

# THE MALTA POLICE FORCE BAND

200<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CONCERT



ON THE OCCASION OF THE BICENTENARY FROM THE FOUNDATION OF THE MALTA POLICE FORCE

1814 - 2014

## THE MALTA POLICE FORCE BAND



The Malta Police Force Band was established by the then Commissioner of Police, Lieutenant Colonel Henry William Bamford OBE in 1920 which band was formed up of bandsmen emanating from the Kings Own Regiment and the Malta Royal Artillery, under the charge of its first Director of Music, Mro. E. Magro, being an ex-director of the Commander-in-Chief Orchestra in Malta.

Due to service exigencies, the Band was disbanded for several times and it was last reactivated in 1994, on the 180th Anniversary of the foundation of the Force, when it made its debut in the presence of the Moscow Military Ensemble and the famous Banda dell' Arma dei Carabinieri during a march past and Guard of Honour at St. George's Square, Valletta.

Hence, this year, the Band is commemorating its 94th Anniversary since its establishment and its 20th Anniversary since its last reactivation.

Over the past twenty years, the Band performed on numerous occasions throughout the Maltese Islands which performances were enthusiastically received by those in attendance.

During December 1999, the Malta Police Force Band participated for the first time in a massed-bands display with the Armed Forces of Malta Band, in Valletta in order to mark the 25th Anniversary from when Malta gained its status as a Republic. Since 2004, the Band has been invited to participate during the Malta Military Tattoo together with several other foreign bands. In 2005, the Band also had the opportunity to perform in Sicily.

During 2002, 2005 and 2011, the Band recorded its first three compact discs including some of the best numbers from its wide music repertoire ranging from military marches to classic and popular music. During the year 2004 the Band introduced for the first time a dancing ensemble formed up of band members. In 2006, the Police Band was further complimented with the Pipes and Drums.

The Band has currently a complement of forty-five musicians who are all regular members of the Force, hailing from various Districts and Branches in Malta. The Band is under the baton of its Director of Music, Senior Inspector Anthony Cassar, the fifth musical director since its establishment. The Band's role is to fulfill several commitments in support of the Malta Police Force during ceremonial occasions. Throughout the year the Band also holds frequent displays and musical concerts. These are held during national and other festivities organised by the Malta Tourism Authority, The Malta Council for Culture and the Arts, The Ministry for Gozo, Local Councils and charitable fund raising activities in Malta and Gozo.

Band rehearsals are periodically held after normal police duties at the Ta` Kandja Police Complex.

The Band strives to achieve the highest standards and aims to be a bridge between the Corps and the general public.





THE MALTA POL

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#### Anniversary Fanfare & Theme - Ray Zammit

Gibraltar - Lt. Col. Richard A. Waterer

 Khachaturian Portrait – Aram Khachaturian

 Waltz from Masquerade Suite & Sabre Dance from Ballet Gayane

**Granada – Agustin Lara** - Arr. Alfred Farrugia Soprano Marita Bezzina

Hector the Hero – James Scott Skinner Malta Police Pipe Band & Violinist George Curmi

The Chronicles of Narnia Harry Gregson-Williams - Arr. Paul Murtha

Me and My Little Gypsy Boy – Arr. Joe Brown Violinists George & Bernard Curmi (Puse`)

**Barcelona** – Freddie Mercury/ Mike Moran Arr. Ray Sciberras – Soprano Ruth Sammut Casingena & Neville Refalo

> Ouverture Solennelle 1812 – Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky Arr. T. Conway Brown

> > -Interval -

Hosted by Moira Delia, Fra Director of Music – Senior I



## **CE FORCE BAND**

: Hall ence Centre, Valletta per 2014

Invincible – Thomas Bergerson

Unchained Melody – Alex North Soprano Joan Mangion

Let it Go – K.A. Lopez & R. Lopez Arr. George De Bono – Singer Ritienne Azzopardi & Dancer Christabel Sultana

**Everlasting** – Ivan Grech Arr. Joe Brown – Ivan Grech & Melvin Caruana from Winter Moods

**Days of My Life** – Ivan Grech Arr. Joe Brown – Ivan Grech & Melvin Caruana from Winter Moods

Mull of Kintyre – Paul McCartney and Wings Malta Police Pipe Band and Ivan Grech & Melvin Caruana from Winter Moods

> E Lucevan le Stelle - Tosca – Giacomo Puccini Tenor Joseph Calleja

> > O Sole Mio – Eduardo di Capua Tenor Joseph Calleja

Marigold – Ivan Grech - Arr. Joe Brown Tenor Joseph Calleja and Ivan Grech & Melvin Caruana from Winter Moods

National Anthem – Robert Samut

Zammit and Christine Dalli pector Mro. Anthony Cassar

### SENIOR INSPECTOR ANTHONY CASSAR Director of Music of the Malta Police Force Band



Senior Police Inspector Anthony Cassar was born in Zebbug, Malta on 5<sup>th</sup>. December, 1961 and was educated at St. Joseph's Secondary Technical College, Paola. At the age of 9, he started his musical tuition at the De Paule Band Club, Paola. He studied elementary theory of music under the tutorship of Mro Joe Psaila and the B flat Baritone under the tutorship of Mro Paul Borg. At the age of 10 was already a full-time member with his village band and played with numerous band societies throughout these Islands including the King's Own Band of Valletta. He furthered his studies in harmony and music studies under the tutorship of Mro Lawrence Borg and Professor Charles Zammit.

He joined the Police Force as a Constable in 1986, was promoted to the rank of Police Inspector in 1987 and became a Senior Police Inspector in 1995. During 1997 he was awarded the Employee of the Year (in Higher Management) certificate by the Zebbug Local Council, whilst in 2004 he was awarded the Gharfien il-Hila Award by the Qormi Local Council for his service rendered to the Community. Senior Inspector Cassar was also awarded the Long Efficency Service Medal in July of 2005.

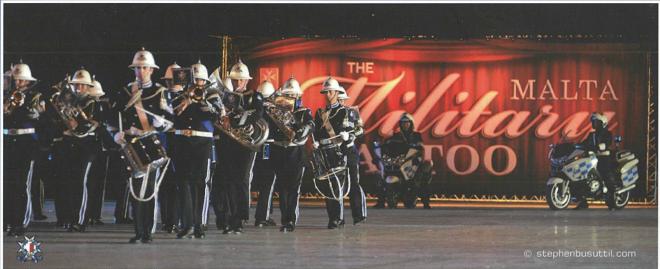
In 1986 he was appointed Director of Music of the Malta Police Force Band for the first time whilst also being tasked to carry out the Band's reactivation during 1994. He has since been directing the Band for the last twenty eight years.

Mro Cassar composed quite a number of military, festival and funeral marches.

He is married to Mary-Lou nee' Axiak and has two children, Graziabelle-Faye and Gabriel-Omar.















All photos courtesy of Stephen Busuttil