



65

CONSULATE OF MALTA IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA NEWSLETTER

FRANK L SCICLUNA - THE JOURNAL OF THE MALTESE DIASPORA

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Hon JING LEE MLC

Working for all South Australians



**MALTA AND THE ANZACS
THE NURSE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN**

To Frank Scicluna

I wish to congratulate you for embarking on the authorship of a book titled 'Malta — The Nurse of the Mediterranean'; soon to be released in 2015.

Between 2014 and 2018, Australia commemorates the Anzac Centenary, marking 100 years since our nation's involvement in the World War I. The ANZAC tradition encompasses the ideals of courage, endurance and mateship remains relevant for all of us today. Thank you for making an outstanding effort to illustrate the relationship between the Maltese and the ANZACs during World War One (WWI) will provide important historical perspectives for both Maltese and Australians.

As you have outlined, more people should be given the opportunity to learn about the wounded soldiers who sought medical assistance in Malta after the horrific incidence at Gallipoli, and be made aware that an ANZAC Memorial was built in Malta last year to remember all the Australian and New Zealand soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice and were buried in Malta. This book of remembrance will add another dimension of the ANZAC history in commemorating the soldiers of World War I.

Through your leadership role within the Maltese community, I have personally witnessed your commitment and dedication to the Maltese community in South Australia. I thank you for your wonderful work and your continuous passion to share your extensive research and knowledge through your publication. It is indeed a noble undertaking. I write to express my support and would also like to forward a humble contribution towards the printing of your insightful publication.

Wishing you the very best in your preparation — I very much look forward to seeing the final production of MALTA - THE NURSE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN!

Yours sincerely,

The Hon Jing Lee, MLC A

Liberal member of the Legislative Council in the South Australian Parliament

Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Multicultural Affairs

Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Small Business

Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Trade and Investment

3 December 2014



HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF MALTESE REFUGEES IN 1916

William (Billy) Morris Hughes, Prime Minister of Australia 1915–23

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

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

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



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

(Left) Map of Australia and New Caledonia

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

The abolition of the test came about through a revamping of the Immigration Act in 1958. There was bipartisan support for the test's abolition and it was dropped without controversy from the new Migration Act of 1958. Its abolition reflected the new awareness on the part of Australia's leaders that the post-Second World War world was very different to that which preceded it. The emerging new outlook recognized that Australia could not underrate its geographic position in Asia. The outlook culminated in the formal abolition of racial criterion in immigration policy in 1973, a principled position which has been maintained by all governments since.

The parallel so far with Australia's reaction to the arrival of a fresh wave of immigrants arriving by boat more than 80 years later suggests little has changed. But public outcry even during the turmoil of World War I resulted in the eventual return of the Maltese men to Australia. One of them, Emmanuel Attard, enlisted in two world wars, and like many migrants before and after him contributed to the development of what has become a successful multicultural community.

The migration test provision replaced laws expressly prohibiting by reference to race, such a migration by refs the Victorian 1855 anti-Chinese laws. Racism was also entrenched in the Constitution, which once provided that the reckoning of the numbers of the people of the Commonwealth or of a state shouldn't include Aboriginal natives.

MALTA AND THE ANZACS THE NURSE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

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For further information email Frank: honconsul@live.com.au



THIS IS A PROJECT OF THE ANZAC CENTENARY COMMEMORATION

**I thank all those associations and individuals who have already contributed
to this project**



*"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"*

*Biex qatt ma ninsew lil dawg li tqabdu, sofrew u mietu
ghalina*



Wounded Anzacs recuperating in Malta, c1916. Many public buildings around the small island of Malta were converted to makeshift hospitals to cater for the influx of several thousand wounded Anzacs. Should this kindness

have been taken into account during debates in Australia over whether the Maltese on the Gange should be admitted or not?

Maltese sugar-cane cutting gang in Queensland, c.1918. Some of the cutters pictured in the photo may have traveled on the Gange. What can be deduced about them from carefully looking at their facial features and manner of dress? Note the cane cutting knives. In those days, all the cane was cut by hand.



(Photo above:: Dr. Barry York – Maltese Historian)



PROUD OF OUR CULTURE

**A group of
Australian/Maltese
youngsters in Maltese
costume participating in a
multicultural activity in the
city of Adelaide Australia
2010**

THE GANGE Ship of Shame

On 29 October in 1916, a group of 208 Maltese labourers was subjected to the notorious 'dictation test' provision of the Immigration Act and declared prohibited immigrants.

Under section 3 (a) of the Act, any person seeking admission into Australia could be stopped from disembarking if they failed a dictation test in any European language. The Maltese were given the test in the Dutch language and, on failing the test, were compelled to remain on the French mail-boat, *Gange*, on which they traveled until it reached its final destination, New Caledonia.

It was a bizarre situation: a boatload of British subjects (the Maltese were British subjects by birth) on a French vessel, being kept out of Australia, technically, because they could not understand the Dutch language. The men were stranded at Noumea for about two months. Their families in Malta came close to starvation, as they were dependent on the wages their men-folk would have earned in Australia. Many of the men had sold their goods in Malta or gone into debt to raise the fare to Australia.

The Maltese had been attracted to Australia by the prospect of the high wages to be earned for such hard pick-and-shovel work as railway construction in New South Wales and mining in Tasmania.

There was a very small Maltese settlement in Melbourne at the time, mainly based around a boarding house run by John Rizzo. Mr Rizzo would greet his countrymen, put them up at his King Street residence, and send them off to the Mount Lyell Mining Company headquarters in Melbourne. From there, the eager Maltese would make the journey to dank and rugged Queenstown, Tasmania, where the company owned the biggest copper mine in the British Empire. They quickly earned a reputation as reliable and diligent workers.

The Maltese passengers on the *Gange* were eventually allowed to return to Australia, leaving Noumea for Sydney on the *St Louis* in mid-January, 1917. A new nightmare began for them, however, when - far from being allowed to disembark at Circular Quay - they found themselves transferred to an old hulk (an old ship, permanently moored), the *Anglian*, in Berry's Bay. They were detained under armed guard. A few sought the only way out, and dived into the harbour. Most were captured on shore and returned to the hulk.

After much public controversy, and a fair amount of pressure on Prime Minister Billy Hughes, the Maltese were finally allowed to disembark from the hulk on 9 March, 1917, roughly four months after the *Gange* was supposed to have disembarked them at Sydney. The experience had been an agonizing and ruinous one for the men who were innocent victims of Australia's immigration philosophy. An official of the Colonial Office in London angrily scrawled the following words on a document relating to the incident: 'An act of gross injustice, carried out under a mockery of legality, worthy of the Germans'. (Handwritten note by Mr. Ellis, Colonial Office, London, on cover of CO file 'Maltese Emigrants', PRO CO418/158/4575)

The *Gange* had arrived in Australian waters at a time when the nation was bitterly torn over the issue of conscription for overseas service during World War 1.

Malta's position in the war had already earned the tiny archipelago the title of 'Nurse of the Mediterranean'. Thousands of wounded ANZACs had recuperated at Malta, and the entire island of Malta had virtually been transformed into a base hospital.

Moreover, the Maltese had actively served in the war. There are 600 names on Malta's War Memorial of Maltese who fell while fighting for the British Empire. There were six Maltese members of the 7th Australian Brigade which earned fame for the Gallipoli landing. The majority of men on the *Gange* were ex-servicemen; most had served at Gallipoli with the Malta Labour Corps.



Mr. Emanuel Attard, one of the passengers on the Gange, in Australia during the 1920s. After finally being allowed in, in 1917, Mr. Attard joined the Australian Army and served on the European front. His membership of the Returned Sailors' Soldiers and Airmen's Imperial League of Australia is apparent from the badge on his lapel.

In their shared service to the Empire, the war had brought Malta and Australia closer together. A telegram sent by an ANZAC convalescent in Malta to his home in Australia summed up the feeling. It read simply, 'Wounded in foot, am in Heaven in Malta'. (*Daily Malta Chronicle*, 10 May 1915) Another convalescent declared in a letter to the Maltese press, 'We will carry back to Australia the kindly remembrances and undying gratitude which time can never efface'. (*Daily Malta Chronicle*, 4 August 1915) The *Gange* incident, however, revealed that Malta's war-time hospitality and membership of the British Empire took second place to considerations of domestic politics and the concept of White Australia. **Article written by Dr. Barry York**



**This is only one episode of the history of emigration from Malta.
We have been RECOMMENDING for a long time that the
HISTORY OF MALTESE MIGRATION OVER THE CENTURIES
be taught at Maltese schools and be part of the school curriculum**

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Commonwealth War Graves Commission

WELCOME TO OUR WEBSITE

We commemorate the 1,700,000 men and women of the Commonwealth forces who died in the two world wars. Our cemeteries, burial plots and memorials are a lasting tribute to those who died in some 153 countries across the world.

Our Register records details of Commonwealth war dead so that graves or names on memorials can be located.

SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTER . <http://www.cwgc.org/newsletter.aspx>



About Malta Enterprise

Malta Enterprise is the government agency responsible for the promotion of foreign investment and industrial development in Malta.

Its mission is to sustain Malta's overall competitiveness to create the right environment for successful enterprise in Malta. It offers assistance and advice to those who seek to learn more about the multitude of business and investment opportunities available on the island. Likewise, Malta Enterprise offers investors the best possible service before, during and after they decide to do business in Malta. Visit their site on: www.maltaenterprise.com

Scripta manent, verba volant!

Latin proverb literally translated, it means "spoken words fly away, written words remain"

Fl-okkażjoni tal-Bookfest: il-Ġimgħa 12 ta' Diċembru fis-7pm – Serata Letterarja

Post: Librerija = Triq Vajringa Victoria

Programm:

‘L-Gharqa – 1948’; ‘Sabiha l-Hajja Karm’: poeziji ta’ Dun Gorġ Mercieca: taqra M’Louise Attard.

Poeżija ta’ Anton Buttigieg: ‘San Kalċidonju’ – taqra Lorna Tabone.

‘Baboushka’ – novella tal-Milied ta’ David Couling maqluba għall-Malti mill-Kav Joe M Attard – taqra Antoinette Grech.

‘Il-Ktieb’ ta’ John Cremona: jaqra l-awtur.

Poeżija b’rabta ma’ Novembru ta’ Charles Bezzina – jaqra l-awtur.

Novella ta’ Joe Camilleri: jaqra l-awtur.

‘Giga’ mill-Partita 11 ta’ J.S.Bach: fuq il-vjolin Kathryn Mizzi

Il-Milied tiegħi – poezija ta’ Mario Borg: jaqra l-awtur.

Poeżija ta’ Patri Remigio Galea Kapuċċin: jaqra l-awtur.

‘Il-Flewwiet tal-Milied’ – poezija ta’ Raymond Caruana

Poeżija ta’ Dr Alfred Grech: jaqra l-awtur.

‘Fejn inti Ma!’ – poezija tal-Kan Joe Mejlak; taqra Antoinette Grech.

Tagħrif dwar Logħob tal-Milied ta’ Anton F. Attard: jaqra l-awtur.

‘Tal-Karawett’ – poezija ta’ Mary Mejlak: taqra Lorna Tabone

‘L-Awrikarja’: poezija ta’ Gorġ Pisani – taqra M’Louise Attard

‘Il-Milied’ – poezija ta’ Patri Matthew Sultana: taqra Lorna Tabone

Kelmtejn tal-Għeluq mis-Sur Gorġ Cassar, l-Uffiċjal inkarigat mil-Libreriji f’Għawdex.

Dan huwa l-programm tas-serata letterarja li se tkun imżewqa wkoll bis-sehem ta’ xi studenti mill-iSchool of Music li nsibu f’Ta’ Sannat, fl-okkażjoni tal-Bookfest organizzata mid-direzzjoni tal-Libreriji f’Għawdex, bl-inizjattiva tal-Kav Joe M Attard. Sa jiehdu sehem għadd ta’ Kittieba Għawdxin flimkien ma’ xi qarrejja mistiedna. Il-pubbliku huwa mistieden biex jiggosta xi ftit mill-benna tal-Letteratura li ħarget mill-pinna ta’ xi wħud mill-kittieba tagħna matul is-snin. Kif tistgħu tinnotaw uħud mill-kittieba hallewna iżda xogħlijiethom għadhom magħna għax kif jgħid il-qawl Latin: *Scripta manent, verba volant!*

Kav Joe M Attard Victoria Għawdex



1Anna and Anthony Farrugia

CHAPEL FUNERALS

For Enquires Call - (08) 8182 5100

Chapel Funerals is a proud, locally owned and operated company with dedicated to serving and supporting the culturally diverse needs of the community. Chapel funerals' director, Anthony Farrugia, has a large involvement of local associations, sponsorships to numerous charities and community groups across the state. Chapel funerals is committed to excellence in serving the needs.

One of the choices to consider when planning a funeral is where the service will take place. Chapel Funerals has a number of non-denominational chapels and venues available. However, you may wish to hold your service at your local church or a special location that has a significant meaning to you and your family.



Salisbury Chapel Salisbury Chapel is an intimate chapel filled with warm light from the large stain glass windows situated directly behind the non-denominational altar. The entrance fountain and two small pools either side of the alter lend a sense of tranquillity and peacefulness that make this chapel perfect for reflection. Adjacent to the chapel itself a refreshments area that leads out onto Salisbury Memorial Park.

The Salisbury chapel has seating for ninety people, is fully fitted with an audio-visual system for photo slideshows, and has all the facilities required to fulfil any catering needs. There is also onsite parking as well as street parking available.

Payneham Chapel This modern facility has an open and spacious layout utilizing natural light and polished stone to create a sense of welcome and serenity. The ambience is further heightened by the sounds of running water, provided by the fishponds, and the natural beauty of the floral displays.

Payneham can comfortably seat up to a hundred and fifty individuals and the modern audio-visual system boasts two large screens, a full complement of speakers and a high quality microphone system. The chapel also possesses spacious refreshments area and catering facilities. The private car park, which is located directly in front of the main building, makes for unrestricted access.



Chapel of the Holy Family Mausoleums Our chapels at Salisbury and Payneham also incorporate mausoleum complexes with single and companion crypts as well as private family alcoves. Their stylish design has produced a prestigious and beautiful place of rest where friends and family can visit their loved ones, protected from the harsh extremes of the elements. The facilities, which are

two of Australia's most prominent mausoleums, create a restful and peaceful ambience to allow for quiet

reflection and contemplation of memories and loved ones. The excellent quality of the fittings, together with the extensive use of premium quality polished marble and granite (all imported from Italy), creates a sense of sophistication and elegance that is second to none. Beautiful Cremation Niche Units, where ornamental Urns are securely displayed, are also available for families who wish to have the cremated remains of their loved ones interred within the mausoleum complex.

If you are interested in further information regarding Chapel of the Holy Family crypts please do not hesitate to contact our staff for a private tour or a free information pack. Email: care@chapelfunerals.com.au

PAYNEHAM CHAPEL
16 Second Avenue
Payneham South SA 5070

RIDLEYTON CHAPEL
151 South Road
Ridleyton SA 5008

SALISBURY CHAPEL
6 Spains Road
Salisbury Downs SA 5108



THE MYSTERY OF THE BIOMETRIC PASSPORT EQUIPMENT

Dear Mr. Scicluna, Will you please let us (thousands of Maltese citizens in Australia)
Know when we are going to be provided with the electronic equipment for a
Maltese passport to avoid travelling thousands of kilometres. We deserve better.

C. Agius 20/11/2014

XLENDI AND ITS ANCIENT SHIPWRECKS:

Book by Prof. John Wood launched in Gozo



The book 'Xlendi and its Ancient Shipwrecks' was launched at the Ministry for Gozo on Saturday. This book, Palazzo Falson Historic House Museum's first, is published in association with Fondazzjoni Patrimonju Malti.

At the launch, Prof. John Woods CBE, DSc, the distinguished author of the book described its contents, saying that "the ancient shipwrecks at Xlendi occurred sporadically over two millennia, from the Bronze Age to the Middle Ages which resulted in a concentration of ancient artefacts far richer than other findings in Maltese waters.

"The book explains this by relating maritime activity in the central Mediterranean to the harbour's socio-economic history. It provides an illustrated eye-witness account, with original colour underwater photographs which were taken during the 1961 exploration and mapping of the wreck site, highlighting the recovery of artefacts that are now in the Gozo Museum of Archaeology."

He also paid tribute to Olof Frederick Gollcher, who owned and lived in Palazzo Falson for many years of his life, explaining how Gollcher was instrumental in enabling and guiding, together with the then Malta National Museum, this pioneering underwater exploration.

The 1961 survey was led by John Woods, at the time a physics undergraduate and President of the Underwater Club at Imperial College London. He spent the next ten summers combining science and diving for the Royal Navy in Malta.

His career alternated between being a Professor of Oceanography (Southampton, Kiel & London) and a senior civil servant (UK Director of Marine & Atmospheric Sciences). He was awarded the Founder's gold medal of the Royal Geographical Society. In 2007 he shared in the Nobel Peace Prize for Climate.

The launch which was addressed by a panel made up of the Minister for Gozo Dr Anton Refalo, the author Prof. John Woods and Fondazzjoni Patrimonju Malti Deputy Chairman and Editor Judge Giovanni Bonello.

Source: www.gozonews.com

Anthony Scicluna, Maltese Migrant, 1964



Source: Museum Victoria

Anthony Scicluna was born in Cospicua, Malta in 1947. At the age of three Anthony, his three siblings and his parents moved to Vittoriosa, Malta. His father Remigio was a tailor who worked for the British Royal Navy sewing dinner suits and naval uniforms. When the navy left Malta, Anthony's father was out of work, so he decided to immigrate to Australia with his family for a better life. The family immigrated when Anthony was 16 years old, departing Malta on 27 September 1964, travelling with the Flotta Lauro Line via the Suez Canal. They arrived in Melbourne on Friday the 22nd October 1964.

The family lived with Anthony's uncle for a few years in Carlton before moving into their own home in Keilor. Anthony obtained work on the afternoon he arrived in Melbourne at Sands & McDougall printing factory in

Spencer Street, and started there on Monday 25th October 1964. His wage at that time was 8 pounds 16 shillings and his work entailed getting morning teas and lunches for staff and assisting the printers. His father and brother were employed at Krafts Foods in Port Melbourne.

Anthony worked at Sands & McDougall for three years before moving on to another printing factory, McCarron Bird, in Lonsdale Street as an assistant printer. Printing then became Anthony's trade. He remained at McCarron Bird for seven years before securing a job with the Department of Agriculture, Plant Research Institute, in Swan Street, Richmond in the human resources section. Anthony remained there until 1991 when he left to care for his ill father, who passed away in 1998, and his blind mother Carmen. He never married.

Anthony comments that his father found Australia to be a better, more prosperous place to bring up his family, and that the whole family adopted Australia as their homeland from the very first day they arrived. They found Australia a better place to build a future and they have been 'happy here ever since.' Anthony's father never wanted to return to Malta, not even for a holiday, and Anthony and all his siblings took out Australian citizenship.

Identity Tag - Private Joseph Ferres, World War I, Australia, 1914-1917



Identification Tag, Identity Disc.

Identity tag that belonged to Private Joseph Ferres of the 11th Battalion, World War I. He was a 29 year old farmer/labourer when he joined on 26 August 1914. Born in Malta on 15 December 1884, he was living in Perth at the time of enlistment and embarked from Fremantle on 2 November 1914. He served in Gallipoli and France. His regimental number was 36. He was wounded several times, including a wound in the forehead and thumb at Gallipoli on (or about) 25 April 1915 and wounds to the head, collarbone and arm in France in July 1916. He also became ill from venereal disease, influenza and conjunctivitis during his period of service. He was discharged on 13 February 1917.

Digital Photograph - Portanier Family Outside First Home, Bentleigh, Melbourne, 1979



Full colour digital photograph of Herbert and Eleanor Portanier and their young daughter Sarah, standing on the front verandah of their new home in Bentleigh in late 1979. They moved into what would be their first and only house about six or eight months after they arrived in Melbourne in 1979. The house would be changed and extended over the years.

Herbert and Eleanor Portanier and their three year old daughter Sarah migrated from Malta to Melbourne on 27 March 1979, arriving at Tullamarine Airport on 29 March 1979. They had visited Australia in 1977 to see Eleanor's family who were already in Melbourne and enjoyed it so much they decided to return permanently. The Portaniers were assisted migrants, and Herbert already had

employment arranged. The couple settled in Bentleigh and their son James was born in 1981.

MALTAPOST launches the Year Pack including all Stamp Sets issued in 2014



MaltaPost is to launch the Year Pack on the 5th of December, covering all stamp issues for 2014. This Year Pack contains all the stamp sets in mint condition that were issued this year namely:

Treasures of Malta Series II – 'Fountains', Israel – Malta Joint Stamp Issue 2014, Maritime Malta Series II – 'Commemorations', The Canonisation of Pope John XXIII and Pope John Paul II, 10th Anniversary – Accession to the European Union, EUROPA 2014 – 'National Musical Instruments', Anniversaries 2014, 2014 FIFA World Cup Brasil™, Maltese Flora, Euromed Postal – 'The Mediterranean Sea', Grandmasters of the Sovereign Military

Order, of Malta, World War I Centenary – 1914-1918, Christmas 2014. The Year Pack is presented in an attractive folder and includes all technical details related to all 2014 issues.

The Year Pack will be available as from 5 December 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, e-mail: info@maltaphilately.com

MALTESE MIGRANTS ON THE SKAUBRYN



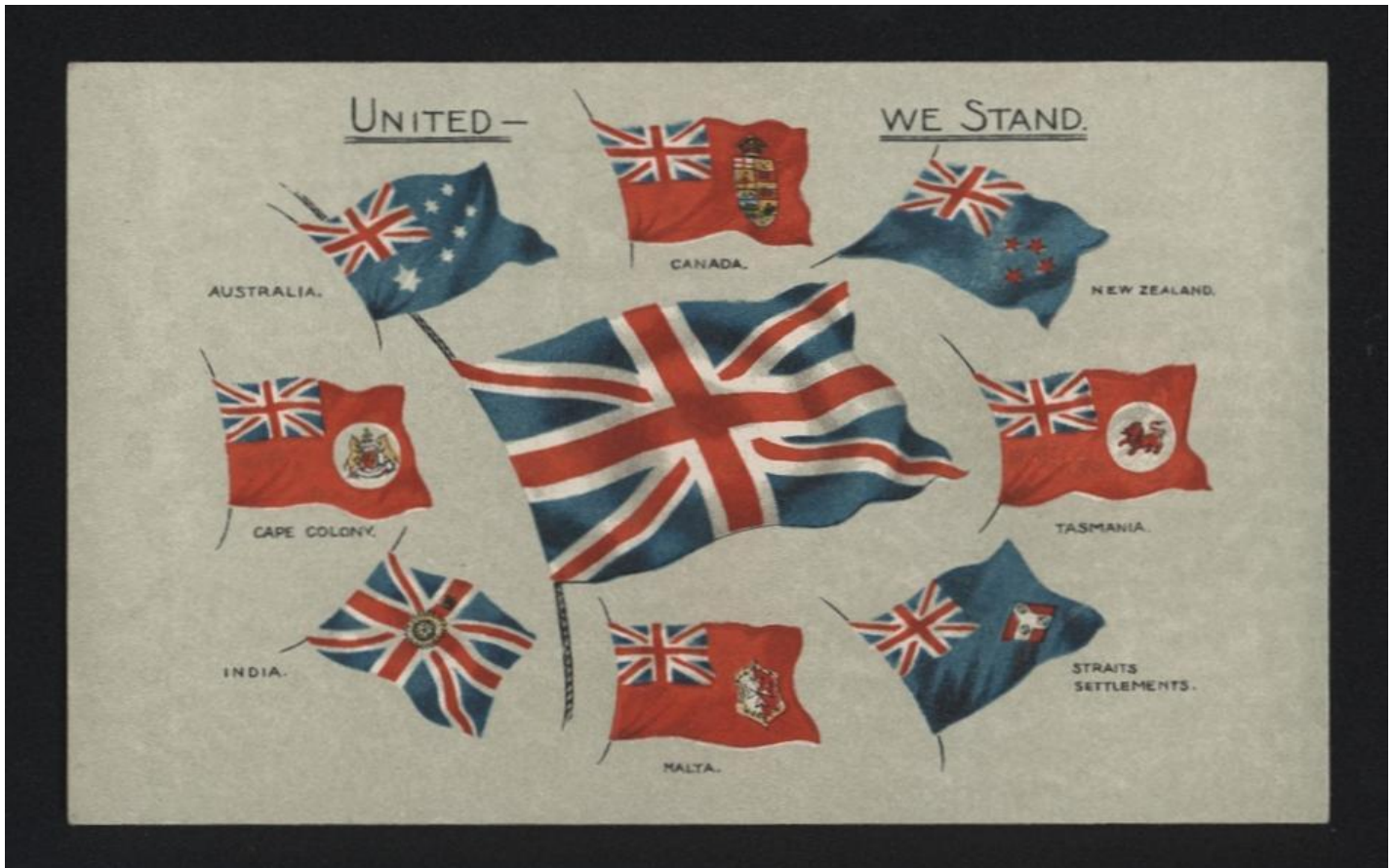
Some of the Maltese male survivors of the MV Skaubryn on the wharf in Aden. The ship caught fire on its way to Australia not long after coming out of the Suez Canal and into the Indian Ocean

1951-58 - - Number of voyages - - 4

Number of Maltese Passengers - 2576

The Skaubryn left Malta on the last day of March 1958, having embarked 169 men, women and children at Valletta. About 3 days out of Aden, in the Indian Ocean, fire swept the decks from the direction of the engine room and soon the vessel was engulfed in flames. Passengers were assisted to lifeboats, the ship was abandoned and soon sank. Some passengers were rescued by the 'CITY OF SYDNEY', a tanker and a tug. Returned to Aden, the passengers completed their journey to Australia in "Roma" and "Orsova!". No one lost their life in direct consequence of the fire.

Postcard - 'United We Stand', Flags of the Empire, The 'Classic' All British Series, circa 1900



'United We Stand' is a postcard from the Flags of the Empire, The "Classic" All British Series - no.16, card. no. 116, published by W.N. Sharpe Ltd., Bradford & London, probably during the Boer War. The postcard is in unissued condition.

The firm of W.N. Sharpe Ltd published a series of patriotic postcards spanning the years of the Boer, or South African War (1899-1902) and the First World War (1914-18). This particular card depicts the flags of various British colonies, and makes the interesting distinction between Tasmania and the mainland of Australia. Following the Boer War, Cape Colony remained nominally under British rule until the establishment of the Union of South Africa in 1910, at which point it was renamed the Cape of Good Hope Province or, more commonly, the Cape Province.

Although the postcard is unissued and not post-marked, depiction of the Cape Colony flag suggests a date pre-1910 making it most likely to date to the period of patriotism surrounding the Boer War.

Description:

Boer War patriotic postcard titled 'United We Stand' depicting the various flags of British colonies surrounding the central Union Jack. The colonial flags include Canada, New Zealand, Tasmania, Straits Settlements, Malta, India, Cape Colony and Australia. The postcard was published by W.N. Sharpe Ltd., Bradford & London.

DISCRIMINATION, RACISM AND BIGOTRY

This article was published in the Sydney Morning Herald in 1947

*On April 20, 1947, the Egyptian-registered **SS Misr** docked in Melbourne with its multicultural human cargo: 624 men, women and children from 26 different countries, plucked from ports in the Mediterranean, Middle East and East Africa.*

It was a voyage that began amid scenes of almost unimaginable chaos, as hundreds of thousands of migrants, refugees and displaced persons scrambled for berths on ships heading out of an area ravaged by war and now being painfully redrawn along new boundary lines. At the same time, thousands of pre-war European migrants, especially from Malta, Greece and Italy, were trying to reunite families separated by war.

*It was a voyage that ended in unprecedented controversy as the **SS Misr** sparked a bitter wrangle over dire on-board conditions, and allegedly "animal-like" behaviour by steerage-class migrants.*

And a voyage that sailed deep into the national psyche, exposing widespread fears that the very future of White Australia was suddenly threatened by the arrival of so many Jews, of so many swarthy dark-skinned southern Mediterraneans, Un-British, un-Australian, "unsuitable" aliens.

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### Abolishing the White Australia Policy



By 1965, both major political parties had removed 'White Australia' from their political platforms. Prime Minister Harold Holt became convinced that Australia's immigration policy could no longer be based on the racial exclusion of non-European people.

One of the first legislative changes Holt implemented upon becoming prime minister was to allow a number of non-European 'temporary residents' to become permanent residents and Australian citizens according to the same rules that apply to European migrants. This was the beginning of the end of the White Australia Policy that had shaped Australia's approach to immigration since Federation.

During the 1940s and 1950s, most migration to Australia included not only British but other European ethnic communities. But now new communities from countries such as Turkey, Lebanon and Egypt began to arrive. By the early 1970s, more than five per cent of the annual intake of Australia's immigrants was from Asia.



## Harbour Bridge Lights up for NEW YEAR EVE



Revellers will be able to see their messages of 'inspiration' beamed onto Sydney's Harbour Bridge as part of the city's \$7.2 million New Year's Eve celebrations.

Tweets will be projected onto the bridge's pylons all night alongside the world's most technologically advanced fireworks display. More than a million people are expected to flock to the harbour foreshore for the New Year's Eve extravaganza and the event will be broadcast to more than a billion people around the world.

'This year we're encouraging Sydneysiders to get involved,' Sydney Lord Mayor Clover Moore said at the Opera House.

'Given we have over 200 nationalities here in the city, they can send messages to family and friends on the other side of the world.

I think they would be excited about that.' Seven tonnes of fireworks, including 11,000 shells and 25,000 shooting comets, will be launched from the bridge in displays at 9pm, 10.40pm and midnight.



See more at: <http://www.skynews.com.au/business/tech/2014/12/03/tweets-light-up-harbour-bridge-for-nye>



## Stedina



### **Il-Fathers ta' Stanley Street**

East Sydney

jistiednu lill-kommunita Maltija

**ghac-celebrazzjoni tal-Milied,**

nhar l-Erbgha 24 ta' Dicembru 2014

**fil-Kappella ta' San Pawl**

De Piro House 19 Stanley Street East Sydney

Fil-11.30 pm nibdew il-kant u xi ghanjiet tal-Milied, immexija minn

**Fr Claude Borg MSSP wis-Sur John Beale.**

F'nofs il-lejl tibda l-quddiesa 'koncelebrata.

fejn ikun hemm il-priedka tal-Milied bil-Malti mit-tfajla,

**Angelique Sultana.**

**Wara, kulhadd huwa mistieden ghal kikra kafe` jew te` bhas-soltu.**

**IL-Hamis nhar il-Milied fl-10.00 am, flisstes Kappella, ikun hemm quddiesa bil-Malti.**

Dawk li jkunu jrridu xi 'n-nformazzjoni, ghandom ic-cemplu lil

**Fr Tarcisio Micallef MSSP fuq: 9380 8398.**

- F'isem il-Fathers Maltin, Fr Tarcisio Micallef jixtieq il-Milied qaddis, barka u sena gdida 2015, mimlija b'hena wrisq, waqt li jirringrazzja lil kull ikkopera mas-Socjeta Missjunarja ta' San Pawl u s-sacerdoti Maltin, b'xi mod jew iehor, matul is-sena 2014.



**Grazzi lil Media Maltija tal-appogg.**

*Rev Fr Tarcisio Micallef MSSP*

*Chaplain for Maltese Community Archdiocese of Sydney.*