



JOURNAL FOR MALTESE AROUND THE WORLD

MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

Editor: Frank Scicluna OAM MQR JP

Email: maltesejournal@gmail.com



HEATWAVE HITS MALTA

**MALTA'S
ICON**

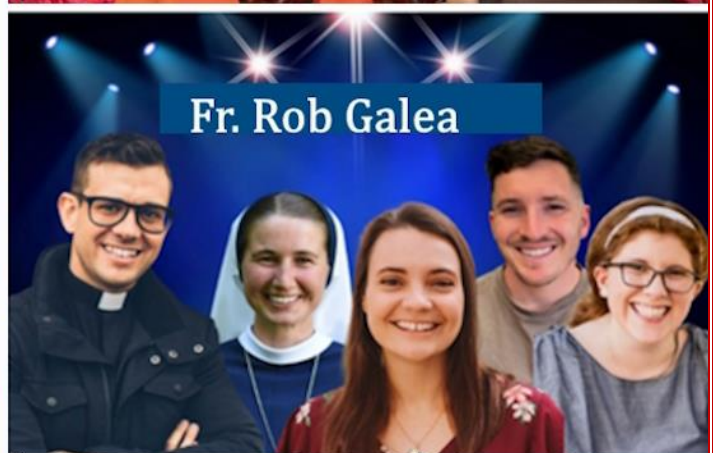
**KINNIE
IN
GHANA**



Maltadaily..mt



**POPE MEETS
GRANDMASTER**



Fr. Rob Galea

**VALLETTA
LOCAL FOOD
FESTIVAL**

UPPER BARRAKKA GARDENS

2025

4-6th July 2025

VALLETTA

The
Australian
Catholic
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2025
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HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE TRADE FAIR

The Malta Trade Fair is back and it promises to be bigger and better than ever. Whether you're on the hunt for innovative brands, planning a fun day out with the family, or hoping to bag some impressive prizes, this year's event truly has something for everyone.

Here's everything you need to know ahead of your visit: Entrance is completely free on the first day of the fair, making it the perfect opportunity to explore everything the event has to offer without spending a penny.

To help you plan your experience, an official printed gazette is being distributed to all Maltese households. Inside, you'll find

a sneak peek at this year's exhibitors, featured products, and a full schedule of entertainment. From the second day onwards, every visitor will receive a voucher booklet with their ticket. These can be redeemed for gifts at selected exhibitor stands, adding extra value to your visit. On first come first served basis until stocks last.

Every ticket also serves as an entry to the grand raffle. Prizes include four €2,500 vouchers to spend with exhibitors, a €15,000 solar panel system from EMS (Energy Management Solutions), and a host of other exciting prizes. Simply drop your ticket into the raffle box on-site to be in with a chance of winning.

There will be a dedicated food court offering a variety of meals and snacks ideal for refuelling as you browse.

Families should get ready for something special, as there will be a designated children's play area to keep the little ones entertained.

The entire fairground is pet-friendly, so you can bring your furry companions along.

There will be plenty of parking available throughout Ta' Qali, ensuring easy and stress-free access to the event.

The indoor areas will be fully air-conditioned, keeping visitors cool and comfortable throughout their visit.

Visitors from Gozo can take advantage of free shuttle transport to and from the fair on selected dates: from 27th to 29th June and from 4th to 6th July. The shuttle departs Ċirkewwa at 6:00 PM with a return trip at 10:00 PM. Seats are limited, so be sure to message 77118341 to book your place. The Malta Trade Fair 2025 runs from 26th June to 6th July at MFCC, Ta' Qali. Don't miss out on this exciting summer event for all ages!

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MALTESE STORIES TOLD ON PAPER, IN POETRY AND SONG

Sean Richardson NSW

Recently, I was very fortunate to have Joseph Galea, OAM, to introduce the release of my latest book, **Deception Under Maltese Skies**. The event was held on Monday 23 June at Lake Haven Library on the NSW Central Coast. At the release, Joseph and I spoke about how, in our own ways, we were telling stories

of Malta through poetry, songs and books.

Joseph explained to the audience that għana originated as an important method of communication amongst the Maltese Community and even as a spot of entertainment, for the Knights of St John during their reign in Malta. In Malta, traditional Għana is folk singing which follows a very particular style and can be performed in one of three forms, between two or more people. Għana, is a performance of unscripted poetry with music, telling a story which may be funny, emotional or raw.

In 2023 Joseph was awarded the Order of Australia Medal for services to the Maltese community in Australia. He spoke of how the use of poetry and music in traditional għana, kept stories alive and maintained connections amongst the local communities. Joseph mentioned that his efforts not only maintained connections in the Maltese community to the Maltese culture but also established relationships with non-Maltese communities through his telling of the folkloric stories using għana.

In my fictional books, I have set financial crime thrillers in Malta. Through the eyes of the main character, Marica Debono, readers are transported to Malta. Marica is Malta's best financial investigator, and she seeks out and hunts down criminals who try to exploit Malta's banking system. She is the reader's window into Malta, as she experiences the Maltese landscape, food and culture, so does the reader.

The audience at the release event were a mixture of people from Malta, with Maltese heritage or a connection, alongside those with no direct connection. I am sure that through our efforts, we have remade memories, helped form new relationships and introduced others to a small slice of Malta.

My latest book, **Deception Under Maltese Skies**, is set immediately before **The Maltese Web**, in the years following the start of the global financial crisis when Europe was severely impacted. In **The Maltese Web**, Marica mentions that the "Farrugia incident" was the cause of her current problems. She successfully had businessman Antoine Farrugia, a fictitious character, convicted of money laundering but he escaped on appeal.

In **Deception Under Maltese Skies**, she is now defending herself because of what she did to get Farrugia convicted. As she defends herself, she comes to realise the affect her actions have had on her relationships with her sister, son, husband and colleagues. And she begins to realise that things are not always black and white – not as they seem.

It-tuffieħa mhux dejjem kif tidher. (*The apple is not always what it seems*).

We follow Marica as she fights the tribunal and tries to justify her actions to have Farrugia convicted.

Just as I did in **The Maltese Web**, I attempt to convey my affection and respect for Malta by observing, through Marica, different aspects of Malta that I find so intriguing and which are not necessarily captured in the travel brochures. **Deception Under Maltese Skies** and **The Maltese Web** are available on Amazon as a kindle or paperback version. You can find more of my stories about Malta at seanrichardson.com.au or follow me on Facebook at Sean Richardson Writer.

Dear Editor, I need to contact the representative on the Council for Maltese Living Abroad to put forward a proposal that will impact all of us who live overseas. Can you please supply me with some contact details. Joseph Zerafa

N.B. So far only the delegates and 4 regional members provided us with details. When I receive the details of all the members, I will publish it for all of us to use.

GRAND MASTER OF THE ORDER OF MALTA MEETS THE POPE

Pope Leo XIV receives the Grand Master of Order of Malta in Audience

The meeting focussed on the Order of Malta's humanitarian, spiritual and diplomatic commitment worldwide



The Grand Master of the Sovereign Order of Malta, Fra' John T. Dunlap, received this morning in audience by Pope Leo XIV, was on his first official visit to the Holy Father since the beginning of his pontificate. The meeting took place on the eve of the feast of St. John the Baptist, patron of the Order, which is celebrated on 24 June.

Referring to his first audience with the new Pontiff, Grand Master Fra' John T. Dunlap said: "In a year marked by new geopolitical tensions, ongoing humanitarian crises and profound social transformations, the Order of Malta continues in its thousand-year mission of assistance to the

poor and sick. This audience with Pope Leo XIV confirms us in our mission as witnesses of Christian charity through service, diplomacy and care, in a spirit of peace and humility."

During the colloquium, the Grand Master presented the Order of Malta's main spiritual, humanitarian and diplomatic activities to the Pope. During 2024 and 2025, the Order has stepped up its presence in the major global crisis contexts, with medical assistance, distribution of essential goods, psychosocial support and reconstruction programmes in the most vulnerable areas of the planet.

With a network of 13,500 members, 100,000 volunteers, 52,000 employees and some 100 diplomatic missions, the Order operates today in 130 countries, bringing relief to those who suffer, regardless of origin or creed.

The Grand Master brought the gift of a silver medal representing the remarkable commitment of the Order's volunteers for the 2025 Jubilee. There are now over 2,000 volunteers working in the First Aid centres in the papal basilicas in Rome, including the First Aid Post in St Peter's Square, active for 75 years, 365 days a year, for all pilgrims, in particular during the papal audiences on Wednesdays and religious ceremonies.

At the end of the private audience, Pope Leo XIV received the Order of Malta's Sovereign Council and its ambassador to the Holy See, Antonio Zanardi Landi.

PHOTO © Vatican Media

REFLECTION CHARLES GAUCI BISHOP OF DARWIN



We can presume that we know why others do what they do! We can make judgments and jump to conclusions. Quick reactions can lead to wrong conclusions.

I have learnt from my own experience that I have made such mistakes. Acting in a hurry or under pressure can lead to these wrong conclusions.

Then there are also the words of Jesus about not judging others. We can forget our own failings and focus on those of

others. Sometimes we need to make judgments; other times we need to mind our own business. A good question to ask is whether my actions are for the greater good. Another question is whether I am acting out of love or some other motive!

JP2 FOUNDATION

Pope Saint John Paul II Cultural Foundation



The JP2 Cultural Foundation will be hosting during this weekend the Woldingham School Choir to perform in four occasions in Malta and Gozo.

The Woldingham School is a leading independent Catholic girls' school set in 700 acres of beautiful countryside in Surrey, England. Music is central to the life of the school and the whole community regularly gathers to sing as one. Woldingham attracts musical talent from all over the globe and many of the current

Music Scholars are also students at the junior departments of leading London conservatoires, including the Royal College of Music and the Royal Academy of Music. The school holds numerous choirs, orchestras and ensembles who rehearse each week and musical excellence is enabled and celebrated. In March 2024, Woldingham School won the national Pro Corda Chamber Music Competition and the Founders' Trophy. Summer 2024 results for academic Music were outstanding with 100% of pupils gaining 7-9 at GCSE and a Year 13 pupil gaining an A* at A Level Music and an offer to read Music at Cambridge with an Organ Scholarship. All classroom music lessons are taught by subject specialists, and a team of 20 visiting music teachers made up of some of the finest musicians in London who deliver exceptional one-to-one music lessons in a wide variety of disciplines.

The standard of choral singing at Woldingham is high and every year the choirs perform in Westminster Cathedral as part of the Carol Service. The Chapel Choir has sung Evensong alongside pupils from Eton College in Eton College Chapel and the Chamber Choir has reached the final of the Girls' School Association Choral Competition. Woldingham School regularly collaborates with, and commissions works by leading composers, including Cecilia McDowall and Errollyn Wallen, Master of the King's Music.

The Choir will participate in its first recital at the Annunciation of Our Lady & St. Dominic Church in BIRGU (Malta) on Friday 4 July 2025 at 19.00hrs. the second recital will take place at the Our Lady of Fair Havens & St. Dominic Basilica Church in VALLETTA, on Saturday 5th July 2025 at 19.00hrs. On Sunday 5th July 2025 the choir will be animating a High Mass by Archbishop Charles J. Scicluna at the Metropolitan Cathedral of St. Paul in MDINA at 9.30am to be televised live on TVM2. While the third recital will take place at St. Anthony of Padua Church GHAIJSIELEM (Gozo) On Monday 7th July 2025 at 19.30hrs.



TEAM MALTA CONCLUDES EUROPEAN TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS IN FIFTH PLACE

Source – ATHLETIC MALTA FACEBOOK

Team Malta has completed the European Athletics Team Championships in Maribor, Slovenia, in fifth place, confirming the strong placing achieved two years ago in Poland. The Maltese team was competing

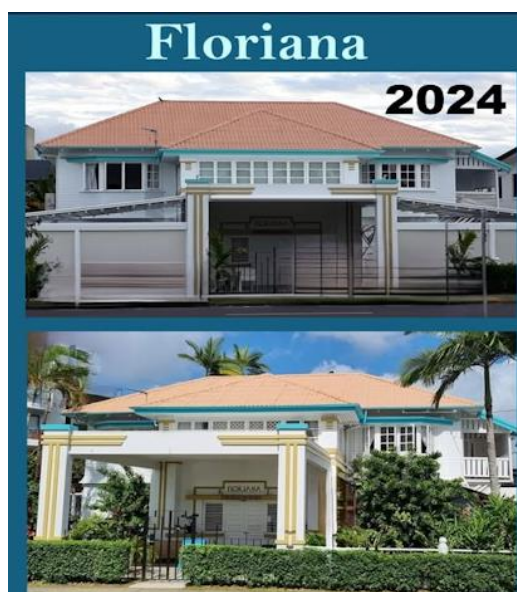
in the Third Division, a fifteen nation even comprising most GSSE nations but also larger countries such as Bosnia, Georgia and Azerbaijan.

Iceland topped the final placings and will be joined in Division Two by Luxembourg and Bosnia Herzegovina. Malta's fifth place, behind Moldova, and achieved with the inclusion of a number younger athletes, bodes well for the future of the sport.

Among the highlights of the second day, Gina McNamara doubled up on her victory in the 800m by also winning the 1500m in 4:27.22. Rachela Pace, who had achieved top spot in the long jump, added further points for Malta's tally with a third place in the triple jump, as she keeps on building a very positive season so far.

Other notable performances included 18-year-old Benjamin Salnitro who claimed third place in the 110m hurdles with a time of 14.98s, Nicolai Bonello third on the pole vault with 4.35m and Luke Micallef, who also finished third in the 3000m steeplechase in 9:16.16.

In the final event of the competition, the 4x400m mixed relay, Team Malta registered a National Record, with Nick Bonett, Martha Spiteri, Matthew Galea Soler and Gina McNamara stopping the clock in 3:26.79. Team Malta's participation was financially supported by SportMalta.



Floriana is a heritage-listed former private home and now guesthouse at 183–185. The Esplanade, Cairns North. The Esplanade, Cairns North, , Cairns Region, Queensland, Australia. It was designed by Edwin Roy Orchard and built in 1939. It was added to the Queensland Heritage Register on 30 April 2010. **Floriana at 183 The Esplanade, Cairns**



North (now known as Floriana Guesthouse) is the former city residence of Maltese migrants Paul and Paulina Zammit and their family. The two-storey rendered brick and chamferboard house was constructed in 1939 and originally comprised five bedrooms, a sitting

room, dining room and kitchen on the upper floor; and a bathroom on each level; with the whole of the ground floor occupied as a large ballroom, which was converted into two flats and an entrance foyer in the late 1940s. Aspects of its design related to the prominent, central entry with a wide bay projection above and the building's address to the street were influenced by traditional Maltese housing. It stands adjacent to a set of Spanish Mission-style flats, also built by Zammit only a few years previous employing the same architect, Edwin Roy Orchard, and establishing a proud presence on the Cairns Esplanade.



WORLD CLASS BUILDING AT PEMBROKE

The DB Group has submitted a new application to significantly increase the height of its residential

towers currently under construction on the former Institute of Tourism Studies (ITS) site in Pembroke.

According to the application, the company is seeking to add seven storeys to one tower and six to the other, bringing their heights to 23 and 25 storeys respectively. This would represent an increase from the previously approved 17 and 18 storeys.

The site in Pembroke was transferred to the db Group as part of a controversial land deal approved by Parliament in 2017.

This latest request marks the third time the developer has sought to modify the height of the development. Initially, the project was proposed as a 38-storey tower alongside a 17-storey hotel, but the permit for this development was subsequently revoked by the courts due to a conflict of interest involving a member of the Planning Authority's board. It should be noted that the revocation was not related to the height of the buildings.

Importantly, the site lies within an area where the use of Floor Area Ratio (FAR) is permitted. This planning mechanism determines the allowable number of floors for medium and high-rise developments based on the size of the site.

Construction is currently underway on the db Group project at St George's Bay, where the former tourism school once stood.

On Wednesday, Momentum stated that after years of legal battles and public resistance, the db Group's push for additional floors "exposes the relentless greed that fuels some of Malta's most monstrous developments."

The party said the company's claim that the extra floors reflect unused floor area was "an insult to those who fought against the project."

"Let us be clear: the people of Pembroke and the Maltese public at large have already paid dearly in terms of lost public space, environmental degradation, and a permanent scar on our coastal landscape," the party said.

Party chairperson Arnold Cassola described the company's move as "brazen profiteering," adding that the db Group's strategy was to chip away at opposition to the project little by little.

Momentum appealed to the Planning Authority to reject the application and urged the public and NGOs to voice their opposition by sending emails to representations@pa.org.mt.

"The future of our towns, skylines, coastlines, beaches and shared environment cannot be determined by the unchecked ambitions of single developers intent only on amassing millions in profit for themselves. Enough is enough," Cassola concluded.

#MaltaDaily



CHURCH SCHOOLS STRENGTHEN THE MALTESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE THROUGH MUSIC AND TECHNOLOGY

The Secretariat for Catholic Education (SfCE) and the Maltese Language Centre (ĊIM) have signed an agreement with the aim of implementing some of the Maltese Language Centre's initiatives in Church Schools. The

agreement was signed by Dr Ian Mifsud, Director of the Secretariat for Catholic Education, and Dr Maris Camilleri, Acting Chief Executive of the Maltese Language Centre, at the Archbishop's Curia in Floriana.

Among these initiatives is the 'Mal-Melodija' project, an educational programme that combines linguistic, cultural and historical elements with diverse musical styles that appeal to the tastes of today's youth.

Until now, this project has been aimed at Year 8 (Form 2) students, but through the agreement, the Secretariat will also include Year 9 (Form 3) students. Among other things, the students will be learning Maltese poems, which are part of the Maltese syllabus, through rap and contemporary music.

At the end of the next scholastic year, the Secretariat and the Maltese Language Centre will explore the possibility of organising an evening where students from different Church schools will showcase the literary and musical content they produced during the 'Mal-Melodija' project.

An initiative being discussed by the Malta Digital Innovation Authority (MDIA) is a bilingual magazine called 'Elettron' with content entirely linked to the world of technology. The Director of the Secretariat for Catholic Education, Dr Ian Mifsud, said that this agreement is another step towards making the educational experience in Church Schools holistic. He stressed that proficiency in our native language should be consolidated as one of the essential areas of the Maltese education system.

Dr Mifsud thanked all educators for their constant commitment to strengthening the Maltese language in schools. Also present for this agreement were the Minister for Culture, Arts and Local Government Owen Bonnici and the Minister for Education, Sports, Youth, Research and Innovation Clifton Grima, who praised this initiative in favour of the Maltese language in Church Schools.

The Acting Chief Executive of the Maltese Language Centre, Dr Maris Camilleri, said that the Centre, in agreement with the Ministry for National Heritage, the Arts and Local Government, is committed to ensuring that in the coming time, its initiatives and projects reach all children in Church schools. This is so that Maltese is strengthened among adolescents, who are the future of the country and our national language.

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF PRIESTHOOD



On the 7th July 1985, Fr Annuziato (Lonnie) embarked on his remarkable journey as an Ordained Priest.

His first mission in Pakistan was a testament to his dedication to fostering unity, working harmoniously with Catholics and Muslims alike.

On the 11th January 1999 Fr Lonnie Borg, arrived in the Philippines with the aim to establish a new mission. Other missionaries from around the world joined him to assist in making this dream a reality.

From the beginning, the members understood the importance and needs to enter in the new cultural context and participate in the life of the local Filipino Church.

This meant looking, listening and learning before committing themselves in full-time apostolic ministry. In the period of insertion, they entered in dialogue with the local bishop in Manila and were recommended certain work in parishes and other ministries. Fr Lonnie played a pivotal role in establishing the MSSP community alongside Fr. Ivano Burdian in the Philippines. Following his time in the Philippines, Fr. Lonnie was transferred to Parkville in Victoria where he continues his missionary work.

The Executive of the Maltese Community Council of Victoria congratulates Fr Lonnie on his 40th anniversary. **Joseph Matina Treasurer.**



CRINGILA MALTESE FOLK DANCERS ON DISPLAY

About four years ago, the committee of the George Cross Falcons Community Centre of Cringila NSW Cringila commissioned Doris Cachia, a volunteer, to buy material required to sew the traditional costumes for the Maltese folk dancers.

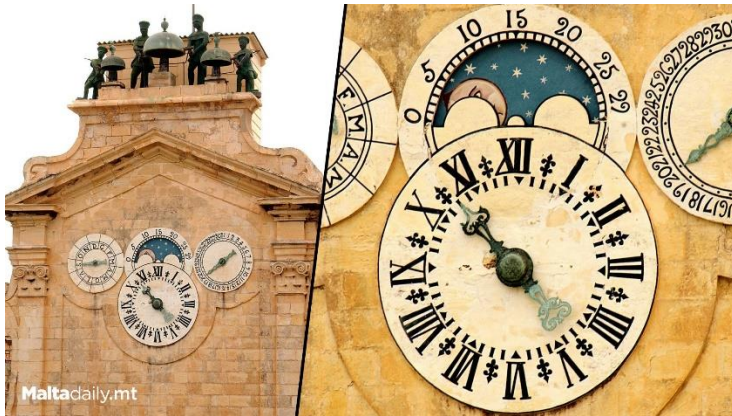
These beautiful dresses were used on many times during several events and functions organised by the Maltese Folklore Dancers of the Cringila Centre such as at Nursing Homes, special national days and for welcoming local dignitaries and special guests from Malta.

Folk-dancing is an important part of the Maltese tradition, and we try must preserve it and pass it to future generations. We encourage our young ones to come to the centre and learn the traditional dance under the direction of Joe Micallef.

Recently, the Multicultural Community Council of Illawarra, whom we have been partners for over 48 years, celebrated its 50th Anniversary of its establishment, and the Cringila Folklore Group were invited to participate and gave a performance at this memorable occasion.

The group, after several training sessions, travelled to the harbour of Wollongong, coincidentally where the Malta Regatta will be held on Sunday, 21 of September, Malta Independence Day. The shooting of the video went well, and looking forward to some shots taken by a drone flying over the dancers. The backdrop of the harbour made it so special, and many passers by stopped to watch the dance. As the President of GCFCC, I take this opportunity to thank all those involved for showcasing Maltese cultural activities on behalf of the wider community.

Louis Parnis JP Regional CMLA Representative (0420 857 363)



CLOCK AT THE PALACE, VALLETTA

The ornamental clock on top the turret of the smaller courtyard of the Magistral palace in Valletta was created for Grand Master Fra' Manoel Pinto de Fonseca (1741-1773).

The clock has four dials; the main one in the centre shows the hours and minutes; above it a smaller one registers the

phases of the moon. To the left a small dial shows the month while another on the right shows the date.

On top of the turret are four bronzes representing Moorish slaves holding hammers which they swing to strike the gongs. The central two figures are larger than those at the sides, as is the gong they strike with their hammers. On either side of the large central gong are two smaller ones. The Moorish slaves on the sides strike every fifteen minutes, once each, twice each and three times each, until the hour is complete. Then they strike four times in rotation before the two larger figures take their turn striking the central gong, once, twice, etc according to the hour up to twelve.

The turret is flanked by pilasters and volutes and surmounted by a broken pediment. The weights that wind the clock hang within the turret.

The clock first started to work on Tuesday 22 June, 1745 and has done so ever since. The position of the clock was chosen carefully, from its high position on the turret it's chimes could be heard across the city. Posted by [Jimmy Graham](#)



SWORD OF LA VALETTE

One of the most precious treasures belonging to the Order of St John was the Sword and Poniard (dagger) of Grand Master Fra' Jean de La Valette. The great victory of the 8th September, 1565 at the end of the Great Siege of Malta earned the admiration and gratitude of Christendom. The crowned heads of Europe vied with each other to honour the Order in the person of its victorious Grand Master Fra' Jean de La Valette.

The gifts of the king of Spain, Philip II, a sword, poniard and gurdle, were to become among the most treasured emblems of the Order of St John. On the sword were engraved these words: PLUS QUAM VALOR VALETTE VALET. The gifts were presented to La Valette by an envoy from the king, Fra' Antonio Maldonado. He delivered a eulogy before a large gathering of members of the Order and many foreigners who were on the island at that time. Fra' Antonio Maldonado acclaimed the Grand Master as the greatest of leaders in Christendom and exhorted him to maintain the struggle against the enemy. La Valette was deeply moved by the envoy's words. He replied that without the intercession of the Virgin Mary, whom, he had implored in battle, the victory would have been impossible. In gratitude he had already proclaimed 8th September, the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin, was to remain a national feast day of the island, and that from now on the Sword and Poniard would be carried,

unsheathed, in the ceremonies of thanksgiving carried out on that day as a sign of readiness to take up arms in defence of Christianity.

La Valette decreed that the Sword and Poniard should be kept in the Treasury of the Order. When Valletta was built and the Magistral Palace completed, the treasures were kept in the Armoury and only removed in accordance with the instructions of La Valette. On these occasions the Sword and Poniard were carried by a favourite page of the Grand Master- usually the son of a high ranking nobleman. These gifts, now became regalia and added to the splendour of the Order's ceremonial.

The gurdle was made of gold while the Sword and Poniard were masterpieces of the jewelers art. The hilt and pommel were enamelled and embossed in gold with decoration of emblems of knighthood finished off with scrolls. The precious stones which encrusted both hilt and pommel gave a flashing brilliance to the weapons when held aloft.

The last appearance of the Sword and Poniard in the Conventual Church of St John at the celebration of Victory was in 1797, a few weeks after the election of Grand Master Hompesch and nine months before the surrender of Malta to Napoleon and the French. it was then that the Sword and Poniard were taken from the Treasury of the Magistral Palace.



BARBIE FERREIRA TO BE HONOURED WITH RISING STAR AWARD AT MALTA'S MEDITERRANE FILM

“[Euphoria](#)” star [Barbie Ferreira](#) will be honored with the Rising Star Award at the Golden Bee Awards capping the third [Mediterrane Film Festival](#) in Malta. Presenters for the awards gala on Sunday will include Anna Camp, Chris Perfetti, Karen Pittman, Jared Harris, Edmund Donovan and Joaquim De Almeida. The ceremony will highlight Malta’s film centennial, celebrating a century of cinema and cultural impact in the island nation. [Emmy Voting Opens With 600 Program Series Submissions, 3% Drop From 2024 Tom Hanks on Narrating 'The Americas,' the Power of Telling the Truth and Being Referred to as 'America's Dad': 'I'm Going to Treat](#)

That Seriously'

The Rising Star Award is selected by MFF’s Festival Director, Festival Curator and Malta’s Film Commissioner, with the goal of recognizing an emerging star who has made a break-out contribution to the international filmmaking landscape.

Ray Calleja, Mediterrane Film Festival Director, said, “Barbie Ferreira represents the kind of bold, fearless talent the Mediterrane Film Festival is proud to spotlight. Her work already reflects a distinct voice and powerful screen presence that resonates with a new generation of storytellers. She clearly embodies the spirit of the new Golden Bee Rising Star Award — a talent on the rise, with a career we believe will help shape the future of cinema.”

Known for her role as Kat Hernandez in HBO’s “Euphoria,” Ferreira also starred in the 2024 comedy “Bob Trevino Likes It,” written and directed by Tracie Laymon and co-starring John Leguizamo.

In addition to the Rising Star Award, the Golden Bee will recognize juried and honorary awards including Best Feature Film, Best Performance, Best Screenwriting, People’s Choice, Jury’s Choice, Mare Nostrum, Lifetime Achievement, Malta Film Legend and Career Achievement.

This year’s festival has the theme “We Are Film,” celebrating “the transformative power of film as a universal art form that brings people together through stories, emotions, and shared experiences.”

AN AUTHENTIC CELEBRATION OF HIGH- END MUSICAL AND CULTURAL EXCELLENCE - The Grand Anniversary Concert

By Tonio Portuguese

105 Years of Music Celebration by the MALTA POLICE FORCE NATIONAL BAND

The Malta Police Corps of Drums and Pipe Band Local and foreign music and Bel Canto opera buffs are highly indebted to Mro Cassar for a



MESMERISING high calibre performance with a varied repertoire that set high challenges to his musicians.

Indeed, all along the disciplined and well-rehearsed Police Band expressed versatility, adaptation, flexibility in varied landmark selections ranging from film soundtracks to operetta, from musicals to opera which is deeply appreciated by a knowledgeable and enthusiastic audience.

Mro Cassar conducted with his engaging style leading the Police Band to a status of an "Orchestra di fiati", a wind band that expresses high standards of execution. The concert was excellently complemented by appropriate audio visuals on a big screen, facilitating the appreciation of the musical selections. The vocal performances blended extremely well with the challenging opera and operetta performances.

We are highly indebted to the Police Babd for having rewarded us with the marvellous voice of international Tenor Gabriel Arce. His unique rendition of the Nessun Dorma aria from Giacomo Puccini's Turandot, really brought the house down.

Tenor Arce has an international opera career reflected in his unique vocal characteristics.

Soprano Claire Caruana confirmed her evolution and maturity, at ease with all high notes, disseminating an aura of brightness, excellent coloratura and sparkling renditions.

I was initially concerned regarding the Casta Diva from Vincenzo Bellini's Norma, but Claire executed this demanding and complex aria with high quality and reached New Heights.

Congratulations as well for her elegance and stage presence.

Gabriel and Claire joined forces in duettos - The Merry Widow Waltz by Franz Lehar, Bocelli's Con te partiro', and the memorable Gran Finale with the boisterous execution of Giuseppe Verdi's Brindisi from La Traviata.

I underline in particular the Band's Clarinet Concerto by Mozart and the clarinet soloist Nathalie Cachia Bonavia, David Joseph Sammut on the violin in Hector the Hero by Scott Skinner.

The climax was reached by the fast moving execution of The Band at the Opera- Bizet, Carmen, Toreador Song, Leoncavallo, Pagliacci, Vesti la giubba Verdi, Il Trovatore, Anvil Chorus Rossini, William Tell, Finale. A highly appreciated TRIBUTE to the Band's 105 Years of Music Celebration, some decades of which under the inspirational leadership of Mro Cassar.

This Celebrity Concert is an outstanding execution encompassing the positive evolution of the Malta Police Force Band expressing high musical and organizational standards that are solidly entrenched as a national cultural model with a distinct Learning Experience.

Dear Frank You never cease to amaze me on the presentation and how frequently the Maltese Journal comes out. As one who was born in Malta and emigrating with my family at age 13, I'm still very much interested in everything to do with my country of birth. I enjoy reading about the beautiful and colourful history, seeing the progress made, the scenery of the islands and reading about the Maltese individual migration stories.

As I play trumpet in the Maltese Queen of Victories Band of South Australia for the last 44 years I am also very much interested in the history of Maltese village bands and in the culture and traditions of the individual village or town.

Your journal is interesting and very informative to everyone reading it as it captures the true meaning and purpose of the journal. It has something for everyone.

Thank you for keeping us all informed and being a part of it. God bless and May you keep going for a long time. Regards **Raymond Grima - Australia**

Dear Frank

A great achievement indeed and highly appreciated by Maltese living and working overseas, including myself. Aside from its intrinsic value to those interested and forever proud of their native country of birth, the quality in terms of journal production, quality, content, historical interest and the selfless work involved by you as editor to date is truly remarkable and greatly appreciated by me and I am sure, many Maltese expats. Over 500 issues is indeed a huge achievement my friend.

Kind regards **Prof Sir Alfred Cuschieri, MD, RSB Scotland UK**



Join us at the Upper Barrakka Gardens from 4 to 6 July, between 7PM and midnight, for a celebration of Maltese food, drink and music.

From award-winning chutney and *fenek moqli* to *imqaret* and *Bajtra Spritz*, the Valletta Local Food Festival celebrates the authenticity of Maltese cuisine with over 25 food

stalls showcasing the very best in traditional and contemporary local flavours. Expect everything from *sheep's milk cheese* and *bebbux*, to *kirxa*, *bragjoli*, *ħobż biż-żejt*, and sweet favourites like *pudina*, *cannoli*, and *carob swirl cake*. Watch as local chefs create seasonal dishes live, and sip on Maltese wines, beer and cocktails.

Live Music Line-up: *Sarah Bonnici*, *The Dropout DJ Brass*, *Klinsmann*, *Tikka Banda*, and *DJ NEOX* will take to the stage to set the mood with everything from live band performances to brass band x DJ fusion. **Admission is free. Hosted by the Valletta Cultural Agency and the Malta Food Agency.** For more info, follow us on [Facebook](#)/[Instagram](#) or visit vca.gov.mt.

THIS IS THE MOUTHPIECE AND THE ADVOCATE

OF MALTESE LIVING ABROAD - lbj - usa

MALTESE IN BRAZIL - H.E. JOHN AQUILINA - EMBASSADOR

On June 25 each year Brazil commemorates Immigration Day, celebrating the huge contribution which migrants from all over the world have made to Brazil's growth and development.

On March 28, 1912 a group of 73 Maltese migrants comprising 13 families left Valletta via Marseille, France. The group, which was accompanied by Father Pietro Paulo Charbon from Birkirkara, arrived in Santos on April 26, 1912.

A second group of 106 Maltese migrants, comprising 17 families left Valletta on April 19, 1912 and arrived in Santos on May 19, 1912. The first group headed for the Santa Eulália coffee plantation in Brotas, São Paulo. The second group ended up on the São José coffee plantation in Fortaleza, Ceará.

Ill equipped, and totally unprepared for the harsh realities of farm life on coffee plantations, this early venture into Maltese migration to Brazil was a massive failure. By August 1913 the scheme was abandoned. Many returned to Malta. The few who remained made their way to the big cities and survived on their own.

Since then other Maltese have settled in Brazil, especially Maltese missionaries. Prominent among these is His Lordship Vicente Costa, Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Jundiaí, São Paulo. Other Maltese clergy still active in Brazilian Parishes are Fr Xavier Cutajar (Hal-Lija), Fr Charles Borg (Sliema), Fr Paul Mercieca (Hal Qormi), and Fr Daniel Balzan (Siggiewi), to name but a few.



MON 7 JULY7:30 PM | Buġibba
(next to Aquarium)**SAT 12 JULY**7:30 PM | Marsaskala
(triq iż-Żonqor)**MON 14 JULY**7:30 PM | Ghajnsielem
Gozo (Parish Square)**Gozo Police Day
commemorations events
in Ghajnsielem**by [Gozo News](#) ·**POLICE WEEK****2025**celebrating the 211th Anniversary
of the Malta Police ForceDisplays by the Precision Drill Team, K9 Unit
and Police Band

Next month, the public will have the opportunity to show their appreciation towards the work of the Police in Gozo,

during an event in commemoration of Police Day.

This special day is commemorated on the 12th of July, and this year marks the 211th anniversary. In Gozo, there will be a ceremony in Ghajnsielem at the Parish Square, on Monday, the 14th of July. Prior to the evening events, there will be a Mass celebrated at the Santa Marija cemetery chapel, followed by the blessing of Police graves and laying of flowers. The commemoration events then get underway at 7.30pm.

There will be a Police Band Concert, and the evening will conclude with displays by the Precision Drill Team, as well as the Police Dogs Section.

There will also be two special events in Malta on the 7th and 12th of July, as shown above.



Australian Catholic Youth Festival 2025



The next Australian Catholic Youth Festival will be held in the Archdiocese of Melbourne from Sunday 30 November to Tuesday 2 December. To find out more and register please visit acyf.org.au.

The Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) is a national gathering of Catholic young people established by the Australian Catholic Bishops

Conference (ACBC). It exists to provide young people with an opportunity to:

- Deepen their relationship with Jesus;
- Be empowered to be disciples in the world today; and
- Encounter and celebrate the vitality of the Church in Australia.

Who: The Festival is offered for young people from Year 9 (in the year of the Festival) to young adults up to 25 years of age. Young people under the age of 18 must be accompanied and supervised by an adult.

What: The Festival provides a diverse program of informative workshops, integrative spaces and service activities for young people including:

- Workshops: with some of Australia's most dynamic Catholic speakers;
- Leadership Formation: offering leadership activities and skills for schools and communities;
- Bishops X-Change: where young people, bishops and Church leaders discuss common topics of interest;

- Chapel and Sacred Space: containing multiple chapels and prayer experiences and Sacraments;
- Justice Activity Centre: inviting young people to contribute to service projects and outreach to the peripheries;
- Expo: showcasing the breath of the Catholic Church's ministries and mission in Australia;
- Plenary: gatherings of all attendees celebrating the young Church in Australia.

When: The Festival is held every 2-3 years in the month of December.



The Australian Catholic Youth Festival is the largest gathering of Catholic young people in Australia, organised by the Australian Bishops Conference. I feel truly blessed to be part of this event and am praying that it will not become a performance or just another festival, but a genuine encounter that points every heart to Jesus. I cannot recommend bringing your young people to this highly enough. Time and again, I hear stories of lives transformed at past ACYF events. When young people come together in faith, something extraordinary

happens. Let us keep this festival in our prayers and trust that God will use it to inspire and renew a generation. Fr. Rob Galea – Melbourne, Australia



ISLE OF MTV MALTA THE BIGGEST FREE LIVE PERFORMANCE CONCERT IN EUROPE

The Isle of MTV Malta is typically held either in June or July and features several world-class singers sharing the stage with established local artists at the open-air Granaries in Floriana, just 500 meters from [Valletta](#). Around **30,000** usually attend this spectacular

event. **Isle of Malta Music Week: Tuesday 15th to Sunday 20th July 2025**

The Official Isle of MTV Malta 2025 Line-up & Artists: Alok, Damiano David and Ella Henderson. Isle of MTV Malta has been going on since 2006. It is also well known all over Europe as being the biggest free music festival. It is a popular event for foreigners to visit Malta, especially for this event. This event is usually attended by a massive number of **30,000 people**.

The show is also shown on MTV later during the year worldwide for more people to watch it.

It is **free to enter the show** and there is **no age restriction to enter**.

The show typically starts at around 18:00 when the Maltese Artists perform first. Then at around 20:00 / 20:30, the international artists start to perform.

Since the show is held in summer, the [weather in July](#) will be extremely hot, so make sure to take with you your sunglasses, sunblock and water. **Water is only allowed in plastic bottles.**



EUROPE BLASTS OFF INTO SPACE

John Mason of the Chichester Planetarium will explore some of the exciting projects being undertaken by the European Space Agency: ground-breaking missions to planets, moons, asteroids, comets and stars!

The event will be followed by refreshments from France, Italy, Germany and Malta, reflecting the twinning associations with Chartres in France, Ravenna in Italy, Speyer in Germany and Valletta in Malta.

Monday 7 July 2025 at 7:30pm

Assembly Room, Council House,
North Street, Chichester

Price: £12 HOW TO PAY: EITHER by making a BACS transfer to the Friends of Chartres Account (Sort code 20-20-62 Account 90403822) at Barclays Bank. Please put 'Four Cities' in the reference area when you make the payment.

OR by following the link below:

<https://chichesterboxofficecketsolve.com/ticketbooth/shows/873653466>

Anne Scicluna United Kingdom

**NOSTALGIA
MALTA
1920**



**Valletta to
St. Julians**



CYCLING - NATIONAL ROAD CHAMPIONSHIP 2025 - RACE 3

Joe Bajada

Hat-Trick Glory for Aidan Buttigieg and Diana Muscat in National Road Championship Finale

Fleur-de-Lys, Malta – Aidan Buttigieg (Team Polti Visit Malta) and Diana Muscat (Team Greens) cemented their dominance in Maltese cycling with their third consecutive

victories in the third and final race of the 2025 National Road Championship, held this weekend at the 2.5 km circuit in Fleur-de-Lys.

The event, one of the two major national road cycling championships organized by the Malta Cycling Federation, saw participants across multiple categories compete for national honors. The final race marked the culmination of a fiercely competitive championship season.

In the Elite Men's category, Aidan Buttigieg powered to another thrilling sprint finish, clocking a time of 1:19:30, narrowly beating Jacob Schembri (Bike It Up Racing) by just one second. Mark Bonnici (The Cyclists by Agones) secured third place with a time of 1:19:32. The Women's race was similarly dominated by Diana Muscat (Team Greens), who crossed the finish line first with a time of 48:47:49, securing her third consecutive win. Teammate Michelle Vella Wood followed in second (55:21:28), while Jess Rymer (D Sports Lab) claimed third (57:38:21).

Other notable winners included:

Masters 40+: Arek Kawalec (Team Greens) – 46:51:79

Masters 50+: David Cushing (Bike It Up Racing) – 46:52:63 (his third consecutive win)

Juniors: Ryan Gatt (The Cyclists by Agones) – 32:14:06

Under 16 (Boys): Ethan Grech (Mosta CC) – 27:34:68

Under 16 (Girls): Rihanna Hassan (Team Greens) – 41:35:59

Under 14 (Boys): Neil Cassar (Shamrock Stars) – 16:21:29

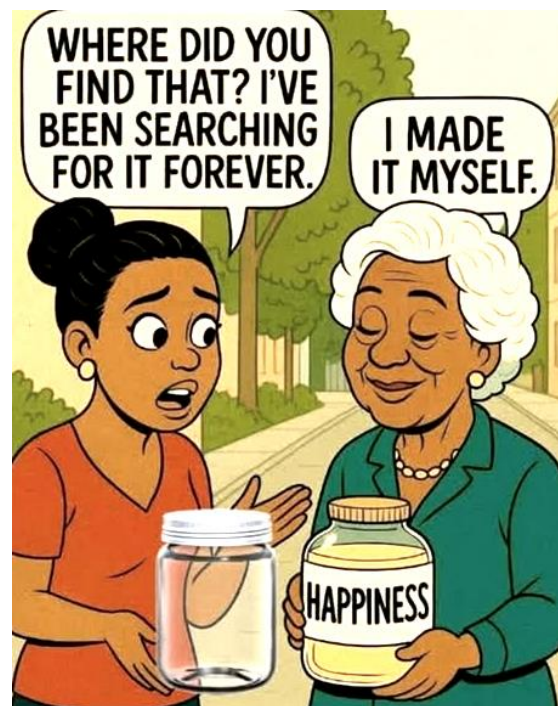
Under 14 (Girls): Nina Debono Curmi (D Sports Lab) – 18:27:91

Under 12 (Boys): Kurt Grech (Mosta CC) – 10:15:44

Under 12 (Girls): Valeria Barbara (The Cyclists by Agones) – 11:27:91

Team Greens and Mosta CC stood out for their consistency and podium finishes across multiple youth categories, highlighting the depth of talent in Malta's grassroots cycling scene.

The National Road Championship now moves to its final phase with the upcoming Time Trial Championships: Sunday 6th July 2025 – Fleur-de-Lys Sunday 13th July 2025 – Miżieb. The Malta Cycling Federation invites all enthusiasts and supporters to attend and witness the nation's top cyclists battle against the clock.



F'JUM IL-MEWT TA' TONI GAUČI – poezija tal-Kav Joe M Attard – Gozo 2025

Meta l-mingell tal-mewt kiefer
 Ihabbat fuq il-bibien,
 Ma jgibx hniena jew mogħdrija –
 Humiex ħbieb jew xi ġirien!

**Toni issa mar, halliena
 Biex jiltaqa' mal-Hallieq
 Li fih emmen u ittama –
 Il-Verita', il-Hajja, t-Triq.**

Ħalla jibku t-telfa tiegħu
 Lil martu u tliet ulied,
 U ma' dawn, żgur bosta qraha,
 U tant ħbieb, nepputijiet.

**Lejk indur o Margerita
 Sabiex tkennu ġo mantarek,
 Lil dan ibnek umli w twajjeb
 U malajr iddaħħlu f'darek!**

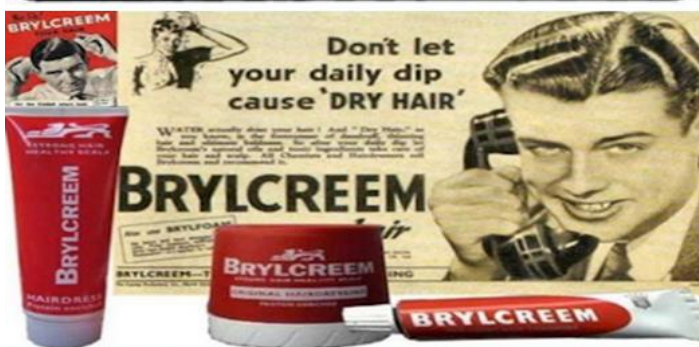
U għalkemm ma kienx mix-Xagħra
 Il-Bambina żgur fil-bieb
 Biex fi hdnha malajr tilqgħu –
 Dejjem hekk għamlet mal-ħbieb.

**Kien 'fitter' tal-ilma biežel
 Isib tarf malajr l-ilment;
 Fuq il-lant tax-xogħol issibu
 Ghax lil Ghawdex jaf bl-amment!
 Iżda lejn it-tmiem ta' Gunju**

Kien jerħilha għal Ta' Sannat
 Għaliex waslet Margerita –
 Bħalha d-dinja qatt ma rat!
**Bla mistrieħ in-nar jaħdmilha
 U jogħxa fit-tempju tagħha;
 Biki shun u dmugh iġelben
 Hsebijietu jaqsam magħha.**
 Kemm feraħ f'Montefiascone
 Immiss mar-relikwja tagħha;
 O ġo Greccio il-Presepju –
 Żjara illi ntrabat magħha.
**Ir-Rużarju qatt ma falla
 U ma' martu kien isus
 Biex ma titlef qatt il-Legion
 Li ma' qalbha kien marsus.**
 Tinsewx ħbieb lil huna Toni
 Li għedewwa ma kellux
 Ma' kulhadd kien imur tajjeb
 Raġel bħalu ma ssibux!
**Ta' insara d-dmir għandna
 Li nitolbu għall-mejtin;
 Lil Toni Mulej fis daħħal
 Max-Xirka tal-Qaddisin.**

LIFE BEFORE THE COMPUTER

Memory was something that you lost with age
 An Application was for employment
 A program was a radio or TV show
 A Cursor used as profanity
 A Keyboard was a piano
 a Web was a spider's home
 A Virus was the flu
 A CD was a bank account
 A Hard Drive was a long trip on the road
 A Mouse was a little rodent
 And if you had a 3 1/2 inch floppy
 you just hoped that nobody found out

**No Mobiles or I pads**

Times
 change
 and we
 change
 with
 them



LA VALETTE SOCIAL CENTRE, BLACKTOWN, NSW

Congratulations to the Committee and Volunteers who made this fantastic Imnarja Celebration a big success. and also a big 'thankyou' to all those who attended.

with thousands of people.



THE TASTE OF MALTESE AND POLISH FOOD IN A NEW BOOK

JSource - TVMNEWS

Kamil Willinsky is Polish and six years ago decided to take up residence in Malta where he built a strong community which social media is offering to give a

slight palate on Maltese culinary experiences. His life is now reflected on his new publication which is relating Poland and Malta through the food palate.

“I didn’t have a plan for Malta but Malta had a plan for me” Kamil Willinsky says.

He said food is an universal language which brings people closer together. A few years back Willinsky decided to come to Malta after working a number of years in British hospitality. In Malta he immersed in the culinary world by daily providing his services to more than 110 thousand persons by giving them a slight taste of the Maltese kitchen.

“When you think about it when you arrive in a new country what would be the better way to discover it. I remember the early days I remember I booked Maltese cuisine, so I discovered Malta through their eyes. That food connects people always evolving but at the end I mean the simplicity is the best, authentic taste good product and the people behind it,” says Willinsky. After six years in Malta, Kamil gathered his experiences in a new publication aimed at throwing light on the differences and similarities of Polish and Maltese hospitality through his life in Poland and now Malta. “In Poland for example I’m from a small city and how you dine is different. Normally you would invite your friends to your home so you need to be a good communicator and good cook and then everyone’s sits together. Here it’s totally different you go outside and you celebrate more. This allowed me to be even more curious about it”.

The book also includes his experiences from last year of a lengthy voyage to 45 Italian localities where he had the opportunity to meet the country’s most famous chefs and cooks. Asked about the local sector he said the Maltese cuisine is strengthening to draw more hi-class items like the Michelin Guide. Against this background Maltese food is ready and has the credentials to palate-wise compete with any country with a food cuisine.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY



MMG

Concert Band Victoria

Get ready for a night of music, laughter, and festive cheer – mid-year style!

- Live entertainment by DJ Roderick from Greenroom Entertainment
- A Photo Booth to help us create lasting memories
- BYO nibbles & alcohol
- A light supper, soft drinks, tea, coffee will be provided
- Free for Band Players + one guest
- \$10 for Members | \$15 for Non-members
- RSVP by Friday, 11th July to Amie Cardona (for catering purposes)

Event Details

- Saturday 19th of July
- From 6:30pm
- St John Paul II Polish Hall - 6 Helene Street, Ardeer

Come along for a relaxing evening filled with great company, music, and mid-year festive vibes. Take a break from the winter chill and warm up with laughter and good times!



MALTESE SENIOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION OF SA

Community Hall, 49 LeHunte Street, Kilburn SA

**Lunch and Social Activities
Every Friday 9.30 am till 3.30 pm
Members and Friends are all welcom
Come a taste the Maltese culture
and friendly atmosphere**



MALTESE GUILD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC

**Maltese Cultural Centre, 6 Jeanes St. Beverley
Every Tuesday 10am - 300 pm
Delicious Meals and social activities
We welcome everyone who loves
the Maltese food and culture**



Saint Catherine's Society of South Australia

**A community organization aimed at bringing people together
who have an interest in the Maltese community in South Australia.
43 Le Hunte Street , Kilburn, SA, Australia, South Australia.**

**Another successful luncheon on
Sunday 15 June 2025**

Next event on Sunday 20 July 2025

WE THANK ALL THOSE WHO SENT A DONATION

Bank - Commonwealth (Australia)

BSB - 065106

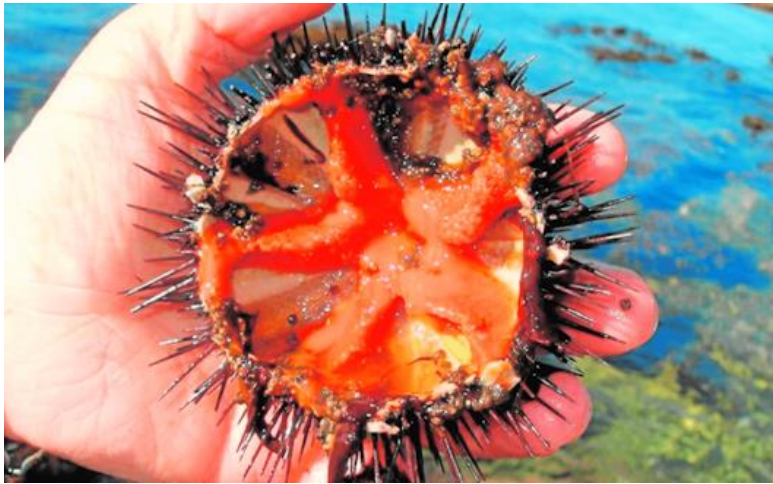
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Name - Frank Scicluna

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DONATE AND KEEP THE JOURNAL ALIVE

SPAGETTI BIR-RIZZI (SEA URCHINS)



(Maltese rhyme)

*Tar-rizzi waqa' il-baħar,
Tal-imħar qabeż għalih,
Tar-rizzi tela' jġgri,
Tal-imħar baqa' fil-qiegħ.*

Perhaps this is the most requested pasta dish in the Maltese Restaurants! When we were young, we used to dive in shallow waters and using just a fork we managed to pull out dozens. Mum

used to open them remove the sandy bits and give us some Maltese bread to mop out the delicate sweet and salty roe.... so heavenly delicious. This is a very simple dish, and I can assure you that there is no need of fancy gadgets or extra special techniques to master, yet each mouthful will give you the taste of our sea!

500g Spaghetti or Linguine
100g Sea Urchin roe or approx. 1 heaped tablespoon per portion
2 large tomatoes peeled and chopped
1 red chilli, deseeded and finely chopped
1 clove garlic crushed
3 tablespoons olive oil
1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley
Salt & Pepper



Bring a large pan of salted water to a boil, add pasta and cook for approximately 7 minutes till *al dente*. Meanwhile heat olive oil in a large frying pan, add chilli and garlic then chopped tomatoes and stir. Drain pasta reserving 1 cup of liquid. Add pasta to tomato sauce, also add the reserved pasta water and toss on high heat. Add sea urchin roe the last minute and toss quickly. Finally sprinkle chopped parsley and serve immediately.

THIS JOURNAL IS YOURS
CONTRIBUTE TO IT - SEND YOUR STORY