

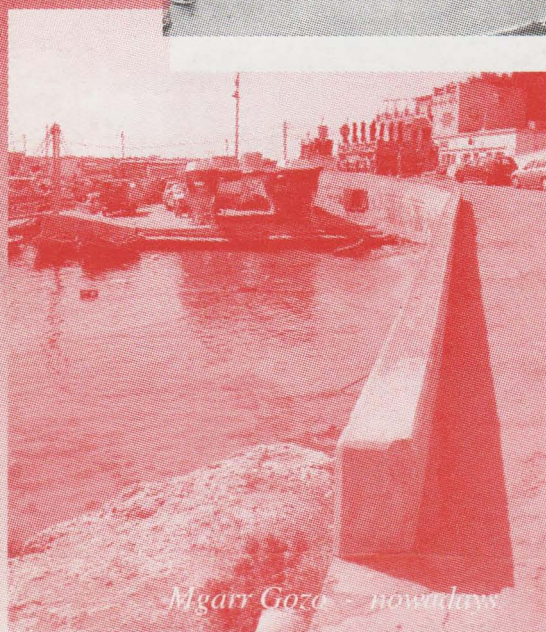


April -.June 2004

No. 16 - 2/2004



Mgarr Gozo - before 1900



Mgarr Gozo - nowadays

GOZO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Newsletter

NEWSPAPER POST

Għal Kull Servizz Bankarju



**AKTAR VALUR
BIEX TIXTRI
JEW TIBNI
DAREK**

BOV Homelink
success



Aghżel
int u nnota
d-differenza!

BOV Notice Account

306090



BOV TeenSaver Account

It-tfaddil li jikber malajr daqs it-tfal tieghek

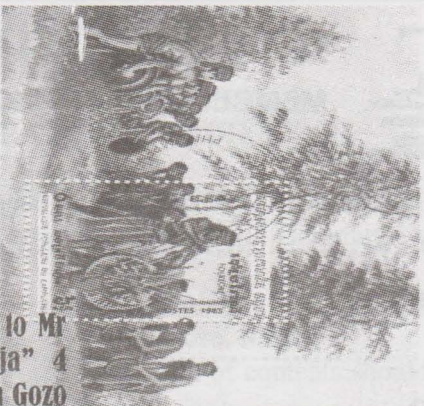


BOV Savings Plan

Il-pjan ta' tfaddil b'bonus!

BOV

www.bov.com e-mail: customercare@bov.com



Special Offer!
Send Lm1 - mint Malta stamps to Mr Anthony Grech "Warda Maltija" 4 Block 6 Babisku Street Xewkija Gozo or Tel No 21553338; and you will receive 66 different British Commonwealth stamps and 3 miniature sheets.

Hurry!! Limited stock available



Barcelona '92



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



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 (16)

Antoine Vassallo (Secretary)

January 2004: Ministry Hall booked from 15th October 2004 for 5th GPS Exhibition.

March 2004: Newsletter 15 boasts of a new-style cover.

March 2004: Two new cards (which now boast a consecutive numbering) produced by Anthony Grech for the Kercem Gregorian Centenary handstamp and the Victoria Postbox stamp.

13th March 2004: Sub-committee chosen to propose a rationalized statute.

25th March 2004: Traditional Mass at *Lunzjata Chapel* (in which locality the GPS was born)

27th March 2004: Malta visit by Seminary club (which was featured prominently in the school annual.)

7th April 2004: Lecture for Seminary club members.

April 2004: Special envelope and card prepared by Anthony Grech for Salesian sheet and “Gozitan” shrew stamp respectively.

12th April 2004: Members’ Meeting at Victoria Scouts HQ.

13th May 2004: Seminary Club Exhibition (see page 19)

15th May 2004: Final meeting of statute rationalization sub-committee.

Die Malta (the German periodical published by Arbeitsgemeinschaft Malta e.V.) has again featured the GPS. Its Nr 3 showed an item from our Newsletter, together with a reproduction of our special Windmills cover (with a short write-up.)

In Issue 15, we began a “then and now” series on the front cover - old postcards together with the equivalent modern photo. Members who possess interesting examples are invited to offer them to be featured in the future.

COLLECTING POSTCARDS

George Vella

Philately has various aspects in what one may collect. The hobbyist is free to collect whatever he desires. A philatelist or a new comer to the hobby often asks himself what he is going to collect. Nowadays everybody knows that it is impossible to collect all the world's stamps. A collector now knows that he has to be thematic in what he collects. Yet I suggest that one should not discard any philatelic material that comes his way. This should be 'stored' and may be exchanged for any other philatelic material.

A thematic section in philately is the collecting of postcards. This brief write-up may serve to help starting collecting postcards or at least not to discard them.

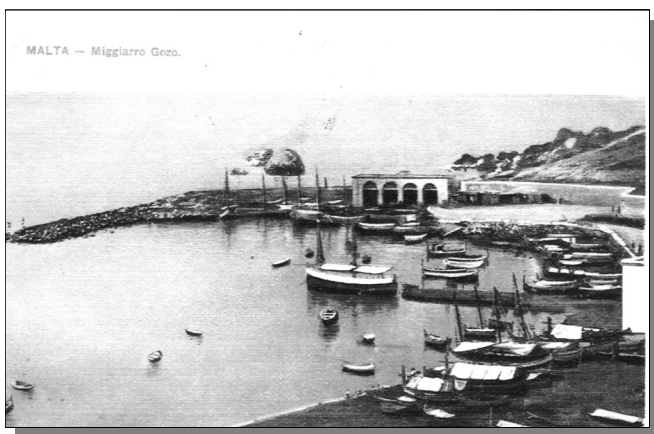
The use of a postcard is to convey a short message by the sender. Because of the stamp affixed to it, this shows from where it had been sent and where the sender is or has been. The picture on the card often shows a scene or a prominent place of the country or town from where it had been sent. Postcards were found to be practical because an individual keeps contact with family and friends in a quick way. This is because only a short message can be written on a postcard. Thus the sender has no need to send long letters which he often postpones to write or depends on others to have being written for him.

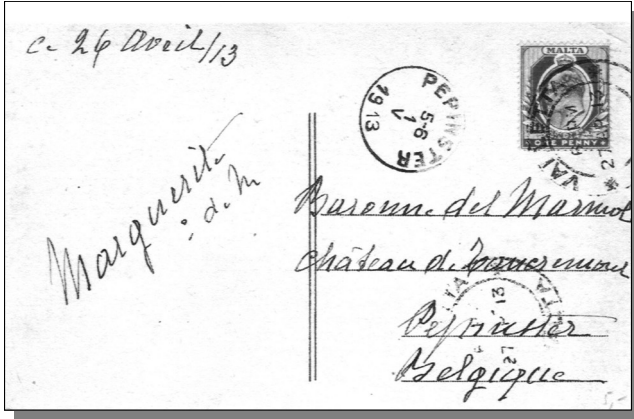
The 'invention' of postcards became very fashionable in the early twentieth century. During World War One the volume in sending postcards had increased a lot because of a lot of soldiers abroad. So it happened during World War Two. Later on, the volume also became high because of the tourist industry.

Now we must make a distinction between postcards that go through post and are considered as philatelic material and

those which are collected for the picture or a handstamp on it. Here one is to note that some postcards went through post without a postage stamp. This often happened when service men stationed abroad sent postcards. An interesting handwritten mark on postcards was 'O.A.S.', which means On Active Service. This was accompanied by a handstamp and bore no postage stamp. In Malta the 'O.H.M.S.' which means On Her/His Majesty Service, was very common and bore no postage stamp. All these went through post and are considered as philatelic material. Other handstamps may be encountered on postcards and all tell a story, e.g. 'PAQUEBOT', postman's handstamp, 'T' to show that it was taxed, etc.

Early twentieth century postcards are much sought for, might be rare and difficult to acquire and quite expensive to buy. Other singular postcards might be rare because of a particular handstamp. Yet this should not deter a collector to start this section of philately because recent and today's postcards will be the old postcards of tomorrow. Combined with this, the view in today's postcard may change in a future postcard taken from the same view point, making the oldest card more interesting.





In fact let us discuss the postcard reproduced above. The postcard is an early twentieth century one, it bears no name of the printer or distributor and is rare. It was sent from Malta to Belgium in 1913. The postage stamp is a red Maltese one penny King George V (No 33, JB Cat. 2002). It has no special handstamps but one common cancellation on the postage stamp done in Valletta, dated 27.4.1913 at 6.00pm. The other handstamp was done in Pepinster, Belgium, dated 5.6.1913. So this postcard reached its destination after 39 days!! It was written and addressed on 24.4.1913, and bears no message but the name of a female sender called Marguerite: d.m. It was addressed to Baronne del Marsuol at Chateau de Fancresuone (?) in Pepinster, Belgique. The view is of Miggiaro, Gozo, yet posted in Malta and not in Gozo. It is in colour and at that time not quite common to be so. If you go to the same view point today you will find a completely different Mgarr Harbour. The postcard reveals a lot of interesting details. One prominent detail is the wave barrier constructed in the open sea and is made of big irregular stones. Later in 1930's this wave barrier was extended and constructed out of rectangular stone blocks and concrete. It so happened that in the 1970's the harbour was again enlarged. Two new wave barriers were constructed in large irregular stones on the same principle shown in this postcard. Photos never lie. □

OPERATION PEDESTAL

Leslie Sutton

In order to maintain a strategic presence in the middle east during the 1939-45 war against the axis powers; Malta was a vital base from which to launch naval operations.

German and Italian naval and air forces tried to capture the island by blockading the supply of food stuffs, fuel oil and ammunition. Stocks of essentials came to within two months of running out during the summer of 1942, and therefore operations having been given priority for the use of surface supply shipping and escort vessels.

During the month of August a convoy consisting of thirteen large freight carrying vessels and one tanker were despatched as a convoy code named "Pedestal" escorted by one of the largest number of naval vessels committed to a single task up to that stage of the war in order to relieve the island.

Between the 2nd and 15th of August nine of the thirteen freighters together with a high proportion of their escorts were destroyed or severely damaged. Four freighters; The Melbourne Star, Brisbane Star, Rochester Castle and Port Chalmers, together with the tanker Ohio survived. This is still known by all Maltese as the "**Convoy of Santa Maria**" - which feast is always celebrated around the Maltese islands on the 15th of August.

To commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of the event a philatelic postcard bearing a 75c version of SG 923 and a cachet incorporating an illustration of the George Cross awarded to the island and depicting the tanker Ohio on arrival in Grand Harbour; has been produced by Maltapost.



A few months later, after completion of its task, the vessel was towed to a point two miles away from the Maltese coast where it was sunk clear of shipping lanes. □

Lots of Stamps for Sale at a cheap price!!!

These include Poland, Canada, Germany, Czechoslovakia, etc.

Also available First Day Covers of Malta at ½ Catalogue price.

Those interested can contact Mr John Muscat on Tel No 21553875

WORLD FAMOUS STAMPS

Emanuel Vella

In this issue I am going to write about famous stamps. This does not mean that the stamps I am going to write about cost a lot of money.

Let us begin with the Penny Black. This stamp is famous because it was the first adhesive stamp ever issued and the first to display monarchy, in this case, Queen Victoria. It was issued in Great Britain and the One Penny Black was bought to pay for letters posted and sent to any part of Great Britain.



The sheets of the Penny Black were not perforated, that is they did not have holes between stamps. They were printed in sheets of 240 stamps each. Each sheet had twenty rows of twelve. The first stamp was printed in 1840 and millions of these stamps were issued. These stamps had letters in the bottom corners. Each stamp in the sheet was different in the sense that the letters of each were different. Taking the first one penny stamp, printed in 20 horizontal rows of 12, as an example we have letterings as follows:-

Row 1 AA, AB, AC, etc. AL.

Row 2 BA, BB, BC, etc. BL

and so on to:

Row 20 TA, TB, TC, etc. TL

These letters on early British stamps were intended as a safeguard against forgery. Each stamp in the sheet had a different combination.

The same plate of the one penny black was used to print the two penny blue. This stamp was for overseas letters but at that time most countries did not have any postal service as we know it. Most of these stamps were used by service men who used to work overseas.



For the first four years the stamps were obliterated with the so called Maltese Cross. At first these crossed did not have any number but after about a year, different branches used to have a different number in the middle. In 1944 the Maltese Cross obliteration was stopped and a postmark with line and number began to be used. In Malta the A25 was used . In England they have similar type of obliterations but with different numbers.

As I said before, millions of these stamps were printed, but a lot of stamps were used as wall paper to decorate lamp shades and therefore a lot of them were likewise lost to philately. They are not scarce and one can get a good example for about Lm60. This price is for fine used stamps with four margins. Mint stamps cost a little more and stamps with less than four margins can be bought for less. Surely, it depends on the condition of the stamp. □

***Please note that members can contact the Secretary (or directly, Archivist - Librarian Mr John Muscat on Tel No 21553875) for free temporary loans of various philatelic publications.**

***You are all invited to contribute to this, our periodical.**

***When sending by post, please do not send cash money, but use only cheques (or Money Orders) or Mint current Malta stamps in order to pay your subscription or acquire items shown.**

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 ?! (7)

(Antoine Vassallo)

Stamp Issuers Past and Present

British Honduras Central American British colony which became Belize in 1973. Stamps from 1866.

BRITISH INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORY Issues from 1968.

British Levant British Post Offices in the Ottoman Empire 1885-1914.

British Military Administration of Malaya Issues 1945-8, gradually replaced by those of the states of the Federation of Malaya.

British New Guinea (southwestern part of the island) issues from 1901 to 1906; see Papua.

British North Borneo see Borneo

British Occupation of former Italian Colonies see M.E.F., Cyrenaica, Eritrea, Somalia and Tripolitania.

British Occupation of Iraq 1917-8.

British Post Offices in Crete 1898-9.

British Postal Agencies in Eastern Arabia (including Abu Dhabi, Doha, Dubai, Muscat and Umm Said).

British Railway Administration issue in 1901 for mail on the Peking-Taku railway (China)

British Solomon Islands British Protectorate in the Pacific with stamps from 1907 to 1975 when name changed to Solomon Islands.

British Somaliland Protectorate stamps from 1903 to 1960 when joined with Somalia.

British South Africa Company issues 1890 to 1925 for administration of Rhodesia.

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS in West Indies (Leeward islands) stamps from 1866.

BRUNEI Sultanate and state in the north of the island of Borneo with stamps from 1906; Japanese occupation issues 1942-5.

Brunswick (*Braunschweig*) German duchy with own issues 1852-67.

Buenos Aires Argentine local issues 1858-62.

BULGARIA Country in SE Europe with stamps from 1879 (when still part of the Ottoman Empire).

Bulgarian Occupation of Dobruja (Romania) 1916-7.

Bundesrepublik Deutschland = (W) Germany.

Bundi Indian state with own stamps 1894-1947.

Bureau International d'Education Issues for (UN) International Education Office in Switzerland (1904-60).

Bureau International du Travail Issues from 1923 for (UN) International Labour Office (Switzerland).

BURKINA FASO Upper Volta was so called from 1984.

Burma stamps from 1937 as a British Dominion (Japanese occupation 1942-5). Independent from 1948 and renamed Myanmar in 1990.

(to be continued)

Bold italic = Inscriptions;

BOLD CAPITALS = Current Issuers;

Bold = Former Issuers.

(Since it is obviously impossible to be completely exhaustive, you are encouraged to bring any gaps to my notice!)

stamp terms used in PHILATELY (7)

(Emanuel Vella)

Deutsche Reich: The German state. Inscription on most German stamps before 1945.

Die: The piece of metal or other material on which the original design of the stamp is engraved or otherwise applied. It is after multiplied to form the plate from which the stamps are printed. When more than one die is used to produce a particular issue, the differences are after noticeable to become collectable varieties. For example the Queen Victoria colonial head-plate is catalogued from two dies and the King George V colonial head-plate from four.

Disinfected Mail: From the 14th to early 19th century it was common practice in many parts of Europe to disinfect mail which had originated in or passed through an area considered to be disease-infested, particularly the Middle East. This was done by fumigating the letters through slits cut in them or by splashing or even immerse in vinegar. Each country had its quarantine station. In Britain this system was used between 1671 and 1850. In Malta such system was used too. Various disinfection markings were applied to mail thus treated. These letters are worth a lot of money. In the light of modern medical knowledge the practice of disinfecting mail in this manner is now known to have been pointless. These letters which show signs of disinfection are keenly collected and studied by postal history enthusiasts.

Documentary Stamps: Sometimes called fiscals. These are stamps used on official and business documents.

Dues: Stamps which are affixed to letter because only part of the postage has been paid. These stamps have to be paid by the person who receive the letter.

Dump: A stamp or postmark is said to be “dumb” when it bears no outward indication of the country or place of origin. Sometimes the term is extended to include stamps which bear no indication of the face value.

Duplicates: Stamps should be examined carefully for watermark, colour, design and perforations before one says that they are duplicated.

“E”: Abbreviation for escudo, Portugal currency unit. Preceded by £ sign it indicates the Egyptian pound. Overprints of Bavarian stamps of 1908 signifies “Eisenbahn behorden” which means for use on railway. On stamps of Colombia the E letter indicated that the stamp is a consular overprint sold in Spain - “Espana”. On Great Britain stamps the E indicates Economy - “The Cheaper rate”.

E.A.F. Overprints: This stands for East African Force. Stamps of G.B. for use by British troops in Somalia. First issued on 15th January 1943 and superseded by B. M.A. o/hs in 1948.

E.E.F.: Egyptian Expeditionary Force. Stamps so overprinted were issued in February 1918 for British-occupied parts of the Ottoman Empire in the Middle East. From 1920 they remained in use, suitably overprinted, under the civil administration of Palestine. They were not replaced until 1927 when the first Palestine definitives appeared. *(to be continued)*

Script by Script (7)

(Antoine Vassallo)

This regular space features stamps without any identifiable name in “Latin” script or providing some similar difficulty.

After having looked through various alphabets, today I show three Austrian stamps with no country identification.



The first is from a set in similar designs issued from 1867 for both Austria and Hungary, the two components of the Austrian Empire. The person shown is Emperor Francis Joseph. They exist in innumerable perforation and other varieties. Values ranged from 2 to 50 kreuzer.

The Mercury design is a newspaper stamp (sold at 1k) issued for use in both countries in 1867. It exists with type, shade and similar differences.



The third one is from postage due stamps (as evidenced by the only word “Porto”) which Austria began issuing in 1908. Values ran from 1 heller to 10 kroner. They were printed (on a variety of different papers) in red, with the two top values in violet. □



QUIZ COMPETITION

Open to all Junior Members of the Gozo Philatelic Society

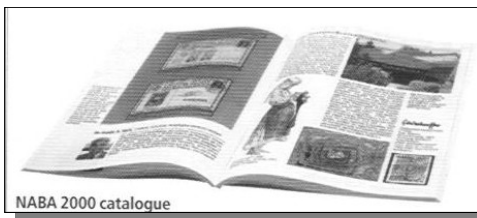
- i) What does E & O not E stand for ?
- ii) In what year was the first stamp printed ?
- iii) What is the use of a postcard ?
- iv) What is the meaning of “OHMS” ?

Please send your answers on a separate paper together with your name, address and membership number by not later than 31st July 2004 to:

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

Prize

First Day Cover of Malta or Mint Set of Malta Stamps generously donated by Mr Jesmond Borg.



PREVIOUS QUIZ COMPETITION RESULT

Answers to above captioned competition which was published in G.P.S. Newsletter No.15 are as follows:

- i) Luxembourg.
- ii) 8th November 1971.
- iii) 29th October 2003.
- iv) “Ta’ Kola”.

PRIZE WINNER:

GPS Prize Winner of First Day Cover of Malta goes to Joseph Attard of “Morning Star” Ghajn Mhelhel Street Zebbug Gozo GRB 103. (Member No. 322)

*This prize was generously donated by
Mr Jesmond Borg
who is also one of our members.*

CONGRATULATIONS !!!



E & O not E (2)

(Antoine Vassallo)

It is my intention in this series to alternate between printing and design mistakes. The title obviously meant “Errors and Omissions not Excluded”, amending the note which is so common on commercial documents! As usual, you are encouraged to submit suggestions.

In 1956 the German Democratic Republic (East Germany) issued a set of two stamps to commemorate the death centenary of composer Robert Alexander Schumann, born in Zwickau in 1810. A single simple design was used: his portrait placed against a background of music.



Unfortunately K Eigler had mixed up his scores! In fact he showed bars composed by Austrian Franz Peter Schubert (1797 - 1828) for a poem by German poet Johann Wolfgang von Goethe.

Background music showing bars composed by Schubert

So the set was reissued a couple of months later in a corrected design. □



Stamp reissued with the corrected background music

Australian MALTA (1)

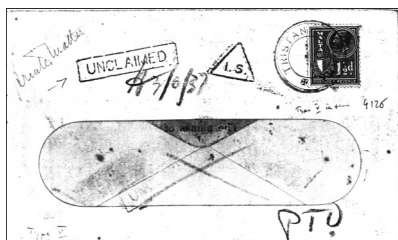
John Vassallo, who lives in Australia, offers glimpses of his Malta Collection.

I begin by showing this (possibly unique) envelope (front and back photocopies).

The Maltese stamp (JB 164) is clearly postmarked “TRISTAN DA CUNHA” with one of the cachet handstamps used in this Atlantic island before it began issuing its own stamps. There is a “VALLETTA” cds (earlier than the script annotation) on the back.

The front has other markings but, being a glassine-windowed envelope, no addressee. The envelope was returned to the sender who, as embossed upside down on the back, had a British address.

The story behind this item might be quite interesting but the contents must surely not have been confidential since the envelope was left unsealed (for the cheaper printed matter rate)



A MEMORABLE DAY

Anton V Said

Thursday the 13th of May 2004 was a day worth remembering for the sacred Heart Minor Seminary Gozo, as a Stamp Day, the first ever of its kind was organized in conjunction with the Gozo Philatelic Society. Thanks to the initiative of Fr Jerry Buhagiar, the club's leader and to the school's administration all members of the school's philatelic club, some forty in number, took part. Research on various philatelic topics was thoroughly done and handsomely displayed with detailed diagrams and sketches which drew the admiration of the distinguished guests who turned up for this activity. Amongst these were Mr John Curtin of John Curtin Limited (international stamp dealer) and Dr Luciano Cruciani of Rome, another authority in philately. The latter went as far as expressing the wish of acquiring copies of all the works exhibited. In return he promised stamp tokens to all members as an appreciation.



The judges Mr Anthony Fenech, vice president of the Malta Philatelic Society and Mr Joe Buttigieg of the Sliema Stamp Shop were of the same opinion. In fact it was not an easy task for them to judge the best entries. They both had words of praise for the high standard reached and they themselves together with the Malta Post donated prizes for all participants for their efforts and to encourage them to keep up the good work.

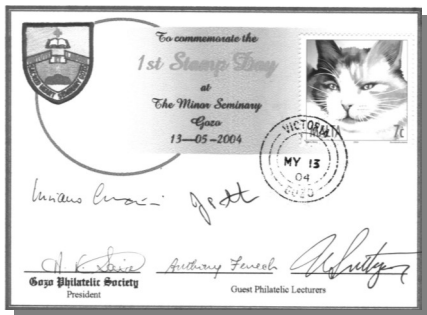
The climax of this activity was reached when Mr Anthony Fenech delivered a very interesting and informative talk about



Mr Anthony Fenech delivering the speech

stamp perforation, watermarks and types of gum used. Reference was also made to the well known Maltese artist Envin Cremona who had brilliantly designed quite a good number of Malta's

sets of stamps. Later the members were given the opportunity to exchange views regarding this hobby with other senior philatelic members present.



One must not forget to mention the cards designed by our society's artist Mr Anthony Grech and Fr Jerry Buhagiar with the day's postal stamp printed on; to commemorate this memorable occasion.



Being a great success one is hoping that this activity would find its place in this school's annual calendar of events.

MALTA'S RELIGIOSITY EVIDENCED PHILATELICALLY A CROSS-REFERENCED A - Z

(Antoine Vassallo)

(continued from Newsletter No 15)

D is for DUN (continued)

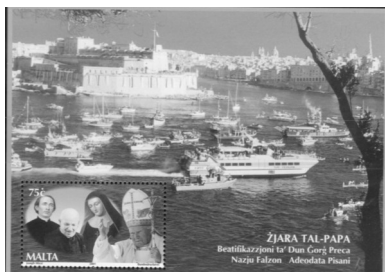
- Patri Anastasju Cuschieri PhD O Carm (1876 - 1962) member of the Senate, poet, polemicist and University professor. **10c Personalities 1988.**
- Mons Giuseppe de Piro (1877 - 1933) of blue-blood birth, was the founder of the Missionary Society of St Paul. **3c stamp on his 50th death anniversary 1983.** 
- Kan GPF Agius Sultana, known as De Soldanis, (1712-70) is famous as a historian, philologist and generally, one of our first *literati*. **1s6d Literary 1971.**
- Mons Sidor Formosa D Th (1851-1931) was the philanthropist founder of the *Figlie di Maria* and the Ursuline Sisters. **3c Personalities 1988.**
- Mons Tommaso Gargallo (1544-1614) opened the College which eventually became the University. **26c Education 1997.** 
- Atanasius Kircher was a German Jesuit priest, known as a scientist and writer, who lived in Malta for some months from 1637 and left us interesting local notes. **15c Personalities 2002.**
- Father Patrick O'Grady was an Irish Salesian who became the first Rector of St Patrick's School. **75c**

- Mons Carmelo Psaila CBE, known as *Dun Karm* (1871-1961) was a linguist and our only National Poet, authoring the National Anthem **2s Literary 1971.**
- Mons Paolo Pullicino MA DD (1815-90) Educationalist, art critic and writer. **19c Education 1997.**
- Mons Pietru Pawl Saydon DD DLitt (1895-1971) translated the whole Bible into Maltese and was a champion of our language. **25c Personalities 1988.**
- Dun Mikiel Xerri (1737-99) University professor and patriot, executed during the uprising against the French. **6c Bicentennial 1999.**
See **E O**



E is for EVENTS

a) The **Beatification** ceremony of Malta's first Blessed took place during John Paul's II visit in 2001. Beatification is the solemn declaration by the Pope that a deceased person is in a state of bliss and thus can be publicly venerated, being the penultimate step before canonization. As was to be expected, a specific set was issued for the occasion. The three are shown on the **6c** and **75c** (miniature sheet) values.



They had already been commemorated individually:

- Nazju Falzon (1813-65) graduated as a lawyer (and also took Minor Orders) but spent most of his adult life exercising a catechetical mission with British soldiers and sailors. **2c Personalities 1988.**
- Maria Adeodata Pisani (1806-55), abbess at St Peter's Benedictine Monastery in Mdina, was continuously of service to the thronging poor. **4c Religious Commemorations 1991.**
- Gorg Preca (1880-1962) was the founder of the Society of Christian Doctrine ("MUSEUM") **2c5 stamp on his birth centenary 1980.**



b) Malta's history includes many other events with religious connections, some of which are shown on stamps:

- The baptism of the island in 60 AD was commemorated by the **6-value St Paul's shipwreck set 1960.**
- Arrival of the Knights of Malta in 1530. **2½d (and changed colour) KG6 Defs 1938, 1943, 1948 and 1953; 6c SMOM 1999.**
- The International Eucharistic Congress held in 1913 was commemorated on the **1/3d** of the **1965 Defs**, surcharged **5c in 1972.**
- The Santa Marija Convoy, which arrived with essential supplies on the feast of the Assumption, was shown on the **50c** of the **1992 War set.**



See [FHJNO](#)

F is for FOLKLORE & FESTAS

- Carnival is the period of merrymaking just before the austere season of Lent. Set of **7-values** (and MS) **2001;7c5 Folklore 1976; 16c Europa 2002; 46c Europa 2003.**
- Fireworks developed as an ‘essential’ element in the religious feasts organized annually in each village: **5-value set 2000; 5c Defs 1973; 1c3 Folklore 1976.**
- Folk singing by amateur players was long an essential part of most feasts **1c, 11c Xmas 1978; 16c Twentieth Century 2000.**
- Certain Food was associated with particular seasons, eg *kaghka tal-kavatelli* (Christmas) **27c** and fish (lent and Fridays) **16c Cuisine 2002.**
- The *Gostra* consisted of attempts at retrieving flags or gifts up a greasy pole and was a popular component of a few feasts. **30c Europa 1981.**
- Horse races have traditionally formed part of a good number of festivals. **8c Europa 1981.**
- Many Maltese Legends have religious connections: eg that of *San Dimitri*. **35c Europa 1997.**
- *Mnarja* includes a night of picnicking with rabbit stews and ballad singing on the eve of the feast of Saints Peter & Paul **.5c Folklore 1976;** on this and similar occasions, traditional instruments were used. **5-value set 2001.** (to be continued)



I am sure not to have been completely exhaustive; so readers are invited to suggest additions which can be included in future issues.

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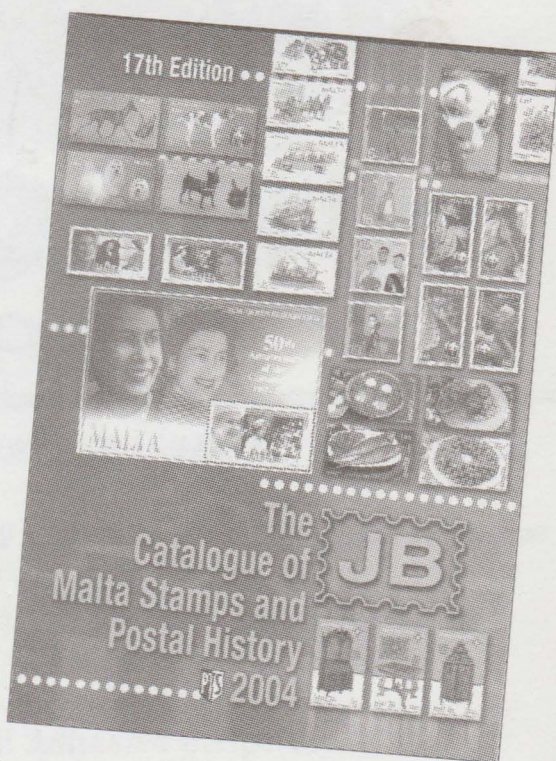
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CORRIGENDA

Newsletter No 14

Page 14 line 9 "Malasian" = Malay

Newsletter No 15

Various places "Xaghra"

Page 2 line 8 and page 18 "statute"

Page 4 line 5 "Honorary"

Page 7 The opening balance is obviously not an item of income, which in fact totalled Lm749.65c

Page 10 (Boka) "Cattaro"

Page 16 add (under the Crosswork answers): We are sorry that the clue for 20 down was left out.

Page 18 last line "high face values"

Page 21 penultimate line "within"

Page 22 This introduction was left out:

As originally mentioned in issue 12, Antoine Vassallo begins a survey of the country "with a different church for every day of the year" also, under "A",

This is very suitable as an introductory entry since a wide range of items have been shown on Malta's stamps, thus also reflecting the wealth of our heritage.

Page 24 line 4 (3rd date is 1948); under D (after Cassar) DD

At end:

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