



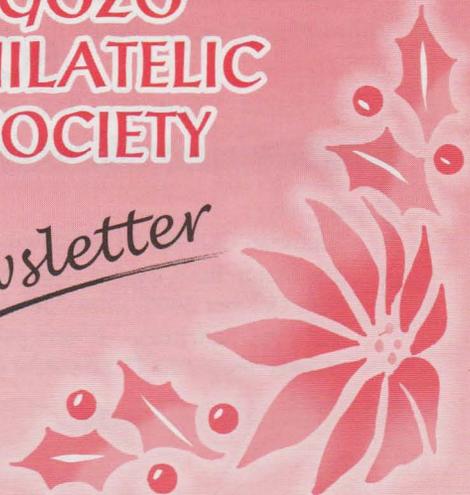
Oct - Dec 2005

Nº: 22 - 4/2005



GOZO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Newsletter



Għal Kull Servizz Bankarju



**AKTAR VALUR
BIEX TIXTRI
JEW TIBNI
DAREK**

BOV Homelink
success



Aghżel
int u nnota
d-differenza!

BOV Notice Account

306090



BOV TeenSaver Account

It-tfaddil li jikber malajr daqs it-tfal tieghek



BOV Savings Plan

Il-pjan ta' tfaddil b'bonus!

BOV

www.bov.com e-mail: customercare@bov.com

CIRCULAR TO ALL GPS MEMBERS

I have the pleasure to invite you to our

SIXTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To be held at the Scouts Headquarters
Santa Dminka Street Victoria Gozo

on

**SUNDAY 15th JANUARY 2006 at 10.00 a.m. with this
AGENDA:**

- 1. Minutes of the fourth AGM.**
- 2. Treasurer's Statement**
- 3. Secretary's Report**
- 4. President's Address**
- 5. Election of Members for Committee**
- 6. Motions**
- 7. Other Matters**

I thus invite paid up members to:

- A. nominate themselves or others to the new **Committee** and
- B. Submit notice of **Motions** (regarding amendments to our statute or otherwise).

- A **Members' Meeting** begins at **9.00 a.m.** (exchanging, buying & selling stamps etc.)
- The **Exhibition Prize-giving Ceremony** takes place immediately after the AGM, together with that for the **Competition** organized jointly with the Royal British Legion.

All members - Juniors and Seniors - are heartily encouraged to attend.

Antoine Vassallo - Secretary



GOZO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Member No.

Name

Address

..... Post Code.....

Tel No. ID Card No

I enclose annual membership fee for Lm2.

.....

Signature

Date

Being under 16, I enclose Lm1 for Junior membership
(Date of Birth.....)

.....

Signature

Date

Introduced by..... Member No

I acknowledge receipt of membership application from

.....

with relative fee of

An official receipt and membership card will be issued
later.

.....

(signed obo Gozo Philatelic Society)

Date





GPS NEWSLETTER
Quarterly Organ
of
THE GOZO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

First issued on 12th February 2000 *Editor: Austin Masini*

Opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the Committee's official policy.

Correspondence (and material for publication) should be addressed to: Editor, GPS, PO Box 10, VCT 101, Gozo, Malta.

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GOZO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Founded on 3rd September 1999

For "the promotion of the hobby"

"the provision of a point of reference" and "co-ordination"

Postal address: PO Box 10, VCT 101, Gozo, Malta.





GPS DIARY (22)

Antoine Vassallo (Secretary)

- October 2005:** John Vassallo, items from whose collection are being featured in “Australian Malta”, won a Gold Medal at the Sydney Stamp Expo with “Malta: Early Mail to World War II” (exploring the development of mail services from the early 1800’s, including obviously British stamps used in Malta). More details in the next issue.
- 12th October 2005:** Special cover prepared by Anthony Grech, signed by Chev P Camilleri Cauchi himself, using purposely ordered *se-tenant* stamps. It is worthwhile to mention two facts: the GPS was involved in the decision regarding choice of design and a Committee member (Rev Dr Gerald Buhagiar, who is also the energy behind the Seminary School Club where he is Assistant Head) wrote up the official bulletin.
- October 2005:** Newsletter 21 (marked “201” on the cover) is issued late due to some printing problems - please excuse us!
- 21st October 2005:** Meeting for Form I students at the Seminary Secondary.
- 31st October 2005:** Setting up of Exhibition begun at Ministry Halls.
- 4th November 2005:** Official opening of 6th GPS Exhibition by Minister Debono.
- 5th November 2005:** Jury decisions announced (see pages 18 and 19).
- 6th November 2005:** Probably the first-ever philatelic Auction in Gozo is held as a novelty item during our Exhibition.
- 13th November 2005:** Exhibition closes down.
- 25th November 2005:** GPS participates in the Commonwealth Peoples Forum Gozo Day.
- 26th November 2005:** Committee confirms Exhibition prizes and AGM date.

Membership fees include Newsletter delivery and so that for overseas members is LM5 (Euro 12) - they can use Money Orders or currency notes.





ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN PRO-CATHEDRAL

(Anthony Grech)

British Malta of the 1800's was a much more staunch Roman Catholic island and quite intolerant towards other religions, than it is today. As for the Anglican community, made up mainly of British service men working in Malta, the situation for worship was almost non existent. There was no church of the Anglican denomination. The only place of worship was a small chapel at the dockyard and a dark, damp and small converted kitchen at the Governor's Palace.

When Queen Adelaide visited Malta she was disturbed by this unacceptable situation. Plans were made and it was decided that a new church will be built on the site where the German Auberge once stood. This site was given and cleared for free by the British Government. Queen Adelaide forked out of her own pocket the greater part of the estimated £8000 needed, but by the time the Cathedral was completed, due to many problems and alternations, the cost came to about £15000, leaving the Queen's personal finances exhausted. According to a letter written by Mr RC Scone the main problem was the architect. Trouble started 'before half the pediment was built'. Writing to his daughter in England Mr Scone describes the situation as a disgrace. He wrote "Well, some cracks, splits and crushing began to appear in the columns of the portico. The Admiralty engineers were summoned to survey and pronounce and what they pronounced was that all the portico must immediately be pulled down. The columns within the church, for the support of the gallery and roof, must come down too. All the work is suspected; but it would be so great a pity to throw away the £6000 already spent". This situation seems that it was to the liking of the Maltese. Sconce wrote that "the Maltese are grinning at us believing that it was





Heaven's Hand that played havoc with the building. As all this happened a torrent of rain fell and this was in June. "No rain has fallen in June before, except once...and that was, I suppose, in some other great occasion of joy in heaven. They call our poor church the Devil's Den - {tochbah ta scitaun}" - {toqba tax-xitan}

Saint Paul's pro Cathedral was at last consecrated on 1st November 1844, by the Bishop of Gibraltar. Mr Sconce, who was present at the ceremony wrote to his son Bob that it was a deeply-interesting solemnity and that the edifice was "richly and properly fitted up". The congregation was made up of a "thousand worshipers" and the "many hearts were undoubtedly full of the sense of the mighty blessing conferred upon our community by this glorious gift of the good old Queen".

To commemorate the 150th Anniversary of this event, the Malta Post Office issued a 25c stamp denomination on the 10th May 1994 depicting the Cathedral. The stamp was designed by

Frank Ancilleri.

- *St Paul's Anglican Cathedral in Valletta Malta.*



Reference:

- 1) *"Life and Letters of Robert Clement Sconce", formerly Secretary to Admiral Sir John Duckworth. Compiled by his daughter Sarah S. Bunbury in two volumes. Printed*





MALTA STAMPS

(Emanuel Vella)

Before Malta issued its own stamps in 1860, British stamps were used in Malta. The British stamps were officially valid from 1857. Individuals in Malta could use stamps to pay for letters send overseas. From 1875 onwards Maltese stamps were also used to send letters overseas. This was due because Malta joined the UPU through Britain. It is worth noting that the normal Royal portraits were used for the first Maltese stamps.

Then in 1889 the first stamps with a truly Maltese design were issued. These were the one fourth penny brown ($\frac{1}{4}$ d) bearing the Grand Harbour scene, the $4\frac{1}{2}$ d Gozo Boat, 5d Maltese Galleon during the Order of St John, the 2s6d an allegory of Malta and a 10s stamp with the image of St Paul. These stamps were the only ones issued for Malta, as the other stamps' designs were usually for all British possessions overseas.



The first Maltese design set issued on 4th February 1889

The text on Maltese stamps remained mostly in English until Malta became independent in 1964. Even afterwards most text on Maltese stamps remained in English. The Maltese stamps were usually designed by foreigners and on the whole these were common to British Colonial Rule.





Then in 1957 Chev. E.V. Cremona became the chief designer for Maltese stamps. The first stamps he designed for Malta were the 1957 15th Anniversary of The George Cross Award. From then onwards, till 1980, he designed the great majority of Maltese stamps.



The first Maltese set of stamps issued on 15th April 1957 designed by a Maltese artist.

After Chev. Cremona, many various Maltese designers cropped up. Some of them produced very good designs while others were mediocre. And speaking of designers it is worth mentioning the last two sets which Maltapost issued, which personally I think were exquisitely designed namely: The Christmas set designed by Chev Paul Camilleri Cauchi who happens to be a Gozitan and the CHOGM 2005.MT designed by Mr Harry Borg. □



Christmas 2005. Designed by Chev. Paul Camilleri Cauchi





A SHORT NOTE TO THE YOUNG COLLECTOR

(George Vella)

It is very important for anyone who wishes to collect stamps to start when he is very young. This is the hobby of PHILATELY. Both boys and girls can start this hobby when they are still very young. It appeals to everybody; young and old.

We have pointed out that this hobby is very educative and rich in general knowledge, parents should encourage it. Stamps are like pictures in a book, they tell a lot. Without words they convey a lot of information. Through philately both young and old can get to know the world around them much better. A beginner may ask, how do I start and what do I need. My advice is just to collect any stamp or any related material that comes your way. Collect postage stamps that come to your home by post, ask friends, relatives and neighbours to keep stamps for you. Part exchange stamps with friends. It is also very important to join any philatelic club, especially a one in your neighbourhood. A school club, if any, is important to join. By so doing you can meet people sharing the same hobby and exchange ideas. You can seek advice from senior members and receive the club's magazine and participate in the exhibitions. A visit to exhibitions is a must.

This is a good start and the basic needs to start collecting stamps are not expensive. These generally consist of an album, a stock book for duplicates, magnifying glass, a tweezers to handle stamps and stamp catalogues. A watermark detector is also a great help. Considerable amounts of duplicate stamps can be stored in hard plastic boxes and not in tin ones because





of rust stains. Care should also be in the choice of paper, e.g. albums and envelopes. Some paper can be acidic and brown stains might appear later on. I do not suggest to hinge stamps on the album especially mint ones. This lowers the value of the stamp. Use albums where the stamp is slipped behind a plastic non-acidic strip.

We all know that this hobby can go into fortunes if you are to acquire certain pieces. In fact that is why one should start collecting when he is young, because the inexpensive stamp of today might become the expensive stamp of tomorrow. One should keep an eye open for printing flaws on stamps. These usually are rare and very often can fetch a lot of money.

One of the sole reasons that I am writing his short article is just to advise the young hobbyist to collect any stamp he comes across. As time passes, or right from the start, one may be thematic, that is collecting stamps of a particular subject or country. My advice is not to discard any stamp, even though it might be stained, torn or damaged in some way or another. By time one might have the opportunity to change it and at the same time knowing about it and what it portrays. One should not buy any stamp at catalogue price when this is not in good condition. Such stamps and single ones that are not a whole set are usually sold cheaper. Stamps in packs are usually cheap to buy. These are good bargains especially for the thematic collector.

So with this in mind and as time passes you will get to know that your collection has improved and enlarged. You always have something to look forward and acquire. Remember to give good care to your collection. especially to store them in a dry place and room and to air them by opening your albums and boxes as often as possible. Remember always to buy material which is non-acidic. □





A BIT OF MALTA POSTAL HISTORY

(Leslie Sutton)

Having served in the R.A.F. in Malta circa 1968, I started my Malta collection with the current definitive issue and expanded my collection to earlier and subsequent issues wherever I could find them.

I joined the Malta Study Circle to make new contacts; and obtain their study papers on such diverse subjects such as the use of British stamps in Malta prior to the introduction of Malta's own postage stamps and transmission of mail.

Of special interest to myself was the location of the town and village post offices and the date stamps used. The J.B. catalogue of Malta stamps and postal history lists forty of these in use between 1886 and 1921, at which stage its services became more centred in Valletta; the capital city of the islands (Malta and sister island of Gozo) and a small number of branch post offices.

In a recent auction, in a lot of Malta stamps, I recognized the village name of Gargur (Modern spelling is Gharghur) on one of them.

Together with one of my Malta friends I visited the premises formerly used as a police station and postal agency at the time of usage of the date stamp on my stamp. We were grateful for the assistance of an old lady who stated that her grandfather was employed at the station. It is now used as a seat of religious education. □





not just for BEGINNERS

Originating from various requests and comments, this regular section aims at offering help to both juniors and adults. Regular features will include explanations of philatelic terms and details of stamp issuers; but we do invite members to send questions and enquiries (e.g. about identification uncertainties). Moreover you are encouraged to offer your own contributions, even short items or tips.

Where in the World ?! (13)

(Antoine Vassallo)

Stamp Issuers Past and Present

Drzava S.H.S. = early Yugoslavia.

Dubai: formerly part of the Trucial States with own stamps 1963-73, now in United Arab Emirates.

Dungarpur: Indian state with own stamps 1933-48.

Durazzo: Italian PO in the Albanian town of Durres 1909-15.

Dutch Guinea = Surinam.

Dutch Indies = Netherlands Indies.

Dutch New Guinea = Netherlands New Guinea.

Duttia: Indian state with own stamps 1893-1920.

E.A.F.= East African Forces stamps for British occupation of Somalia 1943-8.

East Africa & Uganda: British Protectorate with stamps 1903-22; later Kenya, Uganda & Tanganyika.

East Africa Common Service Organization: issued commemoratives (*Kenya Uganda Tanzania*) 1964-75.

East China: Regional issues by Communist administration 1949.

East Germany: popular name for Democratic Republic of Germany.

East India: issues of India 1855-60





East of Jordan: 1918 British Military Administration of Palestine stamps.

East Silesia: Central European area round Teschen which had separate Czech and Polish stamps in 1820.

Eastern Arabia: British stamps overprinted for Postal Agencies in parts of the Persian Gulf (1948-57).

Eastern Command: German stamps overprinted *Postgebeit Ob. Ost.* for occupation of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania 1916.

Eastern Karelia (*Ita-Karjala*): Russian region under Finnish administration 1940-7.

Eastern Roumelia (*Roumelie Orientale*): Ottoman province with own stamps 1880-4, when it became part of Bulgaria.

Eastern Siberia: surcharges issued in 1923.

Eastern Thrace: Greek stamps overprinted for use in this area to the north of the Aegean 1920.

E.C.: overprints during Mexican Civil War in 1914.

ECUADOR: South American republic with stamps from 1865.

E.E.F.: 1918 British Military Administration of Palestine stamps.

Eesti = Estonia.

Egeo = Aegean Islands.

EGYPT: country in Northeast Africa with stamps from 1866 (**UAR** 1958-71).

Egyptian Expeditionary Force = EEF.

Egyptian Occupation of Palestine (Gaza) 1948-67.

Bold italic = Inscriptions;

BOLD CAPITALS = Current Issuers;

Bold = Former Issuers.

(Since it is obviously impossible to be completely exhaustive, you are encouraged to bring any gaps to my notice!)





stamp terms used in PHILATELY (13)

(Emanuel Vella)

Inland Revenue: Revenue stamps are used for the stamping of documents. Some stamps were specifically printed for revenue but most stamps have postage & revenue printed on them. Revenue stamps are called fiscals on back of the book stamps.

Insurance stamps: In philately, the official stamps issued for the postal use of the New Zealand Government's life Insurance Department; often referred to as the 'Lighthouses' from their design.

'International' Cancelling Machines: Postmarks from these may be identified on U.S.A. mail as the circle (dial) has the year date at the bottom. In 'Universal' machine marking the name of the state appears there.

International Geophysical Year 1958: A lot of nations co-operated in the I.G.Y. programme and issued commemorative stamps to mark this occasion.

International Labour Office: *Bureau International du Travail*, one of the international agencies with its headquarters in Switzerland. From 1923 various Swiss issues have been overprinted B.I.T. use, and in 1956 the office first set of definitives appeared.

Interprovincial: A stamp issued by one province of South Africa but used in another. When the Union of South Africa was founded on 31st May 1910, the stamps of the individual colonies of Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Transvaal and Orange River Colony became valid





throughout the Union. To qualify as a true interprovincial, a stamp should be postmarked in a province other than that of issue on a date prior to the issue of the first Union definitives on September 1913 although the colonies' stamps were not actually domesticated until 1938.

Interrupted Perforations: Some coil stamps had one or more of the transverse punches removed, giving a broken line of perforations between each stamp, and so leaving one or more “bridges” of unbroken paper to take the strain of operating the mechanism. Thus in the Netherland 1924-6 series the coil stamps have one punch missing at either end and two in the centre, leaving 2 groups of four holes. Interrupted perforations are also found in experimental coils of the U.S.A. The 1862 stamps of Peru were printed ‘on the reel’ on a Lecocq machine and often rouletted with an interrupted series of cuts - sometimes known as syncopated perforations.

Interverted: Wrong way round or a pair of stamps cut the wrong way or transposed in wrong sequence. Example, a dominical label on the top of a Belgian stamp instead of below.

Invalidated: No longer valid for payment of postage.

Inverted: Turned upside down. In stamp printing there have been inverted centres, inverted frames, inverted surcharges and overprints. There is also the inverted watermark. All these are minor or major varieties, with more or less importance to the philatelist.

(to be continued)





Script by Script (13)

(Antoine Vassallo)

This regular space features stamps without any identifiable name in "latin" script or providing some similar difficulty.

Remaining in Asia from the previous Newsletter, I now refer to Nepal - home of the Gurkhas, famous for chivalry and gallantry in battle. Interestingly, the office of Prime Minister was hereditary in the Rana family, with power greater than that of the king until the middle of the twentieth century.

This small kingdom in the Himalayas issued its first stamps in 1881 - right at the end of King Surendra's reign. They were produced locally rather primitively, resulting in numerous shades. Many impressions are blurred and inverted clichés appeared often. Different papers were used, usually without gum and mostly imperforate.



This "strange" design continued being used to 1930, though another two had in the meantime been introduced - in 1899 and 1907 respectively. The latter (showing, rather indistinctly, Siva Mahadeva) was printed by Perkins Bacon of London and had different year dates (according to the Nepalese system) in the corners.



A 1949 pictorial issue, printed in the Indian town of Nasik, introduced an identifiable country name - even if sometimes quite minute!

I would like to mention South East Asian Thailand too. Its first issue (as Siam) appeared in 1883, with three designs showing King Chulalongkorn (Rama V). □





E & O not E (8)

(Antoine Vassallo)

Glances at stamps with design or printing mistakes (well-known or obscure)

Flowers are a common - and popular - subject on stamps. But there have been many instances of wrong identification or simply spelling errors in the inscription.

Cook Islands are a group in the South Pacific which have given us many attractive designs. A particularly colourful set began appearing in 1967, based on floral paintings by Mrs Kay Billings. Unfortunately an error cropped up on the 4c which was issued on 31st July.

The printing sheet comprised four post office sheets; on one of these, all stamps were inscribed "Walter Lily" instead of the correct "Water Lily" (which can also be written as one word). This flower is a perennial aquatic plant of the *Nymphaeaceae* family which exists in a large range of varieties and colours.

Although seemingly insignificant and hardly obvious (vertically on the side), this reproduction slip was noticed immediately and later supplies did not include the mistake. In fact, it does not exist on stamps reissued with fluorescent security markings on 9th February 1970. Interestingly, the fluorescence is in the form of faint multiple coats of arms, sometimes inverted.

Cases of mistaken identity in nature designs will be featured in the future but our readers are again invited to share their own "finds".

*Walter
Lily*



*Water
Lily*



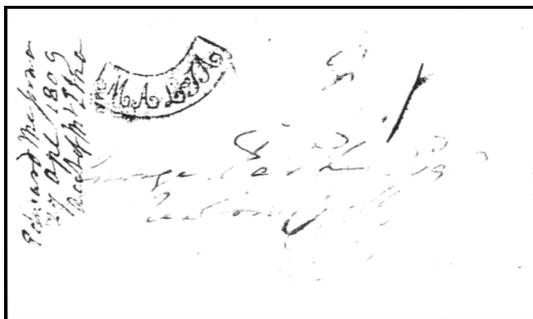


Australian MALTA (7)

John Vassallo, who lives in Australia, offers glimpses of his Malta Collection.

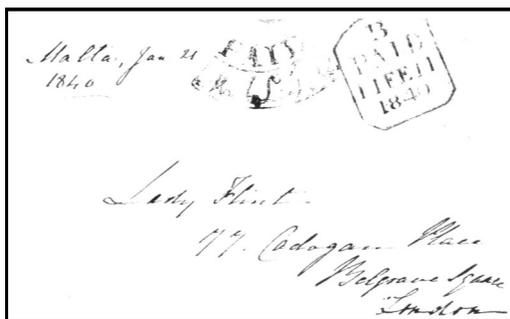
I continue showing parts of my Postal History exhibits.

Little is known about the postal arrangements under the French or during the early period of British Rule. But in 1804, Domenico Montaro (Postmaster under the Knights) was re-appointed Island Postmaster. The first handstamp which can be found after 1800 is the “MALTA” in a cursive script within a curved box. These were later used concurrently with similar ones surmounted by the word “PAID” in script block capitals. The single “MALTA” was in use from 12th February 1807 till 2nd November 1836. The combined “PAID MALTA” was in use between 31st July 1807 and 27th July 1840.



This fine specimen of the single “MALTA” handstamp is from an April 1809 letter of a British Officer from Sicily with a deal of interesting military details and an account of an excursion to Mount Etna. The front also includes a manuscript of 3/11.

This impression of the combined “PAID MALTA” handstamp is on a letter dated 21st January 1840. It also shows the London arrival strike of 11th February 1840. A manuscript 1/- figure is shown representing the fee for delivery of a double page letter by the Packet boats.





THE SIXTH ANNUAL GOZO PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

(5th to 13th November 2005)

(Anthony Fenech)

The prospering Gozo Philatelic Society held its Sixth Philatelic Show at the Exhibition Hall St Francis Square, Victoria between the fifth and the thirteenth November 2005. The Exhibition was inaugurated by the Hon. Giovanna Debono, Minister for Gozo, on Friday 4th November at 7.00 pm. All the distinguished guests and members of the GPS present, welcomed the President's speech in which he highlighted most interestingly the Society's events during the past year and what was forthcoming in 2006. The Hon. Minister expressed fine words of admiration for the hard work the Executive Members of the Society are putting in, to keep it flourishing, especially among the young collectors.

Three cheers for the high standard reached by the competing as well as by the non-competing philatelic exhibits put up at this year's show! Hats off to the organising committee for displaying one of Cremona's newly restored original paintings, housed at Ta' Pinu Sanctuary! Visitors to the show could admire Chev. Paul Camilleri Cauchi's essays for his exceptionally designed Christmas set issued by Maltapost on the 12 October 2005. Chev. Camilleri Cauchi's set featured the Ta' Pinu mosaics, enhanced by the ornate sculpture in Maltese stone magnificently hewn by the great Gozitan artist, Wistin Camilleri, who happens to be the stamp designer's father.

The "Best Item on Show" prize was meritoriously awarded to the very original and innovative exhibit very ably set up for the Sixth Gozo Philatelic Society Exhibition. The exhibitor did not leave a stone unturned when featuring the 2005 Christmas set with home made pictorial covers showing

(continued on page 20)





COMPETITION RESULTS OF THE 6TH GPS PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

Summary of Judging Panel's Report

The Panel consisted of Mr Anthony Fenech and Mr J Buttigieg . The range and quality of exhibits have again been very impressive and all participants should be congratulated. The following orders of merit were decided, based on the criteria of Presentation, Content and Philatelic Knowledge. This year's level was high and this augurs well for the future of philately in Gozo.

- **SENIORS:**

1. TRADITIONAL PHILATELY (FEASTS AND FESTIVALS)

- 1st Rev Fr Gerald Buhagiar
- 2nd Mr Anthony Grech
- 3rd Mr Jesmond Borg



2. POSTAL HISTORY & SOCIAL PHILATELY

- 1st Mr Jesmond Borg
- 2nd Mr Anthony Grech
- 3rd Rev Fr Gerald Buhagiar
- 4th Dr Paul G Pisani
- 5th Ms Elaine Marie Borg





JUNIORS:

- 1st** Samuel Masini;
- 2nd** Luke Masini;
- 3rd** Elaine Marie Borg;

- 4th** Margherita Borg;
- 4th** Edward Xuereb;
- 6th** Andrea Borg.

RUNNERS UP: (Juniors)

- A. Giovanni Grech
- B. Josmar Azzopardi
- C. Joseph Bonnici
- D. Joseph Vella
- E. Andrew Zammit
- F. Martin Vella
- G. Marie Vella
- H. Christopher Micallef
- I. Matthew Cardona

- J. Stefan Xerri
- K. Kenneth Portelli
- L. George Portelli
- M. John Borg
- N. Mark L. Zammit
- O. Garrett Vella
- P. William Agius
- Q. Anthony Portelli
- R. Christopher Vella
- S. Mario Rapa

NON COMPETING

Chev Paul Camilleri Cauchi, Ms Lina Gauci, Mr Hans Katsnaitzer, Ms Georgianna Saliba Azzopardi, Mr Emanuel Vella, Ms M'Grace Xerri, Rev Rector Ta' Pinu Sanctuary.

BANK OF VALLETTA CHALLENGE CUP

Rev Fr Gerald Buhagiar

CONGRATULATIONS !!!



The GPS Committee would also like to thank the panel for its in-depth report.

A Special Thank You goes to our German member Mr Wolfgang Juncker who donated to the Gozo Philatelic Society a number of German First Day Covers, Postal Cards and Stamps.





(continued from page 17)

First Day of Issue postmarks from all the retail Branches in Gozo and Malta as well as from the Philatelic Bureau and The Mobile Unit. The Commemorative Ta' Pinu covers franked with special "Personalised Stamps" were adequately cancelled on the First Day of Issue at the Gharb Branch Post Office. (Ta' Pinu Sanctuary falls within the Gharb Postal District). The exhibitor also managed to discover minute but significant flaws in the printing and managed to display them in a most tempting way.

The members on the Judging Panel of the Exhibition could not but appreciate the wonderful collections on show - the remarkable collection of the early G.B. Queen Victoria stamps on cover, including the elusive One Penny Black cancelled with the Maltese Cross obliterator in black; the King George VI Victory omnibus sets wonderfully displayed; the Life of Sir Winston Churchill told in stamps and commemorative covers; the Malta Postal Stationery exhibit; the much welcomed thematic displays put up by various young and promising exhibitors and last but not least the very interesting and historical Social Philately display featuring the idealist Carmelo Borg Pisani. It is worth mentioning here that the members judging the exhibits had suggested to the hard-working Organising Committee of the GPS Exhibition to include the Social Philately Class in the Exhibition. It seems that this suggestion has been welcomed by the Organising Committee and would include it in next year's Show.

All in all the Sixth Gozo Philatelic Exhibition had been a great success. No wonder that it had attracted so many local and foreign visitors to its venue and who had left so many favourable comments as attested on the Visitors Book made available at the Show. Well done GPS! □





**MALTA'S RELIGIOSITY EVIDENCED
PHILATELICALLY
A CROSS-REFERENCED A - Z**

(Antoine Vassallo)

(continued from Newsletter No 21)

S is for SAINTS (cont)

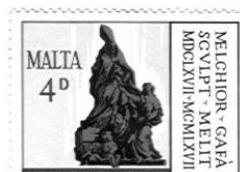
b) Various other saints (not necessarily with a currently strong local cult) have appeared on Malta's stamps, often reproduced from local paintings and statues:

- Anthony Abbot: **6 + 2c Christmas 1998**
- Catherine: **Miniature Sheet Art 2004, set of 4 stamps 2005**
- Catherine of Siena: **2d Gafa' 1967**
- Christopher: **7c, 10c Christmas**
- Demetrius (*Dimitri*): **35c Europa 1997**
- Dominic Savio: **10c Religious 1988**
- Elizabeth: **2c Christmas 1982; 2c Christmas 1987**
- Emilie de Vialar: **16c Education 1997**
- Francis of Assisi: **8c International Peace Year 1986**
- Gregory: **26c (and MS) Cities 1997; 16c Christmas 1998**
- Ignatius of Loyola: **3c Religious 1991**
- Jerome: **8d Exhibition 1970**
- John Bosco: **10c Religious 1988; 75c Salesian Centenary 2004**
- John of the Cross: **30c Religious 1991**
- John the Baptist: **£1 Defs**





- 1956; 2s6d Gafa' 1967; 1d and 2d Exhibition 1970; 1c and 10c Christmas 1976; 6+2c and 26c Christmas 1998**
- John the Evangelist: **7c Tapestries 1977**
 - Joseph: **2d and 10d Religious 1971** and various Christmas stamps
 - Jude: **Miniature Sheet Tapestries 1980**
 - Luke: **6d Doctors 1964; 7c Tapestries 1977**
 - Mark: **7c Tapestries 1977**
 - Martin: **10c Defs 1973**
 - Mary Euphrasia Pelletier: **20c Child Welfare 1996**
 - Matthew: **7c Tapestries 1977**
 - (Blessed) Michael Rua: **75c Salesian Centenary 2004**
 - Nicholas of Bari: **7c; 10c Christmas 1976; 16c (and MS) Cities 1997; 16c, 26c Christmas 1998**
 - Simon (Apostle): **Miniature Sheet Tapestries 1980**
 - Simon Stock: (3-value set) **Scapular Centenary 1951**
 - Thomas of Villanova: **4d Gafa' 1967**



see **BCGHINOTUV**

T is for TOPONYMY

Numerous placenames have religious connotations. For





example:

- Annunciation Street (Hamrun) 22c Letterboxes 2004.
- *Misrah San Gorg* (known also as Palace square) 5/- KG6 Defs. 1938 and 1948.
- St Francis Square (Victoria) 37c Letterboxes 2004.
- St John's Tower Street (Vittoriosa) 16c Letterboxes 2004.
- St Joseph High Road (Hamrun) 22c Letterboxes 2004.
- St Julian's 22c Twentieth Century 2000.
- St Paul's Street (Munxar) 22c Letterboxes 2004.
- *Ta' l-Isperanza* = ("Hope") 7c Europa 1977.



The following have their own postmark:
St Julian's, St Paul's Bay, San Gwann, Santa Lucia and Santa Venera.

see M N

U is for UTENSILS

I am including here items which are not intrinsically religious.

- Geroge Cross 3-value sets 1957, 1958, 1959, 1961, 1967 and 1992 (besides decorative use, prominent or not, up to 5-value 2005 Battle of Malta).
- Hearse and cemetery 11c Equines 2005.
- *Addolorata* Cemetery monument 2d Independence 1969





- Sacristy Door (Mdina Cathedral) **3c** Europa **1974**.
- Robes of the Order of St Michael & St George **4d** Royal Visit **1967**.
- The kingfisher is *ghasfur ta' San Martin* **35c** Europa **1999**.
- The praying mantis is ironically *debba tax-xitan* - Insects **2005**.
- Sedan chairs from the Zabbar Sanctuary Museum (**6c**); from the Cathedral Museum (**16c**); from Zejtun Parish Church used for Viaticum (**27c**) all included in **1997** Treasures set.
- Mdina Cathedral Organ **20c** Art **2004**.
- Sea Gladiator planes called "Faith" "Hope" and "Charity" **51c** Battle of Malta **2005**.
- Ships called *Knight of Malta* **10c** (**1986**), *La Madonna del Rosario* **8c** (**1982**); *La Speranza* ("Hope") **13c** (**1983**), *San Paolo* **12c** (**1982**); *San Pawl* **7c** (**1986**) (all are Maltese ships sets); *San Frangisk* **MS Pope** **2001**.
- Balsamina **14c** Silver **1994**.



see L Z

V is for the VIRGIN MARY

She has been a common subject on Malta's stamps, not excluding the majority of Christmas issues (often as part of a Nativity scene).

- Our Lady of Mount Carmel - (3-value set) Scapular Centenary **1951**.
- Immaculate Conception - (3-value set) Dogma Centenary **1954**; **2d, 10d** Religious **1971**.

(to be continued)



FOR SALE

Capitulation of the French Special hand stamp cards (set of 2). (*Timbru speċjali ta-
Kapitulazzjoni tal-Francizi f'Ghawdex*) **Lm1.00c**

Millenium hand stamped cards (8). (*Set ta' 8
kartolini ttimbrati bl-aħħar timbru tal-millenju
waħda ghal kull posta f'Ghawdex*) **Lm2.00c**

A commemorative Registered Cover from
Victoria Gozo Post Office to commemorate two
Gozitan Patriots namely:-
Sir Adrian Dingli & Arch Saverio Cassar. **Lm2.00c**

A Commemorative Card showing Guzeppi
Grech known as Zeppu Kola, the last owner of
the Xaghra Windmill doing maintenance work. **Lm1.00c**

Malta Stamp Album in 3 Volumes with spaces
for every stamp to date. **Lm20.00c**

Malta stamps in mint condition are also available at 2/3
catalogue price.

Those interested may contact:

Mr Anthony Grech on Tel No. 21553338

FOR SALE

- Card to commemorate the 200th Anniversary Of The Blessing Of Nadur Parish Church. Cancelled with a Commemorative Special Hand Stamp at Nadur Gozo Sub Post Office. Individually hand coloured and limited edition of 75. **Lm0.25c**
- Cover to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the death of the Gozitan Artist - Painter and Sculpturer Wistin Camilleri. This cover shows the tomb monument of the artist and a piece of his sculpture found at Ta' Pinu Church. Limited edition of 50. **Lm0.25c**
- Card to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Dogma of the Immaculate Conception. Cancelled with a Special Hand Stamp used only at the Victoria Gozo BPO. Limited edition of 100. **Lm0.50c**
- Card to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Consecration of Fontana Parish Church cancelled with a Special Hand Stamp. Limited edition of 50. **Lm0.50c**
- Malta stamps in mint condition are also available at 2/3 catalogue price.

Those interested may contact:

Mr Anthony Grech on Tel No. 21553338

Merry Christmas

You are all invited to
contribute to this, our
periodical



Members are encouraged to send comments and suggestions, as well as other contributions for publication (about your collection and experience, about postal history and stamp subjects etc etc). Because of our numerous foreign members, the language should preferably be English; but a summary could be added to an item in Maltese - in any case the editorial board can translate.

We also welcome letters asking for help regarding stamp identification etc. Anything published will merit a philatelic gift! And Juniors will receive a memento in any case!.



Reminder to young members

A token of free stamps will be given to those who would renew their membership for year 2006



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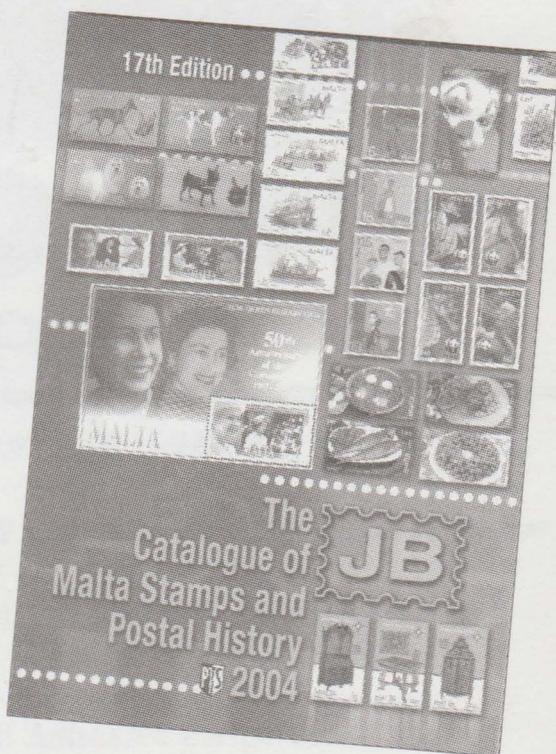
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