



CONSULATE OF MALTA IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA NEWSLETTER
JULY 2014 FRANK L SCICLUNA - LINKING MALTA AND AUSTRALIA
EMAIL: honconsul@live.com.au Website: www.ozmalta.com

4TH CONVENTION FOR MALTESE LIVING ABROAD

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs (Malta) would like to inform the Maltese diaspora and the general public that the next convention for Maltese Living Abroad will take place on 20-23 April 2015. Preparations are currently ongoing and the Ministry would like to hear from those who are interested in participation at the fourth Convention.

The Convention will consist of plenary sessions together with a number of workshops. Other activities will also be organized at the margins of the Convention. These include an arts exhibition, literary symposium and a drawing exhibition by school children across the island relating to themes linked with the Diaspora.

The working languages of the Convention will be Maltese and English.

The topic of the Convention are the following:

1. Participatory citizenship;
2. Communications;
3. Public administration;
4. Social policy.

Those interested in attending the Convention are invited to express their intent of participation by filling in a form. You may obtain the form or further information by emailing the secretary convention2015.mfa@gov.mt. The form is to be sent via email on the address above or sent to the following postal address:

The Director

Directorate for Maltese Living Abroad

Directorate-General for Political, European Affairs and Maltese Abroad

Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Palazzo Parisio, Merchant's Street Valletta – VLT 1171 Malta

All forms (by electronic mail or by post) must reach the Ministry for Foreign Affairs by not later than Thursday 14 August 2014 (12.00hrs CET).

<http://mfa.gov.mt/default.aspx?MDIS=21&NWID=5036>

STOP PRESS: YOU MAY READ THE LATEST MALTESE NEWSLETTERS

ON THE NEW WEBSITE OF THE MALTESE DIASPORA ON

WWW.OZMALTA.COM

A STALWART ADVOCATE FOR THE MALTESE IN NSW

Alfred Fenech (1937-2014)

R.I.P.



Alfred Fenech, President of the Maltese Community Council of NSW, and former Honorary Consul (Commercial) for Malta in NSW, passed away on Monday 30 June 2014 aged 76 years. Better known as "Freddie" among Maltese-Australians, Alfred Fenech was a stalwart advocate for the Maltese in NSW, with a strong track record of active community involvement stretching over 40 years. His life-long commitment to engendering unity among Maltese is equal to none in NSW.

Funeral Mass for Alfred Fenech will take place on Tuesday 8th July 2014 at 10.30 am at St Marys Cathedral, St Marys Rd, Sydney NSW. This will be followed by a burial service to be held at 1.00 pm at Rookwood Cemetery, Hawthorne Ave, Rookwood NSW. The funeral director has created an online memory book at the link below, in which anyone, particularly those who cannot attend the funeral or reside interstate or overseas, may express their condolences: <http://www.heavenaddress.com/Alfred-John-Carmel-Fenech-OAM/480979>

Alfred was born in Sliema, Malta in 18 July 1937 and migrated to Sydney, Australia in 1955 as an 18 year-old lad. He graduated Bachelor of Arts in Economics from the University of Sydney graduate in 1966.

Alfred initially occupied a number of positions in the private sector. In 1958, he joined the Federal Public Service in the then Repatriation Department, which looked after the health and pension entitlements of ex-servicemen.

In 1963, Alfred joined the then Dept of Labour & National Service to carry out labour market research. He also worked in the Australian Trade Commission (Austrade) for over 30 years as an export consultant. Alfred retired in 1998 and started his own consultancy business under the name of *Ausetno Export and Business Services*. He also carried out special consultancy work to immigration lawyers.

Between 1998 and 2003 Alfred served as Honorary Consul (Commercial) for Malta in NSW and from 1997 to 2004 as Executive Officer of the Australian Maltese Chamber of Commerce after being one of its foundation members. He arranged for the first ever trade mission from Malta to come to Australia and accompanied three trade missions from Australia to Malta.



STAUNCH SUPPORTER OF MALTESE MIGRANTS IN VICTORIA

Frank Consiglio (1922-2014) R.I.P.

On Sunday 16 June 2014 a prominent member of the Maltese community in Melbourne, Mr Frank Consiglio, passed away aged 92. Mr Consiglio served initially as Consul and then Consul-General of Malta in Victoria for a continuous period of 17 years in the 1970s and 80s.

Frank was born in Senglea, Malta on 11 April 1922, the fourth of five children. He completed a shipwright apprenticeship at the Malta Dockyard. Even in these early days he showed a keen interest in the welfare of fellow workers and was active in many organisations. He co-founded the *Admiralty Apprentices and Ex-Apprentices Association*. It was at this time that his lifelong interest and membership of the Malta Labour Party started, culminating later on in the award of life membership of the party.

Frank was involved with Maltese associations, co-founding The Austral-Malta Association, which later became part of the Maltese Community Council of Victoria that was established in 1958. With the assistance of his very good friend, the late Alfred Dougall, he founded what was called The Friends of the Malta Labour Party.

In 1971, Frank was appointed Consul for the Republic of Malta to represent all Maltese interests in Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia. In time, the post was raised to that of Consul-General. He served under two different Maltese Administrations. This career lasted 17 years until 1989 – the longest career of any representative of the Maltese Government in Australia.

He was particularly helpful to the Maltese Community Council of Victoria, and would be seen at the annual fund-raising fete, with his wife, Frances, at their stalls, selling baby clothes, or at the bigilla stall selling the traditional broad beans based delicacy over those busy week-ends to raise funds for the building of the Maltese Centre in Parkville.

The Maltese community will remember Frank Consiglio as a staunch supporter of Maltese migrants, a person who dedicated a considerable portion of his life to serve the community.

Frank is survived by his wife, Frances, his two sons, Colin and his wife Anne and Charlie and his wife Diane, his grandchildren and his great-grandchildren.

THE WEBSITE OF THE MALTESE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF VICTORIA - www.mccv.org.au

Extracts from the MCCV NEWSLETTE - The Maltese Community Council of Victoria (MCCV), is an umbrella organisation of Maltese associations of Victoria.

Mehudin mill MCCV NEWSLETTER - Il-Kunsill tal-Komunita' Maltija ta' Victoria, huwa organizzazzjoni 'umbrella' ta' għaqdiet Maltin ta' Victoria.

PAYMENTS AND CONCESSIONS

DO YOU RECEIVE A PENSION AND PLAN TO LIVE OR TRAVEL OUTSIDE AUSTRALIA FOR MORE THAN 26 WEEKS?



From 1 July 2014 the rules on how much pension you can be paid while living or travelling outside Australia are changing.

If you leave Australia on or after 1 July 2014 and receive Age Pension, or in limited circumstances Disability Support Pension, Wife Pension or Widow B Pension, you may be affected.

The changes will apply if you are travelling outside Australia for more than 26 weeks or are paid under the terms of one of Australia's

social security agreements.

To continue receiving your full rate of Australian pension you will generally need to have spent 35 years of your working life between the age of 16 and age pension age in Australia. This is an increase from the current requirement to have 25 years of Australian working life residence. You do not need to have worked or paid tax during this period.

If you have less than 55 years Australian working life residence your rate of payment will be reduced. For example, if you have 27 years Australian working life residence, you will get 27/55ths (77 per cent) of the maximum means-tested rate of payment.

If you are already outside Australia on 1 July 2014 you can continue to receive your payment under the rules which applied when you left, unless you return and stay in Australia for 26 weeks or more.

If you are planning to travel outside Australia, you should check how these changes may affect your payments before you go.

For more information go to humanservices.gov.au/paymentsoverseas or call 132 300.

**YOU MAY READ THE LATEST MALTESE NEWSLETTERS
ON THE NEW WEBSITE OF THE MALTESE DIASPORA ON**

WWW.OZMALTA.COM

PUTTING MALTA ON THE BIG SCREEN – THE THREE LUCIAS

A new film aims to put Malta and the Maltese language on the international film map. Producer DAVID REDMAN and writer/director Sandra Sciberras



Malta and its beautiful, clean coast have been featured in many films, including blockbuster hits like *Gladiator*, *The Count of Monte Cristo*, *Troy* and *World War Z*, it is safe to say that for most of the time, the island represented a different city or country and hardly ever featured as Malta itself.

Maltese-Australian writer and director Sandra Sciberras is on a quest to change that. Together with Australian producer David Redman she is making a film – *The Three Lucias* – not only set

in Malta, but one in which the main spoken language is Maltese. The latter is unusual, considering that Maltese is understood by maximum 1,000,000 people, if you count emigrants. Yet, Sciberras is not deterred; the aim is for the film to break into the international film market by making its international debut at Cannes next year.

Sciberras is first-generation Maltese-Australian, meaning she has strong ties with Malta and has many relatives living here. She explains her motivation behind giving Malta this boost.

Using a real-life scenario, rather than artificially creating one was a first for him

“Growing up in Australia meant I had the opportunity to go to film school and to have the Australian government support me in my education. I looked at my cousins in Malta and thought, why don’t they have the same opportunities as I did?”

Sciberras’s powerful art house drama *The Caterpillar Wish* has won awards such as Best Supporting Actress AFI award (Australia’s version of an Oscar) as well as numerous other awards and nominations. In Malta, she has been working on various film-related projects and is involved in the Malta Film Fund.

She argues that little is known about Malta and film because it doesn’t have the international clout that, for example, French or Italian films have. She hopes that **The Three Lucias** will help change that.

The story of this mystery drama is intriguing and takes place between Good Friday and Easter Sunday. In a nutshell, the plot goes something like this: a man with a colourful past is about to return home with the young daughter he didn’t know he had until her mother Lucia died. His daughter is, however, unable to leave and forms an attachment to a movie star with her own secrets. Over three days their lives intertwine with two other women called Lucia whose lives, part medieval and part modern, are filled with tragedy, humour and spirit.

In order to capture the true spirit of Eastertide in Malta, the crew headed to the island to film scenes during Good Friday processions, the visits to seven churches in Siggiewi, and as the Risen Christ statue was carried by people running through the streets on Easter Sunday morning.

The experience was very rewarding for Sciberras, because, as she explains: “I wanted it so much.” She comments how “it was very positive to be standing in Valletta with [Redman], shooting Catholicism at its best. The statues were grand, it was a very personal experience. It was lovely to see actress Marama Corlett’s character, which I’m so passionate about, come to life.”

Redman agrees and reveals how using a real-life scenario, rather than artificially creating one, was a first for him. Although this appeared daunting at first, he says it became easier once they realised that all they could do was work with what they had, and in a restricted timeframe.

Indeed, working with what Malta presented them with, rather than imposing themselves on it, is key to the creation of The Three Lucias for both Sciberras and Redman.

Another key factor to Redman's work ethic is the importance of storytelling. It has been the motivating factor behind his various careers, although becoming a producer happened quite by accident.

Despite his relatively conservative upbringing – he attended the grammar school where his dad taught, studied arts, literature and music and studied business at university – Redman realised late in his teens that accounting was not for him and decided to backpack in the US as a harmonica player and guitarist.

"Telling stories was what interested me," he confides. Music took him to London, Amsterdam and Rome ,where he busked and backpacked a bit more, until he ran out of money.

He moved back to London, where he heard about a job at what he thought was a music company. It turned out, however, that the company – Recorded Releasing (not Record Releasing as he mistakenly thought) – was a film company.

"Within a week I had fallen in love with the industry," admits Redman. He worked his way up within a year and at 21 was acting managing director of the second largest independent company in the film industry.

Redman has been a producer for the past 20 years or so. He has worked with a range of companies, including Paramount, Universal, Village Roadshow, Channel Nine, Macquarie Investments, Island Records, Recorded Pictures, Hoyts, Virgin Interactive, and Adlabs.

He and Sciberras will be back in Malta towards the end of the year when they aim to finish shooting.

Australian film to be shot in Malta



Claire Forlani, Ann Cusack and Valletta-born Marama Corlett

For More Information about this project THE THREE LUCIAS contact

David Redman david@thethreelucias.com

(IESL)INSTITUTE OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE STUDIES INVESTS €3 MILLION TO IMPROVE ITS FACILITIES



The Institute of English Language Studies (IELS), which runs two schools in Malta, another one in Gozo and a three-star hotel, said that it has invested €3 million over the past two years to upgrade its main school in Sliema and the Day's Inn Hotel to maintain

the high standards it is renowned for to benefit students, employees and continuous growth over the coming years.

The refurbished main school in Sliema was inaugurated by Prime Minister Joseph Muscat, who was accompanied by Tourism Minister Edward Zammit Lewis, and was welcomed by the shareholders, directors and staff of IELS.

IELS was founded almost 30 years ago as a joint venture between FTI Group and Mizzi Organisation. FTI Group is a leading player in the travel industry in Germany and in other countries in Europe, bringing to Malta over 75,000 passengers yearly and selling services in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France and UK, among others. FTI employs close to 5,000 employees worldwide, of which 370 are employed in Malta.

The Mizzi Organisation is a group of companies spanning a broad portfolio of business interests and industry sectors, including retail, automotive, tourism, manufacturing, real estate and mechanical and engineering contracting, employing over 1,000 employees locally. IELS also forms part of LAL Language Centres, a prestigious international group of language schools having a portfolio of schools in the UK, US and South Africa.

IELS said “as one of the first English language schools and among the largest in Malta, since 1985 IELS has contributed to the development of the English as a Foreign Language (EFL) industry locally and introduced various new academic programmes over the years.” IELS employs a dedicated and professional leisure and welfare team which organises various cultural and social activities and ensures that the safety and wellbeing of the students is always a high priority. In all, IELS employs over 150 members of staff.

PARISH OF SACRO CUOR SLIEMA MALTA

EX-PARISHIONER - JOE MONSIEUR FROM ADLEAIDE AUSTRALIA



Chev. Dr. Tonio Portuguese, the Sliema Band Sacro Cuor Society's President, was presented with a commemorative gift by two Australia long time members, Joe and Emanuel Monsigneur who live in Adelaide Australia.

After World War II, thousands were those Maltese who emigrated to Australia, looking for a better future for themselves and their families. One of these is JOE MONSIEUR. Joe was the eldest of nine children in the family and though he had a relatively good job in Malta, helping his father in the family owned Bakery, as a young lad he was looking for adventure in the new world having had his fiancée emigrate to Australia. He did follow her and come to Australia. In fact they were the first couple to be married at the newly erected Parish of Christ the King, at Lockleys. Afterwards, he succeeded in bringing over all his family. When he arrived in Adelaide, he met his former Parish Priest in Malta, the pioneer Maltese Franciscan, Fr. Giles Ferriggi O.F.M., who just two years earlier since then, he has always been and still is, one of their foremost right hand helpers.



Whatever happened in early stages of the Parish of Christ the King and the whole complex, Joe was always there with Fr. Giles and the other priests. He was there when they organised their newly bought house and erected the Nissan Hut, which served as a Parish Church; he was one of those, who together with some others and the Franciscan Priests, welcomed the new migrants and helped them settle down, find a job and a decent living place. His first and last job was with Holden where he has gone up the ladder of success, enabling him to give good counsel to anyone who wanted to buy a means of transport.

With regards to his involvement in the Parish life, we could clearly state, that he was from the very start of the Parish Pastoral Councils in the Archdiocese, a member and helped in the running of the Parish, especially where it came to teaching Catechism to the kids, training altar servers and organizing activities in order to raise funds for the newly emerging Parish.

He brought with him from Malta his keen interest in Soccer. He was one of the first members on the Committee of the local Maltese Soccer Team, the George Cross, where he served as Cashier.

When the team changed its name to Malta United, Joe for over ten years was either the President, the Manager or the Cashier. Soccer in those days was somewhat unheard of, and he was the one who instigated the introduction of Soccer in the Western Area Schools. Here we find him going from school to school encouraging children to join in, training and coaching them. In a few years time, with the co-operation of the local School Principals, the Woodville Junior School Association of which he was the founder, from twelve kids spiralled to well over, 51120. In fact the Soccer Federation of South Australia hailed him as a Life Member, and he is also a Life Member of the Lockleys Soccer Association and the Woodville Junior Soccer Association.

His involvement within the Maltese Community is paramount. We have to say that he worked hand in hand with all the Maltese Priests, none excepted, who gave their service here at Lockleys, for the past sixty years. He was always at the helm when the need arose to create and co-ordinate Associations within the Community. He was a member on the first committee of the Maltese Community Association which afterwards opted for the actual name of the Guild, which than he managed to save from disintegrating.

Joe, together with Fr. Peter Paul Mejlaq O.F.M. and two others, was one the pioneers of the Maltese Ethnic Community Radio Program. He was the power behind Fr. Peter Paul to bring to South Australia the artistic statue of Our Lady Queen of Victories. When his Superiors called Fr. Peter Paul back to Malta, he was the one to continue in gathering funds to have the Statue completed and brought over to Lockleys. Joe was the one who, as Chairman of the Maltese Chaplaincy Group, organized the annual feast in honour of Our Lady, apart from the other festivals and socials throughout the year. It was Joe who came with the idea to have our own Maltese Band of which he is the co-founder. Not only did he succeed but also for eight years he has been its President and now he is a Life Member. At the age of 83 Joe is still very active and he is always there to support and give his wise counsel and assistance. Joe is married to Pauline and has two married children.

~~~~~

## **HISTORY OF MALTA'S LEADING NEWSPAPER – THE TIMES**



Times of Malta (referred to by some as The Times) is a national newspaper published daily in Malta. Founded in 1935, the Times is the oldest daily newspaper still on sale in the Maltese archipelago, and it has the widest circulation. The newspaper is conservative and partially directed towards coverage of the economy and finance. Holding tight to its Christian values, the newspaper is regarded as

being an independent mouthpiece for the Maltese Nationalist party. The popular Sunday edition forms an important part of the local cultural arena.

Since January 1, 2003, the Times of Malta launched a new formula, less formal and especially more modern. The result of four years of efforts has led the daily newspaper of "reference" of the Maltese press to multiply its many supplements. The paper's website is one of the best conceived in the Maltese press, putting online the whole of the daily newspaper, as well as archival search both within a four month time-frame as well as the historical archive. Reuter's dispatches supplement local information. The Sunday issue of the newspaper is called 'The Sunday Times'.

**History** The history of The Times of Malta is linked with that of its publishing house, Allied Newspapers Limited. This institution has a history going back to the 1920s, when it pioneered journalism and the printing industry in Malta. It all started with the publication, by Lord Strickland, of Malta's first evening newspaper in Maltese, *Il-Progress*. This was a four-page daily with its own printing offices in what was then 10A, *Strada Reale*, Valletta. The commercial sister of Allied Newspapers Limited, Progress Press Company Limited, formed in 1946, retains the name "Progress" to this day.

Bilingual journalism, Maltese and English, was introduced in Malta with the publication, on February 3, 1922, of an English supplement to *Il-Progress*. The Times of Malta and *Il-Progress* lasted until March 1, 1929. The English supplement then became The Times of Malta Weekly (forerunner of The Sunday Times of Malta). The Maltese side was named *Ix-Xemx*, later changed to *Id-Dehen* and later still to *Il-Berqa*, first published on January 29, 1932. *Il-Berqa* ceased publication on November 30, 1968. In February 1931, Progress Press moved from *Strada Reale* to 341, St Paul Street, Valletta, the present site of Allied Newspapers Limited, also known as Strickland House.

As readership of the English supplement to *Il-Progress* soared, Lord Strickland was quick to see that there was room for an English daily. This would happen so long as the new publication achieved and maintained a high standard of public service in information. The first issue of The Times of Malta was published in full co-operation with the British M15 on August 7, 1935 under menacing war clouds as Italy planned the invasion of Abyssinia, which began in October of that year. On September 2, 1935, Mabel Strickland, who was a founder member of Allied Malta Newspapers Limited and formed part of the first Board of Directors, became the first editor of The Times of Malta. She also edited The Sunday Times of Malta from 1935 to 1950 when she was succeeded by the late George Sammut who retired in 1966. Anthony Montanaro was the next editor. He retired on March 1, 1991.

On August 6, 1960, the 25th anniversary of The Times of Malta, Strickland wrote that The Times of Malta, whilst originally a party paper, had become a national newspaper. The paper won for itself a reputation for objective reporting whilst upholding its own strongly held editorial opinion. Strickland's editorship covered the difficult years of World War II. Nevertheless, none of the newspapers forming part of the Group ever missed an issue in spite of continuous bombing and all kinds of shortages in the siege years between 1940 and 1943. The building was bombed twice, receiving a direct hit on April 7, 1942, when sixteen rooms were demolished but, miraculously, sparing the printing machines.

The Times has only had four other editors. Thomas Hedley took over from Strickland in 1950. He edited the paper through the traumatic years of political and industrial change culminating in Malta's Independence in 1964. He retired in 1965. Under the editorship of Charles Grech Orr, The Times kept up the tradition of never missing an issue when twice hit by industrial action in 1973 and when arsonists burned the building down on October 15, 1979. That date came to be known as Black Monday. In the face of serious danger, the editor and his staff had to abandon the building and go over another press in the island, Independence Press, where they started work all over again. The paper was out on the street as usual the following morning, reduced in size but a triumph for freedom of expression.

## ONCE UPON A TIME... MARRIAGES IN MALTA

By Joseph C. Camilleri



Marriages in Malta are quite similar to those in other European countries, but this was not the case in the past. The daughter was not always consulted in the choice of her future husband. When the girl's parents realized that it was time for their daughter to get married they would display a pot of sweets on a stone bracket on the outer wall of their house.

Once a young man would notice the pot, he would then go to find an older man who could act as a marriage broker (huttab) so that his message could reach the girl's parents. If they agreed, a contract would be settled upon and the girl's dowry stipulated. The young man

would send his beloved a fish with a gold ring in its mouth. The betrothal feast would then be celebrated. This was referred to as "Ir-Rabta".

During this feast the bride used to be introduced to her future husband in the presence of both sets of parents. She would be presented with an engagement ring in the form of two engraved hands joined together, as a symbol of fidelity. She would reciprocate by presenting her future husband with a handkerchief edged with lace.

On the wedding day, a group of musicians and singers would accompany the couple to church singing verses of praise to the new couple. Grain, nuts and wheat were showered on them on their return from the church. The guests would stay on for the wedding banquet to which they often contributed by offering wine as well as food. The bride would dine in a separate room but at the end of the meal she would join her husband by sitting near him and even drink from his glass.



Sometimes there would be dancing with castanets, maybe a custom which may have originated during Aragonese rule in the 15th century. During the meal the guests placed gifts on the bride's lap while she sat at the top end of the room.

Eight days after the wedding day the bride would leave her father's house. This is referred to as "Il-Harga". She used to be received with pomp by her husband in their new home.

During the first year of marriage the husband accepted to take his wife to two major feasts - namely the feast of St. Gregory,

which is celebrated on the first Wednesday after Easter at Zejtun and Marsaxlokk, and to the **"L-Imnarja"** at the end of June. This feast commemorates the martyrdom of St. Peter and St. Paul. On eve of this feast day many people gather at Buskett, a small forested area outside Rabat, to eat rabbit stew and drink wine as well as to listen to folk singing, known as "l-ghana".

The bride used to wear a different headdress for her wedding. If she wore the "ghonnella", also known as "faldetta", this meant that the bride had already been married. During those times many women became widows as men usually were employed as soldiers or sea-faring pirates and many lost their lives when still young. If the bride was a maiden she would wear either a hat (Kappell) or a veil (mant). The hat was usually fawn while she wore a silver-grey dress. The veil and the dress were usually white.



## A SAD EPISODE IN THE HISTORY OF MALTESE SETTLEMENT IN AUSTRALIA - 1916

**"IT-TFAL TA BILLY HUGHES"**

### THE CHILDREN OF BILLY HUGHES



Portrait of Mr W.M.  
Hughes,  
Prime Minister of  
Australia 1916

A little known episode of Australian history, with some remarkable parallels to recent events, happened way back in 1916.

Setting off in that year in a French mail boat, the Gange, were 214 Maltese men would-be migrants to Australia. At the time, as citizens of Malta, they were also British subjects. They had every reason to expect that they would be admitted.

However, on arrival in Australia after a boat journey of five weeks, they found the political climate less than welcoming. The then prime minister, Billy Hughes, was campaigning in favour of the conscription referendum during World War 1. . He was worried that the arrival of this boatload of migrants would fuel the fears of anti-conscriptionists that while fighting at Gallipoli the Australian soldiers' jobs would be taken by such migrants. The Australian Workers Union of the time described the Maltese as "the black menace".

Accordingly, the Australian authorities invoked Section 3(a) of the Immigration (Restriction) Act. That section provided that: "Any person who, when asked to do so by an officer, fails to write out at dictation and sign in the presence of the officer a passage of 50 words in length in a European language directed by the officer is a prohibited immigrant.

The Maltese migrants, who were by then detained under armed guard, were promptly, given a test in the Dutch language - and failed. They were shipped off to the Pacific Island of Noumea.



The parallel so far with Australia's reaction to the arrival of a fresh wave of immigrants arriving by boat more than 80 years later suggests little has changed. But public outcry even during the turmoil of World War I resulted in the eventual return of the Maltese men to Australia.

One of them, Emmanuel Attard from Adelaide, enlisted in two world wars, and like many migrants before and after him contributed to the development of what has become a successful multicultural community.

The migration test provision replaced laws expressly prohibiting by reference to race, such a migration by refs the Victorian 1855

anti-Chinese laws. Racism was also entrenched in the Constitution, which once provided that the reckoning of the numbers of the people of the Commonwealth or of a state should not include Aboriginal natives.

Laws in all states and territories, except Tasmania, now prohibit discrimination on the grounds of race. The most recent report of SA's Equal Opportunity Commission noted that there were 323 complaints relating to race lodged with the commission a significant decline over previous years. Second languages are no longer used to shut the door on the rest of the world.



## WINDMILLS IN MALTA



Zejtun was still in operation in 1939.

An interesting fact is that every windmill was in sight of its neighbours from the openings in the tower, so that the miller could see whether the others were working or not. This situation might have made windmills a part of a communication and defence system. After 1838 ended the monopoly on windmills of the Government. Everybody was allowed to build a windmill. Many windmills were built from that date.

Most of the mills were already relicts in 1900 in consequence of the appearance of steam mills. That type of mills develops progressively round Grand Harbour. Almost all the windmills have the same building plan. The tower (tromba) is surrounded by a stone quadrangular building. The tower is 3 metres in diameter and is 15 metres high. The main entrance gave access to a hall. On both sides of the hall were two rooms, one for the reception of grain and the other for the storage of floor. Behind the hall was the entrance to the tower and the about 50 circular steps in the tower. The room behind the hall and the rooms on the first floor were used by the miller and its family. The mechanism inside was of a normal type and was located at the top of the tower. Mostly it operated one pair of grinding stones.

There have been a QUITE SIGNIFICANT NUMBER of windmills on Malta and on Gozo. At least 69 stone windmills. Almost all the windmills were grain mills. There were about 54 on Malta and 15 on Gozo. Only 3 of these mills have still sails.

Already in 1530 there was a windmill on Malta and in 1565 two. Those were postmills in what now is Senglea. The Knight of St John introduced the technology from Rhodes, which they had occupied from 1309 to 1523.

Nearly all the windmills have been built by the Knights of Saint John. Most of these windmills were built from 1663-1773. But there were built by Lascaris ( 1636-1657) namely 4 on Malta and 1 on Gozo.

Grandmaster Nicolas Cottoner 1663-1680) and his brother Rafael ( 1660-1663) have built the mills in Bormla ,Zebbug , Floriana (2) ,Naxxar and Zurrieq. Later they have built the mills in Lija, Zejtun, Gudja and another one in Zebbug. The technology of these windmills was introduced from the Balearic Islands. Cottoner came from those islands Another builder was Antonio Manoel de Vilhena (1722-1736). He had built 5 mills namely in Rabat, Gharghur, Zurrieq, Birkirkara, and one between Ghaxaq and Zejtun. About 1726 3 mills were built on Gozo and one in Naxxar. At that time there were 16 windmills in operation. In 1826 there were 26 on Malta and 5 on Gozo. The mill in



## SIEGE BELL MEMORIAL – MALTA

View of the Siege Bell Memorial through the arch of the Lower Barracca Gardens - Valletta, Malta.

The Siege Bell Memorial, located next to the Lower Barracca Gardens and overlooking the Great Harbour of Valletta, commemorates those who died in the Siege of Malta from 1940-1943 during World War II.

The design of the structure consists of a belfry in the form of an elliptical neo classical temple supported by 10, square-faced columns. The collonaded belfry contains a

huge bourdon bell which is the largest bell in Malta.



## Neurological stamp



### SIR DAVID BRUCE (1855–1931) AND THEMISTOCLES ZAMMIT (1864–1935)

Sir David Bruce was an Australian by birth. He graduated from Edinburgh in 1881 and spent a large part of his career as a military physician. While stationed in Malta, he studied Malta fever (brucellosis or undulant fever). In 1887 he discovered the causal organism at first called *Microccus melitensis* but later renamed *Brucella melitensis*.

Themistocles Zammit was engaged in public hygiene activities around the Mediterranean and Malta, and became acquainted with Bruce. In 1905 it was discovered by Zammit, who was born in Valletta, Malta that Malta fever was transmitted by goats. Neurological complications of Brucellosis are now well recognised.

In 1894 Bruce found that nagana, a fatal disease of horses and cattle in central and southern Africa, was caused by a trypanosome named after him (*Trypanosoma brucei*). This was transmitted from antelopes by the tsetse fly (*Glossina morsitans*). This

work was of great help with his later research on sleeping sickness (trypanosomiasis), in which he showed that another tsetse fly (*Glossina palpalis*) was the vector of the disease and the disorder was caused by *Trypanosoma gambiense*.

Bruce and Zammit are portrayed above on a commemorative stamp issued by Malta for the international antibrucellosis congress held by the FAO in Valletta in 1964 (Stanley Gibbons 316, Scott 298).

Major General Sir David Bruce, formerly Commandant of the Royal Army Medical College, died on November 27, 1931 after a long illness. His death occurred while the funeral service was being held of his wife who died on few days before.

Sir David Bruce's travels in disease-stricken countries in the cause of medical science were carried out under conditions of great hardship, and brought him world fame, but seriously impaired his health. Lady Bruce accompanied him on many hazardous expeditions.

Sir David Bruce who was born in Melbourne, Australia

## MGARR IX-XINI CHOSEN FOR MOVIE WITH ANGELINA JOLIE & BRAD PITT

---

BY GOZO NEWS · JULY 3, 2014



During a business breakfast this morning, Prime Minister Dr Joseph Muscat said that Mgarr ix-Xini has been selected as the main location for a “blockbuster movie” with Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt.

He added that it will be a very good advert and promotion for the island, and it will put Gozo on the map.

The Malta Film Commission, Dr Muscat said, has also agreed a film to be made in Malta by China.

The Prime Minister also announced that a Memorandum of Understanding is to be signed with China next week, “The MoU will function as a blueprint for investment for a five year period ending in 2019 and will cover many areas of the Maltese economy, The agreement will increase Malta’s exposure in the world,” Dr Muscat said.

The Individual Investor Program was also discussed, which the Prime Minister said is, “proving to be very successful.”

## MARIA MICALLEF APPOINTED AIR MALTA HEAD

---

*Mrs Nicallef giving the Prime Minister Joseph Muscat a tour of the General Soft Drinks plant*



Maria Micallef has been appointed chairwoman of Air Malta. She succeeds Ray Fenech who resigned for personal reasons, the government said.

In a statement this evening, Tourism Minister Edward Zammit Lewis thanked Mr Fenech for his 'valuable contribution'. Ms Micallef, has, for the last 15 years, occupied various senior positions within the Mizzi Organisation and was also on the Air Malta board.

She served as general manager of General Soft Drinks Co. Ltd and was the first woman appointed as member on the European Technical Council of The Coca Cola Company, advising cross functional teams. Ms Micallef holds a MBA from the Maastricht School of Management. Dr Zammit Lewis said Ms Micallef had the qualities that were essential



## CONFRATERNITY OF THE KNIGHTS OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL GRAND CHAPTER OF THE VATICAN CITY

I have the pleasure to announce that a Chapter of the Vatican City is now established. This was done with a lot of hard work by our Grand Prior Don Francisco Acedo Fernández Pereira.



The Vatican Chapter consists of six members of the Roman Curia, including an Archbishop. The Charity Works of some Pontifical Trusts and Orders will include the name of the Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter & St. Paul.

The Confraternity is now under the Protection of the Papal Teutonic Order.

On behalf of the Supreme Council, I welcome our new Knights from the Holy City.























God Bless the Confraternity of the Princes of the Apostles Peter and Paul.

I always believed that the almighty God wanted the Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter and St. Paul.

Peter Paul Portelli Grand Master

**Under the Protection of the first Knights of Christ: Peter & Paul  
Seat of the Confraternity in Melbourne - Australia**

### Chapters of the Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter & St. Paul Inc.

|                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                      |                                                                                       |                                                                                       |                                                                                       |                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Melbourne                                                                           | Malta                                                                               | Austria                                                                             | Germany                                                                             | Lower Saxony - Germany                                                              | Cambridge - Canada                                                                  | Toronto - Canada                                                                     | Portugal                                                                              | Gambia                                                                                | Western Australia                                                                     | Croatia                                                                               |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Italy                                                                               | Sicily - Italy                                                                      | Russia                                                                              | Peru                                                                                | Spain                                                                               | Nigeria                                                                             | New Zealand                                                                          | Sydney                                                                                | South Australia                                                                       | Canberra                                                                              | Cameroon                                                                              |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Angola



Website of the Confraternity - <https://sites.google.com/site/knightsofstpeterandstpaul/>

**MINN WARA L-KWINTI TAL-“INDIPENDENZA” MINN LEA HOGG****L-ORIZZONT**

Dawn il-ftit kliem tal-lum se nibbażahom fuq noti li kitibli s-Sur Alan Bonnici, mill-għaqda mhux governattiva Maltija, **Stars and Stripes**, biex naqsam mal-qarrejja. Għall-Maltin-Amerikani jew Maltin, li kienu emigraw lejn l-Istati Uniti u ġew lura, Jum l-Indipendenza għadu tifikira qawwiya ta' dak kollu li jassoċjaw mal-esperjenzi personali tagħhom tal-Istati Uniti. Nies b'passat komuni li kienu jgħixu fl-Istati Uniti jingabru flimkien hawn Malta madwar il-BBQ, forsi fid-dar ta' xi ħadd inkella ħdejn il-baħar, iżda żgur barra biex jiddiskutu ż-żminijiet u ħafna nostalgija meta kienu jgħixu l-Amerika.

F'din il-ġurnata d-Demokratiċi u r-Repubblikani jieħdu l-preċedenza fuq il-Laburisti u n-Nazzjonalisti lokali. Peress li l-4 ta' Lulju ovvjament mhix vaganza f'Malta, ħafna lokali se jiċċelebraw l-okkażjoni fi tmiem il-ġimgħa din is-sena. B'hekk kulħadd jista' jibqa' barra tard, mingħajr ma joqgħod jinkwieta li l-għada jrid iqum kmieni filgħodu.

Jekk persuna tiġi minn xi raħal fejn tkun qiegħda tiġi ċċelebrata xi festa reliġjuża tradizzjonali, normalment jagħżlu li jgħaqqdu ż-żewġ avvenimenti. Il-logħob tan-nar parrokkjali u l-atmosfera festiva Maltija żgur jagħmlu l-okkażjoni aktar familjari mal-festi li kienu u għadhom isiru għall-okkażjoni fl-Istati Uniti.

Għal ftit sigħat f'din il-ġurnata l-grupp tal-Maltin-Amerikani li issa jgħixu fuq din il-gżira jiġu trasportati lejn era fejn iħossu-hom li qegħdin fuq art Amerikana u f'dik il-lejla l-ħolm tagħhom u ħsibijiethom ikunu totalment Amerikani b'patrijottizmu kbir.

It-tfal u n-neputijiet tagħhom fil-maġġoranza qatt ma rifsu fuq art Amerikana li tant semgħu stejjer dwarha minn fomm il-ġenituri u antenati oħrajn. Stejjer dwar l-art tal-opportunitajiet fejn hemm il-“Ħolma Amerikana”.



U llum fil-jum tar-riċeviment annwali li jiġi organizzat fl-Ambaxxata Amerikana, nixtieq nirrigrazzja lill-Ambaxxatriċi nfisha Gina Abercrombie Winstanley tal-permess esklussiv li tat lil l-orizzont biex nattendu “wara l-kwinti” tat-tnejniet filgħaxija biex din il-festa Amerikana tiġi ċċelebrata fi stil grandjuż.

It-tema taċ-ċelebrazzjoni din is-sena kienet r-“Route 66”, għax din it-triq prinċipali u storika Amerikana tissimbolizza lill-pajjiż għal ħafna persuni madwar id-dinja. It-triq ewlenija baqgħet magħrufa li tinkoraġġixxi l-ispiritu u l-imħabba Amerikani, l-ivvjaġġar avventuruż mal-pajjiż u kull tibdil fil-ħajja għal għexieren ta' snin saż-żminijiet tal-lum. Din hi wkoll ir-rotta tal-opportunità. F'l-orizzont għada, f'Jum l-Indipendenza stess, se nissoktaw bit-‘tour’ tal-Istati Uniti u nżuru x-chef famuż Brian Emmet, li se jifihilna daru f'Chicago u jurina x'hejja għall-ikla prinċipali tal-familja tiegħu kollha għall-4 ta' Lulju.



**STARS AND STRIPES MALTA - <http://www.starsandstripesmalta.com/>**



**St John's Co-Cathedral** is a gem of Baroque art and architecture. It was built as the conventual church for the Knights of St John. The Grand Masters and several knights donated gifts of high artistic value and made enormous contributions to enrich it with only the best works of art. This church is till this very day an important shrine and a sacred place of worship. It is also a venue for cultural events.



Grand Master Jean Parisot de Valette 1557-1568 and the Cross of the Knights



## ABOUT THE KNIGHTS - HISTORY OF A SOVEREIGN ORDER

The origins of the Order, which is known as the Knights Hospitaller of Saint John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes, and of Malta, date back to around 1050 when the Republic of Amalfi obtained permission from Caliph Ali az-Zahir of Egypt to build a hospice in Jerusalem along with a church and convent to offer treatment and care to pilgrims of any faith or race. The hospice was built on the site of the monastery of Saint John the Baptist and was served by Benedictine brothers.



Following the First Crusade, and under the guidance of its founder, the Blessed Gerrard, the establishment of the Hospital and its Order was approved by a Papal Bull issued by Pope Paschal II in 1113. Placed under the aegis of the Holy See, the community (now known as The Order of Saint John of Jerusalem) had the right to freely elect its superiors without any interference by other secular or religious authorities.

After the Holy Land fell, the Order moved to the Kingdom of Cyprus. Fast becoming entangled in the kingdom's politics, the Order set its sights on the island of Rhodes as its new home. In 1310, Grand Master Fulkes de Villaret completed a successful two year campaign to capture the territory as well as a number of neighbouring islands.

To survive the constant threats of Barbary pirates, the Egyptians and the Ottoman forces, the Order was forced to become even more of a military organisation and created a powerful naval fleet.

By the early 14th Century, the members of the Order were grouped according to regions (these groups were known as 'Langues'). The seven initial Langues were Provence, Auvergne, France, Italy, Aragon (Navarre), England (with Scotland and Ireland) and Germany. In 1492 Castille and Portugal split off from the Langue of Aragon and constituted the eighth Langue. Each Langue included the Priorities, Bailiwicks and Commanderies. The Order was governed by its Grand Master and the Council. It also minted its own money.

In 1522, an invading armada of 400 ships under the command of Sultan Suleiman descended upon the Order in Rhodes. Against a force of 200,000 Ottomans, the Knights, under Grand Master Philippe Villiers de L'Isle-Adam, had about 7,000 men-at-arms. Six months of siege ended with the brave Knights finally surrendering. The survivors were allowed to leave Rhodes with military honours, so they retreated to Sicily in 1523.





## NAIDOC WEEK 2014 ABORIGINAL AUSTRALIANS

6-13 July  
**2014**

**SERVING COUNTRY –  
CENTENARY & BEYOND**

This week Australians have the opportunity to share and acknowledge the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across the nation. Let us join together to celebrate the National Aboriginal and Islander Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) Week 2014 (6-13 July).

### The National NAIDOC theme for 2014 is:

This year's NAIDOC theme honours all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women who have fought in defence of country.

From our warriors in the Frontier Wars to our warriors who have served with honour and pride in Australia's military conflicts and engagements across the globe.

We proudly highlight and recognise the role they have played in shaping our identity and pause to reflect on their sacrifice. We celebrate and honour their priceless contribution to our nation.

The host city for the [National NAIDOC Awards Ceremony](#) is the **Gold Coast**. National NAIDOC Committee co-chairs Anne Martin and Ben Mitchell said "This year's theme *Serving Country: Centenary & Beyond* honours all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women who have served with honour and pride in Australia's military conflicts and engagements across the globe."

Hundreds of events are taking place across the country from a community fun day in Gawler, SA to an Indigenous art tour of the Art Gallery of Western Australia in Perth, WA. The National NAIDOC Committee encourages you to find out what is happening in your local area and join in the celebrations.



The week will conclude with the presentation of the National NAIDOC Awards at a ceremony and ball event on the Gold Coast on Friday 11 July.

The awards recognise the outstanding achievements and contributions made by Indigenous artists, scholars, sportspeople, Elders and community members across the country. There are 10 award categories, including the Person of the Year and Lifetime Achievement Award.

.For more information on NAIDOC Week and to find out what events are taking place near you, visit [www.naidoc.org.au](http://www.naidoc.org.au).

## **From the archives of the Maltese Community of South Australia**

### **AN ACT OF CHARITY BY THE MALTESE IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA DURING WORLD WAR II**

World War II hit Malta on 11 June 1940 and it may be safely said that the enemy hostilities lasted till the capitulation of Italy, which was officially announced on 8 September 1943.

Malta suffered heavy losses and many of its historical buildings and homes were destroyed. The Maltese people suffered moral and physical pain and hunger they had never experienced before. During a five-month period between December 1941 and May 1942 more than 800 Maltese were killed and nearly one thousand severely injured in action. Four thousand buildings were reduced to rubble.

The Maltese Community of South Australia in 1942, although very small in numbers (only 20 families) did try to help alleviate the sufferings of their compatriots back home. They organised a special celebration to raise money to be sent to their relatives and friends in Malta.

The organisers and participants as well as those who supported this function received well-deserved admiration from the rest of the South Australian community for their charitable and heroic gesture.



*The photo above shows the main participants in this unique occasion:*

Standing from left to right: Connie Vella, Eris Vella, Jane Sciberras, Doris Camilleri, Jeane Camilleri, Rita Schembri, Mary Camilleri, Doris Sciberras and Mary Grima. Sitting: Amy, Clare, and Rita Grima.

*Information supplied by Rita Schembri and photo by (the late) Daniel Caruana*

**THAT'S ALL FOLKS – SEE YOU SOON**

**SAHHA –HABIB/A**