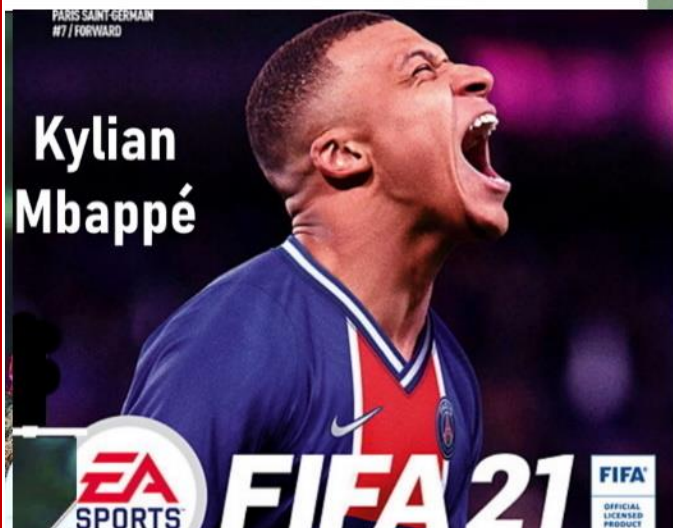


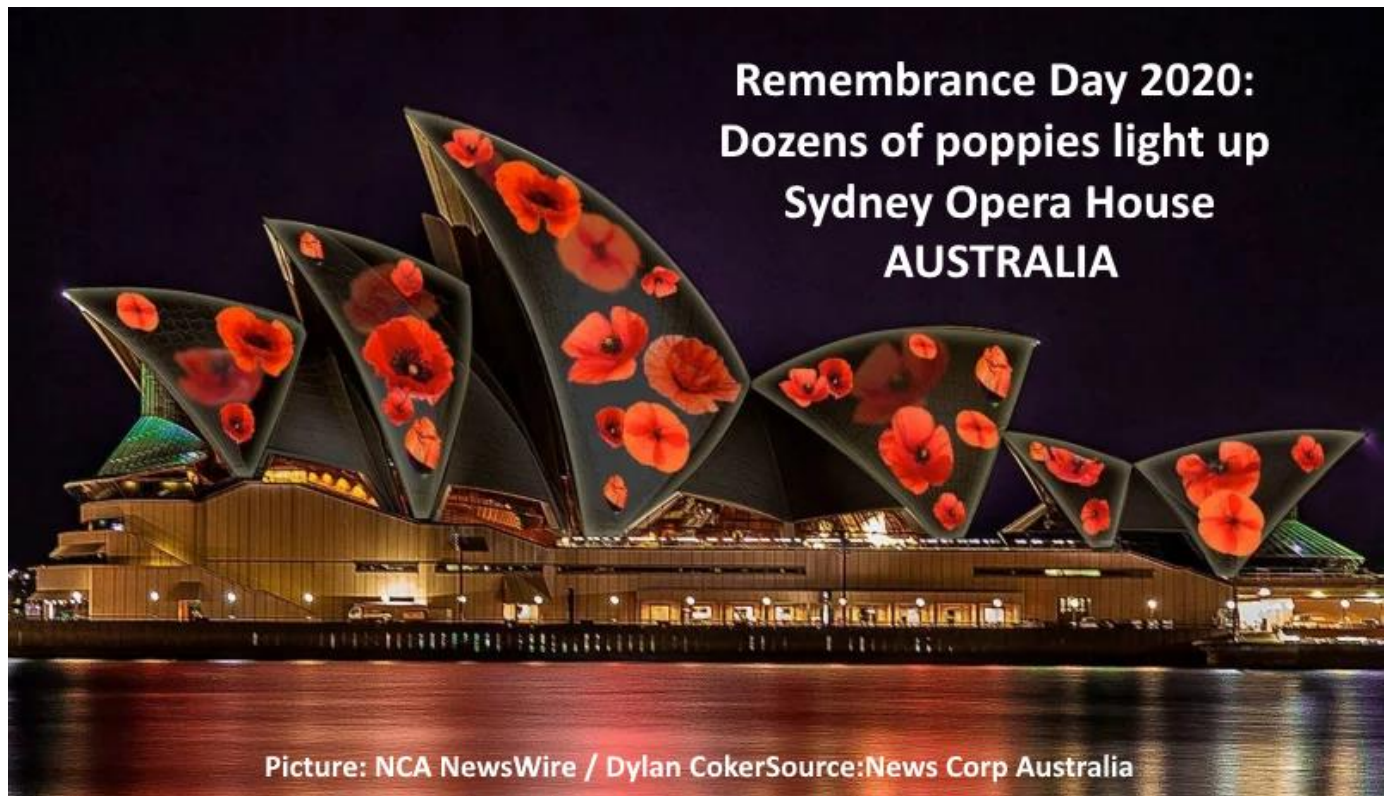


# Maltese eNewsletter

JOURNAL OF MALTESE LIVING ABROAD

Editor: Frank L Scicluna





The stirring sound of a bugle rippled across Circular Quay at dawn on Wednesday, marking the first sign of a day of remembrance.

Acting Veterans Affairs Minister Geoff Lee stood side-by-side with the bugler and RSL NSW acting president Ray James as dozens of red poppies adorned the Sydney Opera House sails, reflecting into the harbour below for Remembrance Day 2020.

The 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month signifies Germany's truce in France in 1918 which ended the First War.

More than 60,000 Australians were killed fighting for their country. And today the nation pays tribute to those lost and to those who are still serving.

Minister Lee described the moment the Opera House lit up as "spine tingling".

"This morning was a great scene, the water was glassy, the sun was rising to the east and red poppies were projected onto the white sails of the Opera House in remembrance of those who paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms," he said.

"It was a strong symbolic reminder of the service and sacrifice made over a century ago which gave us the freedom we enjoy today."



**Why so many Maltese living abroad  
read, love, respect, share and support  
THE MALTESE JOURNAL**





## L-EWWEL KARDINAL GHAWDXI

### Mons Isqof Mario Grech

Niftakrek fuq bank l-iskola  
Student biežel u ħawtiel  
U minn kif kont iġġib ruġek  
Mill-ewwel int tajtna ħjiel.

Dmirijietek int kont taqdi  
Sa ma bdejt titfarfar sewwa  
Tbissima tilgħab fuq fommok  
Ma kontx taf x'inhuma għedewwa!

Spicċajt dħalt is-Seminarju  
Biex tistudja għal saċerdot  
Fuq il-passi tal-Imgħallem  
Ħajtek fassalt b'dan il-mod.

Wara ħallejt ix-xtut tagħna  
U spicċajt fil-Belt Eterna  
Sabiex tkompli hemm titħarreg  
Tiftaħ moħħok, tiddixxerna!

Lura f'Għawdex ġewwa l-Kurja  
Ħdimt, ħabrikt dlonk bla waqfien  
Kappillan f'raħal tfulitek  
Magħżul ġejt wara ftit żmien.

Iżda hawnhekk ma domtx wisq tmexxi  
Triq oħra kien hemm għalik –  
Isqof t'Għawdex Ruma qalet  
Il-Baklu f'idejk tagħtik!

U ħmistax-il sena tgerbu  
Tmexxi lil dil-merħla Għawdxija;  
Lilha twissi, twiddeb, teħles  
Minn kull għawg illi jherriha.

Sakemm feġġet il-ġurnata  
Li mill-ġdid Ruma kellmitek –  
Segretarju minn tas-Sinodu  
Għal darb'oħra din sejħitlek!

Kont diġà bdejt itmidd għonqok  
F'din il-kariga prestiġġjuża  
Iżda l-Papa milli jidher  
Għalik kellu spazji usa'

U mit-tieqa ta' kamartu  
Ħabrilna l'int Kardinal –  
Lejn l-aħħar minn ta' Novembru  
Fost il-ferħ tal-kbar u ż-żgħar.

Eminenza nifirħulek  
Kemm ninsabu ferħanin  
L-ewwel fost ulied dan Għawdex  
Li għamiltna hekk kburin.

Flimkien aħna ser nitolbu  
Lil Ommna minn tas-Sikors  
U lill-Papa kbir Gregorju  
Lil ħajtek jimlew bil-ghors

Sabiex mal-Qdusija Tiegħu  
Tistinka għall-Knisja tagħna  
Biex din tikber u tinfirex  
U bil-grazzja dlonk tistagħna.

**Kav Joe M Attard**  
01 – X1 – 2020

***We are proud of our Maltese Achievers***



## Fra' Marco Luzzago elected Lieutenant of Grand Master of Sovereign Order of Malta

such fervour by our late Fra' Giacomo, whom at this moment I remember with emotion.

### Profile of Lieutenant

Fra' Marco was born 1950 in Brescia. He completed a scientific high school degree at the institute of the Franciscans in Brescia, before studying medicine for a number of years at the Universities of Padua and Parma. He was then asked to manage his family's property interests. This led on to business activities in the consumer industry and large-scale retail distribution, an area in which he continued to be involved in for many years. Fra' Marco joined the Sovereign Order of Malta in 1975 in the Grand Priory of Lombardy and Venice and took his Solemn religious Vows in 2003. He began attending the Order of Malta's international pilgrimages to Lourdes and the national pilgrimages to Assisi and Loreto. Since 2010 he has dedicated his life completely to the Order of Malta, moving to the Marches to care for one of the Order's Commanderies.

Since 2011 he has been Commander of Justice in the Grand Priory of Rome, where he holds the position of Delegate of the Northern Marches and head of the library. Since 2017 he has been Councillor of the Order of Malta's Italian Association. Fra' Marco Luzzago is related to Pope Paul VI.

### The Lieutenant of the Grand Master

According to the Order of Malta's Constitution, the Lieutenant of the Grand Master remains in office for one year with the same powers as the Grand Master. The Lieutenant of the Grand Master has to reconvene the Council Complete of State before the end of his mandate.

The Lieutenant of the Grand Master must devote himself fully to the development of the Order's works and be an example for all members in religious observance. He has supreme authority. Together with the Sovereign Council, he issues the legislative provisions not provided for by the Constitutional Charter, promulgates the acts of the government and ratifies international agreements.

The Lieutenant of the Grand Master resides in the Order of Malta's seat, the Magistral Palace in Rome

Fra' Marco Luzzago has been elected with a large majority Lieutenant of the Grand Master of the Sovereign Order of Malta. The Council Complete of State, the electoral body, met on 7 and 8 November in the Magistral Villa in Rome, one of the Order of Malta's two institutional seats. All phases of the election were carried out in full compliance with anti-Covid measures.

There were 44 participants at the Council Complete of State out of the 56 entitled to vote. They came to Rome from Argentina, Peru, the United States, Lebanon, France, Sweden, Austria, Germany, Holland, Spain, Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic, Switzerland, Malta and Italy.

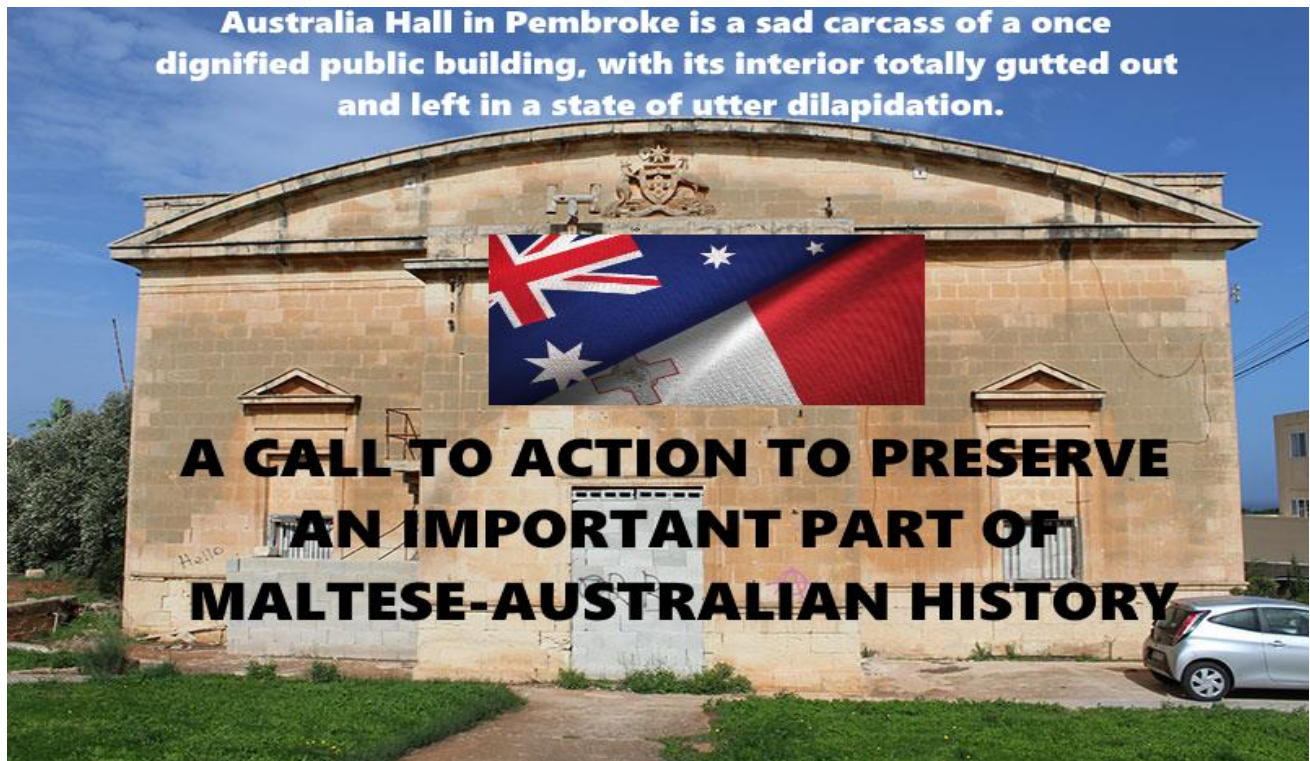
The newly elected head of the Sovereign Order of Malta swore his oath before the members of the Council Complete of State and the Pope's Special Delegate, cardinal-designate Silvano Maria Tomasi. Fra' Marco Luzzago succeeds Fra' Giacomo Dalla Torre del Tempio di Sanguinetto, Prince and 80th Grand Master, who died on 29 April last.

Pope Francis was informed of the election by letter. Subsequently all the Order of Malta's Grand Pories, Sub-Pories and National Associations worldwide were informed, together with the 110 states with which the Sovereign Order of Malta entertains diplomatic relations.

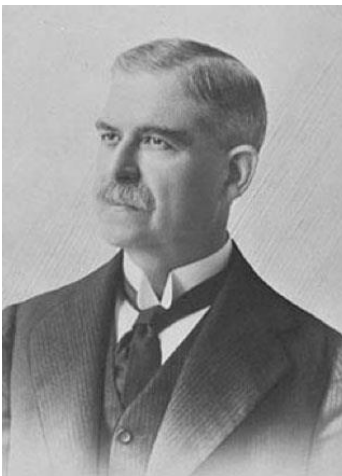
The Lieutenant of the Grand Master – who will remain in office for one year – when addressing the members of the Council Complete said: 'the Holy Spirit has graciously turned his gaze to me. I thank each one of you for placing your trust in me and for showing by your presence here today a great love and a great dedication to our Order. For my part, I can only assure you of my maximum commitment to address the challenges that lie ahead of us in the coming months. First of all, the reform of the Constitutional Charter and the Code carried on with



The Order of Malta - Serving the sick & the poor for over 900 years. The members initiate & sustain projects to assist the most vulnerable people in society, regardless of race or religion [twitter.com](https://twitter.com)



## GERALD STRICKLAND AND THE AUSTRALIAN CONNECTION



Here enters the main character of this story, Gerald Strickland. Gerald Strickland was born in Valletta, Malta in 1861 to a Maltese captain. This gave the young Gerald Strickland the opportunity to venture the world – including his visit to Australia where he met other Maltese sailors in

Queensland. This started his connection to Australia, where he ultimately became an important figure in Australia in his official capacities of **Governor of Tasmania in 1904-1909; Governor of Western Australia during 1909-1913 and Governor of NSW during 1913-1916.**

He was married to Lady Edeline Sackville-West who also contributed to the war effort during WWI through her affiliations with the Australian Red Cross. Following her sudden passing in 1918, Strickland soon was re-married to Margaret Hulton. Gerald Strickland then returned to Malta and became Prime Minister of Malta in 1924 and stayed in power until 1932 becoming one of the longest reigning prime ministers in Maltese history.

Like many of the Maltese, Gerald Strickland had multiple allegiances –British, Maltese and Australian. Like his predecessors, he too identified the need to effectively and sustainably manage the Maltese population whilst also recognising the collective benefits of opening up opportunities for them to relocate to Australia where they could readily apply their skills in Agriculture, Construction and Management and prosper accordingly in Australia. What Prime Minister Gerald Strickland ultimately set out to do was find a way to help his Maltese brothers and sisters improve their lives by migrating to Australia.

In a bold and entrepreneurial move, Gerald Strickland acquired a weatherboard “Queenslander” home and had it dismantled and shipped to Malta. In Malta, almost all construction was of stone. His objective was to teach the Maltese how to construct with wood so that they could adapt and thrive in their new Australian homeland.

This house was built and deconstructed constantly at various training schools in Malta. It also served as an immigration office for the Maltese leaving for Australia and was most recently as a residence and a training centre. Today this building is in disrepair and the Maltese Government are undertaking plans to relocate and restore it.



## THE STRICKLAND HOUSE AUSTRALIA HALL CONNECTION

There is a property in Vaucluse, Sydney Australia known as Strickland House, which Australis managed for Government Property NSW for many years. At the time we were oblivious to the history and its connection with my Maltese heritage. The property also served as a

Women's Hospital thanks to the Strickland's involvement in the Red Cross in Australia.

On a street in Pembroke, Malta stands a building known as Australia Hall. This heritage building bears the Australian Coat of Arms and is emblazoned with the Australian Army's rising sun. This is probably the only emblem of its type in the world and the plaque on the front of the property reads:

*This building was erected and fuded in November 1915 by the Australian Branch of the British Red Cross Society for the benefit of the soldiers of the Empire.* It's is most likely that the Stricklands were involved in this construction as a welcoming gesture of goodwill for our ANZAC troops who were based in and passed through Malta.

## ERIC SCERRI - ONE OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL SCIENTISTS TODAY



Today, the scientific inquiry around chemistry remains essential to improving our way of life through technological innovations, medical breakthroughs, and yet deeper insights into our bodies, minds, and the universe which surrounds us. That covers a lot of ground, which means that, whether you know it or not, the Most Influential People in Chemistry over the last decade (2010-2020) have had a profound impact on your world. These scholars, educators, and famous chemists are responsible for the most important findings, developments, and innovations in chemistry today.

Chemistry is, quite literally, the study of everything around us. This physical science explores the properties of matter, the way substances interact, and how energy is created. Chemistry is the study of the elements, compounds, and molecular composition. There is chemistry in everything we do, from cooking and cleaning to driving and digesting our meals.

In what follows, we look at influential chemists over the last decade. Based on our ranking methodology, these individuals have significantly impacted the academic discipline of chemistry within

2010-2020. Influence can be produced in a variety of ways. Some have had revolutionary ideas, some may have climbed by popularity, but all are academicians primarily working in chemistry.

**Note:** This isn't simply a list of *the most influential chemists alive today*. Here we are focused on the number of citations and web presence of scholars in the last 10 years. There are other highly influential scholars who simply haven't been cited and talked about as much in the last 10 years, whereas some new faces have been making a splash in the news, speaking events, and publishing, publishing. Our AI is time sensitive. To find some of the big names you might have expected to see here, we encourage you to use our dynamic ranking system and check influence over the [past 20](#) and [50 years](#).

### Ten Most Influential Chemists Today

[Carolyn Bertozzi](#) [Eric Scerri](#) [Ada Yonath](#) [Jean-Pierre Sauvage](#) [Fraser Stoddart](#)  
[Paul Anastas](#) [Omar M. Yaghi](#) [George C. Schatz](#) [George M. Whitesides](#) [Harry B. Gray](#)

Eric Scerri (1953 - ) *Malta* University of California at Los Angeles  
Lecturer *Philosophy of Chemistry, Chemistry Education*

Scerri is Lecturer at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA). He is also Founder and Editor-in-Chief of *Foundations of Chemistry*, a triannual a peer-reviewed academic journal. Scerri is widely acknowledged as an authority on the Periodic Table, appearing in the PBS documentary *The Mystery of Matter*. He received his bachelor's of science degree from Westfield College, the University of London, his MPhil from the University of Southampton and his Ph.D. from King's College London.

Scerri is a chemist but also a noted historian and philosopher of chemistry. In particular, his work on the Periodic Table has crossed disciplines, and he has worked on conceptual problems involving the reduction of chemistry to quantum mechanics (typically considered part of the philosophy of science). In 2015, Scerri was appointed by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) to make a recommendation on the composition of "Group 3" in the periodic table, selecting the elements that should be included. Scerri's latest book, published in 2020, is titled [\*The Periodic Table. Its Story and Its Significance.\*](#)



## A BIG THANK YOU FROM TONY BRIFFA

I am very honoured and grateful to have been elected to represent and serve my community for a 4th term. Thank you to the local community and especially my fellow residents of Altona, Altona Meadows, Altona North, Brooklyn and Seaholme for your amazing support. I was honestly humbled by the huge result and promise I will not let you down. I love our community.

Thank you to the many people that helped my campaign in any way. From sharing or commenting on my posts on social media, distributing

flyers, having a poster in front of your home, spreading a kind word to neighbours and friends, or to community groups encoring their members to support me. It's been a very positive campaign and I'm so proud when we were attacked we ignored them and continued to focus on what was most important - serving the community to make Hobsons Bay an even greater place to live, work, visit and enjoy.

I don't want to make this into a boring political speech, but I am already planning my work for the next term and am strongly focusing on our community's recovery after the difficult challenges of this year - for our businesses, community groups, families, schools, elderly and disabled citizens, multicultural and faith communities, etc. We have so much to do to rebuild and support our community and I'm really keen to work with all my colleagues on the council to do that, and with the collaboration of our partners in the community

### MALTESE CANADIAN COMMUNITY NEWS

**'Maltese eNewsletter - The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora'**

**The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora has been published and can be obtained by emailing the editor Frank L. Scicluna on [maltesejournal@gmail.com](mailto:maltesejournal@gmail.com)**

**Copies can be obtained from the Consulate General of the Republic of Malta to Canada, Malta Bake Shop, the Malta Band Club, from Theresa Bugelli in the Durham Region and other places.**

**THE NEWSLETTERS ARE ALSO PRERESERVED AT THE WEBSITE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AND EURPEAN AFFAIRS – AT THE MALTA MIGRATION MUSEUM, VALLETTA; ON FACEBOOK AND THE WEBSITE: [www.ozmalta.com](http://www.ozmalta.com)**

**DON'T READ THIS JOURNAL IF YOU DON'T WANT TO BECOME ADDICTED**



**CONGRATULATIN THE PRESIDENT-ELECT JOE BIDEN**

Nifraħ lil [Joe Biden](#) u lil [Kamala Harris](#) għar-rebħa tagħhom fl-elezzjonijiet Presidenzjali fl-Istati Uniti. Ninsab ħerqan li nara r-relazzjonijiet bejn iż-żewġ pajjiżi tagħna jkomplu jissaħħu, kemm fil-livell bilaterali kif ukoll f'dak multilaterali, sabiex negħlbu l-isfidi globali komuni.

◆ ***Congratulations to [Joe Biden](#) and [Kamala Harris](#) for their victory in the [US](#) Presidential elections. I look forward to the further consolidation of relations between our two countries on both the bilateral and multilateral levels to overcome common, global challenges.***

His Excellency Dr George Vella – President of Malta



## Can Pete Buttigieg have a role in Biden’s Presidency?

Posted On November 7, 2020 - Updated 7 November, 2020 8:57pm

The American Presidential Election result will see Joe Biden returning to the White House, not as a Vice President as he was during Barack Obama’s Presidency, but now as a

President of the United States with the first female Vice President, Kamala Harris, TVM spoke with Professor Michael Bugeja in Iowa who explained that the US electoral system is so complex it takes a length of time to produce the result. This was rendered more complex because of the Covid pandemic.

Profs Bugeja said the importance for Malta is the aspect of what Pete Buttigieg will have in the new administration. He believes he will have an important role.

Last March Buttigieg withdrew his nomination to be elected as Democratic Party Presidential candidate and said this was being done in the interests of seeing a united and winning party. In February, Buttigieg won the Iowa election. He is the son of Professor Joseph Buttigieg who emigrated to the US during the 70s and who passed away in January last year.



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Maltese Traditional  
DGHAJSA - boat



## Gozo's most mysterious and sensational trial 80 years ago

November 19, 2018 | Eddie Attard | 07 min read

Without any doubt, the most mysterious and sensational murder in Gozo was that of Ċikku Caruana. On July 15, 1938, at about 8am, Caruana, a 38-year-old cabman, drove his horse to the blacksmith Michael Angelo Grech and asked him to examine his cab, which needed repair. The horse was taken to a nearby yard while Grech carried out the necessary repairs in his workshop in Ġhajj Qatet Street, Victoria. Meanwhile, the cab was left opposite the workshop.

When Grech finished the repairs he asked Caruana to fix the wheel on to his cab and, as Caruana was doing this, two shots rang out. Caruana was hit in the back of his head and died some hours later at Victoria hospital.



The police began the usual investigations but both the Gozo police and the Criminal Investigation Department could not make any headway. So Police Commissioner Salvatore Galea called for Inspector Carol Saliba.

Grech's workshop at Ġhajj Qatet Street, Victoria.

Saliba had joined the Police department in 1917 as a clerical assistant and was appointed sub-inspector two years later. Between 1922 and 1929 he outclassed all his senior colleagues in crime detection and his record of success was outstanding. He succeeded where his seniors had failed, and his brilliant investigation of serious crimes, many of which had remained

unsolved for many years, became legendary. For his zeal and skill, Saliba had been highly commended by Commissioner Saliba and by the judges of the criminal court.

But notwithstanding this unique record, Saliba was never posted to the Criminal Investigation Branch, nor promoted to superintendent. In fact, he was passed over for this promotion no fewer than 13 times. When in July 1938 he was sent to Gozo to investigate Caruana's atrocious murder, it is said that the Police Commissioner promised Saliba that, if he were to solve this case, he would secure the elusive promotion. The inspector must have realised that this chance was too good to miss, and he set about his task with evident relish.



The first murder suspect was Marianu Sarè, who was seen in the vicinity of the crime scene. Sarè was arrested, but after being interrogated he was released without charge. Six days later he made a statement to the police to the effect that on the day of the crime he had seen 37-year-old Wenzu Grech (Michael Angelo's brother) take out a red-hot revolver from the forge and hammering it on the anvil.

This information led to the arrest of Grech. During the investigations, Grech was subjected to endless hours of

interrogations and was dragged out of bed at night for further questioning. Moreover, the cell where Grech was kept under arrest was near the station lavatory that smelt horribly. It was also said that a dead cat had been placed in the lavatory so that the smell would be overwhelming. Meanwhile, a search was also carried out in Grech's workshop and the police seized two pairs of pincers and a sledgehammer. A piece of coke found in the forge was also seized because it seemed heavier than the others.

Dr Carmelo Mifsud Bonnici

Saliba also found what he believed was the motive for the crime as, according to Sarè, Grech had resented the victim's advances to his (Grech's) wife and had threatened to avenge the insult.

Grech was charged with wilful murder and the case came up for trial at the end of November 1938. The Criminal Court was presided over by Sir Arturo Mercieca, assisted by Mr Justice Edgar Ganado and Mr

Justice William D. Harding. The prosecution was led by Dr G. Reynaud and the accused who was defended by Dr Carmelo Mifsud Bonnici, assisted by Dr John Formosa and Dr Giovanni Refalo. The long and sensational trial attracted more attention than others, and the publication of the trial reports generated great interest among readers.

In his evidence, Inspector Saliba said that the wife of the accused had told him that Ċikku Caruana used to call her “Oj Ċikkulata” but she always ignored him. Saliba also said that when he showed Sarè the two pincers seized by the police the latter said that neither of them was used to take the revolver from the forge. This led to another search in the workshop from where, according to the witness, the pincers indicated by Sarè were seized. According to Saliba, the accused admitted that he had been jealous of French.

*Grech was subjected to endless hours of interrogations and was dragged out of bed at night for further questioning*

The youngest witness in this trial was 10-year-old Joseph Grech, who stated that a few moments before he heard the shots, he was playing with firecrackers. When asked by the president of the court what kind of firecrackers he was playing with the boy replied: “Shall I make you one?”

After the prosecutor closed his case, Dr Mifsud Bonnici rose to deliver one of the most masterly orations of a criminal lawyer. He began by apologising to the court for the many angry scenes that had occurred during the questioning of the witnesses for the prosecution. The defence said that the prosecution had completely failed to substantiate the alleged motive for the crime and to produce evidence to support the charge. The defence also said that the prosecution had failed to produce one single witness who had seen the accused shooting the victim.



Wenzu Grech

The defence also made reference to the piece of coke seized by the police. According to the defence there was no similarity whatsoever to a revolver. Earlier in the trial, reference was made to what two court experts had declared about the coke. Although it was confirmed that it was steel, it did not have the weight of a melted down revolver. Chief Justice Sir Arturo Mercieca, who presided over the criminal court, in his summing up condemned the methods used by the police during the investigations of

this crime. He also dealt about the right of the police to ask for statements but, according to court, such statements should not be procured at any cost and by illegal means. Sir Arturo made reference to a court case where it was said that if the police crossed the line in obtaining a confession of guilt it would be nearing the third-degree system that dishonoured those nations that they were using it.

Mifsud Bonnici’s spirited defence persuaded almost all in the court of Grech’s innocence and it took only 13 minutes of deliberation for the jury to reach a verdict. With a unanimous vote, Grech was found not guilty and he walked out of court a free man. A wave of pent-up emotion swept the packed hall and a huge crowd had gathered outside the court building to cheer Grech and members of his family.

In his autobiography – The Making and Unmaking of a Maltese Chief Justice – Sir Arturo makes reference to this trial and explains the reasons why, in his summing-up of the trial, he had denounced the way Inspector Saliba had conducted the interrogations. Mercieca also wrote that “the remarks made in the course of summing-up were reproduced in all newspapers, and were editorially commented upon by the Malta and the Lehen is-Sewwa. When Sir Philip Pullicino, public prosecutor, met me a few days afterwards at a dance, he offered me his congratulations.”

Grech’s acquittal was a terrible blow for Saliba and he remained an inspector till he retired on pension on Christmas Day 1948 at the age of 58.

Grech’s trial was also mentioned in Mill-Album ta’ Ħajti, an autobiography published in 1980 by Dr Anton Buttigieg when he was still the President of the Republic. In 1938, Buttigieg was a law student, and during Grech’s trial, he was one of the spectators in the courtroom. In his memoirs, Buttigieg wrote that Sir Arturo was not impartial in his address to the jury, and that was the reason why they reached a not guilty verdict.

This statement was rebutted five years later when Rev. Karm Grech, Wenzu’s son, published a book about his father’s trial. In the book Anton Buttigieg u l-Ġuri tal-Ħaddied, Rev. Grech mentioned all the facts that

led to his father's acquittal. The reverend also quoted what The Sunday Times of Malta reported about the summing up by the president of the Court: "Yesterday morning His Honour Sir Arturo Mercieca delivered a long and learned address which lasted for one hour, 55 minutes. He then enumerated, one by one, each circumstantial item of evidence produced against the accused, and analysed it carefully, leaving it in each case, for the gentlemen of the jury to decide as to its evidence."

After Grech's acquittal, the police did not reopen the case and Caruana's murder remained an enduring mystery.



## FIFA 21 Kylian Mbappé Is Cover Athlete

*The 21 year old footballer will grace all of the various editions.*

It's that time of year once more for the most popular footballer game out there to come in *FIFA 21*. The annual sports series is one of the most consistent and ongoing sales juggernauts in the industry, and I imagine *21* won't be any different. Now we get the

official reveal, as well as who you'll get on the cover.



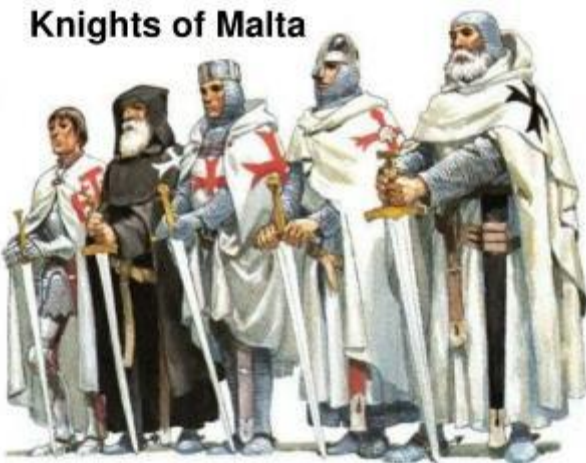
## Who Were the Knights of St John in Malta?

Nicola Collins

From the 16th to the 19th centuries, Malta was ruled by the Order of the Knights of St John. But who were they and what did they do for the island?

The Order of the Knights of St John – also known as the Knights Hospitaller, Order of the Knights of the Hospital of St John in Jerusalem, and Order of Hospitallers – was a Catholic Military Order established in 603 when Pope Gregory commissioned a hospital to be built in Jerusalem, with the main purpose of caring for the sick and injured pilgrims arriving at the Holy Land. By 1530, the Knights had arrived and settled in Malta, after being given the island by the King of Sicily, Charles I of Spain. The knights stayed in Malta and the island remained under the rule of the order for the following 250 years.

### Knights of Malta



### Arrival in Malta

Following the Ottoman siege in 1522, the Order of St John

were forced to leave Rhodes and, after several years of moving around Europe, eventually settled in Malta with Birgu (one of Malta's three cities) becoming their capital. The area surrounding Birgu was fortified with extra buildings to strengthen their defences including a fortress, Fort St Angelo, which was previously a Medieval castle known as Castrum Maris. Fort St Angelo was to become the knights' main headquarters during the Great Siege – a perfect location overlooking Malta's Grand Harbour. With Malta as their new home, the order began to produce its own mint of coins on the island – the scudo.



**Under attack** Facing Muslims, Barbary Pirates and the Ottomans, it was the Ottomans who attempted to take control of Fort St Angelo. However, hugely outnumbered, the Ottoman forces took to invading Malta's sister island of Gozo instead. Nearby Tripoli was captured by the Ottomans and the knights made a mission to repopulate the island of Gozo, while at the same time strengthening the Grand Harbour's defences with the

construction of new fortresses of St Elmo and St Michael, around which the city of Senglea began to take shape. In the mid-16th century, however, one of the deadliest tornadoes ever recorded hit Malta, killing nearly 600 people and destroying four of the order's galleys – a major setback for the order.



**The Great Siege** The constant battle between the Order of the Knights and the Islamic Ottoman Empire over the rule of the Mediterranean came to a head in 1565 in the form of the Great Siege. The Ottoman sultan, Suilemon the Magnificent, gave orders for Malta to be invaded, sending 40,000 men to fight against 700 knights and 8,000 soldiers in a quest to take over Malta. As the situation became desperate, the council

requested that the fortresses of Birgu and St Micheal were abandoned and concentration should be put in protecting the island purely from Fort St Angelo. Grand Master of the Knights, Jean Parisot de Vallette refused profusely. After a considerable hesitation, help was eventually sent from the Viceroy of neighbouring Sicily under the orders of Philip II of Spain. The course of the Great Siege saw the Turks winning over Fort St Elmo and attacking Fort St Angelo and Fort St Michael whereby almost all the knights and soldiers defending them were killed. The Maltese people aided the knights as much as possible by throwing boiling oil and stones on the Turks from the top of the fortifications. On September 7, after a long and desperate wait, Catholic reinforcements arrived from Sicily in the form of the 'Gran Soccorso'. Not as great in numbers as expected, the help was enough for Turkish Admiral, Piali Pasha, to realise his ships would soon be surrounded. On September 8, the Turks destroyed all their tents on Malta, and the following days saw the Turks back on their ships heading home, defeated.



## The Future of the Order

La

Vallette was named a hero throughout Catholic Europe and was awarded a dagger, and a gold and jewelled sword by the Holy Roman Emperor, Philip II of Spain. Vallette was now on a mission to restore the areas ruined during the siege and appealed to the European Courts to build a new city on the area known as the Sciberras Peninsula. In 1566 the foundation stone was laid

for the city 'built by gentlemen, for gentlemen'. The new city would be known as Valletta.

The Knights of the Order of St John remained in Malta for the next 200 years. In 1798, the island came under siege again by the French forces under Napoleon. The order was expelled and the islands of Malta came under French occupation. This remained until 1800 when the Maltese rebelled against the French and the islands became protected by the British. In 1802, the islands were returned to the order but remained under British rule. Malta continues to celebrate the end of the siege on September 8 every year, known as Victory Day.

only 3 Malta is flourishing and its economy is growing strongly. In 2020 the population of Malta was 425,000.



**An attack by Luftwaffe aeroplanes during WWII on a Maltese 'Dgħajsa tal-Latini' or Gozo boat whilst delivering foodstuffs and kerosene from Gozo to Malta.**



**11th**  
**German Film Festival**  
25th – 29th November 2020  
Messina Palace,  
141, Triq San Kristofru, Valletta

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Commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the end of World War II Within the framework of German – French cooperation

**i** The films will be screened whilst observing all health and safety measures in relation the preventing the spread of OCVID-19. Registrations are on a first come first served basis and participation is limited to a small number of attendees per film in order to observe social distancing.

## GERMAN-MALTESE CIRCLE DEUTSCH-MALTESISCHER ZIRKEL

*Organised by the German-Maltese Circle in cooperation with the Goethe Institute*  
**Wednesday, 25th – Sunday, 29th November 2020**  
**Entry is FREE (limited audience) but reservation of your seat is required.**  
**This year's Festival includes two French films – within the framework of Franco-German cooperation..**  
**The films will be screened whilst observing all health and safety measures in relation to preventing the spread of COVID-19.**  
**Registrations are on a first come first served basis and participation is strictly limited to a small number of attendees per film in order to observe social distancing.**  
**Face masks must be worn. Bookings will**

**close once all seats are filled.**



*Tony Farrugia II / Facebook*

"I've never trained in a gym but I like to train outside mainly with stones, cars, skips, and the like. I inherited my strength from my grandad, who was also a strongman," he says. Tony became a strongman performer back in 2015, following in his grandfather's footsteps.

"I've been doing strongman training since I was a kid. I started doing feats of strength shows for charity in 2015 and in 2016 I teamed up with the legendary Maltese strongman, Mr Cool." Apart from his grandad, other Maltese strongmen were an inspiration to Tony, namely Joe Falzon, Charles Saliba and Tony Zarb, who have helped him to become the strongman he is today.

*Taylor's Photography via Tony Farrugia / Facebook*

He says his shows are mainly dedicated to good causes. "I decided to dedicate my shows to charitable organisations such as Puttinu Cares, ALS Malta, etc. I look forward to continuing to dedicate myself to my charity work and to break some world records in the process!"

## TONY FARRUGIA – THE MALTESE STRONGMAN *Jillian Mallia*

Now this is something you don't see very often. Meet Tony Farrugia, a Maltese athlete that trains like a BEAST. He was recently spotted pulling two (yes, not one, TWO) trucks, and we were shook. We got in touch to see what this sport entails. *Joseph Agius Photography via*



## Keith Camilleri crowned 2020 ICC National Hillclimb champion

Keith Camilleri was crowned as the winner of the 2020 Enemed National Hillclimb Championship after topping the fifth and final round of the championship last weekend in Gnejna. Camilleri won four rounds of this championship, losing only the fourth round at

Mizieb to Darren Camilleri.

This championship attracted 89 different drivers, including four new drivers in the last round.

“With events running smooth again after the stormy five years during which the club was faced with huge challenges to apply for permits, due to increase in safety, the current Island Car Club Committee, its drivers and members are looking forward for an even bigger and more exciting 2021 National Hillclimb Championship,” the Island Car Club said in a statement.

“During these last five years Island Car Club saw a drop in participants but it seems that with good work and cooperation with all involved the sport is back on track. All those considering taking part next year, now is the time to get in touch with Island Car Club.”

Dylan Galea, on Opel, was the fastest Guest of the day while Peter Hansen, in his Peugeot, was the fastest driver over 60. Keith Camilleri on his way to victory last weekend.

Charles Cutajar (Ford Escort) clocked the fastest time in a Rear Wheel Drive car.

Dorian Galea (BMW) and Andrea Scicluna (Opel) topped the Drifting and Autocross classes.

Aaron Refalo on Hyundai, Chris Tabone on Honda and Robert Muscat on Subaru placed first in the classes for street legal cars and Refalo was also the fastest driver U-25 years.

Ivan Paul Deidun driving his car at the ICC Championship. Stephen Micallef, on Fiat, and Joseph Agius, on Mini, won two classes in Group 1, Chris Aquilina on Subaru, Etienne Grech, on Citroen, and Edmond Azzopardi, on Mini, finished first in three classes in Group 2.

Didier Bugeja (Peugeot) and David Galea (Subaru) topped class 2 and 3 of Group 3 and finished the day as the Fastest Front Wheel Drive car and the Fastest Four-Wheel Drive car respectively.

James Dunford, on Norma, won Group 5 class 5, while Jean Vella on a Jedi and Kenneth Camilleri on a Dallara took the honours in Class 1 and 2 of Group 6.

Jonathan Grech, on Datsun, won the Classic Standard Class and Clifford Debono (Triumph) won the Classic Modified Class. Matthew Zammit in action last Sunday.

Matthew Zammit on his AMZ284 finished the day as the third fastest driver, followed by Ivan Paul Deidun on his IDR that finished second overall, also winning Class 4 of Group 5.

Incidentally both cars, that of Zammit and that of Deidun, were built up by themselves.

(Source: timesofmalta.com)



**WE THANK ALL OUR READERS AND SUPPORTERS  
FOR MAKING OUR JOURNAL NUMBER 1.  
BRINGING THE MALTESE COMMUNITIES CLOSER  
Together we defeat the COVID-19**



## Men who died on HMS.Glorious ( Fridolin Schraner)

By Saviour Azzopardi Chairman Glarac Association Malta

During the Second World War many were those Maltese whose lives were to be affected by events that were to unfold as the war progressed. June 8<sup>th</sup> 1940 brought with it a huge shockwave as news came that the aircraft carrier HMS.Glorious had been sunk with huge loss of life. Many Maltese ratings were amongst the dead and as it turned out no Maltese survived the tragedy.



I first met Tessie Rizzo five years ago during our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary Service of Remembrance. She asked if she could join us during our Service of Remembrance. She said her grandfather, Fridolin Ernest Schraner, had died on HMS.Glorious. Quickly checking the list of casualties I found no Schraner. She replied that her grandfather had changed his name to Frederick Ernest Harwood.

This surname I found and the story became more interesting when Tessie confessed that she has no knowledge as to how or why her grandfather had changed his name when he joined the navy. Fridolin Schraner was born in November 1901 in the county of Dorset, the eldest child to Swiss German parents Fridolin and Dorcas Schraner. He joined the navy in 1918 at the young age 17. Fridolin gave his birth as the

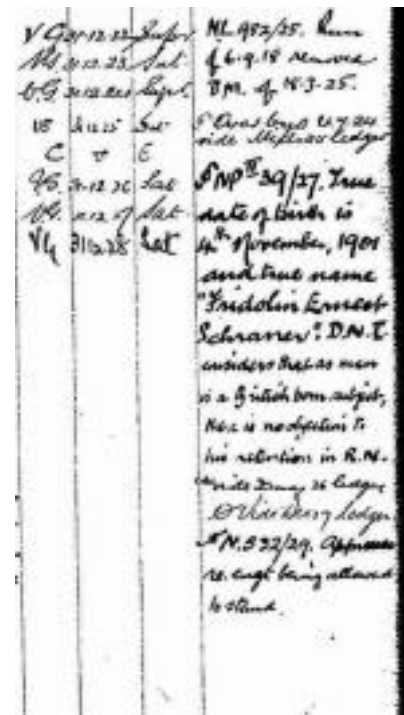
30<sup>th</sup> June 1900 instead of 4<sup>th</sup> November 1901 making him a year older, something that was very commonly done in those days.

She told me that her grandmother Carmela Bartolo was very young and to help her family worked in a lace shop in Valletta near Castille. A young Fridolin saw her in the shop and became a regular visitor to the shop. He would explain his frequent visits by saying he was buying presents for his

mother in the UK whom he loved so much. When Carmela accepted his invitation to meet after work Fridolin never looked back and the two were soon meeting on a regular basis. They married in 1922 and had 8 children,

six boys and two girls. Curious is the fact that although his naval records show him as Frederick Harwood on his marriage certificate he is listed as Fridolin Schraner. Tessie's mum, also named Carmela, recalls how when he used to come home from a trip abroad he would take his children to the shops, buy them clothes and shoes and make them wear them there and then. Carmela recalls that those were the days of plenty where they wanted for nothing as her father Fridolin would shower them with whatever they needed. This was to change drastically as soon as the news came that

HMS.Glorious had been sunk. The UK government informed them that they presumed that he might be prisoners of war and as such the Schraner family received no pensions from the navy. This carried on for more than a year and in that time Malta was going through the blitz that ravaged Malta. Carmelo had to find a way of feeding her young family and the children who could work went to work mostly as servant. She lost one of the boys in the war during an air raid. She had already lost another boy and this was quite a shock to her. I asked Tessie if







she could show me a photo of her grandfather but unfortunately her grandmother Carmela lost everything, including photos, in a fire that destroyed her home in Bormla. Carmela never married again after the death of her husband Fridolin.

Reginald Schraner was born in 1924 and in 1942 joined the navy serving as an able seaman. Life on board HMS. Ships was not easy and conditions were tough. Reginald had married young to a local girl Dolly and being away from family for long periods was proving to be even tougher. Reginald and Dolly had four children and with the future for his young family looking bleak, Reginald decides to leave the navy and immigrate to Australia. Reginald left the navy in 1946 and five years later Reginald took his wife and four young children to Australia. They went on to have two more children in Australia.

Tessie's mother, Carmela or Carrie as she is known, has for a long time wanted to know where the surname Harwood came from and why her father used it to join the navy. I have spoken to Tessie about this and she would gladly welcome any information to this regard. Reginald's daughter Joyce Dawe contacted me a year ago about her grandfather Fridolin and I would like to thank her and Tessie for Carrie, daughter of Carmela Schraner information provided towards this feature.



*Anyone who has a relative that lost his life on board HMS.Glorious and would like to share his story and become a member of The Glarac Association Malta can make contact with me through this e newspaper. Take care and stay safe.*

## Of fierce battles, saints & miracles: A spotlight on the lesser known Siege of Malta in 1429

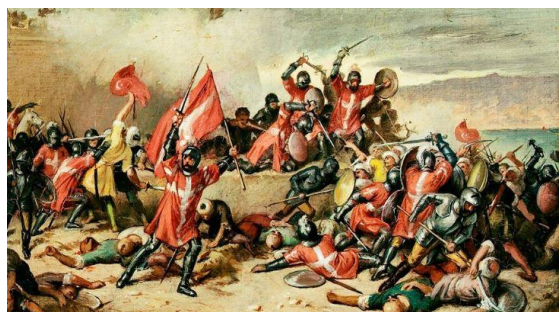


*It's considered to be far more momentous than the Great Siege of 1565*

There's no doubt that everyone's heard of the Great Siege of Malta in 1565, when Dragut attacked Birgu, Mdina and Gozo. But there's another siege that is, possibly, even greater than that of 1565: the Siege of Malta of 1429, which took place in Mdina. *Charles Gixti / Facebook*

Unfortunately, details of much of Mdina's earlier history are sketchy, but what we do know is that Mdina was besieged many times - though the first properly recorded siege of Mdina is that of 1429. At the time, North Africa had been taken over by the Sunni Muslims called Hafsidi, who wanted to re-occupy Sicily. Malta, being in the middle, was attacked first.

**The attack** Malta had just been freed from feudalism in 1426, but another difficult season was just around the corner. At the time, besides the King's Army (belonging to King Alfonso V of Aragon) in Malta and Gozo, there were 300 soldiers called *Tad-Dejma*, a defence unit in which participation was compulsory for those who reached the age



of 16.

*Compagnia San Michele - Malta / Facebook*



MDINA  
THE SILENT  
CITY

In September 1429, the Army of the Saracins (about 18,000 men), arrived on our shores from Tunisia. Under the command of Kaid Ridavan, the Muslim army first attacked Mdina for three consecutive days. After that, they left Mdina carrying with them what they could and destroying the rest. Many Maltese were killed, while countless others were taken into slavery.

Around 3,000 Maltese inhabitants were captured by the Hafsids, and the rulers of Sicily subsequently encouraged immigration to Malta to replace the diminished population. The siege

devastated Malta, and its effects were felt for a number of years afterwards.

Maltese historians say that this siege was much worse than the Great Siege of 1565 because the Maltese were fighting alone without any help. During the 1565 Great Siege, foreign armies were involved in defending our islands, which sadly, wasn't the case here.



**The local legends** According to local legends, Saint George, Saint Paul and Saint Agatha helped the Maltese during the siege. It is said that Saint Paul appeared on a white horse holding a dagger in his hand, defending the Maltese. The magnitude of the attack is again confirmed by these Christian legends. The attack was so nuts that the population lost hope that they could win. The (kind of) victory over the Muslim enemy became attributed to divine intervention.

In 1682, a canvas painting was commissioned to the acclaimed artist Mattia Preti, representing Saint Paul on a white horse defending the Maltese. The painting still exists and can be seen in the chapel of the Annunciation facing that of the Blessed Sacrament at the Mdina Cathedral. Furthermore, Mgr Peter Dusina in his Apostolic Visit ordered Saint Paul to be declared co-titular with Our Lady of the Assumption. This depiction is a big deal for the Silent City, so much so that there is a sculpture above the main gate showing all three saints that supposedly saved the Maltese from the attacks.



Jillian Mallia A book lover, writer and globetrotter who loves exploring new places and the local gems that the Maltese Islands have to offer. An avid foodie and arts fanatic, Jillian searches the island and beyond for the perfect settings to write about.

## Maltese of New York (Facebook)

During these difficult times it's hard to have a social club when we all have to socially distance. The committee of the Maltese center, with the help of the members are keeping the club going, and following all safety protocols. The MC thanks everyone who has donated their time to help out. The hope is that COVID-19 will be out of our lives sooner rather than later and we can return to a sense of normalcy. If you haven't done so already please check out the official Maltese center's website. You'll find information about the club and it's history. You can also add yourself to the email list for updates, easily update your membership and make any donations you wish to all on the page.

[THEMALTESECENTER.COM](http://THEMALTESECENTER.COM)

[Maltese Center | The Maltese Center | New York | Astoria](#)

[The Maltese Center promoting Maltese culture, traditions, and heritage through events and activities in New York City for the Maltese Community . Maltese Center NYC](#)



## MEP Josianne Cutajar appointed Vice President of the European Delegation for Relations with Australia and New Zealand

By [The Malta Business Weekly](#)

Labour MEP Dr Josianne Cutajar has been appointed Vice President of the European Delegation for Relations with Australia and New Zealand (DANZ), on behalf of the Socialists and Democrats within the European

Parliament.

The EP delegation is tasked with the upkeep of Europe's ties with Australia and New Zealand as its main objective.

Topping the DANZ agenda at the moment are the Free Trade Agreement currently at negotiation stage, as well as collaboration on common challenges that include climate change and, more recently, Covid-19.

'What the crises we face today are showing us is that the most effective answers come when countries from different parts of the world come together and be open to dialogue', Dr Cutajar said upon her appointment to the DANZ Vice Presidency.

'Faced with the struggle against climate change, the new challenges to our health brought on by the pandemic, as well as security issues, no single country can come up with solutions and save the day on its own. We all need each other,' Dr Cutajar pointed out.

The Maltese MEP is determined to further promote and protect the values shared by both parties including the human rights front, while paving the way for more joint investment in sectors such as Research and Innovation – a sector that, in Cutajar's words, currently offers much potential for collaboration between the two sides.

Meanwhile, in a meeting, both Dr Cutajar and H.E. Jenny Cartmill, Australia's High Commissioner to Malta, noted the positive relationship between the European Union, Australia and New Zealand.

The strengthening of commercial ties between the parties, prospective sectors for new collaboration, and the sharing of best practices in gender policy were high on the meeting agenda.

'In all discussions I will be having as Vice President for this Delegation, I shall uphold the best interest of Europe's citizens and that of its Member States, including Malta', Dr Cutajar remarked.



## Archbishop Frendo hospitalized after contracting Covid-19

By [Monique Agius](#)

<https://newsbook.com.mt/>

Mgr George Frendo O.P. who serves as the Archbishop of Tiranë-Durrës in Albania, has tested positive for coronavirus and

was subsequently hospitalized after developing respiratory complications.

The press office of Tirana's Curia announced that Archbishop Frendo has been monitored for several days after testing positive for coronavirus.

On Thursday evening following the recommendations of the doctors it was decided that Archbishop Frendo is hospitalized. "Monsignor George Frendo has been under medical monitoring for several days because he tested positive for Covid-19. On the recommendation of the doctors, tonight, it was decided that Monsignor Frendo will be hospitalized, due to some respiratory complications during the day. We as for your prayers for Monsignor Frendo and we wish him a speedy recovery," announced the Episcopal Conference of Albania.

**People are urged to pray for Archbishop Frendo's recovery.** Archbishop Frendo was born on 4 April 1946 in Qormi. He was ordained in 1969. Pope Francis appointed Mgr Frendo as the Archbishop of Tiranë-Durrës on 3 December 2016.

**NB: Mgr. Frendo is a regular readers and contributor of the e-Newsletter- the Journal of Maltese living Abroad.**

## Pruning thy olive tree



97% of the world's olive cultivation is concentrated in the Mediterranean. No wonder olives are a common staple in the Mediterranean kitchen.

The olive tree (*Olea europaea* L.) is one of the oldest species of domesticated trees and the second most important oil fruit crop cultivated worldwide. We visit the outskirts of Rabat to meet Joe and Andreana. They are proud of their little grove of olive trees which they attend to with love and attention.

“Maltese land, with its sun and soil, produces very good quality olive oil. I believe Cyprus and us have the best olives. It is lovely when all the trees are laden during August and September. At the moment I am pruning the olive trees. This means trimming and collecting the dried branches for preparation to be used in subsequent years. A few weeks prior, around mid-September we harvest the olives. It takes us a fortnight from dawn till dusk.

We spread the nets and shake the olives from the branches. Ideally up to 24 hours later, so that the oil in the olives do not deteriorate, we take them to the presser to extract the oil. This year the olive trees were dry and the harvest was small since we did not have rain when needed.

I started growing olive trees about 16 years after I visited Tunisia, since there is always something to learn from travel. But I have always been a farmer after my father had ended my schooldays to help in the fields.

The best meal is a warm ftira with oil, a couple of olives and some tomatoes...nothing beats that! I have 13 varieties of olives on the land. When it is all amalgamated I produce a blend of tastes. The ones I am harvesting right now are called “Bella di Spagna or Sevilljana”, they are very hard, table olives. We then soak them in brine – we mix a cup of sea salt with 10 to 12 cups of water.” – *Joe and Andreana Cortism*



### - MARIOSA CARUANA

“You learn something new every day and if we keep an open mind and heart, we learn to look at things and life from a different and better perspective. Social justice and the environment are very important for me. Although there is more awareness about discrimination, disability and LGBTIQ, there is still much to be done about the environment and embracing diversity. We need to learn to appreciate diversity, and not see it as a threat.

“Do to others as you would have them do to you.” That’s what I was taught at home. My love for voluntary work and to help those in need stems from my admiration towards Mother Theresa. I’ve done voluntary work locally and abroad. It saddens me when I look around me and see people who are indifferent towards others and only think about themselves. I believe that we can all set an example.

I try to practise what I preach: I roll up my sleeves and do something useful. I’m involved in a number of organizations: I was an ambassador with Aġenzija Żgħażaġh, I work with the organization Right to Smile and I also work with the local council on a voluntary basis. Nothing

is going to change if you just sit down and complain all day. I wish to encourage others to become more active participants and be the change that they want to see in the world. If you truly want things to change for the better and raise awareness about an issue, then get to work.

We should empower our adolescents and teenagers, “the rebellious ones”. They are the instruments and voices of change. Fanaticism is always a dangerous path.

Life is all about balance. Values are first instilled at home, then at school, so that children learn how to stand their ground and help the weak, the vulnerable or minorities. My dream is that the world becomes a more sustainable place. Every little bit helps. People need to be responsible for their actions and ensure that they are not harming themselves, others or the environment.

When I finished my studies at University, I wanted to buy a campervan. After a lot of hard work, I bought it. I wanted it in yellow and that’s what I got. Once I settle down, I wish to go on a campervan holiday. Life is about doing what makes you feel happy and fulfilled.” - Mariosa Caruana (This photo was taken before the new measures re. wearing of masks in public places)

## Rhama ta’ Tifkira Papa Gwanni Pawlu II



Fl-okkażjoni tal-100 sena mit-Twelid tal-Papa Gwanni Pawlu t-Tieni u t-30 anniversarju mindu kien żar il-gżejjer Maltin, nhar il-Ħadd fil-għodu, 8 ta’ Novembru 2020, l-Isqof Awżiljarju Monsinjur

Joe Galea Curmi bierek rħama k commemorattiva fiddaħla tal-Istudios ta’ Radju Marija fir-Rabat Malta fipreżenza tal-President ta’ Radju Marija Ms Lyon Chircop, id-Direttur tal-istazzjon il-Kav il-Kan Dun Antoine Borg li huwa wkoll ic-Chaplian tal-Fondazzjoni JP2, u l-President tal-JP2 l-Komm Charles Zammit.

Fuq l-irħama wieħed jista’ jara mnaqqxa t-talba tal-Papa Gwanni Pawlu t-Tieni lil Radju Marija flimkien mal-firma tiegħu u l-immagni tal-Madonna. Qabel

saret l-inawgurazzjoni u t-tberik tal-lapida, it-tenur żagħżuġ Għawdx minn Għajnsielem Angelo Muscat kanta ‘a capella’ l-Ave Maria u wara ppreżenta kopja originali tal-Mużika ‘Missa Totus Tuus’ li huwa kkompona, kemm lill-E.T. Mons Isqof Galea Curmi kif ukoll lill-Fondazzjoni JP2. Waqt id-diskorsi li saru ħareġ ċar ir-rabta kbira li kienet teżisti bejn dan il-Papa Qaddis Pollakk u Radju Maria li jxandar f’diversi lingwi madwar id-dinja.

Fl-istatut tal-Fondazzjoni JP2 hemm imniżżel espliċitament il-kollaborazzjoni tagħha ma’ istituzzjonijiet oħra, Radju Maria waħda minnhom.

**Ritratt 1:** kopja tal-Missa Totus Tuus li ngħatat lill-JP2

**Ritratt 2:** u kopja oħra tagħha lill-E.T. Mons Isqof Joe Galea Curmi mill-awtur innifsu n the Photo

President of Radju Marija Malta Ms Lyon Chircop

President of the JP2 Foundation Comm Carmel Zammit KCHS

Director of Radju Marija Malta and Chaplin of the JP2 Foundation Can. Chev. Antoine Borg KHS, the Auxiliary Bishop for Malta Mons Joseph Gale Curmi

Inauguration of a marble plug at the entry of Radju Marija House in Rabat Malta

The plug holds the prayer written by Pope John Paul II to Radio Maria

The signature of the Pope and the image of Our Lady of Radju Marija and Pope John Paul II

Tenor Angelo Muscat sang a Capella the Ave Marija while he presented to the JP2 Foundation a copy of the original music scrolls of the Missa Totus Tuus written by Angelo himself. He also presented a copy to HE Mons Galea Curmi

It was expressed during the speeches that the links between Family of Radio Maria International which is the biggest radio station round the globe with different languages and Pope John Paul II was very strong. The JP2 Foundation is one of the few identities that its a must to collaborate with other identities while hosting events. This is part of the statue of the foundation and till now that's what the foundation is doing. this is a living example **[Kav Jpe M Attard]**



**Malta Youth Delegate to the United Nations**  
**The Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs**  
**launches call for the first Malta Youth Delegate**  
**to the United Nations**

**MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AND EUROPEAN**  
**AFFAIRS [EVARIST BARTOLO](#) HAS HELD A**  
**PRESS EVENT TO COMMEMORATE**  
**[UNITED NATIONS DAY](#)**

2020 marks the 75th year since the United Nations' inception. Over the years, the United Nations has repeatedly served as a beacon of hope and a point of reference for all countries.

Set up immediately after the Second World War 'to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war'. Overall, it has done exactly that, whilst at the same time sustaining global economic and social development and the promotion and protection of human rights. New realities and global challenges have required that the organisation continue to transform itself to remain at the core of the multilateral system.



In his address, Minister Evarist Bartolo stressed that global challenges, such as climate change, poverty, discrimination, and the current pandemic, require global solutions, and there is no better place to find such solutions than within the United Nations.

He added that this crucial role took centre stage in Geneva today, where the Libyan rival factions signed a peace agreement and committed to a permanent ceasefire in all regions of the country. This augurs well not only for the long-suffering Libyan people, but for the entire international community and in particular neighbouring countries such as Malta, which welcomes this positive news.

Moving on, Minister Bartolo underlined the substantial contribution that young people can make to international dialogue and, with firm confidence in their potential, he launched a competitive selection process for Malta's first Youth Delegate to the UN.

The Maltese Youth Delegate to the United Nations is a position created by the Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs in line with Malta’s commitment as a United Nations member to strengthen effective participation of youth in society and in decision-making.

The Youth Delegate is expected to engage with young people in Malta and at the United Nations in New York, virtually and in person, on the work of the United Nations and international issues, in addition to elevating youth voices in the global conversation, thereby reflecting their concerns.

Further information on this call for applications may be accessed through the Ministry website; <https://foreignandeu.gov.mt/en/Pages/Home.aspx>.

To commemorate the 75th anniversary of the UN, besides launching the selection process for a Malta Youth Delegate, the Ministry has also published a booklet for children on the UN and shared a commemorative video which can be viewed on the Ministry’s website and social media platforms.

**A Virtual Day of Consultations at the High Commission**  
FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2020

An invitation for Maltese Citizens to discuss their questions on EU Citizens' Rights:

Have you applied to the EU Settlement Scheme?

Do you know how to prove your settlement when required?

Are you having any issues in concluding your EU Settlement Scheme application?

If you wish to book a virtual appointment to discuss any queries you might have on EU Citizens' Rights post Brexit, the EU Settlement Scheme or any related questions, email on: [maltahighcommission.london@gov.mt](mailto:maltahighcommission.london@gov.mt) for more details.

Malta High Commission, London



The Maltese National Regatta is a rowing boat race held bi-annually on 31 March Freedom Day to commemorate the withdrawal of the British troops and the Royal Navy from Malta and on 8 September Victory Day respectively



## HAGA MOHGAGA Augustine Borg NSW

Just in case your day wasn't mentally taxing enough, we received these riddles from one of our readers Augustine Borg from NSW. He piles hundreds of brain-teasers, This page in Maltese educates thousands on the finer details of our national and complex language/ We will include more puzzle in future editions of the newsletters. And it seems as of yet, no one has guessed the correct answer, no way, we have included the answers not to frustrates you too much..

**Do you think you have what it takes? Check out the riddle below.**

1. Jekk tneħhi tikka minn ġidi  
ser tfaqqarni verament.  
Għax insir wild ta' xi mogħża  
nittallab il mantiniment. *Risposta - Gidi*  
(neħhi t-tikka minn fuq il-Ġ)
2. Jien nixbaħ ħafna lill-ommi  
bħala ndur qisni żugraga.  
Nixxala u niddeverti  
bla' ma ntiem l-ebda ħaġa.  
*Risposta - Kuċċarina*
3. Għalkemm ħatjin qatt ma konna  
malajr tawna l-istess piena.  
Dendluna ġo post fil-għoli  
u kull tant jiġbdu 'lsienha.  
*Risposta - Qniepen*
4. Ommi għanda ħafna bħali  
f'darnha m'hemmx ħilief rass u djieq.  
Ilkoll norqdu ġo ffit sodod  
koperti b'liżar irqieq.  
*Risposta - Rummienna*
5. Xuxti folla sewda faħma  
nomxota m'għandix għal fejn.  
Flok ċoff nuża biċċa arjetta  
biex minnha ma nitlef xejn.  
*Risposta - Pinzell taż-żebgħa*







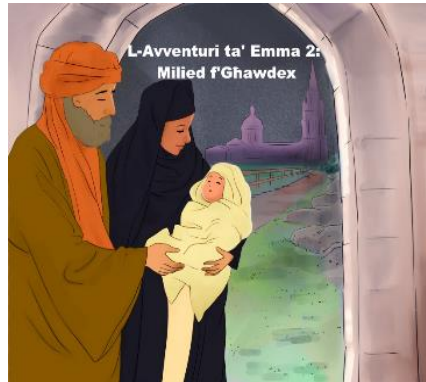
## Sylvia M. Grech

Author

Sylvia Grech was born in Manhattan, New York, of Maltese immigrants. She was brought up and educated in both Manhattan and Gozo, thereby experiencing big city life and the contrast of nature’s beauty and simple lifestyle.

Her family resided in Nadur, Gozo, overlooking Ramla Valley. At age 20, Sylvia moved back to New York to pursue education and work opportunities. Sylvia obtained her Bachelor of Arts cum laude, in Business Management and Liberal Arts at Marymount Manhattan College while working full time.

She spent most of her career working as a senior level Executive Assistant in the areas of corporate, law and finance. In 2012, Sylvia began writing children’s stories as a creative outlet, drawing from her personal memories, experiences and family stories. She is a member of the Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators, and continues working on her craft by attending workshops and lectures. Sylvia is passionate



about dance, travel, cooking healthy meals and baking naughty desserts. She currently resides in New York City, making yearly visits to Gozo.

### ‘IL-MILIED F’GHAWDEX’ AND ‘IL-WASLA F’GHAWDEX’

**Sylvia Mary Grech**, an American/Maltese writer, has just published two Maltese children’s picture books from her ten-book series, L-Avventuri ta’ Emma.

In “Il-Wasla f’Ghawdex”, Emma explores her family’s homeland while “Milied f’Ghawdex” focuses on celebrating Christmas in Gozo. Each book reveals a little surprise and a twist of magic. These books can be found on BDL’s new digital leveled reading library called Qari ghal Qalbi on the octavo.app website. They are currently being offered free and accessible to everyone.

To access, go to <https://octavo.app/en/store/obooks/l-avventuri-ta-emma-1-il-wasla-fghawdex>, click ADD TO YOUR LIBRARY, create a log-in and SIGN UP. When on the main page, click CHILDRENS STORIES, then PERSONS and scroll down to SYLVIA M. GRECH to select a book.

You may access the audio function by pressing the green PLAY button in the text.

Enjoy a bit of Malta while reading to your children, and at the same time supporting the Qari ghal Qalbi library.

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#d4T

## Discover these traditional Maltese street kids' games

Are you old enough to remember playing with dolls, splashing in puddles and climbing trees when you were a child?

The simple pleasures that defined childhood for generations in Malta appear to be dying out as an increasing number of kids stay indoors and surf the internet instead.

Three in four children today spend less time outdoors than prison inmates, a shocking report reveals.

A series of nostalgic photographs commissioned for a [Bank of Valletta](#) calendar highlight some of the traditional Maltese games that are dying out.

The pictures feature young children with senior citizens who had first-hand memories of the toys. Photographer Joe P Smith staged the photos in narrow alleys and open fields in Zejtun, Vittoriosa, Marsascala and Gozo before traffic became a worry.

- 1. HOPSCOTCH (IL-PASSJU)** Nine boxes would be drawn on the ground with a piece of chalk. The game starts by placing a stone in the first box, skipping into each box, and collecting the stone on the way back. The first to do this for all nine boxes wins!
- 2. THE SCOOTER AND CART (IL-KARRETTA U L-ISKUTER)** The cart and scooter were toys that required more time and energy to put together, but once done, (mainly) boys enjoyed them for a long time, and these were also inherited among siblings. Could you imagine kids playing with these among the traffic on today's roads?
- 3. THE KITE (IT-TAJRA TAL-KARTI)** There was a time when everyone had a kite! The more colours and embellishments, and the higher it flew, the greater the pleasure!
- 4. THE CIRCLE (IC-CIRKU)** This toy was made up of an old bicycle wheel and a piece of wire to hold the wheel upright. Several different games could be played with the ring.
- 5. MARBLES (IL-BOCCI TAL-HGIEG)** Marbles came in small and larger sizes with various colours, and each child had a collection: the large metal ball bearing, the small glass ones, the transparent ones with colours inside and milk-coloured ones. Each child would win, lose, swap and repurchase to resume playing. All you need to do is hit a ball from a row or a box drawn on the ground to win that ball
- 6. THE RAGDOLL (IL-PUPA TAC-CARRUTA)** Mothers or grandmothers would make a fabric doll for little girls. The doll's face would be embroidered and she'd wear a pretty little dress, purposely made for her.
- 7. LEAPFROG (IL-BOMBOS)** A game played around the world by any boisterous child! As one child bends forward, the other jumps over, and so they would carry on until they tire themselves out!
- 8. THE SKIPPING ROPE (IL-QBIZ TAL-HABEL)** This game was mainly played by girls, who were beginning to mention the strengths and flaws of a man to marry, and destiny depended on where the rope stopped.

*Simple and sweet, these games certainly provoked the imagination. Children nowadays may have different electronic toys and digital games to entertain them but even today, these games are encouraged in school playgrounds as an inherent part of Maltese culture.*

