



MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

Journal for Maltese Living Abroad

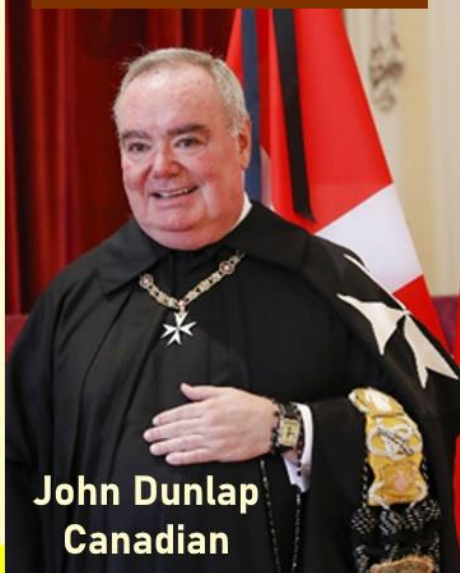
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Marvic Monreal Mezzo Soprano

The new Grand Master
of the Knights of Malta



**John Dunlap
Canadian**



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2023

EUROVISION

SONG CONTEST

HOST - LIVERPOOL - UK M&S BANK ARENA

Semi Finals - 9 and 11 May Final - Saturday 13 May



**The Busker on the road
to Liverpool**



EUROVISION SONG FESTIVAL 2023

Ukrainian broadcaster Timur Miroshnychenko will be popping

For the first time since 1998, the United Kingdom will play host to the 2023 contest and will do so on behalf of last year's winners Ukraine who are unable to host due to the ongoing war. This year marks the 67th edition of the competition as 37 countries compete for the coveted, life changing trophy

All three live Eurovision shows will deliver emotive, exciting and unforgettable moments that underline this year's contest slogan; United by Music. Here's everything you need to know about the Semi-Finals and how to watch and listen to them on the BBC.

When are the Eurovision 2023 Semi-Finals on BBC TV and iPlayer, Radio and BBC Sounds?

The first Eurovision Semi-Final will be broadcast live on Tuesday 9 May 2023 at 8pm (BST) on BBC One and BBC iPlayer. The second Semi-Final will be broadcast live on Thursday 11 May 2023 at 8pm (BST) on BBC One and BBC iPlayer.

BBC Radio 2 will also be broadcasting both Eurovision Semi-Finals for the first time this year, on Tuesday 9 May and Wednesday 11 May at 8pm. These shows will also be simulcast on BBC Radio Merseyside.

Meet the Eurovision Semi-Finals presenters and commentators

Left to right: Alesha Dixon, Julia Sanina and Hannah Waddingham

Presenting the two live Semi-Finals (Tuesday 9 and Thursday 11 May) from Liverpool will be the trio of musical superstars Alesha Dixon, Hannah Waddingham and Julia Sanina.

up in the live shows, while bringing his expert commentary to Ukrainian audiences from his commentary box in the Liverpool Arena.

Both Semi-Finals will be broadcast live on BBC One and BBC iPlayer for the first time, with radio DJs and Eurovision experts, Scott Mills and Rylan bringing UK audiences their colourful and insightful commentary. (phot) Rylan and Scott Mills

Which countries are competing in the first Eurovision Semi-Final?

The first group of countries who will compete for a place in Saturday's Grand Final are: Azerbaijan, Croatia, Czechia, Finland, Ireland, Israel, Latvia, Malta, Moldova, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Serbia, Sweden, Switzerland.

Which countries are competing in the second Eurovision Semi-Final?

The remaining 16 countries taking to the stage in the hope of securing a place in Saturday's Grand Final will be: Albania, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Iceland, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, San Marino and Slovenia.

Where can I watch it? **In Australia**

SBS will have live and prime time (delayed) coverage. All times listed below:

Live coverage: Semi-Final 1: Wednesday 10 May at 5:00am Semi-Final 2: Friday 12 May at 5:00am

Grand Final: Sunday 14 May at 5:00am

Prime time replays Semi-Final 1: Friday 12 May at 7:30pm Semi-Final 2: Saturday 13 May at 7:30pm

Grand Final: Sunday 14 May at 7:30pm AEST



**THE HISTORY OF MALTESE EMIGRATION IS A
SPECIAL PART OF THE HISTORY OF MALTA**





The gardens of the Verdala Palace were filled with the colors and festive marches during the launch of the first edition of "Il-Festa tal-Festi" in aid of the Malta Community Chest Fund.

It is the first activity of its kind with the President of Malta George Vella saying that the festivities have deep roots in Maltese culture which are often forgotten or not well known.

Daniel Cauchi, artistic director of this activity, said that "Il-Festa tal-Festi" should provide full knowledge of what the Maltese festival really is, the volunteering that runs it, how it is prepared, the handicrafts and the traditions linked to it.

He said "This weekend we are celebrating "Il-Festa tal-Festi" at the Verdala Palace where we will educate

about the Maltese holiday, but we will ask people to come with us and update themselves on the concept of the holiday, the concept of the festival that is so close to the Maltese people and the Maltese family".

Daniel Cauchi "The activity opened with the enthusiasm of the school children. As part of this activity, 40,000 primary school students will receive a brochure with information about the traditional Maltese festival. Friday evening "Il-Festa tal-Festi" will include the traditional Maltese meal, with the participation of comedians and singers from Malta. On Saturday evening there will be a concert by the band The Travelers and on Sunday "Il-Festa tal-Festi" will end with a big march with the participation of various bands."

OUR COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC "SUCCESS" SHOULD NEVER BE OBTAINED AT THE EXPENSE OF WORKERS

From the Office of Communication
Archdiocese of Malta



On this year's workers' day, the Justice and Peace Commission wishes to express its concern regarding the injustice suffered by non-EU persons working in Malta who, despite paying National Insurance contributions, do not receive a pension. Our current pension system relies on the assumption that non-EU workers will stay here for a few years, pay social insurance contributions and leave before receiving a pension. The Commission believes that the kind of society implied by this model is socially unjust and morally unacceptable.

Without any realistic possibility of making Malta their home, non-EU workers do not benefit totally from the fiscal social contract in which people pay tax and, in turn, receive public goods and services, including a pension. Specifically, in the absence of bilateral or EU-wide agreements with their countries of origin, these workers, once they return to their country of origin, can never expect any pension benefit in return for the National Insurance contributions they would have paid over the years. Moreover, despite contributing with their effort and

money to the common good and the social and economic development of the country, they are often treated as a subservient underclass who never really belong.

Figures tabled recently in Parliament by Finance Minister Clyde Caruana show that National Insurance contributions by foreign workers increased by 570% from 2012 till 2021 to reach over €1 billion in total. Over the same time-period, these workers also paid over €1.3 billion in income tax with the yearly total increasing from nearly €48 million in 2012 to €250 million in 2021.

The economic “success” of our country and the sustainability of our social benefits should never be obtained at the expense of workers, whoever they are and wherever they come from. The more than 40,000 non-EU citizens currently working in Malta – 77% of whom were earning under €20,000 a year in 2021 – deserve to be treated with respect and dignity and not forced to work in an exploitative labour marked under conditions often akin to modern-day slavery.

As a country we need to question our definition of economic success. Last year, Pope Francis urged business leaders to measure success according to “the number of people who move out of extreme poverty” instead of “profits, expansion, and short-term and shortest-term results”. He also exhorted members of the Italian Association of Private Construction Contractors to always remember that “people are the real wealth: without them there is no working community, no enterprise, no economy.”

On workers’ day, the Commission therefore calls for a new social contract in which the rights and dignity of all workers – including non-EU workers – are fully promoted and respected, within an economic framework that restores and builds rather than exploits and destroys. Given that there can be no social justice without tax justice and no social cohesion if the rights and dignity of some are blatantly ignored, an economic and pension system which depend on the use and abuse of tax-paying workers who are then left empty-handed and discarded when no longer needed, should be firmly and roundly rejected.



Maltese Pastizzi Made Their Way To Scotland!

If you are living in or travelling to Edinburgh, Scotland you make sure you visit Ta’ Karmni homemakes who provide small batches of traditional Maltese treats, which include pastizzi, ravjul, qassatat, helwa tat-tork, pudina tan-nanna, mqaret, and qaghaq tal-ghasel.

They bring a piece of home to Scotland – with an original twist. Apart from the traditional pizelli and ricotta pastizzi, they also makes haggis versions. Haggis is the national Scottish dish – a pudding made with the liver, heart, and lungs of a sheep – or other animals – minced and mixed with beef or mutton suet and oatmeal, seasoned with onion, cayenne pepper, and other spices.

Victoria Guglielmini used to get pastizzi from Malta when she visited the island and during last year’s lockdown, she decided to buy the shop in front of her house and turn it into a tearoom, and she called it Amaretto...They opened back in October, which is when they started importing local pastizzi, Kinnie, and even Twistees’. Victoria moved to Scotland back in 2001

Go to Facebook - www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100057834391680



Knights of Malta get their 1st non-European and non-aristocratic Grand Master

posed a risk of creating confusion or had negatively impacted the Knights' ability to maneuver in

A Canadian lawyer who found his vocation caring for AIDS patients in Harlem was elected the grand master of the Knights of Malta on Wednesday, the first non-European and first non-aristocratic head of the ancient lay Catholic order that provides humanitarian aid around the world.

John Dunlap, 66, was elected by an absolute majority of 99 voting members of a Knights body known as "the council complete of state." He immediately informed Pope Francis of his election and was sworn in during a pomp-filled ceremony and procession Wednesday at the Knights' magnificent villa on Rome's Aventine hill. The election brings a hoped-for end to a tumultuous few years during which Francis intervened to remove a previous grand master as a result of a governance crisis. Francis then imposed a new set of constitutional reforms on the order, and appointed Dunlap as interim head, in ways that critics said threatened its sovereignty.

The Knights of Malta is an ancient chivalric order and sovereign entity that runs hospitals and clinics around the world. It counts 13,500 knights, dames and chaplains, 80,000 permanent volunteers and 42,000 employees, most of them medical personnel who lend first aid in areas of natural disasters and conflict zones.

As a sovereign body under international law, the Knights have diplomatic relations with more than 100 countries, which facilitates the delivery of humanitarian aid in war zones and conflict areas. The group participates in the U.N. and other international organizations as an observer state.

The distinction matters to the order because the Knights count on their reputation as a sovereign neutral player to gain access to crisis-hit areas that might be denied to other humanitarian groups.

During a recent conversation with journalists before the election, Dunlap denied the Vatican intervention

conflict zones.

"Absolutely not," he said, adding that during the years of turmoil, the Knights had actually opened diplomatic relations with four new countries and that 11 ambassadors from countries that don't have diplomatic relations showed up for his New Years' greetings this year.

"We've had no country that withdrew their ambassador," Dunlap said.

Dunlap's election to a 10-year term ends a period of change that including the election of a new governing body in January and the approval of a Vatican-mandated constitution in September.

Dunlap's election was the first under the new constitution, which allows the election of a grand master — the order's head of state — without noble lineage and removes the requirement that he serve for life. The reforms were deemed necessary to broaden the pool of potential leaders down the line.

Dunlap was born in Ottawa and practices law in New York. He found his vocation to the Knights in the 1980s while volunteering with AIDS patients at the Cardinal Cooke Medical Center in Harlem, where he has continued to volunteer.

THE ROLE OF THE GRAND MASTER The Grand Master is the head of the Order and is entitled to sovereign prerogatives and honours as well as the title of Most Eminent Highness. He must devote himself fully to the growth of the Order's works and serve as an example of authentic Christian life for all members.

The states with which the Order of Malta has diplomatic relations recognise the Grand Master with the prerogatives, immunities and honours reserved for Heads of State.

The Grand Master resides at the Order of Malta's government seat, the Magistral Palace in Rome.

St George's Square Valletta turns into fantasy garden as Valletta Green Festival 2023 open



The Valletta Green Festival – home to a fantasy garden in Pjazza San Ġorġ, was opened today Monday 1st May with over 18,000 plants of all varieties and colours. The garden can be enjoyed until Sunday 7th May.

Activities run from Wednesday 3rd May to Sunday 7th May from 10am until 8pm every day and from 10am until 10pm on Sunday.

The garden features mature trees up to three metres high and is spread over an impressive 42.82 meters by 27.53 meters, giving visitors ample space to wander and explore.

Plants and trees have been carefully selected to create a beautiful and harmonious display of colour, texture, and life. Species include Callistemon Viminalis, Cupressus Semprevirens, Olea Europea, Nerium Oleander, Eugenia Etna Fire, Bougainvillea Sanderiana, Petunias of all colours, Laurus Nobilis, Metrosideros Variegated, Pittosporum Nana, Hydrangea, Polygala, and many more.

The largest edition so far extends from Pjazza San Ġorġ to Old Theatre Street, Triton Square and several streets and squares in Valletta. Come and shop from creative entrepreneurs at the Eco Market spread along Old Theatre Street and keep your eyes peeled for flash mobs by Dancel Dance Studio in various streets and squares around Valletta with over 50 performers with a choreographed dance that seeks to raise awareness about environmental issues.

The Valletta Green Festival hosts several stands by Ambjent Malta, ERA, EWA (Water Be the Change), Project Green, the Eco Market, the Wasteserv's roadshow truck, as well as a stand for the Valletta

Design Cluster which will be taking care of a number of initiatives.

These initiatives include the participation of the EIT Urban Mobility RIS Hub Malta that will be on site to present the Hub activities and introduce current and upcoming EIT Urban Mobility opportunities. The stand will feature The Walk Diary, a family-friendly activity geared towards children aged 6-12 which invites participants to walk around Valletta and record their experience in a diary. The stand will also

showcase GoNature, an interactive game focusing on the implementation of nature-based solutions. The MOVE for Trees project meanwhile invites participants to a collective action initiative to promote physical activity and sustainable mobility in return for the planting of trees and shrubs at the Valletta Primary School.

On Saturday 6th May and Sunday 7th May one may visit the Eco Market - synonymous for vendors selling handmade, eco-friendly and sustainable items takes place in Old Theatre Street right off Pjazza San Ġorġ.

Wasteserv presents its 'Separate right, make our future bright' campaign, aimed at improving recycling and generating more awareness regarding waste disposal. One may learn more about proper waste separation and let the mascots greet and entertain you. The Roadshow takes place between 8am and 8pm on Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday with extended hours until 10pm on Friday and Saturday. Mascots will be present from 4-8pm on Friday, between 9am and noon and from 4-10pm on Saturday as well as from 9am until noon and from 4-8pm on Sunday



Australia's 25,000th Maltese Migrant

Patrick Ferry



On 31 May 1948, the Malta-Australia Migration Agreement was signed. To mark the 75th anniversary of this historic agreement, the National Archives looks at Alfred Bayliss, the 25,000th Maltese migrant. 'A very good tradesman' Born in 1931, Alfred was of mixed Maltese – British ancestry. During the war, Alfred experienced the

hardships and terror of war. His education was also disrupted.

Alfred became a mechanic employed by the British military. Despite lacking formal qualifications, he became a 'very good tradesman, hardworking and conscientious ... [with] a very good knowledge of his trade'.

In 1957 Alfred married Aida Calleja. They soon had two daughters.

In late 1959, Alfred and Aida applied for assisted passages to Australia. Aida's parents already lived in Melbourne. Alfred stated he was ready to depart for Australia 'at the earliest'.

Treated like royalty After passing medical and character checks, Alfred was selected as Australia's 25,000th post-war Maltese migrant. The Bayliss family was subsequently treated like royalty.

In February 1960, they were farewelled from Malta by senior government officials and the archbishop. On the 'Flaminia', the family was given their own cabin. This was handy as Aida suffered badly from sea sickness throughout the voyage.

After arriving in Melbourne on 8 March 1960, Alfred and Aida were flown to Canberra. There, they were guests of honour at a special luncheon at Parliament House. Immigration Minister Alexander Downer described Alfred's arrival as a 'great occasion in Australian-Maltese relations'. He wished the Bayliss family prosperity, happiness and peace of mind in Australia. As a memento of this historic occasion, the Minister presented Alfred with a book. Alfred and Aida reciprocated with a Maltese lace tablecloth. At the end of the luncheon, Alexander Downer told Alfred to contact him if he ever needed anything.

Hard times After returning to Melbourne, the family moved in with Aida's parents. However, Aida's mother died in October 1960 and her father decided to return to Malta. Alfred and Aida needed

a new home. Initially, they squeezed their family and possessions into a single room. They then rented a larger place

in Brunswick, but this was soon sold.

In desperation, Alfred contacted Alexander Downer seeking his assistance. Downer had his department write to the Housing Commission:

My minister has requested that his personal interest in this case is made known to you, and that he would be most grateful for any assistance that could be given to this family. Despite ministerial intervention, the Housing Commission was unable to assist because of a backlog of applications.

Hard work The Bayliss family finally found accommodation at Glenroy in Melbourne's north. Aida had other relatives nearby. Eventually Alfred and Aida bought a milk bar. It was hard work, opening at 6am and often not closing until midnight. To support a growing family, Alfred continued working as a mechanic too. He also worked nights. In later life, Aida qualified as a nurse's aide, something she remains proud of.

Integration and discrimination

The Bayliss family always spoke English at home, which helped them 'integrate'. However, this did not prevent the children from being bullied for being 'wogs'. In 1972, Alfred and his family became Australian citizens. Whilst Australia was now his home, Alfred remained proud of his Maltese homeland.

Alfred passed away on 31 March 2008. It was 48 years after he arrived in Australia. Alfred was survived by Aida and his children Diana, Cristina and Wayne.

The assistance of the Bayliss family and Joseph Matina of the Maltese Community Council of Victoria Inc. is gratefully acknowledged.





The Maltese Mystery Man

Patrick Ferry

Found in a bundle of records



Maltese Man'.

This photograph was found loose in a bundle of Maltese migrant records, without a name or any other identifying information.

The bundle covered Maltese Migrants with surnames ranging from Tabone to Zuereb who arrived in Melbourne. The photograph likely dates from c.1949–1950.

That's all that is known about the 'Mystery

Making Maltese migration records more accessible

The National Archives is partnering with the Maltese community to make Maltese migration records more accessible. This will involve volunteers from the Maltese Community Council of Victoria (MCCV). The National Archives' Victoria office holds several key series containing Maltese migration documents from 1948 to 1961. However, these were transferred by the Department of Immigration to archives in bundles by voyage. This makes it difficult to locate the records of specific migrants unless the name of their ship and date of arrival is known.

MCCV volunteers will be working on records dating from 1948 to 1952. They will repackage each migrant / family's records and list them individually. This will make these records identifiable by name in the National Archives' RecordSearch database.

Putting a name to the face

Can you help the National Archives put a name to the face and reunite the photograph with the right records? If so, please [contact us](http://www.naa.gov.au/). www.naa.gov.au/



The Block star Adrian Portelli is the new owner of Melbourne's most expensive apartment

By Emily Power | A day ago

Adrian Portelli, an entrepreneur coming from a Gozitan family dubbed "Lambo Guy" for his lavish lifestyle and extensive luxury car collection, has experienced an extraordinary journey from humble beginnings – to a whopping estimated net worth of \$350 million.

And his recent eye-watering purchase of a Melbourne penthouse has got people all over the world looking at the young man.

The Block star bidder Adrian Portelli has shattered Melbourne's apartment record with his deal to buy a \$39 million penthouse.

The Block's star buyer Adrian Portelli has made waves in real estate again, smashing a Melbourne price record as the new owner a \$39 million penthouse.

The property crowning Sapphire By The Gardens, a sparkling new dual-tower hotel and residence in the city, is a shell, and Adrian will customise it - including a showpiece supercar he owns which will be craned into the 57th floor residence.

The Sapphire pad, which Adrian will fit out to his specifications, has broken the previous Melbourne apartment price record of \$38 million, which was set by the sale of Southbank sub-penthouse.

Adrian Portelli has again made waves in real estate, as the buyer of the \$39 million record-breaking penthouse. He bought Sharon and Ankur's home on The Block last year. (Instagram) Sapphire By The Gardens by SP Setia developer and the Shangri-La Hotel occupy the dual towers, joined by a skybridge, at the "Paris end" of Melbourne. (Colliers International)

There are no apartments still available to buy in Sapphire By The Gardens, opposite the world-heritage listed Carlton Gardens, agent Tim Storey of Colliers International confirmed. However, some are on the market for rent right now on Domain, including entry-level, one-bedroom properties and larger, lavish residences.

Tim, the managing director of Colliers for Victoria, told *Nine* the penthouse achieved the stunning sum because of its location - at the "Paris end" of Melbourne's CBD, occupying the top of Exhibition Street - and the inclusion in the building of the Shangri-La Hotel.

The five-star hotel will be the international brand's Aussie flagship, and will include guest suites, a ballroom, restaurants, bar, indoor pool, day spa and the skybridge, which has become a signature of the construction.

100 Miles From Mallorca To Ibiza – Maltese Neil Agius Announces World-First Open Water Swim



A truly unforgettable moment for Malta was the day Neil Agius arrived at Xlendi after swimming 125km from Linosa to Malta in over 50 hours, surpassing the previous record held by Britain's Chloe McCardel. **More than two years later, as Agius is set to embark on another record-breaking swim attempt, let's take a look back at that inspiring feat.**

Agius' arrival video had amassed a staggering 19 million views on Lovin Malta's Facebook page, as people cheered the ultra-athlete on during the last moments.

This massive attention brought well-deserved recognition to the incredible endurance athlete and shone a spotlight on his Wave of

Change initiative, which promotes marine conservation and sustainability, urging supporters to each collect six pieces of plastic from the sea.

Now, as we fast forward to the present day, Agius is tackling another massive swim challenge, dubbed the 100 Mile Swim: the longest non-stop, unassisted, current neutral, open water sea swim ever attempted by any athlete.

Spanning approximately 160km from Mallorca, around the west coast of Ibiza, and finally touching the eastern coast of Ibiza, the ambitious endeavour will push Agius's endurance, strength, and mental resilience to the limit.

Malta's swimming superhero got one massive shout-out this afternoon when none other than the European Parliament president Roberta Metsola congratulated him on his latest announcement and wished him the very best of luck!

"Here's someone we should all be proud of," Metsola told all her followers about Neil Agius.

The Maltese Olympian's latest challenge sees him swimming non-stop and unassisted in open waters for more than 70 hours, for a total distance of 100 miles between Palma de Mallorca to Ibiza. "All this to raise further awareness on the importance of protecting our seas, of keeping plastic out of our oceans, of ensuring that we will leave our future generations a clean planet," Metsola continued.

"This is what positive change is all about. Take the initiative, put yourself forward, inspire and act. All of us can make a difference. It only takes one small change. Re-use plastic containers. Recycle more. Reduce consumption. This is on each and every one of us."

"Go for it Neill!" the European Parliament President finished. "Smash more records. Break more barriers. Cross more oceans. And spread your message as widely as possible. You have our support."

BATTLE OF THE CORAL SEA

81st ANNIVERSARY 2023

Sam Muscat - President Australian American Association Victoria - Australia

The 81st Anniversary of "The Battle of the Coral Sea" commemoration at the Shrine of Remembrance will be **May 7** (see full details below).

We have just commemorated ANZAC DAY. This date marks one of Australia's most important national occasions. It marks the anniversary of the first significant military action Australian and New Zealand forces fought in Europe during the First World War. We should never forget the great sacrifices made back then, nor all the other battles Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel have been engaged in over the many years. Thank you to all our ADF personnel who have put their lives first to save us and our way of life... "God Bless them and their families always."

The Battle of the Coral Sea is a significant part of our Australian history, and very few Australians are aware of this important event. Yet, just like the Bombing of Darwin, these Battles took place right on our soil and doorstep. The Battle of the Coral Sea took place during 4–8 May 1942. It was a major Naval Battle in the Pacific Theatre of World War II between the Imperial Japanese Navy and Naval and Air Forces from Australia and the United States of America, resulting in a strategic Allied

victory and reversing the tide of World War II in the Pacific.

Today, we are fortunate that we could have lost our great Country, Australia, if not for the Seamen, Crewmen, and Airmen who fought and successfully defeated the Imperial Japanese Navy.

Again, this is an essential commemoration in our Australian history. Even though we have never bestowed the pomp, ceremony, and recognition it deserves, this Battle, "along with the Battle for Darwin, is the Battles that saved our country" Sadly, it also does not even get a mention. Especially when you consider all that is happening in our region, think about this. Presently (approximately) 4,160 km (6-hour flight) is Taiwan. Not far, 5,385 Km (7.5-hour flight) (in the same region) is South Korea, and without going overboard, an area waiting to see what China will do and the threat from North Korea's leader that he would use. Then we still have the Solomon Islands, who signed a security pact with the Chinese, on our doorstep!

Please join us for one hour to remember what happened in May 1942. It would be great if you, your family, and your friends could again join us at this important commemoration. I genuinely hope you can attend so that jointly we can Remember, Thank you.

May we Never Forget

*They have no grave but the cruel sea;
No flowers lay on their head. A rusting hulk is their tombstone;
A fast on the ocean bed. They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn,
At the going down of the sun and in the morning;
We will remember them.*

COMMEMORATION SERVICE

Date: Sunday, May 7, 2023

Time: 11:30 AM for a 12:00 PM (NOON) start

Where: Shrine of Remembrance, St Kilda Road, VICTORIA

Please let Erin Muscat, Vice President and Eventschair eventschair@gmail.com if you intend to lay a wreath so that we can ensure that you are on the program.



About Gozitan Wines

www.visitgozo.gov

If you had to classify islands by size, Gozo is truly tiny. It's not even visible on the map of the world. But the island has unique features and characteristics that have made it world famous.

From the temples of Ġgantija to the awesome diving spots like the Blue Hole in Dwejra, the island is noted by many savvy travellers. But away from the cultural, historical and natural landmarks, the island is also acclaimed for its produce

like honey and wine.

When it comes to wine, few might be aware that Gozo as a region has its own DOK Gozo label.

This means that the

these distinct wines while dining out and at the various bars and taverns. You can also visit the vineyard and estates where DOK Gozo wines are produced.

Gozo has its own DOK Label

This means that the red, white and rose' wine that are marked with DOK label are produced only from grapes that are grown on the island of Gozo. These are then rightfully marked by the banderol label that designates it as DOK, in other words, protected designation of origin. This is the highest level of certification that can be achieved.

The Magic of Environment, Soil and Climate

The body and flavour of the wine are always dependent on the climate, the environment and soil in which the vineyards are located. One can find vineyards growing in different types of soil around Gozo, but the larger vineyards are found mostly in clay soil. This along with the Mediterranean type of climate, days of sunshine and wind yields the strong flavour of the Gozitan wine. Many of these vineyards can be found on the north-eastern side of Gozo.

The Sea Salt Effect

Wine experts explain that Gozitan wines have a special flavour that arises from the very close proximity of the fields to the sea. The very fact that geographically speaking, Gozo is a very small island, results in the vines being frequently sprayed by the sea salt and this, in turn, gives a special twist in the flavour! Even the salty night dew that is very present during the hot summer months is an important phenomenon towards Gozitan wines acquiring a unique taste!

A Variety of Grapes for all Tastes

The array of grape varieties that thrive and are grown in Gozo result in a good choice of wines that can be enjoyed with different meals and dishes. Amongst the grape varieties that are grown on the island, one can find the Chardonnay, Girgentina, Gellewża, Merlot and Syrah.

Wineries, Estates, Taverns & Bars:

In Gozo, one can find 3 main wineries and estates namely Ta' Mena Estate, Tal-Massar Winery and Marsovin Ramla Valley Estate, all of which are located in Xagħra. Many rural estates also offer local wine tasting. Gozitan wines can also be enjoyed at the many taverns and bars around the island!

specific types of grapes that are grown in Gozitan vineyards yield quality authentic wines that are only associated with the region. In other words, such wines are only made from grapes grown in Gozo! DOK Gozo wines are guaranteed wines because these wines would have been awarded the label following a rigorous process that follows and checks through during the growing and harvest of the grapes, right up to the making and labelling of wine. In fact, such wines are even tested in laboratories abroad to ensure that they reach certain criteria attributable to this specific quality label.

While you're on the islands, you will find wines from different vintners carrying the DOK Gozo label. Enjoy

MORE ABOUT MALTA AND THE ANZACS WW1



My heart was overjoyed to read in the Journal for Maltese living abroad (NEWS274) about all of the events held in Malta in regard to ANZAC DAY. What a special day for so many.

My grandfather, Charles Pressey, in the 9th AIF was wounded at Gallipoli, Turkey and sent to Malta to recuperate. During his stay in Malta he met my grandmother, Maria Doublett, who



**MARIA DOUBLETT
WIFE OF CHARLES PRESSEY**

was working as a VAD (nurse) in one of the hospitals. They met whilst he was there. Hence, a lifelong adventure was written. I was told of the expert care the soldiers were given in the hospitals in Malta and again, so

many owe so much to many for the help they were given.

They married – the first time – in Valletta in 1915. My grandfather was then sent to the battlefields of Northern France – so many battles he fought there and he was also sent to Ypres – all of these battlefields we have visited and I have walked in his footsteps in the trenches in Gallipoli. In 1918, my grandmother went to England to stay with her brother, his wife and family, for some time.

On leave, my grandmother and grandfather married each other – for the second time – in the Catholic Church in Bournemouth. Later my grandmother came to Australia as a war bride. Before she left for Australia, she discovered she was pregnant and their first child, my uncle, was born on board ship outside Fremantle. Then my grandmother – knowing not a person – made her way – speaking very little English from Fremantle – down to Melbourne and then up to Qld where my grandfather had grown up on a farm outside Bundaberg. There they're united when my grandfather came home from the war in 1918.

Unfortunately, my grandmother never returned to Malta and I know this must have been very difficult for her. I do not think there would have ever been the money available to allow her to return, and of course, she had 3 children to care for. My grandfather also signed up for WWII and served but due to ill health – caused from many injuries he incurred in WWI – he was discharged from the army before the war ended.



Lest We Forget

MARION FROM QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA

St George's Square turns into fantasy garden as Valletta Green Festival 2023 open



The Valletta Green Festival – home to a fantasy garden in Pjazza San Ġorġ, was opened today Monday 1st May with over 18,000 plants of all varieties and colours. The garden can be enjoyed until Sunday 7th May.

Activities run from Wednesday 3rd May to Sunday 7th May from 10am until 8pm every day and from 10am until 10pm on Sunday.

The garden features mature trees up to three metres high and is spread over an impressive 42.82 meters by 27.53 meters, giving visitors ample space to wander and explore.

Plants and trees have been carefully selected to create a beautiful and harmonious display of colour, texture, and life. Species include Callistemon Viminalis, Cupressus Semprevirens, Olea Europea, Nerium Oleander, Eugenia Etna Fire, Bougainvillea Sanderiana, Petunias of all colours, Laurus Nobilis, Metrosideros Variegated, Pittosporum Nana, Hydrangea, Polygala, and many more.

The largest edition so far extends from Pjazza San Ġorġ to Old Theatre Street, Triton Square and several streets and squares in Valletta. Come and shop from creative entrepreneurs at the Eco Market spread along Old Theatre Street and keep your eyes peeled for flash mobs by Dancel Dance Studio in various streets and squares around Valletta with over 50 performers with a choreographed dance that seeks to raise awareness about environmental issues.

The Valletta Green Festival hosts several stands by Ambjent Malta, ERA, EWA (Water Be the Change), Project Green, the Eco Market, the Wasteserv's roadshow truck, as well as a stand for the Valletta Design Cluster which will be taking care of a number of initiatives.

These initiatives include the participation of the EIT Urban Mobility RIS Hub Malta that will be on

site to present the Hub activities and introduce current and upcoming EIT Urban Mobility opportunities. The stand will feature The Walk Diary, a family-friendly activity geared towards children aged 6-12 which invites participants to walk around Valletta and record their experience in a diary. The stand will also showcase GoNature, an interactive game focusing on the implementation of nature-based solutions. The MOVE for Trees project meanwhile invites participants to a collective action initiative to promote physical activity and sustainable mobility in return for the planting of trees and shrubs at the Valletta Primary School.

On Saturday 6th May and Sunday 7th May one may visit the Eco Market - synonymous for vendors selling handmade, eco-friendly and sustainable items takes place in Old Theatre Street right off Pjazza San Ġorġ.

Wasteserv presents its 'Separate right, make our future bright' campaign, aimed at improving recycling and generating more awareness regarding waste disposal. One may learn more about proper waste separation and let the mascots greet and entertain you. The Roadshow takes place between 8am and 8pm on Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday with extended hours until 10pm on Friday and Saturday. Mascots will be present from 4-8pm on Friday, between 9am and noon and from 4-10pm on Saturday as well as from 9am until noon and from 4-8pm on Sunday



Maltese mezzo soprano Marvic Monreal to make London Royal Opera House debut

Planned debut in 2019 was put off because of the pandemic

Maltese mezzo soprano Marvic Monreal is to make her debut at London's Royal Opera House in a new production of Wagner's epic opera, The Ring Cycle, which runs from September 11-29.

The 31-year-old opera singer from Zabbar will become the first Maltese mezzo soprano to perform on the famous Covent Garden stage in a production directed by leading director Barrie Kosky and conducted by the renowned Antonio Pappano.

Monreal said: "I'm thrilled to have landed the role of Flosshilde, especially after enduring the bitter disappointment of my planned Royal Opera House debut having to be cancelled in 2019 due to the outbreak of the pandemic.

"My first experience of the Royal Opera House was watching tenor Joseph Calleja sing at the venue in 2015 while I was studying at the Royal Academy of Music and I dared to dream that day. After a lot of hard work, resilience and support from several people including Joseph, I have finally got the chance to perform there myself. I can't wait."

Written by Wagner over a 26-year period, The Ring Cycle is a collection of four operas linked by the same story. The music is high drama and the storyline is based on characters from Germanic heroic legend.

Monreal, whose powerful voice combines a rare combination of darkness and luminosity, was a member of Frankfurt Opera studio between 2020 and 2022 – where she took on various roles – and

has already sung alongside established stars including Calleja, Placido Domingo, Diana Damrau, Sondra Radvanovsky and Christian Van Horn.

She has also already performed at some notable venues: such as the Glyndebourne Festival, Salzburg Festival, The New Generation Festival, The Royal Festival Hall and recently at the Lithuanian State Opera.

Monreal said: "It's impossible to mention everyone who in one way or another has aided me in my journey so far, but I'm very grateful for the support of The Malta Arts Scholarship, which financed my Masters at the Royal Academy of Music; the BOV Joseph Calleja Foundation; which has been there for me since day one; Roderick Chalmers; Gillian Zammit and of course Joseph who has pushed me forward whenever I doubted myself."

Monreal has been awarded the **Edna Bradford Prize**, the **A M Parker Prize**, the **Esther Hulbert Award**, and the **Isabel Jay Prize**. In 2016, she was a **Jerwood Young Artist** at Glyndebourne Festival Opera. She has received the **Fordyce Scholarship** and support from Malta Arts Scholarships and the **BOV Joseph Calleja Foundation**. During her time at the Royal Opera House, she was supported by **Kiri Te Kanawa Foundation**. Marvic is also a **Georg Solti Accademia** scholar and was part of the **Young Singers Project** at Salzburg Festival.

Marvic Monreal speaks Maltese, English and Italian, and has good knowledge of German & Spanish.

Further information is available at: <https://www.roh.org.uk/tickets-and-events/das-rheingold-by-barrie-kosky-details>.

DEAR FRIEND
IF YOU HAVE AN INTERESTING STORY TO TELL SHARE IT WITH YOUR
MALTESE FRIENDS ALL OVER THE WORLD. WE WOULD LIKE
TO READ IT ON THIS JOURNAL.

OPERATION PEDESTAL

**Malta
1942**



81 years ago, a British convoy was steaming east through the Mediterranean to the relief of the beleaguered Island of Malta. Malta, now an independent republic, is located 50 miles south of Sicily and 207 miles north of Libya in the middle of the Mediterranean Sea.

In May 1941, the German “Desert Fox,” Erwin Rommel, had warned that “Without Malta, the Axis will end by losing control of North Africa.” For two years, the Luftwaffe and Regia Aeronautica pounded the island, launching 3,000 bombing raids to neutralize it.

When it was neutralized, the Axis forces in North Africa received 80 percent of the supplies shipped to them. When it wasn’t neutralized, the Axis forces received 20 percent. In the meantime, not only were the Luftwaffe and Regia Aeronautica pounding Malta, but they and the U-boats of the Kriegsmarine and Regia Marina were interdicting Allied supply convoys to Malta.

By the time of Operation Pedestal, Air Vice-Marshal Sir Keith Park was in command of the air defences of Malta. He assumed those responsibilities about the same time that one of his former adversaries during the “Battle of Britain” — Luftwaffe Field Marshal “Smiling” Albert Kesselring — was assuming his responsibilities as Commander-in-Chief South. Keith Park had been instrumental in saving England during the “Battle of Britain.”

With the launching of Operation Barbarossa, most German resources were shifted to the Eastern Front, leaving the siege of Malta in Italian hands. Finally, in January 1942, the Luftwaffe transferred II Fliegerkorps, under the command of Bruno Loerzer, to the Mediterranean Theatre. By summer, Malta was beginning to starve. Soldier rations had been reduced

from 4,000 to 2,000 calories per day. Of course, for the citizens of Leningrad, this would have been a feast!

Operation Pedestal’s convoy began assembling at Gibraltar on July 31, 1942. From the Royal Navy’s home base, Scapa Flow, Scotland came battleships Rodney and Nelson, aircraft carriers Victorious and Argus and light cruiser Sirius. The carrier Indomitable and light cruiser Phoebe came from Freetown in West Africa (now Sierra Leone). At Gibraltar, they were joined by aircraft carrier Eagle and light cruiser Charybdis. A few days later, cruisers Nigeria and Kenya joined the group from the River Clyde, in England.

In all, four aircraft carriers, two battleships, seven light cruisers and 32 destroyers sailed on Aug. 9, 1942 to escort 14 merchant ships through the Axis gauntlet to the relief of Malta. Vice-Admiral Edward Neville Syfret was in command. On Aug. 11, 1942, the aircraft carrier Eagle was sunk by U-73, captained by Helmut Rosenbaum, who was awarded the Knight’s Cross the next day. There were several attacks by the Luftwaffe and Regia Aeronautica that day with no significant damage.

The next day, heavy Axis air and submarine attacks sank two merchant ships and the destroyer Foresight, and heavily damaged the Indomitable. Italian sub Axum, with four torpedoes, damaged cruisers Nigeria and Cairo and SS Ohio, while the destroyer Ithuriel rammed and sank the Italian sub Cobalto. The Cairo later sank. The freighter Clan Ferguson fell victim to aerial attack.

On Aug. 13, the convoy was subjected to attacks by Italian E-boats and more aerial attacks, losing six more merchant ships and the light cruiser Manchester.

Three days later, the tanker Ohio, owned by the Texas Oil Company, on loan to the British Ministry of War Transport, and commanded by Capt. Dudley Mason, arrived under tow, and after discharging its 10,000 tons of fuel, sank. But this was enough. Combined with the Spitfires, future convoys could now be protected while unloading, and there was a viable threat to Axis convoys and the island would not starve. Capt. Mason was awarded the George Cross on Sept. 8, 1942, at St. James’s Palace, for his, “... skill and courage...,” in piloting the ship to Malta.

Although, as an operation, Pedestal had been a failure because of the losses — 500 sailors and airmen, nine merchantmen, one aircraft carrier, one destroyer, two light cruisers, 34 planes — it had succeeded in its purpose of keeping Malta in the war, and fatally undermining the Axis effort in North Africa.



75th anniversary of the Malta–Australia Migration Agreement

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MALTESE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF VICTORIA INC. is proud to be celebrating the 75th Anniversary of an assisted-migrant-passage agreement signed between Australia and Malta in 1948.

The program includes an official ceremony to mark the occasion with guest speakers, alongside a display on Maltese - Australian history.

There is also opportunity to book a ticket for one of our afternoon workshops on searching family history in the national archival collection.

Did you know that migration from Malta was once heavily restricted because the Maltese were seen as a threat to 'white Australia'?

Yet, after the Second World War, Malta was one of the first countries with which Australia signed an assisted-migrant-passage agreement.

This webinar will explore the intriguing history of Maltese migration to Australia during the twentieth century, using case studies from the national archival collection to highlight how perceptions and policies changed over time.

Our Victoria Office in Melbourne will be hosting this webinar. Please remember the time difference when joining this event.

Can't make it to Melbourne to attend? We're hosting a webinar on Tuesday 9 May 2023 on the fascinating history of Maltese migration to Australia.

When and where

Date and time Sat, 6 May 2023 9.45 AM - 3:30 PM AEST

Location National Archives of Australia Victoria Office 99 Shiel Street North Melbourne, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA 3051

The Maltese Community Council of Victoria and the National Archives of Australia are celebrating the 75th year anniversary since the Assisted Passage Agreement for migrants was signed on Saturday the 6 May 2023 - 9:45am to 3:30pm at:

National Archives Victoria Office

Victorian Archives Centre 99 Shiel Street North Melbourne Vic 3051

During the day, there will be entertainment, formalities, and keynote speakers including Barry York.



A GIFT OF GLORY

EXHIBITING THE ST JOHN'S CO-CATHEDRAL TAPESTRIES

5 May - 24 June 2023

TO CELEBRATE A 16-YEAR PROJECT
OF CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION



in 1697. The set consists of 29 pieces depicting the Triumph of the Roman Catholic Church, scenes from the life of Christ and the twelve apostles. The majority of the tapestries were based on cartoons by the renowned artist Peter Paul Rubens and woven in Brussels by the weaver Judocus De Vos, their intricate design woven from wool and pure silk make them a true masterpiece of European art.

The restoration process was complex and very time consuming because over time their condition deteriorated causing several open seams and loss of the silk treads. The project was carried out by a team of experts at De Wit Royal Manufacturers in Belgium. The tapestries were carefully cleaned and repaired, and the original colours and designs were restored to their former glory. The restoration process was funded by the St John's Co-Cathedral Foundation, which is dedicated to preserving and promoting the cultural heritage of this unique UNESCO World Heritage site.

The tapestries, which will be hung in the Main Nave of the St John's Co-Cathedral, will be displayed between 5 May and 24 June 2023. This is a rare opportunity for visitors to see these magnificent tapestries and appreciate their beauty, historical and religious significance. The exhibition, which will attract art enthusiasts from all over the world, will undoubtedly be a highlight of the cultural calendar in Malta. We look forward to welcoming visitors to the St John's Co-Cathedral to experience this unique cultural event.

A GIFT OF GLORY – EXHIBITING THE TAPESTRIES AT ST JOHN'S CO-CATHEDRAL, TO MARK THE FINALISATION OF THEIR RESTORATION

The St John's Co-Cathedral Foundation is delighted to announce that The Set of Tapestries will be exhibited at St John's Co-Cathedral after an extensive restoration process that lasted 16 years at De Wit Laboratories in Belgium. The last time they were displayed was during Pope St John Paul II's visit to Malta in 1990.

The set of tapestries was commissioned by Grand Master Ramon y Perellos upon his election

Manoel Island: Gzira's Hidden Gem



[Sander](#)

Manoel Island is an island situated in Gzira. Part of the Marsamxett Harbour which also makes part of the capital city of Malta. It's hidden due to its small stature and being part of a beautiful city of Gzira. However, it doesn't go

unnoticed once one realises about the Hidden Gem that Manoel Island is.

Its name is derived by the events in the 1720s when the then Grand Master Antonio Manoel de Vilhena built a fort on the island.

Its shape is recognised by people as a leaf and is in the middle of Lazzaretto Creek and Sliema Creek, which are in the South and North respectively. The island can be crossed by a car or by walk as it is connected with Malta through a bridge.

Tourists and Locals alike can look at this beautiful island from the Malta capital's bastions, Valletta. Surrounded by the sea, tourists can swim around during the summer and go to the biggest luna park in the country!

HISTORY OF MANOEL ISLAND

The history of this island goes back to 1570 when the Bishop of Malta acquired through the Chapter of Mdina. That led to its name being "Isola del Vescovo" which translates to the Bishop's Island.

22 YEARS LATER.

A hospital with the name of Lazzaretto was built after an outbreak of the plague which hit the country of Malta really hard. Initially made of wood and the plague being subsided it prompted for it to be destroyed. Lazzaretto was moved by Grandmaster Lascaris of the Order of Saint John to Rabat and became a permanent hospital for the plague and cholera diseased.

Grand Master Antonio Manoel de Vilhena and the Knights built Fort Manoel during 1723 and 1733, hence the renaming of the island.

This fort contributed to the country in historic battles. During the World War 2 the fort together with the island was used as a naval base.

A church dedicated to St. Anthony was destroyed by a bomb in 1942.

MANOEL ISLAND'S RESTORATION

Manoel Island is always going through restoration after getting partially destroyed during world war 2. Chapel of St Anthony might be the worst and difficult one to deal with. Its history meant that the authorities needed to fix the damage.

The Chapel is restored externally and the Polverista from internal and external looks like new.

Maltese American Community Club Of Dearborn

5221 Oakman Boulevard, Dearborn,
Michigan 48126, United States Maltese
American Community



The Club and Hall is a banquet space in Dearborn, MI. We provide event hosting for any occasion such as weddings, conferences, birthdays, graduations, meeting rooms, spaces to host creative workshops, and much much more! We also offer different things and participate in community events such as the annual car show or the Memorial Day Parade.

The history of Detroit's Maltese communities starts with World War II, or shortly after it, when a surge of emigrants left the island in pursuit of better opportunities, the American Dream.

Yet, years after emigrating to the US, and thousands of miles away from home, there's no escaping the island culture. "The interiors of people's homes were felt uncannily familiar. You had to step outside to remind yourself you were across the Atlantic," said director Charlie Cauchi.

The walls of the clubs are a museum of the community's rich past, decorated with photos of

 
The Maltese American Community Club, Dearborn, MI
together with

**The Ambassador of Malta to the United States
H.E. Dr. Godfrey Carmel Xuereb
and The Hon. Consul of Malta, Paul Borg**

*Request the pleasure of your company
at a dinner reception to honour*



**The President of Malta
H.E. Dr. George Vella**

Friday, May 19th, 2023 at 6:00pm - Doors Close at 6:45pm

at the Maltese American Community Club, Dearborn
5221 Oakman Blvd., Dearborn, MI 48126

**For Tickets call th M.A.C.C. (313) 846-7077
and leave a message**

Club Ticket Dinner Donation \$35.00

Tickets must be purchased and picked up by May 15th, 2023

Envelopes available to show your Support for
The 2023 Istrina - Malta Community Chest Fund

The Foundation works tirelessly in aid of patients who require specialised treatment for serious health conditions as well as other individuals and families who are in a state of vulnerability.

club presidents and the Maltese and US politicians alike.

The food is distinctly Maltese, with kitchens manned by first-generation emigrants cooking up rabbit, ftira and pastizzi too. And so are the drinks, with Kinnie being served to club members.

The Maltese community in Detroit thrived throughout the city's automotive heyday and continues to grow now with second and third-generation emigrants equally as enthusiastic about Malta as their predecessors.

"They were able to keep the close-knit community they had in Malta while having space and freedom that a place like the USA can offer.

"The younger members of the community that we met had such a love and fascination for Malta. Many of them spoke Maltese and even if they didn't, they were trying to learn the language,

Explore Vibrant Valletta this May

Valletta's biggest date on its Spring calendar is approaching making it a marvellous time to experience the city's vibrant cultural life this May, with plenty of opportunities to explore and enjoy the city's rich history and culture throughout the month. Mark your calendars and don't miss the chance to visit the Valletta Green Festival showcasing an impressive fantasy garden in the festival's largest edition so far, while learning about green cities and communities. The Valletta Cultural Agency once again prides itself in providing a rich calendar and diverse range of events, varying from floral installations to artistic exhibitions, cinema nights and much more!



Valletta Green Festival

Join us for the Valletta Green Festival – home to a fantasy garden in Pjazza San Ġorġ, creating a magical trail in one of the Capital's largest open areas.

Opening on Monday 1st May with over 18,000 plants of all varieties and colours, the garden can be enjoyed until Sunday 7th May. The largest edition so far extends from Pjazza San Ġorġ to Old Theatre Street, Triton Square and several streets and squares in Valletta. On

Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th May come and shop from creative entrepreneurs at the Eco Market spread along Old Theatre Street and keep your eyes peeled for a flash mob by Dancel Dance Studio in various streets and squares around Valletta. The Valletta Green Festival hosts several stands by Ambjent Malta, ERA, EWA (Water Be the Change), Project Green and the Valletta Design Cluster. Wasteserv's roadshow truck will be in Triton Square.



Tnejn Għat-Talkies

Enjoy a movie or two during the 8th May or 22nd May of the month. This month *Raging Bull* (Martin Scorsese, 1980) and *Pan's Labyrinth - El Labirinto del Fauno* (Guillermo Del Toro, 2006), will be shown on the respective dates. Tnejn Għat-Talkies is organised by the Valletta Cultural Agency, as part of its Strada Stretta programme, and celebrates classic and memorable films in the heart of the Capital.



Decadence, Now

Up for a one-of-a-kind exhibition? Discover Decadence, Now. – an exhibition of artworks, objects, music and paraphernalia from the Decadent movement, curated by Andrew Borg Wirth. The Reactionary Artists are one of Malta's foremost fashion artists Luke Azzopardi together with Michael

Admission is Free of Charge.



Valletta Concours D'Elegance

This month Valletta invites you to an exhibition celebrating the fine artistic engineering of both the city and the vehicles coming together to create a unique event, from the 20th until the 28th May at the King's Own Band Club. The annual Valletta Concours presents a selection of the best historic and collector cars from the island and abroad. The Valletta Cultural Agency is collaborating on this event with an artistic exhibition featuring artworks by seven artists depicting scenes from Valletta and

classic cars.

Zerafa, Maria Theuma and Andrew Borg Wirth himself.

MALTESE COMMUNITY IN NEW YORK

**MOTHER'S DAY BINGO BRUNCH 7 May**

Join us for a Mother's Day Bingo Brunch - \$20 admission per person at the door. Bingo cards are not included. Mimosas, Sangria, Waffles, Bagels, Croissants, Eggs, Salads will be served. A raffle will be held. Kindly RSVP or text 718-650-1302 so that we can properly accommodate. RSVP

Time & Location May 07, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

The Maltese Center, 2720 Hoyt Ave S, Astoria, NY 11102, USA

The Maltese Center- New York
SAVE THE DATE - MAJJALATA BBQ
MAY 20TH

Time & Location

May 20, 7:00 PM – 11:59 PM

The Maltese Center, 2720 Hoyt Ave S, Astoria, NY 11102, USA

“ID-DENFIL” AND “IL-GOJJIN”

There is no doubt that illustrated story books intensely evoke childhood memories. Young children enjoy poring over book covers with a time-defying immersion that grown-ups unfortunately tend to lose. Such magic was presented to an entire generation of Maltese school children through two much-loved local publications - Id-Denfil and Il-Gojjin. Many adults today still cherish fond memories of these iconic Maltese textbooks that accompanied them throughout their early school years.

Both books were very popular for their simple stories about life and traditions in the Maltese Islands at that time and included lovely unique illustrations. Two of the most popular illustrators were Joseph Mallia (Id-Denfil) and Frank Schembri (Il-Gojjin). Both may be

considered as early promoters of education for children via their charismatic designs and visual themes. They enabled young readers to appreciate local cultural and historical aspects such as the typical old Maltese buses, village feast celebrations, local architectural elements and countryside scenes. Through their illustrations, they positively marked the childhood of many Maltese students across generations. They helped to instill within young impressionable readers a love for reading, leading them to appreciate and cherish their unique mother tongue. Mallia and Schembri were meticulous in their drawings. Behind what seemed spontaneous images, lied deep thought and research.

What we read, see and share at a young age stays with us for life. With this in mind, MaltaPost proudly introduced two stamps that portray these two Maltese iconic children's books. - Id-Denfil and Il-Gojjin. This stamp issue should take many back in time to relive the visual happiness of their childhood. **Date Of Issue: 17 Feb 2023**

Kapunata Maltija (Maltese caponata)

Caponata, a Sicilian and also a Maltese Dish must not be confused with the French Ratatouille. Both use aubergine, but Caponata is flavored with sugar and vinegar whilst in Ratatouille, these ingredients do not feature. Although Sicilian, in Malta, Kapunata is very popular especially in the hot summer months when eaten chilled with fresh crusty maltese bread.

There are many ways to serve Kapunata, on its own, as a side dish with fresh fish especially, as a pasta sauce or glamorize it a bit and serve it with risotto milanese and parmesan crisps as a dinner party starter.

There are many recipes for Kapunata, and below you will find one of the Maltese versions:

Ingredients:

- 200g onions, thinly sliced
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 400g tomatoes, peeled and chopped
- 500g aubergine, cubed
- 2 celery stems
- 6 olives
- 1 tbsp capers
- 2 tbsps tomato paste
- 125ml water

Method:

1. Place the onion and the olive oil in a saucepan.
 2. Cook the onion on moderate heat, stirring continuously. If the onion dries out, add some water.
 3. Add the tomatoes, the aubergine, the celery, the olives, the capers, the tomato paste and more water, still stirring continuously.
 4. Bring to a boil.
 5. Reduce the heat, cover the saucepan and leave to simmer for one and a half hours.
 6. Remove the pan from the heat. Leave to cool. Stir in chopped basil before serving. Enjoy!
- Hannv Cooking!



High Commissioner Ms. Gloria Gangte introduced yoga to class 5 students at Luqa Primary School, St. Ignatius college. Children enjoyed their first ever Yoga performance and felt refreshed after doing Pranayama. A great start to IDY 2023 with young ones in Malta.



The Sun describe Maltese swimmer Mya Azzopardi as 'Out of this World'

MaltaDaily – News :

International news platform 'The Sun' have dedicated an article to Maltese swimmer Mya Azzopardi, describing her as 'out of this world' in lieu of TikTok comments.

'The 20-year-old San Jose State Spartan, who has represented Malta on numerous occasions', wrote the platform, 'has recently begun to find fame on Instagram and TikTok.'

'Azzopardi's TikTok has seen her described by fans as "Out of this world" and "way too pretty" by fans' continued the Sun, echoing the praise aimed at Azzopardi by social media followers.

The Sun also highlighted the swimmer's achievements, highlighting her eight golds, six silvers and three bronze medals. 'These include national titles and three podium finishes representing Malta at the 18th Games of the Small States of Europe 2019.'

Azzopardi was recently labeled the prettiest by teammate Andreea Dragoi, who competes at beauty pageants and was the winner of this year's Miss Ambassador and Miss California US Nation pageants.

On Sunday 19th March 2023, local fashion designers Charles & Ron launched their new Fall/Winter 2023/24 collection during Los Angeles Fashion Week.

The show was part of Art Hearts Fashion Week, which was held at The Majestic Downtown LA, with the inspiration point for this collection coming from Limestone, the Maltese Island's landscape.

'From the oldest free-standing temples, fortifications, churches to our rocky shores, Maltese limestone gives the country its unique Golden hue. The islands' history is literally carved

in stone' the designers explained. The Limestone Sunset consisted of stone coloured puffer jackets, executed in exaggerated shapes and mimic stone sculpture details, 'just like stone walls protecting the wearer from the elements.'

Art Hearts Fashion is the leading platform dedicated to bringing innovative designers and artists to the forefront of fashion week. Founded in 2010, AHF has become a driving force for fashion, art, and entertainment, featuring some of the biggest names in the field

Fra Mudest



Fil-kunvent, go raħal ċkejken,
kien hemm jghix mal-patrijiet,
fra ferriehi, illi f'hajtu,
ghamel praspas bil-mijiet.

Dejjem ghen lil kull min seta'.
Dan kien jagħmlu bi pjaċir.
Ma tantx kien idum jahsibha
sabiex jagħti xi parir.

Dan kien qsajjar, kemxejn oħxon,
b'qargħa tleqq, wiċċu dahqan.
Kien mahbub mar-raħal kollu,
fejn tarah dejjem ferħan.

Ġanni l-kok kien haħib tiegħu,
hekk ukoll is-saġristan.
U biex jgħinhom fix-xogħol tagħhom,
Fra Mudest kien tant herqan.

Sabiex jgħin lil kull min jara,
dan il-fra dejjem għal-lest.
Mhux ta' b'xejn fir-raħal kollu
kienu jsemmu 'l Fra Mudest!

Xi kultant, il-Fra kien jiġbor
lis-subien u kemm lill-bniet.
Sabiex jgħid xi erba' stejjer,
jew idahħaq b'xi ċajtiet.

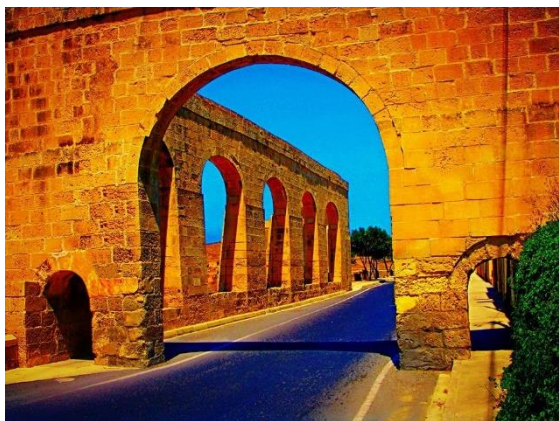
Ta' kuljum idur mar-raħal.
Lil kulhadd kien jaf, bieb bieb.
Daqqa jjeqaf biex jgħid kelma,
daqqa jidhol għand xi hbieb.

Dwar il-Fra naf hafna stejjer,
li kont smajt mingħand xi hbieb.
U snin ilu darba waħda
minn go mohħi għadda hsieb.

Lill-Pirjol, mhux l-ewwel darba,
tellagħhomlu f'hakka t'ghajn!
'Ma ftiit wara kien jgħaddilu,
jidhaq dahqa mal-oħrajn.

Illi nikteb dawn l-istejjer
sabiex ma jintesa qatt,
dan il-Fra ta' qalbu f'idu
li mahbub, kien minn kulhadd.

Charles Casha



Gozo's aqueduct to undergo extensive restoration

Gozo's aqueduct, an icon among the fields in the western part of the island, will undergo extensive restoration by the Government.

Following the completion of studies and with issued permits, documents are currently being prepared to issue the expression of interest for the restoration.

The arcade that allows traffic flow from and towards Għarb

and the Ta' Pinu Sanctuary is strengthened by iron structure to avoid accidents and the continuous damage to the building. This is, however, a temporary arcade until the aqueduct and arcade restoration is completed.

The restoration project, coordinated by the Cultural Heritage Directorate in the Gozo Ministry, has a number of challenges. Architect Hermann Bonnici told TVMnews that parts of the aqueduct, which all still standing, will not be possibly dismantled. The other dismantled parts and stones will be numbered and then built to their original state.

The biggest challenge is the piles system to hold the aqueduct in place. Once this system is carried out, the proper intervention on the stone will be carried out to revert the damage on the aqueduct. Parts of it collapsed in the 80s and an exercise will be carried out to recover the stones, be numbered and reconstructed to be placed again in those parts where there are the original stones.

Following the direction of the Cultural Heritage Superintendency and the Planning Authority, the aqueduct will not be completed in its original state because the missing stones will not be replaced by new ones. Architect Herman Bonnici said the aqueduct structural problems emanate from the clay area of the building.

Rocks are some eight metres under the clay area and there is only a metre and a half of foundations under the soil surface. The geological movement of the land and clay, together with other factors, led to the collapse of parts of the aqueduct and others moved on the sides.

The Gozo aqueduct was built during the middle of the 19th Century to supply water from Għar Ilma in Kerċem to Rabat, and was also extended towards the Citadel reservoirs. The aqueduct water supply ended in the beginning of the 20th Century. Expression of interest for this extensive project is expected to be issued shortly.



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