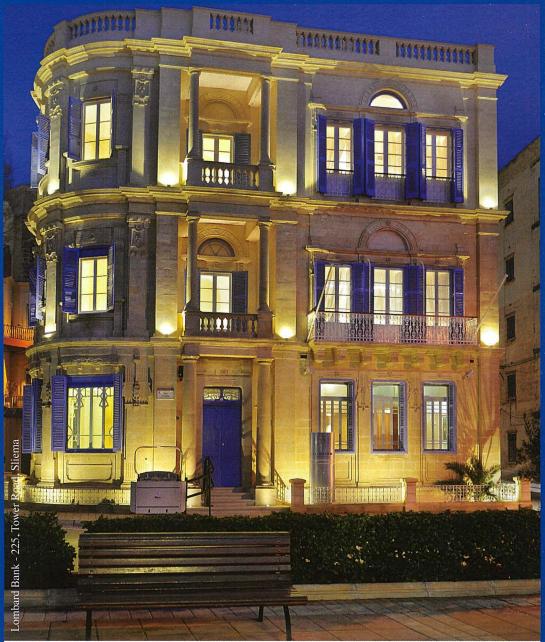


Vol 51/1 April 2022





LOMBARD

THE MPS JOURNAL

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April, 2022

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MALTA STUDY CIRCLE Nº 86

by Adrian Patrick



1885 1/2d GREEN DEFINITIVE



This display concentrates on the use of this stamp during 1899.



Following the 1860 introduction of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d buff/yellow/orange - and most shades in between - there was a gap of 25 years before Malta introduced its first set of definitive stamps.



1883 proposed colour change - a 1/2d buff alongside a 1/2d green

"Proposed colour being that established by the International Postal Convention for this duty"

On 1st (some sources have 2nd) January 1885 six stamps were issued, the lowest denomination is the ½d green - Stanley Gibbons 20 (Joseph Buttigieg 10, Michel 4, Scott 8, Unificato 5, Yvert 5).

This Victoria stamp was designed by Jean Ferdinand Joubert de la Ferté, photographer and artist/stamp engraver for De la Rue. He was born in Paris on 15th September 1810, became a naturalized British Citizen on 19th October 1855 and died, just six weeks before the definitive set was issued, on 17th November 1884.

MALTA

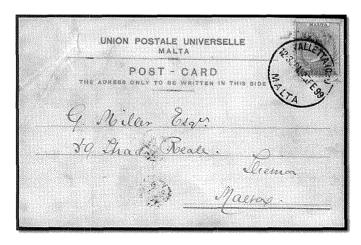
A single ring date stamp with a curved 'Malta' (MAL-12) was used at the General Post Office, Valletta from approximately 1876 until 1922.



Malta (MAL-12, code K) dated 5th January

Valletta

Several Valletta date stamps were used. Only two were available in 1899; a single ring (VAG-2) introduced in 1897 and an oval (VAG-7) in 1899.



Valletta (VAG-2) dated 23rd February

N.B.

Interesting text reads - "Malta is not included in the Imperial penny postage"

Also PHS 11 on picture side - very unusual and against Malta Post Office regulations



Valletta (VAG-7a) dated 1st August

Sliema

A Branch Office (B.O.) for Sliema District, including St Georges and St Julians, opened in 1895 at 95 Prince of Wales Road. The SLM-21 handstamp was the only one used in Sliema during 1899.



Sliema single ring (SLM-21) dated 3rd January



Sliema single ring (SLM-21) dated 16th February

Birkirkara (Birchircara)

The Birkirkara B.O. was opened on 1st April 1898 and was closed on 30th April 1899. Thereafter, the single ring, 21mm (also recorded as 20½mm) date stamp was applied at the local Police Station. Codes 'B' and 'C' were also in use during 1899.



Birkirkara 21mm single ring (BRC-1, code A) dated 17th April

Bormla (Cospicua)

From 1890 to 1903 Cospicua Post Office was at 147 Strada San Paolo (St Paul's Street). A 20mm single ring date stamp, Cospicua around the top, no 'Malta', (COS-1) with codes 'A' and 'D', may have been applied to the ½d green in 1899, but it was rarely used to cancel stamps. A 23mm, Cospicua over Malta, datestamp (COS-21, Codes 'A' to 'G') was more regularly applied.



Cospicua 23mm single ring (COS-21, code A), 13th February



Cospicua 23mm single ring (COS-21, code B), 1st October



Cospicua 23mm single ring (COS-21, code C), 26th April



Cospicua 23mm single ring (COS-21, code D), 18th January

Mdina (Notabile)

The old capital was called Melita (Roman), Mdina (Arab) and Citta Vecchia by the Knights of Malta (who built Valletta as their new capital). Notabile was used for many years and then Mdina was re-introduced. The Notabile Branch Office was on St Paul's Street, Rabat, just outside the walls of Mdina. Codes 'A' to 'F' have been recorded.



Notabile 19mm single ring (NTB-1, code A), 6th November



Notabile 19mm single ring (NTB-1, code E), 7th July

GOZO

Victoria

The capital city of Gozo is known to the Maltese and Gozitans as Rabat, its name prior to 10th June 1887, when it was renamed in honour of Queen Victoria during her Silver Jubilee year. The first post office in this city was at 5 De Soldanis Street from 1885 to 1900.

A single ring date stamp, Victoria over Gozo, was used from 1887 to 1900. During 1899, Codes 'A' and 'B' are common, Code 'C' scarce and Codes 'D', 'E', 'F' and 'G' are rarely noted.



Victoria 21mm single ring (VIC-1, code A), 2nd October



Victoria 21mm single ring (VIC-1, code C), 17th May



Victoria 21mm single ring (VIC-1, code B), 17th October

Mgarr (Migiarro)

This village houses the Gozo-Malta ferry terminal. The post office was opened in 1885 in Victory Street. Only Codes 'A' and 'B' were used ('B' has been noted sideways, indicating that the slug is interchangeable) and Code 'A' is approximately twice as common as Code 'B'.



Migiarro 20mm single ring (MIG-1, code A), 14th December



Migiarro 20mm single ring (MIG-1, code B), 6th September

Watermark

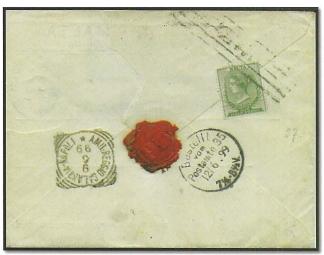


It is reported that two sheets (480 stamps) of this stamp are known with an inverted watermark. Mint and used examples are recorded, including several with 'village' postmarks.

REGISTRATION

From 1893-1903 most Malta registered mail had stamps cancelled by the handstamp 'MALTA' amid five horizontal bars. This handstamp appears to have been designed to cancel a number of stamps in a row. One version has the middle line running through 'MALTA' (MAB-1) and the other with the line interrupted (MAB-2).





MAB-1 x 3 and registered oval handstamp (REG-71, code L) dated 8th June 1899

REVENUE

The following examples of the ½d green, overprinted 'Revenue' or 'REVENUE' were issued during 1899.

9th August:



'Revenue' in mixed case, 17mm long, perforation 14 22^{nd} November

November:



'REVENUE' in capitals, 15.5mm long, perforation 14

.... AND FINALLY

The last legal and officially accepted use of the Victoria 1/2d green is shown below.



QV 1/2d green and three KEVII stamps - 5pm, 30th November 1938

A local, philatelic envelope addressed to Mr George Mallia at 10 Falzon Street, Sliema.

(Sold on eBay by Dave Foster (ID daveinne) for £26.00 on 11th June 2017)

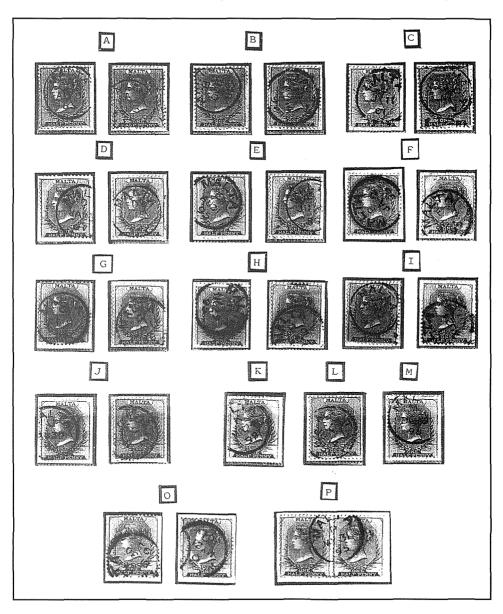
N.B.

Handstamp references are those used by the Malta Study Circle

1885 ¹/₂ d GREEN

ADDITIONS CODE LETTERING A TO P

by A Bonnici



Mixed Franking to Europe





POSTAL DIARY 28TH OCTOBER 2020 – 31ST DECEMBER 2021

Compiled by John V. De Battista

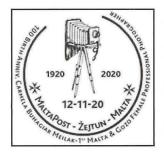
28th October 2020 (Continued)

The Gozo Philatelic Society announced in its Facebook page that on the occasion of its 21st Annual Exhibition, to open on 31st October, it will be issuing a commemorative postcard franked with a personalised stamp in a limited edition of one hundred cards. Mint stamps were also made available to collectors, although there were only twenty sheets of five stamps each. These were made available on a first come first served basis.



11th November 2020

MaltaPost today notified that a commemorative hand stamp "will be issued to mark the 100th Anniversary of the birth of Carmela Buhagiar Meilak, the first female professional photographer in Malta and Gozo. This hand postmark will be used on Thursday 12th November at the Żejtun Post Office, situated at 37, Triq San Luċjan, Żejtun ŻTN 1834."



It is to be noted that in actual fact the commemorative hand stamp was not issued at Żejtun as mentioned and hand stamp erroneously depicted in MaltaPost's media communication (left); but was issued and only used at the Victoria, Gozo post



office as per actual hand stamp (right), reason being that the island of Gozo was the birthplace of this pioneering personality.

The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed "100 BIRTH ANNIV. CARMELA BUHAGIAR MEILAK – 1ST MALTA & GOZO FEMALE PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHER" along the outside bordering the ring, and "* MALTAPOST – VICTORIA - GOZO *" bordering the ring on the inner side. At the centre of the hand stamp is an outline drawing of an early camera mounted on a tripod, with the dates 1920 and 2020 on opposite sides of it. The issue date in a straight line "12-11-20" is to be found right beneath the illustration.

25th November 2020

MaltaPost today notified that a commemorative hand stamp will be issued to honour the creation of H.EM. MGR Mario Grech as the first Cardinal of Gozo. This hand postmark will be used on Saturday 28th November at the Victoria Post Office, situated at 5, Triq Sir Adrian Dingli, Victoria, Gozo VCT 1441.



The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed

"CREATION OF H.EM.MGR MARIO GRECH AS THE FIRST CARDINAL FROM GOZO" along the outside bordering the ring, and "* MALTAPOST – VICTORIA, GOZO - MALTA *" bordering the ring on the inner side. At the centre of the hand stamp is an outline drawing of Cardinal Grech's insigna. The issue date in a straight line "28-11-20" is to be found right beneath the illustration.

Also, in a belated media communication release, it was announced that on the 24th of November, MaltaPost was to issue a set of three stamps depicting a painting by Giuseppe Calì` of 'The Nativity'. The fresco was executed in the late 19th century on the ceiling of the dome of 'Christ the Saviour' Parish Church in Lija.

This masterpiece embellishes the dome of the church with beautiful episodes from the Nativity event as detailed in the Bible; from the announcement of the angel to the birth of Jesus. The painting has recently undergone a restoration project that lasted for years. The stamps show the angel's announcement of baby Jesus to the shepherds and the wise kings, and baby Jesus in the hands of Mary surrounded by St. Joseph and the angels.

This set was issued in sheets of ten stamps, with each stamp measuring 44mm x 31mm, having a comb perforation of 14.0 x 13.9 and bearing the Maltese Cross watermark. The sheets measure 118mm x 185mm and were produced by Printex Ltd in the offset process. The issue consists of 500,000 of the ϵ 0.30 stamp, 24,000

of the €0.59 stamp and 24,000 of the €0.63 stamp. The design was set by Miguel Farrugia of MaltaPost based on photographs taken by David P. Attard.



Holy Family positioned at the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost's Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in Its Stamp Bulletin No. 406.

28th November 2020

During December, MaltaPost will be launching a special edition of Christmas Cards and all the proceeds from these cards will go to the Malta Community Chest Fund Foundation. MaltaPost took this initiative following an appeal for help from the foundation that is currently suffering from a shortfall in donations caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Malta Community Chest Fund Foundation provides financial, material and professional support to people experiencing difficulties because of severe chronic illness and person with disabilities and encourages support from the public.

This set of eight Christmas Cards portrays different themes related to the Christmas Season including The Nativity, a masterpiece by local artist Giuseppe Cali`, scenes from classic paintings and artworks from local artists Alison Agius and Claire Marie Medati Stride. The artworks by the latter two artists were chosen from forty submissions received following a public call from ARTZ ID at the beginning of October.

30th November 2020

In its communication for the day, MaltaPost notified that a commemorative hand

stamp will be issued to celebrate Christmas in Gozo. This special hand postmark will be used on Wednesday 2nd December at the Victoria Post Office, situated at 5, Triq Sir Adrian Dingli, Victoria, Gozo VCT 1441.

The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed "MILIED F'GĦAWDEX 2020" along the outside bordering the ring, and "* MALTAPOST-VICTORIA,



GOZO - MALTA *" bordering the ring on the inner side. At the centre of the hand stamp is an outline rendering of a star and the Holy Family inside a stylized heart shape. The issue date in a straight line "02-12-20" is to be found right beneath the illustration.

08th December 2020

MaltaPost informed that due to construction work, the letterbox situated at Triq Brighella, Birkirkara has been temporarily removed. As an alternative, the public was advised that if it so wishes it may use the letterbox situated in Triq Salvu Psaila, Birkirkara.

09th December 2020

The Sub Post Office at 'Higher Grades', 93, Triq Kanannea, Attard ATD 2703 has reopened again for business.

Opening hours for this Sub Post Office will be:

- From Monday to Friday from 4:30 p.m. till 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday from 8:00 a.m. till 12:00 p.m.

11th December 2020

MaltaPost informed that the Sub Post Office at 'Many Things' Stationery, Triq il-Knisja il-Qadima, Siġġiewi SGW 1704, will be closed between Thursday 24th and Saturday 26th December.

Additionally this Sub Post Office will also be closed between Thursday 31st December and Saturday 2nd January 2021. On these days, the public was advised that it could make use of the postal services provided from the Żebbuġ Post Office situated at Triq Sciortino, Żebbuġ ŻBĠ 1962.

In another media communication, it also announced that on the 17th December, it will be issuing a miniature sheet bearing one stamp to commemorate the 250th anniversary from the birth of Ludwig Van Beethoven, who is acknowledged as one of the world's pioneers in classical music of the 18th/19th century.

Ludwig van Beethoven was born in December 1770 in the German city of Bonn. He shaped classical music with over 722 compositions written over forty years, and brought forward a new era of Romanticism.

The stamp within the miniature sheet measures 49 mm x 40.5mm, has a comb perforation of 14.2 x 14.2 and bears the Maltese Cross watermark. The miniature sheet itself measures 120 mm x 80 mm and was produced in the offset process by Printex Ltd. The issue, designed by Miguel Farrugia of MaltaPost, consists of

15,000 miniature sheets with each sheet bearing a stamp value of €2.30.

MaltaPost prepared an occasion hand stamp to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No.10/2020).



MaltaPost's Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in Its Stamp Bulletin No. 407.

14th December 2020

A Company Announcement bearing the signature of Company Secretary, Graham A. Fairclough, was issued by MaltaPost pursuant to the Malta Financial Services Authority Listing Rules.

The announcement, concerning the holding of the company's AGM, states that "In view of the continued risks and concerns associated with the pandemic, the Company considers it prudent and in the interests of health and safety to proceed with holding the AGM remotely on 12 February 2021 at 11am, in accordance with the Companies Act (Public Companies – Annual General Meetings) Regulations 2020 (L.N. 288 of 2020)"

16th December 2020

MaltaPost today informed that the Sub Post Office at 'Higher Grades', 93, Triq Kanannea, Attard ATD 2703 will be closed on Thursday 17th and Friday 18th of December. On these days, the public was directed to use the postal services provided from Lija Post Office situated at 2, Triq Mikelanġ Borġ, Lija LJA 1440 as an alternative.

In the second media communication issued, the public was informed that the Sub Post Office at "SGS Stationery", 6, Triq Felic Borg, San Gwann, SGN 2040 will be closed on Thursday 17th and Friday 18th of December. On these days, the public was advised that if it so wishes it may use the postal services provided from Lija Post Office situated at 2, Triq Mikelanġ Borġ, Lija LJA 1440.

21st December 2020

MaltaPost today issued a Company Announcement regarding the Final Annual

Report 2020. The report was available for downloading on MaltaPost's website.

In its second media communication released today, MaltaPost informed that the Sub Post Office situated at 'Electroit Stationery' at Fredrick Maemple Square, Qormi QRM 1011, will be closed between Saturday 26th December 2020 and Saturday 2nd January 2021.

On these days the public was advised to make use of the postal services provided from Qormi Post Office situated at 343, Triq il-Vitorja, Qormi QRM 2504.

The third communication informed that the Sub Post Offices listed below will be closed on Saturday 26th December.

- Gharghur Sub Post Office situated at 'Aquavel', Triq San Bartilmew, Gharghur, GHR 1014.
- Għaxaq Sub Post Office situated at 4, 'Marchams', Wesgħa Bir id-Deheb, Għaxaq, GXQ 1651.
- Marsaskala Sub Post Office situated at 'Needz Stationery', 1, Triq Vajrita, Marsaskala MSK3306.
- Mellieħa Sub Post Office situated at 51, Triq Ġorg Borġ Olivier, Mellieħa MLH 1024.
- Msida Sub Post Office situated at 'Wigwam Stationery', Triq il-Qroqq, Msida, MSD 5134.
- Qrendi Sub Post Office situated at 'Papel Stationery', 1, Triq is-Salvatur, Qrendi, QRD 1701.
- San Pawl tat-Targa Sub Post Office situated at 'Zaky's Stationery', Triq San Publiju, San Pawl Tat-Targa NXR 1421.
- San Gwann Sub Post Office situated at 'SGS Stationery', 6, Triq Felic Borg, San Gwann, SGN 2040.
- Santa Venera Sub Post Office situated at f' 'C&C Stationery' Triq Fleur-De-Lys, Santa Venera, SVR 1582.
- Tarxien Sub Post Office situated at 'Forex Stationery', 16, Misrah tas-Suq, Tarxien, TXN 1951.

22nd December 2020

It was announced that the €0.30 stamps from the Apiculture in Malta set issued in November 2019 has been reprinted. This reprint consists of 600,000 stamps, in sheets of ten stamps bearing sheet rumbers 100001 to 160000 both numbers included. The stamps measure 35mm x 35mm have been reprinted by the offset process by Printex Limited on watermarked paper bearing Maltese Crosses.

The stamps will be made available at the Post Office at Marsa Head Office and from MaltaPost Philatelic Bureau as from Tuesday 22nd December, while then they

will be made available at all Post Offices in Malta and Gozo as from Wednesday 23rd December

23rd December 2020

Today MaltaPost informed that by agreement with the Malta Communications Authority, all Post Offices will be closed and there will be no collection or delivery of mail on Saturday 26th December 2020 and Saturday 2nd January 2021. Normal service will resume on Monday 28th December 2020 and Monday 4th January 2021, respectively.

The second communication issued informed that the Valletta South Street Post Office situated at 25, Triq in-Nofsinhar, Valletta VLT 1102 and the Victoria Gozo Post Office situated at 5, Triq Sir Adrian Dingli, Rabat, Gozo VCT 1441 will close at 4pm on Thursday 24th December and will close again at 4pm on Thursday 31st December 2020.

In a separate communication it was notified that the Parcel Office at the MaltaPost Head Office in Marsa will close at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday 24th December, and that the last collection of mail from all letterboxes will be carried out at 12:00 p.m.

28th December 2020

The public was today informed that the Sub Post Offices listed below will be closed on Saturday 2nd January 2021.

- Gharghur Sub Post Office situated at 'Aquavel', Triq San Bartilmew, Gharghur, GHR 1014.
- Għaxaq Sub Post Office situated at 4, 'Marchams', Wesgha Bir id-Deheb, Għaxaq, GXQ 1651.
- Marsaskala Sub Post Office situated at 'Needz Stationery', 1, Triq Vajrita, Marsaskala MSK3306.
- Mellieha Sub Post Office situated at 51, Triq Gorg Borg Olivier, Mellieħa MLH 1024.
- Msida Sub Post Office situated at 'Wigwam Stationery', Triq il-Qroqq, Msida, MSD 5134.
- Qrendi Sub Post Office situated at 'Papel Stationery', 1, Triq is-Salvatur, Qrendi, QRD 1701.
- San Pawl tat-Targa Sub Post Office situated at 'Zaky's Stationery', Triq San Publiju, San Pawl Tat-Targa NXR 1421.
- Santa Venera Sub Post Office situated at f' 'C&C Stationery' Triq Fleur-De-Lys, Santa Venera, SVR 1582.
- Tarxien Sub Post Office situated at 'Forex Stationery', 16, Misrah tas-Suq, Tarxien, TXN 1951.

In a separate communication, MaltaPost also announced that, by agreement with the Malta Communications Authority, on Thursday 31st December the last collection of mail from all letterboxes will be carried out at 12:00 p.m. and the Parcel Office at the MaltaPost Head Office in Marsa will close at 4:00 p.m.

18th January 2021

A new letterbox (L445) has been installed in It-Telgħa Tax-Xemxija, Xemxija, St Paul's Bay.

In its second media communication for the day, MaltaPost informed the public that the letterbox situated at Triq I-Għannejja, Żejtun was temporarily out of service. The public was advised that if it so wishes it could make use of the letterbox situated at Triq Snella, Żejtun as an alternative.

21st January 2021

Pursuant to the Malta Financial Services Authority Listing Rules, a number of resolutions were presented for consideration at the Company's AGM to be held on Friday 12th February 2021 at 11.00am. It was also announced that in the interests of health and safety, the AGM shall be held remotely in terms of the Companies Act (Public Companies-Annual General Meetings) Regulations, 2020 (L.N. 288 of 2020). The AGM documentation together with the Audited Financial Statements for the financial year ended 30th September 2020 were made available for viewing at the registered office of the Company at 305, Qormi Road Marsa, MTP 1001 and on the Company's website.

27th January 2021

On the 29th of January 2021, a set of three stamps paying tribute to Malta's healthcare workers will be issued. The issue is in appreciation of the sterling work performed during the COVID-19 pandemic by the carers, nurses, doctors and all hospital staff who serve on the frontline to ensure the safety and quality of care of their patients.

The stamps will be issued in a sheet of ten stamps, with each stamp measuring 44 mm x 31 mm, having a comb perforation 14.0×13.9 and printed on Maltese Cross watermarked paper. The sheets measure $118 \text{ mm } \times 185 \text{ mm}$ and were produced by Printex Ltd in the offset process. All the stamps in the set carry a face value of 0.30 and the total issue consists of 0.30000 stamps.

Following a query sent to Ms. Mary Grace Simpson, Head of the MaltaPost Philatelic Bureau, to clarify as to how much of each stamp were printed, the following reply was received on the 5th February 2021:

"We have printed 500,000 stamps in total. 25,000 from each sheet."

This works out that 250,000 of the stamp reproducing a painting by Andrew Micallef, depicting a male frontliner; and 125,000 of each of the two stamps, depicting female frontliners reproduced from paintings by Madeleine Gera, were printed.

MaltaPost prepared an occasion hand stamp to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No.1/2021). The single-ring circular hand stamp is inscribed "MALTA HELTHCARE HEROES COVID-19" along the outside bordering the ring and "* MALTAPOST - -------- - MALTA *" on the lower inner side of the ring. The words and issue date "JUM IL-ĦRUĠ/29-01-21" in straight lines are to be found below the word "Grazzi" in script form positioned at the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost's Philatelic

Bureau featured the issue in Stamp Bulletin No. 408.



28th January 2021

The letterbox situated at Triq Dun Karm Sant, Hal Tarxien, has been relocated to Triq il-Wilga corner with Triq l-Assedju l-Kbir.

04th February 2021

The letterbox situated at Triq I-Ghanejja, Żejtun is now back in service. (Refer to 18th January entry.)

09th February 2021

The Sub Post Office at 'Needs Stationery', situated at 1, Triq il-Vajrita, Marsaskala MSK 3306 will be closed between Saturday 13th February and Tuesday 16th February 2021.

On these days, Marsaskala residents were advised that as an alternative they could make use of the postal services provided from Marsaskala Post Office situated at Triq Sant' Antnin, Marsaskala MSK 9059.

12th February 2021

Pursuant to the Listing Authority rules, MaltaPost announced that The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of MaltaPost p.l.c. was held on the 12th February 2021. In accordance with the Companies Act (Public Companies Annual General Meetings) Regulations, 2020 (L.N. 288 of 2020) the AGM was held remotely. All the resolutions on the Agenda as per Company Announcement of the 21st January were approved.

02nd March 2021

The letterbox situated at Triq Iż-Żagħfran, Ħ'Attard has been temporarily removed. As a substitute, the public was advised to use the letterbox situated at Triq il-Kbira, H'Attard

03rd March 2021

The letterbox situated at Triq Brighella, Birkirkara is now back in service.

08th March 2021

The Sub Post Office at 51, Triq Gorg Borg Olivier, Mellieha MLĦ 1024 will now be opening from Monday to Saturday from 8:30 a.m. till 1:00 p.m.

10th March 2021

The Sub Post Office at 'Higher Grades', 93, Triq Kanannea, Attard ATD 2703 is closed until further notice. During this period, the public was advised that if it so wishes it may use the postal services provided from the Lija Post Office situated at 2, Triq Mikelang Borg, Lija LJA 1440 as the nearest alternative.

12th March 2021

The Sub Post Office at 51, Triq Gorg Borg Olivier, Mellieħa MLĦ 1024 will be closed until further notice. During this period, the public may if it so wishes may use the postal services provided from the Mellieħa Post Office situated at 100, Triq il-Mitħna l-Ġdida, Mellieħa MLĦ 1107 as the nearest alternative.

16th March 2021

On the 18th March, MaltaPost will issue three miniature sheets each bearing the symbols for Reduce, Reuse and Recycle, also called the 3 Rs.

In December 2018, the United Nations had introduced the ACT NOW Climate Action campaign so as to promote a sustainable lifestyle. The campaign aims to inspire and educate people around the world in a battle to confront the climate crisis by taking individual action and reducing human impact on the environment.

Each stamp within the miniature sheet measures 35.98 mm x 35.98 mm, has a comb perforation of 13.75 x 13.75 and is printed on Maltese Cross watermarked paper. Each miniature sheet measures 60 mm x 60 mm and was produced in the offset process by Printex Ltd. The issue consists of 16,000 miniature sheets for each stamp denomination, namely $\{0.50, \{1.25\}\}$ and $\{2.00, \{2.00\}\}$. The design was set by MaltaPost and images were provided by the United Nations.

MaltaPost prepared an occasion hand stamp to cancel the stamps on the first



the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost's Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in its Stamp Bulletin No. 409.

25th March 2021

The letterbox situated at Pjazza San Ġużepp, Qala has been temporarily removed. The public was invited that if it so wishes it could make use of the letterbox situated at Triq It-28 Ta' April 1688 as a close alternative.

26th March 2021

The Sub Post Office situated at "Troy DVD Rentals", Pjazza Arcisqof Gonzi, Kalkara KKR 1502, will be closed until Sunday 11th April. During this period, Kalkara residents were requested to pick up their mail items from the Cospicua Post Office situated in Block No 14, Flat No 12, Fuq San Pawl, Bormla BML 1910. On the other hand, Xgħajra residents were requested to pick up their mail items from the Żabbar Post Office situated Čentru Čiviku, Triq il-Kunvent, Haż-Żabbar ŻBR 1351.

The second media communication for today notified that on 30th March MaltaPost will launch the 2020 Year Pack which includes all stamp sets in mint condition issued during that year, namely:

Old Residential Houses - Series II, Maltese Festa Series IV, EUROPA 2020 - 'Ancient Postal Routes', SEPAC - Artworks in the National Collection, EUROMED - 'Traditional Gastronomy in the Mediterranean', Dogs Series II, 100th Anniversary - Birth of St. John Paul, Joint Stamp Issue Malta - Slovakia 'Viticulture', Christmas 2020 and 250th Anniversary - Birth of Ludwig Van Beethoven.

The Year Pack is presented in an attractive folder format and includes all technical details related to all of the 2020 issues.

29th March 2021

The Sub Post Office at 'Needs Stationery', situated at 1, Triq il-Vajrita, Marsaskala MSK 3306 and the Sub Post Office situated at 'Electroit Stationery' at Fredrick

Meample Square, Qormi QRM 1011 will be closed on Saturday 3rd April. On this day, Marsaskala residents were invited to use the postal services provided from Marsaskala Post Office situated at Triq Sant'Antnin, Marsaskala MSK 9059. Qormi residents were similarly invited to use the postal services provided from Qormi Post Office situated at 343, Triq il-Vitorja, Qormi QRM 2504.

30th March 2021

The letterbox situated in Triq Tigne', Sliema has been temporarily removed. The public was directed that if it so wishes it may use the letterbox situated at Triq Locker, Sliema as the nearest alternative.

The second media communication issued today announced the opening of a new Post Office situated at 1, Misraħ Gwanni Pawlu II, H'Attard ATD 2200.

This latest Post Office offers all postal services including registered local and international mail, collection of undelivered mail items, encashment of Central Bank of Malta cheques and money transfers. It also offers a selection of philatelic products as well as items for home or effice use such as stationery and greeting cards. H'Attard residents will also benefit from a 24/7 Easipik parcel locker service. This is particularly attractive for customers who are not home during the day to receive their online shopping. It was stated that the Parcel Lockers will be installed in this new Post Office in the coming weeks. The new H'Attard Post Office will be open as from Thursday 1st April, from Monday to Saturday between 7.30 and 13.00.

01st April 2021

Today it was announced that a new letterbox has been installed in Triq Il-Pitkali, Attard (Next to the new Attard Post Office)

05th April 2021

MaltaPost announced that a €0.30 stamp depicting a male health worker from the 2021 Malta Health Care Heroes COVID-19 stamp issue of 29th January, has been reprinted. This stamp reproduces a painting by Andrew Micallef. This reprint consists of 800,000 stamps, in sheets of ten, bearing sheet numbers 025001 − 105000, both numbers included. The stamp measures 44mm x 31mm with a comb perforation of 14.0 x 13.9. The stamps have been reprinted through the offset process by Printey Limited on watermarked paper has

offset process by Printex Limited on watermarked paper bearing Maltese Crosses.

It was announced that stamps from this reprint will be made available at all post offices as from Tuesday 6th April 2021.

06th April 2021

Today MaltaPost announced that it had received reports from customers stating that they had received messages via SMS seemingly originating from MaltaPost that directs users to click on a link to arrange for a delivery. The link takes the user to a clone of the MaltaPost website and asks for bank details. This is an example of the message claiming to be from MaltaPost.



MaltaPost clarified that it does not engage in such practices and these text messages are not issued by MaltaPost. These are false messages with malicious intent and users should not click on the link and must delete these messages immediately. It also strongly recommends that such messages are to be completely ignored.

12th April 2021

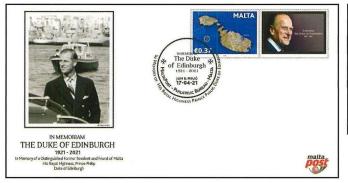
The Sub Post Office situated at "Troy DVD Rentals", Pjazza Arcisqof Gonzi, Kalkara KKR 1502, will remain closed until Saturday 24th April.

During these days, Kalkara residents were requested to pick up their mail items from the Cospicua Post Office situated in Block No 14, Flat No 12, Fuq San Pawl, Bormla BML 1910. Xgħajra residents on their part were requested to pick up their mail items from the Żabbar Post Office situated at Ċentru Ċiviku, Triq il-Kunvent, Ħaż-Żabbar ŻBR 1351.

In its second media communication for today, MaltaPost notified that the Sub Post Office at 51, Triq Gorg Borg Olivier, Mellieha MLĦ 1024 reopened today and resumed its postal services for the public. This Sub Post Office is open from Monday to Saturday between 8.30 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. (*Refer to entry of 12th March*)

15th April 2021

MaltaPost today announced that it will issue a Personalised Stamp/Cover in memory of His Royal Highness, the Duke of Edinburgh. The cover shows a photo of Prince Philip while he was in Malta serving in the Royal Navy. Prince Philip and the then Princess Elizabeth lived in Malta during their first years of marriage.





The purely philatelic Personalised Stamp/Cover will be available for sale as from Saturday 17th April from the MaltaPost Philatelic Bureau.

The single-ring circular commemorative hand stamp is inscribed "IN MEMORY OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE PHILIP – DUKE OF EDINBURGH" along the outside bordering the ring, and "* MALTAPOST – PHILATELIC BUREAU - MALTA *" bordering the ring on the inner side. At the centre of the hand stamp are the words "IN MEMORIAM / The Duke / of Edinburgh / 1921 – 2021" beneath which one finds the words and issue date "JUM IL-ĦRUĠ / 17-04-21".

03rd May 2021

To commemorate the 200th anniversary from the Death of Napoléon Bonaparte, MaltaPost will on Wednesday 5th May issue a miniature sheet bearing one stamp.

The French military leader is widely recognised as one of the greatest strategists and finest commanders in history. He conquered and controlled most of Europe. In 1798 he took control of the Maltese Islands ending the 268-year-long presence of the Knights Hospitaller in Malta.

The stamp within the miniature sheet measures 49.0 mm x 40.5 mm, has a comb perforation of 14.2 x 14.2 and is printed on Maltese Cross watermarked paper. The miniature sheet itself measures 120 mm x 80 mm and was produced in the offset process by Printex Ltd. The issue, designed in-house by MaltaPost, consists of 20,000 ministure sheets with each sheet hearing a value.

20,000 miniature sheets with each sheet bearing a value of €5.00.

MaltaPost prepared an occasion hand stamp to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No.3/2021). The single-ring circular hand stamp is inscribed "200TH ANNIVERSARY – DEATH OF NAPOLEON BONAPARTE" along the outside bordering the ring and



"* MALTAPOST ------ MALTA *" on the lower inner side of the ring. The words and issue date "JUM IL-ĦRUĠ / 05-05-21" in straight lines are to be found below Bonaparte's signature positioned at the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost's Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in its Stamp Bulletin No. 410.

10th May 2021

Today MaltaPost announced that on 12th May, it will join other European postal administrations by way of the release of a stamp set bearing the theme 'Endangered National Wildlife of Malta'.

EUROPA stamps highlight the cooperation between European postal administrations and seek to promote philately while building awareness of the common goals, roots, culture and history of Europe.

The Malta issue consists of two stamps. One features a photo of the 'Mediterranean Chameleon', in Maltese known as "Kamaleonte" while the other is a photo of the 'Painted Frog', in Maltese knows as "Żrinġ".

The stamps will be issued in a sheet of eleven stamps, each measuring 44 mm x 31 mm, having a comb perforation of 14.0 x 13.9 and printed on Maltese Cross watermarked paper. The sheets measure 118 mm x 185 mm and were produced by Printex Ltd in the offset process. The issue consists of 44,000 of the €0.59 stamp and 46,200 of the £0.00 stamp. The design was set by MaltaPost from photography by Sean Dingli.



found below an outline image depicting a chameleon positioned at the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost's Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in its Stamp Bulletin No. 411.

The &pmodelige 0.59 stamp will also be Malta's entry for the '2021 EUROPA Online Stamp Contest', an annual online event where stamp designs from across Europe compete for the best entry.

19th May 2021

Pursuant to the Malta Financial Services Authority Listing Rules, MaltaPost today issued a Company Announcement informing that at a meeting of the Company's Board of Directors held on 18th May 2021, the Board approved the Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Statements for the six-month period ended 31st March 2021. These financial statements were made available for viewing and downloading from the company's website.

26th May 2021

On 28th May MaltaPost will be participating in a joint stamp issue by the Small European Postal Administration Cooperation (SEPAC), themed 'Historical Maps'. The Malta issue features a set of four stamps reproducing historical maps of the Maltese Islands by different cartographers.

The stamps are printed in sheets of ten stamps. Each stamp measures 42 mm x 31 mm, has a comb perforation of 13.8 x 13.7 and is printed on Maltese Cross watermarked paper. The sheets measure 107 mm x 177.5 mm and were produced by Printex Ltd in the offset process. The issue consists of 80,000 of the ϵ 0.20 stamp, 70,000 of the ϵ 0.50 stamp, 20,000 of the ϵ 0.63 stamp and 40,000 of the ϵ 1.25 stamp. The design was set by MaltaPost and images were provided by the Malta Map Society.

in straight lines are to be found below an outline image depicting a scroll showing the map of the Maltese islands positioned at the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost's Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in its Stamp Bulletin No. 412.

31st May 2021

The Sub Post Office situated at 'Electroit Stationery' at Fredrick Meample Square, Qormi QRM 1011, will be closed on Saturday 5th June. On this day the public was advised that if it so wishes it may use the postal services provided from Qormi Post Office situated at 343, Triq il-Vitorja, Qormi QRM 2504 as the nearest alternative.

09th June 2021

MaltaPost announced that on the 10th of June it will be issuing a set of three stamps

to commemorate the 100th anniversary from the birth of Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh. Two of the stamps show images of Prince Philip when he lived in Malta in the years between 1949 - 1951 while serving in the Royal Navy and the third, when he represented HRH Queen Elizabeth II for Malta's Independence celebrations on the 21st September 1964. Over the years, the Duke of Edinburgh visited Malta on various occasions, including his 60th wedding anniversary. His Royal Highness passed away on 9th April 2021 in his one hundredth year.

The stamps will be issued in a sheet of ten stamps, with each stamp measuring 44 mm x 31 mm, having a comb perforation of 14.0×13.9 and printed on Maltese Cross watermarked paper. The sheets measure $118 \text{ mm} \times 185 \text{ mm}$ and were produced by Printex Ltd in the offset process. The issue consists of 250,000 of the 60.30 stamp, 25,000 of the 61.00 stamp and 25,000 of the 62.00 stamp. The design of this stamp issue was set by MaltaPost.



in straight lines are to be found below the prince's signature positioned at the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost's Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in its Stamp Bulletin No. 413.

16th June 2021

A number of amendments to EU Directive 2006/112/EC will come into force on 1st July 2021 and shall affect the Customs and VAT rules applicable to cross-border business-to-consumer (B2C) e-commerce activities.

As a consequence of these changes, the €22 (twenty-two) VAT exemption threshold on small parcels imported into the EU for delivery to consumers will be removed. Malta Government Customs controls and VAT charges will now apply for all parcels purchased from non-EU countries, including those under €22 in value and which are presently exempted from VAT. Therefore, as from 1st July 2021, VAT shall be charged and paid at the point-of-sale for parcels not exceeding €150 (i.e., those parcels that fall below the threshold for application of customs duties of €150) provided the seller is registered to use the 'Import One Stop Shop' (IOSS). To facilitate this arrangement, the European Commission shall be introducing a

reduced and more manageable Customs data set requirement. Once the Customs and VAT declarations submitted are correct and VAT has been duly paid at the point of purchase and provided there are no objections by Malta Government Customs, the parcel will be duly delivered to the client's address without additional charges.

The above changes shall result in a sharp increase in the number of Customs and VAT declarations that need to be submitted. MaltaPost has prepared for this change by investing in new IT software to handle this increase. The most convenient option for local consumers is to choose non-EU sellers that charge and collect VAT at the point-of-sale. Customers were informed that they may find such information on whether VAT is charged this way on the seller's website.

If the online seller does not collect VAT at the point of sale and the parcel is not cleared for Customs and VAT purposes in a transit country in the EU, the same parcel will have to be processed through the Malta Government Customs import system upon arrival in Malta. In such cases, the parcel will be inspected by Malta Government Customs officials. If the parcel is cleared by Malta Government Customs, the customer will receive a communication from MaltaPost to pay the VAT, Customs Duties and processing fees online. Following payment, the item will be delivered to the recipient.

23rd June 2021

The Sub Post Office at 'Needs Stationery', situated at 1, Triq il-Vajrita, Marsaskala MSK 3306 will be closed on Monday 28th June. On this day, Marsaskala residents were advised that they may use the postal services provided from the Marsaskala Post Office situated at Triq Sant' Antnin, Marsaskala MSK 9059 as a close alternative.

In another media communication, MaltaPost also advised that the Sub Post Office at 'Step in', Misraħ ir-Rebħa, Birgu BRG 1300, will be closed on Monday 28th June until Monday 5th July. In this case, during this period the public was advised that if it so wishes it may alternatively use the postal services provided from Bormla Post office at Block No 14, Flat No. 12, Fuq San Pawl, Bormla BML 1910.

28th June 2021

The Malta Communications Authority, the entity responsible for the regulation of postal services in Malta, authorised MaltaPost to revise the postal rates for a limited number of postal services with effect from 1st July 2021 in order to reflect the increased local operational costs, the increased international conveyance costs and the increased last mile cross-border delivery costs.

The select tariff revisions approved are the following:

Postcards

Foreign outbound flat rate of €0.86 per postcard destined to ALL Countries around the world.

Foreign Outbound Mail

Local and Foreign Outbound Registered Mail and Advice of Delivery Services

	Local	Foreign Outbound
	Rates	Rates
Registered Mail		
Service	€2.50	€5.50
Advice of Delivery		
of Registered Mail		
Service	€2.50	€3.50

Addressees are reminded that they may collect Registered Mail from the Easipik parcel locker service free of charge on a 24/7 basis from 17 distinct localities in Malta and Gozo.

Local Bulk Mail

The domestic single piece postal tariff remains unchanged.

Conclusion

MaltaPost's stamp tariffs remain the lowest in Europe compared to other postal operators. On the other hand, MaltaPost remains bound by one of the highest Universal Service quality of service targets for any European country. These tariff revisions are necessary to respond to the significant cost increases this unique period that we are all working through has created, as well as to partially meet the increased cross border tariffs established by the Universal Postal Union.

30th June 2021

MaltaPost informed the general public that, by agreement with the Malta Communications Authority, in view of the new VAT and customs eCommerce rules that are coming into force from 1st July 2021, the manual customs clearance process will shift towards a fully digital integrated declaration process.

Consequently as from 1st July 2021 customers will no longer be able to provide invoices, pay for customs charges and related processing fees and collect the parcels from the Parcel Office at the MaltaPost Head Office in Marsa. (*Refer to 16th June entry*)

01st July 2021

Today it was announced that the €0.86 stamp value from the 2009 Definitive Issue has been reprinted. The reprint consists of 100,000 stamps, in sheets of ten stamps bearing sheet numbers 020001 to 30000, both numbers included. The stamps measure 44.0 mm x 31.0 mm and have a comb perforation of 13.9 x 14.0. The stamps have been printed by the offset process by Printex Limited on watermarked paper bearing Maltese Crosses.

It was also announced that the stamp reprint will be made available from all Post Offices in Malta and Gozo as from Saturday 3rd July 2021.

02nd July 2021

As a result of a scheduled maintenance undertaking, MaltaPost informed that its websites (including all online data and Philately) will not be available on Sunday 4th July from 07:00 to 16:00 hrs.

While apologizing for any inconvenience, it informed that during this interruption a limited service shall be provided for:

Tracking: https://www.maltapost.com/tracking#/tracking

SendOn - https://www.maltapost.com/sendon

Easipik: https://www.maltapost.com/easipikdeliveries#/login

eSeller: https://www.maltapost.com/eSellers#/login

05th July 2021

Today it was announced that the winner of the National Letter-Writing Competition 2021 had been awarded in an event held on Wednesday 30th June at MaltaPost

Head Office. The 50th UPU International Letter-Writing Competition - 2021 was organised by the Universal Postal Union with the theme: "Write a letter to a family member about your experience with COVID-19" and launched nationally for youths by MaltaPost in collaboration with the Education Authority. This competition was aimed to encourage young students to develop their literacy and creative skills.

A thirteen-year-old student from St Monica School in Gżira, Victoria Carol Austin, won the national competition. Her letter will now go through to the final stage of the competition and will compete with writers worldwide. In an emotional letter to her grandad, who passed away last January, Victoria explained the struggles and uncertainty she had to face during the pandemic.

It was further stated that all students who participated in this competition demonstrated ability in creative writing; however, the Board considered Victoria's entry to be an impressive job, impeccably written and fulfils all the criteria required by the Universal Postal Union.

All participants were presented with a complimentary guided tour at the Malta Postal Museum as a token of appreciation. In addition, Victoria received the publication Malta Stamp Collection a prestigious publication which includes national stamp sets issued between 1964 and 2004 and €100 worth of vouchers from BDL BOOKS. The prize was presented by MaltaPost's Chief Executive Officer Mr Joseph Gafa'.

The first UPU International Letter-Writing Competition was launched fifty years ago, and Malta won the first prize in 1974 and 1996 with letters from authors Sandra Theuma (Magro) and Mariana A. Baldacchino respectively.

08th July 2021

MaltaPost announced that it will be participating in a EuroMed Postal Union joint stamp issue, themed 'Handicraft Jewellery in the Mediterranean'. The set, consisting of three stamps, will be issued on 12th July.

For centuries the Mediterranean Sea was a refuge for many cultures and civilisations. This brought about generations of artists who adopted and developed different styles and crafts that created what we recognise today as distinctive Mediterranean jewellery. This stamp issue reproduces items of jewellery found and produced in Malta in the 19th century. All three items depicted are made from gold and are embellished with seed pearls.

The stamps will be issued in a sheet of ten stamps, with each stamp measuring 31 mm x 44 mm, having a comb perforation of 13.0×14.0 and printed on Maltese Cross watermarked paper. The sheets measure 185 mm x 114 mm and were produced by Printex Ltd in the offset process. The issue consists of 100,000 of the 0.10 stamp,

600,000 of the €0.30 and 30,000 of the €2.50 stamp. The stamp set is designed by MaltaPost and is based on images provided by Fondazzjoni Patrimonju Malti.



be found below an outline image depicting the lower face and neck of a woman wearing elaborate earrings, necklace and pendant positioned at the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost's Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in its Stamp Bulletin No. 414.

12th July 2021

The letterbox situated in Triq is-Sajf, Qormi has been temporarily removed. The public was advised to use letterboxes situated in Triq Hammieri and Triq Farsina, Qormi as an alternative.

16th July 2021

MaltaPost informed the public that it will be undertaking a scheduled maintenance as a result of which the company's websites (including all online data and Philately) will not be available on Sunday 18th July from 08:00 till 17:00 hrs.

MaltaPost apologised for any inconvenience and notified that during this time, limited service shall be provided for:

Tracking: https://www.maltapost.com/tracking#/tracking

SendOn - https://www.maltapost.com/sendon

Easipik: https://www.maltapost.com/easipikdeliveries#/login

eSeller: https://www.maltapost.com/eSellers#/login

21st July 2021

On the 23rd of July, MaltaPost will issue a set of three stamps entitled 'Olympic Games 2020'. This stamp issue will be celebrating the commencement of this year's Olympic Games that will held in Tokyo, Japan between the 23rd July and 8th August. The Olympic Games is a major event held every four years, when athletes from all over the world compete against each other in different sports. The Games are

intended to contribute to building a peaceful and better world by educating youth through sport, practiced without discrimination of any kind, while fostering mutual understanding within a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play.

The stamps will be issued in a sheet of ten stamps, with each stamp measuring 35 mm x 35 mm, having a comb perforation of 13.75 x 13.75 and printed on Maltese Cross watermarked paper. The sheets measure 204 mm x 99 mm and were produced by Printex Ltd in the offset process. The issue consists of 80,000 of the $\[Epsilon 0.59$ stamp, 80,000 of the $\[Epsilon 1.35$ stamp and 80,000 of the $\[Epsilon 2.80$ stamp. The design of this stamp issue was set by Aidan Cassar.



an outline image depicting a jumping athlete positioned at the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost's Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in its Stamp Bulletin No. 415.

22nd July 2021

The Sub Post Office at "Aquavel", Triq San Bartilmew, Gharghur GHR 1014, will be closed on Monday 26th July. As an alternative, the public was advised that it may wish to use the postal services provided from Naxxar Post Office situated in Centru Civiku, Vial il-Wiehed u Ghoxrin ta' Settembru, Naxxar NXR 1018.

27th July 2021

The Sub Post Office at Papier Stationery, Level 0 Spinola Park, Triq Mikiel Ang Borg, St. Julian's SPK 1000, will be closed on Wednesday 28th July. On this day, the public was advised to use the postal services provided from the St. Julian's Post Office situated in Triq Paceville, St. Julian's STJ 3103, this being the closest alternative.

06th August 2021

The Sub Post Office at 'Step in', Misrah ir-Rebha, Birgu BRG 1300, will be closed on Wednesday 11th August until Thursday 19th August. On these days, the public was invited to use the postal services provided from the Bormla Post Office at Block No 14, Flat No. 12, Fuq San Pawl, Bormla BML 1910 as an alternative.



The second media communication issued by MaltaPost today informed the public that the Sub Post Office situated at 'Electroit Stationery' at Fredrick Meample Square, Qormi QRM 1011, will be closed between Saturday 7th August and Saturday 14th August. On these days the public was advised to use the postal services provided from Qormi Post Office situated at 343, Triq il-Vitorja, Qormi QRM 2504 as the nearest alternative.

In its final communication for the day, MaltaPost belatedly notified the public that today, Friday 6th August, a commemorative handstamp was issued to commemorate the 800th anniversary of St. Dominic's death and used at Castille Square Post Office.

The single-ring circular hand stamp is inscribed "IL-BIRGU JFAKKAR IT-VIII ČENTINARJU MILL-MEWT TA' SAN DUMINKU" along the outside bordering the ring, and "* MALTAPOST – CASTILLE SQUARE - MALTA *" bordering the ring on the inner side. At the centre of the hand stamp is a drawing of the saint's centenary logo beneath which was placed the issue date in a straight line "06-08-21".

09th August 2021

MaltaPost notified the public that a commemorative handstamp will be used to commemorate thirty years of One Radio Broadcasting on Wednesday 11th August at the MaltaPost Head Office in Marsa.

The single-ring circular hand stamp is inscribed "ONE RADIO -30 SENA TA' XANDIR" along the outside



bordering the ring, and "* MALTAPOST – MARSA - MALTA *" bordering the ring on the inner side. At the centre of the hand stamp is an outline drawing of One Radio logo beneath which was placed the issue date in a straight line "11-08-21".

10th August 2021

The Sub Post Office at 'Needs Stationery', situated at 1, Triq il-Vajrita, Marsaskala MSK 3306 will be closed on Monday 16th August and Monday 23rd August. On these days, Marsaskala residents were advised that they may use the postal services provided from Marsaskala Post Office situated at Triq Sant' Antnin, Marsaskala MSK 9059 as an alternative.

A second media communication informed that the Sub Post Office at Wigwam Stationery, Triq il-Qroqq, Msida MSD 1702 will be closed between Saturday 14th August and Saturday 21st August, both days included. During these days residents were requested to pick up their mail items from Pieta Post Office situated at Telghet Gwardamanġa, Pieta' PTA 1310.

Another communication notified that the Sub Post Office at 'Willand Bargain Store', Triq Dun M Mifsud, Santa Lucija SLC 1440, will be closed between Saturday 14th

August and Saturday 21st August. In this case, the public was advised that if it so wishes it could make use of the postal services provided from the Post Office situated at the Paola Civic Center, Pjazza Antoine De Paule, Paola PLA 1266.

The fourth and final communication issued today informed the public that the Sub Post Office at 'Many Things' Stationery, Triq il-Knisja il-Qadima, Siġġiewi SGW 1704, will be closed on Saturday 14th August and Saturday 21st August. On both days, the public was advised that it may use the postal services provided from Żebbuġ Post Office situated at Triq Sciortino, Żebbuġ ŻBĠ 1962.

19th August 2021

The Sub Post Office at L-Ghajn Stationery, situated at 100, Triq il-Kbira, Dingli DGL 1837, will be closed on Monday 23rd August and will remain closed until Saturday 28th August. During this period, the public was invited to use the postal services provided from Rabat Post Office situated at the Civic Centre, Misraħ il-Parroċċa, Rabat RBT 1001 as the nearest alternative.

The second media communication released informed that the Sub Post Office at "Aquavel", Triq San Bartilmew, Għargħur GĦR 1014, will be closed on Monday 30th August. On this day, the public was advised to use the postal services provided from Naxxar Post Office situated in Ċentru Ċiviku, Vjal il-Wieħed u Għoxrin ta' Settembru, Naxxar NXR 1018.

In the third communication released, the public was informed that the fifth series of stamps depicting religious statues found in various churches around Malta and Gozo was to be issued on the 25th August.

This issue will feature the following processional statues: St. Dominic in Birgu, The Visitation of Our Lady in Għarb, St. Bartholomew in Għargħur, The Nativity of Mary in Naxxar, Christ The King in Paola, St. George in Qormi, St. Paul in Rabat, St. Nicholas in Siġġiewi, Stella Maris in Sliema and Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Valletta. The stamps will be issued in a sheet comprising all the ten different stamps, with each stamp measuring 31 mm x 4² mm, having a comb perforation of 13.9 x 14.0 and printed on Maltese Cross watermarked paper. The sheets measure 182 mm x 115 mm and were produced by Printex Ltd in the offset process. The issue consists of 600,000 stamps which carry a face value of €0.30 each. Photography used for the stamps is by Mark Micallef Perconte. The first four sets in this series were issued in 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 respectively. Each set includes cards, sheets and envelopes. Also, a special binder completes these sets.

MaltaPost prepared an occasion hand stamp to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No.9/2021). The single-ring circular hand stamp is inscribed

02nd September 2021

The Sub Post Office situated at C&C Stationery, Fleur De-Lys Street, St. Venera SVR 1580 will be closed on Monday 6th September. On this day, the public was advised that if it so wishes it could make use of the postal services provided from the Ħamrun Post Office situated at 18, Triq il-Ferrovija, Ħamrun HMR 1900 as a near alternative.



Another communication issued informed the public that the Sub Post Office at 51, Triq Gorg Borg Olivier, Mellieħa MLĦ 1024 will be closed between Thursday 9th September and Saturday 11th September. On these days, the public could use the postal services provided from Mellieħa Post Office situated at 100, Triq il-Mitħna l-Ġdida, Mellieħa MLĦ 1107 as a close alternative.

15th September 2021

The letterbox situated in Triq Testaferrata, Ta' Xbiex has been removed. In view of this, the public was advised to use the letterbox situated at Triq Il-Principessa Margerita, Ta' Xbiex as a close alternative.

24th September 2021

A commemorative handstamp will be used on Wednesday 29th September at the Hamrun Post Office to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the Broadcasting Authority.

The single-ring circular hand stamp is inscribed "60 SENA ANNIVERSARJU – L-AWTORITA' TAX-XANDIR – 1961 - 2021" along the outside bordering the ring, and "* MALTAPOST – ĦAMRUN - MALTA *" bordering the ring on the inner side. At the top centre of the hand stamp one finds The Public Broadcasting Authority logo, beneath which was placed the issue date in a straight line "29-09-21".

27th September 2021

MaltaPost informed that, by agreement with the Malta Communications Authority, as of 1st October, the Post Office situated at the Marsa Head Office will open from Monday to Friday between 8.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m. (instead of 8.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.). Saturday: 8.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. (unchanged).

05th October 2021

On the 7th October, MaltaPost will issue a set of three stamps entitled 'Maltese Buses' to celebrate the traditional buses of Malta and Gozo. The origins of the Maltese bus service dates back to 1905. Buses were often owner-driven, thereby fostering a friendly rivalry which led to the heavily customised buses endearing themselves to the public at large. In their simplicity, they were distinct, and through their unique characteristics, one could observe the impact the buses had on Malta's cultural identity.

The set will be issued in sheets of ten stamps, with each stamp measuring 44 mm x 31 mm, having a comb perforation 14.0 x 13.9 and printed on Maltese Cross watermarked paper. The sheets measure 118 mm x 185 mm and were produced by Printex Ltd in the offset process. The issue consists of 500,000 of the $\[\in \]$ 0.30 stamp, 100,000 of the $\[\in \]$ 0.50 stamp and 300,000 of the $\[\in \]$ 0.86 stamp. The set was designed by MaltaPost, based on photographs by Richard Stedall and Marco Zammit.



of the hand stamp. MaltaPost's Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in its Stamp Bulletin No. 417.

In its second media communication for the day, MaltaPost announced that the Sub Post Office at 51, Triq Gorg Borg Olivier, Mellieħa MLĦ 1024 will be closed between Thursday 7th October and Saturday 9th October. On these days, the public was advised that as a close alternative if it so wishes it could make use of the postal services provided from Mellieħa Post Office situated at 100, Triq il-Mitħna l-Ġdida, Mellieħa MLĦ 1107.

10th October 2021

Today it was announced that the Gozo Philatelic Society will be holding its 22nd Annual Exhibition in the Gozo Ministry Halls located at Victoria's Pjazza San Frangisk. The Exhibition can be visited between Friday 5th and Thursday 11th November during normal ministry opening hours. Entrance is free while all Covid-related restrictions presently in force apply.

13th October 2021

The Sub Post Office at Wigwam Stationery, Triq il-Qroqq, Msida MSD 1702 will be closed on Friday 15th October. On this day, the public was invited to use postal services provided from the Gzira Post Office situated at 21, Pjazza Meme' Scicluna, Gzira GZR 1120 as a close alternative.

19th October 2021

The Sub Post Office situated at C&C Stationery, Fleur De-Lys Street, St. Venera SVR 1580 will be closed until Friday 22nd October. On these days, the public was invited to use the postal services provided from the Hamrun Post Office situated at 18, Triq il-Ferrovija, Hamrun HMR 1900.

26th October 2021

Today MaltaPost notified the relaunching of the special edition Christmas cards of 'Kartolina tal-Milied għall-Istrina' for 2021 to raise funds for the Malta Community Chest Fund Foundation. MaltaPost took this initiative so as to help the foundation that is currently suffering from a shortfall in donations. The Malta Community Chest Fund Foundation provides financial, material and professional support to people experiencing difficulties because of severe chronic illness and person with disabilities and encourages support from the public. This set of eight assorted lovely Christmas Cards portrays different themes related to the Christmas Season. These include scenes from The Nativity, a masterpiece by local artist Giuseppe Cali` in the dome of 'Christ the Saviour' Parish Church in Lija. The set also includes scenes from classic paintings and artworks from local artists Alison Agius and Claire Marie Medati Stride. The set 'Kartolina tal-Milied għall-Istrina 2021' is available for sale at all Post Offices and online on www.maltapost.com/christmascards for the price of €5 per pack.

28th October 2021

The Sub Post Office at 'Needs Stationery', situated at 1, Triq il-Vajrita, Marsaskala MSK 3306 will be closed on Monday 1st November and Tuesday 2nd November. On these days, MaltaPost advised Marsaskala residents that they may use the

postal services provided from Marsaskala Post Office situated at Triq Sant' Antnin, Marsaskala MSK 9059 as a close alternative.

In its second media communication for the day, MaltaPost notified that on the 1st November it will issue a miniature sheet to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Malta Senate and Legislative Assembly. In 1921, after more than a century of direct rule from London, Malta was granted the Amery-Milner Constitution, enabling the Maltese to elect their very own Government. A Maltese Government was to deal with internal affairs while the Imperial British Government was to be responsible for all matters relative to defence and foreign affairs. The stamp within the miniature sheet measures 31 mm x 44 mm, has a comb perforation of 13.9 x 14.0 and is printed on Maltese Cross watermarked paper. The miniature sheet itself measures 120 mm x 80 mm and was produced in the offset process by Printex Ltd. The issue, designed by MaltaPost, consists of 20,000 miniature sheets with each sheet bearing a value of €5.50. Also, MaltaPost and the Central Bank of Malta will be launching a joint product consisting of a silver foil stamp replica and a commemorative coin. The stamp replica reproduces the €5.50 postage stamp from the 100th of the Anniversary Malta Senate and Legislative Assembly issue. The silver coin has a diameter of 38.61 mm and has a face value of €10.00. The joint stamp replica and commemorative coin are housed in a presentation box together with a certificate of authenticity.



Edward Caruana Dingli's "Melita" emblematic figure positioned at the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost's Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in its Stamp Bulletin No. 418.

03rd November 2021

The letterbox situated in Triq Villa Rosa, Swieqi has been temporarily removed. As an alternative, the public was invited to use the closest letterbox situated in Triq is-Sirk, Swieqi.

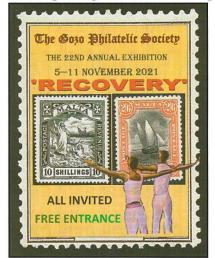
05th November 2021

The Gozo Philatelic Society's 22nd Annual Exhibition opened for the public at the

Gozo Ministry Halls, situated in Victoria's Pjazza San Frangisk. The exhibition could be visited throughout the day between Friday 5th November and Thursday 11th November. Entrance to the exhibition was restricted in line with full adherence to Covid-related regulations in force.

To mark the event, MaltaPost issued a commemorative hand postmark from its Victoria Gozo post office.

The single-ring circular hand stamp is inscribed "GOZO PHILATELIC SOCIETY



20^{TE} ANNUAL EXHIBITION – 2021 'RECOVERY'" along the outside bordering the ring, and "* MALTAPOST – VICTORIA, GOZO - MALTA *" bordering the ring on the inner side. At the centre of the hand stamp is an outline drawing of the GPS logo adorned with a wreath beneath which was placed the issue date in a straight line "05-11-21".

On its part, the GPS issued a Card in a limited edition of one hundred and a personalized stamp to commemorate the event. It is to be noted that this annual exhibition was the only such philatelic exhibition held in the Maltese islands this year as a result of the pandemic.



09th November 2021

MaltaPost informed St. Venera residents that the Sub Post Office situated at C&C Stationery, Fleur De-Lys Street, St. Venera SVR 1580 will be closed on Monday 15th November. On this day, the public was invited to use the postal services provided from the Ħamrun Post Office situated at 18, Triq il-Ferrovija, Ħamrun HMR 1900.

The second media communication released today notified that the Sub Post Office at 'Step in', Misraħ ir-Rebħa, Birgu BRG 1300, will be closed on Friday 12th November until Monday 15th November. As a close alternative the public was invited to use the postal services provided from the Bormla Post Office at Block No 14, Flat No. 12, Fuq San Pawl, Bormla BML 1910.

11th November 2021

MaltaPost opened a new Post Office situated at 419, Triq Ħaż-Żabbar, Fgura FGR 1018.

This Post Office offers all postal services including registered local and international mail, collection of undelivered mail items, encashment of Central Bank of Malta cheques and money transfers. It also offers a selection of philatelic products as well as items for home or office use such as stationery and greeting cards.

Fgura residents will also eventually benefit from a 24/7 Easipik parcel locker service. MaltaPost informed that the Parcel Lockers will be installed in this new Post Office in the coming weeks. The new Fgura Post Office will be open as from Monday 15th November and will be offering its services from Monday to Saturday between 7.30 and 13.00 hrs. To better serve the residents of Fgura, the letterbox located in Triq Hompesch, will be relocated to Triq Haż-Żabbar next to the new Post Office.

12th November 2021

On 15th November MaltaPost will issue a set of three stamps featuring illustrations that reflect the biblical narration of the nativity.

The stamps will be issued in sheets of ten stamps, with each stamp measuring 35 mm x 35 mm, having a comb perforation of 13.75 x 13.75 and printed on Maltese Cross watermarked paper. The sheets measure 205 mm x 100 mm and were produced by Printex Ltd in the offset process. The issue consists of 300,000 of the ϵ 0.30 stamp, 50,000 of the ϵ 0.59 stamp and 30,000 of the ϵ 0.63 stamp. The stamp set was designed by Miguel Farrugia.

MaltaPost prepared an occasion hand stamp to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No.12/2021). The single-ring circular hand stamp is inscribed "CHRISTMAS 2021" along the outside bordering the ring and "* MALTAPOST



18th November 2021

The Sub Post Office at 'Many Things' Stationery, Triq il-Knisja il-Qadima, Siggiewi SGW 1704, will be closed on Thursday 25th November 2021. On this day, the public was advised that it may use the postal services provided from Żebbuġ Post Office situated at Triq Sciortino, Żebbuġ ŻBĠ 1962.

26th November 2021

In a belated announcement, MaltaPost today notified that a commemorative hand stamp was issued to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Malta Communications Authority. This commemorative hand postmark was used on Saturday 25th November 2021 at the Castille Square Post Office, situated at "Dar Annona" in Valletta.



The single-ring circular hand stamp is inscribed "20TH ANNIVERSARY – MALTA COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY – 2001 - 2021" along the outside bordering the ring, and "* MALTAPOST – CASTILLE SQR. VALLETTA - MALTA *" bordering the ring on the inner side. At the centre of the hand stamp is an outline drawing of the anniversary logo beneath which was placed the issue date in a straight line "25-11-21".

In its second media communication for the day, MaltaPost notified that a commemorative hand stamp will be issued to celebrate the opening of Christmas related events in Gozo. This hand postmark will be used on Saturday 27th November

at the Victoria Post Office, situated at 5, Triq Sir Adrian Dingli, Victoria, Gozo VCT 1441.

The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed "MILIED F'GHAWDEX 2021" along the outside bordering the ring, and "* MALTAPOST-VICTORIA, GOZO - MALTA *" bordering the ring on the inner side. At the centre of the hand stamp is an outline drawing



of the Virgin Mary holding baby Jesus in her arms, beneath which was placed the issue date in a straight line "27-11-21".

30th November 2021

The letterbox situated in Triq il-Katakombi, Naxxar has been temporarily removed. The public was advised that it may wish to use the letterbox situated at Triq il-Wileg, San Pawl il-Baħar.

10th December 2021

MaltaPost today announced that it has a new Sub Post Office in Sliema. Within this latest Sub Post Office, clients can avail themselves of numerous postal services such as local and international ordinary and registered mail and the sale of postage stamps. The new Sub Post Office is situated at Papier Stationery, Il-Pjazzetta, Triq it-Torri, Sliema SLM 1605. Postal services will be available at this new Sub Post Office as from Tuesday 14th December 2021. The Sub Post Office's opening hours are from 9.00 a.m. - 9.00 p.m.; Monday to Sunday.

18th December 2021

Today Europa-stamps blogspot.com released the news that the 2021 stamp submitted by MaltaPost for this year's collector's choice competition placed number 14 from the 16 countries comprising Group 3. Malta's entry garnered only 3.2% of the group's votes and was just past the Andorra and Monaco entries which both managed to obtain 2.9% each of the votes cast. In all, sixty two administrations which were divided into four groupings, took part in the competition, with the first top four placings in each group going on to make it to the "Big Final". (*Refer to 10th May entry*).

22nd December 2021

MaltaPost informed the general public that, by agreement with the Malta Communications Authority, on Friday 24th December and on Friday 31st December 2021, the last collection of mail from all letterboxes will be carried out at 12:00 p.m.

In its second media communication for the day, MaltaPost informed that the Sub Post Offices listed below will be closed on Monday 27th December:

Gharghur Sub Post Office situated at 'Aquavel', Triq San Bartilmew, Gharghur, GHR 1014.

Ghaxaq Sub Post Office situated at 4, 'Marchams', Wesgha Bir id-Deheb, Ghaxaq, GXQ 1651.

Santa Venera Sub Post Office situated at f' 'C&C Stationery' Triq Fleur-De-Lys, Santa Venera, SVR 1582

Tarxien Sub Post Office situated at 'Forex Stationery', 16, Misrah tas-Suq, Tarxien, TXN 1951.

The third communication released informed that by agreement with the Malta Communications Authority, all Post Offices will be closed and there will be no collection or delivery of mail on Monday 27th December 2021 and Monday 3rd January 2022. Normal service will resume on Tuesday 28th December 2021 and Tuesday 4th January 2022, respectively.

In its fourth and final communication for the day, MaltaPost informed the public that the Valletta South Street Post Office situated at 25, Triq in-Nofsinhar, Valletta VLT 1102 and the Victoria Gozo Post Office situated at 5, Triq Sir Adrian Dingli, Rabat, Gozo VCT 1441 will close at 4 p.m. on Friday 24th December and will close again at 4 p.m. on Friday 31st December 2021.

24th December 2021

MaltaPost notified that a commemorative handstamp will be used to commemorate the 130th anniversary of Laurent Ropa on Friday 24th December at the Xaghra Post Office situated at 132, Triq it-Tigrija Xaghra XRA 2013.

The single-ring circular hand stamp is inscribed "LAURENT ROPA – 130TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY – 1891-2021" along the outside bordering the ring, and "* MaltaPost Xagħra, Gozo - Malta *" bordering



the ring on the inner side. At the centre of the hand stamp is an outline portrait drawing of Laurent Ropa, beneath which was placed the issue date in a straight line "24-12-2021".

28th December 2021

The Sub Post Office at L-Għajn Stationery, situated at 100, Triq il-Kbira, Dingli DGL 1837, will be closed until further notice. During this period, the public was advised that as a substitute it may use the postal services provided from Rabat Post Office situated at the Civic Centre, Misraħ il-Parroċċa, Rabat RBT 1001.

29th December 2021

MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Offices listed below will be closed on Monday 3rd January 2022:

Gharghur Sub Post Office situated at 'Aquavel', Triq San Bartilmew, Gharghur, GHR 1014

Ghaxaq Sub Post Office situated at 4, 'Marchams', Wesgha Bir id-Deheb, Ghaxaq, GXQ 1651

Mellieha Sub Post Office situated at 51, Triq Gorg Borg Olivier, Mellieha MLH 1024

Santa Venera Sub Post Office situated at f' 'C&C Stationery' Triq Fleur-De-Lys, Santa Venera, SVR 1582

Tarxien Sub Post Office situated at 'Forex Stationery', 16, Misrah tas-Suq, Tarxien, TXN 1951

In its second media communication for the day, MaltaPost informed that the Sub Post Office at 'Many Things' Stationery, Triq il-Knisja il-Qadima, Siġġiewi SGW 1704, will be closed between Thursday 30th December 2021 and Monday 3rd January 2022. On these days, the public was advised that it may use the postal services provided from the Żebbuġ Post Office situated at Triq Sciortino, Żebbuġ ŻBĠ 1962.

The third media communication by MaltaPost today informed that the Sub Post Office at Wigwam Stationery, Triq il-Qroqq, Msida MSD 1702 will be closed between Thursday 30th December 2021 and Monday 3rd January 2022. On these days the public was invited to use the postal services provided from the Qormi Post Office situated at 343, Triq il-Vitorja, Qormi QRM 2504.

In a separate media communication, MaltaPost also informed that the Sub Post Office situated at 'Papel Stationery', Triq is-Salvatur, Qrendi QRD 1701 will be closed between Monday 3rd January and Saturday 8th January 2022. On these days the public was advised to use the postal services provided from the Żurrieq Post Office situated at 75, Main Street, Żurrieq ŻRQ 1317.

31st December 2021

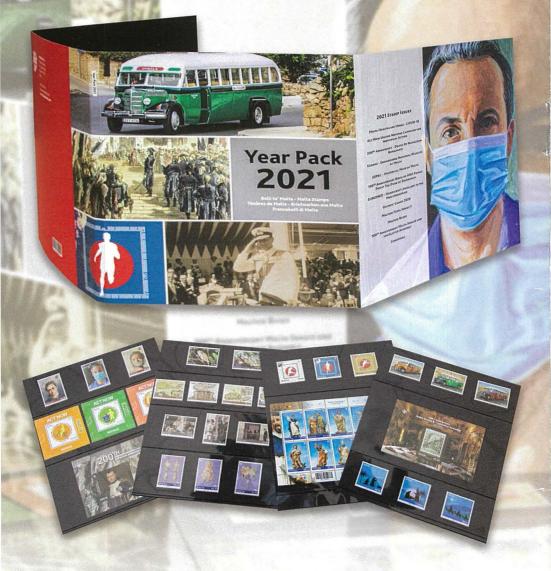
In its last media communication for the year, MaltaPost reminded that by agreement with the Malta Communications Authority, all Post Offices will be closed and there will be no collection or delivery of mail on Monday 3rd January 2022. Normal service will resume on Tuesday 4th January 2022.





Security printers since 1971,

producing stamps for Maltapost and the Vatican Philatelic Bureau, amongst others.



This Year Pack contains all the stamps sets in mint condition that were issued in 2022. Issues included:

• Malta Healthcare Heros - COVID 19 • Act Now United Nations Campaign for Individual Action • 200th Annivesary - Death Of Napolieon Bonaparte • Europa - Endangered National Wildlife of Malta • SEPAC - Historical Maps of Malta • 100th Anniversary Birth of HRH Prince Philip The Duke of Edinburgh • EUROMED - Handicraft Jewellery in the Mediterranean • Olympic Games 2020 • Maltese Festa Series V • Maltese Buses • 100th Anniversary Malta Senate and Legislative Assembly • Christmas



Philatelic Bureau, MaltaPost p.l.c., 305, Qormi Road, Marsa MTP 1001, Malta