



You are Invited for the
GOZO PHILATELIC SOCIETY'S
18TH. ANNUAL PHILATELIC
EXHIBITION

“A to Zed Stamps”

To be held from

**03 to 09 November 2017 at the
Gozo Ministry Exhibition Halls.**

St Francis Square, Victoria, Gozo.

Items on show will include Vintage and Modern Stamps,
Postal history, Rare Postal Items and much more.

There will also be on sale, Albums, Cards, Stamps and
everything imaginable for
both the Young, Beginners and Professional Collectors.

Stamp Collectors, Students and the General Public are invited.

Entrance is FREE!

MaltaPost will issue a commemorative postmark on
12 November 2017 from its Victoria, Gozo Branch Post Office.
And the Gozo Philatelic Society will issue a commemorative
postcard and personalised stamp in a limited edition.



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the provision of a point of reference and co-ordination.

Front cover

**TO ALL MEMBERS
PLEASE ENCOURAGE A FRIEND OR
A RELATIVE TO JOIN OUR SOCIETY**

GOZO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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MEMBERSHIP PER ANNUM for local Senior Members €5.00
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Date of birth _____)

Signature

Date

Introduced by _____ Member No. _____

**GPS NEWSLETTER—Quarterly Organ of
The Gozo Philatelic Society**

First issued on the 12th February 2000 — Editor: Austin Masini — Issue No. 69 (3/2017)

Opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the Committee’s official policy.

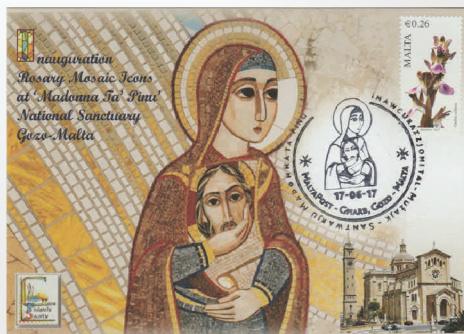
Correspondence (and material for publication) should be addressed to:

The Editor, GPS, PO Box 10, VCT 1000, Gozo, Malta.

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(65) G.P.S. Diary

Antoine Vassallo Gozo Philatelic Society Secretary,
VO/0546



- 6 June 2017** Anthony Grech produces a Card for Victoria International Arts Festival anniversary handstamp.
- 17 June** Anthony Grech produces a Card for Ta' Pinu Icons handstamp. *picture on page 4*
- 5 July Il-Haġar** showcase highlights Music on Malta stamps on the occasion of the *se-tenant* personalized stamp commemorating the 20th VIAF. *Picture on page 4*
- 28 July** Committee discusses the Juncker collection and the November Exhibition
- 3 August Il-Haġar** showcase displays a range of World War I cards, during centennial remembrances
- 14 August** Anthony Grech produces 2 Cards for the Assumption statues set
- 29 August** Anthony Grech produces a Card for Xagħra Basilica handstamp. *(See picture below)*
- September** issue (#74) of the Turin-based “Filatelia Religiosa” again features GPS Covers



CELEBRITY PHILATELISTS (10)

Antoine Vassallo highlights famous stampcollectors

Covers in the Air



Amelia Earhart (1897-1937) captured the public's imagination as an exceptional woman who broke barriers in the air - but also as a role model for women in America.

A major accomplishment was in May 1932: she became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean, between Newfoundland and Ireland. The feat ensured worldwide acclaim and a place in the annals of aviation history.



Philately supported Earhart's career. The sale of her flown philatelic souvenirs helped offset the expenses of her aeronautic adventures and further ensured her legacy in aerophilately. She personally collected examples of her mail - and exhibited them at the Third International Philatelic Exhibition ("TIPEX") held in New York in May 1936, where she also spoke and distributed exhibitor awards.

She decided that her next trip would be around the world. In June 1937 she went to Miami with Fred Noonan as her navigator, leaving behind important communication and navigation instruments to increase fuel space. The pair did make it to New Guinea but their last communication was on 2nd July, when fuel possibly ran out; however the disappearance remains a popular mystery.

They carried approximately 5,000 souvenir covers in the nose cargo compartment of her Lockheed Electra airplane. Through Gimbels stamp galleries, collectors paid \$5 each for an autographed, cacheted cover in advance of the flight. Earhart was to add stamps and acquire postmarks along the route; reports indicate that she did receive postmarks before take-off





in Oakland and again in Karachi.

The 75th anniversary in 2012 merited a four-stamp miniature sheet from Burundi; the 80th many more - from all over!

But numerous philatelic items commemorate Earhart. Examples are stamps issued by the United States and Serbia, in 1963 and 2007 respectively. Much earlier, Mexico had issued an overprinted stamp - now rare and expensive - in 1935 on the occasion of her goodwill flight to the country.

Amelia Earhart's personal collection of flown mail with photographs and a leather flight suit were donated by Elsie M. Williamson, assisted by Gimbel's Jacques Minkus, to the Philatelic and Postal History Division of the U.S. National Museum in 1968. She had acquired them directly from Earhart's widower, George Palmer Putnam (himself an author and explorer who had published Charles Lindbergh who, in 1927, had become the first person to make a solo nonstop trans-Atlantic flight).

In any case, this celebrity philatelist remains a prominent personalty, with "sightings" reported quite often!



Rembrandt's Artistic Philately ⁽¹⁾



Antoine Vassallo

Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn (to give him his full name) was a prolific and versatile Dutch draughtsman, painter, and printmaker. He was born in 1606 or 1607 and died on 4 October 1669.

In preparation for this distinguished artist's 350th death anniversary, I intend highlighting a stamp each from some of the numerous issuers (in alphabetical, rather than chronological, order) which have reproduced his works.

(1) This 1978 Easter stamp, available in a miniature sheet too, was the first Rembrandt issued by

1



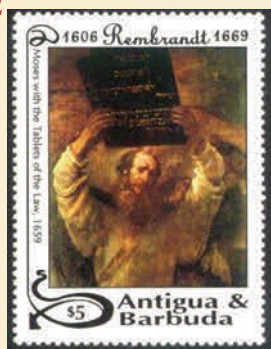
Aitutaki - but not the last. It reproduces (with a slight spelling error) a 1648 Oil on canvas, exhibited at the Paris Musée du Louvre.

Biblical subjects offered Rembrandt the opportunity for his greatest contribution during his mature period. During the 1630s he had used the Bible as a source for dramatic

motifs; his middle phase emphasized calm and intimate subjects; now the figure of Christ becomes pre-eminent.

In works like this, Rembrandt expresses the character of Jesus without any stage-like aspects. Christ's tender presence fills the room. We are drawn into the

2



sacred mood of the scene through the emotion of the figures, as well as the mystery of light enveloping them. Rembrandt in fact returned several times to the Emmaus theme, the composition of this version relying on Italian Renaissance examples - and is one of the artist's most serenely classical masterpieces.

(2) In 1993 **Antigua & Barbuda** offered a choice of Rembrandt reproductions, including this Moses and the Law Tablets painted in 1659. This Oil on canvas, now in Berlin's Staatliche Museen, was probably painted for Amsterdam's magnificent city

hall. The subject testifies to the identification of the Dutch Republic with the Children of Israel, so that the Old Testament Book of Exodus was seen as both prophecy and celebration of the founding and perpetuation of the Dutch State.

(3) From an **Aruba** 2008 set of Rembrandt drawings prepared by Nigel Matthew, I show a "Self-portrait in studio attire". Though housed at Amsterdam's *Museum het Rembrandthuis*, art historians are unsure whether this brown ink drawing from about 1655 is actually his work.

(4) Antigua's set was overprinted the next year for just **Barbuda** (like so many others in this period). I now feature the so-called Jewish Bride

4



from about 1665: it may have been a commissioned

portrait of a couple in the guise of a biblical pair (such as Isaac

and Rebecca), belonging to Rembrandt's most brilliant colouristic creations. This Oil on canvas (now in Amsterdam's *Rijksmuseum*) recalls a certain type of Venetian Renaissance painting - and an intimate relationship between the two was intended by the artist!



3

/cont page 10

(5) The numerous 2003 **Benin** stamps included various Rembrandts (also within miniature sheets): I choose this reproduction of the spectacularly dramatic Belshazzar's Feast, an Oil on canvas from about 1636 which is now housed at London's National Gallery.

5



(6) For twenty years Rembrandt lived on the edge of the largest Jewish community in Holland and he had numerous Jewish acquaintances, including distinguished rabbi author Menasseh ben Israel who may have provided him with the form of the cryptic

Aramaic inscription (from chapter 5 of the Old Testament Book of Daniel) that appears on the wall. The scene depicted here illustrates the episode of the great feast at which wine was drunk from the vessels looted by Nebuchadnezzar from the temple in Jerusalem. Only Daniel was able to interpret the supernatural inscription which foretold Belshazzar's defeat and the partition of his kingdom.

6



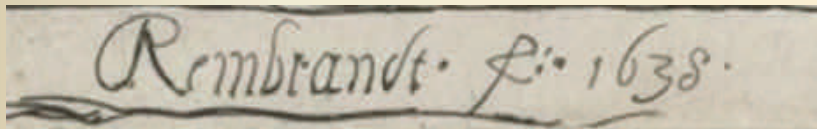
(7) **Bulgaria** was one of the very first countries to use a Rembrandt on a stamp. This one, issued in 1956 as part of a monochrome Cultural Anniversaries set designed by B Angelushev, reproduces a self portrait from 1669. This late Oil on canvas, now at the National Gallery in London, is a clear example of the quality in dramatic facial expressions he experimented with so successfully.

7



(7) This stamp, issued by **Burundi** for the 1974 International Correspondence Week, shows the artist's son Titus. This Oil on canvas, dated to 1655, is in Rotterdam's Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen. He was trained by his father as a painter but hardly any trace of his artistic activities survives! However he did have an art-dealing business, continued until his death - a few months before the illustrious van Rijn.

Titus was depicted various times but here he is seen as a schoolboy, seated at his desk, day-dreaming over his homework. The portrait is painted very freely - the broad marks of the palette knife can be seen clearly! Since the boy was born in 1641, he appears to be represented as younger than he actually was: his features seem to be more suited to about nine years, rather than fourteen. Maybe his father was happier with the past!



with acknowledgements to various websites, including <http://www.wga.hu> and <http://www.rembrandtpainting.net>

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR MEMBERSHIP FEE YET?

If not please remember to pay as soon as possible.

Payments; Juniors Euro 2.00

Seniors Euro 5.00. Overseas Euro 15.00

**Payments through Money or Postal Orders, Personal Cheques on local banks
(payable to the Gozo Philatelic Society) or Current Malta Mint Stamps.**

To The Secretary Gozo Philatelic Society, P.O. BOX 10, Victoria, Gozo, Malta

PROMOTING GOZO

Statues & Processions

Maltese stamps have already featured statues in the past, an excellent instance being the 2008 Pauline Year set - but we could go as far back as 1926!



However the announcement of the beginning of a project to cover the Titular Processional Statues in all parishes composing both our Dioceses was welcomed positively since *festa aficionados* would have an incentive to be attracted to

stampcollecting. And the response on 14 August with the sheet of the ten *Santa Marijas* augurs well for the future!

The Gozo Philatelic Society, always aiming at widening interest in stamps, also noted happily the 26 cent facial. Moreover our Anthony Grech had further “obligatory” opportunities to display his skills in producing cards showing the two Gozo statues, including the respective churches too.



This Newsletter has had various occasions to refer to the Cathedral - the latest actually being in the previous issue! So today I intend limiting myself to processional statues in Żebbuġ parish.



This archipresbyteral church, dedicated to the Assumption of Our Lady, rises on the site of an old chapel; it was only centuries later - in 1688 - that the community became a parish, with expansions and improvements continuing to recent days. The decorations include numerous artefacts and other uses of “Gozitan marble”, a type of onyx found nearby - and donated by the land

owner to his beloved church!

The main altarpiece treats the crowning the Virgin Mary by the Holy Trinity but the less complicated, clearly in the

titular statue is as shown Mark Micallef Perconte photo on the stamp. It was imported in 1863 from the firm of *Gallard et Fils*

(Marseilles) - the source chosen by

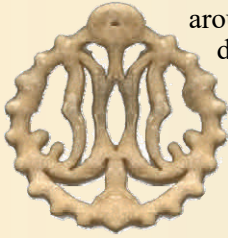


many others. Annual celebrations climax on the Sunday after 16th August, with the statue being carried triumphantly around the village (often described as the island’s highest).



Another established devotion is the hanging or fixing behind doors - or elsewhere

/cont on page 14



around homes, not necessarily apertures - of *l-Għażziela*, baked dough in the form of a decorated “M” blessed during a religious ceremony. This letter represents the Holy Name of Mary - and so the pious are praying for protection against tempests!



I can also mention two further feasts of our Lady, under the titles of *id-Duluri* and *tar-Rużarju*. But Żebbuġ’s strong Marian character is strengthened through the existence - on the outskirts - of *Dar Stella Maris* (in honour of Mary, Star of the Sea): a retreat house *cum* chapel (blessed in 1974) built and run by the Missionary Society of St Paul.



A popular “secondary” feast centres around *San Fortunat*, the statue of a fallen martyr which encompasses bone relics acquired from Rome - a quite common occurrence for the older churches.

A much more sombre occasion is the Good Friday pageant-procession with a series of statues showing episodes from Christ’s Passion: such a small community succeeded in creating a full set - and not really recently!



In fact the origin was in 1918 (constructed by major Gozitan statuary Wistin Camilleri). Damage due to church restructuring resulted in suspension for a long time: since most were irrecoverable, the

village had to begin anew - through the same Camilleri. In any case, one surely notes now that the figures are dressed in loom-woven cloth, a “local” change from the previous “rich” velvet.

The first statue which emerges from the church is really impressive: thirteen figures representing the Last Supper, produced in 1976. The second is more “common”: the Agony in Gethsemane, used for the first time a decade earlier. The third in the set shows the Scourging at the Column, followed by the *Ecce Homo* (Jesus Crowned with Thorns) which is the - restored - original. As in the case of the majority of sets, we then meet the *Veronika*, showing the legendary pious woman who tried to wipe Christ’s face who then miraculously left his image on her kerchief. Jesus under the weight of the Cross precedes the *Vara l-Kbira* (the original Crucified Christ, surrounded by John the Evangelist and Our Lady of Sorrows). The set has a “natural” conclusion: the Dead Christ (the original Camilleri figure) within a decorative urn, followed by the staid original - restored - Our Lady of Dolours.

But the next stage is triumphant: Żebbuġ possesses a statue of the Risen Christ too, sculpted by Pawlu Aquilina to replace the “doubly-used” Jesus figure (from the Last Supper) with which they made do for some time.

There is obviously much more to describe but some additional information can be found in our “Isle of Joy”, copies of which can still be acquired.





Antoine Vassallo

Is it really true that... (9) stamp detail almost led to war?!

In late August 1937 Nicaragua issued a set of seemingly innocuous air stamps: all seven, printed by the American Bank Note Company, simply showed a map of the Central American country.

Unfortunately the design also included an area in the north, bordering Honduras, clearly labelled *territorio en litigio*. Since this Spanish phrase means “territory under dispute”, Honduras felt it could not accept it since that old dispute was supposed to have been settled quite a few years previously. In fact arbitration by Spain’s King Alfonso XIII had awarded it to Honduras in 1906.



As mail bearing the new Nicaraguan stamps began arriving in Honduras, people got increasingly incensed at such a “grave affront to Honduran sovereignty”. Riots even broke out in Tegucigalpa, the capital. On September 3, police had actually to intervene to prevent angry demonstrators from attacking the Nicaraguan Legation. Radio stations and newspapers clamoured for military action to avenge a national insult. Possibly understandably, Honduras demanded the withdrawal of the offending stamps.

Things continued escalating: both governments started sending troops towards their common border, with war a distinct possibility. Luckily, diplomatic mediation by the USA, Mexico and Costa Rica resulted in a tentative truce.

Though Nicaragua continued to refuse to recall the objectionable stamps, things did fizzle out.

Actually modern maps simply show the disputed region (basically, *Gracias a Dios* department) as an integral part of Honduras! And we should also note that this Honduras-Nicaragua conflict was hardly unique in Central America, also due to post-colonization uncertainties.

Antoine Vassallo

as for other series, readers are invited to submit their own articles or even just suggestions

Not just PAPER (16)

examples of unusual stamp production

Antoine Vassallo

Quite a few countries have issued scented stamps; we visit South America today.

Brazil's first examples appeared in 1999: a set of 4 stamps smelling of burnt wood aimed at bringing awareness of the dangers of forest fires. The designs (by R Lima) feature an anteater (shown), a flower, a leaf, and a burnt tree trunk - examples of what is at risk when a forest burns. The odour was of course meant to make people keenly aware of the impact suffered by the environment from conflagrations due to carelessness. The country actually has a strong fire prevention programme (“PREVFOGO”).



A more attractive smell appeared in 2001, honouring the important coffee export industry. Since Brazil supplies an

impressive percentage of coffee beans, it was not out of place to offer the aroma of coffee! Maria Helena Adonis prepared a design which was self-explanatory about the beans's main use.



To give a further type of smell, I refer to a 2004 stamp showing an aromatic plant

designed by Cecilia Langer.



Cyperus articulatus (“Priprioica”) is an aromatic species of sedge known by various common names, a relative of the papyrus. A traditional spice of the Amazon region, the roots release a light fragrance. It is also used for local medicinal purposes, as food flavouring and by the cosmetic industry.

Anthony Grech






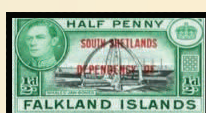
Based mainly on Stanley Gibbons Catalogues.
Abbreviations; Op.=Overprint or Overprinted.
Ins.= Inscribed, Sur.=Surcharged
Prot=Protectorate

 <p>E.ROUMELIA Op. "RO" ON STAMPS OF TURKEY 1880</p>	 <p>E. ROUMELIA S. BULGARIA Op. TURKEY STAMPS 1897</p>	 <p>ECUADOR 1865</p>
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 <p>EGYPT 1866</p>	 <p>EGYPT- OCCUPATION OF GAZA Op. EGYPT STAMPS 1945</p>	 <p>ELOBEY ANNOBON CORISCO 1903</p>	 <p>EL SALVADOR 1867</p>	 <p>EQUATORIAL GUINEA 1968</p>
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 <p>ERITREA ITALIAN COLONY Op. "COLONIA ERETRIA" ITALY STAMPS 1893</p>	 <p>ERITREA BRITISH MILITARY ADMINISTRA- TION 1948</p>	 <p>ERITREA TALIAN COLONY OWN ISSUES 1893</p>	 <p>ERITREA OWN ISSUE 1991</p>	 <p>ESTONIA 1918</p>
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 <p>ETHIOPIA 1894</p>	 <p>FALKLAND ISLANDS 1878</p>	 <p>FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES GENERAL ISSUES 1946</p>
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**GRAHAM LAND SOUTH GEORGIA SOUTH ORKNEYS SOUTH SHETLAND
FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES. Op. STAMPS OF FALKLAND ISLANDS
1944**



**FARIDACOT
1887**



**FAROE ISLANDS
Srg. NEW VALUE ON
DENMARK STAMPS
1940**



**FAROE ISLANDS
OWN ISSUES
1975**



**FEREDATED
MALAY STATES
Op. NEGRI
SAMBILAN STAMPS
1968**



**FERNANDO
POO
1868**



**FEZZAN & GHADAMES
FRENCH OCCUPATION
Op. "OCCUPATION FRAN-
CAISE" ON ITALY STAMPS
1943**



**FEZZAN
&GHADAMES
OWN ISSUES
1946**



**FEZZAN
MILITARY
TERRITORY
1943**



**FIJI
1870**



**FINLAND
1856**



**FINLAND OCCUPATION OF
EASTERN KARELIA
Op. "ITA KARJALA Sot. Hallinto"
ON STAMPS OF FINLAND
1941**



**FIUME
Op. "FIUME"
ON
HUNGARY
STAMPS
1918**

E & O not E (46)

*glances at stamps with design or printing mistakes
(well-known or obscure)
Antoine Vassallo*



I very much doubt that anyone would notice the error on this stamp, issued by the USSR in 1936 on the birth centenary of Nikolay Aleksandrovich Dobrolyubov!

This poet, journalist and literary critic - killed off by tuberculosis in 1861 - is hardly remembered any more, except for an essay. "What is Oblomovism", dealing with the phenomenon represented by the character Ilya Ilyich Oblomov in Ivan Goncharov's novel (first published in 1859) eponymously called simply "Oblomov", established the term Oblomovism to refer to the superfluous man of Russian life and literature.

I do not know if there was any defect in the medallion portrait, seemingly attributed in catalogues to prolific Vasily Zavyalov. But the initials are surely not OK! We find A H in front of the surname, instead of HA (the letter N looks like an "H" in the Cyrillic "Russian" alphabet).

This error can instill the suspicion that someone wanted to underhandedly honour another poet with a similar - variously spelt - surname: Aleksandr Dubrolyubov who was however not yet dead - and a declared enemy of the state! No correction was actually made when noticed but this stamp was, Soviet style, ignored completely in official Russian catalogues.

A different decision was made in 1971 in the case of a stamp honouring William Foster (1881-1961). A replacement was issued a couple of weeks after the original which had showed 1964 (**instead of the correct 1961**) as the date of death (in Moscow) of this trade union leader. An American Marxist politician, he had a convoluted career which included leading the US Communist Party.



Original first stamp issued with wrong date—1964



Stamp issued with correct date—1961

while in Gozo.....

You are invited to visit the magnificent Museum



IL-HAĠAR,
situated at
THE HEART OF GOZO,
 next to the Basilica of St. George.

The Gozo Philatelic Society has a showcase on level -1. We change the items on show periodically, making sure that the exhibits are of interest to both philatelists and to the general public.

Items on show for this period;
VINTAGE WORLD WAR I POSTCARDS

Opening hours: 9am to 5pm 7 days a week
 No entrance fee is charged!

MALTA OVERSEAS

local connections on foreign stamps (26)

Antoine Vassallo

It does happen that the word “Malta” appears on stamps without really qualifying them to be suitable for this series! The same applies to issues by - or about - the Sovereign Military Order of Malta (or “Knights of Malta”) when they do not have a direct reference to our country itself, such as an event or site. We also exclude the eight-pointed cross which is often becoming a symbol of Malta (such as even by MaltaPost!)

Today, as a sort of joke, I show a stamp issued by Ecuador in a 2009 Birth Centenaries set. This particular one features an Ecuadorian writer who is also remembered as a director, artist, and diplomat. Demetrio Aguilera Malta (1909 - 1981) is welcome here simply because of his surname - or, rather, his mother’s!

He was a member of the Guayaquil Group of the 1930s, which used social realism in their writings. This aspect was evident in what is considered his masterpiece *Siete lunas y siete serpientes* (1970), translated into English by Gregory Rabassa in 1979 as “Seven Serpents and Seven Moons”.

Aguilera Malta was born in 1909 in Guayaquil, Ecuador. He was the son of businessman Demetrio Aguilera Sánchez and Teresa Malta y Franco. His father officially named him Demetrio Abdon but his mother hated the name Abdon and always called him Raúl Demetrio; however he later stopped using Raúl.

The maternal great-grandfather, Juan José de Malta y Salcedo, was a playwright and the young Demetrio discovered his works in the library he inherited from his grandfather.

He spent much of his childhood on the family farm on an island in the Gulf of Guayaquil, home-schooled by his mother as well as employed tutors. He later went to high school at Vicente Rocafuerte School, graduating in 1929;

literature teacher José de la Cuadra was quite influential. For some time he studied law in Guayaquil, quitting in 1931. He then studied literature on a Ministry of Education scholarship in Ecuador and in Madrid, just before the start of the Spanish Civil War: he was a war correspondent during it. He worked for *La Prensa* and *El Telégrafo* in Guayaquil and the Panamanian *El Diario*, *El Gráfico* and *La Estrella*.





Aguilera Malta acted as Education Undersecretary, chargé d'affaires in the Ecuadorian Embassy in Chile, cultural attachè in Brazil, and finally Ambassador to Mexico until his death (by when he had lost his sight through diabetes). Other experiences included lectures and courses at several universities in North and South America. He even made the first colour movie in Brazil!

Considered one of the most important Ecuadorian writers, he was a founding member of numerous cultural initiatives. His books (novels and short stories) have been published around the world, translated into several languages. During his lifetime he won numerous awards, including the Eugenio Espejo Prize in 1981 in recognition of his outstanding literary career.

Finally, do note that this stamp refers to US currency: Ecuador decided it was not able to control its own!

You are invited to send write-ups (or even just suggestions) about other foreign stamps with themes or designs related to Malta

Please note that the last instament was adapted from *Stones of Faith*. For technical reasons, the San Marino sheet is shown in this issue.



proofing & designing

looking at the material donated by J A Mizzi MQR
(12) Society of Christian Doctrine centenary 29 XII 2007
(designed by Harry Borg)



Gandhi Stamp!

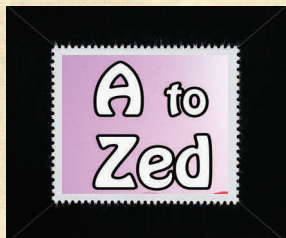
A person who taught us
non-violence gets punches
every day,
Stamp punching in post office!

A person who taught us
non-violence gets punches
every day,
Gandhi Stamp!

Dr. V.K. Kanniappan



Gozo Philatelic Society



18th ANNUAL EXHIBITION

This year's Philatelic Exhibition is entitled
A TO ZED STAMPS

All members, Juniors and Seniors,
are invited to participate.

As usual the exhibition will be housed in the
Ministry for Gozo Exhibition Halls,
St. Francis Square, Victoria.

The exhibition will be inaugurated on 3 November,
remaining open during office hours to 9 November.

There is no entrance fee.

All members will receive, with this Newsletter,
the Exhibition Regulations
together with the application form.

Do note the important changes
regarding Classes and placings.

MaltaPost will issue a Special Postmark for the occasion.

The GPS will issue a commemorative postcard
franked with a personalised stamp in a limited edition.

GPS Exhibition Committee

WHO'S (&Was) WHO on Malta Stamps

Antoine Vassallo (No 69)

continued from issue no. 68

An (in-progress) alphabetical list of those connected with Maltese Philately

Not to make this survey too heavy, only one example connected with the person involved (usually the first or most prominent) is listed.

Where adhesives are not available, cancellations, handstamps and slogans (excluding First Day cancellations) are shown **CHS**.

cont from issue 68

please note that the last item in issue 67 was unnumbered, resulting in incorrect numbering in issue 68: these should be corrected to 345 to 384.



385 Philip Duke of Edinburgh (1921 - Philip Mountbatten, husband of Queen Elizabeth II) **22c** Coronation **2003**

386 Phoebe (Greek mythological figure) **26c** Convoy **2012 (1)**

387 Manoel Pinto de Fonseca (1681–1773) Portuguese Grand Master of the Order **2/-** Comems **1969**

388 Edward D **Pirotta** stamp designer, with first in 2007

389 Anton **Pisani** **7c** Children's paintings **1979**

390 Lazzaro **Pisani** (1854-1932) Maltese artist **1982** anniv **CHS**

391 Blessed Maria Adeodata **Pisani** OSB (1806-55) Maltese abbess **4c** Religious **1991 (2)**

392 Raymond **Pitrè** (1940-) Maltese artist, with first stamp design in 1979

393 St **Pius V** (Antonio Ghislieri 1504-72)



Pope **3d** Valletta **1966**

394 Ponte> del Ponte

395 Frank **Portelli** (1922-2004) Maltese artist, with first stamp design in 1976

396 Francesco **Potenzano** (16th century) Italian artist **7c** St George **2003**

397 Nicolas **Poussin** (1594-1665) French artist **7c** Tapestries **1978**

398 St Ġorġ **Preca** (1880-1962) Maltese founder of the Society of Christian Doctrine ("MUSEUM") Canonization **2007(3)**

399 Prendergast Vereker > Gort

400 Mattia **Preti** (1613-99) Italian painter settled in Malta **€1.87** Preti **2013(4)**

401 Sir Luigi Preziosi (1888-1965) Maltese ophthalmologist **4¢** Personalities **1988 (5)**



402 Mons Carmelo Psaila CBE (*Dun Karm* 1871-1961) Malta's only National Poet **2s** Literary **1971 (6)**

403 Paul Psaila stamp designer, with first in 2008

404 Nazareno "Reno" Psaila Maltese artist with first stamp design in 1971

405 St Publius (New Testament figure) traditionally Malta's first bishop **1/6** Defs **1926 (7)**

406 Mons Paolo Pullicino MA DD (1815-90) Maltese Educationalist **19¢** Education **1997 (8)**

407 Joseph Pulo (1947-) Maltese artist - Xmas **2016**

408 Puttinu (Maltese literary character) **37¢** Europa **2010 (9)**

409 Abbe' Jean Quintin d'Autun ("Quintinus" 1500-61) French writer **1¢** Maps **2005**

410 Archangel Raphael (Biblical figure) **16¢** Christmas **1998**

411 Martin de Redin (1579-1660) Spanish Grand Master of the Order **26¢** Grand Masters **2014**

412 Roccaful > Perellos

413 Count Roger I (c 1031–1101) Norman conqueror **4¢** Commems **1990 (10)**

414 Emmanuel de Rohan-Polduc (1725 – 1797) Spanish Grand Master of the Order **26¢** Grand Masters **2014**

415 Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1882 –1945) US President **€1** Yalta **2015 (11)**

416 Blessed Michael Rua Italian collaborator in Salesians founding **75¢** Salesian Centenary **2004 (12)**

417 Sir Peter Paul Rubens (1577-1640) Flemish painter - centenary Tapestries **1977**

418 Don Ángel de Saavedra y Ramírez de Baquedano (1791- 1865) Spanish poet **1991** bicentenary CHS



11



- 419 Rene' **Sacco**, Maltese artist with first stamp design in 2004
 420 Edward **Said** Maltese artist Treasures 2011
 421 Rev Giuseppe **Said MS** Stamp 150th 2010
 422 Joseph **Said** stamp designer, with first in 2010
 423 **Saint-Jaille**> de Saint-Jaille



- 424 Emmanuel *Leli Bufajra* **Saliba** - Gozitan master mason €1.16 Corbels 2016
 (13)

- 425 Stephen **Saliba** - Maltese *tberfil* artist 3.51
 Handcrafts 2017



- 426 Robert **Samut** (1869-1934) Maltese composer
 2d Commems 1969 (14)

- 427 Michael **Sandle** RA
 (1936-) British sculptor €3 Siege



Bell 2017

- 428 Michelangelo **Sapiano** (1826-1912) Maltese
 horologist 5c
 Clocks 1995 (15)

- 429 **Savio** > Dominic Savio

- 430 Mons Pietru Pawl **Saydon** DD DLitt
 (1895-1971) Maltese Bible translator 25c



Personalities 1988 (16)

- 431 Louis **Schickluna** anniversary 1980 CHS
- 432 Robert **Schuman** (1886 –1963) French statesman 76¢ Annivs 2007
- 434 Dr Albert **Schweitzer** (1875-1965) German/French philanthropist - centenary 1975 CHS
- 434 Nicole **Sciberras** student designer 1.19 Europa 2011

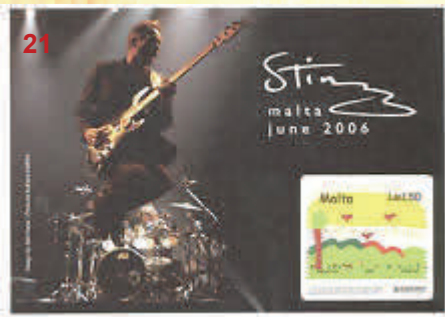


435 Mark **Scicluna**
Maltese artist
1.19 Europa 2010

436 Antonio **Sciortino**
(1879-1947)
Maltese sculptor
10¢ Personalities
1974 (17)



- 437 Sir Walter **Scott** (1771-1932) British novelist 12¢ Authors 1990
- 438 **Sengle** > de la Sengle
- 439 Italo Horatio **Serge** (1906-78) Maltese artist 27¢ Festivals 2004
- 440 Doxia **Sergidou** Cyprus artist 59c Europa 2016
- 441 Blessed Vicente **Sicluna Hernandez** (1859-1936) 2001 CHS
- 442 St **Simon** (1st century Apostle) - MS Tapestries 1980
- 443 St **Simon Stock** (died 1265) English leader of the Carmelites - Scapular set 1951 (18)
- 444 Joe P **Smith**, photographer and stamp designer, with first in 2002
- 445 Inez **Soler** (1908-74) Maltese author and musician 30¢ Europa 1996 (19)
- 446 Paolo Raffaele **Spinola** noble Bailiff of Lombardy €2.62 Fountains 2013
- 337 Stephen C **Spiteri**, stamp designer, with first in 2003
- 448 Ansgar **Spratta**, stamp designer, with first in 1999
- 449 Iosif Vissarionovich (Joseph) **Stalin** (1878 - 1953) Soviet Union leader €1 Yalta 2015
- 450 **Sting** (Gordon Matthew Thomas Sumner 1951 -) English musician MS Concert 2006 (21)



- 451 **Stock** > Simon Stock
- 452 Robert **Stolz** 1880-1975) Austrian musician 1975 CHS
- 453 Mabel **Strickland** (1908-74) Maltese politician 14¢ Europa 1996 (20)
- 454 **Sultana** > De Soldanis
- 455 **Sumner** > Sting
- 456 John Leonard "Jack" **Swigert Jr** (1931-1982) Apollo XIII astronaut 1970 CHS

PHILATELIC CENTENNIALS

*glances – and longer looks – at
events from a hundred years ago
presented by Antoine Vassallo*

(19)- First Air (1917)



The first ever air stamp appeared in Italy on 20 May 1917: an Express stamp (showing King Vittorio Emanuele III) was overprinted specifically for an experimental flight between Turin and Rome. It may be also considered as a commemorative stamp, actually valid only for the occasion.

As can be expected, numerous events have been organized and souvenirs created for this centennial - obviously of interest outside Italy too. The fifteenth anniversary had of course also been celebrated philatelically, particularly through a stamp featuring the *Pomilio PC I* plane which undertook the flight.



In 1917 World War I was raging, then called the Great War. Austro-Hungarian submarines were creating havoc in the Tyrrhenian Sea,

disrupting naval communications with the islands of Sardegna and Sicily. This led the Posts ministry to study the possibility of using aeroplanes to transport mail. The relative commission, led by electromagnetism innovator Augusto Righi, agreed.



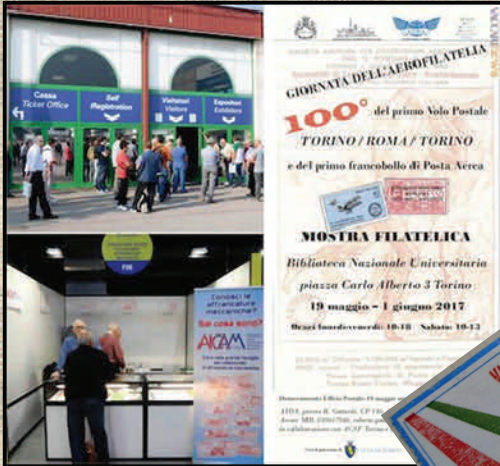
Young lieutenant Mario De Bernardi flew on 22 May, carrying some two hundred kilos of letters and cards - mostly having affixed the special stamp issued two days previously. The flight lasted just over

four hours; since the landing gear got damaged, the return had to be postponed to the 27th (when the weather was not so fine).

This successful “philatelic” experimental flight confirmed that it would also be possible to carry similar volumes of different goods (such as food - or guns!)

It is worthwhile to note that a few weeks later another overprinted stamp documented the use of a seaplane between Naples and Sicily’s Palermo.

The introductory article in this series covered the first official post by aeroplane - without specific stamps - in 1911 (issue 43).



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