



CONSULATE OF MALTA IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA NEWSLETTER

FRANK L SCICLUNA - LINKING MALTA AND AUSTRALIA

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MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF MALTESE LIVING ABROAD

2 AND 3 OCTOBER 2014
AT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, VALLETTA, MALTA
UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE HON. DR. GEORGE VELLA MP
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

These are **some** of the issues to be discussed and acted upon.

- Website for the Maltese who live outside Malta
- Biometric Passports – Maltese citizens still need to travel thousands of kilometres to obtain a Maltese Passport
- The establishment of the MALTESE CULTURAL INSTITUTE
- Identity card and pension card for Maltese living abroad
- The teaching and learning of the Maltese Language and Culture outside Malta
- The teaching and learning of history of Maltese Emigration in schools
- Preparation for the Convention of Maltese Living Abroad 2015 – Council's involvement
- Convention regarding the Constitution of Malta – Council's involvement
- Establishment of a detailed international register of Maltese non-government associations and societies/clubs operating outside Malta
- Establishment of a detailed international register of Maltese achievers and prominent citizens who living outside Malta
- The involvement of the younger generation in preserving the Maltese culture abroad
- Developing a Road Map for Effective and Sustainable Engagement outlining a strategy for diaspora engagement, beginning with an adaptable "road map" that lays out four major strategic elements: identifying the goals of diaspora engagement, mapping the location and characteristics of the diaspora, building trust between diaspora and government institutions and mobilizing the diaspora to act as partners in the development of the country of origin.

The delegates attending the meetings are representatives of the Maltese communities in USA, Canada, Australia, United Kingdom and Europe. **We hope that we will be able to give you the concrete results of the discussions in coming issues of this Newsletter of the Maltese Diaspora.**



KATE MIDDLETON CANCELS MALTA TRIP DUE TO ONGOING MORNING SICKNESS

The Duchess has cancelled her trip to Malta and Prince William will take her place.

Duchess Kate has been forced to cancel Malta trip due to ongoing morning sickness. Photo: Getty Images



PRINCE WILLIAM AT ST JOHN'S FOR THANKSGIVING MASS

Prince William has arrived at St John's Co-Cathedral for the pontifical Mass of Thanksgiving to mark Independence. President Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca is leading the congregation. Those present include the prime minister, the leader of the opposition, the judiciary and the diplomatic corps.



Archbishop Paul Cremona is leading the Mass with Gozo Bishop Mario Grech. An AFM contingent formed on St John Square and gave the salute before the Mass. On arrival Prince William stood on a dais as the AFM band played the God Save the Queen. Later the band played with Maltese National Anthem for the President, who inspected the guard.

Prince William will this afternoon visit the Access Centre in Vittoriosa to discuss youth services. He will also visit St Lawrence Church and will be taken on a harbour cruise. His last appointment will be a reception hosted by the British High Commissioner.



PHOTO - DOI - PIERRE SAMMUT

RAISING THE STANDARDS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE USE IN MALTA – EDUCATION MINISTRY

A programme of the Ministry for Education and Employment announces strategic collaboration with Cambridge English, UK, to strengthen the teaching of scientific literacy through English

The Ministry said that the English Language has a special status in bilingual Malta and plays an important role in a number of economic, educational, cultural, and professional contexts. There are persistent concerns about the standards in English Language use,

within the school system, the media and beyond.

The Ministry for Education acknowledges these concerns and said that it is embarking on an ambitious and rigorous programme and campaign for the maintenance and the raising of standards in English Language use in Malta.

In the first instance there will be a structured and focused enquiry into the multifaceted and complex situation of English language use in Maltese schools. In conjunction with Cambridge English, UK, a review of the current levels of English Language proficiency of Maltese school age students is to be conducted. The purpose of this review is to report on the levels of English language competence of learners according to international standards.

Cambridge English Language Assessment, UK delivers over 4 million language assessments every year and has worked with governments and organisations around the world, including commonwealth countries, on similar projects.

A reliable evaluation of the current standards in English Language proficiency in Maltese schools will be conducted to enable the Ministry to set realistic and achievable targets for future English learning and teaching in the National Language Policy in Education.

THE ISSUE OF BIOMETRIC PASSPORTS TO MALTESE CITIZENS LIVING ABROAD

After years of begging and after years of promises regarding the acquisition of Maltese passports to citizens living abroad we are still experiencing hardships to obtain or renew our passports in Australia and several other countries. Travelling thousands of km, enormous expenses, inability to travel because of old age, sickness. being handicapped etc.. CAN SOMEONE LISTEN TO US FOR A CHANGE !!!!!!! L.M. (Concerned Maltese Citizen)

MAROUSKA ATTARD



Marouska Attard is a music graduate with a B.A. (Hons) in Music and holds a Postgraduate Certification in Music Education from the University of Malta. She has been the choir director of Schola Cantorum Jubilate for these past thirteen years. Although she believes that this experience has been a fruitful one, she still finds that there is much more to be learnt from those who are experts in this field. This is one of the reasons why she is currently following a Masters in Music in Choral Direction at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama where she is under the direction of Neil Ferris and Sarah Tenant Flowers.

A singer herself, Marouska has always had this great fascination for the voice as an instrument and she finds it intriguing how the simple gestures of a conductor can affect the sound that is being produced. In fact from a very young age she was actively involved as a chorister with several choirs in Malta with whom she participated in several concerts and opera productions. Later on as a university student she was involved with the university choir participating also as a soloist in several concerts locally and abroad. This association has instilled in her the passion and the drive for choral singing.

Thereafter she moved on to direction of the Schola Cantorum Jubilate, a youth choir which she helped establish. She has been the director of this eminent choir since the year 2000, when it began as a group of friends and went from strength to

strength under her dedicated direction. Performing in venues at home and abroad, the choir has visited Corsica for 'Recontres des Musicales' in November 2003; a musical-cultural tour in Rome and Assisi in September 2007 and another in Vienna, Linz and Salzburg in August 2009 and lately in Chevaigine and Rennes in France. Under Marouska's direction, the choir has been organising Carols by Candlelight for the past ten years. This Christmas concert has progressively gained popularity both locally and abroad. In fact, in 2010 it was quoted in The Guardian as one of the best top ten Christmas concerts in Europe.



SCHOLA CANTORUM JUBILATE - MALTA

Throughout the years Marouska had the opportunity to work with different choir directors among them; Mons. Renzo Cilia, who was assistant director of the Sistene Chapel's Choir in Rome. Zimfira Poloz a children's choir director and educator, and Simon Halsey, who is the chief conductor of the Berlin Radio Choir and the chorus director of the CBSO Chorus and LSO Chorus. Last summer she took private tuition in choral direction with Dr. Colin

Durant and also took part in a choral director course 'The Art of Choral Directing' directed by Josephine McNally at Sherbourne Summer Music School in the UK. This was all financially supported by the Malta Arts Fund.

Feeding her passion for vocal musical knowledge, Marouska has attended an array of workshops with some of the legendary figures in the field. At the Lake District International Summer School of Music in Ambleside, UK she worked with Teresa Cahill and the late Robert Tear who was once so closely connected to the composer Benjamin Britten. Also in the UK she had classes with another musical giant, the opera diva Yvonne Kenny, at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. Add to the list Prof. Jerzy Artysz of Krakow Music Academy, an international baritone with a hugely successful career and who had studied violin before voice as Marouska herself did; Prof. Thomas E Bauer, a German baritone of growing importance; Daniel Lichti one of Canada's acclaimed concert and oratorio singers and Deborah Harrison-Rossner from the United States. Marouska is currently tutored in voice technique by Juliette Bisazza Zanni.

Marouska works as a music teacher at the Gozo School of Music. Here she teaches music to seven and eight year old. Her main objective is to instil awareness about the importance of music education and in particular the importance of being part of a choir. Even though there is a good number of choirs in Malta, people's participation to sing in such choirs is still very low. This is why Marouska believes that in order to bring a change in mentality one needs to introduce singing to children from an early age. Singing in a choir not only involves learning music but can also contribute greatly to the holistic development of a person

MALTESE OFFSHORE AID STATION HELPS RESCUE

700 MIGRANTS



The private, Malta-based Migrant Offshore Aid Station (MOAS) was involved in the rescue of some 700 migrants today. The migrants were all transferred to Italian Navy vessels.

Rescue work started early, when MOAS spotted a boat in distress at around 6.40am. The boat was carrying approximately 300 migrants. Immediate contact was established with the rescue centre in Rome who directed that the migrant boat be intercepted.

Having reported back on the state of the vessel and the people on board, the MOAS ship Phoenix was eventually directed to assist by taking the migrants on board.

83 women and children were transferred via ribs

to Phoenix where they were given first aid by the two paramedics on board.

Meanwhile, the Borsini, an Italian warship arrived on the scene and embarked the rest of the migrants.

At 11.20am, MOAS became involved in another rescue operation when a wooden boat carrying approximately 400 migrants was located. MOAS ribs were used to transfer these migrants to an Italian vessel.

Eventually the 83 women and children who hours earlier had been taken onboard Phoenix were also transferred on the Borsini.

The migrants were mostly Syrians, Palestinians and Eritreans, among them a two-day old infant. The migrants included a number of people from Damascus who stated that they had sold their worldly possessions to make the trip. One of those rescued said he sold his house and car and spent \$15,000 to get his family away from the conflict.

MALTESE NEWSLETTER
The Journal of the
Maltese Diaspora



Winter sunset overlooking Macleay River, East Kempsey by Maurice Smith

OUR LADY OF VICTORIES FESTA IN WOLLONGONG, NSW

Sent by Lawrence Scerri Warrawong NSW 2502.



On Sunday 14th September 2014, the parish of Warrawong St Francis of Assisi church celebrated the annual feast of Our Lady of Victories. In fact, this parish was founded by the Maltese community in 1956 under the care of the Franciscan Conventual friars from Malta. The first parish priest was Fr Victor Bonello from Gozo.



This was the 41st anniversary of the statue of the Madonna Marija Bambina which was donated to the Warrawong church by Mr Angelo Scerri in 1973 as a memorial to his wife who was tragically killed in a car accident in 1970. The statue was made in Bolzano, Northern Italy and was modelled on the statue

of Senglea, the three cities region of Malta; Angelo's mother's birthplace.

The main celebrants at the Warrawong festa were Fr Emanuel Gatt, Parish priest and Fr Leonard Testa, Assistant priest. The President of the Illawarra Maltese club, George Cross Falcons, in Cringila Mr Louis Parnis was also in attendance at the mass. Also, the Maltese founded Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus from the Port Kembla convent and the Warrawong convents were also present at the OLOV feast.

The celebration started with a procession in the grounds of the St Francis of Assisi Catholic primary school accompanied by flags, banners and children dressed in the national Maltese costumes those of the Knights of St John and the Maltese Noble ladies. The Holy Mass included hymns sung in Maltese along with the national anthem. After the mass a get together which included Maltese food was held in the Parish School hall.

Pictures; Joe Scerri (son of Angelo with sunglasses) carrying the statue.

MaltaPost to issue special hand postmark – 50 Sena Malta Indipendenti



For the occasion of the 50th Anniversary since Malta gained Independence, MaltaPost has advised that a special hand postmark – 50 Sena Malta Indipendenti – will be from Friday, the 20th of September 2014 at the Valletta Castile Square Post Office.

Orders for this special hand postmark may be placed online at maltaphilately.com or by mail from the Philatelic Bureau, MaltaPost p.l.c. 305, Triq Hal Qormi, Marsa, MTP 1001 – Telephone 2596 1740 – e-mail: info@maltaphilately.com

THE WATERCOLOUR ART MALTA Miriam Borg miriamborg410@hotmail.com



H.E. Jane Lambert Australian High Commissioner for Malta
and the participating artists at Washes Exhibition 2014

The Exhibition was held at: **The Zabbar Sanctuary Museum from 25th July till 10th August.** The Exhibition was a huge success with Her Excellency Ms Jane Lambert High Commissioner for Australia launching the exhibition and later on the 7th of August we had an Official visit by Her Excellency Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca, President of Malta who was impressed by the high standard of the work being exhibited. This watercolour group is one of the first in this medium to be initiated here in Malta and we would like to see it grow and become known not only in Malta but in other countries too. We are also hoping that our exhibition will help increase public awareness of this interesting and diverse medium and provide greater exposure for the individual artists. We intend to have many more exhibitions and are already starting to work on the next one which will be in around November. Attached please find photographs of the occasion. I hope to hear back from you. Kind regards,
Miriam Borg,

Ps. Most of these paintings are for sale and anyone who might be interested can kindly contact me for more information.

Hi I came across your site and think it's a wonderful way to keep the Maltese culture alive in Australia. I was wondering if you would be interested in showing some of the local art happening in Malta right now. I am the founder and coordinator of a group called the Watercolour Art Group Malta. I set up this group with the intention of bringing together watercolour artists who are connected in some way through their work or personally to Malta. This group consists of approximately 300 self-taught and/or fine arts professionals, of all ages. A group of 15 Watercolour Art Malta members have just finished showing a number of original Watercolour paintings in a collective exhibition called **Washes**.



MALTESE TRAINEE DOCTORS FINISH SECOND IN EUROPEAN COMPETITION

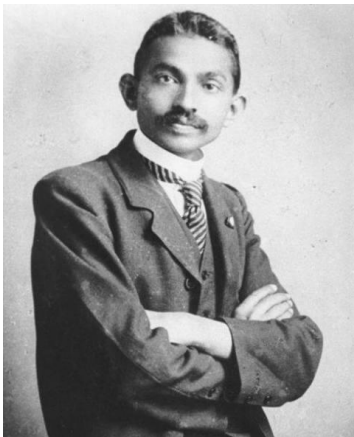


A team of three Maltese doctors, all higher specialist trainees in respiratory medicine, placed second in a competition held by the European Respiratory Society in Munich. The competition consisted of case scenarios with relative questions on diagnosis and treatment, testing medical knowledge in respiratory medicine.

The Maltese team, made up of Michael Pace Bardon, Joelle Azzopardi, and Eleanor Gerada, led for most of the competition. Poland

finished first, Germany third and Greece fourth. The Maltese team was prepared by consultant respiratory physician Martin Balzan.

MAHATMA GHANDI - INDIA



When Mahatma Gandhi was studying law at the University College of London, a British professor, whose last name was Peters, disliked him intensely and always displayed prejudice and animosity towards him.. Also, because Gandhi never lowered his head when addressing him as he expected, there were always "arguments" and confrontations.

One day, Mr. Peters was having lunch at the dining room of the University, and Gandhi came along with his tray and sat next to the professor. The professor said, "Mr Gandhi, you do not understand. A pig and a bird do not sit together to eat." Gandhi looked at him and calmly replied, "You do not worry professor. I'll fly away," and he went and sat at another table.

Mr. Peters, reddened with rage, decided to take revenge on the next test paper, but Gandhi responded brilliantly to all questions. Mr. Peters, unhappy and frustrated, asked him the following question. "Mr Gandhi, if you were walking down the street and found a package, and within was a bag of wisdom and another bag with a lot of money, which one would you take?" Without hesitating, Gandhi responded, "The one with the money, of course." Mr. Peters, smiling sarcastically said, "I, in your place, would have taken the wisdom, don't you think?" Gandhi shrugged indifferently and responded, "Each one takes what he doesn't have."

Mr. Peters, by this time was fit to be tied. So great was his anger that he wrote on Gandhi's exam sheet the word "idiot" and gave it to Gandhi. Gandhi took the exam sheet and sat down at his desk, trying very hard to remain calm while he contemplated his next move. A few minutes later, Gandhi got up, went to the professor and said to him in a dignified but sarcastically polite tone, "Mr. Peters, you signed the sheet, but you did not give me the grade."

JOINT MALTA-INDIA TRADE COUNCIL



Indian High Commissioner Anil Kumar Trigunayat. Photo: Darrin Zammit Lupi

A joint business council between Malta and India was setup at the end of the year 2013 to develop a structure for trade and investment, Indian High Commissioner Anil Kumar Trigunayat said on his fourth visit to the island. Mr Trigunayat has been stationed in Tripoli for about a year, and has made it a point to visit Malta at least once every three months. "My basic objective is to deepen and enhance our engagement with Malta in the economic, cultural and political fields. We'd like to see more parliamentary exchanges between our countries, and greater trade and investment both ways," he told The Sunday Times of Malta.

In April, India and Malta signed an agreement on the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion on income tax. The agreement was signed by Indian External Affairs Minister Preneet Kaur and Foreign Affairs Minister George Vella during a meeting on bilateral cooperation. The two ministers had drawn comparisons between the countries, which although differing greatly in size and location, have a history stretching back thousands of years and have inherited a legacy from the British.

"That visit was very significant and was due for some time. The avoidance of double taxation agreement is extremely important for enhancing trade and economic engagement," he said. Indian companies are looking at Malta's strategic location as a hub to access the European and North African markets. At the same time, India is also a great location for local companies to reach the Asian and Middle Eastern market.

Mr Trigunayat said although Indian companies did not take part in the bidding for the projected 200MW gas-fired power plant at Delimara they are interested in working with whoever wins the contract. Information technology is another sector that the two countries could work on together.

MALTA AND INDIA SIGN AGREEMENT ON DIPLOMATIC VISA WAIVER



Late last year Malta's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dr George W Vella, held talks with the Indian Minister of External Affairs, Salman Khurshid, on the margins of the 11th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Foreign Ministers Meeting currently being held in New Delhi. India is chairing the inter regional forum which is held biennially.

The two sides expressed satisfaction at the excellent relations that exist between Malta and India and reiterated their intention to continue strengthening bilateral ties at all levels. The Ministers noted the recent commitment to hold regular political consultations between the respective Ministries for Foreign Affairs.

International issues, such as the prevailing situations in the two countries' respective regions, were also discussed during the meeting. Malta and India also signed an inter-governmental agreement on the waiver of visa requirements for holders of diplomatic passports. The Agreement is envisaged to ease travel restrictions, thus facilitating bilateral cooperation and enhancing political and diplomatic exchanges between the two countries.

MONUMENT FOR GUIDO DE MARCO NEAR LAW COURTS



"The book is about his life and he is holding it in his left hand. As the saying goes: his life in his hands," Mr Camilleri Cauchi said.

Speaking at their workshop in Fgura, the 35-year-old said they met Prof. de Marco's wife, Violet, and children, Giannella, Fiorella and Mario, to discuss any alterations to make the model "as real as possible".

"We wanted to portray Prof. de Marco as a people's person. The first thing he did when he met somebody was shake his/her hand.



The statue of the ex- President Guido de Marco, lawyer and politician, born 22 July 1931; died 12 August 2010

The style also fits in with that of Antonio Sciortino's, whose Great Siege monument stands opposite the law courts. The internationally renowned Maltese artist was one of the teachers of Alfred's father, Wistin. The Camilleri Cauchis watched footage and photographs of the former president before working on the monument, and his family provided tips such as his preference for shoes with laces over slip-ons. He would leave undone the lower of two buttons on his blazer and the bottom part of his shirt sleeves would emerge from under the jacket.

"Such details made the monument as real as possible. The procedure was repeated with the relatives of President Emeritus Ċensu Tabone, whose monument will be unveiled later on this year in Sliema.

"We learnt that Dr Tabone, for example, would not keep his wedding ring on because of his medical profession."

Following meetings with the relatives earlier this year, a seven-foot clay model of Prof. de Marco was built to serve as the base for a gypsum cast. This was then used to cast a gypsum statue that was transported to the Domus Dei Foundry in Rome to make the final bronze monument.

A monument depicting the late Guido de Marco poised as if to shake your hand was placed next to the law courts in Valletta.

With his right hand lifted for a handshake and the left holding his autobiography, the monument was cast in bronze by artists Aaron Camilleri Cauchi and his father, Alfred.

It is the same autobiography that Aaron read before he sculpted the gesso model statue of Prof. de Marco that was chosen at the end of last year by a panel of architects, artists, Heritage Malta officials and representatives from the Office of the Prime Minister.

"Building a statue is not just about the face but the most challenging part is to bring out the character from every angle. The person has to be recognisable even from the back."

The monument represents Prof. de Marco around the time he became the country's sixth President in 1999. He was appointed as the 45th president of the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1990, three years after he was nominated deputy prime minister after the Nationalist Party's electoral victory.

Every detail was planned and the positioning of the monument near the law courts reflects his background as a leading criminal lawyer.

The plinth, made of white stone, was purposely built low to reflect Prof. de Marco's signature trait of being a "people's person". It also slanted upwards, depicting his political career, Alfred Camilleri Cauchi, 71, said.



Dr. Victor Chircop Sullivan

**PsyD., BMedSc., PhD.(Clin), Dip AD., BArch. MAPS, MRSH, FRAIA, A&CE
Clinical Neuropsychologist, Author, and a Former Registered Architect**

Victor Chircop Sullivan was born at St. Julians - Malta, the eldest son of Anthony Bernard Chircop, (late Member of the Maltese parliament and a business person) and Inez Griscti Sullivan both are deceased.

From 1943 to 1947, he served in the Royal Air Force on active service defending Malta from the hostilities of the war. Whilst in the services, he completed his Diploma of Quantity Surveying at the London Institute of Technology in 1948. In 1954, at the request of the Victorian Government in

the State of Victoria Australia through the Australian High Commissioner in Malta migrated to Australia and arrived in January Melbourne in 1955 to take up a permanent appointment as a senior quantity surveyor with the Department of the Victorian Public Works to participate in the planning and construction of some of the buildings for the 1956 Olympic Games in Melbourne. Prior coming to Australia, he held the position of a Civilian Garrison Engineer with the Department of the Defence in Malta (British Public Service).

Whilst with the Public Works in Melbourne, he pursued a course in architecture at the University of Melbourne – Australia. In 1965 he gained his Diploma of Architectural Design and Bachelor of Architecture. During his employment with the Public Works Department, he was appointed in the position of an architect and was in-charge of the construction of the refurbishment and renovation of various public buildings including psychiatric hospitals (prior the Richmond Scheme came into effect, these hospitals were in an abhorrent state and their patients were not treated well, later these hospitals were closed down and their patients transferred to public hospitals (in the Mental Health Departments), it was these hospitals and the way the patients were treated at the time that later inspired him to take up psychological studies).

In 1963, he transferred his position to the Housing Commission of Victoria as a senior architect in-charge of the design and construction of medium and high-rise building developments. In 1968, he was appointed a deputy staff architect and a tutor in architecture (environmental psychology) at the University of Melbourne. Later during his employment as the deputy staff architect with the University of Melbourne he also pursued studies in psychology.

In 1973, he resigned from the university to establish an architectural practice, under the title “Sullivan and Associates – Architects and Planners”, his practice was responsible for the design and construction of numerous residential, retirement villages, high-rise apartment buildings, government buildings and health centres. He was also appointed as the head of the management group on the construction of the Art Centre complex in Melbourne.

In 1974, Victor Chircop Sullivan completed his qualifications in psychology at the University of Melbourne. with special interest in neurosciences. He did his clinical training and internship with the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Austin Hospital and other health clinics in Melbourne. Between 1976, he travelled to the United States to take up post graduate studies. In 1978, he completed his Doctoral qualifications in Clinical Neuropsychology at Western Colorado University and at Missouri University College respectively, dissertation titled “Condition responses and behaviour in sensory function” he is also a visiting clinical consultant to Colorado General Hospital.

Late in 1981 he worked in the United Kingdom as a medical researcher at London Neuro-Science Research Institute involving the pharmaceutical misuse, particularly the benzodiazepine drug. In 1983, the University of London in association with the Algerian Government appointed him to join a team of experts and to travel to Algeria for four months to carry out research work and advise the Algerian Government on social and psychological issues concerning European personnel living and working in Algeria and mixed marriages between Algerians and Europeans. In 1989 he gained a degree in Medical Science from the University of Melbourne.

In 1990, he moved and joined partnership in a mental health practice in Sydney “Nervous Disorder Clinic” specialising in assessing and evaluating patients with depression, schizophrenia, seriously emotionally disturbed children and adults, pain management and human behaviour. He was also a visiting clinical consultant to the Transcultural Mental Health Centre and Cumberland Hospital responsible for the diagnostic assessments, evaluations,

neuropsychological assessments and cure of the mentally ill patients from non-English Speaking Background looking after Maltese and Italian patients. As a consultant to Page Air Flying School he was responsible to analyse and assess flying accidents, and assessing the physiological and psychological characteristics of potential airline pilots by studying their reactions and behaviour under adverse conditions.

His general area of interest is in clinical psychology with special interest in neuroscience and neurophysiology in terms of understanding the anatomy and function of the human brain in an area of impaired cognition in relation to behaviour in general and mental illness in particular, psychosomatic medicine, stress, anxiety, depression, bipolar disorder, rehabilitation of schizophrenia and management of chronic pain. He is a visiting lecturer at the University of California at Berkeley and Missouri University in the United States of America and London University in the United Kingdom lecturing in neurophysiology.(anatomy and physiology of the nervous system).

Victor Chircop Sullivan regularly gives talks on mental health issues to various professional and public associations. On various occasions, he appears on television and on radio and has been interviewed by both the Australian and overseas media such as the Sydney's Maltese Herald in November 1995 titled "Interess kbir fil-Euthanasia" (A lot of Interest in Euthanasia), in September 1999 titled "Hidma qalbiena ma dawk li jehtiegu ktar ghajnuna" (Word of encouragement to those who require help). The Sunday Times of Malta in 2000 titled "Psychologist at the service of Australia's Maltese Community" and in 2006 debates by the Elsevier Science – Amsterdam titled "Are we all going mad". He produced a series of talks in the English and Maltese languages titled "Let's talk Mental Illness" for the Transcultural Mental Health Centre, later recorded on CD for distribution to the public by the Mental Health Department

Occasionally, both local and overseas organisations invite him to give talks on mental health and on architecture issues. Dr. Chircop-Sullivan, published a number of clinical papers in various professional and public journals and magazines (a list of some of these publications is attached). Amongst the papers he published include: "The Impetus of Architectural Buildings on Human Relationships", "The role of the Environmental Psychologist to the Architectural and Planning Professions", a technical report on "Urban Planning for Malta and Gozo" for the Planning Authority in Malta, and a number of clinical papers and articles on medical and mental health issues.

Victor Chircop Sullivan is also the author of four books, titled:-

- **"The Basic facts of Applied Psychology – Its Understanding and Consciousness"**- Self published.-1975.
- **"Understanding Mental Illness – A basic guide to mental illness"**.
- **"A Life with a Difference"** His own biography.
- **"Metaphysics–The Meaning of Reality"**.

He is a committee member of the International Students Association of the University of Wollongong –NSW. A Committee member of the Maltese sub-Committee of the Transcultural Mental Health Centre – NSW. A Member on the Community Consultative Committee of Bulli Hospital – NSW. A Member of the Air Force Association and Returned Service League of Australia.

Member of The Australian College of Clinical Psychologists, Member of the Australian Psychological Society, Member of the Royal Society of Health of the United Kingdom., Registered to practice clinical and neuropsychology by the Psychology Board of Australia. The Australian Federal Government as a health Practitioner. .and a Fellow of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects.

Although Victor Chircop Sullivan has retired from the practice of architecture, he holds registration to practice Architecture by the Architects' Registration Boards of both the States of New South Wales and Victoria in Australia and a Warrant by the Malta Board of Architects and Civil Engineers (Warrant ghal-Ezercizj tal-Professjoni ta Perit). He stopped practicing architecture since 1974.to devote his life to practice in the Mental Health profession.

IT'S NICE TO BE IMPORTANT BUT IT IS MORE IMPORTANT TO BE NICE



MALTA AND THE FRENCH CONNECTION

La France à Malte



Malta's historical links with France, one of our main European partners, go very far back in history. Twelve French Grandmasters ruled over the Island during the 268 year stay of the Order of St John of Jerusalem between 1530 and 1798. Malta's rich artistic heritage is largely owed to the great contribution of the Knights of Malta particularly to French Grandmaster Jean de La Valette who gave his name to our capital city Valletta, chosen as European City of Culture 2018.

We can revel in romantic notions of years gone by when the Order of St John discovered and exploited the natural beauty of its Grand Harbour transforming it into the world's finest naval school of the time.

As early as the 16th century, witness to all this was the impressive French navy. Under its illustrious kings, France founded its first naval school in Malta gleaned all it could from the wealth of experience the chivalric Order had established here after Rhodes.

This exciting connection was highlighted at Europe House in Valletta by Contre-admiral François Bellec of the Académie de la marine who, as guest of the French Embassy and the Alliance Française de Malte, spoke about the historical association the French navy enjoys with the Order. Following an engaging presentation by Carmen Depasquale on the presence of Maltese corsair in Malta's French literature of the 18th century, François Bellec recalled how the Order's small fleet of galleys left an impression during the siege of Cyprus and the battle of Lepanto in the 16th century. The knights' sense of organisation and discipline backed by their spiritual and moral character impressed Christian powers, foremost among them France.

Cardinal Richelieu embarked on re-organising the French fleet on the Maltese model. He sent Chevalier des Roches in 1620 to study the Order's naval set-up in Malta. By 1640, the French fleet could already boast of 25 operational galleys. Naval politics required design, willpower, budgets and perseverance. Colbert vowed to make Louis XIV master of the Mediterranean. In ten years' time Marseilles' arsenal launched thirty new flamboyant galleys. In 1669 the king ordered his Maréchal de Vivonne to observe and learn from the navy of the Religion. The Order's galleys were built in its arsenal – using Sicilian wood – in Italy or in France under strict control by the Order's commissioners and finished in Vittoriosa. Slightly heavier and slower than their Venetian and Muslim counterparts, they were better armoured.

Exploiting the sails to economise on manpower they proved to be the ideal craft for the sometimes stormy Mediterranean. Chroniclers of the time praised the Maltese galleys' mastery of the waters. The Order recruited the best officers from Provence, Genova, Naples, Amalfi, Sicily, Greece and Catalonia. The Maltese were the best trained sailors in the world. Barras de la Penne from Provence explains how other navies would recruit leading rowers from Malta.

By the end of the 17th century the French fleet became the most powerful in the Mediterranean, busy protecting commercial routes. In 1684, the war vessel *Le Bon* alone defeated 36 Spanish galleys. At the time the royal fleet included 30 galleys, 120 vessels and 25 frigates, with the newly created *vaisseau* taking centre stage in the theatre of war.

Another remarkable French connection with Malta concerns the Order's young aristocratic recruits from the Langues of Provence, Auvergne and France in Valletta. They founded the first French naval school in Malta's Grand Harbour learning discipline, spiritual and physical endurance, mathematics, navigation and the art of combat.

In 1683 France followed with its own schools in Toulon, Brest and Rochefort. By the 1780s Malta's university had established a school for mathematics and nautical sciences, later turned into an *École Centrale* by Bonaparte in 1798. In France Louis Philippe established a national school in Brest in 1830.

The fact that eighty per cent of captains in the French royal navy carried the title of *Monsieur le Chevalier* explains the third strong association with Malta. Though later on there were less knights on the *vaisseaux*, the most famous French admirals remain the Knights of Malta: Prigent de Bidoux in 1497; Count Grasse, victor of Chesapeake, preceeding the American Independence; the great Bailli de Suffren, Chevalier Paul and Maréchal de Tourville. It is after such men that the *Marine de France* traditionally names its ships until this very day

THE ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE



The Alliance française of Malta was created in 1959 and forms a part of a network of more than 1200 Alliances over 137 countries in the world. Its work in collaboration with the French Embassy.

Every year, the Alliance welcomes more than 800 students, children, teenagers and adults who wish to learn French for pleasure or for job. It provides with every kind of course, general French lesson and conversation, special course for companies and puts in place new workshops to learn French with entertainment.

The aim of this non-profit-making association is to promote French culture and language in Malta. It acquired a reputation of excellency in the academic field, thanks to its ressources and the quality of its professors and methods.

The **Alliance française** (French pronunciation: [aljäs fʁãsɛz], *French Alliance*), or **AF**, is an international organization that aims to promote French language and culture around the world. Created in Paris on 21 July 1883, its primary concern is teaching French as a second language and is headquartered in Paris.



(left) First publication of the Alliance française in 1884. (right) Alliance française Paris Ile-de-France

The *Alliance* was created in Paris on 21 July 1883 by a group of eminent men, including the scientist Louis Pasteur, the diplomat Ferdinand de Lesseps, the writers Jules Verne and Ernest Renan, and the publisher Armand Colin.

It finances most of its activities from the fees it receives from its courses and from rental of its installations. The French government also provides a subsidy covering approximately five percent of its budget (nearly 665,000 € in 2003)



More than 440,000 students learn French at one of the centres run by the *Alliance*, whose network of schools includes:

- a centre in Paris, Alliance française Paris Ile-de-France
- locations throughout France for foreign students and
- 1,016 locations in 135 countries.

The organizations outside Paris are local, independently run franchises. Each has a committee and a president. The *Alliance française* brand is owned by the Paris centre. In many countries, the *Alliance française* of Paris is represented by a *Délégué général*. The French Government also runs 150 separate French Cultural Institutes that exist to promote French language and culture

ALARME RE-ENACTMENTS

Need to find something interesting to do while at the same time learning and experiencing local culture?



Then the Alarme Re-Enactment is right for you!

The Alarme Re-Enactment is held every year on the third Sunday of October and will commence at 11:00hrs. Its duration is 50 minutes and it portrays military battles between Maltese militia and Napoleon's



troops, aided by a narration that describes the historical background of 1798-1800. This re-enactment unfolds in a series of dramatised scenes that depict the arrival of the French, their administration of Malta, the Maltese rebellion and the arrival of the British troops that led to the French surrender. The show is staged at Fort St. Elmo in Valletta by the Historical Re-Enactment Group of Malta and is organised by the Malta Tourism Authority.

HISTORY OF TASMANIA- AUSTRALIA



Horseshoe Falls, Mt Field NP, Tasmania

Separated from the mainland of Australia by the notorious waters of Bass Strait, Tasmania is an island of unspoilt natural beauty and wild landscapes, renowned for its outstanding food and wine, and provides an idyllic destination for the acclaimed Sydney to Hobart yacht race. Close to a fifth of the island is protected National Park, a refuge for rare and endangered plants and animals, boasting ancient forests, rugged coastlines and glittering waters.

Explore wildlife parks and see the intriguing platypus, clumsy wombats and shy rock wallabies. Visit the spectacular coastlines, fringed with cool ocean waters that teem with aquatic life such as seals, penguins, dolphins and whales and countless birdlife. Depending on your sense of adventure Tasmania has it covered. Choose to explore the bush, or launch yourself skyward on a cable hang-glider. Try mountain bike riding, jet boating, white water rafting, or abseiling, or join an adventure tour and let the experts take care of the details.

Tasmania boasts a vibrant cultural life featuring lively entertainment, galleries and museums. Take a fascinating Heritage Walk to visit historic villages and Victorian streetscapes, and learn about local history and legend. Explore the intriguing collection of treasures at Tasmania's antique stores, many featuring local speciality timbers such as myrtle, blackwood, colonial cedar and kauri.

Browse workshops of the local artistic community and discover unique quality pieces inspired by the island's landscape, featuring superb local materials. Visit Salamanca Place in Hobart or artists' studios in Richmond, Evandale, Hamilton, Stanley or Strahan.

Appreciate the difference in the locally farmed fish and shellfish, raised in pristine waters and free of antibiotics and hormones. Taste the quality of the local produce, creamy chocolate truffles, tasty honey, superb wines and a delightful range of quality meats and cheeses. Tasmania combines heritage charm and cultural diversity in a setting of exceptional beauty. Hobart in Tasmania began its early life as a penal colony in 1803, making it the second oldest city in Australia.

Visit the convict world heritage sites where convicts who had committed serious offences after arriving in Australia were sent. Explore the life of the free settlers who also settled in Tasmania on the Derwent River and its deep harbour at the mouth to export things like fruit and wool to other parts of Australia and the British Empire. To try and erase the reputation the island had built up as a penal colony, Van Diemen's Land's name changed in early 1856 to Tasmania. Which is now a popular tourist destination luring visitors from all over the world.

In the early 1800's, Tasmania was populated by white European settlers sent to the island as a place of punishment resulting from England's overcrowded prisons. Although Tasmania was originally discovered by Abel Tasman in 1642, the first settlers did not arrive until 1803, when a small group was sent from Sydney as a ploy to stop the French invading the island.

Shortly after in 1804, a second convict group and military guards were sent to Sullivan's Cove West of Derwent and were set with the pressing task of developing industry on the unforgiving island.

Other settlements followed, including the penal colonies of Port Arthur and Macquarie Harbour. As industry developed and the population grew, the small fishing village in West Derwent was named Hobart Town and later shortened to Hobart as we now know it.

For around 35,000 years prior to European settlement, Tasmania was inhabited by the Aboriginal people.

Nine separate tribes originally occupied the land, comprising a population of between 5000-10,000 people by the early 1800's when the first European settlers arrived.

Over the next 30 years persecution and disease by the white settlers caused death to the majority of Aborigines, reducing the native population to a mere 300. The remaining Aborigines were then shipped off to Flinders Island, reducing the population further because of this oppression. The last remaining full blooded Tasmanian Aborigine died in 1876.

A NOSTALGIC VIEW OF GOZO IN BYGONE DAYS



Those who indulge in nostalgia are bound to be thrilled with a collection of old photos of Gozo collated by Giovanni Bonello and published by Fondazzjoni Patrimonju Malti.

Judge Bonello said he felt compelled to work on a separate book on Gozo after producing a companion volume with old photos of Malta last year. "I must confess I have a particular love for Gozo, principally because I feel it retains better Malta's Mediterranean image than Malta did," he told The Times.

"Marsalforn and Xlendi had, I concede, to be sacrificed. But Gozo still retains much of its rural

charm and the damage inflicted to its body, but still more to its soul, when compared to Malta, thankfully looks smaller in consequence and magnitude so far. This, however, stops far short of giving Gozo a clean bill of health." The book is split into four sections: The islands, people, events and Gozo boats. Like the book about Malta, it has minimal captions as Judge Bonello wanted the images to speak for themselves. The captions retain all their original spelling and form.

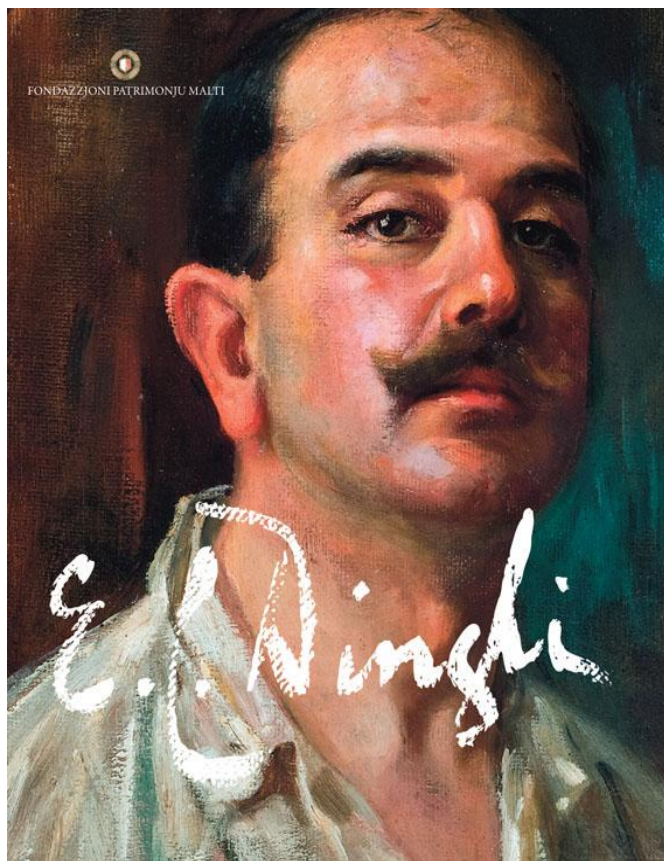
In the book one can see photos of buildings that have been razed by "progress", such as the Gourgion fortified mansion, known as It-Torri ta' Gurgjun, dismantled to make way for a temporary airstrip during the war. Marsalforn is barely recognisable.

In the section dealing with people, there are interesting photos of men making kenuri, those blessed stone stoves over which so many a stew was cooked. The book also contains a section about Mikiel Farrugia, Il-Badiku, who had a photographic studio in Piazza Savina, Victoria, between 1925 and 1950. The section about Il-Badiku was penned by Klabb Kotba Maltin founder Pawlu Mizzi. "Il-Badiku was a meticulous and knowledgeable man, blessed with a supreme patience. He would never give up and get tired waiting to obtain the best results in his work. That is why the Gozo he bequeathed us with his photographs will never fade," Mr Mizzi said.



An old Gozitan farmer walking his way from his fields in Xaghra.





THE CHICKEN HAWKER

One of the 260 paintings of Chev. Edw. Caruana Dingli (1876-1950)

CHEV EDWARD CARUANA DINGLI was born in Valletta, Malta of a family of artists in 1876. In 1898, he was commissioned in the Royal Malta Artillery. He studied art under the celebrated Guze Cali (1846-1930) and at the British Academy in Rome, Italy. He excelled himself as a painter of Maltese landscape and folklore.





DO YOU SPEAK FRENCH?

in the West Indies and Quebec, Canada.

In Asia and Oceania, the 2 million French speakers divide up among these countries: Vietnam, New Caledonia, French Polynesia, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles and Comoros. According to the International Organization of the Francophonie, about 90 million people study French in the world. In most of the European countries, and even in the world, French is the second foreign language to be taught after English.

French is the international language of cooking, fashion, theatre, the visual arts, dance and architecture.



A knowledge of French offers access to great works of literature, as well as films and songs, in the original French. French is the language of Victor Hugo, Molière, Albert Camus, Romain Gary, Audrey Tautou etc.

An ability to speak French and English is an advantage on the international job market. A knowledge of French opens the doors of French companies in France and other French-speaking parts of the world (Canada, Switzerland, Belgium, and

North and sub-Saharan Africa). As the world's fifth biggest economy and number-three destination for foreign investment, France is a key economic partner.

Because near half of the English vocabulary results from French and from Latin – if you studied English you already know many French words : parfum, sport, musique, parlement, théâtre, information, collection, université, littérature, restaurant, danse, couleur, liberté, etc.

If you learn French, you will learn more easily Spanish, Italian and Portuguese, because these languages are all derived from Latin.

Many foreigners think that French is a beautiful language! It is often said that French is the language of Romance and Love, and Paris isn't called "*Paris la Romantique*" for nothing!

