

April—June 2016

No. 64—2016

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

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GOZO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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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. 64 (2/2016)

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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**Have you paid your
Membership yet?**

**Your Society needs
your support.....**



(62) *G.P.S. Diary*

Antoine Vassallo

Gozo Philatelic Society Secretary

Antoine Vassallo GPS Secretary VO/0546

GOZO
OBSERVER

Winter 2016 issue of the Gozo Observer refers to our “Migrants” exhibition in the editorial penned by Gozitan-Australian Professor Maurice Cauchi

1 March “The Voice of the Maltese” gives strong coverage to the Migrants initiative



January-March GPS

begins a series about Saints on Malta stamps in *Faraq* (quarterly published by the Malta Catholic Action Commission for the Sick & Disabled)

11 March Committee begins to discuss the 2016 Exhibition

18 March The GPS Newsletter awarded a Large Silver at the Canberra Stampshow (see page 27)



18 March The double international “Migrants” covers ready through second postmark (at Canberra) - (see front cover)

April issue of the Malta Philatelic Society Journal carries an article featuring our “Migrants” joint commemoration



3 April Monthly meeting at Victoria Scouts HQ

Original design for postmark



11 April New exhibit at *IL-HAĠAR*—Disinfected Letters (Juncker Collection)

1 May Monthly meeting at Victoria Scouts HQ

6 May Anthony Grech prepares Cover for St George Preca statue commemorative handstamp

9 May Anthony Grech prepares Cover for Ta' Kola Windmill Europa stamp



MORE ITEMS FROM THE JUNCKER COLLECTION



Donated to the Gozo Philatelic Society by
Wolfgang and Christa Juncker.

REGISTRATION ENVELOPES QUEEN VICTORIA & KING EDWARD VII

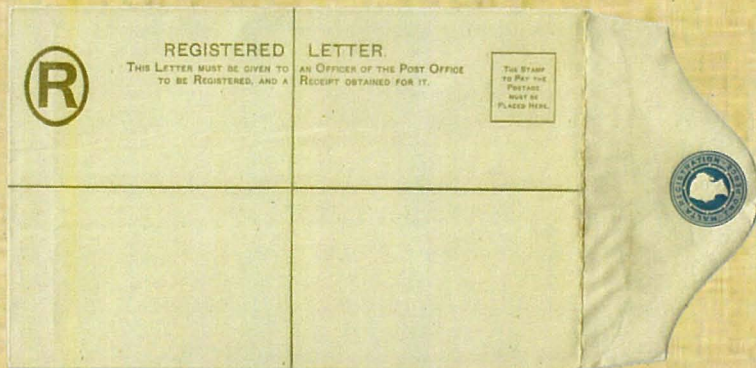
Anthony Grech



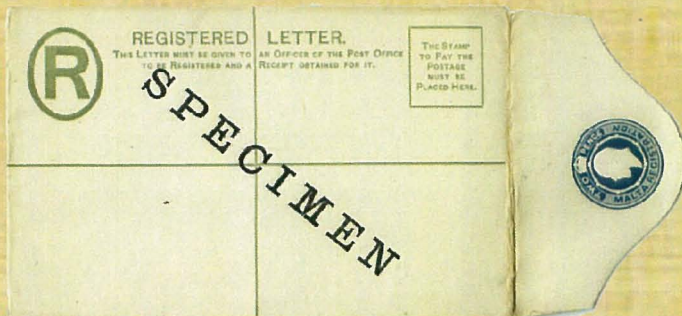
Large olive green "R" small registered envelope sent from Malta to Rotterdam on 30/12/1892, arriving on 03/01/1893. Two 2½d Queen Victoria blue stamps cancelled with 5 straight lines and postmarked with REGISTERED/Code G/ Date/ MALTA Oval postmark in black ink. Letter was secured with red wax seal on the back. Arriving postmark on the back



Large blue "R" small registered envelope sent from Malta to Hamburg, Germany on 28/12/1893, arriving on 01/01/1894. One 2½d Queen Victoria blue stamps cancelled with A25 non duplex postmarked and REGISTERED/Code C/ Date/ MALTA Oval postmark in red ink. Arriving postmark on the back



Large brown "R"
201mm x
127mm 1885
registered envelope
Mint.
J.B. No 1. Printed
by Thomas de
la Rue & Co Ltd



Large green "R"
152mm x 96mm 1903
registered envelope
Specimen
Printed by Thomas de la
Rue & Co Ltd



Large blue grey "R" first issued 1903 small
152mm x 96mm registered envelope sent
from Malta to Bielefeld, Germany arriving
on 22/10/1910. One 2½d King Edward VII
blue and maroon stamps cancelled with
Maltese Cross circular postmark. Early
Registration label added Arriving postmark
on the back.



Large olive green "R" 1903 small 152 x
96mm registered envelope sent from Malta
to Palermo, Italy arriving on 24/07/1903.
King Edward VII stamps cancelled with
A25 Non Duplex oval double postmarks.
Letter also handstamped with a faint Oval
Registration Code H Malta Postmark.
Arriving postmark on the back.



Large olive green "R" 1903
large 202 x 120mm regis-
tered envelope sent from
Malta to Hamburg, Germany,
arriving on 23/07/1909. King
Edward VII stamps cancelled
Maltese Cross double post-
marks. Letter also
handstamped with a faint
Oval Registration Code A.
Registration label in violet
also added. Arriving post-
mark on the back.

Nostalgic Gozo..photo postcards from the past. Anthony Grech



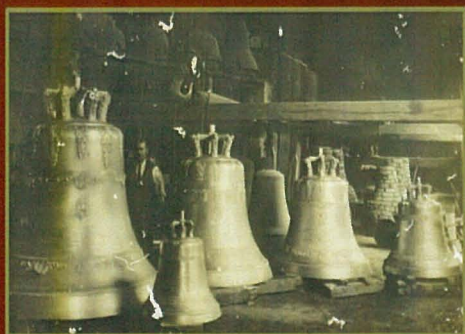
St Francis Square, Victoria.
Religious function in front of St.
Francis Church and Convent.



Covered entrance to an
underground WW II shelter



Chambray (1970's) The 'Polverista'
Gunpowder Magazine



Victoria Gozo -1925
St George's Basilica Bells in the
Barigozzi (Milan)
Foundry



St Francis Church, Victoria Gozo
Statue of the Immaculate Conception
decorated for Her Feast on 8 December





Is it really true that... (5)

COLOUR MAKES A DIFFERENCE?

Anthony Grech

This small letter was sent from Truro, England to Helston in 1841 to J.P. Tyacke a solicitor. The letter is postmarked with a double ring Truro date handstamp and the 1d Queen Victoria red stamp is cancelled with the usual “Maltese Cross” handstamp. Today an item described simply thus would fetch about £5 on the philatelic market. So what makes this item so different from others of the same period?



The first postage stamps and letters were postmarked with red ink. This was later changed to black because red ink could not be properly seen in candle or gas light used at that time. However it seems that a certain Miss Thomas postmistress of Truro (1819-1843) didn't like the idea to postmark the letters with the standard black ink. She preferred blue ink instead. The reason for this is unknown. Maybe she liked the colour blue, or perhaps she was colour blind. Whatever the reason without knowing it Miss Thomas created some very rare and interesting items. Little did she know that this item postmarked by her in blue ink instead of the standard black would fetch a staggering £3,500 in an auction, 200 years later.

Reference Western Morning News 2 Feb 2013.

Thanks to Mr Edwin Lowe

Gozo Related Special Commemorative Handstamps.

List of Special Commemorative Handstamps related to Gozo and issued by the Malta Postal Authorities. Unless otherwise indicated all Postmarks were given from the Victoria, Gozo Sub Post Office.

Joseph Bezzina/Francesco Pio Attard

- 20-09-1969 Tewminagġ Filateliku Trieste-Italja u Victoria-Għawdex.
17-04-1990 PGS International Sports Festival.
26-05-1990 Żjara tal-Q.T. il-Papa Ġwanni Pawlu II, Santwarju Ta' Pinu.
01-08-1991 Merħba 91.
10-07-1993 Inkurunazzjoni tal-Inkwatru Titulari Fontana.
09-10-1993 World Post Day – 2nd Philatelic Exhibition. Victoria, Gozo
25-04-1996 Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions, Mgarr Hotel. (Postmark
 given from temporary Post Office at Mgarr Hotel)
31-01-1997 Dun Pawl Micallef, Filantropu Għawdxi 1897–1997.
28-10-1998 200 Sena mill-Kapitulazzjoni tal-Franċiżi f'Għawdex.
01-05-2000 100th Anniversary of the Victoria Branch Post Office. Postmark given
 on a public holiday from a temporary Post Office at the Banca
 Giuritale, Victoria, Gozo)
21-10-2000 Maltex Philatelic Exhibition 2000.
27-07-2001 450th Anniversary of the Siege of Gozo Citadel.
09-06-2002 First Model Aircraft Flight, H.F.MF.A. Nadur, Gozo Hal Far, Malta.
 (Postmark given from Malta only)
20-07-2003 Bazilika San Ġorġ – Festi Ċentinarji. XVII Centenary of the Martyr
 dom of St George.
31-12-2003 St Mary's Cathedral New Bells.
11-03-2004 XIV Centenary of the Death of St Gregory the Great.
08-05-2004 100 Sena mill-Konsagrazzjoni tal-Knisja Parrokkjali Qala
24-06-2004 Blessing of Nadur Parish Church (1904–24 June–2004). (Postmark
 given from Nadur Post Office)
03-07-2004 Wistin Camilleri – 25th Anniversary of his Death.
20-07-2004 XVII Century of the Martyrdom of St Margaret.
07-12-2004 150 Years of the Dogma of the Immaculate Conception.
12-12-2004 Jum il-Munxar. (No special postmark. Postmarked from the Munxar
 Centre on Sunday using the Victoria Post Office metal handstamp)
29-01-2005 100th Anniversary of the Consecration of Fontana Parish Church
21-03-2005 Helicopteros del Sureste, 1st flight. (Postmark from Valletta, Malta)
09-08-2005 L-Ewwel Poetessa Maltija, Mary Meylak, 100 Sena Minn Twelidha,
13-08-2005 Dun Ġużepp Cauchi, 50 Sena Minn Mewtu. (No special postmark is
 sued but given on a Sunday)
15-08-2005 150 Years, Gozo Agricultural & Industrial Show (1855–15-08–2005).
16-12-2005 Saverio Cassar, 200th Anniversary from his Death (1805–18-12–2005).
22-01-2006 Konsagrazzjoni ta' Mons. Mario Grech, Isqof ta' Għawdex. (Postmark
 given from Post Office at the Gozo Museum of Archaeology)

- 29-04-2006 50th Anniversary of St Mary's Statue at the Cathedral
- 10-06-2006 Qniepen Ġodda Knisja Rotunda Xewkija–Għawdex.
- 28-10-2006 Ċentinarju Knisja Sant'Antnin ta' Padova (1906–2006). Postmark given from Għajnsielem Post Office)
- 25-03-2007 Together since 1957 – Flimkien mill-1957. 50th Anniversary of Treaty of Rome. (Postmark given from Nadur Local Council Office)
- 22-06-2008 125 Sena mis-Sejha tal-Madonna Ta' Pinu (1883 – 22 ta' Ġunju – 2008) (Postmark given from the Madonna Ta' Pinu National Sanctuary.)
- 10-08-2008 1750 Sena mill-Martirju ta' San Lawrenz (AD 258–2008). Postmark given from St. Lawrence Parish Church)
- 05-10-2008 50 Sena San Ġorġ Bażilika (1958–2008).
- 22-11-2008 5 Snin Anniversarju – Għaqda Mużikali Viżitazzjoni. (Postmark given from Għarb Post Office)
- 11-02-2009 Gozo Tourism Association 10th Anniversary.
- 01-04-2009 75 Sena Don Bosco Qaddis u Ftuħ ta' l-Ewwel Oratorju f'Għawdex
- 06-05-2009 Ġorġ Pisani – 100 Sena Minn Twelidu (1909–2009).
- 03-09-2009 10th Anniversary of the Gozo Philatelic Society (1999–2009).
- 13-11-2009 Gozo Philatelic Exhibition (13–21 November 2009).
- 04-10-2010 25th Anniversary Għaqda Hbieb tal-Presepu Għawdex–Malta 1985.
- 13-11-2010 Gozo Philatelic Society 11th Exhibition.
- 21-12-2010 St George's Altar Dedication (1960–2010).
- 26-03-2011 Fontana 100 Sena Parroċċa (1911–2011).
- 07-04-2011 Ġużè Aquilina, Mitt Sena minn Twelidu (1911 – 7 ta' April – 2011).
- 14-04-2011 Kunsill Ċiviku ta' Għawdex – 50 Sena mit-Twaqqif (1961–2011).
- 13-08-2011 Blessing of New Bells, Parroċċa Madonna ta' Loreto, Għajnsielem–Għawdex. (Postmark given from Għajnsielem Post Office)
- 11-11-2011 *Nature and Nurture* – Gozo Philatelic Society 12th Exhibition.
- 04-01-2012 40 Sena mill-Mewt ta' Ninu Cremona (1972–2012).
- 31-10-2012 G.P.F. Agius de Soldanis. 300 Sena minn Twelidu (1712–2012).
- 10-11-2012 *Majesty* – Gozo Philatelic Society 13th Exhibition.
- 23-02-2013 Inawgurazzjoni Il-Ħaġar–Heart of Gozo.
- 30-03-2013 100 Sena mit-Twelid ta' Dr Ċensu Tabone (1913–2013).
- 29-04-2013 150 Sena mit-Twaqqif tas-Socjetà Filarmonika Leone (1863–2013).
- 01-07-2013 100 Sena mit-Twaqqif taċ-Circolo Gozitano (1913–2013).
- 13-07-2013 50th Anniversary Victoria Scout Group.
- 21-10-2013 Gozo Philatelic Society 14th Exhibition.
- 22-11-2013 10 Snin Mit-Twaqqif tal-Għaqda Mużikali Viżitazzjoni (2003–2013). (Postmark given from Għarb Post Office)
- 07-12-2013 Ftuħ mill-Ġdid tal-Mużew–Dar Karmni Grima. Postmark given from Għarb Post Office)
- 07-12-2013 350 Sena tal-Fratellanza tal-Immakulata (1663–2013).
- 28-02-2014 100 Sena Vari tal-Ġimgha l-Kbira, Xagħra–Għawdex.
- 11-04-2014 100 Sena Purċissjoni tal-Ġimgha l-Kbira, Xagħra–Għawdex. (Postmark given from Xagħra Post Office)

- 23-04-2014 San Ġorġ – L-Ewwel Statwa Titulari ta' Ghawdex (1839–2014).
19-07-2014 Relikwa Insinji ta' Driegħ San Ġorġ Martri.
26-07-2014 200th Anniversary Xaghra Bubonic Plague (1814–2014).(Postmark given from Xaghra Post Office)
11-08-2014 Singolari Amore – 150 Sena Katidral.
16-09-2014 Diocesis Gaudisiensis (1864–2014).
21-10-2014 Sant'Orsla (1614–2014).
08-11-2014 250 Sena Relikwi ta' San Koronatu fin-Nadur. (Postmark given from Nadur Post Office)
14-11-2014 *Anniversaries and Commemorations* – G.P.S 15th Exhibition.
05-12-2014 Milied f'Ghawdex.
21-03-2015 L-Imsallab fi Triqatna (2005–2015).
20-06-2015 80 Anniversarju Inkurunazzjoni Inkwatru Madonna Ta' Pinu.
06-11-2015 *Posts & Postmen* – Gozo Philatelic Society 16th Exhibition.
04-09-2015 Konsagrazzjoni P. George Bugeja OFM, Santwarju Nazzjonali Madonna Ta' Pinu.
05-12-2015 Milied f'Ghawdex – *Christmas in Gozo*.(Postmark given from Gharb Post Office)
09-01-2016 Maltese Emigrants Incident (1916–2016)
09-01-2016 Ghawdex Ifakkar lil-Dun Ġorġ-Knisja San Ġakbu
09-05-2016 Ta' Kola Windmill featured on first day of issue postmark "EUROPA Set (First Day of Issue postmark given from all MaltaPost Offices)

For a complete list and images of Gozitan Machine Cancellations please refer to issue no 29 number 3/2007 Page23, or issue no 32 no2/2008. By George Vella.



Summer is on its way
Give your kids a memorable visit and
yourself a voyage down memory lane.



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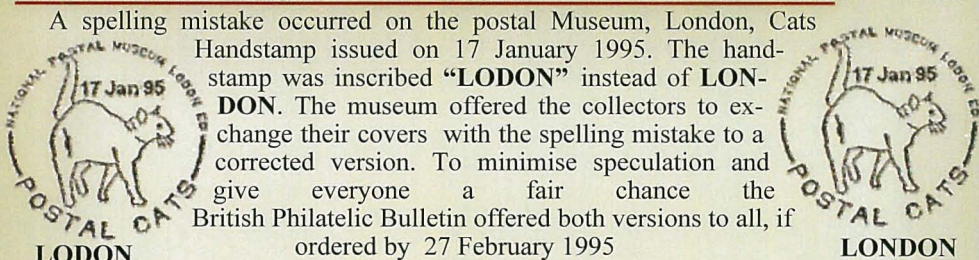
sueandedwin@gmail.com

Tel21562489



Errors from here and there.

Louis Bonello

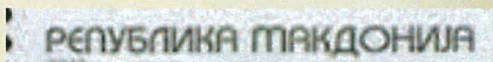


"Greenborough"
instead of
Greensborough.

It was used only on this day & then replaced with correct spelling.



Spelling error on the country's name.
The Cyrillic equivalent for E is missing. The result is something like **MACDONIA** instead of **MACEDONIA**.



Correctly 1977 postmarked at the Sydney Philatelic Sales Centre.



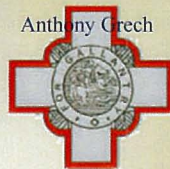
The very same post office postmarked.....one year earlier:





Saint George popular on Malta Stamps

Anthony Grech



The most depicted human figure on Malta stamps is that of the Martyr of Lydda (Lod) Saint George.

The majority of the Malta stamps show this Saint indirectly, but some are dedicated directly to him.



All Malta stamps showing the George Cross, the Maltese Flag and some of the Coats of arms of Malta show indirectly the image of Saint George. Hence the first Malta stamp with his image is the set of two issued on 3 December 1946 commemorating World War II Victory. Both stamps carry a small image of the George Cross which was awarded to Malta as a nation by King George VI for gallantry shown during the turbulent years of World War II.



Many other sets followed: a set of two stamps in 1949, a set of 4 in 1949, a set of 3 in 1950, one stamp in 1953, stamps (with 2 reissued later), from 1957 to 1961, two 1966, a set of 3 in 1967, one 1967, one stamp from a set of 3 set of 5 in 1969, one stamp from from a set of 15, a set of 3 in 6 in 1979, three stamps from a set one stamp from a set of 2 in stamp from a set of 4 in 1996, a in 2000, one from a set of 2 in stamp in 2009, two stamps another in 2014. A silver 2012.



There have also been various Miniature Sheets: four in 2005, one each in 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2012, as well as one (comprising 17 stamps, of which 2 are relevant to our theme) in 2009.



Gilded and hand painted First Day Cover with a gold Sterling also showing St. George on horseback

To be more comprehensive, one 1989, 3 Maximum Cards in 2005, Occasion Cards: one in 2002, two Saint George has also a complete to him issued on 23 April another stamp issued in 2015



can mention a Postal Card in 2 Post Cards in 2003 and four in 2009 and one in 2010 .

set of 5 stamps dedicated directly 2003, his liturgical feast day and (within a set of 3).

To make this thematic collection really complete, one has to include the special postmarks issued by MaltaPost commemorating events connected with this Saint: Additionally, personalized stamps have been offered by entities such as St George's Basilica in Gozo and the Qormi parish dedicated to him, while The Gozo Philatelic Society issued 1 cover and five commemorative postcards.



Not just PAPER (13)

examples of unusual stamp production

Recycling was a matter of practical necessity long before the word was coined and assumed its modern connotation of environmental good practice. An excellent example is offered by the first stamps of Latvia, issued in 1918.

This small Baltic state had just declared itself independent of the Russian Empire, amid the devastation following World War I.



Ansis Cirulis (1883-1942), a Latvian painter and graphic artist, was selected to design the first postage stamps of the new sovereign state. His surname is still well-known professionally because of a typeface based on the original handwriting of one of the first Eastern European designers.

The new stamps had the value of 5 kapeikas and were in red. The design, based on the nation's coat of arms, featured a historic Latvian motif of the sun as a symbol of statehood. Three stylized ears of grain are surrounded by the rays of a rising sun, with three tiny stars unevenly spaced in the rays.

During WWI, depictions of the sun in national imagery used 17 rays for the number of districts self-identified as Latvian. The three stars symbolized three historic districts included in the new republic. The country name appears as *Latvija*, in the native language. Among the multitude of acute postwar shortages, postal officials had no supply of good-quality paper on which to print stamps. What they did have, however, was a trove of maps of the Baltic region prepared for the German general staff and abandoned when the defeated German army fled the country. The maps were unfinished; that is, their backs were unprinted and they were not trimmed to a smaller size for folding.

Experts state that there were over seventy different German military maps (of the regions of Latvia, Lithuania and Poland) - and at least 62 (depicting southern Latvia and northern Lithuania) are known to have been used for stamp printing. The backs of the stamps may contain black or black and brown map printing - or even be blank if the paper was from the map margins.



Schnakenburg Printing Works in Riga, Latvia's capital, printed the stamps lithographically in sheets of 228 (12 rows of 19). Printing receipts survive for almost twelve thousand sheets of stamps, both imperforate and perforated.

Latvia's first issues literally and figuratively have "a story behind the stamp," and specialist collectors have reconstructed large sections of the maps by assembling the appropriate stamps.

Collecting this issue does of course require a decision: should one mount them face up or face down in the album?! However it is not that expensive to hold duplicates of these interesting stamps - including different reverse sides.

Antoine Vassallo

E & O not E (41)

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

Antoine Vassallo

The 50c stamp in Malta's 2002 Personalities is captioned as showing Emmanuele Vitale (1759-1802). However doubts have been expressed whether this is actually correct.

The monochrome portrait was collection) which shows a The uniform seems identical of the Order of St John, as and illustrations of the was probably worn by the which was identical to the lery of the French navy be- a gold-fringed epaulette on ficer of middle rank, while pointed cross of the Order noting a professed knight.



based on a painting (in a private figure in a blue and red uniform. to that of an officer of the artillery shown in a number of paintings period. The same pattern of dress military engineers of the Order, uniform worn by the Marine Artil- tween 1778 and 1883. The coat has the left shoulder, denoting an of- on the left lapel is the eight- with the closed crown above de-

Maltese were accepted into the Order only as Knights of Grace during the later years of the Order's presence in Malta. Moreover nothing in his biographical details suggests that Vitale ever held a military commission in the Order or was even appointed within its ranks.

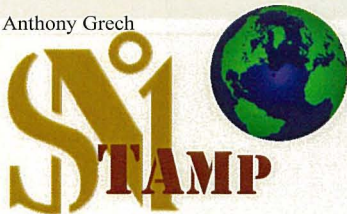
Therefore, it is very unlikely that the figure on the stamp is that of Vitale. Any military uniform he would have worn would have been similar to those shown in portraits of *logotenenti*. This uniform is very "British", similar to the one worn by officers of the Royal Regiment of Artillery of the time.

After the French left Malta, Britain set up a Protectorate over Malta, with Ball becoming a Civil Commissioner. He nominated Vitale to become *luogotenente* (village leader) of Senglea. On 21 August 1801, under the Civil Commissioner Charles Cameron, he was given the honour of being Governor, Superintendent and the Health Director of Gozo. He died on 8 October 1802 at the young age of 44.



A plaque erected by the people of Rabat (Malta) in honour of Notary Emmanuel Vitale

Anthony Grech



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



BARBUDA
Op. "BARBUDA"
Leeward Islands stamps
1922



BARBUDA
OWN ISSUE
1957



BARWANI
1921



BASUTOLAND
1933



BATUM
1919 Sul-
tan of
Shihr &
Mukalla

ADEN
HADHRAMUT
1942



BAVARIA
1849



BECHUANLAND
(BR. PROTECTORATE)
1932



BECHUANLAND
OWN ISSUES
1965



BELARUS
1992



BELGIAN
CONGO
1886



BELGIAN
OCCUPATION OF
GERMANY
Op. "ALLEMAGNE
DUITSCHLAND" BEL-
GIUM STAMPS
1919



BELGIUM
1849



BELIZE
Op. "BELIZE" & 2 STARS



**BELIZE
OWN ISSUES**
1974



BENIN
Op. "BENIN" FRENCH
COLONIES STAMPS
1892



BENIN
OWN ISSUES
1976



BERGEDORF
1861



BERMUDA
1865



BHOPAL
1876



BHOR
1879



BHUTAN
1962



BIAFRA
1968



BIJAWAR
1935



**BOHEMIA
& MORAVIA**
Op. "BOHMEN MAH-
REN CECY MOROVA"
CZECHOLVAKIA
STAMPS
1939



**BOHEMIA
& MORAVIA**
OWN ISSUES
1940



BOLIVAR
1863

proofing & designing

looking at the material donated by J A Mizzi MQR
(9) Castles & Towers 29 IX 2006
(designed by Anouschka Grech)

Suggested designs



The end result.
“Castles”
set issued on
29 September 2006.



Ta' Kola Windmill at Xaghra, Gozo.

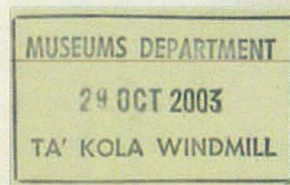
Lara Grech



This windmill was first featured on a Malta stamp on 29 October 2003. Although the stamp is entitled “Ta’ Kola Windmill” this is highly debatable as the old photo used is nothing as this particular windmill. Furthermore even the postmark is mistakenly designed. A Malta windmill has six jib sails, while the one depicted has eight. On the occasion of the issue of this stamp, which formed part of a set of 3, The Gozo Philatelic Society in collaboration with the Xaghra Parish Church Authorities issued a limited edition of 200 cards. These cards were



postmarked at the Xaghra Post Office and depicted Guzeppi Grech, known as Zeppu Kola (the last miller) doing maintenance work on one of the jibs. On the back of the card the official “Museum Departement /29 Oct/ 2003/ Ta’ Kola Windmill handstamp was applied. This card was issued “to pay tribute to a simple Gzitan man who left us and generations to follow this windmill, as part of our folklore and historic past”.



On 9 May 2016, MaltaPost plc issued another stamp featuring this windmill. Sean Cini from MaltaPost ably added Ta’ Kola Windmill, giving the stamp a Maltese message. Even the first day of issue handstamp shows (correctly) this particular windmill. Again the Gozo Philatelic Society issued a card in a limited edition of 80, postmarked at the Xaghra Post Office with the first day of issue handstamp.





The Kangaroo Series

John Luke Debrincat



Prior to 1913 Australian States issued their own stamps. On 2 January 1913 the Commonwealth of Australia issued its first postage stamps. The first set called the Kangaroo Series, was made up of 15 denominations; from 1/2d to £2. They were printed on paper bearing a Crown over A watermark. Another four printings took place between 1915 and 1945, each printing was done on paper with a different watermark. However four of the original values (1/2d, 1d, 4d, & 5d) were not reprinted.

Many different dies were used, the four main ones usually called Die 1, Die 2, Die 2a, and Die 2b. Though not very obvious, several features distinguish them.

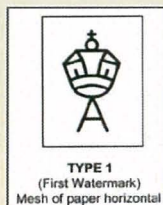
Die 1: the inner frame line above left of O of ONE is broken.

Die 2: no such break as on Die 1.

Die 2a: as 2 but there is a break in the left inner frame from the left hand corner.

Die 2b: as 2a plus a break in the outer frame above the letters ST of AUSTRALIA. However not all dies can be found on all values: the 1/2d only used Die 1 while the 1d did not use Die 2b.

The most popular variety in this set is an inverted or sideways watermark. There are also some 650 varieties already identified such as scratches from AUSTRALIA downwards and an extra island left of Tasmania. The most popular stamp to study is the 1d value: over 1,050 millions of these were issued in two years, making it quite common and cheap to acquire.



Different Varieties



- (1) Broken frame under NE (2) White patch before POST (3) Broken tail (4) Missing 1 on 1/2 d value. (5) Extra island near Tasmania. (6) Scratch from Australia to map. (7) Extra island off WA Coast.

MALTA OVERSEAS

local connections on foreign stamps (23)

Antoine Vassallo



Hand painted FDC with A\$ occasion coin.

ANZAC Day (April 25) is the day of remembrance of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps soldiers who fought and died at Gallipoli in 1915. So that in 2015 was specially celebrated - not just in those two counties: I limit myself to just mentioning Ireland.

Malta is obviously included within a miniature sheet): we treated to the injured during "Nurse of the evacuated to Malta for of the spring of 1915, camps were established on many thousands sick and and Salonika campaigns.

A good number of ANZAC particularly at the Pietà soldiers from Australia and buried in Malta. They were lost their lives during the ill-began on that narrow Turkish sympathetic to the United motherland; so the volunteer Zealand were substantial. them but also later and current peacekeeping operations. Though the operation itself was not a success, the valour and determination shown were immediately commemorated, even in the Allies' camp in Egypt.



(though a high value stamp gave shelter and provided the campaign, earning the title Mediterranean". Many were medical treatment. In fact, as hospitals and convalescence our islands to deal with the wounded from the Gallipoli

war graves are situated here, Military Cemetery: some 300 New Zealand are in fact among the over 130,000 who fated WWI campaign which Kingdom, regarded as the armies from Australia and New ANZAC Day does acknowledge participation in military and peacekeeping operations. Though the operation itself was not a success, the valour and determination shown were immediately commemorated, even in the Allies' camp in Egypt.

On Anzac Day, one shows love, honour and support towards those who fought to enable freedom for people all over the world, but were not able to make it back home. Emphasis is made on human qualities of courage, mateship, equality, self-sacrifice and loyalty.

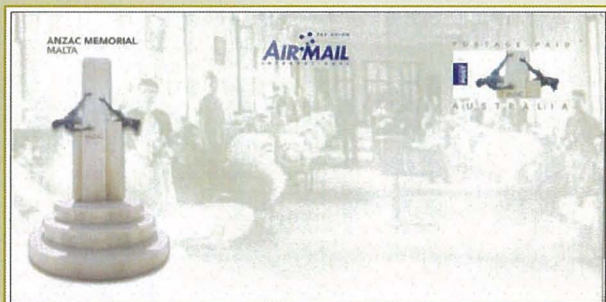


Gianni Bonnici

The first Anzac Australia was Maltese well known erected in Malta: at Floriana in 2013. It of efforts by the Association that set up then headed by Nick aim as "to honour the Zealand troops who died during which Malta some information about at Argotti Botanical Gar-immortalised on an Aus-envelope shows the me-bronze figures are high-gives details about the

monument outside designed and sculptured by the artist Gianni Bonnici. It was the Argotti Gardens in can be described as the fruit Maltese Australian a committee for the purpose, Bonello (who explained the many Australian and New at Gallipoli and in World War II, featured Hospital. The rear gives the situation. ANZAC Memorial dens in Floriana, Malta has been tralia Post pre paid envelope. The morial in its entirety and the lighted separately on the imprint-Sharon Rodziewicz, the envelope monument.

Alfred Caruana Ruggier an artist and designer himself, and member of our society wrote an extensive article on the subject. He explained how, "Many died from their injuries with a good number of bodies being repatriated to their home countries. More than two hundred and seventy soldiers were however buried in Malta."



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

Promoting Gozo through Philately

(Charles Cassar)

Pietro Paolo Azzopardi's Gozo legacy

(Charles Cassar)



Maestro Scultore Pietro Paolo Azzopardi

The sculptor's signature – St George's Basilica archives

MaltaPost's 2015 SEPAC Culture set included a photo by Gozitan Daniel Cilia showing the annual scene of the titular statue (sculpted in 1838 by Pietro Paolo Azzopardi) carried from St George's Basilica for the beginning of the procession around the streets of Victoria.

Valletta-born Azzopardi (1791-1823), was among the last of continued to work in the laborious that Azzopardi, in harmony with con-works sculpted in wood as having a those produced through the em-time consuming mediums.

In fact the artist's century Maltese art is of especially because of the and processional statues produced. Interestingly, particular occasions, to have prepared by Giuseppe Hyzler *Pietru Pawl's* production is high watermark that was reached nineteenth century.

Azzopardi's complete *oeuvre* his known works show that himself in a Classical, om. He reached his between 1835 and 1858,

1875), a pupil of Mariano Girada a breed of Maltese sculptors who woodcarving tradition. It may be comitant opinion, considered higher artistic value than ployment of other less

contribution to 19th considerable importance high quality devotional that he Azzopardi is known, on worked from designs (1787-1858). *Mastru* globally a testament to the by Maltese sculptors in the

has still to be quantified but the sculptor expressed Purist-tinged idi-artistic maturity during which period he

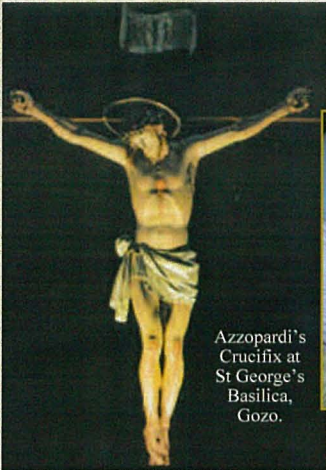


produced his major sculptural works - his masterpieces.

The St George was the first titular historian Dr Mark Sagona notes leg fully carrying the body's idealized, including features. The artist astonishing linear

It was so well received excitement that it follow suit. The same 1845 to produce the the Baptist for Xewkija.

Then in 1848, again for St George's church, he sculpted a Crucifix. This statue is a poignant representation of the dying Christ ennobled by the use of the Neoclassical idiom employed by the artist. On permanent display in the recent Eucharistic chapel, it becomes the central image of the Crucifixion tableau for Lent (and, especially, for the Good Friday devotional procession).



Azzopardi's
Crucifix at
St George's
Basilica,
Gozo.



Azzopardi also sculpted the statue of the *Santo Croce* for St Francis church in Victoria, incorporating the figures of St Macarius and St Helena on each side of the Cross.

Though the Azzopardis in Gozo are few, they do include great art!





Successful Participation in Canberra



Louis Bonello



Our innovative collaboration with the Philatelic Society of Canberra culminated in a positive participation (through our Newsletter) at the Canberra Stampshow 2016. This event emphasized the Gange Migrants: both symbol and cancellor were adapted from the design prepared by our Anthony Grech. Moreover the relative Catalogue featured articles about “the Children of Billy Hughes” and “Gozo Philatelic Society” (and other references). The philatelic items offered for “Supporter’s Club Membership” included a copy of the double card produced as the first Gozo-Canberra joint venture. I should also note that there was also the MaltaPost Anzac miniature sheet overprinted with the Show symbol or logo.

The GPS Newsletter competed in the Literature class, received excellent comments from the judges (even a double 4 out of 5 regarding Presentation) and was awarded a Large Silver: surely more than satisfactory for our first overseas foray!

It is worthwhile to reproduce a few quotes from the judging panel’s report.

“The run submitted (numbers 54 to 61, together with 49) demonstrate a very high professional standard of presentation...readable articles...a pleasure...very active and innovative...especially noteworthy material...well written text...excellent illustrations...model...important role in community...enviably high quality”. So I must express publicly my thanks to all those involved in the Newsletter and again encourage new contributors!

I also forward our appreciation to our Canberra counterparts for their enthusiastic collaboration in our joint venture, hoping that our relationship can continue in the future.



WHO'S (&Was) WHO on Malta Stamps

Antoine Vassallo

219 **Fonseca**> Pinto



220



221

220 Mons Sidor **Formosa** DTh (1851-1931) Maltese philanthropist
3c Personalities 1988

221 Fra Diegu> Bonanno Maltese philanthropist **2c Personalities 1986**

222 St **Francis** of Assisi (1181-1226) Italian founder **8c International Peace Year 1986**

223 St **Francis** of Paola (1416 - 1507) Italian founder



222

€1 Ex-Voto 2015

224 Donald **Friggieri** (1947-) Maltese artist with first stamp design in 1975



225



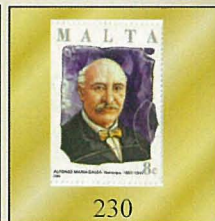
227



228



229



230

225 Emil **Fuchs** (1866 - 1929) artist, with first stamp design in 1903

226 **Fuleco** (armadillo mascot) **1.55 World Cup 2014**

227 **Gahan** (Maltese folk hero) **16c Europa 1997**

228 Archangel **Gabriel** **7c Christmas 2003**

229 Melchior **Gafa'** (1635-67) Maltese sculptor - centenary set **1967**

230 Alfons Maria **Galea** (1861-1941) Maltese philanthropist **8c Philanthropists 1986**

231 Austin **Galea** (crib constructor) Christmas **1990**

232 Noel **Galea Bason** (1955-) Maltese artist, with first stamp design in 1990

233 Cedric **Galea Pirootta** (1971 -) Maltese artist, with first stamp design in 2010

234 Galileo **Galilei** (1564-1642) Italian scientist **37c Europa 2009**



234



235



236

235 Mohandas Karamchand "Mahatma" **Gandhi** (1869-1948) Indian leader **1s6 Centenary 1969**

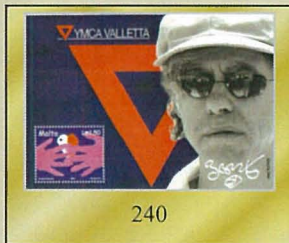
236 Mons Tommaso **Gargallo** (died 1614) opened the College which eventually became the University **26c Education 1997**

237 Martin **Garzes** (1526-1601) Spanish Grand Master **26c Grand Masters 2014**

ish Grand Master of the Order

238 **Gattaldo** Maltese-born artist, with first stamp design in 2001

239 Ray **Gauci**, stamp designer, with first in 1988



240 Sir Robert Frederick Zenon "Bob" **Geldof** KBE (1951-) Irish entertainer **MS YMCA concert 2006**

241 St **George**, (early 4th century) "Patron of Victoria and Protector of Gozo" - centenary set **2003**

242 King **George V** (1865-1936) King and Emperor - Definitive set **1914**

243 King **George VI** (1895-1952) King of the UK - coronation set **1937**



244 Blessed **Gerard** (1040-1120) Founder of the Order of St John **1/6 Art Exhib 1970**

245 Giuseppe **Giacomo** (19th century captain) **51c Ex-Voto 2015**

246 Corrado **Giacquinto** (1703-65) Italian artist **37c Christmas 2009**

247 Girolamo **Gianni** (1837-95) Italian artist **2014 Europa**

248 Michael **Goaman**, (1921-2009) English artist, with first stamp design in 1963

249 Ronen **Goldberg** Israeli artist, with first stamp design in 2014

250 **Goliath** (Old Testament figure) **2/6 Siege 1965**

251 Mgr Michael **Gonzi** KCBE (1885-1984) Archbishop of Malta - jubilee **1974 CHS**

252 Vincenzo **Gonzi** 18th century Maltese artist **82c Ex-Voto 2015**

253 Mikhail Sergeyevich **Gorbachev** (1931) USSR statesman **10c Summit 1989**

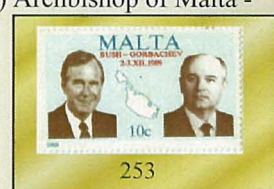
254 Lord **Gort** (Field Marshal John Standish Surtees Prendergast Vereker 1886-1946) Governor of Malta **35c Scouts 1993**

255 Anouschka **Grech** stamp designer, with first in 2006

256 Anthony **Grech**, Gozo Philatelic Society founder-officer, designer of personalized stamps, handstamps, cards and covers

257 Anton **Grech**, stamp designer, with first in 1990

258 Mgr Mario **Grech** (1957-) Bishop of Gozo **2006** consecration



CHS

Gozitan Philatelist of more than a 100 years ago. Chev Lorenzo Zammit Haber

Louis Bonello



The third edition of the 'British Empire Stamp Exchange Medium' (February 1907) lists philatelists from all over the British Empire. Under the heading 'Malta', six persons are mentioned together with their Wants and Offered list. These include two from Gozo: Gatt P. from Nadur and Lorenzo Zammit Haber of Xewchia (Xewkija). While the first is described as (M) Medium collector, the other is listed as (B) Beginner. The collectors from the island of Malta are Miss O. Flores of Valletta, the famous W.R. Gatt of Floriana, E. Pio Debono of Naxxaro (Naxxar) and Dr. E. Naudi LLD of Valletta.

Chev Lorenzo Zammit Haber is a Gozitan patriot who - for some unknown reason - is not given due homage, though a street in his beloved hometown was at least named after him.

He was born in Xewkija on 10 November 1875, the son of Francesco Zammit and Maria née Haber. He studied at the Gozo Seminary in Victoria (at that time run by the Jesuits). He married Carmela née Scicluna on 15 February 1908. They had five children: two boys and three girls.

By today's standards, Zammit a first-class antiquarian. His *Melitensia* - and especially was close to his heart and he destroyed several items heritage.

Lorenzo was himself an artist and items found at the Xewkija him. He also designed and coats of arms of all villages and coats of arms of Maltese surnames. complete set of portraits of the

Lorenzo Zammit Haber was the *Prekursur* Band, acting as the first member of the Old Gozo Monuments advice was sought by official Governors of Malta.



Haber would be described as collections included much *Gaulitana*. Gozo's history succeeded in saving from connected with Gozo's

designer. Several religious Rotunda were designed by handpainted the previous towns in Gozo, as well as the His production included a Grand Masters of Malta.

promoter of Xewkija's president. He also served as a committee. His professional authorities, even including the

To top it all he was a prolific philatelist, a hobby that was passed on to his sons. According to the journal mentioned above he was a "general" stamp collector, but later on in life his main interest was Malta Stamps. In fact he had a complete Malta Stamp Collection which he treasured so much. This patriot passed away on 1 June 1961 and is buried in the family's tomb at the Xewkija cemetery which he himself had designed.

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