



The Voice of the Maltese

(driven by the voice of its readers)

Issue
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October 13, 2015

The annual popular events of Notte Bianca (top three pictures) in Malta's capital, Valletta, and the BirguFest (over three days) in the city that served as the first home of the Knights are intended to focus on the historical heritage and architectural beauty of these cities both built and closely connected with the Knights of Malta. Both again pulled the crowds as never before.



Birgufest
2015

9 - 11 October

The highlights were reached late evenings/night. Both provided entertainment that suit all taste and ages. The magical Birgu By Candlelight on Saturday was lit with over 35,000 candles.

Preserving freedom in a democratic culture

Dr Barry York

(Dr Barry York was awarded a PhD in History by the University of New South Wales in 1988. He has authored and co-authored several books of political history and immigration history. He was awarded the Order of Australia in 2005 for his services to the recording of immigration history.)

There was considerable controversy recently when the Australian Border Force announced a joint operation with Victoria Police to allow for large-scale Border Force random checks of the visa status of people in Melbourne's central business district.

As it turned out, the plan was not for random checks, and it is not the purpose here to discuss the issue itself. However, in terms of understanding democracy, the overwhelming opposition to the plan, or to how it was understood, is useful.

Then Prime Minister Tony Abbott quickly stepped in to say:

"I want to make it absolutely crystal clear, as far as this Government is concerned, people will never be stopped in the street randomly and asked for their visa details."

He said this in response to a media and public outcry. His words expressed a view on the parameter of what isn't acceptable in terms of our everyday rights, and the relationship between the state and the people.

Australia's Human Rights Commis-

sioner, Tim Wilson, summed up the most important lesson in an article for the *Sydney Morning Herald*. He said:

"... preserving freedom doesn't sit with the government. A healthy democracy is a constant negotiation between the government and the governed. We negotiate the terms of the agenda at the polling booth. But our responsibilities don't end there."

"We have an ongoing obligation to hold the arms of government to account. We periodically have debates about the merits or otherwise of laws to protect rights and freedoms. But freedom doesn't solely live in laws. It sits in the hearts and minds of the body politic."

The dominant Australian culture assumes that we should not be stopped by police or Border Force officers while going about our normal business without having done anything wrong. Generally speaking, we have the right to remain silent in such situations; the only obligation in most cases being to provide our name and address if requested.

The recent Border Force incident suggests that, in the hearts and minds of the body politic, the proposal was going too far and crossing a line. There are perhaps precedents in our recent polit-



ical history, such as the rejection of government attempts to introduce a national identity card, the Australia Card, in 1980s.

We want the democratic state to provide the basics that keep us well but we want to determine the extent to which the state can tell us what to do and interfere in our daily lives. We want space to allow us to question, challenge and rebel – and to change things.

Source: 'Museum of Australian Democracy at Old Parliament House in Canberra, with this link to the museum's website:- <http://www.moadoph.gov.au/>

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The film *Simshar* in Australian theatres

Breaking new ground for Malta

The special premiers of the Maltese film production, *Simshar*, a family sea tragedy screened in various cities around Australia was tremendously successful with packed houses in 12 cinemas in six States. The Voice of the Maltese attended the special screening at the Palace Leichhardt, NSW.

Special buses transported Maltese from various parts of Sydney. At the end of the screening the writer/director of the film, Rebecca Cremona assisted by Charles Mifsud conducted a question and answer session.

There is no doubt that this astonishing true tragic story of a poor desperate Maltese fishing family from Marsaxlokk that occurred in 2008 entangled with the refugee situation in Mediterranean sea, portrayed a strong and emotional message, in some ways similar to the Australian MV Tampa Affair in August 2001.

The film was shot in 21 locations around the Maltese islands and showcases a lot of our customs. It is primarily in Maltese and has English subtitles. The film was Malta's first-ever submission to the Academy Awards and received very good international reviews.

In Australia it has/is being shown in VICTORIA (Melbourne): Nova Carlton, Classic Elsternwick, Cameo Belgrave, Lido Hawthorn; NEW SOUTH WALES: (Sydney



Rebecca Cremona, the writer/director of the Maltese film *Simshar* pictured during her courtesy call at the MCC in NSW together with (from left), Lawrence Dimech, Emanuel Camilleri and Charles Mifsud,

& environs): Palace Norton St, Leichhardt, Palace Chauvel, Paddington, Avoca Beach Picture House and Orpheum in Cremorne; QUEENSLAND: (Brisbane) New Farm Cinemas, New Farm; CANBERRA: Palace Electric, Phillip Law Street; TASMANIA: Hobart State, North Hobart; SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Toorak Gardens, Greenhill Road.

While in Sydney, Rebecca Cremona accompanied by her mother Hertha paid a

courtesy call at the Maltese Resource Centre at Parramatta West where the president of the MCC Emanuel Camilleri and other members of the executive welcomed them.

Ms Cremona thanked the community for their warm welcome and the MCC for subsidising part of the transportation for the elderly, and also Charles Mifsud who co-ordinated her visit in Australia.

'Simshar' receives rave reviews in NSW press

Simshar review: Malta's heart-breaking tale of migration pressures



The Sydney Morning Herald
Entertainment

fish for the ever more elusive tuna in *Simshar*. Photo: Supplied

There are times when only fiction will do. That's because of its ability to impart a sense of intimacy – essential when a director is trying to put you inside the hearts and heads of people whose background and experience are half a world away from your own.

After the showing in NSW, the film '*Simshar*' received rave reviews from the press, with Australian leading daily *The Sydney Morning Herald* writing, "Maltese director Rebecca Cremona's film could have been a documentary. It's based on a tragedy that unfolded on Malta and its waters in 2008. But there are times when only fiction will do. That's because of its ability to impart a sense of intimacy – essential when a director is trying to put you inside the hearts and heads of people whose background and experience are half a world away from your own."

Under a picture of the *Simshar* boat, film critic Sandra Hall described the film as "a heartbreaking story that crystallises so many aspects of the refugee crisis without passing judgement on any of them."

She describes the script's twin themes as "intersecting with devastating consequences as the plot gets underway, but a lot more comes across in the elegant visual shorthand of Cremona's scene-setting."

The SMH names the main artists and that the film was Malta's entry in the Best Foreign Language Film category at this year's Academy Awards – the first that Malta has ever submitted to the Oscars.

Malta-US commemorate US personnel who died helping Malta during World War II

During a ceremony at the Upper Barrakka in Valletta on Saturday morning, Malta and the US commemorated US soldiers, sailors and marines who took part in the campaign for the freedom of Malta and were killed in Malta during World War II.

Participants during the ceremony included members of the Armed Forces of Malta, and about 125 members from the Ancient and Honourable Artillery Company of Massachusetts.

During the ceremony, Home Affairs Minister Carmelo Abela and Captain Domenic Previte paid tribute to the long history of close collaboration between Malta and the United States and unveiled a plaque commemorating the event.

Minister Abela referred to the strong relations existing between Malta and the US, which, he said, also included the ongoing training of Maltese soldiers in the US.

Captain Previte on his part said that the long history of close collaboration between Malta and the United States was founded on "shared values of



Home Affairs Minister Carmelo Abela (right) with Captain Domenic Previte at the ceremony

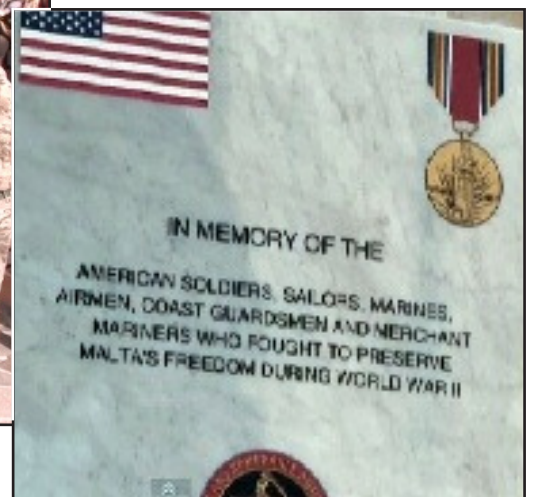
peace, democracy and liberty for all".

It is worth recalling that some 1,800 Maltese sailors and Knights of St John also fought alongside American forces, that took on the British army in the war of independence.

That was a few years after the State House bell, now known as the Liberty Bell was commissioned by the speaker of the Pennsylvania Assembly Isaac Norris, from the Whitechapel Foundry in London in 1751. A Maltese immigrant by the name of John Pace and John Stow cast the iconic symbol of US independence.



The ceremony at the Upper Barrakka commemorating the US military personnel who helped Malta to preserve its freedom during World War II. Right: The plaque in memory of these personnel unveiled during the ceremony.



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Government confident of success in tourism - determined to improve the overall image of 'destination Malta'

September 27th was declared World Tourism Day by the United Nations. In order to celebrate this day and also given tourism is one of the world's most important and resilient industries, in Malta, a Business Breakfast was organised by the Ministry for Tourism and the Malta Tourism Authority.

This year's theme was *1 billion tourists - 1 billion opportunities*. The 1 billion tourists mark was surpassed in 2014, a number that is expected to continue to grow in the years to come. These billion-plus tourists have made tourism a leading economic sector and a valuable source of livelihood for millions of people worldwide, contributing 10% of global GDP and employing one in 11 jobs worldwide.

Addressing the business breakfast, Minister for Tourism Edward Zammit Lewis stated that recent UNWTO Barometer results published for the first six months of this year confirmed that Malta has continued to outgrow its competition in this sector.

While international tourism grew by 4% compared to last year, Malta registered a 5.3% growth. It also outperformed its competitors in the Southern European Mediterranean region, which registered a lower growth at 4.6%. "These encouraging results clearly indicate that we are on the right track, but we surely cannot be complacent and need to continue working hard, especially when faced with the challenges of seasonality," the Minister said.

He pointed out that tourism to the Maltese Islands mainly depends on air route connectivity and that the country has been successful in this regard. In summer, Malta is directly connected with 94 airports, and for the winter seat capacity shall increase by approximately 5% on last year through direct connections to 57 airports.

He also stressed that Air Malta still remains a main contributor to the tourism winter business, and in fact, for this winter, Malta's national airline will operate an extensive schedule of routes with direct connections to 22 destinations and about 700,000 seats on offer, excluding charter operations.

Minister Edward Zammit Lewis noted that quality is another key success factor



Minister for Tourism Dr Edward Zammit Lewis addressing the Business Breakfast on the occasion of World Tourism Day

the country's overall image is improved and would enhance the major factors associated with tourism mirror value, particularly in the tourism zone areas.

Cruise Passenger market is another complementary activity to the international tourism flows attracted to Malta. Valletta Cruiseport is expecting to register a total of 325 port calls that would bring about 640,000 passengers to Malta until the end of this year.

The Minister also referred to Malta's sister island Gozo, which adds value to our destination as a whole as it is considered as a dif-

7.3% increase in tourist expenditure

Statistics just published by the National Statistics Office (NSO) on inbound tourism performance in August 2015 show positive growth rates for all indicators including the number of inbound tourists, the number of tourist nights and tourist expenditure, with the latter registering the highest increase over the same month last year.

Total number of inbound visitors to Malta in August reached 248,284, an increase of 3.7% or 8,941 tourists when compared to August 2014.

It is important to highlight that the number of tourist nights and expenditure recorded higher growth rates of 5.1% and 7.3% respectively. In August, tourists spent €276.2 million, that is, €18.7 million more than the previous year, while the average length of stay remained constant at 9.6 nights.

Cumulative data for the period January to August 2015 point to a very good performance with the number of inbound visitors increasing by 4.7% over the same period last year. The number of nights stayed by tourists reached 9.7 million, an increase of 4.4%.

The registered growth rate of tourists staying in private accommodation (+14.7%) is considerably higher than those staying in collective accommodation (+1.8%). Tourist expenditure feature the highest increase of 6.8%, reaching €1.1 billion, 71.5 million more over same period last year.

Malta Tourism Authority CEO, Mr Paul Bugeja, said "we are pleased with these positive results in particular with the sustained higher growth rates in tourist expenditure, which is ultimately the more important indicator in performance measurement."

that is becoming increasingly important for this sector and is a key influencer for current and future travel choices. Achieving quality is about ensuring that the customer's perception of the service provided meets, and preferably exceeds the customer's expectations.

In this respect, the Institute of Tourism Studies has kept close contact with all the industry's stakeholders and has contributed actively to the tourism and hospitality industry by providing highly professionally trained individuals to deliver a high quality service.

Minister Zammit Lewis expressed his satisfaction in noting the positive response by operators within the tourism sector that is materialising into millions of Euro worth of new investment in the shape of extensive refurbishment programmes and development of new projects.

He said that this augured well for the future and is crucially important to ensure Malta's future competitiveness. Furthermore, the Government would ensure that

differentiated product to mainland Malta. Last year Gozo was visited by more than one million international visitors, which is an increase of more than 6% on 2013.

The Minister for Tourism Edward Zammit Lewis thanked the different speakers for their valuable contributions to the seminar and concluded by stating that ensuring sustainable growth is a key challenge that requires cohesive efforts by all players, not just governments, but including all industry stakeholders, the host community and tourists themselves.

"We must ensure that we follow a strategic process that leads to sustained growth, as only this can guarantee continued success in the longer term", concluded the Minister.

At the end of this business breakfast the Ministry for Tourism launched the official video to further promote Malta as winter tourism destination.



<https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=yX4xtlt5ybQ>

Maltese builders win excellence in NSW housing award

Sammut Developments are the pride of the Sutherland Shire and indeed the whole State of NSW. They have once again been recognised with a top award in the 2015 Master Builders Association of NSW, Excellence in Housing Award. They have been named as Master Builder of the Year 2015. They also won the award for Contract Houses \$10 million and over for Nautilus, which they built on the foreshore of Burraneer Bay.

Sammut Developments was founded by Paul Sammut, a prominent Maltese community activist, a former president of the Phoenician Club of Australia. Originally from Haż-Żebbuġ and at present living at Cronulla with his wife Vicky from Hamrun, he migrated to Australia in 1953. Although he is still part of the company, Paul passed the business to his twin sons Allan and John.

Speaking to *The Voice of the Maltese*, Paul said that throughout the years Sammut Developments has won 13 MBA Awards including the latest two. It has also won 13 HIA Awards including the 2012 HIA Winner Australian Apartment Project of the Year, 2011 HIA Winner NSW Apartment Project of the Year and 2004 HIA Australian Development of the Year.

Allan Sammut told the St George & Sutherland Shire Leader that being recognised by the Master Builders Association and winning their top award offers recognition from industry peers and is a fantastic result for a local family business.

"Winning the Master Builder of the Year has been a dream of mine and something Sammut Developments have aspired to win since winning our first MBA award



The Sammut family accepting the award for Master Builder of the Year (from left): Vicky, John Sammut, the Mayor and Allan and Paul Sammut both holding the awards they won.

in 1998," Mr Sammut said.

"We pride ourselves in our work and feel fortunate that all of it is within Sutherland Shire.

"We work with an amazing team of local architects and designers, and a fantastic team of again mainly local tradesmen and subcontractors that all contribute to delivering these award-winning products."

The winning home is set over four lots on the foreshore of Burraneer Bay and comprises six levels, three lifts, a 20-car space garage as well as a two-lane bowling alley and private beach. It also saw the reinstatement of

Atwells, an iconic heritage boathouse.

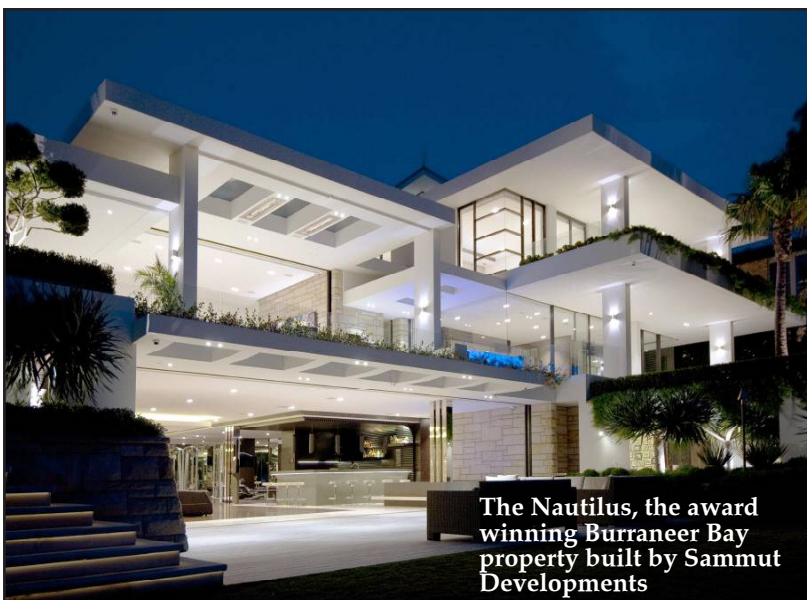
Allan Sammut said working on the Nautilus – the project that won Contract Houses Over \$10 million – was an opportunity to create and deliver Australia's best home in the Sutherland Shire.

Sutherland Shire mayor Kent Johns congratulated John and Allen Sammut on winning Master Builder of the Year 2015 Award and Ciaran Goodman on winning the Young Builder of the Year Award.

He said: "The priority of this council has been to ensure a quality built environment in keeping with our natural environment. "These awards show us how this can be achieved and should be encouraged.

"I am pleased to commend to council the outstanding achievements of John and Allen Sammut, and Ciaran Goodman for their outstanding achievements and wish them well in their future building projects."

The award winners now go on to the national titles.



The Nautilus, the award winning Burraneer Bay property built by Sammut Developments

Malta Celebrates National Day in Canberra

The High Commission in Canberra celebrated Malta's National Day (Independence Day) on September 21 with a reception at the High Commissioner's residence, during which, in his address to the guests, H.E. the High Commissioner, Charles Muscat, said that it was not an easy task to transform Malta's economy from one based on dockyards and ship repairs to a modern and stable economy that it is today – a vibrant and innovative economy which is at the moment one of the most stable in Europe.

He mentioned the healthy relations between Malta and Australia that went back to the 1940's with the first waves of Maltese emigrants reaching the Australian shores. This only improved as diplomatic relations were formalised with the establishment of the High Commission in Canberra in the same year of Independence, in 1964.

The High Commissioner acknowledged with appreciation everyone's support to ensure the success of the event, including the untiring patronage of sponsors and advertisers.



Malta's High Commissioner to Australia, Charles Muscat (second right) together with the Head of the EU Delegation, Ambassador Sem Fabrizi (extreme left) and Austrian Ambassador Dr. Helmut Bock, and the US Ambassador John Berry (extreme right) at the reception.

There was a good turnout of around 200 guests from the diplomatic and Maltese community, the host government and friends of the High Commission. Among the 55 Heads of Missions present were the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps,

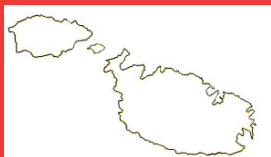
the Head of the European Delegation, Ambassadors of the United States, Germany, Switzerland, China, Japan, Pakistan, and Regional Representatives of the UNHCR, UNIC and the IOM.

Present from the Department of Foreign Affairs were Mr. Kevin Magee, Assistant Secretary for NS&E Europe Branch, and Mr. Trevor Peacock, new Director of the South Europe Section.

Friends of the High Commission, representatives of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta, the Royal Commonwealth Society, leaders and members of the Maltese Community showed their appreciation at being part of this year's celebration of Malta's Independence.



High Commissioner Charles Muscat delivering his National day address



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Have your say/ Xi trid tgħid?

Your letters/ L-ittri tagħkom ...

Malta and Chinese investment

Paul Mercieca from Fairfield, NSW writes

At times I feel so confused and at the same time angry at the attitude adopted by some politicians in Malta, the country of my birth that I left decades ago to seek a better future for myself and my family in Australia. I still treasure this small island that I love to call my own and that has made very large strides forward in recent years.

I follow the international news and am always glad when foreign governments, praise Malta for its stature.

I still remember in my childhood Maltese politicians proudly abiding by the call of Malta first and foremost. However, I cannot understand some Maltese politicians now trying to slam the country in order to

try to gain political mileage; to criticise for the sake of criticising is very wrong.

A few months ago we heard about vast Chinese investment in energy in Malta that was bound to get a bankrupt Enemalta out of a financial hole.

In agreeing and accepting the Chinese investment Malta is in line with the world's best economies. However, I was disappointed to read that the opposition in Malta blasted the deal and tried to create doubts about this. Then recently we learned of a further deal between the EU and China in the energy sector. So the Maltese government was once again proven right. It seems that the only opposition to investments from China from around the world was Malta's party in opposition.

The European Union and China are global players and two of the biggest traders in the world. China is now the EU's second trading partner behind the US, and the EU is China's biggest trading partner.

As Strategic Partners, the EU and China increasingly cooperate with each other on key international and regional issues. So Malta should be commended for being among the first nations to take advantage of its relations with China.

The trade and investment relationship is an essential source of wealth, jobs, development and innovation for both sides, therefore Malta knows what it is doing. It is looking ahead and building for the future. I think those in opposition should start behaving as Maltese who have the best of the country at heart.

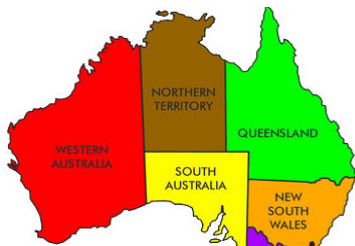
Fl-ahhar helsu minnu!

Colin Giordimania minn Brisbane Qld, jikteb:

Qatt ma kont xi devot tal-eks PM Tony Abbott. Kien bniedem arroganti u negattiv għall-ahhar. Dahhalna fi gwerra oħra u biex jiġġustifika l-lagħaqizmu tiegħu mal-Amerikani pprova jwerwirma u jgħelld komunita` jew religjon/twemmin kontra xulxin.

Forsi dan Turnbull ikun xi ftit aħjar, almenu jidher ferm aktar edukat u jargumenta ferm aħjar.

Il-Gvern tal-koalizzjoni tassew jinsab taht shaba sewda minhabba li l-ekonomija li tant kienet tajba marret lura minhabba li t-talba għall-minerali, eċċ naqset hafna. Niddependu hafna fuq iċ-Cina. Nahseb li għall-Laburisti kien aħjar li jibqgħa` Abbott għax forsi kellhom aktar cans jieħdu lura l-gvern, imma ma` Turnbull se tkun aktar iebes



The Voice of the Maltese
online magazine

This is a bi-lingual (in English and Maltese) fortnightly online publication specifically targeting all Maltese living abroad with emphasis on the Australian scene.

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Letters for publication in *The Voice* either in Maltese or English should be e-mailed to: maltesevoice@gmail.com.

Now you can also join us on facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/thevoice-ofthemaltese>

Prosit tas-Simshar!

Karm Agius minn Fairfield NSW jikteb

Jien kont wiehed minn dawk l-iffurtunati li rajt il-film Malti Simshar iżda naf hafna oħrajna li minhabba diffikultajiet ta' distanza eċċ, ma setgħux jattendu ċ-ċinema biex jarawh.

Tassew film tajjeb li jagħmlilna unur lilna l-Maltin. Nittama li meta jgħaddi ż-żmien inkunu nistgħu naraw dan il-film mhux biss f'dawn it-teatri li juru foreign language films iżda wkoll fiċ-ċentri tal-Maltin madwar l-Awstralja, jekk mhux kull fejn hemm Maltin jgħixu barra minn Malta.

Nirringrazzjaw lil Rebecca Cremona għax imexxielha tikseb hafna pubblicita`, u mhux biss għall-film imma wkoll għal Malta



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Hamsin sena ma' Marija Bambina fi Greystanes

L-festa tal-Bambina dahlet fil-hamsin sena taghha fis-subborg ta' Greystanes NSW, bl-anniversarju jigi ċelebrat bis-soliti festi ta' ġewwa u ta' barra, iżda dis-sena bl-addizzjoni tal-mistieden speċjali, il-Monsinjur Carmelo Refalo, kappillan tax-Xaghra f'Ghawdex li mexxa kemm it-tlett ijiem tat-triduum kif kif ukoll il-quddiesa sollenni tal-festa.



Joe Spiteri, il-president tal-kumitat tal-festa u Mons Carmelo Refalo

Il-Monsinjur kien akkumpanjat mill-kappillan tal-paroċċa ta' Greystanes Fr Paul Marshall, Fr Suresh Kumar, Fr Ben Sant MSSP u Fr Simon Cachia li ġie miegħu minn Malta.

Ġew kantati għadd ta' innijiet speċjali miktuba kemm

minn Frank Zammit u wkoll Mons Refalo għall-okkażjoni, bil-quddiesa tiġi trasmessa dirett fuq Radju Maria.



L-istatwa ta' Marija Bambina ta' Greystanes

Għalkemm it-temp xejn ma kien sabih fil-jiem ta' qabel, imma fil-jum tal-Hadd hareġ jum xemxi u l-istatwa ta' Maria Bambina setgħet tinhareġ bid-dawra solita' taghha mal-knisja akkumpanjata mill-banda OLQP.

Fl-ahħar tal-festa kien hemm il-logħob tan-nar.

Il-Bambina fl-inhawi ta' Wollongong ukoll



Il-vara waqt il-purċissjoni f' Wollongong

L-Maltin fl-inhawi ta' Wollongong (madwar 81 km bogħod mill-belt ta' Sydney) ukoll jiċcelebraw il-festa ta' Maria Bambina fil-parroċċa ta' San Frangisk t' As-

sisi f'Warawong. Hawnhekk saret quddiesa sollenni li fin-nuqqas tal-kappillan Fr M. Gatt, ġiet iċcelebrata minn Fr Matthew u Fr Leonard Testa. Saret ukoll il-purċissjo-

ni bl-istatwa li tohroġ mill-knisja u ddu fil-pjazza tal-iskola. Kif jidher f'wiehed mir-ritratti, hadu seh-em ukoll tfal Maltin libsin bil-kustumi tradizzjonali. Minbarra l-Maltin

attendew ukoll nies ta' nazzjonalitajiet oħra li jagħmlu parti mill-parroċċa.

Wara l-quddiesa, dawk prezenti attendew għal riceviment fis-sala tal-knisja.

Jum qabel iċ-ċelebrazzjoni reliġjuża, fiċ-ċentru li l-Maltin għandhom f'dawn l-inhawi, il-George Cross Falcons fi Cringila, saret ċerimonja li tfakkar l-450 sena anniversarju tal-Assedju l-

Kbir, bil-Kavallier Frank Testa jagħmel diskors tal-okkażjoni u wkoll preżentazzjoni *power point* li kienet ta' interess storiku. Huwa fisser il-qlubija tal-kavallieri u l-Maltin kontra l-qawwa Torka.

Fiċ-ċentru ġiet ukoll imtella' esibizzjoni ta' artigjanat u bizzilla ta' Malta, u wkoll ritratti antiki ta' Malta u mudelli tas-swar tat-tlett ibliet.

Fiċ-ċentru l-mistrednin, fosthom is-Sindku ta' Wollongong Clr Gordon Bradely u l-Konslu Generali Salv Giusti, li t-tnejn għamlu diskorsi tal-okkażjoni ġew milqugħa mill-president tal-GCFC, Louis Parnis.

Wara l-kumitat ta' ċentru lesta riceviment xieraq biex ġew fi tmiemhom jumejn ta' festi tradizzjonali.



Il-tfal bil-kostum Maltin u tal-kavallier li hadu sehem fil-purċissjoni

PERSPETTIVA

A version of this series in English may be found in the author's blog at:
<http://ivancauchi.blogspot.com>

kitba ta'
IVAN
CAUCHI



Simshar

Bhalissa f'Sydney qed jintwera l-film Malti *Simshar*. L-industrija Maltija tal-films rat lil hafna films ta' fama globali jiġu miġbuda f'Malta, bhal Troy, Popeye u Gladiator, imma dan hu l-ewwel film li naf, twil ta' dan id-daqs shih (madwar 102 minuti), miġbud kważi kompletament bil-Malti u s-sottotitli bl-Ingliż, u jintwera madwar id-dinja.

Hadt l-opportunita' li mmur narah f'tijatru f'Leichhardt, NSW.

L-istorja ewlenija, ibbażata fuq storja vera li ġrat fl-2008¹, hija ta' membri ta' familja Maltija li flimkien ma' immigrant imorru jistadu fil-Bahar Mediterran fuq dghajsa bl-isem tal-film, li tispicċa teghreq wara splużjoni abbord.

Il-film ta' Rebecca Cremona jpingi tajjeb hafna l-qtigħ il-qalb ta' dawk f'nofs ta' bahar, u tal-familjari tagħhom fuq l-art, sakemm wiehed biss minn dawk kollha abbord jiġi misjub wara jiem fil-bahar.

Parti mill-film kien jinkludi silta fejn dghajsa ohra ta' sajjieda rat lil dan il-grupp iggranfat ma' oġġetti jghumu fil-wiċċ, u minflok waqfu għall-ghajjnuna komplew bis-sajd tagħhom u hallewhom warajhom, bil-kumment li allahares jiġbru kull immigrant li jil-taqghu miegħu!

Dan il-kumment fakkarni f'disgrazzja ohra li kienet saret snin qabel fl-1996. Kont ghadni noqghod Malta meta sehhet it-traġedja tal-Yioham, fejn bastiment iehor habat magħha u ghereq bi kważi 300 immigrant Pakistani fuqu. Għadni mbellah niftakarni naqra dwar sajjieda li kienu jtellghu iġsma, jew partijiet minn iġsma, mill-bahar fix-xbieki tagħhom u jergħu jifgħuhom fil-bahar!²

Fil-fatt, l-istorja tal-film tiżvolgi fl-isfond ta' dik il-ġerħa tal-umanità fil-forma tar-rifuġjati. Waqt li kienet qed issehħ l-għarqa tad-dghajsa tas-sajd, kien qed issehħ avveniment iehor (ukoll ibbażat fuq storja vera li ġrat fil-2009)³ ta' bastiment Tork (li fil-istorja vera kien jismu Pinar E) li għabar għaxien ta' immigranti minn dghajjes li kienu qed jegħruq, u thalla jitbandal fil-Mediterran għal jiem shah sakemm l-Italja u Malta ddeċidew min kien se jjehu r-responsabilità tagħhom.

Hadt pjaċir nara x-xenarji Maltin fil-film, u nisma' l-lingwa helwa tagħna. Kelli wkoll għajnejja mgebbdin biex nara nilmahx lil xi hadd familjari, u ma kontx iddizappuntat meta rajt lil Clare Agius, wiċċ familjari fuq it-TV li kellha parti prominenti, kif ukoll habiba antika tal-iskola Gabrielle Callus li niftakarha l-Liceo tal-Imsida, li dehret f'xena qasira.

Però s-suġġett u anke l-isfond tal-film hallewni b'ċerta dieqa, probabbli għax it-tmieni ċertament mhux felici iktar għandu x'jaqsam mar-realtà milli mal-fantasia.

Jien li dejjem kelli x-xorti noqghod f'pajjiżi fejn fi żmieni ma kienx fihom kunflitti serji, ghaks jew ġuħ kbir, dejjem smajt, qrajt u rajt mill-midja dawn is-sitwazzjonijiet isehhu f'pajjiżi ohra: l-Etjopja, is-Sudan, l-Irwanda, l-eks Jugoslavja, il-Palestina, il-Libanu, l-Iraq u issa s-Sirja.

Kull wiehed minn dawn il-pajjiżi pproduċa r-refuġjati, jew teknikament, dawk li jfittxu aži f'pajjiż iehor: nies, individwi, familji, komunitajiet shah jaharbu minn hruxijiet li bilkemm jittwemmnu, li jokorbu li xi poplu ta' pajjiż forsi iktar żviluppat, matur jew kalm, ihenh għalihom.

Sal-aħhar tal-2014, hemm 55 miljun ruh madwar id-dinja mġiegħla jtilqu minn darhom, u dawk ġejjin mis-Sirja biss 11.5 miljun.⁴ L-iskala ta' din il-problema hija astronomika.

Bhal ma nafu, uhud minn dawn ir-refuġjati jghaddu minn Malta,



Xena mil-film *Simshar* bl-attriċi Clare Agius (l-omm) is-sellem lil binha qabel jitlaq ma' missieru għas-sajda fatali

li tinsab f'wahda mir-rotot ewlenin ta' diversi minn dawn il-popli. Imrobbi f'familja u pajjiż Kattoliku, it-tendenzi tiegħi huma li nhares lejn dawn in-nies bil-ghniena u nistenna li l-pajjiżi jhossu d-dover morali li joffru kull għajjnuna.

Dejjem kont nibqa' skantant ninnota li hafna nies madwari ma kelli-homx l-inqas simpatija għal dawn ir-refuġjati, anke minn dawk li kont narahom devoti u 'tal-Knisja'. Mhux biss nuqqas ta' simpatija, imma anke rabja u ostilità għax kellhom l-ardir li jghaddu minn Malta (hafna drabi mingħajr ma jafu) huma u sejr in lejn l-Ewropa.

Minn żmien bikri tat-tfulija tiegħi, irrealizzajt li għal hafna nies, li tkun Nisrani kien ifisser biss li ma titlifix il-quddies ta' nħar ta' Hadd, u li ma tagħmilx sess qabel iż-żwieġ. Forsi ma jafux li Gesu' kien li qal li jekk għandek żewġ qomos, għandek tagħti wahda lil min hu fil-bżonn (Luqa 3:11). Forsi jahsbu li kien Gesu' dak li lisen għall-ewwel darba 'Jien orrajt habib - int mur inh***' (*I'm all right - f*** you Jack*).

Illum, jeżistu diversi gruppi politiċi li ġeneralment ihaddnu din l-attitudni anti-immigranti, anti-refuġjati u kontra l-multikulturaliżmu, u dawn igawdu appoġġ mhux żgħir. Malta għandha l-*Imperium Europa*, l-Awstralja għandha *One Nation*, fi Franza hemm *Front National* u tista' tibqa' sejjer.

Madankollu, inqawwi qalbi meta nara xi pass pożittiv, bhal dak li sar riċentement fl-Ewropa, fejn ttiehdet deċiżjoni li 120,000 refuġjat se jitqassmu bejn l-imsieħba tal-UE din is-sena. Dan sar minkejja l-oppożizzjoni ta' xi pajjiżi tal-UE - ir-Repubblika Ċeka, ir-Rumanija, is-Slovakja, l-Ungerija.⁵

Fl-Awstralja wkoll kien hemm xi żviluppi pożittivi f'dan ir-rigward. Xahar ilu ġie deċiż li l-Awstralja se taċċetta 12,000 refuġjat mis-Sirja, addizzjonali għal dawk li jittiehdu kull sena⁶. U l-ġimgha l-oħra, jidher li ttiehdet deċiżjoni li r-refuġjati ta' Manus Island mhux se jithallew iktar fid-detenzjoni, xi haġa li kont argumentajt kontriha fil-harġa numru 80 ta' *The Voice of the Maltese*.

Tgħid ix-xitan qed ibatti xi ftit?

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Australia is in Daylight Saving Time

Daylight Saving Time in Australia began at 2 am on the first Sunday in October, (October 4) when clocks were put forward one hour. It ends at 2 am (which is 3am Daylight Saving Time) on the first Sunday in April, when clocks are put back one hour. Daylight saving is observed in New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania, and the Australian Capital Territory, but not in Queensland, the Northern Territory or Western Australia.

With a land mass close to 7.7 million square kilometres, Aus-

tralia is the world's sixth largest country and is divided into three separate time zones. They are:

Australian Eastern Standard Time (AEST): Queensland, New South Wales (except Broken Hill), Victoria, Tasmania, Australian Capital Territory.

Australian Central Standard Time (ACST): South Australia, Northern Territory and the town of Broken Hill in western New South Wales.

Australian Western Standard Time (AWST: Western Australia.



Uhud minn dawk li attendew ghal-laqgħa ġenerali tal-MCC. Mix-xellug: Doris Caruana, Joe Deguara, Charles Mifsud, Marlene Dimech, George Bartolo, Emanuel Camilleri, Mark Caruana, Tony Pace Feraud, Marisa Previtera, Alfred Pace, Lilian Taliana, Mary Pace Feraud u Victor Fenech.

President ġdid għall-MCC ta' NSW - Donazzjoni ta' Pittura artistika

Fil-laqgħa ġenerali annwali tal-Maltese Community Council (MCC) ta' NSW li saret dan l-aħħar kien hemm bidla konsiderevoli fil-kumitat b'Emanuel Camilleri jiġi elett bħala t-13-il president wara li Lawrence Dimech habbar li ma kienx se jikkontesta l-kariga minħabba li bħala wiehed miż-żewġ edituri xtaq jagħti aktar hidma lill-The Voice of the Maltese.

Il-kumitat il-ġdid se jkun iffurmat minn: President: Emanuel Camilleri; viċi/president: Mark Caruana; segretarja: Josephine Bigeni; a/segretarju: Tony Pace Feraud; kaxxier: George Bartolo; ass/kaxxier: Frances Montesin, u PRO: Lawrence Dimech.

Sadanittant, qabel il-laqgħa ġie nawgurat mural artistiku

"Heritage of Malta" li ġie mogħti bħala donazzjoni liċ-Centru Malti minn Parramatta Melita Eagles. Il-mural, li jidher f'dan fl-istampa, ġie transferit mis-sala tal-ikel li kien hemm fil-Melita Stadium u li ma għadhiex tintuża.

Kien fil-11 ta' Awwissu tal-2005 meta dan il-mural ġie inawgurat uffiċjalment fil-Melita Stadium mill-Onor Alfred Sant, dak iż-żmien il-Kap tal-Oppożizzjoni fil-Parlament Malti meta kien għal iżjara f'Sydney.

Din il-pittura kienet inħadmet f'Malta fuq talba ta' Tony Azzopardi li dak iż-żmien kien president ta' Parramatta Melita Eagles u thallset minn għadd ta' partitarji li isimhom jidhru fuq il-plakka li hemm hdejn dan l-inkwartu li juri stampi artistici wirt art twelidna.

ROUNDUP OF NEWS ABOUT MALTA

Malta PM addresses 70th Session of UN General Assembly Malta dedicating 100% of military resources to saving people at sea

When he addressed the 70th Session of the United Nations in New York that was attended by the highest number of Heads of State and Government ever, Malta's Prime Minister, Dr. Joseph Muscat said that Malta was the only country in Europe, and probably the only one around the world, that dedicates 100% of its limited military resources to saving people at sea.

He said: "My country finds itself at the crossroads between the Middle East, Europe and Africa. The tragedy that is occurring so close to home is so starkly evident and of immense concern to us."

He recalled last April's tragedy when over 800 immigrants perished in what is probably the worst ever recorded capsizing of a boat laden with migrants in the Mediterranean.

While many have been rescued through concerted efforts by European countries, several thousand others have continued to lose their lives on this perilous journey; a journey they are sometimes forced to take at gunpoint by unscrupulous people smugglers.

"Indeed so far, this year has broken all records in terms of desperate people attempting to flee from persecution and hopelessness, in search of a better life and to attain the right to live in peace, free from anxieties, poverty and persecution. It is a global phenomenon that needs global responses."

He reminded the UN General Assembly that Malta had been highlighting this situation for years and years at this Assembly.

"We have to continue doing our best to give shelter to those fleeing from war and qualify for asylum. But it must also be clear that a free-for-all policy is not on the table. People who do not qualify for asylum should be returned. Those who collaborate



Malta's Prime Minister, Dr. Joseph Muscat addressing the UN General Assembly in New York

should be rewarded with further aid and access to markets."

The Maltese PM then mentioned The Valletta Summit in November that Malta would be hosting, during which, it would bring together the leaders of the EU and key African nations. He said this would be an opportunity "to enhance our dialogue and improve our understanding, in an attempt to address this issue comprehensively, in a spirit of partnership and cooperation with all countries involved".

He said the Summit is expected to build on and strengthen present frameworks of action in the field of migration, in an effort to address the phenomenon in a holistic manner and in order to reap the opportunities presented whilst dealing with the challenge of forced displacement.

"The first priority must remain the saving of lives. This is our moral duty as human beings. Nevertheless, an important and necessary part of the effort by the European Union requires a more committed response to taking on the smugglers before they can put the lives of more innocent people at risk.

"The international community should be

under no illusion. When it comes to these criminals, we are dealing with individuals who feed on the desperation of innocent people. These people must be held accountable for their crimes and brought to justice."

In the first instance, in order to combat these networks, Joseph Muscat said that efforts must be stepped up nationally and regionally, and that closer cooperation is essential for and amongst the countries of origin, transit and destination, including through better intelligence-sharing and through joint criminal investigations.

He said that starting with development, 2015 is a pivotal year for global sustainable development, and

that we are called upon to respond in a transformative manner to the fundamental challenges facing the world today: eradicating poverty, achieving inclusive and sustainable development for present and future generations, and ensuring the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental values as the basis for peaceful and prosperous societies.

"However we should all be starkly aware that this is only the first step of a process that can only be successful if we are truly fully committed to its implementation.

It is not just Malta's problem. It is not just Europe's problem. It is everyone's problem. And the United Nations needs to act as it is morally bound to do, Dr Muscat said.

He added that the war in Syria needed to be tackled, and when it comes to Libya, Malta strongly supports the toiling efforts of the UN to launch a national dialogue for a reconciliation process and the formation of a government of national unity in Libya.

He rounded up his address by saying that for the second time in ten years, Malta would be hosting the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting that plans to examine some issues of common concern, including global political and security challenges, most urgent of which is the unprecedented rise of extremism and radicalisation.

Malta believes that Climate Change is a decisive global challenge, therefore it is confident that the Commonwealth can also provide added value to the international debate on climate change. Climate Action would feature high on the summit agenda.

He told the assembly: "I am of the firm conviction that what binds us is stronger than what divides us. The challenges we face should unite us as we need to - indeed we must - face them together. As the standard-bearers of optimism we respond to today's great problems with even greater resolve. Malta will play its part."

GWU has new General Secretary



Malta's biggest trade union, the General Workers Union has a new man at the helm. Josef Bugeja (pictured left) has replaced long-standing secretary general Tony Zarb who had been doing the job for close to 17 years.

Addressing the GWU General Conference in the presence of the Prime Minister and the leader of the opposition, the outgoing general secretary pledged his loyalty to the union and urged his successor to put social justice and workers' rights at the forefront of his leadership. He also promised to remain loyal to the GWU till his death.

Meanwhile in his first speech as secretary general, Mr. Josef Bugeja called on the union to become a more "pro-active" social movement. He said that the GWU must be a "social voice in an increasingly neoliberal and globalised world".

ROUNDUP OF NEWS ABOUT MALTA



Spectators being attended to after the accident, and (right) the crashed Porsche

Horror crash at charity car show injures 28

Twenty-eight spectators were injured, five critically, including a six-year-old girl, after a 918 Porsche Spider supercar with its British millionaire tycoon owner behind the wheel, crashed into the spectators on an unused airport taxiway in front of the Lufthansa Technik facility at Luqa Airport.

The accident occurred at around on Sunday October 4 when one of the £750,000 supercar's rear wheels clipped the grass as it was being driven at speed, skidded out of control, spun and ploughed through plastic barriers and ordinary police barriers before hitting a large number of spectators.

The supercar, which has a top speed of 210mph, was one of the main attractions at the *Paqpaqli Ghall-Istrina* motor show, held to raise funds for *L-Istrina*, the main-fund-raising event of the Community Chest Fund chaired by the President of Malta.

The driver, father of four Paul Bailey who was taking part for a good cause, was among the critically injured. He and a number of spectators who suffered fractures or cuts requiring hospital treatment, were rushed to Mater Dei Hospital or the Paola Medical clinic.

By the end of last week eight patients were still receiving treatment, two still in intensive care. One is still in critical condition. The driver of the Porsche and other spectators had been discharged.

Spectators, particularly children who witnessed the crash were offered help to get over their trauma.

84% of foreign companies believe Malta to be attractive for direct foreign investment - survey finds

Research carried out by EY established that 84% of executives of foreign companies investing in Malta believe that Malta is attractive for direct foreign investment. This is an increase of five points over the findings from the 2014 survey; 55% of them said they planned to make further investment on the island in 2016.

The results emerge from the 11th edition of the EY's Attractiveness Index that was at the Westin Dragonara, titled: 'Malta: open for business'.

Stability of social climate and stability and transparency of the political, legal and regulatory environment are the top ranked Malta FDI parameters for 59% of respondents when deciding on a location in which to establish operations, followed by corporate taxation (50%) and local labour skill levels (48%).

The research also established that a decrease in bureaucracy was an important step for enticing greater innovation (69%), followed by educational upgrading and new

technology (49% and the development of cultural innovation and creativity.

Govt. presents 2016 budget

On Monday evening, the Government of Malta presented its budget for 2016. It was much too late for us to report on it. We will include an analysis in the next issue.

Meanwhile, Finance Minister Edward Scicluna said that the government is on track to reach a deficit of 1.6% of Malta's GDP by the end of the year. This will mean that the positive difference between government expenditure and income would have decreased by €69 million when compared with the deficit registered at the end of 2014.

In a pre-budget press conference the Prime Minister pledged 'European standards of infrastructure' in popular touristic zones and said that a corporation would be set up to regenerate St George's Bay in St Julian's.

Malta bans GMO crops

Malta is to ban the cultivation of genetically modified organisms (GMOs). The decision was conveyed to the European Commission.

Malta is thus availing itself of an opt-out clause after to an EU directive that in March had cleared the way for new GMO crops to be approved after years of deadlock. The

law had given individual countries the right to ban GMO crops even after the European

Commission has approved them as safe.

The Ministry for the Environment said in a statement, that by deciding to opt out, Malta is contributing to the facilitating of the smooth functioning of the internal market, through the likely improvement in the process for authorisations of GMOs, as well as to the freedom of choice of consumers, farmers and operators, whilst providing greater clarity to affected stakeholders concerning the cultivation of GMOs in the Union.

It added that Malta was seeking to safeguard positions taken before April 1, when it voted against eight cases of notifications/applications submitted to the Commission, demanding that their geographical scope be adjusted to the effect that all of the territory of Malta be excluded from cultivation of GMOs.

Malta named as best place for LGBTIs In Europe

Malta, which introduced civil unions and adoption rights for gay couples in 2014, has climbed to the top position and is now regarded as the number one place for LGBTI rights in Europe. Malta has moved up 22 percentage points in the European rankings and replaced England.

Malta is the fastest climber in the ranking after scoring 89% across forty sets of criteria; the UK falls behind in second place on 86%.

New rules surrounding outlawing surgery on intersex children, education and civil partnerships have all added to Malta's new position at number one on the ILGA-Europe's Rainbow Europe list.

Mix-xena tal-ħajja Maltija

minn Ġuzè Camilleri



Kulħadd Gharef wara

Uffiċjal tal-Federazzjoni tal-Motor Sport fil-ġurnal *Malta Independent* kiteb hekk: *'Paqpaqli event was accident waiting to happen' - former motorsport federation official.*

... u Alla jaf kemm kummenti simili ntqalu u nkitbu wara l-incident kbir li sehħ waqt li kien qed issir l-ghaxar edizzjoni ta' *Paqpaqli għall-Istrina*. Izda kif jghid il-Malti, 'kulħadd huwa gharef wara li jiġri xi haġa.'

Mhux ghax ma kienx hawn min, fil-privat, ma hasibx dwar x'jistax jiġri f'okkażjonijiet bħal dawn meta għandek karozzi ta' sahha u veloċità tremenda jinstantu f'post fejn mhux attrezzat għal dan it-tip ta' sewqan. Il-fatt li f'dawn l-aħhar snin kollox mar ward u żagħar, aktar dak li jkun beda jehodha - kif jghidu l-Ingliżi (u nsomma anke ahna l-Maltin) - "for granted" u ma jistenna li jin-qala' xejn.

Dan minkejja li fl-aħhar xhur, anke jekk mhux fi żgiritna, sehħew żewġ incidenti kbar fejn hallew hajjithom għadd ta' nies waqt wirjiet tal-ajruplani (*Airshow*).

Għalkemm sintendi uffiċjalment hadd ma kkumta dwar is-sigurtà li kien hemm waqt din il-wirja... u dan billi bhalissa għad-dejja nkjesta bil-maġistrat, xorta jidher li hawn kunsens li fil-fatt il-mizuri ta' sigurtà li kien hemm kienu tassew mill-inqas.

Kif ikkummentaw sewwa xi whud, attwalment il-barrikati li kien hemm jifirdu lill-pubbliku u l-pista (it-triq) ta' fejn kienu għaddejnin il-karozzi, kienu aktar immirati halli jżommu lin-nies milli jidhlu fil-pista, milli li l-karozzi jidhlu fin-nies. Ghax kif tistenna li barrikata li ssoltu tintrema waqt il-festa u xi okkażjoni simili se jżomm milli karozza tidhol fin-nies?

Biex taqgħad il-ftit barrikati ta' sahha li

kien hemm, attwalment ma kienu jiswew għalxejn ghax dawn ma mtlewx bl-ilma...mhux ghax b'daqshekk kienu se jżommu l-karozza milli tidhol fin-nies!

Ejja ngħiduha kif inhi, ahna l-Maltin fejn tidhol is-sigurtà ma tantx niġu minn ta' quddiem. Araw x' mizuri jittiehdu waqt il-festi, l-aktar waqt l-isparar tan-nar. X' mizuri jit-

U l-vittmi?

Dan l-incident halla hafna vittmi... mhux biss dawk is-28 li sofrew xi griehi, imma wkoll dawk li kellhom karozzi pparkjati fil-qrib u li ġratilhom il-hsara, Uħud minnhom hsara konsiderevoli.

Hemm wkoll dawk il-vittmi milquta psikologikament, fosthom l-organizzaturi ta' dan l-avveniment u l-istess President tar-Repubblika li tant habirket biex dan l-avveniment ikun suċċess, dejjem bl-iskop li tkompli tkabbar il-fondi tal-*Community Chest Fund* li bih li jiġu mghejjuna dawk li huma fil-bżonn.

Wiehed ma jridx jinsa wkoll is-sewwieq tal-karozza li holqot din l-istragi. Dan mhux biss ghax ra l-karozza li tant hija prezzjuża għalih (u mhux ghax tiswa miljun Ewro) tispicċa mfarrka, izda aghar minn hekk ghax ikkawża dik l-istragi kollha.

Min se jhallas għal dan kollu?

Sintendi l-vittmi kollha b'xi mod jehor maż-żmien se jitolbu xi kumpens. Għalkemm bil-kumpens forsi ssewwi l-hsarat li saru fuq il-karozzi, izda žgur mhux ser tfejjaq ċerti griehi u lanqas ċerti effetti psikologici.

Imma min se johrog dan il-kumpens li žgur se jlahhaq l-eluf kbar ta' Ewro?

Skont rapport li f'*The Times* (06.10.2015), meta dawk milquta se jiġu biex jitolbu kumpens se ikollhom diffikultajiet kbar. Ghax għalkemm jidher li kien hemm xi

tiehdu meta jkun hemm folol kbar miġbura f'xi pjazza?

Issa f'daqqa wahda kulħadd qed jitellem dwar is-sigurtà. Sahansitra l-Awtoritajiet habbru li se jirrevedu r-regolamenti tas-sigurtà f'attivitajiet bħal dawn.

... u nerġa' ndur għall-Ingliż "*Better late than never.*"

kwalita' ta' assigurazzjoni, għad mhux magħruf kemm se tikkumpensa d-danni.

Jerġa skont l-istess gazzetta, għalkemm dan l-avveniment kien organizzat "by *The Office of the President in collaboration with a core team of volunteers, all working towards the main aim of raising funds for the Malta Community Chest Fund*", u għalhekk wiehed jista' jistenna li jfittxu lil dan l-Uffiċċju għad-danni, sfortunatament għal dawk involuti, dawn se jsibu diffikulta' biex jagħmlu dan billi "*the Office of the President enjoys immunity from civil and criminal prosecution.*"

Għalkemm f'rapport iehor li deher aktar tard fil-istess ġurnal, din l-immunita' ma tghoddx fejn jidhol dan il-każ.

Possibilta' oħra hi li dawn ifittxu s-sewwieq tal-karozza, izda hawn wiehed irid jara x'tip ta' assigurazzjoni kellu dan, aktar u aktar billi l-incident ma sehħx fit-triq u ċerti assigurazzjonijiet ma jagħtux kumpens għal incidenti li ma jsehħux fit-toroq. Imma dawn forsi kollha suppożizzjonijiet.

Vittma iehor!

Kien hemm vittma iehor ta' dan l-incident... wiehed li ma kienx fil-post tal-incident u għalhekk ma setax jintlaqat mill-karozza li għamlet dik il-herba kollha.

Mix-xena tal-hajja Maltija 2



Hijab



Niqab



Burka



Chador

Iva u le: ligi li ma tghoddx ghal kulhadd

Nahseb li hawn hafna li jiftakru lill-pulizija fl-okkażjoni tal-Karnival iġieghlu lil dawk li jkollhom wicchom mghotti ghal kollox biex jikxfuh billi skont il-ligi Maltija persuna ma tistax tohrog fit-toroq b'wiccha mghotti ghal kollox. Izda jidher li dil-ligi ma tghoddx ghal kulhadd.

Skont twegiba moghtija fil-Parlament Malti, il-Pulizija tiehu l-passi neccessarji kontra kull persuna li tkun liebsa xi maskra jew tibdel is-sura taghha bi ksur tal-Artiklu 338(n) tal-Kodici Kriminali. Izda Passi ma jittiehdur kontra persuni li jilbsu velu li jkoprira r-ras u l-wicċ minhabba twemmin religjuż, peress li dan ma jammontax ghal ksur tal-istess kontravvenzjoni.

Izda l-Pulizija jistghu jordnaw il-kxif jew tnehhija ta' dan il-velu meta jkollhom sus-

pett raġjonevoli li dik il-persuni tkun se taghmel reat. Mela l-pulizija ma tista' tiehu l-ebda passi kontra Musulmani li jilbsu lbiesi bhal dawn. Uhud isejhu l-ilbiesi kollha tan-nisa Musulmani Burka, imma fil-fatt hemm għadd differenti, bl-aktar popolari jkunu, l-Hijab, in-Niqab, il-Burka, u cChador u li kollha jiffurmaw ilbies mit-twemmin religjuż Musulman.

Stharrig

Kif taghmel is-soltu, il-gazetta Maltatoday ghamlet stharrig dwar il-qagħda politika f'Malta, u mill-ahhar stharrig li kien sar (f'Gunju 2015) jirrizulta li l-Kap tal-Oppożizzjoni, Simon Busuttil żdied bi 3 punti bhala fiducja, filwaqt li l-Prim Ministru żdied biss punt. Biss xorta wahda, bhala fiducja l-Prim Ministru jgawdi vantaġġ ta' 11-il punt percentwal fuq il-Kap tal-Oppożizzjoni.

Bhala percentwal Joseph Muscat huwa fdat minn 40% ta' dawk li wiegħbu għall-istharrig, filwaqt li huma 29% li jafdaw lil Simon Busuttil.

Anke fejn jidhol l-istharrig dwar lil minn dawk intervistati kienu jivvutaw li kellha ssir l-elezzjoni lllum, id-differenza ta' 4% hija favur il-Partit Laburista - telf ta' 1% mill-PL meta mxebbah ma' Gunju li għadda.

Emigrazzjoni bir-reverse

Mill-ibghad żminijiet għadd ta' Maltin u Ghawdin hallew il-gzejjer taghna biex ifittxu xortihom f'artijiet barranin. Bejn il-hamsinijiet u s-sittinijiet eluf ta' Maltin hallew il-familji taghhom u oħrajn telqu bil-familja taghhom ifittxu x-xogħol f'pa-

jjiżi barranin fosthom l-Awstralja, l-Ingliterra, l-Istati Uniti u Kanada.

Issa f'daqqa wahda donna r-rota daret wahda sewwa ghax jidher li l-barranin qed jigu Malta biex ifttxu x-xogħol. Hawn mhux qed ngħid għall-immigranti legali, izda għal għadd ta' persuni oħra li jigu Malta legalment bil-ghan li jifthu xi negozju privat – inkluz għadd ta' restoranti, jew isibu mpjieg.

Hawn saħansitra minn qed jgħid li Malta saret Londra tal-imghoddi fejn nies ta' ċertu livell ta' tagħlim u hiliġiet speċjali kienu jmorru jibnu l-gejjieni taghhom.

Issa skont rapporti fl-istampa Maltija nies bhal dawn qed japplikaw biex jibdeu karriera f'Malta, fejn għalkemm is-salarji huma ferm inqas minn Londra, l-ispejjeż biex wiehed jgħix huma ukoll ferm inqas, filwaqt lil l-klima hija ferm aħjar u l-istil ta' hajja huwa deċenti

U fejn hija d-dieta?

Fl-okkażjoni tal-bidu tas-sena Universitarja studenti jiehdu sehem f'kompetizzjoni, speċi ta' pika dwar min hu kapaċi jiekol l-aktar pastizzi.

Tghiduli b'daqshekk x'fiha? Daż-żgur li fiha, l-aktar meta wiehed jiehu inkunsiderazzjoni l-kampanja qawwiya li qed issir, l-aktar fost it-tfal, biex kemm jista' jkun jevitaw ċertu ikel u li jkollhom dieta tajba. Ghax x'eżempju se jiehdu dawn meta jaraw lil dawk li suppost jagħtu eżempju jiffangaw fil-pastizzi?

Fuq kollox min jaf fost dawn l-istudenti hemmx xi hadd fil-kors tat-tobba, li mbagħad jibda jgħidilna biex nevitaw dan il-kwalita' tal-ikel?

Għalkemm ma nistagħgibx b'dan, ghax naf

*minn paġna 14

Il-vittma l-iehor!

Dan "il-vittma" huwa DJ Lito li kien qed jipprezenta programm fuq r-radju tal-Partit Nazzjonalista, Radio 101.

Ftit wara li harġet l-aħbar tal-incident, dan mar fuq il-Facebook u b'ton sarkastiku kiteb: "ifqani għall-istina". Biex ikompli jwaqqa' l-incident għaż-żuffjett qal li l-Gvern u l-Oppożizzjoni kienu qablu li jsir jum nazzjonali iehor biex ifakkar din il-grajja.

Dan il-kumment wassal biex id-dirigenti tar-Radju jwaqqfuh milli jkompli jipprezenta programmi fuq dan ir-radju.

Insomma kif ktibt kemm-il darba hawn min ihalli lil idejh u l-keyboard jikkmandawh u ċerti hsbijiet ma jzommhomx għalih, imma jxandarhom mal-erba' irjehat.



b'tobba li xebghu jghidu lin-nies biex jaġġepux u huma ma tantx jippartikaw dak li jghidu.

F'halq in-nies ingustament!

Il-Konslu generali ta' Malta f'Sydney, Salvino Giusti, dan l-ahhar spicċa fl-aħbarijiet bla hsieb wara li saret mistoqsija dwaru fil-Parlament Malti u fit-twegiba ntqal li kien qed jaqla' €28,000 kull erba' gimghat, kif ukoll għandu allowance ta' €95,261 ghax iservi fl-Awstralja.

Pront harġu l-gurnali jghidu li dan il-Konslu kellu salarju ta' €1000 Euro kuljum. Sintendi bdew il-kummenti.. l-aktar wiehed li jintuza sikwit ikun: "ta' gēwwa jiffangaw."

Nahseb li meta raw dawk il-figura anke whud minn dawk li jappoggjaw lill-Gvern ma tantx għaddew kummenti sbieħ.

Izda mbagħad malajr malajr saret korrezzjoni u ntqal li attwalment dak is-salarju (€28,420) kien ta' sena shiha u mhux ta' kull xahar, u li jinghata allowance ta' €59,261 billi dawk li jservu f'ambaxxati

barra l-pajjiż jinghataw allowance msejjaħ "post adjustment" (din ir-rata tvarja skont il-pajjiż li wiehed ikun jsevi fih).

Imma kif hadd ma nduna b'dan l-iżball qabel inghatat din it-twegiba fil-Parlament?

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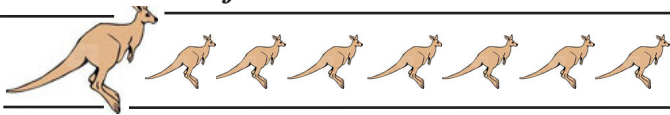
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A quick glimpse at Australia

Harsh border protection

Will people smugglers test the Australian waters again hoping that the new leadership would take a more lenient approach? The new Prime Minister has admitted concern about conditions on offshore processing centres but ruled out a change to existing policy.

Mr. Turnbull said that offshore processing was an area that clearly is one that is controversial, that is a challenging one. There are still about 1600 asylum seekers and refugees held in Nauru and Papua New Guinea's Manus Island including 93 children.

"It is absolutely clear that there will be no resettlement of people on Manus Island and Nauru; they will never come to Australia. I know that's tough. You could say we have a harsh border protection policy but it has worked" Mr. Malcolm Turnbull told Radio national.



Meanwhile, the Nauruan government intends to process the refugee claims of 600 asylum seeker saying it has flung open the doors of controversial camp and the era of detention "has ended".

All restrictions have now been lifted but

The Nauru detention centre (above) detainees will still eat, sleep and receive medical services at the centre. It is understood they could opt to live outside the facility but of course they can never leave Nauru.

A national disgrace

Calling domestic violence levels a national disgrace the Prime Minister announced about \$100 million in federal government funding to tackle this un-Australian culture.

"Let me say this to you: disrespecting women does not always result in violence against women. But all violence against women begins with disrespecting women" Mr. Turnbull said.

The Minister for Women Michaelia Cas said the emphasis on respect for women was a "game changer".

Fair Agenda and Homelessness Australia called the announcement a good start but they're not enough. In a recent report, the group itemised more than \$3000 million of funding that is needed to plug immediate service gaps.

Cut in Foreign aid

Foreign Affairs Minister Julie Bishop announced that Australia would seek another term on the UN Security Council for 2029 to 2030 as well as a seat on the Human Rights Council for 2018 to 2020 but it will face headwinds in seeking these UN key positions because of deep foreign aid cuts amounting to \$11 billion and treatment of asylum-seekers.



Marc Purcell, executive director of Australian Council for International Development – the nation's umbrella aid peak body said there is no doubt that the cuts to the aid budget, particularly with African states, left a very bad taste in the mouth.

Gilliam Triggs, president of the Australian Human Rights Commission said Australia's treatment of refugees would be a major matter of concern to the human rights community and to the Human Rights Council itself.

Preventable cancers

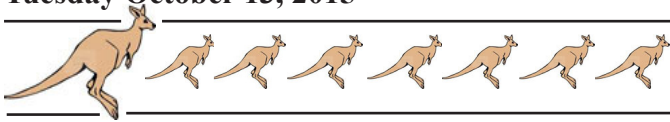
A research commissioned by the Cancer Council, found that about 37,000 cancer cases in 2010 were caused by factors such as smoking, UV exposure, alcohol and obesity. The study estimated 33 per cent of all cancers in men and 31 per cent of those in women were avoidable.

Cancer Council Australia Chief executive Sanchia Aranda said the research should encourage Australians to be positive about minimising their risk of being diagnosed with preventable cancers. She said people were confused by fad diets and conflicting health advice but a diet rich in vegetables, fruit, whole grains helps to cut cancer risk.

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A quick glimpse at Australia

Ministry for the future



Minister Marise Payne

Australia has the eleventh Minister for Defence since 1996. Senator Marise Payne was born in Sydney 51 years ago. Appointed to the Senate in April 1997 her partner is Stuart Ayres the State Member for Penrith.

The first female to hold this important post wants to be judged on her performance not on her gender and “hope that my appointment will encourage more young women in to the military”.

Commenting on the revolving door of defence ministers, Senator Payne said she planned to stay in the role “for the long haul as I have no intention of walking away from politics any time soon”.

The PM has wielded the axe in his first ministerial line-up. He expanded cabinet from 19 to 21.

The PM said he announced a 21st century government and a ministry for the future.

His cabinet, which was sworn in on October 5 features five women, more than double the previous number.

University is not the only pathway

Senator Simon Birmingham from South Australia, the new Federal Minister for Education plans to boost the status of vocational training so that students don't feel they have to go to university to have a good career.

He wants to make sure that parents and students consider a vocational pathway alongside a university pathway.

“The data shows employment rates for people who complete trade-based apprenticeships are around 90 percent. Starting salaries are often better than those for university graduates and the chance of running your own small business are greater. It's critical that students make informed decisions and not think university is the obvious and only pathway,” he said.

No school advantage for multilingualism

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, 23 per cent of the population speaks a second language at home with Mandarin, Italian and Arabic the most popular languages.

A research conducted over five years by academics at Charles Sturt University and the Queensland University of Technology found that English did not affect children academic outcomes at school.

“The report shows that there is no advantage or disadvantage to speaking multiple languages in terms of school readiness, literacy or numeracy,” said Sharynne McLoad, one of the authors.

Professor McLoad also said that while parents in metropolitan areas were more likely to believe multilingualism was an advantage, during the course of their research they found parts of regional Australia thought it was better to teach their children only English.



Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull stands with the female members of his cabinet (on the front the five Ministers) for an official photograph

Joe Hockey quits politics

Joe Hockey announced his retirement from politics and the future of Tony Abbott will not be known for a while. Some are predicting that he would be another Kevin Rudd.

Declaring that he would have let the Coalition to victory, as he would have pulled off a David Cameron (UK) style re-election Tony Abbott, the former PM urged the Liberals to vote for his successor even if through “gritted teeth”.

Talking on radio he condemned the revolving door primeministership and said no leader could achieve anything if they were “subject to death by opinion polls” and a “party room coup”.

*The Royal Australian Air Force is taking part in the US-led coalition campaign against Islamic State targets in Iraq and Syria.



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Maria Bambina celebrations in Melbourne

This year's feast of *Maria Bambina* in Melbourne was celebrated on three days. It was organised by the Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group Inc. (RMASG) on behalf of the Missionary Society of St. Paul.

The commemoration began on Victory Day, September 8 with a Mass celebrated at St. Paul's Chapel, next to the Maltese Centre in Parkville by Fr Edwin Agius. Readers were Phyllis and Paul Vella. Afterwards, those who attended the church service were invited to go to the foyer of the Maltese Centre for light refreshments.

Four days later, on September 12, the group organised the Vittoria Din-



The congregation at St Mary Star of the Sea Church in West Melbourne. Inset: the priests celebrating Mass celebrating *Il-Bambina*

ner Dance at Firenze Receptions, Fawkner, which was also well attended. The President of the Maltese Community Council of Victoria, Mr Victor Borg and other committee members were among those present

along with honorary life members of the Reskeon Group.

The feast itself was organised on Sunday the 13th at the St Mary Star of the Sea Church in in the presence among others of the Consul General of Malta in Victoria, Mr Victor Grech, MCCV president, Mr Victor Borg and other members of the MCCV Executive; members of the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta; members from religious orders, representatives of the Maltese Ex-Services Association of Victoria, and a large number of Maltese Associations, with their banners.

Banners from the four villages and towns where the 'Bambina' feast is celebrated in Malta and Gozo, that is, Senglea, Mellieħa, Naxxar and Xaghra (Gozo) were also on show.

On this day Fr Edwin Agius, Rector at Parkville (whose brother died in Canada the day before) concelebrated Mass, while other mssp priests, Fr John Taliana, Fr. Emmanuel Adami, Fr Lonnie Borg, Can. Mannie Bonello (Parish Priest of St. Joseph the Worker Parish, North Reservoir), and Fr. Karm Borg joined him in the celebration of the mass.

Master of ceremonies was Emmanuel Farrugia assisted by Frank Siriani, while the Maltese Choir of Victoria led by Charles Schembri and Lydia Gusman provided music and singing.

After Mass, a procession with the statue took place in the streets close to the church followed by the Benediction, and Fr Edwin thanked all those present, the Reskeon Seniors Group for organising the feast on their behalf, Fr Anthony Bernal, Parish Priest of St. Mary Star of the Sea, the statue bearers, and the Malta Gozo Concert Band.



The procession with the statue of *Maria Bambina* in the streets close to the St Mary Star of the Sea Church

Hundreds of teachers attend Annual State Conference and Training Day

The NSW Federation of Community Language Schools held its Annual State Conference and Professional Training Day at the University of Sydney. Hundreds of teachers from 68 ethnic schools throughout Sydney and many dignitaries among them a number of Members of Parliament attended for this function that, as usual, was a huge success.

Mary Pace-Feraud, Janet Borg and Ivan Borg represented the Maltese Language School NSW, a branch of the Maltese Community Council of NSW.

The function started with the Australian national anthem, while the students from the Sri Lanka language school, wearing their traditional costume performed a national dance.

Dr. Michael Christodoulou, the MC, made a welcome speech and introduced all the dignitaries who in turn, together with Mr. Albert Vella, the president of the Federation, delivered speeches and urged all those present to continue working hard to achieve better results for our schools.

The keynote speaker was Joseph Lo Bianco, Professor of Language and Literacy, from the University of Melbourne.

After morning tea a panel consisting of Prof. Lo Bianco, five MPs and two school



principals was formed and teachers from different schools asked questions and discussed problems they encounter.

Following a very hearty lunch all the teachers attended a workshop. There were another two workshops of one hour each, all dealing with different topics. There were ten workshops in each session all

conducted by professionals.

All those who attended the workshops were highly satisfied with what the presenters offered.

ABOVE: (From left): Mary Pace Feraud, Albert Vella (Federation president), Ivan and Janet Borg who represented the NSW Maltese Language Schools

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Hut li nsibu fl-ibħra Maltin

Din il-paġna qed kull ma tmur issir popolari mal-qarrejja. Tant li minn żmien għal żmien ikollna xi mistoqsijiet inkella xi talbiet għal taqhrif. Għalhekk fil-hargiet li ġejjin se nippruvaw inwieġbu whud minn dawk li wiehed jista' wkoll isejjhillhom kurżitajiet.

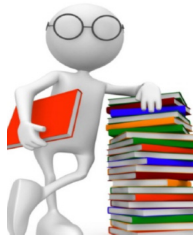
Illum qed nilqgħu t-talba ta' whud li xtaqu jafu x'inhu l-kliem Malti għal xi hut, uħud popolari u oħrajn mhux daqstant, li forsi jafuhom aktar bl-Isien Inġliż, u li jinstabu fl-ibħra Maltin. Illum nibdew bi ftit u 'l quddiem nippubblikaw oħrajn, fosthom uħud li qatt ma forsi smajtu bihom, la bl-Inġliż u lanqas bil-Malti, jekk mhux xi sajjied:

INGLIŻ	MALTI
Poor cod	Mankana
Mediterranean spearfish	Pastardella
Shi drum	Gurbell
Stargazer	Zondu
Swordfish	Pixxi spad
Pearly razorfish	Rożetta/Rużetta
John dory	Pixxi San Pietru
Greater weever	Tracna/Sawt
Mediterranean horse mackerel	Sawrella
Atlantic horse mackerel	Sawrella/Sawrella kahla
Tub gurnard	Gallinetta
Five spotted torpedo/common torpedo	Haddiela tal-għajnejn
Electric ray	Haddiela mdahhna



Marbeled electic ra	Haddiela
Gurnard	Gallina
Pouting	Pouting
Northern bluefin tuna	Tonn
European flying squid	Tutlu

Biex tikteb Malti tajjeb Il-Konsonanti li jixxiebħu



1. Il-Konsonanti li jixxiebħu huma dawk li għandhom lehenhom jaqbel ma' oħrajn u li għalhekk xi drabi jittlissnu wahda minflok l-oħra.

Eż.: Jifen flok **jiżfen**; **g**bir flok **kbir**; **ħ**biep flok **ħbieb**

2. Il-Konsonanti li jixxiebħu jittqassmu f'Rotob (*p, t, ċ, x, k, ħ, f u s*) u Qawwijia (*b, d, ġ, g, ġħ, h, v u ż*)

3. Meta żewġ konsonanti li jixxiebħu jmissu ma' xulxin,

TAHRIĠ 1

Ta' min illum nagħmlu taħriġ faċli halli naraw jekk wiehed fehemx dak li għedna aktar 'l fuq.

1. Sewwi l-kitba ta':

Ħabip, gidep, vdal, ġdit, qabes, xelluk, salip, pajjis, inbit, żdieri, ptieħi, nerf, talp, pkejna, thalt, ħriċt, hops, sodot, ħmieċ, ċrief, pċejjeċ, żbieħ, hadit, qlup, riet u sap.

jekk it-tieni waħda tkun **Ratba**, trattab lil ta' qabilha u jekk tkun **Qawwijia**, issaħħaħha.

Eż.: Għalhekk **ż**fin tingħad **s**fin; **k**bar tingħad **g**bar.

4. Konsonanti **Qawwijia** f'tarf il-kelma ssir **Ratba**.

Eż.: **qalb**, tinstema' **qalp**

5. Biex inkunu nafu kif niktbu sew dawn il-konsonanti li jixxiebħu għandna nżidulhom jew nifirduhom b'xi vokali jew sillaba.

Eż.: **libsa** għax **libes**; **ħareġ** (**ħarġa**); **ried** (**riedet**).

TAHRIĠ 1

2. Ikteb seba' kelmiet li jibdew bil-konsonanti Rotob u sebgħa li jibdew bil-konsonanti Qawwijia.

*Fil-harġa li miss tas-26 ta' Ottubru nagħtu r-riżultat ta' dan it-taħriġ u wkoll nibdew it-trattaw kapitlu importanti hafna, dwar **II-VERB***



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Dawn huma: (ittri kapitali u zghar):

A a	B b	Ċ ċ	D d	E e	F f	Ġ ġ	G g	Għ gh	H h
a	be	ce	de	e	ef	ge	ge	ajn	akka
H h	I i	Ie ie	J j	K k	L l	M m	N n	O o	P p
he	i	ie	je	ke	elle	emme	enne	o	pe
Q q	R r	S s	T t	U u	V v	W w	X x	Ż ż	Z z
qe	erre	esse	te	u	ve	we	exxe	ze	ze

Obituaries

Moses Mifsud died on September 13 at the John Paul Retirement Village at Heathcote. He leaves to mourn him his wife Carmen, his sons Paul, David and Michael and their families. Moses was born in Birkirkara, Malta, on June 19, 1934 and emigrated to Australia at the age of 19. For 48 years he lived in Kingsgrove NSW before moving to the Retirement Village in 2013.

Moses founded the Maltese Bowlers Social Group in which he was very active till the very end, but for most of adult life he was involved in various associations where he was a successful organiser of all sort of tours, other activities and fundraiser.

He was also active with the Beverly Hills Soccer Football Club as a coach, and the First Aider for the Melita Eagles Soccer Club. He spent 25 years as a member of the Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish Band where as young man played the trumpet. But his great love outside of the family was lawn bowls.



Lina Role (left) an active member of the Maltese Bowlers Group of NSW died on September 18, 2015. She was born in Gzira, Malta on April 24, 1937, the eldest of six children. She was married to Joe (deceased). She leaves to mourn her seven grandchildren, and surviving siblings Joe and Doreen

Charles Meli died at St Joseph Hospital Auburn NSW on Saturday September 26. He was born in Malta on the July 19, 1944 and emigrated to Sydney, Australia with his family in 1949. Son of Romeo and Mary Meli (deceased). Loving husband to Suzanne and father of Belinda and Rebecca. Brother to Joe (deceased), Frank, Marlene Dimech and Carmen Cachia. Played football with Melita Eagles FC.

One good turn deserves another

Dedication we have lots of; when it comes to time, we find it as when dedicating oneself to a cause, it's there. A third ingredient needed to produce an online magazine such as *The Voice of the Maltese* is financial. To offset that, the production team has been seeking sponsors to help us share that burden with us.

Some have responded positively by advertising the services they offer to their clients on our publication. More is needed, so we call upon others to follow.

In return, our readers are urged to use the services offered by our sponsors.

L-ahbarijiet tal-PBS (Malta)

Ghalkemm il-PBS ta' Malta tforni lill-SBS fl-Awstralja bis-servizz taghha, il-qarrejja mhegga li x'hin iridu jidhlu fil-website: www.tvm.com. mt u jsegwu l-ahbarijiet ta' Malta. Din tkun aggnata l-hin kollu bi stejjer li jkunu qed isehhu.

Mhux biss, imma min irid isegwi dak li jkun ghaddej, kull filghodu hin ta' Malta fuq il-website jittellghu wkoll l-ahbarijiet tal-jum ta' qabel.



LEST WE FORGET

ARMISTICE DAY CEREMONY Sunday 8th November 2015

Organised by the Maltese RSL Sub-Branch

Families of late RSL ex-Servicemen are encouraged to attend

a

Remembrance Day Mass

For the deceased Maltese ex-Servicemen who passed away in Australia

Names of the deceased will be read out at the beginning of the Mass and families are urged to attend.

Celebrant: Fr Tarcisio Micallef mssp
Time: 10:00am
Place: De Piro House
19-21 Stanley Street,
East Sydney

Light refreshments will follow at the end of the ceremony
For enquiries call: Doris Pocock 0419 420 915



SAINT NICHOLAS FESTA COMMITTEE NSW

Presents..... **Classic Cars Show and Il-Fiera I-Kbira**

On Sunday October 18 Good Shepherd Hall,
130-136 Hyatts Road, Plumpton

Classic Cars, Motorbikes & Trucks Exhibition
9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

Contact Charlie Gatt: 9671 3919 or Jim Farrugia: 9677 9755
Afterwards

II-FIERA I-KBIRA

Doors open at 1.30 p.m. Music
& Entertainment by

Ron Borg, Joe Xuereb & Tony Fenech

Loads of fantastic prizes to be won, Including the traditional rabbit - 'Fiera Tal-Fniek'
There will also be drinks and food of all types including: *pastizzi* and *ħobż biż-żejt* or *bigilla* and FREE ice cream for all children.

Entry is free; Plenty of parking space
SO COME ALONG, BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Further information, from: President:

Bill Schembri: 0416 261 415 or
PRO: Joe Fenech: - 0412 009 957

Other important activity this year:
Sunday December 6: Feast of St Nicholas

Community News

Readers can now request a printed copy of *The Voice*

In response to a number of inquiries, *The Voice of the Maltese* wishes to advise that we can now supply hard copies in colour of our magazine to our readers at a price. So anybody interested in acquiring copies of the magazine can communicate with us personally or by email to: maltesevoice@gmail.com. The magazine can also be delivered by post. As the cost of postage varies one is kindly requested to get in touch with us to work out the details.

lċ-Ċittadini jkomplu fl-2016

Il-kumpanija tat-teatrin fi NSW l-Awstralja, "lċ-Ċittadini" jixtiequ jfakkru li s-serati tagħhom se jibdeu mill-gdid fis-sena 2016.

Skond Doris Caruana, il-president tal-kumpanija, bħalissa jinsabu weqfin minhabba li hemm xi atturi li jinsabu fuq btala f'Malta.

Past Pupils & Friends of Don Bosco (NSW)

Saturday October 24: 28th Annual Dinner Dance at Mandavilla Function Centre 1788 The Horsley Drive Horsley Park from 7pm.

Music by Joe Apap. Dress: semi formal.

For booking: Marlene: 02 9631 9295

Tinteressak il-kitba?

Id-direzzjoni ta' *The Voice* thegġeg lill-qarrejja li jhossu li jew għandhom talent għall-kitba, l-aktar bl-Ilsien Malti, imma mhux biss, inkella li jahsbu li bi ftit għajjuna jistghu jrabbu l-kunfidenza għall-kitba, biex jekk u meta iridu, jew jitolbu l-għajjuna tagħna, inkella sempliċement jibagħtu x-xogħol tagħhom lil: *The Voice of the Maltese* biex narawh.

Email address: maltesevoice@gmail.com

Jekk tkunu tridu wara nipublikaw il-kitbiet tagħkom.



The Maltese Language School of NSW

The Maltese Language School of NSW invites applications for Maltese language classes at the Alfred Fenech Maltese Resource Centre located at 59b Franklin Street (corner with Young Street) Mays Hill (next to Parramatta West Public School).

Both young and adult students may apply.

For more information contact Mary Pace-Feraud on 9601 2189 or email: malteselanguageschoolnsw@hotmail.com

St Helena Maltese Australia SC

OCTOBER 24: (Saturday): Get-together at St Martin de Porres, Avondale Heights.

OCTOBER 25: (Sunday): 2.p.m.: General Meeting at Parkville.

NOVEMBER 14: (Saturday): Get-together at Holy Eucharist, St Albans.

DECEMBER 19: (Saturday): Xmas function at Melrose Receptions, Tullamarine.

For more information:

Phone Victor on 0412 99 13 25 or Mary Abdilla on 03 (9370 51 64)

Computer Class for the Elderly

The Maltese Community Council of NSW is conducting a computer class at Maltese Resource Centre 59b Franklin Street, Mays Hill 2145 NSW every Friday between 10.00 a.m. and 12.00

For more information contact Em. Camilleri: 0409 744 376

Join us on The Voice of the Maltese facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/thevoiceofthemaltese>



SUTHERLAND & ST. GEORGE MALTESE GROUP

The Sutherland & St George Maltese Group are organising a day trip to *The Entrance* on Friday November 13.

The Coach departs Miranda Community Centre at 7.30 a.m., then proceeds to pick up at Our Lady Queen of Peace Greystanes at 8.30 a.m.

From there we will continue to *The Entrance* where we will stop for lunch at a club. Joe Galea and others will be there to meet us.

At 3.30 p.m. we will go to see the feeding of the Pelicans, and at approx. 4.00 p.m. will start the journey back to Greystanes, and then continue to Miranda Community Centre to arrive by approx. 7.30 p.m.

For booking (not later than Friday October 30) contact Charles N. Mifsud: 0421 662 298, or Joe C. Deguara: 0408 966 877

Travel by 5-star coach. Fee only \$40.



MALTESE LANGUAGE SCHOOL OF NSW

A Division of the Maltese Community Council of NSW Inc.

Learn Maltese!

Classes are available for students from 6 years to adults at all levels of ability in the Maltese language. We have trained and experienced teachers qualified in language teaching and with Maltese study credentials. Learn the Maltese language, the culture, lifestyle, cuisine, traditions and about the amazing history of the island.

Classes at: **HORSLEY PARK - SEVEN HILLS - LUDDENHAM**

For more information and enquiries Call Mary on 9601 2189

Or email: malteselanguageschoolnsw@hotmail.com

Supported by the Minister of Education and Training and the NSW Community Languages Schools Programme. Member of the NSW Federation of Community Language Schools of NSW; Member of the Federation of Maltese Language Schools of Australia; Supported by 16 Maltese associations affiliated with the MCC of NSW. The Maltese Language School of NSW is a Not-For-Profit organisation.

Community News



Tune In to Radio and Television



Isma' l-programm tar-radju bil-Malti mill-Kunsill Malti ta' NSW minn fuq l-istazzjon 2GLF 89.3FM. Jista' wkoll jinstema' *On Demand* minn fuq l-Internet www.893fm.com.au

(On Demand >Ethnic >Maltese Council 11am)

Il-programm ta' siegha nhar ta' Hadd fil-11.00 a.m. ikun fih l-ahhar ahbarijiet minn Malta, muzika, taghrif, kultura, avvizi u suggetti ta' interess ghall-Maltin

Listen to John Borg & Glenn Cassar every Saturday at 1.00 p.m. on RADIO 2RRR 88.5FM or on the Internet - www.2rrr.org.au ON DeMAND

On SBS Radio

Day Time Analogue and Digital

Friday: 12:00-13:00 97.7fm SBS Radio 2
Saturday: 14:00-15:00: 97.7fm SBS Radio 2

To tune into digital radio you need a receiver or device with a DAB+ chip. Tuning in is by station name not frequency. Digital radio can also be heard via digital TV.

SBS Radio 2 is on Channel 38.

The radio programmes can be accessed online (*live or catch up*) at sbs.com.au/maltese and via mobile phone, using the SBS Radio app. For television news from Malta - SBS 2 TV on Thursdays and Sundays at 8am.

VIVA MALTA

VIVA MALTA on COAST FM 96.3 Community Radio in Gosford Central NSW. Aired every fortnight from 6 pm - 7 pm (Next is October 22).

Presenter: Nathalie Gatt.

Web streaming on: www.coastfm.org.au.

La Valette Social Centre Programme of activities

SUNDAY November 1: At Pine Grove for our beloved. Mass at 5pm. Our Lady Queen of Peace Maltese Band will take part from 4pm. *One is advised to bring a chair.*

TUESDAY November 3: Melbourne Cup lunch \$25 for 2-course meal, morning tea. Centre opens at 10am. Sweeps lucky door prizes and hat competition - book early.

TUESDAY December 8: Trip for Cherry picking at Orange. Lunch at Orange RSL (at own expense or bring your own). Cost \$50 pp; children \$30 - includes coach and morning tea. Coach leaves Greystanes at 6am and from la Valette at 6.30 am

For bookings & information: Centre: 96225847; Frances 0412320432 or Antoinette 96712992

Maltese Radio Programmes

MELBOURNE, on 3ZZZ 92.3FM or on www.3zzz.com.au. Mondays 5pm, Fridays 5pm, Saturdays 10am.; Last Wednesday each month at 1pm.

MELBOURNE on 98.9 North West FM, each Friday 6.00 - 7.00p.m. Presenter Emmanuel Brincat.

MELBOURNE: STEREO 974 (93180930): 97.4FM Wed (Maltese Magazine) & Thursday (Merhba): 6.00pm to 8.00 pm Co-ordinator - Ray Anastasi

In SYDNEY, listen to the MCC radio programmes on 2GLF FM 89.3. Saturdays 6 to 8 a.m. Martese Caruana presents **Nostalgia Music**; Sundays from 10.00 - 11.00 am: **Ilhna Maltin**. Both available on demand. Follow same procedure as for MCC programmes, except select programme in reference.

In BRISBANE listen to the Maltese Program on 4EB on Tuesdays 6.00 -8.15am; Sundays 4.15pm to 5.15pm

UNCLE SAM DJ (Maltese Radio) tune in to link: www.unclesamdj.com

Maltese Programmes on TV and Web

The GDAY MALTAUSSIE SHOW on TVS is broadcast in Sydney Every Saturday at 2pm. Repeats on Mondays 5 pm and Tuesdays 7.30 am
Watch direct via HYPERLINK:
<http://www.tvns.org.au>; <http://www.tvns.org.au>

The SBS MALTESE NEWS

L-Ahbarijiet on SBS TV twice a week nationwide Sunday at 8.00 am on SBS2 (Chan. 32); Thursdays at 8.00 am on SBS2

Malta Society of New Zealand

We now have a Facebook page that former members are invited to join. It is:

Mainly-Maltese-in-Auckland:
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Mainly-Maltese-in-Auckland/396193070527203?ref=hl>.

It is open to all who have an interest in the Maltese culture.

Meetings of Day Care Maltese Groups in NSW

Fairfield Active Maltese Seniors

Meets on the first Tuesday of the Month from 10:00am to 12 noon.

The group meets in the Parish Hall, cnr of Stella Street & The Boulevard, Fairfield Heights.

Maltese Seniors Central Coast

You need to contact our Welfare Officer for an appointment.
For all information and referral matters one should call Censina Cefai:
Tel: 02 439 000 12 or 0414 267 652

Daceyville Maltese Seniors

Meets on the last Wednesday of the month in the Meeting Room One, No. 3 General Bridges Crescent, Daceyville.

Note: The Groups also arrange regular Bus Trips
Come and join us and make new friends.

Merrylands Social Maltese Seniors

Meets every second Friday of the month; Miller Room, Memorial Avenue Merrylands from 10.30am to 12.30 am

Llandillo Maltese Seniors

Meets on the second Monday of each month at the Llandilo Community Hall, Seventh Avenue, from 11am to 1pm.

*(All Groups are Sponsored by The Maltese Community Council of NSW).
Please contact the MCC Welfare Officer: Marisa Previtera JP on 0414 863 123. The MCC offices are at 59b Franklin Street (corner with Young St) Parramatta West NSW (next to West Parramatta Primary School)

Greystanes Maltese Seniors

Meets on the second Monday of each month at the George Preca Centre of OLQP Church, 198 Old Prospect Road, Greystanes from 10 am to 12 noon

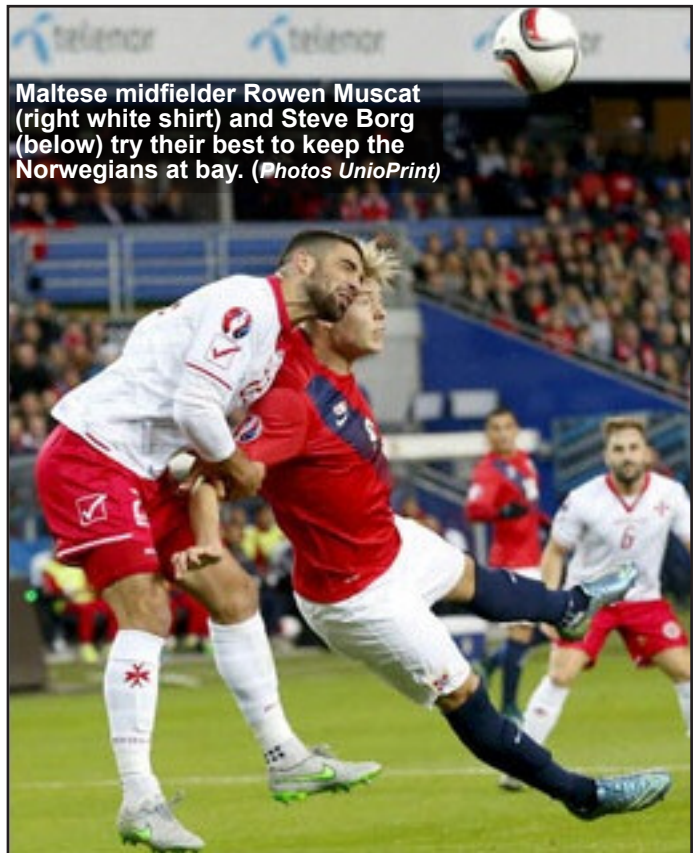
The Sutherland & St George Maltese Group

Ongoing: We meet every First Wednesday of the Month from 10:00am-1:00pm

Our Meetings/Get Togethers are interesting, informative & entertaining.

Come Join us and make new Friends
For more information contact our Coordinator: Charles Mifsud J.P. Phone (02) 9501 5525 - mobile 0421 662 298.

Sports



Maltese midfielder Rowen Muscat (right white shirt) and Steve Borg (below) try their best to keep the Norwegians at bay. (Photos UnioPrint)

Negative performance leads to Malta's seventh loss from nine Euro 16 games

In what has been described by national coach Pietro Ghedin as "probably the worst performance in the current European campaign," Malta were defeated 2-0 by Norway in a Group H Euro 16 qualifier at the Ullevaal Stadion in Oslo. It was Malta's seventh defeat from nine outings.

Malta were dominated throughout, physically and technically and rarely looked like scoring or to stand a chance of taking something out of this match the result of which kept alive Norway's chance of qualifying for the Championship's finals next summer.

Norway were constantly on the attack and there was never any doubt that their superiority could result in an easy victory. The Maltese were hardly allowed to forage in their opponents' half of the field, let alone score. The Maltese not only conceded two goals, but also 17 corners and were it not for some erratic shooting and good saves by Andrew Hogg in Malta's goal, Norway's victory would have been more pronounced. They made 23 attempts at goal as against Malta's three.

This performance does not

augur well for Malta's home match Tuesday against Croatia.

Norway took the lead on 19 minutes through Alexander Tettey following a corner and a lucky deflection. Vegard Forren hit the post for Norway two minutes into the second session and then the Scandinavians secured all three points seven minutes into the second half with the second goal from Alexander Soderlund after Hogg dropped Henriksen's low cross.

Australia A-League Champs Victory kick off with scoreless draw

The football season kicked off at the Pirtek Stadium where Western Sydney hosted Brisbane Roar the way they ended the last one, in defeat, as they lost 1-3m that does not augur well for the tough campaign ahead.

Defending champions Melbourne Victoria, who finished with only 10 men, could only register a scoreless draw away to Adelaide United. It was a balanced affair but Victory's coach Kevin Muscat was very disappointed with the referee's decision to send off team captain Leigh Broxham on 73 minutes for a second yellow card. In fact, Replays confirmed the Victory skipper was a trifle unlucky.

Victory will look to improve markedly when they tackle hometown rival Melbourne City in the local derby at Etihad Stadium on Saturday night.

Full Results on Day 1

Adelaide U. v Melbourne V.	0-0
West. Sydney W. v Brisbane R.	1-3
Central Coast v Perth Glory	3-2
Sydney FC v Melbourne C.	1-1
Wellington Ph. v Newcastle Jets	1-2

Malta's Premier League Football Balzan take sole command of league ladder

Hibernians were stunned into submission for the first time this season when they were disappointingly thrashed 4-1 by Mosta enabling Balzan, who narrowly defeated Qormi with a goal deep into stoppage time in Round 7, to take sole command of the Premier League's ladder, which is in itself a historic occasion for this club that until before this game had already done more than was expected by sharing the position with defending champions Hibernians who have now lost ground as they slid to fourth position.

Before the recess for international team commitments, Hibernians were at the end of a 1-4 defeat against Mosta who have strengthened their team from last season in order to

try and challenge for a Europe place. Mosta came from 1-0 down to win. Valletta kept up their challenge with a 3-1 victory over Tarxien Rainbows and now sit in the runner up position, two points behind Balzan.

Birkirkara leapfrogged over Hibernians and moved to within three points of the leaders in third place thanks to a comfortable 1-0 win over pointless St Andrews, who like Naxxar Lions have lost all their seven matches so far.

For Naxxar, their 1-5 defeat at the hands of Pembroke was the last straw for the wooden-spoonists and in midweek sacked coach Stefano Grima.

Floriana continued to improve by beating 'old firm' rivals Sliema 3-0.

RESULTS: Round 7

Mosta v Hibernians	4-1
Osa Guobadia, Jonas Rodriguez, Ian Zammit, Edin Muga (M); Jorge S Silva (H)	
Balzan v Qormi	1-0
Aleksander Vujacic	
Valletta v Tarxien R.	3-1
Abdelkarim Nafti, Bruno de Oliveira o.g., JP Mifsud Triganza (V); Luke Mointebello (T)	
Birkirkara v St Andrews	4-0
Fabrizio Miccoli 2 (1 pen), Vito Plut, Elinton Morais	
Floriana v Sliema W.	3-0
Matteo Picciollo 2, Steve Pisani	
Pembroke v Naxxar L.	5-1
Kyle O'Brien, Leighton Grech, Gustavo Villalobos 2, Lyden Camilleri (P); Richard Cardozo (N)	

Standings	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Balzan	7	5	2	0	13	3	17
Valletta	7	5	0	2	12	5	15
Birkirkara	7	4	2	1	18	7	14
Hibernians	7	4	2	1	11	8	14
Floriana	7	4	1	2	13	7	13
Mosta	7	4	1	2	13	8	13
Pembroke	7	3	1	3	14	16	10
Sliema W	7	3	1	3	4	7	10
Tarxien R.	7	2	3	2	11	7	9
Qormi	7	1	1	5	5	9	4
St Andrews	7	0	0	7	5	21	0
Naxxar L.	7	0	0	7	3	24	0