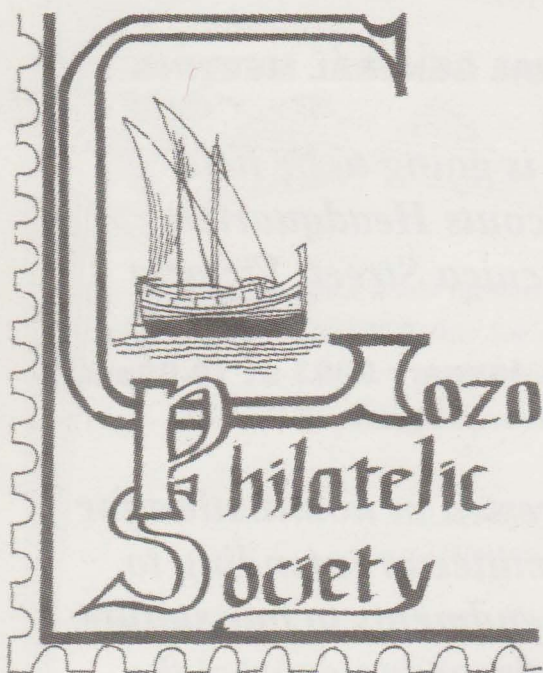


No. 10 October - December 2002 - 4/2002

NEWSLETTER



Season's Greetings

NEWSPAPER POST

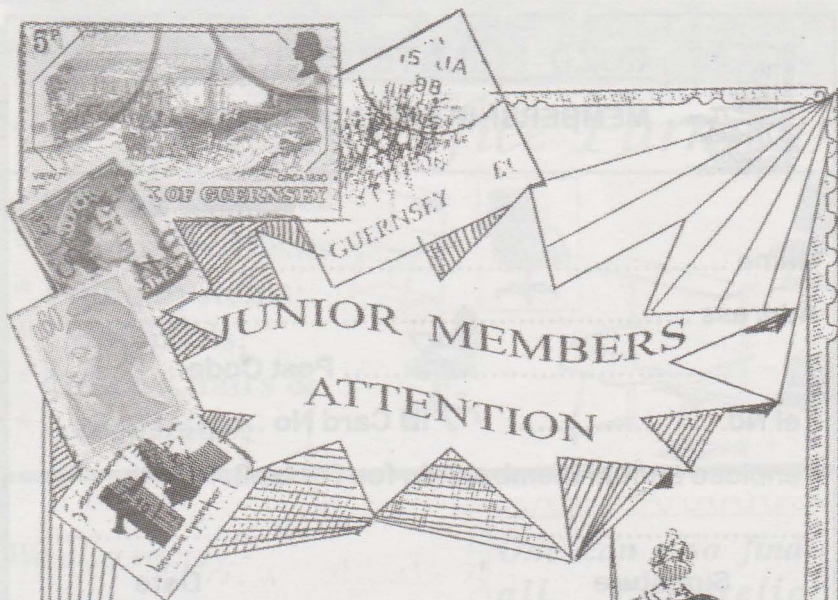
*I have the pleasure to invite
all GPS paid-up members to our*

3rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

*which is going to be held
at the Scouts Headquarters,
Sta Domenica Street, Victoria*

Sunday 12th January 2003 at 10.00am.

*Those interested in nomination for
the Committee or intending to
propose amendments to our statute,
are encouraged to contact the
Secretary.*



*Introduce a new member to the
Gozo Philatelic Society
and you both receive
a pack of 50 stamps.*



MEMBERSHIP FEE: Only Lm1.00 yearly for Junior Members
Lm2.00 yearly for Senior Members

ENROLL NOW!



GOZO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Member No.

Name

Address

..... Post Code.....

Tel No. ID Card No

I enclose annual membership fee for Lm2.

.....

Signature

Date

Being under 16, I enclose Lm1 for Junior membership
(Date of Birth.....)

.....

Signature

Date

Introduced by..... Member No

I acknowledge receipt of membership application from

.....

with relative fee of

An official receipt and membership card will be issued
later.

.....

(signed obo Gozo Philatelic Society)

Date



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- * Computer Desks
- * Filing Systems;
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- * ArmChairs;



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Oct—Dec 2002

GPS NEWSLETTER
Quarterly Organ
of
THE GOZO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

First issued on 12th February 2000 *Editor: Austin Masini*

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

Correspondence (and material for publication) should be addressed to: Editor, GPS, PO Box 10, VCT 101, Gozo, Malta.

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GOZO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Founded on 3rd September 1999

For "the promotion of the hobby"

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

Postal address: PO Box 10, VCT 101, Gozo, Malta.



GPS DIARY (10)

Antoine Vassallo (Secretary)

9th September 2002 - Newsletter No 9 includes regulations and application form for 3rd GPS Exhibition.

14th September 2002 - Committee decides to write to Maltapost management with comments and suggestions of philatelic interest. Improvements decided to make the GPS Newsletter still more useful.

15th September 2002 - Meeting at Scouts HQ where members could acquire additions to their collections through purchase and exchange and also receive information and other help.

20th September 2002 - Pasta Night at *Palazzo Margherita*; again those present had various opportunities to win philatelic prizes.

17th October 2002 - Preparation of Exhibition Hall using our new exhibition boards.

18th October 2002 - Official opening by Minister Debono of our 3rd Philatelic Exhibition, again sponsored by Bank of Valletta.

19th October 2002 - Judging panel decides order of merit of competing exhibits (listed separately).

28th October 2002 - On the administration's request, we began meeting all the students at the Seminary Boys Secondary School.

31st October 2002 - Closing of Exhibition which due to the volume of exhibits (fifty) and visitors, can again be described as very successful. The three traders present from Malta had brisk business and many collectors acquired additions to their collections, even making repeat visits. One should again express thanks to the Culture Section of the Gozo Ministry and to the volunteers who manned it.

9th November 2002 - Committee meeting finalizes prize list of Exhibition participants and decided about their presentation.

Members have continued to promote our hobby through a range of different printed and sound media.



PHILATELIC WEB (7)

Antoine Vassallo

In this issue we offer an expanded list since this series is being suspended. However further sites may be suggested in the future. So members are still invited to send recommendations.

www.aasfn.sm

the tiny republic of San Marino

www.maganstamps.co.uk

for collectors of stamps of the Middle East area

www.tahiti-postoffice.com

French Polynesia

www.europeanstamps.net

information, articles and images

www.postfiji.com.fj

(besides stamps fiji.com) issues from Fiji

www.postcard.co.uk

useful for postal history collectors

www.nampost.com.na

Namibia (formerly South-West Africa)

<http://web.radiant.net/brc/>

for specialists of Canada definitives!

<http://homepages.ihug.co.nz/~Jollian>

listing of Dave Joll of world new issues

www.pserstamp.com

stamp authentication services (USA)

www.a-zphilately.biz

includes a lot of stamp reproductions

www.oneps.org

Middle East philatelic society

www.stampsaaatauction.com

No commission!

www.rpsl.org.uk

The Royal Philatelic Society London

www.stampalbums.com

includes various DIY suggestions

www.epmsite.com

Emirates Postal Museum

www.coolstamps.com

many stamp images

www.stampcore.com/

philatelic portal ☐



CHRISTMAS STAMPS

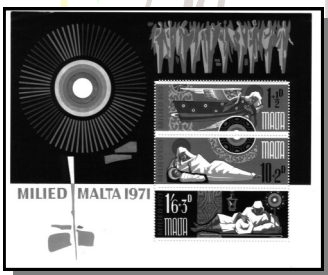
Emanuel Vella

One of the most interesting thematic subjects is surely collecting Christmas stamps. A lot of countries have issued and are still issuing stamps to commemorate the birth of Christ.

Malta is no exception. It issued the first Christmas stamps on the 3rd November 1964. These stamps were designed by Chev. E.V. Cremona. On the 8th November 1971, Malta issued the first miniature sheet. This was also a Christmas set. In fact the first 3 miniature sheets were all issued for Christmas; the other two being issued in 1972 (9th December) and in 1973 (10th November). Since 1969 the Christmas postage stamps have carried a small surcharge. The money derived from this surcharge is donated to charitable and philanthropic organisations.



First Maltese Christmas Set issued on 3rd November 1964



First Maltese Christmas Miniature sheet issued on 8th November 1971.



As I said before, a lot of countries issue stamps for Christmas. Some issue single stamps while other issue sets or miniature sheets, or both. The subject and format of these stamps are different and interesting, but they are all related to this festive season.

Australian Christmas Stamps issued for the festive season in year 2001



*Seasons Greetings
Issued: 4.09.01*



*Christmas 2001
Issued: 1.11.01*

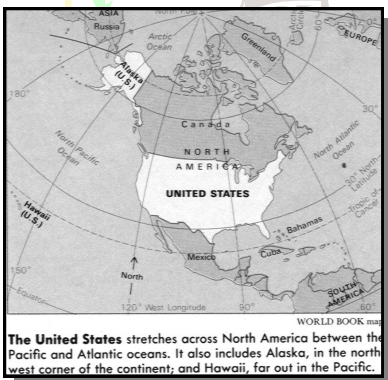
The best way to collect these stamps is to buy them from a reputable agency or direct from source, that is from the respective country which issue these sets. For example if one writes to the Crown Agents Stamp Bureau at Old Inn House, 2 Carshalton Road, Sutton, Surrey SM1 4RN, UK, one will get a list of about 25 countries and then he can order what he prefers. For those who have the internet they can look on website www.casb.co.uk ☐



THE AMERICAN NATIONAL POSTAL MUSEUM

Austin Masini

The National Postal Museum is located on the lower level of the historic City Post Office Building, which was constructed in 1914 and served as the Washington D.C., post office from 1914 to 1986. The museum occupies 75,000 square feet of the building with 23,000 square feet devoted to exhibition space. The museum also houses a 6,000 square foot research library, a stamp store and a museum shop.



Visitors enter the museum through the lobby of the building and proceed to escalators that transport them down to the floor level of the museum's 90-foot-high atrium. The atrium, which features three suspended airmail planes, is one of five exhibit galleries that tells the story of postal history in America.

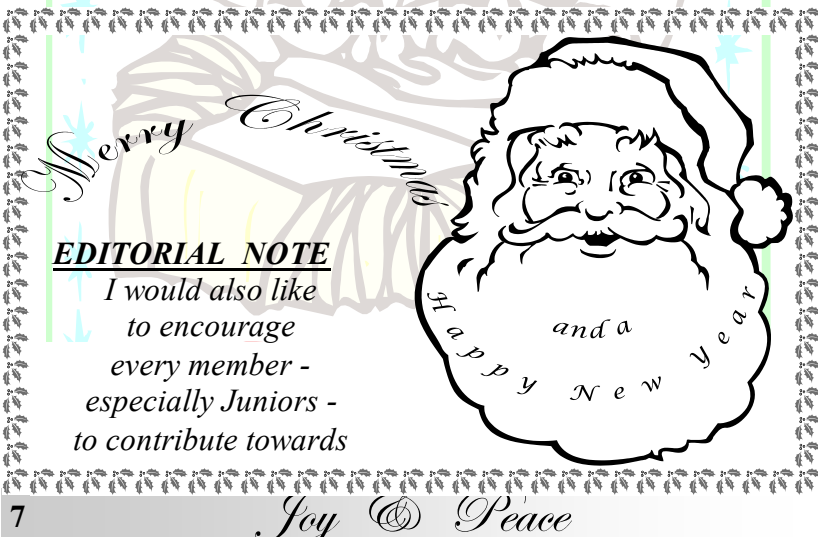
The National Philatelic Collection was established at the Smithsonian in 1886 with the donation of a sheet of 10-cent Confederate postage stamps. Generous gifts from individuals and foreign governments, transfers from government agencies and occasional purchases have increased the collection to today's total of more than 16 million items. ➔



From 1908 until 1963, the collection was housed in the Smithsonian's Arts and Industries Building on the National Mall, in display cases shown on the right. In 1964, the collection was moved to what is now known as the National Museum of American History. There the collection expanded to include postal history

and stamp production. The collection was then moved to its present location and the National Postal Museum opened on the 30th July 1993.

In addition to the stamps, the National Postal Museum has postal stationery, postal history material that pre-dates stamps, vehicles used to transport the mail, mailboxes, meters, greeting cards, covers and letters. □





THE INVERTED JENNY

Zaru Vella



When the U.S. post issued their first airmail stamp in May 1918, philatelists were immediately on the lookout for any errors, that were not uncommon amongst previous issues of bi-coloured stamps.

Back then, aeroplanes were new on the scene, so the War Department and Post Office were both interested in learning just how well these new contraption could improve communications through their speed and efficiency. The rate for airmail postage was set at 24 cents and the stamps, depicting a Curtiss Jenny biplane were hastily printed only a few days prior to the first inaugural flight on May 15.

Meanwhile, an astute philatelist named William Robey, entered a New York post office and asked the attending clerk for a full sheet containing 100 of the New Jenny stamps. In his own words Robey recounted how the postal clerk, “brought forth a full sheet and my heart stood still”. The image was printed upside down!! “It was a thrill that comes only once in a lifetime”, said Robey, and knowing full well what this was worth on the philatelic market, he ventured to ask the clerk whether he had any more of such sheets. At this the clerk



was suspicious and closed his window to report this to his superiors. Robey understood that if he was to remain there any longer, his prize stamps could easily be confiscated, so he quietly left the post office and hid the stamps under his mattress. When postal authorities caught the news, they tried to hassle Robey into returning the stamps, but as far as the law was concerned, the stamps were legally bought over the counter and Robey soon sold the entire sheet for a cool \$15,000 - a fortune in those days. The postal clerk was interviewed in later years and when asked how he failed to spot such an obvious error he exclaimed he had never seen a biplane before so, “how was I to know whether it was the right way up or not?”

The sheet was subsequently sold for \$20,000 to Edward H.R. Green, an eccentric philatelist and millionaire who broke the sheet up into individual stamps and blocks of four to distribute amongst other collectors. Green even went as far as to have one of the inverted Jenny stamps framed back to back with another normal Jenny stamp within a gold framed glass locket as a gift to his wife Mabel Green, although rumours has it that she never wore the locket.

As one of the most classical stamp errors to date, an inverted Jenny stamp catalogues at around \$150,000 whilst a block of four fetches a staggering £600,000. □

Source: alphabetilately

Copies of various philatelic publications are available for free temporary loan to members by contacting the Secretary.



FIRST DAY COVERS
 issued by **MALTAPOST**
 during **YEAR 2002**

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>DATE OF ISSUE</u>
1. Seahorses	30th January 2002
2. Antique Maltese Furniture	27th March 2002
3. Europa	9th May 2002
4. Moths and Butterflies	26th June 2002
5. Maltese Cuisine	13th August 2002
6. Cacti and Succulents	25th September 2002
7. Personalities	18th October 2002
8. Christmas 2002	20th November 2002
9. Postage Labels (Self Adhesive)	9th January 2002



not just for BEGINNERS

Originating from various requests and comments, this regular section aims at offering help to both juniors and adults. Regular features will include explanations of philatelic terms and details of stamp issuers; but we do invite members to send questions and enquiries (e.g. about identification uncertainties). Moreover you are encouraged to offer your own contributions, even short items or tips.

Where in the World ?! (1)

(Antoine Vassallo)

Stamp Issuers Past and Present

A overprint (= Avianca)

A & T overprint (= Annan & Tonquin)

Abu Dhabi Persian Gulf State which first issued stamps in 1964 (then under British Postal Administration). From 1973 uses stamps of the United Arab Emirates.

Abyssinia (= Ethiopia)

Acaponeta (Mexican stamp overprinted during Civil War)

Acores (= Azores)

Aden British Colony on the southern coast of Arabia which first issued stamps in 1937. The “Aden Protectorate States” issued theirs too. Stamps of the South Arabian Federation superseded these in 1965. Now uses stamps of Yemen.

A.E.F. (= French Equatorial Africa)

Aegean Islands (= Dodecanese Islands)

Afars & Issas (= Djibouti)

Afghanistan (Afghanes) Central Asian country which first issued stamps in 1871.

Africa (=Portuguese)

Former issuers **CURRENT ISSUERS** *Inscriptions*
(to be continued)



stamp terms used in PHILATELY

(Emanuel Vella)

Accessories: are the aids available for the collectors like hinges and mounts of various sizes, magnifiers, tweezers, perforation and measurement gauges, colour guides, albums etc.

Advertising by Postmark: some postal agencies use special postmarks to advertise. This kind of advertising began during the First World War. Since then many slogan cancellations have been used for Government publicity. Holiday resorts, towns and villages, governmental agencies are the ones who usually use postmarks advertising.

Aerogramme: This is the official U.P.U. name for airletter sheet. These are lightweight sheets with gummed flaps and usually with a stamp printed on them. These are carried by air at less than normal airmail rates. The first aerogramme was issued in Iraq in July 1933. They became very popular with the armed forces during the last World War. It is a recognised philatelic sideline.

Aero-Philately: The collection and study of postage stamps for use on airborne mail.

Agency: This term has two meanings in philately namely:

- A postal agency operated by the Post Office of one country in the territory of another.
- An organisation of either public or private enterprise handling and promoting sales of new issues to the stamp trade on behalf of the issuing government e.g. the Crown Agents.

(to be continued)

script by script (1)

This space in each issue will feature stamps without any identifiable name in our normal alphabet or providing some similar difficulty.

Modern Japanese stamps are inscribed “Nippon” but previous ones can be recognized through the “squared

8” at the extremity of the country name, the “chrysanthemum” symbol or even the currency (usually





QUIZ COMPETITION

Open to all Junior Members of the Gozo Philatelic Society

- i) When did the US Post issue its first Air Mail stamp?
- ii) When did Malta issue its first Christmas Miniature Sheet?
- iii) What is Aero-Philately?
- iv) How many items does the American National Philatelic Collection have?

Please send your answers on a separate paper together with your name, address and membership number by not later than 31st December 2002 to:

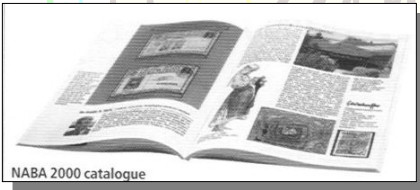


*The Secretary
Gozo Philatelic Society
P.O. Box 10, Victoria Gozo VCT 101*



Prize

An attractive packet of different European Stamps generously donated by Mr Hans Katzensteiner.



NABA 2000 catalogue





PREVIOUS QUIZ COMPETITION RESULTS

Answers to above captioned competition which was published in G.P.S. Newsletter No. 9 are as follows:

- i) * Essay in philately means a rejected or unused design for a stamp.
- ii) * Scinde Dawks.
- iii) * 21.11.1947.
- iv) * From 19th to 31st October 2002 at Exhibition Hall, St Francis Square, Victoria Gozo.

PRIZE WINNER:

GPS Prize Winner of an attractive packet of different European stamps goes to Gabriella Azzopardi of “Altair” Blk. 6 Soil Street, Xewkija, Gozo (Member No.207)

*This packet was generously donated by
Mr Hans Katzensteiner
who is also one of our members.*



CONGRATULATIONS !!!





GOZO on Malta's Stamps

(continued from Issue No. 9)

Antoine Vassallo

The Gozo Philatelic Society Logo was designed by Mr Anthony Grech on the first pictorial Maltese stamp. So it is appropriate to glance at Gozo on Malta's stamps.

Correction:

Previous No 1 should read as follows:

1. 1899 Pictorials

1.1 4½ d Gozo Boat

1.2 (watermark changed to “Multiple Crown (from single Crown) over CA”)

1.3 (colour changed from brown to orange)

Please add to the previously printed list:

22.(a) 1987 Commemorations

5c Mgarr Harbour included in design



A first attempt at checklist (3)

34. 1997 Europa 35c Gharb “San Mitri” Legend

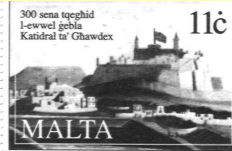




35. 1997 Cathedral Tercent

35.1 06c Gozo Cathedral

35.2 11c Gozo Citadel



36. 1999 Republic Anniversary

19c Victoria Citadel to honour local government



37. 2000 Twentieth Century

37.1 16c Gozitan "Orkestra tad-Dudi"

37.2 27c Gozitan Landscape



38. 2001 Lighthouses

16c "Ta' Gurdan" in Gozo





39. 2001 Dogs

16c Gozitan-owned “Champ”



40. 2002 Postage Labels

- 40.1 (No fixed value) Azure Window
- 40.2 (No fixed value) Blue Lagoon



41. 2002 Personalities

- 41.1 03c Sir Adrian Dingli - Gozitan Statist.
- 41.2 35c Archpriest Saverio Cassar - Leader of the Gozitans against the French.
- 41.3 50c Notary Emmanuele Vitale - ended his public service in Gozo.



Members are invited to contribute their own suggestions.

A Gaultitana collection can be expanded with various other items, as will be detailed in future issues. □



GOZITAN PERSONALITIES

Anton Said Micallef

On the 18th October 2002 Maltapost issued a set of five stamps featuring prominent people. It is worth noting that among these there are two Gozitans namely: Sir Adrian Dingli and Archpriest Saverio Cassar. Therefore it is opportune to give a short biography of these two Gozitans.



Sir Adrian Dingli 1817 - 1900

Sir Adrian Dingli was born in Valletta. His father was the Gozitan Sir Paolo Dingli. Adrian was educated at the Mdina Seminary and later at the University of Malta from where he graduated Doctor of Laws at the age of 19. He continued his studies at various universities in Europe.

He entered politics and in 1849 was elected to represent Gozo in the Government Council. He was instrumental in setting up of Gozo as an Independent Diocese in 1864.

In 1853 was appointed Crown Advocate. He was made Knight Commander of the Order of St Michael and St George in 1857. In 1878 he acted as temporary Legal Advisor to Sir Garnet Wolseley who was High Commissioner and Commander-in-Chief. In 1880 Sir Adrian Dingli was appointed Chief Justice



and president of the Court of Appeals. In 1893 he was nominated Vice-President of the Council of Government. He served on very important diplomatic missions amongst which were those in London , Tunis, Cyprus and Turin. Sir Adrian's greatest contribution was his compilation of Malta's reformed Code of Civil and Commercial Law. The building of the Theatre Royal and the Valletta Market were built due to his pressure on the administration of that time .

Sir Adrian Dingli retired after 40 years service in public life at the age of 77. Sir Arthur Fremantle, Governor of Malta 1894-98 spoke highly of him and remarked that he should always be remembered amongst the greatest Maltese personalities who rendered sterling service to the general public. □

(Source: Heritage Portrait Gallery)

Archpriest Francesco Saverio Cassar 1746 - 1805

Francesco Saverio was born on December 29th 1746 in the neighbourhood known as ta' Santa Cecilja in the district of Ghajnsielem, limits of the parish of Nadur where he was also baptised. It is believed that the old house where he was born is still prominently standing at the above mentioned site.

He studied in Rome where he graduated Doctor of Divinity at the University of La Sapienza and while he was still there, was ordained as a priest by His Excellency Mons. Francesco Mattei, Patriarch of Alexandria on March 30th 1771. Two years later on April 20th 1773 when he was still in Rome was appointed archpriest of the Church Matrix of Gozo at the age of twenty seven because his uncle archpriest Giacomo Galea had retired. He took office on December 6th of the same year. Shortly after he returned to Gozo, Bishop Carmine Joannes Pallezano chose him to be his representative in Gozo.

Rev Archpriest F Saverio Cassar did a great deal for the Church Matrix in Gozo. But he is mostly remembered for his part played when the French were expelled from the island.

(Continued on page 22) ↪



COMPETITION RESULTS OF THE 3RD GPS PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

(Antoine Vassallo Secretary)

Summary of Judging Panel's Report

The Panel consisted of Mr Anthony Fenech, Mr J Buttigieg and Mr Antoine Vassallo. The range and quality of exhibits have again been very impressive and all participants should be congratulated. The following orders of merit were decided, based on the criteria of Presentation, Content and Philatelic Knowledge, but few positions were actually clear-cut. They added that the good number of Junior entries augurs well for the future of philately in Gozo.

- **SENIORS:**

1. ***TRADITIONAL PHILATELY
(NATURE & ENVIRONMENT)***

- 1st Mr Anthony Grech
- 2nd Mr Jason Borg
- 3rd Mr Martin Vella

2. ***POSTAL HISTORY***

- 1st Mr Anthony Grech
- 2nd Mr Felix Cutajar
- 3rd Mr Anton Said Cremona





• **JUNIORS:**

1st Christabel Galea;

2nd Michael Apap;

3rd Martin Vella;

4th Andrea Borg;

5th Ilona Masini;

6th Gabriella Azzopardi

BANK OF VALLETTA CHALLENGE CUP

The Panel also had to choose one single entry, competing or otherwise, on the level of presentation and completion. “**Censor Marks**” - **Postal History Section** - presented by Mr Anthony Grech won this prize. It was noted that several others merited recognition for their effort.

CONGRATULATIONS !!!

The GPS Committee would also like to thank the panel for its in-depth report.

for the attention of all MEMBERS

All members are cordially invited to attend the following two important events which are going to be held in the near future.

- **Members meeting and Presentation of Prizes and Certificates.**

**Sunday 15th December 2002
at 10.00am - Scouts H.Q. - Victoria.**

- **3rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Sunday 12th January 2003
at 10.00am - Scouts H.Q. - Victoria**



(Continued from page 19)

On September 18th 1798 a Congress was founded to organize the blockade of the 217 French soldiers and officers in the Citadel. The congress chose F Saverio Cassar as Head of the temporary government and Chief Superintendent of the island. In this government there were representatives from Rabat, Xewkija, Sannat, Gharb, Zebbug, Xaghra and Nadur.

The blockade was under the leadership of Archpriest Cassar who had set up his quarters on Gelmus Hill from where he could well observe the movements of the enemy in the Citadel. Meanwhile he asked for help from Sicily, but the first to arrive to the rescue on September 19th was the Marquis de Niza, Portugese with five sea crafts, and on September 22nd George Henry Cagl arrived too. On October 24th Sir Horatio Nelson Vice Admiral of the British Fleet arrived on his frigate Vanguard. That same evening Archpriest Cassar had a meeting with Nelson on the frigate and they discussed the articles of the capitulation and how the French were to be convinced to accept it.

On October 27th Captain Alexander John Ball crossed over to Gozo to make the enemy sign the capitulation. The French realizing that help from outside was quite remote, signed the agreement on Sunday October 28th 1798. With the last French soldier out of the Citadel, the White Ensign came up flying by the Captain of the British Marines John Creswell. The following day Monday October 29th Capt. John Creswell passed the rule of the Citadel and the island to Archpriest F Saverio Cassar. Strictly speaking during this time Gozo and Comino in theory still made part of the Kingdom of Sicily, though in reality they enjoyed some sort of independence up to September 5th 1800, when the capitulation of the French in Malta was signed and the Maltese Islands came under British protection.

Archpriest Cassar will be also remembered for starting the ball rolling asking the authorities for Gozo to be a diocese, which became a reality when Rev Mikiel Frangisk Buttigieg was Archpriest of il-”Matrici.”

Rev Arch Francesco Cassar died on December 16th 1805. □

(Source “L-Ghid tal-Assunta 1998” Prof. Rev. Jos Bezzina.)



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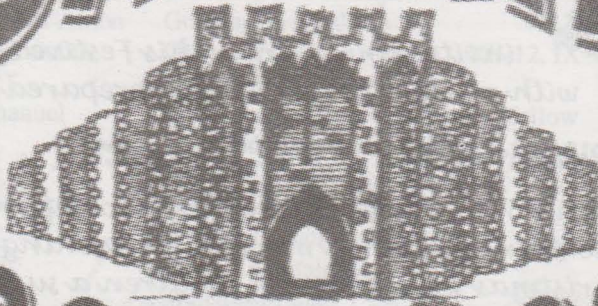
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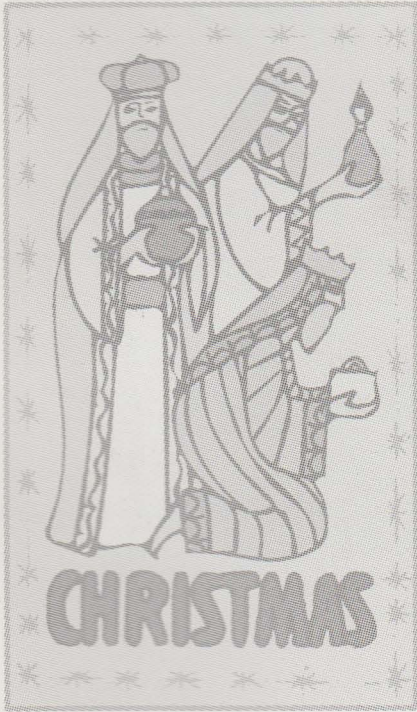


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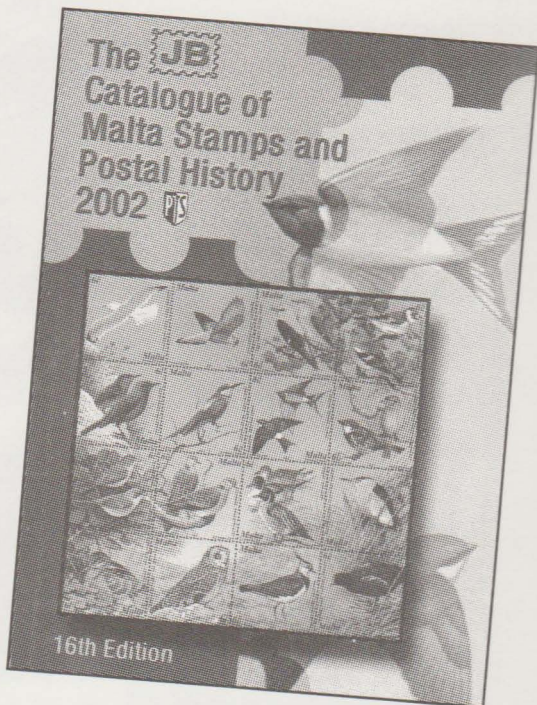
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