



MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

Journal for Maltese Living Abroad

Editor: Frank L Scicluna OAM MQR JP

Contact: maltesejournal@gmail.com

Maltese Living Abroad

President of Malta Dr. George Vella in USA and Canada

*"Back in Malta, we are proud of you
and your achievements"*



THE MIGRANT

A suitcase filled with courage
Wonder, hope and dreams
In search of far horizons
For what fate and fortune brings.

I have found you, land of freedom
No longer will I roam
My tomorrows are your destiny
Australia is my home,

A Poem by D. Tripodi



Maltese American
Benevolent Society
in Detroit.



Maltese Center
Astoria NY - USA



Maltese American
Community
Club in Dearborn

**THE HISTORY OF
MALTESE EMIGRATION
IS AN IMPORTANT
PART OF THE
HISTORY OF MALTA**

THE VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT OF MALTA TO USA AND CANADA - 2023



President visits car museum in US where many of the staff are of Maltese descent

President George Vella has paid a visit to the Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation in Michigan.

Many of the staff at this museum are of Maltese descent.

He spoke to them about their work experience at the company and their ties to Malta.

President Vella and Mrs Vella are on an official

visit to the US and Canada.

In New York he will address a debate about the protection of people during armed conflict. The debate is being organised by the Swiss Presidency of the UN Security Council.



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

Host 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

"I encourage you to remain united and maintain your ties with Malta" - President Vella 19 May 2023

President George Vella said that traditions are important because they maintain unity among the community. He said this during a visit to the Maltese community in Michigan, United States. He thanked for the way they continued to keep Maltese culture and traditions alive in their daily lives. "Back in Malta, we are all proud of you and your achievements", said the President while he was addressing the Maltese at The Maltese American Community Club in Dearborn and at The Maltese American Benevolent Society in Detroit.



"I am sure that you will manage to keep them alive, because even though you live beyond our shores, you remain Maltese in your hearts," pointed out President Vella, while encouraging them to remain united. In the state of Michigan lives the largest Maltese community in the United States: more than 13,000 people of Maltese descent, many of them second, third, and possibly even fourth generation Maltese. In his speech, which he opened with two words in Maltese, the President encouraged the Maltese to, where possible, continue to communicate with each other in the Maltese language, especially with the younger

generations.



Dr and Mrs Vella with the American-Maltese Community

"Our language is a unique treasure that all of us - including you - need to be afraid of", appealed the President, while inviting the Maltese community to follow and get involved in the campaign 'the Maltese language for my heart'.



Judge Rosemarie Aquilina, Senator Darrin Camilleri, and Michigan Supreme Court Judge Brian K. Zahra, all of Maltese descent who attended the special function in honour of Dr and Mrs Vella

Present at the meetings were Judge Rosemarie Aquilina, Senator Darrin Camilleri, and Michigan Supreme Court Judge Brian K. Zahra, all of Maltese descent who have made a name for themselves in their professional field. The President stated that over the years, courage, kindness, and determination continued to stand out in the Maltese diaspora, not only in the state of Michigan but all over the world. The Maltese community in Michigan celebrates Maltese

American Heritage Day which was established by a resolution on the initiative of Senator Darrin Camilleri. President Vella was accompanied by the Minister for the Interior, Security, Reforms and Equality, Byron Camilleri.

The Maltese club in Detroit, USA, has been celebrating the feast of the Virgin Mary for three years with a statue it brought from Gozo. This is one of the Maltese clubs in the state of Michigan, through which, Maltese culture and traditions have been kept alive and united the community. In a visit to the Maltese diaspora in the United States, President George Vella, encouraged the Maltese in the United States to continue speaking Maltese because in his words, "the Maltese language is a unique treasure that we must look after".



**THE PRESIDENT AND THE FIRST LADY AT THE
MALTESE CENTER, NYC USA 21 MAY 2023**

On Sunday evening, accompanied by Minister Byron Camilleri And the Maltese delegation in New York, Dr and Mrs Vella visited the Maltese Center New York City in Astoria.

Dr. Vella said "It is always a pleasure to see that Maltese communities abroad are united and still promoting Maltese traditions."

Ladies' luncheon with Guest of Honour Mrs Mary-Anne Vella First Lady

Venue: Melita Soccer Club

\$25 per person

Buffet with cash bar. Doors open at noon.

Book by 22 May 2023 by calling

Mary Ann Piscopo

on 647 290 4856

More info available on Consulate General of Malta in Toronto Facebook
#MaltainCanada

26 MAY 2023



**More
information
is available
on the
Consulate
General
of Malta
in Toronto
Facebook
Page**

Maltese community meet and greet in Hamilton, ON in the presence of the President of Malta, First Lady & the Hon. Minister for Home Affairs

Venue: Liuna Station

Refreshments will be provided.

Email to book: maltaconsulate.toronto@gov.mt

No gifts or tokens, however, donations to the
Malta Community Chest Fund would be appreciated.

More info available on Consulate General of Malta in Toronto Facebook
#MaltainCanada & MCACH

27 MAY 2023
2:30PM



Main event: Dinner in honour of the President of Malta, First Lady & the Hon. Minister for Home Affairs

Venue: Malta Band Club

Tickets will be available for collection from the
Consulate General of Malta, against a requested
charitable donation of \$50 towards the Malta
Community Chest Fund (cash only).

Tickets are non-transferrable.

No gifts or tokens, however, donations to the Malta
Community Chest Fund would be appreciated.

More info available on Consulate General of Malta in Toronto Facebook
#MaltainCanada

27 MAY 2023
6:30PM



FULL REPORT IN THE NEXT EDITION

**the President will be visiting the Maltese-Canadian Community
on 26 and 27 May 2023**

PRESIDENT VELLA LAYS FLOWERS ON THE 9/11 MEMORIAL IN NEW YORK

President George Vella, who is currently in New York, has laid flowers on the 9/11 memorial.

Dr Vella held a bilateral meeting with Miguel Ángel Moratinos, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the [United Nations Alliance of Civilizations \(UNAOC\)](#), at the Headquarters of the United Nations in New York.

They discussed the geo-political situation globally and the threats it is posing to multilateralism and agreed that dialogue



based on values is needed with partners, especially in Africa. Youth have a central role in instilling dialogue.

President Vella is accompanied by Home Affairs Minister Byron Camilleri.

On Sunday the president, his wife and the delegation visited the Maltese communities at the Malta Centre in Astoria, at The Maltese American Community Club in Dearborn and at The Maltese American Benevolent Society in Detroit.

AT THE UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS



Addressing an **Open Debate on the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflicts** organised by the Swiss Presidency of the United Nations Security Council, Dr. George Vella, the President of Malta said that everyone must avoid seeing arms and ammunition continuously arriving in conflict zones while civilians in these zones are threatened by hunger – if not death – because humanitarian convoys cannot reach them.

The pain and cries of so many men, women, and children must be heard and heeded. The world relies on the work and leadership of this Council to

protect the most vulnerable from harm, suffering or worse.

Sydney family's defiant stand to keep home, turning down \$50m



A Sydney family is sitting pretty on their huge block of land, refusing to sell to developers even as cookie cutter homes spring up around them.

Georgina Noack

A Sydney family is sitting pretty on their massive block of land, refusing to sell to developers even as cookie cutter homes spring up around them.

The sprawling two-hectare block in The Ponds, a suburb near Quakers Hill about 40km northwest of the Sydney CBD, is owned by the Zammit family who have been staunch in holding onto their beloved home.

And although it sticks out like a sore thumb, their neighbours and local real estate agents have praised the family for staying put despite the massive cheques they have likely been offered – including, reportedly, one for \$50 million in 2022. Incredible aerial images have since emerged of the home, revealing the drastic changes the area has undergone since the family moved in almost two decades ago.

The home sticks out like a sore thumb as it is surrounded by the grey homes. Picture: Twitter

Diane Zammit, who moved into the property with her family 17 years ago, spoke with *Daily Mail Australia* about their home the suburb, saying “it’s just not the same” as it used to be.

“It used to be farmland dotted with little red brick homes and cottages,” she said.

“Every home was unique and there was so much space – but not anymore.” When the Zammits bought the property, it was in sprawling farmland. Picture: Twitter

Now, the home looks like Central Park surrounded by grey homes wedged right up against the home’s boundary fence. The property is estimated to be big enough for between 40 and 50 homes. Local Ray

White Quakers Hill real estate agent Taylor Bredin told 7News in 2022 a 300 square metre block could fetch a million dollars.

Most of the neighbouring blocks of land sold for up to \$239/sqm in 2012; which would have valued the Zammits’ five-acre property at around \$4.75 million 10 years ago. But since then, Sydney

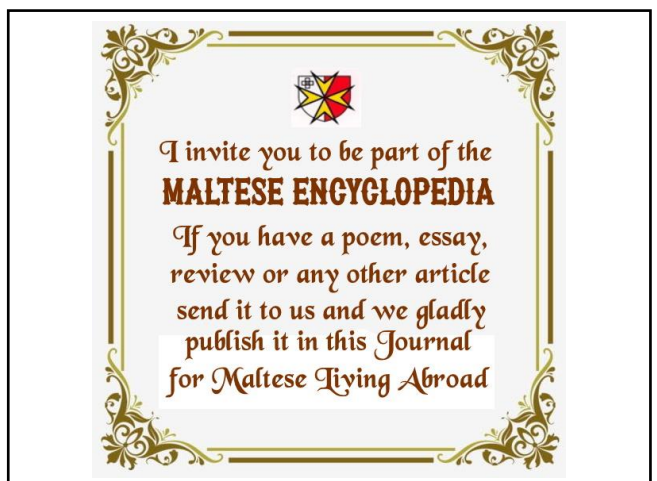
property prices have boomed. Stills from the aerial video showing the Zammit house surrounded by suburban homes. Picture: Twitter

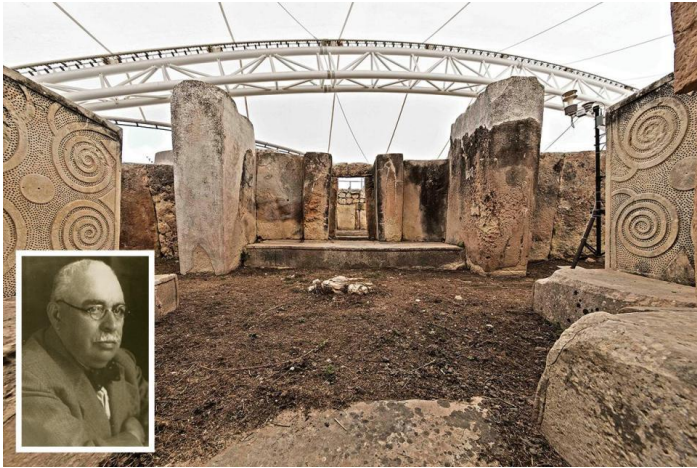
According to realestate.com.au the median price of a home in The Ponds in the year to April 2023 is \$1,441,750 (an increase of 1.2 per cent). To sell 40 or 50 houses at that price would equate to between \$57.6 million and \$72.1 million. An eye-watering sum.

Although estimates have been thrown around, a local source told news.com.au that while it is not clear how much the house could be sold for, the Zammit family is “very comfortable” where they are. “They are not in a position to want to sell, need to sell, or have to sell,” they said.

“I don’t really know how much it could go for, but it’s the last of its kind, so it’s pretty valuable.”

Mr Bredlin told 7NEWS it was a “credit” to the Zammits to stick around, when “that most people sold out years and years ago”. The family have remained private, not speaking publicly about past offers or intentions for the future.





Heritage Malta to explore the Tarxien Temples which Sir Temi explored

Fiona Vella

Sir Temi Zammit is well known for the work he conducted at Tarxien Temples. Photos: Heritage Malta

Humanity produces exceptional people who excel in various sectors.

Sir Themistocles Zammit, who is also known as Temi Zammit, was one of these. He was born in Valletta in 1864 into a very humble family. His parents were illiterate and yet they succeeded to nurture his thirst for knowledge and his ability to triumph in spite of all the obstacles he faced. Graduating as a doctor and later on appointed as a professor of chemistry, Zammit earned a knighthood for a vital scientific discovery he made in 1905.

He was the one who identified the vector that was causing the Mediterranean or undulant fever (locally known as deni riqi), when he recognised that the micro-organism, which became known as *Brucella melitensis*, was being transmitted to humans through fresh goat's milk.

Sir Temi was also a historian and a prolific writer, authoring several literary works. He served as the rector of the Royal University of Malta for some years, and also as the director of the National Museum. His prowess proved to be indispensable even in the local archaeological field.

The legacy Sir Temi left in Maltese archaeology is best evident in the work that he conducted at Tarxien Temples, which today form part of the UNESCO World Heritage List.

It was Lorenzo Despott, a farmer from Paola, who led to the revelation of this site when, in 1913, he reported hitting large blocks of stone while trying to plough deeper than usual in the field he held as a tenant.

The telltale signs of an impressive discovery were immediately apparent when an exploratory trench was

Who was Temi Zammit?

excavated in the field. At a depth of just a metre, blocks of stones started to emerge, coupled with prehistoric pottery.

Further excavations, which resumed in 1915, revealed the grandeur of prehistoric structures that were built with a high level of artistic and technical accomplishment.

By the end of the excavations, in 1919, four structures were uncovered, three of which were interpreted as 'temples' due to their size and the artefacts found within them.

Besides this remarkable discovery, Sir Temi is acclaimed for having introduced the first systematic archaeological excavations. Although not using the modern excavation techniques employed today, he applied the approaches that he had learned as a medical doctor and as a renowned scientific researcher. The observations and drawings he left in his notebooks prove the details he went into.

Even though the site of the Tarxien Temples has undergone several studies along the years, it still retains a compelling sense of mystery. Who were the people who built these structures and what was their function?

Garments and ornaments represented on some of the statues and figurines that were recovered from this site give an insightful indication about the people who constructed or utilised these temples.

The colossal statue that was unearthed at the South Temple wears a pleated skirt. The spiral decorations and animal reliefs that were chiselled in stone look like decorations but, probably, were far more meaningful to the people who created them.

The number of stone spheres that were located at this site seem to have been used to transport the large megaliths with which the structures were built. Who knows from which site these huge stones were cut out?

The Tarxien Temples were crucial in understanding another facet of Maltese prehistory – the Bronze Age. After an apparent abandonment of the Maltese islands and its 'temples' for a good number of years, new people seem to have reached these shores. They are identifiable through their introduction of metal and weapons, and through their different treatment of their deceased, using cremation instead of inhumation.

Interestingly, Sir Temi succeeded to notice these people's reuse of part of the Tarxien Temples through a thick layer which was deposited on the remains left by the previous users of this site, as if making a conscious effort for a fresh start.

One can imagine the pride that Sir Temi must have felt in 1920 while guiding visitors personally around the complex he had so painstakingly excavated during the previous five years.



THE ORDINATION OF A NEW DEACON IN THE MALTESE GREEK-CATHOLIC PARISH

On Sunday, 21st May 2023, the Greek-Catholic parish in Malta will have a new deacon. The diaconal ordination of subdeacon Jesmond Schembri will take place with the blessing of Archbishop Charles Scicluna and with the laying of the hands of Mgr Manuel Nin O.S.B., Apostolic Exarch to Greece and Titular Bishop of Carcabia. The ordination Mass will be celebrated at 9.00 a.m. at the Church of St Nicholas of Myra (Tal-Erwieħ) in Valletta.

The sub-deacon Jesmond Schembri is from the Greek-Catholic Parish of Our Lady of Damascus in Valletta.

Schembri is married, a father of two and a grandfather of two.

In the Byzantine rite, the act of service which characterises the deacon's vocation is especially apparent in the very active role he takes in the celebration of the liturgy. The deacon is found both in the sanctuary assisting the bishop or priest and in the midst of the congregation leading them in their prayers to God.

The Greek-Catholic Church is part of the Catholic Church which is made up of 23 different Churches which, however, are in complete and perfect communion with each other and with the Pope of Rome. These churches have different traditions and rites.

While the vast majority of Catholics embrace the Latin Rite of the Roman Catholic Church, other rites include the Byzantine one, which is the rite of the Greek-Catholic community of Malta.



Some Essential Maltese Phrases You Need to Know

We advise you to learn at least a smidgen of Maltese to make your holiday more pleasurable in Malta.

There are plenty of reasons why taking this route is a good idea. For starters, even though Malta is a bilingual nation and most people here will be able to communicate in English just fine, locals will appreciate your efforts in speaking the mother tongue! We really

do think it's charming when tourists have a go at speaking Maltese, so you might be rewarded with some extra hospitality.

Plus, there's always the fact that learning a new language is simply a rewarding, enriching experience for its own sake – and if you plan on learning more languages, Maltese is a great option. Sure, we might not have the most widely spoken language in the world, but it sure makes for a good challenge. Our unique blend of Italian, Arabic, and other influences is not the easiest to get to grips with, mark our words, but that's what makes it fun!

Of course, if you do use your Maltese skills to practical use, you need to make it very clear that you're still an apprentice of the tongue. Most people will pick up on this easily, but if your accent is convincing enough, you might that some people will try to carry a whole conversation in Maltese with you!

Still, at least starting the conversation in Maltese is sure to turn some heads, guaranteeing that it will be pretty easy to get the help and/or information you need as you explore the island. So without further

ado, here are a few essential phrases that you can use to impress the Maltese, and even your friends back home!

Bongu/Bonsua (Good morning/Good evening)

[Pronounced: bon-joo/bon-sua] When trying to get someone's attention, nothing works quite as well as a heartfelt greeting. Even if you switch to English right after, a good Bongu from a non-Maltese native will definitely put a smile on anyone's face. In other words, you might actually make his morning good!

Kif int? (How are you?)

[Pronounced: keef-int?] The same principle as above stands here. Whether you're looking for guidance, or whether you're simply trying to have a chat, showing interest in the other person's well-being goes a long way. Human compassion is a language that transcends words, but hey – it works pretty well in Maltese too.

X'jismek?/ Jiena jisimni... (What is your name? /My name is...)

[Pronounced: shyis-mac?/yeena jisimni] You can't make friends with people if you don't know their names, right? Going abroad is rewarding for so many reasons, but connecting with new people is definitely one of our favourites. Using these two simple phrases might result in you making some genuine friends you'll come to regard as irreplaceable.

Kif nista mmur sa...? (How can I get to [insert place here]?)

[Pronounced: keef nista immoor sa..?] Malta might be a maze for you, but you can at least show those around you that your grasp on the language is slightly less labyrinthine! We bet that you wouldn't want to receive directions in Maltese back, though!

Pro tip: If you really want to impress, learn how to use the determiner article *il-* works in Maltese. If you want to go to any library, you'd say 'Kif nista mmur sa librerija?'. However, you want to go to a specific one, you'd say 'kif nista mmur sal-librerija?'. Place names don't require the article, so you can just say sentences like 'kif nista mmur sa Haġar Qim?'

Jekk jogħġbok/Grazzi (Please/Thank you)

[Pronounced: yekk yodgbok/gratsi] We teach children that these are life's magic words all over the world, and it's equally true in Malta. Have you ever been to a concert or a similar production featuring a foreign artist, and hearing the performer say thank you in your own language?

We tend to love it here, so if you make using these two words a habit, you'll be in everybody's good books.

Tista terga tirrepeti? (Could you repeat?)

[Pronounced: tista terdga tirrepeti?] Here's a fun one that you'll definitely need to use at some point, especially if you're making an extra effort to carry the

conversation in Maltese. However, it might come in handy even if the other person is speaking in English with a challenging accent. Don't worry about asking this question – we won't bite your head off.

Inħobbok/Inħobbkom (I love you [singular] /I love you [plural])

[Pronounced: eenhobbok/eenhobbkom] Whether you're trying to make your romantic holiday in Malta even more romantic, or whether you're simply trying to extend some real appreciation to family and Maltese friends, nothing goes down a treat quite like love.

Pronunciation notes:

'dg' = a hard G sound, like the 'G' in 'Roger'

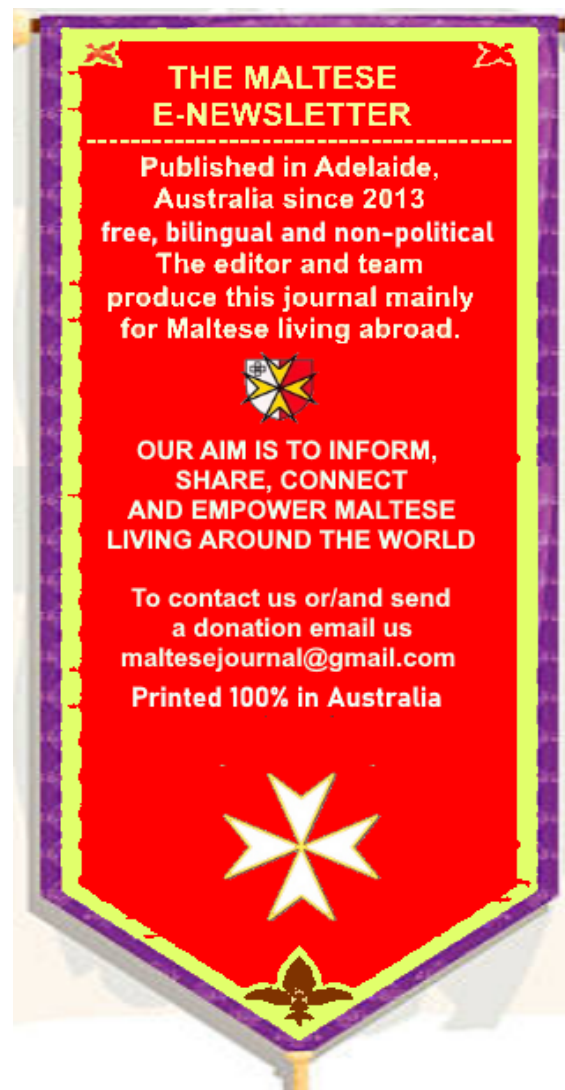
'ts' = a soft Z sound, like the 'z' in 'Pizza'

'x' in Maltese is equivalent to *'sh'*

'h' in Maltese is equivalent to an *'h'* sound like in *'happy'*

'gh' in Maltese is silent, it only lengthens the vowels

'j' in Maltese is equivalent to *'y'*





Hilarious (and baffling) things every my Maltese nanna

The People of Malta / Facebook

Guys, we thank God for our Maltese *nannas*. We love them, and they can do no wrong, even though they...

SHARE EVERYTHING ON FACEBOOK - Cute animal pics, prayers, and recipes are just a few. Oh! And she'll obviously comment on your lastest photo, too. Guaranteed!

CONSTANTLY WANT TO OVERFEED YOU She'll insist you're never eating enough and during the next visit asks you if you're getting enough exercise.

DRINK WHISKEY AT 4 pm- *Uwija*, it's close enough to 5 o'clock!

INSIST ON KEEPING THE MOST IRRELEVANT ITEMS JUST in case Maybe you'll need them one day – you never know.

BRAG ABOUT YOUR INSIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS to anyone who will listen She'll always root for you. #No1Fan

ALWAYS WANT YOU to leave her home with something, whether it's a chocolate, figurine or *santa Heqq*, we might get hungry in the car, and we NEED to have her favourite religious figure watching over us!

CALL YOU EVERY TIME she has a tech-related question Please note, it's the same question you answered five days ago and the week before that.

STRICTLY STICK TO TEATIME EVERY DAY, with sweet treats (obviously) After the afternoon nap, it's tea with biscuits and the latest cake she's baked, which we loooove.

EVERY TIME YOU VISIT: "Marelli how much you've grown!"

It really hasn't been that long since you've last seen her, but she'll say it anyway.

KEEP EVERYTHING WITH YOUR NAME or photo has ever appeared on Newspapers, magazines, yearbooks, school pamphlets – you name it, it's there, safe in her cupboard.

A MALTESE *NANNA* will never answer her mobile, even though you pooled in to buy her a snazzy new phone last Christmas. And when you do manage to reach her, the line will suddenly go dead, because the phone needs charging. *We love them even more for it! Jillian Mallia*



NEW STATUE OF ST. GAETANO HAMRUN – MALTA

A monument made in bronze of the patron saint of Hamrun, Saint Gejtanu was unveiled at the entrance of Hamrun. The

monument was blessed by Archbishop Emeritus Paul Cremona.

The ceremony took place yesterday in

front of the Chapel of the Miraculous Medal Built by the Society of Christian Doctrine (M.U.S.E.U.M).

The statue was made in bronze based on a design by the artist Ramon Camilleri McKay, at the initiative of the Local Council and the Ħamrun Liberty section festa. Along with this monument, the entrance of Hamrun was also beautified with new sidewalks and the necessary maintenance.

Before the unveiling of this monument there was a musical evening at 7.30pm in the same chapel led by Master Raymond Sciberras where several hymns were played in connection with San Gejtanu.

Horse-Butchers, Karozzini Drivers And Pastizzi: This Is How The Maltese Community Left Its Mark On Tunisia

Jean Paul Azzopardi

Despite being an archipelago in the middle of the Mediterranean, we often forget that Malta has a close and deep history with its neighbouring countries, especially those in North Africa.

On a recent research and collection mission to Tunisia, Magna Żmien founder and artistic director Andrew Alamango met with some Maltese descendants who shared their memories, anecdotes, and stories of their once-thriving community.

In an attempt to pass on the living memory of the Maltese communities in Tunisia, Alamango digitised their photographs and the final products are truly eye-opening.

The vintage photos that show just how much of Malta there is in Tunisia...

Joseph Bartolo and friend with employees. Marché Central 1955 (Jose Mangani Collection, Tunisia 2019)



Credit: Embassy Of Malta In Tunisia - 'The Maltese of Sousse were particularly active in the sector of automobile and mechanical repair.'

"The Maltese in Tunisia were renowned and remembered in different ways," Alamango told Lovin Malta.

"They were known as quality cotton producers, for driving *karozzini* (horse-driven carriage) and for Maltese pastizzi, which left their mark on Tunisian society even today. They were also particularly associated with being butchers particularly of horse meat as well as pork. Many of these set up

shop in the local market of downtown Tunis, Marché Central in Rue de Allemagne," he explains.

Though the Maltese community disintegrated after the 1950s, one can still find remnants of the past, harkening to the days of a rich Maltese presence in the country.

"The Maltese particularly are still remembered with endearment, due to the proximity of language and the adaptation of the Maltese in Tunisian society and upon which it left its mark."

The bond between the two countries is still strong today and anyone travelling to and from Tunisia is sure to come across the phrase "*Malta ħanina, ħobża u sardina*."

"Today they tell stories of how they lived harmoniously alongside other cultures carrying on their Maltese religious and cultural traditions, whilst integrating with the liberal and culturally diverse society in Tunisia which was open to the Mediterranean and its people."



A particularly interesting photo that came from Andrew's visit is that of a portrait of the Temimi family, the grandmother mother of which was Antoinette Zammit from Hamrun. Antoinette worked as a stewardess on the ferry-ship between Malta and Tunisia in the early 1930s and, on this same ship, she met and fell in love with Mohamed Taoufik Temimi whom she eventually married.

Antoinette packed up her life in Malta, moved to Tunisia and started her life there living in La Fayette, where she raised her family.

Antoinette Zammit who became Ferida Temimi (Hatem Temimi Collection, Tunisia 2019)



Antoinette is still remembered today as Nanna Ferida Temimi from Hamrun and although there are only a few descendants of this once numerous community, they still retain a strong affection for their island of origin. Some have even obtained Maltese nationality.

The Embassy of Malta in Tunis is also attempting to maintain these relationships, including publishing research on notable Tunisian-Maltese, including the discovery that the eminent Maltese architect Guze D'Amato, who designed the iconic Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Valletta was born in and graduated as an architect in Tunisia.

Magna Żmien plans to carry out more collection and

digitisation throughout 2020 as it resumes its activity offering the public a free digitisation of personal and family audiovisual collections.

Projects like these help in telling the tales of Maltese communities abroad and are a great insight into how they used to live and the impact they left on those communities.

They also make for some great vintage photos and some super cool travel trivia!



Bingo has a long history, starting in Italy circa 1530 and being modified and adapted across borders in Europe before taking America by storm as a carnival game in the 1900s, by the name of "beano". No matter where bingo is being played it brings the same great joy and

excitement as players come together across the globe to share the thrill of a lively game.

Bingo is a popular game that can be played for cash and prizes. Bingo games are won when the player matches numbers on their card with ones randomly drawn by a caller. The first person to complete a pattern yells, "Bingo." Their numbers are checked and a prize or cash awarded. The patterns can be varied throughout a gaming session, which keeps players interested and engaged.

Bingo's Ancestors

The game's history can be traced back to 1530, to an Italian lottery called "*Lo Giuoco del Lotto D'Italia*," which is still played every Saturday in Italy. From Italy, the game was introduced to France in the late 1770s, where it was called "*Le Lotto*", a game played among wealthy Frenchmen. The Germans also played a version of the game in the 1800s, but they used it as a child's game to help students learn math, spelling, and history.

In the U.S., bingo was originally called "beano". It was a country fair game where a dealer would select numbered discs from a cigar box and players would mark their cards with beans. They yelled "beano" if they won.

Edwin S. Lowe and the Bingo Card

When the game reached North America in 1929, it became known as "beano". It was first played at a carnival near Atlanta, Georgia. New York toy salesman Edwin S. Lowe renamed it "bingo" after he overheard someone accidentally yell "bingo" instead of "beano."

He hired a Columbia University math professor, Carl Leffler, to help him increase the number of combinations in bingo cards. By 1930, Leffler had invented 6,000 different bingo cards. They were developed so there would be fewer non-repeating number groups and conflicts when more than one person got Bingo at the same time.

Lowe was a Jewish immigrant from Poland. Not only did his E.S. Lowe company produce bingo cards, but he also developed and marketed the game Yahtzee, for which he bought the rights from

a couple who played it on their yacht. His company was sold to Milton Bradley in 1973 for \$26 million. Lowe died in 1986.

Church and Non-Profit Organisation Bingo

A Catholic priest from Pennsylvania approached Lowe about using bingo as a means of raising church funds. When bingo started being played in churches it became increasingly popular. By 1934, an estimated 10,000 bingo games were played weekly. While gambling is banned in many states, they may allow bingo games to be hosted by churches and non-profit groups to raise funds.

Bingo in Retirement and Nursing Homes

Bingo is a popular game played for recreational therapy and socialization in skilled nursing facilities and retirement homes. It is easy to operate with just a couple of staff or volunteers, and residents can play along with their visitors. The opportunity to win a small prize is a lure. Its popularity may wane once the elderly population who enjoyed church bingo in their youth pass on to new generations raised on video games.



Restoration works on Gozo's Dwejra Tower completed

Friday, 19 May 2023, 14:17 Last update: about 38 minutes ago

The restoration works on the Dwejra tower in Gozo have been completed, the government said.

The works included significant renovation on a considerable portion of the tower's exterior walls, which had deteriorated over time due to the natural elements surrounding the Dwejra cliffs, a statement from the Ministry for Gozo, the Ministry for Tourism and the Parliamentary Secretariat for European Funds read.

The project also involved efforts to restore the external staircase, the hoist mechanism, and the flooring. Interior works were also carried out, which included electrical and lighting upgrades.

This project has benefited from co-financing under the European Regional Development Fund Operational Programme 2014-2020.

These details were announced during a visit by Minister for Tourism Clayton Bartolo, Minister for Gozo Clint Camilleri and Parliamentary Secretary for European Funds Chris Bonett, together with NGO Din l-Art Hehwa. Bartolo said that the Malta Tourism Authority remained committed to preserving the cultural heritage through their works.

"We strive to meet the demands of today's tourists. We are working harder to offer a diversified tourism product that, at its core, provides a holistic and positive experience for visitors to the Maltese islands," Bartolo said.

Camilleri said that restoration and conservation of sites such the Dwejra Tower continue to strengthen the cultural tourism portfolio in Gozo, which boasts a rich historical and cultural heritage that appeals to all visitors.

"It is important to improve the tourism product and the potential Gozo has as a destination, as this enhances the competitiveness of the island as a tourist spot and attracts more quality visitors," Camilleri added.

Parliamentary Secretary Chris Bonett said that through European funds, various historical coastal fortifications are being restored, to give due attention to buildings of historical and cultural significance. These works amount to approximately €235,000, with around €155,000 coming from European funds, he said.

National Archives of Australia



More than mug shots

Patrick Ferry, Nicholas Hams and Kathryn Graham

Maltese migration records from 1948 to 1955 bring to light amazing photographs which are much more than passport mugshots. They convey

the spirit and character of the Maltese migrants themselves. National Archives' Victoria Office is making these records accessible to all.

A 'win-win' agreement

One of Australia's first assisted migration agreements after the Second World War was with Malta. Signed in May 1948, this was a 'win-win' for both countries. Concerned that it had to 'populate or perish', Australia was seeking to rapidly increase its population. As prospective migrants, the Maltese had the advantage of already being British subjects. And importantly, they were European, which was still the key consideration under the White Australia Policy. Meanwhile, Malta was looking for migration opportunities for its people as it was seriously overpopulated and still devastated from sustained German and Italian attacks during the War.

Maltese spirit and character

The Maltese migration records being catalogued in Victoria generally consist of application forms, police clearances and health checks. Many also have photographs attached. These show the spirit and character of the Maltese migrants themselves.

There are young labourers, mechanics, farmers and clerks in their best suits, hoping to 'get ahead' in Australia through hard work. Older men – husbands and fathers – display pride at being able to give their families a better start in life. Young women are 'dressed to the nines', with fashionable hairstyles. Since their wonderful dresses were often sewn at home, these photographs not only highlight their beauty, but also their resourcefulness. Mothers and their children are immaculately dressed in their 'Sunday best', without a single hair out of place. Such images powerfully attest to the central role women played in Maltese family life. The large size of many families also points to the important role the Catholic faith played in Maltese society.

Good impressions but lingering prejudices

Most Maltese probably hoped their photographs would maximise their chances of being accepted for migration. The Maltese Government was also very conscious of the importance of migrants making a good impression. This was because Australia had not always welcomed them.

Maltese migration to Australia had been heavily restricted before the War. In the notorious 'Gange' incident of 1916, the Australian Government even used the infamous 'Dictation Test' (usually applied to exclude non-Europeans) to prevent a group of Maltese migrants from landing. To ensure that they would fail the test, it was administered in Dutch!

Pre-war hostility to Maltese migration was partially fuelled by perceptions that the Maltese were 'cheap labour', thereby threatening Australian wages and living standards. Racial prejudices were

also strong. Although Maltese were British subjects, they were not regarded as being of 'good British stock'. Instead, like other Southern European migrants, they were widely disparaged as 'dagoes', with nasty racialised connotations of being lazy, dirty, hot tempered, superstitious, and generally inferior to migrants from the British Isles and northern Europe.

Although Australia's official attitude towards Maltese migration after the War quickly changed from restriction to assistance, racial prejudices and stereotypes were more difficult to shift. These unfortunately were part of the migration experience of many post-war Maltese migrants.

Developing the next generation of archivists

So far, the Victoria Office has added nearly 8,000 Maltese migration records from series MP80/2 and MP210/3 to RecordSearch, meaning they can now be searched for by name. There are many more still to be added.

As well as making these records more discoverable, this work is providing 'hands on' archival training to information management students undertaking placements with the National Archives as part of their university studies.

Photograph of Jessie Grima and her children.
Their dog Flossy is at the feet of 11-year-old Alfred Demajo - 7 MAR 1951



What happened to the dog?

Patrick Ferry

Migration to Australia offered new opportunities for many Maltese. It inevitably also involved leaving loved ones behind. For Jessie Grima and her children, this meant saying goodbye to their beloved pet dog Flossy.

Virtually inseparable

Flossy was 11-year-old Alfred's dog. Flossy was a very loved member of the family and virtually inseparable from the children. Wherever they

went, Flossy went too. Flossy even appeared in the photograph attached to the family's migration application! Jessie made that application so her family could be reunited. As with many Maltese families, her husband Joseph Grima had migrated to Australia first. This enabled him to get established in work and arrange accommodation before the rest of the family migrated.

Leaving Flossy behind

When Jessie and her children boarded the SS *Jenny* for Australia in early 1951, Flossy was not with them. Strict quarantine rules prohibited bringing Flossy with them.

What then happened to Flossy? Fortunately, Flossy found a good home with the children's grandparents. Nonetheless, it was *'b'disppontament kellna inhallu il kelb warajna'* (with great disappointment) that they left the dog behind.

A lifelong love of dogs

Reunited with Joseph in Australia, Jessie and her children settled in Moe in Victoria's Latrobe Valley. The children soon had other pets.

When he grew up, Alfred followed his step-father Joseph into employment with the State Electricity Commission (SEC). Alfred has remained a dog lover all his life. Over the years, some of his dogs even won prizes at the Royal Melbourne Show.

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

MALTESE RAVIOLI (RAVJUL)



Welcome to A Maltese Mouthful. This is all about cooking, recipes, beautiful images, past and current experiences, all related to Maltese food! I would love to hear from you. Marlene Zammit

These white glistening ravioli were one of the many traditions in my family that seemed to have slowly disappeared to make way for the ready made frozen version. Not anymore...

I still remember these being made at home in Agnes Banks (Australia) by my mother and then watching them cooking in the pot. The one thing my mother did which I forgot to do was make little markings on the edges of the ravioli with a fork. Not necessary but personally I think these ravioli would have been that little bit more special if I had.

I made ravioli last week when my cousin was over. It was our mini Maltese Christmas. Ravioli for starters, Pigeon for main and chestnut tarts for dessert. We paced our selves..

I see Maltese ravioli mainly bought nowadays but they really are not that difficult to make if you have a bit of spare time. Nothing really does compare to home made.

I made my ravioli using one piece of pastry cut out with a medium size round biscuit cutter and then folded over once the mixture was put in the centre. You can do these however you want to do them but this is my preferred way.

I also used Maltese cheese to make my ravioli but you can use ricotta if you don't have the cheeselets. When the dough is initially made it is kept in the fridge for a least two hours before rolling out. This just helps the elasticity of the dough and makes it easier to roll out.

The other important thing about these ravioli is that the tomato sauce is simple. All that is needed is some olive oil, a few cloves of garlic, passata, and salt and pepper.

My recipe makes about 4 trays of ravioli. The ravioli can either be boiled immediately or frozen and then used another time. If freezing make sure to freeze the ravioli on trays first and then place in containers and put back in the freezer. If you put the ravioli straight into containers, they will stick together!

Happy ravioli making.

MALTESE RAVIOLI (RAVJUL)

COOK TIME 20 mins

Make the dough and place in the fridge for at least two hours before rolling out. This recipe makes about 4 trays. You can freeze the ravioli also and serve another time. Just make sure to freeze the ravioli in the trays first and then place in a container once semi frozen. Otherwise they will stick together.

Author: www.amaltesemouthful.com (Marlene Zammit)

Cuisine: Maltese

INGREDIENTS

- 500 grams plain flour
- 1 egg lightly beaten
- 200 ml water plus 50 ml extra
- For the filling:
- 5 Maltese cheeselets or 500 grams ricotta
- 2 handfuls parmesan cheese
- 2 lightly beaten eggs
- Small bunch of parsley finely chopped
- Salt and pepper
- For the tomato sauce:
- Olive oil
- 3 cloves garlic finely sliced
- 1 medium jar tomato passata
- Salt and pepper

For serving:

- Extra chopped parsley
- Parmesan cheese

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Prepare the dough by placing the flour into a large bowl.



2. Add into the centre of the flour the egg and water.
3. Mix with a knife and once the dough starts to form add more water if the dough feels a bit too dry.
4. Now knead the dough with your hands until the ball feels firm but springy to touch.
5. Place in the fridge wrapped in cling wrap for two hours.
6. While the dough is in the fridge prepare the mixture. Mix all the ingredients together and set aside.
7. Prepare the trays by lining with baking paper.
8. Once the dough is ready. Roll out some of the dough thinly onto a floured surface.
9. Using a medium sized biscuit cutter, cut out circles to form round pastry shapes.
10. Place 1 large teaspoon of the mixture inside the centre of each of the pastry shapes.
11. Fold over the pastry to form semi circles. Firmly press the edges and if you wish mark the edges with a fork.
12. Add the ravioli into boiling water and boil uncovered for about 20 minutes. If the ravioli come to the top of the pot then gently press them down. Do not stir the ravioli at any point.
13. Make the tomato sauce by frying the garlic in oil for 2 minutes. Add the passata and seasoning and simmer for about 15 minutes.
14. Once the 20 minutes has passed gently remove the ravioli and place into plates.
15. Serve with the tomato sauce, some grated cheese, parsley and seasoning.

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IS-SIBT 27 TA' MEJJU 10:30AM

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Sunday 10am

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Maltese eNewsletter



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Band Concert for Charity

IN GOZO

On the occasion of the 33rd anniversary from the visit to Gozo of Pope Saint John Paul II

FRIDAY 26 MAY 2023 at 20.00hrs
Assumption of Our Lady Cathedral Church
The Citadel Victoria Gozo

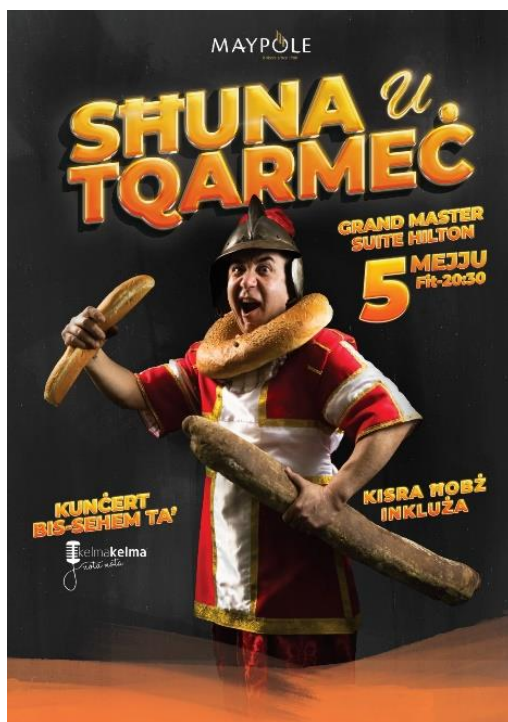


Organised by
The Victoria Local Council
In collaboration with the
JP2 Cultural Foundation



A monetary collection will take place and part of the proceeds will go to "Id-Dar tal-Providenza"

Show pays tribute to the traditional Maltese loaf



'Shuna u Tqarmeċ' featured mix music and words

Ray Calleja and Daniel Cauchi on stage during the show.

The latest *Kelma Kelma Nota Nota* show, *Shuna u Tqarmeċ* (warm and crusty), was held recently at Hilton Malta in St Julian's.

In an obvious reference to Maltese bread, the event was commissioned by Maypole, which is committed to maintaining and promoting the traditional *ħobża tal-Malti* (the Maltese loaf) in local culture.

The humour and style of popular host Ray Calleja brought to the stage a lively two hours of fun, which included a mix of music and words.

Academic input provided an entire compendium of terms and idioms, used in the Maltese language as metaphors in everyday vocabulary. From the description of characters, of all types, to earning a living, to a profitable venture, the Maltese word for bread, *ħobż*, is ever-present.

The witty wordplay was complemented by the Maltese band Big Band Brothers, who played a selection of Maltese all-time favourite songs, some of which had the lyrics amended to encompass the topic of bread.

Singers Claudia Faniello and Daniel Cauchi, as well as the young

Kaya, also performed.

The show was also presented as a matinée to hundreds of schoolchildren. Among the dignitaries present, were the Acting President of Malta, Frank Bezzina, President Emeritus Marie-Louise Coleiro-Preca, Opposition Leader Bernard Grech and members of parliament.

HOBZA MALTJA – A MALTESE BREAD



If there's one type of food that Maltese people abroad miss when they think of home, it's Maltese bread. Traditionally baked *ħobż tal-Malti* has a hard and crunchy crust on the outside and soft and fluffy white bread from the inside, and tastes nothing like a regular loaf of sliced white bread you might be used to from your local supermarket.

This big (or smaller – it comes in different sizes) round loaf of bread is usually bought whole or sliced and is sometimes the star carbohydrate of a dish and other times the mop that helps you get the last bits of that thick, delicious Maltese stew you just can't get enough of. In fact, it's served with most meals that allow for 'mopping' at the dinner table and is often served in local restaurants to accompany your meal as well.

Most Maltese people talk about the flavour of their bread, to me, as a semi-foreigner, it's more the texture and the contrast between crunch and soft airy centre that made me fall in love with it.

The one downside is that it doesn't last for very long. Buy a loaf on one day and it'll taste stale the next day. That's not necessarily an issue, though. You can find Maltese bread in every local "minimarket" (the logically smaller size of a supermarket, selling the everyday basics). Traditionally, the village of Qormi is known as the place where the best bakers fire up their ovens, but most local bakers (like [Gormina](#) (pron Jor-mina) in St. Paul's Bay) will have delicious, freshly baked Maltese bread for sale in the morning. (They'll be a-baking at 5am to serve the early risers). Local grocery shops receive a fresh supply daily, sometimes in the afternoon as well to serve those who like crispy fresh bread for supper.

Fejn se mmorru meta wliedna jkunu jridu joħorġu jilagħbu qalb is-siġar imma siġar ma fadalx?

Fejn se mmorru meta l-għoli tal-bini jitfilna wkoll id-dawl tax-xemx?

Fejn se mmorru meta l-ibħra tagħna jkun fihom aktar plastik milli ħut?

Fejn se mmorru meta lil Għawdex noqtluh? Kif qtilna kważi lil Malta ...

Fejn se mmorru meta l-problemi tas-saħħa mentali jibqgħu jizdiedu għax m'għandniex fejn nistrieħu?

Qatt ħsibtu?

Fejn se mmorru meta kull siġra nkunu ġibnieha trab?

Fejn se mmorru meta kull roqgħa ħamrija nkunu ksejnieha tarmak?

Fejn se mmorru meta l-aħdar inkunu ġibnieh kollu griż?

Fejn se mmorru meta nindunaw li r-riħa tal-flus mhix l-ossigħnu?

Fejn se mmorru meta l-għasafar ma jibqgħux jgħannu għax qtilniehom bil-jack-hammers?

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GHAL
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**XEBBAJTUNA
STOP THE
MADNESS
PLEASE**





Laying the foundation stone of Dar l-Emigrant in 1971: standing on the right are Archbishop Michael Gonzi, Prime Minister George Borg Olivier and Governor General Sir Maurice Dorman. Mgr Philip Calleja (at the microphone) Next to Mgr Calleja is Mgr Emmanuel Gerada, who, at the time, was Archbishop Coadjutor and Employment Minister Vincent Tabone. Broadcaster Charles Arrigo, who was delivering a live commentary for Rediffusion, is standing next to Tabone.



Your guide to Cinema City this June **Valletta Cultural Agency**

Now in its 4th edition, Valletta's Cinema City has become a fabulous night out each June. Set against the magnificent backdrop of our UNESCO World Heritage site bastions in Laparelli Gardens, just below Renzo Piano's City Gate, Cinema City creates an unforgettable experience for families, teens, movie buffs and older generations alike. Last year alone, some 1,600 audience members enjoyed movies in the outdoor Laparelli Gardens for our annual community-curated film event and this spring will be no different!

Collect your tickets and be quick. You will be able to rediscover the island through two movies written, filmed and produced in Malta, and watch a number of blockbusters exploring themes of loyalty, retribution, morals, motherhood, family, love, social issues and much more. So, join us, grab a bag of popcorn and enjoy this unforgettable cinematic experience with your loved ones and friends.

This event is free of charge. Tickets can be collected on a first come first served basis between 8AM and 5PM, from the VCA office in Republic Street, right next door to the Chamber of Commerce.

5th June – Inglourious Basterds -18 (Quentin Tarantino, 2009)

6th June – The Book of Life – U (Jorge R. Gutiérrez, 2014)

7th June – Blood on the Crown – 12A (Davide Ferrario, 2021)

8th June – Merjen – 18 (Abigail Mallia, 2020)

9th June – Sideways – 16 (Alexander Payne, 2014)

Share this with a friend and don't miss out!

**KEEP ON SUPPORTING US
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In the 50s to 70s they were urged to leave Malta to seek a better future for their families. Maltese left in thousands by boat or plane and their settlement in the new country was not easy.

