



# MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

Journal for Maltese Living Abroad



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## André Rieu Live in concert Malta

1 & 2 September  
2023



**Maltese footballer  
Haley Bugeja**



# ZABBAR MALTA

## DAR TAL-PROVIDENZA



Id-Dar tal-Providenza  
Pay *Id-Dar tal-Providenza* only €12,203.08  
\$AUD 20,000  
from FRIENDS OF PROVIDENCE HOUSE NSW

# 2023 U19 EURO finals in Malta



Malta will stage the finals from 3 to 16 July.

## Domenic Aquilina

Malta will be organising the European Football Under-19 Championship from July 3 till the July 16. The matches, to be played at the Ta' Qali National and Centenary Stadiums, Tony Bezzina Stadium and the Gozo Station, follow months of preparations by the Malta Football Association.

Malta will stage the 2023 UEFA European Under-19 Championship finals from 3 to 16 July.

The groups

**Group A:** Malta (hosts), Portugal, Poland, Italy

**Group B:** Iceland, Greece, Norway, Spain

## MATCH SCHEDULE

The hosts will be joined by seven teams progressing from the elite round with the draw made on Wednesday 19 April at Manoel Theatre, Valletta. The top two teams from each group will progress to the semi-finals.

The Malta Football Association (MFA) previously staged the 2014 U17 EURO. That was the only previous occasion on which a team from Malta played at a UEFA final tournament.

## WHERE TO WATCH/TV/STREAM

### Stadiums

National Stadium, Ta'Qali (3 group games. 1 semi-final, final)

Centenary Stadium, Ta'Qali (4 group games)

Tony Bezzina Stadium, Paola (3 group games, 1 semi-final)

Gozo Stadium, Xewkija (2 group games)

## MEET THE CONTENDERS

### Match dates

Group stage Matchday 1: 3/4 July      Group stage Matchday 2: 6/7 July

Group stage Matchday 3: 9/10 July      Semi-finals: 13 July      Final: 16 July

### Previous U19 EURO winners

8 Spain (2002, 2004, 2006, 2007, 2011, 2012, 2015, 2019)

3 France (2005, 2010, 2016)

2 England (2017, 2022), Germany (2008, 2014)

1 Italy (2003), Portugal (2018), Serbia (2013), Ukraine (2009)



## Consulate General of Malta in Melbourne



### DONATION OF BOOKS TO HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL

On Wednesday 28th June 2023, the Consul-General of Malta in Victoria Ms Chirelle Ellul Sciberras visited Hobsons Bay City Council and was welcomed by Mayor Tony Briffa whereby 65 books in Maltese were donated to the libraries in Altona. In the last months, the Consul-General has also donated a number of books to the Maltese Community Council of Victoria library, the Brimbank Council libraries, the children's class of the Maltese Language Classes of Victoria, the Albion Maltese Cultural Centre, Klabb Għannejja Maltin and to two aged care homes. This initiative is part of the Consulate's ongoing commitment to reach out to the community, with the aim to promote and preserve the cultural identity, through the Maltese language among the Maltese diaspora in particular the Hobsons Bay area, which is home to a large and active Maltese community. The books are part of a total of 600 books donated courtesy of the Malta Book Council, Faraxa Publishing and Soċjetà Dun Filippu Borgia.



### MALTESE MIGRATION SCHOOL COMPETITION

On Wednesday 5 th July 2023, the Consul-General of Malta in Victoria Ms Chirelle Ellul Sciberras welcomed at the Consulate-General Sarah Ellis and Julian Caruana, the winners of the school competition on Maltese migration to Australia to mark the 75 years of the Assisted Passage Migration Agreement. The winners' entries are displayed at the Consulate to be enjoyed by those visiting the Consulate. The competition was launched earlier this year and the winners won 10 books in Maltese respectively.



**YOUR STORY  
MATTERS**

**IF YOU HAVE A STORY TO TELL  
SHARE IT WITH OTHERS. WE LOVE  
TO HEAR FROM YOU. SEND IT TO US**



## THE PRESIDENT MEETS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MALTESE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF NSW

Dr. George Vella, the President of Malta, had a meeting met with Ms Miriam Friggieri and Ms Sandra Grech the representatives of the Maltese Community Council of New South Wales at Sant'Anton Palace. during their visit to Malta. The president thanked the Maltese Community

Council of New South Wales, Australia, for their donation to the Malta Community Chest Fund. They discussed the valuable work and services provided by the Council to the Maltese community and Dr Vella said " I urged you to further promote Maltese values and to ensure the continued preservation of the Maltese language".

## Friends Of Providence House NSW 2023 Donation!



On Saturday 1st of July 2023 together with Miram and a group of Supporter visiting Malta, I had the Honour of presenting a Donation of \$20000.00 to Fr Martin, Director of Id-Dar Tal-Providenza Siggiewi, Malta Probably it was one of my most emotive moments..

Last 3yrs has been very difficult. With the Pandemic hitting the world in 2020 and losing my beloved wife some 15months ago, was a real struggle to organise our Annual Concert and European Tour at the same time.

Special thank you to Miriam Friggieri, the Treasurer, Rita O'Dwyer our new Secretary and Diane Reid my tour assistant.

I appreciation to Marisa Previtera for her 11yrs as Secretary!

Special Thank You to our Sponsors namely : George Vella of Breakaway Travel, Blacktown. La Valette Social Centre, Blacktown. Sistu & Maryanne Zammit Blacktown.

A Big Thank you to all those supporting Our Concert and Tour. It was difficult to say the least and I was literally exhausted. All that was put aside when we made the presentation in front of a big crowd and live audience on the Maltese TV Networks.

Some €337000 were raised at the Maratona. Jim Borg – Coordinator NSW Australia

## Consul-on-the-Move

The **Consul-on-the-Move Programme** was launched on 5 May 2016, in accordance with the Passports Office within Identity Malta Agency, and conforms with the Government's vision to have Governmental services closer to the citizens. It provides a number of Consular services (that are normally available at Maltese Embassies and Consulates) in different locations.

The need for this Programme was mostly felt after the introduction of biometric passports, that led Maltese applicants living abroad to go physically to the nearest Maltese Embassy or Consulate in order to capture biometric data. This was resulting to an inconvenience, especially due to additional expenses related to costs for travel and accommodation.

This Programme is currently available in **Australia, Canada, the United States of America, the United Kingdom, and New Zealand**. All Consular services currently available at the Maltese Embassies and Consulates continue to remain available.

For certain services provided, an **additional administrative fee** applies.

In accordance with Legal Notice 221 of 2016, the administrative charge for passport applications is €100 for each application, whilst that for citizenship applications is €50 for each application, over and above other related fees.

The following is the **updated list of the provisional scheduled visits for 2023**:

### Embassy of the Republic of Malta in Washington, United States

City/State/Province	Dates	Venue
San Francisco, California	12-20 July 2023	Office of Honorary Consul Louis Vella

### Consulate of the Republic of Malta in Toronto, Canada

City/State/Province	Dates	Venue
St John's, Newfoundland & Labrador	2-3 September 2023 (tentative)	TBC

### High Commission of the Republic of Malta in London, United Kingdom

City/State/Province	Dates	Venue
Leeds (the North-East areas)	September 2023	TBC
Cardiff (South Wales, Bristol areas)	November 2023	TBC

### High Commission of the Republic of Malta in Canberra, Australia

City/State/Province	Dates	Venue
Brisbane (Queensland)	25 – 29 July 2023	To Be Announced
Mackay (Queensland)	31 July 2023	Lanai Apartments 20, River St., Mackay
Cairns (Queensland)	2 August 2023	TBC
Adelaide (South AUS)	10-11 November 2023	Maltese Guild of SA, 6 Jeanes St, Beverley SA 5009
Perth (West AUS)	13-15 November 2023	Maltese Association in WA
Wellington (New Zealand)	22 November 2023	Victoria University, Murphy building, Kelburn
Auckland (New Zealand)	20 November 2023	Europe House, Auckland University of Technology

It is worth noting that the service is available **by confirmed appointment only**. For further information, one may wish to contact the respective location focal point as follows:

Location	Email address	contact number
Australia/New Zealand	<a href="mailto:consul.canberra@gov.mt">consul.canberra@gov.mt</a>	+61 (02) 6290 1724
Canada	<a href="mailto:consul.toronto@gov.mt">consul.toronto@gov.mt</a>	+1 (416) 207 0922 /0989
USA	<a href="mailto:consul.washington@gov.mt">consul.washington@gov.mt</a>	+1 (202) 530 9750 /9751 /9752
UK	<a href="mailto:consul.london@gov.mt">consul.london@gov.mt</a>	+44 (0) 207 292 4800

It is highly recommended that closer to the scheduled date/s of the visits, one consults the relevant Mission/s coordinating the visits to ensure that there are no changes in dates and venues.

## Oldest Person in Malta's History Is Aged 111 Years, 3 Months & 25 Days



Maltadaily.mt

A historic record has been achieved in the Maltese Islands after Maria Farrugia turned 111 years, 3 months and 25 days old, not including her birthday, making her the oldest person to ever live in Malta.

This means that Maria is old enough to have lived through both World Wars, Malta's Independence, the introduction of Malta's Constitution, our European Union membership, 10 presidents, 14 prime ministers, 36 Eurovision

entries and so much more.

According to the Public Register, which dates back to 1539, to the days of the parochial churches' 'rites of passage' text, Maria is the oldest person to ever live in Malta.

Interestingly, Maria's mother also lived a long life, passing away in 1982 at the age of 100.

Before Maria, the previous record holder was Qormi's Ġanni "Il-Giġa" Schembri, who was also born on 7th March in the year 1757, who lived until the age of 108.

#MaltaDaily Photo Source: NET Newsroom

## THE ZAMITTELLO CASTLE (Maltese: *Kastel Zamittellu*) is a 19th-



century Victorian countryside folly on the outskirts of Mġarr, Malta, on the road leading to Ġnejna. It was built by Sir Giuseppe Nicola Zamitt and has remained in the same family for the past 200 years. Count Francis Sant Cassia, a cousin of the owner, was its last resident and was murdered outside the premises in 1988. To date the case has not been solved. It is now used for private functions and wedding receptions.

**HISTORY** The castle was built by the Sir Giuseppe Nicola Zamitt in the early nineteenth century as a countryside folly in the limits of Mġarr in Malta, although commercial sources claim that it dates back to 1675.

The last resident, Count Francis Sant Cassia was a cousin of the owner Count Francis Manduca and was murdered just outside the

premises on 27 October 1988. The case has not been solved. <sup>[6][7]</sup> It is now used as a wedding venue and for private functions.

**ARCHITECTURE** The Zammitello Palace is a 19th-century ornate architectural folly, built in imitation of the Tower of London. Although it resembles a fortification, according to military architecture expert Stephen C. Spiteri, it is "entirely useless from a defensive point of view".

The names given to the building are a misnomer as it is closely comparable to a country house villa, and its outline is a square-shaped residence designed with typical Victorian architecture. It prominently features one roof-level turret and four guerites. The latter have a unique design and were never desirable nor used in Maltese military context. Above the turret sits a Christian cross, in the form of a crucifix.



## First Maltese embassy in Canada to open its doors

Next October, Malta will be opening an embassy in Canada, where at least 42,000 people of Maltese descent currently live.

Speaking to TVMnews, Foreign Affairs Minister, Ian Borg, announced that the Government will be nominating Mr Mark Pace for the role of Malta's High Commissioner in Canada. Mr Pace currently serves as Malta's Ambassador for the Netherlands.

The largest community of Maltese descendants in Canada can be found in Toronto. From a commercial aspect, Canada is the ninth country with which Malta conducts the most business. These reasons incentivised the Maltese government to set up its first embassy in this country. The embassy will be located in the capital Ottawa, and since both countries are members of the Commonwealth, Malta's representation will be known as a High Commission.

Minister Ian Borg said that the embassy will further enhance the work which has already been carried out by the General Consulate in Toronto. Minister Borg remarked that Canada is the only G7 country in which Malta does not yet have an embassy.

Minister Borg added that through the High Commissioner, Malta will be strongly represented by the International Civil Aviation Organisation based in Canada.

Apart from providing thousands of jobs, the aviation industry in Malta generated around €600 million per year towards the economy.

Malta commenced its bilateral relations with Canada three months after Independence, and to this day the two countries share 11 bilateral agreements which cover various areas.



Australian High Commission,  
Malta et Ambassade d'Australie en Tunisie

Have you heard the news?  
Fair dinkum Aussie meat pies and sausage rolls  
are now available in Malta from A  
ussie Pastries in Malta!  
It's even more exciting that a Vegemite restock  
at the supermarket!  
(Side note: has anyone seen any lately??)

### St Sebastian Seniors Association Carnival Social Night

<b>Date:</b>	Saturday 12th August, 2023	
<b>Time:</b>	6.30pm till 11.00pm	
<b>Venue:</b>	Resurrection Parish (51 Gum Rd, Kings Park, 3021)	
<b>Cost:</b>	\$12 p/p entrance (may pay at the door)	
<b>B.Y.O:</b>	Drinks & food	
<b>Music:</b>	By D.J Dominic	
<b>Dress:</b>	Fancy Dress (Prizes awarded for the best dressed)	
<b>R.S.V.P:</b>	10/08/23	
<b>Contact:</b>	Allan - 0411 500 842 Monica - 0413 539 046	
	<b>St Sebastian Bank Account:</b> NAB BSB: 083-437 ACC: 049958500	



## Blue Door Education - Malta

Blue Door Education (VO/2165) is a voluntary organisation (registered NGO) based in Valletta, Malta. Our team of dedicated and passionate volunteers provides free literacy, language and lifeskill classes, both in person and online, for adult refugees and asylum seekers, and adult migrants with a social worker referral. Education enables upward social mobility, and each additional skill can mean higher income, leading to better access to nutritious food, sanitation, healthcare and accommodation. The hands-on linguistic first aid and practical skills courses we provide help refugees and asylum seekers rebuild their lives in their new host country. For many of our students, the difficult journey to Malta is only the first hurdle in their resettlement. Many of them have left everything they knew and loved behind, are dealing with trauma, and urgently need to find a way to survive. The language barrier is one of these obstacles, and overcoming it opens the door to better integration, and increased opportunities.



Community is equally as important as education for displaced persons, and Blue Door Education seeks to empower its learners by offering a safe and welcoming space in which to express themselves, make connections and stay informed about local services. Moreover, learners receive help developing their CVs, opening bank accounts, obtaining bus passes and applying for courses. We also regularly invite representatives from other organisations to give information on how our learners can further their education and join community events.

Our volunteers help out in a variety of roles including teaching, curriculum research, registrations, and administration, and we couldn't run our school without them.

We rely heavily on monetary donations to keep our school going, and the staff and learners at Blue Door Education are immensely grateful for the kind donations of classroom resources from individuals and organisations within the community.

### THE AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER PAID US A VISIT

In May we were delighted to have the opportunity to welcome Her Excellency Ms. Jenny Cartmill, Ambassador to Malta and Tunisia from the Australian High Commission, Malta et Ambassade d'Australie en Tunisie to our school in Valletta.

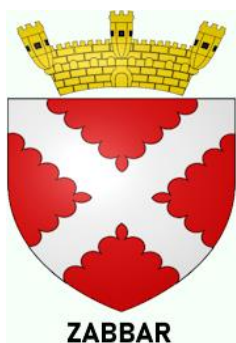
After surprising us with a gift of freshly baked

Anzac biscuits traditional to Australia, there followed an in-depth and insightful discussion on our work in the community and migration both to and from Malta. H.E. Ms. Cartmill met members of our board, staff and volunteers (including fellow Australians!), and joined part of a lesson together with our students focussing on daily routine using present and past simple. Thank you, Your Excellency, for your time, your interest and your compassion for our students, AND for the sweet surprise. We very much look forward to welcoming you back in the future!

BLUE DOOR TEAM.

Congratulations Frank on yet another two splendid editions, numbers 480 and 481. The articles are really informative and go a long way in uniting Maltese migrants with us that remained on this tiny 'rock' that we are so proud of. Wishing you and your staff the best of everything and God Bless. Regards. Alfred Tonna - Malta





## Zabbar - Malta

Zabbar is one of the oldest and largest villages in Malta, emerging from Zejtun. It was established as its own parish in 1615 and raised to the status of a City by Grand Master Ferdinand von Hompesch in 1797, making it known also as Citta' Hompesch. The triumphal arch on the main approach road from Paola, built by the residents as a city gate to commemorate the event, remains one of the most impressive landmarks of Zabbar. However, despite its size, Zabbar still retains its village-like atmosphere, with its many social clubs such as band clubs and sports clubs, and surrounded by cultivated countryside and even a small stretch of coast in the southeast of Malta.

It is thought that the name of Zabbar is derived from the locality's agricultural background, whether it is from the pruning industry (tizbor in Maltese) prevalent in the area, or the Aloe Vera plant (sabbara in Maltese). Some think that Haz-Zabbar could be a corruption of Has-Sabbar (the consoler village) since pilgrims from the whole island went there to pray to its patron, Our Lady of Graces, for consolation.



The Church of Our Lady of Graces (1641-1660) shows the grandeur reflecting the devotion and pride of the people of Zabbar, who continued to embellish their church using their own funds. This architectural gem is lushly decorated, with a main painting of the Madonna and Child by Alessio Erardi, while a famous painting by Mattia Preti is on display in the adjoining Sanctuary Museum. VFGA - a Latin abbreviation for Votum Fecit, Gratiā Accipit - is imprinted on many of the paintings and artefacts found in the Sanctuary Museum, which refers to the graces granted due to the intercession of the *Madonna tal-Grazzja* (Our Lady of Graces) to whom many pray faithfully to

this very day.

If possible visit Zabbar CELEBRATES two feasts, one held for Our Lady of Graces on the first Sunday after 8th September, and one held for St. Michael the Archangel two weeks later. The former is famous for its motorcycle and bicycle pilgrimage, starting from Mosta and Rabat respectively. The cultural rivalry between the village's two band clubs, the Società Filarmonica Maria Mater Gratiae (the Blues) and the Ghaqda Madonna Tal-Grazzja Banda San Mikiel (the Greens) is amusing to witness by non-locals.



Walk around the area known as Il-Misrah, which is characterized by a series of winding streets that define the village core. It is pretty enough, but you can wander further to also see a number of monuments... the War Memorial, Hompesch Monument and Mgr. Joseph Zarb Monument at Mediatrix Place; the Our Lady of Graces statue and the monument of former President of the Republic Agatha Barbara along Sanctuary Street; the Grand Master Ferdinand von Hompesch Monument and the remarkable Saint James Square and Saint Leonard Fort...

Zabbar's history is too extensive to describe in a few words. From as far back as the Great Siege against the Ottoman empire, through the French rule and the British era, Zabbar played important roles and there is clear evidence of this, from French cannon-balls still lodged in walls to the many forts and batteries built by the British.

The **Hompesch Gate** is a commemorative arch in Zabbar. It was built in 1801 to commemorate the locality's status as a city, which had been granted by Grand Master on 14 September 1797.



In the past, most Maltese men tended to be married to Maltese women in Australia. The usual pattern was for the men to arrive first in Australia and once they were settled they would be followed by their Maltese wives or they married Maltese women they met in Australia. Wedding announcements between Maltese couples in the early twentieth century are quite frequent. To cite one example, the marriage of Doris Vassallo and Anthony Attard was announced on 31 July 1936. Doris was probably born in Australia for Doris's father George is described as a 'well known resident of Wetherail Park' while it is not so clear where the groom Anthony was born. He is said to be from Pendle Hill, while his parents are described as being from Malta. It was a grand occasion.

*The bride looked stately and presented a regal air as she entered the church on the arm of her father, her long train being supported by two flower girls ... The bride carried a shower bouquet of white hyacinths and carnations, with a touch of pink; the bridesmaids' shower bouquets were pale pink flowers ... The bridegroom was attended by an old school friend, Mr Joe Pace, as best man and Mr Victor Portelli as groomsman.*

Maltese women were in Australia by the early twentieth century, but my research did not locate any criminal offences recorded for them. The lack of female criminals even as late as the early twentieth century is testament to how relatively small the Maltese community was before the explosion of Maltese immigrants in the 1950s. However, another interpretation is that Maltese women in Australia led sheltered lives within the confines of their homes and family and did not venture out and mix much with the rest of society. Hence, the opportunity for crime was very limited.

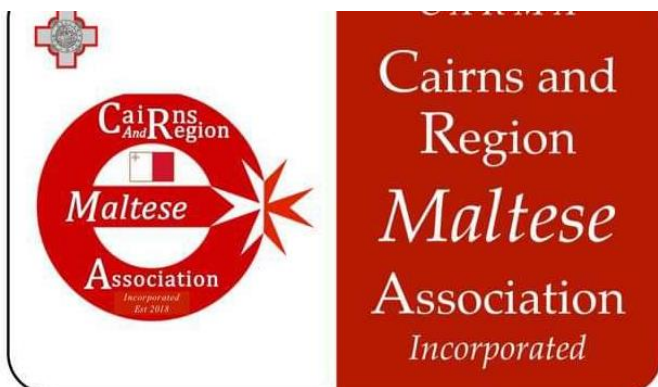
## Maltese women in the early twentieth century in Australia

Public Record Office – Victoria, Australia

One such lady was Antonia Vella who was born in Mosta, Malta in 1880. Her obituary states that 'she arrived in Australia and landed at Mackay in 1920 with her three eldest children to join her husband who had immigrated 10 years previously, to take up cane farming. Five years later the farm was disposed of and they went into business. Mrs Vella was one of the first two Maltese women to settle at Habana, where she remained until 1939. In 1934, accompanied by her husband and two younger children, she paid a visit to her native land, where they remained for six months.'

This supports the notion that the Maltese did quite well economically as Antonia went into business with her husband and at one point could afford to return to Malta for half a year. She lived in Habana for 19 years and her obituary states that 'her kindness, generosity and happy disposition won her many friends, and on all occasions her house was a home for all'. The obituary goes on to describe her illness which lasted 20 years. Her funeral was attended by her husband, two sons and ten grandchildren.

Sometimes many years would pass between the arrival of the Maltese men in Australia and the arrival of their wives and the rest of their family. Like Antonia Vella, another Maltese woman described in a newspaper article simply as Mrs Attard arrived in Australia with her daughter around Christmas time 1949 while her husband, Joseph Attard, had been in Australia since 1926, a good 23 years before his wife. Unlike Antonia Vella, however, Mrs Attard seems to have led a less peaceful existence due to the behaviour of both her husband and her son who was described as one who gets very violent when angry. His father had actually paid for him to come to Australia a year before, but father and son did not get on very well. One day the son warned his father to stop drinking and in fact told the bar attendant not to serve his father any more drinks. Mrs Attard was indirectly involved in the fist fight that occurred between her husband and their son. It was she who eventually stopped the fight in the street and took her husband home, but not before he had sustained a number of injuries including 'two black eyes and a sore nose'.



Last weekend, Bishop Charles Gauci was in Cairns at the invitation of the Maltese community of North Queensland. This is now the third year that he has participated in the events that followed.

The celebrations centre around the Feast of Our Lady of Ta' Pinu.

There is a beautiful church in the countryside on the Island of Gozo dedicated to this particular devotion. The much bigger and newer church surrounds a much older and smaller church. It is a very prayerful environment visited by many pilgrims including the late Pope St John Paul II.

At the heart of the devotion is the vision that connected the Blessed Virgin Mary to a young peasant woman.

Many healings are attributed to the intercession of Our Lady of Ta' Pinu.

## BISHOP OF DARWIN CHARLES GAUCI IN CAIRNS WITH THE MALTESE COMMUNITY

Maltese and Gozitans and their families and friends gather annually from various parts of North Queensland for the occasion.

He celebrated mass followed by a procession. These were followed by a celebrated meal with lots of Maltese food and story sharing.

Many of those present were born in Australia. Some are even third and fourth-generation Australians. Yet they are all proud of their heritage.

They love Australia while celebrating where they come from.

It is so important for all of us to own who we are. It is so good for our well-being to celebrate who we are.

How blessed are we to have such a multicultural community of communities in this beautiful land including, of course, our First Nations peoples. How much we can be enriched by so many shared gifts!

Our loving God and Mary mother of the Church must smile to see us celebrate each other and empower each other.



## Homeless Jesus Christ

Inspired by Matthew: 25, this sculpture is a representation that suggests Christ is with the most marginalized in our society. The Christ figure is shrouded in a blanket the only

indication that it is Jesus is the visible wounds on the feet. The life-size version of the work has enough room that someone is able to sit on the bench. This solid resin-stone cast is coated in a realistic bronze finish and is mounted on a solid matt black base. The Canadian artist Timothy Schmalz personally sculpts every original small masterpiece complete with his signature or monogram. Each replica is detailed by hand to the exacting standards of this modern-day master sculptor.



## ORDO EQUESTRIS SANCTI SEPULCHRI HIEROSOLYMITANI Locumtenentia Melitensis



A historic agreement On 4<sup>th</sup> July, the Maltese Lieutenancy of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre signed a historic agreement with Heritage Malta, where it was granted the use of the Enceinte Hall located in Valletta's Fort Saint Elmo for 25 years. This milestone agreement sealed months of collaborative discussions between the two parties.

The agreement was signed by the Order's Lieutenant H.E. Roberto Buontempo and Heritage Malta Chief Executive Mr Noel Zammit, in the presence of the Order's council members and officials from Heritage Malta. This prime site property will serve as the official seat of the Lieutenancy and will continue to strengthen the Order's presence in Malta.

The Order also committed to help Heritage Malta in promoting the historic fort through the organisation of its formal events, meetings and social activities. The Order, which is a central entity of the Church and is fully recognised by the Holy See, was set up in Malta as

a Magisterial Delegation in 1996, and was elevated to a Lieutenancy four years later.

Today the Lieutenancy has 100 members, comprising knights, dames and ecclesiastics. Earlier this year a delegation for Gozo was formally established. Its primary mission is to assist the Christians in the Holy Land, through the funding of schools and hospitals, among other projects.

During the recent pandemic, the Order also helped the Maltese community. Around 50 members and dependants will be visiting the Holy Land later this month on a one-week pilgrimage, where they will also meet the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem.

The Order will be inaugurating its new seat later on this year when the Maltese Lieutenancy will host the Italian-speaking lieutenants, which include Malta and Switzerland, for their annual meeting. The Order also has the custody of the Santa Marija ta' Doni church in Rabat for 25 years, following an agreement with the Archdiocese of Malta.



# IL-MARA MALTIJA TA' CARMEN CARBONARO

ID-DISA KTIEB - LUX PRESS 1956

GHAL MIN MA GHANDUX FRIG

Ghal dawk li ma ghandhomx frig, ser nagħti xi *hints* illum fuq kif ghandhom iżommu l-affarijiet ta' l-ikel friski.

Il-laħam iżzommux fi platt sakemm issajru, imma ghandek tagħmel hekk, għaliex l-ilma stess tal-laħam iġegħlu jeħżien.

Il-laħam għandkom iżzommuh imdendel għall-arja, u tġhat-ueh imħabba id-dubbien, b'xi cover minn dawk l-imtaqqbin. Għall-butir u għax-xaħam, użaw il-"butter coolers", li dawn issib tixtrihom; u aghmel hekk, qabel ma tużahom xarrabhom sewwa fl-ilma minn qabel, biex il-fuħħar jilhaq jixrob l-ilma, u jiffriska.

Tista' tagħmel hekk ukoll. Poġġi l-butir ġol-butiriera, poġġi l-butiriera ġo friskatur jew reċipjent bl-ilma, u għatti il-butiriera, b'qasrija tal-fuħħar ġdida, li din laqliba rasha l-isfel fuq il-butiriera.

Anki l-flixkun tal-ħalib żommu ukoll ġo reċipjent bl-ilma, għatti b'biċċa mxarrba sewwa fl-ilma, u halli t-truf ta' din il-biċċa jaslu sa l-ilma ta' ġor-reċipjent. Halli għall-arja kemm jista' jkun, possibilment fejn hemm żewġt irjieh.

Biex l-ilma iktar iżomm frisk, iġifieri l-ilma ta' ġo r-reċipjent li fih tagħmel il-butir jew il-ħalib, itfa mgħarfa melh u mgħarfa soder fl-ilma.

Tajjeb ukoll li l-jelly tpogġiha biex tagħqad fl-ilma b'din is-soluzzjoni. (Magħrfa melh u magħrfa soder).

Il-hobż, żommu ġo landa mtaqqba, biex tidhol l-arja, biex iżomm frisk u ma jibbiesx; is-sandwiches żommhom ġo sarveta mxarrba, niedja, jew ġo karta oljata. B'hekk, jibqgħu iktar friski.

Il-ħut. Jekk ikollok il-ħut biex issajru, u trid thallieh ftit żmien qabel issajru, biex jibqa' frisk, aghmel hekk:

Hu platt żgħir, u platt kbir; issa ddawwar il-platt iż-żgħir wiċċu 'l isfel, u poġġieh fil-platt il-kbir. Poġġi l-ħut fuq dan il-platt wiċċu l-isfel, biex b'hekk jiskula l-ilma minnu stess, u jinżel l-isfel għal ġo l-platt il-kbir, u mhux jibqa' mal-ħut, għax dak l-ilma, jekk jibqa' miegħu, iġieghlu jmur malajr. Tinsewx ukoll li tpogġu cover minn dawk ta' l-ikel apposta li jkunu mtaqqbin, fuq il-ħut, biex tipproteġieh mid-dubbien, għax jekk imissru d-dubbien, imur malajr, u jista' jagħmel id-deni.

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

# The Vulcan tragedy over Zabbar



Kristina Chetcuti

Footage: PBS, Paul Spiteri Lucas, Pictures: Godfrey Mangion, Richard J. Caruana, Joe Ciliberti, Mark Zammit Cordina

The deadly explosion occurred over Żabbar at lunchtime, claiming the life

On October 14, 1975 Flying Officer E.G. Alexander was co-piloting a routine flight of a Vulcan XM645 bomber from the RAF base in Waddington, UK to Malta. He was not normally part of the crew, but the original co-pilot had asked to be replaced because his wife was about to give birth. This change in crew proved to be fatal.

The RAF's official reports of the incident say the co-pilot was "imprudently" given leave by the captain, Flight Lieutenant G.R. Alcock, to do the first approach at Luqa. Fl. Off. Alexander was not adequately briefed on the problems of landing on a short runway, especially one with a slope.

Godfrey Mangion, 65, an aircraft and photo enthusiast, who was on the runway threshold and saw the drama unfold before his camera lens that day, recalls the moment.

"I noticed that the Vulcan was landing quite low but didn't quite register that there was a problem until I heard this deafening iron scraping sound. I realised the aircraft had hit the undershoot and sheared off the undercarriage. It bounced back into the air some 20 feet or so and it then hit the runway again some 600 feet after the first impact," he recalled.

By this time, the RAF reports say, the captain had taken over but, according to Mr Mangion, "instead of staying put and waiting for the fire engines to extinguish any possible fire, the captain decided – it must have been a split-second decision – to climb away again and attempt to do a circuit and crash land".

It was an ill-fated judgment and, as, a few seconds later, fire broke out on one of the wings and the bomber exploded in mid-air.

The captain and co-pilot ejected at the last moment and descended by parachute.

"The curse of the Vulcans was that the rear crew members didn't have ejector seats. They had to open the crew door, lower a ladder and bale out with their parachutes on. The five crew members, for unclear reasons, never managed this," Mr Mangion added.

of Vincenza Zammit, 48, who was walking in the town's main road at the time. About 20 others were injured, some seriously.

The report of The Times of Malta the next day said: "It was part of the aircraft containing the fuel tanks and it exploded on impact with the ground, sending a searing wall of flame, two storeys high down the street away from the parish church. Over 100 houses and shops suffered considerable damage... The crash sent the people into a panic. Women, some weeping, other screaming left their houses and ran as fast as they could, away from the wreckage."

Despite the sheer devastation in Żabbar, the casualties were so low and many still consider it to be a miracle. Charles Meilaq, 60, from Żabbar, who was then a reporter with The Times, heard the explosion and rushed to the roof of his house. "It was a miracle. Our Lady saved us from what could have been a more terrible tragedy," he said. Mr Meilaq recalled how he rushed to the scene and came across a completely gutted Triumph car in the middle of Sanctuary Street.

"I feared for the life of the car owners but was told they had escaped. It was one of the luckiest escapes."

The car belonged to a couple from Wales who were honeymooning in Malta and the second they saw the fire they abandoned their car and ran away from the searing flames.

Within seconds, the car was just one blaze. The scene was chaotic. The Times of Malta reported: "The rescuers suffered from lack of water. Having exhausted both the foam and the water carried in the tenders, they desperately sought a well in the vicinity. They only succeeded after a long time. For hours after the crash, the fire-fighting tenders ran a shuttle service to and from the scene of the crash." One corner house was so gutted the RAF rebuilt it from scratch for the owners. The house was renamed Vulcan.

The success of that operation was probably the reason why he opted to circuit the damaged Vulcan

but the plan failed and it led to one of the biggest aviation tragedies in Malta, leaving a permanent scar on the nation.

During the filming for the feature on the tragedy, The Times crew were approached by several people

wanting to recount their sad memories of the day. One woman summed it up: "I was here. I saw the bits fall off from the sky. I haven't been on an aeroplane since that day."



## Friends of Millbank

*Celebrating the heritage and achievements of military medicine,  
with an eye on relevance for the future*

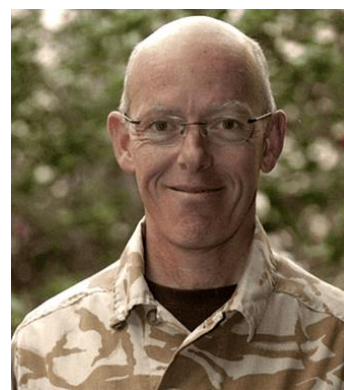
### Col (retd) David Vassallo

LRCP MRCS, DHMSA, FRCS(Ed), MA  
, L/RAMC

[www.friendsofmillbank.org](http://www.friendsofmillbank.org)

Dr. David Vassallo is currently Chairman, Friends of Millbank, celebrating the heritage, achievements and ongoing relevance of military medicine/.

Everyone is most welcome to attend the monthly online talks, free to subscribing members, but open to all; register via our website. Other membership benefits include, but are not limited to, free access to recordings of previous talks and affiliate membership of the BSHM (British Society for the History of Medicine). Our selected Charity of the Year is the David Nott Foundation.



Dr. Vassallo delivers tabletop and expanded tabletop simulation training for field hospitals, having designed a HOSPEX Tabletop exercise based on years of experience with the British Defence Medical Services. He teaches this nationally and internationally in both civilian and military contexts.

David retired from the Royal Army Medical Corps in 2018. Oct 2015 to Nov 2016: Assistant Head, Defence Healthcare Education & Training, at DMS Whittington. 2013-2015 he researched military medical history at the Army Medical Directorate (at Sandhurst), publishing a history of Camp Bastion Hospital and other unit histories (see [www.friendsofmillbank.org](http://www.friendsofmillbank.org)) and undertaking a Masters (History of Warfare) at King's College London.

In 2011-2013 Dr. Vassallo was Clinical Director and consultant general surgeon at The Princess Mary's Hospital (TPMH), RAF Akrotiri. Previously consultant surgeon at The Royal Hospital Haslar, 33 Field Hospital, and QA Hospital Portsmouth.

He joined the RAMC in 1983, becoming a consultant general surgeon in 1994, and thoroughly enjoyed his career in military general surgery. For years he also ran the Principles of War Surgery course at the Academic Department of Military Surgery.

He studied medicine at the University of Malta (1976-1978) and at Cambridge (1978 – 1981). His qualifications are LRCP (London), MRCS (England); FRCS (Edinburgh). He acquired a MA (History of Warfare) from KCL, and Diplomas from the Society of Apothecaries in the History of Medicine and in the Medical Care of Catastrophes.

David enjoys writing historical articles, and has published three books: 'A history of The Princess Mary's Hospital RAF Akrotiri'; 'Who was Sapper Brown? Remembering British military burials in Cyprus'; and 'Military Medical Revolution - How the UK's Defence Medical Services transformed in conflict, 1990-2015' (available via the Museum of Military Medicine)

David is Maltese and lives in England and Malta. He is married, with two daughters. David also actively promotes the BMMHS three-volume series 'Glimpses of War' through the Friends of Millbank website, see <https://www.friendsofmillbank.org/gow/>

His chosen charity is the Museum of Military Medicine – he is raising funds for this Museum's forthcoming move from Aldershot to a stunning new location in Cardiff Bay in 2023.

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[www.georgecrossisland.org.uk/](http://www.georgecrossisland.org.uk/)

The aim of this website is to help maintain and provide an historical and educational resource for future generations, as well as to be a focal point to bring together all members and interested parties.

Within branches in the UK and in Malta many of our members have relatives who took part in the Pedestal Convoy or who served in Malta or were in Malta during WWII and afterwards; they share with us their memories and experiences and take part in the various commemorative events we organise each year. All are welcomed at all events whether they have any military background or not and including non-members of the GCIA.

Along with other events, the Association holds a reunion in Malta every year to commemorate the award of the George Cross and remember over 7,000 civilians and serving men who were killed during this bitter and prolonged siege. The branches (see our membership page) also hold their own commemorative events and get together regularly at social meetings you will find these on the branch pages of this site.

More information about the GCIA can be found on the page [www.georgecrossisland.org.uk/](http://www.georgecrossisland.org.uk/) and also information about upcoming events, photographs of past events and a membership form. All our members receive a quarterly newsletter which gives information on upcoming events, past events and include contributions from members. Contact us at : [info@georgecrossisland.org.uk](mailto:info@georgecrossisland.org.uk)



## The Siege Bell, Valletta, Malta G.C.

The George Cross Island Association originally came into being to commemorate and bring together veterans and families of the Siege of Malta (1940 to 1943) and particularly those who took part in the Pedestal Convoy so that comrades and friends could share their experiences. However, today we welcome members from all walks of life who have an interest in Malta and want to see history promoted and maintained. So if you have an interest in history, particularly the Mediterranean during WW2, do join us – we would love to hear your memories and experiences or simply share ours with you.

Use the membership page [www.georgecrossisland.org.uk/](http://www.georgecrossisland.org.uk/) to complete a form which will automatically be sent to the membership secretary who will send on all the relevant information. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in Maltese history, especially in WW2. They welcome contributions to their site from their members or from anyone who has an interesting article. Please

send your contributions to: [info@georgecrossisland.org.uk](mailto:info@georgecrossisland.org.uk). They also have an interest in other similar military/veteran organisations including **Friends of Millbank** - who celebrate the history of the Army Medical Services medical achievements starting with the Crimea and up to present day. Their web site is: <https://www.friendsofmillbank.org/>

and for anyone interested in military medical history it is well worth a look at their 2023 programme of Zoom talks, open to all. <https://www.friendsofmillbank.org/programme/>



**FRIENDS OF VALLETTA**  
City of Chichester - Valletta Capital of Malta  
[www.friendsofvalletta.weebly.com](http://www.friendsofvalletta.weebly.com)



There is a friendship link between the City of Chichester in the United Kingdom and Valletta in Malta. The Friends of Valletta organise a small programme of events and activities in the UK. We hope that in due course a Friends of Chichester organisation will be formed in Malta and will organise events there.

## Canada Day celebrated in Gozo



The former Consul General for Malta to Canada, Raymond Xerri, lays a bunch of flowers in front of the Emigrants' Monument.

This monument was erected on April 2002 by the Gozo Maltese Canadian Association, with the financial support of the late Charles Puglisevich, for all those who left their homeland to go to Canada, Australia, USA, etc.

Since the erection of this memorial, every year on July 1, Canada Day, the Maltese Canadian Association (Gozo) celebrates the day in Gozo by raising our national flags and playing the national anthems in front of this memorial in the morning. Celebrations continue with a dinner in the evening. Thanks also to Mr Puglisevich, there is also a plaque in honour of the emigrants at the Upper Barraka.

The Gozo Maltese Canadian Association was established in 1996. They have been celebrating Canada Day in Gozo for several years,



## Orlando Pride transfers

### Haley Bugeja to Inter by Antoine Busuttill

Orlando Pride announced that they have transferred Malta international forward Haley Bugeja to Italian Serie A side Inter Milan for an agreed upon fee.

Bugeja had joined the Pride in July 2022, making six appearances during her stay.

"Haley has demonstrated maturity and professionalism well beyond her years while here in Orlando and we value having had her as a member of our Orlando Pride family," Club VP of Soccer Operations and General Manager Haley Carter said. "It was important for us to do right by her and help identify an opportunity where she could earn more game time and continue her development on and off

the pitch. We wish her the best of luck in this next chapter of her career."

"I would like to thank the Orlando Pride and the fans for a wonderful year in this city and on this team. I have grown so much as a player and as a person," Bugeja said. "I would also like to thank the Club for the work they have done to help me, not only while here as a player, but also in setting up this next move for my career. I will always be a fan of this team!"

Haley Bugeja played for the Mgarr United senior side in seasons 2018/19 and 2019/20. She was voted MFA Player of the Year and Under-19 Player of the Year in 2018/19, apart from ending as top scorer in both the Women's League and the Women's Under-19 League with 19 goals and 41 goals respectively. In season 2019/20, she helped Mgarr United finish second in the Women's League and champions in the Women's Under-

19 League. She finished as top scorer in the Women's Under-19 League with 50 goals, scoring also 23 goals in the Women's League.

Bugeja moved to Sassuolo in summer 2020, making her debut in Sassuolo's 3-1 win over Napoli, scoring twice. She scored 12 goals over the course of her first season, finishing as a top five scorer in Serie A. She was voted Best Young Player in the Serie A and was also named as one of UEFA's top 10 women's players to watch. Bugeja's 2021-22 season with Sassuolo was impacted by injury but still managed to score three goals for her side.



## Chinese Lantern Festival & Tea Fair - Malta

On Sunday, 23rd July 2023, from 9.30am to noon, a Tea Fair will be organised in Upper Melita Street, Valletta, in celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the China Cultural Centre. With the participation of an official government delegation from Xi'An, China, the Tea Fair promises to be a delightful experience for the general public. The fair features two pitch pots, harkening back to the Tang Dynasty and offering a taste of traditional sports. Costumes from the Tang Dynasty will be displayed on clothing racks, providing a glimpse into the fashion of that era. Visitors can partake in the tea experience of the Tang Dynasty, immersing themselves in the rich cultural heritage of China.

The Lantern Festival, including a street installation, takes place from 6pm onwards with the participation of several personalities, and dignitaries.



## Remember the days when...

**Kappa Vision Facebook** added a new photo to the album **THE PEOPLE OF MALTA - Album 2** - in **Xewkija, Gozo**.

Do you remember when Maltese people would gather on chairs outside the front door of their house in summer, spending the evenings chatting while the kids around played in the street?

### THE OLD VERSION OF FACEBOOK

How times have changed! Nowadays, scenes like these are hard to come by. Life has

changed, times have changed. Stress and a fast paced life; traffic and construction everywhere you look. Today, the only ones who can take out chairs in the streets are the restaurants!

**STILL SOME THAT DO IT** But you do still find some people who do it, especially in Gozo. Here in an alley of St. Catherine Street (Sqaq Nru. 2) in Xewkija, our friends are enjoying a chat in the shade and the fresh breeze the day after the local feast. Two of them are visiting from Australia for a few weeks. Ah, the memories!

## SOME POPULAR TRADITIONAL MALTESE GAMES



**IZ-ZUGRAGA  
(SPINNING TOP)**

Spinning tops were some of the first manufactured toys, consisting of a piece of wood with a string or a tin one that worked with pressure. They were popular with children in the 40-70

## CHILDREN PLAYED THESE TRADITIONAL GAMES BEFORE THE COMPUTER, IPAD, IPOD, LAPTOP AND MOBILE

**BOĊĊI** Mainly played by boys and possibly still popular today, the game challenges participants to launch a marble ball from a distance at a row of other marbles.

**ŽIBEG** Girls would launch differently coloured beads in a hole in the ground. The last girl to successfully throw their bead into the hole would take home the entire set of beads.

**XIXU** A boy hits a small piece of wood with a larger plank. As it's launched in the air, the other players would run to catch it, and whoever succeeds will be the one hitting it once the game starts up again.

**LUPU LUPU** A player sits on the floor pretending to stir a pot of boiling water. The other players take turns to ask, "Lupu, Lupu x'inti tagħmel?" ['Oh fox, oh fox, what are you doing?']. The 'fox' answers that they are boiling a pot of water. They eventually get up and begin to chase the other players – the one who's caught plays the role of the 'fox' in the next round.

**IT-TIĠIEĠA L-GHAMJA** The name of this game translates to 'the blind chicken', the titular player being blindfolded and then sent to chase the other players, who would tempt the blindfolded player into catching them over the others. Whoever is caught by the 'blind chicken' takes up the role in the next round.

**IC-ĊIRKU** A simple but fun game enjoyed by boys, who would tie a wire around a disused bicycle wheel and take it for a spin around the village streets.

**IŻ-ŽUNŻANA DDUR IDUR** The players would be seated in a circle on the floor, though one of them would be roaming around, singing "Iż-żunżana ddur idur fuq il-bejt tal-kaċċatur" ['The wasp goes round and round the hunters' rooftop']. At one point during this chant, they would drop a small object (like a stone or a little ball) next to one of the seated players, who will then get up to chase the chanting player. If the chanting player is caught, they lose the game and would have to go up and about again. If not, they are allowed to be seated and the player who caught them would assume their role.

**BUM BUM IL-BIEB** A mixed group of boys and girls will form two separate rows and chant a nursery rhyme about a Knight of Malta who's going door to door to choose a boy or a girl to take with him. The two rows would continue to chant the rhyme in tandem with each other, and then pick one of their number to swap with a counterpart from the other line. They would each be given gifts: one of them being quite desirable and the other being a 'funny' gift – a source of great amusement for all the players.

### Il-Pupa

Għandi pupa wisq sabiħa,  
aħmar wiċċha bħall-peprin.  
B'par għajnejn minn lewn is-sema,  
bħalha żgur ma ssibx helwin.

Il-mamà bħali tlibbisha,  
mid-drapp stess tal-libsa tiegħi.  
Oħti ż-żgħira nistħajjlha,  
meta jien nohroġha miegħi.

Fejn immur dejjem nohodha  
għax mingħajrha ma jien xejn.  
Minn fejn ngħaddi nisma' jgħidu:  
"Dawna donnhom pupi t-tnejn!"

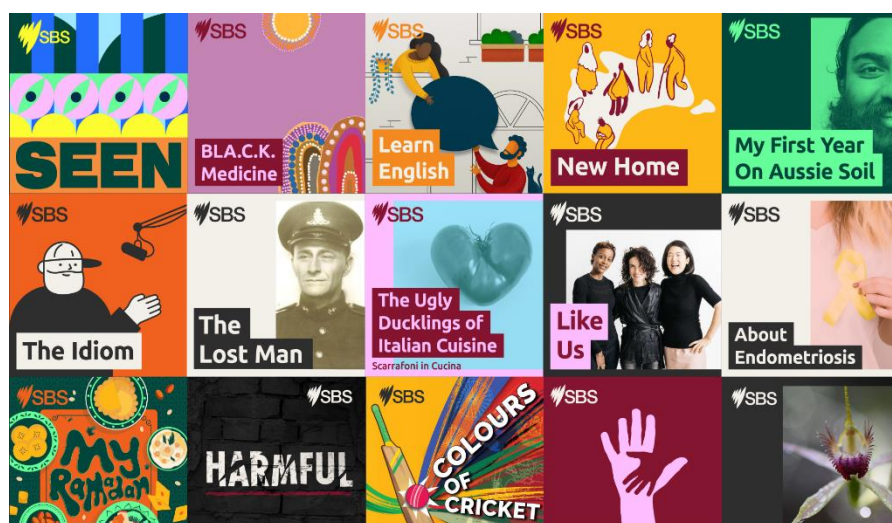




## YEAR 6 STUDENTS VISIT DOMUS ROMANA

Year 6.2 pupils from St Nicholas College, Rabat Primary School, recently visited excavations underway at the Domus Romana close by. The students were given the opportunity to address questions to some of the archaeologists working on the 'Melite Civitas Romana Project', which is an international interdisciplinary collaborative excavation project between Heritage Malta, The Institute for Digital Exploration of the University of South Florida (IDEx), and Intercontinental Archaeology. Who knows, the visit may have inspired a budding archaeologist's future career!

[Heritage Malta](#)



## SBS AUSTRALIA AUDIO CALL OUT FOR PODCAST PITCHES

*The SBS Audio podcast call out returns for its third consecutive year, inviting pitches for new and distinctive content for SBS's growing audio audiences.*

5 July 2023

From novices to veteran podcasters, SBS wants to hear your podcast ideas that feature diverse Australian voices with original storytelling for multicultural, multilingual and First Nations audiences.

Submissions are now open to the public to pitch an idea for a podcast in the categories of news, information or entertainment categories and in any language including English.

Last year's call out generated 175 pitches from across Australia, eight pilot episodes and six commissioned projects including [BLA.C.K. Medicine](#), [SEEN](#), and [The Idiom](#).

Shortlisted submissions will be invited to work with the award-winning SBS Audio podcast team to further develop their ideas. SBS has more than 6 million streams and downloads each month.

David Hua, Director of Audio and Language Content at SBS, said the podcast call out is another opportunity to amplify diverse voices and bring nuanced stories to a larger audience.

"We're incredibly proud of SBS Audio's distinctive podcast offering which continues to grow and tell stories from all walks of Australian life and we were thrilled to be named Best Publisher at the Australian Podcast Awards in 2022," he said.

"SBS Audio is in a unique position to commission projects in any of our over 60 languages, but also produce bilingual and multilingual podcasts which help capture the nuances of migrant and cross-cultural experiences."

SBS Digital Audio and Podcast Manager, Caroline Gates said, "It's been exciting to see these commissioned projects reach new audiences for SBS and many have gone on to win industry awards, so it's an excellent opportunity for both established and emerging podcasters to turn a great idea into a great podcast with the support of SBS Audio."

Submissions close on Monday 31 July and must be made through the online form on the [SBS website](#).

Listen to SBS Audio podcasts on the [SBS Audio website](#), the SBS Audio app, Apple Podcasts, LiSTNR and Spotify.

**For further information and interview requests please contact:**

Leah Boonthanom | [leah.boonthanom@sbs.com.au](mailto:leah.boonthanom@sbs.com.au) | 0411 860 741



The 15th Edition of Opera vs. Pop Under the Stars in the magical background of the Neolithic Temples of Ggantija This year the 15th edition of the musical show 'Opera vs Pop Under the Stars' will take place in Xaghra in the magical background of the Neolithic Temples of Ggantija which take us back to 3500 years BC.

The show will be held until Monday 31 July under the distinguished Patronage of Ms Constance J. Milstein, American Ambassador to Malta. The places this time are limited so one has to think early so as not to be disappointed. The concert will consist of arias, duets and orchestral excerpts from the world of Opera during the first part while in the second part we will be able to listen to lighter music - the theatrical one, soundtracks and pop music.

The Gozo Youth Orchestra will be as always under the direction of Mr. Dr. Joseph Grech with the participation of soloists Soprano Nicola Said, Bass Noel Galea, Tenor Pop Ludwig Galea, Pop singer Sarah Bonnici, and guest Sopranos Dorothy Bezzina and Rachel Fabri.

During the evening, the orchestra will announce its commitments for the rest of the year and next year 2024. Booking is open and for more details one can send an email to [gozowindbandorchestra@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gozowindbandorchestra@yahoo.co.uk) or call 7942 1611/994 1611. One can also visit the website <https://gozowindbandorchestra.com>

This cultural and educational activity is being done with the help of the Directorate of Cultural Heritage, Ministry for Gozo, the American Embassy Valletta, Malta Heritage, Ministry for National Heritage, Arts & Local Government, Malta Tourism Authority, General Soft Drinks Co. Ltd, The Duke Boutique Hotel and Paul Stellini Design Studio. Kav Joe M Attard Victoria Gozo



## In Malta I found my second home” – Serb who has lived here for 7 years

Music, dance, traditional food and mass are characteristic of ‘Vidovdan’: a religious holiday when the Serbian Orthodox Church commemorates the Battle of Kosovo in 1389, when the Serbian leader, Prince Lazar was killed during a battle with the Ottoman Empire.

The Serbian community in Malta accounts for some 5,000, hundreds of whom have been among us for many years and together with their families live in the Maltese community.

Members of the Serbian community spoke to TVMnews about their life here in ‘Malta.

*I'm living here 7 years already, to be honest my girlfriend is Maltese, so i feel a bit of your culture and this island is amazing for us, we found our second home here, we didn't have any problems. - Sinisa Batalov*

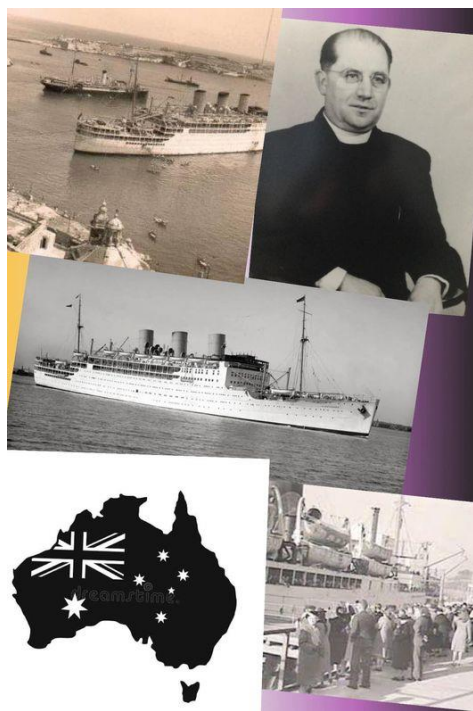
*This celebration took place for the first time in 2019, and following a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic, this year the Serbian community were looking forward to celebrating together.*

*For me, this is a day where the community comes together, everyone dances, has fun, and families come together, I am proud to be Maltese, but the fact that I am half Serbian also makes me feel very proud. - Aleksandar Milovanovic*

*We are going to do traditional dances of our country Serbia and we will have also the adults participate. - Anastasija Jakovljevic*

Every national celebration has its own unique traditions. When it comes to this one, the Serbian community gather early to cook fish soup and a specialised jury chooses the best one. This celebration was held with the support, among others, of Srbi za Srbe, the Serbian Orthodox Church in Malta and the Office of the Serbian Embassy in Malta.

## Lonnie Borg mssp



### 75 YEARS AGO THE LONG JOURNEY STARTED.

Sunday 9th July marks the beginning of the journey to the continent of Australia, exactly 75 years ago. It was on this day 1948 when Fr. Augustine Grech mssp and Fr. Peter Paul Borda mssp boarded the RMS STRATHNAVER, at the Grand Harbour Valletta accompanying a group of Maltese migrants. He arrived in Sydney on the 2nd August, almost a month later. This is an important date, to remember, marking the humble first steps of the Missionary Society of St. Paul to Australia. Beginnings are not easy, but surely God had a plan, that flourished and touched the lives of thousands of migrants and others.

In a multicultural Australian Society, our Paulist missionaries undertook the role of reaching out to the migrants and people from different religious and cultural backgrounds. They give witness by living the Good News of Jesus Christ, in the midst of people of different faith. This is the core of re-evangelization in today's world. At the same time, our members help the local Church in Australia to live its mission vocation and by reaching out to other countries in the same charism of our Founder the Servant of God Joseph De Piro. Let us give praise and thank the

Lord who is the master builder of every divine project.