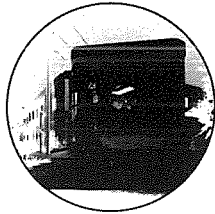
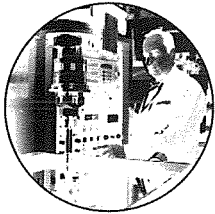


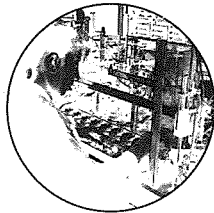
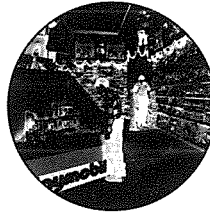
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**THE PSM JOURNAL**



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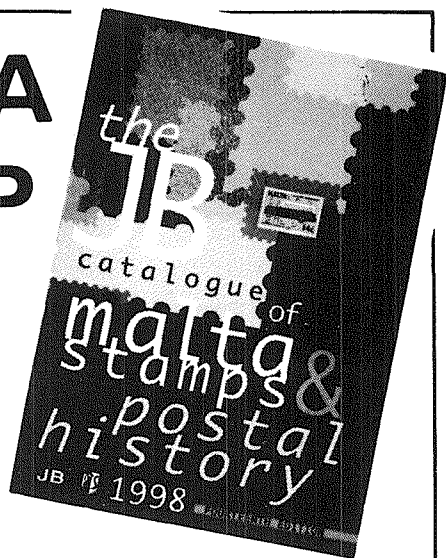
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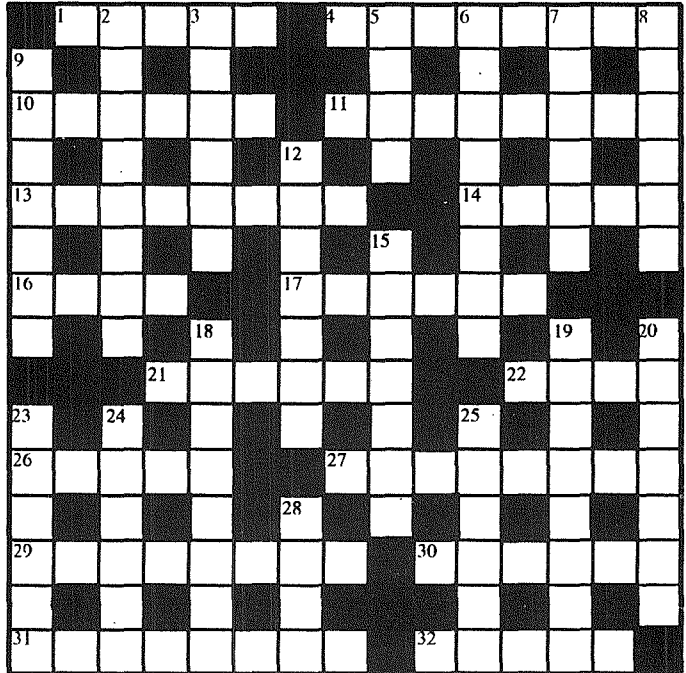
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# PRIZE CROSSWORD – by JR Kitchen

## ACROSS

- 1 "I Believe" series USA 1960-61 (5)  
 4 Started to print stamps in 1911 (8)  
 10 Common name for the insect shown on Gabon 90f 1983 'Harmful Insects' series (6)  
 11 Lightweight Air Letter (8)  
 13 Formerly known as Madagascar (8)  
 14 – Cancels. Also known as Dumb Postmarks (5)  
 16 Known as the Sea Eagle. Russia 4k 1982 'Birds' series (5)  
 17 Heath Spotted - Faroe Islands 3k 1988 'Flowers' series (6)  
 21 The onlooker could be called this. Australia 5d 21 October 1964 (6)  
 22 Seen on the Irish February 1953 issue (4)  
 26 German writer depicted on the West German stamp issued 15 January 1975 (1.4)



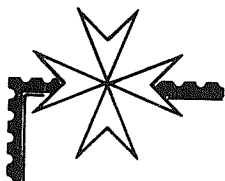
- 27 Known as 'Tin Can Island' (8)  
 29 Can be seen on GB 9p issued 25 January 1978 (8)  
 30 Depicted on USA 25c issued 18 April 1958 Paul – (6)  
 31 The Channel Island that issued its first stamp 14 June 1983 (8)  
 32 – Commemoration GB issue 25 January 1966 (5)

## DOWN

- 2 They could be making this on the West German stamp issued 9 October 1980 (8)  
 3 Preliminary sketch, plan or drawing for a stamp (6)  
 5 Famous for its Dhows (4)  
 6 Shape of the Nicaraguan Air stamps issued 10 January 1947 (8)  
 7 Its stamps of July 1866 showed Prince Michael (Obrenovich III) (6)  
 8 Can be seen on 1943 stamps of Iini (6)  
 9 Great stamp exhibitions held in London (7)  
 12 Spelt EESTI (7)  
 15 Micronesia, Polynesia and Melanesia form part of this area (7)  
 18 Composer featured on the French stamp issued 18 May 1942 (8)  
 19 Celebrity featured on the French stamp 30f+10f issued 2 June 1951 (8)  
 20 Just one on the shoulder. Belgium stamp issued 1 July 1849 (US spelling) (7)  
 23 Kaifeng Iron – Honan, North China \$10 issued 15 August 1945 (6)  
 24 Umm Al Qiwain issue 15 December 1965 (6)  
 25 The first Czechoslovakian stamp was 10– (6)  
 28 The Mauritius 2d issued 21 September 1847 was this colour (4)

**Post your solution marked 'Crossword' on envelope to reach Mr J. Buttigieg, Sliema Stamp Shop, 93 Manwel Dimech Str, Sliema, by not later than November 30, 1999. The correct solutions will be subjected to a draw at the Annual General Meeting in January 2000. A philatelic prize will be donated by Mr J. Buttigieg. Solution will appear in the December issue.**

# THE PSM JOURNAL



Silver-Bronze ESPANA '84 & AUSIPEX '84  
Silver-Bronze ISRAPHIL '85 & PHILTEMA '85  
Silver STOCKHOLMIA '86

Editor: Dr A Bonnici, Asst. Editor: Mr T. Camilleri  
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Tel: 338437

Vol. 28/2

August, 1999

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## CONTENTS

Prize Crossword - by JR Kitchen	2
Obituary - Mr Godwin Said - by Dr JH Mercieca	4
Maltese Internees (1940-1945) - by Dr G Bonello	5
Another Two Bars from the Symphony in Stamps - by Chev. PP Vassallo	18
Malta - A Diary (Jan-Dec 1997) - By J Farrugia	19
150th Anniversary Birth of G Cali, Mechanised Transport - by J Farrugia	27
Obituary - Bryan Hobbs - by Dr A Bonnici	29
Christmas 1996, Treasures of Malta - Sedan Chairs - By J Farrugia	30
Europa 1997 Issue - By J Farrugia	33

**HAVE YOU PAID YOUR ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION  
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# Mr Godwin Said

**Dr John H. Mercieca MOM, BSc(Hon.Causa), DDS  
President, The Malta Philatelic Society**



The Philatelic community of Malta in general and the Philatelic Society of Malta in particular, have been bereft of one of their leading, highly esteemed and respected members, following the untimely death of Mr Godwin Said, which took place on April 6, 1999.

Although in the past two years Godwin was in failing health yet, as he was still active in his business and commitments he appeared to have recovered from his initial troubles and his unexpected death came as a shock to his many friends and acquaintances both locally and abroad.

It can be safely said that Godwin was born and brought up in a 'philatelic atmosphere' for his late father, Emmanuel, was a stamp dealer in his own right, as far back as the early 1930s and the founder of a reputed and successful stamp business, and it is therefore no wonder that after leaving school he opted for the stamp business career.

Though Godwin's father was a general stamp dealer, he chose to limit his activity and interest only to Malta stamps and postal history of which he was an acknowledged connoisseur, recognised as such both locally and well as overseas, especially in the U.K.

For a number of years he published annually the Said Malta Stamp Catalogue which was looked upon as the standard catalogue of Malta stamps locally and abroad. During the last five years or so he extended his interests to dealing in Telecards and he published annually a priced catalogue of Malta Telecards, the latest edition was published posthumously by his daughter.

For many years Godwin was an active member of the Philatelic Society of Malta which he ably represented as Commissioner in many international exhibitions in different parts of the world. He also served as a member of the Committee of the Philatelic Society of Malta on which through his great philatelic experience and know-how he gave many valuable contributions.

Godwin also farmed a superb collection of Postal History of Malta which received many prestigious awards and medals at many international philatelic exhibitions at which he presented it.

Godwin who was of a friendly and quiet disposition was also a very active member of several charitable and philanthropic societies and organisations and in this connection he was always in the front line, always willing and ready to offer his help and do his bit whenever it was needed.

To his dear family go my healthfelt sympathy and sincere condolences as well as those of all the members of my Society by all of whom he was much loved and highly respected.

May he rest in peace.

# MALTESE INTERNEES

(1940-1945)

## Postal History

By Giovanni Bonello LL.D., K.M.

Of the many wounds the Second World War imprinted on the history of Malta, few can compare with the mean imprisonment and exile by the Imperial authorities of 41 British subjects. The colonial power, which had consistently striven to identify with the principles of the rule of law, experienced but little embarrassment in pulling down its mask, imprisoning the cream of the nationalist movement without charge or trial, and deporting its perceived leaders to Africa, in brazen defiance of its own laws.

Trouble had been brewing for a long time. This century, and up to the Second World War, the pro-colonial party, led by Sir Gerald Strickland, had only once swung a popular majority, for a short interval between 1927 and 1930. Otherwise, the various wings of the nationalist movement had dominated the political scene. Constitutionally these aimed at the amplest form of self-government as a necessary prerequisite for the advance towards full dominion status. This disrupted the plans of empire and military strategy, in which the fortress of Malta represented a vital hub. Improving the political liberties of the Maltese, observed an English statesman, was like granting self-government to a battleship.

What could have been straightforward constitutional issues entangled themselves by the phenomenon of *italianità*. Maltese culture had, for centuries, gravitated towards Italy — Italian was the written language and the medium of culture. Apart from the geographical vicinity, Sicily and Malta had shared a long historical heritage in law, religion, art, literature, folklore, crafts and political destinies.

The colonial power realised that the process of total absorption of Malta into the British orbit would never succeed if the Maltese stood by their proud 'latin' heritage. They would always resist the process of anglicisation of these Islands, so long as they identified with another major culture. Hence the necessity of breaking down the 'latin' substream of the national intelligentsia through a process spearheaded by a determined and systematic assault on the Italian language.

The nationalist leaders understood that, losing Malta's latin soul, and

diluting our spiritual identity, we would fall easy prey to the British scheme of colonial dominance. Cultural cleansing is slower, but almost as effective as ethnic cleansing.

Although the Maltese nationalist movement, up to the beginning of the Second World War, rallied to the cry of *italianità* there was little, if any, sympathy for the political unification of Malta with Italy. The Italian government, grateful for Britain's determining support for the liberation and unification of Italy during the *Risorgimento*, never faltered in promoting Anglo-Italian friendship and cooperation. It had no interest in endangering that excellent relationship by sponsoring any Italian crusade for the annexation of Malta, or any Maltese craving for merger with Italy.

The assumption of power by the Fascists in 1921, however, led, in time, to a profound disturbance in the traditional Anglo-Italian equilibrium; it also introduced an unknown quantum into the Maltese equation. Some of the old supporters of cultural *italianità* started viewing with increasing sympathy the resurgence of Italian pride and power. Italian propaganda now beamed its resources on Malta unblushingly.

The pre-war years saw the nationalist leadership shared by Sir Ugo Mifsud and Dr Enrico Mizzi. The former, an urbane statesman equally exposed to British and Italian cultural influences, represented the 'moderates'. Enrico Mizzi, less prone to compromise, doggedly stood by self-rule and *italianità*, even when it became obvious that the daunting watchdog of imperial interests in Malta was not amused.

The Strickland opposition — the Constitutionals — from pre-war times orchestrated a hysterical onslaught on the nationalist leadership, branding them with disloyalty, sedition, fascism and secret conspiracy for the overthrow of British sovereignty and for the annexation of Malta to Italy. Tempers flared high, with the Constitutionals cashing in on the protection, favours and advancement which the colonial power, naturally and willingly, accorded them.

The British authorities would have lived, perhaps grudgingly and uncomfortably, with the nationalists, in uneasy co-existence. But the local Constitutionals wanted more than that. They egged and incited the British overlord to clean the decks of all those who were not devoutly pro-colonial.

It is against this background that the saga of the Maltese internees stands to be examined. When war broke out in 1939 between Germany and the Allied powers, Mussolini at first dithered, sparing the Mediterranean the din



of battle. But when the Duce's slide towards the Fuhrer's centre of gravity became uncontrollable, Malta acquired a pivotal strategic importance. Its internal security won top priority.

This was the moment the Constitutionalists had been craving for so long. They prevailed on the British security forces by tenacious media perseverance and backroom political coercion, to round up and imprison all those political adversaries whom, they perceived, would pose an internal 'Italian' threat in the forthcoming hostilities with our fascist neighbour. Some 120 were arrested in various waves between May and June 1940. Italy declared war on the night between June 10 and 11.



Letter from an internee, postmarked Cospicua May 6, 1940, a day after the prisoner's arrest. Beart INT-1 in red and CS-INT-1 in blue, initialed by the

Those arrested included Dr Enrico Mizzi, co-leader of the Nationalist Party, the Chief Justice, Sir Arturo Mercieca, Dr Herbert Ganado, editor of the Catholic Action weekly, Dr Giulio Cortis Professor of Law, Monsignor Albert Pantalleresco, and my father, the founder and former director of the National Museum of Fine Arts. The security net also caught in its meshes many of



Above: A caricature depicting the Maltese internees behind barbed wire defying the British lion, by Paolo Consiglio. Published in Rome during the war

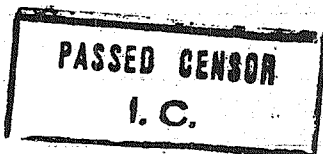
Below: Part of a letter by an internee, certified censored by CS-INY-1 in violet

humbler extraction; dockyard workers, artisans, small traders. All guilty of believing strongly in what their adversaries feared and loathed.

The political prisoners were first kept in Fort S. Salvatore overlooking the crucial naval dockyard in the Grand Harbour. The British military spared no effort in broadcasting the location of their detention. S. Salvatore was no accidental choice. It housed a major fuel depot, and any blitz by the Italian air force on the dockyard would automatically put the lives of the 'pro-Italians' in instant jeopardy.

mettiti d'accordo con miei;  
 dovrai cioè pagar caro  
 la visita di un fratello.  
 abbracci e baci a tou-  
 nellate!

Censuro



They were used, deliberately and maliciously, as human shields in a move to ward off attacks from the dockyard and the fuel depot.

The internees remained sheltering the dockyard with their persons up to July 7, 1940, when the fort was hit during an air raid and they had to be moved elsewhere. The security services could think of no better place for the Chief Justice and his companions than the criminal prisons in Corradino, Paola. Considering that not one of them had been convicted of any crime, or was then awaiting trial charged with any offence, the internees protested indignantly, and successfully. On July 20 they were again moved, this time to S. Agatha Convent, in Rabat.

Meanwhile the Strickland press, which had first campaigned for the internment of the nationalists, started clamouring for their deportation from Malta. And surely enough, on January 3, 1942, an 'Area Order' was issued to inform the internees of their impending deportation.

They instantly impugned the Order in court, and, on February 7, the First Hall of the Civil Court ruled that the Malta Defence Regulations of 1939 did not empower the Governor to deport British subjects.

This judgement did not deter the authorities. The Council of Government instantly convened to pass new legislation granting emergency powers for the removal from Malta of detained persons. Sir Ugo Mifsud, the other co-leader of the Nationalist Party, rose to deliver a masterful and impassioned speech on British constitutional order, continually obstructed by derisive interruptions from the Strickland members. Half way through he suffered a massive heart attack, and died two days later.

The Council approved the emergency legislation, and the internees instituted a second court case to challenge the new law. This time the Civil Court found for the government. They appealed. While these legal proceedings were still in progress, on February 13, 41 of the internees were herded into the hold of HMS *Breconshire* and transported to Alexandria in Egypt, their naval convoy suffering overwhelming losses at sea.

It must have been little comfort for them that, on May 4, the Court of Appeal confirmed the illegality of their deportation. The Judges had not even been informed that the deportation order had been carried out by the Governor, notwithstanding that its lawfulness was then being questioned in court. The Governor, General Sir Walter Dobbied, resigned forthwith; many believe in response to this court certification of the miscarriage of justice which he had been instrumental. Finding the underdog right and the British Empire

Egitto, 22 maggio 1942.

Mia mia carissima,

Se ti è presentata l'occasione tu mi devi recuperare delle carte che avevo improntato al povero Alberto Skiron. Si tratta di questo: quel l'ottimo amico mio preparava un dotto lavoro sul Dragut che doveva pubblicare insieme ad un altro studio nella Marina del l'Ordine di Malta; il lavoro è pressoché ultimato; so che lo dattilografavo quando lo lavoro intermesso; per questo lavoro io gli avevo improntato parecchie schede mie

valore che a guerra finita mi occuperò io della pubblicazione; sarà un tributo doveroso da parte mia alla memoria dell'amico e dello studioso; che pertanto non dispendio le sue carte, fra le quali vi si potranno trovare più tardi, ~~essa~~, anche le schede mie

Letter by an internee from Egypt, heavily scissored by the censor



*Governor Lt. Gen. Sir Walter Dobbie who deported 43 Maltese nationals to Uganda on his personal responsibility. He resigned from the Governorship of Malta and from the Army when Malta's Supreme Court declared that he was not empowered to carry out deportation (The King's Guests in Uganda by Edgar Soler)*

wrong in the thick of the enemy blitz was an act of suicidal fearlessness on the part of the Maltese courts. Ironically, that judgement was delivered by the new Chief Justice, Sir George Borg, a former leader of the Strickland Party.

Most of the exiles remained three years in British concentration camps in Central Africa. First in Bombo, Uganda, and then in Soroti, a place listed as "unsafe for Europeans". Malaria took its toll of most of them. After various protests about the inhuman conditions of the Soroti concentration camp, a new site was found. They arrived at Entebbe on April 14, 1943.



Internment Camp N.7.  
Soroti, 13th October, 1942.

To  
His Excellency the Governor.  
Entebbe.  
Uganda.

Your Excellency,

We, Maltese Civil Detainees transferred from Malta to Uganda, have the honour to submit the following for Your Excellency's earnest consideration.

We, Maltese Detainees, have been now permanently attached to Internment Camp No.7, at Soroti, which is, with the exception of our group, entirely composed of aliens, mainly interned in the Middle East. As regards the treatment meted out to us in this camp we have found it to be fundamentally different from that meted out to the British and the Americans.

We beg to request Your Excellency to refer the above to the Rt Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies and to His Excellency the Governor of Malta, respectively.

We have the honour to be,  
Your Excellency's  
Most obedient servants,

*Edgardo Jates*  
*Jo. C. Audi*  
*Salvatore Lauda*  
*M. M. M.*  
*J. Camano*  
*J. Cortis*  
*Alb. B. B. B.*  
*S. N. G. L. S.*

*Enrico M. M.*  
*J. Sammut*  
*S. S. S.*  
*P. Casabene*  
*M. M. M.*  
*H. G. G.*  
*P. S. S.*  
*J. J. J.*

A petition signed by many of the deportees, addressed to the British Governor of Uganda from the Soroti Internment Camp (cont. on next page)

Francesco Bunnin  
Cezio Landi  
Gul. Farnuzzi  
A. G. B.  
Ed. La Ferla

Giuseppe Ocichura  
P. Carrà

Vincenzo Bionello  
G. Felice  
Giuseppe Landi  
Umberto Pirroni S.

Mancini  
W. Romano  
Latre  
dnc

The nationalist exiles were eventually repatriated in two batches, the first 18 in April 1944. The remainder arrived back to their homes and families on March 8, 1945. Dr Enrico Mizzi, the indomitable leader, experienced the sweet taste of vindication when he was elected Prime Minister of Malta in 1950, a few months before his death in office and the most grandiose funeral in local history.

A lot has been written about the internee saga (see sources below). An assessment which says it all comes from an unimpeccable authority. Stewart Perowne, a historian, and Englishman and a true son of empire has this to confess:

"It is a sad story, especially in retrospect. No charge was ever brought against them. They were victims... They were honest men with the courage of their convictions, and it was these convictions which convicted them. Looking back on this sorry, shabby affair, one can only find comfort in three things: that those affected were so few — about eighty, my friend says; secondly that they were treated so courteously, and thirdly, that so many of them survive to be admired citizens and ornaments of the international society of contemporary Malta" (*The Sieve within the Walls*, London, 1970, p.45).

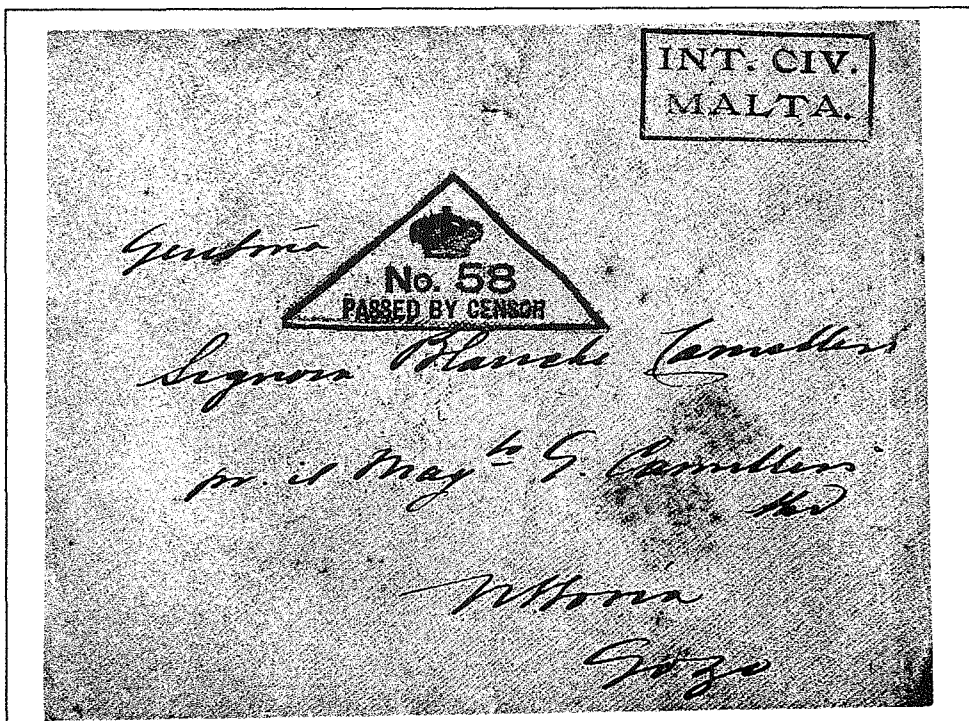
Censura censurando,

15 Aprile 1942

Attendo ancora una tua lettera. Dal dodici Marzo scorso non so più ciò che è accaduto di te. Come ti ho già detto io scrivo regolarmente ogni settimana, però non so se l'indirizzo è giusto, e se te l'hai ancora ricevuto.

Questa volta ti devo parlare di disastri, però noi fino ad oggi grazie a Dio siamo stati risparmiati. Non così però direi del resto della mia famiglia. La casa di mamma in [redacted] ha sofferto dei danni, ma minimi. Una scheggia ha forato il soffitto della sala da pranzo, e delle porte e finestre sconquassate. La casa della [redacted] invece ha subito danni maggiori. La parte poste





*A letter from an internee in Malta, bearing the INT-2 rectangular cachet in red and the triangular CS-T2 N° 59 in violet*

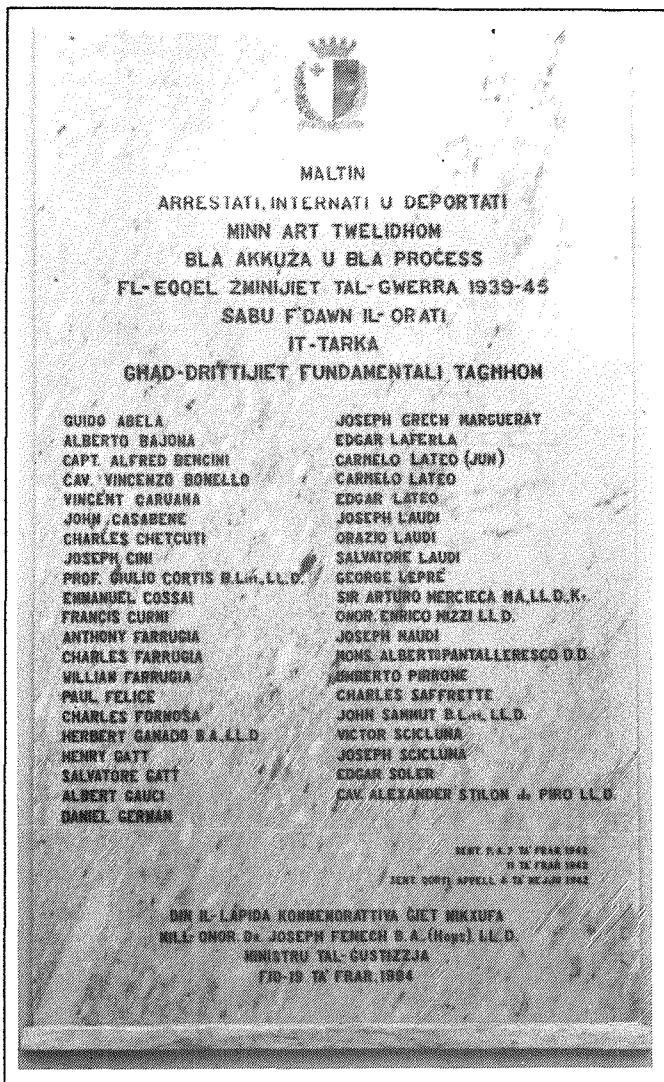
It was the first, and only, time in modern years, that persons had been deprived of their liberty without any charge having ever been laid against them, and without ever having been found guilty of any misdemeanour by due judicial process. This great affront to the rule of law and to basic human rights has been commemorated by a marble inscription in the edifice of the Law Courts in Valletta, unveiled during a moving ceremony on February 19, 1994. That we may forgive but never forget.

Special measures were taken by the authorities to regulate the mail of the internees when in Malta, and later of the deportees in Africa. Their quota could not exceed two letters per week, up to 30 words each, or four postcards, with a maximum of seven words. Similar restrictions applied to mail received by them.

As expected, all mail from, and to, the prisoners was carefully censored. They were instructed not to write about anything but strictly

personal affairs. Any disregard for this draconian rule resulted in the confiscation of the letter or the excision of the offending part. This form of censorship led to quite ridiculous excesses, and applied equally to letters sent to the deportees. When the wife of an exile wrote "my mother's house in Sliema sustained some damage (in the blitz)" the dutiful censor quickly scissored out the word 'Sliema', presumably not to divulge war damage information to the enemy. Considering that the wretched woman owned only one house in Sliema, the censor's fervour hardly achieved its purpose.

This nonsense censorship led to a secondary result. Knowing well that nothing would escape the examiner's eagle eyes, the writers succumbed to a total discipline of self-censorship. They put down on paper nothing that would arouse the censor's zeal, and confined themselves to the most banal and inconsequential small-talk. I have sometimes been encouraged to publish father's letters from exile. There



*The large marble plaque unveiled in the Law Courts in Valletta in 1994 to commemorate the Maltese internees and the judgements given by the Courts in their favour*

is absolutely no point in doing that — they, and all those from the other prisoners, contain nothing of any interest or importance.

Special postal handstamps distinguished internee's mail. A small double ring cachet in red bore the circular inscription INT. CIV. MALTA (classified as INT-1). This was almost invariably stamped on the first right hand corner of the envelope, and seems to have been used only on mail outgoing from Fort S. Salvatore.

At the same time, a rectangular handstamp bearing the inscription INT CIV/MALTA on two lines (INT-2) came into use. This is found either on its own, or in conjunction with INT-1 and was used in blue and violet from Fort S. Salvatore and in red from other Maltese concentration camps. It also appears across the official labels used to reseal letters after opening for examination, to tie that label to the rest of the envelope.

A third cachet associated with internee mail is PASSED CENSOR I. C. and boxed rectangle (CS-INT-1). This appears both on the envelope, usually in combination with INT-1, and/or on the contents of the envelope, to certify that the letter had been approved. These handstamps, usually struck in blue or violet ink, mostly carry the censor's initials written in the rectangular border, on the envelope.

While the internees were still in the Maltese concentration camps, the postal authorities carried the mail unstamped. Many letters bear a manuscript "Prisoners of War Post" written by the sender, to facilitate identification.

The system changed after their deportation to Uganda. There postage stamps became necessary, though they were often removed by the censors to ensure that no secret messages lurked hidden under King George VI's beautifully embossed image.

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### Sources (books only)

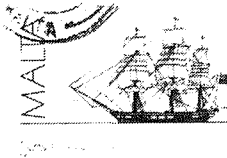
- Sir Arturo Mercieca, *Le Mie Vicender*, Malta, 1947, later translated into *The Making and Unmaking of a Maltese Chief Justice*, Malta, 1969  
Herbert Ganado, *Raji Malta Tinbidel*, vol 2, Malta, 1974  
Ray Bondin, *Deportation 1942*, Malta, 1980  
R.E. Martin (Ed), *Malta, The Postal History and Postage Stamps*, London, 1980  
Edgar Soler, *The King's Guests in Uganda*, Malta, 1986  
Carmel Farrugia, *Polluted Politics*, Malta, 1995  
Albert Gauci (postumous), *Mistieden tar-Re!*, Malta, 1996

# ANOTHER TWO BARS FROM THE SYMPHONY IN STAMPS

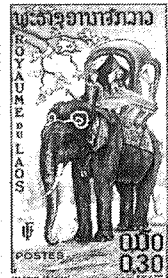
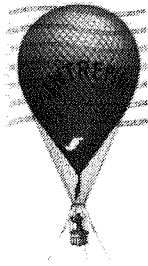
By Chev. Peter Paul Vassallo, SMOSJJ



*Up periscope,  
Take her up,  
Cruising speed.*



2c



*Around the world  
in eighty days.*

# MALTA – A DIARY

## January – December, 1997

by J. Farrugia

### 09.01

The Bulk Posting Section was transferred from the General Post Office in Merchants Street, Valletta to the Central Mail Room at Castille Place with effect from January 9, 1997.

### 20.01

The forty designs that participated in the Stamp Design Competition “200 years as Cities (Zabbar, Zejtun, Siggiewi)” were exhibited at the Counter Hall, Posta Ltd. The exhibition was open from Monday 20 to Wednesday 22 January. Richard J. Caruana won the competition.

### 27.01

A machine stamp cancelling slogan reading: “Dun Pawl Micallef – Filantropu Ghawdxi – 1897-1997” was used at the Central Mail Room from Monday, January 27 to February 1, 1997.



### 31.01

A special handstamp was used at the Victoria Branch Post Office, Gozo, inscribed as follows: “Dun Pawl Micallef – Filantropu Ghawdxi (1897-1997) 31 ta’ Jannar 1997, Victoria – Gozo – Malta”.

### 01.02

Posta Ltd notified that the new local rates of postage are: 6c for letters up to 50g; 4c for locally registered newspapers up to 100g and 50c for parcels under 1kg.

The postage rate of surface mail of letters to all European countries, Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Syria and Tunisia shall be up to 20g – 10c, 20-100g – 23c; over 500g and up to 1kg – Lm2.50.

Air Mail rates to Zone “A” countries including the UK, Spain, Germany and Italy are 16c for letters under 20g, and 13c for each extra 20g.

In Zone “B” countries, including the USA, the cost is 22c for the first 20g and 17c for each extra 20g.

In Zone “C” countries, including Australia, the cost is 27c for the first 20g and 21c for each extra 20g.

In the Govt Gazette N° 16407 dated June 31, 1997, we also note the following rates amendments: Certificate of Posting – 10c, AR Cards (local) – 16c; AR Cards (foreign) – 26c; Express rate – 35c; Registration (local) – 20c, (foreign) – 30c; local minimum parcel rates – 50c.

## 07.02

A special handstamp was used at the Counter Hall, Posta Ltd, Valletta, on Friday, February 7, 1997, commemorating the 300th anniversary of the Election of Grand Master Ramon Perellos as Grand Master. The handstamp is worded as follows: "Gran Mastru Ramon Perellos — 7-2-1997 — 1697-1997 — Valletta — Malta".

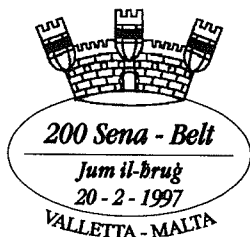


## 12.02

Posta Ltd notified that local designers were being invited to take part in a postage stamp design competition organised by the Japanese Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications. The postage stamp was to be issued on July 23, the day designated as Letter Writing Day in Japan. Final acceptance day — March 25, 1997.

## 20.02

New Postage stamp set issued today, commemorating 200 years since Zabbar, Siggiewi and Zejtun have become Città Hompesh, Città Ferdinand and Città Beland respectively. Stamp values 6c, 16c and 26c and Miniature Sheet were designed by Richard J. Caruana. A special hand-postmark was used for cancellation of philatelic mail on the first day of issue.



## 20.02

The 5c denomination from the Christmas 1996 postage set was voted the best commemorative stamp issued in 1996. The stamp was designed by Harry Borg.

## 07.03

Posta Ltd notified that the 1c stamp (Definitive Issue) has been reprinted and may be bought from the Valletta Counter and from the Branches in Malta and Gozo.

## 12.03

New handstamps have been put in use at the Qrendi and Siggiewi Sub-Post Offices with effect from Wednesday, March 12, 1997. The metal hand date stamps are inscribed: "Qrendi S.P.O. — Malta" and "Siggiewi S.P.O. — Malta".

## 17.03

The Sub-Post Office in Marina Street, Marsascala, was temporarily closed between March 17- 30, 1997, both days inclusive. During this period the public was advised to call at the Zabbar BPO.

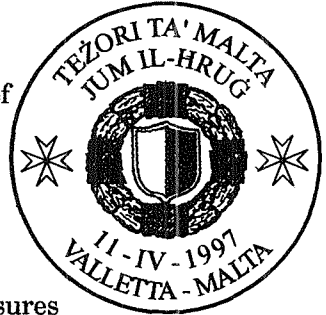
## 10.04

A machine stamp cancelling slogan reading: "Euro Mediterranean —

Conference – Malta – 15-16 April 1997” was used at the Central Mail Room, Valletta from April 10 to 16, 1997.

#### 11.04

The “Treasures of Malta – Sedan Chairs” postage set of four stamps, designed by the Design Section, Posta Ltd., was issued today. A special hand postmark was used for cancellation of philatelic mail on the first day of issue.



#### 11.04

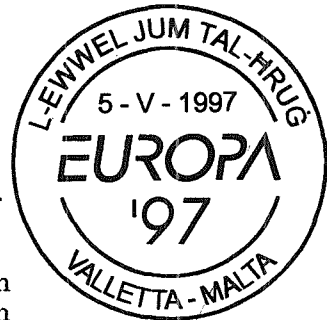
A Maximum Card depicting the 6c stamp of the ‘Treasures of Malta – Sedan Chairs’ set was issued today. It shows ‘Is-Suggetta’ belonging to Cottoner Grandmasters, Raphael and Nicolas, and preserved at the Zabbar Sanctuary Museum.

#### 21.04

A machine stamp cancelling slogan reading: “Valletta – History and Elegance – Festival – 21-26 April 1997” was used at the Central Mail Room during the Valletta Festival (April 21-26, 1997).

#### 05.05

The “Europa 1997” postage stamp set of two stamps was issued today. The theme for the Europa stamps was ‘Stories and Legends’. Stamps were designed by Joe Mallia. A special handstamp was used for the cancellation of philatelic mail on the first day of issue.



#### 07.05

A commemorating Postal Card (N° 18) was issued on the occasion of the participation of Posta Ltd in Naposta '97 (Stuttgart) Philatelic Exhibition, from May 7-11, 1997. The card has imprinted thereon the two stamps of the Europa 1997 postage stamp set and the logo of the exhibition. The postmark was also used at the Philatelic Counter of the GPO between May 7-11, concurrently with that used at the Malta Post Office Stand at Naposta '97. The special hand postmark is inscribed as follows: “Naposta – Stuttgart – 97 – 7-11.V.1997” and also included the Posta Ltd logo.



#### 12.05

The Philatelic Bureau of the Posta Ltd Administration moved to the new Posta Ltd Headquarters at the ex-Central Supplies Building in Qormi Road, Marsa.

## 29.06

A Temporary Branch Post Office was opened at the International Fair of Malta, Naxxar, from Sunday, June 29 to Sunday, July 13.

Postal articles posted at this Temporary Branch Post Office were postmarked by a special date-stamp inscribed as follows: "40th International Fair of Malta – Naxxar - Malta".

40th INTERNATIONAL  
FAIR OF MALTA

10 JUL 1997

NAXXAR MALTA

## 10.07

The "Anniversaries 1997" postage stamp sets were issued today. Three commemorative covers were issued to be used with the three sets of two stamps each, but one special handstamp was used for the cancellation of philatelic mail on the first day of issue. The sets commemorate:

(1) Joseph Calleia (filmstar), 100th Anniversary from his birth – 6c and 22c

(2) Antonio Sciortino (sculptor), 50th Anniversary from his death – 1c and 16c

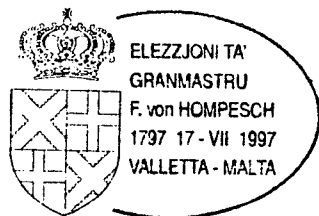
(3) Gozo Cathedral 300th Anniversary, 6c and 11c.

The stamps were designed by the Graphic Design Section, Posta Ltd. The special handstamp was also used at the International Fair of Malta Temporary Branch Post Office at Naxxar.



## 17.07

A special hand postmark was used at the Counter Hall of the Post Office in Valletta today to mark the 200th Anniversary of the election of Hompesch as Grand Master. The handstamp is inscribed as follows: "Elezżjoni ta' Granmastru – F. von Hompesch – 1797 17.VII.1997 – Valletta – Malta".



## 09.08

The Qrendi Sub-Post Office at "Best Mark", Rokku Buhagiar Street, Qrendi, will be closed from Saturday, August 9 to Saturday, August 23, 1997.

## 11.08

It was notified that the following three Sub-Post Offices were to be closed temporarily as follows:

Mgarr (Malta) Sub-Post Office at 'St. Bees Stationery', 6 Jubilee Esplanade, from Monday, August 11 to Tuesday, August 19, 1997;

Ta' Xbiex Sub-Post Office at 'Fleet Stationers', Triq Testaferrata, from Monday, August 11 to Saturday, August 16, 1997;

Tarxien Sub-Post Office at 'Forex Stationery', 16-17 Misrah is-Suq, from



Monday, August 11 to Saturday, August 23, 1997.

**16.08**

The Ghaxaq Sub-Post Office was to be closed temporarily from Saturday, August 16 to Friday, August 29, 1997

**23.08**

The Dingli Sub-Post Office was to be closed temporarily from Saturday, August 23 to Saturday, August 30, 1997.

**25.08**

The Fgura Sub-Post Office was to be closed temporarily from Monday August 25 to Saturday, August 30, 1997.

**29.08**

Posta Ltd used a special cancelling handstamp inscribed: "Riccione — Malta Post Office — 29-31.VIII.1997" at the Counter Hall, Valletta, on Friday and Saturday during office hours. An identical handstamp was available at the Sliema Stamp Shop Stand at Riccione, Italy, between August 29-31. Mr Joe Buttigieg was appointed to represent the Postmaster General for the occasion.



**29.08**

The office of the Postmaster General notified that a Postage Stamp Design Competition was to be held to select the four stamps of the Christmas 1997 stamp issue. The designs were to be submitted by not later than 1.00pm of Friday, September 26, 1997.

**02.09**

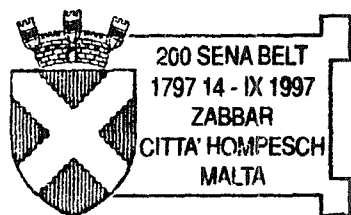
The Office of the Postmaster General issued the latest posting dates for Christmas mail.

**12.09**

A machine stamp cancelling slogan reading: "Jum il-Wirt Ewropew — Il-Qalba tar-Rahal Malti — Lejn Harsien u Tisbieh — 12 ta' Settembru 1997" was used at the Central Mail Room in Valletta between Friday 12 and Thursday 18 September, 1997, except Sunday.

**14.09**

A special hand postmark was available to cancel stamps at the offices of the Zabbar Council on Sunday, between 0800 and 1100 on the occasion of the 200th Anniversary of the proclamation of Zabbar as Città Hompesch.



Envelopes with stamps affixed were also accepted for registration. The special hand postmark is inscribed as follows: "200 Sena Belt — 1797 14.IX.-1997 — Zabbar — Città Hompesch — Malta".

### 22.09

A machine stamp cancelling slogan reading: "VII Simposju Internazzjonali — Dwar San Guzepp Rabat — Malta" was used at the Central Mail Room, Valletta, between September 22-28, 1997.

### 24.09

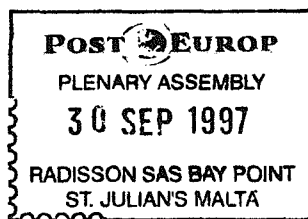
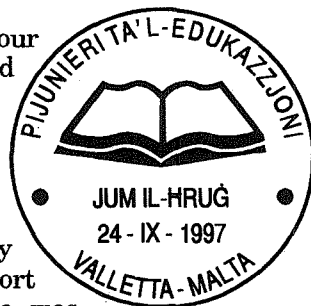
The "Pioneers in Education" postage stamp set (four stamps), designed by Debbie Caruana Dingli was issued today. A special handstamp was used for the cancellation of philatelic mail on the first day of issue.

### 30.09

The Office of the Postmaster General informed the public that on the occasion of the Post Europ Plenary Assembly held at the Radisson SAS Bay Point Resort Hotel, St Julians, a Temporary Branch Post Office was opened on Tuesday, September 30, 1997 from 0830 to 1800 and on October 1, 1997, from 0830 to 1300 at the Conference Venue. A special hand postmark was used on both dates, worded as follows: "Post (logo) Europ — Plenary Assembly — 30 Sep. 1997 — Radisson SAS Bay Point — St Julians Malta".

The Counter Services available were those normally available at all Branch Post Offices and included:

- Sales of postage stamps and postal stationery
- Mailing of letters and letter packets
- Sale and encashment of Money and Postal Orders
- Registration of letters
- Registration of Postcheques
- Philatelic sales
- Telecard sales
- EMS Datapost



### 03.10

The Postmaster General notified that a special hand postmark "Juniorphil '97" was to be used at the Counter Hall, Valletta, on October 3 and 4, 1997. The hand postmark is inscribed as follows: "Merano — Juniorphil '97 — Meran — Malta Post Office — 3-5.X.1997".

The hand postmark was also used by the representative of the office of the Postmaster General at the Juniorphil '97 philatelic exhibition at Merano, between October 3-5, 1997.



### 20.10

The Office of the Postmaster General notified that the Parcel Post Office and the EMS Datapost Section previously operating from Valletta are now operating from the new Administration Block at 305 Qormi Road, Marsa (next to Wands). Normal hours of service will apply.

### 22.10

The Bulk Posting Service moved to 305 Qormi Road, Marsa, with effect from today.

### 27.10

The Central Mail Room was transferred to 305 Qormi Road, Marsa with effect from today. The metal hand postmarks in use will be the following:

- (1) Central Mail Room – Malta
- (2) Philatelic Bureau – Malta
- (3) Postage Paid – Malta

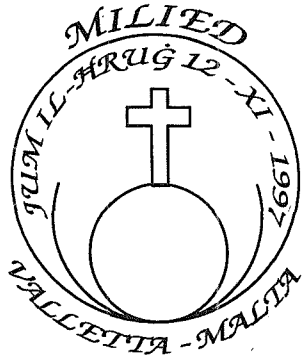
The machine postmark will carry the legend “CMR – Malta”.

### 03.11

A machine stamp cancelling slogan reading: “Le Meridien Phoenicia – Commemorating – The Hotel’s 50th Anniversary” was used from November 3-8, 1997, at the Central Mail Room, Qormi Road, Marsa.

### 12.11

The “Christmas 1997” postage stamp set of four stamps was issued today. The stamps were designed by Harry Borg. A special hand postmark was used for the cancelling of philatelic mail on the first day of issue.



### 17.11

A machine stamp cancelling slogan reading: “Hamsin Sena – Ghaqda Kazini – Tal-Banda” was used from November 17-22 at the Central Mail Room, Qormi Road, Marsa.

### 24.11

A machine stamp cancelling slogan reading: “Gimgha – Xjenza U – Teknologija '97 – 24-30 Ta' Novembru” and logo, was used from November 24-30 1997 at the Central Mail Room, Marsa.

### 24.11

With effect from today the Valletta Postmen's Section was moved from Victory Square Valletta to 75 Old Bakery Street, Valletta, to serve the Valletta and Floriana District.

## 04.12

It was notified that no post to Canada was being accepted for the time being because of a postal strike in that country.

## 05.12

The "Commemorations 1997" postage stamp set of four stamps, designed by the Graphic Design Section of the Post Office, issued today. A special hand postmark was used for cancellation of philatelic mail on the first day of issue.

## 19.12

The Maltese postal authorities are once again accepting post to Canada with immediate effect, as the postal strike there has now ended.



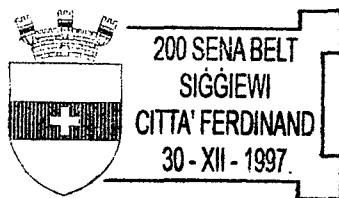
## 22.12

The Year Pack N° 10 was issued today. It features old Malta picture postcards on the outer cover and consists of a descriptive colour folder in four languages — English, French, German and Italian. The Year Pack contains all these stamps issued during 1997 mounted in clear acetate strips.

A postcard which may also be bought separately, is included in the Year Pack. The postcard depicts the 16c stamp of the issue commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Victoria Lines.

## 30.12

A special hand postmark was used at the Siggiewi SPO on December 30 1997 only, on the occasion of the 200th Anniversary of the proclamation of Siggiewi as Città Ferdinand. The special hand postmark was used during normal office hours and is inscribed as follows: "200 Sena Belt — Siggiewi — Città Ferdinand — 30-XII-1997".



Special envelopes and cards were prepared by the Siggiewi Local Council for the occasion.

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## Errata:

Vol.27/2-3 August-December 1998

Page21 (Diary)

The date 19.08.96 should be 12.08.96

The date 02.09.96 should be 19.08.96

The date 30.08.96 (slogan) should be 02 – 09 – 96

Page 28: Perforation of Margins:

Issue Y: In the 5 c value, the top margin of Pane A is imperforate, whilst the other three margins of this same Pane are all perforated.

# 150th Anniversary – Birth of Giuseppe Cali – X Mechanised Transport – Y

by J. Farrugia

	X	Y
Date of Issue	22.08.96	26.09.96
Values	.5c, 14c, 20c, 25c	.2c, 5c, 14c, 30c
Stamp Size	.44x3mm (5c, 14c)	.44x31mm
	.31x44 (20c, 25c)	
Art Designer	.Debbie Caruana Dingli	.Richard J. Caruana
Printers	.Printex Ltd	.Printex Ltd
Process	.Lithography	.Lithography
Perforation	.13.9x14 (5c, 14c)	.13.9x14
	.14x13.9 (20c, 25c)	
Watermark	.Sideways (5c, 14c)	.Maltese Crosses Sideways
	.Upright (20c, 25c)	
Paper	.Chalk Surfaced	.Chalk Surfaced
Gum	.PVA	.PVA

## Colours

These two sets were printed in the four colour process using the standard CMYK (Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Black) process colours for each value. The progressive sheets in issues X and Y were printed in the following order: Black-Cyan-Magenta-Yellow.

Colour checks in the form of coloured discs 3mm in diameter were printed in four different positions on the margins, of each Pane, of each value. They are seen next to the first and last stamps, of the top and bottom rows, in issues X and Y. The colours from top to bottom correspond to the colours used for Pane numbers, from left to right, in all positions.

Cumulative totals of progressive columns of stamps are seen in the bottom margin only, in all Panes, of all values, printed in black, in issues X and Y.

Issue X – The Printed Sheet of each value consisted of two Panes, A and B. Each Pane has fifty stamps made up of ten rows of five stamps (5c, 14c), and five rows of ten stamps (20c, 25c). The 5c and 14c stamps are of the horizontal format whilst the 20c and 25c stamps are of the vertical format.

Issue Y – The Printed Sheet of each value consisted of two Panes, A and B. Each Pane has fifty stamps made up of ten rows of five stamps. All stamps are of the horizontal format.

## Perforation of Margins

Issue X – In the 5c and 14c values, the top margins of Panes A and B are imperforate. The other three margins of these same Panes are all perforated. In the 20c value, the right hand margins of Panes A and B are imperforate. The other three margins of these same Panes are all perforated. In the 25c value,

the left hand margins of Panes A and B are imperforate, whilst the other three margins of these same Panes are all perforated. The usual printing registration mark was seen at each corner of the Printed Sheet, in all values. If they were not eliminated during the cutting of the Printed Sheets into Panes, they could be seen at the top and bottom of the left hand and right hand margins of Panes A and B respectively in the 5c and 14c values, but at each end of the top and bottom margins of Panes A and B respectively of the 20c and 25c values. Another printing mark consisting of a circle, 1 cm in diameter, enclosing the words "Posta Ltd" and "Malta" and the 'postal horn' can be seen in the left and right hand margins of each Pane, in each value. The circle and the 'Malta' are printed in black, 'Posta Ltd' is printed in magenta and the 'postal horn' printed in yellow. In the 5c and 14c values, it is seen at each end of the fifth row, of each Pane, and in the 20c and 25c values, at each end of the middle row, of each Pane.

Issue Y – The top margins of Panes A and B, of all values, are imperforate. The other three margins of these Panes are all perforated. The usual printing registration mark, may be seen at the top and bottom, of the left and right hand margins of Panes A and B respectively, of each value, unless they were eliminated during cutting of Printed Sheets into Panes. Another printing mark consisting of a circle, 1cm in diameter enclosing the words 'Posta Ltd' and 'Malta' plus the 'postal horn', all printed in black, can be seen in the left and right hand margins, of each Pane, in each value, next to the fifth row of stamps.

### Plate/Pane Numbers

These like the colour checks, were printed in four different positions on the margins, of each Pane, in all values of issues X and Y. They are seen above the first and last stamps of the top row and also under the first and last stamps of the bottom row in each Pane.

Issue X –    5c = 1A x 4, 1B x 4  
               14c = 1A x 4, 1B x 4  
               20c = 1A x 4, 1B x 4  
               25c = 1A x 4, 1B x 4

Issue Y –    2c = 1A x 4, 1B x 4  
               5c = 1A x 4, 1B x 4  
               14c = 1A x 4, 1B x 4  
               30c = 1A x 4, 1B x 4

From a study of details given, the Printed Sheets of all values before cutting into Panes, would look as shown in figure (a) for the 5c and 14c values of issue X and for all the values of issue Y, but as shown in fig (b) for the 20c and 25c values of issue X. Looking at the Printed Sheets as shown, stamps of all values of issues X and Y, would be seen the right way up, hence why watermark is Sideways on the 5c and 14c values of issue X and all values of issue Y, but upright in the 20c and 25c values of issue X. Perforator ran from top to bottom in fig (a) for the values 5c and 14c of issue X as well as for all the values of issue Y. In fig (b), perforator ran from right to left for the 20c value of issue X, but left to right for the 25c value of the same issue X.

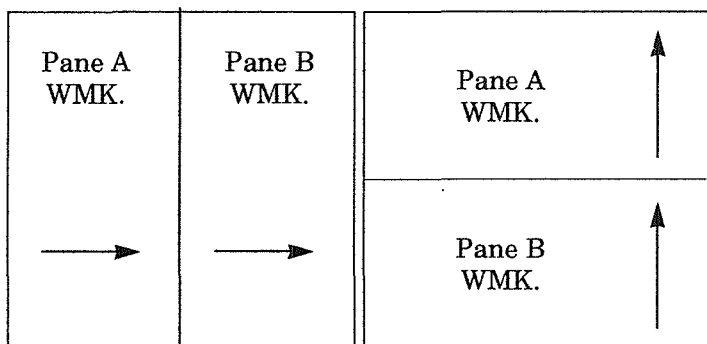


Fig. (a)

Fig. (b)

### Imprint Blocks

The Imprint 'PRINTEX LIMITED MALTA' is seen under the middle stamp, of the bottom row, in each Pane, of the 5c and 14c values of issue X and in each Pane of all the values of issue Y, but under the fifth and sixth stamps of the bottom row of each Pane in the 20c and 25c values of issue X. Letters are 1mm high and printed in black. An imprint block of four, of any value, will contain only the Imprint.

A special hand postmark was used for cancellation on the first day of each issue. Stamps of these issues were withdrawn from sale on August 20 1997 (issue X) and September 17, 1997 (issue Y) unless stocks were previously exhausted.

On the first day of issue, sales amounted to Lm19,111 (issue X) and Lm15,005 (issue Y).

## Brian Hobbs

By Dr A. Bonnici

It was with great sadness that we in Malta received the news that Bryan Hobbs had passed peacefully away. Bryan was the Hon. Secretary of the UK-Malta study Circle since 1991, and Hon. Editor for the Malta Newsletter from 1996.

He was a frequent visitor to Malta, attending our meetings delighting us all by his eloquent philatelic dissertations and exhibits. His last visit was when he had organised the successful Malta Study visit in October 1998.

We will miss him.

We extend our condolences to his wife, Marie, and their two daughters.

# Christmas 1996 – X

## Treasures of Malta – Sedan Chairs – Y

by J. Farrugia

	X	Y
Date of Issue	.07.11.96	.11.04.97
Values	.5c, 5c+2c, 14c+3c, 25c+3c	.2c, 6c, 16c, 27c
Stamp Size	.61x25mm (5c)	.44x31mm (2c, 6c)
	.30x35mm (other values)	.31x44mm (16c, 27c)
Art Designer	.Harry Borg	.Design Section Posta Ltd
Printers	.Printex Ltd	.Printex Ltd
Process	.Lithography	.Lithography
Perforation	.13.6x13.4 (5c)	.13.9x14 (2c, 6c)
	.13.8x13.6 (other values)	.14x13.9 (16c, 27c)
Watermark	.Sideways (5c)	.Sideways (2c, 6c)
	.Upright (other values)	.Upright (16c, 27c)
Paper	.Chalk Surfaced	.Chalk Surfaced
Gum	.PVA	.PVA

### Colours

These two sets were printed in the four colour process using the standard CMYK (Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Black) process colours for each value. The progressive sheets in issues X and Y were printed in the following order: Black-Cyan-Magenta-Yellow.

Colour checks in the form of coloured discs 3mm in diameter were printed in four different positions on the margins, of each Pane, of each value. They are seen next to the first and last stamps, of the top and bottom rows, in issues X and Y. The colours from top to bottom correspond to the colours used for Pane numbers, from left to right, in all positions.

Cumulative totals of progressive columns of stamps are seen in the bottom margin only, in all Panes, of all values, printed in black, in issues X and Y.

Issue X – The Printed Sheet of each of the three values 5c+2c, 14c+3c and 25c+3c consisted of two Panes, A and B. Each Pane has fifty stamps made up of five rows of ten stamps. All three stamps are of the vertical format. The Printed Sheet of the 5c value consisted only of Pane A. This Pane has fifty stamps made up of ten rows of five stamps. The 5c stamp is of the horizontal format.

Issue Y – The Printed Sheet of each value consisted of two Panes, A and B. Each Pane has fifty stamps made up of ten rows of five stamps (values 2c and 6c) and five rows of ten stamps (values 16c and 27c). Values 2c and 6c are of



the horizontal format and values 16c and 27c are of the vertical format.

### Perforation of Margins

Issue X – The left hand margins of Panes A and B in the 5c+2c, 14c+3c and 25c+3c values are imperforate. The other three margins of these same Panes are all perforated. In the 5c value, the top margin of Pane A is imperforate, whilst the other three margins of this same Pane are perforated. The usual printing registration mark, was seen as usual, at each corner of the Printed Sheets, but they were too far out to be still seen on Panes when cutting took place. The logo of MaltaPost can be seen in the left and right hand margins of each Pane, in all values. The circle and the word “Malta” are printed in black, the ‘postal horn’ in yellow and the words “Posta Ltd” in magenta. In the 5c value, it is seen next to the fifth row and in the other three values it is seen next to the third or middle row in each Pane.

Issue Y – In the 2c and 6c values the top margins of Panes A and B are imperforate. The other three margins of these same Panes are all perforated. In the 16c and 27c values the left hand margins of Panes A and B are imperforate. The other three margins of these same Panes are all perforated. The usual printing registration marks were seen in each corner of the Printed Sheet of the 2c and 6c values, but only at each end, of the right hand margin of the Printed Sheet of the 16c and 27c values. So unless they were eliminated during cutting of Printed Sheets into Panes, these registration marks may be seen at the top and bottom of the left and right hand margins of Panes A and B respectively in the 2c and 6c values, but at the top of the right hand margin of Pane A and at the bottom of the right hand margin of Pane B in the 16c and 27c values. The logo of Malta Post can be seen in the left and right hand margins of Panes A and B, next to the fifth row in the 2c and 6c values but next to the middle row of Panes A and B in the 16c and 27c values. The circle and “Malta” are printed in black, “Posta Ltd” in magenta and the ‘postal horn’ in yellow.

### Plate/Pane Numbers

These like the colour checks were printed in four different positions on the margins of each Pane, in all values of issues X and Y. They are seen above the first and last stamps of the top row, and also below the first and last stamps of the bottom row, in each Pane.

Issue X –	5c =	1Ax4	Issue Y –	2c =	1A x 4, 1B x 4
	5c+2c =	1Ax4, 1B x 4		6c =	1A x 4, 1B x 4
	14c+3c =	1Ax4, 1B x 4		16c =	1A x 4, 1B x 4
	25c+3c =	1Ax4, 1B x 4		27c =	1A x 4, 1B x 4

From a study of details given, the Printed Sheets of all values, before cutting into Panes, would look as shown in fig (b), for the 5c+2c, 14c+3c and 25c+3c values of issue X and for the 16c and 27c values of issue Y, but as shown in

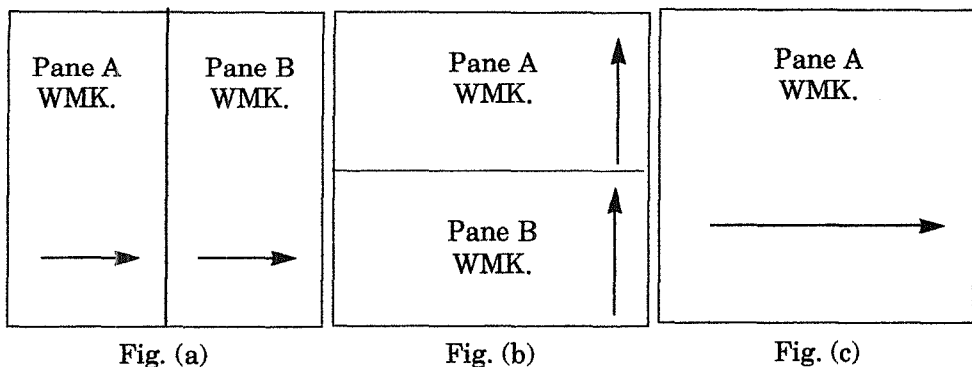


figure (a) for the 2c and 6c values of issue Y. The 5c value of issue X is shown in fig (c). Looking at the Printed Sheets as shown stamps of all values of issues X and Y would be seen the right way up, hence why watermark is Sideways in the 5c value of issue X and in the 2c and 6c values of issue Y, but Upright in the 5c+2c, 14c+3c and 25c+3c values of issue X as well as in the 16c and 27c values of issue Y. Perforator ran from top to bottom in fig (a), left to right in fig (b) and from top to bottom in fig (c).

### Imprint Blocks

The Imprint 'PRINTEX LIMITED MALTA', printed in black is seen under the middle stamp of the bottom row, in Panes A of the 5c value of issue X and in Panes A and B of the 2c and 6c values of issue Y, but under the fifth and sixth stamps of the bottom row, in Panes A and B of the 5c+2c, 14c+3c and 25c+3c of issue X as well as in the 16c and 27c values of issue Y. Letters are 1mm high. An Imprint Block of four, of any value, in issues X and Y, will contain only the Imprint.

A special hand postmark was used for cancellation on the first day of both issues. Stamps of these issues were withdrawn from sale on March 12, 1997 (issue X) and on April 16, 1998 (issue Y) unless stocks were previously exhausted.

On the first day of issue, sales amounted to Lm16,021 (issue X) and Lm15,646 (issue Y).

**Note: Between the dates of issue of the above mentioned two sets, in fact on February 20, 1997, the set "Maltese Cities 1797-1997" was also issued. Detailed information about this set was given in Vol.26 N° 1, April 1997.**

# EUROPA 1997 ISSUE

by J. Farrugia

Date of Issue	May5, 1997
Values	16c and 35c
Stamp Size	27x33mm
Art Designer	J. Mallia
Printers	Printex Limited
Process	Lithography
Perforation	13.8x13.7
Watermark	Maltese Crosses Sideways
Paper	Chalk Surfaced
Gum	PVA

## Colours

This issue was printed in the four-colour process using the standard CMYK (Cyan-Magenta-Yellow-Black) process colours for each value. The progressive sheets were printed in the following order: Black, Cyan, Magenta, Yellow. Both stamps are of the vertical format.

A Pane of ten stamps of each value, is divided into twelve spaces, three rows of four. In the first space, of the top row, of both values, are printed the following: "Hrejġef u Legġendi – Europa '97 – Stories and Legends". The last part is a translation of the first part, which is in Maltese. In the second space of the top row, can be seen an antique 'doorknocker' (16c value) and an antique 'candlestick' (35c value). The value of the whole Pane of stamps is seen in the top margin, above the second and third spaces of the top row, printed in black.

Colour checks in the form of coloured discs 3mm in diameter are seen in four different positions on the margins of each Pane, of both values. The first two positions are next to the first and last spaces of the top row, and the other two positions are next to the first and last spaces of the bottom row, in each Pane, of both values. The colours from top to bottom correspond to the colours used for Pane numbers from left to right, in all positions, in all Panes, of both values. Another printing mark is seen in the left and right hand margins of each Pane, next to the first and last stamps of the middle row. It consists of a circle 1 cm in diameter, enclosing the 'Postal Horn' and the words "Posta Ltd – Malta".

The Printed Sheet of each value consisted of nine Panes of ten stamps, A to I.

## Plate/Pane Numbers

These again, like the colour checks are seen in four different positions on the margins, of each Pane, of both values. The first two positions are above the first and last spaces of the top row, and the other two positions are below the first and last stamps of the bottom row, in each Pane, of both values.

Pane A WMK →	Pane B WMK →	Pane C WMK →
Pane D WMK →	Pane E WMK →	Pane F WMK →
Pane G WMK →	Pane H WMK →	Pane I WMK →

16c = 1A x 4 up to and including 1I x 4

35c = 1A x 4 up to and including 1I x 4

### Perforation of Margins

The top margins of Panes A, B and C are imperforate. The other three margins of these same Panes, plus the four margins of all the Panes from D to I are all perforated.

From a study of details given, the Printed Sheet of each value, before cutting into Panes, would look as shown in the figure. Looking at the Printed Sheet as shown, stamps of both values would be seen the right way up, hence why watermark in both values is sideways. Perforator ran from top to bottom.

### Imprint Blocks

The Imprint 'PRINTEX LIMITED MALTA' is seen below the third space of the bottom row, in each Pane, of both values. Letters are 1mm high and printed in black. An Imprint Block of four, from each value, can include the Imprint, the colour checks, the Pane numbers and also the 1cm diameter circle mentioned earlier.

A special handstamp was used for cancellation on the first day of issue. This set will remain on sale up to May 6, 1998, unless stocks were previously exhausted.

First day sales amounted to Lm57,478.

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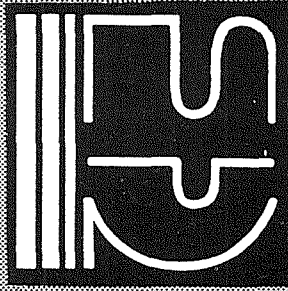
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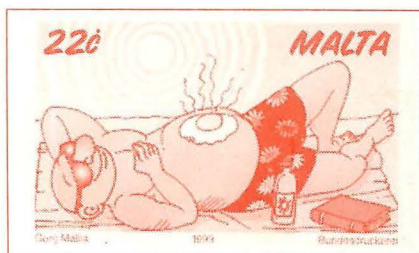
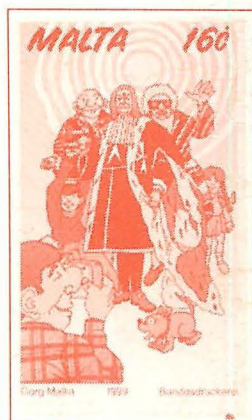
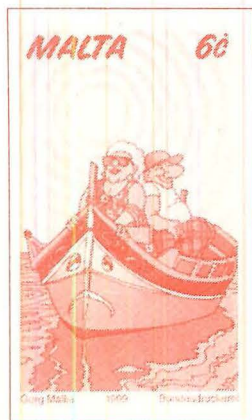
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# TOURISM ISSUE



Date of Issue:  
16th June 1999

Design:  
Görg Mallia

Date of withdrawal:  
16th June 2000

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