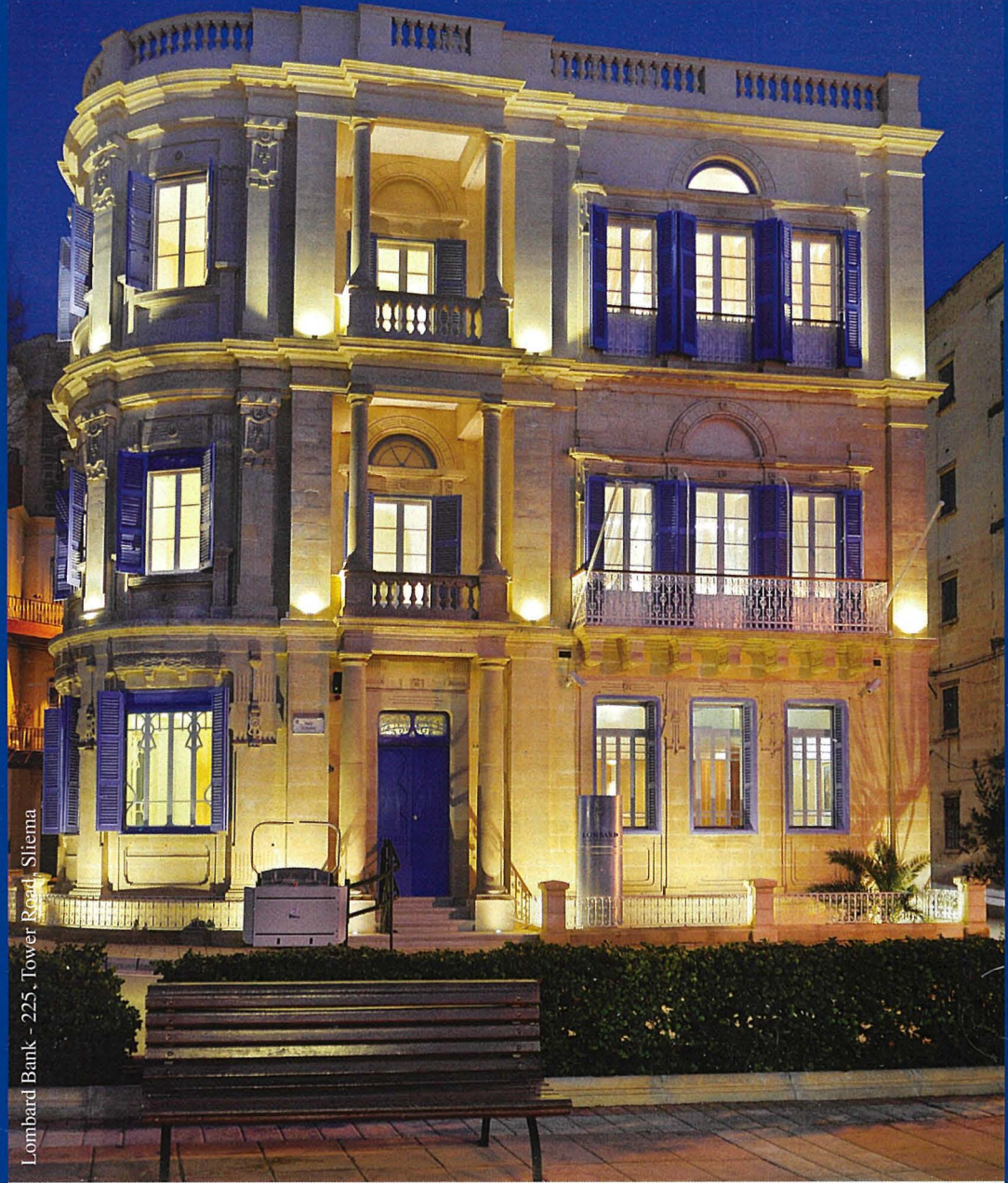


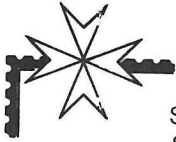
Journal of
THE MALTA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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THE CABBAGE BUTTERFLY - INTERESTING FACTS

Vladimir Kachan, Belarus



Amongst the most common butterflies in Malta is the Cabbage White (*Pieris brassicae*), which often lives in open spaces. The caterpillars of this butterfly often feed on the cabbage, in fact in Maltese the butterfly is known as ‘Farfett tal-Kaboċċa’ (Figure



Figure 1 – Stamp of Malta 2002

1). This butterfly is a well-known migrant, in fact, in Malta it is most often encountered in spring and autumn. The Cabbage butterfly with scientific name *Pieris brassicae* also known as the Large White is a butterfly in the family Pieridae. The Large White is common throughout Europe, north Africa, and Asia to the Himalayas often in agricultural areas, meadows and parkland. It has managed to establish a population in South Africa and in 1995 it was

predicted to spread to Australia. The Large White is a strong flier and the British population is reinforced in most years by migrations from the continent. In 2010 the butterfly was found in Nelson, New Zealand where it is known as the Great White Butterfly. The caterpillars feeds on cabbage (*Brassica oleracea*), completely stripping the leaves. This is a notorious agricultural pest, commonly known as the Cabbage White.

The first postage stamp with the image of this butterfly was issued by the post of Switzerland in 1956 (Figure 2) in set stamps Pro Juventute. The words Pro Juventute are Latin for “For the Children.” Like the country name on Swiss

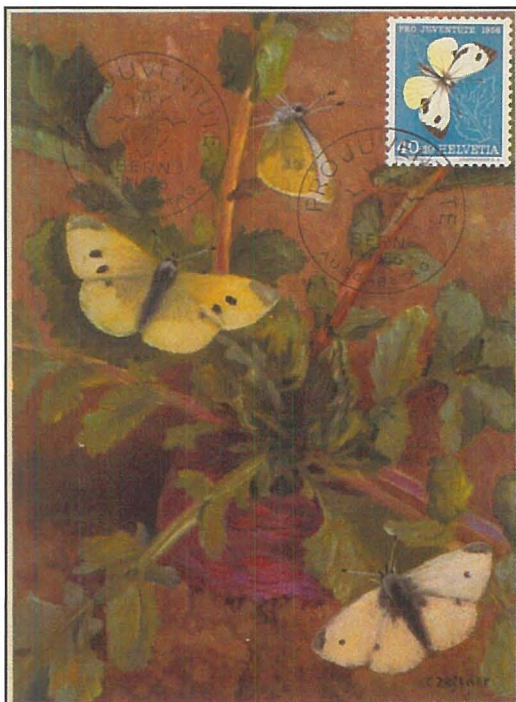


Figure 2 – Maximum card of Switzerland 1956 with Cabbage butterfly



Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5

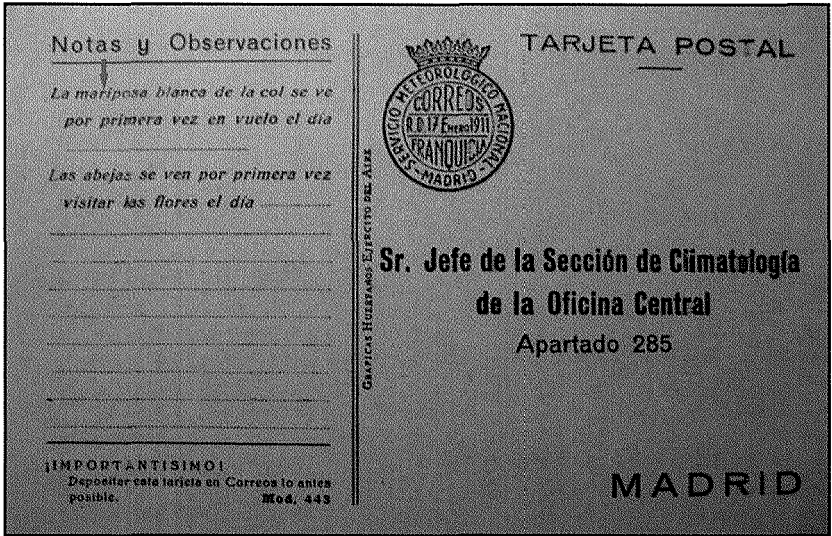
stamps. Helvetia, the neutral language in a multilingual country was Latin. Stamps were printed in sheets of 50 pieces and have descriptive marginal tabs in German, French, Italian (in each of the three principal languages spoken in Switzerland) and in Latin. So you can find postage stamps of Switzerland with the Cabbage butterfly and name Kohlweissling in German (Figure 3), name Pieride du chou in French (Figure 4), name Cavolaia maggiore in Italian (Figure 5) and name *Pieris brassicae* in Latin (Figure 6).

The Cabbage butterfly has the name in Spanish as mariposa blanca de la col. This name of the butterfly is found on the postcards of National Meteorological Service of Spain. Since its creation in 1887, the State Meteorological Agency of Spain (AEMET) has extended its network of observatories through all the national territory, from the big cities to the smallest and remote villages. In these, observations are usually made at the Civil Guard, Forest Service, Monasteries, Schools, Hydraulic stations, etc. And are verified by the monks, guards, foremen, teachers, who collect them in postcards with franchise of the Post Office and send them to the Center Meteorological Zone where, after being processed, they are sent to AEMET. Granted the franchises by the Royal Decree of January 17, 1911 and the Ministerial Order of July 9, 1951, over time and following



Figure 6

Figure 7 –
Stationery
card of
Spain
1911



the avatars of national policy, have appeared various variants of post cards, especially referred to the different emblems, the color of the paper in which they are printed or the imprint that they show. One of the variants of such postcard of National Meteorological Service in Madrid dated 1911 contains the text “The white cabbage butterfly is seen for the first time in flight the day” (Figure 7). Another type of such stationery card dated 1911 is known, which contains an additional emblem of the Ministry of the Air (Figure 8). Similar stationery card with Cabbage butterfly (in other color) also was issued in Spain in 1951 (Figure 9).

Why was the Cabbage butterfly chosen for meteorological observations in Spain? Because this butterfly is a migratory species. The Cabbage butterfly are found throughout most of Eurasia, though there are some seasonal fluctuations present due to migration. The northern populations tend to be

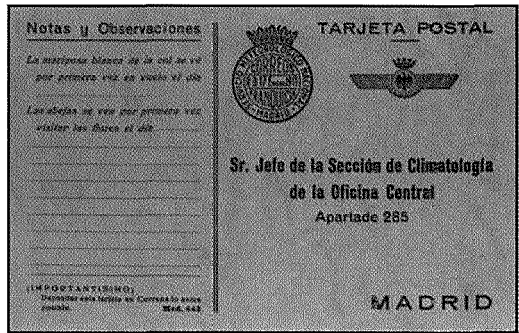


Figure 8

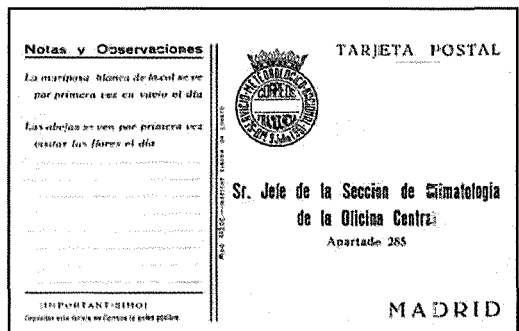


Figure 9

augmented during the summer migration season from butterflies from southern areas. The Cabbage butterflies fly starting early spring, and keep migrating until seasons shift to autumn and the resultant cold weather. This means the Cabbage butterflies typically take two to three flights per butterfly reproductive season. The Cabbage butterfly migration patterns are typically observed only when there is a disturbance. In general, the Cabbage butterfly's migratory patterns are atypical; normally, butterflies fly towards the poles in the spring, and towards the more temperate Equator during the fall. However, they fly in random directions, excluding north, in the spring, and there is little return migration observed. However, it has been hard to track entire migratory paths, since these butterflies can migrate more than 800 kilometres; thus, individual butterflies may not migrate the 800 kilometres, but rather that other butterflies start their migrations from where the other butterflies ended.

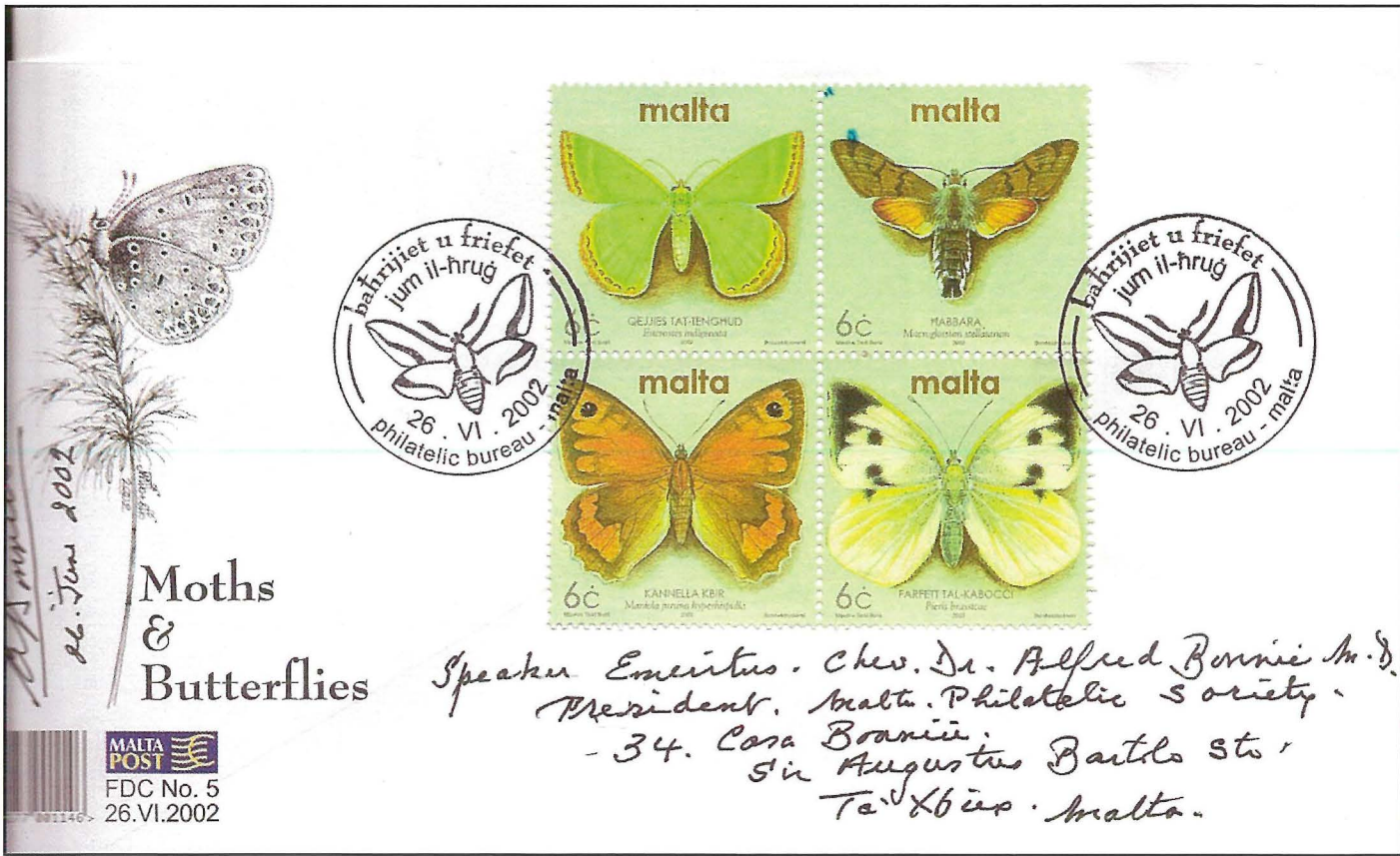
A false AIDS virus, which induces immunity without causing any infection, is being developed in Britain as the best means of arriving at an effective AIDS vaccine. The false virus is made from caterpillars of Cabbage butterfly, and include a substance once used by Brazilian Indians to staunch poison-arrow wounds. The false AIDS virus is being made by the Medical Research Council – using a substance called glycoprotein 120, which is found in the 'envelope' covering the virus. To obtain this protein in large quantities the gene producing it has been transferred from the AIDS virus to an insect virus which infects caterpillars. Caterpillars of Cabbage butterfly (**Figure 10**)



Figure 10 – Maximum card of Portugal Azores 1984



Malta butterfly sheet series, issued by Malta Post on 26 June 2002, featuring “Farfet tal-*Kaboċċa*”, second bottom row



Moths & Butterflies

26. Jun 2002

MALTA POST
FDC No. 5
26.VI.2002

Speaker Emeritus. Chev. Dr. Alfred Bonnici M.S.
President, Malta Philatelic Society.
- 34. Casa Bonnici.
5in Augustus Bartho St.,
Ta' Xbier, Malta.

FDC, issued on 26 June 2002, featuring "Farfett tal-Kaboċċa", second bottom row

are a very convenient way of obtaining a protein as they can be grown on cabbages, or something similar, and about 25% of their body weight is the protein which is used in the vaccine.

A team of experts from the University of Exeter in Cornwall (USA) has examined new techniques for generating photovoltaic (PV) energy -- or ways in which to convert light into power. They showed that by mimicking the v-shape posture adopted by Cabbage butterflies to heat up their flight muscles before take-off, the amount of power produced by solar panels can increase by almost 50 per cent. Crucially, by replicating this 'wing-like' structure, the power-to-weight ratio of the overall solar energy structure is increased 17-fold, making it vastly more efficient. The Cabbage butterflies are known to take flight before other butterflies on cloudy days -- which limit how quickly the insects can use the energy from the sun to heat their flight muscles. This ability is thought to be due to the v-shaped posturing, known as reflectance basking, they adopt on such days to maximise the concentration of solar energy onto their thorax, which allows for flight. Furthermore, specific sub-structures of the butterflies' wings allow the light from the sun to be reflected most efficiently, ensuring that the flight muscles are warmed to an optimal temperature as quickly as possible. The team of scientists therefore investigated how to replicate the wings to develop a new, lightweight reflective material that could be used in solar energy production. The team found that the optimal angle by which the butterfly should hold its wings to increase temperature to its body was around 17 degrees, which increased the temperature by 7.3 degrees Centigrade compared to when held flat. They also showed that by replicating the simple mono-layer of scale cells found in the butterfly wings in solar energy producers, they could vastly improve the power-to-weight ratios of future solar concentrators, making them significantly lighter and so more efficient. The Cabbage butterfly (**Figure 11**) is not just a pest of your cabbages but actually an insect that is an expert at harvesting solar energy.

The Cabbage butterfly is very numerous



Figure 11 – Stamp of Yugoslavia 1974



Figure 12 – stamp of Ghana 1998

and so popular that the famous Spanish artist Pablo Picasso painted it in the painting “Composition with Butterfly” in 1932 (Figure 12). Even there is a coat of arms with the image of the Cabbage butterfly. The emblem of the Municipality of Masate in Italy tends to highlight, with visual immediacy, the predominantly agricultural characteristics of its land and its economy. Therefore the Cabbage butterfly emphasizes the distinctly agricultural character of the area on the coat of arms (Figure 13).



Figure 13 – Meter mark of Italy 1999 with the Cabbage butterfly on the coat of arms the Municipality Masate

Every female of the Cabbage butterfly deposit from 200 to 300 eggs in several groups on cultivated plants. Under favorable conditions, the mass of the offspring of a females of the Cabbage butterfly whiting may amount to 822 million tons per year which is 3 times greater than the weight of the entire population of our



Figure 14 – Stationery card of Belgium 2012 with Cabbage butterfly

planet (**Figure 14**). But huge quantities of butterflies, eggs and larvae fall victims to hungry frogs, toads, lizards, wasps, dragonflies, spiders and robber flies. Larval feeding on various Brassicaceae, although sometimes localized, may lead to 100% crop loss in certain areas at certain times.

I wish for enthusiasts of butterfly thematic philately had new discoveries and enjoyment. The Author is ready to help for philatelists in creating of philatelic exhibits on butterflies and moths. His address: Vladimir Kachan, street Kulibina 9-49, Minsk-52, BY-220052, Republic of Belarus, E-mail: vladimirkachan@mail.ru

“Due to the difficult, turbulent
and unpredictable times
we are presently living in
due to the Covid19 virus pandemic,
the Society is not in a position to advise
when the next member’s monthly meeting
is going to be held.

The MPS Committee is sure
that everyone understands
the seriousness of the situation
and that it will only be wise
to hold such events
once things will have returned to ‘normal’.”

May/June 2020

RATES OF POSTAGE IN MALTA 1815-1819

Albert Ganado

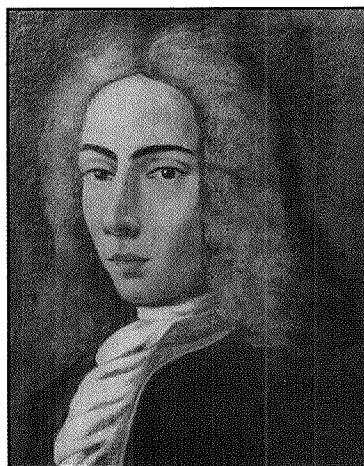
In the early days of British rule when Malta was a trade emporium, it was hit by a widespread plague epidemic which carried away 4,572 persons – not as bad as that of 1675-76 which left more than double that figure as victims. Towards the end of July 1813 there was a slight decrease in the incidence of cases, which improved in the following month with life getting back to normal.

On August 20th 1813 the *Ufficio della Posta* was housed in the Treasury at 247 Strada Reale (now Republic Street), Valletta, (since 1852, now the premises of the prestigious club Casino Maltese,¹) where it remained until 1849.

Around 1805 Domenico Montanaro² was appointed *Direttore della Posta* in succession to Gio Antonio Micallef (1781-1841), and he was in charge of both inland and overseas mail.³ He served until 31 December 1816. On 20 August 1813 he issued in Italian a tariff which covered the local charges on both Inland and Foreign Letters. It is being reproduced herewith.⁴ (Fig. 2)

According to this Tariff:

- a. each letter handed to the messenger of the respective districts was to be charged One Tari;
- b. each letter sent from the Post Office would be charged Ten Grani on delivery;



Portrait of Domenico Montanaro (1759-1839). Author's collection

¹ A. Ganado, 'The Officina della Posta and its functionaries', *The PSM* (Philatelic Society of Malta) *Magazine*, xii (3), 1983, fn. 9.

² Domenico Montanaro was born in Valletta on 25 June 1759. He was probably the son of Severio and Anna Bonanno who were married at St Paul's Collegiate Church on 13 February 1744. In 1815 his yearly salary was 100 *scudi*, at the rate of 12 *scudi* to the pound sterling. He lived at 27 Strada San Domenico, Valletta. Died on 13 May 1839. His portrait was published in the monograph listed in the next footnote.

³ A. Ganado, 'The growth of the Malta General Post Office 1802-1806', *The PSM Magazine*, xv (3), 1986, 10, (with his portrait).

⁴ An English translation of this Notice was published in *Malta – The stamps and postal history 1576-1960*, (The Malta Study Circle), ed. R. E. Martin, London, 1980, 73. A copy of the original, printed in Italian, is in the author's collection.

- c. letters from abroad would be charged Two Tari on delivery;
- d. letters addressed to persons on board ships, in the country, or in Gozo would be charged One Tari Ten Grani, except that in Gozo there is free delivery;
- e. letters for Sicily or any other parts beyond Malta and Gozo would be charged Two Tari.⁵

In 1817 the British merchants in Malta considered far too high the rates of postage then obtaining and they opined that the rates, both inwards and outwards, which they considered fully adequate should be One Tari for a single letter, Two Tari for any other letter weighing less than an ounce, and Three Tari per ounce for all the other letters.⁶ The memorandum of the British merchants was dated 29 January 1817 during the governorship of Sir Thomas Maitland. It dealt with the state of the Trade of Malta, some of the causes of its decline and the means of reviving it in some degree.

The postal service was severely criticized. The charge of postage was a great burden on the merchants. The delay in delivering letters from on board vessels in quarantine had long been prejudicial without any remedy being taken. The timing of advertising the day of departure or clearing vessels was inadequate. It was at all times essential to the merchants to know by what vessels their letters go. Whenever the mail is not closed at the time appointed it would be useful to have notice thereof.

By a Notice dated 20 May 1819 the rates were increased. Single letters Two Tari, all other letters under one ounce Three Tari, one ounce and other two ounces Six Tari, two ounces One Scudo, above two ounces Six Tari per ounce or any part thereof. The rates were slightly higher for letters fumigated in the Quarantine Office.

New rates in British currency were introduced on 25 August 1825.⁷

I owe a debt of gratitude to Joseph Schirò for typing this article.

⁵ The currency in Malta was still that operating during the rule of the Order of St John, namely, the scudo was equivalent to 12 Tari, each Tari consisting of 20 Grani. A scudo was generally equivalent to 1s. 8d.

⁶ Michela D'Angelo, *Mercanti inglesi a Malta 1800-1825*, Milan, 1990, 269-270. On Maitland's conflict with the merchants see also Patrick Staines, *Essays on Governing Malta II (1813-1835)*, Malta, 2015, 163-176, but no reference to the postal service was made.

⁷ See R. E. Martin's book (fn. 4 above), loc. cit.

UFFICIO DELLA POSTA

PIAZZA TESORERIA.

TARIFFA

	Tan	Gran
Per ogni Lettera che sarà consegnata alli Messaggieri dei rispettivi Distretti, si pagherà - - - - -	1	—
Per ogni Lettera che sarà mandata dall' Ufficio della Posta si pagherà nella Consegna - - - - -	—	10
Per quelle Lettere indirizzate a Persone abbordo dei Bastimenti, in Campagna, od al Gozo, [<i>le quali si congeneranno Gratis,</i>] si pagherà - - - - -	1	10
Per le Lettere indirizzate per Sicilia, ed altre parti fuori dell' Isola, si pagherà - - - - -	2	—
Per le Lettere provenienti da fuori dell' Isola, si pagherà nella Consegna - - - - -	2	—

Nessuna Lettera sarà ricevuta per Malta, e Gozo, che conterra più di due foglj di carta ; e quelle lettere indirizzate per Sicilia od altre parti fuori di quest' Isole, bisogna che siano d' un semplice foglio.

Valletta, 20. Agosto 1813.

Figure 2: The original printed document fixing the rates of postage on 20 August 1813. Author's collection

POSTAL DIARY

14TH MARCH - 14TH NOVEMBER 2019

Compiled by
John V. De Battista

14th March

MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office situated at ‘Tronic Peach’, Triq iċ-Ċitru, Iklin IKL 1081, will be closed on Saturday 16th March.

On this day, the public was invited that if it so wishes it could make use of the postal services provided from the nearest alternative, namely Naxxar Post Office situated in the Civic Centre, Vjal il-Wieħed u Ghoxrin ta’ Settembru, Naxxar NXR 1018.

In another media communication, it also informed the public that the Sub Post Offices at ‘Needs Stationery’, situated at 1, Triq il-Vajrita, Marsascala MSK 3306 and ‘Malton Stationery’, 7, Triq Censu Xerri, Sliema SLM 3062 will be closed on Monday 18th March.

On this day, Marsascala residents were advised that they may alternatively use the postal services provided from Żabbar Post Office situated at the Civic Centre, Triq il-Kunvent, Żabbar ŻBR 1351.

Sliema residents were advised that similarly they may make use of the postal services provided from the Sliema Post Offices situated at 118, Triq Manwel Dimeċi Sliema SLM 1055 and 9, Triq Sir Adrian Dingli, Sliema SLM 1902

In its third media communication for the day, MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office situated at ‘Aquavel’, Triq San Bartilmew, Ghargħur GHR 1014, will be closed between Monday 18th March and Thursday 21st March.

During this period, the public was advised that if it so wishes it may use the postal services provided from the Naxxar Post Office located in the Civic Centre, Vjal il-Wieħed u Ghoxrin ta’ Settembru, Naxxar NXR 1018.

In the final media communication issued today, MaltaPost also informed the public that the Sub Post Office situated at ‘Electroit Stationery’ at Fredrick Maemple Square, Qormi QRM 1011, will be closed between Saturday 16th March and Monday 18th March.

During this period, the public was advised that it may wish to make use of the nearest alternative postal location, namely the Qormi Post Office situated at 343, Victory Street, Qormi QRM2504.

18th March

Today MaltaPost also announced that it will be participating in the Milanofil stamp fair between 22nd and 23rd March in Italy. The stamp fair is an annual event where international postal operators showcase their philatelic items. MaltaPost's Philatelic Bureau will be participating in this fair with a variety of Maltese stamps related to various popular themes. For this event, the Philatelic Bureau will issue an Occasion Card, Personalised Stamp/Cover and a philatelic numismatic cover featuring the exhibition logo. The Occasion Card (Number 54) will be available for sale from Friday 22nd March at all Post Offices. Orders for the Personalised Stamp/Cover could be placed online at www.maltaphilately.com or by mail from the Philatelic Bureau, MaltaPost, 305, Qormi Road, Marsa, MTP 1001.



A purely “philatelic” hand stamp was also prepared for the occasion for use solely by the Philatelic Bureau. The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed “MILANOFIL STAMP FAIR - 2019” along the outside bordering the ring, and “* MALTAPOST – PHILATELIC BUREAU - MALTA *” bordering the ring on the inner side. The words and dates of use “JUM IL-ĦRUĠ/22-23.03.19” in straight lines are to be found below the 2019 Fair logo positioned at the top centre of the hand stamp. Philatelists noted that it was curious that the words “JUM IL-ĦRUĠ” (First Day of Issue) were incorporated in a hand stamp on which a period covering two days is inscribed!

20th March

MaltaPost today informed the public that the Sub Post Office at ‘Step in’, Misrah ir-Rebħa, il-Birgu BRG 1300, will be closed between Monday 25th March and Saturday 30th March.

As an alternative, the public was advised that during this period, it may wish to use the postal services provided from the Bormla Post Office at Block No 14, Flat No. 12, Fuq San Pawl, Bormla BML 1910.

01st April

As part of its commitment to increase the accessibility of postal services for the general public, MaltaPost announced that it has a new Sub Post Office in St Julians. Within this Sub Post Office clients can avail themselves of numerous postal services such as local and international ordinary and registered mail, the sale of postage stamps, the collection of packets as well as bill payments and money orders.

The new Sub Post Office will be situated at ‘Papier Stationery’, Level 0 Spinola Park, Triq Mikielang Borg, San Giljan SPK 1000. Postal services will be available at this new Sub Post Office as from Monday 1st April. The Sub Post Office’s opening hours are as follows:

Monday to Sunday from 9.00 a.m. to 10.30 p.m.

In another communication, MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office at ‘Alessio Old Cottage’, 12, Triq il-Parroċċa, L-Irriqabba MQB 1511 will be closed between Monday 1st April and Tuesday 16th April.

During this period Mqabba residents were requested to collect their mail from Żurrieq Post Office situated at 75, Triq il-Kbira, iż-Żurrieq ŻRQ 1317.

04th April

Today MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office at ‘Wigwam Stationery’, Triq il-Qroqq, Msida MSD 1702, will be closed on Friday 5th April.

On this day, the public was directed that as a close alternative it could make use of the postal services provided from either the University Campus Post Office, MSIDA MSD 2080 or the Gzira Post Office, situated at 21, Pjazza Meme’ Scicluna, Gzira GZR 1120.

11th April

Today MaltaPost belatedly notified the public that for the occasion of the 220th Anniversary of the transfer of Sacred Relics from Malta to Russia, a commemorative hand stamp had been issued on Saturday 6th April for use at the Castille Post Office in Valletta.

The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed “RUSSIAN GRAND PRIORY MALTA – ORDER OF SAINT JOHN OF JERUSALEM – 1799-2019” 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 Saint John with the words SACRED RELICS TRANSFERRED/TO RUSSIA FROM MALTA, beneath which was placed the issue date in a straight line “06-04-19”.



22nd April

Today MaltaPost announced that the €0.26 stamp of the SEPAC 2018’ Stamp Set Issue has been reprinted. This is the first reprint of this stamp. The stamp features the Church of Saint John the Baptist, commonly known as the Xewkija

Rotunda This reprint of the €0.26 stamp consists of 300,000 stamps, in sheets of 10 stamps bearing sheet numbers 100001 to 130000 both numbers included. The stamps measure 44.0 mm x 31.0 mm with a comb perforation of 13.9 x 14.0 and have been printed through the offset process by Printex Limited on watermarked paper bearing Maltese Crosses.



It was also announced that the stamps would be available as from Wednesday 24th April from all Post Offices in Malta and Gozo.

In a separate media communication, MaltaPost notified that for the occasion of the 100th year anniversary of the Kumitat Festi Esterni San Ġorġ Martri, a commemorative hand stamp will be issued for use on Tuesday 23rd April at the Qormi Post Office.



The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed “100 SENA KUMITAT FESTI ESTERNI SAN ĠORĠ MARTRI 1919 - 2019” along the outside bordering the ring, and “* MALTAPOST – QORMI - MALTA *” bordering the ring on the inner side. At the centre of the hand stamp is an outline drawing of the church dome, steeple, fireworks and banner incorporating the words 100 SENA/KUMITAT FESTI ESTERNI/SAN ĠORĠ MARTRI, beneath which drawing one finds the wording and issue date “JUM IL-ĦRUĠ/23-04-19” in straight lines.

Another announcement informed of a new Sub Post Office that was going to start operating in Naxxar. Within this Sub Post Office, MaltaPost clients can avail themselves of numerous postal services such as local and international ordinary and registered mail, the sale of postage stamps, the collection of packets of Mgarr residents as well as bill payments and money orders.

The new Sub Post Office will be situated at ‘Zaky’s Stationery’, Triq San Publiju, San Pawl tat-Tarġa, Naxxar NXR 1421. Postal services will be available at this new Sub Post Office as from Monday 22nd April and collection of items from this Sub Post Office will start as from Monday 6th May.

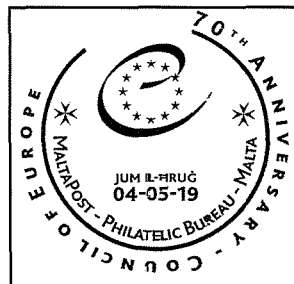
The Sub Post Office’s opening hours are as follows:

Monday to Friday from 7.30 a.m. to 7.00 p.m.; Saturday from 7.30 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.

26th April

Today the public was notified that on the 4th of May, MaltaPost will be issuing

a set of two stamps featuring logos of the Council of Europe to commemorate the 70th Anniversary from the foundation of the Council.



The stamps will be issued in a sheet of ten stamps, with each stamp measuring 44mm x 31mm, with a comb perforation of 14.0 x 13.9 and bearing the Maltese Cross watermark. The sheets measure 185mm x 115mm and were produced by Printex Ltd through the offset process.

The issue consists of 80,000 of the €0.63 stamp and 60,000 of the €2.00 stamp. The Design was set by the Council of Europe.

MaltaPost prepared an occasion hand stamp to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No.2/2019). The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed “70TH ANNIVERSARY – COUNCIL OF EUROPE” along the outside bordering the ring and “* MALTAPOST ----- - MALTA *” on the lower inner side of the ring. The words and issue date “JUM IL-HRUĠ/04-05-19” in straight lines are to be found below an outline image depicting 70th Anniversary Logo positioned at the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost’s Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in Stamp Bulletin numbered as No. 383.

30th April

MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Offices at ‘Needs Stationery’, situated at 1, Triq il-Vajrita, Marsascala MSK 3306 and ‘Allstat Stationery’, Triq il-Lampara, Baħar iċ-Ċagħaq NXR 5134 will be closed between Friday 3rd May and Tuesday 7th May

During this period, Marsascala residents were advised that they may make use of the postal services provided from Żabbar Post Office situated at the Civic Centre, Triq il-Kunvent, Żabbar ŻBR 1351;

while residents of Baħar iċ-Ċagħaq may alternatively use the postal services provided from the Naxxar Post Office situated at Civic Centre, Vjal il-21 ta’ Settembru, Naxxar NXR 1018.

06th May

On 9th May, MaltaPost will join other European postal administrations by the release of a stamp set bearing the theme ‘National Birds’. EUROPA stamps underline cooperation between European postal administrations and seek to promote philately and build awareness of the common goals, roots, culture

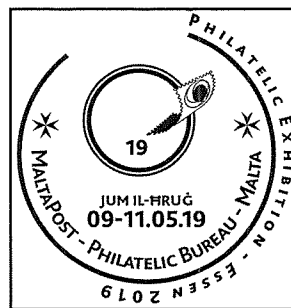


and history of Europe. This issue features two stamps of the Blue Rock Thrush, the national bird of the Maltese Islands the bird locally known as ‘il-Merill’. It is a starling-sized bird, circa 23 cm in length with a long slim bill. The male features a striking blue colour with darker wings and tail - an appealing contrast to the less striking female with its brownish-grey colour.

The stamps will be issued in a sheet of 11 stamps, with each stamp measuring 44mm x 31mm, with a comb perforation 14.0 x 13.9 and bearing the Maltese Cross watermark. The sheets measures 150mm x 158mm and were produced by Printex Ltd in the offset process. The issue consists of 30,195 of the €0.59 stamp and 33,000 of the €2.00 stamp. The photography is by Joe Sultana, BirdLife Malta. The €0.59 stamp will be Malta’s entry for the ‘2019 EUROPA Online Stamp Contest’. The contest is an annual online event where creative entries from across Europe compete for the best design.

MaltaPost prepared an occasion postmark to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No.3/2019). The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed “EUROPA 2019 – ‘NATIONAL BIRDS’” 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/09-05-19” in straight lines are to be found below an outline image depicting the Merill perched on a branch positioned at the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost’s Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in Stamp Bulletin numbered as No. 384.

It was also announced that MaltaPost will be participating in the Essen stamp fair being held between the 9th and 11th May in Germany. The stamp fair is an annual event where international postal operators showcase their philatelic items. MaltaPost’s Philatelic Bureau will be participating in this fair with a variety of Maltese stamps related to various popular themes. It has been announced that for this event, the Philatelic Bureau will



issue an Occasion Card (Number 55), Personalised Stamp/Cover and a philatelic numismatic cover featuring the exhibition logo. To complement the issue, a purely “philatelic” occasion hand stamp was also prepared. The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed “PHILATELIC EXHIBITION – ESSEN 2019” 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 is an outline drawing of the exhibition logo, beneath which drawing one curiously finds the words and period of use of the hand stamp “JUM IL-ĦRUĠ/09-11.05.19” in straight lines. The reason for this is that once again Jum il-Ħruġ (issue date) is spanning a period of three days!

It was announced that the Occasion Card will start being available for sale as from Thursday 9th May at all Post Offices, while orders for the Personalised Stamp/Cover could only be placed online at www.maltaphilately.com or by mail from the Philatelic Bureau, MaltaPost, 305, Qormi Road, Marsa, MTP 1001.

In another media communication issued today, it was announced that for the occasion of the 300th year anniversary of St. John the Baptist De La Salle, MaltaPost notified the public that a commemorative hand stamp will be issued on Wednesday 15th May at the Cospicua Post Office.

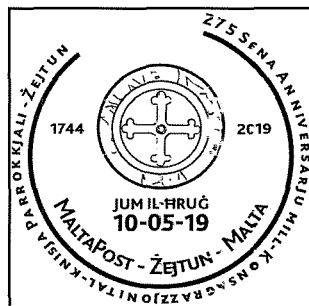
The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed “300 YEARS ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF SAINT JOHN BAPTIST DE LA SALLE” along the outside bordering the ring, and “* MALTAPOST – COSPICUA - MALTA *” bordering the ring on the inner side. At the centre of the hand stamp is an outline drawing of the anniversary logo, beneath which drawing one finds the words and issue date “JUM IL-ĦRUĠ/15-05-19” in straight lines.



08th May

For the occasion of the 275th year anniversary from the consecration of the Parish Church, Żejtun, MaltaPost notified the public that a special hand stamp will be issued on Friday 10th May at the Żejtun Post Office.

The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed “275 SENAANNIVERSARJUM ILL-KONSAGRAZZJONI TAL-KNISJA PARROKKJALI - ŻEJTUN” along the outside bordering the ring, and “* MALTAPOST – ŻEJTUN - MALTA *” bordering the ring on the inner side. At the centre of the hand stamp is an outline drawing of the consecration symbol flanked by the years 1744 and 2019, beneath which drawing the words and issue date “JUM IL-ĦRUĠ/10.05.19” in straight lines are to be found.



09th May

MaltaPost’s company secretary, Graham A. Fairclough, published an announcement pursuant to the Malta Financial Services Authority Listing Rules that the Board of Directors of MaltaPost is scheduled to meet on Thursday, 30th May 2019 to consider and approve the interim financial statements for the six months ended 31st March 2019.

16th May

As part of its diversification strategy as well to continue offering 24/7 solutions, MaltaPost has installed two additional Lombard Bank ATMs in Paola and St Paul's Bay Post Offices. These will complement the ones available within Rabat Malta and Rabat Gozo Post Offices.

The ATMs are placed within MaltaPost's 24/7 areas, which currently host the Easipik Parcel Lockers and offer a range of services including cash withdrawal, balance enquiry, mini statement and statement request.

MaltaPost also informed the public that the letterbox situated in Pjazza San Frangisk, Victoria, Gozo has been temporarily removed, until further notice. The public was advised that it may alternatively use the nearest letterbox number LB504 situated in 'Triq Santu Wistin', Victoria, Gozo.

In another communication it also informed the public that the Sub Post Office at 'Step in', Misrah ir-Rebħa, il-Birgu BRG 1300, will be closed between Tuesday 21st and Saturday 25th May. During this period, the public was advised that it may alternatively use the postal services provided from Bormla Post Office at Block No 14, Flat No. 12, Fuq San Pawl, Eormla BML 1910.

21st May

MaltaPost informed the general public that, by agreement with the Malta Communications Authority, as of 27th May, the Post Office situated at the Marsa Head Office will open from Monday to Friday between 8.00am - 5.00pm (instead of 8.00am - 5.00pm). Saturday: 8.00am - 1.30pm (unchanged).

27th May

May 27th 2019 marks the birth centenary of one of Malta's foremost twentieth century painters. Emino Cremona is formidable name in the fields of landscape, church decoration, stamp design and abstract painting. He is the doyen of Malta Stamp designers and produced no less than sixty-three postage stamp sets between 1957 and 1980 – the golden era of Maltese postage stamps.

For this occasion, MaltaPost issued a commemorative hand postmark and personalised cover on Monday 27th May. This postmark was used at the Malta Postal Museum.

The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed "100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF EMINO CREMONA 1919 - 1979" along the outside bordering the ring, and "* MALTAPOST – MALTA POSTAL



MUSEUM - MALTA *” bordering the ring on the inner side. At the centre of the hand stamp is an outline drawing of the artist, beneath which drawing the words and issue date “JUM IL-ĦRUĠ/27.05.19” in straight lines are to be found.

29th May

As of tomorrow, local postage rates will increase following a decision by the Malta Communications Authority to partially uphold a request by MaltaPost for a revision of domestic single-piece and bulk mail services. The authority said the current rates had been loss-making for a number of years and were unsustainable. It said that it had issued MaltaPost’s proposals for public consultation but no feedback was received. In terms of the revision, domestic postage of small local items will cost 28c instead of 26c, rising to 30c next year. See the full list of revisions below.

Domestic Single - Piece	% of mail affected	Current Prices	Approved (vs. Proposed by MaltaPost)		
			Yr 1 (30.05.19)	Yr 2 (1.1.2020)	Yr 3 (2021)
0-50g	22.12%	€0.26	€0.28 (vs. €0.30)	€0.30 (vs. €0.33)	reserved (vs. €0.36)
51g-100g	0.94%	€0.42	€0.48 (vs. €0.50)	€0.50 (vs. €0.52)	reserved (vs. €0.54)

30th May

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Sette Giugno 1919 events, MaltaPost will on the 6th June, issue a miniature sheet bearing one stamp.

Sette Giugno is one of Malta’s national days celebrated annually on the 7th of June, to mark the events that took place on the same day of June 1919, when riots, precipitated by the economic state of Malta post-World War I, resulted in the death of four civilian protestors following shooting by British servicemen.

The stamp carries a face value of €5.59 and measures 31mm x 44mm with a perforation of 13.9 x 14.0. The miniature sheet measures 120mm x 80mm and bears the Maltese Cross watermark. Printex Limited printed it in offset and the issue consists of 16,000. The stamp and miniature sheet have been designed by MaltaPost.

MaltaPost prepared an occasion postmark to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No 4/2019). The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed “100TH ANNIVERSARY – SETTE GIUGNO EVENTS 1919 - 2019” along the outside bordering the ring and “* MALTAPOST ----- - MALTA *” on the



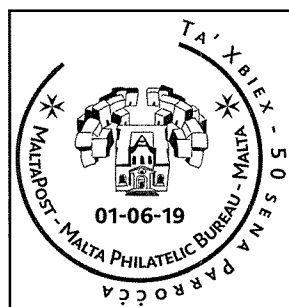
lower inner side of the ring. The words and issue date “JUM IL-HRUĠ/06-06-19” in straight lines are to be found below an outline image depicting the Sette Giugno Monument in Valetta at the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost’s Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in Stamp Bulletin numbered as No. 335. It is to be pointed out that the face value of the stamp has been heavily criticized by philatelists who aired their view that the high face values of many stamps being released by MaltaPost are negatively impacting the hobby and efforts being made by philatelists to keep it alive, this issue being a prime example.

31st May

MaltaPost notified that a commemorative hand postmark to mark the 50th anniversary since Ta’ Xbiex was conferred as a Parish. This will be used on Saturday 1st June at the Philatelic Bureau.

Orders for this postmark could be placed online at www.maltapostilately.com or by mail from the Philatelic Bureau, MaltaPost, 305, Triq Ħal Qormi, Marsa, MTP 1001

It is to be noted that the purely “philatelic” hand stamp consists of a single severed-ring which is inscribed “TA’ XBIEX – 50 SENA PARROĊĊA” along the outside bordering the ring, and “* MALTAPOST – MALTA PHILATELIC BUREAU - MALTA *” bordering the ring on the inner side. At the centre of the hand stamp is an outline drawing of the church facade flanked by buildings, beneath which was placed the issue date in a straight line “01-06-19”.



03rd June

MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office at ‘Fleet Stationery’, Testaferrata Street, Ta’ Xbiex XBX 1402, will be closed between Saturday 8th June and Wednesday 12th June.

On these days, the public was advised that if it so wishes, it could make use of the postal services provided from the Gzira Post Office situated at 21, Pjazza Meme’ Scicluna, Gzira GZR 1120.

In another media communication, MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office situated at ‘Electroit Stationery’ at Fredrick Maemple Square, Qormi QRM 1011, will be closed on Saturday 8th June 2019.

On this day, the public was advised to alternatively make use of the postal services provided from the Qormi Post Office situated at 343, Victory Street, Qormi QRM2504.

In its final media communication for the day, MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office at 'D Spiral' Stationery, situated at , Triq il-Vitorja, Birkirkara BKR 2691, will be closed on Saturday 8th June 2019.

On this day, the public was invited to use the postal services provided from Birkirkara Post Office situated at 58, Triq il-Wied, Birkirkara BKR 9013.

04th June

MaltaPost announced that the €0.02 stamp of the 2009 Definitive Issue has been reprinted. This is the third reprint of this value. The reprint consists of 480,000 stamps, in sheets of 10 stamps bearing sheet numbers 090001 – 138000 both numbers included. The stamps measure 44.0 mm x 31.0 mm with a comb perforation of 13.9 x



14.0 and have been printed by the offset process by Printex Limited on watermarked paper bearing Maltese Crosses. This is the second reprint of this stamp.

As from Thursday 6th June the stamp will be available from all Post Offices in Malta and Gozo.

Also, further to the media communication of the 30th May, MaltaPost announced that together with the Central Bank of Malta it will be commemorating the Centenary of the Sette Giugno Riots 1919 by a joint issue of a silver foil stamp replica and a commemorative coin.

The coin, designed by Noel Galea Bason has a face value of €10. It has a diameter of 38.61mm and represents a standoff between a crowd and a group of armed soldiers. The silver foil stamp replica depicts the €5.95c postage stamp from the '100th Anniversary Sette Giugno Events 1919-2019' miniature sheet to be issued on the 6th June.

The silver foil stamp replica and the coin will be available as a set in one presentation case and will also be available separately.

05th June

MaltaPost informed the public that the letterbox situated at Triq il-Ferrovija, Santa Venera, is temporarily closed.

The public was advised that if it so wishes it may make use of the nearest letterbox situated at Trejqa tal-Fleur de Lys, Santa Venera.

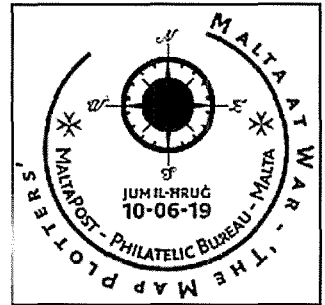
**Refer to media communication issued on 10th June*

06th June

On the 10th June, MaltaPost will issue a set of three stamps featuring photos of Map Plotters from the Second World War in Malta. In June 1942, over fifty female civilians worked as map plotters at the Lascaris War Rooms. These female plotters were responsible to track and identify aircraft movements within a particular sector. Once an enemy aircraft was identified, they would immediately alert any nearby fighter squadron.

The stamps will be issued in a sheet of ten stamps, with each stamp measuring 44mm x 31mm, with a comb perforation of 14.0 x 13.9 and bearing the Maltese Cross watermark. The sheets measure 185mm x 114mm and were produced by Printex Ltd in the offset process. The issue consists of 1,000,000 of the €0.28 stamp, 80,000 of the €0.48 stamp and 40,000 of the €2.28 stamp. The design was set by MaltaPost

MaltaPost prepared an occasion postmark to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No.5/2019). The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed “MALTA AT WAR – ‘THE MAP PLOTTERS’” along the outside bordering the ring and “* MALTAPOST ----- - MALTA *” on the lower inner side of the ring. The words and issue date “JUM IL-HRUG 10-06-19” in straight lines are to be found below an outline image depicting a compass positioned at the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost’s Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in Stamp Bulletin numbered as No. 386.



10th June

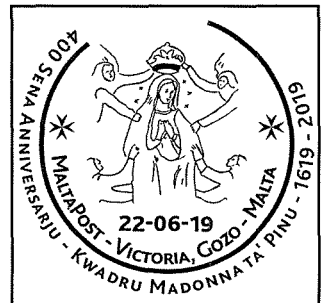
MaltaPost informed the public that the letterbox situated at Triq il-Ferrovija, Santa Venera, is now back in service

**Refer to media communication issued on 5th June*

21st June

For the occasion of the 400th year anniversary of the Madonna Ta' Pinu painting, MaltaPost notified the public that a commemorative hand stamp will be used on Saturday 22nd June at the Victoria Post Office, Gozo.

The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed “400 SENA ANNIVERSARJU – KWADRU MADONNA TA’ PINU – 1619-2019” 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 Ta’ Pinu Madonna, beneath which drawing the issue date “22.06.19” in a straight line is found.

It is to be noted that the orientation of the wording inscribed along the outside bordering the ring is now reading from left to right instead of in the opposite direction as was previously the case. This makes it far easier to be read. The change comes after a request submitted by myself as the MPS Vice President during the June 2019 Malta Philatelic Society monthly meeting, at which Ms Mary Grace Simpson, Head of the Philately Department was speaker, was accepted.

26th June

MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office situated at ‘Electroit Stationery’ at Fredrick Maemple Square, Qormi QRM 1011, will be temporarily closed on Monday 1st July.

On this day, the public was invited to make use of the postal services provided from Qormi Post Office situated at 343, Victory Street, Qormi QRM2504.

MaltaPost also informed the public that the Sub Post Office at ‘Needs Stationery’, situated at 1, Triq il-Vajrita, Marsascala MSK 3306 will be temporarily closed between Wednesday 3rd July and Thursday 11th July.

On these days, Marsascala residents were advised to make use of the postal services provided from the Żabbar Post Office situated at the Civic Centre, Triq il-Konvent, Żabbar ŻBR 1351.

28th June

MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office at ‘Many Things’ Stationery, Triq il-Knisja il-Qadima, Siġġiewi SGW 1704, will be temporarily closed on Monday 1st July.

On this day, the public was advised to make use the postal services provided from Żebbuġ Post Office situated at Triq Sciortino, Żebbuġ ŻBG 1962.

29th June

Today MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office at ‘L-Għajn Stationery’, situated at 100, Triq il-Kbira, Dingli DGL 1837, will be temporarily closed on Thursday 4th July.

On this day, the public was informed to make use of the postal services provided from Rabat Post Office situated at the Civic Centre, Misraħ il-Parroċċa, Rabat RBT 1001 as an alternative.

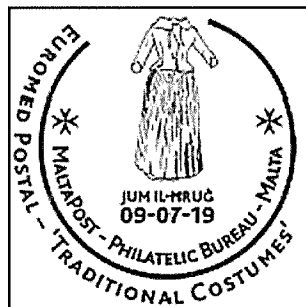
09th July

It was announced that MaltaPost will be participating in a EuroMed Postal Union philatelic issue, themed 'Traditional Costumes' with a set of three stamps.

Traditional Maltese clothes were primarily made from cotton. In fact at the time most of the available land was used to cultivate cotton. The natural colours of cotton were white, beige and brown, which is reflected in the choice of colours found in typical traditional Maltese costumes.

The stamps will be issued in a sheet of 10 stamps, with each stamp measuring 44mm x 31mm, with a comb perforation of 14.0 x 13.9 and bearing the Maltese Cross watermark. The sheets measure 185mm x 114mm and were produced by Printex Ltd in the offset process. The issue consists of 400,000 of the €0.28 stamp, 40,000 of the €0.51 and 40,000 of the €1.25 stamp. The stamp set was designed by MaltaPost Creative Studio and the photography is by Heritage Malta.

MaltaPost prepared an occasion postmark to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No.6/2019). The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed "EUROMED POSTAL - 'TRADITIONAL COSTUMES'" along the outside bordering the ring and "* MALTAPOST ----- - MALTA *" on the lower inner side of the ring. The words and issue date "JUM IL-HRUĠ 09-07-19" in straight lines are to be found below an outline image depicting the costume shown on the €0.28 value positioned at the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost's Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in Stamp Bulletin numbered as No. 387.



11th July

MaltaPost p.l.c. informed the public that due to construction works, the letterbox situated at Triq San Ġorġ, Gzira, will be out of service as from Saturday 13th July 2019.

The public was invited that if it so wishes it may make use of the letterbox situated at Triq ix-Xatt Ta' Xbiex, Gzira as an alternative.

Točay MaltaPost belatedly informed the public that for the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the first procession of St. Sebastian Statue, a special commemorative hand stamp was issued on Tuesday 9th July 2019 at the Qormi Post Office.

The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed "75 SENA PURCISSJONI BIL-



VARA TA' SAN SEBASTJAN 1944 - 2019” along the outside bordering the ring, and “* MALTAPOST – QORMI - MALTA *” bordering the ring on the inner side. At the centre of the hand stamp is an outline waist – up drawing of Saint Sebastian with the number 75 in bold superimposed, beneath which drawing the words and issue date “JUM IL-ĦRUĠ/09-07-19” in straight lines are to be found.

In its third media communication for the day, MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office at “Happy Kids Stationery”, Triq San Tumas, Il-Fgura FGR 1608 will be closed on Monday 15th July 2019.

On this day, customers were advised that they may make use of the postal services provided from the following Post Offices as an alternative:

Paola Post Office situated in the Civic Centre, Pjazza Antoine de Paule, Paola PLA 1266;

Żabbar Post Office situated in the Civic Centre, Triq il- Kunvent, Żabbar ZBR 1351.

15th July

MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office situated at Kerċem Local Council, Pjazza Orvieto, Ta Kerċem KCM 1360, will be closed between Wednesday 17th July and Tuesday 23rd July 2019.

During this period, the public was informed that if it so wishes it could make use the postal services provided from Victoria Post Office situated at 5, Triq Sir Adrian Dingli, Victoria VCT 1441 as an alternative.

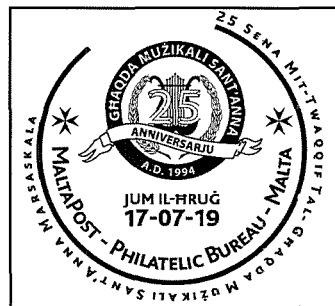
16th July

For the occasion of the 25th anniversary since the establishment of St. Anne Band Club in Marsascula, MaltaPost will make use of a commemorative hand postmark on Wednesday 17th July 2019 at the Philatelic Bureau.

The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed “25 SENA MIT-TWAQQIF TA’ L-GĦAQDA MUŻIKALI SANT’ ANNA MARSASKALA” 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 is the anniversary logo, beneath which are the words and issue date “JUM IL-ĦRUĠ/17-07-19” in straight lines.

This postal marking is purely a “philatelic” release.

In a separate media communication, it was announced that on the 20th of July 2019,

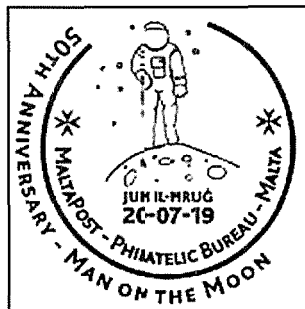


MaltaPost will be issuing a miniature sheet featuring a stamp commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the historic landing of man on the Moon.

16,000 miniature sheets will be issued and the stamp measures 49mm x 40.5mm, with a comb perforation of 14.2 x 14.2 and bearing the Maltese Cross watermark. The miniature sheets measure 120mm x 80mm and were produced by Printex Ltd in the offset process and carry a face value of €2.28.

The design of the miniature sheet is by Aidan Cassar and is an artistic rendition of a Moon landing as it would or could appear in the present day. It does not seek to replicate the actual 1969 historical event.

MaltaPost prepared an occasion postmark to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No.7/2019). The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed “50TH ANNIVERSARY – MAN ON THE MOON” 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/20-07-19” in straight lines are to be found below an outline image depicting an astronaut positioned at the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost’s Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in Stamp Bulletin numbered as No. 388.



17th July

MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office at ‘Fleet Stationery’, Testaferrata Street, Ta’ Xbiex XBX 1402, will be closed on Friday 19th July 2019.

On this day, the public was informed that if it so wishes it could make use of the postal services provided from the Gzira Post Office situated at 21, Pjazza Meme’ Scicluna, Gzira GZR 1120 as an alternative.

18th July

For the occasion of the 125th Anniversary from the first demonstration of the St. George statue in Gozo, MaltaPost notified the public that a commemorative hand stamp will be used on Friday 19th July 2019 at the Victoria Post Office, Gozo.



The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed “ST. GEORGE – 125 ANNIVERSARY – FIRST DEMONSTRATION STATUE IN 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 the head of Saint George's statue, beneath which drawing the issue date "19-07-19" in a straight line is to be found.

MaltaPost also announced that it had launched a new product - eSeller; a platform for businesses that has now given local companies the chance to substantially boost their online sales. With this platform, MaltaPost offers a reliable technological and logistics solution combined with a competitive cost structure.

MaltaPost's eSeller was said to be the ideal eCommerce partner that allows local online stores the ability to reach a global target audience. The service was described as being extremely convenient as businesses do not need to visit a Post Office to ship their products to clients and all administrative tasks can be done online, from the comfort of the client's office. The eSeller service uses a harmonised labelling system, reducing the need to label each product individually. Users can drop their items at a Post Office in bulk or order a courier pick-up.

The eSeller platform allows customers to focus on their true business priorities as MaltaPost can handle the packing, labelling and delivery of products. MaltaPost can also offer other add-ons such as email notifications, pick-ups to ensure a streamlined and hassle-free selling process and insurance cover against damage and loss.

Alongside this, through MaltaPost's international tracking system, customers can gain full visibility of the progress of the shipped item as it travels from Malta to its destination.

19th July

MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office at 'AZ Stationery', Vjal l-Indipendenza, Żurrieq ŻRQ 2339, will be closed on Monday 22nd July 2019. The public was advised to alternatively use the postal services provided from the Żurrieq Post Office situated in 75, Main Street, Żurrieq ŻRQ 1317 on the mentioned day.

In its second media communication, it also informed the public that the Sub Post Office situated at "Troy DVD Rentals", Pjazza Arcisqof Gonzi, Kalkara KKR1502, will be closed on Monday 22nd July 2019. On this day, the public was advised that it may use the postal services provided from Cospicua Post Office situated in Block No 14, Flat No 12, Fuq San Pawl, Bormla BML 1910 as an alternative.

In its final communication for the day, MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office at 'Higher Grades', 93, Triq Kanannea, Attard ATD 2703 will be closed between Monday 22nd July and Saturday 27th July 2019. During this period, the public may wish to use the postal services provided from Lija Post Office situated at 2, Triq Mikelaġ Borġ, Lija LJA 1440.

23rd July

MaltaPost p.l.c. informed the general public that, by agreement with the Malta Communications Authority, on Friday 26th July 2019 the last collection of mail from all letterboxes will be carried out at 1:00 p.m. and the Parcel Office at the MaltaPost Head Office in Marsa will close at 4:00 p.m.

MaltaPost also informed that the Sub Post Office at 'Fleet Stationery', Testaferrata Street, Ta' Xbiex XBX 1402, will be closed between Friday 26th July and Monday 19th August 2019. During this period, the public was directed that if it so wishes it could make use of the postal services provided from the Gzira Post Office situated at 21, Pjazza Meme' Scicluna, Gzira GZR 1120.

In its third media communication, MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office at CND Stationery, 144, Vjal it-Torri, Gudja GDJ 1704, will be closed on Tuesday 23rd July 2019. As an alternative, on this day the public may wish to make use of the postal services of either the Luqa Post Office, situated at 11, Trejqa Dun Ġulju Muscat, Luqa LQA 1450 or the Ġhaxaq Sub Post Office, situated at Marcham Stationery, 4, Wegħa Bir id-Deheb, Ġhaxaq GXQ 1651.

Finally, MaltaPost p.l.c. informed the public that due to construction work, the letterbox situated at Triq il-Qamħ, Haż-Żebbuġ, has been temporarily removed. The public was directed to make use of the nearest alternative letterbox situated at Triq Paris, Haż-Żebbuġ.

26th July

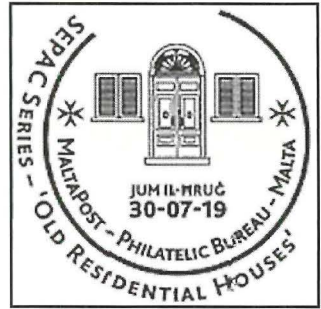
On the 30th July 2019 MaltaPost will be participating in a forthcoming philatelic theme stamp issue by SEPAC (Small European Postal Administration Cooperation) 'Old Residential Houses'.

MaltaPost's SEPAC issue features four stamps depicting old residential houses, two of which are in Mdina, one in Valletta and another in Żurrieq. Photographs on which the stamps based are by Alina Absalamova, Angela Spiteri, Anthony Xuereb and Stephania Grixti respectively.

The stamps will be issued in a sheet of 10 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 185mm x 114mm and were produced by Printex Ltd in the offset process. The issue consists of 50,000 of the €0.10 stamp value, 200,000 of the €0.59, 32,000 of the €0.63 and 32,000 of the €1.00 stamp.

MaltaPost prepared an occasion postmark to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No.8/2019). The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed "SEPAC SERIES – 'OLD RESIDENTIAL HOUSES'" 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/30-07-19” in straight lines are to be found below an outline image depicting a traditional Maltese door, flanked by a louvered window on each side, positioned at the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost’s Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in Stamp Bulletin numbered as No. 389.



27th July

MaltaPost announced the opening of a new Post Office situated at Triq Sant’ Antnin, Marsaskala, MSK 9059.

This Post Office offers all postal services including local and registered mail as well as philatelic and numismatic products, encasement of cheques issued by the Central Bank of Malta, international money transfers, PostaPay&Save Payment account as well as a wide selection of stationery and greeting cards for sale.

This retail outlet also hosts Easipik - a 24/7 always available parcel pick-up service. This service is particularly attractive for customers who are not home during the day to receive their online shopping.

The new Marsaskala Post Office will be open as from Thursday 1st August 2019, from Monday to Saturday between 7.30am and 13.00pm.

Furthermore Marsaskala Residents were informed that Needz Stationery in Triq Vajrita, shall continue to operate as a Sub Post Office.

01st August

MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office at ‘Allstat Stationery’, situated at 1, Triq il-Lampara, Baħar iċ-Ċagħaq NXR 5134, will be closed between Monday 12th August and Tuesday 20th August.

During this period, the public was advised that it may use the postal services provided from Naxxar Post Office situated at the Civic Centre, Vjal il-21 ta’ Settembru, Naxxar NXR 1018.

05th August

MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office situated at ‘Electroit Stationery’ at Fredrick Meample Square, Qormi QRM 1011, will be closed between Saturday 10th August and Saturday 17th August.

During this period, the public was advised to make use the postal services provided

from Qormi Post Office situated at 343, Victory Street, Qormi QRM 2504.

06th August

It was announced that on 14th August, MaltaPost will issue the third series of stamps depicting titular statues found in various churches around Malta and Gozo. This issue consists of ten stamps, featuring the following processional statues: St. Publius in Floriana, St. Philip in Żebbuġ, St. Catherine in Żejtun, St. John the Baptist in Xewkija, St. Andrew in Luqa, the Annunciation of Our Lady in Balzan, St. Venera in Santa Venera, Our Lady of Pompei in Marsaxlokk, St. Lawrence in Birgu and Our Lady of Grace in Żabbar.

The stamps will be issued in a sheet of ten, bearing one stamp featuring each statue. Each stamp measures 31mm x 44mm, having a comb perforation of 13.9 x 14.0 and bearing the Maltese Cross watermark. The sheets' overall measurement is of 182mm x 115mm and were produced by Printex Ltd in the offset process. The issue consists of a total of 900,000 stamps and each stamp carries a face value of €0.28. The stamps are based on photography by Mark Micallef Perconte.

Besides the stamps themselves, MaltaPost also issued special cards, sheets and envelopes together with a special binder house the collector. It is good to note that the first two sets in this popular series' were issued in 2017 and 2018 respectively.

MaltaPost prepared an occasion postmark to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (or FDC No.9/2019). The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed "MALTESE FESTA – SERIES III" along the outside bordering the ring and "* MALTAPOST -----
--- - MALTA *" on the lower inner side of the ring. The words and issue date "JUM IL-HRUĠ/14-08-19" in straight lines are to be found below an outline image depicting fireworks positioned at the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost's Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in Stamp Bulletin numbered as No. 390.



07th August

The public was informed that due to construction work, the letterbox situated at Triq San Ġwann, Naxxar, has been temporarily removed.

The public may wish to use the nearest letterbox which is situated at Triq iż-Żenqa, Naxxar.

09th August

MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office at ‘Many Things’ Stationery, situated at Triq il-Knisja il-Qadima, Siġġiewi SGW 1704, will be closed between Friday 16th August and Wednesday 21st August 2019.

During this period, the public was advised that it may use the postal services provided from Qormi Post Office situated at Triq il-Vitorja, Qormi QRM 2504.

10th August

For the occasion of the first visit of Bishop Giovanni Cefai MSSP at the Żebbug Gozo Parish Church, MaltaPost issued a commemorative hand stamp on Saturday 10th August which was used at Victoria Post Office.

The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed “L-EWWEL ŻJARA TAL-ISQOF GIOVANNI CEFAI MSSP – PARROĊĊA SANTA MARIJA IŻ-ŻEBBUĠ ĠĦAWDEX” 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 bishop’s coat of arms, beneath which drawing the issue date “10-08-19” in a straight line is to be found.



13th August

Today MaltaPost informed that the Sub Post Office at 12, Alessio’s Old Cottage, Parish Str, Mqabba MQB 1511 will be closed on Friday 16th August

The public was informed that on this day it may wish to make use the postal services provided at Żurrieq Post Office situated at 75, Main Street, Żurrieq, ZRQ 1317

14th August

MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office at 51 , Triq Gorg Borg Olivier, Mellieħa MLH 1024 will be closed on Friday 16th and Saturday 17th August.

On these days, the public was advised that if it so wishes it may use the postal services provided from Mellieħa Post Office situated at 100, Triq il-Miħna l-Ġdida, Mellieħa MLH 1107.

In another media communication, MaltaPost informed that the Sub Post Office at D Spiral, Triq il-Vitorja, Birkirkara BKR 2691, will too be also be closed on 16th August.

On this day, the public may wish to use the postal services provided from the

following outlets:

- Post Office situated at 58, Triq i'-Wied, Birkirkara BKR 9013
- Sub Post Office situated at Landau Stationery, 84, Triq Dun Gejtanu Mannarinu, Birkirkara BKR 9085

The third media communication issued today by MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office at Happy Kids Stationery, Triq San Tumas, Fgura, FGR1608 will be closed on 17th August.

On this day, the public was directed that if it so wishes, it may use the postal services provided at Żabbar Post Office situated at Ċentru Ċiviku, Triq il-Kunvent, Żabbar ZBR 1351.

Finally, MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office at L-Għajn Stationery, situated at 100, Triq i'-Kbira, Dingli DGL 1837, will be closed on Monday 19th August and will remain closed until Thursday 22nd August.

During this period, the public was directed to make use of the postal services provided from Rabat Post Office situated at the Civic Centre, Misraħ il-Parroċċa, Rabat RBT 1001.

16th August

The public was informed that the letterbox situated at Triq Ġorġ Borġ Olivier in Mellieħa, (Ref.: Media Communication dated 15th February) is now back in service.

19th August

Today MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office at "Aquavel", Triq San Bartilmew, Gharghur GHR 1014, will be closed on Monday 26th August.

On this day, the public was advised that it may wish to make use of the postal services provided from the Naxxar Post Office, situated in Ċentru Ċiviku, Vjal il-Wieħed u Ghoxrin ta' Settembru, Naxxar NXR 1018.

In its second media communication for the day, MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office at 'Wigwam Stationery', Triq il-Qroqq, Msida MSD 1702, will be closed between Monday 26th August and Monday 2nd September.

During this period, the public if it so wishes was advised that it may use the postal services provided from the Pieta' Post Office situated at Telgħet Gwardamanga, Tal-Pieta' PTA 1310.

27th August

The public was informed that the Sub Post Office at D Spiral, Triq il-Vitorja, Birkirkara BKR 2691, will be closed on 31st August.

On this day, the public may wish to use the postal services provided in the following outlets:

- Post Office situated at 58, Triq il-Wied, Birkirkara BKR 9013
- Sub Post Office situated at Landau Stationery, 84, Triq Dun Gejtanu Marnarinu, Birkirkara BKR 9085

In its second media communication today, MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office at 'AZ Stationery', Vjal l-Indipendenza, Żurriq ŻRQ 2339, will be closed on Monday 2nd September.

On this day, the public was directed that if it so wishes it could make use the postal services provided from the Żurriq Post Office situated in 75, Main Street, Żurriq ŻRQ 1317.

29th August

MaltaPost announced that it will be trying out a new electrically-assisted cargo bike in selected areas in Malta in a bid to reduce emissions. The project aims to strengthen the organisation's commitment to ensure efficient delivery of mail and promote the use of electric vehicles in Malta and Gozo. This new cargo bike is an addition to the already existing fleet of 14 Paxster electric vehicles. MaltaPost also has a number of Euro V vans.

The electrically-assisted cargo bike is reported as being the most efficient environmentally-friendly vehicle for delivering mail. Perfectly adapted for last mile deliveries, the cargo bike combines the best of a bicycle and a small electric mini-van. The delivery electric cargo bike is, above all else, a bicycle, or, rather, a tricycle, as it is fitted with three wheels. It has an additional engine enabling the postal operator to drive effortlessly and can comfortably transport up to 150 kg

MaltaPost's CEO Mr Joseph Gafa' explained that this trial is part of a Corporate Social Responsibility programme that MaltaPost initiated a couple of years ago to ensure a safe and efficient delivery of mail to customers, besides supporting staff members and protecting the environment.

04th September

MaltaPost today informed the public that the Sub Post Office at 51, Triq Gorg Borg Olivier, Mellieħa MLH 1024 will be closed on Monday 9th August 2019.

On this day, the public was advised that it may wish to use the postal services provided from the Mellieħa Post Office situated at 100, Triq il-Miħna l-Ġdida, Mellieħa MLH 1107.

Another media communication informed that the Sub Post Office at Tronic

Peach', Triq iċ-Ċitru, Iklin IKL 10&1, will be closed on Friday 6th and Saturday 7th September 2019.

On these days, the public may wish to use the postal services provided from the Naxxar Post Office situated in Ċentru Ċiviku, Vjal il-Wieħed u Għoxrin ta Settembru, Naxxar NXR1018.

The final media communication issued informed that the Sub Post Office at 'Step in', Misrah ir-Rebħa, il-Birgu BRG 1300, will be closed between Wednesday 4th and Saturday 7th September 2019.

During this period, the public was directed to make use of the postal services provided from the Bormla Post Office located at Block No 14, Flat No. 12, Fuq San Pawl, Bormla BML 1910.

05th September

The public was informed that due to construction works, the letterbox situated at Triq Ħal-Qormi, Marsa has been temporarily removed.

In this case, the public may wish to use the letterbox situated inside the MaltaPost Head Office premises in front of the Post Office.

09th September

MaltaPost announced that together with other EMS members it will issue a stamp on the 10th of September to commemorate the 20th Anniversary since the initiation of the Express Mail Service (EMS). This joint stamp issue bears a common theme including each country's flag and currency.

EMS is a global courier service designed to meet customers' requirements at a competitive price and available at virtually every post office around the world.

The stamps will be issued in a sheet of ten, with each stamp measuring 31mm x 44mm, with a comb perforation of 14.0 x 13.9 and bearing the Maltese Cross watermark. The sheets measure 185mm x 115mm and were produced by Printex Ltd in the offset process. The issue consists of 25,000 stamps and each stamp bears a face value of €2.00. The design was set by the Universal Postal Union (UPU)

MaltaPost prepared an occasion postmark to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No.10/2019). The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed "20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EMS COOPERATIVE" along the outside bordering the ring and "✱ MALTAPOST ----- - MALTA



*” on the lower inner side of the ring. The words and date of issue “JUM IL-HRUĠ/10-09-19” in straight lines are to be found below an outline image depicting the 20th Anniversary Logo, positioned at the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost’s Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in Stamp Bulletin numbered as No. 391.

12th September

MaltaPost announced that it has launched the annual folder published by SEPAC (Small European Postal Administration Cooperation), this year with the theme being ‘Old Residential Houses’.

This is the tenth folder issued by SEPAC and includes stamps and images from thirteen European postal administrations; Åland, Faroe Islands, Gibraltar, Greenland, Guernsey, Iceland, Isle of Man, Jersey, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco and Vatican City.

16th September

MaltaPost p.l.c. informs the public that it will be undertaking an IT infrastructural upgrade on Saturday 21st (public holiday) and Sunday 22nd September; therefore, the company’s websites (including all online data; Tracking Facilities, SendOn, Easipik, eSeller and Philately) will not be available during this period. The online service will become available again on Monday 23rd September.

17th September

It has been announced that the €0.02 stamp of the 2009 Definitive Issue has been reprinted once more. The reprint, the second one of this stamp this year, consists of 20,000 stamps, in sheets of ten stamps bearing sheet numbers 138000 - 140000 both numbers included. The stamps measure 44.0 mm x 31.0 mm with a comb perforation of 13.9 x 14.0 and have been printed by the offset process by Printex Limited on watermarked paper bearing Maltese Crosses.

Stamps from this reprint will be available as from Wednesday 18th September from all Post Offices in Malta and Gozo.

18th September

MaltaPost today notified that a commemorative hand stamp will be issued to mark the 20th Anniversary of the Gozo Philatelic Society, on Monday 23rd September 2019 at the Victoria Post Office in Gozo, situated at 5, Triq Sir Adrian Dingli, Rabat VCT 1441.



The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed “GOZO PHILATELIC SOCIETY 20TH ANNIVERSARY” 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 Gozo boat, beneath which drawing the words GPS 1999 – 2019 and the issue date “23-09-19” in a straight line is to be found.

On its part, the Gozo Philatelic Society issued a commemorative card franked by a personalized stamp which was cancelled with this commemorative hand stamp to mark the occasion.

23rd September

In a media communication issued today informed the public that the Sub Post Office at CND Stationery, 144, Vjal it-Torri, Gudja GDJ 1704, will be closed on Tuesday 24th September 2019.

On this day, the public may wish to use the postal services provided from nearby post offices, namely:

- Luqa Post Office, situated at 11, Trejqa Dun Gulju Muscat, Luqa LQA 1450
- Għaxaq Sub Post Office, situated at Marcham Stationery, 4 Wesgha Bir id-Deheb, Għaxaq GXQ 1651

24th September

On the 27th of September 2019, MaltaPost will issue a set of three stamps featuring the portraits of Charles Clews, Johnny Catania and Laurie Bellizzi who were members of the popular theatrical group “The Stage Commandos”.

The group was born during World War II within the dockyards in the Cottonera locality to entertain the dock workers, by keeping their morale high and positive. The workers themselves built a stage out of wooden boxes and soon the performances attracted audiences from the areas around the docks and beyond.

The stamps will be issued in sheets of ten stamps, with each stamp measuring 31mm x 44mm, with a comb perforation of 13.9 x 14.0 and bearing the Maltese Cross watermark. The sheets measure 216mm x 114mm and were produced by Printex Ltd in the offset process. The issue consists of 20,000 of each stamp and each stamp has a face value of €0.28. The stamps were hand-drawn by cardio thoracic surgeon Alex Manché.



MaltaPost prepared an occasion postmark to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No.11/2019). The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed “THE STAGE COMMANDOS” along the outside bordering the ring and “* MALTAPOST ----- - MALTA *” on the lower inner side of the ring. The words and issue date “JUM IL-HRUĠ/27-09-19” in straight lines are to be found below an outline image depicting the theatrical group’s advertising logo, positioned at the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost’s Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in Stamp Bulletin numbered as No. 392.

In another media communication released today, it was also announced that also on the 27th of September, MaltaPost will be issuing a second set of three stamps featuring portraits of popular actors and entertainers Armando Urso, Johnny Navarro and Nosi Ghirlando.

Together with others, these three personalities entertained the nation for decades with their performance musicals, sketches, farces and one-act plays. They were major contributors to Radju Muskettieri (Radio Musketeers) a multi-programme comedy radio production starting in 1948 and which ran into the early 1970s.

The stamps will be issued in sheets of ten stamps, with each stamp measuring 31mm x 44mm, with a comb perforation of 13.9 x 14.0 and bearing the Maltese Cross watermark. The sheets measure 216mm x 114mm and were produced by Printex Ltd in the offset process. The issue consists of 36,000 of each stamp and each stamp has a face value of €0.28. The stamps forming this set too were hand-drawn by cardio thoracic surgeon, Alex Manché.

MaltaPost prepared an occasion postmark to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No.12/2019). The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed “POPULAR ENTERTAINERS” along the outside bordering the ring and “* MALTAPOST ----- - MALTA *” on the lower inner side of the ring. The words and issue date “JUM IL-HRUĠ/27-09-19” in straight lines are to be found below an outline image depicting drama masks and a musical score line, positioned at the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost’s Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in Stamp Bulletin numbered as No. 393.



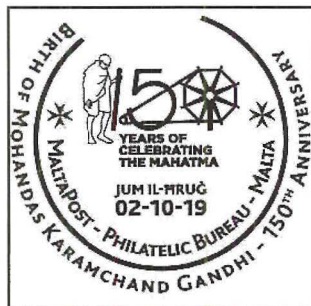
01st October

To mark the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, MaltaPost announced that on the 2nd of October it will be issuing a miniature sheet bearing four stamps. This set of stamps highlights the life and times of this extraordinary man.

The stamps will be issued in miniature sheet designed by MaltaPost, which is composed from imagery sourced from the Commission of India in Malta supplied through the courtesy of the Ministry of Culture, Government of India.

Each stamp measures 35 mm x 35mm, has a comb perforation of 13.75 x 13.75 and bears the Maltese Cross watermark. The sheets themselves measure 120 mm x 80 mm and were produced by Printex Ltd in the offset process. The issue consists of 16,000 miniature sheet and each sheet bears a total face value of €2.36, at €0.59 per stamp.

MaltaPost prepared an occasion postmark to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No.13/2019). The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed “BIRTH OF MOHANDAS KARAMCHAND GANDHI – 150TH ANNIVERSARY” along the outside bordering the ring and “* MALTAPOST ----- -- - MALTA *” on the lower inner side of the ring. The words and issue date “JUM IL-HRUĠ/02-10-19” in straight lines are to be found below the official Mahatma Gandhi 150th Anniversary logo, positioned at the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost’s Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in Stamp Bulletin numbered as No. 394.



02nd October

A commemorative hand postmark will be issued on the occasion of the Notte Bianca being organised in Valletta on Saturday 5th October, 2019. This hand stamp will be used at the Malta Postal Museum situated in Archbishop Street, Valletta.

On the day, the public is invited to visit the museum which will re-open during the event from 19:00hrs – 22:30hrs. The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed “NOTTE BIANCA 2019” along the outside bordering the ring, and “* MALTAPOST – MALTA POSTAL MUSEUM - MALTA *” bordering the ring on the inner side. At the centre of the hand stamp is the Notte Bianca logo, beneath which logo the issue date “05-10-19” in a straight line is to be found.



Another media communication issued informed that the Sub Post Office at 12, Alessic’s Old Cottage, Parish Str, Mqabba MQB 1511 will be closed on Friday 4th October.

On this day, the public was invited to make use of the postal services provided at the Żurrieq Post Office situated at 75, Main Street, Żurrieq, ZRQ 1317.

04th October

MaltaPost continued to invest in upgrading its services for Gozitan residents with a new convenient parcel collection service. As from Monday 7th October, Gozitan residents who are not found at home to receive postal items that require a signature or do not fit into their letterbox, will be able to conveniently pick up mail items as follows:

- Għasri residents from Għasri Local Council,
- Xagħra residents from the Xagħra Post Office on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays,
- Għarb residents from the Għarb Post Office on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays,
- Marsalforn and Sarnat residents from the Victoria Post Office.

Since the Għarb and Xagħra Post offices open on alternate days, residents may collect their items either on the days when the Post Office is open or request a collection from another Post Office, free of charge, by sending their request on email address gozotransfer@maltapost.com.

Gozitan residents may also opt to have their online shopping delivered to the Easipik Parcel Locker in Victoria. Easipik offers a 24/7 access for clients to collect their online shopping at their convenience. This service is free of charge and by registration at www.maltapost.com/easipik.

In its second media communication for today, MaltaPost informed the public that due to construction works, the letterbox situated at Triq l-Ifran, Valletta is temporarily out of service.

The public was advised that it may wish to make use of the letterbox situated at Triq id-Dejqa, Valletta as the nearest alternative.

07th October

The public was today informed that the Sub Post Office at 'Tronic Feaċċ', Triq iċ-Ċitru, Iklin IKL 1081, will be closed on Monday 14th October.

On this day, the public was directed that if it so wishes it may make use the nearest postal services provided from the Naxxar Post Office situated in Ċentru Ċiviku, Vjal il-Wieħed u Għexxin ta Settembru, Naxxar NXR1018

11th October

It has been announced that on the 14th October, MaltaPost and Romania Post will be releasing a joint stamp issue, with 'Palaces' as a theme common to both countries.

The issue consists of two stamps, one featuring the Verdala Palace in Malta and the other, the Mogosoia Palace outside Bucharest.

The Verdala Palace was originally a small hunting lodge that was built during the reign of Grand Master Jean Parisot de Valette. In 1586 Grand Master Hugues Loubenx de Verdalle extended and rebuilt the hunting lodge into the grand palace we see today overlooking the beautiful Buskett woodlands. Since 1982 the Palace serves as the summer residence of the President of Malta.

The Romanian Stamp features the Mogosoia Palace which is located some 15km away from Bucharest. Its building was commissioned by the ruler Constantin Brancoveanu and was built in a Brancovenesc style. It was completed in 1702 . Nowadays the Palace has become a popular tourist destination and houses an art gallery and the Museum of the Aulic Tradition, having a vast collection of medieval and contemporary art.

As for the stamps themselves, it is to be mentioned that they are based on photographs and were designed in-house by Sean Cini. The Verdala Palace was photographed by Norbert Mirtoff while the Mogosoia Palace was photographed by Luca Emanuel Achim.

The stamps will be issued in a sheet 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 158mm x 150mm and were produced by Printex Ltd in the offset process. The issue consists of 80,000 stamps of €0.50 each, sold in a set of two stamps.



MaltaPost prepared an occasion postmark to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No.14/2019). The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed “JOINT STAMPISSUE MALTA – ROMANIA – ‘ARCHITECTURE, PALACES’” along the outside bordering the ring and “* MALTAPOST ----- - MALTA *” on the lower inner side of the ring. The words and issue date “JUM IL-HRUĠ/14-10-19” in straight lines are to be found below an outline image depicting the Verdala Palace, positioned at the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost’s Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in Stamp Bulletin numbered as No. 395.

17th October

MaltaPost announced that once again it will be organizing the Maltex Philatelic Exhibition and Collectors’ Fair which will take place between the 22nd and 24th October at the Casino Maltese, Valletta. For this exhibition, MaltaPost has once

again invited a number of enthusiasts and local collectors to display their philatelic items, as well as other collectors' items and memorabilia. This will be the 20th Maltex Philatelic Exhibition and Collectors' Fair, this being the third year since responsibility for the organization of Maltex was handed over to MaltaPost by the Malta Philatelic Society.

Once again, this year the exhibition will be showcasing various collectors' items beyond philately, such as, Beatles memorabilia, model cars, old children's paddle cars, collectible badges and various sports memorabilia.

The opening hours will be between 9.30hrs and 16.30hrs.

For the occasion the Philatelic Bureau will be issuing an Occasion Card (Number 57), a Personalised Stamp and Personalized Commemorative Cover. The card will be available in mint and cancelled condition as from Tuesday 22nd October from the MaltaPost stand at the exhibition and also from the Philatelic Bureau. A temporary letter box service will also be provided during the opening hours of the Exhibition.



The cards and mail posted at the venue will be cancelled with the Maltex commemorative hand stamp.

18th October

Today the public was informed that the Sub Post Office at 'Allstat Stationery', situated at 1, Triq il-Lampara, Baħar iċ-Ċaġħaq NXR 5134, will be closed between Tuesday 22nd October and Friday 25th October.

During this period, the public was advised that it may wish to make use of the postal services provided from Naxxar Post Office situated at the Civic Centre, 'Vjal il-21 ta' Settembru, Naxxar NXR 1018.

24th October

MaltaPost today informed the public that the Sub Post Office at 12, Alessio's Old Cottage, Parish Str, Mqabba MQB 1511 will be closed between Thursday 31st October and Friday 8th November.

On these days, the public was invited to use the postal services provided from the Żurrieq Post Office situated at 75, Main Street, Żurrieq, ZRQ 1317 as the nearest alternative.

29th October

It was announced that the Sub Post Office situated at ‘Electroit Stationery’ at Fredrick Meample Square, Qormi QRM 1011, will be closed between Thursday 31st October and Saturday 2nd November.

During this period, MaltaPost informed the public that if it so wishes, it may make use of the postal services provided from the Qormi Post Office situated at 343, Victory Street, Qormi QRM 2504.

01st November

MaltaPost notified the public that a commemorative hand stamp will be issued on Saturday 2nd November 2019 at the Victoria Post Office in Gozo, situated at 5, Triq Sir Adrian Dingli, Rabat VCT 1441, to mark the opening of the 20th Gozo Philatelic Exhibition.

The single severed-ring hand stamp is inscribed “20TH ANNIVERSARY – GOZO PHILATELIC SOCIETY” along the outside bordering the ring, and “* MALTAPOST – VICTORIA, GOZO - MALTA *” bordering the ring on the inner side. At the centre of the hand is an outline drawing of the 20th Anniversary Logo, beneath which drawing the words and issue date “JUM IL-ĦRUĠ/02-11-19” in straight lines are to be found.



02nd November

The Gozo Philatelic Society today inaugurated its annual Philatelic Exhibition. The exhibition, which is being hosted in the Gozo Ministry Halls, was opened by H.E. the President of Malta Dr George Vella and will remain open till Tuesday 12th.

The themes on show include the following subjects: Early Malta Postal Stationery; Overprinted British Stamps—Levant; Maritime Malta; Famous Basilicas - Ta' Pinu – Lourdes - De La Garde; Austria Balloon Mail and FDC's; Gozo Christmas Postmarks; Postman's Personal Handstamps; The Half Penny Malta Yellows; Malta Medical Stamps; Hand painted Malta FDC'S & Stamp Albums; USA pictorial sheets; The Valletta Waterfront and the Santa Marija Convoy.

14th November

It was announced that the letterbox situated at Triq Taltas in Żejtun, is now back in service. *Refer to media communication of 15th February 2019*

MALTA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET

31 December 2019

by Mr J Cardona, Treasurer

	<u>Page</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
		€	€
CURRENT ASSETS			
Fixed Deposit Account	(6)	4,000	4,000
Current Account	(7)	<u>5,995</u>	<u>6,451</u>
		9,995	10,451
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Subscriptions paid in Advance	(3)	<u>(422)</u>	<u>(325)</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u><u>9,573</u></u>	<u><u>10,126</u></u>

REPRESENTED BY

Excess of Revenue over Expenses
(Brought forward from Page 2)

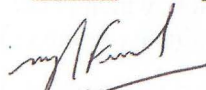
(2)

9,573

10,126



John A. Cardona.
Hon. Secretary & Treasurer.



Mr. Joseph Fenech.
Internal Auditor.



Mr. Josie Lanfranco.
Internal Auditor.

MALTA PHILATELIC SOCIETY
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

31 December 2019

<u>2018</u>		<u>2019</u>
<u>€</u> INCOME	<u>Notes</u>	<u>€</u>
1,817 Subscription receivable	(1)	1,606
16 Interest received	(2)	16
<u>96 Donations</u>	<u>(3)</u>	<u>46</u>
1,929 Total Income		1,668
EXPENDITURE		
43 Journal distribution costs	(4)	98
513 Newsletter distribution costs	(5)	494
233 Sundry administrative expenses	(6)	382
337 F.I.P. renewal membership fee	(7)	373
224 Capuchin Friary - rental contribution	(8)	224
183 Christmas "Get-Together"	(9)	211
9 Bank Commission on Foreign Deposits	(10)	11
C Voluntary Organisation Registration	(11)	75
C HSBC - Account Maintenance Fee.	(12)	206
<u>C AGM Expenses</u>	<u>(13)</u>	<u>147</u>
<u>(1,542) Total Expenditure</u>		<u>(2,221)</u>
387 SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		(553)
<u>9,739 EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES b/f</u>		<u>10,126</u>
<u>10,126 FUND BALANCE AT YEAR END *</u>		<u>9,573</u>

*c/f to the Balance Sheet at Page 1)



Office of the Commissioner
for Voluntary Organisations

Certificate of Enrolment

The Malta Philatelic Society

56, Saint Mary Street, Tarxien TXN 1703 - Malta

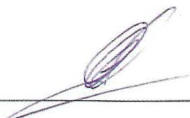
Association

(classification)

having satisfied the Commissioner for Voluntary Organisations that it qualifies in terms of Article 3¹ of the Voluntary Organisations Act, 2007 (Act No. XXII of 2007), has been enrolled as a Voluntary Organisation and its name been entered in the Register of the Voluntary Organisations as follows:

Identification Number: **VO/1697**²
Principal Purpose: **Culture**
Date of Enrolment: **26th July 2019**³
Enrolment Classification: **Historical, Literary and Humanistic Societies**

The Organisation is henceforth eligible for the privileges granted to voluntary organisations in terms of Article 4 of the said Act⁴. In terms of Article 4 (7) of the Act⁵, all persons to whom this certificate is provided are requested to provide the Organisation with full recognition of its status as a voluntary organisation compliant with all provisions of the applicable law⁶.



Dr. Anthony J. Abela Medici
Commissioner for Voluntary Organisations

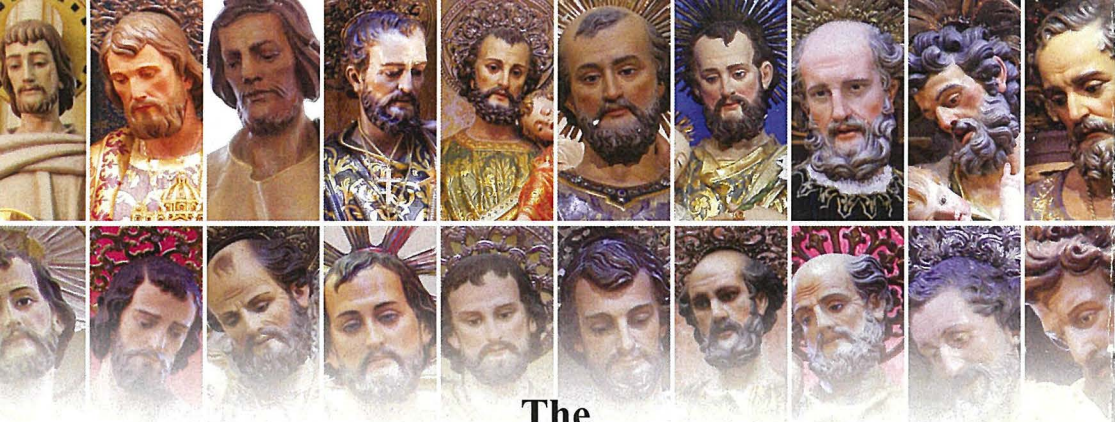
Dated: **26th July 2019**⁷



Printex



**Security printers since 1971,
producing stamps for Maltapost and the
Vatican Philatelic Bureau, amongst others.**



The Maltese Festa - Series IV

This collection, a continuation of the Maltese Festa Series, features St. Joseph's processional statues from various churches around Malta and Gozo.

Binder Price:

€10

inc. VAT

*Issue Includes:

Maltese Festa Series IV

Issue of 20 stamps;

20 Sheets;

20 Illustrated cards;

20 Envelopes

*Issue Price:

€65

inc. VAT



Philatelic Bureau, MaltaPost p.l.c.,
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