

# **MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER**

**Journal for Maltese Living Abroad**

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**LEST WE  
FORGET**

**11 November**

"They shall grow not old,  
as we that are left grow old.  
Age shall not weary them,  
nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun  
and in the morning,  
We will remember them."

Laurence Binyon





**FOR GOD'S SAKE  
STOP THE WAR  
IN GAZA**



**Dr. Gioconda Schembri**



**Joseph Panzavecchia IN 1942**

  
**Journal for  
Maltese living  
abroad**  
  
**MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER**  
**DON'T MISS THE NEXT  
500th SPECIAL EDITION**



**MALTA AT WAR 1940-1943**



**ORDER OF  
MALTA**



## Order of Malta appeals for peace and hope for the Holy Land

The Ambassador of the Order of Malta to Palestine speaks of the fear spreading across the Palestinian territories with the escalation of war and of how the people of Bethlehem, and the maternity hospital she heads there, are increasingly unable to provide vital services.

By Linda Bordonì

The eyes of the world are mostly on Gaza which is under constant attack as Israel targets Hamas infrastructure in the enclave.

Since the 7 October attacks by Hamas on Israeli citizens a war has erupted causing thousands of deaths and a humanitarian catastrophe. As of Monday, 30 October, over 8,000 Palestinians and some 1,400 Israelis have been killed.

Air strikes and bombings have targeted the Gaza Strip, but Palestinians across the whole nation are suffering as increased security closures and travel restrictions have halted the transportation of goods and basic necessities between cities and impacted the capacity of many workers to reach their places of employment, including doctors and medical personnel.

Michèle Burke Bowe, the Order of Malta Ambassador to Palestine and President of the Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem spoke to Vatican Radio about the dire situation that has engulfed Bethlehem since the conflict broke out compounding the already fragile state of the region. The ambassador illustrated a tense in Bethlehem where falling debris is a constant threat and fear has become a daily companion subverting ordinary life. "People are scared, the prices in the stores for food have skyrocketed, many things are difficult to find including some medicines, baby formula in particular" she said noting that after the first days of the war, children are back in school "in an atmosphere of great fear."

Frequent Israeli security operations and arrests further add to the tension she said and isolation imposed by the separation wall between Bethlehem and Gaza exacerbates the already dire situation, making it impossible for residents to move freely.

Storm heaven with prayers for peace

Echoing Pope Francis' appeal to join him in prayer for peace in the Holy Land, the ambassador said:



"Our appeal is to storm heaven with prayers, with fasting, with sacrifice, to call and write letters to people of influence and to just let peace prevail."

The Holy Land, Ambassador Bowe continued, is such an important place for all three monotheistic religions: "We just need to work together and to have peace."

Speaking from her Catholic point of view, she says she thinks of the words from the Scriptures: Jesus wept when he saw Jerusalem.

"I can only imagine that Jesus is weeping to see His beloved people having taken up arms, and to see the disastrous outcomes for innocent civilians and children and elderly just suffering at the hands of war."

*"I can only imagine that Jesus is weeping to see His beloved people having taken up arms."*

The work of the Role Order of Malta

The Order of Malta, with a history spanning nearly a thousand years, has been a consistent force for relief and assistance during times of crisis and conflict. It continues in its mission to serve the people of Bethlehem and Gaza, irrespective of their faith.

Those wishing to support the Order of Malta's humanitarian efforts can visit the Order of Malta *website* and make a donation.



## Kummissjoni Għolja tar-Repubblika ta' Malta High Commission for the Republic of Malta

Press Release 9/2023 6/11/2023



**New Consul General of the Republic of Malta in Melbourne Dr. Gioconda Schembri**  
The High Commission of Malta in Canberra is delighted to announce the appointment of Dr. Gioconda Schembri as Consul General of Malta in Melbourne, with jurisdiction over the state of Victoria, succeeding Ms. Chirelle Ellul Sciberras who completed her posting on 22 September 2023.

Dr. Schembri is well known among the Maltese communities in Australia and has been residing in Victoria since 2002. Prior to her appointment, Dr. Schembri held the position of Administrative Assistant & Executive Officer at the Consulate General of Malta in Melbourne and was First Secretary and Deputy High Commissioner at the High

Commission of Malta in Canberra from 1998 – 2001.

Dr. Schembri's appointment is with effect from 30th October 2023. We take this opportunity to wish Dr. Schembri the best of success in her new role.

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## New Exchange Agreement with the University of Canberra



The University of Malta and the University of Canberra have just concluded a Student Exchange Agreement which will open up a new opportunity for UM and UC students to opt for an exchange experience of one semester as from **January 2024**. The

agreement covers the exchange of two students each year.

The collaboration was initiated by the High Commission of Malta in Canberra.

The **High Commissioner of Malta to Australia HE Mario Farrugia Borg** expressed his delight at this exciting new development with the University of Malta facilitating international student exchanges with the University of Canberra in Australia, and vice-versa. He added that this agreement provides a great new opportunity for Maltese students to broaden their academic horizons. Furthermore, it not only offers a wider array of choices but also encourages new academic pathways, providing valuable support to students in Malta and in Australia to seek higher educational opportunities.

The **High Commissioner of Australia to Malta HE Mr Matt Skelly**, as an alumnus of UC, is also extremely pleased to see UM finalise an agreement with an additional Australian University. While increasing options for academic studies for both Maltese and Australian students, exchanges between universities also allow for students to experience and appreciate the life and culture of another country, develop new perspectives and build lasting connections. He is looking forward to Maltese students experiencing a city with world-class institutions and cultural attractions surrounded by the beauty of the Australian bush.

Applications for UM students to participate in the International Exchange programme, which includes exchange opportunities in Australia, are open until **Thursday 30 November 2023**.



**“Property development is necessary but not to the detriment of our natural environment”.**

protect the environment around us. He said sustainability should be respected and embraced at every level of our society at all

The President of the Republic George Vella said that he understands that property development is necessary however this should not be to the detriment of our natural environment.

He was speaking during the seventh edition of the Premju Buonamico held at San Anton Palace, which recognises those who work in the field of environmental protection and conservation.

The winners of this seventh edition, organised by the Authority on the Environment and Resources, were Prof Alfred Vella, Prof Victor Axiak and Mary Gaerty. President Vella said that the most common element between the three winners is their insistence on the importance of education.

He said that through their educational efforts, new generations can contribute to the greatest challenge we are facing, both at a national and international level, that of climate change and environmental degradation while warning that if we do not reverse the damage, our children and their children will be facing even greater challenges and turmoil.

The President said that we should always speak about sustainability and how important it is to

times.

Although it is good to pay attention and reward the important role of the individual in society, the President said that at the same time we need to stress the importance of setting up regulatory systems which are supposed to protect the environmental sustainability of our country.

The President warned that there need to be stricter laws and serious protection.

We need to put a stop to every type of abuse and negligence. I understand that development is necessary but never to the detriment of our natural. I appeal to the authorities concerned to be more vigilant and protect what is left of our architectural heritage.

He added that we need a strict protection of the rules and decisions in favour of the environment which are taken seriously because what we ruin today will be gone forever, while what we preserve will keep bearing fruit. He said that what we cover up with buildings and tarmac will be gone forever and he insisted that with the small size of our country there is no room for mistakes.








## **Maltese-American man evacuated from Gaza**

Qassem Ali, who holds Maltese and American citizenship, was trapped in Gaza. He said that on Tuesday morning, he avoided an attack by Israel by just 100 metres. The Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade has announced that after several weeks of working hand in hand with the American Government, a man who has dual Maltese-American nationality has been evacuated from Gaza.

Between Friday 3 November and Saturday 4 November the Maltese man – Qassem Ali – managed to arrive in Cairo in the early hours of the morning.

He began this journey many hours before with the assistance of the Maltese Ambassador to Israel, Cecilia Attard Pirotta, the Ambassador to Malta in Egypt, Roberto Pace, and the Representative of the Maltese Government in Palestine, Franklin Aquilina.

The relatives of the Maltese man thanked Malta's Government and the Ministry, particularly their commitment over these past few weeks for the evacuation to take place.



**CARMELO MICALLEF**, ta' 30 sena, mir-Rabat ta' Malta, li jinsab f'North Queensland ġewwa l-Awstralja u li jippossiedi hafna raba' u kapital ta' £5,000 jixtieq isib tifla Maltija li titkellem bl-Ingliż sabiex jiżżewwigha. Dan huwa dispost li jibgħat ukoll l-ispejjeż tal-passaġġ minn Malta għall-Awstralja. L-indirizz tiegħu huwa:—

**CARMELO MICALLEF,**  
P.O. Elaregh, Via Innisfail,  
North Queensland,  
Australia.

### **CARMELO MICALLEF**

30 years of age, from Rabat, Malta and lives in North Queensland, Australia and he is an owner of many properties and has a capital of 5000 pounds. He would like to find a girl to marry who can speak English.

He is ready to send her money for the trip from Malta to Australia. This is his Address

**Carmelo Micallef**  
**P.O. Elaregh,**  
**Via Innisfail,**  
**North Queensland**  
**Australia**



## **Embassy of Malta to the USA - Minnesota.**

**There is a Malta Study Center at St. John's University on Minnesota. Read the full post below for more information.**

Ambassador Dr Godfrey Xuereb and Dr Kay Xuereb, in early October, paid an official visit to The Malta Study Center, Hill Museum & Manuscript Library (HMML) at St John University in Minnesota

The Ambassador, accompanied by the Hon. Consul Chev Joseph S. Micallef and a representative of the Maltese Diaspora in Minnesota, Mrs Michelle Warrington, were met by the Centre Director Dr Danile Gullo who provided an extensive tour of the Library and the explained the work of the Malta Study Centre. <https://hmml.org/research/msc/>

The HMML's Malta Study Center has digitised archives, manuscripts, rare printed works, and art related to the history of Malta and the Order of Malta. The collection, which includes over 2.5 million digital images, has been collated from the National Library and the National Archives of Malta as well as from the Cathedral Archives of Mdina and the Diocesan Archives of Malta and Gozo. Documents were also digitalised from Heritage Malta's Mużew Nazzjonali tal-Arti, from the Malta Maritime Museum and from private collections.

The collections now provide a rare opportunity to explore the institutional history of the Order of Saint John and how this is intertwined with the history of Malta.

The Malta Study Centre was the brainchild of Malta's Honorary Consul to Minnesota, Chev.

Joseph S. Micallef who until recently was also the Chair of the Friends of the Study Centre.

The Ambassador also had the opportunity to discuss the work of the Malta Study Centre and the future collaborations with Malta with Dr Katrina Schulde, Director of Advancement; Mr Joseph Rogers, Chair of the Friends of the Malta Study Centre) and Fr Eric Hollas who is the current Prior of Saint John's Abbey.

The Ambassador and the delegation were impressed with the repository of information and knowledge that now resides at The Malta Study Centre. He thanked all those involved for helping preserve this important part of Malta's history and looked forward to expanding the work and collaboration between Malta and the Study Centre.

***The photo on the left - From left to right Mrs Michelle Warrington, Chev Joseph S Micallef, Ambassador Dr Godfrey Xuereb, Dr Daniel K Gullo and Dr Kay Xuereb.***

***The photo on the right - Coat of Arms of Jean de la Valette.***

Among the many interesting articles that you print on this wonderful newsletter I always look forward for the reflection by Bishop Charles Gauci of Darwin. It's always inspirational and welcoming. Frank Vella  
Victoria 2/11/2023



# MALTA AT WAR 1940-1943

German POW Compound at Ta' Qali built by the Royal Engineers and manned for some time by 'A'



Company, 2nd Battalion KOMR. Notice the Bren Machine Gun and manual Air Raid Warning Alarm next to the sentry in the guard tower.

The first half of the 20th century was defined by two major global conflicts that changed the world. While the First World War did not spread directly to the Maltese Islands, World War Two put Malta on the frontline, resulting in much death and destruction. By the 1930s, Malta had long since been incorporated as a crown colony within the British Empire. Its strategic geographic location, harbours, and climate made it an ideal naval outpost, facilitating British control across the Mediterranean.

The first fifty years after the 1813/4 accession presented no serious military threats, however the situation changed in the early 1860s when a reformist movement unified the Italian kingdoms and states into a single country, placed under the Savoy Monarchy.



*Saluting Battery overlooking the Grand Harbour facing Senglea Point*

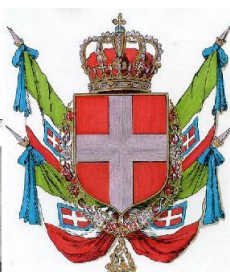
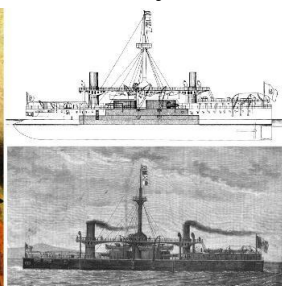
British interest in the matter grew to concern when the Italians started investing in military means and building a navy.

This compelled the British administration in Malta to host a commission of military engineers with the aim of reviewing the Island's defences. The Commission noted that practically all existing fortifications were those inherited from the Knights' period, with many of the structures having fallen to abandon or disrepair and lacking sufficient or modern ordnance. A list of recommendations was drawn up to rectify the situation and ensure Malta could be well defended in case of aggression by the fledging *Regno d'Italia*.

*King Vittorio Emanuele II of Savoy  
& Dandolo Ironclad Warships*

*Duillo  
Kingdom of*

*Italy Coat-of-Arms.*  
A fervent programme was implemented to build a widespread spate of modern forts, batteries and entrenchments. A defensive wall running across a geographical fault was built in order to counter a potential invasion from the north. The extensive wall stretched from one coast to another in a relatively straight line, incorporating a series of powerful forts, artillery positions, troop catchments and other such hubs. It was inaugurated in 1887 and named after Queen Victoria.



Elsewhere, several older structures were restored, modernised and enlarged, ordnance replaced and augmented, with two of the newer fortifications fitted with an Armstrong 100-Ton Gun.

The restored Armstrong 17.7 Inch 100-Ton Gun at Fort Rinella

Despite these preparations, an attack by the newly unified Kingdom of Italy never materialised, and by the end of the First World War most of the fortifications, including the Victoria Lines, had become obsolete. The British bid to ensure peace by preparing for war was well-met by



the Maltese, since not only did it serve to protect the people but provided much demand for local manpower required during construction.

On another hand, the long-standing historical and cultural ties between the Maltese and Italians, led some to frown upon Britain's military initiatives, particularly since these were inspired and specifically aimed to counter an

Italian 'foe'. Others argued that the British forced Malta's hand when it was integrated as a colony with no regard to local opinion. The subsequent unification of Italy fuelled mistrust in the British and a growing notion that Malta should belong to Italy not Britain.

This went hand-in-hand with a novel political ideology termed Irredentism, which advocated the return to Italy of all Italian-speaking districts subject to other countries including Malta, with Italian having been the national language since the 16th century and before.



*A Quote by Nelson from 1798 asserting that Malta belongs to the King of Naples*

By the 1930s, the Maltese had attained their first self-government and consolidated their views into a political spectrum: The irredentists and others inspired by Mussolini's Italy evolved into the Nationalist Party.<sup>2</sup> On the other hand Lord Strickland's Constitutional Party and the Labour Movement were those in favour of British

rule.

Political turmoil led the British Administration to suspend Maltese self-government in 1933, while Italian was abolished as Malta's official language and replaced by English and Maltese in 1934, amidst an uproar.



***The Nationalist, Constitutional & Labour Party Emblems***

The situation escalated further when Italy invaded Abyssinia in 1935, with open praise for Mussolini's quest for Empire and Mare Nostrum policies by Maltese Nationalists and Fascists. In contrast, as the prospect of war between Britain and Italy grew steadily, so did

an anti-Italian sentiment harboured by the working classes. The Abyssinian Crises compelled the local administration to review and upgrade local defences. This led to the construction of a series of Beach Observation Posts across the shoreline followed by a large modern fort at Selmun.

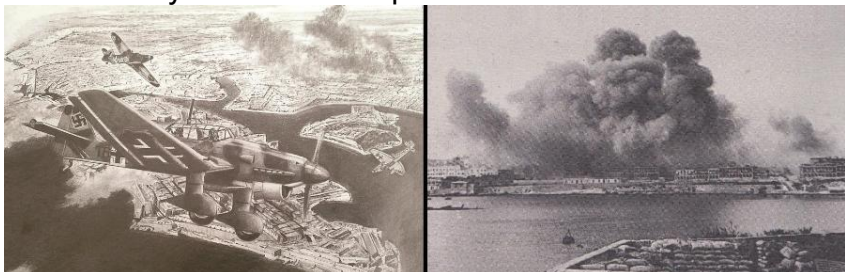
These limited countermeasures were followed by a trickle of upgrades to existing fortifications and ordnance, but when war finally broke out in June 1940, Malta was caught off-guard in terms of preparedness for the impending onslaught.

Despite the imminent threat, many were those misled by a widespread notion that the Italians would never attack their Maltese kinsmen and only throw flowers out of their bomb pits! Sadly for all, the attack came and so did the bombs, with the flowers appearing only on graves and tombstones of the fallen.

The onset of war led the British to conduct large-scale arrests of all those harbouring pro-Italian or pro-Fascist sentiments, including most of the Nationalist Party's leadership. As the war drew on, forty-three of these



internees were exiled and deported to Uganda for the duration of the conflict. A few of them would never come back. Conversely, the Italians arrested a large number of Maltese citizens living or working in Libya, deporting them to Italy and placing them in camps. In this case too, some would not survive the war. German involvement in the Battle for Malta began in early 1941 leading to a ferocious escalation of the conflict. Determined attacks by German Fighter Bomber Squadrons would escalate over time, earning the Island the reputation as the most heavily bombed place on Earth. Despite severe shortages of provisions and ammunition the Islands held out, but the situation became more desperate when a growing number of inbound Allied convoys failed to reach port.



Luftwaffe Aircraft sortie over the Grand Harbour and the Bombing of Tigne Barracks as seen from Valletta

On the 15th April 1942, King George VI awarded the George Cross to the Maltese nation in recognition of their huge sacrifice and contribution to the war effort. This gesture was well-received and uplifted morale, but did little for growling

empty stomachs. As Summer approached the steady dwindling of supplies forced local authorities to consider surrender and stipulate a timeframe for capitulation. A collective effort to scrape the bottom of the barrel



enabled a series of providential delays until one fine day in mid-August, the remnants of a large convoy started trickling into the Grand Harbour. This event was a game-changer and the convoy allowed the Island to fight on.

The state of devastation in Malta & S.S. Ohio limping into the Grand Harbour on the 15th of August, 1942

An odd year later, Malta would play a crucial role in the Allied invasion of Sicily following the defeat of Axis Forces in North Africa. This was soon followed by an Italian Armistice and Allied control of Sicily and Southern Italy. Peace returned slowly to our Islands as the war ebbed further and further away. Germany's catastrophic loss of its Sixth Army in Stalingrad earlier in 1943, and mounting losses on the Eastern Front, ensured no



resources could be spared for any major attempts to retake lost territories in the Mediterranean.

German POWs in North Africa  
Operation Husky: The Allied invasion of Sicily  
German setbacks in Russia. The fading threat allowed Malta to start recuperating from a massive

siege which had devastated the Islands completely. Conditions improved albeit at a snail's pace while efforts were stepped up to clear the debris and rebuilding lost abodes. The war in Europe ended in Germany's defeat on the 8th of May, 1945 leading to widespread local celebrations. Malta had played a pivotal role in the conflict, denying Axis control of the Mediterranean and disrupting Italo-German efforts in North Africa. Its resistance caused the Axis several losses and led to a drain of resources badly needed elsewhere, further contributing toward the fall of the Reich.



#### Sportsdesk

was another international window to remember for Haley Bugeja after netting five goals in the Andorra double-header.

The Inter forward helped Malta secure another two crucial victories as they made a huge step towards League B promotion in the UEFA Women's Nations League.

Bugeja's hat-trick against Andorra was her second at international level, having scored three goals during the UEFA Women's Euro 2021 qualifier against Georgia in Tbilisi, in 2020.

Her three goals in Andorra La Vella have now put Bugeja just two goals away from becoming Malta women's second-best all-time scorer with experienced player Ylenia Carabott, still an active member of Manuela Tesse's selection, boasting 20 goals.

## FOOTBALLER HALEY BUGEJA

Dorianne Theuma remains Malta women's all-time prolific goal scorer with 26 goals.

With a couple of matchdays left in this competition, Bugeja is in the driving seat to finish as the Nations League's best scorer as she holds a three-goal advantage with eight goals scored after four outings.

Asked what this hat-trick meant for her, Bugeja pointed out that she is delighted to have managed to secure another hat-trick before hitting 20 years.

"At the same time, it was important to win and keep a clean sheet as well as this reflects our growth as a team," Bugeja told the Times of Malta.

"We are continuing to set new milestones and we are upbeat about our chances in the upcoming games against Moldova and Latvia in order to reach our ultimate goal – promotion to League B."

During this summer transfer window, Bugeja returned to Italian football after putting pen to paper on a deal with Inter. The former Mgarr United player was at the back of her experience in the United States with the Orlando Pride where Bugeja struggled to showcase her quality, featuring only on four occasions across the 2022 and 2023 seasons. Although she is yet to open her account at Inter, Bugeja has been a regular fixture at the Nerazzurri with whom she has played five matches in the Serie A Femminile.

Regular football has contributed to Bugeja starting to find her best form and her eight goals in this Nations League have proved that.

"I am always excited whenever I have to represent the national team and that fuels me to perform at my best," Bugeja explained.

"I have to thank my team-mates because after all this is a collective effort while on a personal level, I feel that I am on the right track to keep improving."

**I sincerely thank all those who sent a small  
towards the production of this free weekly journal**

**If you would like to help me these are my bank details:**

**Name: Frank Scicluna  
Bank: Commonwealth (Australia)  
BSB: 065-106  
ACC: 0050 2597**



## How Maltese were treated in Australia before WWII



*photos of Maltese migrants serving in Australian military helped overcome racial prejudice.*

Mark Evans

Utter terror is depicted on the bruised face of a Maltese worker as he attempts to escape from infuriated South Johnstone sugar mill strikers. Photo: Daily Telegraph, Sydney, July 20, 1927. Courtesy of National Library of Australia

The Second World War was devastating for people living in Malta, but in Australia it was a watershed moment for Maltese migrants who, until then, were at the receiving end of racial

slurs and attacks.

Maltese migrants were described as “parasites”, “coloured” and a “black menace” who were “ignorant of all sanitary precautions”, “animal-like in their tastes”, “brutal in their relationships”, “grossly superstitious” and illiterate. Worst of all, they were allegedly taking jobs from Australians and threatening Australians’ standard of living with their “cheap labour”.

This little-known reality was recently illustrated in a *Royal Historical Society of Queensland Journal* article about racial boundaries, discrimination, and restrictions against Maltese migrants during the war. The article was researched as part of the National Archives of Australia’s commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Malta-Australia migration agreement.

Authors Patrick Ferry and Luis Calleja investigated how the war and ‘populate or perish’ immigration policies ultimately represented a turning point in perceptions about the Maltese.

The first Maltese to arrive in Queensland sugar cane fields in the 1880s shared British nationality with Australians; however, they were usually bracketed with Italians and other southern Europeans as “dagoes” who were “dirty and lazy”, Ferry and Calleja observe.

In the press, the Maltese were meanwhile portrayed as being hot-tempered, quarrelsome, and violent, allegedly drawing knives during brawls. “The most rabid opponents of Maltese migration even questioned whether they were European. They claimed the Maltese were ‘coloured’ or like ‘Gypos’ (Egyptians).

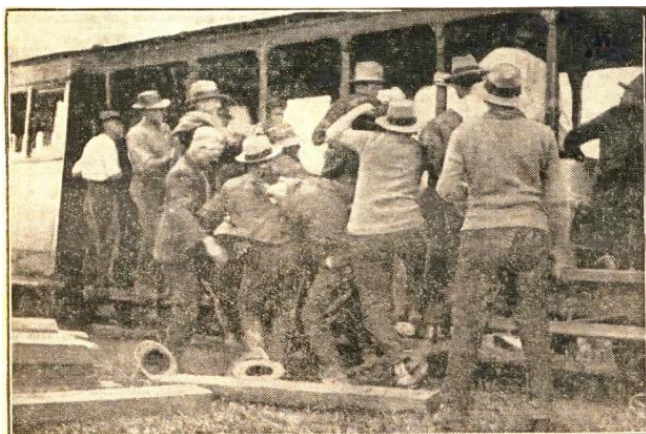
In one particularly egregious tirade in the 1920s, the *Truth* newspaper grouped the Maltese with other ‘mixed races of indefinite breed’ allegedly ‘sweep[ing] into our open ports, sans character, morals, principles, health, and frequently, cash’, and ‘ignorant of all sanitary precautions... animal-like in their tastes; brutal in their relationships... grossly superstitious and illiterate’.”

***Bloody dagoes – why don’t you go back?***– One of the racist chants historian Barry York’s father Loreto recalls hearing multiple times daily in Australia in 1954, according to authors Patrick Ferry and Luis Calleja

The authors note that trade unions were among the earliest and fiercest opponents, considering Maltese migrants as ‘cheap labour’ threatening jobs, wages and standards of Australian workers. “The most rabidly racist sections of the press gleefully acted as a megaphone for such sentiments, periodically publishing dire warnings of a ‘Maltese invasion’, ‘Maltese menace’ and a ‘flood’ of cheap Maltese ‘coolies’ into the country... *The Brisbane Worker* even described the Maltese as a ‘black menace’,”

In Queensland, Royal Commissioner Thomas Ferry referred to the Maltese workers in sugar cane fields as ‘mostly uneducated’, while the Maltese standard of living was ‘inferior to that of the British or Italians’.

In 1927, tensions turned into physical violence against Maltese workers at the South Johnstone Mill during an industrial dispute. Some Maltese were assaulted and hospitalised after being accused of attempting to cross the picket lines. “The incident was used to further stoke fears that the Maltese would undercut the wages and standard of living of Australian workers. Indeed, the *Brisbane Truth* portrayed the Maltese as parasites and a ‘despicable’ race, ‘many of whom seem to revel in a



betrayal of their workmates’.

*A pre-WWII image showing Australian trade unionists dragging three Maltese workers from a tram as they tried to reach the South Johnstone sugar mill. Photo: Daily Telegraph, Sydney, July 20, 1927. Courtesy of National Library of Australia*

“Foreign cane cutting gangs which continued working during the strike were xenophobically derided as: ‘low grade Maltese and Sicilians, whose general physiognomy betrayed their recent descent, not indeed from the organ-grinder man himself, but rather the grotesque Simian that

shuffled on top of the organ.’”

The press did not make things any easier for the Maltese who, due to being from a British colony, challenged their exclusion from employment quotas for British nationals, insisting they too were British.

“Equality with the Australian, if given to the Maltese, must be given also to Cingalese [Sinhalese], the Hindoo, the native of Palestine, the negro of British Africa, or the Indian of British Guiana,” the *Truth* put it bluntly.

The Australians were so reluctant to allow the Maltese to identify as British, that when in 1936, the Maltese again challenged their exclusion from the cane cutting quota, the court ruled that ‘British’ referred to people born in the British Isles or Australia, but specifically “not Maltese or men born in Europe who have become naturalised British subjects”.

Faced with continued restrictions on Maltese migration, Commissioner for Malta Captain Henry Curmi was among those who took steps to change the perception of the Maltese, giving talks and lectures, writing newspaper articles, and making radio broadcasts highlighting Malta’s heroic wartime defence against Axis attacks.

By September 1943 the threat to Malta had passed, so he shifted his attention to promoting photos of Maltese migrants serving in the Australian military.

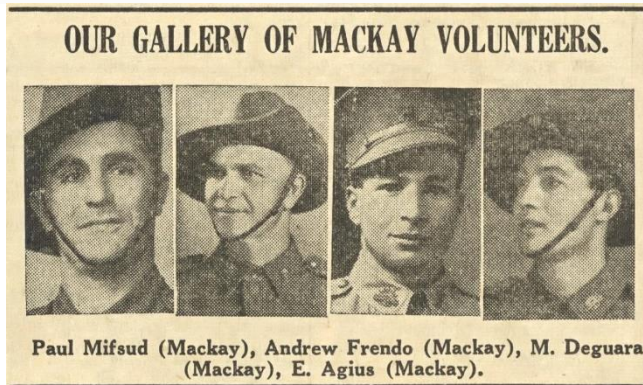
Commissioner Curmi organised an exhibition of photographs of Maltese serving in the Australian forces at his Melbourne office in a bid to overcome “misunderstandings” about the Maltese. *Photos*



*of Maltese from Mackay, Queensland, in the Australian army during WWII (left to right): Andrew Frendo, John Vella and Paul Deguara. Such images were used to show the courage of the Maltese during the war. Courtesy: National Archives of Australia*



Earlier, the *Mackay Daily Mercury* had similarly published photographs of Maltese who had enlisted under the headline 'Our gallery of Mackay volunteers'. All the soldiers in the photographs were Maltese migrants.



The authors note that in the exhibited photos, the Maltese “were indistinguishable from Australians and far removed from pre-war depictions of them as lazy, ill-disciplined, untrustworthy, even threatening foreigners”.

*Mackay soldiers, all Maltese migrants. These images helped break down cultural distance and perceived differences between the Maltese and the wider Australian community. Photo: Daily Mercury, Mackay, June 23, 1941, Courtesy: State Library of Victoria*

By the end of the war, the Australian government agreed to place Maltese migrants on the same footing as British migrants from the UK, citing Malta's heroic contribution to the war effort.

The war had acted as a watershed moment: Henry Berry, of the Warrego Graziers' Association, proposed a free flow of Maltese migrants, as they were “a people second only to the British” who would help maintain a “white Australia”. And the Australian Legion of Ex-Servicemen and Women proposed preference be given to migrants of “British and Nordic stock, and to the Maltese”.

But the authors note that while over 40,000 Maltese received assisted passage from 1948 to 1970, prejudices remained part of the lived experience of Maltese migrants.

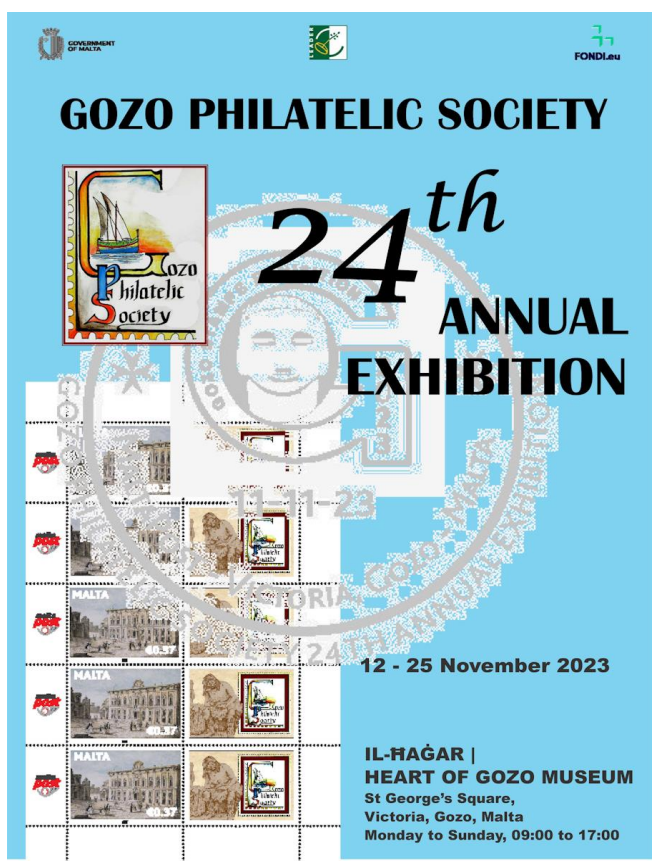
Historian Barry York's father Loreto, the authors note, recalled “really disgusting” racism after immigrating in 1954: “If I heard the word ‘dago’ once, I heard it 30 times a day... ‘bloody dagoes – why don’t you go back?’ An agreement drawn up in 1948 saw around 10 per cent of Malta's population migrate to Australia.



Dar-riřtatt juri  
lil Ipswich  
School Chael  
Choir qed  
ikanta waqt  
kunċert ta'  
Mużika Sagra  
fil-Knisja ta'  
Sant Wistin  
Victoria nhar  
il-Erbgħa l-1 ta'  
Novembru fis-

7pm. Il-Kor Inġliż kien taħt id-direzzjoni ta' Richard Edgar Wilsin u kien akkumpanjat fuq il-pjanu minn Lougan Williamson. F'Malta ta' żewġ kunċerti oħra, wieħed fil-Belt Valletta u l-ieħor fil-Birgu. Ingab Malta bl-inizjattiva tal-Fondazzjoni Papa Gwanni Pawlu t-Tieni. Attendenza numeruża attendiet għal dan il-Kunċert li kien jinkludi fost l-oħrajn 'Ombra mai Fu' ta' George Frederik Handel, 'For the Beauty of the Earth' ta' Joanna Forbes L'Estrange, 'Peace I leave with You', ta' Amy Beach, 'Precious Lord' ta' Thomas Dorsey, 'Trio Sonata no. 4, movement 1' ta' Johann Sebastian Bach, 'Homeward Bound' ta' Marta Keen flimkien ma' oħrajn. **Mill-korrispondent Ghawdxi l-Kav Joe M Attard**

## ANNUAL GPS EXHIBITION @ IL-HAĠAR



Since its foundation, the Gozo Philatelic Society has been holding its successful annual Exhibition at the Gozo Ministry Halls. Because of structural problems, this has not been possible this year and Il-Haġar museum has accepted to host it. The site is different and that means various innovatory adjustments, including wider times. The exhibits, both Junior and Open, will be housed on levels -1 and 1 as well as Audio Visual Hall 1. The level is guaranteed to be very good, with traditional presentations, postal history and social philately.

Specially prepared personalized stamps and covers, supported by MaltaPost, will be available. A complete collection of these will also be on display. Further incentives will be packs of free stamps and copies of the GPS periodical for all. Numerous institutions have been supportive. The 24th Annual GPS Exhibition will open on Sunday 12 November at 10am, to be dismantled on Saturday 25th in the afternoon. Entrance to this cultural centre in Victoria's St George's Square is always free, 9am to 5pm seven days a week. GPS chaplain Fr Joseph Attard will be saying mass for the repose of deceased members at St George's on Wednesday 15 November @ 4.45, to

which all are invited.



While in Alice Springs recently, I went for a swim and a sauna at the local pool. A woman started talking with me and discovered that I was the local bishop.

She said how she had been baptised and made her first communion many years ago in Melbourne. She also said that she had not understood what it was all about.

Mum and Grandma were Catholic, but Dad was not. Obviously, some members of the family had meant well for her to have a connection with the faith that they had considered important.

It was also obvious that she had not had the opportunity to really understand our faith.

She was obviously an open and good person and was surprised by the relaxed and non-formal conversation that we had been having.

I shared in a simple but real way why I was a Christian. It was an honest and open encounter. I felt the presence of grace.... It was an unexpected encounter and a positive one! Many moments are opportunities for grace and encounter with God.





Mary Gauci Happy Parenting – Malta (For Happier Children)

**L-Ghawdxi  
generuż  
Sistu Zammit**  
**Li beda u stana  
bix-xoghol taż-  
Żingu f'Sydney  
u issa, ta' 80 sena  
xorta għadu  
għaddej!**

'Sistu' għall-ewwel jien ħsibtu laqam, peress li kultant jgħid li jismu 'Joe' ma' nies li ma tantx jafu! Omm Sistu kienet mir-raħal ta' San Lawrenz f'Għawdex. Semmewh Sistu peress li l-Papa Sistu kellu konnessjoni **ma' San Lawrenz.**

#### **SISTU JHOBB IL-ĦAJJA SABIĦA**

Mid-darbtejn li jien mort għandu f'Sydney, Sistu impressjonani bħala gentlom, żvelt, għaref u ta' qalb kbira. Sistu dejjem bi tbissima u ta' ispirazzjoni. Lest li jisma' u jitgħallem dik ix-xi haġa għda mingħand min ikollu kuntatt. Tarah attent ħafna jisma' "Erga għidli kif għidtha"... Iħobb iqum kmieni fejn jagħmel ritwal ta' eżerċizzju, ħsiebu biex jaqra dwar diversi aspetti varji u jirrifletti. Bħalissa qed jaqra dwar l-igi Awstraljana!

Mhux kollox jgħaddi għal Sistu. - Ma jieħux gost b'min japprofitta ruħu ingustament. Sistu jtkellem b'ħafna rispettu u kawt fil-għudizzju tiegħu. Isegwi x'qed jigri Malta u madwar id-dinja.

#### **SISTU U N-NEGOZJU**

Sistu kien il-moħħ wara l-kumpanija taż-żingu li tant għamlet u għadha tagħmel suċċess, kumpanija li issa qed tieħu ħsiebha bintu. Ibnu fetaħ kumpanija oħra li ukoll miexja tajjeb. Sistu spiss imur sa ħdejn uliedu fuq l-lant tax-xogħol, imma x-xogħol issa mhux direttament f'idejha.

#### **SISTU U L-KLABB TAL-HAMRUN F'SYDNEY**

Sistu kien għin fl-amministrazzjoni, bosta snin ilu, sabiex il-klabb tal-Hamrun seta' jkompli jzomm fuq saqajha. Dan ikkonfermah il-president preżenti tal-klabb Joe Borg. F'Sydney hemm 2 klabbs ewlenin partikularment għal Maltin. Il-Klabb ta' La Vallette u l-Klabb tal-Hamrun. Jigu organizzati diversi attivitajiet quddies, muzika: għana u żfin, boċċi għall-irġiel u t-tombla għan-nisa u fejn wieħed ikun jista' jiekol ikel Malti.

#### **SISTU U S-SANTWARJU TA' PINU F' MELBOURNE**

Dun Beneditt Camilleri fi ħdan id-Djoċesi t'Għawdex bena kumpless fuq għolja f'Bacchus Marsh, Melbourne iddedikat lil Madonna ta' Pinu. Dan il-kumpless Marjan fost oħrajn, jinkludi knisja ewlenija, diversi kappelli żgħar, Via Sagra, l-Istazzjonijiet tar-Rużarju, monumenti ta' Kristu Re tal-Papa Gwanni Pawlu II fost oħrajn. Il-knisja l-kbira f'dan il-kumpless tilqa' nies ta' kull nazzjon. Għalkemm hemm pjan ta' kif għandha tinbena l-knisja permanenti, s'issa hemm waħda kbira imma sempliċi, mibnija biż-żingu xogħol li sar mill-kumpanija ta' Sistu. Sistu għin u għadu jgħin b'diversi modi lil diversi knejjes, djar tal-karita' u individwi li hu jkun konvint li huma verament fil-bżonn.

#### **SISTU U L-MARA TIEGĦU**

Sistu u l-mara tiegħu Mary Anne llum bix-xieraq jgħixu go dar lussuża, attrezzata wkoll b'gym, teatru żgħir u modern. Ilhom madwar 60 sena flimkien fl-Awstralja. Ħadmu u stinkaw biex rabbew il-familja. Sistu u Mary Anne it-tnejn trabbew l-Għasri. Kienu ġirien. Mary Anne tat u għada tagħti sostenn kbir lil Sistu. Apparti x-xogħol tad-dar, kienet thiet ilbies tal-okkażjoni - madwar 100 libsa fl-gimgha. Għal xi snin Mary Anne kienet saħansitra tieħu ħsieb lil omm Sistu li kienet giet tgħix magħhom fl-aħħar snin ta' ħajjitha peress li kellha problemi biex timxi. Illum Mary Anne u Sistu għandhom aktar ħin f'idejhom. - L-għozza tagħhom il-familja, żewġt t'itfal, David u Joanne u diversi neputijiet.

#### **KONKLUŻJONI**

Sistu bniedem interessanti ħafna li ma jkollokx aptit tieqaf titkellem miegħu! Mary Anne qalbha tad-deheb, tilqek b'imħabba kbira. Sinċerament nittama li Sistu għad jikteb il-biografija tiegħu li żgur isservi ta' ispirazzjoni għal min jixtieq jimxi 'l quddiem ferħan, bil-għaqal u b'valuri nobbli.

## QORMI DIALECT..... is fast disappearing

One of the dialects of the Maltese language is the **Qormi dialect**. In Standard Maltese it is known as *Qormi* and by its speakers *Qurmi*, and is affectionately known as *it-Tuf*, or in standard Maltese *it-Taf*. Literally translated, *taf* is the Maltese word for 'you know'. This dialect is used by many of the inhabitants of Qormi and other settlements around that city of around 20,000 people. The most distinctive feature of the Qormi dialect is its treatment of vowels.

Although there is no strict rule, generally the vowels in the dialect take the following forms. Vowels in the first syllables are the ones most often affected, but sometimes medial vowels are changed as well. Final vowels, on the other hand, are usually identical to those of the standard language.

The vowel A

The vowel *a* changes into the vowel /u/. If at the end of a word, it becomes an /o/.

English	Maltese	Qormi dialect
steeple (church tower)	kampnar	kampnur
seriousness	serjetà	serjetò
seminary	seminarju	seminurju
potato	patata	patuta
fog	ċpar	ċpur
house	dar	dur

The vowel O

The vowel *o* in the Qormi dialect also changes into /u/. For example:

English	Maltese	Qormi dialect
we went	morna	murna
go (imperative 3rd pers. pl.)	morru	murru
spring coil	molla	mulla
car	karozza	karuzza
glue	kolla	kulla
postage stamp	bolla	bullu
St George	San Ġorġ	San Ġurg

This form happens to almost all words that have the vowel *o* in the first syllable, although there may be exceptions.

Vowels after Gh

The vowels after the *gh* change their sound as well.

- The syllable *ghi*, instead of as /aj/, is pronounced as /ej/. For example, in the dialect, *ghid il-kbir* 'Easter' is pronounced like *ejd il-kbir* instead of *ajd il-kbir* in the standard.
- The syllable *ghe*, instead of with /e/, is pronounced with /a/. For example, in the dialect, *qiegħed* 'to stay' is pronounced like *qijad* instead of *qijed* in the standard.
- The syllable *ghu*, instead of as /ow/, is pronounced as /ew/. For example, in the dialect, *ghuda* 'piece of wood' is pronounced like *ewda* instead of *owda* in the standard.

### Exceptions

Although there may be exceptions, such as *kollha* 'all of it', which is pronounced like *killha* in the dialect, and *meta* 'when' like *mita*, one must note that the vowels are almost never lengthened, and their accent remains the normal Maltese one.



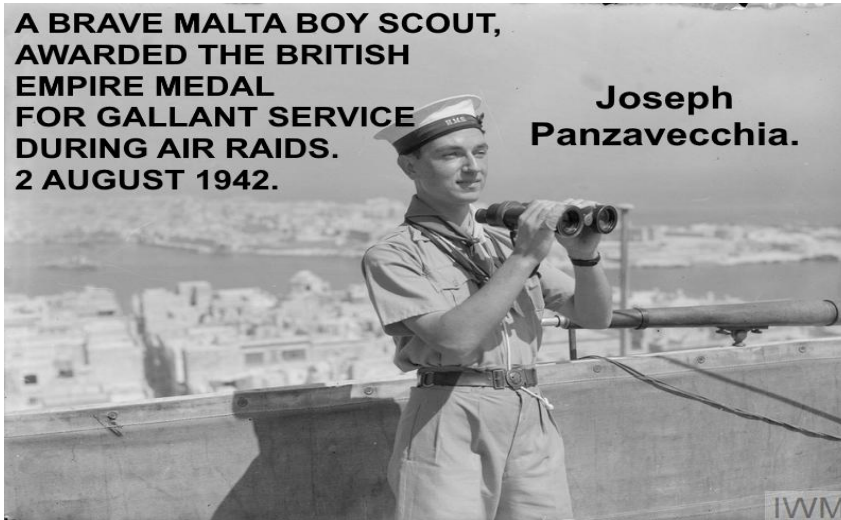


## MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL 2023

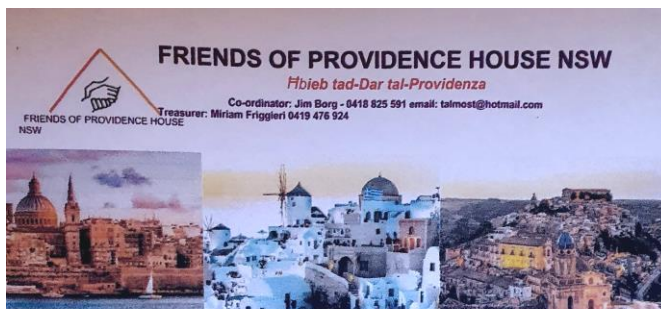
12 November, 11am–5pm  
TARNTANYANGGA \ VICTORIA SQUARE  
Adelaide - South Australia

**A BRAVE MALTA BOY SCOUT,  
AWARDED THE BRITISH  
EMPIRE MEDAL  
FOR GALLANT SERVICE  
DURING AIR RAIDS.  
2 AUGUST 1942.**

**Joseph  
Panzavecchia.**



On this day in August 1942: His Majesty the King approves the award of the British Empire Medal (Civil Division) to Joseph Panzavecchia, Boy Scout Special Coast Watcher. This Boy Scout has displayed unusual courage and devotion to duty in the face of many air-raids, during which he has with coolness and accuracy passed reports and information of the greatest importance to the defence."



### Proposed Fly / Stay / Cruise/ Tour 2024

- Depart: Sydney 15th May 2024
  - Arrive: Malta 16th May 2024 (Staying 1 Week)
  - 7 night Greek Island Cruise from Malta to Malta
  - All meals and entertainment on board included.
  - Twin Stateroom fr \$1995 p.p. \$500 p.p required to secure Cabin.
  - Then 1 week in Malta followed by:
  - 8 Day Food & Cultural Experience in Sicily with at least 2 nights in Taormina and 2 nights in Palermo
  - Return to Malta for all the Festas
    - For more information/ reservations please contact
- Jim Borg - Coordinator on 0418 825 591

Hi Frank,

Grazzi u prosit għal din il-harġa oħra mimlija b'tant tagħrif interessanti, Għoġobni ħafna l-artiklu tas-Sur Louis Parnis – President Geroġe Cross Falcons Community Centre, Cringila 'THE FUTURE OF THE MALTESE COMMUNITY IN NSW – AUSTRALIA.

Nammira ħafna l-isforzi li għamel, u agħdu jagħmel dan is-sinjur biex iżomm ħajjin ir-rabtiet tal-ġenerazzjonijiet godda mak-użanzi, tradizzjonijiet reliġjużi, soċjali u kulturali ta art twelid missirijiethom u ommijiethom. Interessanti wkoll il-kumplement tal-kontenut. Mill-ġdid grazzi ħafna, saħħa u tislijiet.

Freddie Tonna - NSW

## IMHABBA PROJBITA Il-Hares u Jien (FORBIDDEN LOVE – Me and my Ghost)

Author: Michael Cini

Publishing House: Horizons

This is the story of Caroline, a woman who had a life, a husband and children. A housewife who always carried out her duties diligently. However, strange happenings changed her life and her relationship with her husband drastically.

It all started when Caroline wholeheartedly assisted an old widow called Dorina by saving her from being thrown out of her home. This resulted in a strong relationship between the two women. But all the vexation that the old widow had gone through led to her death.

Without realising, by being so kind and helpful to Dorina, Caroline was attracting and pulling towards her a spiritual and supernatural force. Moreover, intriguing events started to happen when Caroline picked up a few small things from Dorina's house, just to keep her memory alive. Together with some old photographs she also took home an old wall clock which Dorina's deceased husband had bought many years before, of which he was so very fond and proud. However without knowing, in this way Caroline had also introduced into her house much more than just an object carrying a simple memory, but an unexplainable phenomenon. A mysterious existence which belonged to another dimension, but remained in our world. An unusual and strange presence which had chosed to remain attached to this world. Actually to her house.



Or even more precisely, attached to Caroline herself so that this ghost could protect, safeguard and look after her.

Up to this point there is nothing wrong with a ghost watching over and taking care of a person, since this is actually the job which every ghost is meant to carry out.

But Caroline's situation changed when the invisible spirit asked of her what she could not comprehend. What she could not give. And what she did not consent to.

Such as rejecting her husband ... and giving herself totally to him ...

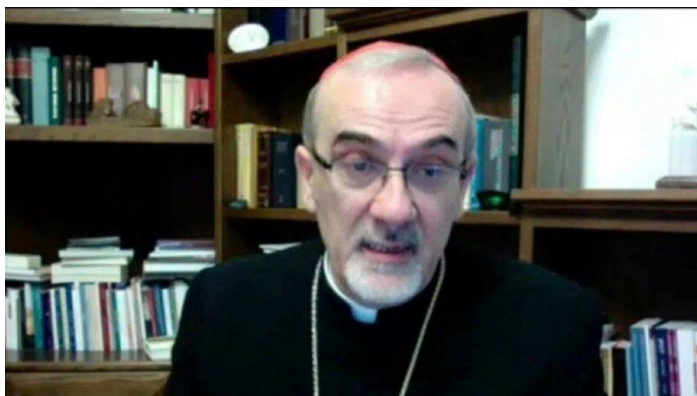
IMHABBA PROJBITA is a novel spread over two volumes, where the first volume describes all things visible, while the second volume takes the reader to experience the invisible.

**WHEN YOU SEND AN ARTICLE  
TO OUR JOURNAL IT IS READ  
BY THOUSANDS OF MALTESE  
AROUND THE WORLD**



**ARCHDIOCESE  
OF MALTA**

## Patriarch Pizzaballa appeals for support for Church's aid in Holy Land



As the war between Hamas and Israel continues to wreak its devastating humanitarian toll in Gaza, Patriarch Pierbattista Pizzaballa issued an **urgent appeal** on Friday asking for support to help the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem reach out to all those affected.

"Charity and prayer animate the entire extended family of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, especially during times of

extreme hardship," said the Cardinal Patriarch of Jerusalem.

## Pope Francis to visit Dubai for COP28 in early December



Pope Francis will visit Dubai for COP28, according to Matteo Bruni, the Director of the Holy See Press Office.

"Accepting the invitation of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates," Mr. Bruni announced in a statement on Friday, "His Holiness Pope Francis will make the previously announced trip to Dubai from 1 to 3 December 2023, on the occasion of the

upcoming Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (**COP28**)."

In a recent interview with an Italian television programme, the Holy Father said he would be traveling to the UAE for the occasion.

Soon, we are  
reaching the  
500th edition



We invite you  
to send us your  
personal comments as  
a reader of this journal

**500<sup>th</sup>** MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER  
MAKE SURE YOU READ THE  
NEXT SPECIAL EDITION  
OF THE NEWSLETTER

## THE GHARB VILLAGE – GOZO-MALTA

Lying in the west of Gozo, the village of Għarb is one of the oldest villages in Gozo. Maybe it's because it was far out on the island's western tip for many years that the village of Għarb has preserved its traditional Gozitan character, and today, it is a fantastic destination for those seeking an authentic experience seeped in Gozo's history. Għarb, meaning "west" in Arabic, is aptly named because of its geographic location, and the village is home to breathtaking views of the Mediterranean Sea and the imposing silhouette of the nearby Ta' Pinu Basilica.

Here are several reasons why you should not overlook the idyllic village of Għarb when exploring the island of Gozo.



### Authentic Gozo Charm

As you wander through Għarb's winding streets, you'll find yourself transported back in time, surrounded by traditional limestone houses adorned with vibrant bougainvillea, quaint courtyards, alleyways and romantic old chapels. Għarb is home to many traditional houses that have been meticulously preserved. This vernacular architecture provides a glimpse into the village's rural past, with its characteristic limestone facades and typical Maltese balconies. If you're keen on an authentic experience, a walk through the village is definitely one of the things to do in Gozo. Take a moment to imagine the lives of the villagers who once called these houses home and appreciate the architectural beauty that has stood the test of time.



### A Baroque Basilica

The village square is under the gaze of the majestic Għarb Basilica, a masterpiece of baroque architecture. The Parish church, dedicated to the Visitation, dating back to the 17th century, is a testament to the villagers' faith and devotion. Admire the intricate stone carvings and ornate frescoes that decorate the interior, showcasing

the skill and craftsmanship of the era.



### Ta' Pinu Sanctuary

Another highlight where to go is undoubtedly the [Ta' Pinu Basilica](#), a revered pilgrimage site known for its miraculous stories and architectural magnificence. This awe-inspiring church attracts visitors from all walks of life, who come to seek solace, offer prayers, or marvel at its stunning structure and complex motifs sculpted in the limestone and shimmering mosaics that adorn the parvis of the church. Opposite the church, a steep path winds up Għammar Hill, a perfect place to capture panoramic views of the island of Gozo.

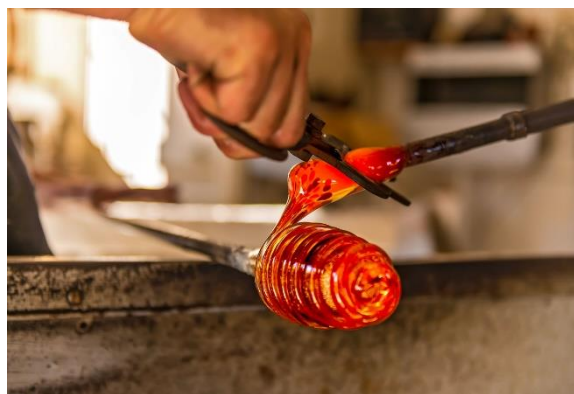




### **A Haven of Nature**

Għarb has so much more to offer beyond its spiritual and historical allure. Nature enthusiasts will be delighted by the idyllic countryside that landlocks the village, where rolling hills, fertile farmlands, and rugged cliffs create a colourful backdrop for outdoor activities such as hiking, cycling, or simply taking strolls. As you wander through the village's countryside, you'll also notice the solitary farmhouses amid the tapestry of wildflowers. Beyond the fields, rolling hills, and breathtaking cliffs, Għarb also offers

magnificent Mediterranean Sea views. Exploring the countryside is a must for nature enthusiasts and hikers, with plenty of scenic trails to discover. Whether you're an avid hiker, a passionate birdwatcher, a photographer or simply someone who appreciates the tranquillity of nature, Għarb's coastline will leave you in awe. Take note that the [Wied il-Mielah](#) stone window also lies in Għarb, as this is one of the curious where to go to spots in Gozo.



### **Gozo's Artisan Village**

Għarb is also home to an artisan community, where skilled craftsmen and women continue age-old pottery, lace-making, and weaving traditions. Explore the local workshops and boutiques at [Ta' Dbiegi Crafts Village](#), and you'll have the opportunity to witness these Gozo artisans at work, creating delicate and demanding crafts that epitomize Gozo's rich cultural heritage. Watch them at work, and perhaps even bring home a handmade souvenir as a memento of your visit to the crafts village.

### **Wining & Dining in Għarb**

Among other things to do in Gozo is wining and dining in Għarb. Food lovers will find themselves in the hands of good chefs in Għarb, as several restaurants offer a tempting array of traditional Gozitan and Mediterranean dishes. Whether you're in a group or exploring Għarb as a small party, do not miss out on checking out one of Gozo's most notable vineyards and wineries. It is located deep in Għarb's countryside and is a delectable place for wine tasting and tours.



### **Place of Legends**

Għarb is also the setting for many local legends. San Dimitri Chapel in the outskirts is tied to the story of the local woman Żgugina, who lost her only son to the pirates that raided the coast. Desperate and lost in grief, she sought the saint's help to return the boy. The saint is said to have literally galloped off to catch up with the pirates and returned the boy safely to his mother. Beyond such legends and others, Għarb is also closely tied to the saintly Frenċ tal-Għarb, a spiritual man

hailed as a healer during the twentieth century. Frenċ tal-Għarb relied on herbal remedies and on the intervention of Our Lady of Ta' Pinu to heal the sick.

## PUMPKIN AND TUNA PIE

### TORTA TAL-QARA AHMAR U TON TAZ-ZEJT

Perfect for a picnic, this pumpkin and tuna pie is quick and hearty.

I think you'll BE interested in this recipe for a Maltese pumpkin and tuna pie. I found a few recipes that might interest you, but this is the simplest.:

**Pumpkin Pie (torta tal-qara hamra):** This recipe is a family favourite and includes fresh salted tuna or tinned tuna, olives, and herbs. The recipe also includes instructions for making the pastry from scratch, but you can use puff pastry or shortcrust pastry as an alternative.

#### Ingredients

1.6 kilogram butternut pumpkin, peeled, cut into chunks  
 425 gram can chunky-style tuna in oil, drained,  
 2 tablespoons of oil reserved  
 2 eschalots, finely chopped  
 1/3 cup (65g) long grain rice  
 1/3 cup (55g) pitted kalamata olives, halved  
 1 tomato, diced  
 Add sultanas  
 grated rind and juice of 1 lemon  
 3 sheets frozen puff pastry, thawed  
 20 gram butter, melted

#### Method

- 1.Preheat oven to 220°C (200°C fan-forced). Grease a deep 24cm pie dish.
- 2.Cook pumpkin in a saucepan of boiling, salted water on medium heat 10-15 minutes, until tender. Drain, return to pan and coarsely mash. Season well and stir through reserved tuna oil, eschalot, rice, olives, tomato, lemon rind and juice. Gently fold through tuna.
- 3.Join two sheets of pastry together by wetting one edge of each and pressing to seal. Line prepared dish, letting excess hang over side. Fill with pumpkin mixture and place remaining pastry sheet on top. Press edges together and trim excess pastry. Make a few slits in top of pastry.
- 4.Brush with butter and bake for 1 hour. Remove from oven and set aside for 5 minutes. Cut into wedges to serve.



## Soppa tal-Qara Ahmar – Red Pumpkin Soup from Malta

ratings · 1hr 45min · 6 servings

This simple Maltese pumpkin dish employs a bit of semolina flour to transform from a basic soup into an ultra comforting porridge. While soppa tal-qara ahmar would typically be served with shaved parmesan and home-baked croutons, we think it would be equity satisfying served as a complement to braised short ribs, roasted meat or even a thick ragù, much in the way you might serve polenta or mashed potatoes.

#### Ingredients

• 1 Onion, large • 1 Parsley, Fresh • 1 1/2 lb Pumpkin Canned goods • 1 small can Tomato paste  
 • 4 cups Water or stock of your choosing

#### Baking & spices

• 1 Parmesan cheese for garnish / seasoning, Fresh • 1 Salt and pepper • 1/3 cup Semolina flour  
 Oils & vinegars • 2 tbsp Olive oil

Bread & baked goods • 1 Croutons

What do you think?





**MADE IN MALTA**  
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showcasing what it is to be Maltese!



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## **MALTESE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF VICTORIA**

On Friday 17th November 2023, the MCCV will be celebrating 40 years since the Centre was open. A Mass service will be held at the chapel at 6:00pm and afterwards, everyone is welcome to join us for a hot drink and some nibbles.

### **Leone Band with Masterpieces by Tchaikovsky at the Aurora**

BY [GOZO NEWS](#)



Masterpieces by Tchaikovsky – is the title of a concert, being presented next weekend by the Leone A.D. Philharmonic Society 1863.

This concert is being performed to mark the 160th anniversary of the Society and 73rd anniversary of the Assumption.

The Leone Citizen Band will be under the direction of Colin Attard.

Masterpieces by Tchaikovsky will take place at the Aurora Opera Theatre in Victoria, on Friday, the 10th of November, starting 8pm. Entrance is free of charge. For bookings please send an email to [info@leone.org.mt](mailto:info@leone.org.mt) or contact Mariella Sultana on 79260876.

I have been receiving this journal for over 5 years. I love it because it's FREE,  
NON-POLITICAL and BILINGUAL.

#This is the first time I am writing to you to say 'thank you. Rita May - Canada