A few weeks ago, the Ta’ Pinu Sanctuary at Gharb in Gozo commemorated a historic occasion. It was one hundred years ago, on May 30, 1920 that the foundation stone of the Ta’ Pinu Sanctuary was laid by then-Bishop Camilleri in the presence of Karmni Grima and a large crowd in attendance.

Pope Francis had been scheduled to be at this year’s commemoration, pay a visit and pray at the Sanctuary in front of the miraculous painting of our Lady. His visit to the Maltese Islands was however cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
New Australian High Commissioner to Malta presents her credentials

Her Excellency Ms Jennifer Cartmill has been assigned as Designate High Commissioner of the Commonwealth of Australia to Malta replacing Ms Julienne Hince who completed her posting to Malta last January.

On July 19, Ms Cartmill presented the letters of credence to Malta’s Minister for Foreign and European Affairs Mr Evarist Bartolo. Later in the day the accredited Australian High Commissioner also presented the letters of credence to the President of Malta Dr George Vella at San Anton Palace, Attard.

At the meeting, the two personalities agreed on the importance of sustaining the strong political, commercial and people to people ties of Malta and Australia, in particular, due to the large Maltese Diaspora.

The President also highlighted the importance to maintain close cooperation with the European Union, particularly in strengthening the free trade agreement between Australia and the European market.

Ms Cartmill, also paid a courtesy call on Anġlu Farrugia, Speaker of the House of Representatives who recalled the long-standing and positive relations that exist between the two countries.

The Australian Government has offered diplomatic representation in Malta since 1967. The first High Commissioner – between 1967 and 1972 – was Hubert Opperman, who Previouus to his appointment, had occupied the post of Minister for Shipping and Transport, and later also Immigration.

Ms Cartmill is a career officer with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), and was most recently Director, Protection, Privileges and Immunities Section, Protocol Branch. She has previously served overseas as Third, then First Secretary, Australian Embassy in Warsaw (1990-1993).


In Canberra she has served with DFAT as Director, Corporate Management Division (2018); Manager of ad hoc Projects for the Diplomatic Academy and the New Colombo Plan Section (2017-2018); Director, Diplomatic Academy (2016); Director, Australia Awards (2010-2011); Director, Australia-Indonesia Institute (2008-2010); Assistant Director then Director, Strategic Policy Section, Corporate Management Division (1997-1998); and in Western Europe Section, Americas and Europe Division (1993-1994).

Ms Cartmill holds a Master of Philosophy from the University of Oxford (1988); and a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws from the University of Queensland (1984).

Ms Jennifer Cartmill will be the 17th diplomat to occupy the position of Australian High Commissioner to Malta.

On behalf of our readers, we welcome the new HC to Malta and wish her a fruitful and pleasant stay on the island.

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We get to the point, provide the right advice and get the work done at a reasonable price.
Never let it be said that we are sexist in SA! Our new consul is of the feminine gender. Mrs Carmen Catherine Spiteri (pictured right) was appointed Consul for Malta in South Australia last June 26, to replace Mr Frank Scicluna OAM.

Who is Carmen Spiteri? After a brief but interesting interview with our new lady Consul, this is what she disclosed about her life:

She was born in Żejtun Malta in 1955 to Charlie and Theresa Bonnici who emigrated to Australia in 1957 when Carmen was just two and settled in Adelaide, where eventually they were blessed with two more children, a brother and a sister for Carmen. Although at first, work was not readily available for her dad as a cook, he managed to get a job cooking at a guest house at Victor Harbour, a seaside resort about 80kms from Adelaide, about two hours bus trip from Adelaide, which seemed like a very long trek in those days!

After about a year, Charlie managed to find a job at Kelvinators the white goods manufacturer, so the family settled and progressed in the Adelaide suburbs.

Carmen started her primary schooling at St Joseph’s at Hindmarsh and continued her Secondary schooling till the fourth year under the guidance of the Nuns. She says that the headmistress nun ‘took her under her wing’ and entrusted her with responsible jobs at the school, which included the production of the school newsletter, which she did with a sense of pride.

Her headmistress was impressed with Carmen’s zeal, as she was instrumental in her obtaining her first job with Insurance Adjusters. Carmen also worked in a clerical line with a Finance Company, and Stratco, a hardware company where she jokingly claims she learnt a lot about water gutters!

Having enhanced her skills with computer studies, Carmen secured a job with the law firm, Tindall Gask Bently, where she worked for 33 years to the present day where she is an Administrative Assistant.

In her youth, Carmen enjoyed playing netball, basketball and volleyball, but a highlight of her life occurred in 1977 when she married Venny to become Mrs Spiteri. Together they enjoy a family of three children, two girls and one boy.

In 2000 Carmen and her husband joined the committee of the Maltese Queen of Victories Band, where she served as secretary and for 13 years as its president. In 2016 she became secretary for the Maltese Chaplaincy Group, which organised Maltese Church festivities with the Maltese Chaplain Fr Gabriel Micallef at the helm. For six months she helped out as a temporary secretary, with the St. Catherine Society, and then became the secretary of the SA Maltese Community Council, which she serves to the present day.

At age 17, Carmen visited Malta for the first time on a holiday with her nanna, aunt, and sister. She recalls they enjoyed their stay with her aunty in Żejtun. In 2012 along with her husband Venny they returned to Malta and thoroughly enjoyed their stay in Marsaxlokk. Then returned in 2017.

Carmen says endearingly, “catching a glimpse of our island below us from the aeroplane, and sometimes passengers also cheering, sends a chill down your spine”!

It was great for her to experience the festa atmosphere in Malta especially ‘Santa Katarina in Żejtun’. It gave her a sense of pride about the country of her birth, whenever she overheard the tourists praise the joyful ‘umbience’.

“Leaving always leaves tears in my heart. Leaving my aunties and cousins behind, and possibly my heart. Leaving my aunties and cousins behind, and possibly not seeing some of them again.”

Getting back to her new position as Maltese Consul, Carmen said she was nominated to the Maltese High Commissioner in Australia about a year ago. After accepting, the nomination, the recommendation was forwarded to the relevant authorities in Malta.

Following police checks, character references, and a multitude of forms that had to be filled, she was informed that she would become the Honorary Consul for Malta in South Australia on the June 26 this year. Of course, there are still information packages and of official certificates, to arrive from Malta.

In her closing statement, Carmen wished to thank her predecessor, Mr Frank Scicluna for his 17 years of service. She hopes she can give the Maltese Community good quality service, and that she is always available to listen and take responsible action whenever she can.

Asked what her role as the new Maltese Consul is, Carmen mentioned a range of services:

• To provide general or specific information regarding the Australian economy, culture, sports, education, and more.
• To provide information regarding the process of getting Australian citizenship.
• To provide specific contacts and information in Australia.
• Visa Services.
• Passport and related services.
• Attestation of documents.
• Emergency certificates.

The Voice of the Maltese 3
When asked to draft a Will, lawyers will conduct an assessment as to whether the Will-maker has testamentary capacity. That means, being satisfied of a legal question that you have the ability to know and understand what instructions you are providing, the importance of a Will, and potential effects or consequences for your Estate, based on what you wish to do in your Will. This assessment often occurs naturally during the course of your lawyer taking your instructions and giving advice in relation to what you wish to do with your Estate.

We have previously written an article about testamentary capacity. Recently, there have been discussions about how this question of law could be integrated with the medical profession’s assessments of a person’s mental capacity, as people live longer, and conditions that can affect or impair the brain, become more prevalent.

So, we thought we would revisit the topic, to address some realities that many of us may experience.

The current legal test for testamentary capacity

The case that first clearly articulated how to determine if a person has requisite mental capacity to execute a Will, Banks v Goodfellow, was decided 150 years ago, back in 1870. That test has not changed much over the years, so if your lawyer is satisfied that you are:

1. Aware of, and appreciate the significance of, a Will;
2. Aware, at least in general terms, of the nature, extent, and value of your Estate – what assets you hold, and an idea of what they are worth;
3. Aware of those who may reasonably have a claim on your Estate, on what basis they may have a claim, and the nature of that claim – such as current or former spouses, children, grandchildren;
4. Able to evaluate and distinguish between respective strengths of the claims of such persons – acknowledging the difference of giving little provision from your Estate to an adult child who you have provided significantly for in your life time, and the strength of that claim, as opposed to leaving minimal provision from your Estate to an adult child that you recently had a falling out with, and who may bring a costly claim for family provision which could have some merit; then, you would be deemed to have the requisite capacity to execute your Will.

Medical or mental capacity?

In Banks v Goodfellow, the individual’s capacity that was in question, was due to an instance of psychosis (and with further developments in medical science, may likely have been schizophrenia). The legal test that was developed was formulated based on a mental illness characterized by continuous or relapsing episodes of psychosis, where major symptoms include hallucinations, hearing voices, delusions, and disorganised thinking.

By contrast, Dementia is a collective term used to describe various symptoms of cognitive decline, such as forgetfulness. It is a single disease in itself, but a symptom of several underlying diseases and brain disorders. Dementia is a general term to describe symptoms of impairment in memory, communication, and thinking.

The proportion of the population who may experience some form of Dementia, seemingly far surpasses the proportion of society who would experience a psychosis. So, should they be treated differently?

If I need to make or update my Will, should I get a medical certificate from my doctor to say I have capacity?

Lawyers have a tried and tested means of determining whether, in their legal professional opinion, you have testamentary capacity. Doctors, in their medical professional opinion, approach such a matter in a different way.

Ideally, both lawyers and doctors would work together to reach a legal determination (should your capacity be questioned) on a fully informed basis, and supported with medical information.

Currently, because the concept that is being assessed by lawyers and doctors, and the tests that each may apply in conducting such an assessment may differ, we suggest that you do not need to see your doctor if you intend to see your solicitor to update or make any Estate planning documents.

Where there’s a will, there’s a way

If you are thinking about using a Will kit to DIY, it is much safer to have a Will drafted by your solicitor, who will keep file notes in relation to any assessment, of your testamentary capacity.

If your solicitor has serious concerns as to your testamentary capacity, they should be able to provide a clear instruction to your treating doctor to obtain a medical assessment, that is suitable for the purposes of preparing your Will.

Conclusion

Life is not static, and situations can change. If you have separated from your partner, re-married, or need to update your Will, don’t be afraid of doing so because one of your beloved adult children may have joked ‘you’re getting Dementia!’ if you forgot to buy milk.

It is your lawyer’s duty to assess your capacity, and I’ve been doing that for 40 odd years.

We have provided you with an overview of the topic above but you should consult a professional for advice specific to your circumstances.
A radio broadcaster who is volunteering in mental health

Active in the Maltese community, especially in literature and performing arts, this month’s selection for our personality feature, Ray Anastasi, is also a very well known community radio broadcaster and mental health care advocate.

Ray Anastasi

Seventy-three-year-old Ray Anastasi was born in Gzira, Malta, on January 29, 1947. In June 1963 he finished his education in Malta at the Lyceum, Hamrun, and then in July 1963 at the age of 16 together with his dad, arrived in Melbourne, Australia. Ray’s dad started working at Victorian Railways and after a few weeks changed jobs to take up a position at Olympic Tyres. As to Ray, he started working at the Commonwealth Bank.

A year after they arrived in Australia, Ray’s mum and six siblings joined Ray and his father in Australia. Two years later the family bought a house at St Albans and in 1967 Ray started his own family by marrying Marie Louise Rizzo. They are blessed with three wonderful children, Denise, Janet and Robert and five grandchildren.

In October 1990, Ray became convener and presenter of a two-hour Maltese magazine-style programme on community radio Stereo 974 where his wife Marie Louise and others assisted him. For 10 years, until January 2020, he coordinated, produced and presented various segments and special radio features.

Ray Anastasi told The Voice of the Maltese, “Presenting on STEREO 974 for more than twenty-nine years was a lot of hard work but an extremely rewarding experience for me and all the many presenters. The phone calls, the feedback, the encouragement and support from our listeners was, at times overwhelming, it kept us going”.

Sadly, however, earlier this year, on January 16, due to financial, managerial, and logistical problems, Radio Station Stereo 974 ceased transmission.

Maltese Literature

Ray has also been an active member of the Maltese Literature Group (inc) since its formation by Dr. Joe Abela in 1975. The Maltese Literature Group recently celebrated 40 years as an incorporated association. He currently holds the position of the Association’s treasurer.

Maltese Performing Arts

In 1985, as treasurer of the Association Ray joined the MPA (Maltese Performing Arts) and three years later became its President. Under his guidance, the MPA presented several very successful and popular Maltese productions. Perhaps the most popular with the Maltese community being Il-Manut: by Manwel Casha.

Ray also wrote, directed and presented several plays, song contests and variety shows and coordinated and participated in numerous Maltese Cultural Festivals organised by the Maltese Community Council of Victoria.

Work/Career

After eight years with the Commonwealth Bank, in 1971 he changed jobs to join Ajax Insurance Company. Soon after he was promoted to Chief Accountant and transferred to Sydney’s head office. Eventually, he returned to Melbourne.

He also worked with Trustees Executors and Agency and Pivot Fertilizers until May 2000.

In 2001, Ray embarked on voluntary work with Orygen Youth Health, a youth mental health service provider. The voluntary work soon changed to work and education training. As a member of the Psychosocial Recovery Team, he worked at Orygen Youth Health until his retirement in 2013.

Ray’s wife responded well to breast cancer, but son Robert suffered mental health problems. After all these difficulties, he managed to recover, got married, is the father of a three-year-old daughter and manages his own gardening services business.

Ray and his family, never gave up, and now the anguish and worry have been replaced by sheer joy and a sense of achievements.
The Australian woman that cracked the glass ceiling

Julia Gillard, the first Australian female Prime Minister, has spoken candidly about the turbulent days of her prime ministership, admitting there were times when she’d just have preferred “to be at home at rest.”

In an interview with Stellar magazine, published in the Sunday Telegraph and Sunday Herald Sun, and later on ABC’s Q&A, Gillard reflected on how she coped during what’s still considered a particularly tumultuous time in Australian politics. She said she wouldn’t “pretend” it had been an easy road.

The former Labor leader seized the role from Kevin Rudd and became Australia’s 27th Prime Minister in a shock leadership spill in 2010 that eventually led to Rudd returning the favour in 2013 and inadvertently setting in motion a years-long trend of toppling sitting leaders.

“I was conscious there were all of these pressures on my shoulders; being Prime Minister for anybody isn’t an easy job. And I had this added thread of gender,” Gillard, 58, explained.

“I was conscious of that and sometimes very physically or intellectually tired, and you did feel like you were pushing yourself up and out into the world when you’d prefer to be at home at rest. “But the most dominant side knew there were things we wanted to get done. Time is a precious thing while you’re there, and it’s never long enough for everything you want to do.

“So that driving sense of purpose was the bigger influence on me.” She pointed out that a significant portion of the response to her taking over from Rudd in the leadership spill was done “through the prism of gender”.

“The fascination with appearance – if someone did the research comparing column inches spent on my appearance in the days after to Malcolm Turnbull when he took over from Tony Abbott”…” Gillard said.

“(And) there was a sense, obviously, I became Prime Minister in circumstances where I asked for a ballot against a sitting Prime Minister. That had been done before by Paul Keating against Bob Hawke, and it has certainly been done since.

“But I think there was framing done around a woman and power that was also driven by gender assumptions and the stereotypes in the back of our brain; that we expect men to seek power, but we don’t expect women to do it.”

During the interview, Gillard also revealed her reaction to discovering Barack Obama and his team used to watch her now infamous misogyny speech whenever they were “really annoyed” at Tony Abbott – an anecdote recently revealed by the former US President’s deputy national security advisor, Ben Rhodes.

“I was aware at the time that President Obama watched the speech – way back when I was prime minister he mentioned that he had watched the speech – but what I didn’t know until Ben said that was it was something that was done repeatedly (laughs) when Abbott was in office,” Gillard said.

“I had no inkling, zero inklings when I did that speech that we would still be talking about it all these years later.”

In September 2014 Gillard released her political memoir, My Story. She has been on the board of the mental health organisation Beyond Blue since December 2014 and its chair since July 2017. She was made an honorary fellow of Aberystwyth University in June 2015.

The Guardian newspaper readers voted Julia Gillard’s 2012 ‘misogyny speech’ as the most unforgettable moment of Australian TV history. The three years of her term as PM were marred by the onslaught of sexism and misogyny Gillard endured from the opposition, and especially the mainstream media.

Malta tikseb lura kapolavur ta’ Mattia Preti għal €1.3m

Joseph Cutajar


Il-pittur Mattia Preti


Il-‘Boezju u l-Filosofija’
Have your say / X' trijd tghid?

Your letters/ L-ittri tażghkom ...

Dejjaqtuna, u veru xbajna!

Jim Bondin minn Parramatta, NSW jikteb:

Q rajj b’attenzjoni l-ittra mifluha li Joe Sultana minn Westminster NSW kibb lill-Baqof il-gdid ta’ Għawdex Dun Anton-Teuma.

Praise for The Voice
Doris Cannatafi from Sliema, Malta writes:

Thanks for Issue No. 232 of The Voice. Scrolling down I began to be relieved reading the heading about the update information on the suspension of the Maltese classes.

It is good to read that from next term certain face-to-face classes will resume, but on the other hand the news that the last VCE exams will end in 2021 is very sad. This does not augur well for those students who are willing to further their studies in the Maltese language and culture of our small country with its great and rich history.

It is indeed a pity for new Australian generations with Maltese roots to lose the knowledge and historical wealth of their ancestors. The Voice does its part in contributing with interesting articles about Malta’s Heritage. The page dedicated to the Museum of Archaeology in Valletta is a case in point showing our civilization going back thousands of years BC.

Page 11 though, is very encouraging. What a beautiful photo and great message those 13 elderly Maltese, all with The Voice of the Maltese in their hands are sending you! They look so proud to feel Maltese!

One can feel the pulse of our expats when their SBS radio programme went off air because of the Covid-19 pandemic. Let us hope the SBS radio will resume its transmissions in due course.

Fil-gżira ta’ Għawdex zgur li m’hemmx nuqqas ta’ vokazzjonijiet u għallhekk nit-tama li minflok li ta’ spiss jiġu saċerdoti Għawdxin l-Awstralja ghal xi batala jkun hemm xi ruh tajba li jieċetta li jigi fostna flok li jmur missjoni x’imkien iehor. Xogħol magħna wkoll ikun missionji.

Minhabba nuqqas ta saċerdoti Maltin fostna hafna Maltin qed qalitaq b’kif jobba mal-Jehova Witnesses.

Lill-kappijiet f’Malta kemm djiċezani u wkoll religiżji nfażxuruhom li ghandhom duty of care ghal hafna minna ġejna hawn nħux biss bil-barka taghhom izda wkoll imbuttati u żurraż ghal konna żejda. Issa daqshhekk, dejjaqtuna u xbajna nisimgħu hmeriet.

Ahbarijiet imwassla kif ghandu jkun

Paul Debono minn Fairfield NSW jikteb:

Kemm ilni l-Awstralja, issa snin twal, ghal kemm inhobb inżomm ruhi aggnornat b’dak li jeseħ f’art twelidi Malta, fit li xejn għadni naggbi kas il-poliżi Maltija - u nqgħa. qib jgħidu, nikolha bil-hobż.

Il-midja Maltija li tiddiletta bl-onlajn, l-aktar dik bil-lingwa Inglizza, sirt nahrabba għax faċi tinduna li fit li tukk fabbilti, u fil-femna tieghi hemm min li aktar jinteressah jsojura l-pajjijż.

Għallhekk napprezza hafna l-pagmi dwar l-ahbarijiet dwar Malta li twasslu l’daq dan il-magazine għax jippreżentaw il-fatt, fil-femna tieghi ġusti, bla kantuni u mingħajr kummenti li jweġġgħu lil xi naha jew obra.

Kif wara kollox ghandu jkun.

Did the Queen know?

J. Tonna from Bondi NSW writes:

Did the Queen know that Sir John Kerr, her Governor-General was going to sack a Prime Minister elected democratically by the people of Australia?

The letters regarding the sacking of PM Whitlam opened after such a long time clearly show that Kerr was in contact with the Palace. His intention was known.

The Queen is a very experienced monarch and playing the card of “I did not know” did not convince many. It only opened the issue of why should we have a head of state residing in London? Is it time for Australia to be declared a republic?
Festival tan-Nar li qata’ l-ghatx tad-dilettanti


Imma l-logħob tan-nar ma jsirx biss fil-festi religiżi, għax jigi pprezentat ukoll f’okkazjoni ġiet festi nazzjonali. Kull darba tintwera l-hila kibir tal-pirotekniċi Maltin, li nisbuhom bhala “dilettanti tan-nar” imma fil-fatt huma surmastrijiet f’din is-sengha għax biex jiħolu l-livell u jingħataw li l-ħil ariżonija, tamar akkumpanjati minn spettakli ta’ nar provduti minn diversi kmamar tan-nar Maltin u Ghawdex.

Flimkien mal-pirotenika qed isiru attivitajiet oħra li qed jingħadan b’qasam kompetitiv akkumpanjati minn firċettar Maltin. B’kollox se jkunu saru madvar 37 wirja imtella’ minn kummer kibir tan-Nar Maltin u Ghawdex. Biex jigu mheqqa dawn il-kummer kull partyjnijiet qed jiżda f’każ jew f’din is-sena ġejja.


The Voice of the Maltese

Malta fil-preistorja


Jiena nifhem id-diffikultà li titkellem dwar ipexdwa ta’ żmien meta l-kita ta’鸟 ma kinnex teżisti, u d-diffikultà li għandna li ikunu na’naqu fu’jar-x’gara fil-passat ta’ tien elf su’naż il-ħi, meta t-teżi jkewp tal-annimali msejħa taurodont, fejn il-ħofra fiċ-ċentru tas-sinna tkun għolja ikbar biex wejret kibar bħaż-żwiemel, baqar u oħrajn li peress li ġen kemta erbivori, iridu jomogħdu sew il-ħxejjex u weraq li jieklu.

l-fdalijiet tal-annimali msemmija qabel, ta’ dras umani b’kundizzjoni Fl-annimali, din il-kundizzjoni tinstab fl-ungulati, mammali bi’Għawdex.

Seneca u Cicero kien jirreferu għall-baħar Mediterran bħala dak il-Qrendi u Ħaż-Żebbuġ f’Malta, u d-Dwejra u Wied il-Għasri neċessarja tal-ħwejjeġ.

wkoll ippopotami, iljunfanti, volpi, orsijiet u lupi, f’Għar Dalam li l-pont minn Malta estenda wkoll sal-Italja. u f’ta’ l-aħħar (Würm, 70-10 elef sena ilu) naqas b’90 metru tant baħar naqas b’50 metru tant li fforma pont bejn Sqallija u Malta, saru parti mill-blat jew jinsabu taħt il-baħar!


għandna li nkunu nafu x’ġara fil-passat ta’ tant eluf ta’ snin żmien meta l-kitba ma kinetx teżisti, u d-diffikultà li mill-Ewropa tat-tramuntana lejn in-nofsinhar.


Il-laham tat-tiġieġa


L-ikel mill-forn ta’ ħdejnja


Insemmi wkoll il-qarabaghli u brinġiel il-forn, xi dixx ross inkella serduq jew ġhasi mbażkat b’riġlejh ‘il fuq, jew xi torta tal-ġbejniet biż-żejt. Kienu jmissuli qalbi u moħħi!

U l-pudina tal-ħobż?

Kemm kienet tkun tażżat, l-aktar meta tkun ftit kiesħa. Ommi kienet ikollha l-biċċiet tal-ħobż f’bas ket ħalli meta jkollha biżżejjed tagħmlilna pudina daqs sufflè. Fiha kient tħobb tpoġġi dawk it-togħmiet ħalli taqsamli qalbi!

Il-ftira sħuna


Ħelu staġunali

Il-kwareżimal tal-antik għal żmien il-Ġimgħa l-Kbira (li kienet taħbih f’xi landa tal-ħelu); jew inkella dak il-kejk tal-Milied (mimli konfettura); xi nofs tużżana figolli tal-Għid (mimlija lewż u mżejna á la ommí), dan kien kollu ħelu staġunali li nistennew minn sena għall-oħra. Ommi dejjem kienet taħbi minn dan il-ħelu f’xi landa tal-ħelu fid-dresser (jew armarju) għax inkella ‘vigu vigu’ kulħadd jiġbed xi waħda bil-moħbi u meta tmur tfittex ma ssib xejn.


L-ikel T’ommi: ma kont nibdalu ma’ xejn (2)
Malta allocated €2.25 bn. from EU Budget for next seven years

Malta has managed to secure an exceptional result in its negotiations in the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) on the EU Budget in Brussels, as it managed to obtain a €2.250 billion for the next seven years (2021-2027). The largest ever allocation earmarked for Malta came at the end of long and most intense negotiations led for the island by Prime Minister Robert Abela. The allocation is almost double Malta had obtained in February 2013 for the period 2014-2020.

At the end of four days of negotiations by the EU’s 27 members, Abela said that Malta’s share is even more significant when taking into account the UK’s withdrawal from the Union and its economic growth in recent years, which means that its over the last seven years its GDP per capita compared to the EU average, has improved remarkably.

The UK’s withdrawal will lead to a loss of €75 bn to the Union budget during the next seven years.

Malta’s package includes €1.923 billion from the EU’s budget (core MFF), as well as €327 million from the grants of the newly established Recovery Instrument, known as Next Generation EU. Malta’s economic growth means that its GDP per capita compared to the EU average, has improved remarkably over the last seven years.

During five days of meetings and intense discussions (July 17-21), with European Council President Charles Michel and other Heads of States Malta’s Prime Minister explained the specific issues pertaining to Malta. He reasoned that despite its strong economic performance in recent years, as a small island Member State, Malta, has unique challenges that are different from those of other Member States. He pointed out that Malta should not be penalised for its efforts in recent years to keep unemployment low. He proved to be a top negotiator.

The overall deal for Malta means that it has secured a total of €842 million in funds under the core Cohesion Policy.

The largest allocation ever earmarked for Malta

Malta will not be subjected to any new European taxes under EU budget and coronavirus recovery funds package which has just been negotiated.

The PM said success was achieved through solid and convincing arguments around the conference table. The Malta delegation started from the point of being a catalyst to support a final agreement between the 27 Member countries. It had planned its strategy on persuasion and conviction and its eventual success had been achieved through sound arguments and its determination that while maintaining Malta’s right, it was not to give up.

He thanked all those involved in months of complicated and very difficult negotiations that led to Malta’s final package, emphasising that the Government would do its utmost to see that the outcome is translated into programmes and projects to consolidate further investments in Malta’s economy and its citizens.

The overall deal for Malta means that it has secured a total of €842 million in funds under the core Cohesion Policy.
Malta’s wants to be friends with all the countries

I
n a telephone conversation with the Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry, Foreign and European Affairs Minister Eva-
rist Bartolo (pictured right) reiterated Mal-
ta’s neutrality and that it wants to be a friend with all countries. Therefore, wherever there is conflict and disputes, it calls for peaceful resolution and for the common good to prevail.

The two ministers spoke about the situation in Libya and the Mediterranean and agreed on the need for peace in Libya so that Libyans can find common ground between themselves to solve their problems through political solutions and not warfare.

Minister Bartolo called for a united Libya with the Libyans themselves running their own country for the good of their people. He held that Libya should be helped in the fight against human trafficking and irregular immigration, and added that the Central Mediterranean route towards the Southern European border is completely open and that the European Union is not protecting itself.

New project set to make MFSA a forward-looking authority

A
nechanism whereby operators can apply to test their innovations within this sandbox for a specified period of time and under certain prescribed conditions has just been launched by Parliamentary Secretary for Financial Services and Digital Economy Clayton Bartolo. It is to be known as the MFSA FinTech Regulatory Sandbox.

The regulatory environment being created will further position the Malta Financial Services Authority as a forward-looking authority by providing legal certainty to industry players, whilst ensuring effective investor protection, market integrity and financial soundness in the FinTech environment.

Welcoming the launch of the sandbox, the Chief Officer for Strategy, Policy and Innovation within the MFSA noted that financial services start-ups and incumbents view it as a much-needed tool to help in the adoption of innovative solutions within their entities in an orderly manner, whilst enabling them to offer value-added products and services to their customers.

It will also enable the MFSA to enhance its understanding of ever-changing technological innovation and increase its technical know-how in order to enable the necessary policymaking towards further growth of the financial services industry in a sustainable manner.

The project has also been described as a milestone towards creating a holistic long-term approach to catalyse innovation, growth and competition in the financial services market, complementing the Virtual Financial Assets Act, and further positioning Malta as an international FinTech Hub and a global thought leader.

Clayton Bartolo stated that the initiative would continue to contribute intrinsically towards competitiveness and economic activity and that it would reaffirm Malta’s reputation as a forward-looking jurisdiction that is open to innovation.

Govt. publishes Constitutional and Institutional reforms bills

T
he Government has published all the ten bills concerning the comprehensive institutional and constitutional reforms it has proposed following a structured dialogue with the Venice Commission, Justice, Equality and Governance Edward Zammit Lewis conducted and managed to conclude the debate within the House of Representatives, of the first set of four reforms that are now at the committee stage of the Parliamentary legislative process.

They concern the appointment of the President of the Republic, the Judicial Appointments and Judicial discipline, and the Permanent Commission Against Corruption, which has already been discussed before the Permanent Committee for the Consideration of Bills.

The remaining six bills deal with the strengthening of the institutions and public administration, namely: Office of the Attorney General; Office of the Ombudsman; Office of the Auditor-General; Appointment of the Principal Permanent Secretary and the Permanent Secretaries; Appointment of persons in senior positions, and Appointment of Persons of Trust.

The Minister his commitment to having all these bills passed without further delays, hopefully through Parliamentary scrutiny. The Minister further stated that this is exactly the moment when all members of the House of Representatives can and should be on the right side of history. He said he was pleased to note that all the Maltese government’s efforts were fully recognised by the Council of Europe, by the European Commissioner for Justice and, moreover, by the President of the European Commission.

Roundup of News About Malta

€4.5m for 2 schemes aimed at attracting quality events

T
he Malta Tourism Authority is to be providing €4.5m in the form of sponsorships for two schemes aimed at attracting quality events to Malta.

Announcing the launching of the schemes, Minister for Tourism and Consumer Protection, Julia Farrugia Portelli said that a new mechanism was being introduced in granting the sponsorships.

DBRS agency confirms Malta’s A (High) rating

D
BRS international agency has confirmed Malta’s A (High) credit rating with stable trends. The agency observed that the recent years’ economic and fiscal policy performance of the country left Malta in a good situation to mitigate the Covid-19 pandemic risks.

The agency’s economists stated that the partial lockdown and travel restrictions, intended to contain the pandemic, will likely result in a temporary recession for Malta during this year, but the country would still be expected to recover with the gradual opening of the economy.

84,000 passengers through MIA in first weeks of July

In the first three weeks since July 1, when it was partially reopened following the COVID-19 pandemic closure, around 84,000 made use of the Malta International Airport. They included passengers arriving and departing from the airport. More countries were added to the list of safe countries on July 15.
Inkwiet fil-Kamp Nazzjonalisti

Intilhaq kompromess

Mix-Xena Politika

W ara lagha stordjuża ta’ madwar sitt sieghat, fejn jidher li kultan fit-tesserati (il-membri) tal-partit biex jfel-ħajjiet il-Maltin u l-Għawdxin.

It-mnexj fil-Taħdidiet

L-UE - Morna tajjeb


Xejra Politika


Riżultat tal-Covid-19


Għoddu r-kupra

The National Archives of Australia released about 200 letters between the former governor-general and the Queen about the dismissal of the Whitlam Labor government in 1975.

In a letter to the Queen after he sacked Mr Gough Whitlam, Sir John Kerr wrote: “I should say I decided to take the step I took without informing the palace in advance because, under the constitution, the responsibility is mine. I was of the opinion it was better for Her Majesty not to know in advance, though it is, of course, my duty to tell her immediately.”

The letter included three attachments: the dismissal letter to Mr Whitlam, a legal opinion from the then chief justice Sir Garfield Barwick, and a letter from the then opposition leader Malcolm Fraser.

However, other letters show Sir John discussed the possibility of dismissing Mr Whitlam in the months preceding the event. There was a letter from Sir John to the Queen dated 12 September 12, 1975. “I’m also keeping my mind open as to the constitutional issues. If the Prime Minister and the leader of the opposition get into a battle in which the Senate has defeated the budget, the Prime Minister refuses to recommend a dissolution, my role will need some careful thought,” Sir John wrote.

The Queen’s secretary Sir Martin Charteris wrote back to Sir John referring to the practice that if a parliament refused supply - legislation allowing money to pay for government - it was constitutionally proper to grant dissolution of the parliament.

Sir Martin later wrote back to Sir John, a week before the dismissal, acknowledging he had “reserve powers.”

Press getting Gough Whitlam’s reaction after his dismissal

The JobKeeper scheme: It is tougher to qualify

JobKeeper will be extended for Australians until March 2021 and shift to a new two-tiered payment that is tougher to qualify. Prime Minister Scott Morrison announced that the JobKeeper will be extended at a lower rate when the original $1500-a-fortnight scheme ends in September but will remain at a rate of $1200 a fortnight until March, down from $1500 a fortnight.

But a new, part-time rate for part-time workers will now get $750 a fortnight from September.

The largest one-off fiscal measure in Australia’s history, JobKeeper was designed to be delivered quickly as thousands of businesses across Australia faced public health restrictions and shutdowns.

ATO says more than 960,000 organisations have been processed for payments covering around 3.5 million individuals.

The Treasury report found there was no evidence of widespread business closures which are currently well below average, due to JobKeeper in combination with mortgage honeymoons and other relief.

Queensland Nationals senator Matt Canavan, who before the coronavirus pandemic was among a growing number of Coalition MPs calling for an increase to Newstart, said he not sure Australia could afford a “long-term increase in the dole, given the size of our post-COVID debt”.

Opposition Social Services spokeswoman Linda Burney said a temporary increase beyond September was a step in the right direction but a permanent lift was required to “help keep people out of poverty and into secure work”.

Australia welcomes HK students

People from Hong Kong currently in Australia will be allowed to stay in the country for five more years and offered a pathway to permanent residency after China imposed a controversial security law on HK.

The new law enacted recently could attract some 10,000 international students and many more, as they will be able to bring as well family members.
Australia's Federal Treasurer John Frydenberg says Australia faces its most massive budget deficit since World War II as the coronavirus crisis wreaks havoc on the country's finances.

Giving the federal government’s economic update, Mr Frydenberg also revealed that unemployment is expected to peak around 9 per cent in December.

He said that the federal government recorded a deficit of $85.8 billion in 2019-20, which is projected to blow out to $184.5 billion in 2020-2021 as a result of record spending.

“The impact of the coronavirus has led to a significant decline in tax receipts and a large increase in government payments,” he said.

Net debt was at $488.2 billion at 30 June - or 24.6 per cent of GDP - and will hit a record $677.1 billion the following year, more than a third of the economy’s size. National GDP was being propped up by fiscal support to the tune of $289 billion, or 14.6 per cent of GDP. Mr Frydenberg said Australia “had fared better on the economic front during the crisis than almost any other counter in the world”.

Despite our increased debt levels, they remain lower than what many comparable nations went into this crisis with,” the treasurer said.

Unemployment at an 18-year high

There are concerns about the long-term health of the economy after the nation's jobless rate hit an 18-year high. Figures from the Australian Bureau of Statistics revealed more than 838,000 jobs have disappeared in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic. After shedding 607,000 jobs in April, another 227,700 went in May.

There are now 927,600 people officially designated as unemployed, the highest number since December 1993, with the official jobless rate at 7.1 per cent. The last time it was this high was October 2001.

Adding the 927,600 unemployed to another 626,000 people who have left the labour force altogether, the ABS noted this combined group took the effective unemployment rate to 11.3 per cent. That would be the highest level since the bureau started monthly jobs statistics in 1978.

The Morrison Government's decision on the future of the Jobkeeper and Jobseeker payments must deliver an outcome that adequately supports those who are vulnerable according to Catholic Social Services Australia.

Both CSSA and the St Vincent de Paul Society's National Council called on the Federal Government to establish an independent panel to advise it on revisions to Social Security payment rates that were originally designed to keep people out of poverty.

The Church and the Queensland economy

A ground-breaking study shows the Brisbane Archdiocese makes a $2.5 billion contribution to the Queensland economy through its parishes, schools and agencies. It is the first time a socio-economic study of this size and scope has examined the community role of the Church, stretching across south-east Queensland, taking in 17 local government areas, 24 federal and 70 state electorates.

Information is broken down into easy to read infographics that quantify the direct contribution and flow-on benefits from spending and employment through its social services and education agencies across its 98 parishes, 144 Brisbane Catholic Education schools with 72,492 students, and more than 27,000 participants in early education care.

There are 12,992 aged care and disability clients, support for 8362 seniors to live well in their home and community, support to 23,000 people affected by domestic violence and help for more than 4,000 people living with mental illness.

Waiting for at-home care packages

Update figures from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare show 103,599 Australians were waiting for a home care package they had been approved for at the end of March, meaning the waitlist had shrunk by just 838 places since the end of December 2019.

Last year, the aged care royal commission's interim report blasted the waiting list for at-home aged care as "a cruel and discriminatory system", after finding some Australians who required the highest level of in-home care, level 4, could wait “for a year and often longer” for an approved package.

After the interim report's release, the Morrison Government announced it would spend $496.3 million for an additional 10,000 home care packages, to be rolled out from December 1, 2019. Earlier this month, it announced a further investment of $325.7m toward 6,105 home care packages.

Ian Yates, the chief executive of the Council on the Ageing, said the minimal reduction in the waiting list was “unacceptable”, especially when wait times of over 12 months are considered.

IL-VALENTIN V BARBARA – Patri u kittieb li spiċċa sekular fl-Australja


Valentin kien mittieb fl-ewwel xogħol letterarju serju li kiteb l-ewwel xogħol letterarju serju li kiteb l-ewwel xogħol letterarju serju li kiteb. Valentin b’xporti fiexx b’aktar xogħol tarreġa kollu beda ma jiftakżu ma jwied, ma jistieħa ma jistieħa ta’ nafu l-liċeu fil-belt. Qatta’ ħajtu kemm f’Malta u wkoll fl-Australja fejn neża’ ċ-ċoqqa u żżewweġ.


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10 preseppji Maltin se jiġu esebiti f”Mużew prestiġjuż f”Washington

Il-Museum of the Bible f’Washington

Wiehed milli ħadem bis-shiħ biex Malta tkun rappereżentata f’dan il-post prestiġjuż, imfissra bħala opportunità tad-deheb għall-presepisti Maltin, huwa l-Ambaxxatur Malti għall-Istati uniti Keith Azzopardi.

Fi kliem id-Direttur tad-Direttorat tal-Kultura Mario Azzopardi din tista’ tkun opportunità tajba għal Malta biex tigbed lejha turiżmu reiligjuż mill-Amerika.

SBS Radio is on again

In our last issue of The Voice of the Maltese we reported that the Maltese radio programmes on SBS Radio were off air due to the Covid-19 restrictions in Melbourne. We are happy to announce that the Maltese programmes are back on air. They were only off air for one week.

Melbourne’s 98.9 North West FM to resume transmission August 3

The Voice is pleased to announce that after an absence of four months due to the restrictions associated with COVID-19, the Maltese programme on 98.9 North West FM which is produced by well-known broadcaster Emmanuel Brincat will restart again on August 3.

All the regulars will be back on the programmes, from Malta Daniel Vella, Tony Micallef and Lino Bartolo, from Victoria, Charlie Xerri with Sports, from NSW, the co-editor of The Voice Lawrence Dimech, and poet author and broadcaster Victor V Vella.

All are happy to be back. Support the Maltese Programme on 98.9 North West FM.
Il-206 sena mill-bidu tal-Korp tal-Pulizija


Iċ-ċelebrazzjoni ntemmet bil-daqq tal-Last Post u minuta ta’ silenzju, minn membri Multin tal-Banda tal-Pulizija.


Festa b’differenza


Iċ-ċelebrazzjoni ntemmet bil-daqq tal-Last Post u minuta ta’ silenzju, minn membri Multin tal-Banda tal-Pulizija.

The power of books to create empathy and understanding

Children’s books have the incredible ability to foster empathy, tolerance and understanding. When we read, we are drawn into the characters’ lives and see the world from their point of view. This is especially important in fractured times.

Deborah Abela is a Maltese Australian author. She trained as a teacher and has written twenty-seven internationally published and awarded kids’ books. Three of them have been translated and published in Malta by Merlin Publishers.

*Teresa* was inspired by her father’s birth in a shelter in Rabat, Malta in 1942 and migration to Australia and was launched by then President Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca in 2016.

In 2019, Deborah and her publishers launched *L-Ispettaklu Stupend Żanżan Kelma* about a shy, anxious girl who, with the support of her family, faces her fears and enters a spelling bee.

This August her picture book for young children, *Bear in Space* will be released in Australia and as *Ors Fl-ispazju* in Malta. It was produced in collaboration with Marjorie Crosby-Fairall who has done the illustrations. Marjorie has illustrated over twenty children’s books and has been published internationally. Her awards include the CBCA Eve Pownall Award. This is Deb and Marjorie’s first collaboration. *Ors Fl-ispazju* was inspired by a real bear that was rescued from poachers in Cambodia and sent to Taronga Zoo in Sydney to be looked after. In her book, bear is different and feels he doesn’t belong, so he disappears into books, especially about space.

When he builds a rocket, the other bears laugh, but when he flies into space, no one teases him or calls him names, but soon he’s lonely, until something extraordinary happens.

Deborah told *The Voice of the Maltese* that over the last 20 years as an author, she has met lots of children who feel like Bear. “What I wanted to explore in this book is how being different shouldn’t divide us but bring us together, because we all have something unique to share, she said. “*Ors Fl-ispazju* is about being different and the importance of having friends who love you just the way you are.”

You can watch the Video for *Teresa* on: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0g10DJGIiM&feature=emb_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0g10DJGIiM&feature=emb_logo). Video for *L-Ispettaklu Stupend Żanżan Kelma* is on: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=43&v=p3Z9sQeY-ZE&feature=emb_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=43&v=p3Z9sQeY-ZE&feature=emb_logo).

Video for *Bear in Space*: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2UaUYK2cNKE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2UaUYK2cNKE).

Among Deborah’s other books are her cranky climate change trilogy, *Grimsdon, New City* and *Final Storm, Teresa, A New Australian* and *The Stupendously Spectacular Spelling Bee* and *The Most Marvelous Spelling Bee Mystery.*

Above: Author Deborah Abela. Below: the front covers for the *Bear in Space* book (left) and the one for the Maltese version, *Ors Fl-ispazju.*
Tune in to Radio and Television

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

**MELBOURNE:** on 3ZZZ 92.3FM or on www.3zzz.com.au. Mondays 6-7pm, Fridays 5-6pm and Saturdays 10-11am.

**MELBOURNE:** on 98.9 North West FM, every Friday 6.00 -7.00pm. and Mondays 7.00 to 8.00pm. Presenter: Emmanuele 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-istazzjon 2GLF 89.3FM. Also On Demand on l-Internet: www.893fm.com.au

**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 Thursdays 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 944 205. Email bernadettebuhagiar@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 Vella

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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?**


Biex dan isir wieħed l-ewwel jibghat email lil maltesevoice@gmail.com fejn jistgħu jittlob tagħrif dwar il-ħlas ta’ abbonament għal sena fl-istat fejn jghix. Im-bagħad jekk ikun irid jissieħeb ma’ dawk kollha li mhumiex kuntenti biiss li jaqqaw il-magazine online, imma wkoll li jkollhom kopja tieghu, jgharraraħna u jkunu moqdiżin.

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**Għall-attenzjoni tal-qarrejja**

Il-qarrejja li jixtiequ juru l-fehmiet tagħhom dwar xi suġġett huma mheġġa li ma jhallux għall-ahħar. Indirizzaw l-emails lil maltesevoice@gmail.com.
L-ittri għall-pubblikazzjoni indikawhom: Letters to the editor.

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**Please Note:**

If interested in advertising on The Voice of the Maltese magazine in order to reach the widest audience possible, particularly among the Maltese diaspora is requested to write for details to: maltesevoice@gmail.com

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Events for 2020

**Sunday October 18:** Fete
**Saturday November 14:** Dinner Dance
**Sunday December 6:** Festa San Nikola
Tennis has had a golden generation – but not a golden era

by John William Devine
(Lecturer in Sports Ethics and Integrity)

It is an established wisdom in boxing that “styles make fights”. The best fights involve opponents of contrasting skills and abilities. Classic rivalries such as Muhammad Ali v Joe Frazier and, most recently, Tyson Fury v Deontay Wilder pitted “boxers” (technicians who rely on boxing craft) against “punchers” (street fighters who rely on punching power).

What is true in the boxing ring is also true on the tennis court: many of the greatest tennis rivalries have also comprised players of markedly different styles. Björn Borg v John McEnroe, Chris Evert v Martina Navratilova, and Pete Sampras v Andre Agassi all matched up a serve-and-volleyer against a baseliner.

These rivalries ran deeper than the closeness of their contests. They showcased two fundamentally different philosophies.

A golden era?

We are told that this is a golden era for tennis. In many ways, this is readily apparent. Tennis athletes have never been fitter, rivalries have never been more intense, and four players of this era – Novak Djokovic, Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal and Serena Williams – have a legitimate claim to be the “greatest of all time”. This has truly been a golden generation of tennis players. But it has not been a golden era for tennis.

Serve-and-volley tennis

Serve-and-volley tennis is inherently confrontational. It narrows the physical space between opponents as one approaches the net, it quickens the exchange of shots, and it poses a challenge to “hit past me or through me”. The best serve-and-volleyers are relentless – they return to the net point after point, laying down the same challenge anew.

The beauty of this style lies precisely in its lack of surprise. It was entirely predictable that Pete Sampras or Martina Navratilova would attack the net after their serve. Everyone, especially their opponents, knew this. And they knew that their opponent knew this. But they did it anyway. Like a football goalkeeper, they challenged their opponent to defy the odds and find that tiny spot beyond their reach – point after point.

However, net play is now a dying art. No serve-and-volleyer, male or female, has won a grand slam since Sampras’s last US Open victory in 2002. Lighter, more powerful rackets, polyester strings, and the introduction of slower court surfaces and balls have shifted the odds heavily in favour of the baseliner and against the net rusher.

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Melbourne V v Western U 1-2
Wellington v Adelaide U 1-1
Central Coast v Newcastle 0-0
Perth Glory v Wellington 1-2
Brisbane Roar v Adelaide U 0-1

Other results
Perth Glory v. Central Coast 1-0
Brisbane Roar v Adelaide U 0-1
Perth Glory v Wellington 1-2
Central Coast v Newcastle 1-0
Wellington v Adelaide U 1-1
Melbourne V v Western U 1-2

**Flyimg restart for Eagles: then shot down**

Parramatta FC continued where they left off in the NPL4 before the stoppage caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in March by convincingly winning the first match on the restart, 4-1 against Granville. Rage at Melita Stadium; then lost the next on Saturday away at Western NSW by 1-0.

Against Granville, Parramatta Melita Eagles took a 12-minute lead through Clement Waoci, while Ali Dulleh added a second on 39 to take them to half time enjoying a 2-0 lead.

Their captain, Christopher Godoy Bascur, added a third goal (53rd minute), before the visitors pulled one back (65th minute) but Gabriel Gomes (85th) wrapped it all up with a fourth tally.

In the second match, Parramatta suffered their first loss in 2020, going down to a controversial goal in the 34th minute away to Western NSW FC.

The Eagles enjoyed most possession throughout the match and on 67 minutes had a goal disallowed while Gabriel Gomes struck the underside of the crossbar.

At the end it was a great disappointment for the Parramatta players who now need to regroup for the next clash with University of NSW FC on Sunday, August 2.

**A-League: Sydney FC enjoy 11-point lead**

Following are the results since the resumption of play in the Hyundai A-League, with leaders Sydney FC first defeating Wellington Phoenix 3-1 thanks to two goals by young Trent Buhagiar, and then surprisingly suffering a 1-2 home loss against Newcastle Jets.

However they hold on to an 11-point lead in the league ladder over Wellington.

**Other results**
Perth Glory v. Central Coast 1-0
Brisbane Roar v Adelaide U 0-1
Perth Glory v Wellington 1-2
Central Coast v Newcastle 1-0
Wellington v Adelaide U 1-1
Melbourne V v Western U 1-2

The friendly against Newcastle Jets is scheduled for November 11, three days before the home match against Andorra.

Malta will conclude its UEFA Nations League Group D1 campaign with another home game, against the Faroe Islands on November 17, 2020.

**Former Socceroos captain Jedinak retires**

Mile Jedinak has called time on his decorated playing career, scotching hopes of a final hurrah in the A-League.

The former Central Coast Mariners, Crystal Palace and Aston Villa midfielder who had not played since May 2019 made his retirement official on social media, adding, “My journey to reach that goal was full of so many experiences, challenges and memories that will always be cherished. I want to thank all the clubs I represented or alouding me the opportunity to do so… It is now time for a new chapter.”

Jedinak was released by Aston Villa at the end of national career in October 2018.

His greatest triumph came as Socceroos skipper for their historic Asian Cup triumph on home soil.

Jedinak commenced his professional career with Sydney United and Central Coast Mariners before securing an overseas move to Turkish club Macarthur FC. As recently as May he said that he still had a “desire to play”.

Jedinak has been working as a coach at Villa’s academy, and coaching may be where his future now lies.

After his national team debut for Australia in 2008, featuring at three World Cup tournaments - two of them as captain, Jedinak scored 20 goals before he ended his inter-

**MOC looking for athletes eligible to represent Malta**

The Malta Olympic Committee (MOC), the organisation responsible of sending athletes to represent Malta in the Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games and others, such as the Games of the Small States of Europe, is always in search of athletes who possess a Maltese Passport or who are eligible for a Maltese passport through ancestry, who can make it to Team Malta.

The MOC is currently mainly looking mainly for sportsmen who could represent Malta in athletics, swimming, sailing, judo, table tennis, tennis, basketball, 3x3 basketball, squash and shooting (indoor & outdoor).

It helps with technical funding to Malta’s elite athletes and also supports them comprehensively with their technical needs such as anti-doping education, functional diagnostic laboratory (scientific) services, gym use, funds for training camps, etc.

More information can be found on its MOC’s website: [www.mocmalta.org](http://www.mocmalta.org).