



CONSULATE OF MALTA IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA NEWSLETTER

FRANK L SCICLUNA - THE JOURNAL OF THE MALTESE DIASPORA

EMAIL: honconsul@live.com.au Read the Maltese Newsletters on: www.ozmalta.page4.me



My wife and I, who live in Perth, were born in Malta, therefore according to the Maltese Constitution we are Maltese citizens. As Maltese citizens, we are entitled for a Maltese passport. We applied for one but we were told that, according to the European regulations, we need a biometric passport. We need to have our fingerprints taken and an eye photo. The only three places in Australia where we could submit my

fingerprints to are Canberra, Sydney and Melbourne.

In the other states i.e. Western Australia, Queensland, South Australia and Tasmania the biometric equipment does not exist. Therefore, all the Maltese citizens who require a passport must go to these three places.

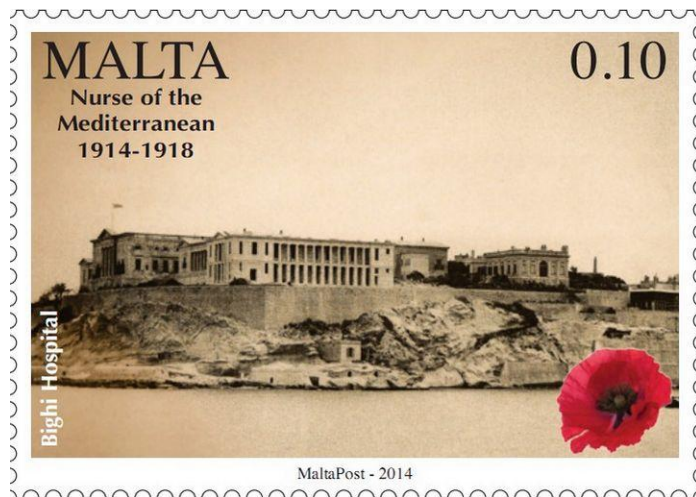
The minimal expense to travel from Perth to Sydney is

- \$900 return airfare for two
- \$300 accommodation
- \$185 + \$20 x 2 = \$410 for passports
- \$100 other expenses
- Total \$1710.

While if A Maltese citizen does the passport in Malta it will cost 140 euro (for two). Is this justice? Can someone do something about this! This issue has been going on for years. Are the Maltese living overseas treated equally or the problem is going to be swept under the carpet, once again. Please, help us. J&A Camilleri – Western Australia



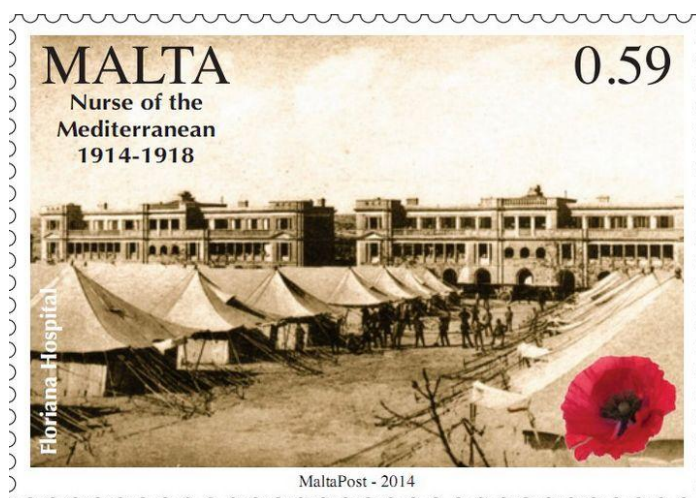
MALTAPOST - STAMPS COMMEMORATING WW1



MaltaPost is to issue a set of 3 stamps depicting military hospitals that were instrumental in saving the lives of tens of thousands of sick and wounded that were brought to and cared for in Malta during World War I. During that war a total of 27 hospitals and camps were set-up across Malta and Gozo so as to accommodate thousands of wounded Allied servicemen.

The first group of 600 casualties arrived from Gallipoli on 4th of May 1915. Initially, numerous wounded men were disembarked on the quayside by Valletta's ancient Sacra Infermeria hospital. They were then moved on to other hospitals around the Island.

This activity earned Malta the title: 'Nurse of the Mediterranean.'



The stamps carry a face value of €0.10 and €0.59 and €2.00 and portray the images of Bighi Hospital, Floriana Hospital and HMHS Rewa respectively. The stamps have been designed by Paul Psaila and are issued in sheets of 10 stamps.

Each stamp measures 44mm x 31mm with a perforation of 13.9 x 14.0 (comb.), while the sheets measures 119mm x 186mm. The Malta stamps bear the Maltese Crosses watermark. Printex Limited produced the set in offset and the issue consists of 240,000 of the €0.10 stamp, 300,000 of the €0.59 and 72,000 of the €2.00.



This Philatelic Issue are available for sale on the 7th of November 2014 from all Post Offices in Malta and Gozo: online at www.maltaphilately.com or by mail from the Philatelic Bureau, MaltaPost p.l.c. 305, Qormi Road, Marsa, MTP 1001; Telephone: 2596 1740, email: info@maltaphilately.com.



MALTA
NURSE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

ANZAC CENTENARY
1914-1918 2014-2018

Frank L Scicluna OAM
Hon Consul for Malta in South Australia

BECOME A
SPONSOR NOW

**WE INVITE YOU TO BE A
SPONSOR OF THIS PROJECT
AND BE PART OF THE
ANZAC CENTENARY
COMMEMORATION
1914-18 2014-18**

**THIS COMMEMORATIVE
BOOK
IS A LASTING MEMORY OF
THE ROLE MALTA PLAYED
DURING WORLD WAR 1**

**DONATIONS OF MORE THAN
\$100 WILL BE RECORDED IN THE
BOOK**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT
FRANK L SCICLUNA
honconsul@live.com.au**



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

Gozo in Philatelic Art

An exhibition of original artworks of Malta postage stamps



Il-Haġar Museum
St. George's Square, Victoria Gozo

9:00 hrs - 17.30hrs

1 November 2014 - 4 January 2015

Exhibition Curators: Nicoline Sagona | Antoine Vassallo



www.mediterranea.com.mt | info@mediterranea.com.mt
2155 0985 or 79256897



An extensive selection of original Gozo-related works of art, which were used as the basis for the design of Malta postage stamps, is to be exhibited at Il-Haġar – Heart of Gozo Museum – in St George's Square, Victoria. The works span a number of decades.

'Gozo in Philatelic Art is curated by Nicoline Sagona and Antoine Vassallo and includes artworks by numerous Maltese artists, such as Edward Caruana Dingli, Emvin Cremona, Frank Portelli and Antoine Camilleri.

Spread over fifty boards on all the Museum levels, it will be open to the public, from Saturday, the 1st November and will run until Sunday, the 4th of January 2015.

Normal opening hours are 9am to 5.30pm. Entrance to the exhibition is free of charge.



BLUE LAGOON, COMINO, MALTA

TAJJEB LI NIFTAKRU X'GARA

Pagna 4

It-Tlieta, 20 ta' Lulju 1993

THE MALTESE HERALD

Konferenza Nazzjonali f'Adelaide, SA 1993



Delegati tat-Tlett Kunsilli Statali għall-Konferenza Federali

Kapitlu iehor fl-Istorja tal-Kunsill Federali Malti

Gew mistiedna l-Kunsilli koilha Maltin (NSW, Vic., Qld., WA u ACT) imma minhabba li l-Gvern ma pprovdiex fondi, uhud mill-Kunsilli ma setghux jattendu ghax l-ispejjez kienu kbar. id-delegati li ppartecipaw f'din il-Konferenza kienu Lawrence Dimech u Alfred Fenech AOM, president u egretarju tal-Kunsill ta' NSW rispettivament, Mark Caruana mid-dipartiment tal-Edukazzjoni ta' NSW, Joseph Borg u l-Avukat Victor Borg, President u Vici President tal-Kunsill ta' Victoria. L-ezekuttiv u d-delegati tal-Kunsill Malti tas-SA ukoll hadu sehem attiv. L-ewwei sessjoni saret fic-Centru Kulturali Malti, Beverley.

Ic-Chairman tal-Konferenza, Mr. Frank Scicluna, li huwa wkoll il-President tal-Kunsill Malti tas-SA ghamel diskors ta' merhba u fisser l-ghan li ghailh gie msejjah dan is-Seminar. Is-Segretarju tal-Kunsill Malti, Mr. Harry Bugeja, qara messagg mibghut miil-Kummissarju Gholi għall-Malta, 'I-E.T. George Busuttil fejn awgura lid-delegati tal-Kunsill Federaii suocessi u solidarjeta u fl-istess hin esprima tifhir u ringrazzjament lili-Kunsilli Maltin ghax-xoghol siewi li qed jaghmlu għall-gid tal-komunita Maltija.

Is-suggetti li gew diskussi kienu (1) il-Problemi tal-Anzjani Maltin fl-Awstralja u (2) iz-Zghazagh Maltin, il-generazzjoni t'ghada. Mark Caruana u Laurie Dimech fissru kif tahdem is-sistema ii NSW u kkwotaw l-istatistiki li jallarmawna bil-kobor ta' din il-problema li kull ma tmur qed tikber.

Il-membri tal-Kunsill Federaii ddiskuta fit-tul u accetta unanimament ii-Kostituzzjoni b'amendi minimi. Kull Kunsill ta rapport dettaljat dwar l-attivitajiet li iattetwaw is-socjetajiet u l-komunita Maltija

It-tieni Konferenza
Nazzjonali tal-Kunsill
Federaii tal-Awstralja saret
'nhar is-Sibt u nhar il-Hadd
10 u 11 ta' Lulju 1993,
t'Adelaide. Din kienet
inizjattiva tal-Kunsill Malti
tas-South Australia li għall-
gimghat shah ghamel il-
preparazzjonijiet għal din il-
laqgħa hekk importanti li
jekk inharsu iejn ir-rizultati
kienet success fenomenali.

Ritratt - Bil-wieqfa: Emanuel
Grima (SA), Frank Scicluna
(SA) Harry Bugeja (SA)
Lawrence Dimech (NSW) Alfred
Fenech (NSW) Edgar Agius
(SA) Joseph Borg (Vic) u Victor
Borg (Vic)

Kokka: Mark Caruana (NSW)
Charlie Farrugia (SA)

ta' li Stat tagghom. Ittiehdet rizoluzzjoni li fil-futur ii-Kunsill Federaii jinghata i'idejn li Stati alternattivament u tissegjah Konferenza Annwali.

Il-Hadd il-laqgha saret tis-Sala tal-patrijiet frangiskani, Lockleys. Father Sebastian Camilleri OFM, AM fetah it-tieni sessjoni tal-Konferenza b'diskors qasir imma kommoventi fejn emfazizza l-importanza tal-ghaqda fost ii-Maltin/Awstraljani halli jtejbu l-istatut tal-Komunita tal-prezent u dik tal-gejjieni.

Joseph Borg qara l-karta li pprepara Dr. Barry York, mill-Universita ta' Canberra ii ma kienx possibli ghaiah ii jattendi s-Seminar. Is-suggett kien '*Iz-Zghazagh Maltin fil-prezent u til-gejjieni*'. Dr. York qal: '*Iz-zghazagh tal-lum li huma t-tieni jew it-tielet generazzjoni Maltin, ghalkemm ma jurux il-kultura esternament bhal ma wrewha missierna u ahna, imam dawn xorta wahda ghadhom ihobbu u iapprezzaw dak li hu Malti u ifakkarhom fil-Kultura tal- genituri jew in-nanniet tagghom.*

Tkellem ukoll fuq il-familja Maltija, ir-Religion, l-Istorja u l-Ilsien Malti li huma l-eghruq tal-identita taghna. '*Il-Futur qieghead t'idejhom ghax ahna l-emigrazzjoni minn Malta ilha wieqfa ghall-bosta snin. Ahna l-Maltin li emigrajna fl-1950-60-70 poggejna l-pedament u issa nheggu liz-zghazagh biex ikomplu jibnu u jsahhu dak li bdejna,*' ikkonkluda Dr. York.

Wagt id-diskussjoni Joe Borg u Victor Borg taw ii-perspettiva mill-angolu tal-komunita ta' Victoria fejn semmew diversi attivitajiet kulturali u lingwistici tejn il-participitazzjoni tat-tfal u z-zghazagh hija nkorraganti.

Fost ir-rizoluzzjonijiet li ttiehdu i'dan is-Seminar kienu:

a) li l-Gvern ta' Malta jghin itaffi l-hafna problemi tax-Xjuh Maliin bil-pensjoni Awstraljana billi jipprovdilhom akkomodazzjoni u beneficji ohra jakk dawn jixtiequ jghaddu l-ahhar snin ta' hajjithom f'Malta.

b) li isiru ricerki u studiu komprehensivi dwar l-istatistici u r-rizorsi umani f'kull Stat u nzommu kuntatt speċjalmeni ma' daww iz-zghazagh bi kwaliliki universitarji u nhegguhom jinvolvu ruhhom fl-attivitajiet komunitarji.

c) li naghmlu uzu mill-progett li tkellem fuqu l-President ta' Malta Dr. Censu Tabone '*l-Exchange Students/Teachers Scheme*' bejn Malta u l-Awstralja qabel jerga jintesa kollox u dan il-progett jigrilu bhal progetti ohra, imut f'guf ommu.

d) li l-Gvern Malti iiprovdi '*Language Centres for Overseas Students*' f'Malta li jkun centru ta' taghlim fuq il-lingwa, l-Istorja u l-Kultura Maltija ghall-istudenti Maltin/Awstraljani u ohrain

Mr. Frank Scicluna ghalaq il-Konferenza billi rringrazzja lil daww kollha li hadu sehem u taw

is-sehem produttiv tagghom biex ghamlu din il-konferenza Nazzjonali success u nisperaw li johrog hafna gid minna li jibbenefika lill-Komunita' ghaziza taghna mxerda ma' dan il-kontinent vast tal-Awstralja u ma nibqghux minsijin u mwarbin mill-Gvernijiet Maltin u Awstraljani.

Mr. Charles Farrugia, il-Vici President tal-Kunsill ipprezenta Certifikat ta' Participazzjoni lid-delegati u wara saret quddies ta' ringrazzjament bil-Malti fil-Knisja ta' Kristu Re, Lockleys.

All the Newsletters are included in the website

www.ozmalta.page4.me/



Born and raised in London. Joseph Gatt first got the acting bug when his Maltese parents took him to see Star Wars at the age of 8 and he decided to be Han Solo when he was older. He began his professional training at Sylvia Young Theater School and then followed that with a 3 year acting and music theater course at the Mountview Academy of Theater Arts, graduating with a degree. He has a brief stint in the British Royal Marines.

He quickly found work in the West End, starring in productions including "Miss Saigon" and "Jesus Christ Superstar." After moving to the U.S., he immediately booked a lead role in the

thriller feature, "Pulse," opposite Kristen Bell.

Gatt is perhaps best known as the motion capture performer and likeness for 'Kratos' from the acclaimed "God Of War" video game franchise as well as the voice of 'Lord Scourge' in the hugely popular "Star Wars: The Old Republic." He most recently (2011) appeared as the Frost Giant villain, 'Grundroth' in Marvel's box-office smash "THOR," and will next be seen portraying humanoid Starfleet 'Science Officer 0718' in the highly anticipated sequel, "Star Trek Into Darkness" from J.J. Abrams.

Additionally, Gatt's notable television guest star credits include NBC's "Chuck," Fox's "Breaking In," Adult Swim's "Eagleheart," David E. Kelley's "Wonder Woman" pilot for NBC and a fan-favorite recurring arc on Cinemax's new (2012) hit series, "Banshee." He resides in Los Angeles. Gatt has a condition called alopecia universalis which made all of his hair fall out at the age of 14.

President meets Maltese community in Belgium

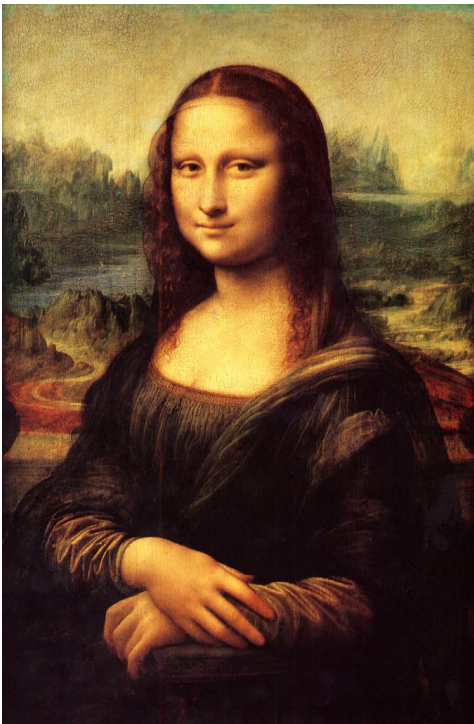


President Marie Louise Coleiro Preca appealed to the Maltese community in Belgium to help collect funds for the Malta Community Chest Fund.

Speaking during a meeting with the community at the Maltese embassy in Brussels, she said a substantial amount of funds was needed for the demand for assistance to be met.

During the meeting, President Coleiro Preca was accompanied by her husband Edgar and Malta's ambassador for Belgium Ray Azzopardi.

WHO POSED FOR LEONARDO DA VINCI'S MONA LISA?



Over the years, scholars have debated the true inspiration behind the most famous half-smile in history—and possibly even the world's most recognizable face. Proposed sitters for the “Mona Lisa” have included da Vinci's mother Caterina, Princess Isabella of Naples, a Spanish noblewoman named Costanza d'Avalos and an unnamed courtesan, among others. Some of the more provocative theories emphasize the subject's masculine facial features, suggesting that da Vinci based the portrait on his own likeness or that of his longtime apprentice and possible lover, Salaì.

Lisa Gherardini del Giocondo, a wealthy silk merchant's wife and the mother of five children, has been a leading contender since an art historian identified her as the sitter in 1550, more than four decades after the iconic painting's completion. The 2005 discovery of a 500-year-old note by an acquaintance of da Vinci, which states that the artist was working on Lisa's portrait, confirmed the theory for many scholars. It is thought that the Florentine beauty's husband commissioned the work to celebrate the impending birth of a child; indeed, some have chalked up the

subject's enigmatic expression and loose garments to pregnancy. For reasons that remain unclear, da Vinci never gave the “Mona Lisa” to the Giocondo family, first taking it to France and later bequeathing it to Salaì.



Maltese-Australian in final of The Voice Kids

Fourteen-year-old Chris Lanzon performing on “The Voice Kids in Australia.”

Making it to the finals of the Australian talent show The Voice Kids is a “dream come true” for Chris Lanzon, one of six chosen out of 8,000 children who auditioned. Chris, 14, whose parents are

Maltese, did not think he would make it so far.

“Eight thousand kids all around Australia auditioned for the show and only about 100 were selected to do their blind audition,” he told Times of Malta.

“There were a lot of really talented singers. I was very surprised when all three of the coaches chose me at my blind audition. Now I'm in the final six and it is like a dream come true.”

The Voice Kids premiered in June and features former Spice Girls singer Mel B, twins Joel and Benji Madden – lead vocalist and lead guitarist in the band Good Charlotte – and singer-songwriter Delta Goodrem as coaches.

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The show is part of The Voice franchise and began with auditions where the judges listen to singers with their backs turned and decide whether they want to coach them throughout the duration of their performance.

The Maltese are familiar with the Italian version of The Voice, which this year was won by Sister Cristina Scuccia, the Ursuline nun who took the coaches by surprise when she sung Alicia Keys's No One during the blind audition.

Chris decided to apply in October as he had enjoyed watching previous seasons of the adult show. With this being the debut of The Voice Kids he thought he "might as well give it a go".

The upcoming episode, on Sunday, is the final. All the shows are pre-recorded and, during this episode, the coaches will choose their top three performers and then open live public voting to choose the overall winner.

Chris's father, Peter Lanzon, who was born in Malta and moved to Australia when he was seven, and mother Ingrid German, who emigrated 20 years ago, are excited and proud of his "amazing opportunity".

"Chris started busking at a very young age and is very used to performing in public. He is very confident on stage, although he had never performed to such a large audience before and we're sure he was a bit nervous.

"We were excited to see him on stage, under the bright lights and backed by such an amazing band, excited and proud but not anxious."

Although initially a bit apprehensive of the commitment, Chris's headmaster was also supportive and the show's producers tried to slot in most of the recording and rehearsing during term breaks. Mr Lanzon's boss also allowed him a flexible schedule.

AUSTRALIAN COIN MARKS ANZAC CENTENARY



A new commemorative \$1 coin featuring the Centenary of Anzac logo has been made by the Royal Australian Mint.

The special 2014 circulating coin features the image of an Australian soldier with his head bowed and rifle reversed in solemn reflection and the words '100 Years of ANZAC – The Spirit Lives'.

The rim has a motif reflecting the sun's rays, as captured on the Australian Army's Rising Sun badge.

The coin was unveiled by the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Centenary of Anzac, Michael Ronaldson, and Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer Steven Ciobo yesterday.

Mr Ronaldson said the Anzac Centenary would be one of the most important commemoration in Australia's history so it was fitting that the mint had created the coin.

"The Centenary of Anzac will be one of the most defining moments in our nation's story and the creation of a coin is a permanent way to reflect on and remember this commemorative period," Mr Ronaldson said.

Mr Ciobo said introducing the coin into circulation would mean that the coins would pass through the hands of thousands of Australians for many years to come.

"Every time someone looks at this coin it will remind them of the service and sacrifice of our past and present Australian Defence Force members," Mr Ciobo said.

Royal Australian Mint chief executive Ross MacDiarmid said the mint had a proud tradition of commemorating Australian military history with the production of a coin.

"The ANZAC spirit has long been invoked as part of the essence of what it is to be Australian," Mr MacDiarmid said.

"The ANZAC Centenary reminds us all that it is a living spirit and this coin captures aspects of that spirit in a permanent form."



Kris Mintoff

MALTESE ATHLETES DO WELL IN WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN MOLDOVA.

Mario Mifsud and Charles Degiorgio get silver medal in -110kg and -75kg categories respectively. Degiorgio did a squat of 200kg bench 115kg deadlift 255kg. He lost the gold medal on a 2.5kg margin won by the Belgian lifter. He also broke the Total

National Record. He broke World Record Deadlift in the Senior Category, in the -110kg category with a lift of 323.5kg. Mifsud did a squat of 260kg bench press 165kg. His total was of 748.5kg with a personal best in total. First place was won by lifter from Moldova.

Francis Spiteri broke two World Records in Master 6 Age Group, -82.5kg category. The records were achieved in Squat of 142kg and Deadlift 182kg.

Kris Mintoff gets squat 232.5kg bench press 145kg and a personal best deadlift 272.5kg, personal best total 650kg and personal best shwartz points to climb 2 places in National Rankings. Cleaven Cutajar gets personal best in Squat and Bench press with 197.5kg and 130kg and acchived 5th place in -110kg class.

Gold Coast 2018

The place, the event, the sport



Welcome to the latest edition of the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games™ (GC2018) eNews. October and November are busy months on the Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia, with several world class events rolling into town.

The 9th Pan Pacific Masters Games will be held from 1 to 9 November 2014 on the Gold Coast. An anticipated 14,500 participants from 20 different countries will compete in the World's largest biennial multi-sport event right here on the Gold Coast. Over 40 sports for the over 30s will be on this year's program with the only criterion being participants meet the minimum age requirement for their respective sport

The iconic Gold Coast 600 V8 Supercar race returned to the city this month, with the excitement of V8 Supercars racing around the world-renowned street circuit, amongst the soaring high-rises and golden beaches of the Gold Coast. Over 180,000 people enjoyed the three day event which had something for everyone, from traditional race fans to families, party goers and corporate guests.

About....Daphné L. Romy - Masliah and Cosmopolitanism!

Let me introduce myself a bit...



French born, Swiss Residen teaching in Algeria, Scottish Baroness of Sefardic Jewish Tunisian, Italian, Palestinian Turkish and Maltese descent, I am cosmopolitan by the grace of a diaspora heritage of over 2000 years.

I taught in France, Canada, Switzerland and since 2003 in Algeria, as an Invited Professor at the University of Sidi Bel Abbès where I give occasional seminars. Parallel to my academic activities, I am currently back to teaching at the Ecole de Culture Générale Jean Piaget in Geneva after a wonderful sabbatical from August 20th 2012 to 2013! This enabled me to understand how privileged and lucky I am to teach

in Switzerland and how much I should give back to those in the rest of the world who are dedicated yet under-considered and/or underpaid for the most incredible occupation in the world, teaching.

I still travel quite a lot after this year which saw me visit destinations as different as South East Asia, the Middle East, Brazil, and many more, for which you should simply scroll down my homepage.

I'm a member of the Editorial Board of the French journal Droit et Cultures as well as of the French C. My research and publications focus on the relation between International English, plurilingualism and multiculturalism.

MEDITERRANEAN CONVENTION CENTRE - MALTA

The 16th century building now the Mediterranean Conference Centre has long been one of Valletta's



most remarkable landmarks. Located towards the tip of Valletta peninsula, the MCC stands for distinction with magnificent views across the Grand Harbour.

The sheer size and scale of the building coupled with its conversion into a modern conference centre in 1979 makes the MCC such an impressive architectural feat today. The sensitive and innovative restoration won the international acclaim with the coveted 'Europa Nostra' Award for its successful blending of the fine old architecture with modern

technology.

In addition to conferences, it offers one of the finest venues in the Mediterranean for a range of events including product launches, exhibitions, conventions, banquets and theatrical performances.

The Mediterranean Conference Centre is a rare example in the region of a heritage building functioning to the exacting demands of the 21st century. The Centre's long experience and reputation as a unique quality venue is confirmed by its membership of the prestigious Historic Conference Centres of Europe (HCCE). The Mediterranean Conference Centre is one of Europe's largest conference centres within a historical setting.

The Centre boasts of impressive spaces, such as the main auditorium, Republic Hall, seating 1,400 in theatre style, the elegant and unique La Valette Hall that offers an imposing banqueting venue for up to 900, as well as a host of individually-styled smaller halls suited for receptions and more modest-scale conferences and seminars. In total, the Centre offers an area of over 7,000 square meters. The MCC also offers a full complement of audio-visual equipment including interpretation facilities. All rooms have independent sound, light and climate control. When it comes to providing receptions and banqueting, we have selected the largest catering partner on the Island to guarantee you a quality dining experience. The Centre is equipped with an in-house fully-fledged kitchen situated below the La Valette Hall. Given the vast experience of our catering partner, the Centre has the capability to provide up to 4,000 covers a day.

Whether you're seeking to launch a new product or host a multinational convention, the Mediterranean Conference Centre offers a truly unique combination of flexibility atmosphere and impeccable service.

Oliver Reed - His Last Pub in Valletta



There can be few shrines to fallen artists that compare to Ollie's Last Pub. Oliver Reed, star of such films as *Women in Love*, *The Three Musketeers*, *Oliver!* and *Castaway*, died in 1999 after a drinking session in The Pub in Valletta's Archbishop Street. Admirers of the actor continue to flock from all over the world to pay their respects by sitting where Ollie sat on his last night on earth.

The Pub, which has been run by the Cremona family for the past 21 years, became Oliver Reed's favourite drinking spot when he was in Malta on holidays and during the making of his last film, *Gladiator*. On his last night, Ollie was said to have downed eight pints of lager, some rum and whisky, won an arm-wrestling contest and insisted on paying for the round.

In honour of Reed, The Pub subtitled itself "Ollie's Last Pub" and now produces Oliver Reed mementos for

admirers including candles, mugs, plates, T-shirts and bookmarks that display a picture of Reed and the legend of "Ollie's Last Pub".

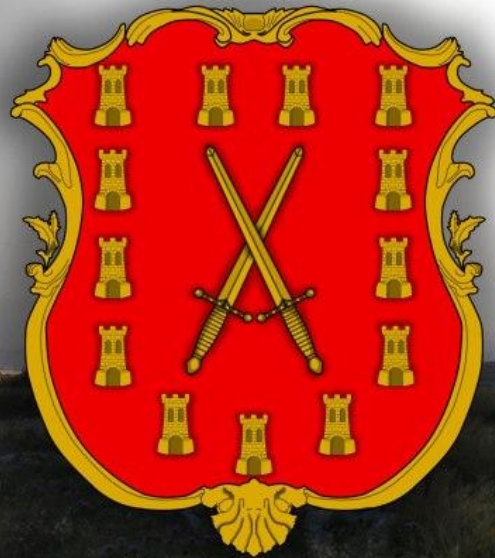
PEMBROKE

COAT OF ARMS

The **PEMBROKE** coat of arms serves as a representation of the strong military relevance this area had in the history of Malta. The shield displays a total of thirteen towers which refer to what are known as the De Redin Towers which guarded the Maltese coast. One of these is the Madliena Tower which was constructed in the limits of this area, while St. George's Tower, although also in this town, was constructed by Grand Master Lascaris. The two crossed swords also serve as a reference to the British barracks and other military installations which were erected in this town.

Pembroke's motto is "Għal Kull Bżonn" (For Every Need).

araldikamalta.org



ARALDIKA
MALTA



PEMBROKE - MALTA

Pembroke is a small new town bordering Swieqi, Naxxar and St Julians. It is quite unique in the area since it boasts a number of historic buildings dating back to the Knights of the Order of St John and especially the British era. Two Watch Towers built by the Knights still stand guarding the beautiful coast of Pembroke, while the British built a military base with training grounds here, including fortifications, a battery and barracks built around 1859-1899.

In fact, Pembroke is named after Robert Henry Herbert, the 12th Earl of Pembroke and British Secretary at War in 1859. The military heritage of Pembroke includes a Military Cemetery and a small chapel built by German prisoners of war which served the troops. The British military base at Pembroke was relinquished to the Maltese Government in 1979.

In the mid-1980s several of the former barracks were converted into housing projects and plots of land were sold for private residential houses. Pembroke has since developed into a pretty and rather green residential town with its own bit of history and beautiful stretch of coast, while Malta's nightlife hub, Paceville, lies just adjacent to it. Because of its prime location and character, Pembroke is very popular with foreign English Language students wishing to stay with host families.



Indeed, Pembroke hosts a remarkably high concentration of schools and educational institutions including the St Clare Primary and Secondary State Schools; Verdala International School; Framingham State College; Sprachcaffe; St Catherine's High School; the Institute of Tourism Studies; St Michael's Foundation; STC Training; Sir Adrian Dingli Junior Lyceum / St Clare College Girls' Junior Lyceum Pembroke; Institute of Management (MIM) and San Miguel School.

Pembroke was declared a Parish in 2004 dedicated to the Resurrection of Christ, however it does not hold a traditional village festa. Although not quite traditionally Maltese, there is plenty to visit around Pembroke. The Clockwise of Pembroke (1903) stands out as its most well-known landmark. The Fortress of Pembroke (1879), today the International

School of Verdala, defended the right section of the Victoria Lines and the coast to the Grand Harbour. You can also wander around to have a look at the Pembroke Battery (1899), which is being restored and turned into a museum, the Sheds (1859), which are today used as housing, and the Pembroke Ranges, which are still used today as training facilities for the Armed Forces of Malta. The Military Cemetery of Pembroke, which is under the responsibility of the Commission of War Cemeteries Commonwealth, is open Monday to Friday for visitors. Further along the coast towards Bahar ic-Caghaq is the Tower of Mdliena built in 1658 by Grand Master De Redin, which was later used by the British Army to assist the Victoria Lines defense system.

There are also some interesting natural features in Pembroke. Harq Hamiem cave is quite remarkable in its geology formation, including a very deep fresh water lake, however access is restricted. Harq Hamiem valley hosts around 400 species of plants, some of which are rare.

MALTESE WALL LIZARD (IL- GREMXULA)

Many of us have lizards in our gardens at home. The big green ones are males, the brown ones are females. Did you know that the Maltese lizard is endemic - That means you find this reptile nowhere else on the planet except on the Maltese Islands. (photo: DCachia)



Maltese Wall Lizard

LORENZO GAFÀ: THE GREAT MALTESE BAROQUE ARCHITECT



One of the most important architects in the history of Maltese Baroque architecture, Lorenzo Gafà was born the youngest to a family of ten siblings in the ancient maritime city of Birgu (or Città Vittoriosa) on the Southern harbour in Malta. He lived here for the most part of his life and remained professionally active till the very last days of his life.

The following are three examples of his most prominent ecclesiastical works:

St Nicholas' Church in Siġġiewi (1676 – 1687)



Siġġiewi is a quaint village on a plateau, in the Southeast part of Malta. Its parish church was an important project in Gafà's career because through its construction he started designing and mastering his own works. The building is freestanding, and being situated on top of a hill makes this attribute more prominent. The church gives off the aura of an important monument and its atmosphere of grandiose entices one to enter. Inside, the decoration is based on a set of Ionic coupled pilasters with a complimentary entablature, which continues around the church without corner interruptions, due to the curved termination walls. The church took 11 years to build. It was funded by local parishioners and is dedicated to St Nicholas.

St Lawrence's Church in Birgu (1681 – 1698)



The parish church of Birgu, Gafà's hometown, took 17 years to be completed. It was a commission through which Gafà needed to prove himself worthy of his skill, but at the same time he felt confident enough to be creative by experimenting with the knowledge he had gained through his previous works. Here he was able to

exercise manipulation of space, a typical feature of Baroque.

As opposed to the church in Siġġiewi, this location was less prominent and more ambiguous due to a split in levels, and therefore more attention needed to be devoted to its façade. He also managed the challenge of creating space within a limited and restricted site. In fact, the interior promises an optical illusion, such that the nave was made to seem bigger than it actually was.

What is so unique about this church is its location, being so close to the sea. Gafà designed many of the buildings in the Birgu waterfront area, some of which have recently been restored. This is a scenic area

offering picturesque walks along the harbour, with views of the famous Upper Barakka Gardens in Valletta and the village of Senglea (locally: Isla).



St Paul's Cathedral, Mdina (1693 - 1706)

The fortified medieval city of Mdina is a couple of kilometres away from Siġġiewi. It served as a capital city since the arrival of the Knights (officially on 1530) before receding its title to Valletta after the Great Siege victory of 1565. Interestingly, the Knights began to administer

the island from Birgu, however Mdina still retained its status as the country's capital and therefore required a monumental cathedral.

This cathedral was built to replace a ruined one which was destroyed during the 1693 earthquake, and is undoubtedly one of Gafà's most prestigious commissions. The reconstruction process was reinitiated with the building of the choir behind the altar, blending in a modern style to an ancient building. The interior of the cathedral is intricately decorated, also featuring works of art by the famous Mattia Preti. The marble paving includes tombstones that depict the emblems of the Mdina bishops, as well as other members of the clergy.

The awe-inspiring cathedral bears a prominent façade, which dominates the landscape of Mdina's narrow streets. However, Gafà's greatest challenge was in designing the outstanding dome, which today is synonymous with Malta's skyline. This was the biggest dome he ever built. Unfortunately, Gafà died before he saw it completed. The cathedral is dedicated to St Paul. According to tradition, the site where the cathedral sits was the area where St. Paul converted Publius, the Roman governor, to Christianity.

Saints, Marching Band, Fireworks and Nougat



It is the Sunday before the actual celebration of the feast and excitement is running high in the Maltese village. This is the peak of the year for many proud parishioners busily preparing for the FESTA. House facades have been freshly painted. The Church has been spruced up. New dresses for women and girls hang in their wardrobes to be worn on the day, sure that their's will be the most elegant and original and will hopefully turn heads. Young boys on their summer holidays, tag along with the strong young men of the 'Kumitat Armar', putting the finishing touches to the festoons, banners and statues that decorate the streets, particularly the ones which the band is to march through.

Decorations in Republic Street, Valletta – Photo by boxlace on Flickr

Some braver boys, terrified of their mothers finding out, flit along the rubble-walled paths outside the village to the fireworks factories, looking on at these 'heroes', going about their mysterious business with their special shoes and thick brown-paper bags full of the powder which will soon create magic in the sky, the glint of anticipation in their eyes. Some of the older boys are allowed in to

see the less dangerous processes and another fish is hooked for life. The lure of danger is irresistible. There is no running of the bulls in Malta but something much more noisy, colourful and dangerous which creates many more widows and orphans. Like all young people in a war situation, they are convinced that 'it will happen to you but not to me.'



Selling Nougat - QUBBAJT

Meanwhile, the stall keepers have already put up their specially designed, altar-like benches. Pride of place is always given to the 'Qubbajt' vendors – the Nougat sellers. Nougat is synonymous with Festas in Malta and Gozo, as these were one of the few sources of sweetmeats available in the days before Mars and Cadbury worked their wonders on childrens' and adults' taste buds.

Hard, golden-brown nougat, full of almonds, hazlenuts or sesame seeds; softer (but not much) white nougat full of nuts and glace cherries. All are sold by weight, and all are made by the sellers themselves using family recipes. Each stall has a gaudy sign announcing to all and sundry that 'I-Ġhawdxi', the Gozitan, or 'Żebbuġi', the nougat maker of Żebbug, is here. Some will sleep under their hard-to-set up stalls, all week.

MALTESE IN NORTH NORTHERN AFRICA

Malta has limited natural resources, and the land is not suited to agriculture. The small size of the country and its isolation dissuades industrialization. Economic growth was spurred until the eighteenth century by a low rate of population growth, income gained from trade of cotton, and the European estates of the Knights of St. John. This began to unravel, however, following the era of the Napoleonic Wars, when an economic downswing was coupled with a surge in population. Early in the nineteenth century the government tried to obtain an ideal population—220,000 inhabitants by the twentieth century. As part of this plan, the government encouraged immigration to other British colonies in the Mediterranean and to the West Indies. The Maltese preferred northern Africa, and by 1885, 36,000 Maltese immigrants moved to Algeria, Egypt, Tunis, and Tripoli. The rise in cheap native labor in northern Africa later pushed the Maltese people to find other locations in which to settle.

THE FIRST MALTESE IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



The earliest Maltese settlers in the United States came in the mid-eighteenth century, mostly to New Orleans. These settlers were often regarded as Italians, and in fact tombstones sometimes mistakenly noted the deceased as "natives of Malta, Italy." The burial grounds were inscribed with such common Maltese names as Ferruggia (Farrugia), Pace, and Grima. By 1855 there were 116 Maltese living in the United States. In the 1860s, it was estimated that between five and ten Maltese came to the United States every year. The majority of the migrants were agricultural workers, and in New Orleans the majority

worked as market gardeners and vegetable dealers.



Maltese American children in traditional costume celebrate their homeland in the 60s

The greatest number of Maltese people came to the United States during the first decades of the twentieth century. Their move coincided with the discharge of skilled workers from the Royal British Dockyard in 1919 following the end of the World War I. More than 1,300 Maltese immigrated to the United States in the first quarter of 1920, and most found work in automobile manufacturing. The *Detroit Free Press*

reported in October 1920 that Detroit had the largest Maltese population in the United States, at 5,000 residents. In 1922, the *Detroit Free Press* reported that the only Maltese colony in the United States was in Detroit. Over the next few years, it is believed that more than 15,000 Maltese people settled in the United States and became citizens. They apparently intended to stay for a short time and return home. However,

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opportunities in America seemed more plentiful and stable than the uncertainties at home, and many Maltese people remained in the United States. By 1928 New York had an estimated 9,000 Maltese immigrants. San Francisco also had a large Maltese population.

After World War II, the Maltese government launched a program to pay passage costs to Maltese willing to emigrate and remain abroad for at least two years. As a result, a surge of Maltese left their homeland. In 1954, a reported 11,447 Maltese left the islands. This program enticed approximately 8,000 Maltese to come to the United States between 1947 and 1977. For more than a century Malta's government encouraged emigration because of the tiny size of the overpopulated island nation.

Settlement in the United States was concentrated in Detroit, New York City, San Francisco, and Chicago. It has been estimated that more than 70,000 Maltese immigrants and their descendants were living in the United States by the mid-1990s. The largest estimated communities are the more than 44,000 Maltese in the Detroit area and the 20,000 Maltese in New York City, most of them in Astoria, Queens.

Possibly due to the small size of their nation and the large numbers of countries that once occupied the islands, the Maltese are often ignored or confused with other nationalities when studies are done. However, signs of Malta can be seen in fire stations in most cities, small and large, throughout the United States. Firefighters are identified by a badge that designates their company. The majority of badges worn by firefighters take the shape of the Maltese Cross, which is an eight-sided emblem of protection and badge of honor. The history of the cross goes back to the Knights of St. John, who courageously fought for possession of the Holy Land.

Malta's involvement with the United Nations is substantial. The island country became a full member in December 1964 after gaining independence from Great Britain. Issues Malta has been involved in, or spearheaded, include the Law of the Sea Convention in 1981; the United Nations Conference on the Aged; and an initiative to raise questions about the effects of climate change.

Although the people of the Maltese islands are not particularly well known, there are a number of Maltese influences in United States culture.



See you in issue 62