious results!

Featuring a book by Harvey Fierstein and music and lyrics by Jerry Herman, the FM Theatre/Teatru Manoel production of *La Cage Aux Folles* boasts an all-star cast including Mikhail Basmadjian as Georges, Ray Calleja as



Albin and Edward Mercieca as M Dindon. An equally impressive supporting cast features Raphael Pace, Jasmine Farrugia, Francesco Nicodeme, Maria Eleonora Zammit, Krista Zammit Marmara and Sean Borg, among many others. Meanwhile, FM's extraordinary creative team behind the production includes director Christopher Gatt, musical director Kris Spiteri and choreographer Francesco Nicodeme, with vocal coach Tina Frendo.

"We are really excited to be co-producing *La Cage Aux Folles* with FM Theatre Productions as part of the theatre's excellent and varied line-up for this season," says Teatru Manoel CEO, Massimo Zammit. "This poignant and funny musical features a brilliant line-up, and I have no doubt our audiences will wholeheartedly delight in it!"

La Cage Aux Folles will be performed at Teatru Manoel on October 21, 22, 28, 29 at 8pm and October 23, 26, 27, 30 at 7.30pm. This production is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals and is suitable for audiences aged 13 and over. Tickets are available online at www.teatrumanoel.mt, by telephone on (+356) 21246389 or on bookings@teatrumanoel.mt. For more information visit www.teatrumanoel.mt

THE BAND KANTERA

was formed in 2020 with the aim of bringing together Malta's traditional folk genre with modern ones.

Its musical style is based in an encounter of instruments coming from the folk scene with that of electronic musical instruments, to create a unique sound — a music of the present that speaks at once to the future, and through the past. In terms of style, Kantera's songs are built around lyrics in the Maltese tongue that touch upon social and cultural themes of the moment as well as ones from past eras, not least through the use of Maltese proverbs and the

input of gifted vocalists and musicians from Malta and Gozo.

The sound of Kantera is shaped by a range of instruments.

These include the piano-accordion, keyboards, saxophone, aerophone, mandolin, violin, electric and base guitars, Malta's traditional flejguta and żafzafa instruments, percussions as well as lead and backing vocals.

The Kantera style has been conceived to draw younger and adolescent audiences closer to Malta's folk and traditional

sound — and this by means of a unique fusion of both instrument



and lyric in our songs. Kanteras is a space of music where the past melds into the present — once more, it comes to life in those moments we experience as we journey through the sounds of modern folk



KIDS HALLOWEEN PARTY

Priority Member Tickets

Now on Sale

(Non-Member tickets go on sale on 10/13/2022)

Sunday Oct 23, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

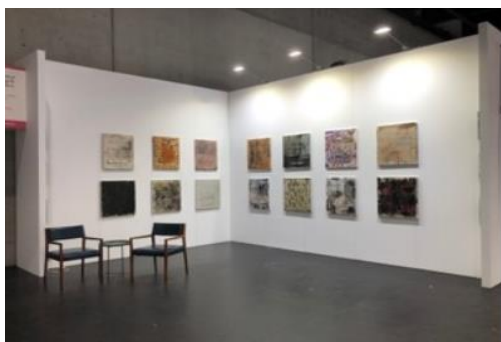
THE MALTESE CENTER, 2720 HOYT AVE S, ASTORIA, NY 11102, USA

Member must be the parent of the child and in good standing.

Due to space limitations ticket entry is for one adult and their children.

Children cannot be left unattended!

A second-generation Maltese launches his work at a National art show. in Sydney. An essay by Victor V. Vella M.A. from New South Wales



THE THINGS THAT SHAPE TO COME

surrounded by white and red flags nor could you feel a whiff of Maltese landscapes in John's art!

The two photos of his

Those who love or are interested in art as in painting are familiar with exhibitions of one artist at a time in one venue or Museum/Gallery. A typical and current example is the Picasso' Exhibition at the Art Gallery in Melbourne. So the Sydney Contemporary 2022 at Carriage works would be as a big surprise as it comprised artists from all over Australia. The venue itself requires some description not because of its own artistic structures but more for its history and its size. It consists of 3 or four huge buildings built about 150 years ago in the inner suburb of Sydney and was used to build railways engines and carriages for all those years. The floor is interlaced with railway tracks embedded in concrete and they present another artistic sketch with them shining in the dim light of the buildings.

They were not the centre of attention. From the 2nd to the 11 of September this year the whole area was harbouring various contemporary works of art from all over Australia, all presented by the many art dealers operating in various centres of the continent.. Not even the title of 'Sydney Contemporary 2022' does justice to the show. The variety is the first thing which hits you as

you start enjoying the paintings, so varied in themselves, the statues, the figurines, the colours, which today all fall under the name of 'art'. The range and styles of art is so wide and culturally varied that the whole show could be taken as a capsule of what contemporary art is and means. So you have enigmatic and bewildering expressions of faces of imaginary characters hanging next to a brightly coloured still life of shells and masks. Or a 180x180 cms. painted on 21 panels depicting a wonderful section of the growth and the undergrowth of an angle of a forest which creates the feeling when you see it that you are enveloped or surrounded completely by the wonderful colours of the foliage. That was for sale at close to 700,000 dollars.

Amidst all this art and visitors and old buildings Malta was represented too: by two personalities of Maltese origin. An artist and his dealer. The artist was John Vella, Senior Lecturer and course co-ordinator at the University of Tasmania's School of Creative Arts and Media

His agent is Michael Bugelli who is the director of Hobart based Michael Bugelli's Gallery based in Hobart. They were not

paintings, included in this essay would give some idea of his style and his favourite subjects. I would say he would object to my use of the word 'subject'. as the first general question people were asking was: what is that all about? In some stalls some artists were giving hints and explanation about their art. John is not interested in explanations as he does not believe in explaining what is depicted in the painting. He prefers to let the composition and the colour and whatever, as evoking a feeling, perhaps a memory or an episode. But that is left to the spectator who is first attracted by the colour, by the composition itself and hopefully by the 'mystery' contained in the painting.

Modern art with its individualism is often compared to 'falling in love'. You are attracted to another person by his/her looks, outward behaviour, hairstyle, clothes etc... and after the attraction you start getting to know the individual...as you become familiar...the same way you start appreciating a work of modern art. It is an enigma a mysterious process which works if the painting itself has some depth in it and is worth the study and the attraction and in some cases the meditation of it. It is a far cry from a painting of an

Auberge, or of the Grand Harbour or of the view from the prow of the Gozo Ferry looking at the lovely hill of Mgarr and Ghajnsielem.

Its artistic value lies not in its photographic imitation, or an evocation of memory: it is more in its colour in some sort of patterns. One may take it as an 'escape': an escape from tradition, from the material world an escape into a world of music

which you can transform something which you can see in this case and then think, meditate about it and form pleasant or unpleasant images in your mind. It is more a launching pad to your inward self than an image to be enjoyed in an attractive frame. As one critic has put it, John's work 'is a form of still life for our time, created through an earned intimacy with the documents,

flowcharts, and spreadsheets that structure our waking hours much the way the fruits of harvest did those of his ancestors'.

One of the most encouraging 'comment' was the inclusion of John's art as one of the top ten presentations of the whole exhibition by Peter Hill, a Sydney Art critic.



AĠENZIJA ŻGĦAŻAĠĦ

Aġenzija Żgħażaġħ provides young people with the time and space to make

friends, learn in new ways and develop their talents through our regional youth services and our extensive empowerment programme.

Through our interactive youth information service we provide information on services and opportunities for young people as well as listening to their views on issues that impact on their lives.

Through Eurodesk, the European Youth Card and our participation in EU programmes, young people are offered the opportunity of exploring life, learning and work across Europe.



The European Youth Card Association (EYCA) is a non-governmental, not-for-profit association represented in 36 countries all over Europe, with its main aim being that of promoting youth mobility and active citizenship amongst European youths. All of this can be realised and achieved through EYCA's mission to promoting and delivering excellent European Youth Card services and contributing to better youth policy.

One of the fundamental aspects of the Association is the promotion of the European Youth Card, in all the EU countries/territories where it is represented. Their principal aim is the continuous development of the Card, giving access to over 6 million cardholders to thousands of discounts and opportunities in the fields of mobility, accommodation, culture, services, leisure and commodities.

In addition to discounts and benefits, EYCA member organisations work to offer cardholders various projects and programmes, such as:

- Active citizenship and political participation
- Rewards programmes encouraging positive lifestyles
- Community engagement and volunteering
- Supporting inclusive youth mobility for young people with disabilities and disadvantaged backgrounds

<https://eyca.mt/who-are-we/>

<https://youth.gov.mt/mep-malta/>

10 Reasons To Visit Salina National Park



Salina National Park also known as Kennedy Grove or Melita Gardens is definitely a place to be this winter! Why? Well, there is a good number of reasons. I've put together my top 10 reasons why you should add Melita Gardens on your list of must-visit places.

1. Private Parking

Let's start with the most important question. Can I find parking on location? Yes! There is private parking available for the visitors of Melita Gardens. When I visited on Tuesday afternoon it was half empty. But don't worry there is plenty of parking on the road parallel to the garden for the busy Sundays. Once you park, this beautiful open space with a fountain at the center will welcome you at the park.

2. Accessibility I visited the National Park with baby Oliver in a pram. Therefore, a good accessibility was a key. And I got to say that I was pleasantly surprised will the well kept paths. Every set of steps had an alternative way suitable for prams or wheelchairs. There are many different ways to enter Melita Gardens. Whichever way you pick the access is always easy.

3. Abundance of seating When you have such a nice park you want to enjoy it. And what's the better way than simply sit down on one of the many

By Martina

benches available? There is a bench on every corner, so you can rest your feet, watch your kids play or just read a book and enjoy the sunshine.

4. Picnic tables everywhere

What could be possibly a better way to spend your Sunday afternoon than by enjoying a nice picking in nature? Pack couple of sandwiches and take your partner, kids or that girl next door for a nice romantic picnic. There are plenty of picnic tables and benches so I'm sure you'll find the perfect spot just for you!

5. Gorgeous Greenery Winter and Spring are the greenest periods of the year in Malta. We get the most rainfall during this time which results in beautiful greenery all around. The temperature is just about right, making it enjoyable to spent time outdoor without the risk of overheating. Recharge your batteries and rest your eyes from the computer screen.

6. Playgrounds If you have bigger kids you will be pleased with the playing areas. There are two main playgrounds – in the upper and lower part of the park. Even though Olly is still too small to test them to give you a first hand review, I'm sure you and your kinds will be happy.

8. Open-air gym I'm sure every single one of you have 'to go the gym' or 'be more active' on their list of New Year's resolutions. Well, if you don't fancy those overcrowded air-conditioned gyms, you can enjoy the local open-air gym! In between exercises you can walk around or hug a tree for better energy.

7. Fresh water stream It's almost impossible to see a river, rivulet or even a small stream of

water in Malta. Therefore, it's very pleasing to enjoy a fresh water at the bottom of the park. It just gives it the 'alive' feel that the otherwise rocky island sometimes misses.

9. Romantic corners If you are thinking where to take your loved one for a romantic date, this could be an idea. Nice long walk through the park, exploring the hidden corners and just enjoying the time of you two together. You know, simple things are sometimes the best ones! Why not to pack a picnic blanket too?

10. Visit Kennedy's Memorial Have you ever wondered why it is also known as Kennedy Grove? Let's start by getting out facts right. Kennedy Grove is actually an area in the lowest part of the Salina National Park. The gardens surround a monument dedicated to the former US president John Fitzgerald Kennedy (JFK), who was assassinated in November 1963. This memorial was commissioned by the Maltese government in 1964 and was co-funded by American citizens living in Malta and the US government.



Posted by John Camilleri



**Socjeta Filarmonika Pinto
Banda San Sebastjan – A.D.1862**

The Soċjeta Filarmonika Pinto Banda San Sebastjan was founded in 1862. At that time it was known as La Banda Dei Curmini. This was the first band founded in Qormi and one of the earliest bands founded in Malta. The

first services of the band were in Qormi, the main activities were Good Friday and the feast of St. George. As time passed by the band grew and became more organised and after some years, we find the band playing in different localities in Malta and Gozo.

The first President of the Society was Ludovico Zammit Maempel and the first Bandmaster was Mro Emmanuele Bartoli. It is important to notice that the committee was many times made up from different categories of people in the society, such as doctors, lawyers, architects and many other different classes of workers. The same could be said about the bandmasters and most of the time the band was conducted by renowned bandmasters at their time. This could be seen from the long periods such bandmasters conducted the band. The present bandmaster is Mro. Dominic Darmanin and has for the past 28 years been the conductor of the band.

The name of the Society In the early years the band was known as La Banda Dei Curmini. In 1890 the society was facing some problems and to resolve the situation the society was amalgamated with a social club opened at that time by Andrea Abela. From that time the society was given the name of Soċjeta Filarmonika Pinto and the band was called Banda Pinto. It was at this time that the band took the nickname of Tal-Qalba. In 1907 there was a disagreement between the committee and Andrea Abela who was the sole proprietor of the club about the dismissal of the bandmaster Mro Giovanni Gatt. It was at that time that the committee with most of

its members and bandsmen left the premises and went to another place.

The society continued with its activities from the new premises. The first statute found that of 1890 was adjusted to be in conformity to the new situation. In 1907, Andrea Abela has taken legal action against the society not to continue using the name Pinto. The society won the case and so continued to use the name Soċjeta Filarmonika Pinto. An appeal was presented to this decision and again the court decided in favour of the society. In 1936 a new parish was set up in Qormi which was dedicated to St. Sebastian. As the society had its premises in the locality of the new parish it became part of the new parish.

This is the first time and the only time recorded, presenting the situation of a band club that was active in another parish that dedicated to Saint George and now after a period of 74 years started to make part of another parish which was just set up. In the period of the eighties of the twentieth century Mr. Michael Muscat known as il-Mckoy tried to form a new band in the parish. In the circumstances the people of the parish united together (L-Għaqda Armar San Sebastjan, L-Għaqda tan-Nar San Sebastjan together with the bandsmen and the members of the Society) and protested against this new band being formed. It was in these circumstances that a Straordinary General meeting of the Society held on Tuesday 21 st November 1989, at the club premises Palazz Narbona with the support of the L-Għaqda Armar San Sebastjan and L-Għaqda tan-Nar San Sebastjan, approved a motion that with the name Soċjeta Filarmonika Pinto one would add the heading Banda San Sebastjan. So in 1989 the name of the society became Soċjeta Filarmonika Pinto Banda San Sebastjan.

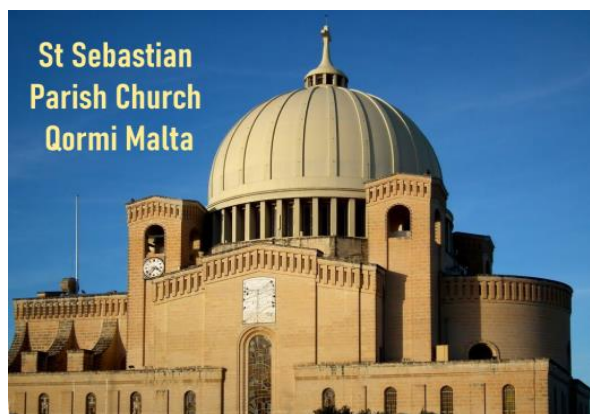
Now the band started to be called Banda San Sebastjan instead of Banda Pinto. Premises of the Society Since the founding, the society had eight different places as its clubs. During the first 64 years the Society used these premises as its club, 21 Triq il-Kbira 1862 - 1889 43 Triq Irjali 1890 - 1907 222 Triq Irjali 1907 - 1907 54 Triq San Bartilmew 1907 - 1909 2 Triq San Frangisk 1909 - 1912 27 Pjazza San Frangisk 1912 - 1918 43/44 Triq il-Kbira 1918 - 1926 44 A - 44B Triq San Bartilmew 1926 - 1933 In 1924 it was discussed to find a new premises for the club. It was decided that the society moves to 44 A - 44B Triq Bartilmew adjacent to the church of

Sebastian and the statue of St. Sebastian in the square in front of the church. The club was inaugurated on the on the 7th February 1926. In this premises the society passed eight years.

During these years the society had achieved a lot. One can mention the purchase of new instrument bought and the new uniforms that were made. In this period the band has again participated in the feast of St Sebastian, the first participation in the carnival of Malta and the presentation of an American banner presented to the society by its followers in Detroit. The band had also gone abroad first to Catania and later to Naples, Pompei and Rome. The society had also increased its collection of banners and banderols when it received three banderols, one of St. Sebastian, one of St. George and another one of the sacred heart of Jesus.

In 1932 the society had to find a new location for its premises as the owners asked for the evacuation of the premises. Il-Palazz Narbona In 1932 the society had acquired a new premises for the club. This entailed hard work and sacrifice to change these premises into a club for the society. The works needed were done during this year 1933 and the new premises were inaugurated on the 7th January 1934. This was just the beginning and in a few years these premises were decorated by the artistic sculptures in stone that were the works of Marco Montebello. In 1946 the administration of the society bought the first quarter of these premises. In 1958 the society bought an adjacent building and this was converted into a big yard at the back of the original building. In this yard one can admire another artistic work of Marco Montebello when in the same year he made the statue of St. Sebastian which is a replica of the statue found in the square in front of the old church of St. Sebastian. With this purchase the premises had now two entries, one from St. Sebastian Street and the other from St. Joseph Street.

In 1967 the administration bought another part of the original building. After another four years, in 1971, the society acquired another part of the original building and now the society, had ownership of half the original premises. In 1985 the administration had reached an agreement with the owners of this half the original premises and with the help of many followers bought



the last half of this property. It was a historical achievement for the society that now became the full owners of its premises. This was not the end and in 1991 the administration has bought another building adjacent to the entry in St. Joseph Street. This building was later transformed to the Society's Academy of Music. Another development in these premises evolved when in the year 2000, the administration bought another building adjacent to the yard of the club. This not only gave more space to the society but now the club had another entry for its premises. Apart from the entries from St. Sebastian Street and St. Joseph Street, now there is another entry from St. Roque Street. This is a real palace decorated with many artistic works

Kummissjoni Teatrali Narbona
 fi idan is-Socjeta' Filarmonika Pinto Banda San Sebastjan
 B'kollaborazzjoni tal-Kunsill Lokali Hal Qormi

Tipprezenta
 KUMMIEDJA FI 3 ATTI KOLLHA DAHK ta' Stefan Micallef

Kwarantina
 Fiċ-Ċentru Parrokkjali
 San Sebastjan
 Hal Qormi

Donazzjoni: Kbar €5
 Tfal taht 10 snin €2

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**BOOKING MIFTUH:
 79003379**

Is-Sibt 5 ta' Novembru 2022 fis-7.30pm
 Il-Hadd 6 ta' Novembru 2022 fil-5.30pm

**WE HAVE BEEN SAYING FOR SUCH A LONG TIME
 LET'S WORK TOGETHER BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE**



Maltese Myths and legends

CASTELLO ZAMMITELLO

Castello Zammitello was either built in 1675 or in the early 19th Century - the internet can't seem to decide. Occupied by members of Maltese nobility over the years, there is a legend attached to it: Lucia, the only daughter of Baron Bernardo Zammit, was engaged to be married to an elderly Sicilian count. On the day of their wedding, she disappeared. Her father thought that she may have been kidnapped by pirates and ordered an armed search of the bay close to the castle, but she was not to be found. She appeared in a vision a year later at a nearby chapel, dressed as a nun, and confessed to having run away to avoid marrying the old Sicilian. She had found refuge in a convent, taken her vows and had tended to the wounded in a foreign country until she was killed by a stray arrow. In more recent times, the castle was the scene of a cold-blooded murder, in 1988. The murdered man (a baron, the owner of the castle) received a single gunshot wound to the head as he walked to his car. The murder remained an unsolved crime for close to twenty years until the perpetrator was finally caught in 2006. A year after the murder took place, the castle was sold and is now a stunning wedding reception venue.

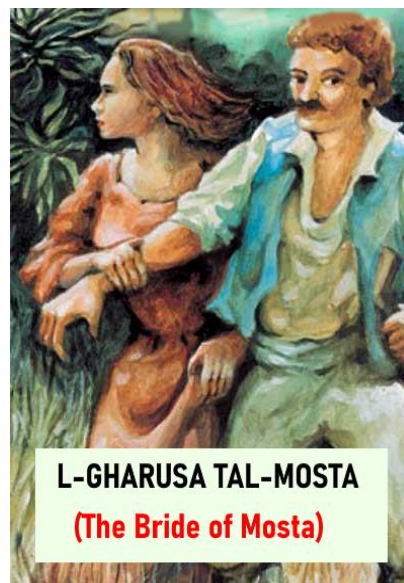
TAL-MAQLUBA

There are various Maltese folk legends associated with 'Tal-Maqluba'. One of the legends narrates about an evil village close to Qrendi. The villagers were so evil that God punished them by opening the ground and the Earth swallowed the whole



village. The opening in the ground stopped just in front of St Matthew's Chapel which still stands to this day.

Hasan's Cave. There are different versions of this legend and one of them is about a Muslim called Hasan. He kidnapped a Maltese farm-girl and held her captive in the cave. The locals found out about the girl and went to attack the cave. Hasan pushed the girl over the cliff and he committed suicide jumping over the edge.



L-GHARUSA TAL-MOSTA
(The Bride of Mosta)

MOSTA BRIDE

Legend has it that at Cumbo tower lived a girl called Marianne, she had a servant Haggi who fell in love with Marianne. Another suitor Toni proposed to Marianne and wedding plans went ahead. Haggi snuck out of the tower and set sail to Turkey. On the

eve of the wedding Haggi returned to Malta and kidnapped Marianne and went back to Turkey. When Toni found out, he vowed to find his bride, so he went to Turkey in search for her and disguised himself as a Turk. He found out his bride Marianne was staying at the Sultan's Palace. Toni heard Marianne's sad song coming from the palace window and started singing back, an escape plan. She was disguised as a poor woman and smuggled out of the palace. Toni and Marianne were reunited and made their way back home.

NEWS FROM THE GEORGE CROSS FALCONS AUSTRALIAN MALTESE CENTRE



assistance and participation of the National Carer Network.

Cringila Centre took the initiative to reward and thank Tracey Mercieca for volunteering to teach the Maltese Language at the centre on a weekly

basis.

Also, this week was a memorial time for Cringila Centre when about 40 public school kids visited the Centre to hear about Maltese Culture and history. The school children were given the opportunity to touch medals usually issued by the Malta Cyclists Federation and


the signed racing clothes by the 2 cyclists who participated in the [2022 UCI Road World Championships at Wollongong](#). The kids enjoyed hearing about the toys produced in the Men's Shed at the Centre by members of the association. They also visited the four monuments which are situated in the yard of the premises. The students were reading the names of the ANZAC Maltese soldiers who fought together with the ANZACS at Gallipoli in World War One. The committee invited them to visit again the Centre and we are sure that they appreciated the Maltese hospitality. We can all make a change, and it is imperative that we change with the times.
Louis Parnis - President

National Carers Week is an opportunity to raise community awareness among all Australians about the diversity of carers and their caring roles. National Carers Week is an initiative of Carers Australia, funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services, and coordinated with the

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The 23rd annual Exhibition of the Gozo Philatelic Society is taking place in November and the Society is inviting you all. The exhibition will be held in the Gozo Ministry Halls, St Francis Square, Victoria, from Friday, the 4th to Friday, the 11th of November, 2022

**IF YOU ARE MALTESE
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One in four people in Malta born abroad

More than 40% of employed migrants have tertiary level of education

Times of Malta

Most migrants come to Malta with no knowledge of Maltese. File photo

One in every four people residing in Malta in 2021 was born in another country, Labour Force Survey (LFS) statistics show. The statistics, published by the National Statistics Office on Tuesday, show that 51% of those born abroad were women.

The majority (78.1%) of the total were aged between 25 and 54. A further 7.2% were aged between 15 and 24 years, while 14.7% were in the 55 to 74 age cohort.

This is slightly different when compared to the persons born in Malta, where 51.9% were between 25 and 54 years, 14.2% were in the 15 to 24 age cohort and the remaining 33.8% were aged between 55 and 74 years. LFS results indicated that, in 2021, the duration of stay for persons born abroad was on average 11 years. The duration of stay was classified into two categories - recent migrants (residents for less than eight years) and settled migrants (residents for eight years or more).

Slightly more than 50% of people born abroad were recent migrants, while 49.3% were settled migrants. The duration of stay varied according to one's level of education.

The larger share of persons born abroad with a secondary level of education or less were settled migrants (57.7%). Meanwhile, 50.3% and 57.5% of persons with a post-secondary and with a tertiary level of education were recent migrants. Results showed that the majority of migrants in Malta were born outside the EU as opposed to 36.2% of migrants who were born in the EU.

Almost 15% of migrants were born in Italy, followed by the United Kingdom (14.6%) and the Philippines (10.5%). A further 21.3% were born in another EU country while 38.7% were born in another country outside the EU. This implied that the majority of immigration in Malta occurs from outside the EU (63.8%) as opposed to 36.2% of intra-EU migration, the NSO said.



More than 40% of employed migrants have tertiary education. In 2021, 38.4% of migrants had a tertiary level of education, 16.4 percentage points higher than people born in Malta (22%).

This was mostly significant among female migrants (41.4%) as opposed to 35.2% of male migrants.

The share of persons born abroad and in Malta who obtained a post-secondary level of education was equal (31.8%). Meanwhile, the share of persons born in Malta with a secondary level of education or less was much higher when compared to those born abroad (46.2% and 29.8% respectively).

LFS results indicated that 96.3% per cent of all persons born in Malta obtained their education locally. Conversely, nine out of every 10 persons who were not born in Malta completed their education abroad.

In 2021, 76.7% per cent of migrants were in employment, 14.5 percentage points higher when compared to the share of employed persons born in Malta (62.2%). The share of employed male migrants was 17.4 percentage points higher than that of female migrants (68.2%).

The employment rate of persons born abroad between the age of 15 and 64 years was 79.2%, 5.8 percentage points higher than that of those born in Malta (73.4%).

More than half of all persons aged between 15 and 74 years who were not born in Malta migrated for employment reasons (50.4%). A further 32.7% migrated due to family reasons while 16.9% migrated for other reasons including education, retirement or asylum.

More than 40% of all employed migrants had a tertiary level of education, 32.8% had a post-secondary level of education and 26.3% achieved a secondary level of education or less.

On the other hand, over 40% of migrants who were not employed achieved a low level of education (41.4%) and 28.7% obtained a post-secondary level of education.

More than 60% of people born abroad found a suitable job within three months of arriving in Malta while 10.5% found work within three to six months. Most migrants came to Malta with no knowledge of Maltese

Almost 80 per cent of migrants reported hardly any or no language skills in Maltese before they migrated to Malta (77.7%). Only 7.5 per cent considered Maltese to be their mother tongue or had advanced skills in this language prior to moving here.

improved significantly once they moved to Malta with the percentage of those with no language skills in Maltese dropping from 77.7% to 48.6%..

FONDAZZJONI BELT VICTORIA

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IL-HAĠAR HOSTS ANOTHER BOOK LAUNCH

Il-Haġar Museum and Community Cultural Centre in Victoria's Pjazza San Ġorġ is hosting a book launch on Friday 21 October at 7.30pm.

Staġuni ta' Hajti contains writings by Toni Mizzi, an active personality in various fields of life including diplomacy, theatre and philanthropy. Most of the articles relate to Gozo prior to and after World War II, interesting personal recollections and experiences.

Published by Midsea Books, the profusely illustrated book is in Maltese and is available during the event at the reduced price of €15. Proceedings presided by Dr Samuel Azzopardi (Gozo Region President) will be in Maltese but all are welcome.

Il-Haġar is running an exclusive photo exhibition by award-winning Alessandro Bergamini



Dr Guzè Micallef 'tal-Barkuna' from Gozo and Miss Maria Melita Cauchi solemnised their marriage on January 29, 1922, in the parish church of St Paul in Valletta. Photographic houses, Chrétien & Co,

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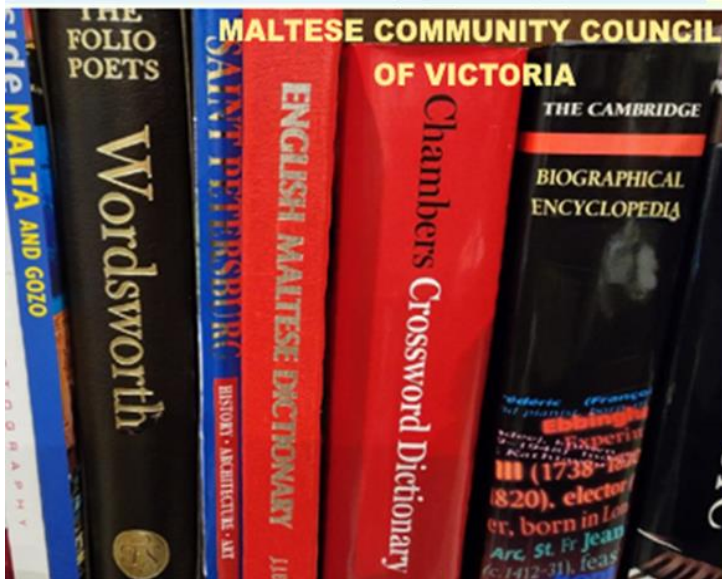
3 Course Meal
Drinks purchased on the night.

Sat 19 Nov 2022 Doors open 7:00pm

Good Shepherd Parish Hall
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(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

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The MCCV is pleased to announce that the library at the Maltese Community Council is now open Monday to Friday from 10am to 3:00pm. Come and check a variety of Maltese books. Whether you are interested in research, history or just a novel, we are sure that you will find some titles of interest.



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