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The Malta Independence Commemorative Stamps By

John V. De Battista

After "*The Break with Britain Resolution*" was moved in Parliament on the 30th December 1957, for the first time in Malta there was a common united front and cry by the two major political parties, that the road forward for Malta was that of Independence¹.

Following the May 1964 referendum, while the Independence negotiations with the British Government were still ongoing, minister Dr. Carmelo Caruana (1916-1992) who was responsible for Agriculture, Fisheries and Communications, asked celebrated artist Chev. Emvin Cremona (1919-1987) to design a set of stamps so as to mark and commemorate Malta's Independence.

Emvin Cremona was not new to this genre of work because he had already designed eight sets of postage stamps for Malta². The artist shortly after this request submitted his designs to the Ministry, which in its turn gave the necessary approvals.

The printing contract for the stamps was awarded, through the *Crown Agents*, to the renowned British printing firm of Harrison & Sons who were based in London. The firm started sending what in the printing industry are known as

"*proofs*" for approval. When the last one was delivered, Harrison & Sons requested the Minister to give them permission by a certain date so that the actual printing of the stamps could commence; as otherwise they held it would not be possible for them to complete the order in time by September as requested.

Since the talks for Independence had taken longer than originally thought and a final decision had still not been taken, the minister was not in a position to give the go ahead. Notwithstanding this, we learn from an article penned by the minister's secretary Mr. John Scicluna published in the "*Il-Mument*" newspaper of the 4th February 2007, that the minister at the time had told him that regardless of the uncertain situation he was going to give the go ahead to the printer just the same. It is said that the minister had taken this decision in the light that if Independence was not granted, the option remained for the stamps to still be released with the words "*Independence not granted*" overprinted on them^{3.4}.

In due course it resulted that this alternative measure was not necessary, as Malta's Independence was approved and the stamps were released as planned on the 21st September 1964, the day Malta became Independent.





The Independence Postage Stamp Set



Emvin Cremona

It is worth mentioning that the designs submitted by Cremona are very noteworthy in that they show the artist's skill in how to capture an idea and transmit a message. The basic design of all the stamps is composed of a dove, symbol of peace, superimposed over a vertical banner made up of our national colours, flying towards the Maltese eightpointed cross located at the upper left hand side. At the top right hand corner one finds the word 'Malta', while at the bottom one finds the word *Independence* together with the stamp face value.

On the two-pence and one shilling values, at the top left hand corner of the basic design we find the addition of the British Crown, a symbol of Malta's Colonialism, with the eight-pointed cross positioned right underneath. The Crown is replaced by the Pope's Tiara and a Cross, symbols of the Roman Catholic religion, for the three-penny and one shilling sixpence values. For the final two stamps which comprise the set, those of the sixpence and half crown values, these additional symbols are substituted with the emblem of the United Nations, a symbol of universal recognition of the sovereignty of member states.

With the varying of these symbols one may visualize the change which took place in Malta from a colonized country, embracing catholic values, to a sovereign state. However through the unchanged symbolism present in the basic design, one is also able to see a deeply rooted nation that throughout this journey also embraced and did not change what distinguishes us as Maltese. Finally, each stamp is given a unique appearance through the different colours used for the background; which some have interpreted to represent the innumerable hues of the colourful Maltese culture and character.

The stamps were printed by means of the *photogravure* process on Maltese Crosses (upright) watermarked paper, with an Arabic gum coating as adhesive. Each sheet consisted of sixty stamps, made up of six rows of ten stamps each. The perforation used for all the stamps is of 14.5 x 13.5 comb. Two printing plates were used for each of the six values, in each case with the alphanumeric designations of the plates being 1A1A1A and 1B1B1B.

The How Sn adjust Bons 31. Zunieg Rd. Grendi. Ronnice. M.D., M.P. First Day of Josue MAIT 21st September, 1964

Cancelled with the first minute of Independence on 21 September 1964

For the occasion of Independence Day, the Department of Posts set up a temporary branch within the annex of the Floriana Primary School in order that the needs of those present in the "Independence Arena" could be catered for. This branch was open on Independence Day from midnight up to four o' clock in the morning, from eight up to noon and in the evening from six o'clock till midnight.

The Department of Posts also thought of commemorating the event through



the use of a commemorative hand stamp. This special hand stamp has an unusual twist behind it as well, since besides the "normal" time set it may also be found used with the time reading 00.01 so as to indicate the first minute following Independence⁵.

The Government, on its part, prepared a special commemorative folder with these stamps which was distributed only to the Members of the Maltese Parliament as a memento⁶.

This stamp set was on sale by the Department of Posts up to the 31st December 1964. During the three months the stamps were on sale the following quantities were sold:

2d = 1,150,927; 3d = 1,797,145; 6d = 600,777; 1/- = 349,203; 1/6 = 221,468; 2/6 = 151,358

In concluding, it is worth mentioning that on the 15th May of last year, MaltaPost p.l.c. has made use of one of the original designs, with a slight modification, for the issue of one of the two stamps released in the "Anniversaries 2014" miniature sheet which marked the fifty years from the granting of Independence and the forty years since the declaration of Malta as a Republican State⁷.







References:

- ¹ Dr. H. Frendo, Patrijott Liberali Malti Dr. G. Borg Olivier. p.229
- ² Said Malta Stamp & Coin Catalogue 1981
- ³ Il-Mument 4th February 2007
- ⁴ Malta Philatelic Society Journal Vol. 43/2 August 2014
- ⁵ Malta Study Circle Paper 7 Commemorative and First Day Postal Markings of Malta 1923-1999 (2002).
- ⁶ Card presented to the Hon. Dr. A. Bonnici MD, MP (1962-66). Speaker Emeritus House of Representatives (1966-71). MP (1971-76). President Malta Philatelic Society and Editor Journal of MPS.
- ⁷ Dr. A. Bonnici was both part of the acquisition of Independence in 1964 and Republic in 1974.

Post and Maritime Sanitary documents between Sicily and Malta during the reign of: Ferdinand II / Francesco II and Garibaldi's dictatorship (1859 - 1860)

by

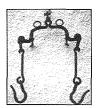
Dr. A. Bonnici

Sicily issued the first postage stamp on the 1st January 1859 during the reign of King Ferdinand II known as King "*Bomba*" featuring his portrait.

The engraver was the famous Tommaso Aloysio Juvara (1809-1887)^{1, 2}. And the values were:

Gr ¹/₂; Gr 1; Gr 2; Gr 5; Gr 10; Gr 20.

The hand stamp used to cancel the stamps was the ornate frame, intended to go round the face of the King, and not spoil his face. It was incorrectly called "*horse shoe" ferro di cavallo* but according to Prof. Vincenzo Fardella de Quernfort president of Associazione di Storia Postale Siciliana he states: *Più che ad un comune "ferro" che protegge lo zoccolo del cavallo, esso, molto verosimilmente, può richiamare alla memoria la caratteristica forma del "morso", cioè quella parte della briglia, costituita da tre elementi metallici (a forma di U rovesciata)*,



posta sulla testa del cavallo, con cui si diriggono i movimenti del destriero – così come è stato ricostruito da due illustri filatelisti palermitani Nino Aquila e Gino Perricone³.

The post office officially announced that as of the 1st January 1859 letters directed to the kingdoms of Naples and Sicily both by *via di terra* and *via di mare* were to be franked as follows:

1 page letter 2 grana, 1 1/2 page letter 3 grana, 2 page letter 4 grana, and those that were more than 1 ounce 8 grana. Those entires that were not franked had to pay 50% more, to be paid by recipient⁴.

Letters to Genova were franked 10gr see figure 12

King Ferdinand II born in Palermo on 11.1.1810 died at Caserta 22.5.1859 was succeeded by his 1st born Francesco II at the age of 20 years. During his brief reign no postage stamps were issued and those of his father continued to be used.

Entires were usually also franked by the hand stamp of the area. In Maltese philately these are normally referred to as "Village Post hand stamps".

The following entires are recent acquisitions of such hand stamps. (Fig.1 - Fig.23)

¹ Nino Principato. 1809-2009; 2 centenario della nascita di Tommaso Aloysio Juvara. Vita e morte di un genio dell' disegno e dell' incisione. ASPS Sicil-Post Magazine. No 19, p 32

² Paolo Vaccari. Sicilia 1859 Comparative Plates. Vaccari Filatelia - Editoria. p 20

³ Vincenzo Fardella de Quenfort, Sicily Post Magazin. Anno XVI - n.31 Giugno 2015, Pg.3

⁴ Luigi Sirotti. I servizi postali in Sicilia dal maggio 1860 al 30 aprile 1861. ASPS Sicil-Post Magazine. No 2, p 39

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Fig.1: Sicilia 1859 - From PARTINICO:

2 Grano cobalto, Il tavola, carta di Napoli (Sass. 7b), esemplare di cui alla posizione nr. 13 della tavola di cento francobolli annullato mediante un bollo "muto" a ferro di cavallo di Partinico (il cui nominativo in ovale rosso senza frgi figura impresso a lato insieme al bollo circolare d'arrivo "Palermo * Arrivo 23 feb 59") su lettera diretta a Palermo. (Giacomo Bottacchio).

I'm Frit 62 "smonto.

Fig.2: Sicilia 1859. From PALERMO (20 - 59) to Girgenti. 2gr. (6) ritocco no.7



Fig.3: Sicilia 1859. From CANICATTI in red oval to Palermo with 1+2gr.



Fig.4: Sicilia 1859. From **BARRAFRANCA**: 2 grana su carta di Palermo (Sass. N. 6g) coppia orizzontale posizione 77 and 78 ritocco, to Comiso. (Raybaudi)

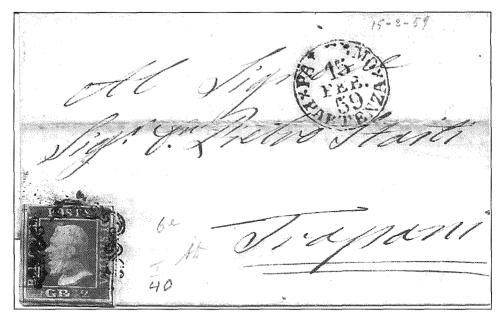


Fig.5: Sicilia 1859. From PALERMO - Commercial letter, sent on 15 February 1859 to Trapani, with 2 gr (6e) cancelled with "ferro di cavallo" hand stamp. Blue, tavola I, position 40. (Alberto Diena)



Fig.6: Sicilia 1859. From CALTANISSETTA oval to Palermo (7MAR 59) with 2 gr. (6c)

7 91 Ril Purster Lig: Don Lingi Casabona A.90., 4

Fig.7: Sicilia 1859. From **GIRGENTI** - oval h/s (March 1859) to Messina 2gr. (6a) with retouch no.91 (Alberto Diena, Russo)

dnel

Fig.8: Sicilia 1859. From **PALERMO** - 2 grana cobalt scuro, Il tavola, (7c) to Noto carta di Napoli (Sass. 7c) (Alberto Diena. GB)

a plique

Fig.9: Sicilia 1859. From **CASTELTERMINI** - in red oval. 2 grana azzurro oltremare, Il tavola, bordo di foglio (7d no.7) carta di Napoli (Sass. 7d) with circular palm h/s of Girgenti - Rare (Alberto Diena, ED, Ray, Bot).

r antonis Unoroustila Bonacon Palerna

Fig.10: Sicilia 1859. From **GIRGENTI** - (11.5.59) to Palermo with 2gr (6f) ritocco no.41 (Alberto Diena, Fiecchi)

ME (IT MY Ina Electron 12gr Lavos S. S. Strotano Cancaldo Elevito Rond avvocato dell'ller Janaighadh J. f. fl Sigr Suca I' it stefano maggiord' 110 mo di J. p.m. (X-1.) lormo

Fig.11: Sicilia 1859. From **GIARDINI** - with oval black h/s. (17.09.1859) to Palermo with 2gr azzurro chiaro, carta di Palermo (6g no.50) (GB)

Fig.12: Sicilia 1859. From **PALERMO** - (26.10.1859) to Genova. 10gr (Sass. n.12) with VIA DI / SARZANA. (Silvano Sorani)

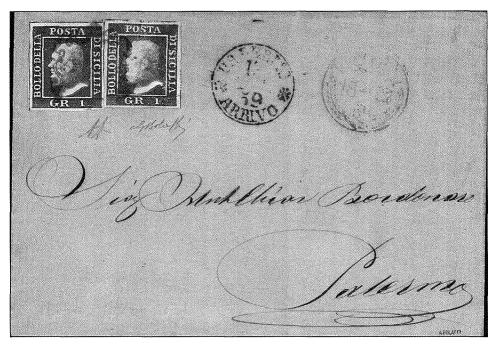


Fig.13: Sicilia 1859. From **TRAPANI** - (18.12.1859) with 1gr x 2, I tavola, 1 stato, bruno ruggine, posizione: 23 - 4, Bolaffi n.3b (Alberto Diena, Giulio Bolaffi)

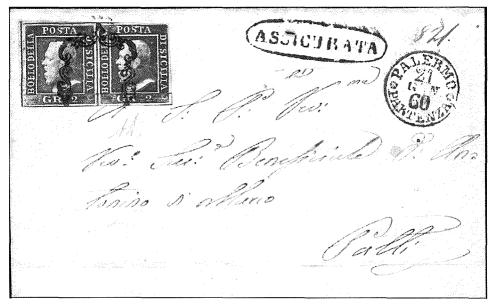


Fig.14: Sicilia 1859. Black oval **ASSICURATA** to **Palermo** (21.1.1860) with 2gr (7) pos.61 and 62. (Alberto Diena)



Fig.15: Sicilia 1859. From **SCIACCA** to Messina (31.1.1860) (affrancata con una coppia bordo di foglio a sinistra di francobolli da 1 grano, verde oliva grigiastro, II. tavola, numeri 11 e 12 di posizione, carta di Palermo.) Alberto E. Fiecchi



Fig.16: Sicilia 1859. From CALTAGIRONE in Black oval. (10.3.1860) to Castrogiovanni with 2gr (8)

Garibaldi with his "*mille*" on board the "*Piemonte*" and "*Lombardo*"⁵ embarked on the 5 May 1860 to invade Sicily, and landed at Marsala on 11 May 1860. Arrived on the 12 May at Salemi and on the 14 May⁶ assumed the dictatorship in the name of King Vitorio Emanuele II. of Savoia, and entered Palermo at 5.30 am on the 27 May 1860.

Garibaldi occupied the whole of Sicily by August 18607

Cavour was against this venture and tried to obstruct Garibaldi but was too late.8

Victor Emanuel II disembarked at Palermo from his ship Maria Adelaide, commanded by Admiral de Persano at 10 am on 1 December 1860, and made a grand entrance into Palermo accompanied by General Manfredi Fanti head of State, General of the army Filippo Brigonere and others.⁹

Francesco Crispi, Secretary of the new state, announced on the 14 June 1860, that the postage stamps of Ferdinand II, were abolished and not to be used for any purposes.¹⁰ In Messina the stamps were still used until liberated by Garibaldi's brigade under the command of General Medina on 27 July 1860.

Prof. V. Fardella de Quernfort says:

Con la venuta a Palermo, Vittorio Emanuele II, Re di Sardegna, dopo aver preso atto del risultato del Plebiscito dei siciliani, il 2 dicembre 1860 aveva decretato l-istituzione della Luogotenenza sardo-italiana, nominando il marchese Massimo Cordero di Montezemolo suo primo Luogotenente Generale di Sicilia. A quest'ultimo succedettero il generale Alessandro Della Rovere (Fig.24) e il generale Ignazio De Genova Conte di Pettinengo (Fig.22) (del 19.09.61 al 31.01.62).

So Ferdinand II stamps were only in use from the 1 January1859 14 giugno 1860. The post office going back to the system prior to the issue of postage stamps.

The M.I. ships were used as per tariff of the French convention.

Letters with the postage stamps of Ferdinand II (01.01.1859 - 14.06.1860) are very much sought by Sicilian collectors and letters addressed to Malta are quite rare.

The tariff was:

One page - 10g, Two pages - 20gr, and over one ounce 40gr.

As of to day this 40gr rate on a Malta entire has not been recorded¹¹

⁵ Giuseppe Marchese e Edoardo P.Ohnmeiss. Ricordando…la Spedizione dei Mille. ASPS. Sicil-Post Mag. No 18, p17

⁶ Pietro Arico. La fine delle posta borbonica in Sicilia e le ultime date postal conosciuti. APS Sicil-Post Mag No 12,p9

⁷ Achille Ragazzoni. La Spedizione garibaldina in Sicilia del 1860. ASPS Sicil-Post Magazine No 29. p19

⁸ Vincenzo Fardella de Quernfort. op cit., ASPS Sicil-Post Magazine No 18, p 17

 ⁹ Vincenzo Fardella de Quernfort. Corrispondenza "Via Mare" in Sicilia prima e durante la Dittatura garibaldina e la Lugotenenza sardo-italiana. *ASPC. Sicil-Post Magazine*. No 29, p 3
 ¹⁰ Lugi Sirotti ASPC Sicil-Post Magazine on cit. No 1, p 35, No 2, p 39

¹⁰ Luigi Sirotti. ASPC Sicil-Post Magazine. op cit. No 1, p 35, No 2, p 39

¹¹ Paolo Vollmeier. The postal tariffs and rates levid. 48 The Postal History of Sicily. *Gulio Bolaffi Publisher*. p 320

Francesco II reign

Entires from Sicilia to Malta (1859 - 1860)

Prof. V. Fardella de Quernfort says:

Le Lettere siciliane indirizzate a Malta nel periodo 1859 - 1860 sono abbastanza rare e quelle affrancate con 20 grana sono del tutto inconsuete.

This 20 grana is the only letter recorded to Malta.

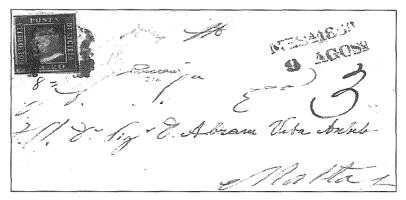


Fig 17. **Regno di Francesco II**. Commercial letter sent from Messina to Malta on 9 August (1859), with 20 grana stamp "ardesia scuro", (13c) position 83, cancelled with "ferro di cavallo" and Messina "MES 1859 – 9 AGOS" hand stamps. At the back the Malta arrival hand stamp of 10 August 1859.

Sent to Malta by the French MI Pausilippe (Capitan George Chausse).

ny postale trances aro

Fig 18. **Regno di Francesco II**. Entire sent from Messina to Malta on 26 July (1859), on M.I. "Vatican" Capt Pelizot, 10 grana, cancelled with "ferro di cavallo" together with Messina "MES 1859 – 26 July"; (Late hand stamp as the latest date recorded by, Vollmeir was 12/58), at the back the Malta arrival hand stamp 27 July 1859. The tariff 10 grana corresponds to a one page letter.



Fig. 19: **Regno di Francesco II**. Commercial letter, sent from Messina to Malta on the 22 February (1860), by H. Klissanech during his voyage to Constantinopoli, and handed to Sig Amodeo for onward transmission by way of MI Vatican (Capt. Pellissot). 10gr for 1 page letter:



Fig.20: **Dittatura Garibalina** sent from Messina to Malta 10.7.1860 on board the Vatican (Capt. Pellisott) franked by 10gr. 1gr x 10 (III tavola verde oliva pos.3, 12, 49, 53, 40, 39, 82, 7, 19 and 2) carta di Palermo 6 stamps are upside down on purpose as a sign of disrespect to King.



Fig.21: Horse shoe hand stamp upside down indicating disrespect to Ferdinand on upper stamps. Sicil-Post Magazine, anno XVI - n.31 June 2015. (Coll. "A.G.A.G")

Luogotenenza Pettinengo

Fig.22: Commercial letter sent from Messina to Malta on 1 October (1861) on board the Quirnal (Capt. George Caboufigue) It is not franked, as postage stamps had been abolished - taxed 60 cents on departure, and 2½ on arrival, which was the equivalent of 6 Maltese pence paid at destination bearing the circular 25 mm and on the back the Malta arrival hand stamp 2 October 1861.

Regno d'Italia: After the ebolition of the Borbonici Stamps the sardoitalian stamps were used.



Fig 23. Commercial letter sent by P.G.Siffredi of Messina to Malta, on 30 December (1862), with Sardenia 40 stamp cancelled by the Messina 22mm – 30 December 1862 hand stamp, taxed 2¹/₄, PD and on back the Malta 31 December 1862 arrival hand stamp.

CORRETTA Luogotenenza della Rovere



Fig.24: Commercial letters Malta - Messina 4.5.1861 franked 1p x 3 Queen Victoria red cancelled by A25 on board the Vatican (Capt Pierre Perisott) arriving in Messina on 5.5.1861. On arriving in Messina it was taxed 10gr which was cancelled by the very rare hand-stamp **CORRETTA** to 14gr. Paolo Volleimir in his publication "The Postal History of Sicily" p 665 says that "He had never

Paolo Volleimir in his publication "The Postal History of Sicily" p.665 says that "He had never seen this type of cover."

Maritime documents during the reign of Francesco II with his coat of arms

3.90 \sim LL OPPEPARATION (THERE OF WATERS)-(DE DEL REGNO DELLE DUE SICILIE DI GERUSILEMER er.) AND ALL ALL 9993 91 723223, 713932323, 936729 at me Eran Brincipe Creditario di Coscana man Treased and the second se Γ tutorità multaria di δ orenza e contifica che il norrighio qui intic indicate duravent molle paratiziani arguendi sonn del nariglia publiti del nariglia li ecla a latina tanders Bach lwxuellaggi» wanenagger ?? Viers & provide director ringi por deve è diretto , Car Mai Syripuggia, il Capitana campreso, 20 Me Passinggerri . Tarton Standard Stands tramatari a burda a contante lito coal suggette. alle me as but the second start of the Unter ayyi a) Ocputati di Salute PREXXO 🖉 👘 and allage So Spelezierin hills Ramon a trace Faintiere dert individat inforenti in pulle di passeggiet ilizeinen det madeune e dent bestichtet imhaventi enne mariaeri. Same & Constants April Pitch Bar New & Science Areas -STATES mare the out of the . . . 5.2 Sa Sollar Marilles She letter Call and the

Fig.25: Issued by the sanitary office of **TERRANOVA** 14.05.1860 (NAN. CUS. KL 149) IMCP 1347

ITS IN GRADIN IN END RE DEL REGNO DELLE DUE SIGILIE DI GERUSALEMME DUCA DI PARMA, PIACENCA CASTRO EG CE GRAN PRINCIPE EREDITARIO DI TOSCANA DE RECEG A artifus the il pingho qui inter inferes p L' Jahnith Smillers de 11/2 under 1975 mete conditioni ugorati i Numeral assession . in a se Quality Al markelin 🥖 Vienei e provinte America Danes--14 Yes And Miles Buchers Level dene Tunnettaggies None del capitane Same Lange por dere i dialto . + + + + Epipergie, il capitare comptene, 400 Passaniri. Augua Frances Carro Laterate State & riata Annalisti a barda Achanie 1. Alto SI contillea insitre che in questo e moi dintonsi , per il Ditt e de' SANTI PRITETTICEL, si gode perfettivitate salute stata alerta copetto di and contegiote branque portorel l'amidata mariglio gli ni poteti dare tibera e disera pestien. la foie di chi abfarmo riturinta la presente satisserista di mastra propria muno, e succeluta dei morela. Bato veri a Paranda 20 Marine de ver lande Barrow & grams No concernite Sugar I TRANTILLAN AMERIC Lo spotialeniere delle passadi FARME FREE FOREFORE & CONSECUTIVE MEMORY AND A COMPANY HARA MAN COMPRESSIONANCE I STATE & PERSONAL **** 不能的说: NAME & CONTRACTOR 100.0 A. soal & all to the . 1 ~ 4 1 Suchastron . 84 29 ork could be a reaver Bet 14. and 13

Fig.26: Issued by the sanitary office of **TERRANOVA** 14.05.1860 (NAN. CUS. KL 150) IMCP 1534

FRANCES 345 128 5 8 8 8 8 8 23 1 B: 24-1 RE DEL REGNO DELLE DUE SIGILIE DI GERUSALEMME DUCA DE PARMA, PERCENZA CANTRO 41. 22 GRAN PRINCIPE EREDITARIO DE TOSCANA DE ME 6280 L' Introda Sondiria di Alla 100 - 1 archive ale il anagles mis ante interes parte de nist.". And a sufficient sequents : Sinclet mergen Ale Senste to Andrew Mariates Addressed Vierie provide dealer / Sugar's In Vela Landar Bundiers' Medic School unders and Sugar frances sucher of an pone pri appan Azargan Stanis Morese. pone po den s trava - Martin Republication . 21 capitality careporties a Arian Consection L. 14 Care Car Hards -Section 2 annihiti e boele , re firee -Si testita influe che in quali, di pressione della pressione della scala della scala della scala della scala della scala scala della del e soni di distata per la grazia onarque porterni I amiliten enviçlis pli ni potrà dece bàres o simos praties. di lab di che aldiena chimiata la presente notaveritta di rantez propria mane, e correllate dei adita real mgal i. Bar 176 2 Burner the right William St. Sty or Marin Preside grand of the Coops " Andrehimire dete peterti Carrier March The 2 TALL OF FURTHER FILL AND DIT MANY, CONT MADDALL TRUE THE DEPART MEMORY CONTRACTOR 网络装饰机机机 1.334 144.00 10.000 1355 122.8 网络杜勒 how the hours Sa some . A. Buch B. Carl All most in 43. al s 34000 $\sigma \beta_0$ sta. in the second 25 -49 25 9 S. Siller the sta Asea. die 1.56 ditte al. the dealer line

Fig.27: Issued by the sanitary office of **PESCARA** 23.05.1860 (NAM. CUS. KL 150) IMCP 1356

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Fig.28: Issued by the sanitary office of LAMPEDUSA 24.05.1860 (NAM. CUS. KL 149) IMCP 1342

Removal of Ferdinando II name from the Sanitary Maritime documents and substituated by a hand written label in one line – In Nome Della Legge

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Fig.29: Issued by Autorita Sanitaria di AVOLA 24.05.1860 (NAM. CUS. KL 149) IMCP 1350

Removal of Ferdinando II name and substituted by a hand written label in two lines – Vittorio Emanuel Re d'Italia

Vittoric Emmanuele Re d' halin WE CLEAR AND FR Lindersia sanitario di Marca nelle condizioni segmenti Nome del naviglio. Marcano cortifica che il naviglio qui sotto indicato parte da quest. Qualità del naviglio Surgett Randern Saccas Donnellaggio S. Nonan del Capilano Longe Capilano Lungo per dove è diville Saccas Requipaggio, il Capilano compresse Casas Passeggiori S. Cartes Casas es Casas Fisteri e priseriste disprise Si certifica in elite che in questa. Crez. e suoi dintorni, per la grazia di DM e de nodri Sarre Paorerran, si gode perfetissima solute senza alcun sequello di mal contagiose Quindi eran-que percerte l'anziclello aneiglio gli si potri dare ilbera e securo pratica. In fonde di che addiana rilasciale in presente sottoscrille di nostre proprie mano e correduta del addice sust suggello. alle ore estates is & alle Data aggs a Chatter Marie Bolfmante PRKZZAwe L.T.) Denutati di Salnte allosto later Wall Wallow . 116 P. Asters of the Philazione degl'individul imburenti in qualità di passeggieri Filiarione del padrone e degl'individui indurcati en e maria News & Coosess Fere STATURA North B. Country Stanta A.880 4.89 Paso Bunch 15 12 -27 2ha de 20 when . 100 de 1 φ 1.00 41 np

Fig.30: Issued by Autorita Sanitaria di AVOLA 24.05.1860 (NAM. CUS. KL 149) IMCP 1350

Removal of Ferdinando II name and Substituted by the Trinacria emblem, symbol of the new independent dynasty

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Fig.31: Issued by Autorita Sanitaria di LICATA 28.05.1860 (NAM. CUS. KL 149) IMCP 1343

The Trinacria symbol

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Fig.32: Issued by Soprintendenza Generale di Pubblica Salute of CATANIA 30.05.1860 (NAM. CUS. KL 149) IMCP 1348

Removal of Ferdinando II name and covered by a hand written label in one line In Nome della Legge

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Fig.33: Issued by L'Autorita Sanitaria di **POZZALLO** 02.06.1860 (NAM. CUS. KL 150) IMCP 1353

Removal of Ferdinando II name and covered by a hand written label in one line of Vittorio Emanuel Re d' Italia

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Fig.34: Issued by Autorita Sanitaria di **PACINO** 02.06.1860 (NAM. CUS. KL 150) IMCP 1352

Removal of Ferdinando II name and substituted by the Trinacria symbol in a circle and hand written label in one line In Nome della Legge

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Fig.35: Issued by Autorita Sanitaria di RIPOSTO 06.06.1860

Removal of Ferdinando II name and substituted by the Trinacria symbol without circle

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Fig.36: Issued by Autorita Sanitaria di LICATA 09.06.1860 (NAM. CUS. KL 150) IMCP 1358

Removal of Ferdinando II name and substituted by a hand written label in three lines Vittorio Emmanuele Re d'Italia

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Fig.37: Issued by Autorita Sanitaria di **MAZARA** 10.06.1860 (NAM. CUS. KL 150) IMCP 1360

Removal of Ferdinando II name and substituted by Printed Form Italia E Vittorio Emmanuele

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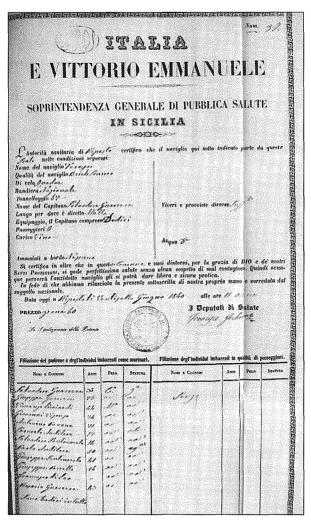


Fig.38: Issued by **RIPOSTO** 24.06.1860 (NAM. CUS. KL 150) IMCP 1362

Garibali in Malta (1864)

Garibaldi visited Malta in 1864 while on route to London at the invitation of the British Government, after he had recovered from his war wounds¹,

He stayed at the Imperial Hotel in St Lucia Str, Valletta, where he was favorably received by exiled ex patriots who had found refuge in Malta and settled here, together with a number of Maltese who were in favour of the Risorgimento. A counter protest by Maltese who were against his religious views was quickly dispersed by the British Administration in Malta.

A marble plaque had been installed in the Imperial Hotel to commemorate his visit to Malta. This hotel was latter re named St James Hotel by Mr Raphael Gabaretta, and in March 1941 the St James was hit by a German parachute mine and totally destroyed. In 1950 this site was rebuilt as the Embassy/Ambassador cinema., and is now the Embassy complex, part of which has now been again converted to a hotel².

On the 18 November 2007 to mark the bicentenary of Giuseppe Garibaldi's birth, the Italian Cultural Institute in collaboration with the University of Malta, held a seminar entitled;

"Garibaldi e il Risorgimento" at its premises -The Italian Cultural Institute in Valletta which included dissertations by Prof Sergio La Salvia from Universita Roma III, President of the Republic of Malta President Emeritus Guido de Marco and Dr Domenico Bellato from the Italian Embassy, as well as interventions by Judge Joseph Filetti, Prof Joseph Eynaud, and John Azzopardi Vella. Prof Henry Frendo from the University of Malta coordinated and concluded the event³.

On the 21 April 2010 President Emerits Guido de Marco commemorated Giuseppe Garibaldi's visit to Malta in 1864 during an event organized by; The Italian Embassy and the local council at the Lower Barrakka Gardens in Valletta.

Prof de Marco quoted the General as saying, when he arrived in Malta, that;

"If it was true that love is repaid with love, then the Maltese must love me a lot"

General Garibaldi loved the Maltese for their historical courage and for the help they had given their Italian brothers at the time of the Risorgimento.

Concluding his dissertation Prof De Marco said;

Commemorating Garibaldi to day was relevant because the General formed part of Italian patriot Giuseppe Mazzini's movement which also involved Europe. Today Malta is not only independent, but also part of Europe, which is what Garibaldi, Mazzini and the Maltese wanted to achieve.

¹ Frans Said Sunday Times of Malta May 3 2015, p 25.

² Garibaldi's stay in Malta. Lawrence Grech. Times of Malta 10 May 2015. 00.01

³ Seminar on Giuseppe Garibaldi Sunday Times of Malta 18 November 2007. 11.29

Postal Diary 18th March 2015 – 6th July 2015

by

John V. De Battista

1st April

During the Company's annual ceremony, eleven excellence awards were presented to MaltaPost staff members in recognition for their commitment to quality.

In his address MaltaPost's Chairman Joseph Said gave a review of the financial and quality results the company achieved during 2014. He also highlighted the Company's commitment to focus investment in infrastructure, operations and processes so as to facilitate e-commerce and provide a high level of customer service.

It was also announced that MaltaPost is the winner of the Best Express Courier of the Year Award category of the 2014 TransLog Awards.

The excellence awards presented were as follows:

Employee of the year award 2014 - Godfrey Borg

Operational Awards:

Best Employee Delivery - Godfrey Borg

Best Employee Central Mail Room - Sean Zammit

Best Employee Courier - Fiona Farrugia

Remarkable Achievement Award- Courier section

Best Postal Area Group - Qormi Hub

Sales Awards:

Best Post Office - Deborah Xuereb (Valletta Old Bakery Street)

Best Employee Sales - Joseph Gauci

Administration Awards:

Best Employee Administration - Neil Busuttil

Others:

Annual Best Suggestion - Emanuel Rapa

Best Corporate Social Responsibility - Postal Area Group led by Rodney Ellul

2nd April

MaltaPost informed the public that the letterbox situated in Triq Alexandra, Qormi which had been temporarily closed due to construction works was back in service.

In another press release issued today, MaltaPost informed that in pursuance to the Malta Financial Authority Listing Rules it was announcing the appointment of Mr. Mark Vella as Chief Commercial Officer of the company as from 1st April. Mr. Vella who had previously occupied the post of Chief Information Officer since 14th July 2014 with the same company was replacing Ing. Daniel Grech who had resigned from this position.

10th April

In pursuance to the Malta Financial Services Authority Listing Rules, MaltaPost announced that the Board of Directors had scheduled a meeting for Friday, 8th May to consider and approve the Company's Interim Financial Statements for the six months ended 31st March, 2015.

14th April

It was announced that on 21^{st} April, MaltaPost was to issue a set of two stamps to commemorate the 400^{th} anniversary from the construction of the Wignacourt Aqueduct.

The stamps, which are the third issue in the 'Treasures of Malta Series', illustrate different features of the Wignacourt Aqueduct. The Wignacourt Arch, which used to be located in Fleur-de-Lys, features on the $\notin 0.42$ stamp while the



Wignacourt Water Tower which is located in Floriana, is illustrated on the $\in 1.55$ stamp.

Aqueducts were constructed in the past to convey water from one location to another. In Malta the stone arches were built to carry water from Rabat through Birkirkara, the area that later became known as Fleur-de-Lys and Santa Venera. At Santa Venera, the arches ended at a tower from which point water continued its journey through Hamrun, Blata l-Bajda and Floriana where it reached the Wignacourt water tower. From there it then found its way to Valletta through underground pipes.

The stamps, designed by Cedric Galea Pirotta, were issued in sheets of ten. Both stamps measure 44mm x 31mm and have a comb perforation of 13.9 x 14.0. The print run, executed by Printex Ltd on Maltese Crosses watermarked paper, consists of 72,000 of the €0.42 stamp and 32,000 of the €1.55 stamp.

MaltaPost prepared an occasion hand postmark to cancel the stamps on the first day

37

15th April

MaltaPost announced that the $\notin 0.01$, $\notin 0.02$ and $\notin 0.05$ stamp values of the 2009 Definitive Issue were reprinted. The reprints consist of 500,000 of each stamp value, in sheets of ten stamps bearing sheet numbers as follows: $\notin 0.01$ stamp (2nd reprint) 160001-210000, $\notin 0.02$ stamp (1st reprint) 040001 - 090000, and the $\notin 0.05$ stamp (1st reprint) 020001 - 070000 both numbers included.

The stamps measure 44.0 mm x 31.0 mm and have a comb perforation of 13.9 x 14.0. They were printed by means of the offset process on watermarked paper bearing Maltese Crosses by Printex Limited. The stamps were released for sale from all Post offices as from Tuesday 21^{st} April.

17th April

MaltaPost notified that on the 25th April it was to release a miniature sheet bearing one stamp to commemorate the ANZAC Centenary.

The stamp on the miniature sheet illustrates a Red Cross nurse attending to a wounded soldier, flanked by two other soldiers, one on either side, and bears a face value of \in 3.59.

The Gallipoli Campaign (Battle of Gallipoli) took place at the Gallipoli Peninsula between 1915 and 1916 and involved British and French troops as well as divisions of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC). The battle was intended to put an early end to the Great War by creating a new front that the Ottoman-German alliance would not cope with. Malta played a significant role in the Gallipoli battle, not just as a back-up base for the Royal Navy but also as one of the major hospitals in the Mediterranean. Around eight hundred Maltese volunteers went to Gallipoli as muleteers or to dig the trenches. Some even fought within the Australian ranks or worked as stevedores unloading the ships. This effort is considered to be Malta's greatest contribution to the Allies' efforts during that terrible war.

The miniature sheet, which measures 120 mm x 75 mm, was designed by MaltaPost and is adapted from a contemporary postcard. The stamp measures 41 mm x 30.5 mm and has a comb perforation of 13.7×13.8 . It was printed on Maltese Crosses watermarked paper by Printex Limited through the offset process and the issue consists of 15,000 individually numbered miniature sheets.



24th April

Today MaltaPost issued three press releases. In the first it announced that MaltaPost employees joined forces to bring a smile to sick children by donating packets of crayons and pencil colours for young patients receiving treatment at Mater Dei hospital. This activity formed part of MaltaPost's Corporate Social Responsibility programme.

The colours will accompany an educational colouring book which besides entertaining children in hospital, is intended to help them familiarise themselves with hospital procedures and help diminish their fear of the unknown. The colouring book was prepared by Dr. Klown - an NGO which takes several initiatives to help sick children forget their pain and worries for a while; as well as the boredom that sometimes comes with prolonged hospitalisation.

This CSR activity follows a similar initiative organised by MaltaPost last year which encouraged MaltaPost staff members to donate toys to children in hospital.

In its second press release, MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office at Midas, 34, Triq ix-Xatt, Marsaskala MSK 2113 was to be temporarily closed for business on Saturday 25th April. The public was advised that if it so wishes, it may avail itself of alternative postal services provided from the Żabbar Post Office, situated at the Ċentru Ċiviku, Triq il-Kunvent, Żabbar ZBR 1351 and the Żejtun Post Office at 37, Triq San Luċjan, Żejtun ZTN 1834.

In its third and final press release for the day, MaltaPost notified that for the occasion of the 50th Anniversary since Malta's accession to the Council of Europe, a special hand postmark was to be used on Wednesday 29th April at the Valletta Castille Square Post Office.

The occasion commemorative hand stamp was inscribed "* MALTAPOST * CASTILLE SQR. - VALLETTA - MALTA 29-04-15" in the outer ring, and "50th Anniversary/Malta's accession to the/Council of Europe" in the inner ring below an image of the Council of Europe logo. Along the edge of the inner ring one also finds the words Democracy/Rule of Law/ Human Rights.



27th April

MaltaPost informed the public that the letterbox situated in Triq il-Hsad, Siġġiewi, was removed after being damaged following a traffic accident. The last mail collection from this letterbox was held on Saturday 25th April morning and no mail was delayed or damaged. It also advised that the nearest public letterbox is located in Triq il-Għid, Siġġiewi. MaltaPost undertook that the necessary repairs were to be carried out in the shortest time possible.

28th April

It was announced that on Saturday 2nd May, MaltaPost was to commemorate the 175th Anniversary of the World's First Postage Stamp with the release of a miniature sheet.

The "Penny Black" of Great Britain, introduced on 6th May 1840, was the first pre-paid adhesive postage stamp in the world. Prior to 1840 adhesive postage stamps did not exist. The issue of this first postage stamp was part of a postal reform that was introduced in 1837 by Sir Rowland Hill which also included the introduction of uniform penny postage. Given the success of the system, other countries soon followed suit.



The portrait of Queen Victoria used for the stamps was from an 1837 design by William Wyon. Artist Henry Corbould had refined the portrait and defined the stamp's intricate background pattern while engravers George Rushall, Charles and Frederick Heath prepared the design for printing. As the stamp was printed in black, the one-penny stamp soon became known as the 'Penny Black'.

The miniature sheet, which was designed in-house by MaltaPost, is an adaptation of the design of a "Mulready" envelope for the background onto which the three identical stamps in the sheet, featuring a red Maltese Cross cancelled penny black stamp bearing a face value of \notin 1.21 each have been incorporated. The stamps measure 41mm x 30.5mm and have a comb perforation of 13.7 x 13.8. Overall the sheet measures 123mm x 80mm. and was printed in the offset process by Printex Limited on Maltese Crosses watermarked paper. The issue consists of 20,400 individually numbered sheets.

4th May

MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office at 51 Triq Borg Olivier, Mellieħa, MLĦ 1024, will be temporarily closed for business between the 7th and the 13th May. The public was advised that if it so wishes, it may avail itself of postal services provided from the Mellieħa Post Office, situated at 100 Triq il-Mitħna l-Ġdida, Mellieħa and the St Paul's Bay Post Office located at 511, Triq San Pawl, San Pawl il-Baħar.

In its second press release for the day, MaltaPost also advised the public that the Sub Post Office at Tunny Net Souvenir Shop, Triq il-Marfa, Mellieħa had reopened for business.

In its third and final press release for the day, MaltaPost notified that it was to participate in the Essen stamp fair 2015 being held between the 7th and 9th May in Essen Germany. The Essen stamp fair is an annual event where international postal operators showcase their countries' various philatelic publications.



For the event, the Philatelic Bureau issued an Occasion Card portraying the image of the 'Penny Black' from the stamp

issue "175th Anniversary World's First Postage Stamp", a Personalised Stamp/ Cover and a Personalised Stamp featuring the Essen stamp exhibition logo.

MaltaPost also prepared an occasion hand postmark to mark the event. It was inscribed "* MALTAPOST * PHILATELIC BUREAU - MALTA 7-9.05.15" in the outer ring, and "PHILATELIC EXHIBITION/ESSEN 2015" in the inner ring below an image of the Essen 2015 logo.

The Occasion Card was made available for sale in mint and cancelled condition as from Thursday 7th May at all Post Offices, while the other philatelic material issued could be purchased only from the Philatelic Bureau.

5th May

In order to facilitate the accessibility of its services to the general public and more specifically to residents in Swatar (Birkirkara), MaltaPost has introduced a new Sub Post Office at "Not Just Stationery", Pjazza L-Eroj Swatar, Birkirkara, BKR 4253. At this Sub Post Office clients can avail themselves of a range of postal services such as registered mail and the facility to pay bills. The opening hours of the Sub Post Office are as follows:

Monday to Friday: 9.00am - 12.00pm, 3.30pm - 7.00pm

Saturday: 9.00am - 1.00pm

It was also notified that a hand circular metal date-stamp inscribed with the words B'Kara S.P.O 'E' will be used at this Sub Post Office.

In another press release, MaltaPost notified that on 9th May it was to release a set of two stamps depicting traditional toys that were popular in Malta in the past. This set forms part of the EUROPA series. The EUROPA stamp issues encourage cooperation between European postal operators, particularly with regard to the promotion of philately by creating awareness of Europe's common roots, culture, history and goals.

For this year's stamp issue, MaltaPost took a nostalgic look at two typical Maltese toys that children played with in the past - the Cart (*Karretta*) featured on the $\in 0.59$ stamp and the Hoop (*Ċirku*) illustrated on the $\in 2.19$ stamp.

The $\in 0.59$ stamp will be Malta's entry for the Best EUROPA Stamp Contest. The contest is an annual online event where entries from across Europe compete for the best design. The public can vote for the best EUROPA stamp by visiting www. posteurop.org.

The stamp set was designed by the local artist Joe Mark Micallef and was issued in sheets bearing eleven stamps. It is to be noted that the top row of each sheet contains a label bearing both the MaltaPost and the Europa 2015 logos. Each stamp measures 30.5mm x 41mm and has a comb perforation of 13.7 x 13.8. Printex Ltd has printed the stamps in offset on Maltese Crosses watermarked paper while the issue consists of 39,600 stamps of the €2.19 and 99,000 of the €0.59 stamp values.

MaltaPost prepared an occasion hand postmark to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No. 6/2015). The hand stamp was inscribed "* MALTAPOST * ------------- - MALTA / EUROPA 2015/"OLD TOYS"/JUM IL-HRUĠ/09-05-15" below an outline image of a "*karretta*". The MaltaPost Philatelic Bureau featured these stamps in Stamp Bulletin No. 334.



8th May

In a press release issued today, MaltaPost announced that pursuant to the Malta Financial Authority Listing Rules, the Board is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, 12th May to consider and approve the Company's Interim Financial Statements for the six months ended 31st March, 2015.

12th May

Pursuant to the Malta Financial Services Authority Listing Rules, MaltaPost

announced that at a Board of Directors meeting held on 12th May, the Board approved the Unaudited Condensed Interim Financial Statements for the six month period ended 31st march, 2015.

14th May

MaltaPost presented the 2015 stamp entry representing Malta in this year's EUROPA stamp competition with the theme "Old Toys". For this year's edition, MaltaPost submitted the $\notin 0.59$ value stamp from the Europa set issued on 9th May which features a typical Maltese toy that children played with in the past - the Cart (*Karretta*).

The contest is an annual online event where stamp entries from across Europe compete for the best design. The public can vote for the best EUROPA stamp by visiting http://www.posteurop.org/europa2015 until 31st August. The winning stamp will then be announced at the Plenary Assembly to be held on 14th October in Cyprus. Last year almost 11,000 votes were received for the online EUROPA competition which had "National Music Instruments" as its theme.

20th May

MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office at "Oreana Stationery" - 94, Triq L. Casolani, Birkirkara BKR 4532 was to be temporarily closed for business on Monday 25th May. The public was advised that if it so wishes, it may avail itself of postal services provided from the following Postal Outlets:

Post Office situated at 58, Triq il-Wied, Birkirkara BKR 9013

Sub Post Office situated at "Landau Stationery", 84, Triq Dun Gejtanu Mannarinu, Birkirkara BKR 9085

Sub Post Office situated at "D Spiral", Triq il-Vitorja, Birkirkara BKR 2691

Sub Post Office situated at "Not Just Stationery", Pjazza l-Eroj, Swatar/Birkirkara BKR 4253

28th May

MaltaPost informed the public that the letterbox situated in Triq il-Wied, Msida, was being closed for an indefinite period due to construction works on site. The nearest public letterbox is located in Triq il-Kunċizzjoni, Msida.

3rd June

MaltaPost informed the public that the letterbox situated in Triq il-Wied, Msida, was back in service.

9th June

MaltaPost notified that for the occasion of the 100th Anniversary of Alf Mizzi & Sons Ltd, a special hand postmark was to be used on Wednesday 10th June. The occasion commemorative hand stamp was inscribed "* MALTAPOST * PHILATELIC BUREAU - MALTA 10-06-15" in the outer ring, and "ALF MIZZI & SONS LTD./CELEBRATING 100 YEARS/1915-2015" in the inner ring. The hand stamp could



only be obtained through orders placed online at www.maltaphilately.com or by mail from the Philatelic Bureau in Marsa.

11th June

MaltaPost informed the public that the letterbox situated in Triq il-Knisja, Żebbuġ, Gozo had been closed for an indefinite period due to construction works in the area. The nearest letterbox is situated at Triq Ta` Żaqi Ċiċri.

In another press release it informed the public that between 15th June and 30th September, the St Julian's Post Office situated within Lombard Bank in Triq Paceville, will be open from Monday to Friday between 08.00 and 13.00, and that the Post Office situated at the University of Malta, Msida will be open from Monday to Friday between 08.00 and 11.30.

It also advised the public that the closest alternatives are situated at:

Sliema Post Office - 118, Triq Manwel Dimech and 39, Triq Sir Adrian Dingli

Ta' Xbiex Sub Post Office - "Fleet Bazaar", Triq Testaferrata

12th June

MaltaPost announced that on the 16th June it was to issue a set of three stamps illustrating various elements of Maltese culture, which include the Regatta, the Festa and the Easter Sunday procession.

The stamps in this issue portray religious influences on Maltese culture as well as national feasts celebrated during the year. The $\notin 0.26$ stamp illustrates the feast of St George in Victoria Gozo which is celebrated in summer; the $\notin 1.16$



portrays the Easter Sunday procession with the statue of the Risen Christ captured in Żebbug Malta, while the $\notin 0.59$ stamp captures a snapshot of the Regatta boat races held annually on 31^{st} March and 8^{th} September.

The eq 0.59 stamp illustrating the Regatta boat races bears the official Small European

Postal Administration Cooperation (SEPAC) logo and will be included in this year's SEPAC stamp issue folder. The theme for this year's SEPAC collection is "Culture" and participating states will be presenting stamps illustrating various elements of culture from their respective countries. SEPAC members include Aland Post, Faroe Islands Post, Gibraltar Philatelic Bureau, Post Greenland, Guernsey Post, Iceland Post, Isle of Man Post, Jersey Post, Liechtenstein Post Corporation, MaltaPost, Monaco Post, San Marino Post, Luxembourg Post and Vatican Post.

Photographer Daniel Cilia captured the celebrations featured on the stamps which were designed by MaltaPost and issued in sheets of ten stamps. Each stamp measures 44mm x 31mm and has a comb perforation of 13.9 x 14.0. Printex Limited produced the set in offset on Maltese Crosses watermarked paper and the issue consists of 2,000,000 of the €0.26 stamp, 500,000 of the €0.59 stamp and 72,000 of the €1.16 stamp.

16th June

To commemorate the new $\notin 0.26$ stamp featuring St. George's Feast (Gozo) issued today, the Gozo Philatelic Society issued a commemorative card (A10) for the occasion as a joint issue together with the "HEART OF GOZO MUSEUM" in a limited edition of one hundred and fifty cards. The card depicts St. George's basilica together with a picture of the head of St. George's statue, while the stamp franking the card is cancelled by the Victoria FDI occasion hand stamp used to cancel this stamp set.

18th June

Today MaltaPost issued four press releases. In the first it announced that in order to facilitate the accessibility of its services to the general public and more specifically to residents in Gudja, MaltaPost has introduced a new Sub Post Office in this locality. At this Sub Post Office clients can avail themselves of a range of postal services such as registered mail and the facility to pay bills. This new Sub Post office will be situated at "CND Stationery", 144 Vjal it Torri, Gudja GDJ 1704. Its opening hours will be as follows: Monday to Friday from 8.00am - 12.00pm and 4.00pm - 7.00pm, while on Saturday it will be open between 8.00am - 12.00pm.

It was also notified that a hand circular metal datestamp inscribed with the words Gudja S.P.O will be used at this Sub Post Office.

In another press release, MaltaPost informed the public that with effect from Wednesday 24th June the Post Office at 129, Republic Street, Victoria, Gozo will be relocated to 3, Republic Street, Victoria, Gozo.

The third press release announced that for the occasion of the 100th Anniversary of Alf Mizzi & Sons Ltd, a special hand postmark was to be used on Friday 19th June. The occasion commemorative hand stamp was inscribed "* MALTAPOST * MARSA - MALTA 19-06-15" in the outer ring, and "ALF MIZZI & SONS LTD/CELEBRATING 100 YEARS/1915-2015" in the inner ring in between two horizontal decorative motifs. This post mark is a slightly

different version of the first one which was issued just over a week before, on the 10th June, to commemorate this same anniversary.

In another press release, MaltaPost informed that for the occasion of the 80th Anniversary of the coronation of the painting of Our Lady of Ta' Pinu, a special hand stamp was to be used on Saturday 20th June at Victoria Post Office. The occasion commemorative hand stamp was inscribed "* MALTAPOST * VICTORIA, GOZO - MALTA 20-06-15" in the outer ring, and "80 ANNIVERSARJU INKURUNAZZJONI/KWADRU TAL-MADONNA TA' PINU" in the inner ring encircling an image of the crown.

19th June

MaltaPost announced that it is contributing to Dr Klown's fundraising campaign 'Nose On' by supporting the entire delivery process by packing, labelling envelopes and delivering the red noses.

Dr Klown is an NGO, active in Mater Dei Hospital that provides hospitalised children distraction and stress relief through fun and laughter. The campaign 'Nose On' aims to raise funds for the continuous training and development of the experienced Klowns as well as the "new" Klowns, who have recently passed a stringent selection process.

The campaign encourages groups of people or individuals to purchase a red clown nose from Dr Klown's website www.drklown.org against a donation, put it on, take a photo and post it on Dr Klown's Facebook page. This initiative also aims





to raise awareness about this NGO which depends entirely on the generosity of the public. MaltaPost staff extended this initiative by donating money and taking photos with the Red Nose on.

20th June

For the occasion of the 80th Anniversary of the Coronation of the Painting of Our Lady of Ta' Pinu, MaltaPost today used a commemorative special hand stamp at its' Victoria P.O. To mark both events, the Gozo Philatelic Society issued a commemorative postcard (No. 102) in a limited edition of one hundred. The card features Ta' Pinu Church together with a detail of the crowned painting, with the stamp franking the card being cancelled by the special hand stamp.

22nd June

MaltaPost announced the reprinting of a $\notin 0.37$ stamp from the "Occasions" Stamp set originally issued on 17 March 2010. The stamp features an aerial view of Malta and has been reprinted with a se-tenant stamp-size blank label. The Philatelic Bureau issued a



personalized philatelic version of this stamp reprint for those wishing to add it to their collections, the label vignette consisting of the MaltaPost logo superimposed on a background composed of Maltese Crosses in light grey shades.

This third reprint of the $\notin 0.37$ "Occasions" stamp consists of 20,000 stamps, in sheets of five stamps each. The stamps measure 44.0 mm x 31.0 mm with a comb perforation of 13.9 x 14.0 and have been printed on Maltese Crosses watermarked paper through the offset process by Printex Limited. Stamps from this reprint were made available for sale as from Wednesday 24th June.

23rd June

As had been notified by MaltaPost on the 18th June, on Tuesday, 23rd June, 2015 the Victoria P.O. ended its services at 129, Republic Street, Victoria, Gozo. The post office is now located at 3, Republic Street, Victoria, Gozo. To mark the occasion, the Gozo Philatelic Society issued a commemorative card (No. 101) in a limited edition of one hundred cards. The card shows the facade of the post office at its old location having three different Victoria P.O. postal markings being used on it.

25th June

MaltaPost notified the public that the letterbox situated at 129, Republic Street, Victoria, Gozo was moved to 3, Republic Street, Victoria, Gozo.

2nd July

MaltaPost made it known that over the past three years, its SendOn service had facilitated online shopping for the Maltese consumer as it gave the opportunity to thousands of clients to shop from UK online stores, even from those which do not ship directly to Malta. It informed the public that SendOn is now growing and its service will be expanding through the addition of a new hub in the USA. Many USA stores which stock items such as fashion wear, musical instruments, hobby items, home interiors and electronic items offer competitive prices, however shipping services to Malta may be unavailable or highly prohibitive due to their cost. Now, thanks to this new forwarding service offered by MaltaPost, local online shoppers may shop from USA online stores, particularly from those which do not ship directly to Malta, forward their shopping to this hub and benefit from reasonably priced shipping costs to Malta and Gozo. To calculate the cost of shipping, the SendOn website provides an easy to - use calculator.

6th July

MaltaPost notified that in agreement with the Malta Communications Authority, due to the Isle of MTV Concert planned to be held in Floriana on Tuesday 7th July, the Letter Box in Triq San Publiju would not be accessible. As a result, collection from the mentioned letterbox will be effected at 15.00 hrs instead of 19.00 hrs. It also informed that the nearest public letterbox is situated at Triq Sant'Anna, Floriana.

MALTEX 2015

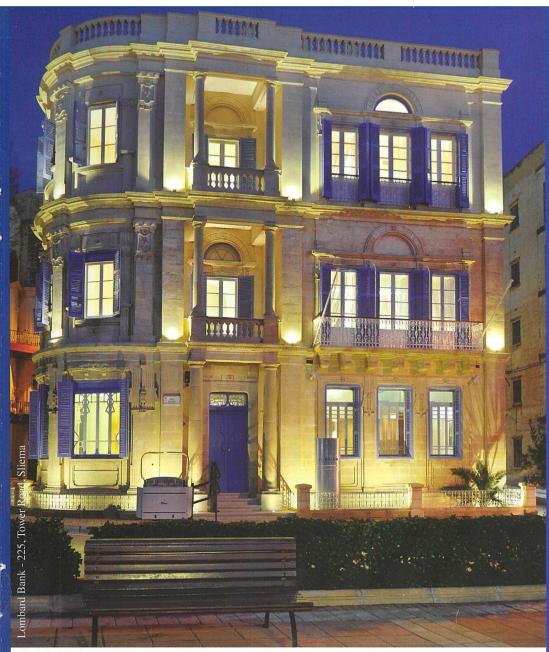
Will be inaugurated on the 22nd October by the Hon. Minister for Education and Employment, the Hon. Evarist Bartolo M.P. at 6pm at the Green Lounge, Hotel Phoenicia, Floriana.

> Viewing of the exhibition is open to the general public on the 23rd and 24th between 9.00 am and 6.00 pm, and Sunday 25th from 9.00 am till 12.00 pm.



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