Tourism Minister Julia Farrugia Portelli, MIA CEO Alan Borg and Minister for Economy Silvio Schembri welcoming tourists at Malta International Airport.
Melbourne: new COVID-19 restrictions

The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic may be stressful for people. It is still around, in some countries much more than others. The state of Victoria in Australia is a case in point.

In order to respond to the increase in case numbers, help keep the communities safe and to help reduce the risk of further transmission, as of July 1, new restrictions announced by Premier Daniel Andrews, are in place for Melbourne’s hot zones.

Most of all, Victorians are being asked to use common sense when it comes to visiting friends and family, especially those who are more vulnerable. That means seeing only those you need to – if you need to.

Shopping centres and outdoor markets are required to apply the four square metre rule to limit the number of shoppers

One can visit a restricted postcode for four reasons: shopping for food and supplies, care and caregiving, exercise, and study or work – if one cannot do it from home.

If you need to travel through one of the restricted postcode areas, you can, but you should plan your trip so that you don’t need to stop in an impacted area unless it is for one of the four reasons.

Additional restrictions have also been put in place.

– you cannot have visitors to your home except for caregiving or compassionate reasons or receiving services.

– you cannot travel except for one of the four reasons outlined above.

Everybody accepts that fear and anxiety about such a new disease and what could happen can be overwhelming and cause strong emotions in adults and children.

Public health actions, such as social distancing, can make people feel isolated and lonely and can increase stress and anxiety. However, these actions are necessary to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Coping with stress in a healthy way will make you, the people you care about, and your community stronger.

– you cannot visit friends and family who live at another household, except for caregiving or compassionate reasons or providing services.

* Accept the fact that some days you’re the pigeon, and some days you’re the statue!
* Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them.
* Always read stuff that will make you look good if you die in the middle of it.
* Drive carefully... It’s not only cars that can be recalled by their Maker.
* If you lend someone a small sum of money and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.
* It may be that your sole purpose in life is simply to serve as a warning to others.
* Nobody cares if you can’t dance well. Just get up and dance.
* Since it’s the early worm that gets eaten by the bird, sleep late.
* Sleep late.
* Never put both feet in your mouth at the same time, because then you won't have a leg to stand on.
* It may be that your sole purpose in life is simply to serve as a warning to others.
* Nobody cares if you can't dance well. Just get up and dance.
* Since it’s the early worm that gets eaten by the bird, sleep late.
* The second mouse gets the cheese.
* When everything’s coming your way, you’re in the wrong lane.
* Birthdays are good for you. The more you have, the longer you live.
* Some mistakes are too much fun to make only once.

* A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a different colour, but they all have to live in the same box.
* Some mistakes are too much fun to make only once.

A great lesson on stress

Sometimes we let our worries get the best of us. Remember, the safest place to put your burdens down is on the floor next to your bed.
You can now virtually explore Malta’s Underwater Museum

Through the ‘The Virtual Museum—Underwater Malta’ website, in the comfort of their own homes the public can now access 10 underwater archaeological sites that give a detailed description and videos that show the sites in great detail. The online museum ranges from old archaeological findings to sunken aircraft and submarines.

Launching the online underwater museum project, Professor Tim Gambin from the University of Malta explained that using virtual reality, people are now able to experience the underwater world, that to date, only divers or people in submarines were able to visit.

The project, an investment of €100,000 over three years, is funded by the Malta Tourism Authority with the University taking part in the project in terms of research, and Heritage Malta.

Prof Gambin said that the concept of the museum project highlights the importance of Malta’s heritage found underwater. It appeals not simply to divers or history enthusiasts, but hopefully also attract the attention of the public that wishes to learn about Malta’s underwater national heritage.

Advances in technology provide this astounding opportunity to explore the underwater world without getting wet! The use of powerful cameras and special underwater lights enables one to capture Malta’s underwater cultural heritage in such a way as to make it accessible to everyone. It also allows the public to dive into history.

The creation of this digital record contributes to the continued effort for the preservation and protection of Malta’s submerged cultural heritage for future generations. Although there still exist limitations brought about by depth, remoteness and legislation, this online platform brings underwater cultural heritage to the surface and into the homes of the general public.

Using 3D, virtual reality and other media, the aim of this website is to provide access to anyone wishing to share Malta’s unique underwater cultural heritage.

Gambin said that there was a lot of work behind the project, and several people collaborated in a variety of ways in its realisation. It consisted of research and using different media and technology to bring the final project.

One of the central principles of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage is that ‘State Parties shall promote public awareness regarding the value and importance of underwater cultural heritage’, a principle that is fully endorsed by The Virtual Museum – Underwater Malta.

The wreck of the JU88 that was discovered in 2009 during an offshore remote sensing survey. The aircraft is well-preserved product that it is today.

MTA CEO Dr Gavin Gulia said that such a museum is bound to enrich the niche diving sector in Malta that in 2019 attracted over 100,000 tourists specifically to take part in diving activities. By means of this website, such tourists would be able to plan their trip in advance and entice more people to come to Malta.

He added that this is a first. Besides supporting Malta’s cultural heritage, it would keep the people informed about the island’s surroundings, be of great value to the diving sector, and bring accessibility to such sites.

The 10 sites in this virtual museum range from a shipwreck dating back to 2,700 years (during the Phoenician period) to World War II aircraft.

The sites: the submarine HMS Stubborn and aircraft JU88 both located off St Paul’s Bay; British destroyer HMS Maori and supply vessel X-Lighter at Port of Marsamxett; the remnants of a Phoenician shipwreck outside Gozo’s Xlendi; the Beaufighter and Fairey Swordfish aircrafts located off St Julian’s; Marsaxlokk’s B-24 Liberator aircraft; and Victorian-era cannons and S-31 Schnellboot outside Grand Harbour.

The Phoenician shipwreck and one of the most intriguing recent archaeological discoveries in the central Mediterranean, located at a depth of 110 metres outside Xlendi bay, Gozo.
Q. I am in a relationship at present and have been so for a number of years. I have just inherited a large amount of money from my parents’ estate and am planning to purchase a house. Should I purchase the house in my name only or should I include my partner’s name on the deeds, as adding her name later may be costly?

A. A solicitor is better able to help you with this. While a shared ownership between partners provides a level of protection for the surviving spouse should something happen, generally there may be certain disadvantages in holding it in joint names such as loss of control, where if you want to refinance or sell the property you must have the other owner’s permission. Another disadvantage is permission if you require an overdraft facility on the property and finally the property may be exposed to the liability or debt of the joint owner. Also whether the property is used as an investment or as your residential home, when selling the property in future it would be two different outcomes.

Q. My father is 87 and moving into aged care. He does not have enough to pay the Refundable Accommodation Deposit (RAD) but wishes to hold onto his full age pension. If he decides to pay the Daily Accommodation Payment (DAP), is he able to keep his daily accommodation payment. However, you need to consider whether this is his best option. In two years’ time his home will become an asset and if he continues to hold onto it, he will most probably lose his age pension.

You should visit a financial planner who deals with people moving into aged care and the planner should be able to present a few options that are available and your father would then be able to make an informed decision.

Q. I am 73 and planning to move into a retirement village. This will cost me around $750,000. I have just had an offer for my home and this should leave me with around $450,000 of surplus funds. I am planning to invest $300,000 into superannuation, which is using the down-sizing strategy. My only concern is whether I will be able to access the funds in superannuation if I needed to do so, and whether my children are able to receive these funds after my death.

A. Anyone who is over the age of 65 has access to their superannuation funds. In your case all funds from super can be withdrawn at any time and tax-free. Once you pass on, your beneficiaries will receive the remaining funds. The funds will be paid to the beneficiaries that you nominate which are either your children or your Estate.

Q. We are planning on purchasing a property in say 12 months’ time. We have $70,000 for the deposit sitting in the bank earning very little. We thought of investing the money in direct shares in the meantime in order to make some capital gains. This will, hopefully, in 12 months’ time give us a larger sum of money to put towards the property. Do you agree with this plan?

A. Investing in direct shares needs a longer time frame. Direct shares normally need to be held onto for at least a period of 5 to 7 years to be able to see a reasonable result. If this were play money then investing in shares would be great. However, you need this money in 12 months’ time, which is not a sufficient period to invest in direct shares. Your $70,000 could reduce rather than increase and this is not what you are after.

Q. I am 61 years of age and have just retired. I am planning to withdraw $160,000 from my superannuation fund to pay off my outstanding mortgage. In two years’ time I should be coming into a large amount of money, which I could then re-invest in superannuation. Do you agree with this plan?

A. I do believe that it is preferable to have no mortgage when you retire. However, currently interest rates on mortgage are quite low. Your superannuation could be earning a better return than current mortgage interest rates.

If you are going to be coming into money in a couple of years’ time, you could pay the mortgage then and in the meantime hope that your superannuation would perform better than current interest rates. Withdrawing funds from superannuation now is also not very ideal as superannuation funds went through a rough period earlier this year and have not yet recovered all that they had lost.
Updated information on the suspension of the Maltese language classes

The news that VCE/HSC/SACE was suspended was exclusively published in the last issue of The Voice of the Maltese. We have also highlighted the “good news” that the Maltese Language would still be taught throughout the Australian states. The demand, especially from 2nd and 3rd generation Maltese, is still there. The Maltese Community eagerly wants to learn about its Maltese Culture through the Maltese Language classes.

The Federation of Maltese Language Schools has since issued its second newsletter this year wherein it has given an overview of the situation across Australia.

News from NSW

The MCC Maltese Language School of NSW Language classes is going ahead, face to face at Horsley Park Public School on Saturday mornings. Fifty three students are registered for these classes.

The Saturday School of Community Languages Centre at Seven Hills has seven students studying Maltese, while seven students have registered at the Dwejret il-Malti centre of Blacktown. Maltese is taught mainly virtually online.

The Skola Maltija Sydney – 36 students K-6, and 42 adults attend Maltese Language classes in Greystanes, Rouse Hill, Cobbity and Cringila. This term, classes are virtually via ZOOM. Next term face to face classes will resume.

News from Victoria

The MCCV Language classes in Victoria will start their second-semester Classes via ZOOM on Wednesday July 15 and Thursday July 16. To date, classes are virtually via ZOOM on Wednesday states has been appealing to the community for many years for them to send more students to sit for the exam. In the last three years the schools did not present a minimum of 15 students in one year as required to meet quota to retain the exam.

Petitions from Maltese organisations, schools, the Maltese Community Councils of NSW and Victoria, were made, and the President of the Maltese Community Council and the President of the Federation held meetings with the relevant authorities. Despite these efforts, the verdict from the VCAA has been declared. The last VCE Examination in this subject will be in 2021. From January 2022, Maltese will not be offered as a language subject. The following applies:

2020

Last year for Year 11 enrolments in Maltese;

2021

Maltese not offered at Year 11. Last year for Year 12 enrolments and Year 12 examination for Maltese;

2022

Maltese not available as a VCE course.

Students will not be able to repeat Maltese at Year 12.

CCAFL Maltese may be reactivated for a minimum of three consecutive years, of at least fifteen students at VCE level;

b. Sufficient subject/language expertise available nationally to provide:

• Curriculum design and development;

• Examination setting, vetting and marking teams, including a Chief Examiner, in addition to teachers of Maltese in the VCE;

c. Tertiary or equivalent expertise is available to support the teaching and assessment of Maltese at this level.

A message from the Victorian Government:

Restrictions in place

In line with advice from the Victorian Chief Health Officer, the Victorian Government has announced that from July a number of postcodes have returned to Stage 3 Stay at Home restrictions.

This decision was made in response to increasing evidence of significant community transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19) in these postcodes:

• 3012 (Brooklyn, Kingsville, Maidstone, Tottenham, West Footscray)

• 3021 (Albanvale, Kealba, Kings Park, St Albans)

• 3032 (Ascot Vale, Highpoint City, Maribyrnong, Traralgon)

• 3038 (Keilor Downs, Keilor Lodge, Taylors Lakes, Watergardens)

• 3042 (Airport West, Keilor Park, Niddrie, Niddrie North)

• 3046 (Glenroy, Hadfield, Oak Park)

• 3047 (Broadmeadows, Dallas, Jacana)

• 3055 (Brunswick South, Brunswick West, Moonee Vale, Moreland West)

• 3060 (Fawkner)

• 3064 (Craigieburn, Donnybrook, Mickelham, Roxburgh Park, Kalkallo)

If you live in these locations, there will again only be four reasons to be out:

• Shopping for food and supplies

• Care and caregiving

• Exercise

• Study or work – if you can’t do it from home. Wherever you can, you should do these things as close to home as you can.

If you do need to leave your postcode, those same restrictions – those same four reasons – travel with you. If you live outside these locations, there’s only four reasons to come into these communities: shopping for food and supplies, care and caregiving, exercise, and study or work – if you can’t do it from home.

Eligible local businesses will be able access an initial $5000 in support from the government. Based on the most up-to-date advice of the Chief Health Officer, students will return to school after the school holidays.

For more information visit vic.gov.au/CORONAVIRUS

Staying Apart Keeps Us Together.

(See also: Pandemics can be stressful on page 2)
Dad was not a hero, but neither was he a coward

In my first-ever article for a publication of some standing in the June 16 issue (No. 230) of The Voice of the Maltese, I mentioned that my father used to explain to us what he and his family went through during the War (WWII) years and that he also used to recount to us siblings personal hardships but also some very funny anecdotes. I could not mention them in my first article, as it would have been much too long.

Since writing that article (titled: “Coronavirus not all gloom and doom! It also had its benefits”), I discovered how popular this magazine is with the Maltese community, but not only.

I also learned that The Voice has also got quite a number of avid readers from other ethnic groups. I have been inundated with favourable comments; many have even tried to convince me to take up writing on a regular basis. But I don’t know if I can.

I appreciate their comments, but to be honest I don’t believe that I have what it takes to be a regular contributor. However, having started the ball rolling and, as my husband said, got my foot in it, I feel it my duty to accede to requests by some to explain what the funny anecdotes from the war – that I mentioned in my first article – were.

My dad was a very down-to-earth family man. He used to go out of his way to keep mum and us siblings happy.

When it comes to money we were not rich, but we were never left wanting for anything that could give us an honest upbringing and a good education. He was very intelligent in many ways. Sometimes we used to think that the term DIY was invented for him.

When it comes to storytelling – true or fictitious – his wit and the way he told them used to keep us kids glued to our seats. Sometimes, my older sister would even invite other kids from our street to join us in these sessions, especially when it was time for dad to recall the war years, his experiences, and his use to tell us stories, about “his contribution to saving Malta from the enemy”.

I remember him telling us that Malta was essential to the Allied war effort, but he did not put much effort into it himself. He was certainly no hero; instead, he used to describe himself, rather sarcastically, as a “coward”. Friends of his tell us that was only his modesty talking as he helped raise the spirits of many people, especially those close to him.

For some months during the war years, he was assigned to the British Army Medical Corps (well I think that was the name he gave us) and was stationed at Mtarfa (near Rabat).

Every morning he used to walk from Marsa to Mtarfa to help to maintain the needs of patients. He filled several roles at the Mtarfa Hospital, but he was always afraid that with Mtarfa being so close to the Ta’ Qali airfield, one day he would fall victim of the war. He used to tell us that there were days when in the rare occasion that he encountered an exercise with war tanks by the British Army at Ta’ Qali, it put the fear in him, and he tried to avoid such occasions.

The only thing that he never regretted was that he was always well-fed and even used to take home to the family enough food (mostly canned). The family was never left wanting.

He had never been called to provide any defence of the island like other soldiers, some of them close friends, but he still always tried hard to figure out how he could avoid going to Mtarfa. Therefore he devised a plan. He sought the help of a nurse and managed to acquire some itching powder that he then poured on his body developing a rash.

He then complained of itching and that he might have scabies. He was relieved of his duties.

Another of his “funny” anecdotes was when the explained to us that during the war, enemy pilots that were shot down over Malta and survived the ordeal by bailing out, were caught and placed in confinement, where, he said, they were very well treated. He and a few other Maltese soldiers were assigned the task of “looking after them” as guards, to keep them away from escaping.

Most of the guards, dad included, became very friendly with some of the prisoners but they never told them that they had no bullets to use with their shotguns they were carrying as a deterrent in case of trouble. Therefore if they misbehaved there was no way they could defend themselves. Isn’t that laughable?

However, whenever he was called upon to help to clear debris at buildings destroyed by enemy bombs or recover injured persons or victims in such destruction he always volunteered. When he heard that the Royal Opra House in Valletta was destroyed by the Germans, he was even among the first to get to Valletta from Marsa to join other soldiers to help clear the debris.

In August 1942, in Operation Pedestal, one of the five ships to arrive in Malta was called Melbourne Star that anchored and discharged its cargo not far from one of the shelters; it stayed there for about three weeks. Dad mentioned that some of the kids used to be allowed onboard and a few of them took the opportunity to make their way to the officers’ mess pantry and grab some food to take home to their family.

It never seemed to bother the crew, and the day before it was going to sail, the ship’s captain organised “an open day” on the ship and the people were allowed to go onboard to meet the crew. Dad was one of those who availed themselves of the chance and even made friends with two crewmembers. He kept corresponding with one of them for years.

These are experiences that my father, who was always so grateful to have survived the war, always liked to talk about and used to describe as the few silver linings. He was certainly no hero and liked to joke, rather sarcastically, that he had no hand in defeating the enemy, even though (like everybody else) he had medals to show.

The British Army using a Light Tank Mk VIS during an exercise at Ta’ Qali in 1942.
The National Museum of Archaeology

House at the Auberge de Provence, in Republic Street, Valletta, the National Museum of Archaeology, with artefacts from prehistory, Phoenician times and a notable numismatic collection, is renowned as one of the most elaborately decorated Baroque buildings in Malta’s capital city.

It is one of a number of other museums and sites in Valletta that are managed by Heritage Malta. The others are, the Palace State Rooms and Palace Armoury, MUŻA, Fortress Builders Interpretation Centre, and Fort St Elmo – National War Museum.

The Museum of Archaeology at the Auberge de Provence, a baroque building that was constructed in 1571 to serve as the official residence of the Knights of the Order of St John, designed by the Maltese architect Girolamo Cassar, who also directed the building of other most important sites in the early days of the capital.

During its history the building, which was subject to various alterations including the extensive reconstruction of the façade, was opened as the National Museum for Archaeology in 1958 by the then Minister of Education Agatha Barbara.

In 1974, the fine arts collection was moved to the National Museum of Fine Arts, newly established in the Admiralty House building in South Street, Valletta, and the National Museum was renamed the National Museum for Archaeology.

The museum was refurbished and upgraded in 1998. Artefacts were placed in climate-controlled displays so that the exhibit met with current conservation standards.

The sheer elegance of the time is still much alive in the richly painted walls and wooden beamed ceiling of the Gran Salon (below), the most ornate room in the building on the first floor. The Knights used it for business discussions, and as a refectory and banquetting hall, where they sat at long tables according to seniority.

This museum offers a spectacular range of artefacts dating back to Malta’s Neolithic Period (5000 BC) up to the Phoenician Period (400 BC) and provides the visitor with a good introduction to the prehistory and early history of the Maltese Islands.

Thanks to a number of sections (six halls) the Museum acts as a catalyst to other archaeological sites in Malta. They are:

The Early Neolithic Period Room (5200-2500 BC) on the ground floor of the museum exhibits some of the most notable prehistoric artefacts from the Maltese islands, the earliest prehistoric tools and artistic representations, including decorated pottery from the Ghar Dalam phase (5200 BC), from, Grey Skorba, Red Skorba and Żebbuġ phases and the earliest appearance of settlement on the island, up to the Tarxien phase (2500 BC).

It also includes, the ‘Sleeping Lady’ (from the Hal-Saflieni Hypogeum), the ‘Venus of Malta’ (from Hagar Qim Temples), the Bronze Age daggers (from Tarxien Temples), and the Horus & Anubis pendant, together with the anthropomorphic sarcophagus, both of which date to the Phoenician Period.

There are other halls dedicated to different periods. The Temple Period Rooms (3800-2500 BC) show examples of architecture, human representation and other items mentioned above, that date from the Mgarr, Ggantija, Saflieni and Tarxien phases of Maltese prehistory.

The temples built at this time are considered to be the world’s first freestanding monuments and are listed in the UNESCO World Heritage List.

At the Bronze Age Hall (2400 – 700BC) one can learn about the culture and rituals of new peoples that moved to the Islands c. 2,400BC.

The remains from the Bronze Age attest to a total break with the culture of the Temple Period. The richly decorated temples are replaced by fortified settlements, built into rocky natural defences that bear witness to more defensive newcomers.

At the Cart-Ruts Room there’s a reproduction of the mysterious curt-ruts that are widespread throughout Malta and Gozo. Although some are thought to be Bronze Age, their precise period has not yet been established, and neither has their use.

The Phoenician Hall is an introduction to these highly accomplished artisans and seafarers who set up trading outposts throughout the Mediterranean and settled on the Maltese islands around 700 BC, and ruled until 218 BC.

The collection contains fine examples of pottery, jewellery and glassware produced by the Phoenicians, including an amulet made of solid gold consisting of two standing gods, Horus and Anubis.

On the top floor of the National Museum of Archaeology is the National Numismatic Collection.

Stemming from a donation bequeathed by Prof. Salvatore Luigi Pisani (1828-1908) in 1899, the collection has continued to grow and now consists of more than 16,000 coins, commemorative medals and dies.

Works are currently in progress to include other halls that will be dedicated to the Punic, Roman, and Byzantine Periods in Malta.
Sejha lill-Isqof il-gdid t’Ghawdex Anton Teuma

Joe Sultana minn Westmead NSW jikteb:


Nostalgia indeed

Tony Felice from Kleinburg Ontario Canada writes:

The memories you evoke with your articles “Memorji u Nostalgija” truly hit home, they brought back, in my mind a picture of the suburbs of Newtown. Redfern, Surry Hills and us, a few Maltese immigrants (kids mostly) busily trying to stake a claim as part of the community in our found land. The Voice is right, we were driven by boredom, but we did keep busy and out of trouble. With the Malta Eagles, which we founded and other community involvement which still exists today, we did make a mark.

I could go on and on. Instead, I will continue to be thankful for your dedication to keeping these memories alive. I have left Sydney and now live in Canada, but the memories are still vivid in my mind even though we are separated by thousands of miles.

Suspension of Maltese language classes shocking

Doris Cannataci from Sliema writes:

I was shocked to read the article on page 2 in the last issue of the magazine, “Maltese language courses to be suspended”. In my opinion, it is a great pity for the present and future generations of Maltese descent.

James Cassar’s article (The Personality of the Month) about him trying to learn about his heritage and search about his roots is a case in point; an urge to get to know about the culture and language of one’s origin.

I do not agree with Charles Xuerzbek (news item about monuments in Valletta on page 14) reported saying “imma bil-kolonjal-izmu nkunu qed nitfrabu b’rix haddiehor”.

Monuments are part of our history. The George Cross shows the courage and bravery of the Maltese in time of unimaginable hardships and fear. Behind the George Cross there is the culture and faith of the Maltese during WWII. The pilgrimages and prayers of the Maltese played a very important role during WWII; they were heard and answered.

The Santa Maria Convoy saved Malta when the OHIO tanker badly crippled entered Grand Harbour on the 15th August 1942 on the feast of Santa Maria; 8th September 1943, feast of Our Lady of Victory. Italy surrendered.

As a Maltese citizen I am very proud of the George Cross and of our historical monuments.

Melbourne, we are behind you

Joe Spiteri from Marrickville NSW writes:

We are behind you and pray for you. Melbourne with 5 million people in lockdown is a deep shock to all residents of Australia as we are one nation. This is a wake-up call to the other states. Be careful, obey the rules; no one is indestructible.

Do not travel interstate for the next weeks. We are in this together. We can beat it if we stick together and obey the rules as issued.
Il-fenek moqli

Il-minestra tal-haxix

L-IKEL T’OMMI: ma kont nibdлу ma’ xejn (1)

Kemm niftahru bl-ikel u l-kċina Maltija huh? Bir-raġun!

Illum se nisvija ftit mit-tagħrif tieghi imma xorta waħda se nknitklem dwar il-kultura u d-drawwiet tradizzjonali Maltini. Din id-darba se nkub dwar l-ikel, u hafna mid-drawwiet fil-kċina Maltin u dwar platti bnin li kwazi l-ommijiet jkollha kellhom hila jiervu fuq l-imwejed tal-familji. Fl-istess waqt se nkun aktar personali ghax aktar li nsemmi hu dak l-ikel li ommi Marija, illum mejta, rabbit bih lili u lill-bqija tal-familja.

Hemm hafna xi nghid, għax il-kultura Maltija f’dan is-settur kienet, u sa ċetu pant għadha tassew rikka. L-ikel Malti mhux biss pastizzu u qassatat, u l-hobż Malti biz-żejt. Għalhekk se naqsam dan l-artiklu f’żewġ partijiet. Nibdihu illum it-emenu li l’-hargha ta’ wara,


Kont niggosta nara lil ommi (Alla jaħfrilha) toqgħod attenta xi tqassam għax inkella meta jasal nofsinhar ftit li xejn ikun fadlila xi tqassam. Kien xenarju mill-imgħoddi ta’ żmien tfulitna u naħseb li min qed jaqra dan l-artiklu, hu wkoll jiftakar fit-tifkiriet ta’ tfulitu l-aktar ... ftit ikun hemm varjanti minn dak li ktibt biex nintroduċi l-artiklu tal-lum.

Fejn għandu x’jaqsam il-fenek kien hemm ukoll l-istuffat tal-fenek, u l-għaġin biz-zalza tiegħu.

Il-kċina Maltija tal-imgħoddi, ta’ aktar minn sittin sena ilu żmien li jien niftakar sewwa, il-ħaxix kien abbundanti u forsi wkoll orħos għax hafna kienu dawk il-familji birraba’ tagħhom jew b’xi ġnejna d-dar, alura l-bejgħ tal-ħaxix kien abbundanti u rħis.

Is-sopop

Lill-ommi kont nismagħha tgħid mal-ġirien li mal-minestra tħobb titfa’ dik id-daqxejn ta’ ... (ma nafx x’inhi) ... ħalli t-tfal jikluha, u tgħidx kemm jilagħquha. Min jaf x’kienet titfa’!

Imbagħad xi nghidu għal dik is-sopop tal-kirxa? Mamma tieghi! Kienet soppa kollha ħaxix u mimlija biċċiet tal-kirxa li nkun naddafthielha jien stess. Illum qajla tara dik il-kirxa ta’ żmieni, varjata … xugamani u interjuri oħra kkuluriti.

Kemm kienet tagħmel soppa tal-kirxa tajba ommi!

L-aljotta

Illum se nisvijja ftit mit-tagħrif tieghi imma xorta waħda se nknitklem dwar il-kultura u d-drawwiet tradizzjonali Maltini. Din id-darba se nikteb dwar l-ikel, u ħafna mid-drawwiet fil-kċina Maltin u dwar platti bnini li kellhom ħila jservu fuq l-imwejed tal-familji. Fl-istess waqt se nkun aktar personali ghax aktar li nsemmi hu dak l-ikel li ommi Marija, illum mejta, rabbit bih lili u lill-bqija tal-familja.

Il-fenek moqli

Il-minestra tal-haxix

Il-fenek moqli

Il-minestra tal-haxix

Il-pronom personali u l-gens

Dan l-ahhar kont qed nikteb dwar l-ilisien Malti, u ppermitturni tkompli fuq it-tema. Hemm sugġett partikulari li ilu fuq mhobi, u dan huwa l-pronom personali.

Wahda mill-ċwewl diskussjonijiet li ikollli ma’ studenti tal-Malti fl-Awstralja, speċjalment għawd gaw l-ġalihom dan huwa sugġett komplettament gidid, u anke għal xi whud li għalihom mhux, hija dwar il-pronom personali.

Iktar spektrifikatament, wieħed irid bifors japprezzza li filwaqt li l-Ingliż għandu he (fil-Malti hu/huwa) u she (hi/hija), l-Ingliż għandu it, li jirreferi, per ġewnpju, għal oġġett u kultant għal amnal, mentri fil-Malti m’għandniex ekwiwalenti.


L-interess li għandi hija kif il-lingwa Maltija se tifforma madwar il-Ġewna minflok, li huwa pronom li jintuża fil-plural u mhux fis-singular.


Qanorx jinżid li dan huwa wieħed biss mill-Ħafna pronomi li qed japplikawx għaliha, u tippreferi li jintużaw biex tinkludi dan kollu.

L-kurżità li għandi hija kif il-lingwa Maltija se tifforma madwar il-Ġewna minflok, li huwa pronom li jintuża fil-plural u mhux fis-singular.

Ma damitomba li jinżid li dan huwa wieħed biss mill-Ħafna pronomi li qed japplikawx għaliha, u tippreferi li jintużaw biex tinkludi dan kollu.

Ghafhekk, tkompli tghid li l-pronomi li nużaw normalment, hu jew hi, ma japplikawx għaliha, u tippreferi li jintużaw biex tinkludi dan kollu.


Qanorx jinżid li dan huwa wieħed biss mill-Ħafna pronomi li qed japplikawx għaliha, u tippreferi li jintużaw biex tinkludi dan kollu.

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L-kurżità li għandi hija kif il-lingwa Maltija se tifforma madwar il-Ġewna minflok, li huwa pronom li jintuża fil-plural u mhux fis-singular.

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Ma damitomba li jinżid li dan huwa wieħed biss mill-Ħafna pronomi li qed japplikawx għaliha, u tippreferi li jintużaw biex tinkludi dan kollu.
Min jaqra The Voice of the Maltese?


Il-knisja ta’ San Pawl fir-Rabat se tingħata titlu ta’ Bażilika


It-titlu ta’ Bażilika se jingħata uffiċjalment, fl-20 ta’ Settembru, waqt quddessa solenni li se titmexxa mill-Arċisqof. Fiha se jinqara d-digriet tal-Papa Fransisku li li bih din il-Kolleġjata se sibir Bażilika. L-għada mibahgrad l-istatwa titlaturi ta’ San Pawl se tinhareg ġ’pellegrinagġ mat-toroq tar-Rabat.

CatholicCare Home Care Services

Do you know any seniors in our community who could use a little help at home?

CatholicCare home care services can help seniors to enjoy living independently in their own home with comfort and confidence.

Call CCareline to find out more.
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CatholicCare.org
Enhanced cooperation between Malta and Libya and the fight against criminal human trafficking topped the agenda of talks between Prime Minister Robert Abela and the Libyan President of the Presidency Council of the Government of National Accord Faiez Mustafa Serraj who was in Malta on an official visit.

Malta also stressed on the need for more external border protection to mitigate human smuggling and loss of life in the Mediterranean.

Present for the talks on Malta’s side were Minister for Foreign and European Affairs Evarist Bartolo and Minister for Home Affairs, National Security and Law Enforcement Byron Camilleri. Serraj was accompanied by his Minister for Foreign Affairs Mohammed Taher Siala, Minister for the Interior Fathi Ali Abd-AlSalam Bashaghah.

During his stay, the Libyan leader was also hosted by the President of Malta George Vella at the Sant’Anton Palace. In their meeting, President Vella underlined the mutual bilateral interest in achieving peace and stability in the region.

He told that Serraj that his visit to Malta was an opportunity for both countries to strengthen their relations and to renew cooperation on migration and security in the Mediterranean.

It could also reinforce the friendship that has been ongoing for decades between the two countries since the establishment of diplomatic relations.

During Serraj’s visit the two leaders also inaugurated at Belt is-Sebħ the Malta-Libya Coordination Centre.

In its Summer 2020 economic forecast, the European Commission said it expects Malta’s GDP is set to record the least negative economic growth in the Euro Area (EA) this year, and next year, the growth rate is expected to be higher than the EU and EA average.

The European Commission notes that although measures Malta took to contain the spread of COVID-19 had a negative impact on growth, with Malta’s GDP set to contract by 6% this year the numerous financial aid packages provided by the Government are expected to help cushion the economic impact, and the easing of restrictions is expected to push GDO annual growth to 6.3% in 2021, thus exceeding the EU and EA averages.

Inflation is expected to decrease 0.8% in 2020 and remain at a relatively low level of 1.2% next year.

The pandemic measures are expected to cause the economy to swing from growth of 7.3% in 2018 and 4.7% in 2019 to a contraction of 6.0% in 2020.

Malta’s reliance on the tourism sector as well as the country’s partial lockdown and the disruption to international supply-chains was cited as being the main drivers of economic disruption related to COVID-19.

It said that as a result, investment and net exports are expected to be severely hit by the crisis, as well as private consumption. However, recent economic indicators, in particular in the construction and manufacturing sectors suggest a modest recovery.

In his reaction Minister for Finance and Financial Services Edward Scicluna said he was pleased to note that the Commission sees the main driver of the recovery coming from investment, supported by the recovery packages announced by the Government.

Fitch credit agency confirms Malta as A+ with stable prospects

Malta has maintained its classification among A+ countries in the recent report published by the international agency Fitch Ratings. It confirmed that despite the pandemic’s negative impact that is being continuously revised upwards around the world, Malta’s rating prospects have remained stable.

The Government said in a statement that similar to those of IMF and the European Commission, Fitch’s experts predict that despite the country’s dependency on industries such as tourism, the impact of COVID-19 on Malta would be less than that of the euro zone.

They maintain that the country’s economic performance will be 2.1 percentage points better that the euro zone average in 2020. In their previous updating Fitch experts were uncertain on their prediction on Malta, but said that now they believe risks to be more balanced”.

The pandemic impact will be temporary and not affect the country’s economic potential.
Malta’s International Airport will reopen fully for commercial flights on Wednesday July 15 and approve other European ‘safe’ countries to the initial 22 as more airlines have been given the go-ahead to join the July 1 list of destinations and help reignite their commitments to fly to and from Malta on a daily schedule.

After the closure for over three months of Malta’s International Airport for commercial operations, on July 1 along with the Malta Tourism Authority Air Malta took up the challenge to try and fulfill its role in helping to revive Malta’s tourist industry that had stagnated during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Public Health Act regulating the pandemic-imposed travel ban was amended and travellers can now fly to a further 28 countries adding to the list of ‘safe’ travel destinations. In line with the addition to the list Air Malta is once again starting operations. They include the United Kingdom, Belgium, Bulgaria and Netherlands. The ban has also been lifted to Australia, New Zealand and Canada. On July 18 Air Malta will also restart scheduled services to the Spanish capital, Madrid. During a visit to the Valletta Waterfront where she witnessed the Valletta Cruise Port management’s €2 million investment, including new tenting that has been specifically designed to respect the historic aspect and aesthetics of the place, Minister Farrugia Portelli stated that it is hoped that next month Malta would also see the first visits from cruise liners. The Port’s CEO Stephen Xuereb said that the ultimate aim is to offer a quality experience to clients, both Maltese and foreigners. Influential publications have also been reporting that Malta is a safe destination post COVID-19. The United Nations World Tourism Organisation, the World Health Organisation, the European Commission, and others.

Malta’s six MEPs have been nominated Malta’s public health superintendent Prof. Charmaine Gauci (right), her team and all professionals and volunteers in health care, which represented the hundreds of frontline healthcare workers and volunteers in Malta and Gozo for the European Citizens’ Award. They worked very hard for the containment of the virus pandemic. This year, the European Parliament encouraged nominations for people helping with the COVID-19 pandemic, and Prof Gauci and her team fit in completely. During the pandemic she became a household name in Malta with her daily updates that kept people informed and at times even managed to impart peace of mind to the community.

The European Parliament awards the European Citizens’ Award annually to an individual or organisation that has excelled in their contribution to society. Putting forward her name, MEPs Miriam Dalli, Alfred Sant, Alex Agius Saliba and Josianne Cutajar (LP) and Roberta Metsola, David Casa (NP) said that Prof. Gauci deserves recognition for demonstrating great leadership skills and that together with her team of dedicated professionals and the many volunteers, the Maltese Islands were able to react effectively to the pandemic. They added that Prof. Gauci and her team are witness of Maltese and European values in the promotion of an approach based on science in the health care and other measures aimed at containing the virus pandemic, and therefore they deserve to be recognised with the European Citizen’s Award which honours persons and organisations who excel in their contribution to society. There are currently only five active cases of coronavirus. Since the start of the pandemic in March, Malta registered 674 infections, including nine people who died, while 600 recovered.

PN MPs lose trust in leader - Delia determined to stay on

On the political front, the Nationalist Party Leader, Adrian Delia lost a confidence vote by his party’s Parliamentary Group (19 against 11) that has now nominated Therese Comodini Cachia as his replacement. However, after the vote, Delia vowed to stay on as party leader, insisting that he was still Opposition leader. He said he was elected as leader directly by the party membership (the tesserati) and it is only they who could dislodge him. A final decision as to whether Delia could still occupy the position now rests with the President of the Republic who is deliberating on the position according to the Constitution.

Rebel Nationalist MPs are insisting that the President of the Republic managed to confirm that a majority of MPs had declared to him they had no trust in Delia. In the end, we could even have the anomaly that the leader of the biggest party in opposition would not be the leader of the Opposition.

Meanwhile, according to reports, during an executive meeting scheduled for Tuesday, Delia could press for the formation of a board of discipline to discuss the rebels’ actions. Some are even suggesting they should be kicked out of the PN. This is a developing story. No decision had been taken at the time of publishing. (Full report on pages 14 and 15)
**The Voice of the Maltese**

**Inkwiet fil-Kamp Nazzjonalist - Jista’li l-Mexxej jibqa’ imma ma jkunx hu l-Kap tal-Oppozzjizzi imma mara**


Wara li l-President George Vella aċċerta li l-maġġoranza veru ma jridux lill-Delia, issa qed jistħarriġ xi tgħid il-Kostituzzjoni dwar dan.

Din storja li għad ω qed tizviluppa u ġejja mill-fatt li l-kap tal-Partit Nazzjonalista, Parlamentari tiegħu b’19-il kontra 11. Imma għamilha ċara li la kienu t-tesserati li Adrian Delia tilefu vot ta’ fiduċja fil-Grupp laħħquh bħala l-kap għal leġislatura sħiħa, huma biss it-tesserati li jistgħu jneħħuh.


Dr Therese Comodini Cachia

Imma x’wassal ghal dan kollu?


Fost ic-chats Fenech jghid lil Delia “ahna dejjem warajt jigi x-jigi” u ṣkaż iekor jì-tolbu jmun għall-ikel miegħu, b’Delia jaaċ-ċetta u jghidlu li l-konsultant tiegħu (ekx) Pierre Portelli se jirranga l-ilka. Dan meta kien dīgh żvelat li Fenech huwa sid il-kumpanija fer ċ-ħarriżiet 17 Black u meta ftit tal-jiem qabel, Delia kien qal li ma kellu l-ebdà relazzjoniżji relevanti ma’ Fenech.

Dan kollu wassal biex għad ta’ deputati Nazzjonalisti sfidaw lil Delia u ftit mara li ħarget din l-ahbar itlaqghu jiddiskutu s-situazzjoni. Għal kemm ma ħarġu l-ebdà stqar-rija deher car li kienet qed jimha rizoluzzjoni biex jekk Delia ma jwarrabx minn jeddu, jwarrbuh huma.


(ikompl f’paġma 15)
Sfiduċjat imma xorta se jibqa'


Imma Chris Said, li kien ikkontesta u tief l-elezzjoni ghal Kap tal-partit xorta ressaq il-mozzjoni li kienet tghid “Ghandek fiduċja f’Adrian Delia bħala Kap tal-Oppozizzjoni?”

Il-vot jittieħed sigriet u r-rizulta f’19 le u 11 Iva (rivuttaw ukoll iż-2 MEPs Nazzjonalisti)

Imma l-vot ma solviex il-problema, anzi kompli habel il-kobba għax nimejdatament wara l-vot Delia stqarr mal-midja: “Se nkompli niggieled il-korruzzjoni u l-kriminalità. U se nkompli nahdem b’aktar energija u determinazzjoni.”


Il-PM tenna li l-Gvern se jitgħallem mill-istru mhux sodisfat bil-konklużjonijiet tal-tas-saħħa pubblika.”

Min-naha tieghu l-Prim Ministru stqarr li fejn sar ħażin huwa se jibqa’ konsistenti u mhux se jahrab dan. Qal li huwa l-Kostituzzjoni li jittieħed vot fejn sar ħażin huwa se jibqa’ konsistenti u mhux se jahrab dan. Qal li huwa l-Kostituzzjoni li jittieħed vot fejn sar ħażin huwa se jibqa’ konsistenti u mhux se jahrab dan. Qal li huwa l-Kostituzzjoni li jittieħed vot fejn sar ħażin huwa se jibqa’ konsistenti u mhux se jahrab dan. Qal li huwa l-Kostituzzjoni li jittieħed vot fejn sar ħażin huwa se jibqa’ konsistenti u mhux se jahrab dan.

Adrian Delia jgħid li ghadu l-kap tal-Partit u tal-Oppozizzjoni

Fuq il-Facebook tieghu, Adrian Delia kiebe li hu għadu l-Kap tal-Partit u wkoll il-Kap tal-Oppozizzjoni, għax kien gie elett bhala l-kap tal-Partit biex flimkien jimpjumentaw dak li sejjaħ bħala “il-mod gdid” u li s’issa ppruva hafa drabi biex dan isieħħ.

Issokta jtemi li hu għadu hemm u filwaqt li ma jistax jiġi li ma weğiġax bl-ahħar żviluntpi li gabu b’idejhom ċerti individwi, bħal hafa jinsab ukoll irrabjat.


“Jien mhux se naqta’ qalbi għall bħal ħafna ġirgur li jmxkkex lid-deputati fil-Parlament, u jmxkkex l-Oppożizzjoni għax ġie sfiduċja jibqa’ miftuħ għal dawk nafbanduna illkom jew lill-partit. Flimkien se negħbu lil dan l-ostaklu, b’saħħitna aktar minn qatt qabel,” qal Delia...
Australian Defence against “a more dangerous world”

The Australian government is promising to give Defence $270 billion over the next decade - up from $195 billion pledged in 2016 - under the 2020 Defence Strategic Update and Force Structure Plan. Speaking in Canberra Prime Minister Scott Morrison unveiled the policy to prepare the nation’s military against what he has called a "more dangerous" world.

“The simple truth is this: even as we stare down the COVID pandemic at home, we need to also prepare for a post-COVID world that is poorer, more dangerous and more disorderly,” he said.

The federal government will develop capabilities in areas such as long-range missiles, cyber and surveillance systems and refocus its attention on the Indo-Pacific region. Prime Minister Scott Morrison also pointed to rising territorial claims on the disputed border between India and China, the South China Sea and the East China Sea in his speech.

Head of the National Security College at the Australian Nation University, professor Rory Medcalf, told SBS News the plan to protect Australia demonstrated the deteriorating strategic environment at hand. “It’s going to be a pretty sobering wake up to the Australian public,” he said.

He went on to say, “Not a lot of Australians spend their time thinking about do we need a military that's capable of deterring or even potentially fighting against the Chinese military and that, of course, is partly what this is all about.”

Pauline Hanson at it again

Senator Pauline Hanson, leader of the One Nation Party, labelled residents under lockdown in the nine public housing estate towers because of Covid-19 as "drug addicts" and “alcoholics” who can't speak English, in an interview on Channel Nine's Today Show.

After widespread backlash, Channel Nine released a statement by Darren Wick, Nine's Director of News and Current Affairs to announce that Senator Hanson won't be joining the Today Show in the future.

Hanson referenced to the Victorian government's financial assistance of a one-off $1,500 payment for residents under lockdown in the public housing towers to aid those who cannot leave for work.

She suggested that residents hadn't adhered to social distancing rules because they don't speak English - which is currently unproven. “If they're from war-torn countries, which some of these people are, they know what it's like to be in tough conditions,” Hanson said.

The outspoken senator was met with widespread criticism for her comments and Labor leader Bill Shorten even refused to say her name as he condemned her comments.

Australia, the refugees and the UNHCR report

Forced displacement caused by conflict, persecution and violence is now affecting more than one per cent of humanity or one in every 97 people, and the United Nations Human Rights Commission's (UNHCR) Global Trends report, released some days ago, revealed an unprecedented 79.5 million people were displaced at the end of 2019 - the highest total the aid agency has ever recorded.

Within that total, 26 million people are deemed refugees, 46.7 million are internally displaced, and 4.2 million are considered as asylum-seekers. An estimated 40 per cent of those displaced worldwide are children below 18 years of age, tens of thousands of whom are said to be unaccompanied.

In 2019, 73 per cent of refugees lived in neighbouring countries, nearly all of which are considered developing. Turkey hosted the largest number of refugees worldwide, taking in 3.6 million people; Colombia hosted 1.8 million people, followed by Pakistan, Uganda and Germany.

The Syrian war, which is now in its ninth year, accounts for more than 13 million refugees alone, a sixth of the world's total. As for Yemen, which many in the international community call the 'forgotten crisis', 3.6 million citizens are currently internally displaced - one of the highest country totals in the world.

Australia welcomed 11 per cent of all resettled refugees in 2019. The intake was just over 18,000, the second-largest in the Asia Pacific region behind Malaysia.
COVID-19 – horrific situation in the state of Victoria

Five million Melbourne residents are locked up for six weeks in a bid to contain the new surge of covid-19. The Premier, Daniel Edwards warned Victoria was “on the cusp of something very, bad.” Furthermore, the alarming surge in Victoria’s coronavirus cases has prompted an emergency meeting of medical officials from around Australia and an unprecedented lockdown of nine Melbourne public housing towers.

For the first time in 100 years the borders between Victoria and NSW are closed. Enforcing the closure of the border was a mammoth task. Hundreds of Australian Defence Force troops are being deployed to patrol the 55 travel checkpoints along the Victoria-NSW border.

Victoria’s chief health officer Brett Sutton said there was an obligation across the entire state for people to minimise their interactions with each other.

Lockdown and the threat of a second wave of coronavirus in Melbourne have not escaped global attention, with a number of media outlets reporting on the city as one of a host of those experiencing a potential second peak of the virus.

One headline heading read “Panic grips Australia” with another warning “Some (Melburnians) will die”. There were reports in The New York Times, BBC and others, however, Australia had been considered to have managed the pandemic well, so far recording a total of around 8,000 cases and 100 deaths in a country with a population of 25 million.

Social media has been blamed again for misinformation. A number of social media posts have gone viral that question the existence of the virus or try to minimise its impact. Some are saying there is “no pandemic” and test kits are unreliable, contaminated and inflated death counts. The refusing of tests in Victoria was an example of social media misinformation.

In a separate study, the Australian National University found the proportion of Australians not able to meet their regular housing costs jumped from 6.9 per cent in April to 15.1 per cent in May, with young people the hardest hit.

The Brotherhood of St Laurence paper estimates nearly 400,000 Australians aged 51 to 65 have either lost work or had their hours cut as a result of the downturn.

Cardinal Pell to publish prison diary

Cardinal George Pell is set to publish his prison diary musing on life in solitary confinement, the Church, politics and sport. Catholic publisher Ignatius Press says the first installment of the 1000-page diary would likely be published in 2021.

“We’ve already read the first half of the journal and it is extraordinary,” Fr Fessio wrote. “I think it’s going to be a spiritual classic.”

Cardinal Pell served 13 months in prison before the High Court in April acquitted him of sexual abuse charges involving two choirboys at Melbourne’s St Patrick’s Cathedral during the 1990s.

Cardinal Pell “proclaimed Christ and the Church’s moral teachings without fear and with full knowledge of what the cost would be. And he paid the price with good humour and, like Christ, a love of his enemies,” Fr Fessio added.

Downturn affects mature-age

Nearly a third of people who have lost work or had hours cut as a result of the pandemic are aged 51 to 65 – fuelling “rapid growth” in the number of mature-age, low-income Australians who may fall through the cracks of government support, according to a paper prepared by the Brotherhood of St Laurence and the Nous Group, an international management consultancy firm.

In separate study, the Australian National University found the proportion of Australians not able to meet their regular housing costs jumped from 6.9 per cent in April to 15.1 per cent in May, with young people the hardest hit.

The Brotherhood of St Laurence paper estimates nearly 400,000 Australians aged 51 to 65 have either lost work or had their hours cut as a result of the downturn.
Taghrif dwar il-kitba Maltija

Ghalieq kliem Malti gieli jinkteb bl-ie u gieli bl-i?

Minn xi daqiqiet wiecheid jiġu dubji dwar kliem li jistenna’ ti-xissit u li gieli jinkteb bl-xli b’xlokk u xarab bl-xillu ma xi drabi ohra mod iehor. Fost dawn hemm kliem bhal, ried u hsieb.

Fil-fatt kelma tista’ tinkteb kemm bl-ie f’ċerti każi u mingħajrha f’ohrajn ghalieq tkun inbidultilta’ s-sitwazzjoni u tkun ġiet f’ambjent differenti (eż. hsieb – hsibijiet; ried; riedet – ridd; ridan, ma ridlitas).


M ta’ ġel-exċepl jiddarrig miqnu fuqha u jimmxi lejn tarf il-kelma, ma tistax tifalha jew e qasira jew e qasira (eż. missier > misirrijiet, ħsieb > ħsibijiet, ħiereg > ħer-ġin, riedu > ridu-ni, bierik > berikna, mietet > mitt-li).

Dan ieċ-ċaqliq tal-aċċent lura jista jiġri ġalluom, l’hekk iridu il-bnedmin.. Ġalluom jinksu qabri b’tarmak iswed ġalluom jinksew bini u triqat... Ġalluom jistimxijex li iċ-xogħol tagħhom kien li fi persuna li b’ħila kbira jagħmel il-qofof qabel jingħata l-hekk imsejjaħ “proviżjon”.

QALFAT, l-aktar f’Għawdex. Dan hu Il-qalfat bit-tiben ħalli x-xemx ma tiblax l-umdità kollha.

Il-qalfat

Dazż-miex fil-Gżejjer Maltin, anke jekk ftit, imma ghadex issib IL-QALFAT, l-aktar f’Għawdex. Dan hu persuna li b’ħila kbira jagħmel il-qofof Maltin, xi bikkjilla, naxxla għall-hut, jew palju bil-qasab.

Il-ballata

Fl-antik, f’xiru Maltin fejn a kien hemm biedja u lanqas saj, xi nisa ta’ mingħajr skola kienu jsibju jagħmlu xogħol tal-BALLATA. Minkejna li kien ibes, imma kien mezz li b’xelqijghu l-għajxien għalhom u għall-familia. Ix-xogħol tagħhom kien li f’gruppi ta’ bejn erbgħa u sitta, jmmorju b’l-bit tad-djaq. Dan kien ix-xogħol li jistina li b’mmagħżula li jinksew bini u triqat... Ġalluom mejjet u mistrieh fil-Miistra fil-qasab taħt it-tarmak b’vilieh sibieh, hallutien...

Nizzżufl fil-fond aktar, li isfjal aktar u aktar li isfjal f’xogħol li jaf xi qaqtat dwar l-il qogħol. Idnunu f’qieq il-Miistra li t’indirixx miex tagħhom aħbun f’qasbar, ghada, taħt it-tarmak. Aħbun f’dell in-nannu u l-mohriet, il-bhur ibejjet, il-fal u it-tewmiet.


Ħalluom mejjet u mistrieh fil-Miistra fil-qasab taħt it-tarmak b’vilieh sibieh, hallutien...

Il-ballata

Fuq ix-xellug: Il-qalfat , u (fuq): il-bixkilla

Fix-xogħol tiegħu qisu ned jinsejg imma minniflok biex tiwelid ġalluom li għadek issib jikber f’xi widien, imma minflok bil-ħajt, bil-qasab u aktar minn darba fl-iżvilupp ta’ kelma, u aktar minn żewġ sinjali. Għalkemm illum fil-Għarbi, għax ġalluom biex jejżeg biex jeqred bidwi ġwejjed u miblugh u ’l kliem ma t’għajnejk li f’qisir li jinksew bini u triqat... Ġalluom mejjet u mistrieh fil-Miistra fil-qasab taħt it-tarmak b’vilieh sibieh, hallutien...

Il-ballata

Snajja antiki Maltin:

Epigrammi umoristiċi ta’ Anton Buttigżeq

IEX TKUN HIENI

Qabel tiżżewwej iftaħ għajnejk sewwa, oqgħod attent li jkunu mitiżin, meta tiżżewwej żommhom sew maqżul. Biex jagħmlu dan xi jinksew bini u triqat... Ġalluom mejjet u mistrieh fil-Miistra fil-qasab taħt it-tarmak b’vilieh sibieh, hallutien...

Idnunu f’Wied il-Misra

Poeżija ta’ PaulFBorg

Il-ballata

Fuq ix-xellug: Il-qalfat , u (fuq): il-bixkilla

Fix-xogħol tiegħu qisu ned jinsejg imma minniflok biex tiwelid ġalluom li għadek issib jikber f’xi widien, imma minflok bil-ħajt, bil-qasab u aktar minn żewġ sinjali. Għalkemm illum fil-Għarbi, għax ġalluom biex jejżeg biex jeqred bidwi ġwejjed u miblugh u ’l kliem ma t’għajnejk li f’qisir li jinksew bini u triqat... Ġalluom mejjet u mistrieh fil-Miistra fil-qasab taħt it-tarmak b’vilieh sibieh, hallutien...

Il-ballata

Snajja antiki Maltin:

Epigrammi umoristiċi ta’ Anton Buttigżeq

IEX TKUN HIENI

Qabel tiżżewwej iftaħ għajnejk sewwa, oqgħod attent li jkunu mitiżin, meta tiżżewwej żommhom sew maqżul. Biex jagħmlu dan xi jinksew bini u triqat... Ġalluom mejjet u mistrieh fil-Miistra fil-qasab taħt it-tarmak b’vilieh sibieh, hallutien...

Il-ballata

Fuq ix-xellug: Il-qalfat , u (fuq): il-bixkilla

Fix-xogħol tiegħu qisu ned jinsejg imma minniflok biex tiwelid ġalluom li għadek issib jikber f’xi widien, imma minflok bil-ħajt, bil-qasab u aktar minn żewġ sinjali. Għalkemm illum fil-Għarbi, għax ġalluom biex jejżeg biex jeqred bidwi ġwejjed u miblugh u ’l kliem ma t’għajnejk li f’qisir li jinksew bini u triqat... Ġalluom mejjet u mistrieh fil-Miistra fil-qasab taħt it-tarmak b’vilieh sibieh, hallutien...

Il-ballata

Snajja antiki Maltin:
A
fter being diagnosed with an ag-
gressive rare form of Cancer last
year, Michael Falzon, the much-
loved Australian musical theatre/rock
tenor, actor, and producer, has lost his bat-
tle with Cancer and died on Tuesday June
23 at the age of 48. His classical violinist
wife, Jane Cho, survives him.
Falzon was the third of six children born
to a Maltese father and an Australian
mother. His family moved to Brisbane from
Sydney in his early teens. He attended
Kelvin Grove High School in Brisbane,
known for its drama department, where he
was an active member of the school choir
and musical productions.
Upon graduation, he intended to study
English and Psychology at the University
of Queensland, but deferred to focus more
on performance.
Michael started singing professionally in
Brisbane with Vocal Point, an 8-part
group, which specialised in close har-
mony, performing both nationally and in-
ternationally. It was through his work with
Vocal Point that in 1994 he was invited to
audition for The Pirates of Penzance. Fal-
zon's appearance in the QPAC and EssGee
Entertainment production marked the start
of his professional career and he toured
with the company to New Zealand.
He returned to EssGee, the professional
performing and publishing company in
Australia as a sailor in HMS Pinafore,
after performing in Hello
Dolly in 1995 for The Gor-
don/Frost Organisation. Falzon also toured interna-
tionally with the Really
Useful Company, which was set up by Andrew
Lloyd Webber, in the pro-
duction, of Joseph and the
Amazing Technicolor
Dreamcoat.
He credited the Harry M.
Miller arena production of
Jesus Christ Superstar,
starring John Farnham and
Jon Stevens in 1992, as in-
spiring him to a career in
musical theatre. In June
2015 Falzon had the op-
portunity to perform in
Jesus Christ Superstar,
playing the role of Judas at
AIS Arena in Canberra.
His career encompassed
intimate cabaret perform-
ances including Michael
Falzon and Trio, and
Michael Falzon – Plugged
In! Through to arena performances in Jeff
Wayne's Musical Version of The War of the
Worlds, both in Australia and in Europe.
Michael was also known for TV and film
roles including the 2000 cult short film
Computer Boy, a parody of the successful
film The Matrix. He was cast in the role of
Neo and won a Melbourne Underground
Film Festival award for Best Actor.
During this period he formed a production
company (SMA Productions) with other
entertainer colleagues
providing event enter-
tainment packages all
over the world. He
split his time between
performing, and man-
gaging his production
cOMPANY Good Egg
Creative.
Falzon’s musical
theatre career kick-
sTarted in 2003. He
was hand-picked by
Ben Elton and Queen
to perform in the mu-
Sical We Will Rock
You throughout Aus-
tralia, Asia and Eu-
rope, and was the first
Galileo outside the
UK (in Melbourne,
2003) as well as the
first in an arena pro-
duction (Dublin O2
Arena in 2010). He
repeated his perform-
ance in Japan and the UK.
He performed with symphony orchestr
as around Australia, and in 2013 joined the
Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra to record
I Dreamed A Dream: The Hit Songs Of
Broadway for ABC Classics. In 2016 he
featured on the cast recording of Atomic
(ThE New Rock Musical) singing the role
of physicist Leo Szilard.
Other theatrical credits early in his career
include, The Wharf Revue (STC), Hedwig
and the Angry Inch, Floyd Collins, Rock of
Ages, Side by Side by Sondheim, Chess,
Jesus Christ Superstar, The War of the
Worlds, and Alive on Stage with Australian,
NZ, and UK and European arena tours.
In 2019, Falzon was diagnosed and began
treatment for a rare and aggressive form of
germin cell cancer that forced him to cancel
all appearances for the remainder of the
year. He lost his battle last June.
Pay ing tribute to Falzon, Australian
singer and TV Channel Nine presenter
David Campbell, referred to him as a
“vital member of this industry”. While a
multitude of Australian stage theatre and
Television artists said, “We have lost a
great and vital member of this industry. He
was a leading man and a producer who
loved the arts and what we do. Michael
had a smile that could light up a stage and
the first ten rows!”
In a twit, Ian Phipps said, “Vale Michael
Falzon, you fought valiantly until the last,
my friend. Your beaming smile, huge tal-
ent and incredible positivity will be missed
by so many friends, family and fans. We
are better for having known you.”

Michael Falzon as
Magaldi in Evita
for Opera Australia
Irrestawrat l-linkwadru tal-Madonna Ta’ Pinu


Tul is-snin l-linkwadru soffa hafna maltrattament, fost kollos dgeż-met bil-mijiet ta’ eluf ta’ xemghat li nxeqgolu quddiemu mid-devoti. Sofia wkoll meta ntmess minn restawraturi fi żmien li x-xogħol kien isir minn dilettanti. Minhabba f’hekk hitteglu restawr professjonal li sar fil-laboratorju Atelier del Restauro, Malta.

Wara diskors ta’ merhiba mill-Isqof Grech, l-istoriku tal-arti Dr Sandro Debono għamel espożizzjoni storika-artistika tal-linkwadru, fil-waqti li Valentina Lupo, id-direttriċi tal-Atelie ippreżentat studju illustrat dwar il-proċess ta’ restawr.

Fit-tmiem, ir-Rettur tas-Santuwarju Ta’ Pinu, Dun Gerald Buħagiar, ghamel talba li giet miktuba a porta ghal-okkażjoni. Jacob Portelli daqq bċejje fuq l-arpa u sar kant mill-Kor Stella Maris immexxi minn Mro Carmel P Grech u b’Ivan Attard fuq l-iorni.

L-linkwadru reġa’ kiseb il-kuluri originali tiegħu u wiċċ il-Madonna jidher mill-ġdid fil-glorja u s-sbuhija tiegħu.

Tiġi nawgurata Dar Beatu Nazju Falzon

Wara quddiesa konċelebrata mmex-xija mill-Isqof George Buglia ofm, fil-parkeġġ tal-kunvent Sant’Antnin, f’Għawdex, fil-parkeġġ tal-kunvent Sant’Antnin, f’Għajnsielem, il-Ministru Provinċ jal tal-patrijiet Franġiskani, Patri Riċhard Stanley Grech ofm, inawgura u bierek Dar Beatu Nazju Falzon li fiha hemm ukoll kappella (lemin).

Il-Ministru Provinċjal ġie ppreżentat b’tifkira tal-okkażjoni mill-gwardjan tal-kommunita’ f’Għawdex, Patri Joe Caruana. Prezenti kien hemm ukoll il-perit u l-kuntrattur inkarigati mix-xogħliji, Edward Scerri u Saviour Tabone rispettivament.

Il-Mużew il-Ħaġar

Caught between two cultures which he carries with pride

Who is Troy Cassar-Daley?

Troy Cassar-Daley (born 18 May 1969) is an Australian country musician, born in Surry Hills NSW. Over 30 years he released eleven studio albums. Throughout this time he has received several awards including four ARIA Music Awards, 37 Golden Guitars, nine Deadly Awards (Australian Indigenous Artist Awards), four Country Music Association of Australia Entertainer of the Year awards and two National Indigenous Music Awards.

In 2017 Cassar-Daley was the 50th inductee into the prestigious Australian Roll of Renown. At a very young age, he moved with his mother to Grafton in north-eastern New South Wales. At eleven, went to the Tamworth Country Music Festival and returned the next year to busk on the streets.

At age 16 Troy and his band, Little Eagle were touring the North Coast of New South Wales and he made the top 10 in Tamworth's Star Maker quest. In 1986 he won the "Search for a Star" competition and then toured with Brian Young for seven months in which he began to develop his songwriting skills.

On his return home he replaced James Blundell as leader of the country music band The Blue Heeler Band.

Troy is married to radio and television presenter Laurel Edwards. They have two children.

Televisio produces many interesting documentaries. Some are more telling than others, especially those dealing with our diverse national identity. One such programme is the much-loved genealogy series on SBSTV ‘Who do you think you are’, aired nationally on Ch 30.

After previously featuring famous persons of Maltese descent like Adam Hills in 2003 and Shaun Micallef in 2012, last week’s programme focussed on Troy Cassar-Daley. We were able to witness an emotional and intimate segment as the 51-year-old pieced together the puzzle of his family, of a Maltese father and an aboriginal mother.

The programme, which was divided in two parts, started with Troy's Maltese ancestry. His grandparents’ migration to Australia and living in Surry Hills NSW, and prior to that, their wartime experience in war-torn Malta where their home was bombed and destroyed.

The programme took us on a journey to various places in Malta, especially the parish church of San Gjentanu and Triq Azzopardi in Hamrun, and even to an airraid shelter. Troy's father is Tony (Anthony) Cassar, born in Marsa, now deceased. His grandparents, Emmanuel and Marianna were both born in Hamrun although both families originally hailed from Gozo.

The second part of this fascinating programme was about the other side of Troy's aboriginal family, his mother Irene and the terrible way his ancestors the aboriginals were treated in Australia.

Finally Troy proudly said that he is happy and his soul content for having taken this journey between two worlds.
Carmen Spiteri is New Hon. Consul in South Australia

The Malta High Commission (MFC) in Canberra has announced the appointment of Mrs Carmen Spiteri as the new Honorary Consul for Malta in South Australia.

The office of the new Honorary Consul in South Australia is located at 12 Harvey Street, Marleston, Adelaide, South Australia 5033. For appointments one may send an email to ccs2655@gmail.com or call at 08 8297 5355 or 0401136673.

Welcoming the appointment of Mrs Spiteri, the MHC said it looks forward to working closely with her in promoting the interests and protecting the rights of the Maltese in South Australia.

Maltese SBS radio programmes off air due to COVID-19

As we were getting over the shock of the Maltese Language being eliminated from HSC/VCE/SACE, we switched on to listen to the Maltese Programme on SBS Radio and found that the service is off air.

The Voice immediately requested an explanation from SBS and found out that the SBS studios in Melbourne were in lockdown due to a positive Covid-19 case in the building. This eased our discomfort as we thought we are in the same battlefield with Maltese News on SBS TV, when quite often, the Maltese News is replaced by sports coverage or other programmes, deemed by SBS as being more important.

The Maltese Programme on SBS Radio has been at the forefront of keeping the Maltese community informed with the latest news and updates on COVID-19. Having these programmes replaced or taken off air would be the final blow for the community.

We understand that the health and well being of all of those involved in producing these programmes together are paramount. However, it is also important for SBS to understand that these radio programmes and The Voice are vital sources to disseminate information to our ageing Maltese community.

A listener who queried the disruption with SBS was directed to the content online. Glancing through the online content, he found out that the SBS studio is closed down due to a positive Covid-19 case in the building. This eased our discomfort as we thought we are in the same battlefield with Maltese News on SBS TV, when quite often, the Maltese News is replaced by sports coverage or other programmes, deemed by SBS as being more important.

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A listener who queried the disruption with SBS was directed to the content online. Glancing through the online content, he was amazed to find whole articles and many other podcasts about COVID-19 in Maltese, but unfortunately, this information does not reach the majority of the Maltese community.

One suggestion is, that when emergencies like this occur, instead of international music, a selection of Maltese music by Maltese artists is played. This would be an opportunity to listen more Maltese music, when we are not privileged like other communities who have their own music channel or broadcasting 24 hours daily, with the luxury of listeners requesting their favourite music.

As sad as it is that the pandemic closed down the Maltese Programmes, this serves us as a reminder as to what it is like not having a service on SBS Radio. It rings back the pain and sadness of the severe losses in service since 2013.

The State of Victoria is practically in shutdown for six weeks.

MALTESE LANGUAGE SCHOOL OF NSW
A division of the Maltese Community Council of NSW Inc.
Established in 1999

Learn Maltese!

Our trained and experienced teachers are qualified in language teaching and have Maltese study credentials.

Classes available for students from 6 yrs to adults at all levels of ability in the Maltese language.

Classes are held at Horsley Park Public School
Saturday mornings 9.00 – 11.15 am.

TERM 3 COMMENCES WITH ON-SITE CLASSES ON SATURDAY AUGUST 1

For more information email: malteselanguageschoolnsw@hotmail.com
Mobile: 0416 119 100

High Commission for the Republic of Malta

Postponement of resumption of consular services at the Consulate General in Melbourne due to COVID-19 revamp

In view of the current situation with increase in Covid-19 positive cases in the state of Victoria, and the lockdown in effect in 10 identified post-codes (see page 3), the reopening of the Consulate General in Melbourne to appointments from the general public is postponed from July 6 up to a future date.

This arrangement will be reviewed towards the end of July 2020, taking into consideration advice from the Victorian government.

Until we welcome applicants at our office in Melbourne again, we encourage you to get in touch with our office by email: maltaconsulate.melbourne@gov.mt or by telephone: (03) 9670 8427 (Monday to Friday between 08:30-16:00hrs), as soon as possible so as to coordinate obtaining the required documentation for applications.

Once the office is re-opened to the public, applicants who have expressed their interest will be re-contacted to book an appointment.

Our priority is safety, protection and precaution of our members of staff and applicants alike. We apologise for the inconvenience. Thanks for your understanding and cooperation.

Vale Vittoria Teuma

Vittoria Teuma, aged 94, passed away peacefully at home on June 24. Vittoria was well loved by family and friends and leaves behind a wonderful legacy: mother of 12 with 34 grandchildren and 40 great grandchildren.

Originally from Xagħra, Gozo, the fourth eldest of 13 children who lost her own mother when she was 12 years old, Vittoria was once described as a shining example of perseverance in hardship and resilience.

Vittoria became a widow at age 50 when her beloved husband, Joseph, died in 1976. Vittoria is the last of the 13 siblings to be called to new life.

A well loved resident of Greystanes, Vittoria regularly attended the local seniors group. She will be greatly missed by family and friends.

Vittoria was a cousin of the newly appointed bishop of Gozo.
**Community News**

**Joseph Calleja - The Maltese tenor’s performances rescheduled for 2021**

Due to ongoing restrictions on mass gatherings, the Andrew McKinnon Presentations, the organisers of Joseph Calleja - The Maltese Tenor’s performances in Melbourne, Adelaide, Brisbane, Perth and Sydney have announced that they will not proceed as scheduled this year.

Instead, they will be presented next year on dates yet to be announced. Ticket-holders, are being given the option to either retain their tickets, which will now be applicable to the new performance date, or request a full refund.

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**La Valette Centre is open once again**

La Valette Social Centre at 173 Walter Road Blacktown NSW is now open for business having been closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Centre is strictly adhering to the current COVID-19 rules, including the 50-person limit and social distancing.

Charlie’s Family Restaurant at LVSC is currently opening on Thursdays for lunch and on Saturdays for dinner with a limited menu.

Face-to-face Flexible Respite on Thursday’s is also on.

For further information one should get in touch with the centre on telephone 9622 5847.

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**Important Notice**

If you are unable to buy the next issues of *The Voice* from the usual sources, you can inquire about our subscription at: maltesevoice@gmail.com

We will deliver *The Voice* by mail to your address anywhere in Australia.

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**Tixtieq li jkollok kopja f’idejk ta’ The Voice?**


Dawk kollha li jixtieq li jibdew jirċevu kopja prrintjata tal-magazine kull darba li johroġ biex ikunu jistghu jżommuhu f’idejhom, huma mhēġga li jabbawon ghal sena halli jaghmlu żgur mill-kopja biex dan isir wieħed l-ewwel jibgħat email lil maltesevoice@gmail.com fejn jitlob tagħrif dwar il-ħlas ta’ abbonament ghal sena fl-istat fejn jgħix. Imbaghad jekk ikun irid jissieħeb ma’ dawk kollha li mhumiex kuntenti biss li jaqraw il-magazine online, imma wkoll li jkollhom kopja tiegħu, jgharranfa u jkunu mqdiżin.

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**Tune in to Radio and Television**

Some Radio stations may be off air due to covid-19 restrictions

**MELBOURNE**: on 3ZZZ 92.3FM or on www.3zzz.com.au. Mondays 5-6 pm, Fridays 5-6 pm and Saturdays 10-11am.

**MELBOURNE**: on 98.9 North West FM, every Friday 6.00 - 7.00p.m. and Mondays 7.00 to 8.00pm. Presenter: Emmanuel Brincat.

On SBS Radio

Day Time Analogue and Digital Tuesdays and Fridays: 12:00-13:00 97.7fm SBS 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.

**SYDNEY**: listen to the MCC radio programmes on 2GLF FM 89.3. Isma’ l-programm tar-radju bil-Malti mill-Kunsill Malti ta’ NSW minn fuq l-istazzjoni 2GLF 89.3FM. Also On Demand on l-Internet: www.893fm.com.au)

On Demand: Ethinic Maltese Council 11am) Il-Hadd 11.00 am; l-aħħar aħbarijiet minn Malta, mużika, tagħrif, kultura, avviż u suġġetti ta’ interess.

**SBS Radio 2 on Channel 38**. Programmes can be accessed online (live/catch up) at: sbs.com.au/maltese (mobile), using the SBS Radio app.

For television news from Malta - SBS2 TV 32 (Viceland) on Thursday’s and Sundays at 8am.

**VIVA MALTA** on COAST FM 96.3 Community Radio in Gosford Central Coast NSW. Aired on Thursdays every fortnight from 6 pm - 7 pm. Presenter: Nathalie Gatt.

Web streaming: www.coastfm.org.au

**SBS MALTESE NEWS**: L-Aħbarijiet are now on SBSTV Viceland HD Channel 32 every Sunday at 8.00 a.m. and on Thursday at 8.00 a.m.

**BRISBANE**: listen to the Maltese Programme on 4EB on Tuesdays 6.00 - 8.15am; Sundays 4.15pm to 5.15pm.

**Maltese Community Radio Adelaide**: Maltese Programmes on 5EBI 103.1fm: Sunday: 7.30am; Monday: 8.00 am; Monday: 6.00pm. Contact: Bernadette Buhagiar: 0420 994 205. Email bernadettebuhagiard@gmail.com Ron Borg: 0418 843 850. Email ronborg@mac.com

**97.9 FM Melton** Tuesday Maltese Programme: 6.00 To 8.00 pm Presenter Miriam Veila
A-League restarts July 16 after fiasco

A
fter a forced break for three months due to COVID-19, football enthusiasts in Australia are keenly looking forward to the Hyundai A-League restart this coming Thursday July 16, and to ultimately finish off what was started last October. The priority of the organisers is to be in a position to crown the A-League Premiers and Champions for this season.

The current border controls mean that some of the match day venues had to change, however the FFA managed to secure venues in both a NSW Hub model and a hybrid hub model which has most games in NSW but allows for a few games in other states.

After what has been described as the A-League’s Victorian travel fiasco, players and staff (totalling 120) from three Melbourne clubs, Melbourne Victory, Western United and Melbourne City, arrived in NSW on Saturday morning, but had to head straight into a 14-day quarantine period before completing their remaining 2019/20 fixtures.

During their quarantine period, the players will be allowed to train but cannot play any matches. Thursday’s match between Victory and Western United will have to be re-arranged, which means Friday’s match between leaders Sydney FC and Wellington Phoenix at Jubilee Stadium will be the first fixture played.

The Hyundai A-League 2019/20 season will be completed with 27 matches in 28 days between Thursday July 16 – August 12 in six venues in NSW and Queensland with the potential for more venues to added subject to government regulations.

These are the venues: NSW: ANZ Stadium, Bankwest Stadium, Central Coast Stadium, McDonald Jones Stadium and Netstrata Jubilee. Queensland: Cbus Stadium.

The Hyundai A-League 2020 Finals Series is scheduled to begin on Saturday August 15, and the 2020 Grand Final set for Sunday August 23.

Former Floriana striker Billy Dalli dies aged 82

Followers of the Malta football scene, particularly Floriana supporters were saddened by the news on July 2 that former Malta and Floriana FC striker Billy Dalli died at his residence in Melbourne, Australia. He was 82.

Billy, whose real name was Alfred, made his First Division for Floriana at the age of 17 in the 1956/57 season. He also made one appearance for Malta’s national team in the home friendly 1-1 draw against Norway on November 5, 1961.

Billy scored 53 goals in official competitions for Floriana and won several honours during the Greens’ golden years.

In 1963, at the age of 24, a year after his marriage to Doris Gatt, he moved to Australia and settled in Melbourne. He continued his footballing career in the Victoria State League with Sunshine George Cross. He found the going tough and had to call it a day after only two seasons with bronchitis.

He leaves to mourn him his wife Doris, his three children, Jason, Tanya and Marco and grandchildren, and a lot of friends.

The Voice extends its profound condolences to his family Billy Dalli was featured in an exclusive article in issue No. 90 (December 9, 2014) of The Voice of the Maltese.

England World Cup winner Jack Charlton, dies aged 85

J
ack Charlton, a World Cup winner with England and a former Republic of Ireland manager, died at his home in Northumberland on July 10 at the age of 85.

Jack, the elder brother of Manchester United’s Bobby, played 35 times for England as a central defender, including all six matches at the 1966 World Cup.

He spent his entire playing career at Leeds United after joining them in 1950. And went on to make a record 629 league appearances, in which he won several major honours, including the First Division title in 1969, the FA Cup in 1972 and two InterCities Fairs Cup.

After retiring as a player he became a successful manager. He started with Middlesbrough, but is arguably best remembered as a manager for his work with the Republic of Ireland. He took them to their first major finals by qualifying for Euro 1988 and followed that by reaching the 1990 and 1994 World Cups. Ireland got to the quarter-finals in 1990 before losing to Italy.

Floriana FC celebrate their 26th Championship victory

Floriana FC supporters recently officially celebrated the winning of their 26th League Championship following the presentation of the Premier League championship trophy by MFA president Bjorn Vassallo.

The Greens had been declared Champions on May 25 when with six more matches to go to the end of the season, and following the stoppage of the 2019/20 season due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the MFA decided in their favour. At the time, Floriana, were leading the league ladder by three points from Valletta.

They had been waiting for 27 years to repeat their feat. Their supporters were deemed right to commemorate their victory in the streets of their home town, and in a carcade around Malta.