

THE GOZO **OBSERVER**

No.16. June 2007



http://home.edu.mt/ugc/gozo_observer/

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The Gozo Observer

The Journal of the University of Malta Gozo Centre.

Published two times a year.

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Printing:

Portelli Print - Nadur, Gozo
Tel: (356) 21558232

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2007

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Front Cover Photo: Courtesy of Joseph Calleja.

Editorial:

The Environment is Everybody's Business

We have been living in “the oldest humanised landscape in the world” as zoologist David Attenborough described the Mediterranean. It has a 46,000 kilometre coastline dotted with cities and harbours and a population around it of about 160 million people, which is expected to double within the next couple of decades.

It is also a very polluted sea, accepting effluent from surrounding countries and toxic substances from the large procession of tankers and smaller vessels that ply their routes in all directions. It is estimated that the Mediterranean carries 20% of all tanker traffic in the world.

The United Nations Environment Program report of some years ago found that 93% of shellfish taken from the Mediterranean contained more faecal bacteria than the maximum allowed by the World Health Organisation. The food chain is now heavily polluted by oil spillages.

It is practically tideless and almost completely isolated from the other oceans in the world, connecting only at Gibraltar and Suez. It has been estimated that it takes 80-90 years for its waters to be renewed, so that whatever gets dumped there, stays there.

Malta and Gozo form one of the most densely populated countries on earth. The inhabitants and their

leaders have not, in the past, been too worried about pollution. Open drainage has been directed into the surrounding waters for generations.

The mentality of the populace which thinks nothing of dumping rubbish into our valleys only to be washed away into the sea with the first rain has also contributed to the process of degeneration. I have a clear vision of Qawra bay (Dwejra) after the rain which was so polluted with quarry refuse that tiny octopuses sought refuge on land where they suffocated!

And then came the tourists – foreign as well as local. They are mobile now, visiting all bays of Gozo in a single day and often leaving a trail of debris behind them. While tourism might be considered a necessary evil, it cannot be allowed to become more evil than necessary.

Time was when a traveller to Malta from Gozo would be regaled with a show of dancing dolphins which accompanied the ship to Cirkewwa. Not any longer! They and all the other local fish have all but disappeared to be replaced by farmed fish stacked in fisheries which produce economic quantities of fish for export but which damage the habitat in no uncertain way.

The environment is everybody's business. The future of our seas, of our world, is in our hands.



Nirrangaw : A Social Psychological Process in an Island Community*

JOSEPH AZZOPARDI AND PETE MANN

Introduction

This paper deals with the conceptualisation of a social psychological process relating to the ability of Gozitan managers and business leaders to cope with their most pressing problems. The approach adopted to investigate this process involved (a) an analysis of published statistics about Gozo; (b) psychometric interviews with twenty Gozitan managers and leaders followed by a one-day workshop; (c) in-depth interviews and focus group meetings with twenty-four Gozitans involved in business and management; and (d) an analysis of a database of opinions expressed by prominent persons during conferences organised in Gozo.

The Scene

Available published regional statistics on the demographic and economic conditions of the Maltese Islands indicate that in Gozo unemployment rates are relatively higher and employment rates are relatively lower than they are in mainland Malta. Gozo is therefore forfeiting the benefit of maximising the utilisation of its human resourcefulness due to the lack of employment opportunities. As a result the Gozitan community is also losing out on the possible contribution that resourceful people could make to generate new and alternative economic activities. Given these realities, how come that Gozitans survive and often thrive?

Individualism or Collectivism?

An analysis of ideas and proposals expressed in a sample of papers presented during conferences organised in Gozo showed how a number of prominent Gozitan persons perceived the situation in Gozo. These persons included high-ranking politicians, business persons, academics, consultants,

high ranking religious people and others active in the Gozitan political, economic and social scene, whose interest was not only that of describing what is going on but who were also attempting to make a difference by acting on their concerns.

Gozo's twin conditions of smallness and 'double insularity' lead to commercial and social isolation. These conditions, plus the related problems of how to deal with resultant feelings of uncertainty and inaccessibility, emerged as the main concerns by these presenters. They were observed as undergoing a painstaking process of differentiating between the two islands, generally concluding that not all is well in Gozo.

The frequent use, in the papers sampled, of the collective pronoun "we" alongside phrases such as *together*, *jointly*, *collectively*, *collaboratively*, *participatory schemes*, *spirit of co-operation*, *synchronisation*, *community effort*, *collective effort*, *collective goodwill*, and *joint ventures*, markedly pointed towards a collaborative spirit among Gozitans.

From the interviews, on the other hand, it emerged that Gozitan social relations are often characterised by mistrust (fear and suspicion) and powerlessness (distancing and bypassing). Examples of commonly used expressions that related to high levels of mistrust include: *you have to keep an eye on them*; *you have to be careful not to get bitten*; *we would like to know exactly what is being designed*; *they are a small family-run businesses and they do not trust others*; *there is a lot of back-stabbing*.

There therefore emerged an apparent contradiction between expressions relating to the Gozitan collective spirit by speakers during the conferences sampled and the strong individualistic approaches expressed during the interviews and focus groups.

This paradox can be explained as follows. When faced with a crisis situation characterised by

* This is an abridged version of the paper by Azzopardi and Mann (2006). The full version, published by Psydoc, Saarland University, Germany is available online and can be accessed on <http://psydok.sulb.uni-saarland.de/volltexte/2006/756/>

changing conditions and uncertainty, and acting within the constraints of formality and in response to institutional demands, Gozitans tend to adopt a collectivist attitude to manage the crisis. Yet as the level of formality decreases and the situation becomes more stable, Gozitans tend to shift to a more individualistic mode. Both collectivism and individualism are therefore significant factors that influence the Gozitan social process and mental mode – depending on the degree of formality and the level of uncertainty that dominates the situation.

How do Gozitans Cope? Formal and Informal Schemes

On the ‘formal side’ of the Gozitans’ basic social psychological process (left side of Figure 1),

‘mistrust’ and ‘powerlessness’ are conceptualised as the governing values. Gozitans tend not to trust formal structures and they feel helpless when confronted with problems of power associated with government’s bureaucratic procedures or other forms of institutional authority, symbolically (and sometimes concretely) associated with the larger island Malta.

But Gozitans have learned how to overcome the mistrust and powerlessness by reverting to informal processes (right side of Figure 1). Activating the *nirrangaw* (Maltese, pronounced *nirran-jao*, j as in jar) process they turn to their informal network of friends, relatives or friends of friends, gatekeepers to the power, and so resolve their most pressing concerns.

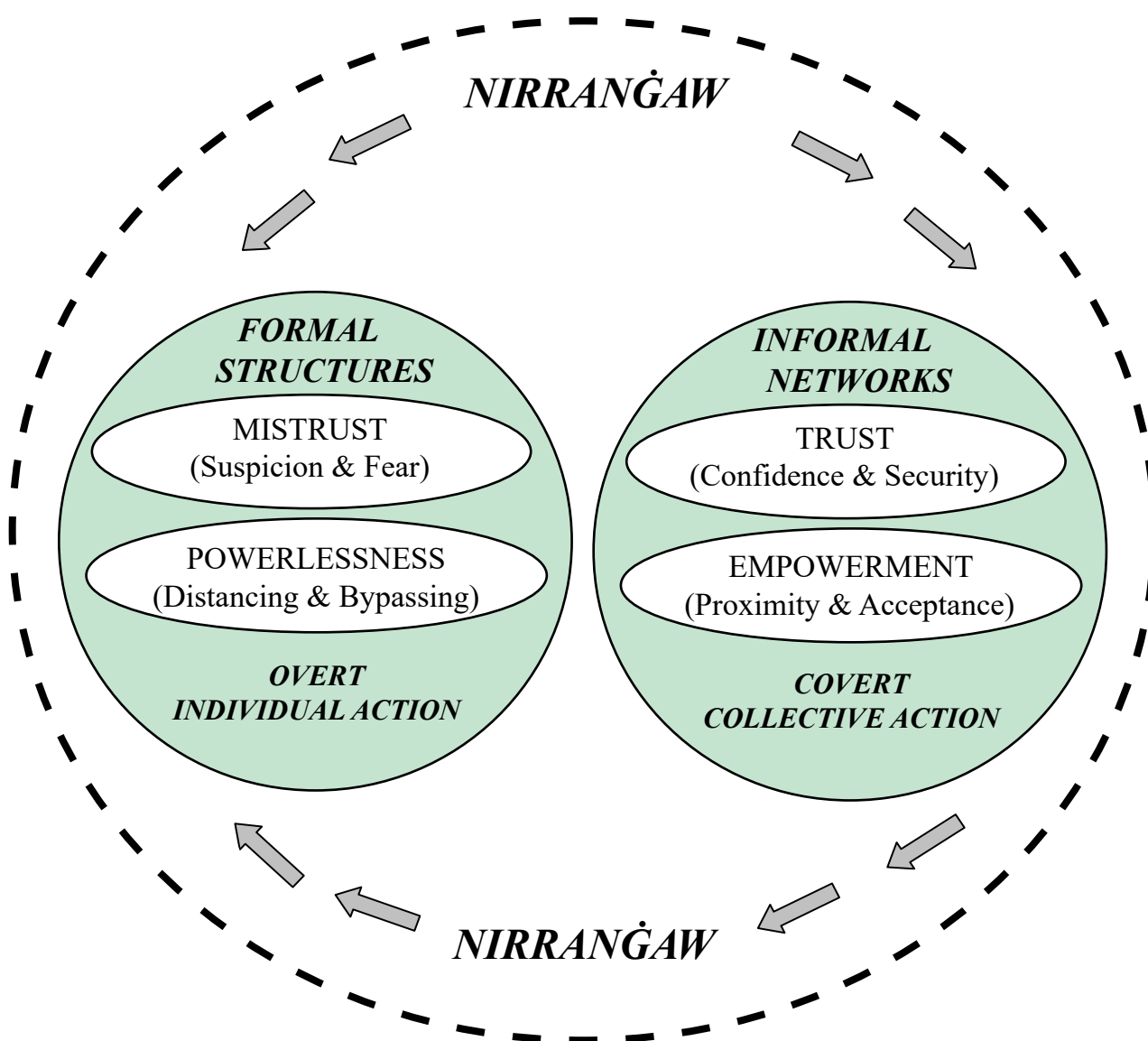


Figure 1. The *NIRRANGAW* Process: Enabling our ‘Just Managing’



Deal done, informally.

The verb *nirrangaw*, in its various verbal forms, was commonly and consistently used by the managers interviewed for the purpose of this study, in the sense of informally setting things right and coming to an agreement or settling differences peaceably. But the real meaning of *nirrangaw* goes beyond these definitions. The term has a deeper meaning, implying the ability to “fix” things, not always along formally and lawfully approved lines. A more profound interpretation of the term came to light to the present authors upon reflecting on the words of a Gozitan priest who was explaining the misuse or perhaps abuse of the sacrament of confession as a mechanism to launder consciences periodically:

“We think that we have the liberty to do anything we want because we know that we can ‘fix things (*nirrangaw*) with God’, and start a new page in our spiritual lives, over and over again. ...”

If Gozitans are capable of twisting and breaking the law of God, knowing that ways and means of reconciliation do exist, what could prohibit them from doing the same with the law of man? If Gozitans have learned how to consistently ‘fix things’ with the Almighty, they must have also learned how to ‘fix things’ with the mighty!

The interpretation of *nirrangaw* as the ability to fix things provides an explanation as to how the various codes, concepts and properties, which appear to be placed randomly in Figure 2, could be linked.

Thus, ‘fear’ and ‘suspicion’ could clearly be related to ‘mistrusting’ and so could ‘bypassing’ and ‘distancing’ be linked to ‘powerlessness’. Other factors could also be inter-related (‘networking’, ‘lobbying’ and ‘corrupting’), as well as ‘individualism’, ‘collectivism’ and ‘attitude’. *Nirrangaw* could possibly be the process that subsumes all the polarities and contradictions shown in Figure 2 into a meaningful whole. It is the basic social psychological process constantly

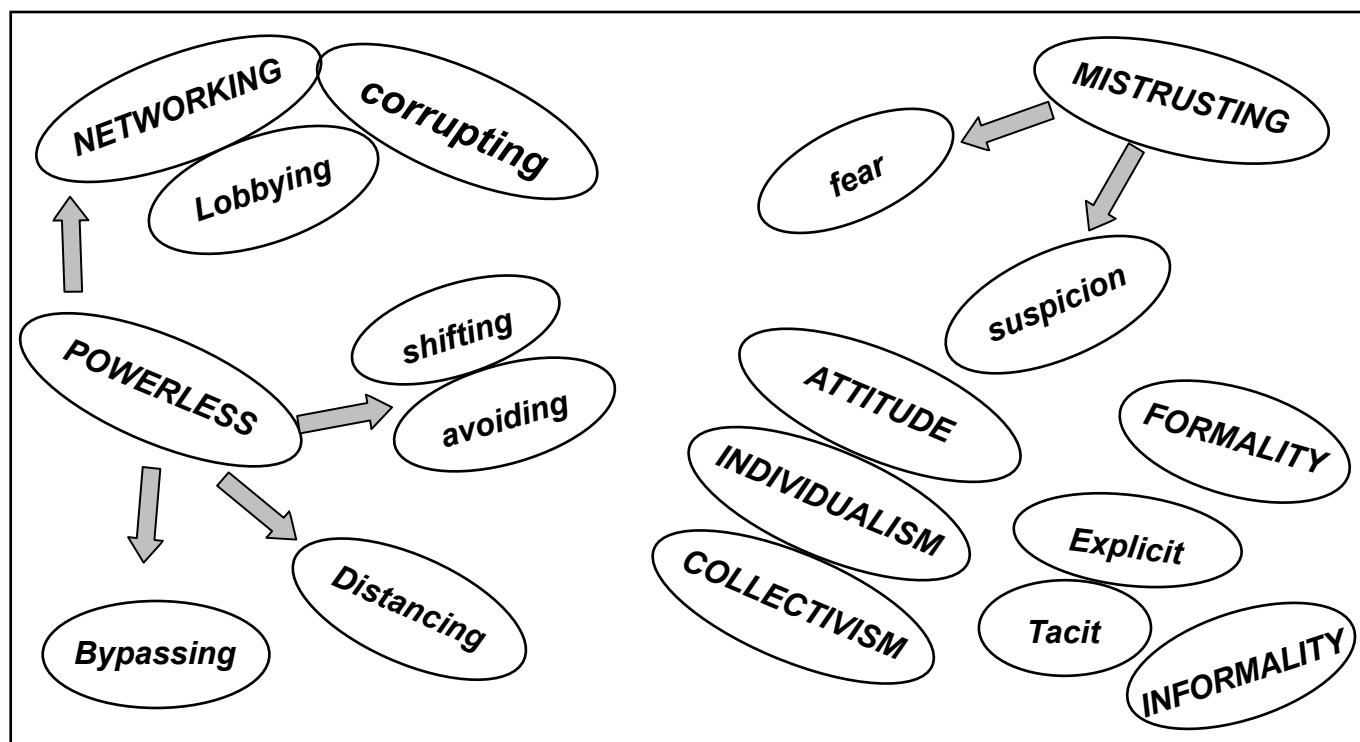


Figure 2. Concepts/Properties/Categories: But Where is the Link?



Coping informally with market realities

being used by the Gozitans to resolve their most pressing problem of survival in an island within an island severely conditioned by smallness and double insularity and very highly dependent on its main sister island.

Conclusion

From this study, the *nirrangaw* process has emerged as an ‘informalising’ core process that transforms the *prima facie* weaknesses or negative traits associated with bureaucracies into strengths and resourceful routes of survival. Through *nirrangaw*, mistrust is transformed into trust, and its corollaries of fear and suspicion become superseded by feelings of confidence and security. Powerlessness is transformed into empowerment, while distancing gives way to close personal encounters in an atmosphere of brotherly and family relations.

Similarly, whilst preferring to distance themselves from formal structures and to bypass formal rules and regulations, many Gozitans accept the rules and conditions of the informal game in an atmosphere of cordial reciprocity when resorting to their informal networks. In this climate, practices - including bribery - which would normally be considered corrupt and immoral are transformed into a culturally acceptable way of operating.

Empowerment, in this scenario, therefore stems from the ability to build strong informal networks of friends close to power sources. ‘Who you know’, becomes overwhelmingly more important than ‘what you know’ in order to succeed. In this scenario, investing in informal networks is considered pivotal for success.

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A Glimpse into the Commercial and Domestic Life at It-Tokk

GODWIN VELLA

Introduction

For many centuries they remained buried but a sewer trench dug in December 1961 revealed them all. There they were: occupation levels starting down from the Early Bronze Age and up to the Mediaeval period opening to us a small window on the life and activities going on in the hub of Gozo's town – as busy then as it is nowadays – throughout the centuries represented.

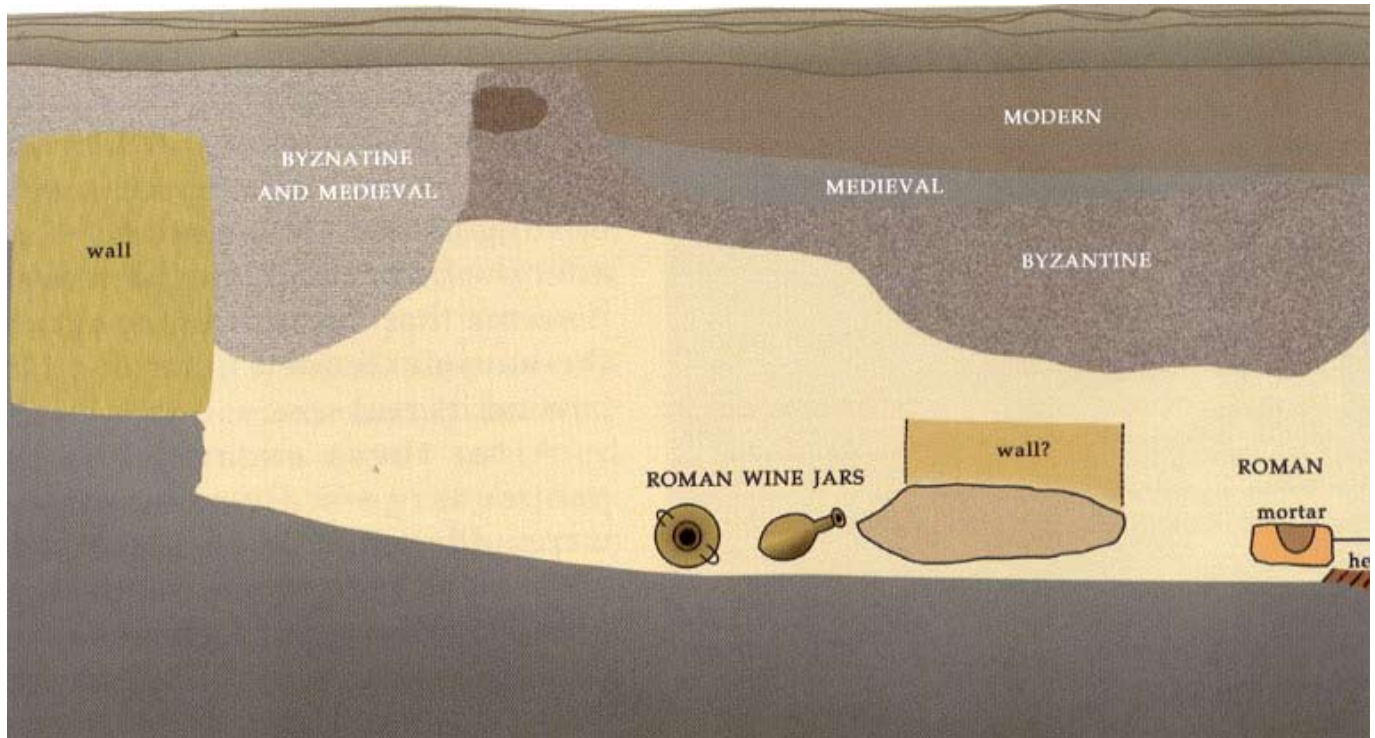
Cultural Layers

The trench – bringing sewage facilities to It-Tokk – went down some three and a half metres, exposing

a series of cultural layers all along the way down. In sequence, these layers represented different phases of occupation in that area of the town, both for commercial and for domestic purposes. From simple dwelling huts in the Bronze Age to wine cellars in the Roman period, the picture we gain is that of a developing community striving to flourish.

The centuries represented by the cultural layers are over but the site with its largely commercial community is still thriving, much to retain the busy atmosphere that had always been associated with It-Tokk.





Part of the section of a trench which cut through the whole length of It-Tokk square in Rabat, Gozo (from a drawing by Dr David Trump). The trench cut through layers representing various periods, including a Roman cellar (after Bonanno, A. 2005, *Malta Phoenician, Punic & Roman*, p. 213)

Relics Retrieved

A few surviving relics retrieved from the trench managed to make their way to the museum. Today, they are there: in the museum of archaeology within the Citadel and uphill from It-Tokk to remind us of those days when It-Tokk was no less busy than it is now.



Roman lamp retrieved from It-Tokk, Victoria, 4-5th century A.D. Two monkeys carry a bunch of grapes. 15cm long. (after Trump, D. H., 1990, *Malta: An Archaeological Guide*)

The Museum of Archaeology

The Museum of Archaeology is open from Monday to Sunday between 09.00 and 5.00pm. Visitors can opt for a Citadel multi-site ticket which sells for LM2.00 (€4.66) and gives holders access to the Museum of Archaeology, the Old Prison, the Museum of Folklore and the Museum of Natural Science. Further information can be obtained from Heritage Malta's Gozo Area Office on Tel. 21564188.

Godwin Vella is Manager, Gozo Museums and Sites, within Heritage Malta.

Regional Economic Statistics for Gozo

CATHERINE VELLA

Background

This paper will briefly describe some regional statistics which relate to Gozo's economic and social realities, referring to the diversity, as well as the similarities, of Gozo when compared to mainland Malta.

The Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics, more concisely known as the NUTS Classification, was first used in Community legislation in 1988. In 2003, the EC Regulation No. 1059/2003 on the establishment of a common classification of territorial units for statistics was adopted by the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union. As from 1 May 2004, regions in the 10 new Member States have been included in the NUTS Classification. Under this classification Malta as a whole is classified as NUTS II. Gozo and Comino are classified as a NUTS III region.¹

Demographic Aspects of Gozo

Gozo has a more elderly population when compared to mainland Malta. Preliminary estimates of the Census of Population and Housing 2005 indicate a 7 per cent rise in the Island's population compared to that recorded in the Census of 1995 (NSO, 2006a). Gozo's birth rate in 2005 was 8.81 to mainland Malta's 9.63 (NSO, 2006b).

Table 1: Regional Dependency Ratios, 2005

Gozo	Malta	National
50.0	44.1	44.5

Note: Dependency ratio is defined as the population in the 0-14 and 65+ age brackets as a ratio of the working-age population i.e. 15-64 age brackets.

Source: National Statistics Office, Census of Population and Housing 2005 – Preliminary Report

An important contributor to the Gozitan population growth is the higher rate of immigration in

¹ In the declaration on Gozo as part of Malta's treaty of accession to the EU it is stated that in the event that Malta, as a NUTS II region, would no longer be eligible for certain measures of the EU regional policy, Gozo could, under certain circumstances, continue to be eligible for those measures.

comparison to mainland Malta, in the form of Gozitan migrants returning to the Island. This translates into a significantly higher dependency ratio than the one characterising the sister island, as can be seen in Table 1.

As a result the number of retirees in Gozo is well above that of Malta. This is exacerbated by the exodus of Gozitan young people who, having completed their education, move to Malta or to other places in search of careers or jobs.

The percentage of Gozitans with a university qualification has risen from about 6 per cent in 2001 to an estimated 7.6 per cent last year (NSO, unpublished LFS data). But are Gozitan graduates managing to forge careers within the region's economy? This question cannot be answered with a sufficient degree of certainty. A longitudinal study which would follow Gozitan graduates from higher education through to their chosen career paths is therefore called for.

Gozitan population density is about 450 persons per square kilometre which is much lower than Malta's, albeit having gone up by some 30 persons per square kilometre since 1995 (see Table 2). This exerts less pressure on environmental resources than is the case in mainland Malta, where the population density is about 1,500 per square kilometre. Compared to the EU, Gozo's population density is still relatively very high.

Table 2: Regional Population Density, Census Years: 1995, 2005

	1995		2005	
	Population	Persons per sq. Km	Population	Persons per sq. Km
National	378,132	1,200	404,039	1,282
Malta	349,106	1,417	372,986	1,513
Gozo and Comino	29,026	422	31,053	452

Source: National Statistics Office, Census of Population and Housing 2005 – Preliminary Report

Regional Gross Domestic Product

Towards the end of 2006, the National Statistics Office (NSO) published provisional estimates of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) generated by Gozo. The GDP is important as a measure of production generated in a given economic territory but not as a measure of income of the residents (who can also earn income from abroad); any analysis should be undertaken with this approach in mind. The NSO estimates indicate that in 2005, the Island's Gross Domestic Product amounted to Lm120.9 million, or 6.2 per cent of the national total. When compared to 1999, the first year in the time series produced by the NSO, the estimated increase averaged 3.9 per cent per annum at current prices (NSO, 2006c).

Chart 1 gives a graphical representation of Gozo's GDP per capita between 2000 and 2005, at current prices. The estimated Gozitan GDP per capita at current prices averaged about 84 per cent that of mainland Malta during this period.

It should be noted that estimation of Gozitan economic activity is complicated by certain factors peculiar to Gozo. In the first place, many Gozitans work in mainland Malta, while there are Maltese residents working in Gozo. Secondly, in some cases, firms located in Malta which have branches in Gozo may return data that have been organised on a corporate not regional level. Having said so, this does not apply to all businesses. Thirdly, there are self-employed persons who operate both in Gozo and in mainland Malta. With regard to

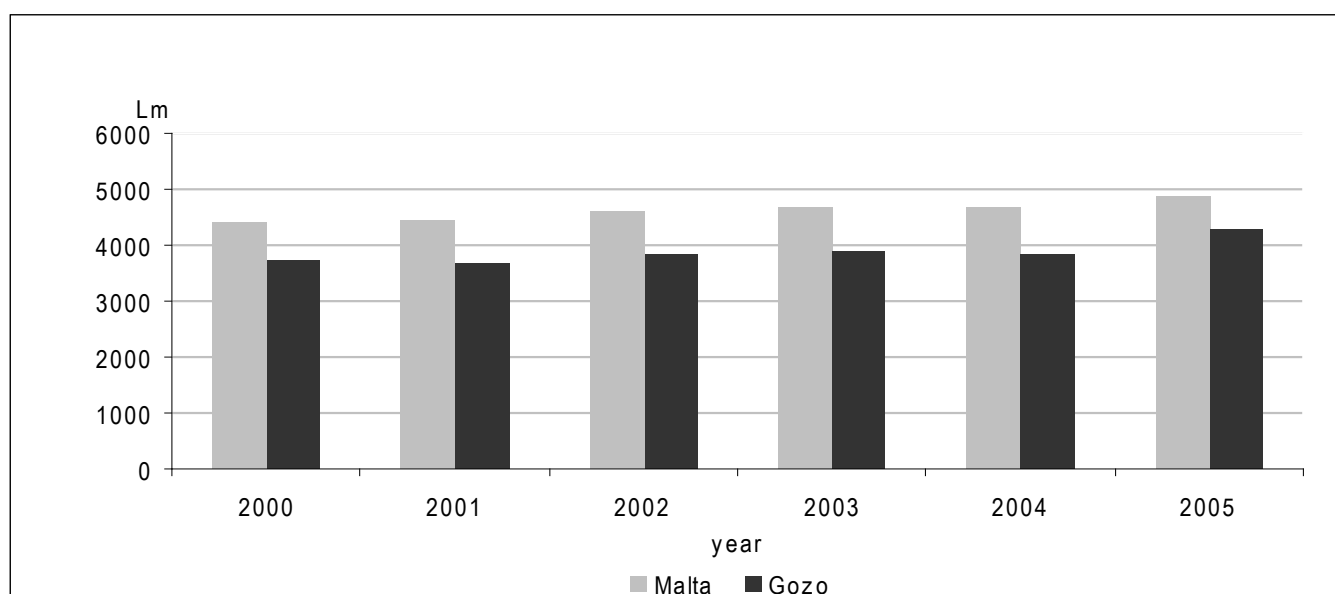
NSO measurement of various phenomena, all these factors are taken into consideration and the necessary adjustments are carried out. In various cases therefore, the split by region is reasonably approximate. Another factor is that the ESA95 does not require GDP at regional level (NUTS III) to be measured by the expenditure side; accordingly, this is not calculated by the NSO.

A dimension that complicates the estimation of GDP per capita is the fact that there are mainland Malta residents with an official residency address in Gozo. In this case, the per capita statistics will have to be adjusted for this reality, as has been done with regard to the figures shown in Chart 1.

Yet another dimension relates to the informal economy. There are no statistics available in this regard by region but only at a national level. If the informal economy is assumed to be relatively higher in Gozo, the GDP per capita of Gozo may be understated when compared to Malta.

Given the high rate of returning migration in Gozo and the large number of Gozitan emigrants, transfers of money are likely to be relatively large in the Island. The figure is not known with a sufficient degree of precision. Such transfers do not feature in the measurement of the GDP because the latter includes income from production only. That said, money transfers and other non-earned sources of income indirectly affect the extent of production generated in the Island as a result of the consumption and investment expenditures derived from it.

Chart 1: Regional GDP Per Capita at Market Prices.



Sectoral Distribution

A closer look at the shares of various sectors in the Gozitan Gross Domestic Product reveals similarities to mainland Malta, but also significant disparities (Table 3).

In 2005 agriculture and fishing constituted 6 per cent of the Island's economic output, well above the 2 per cent contribution of this economic sector to the Maltese GDP. The tomato crop, for example, is cultivated on a large scale in Gozo and accounts for 60 per cent of the national crop (OPM, 2006).

Industry, which includes manufacturing, construction and quarrying and energy generation, contributed around 12 per cent which is lower than mainland Malta's 18 per cent. In recent years, the manufacturing sector in Gozo has experienced a decline in its share which is even more pronounced than in mainland Malta.

The concept of double insularity is very pertinent in the case of Gozo, given that it is a small island situated on the periphery of another small island. This makes it subject to heavy dependence on sea transport with the mainland, with important economic and social impacts. Among the economic effects are additional costs for the carriage of raw materials and for transport of finished goods, including those destined for export. This

adversely affects the competitiveness of Gozitan manufacturing. Double insularity also affects employment patterns and tourism since, in the absence of international passenger flights landing directly in Gozo, mainland Malta effectively acts as a conduit for all tourist traffic. The state of affairs in Gozo with regard to the tourist industry is discussed in more detail further on in the paper.



The contribution of the agricultural sector to the economy is larger in Gozo than it is in Malta.

In Gozo as in Malta services, including government services, registered the heftiest shares of economic output in 2005. For both Islands, this share was estimated at about 75 per cent of the respective regional Gross Value Added.

The public sector in Gozo takes a larger share of the economy than in Malta, 29 per cent to the 20 per cent recorded in the mainland in 2005.

Table 3: Sectoral Contribution to Gross Value Added in Gozo & Mainland Malta, 2005

Economic Activity	Total Economy						Lm million		
							<i>of which:</i>		
							General Government		
	Gozo	%	Malta	%	Total	%	Gozo	Malta	Total
Agriculture & Fisheries	6.3	6.1	35.0	2.2	41.3	2.5	1.4	7.3	8.7
Industry (incl. Manufacturing)	12.7	12.3	285.6	18.2	298.3	17.9	0.4	5.5	5.9
Construction	7.2	6.9	71.4	4.6	78.6	4.7	1.9	10.8	12.8
Services	77.2	74.7	1,173.8	75.0	1,251.0	74.9	25.9	292.0	317.9
Total	103.4	100.0	1,565.8	100.0	1,669.2	100.0	29.7	315.6	345.3

Note: General Government includes: Central Government, Local Councils and Extra-Budgetary Units (EBUs).

Source: National Statistics Office, national accounts data

Regional Employment

One feature of the labour force in Gozo is that the ratio of inactive persons to the population of persons aged 15 years and over is higher than the one characterising the larger island. Worked out on the basis of estimates from Labour Force Survey annualised data (see Table 4), this ratio is 1:1.8 for Gozo as against 1:2.0 for mainland Malta. Inactive persons include pensioners, housewives and persons living on own means. The higher ratio is borne out by the lower employment rate in respect of Gozo, as can be deduced from Table 4.

Table 4: Labour Force and Inactive Population in Gozo and Mainland Malta, 2006

Labour status	Gozo	Mainland Malta
Employed*	9,545	143,048
Inactive	13,878	149,079

Note: The inactive population is defined as persons aged 15 years and over who are neither employed nor unemployed.

* Employed in this table are classified according to the region they work in.
Source: National Statistics Office, LFS annualised data

Employment Rates

Overall, the employment rate in Gozo was lower than that of mainland Malta by around 3 percentage points (Table 5). The percentage of inactive men and women in Gozo is perceptibly higher when compared to mainland Malta. Reasons for this may include fewer job opportunities available in Gozo, but also, possibly, proportionately higher unreported employment.

Table 5: Regional Employment Rates, 2006

Gozo	Mainland Malta	National
52.0	55.1	54.8

Source: National Statistics Office, LFS annualised data

Sectoral Employment

At an estimated 42 per cent of the Gozitan work force, public-sector employment in Gozo is considerably higher than the national proportion of public-sector workers, which stood at 31 per cent at the end of 2006 (see Table 6).

Table 6: Regional Employment by Main Sector

November 2006			
Main Sector	Gozo	Mainland Malta	National Total
Public Sector	3,540	39,462	43,002
Private Sector	4,854	91,600	96,454
Total	8,394	131,062	139,456
% Public Sector	42.2	30.1	30.8

Source: National Statistics Office, ETC data

Thirteen per cent of Gozitan full-time workers are engaged in the wholesale and retail trade, lower by some 2 percentage points than its counterpart proportion relating to Maltese full-timers. Manufacturing in Gozo employs 11 per cent of the Gozitan full-time work force, well below the 18 per cent share that this sector employs in mainland Malta. This indicates that Gozitan manufacturing has proved even more susceptible than Malta to the problems facing this sector. Twelve per cent of full-time workers in Gozo are engaged in construction and quarrying activities; the proportion of full-time employment in this industry in mainland Malta stood at 8 per cent in November 2006 (see Table 7).

Table 7: Sectoral Composition of Full-time Employed Persons

November 2006				
Sectoral Composition	Gozo		Mainland Malta	
	No.	%	No.	%
	8,394	100.0	131,062	100.0
	of which:			
Agriculture & Fisheries	518	6.2	2,925	2.2
Construction & Quarrying	1,017	12.1	10,852	8.3
Manufacturing	913	10.9	23,023	17.6
Wholesale & Retail Trade	1,074	12.8	20,177	15.4

Source: National Statistics Office News Release No. 55/2007



Some sections of the Manufacturing sector are experiencing major difficulties in the Maltese Islands. The double insularity of Gozo is particularly problematic for Gozitan manufacturing.

Self-employment

A distinctive characteristic of the Gozitan economy is the perceptibly higher proportion of self-employment in comparison to the sister island. Employment and Training Corporation administrative data for November 2006 put this proportion at 18 per cent of the Gozitan work force as against 11 per cent in mainland Malta. These data for self-employment are shown in Table 8.

Table 8: Self-employed Persons in Gozo and Mainland Malta

Type of Employment	November 2006		
	Gozo	Malta	Total
Self-employed	1,507	14,910	16,417
Employees	6,887	116,152	123,039
Total	8,394	131,062	139,456

Source: National Statistics Office, ETC data

Unemployment

Short-term unemployment (under 1 year) is proportionately lower in Gozo, as can be seen in Table 9, while the shares of unemployment with longer duration periods tend to be higher than those of mainland Malta. This may reflect difficulties in the Gozitan labour market, in that longer periods of unemployment may be associated with what is known as “hard-core” unemployment.

Table 9: Registered Unemployment by Duration in Gozo and Mainland Malta

Years	December 2000				February 2007			
	Gozo		Malta		Gozo		Malta	
	of which:							
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Under 1	197	47.8	2,865	46.4	341	52.6	3,642	60.4
1-2	74	18.0	1,022	16.6	150	23.2	1,237	20.6
2-3	33	8.0	784	12.7	50	7.7	509	8.5
3-4	34	8.3	477	7.7	-	-	-	-
4-5	32	7.8	346	5.6	27	4.2	178	3.0
5 or more	42	10.1	677	11.0	80	12.3	452	7.5

Source: National Statistics Office, ETC data

Income from Employment

Average gross annual salary in manufacturing varies across the two Islands with Gozitan workers engaged in this activity earning lower wages, a fact which may be attributable to a higher prevalence of lower-grade manufacturing occupations in the smaller island. This is shown in Table 10. In Gozo in 2006, the average gross annual salary in this sector was estimated at 83 per cent of that earned in mainland Malta. The discrepancy is more evident in the case of Gozitan men engaged in this activity when compared to their female counterparts.

Table 10: Average Gross Annual Salary for Full-time Employees in the Manufacturing Sector, 2006

	Men	Women	Total
	Lm		
National	5,472	4,523	5,215
Malta	5,499	4,540	5,240
Gozo	4,501	3,950	4,345
Gozo as % of the National Gross Annual Salary in Manufacturing	82.3	87.3	83.3

Source: National Statistics Office, LFS data

Regional Tourism

In July 2006 the overall supply of bed-places² in Gozitan hotels (2 to 5 star) comprised 4.7 per cent of the national total, while the net occupancy rate

² 'Bed-places' are determined by the number of persons who can stay overnight in a hotel and 'nights spent' refer to registered guest nights.

Table 11: Aspects of Regional Tourism, 2004-2006

	Mainland Malta			Gozo and Comino		
	2004	2005	2006	2004	2005	2006
No. of Hotel Bed-places (as at July)	30,935	29,876	31,879	1,667	1,463	1,569
Net Occupancy Rate in Hotels	59.5	59.0	55.6	48.0	45.9	45.8
Foreign-tourist Nights Spent in Hotels	6,217,701	6,162,657	5,942,298	186,054	168,002	175,114
Maltese-tourist Nights Spent in Hotels	178,331	170,099	224,843	63,308	49,663	55,814
Average Length of Stay in Nights (as at July and in all collective accommodation)	7.5	6.8	7.8	4.7	4.9	4.6

Important note: All variables refer to 2-5 star hotels except where indicated. Annual figures except where indicated.

Source: National Statistics Office, tourism statistics annualised data

for the whole year was calculated at 45.8. Mainland Malta, which accounts for 95.3 per cent of national bed-stock in these hotel categories, had an annual occupancy rate of 55.6.

Gozo benefits considerably from domestic tourism, characterised also by a growing trend in weekend breaks. In 2006 one-fifth of hotel nights spent by the Maltese in national territory were passed in Gozitan hotels.³

Gozo compares unfavourably with Malta in respect of the tourist length of stay and hotel occupancy rates. In July 2006 tourists spent an average of 4.6 nights in Gozo in contrast to 7.8 nights in mainland Malta. These characteristics could have potentially contributed to the closing down of a major hotel in Gozo which is now utilising the premises for another form of business.

Table 11 depicts a fuller picture of regional tourism in the Islands.

In mainland Malta, cruise tourism has grown considerably. As things stand, Gozo does not benefit much from this activity, having insufficient port facilities to accommodate cruise liners as well as additional constraints relating to berthing of ships in Gozo.

³ It should be noted that several Maltese who holiday in Gozo do not normally stay in hotels.



Tourism is a mainstay of the Gozitan economy.

Conclusion

This paper has briefly described some statistics pertaining to the Gozitan economy. It was shown that the major differences between Gozo and mainland Malta relate to the comparatively higher dependency ratio, the higher dependency on the public sector for employment, the more important role of farming and fishing in the economy, the higher rate of self-employment, and the lower share of manufacturing in GDP.

The paper has also referred to the issues which complicate statistical measurement and estimation, especially of economic phenomena, that relate to Gozo as a region. Nevertheless, awareness of these issues and requisite allowance and adjustment render NSO regional data on Gozo reasonably approximate.



The sea link with Malta is vital for Gozitan workers employed in Malta, for transport of industrial supplies and for tourism.

Regional statistics are of paramount importance not only for recording developments within the region but also to compare improvements in relation to other territories. In addition, proposals for funding, for example from the EU Structural Funds, generally need to be grounded in sound statistical information. For these reasons, a cornerstone of the national statistical system should be the continued development of regional statistics for Gozo.

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Note:

The author acknowledges the assistance received from Joslyn Magro Cuschieri, Michael Pace Ross and Manuel Tabone who respectively head the Labour Market, National Accounts and Tourism Units at the NSO.

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Consultation Conference on Career Prospects in Gozo

LINO BRIGUGLIO

The Ministry for Gozo and the Gozo Council for Education and Vocational Training in collaboration with the University Gozo Centre organised a Consultation Conference on Career Prospects in Gozo on Friday 26 January 2007 at the Grand Hotel, Ghajnsielem, Gozo.

The conference consisted of a briefing of a report on "Careers Prospects in Gozo", drawn up by the Gozo Council for Education and Vocational Training, followed by group discussions on prospects for Sixth Formers preparing for University, for MCAST students and related vocations, for early school leavers and for those with poor qualifications. The Hon. Minister Giovanna Debono opened the meeting.

The conference was attended by policy makers and practitioners in education, including those offering private and vocational education. The conference was addressed by Professor Lino Briguglio, who chairs the Gozo Council for Education and Vocational Training and by the Hon. Giovanna Debono, Minister for Gozo (her speech is reproduced as an annex to this article). The breakout sessions were chaired by Mr Godwin Grech, Mr Marcel Xuereb and Chev. Fank Gatt.

A number of issues emerged during the conference, notably the need to look into the problems associated with early school leavers. Another issue related to the choice of University courses chosen by Gozitan students, where the teaching career would seem to be a popular preference.



Professor Lino Briguglio (centre) giving the introductory speech with (from left to right) Mr Godwin Vella, Hon. Giovanna Debono, Chav. Frank Gatt and Mr Marcel Xuereb.



The Hon Giovanna Debono delivering her speech during the conference

ANNEX

Diskors ta' l-Onor. Giovanna Debono, Ministru ghal Ghawdex fl-okkażjoni ta' l-inawgurazzjoni tal-konferenza Career Prospects for Gozo. Organizzata mill-Kunsill ta' l-Edukazzjoni u Tahriġ Vokazzjonali. Grand Hotel, Mgarr. Il-Ġimgħa 26 ta' Jannar 2006.

Qed nagħtu bidu għal din li hi l-ewwel konferenza tat-tip tagħha f'Ghawdex fejn mhux biss qed nitfgħu l-attenzjoni tagħna fuq aspekk mill-iktar importanti ta' l-edukazzjoni ta' wliedna imma wkoll qed niffokaw il-ħsibijiet tagħna fuq il-mira ewlenija ta' l-edukazzjoni – fejn dak li noffru lil uliedna jista' jwassalhom fl-iżvilupp u r-realizzazzjoni tagħhom bħala haddiema u professjonisti futuri.

M'huwa ebda sigriet li l-qasam ta' l-edukazzjoni huwa qasam mill-iktar għal qalbi. Mhux biss bħala ġenitur, imma wkoll bħala edukatur bħal ħafna minkom hawn prezenti, jiena nara fil-qasam ta' l-edukazzjoni vokazzjoni liema bħalha. Ir-responsabilita' tagħna mhijiex biss dik li noffru informazzjoni lill-istudenti tagħna fil-klassi imma pjuttost, li ngħallmuhom u nagħtuhom għodda u ħiliet li dawn ikunu jistgħu jsarrfuhom f'opportunitajiet 'il quddiem f'hajjithom.

Il-konnessjoni bejn l-edukazzjoni u l-kamp tax-xogħol jiena naraha bħala waħda awtomatika. Ma tistax titkellem dwar l-opportunitajiet edukattivi u ta' tahriġ jekk ma żżommx quddiem għajnejk il-miri tal-prospetti ta' karrieri futuri. Kien għalhekk li jiena waqfaqt il-Kunsill ta' l-Edukazzjoni u Tahriġ Vokazzjonali, li qed jorganizza din il-konferenza llejla, u shaqt li fih mhux biss ikollna rappreżentanza tas-settur edukattiv f'Ghawdex imma wkoll rappreżentanza tas-suq ekonomiku, inkluz dak turistiku. Dan biex il-kordinazzjoni bejn min jgħalliem u min jimpjega tkun iktar b'saħħitha għall-ġid tat-tfal u ż-żgħażaġ tagħna. Is-sehem tal-Kamra tan-Negozju għal Ghawdex u ta' l-Assoċjazzjoni tat-Turiżmu għal Ghawdex f'dan il-Kunsill ta' l-Edukazzjoni u Tahriġ Vokazzjonali huwa mill-iktar validu, tant li mhux darba u tnejn li tqajmu suggerimenti minn dawn l-għaqdiet – kif

nifhem li se jiġu riflessi fir-rapport li se jiġi diskuss iktar tard.

Bħala Ministeru għal Ghawdex aħna hdimna abbażi ta' diversi studji u rakkomandazzjonijiet, li se jiġu msahha bis-suggerimenti u r-rimarki li intom se tagħmlu waqt il-preżentazzjoni tal-lum. Jidher biċ-ċar li hemm oqsma li fihom Ghawdex jista' jkollu vantaġġ kompetittiv minkejja x-xejra differenti li qieghdha tiegħu l-ekonomija ta' gżiritna maż-żmien. Hemm oqsma u aspekk li nistgħu nindirizzaw jew inkomplu nindirizzaw. Hemm inizjattivi meħuda diġa' mill-Gvern li jistgħu jiġu ripetuti mis-settur privat.

Fil-qasam ta' l-opportunitajiet edukattivi, bħala Ministeru hdimna ħafna biex żidna l-ammont u l-varjeta' ta' korsijiet li qed isiru f'Ghawdex għal dawk ta' iktar minn 16-il sena. Biss biss insemmi li mill-korsijiet li organizzajna matul dawn l-aħħar sentejn b'fondi ta' l-Unjoni Ewropea kienu iktar minn 600 Ghawdexi u Ghawdexija li bbenefikaw direttament. Dan, minbarra l-korsijiet ġodda li ġew organizzati b'fondi nazzjonali fiċ-Ċentru ta' l-Universita', fiż-żewġ Ċentri MCAST li għandna f'Ghawdex, fl-ITS, fl-ETC u fiċ-Ċentru Ghawdexi ta' l-Arti u l-Artiġjanat Wistin Camilleri fost l-oħrajn.

Fassalna wkoll skemi apposta li jindirizzaw kemm liż-żgħażaġ gradwati Ghawdexin kif ukoll lil negozji u individwi li jridu jtejbu l-kompetittivita' tagħhom.

Qed nibnu ċentru ġdid fil-Qala li jippermetti l-introduzzjoni ta' iktar korsijiet ġodda fit-turiżmu biex iż-żgħażaġ u l-haddiema tagħna jkunu mħarrġa professjonalment biex joffru l-aħjar



One of the workshops in progress.

servizzi possibbli lil dik l-industrija li hija pilastru ewlieni għall-ekonomija tagħna.

Qed nibnu ċentru ġdid għall-Għawdxin li jridu jifih u negozju żgħir fl-artiġġjanat biex anke dawn nagħtuhom dik l-għajnuna inizjali halli jidhlu għal opportunita' ta' karriera speċjalizzata. Tejjibna wkoll il-villagġ tas-snaġġa f'Ta' Dbiegi u hloqna wkoll ċertifikat ta' garanzija għal prodotti artiġġjanali ġenwinament maħduma f'Għawdex biex lil dan il-qasam inkomplu nagħtuh dik l-imbuttatura li għandu bżonn.

Dan fl-isfond ta' Strategija soċjo-ekonomika għal Għawdex li l-Gvern habbar fis-sajf li għadda, u fl-isfond ta' realtaziet ekonomiċi dinamiċi li llum huma għal kollox differenti minn daww li kienu għaxar jew għoxrin sena ilu.

Illum, għal grazzja t'Alla, iż-żgħażaġh tagħna għandhom opportunitaziet li aħna lanqas biss konna noħolmuhom. Biss biss, ta' min jgħid li llum, fl-Universita' ta' Malta hemm madwar 800 student Għawdxi! U fl-aħħar tlett snin, iggradwaw 600 student Għawdxi!

Illum għandna inqas nies jaħdmu fis-settur tal-

manifattura tradizzjonali imma għandna iktar nies jaħdmu għal rashom – rajna żieda ta' 60 self-employed f'sena u nofs – u għandna dejjem iktar kumpaniji ġodda fis-settur privat, b'żieda netta ta' 165 kumpanija f'dawn l-aħħar sitt snin u nofs.

Jiena ma naqtax qalbi quddiem l-isfidi li għandna quddiemna. Pero' nħoss li l-kontribut li tistgħu tagħmlu intom bħala edukaturi fit-tfassil ta' miri għall-edukazzjoni u t-taħriġ li aħna noffru liż-żgħażaġh tagħna huwa kontribut li se jgħin biex Għawdex tagħna jkompli miexi fi triq li jassigura ġejjieni aħjar għalina lkoll.

Ippermettuli kelmtejn ta' ringrazzjament lil Prof Lino Briguglio u lil Dr Gordon Cordina li mexxew dan il-kunsill, kif ukoll lill-membri kollha tal-Kunsill ta' l-Edukazzjoni u Tahriġ Vokazzjonali għal Għawdex li hadmu matul dawn l-aħħar snin biex inkomplu noħolqu din is-sinerġija meħtieġa għall-ġid tal-ġejjieni tagħna u ta' gżiritna. Niringrazzja lilkom ilkoll.

Professor Lino Briguglio is the Director of the University of Malta Gozo Centre.

Gozitan Achievers in Australia

MAURICE CAUCHI

Introduction

Migration has been the lifeline for many Maltese over the years, but has been a particular boon to Gozo. It has contributed enormously to the well-being of the individual and to the island's economy as a whole. Migration to Australia was already evident over a century ago, but became a deluge during the 1950s and 60s.

It is salutary to retell the story of those who have managed to achieve a considerable success in Australian life. For this purpose the author has been labouring on a publication: *Maltese Achievers in Australia* (currently in press), to highlight the achievement of a cross-section of the Maltese-background persons in Australia. I propose to highlight some of these personalities of Gozitan origin, just as a taste of the contribution that these people made to their adopted country.

One example of a not atypical unsung life is to be found in an interview conducted by Mark Caruana with Ġużepp Camenzuli, a migrant from Gozo who found himself on a farm in northern Queensland in the early 1920s. This is the story of a 14-year-old lad from Għarb, Gozo, who came over to Australia in 1922 with his mother and the rest of the family to join their father. They settled on a farm in Ingham (Queensland), where they grew cane. What strikes one in reading this story, however, is the initiative and creativity with which ordinary persons from a farming background, with little or no education, can achieve without in any way even realizing the magnitude of their achievement. Ġużepp recounts how they had to transform their house from a shack into something more respectable, how they dealt with the intricate procedure of carrying their produce to the train, how, with no previous experience whatsoever, they built their 22-foot boat to go fishing for kingfish. His intimate knowledge of the geography of the area eventually came in very handy when he was given the job of ferrying soldiers and other personnel to and from the islands around Queensland in 1942.

Another interesting story is that of Emmanuel

Attard, which has been written up by Barry York and Mark Caruana (1994: *Emmanuel Attard: from Gozo (Malta) to Gallipoli and Australia*.)

The following is a brief extract from the book mentioned above, highlighting some achievements of persons of Gozitan origin in Australia.

Business Success

Lawrence Mizzi: Lawrence, today 81 years of age, will be remembered for the invention of the *Don Mizzi Harvester*. Lawrence's father came from San Lawrenz. Invention seems to run in the family. His brother Joe Mizzi invented a machine-gun. Laurence's son invented another version of the harvester, known as the 'Walker Mizzi Harvester'. In recognition of his contribution in the development of the mechanical sugar cane harvester, Laurence received an OAM, on the Queen's Birthday Honours, 2005.

Celestino (Charlie) Bajada [1902-83]: Another success story, illustrating the way in which migrants can progress from rags to riches is that of Celestino Bajada. Born in Gozo, he left for Australia with his father in 1916 on the ill-fated Gange when he was only 14 years of age and settled in Sydney.



They bought a few acres of land, cleared it, and started a market-garden. By 1928 they bought a bigger and better farm. Over the years they developed various businesses, bought 150 acres of land in the vicinity of Sydney, and started chicken production, a company which today employs 1,500 workers. He died in 1983, aged 81 years, but his business is carried on by his children with branches all over Australia. As Mark Caruana remarks: *He was a multi-skilled pioneer, very entrepreneurial, the kingpin of the Maltese in Western Sydney in pre-World War 2, such that Pendle Hill is 'Little Malta' largely due to his influence, presence and the fact that he owned land, sold and lent money to new arrivals to buy land.*



John Mizzi: John's parents hail from Gozo. He was born in Australia 39 years ago but has lived in Gozo between the ages of 4 and 19. He then returned to Australia where he studied Business Computer Programming at the Control Data

Institute. John set up a company in Australia called MizziSoft to keep doing research and development in this new technology he invented and to market it. He was especially successful in industries in Asia Pacific. He helped companies like Qantas and Air New Zealand save millions of dollars also through efficient rostering. John's unique scheduling methodologies are now being adopted by innovative companies. Recently, John has started research and developing new technologies through his Maltese company called MobileBooks. His company has converted over 5,000 books that can be read on mobile phones. He hopes that this technology could help people, especially the young generation to read in an innovative and fun way. John has now returned to his native land and enjoys small-scale farming which helps him to stay close to nature and appreciate the environment.

Sports

If there is one area where Maltese have excelled in Australia, it is in the area of sport, as the following couple of examples will illustrate.

John Vella is clearly the most successful of the current group of Maltese Australian horse trainers. In the Owners Premiership for 2003/04, the Harness Racing Owners Association (with Vic Fenech on its 2004/05 committee) gave the award for the Most Consistent Horse to Gozo Pride, trained by John Vella. In 12 starts, Gozo Pride placed 1st four times, 2nd 6 times, and 3rd twice.



Darren Gauci has been acclaimed as one of Australia's greatest-ever jockeys. He was the first apprentice in Victoria to win stakes of more than \$1million. He rode his first city winner at Moonee Valley in 1982. In one golden patch in 1983, he rode 18 consecutive

winners. He is still riding and wining races today. By the age of 13, he had a major decision to make. As a 9-, 10-, and 11-year-old, he had won best player awards in soccer and was chosen to represent Victoria. He concluded that 'at every training session, they got taller and I didn't'. His father, Bill, a wharfie, bowed to the inevitable and moved the family to Caulfield to be close to the stables. Gauci would get up at 2.30, start work mucking out the boxes and preparing the horses at 3.30, ride for other stables at 5 o'clock, ride for Frank King to whom he was indentured at 7 o'clock, bed the horses down at 9 o'clock, go to the park to cut fresh grass for the horses, then practise in the hay loft on a bag of chaff to hone his skills. By the time Gauci finished his apprenticeship, he had won four junior riding titles and one senior riding premiership. He won three more premierships before a stint in Hong Kong, then another on his return. His trainer said that Gauci was 'just a natural with balance and maturity... He was the best. He was phenomenal. You wouldn't get a better jockey.' His early mentor, Geoff Bamford, describes him as 'fearless, determined, and the most important ingredient, a natural'.

Politics

Others have made a name for themselves in politics, both at local as well as at State level.

Edward (Eddie) Micallef (b. 1941): Eddie was born in Australia. His father had migrated from Gharb in 1928, at the beginning of the depression and worked in various jobs, including cane-cutting in Babinda (Queensland), Broken Hill, and on the railways on the Nullarbor Plains, finally settling in Melbourne, where he worked for the Melbourne City Power station for 33 years. In 1983 Eddie was elected to the Victorian State Parliament representing Springvale for the Australian Labor Party (aligned to the Socialist Left faction). He was the first Maltese politician in the Victorian Parliament. In 1998 he lost pre-selection for the seat of Springvale.



Several Gozitans have become involved in local politics and have spent useful years as councillors or mayors in various cities. The following are some with a Gozitan connection.

Loreto John York: Loreto was born in Sliema on 14 December 1918. His parents came originally from Gozo, and his relatives still live in Ghajnsielem. Loreto John York was the first



Maltese to be elected mayor of an Australian city (Brunswick, Victoria). He was a councillor of the city of Brunswick, Melbourne, for six years and mayor in 1972-73 and again 1976-77.

Joseph Camilleri (b. 1927): Joseph was born in Gharb. His father Luigi had migrated to Australia in 1916, at the age of 22, and was one of those involved in the infamous incident of the *Gange*. He returned to Malta in 1926 but returned to Australia with his family in 1928 when Joseph was just over a year old. Joseph worked on various jobs, starting as an apprentice baker (1941). He then ran his own taxi service (1949-54), as well as managing a service station with his brother (1954-62) and dealing in new and used cars (1970-85). His interest in politics started in the late 1950s; in 1980 he was elected to Stirling Council (WA). He was elected mayor of Stirling (West Australia) in May 1983.



Charlie Apap was born in 1937 in Gharb, and migrated to Australia in 1955 on the *Sorriento*. He was elected councillor for the city of Keilor in August 1980 and in the same year he was elected mayor. He remained on the council until 1988.

When, in 1990, the Liberal government of the State of Victoria re-organized the various councils, Charlie was elected to council of Brimbank City in 1997 and became its mayor in 2000. He retired from the council in 2003.

Community Leaders

A number of persons have involved themselves in various activities directly relating to Maltese settlers in Australia, particularly taking part in the many associations that have mushroomed among Maltese settlers to serve the needs of the newly-established communities. These include:



Gorg Cini (b. 1933):

Gorg was born in Victoria (Gozo) where he was active in drama circles before migrating to Australia in 1954. He became involved in drama groups when he started the Malta Star

of the Sea Drama League in West Melbourne. He appeared as an actor on Australian Television in the series *Homicide*, including *The Edge of Happiness* and *When Greek meets Greek*. As producer/director of the Drama League, he produced among others, *Joan of Arc*, George Pisani's *Għanja tar-Rebbiegħa*, as well as *Passjoni ta' Sidna Ġesu Kristu* written by himself. He also wrote several other plays, including *Il-Hajja Pubblika ta' Sidna Ġesu Kristu*, *Iż-Żwieġ tal-Aħwa*, and *Hamsa f'Xibka Wahda*. Gorg has been very much involved with the social services aspect relating to the Maltese community, including the introduction of social services for Maltese in St Albans (1967), the building of the Malta Star of the Sea House (1978), and the founding the Maltese Pensioners Association of St Albans (1983). After a sojourn in Gozo (1988-94), he returned to Australia where he continued working with the Malta Star of the Sea Drama League and taking part in other social activities.



Chev. Joseph S. Attard (b. 1934):

Joe was born in Nadur, the eldest of four children. He migrated to Australia by air in November 1960 and soon became involved in voluntary work which has never ceased

since. He was funded to start the North Altona Migrant Community Centre, of which he served as president for several years. He has been involved in the founding of several ethnic associations, clubs, and societies around Melbourne. He has been ethnic broadcaster on several radio channels. He is also a justice of the peace, and has been given several awards in recognition of his work, including knight commander of the Order of St John (1965) and member of the Order of Australia (AM, 1979).

Peter Paul Portelli (b. 1952) was born in Nadur and emigrated to Australia in 1971 at the age of 19 and settled in Melbourne. In Australia he formed soccer teams at his work place and in 1979 he formed the Australia Nadur Association to organize the feast of Sts Peter and Paul and became its first president. In 1986 he became elected councillor of the city of Sunshine. During his term in office of councillor, the council named a street after Portelli's home town of Nadur. The street, called Nadur Court, has 19 houses and is in the suburb of St Albans. In 1987 the council of the city of Sunshine chose Nadur as its sister city. In 1991 he founded the Maltese Cultural Association Inc. In 1992 he acquired an old railways building and established the Maltese Cultural Centre in Albion. The centre was officially opened by Ian Baker, state member for Sunshine, the person who supported Portelli's request to acquire the premises. Portelli founded many associations some of which are still very active today. In November 1996, he formed the Order of Sts Peter and Paul to honour members of the community for work in their society. The Order today has priories in many States in Australia, Malta, Croatia, and Austria.

Several Gozitans have contributed significantly to the growing corpus of publications in Maltese in Australia. Of these one can mention the following:

Publishing and Broadcasting

Joe Axiaq was born in Żebbug, Gozo. He migrated to Australia in 1974, aged 19 years. He was one of the first Maltese to join the first group of broadcasters when ethnic broadcasting started in Melbourne in 1975, first on Radio 3ZZ and, a few months later, on Radio 3EA, today known as SBS



Radio. He has worked as a broadcaster, journalist, producer, and head of programmes. He is now head of the Maltese Programme at SBS radio in Victoria. Joe was involved in establishing the

Maltese Literature Group in 1979 and was in charge of buying and bringing Maltese books from Malta to Australia for school libraries and students of Maltese classes. He started writing in Maltese at a very young age and read his first poems and stories in the Children's Programme on Rediffusion. He wrote a number of short stories and radio plays that were broadcast on radio in Malta and Australia. His poems, short stories, and features of historical/folk nature were published in magazines and literary periodicals such as *Sagħtar*, *Forum*, *Lejn ix-Xefaq*, and the literary pages of many Maltese papers. Joe wrote also many children's stories and songs. He is the co-author of the poetry book *Bejn Vjaġġ u Iehor* which was published in Australia in 1979 with another two Maltese young poets. Joe's poetry and prose are also published in anthologies by the Maltese Literature Group (in Australia) and Għaqda Letterarja Maltija (in Malta). He won literary competitions such as the short story competition organized by Għaqda Letterarja Maltija in 1987. Today Joe writes short stories with Maltese/Australian themes which reflect the life of the Maltese in Australia, sometimes with a satirical angle. A number of these stories were also adapted and dramatized for radio. Joe's poetry is short; the verses are drawn from the simplicity of the daily life and open to individual interpretation. Malta and Gozo are also a source of inspiration, but not a nostalgic one as in much of the Maltese poetry in Australia.

Frank Zammit (b. 1944) was born in Victoria, Gozo but was brought up in Marsa. In January 1965, aged 20, Frank migrated to Sydney where he undertook further studies and graduated in commercial law and accountancy and later he obtained a diploma of information technology from the Automation Academy of Australia and for many years worked as a computer systems analyst



and programmer. After a short return to Malta (1981-84), he returned to Australia where he undertook further studies and training in journalism and broadcasting at the Special Broadcasting Services, Sydney, where he was employed as a broadcaster/journalist with the Maltese Programme team for ten

years. Earlier, after obtaining the required formal qualifications from NAATI, he had started working as a freelance interpreter/translator for various governmental institutions, mainly in health, social work, and the judicial court systems – a position he stills holds. He formed the Maltese Entertainment Organization of the Western Suburbs in Sydney. In 1988 he founded the Maltese Cultural Association of NSW and was its president until 1996. For many years he was also a member of the Maltese Community Council of NSW and he chaired various sub-committees regarding cultural activities and promotion of the Maltese language. Frank continued writing poetry, mostly in Maltese, and contributed articles in Maltese and English to various media, mostly in Australia and Malta. In 1988, he wrote the historical *Il-Ballata tal-Maltin ta' New Caledonia*, a 100-stanza ballad which was put to traditional Maltese music and published in the form of a kit – a book and cassette. In 1990 the Maltese Cultural Association of NSW published his second kit – *Il-Quddiesa bil-Għana Malti* and in 1992 *It-Triq Imqaddsa*. All these have since been performed regularly in various locations for the Maltese community. In 1996, Gozo Press published his 760-page anthology of Maltese poems – *Bejn Żewġ Gżiriet*. The year after, SBS TV chose this title to produce a documentary about Maltese culture – *Bridge between Two Islands* in which Frank also participated. Also in 1997, the University of Victoria published his English translation of Dun Karm Psaila's *Il-Jien u Lil hinn Minnu* (The Self and Beyond It). Since the publication of his first anthology *Bejn Żewġ Gżiriet*, the author has written over 400 other poems in Maltese and 300 in English, which are ready for publication. Frank also participated in a number of anthologies in Malta and Australia. Recently

he rendered a poetical translation in English of Prof. Oliver Friggieri's *Pawlu Ta' Malta* (Paul of Malta), which was very favourably received. In recognition of his work Frank has been accepted as a member of *L-Akkademja tal-Malti* (The Academy of Maltese Language). He was honoured with *The Maltese Millennium Cultural Award* by the Maltese Cultural Association of NSW Inc.



Pauline Curmi:

Pauline was born in Victoria, Gozo. She qualified as a teacher from the Malta Training College in conjunction with the London University Institute of Education (1964) and then taught English and French at St Mary

Grammar School, Gozo. In 1967 she migrated to Australia where she obtained a Diploma of Teaching (1982) and graduated B. Educ. (1984) at Phillip Institute of Technology. She then majored in Applied Linguistics, MA (Hons.), University of Melbourne (1994). She was awarded a diploma for professional creative writing from the Australian College of Journalism (2001). Her teaching career at secondary and tertiary level spans from 1967 to 2001. She taught English and French at Moonee Ponds Central School in Melbourne (1967); HSC Maltese at the Victorian Saturday School of Modern Languages (1984-88); tutored in the School of Community Studies at Footscray Institute of Technology; and lectured at Phillip Institute of Technology (1984-88). She held the position of senior teacher for English, French, and ESL at Mount St Joseph Girls College (1984-2001) and was faculty head for English Language and Literature Studies, Year 7-Year 12. She currently runs advanced courses in English Language and Literature for VCE students. Pauline is a member of the Fellowship of Australian Writers, Victoria and has served as member on various professional bodies. Her publications include: *L-Avventuri ta' Alice* (Gozo, 1998) / A creative translation of The Adventures of Alice in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll and *Holm u Fantasija* (1987) (On Dreams and Fantasy), a collection of original short stories and poems for children. She has also contributed

poetry to the anthology *Irjiegħ* (1986) published by the Maltese Literature Group, Victoria. She has written a set of 'Primary Readers' translated into Maltese for the Ministry of Education, Schools Division, Victoria (1986) and developed a bilingual programme for children, broadcasted on radio 3EA (1986). She has also written *Ir-Rokna tat-Tfal* (1984-85), a bilingual 'Children's Page' for The Maltese Herald, NSW, and produced *Merħba Bik* (1988), video-recorded interviews with Maltese Australian poets residing in Melbourne.

Other writers have concentrated on various other aspects of life in Australia. **Barry York** is perhaps the best-known migration historian of Maltese settlement in Australia. The son of Loreto York (mentioned above), he has written extensively about Maltese settlement. He has been responsible for organizing and maintaining the most comprehensive oral interview collection at the Australian National University (Canberra), where many migrants, mainly from the 1920s, now deceased, have been recorded. He was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in 2005. He has written a considerable number of books and articles, including: *Empire and Race: The Maltese in Australia 1881-1949* (1990) and *Maltese in Australia: Wanderings through the Maltese-Australian story from convict times to the present* (1988).



Romeo Cini (b. 1928) was born in Tripoli, Libya, from a family that migrated from Gozo in the 1800s. In 1942, during the Second World War, together with persons of Maltese origin he was deported to a concentration

camp in Italy until he was liberated in April 1945. He returned to Tripoli in October where life slowly returned to near normality, but left for Australia in 1961 with his family. At that time there were about 200 Maltese families from Tripoli, and in 1969, he succeeded in contacting many of them

for a re-union in the Newport Parish Hall to form the Tripoli Social Club. The first committee was chosen in April 1970 and Romeo was elected president. They found an old place at the Salvation Army in Newport, which was demolished and rebuilt in just eight months where members of the club could meet. At this time he started issuing the monthly newsletter *Il Corriere Tripolino di Melbourne* which was also distributed among other Maltese from Tripoli scattered around the world. His experiences during his internment during the war are summarized in his publication: *La Nostra Storia* (1992) in Italian with an English translation by Dr George Boffa. The book proved so popular that it was reprinted. Romeo is still active as president of the Tripoli Social Club.



Raymond C. Xerri (b. 1969) Dr Raymond Xerri was born in New York City in 1969 of Gozitan parents from Qala. In March 1994 he was appointed first secretary and commissioner of oaths in the diplomatic corps of Malta and served at the Malta High Commission in

Canberra, Australia (July 1995-98). During these years, Raymond was exposed to thousands of migrants and their life experiences. In March 1995, he co-founded the Australian-Qala Association in Melbourne. Drawing from this experience, he was inspired firstly to organize the archives of the Malta High Commission in Canberra and from these manifests and records to write two volumes relating to ships carrying Maltese and Gozitan migrants to Australia. In 2002, Xerri was admitted to the degree of doctor of philosophy at Victoria University, Melbourne. Dr Xerri is an author, editor, and producer of a number of publications and multimedia and multilingual productions. He has received numerous international awards and is the initiator and editor of the series *Gozo and the Gozitans*. His books include *Directory of Ships and Aircraft carrying Maltese and Gozitan Migrants to Australia (15 June, 1934 - 30 December, 1964)* (1997); *Directory of Ships and Aircraft carrying*

Maltese and Gozitan Migrants to Australia (January, 1965 – 15 January, 1995) (2000); *Gozitan Crossing – The impact of migration and return migration of an island community* (2005); *A Decade of Australian Qala Association* (2005).

Art

Victor Grech was born in Gozo (1942) and studied at the Teachers' Training College at Ta' Giorni in Malta and obtained his teacher's certificate in 1965. He studied art at the Government School in Msida and clay-modelling at STS (Paola 1973-74). He graduated BA (Hons.) in 1976 from the University of London in History of Art. In 2000 he was awarded a certificate in religious education. He spent 20 years teaching in Malta, including teaching art at the Lyceum. At the age of 37, he migrated to Sydney in October 1979 where he continued his teaching career at Bankstown (NSW). His work has been exhibited at various venues. In Malta he participated in some collective exhibitions including 'Sacred Art' at the Catholic Institute and also with the Malta Society of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce. He also had artworks exhibited for some years to help fund-raising activities by the Committee of the Physically Handicapped Rehabilitation Fund. He also took part in the 'Maltese Talents Abroad' at the National Museum of Fine Arts, Valletta, in Jan/Feb 2000 where he exhibited a small sculpture called *L-Oraklu* (The Oracle) which indicates the influence Malta still held on the sculptor. He designed the bronze blocks which are attached to the walls of the Maltese Australian Bi-centennial monument at Pendle Hill NSW and on which there is sculpted the history of emigration to Australia. Victor has also been involved with the Maltese community in other ways, including participating with the Cittadini Theatrical Group founded by the late Virgilio Zammit, where he makes some of the scenery.

Academic Success

A number of second generation Gozitans managed to get a tertiary education. A not untypical example is that of **Penny Antoinette Theresa Cefai**, whose parents hail from Zebbug and left for Australia in 1960. Penny was born in Melbourne's West



in 1972. She is a barrister practising in personal injury law in Melbourne. She was admitted to the Victorian Bar practising as a barrister, specializing in plaintiff and defendant personal injury law.

One pleasing feature of migrant life is the opportunities presented to younger people to continue their education, whether as full-time or part-time students. A not untypical example is that of **Victoria ('Vicky') Borg** who started her academic career with the Adult Basic Education Program at the Western Institute (1987), and this was followed by a BA in psychology (1994) from Victoria University. She obtained first-class honours in her BA (Hons.) with a thesis on 'Ethnicity and Adjustment: A comparative study of Maltese and Anglo-Australian adolescents' and her Ph.D. in 2005 with a thesis: 'The life satisfaction of adolescents: A cross-cultural study in Malta and Australia'. She worked as project worker with the frail aged with the Maltese Community Council in Victoria (1995-96), as tutor, and, more recently, as lecturer in psychology at Victoria University. She is also very much involved with community affairs, being a member of several Maltese associations (e.g. Maltese Literature Group, Xaghra Association) and other generic associations



(Wellness Promotion Unit at Victoria University). She has been active in various committees, including Friends of Western Institute, Workers of Maltese Background, educational programmes at Marion College mother's club, as well as on sub-committees determining new policies at St Albans South primary school. She has received a number of awards, including the Australian Postgraduate Award (1996), the Harmonic 65 Award for an outstanding piece of work by a student of Maltese background (1996), the Maltese Literature Group Award (1997), and the Air Malta-World Aviation Systems scholarship (1998). She has presented her work at several conferences both in Australia and in Malta. Her publications include *The Maltese Cultural Kit* (1996) which was published under the auspices of the Maltese Community Council of Victoria; *Maltese Community's Clustering Support Project for the Frail Aged* (1996) which was published under the auspices of the Maltese Community Council of Victoria; *Sex differences in pathological gambling using gaming machines* (1997); *Ethnicity and Adjustment: A Comparative Study of Maltese and Anglo-Australian Adolescents* (1999), in M. Cauchi, H. Borland, & R. Adams, Maltese Background Youth. Melbourne: Europe-Australian Institute Victoria University.

These few examples illustrate the sort of contribution that many Gozitans have made to their country of settlement.

More information may be obtained from the new publication: Maurice Cauchi, *Maltese Achievers in Australia* (2006). [e-mail: mnc25@optusnet.com.au]

Professor Maurice Cauchi was the head of the Pathology Department at the University of Malta. He is currently retired in Australia, where he is also President of the Maltese Community Council of Victoria.

Lacemaking in Malta

CONSIGLIA AZZOPARDI

Introduction

The technique of producing 'lace' made its debut in Northern Italy, at the turn of the sixteenth century. This involved the weaving of threads by means of either needles or bobbins or both, according to a drawn pattern.

Merchants travelling across Europe carried the craft to the north as far as Scandinavia. Flanders, specialising in the manufacture of flax and linen and its spinning (sometimes as fine as the human hair), skillfully adapted the patterns to its industry, aiming at producing masterpieces that remained unparalleled to the present day.

When it reached the Mediterranean, lacemaking utilised a rather coarser thread made out of cotton, wool and silk, creating a different style of lace, although produced by the same basic stitches as the fine lace worked in Northern Europe.

During the seventeenth century, Maltese merchants travelled to the Iberian Peninsula with cotton goods. On their way they called at important ports such as Genoa in Italy, Marseilles in France and Barcelona in Spain, and picked up lace pieces that fetched good prices at the markets there. These merchants brought samples back home, and this enabled Maltese people to study the techniques, materials and tools used.

This eventually developed into know-how of the fascinating craft in Malta, where the product greatly appealed to the Maltese people especially females and children. No wonder that lacemaking in Malta bears striking resemblance to that of Genoa in style, to the Torchon lace made in France, and to the Catalanian in technique!

Boom in Silk Lace

Mid-eighteenth century Europe witnessed a boom in the silk industry, when not only luxurious silk fabric textiles were produced, but also silk thread

in white, cream and black colours, intended for embroidery, weaving, and lacemaking. Although much of the silk required for the home consumption in exotic costumes worn by Maltese nobility, well-to-do merchants and elaborate church vestments, was imported mainly from Sicily, yet silk spinners, weavers and dyers had professionally established themselves in Malta. As a result lace started to be manufactured in Malta.



Towards mid-nineteenth century silk lace made in Malta was remodelled by the combined efforts of Lady Hamilton Chichester and Lady Sarah Austin who worked together to revive what remained of the craft by providing new patterns that appealed to the contemporary market. The Great Exhibition of London which took place repeatedly in the decades of the second half of the century, promoted both 'Blondes' and 'White Thread Lace' as Maltese Lace, utilizing the motif of the 'Eight-Pointed Cross' by the Order of St John in every piece of lace, as if to hallmark its identity. "Blondes" was destined to remain synonymous with Maltese lace well into the twentieth century and indeed up to the present times, through the production of innumerable pieces as collars, shawls, stoles, hooded capes and whole garments.

Linen Maltese Lace

Thread Laces have been popular with most peasant lacemakers at all times, as these did not need as much care and pampering as the delicate silk which was so easily ruined even by strong daylight and dust in the atmosphere. So when in the last years of the nineteenth century the old methods of the seventeenth century returned in fashion, the local lacemakers utilised flax thread to produce tablecloths, bed covers, curtains and towels. The patterns that were used for silk could also be used for working with linen. As a result there was a revival in lacemaking at this time and the “Malta Industries Association” was established. The association promoted lacework made with imported Irish linen thread and developed an export market to the British Isles.

Several schools were founded to instruct girls and young women how to make lace. One such important school was established at the Casa Industriale of Gozo, an orphanage run by the nuns under the patronage of Dun Guzepp Diacono in 1897. Besides providing teachers for the subject, Diacono continuously supplied the house with newly adapted patterns for the thread available and the product was used to supply the shop operating at the same orphanage.

Up to the third quarter of the twentieth century rows of lacemakers all along the road sitting with their face to the wall was a common scene in Gozo, attracting on-looking tourists. These lacemakers would proudly show up their finished laces hoping to sell it there and then, adding a few shillings to their husbands’ income. Lace merchants were found in all the villages of Gozo, who after negotiating a good price for lace products, often in exchange for food and clothing, they would travel every week to the shops at Valletta and at the port area in Malta from where lace items were resold or exported. These merchants fared quite well in the dealing in lace products that was being produced in great amounts on in Gozo, where the craft seems to have been more deeply rooted.

Unfortunately, with the opening-up of factories in the 1960s, most young women gave up their lacemaking, and often destroyed traditional patterns and tools of the craft, including pillows and bobbins,

and went to seek more profitable jobs outside home. They had very little time, if any, to exercise the craft. School offering lacemaking classes to girls were also on the decline, and the last school closed down in the 1990s.

Fortunately some interest remained in lacemaking and lacemaking was introduced as a subject in the Gozo School of Art, catering not only for schoolgirls but also for adults who were still interested to learn the craft.

Lacemaking classes in both Malta and Gozo are today conducted at MCAST and other Adult Training Schools especially during evening sessions, and various short courses are organised by Local Councils in various localities.

The Lacemaking Programme at University Gozo Centre was set up in the middle of the nineteen nineties. Initially craft classes were offered. Eventually the programme was given permission by the University of Malta to offer a Diploma course in ‘Lace Studies’.

The Malta Lace Guild was set up in June 2000 with the aim of bringing together all those interested in the art of lace; this is being achieved by the quarterly magazine published in both languages – English and Maltese. Other small groups meet regularly at central places where lace experiences are shared

The ‘Koperattiva Ghawdxija tal-Bizzilla u Artigjanat’ does its best to maintain the high standard of genuine Maltese lace to supply of the local market, and to satisfy the demand for lace tailored to order. Today one does not see many lacemakers sitting at their doorstep any more, because these prefer to sit behind closed doors, protected from the high volume of traffic on our streets.

On the International side OIDFA promotes the running of lace exhibitions by the organisation of an International Congress of lace every two years in any lacemaking country. Besides providing an opportunity to display Malta lace the lace congress gives a chance to Maltese and Gozitan lacemakers to interact with lacemakers from all over the world.

Consiglia Azzopardi is the co-ordinator of the Lace Making Programme at the University Gozo Centre..

Wied il-Mielah - Valley Restoration and Management of Storm Water Project

A Project partly funded through the European Regional Development Fund as part of the Structural funds for Malta 2004 -2006

PAUL CURMI

Introduction

The Għarb Local Council was the first Local Council in Malta to receive funding under the Structural Funds allocated to Malta by the European Union for period 2004 - 2006. The funding amounted to 145,000 Euros and represented 73 per cent of the value of the project whilst the Local Council itself financed the remaining 27 per cent.

The project was satisfactorily concluded during 2006. Following a site visit by the Commissioner for Regional Policy, Danuta Hübner, earlier this year, the project was also selected as one of the success stories for EU Regional Policy.



Commissioner Hübner signing the guest book after having planted a tamarisk tree in the Wied il-Mielah site, Għarb.

Location of Wied il-Mielah

Wied il-Mielah is one of the eleven valleys found within the locality of Għarb. It starts from just under

the Ta' Pinu Sanctuary and extends along a 2324 meter stretch towards the coastal cliffs on the western part of Gozo. It is one of the more picturesque valley found across the Gozitan countryside. Being slightly afar from the residential area, the valley lies in a tranquil and natural environment. Very few in fact are aware that at the very end of the valley, nature has carved a large window within the rocks through natural erosion, which (window), is very similar to the famous blue window at Dwejra.



The natural window at Wied il-Mielah at sunset.

Background to the EU funded project

Regrettably, over the years, as a result of lack of planning and management no corrective measures were taken to maintain the natural landscape of the Wied il-Mielah valley area:

- sewer mains were placed along the valley basin and not maintained;
- sewage was being discharged off the coast;
- foul smell from leaking pipes became the order of the day;
- rubble walls were left to crumble under heavy rains and were not maintained;
- fertile soil was being gradually eroded;

- dams within the valley, were left to pile with debris in such a way that these no longer served their original purpose;
- no proper monitoring and control was kept on a nearby landfill.



The degraded valley before intervention works started.

Objectives of the project

This state of neglect prompted the Għarb Local Council to seek ways to redress this precarious situation by giving the green light for an environmental conservation programme and address the degradation of this scenic valley.



Rubble walls under re-construction.

Project Description

The project mainly involved:

- taking stock of the environmental degradation through a number of surveys;
- repairing and rebuilding of derelict rubble walls;
- clearing of debris from within the existing dams and carrying out repair works thereto;
- promoting the area as a recreational spot;

- monitoring the implementation of another project to stop the sewage outflow off the coast;
- stopping the loss of fertile soil;
- promoting environmental awareness by protecting wildlife and nature,
- involving different stakeholders in the rehabilitation programme;
- launching of an awareness programme on the rich Gozitan countryside

Results achieved

As a result of this initiative the Council has:

- removed 10,850 Cubic m. of rubble and debris from the valley basin;
- removed 1,207 Cubic metres of fertile soil from the valley and re-deposited it into the nearby fields for agriculture purposes;
- rebuilt 4,255 sq.m. of derelict rubble walls
- involved the participation of different stakeholders - school children, farmers, members of the Gozo Business and Tourism communities;
- carried out systematic promotional campaign on all local media - press, TV and radio stations and magazines;
- raised public awareness of a prime natural site of which, very few were previously aware of;
- increased agricultural activity as area has become more accessible

Future Perspectives

The rehabilitation process has created more awareness and support from the local community to adopt an environmental approach towards the site. As a result of the project the EU funding has helped to translate wishful thinking into practical reality.

The Għarb Local Council will now proceed with its plans to continue upgrading the environment of the area. More Local Councils in Malta are expected to follow the Għarb Local Council's initiative by undertaking similar environmental projects utilising the new EU funding schemes for Malta, to the benefit of the community at large.

Paul Curmi is the Leader of the Wied il-Mielah project.

Recent Activities at the University Gozo Centre

JOSEPH CALLEJA

The Gozo Lace Day

On 29 April, the Lace-Making Programme at the University Gozo Centre organised the annual event 'Gozo Lace Day' for the eleventh consecutive year. The event consisted of a number of exhibitions and demonstrations of Gozo lace and talks on matters related to lacemaking. Present for the event were Hon. Anton Tabone, Speaker of the House of Representatives, His Grace Mgr. Mario Grech, Bishop of Gozo, Professor Lino Briguglio, Director of the University Gozo Centre and Ms Consiglia Azzopardi, coordinator of the Lace-Making Programme.

His Grace Mgr. Mario Grech, when addressing participants expressed his admiration for the work carried out at the University Gozo Centre and said he was impressed with the variety of courses being offered at the centre. He said that lacemaking, like any other human work, should elevate the dignity of the person not only because lacemaking has economic implications but also because of its cultural, social and artistic dimensions. He continued that from lacemaking we can derive a lesson in that life is made up of different interwoven strands and success in life depends on our ability to maximise the benefits of these different strands.



His Grace Mgr. Mario Grech talking to lacemakers during the Lace Day 2007.

In his talk Hon. Anton Tabone, congratulated Prof Briguglio and his staff at the Centre in particular

Consiglia Azzopardi who directs the Lace-Making Programme within the centre. He said that he hopes that the diploma course in Lace Studies, which is an interdisciplinary one, will one day be elevated to a degree course.

In her introductory talk Ms Consiglia Azzopardi mentioned the three-year course on lacemaking, which has been offered at the University Gozo Centre for many times. She stated that the idea of offering a University course leading to a Diploma in Lace Studies has become a reality. She distributed certificates to candidates who completed the lacemaking courses. She said that this year the programme will also include an international summer school for international students.

Visit by the Italian H.E. Ambassador Paolo Andrea Trabalza

On 2nd April the Italian Ambassador for Malta, H.E. Paolo Andrea Trabalza, paid a visit to the University Gozo Centre where he met with Gozitan artists, members of Parliament, mayors and others persons who work in the cultural scene.



The Italian Ambassador H.E. Paolo Andrea Trabalza speaking during the meeting for artists.

The aim of this visit was the launching of a competition for Gozitan artists, organised by the Embassy of Italy in Malta in order to commemorate the bicentenary from the birth of Giuseppe Garibaldi who was born on 4 July 1807.

Visit by HRH Princess Benedikte of Denmark

On 6 April HRH Princess Benedikte of Denmark paid a short visit to the Centre. She was met at the Centre by Ms Consiglia Azzopardi, co-ordinator of the Lace-Making Programme. HRH Princess Benedikte had the opportunity to watch a number of lacemakers who were present at the Centre sitting at their pillow. She was very interested in the current techniques that the lacemakers were using. The princess also admired a display of Maltese lace items.



Consiglia Azzopardi showing a number of lace items to HRH Princess Benedikte.

Diploma in Facilitating Inclusive Education

On 19 January, a course leading to a Diploma in Facilitating Inclusive Education was inaugurated. The course, which is spread over two-years on a part-time basis, is being organised for the first time at the University Gozo Centre by the Faculty of Education of the University of Malta. The course is being run with the support of the Ministry for Gozo. Seventy-four students are attending the course.



Hon. Giovanna Debono (fourth from left) speaking during the inauguration of the course in Facilitating Inclusive Education.

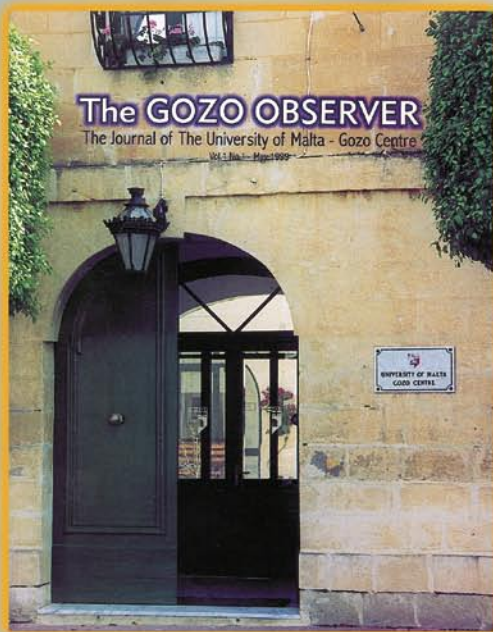
Publications

The 15th edition of the Gozo Observer was published in December 2006. It contains a number of interesting articles on Gozitan affairs. Godwin Vella describes two late 16th century reports on the fortifications of Gozo. Patronage in Late Medieval Gozo is treated in an article by Charles Dalli. Maryrose Vella writes about climate change and its effects on small islands such as Gozo. The management of beaches, yacht marinas, which are of direct interest to the Gozitan economy, are considered in an article by Anton Micallef. In another article Saviour Formosa analyses crime in Gozo while George Borg gives an interesting informative feature on the Gozo Public Library and its subsidiaries.

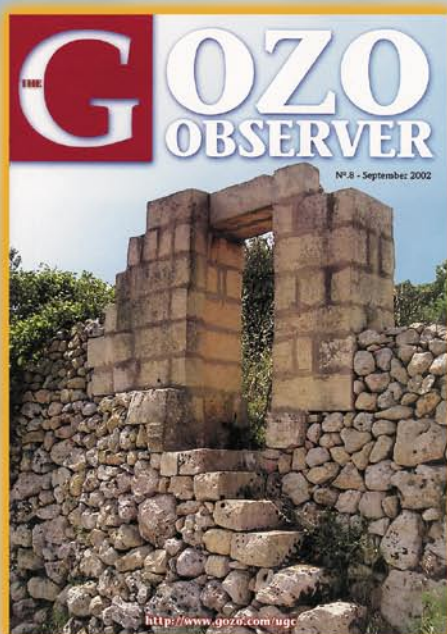
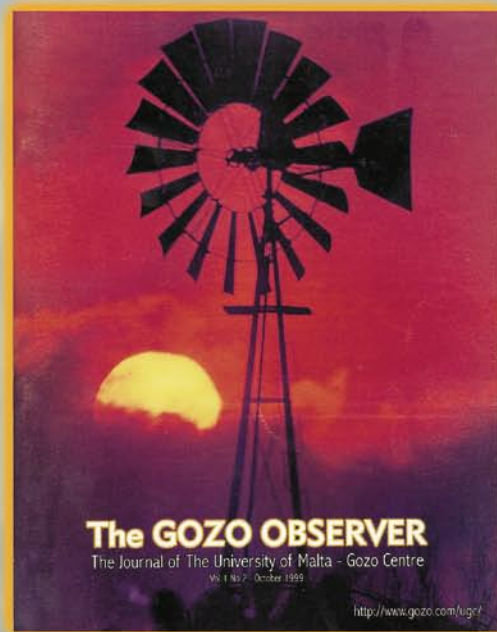


Free copies of the Gozo Observer and more information can be obtained from the University Gozo Centre, Mgarr Road, Xewkija, Gozo Tel: 21564559; Fax 21564550 email: ugc@um.edu.mt.

Joseph Calleja is Administrative Officer at the University Gozo Centre.



The Gozo Observer is published twice a year by the University of Malta Gozo Centre. It contains articles relating to all aspects of life in Gozo, including culture, education, business, arts and literature. Those wishing to submit articles for inclusion in the Gozo Observer should contact the Editor of the magazine (contact details below)



The Gozo Observer is distributed without charge, upon request, to interested readers. Current and past issues of the magazine can be obtained, subject to availability, from

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