

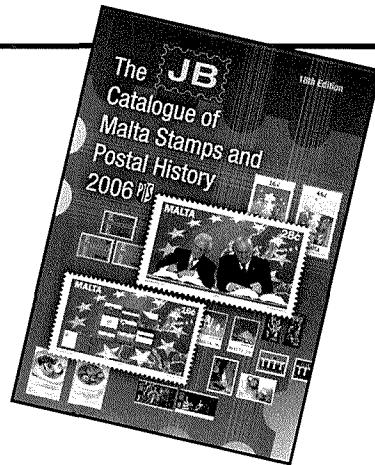
**Journal of**  
**THE MALTA PHILATELIC SOCIETY**

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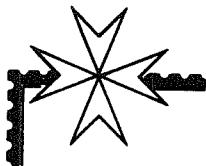


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L'ONOR. D<sup>V</sup> ENRICO MIZZI  
IN ESILIO IN UGANDA A BOMBO  
AGOSTO 1942.

# The postal regulations of the Maltese internees in Bombo, Uganda, 1942

Albert Ganado

Only a few months ago Max Farrugia published a thick book of almost 750 pages of text on the internment and exile which martyred a group of Maltese during World War II. Of these internees, locked up for security reasons without charge or trial, 42 were exiled from their homeland on 13 February 1942, in virtue of a law voted in the Council of Government with gleeful satisfaction of their imperialist political opponents. The worst heart of Africa was their destination. The law was pronounced illegal by Malta's highest Court, but the internees were swiftly taken out of Malta before judgement could be delivered.

After a long voyage of over two months they reached Uganda and were imprisoned in Camp no. 5 at Bombo 23 miles north-west of Kampala. On April 22, 1942, the Standing Orders of the Internment Camp were issued, some of which are of postal interest.

While in Malta, the correspondence of the internees was subject to various restrictions. They were only allowed to write two letters per week, and each letter was limited to forty words, which included the name and address of the addressee! On the envelope the internee was obliged to write his name and his number as a prisoner. The envelope was to be left open. Telegraphic communication was forbidden<sup>1</sup>.

The restrictions applied in Africa were basically the same, but there were some differences, and adaptations to overseas correspondence. Apparently, the Bombo regulations have never been published.

Standing Order no. 5 of the Bombo camp was captioned *Internees Letters* and it was divided in seven short paragraphs. Correspondence was to be posted in the camp letter box, in unsealed envelopes. The letters were to be addressed to individuals by name, but business letters were to be addressed separately to the 'authorisation concerned'. Letters could not be sent to care of a post office, nor to an accommodation address, to be called for or redirected. Any letter to Enemy Territory had to be addressed direct to that Territory and not to an intermediary in a neutral country.

Letters were limited to not more than two per week, including business letters, except in exceptional cases. Presumably, it was up to the Commandant to decide whether an exception was justified. Letters could not exceed 24 lines in length and they could not contain pictures or embellishments of any kind, except Christmas or

## INTERNEE CAMP NO. 6, UGANDA.

11th October 1943.

From D<sup>r</sup> ENRICO MIZZI

Any reply to this letter should be addressed to:  
*La risposta a questa lettera dovrà essere indirizzata a:*

(Name)

INTERNMENT CAMP NO. 6, UGANDA,

C/o P.W. CENSORSHIP SECTION, c/o Deputy Censor  
 D.A. COMMAND, NAIROBI. *Kampala*  
 UGANDA.

Indirizzo del destinatario

In Galia

Prisoners of War Post  
(Civilians Interned)

Sgt. Major Henry G. J. Jones140 St. Mark VillanuevaHannoverMALTA(Mediterranean)

EXAMINER

DD/1920

OPENED BY

DD/1920

Mittente: Dr ENRICO MIZZI  
 Via: 12 Via Giuseppe De Mattei  
10123 Torino (Italy)

Air letter (r), (v), and censor certificate

EXAMINER

Air Mail

Internees' Post

Luise Lijozz Bice Mizzi

Strada San Rocco, 28

Rabat

PASSED

DD/25

MALTA

Commandant, (Mediterranean)

Internment Camp.

Air letter to Mrs. Bice Mizzi. Enrico's wife. (r)

Send to: Dr. ENRICO MIZZI

Mount Vernon

13 November 1942

OPENED BY

(v)

Campo d'Internamento n. 6  
Uganda, 11 Ottobre 1943.

Caro Reg. Jones,

scrivo oggi una delle mie lettere settimanali alla famiglia per continuare  
come vi ho promesso, la mia risposta del 13 Ott. n. 7 alla vostra del 7 Agosto. Vorrei es-  
plorare com'è dunque che la guerra ha avuto inizio: i saccheggi fatti dal Partito Nazionale, seg-  
no ha peggiorato molto la nostra tensione; chi i nostri avversari hanno affrontati e stava  
affrontando questo stato è invece a dir poco di più ritardatamente del Paese e che, pertanto,  
il governo non è il solo responsabile "for the high-handed disregard of the Country's  
traditions and institutions". In quello che voi dite vi è, purtroppo, una gran parte di  
verità, ma io non mi sento di aver fatto il mio dovere, se credo che i nostri sacrifici  
stanno insieme. I principi di libertà, di giustizia e di nazionalista, che hanno sempre for-  
mato la base del programma nazionalista, trovano oggi espressione nell'Atlantic  
Charter (città di Miami, almeno a parole, allo State of Europe) e se non saranno appelli-  
cati letteralmente le lotte e i sacrifici del nostro Partito non saranno stati inutili. L'effetto  
letteralmente, nel marzo scorso, ad Oxford,  
ministro delle Colonie ha dichiarato che la politica del governo inglese "is to see the various  
peoples develop along the line of their natural aptitude, their own culture and their own  
traditions". Tocca ora, per il governo inglese di riuscire a "Save the Self-  
Government dopo la guerra. La storia guerra ha dimostrato, sia pure a nostro grande  
disgusto, che non abbiamo mai avuto una guerra, la successiva dell'antica Anglo-Sassone,  
specie di fronte al Mediterraneo. Quel che giuria, naturalmente leggendo il discorso dello stesso al-  
lora ministro delle Colonie, al quale

17 ottobre, (o memoriale)  
me ne sono appropriato per mandarvi una lunga lettera, nel quale insaprovo l'aperto e sulle mie  
lettere faccio dei commenti:  
importante discorso del 13 luglio scorso, la lettera sarà, a tempo debito, pubblicata, ma, in virtù delle  
circostanze in cui fu a fronte, ho creduto mio dovere avvisarvi per cosa tutta la responsabilità è pertanto  
che ho inviato al nostro senza risparmio, per alcuni dei miei compagni. In così precedenti  
non avevo mai mancato di inviare ad altri le mie lettere o relazioni prima di mandarle al fronte.  
(che ho mandato, fra l'altro, alla  
Melly, ora di Cittadella, allora A. corrispondente politica A causa dei regolamenti loro furono già bloccati  
(ma già subito avrei inviato alle mie del 7 ottobre, 24 uffici)  
Saluti a Signor Davis e Schencking e saluti a tutti gli amici.

Parco Ufficio  
Ufficio Ufficio  
Ufficio Ufficio

Letter to Mr. Jones, showing economy in script and censor authorization.

Cent'anni fa avevate mia lettera d'oggi. Vi dissi pure che,  
anche se mi fossi dimesso, il mio successore, a norma del sistema proporzionale,  
non sareste voi, ma sarebbe stato Dolfi, e che se anche Dolfi, alla sua volta, si fosse  
a causa delle sue età o delle sue salute,  
dimesso o non avesse voluto rappresentarci, è molto probabile che, anche in questo caso,  
voi non avreste potuto succedergli: il nuovo d'elezione da voi riportato nelle elezioni del  
1939 è, infatti, tanto esiguo che, molto probabilmente, voi non raffiguravate il  
minimo di percentuale richiesto dal sistema proporzionale se si dovesse riferire  
il conteggio dei voti proporzionali. Stando così le cose, il Governo avrebbe dovuto allora,  
o dovrebbe oggi, indire una nuova elezione per estrarre il seggio vacante, il Palazzo  
Nazionale, alla sua volta, avrebbe dovuto allora, o dovrebbe oggi, o astenersi dalle  
lotte o impegnarsi in un'altra campagna elettorale, in circostanze bellissime e  
terribilmente assai peggiori di quelle del 1939. Ai fatti che vi ho spiegato a d. Agosto  
aggiungi oggi il fatto, i più importantissimi che la fine della guerra sembra or-  
mai vicina e che, come stanno o appariscono oggi le cose, tutto dà a credere  
che anche lo nostro paesaggio non può essere lontano. Con la fine della guerra  
avremo naturalmente anche la fine del Congresso e l'irrigio, a destra, di un  
nuovo regime. A questo proposito, però, devo dirvi che mi sembra molto pro-  
babile che lo stato della mia salute, considerabilmente peggiorato da questo  
estio africano, non mi permetta di rappresentare agli elettori la mia candidatura  
e di partecipare alle vita politica del Paese con le stesse attività d'aprime. Ma  
di questo e di altro mi riservo di scrivervi fra qualche settimana, contattando la  
mia risposta alla vostra lettera. Per servirvi oggi queste 48 linee segreteccatissime  
Le vi prego di far sapere ciò a mio fratello, P. Angelo Capparoni.  
Ho dovuto sacrificare due delle mie lettere settimanali allo sacrificio (ordine d'elezioni, affari,  
(dei quali non ho ricavato profitto nemmeno un rigo in risposta alle mie lettere)  
collegi Borg Oliver e Schenck, e a questi 5' manderò 5' ore e mi vorranno bene.

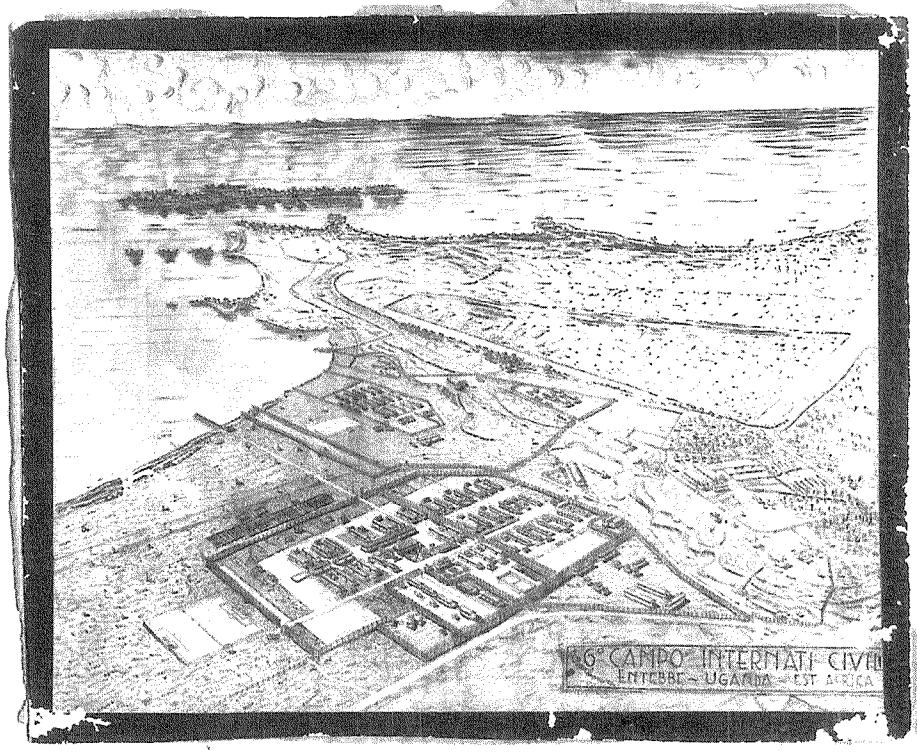
ufficio  
Garibaldi 111-22.

Easter Cards. Private letters could refer to private affairs only. All communications were to be legibly written, and writing was to be of normal size and with normal spacing.

Orders 6, 7 and 8 also referred to correspondence and postal services. Censored newspapers could be received through the Post. Internees sent to hospital from the Camp were forbidden to hand letters to friends or other persons, either for transmission by post or delivery by any other means to any other person. At the hospital, letters were to be handed to the matron. Otherwise, the same rules governing correspondence at the Camp were applicable to internees in hospital. Internal telegraphic facilities would be granted to internees in exceptional cases, through the Officer of Internment Camp.

The Internees remained at Bombo till the end of September when they were moved east to Soroti. The stay at Bombo was bad enough health wise, but when the order on the move to the new venue was given it was made clear to them by Capt. Roberts who had experience of Soroti that: "It is going to be hell for you"<sup>2</sup>. Capt. John Roberts was the police officer who had escorted the internees on their last lap from the Nile to Bombo. As the officer in charge of all the Camps in Kenya and Uganda he advised them to behave like Europeans in an ambience which was completely alien to them, and they would be treated as such. Indeed, they were well treated by Captain Thomas Duncan, the Camp Commandant at Bombo, better than they were treated by the Maltese and English camp officials in Malta.

Soroti was known to be unfit for Europeans. Protests were submitted by the Maltese and the other internees and, after a visit by the Red Cross, the camps at Soroti were closed and the Maltese internees were moved to Entebbe in January 1943. When Italy surrendered in September 1943, life in Malta returned to normal. However, the internees were kept in Uganda and their repeated requests to be repatriated were accepted only for some of them. Finally, through the intervention of the Quakers who raised the matter in the House of Commons, the remaining internees were brought back to Malta. The third group arrived in March 1945. Dr Enrico Mizzi, a member of the Council of Government and leader of the Nationalist Party, was allowed to return with the last group. Self-government was granted in 1947, and Dr Mizzi became Malta's prime minister in 1950.



*Internees Camp at Entebbe – Uganda*

<sup>1</sup> M. Farrugia, *L-internament u l-eżilju matul l-akħar gwerra*, Malta, 2007, p. 678.  
<sup>2</sup> A. Gauci, *Mistiedien tar-Re*, Malta, 1996, p. 115.

Photos and letters from Albert Ganado's collection.

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# Sliema in pre-war postcards

*Giovanni Bonello*

Sliema can hardly claim to be typical of the rest of Malta in any way. A very late starter in urbanization, it caught on rapidly only after the 1850s. Then, particularly round its sea-fronts, it changed its architectural fabric even more rapidly from the 1970s onwards.

Apart from Valletta, all the other urban conglomerates in Malta were originated by and for the local inhabitants, with later accretions by foreigners: real knights and British settlers. With Sliema it was mostly the other way round. The ‘residential’ potential of that rural area seems to have been discovered only by the knights – for idyllic country getaways – see Luc de Boyer d’Argens, who has rue d’Argens named after his property, then by foreigners, like the Prince of Capua, of Capua Palace, and by British officials with their families.

Finally, the Maltese too noticed Sliema; at first those in tow who believed their status would increase in proportion to how closely they aped their imperial owners. This gave rise to the *tal-pepè* phenomenon – an upper-middle class living like the British, behaving more English than the English themselves, speaking (minimum) pidgin Maltese as if they were English, and pidgin English as if they were Martians, with the affectation of uncritical imitation. But once the migration momentum set in, there was no stopping the Maltese, and Sliema became a populous area sought after by the colonial devotees as well as by those who could not have cared less.

Maybe that is why Sliema remains so different – and, let’s admit it, rather unphotogenic. It has no major landmarks, no important baroque buildings, no piazza with any gravitational pull, no permanent market to act as a centre for social cohesion and interaction, at best, and as a gossip mart at worse. Even the three parish churches of Sliema suffer from the ennui of a hybrid, eclectic style, not bold enough to be captivating, not plain enough to be unoffending. The equally uninspired Anglican church of the Holy Trinity built in 1866 gave Sliema a second sobriquet: *tax-xelin*. Those Maltese who attended Anglican services received a one shilling handout – Judas money for the rest of the Catholics. Most of the other towns and village cores have focal points. Sliema next to none.

Would that be a reason why for a hundred years after the invention of photography (1840), Sliema seems to have remained so uninspirational, so sparingly photographed? Very likely not. Most photographers tended to be ‘commercial’ in the sense that professional camera artists succumbed to the tyranny of the market and went for views that would sell.

They pandered unashamedly to the buyer's interests. With very few tourists around, the bulk of their clients would inevitably be the numerous British armed forces stationed in, or passing through Malta, together with their families. That accounts for the vast quantities of postcards showing places of some military interest or of interest to the military, and unfortunately almost none of the smaller towns and villages, or aspects of indigenous life.

This reflection seems to be supported by the fact that, in the general Sliema area, far more postcards circulated of military barracks behind St. George's Bay, than of Sliema itself. The British Tommy and Jack Tar would want to send with a message or acquire as a keepsake cards showing his ship, his barracks, his parade ground, his march, his regiment, where he swam, where he lodged, where he enjoyed his grog and beer. Sliema, from that aspect, would have been almost wholly expendable.

We owe a considerable debt of gratitude to those few enterprising and farsighted photographers and publishers who, with commercial odds stacked so heavily against them, nonetheless had the guts to record for posterity otherwise elusive and undocumented corners of time and space.

Not that one should look on Sliema postcards as absolute rarities. They exist, though in far fewer numbers than those of other major localities. But again, those Sliema cards that made it to the market because some photographers and postcard publishers took a risk and pushed their luck, generally turn out to be repetitive, obvious and, alas, rather dreary.

By far the majority opt for the Ferries landing place, though photographers showed considerable imagination in capturing the same spot from a surprising number of angles, with different props and in diverse lights. Next in popularity would be the Ghar id-dud promenade, and finally Tower Road as it once was. And that's about it.

Pre-postcard (1898) photographers of Sliema seem to be equally rare. The highly productive camera artists of the Victorian era, starting from the most profuse of them all, Horatio Agius, gave Sliema minimal attention, quite likely for exactly the same reasons as those that guided the century following. James Robertson and Richard Ellis, roughly contemporaries of Agius, similarly found Sliema uninspiring or unrewarding.

Roberto Paribeni in 1930 published a richly-illustrated book on Malta. He never once mentions Sliema in the text, and out of over 170 pictures, only one shows Sliema – and from a distance.

So what's new? Tony Armstrong Jones, in his now-classic collection of Malta photos published in 1958 did not include one single Sliema image. Its introduction by Sachaverell Sitwell almost explains why: "Of every ten Englishmen who have lived in Malta, nine have memories of Sliema. The waterfront has English signs

everywhere, and it is a place people are fond of although it is not beautiful. There are English wives pushing perambulators and the kettle is boiling on every floor. The aura of the seaside boarding house lies heavily on Sliema, a burden that must be lightened somehow if Malta is to attract visitors".

Fifty years on, the seaside boarding house aura has disappeared with a vengeance, visitors crowd below the forgettable and supremely boring architecture of the rebuilt promenades, but the photogenic allure of Sliema has hardly improved at all.

I have selected, almost at random, 14 postcards from my collection – not necessarily the most representative. A few, sadly very few, cards show internal roads off the beaten track, everyday life, festas and events in Sliema – and these, to me are by far the most precious and interesting. This article only means to serve as an appetizer. I intend to publish a far more complete selection in a future *Histories of Malta*, possibly in Vol. IX.

One thing stands out in all these Sliema cards, some well over a hundred years old. In a short span Sliema has denounced its genteel, unhurried, refined, laid back atmosphere. The larger part of these cards shows no cars at all, at most one limo or a route bus, to instil some dynamism or novelty. Ghar id-Dud still consists of one or two-storey mezzanines and imaginative art nouveau buildings, now all demolished; in Tower Rd, the row of variations on the bay-window theme, late Victorian and rather Brighton, is now only memory fodder.

I will try to follow a roughly chronological sequence, starting with a John Critien



Fig. 1

undivided back card – from an ‘aerial’ photo of the Landir.g Place going back almost certainly, to the 1890s (Fig. 1). *Karrozzini* by the dozen, some carts, one of the Sliema ferry boats, and the highest building soars to all of three floors.

The next two cards by the prolific and fastidious Italian publisher Modiano capture the same spot, but from different viewpoints. Modiano is known to have relied heavily on Ellis for his photographs, but one of these is uncredited. Of these two very early turn-of-the-century cards, one by Ellis focuses on the ferry pontoon (Fig. 2), the second one on Marina Street, with more ‘garrys’ in the forefront (Fig. 3) has no photographer’s credit.



Fig. 2

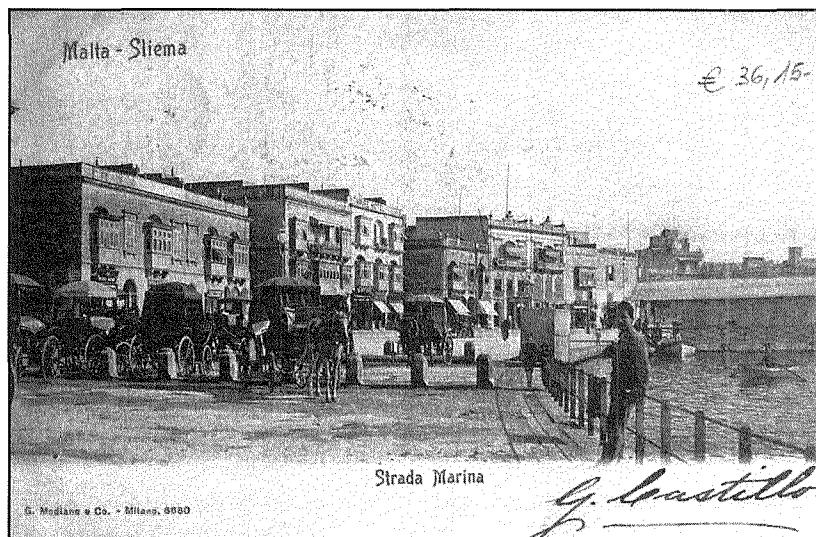


Fig. 3



Fig. 4

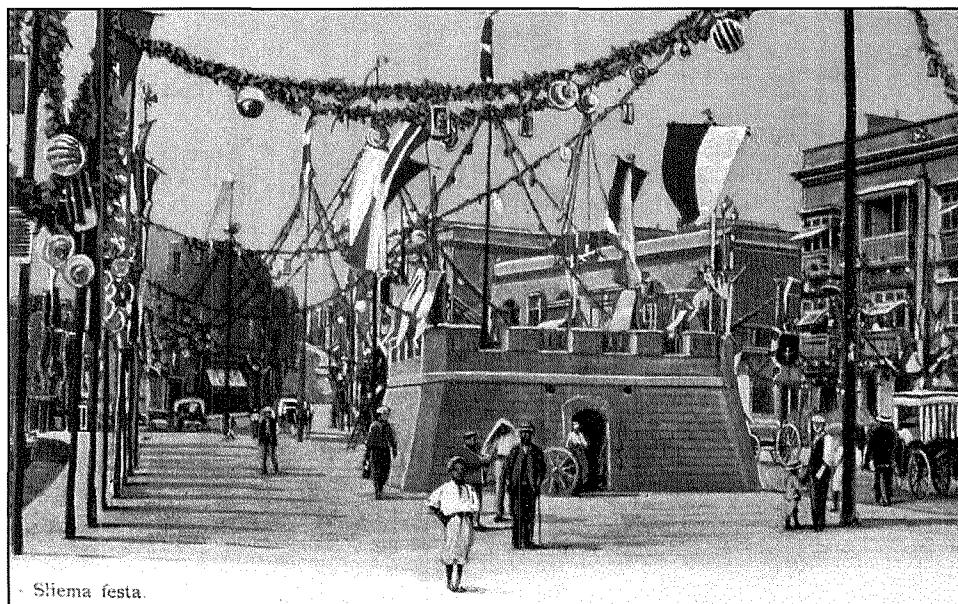


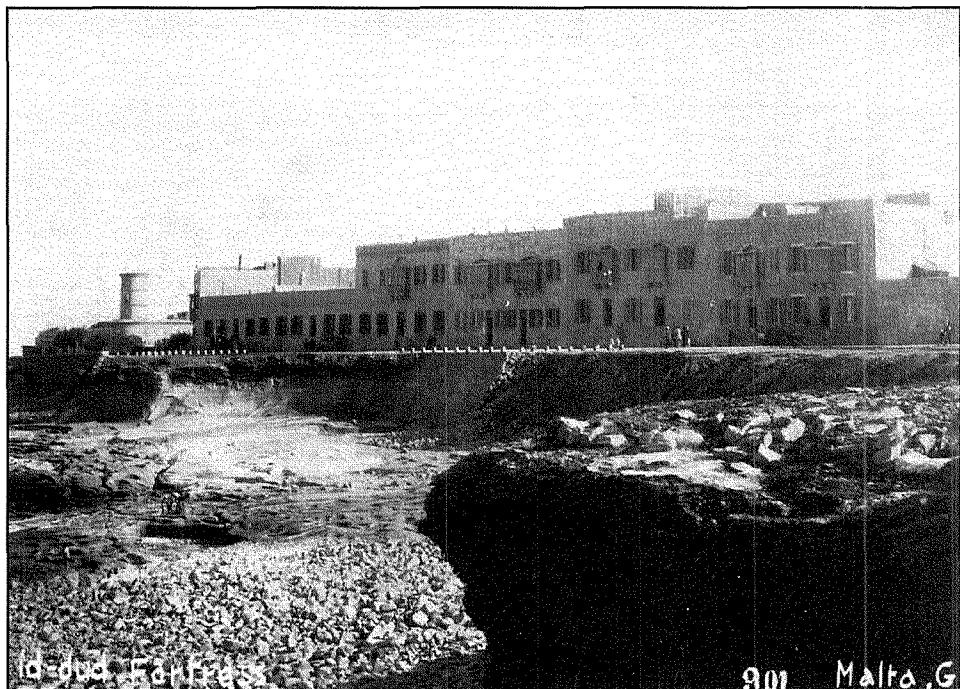
Fig. 5

A third card (*Fig. 4*) also by Modiano, but with my grandfather's imprint 'J. Bonello' depicts a rare naval fall-in (church parade?) at the Sliema landing place, also c. 1900 and uncredited. The sailors, in boots, still wear their sennet hats, called *benjies*, manufactured from imported weeds mostly in the Birkirkara households. These broad-brimmed hats the Admiralty only allowed in the tropics and the Mediterranean, but new orders, well before World War One, banned them and enforced the use of the regulation cap still current today.

From around the same time comes another Sliema card, one in colour belonging to the several series by Vincenzo Galea di Antonio, all dripping with charm (*Fig. 5*). It shows a 'Sliema festa', again at the Ferries landing place, with a squat tower which could have been a band-stand, banners, lanterns and festoons. Just behind the musical rostrum, Prince of Wales Road, now Manwel Dimech.

All the cards described so far were printed by ordinary typographical methods, and except for the coloured one, from astonishingly high resolution clichés. The ones that follow are real photographs, processed individually directly from a negative plate.

One of these, by the still unidentified photographer or publisher who signed his photos 'G.V.' snapped the far side of Għar id-Dud, with the British 1876 Fort Sliema in the far background (*Fig. 6*). Of course, the logic of the market dictated



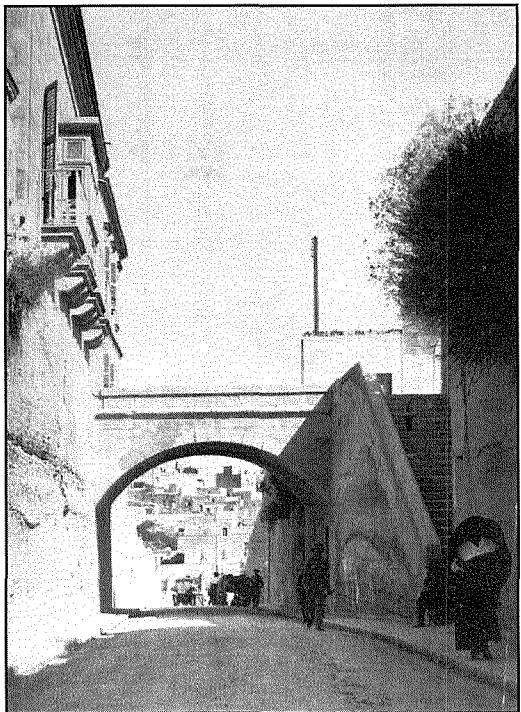
*Fig. 6*



*Fig. 7*



*Fig. 8*



*Fig. 9*

that the card be captioned 'Għar id-Dud Fortress' - probably only the garrison stationed there would buy it. More Tower Road than Għar id-Dud, it shows a long row of very plain one or two-storied houses and, at the extreme right, a low wall still leading to a field or garden.

More Tower Road, and several twin bay-windowed houses – with a yet unbuilt gap between them, the large Bellanti house at the corner, and the rubble wall of a field still in place (Fig. 7). Photographer and publisher unknown, but used in 1912 (final digit unclear). To compare with another Tower Road card, lacking any maker's imprint, possibly by the highly skilled 'amateur' Alfred Vella Gera, a bark manager. The 'Brighton' promenade, now complete, hosts a



*Fig. 10*



Fig. 11



Fig. 12

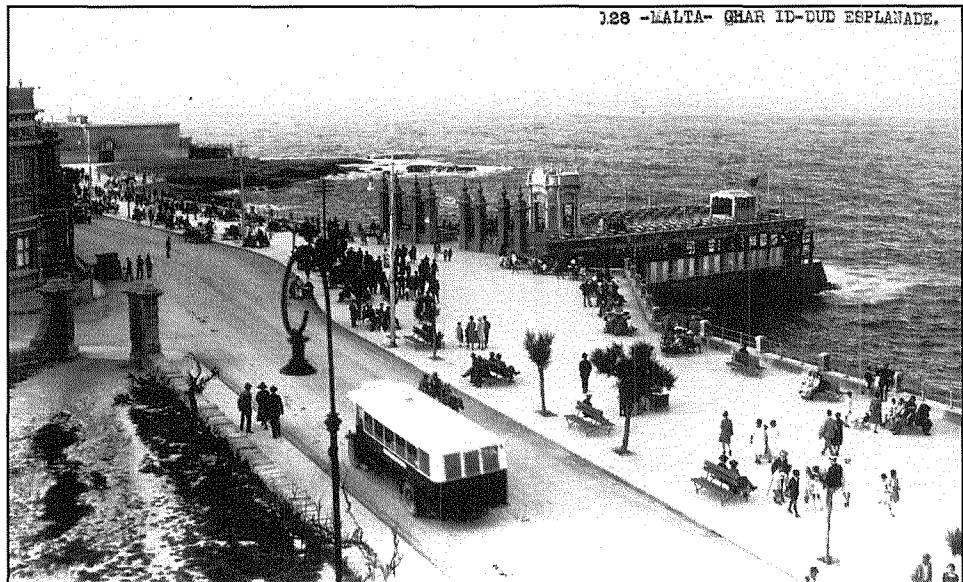


Fig. 13

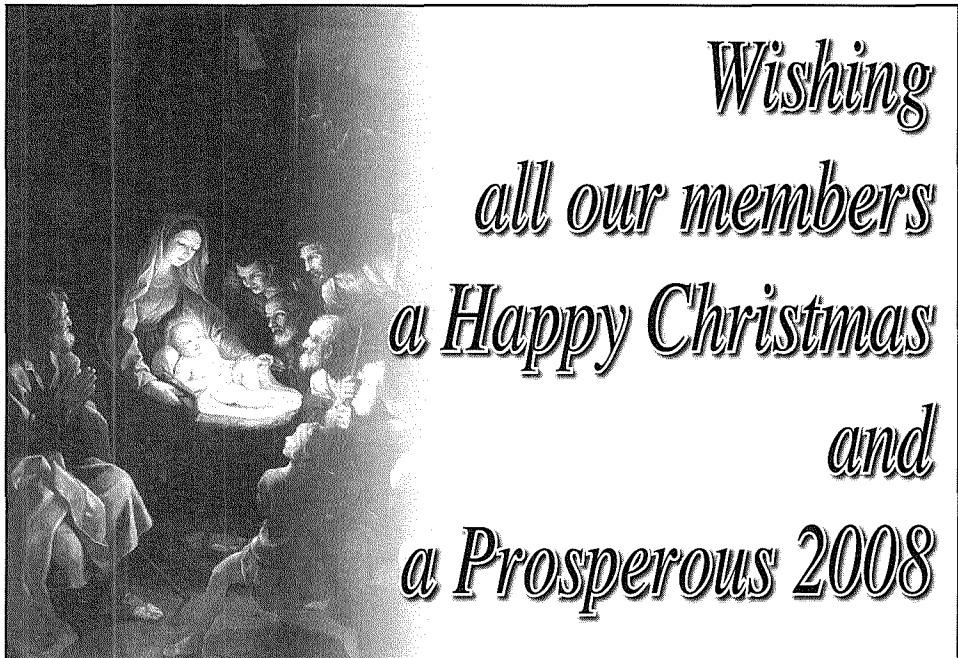
*ta' Gasan* charabanc with a snub nose engine almost flush with the driver's cabin, and all this dates it to the late 1920s or early 1930s (Fig. 8).

From about the same time comes an upright card of lower Prince of Wales road – no cars, one *karozzin* and a lady in *faldetta* over a white blouse – unusual (Fig. 9). Another internal road, this time Dingli Street from about the same time (Fig. 10) has imprinted on the back 'The Result Studio, Sliema' – again a known, but not yet clearly identified photographic establishment situated at the Ferries. I have inserted it to witness one scene that has not (yet) undergone cataclysmic changes, if you don't count unending parking on both sides of the road as one.

Back to the Ferries landing place – only twenty years later. Still no cars, but a well designed and possibly too imposing art nouveau public toilet dominates the foreground, not visible in the previous cards (Fig. 11). The final three photographic cards, all uncredited but one possibly by Alfred Vella Gera, come from the early 1930s, or maybe just earlier (Fig. 12, 13, 14). Particularly impressive is the dark *demm il-baqra* (burgundy red) art nouveau block of flats, to the left of where the Preluna skyscraper now towers. Not a single house visible in these three photographs survives today.



*Fig. 14*



# Federation Internationale de Philatelie (F.I.P.)

*by John A. Cardona*

At the top left hand corner of our Society's letterhead, beneath the logo and year of foundation, there is the inscription "Member Federation Internationale de Philatelie". A similar inscription appears at the top of the first page of the Society's Journal below the medals awarded to that prestigious publication.

Going through the end of year accounts which are available, it transpires that the Society maintained continuously its membership of the F.I.P. since 1978. Membership may have been attained even before that year. In fact on the PSM Magazine of Spring 1975<sup>1</sup> it was stated that on the Agenda of the 44<sup>th</sup> International Philatelic Congress of the F.I.P. there was the Society's application to join the Federation. Further on it was stated that the Society had been invited to send a delegate to represent the Malta Philatelic Society and supply details of the Society's activities. The write-up ended by stating that it was unofficially believed that Malta's application had been accepted. Notwithstanding all this uninterrupted record, probably, very few members are aware of the functions of the F.I.P. Perusing the Cumulative Index of the MPS Journal<sup>2</sup>, it seems surprising how no one has ever written about the functions of this very important philatelic organization.

The F.I.P. is a world governing body empowered to organize, on its own initiative, World or International stamps exhibitions, shows or competitions, with the agreement of the National Federation where the event is to be held.

The F.I.P. was founded in Paris on 18<sup>th</sup> June, 1926 and is a non-profit making organization. Both the registered office and the administrative headquarters are located in Zurich, Switzerland<sup>3</sup>. Its members retain their national autonomy and undertake not to discriminate for reasons of sex, age, race, religion or politics.

Eighty one years ago Mr. M. Bigwood, the first President of the F.I.P., laid down the main objectives of the newly founded federation. These were:<sup>4</sup>

1. To achieve a union of national federations into an influential international organization that would be recognized by UPU as well as by the postal ministries and administration of the different countries.
2. To fight the unnecessary and harmful stamps issues by all means.
3. To call on governments for effective legislation against forgeries.
4. To limit international exhibitions and develop uniform exhibition regulations and a fifth assignment was soon added, the philatelic development of youth.

Eightyone years after with Mr. Jos Wolff at the helm of the F.I.P. presidency the objectives of the F.I.P. are<sup>5</sup>

1. To promote philatelic and stamp collecting, in all its aspects, on the international level.
2. To create friendly relations and to maintain close co-operation among philatelists and stamp collectors throughout the world, with the aim of promoting peace and friendship among all people.
3. To promulgate regulations governing its various activities.
4. To establish and maintain close contacts with partners in the philatelic field and with the national and international organizations.
5. To support philatelic events of all kinds organized by its Members.

The majority of philatelic societies of the countries throughout the world belong to National Federations. These societies are accepted for admittance to the F.I.P. as Regular Members. The Malta Philatelic Society falls in this category. It should be noted that only one Member (Society) can be accepted from each country and therefore the Malta Philatelic Society is recognized as the representative Member from the Maltese Islands. Once a Member has been elected it shall represent its country until it resigns.

Participation in the events held under the auspices of the F.I.P. is open to all collectors who are members of a society which is affiliated to a member federation of the F.I.P. To elucidate all members of the Malta Philatelic Society are eligible to take part in the events held under the patronage of the F.I.P. provided that they meet certain qualifying philatelic requirements. The main ones are highlighted hereunder.<sup>6</sup>

### **Eligibility for participation in the Championship Class**

- a) Participation in the F.I.P Championship Class is restricted to exhibits which have received 95 or more points in FIP World Exhibitions in any three separate years during the previous 10 years.
- b) A Grand Price counts as a qualifying medal, credit however may be taken for only one Large Gold Medal (min. 95 points) or one Grand Prize per year.

### **Qualification for participation in the Competitive Classes**

- a) The exhibit must have received a minimum of 75 points or equivalent award at a national level exhibition within the preceding ten years calculated from date for submission of applications.
- b) If the qualification is attained in an Exhibition other than at the National Exhibition of his Member country, then the exhibitor must submit a certificate of recognition from his Member Federation.
- c) **Those Members, who have not organized a national exhibition in the previous five years, may certify the qualification of the exhibit.** Such

## **Certificate must be signed by the President or Secretary General of the Member.**

The late Godwin Said, one of our initial members, writing<sup>7</sup> on “*Awards at Exhibitions*” stated that the National Philatelic Exhibition held in Malta during 1971 helped pave the way of Maltese collectors to commence taking part in International Exhibition held under the patronage of the F.I.P. The level of success had been consistent throughout the following fifteen years as could be seen from the list of awards produced hereunder.

Mr. Said served as Commissioner for all the International Exhibitions held to 1985. He stated the entries of our members had always been met with interest and praise both by other overseas commissioners as well as by visitors and collectors. The list covers awards gained by our members in various International Classes which no doubt encouraged participation in such activities and contributed extensively towards the support of Maltese Philately.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Exhibition</b>	<b>Exhibitor</b>	<b>Award</b>
1970	Stampex 70	Messrs. E. Said	Bronze Silver
1971	Int. Exhibition “RSA 10”	Messrs. E. Said	Bronze Silver
1972	Stampex 72	Messrs. E. Said	Bronze Silver
1973	Stampex 73	Messrs. E. Said	Bronze Silver
	Indipex 73	Godwin Said	Silver
	Polska 73	Godwin Said	Silver
1974	Stampex 74	Godwin Said	Bronze Silver
	Stockholmia 74	Messrs. E. Said	Silver
1975	Stampex 75	Godwin Said	Bronze
	Arphila 75	Godwin Said	Bronze Silver
	Stampex 75	Messrs. E. Said	Bronze Silver
	Espana 75	Godwin Said	Bronze
	Wien 75	Dr. Alfred Bonnici MD	Large Vermeil
1976	Aerophilia 76 Frankfurt	Dr. Alfred Bonnici MD	Silver
	Hafnia 76	Dr. Alfred Bonnici MD	Vermeil
		Messrs. E Said	Bronze
	Italia 76	Dr. Alfred Bonnici MD	Gold
		Messrs. E. Said	Bronze Silver
1977	Amphilex 77	Dr. Alfred Bonnici MD	Large Vermeil
		Godwin Said	Silver
		Messrs. E. Said	Bronze
1978	Praga 78	Dr. Alfred Bonnici MD	Large Vermeil
		Messrs. E. Said	Bronze
	Italia 78	Godwin Said	Silver
1979	Vebileph	Messrs. E. Said	Silver

1980	Norwex 80	Dr. Alfred Bonnici	Large Vermeil+ Special Price
		Godwin Said	Vermeil
		A. C. Eastgate (UK)	Silver
		Messrs. E. Said	Silver
		Philatelic Society (Malta) Magazine	Bronze
	London 80	Milex (UK)	Gold + Special Price
		Dr. Alfred Bonnici MD	Large Vermeil+ Special Prize
		Mrs. I Hand (UK)	Silver
		J. W. Turnbull (Australia)	Silver Bronze
		L. S. Wheeler (UK)	Bronze
		Godwin Said	Vermeil
		G. A. Coates (UK)	Silver
		A. C. Eastgate (UK)	Silver
		P. Lazzerini (Italy)	Silver
		Messrs. E. Said	Bronze
		Messrs. E. Said	Diplomas (2)
		Philatelic Society (Malta) Magazine	Diploma
1981	Philatokyo 81	Dr. Alfred Bonnici	Gold
		Godwin Said	Silver Bronze
		Philatelic Society (Malta) Magazine	Diploma
	WIPA	Messrs. E. Said	Diploma
		Godwin Said	Vermeil
		Messrs. E. Said	Silver Bronze
1982	Philexfrance 82	Godwin Said	Vermeil
		Messrs. E. Said	Silver Bronze
	Philtema 82	Messrs. E. Said	2 Certificates + 2 Souvenir Medals
		Philatelic Society (Malta) Magazine	1 Certificate + 1 Souvenir Medal
	Milano 82	Dr. Alfred Bonnici	Gold
		Messrs. E. Said	Silver
		Messrs. E. Said	Certificate
		Philatelic Society (Malta) Magazine	Certificate
	Canada 82	Joseph Fenech	Certificate
		George Said	Certificate

	Belgica 82	Godwin Said	Vermeil
		Messrs. E. Said	2 Certificates
		Dr. Alfred Bonnici MD	Silver Bronze
1983	Tembal 83	Messrs. E. Said	Diploma
1984	Espana 84	Dr. Alfred Bonnici MD	Gold
		Godwin Said	Vermeil
		Messrs. E. Said	Silver Bronze
		Philatelic Society (Malta) Magazine	Silver Bronze
	Ausipex 84	Godwin Said	Large Vermeil
		Messrs. E. Said	Silver Bronze
		Philatelic Society (Malta) Magazine	Silver Bronze
1985	Philtema 85	Messrs. E. Said	Silver
		Philatelic Society (Malta) Magazine	Silver Bronze
	Israphil 85	Godwin Said	Vermeil
		Philatelic Society (Malta) Magazine	Silver Bronze
	Roma 85	Dr. Alfred Bonnici MD	Vermeil
		Godwin Said	Vermeil

The Web site of F.I.P. is [www.f.i.p.ch](http://www.f.i.p.ch).

Subsequent to the demise of Mr. Godwin Said in 1985, Dr. Alfred Bonnici continued taking part in international competitive exhibitions held under the auspices of the F.I.P. in the literature class through the PSM Journal winning silver medals at Stockholmia 1986, Chicagopex 2002, 2004 and 2005 and Portland U.S.A. 2007.

It is worth noting that the silver medal won this year in Portland U.S.A. was for exhibiting the colourful Journal Volume 35/1 issued in April 2006 on the subject of "*Malta Zeppelin Mail*".

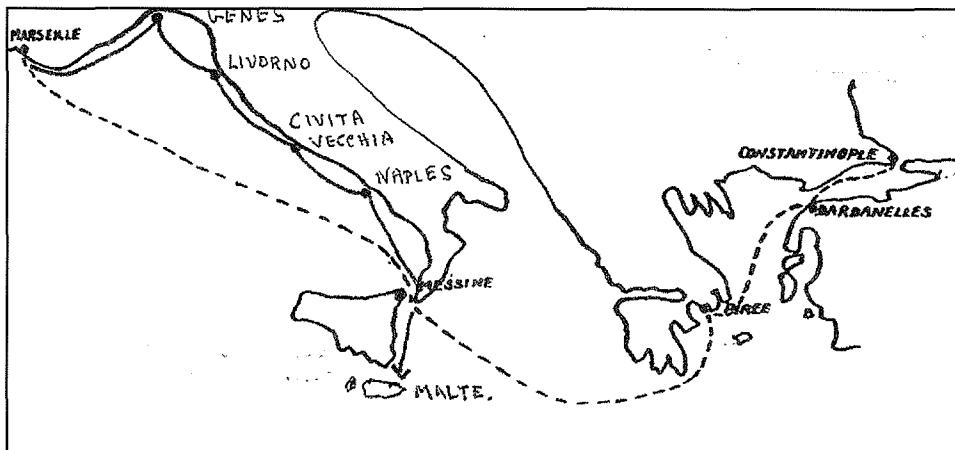
As recent as last month Dr. Alfred Bonnici won a Vermeil at Croydon U.K. with the deeply researched exhibit "*Messageries Imperiales and Malta*".

#### References

- 1 The PSM Magazine, Vol 5 No 2, page 12 – Spring 1975.
- 2 The PSM Journal Cumulative Index (1967–2004), Vol 33 No 3 – December 2004.
- 3 Statute of the Federation Internationale de Philatelie.
- 4 "Flash" publication of the Federation Internationale de Philatelie No 100 – 2007
- 5 Statute of the Federation Internationale de Philatelie.
- 6 Excerpts from the General Regulations of the F.I.P. for Exhibitions (G R E X)
- 7 The PSM Magazine, Vol 15, No 1, page 6 – March 1986.

# Messageries Imperiales Double Ship hand stamp

By Alfred Bonnici



## Unrecorded Messageries Imperiales

Depart	1 <sup>st</sup> cachet (recto)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Cachet (verso)	Transferred at	Destination
Constantinople	Phase 16 June 58	Pausilippe 23 June 58	Messina	Malta 24 June 58
Constantinople	Cydnus 1 June 59	Vatican 7 June 59	Messina	Malta 8 June 59
Constantinople	Neva 29 August 60	Quirinal 4 September 60	Messina	Malta 5 September 60
Constantinople	Simois 15 May 61	Vatican 21 May 61	Messina	Malta 22 May 61

## 48 Cydnus

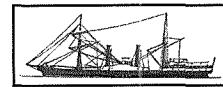
Sister of *Danube*. **B.** 1856. **T.** 1,196g.

**1856** Aug 13: Launched

**1861** Mar 21: Ran down the Prussian brig *Vierge Marie* in the Sea of Marmora

**1863** Lengthened like her sister

**1875** Broken up at La Ciotat



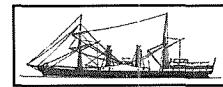
## 49 Phase

Sister of *Danube*. **B.** 1857 T 1,043g.

**1857** Dec. 24: Launched

**1858** At Bonifacio she was holed by a submerged rock. Refloated and towed into Madallena, Corsica, for repairs.

**1879** Aug: Broken up at La Ciotat.



## 51 Quirinal

**B** 1857 Chantiers de la Méditerranée, La Seyne. **T** 787g, **D** 190.29/58 x 26.2/8.

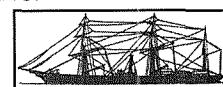
**E** Pad, 2 cyl, simple, 3.20 hp, 10 kts. By builder. **H** Iron. 1 dk + poop.

**1857** Apr 26: Launched for the Mediterranean passenger services to Italy.

**1859** Conveyed troops to Genoa for the Italian campaign.

**1865** Evacuated the Royal Neapolitan troops from Naples when Garibaldi took the city.

**1871** Broken up at La Ciotat.



## 52 Pausilippe

Sister of *Quirinal*. **B** La Ciotat. **T.** 689g, **D** 213.25/65 x 26.47/8.07.

**E** Pad. 2 cyl simple, osc, 370 hp. 10 kts. By builder. **H** Iron. 1 dk + poop.

**1857** June 7: Launched. The smaller tonnage on greater dimensions is unexplained. Some service as her sister.



**1859** Used on the Italian campaign.

**1872** Broken up at La Ciotat.

## 58 Neva (I)

**B** 1858 La Ciotat **T** 1,085g, 617 net. **D** 256/78.02 x 32/9.75

**E** Sgl 6 bladed scr, 2 cyl hori, 875 ihp, 10kts. By builder. **H** Iron. 2 dks.

**1858** Oct 20: Launched. An improved *Danube* class with better passenger accommodation in a poop.



**1862** Oct 19: Inaugurated the Marseilles-Alexandria-Suez-Hong Kong service. Her passengers crossed by land from Alexandria to Suez where *Imperatrice*, having gone out by the Cape, awaited them.

**1872** Stationed at Batavia as a hotel ship for waiting passengers.

**1875** Lost in the Rikou Strait near Batavia, Dutch East Indies.

## 40 Vatican

**B** 1854 L. Arman, Bordeaux **T** 466g. **D** 187/57 x 22.97/7.

**E** Pad, 2 cyl, 200 hp. By builder. **H** Iron. 2dks. Square stern. Square windows.

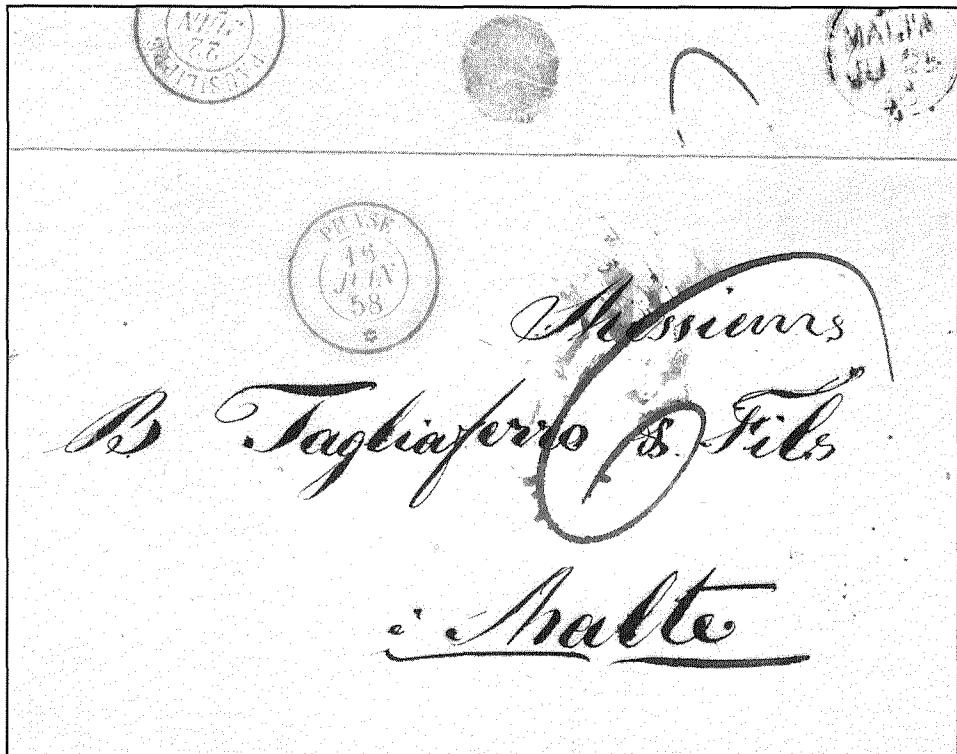


**1854** Built for the service to Italy which still employed paddle steamers.

**1859** Carried troops to Italy during the campaign against Austria.

**1873** Broken up.

Reference: Duncan Hawes: Messageries Maritimes.



**M.I. PHASE: -----**

LIGNE DU LEVANT : Sixième variante.

1st, return Postal trip (16 June 1858)

Constantinople (16 June 1858) a Marseille – par MESSINE (23/6)

**M.I. PAUSILIPPE: -----**

LIGNE INDIRECT D'ITALIE: Troisième variante, 5th trip

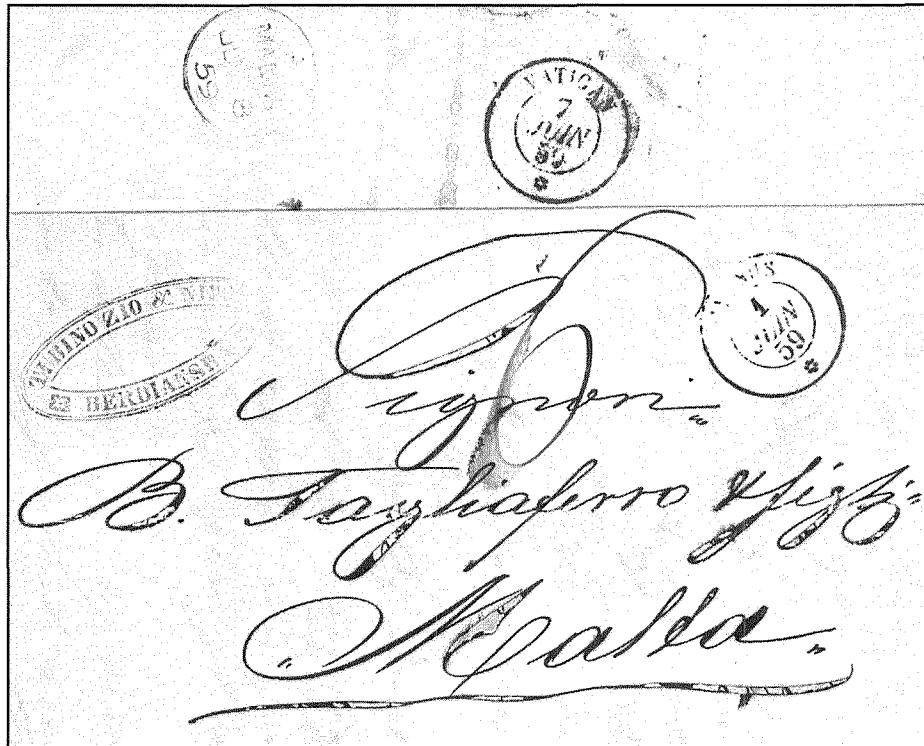
Marseille par Messine (22 June 1858) a MALTE (23 June 1858)

E.L. written on the **16 June 1858** in Constantinople.

**M.I. PHASE 16 June 1858 (h/s), (r), to Marseille via Messina (22/6) (Salles p 174)**

Messina **M.I. PAUSILIPPE (22 June 1858)** (h/s), (v), coming from **Marseille** down the **Italian coast**, (*Salles p 206*), arriving in **Malta** on the **23 June 58**, c.d.s (v).

Rated “6” pence (normal rate) *in manuscript*.



**M.I. CYDNUS:**

**LIGNE DU LEVANT : Sixième variante, 3<sup>rd</sup> return trip in 1859**  
**Constantinople (1 June 1859) a Marseille – par MESSINE**

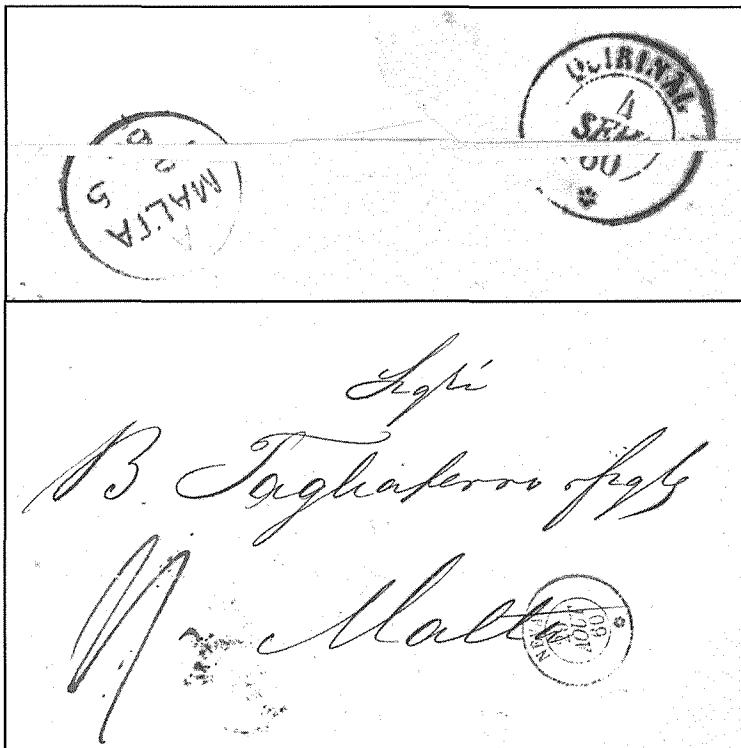
**M.I. VATICAN:**

**LIGNE INDIRECT D'ITALIE: Troisième variante, 5th return trip**  
**Marseille par Messine (7 June 1859) a MALTE (8 June 1859)**

E.L written on (7), 19 May 1859 in Berdianska (Black sea), by Messrs Tubino & Nipote, (h.s), (r), to Messrs Tagliaferro in Malta, going first to Constantinople.

**M.I. CYDNUS 1 June 1859, (h/s) (r), to Marseille via Messina, (7/6), (S. p 174).**

**M.I. VATICAN at Messina (7 June 1859) (h/s), (v), coming from Marseille down the Italian Coast, (S. p 207), arriving in Malta on the 8 June 1859, c.d.s. (v). Rated “6” pence, (normal rate) in manuscript.**



**M.I. NEVA:**

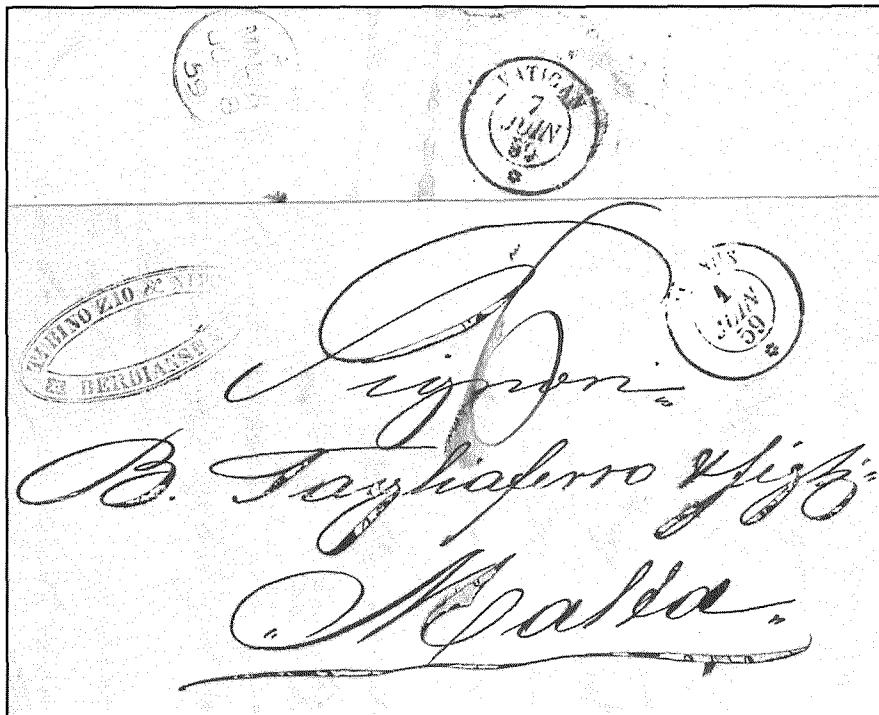
**LIGNE DU LEVANT:** Sixième variante, 7th return trip in 1860  
 Constantinople (29 August 1860) a Marseille – par MESSINE

**M.I. QUIRINAL:**

**LIGNE INDIRECT D'ITALIE:** Troisième variante, 8th trip  
 Marseille par Messine (4 Sept 1860) a Malte 5 September 1860

E.L. written on (12)/25 August 1860 in Odessa (Black sea) by Mr C Ephrussi to Messrs Tagliaferro in Malta, going first to Constantinople M.I. NEVA 29 August 1860 (h/s), (r) going to Marseille via Messina, 3 August 1860, (*Salles p 175*)

Messina M.I. QUIRINAL 4 August 1860, coming from Marseille down the Italian Coast, (h.s), (v), (*Salles p 207*), ariving in Malta on the 5 September 1860, c.d.s. (v) Rated "I/-", one schilling, (twice normal rate), *in manuscript*.



### M.I. SIMOIS

LIGNE DU LEVANT: Septième variante, 3rd return trip in 1861  
 Constantinople (15 May 1861) a Marseille – par MESSINE

### M.I. VATICAN

LIGNE INDIRECT D'ITALIE: Troisième variante, 3rd trip in 1861  
 Marseille par Messine (21 May 1861) a Malte (22 May 1861)

E.L written on 11 May 1861 in ODESSA, (Black sea) by Capt G Chiassaro of  
 the Barque "*Due Cugini*" owned by Tagliaferro, to his employer Messrs Taglia  
 /Malta

*Forwarding Agent "V. DE. CANDIA" in Constantinople, (hand stamp), (r)*  
 Boarding the M.I. SIMOIS on the 15 May, h.s (r), coming from SYRIE (Salles  
 p 175) going to Marseille via Messine (21 May 1861),

M.I. VATICAN at Messina (21/5), h.s (v), coming from Marseille down the  
 Italian coast, (Salles p 208) arriving in Malta on the 22 May 1861, c.d.s. (v)  
 Rated "6" pence, (normal rate), *in manuscript*.

# Postal Diary

## 16 July 2007 – 9 December 2007

by Joseph Fenech

### 20 July 2007

The 400th anniversary of Caravaggio's arrival in Malta was commemorated philatelically by Maltapost plc with a stamp issue on Friday, 20 July 2007. The set of stamps, designed in-house by Maltapost, consisted of two stamps and a miniature sheet. The stamps, which are available in sheets of ten, were offset printed by Printex Limited on Maltese Crosses watermarked paper. The 5¢/Euro 0.12



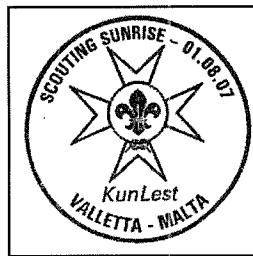
stamp depicts St. Jerome, and is 44.0mm x 31.0mm in size, with a perforation of 13.9 x 14.0 (comb). The second stamp, with a face value of 29¢/Euro 0.68, shows a detail from the Beheading of St. John, and is 48.0mm x 39.5mm in size, with a perforation of 14.0 x 14.0 (comb). The miniature sheet, with a face value of Lm2/Euro 4.66, which is 120mm x 86mm in size, shows the full painting of the Beheading of St. John, with an inset stamp 44.0mm x 31.0mm in size, and a perforation of 13.9 x 14.0 (comb). Maltapost issued a special commemorative handstamp to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No. 7). The handstamp was inscribed "----- - MALTA/CARAVAGGIO/400 MITT SENA/JUM IL-HRUĞ 20.07.07". The Maltapost Philatelic Bureau featured these stamps in 'The Malta Stamp' bulletin No. 255.

### 30 July

The Ministry for Investment, Industry and Information Technology announced that Government had decided to completely privatise Maltapost plc, which, up till then, had a Government shareholding of 65% and a Lombard Bank Malta plc shareholding of 35%. The privatisation was to take place in two stages. In the first stage, Government was to transfer another 25% of the shares to Lombard Bank, so that the Bank would become the majority shareholder with 60% of the shares. In the second stage, Government was to sell the remaining shares (40%) by offering them to the public on the Stock Exchange. The price agreed for the transfer of the shares to Lombard Bank was Lm1,217,585, which represented one and a half times the net asset value of the shares (according to the last audited accounts of September 2006).

## 1 August

Maltapost issued a special Occasion Card to commemorate the scouting activity known as the Scouting Sunrise, which was organised by the Scout Association of Malta at the Floriana Granaries on 31 July and 1 August 2007. This event was celebrated in all scouting countries and territories worldwide to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the foundation of the world organization of the Scout Movement (1907 – 2007).



The Occasion Card, marked Occasion Card No. 15, depicts the Chief Scout of the World, Lord Robert Baden-Powell, in 1937, during the last of his several visits to Malta. The imprinted stamp has a face value of 51c/Euro 1.19, and is one of a set of four stamps originally designed by artist Luciano Micallef and issued on 21 July 1993. The stamp, with an original face value of 10c, shows a scout lighting a traditional bonfire. The Occasion Card was available from the Maltapost Mobile Unit on the Floriana Granaries on 31 July 2007 from 6.30 pm, and on the following day between 8.00 am and 10.00 am. The Card was also available from the Maltapost Retail Outlet in Dar Annona, Castille Square, Valletta, as from 1 August 2007. A special hand postmark, inscribed “SCOUTING SUNRISE – 01.08.07/Kun Lest/VALLETTA – MALTA”, was also used at the Maltapost Retail Outlet in Castille Square, Valletta, on Wednesday, 1 August 2007.

## 1 August

On 1 August 2007, the National Statistics Office issued News Release 125/2007 highlighting the post and telecommunications statistics for the quarter April – June 2007. According to these statistics, in the quarter under review, total postal traffic amounted to around 11.2 million items of which the absolute bulk represented letters and other printed items (down from 12.9 million items for the second quarter of 2006). The total number of parcels sent through the national post in the second quarter of 2007 was 12,917 (compared to 11,156 in the corresponding period of 2006).

## 8 August

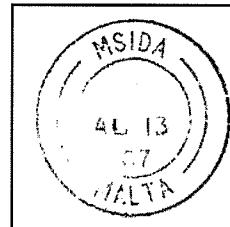
The Sub-Post Office at Louis Stationery, 49 Triq San Nikola, Siggiewi was closed for business between Wednesday, 8 August and Saturday, 18 August 2007, both days included.

## 11 August

The Sub-Post Office at 51, Triq G. Borg Olivier, Mellieha, was closed for business between Saturday, 11 August and Saturday, 18 August 2007, both days included.

## 13 August

Maltapost informed that from Monday, 13 August 2007, a new metal postmark was to be used at the Msida Retail Outlet. Saturday, 11 August 2007 was to be the last day of use of the previous postmark.



## 14 August

A special hand postmark – GUŻE BONNICI – KITTIEB, MITT SENA MINN TWELIDU – was used at the Maltapost Retail Outlet, Dar Annona, Castille Place, Valletta, on Tuesday, 14 August 2007 between 8.15 am and 3.45 pm. (Fig. 4)



## 16 August

By agreement with the Malta Communications Authority, no mail delivery was carried out, and the Maltapost retail outlets did not open for business, on Thursday, 16 August 2007. Normal service was resumed on Friday, 17 August 2007.

## 16 August

The Sub-Post Office at 6, St. Bees, Wesghat il-Ġublew, Mgarr, was closed for business between Thursday, 16 August and Thursday, 23 August 2007, both days included.

## 18 August

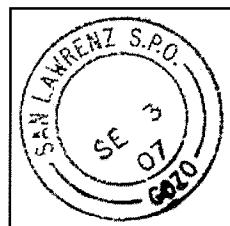
The Sub-Post Office at Rose Bazaar, 113, Triq Santa Marija, Ghaxaq, was closed for business between Saturday, 18 August and Friday, 31 August 2007, both days included.

## 20 August

The Sub-Post Office at Welcome Bazaar, Misrah Frenċ Abela, Dingli, was closed for business between Monday, 20 August and Monday, 27 August 2007, both days included.

## 3 September

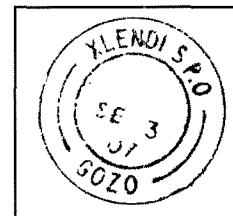
Maltapost advised that a Sub-Post Office was opened with effect from Monday, 3 September 2007, to provide all postal services as well as bill payment services, at San Lawrenz Local Council, 22A, Triq id-Duluri, San Lawrenz, Gozo (Tel. 2155 3719). A metal hand date-stamp inscribed with the words



‘SAN LAWRENZ S.P.O. – GOZO’ started to be used at this Sub-Post Office. The San Lawrenz Local Council became the first Local Council in the Maltese Islands to be given a contract to operate as a Sub-Post Office on behalf of Maltapost.

### **3 September**

Maltapost advised that a Sub-Post Office was opened with effect from Monday, 3 September 2007, to provide all postal services as well as bill payment services, at Hotel Serena Beach Club, Triq il-Punici, Xlendi, Munxar, Gozo (Tel. 2156 3556). A metal hand date-stamp inscribed with the words ‘XLENDI S.P.O. – GOZO’ started to be used at this Sub-Post Office.

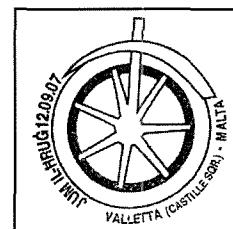


### **3 September**

The Cabinet of Ministers of the Maltese Government approved the transfer of the 25% shareholding in Maltapost plc from the Government to Lombard Bank plc. Cabinet also approved that Maltapost plc be completely privatised with the sale of the Government’s remaining 40% shareholding through an offer to the public on the Malta Stock Exchange.

### **12 September**

A set of four stamps featuring motor-cycle models of yesteryear was issued by Maltapost on 12 September 2007. The stamps were designed by Joe P. Smith, and were offset printed by Printex Limited on Maltese Crosses watermarked paper. The stamps, which were issued in sheets of ten, are 44mm x 31mm in size, with a perforation of 13.9 x 14.1 (comb). The 1¢/Euro 0.02 stamp features a Royal Enfield motor-cycle, which is a single-seater 1954 model which had been used by the General Post Office in Malta. The 16¢/Euro 0.37 stamp features a Matchless 1941 G3/L model which, in its time, was very popular with despatch riders. The 27¢/Euro 0.63 stamp features a 1903 Minerva model, which is reputed to be the oldest motor-cycle in Malta. The 50¢/Euro 1.16 stamp features a Triumph Speed Twin police motor-cycle, which was launched in 1965. A special commemorative handstamp inscribed “JUM IL-HRUĞ 12.09.07/----- - MALTA”, was prepared by Maltapost to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No. 8). The Maltapost Philatelic Bureau featured these stamps in ‘The Malta Stamp’ bulletin No. 256.



### **12 September**

Maltapost informed the public that the Postal Administration of Israel had advised

that, due to the High Holidays in Israel (Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur and Sukkot), there were to be no postal services during the dates of 12-15, 21-22, 26-28 September and 4-6 October 2007. The public was informed that no postal items, including EMS, were to be processed or delivered by the Postal Administration of Israel on these dates.

## 22 September

Postal Retail Outlets, with the exception of the Retail Outlets in Castille Place, Valletta, Malta International Airport, Qawra, St. Julians and Victoria, Gozo, did not open for business on Saturday, 22 September 2007. All Sub-Post Offices and licensed stamp vendors offered postal services as usual. However, collection and delivery of mail were still carried out by Maltapost. All postal services resumed on Monday, 24 September 2007.

## 28 September

The Philatelic Bureau of Maltapost issued an Occasion Card and a Postal Card during the Maltex 2007 Philatelic Exhibition held at Le Meridien Phoenicia Hotel, Floriana, between Friday, 28 and Sunday, 30 September 2007. The Occasion Card, number 18 in the series, commemorates the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the use of adhesives in the postal service in Malta (1857 – 2007). The card shows the Queen Victoria perforated penny red-brown stamp postmarked with the “M” obliterator, as well as the statue of the same Queen erected in Valletta at a later date. The faintly printed adhesives comprise perforated stamps, registration labels, a self-adhesive booklet stamp, a Frama label stamp and three Cinderellas. The imprinted stamp is the 51c/Euro 1.19 value showing the 17<sup>th</sup> century baroque balcony on the Hostel de Verdelin in Valletta, from the miniature sheet issued with the 2007 Maltese Balconies set designed by Alfred Caruana Ruggier, who also designed this Occasion Card. The Postal Card, number 28 in the series, commemorated the participation of Maltapost plc in the VIII Maltex Stamp Exhibition. The two stamps imprinted on the Postal Card are the 16c/Euro 0.37 and 51c/Euro 1.19 stamps issued earlier in 2007 to commemorate the worldwide Scout Movement and one of the visits to Malta of the founder of the Movement, Lord Baden-Powell. A special cancellation for the Maltex 2007 Exhibition was used on the days of the exhibition, both at Le Meridien and at the Dar Annona Postal Retail Outlet, Castille Square, Valletta. The special commemorative handstamp was inscribed with the words “Maltex 2007/28-30 September/Le Meridien – Floriana – Malta”. The Malta Philatelic Society also issued a special cover to commemorate the 150 years of the use of adhesives in



the Postal Service in Malta. Stamp designers who had designed Maltapost stamp issues in 2006/2007 were invited to the Maltex stamp show on 30 September 2007 to sign First Day Covers of the sets they had designed.

## 28 September

On 28 September 2007, Maltapost issued a set of six stamps entitled Occasions. These six stamps were designed by Harry Borg, and were offset printed by Printex Limited on Maltese Crosses watermarked paper. The stamps, which are 35mm x 35mm in size, with a perforation of 14.28 x 14.28 (comb), are available in sheets of ten. All the six stamps are denominated with 8¢/Euro 0.19. Unlike other stamp issues, these Occasions stamps will have an extended sales period. A special commemorative handstamp inscribed “JUM IL-HRUĞ 28.09.07/----- - MALTA”, was prepared by Maltapost to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No. 9). The Maltapost Philatelic Bureau featured these stamps in ‘The Malta Stamp’ bulletin No. 257.



## 29 September

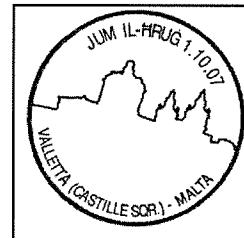
The Philatelic Bureau of Maltapost issued an Occasion Card on 29 September 2007, during the major exhibition of paintings by Caravaggio ('Caravaggio – L'Immagine del Divino. Esperienza ta' Darba – A Unique Experience') organised by Heritage Malta at the National Museum of Archaeology and the National Museum of Fine Arts in Valletta from 30 September to 30 November 2007. The Occasion Card,



number 19 in the series, commemorates the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the brief but eventful stay of Caravaggio in Malta. The card carries an imprinted stamp of 51¢/ Euro 1.19 value depicting the St. Jerome, from the stamp issue commemorating the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Caravaggio's arrival in Malta. The imprinted stamp is cancelled with a special commemorative handstamp inscribed "PHILATELIC BUREAU - MALTA/CARAVAGGIO/L'IMMAGINE DEL DIVINO/JUM IL-HRUĞ 29.09.07".

## 1 October

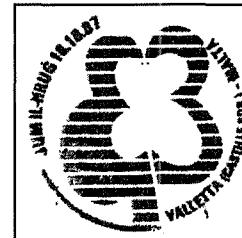
A set of five stamps depicting beautiful scenic aspects of Malta and Gozo was issued by the Philatelic Bureau of Maltapost on 1 October 2007. The stamps, the work of watercolour artist John Martin Borg, were offset printed by Printex Limited on Maltese Crosses watermarked paper. The stamps, available in sheets of ten, are 44.0mm x 31.0mm in size, with a perforation of 13.9 x 14.0 (comb). The five stamps show the Mdina skyline as seen from Mtarfa (11¢/Euro 0.26 stamp), a Qrendi scene with a windmill near a farmhouse and a church in the misty background (16¢/Euro 0.37 stamp), the Vittoriosa waterfront, where the old blends with the new (37¢/Euro 0.86 stamp), Gozo's Mgarr Harbour, with the Gozo ferry leaving harbour and the famous church landmark (46¢/Euro 1.07 stamp), and idyllic Xlendi Bay in Gozo (76¢/Euro 1.77 stamp). A special commemorative handstamp inscribed "JUM IL-HRUĞ 1.10.07/----- MALTA", was prepared by Maltapost to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No. 10). The Maltapost Philatelic Bureau featured these stamps in 'The Malta Stamp' bulletin Nc. 258.



The 16¢/Euro 0.37 Qrendi stamp from this set also formed part of a joint stamp issue in the new SEPAC collection (Small European Postal Administrations Cooperation) released on 1 October 2007. SEPAC issues are aimed at highlighting the joint cooperation of SEPAC members to promote philately, and to make the public aware of the history, nature, scenery and culture of the countries forming part of SEPAC. The member postal administrations in SEPAC are Aland Post, Faroe Post, Gibraltar Philatelic Bureau, Post Greenland, Guernsey Post, Iceland Post, Isle of Man Post, Jersey Post, Liechtenstein Post Corporation, Maltapost, Monaco Post and San Marino Post. A special SEPAC Joint Stamp Issue folder, entitled Beautiful Corners of Europe, was issued on 1 October 2007, and includes one SEPAC logo stamp from each of the eleven participating Post Offices. San Marino Post did not participate in this first joint issue. The SEPAC folder was printed by Prinz Verlag GmbH, Germany, and had a circulation of 15,000 copies. Locally, it was sold by Maltapost at a retail price of Lm6.75 per folder.

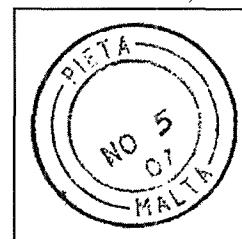
## 18 October

A Commemorative Miniature Sheet was issued by the Philatelic Bureau of Maltapost on Thursday, 18 October 2007, to assist in the 34U campaign, which was aimed at having a nation-wide tree planting programme with the full participation of the public. The sheet was designed by 26<sup>th</sup> Frame, and was offset printed by Printex Ltd. The stamp on this Commemorative Sheet shows the Maltese olive (*Olea europaea*), and had originally formed part of the Maltese Fruits 16-stamp sheetlet designed by Andrew Micallef which was issued earlier in 2007. The stamp on the Sheet has a face value of 75¢/Euro 1.75. The stamp is 35.0mm x 35.0mm in size, with a perforation of 14.28 x 14.28 (comb). The Commemorative Sheet is 100mm x 62mm in size. A special commemorative handstamp inscribed "JUM IL-HRUĞ 18.10.07/----- - MALTA", was prepared by Maltapost to cancel the Commemorative Sheet on the first day of issue (on Commemorative Cover 2). The Maltapost Philatelic Bureau featured this Sheet in an unnumbered edition of 'The Malta Stamp' bulletin. Part of the proceeds from the sale of this Commemorative Sheet are being donated by Maltapost plc to the 34U campaign.



## 23 October

It was announced that Lombard Bank Malta plc Chief Executive Officer and Director Joseph Said was appointed Chairman of Maltapost plc, succeeding David Stellini, who has retained as place on the Board. This change followed the acquisition by Redbox Limited, a subsidiary of Lombard Bank, of an additional 25% shareholding in Maltapost, raising Lombard's total shareholding in Maltapost to 60%. The Board of Maltapost plc is now made up of Joseph Azzopardi, Ian Pellicano, Joseph Said, David Stellini, Philip Tabone, and newly appointed director Aurelio Theuma, who is the Chief Financial Officer of Lombard Bank Malta plc.



## 5 November

Maltapost plc advised that from Monday, 5 November 2007, a new metal postmark was to be used at the Pietà Retail Outlet. This outlet, previously known as Msida Retail Outlet, changed its name due to new boundaries between Msida and Pietà. Consequently, Saturday, 3 November 2007 was the last day of use of the previous postmark.

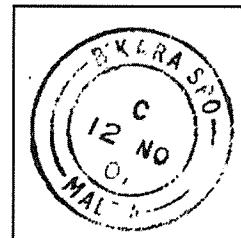
## 8 November

Maltapost plc informed that service from a number of Maltapost letterboxes in Malta and Gozo had been suspended temporarily. The letterbox in Merchants Street,

Valletta, opposite the former General Post Office, was inaccessible as a result of road works, and service was expected to resume in late November. The letterbox at Lascaris Wharf, Valletta, near Customs House, was not operational because of repair works to the letterbox. The letterbox at Bajada Street, corner with Labour Road, Zabbar, was not operational due to repair work to the damaged lock. The letterbox in Simar Street, Qala, Gozo, was not operational because of dangerous access to the letterbox as a result of demolition works.

## **12 November**

Maltapost advised that a Sub-Post Office was opened with effect from Monday, 12 November 2007, to provide all postal services as well as bill payment services, at Oreana, Triq L. Casolani, Birkirkara BKR 4532 (Tel. 2144 9191). A metal hand date-stamp inscribed with the words 'B'KARA SPO C – MALTA' started to be used at this Sub-Post Office.



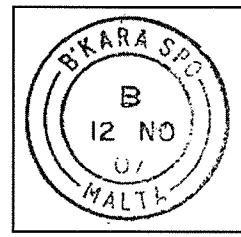
## **12 November**

Maltapost advised that a Sub-Post Office was opened with effect from Monday, 12 November 2007, to provide all postal services as well as bill payment services, at Landau, Triq Mannarino, Birkirkara BKR 9085 (Tel. 2144 0047). A metal hand date-stamp inscribed with the words 'BIRKIRKARA D – MALTA' started to be used at this Sub-Post Office.



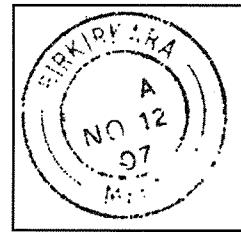
## **12 November**

Maltapost advised that a Sub-Post Office was opened with effect from Monday, 12 November 2007, to provide all postal services as well as bill payment services, at Pen House, Pjazza 1-Eroj, Birkirkara BKR 4252 (Tel. 2701 9828). A metal hand date-stamp inscribed with the words 'B'KARA SPO B – MALTA' started to be used at this Sub-Post Office.



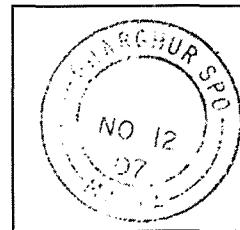
## **12 November**

Maltapost advised that a Sub-Post Office was opened with effect from Monday, 12 November 2007, to provide all postal services as well as bill payment services, at Exotica, Regent Place Shop A2, Triq Tumas Fenech, Birkirkara BKR 2551 (Tel. 2149 2638). A metal hand date-stamp inscribed with the words 'BIRKIRKARA A – MALTA' started to be used at this Sub-Post Office.



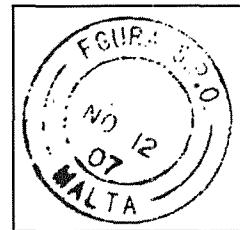
## 12 November

Maltapost advised that a Sub-Post Office was opened with effect from Monday, 12 November 2007, to provide all postal services as well as bill payment services, at Aquavel, Triq San Bartilmew, Ghargħur GHR 1014 (Tel. 2143 4465). A metal hand date-stamp inscribed with the words 'GHARGHUR SPO – MALTA' started to be used at this Sub-Post Office.



## 12 November

Maltapost advised that a Sub-Post Office was opened with effect from Monday, 12 November 2007, to provide all postal services as well as bill payment services, at Happy Kids, Triq San Tumas, Fgura FGR 1608 (Tel. 2780 5766). A metal hand date-stamp inscribed with the words 'FGURA SPO – MALTA' started to be used at this Sub-Post Office.



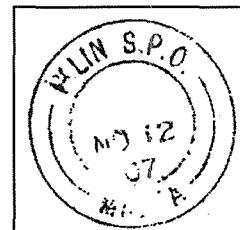
## 12 November

Maltapost advised that a Sub-Post Office was opened with effect from Monday, 12 November 2007, to provide all postal services as well as bill payment services, at 'Step-In', Triq il-Vitorja, Birgu BRG 1300 (Tel. 2180 1207). A metal hand date-stamp inscribed with the words 'BIRGU SPO – MALTA' started to be used at this Sub-Post Office.



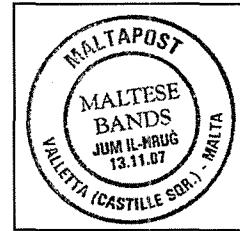
## 12 November

Maltapost advised that a Sub-Post Office was opened with effect from Monday, 12 November 2007, to provide all postal services as well as bill payment services, at 'Mimics', Triq Giovanni Curmi, Iklīn IKL 1070 (Tel. 7906 8080). A metal hand date-stamp inscribed with the words 'IKLIN S.P.O. – MALTA' started to be used at this Sub-Post Office.



## 13 November

A set of five stamps depicting Maltese Bands was issued by Maltapost on Tuesday, 13 November 2007. The set was designed by Joe Mark Micallef, and portrays different aspects of the history of Maltese Bands. The stamps, which come in a size of 35mm x 35mm with a perforation of 14.28 x 14.28 (comb), were offset printed by Printex Limited on Maltese Crosses watermarked



paper. The face values of the stamps are 4¢/Euro 0.09, 15¢/Euro 0.35, 21¢/Euro 0.49, 22¢/Euro 0.51 and Lm1/Euro 2.33. Maltapost issued a special commemorative double-ringed handstamp to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No. 11). The handstamp was inscribed “MALTAPOST - ----- MALTA” in the outer ring and “MALTESE/BANDS/JUM IL-HRUĞ/13.11.07” in the inner ring. The Maltapost Philatelic Bureau featured these stamps in ‘The Malta Stamp’ bulletin No. 259.

## **13 November**

On 13 November 2007, the National Statistics Office issued News Release 179/2007 highlighting the post and telecommunications statistics for the quarter July – September 2007. According to these statistics, in the quarter under review, total postal traffic amounted to around 12.9 million items of which the absolute bulk represented letters and other printed items (up from 12.5 million items for the third quarter of 2006). The total number of parcels sent through the national post in the third quarter of 2007 was 11,649 (compared to 11,496 in the corresponding period of 2006).

## **14 November**

Maltapost plc informed that the letterbox in Bajada Street corner with Labour Road, Zabbar, which had been temporarily out of service due to a damaged lock, was back in service.

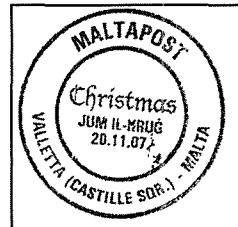
## **16 November**

Through Notice 1000 appearing in Government Gazette No 18,150 of 16 November 2007, it was announced that in exercise of the powers conferred by Article 36(2) of the Postal Services Act (Cap. 254), the Minister for Competitiveness and Communications directs that in the light of the Euro changeover process, Lm only denominated postage stamps issued from 1 January 1998 onwards shall no longer be valid for prepayment of postage as from 1 February 2008. Any postal article stamped with postage stamps so invalidated shall be deemed not duly stamped for the purpose of the Postal Services Act. Any person having in his possession any postage stamps hereby invalidated, may from 1 February 2008 to 31 March 2008 surrender the same to Maltapost plc who shall exchange them for other valid postage stamps on an equal value. This notice does not apply in respect of stamps printed or sold subject to the condition that they will be used only for purposes of philately.

## **20 November**

The 2007 set of Christmas stamps was issued by the Philatelic Bureau of Maltapost on Tuesday, 20 November 2007. The set features details from a painting by Giuseppe

Cali, The Nativity, one of the paintings found at St. Andrew's Parish Church in Luqa. This Christmas set was issued as part of a joint issue with the Philatelic and Numismatic Bureau of the Vatican City. The Vatican stamps feature the same imagery as that shown on the Malta stamps, and were also printed by Printex Limited. The Malta stamps have face values of 8¢/Euro 0.19, 16¢/Euro 0.37 and 27¢/Euro 0.53. The stamps are 35mm x 35mm in size, with a perforation of 14.28 x 14.28 (comb), and were printed on Maltese Crosses watermarked paper. The painting of The Nativity, which is signed, shows the Baby Jesus in a manger, surrounded by the Madonna, Saint Joseph, two countrywomen and a young girl. Maltapost issued a special commemorative double-ringed handstamp to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No. 12). The handstamp was inscribed "MALTAPOST ----- MALTA" in the outer ring and "Christmas/JUM IL-HRUĞ/20.11.07" in the inner ring. The Maltapost Philatelic Bureau featured these stamps in 'The Malta Stamp' bulletin No. 260.



## 20 November

The Philatelic Bureau of Maltapost plc issued a Commemorative Cover on Tuesday, 20 November 2007, on the occasion of the Diamond Wedding Anniversary of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and His Royal Highness Prince Philip. The Commemorative Cover (Number 3), which is limited to 1500 covers, features a photograph of the Royal Couple on their wedding day in 1947. The personalised stamp on the Cover shows a photograph of Her Majesty and Prince Philip, taken earlier in 2007 at Broadlands, in Romsey, southern England. Broadlands was the residence of the Earl and Countess Mountbatten of Burma. The Commemorative Cover was put on sale by Maltapost at Lm0.75/Euro 1.75.

## 27 November

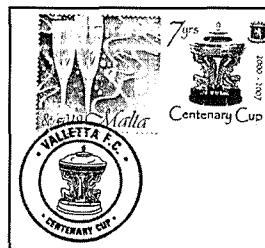
The Malta Communications Authority, after having consulted in accordance with regulation 43 of the Postal Services (General) Regulations and in accordance with its powers under this regulation, issued Directive No. 3 of 2007 on the payment of postage and postal identifier. Through this Directive, the Authority directed Maltapost plc to have in place within thirty days of the issue of the said Directive: (i) an amended version of its proposed scheme entitled "Posting and Delivery Requirements Scheme", whereby it effectively implements to the satisfaction of the Authority, a provision or provisions that clearly and unequivocally require that a postage stamp or mark is printed, impressed, embossed or otherwise marked on all postal articles delivered by Maltapost plc to demonstrate payment or arrangement

of payment of postage with Maltapost plc; and (ii) a postal scheme whereby each postal article delivered by Maltapost plc has a name, logo, stamp, postmark or design that is affixed to, impressed or printed on each postal article delivered by Maltapost plc and which clearly indicates the date which Maltapost acknowledged receiving each postal article for processing and any other relevant information, and identifies Maltapost plc as the postal service operator responsible for the delivery of that postal article.



## 1 December

A personalised stamp featuring the Air Malta Centenary Cup was issued by the Valletta Supporters' Club, in conjunction with Maltapost plc, on Saturday, 1 December 2007. The personalised stamp commemorates the seventh anniversary of the Centenary Cup, which was played during the year 2000 as part of the 100th anniversary of the Malta Football Association, and was won by Valletta F.C. The stamp carries a denomination of 8¢/Euro 0.19. The personalised stamp was made available in a souvenir folder (issue in a limited number of 300) and carries a special hand postmark prepared by Maltapost plc which, however, does not include any date or reference to Maltapost plc.



## 3 December

Maltapost plc informed that the letterbox at Lascaris Wharf, Valletta, near Customs House, which had been temporarily out of service due to repair works to the letterbox, was back in service.

## 5 December

Maltapost plc informed that the letterbox at Merchants Street, Valletta, near the Auberge d'Italie, which had been temporarily inaccessible due to road works, was back in service.

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The Malta Philatelic Society is a non-profit organisation set up on 7th March 1966 and aims to encourage the study of postage stamps and the educational hobby of stamp collecting.

Being Malta's national society supporting the study and collecting of stamps, a major part of the Society's effort is in fact concentrated upon the education of collectors and the general public.

The Society specifically promotes the specialised study of Malta, its stamps, postal history and related areas. Within its own limitations, the Society attempts to preserve this part of our heritage, particularly (but not exclusively) by publishing and circulating its own prestigious award-winning Journal, at least twice a year.

The Society organises:

- Annual Maltex Exhibitions
- Illustrated talks given by guest speakers
- Informal "members' evenings"
- Bring & Buy stamp auctions
- Visits from other philatelic societies

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c/o 91, Triq Manwel Dimech,  
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\* Payments may be made with cheque, bank draft, money order, postal order and all major credit cards. These should be made payable to THE MALTA PHILATELIC SOCIETY. In the case of credit card payments please include credit card details below.

**CREDIT CARD TYPE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EXPIRY DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **AMOUNT TO BE DEDUCTED:** \_\_\_\_\_



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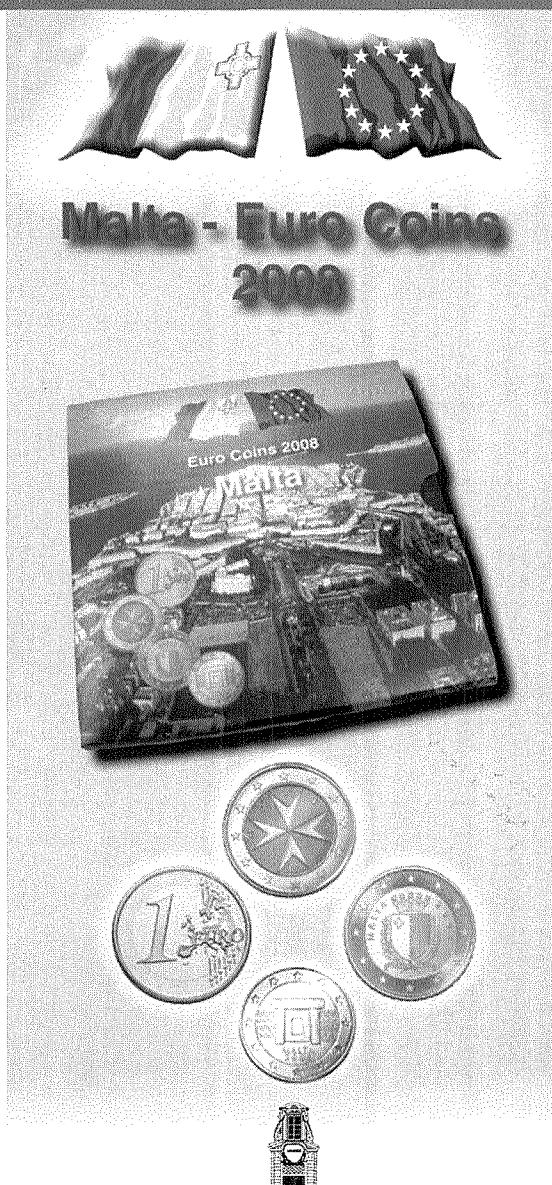
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*For further information contact:*

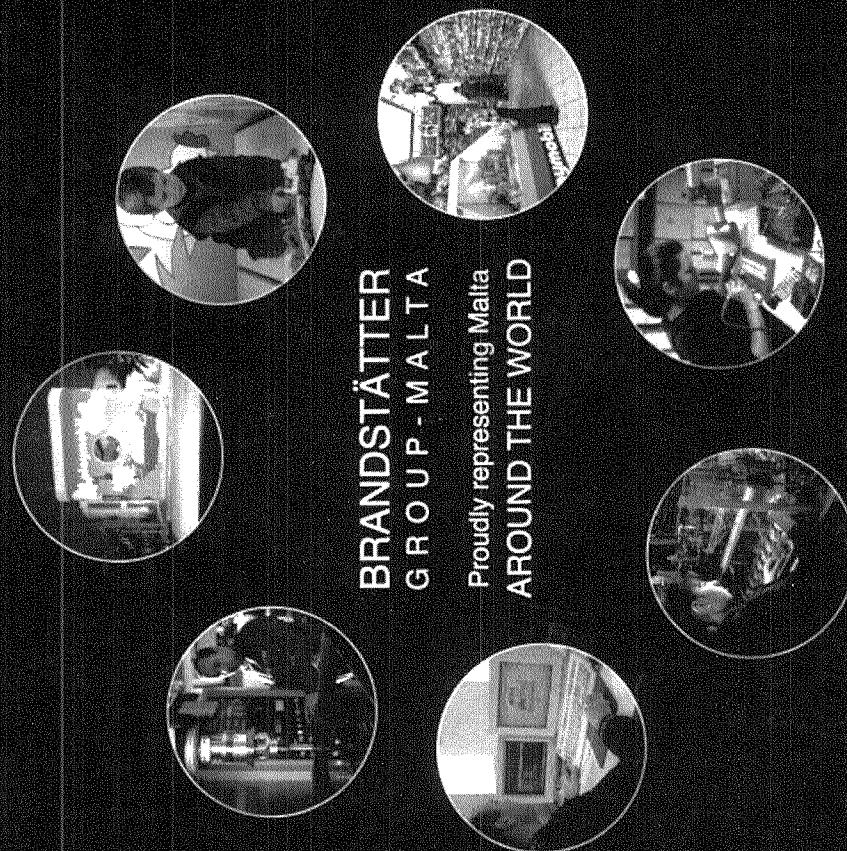
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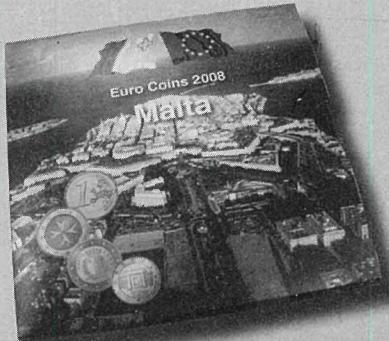




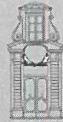
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## Malta - Euro Coins 2008



Miniature Sheets



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Maltapost p.l.c. and Lombard Bank Malta p.l.c. are issuing a Limited Edition set of Malta - Euro Coins 2008 and Miniature Sheets. The presentation pack measures 60 x 15cm when unfolded and contains:

- one set of Malta-Euro coins issued on the 1st January 2008, protected in a blister pack;
- one numbered miniature sheet of Malta Lm Stamp issued and franked on the 31st December 2007;
- one numbered miniature sheet of Malta Euro Stamp issued and franked on the 1st January 2008.

Each miniature sheet carries an individual number matching that on the slip case of every set. The issue is limited to 30,000 sets.

Price (VAT included): Lm10.73/€25.00 (Please add Lm3/€6.99 for local hand delivery).

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