



Il-Grupp Filateliku taż-Żejtun

# The Melite Post

ISSUE NO. 06

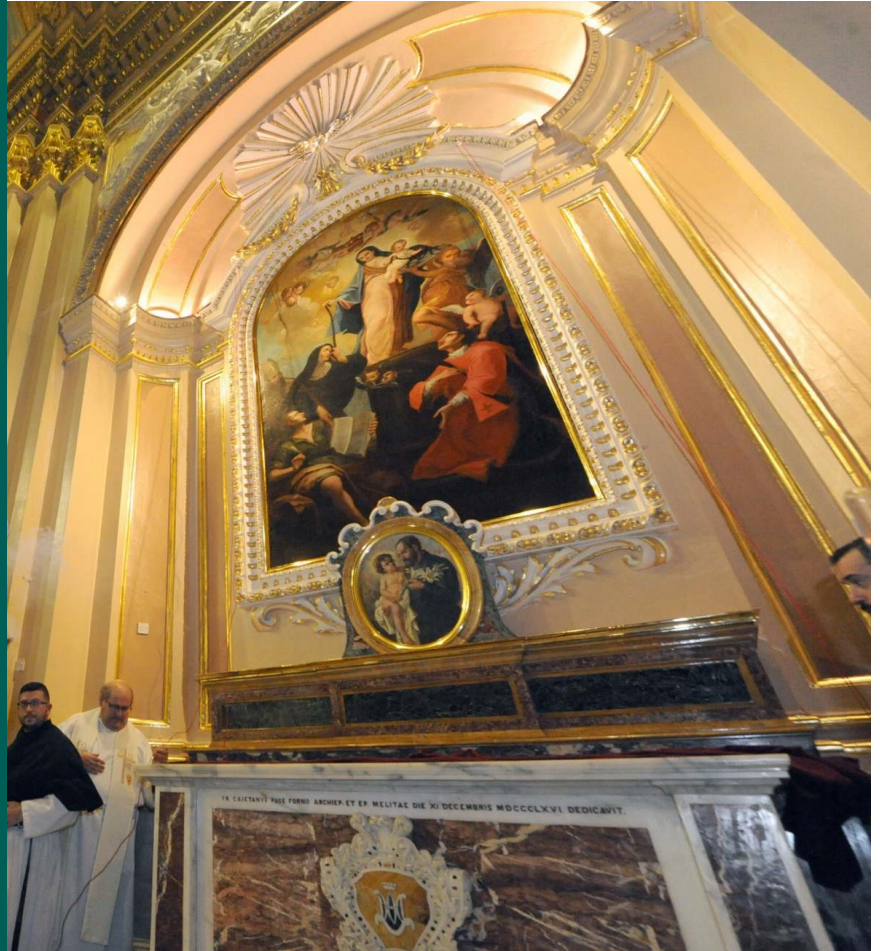
IL-GRUPP FILATELĠKU TAŻ-ŻEJTUN

MARCH 2018

## SANCTA MATER CONSOLATIONIS

Fl-okkażjoni tar-restawr tal-Kwadru Titulari tal-Madonna tač-Ċintura, tal-Knisja Parrokkjali taż-Żejtun, il-Fratellanza tal-Madonna tač-Ċintura tal-istess Parročča ħadet ħsieb li toħroġ sett ta' 10 bolol personalizzati, kartolina filatelika u santa tal-bizzilla.

Għal din l-okkażjoni l-MaltaPost fil-gurnata tal-ħruġ, li kien il-Gimġha, 26 ta' Jannar, 2018, ħadet ħsieb li toħroġ timbru speċjali tal-okkażjoni mill-fergħa tal-posta taż-Żejtun. Fuq **paġna 8** tista' tikseb aktar informazzjoni dwar dan il-kwadru. ➤



## MELITA

In the edition of December 2017 (issue no. 5) we discussed the idea of allegory of Melita on Maltese stamps by an article of Mario Casingena. This article continues on **page 3** ➤



## FREE FRANKING

On **page 6** Raymond Agius will discuss the idea of the British Free Franking system used in Britain from the 17th century until 1840. The Free Frank was a mark applied by a means of a hand-stamp ... ➤

## KURŽITÀ

**George Vavvas** minn Ioannina, il-Greċja, jingħad li għandhu l-akbar kollezzjoni ta' bolol *first day covers*. Infatti fl-2013, il-Guinness World Record tagħtu dan ir-rikonoxximent b'7,215-il *first day cover* minn 119-il pajjiż differenti. Is-Sur Vavvas beda jgħemmgħa dawn il-bolol fl-2005.

**7215 first day covers**

# Għaddiet sena ...

MILL-EDITUR

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**SEAN CHIRCOP**


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Għaddiet sena mill-ewwel ħarġa ta' *The Melite Post*, u biex nidhlu fit-tieni sena ta' din il-gazzetta ħadna ħsieb li nagħtuha format ġdid. Hu sabiħ li terġa' tagħti l-ħajja dak li missirijietna jkunu wettqu, iżda dak li terġa' tqajjem mill-mewt tajjeb li taġġornah maż-żminijiet tal-lum biex jibqgħu jappella għal kulhadd. Matul din is-sena rajna li l-gazzetta kull ma jmur qed tikseb aktar popolarità fost il-qarrejja, hekk kif hemm persuni li mhux membri tal-Grupp Filateliku taż-Żejtun li jinsabu abbonati f'din il-ħarġa wkoll. Infatti kien hemm xi għaqdiet li talbuna kopja tal-ħames edizzjonijiet li ħriġna s'issa biex jagħmluhom parti mill-arkivji tagħhom dwar l-istorja.



Biex l-artikli jaslu aktar b'mod sħiħ għand dawk li tintersahom l-istorja tal-filatelija u l-istorja ingenerali, u dawk li jixtiequ jagħmlu xi ricerka ħadna ħsieb, grazzi għas-Sur Mark Debattista (membru ġdid tal-Grupp), biex l-edizzjonijiet passati jkunu fuq d-*database online* tal-Università ta' Malta. B'hekk illum il-ġurnata jekk xi ħadd jkun irid ifittex xi artiklu li kitbu l-kittieba ta' *The Melite Post* se jkun jista' jsibu din l-informazzjoni minn fuq din il-librerija diġitali, bla ma għandu bżonn ikun jaf bl-għaqda tagħna. Dawn l-ideat u l-entuzjażmu għandha bżonn il-filatelija f'pajjiżna biex tkompli toktor u ma tmutx mewta naturali. B'hekk hu tajjeb li niġbru dak t-tagħrif li kienu jafu ta' qabilna dwar il-filatelija biex it-tagħrif ma jintilfx u jibqgħu għaddej minn ġenerazzjoni għal oħra. F'kull qasam tal-ħajja nsibu persuni li huma teżori jew minjieri ta' tagħlim u informazzjoni. B'hekk jekk il-minjiera ma taħzinix b'mod tajjeb, mal-mewta tagħhom jisfanna fix-xejn dak it-teżor. Minn hawn qed nitlob lilkom, l-aktar il-membri anzjani tagħna, biex dak li tafu fuq il-filatelija u l-istorja tal-posta tiktub u tgħadduh lilna.

Matul din il-ħarġa qed inkomplu nagħtu ħarsa lejn id-dehra tax-xbieha ta' Melita fuq il-bolol Maltin. Grazzi għas-Sur Mario Casingena għadna r-rokna ta' opinjoni kritika fuq il-bolol riċenti Maltin u qed jagħti ħarsa wkoll lejn il-midalji li kienu joħroġu biex jikkommemoraw il-ftuħ tal-Wirja Filatelika mill-*Malta Philatelic Society*. Minn hawn nixtieq nifraħ lill-Parroċċa taż-Żejtun u l-Fratellanza tal-Madonna taċ-Ċintura tar-restawr li għamlu fuq l-artal taċ-Ċintura u għas-sett bolol personalizzati u folder li ħarġu għal din l-okkażjoni.

Minn hawn nixtieq l-Għid it-Tajjeb lil kulhadd!

## ABBONA

Din il-ħarġa se toħroġ erba' (4) darbiet fis-sena. Il-ħarġa li jmiss se toħroġ lejn l-aħħar ta' **Ġunju 2018**. Din il-ħarġa hi b'xejn għall-membri kollha tal-għaqda, iżda dawk li mhux membri jridu jħallsu €0.50ċ. Biex tabbona jew tibgħat ittra lill-għaqda ibgħat fuq l-indirizz jew l-email t'hawnhekk.

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# MELITA

BY

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**MARIO CASINGENA**


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**2/6 STATE OF MALTA:** In the definitive set of 7 January 1965, gives a different aspect of Melita following the Independence 1964. Here, contemporary art, a more of a relaxed female image following a battle, a young lady sitting on scattered ruins. She is holding a spear (which could have been shorter in length and within the stamp) and a shield, prominently displayed in the middle of the stamp. Suggesting again the colours of the Malta flag but now with the addition of the George Cross that had been awarded 23 years earlier by King George VI. A short and to the point and crowned "State of Malta", thus the crown (although it was improved to have five turrets, and a sally port in the middle) on the shield gives the coat of arms. This is a post-independence, but the left margin carries the image of the British Queen, for in economic terms, though the Nation got independence it was still heavily reliant on the British Empire such as in tourism, the running of the dry-docks and air connections. The British Empire, could control anything except the area that the Church in Malta enjoyed jurisdiction, the Church of England way held at bay. IV Centenary of the Great Siege, issue 1 September 1965 and then the miniature sheet 50 years later.



Here, taken from the fresco on the main doorway of the Saint John Co-Cathedral. Allegory of Victory over the Turks, a dynamic lady in armour, with the eight pointed cross on the breast gear. Holding a sword on the right while on the other the flag of the Knights of Saint John. Victorious in action, with the spiritual help represented in the angels around, the Nation (Melita) and the forces of the Knights.

**EUROPA 15 JULY, 1975:** The artist in this issue prepared two particular stamps and it is better to start with that of "Judith and Holofernes" to the other above illustrated. Judith and Holofernes a Bible narration, and a common street statue on feast days around the Island. Here the oil on canvas by Valentin de Boulonge in 1626. Judith is considered the symbol of liberty, virtue and victory of the weak over the strong. She stands powerful with the sword, as she beheads Holofernes. Therefore from here stems the objective of the whole stamp issue, following the birth of the Republic in 1974, the artist merged the issue as relative.

The first stamp is referred to as allegory, by Francesco de Mura in 1747, stamp designed by Envin Cremona. The de Mura painting has colour, shades, unusual in set up (padded chair, matching foot cushion, against a ➤

rock backdrop), not quite understanding the scope of the statute. The mature lady is attributed to be Melita, as adapted by Cremona, and the lady simply lacks the energy and action save to holding a spear in one hand while the other the hand rests on a statue of the goddess Minerva or Athena. The left foot rests on a cushion on which same cushion the crown partly slides.

A beautiful presentation of an Europa stamp issue considering that both paintings are held by the National Museum of Fine Arts, Valletta. (look for a differing interpretation on europeana (Wikipedia) collection where the allegory is attributed to the Order of Saint John for the mentioned statue, has the eight pointed cross is claimed to be on the shield of the warrior's shield).



**1922 - 1926 GIANNI VELLA:** Here Britannia, female personification of Britain, wearing full gear and holding a shield on which there is the Union Jack, but the spear is missing. Britannia stands out as the British Empire, powerful at the stride of colonisation of a number of countries. The Maltese Nation is present in a female, who stands in the front part of the setup, carries a long flowing dress on which dress there is the flag of the Order of Saint John of Jerusalem, this is a sharp contrast, the Roman Catholic Church and Britannia's 1530's Church of England. Melita holds up the left hand partly around the neck of Britannia, in a pose much fitting a male and female, here is that intimacy in which one is overlooking in a paternal aspect the growing up of a nation. Furthermore Melita, represented by a breast less young lady, is holding an olive branch in her right hand, as that beauty that the Island had to offer is peace and tranquillity but most important the hospitality by which the Nation had always been known. The year of issue of the stamp is carried in roman numbering. The lower left corner of the stamp introduces the idea and basis of a coat of arms, diagonally positioned with the Union Flag further enhances the whole legend. Therefore a crowned badge and a victory wreath are elegantly presented. The (28) small eight pointed cross is further added to the boarder, a pattern to neatly finish the presentation even though unnecessary or unrelated to the image sought to be projected.



# *Niltaqgħu ma'*

## *Trevor Żahra*

Il-kittieb u l-illustratur Trevor Żahra, twieled iż-Żejtun fl-1947; bin Walter u Ġuża nee' Caruana. Huwa studja fl-iskola primarja taż-Żejtun u wara fis-Sekondarja Teknika ta' Raħal Ġdid. Fl-1966 daħal jaħdem għal żmien qasir mal-istazzjoni tax-xandir lokali, bħala script writer. Kien ukoll jipproduċi programmi għat-tfal u jagħmel xogħol ta' Presentation Officer.

Fl-1966 daħal il-Kulleġġ tal-Għalliema fejn wara kors ta' sentejn beda jgħallem il-Malti u l-Arti fl-iskejjel taż-Żejtun. L-ewwel sena fl-iskola Primarja tas-Subien taż-Żejtun u wara beda jgħallem l-Arti u l-Malti fl-iskola sekondarja tal-bniet taż-Żejtun, fejn dam 33 sena jgħallem biss iż-Żejtun u mkien ieħor, sa kemm irtira. Trevor iżzewweġ lil Stella Agius fl-1971 u kellhom żewġ itfal, Ruben u Marija.



Ta' età żgħira hu beda jinteressa ruħu fil-kitba u l-Arti. Fejn ippubblika l-ewwel poeziji tiegħu f' 'The Children's Own', fil-ġurnal Il-Berqa u f'għadd ta' rivisti. Fost l-ewwel kitba tiegħu li għad fadal minn dan il-perijodu nsibu Il-Praspar ta' Kuncett u Marinton li bosta minnhom Żahra kitibhom meta kien fir-raba' sena tal-iskola sekondarja.

Fl-1971 ippubblika l-ewwel ktieb tiegħu, Il-Pulena tad-Deheb. Dan il-ktieb kiseb suċċess immedjat u Żahra minnufih inxtehet fil-qasam tal-kitba għat-tfal b'impenn kbir. Izda huwa qatt ma waqaf mill-kitba adulta. Fl-1972 ippubblika l-ġabra ta' poeziji Eden. Fl-1973 ippubblika l-ewwel rumanz tiegħu Is-Surmast, rumanz li għoxrin sena wara Żahra adattah għall-palk u ġie ppreżenta b'suċċess kbir fit-Teatru Manoel għal sentejn wara xulxin. Fl-1974, ippubblika r-rumanz Taħt il-Weraq tal-Palm li kien rebaħ l-ewwel premju f'konkors mniedi mill-Klabb Kotba Maltin. Minn dak iż-żmien 'l hawn Żahra baqa' jippubblika kemm kotba għat-tfal kif ukoll għall-kbar. Żahra ppubblika wkoll l-ewwel workbooks għat-tfal għat-tagħlim tal-Malti. Il-kotba tiegħu, bejn kotba ċkejknin għat-tfal iż-żgħar, traduzzjonijiet kif ukoll letteratura għall-kbar, illum ilaħħqu 'l fuq minn 130 fuq medda ta' 45 sena.

Żahra jillustra, ifassal u jipproduċi l-kotba kollha tiegħu u minħabba dan, il-kotba tiegħu huma magħrufin għall-produzzjoni attraenti li fihom. Esebixxa wkoll għadd ta' illustrazzjonijiet tiegħu f'wirjiet internazzjonali. Ir-rumanzett tiegħu 'Il-Ĥajja Sigrieta tan-Nanna Ġenoveffa' ġie tradott f'diversi lingwi. Trevor kiteb diversi kitbiet ukoll b'risq il-wirt kulturali, storiku u soċjali taż-Żejtun, fosthom l-Oratorju 'Dawl fuq is-Sinaj' għall-Għaqda Muzikali Beland u l-aħħar xogħol tiegħu l-Kantata għall-okkażjoni tal-400 sena Matriċi tal-Parroċċa taż-Żejtun għall-Għaqda Banda Żejtun.

Żahra huwa rebbieħ ta' bosta premjijiet letterarji prestiġjużi; biżżejjed insemmu li rebaħ il-Premju Nazzjonali tal-Ktieb għal 18-il darba f'diversi kategoriji. F'Diċembru 2004 Trevor ġie onorat bil-Midalja għall-Qadi tar-Repubblika bħala rikonoxximent għall-ħidma tiegħu b'risq il-letteratura għat-tfal. Fl-2008 rebaħ it-taqsim tal-Arti u d-Divertiment tal-Johnnie Walker Man of the Year Award u fl-2013 kiseb il-Midalja tad-Deheb mis-Socjetà tal-Arti.

Fl-2017 Trevor Żahra ngħata Ġieħ iż-Żejtun mill-Kunsill Lokali taż-Żejtun għall-kontribut tiegħu fuq livell lokali u nazzjonali.

Trevor Żahra huwa wkoll illustratur ta' bolol li ħarġet mill-MaltaPost u fl-2012 ippubblika ktieb dwar l-istorja tal-bolol f'Malta. Dan il-ktieb kien tqassam b'xejn mill-Berġa ta' Kastilja waqt Notte Bianca.

# BRITISH FREE FRANKING

BY

**RAYMOND AGIUS**

A Free Frank was a mark applied by means of a hand-stamp to parliamentary mail in Britain to indicate that the mailed item did not require postage.

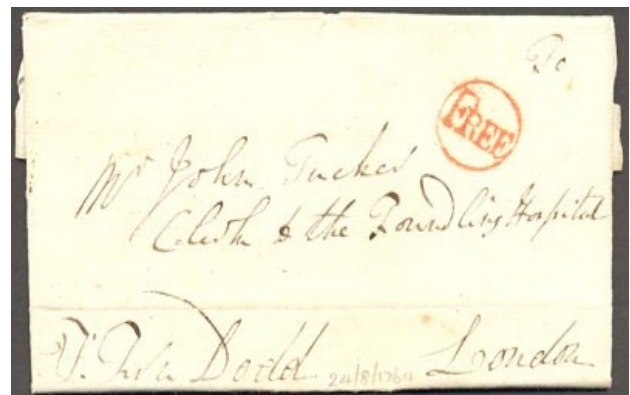
Under the Parliamentary Franking System, members of the British Parliament, the clergy and some other nobility were given the privilege of posting letters free of charge.

The origin of the system was a decree of the Council of State of 1652 confirmed by an ordinance of 2 September 1654 during the Cromwellian period.

The postmaster would stamp the letter with a red ink FREE stamp to indicate its special postal status. Originally all that appeared on letters was the address, the word frank or free and the signature or seal of the sender.

The abuse of the free franking system was so enormous that the government sought to control it in 1795. The weight limit per item was reduced to 1 ounce and each MP was allowed to send only 10 letters per day and receive only 15. A variety of instructional handstamps, such as "Above Privilege" came into use by the inspectors.

On January 10th 1840 the Uniform Penny Post was introduced and the free franking privilege came to an end.

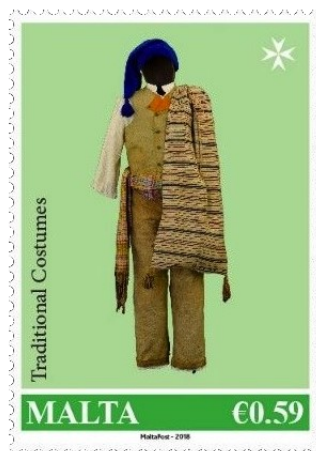


# TRADITIONAL COSTUMES

BY

**MARIO CASINGENA**

Surprise, surprise, Valletta the European City of Culture for 2018 with all the pomp that the state launched this special event. The occasion well prepared is the pride of the Nation, now and years to come. And Maltapost kicks off the philatelic collector's year with Traditional Costumes, "special worn by the ghosts". The Bulletin that accompanies stamp issues, and which I look for information does not note to which period (just referred to modern and mid-twentieth century) such costumes belong nor does it make any reference to any learned authority on the subject matter. In a nut shell, who decided what after all makes an official Traditional Costume? The presentation misses the foot gear, which I assume would be fitting the "qorq", ( or was it bare footed the norm) but did not miss the eight pointed cross. The cross reminds me of the failures of the Grandmaster of the Order, when Napoleon Bonaparte knocked at the door. Now looking at the actual presented "trousers" (referred to in the Bulletin as "baggy") am in doubt of how much then it was of such a fit, if it were results that there has not been any drastic change in fashion to this date. The head gear on the first two stamps are identical except for the colour, both would be associated with Sicilian/ Sardinian origin and would have preferred at least one to be with the "beretta" in black, even though this is attributed to the mentioned as well.



The 2001 Caruana Dingli's Folklore stamp issue, gents fashion is more to the liking to the assumed period, not to mention that the models carry a face too then. I can reckon that this issue would lead to other issues to cover either the female or male fashion and in different periods and society strata eg 1988 Treasures of Malta Maltese Costumes Stamps, half of which ghost presented. Thus this issue was aptly presented this week, being the Carnival time of the year and could be interpreted as a suggestion to party outfit. I honestly believe that whoever decides, on stamp issues be it a single person or an advisory board should do some soul searching and look objectively from the point of view of others at large, and not necessarily philatelists. However what do I expect in a new stamp issue? An interesting subject, like a commemoration/anniversary, achievement, launch, or equally so an inauguration. Presentation plays a crucial part and the possibility can be extended artistically but not necessarily by a brush, as the professional digital photography gives untold results. Furthermore colour, the right colours have the tendency of capturing the attention and admiration in the like of the Arnold Machin collection of the young Queen's profile that survived the best of fifty years, in the UK postal history.

Il-Fratellanza tal-Madonna taċ-Ċintura twaqqfet fiż-Żejtun bejn l-1734 u l-1736 mill-Kappillan Dun Lawrenz Mallia. Fl-aħħar snin ta' ħajtu Dun Lawrenz kiteb il-wirt tiegħu b'risq l-artal ta' din il-Fratellanza. L-Isqof Alpheran de Bussan wara awtorizza lil din il-fratellanza, li aktar tard giet afiljata mal-arkikonfraternità ta' Bologna. Fl-arkivji tal-Kurja din il-fraternità tinsab irregistrata li twaqqfet fl-24 ta' Lulju, 1747.

L-artal tal-Madonna taċ-Ċintura jinsab fil-kappellun tal-Madonna tar-Rużarju u l-kwadru titolari tiegħu jingħad li hu mpitter mill-pittur Francesco Żahra. Il-pittur Senglejan Francesco Żahra pitter ukoll is-saqaf tal-kappellun tar-Rużarju, fejn jinsab dan l-altar. Is-saqaf hu mpitter direttament fuq il-ġebbla.

Fil-kwadru taċ-Ċintura nsibu lill-Madonna li għandha fi ħdanha lil Ġesù tarbija, tnewwel iċ-ċintura lil Santa Monika, warajha nsibu mpitter lil Santu Wistin. Fuq in-naħa t'isfel tal-lemin, insibu lil San Lawrenz Martri, u fuq in-naħa tax-xellug, insibu lil San Ġwann l-Evangelista. L-aħħar li kien ġie rrestwrat dan il-kwadru kien fl-1926, mill-pittur Żejtuni Gużepi Caruana. Caruana pitter ukoll fl-istess sena, is-sottokwadru ta' San Gejtanu, li jinsab taħt dan il-kwadru. Il-kwadru u sottokwadru huma t-tnejn iffirmati minn Gużepi Caruana. Is-sottokwadru kien ġie mibdul ma' ieħor li kien hemm qabel.

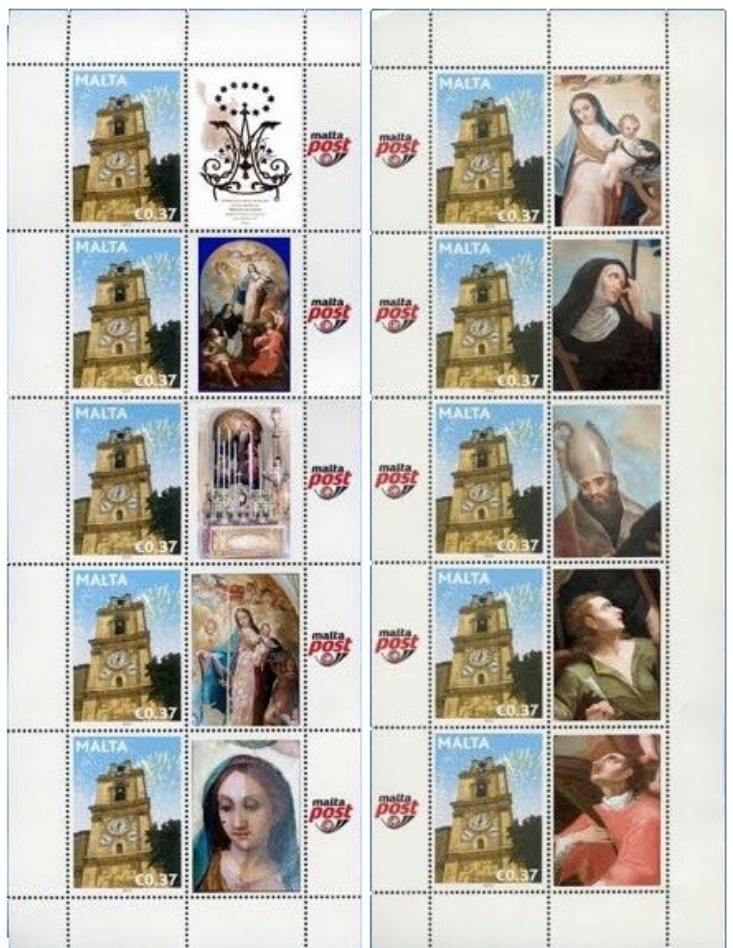
Din il-kappella bħal l-oħra li tinsab fuq in-naħa l-oħra tal-artal magġur mhumiex fondi bħal kappelli l-oħra li nsibu fil-ġenb.

Kien hemm sugġeriment biex dawn iż-żewġ kappelli jkunu jistgħu jidhlu l-ġewwa bħala kappelli l-oħrajn, iżda wara opinjonijiet differenti din l-idea ntefġhat fuq l-ixkaffa peress li seta jkun hemm xi diffikultajiet fuq is-saħħa tal-ġebbla tal-Knisja, u b'hekk jkun ta' periklu.

Ix-xogħol tar-restawr sar mill-kumpanija Prevarti taħt id-direzzjoni ta' Pierre Bugeja. Ix-xogħol fuq l-artal sar ukoll mis-Sur John Pace u s-Sur Carmelo Schavione.

## IŻ-ŻEJTUN FUQ IL-BOLOL

L-għaxar bolol personalizzati, li ħarġu fis-26 ta' Jannar, 2018, juru episodji differenti mill-kwadru tal-Madonna taċ-Ċintura, qabel u wara r-restawr. Il-bolol kollha għandhom valur filateliku ta' €0.37 u juru l-kampnar tal-Kon-Katidral ta' San Ġwann. Fuq il-bolol insibu l-arma tal-Fratellanza tal-Madonna taċ-Ċintura, il-kwadru sħiħ ta' Francesco Żahra wara r-restawr, l-artal sħiħ taċ-Ċintura fil-Knisja Parrokkjali taż-Żejtun, il-kwadru waqt ir-restawr, wiċċ il-Madonna qabel ir-restawr, il-Madonna b'binha Ġesù fi ħdanha jzomm iċ-ċintura, u l-erba' bolol l-oħra juru wiċċ il-qaddisin fid-dettall li jinsabu fl-istess kwadru; jiġifieri lil Santa Monika, binha Santu Wistin, San Ġwann l-Evangelista, u San Lawrenz. Dan is-sett ta' bolol seta' jinxtara mill-Parroċċa taż-Żejtun.





# The Medal

BY

**MARIO CASINGENA**

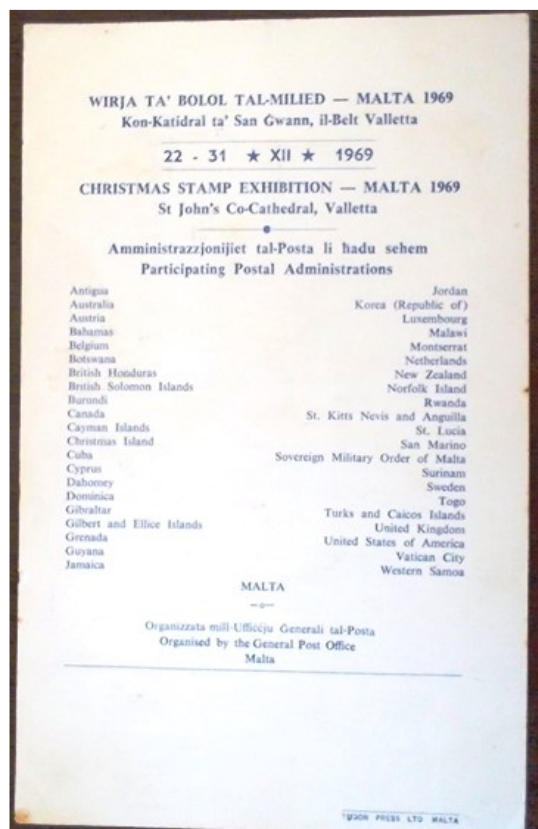
## Malta Philatelic Exhibition 1969 - 1st Edition

Exhibition with the Christmas theme, that was organised by the GPO and the first of which was held between 22<sup>nd</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> December, 1969, then it was claimed to be the first of its kind in the world. The exhibition attracted worldwide participation from 43 postal administrations. A major part of the success was the primary fact that the exhibition was held in a central venue, the annex of St John Con-Cathedral in the capital city of Valletta, which was automatically attracted the heavy flow of passers-by. From newspapers photos, it can be added that flags were also hung on to the main entrance, and in the streets, closed by the venue. Then it was also given good report coverage by the newspapers, in particular Times of Malta, but the most secure was the enthusiasm and dedication of the postal administration if not also the Government Ministry responsible for the Post. The assistance Post Master General, Mr V. Summut, was the chairman of the organising committee, then explained that the objective of the exhibition was the bringing together the Christmas stamps of the various other administrations. He further explained that some has nothing to do with Christmas for certain countries, had no religious motivation that Christmas has supposed to suggest. The theme for the exhibition was Christmas, a catalogue and exhibition postcard were also pre-prepared for the occasion. The newspaper further explained, that a limited number of souvenir medals in presentation cases and cast in gilt bronze to commemorate the occasion were also available at 30 shillings each which could work out to be €3.50. The minted quantity was limited to 200 pieces.

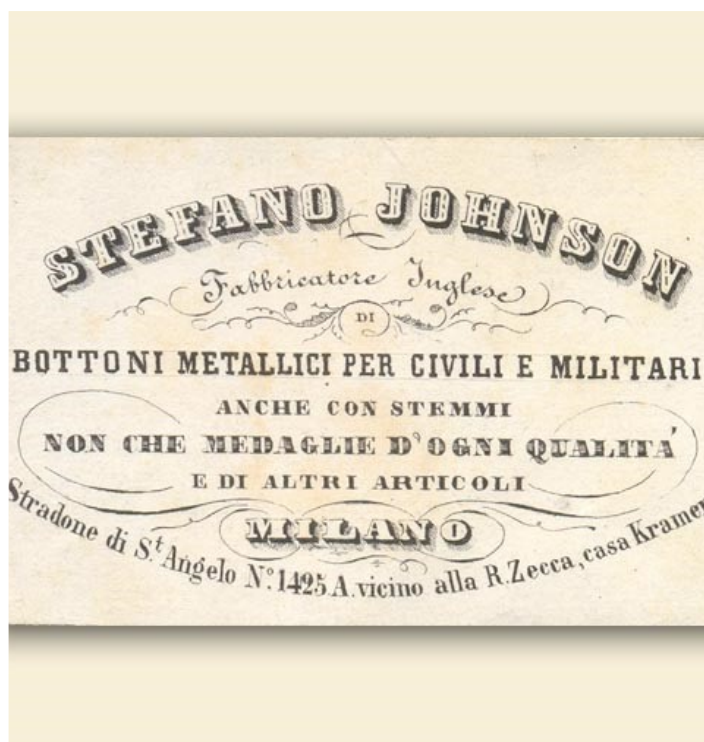


This medal has a diameter of 42.0mm, thickness 2mm and a weight of 27 grams, produced by Stefano Johnson Milano – Roma. The observed site of the medal carries light initials on the left side, just below the first three figures.

The letter of 2<sup>nd</sup> December 1969 from the Post Master General finalise the whole issue of the medal in question. It is stated that the limit was set at 200 pieces. 60 of which medals had to be in leather pocket. It was also asked, if it was possible, to increase the order if the demand by numismatics was high. In the letter ➤



before this of 27<sup>th</sup> November, 1969, signed by G.M. Pace on behalf of the Organising Committee, the final touches to the medal was made and it was clearly stated that the medals head to reach Malta by 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 1969, in the morning. The first medal to be issued, commemorating the Christmas Stamp Exhibition of 1969. On the observed it shows the nativity scene, the design of Chev. E. Cremona. This can be further substantiated by the letter dated 7<sup>th</sup> May, 1969 to the Secretary Ministry of Trade, Industry, and Agriculture, wherein the Post Master General Mr J. Buttigieg, stated that, "the design of the Christmas sets will be reserved for him, as he is the leading artist in Malta of secret art" and furthermore it was also stated, "the great popularity which our stamps have acquired in the philatelic world is mainly due to his designs and therefore it was be only fair if he was to be given a contract for five years". The design is made up of 11 persons on the left side,



*Post Master General Mr J. Buttigieg*

This site does not carry an outer circle.

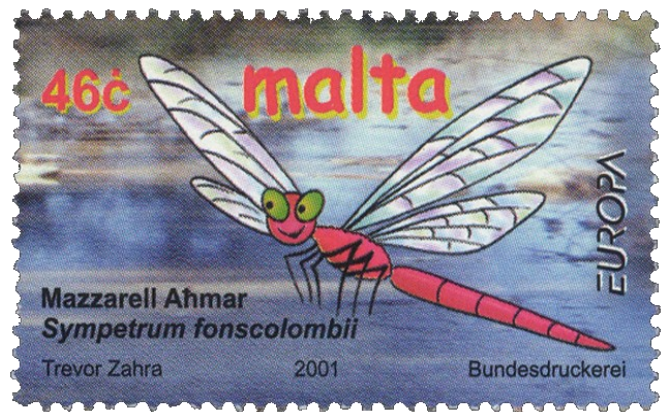
here the number 11 is important in that, because symbolises disorder, chaos, and judgement. All along the edge of the medal, the exhibition title is stated on the upper part in Maltese, 'Wirja ta' Bolol tal-Milied', while on the lower part it is the English version 'Christmas Stamp Exhibition', this was made clear in the letter to Stefano Johnson of 27<sup>th</sup> November, 1969. Dividing the versions on the left, there it was look like the moon, while on the right an eight pointed star. Here it can be interpreted that a lunation was among the Jews, the period of a month, and several of their festivals were held on the day of the new moon. The eight pointed star is the star of redemption or regeneration and represents baptism.

On the reverse side, Malta is embossed on the right upper quarter, part of the medal, and the year and durations dates of the exhibition at the base. 22 – 31 – XII – 1969. While the map of the islands stretched across the centre on a totally plain backdrop to further enhance elegantly the image and the name thereon.



*Continues about the second and third edition of 1971 and 1972 respectively in the June 2018 edition.*

# Europa 2001



Fit-23 ta' Mejju, 2001, għat-tema tal-bolol tal-Europa, id-disinjatur Żejtuni Trevor Żahra ddisinnja l-ewwel żewġ bolol tiegħu li juru żewġ animali żgħar li nsibu fl-ambjent naturali Malti. Fuq il-bolla ta' 0.16c insibu ż-żring u fuq tas-0.46c insibu l-mazzarell aħmar, dak li hu aktar magħruf bħala l-ħelikopter.

Ramon u Kristina qatt ma kienu jobsru xi ġmiel ta' kollezzjoni tal-bolol kellha z-zija Ġulja. U qatt ma kienu jimmaġinaw li din il-kollezzjoni kienet qisha enċiklopedija shiha dwar l-istorja ta' Malta.

Ġol-albums taz-zija Ġulja kien hemm minjiera shiha ta' tagħrif dwar l-aktar grajjiet importanti ta' gżirtna, dwar personalitajiet magħrufa, dwar l-ambjent naturali ta' pajjiżna, dwar il-folklor u l-arti. U bejnietna... mhux biss Kristina u Ramon interessaw ruhhom fil-kollezzjoni taz-zija, imma anki Peppina.

Ma tafux min hi Peppina? Ifthu l-ktieb u malajr tiltaqghu magħha.

U bilhaqq, fil-ktieb tistgħu wkoll tpingu fit bolol intom stess. Dawn jittellgħu fuq sit elettroniku biex ikun jista' jarahom kulhadd.

Anki Peppina tixtieq tista' tpingi xi haġa.



Uffiċju tal-Prim Ministru  
Malta





## Sensiela Niċeċ iż-Żejtun

L-ewwel sett bolol f'April 2018



Triq Sant' Emidju, fejn kienet topera l-ewwel soċjetà filatelika fiż-Żejtun.



Nifirġu lil Rev. Angelo Seychell għall-onorfiċjenza ta' Ġieħ iż-Żejtun 2018 mgħoti fid-19 ta' Marzu.