

MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

Journal of Maltese Living Abroad

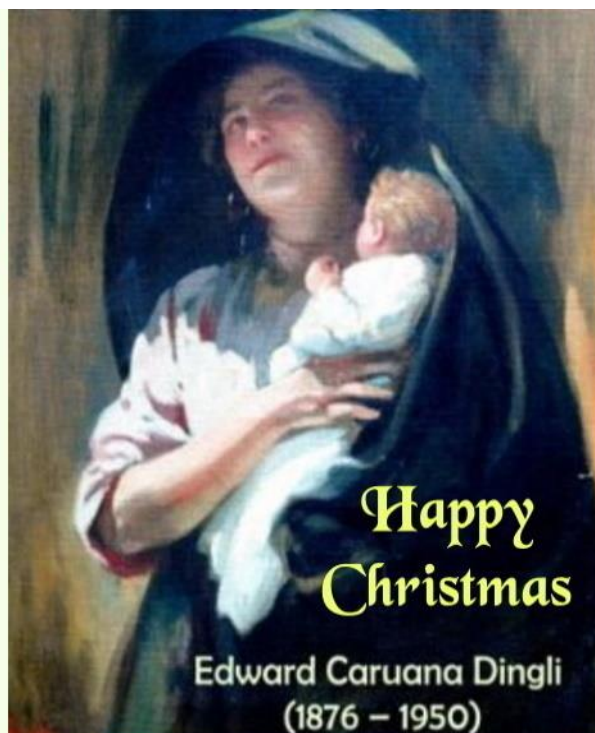
Editor: Frank Scicluna OAM



Connecting Communities Around the World



Patriarch Bartholomew and Archbishop Scicluna



Happy
Christmas

Edward Caruana Dingli
(1876 – 1950)



Miriam Jim Marisa
FRIENDS OF DIVINE PROVIDENCE HOUSE GROUP
NSW AUSTRALIA



Fr. Martin Micallef
Director

30 hours of fundraising for Dar tal-Providenza
on 103 Malta's Heart



Megan May Caruana,



Next Edition
CHRISTMAS
SPECIAL

Guess who is
coming to town?

Mr & Mrs
SANTA CLAUS



Orthodox Patriarch Bartholomew I made a historic visit to Malta

Photos of Patriarch Bartholomew I's meeting with the President of Malta, the Archbishop and migrants. The meeting, which also included representatives of NGOs that work with migrants, took place this morning at the Archbishop's Curia, Floriana.

Patriarch Bartholomew I met with the President of Malta, the Archbishop and a number of migrants from Ethiopia, Sudan, Ukraine, and Eritrea. He also met with members of the Migrants Commission, Fr Dijonisju Mintoff from the Peace Lab, and Dr Neil Falzon from the Aditus Foundation.

After listening to the migrants and the members of the NGOs, the Patriarch said, "You all have individual and different challenges but the common factor is that you are far from your

homes. You've left your homes. You are distant and far. May your pain be less. May the new year, which is close by, bring joy and happiness to everyone. He sends his blessings and well wishes, not only to you but also to your families, wherever they may be."

The Patriarch promised them his prayers and emphasised the importance of world peace.

"I pray for you, for all the migrants, for all the refugees, for all those who suffer because of the violence, the greed, the war, all those who are oppressed in the world. In peace, let us pray to the Lord. We need peace on the face of the world and we need less greed." He added that this is not an issue of war, poverty or religion, but a matter of justice and truth.





The new Apostolic Nuncio, Mgr Savio Hon Tai-Fai, was greeted on his arrival yesterday, 8th December, at the Malta International Airport by Archbishop Charles Scicluna, Bishop Anton Theuma and Bishop Joseph Galea-Curmi. Mr Frank Zammit, Ambassador to the Holy See; Mgr Dennis Kuruppaserry, Chargé d'Affaires of the Apostolic Nunciature; and Fr Sandro Overend Rigillo OFM, Apostolic Administrator of Benghazi, Libya, were also present to welcome him.

Christmas in VALLETTA: 25 events over 25 festive days



25 festive events taking place in Valletta from the 25 November till the 31 December for 'Christmas in the Capital'

This is an opportunity for Maltese and Gozitan families to visit the capital city during the Christmas period, which will feature marching bands, street walkers, choirs, and music performances by several popular groups including The New Victorians, MARA, Centrestage, Klinsmann, Tikka Banda, the Big Friends Guggen Musik, Tikka Banda and Sterjotipi, among others.

Visit vca.gov.mt and VCA Facebook page for more information

For the first time since the pandemic, the national New Year's Eve Celebrations will once again be held outdoors, in the centre of the capital in St George's Square.

On the 25 November, the Christmas lights and Christmas trees were switched on in Valletta's main areas while a traditional Christmas crib was inaugurated near the entrance to St John's Co-Cathedral.

The much awaited, spectacular projections in St George's Square start from the 7 December. Christmas music will be playing in Republic Street. Opening Doors, Amber, Sean Borg and Veronique Vella, the Jackson's Żaqq u Tanbur Folk Group, Franklin, Dancel Dance Studio and a children's puppet-making workshop by Sarah Galea and Caroline Curmi, are among the Christmas in the Capital programme highlights.

The well-established New Year's Eve celebrations close festivities on a high note with a large-scale spectacle of music and the countdown.



Celine Dion cancels concert in Malta

Celine Dion Courage World Tour has regretfully announced the cancellation and postponement of most of the artist's 2023 spring performances due to her current health conditions.

Dion was supposed to have performed in Malta in 2020, but the concert was postponed because of the Covid-19 pandemic to 2021, and then to 2022, and later to 2023.

In a statement today, Celine's team has announced that 23 European Courage World Tour concerts scheduled from February through April 2023 will be postponed to Spring 2024, while eight performances in summer 2023, including that of Malta, will be cancelled. Before the pandemic emerged, Celine had completed the first 52 dates of the Courage World Tour in North America and paused the tour in March 2020.

'IT'S BEEN A STRUGGLE': CELINE DION DIAGNOSED WITH A RARE, INCURABLE NEUROLOGICAL SYNDROME

Celine Dion is postponing several Europe tour dates after the recent diagnosis of a rare neurological disorder that doesn't allow her "to sing the way I'm used to", she announced. The superstar singer has stiff person syndrome, which affects "something like one in a million people", the 54-year-old said in an emotional video post to her verified [Instagram account](https://www.instagram.com/p/CI5xJY1AjAO/?hl=en).

<https://www.instagram.com/p/CI5xJY1AjAO/?hl=en>

"While we're still learning about this rare condition, we now know this is what's been causing all of the spasms that I've been having," she said. "Unfortunately, these spasms affect every aspect of my daily life, sometimes causing difficulties when I walk and not allowing me to use my vocal cords to sing the way I'm used to."

Stiff-person syndrome is "a rare, progressive syndrome that affects the nervous system, specifically the brain and spinal cord", according to the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke.

"Symptoms may include extreme muscle stiffness, rigidity and painful spasms in the trunk and limbs, severely impairing mobility," the institute says. "Spasms can generate enough force to fracture bone." Specific treatments "will improve the symptoms ... but will not cure the disorder", it says.



Students from 121 countries attend state schools in Malta

Jurgen Balzan www.newsbook.com.mt

Over 7,000 foreign students from 121 different countries attend state schools in Malta.

Replying to a parliamentary question by Nationalist MP Ivan Bartolo, the minister for education Clifton Grima said that a total of 7,039 foreign students attend state schools, while the school with the biggest foreign contingent is the Qawra primary school with 541 foreign students.

Showing Malta's growing diversity in demographics, a number of schools have a significant foreign proportion of students. Among others, the Middle School in Naxxar has 253 foreign students, the St Paul's Bay primary has 319 students, the Pembroke secondary school 452 students and the Sliema primary 293 students. There are also 204 foreign students in the Pembroke primary school, 293 students in San Ġwann primary and 231 foreign students in St. Anne's primary school in Marsaskala.

In Gozo there are 70 foreign students in secondary school and 46 students in the middle school. The primary school with the most foreign students in Gozo is the Xagħra primary school with 45 students.

Joe Sacco A Maltese-American cartoonist and journalist

Over the past two decades, Maltese-born cartoonist and journalist Joe Sacco has travelled across the globe, reporting from Palestinian territories, Bosnia, the Gaza Strip and, most recently, from the frozen northern territories of Canada.



By visiting such places and gathering first-hand testimonies, Sacco, who coined the term 'comic journalism', has illustrated conflict, the horrors of war, human suffering and the voice of the oppressed – powerfully panelled in his black-and-white detailed illustrations. Sacco was in Malta last week as an international guest of the 2022 Malta Book Festival, organised by the National Book Council.

Joe Sacco was born in Malta on October 2, 1960. He is best known for his comics journalism, in particular in the books *Palestine* (1996) and *Footnotes in Gaza* (2009), on Israeli–Palestinian relations; and *Safe Area Goražde* (2000) and *The Fixer* (2003) on the Bosnian War.

Joe Sacco Biography

Sacco was born in Malta on October 2, 1960. His father Leonard was an engineer, and his mother Carmen was a teacher. At the age of one, he moved with his family to Melbourne, Australia, where he spent his childhood until 1972 when they moved to Los Angeles. He began his journalism career working on the *Sunset High School* newspaper in Beaverton, Oregon. While journalism was his primary focus, this was also the period of time in which he developed his penchant for humor and satire. He graduated from *Sunset High* in 1978.

Sacco earned his BA in journalism from the University of Oregon in 1981 in three years. He was greatly frustrated with the journalist's work that he found at the time, later saying, "[I couldn't find] a job writing very hard-hitting, interesting pieces that would really make some sort of difference." After being briefly employed by the journal of the National Notary Association, a job which he found "exceedingly, exceedingly boring," and several factories, he returned to Malta, his journalist hopes forgotten. "...I sort of decided to forget it and just go the other route, which basically took my hobby, which has been cartooning, and see if I could make a living out of that," he later told the BBC.

He began working for a local publisher writing guidebooks. Returning to his fondness for comics, he wrote a Maltese romance comic named **IMHABBA VERA** ("True Love"), one of the first art-comics in the Maltese language. "Because Malta has no history of comics, comics weren't considered something for kids," he told *The Village Voice*. "In one case, for example, the girl got pregnant and she went to Holland for an abortion. Malta is a Catholic country where, at the time, not even divorce was allowed. It was unusual, but it's not like anyone raised a stink about it, because they had no way of judging whether this was appropriate material for comics or not."

Eventually returning to the United States, by 1985 Sacco had founded a satirical, alternative comics magazine called *Portland Permanent Press* in Portland, Oregon. When the magazine folded fifteen months later, he took a job at *The Comics Journal* as the staff news writer. This job provided the opportunity for him to create and edit another satire: the comics anthology *Centrifugal Bumble-Puppy* (a name he took from an overcomplicated children's toy in Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World*), published by *The Comics Journal's* parent company *Fantagraphics Books*.

But Sacco was more interested in traveling. In 1988, he left the U.S. again to travel across Europe, a trip which he chronicled in his autobiographical comic *Yahoo* (also published by *Fantagraphics*). The trip led

him towards the ongoing Gulf War (his obsession with which he talks about in Yahoo #2), and in 1991 he found himself nearby to research the work he would eventually publish as *Palestine*.

The Gulf War segment of Yahoo drew Sacco into a study of Middle Eastern politics, and he traveled to Israel and the Palestinian territories to research his first long work. *Palestine* was a collection of short and long pieces, some depicting Sacco's travels and encounters with Palestinians (and several Israelis), and some dramatizing the stories he was told. It was serialized as a comic book from 1993 to 1995 and then published in several collections, the first of which won an American Book Award in 1996 and sold more than 30,000 copies in the UK.

Sacco next traveled to Sarajevo and Goražde near the end of the Bosnian War and produced a series of reports in the same style as *Palestine*: the comics *Safe Area Goražde*, *The Fixer*, and the stories collected in *War's End*; the financing for which was aided by his winning of the Guggenheim Fellowship in April 2001. *Safe Area Goražde* won the Eisner Award for Best Original Graphic Novel in 2001.

He has also contributed short pieces of graphic reportage to a variety of magazines, on subjects ranging from war crimes to blues, and was a frequent illustrator of Harvey Pekar's *American Splendor*. In 2005 he wrote and drew two eight-page comics depicting events in Iraq published in *The Guardian*. He also contributed a 16-page piece in April 2007's issue of *Harper's Magazine*, entitled "Down! Up! You're in the Iraqi Army Now". In 2009, his *Footnotes in Gaza* was published, which investigates two forgotten massacres that took place in Khan Younis and Rafah in November 1956. In June 2012, a book on poverty in the United States, *Days of Destruction, Days of Revolt*, co-written with journalist Chris Hedges, was published. Sacco currently lives in Portland, Oregon.

Awards In addition to his 1996 American Book Award, 2001 Guggenheim Fellowship, and 2001 Eisner Award, Sacco's *Footnotes in Gaza* was nominated for the 2009 Los Angeles Times Book Prize Graphic Novel award. Sacco was awarded the 2010 Ridenhour Book Prize for *Footnotes in Gaza*. He was awarded the 2012 Oregon Book Award for *Footnotes in Gaza* and 2014 Oregon Book Award Finalist for Journalism.

Charles looking forward to sharing in the life of others as a deacon Catholic Outlook NSW



By Mary Brazell

Charles Abela, David Dowling, Jerome D'Rozario, Batrisi Maringehosi and Alan Skofic will be ordained to the permanent diaconate by Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Bishop of Parramatta, on Saturday 10 December, at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta.

Ahead of his ordination, Charles spoke to *Catholic Outlook* about his vocational story and how he hopes to live out his new ministry.

Charles Abela Married to Alicja Abela for nine years Parishioner

of Corpus Christi Parish, Cranebrook On parish placement at St Joseph's Parish, Kingswood

Charles Abela: I considered the Permanent Diaconate from 2016 and entered into the program in January 2018.

I have always had a deep sense of wanting to know and serve the Lord more since my pilgrimage in World Youth Day 2000 in Rome. I responded to an advertisement on vocations to the Permanent Diaconate in 2016. Through my faith journey, I found that God would show himself to me in the sacraments.

: My wife was initially unsure about my possible vocation to the diaconate. The formation journey, however, has been a very strengthening experience for her faith. Alicja has not only grown in her love for God and our marriage relationship, but also developed lasting bonds with the wives of the diaconal community. The regular meetings with the wives has been a comfort and joy for her, which she hopes to continue to support after my ordination.

In regard to other members of my family, they have been a great support in terms of prayer and encouragement.

I am open to be led by the Holy Spirit on the mission journey and excited to carry out the duties of a deacon with the sacramental grace of Holy Orders. I also hope to have the opportunity serve as a chaplain.

I am looking forward to sharing in the life of others through ministering the sacraments, especially baptism. I hope to be able to gain the opportunity to serve as a chaplain in areas of most need. Preaching homilies is also a privilege I will cherish.

I would describe the Permanent Diaconate community as a growing ministry of diverse people seeking to serve the family of God. It is a community that is always improving its formation of people and support network.

I can only wonder what the importance of ordination will be to us all until receiving the Sacrament on the day. I am anticipating a moment of intimacy with the Lord and my family that has not been experienced before.

I would especially like to thank my beautiful wife for loving me and joining me on this journey. My family and all the people that prayed for me when I was away from the Church. I would like to thank Our Lady for pointing me to Jesus during WYD 2000. I would like to thank Disciples of Jesus community for life in the Spirit. And finally, I am eternally grateful to God for his mercy.

Keep talking with God. Keep talking with your wife. Discern your call with a spiritual director. Be open to what comes on the journey and God's hand will guide you.

The Mass of Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate will be held on Saturday 10 December at 10.30am at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta.

To learn more about the permanent diaconate in the Diocese of Parramatta, visit <https://parracatholic.org/permanent-diaconate/> or contact the Diaconate Vocations team via diaconate@parracatholic.org

Ghanaian Students and Maltese Musicians Sing Beloved Song Xemx Together



By [Johnathan Cilia](#)

As a number of Maltese influencers spend time in Ghana for missionary work with the foundation HopeXchange, musicians Kevin Paul Calleja and Megan May Caruana led a singalong with local students of the one and only Maltese classic Xemx.

"Only love can win," Calleja said of the visit, sharing touching clips of the young students excitedly welcoming the Maltese team and singing along with them. With Ghana Mission

Foundation Development Director Nikol Baldacchino leading this latest delegation, the group also includes familiar faces like Danuel Umanah, Victor Abela, Keane Cutajar and Amy Borg.



Maltese personalities recount touching experiences from HopeXchange

[MaltaDaily](#) - [International](#) - Nov 14 SHARE ON:

A group of young personalities had the opportunity to visit Ghana and experience Africa from a fresh new perspective.

Most of their time in Kumasi was spent at the HopeXchange

Medical Centre, set up by the Institute for World Evangelisation, an international association recognised by the Vatican.

The Maltese group was formed by artists, singers, TV personalities and social media content creators and had very positive words for the way the medical centre was professionally run.

Speaking about the hospital, the group from Malta said that it was impressed with the state-of-the-art equipment. One person mentioned the highly sophisticated pathology Laboratory, the Imaging and diagnostic Department, and the Paediatric department as examples.

The HopeXchange Medical Center houses high quality Operating Theatres as well as a modern Ophthalmology Department that provides laser treatment apart from other services.

Speaking about their experience at the HopeXchange Medical Centre, TV presenter and Producer Keane Cutajar said that he felt privileged to witness first hand what the Ghana Mission Foundation managed to accomplish throughout the years.

Singer Megan May Caruana highlighted the warm hospitality of the Ghanaians and social media content creator Amy Borg was delighted to have met children who are receiving education through the foundation.

On their end, Kevin Paul Calleja and Daniel Umanah reflected on the African culture add the natural beauty of the area as even a tourist destination, not to mention the many resilient, peaceful, happy people encountered.

Videographer Victor Abela recounted the experience with a group of students he met and how the Maltese group inspired them to study hard and aim towards becoming effective leaders of the future.

Ghana Mission Foundation Development Director, Nikol Baldacchino, from his end, spoke highly of the doctors at the HopeXchange Medical Center, the high quality clinical care, medical and scientific formation and translation research.

The HopeXchange Medical Center has been running since 2016 thanks to a positive collaboration and support from the Government of Ghana and the Catholic Church. The Medical Center aspires to keep growing and serving the wonderful people of the region.

I have been asked to write a story for the Maltese Journal. I thought to myself,

this is a true story, one that you can't help remembering.

Especially at this time of year, when people start preparing for Christmas.

This year, a lot has changed for some families, who would find themselves struggling to make ends meet, and doing things the hard way.

I have in mind the victims of the recent floods in Australia, who have lost everything. A lifetime of hard work, all their belongings gone, just vanished. Homes full of memories just gone. Just simply gone.

It is so hard just thinking about these victims of the floods.

Because Maltese people have had prayers answered before, as many of you would

THE VOICE OF OUR READERS

remember, I really feel dear readers, we should pick up our Rosary beads and pray for these unfortunate people, that God will give them the strength and courage to start again building their lives, their hopes and dreams.

Perhaps you could remember them in your prayers, as the new year starts. Let us pray that through our prayers new beginnings will happen for so many. May God help everyone who needs new beginnings in the new year ahead. May God and his Mother bless you all, have a happy and holy Christmas and a great new year.

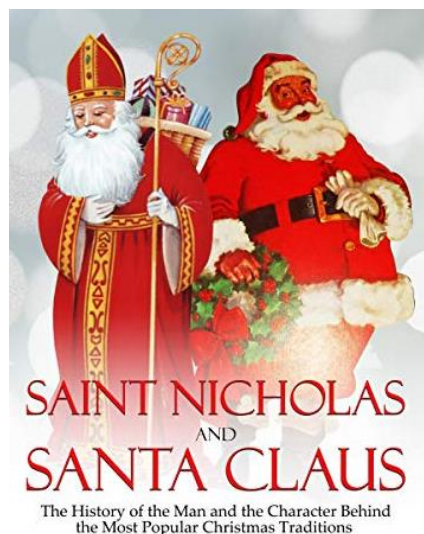
Sincerely

LINDA EYERS.

I am a concerned Maltese-Australian. As we all know Our community is rapidly decreasing in numbers and those Maltese migrants who came to Australia (and several other countries) who left Malta in the 50s, 60s and 70s are passing away. Our community is not as strong as it used to be. And we are struggling to keep our associations alive. Therefore, I strongly believe that now it is of paramount importance that we work together as one team. We have been saying this for a long time and unfortunately, we are still disunited and sometimes I am afraid to say we tend to put others down. I am writing this appeal in good faith, and I don't mean to offend anyone. So, let's be brave and start to talk about consolidation, cooperation and solidarity. Amongst us we have many individuals, especially the pioneers, who some of them are with us and still active and mean well and they deserve our deepest respect and admiration. Let's leave a legacy of love, unity, friendship and patriotism. That's how I want to be remembered when I'm gone. Sam Galea.

Jiena noqghod Malta u niehu gost naqra fil-gazzetta tieghek dwar huti Maltin li qed jghixu barra. Jiena nammira l-entusjazmu taghhom biex izommu l-kultura ta' Malta kull fejn ikunu – baned, festi, tradizzjonijiet kemm tal-Ghid kif ukoll tal-Milied etc. Komplijiet aghatina dawn l-ahbarijiet. Nixtieq lilek u l-qarrejja kollha Milied hieni. John Debattista

The history of Santa Claus - St Nicholas of Bari



The true story of Santa Claus begins with Nicholas, who was born during the third century in the village of Patara in modern day Turkey. His wealthy parents, who raised him to be a devout Christian, died in an epidemic while Nicholas was still young. Obeying Jesus' words to "sell what you own and give the money to the poor," Nicholas used his whole inheritance to assist the needy, the sick, and the suffering. He dedicated his life to serving God and was made Bishop of Myra while still a young man. Bishop Nicholas very soon became known throughout the land for his generosity to those in need, his dedication to protect children, and his concern for sailors and ships. Under the Roman Emperor Diocletian, who ruthlessly persecuted Christians, Bishop Nicholas suffered for his faith, was exiled and imprisoned. The prisons were so full of bishops, priests, and deacons,

there was no room for the real criminals – murderers, thieves and robbers. After his release, Nicholas attended the Council of Nicaea in AD 325, where he heroically defended the Church against heresy.

Through the centuries many stories and legends have been told of St. Nicholas' life and deeds. These accounts help us understand his extraordinary character and why he is so beloved and revered as protector and helper of those in need – and why he is the inspiration behind Santa Claus. One story tells of a poor man with three daughters. In those days a young woman's father had to offer prospective husbands something of value – a dowry. This poor man's daughters, without dowries, were therefore destined to be sold into slavery. Mysteriously, on three different occasions, a bag of gold appeared in their home-providing the needed dowries. The bags of gold, tossed through an open window, are said to have landed in stockings or shoes left before the fire to dry. This led to the custom of children hanging stockings or putting out shoes, eagerly awaiting gifts from Saint Nicholas.

Another story tells of three students, travelling on their way to Athens. A wicked innkeeper robbed and murdered them, hiding their remains in a large pickling tub. It so happened that Bishop Nicholas, traveling along the same route, stopped at this very inn. In

the night he dreamed of the crime, got up, and summoned the innkeeper. As Nicholas prayed earnestly to God the three boys were restored to life and wholeness. In France the story is told of three small children, wandering in their play until lost, lured, and captured by an evil butcher. St. Nicholas appears and appeals to God to return them to life and to their families. And so St. Nicholas is the patron and protector of children.

Nicholas died December 6, AD 343 in Myra and within a century of his death he was celebrated as a saint. The anniversary of his death became a day of celebration, St. Nicholas Day, December 6th. Widely celebrated in Europe, St. Nicholas' feast day, December 6th, kept alive the stories of his goodness and generosity. In Germany and Poland, boys dressed as bishops begged alms for the poor. In the Netherlands and Belgium, St. Nicholas was to said to arrive on a steamship from Spain to ride a white horse on his gift-giving rounds. December 6th is still the main day for gift giving and merrymaking in much of Europe.

Then in 1823, a popular poem called "A Visit from St. Nicholas", which we now known as "The Night Before Christmas", first described St. Nicholas as bringing toys and sweets to children on Christmas Eve. The legend of Santa Claus was born.

EJJA 'L HAWN – A mother's cry to her troubled son

EJJA 'L HAWN is the new theme song launching



ahead of the much anticipated fourth season of the TV series *Iċ-Ċaqqufa*, which returns on GO TV's Tokis after six years in the making. The song's lyrics were authored by the series' script writer, Pierre Portelli, while the music was composed by Megan May Caruana, who sings on the track, besides being one of the newcomers on the show in her first TV drama performance. The music arrangement and mastering were entrusted to Philip and Sean Vella.

The song is a mother's cry to her troubled son. It depicts the lifelong journey of Rose, the

protagonist in all four of *Iċ-Ċaqqufa*'s celebrated seasons (2013 - 2022). When Michael learns, at a young age, that he's the product of rape, things start to go wrong with his mental well-being. To shield him from reality, Rose puts Michael in a foreign college only to find out that loneliness, isolation and family deprivation made him worse. In this highly emotionally charged ballad, most of the social challenges faced by women who are victims of abuse are laid bare for everyone to witness.

EJJA 'L HAWN can be listened to on Spotify, iTunes and local radio stations. The music video is available on GO TV, YouTube and social media.

Megan May Caruana is a talented young musician who reached the semi-final of the X Factor Malta competition with FAITH, the band she made part of. Pierre Portelli spent most of his long career in news and communications. He is the author and producer of *Iċ-Ċaqqufa* and several other award-winning media projects. *Iċ-Ċaqqufa* season four is produced by Watermelon Media and GO Originals. It premieres on Tokis on 19th December. www.independent.com.mt

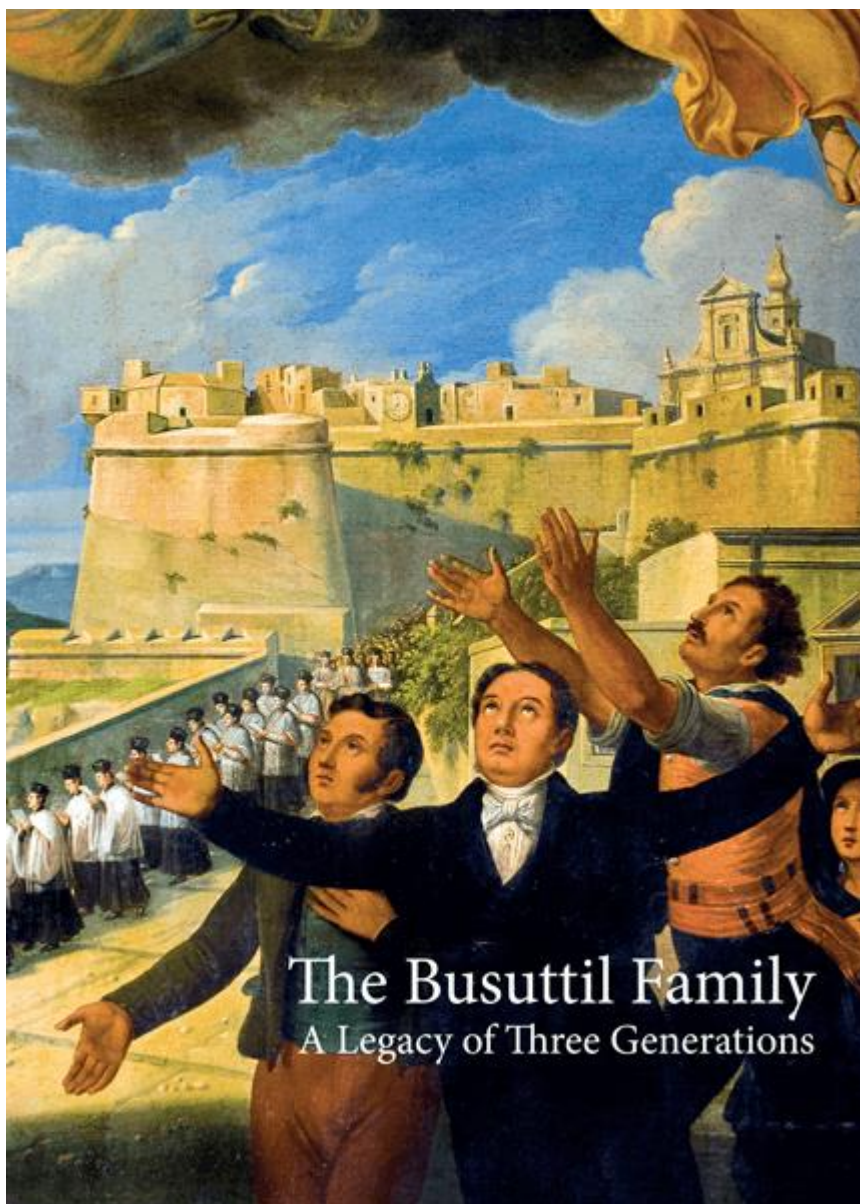


MIDSEA BOOKS ;

The artistic gene in the Busuttil family was first noticed in the young Michele, and as a result he was given painting lessons by Rocco Buhagiar (c.1725-1805) in Valletta. At the age of eighteen, he was sent to Rome with another Maltese student, Giuseppe Grech (1755-1787), to study design, painting and sculpture at the Accademia di San Luca, one of the most prestigious academies of art in Europe. Here Michele was placed under the tutelage of sculptor Tommaso Rigi. In drawing competitions in both September 1782 and September 1783 he came second in class and Giuseppe Grech came first.

On 2 July 1785 Michele, then aged 23, accompanied by his elder brother Giuseppe, four years his senior, left Rome for Naples. Possibly he was on his way back to Malta where he opened his own private art school next to his father's residence in Strada Irlandese, somewhere opposite the Lower Barracca. Among his students were Massimo Gauci and Giorgio Pullicino, Michele's future assistant at the University. The artistic gene in the Busuttil family was first noticed in the young Michele, and as a result he was given painting lessons by Rocco Buhagiar (c.1725-1805) in Valletta. At the age of eighteen, he was sent to Rome with another Maltese student, Giuseppe Grech (1755-1787), to study design, painting and sculpture at the Accademia di San Luca, one of the most prestigious academies of art in Europe.

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**THE MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER CONNECTS
MALTESE LIVING ABROAD WITH THEIR HOMELAND**



FRIENDS OF DIVINE PROVIDENCE HOUSE GROUP NSW AUSTRALIA



Friends of Providence House are the official Australian ambassadors working hand in hand with Malta based Id-Dar tal-Providenza (Homes of persons with disabilities) home. Currently, Id-Dar hosts approximately 150 persons between the ages of 14 and over 80 years of age. It also offers respite services regularly to families of people with disabilities, thus offering them support to enable the disabled family member to continue to live a regular life with their family whilst receiving support daily.

The Group was founded in October 2011 with the aim of raising funds for Id-Dar tal-Providenza, Malta. The current structure of the group is made up of:

- Jim Borg, Founder/Co-ordinator -
- Marisa Previtera, - Miriam Friggieri

The Friends of Providence House is the official Ambassador to Id-Dar tal-Providenza in New South Wales, Australia.

Any person who may wish to obtain further details or wishes to make a donation should contact:

The Co-ordinator, Jim Borg on Tel: +61 296367767 • Mob: +61 418825591 The Group can also be contacted by Email: foph@bigpond.com

Bank details are:

Commonwealth Bank of Australia Account Name: Friends of Providence House (NSW)

BSB: 062 416 Account Number: 1019 9448. This is the only official bank account in Australia.

To understand further, of what they do feel free to refer to the link below:

<https://www.dartalprovidenza.org/> Thanks for your time.

Dar tal-Providenza receives festive delights from the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat Malta

Posted on December 8, 2022 by Laiq Ahmed Atif



The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Malta visited Dar tal-Providenza – a home for the disabled people, and presented festive delights for the residents ahead of the festive season. Imam Laiq Ahmed Atif, President of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Malta, together with community officials presented the gift hampers to the Director Fr Martin Micallef and Ms. Nadine Camilleri Cassano, Administrator of Dar tal-Providenza. **FESTA TA' GENEROZITA' – 1 JANURAY**

2023 ALL STATIONS IN MALTA – GIVE GENEROUSLY



Ċikku and the Chocolate Panto

Friday, 23 December 2022 7.30pm Monday, 26 December 2022 3pm & 8pm Tuesday, 27 December 2022 3pm & 8pm

Wednesday, 28 December 2022 3pm & 8pm

Thursday, 29 December 2022 3pm & 8pm

Friday, 30 December 2022 3pm & 8pm

DESCRIPTION

A delightfully delicious Christmas treat.

Ċikku and the Chocolate Panto is the story of young Ċikku, a penniless young man who lives with his mother in a giant bajtra. Luckily his fortunes change when he finds a coveted golden ticket to visit Willy Wonder's famous Chocolate Panto along with a group of other winners. Unfortunately, everything isn't quite so splendiferous when he discovers that the show's protagonist, the glamorous Diva Divine, is actually a frightsome witch who wants to destroy all the children in the audience! Will Ċikku and his new friends succeed in exposing Diva for the horrible person that she is.



Sunday 18 December 2022. Put it in your diaries!

The La Valette Christmas Spectacular is sure to be a memorable festival for everyone involved.

Come along with your family and friends and enjoy a fun day out for everyone! Come along and enjoy the live entertainment, while grabbing a bite and some treats from one of the food trucks and stalls.

Find yourself some unique gifts at our Christmas market and experience some of the fantastic attractions and activities we have lined up – there's something for all ages!



ENTERTAINMENT

ATTRACTIONS & ACTIVITIES

STALLS AND FOOD



LA VALETTE SOCIAL CENTRE

175 Walters Rd
Blacktown NSW 2148

Ph: 02 9622 5847 Email: info@lavalette.com.au

Established in 1964 and located in the heart of Blacktown City, La Valette Social Centre is one of the longest standing organisations in the Maltese community in Australia.

La Valette has a strong commitment to community. We pride ourselves on providing social, cultural, recreational and welfare support to the Maltese and wider communities across Sydney.

The club is run by a volunteer committee that's elected annually by its members. So we encourage you to come be a part of it.

Bring your family and friends, enjoy some good food and a drink and get involved in what's happening.

Popular Amber releases 'Mument Maġiku', a new Christmas song in Maltese

The single is Amber's second original Christmas tune following her release last year titled *Dan il-Milied*. Those that know Amber know how much she loves the festive season and that spending time with her family and friends during these times means so much to her. *Mument Maġiku* speaks about how the warm feeling surrounding Christmas is due to the memories created throughout the years and how they make this season so special. Utube

"Milied Maġiku" Lyrics

L-ewwel nett nixtieq ngħid
Illi dan il-mument
Mhuwiex int, mhuwiex jien
Huwa aħna t-tnejn
Mingħajrek, mingħajri
Nafu li m'aħna xejn.
Mingħajrek, mingħajri
Nafu li m'aħna xejn.

Tieni nett dan id-drapp
Lest li jgarrab il-piz
Tal-ghajxien tal-mument
Tal-imħabba bla qies
Dan iż-żmien tal-Milied
Tant iħobbu n-nies
Huwa l-int, huwa l-jien,
Huwa l-aħna flimkien.
Dan hu mument ferm maġiku
Li nħoss kull meta nkunu
Maġenb xulxin jiena u int -
Inzommlok idejk u nibqa' hdejk.

Dan huwa mument storiku
Li nħoss kull meta nkunu
Maġenb xulxin jiena u int -
Inzommlok idejk u nibqa' hdejk.

Miż-żmien kollu li nippreferi
Dan hu ż-żmien li jagħmilna veri.
Miż-żmien kollu matul is-sena
Huwa żmien il-Milied li jagħtina l-
hena.
L-aħħar nett nixtieq ngħid
Illi nħobb il-Milied

Mal-familja, in-nanniet,
Mal-kugini u mal-ħbieb.
Niftaħ qalbi, niftaħ dari,
U niftaħ beraħ il-bieb.
Niftaħ drighi, niftaħ moħħi,
U niftaħ beraħ il-bieb.

Dan hu mument ferm maġiku
Li nħossu kull meta nkunu
Maġenb xulxin jiena u int -
Inzommlok idejk u nibqa' hdejk.

Miż-żmien kollu li nippreferi
Dan hu ż-żmien li jagħmilna veri.
Miż-żmien kollu matul is-sena
Huwa żmien il-Milied li jagħtina l-
hena.





December 2022

MALTESE COMMUNITY IN CANADA

- 10 December 2022 Ash Fall Book Launch @ Maltese-Canadian Museum
 10 December 2022 Malta Band Club Christmas Dinner Dance
 11 December 2022 Melita Soccer Club Children's Christmas Party
 11 December 2022 Maltese-Canadian Federation Seniors' Annual Dinner
 15 December 2022 London ON, December luncheon 12:30pm
 16 December 2022 St Paul the Apostle Church Annual Christmas Concert
 17 December 2022 Festa tal-Kuncizzjoni at Malta Band Club
 24 December 2022 Midnight Mass @ St Paul the Apostle Church
 31 December 2022 New Year's Eve Dinner-Dance @St Paul the Apostle Church
 31 December 2022 Gala New Year's Eve Dinner-Dance @ Malta Band Club
 World Cup Games will be screened at the Melita Soccer Club (apart from 8am start games).



CONSULATE GENERAL
OF MALTA
CANADA

The Consulate General of Malta in Toronto
wishes you all happy holidays with your
families and loved ones.

A Merry Christmas and a Prosperous 2023 to you all!
il-Milied u s-Sena t-Tajba lilkom ilkolli!



The Malta Band Club Incorporated

invites you to attend

Festa Kuncizzjoni



Please join us as we unveil our new statue
Traditional Maltese "Imqarrun" will be served

Saturday December 17, 2022 at 6:00PM
5745 Coopers Avenue, Mississauga

Admission fee: \$15.00 per person



Please make a reservation by calling the club
at (905) 890-8507, Tony at (905) 450-5885 or
Virginia at (416) 873-6013.

The Malta Band Club Incorporated

proudly presents our

Gala New Year's Eve Dinner and Dance

Doors Open at 6.00PM

MENU

Cod Loin with Seafood Rice
Steak, Salad, Parisienne Potatoes
Vegetables, Dessert, Coffee/Tea

Champagne at midnight and party favours!
Members : \$60.00 , Non-members : \$70.00

Cash bar and DJ for your dancing pleasure.



For reservations, contact the club at
(905) 890-8507, Tony at (905) 450-5885
or Virginia at (416) 873-6013.

The Malta Band Club Incorporated

presents the

Member's Christmas Dinner Dance

Saturday December 10, 2022

(Doors open at 6:00PM)

MENU

Penne alla vodka, veal marsala, potatoes,
vegetables, dessert, coffee/tea

Members : \$40.00 , Non-Members : \$50.00

Cash bar and DJ for your dancing pleasure!

Please book by December 5, 2022

For reservations, please call the club at
(905) 890-8507, Tony at (905) 450-5885
or Virginia at (416) 873-6013.



Typical Maltese Christmas Crib

[/www.maltainfoguide.com/christmas-crib.html](http://www.maltainfoguide.com/christmas-crib.html)

Different Types Of Crib
You Find On The Island

Christmas crib in Maltese is translated to 'presepju'. There is no Christmas in Malta without a crib. It is a staple part of traditions that has remained with us for very long.

You find them in every village and town exhibited behind glass doors or windows of houses. It is laid in houses where it can be enjoyed by all family members.

Mechanical Crib In Malta
At the village of Zejtun there is a Christmas mechanical crib which is 65 years old. It has attracted many tourists and Maltese over the years.

It depicts the story of the nativity of the Lord including other scenes from the five Joyful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary. The crib is located at the Institute and orphanage of Jesus of Nazareth in Bishop Emmanuel Galea Street, Zejtun in the south of Malta. It was created by the late Bishop Emmanuel Galea who at the time was the director of this institute. He gave a home to hundreds of bereaved children.

HOW THE MECHANICAL CRIB WAS CREATED

Back to 1947 Bishop Emmanuel Galea had a wish to create a large crib recreating the nativity scene of the Jesus Christ. He himself did the works to create it and opened it for public viewing during the same Christmas up to where he had completed. He had asked for help from Paul Pavia of Zejtun to work on the mechanization of the crib figures. The Institute's nuns sewed all the clothes for each figure. The crib was completed after several years of works until it reached the present size.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE CRIB

The materials used were newspaper and glue, whole wooden doors and various pieces of assorted wood. The mechanical

section was entrusted to a Zejtun resident Paul Pavia who in such a clever way succeeded to operate all the figures of the crib.

With just one motor, which was attached to a multitude of nylon strings. These were made to function by means of different sizes of pulleys, old bicycle chains which were very common at the time, and cinema film reels.

All placed at various strategically positioned underneath the crib connected to the many figures exhibited in the crib. All movements were according to the representation of the figure. All this apart from creating the ingenious way to create the figurines movements made from wood and iron wire which was even more difficult so one had to be very creative due to lack of materials and funds.

MY FAMILY CRIBS IN THE PAST

One of the traditions in Malta was the use of *gargazza* for crib building, known as slag, which was derived from burnt coal residue. It was very abundant during the time when a lot of coal used to be used in bread bakeries, until more modern fuels used in furnaces, it was less abundant and so the supply became very scarce. Apart from this the use of stone was rather cumbersome.

When I was very young I remember going with my older brother to the furnace in our street where I used to live to bring the *gargazza* to our house and build the crib on one of the tables we had at our house. The family who had this furnace, which was used for the production of bread, used to be very willing to give us their material and always encouraged us to build nice cribs.

TYPES OF CRIB CONSTRUCTION

Paper-Mache: In recent years the trends have changed to paper-mâché. This material gives the Christmas crib the opportunity to keep it from one year to another and makes the crib more solid and

lighter. Now-a-days other materials are used like jablo, wood and carton of various thicknesses to form bridges, houses and supports.

Glue Beads: The most common glue was glue beads which used to be put in an old pot, heated and then spread on the required areas with a stick and with the hands form the required shapes of the crib one piece at a time. One had to be careful not to burn his hand while doing this work. Then the completed work had to dry up.

Colouring: The colouring of the finished dry structure used to be painted with water colours. The most common ones were shades of brown mixed with yellow to indicate soil, stone buildings, rubble walls, timber doors and windows. Green for trees, and types of vegetation. Before the application a base of glue is applied and then the colours. In this way it will not drop out but remain fixed. Little by little the crib is painted keeping a consistence to get it matching all through.

CLAY STATUES PASTURI IN MALTESE

The Christmas crib is then decorated with clay statues called *pasturi* in Maltese. A good designer of a crib will be capable to calculating the scale of the buildings to the size of the *pasturi*. The main figure of the crib is the Holy Family, namely Mary, Joseph and Jesus Christ and the nativity angel which will be in a way hanging around the grotto where Baby Jesus is lying in the manger. Then the three Magi where in Malta there is the tradition to include these three figures on the 6th of January according to the bible story and church traditions. The feast of the Epiphany is celebrated on the 6th January.

Depending on the size of the crib, many other figures are included, having included the proper scenery and setting to include shepherds with their flocks of sheep. Other persons who form

part within a village area are the baker, the woman who carries the water from the well, the musicians, farmers ploughing the fields.

The cribs are embellished with all sorts of interesting decorations including the unmistakable growth of vetch known as *gulgubiena* in Maltese. It is grown in flat pans some five weeks before Christmas and kept in the dark until it is fully grown. Many embellish the crib surround or the manger of Baby Jesus with all sorts of decoration like small bulbs and plants which reflect the Maltese culture and traditions styles.

The Christmas crib on our islands form part of the Christmas in Malta cultural heritage.



THE MALTESE SENIOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**Christmas Break-up Lunch at 12 noon
at the club Hall - Lehnute Street - Kilburn SA**

**This will be the last function for the year 2022
We will have a visit from Father Christmas
A free lunch for the members**



La Valette Social Centre Inc
175, Walters Road, Blacktown NSW

New Year's Eve Dinner Dance

**Saturday 31 December 2022
from 7.30pm**

Tickets: Members \$60 - Non-members \$65



3 Course Meal by **CHEF'S LOUNGE**
2 bottles of Wine per table - Drinks Extra

Entertainment by **THE MARIMBA BAND**

For tickets and further information please ring
the Centre on 9622 5847

Privately sponsored by:



Maltese Funerals
In conjunction with Hills Family Funerals

**WE SINCERELY THANK

ALL OUR

READERS, SUPPORTERS

CORRESPONDENTS

AND CONTRIBUTORS

FROM ALL OVER

THE WORLD.
YOU KEEP US AND OUR
JOURNAL ALIVE
AND STUNNING**



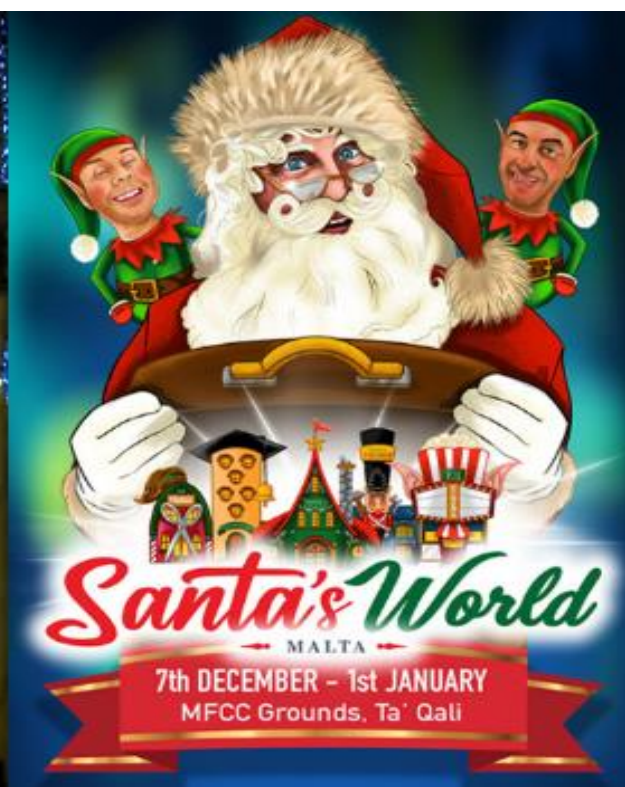
Christmas Food in Malta



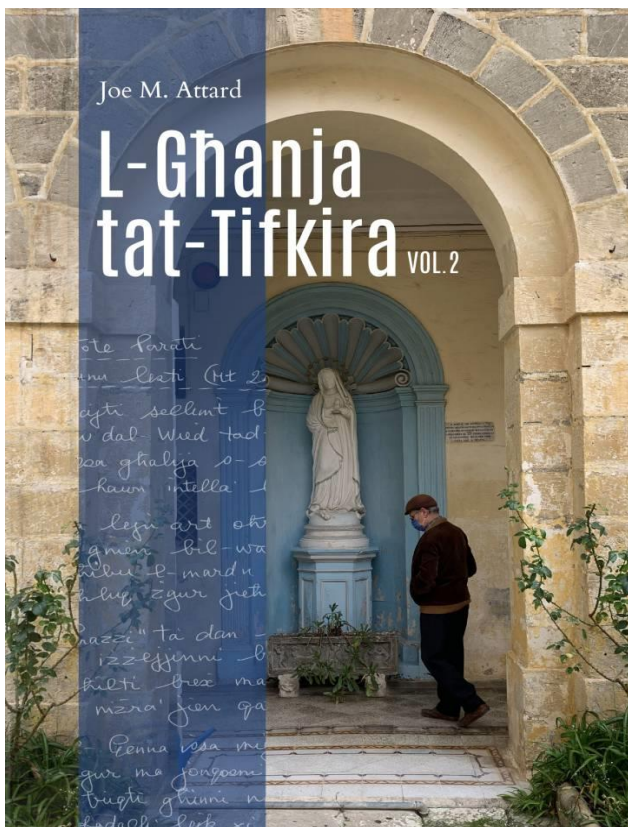
Today the traditional Maltese menu has made way for Christmas Turkey, Christmas Cakes, Christmas Puddings and Mince Pies, all inherited during 164 years of British rule (1800 - 1964) in Malta. Italian Panetone has also become a Christmas favourite.



Dun {u\ep{ ammit Brighella
Boys' Junior Lyceum }amrun



Gabra oħra ta' poeziji tal-Kav. Joe M. Attard



L-Għanja tat-Tifkira (it-tieni volum) huwa l-isem tat-tieni volum tal-ktieb tal-poeziji li l-Kav. Joe M. Attard se joħroġ dawn il-jiem wara li 10 snin ilu kien ippubblika l-ewwel volum.

Bħal ta' qablu dan il-ktieb se jiġbor fih għadd ta' poeziji, li kif jindika l-isem iridu jfakkru xi grajja fil-ħajja tal-Għawdxin.

F'Għawdex b'mod speċjali lil Joe M. Attard ħafna jfittxuh biex jiktbilhom xi poezija għal funeral, xi anniversarju tat-tieg, xi magħmudija, xi preċett, Grizma tal-Isqof, xi birthday, inkella xi grajja oħra fil-familja. Ma jonqsux ukoll xi poeziji dwar xi okkażjoni speċjali li tkun grat f'Għawdex, xi kxif ta' monument u grajjiet oħra.

Il-poeta mbagħad iżomm xi appuntamenti fissi wkoll matul is-sena bħal ngħidu aħna, Jum il-Missier, Jum l-Omm, il-festa ta' San Valentinu, il-Kuncizzjoni, San Gorg, Santa Marija, Il-Milied, il-Karnival u bosta mill-festi titolari tal-Għawdxin meta mhux ukoll xi wħud f'Malta li jiġi mitlub jikteb.

L-awtur għandu għal qalbu l-vers tat-tmienja, li hu vers popolari ħafna u fil-fatt fost il-poeziji nsibu

Minn Michela Tufigno

wkoll xi innijiet bħal ngħidu aħna wiehed lil Santa Rita li ta' kull sena jindaqq mill-banda Ta' Sannat fil-purċissjoni tal-qaddisa, San Bartilmew fil-Għarghur u xi kanzunetti oħra.

Fil-poezija tiegħu Joe M. Attard għandu ħabta jirrima t-tieni vers mar-raba' wiehed. Il-ktieb għandu *Daħla* minn Dr Joe Zammit Ciantar, studjuż u eks lettur tal-Malti u awtur ta' bosta kotba, u produzzjoni ta' Francesco Pio Attard. Id-disinn tal-qoxra huwa ta' Stefan Attard.

Il-ktieb jista' jinkiseb f'forma ta' qoxra iebsagħall-prezz ta' €12 inkella *paperback* għall-prezz ta' €10. Tiskantax jekk xi poezija li xi darba tlabt lill-awtur issibha mperrċa f'din il-pubblikazzjoni! Kull min hu interessat jista' jikteb lill-awturfuq: emarjos@hotmail.com.

**I don't want much for
Christmas. I just want
my family, relatives and
the readers of the
Journal to be healthy,
happy, safe and
LOVED**



**OUR JOURNAL IS A FRIEND
OF EVERYBODY
Young and not so Young**



**Germanis and Gelarda Demarco and their sister-in-law Carmela Demarco
on board the *Nea Hellas* off Portugal, October 1952**

From collection of the late Germanis Demarco

Soon after arriving in Detroit, Germanis landed a job with the Ford Motor Company in Dearborn.

They purchased their first home in the Detroit area in 1955. The couple had three children and took a lot of pride in their family and home. Their Catholic faith was very important to them. They sent their children to parochial school and practised their Catholic faith their entire lives.

Germanis and Gelarda kept Maltese traditions alive as they embraced American ones. Maltese and English were spoken in the home. They enjoyed Maltese dishes, picnics and trips to Bob-Lo Island with fellow Maltese. They took family trips back to Malta to make sure their children knew their family and the beauty of Malta.

After working 38 years for Ford Motor Company, Germanis retired in 1988. Once retired from their jobs they especially loved spending time with their growing family: three children, their spouses and five grandchildren. Germanis and Gelarda took a very active role in their grandchildren's lives, babysitting, working as teacher aides in their schools and attending all their sporting events. They ultimately had eight great-grandchildren, but were only fortunate to get to know and enjoy the five eldest.

They took every advantage of spending weekends and family outings and every single holiday together with their family.

In October, 2012 they celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with family. It was a wonderful night.

Germanis kept his strong ties to his siblings in Canada: his brother Paul, wife Carmen, his sister Guza and her husband Joe and all their children.

They were very close and spent every holiday and almost every Sunday together. Before the siblings left Malta, their mother, Maria Demarco, asked them to always stay close to one another. They fulfilled her promise until the very end.

Germanis and Gelarda made a lot of very good friends, both Maltese and American, who were as close to them as family members.

They were also members of both the Dearborn and Detroit Maltese clubs and participated in many events at each club. They loved spending time with friends at both clubs, playing cards and eating pastizzi.

In 2013 at the age of 79, Gelarda was called to Heaven. Germanis spent the remaining two years living with his children, but missing his bride of over 60 years. At the age of 93 in 2015, he left for the love of his life once more and for the final time.

This month, on October 9th, Germanis and Gelarda would have celebrated their 70th Wedding Anniversary. It is also the 70th Anniversary of the month they arrived in the United States.

**Detroit had the largest Maltese
population in the United States.**

Christmas Pudding covered with Maltesers

Christmas is just such a wonderful time of year. Christmas presents, Christmas trees and just so much Christmas food. It really is the one time of year that you can eat and eat and boast about all the obscene amounts of fantastic food you've eaten with absolutely no judgement. Everybody loves Christmas pudding.

For all you who don't like Christmas pudding out there and who prefer a chocolate roulade or a handful of satsumas, this chocolate Christmas pudding is the thing for you. A perfect alternative to the traditional Christmas pud but just the answer to all those chocolate lovers out there too.

Ingredients

Here's what you need;

200g box of Rice Crispies or bubbles

500g Maltesers

250g Butter

300g Dark/Milk Chocolate

200g White Chocolate

Squeeze of golden syrup

Large tablespoon of cocoa powder

2 Large tablespoons of icing sugar

Method

Melt the butter completely and add the cocoa powder.

Stir in the icing sugar and add a generous squeeze of golden syrup.

Stir it all up until it goes beautifully smooth.

Pour in the rice crispies.

Stir it all up so the rice crispies are coated.

Next job is to find your best Christmas pudding shaped bowl and cover it with a lining of cling film.

Pour all of the mixture into the bowl making sure it is nice and compact in the bowl.

Put into the fridge to cool for about 20 minutes.

It should come out looking like this.

Next stop is to melt the chocolate for the topping.

You can do this in the microwave but it's hard to not burn the chocolate that way. I prefer to use a bain-marie.

Once the chocolate has melted add another squeeze of golden syrup.

Now for the fun bit.

Starting at the top, cover your rice bubbles cake in the chocolate mixture so that you can stick all the Maltesers on. Work in a spiral motion from the

centre for the best effect as it needs to be completely covered for the best result.

To decorate your cake. Melt the white chocolate and drizzle it onto the centre of the cake to look like icing.

You can even add some holly decoration if you're feeling creative.

Just look at that.

A Christmas pudding for all you chocolate lovers.

Serve it up with a dollop of cream or a big scoop of ice cream.

Go on have a slice!



5 Christmas Treats You Definitely Need to try in Malta

It doesn't matter if you're Maltese, English, Australian, American, Canadian, Chinese, or from anywhere else in the world. The language of sweets and desserts is one that we all understand! There's something special about travelling to a new country and finding out (and tasting firsthand, of course) which sweets are made there. The same is true (perhaps even truer) when those treats are brought out during Christmas time! As we all know, Christmas is just another excuse to indulge in some sugary goods. There are plenty of different treats that we associate with Malta during this time of year, although not all of them are exclusively Christmassy – which is great news because it means you won't have to wait for months on end to get your hands on some of these most coveted goods.

If you happen to be in Malta during the Christmas season, here are some treats to look out for!

Qagħaq tal-Għasel



Credit: <http://www.excelsior.com.mt>

Known in English as treacle rings, this dessert is so scrumptious that you might consider proposing to your wife by putting one of these rings on her finger instead the usual gold or diamond option.

These special qagħaq are a great choice for those who don't like their desserts to be saturated with sweetness. Though there is certainly an underlying sweet taste, it's wonderfully balanced out by the slight bitterness of the treacle and the zesty flavour of the citrus infused into the baking mix.



Almond Macaroons

If you knew anything about Maltese desserts prior to this article, you'd probably know that it's very hard for us to keep *lewż* (almonds) out of our sweet treats. This is especially the case in Easter, where our treats tend to be made up of 95% almonds and almond paste (see: *figolli* and *kwareżimal*).

Thanks to our *Lewż before Bros* mentality, you can still get your almond fix this Christmas thanks to the macaroons that pop up everywhere. Not necessarily an exclusively Maltese treat by any stretch of the imagination – but don't tell us you're not grateful that we love them so much.

Pudina tal-Ħobż

Credit: www.tisjir.com



This is our famous bread pudding, a classic choice for everyone from *nanniet* (grandmothers) to children. If you're not a fan of raisins and candied fruit, this might take some getting used to, but we're pretty sure that come to appreciate the taste sooner rather than later!

This is definitely one of the treats that is appreciated all year round – but Christmas is as good a time as any to make a fresh batch! Do note that it's not the typical Christmas pudding that's eaten around the world

(including Malta!), and not a replacement either!



Imbuljuta tal-Qastan

Credit: www.acelineentertainment.com

We already spoke quite a bit about this one in a previous blog post, and even included a recipe for it, so head on there if you're interested in making it! This is a soup/drink hybrid made out of chestnuts, cocoa and chocolate, as well as an assortment of other ingredients that contribute to its unique taste.

Christmas Log

It's not quite Christmas without a Christmas log, and that's regardless of where you are in the world. So no, this isn't quite a Maltese treat, but of course we have the Maltese way of preparing it, which isn't too outlandish. We keep the same chocolatey/biscuit taste, but often tend to add the candied fruit we seem to collectively love so much!



78 schools awarded for connecting children with nature

A total of 78 Primary and Secondary schools were awarded for connecting children with nature through BirdLife Malta's Dinja Waħda environmental education programme, which is run in collaboration with the Directorate for Learning & Assessment Programmes and is supported by Bank of Valletta (BOV). The Dinja Waħda 2022 Awards Ceremony was held at Esplora Interactive Science Centre and apart from celebrating the success of the 2021/2022 scholastic year, also marked the launch of a new year of engagement. Read more in the press release [here](#). More info in the education section of this newsletter.

IF YOU LIKE THIS JOURNAL, YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND ME A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO SHARE IT WITH ALL OUR READERS

Rev Fr Tarcisio Micallef MSSP

Kappillan tal-Maltin

Jixtieq jistieden lil kull min irrid jattendi ghac-celebrazzjoni tal-Milied

fil-Kappella ta' **San Pawl De Piro House**

Stanley Street Sydney,

Nhar is-Sibt 24 ta' Dicembru 2022.

Fl-10.00 pm tibda l-funzjoni u quddiesa.

Kulhadd huwa mistieden biex jattendi.

Il-Hadd 25 ta' Dicembru 2022

Fl-sitess kappella jkun hemm quddiesa fl-10.00am

bhal kull nhar ta' Hadd.

Ejjew biex niccelebraw it-twelid ta' Sidna Gesu` Kristu

f'atmosfera Maltija flimkien.

Ghal xi taghrif cemplu lill-

Rev Tarcisio Micallef MSSP 02 9380 8398

Rev Tarcisio Micallef MSSP

Ser iqaddes ukoll,

nhar is-Sibt 24 ta' Dicembru fil-quddiesa

tac-celebrazzjoni tal-Milied

fis-7.00 pm

fil-Kappella tac-Centru ta' La Vallette

Walters Road Blacktown.

Kulhadd huwa mistieden biex jattendi ghal din ic-celebrazzjoni

ta' twelid ta' Sidna Gesu` Kristu f'atmosfera Maltija.

Ghal xi taghrif cemplu lil La Vallette Social Centre

Fuq: 02 9622 5847

