



THE MALTESE NEWSLETTER - LINKING THE MALTESE DIASPORA
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MALTESE NUNS CELEBRATE HISTORIC VENERATION IN ADELAIDE

A Maltese order of nuns in Adelaide is rejoicing the primary step towards canonization of their foundress Mother Margherita De Brincat of the Sacred Heart of Jesus — the first potential saint from the island of Gozo.

This year the cause for Mother Margherita's beatification and canonisation will continue to advance in Rome after Pope

Francis proclaimed her 'venerable' almost a year ago. Mother Margherita died 63 years ago on January 22 and has been approved for her courage, humility, Eucharistic adoration and trust in Divine providence, among other virtues.

A Thanksgiving Mass held on January 18 in Adelaide's St Francis Xavier's Cathedral marked her historic veneration. Sixteen Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus from across Australia processed into the Cathedral with Adelaide Archbishop Philip Wilson and knights and dames from the Knights of Malta.

During the Mass, Archbishop Wilson read the decree ordered by the Pope, which outlined Mother Margherita's life as the founder of the Franciscan Order of nuns, which began in Gozo in the Maltese archipelago, in 1880.

A miracle through the intercession of Mother Margherita is the next step towards beautification under the acts of the Congregation

She had great devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and she wanted that God be known and loved by everyone," said Maltese-born Regional Superior Sister Vittoriana Debattista.

She wanted her Sisters to teach catechism especially to children and to help them and train life skills to poor girls to get them off the streets," she said, "Mother Margherita was very humble". Sister Vittoriana heads the order in Adelaide, where three sisters permanently reside at the regional house in Lockleys. Another three Sisters work at St Raphael's Home for the Aged in Lockleys.

There are currently 22 Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus serving in Queensland, New South Wales and South Australia. The order established itself in SA in 1962.

Mother Margherita was born Virginia De Brincat in November 1862 and was baptised on the same day at St George Parish Church in Victoria, Gozo. She died aged 89 at the congregation's Mother House in Victoria in 1952. At 14 years of age, she made a vow of chastity and at 21 professed her religious vows and the office of secretary of the congregation was entrusted to her.

She was 27 when elected Superior General of the order, a position she held for more than 30 years following six elections. Following the charism of St Francis of Assisi, Mother Margherita and her sisters observed evangelical poverty, apostolic zeal, simple joy, sincere humility and service to all as central to their mission.

Maltese Carnival – 13th to 17th February 2015



Malta's carnivals are loud, brash and colourful with an emphasis on fun.

The official carnival in Valletta is a highly-organised affair, perfect for families with small children. Never will you see more Zorros, Indian chiefs, robots and little señoritas all packed in one place!

But if you're looking for something a little more adult, out of the ordinary and less sterile – then you need to cross the Gozo Channel to the sister island and beat a path to Nadur. It's here that you'll find the big, boisterous beast of a carnival that allows you to really let your hair down, largely

because everyone is masked, or heavily made up, making it utterly anonymous.

Nadur's carnival remains the most unusual all the Maltese events. Hundreds of Maltese and Gozitan couples and tourists merge together to roam the streets, dance to band music, make merry, eat and drink.

Nadur Carnival takes place every year. It is a five-night event that finishes on Shrove Tuesday – or *Mardi Gras* as the French like to call it. If you count back on your finger then you'll figure out that it starts on the preceding Friday night!



Carnival Costume Competition on Sunday at SmartCity Malta

SmartCity Malta will be hosting its first-ever Carnival celebrations at Laguna Walk, its vibrant hub in the south of Malta, on 8th February between 3pm and 10pm. Visitors are encouraged to attend the event in their Carnival costume so as to be able to participate in a Carnival Costume Competition being held by the Malta Council for Culture and the Arts.

The Carnival Costume Competition which will be held at 5pm, will be aimed at children, adolescents and adults. Anyone who would like to participate should simply attend the Carnival Festivities at SmartCity Malta in their costume.

Organised in collaboration with the Ministry for Justice, Culture and Local Government and Catermax, the Carnival festivities at Laguna Walk, SmartCity Malta will additionally include a continuous fountain show, a variety of food stalls, dance and choir performances, small Carnival floats and an all-round lively atmosphere. Visitors will undoubtedly also enjoy the Carnival parade which will take place between 4pm and 6pm. Adults and children alike are invited to attend the exciting event and enjoy a truly unique family experience.

A MEDITERRANEAN FISH MARKET

MARSAXLOKK MARKET IN MALTA

BY JESSICA A. COLLEY

On a Sunday morning in Malta, colors, sounds, and smells all fought for my attention. walking through the traditional fish market in marsaxlokk, a basket of rich, purple eggplants caught my eye, but soon i was distracted by a fisherman slicing off salmon steaks.

Remarking on huge heads of broccoli, a crate of fish fresh from the boat was piled for display. Local ladies rushed for the just-off-the-boat catch to make the first selections.

There are many beautiful places in Malta, but one of the most fascinating is certainly this traditional market in Marsaxlokk. Beyond the spectacle of the fish and produce, there are also souvenirs such as honey and local wine you can bring home. Over the course of my entire trip to Malta, this was also the only time I heard the local Maltese language being spoken all around me.

Another striking feature at the market is all the traditional Maltese boats, called Luzzu, bobbing in the water. If I hadn't already made plans for lunch, I would have grabbed some of the strawberries marked '6 pots for 3 euros' and sat down on one of the docks to sample the berries and watch the boats come and go in the harbor.

These traditional fishing boats are painted bright shades of blue, yellow, red, and green. Upon taking a closer look, I realized that each boat also has an eye painted on its side. I learned from a guide that this tradition survived from the times of the Phoenicians, and that the eye is a symbol of power, protection, and good health.

A Walk Through the Marsaxlokk Market

I stood at the perimeter of the market and thought: this is why Maltese restaurants are so outstanding. The evening prior, I savored every morsel of a meal at de Mondion, the restaurant of a boutique hotel called **Xara Palace** in the ancient

town of

Mdina. This Sunday morning, encountering all of the produce and fish, I thought how lovely it would be to work as a chef in Malta with this bounty of ingredients.

The market isn't particularly large, but it will take some time to walk through. Half the fun is slowing down, watching the transactions between the local people, and listening to the descriptions of the fish (when some English is spoken). The fishermen were hacking up all sorts of Mediterranean fish to order, for both restaurants and locals. The fresh food would certainly be on the table within hours.



More Fascinating Market Sights

Beyond the fish and the produce, there were many more intriguing sights at the Marsalokk market. A group of local children were crowded around a display of baby chicks and exotic birds being sold as pets. The fuzzy little creatures seemed to be trying to get some sleep despite the constant tapping on the glass from toddlers.

Local lace was seen in every possible form, including tablecloths, napkins, skirts and headbands. Chocolate, honey, wine, and jams were all available for sale. My guide suggested that I keep my eyes open for one certain thing: the prices locals were being offered. If I had just seen a local pay a certain price for an item, it wouldn't be unreasonable to request the same price. Visitors, however, are often quoted prices that are higher – although not outrageously so.



Of my entire visit to Malta, wandering through this market was the best immersion into local culture I experienced. The combination of the spoken Maltese language, families out for their weekly shop, children running around with playful excitement, and the fish being handed from the boat directly to the stall, are all rich memories that form the foundation of my impression of Malta.

Beyond the market, other highlights of my trip to Malta included seeing paintings by Caravaggio, strolling the silent streets of Mdina at sunset, and gazing down into the harbor of Valletta from the Upper Barrakka Gardens. If you happen to be in Malta on a Sunday morning, be sure to

treat yourself to an early stroll through the Marsaxlokk market. You'll be glad you did.

Hold your head high



Standing for what you believe in regardless of the odds against you, and the pressure that tears at your resistance.....is **Courage**.

Keeping a smile on your face when inside you feel like dying, for the sake of supporting others.....is **Strength**.

Stopping at nothing and doing what's in your heart that you know is right.....is **Determination**.

Doing more than is expected, to make another's life a little more bearable, without uttering a single complaint.....is **Compassion**.

Helping a friend in need, no matter the time or effort, to the best of your ability.....is **Loyalty**.

Holding your head high and being the best you know you can be when life seems to fall apart at your feet.....is **Perseverance**.

Facing each difficulty with the confidence that time will bring you better tomorrows, and never giving up.....is **Confidence**.

Hold your head high and make your life better every day!

ADELAIDE FRINGE – MISS CARLA CONLIN



Miss Colin Confesses is a comic tale of two personas sharing one very heavy handbag in this highly engaging cabaret performance at this year's Adelaide Fringe!

Miss Conlin is the daughter of a Maltese/Australian,. She is a high school English teacher, although her training was actually in Drama. During the day she is required to dress soberly and discretely and conduct herself with appropriate dignity and decorum. This can be very frustrating, of course, if your life plan whilst at university was about as far away from that career as one can get. Miss Conlin, however, has a secret that she about to reveal. She lives a completely different life outside of school hours.

Her out of school activity also has a dress code and an expected behaviour pattern, but they are nothing like the ones imposed by the education authorities. After school, you see, she is a Burlesque performer. Miss Conlin is faced with the

constant dilemma of keeping her two lives separate, and that is the subject of this highly engaging cabaret performance.

Carla Conlin bases her performance on fact, as she is a frustrated Drama teacher, now teaching English, and among her many other talents, she is a Burlesque artist. She is also a model (she was to present this show last year, but cancelled to fly interstate to model for Dita Von Teese), dancer, actress, and singer, and she draws on these many skills in this very funny cabaret performance.

She reveals the pitfalls of having two such diverse careers, and the dangers of being at one job and slipping up in an unguarded moment, letting something from the other job intrude momentarily, with embarrassing but hilarious consequences. From **Avenue Q** she begins the show, after attempting to call the roll, by asking the question, *What Can You Do With A BA In Drama?* (originally a BA in English). The collection of songs that she has selected for this performance not only fit into the narrative but are immensely varied, demonstrating her skill with comic, as well as serious songs, and her amazing vocal range, as well as her ability to change the timbre of her voice and accent. Her send up of American country singers on **R E S P E C T** is a prime example.

But wait, there's more. Alongside the comedy, singing, acting and dancing there is an unforgettable visual component, as Conlin regularly switches to and fro between careers, slipping behind a screen to change costumes and reappearing in a gorgeous range of Burlesque outfits.

She is ably assisted by Adelaide's most sought after accompanist, Matthew Carey, who runs cabaret workshops and master classes in Adelaide attended by people from all over Australia and, last time, one from overseas. They have worked together before and the rapport between them is clearly seen. Carey is not only an exceptional accompanist, he also contributes to the comedy.

Reviewed by Barry Lenny, Arts Editor, Glam Adelaide.



Aljutta

ta' Mario Vella
u Glen Galea

DATA 1-20 ta' Frar

**POST GW Sala B1,
I-Università**

FIN 17.00 - 18.30

Mistiedna speċjali:
Mario Vella
Caldon Mercieca




GHAQADA TAL- MALTI UNIVERSITA' - Aljutta

"Min jorqod ma jaqbadx ħut.
Iżda spiss, lanqas min ibakkar.
Sadiku huwa l-Mulej fil-
benevolenza kollha tiegħu. Infiniti

huma l-possibiltajiet u l-varji kumbinazzjonijiet tagħhom.
Mingħajr sforz ma hemmx premjazzjoni, b'daqsxajn sforz jaf
toħroġlok murlita." - Mario Vella

Il-Ġimgħa 20 ta' Frar 2015, l-Għaqda tal-Malti se turi l-film
Aljutta ta' Mario Vella. Din l-attività se ssir f'GW Sala B1 l-
Università mill-17:00 sas-18:30. Wara l-film se ssir diskussjoni
fuq mmexxija minn Caldon Mercieca flimkien ma' Mario Vella, il-
bniedem ta' wara l-film. Intom li se tattendu se jkollkom il-ħin

taqsmu l-ħsibijiet tagħkom u tiddiskutu mal-kelliema.

Data: 20 ta' Frar Ħin: 5pm Post: GW Sala B1, I-Università

Għal aktar tagħrif żuru l-attività fuq Facebook: www.facebook.com/events/758968787531038.

ST JOHN BOSCO AND THE COMMUNITY



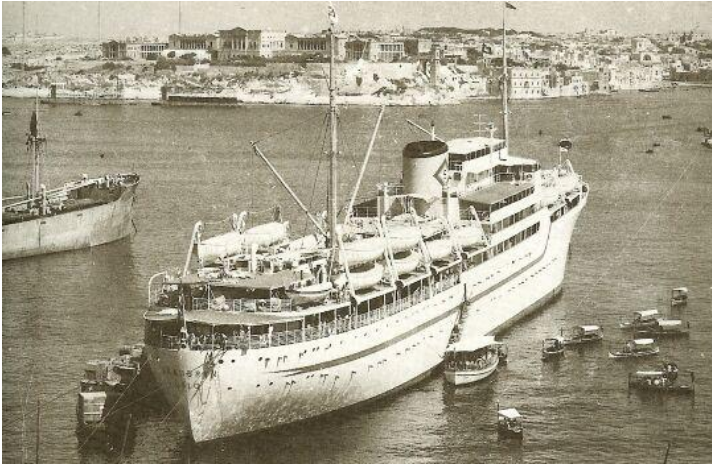
Bosco).

St John Bosco was born on August 16, 1815 and died on January 31, 1888. He was an Italian Catholic priest, educator and writer who put into practice the convictions of his religion, dedicating his life to the betterment and education of street children, juvenile delinquents, and other disadvantaged youth and employing teaching methods based on love rather than punishment, a method that is known as the preventive system.

A follower of the spirituality and philosophy of Francis de Sales, Bosco dedicated his works to him when he founded the Society of St. Francis de Sales (more commonly known as the Salesians of Don

Together with St Maria Domenica Mazzarello, he founded the Institute of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, a religious congregation of nuns dedicated to the care and education of poor girls, and popularly known as Salesian Sisters. In 1875 he published *Bollettino Salesiano Mensuale* (A Salesian Monthly Bulletin) and it has remained in continuous publication, and is currently published in 50 different editions and 30 languages. He was canonized by Pope Pius XI in 1934

MALTESE EMIGRATION AND EXPATRIATION



Malta has always been a maritime nation, and for centuries, there has been extensive interaction between Maltese sailors and fishermen and their counterparts around the Mediterranean and into the Atlantic Ocean. More significantly, by the mid-19th century the Maltese already had a long history of migration to various places, including Egypt, Tripolitania, Tunisia, Algeria, Cyprus, the Ionian Islands, Greece, Sicily and Lampedusa. Intermarriage with other nationals (especially Italians and Sicilians) was not uncommon. Migrants would periodically return to Malta, bringing with them new customs and traditions that over time have been absorbed into

mainstream Maltese culture.

The extensive impact of migration on Malta is illustrated by the following statistics: in 1842, the total number of Maltese emigrants was estimated at around 20,000, or 15 percent of the population of Malta. These numbers increased steadily throughout the 19th century. The Maltese were distributed as follows:

NUMBER OF MALTESE EMIGRANTS IN NORTH AFRICA

Country	Year – 1842	Year – 1865	Year – 1880s
Algeria (<i>Algiers, Philipville and Bône</i>)	5,000	10,000	15,000
Tunisia (<i>Tunis</i>)	3,000	7,000	11,000
Egypt	2,000	5,000	7,000

However, these early migration patterns were unstable, and repatriation occurred frequently. For example, many Maltese emigrants rushed back to their homeland due to an outbreak of plague in Egypt in 1835, and again in 1840 during the Anglo-Egyptian crisis. According to Pullicino: in spite of a certain amount of isolation there must have been a measure of adaptation by Maltese emigrants to local customs, food and dress. Besides, the frequent comings and goings of the Maltese in the 19th century must have facilitated the assimilation of at least some folklore material from North Africa that still needs to be identified.

There was heavy migration from Malta in the early 20th century, and again after World War II until the early 1980s; however the destinations of choice during this period tended to be more distant, English-speaking countries rather than the traditional, Mediterranean littoral. Over 10,000 Maltese settled in Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States between 1918 and 1920, followed by another 90,000 – or 30 percent of the population of Malta – between 1948 and 1967.^[39] By 1996, the net emigration from Malta during the 20th century exceeded 120,000, or 33.5% of the population of Malta.http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Culture_of_Malta - cite_note-40

In 1995, a section of Toronto's Junction neighbourhood was given the name "Malta Village" in recognition of the strong Maltese community that remains to this day.^[41] It is believed to be the largest Maltese community in North America.

SUMMARY OF MALTESE MIGRATION PATTERNS (1946 – 1996)

Country	To	From	Net migration	Return %
Australia	86,787	17,847	68,940	21.56
Canada	19,792	4,798	14,997	24.24
UK	31,489	12,659	18,830	40.20
U.S.A.	11,601	2,580	9,021	22.24
Other	1,647	907	740	55.07
Total	155,060	39,087	115,973	25.21

Familiarity with the English language assisted Maltese migrants to assimilate in their adopted countries, and the incidence of intermarriage with foreigners is reputedly higher among Maltese emigrants than other ethnic communities. Extensive interaction between Maltese emigrants in Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States, and their relatives in Malta, has brought Maltese culture closer to the English speaking world. Many Maltese emigrants and second generation Maltese-Australians, Maltese-Americans and Maltese-Canadians returned to their homeland in the 1990s, and recent years have seen an increase in the number of foreign expatriates moving to Malta, especially British retirees. This has created an increasingly cosmopolitan environment in the towns and villages of Malta.

In the years preceding Tunisia's declaration of independence in 1956, most of the Maltese community left the country to settle in Marseilles, France, which retains the biggest Maltese community in France.

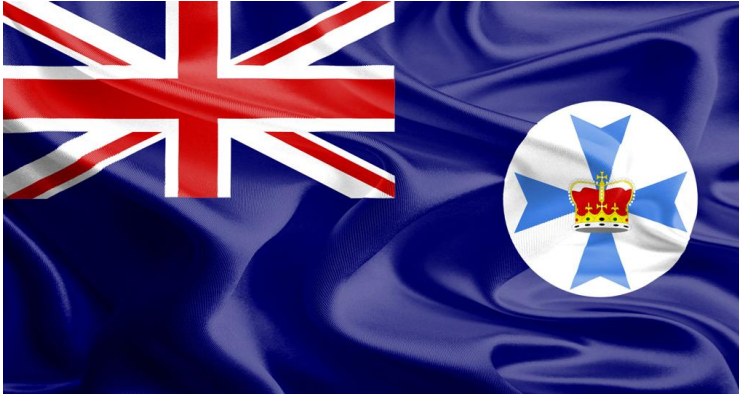
Emigration dropped dramatically after the mid-1970s and has since ceased to be a social phenomenon of significance. However, since Malta joined the EU in 2004 expatriate communities emerged in a number of European countries particularly in Belgium and Luxembourg.

Question – DO YOU AGREE THAT THE HISTORY OF EMIGRATION OF MALTESE CITIZENS SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE CURRICULUM AND BE TAUGHT AS A SUBJECT IN ALL SCHOOLS IN MALTA?

Please, send us a reply and your opinion. Thank you



The State of Queensland - Australia



Flag Adopted: circa 1953

Flag Proportion: 1:2

Use: State Flag and Ensign

The flag of Queensland is a British Blue Ensign with the state badge on the right. The badge depicts a light blue **Maltese cross** with a St Edwards Crown in the centre of the cross, all on a white disc. The original badge was designed by the then Queensland Colonial Secretary and Treasurer William Hemmant.

According to Frank Cayley's book *Flag of Stars* no

one knows why the Maltese cross was chosen. The common assumption that the badge was inspired by Britain's most famous award for bravery, the Victoria Cross, has not survived historical examination.

The design of the Royal Crown in the state badge is altered whenever there is a change in the style of crown chosen by the reigning Monarch. The last such change occurred in 1953 after Queen Elizabeth II adopted the St Edwards Crown upon her Coronation in 1952.

State Motto:	"Bold, age, and faithful too"
Location:	Queensland lies in the Northeast of the continent, bordering the Pacific Ocean to the east, and the Torres Strait to the North.
Area:	Second largest state in Australia; 1,727,200 km ² .
Landform:	The North Coast is sheltered by Islands and the Great Barrier Reef System. Behind the coastal slopes of the Great Dividing Range and River Flats, are rolling plains. The land then becomes semi-arid desert.
Population:	4,708,500 mostly in four coastal areas. Approximate: Brisbane 2,238,394, Gold Coast 591,473, Townsville 189,238, Cairns 156,169, Rockhampton 82,551, Mackay 74,219, Mt. Isa 33,200.
Climate:	The climate is mostly Tropical, with two main seasons: Wet and Dry - Queensland is known as "The Sunshine State" because of it's pleasantly warm winters and long hours of sunshine.
Cairns:	Cairns is the gateway to some of the most beautiful and exciting diverse parts of Australia. The beauty of the Great Barrier Reef is matched on land by Australia's most prolific flora - the tropical rainforests of the coast, mountains and Tablelands.

Cairns, in the heart of the tropical wonderland is an international tourist mecca. It is a modern colourful city situated on the shores of a natural harbour, Trinity Inlet, with a magnificent backdrop of rugged mountains covered with thick tropical rainforest. The major glamour activity in Cairns is no doubt Big Game Fishing. Cairns is recognized as the Black Marlin capital of Australia with numerous fish over 450kg recorded each year. The game fishing season starts in early September and continues throughout to late November.

The Reef:

In Queensland's Far North, the continent's marine life reaches its most prolific and colourful form - the northern half of the Great Barrier Reef - 1200 km of reefs hugging the entire east coast and into the Torres Strait Islands.

Kuranda:

The rainforest village of Kuranda, perched high on the crest of the Great Dividing Range, is no newcomer to the beat of tourist feet. Back in the early 1900's southerners flocked to Cairns by coastal steamer to ride the famous mountain train, see the mighty Barron Falls, and venture into the rainforest kingdom then romantically dubbed "Fairylane". Despite early tourism and the influx of Allied Forces during World War II, Kuranda's old-world charm and leisurely ways have remained unchanged.

A Slovenian Student in Malta - Barbara Breznik



Hello! My name is Barbara. I am from Slovenia. I was in Malta on Leonardo da Vinci Mobility Programme for 10 weeks. That is why I met Valentina and Marco from Malta Vocational Centre.

I have only good experience with the organization and Malta. I have to say only good things for Marco and Valentina because they were really helpful, reliable and friendly for my entire stay there. The accommodation organized by them was also great and if there was any problem they always made a best effort to solve it.

The English school they chose for us was also great with nice teachers. I met in the school a lot of people from all over the Europe. Malta is really nice place to work or spend time because of its beautiful nature and open people. The people there are really nice and you can get to know them really easy. I like the temperament and energy of this little island in the middle of the Mediterranean Sea.

There is also paradise for sea activities lovers. Malta has also incredible history and the cultural heritage is really rich. So many things to see and do on such a small island... I was in Malta during the winter and it was really nice weather...I can not imagine how great must be in summer. Thank you all for unique experience! I will be back soon ;)



SHARE YOUR STORY

DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO TELL?
PUBLISH IT IN THIS HISTORICAL JOURNAL
SEND IT TO: honconsul@live.com.au

MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

Time of unrest and achievements in Malta 1959 -2002

The British Governor took power to maintain law and order and the Constitution was revoked in 1959. Malta was now run by an Executive Council. In 1961 self-government was restored and Borg Olivier was returned in 1962 helped greatly by the Church. Soon after in 1964, Malta won its independence within the Commonwealth. Thus the Queen remained the Head of State of Malta with an appointed Governor General acting in her name living on the Island.

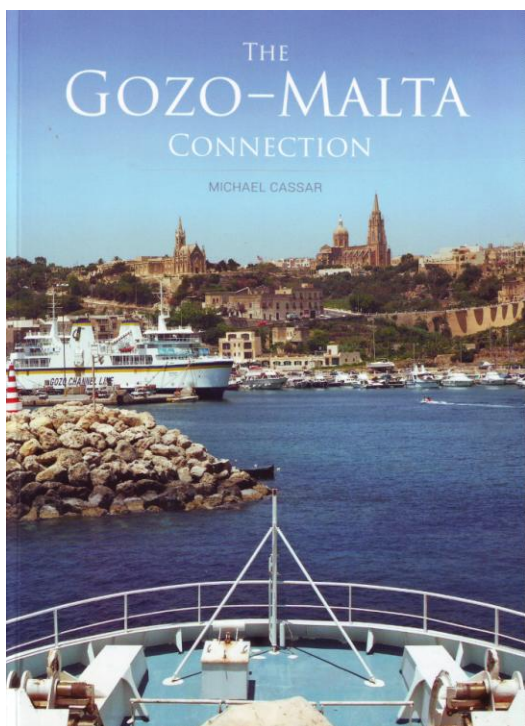


Malta aspired to even greater things and now wanted economic independence. Malta signed an agreement with Britain to receive £M50 [part loan] over a period of 10 years in return for the continuing use of the military bases on the Island.

Traditionally dependent on British military spending Malta had now to diversify its economy, and set about encouraging tourism and manufacturing. Then the beginning of the final phase began when in 1967 Britain announced massive and rapid defence cuts for the Island affecting all aspects of Maltese workers working for the Admiralty. The people of Malta were quite naturally concerned and negotiated with the British to slow down the timetable of cutbacks. This Britain agreed to do. In 1971 Don Mintoff became Prime Minister and predictably informed us that the Defence and Assistance Agreement would be cancelled unless it was substantially revised in Malta's favour. Britain was unimpressed but Mintoff played on NATO fears that Malta might instead become a base for hostile forces.

In 1972 Britain agreed that Malta was to receive an annual payment of £M14 from combined NATO and UK sources. In December 1974 when Malta became a Republic with a Maltese President as Head of State, it retained its Commonwealth membership. It is well known that in 1979, the last of the British Forces left the Island, and in the case of the Royal Navy manifest in the sailing of HMS London from Dockyard Creek. However, what might not be known is the way Malta played her International Card. For many years, Malta had been the home of the British Forces in the Mediterranean and was therefore agreeing, albeit reluctantly, to being in-arms with the British militarily. In 1979, Malta declared to the World that from henceforward, she would be completely NEUTRAL in all matters of war and that the United Nations would record a Declaration of Non-Alignment. Malta entrenched this article into her constitution.

It would appear that many Maltese people have been told about the 'Irish Fortune' and how joining the European Community acted as a panacea to all her ills. They have been told that Malta too will see dynamic changes in her economy and moreover, that they will become a rich country without the need to rely on her two [current] 'dollar-earners', namely tourism [many hotel beds remain empty throughout the year] - and light manufacturing [13,000 are currently unemployed which is worrying for the economy]. During my recent visit I got to talking with a Maltese lady who was clearly older than myself. Her father had been a doctor on the island and moreover, one of the first British trained medical men. I got to talking about tourism and did she think that joining the EU would bring in more visitors. I was quite surprised to hear that during the 1920's and 1930's many British tourists came to Malta for a summer holiday and brought in important currency.



THE GOZO-MALTA CONNECTION: PAĠNI 310, STAMPAT U DDISINJAT GĦAND BEST PRINT CO. LTD TAL-QRENDI. AWTUR MICHAEL CASSAR

Kav Joe M Attard emarjos@hotmail.com

Għalkemm il-ħabib tiegħi Michael Cassar (bejn l-1967 u l-1969 konna qed nitharrġu flimkien għal għalliema f'St Michael's Training College, Ta' Ġiorni, San Giljan) għażel li jkteb dan il-ktieb voluminuż tiegħu bl-ilsien Ingliż, jien sa nikteb ftit vrus dwaru bil-Malti, la għoġbu jiftakar fija wara dawn is-snin kollha u jibgħatli kopja tiegħu.

Din il-pubblikazzjoni interessanti miżgħuda bir-ritratti, qed tasal f'idejna meta propju qed niċcelebraw il-130 sena mill-bidu tas-servizz postali bejn Malta u Għawdex kif ukoll il-35 sena tal-Kumpanija Gozo Channel, responsabbli mit-traġitt bejn iż-żewġ gzejjer li flimkien ma' tlieta oħra ferm iżgħar jagħmlu l-arċipelagu Malti.

Kif jinsisti l-awtur u aħna ma nistgħux ma naqblux miegħu, aħna mxejna ħafna 'l quddiem matul dawn l-aħħar deċenji u wieħed mill-fatturi għal dan il-progress huwa minħabba t-trasport li jeżisti illum bejn Malta u Għawdex, trasport li jmur lura lejn dawk l-ewwel jiem tas-sena 1885 meta beda jbaħħar fuq dan ix-xiber baħar il-Gleneagles. Minn dak iż-żmien 'l hawn min jaf kemm il-vapur qasmu l-fliegu, uħud minnhom spiċċaw u tfarrku u sabu qabarhom f'qiegħ il-baħar fejn illum iżiruhom għadd kbir ta' għaddasa.

L-awtur bla dubju jirriproduċi ħafna minn dawn f'dan il-ktieb eċċitanti tiegħu. Riedu jkunu dawn il-vapuri li jperrċu isem Għawdex u jwasslu s-sbuħija u l-kampanja tiegħu, il-prodotti tiegħu, l-istorja għanja tiegħu, lil ħutna ġewwa Malta. Ara qattx tista' toħlom lil Għawdex maqtuġħ, iżolat minn Malta! Kif għidt iktar 'l fuq, din il-pubblikazzjoni titkellem dwar l-għadd ta' qxur li qasmu bejn Malta u Għawdex matul dawn l-aħħar 130 sena.

Sa mill-1960 saru diversi attentati biex jgħaqqdu lil Malta u lil Għawdex flimkien kemm bl-ajru kif ukoll b'mezzi oħra ħfief li jziġġu fuq wiċċ l-ilmijiet, imma dawn s'issa dejjem fallew għal xi raġuni jew oħra. Mis-sena 1970 nibtet ukoll l-ideja li jinbena xi tip ta' pont jew 'tunnel' li kien hemm minn riedu u kien hemm minn opponih.

Din il-miżura nibtet biex dejjem jitjieb il-mezz ta' trasport bejn iż-żewġ gzejjer, għalkemm illum għandna vapuri tajbin, mibnjin Malta wara studju ta' kif iġib ruħu l-baħar; għalkemm dan jibqa' dejjem imprevedibbli, għax il-qawl Malti għadu hemm: 'il-baħar żaqqu ratba u rasu iebsa daqs ħatba!' U l-Għawdxin jafu sew xi tisser tqum kmieni biex tiġi Malta għax-xogħol jew għall-istudju, għal xi operazzjoni maġġuri, għas-safar u mhux għal xi kapriċċ, u ssib ma' wiċċek xi baħar irid jibla' l-art! Talinqas spiċċa ż-żmien li l-Għawdxin jaqbzu l-art minn fuq il-vapur meta dan mank biss ikun għadu rabat mal-moll tal-Marfa biex jaqbdu x-xarabank li ma tiqafx mat-triq, jew tgħaġġel kemm tiflaħ biex ma titlifx il-vapur lejn Għawdex għax inkella trid tistenna strappata sħiħa, inkella meta aghar u aghar ma kienx ikollok torqod Malta. Illum il-ġurnata fuq in-naħa ta' Malta hemm fejn tistkenn sewwa u s-servizz tal-buses tjieb konsiderevolment u hemm spazju għal iktar titjib u l-flotta tal-Gozo Channel ġejja u sejra u l-lok tad-dewmien żejjed spiċċa.

Matul is-snin familji Għawdxin fosthom dawk ta' Karistu Żammit (wieġed minn erbgħa li kienu ħelsuha ħafif meta luzzu b'27 ruħ fuq inqaleb u għereq f'Ħondoq ir-Rummien fit-30 ta' Ottubru 1948), Bernard Żammit, Gollcher, Magro, Gasan, Dacoutros, Grech, Galea, Ħili, Xuereb, Debono, Scicluna, Vella u oħrajn investew flushom f'vapuri biex jgħaqqdu l-Marfa mal-Imġarr meta l-Budgets tal-Gvernijiet ma kenux jippermettu li jidhlu għal piż bħal dan.

'The Gozo-Malta Connection' qed jiftaħ tiegħa beraħ fuq l-istorja tat-traġitt sa mill-bidu tiegħu bejn Malta u Għawdex, imżewwaq, kif għidt, b'għadd mhux żgħir ta' ritratti u postcards qodma u aktar reċenti ta' tant dgħajjes u vapuri li ppruvaw iżommu qrib xulxin lil Malta w Għawdex u għakemm dal-ktieb miktub bl-Ingliż, ċert li l-poplu tagħna kapaċi jsegwi dak kollu li ħejjielna l-ħabib tiegħi u ex għalliem Michael Cassar li nqeda b'fotografija tassew tajba biex iwassal il-messaġġ tiegħu.



From Microfilms to Digital Media

Welcome to the Archdiocese of Malta Archives Archivium Archiepiscopale Melitense (A.A.M.)

Sent by Fr. Gabriel S Micallef OFM <http://archives.maltadiocese.org/>

The Hill Museum and Manuscript Library began microfilming the archival collections of the Cathedral of Mdina, Malta, in 1973 under the direction of Mgr John Azzopardi. Filming concluded in 1989 after 8,229 books and manuscripts had been filmed. The microfilming project at the cathedral also included books, music manuscripts, and archival materials from other ecclesiastical institutions and private collections in Malta and Gozo. The contents of the materials filmed date from the eleventh to the twentieth century.

Among the various manuscripts microfilmed in Malta we find the Archives of the Archbishop's Curia in Floriana. The Archives of the Archbishop of Malta contain the diocesan records from 1531 to 1898, along with some miscellaneous items dating from 1450 to 1928.

The Archdiocese of Malta has transferred all its microfilms into digital media to make them available over the internet. This will enable the Archives to be more accessible by researchers and the casual visitor alike.

The Archives of the Archbishop of Malta hold more than is being published here. Researchers and visitors are more than welcome to visit and do research at the Archives of the Archbishop at the Archbishop's Curia. This is an ongoing project and the Archdiocese of Malta is still digitising Manuscripts found especially in the Mater Dei and Sancte Laurenti Archives.

About AAM

The Archives of the Archbishop of Malta, located in Floriana, contain the diocesan records from 1531-1898, along with some miscellaneous items dating from 1450-1928. These documents are housed in Floriana.

musicworx
presents an amateur musical production of



Join us on:
SATURDAY 21st MARCH 2015 7:30pm
or
SUNDAY 22nd MARCH 2015 4:30pm
at St. Bernadette Community Centre
21-29 Cooke Ave, Sunshine North
ADULTS : \$15
CHILDREN under 12 years : \$7.50
For more info and to book online:
www.musicworx.org
or
message us on:
www.facebook.com/musicworxaustralia
info@musicworx.org

Written & Composed by Therese Cassar and Professor Manwel Mifsud
DIRECTED BY SIMONE CREMONA

THIS IS A COMMUNITY PRODUCTION AND ALL PROFITS RAISED WILL GO TO THE ALDEA INFANTIL SAGRADA FAMILIA IN AREQUIPA, PERU – A HOME FOR 50 CHILDREN AND YOUTH RUN BY FR ALEX BUSUTTIL MSSP



Simone Elise Cremona shared an event to Maltese of Melbourne's timeline.

A year ago I founded Musicworx, a community organisation, aimed at bringing people together to develop and share their creativity, passion and talent in all things musical. Our next production will be shown in March 2015. This is the Maltese religious musical **Ikun Li Trid Int**, based on the 14 Stations of the Cross that is very well known in Malta, and played extensively during the Lenten period. We hope to raise funds for a worthy cause in the process - an orphanage / school in Peru run

by a Maltese Australian priest.

We are now promoting our next musical production **IKUN LI TRID INT - Thy Will Be Done** which will occur in March 2015!! While the musical originates from Malta, we are producing it in such a way that it can be enjoyed by a multicultural audience. Check out <https://www.facebook.com/events/401863099975719/> for more information. We look forward to seeing you there!



SAN LAWRENZ – GOZO

San Lawrenz is a small hilltop village near some of the Gozo's most spectacular coastline at Dwejra.

The village is characterised by 17th century houses, many with elaborately carved stone balconies. Its parish church was built around 120 years ago in baroque style. It contains many beautiful works of art by well-known local artists such as Guiseppe Cali'. The area around San Lawrenz records almost all periods in the Islands' history. Archaeological remains include another set of the Islands' enigmatic, prehistoric 'cart ruts'; evidence of a Carthaginian temple; and a Roman tomb.

From the time of the Knights comes the legendary Fungus Rock at Dwejra. Few rocks can claim such

historical importance as this giant. It is home to a plant, mistakenly called a fungus, which was reputed to have exceptional healing powers. It was so prized by the Knights used Dwejra Tower, built in 1651 as part of the line of coastal watch towers, to protect the rock and guard the plant for their use only.

At Dwejra too is the spectacular Azure Window, a doorway over the sea - perhaps the most impressive of all the islands' natural scenes, and the Inland Sea, a shallow inlet with a small tunnel through the rock face as access to the sea. The Dwejra coastline is embedded with fossils, which include the teeth of enormous shark from the Miocene period.

Għawdex Gżira ta' l-Emigranti

Sa mill-qedem il-gżira Għawdxija kienet il-post ta' emigrazzjoni u imigrazzjoni. Nies ġejjin u nies sejrjn, biex jgħixu hawn u oħrajn biex jfittxu xogħol f'art oħra. Għawdex hija gżira ta' l-emigranti – miż-żjara ta' Ulysses fl-Għar ta' Kalypso fix-Xagħra fil-mitologija Griega sas-servizz ta' l-Air Malta lejn il-Belt ta' New York, l-Għawdxin huwa poplu mobbli ħafna fejn infirex f'ħafna pajjizi madwar id-dinja, fl-Awstralja b'madwar 40,000 Għawdxi; fl-Istati Uniti madwar 15,000 u fil-Kanada madwar 9,000 biex insemmi ftit. Hemm għadd kbir ta' komunitajiet f'pajjizi oħra bħall-Ingilterra, f'Franza u xi pajjizi oħra tal-Mediterran. F'dan l-artiklu ser nittrattaw l-emigrazzjoni mir-raħal ta' San Lawrenz lejn xi pajjizi tal-Mediterran, l-ewwel lejn il-pajjizi Għarab għat-Tuneżija, l-Alġerija, l-Marokk u l-Eġittu u mbagħad lejn pajjizi ta' l-Ewropa t'isfel bħal Franza, l-Grecja u Ċipru fost oħrajn.

L-Emigrazzjoni lejn il-pajjizi ta' l-Afrika ta' Fuq.

L-ewwel emigrazzjoni ta' nies minn San Lawrenz kien lejn pajjizi ta' l-Afrika ta' Fuq, l-aktar lejn l-Algerija, t-Tuneżija u l-Eġittu fil-bidu tas-seklu dsatax fejn Malta kienet għadha kif saret kolonja ta' l-Imperu Ingliż. Dak iż-żmien infetħu ħafna opportunitajiet għall-poplu tagħna għaliex kull Malti u Għawdxi kien sar sudditu Ingliż b'drittijiet kbar. B'hekk kull kolonja Ingliża kien aċċessibbli għall-Maltin u l-Għawdxin. Dan kien jinkludi l-Eġittu, Ċipru u Ġibiltà fiż-żewġ truf tal-Baħar Mediterran. Numru ta' nies minn San Lawrenz emigraw lejn il-bliet ta' Lixandra u l-Kajr fejn bdew Ғajja ġdida hemm sa ma fl-1956 ir-reġim Eġizzjan keċċihom u Ғadilhom il-propjeta li kien akkwistaw matul is-snin. Il-maġġoranza tagħhom spiċċaw emigraw lejn l-Awstralja jew l-Ingilterra.

Il-Pajjizi li jikkellmu bil-Franciz – l-Algerija, t-Tuneżija u Franza.

Il-Knisja Għawdxija kienet fost il-pionieri fil-missjonarjet fl-Afrika ta' Fuq fejn baġtet missjonarji lejn dawn il-pajjizi bl-iskop ta' evangelizzazzjoni. Maż-żmien numru ta' nies minn San Lawrenz marru f'dawn il-pajjizi l-aktar fl-Alfiers, Bona u Phillipaville, fl-Algerija u f'Tunes, fit-Tuneżija. Minkejja li dawn il-pajjizi kienu kolonji Franciżi u l-poplu tagħhom jikkellmu bil-Franciz u bl-Għarbi, nies minn San Lawrenz kienu jikkellmu bid-djalett ta' San Lawrenz u dak Għawdxi u l-Għarab kienu jifhmuhom illi d-djaletti tagħna jixbħu l-Għarbi klassiku.

Mill-arkivji tal-passaporti li nsibu fiċ-Ċentru Nazzjonali ta' l-Arkivji Santo Spirto fir-Rabat ta' l-Imdina ħafna nies minn San Lawrenz kienu bdiewa jew ħaddiema ta' l-id li marru jaħdmu mall-familji sinjuri Franciżi li kellhom il-biċċa l-kbira ta' l-art f'dawn il-pajjiżi. Maż-żmien dawn l-emigranti minn San Lawrenz tgħallmu f'tit Franciż u mxew fuq l-eżempju tal-pajżana fejn kienu jgħixu u emigraw lejn Franza għall-bliet ta' Marsilja u dik ta' Lyon fejn kien hemm xogħol fil-portijiet u l-industriji li nibtu mal-kosta Franciza. Il-komunita' Lawrenzjana f'Marsilja kien tgħix fil-viċinanzi tal-port famuż ta' din il-belt fejn kien hemm xogħol tal-portijiet simili għax-xogħol li kien isir fil-portijiet tagħna u l-industriji li nibtu wara r-revoluzzjoni industrijali. L-istess fil-Belt ta' Lyon li għalhekk mhix belt b'port, hi l-aktar belt industrijalizzata f'Franza wara Parigi. Illum insibu ħafna nies f'dawn il-bliet u madwar Franza kollha dixxendenza minn San Lawrenz li numru żgħir minnhom – ħafna drabi tlieta jew erba' ġenerazzjonijiet wara, jiġu minn San Lawrenz ifittxu l-għerq tal-familja tagħhom, l-arblu tar-razza li jorigina minn San Lawrenz.

Il-Marokk u l-Libja

Jeżistu f'tit nies minn San Lawrenz, anzi waħdiet fil-Marokk u l-Libja li qatt ma kienu postijiet għall-emigrazzjoni. Fil-Marokk dawn kienu jgħixu fil-bliet tar-Rabat u Casablanka u fl-ibliet ta' Tripoli u Bengazi u ntbagħtu fil-kampijiet fl-Italja meta l-Italja ddikjarat gwerri kontra l-Ingilterra. Wara tlett snin dawn tħallaw imorru lura l-Libja pero' wara li l-Libja kisbet l-Indipendenza fl-1951 ħafna emigraw lejn l-Awstralja u postijiet oħra.

L-Eġittu

Nies minn San Lawrenz bhal eluf ta' Għawdxin u Maltin oħra emigraw lejn il-bliet ta' Lixandra, il-Kajr u Port Said fl-Eġittu. Dan il-pajjiż kien fost l-aktar destinazzjonijiet popolari għall-emigrazzjoni fejn insibu li fl-1927 kien hemm 20,000 Malti u Għawdxin fl-Eġittu. Fl-1822 meta l-Ingilterra attakkat lil Lixandra madwar 8000 emigrant rritornaw lura lejn Malta u Għawdex. Fost dawn insibu nies minn San Lawrenz li baqgħu f'Għawdex jew emigraw lejn l-Awstralja. Fil-fatt fl-1950 waqt il-Presidenza ta' Nar, il-maġġoranza ta' l-emigranti Għawdxin ħarbu mill-Eġittu u emigraw lejn l-Awstralja jew l-Ingilterra. Illum jeżistu f'tit familji ta' orijini minn San Lawrenz fl-Eġittu.

Ġibiltà, Spanja u Greċja

L-istess nistgħu ngħidu għall-blata ta' Ġibiltà'. Waħdiet jgħixu fuq din il-blata, u l-istess nistgħu ngħidu għall-bliet ta' Valenza, Barcellona u Madrid f'Spanja.

Il-gzejjer tal-ljonju, jiġifieri Korfu u Cephallonia kienu popolari ħafna. Taht ir-Renju Ingliż dawn il-gzejjer saru d-dar ta' ħafna emigranti minn San Lawrenz u Għawdxin li fl-1815 sabu xogħol f'għadd ta' proġetti kif ukoll biex tissaħħaħ l-influenza Ingliża fuq il-gżira b'popolazzjoni Griega. Fl-1864 l-Ingilterra tat lil dawn iż-żewġ gzejjer lura lill-Greċja riżultat li l-emigrazzjoni lejn dawn il-gzejjer waqaf u ħafna Maltin u Għawdxin emigraw lejn il-Belt ta' Atena u l-Port ta' Pireus kif ukoll lejn il-belt port ta' Cardiff, f'Wales. Għadd hemm ħafna Għawdxin fosthom minn San Lawrenz f'Korfu l-aktar f'Cozella li hija belt imsemmija għal Għawdex u f'Maltezika imsemmija għal Malta.

Ċipru u t-Turkija

Fil-każ ta' Ċipru nsibu komunitajiet żgħir minn San Lawrenz li kienu emigraw hemm wara l-1878 meta Ċipru saret kolonja Ingliża. Minbarra l-Għawdxin li marru mat-truppi Ingliżi nsibu li fl-1925 kien hemm pjani biex komunita' ta' 2,000 Malti u Għawdxin jibdwu raħal hemm pero' n-nuqqas ta' flus mill-Ingilterra u l-marda tal-Malarja waqfet kolloxx. Il-Bliet ta' Kostantinopli u Smyrna jew Ixmir kienu l-portijiet fejn numru żgħir ta' Għawdxin emigraw biex jaħdmu hemm. Fl-1912 insibu li kien hemm 3,000 Malti u Għawdxin fid-distrett ta' Galata. F'Ixmir kien hemm komunita' żgħira li sa l-1940 kienu kwazi kollha telqu lura lejn Malta u Għawdex imħabba nkwieta fil-pajjiż.

Website: <http://www.sanlawrenz.gov.mt>

MALTESE MIGRATION TO U.S.A.



(Left) Maltese leaving for the United States, September 1966

Malta's Council of Government issued a statement on April 8, 1947, which showed that at that time more than 5,000 people had applied to enter the U.S.A. The statement also indicated that two main obstacles were hindering the entry of these people, many of whom had relatives living in the U.S.A. for a number of years who had promised jobs and accommodation for those who wished to emigrate. The two obstacles were the fact that there was no direct shipping between Malta and the U.S.A. and the closure of the local American Consulate which in past years had been issuing visas to intending migrants.

(Below) Migrants bound for North America on the Marine Shark



Efforts were made to eliminate such problems. The ship *Marine Shark* entered Maltese waters on July 7, 1947, and she took 240 migrants bound for North America. This was the first significant group to leave directly for North America. The ship took just eleven days to arrive and many of the Maltese continued their journey to Detroit and San Francisco. Most adults paid fares which ranged from \$40 to \$50. It was also at this time that an American consular officer paid two visits to Malta raising hopes that the local consulate will reopen soon.

In 1948 Mr J Cole, Malta's minister responsible for emigration, and Mr J Axisa, who was then the director of emigration, were on a visit of the main receiving countries favoured by the Maltese who wished to emigrate. While in the U.S.A. the two men were told that the process of granting visas would be speeded up. Both Mr Cole and Mr Axisa insisted with the Department of State that the presence in Malta of a permanent consul was not only greatly desired by the Maltese but also very useful because those who needed a visa had to go either to Rome or to Tunis. The two gentlemen from Malta got the impression that their request received a favourable hearing. In September 1949 the American ambassador to the United Kingdom requested the approval of the British Government for the reestablishment of an American consulate in Valletta.

The American Consulate was opened in February 1950 with Mr John Fitzgerald as consul aided by Mr Richard B. Andrews. At the time the two gentlemen were issuing 200 visas a month. Between 1949 and 1950 the total of approved migrants wishing to leave for the U.S.A. had reached the number of 1,324. Most left on board the two ships *Italia* and *Neptune*.



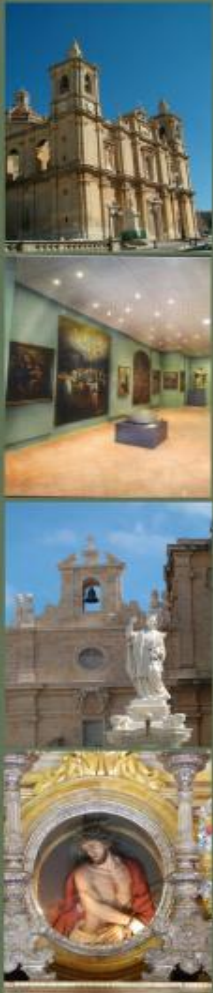
GOD
THE
PAINTER


sent by

Paul
Farrugia

Australia






**WIRT
IŻ-ŻEJTUN**

Lecture Tour for Tourist Guides at *iż-Żejtun* Sunday 8th March 2015

09:00	Meeting point next to New Wave Kiosk at Misraħ Carlo Diacono, Żejtun
09:10	The development of the town through time
09:20	A walk through il-Gwiedi - Triq Sant' Anglu, Triq il-Kuncizzjoni, Triq San Luċjan and Triq Santa Katarina
09:35	Visit to Chapel of the Holy Spirit
09:45	Highlights on the best paintings found in the Parish Church of St Catherine
10:15	Visit the bell towers
10:35	Tour at the Parish Musuem
11:15	Visit the Oratory of the Blessed Sacrament
11:30	Walk to Ta' Ġanna Bar to attend Sunday Folk singing (ghana)

Register on-line www.wirtizzejtun.com

A registration fee of €5 in aid of our organisation will be collected at the beginning of the lecture tour



Iż-Żejtun is commonly known also as *Belt l-Ghannejja* (the Folk Singers' Town). This is mainly because Zejtun has produced the best folk singers on the island. Although to a much lesser extent, folk singing or *ghana* as it is known in Maltese, is still popular in Zejtun.

One can hear the *ghannejja* singing in some of the local bars particularly on Sunday morning, or in special events organised by the friends of the *ghannejja*.

In Maltese Newsletter we are paying tribute to the local *ghannejja* by giving short profiles on the ones who unfortunately have left us some years ago to help you appreciate our *ghana*.



The folk singer (għannej) from iż-Żejtun, Frans Baldacchino commonly known as *il-Budaj* died on the 21st June 2006 at the age of 63.

Il-Budaj was a poet amused by the guitar strings. He was a talented folk singer with a pleasant voice. His talent was appreciated also by those who are not familiar with this type of Maltese folk singing.

Numerous articles were written in appreciation to Frans Baldacchino soon after his death.

On the 22nd June 2006 Maltamedia.com reported the *"Il-Budaj began his love for folklore music at a young age, and was also passionate about opera and classical music. He loved writing poetry and was awarded a diploma a short while ago for his poetry by the group 'Poeti Maltin' of which he was a member. The much-loved singer participated in many folklore festivals, both on a local and international level, singing in Australia, Canada, France, Libya, Greece and Tunisia. Born in Zejtun on May 16, 1943, il-Budaj emigrated to Australia during the 60s where he formed part of a folklore*

group together with other Maltese emigrants. He returned to Malta in the 1970s. Frans Baldacchino is another talented person who made a name for his home Town- IZ-ZEJTUN"

Citizenship applicants to get their passports

The first successful applicants for Maltese citizenship under the investment scheme are due to take their oath of allegiance and receive their passports.

The announcement was made yesterday by Chetcuti Cauchi Advocates, which has been receiving applications since the Individual Investor Programme (IIP) was rolled out last March.

The applicants have complied with all legal commitments and settled their financial contribution in full, the firm said.

The IIP allows non-EU nationals to acquire Maltese citizenship through a contribution of some €1.15 million in cash, bonds, investments and real estate, with an obligatory residency clause of one year. Applicants can also buy citizenship for their dependants at a fee of €25,000.

Though no official announcement has been made so far by the government, Identity Malta, which manages the programme, confirmed that a number of applications were close to completing the legal requirements to obtain naturalisation.

