Heritage Malta ANNUAL REPORT

2018
**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

- Foreword 5
- Capital Works 7
- Exhibitions and Events 15
- Collections and Research 21
- Conservation 35
- Education, Publications and Outreach 45
- Other Corporate 49
- Visitor Statistics 53
- Appendix 1 – Calendar of Events 69
- Appendix 2 – Purchase of Modern and Contemporary Artworks 89
- Appendix 3 – Acquisition of Natural History Specimens 91
- Appendix 4 – Purchase of Items for Gozo Museum 93
- Appendix 5 – Acquisition of Cultural Heritage Items 95
Foreword

During the year under review Heritage Malta sustained the positive impetus and to some extent surpassed the noteworthy and record breaking achievements of 2017.

This year (2018) marked the year where Valletta was nominated as the European Capital of Culture. This not only presented a challenge in terms of value adding initiatives undertaken by the Agency, but also meant a positive influx of tourists in Malta visiting museums and sites managed by Heritage Malta.

Besides the inauguration of MUZA as a major ERDF co-funded project, the agency also worked in parallel on two other major ERDF co-funded projects, organized popular exhibitions and participated in important exhibitions abroad. Heritage Malta also increased the number of heritage sites under its responsibility, and managed to register a record in the number of visitor and generation of revenue for the sixth year in a row. The Agency also launched the popular Heritage Malta Passport Scheme for all students (primary and secondary) to benefit from unlimited free entry to all museums and sites accompanied by two adults. An initiative promoting accessibility to Malta’s cultural heritage!

The Agency’s output comprised also the biggest-ever number of cultural activities, website hits and social media statistics, and an impressive outreach programme including thematic sessions for school children and publications. It was another record breaking year. The Agency registered a surplus for the year of € 459,758 (2017: € 362,007) and over 1.6 million paying visitors (c.a. 1.2 million in 2017)

The purpose of this report is to provide a detailed review of all the operations, capital projects, events and exhibitions, and major works carried out in conservation area. Information about statistics and acquisitions acquired during the year under review is also included.

Noel Zammit
A/CEO
1. CAPITAL WORKS

1.1 GENERAL WORKS

During the year under review tenders were issued for the restoration of the back facade and all the timber apertures of the Malta Maritime Museum. The contract for the restoration of the back facade of the museum has been awarded and works are underway. These works are planned to take up to 8 months to complete. The contract value for these works is €93,384 excl VAT. The restoration of all the timber apertures of the front, side and back facades and all the three turrets of the museum had to be carried out earlier this year through a call for tender. The call was cancelled due to non-compliance of offers. A fresh call for tenders is now scheduled in the coming weeks. The estimated cost of this restoration is €195,000 and the tender will be divided in four phases lasting 24 months.

Heritage Malta has also contracted an electrical engineer to assist it at the commencement of the upgrading of the electrical systems in the museum. The design of the first phase has been completed and incorporates upgrading the main switch board, running new systems to St Angelo Hall and the museum canteen area including supply to the large AC units and emergency lighting from these areas. A call for tender for the implementation of these designs is now underway. Discussions have also started on the second phase of upgrading of the electrical system.

Preliminary designs have been prepared for the restoration of the original yards and terrace along St Lawrence Street, which were backfilled in the 1950s. These have been discussed with the Planning Authority and Transport Malta. In anticipation of the EEA project, boarded up passage ways and vaults which were previously inaccessible were opened. The vault leading onto St Lawrence Street was also restored.

At the National Museum of Archaeology, a tender has been prepared for the second phase of the restoration of the courtyard, including the restoration of the enclosing wall on the remaining two sides, the restoration or renewal of all the timber apertures overlooking the courtyard, the rerouting of the roof rain water system, and application of bituminous membrane on the roof as necessary. The electrical works required to have the changeover to the new substation have been finalised and the museum’s electrical supply is now all feeding from the adjoining substation.

At the Inquisitor’s Palace, two halls previously used as walk-through exhibition spaces have been converted into costume storage and exhibition halls, which were open in October for Birgufest. Air conditioning has been introduced to maintain a constant temperature and relative humidity environment. A glass structure was created in one of the halls to function as the costume exhibition space. The set up now allows visitors to enter the exhibition space without being in direct contact with the exhibited artefacts. To maximise space usage, a full space racking system has been installed, making it also easy for researchers to access the storage boxes.
Other projects included the installation of glass doors in the openings leading to the garden, allowing safer use of the stairs in bad weather while still leaving the courtyard visible from the stairs. Other internal restoration and maintenance works, particularly in the courtyard and the garden, have continued, including the restoration of the fountain and its elevation wall, and the chapel elevation wall in the Castellania courtyard. Two steps within the Ruffo apartment secondary staircase were also replaced following structural problems. Other works included the completion of spiral staircase leading to the Palace roof, the consolidation and reinstatement of missing parts of the stove and the oven in the kitchen, and works in the torture chamber, comprising the replacement of two metal I-beams with wooden beams, the removal of cement, cleaning, pointing and plastic repair. These projects ran parallel with other routine works including maintenance of various apertures, the upkeep of the roof membrane and the refurbishment of the curatorial office and library – a project which will spill into the next year.

The working group which was set up for the Għar Dalam National Park developed further this project by working on a master plan and an interpretation strategy. A number of actions which were identified in the Management Brief approved by Heritage Malta in September 2016 have started being addressed. In conjunction with ERA, a Legal Notice was drafted in order to give the relative legal status to the proposed park including the official delineation of its boundaries. A number of focus group meetings have been organised during the year.

A number of alien species, including prickly pear plants, were removed from the area beneath Għar Dalam and the valley. This opened up again the access from the cave into the valley and facilitated the access to Ta’ Kaċċatura. The remains of this villa were cleaned up and the vegetation which has grown in the archaeological remains over the past decades has been removed, this to make way for detailed archaeological and topographical surveys of the area which are now underway. A detailed survey of the Għar Dalam cave and its surroundings was also commissioned and completed and a number of actions identified through the Natura 2000 site conservation order have already been addressed. The lighting system in the cave has also been replaced with one which is more environmental friendly and reduces the amount of lumens in the cave.

The boundary wall around the Roman cistern at Ta’ Kaċċatura, which was in a dilapidated state, with long stretches of random rubble walls collapsed, has been restored. A fence was also erected around the site to prevent people from walking freely over the remains. Plans are now being drawn up to submit a development planning application for the restoration of the rubble walls surrounding the villa and the restoration of the tower, pill-box and rural vernacular structures in the area within the park.

Further investment was also made to enhance the visitor experience at Fort St Angelo while enhancing the available services in order to meet clients’ needs and expectations for events organised in this site. The snagging and pending works following the ERDF245 project were finalised. On the other hand, the maintenance programme was also set in place to ensure the upkeep of the investment. Works comprised the restoration of various ramps and artillery store on cavalier, upgrade of the drainage infrastructure and electrical supply in various areas, the installation of a new metal gate within D’Homedes’ Bastion, and the repainting of all wooden apertures. New furniture was installed at reception and museum shop, while the
relocation of SMOM’s electricity cable from FSA’s sub-station and the restoration of naval ship mast are still underway.

At Fort St Elmo a number of glass doorways have been ordered and installed for the security room in Piazza D’Armi and for the rooms on the west side of Piazza D’Armi, being used by historic interpretation groups. Two wooden doors, with replicated Order of St John design, have been installed in the Chapel of St Anne. Various general works have been carried out at Abercrombie’s Bastion and the surrounding area previous to its opening to the general public.

Following the restoration and completion of the new visitor experience in the reception area of the National Museum of Natural History, the focus now turned to the preparatory phases for planning applications and eventual tenders to reconstruct the demolished parts of the palace on the bastion walls. In the meantime, the veranda overlooking the inner courtyard and other abutting spaces were whitewashed, part of the ante-room to the curatorial office has been sectioned off to house the digitization lab, and linoleum carpets were installed in the old mineral’s hall and the Islands display at ground floor.

Other initiatives were undertaken at Ġgantija Temples to continue enhancing the visitor experience in the park. An agreement was signed with MTA for the loan of six skilled workers who are usually deployed on Comino, to carry out rubble-wall building works within the park during the winter months. The MTA workers reconstructed a number of collapsed rubble walls and reinstated a substantial part of the retaining wall of the temples plaza. A renewed agreement was signed in November for next year. Final repair works were carried out on the generator changeover switch at the interpretation centre in order to enable the system to work on fully automatic mode. New stainless steel door handles with improved safety design were installed in the framed doors. The restrooms of the entire complex, including those in the exit building, were refurbished. New vinyl floors were installed.

Additional agricultural fields within the Ġgantija heritage park were transferred from the Lands Authority to HM in May. HM collaborated with the Ministry for Gozo in the pruning of palm trees in August. Palm fronds from the temples were distributed to Gozo fishermen as part of a scheme by the Ministry. General maintenance on the lightweight walkway inside both temples was conducted throughout the year.

The works converting parts of the Gran Castello Historic House into domestic quarters dating to the 18th century is ongoing, including the audio-visual hall as well as stations with navigational 3D-models of the present date and medieval Ċittadella. Works on the new electrical system were concluded. Masonry works were carried out in one of the rooms of the historic house, which involved the replacement of eroded floor stone slabs. New low-consumption light fixtures were installed in most rooms of the Gozo Nature Museum. The lighting of the ornithological set-up was improved. A staff kitchenette was installed. The majority of wooden apertures were restored.

Following discussions held in the previous year, fresh designs for the pedestrianization of the road leading into the Hal Saflieni Hypogeum were submitted to Transport Malta and the Paola Local Council, incorporating their suggestions. The designs were approved and a formal application was submitted. A number of rain water infiltration issues have been tackled.
Works at the Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra visitor centre and park continued with the upgrading of the external security lighting system. The shop/reception area of the visitor centre is now fully operational. A new outdoor lighting for the area around the visitor centre was also installed, making the areas outside the centre more adequate for use during evening events. The waterproof membrane of the roof of the visitor centre was repaired and maintenance of the rainwater drains was also carried out. Maintenance of the walkway at Ħaġar Qim was carried out. Once the walkway was removed for maintenance the accumulated soil and dust was cleaned off the prehistoric surfaces before the walkway was reassembled on site.

An inspection of the condition of the shelters at Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra was carried out by the contractor together with Heritage Malta representatives. A report on the maintenance requirements of the shelters is being submitted by the contractor, however it was apparent during the inspection that the maintenance of the steel structure is urgent and that the cleaning of the tensile membrane is required to obtain the maximum lifetime of the materials. The requirements to carry out regular maintenance of the structures will be determined and necessary proposals made in 2019.

The designs for a new walkway between Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra were developed in preparation for the submission of a development application which will include the installation of an exit-only turnstile at Ħaġar Qim. The ‘picnic stop’ between Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra started being opened daily with interpretation being installed within the hut. Visitors to Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra Temples are regularly using this resting stop and as a starting point for the two walks that guide visitors around the park’s landscape.

The Magħlaq Quarries in the vicinity of Mnajdra Temples started being backfilled with inert waste. Despite reports to the contrary in the local media, there has been no impact recorded but the activity will continue to be monitored to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the site. Once the quarries are backfilled, walking trail B in the archaeological park will be revised accordingly as this formerly passed through the quarries. A method for diverting rainwater surface runoff from reaching Mnajdra has been developed and is currently being designed for implementation in 2019.

Maintenance of the protective shelter at Tarxien Temples was carried out by the contractor. General maintenance and repairs on the walkway were concluded. The necessary repairs and maintenance to the lighting of the walkway were carried out and the walkway can now be illuminated for evening activities.

At St Paul’s Catacombs various upgrading/pending works following the ERDF project were completed. ‘Temporary’ structural works within catacomb 8 have been finalised and this catacomb is now also accessible to the public. The bones left in situ were covered by geotextile and a couple of inches of torba to ensure that they remained protected. Works are however underway to cover most of the tombs containing bones with a reproduction of the original sealing slabs, while a couple of burials will be covered with Perspex to ensure that the bones are visible and safe at the same time.
Following the extensive EAFRD funded works at Ta’ Bistra Catacombs, minor interventions and maintenance were carried out to the historic farmhouse, especially regarding water infiltration. Discussions regarding the replacement of the new lift within the dome and issues with the security system are ongoing.

At Abbatija Tad-Dejr discussions continued to find suitable partners for the establishment of a community garden. In the meantime, Heritage Malta cleaned the front of the site from construction waste and has started the process to carry out a number of repairs in the gates and rubble walls. The Agency was informed that the owner of the garages to the north of the site intends to commence work on the construction of the new ramp to his garages as agreed in 2013 according to the Planning Authority’s permit PA804/13. Works should commence in 2019.

Following the issue of the development permit for the restoration of the farmhouse ruins and the development of a small visitor centre at Tas-Silġ, site clearance and archaeological investigations are being planned for next year. This will be the first phase before carrying out the restoration works on the farmhouse and the development of the small visitor centre. An RFQ for the excavation of all the floors of the farmhouse and a couple of other trenches in the locations earmarked for supporting structures was issued but there was no response to it. Discussions are thus underway with the Department of Classics and Archaeology of the University of Malta so that this excavation can be carried out by students of the department in 2019. Meanwhile, works have commenced to move the current security room and electricity supply to a new location in preparation for the archaeological excavations.

Several discussions also ensued on the road that currently separates the site in two. These discussions were held between Heritage Malta, the Superintendence of Cultural Heritage, Transport Malta and the Water Services Corporation, and focused on current road works being carried out along the road between Zejtun and Delimara. The Agency and the SCH presented their claims for the road to be deviated but this is not possible at the moment. Transport Malta and the Water Services Corporation however agreed to stop all the services at the points of the proposed deviation. Road works in the stretch of road ‘within’ the site will thus be limited to the laying of new tarmac without scarification.

The agency has also embarked on the restoration of the external fabric of the chapel at San Pawl Milqi. Conservation and restoration works on the lower reaches of the chapel have been completed. Works on the remaining areas of the chapel and sacristy are underway. A multi disciplinary team is focusing on the restoration and conservation works on the internal fabric of the chapel and the setting up of visitor facilities within. Preparatory work has also included paint stratigraphic studies to guide decisions regarding the level of intervention of the internal areas. The enhancement will also include the total renewal of the current wooden floor which is to be replaced through a combination of wood planking and glass, which will also allow visitors to view the underground areas without the need to go down the ladder as present. Electrical, water and drain services will also be included in this project. The digital survey, archaeological survey and 3D model have been concluded.

During 2018, emergency works were also carried out in the reconstruction and consolidation of an historic retaining wall in the gardens at Villa Frere.
1.2 NATIONAL MONUMENTS

Work on the monument to Prime Minister Dom Mintoff, located in Castile Square, was completed and the monument was officially inaugurated on 31 May 2018.

1.3 EU CO-FUNDED PROJECTS

ERDF 05.019: MUŻA – The National Community Art Museum was officially inaugurated by the Prime Minister on 10 November. The project included the dismantling of the former National Museum of Fine Arts, rethinking of the entire collection and its migration to the Auberge d’Italie. Apart from doubling the previous display space, the building also generates its energy requirements through renewable resources and includes a museum shop, a tourist information office and thematic catering facilities, all branded and integrated in one experience. A number of snags are currently being tackled.

ERDF.05.022 – The Establishment of a Regional Museum for Gozo: Civil works and finishes tenders were published during summer. The Civil works tender was awarded and works commenced onsite in September. With regards to the museum display areas, research work was ongoing throughout the year. A research assistant employed through the same ERDF funds commenced duties in February. Object lists were compiled as part of the process of object identification to accompany the various narratives that will be told in the different galleries of the museum. A workshop was held in October with TGAC – the museum design consultants from London, together with NIDUM – the local architects and designers of the project, to establish a clear way forward in terms of storyline.

HM’s curatorial team in Gozo held various discussions with other curatorial departments in Malta to discuss the possibility of the transfer of some objects from various reserve collections that will be relevant to the storyline of the Gozo Museum. In July, a tender for the branding of the Gozo Museum was drafted for eventual publication. An outreach event was organised jointly between HM and NIDUM on 27 August. The event was held at the St Cecilia Medieval Chapel in Għajnsielem. Public turnout and response towards the project were very positive. This project is being managed in collaboration with the MGOZ.

ERDF 05.016 – The Grand Master’s Palace Regeneration Project: The tender for the selection of the integrated design team was awarded. The required planning applications have been submitted. Works are in hand on the drafting of the main works tender document, to be published in 2019. Following a lengthy appeals procedure the works tender for the documentation and restoration of the Piano Nobile Artworks in an environmentally friendly manner was also awarded and works are in full swing. This project is being led by the Restoration Directorate in close collaboration with Heritage Malta. In the meantime, the structures installed in the Palace for the EU Presidency 2017 requirements are being dismantled, while most of the office furniture which was left behind has been redistributed to other government departments. The basement of the palace is also being cleared from tons
of unwanted material accumulated over long years with the assistance of the Cleansing Directorate.

The Malta Maritime Museum: local development through cultural heritage project proposal was officially confirmed by the EEA / Norwegian Financial Mechanisms 2014-21. The project of around €2m will focus on the reconstruction of dilapidated parts of the Malta Maritime Museum and enhancement of visitor infrastructure and the digitization of the models and navigational instruments collections. The main works tender will be published in 2019.

The project regarding the New Environmental Management System for the Ħal Saflieni Hypogeum World Heritage Site, EEA Financial Mechanism 2009-14, was audited, and all was found in order. Heritage Malta also assisted the Funds and Programmes Division with an evaluation of the EEA and Norway Grants. Snagging is still ongoing and discussions between Heritage Malta, the Department of Contracts and the contractor are being held in order to rectify a number of faults; particularly water infiltration in the staff room, repairs in the HPL panelling, replacement of the reception desk, and remedial paint works on the steel structure. Maintenance of the new HVAC system has been carried out twice this year, as per maintenance agreement.

FRAGSUS – HM also successfully concluded its participation in the project FRAGSUS, Fragility and Sustainability in restricted island environments: Adaptation, cultural change and collapse in prehistory. The preliminary results were presented at the exhibition held at the National Museum of Archaeology and at the international conference ‘Fragility and Sustainability in Prehistoric Malta’ held at Fort St Angelo, marking the end of the project.
2. EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS

2.1 EXHIBITIONS

The Schranz Family of Artists: A Journey of Rediscovery celebrated the 200th anniversary from the arrival of the Schranz family of artists to Malta. The exhibition included sections on all the artists of the Schranz family, their styles, and their recording of particular travels and events in Malta and abroad, in particular sea views and storms. It was held at Fort St Elmo from 10 March to 17 July and featured 180 works from public and private collections in Malta and abroad. The exhibition also included a richly illustrated catalogue.

Il-Belt Valletta u d-Dumnikani fil-Belt: mixja wahda - Valletta and the Dominicans: a common journey. In the year when Valletta was the European Capital of Culture, Heritage Malta teamed with the Parish of St Mary of Porto Salvo and St Dominic to explore and illustrate the rich historical, socio-cultural and artistic legacy left by the Dominican Order as reflected in the development of Valletta. Through paintings, prints, manuscript volumes, object d’art, vestments and curious paraphernalia from the national and parish collections, this exhibition delved into the Dominican mission in the Valletta story, the spiritual comfort it offered to the Valletta community, especially in times of distress, the contribution of the parish confraterities and the Dominican artistic heritage and personalities. The Ethnography section has curated this exhibition. It was held at the Dominican Priory in Valletta from 23 June to 7 October.

Exploring the Phoenician Shipwreck off Xlendi, Gozo highlighted a selection of archaeological artefacts retrieved from the seabed in Xlendi – one of the most ancient and important wrecks in the central Mediterranean. It was held in collaboration with the University of Malta, the Ministry for Gozo, the Malta International Airport and the Honor Frost Foundation. It was inaugurated on 2 September at the Gozo Area Office exhibition hall, at the Citadel, and will run until 31 August 2019 with rotating exhibits to increase accessibility and encourage repeat visitors.

Medieval Malta Exhibition Series No. 1: Core and Periphery: Mdina and Safi in the 9th and 10th centuries. This was the first of a new series of exhibitions focusing on the millennium stretching roughly from the 5th to the 16th century, intended to stimulate scholarly discussion on Malta’s medieval inheritance and appreciation of this fascinating but rather neglected period. Almost 50 artefacts derived from two archaeological investigations carried in Mdina and Ħal Safi were put on show in the exhibition. The items illustrated the ceramic typologies in use in Malta in this period, explored some of the social and economic differences that characterized Maltese urban and rural communities in the Early Middle Ages, and studied Malta’s role and influences in the trade routes of the period. The exhibition also included an exhibition catalogue and the cooperation of the Department of the History and the Department of Classics and Archaeology of the University of Malta, through which seminars on the subject of early medieval archaeology in Malta will be organised. The exhibition, held in collaboration with the Superintendence of Cultural Heritage, was inaugurated at the National Museum of Archaeology on 5 October and will run until 31 January 2019. Another exhibition on medieval Malta is being planned for 2019.
Another most important and far-reaching initiative of community empowerment was the launch of the Heritage Malta Passport, whereby all students attending government, church and independent schools at primary, idle and secondary levels have been granted free access to twenty-seven museums and sites across Malta and Gozo. Two accompanying adults are also being allowed free admission. On visiting ten museums or sites, the passport holder is given a VISA to a closed site, while two more VISAS are awarded to other closed sites with a total of twenty visits. Once the passport holder visits all twenty-seven sites, the said holder receives a special VISA to visit the Ħal Saflieni Hypogeum for free. The scheme was officially launched at the Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra Visitor Centre on 29 November, and was immediately a great success.

2.2 Events

Apart from the above, Heritage Malta organised, participated in or hosted more than 260 cultural events, including lectures, heritage trails, seminars, temporary exhibitions, re-enactments, and others (refer to Appendix I – Calendar of Events). Particularly worthy of mention are the following:

The Order of St Michael and St George in Malta 1818-2018, organised by the Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood, at the Malta Postal Museum and Grand Master’s Palace, from 7 November to 6 December.

The Majlis: Cultures in Dialogue, organised by the Sheikh Faisal Bin Qassim Al-Thani Museum of Qatar, in partnership with the UNESCO Doha office, under the patronage of the Office of the President of Malta, at the Grand Master’s Palace from 17 September to 28 October.

The National Museum of Archaeology hosted the Joseph Calleja Retrospective, organised by the Bank of Valletta at the Gran Salon from 31 May to 15 July, and the FRAGSUS Exhibition highlighting the results of the FRAGSUS Project, funded by the European Research Council, a collaboration between Maltese, British and Irish universities and institutions, focusing on early Malta and its first inhabitants, from 18 March to 15 June. It also organised Espresso Exhibition No 4: Etruscan Urns in the National Collection displaying four Etruscan funerary urns, one lid and one front piece of the first millennium BC, donated to the museum in the early 20th century, from 21 July to 23 September.

The National Museum of Natural History hosted a photographic exhibition by Guido Bonett from 13 April to 6 May and an art exhibition by Andrew Micallef from 18 May to 1 June. It also organised the exhibitions Beat Plastic Pollution focusing on the negative impact of plastic pollution on the occasion of World Environment Day from 7 to 14 June, Halloween Animals and Dark Traditions on animals associated with death, witchcraft and other dark traditions on 31 October, and San Martin thematic exhibition about animals, particularly birds, associated with St Martin’s feast from 11 to 30 November, Bat Nights in collaboration with ERA on 6 July, 3 August, and 28 September and a Night at the Museum on 27/28 July.

Fort St Angelo has confirmed itself as a very popular visitor attraction and event venue. Apart from various events held by the Agency, including some which are quickly establishing
themselves as annual appointments, such as the 8 September open day, regatta and fireworks viewing and the harbour cruise and night tour, the fort also hosted Garrison Life during the French Blockade in collaboration with HRGM on 7 June, In Guardia re-enactments in collaboration with MTA on six occasions, and an increasing number of private functions. A Medieval Night at the Castrum Maris, including a guided tour, medieval combat demonstration, archery session and refreshments was organized on 15 June, while two animated tours Dark Tales of Fort St Angelo based on tales of mystery and the supernatural were held on 12 October. Guided tours of Fort Delimara were also organized on 14 January and 22 April.

On 15 April the National War Museum commemorated the 76th anniversary of the award to Malta of the George Cross during an open day including performances by re-enactment groups Legio X, Show of Arms and Battlefront, which performed drills and demonstration of weapons. On 6 October an exhibition of the most recent interesting archival donations to the National War Museum was held at St Anne’s chapel on the occasion of Notte Bianca. Fort St Elmo also hosted full scale military drills and re-enactments in period costumes by In Guardia in collaboration with the MTA on 7 January and 18, 25 February.

Other cultural events were held in Gozo. The Malta Wildlife Photography exhibition was hosted at the Gozo Area Office from 20 March to 30 April. Heritage Malta participated once again in Science in the Citadel on 28 April. Activities consisted of a lecture by Prof Timmy Gambin on The Xlendi Finds and a rolling workshop on Science and Heritage Investigations by Matthew Grima from the Diagnostic Scientific Laboratories at the Gozo Museum of Archaeology, and a drop-in workshop on Curating the National Nature Collections by John J. Borg at the Gozo Nature Museum. A workshop The Science in Art was hosted at the Gran Castello Historic House. The agency also collaborated with the Ministry for Gozo in the organisation of Gozo Alive on 19 May, a full day of activities with the Citadel museums and sites opened free of charge till midnight. The first public viewing of the recently purchased ‘Mother and Child’ attributed to Salvatore Busuttil (1798-1854) to form part of the forthcoming Gozo Museum was held at the Ministry for Gozo from 29 November to 9 December.

The guided tours Houses beyond the House on the archaeological remains of the Domus Romana were held on 5 May for Medieval Mdina, while the thematic exhibition Saturnalia on Christmas’ pagan predecessor was set up on the occasion of Natalis Notabilis from 7 December to 7 January 2019. The animated tour Lemuria: Pagans, Deaths and Spirits on Roman beliefs on death and evil spirits was held at St Paul’s Catacombs on 17 November. Ta’ Mintra Catacombs were opened in collaboration with the Mqabba Local Council on a number of occasions, and once again in conjunction with Din L-Art Ħelwa and Ħal Millieri on 18 March. The outreach programme started in 2017 with the Ħal Kirkop Middle School was repeated this year and the activity was extended to a class from the Mqabba Primary. The event Romani et mel – Romans and their honey on the production, use and consumption of honey during Roman times, was held at San Pawl Milqi on 28 October.

Borg in-Nadur started being opened daily to visitors as from 2 July. Apart from the annual events on the occasion of the equinox and solstice, the visitor centre of Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra also hosted the exhibition Not a Megalithic Yard: A closer look at Malta’s Megalithic
Architecture on the proportions of the temple doorways and passages, from 21 October to 31 December, in collaboration with Mario Vassallo. The temples also hosted a sunset tour on 6 July. In April David Trump’s family visited Skorba Temples where a private remembrance of Dr Trump was held and a plaque commemorating David Trump was unveiled by the mayor of Mgarr in a nearby street. Guided tours were held at Skorba on the occasion of Frott il-Bidwi Mgarr on 22 April, while guided tours were held at Ta’ Haġrat on the occasion of Festa Frawli on 8 April.

Foremost among other events organised at the Inquisitor’s Palace feature Rabbit in 17th and 18th century Malta, an exclusive sensory experience focusing on the rabbit, including a historical cook along session of the pastizzo di carne di coniglio on 8 and 20 February; An Inquisitor’s Cena di Magro – Chigi’s 1637 Lenten supper, a historically interpreted supper of an exact contemporary Lenten recipe book on 15 March; a sleepover on 25 May, L-Ghid tal-Erwieħ event highlighting popular traditions in souls and the afterlife, including traditional supper and sleep-over on 2 November, and Oranges in 17th and 18th century Malta, a historic cookalong session on the role of oranges in Maltese history and cuisine on 22 November.

Għar Dalam is increasingly featuring in the agency’s events calendar. Activities for this year included Breakfast at Għar Dalam followed with a guided tour of the historical sites of the area on 13 May, New Moon at Għar Dalam, an evening tour of the cave with special focus on moths and bats, including refreshments on 13 June, Sleepover at Għar Dalam, including an evening walk, explanations on night fauna, meal and breakfast on 11 August, Full Moon at Għar Dalam, including presentations on various aspects of the valley, moonlight tour of the site and cave, and refreshments on 23 September, and EkoDalam: a full day event focusing on environment-related activities on 11 November.

The Malta Maritime Museum continued the successful historic dinners project ‘Taste History’, officially supported by the Malta Tourism Authority. The event now has its own website and was organised for fifty-five times during the year including to various foreign markets from the UK, Turkey, Italy, Germany, South Korea and China. On 3-4 October the museum also organised The History of Pasta in Malta, a unique event including explanation on the history of this dish in Malta and historic pasta tasting.

In addition to an increasing number of lectures, another very successful event was the second half day seminar entitled Archaeological Fragments and other sources of information, held at the National Museum of Archaeology on 12 May.

2.3 Participation in Exhibitions Abroad

Maestri d’Olanda e di Fiandra nei mari del sud. La pittura Olandese e Fiamminga nelle collezioni di Giuseppe Bellanti, Giovanni Messina e Camillo d’Errico – An exhibition held by the Ente Morale Camillo d’Errico with the support of the Maltese Embassy in Italy, the Comune di Palazzo San Gervasio (Matera), Regione Basilicata and the Assessorato per la Cultura di Basilicata, held at the Pinacoteca e Biblioteca Camillo d’Errico, Palazzo d’Errico, Palazzo San Gervasio, Potenza, from 13 January to 21 March.
Valletta – Capitale d’Europa – An exhibition celebrating Valletta’s 2018 European Capital of Culture, a joint project with the Maltese Embassy in Rome and the Comune di Firenze under the auspices of the Office of the Prime Minister, focusing on a selection of maps displaying the story of Valletta from the Great Siege to its development as a military fortress, at Sala dei Gigli, Palazzo Vecchio, Florence, from 23 March to 9 May.

I Fasti del Conte: Aremisia, Finoglio, Battistello, Stazione e altri all corte di Gian Girolamo Acquaviva D’Aragona – An exhibition reconstructing the collections of the powerful Acquaviva d’Aragona noble family, including works from Italian and European museums, and private collections, at the Polo Museale della Città di Conversano, from 14 April to 30 September.


All the museums and sites managed by the agency were open free of charge to the public during various open days during the year. Likewise, admission was reduced to a nominal fee on several occasions in various museums and sites, in particular during the respective cultural events organised by Local Councils such as Birgufest, or free on national events such as the Notte Bianca. A number of events were specifically organised for Heritage Malta members. A number of underprivileged groups were granted free access, while an increasing number of local groups (local councils, parish groups, retired teacher groups, scouts, etc) took advantage of the €1.00 scheme throughout the year.

Work is also currently in hand on a number of forthcoming initiatives, foremost among which will be the exhibitions to celebrate the relationship between the Royal Navy and Fort St Angelo on the fortieth anniversary of the closing of the British military base in Malta, and the centenary since the revolts of the Sette Giugno 1919.
3. COLLECTIONS AND RESEARCH

A considerable number of natural history specimens and cultural heritage items were acquired for the National Collection during this year. A full list (including purchases, donations and transfers) can be found in Appendices 3, 4 and 5 respectively. During the year under review, apart from other properties as explained below, the agency has also took over the title of the Main Guard and the Fortress Builders Interpretation Centre. It has also set up the Valletta Management Unit and the Underwater Cultural Heritage Unit. Heritage Malta also took an active part in the drafting of the strategy for Cottonera and is represented on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Board responsible for nominations to UNESCO.

In total eighty-eight donations were registered during the year. Worthy of particular mention is the donation of twenty works of art by Joseph Calleja, another eighteen works of art by Ebba von Fersen donated by the Malta Arts Council, and a watercolour by George Large. One also has to mention a large Leatherback Turtle Dermochelys coriacea found dead in Gozo presented by the Environment and Resources Authority, and over 200 books, journals, magazines presented by BirdLife Malta for the third consecutive year.

Moreover, the agency also invested in the National Collection through the direct purchase of a number of objects. Seventy-five purchases were registered, the most significant of which are certainly a number of pistols, a packet of notarial deeds (1595-1847), and two Brockdorff watercolours.

The acquisition of modern and contemporary artworks through Vote 5557 (Fund for Acquisition of Modern and Contemporary Maltese Artworks) continued. Fifteen works of art at a sum total cost of €60,000 were acquired following extensive and lengthy discussions with the artists or owners of the works. The acquired works are listed in Appendix 2.

The acquisition of artworks and other objects of interest for the Gozo Museum through Line Vote 5824 took place throughout the year. The Line Vote is administered by the Ministry for Gozo but works are purchased following recommendations by Heritage Malta. Sixteen acquisitions took place including a bundle of rare late 19th century clothing from Xewkija, Gozo. The acquired works are listed in Appendix 4.

The Collections Management Department continued with its incessant work to catalogue extant collections and newly acquired objects (transfers, donations and purchases), updating of inventories of long-term loaned artefacts in public buildings, checking their state of conservation, and providing artworks as required where possible. During 2018 an effort was made to carry out a comprehensive inventory check of all State owned properties. These include palaces, ministries and institutions that house artefacts from the National Collection. A comprehensive inventory was done at the Auberge De Castille over a period of two months. Routine inventory checks were also carried out in another eight government agencies and at Girgenti Palace, apart from a massive inventory check at Verdala Palace, San Anton Palace and the Grand Master’s Palace in preparation for the handover to the new President of the Republic in 2019.
The department also continued the registration of conservation projects. A total of 96 conservation projects were registered. These included the conservation of 484 artefacts.

The reserve collection at the **National Museum of Archaeology** is undergoing a process of reorganisation. This includes repacking, carrying out a condition assessment, conserving artefacts according to priority, and storing per site alphabetically for easier access. The process involves mainly the re-packing from their original wooden boxes, documenting the box and any labels, laminating any paper information and storing it along with the artefacts in the new plastic stackable crates. During this process the artefacts inside are checked for possible misplacements. This exercise is not only serving to have easier access to material but is being used as a teaching tool for the MCAST students doing their practical work for their advanced diploma in Cultural Heritage Skills at the museum. All the photographs forming part of the library collection are also being scanned and sorted according to location.

Several sections of the **reserve collection in Gozo** are being studied as part of the ongoing research for the Gozo Museum. To this effect, storage of such artefacts is being constantly improved. Additional storage space in Victoria was rented out in January in order to be able to reorganise the reserve collection. One space has been entirely dedicated to bulky stone artefacts, while the other contains a mix of materials – mostly wood and metal. New shelving was procured. Damaged plastic crates holding ceramic material at the Gozo Museum of Archaeology were also replaced. In addition, the Ministry for Gozo loaned to Heritage Malta a small garage in Triq Enrico Mizzi in Victoria for additional storage.

With respect to the **UNESCO Intergovernmental Body Allocation Contract for funds to aid in the Studies for Stabilising the Facade of Ġgantija Temples – Phase 1 – Movement Sensors**, movement sensors were procured and installed on the facade of Ġgantija South Temple between April and May. Upon installation, the contractor tested the equipment and took preliminary base readings. Some of the sensors became detached during the summer months and were reattached by the contractor in October. It is envisaged that following one full year of monitoring of the facade, discussions will tackle the alternatives for restoring it and removing or replacing the existing scaffolding.

With regards to the **Xagħra Circle** reburial exercise, geological studies of the site have been concluded through the study of the cores extracted from two boreholes excavated at the site, and the monitoring of the water levels of the aquifer will commence shortly. In addition, the current state of preservation of the archaeological deposits of the site was evaluated through the re-excavation of two areas of the site in July. It was found that: the manner in which the site was reburied following excavations in 1994 has resulted in damage to the surviving megaliths and the bone remains that are still in situ; the walls of the cave itself are actively crumbling and collapsing in areas; there are extensive remains that hold significant potential for archaeological research. Three trenches were dug, with sandbags dating to the 1990s being removed and further archaeological strata studied. Some human remains were elevated for further study during this exercise. It was decided to eventually replace all the sandbags and also remove the entire 1990s plastic sheeting in the process, replacing it with geo-textile. New sandbags started being placed in situ in autumn, also to further support and preserve the carved stone structures in situ.
The Department of Classics and Archaeology from the University of Malta carried out detailed recording and documentation of the site through the use of 3D photography and drone photography. The securing of the sides of the cave permitting further excavation of archaeological deposits in one area of the site is envisaged for 2019. It is further envisaged that a section of the site will be archaeologically excavated, with archaeological material being recorded and retrieved, while the 1990s backfill removed, and then the area reburied with adequate materials. This will be done annually during the coming years until the entire site has been reburied.

Following archival research and an onsite assessment of the condition of the facade, a detailed methodology for the restoration of the facade of **Borg in-Nadur** was designed in collaboration with the Projects Office and submitted for approval to the Superintendence of Cultural Heritage. This restoration is envisaged for 2019. A sculpture that had been donated to the Museums Department and installed at Borg in-Nadur, a few metres from the site, was removed as part of the clearance of the site from modern intrusions and also since it was misleading visitors in their interpretation of the site.

At the **Ħal Saflieni Hypogeum**, both air sampling and environmental monitoring continued throughout the year. With the collaboration of the IT Department, staff from the Preventive Conservation Unit were given remote access to the environmental monitoring system, which enables ongoing review of the environmental data gathered to ensure that the environment within the site is stable and the required environmental parameters are kept. Additional sensors for the monitoring of radon at all levels of the site as well as visitor areas were acquired and installed. These are integrated within the environmental monitoring system and radon levels can be checked in real time. Regular monitoring of radon levels within the site and visitor areas are strengthening Heritage Malta’s efforts in providing a safe environment for staff and visitors while ensuring the conservation of the site. In collaboration with the Diagnostic Science Laboratories, members of the Prehistoric Sites Department have reviewed the report prepared by Ecogeo SRL as part of the EEA-funded project, taking note of studies that need to be carried out in order to quantify the rate of deterioration of the site and plan for further conservation measures. This resulted in drafting a proposal for further work within the site to be submitted to the University of Malta. Funds for this project are being sought.

The Prehistoric Sites Department has embarked on a collaborative project with St Martin’s Institute for the development of a virtual tour of the Hypogeum. Several discussions and site visits were held with the St Martin’s team and the development of the application is in progress. In addition to contributing to discussions on the interpretative design of the application, the department is also drafting all content as required, providing access to and assistance with the 3D models of the site and related documentation and archival material as needed.

In preparation for a detailed condition assessment of all **Neolithic Sites**, the Prehistoric Sites Department has carried out the inventory of all the megaliths at Borg in-Nadur, Tarxien, Ta’Ħaġrat and Mnajdra Temples. This involved attributing an individual reference number to each megalith at these sites. This will be used in the digitization of archival material as well as new assessments of the condition of the megaliths. The same exercise will be carried out at Ħaġar Qim, Skorba and Kordin in 2019. Concurrently, as part of the regular maintenance of the sites,
accumulated dust and debris was dusted off all the megaliths at Tarxien and Mnajdra Temples. The same will be done at Ħaġar Qim in 2019. The tender for the purchase and installation of environmental monitoring equipment for Ħaġar Qim, Mnajdra and Tarxien was launched, and installation of equipment is expected in 2019. Biological / environmental studies were carried out at Tarxien Temples (lichenological and vegetation surveys, and at Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra (lichenological monitoring survey and seasonal mapping of alterations and precipitation). The seasonal monitoring of the flora and fauna of the Ħaġar Qim Park was also concluded.

The Prehistoric Sites Department provided its support in the drawing up of a memorandum of understanding with the University of Malta in relation to two research assistants within the Department of Conservation and Built Heritage, who will be studying the effects of the shelters on the Megalithic Temples as from 2019. The department also continued its work within the National Steering Committee for UNESCO matters, which is convened by the Maltese ambassador on an ad hoc basis. A report on the Ħal Saflieni Hypogeum Project was submitted to UNESCO. Another report on quarrying activity in the vicinity of Mnajdra Temples and preventive measures undertaken to ensure the protection of the site was prepared and submitted to the Maltese ambassador.

The department is regularly consulted on planning applications in the vicinity of sites that it manages. During 2018, it has been consulted on 29 individual cases in total – 18 in the vicinity of Ta' Ħaġrat and Skorba, eight in the vicinity of Ġgantija and the Xagħra Circle, two in the vicinity of Tarxien Temples and one in the vicinity of Borg in-Nadur. For each of these cases the department is consulted on each occasion that the applicant submits fresh information or amended drawings. Throughout the year, the department assisted several students in their research in a variety of topics and levels. Members of the department were asked to give lectures on Maltese Prehistory to tourist guides as part of the 2018/19 training programme organised by the Malta Tourism Authority together with the Institute of Tourism Studies. Members of the department also conducted research on the Baħrija Bronze Age site, due to be published in 2019, and participated in a symposium on Cosmology in Archaeology organised by the Department of Classics and Archaeology of the University of Malta at the National Museum of Archaeology.

Research on Fort St Angelo continued with visits to the Public Works Archives and the National Library. Historical images were acquired from the National Maritime Museum Greenwich, Royal Engineers Museum and Museum of the Order of St John UK. The Fort’s collection now amounts to 340 items (an increase of 66 items). These included the purchase of 56 and the donation of nine items. Apart from new directional signage, the overall experience at the Fort was improved through the installation of 43 ‘did you know’ panels explaining various architectural features around the Fort, the main entrance has been upgraded with prints of HMS Hibernia figurehead and copy of St Michael’s painting. An agreement was also signed with HRGM to set up a historic diorama in the former barrack block and conduct monthly re-enactments on site. The Fort also hosted the annual students visit from the University College of London, which this year focused on the conservation and presentation the Chapel of the Nativity of the Virgin.

At the Inquisitor’s Palace, progress was registered towards the relocation of the religious ethnographic displays to the upper floor and the redesign of the piano nobile display. The trial
display from ‘The Roman Inquisition in Malta’ exhibition was dismantled and relocated in two smaller rooms in the upper floor, while the ‘Abolition of the Inquisition’ and ‘Documentary Sources and Published Research’ sections were shifted to the Bibliotheca. This has freed a hall in the upper floor that will allow breathing space towards the implementation of the interpretive vision. Said interpretation is based on a historic house approach with insights into curious aspects of daily life in reconstructed eighteenth century ambiences at ground floor, first floor and the prison complex, and ethnographic displays illustrating national religious identity, in part resulting from the presence of the Inquisition in Malta, in the upper floor. Preparatory work in view of the interactive interpretive provision which will be implemented together with the UK based company GAMAR has progressed well, research has been carried out and scripts have been finalised, however implementation will spill into next year.

Years of work and investment on the National Textile Collection came to fruition in October, with the first trial-display of costumes. Both the split-level storage and display area are being monitored for air temperature and relative humidity and are currently stable.

Building upon last year’s initiatives, research into daily life within the palace with an emphasis on the kitchen area progressed well. This contributed towards a number of outreach events including historic cook-along sessions focusing on rabbit and oranges, and ‘An Inquisitor’s Cena di Magro – Chigi’s 1637 Lenten supper’ - a historic 3-course meal and wine pairing session inspired by Fabio Chigi’s Lenten meal. These initiatives were made possible with the help of Dr Noel Buttigieg from the University of Malta Institute of Tourism, Travel and Culture. The ethnography section has also contributed towards Heritage Malta’s endorsement of the proposal to put the Maltese Ftira on UNESCO’s World List of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

This year has also witnessed the analysis, cataloguing and conservation works of deposits which have been recovered from the prison cess pit and respective courtyard in 1998 and the works carried out to turn a former Enemalta store in a torture chamber in 2002. This is a very exciting project being lead by the principal curator at the National Museum of Archaeology. The project is not only yielding curious utensils from prison life, but is also offering fine porcelains illustrating precious insights into a sophisticated life within palace walls. The project will spill into next year, when the most interesting discoveries will feature as part of the museum permanent display.

Remarkable artefacts were secured throughout this year for the ethnographic collection. These include the purchase of a late 18th century plate from Ginori Doccia production house with the same decorative pattern (modello tulipano/ modello Ischia) and profile as motif to the parts discovered at the Inquisitor’s Palace, and two watercolours by Charles Brockdorff: one illustrating a ‘Maltese eating shop, two men playing the game called Murra, and one eating Macaroni’, and the other ‘The Ferry landing with Boatman’. The latter was transferred to the Malta Maritime Museum collection.

Other purchases included an 18th century pelmet, a late 19th century paddling horse and an early/mid 20th century candlestick (blandun) complete with hand-painted candle from Monica Cuschieri. Another interesting collection was secured through acquisition from Joseph Tanti, this consisted of 68 late 19th century glass ‘Lumini’, one late 19th century painted wood ‘Trafew’ emblem, a set of four free standing late 19th century wrought iron festa decorations
complete with seven glass bowls and inner glass oil receptacle and a wall mounted late 19th century wrought iron festa decoration for ‘Lumini’ – these in view of a festa traditions exhibitions as part of the ethnographic permanent display.

This year also registered relevant donations. These range from a mid-20th century linen tablecloth from Andrew Zammit Montebello, to 20th century photographs and postcards from Frances Fenech, two mid-20th century bedspreads by Mary Gauci, a black wedding dress, a lace Christening dress and a black jacket from family Borg, and another lace Christening dress from Simon Lennen among others. An għonnella, bedcovers, a lace skirt, an underskirt and a hat box were also secured through Alfred Caruana Pettet’s donation. Anne and Francis Cuschieri donated a Passap automatic knitting machine dating from 1958.

As to the industrial heritage collection, 2018 saw the shifting to undercover storage the remaining buses pertaining to the national collection, some of which also needed repairs due to the fact that they were stored in the open. A number of collections were also secured for the industrial heritage collection. These include a tobacco machine c. 1870s complete with drive shafts, originally steam driven, various items/attachments linked to tobacco and cigar making, a petrol operated refrigerator 'Siberia' make from circa 1940s, a tobacco poster from Virginia with Maltese retailer label, a cigarette metal sign and a Tobacco guillotine from the 1860s, formerly pertaining to G. Borg Tobacco Merchant, Emporium & Sponges Est. 1868 of East Street Valletta. This acquisition from Franco Borg included a circa 1920s pramulator/pram and a gentleman's beard shaving stand.

Two other relevant collections were secured through donations. These include tools and equipment belonging to two generations of Scorfna tinmiths in Żejtun, consisting of an early to mid-20th century sheet metal bender, metal cutter, various tin moulds, hand-powered grinder, and some finished products such as metal buckets and funnels. Further to this, we managed to secure, through the generosity of Salvatore Scorfna other artefacts of ethnographic value, including papier-mâché carnival masks, glass wine jars, and fishing paraphernalia among others.

The section also managed to secure through the generosity of Victor Busuttil most of the equipment pertaining to Modern Press, a printing press set up by Victor Busuttil, in 18, St Paul Street, Żejtun in 1935 and kept running by his children Joseph and Victor (the donor) until 1980. This donation consisted of wooden cabinets with lead print types, a cutter, a guillotine, printing tools, an original sign, printed material and a manual printing machine.

The Ethnography Department has also contributed articles for Tesseræ. The industrial heritage curator has authored ‘The Maltese Bus: Heritage Malta’s salvage of an Industrial Heritage Collection’ for the fifth edition, while the senior curator has authored ‘Valletta and the Dominicans: a common journey - an exhibition overview’ for the sixth edition.

Further progress has been registered with respect to the natural history collections, specifically the conservation, identification and creation of database of the De Lucca Lepidoptera collection, the conservation and restoration of the wet collection (specimen preserved in fluids) and preparation of new specimens, and the setting and identification of new moth material collected from Malta and abroad in 2017-18. The digitization of the
Minerals and the Quaternary collections was also initiated. A new digitization lab was actually set up, with new photographic equipment and software. This will facilitate and upgrade the ongoing work on the collections.

Four more museum grade entomological cabinets were purchased to house the ever growing collection. Work continued on the digital photo-library hosting all the specimens present at the museum and Ghar Dalam. The library is being expanded to hold digital images and sounds of live specimens. As has been done with the Ornithological collection (STERNA project), the aim is to have all the collections available on-line. In June the taxidermist continued to skin and prepare bird skins from the accumulated number of carcasses for the study collection. Various local (University and MCAST) and foreign students assisted in the digitisation of the collections with several thousands of images taken, while for the fourth consecutive year, Steve and Noelma Shaw, retired biologists and IT specialists with a museum background, dedicated three months digitising the Lepidoptera (butterfly and moth) collection. The four volunteers working on the conchological collection, namely Paul Sammut, Charles Sammut, Constantine Mifsud and Charles Cachia also continued with their precious work.

The museum was invited to form part of an international project on mapping the genetic diversity of raptors (birds of prey) by providing samples from the museum collections, while a new application for an in-depth study of the four Taurodont molars in the collection has been submitted following last year’s failure to secure international funding for this project. In this respect, the senior curator has published a study ‘On the origin of GHD001 and GHD002’ in the seventh edition of Tesseræ. For the second time, specimens from the museum were used for the Biennale di Venezia, as an inspiration for one of the artists who scanned a number of bones to be digitally rebuilt. From 19 January to 9 February the senior curator also participated in an expedition to the Southern Oceans (Falkland Islands, South Georgia and Antarctica).

Two annual visits to the Filfla plateau were carried out in collaboration with BirdLife Malta; one in March to plot all active Yellow-legged Gull nests, and a second in mid-May to ring the young birds. As part of a long-term project between the museum and Birdlife Malta, the main aims of these visits were to monitor and ring the chicks of the Yellow-legged Gulls breeding on the plateau and to continue in data gathering on the islets’ flora and fauna. The expertise of the museum was also sought by the Agriculture Department regarding the project for the re-introduction of the Barn Owl. The senior curator also provided all the required curatorial support towards the ESPLORA NATURA project in view of the future project regarding Heritage Mata’s natural history collections.

As in the previous years, a number of individuals enquired on various topics related to natural history, from authentication and identification of specimens to various studies: Co-supervision of a student studying wall painting alterations at St Paul’s Catacombs, supervision of MSc student (Earth Sciences) and providing specimens for her thesis on the ‘Impact of Plastics on Birds’, and First year biology students examined various skeletons as part of their assignment on animal locomotion. Various lectures were held at the museum for MCAST and University students and as part of the in-service courses for teachers. The senior curator also delivered a number of lectures to Maltese and American University students. Site visits to Ghar Dalam
the NMNH and outside areas of natural importance (eg. Buskett, ἧλ Far and Ta’ Ħenc cliffs) were also carried out as part of the programme.

The annual monitoring of the fauna present at the National Museum of Natural History continued: a pair of Blue Rock Thrushes nested in the palace, and six chicks from two broods were successfully raised. In addition a pair of Spotted Flycatchers nested once again inside one of the hanging chandeliers this time on the first floor of the museum. Five chicks hatched from two broods (3-2) and all were ringed. A further of 10 nest boxes were set up on the museum roof to encourage Common and Pallid Swifts to nest inside them.

The following was registered regarding permanent displays: the Minerals’ display was dismantled in October to replace the old carpet. The display was transferred to two adjacent rooms and the old Minerals hall will host the Animal Gods display, presenting on a permanent basis the Egyptian Mummy and related artefacts. The Islands’ display was upgraded with new flooring, lighting and two showcases highlighting the fauna present on the small islands. A display on the research work being carried out by the NMNH in French Guiana, South America was opened in February. A permanent display on the entomological aspects of the Maltese Islands is also in preparation.

At Għar Dalam two visits were carried out to monitor the population of Armadillidium ghardalamensis as per Natura 2000 conservation order. A new research protocol is being prepared. A topographic survey of the cave and grounds was carried out. All the lamps and neon tubes were changed to LEDs. The wiring system in the cave was also changed while the number of lamps reduced considerably so as to reduce the amount of light in the cave with the aim of extending the range of the woodlouse Armadillidium ghardalamensis. A proposal on how to study this endemic species is being drafted. The second year of environmental monitoring data (relative humidity, temperature, and rainfall) was collected inside and outside the cave. Work is in hand to install a new environmental monitoring system onsite.

Alien species (plants and shrubs) continued to be removed and replaced by indigenous species as approved by the ERA. Work continued on an area earmarked to form part of a network of school natural educational areas (Ġnien Dinja Wahda). A wall was built to ensure the safety of visitors and to retain soil. One hundred cubed metres of soil was deposited and levelled, and indigenous trees, shrubs and other vegetation planted. Once the area settles down, a path will take visitors and school children through different sections to a seating area. The use of disposal cups, plates and cutlery was stopped and only non-disposal items started to be used.

The Medieval Section of the National Museum of Archaeology was initiated in May, with the appointment of the first curator. The role of the new section is to carry out research and develop events and new collections, with particular reference from the end of classical antiquity to the start of modernity (5th to 16th century AD). It will also include aspects of post-medieval archaeology. An important aspect of the work of the section is the setting up of series of temporary exhibitions dealing with Medieval Archaeology in Malta. This series aims at presenting the results obtained mainly from recent archaeological investigations in Malta and which have not yet been presented to the general public. Besides increasing public appreciation on medieval history and archaeology, the series intends to stimulate scholarly discussion on Malta’s medieval heritage.
A project has also been stared with the Ethnography Department with the aim of undertaking an extensive study of the materials from the Inquisitor’s Palace. These materials were found in various locations within the Palace in the course of a series of investigations from 1998 onwards. The project aims at creating a full catalogue of these pieces, which date from the 16th to the 19th century. So far approximately 300 historic items – mostly ceramics, but also stone and glass artefacts – have been inventoried and documented photographically. Extensive conservation treatment and partial reconstruction of numerous vessels has also been carried out. These materials will be used in the development of permanent displays within the Inquisitor’s Palace and will also be published. A similar collaboration has been started with the Gozo Museum project. The aim of the initiative is to develop new display concepts for the new Gozo Museum, utilizing materials currently in storage or else obtained from recent archaeological investigations and not yet presented to the public.

On 24 January the numismatic collection was formally put on permanent display, comprising a large number of coins from the Phoenician to the British period, medals, dies and other accessories. A number of rare specimens increase the importance of this collection and makes it the most comprehensive and renowned from the period of the Order of the Knights of St John. This collection grew throughout the years following a number of donations such as that by Prof Salvatore Luigi Pisani. 928 out of the 1926 coins of Order of Knights of St John formed part of his collection. The collection is continuously being supplemented with acquisitions by Heritage Malta or other donations.

The National Museum of Archaeology is also assisting in the production of short animated cartoons centred on the history of Malta, with historical content. As from 24 October the museum started hosting again, after an absence of a number of years, the lectures of the Archaeological Society of Malta.

At the National War Museum, several rooms at ground floor level in Piazza D’Armi were selected to accommodate a display of replica uniforms and weapons by a number of historical re-enactment groups, namely Legio X Fretensis portraying the Roman Period, Show of Arms portraying the Late Medieval and early Hospitaller periods, In Guardia portraying the Knights Hospitaller Period, HRGM portraying the Hospitaller Period, the French Occupation and Early British Period, and Battlefront portraying Maltese, British soldiers and German paratroopers during WWII.

The curator published a number of features about Malta and the First World War, a paper on the damages suffered by the Grand Master’s Palace and its repairs during and after WWII, and a number of articles about particular aspects of Mellieha and other localities in Malta during WWII. The writing of a guidebook on the museum is also in hand. The deck-gun of UC-37, a WW I German U-Boat, was placed next to Block 4. Only this gun survived from the U-boats that were sent to the island and scrapped after the war.

The digitisation of the massive (around 22,000) National War Museum Association photograph archive has started. A number of these photos were missing from their albums but luckily we have a complete set of negatives which are now being digitised and uploaded onto Photoware.
The digitisation, reboxing and preventive conservation of the wartime government files has continued. The organisation of the library in the reserve collection area at Fort St Elmo has started. The books are being organised according to the same categories used by the National War Museum. All the books are being listed onto a spreadsheet and their location carefully noted. The large format items found within the archives are also being sorted, catalogued and stored in large plan chest.

A number of items from the National War Museum Archives were used during a ceremony held on 12 November in order to commemorate the 100 years since the end of WWI. An exhibition commemorating the end of WWI was held at Fort St Elmo. A couple of items from the archives were included in the exhibition. An exhibition of archival objects which were donated during the past year was also held during Notte Bianca in the small chapel at Fort St Elmo. The aim was to entice people to donate any relevant items which they might have, as well as to continue promoting the archives at the War Museum. An exhibition of archival objects related to the George Cross was held during the Open Day held on 15 April. The aim was to promote the archives of the National War Museum to the general public. Bookmarks showing photos from the archives were handed out to visitors. Such activities seem to be bearing fruit as an increase in the number of researchers who have consulted the archives, including those interested in their family history, has been registered.

At the Malta Maritime Museum, the listing and cataloguing of the library books is almost ready. Shelving is being acquired to house the books and to make the library as user friendly as possible. Boat plans and maps (excluding those from the Dockyard) in the archives have been sorted and listed. The Dockyard archives are still benefiting from the time and expertise of Joe Meli, the volunteer who has been helping out at the museum for the last three years. The documents have been re-boxed and a list is being compiled of the contents of each box. Modern chest plans have also been purchased. A digitisation committee has been set up in order to discuss the best way forward for the museum archives to be digitised. The moving of numerous bulky artifacts from various areas of the museum continued in view of eminent structural and demolition works. A co-operation agreement was also signed with the National Museum of the Royal Navy on 22 January.

The boat restoration continued; the children’s dghajsa tal-pass, acquired in 2002, was restored and put on display immediately. Two Masters students from the University of Malta were invited to study the newly restored boat, which was 3D scanned before and after restoration. Such an undertaking was the first of its kind and it is the first step in digitising the museum boat collection.

The archivist has participated in a number of record management seminars held by the National Archives of Malta, and attended the conference ‘Museum Archives – unlocking the potential’ was held in Bristol in October. She has contributed in each issue of Tesserae with papers focusing on an item from the archives. This year both contributions focused on WWI because of the centenary celebrations. An article on Heritage Malta archives was published in the periodical of the Senglea Historical Society, while another article highlighting the information to be found within the War Damage Commission photo archives has been published within a collection of essays about Valletta, Humillima Civitas Vallettae.
A new inventory has been started at the Palace Armoury; this includes the renumbering of the collection, tagging, with numbered and marked brass tags. Each artefact is entered into a database and photographed. The items from the collection that were hanging on the walls in the Armoury at ground level have all been removed and taken up to the first floor, in a space close to the Armoury Hall. A number of historic showcases have been transferred from various reserve collections to be restored and used in the new display. The layout and flow of the new display have been finalized, while a number of potential portrait paintings of knights in armour are being identified to hang inside the Armoury surrounded by trophies of arms.

Apart from the conservation works mentioned in the Conservation chapter, a scientific study of the military drums is being undertaken, and the missing parts of a set of fourteen mortars are being reconstructed. Several printing machines have been transported from the Government Press in Marsa for the future display of the Government Press within the Palace. The curator attended the ICOMAM international conference and study tour in Ljubljana, Slovenia in September and presented ongoing works at the Palace Armoury and a paper ‘Remembering the Great Siege of Malta through painting, arms and armour’. Participation and involvement in such a conference puts the Palace Armoury on a very large map of worldwide military museums. This also serves as a means of information sharing and establishing contact with foreign museum stakeholders.

The remains of the Roman villa of Ta’ Kaċċatura have been archaeologically cleaned with the help of numerous Heritage Malta employees, and an extensive archaeological survey of the site and its whereabouts conducted. In this respect, the Agency collaborated with the Department of Classics and Archaeology of the University of Malta in a research project on the production of a 3D model and orthophoto using different photographic methodologies. This led to the creation of a number of models and the production of a joint research paper to be published in the coming months. Finally, the request for the transfer of the villa site of Ta’ Kaċċatura, sent to the Lands Authority in October 2016, has been approved. This tenement should thus be transferred to Heritage Malta soon. This, however, excludes the cistern, on which there are still some unresolved issues which should be cleared shortly.

Negotiations for the important site of Ras ir-Raħeb have come to a conclusion and the site has been acquired by Heritage Malta in March. This site was bought to protect and preserve it for future generations, but it remains open to the public. The Agency is currently studying what works may be required on site but the location and accessibility of the site limit the possibilities and consequently make this a long term project.

The request to transfer the land regarding the Bidnija Olive Grove Project to Heritage Malta, submitted to the Lands Authority early in 2017, has reached its final stages. In the meantime, the Agency and the Department of Classics and Archaeology of the University of Malta have finalised a Memorandum of Understanding to be signed in 2019. The Memorandum of Understanding between Heritage Malta and Diversification and Competitiveness Directorate within the National Agriculture Research and Development Centre is also being drafted and should come into effect next year.

The Ghajn Tuffieha Roman Baths are kept closed for visitors for both conservation and health and safety reasons. The working group set up in 2017 to discuss the Agency’s re-burial policies
has presented a report and methodology through which curators can assess the needs of a site. Given the urgency and requirements, the Ghajn Tuffieha Baths have been chosen as a test site and a clear methodology has been drafted on how the pool area and attached trench have to be backfilled to ensure that no further damage is caused by natural forces. Materials for this intervention are currently being sourced for backfilling in 2019. The team will subsequently work on a different, more temporary, backfilling for the exposed mosaics and pavements. Heritage Malta was also asked by the Lands Authority whether four fields to the NE of the site could be transferred to the farmer that is currently ploughing them. These fields were within the extents of the tenement in Heritage Malta’s control but were not being earmarked for use by the Agency. It was thus agreed that they can be transferred to the said farmer and removed from the Heritage Malta’s responsibility.

Some minor conservation works were also carried out at San Pawl Milqi. These included the replacement of the covering above the oil settling vats as well as emergency consolidation on one of the press’s anchor weights. Both are still ongoing. The management plan connected with this site is now in its final stages. In relation to this, the Agency was informed by G. Semeraro, current director of the Missione Archeologica a Malta, that they have no further interest on the site. Heritage Malta is thus currently studying what needs to be done with regards to the excavation’s original documentation and material.

Conservation works at the Domus Romana were limited to the bi-yearly cleaning of mosaics and artefacts. Work on an addition to the display is also currently under way. Funds have been obtained to study and display the carbonised loaf of bread found at the Ta’ Ġawhar tower during Prof. David Trump’s excavations in the 1960s. Also spearheaded by conservation needs was the removal of three large pine trees, the roots of which were creating considerable damage to surrounding Roman walls and pavements. These were removed following permission by ERA, and were replaced by six trees planted at the St Paul’s Catacombs earlier in the year.

The interest shown in the site last year by a number of universities has materialised in the establishment of the ‘Melite Civitas Romana Project’ between Heritage Malta, the University of South Florida and Intercontinental Archaeology. This project seeks to document and excavate the areas investigated by T. Zammit in the 1920s and eventually expand beyond these to provide new data. The proposal for this project was submitted to, and approved by, Heritage Malta in 2018 and is currently awaiting for the permit from the Superintendence of Cultural Heritage. Excavation works are planned to start in the summer of 2020 but a 3D scan of the site and remote sensing works are planned to be carried out in 2019 in preparation for the 2020 season.

Mitigation works at St Paul’s Catacombs to tackle the deficiencies highlighted in the report presented by UCL students are still in preparation phase. A course of action has, however, been drafted and decided on, which will see the installation of extractor fans beneath the main exhibition area, the installation of a new sliding door and the possible installation of a double-door system at the exit from the visitor centre. Other conservation works included continuous environmental monitoring within the main exhibition area, the purchase of a PAR metre to be used by conservators and biologists, and research work on the frescoes within catacomb 17. The most extensive works currently being carried out are changes required in
the lighting system of the catacombs to mitigate biological growth. Areas where lighting needs to be dimmed have been identified. The regular monitoring of flora and fauna in the complex has also commenced.

Post-excavation research also continued on artefacts recovered during the excavations carried out on site between 2013 and 2015. The results of the first two samples sent for C14 dating were received with positive results and permission has been sought to send two coffin-wood fragments found within tomb 31 for dating. All other post excavation studies are still underway and awaiting preliminary results. The site also featured in a number of promotional publications, the most prominent of which was an article published in September’s issue of Forbes. The St Paul’s catacombs have also been a catalyst for the setting up of a working group to investigate possibilities through which Heritage Malta sites may be promoted as Dark Tourism sites.

The department also regularly receives requests by students and researchers for assistance. Moreover, two projects are currently being drafted by third parties in collaboration with Heritage Malta. The first by Dr Maria Rita Sgarlata and her team will possibly study the materials excavated at Heritage Malta’s catacomb sites. Secondly, Dr Amelia Brown is drafting a project through which the excavations at Saqqajja and the Museum Esplanade in Rabat are studied and finally published. This latter may also include studies on the archaeological potential of Ras ir-Raheb. Both projects are currently still being drafted and will depend on approval by Heritage Malta and the Superintendence of Cultural Heritage as well as on the acquisition of funding.

At Ġgantija all audiovisuals in the Interpretation Centre were edited to include subtitles, in order to provide an improved visitor experience and to aid visitors with hearing impairment. In September Exalta submitted the first version of audio guide narration in English. Finalisation and translations are earmarked for next year.

The kitchen in the domestic quarters at the Gran Castello Historic House was enriched with additional display items. A household stable was set up in the ground floor of the same domestic quarters. A Volto Santo engraving was put up in the bedroom set-up. Food replicas were set up in the food storage section on the ground floor of the domestic quarters. The ‘Weights’ section of the display was revised and a new information panel installed. An agreement was also signed with the providing financial assistance not exceeding €20,000 for a scientific study of the ‘Comino skeleton’ currently on display at the Gozo Museum of Archaeology.
4. CONSERVATION

During the year under review, all conservation departments continued with the continuous process of conservation of items of the National Collection.

The priority was undoubtedly the conservation and restoration of the MUZA collection in view of the ERDF project, which involved the conservation of a considerable number of items of all materials. The direct contribution of conservators was also essential for the packing, transportation, unpacking and display of all artefacts in the newly refurbished Auberge d’Italie as part of the said MUZA project. Conservators also carried out courier duties in a number of exhibitions both locally and abroad. An open day with guided tours of all conservation laboratories was also held on 4 November.

The conservation laboratories also hosted a number of interns, who besides being given an enriching experience also gave a most welcome helping hand with all the projects underway, under constant supervision. The list of projects per respective department is as follows:

4.1 PAINTINGS, POLYCHROME SCULPTURE AND WOOD DEPARTMENT

Apart from the MUZA project, considerable work was also carried out on items from San Anton and Verdala Palaces. These include 37 paintings and other wood items which received full treatment as follows:

- Triumph of Faith by G. Odazzi – Ref 395-6
- Christ Holding the Cross by G. Reni – Ref 195-6
- Fisherman by the river from the Mintoff auction sale – Object no 81507
- Girl in woods from the Mintoff auction sale – Object no 81506
- Vesuvius by Night from the Mintoff auction sale – Object no 50927
- Vesuvius by Day from the Mintoff auction sale – Object no 50926
- St Peter the Apostle by G. Briffa – Ref 5293-4
- St Paul the Apostle by G. Briffa – Ref 5291-2
- Late 17th century tabernacle door with painting after G. Reni – Ref 4797-8
- 18th century tabernacle door with painting after G. Reni – Ref 16207-8
- Il-Barba by E. Caruana Dingli – Ref 239-40
- Portrait of Paolo Corrario, Venetian School – Ref 109-10
- 18th century wall clock – Ref 1883-4
- Two 18th century Venetian mirrors - No ref number
- Landscape with Corn Field by J. Isaiah Lewis – Ref FAS/P/ 3
- Allegory of Muses attributed to G. Grech – Ref – 3155-6
- Death of Dragut by G. Cali – Ref 5963 - 4
- Portrait of a Young Man by Beccaruzzi – Ref 169-70
- Adonis and Venus by P. Liber – Ref 117 - 8
- Landscape attributed to S. Rosa – Ref 225 - 6
- Finding of the True Cross by M. Bellanti
- St Stephen by J. de Ribera – Ref 269-70
• Portrait of a Knight by D. Robusti – Ref 123-4
• Madonna and Child with infant St John the Baptist by T. Minardi – Ref 455-6
• Abstract by A. Chircop – Ref 8861-2
• Bozzetto for dome painting by G. Cali
• Glory of St Anthony by M. Preti – Ref 14837-8
• Giotto drawing a Circle attributed to G. Hyzler – Ref 16375-6
• The Virgin and St Joseph, wooden polychrome gilded statues – Ref 11621-2, 11623-4.
• The Baptism group – 17th century, wooden polychrome statues of Christ and St John the Baptist – Object no 61183

San Anton/Verdala Palaces – Paintings by Patricio Morlete Ruiz:
• View of the Church and Piazza of Santa Maria Novella – Ref 11637-8
• Arno from the Porto San Nicolo – Ref 8389-90
• Port of Antibes in Provence – Ref 11641-2
• View of the Church and Plaza of Santa Croce with the Festa Del Calcio – Ref 11635-6
• View of the Town and Port of Bayonne from the Pathway of Boufflers – Ref 11643-4
• The Entrance to the Port of Marseille – Ref 8409-10

102 decorative frames (HM16/1/2018) also received full treatment, many other paintings received partial treatment, while another batch of 46 decorative frames were fully conserved for MUZA. The intervention on two paintings from the Grand Master’s Palace corridors, full length figure of G.M Hompesh (Ref 8167-8), and a half-length figure of G.M Wignacourt (Ref 4288-9) are currently underway. Other completed on-site works include the consolidation of two wall British Army site names at Fort St Angelo (Battery and Parade Ground), first aid interventions on a painting depicting the Visitation (Erardi School) and the decorative frame of a painting depicting the Transfiguration of Christ (18th century) at the Inquisitor’s Palace, and paint trials at the Attorney General’s office in the Grand Master’s Palace.

Two major projects being conducted by the department are the conservation of the wall paintings at the Gran Salon of the National Museum of Archaeology and the wall paintings in the Officers’ Mess at the Main Guard.

Works at the Salon have initially started with a slow pace due to unforeseen problems related to the wall support. Once this problem was solved, works have proceeded with a more orderly pace and the façade facing north east (from the frieze downwards), is ready from treatment. Work is now progressing on the north wall. During the documentation process three dates were discovered. A 1949 date, accompanied by the name of Francis Borg, indicates that post war works were being carried out on the decorations. Two other dates, 1875 and 1872 were uncovered during the cleaning process of the north wall. Further research is necessary with regard to these dates. A number of scientific investigations have also been conducted. From the first phase of these investigations it was established that the artist used two very particular pigments both in the lower and central areas. Even though both areas are painted using different mediums, the artist’s palette is similar. The pigments, chrome yellow and emerald green can possibly help date the decorations since such pigments started being used in cultural heritage in 1816 and 1814 respectively, the latter only being used for around 90 years.
due to toxicity. The indication is that the wall paintings were probably executed during the 19th century.

On the other hand most of the works carried out so far at the Main Guard concerns documentation. As the room is still being used by staff from the Office of the Attorney General, the working space is rather restricted. However considerable interventions on a substantial part of one of the walls have been concluded. Whereas the preliminary phase of organizing the project was rather time-consuming (scaffoldings, supply of conservation materials, removal of curtain hangers from the wall and photographic documentation), work can now proceed in a more systematic manner.

The following wood objects were conserved:

- Grand master’s carriage at the Palace Armoury – routine maintenance along with the treatment of a damaged shaft – HM16/544/2014
- Two 18th century gilt wood frames (The Visitation, Ref 70506, The Marriage of the Virgin, Ref 70507) for the Inquisitor’s Palace.
- Mid-19th century inlaid tabernacle door for the Sant Anne’s Chapel, Fort St Elmo – HM16/122/2014
- Two large quarry wagon wheels for the Gozo Museum – HM 6/77/2018
- Hand driven mill for the Gozo Museum – Object no 79110
- Wine barrel for the Gozo Museum – Object no 18259
- Square Piano – HM 6/327/2014

The wooden crucifix at Mater Dei Hospital was inspected, and supervision of pest control application at the Folklore Museum, Gozo.

**4.2 Textiles, Books and Paper Department**

The department was directly involved in the setting up of the new costumes display at the Inquisitor’s Palace. Other major ongoing projects concern the photography, cleaning, creation of mounts, packing in new boxes and updating the database of the costumes and uniforms of the National Collection.

The list of projects completed this year includes the following:

- Two Union Jacks – HM16/104/2017
- One beaded blouse – HM16/23/2017
- One fan – HM16/108/2014
- One cocktail hat with feathers – HM16/258/2012
- One Republic of Malta crest – HM16/59/2018
- Four stomachers – HM16/18/2018
- Documentation and cleaning of Mr Caruana Pettett donation – HM16/39/2018
- Documentation and cleaning of vestments from Pilar Church – HM16/69/2018
- Mount Sudanese flag in its frame – HM16/124/2014
- Inventory and first aid interventions of 30 items – HM16/39/2018
The following books and paper items were also conserved:

**HM16/89/2017**
- View of Grand Harbour from Neptune Fountain – Ref 31003-4
- Oriental Internal Scene (Bellanti) – Ref 33563-4
- Oriental Internal Scene (Bellanti) – Ref 7870-80
- Ecce Homo (Bellanti) – Ref 16157-8
- Male Saint (Bellanti) – Ref 16151-2
- Male Saint (Bellanti) – Ref 16153-4
- Two Male Saints (Bellanti) – Ref 16149-50
- Male Saint (Bellanti) – Ref 16155-6
- Portrait of J.F. Overback (1824) – Object no 60689
- View of a Mosque (Bellanti) – Ref 2512
- Portrait of a Turkish Bey (Bellanti) – Ref 2513
- Drawing of Old Door of Mdina Cathedral – Ref 1467
- Christ in Gethsemane (V. Hzylr) – Ref 2768
- Copy of Detail from Raffaello (V. Hzylr) – Ref 2731
- View of Classical Ruins in Athens (Bellanti) – Ref 2626
- View of Athens (?) (Bellanti) – Ref 2473
- View of Acropolis (Bellanti) – Ref 610
- View of Classical Ruins on Acropolis (Bellanti) – Ref 2628
- St Catherine (Bellanti) – Ref 2625
- St Michael (Bellanti) – Ref 44941-2
- View of Valletta Marina, Rome 1821 – Ref 30919-20
- View of Valletta Marina (G. Pullicino) – Ref 16097-8
- View of Parthenon (Bellanti) – Ref 2627

**HM16/94/2017**
- Valletta (lithograph) by Dery/Bellanti – Ref 1037-8
- View of Marina from Nix Mangiare Stairs (lithograph) by Schanz – Ref 30957-8
- Deposition by Raffaello (lithograph) by Madiona – Ref 3066-7
- Spencer Monument (lithograph) by Luigi Brocktorff – Object no 61092
- Cenotaph erected... Spencer – Ref 1017-8
- St Paul’s Anglican Church Façade by Luigi Brocktorff – Object no 61094
- Porta Reale, Valletta by De Angelis – Ref 16039-40
- Brillante Mascherata by P. P. Caruana – Ref 1233-4
- Caricature of England and France – Ref 21889-90
- Caricature of the Evacuation of Malta – Ref 21891-2
- View of St Paul’s Bay by Schranz – Ref 30967-8
- View of Grand Harbour from Ricasoli (lithograph) by Schranz – Ref 30991-2
- View of Dockyard from Bormla (lithograph) by Schranz – Ref 33755-6
- View of the Auberge de Castille (lithograph) by Schranz – Ref 30961-2
- View of Galley Port (lithograph) – Ref 30959-60.

**HM16/66/2017**
- Hand painted fan – Object no 60698
HM16/68/2017
- Immigrants - photograph by D. Zammit Lupi – Object no 60699
- Five photographs of immigrants by D. Zammit Lupi – Object no 60705

HM16/20/2018
- Anatomical drawing by Caruana – Ref 30081-2
- Study of a hand by Farrugia – Ref 30075-6
- Marsa Race Course by Schranz – Ref 30981-2
- Ship caught in Storm by Schranz – Ref 30963-4
- Study of Figure from Raffaello by Cali – Ref 31039-40
- Study of Figure from Raffaello by Cali – Ref 31041-2
- Portrait of E. Sesvoli (lithograph) by Bellanti – Object no 61455
- Drawing of Porto Salvo altarpiece by Hyzler – Object no 61456
- Oriental Lady with Parasol by Preziosi – Ref 7859-60
- Oriental Man by Preziosi – Ref 7861-2
- A canvas by Preziosi – Ref 7863-4
- Body Guards by Preziosi – Ref 7869-70

HM16/ 51 /2018
- Illuminated Manuscript ‘S’ Historiated Initial – Ref 31499-500
- Illuminated Manuscript (HMZA 01115) – Ref 34067-8
- Illuminated Manuscript (HMZA 01116) – Ref 34069-70

HM16/ 67 /2018
- Twenty G. Cali studies – Ref 15767-8, 16047-8, 16053-4, 31029-30, 31031-2, 31033-4, 31035-6, 31043-4, 31045-6, 31047-8, 31049-50, 31053-4, 31055-6, 31057-8, 30161-2, 31065-6, 31059-60, 31063-4, 31071-2, 310775-6

HM16/ 65 /2018
- Architectural ruin by S. Busuttil? – Ref 16237-8
- Abstract by Emvin Cremona – Ref 16325-6
- Procession by Michele Bellanti – Ref 1205-6
- Illuminated Manuscript – Ref 34103-4
- Msida Bastion Cemetery by G. Calleja – Ref 997-8
- Prise de Malte – Ref 1405-6
- Portrait of Pietro Paolo Caruana – Ref 34579-80
- Royal Commission by P.P. Caruana – Ref 14661-2
- Arrival Dowager Queen Adelaide by P.P. Caruana – Ref 7747-8
- Arrival Dowager Queen Adelaide by P.P. Caruana – Ref 1223-4

HM16/50/2018
- Ten lithographs after Raffaello deposition by Madiona – Ref 30647-8, 30651-2, 30653-4, 30655-6, 30657-8, 30659-60, 30661-2, 30663-4, 30665-6, 30671-2
HM16/79/2018
- Design for Fireworks Display (18th century) – Ref 32175-6

HM16/75/2018
- Study for the allegory of summer – Ref 1687-8

HM16/81/2018
- Ecce Homo by Anton Agius – Ref 993-4
- Seated Oriental lady by Michele Bellanti – Ref 34291-2
- Study of trees by Giuseppe Briffa – Ref 16395-6

HM16/23/2018
- Valletta Marina by Bellanti (watercolour) – Ref 1005-6
- Argotti by Brocktorff (watercolour) – Ref 4805-6
- Birkirkara Square by Schranz (wash) – Ref 30855-6
- St John’s Cathedral by Schranz (lithograph) – Ref 30933-4
- Pinto Stores by Schranz (lithograph) – Ref 28941-2

HM16/21/2017
- Abstract by F. Baldacchino – Ref 689-90
- Landscape by C. Carra – Ref 15215-6
- Abstract by E. Cremona – Ref 16327-8
- Malta Harbour Scene by Paolucci – Ref 15539-40
- Malta Scene by F. Frisia – Ref 15543-4
- Malta Scene by R. Grada – Ref 15541-2
- Drawing by A. Favray – Ref 345-6
- Drawing by A. Favray – Ref-14933-4
- Drawing by A. Favray – Ref 351-2
- Scene of Classical Ruins by Giuntotardi – Ref 16229-30
- St Thomas of Villanova giving Alms – Ref 16041-2
- Sketch by V. Diacono – Ref 44533-4
- Sketch by V. Diacono – Ref 44523-4
- Sketch by V. Diacono – Ref 44507-8

HM16/70/2018
- Notabile from Tal-Virtu by Bellanti – Ref 113-4
- Boschetto by Bellanti – Ref 1115-6

HM16/73/2018
- Portrait of a Woman by S. Casabene – Ref 23485-6
- Portrait of John Pudney by G. Archidiacono – Ref 1633-4
- Procession by E. Caruana Dingli – Ref 1887-8
- Drawing by L. Cole – Ref 4753-4
- View of Interior of St John by G. Vella – Ref 4323-4
- Abstract by E. Cremona – Ref 22593-4
- View of Malta Exhibition – Ref 6693-4
**HM/66/2018**
- Holy Family after Raffaello by A. Morghen – Ref 28863-4
- View of Ball Monument (monochrome) – Ref 30977-8
- Royal Naval Hospital by Schranz – Ref 30937-8
- Portrait of Maitland – Ref 34601-2
- Portolan – Ref 33779-80
- Fungus Rock / Attendance Sheet by C. Busuttil – Ref 16443-4
- St Peter by P. P. Caruana – Ref 9799-800

**HM16/N/A/2018**
- Woman in the Bull – I. Borg (lithograph 1984)

A drawing by Sciortino (Ref 28575-6) was conserved for the ‘Devil with the Brush’ exhibition, while the following were completed in view of the Dominican exhibition:
- L’Isle de Malte ... Illustrating the final stages of the Great Siege, NMFA 30187 -8
- *Valletta Nova Città di Malta* – Venetian copper engraving 1567 by Domenico Zano, NMFA 31883-4
- Dominican Friars in procession with the Basilica’s White *ombrellone*, lithograph by G. Muir NMFA1555 -6
- Collector of the souls executed malefactors, lithograph printed by G. Muir, NMFA 14781- 2
- The Host taken in Procession by Dominican friars and the Archconfraternity of the Blessed Sacrament during *Corpus Christi* festivity – lithograph printed by G. Muir, NMFA 1585 -6
- Four vignettes captioned as ‘Dominican Fri’ - 1587-8

The following items were conserved for the Firenze / Notte Bianca Exhibitions:
- Dimostrazione di Tutta la Guerra – Engraving 1631 by G. F. Lucini – Ref 31197-8
- Disegno del Porto di Malta – Engraving 1565 (state1) by G. F. Camocio – Ref 31157-8
- Disegno del Porto di Malta – Engraving 1565 (state 4) by G. F. Camocio – Paolo Forlani – Ref 31173-4
- Nuovo et Ultimo Disegno – Engraving 1565 (state 2) by Palombi? – Ref 30175-6
- Valletta ou Valetville Forte, de l’Isle de Malta, Amsterdam, 1705 by Johannes Blaeu, Pierre Mortimer – Ref 31495-6
- Valletta Civitas Nova – Engraving 1689 – 95 by J. Janssonius – F. De Wit – Ref 31457-8
- Nieuwe Pascaart....- Engraving with contemporary colour c.1700 – Ref 30907-8
- Calaris, Malta, Rhodus, Famagusta – Engraving post – 1572 (state 2) by Braun & Hogenberg – Ref 31137-8
- Insularum aliquot....... – Engraving 1608 by Abraham Ortelius – Ref 31995-6
- Plan Generale De la Ville Capitale De Malte – Manuscript 1815 by Giorgio Grognet de Vasse – Ref 31637-8
- View of Valletta, the Grand and Marsamxett Harbours – Watercolour on paper, early 19th century by unknown artist – Ref 28961-2
The following items were conserved for the Schranz Family of Artists exhibition:

- Portrait of Giovanni Schranz – Ref 4701-2
- Landscape (foreign) – Ref 30975-6
- View of Mosta or Marsa? – Ref 30969-70
- View of Girgenti Palace – Ref 30989-90
- View of Marsamxett Harbour (lithograph) – Ref 30943-4
- View of Valletta from Porta Reale – Ref 779-80
- Watercolour of Marsa – Ref 30965-6
- Watercolour of Steps and Archway – Ref 28969-70
- Watercolour of Fort St Elmo from Sliema – Ref 30973-4
- Watercolour of Landscape (foreign) – Ref 30979-80
- Watercolour of a storm at Sea (1848) – Ref 30915-6
- Valletta Marina – Bellanti (watercolour) – Ref 1005-6
- Argotti by Brocktorff (watercolour) – Ref 4805-6
- Birkirkara Square by Schranz (wash) – Ref 30855-6
- 26 private works by Schranz

4.3 STONE, CERAMICS, METALS, GLASS AND UNDERWATER CULTURAL HERITAGE DEPARTMENT

Much attention was given to the MUZA project. This collection involved the conservation and restoration of many artefacts including plaster casts, silverware, ceramics and various metal works (HM16/85/2017). Interesting low relief wax artefacts were also studied and conserved along with a vast number of majolica jars. A large stone trough was brought to the conservation lab in many pieces and it was re-adhered and consolidated.

Another priority was the ongoing conservation of the prehistoric temples, in particular Ġgantija and Tarxien Temples. This project consists mainly of pointing of cracks, filling in and reconstruction using the plastic repair technique. At the Ġgantija, precisely in the North Temple, onsite discussions were held in February about the intervention on a broken megalith. A small scaffold structure was erected in the North Temple, and the megalith was lifted and repositioned, with vacant areas around it being packed with loose coralline stones to secure it further in place. A monitoring period was established by the architect before the scaffolding is removed. Another conservation-structural intervention took place on the Ġgantija back wall in October-November. This consisted of the replacement of three corroded steel beams supporting one of the back wall megaliths. The old beams were replaced with lightweight adjustable struts in an aluminium alloy. Routine conservation works within the temples themselves included the consolidation of a deteriorated part of the vertical pillar at the far end of the niche arrangement in the South Temple. Lime wash was applied as a sacrificial layer to powdery surfaces of megaliths within the North Temple. Plastic repairs were carried out in several locations of the megalithic ruins.

Conservators were also engaged with the long-term conservation project of the Palace Armoury collection in preparation for the new set up of the Palace Armoury. This included the conservation of five full suits of corridor infantry armour – (HM16/76/2018, HM16/40/2017, HM16/39/2017), 26 Savoyarde helmets (HM16/72/2018), and serrated edge heavy Cuirassier armour and riveted Cuirassier armour suits (HM16/17/2018).
With respect to monuments, the department conserved the Christ the King and Great Siege monuments, including cleaning and re-application of protective coatings to the bronze monument. A number of missing bronze letters were also bought and fixed in place. Missing lettering of the Sette Giugno monument were also bought and fixed back in place.

The department was also involved in the conservation and setting up of the numismatic display and the ‘Core and Periphery’ exhibition at the National Museum of Archaeology. Around 100 silver and bronze coins were conserved for the former, while cleaning, adhesion, plaster and colour integration were applied for the latter. The same treatment was also applied for a vast number of ceramic artefacts retrieved during past excavations at the Inquisitor’s Palace.

Two large marble plaques found commemorating Sir Ralph Abercromby (1734-1801) Lieutenant General in the British Army, and British Admiral Sir Alexander Ball, at Fort St Elmo were also conserved. Works involved cleaning of one marble plaque in situ and re-adhesion of the other to a wooden structure. The latter is on display at Fort St Elmo (HM16/14/2016). Ten tomb cappings were reconstructed with stone slabs and traditional mortar at St Paul’s Catacombs, while the Birgu wooden model and seven wax figures by Canon Lorenzo Politi (Inquisitor’s Palace) – HM16/43/2018, and fourteen bronze items from the main door of Tal-Pilar Church – HM16/58/2018 projects were also completed.

The department also started for the first time the conservation of underwater artefacts, namely a Polish bronze bell and its iron clapper, a machine gun, loaded bullet and radio belonging to a WWII American aircraft. Cleaning of sea encrustations and desalination are among the main works carried out.

4.4 Diagnostic Science Laboratories (DSL)

DSL continued taking on projects in support of the curatorial and conservation departments, as well as continuing the procurement plan for analytical system upgrades.

This year saw the continuation of analytical system procurement planning by way of market research for an ATR-FTIR Microscope system. This phase was finalised and a tender is being issued for its procurement.

Following the 2017 re-instatement of Heritage Malta IAEA counterpart representation for cultural heritage application in Malta, the two national counterparts, Matthew Grima and Mario Galea, were invited to attend the IAEA’s event ‘EVT1705012 Regional Workshop for new National Liaison Officers/ National Liaison Assistants/ Permanent Mission Representatives/ Counterparts/ Lead Project Coordinators’ held in Vienna on 5-7 February. This event paved the way for easier communication with the IAEA, resulting in better understanding of the IAEA charter for national and regional cooperation and improved efficiency in preparing documents for current and future projects.

As part of the IAEA national project MAT1001 (2018-19), DSL has built on the K-edge radiography training received in 2017, by visiting the setup housed at the University of Ferrara, by way of an IAEA scientific visit in November. The visit will also serve DSL for gaining
knowledge on x-ray shielding requirements in preparation for Heritage Malta’s prospective move to a new premises, where a much needed x-radiography room will be built.

In 2018, DSL received a request from the National Conservation Centre in Skopje, Macedonia for a possible collaboration to support an icon conservation project by way of analysing two samples for pigment identification. In addition, the request also included training on DSL’s setup for possible future service provision to this centre and to assist them should they wish to buy similar setups. This cooperation took place in October. A familiarisation session was carried out on Scientific Technical Photography (STP), Fibre Optic Reflectance Spectroscopy (FORS) and Multi Spectral Imaging (MSI). In return, the Senior Conservator gave a presentation on the conservation of icons to DSL and Conservation staff.

While writing the MAT1001 proposal (IAEA Representation) the Senior Curator for Phoenician, Roman and Medieval sites had submitted to DSL a glass analysis project. As a result, 2018 has seen standard reference materials being procured in support of this project, together with geological standards, bronze standards and Computed Radiography films to compliment the CR scanner setup. The glass project has been extended into a PhD for more detailed analysis and will be executed by a DSL member of staff.

The DSL was also involved in public dissemination projects. In April it took part for the first time in Science in the Citadel, explaining how scientific instruments bring to light an invisible world of small physical phenomena which are not apparent to the naked eye. The event was a huge success especially with the younger generation. In September it participated in Science in the City by organising four talks to promote the science applied to the conservation of the Gran Salon at the National Museum of Archaeology.

DSL concluded a total of ten projects. These were split into four Heritage Malta conservation and curatorial projects and six external projects. The latter were all private conservation projects, three of which were initiated in 2017.
5. Education, Publications and Outreach

During the year under review further work was carried out to consolidate the initiatives of preceding years, concerning mainly the creation of didactic resources for teachers and students and the production and delivery of a series of thematic and hands-on sessions in the various museums and sites.

All sessions and resources are produced in full sync with the Outcomes and Outputs of the National Curriculum Framework. In-service courses for teachers and career guidance events have also been boosted, while a series of events targeting related audiences have been held.

The development of didactic resources included the creation of interactive workbooks, the production of the first of a series of books for young readers, and the first talking book on Valletta. Apart from specific initiatives for Skolasajf students, the respective thematic and hands-on sessions were open to all schools and have over the scholastic year covered every year (ie 1 to 11). Activities were also developed specifically with the aim of targeting students with different abilities and challenging backgrounds, such as a special programme organised by the Speech and Language Department at Mater Dei Hospital. The full list of activities is found in Appendix I below.

PUBLICATIONS

The publishing arm of the Agency continued to build on the achievements registered in recent years in order to increase accessibility to the assets in its care, enhance Heritage Malta’s corporate image, and produce quality merchandise for the museum shops. It also represented the agency in the National Book Fair for the sixth consecutive year with encouraging results. The titles published during 2018 were the following:

**The Schranz Family of Artists: A Journey of Rediscovery: Exhibition Catalogue**
ISBN: 978-99932-57-51-6
Size: 25 x 25 cm
Pages: 144

**Archaeological Fragments and other Sources of Information: Conference Proceedings**
ISBN: 978-99932-57-53-0
Size: 25 x 17.5 cm
Pages: 48

**Humillima Civitas Vallettae: From Mount Xebb-er-ras to European Capital of Culture: Collected Papers**
ISBN: 978-99932-57-55-4
Size: 25 x 17.5 cm
Pages: 464

**Etruscan Urns in the National Collection: Espresso Exhibition Series No 6**
Size: 35 x 99 cms
Impressions of an Island: A Malta Comic Con Artbook
ISBN: 978-99932-57-57-8
Size: 29.5 x 21 cm
Pages: 160

Il-Misteru ta’ Taht is-Siéra tal-Harrub: Reading Book
Size: 21x 15 cms
Pages: 152

Muża – The National Community Art Museum: Erdf 05.019: Project Book
ISBN: 978-99932-57-56-1
Size: 21 x 21 cms
Pages: 88

Tesserae 6: Spring 2018
ISBN: 978-99932-57-54-7
Size: 25 x 20 cms
Pages: 112

Tesserae 7: Autumn 2018
ISBN: 978-99932-57-60-8
Size: 25 x 20 cms
Pages: 112

Core & Periphery: Mdina & Hal Safi in the 9th & 10th Centuries: Medieval Malta Exhibition Series No 1
Size: 25 x 15 cms
Pages: 24

Il-Mithna ta’ Kola Workbook
Size: 29.5 x 21 cms
Pages: 12

Il-Katakombi ta’ San Pawl Workbook
Size: 29.5 x 21 cms
Pages: 12

Il-Mużew Marittimu Workbook
ISBN: 978-99932-57-63-9
Size: 29.5 x 21 cms
Pages: 12
L-ARMERIJA TAL-PALAZZ WORKBOOK
ISBN: 978-99932-57-64-6
Size: 29.5 x 21cms
Pages: 12

VALLETTA: MY CITY, MY STORY: Talking Book No 1
ISRC:MT-A1D-18-00001
6. OTHER CORPORATE

Heritage Malta focused on consolidating and improving its media presence during 2018. This was mainly done by publicising the numerous public events that were organised or supported by the Agency and by luring different publics to the variety of museums and sites and the voluminous work that is happening behind the scenes. From a more corporate perspective, Heritage Malta increased its direct advertising to offer particular services and packages to prospective clients.

Looking at the conventional media perspective, the agency has resorted to different modes of conveying the message. During this period a total of 103 press releases were issued, 86 appearances were registered on television programmes, 30 interviews on radio programmes, 35 articles on magazines, 167 online articles and 11 press conferences. Apart from this, the agency has invested in particular media appearances in order to make the product more desirable and accessible. In this respect Heritage Malta advertised during the Malta Eurovision Song Festival by promoting 16 separate museums and sites before each song through a 30 second video on each chosen site respectively. Another media initiative that is giving Heritage Malta exposure is the wrapping of a Malta Transport bus promoting the different museums and sites.

From a digital media perspective, Heritage Malta is continuing to invest in its media presence. The agency’s main website continues to be a focal point to the different audiences accessing the site. Page views continued to increase throughout 2018 to 2,196,272 (2,008,538 in 2017) with the museum and sites section and the events section being the most popular sections of the site. During this period content and statistics are being analysed. Parallel to the main website, and following the success of last year’s venues website (www.exclusivevenues.org), Heritage Malta invested in a new mini site (www.tastehistory.org). This is extremely popular with audiences who are interested to connect to this particular project and is proving to be a good platform of discussion on particular topics.

From past experiences, Heritage Malta’s brand activities are more noticeable when using social media marketing. Although Facebook continues to be the social media platform of choice by local audiences, Instagram is picking up in terms of numbers and interactivity. The number of likes on Facebook continues to increase, from 18,169 Likes in 2017 to 21,115 Likes in 2018, with 5848 in the closed Facebook group. Throughout this period, the number of followers on Twitter has increased to 2,340 from 1,416 in 2017 with a total of 759 tweets. The number of followers on Instagram has increased from 109 users in 2017 to 1,123 users during 2018, with a total of 104 posts. These tools are mainly proving advantageous for the promotion of live activities such as the numerous Open Days that have been organised throughout the year. Heritage Malta provided live reporting during conferences such as the second Fragments conference and the FRAGSUS conference, both held at the National Museum of Archaeology and the NEMO conference organised at the newly launched MUŻA.

Seven museums and sites (Fort St Angelo, Fort St Elmo, the Hypogeum, Mnajdra and Hagar Qim Temples, the National Museum of Archaeology, St Paul’s catacombs, and Tarxien Temples) have received the renowned Certificate of Excellence for 2018 by Tripadvisor, the
world’s largest travel site. Hagar Qim Temples were also included in the hall of Fame since it received such award for five consecutive years.

From a broadcast media perspective, Heritage Malta has invested in numerous media appearances and advertising. Due to its documentation aspect, Heritage Malta kept its participation in the programme *Malta u lil Hinn Minhna* on the national broadcasting station. Heritage Malta staff are continuously booked to participate in numerous television and radio programmes promoting various activities ranging from events held throughout the year to more focused topics such as the promotion of work done by the agency’s scientific and conservation laboratories in specialised programmes. Radio is still proving to be a medium that attracts attention and therefore Heritage Malta has invested in continuous radio adverts and participation throughout the whole year.

Heritage Malta has also increased its operations on various digitisation programmes. Throughout this period, the collaboration with the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library’s (HMML’s) Malta Study Center at Saint John’s University has been concluded. This included the digitisation of manuscripts, drawings, and maps of the collection at MUŻA. Over 1500 individual objects were digitized in five months, including the Great Siege maps by the Italian printer Giovanni Francesco Camocio, which were added to the UNESCO Memory of the World Register in January.

Another digitisation programme which took off during this year included the installation and management of the digital management software (DAM Fotoware). All the necessary hardware and software are now in place and training of staff was initiated throughout this year. By the end of the year more than 20,000 items were uploaded into the system and will continue to be populated during 2019. As a result of this digitisation programme, photographic and digitisation equipment is being acquired and updated. This includes three separate programmes at Head Office, the National Museum of Natural History and Fort St Elmo (National War Museum).

As for projects connected to the European Union, Heritage Malta has also embarked on a digitisation EEA project at the Malta Maritime Museum. The project that was launched at the end of the year will see more than 2600 artefacts related to maritime activity digitised. This digitisation will complement another aspect of the project and will be able to promote and make accessible aspects of maritime history which currently are not available to the visiting audiences and to online users as well.

In terms of advertising, Heritage Malta continues to invest further in the field with the aim of publicising its corporate and commercial activities. The Agency has invested in 76 printed adverts (46 in 2017). The main area of publicity regarding the core function of the agency was mainly aimed at the events organised by the different museums and sites. The bulk of advertising in this respect was directed towards the Open Days that continue to attract numerous amounts of visitors. This is regarded as social corporate responsibility, making the museums and sites more accessible. Apart from the printed adverts Heritage Malta is also advertising via digital billboards along four different locations scattered around Malta (two in Marsa, one in Żejtun and another one next to University). Heritage Malta has also promoted extensively particular exhibitions such as *The Schranz Family of Artists: A Journey of*
Rediscovery exhibition, Valletta and the Dominicans: A Common Journey exhibition and the The Majlis – Cultures in Dialogue exhibition. Other exhibitions that were advertised included the several espresso exhibitions that were organised throughout the year. Another area of advertising that was substantially supported through adverts focused on getting local and foreign visitors to visit Heritage Malta museums and sites. This included schemes and packages such as the Heritage Malta multipass packages and Heritage Malta membership schemes. These were backed up with television adverts during popular shows such as L-Gharusa and the X Factor Malta edition. The launch of the Heritage Malta Passport is another step forward for the Agency and is being backed up with the full range of advert types in order to promote such an initiative.

The area of publicity concerning the commercial aspect of the Agency was mainly aimed at the rental of venues for corporate events and services for weddings at Heritage Malta venues. It also focused on the newly launched Taste History project which is attracting its own audiences. In order to support this, Heritage Malta participated in the Malta International Food Festival in Mdina, the Weddings and Events Exhibition at the Malta Fairs and Conventions Centre in Ta’ Qali.

In order to maintain its marketing obligations Heritage Malta has to inevitably produce a number of collaterals aimed at providing not only advertising but also information about the area of interest. This includes information about museums and sites, events and initiatives and collaterals aimed at advertising services and packages. This includes the printing of more than 550,000 onsite guides distributed upon purchase of the entry ticket. Other printed collaterals aimed to promote the museums and sites and advantageous packages include the printing of more than 103,000 flyers promoting various packages and combinations. For yet another year, Heritage Malta is advertising through a short video clip on Air Malta flights and is supported by leaflets (110,000 copies) that are placed on each seat.

Throughout the year Heritage Malta also introduced a quarterly Calendar of Events. The printed version (120,000 copies in total) is freely distributed and sent by post to particular areas. Other media collaterals that have been produced during this year include site vouchers aimed at particular packages, bookmarks distributed during particular exhibitions and posters to promote particular events.

Museum shops are an area that are constantly being organised in order to give a fresher outlook, better customer service and eventually increase performance. The interdisciplinary team chaired by a curator of the Prehistoric Sites Department concentrated on major changes in the Hagar Qim and Mnajdra shop and the Ggantija shop. This move has given instantaneous positive results both in terms of aesthetics and in terms of sales. Onsite research with clients is indicating that items and products are more accessible in terms of placement, pricing and content. A small gift shop area was set up in the reception at Ta’ Kola Windmill. At the Gozo Museum of Archaeology, improvements were carried out in the gift shop area at the main entrance.

The team is continuing the scrutiny of each product and this is having positive effect on the general range of products offered from each individual site. Statistics are analysed on a monthly basis and by range of product. Local initiatives and products are being promoted.
Heritage Malta is continuing the exercise that was initiated in 2017 wherein unique merchandise is being produced solely for particular museums and sites. This year the area of interest evolved to include products that were produced by third parties derived from activity happening onsite. This includes the production of honey, wax, candles, and other derivatives from six different Heritage Malta sites. The resulting effect of these initiatives resulted in an improvement in the performance of sales of products.
## 7. VISITOR STATISTICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site/ Museum</th>
<th>Paying</th>
<th>Non Paying</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GHAAR DALAM</td>
<td>47318</td>
<td>9448</td>
<td>56766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAGAR QIM TEMPLES</td>
<td>187083</td>
<td>14023</td>
<td>201106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HYPOGEUM</td>
<td>33033</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>33033</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INQUISITOR’S PALACE</td>
<td>41310</td>
<td>9253</td>
<td>50563</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MNAIDRA TEMPLES</td>
<td>126760</td>
<td>10316</td>
<td>137076</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MALTA MARITIME MUSEUM</td>
<td>22453</td>
<td>3637</td>
<td>26090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROMAN DOMUS</td>
<td>33818</td>
<td>6122</td>
<td>39940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY</td>
<td>79672</td>
<td>13520</td>
<td>93192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUZA*</td>
<td>630</td>
<td>4555</td>
<td>5185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY</td>
<td>17477</td>
<td>10748</td>
<td>28225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FORT ST ELMO</td>
<td>109877</td>
<td>19774</td>
<td>129651</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KORDIN TEMPLES</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>268</td>
<td>268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FORT ST ANGELO</td>
<td>54313</td>
<td>5894</td>
<td>60207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PALACE ARMOURY</td>
<td>132894</td>
<td>26324</td>
<td>159218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST PAULS CATACOMBS</td>
<td>110783</td>
<td>9215</td>
<td>119998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PALACE STATE ROOMS</td>
<td>193342</td>
<td>26286</td>
<td>219628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TARXIEN TEMPLES</td>
<td>78298</td>
<td>9301</td>
<td>87599</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAN CASTELLO HISTORIC HOUSE</td>
<td>26483</td>
<td>3729</td>
<td>30212</td>
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<tr>
<td>GGANTIJA TEMPLES</td>
<td>217927</td>
<td>11389</td>
<td>229316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOZO MUSEUM OF ARCHEOLOGY</td>
<td>35750</td>
<td>6073</td>
<td>41823</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOZO NATURE MUSEUM</td>
<td>28053</td>
<td>2719</td>
<td>30772</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TA’ KOLA WINDMILL</td>
<td>36131</td>
<td>3488</td>
<td>39619</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOZO OLD PRISONS</td>
<td>52727</td>
<td>7520</td>
<td>60247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BORG IN-NADUR TEMPLES</td>
<td>2347</td>
<td>1008</td>
<td>3355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TA’ HAGRAT TEMPLES</td>
<td>3969</td>
<td>627</td>
<td>4596</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SKORBA TEMPLES</td>
<td>3784</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>4089</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TA’ BISTRA CATACOMBS</td>
<td>1699</td>
<td>311</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FORTRESS BUILDERS CENTRE</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10438</td>
<td>10438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
<td>1,677,931</td>
<td>226,291</td>
<td>1,904,222</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Open from 15 December onwards*
Throughout December Heritage Malta recorded the first drop in the number of paying admissions. During the month paying visitors stood at 76,222, a marginal decrease of -0.93% over December 2017. Compared to the same period of the preceding year, the decrease is equivalent to 720 less admissions. Refer to Table 1. Figures published by the National Statistics Office shows that during December inbound tourism soared by 11% over December 2017.

Since the beginning of January the end of May, inbound tourism soared at an average rate of 18.5%. From June till September, tourism grew at an average rate of 13.56%. From October till the end of December inbound tourism increased at an average of 9.13%. Refer to Graph 2.

As at 31 December Heritage Malta achieved a nominal annual growth rate of 27.33%.

Table 1: Paying Admissions Dec 2018 vs 2017 vs 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ghar Dalam Cave &amp; Museum</td>
<td>1,929</td>
<td>2,109</td>
<td>1,788</td>
<td>-8.53%</td>
<td>7.89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hagar Qim Temples</td>
<td>8,431</td>
<td>8,842</td>
<td>7,742</td>
<td>-4.65%</td>
<td>8.90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hal Saflieni Hypogeum</td>
<td>2,325</td>
<td>2,481</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-6.29%</td>
<td>#DIV/0!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inquisitor’s Palace</td>
<td>1,696</td>
<td>2,048</td>
<td>1,706</td>
<td>-17.19%</td>
<td>-0.59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mnajdra Temples</td>
<td>6,553</td>
<td>6,373</td>
<td>5,519</td>
<td>2.82%</td>
<td>18.74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malta Maritime Museum</td>
<td>1,031</td>
<td>1,107</td>
<td>1,038</td>
<td>-0.82%</td>
<td>-0.59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domvs Romana</td>
<td>1,813</td>
<td>1,566</td>
<td>1,590</td>
<td>15.77%</td>
<td>14.03%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Museum of Archaeology</td>
<td>3,730</td>
<td>3,561</td>
<td>2,698</td>
<td>4.75%</td>
<td>38.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUZA</td>
<td>630</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Museum of Natural History</td>
<td>723</td>
<td>919</td>
<td>831</td>
<td>-21.33%</td>
<td>-13.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort St Elmo</td>
<td>5,227</td>
<td>5,600</td>
<td>3,716</td>
<td>-6.66%</td>
<td>40.66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valletta Exhibition</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>736</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort St Angelo</td>
<td>2,666</td>
<td>2,755</td>
<td>2,618</td>
<td>-3.23%</td>
<td>1.83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palace Armoury</td>
<td>6,384</td>
<td>5,603</td>
<td>4,207</td>
<td>13.94%</td>
<td>51.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Paul’s Catacombs</td>
<td>5,229</td>
<td>5,653</td>
<td>3,027</td>
<td>-7.50%</td>
<td>72.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palace State Rooms</td>
<td>6,396</td>
<td>6,449</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-0.82%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tarxien Temples</td>
<td>3,438</td>
<td>3,655</td>
<td>3,228</td>
<td>-5.94%</td>
<td>6.51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gran Castello Historic House</td>
<td>1,194</td>
<td>1,437</td>
<td>479</td>
<td>-16.91%</td>
<td>149.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gantija Temples</td>
<td>9,216</td>
<td>8,965</td>
<td>7,661</td>
<td>2.80%</td>
<td>20.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gozo Museum of Archaeology</td>
<td>1,461</td>
<td>1,628</td>
<td>530</td>
<td>15.22%</td>
<td>175.66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gozo Nature Museum</td>
<td>1,296</td>
<td>1,230</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>5.37%</td>
<td>318.06%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta’ Kola Windmill</td>
<td>2,019</td>
<td>1,708</td>
<td>1,389</td>
<td>18.21%</td>
<td>45.36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gozo Old Prisons</td>
<td>2,020</td>
<td>2,399</td>
<td>1,108</td>
<td>-15.80%</td>
<td>82.31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xaghra Stone Circle</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>-100.00%</td>
<td>-100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borg In-Nadur</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>1073.08%</td>
<td>125.93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salina Catacombs</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>#DIV/0!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Pawl Milqi</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>-100.00%</td>
<td>-100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta’ Hagrat Temples</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>-5.53%</td>
<td>94.74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tas-Silg</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>-100.00%</td>
<td>-100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skorba Temples</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>236</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>-9.75%</td>
<td>131.52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta’ Mintna Catacombs</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>-100.00%</td>
<td>-100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta’ Bistra Catacombs</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>-6.25%</td>
<td>102.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>76,222</td>
<td>76,934</td>
<td>53,087</td>
<td>-0.93%</td>
<td>43.58%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
From January to December, the total amount of paying admissions reached a new record level of 1.6 million visitors. Cumulatively, paying admissions went up by more than 360,000 visitors over last year. Refer to Graph 1. In December ten Heritage Malta sites and museums registered an expansion in the number of paying admissions. The Palace Armoury and MUZA were the largest contributors to growth. In the meantime sixteen sites saw a decrease in the number of admissions. St Paul’s Catacombs and Ħaġar Qim temples bore the biggest losses.

**Graph 1: Paying Visitors from January to December 2018/2017/2016**

**Cumulative Real Growth rates**

The real increase for the first twelve months would have been close to 12% when the considerations below are taken into account. Between January and June 2017, the Palace State Rooms were closed due to the European Union Presidency meetings hosted at the Grand Master’s Palace. From January till end June 2018, the Palace Armoury was not opening on a daily basis. In September 2017, the Palace State Rooms were closed to public from 5 September till 19 September. Fort St Elmo closed to general public from 23 till 29 September. In addition to these considerations, the Valletta exhibition was open to the general public till 23 July 2017. Borg in-Nadur opened regularly to the public on 2 July, whereas last year it was opened only through appointment. Moreover, MUZA opened to public on 15 December 2018 whereas last year it was closed.

**Graph 2: Inbound tourism performance expressed in % between January to December 2018 vs 2017**

**Revenue Generated – Entrance Fees (P)**

Between January – December, revenue arising from the sale of tickets rose to €8.83 million in 2018 from €7.15 million in 2017. Refer to Graph 3. Increase in entrance fees was mainly driven by the increase due buoyant inbound tourism activity. Revenue also increased as a result of
the reopening of the Grand Master’s Palace. It is estimated that during the first six months of last year the Palace State Rooms lost an average of €400,000 worth of ticket sales. In 2018, the Hypogeum was open to the public over a period of twelve months. This has contributed to a further increase in entrance fees. It’s been estimated that the Hypogeum lost nearly half a million euro during the closure period between January to May 2017.\footnote{The Hypogeum was closed from June 2016 till May 2017.} Nominally, entrance fees went up by 23.46%. In real terms the increase would have skewed to 5%.\footnote{Reasons have already been specified in page 3}

**Graph 3: Revenue (€) generated from entrance fees for the period between January to December 2018 vs 2017**

![Graph 3: Revenue (€) generated from entrance fees for the period between January to December 2018 vs 2017](image)

**Generation of Entrance Fees – Top Five Sites**

During the period under review, Ħaġar Qim Park, the Grand Master’s Palace, Fort St Elmo, Ggantija Temples and the Hypogeum generated the largest amount of entrance fees. Refer to Table 2. The top five sites generated almost seventy percent of the total entrance fees. In the meantime thirty percent of the entrance fees were generated from the rest of the sites. In 2018, both Ħaġar Qim Park and the Grand Master’s Palace reached similar levels revenue streams. In the meantime, Fort St Elmo and Ggantija Temples attained revenue levels of €1.2 million. The Hypogeum classified the lowest among the top five sites. Nonetheless, the Hypogeum generated the biggest income per capita amounting to €22.31 per visitor. The Grand Master’s Palace reached lowest per capita income of €4.34 per visitor. Refer to Table 2 and to Graph 4.

**Table 2: Top 5 Sites**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SITES</th>
<th>Entrance Fees Jan - Dec 2018</th>
<th>Entrance Fees Jan - Dec 2017</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ħaġar Qim Park</td>
<td>€ 1,456,485.00</td>
<td>€ 1,376,014.48</td>
<td>5.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Master’s Palace</td>
<td>€ 1,415,870.00</td>
<td>€ 696,946.80</td>
<td>103.15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort St Elmo</td>
<td>€ 1,280,652.00</td>
<td>€ 1,043,226.22</td>
<td>22.76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ggantija Temples</td>
<td>€ 1,242,837.00</td>
<td>€ 1,166,361.00</td>
<td>6.56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypogeum</td>
<td>€ 715,955.00</td>
<td>€ 520,360.00</td>
<td>37.59%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(p\) provisional
Provisional gift shop sales figures between January and December show that sales soared from €622,105 in 2017 to €858,823. The increase is equivalent to €236,718. Compared to previous year, gift shops sales grew by 38%. Refer to Graphs 5 and 6. The expansion in gift shop sales were mainly driven by the increase in admissions which is a result of the buoyant tourism activity. Since the Hypogeum and the Grand Master’s Palace were open over a spread of twelve months, this led to increase in gift shop sales.

Graph 5: Revenue generated from gift shop sales from January to December 2018 vs 2017

Gift Shop sales including: publications, merchandise & food
**ROBUST PERFORMING SITES**

The Palace Armoury & MUZA were the best two sites which contributed to growth. In the case of the latter the increase is misleading since MUZA was closed to public last year. Combined together, both sites enticed over six thousand visitors.

The Palace Armoury recorded an increase of 13.94%. In numerical terms, the increase is equivalent to an additional seven hundred eighty one visitor over the same period of last year. Admissions emanating from organised group visits soared by 83.33%. Moreover, visitors of adult category increased by 17.23%. Mild increases were noted among the senior and student categories as well. Refer to Graph 7.

**MUZA**

MUZA opened to the general public on 15 December. In the first two weeks since its opening it lured 630 paying visitors. All paying admissions were individual walk-ins. The biggest counts were noted during the last week of December especially on 30 December. From a total 630, 369 were paying adult, 188 were paying students. The rest were visitors which fell under the student and child categories. MUZA seems to have enticed the same number of admissions during the first fifteen days of January 2019.
**Moderate/Mild Trends**

Moderate growth was noted at Ta’ Kola windmill (incr. 18.21%), Borg In-Nadur, Ġgantija Temples (incr. 2.80%), the Domus Romana (incr. 15.77%), the Gozo Museum of Archaeology (incr. 15.22%) and Mnajdra Temples (incr. 2.82%). Ta’ Kola Windmill managed to attain an additional three hundred visitors over the same period of the preceding year. During December Borg in-Nadur, Domus Romana and Ġgantija Temples enticed an average of two hundred and five additional visitors each. Fair moderate growth was observed at the Gozo Museum of Archaeology, Mnajdra Temples and the National Museum of Archaeology. Refer to Graph 7.

**Negative Growth Trends**

Sixteen sites/museums recorded negative results during December. Trivial drops were noted at Ta’ Bistra Catacombs, Ta’ Ḥaġrat Temples, Skorba Temples, the Palace State Rooms, the Malta Maritime Museum and Fort St Angelo.

Losses of moderate scale were recorded at Ghar Dalam (decrease -8.53%), the National Museum of Natural History (decr. -21.33%), Tarxien Temples (decr. -5.94%) and the Gran Castello Historic House (decr. -16.91%). The Inquisitor’s Palace, Fort St Elmo and the Gozo Old Prisons registered an average decrease of 350 per site. Refer to Table 3.
### Table 3 Ghar Dalam, Natural History & Tarxien Temples paying admissions 2018 vs 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Dec-18</th>
<th>Dec-17</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Paying</td>
<td>Paying</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Admissions</td>
<td>Admissions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>3450</td>
<td>3358</td>
<td>2.74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>930</td>
<td>1047</td>
<td>-11.17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td>559</td>
<td>548</td>
<td>2.01%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>5.88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group</td>
<td>929</td>
<td>1509</td>
<td>-38.44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>6102</td>
<td>6683</td>
<td>-8.69%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Hypogeum Audio Visual Tours

For the sixth consecutive month the Hypogeum audio visual entrances remained in negative territory. Audio visual admissions dwindled from 355 in December 2017 to 199 in December 2018. Between June and December audio visual entrances dropped by 1,493 visitors. During the last two months since November 2018, deceleration remained almost constant. In May 2018 the number of audio visual walk-ins grew by 397 admissions. However, the increase was purely influenced by the timing of the opening of the Hypogeum on 15 May 2017 whereas in May 2018 it was open during the entire month. Refer to Graph 8.

### Graph 8: Hypogeum audio visual entrances from January – December 2018 vs 2017

#### Borġ In-Nadur Temples

Borġ in-Nadur temple opened daily to the general public on 2 July. During the previous years, visitors were allowed to visit the site through a special appointment. Since its official opening until end December, the number of paying visitors totalled 2,347. During the previous five months, paying admissions had been gradually going down. Exceptionally, the number of entrances marginally soared up throughout December. Refer to Graph 9.
**Ta’ Bistra Catacombs**

For the second consecutive time, Ta’ Bistra Catacombs recorded a trivial drop in the number of walk-ins. During the last ten months the paying admissions were on the rise with the exception of March as a result of Good Friday, which occurred two weeks earlier compared to previous year. Refer to Graph 10.

**Ħaġar Qim Temples & St Paul’s Catacombs**

Both Ħaġar Qim temples and St Paul’s Catacombs bore the biggest losses, which totalled to 411 and 424 respectively. Group entries at Ħaġar Qim Temples went down by 13% while the adult and the senior categories registered similar drops of 109 and 107 in the number of admissions. Cumulatively, Ħaġar Qim temples maintained a lead of 10% over 2017.

St Paul’s Catacombs obtained negative results across all the categories of visitors with the exception of group entries. The latter recorded an insignificant increase. The adult category bore the biggest the losses of over 250 admissions. Meantime the senior, student and child
categories registered a double digit decrease of not more than 55 persons. In 2018, St Paul’s Catacombs maintained a positive lead of 15.99% over 2017.

**CITTADELLA MUSEUMS & THE CITTADELLA VISITOR CENTRE**

During the period under review, the Gozo Museum of Archaeology and the Gozo Nature Museum increased the number of visitors by 15.22% and 5.37% respectively. In the meantime, the Gran Castello Historic House and the Gozo Old Prisons recorded negative results of -16.91% and -15.80% respectively. Cumulatively, the entire Cittadella Museums maintained a nominal lead of 54.17% over the same period last year. Refer to Table 4. Since the introduction of the new combined ticket, significant positive results were registered. Nonetheless in the coming months the Cittadella visitor centre and the Cittadella museums may experience negative trends as the effect of the new combined ticket is gradually fading out.

**Table 4 Paying Admissions at Heritage Malta Cittadella museums 2018 vs 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site/Museums</th>
<th>Jan - Dec 2018</th>
<th>Jan - Dec 2017</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gran Castello Historic House</td>
<td>26,472</td>
<td>19,140</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gozo Museum Of Archaeology</td>
<td>35,735</td>
<td>22,478</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gozo Nature Science Museum</td>
<td>28,053</td>
<td>14,044</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gozo Old Prisons</td>
<td>52,699</td>
<td>37,064</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>142,959</strong></td>
<td><strong>92,726</strong></td>
<td><strong>54%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**INDIVIDUAL ADMISSION AND TOUR OPERATORS**

Cumulatively, Heritage Malta museums sustained the same individual/tour operator ratio (i/t ratio) of 80% : 20%. Refer to Graph 11. In the first two months Heritage Malta sustained an average i/t ratio of 85% : 15%. In March, i/t ratio individual visitors achieved a higher share compared to tour operators. Further shifts were also noted during April and June. In quarter 2 Heritage Malta sustained an average i/t ratio of 7% : 25%. Between July and August individual visitors achieved the highest share as i/t ratio was close or equal to 90% : 10%. Similar i/t ratio to quarter 2 were noted in September, when Heritage Malta sites had an i/t ratio of 75% : 25%. I/t ratio almost remained unchanged during October and November. During December individual visitors regained higher share when compared to the total amount of paying visitors. In fact Heritage Malta sites attained an i/t ration 87% : 13% Refer to Table 4.

---

4 From January to December 2018
Table 4: Individual & Tour Operator composition between January – December 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Individual Visitors</th>
<th>Tour Operator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan-18</td>
<td>85.84%</td>
<td>14.16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb-18</td>
<td>84.48%</td>
<td>15.52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar-18</td>
<td>80.21%</td>
<td>19.79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr-18</td>
<td>75.87%</td>
<td>24.13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May-18</td>
<td>73.88%</td>
<td>26.12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun-18</td>
<td>78.59%</td>
<td>21.41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul-18</td>
<td>89.65%</td>
<td>10.35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug-18</td>
<td>90.14%</td>
<td>9.86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep-18</td>
<td>76.92%</td>
<td>23.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct-18</td>
<td>75.35%</td>
<td>24.65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov-18</td>
<td>75.99%</td>
<td>24.01%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec-18</td>
<td>86.79%</td>
<td>13.21%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Għar Dalam maintained an individual/tour operator ratio (i/t ratio) of 57%: 43% (approx). The Palace Staterooms ended the year with an i/t ratio of 67%: 33% whereas Ggantija Temples posted an i/t ratio of 53%: 47%. Meanwhile, Hagar Qim Temples, the National Museum of Archaeology, maintained an i/t ratio of 75%: 25% (approx). Tarxien Temples achieved an i/t ratio of 70%: 30%.

Mnajdra Temples, Domus Romana and the Maritime Museum maintained an i/t ratio of 90%: 10% (approx). 15% of the total visitors visiting St Paul’s Catacombs were group entries while the rest were individual visitors. Group entries visiting the Palace Armoury, Fort St Elmo, Fort St Angelo, and Ta’ Kola Windmill were in the range of 2% to 5%. All Cittadella museums maintained an i/t ratio of 100%: 0% as no group entries were registered between January and December. Borg In-Nadur, Skorba Temples and Hagarq Temples registered an i/t ratio of 93%: 3% (approx).

Graph 11: The number of individual visitors versus tour operator visitors 2018

**REGIONAL STATISTICS - CONVERGENCE & DISPARITIES**

Regional statistics have been split into the following regions namely, Rabat area, Cittadella area, Birgu area, Southern areas, Valletta region and Xaghra sites.
**RABAT REGIONAL STATISTICS**

Between January and June, Rabat regional statistics seem to have a non convergent pattern. It transpires that that there is an invert relationship between the National Museum of Natural History and St Paul’s Catacombs. During quarter 3 the National Museum of Natural History and the Roman Domus exhibited a similar pattern in their performance. By end October all sites converged into negative territory. During November St Paul’s Catacombs and the National Museum of Natural History remained in the negative. In the meantime the Roman Domus recovered some of the losses suffered in October. Contrary to the National Museum of Natural History and St Paul’s Catacombs, the Roman Domus emerged stronger during the month of December. Refer to Graph 12.

Graph 12: Rabat region - % change in paying admissions

**CITTADELLA REGIONAL STATISTICS**

Since the introduction of the Cittadella Visitor Centre combo, these museums have experienced similar buoyant results. Contrastingly, the Gozo Nature Museum had shown an aggressive volatile pattern especially in the first and the second quarter. However during the month of July and August, the performance of the Gozo Nature Museum converged on the same levels of the Cittadella museums. During November and December the Cittadella museums continued to exhibit high degree of convergence but the Gozo Old Prisons and the Gran Castello Historic House entered into a negative territory. Refer to Graph 13.

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5 Refer to reason specified in page 6
In quarter 1 Fort St Angelo and the Inquisitor’s Palace depicted high degree of similarities. Between April and June, Fort St Angelo attained a double digit increase. In July the performance of the Malta Maritime Museum and Fort St Angelo dipped into a negative region. Even the Inquisitor’s Palace had a similar pattern but remained in a positive territory. An unparalleled behaviour was observed during September and October. Fort St Angelo remained in a positive territory during November. The Inquisitor’s Palace re entered into a positive territory. In November the Inquisitor’s Palace managed to recover back some its losses experienced in October. For the second consecutive month the Malta Maritime museums registered negative results. In December all sites located in Birgu area ended up in a negative performance. Refer to Graph 14.

During the period under review Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra temples consistently experienced similar results in their performance. The high element of convergence is due to the combined ticket which includes Ħaġar Qim, Mnajdra and the visitor centre. For the eleventh successive month Ħaġar Qim maintained a positive lead. In the meantime Mnajdra temples suffered a mild decrease in the number of paying admissions.
In quarters 1 and 2, Ghar Dalam and Tarxien Temples exhibited similar patterns. Different traits were observed in quarter 3 but then converged in October albeit showing a steep deceleration in their performance. Both sites have substantially diverged during November. Divergence was mainly driven by a sharp increase in the number of tour operator walk-ins. In November alone, tour operator walk-ins at Ghar Dalam soared by 62%, whereas tour operator admissions at Tarxien Temples remained approximately the same. In the twelve month period, all sites in the southern area converged in a negative territory with the exception of Mnajdra temples. Refer to Graph 15.

**Graph 15: Southern region - % change in paying admissions**

Valletta sites/museums have exhibited un-orthodox graphical patterns especially between quarter 1 and quarter 3. Between January and June Valletta sites have shown some contrasting patterns due to reasons specified above. As expected in quarter 1 the Palace Armoury experienced a surge in paying admissions, which eventually returned back to its natural rate of growth. During the first six months of 2017 the Palace Armoury was closed on a number of days while during 2018 it opened regularly to public. High degree of convergence was achieved between July and August 2018 for the simple reason that as from July 2017 onwards both the Palace State Rooms and the Palace Armoury re-opened back to the general public. In November, all HM sites situated in Valletta converged in a positive territory. Valletta sites and museums continued to demonstrate high level of convergence during December. Refer to Graph 16.

**Graph 16: Valletta region - % change in admissions**

XAGHRA REGIONAL STATISTICS

Between quarter 1 and quarter 3, Ġgantija Temples and Ta’ Kola Windmill have shown completely different patterns with the exception of October, in which both sites seems to have converged very close to each other. In the first quarter Ta’ Kola Windmill started with a very sharp increase in the number of admissions. This was partially offset in April as admissions went down almost by -20%. Between June and July Ta’ Kola Windmill experienced a sharp rise in the paying admissions. The latter increase may be attributed to the re installation of the point of sale on site. On the eleventh month both sites diverged from each other. Compared to November 2017 Ta’ Kola Windmill achieved a double digit increase in November. Similar results were also recorded in December. During the same period under review, Ġgantija Temples recovered some of the losses incurred during October and November. Refer to Graph 17.

Graph 17: Xaghra region - % change in admissions
APPENDIX 1

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

i  EXHIBITIONS HOSTED BY HM

16 – 19 March: MaltaExpo Scale Model Exhibition, organised as part of the Annual Scale Model Exhibition of the Society for Scale Modellers, at the Malta Maritime Museum.


17 September – 28 October: The Majlis: Cultures in Dialogue, organised by the Sheikh Faisal Bin Qassim Al-Thani Museum of Qatar, in partnership with the UNESCO Doha office, under the patronage of the Office of the President of Malta.

27 October – 30 November: Cartography of Medieval Maltese towns and villages, organised by Daniel Bugeja at the Inquisitor’s Palace.

ii  EXHIBITIONS ORGANISED BY HM


14 – 28 February: 5000 years of Romance – An exhibition showcasing the ‘Embracing Couple’ figurine and Neolithic jewellery, at the National Museum of Archaeology.

10 March – 17 July: The Schranz Family of Artists: A Journey of Rediscovery – An exhibition celebrating the 200th anniversary from the arrival of the Schranz family of artists to Malta, including 180 works from public and private collections in Malta and abroad, at Fort St Elmo.


7 – 14 June: Beat Plastic Pollution – An exhibition focusing on the negative impact of plastic pollution on the occasion of World Environment Day, at the National Museum of Natural History.

6 October: an exhibition of the most recent interesting **archival donations to the National War Museum** on the occasion of **Notte Bianca**, at St Anne’s chapel, Fort St Elmo.

5 October – 31 January 2019: Medieval Malta Exhibition Series No. 1: **Core and Periphery: Mdina and Safi in the 9th and 10th centuries**, at the National Museum of Archaeology.

6 October: **Valletta Belt Kapitali tal-Ewropa**, a display of a selection of maps highlighting the history of Valletta, at the Office of the Prime Minister, Auberge de Castile.

31 October: **Halloween Animals and Dark Traditions**, an exhibition of animals associated with death, witchcraft and other dark traditions, at the National Museum of Natural History.

11 – 30 November: **San Martin** thematic exhibition about animals, particularly birds, associated with St Martin’s feast, at the National Museum of Natural History.

7 December – 7 January 2019: **Saturnalia** thematic exhibition on Christmas’ pagan predecessor, on the occasion of Natalis Notabilis, at the Domus Romana.

### iii EXHIBITIONS IN COLLABORATION WITH OTHERS

10 July 2017 – 9 January: **Mediterraneo in Chiaroscuro. Ribera, Stomer e Mattia Preti da La Valletta 2018 a Matera 2019** – A joint exhibition featuring key works from the national collection to feature at MUŻA, from the collections at Palazzo Lanfranchi and Palazzo Barberini, at the Museo Nazionale d’Arte Medievale e Moderna della Basilicata – Palazzo Lanfranchi, Matera.

7 October 2017 – 20 January: **Rel-Ink Indelible Narratives** – An exhibition featuring personal oral history accounts of participants and images of their tattoos related to maritime history from the 1900s up to World War II, organised by Rel-Ink community outreach project in collaboration with the Malta Maritime Museum, the Library Information and Archive Sciences Department of the University of Malta and Arts Council Malta, at the Malta Maritime Museum.

13 January – 21 March: **Maestri d’Olanda e di Fiandra nei mari del sud. La pittura Olandese e Fiamminga nelle collezioni di Giuseppe Bellanti, Giovanni Messina e Camillo d’Errico** – An exhibition held by the Ente Morale Camillo d’Errico with the support of the Maltese Embassy in Italy, the Comune di Palazzo San Gervasio (Matera), Regione Basilicata and the Assessorato per la Cultura di Basilicata, at the Pinacoteca e Biblioteca Camillo d’Errico, Palazzo d’Errico, Palazzo San Gervasio, Potenza.

18 March – 15 June: **FRAGSUS Exhibition** – An exhibition highlighting the results of the FRAGSUS Project, funded by the European Research Council, a collaboration between
Maltese, British and Irish universities and institutions, focusing on early Malta and its first inhabitants, at the National Museum of Archaeology.

23 March – 9 May: Valletta – Capitale d’Europa – An exhibition celebrating Valletta’s 2018 European Capital of Culture, a joint project with the Maltese Embassy in Rome and the Comune di Firenze under the auspices of the Office of the Prime Minister, focusing on a selection of maps displaying the story of Valletta from the Great Siege to its development as a military fortress, at Sala dei Gigli, Palazzo Vecchio, Florence.


2 September – 31 August 2019: Exploring the Phoenician Shipwreck off Xlendi, Gozo – an exhibition highlighting discoveries from this site, at the Gozo Area Office exhibition hall, the Citadel, Gozo, in collaboration with the University of Malta, the Ministry for Gozo, the Malta International Airport and the Honor Frost Foundation.

21 October – 31 December: Not a Megalithic Yard: A closer look at Malta’s Megalithic Architecture, an exhibition on the proportions of the temple doorways and passages, at Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra Visitor Centre.

iv EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH HM PARTICIPATED

19 November 2017 – 18 March: Painted in Mexico, 1700-1790: Pinxit Mexici – An exhibition of 18th century Mexican painting featuring 18th century works by Juan Patricio Morlete Ruiz organised by the Los Angeles County Museum of Arts and Fomento Banamex, at the Los Angeles County Museum of Arts (LACMA), USA.


7 April – 31 May: 150th Anniversary of the decommissioning of the Cittadella as a Military Site, a commemorative exhibition at the Cittadella Visitor Centre, Victoria, Gozo.

14 April – 30 September: I Fasti del Conte: Aremisia, Finoglio, Battistello, Stazione e altri all corte di Gian Girolamo Acquaviva D’Aragona – An exhibition reconstructing the collections of the powerful Acquaviva d’Aragona noble family, including works from Italian and European museums, and private collections, at the Polo Museale della Città di Conversano.

23 April – 5 August: Painted in Mexico, 1700-1790: Pinxit Mexici – An exhibition of 18th century Mexican painting featuring 18th century works by Juan Patricio Morlete Ruiz, at Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, USA.
12 May: **Valletta Concours d’Elegance**, featuring the ex-Prime Ministers’ car, at St George’s Square, Valletta.

6 September – 4 November: **Nisga – Storja Kontemporanja** - an exhibition of contemporary works of art at St James Cavalier, Centre for Creativity, Valletta.

7 September – 14 October: **Transformer** – an exhibition of modern and contemporary artworks at Blitz art gallery, Valletta.


12 October – 9 December: **Constellation Malta**, organised by the Valletta 2018 Foundation as part of the cultural programme for Valletta’s title of European Capital of Culture, at Fort St Elmo, Mnajdra and Ħagar Qim Temples, Ta’ Kola Windmill, Ġgantija Temples, the National Museum of Natural History, Tarxien Temples, and the National Museum of Archaeology.

7 November – 6 December: **The Order of St Michael and St George in Malta 1818-2018**, organised by the Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood, at the Malta Postal Museum, Valletta.

29 November – 9 December: **Salvatore Busuttil: Mother and Child**, at the Exhibitions Hall, Ministry for Gozo.

15 – 22 December: **Qaddejja tal-Poplu**, at the Church if the Risen Christ, Tarxien.

**Lectures Organised / Hosted by HM**

11 January: **Saints, Sailors and Sinner: Early Tattoo Art in Malta** – A lecture by Dr Georgina Camilleri as part of the Relink Indelible Narratives project, organised in collaboration with the Malta Historical Society, at the Malta Maritime Museum.

13 January: **Modern Sensibilities in Maltese Art** – A lecture by Prof. Joseph Paul Cassar, in collaboration with the OTS Foundation, on the beginnings of modern art in Malta, at the National Museum of Archaeology.

10 March: **Historical Overview of the Development of Maltese Urban Areas** – A lecture by architect Ruben Abela on the historic development of local towns and villages, at the National Museum of Archaeology.
28 April: **From Abela to Zammit: A biographic overview of Maltese naturalists from the 16th to the early 20th century** – A lecture by senior curator natural history John J. Borg, at the National Museum of Archaeology.

7 June: **Alla ricerca del continente bianco** – lecture by senior curator natural history John J. Borg, on the occasion of World Oceans Day, at the Museo Geologico Gemellaro, Palermo, Sicily.

30 June: **Malta’s cultural heritage and photography** – a lecture by Daniel Cilia at the National Museum of Archaeology.

5 October: **The Conservation of Icons** – a lecture by the senior conservator of icons from the National Conservation Centre in Skopje, Macedonia, at the Inquisitor’s Palace.

27 October: David Cardona lecture on the current work of the Phoenician, Roman and Medieval Sites Department, organised by the Archaeological Society at the National Museum of Archaeology.

27 October: **Early photography in Malta** – a lecture on the fascinating story of how photography started in Malta by Kevin Casha, at the National Museum of Archaeology.

7 December: **Not a megalithic yard: a closer look at Malta’s megalithic architecture**, by Mario Vassallo, at the Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra Visitor Centre.

18 December: **Antarctica: The White Continent** – by the senior curator of natural history John J. Borg, at the National Museum of Natural History.

**vi EVENTS ORGANISED BY HM**

10 January: **Guided tour and networking session** for Education Officers and History Heads of Department at the Palace Armoury and the National Museum of Archaeology.

14 January: A **guided tour of Fort Delimara** organised to give an insight into years gone by when it was still operational under the British forces.

16 January: **Official launch of the publication Valletta – My City, My Story**, at the Salon of the National Museum of Archaeology.

17, 18, 19, 24 - 26 January: **Hypogeum Outreach Programme** for the Mgarr and Rabat primary schools, at the Hypogeum.

28 January: **Heritage Trail – Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra Archaeological Park** – A members’ event including the two unique prehistoric sites, the surrounding Mediterranean garigue landscape with its features, and the Misqa Tanks.

1, 15, 20, 22, 27 February: **Niskopru l-Matematika fil-Katakombi Rumani** – A mathematics trail designed to link strands of the mathematics curriculum integrated with other subjects such as history, at Ta’ Bistra Catacombs.

5 – 6 February: **Il-Katakombi fil-Madwar tar-Rabat** – Outreach programme for the Rabat and Birkirkara Middle Schools.

6 – 7 February: **Hypogeum Outreach Programme** for various primary schools, at the Hypogeum.

5, 6, 7, 8 February: **Parata educational event** – An activity to promote awareness on the influence of the Great Siege on daily life, including an animated tour of the streets of Birgu and a re-enactment of the Parata dance, at Misraħ ir-Rebħa, Birgu.

8, 20 February: **Rabbit in 17th and 18th century Malta**, an exclusive sensory experience focusing on the rabbit, including a historical cook along session of the pastizzo di carne di coniglio, at the Inquisitor’s Palace.

10 February: **Open Day at Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra Temples** – An opportunity for the general public to visit the two UNESCO World Heritage Sites including the visitor centre, free of charge.

18 February: **Roman Malta Heritage Trail** – Visiting Ta’ Kaċċatura, the Domvs Romana, and the Abbatija tad Dejr Catacombs.

23 February: **Guided Tour of the Bighi Conservation Division** – A members’ event including a guided tour of the diagnostic and conservation laboratories.

25 February: **Open Day at Tarxien Temples** – An opportunity for the general public to visit this UNESCO World Heritage Site free of charge.

1 March: **Niskopru l-Matematika fil-Katakombi Rumani** – A mathematics trail designed to link strands of the mathematics curriculum integrated with other subjects such as history, at Ta’ Bistra Catacombs.

2, 5-9, 12-16 March: **Folklor Malti, Ilbies u Superstizzjoni** – an activity with the Maltese language as a focus, including a presentation on the cotton industry, a re-enactment in period costumes and tour of the prisons, at the Inquisitor’s Palace.

14 March: **Hypogeum Outreach Programme** for the Gozo Middle School, at the Hypogeum.

14, 16 March: **Il-Katakombi ta’ Mintna Outreach Programme** for the Rabat and Kirkop primary schools, at Ta’ Mintna Catacombs.
15 March: **An Inquisitor's Cena di Magro – Chigi's 1637 Lenten supper** - A historically interpreted supper of an exact contemporary Lenten recipe book at the National Library, at the Inquisitor’s Palace.

16 March: **Dark Tales of Mdina** – An animated tour focusing on the dark tales and mysteries of Mdina, followed by light refreshments, at the National Museum of Natural History.

17 – 19 March: Reduced admission fee for the **Malta Maritime Museum** to visit the MaltaExpo Scale Model Exhibition.

19 March: **Open Day at St Paul's Catacombs and the Domvs Romana** with free admission for the general public.

20, 21 March: **Equinox Sunrise at Mnajdra Temples** – Event included also a tour of the temples and the visitor centre, and refreshments.

20-22, 26-29 March: **Induqu l-Ħelu tal-Għid** – educational workshop on Easter culinary traditions, at the Inquisitor’s Palace.

24 March: **Official presentation of a brass memorial plaque on HMS Southwold** to HM by Mr John Noel Poingdestre, at the Malta Maritime Museum.

28 March: **Valletta – My City, My Story** – A children’s event which included a walking tour of the most iconic landmarks in Valletta, followed by an activity on coins during the Knights’ period, at the National Museum of Archaeology.

31 March: **Open Day at the Inquisitor’s Palace** with free admission for the general public.

6 April: **Learning Support Zone Sessions** – drama workshop on episodes and personalities from Malta’s history, at Fort St Angelo.

7 April: **Open Day at HM’s museums at the Citadel** on the occasion of the seminar celebrating the Citadel’s 150 years as a non active fortress.

7 April: **Regatta from Fort St Angelo** – special reduced price on the occasion of the annual regatta, including re-enactments by the Malta Historical Fencing Association and opportunity to visit Upper Fort St Angelo.

8 April: **Open day at the National Museum of Archaeology.** Open to the public free of charge with guided tours.

6 April: **Learning Support Zone Sessions** – Pottery session inspired from prehistory, at the National Museum of Archaeology.

10 April: **Induqu l-Ħelu tal-Għid** – educational workshop on Easter culinary traditions, at the Inquisitor’s Palace.
11 April: Multi Disciplinary Workshops – focusing on geography, history, mathematics, digital literacy, art and physical education, at the Gozo Citadel Museums.

12 April: Hypogeum Outreach Programme for the Gozo Middle School, at the Hypogeum.

12 – 13 April: Special site interpretation programme for students with learning disabilities attending the Wardija Resource Centre, at Ġgantija Temples.

15 April: Mgarr Walking Tour, including a guided tour of Ta’ Haġrat and Skorba Temples.

15 April: Open day at Fort St Elmo to commemorate the 76th anniversary of the award of the George Cross to the Maltese Islands; including the Schranz Family of Artists exhibition, an In Guardia parade at Piazza D’Armi, and a small exhibition of WWII documents.

16, 19, 20 April: Niskopru s-Sigrieti fil-Katakombi ta’ San Pawl – workshop focusing on history and geography, map skills and a treasure hunt, at St Paul’s Catacombs.

22 April: Guided Tour of Fort Delimara, offering an insight on when the fort was still operational under the British forces.

22 April: Guided Tours at Skorba Temples during Frott il-Bidwi Mgarr, at a reduced price.

23 – 27 April: Pax Romana – educational programme for children wearing a Roman tunic, including a treasure hunt, creation of mosaic tiles and a play on Caius Verres, at the Domus Romana.

29 April: Żurrieq Walking Tour – An event for HM members, including the Xarolla windmill, Paleo-Christian tombs, Mattia Preti’s residence and the oldest part of the village.

30 April: Fireworks Festival from Fort St Angelo, including a guided tour of the fort.

2 May: Science trial activity – separating mixtures: a series of activities on the minerals section and the insect special collection at the National Museum of Natural History.

4, 7-11 May: Ġmiel il-Ħtrafa educational programme at the Inquisitor’s Palace.

5 – 6 May: Reduced admission for the National Museum of Natural History and the Domus Romana on the occasion of Medieval Mdina.

5 May: Houses beyond the House guided tours of the archaeological remains of the Domus Romana on the occasion of Medieval Mdina.

12 May: Special guided tour of the Schranz Family of Artists exhibition for HM members, at Fort St Elmo.
12 May: **Archaeological Fragments and other sources of information** – half day seminar at the National Museum of Archaeology.

13 May: **Breakfast at Għar Dalam** – Breakfast followed with a guided tour of the historical sites of the Wied Dalam area.

14 – 18 May: **Nivvjaġġaw lura fiż-żmien** – Fieldwork sessions for year 2 and 3 students including reading sessions, guided tour and a treasure hunt.

18 May: **Dark Tales of Fort St Angelo** – An animated tour based on tales of mystery and the supernatural.

19 May: **Comino Walking Tour** – A guided tour of a number of historical sites on the island.

19 May: **Gozo Museum and Sites Open Day** – free admission and extended hours for the general public on the occasion of Gozo Alive.

20 May: **Open Day for all HM Museums and Sites**, including a special opening of Kordin III Temples, on the occasion of the Public Service Week.

22-25, 28-30 May: **Nivvjaġġaw lura fiż-żmien** – Fieldwork sessions for kindergarten students including an introduction to cultural heritage.

25 May: **Sleep over at the Inquisitor’s Palace** – including a guided tour and refreshments, and optional sleep over at the Palace during the night.

9 June: **Gozo Heritage Trail** – Event for HM members, including visits to St Cecilia chapel, the Citadel Visitor Centre and the Gozo Museum of Archaeology.

10 June: **Open Day at the National Museum of Natural History** – free admission, including guided tours.

13 June: **New Moon at Għar Dalam** – an evening tour of the cave with special focus on moths and bats, including refreshments.

15 June: **Medieval Night at the Castrum Maris** – including a guided tour, medieval combat demonstration, archery session and refreshments. Participants could also spend the night at Fort St Angelo.

21 – 22 June: **Summer Solstice** – including a tour of the visitor centre and refreshments, at Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra Archaeological Park.

23 June: **Commemoration of the fall of Fort St Elmo in 1565** – The annual commemorative mass to remember and honour the fallen heroes who died at the fort, at St Anne’s Chapel, Fort St Elmo.

24 June: Reduced admission fee for Tarxien Temples on the occasion of **Jum Ħal Tarxien**.
6 July: **Sunset tour at Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra Archaeological Park**, including the two prehistoric temples, Misqa Tanks, the Congreve Memorial, the Ħamrija Tower and refreshments at the Visitor Centre.

22 July: **Open Day at Għar Dalam and Borg in-Nadur**, including free admission and guided tours.

22 July: **Harbour Cruise** focusing on the fortifications around the Grand Harbour and including refreshments at the Malta Maritime Museum.

23, 30 July: **Skolasajf** workbook activities at Għar Dalam and the Citadel Museums.

24, 31 July: **Skolasajf** workbook activities at the National Museum of Natural History.

25 July: **Skolasajf** workbook activities at Fort St Elmo.

26 July: **Skolasajf** workbook activities at the Palace Armoury.

27 July: **Skolasajf** workbook activities at the Malta Maritime Museum.

27 July: **Night at the Museum** – included spending the whole night at the museum touring the museum collections, especially bats, and breakfast on the terrace, at the National Museum of Natural History.

1, 8, 22, 29 August: **Skolasajf** workbook activities at Fort St Elmo.

2, 9, 23, 30 August: **Skolasajf** workbook activities at the Palace Armoury.

3, 10, 24, 31 August: **Skolasajf** workbook activities at the Malta Maritime Museum.

6, 13, 20, 27 August: **Skolasajf** workbook activities at Għar Dalam and the Citadel Museums.

7, 21, 26 August: **Skolasajf** workbook activities at the National Museum of Natural History.

27 July: **Żejtun Walking Tour** for Heritage Malta Members, including the Pandora Theatre, Beland Band Club and the Parish Museum.

11 August: **Sleepover at Għar Dalam**, including an evening walk, explanations on night fauna, meal and breakfast, at Għar Dalam.

15 August: **Open Day at the Citadel Museums and Sites**, including the Citadel Visitor Centre, with free admission.

18 August: **Around Filfla boat cruise**, including explanations on heritage and natural aspects and refreshments.
8 September: **Open Day at Fort St Angelo**, with reduced admission, including the Upper Fort managed by the SMOM, re-enactments, holy mass, commemoration of the Great Siege and viewing the regatta from the bastions.

13 September: **Oasi educational activity**, including guided tour and pottery making at the Ġgantija Temples.

13 September: **Aqra fis-Sajf** – literacy workshop and award giving ceremony at Fort St Angelo.

15 September: **Guided visit of the exhibition Valletta and the Dominicans: a common journey**, including the convent and basilica of St Dominic, for HM members.

21 September: An **open day at the Inquisitor’s Palace**, with free admission.

22 September: **Harbour Cruise and tour of Fort St Angelo**, followed by refreshments at Fort St Angelo.

22-23 September: **Autumn Equinox at Mnajdra Temples**, including a tour of the visitor centre and refreshments.

23 September: **Full Moon at Għar Dalam**, including presentations on various aspects of Wied Dalam, moonlight tour of the site and cave, and refreshments, at Għar Dalam.

28 September: **The Science behind conservation: the Gran Salon Project**, four presentations on conservation science on the occasion of Science in the City, at the National Museum of Archaeology.

29 September: **WWII Heritage Trail** for HM members at the Lascaris War Rooms.

3-4 October: **The History of Pasta in Malta**, a unique event including explanation on the history of this dish in Malta and historic pasta tasting, at the Malta Maritime Museum.

7 October: **Open Day at Għar Dalam cave and museum** with free admission for the general public.

12 October: **Dark Tales of Fort St Angelo** – two animated tours based on tales of mystery and the supernatural, on the occasion of Birgufest.

12 – 14 October: Combined reduced admission fee for the Inquisitor’s Palace, the Malta Maritime Museum and Fort St Angelo for Birgufest.

20 October: **Middle Sea Race from Fort St Elmo**, included a guided tour and light refreshments.

14 October: **Open Day at Ġgantija Temples**, with free admission for the general public, on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of its official inauguration.
28 October: *Romani et mel – Romans and their honey*, an event on the production, use and consumption of honey during Roman times, including lectures and demonstrations, at San Pawl Milqi.

28 October: *Romani et mel exclusive guided tour* for HM members at San Pawl Milqi.

2 November: *L-Ghid tal-Erwieħ* event highlighting popular traditions in souls and the afterlife, including traditional supper and sleep-over, at the Inquisitor’s Palace.

3 November: **Official launch of HM Comic** on the occasion of Comic Con by the Minister for Justice, Culture and Local Government, at the Malta Fairs and Conventions Centre, Ta’ Qali.

4 November: **Open Day at HM’s Conservation Laboratories**, Bighi, with guided tours.

10 November: **Exclusive guided tour of the Fortress Builders Interpretation Centre** for HM members.

10 November: **Official inauguration of MUŻA** by the Hon. Prime Minister, at the Auberge d’Italie.

11 November: **EkoDalam** – a full day event focusing on environment-related activities with a reduced admission fee, at Għar Dalam.


16 November: **Hypogeum Outreach Programme** – lesson on the discoveries, myths, importance and conservation of this special prehistoric site, at the Tarxien Primary School.

17 November: **Lemuria – Pagans, Deaths and Spirits**, an animated tour about Roman beliefs on death, evil spirits, and how to get rid of them, at St Paul’s Catacombs.

17 November: **Sibt ma’ Temi for World Children’s Day** – a special activity for children of Heritage Malta members focusing on the role of Temi Zammit in the excavation of the Hypogeum and Tarxien Temples, at the Ħal Saflieni Hypogeum and Tarxien Temples.

19 November: **Hypogeum Outreach Programme** – lesson on the discoveries, myths, importance and conservation of this special prehistoric site, at the Ħamrun Primary School.

20 November: **Hypogeum Outreach Programme** – lesson on the discoveries, myths, importance and conservation of this special prehistoric site, at the Newark School, Sliema.

21 November: **Hypogeum Outreach Programme** – lesson on the discoveries, myths, importance and conservation of this special prehistoric site, at the Minor Seminary and Nadur Primary School, Gozo.
22 November: **Oranges in 17th and 18th century Malta** – historic cookalong session on the role of oranges in Maltese history and cuisine, at the Inquisitor’s Palace.

22 November: **Hypogeum Outreach Programme** – lesson on the discoveries, myths, importance and conservation of this special prehistoric site, at the Bahrija and Rabat Primary Schools.

24 November: **Ancient Burial Sites heritage trail**, including Salina Catacombs, Abbatija tad-Dejr, St Augustine’s Catacombs and St Paul’s Catacombs.

25 November: **Open Day at the National Museum of Natural History**, with free admission and guided tours.

29 November: Official launch of the **Heritage Malta Passport Scheme**, at Haġar Qim and Mnajdra Visitor Centre.

30-31 November: **Drawwiet u tradizzjonijiet marbuta ma’ Novembru** – an educational programme including cooking the *ghadma tal-mejtin*, at the Inquisitor’s Palace.

3 December: Official presentation of painting by artist George Large to heritage Malta, at the Malta Maritime Museum.

5 December: **Hypogeum Outreach Programme** – lesson on the discoveries, myths, importance and conservation of this special prehistoric site, at the Valletta Primary School and St Augustine Secondary School, Pietà.

6 December: **Hypogeum Outreach Programme** – lesson on the discoveries, myths, importance and conservation of this special prehistoric site, at San Andrea School, Mgarr and Mosta Primary B.

7 December: **Hypogeum Outreach Programme** – lesson on the discoveries, myths, importance and conservation of this special prehistoric site, at Dingli Primary School and St Paul’s Missionary School, Rabat.

7 December: **Hypogeum Outreach Programme** – lesson on the discoveries, myths, importance and conservation of this special prehistoric site, at Cospicua, Vittoriosa and Xgħajra.

7-9 December: **Drawwiet u tradizzjonijiet marbuta ma’ Novembru** – an educational programme including cooking the *ghadma tal-mejtin*, at the Inquisitor’s Palace.

8 December: **Open Day at Kordin Temples** with free admission and guided tours.

10 December: **Hypogeum Outreach Programme** – lesson on the discoveries, myths, importance and conservation of this special prehistoric site, at Żabbar Primary School.
10 December: **Hypogeum Outreach Programme** – lesson on the discoveries, myths, importance and conservation of this special prehistoric site, at St Patrick’s and St Dorothy’s Schools, Sliema.

10-11, 14, 17-20 December: **Tradizzjonijiet tal-MiJied** – Educational programme on Maltese Christmas traditions.

11 December: **Learning Support Zone Programme** on Maltese prehistory at Ta’ Ħaġrat and Skorba Temples.

12 December: **Hypogeum Outreach Programme** – lesson on the discoveries, myths, importance and conservation of this special prehistoric site, at Birkirkara Middle School.

12 December: **Hypogeum Outreach Programme** – lesson on the discoveries, myths, importance and conservation of this special prehistoric site, at St Monica School, Gzira and Marian al Batool, Paola.

14 December: **Hypogeum Outreach Programme** – lesson on the discoveries, myths, importance and conservation of this special prehistoric site, at Għajnsielem, Qala and Xewkija Primary Schools, Gozo.

15 December: **Open Day at MUŻA**; the first such occasion with free admission following the official inauguration, Auberge d’Italie.

15 December: **Zurrieq heritage walk**, including the Xarolla Windmill, paleo-Christian catacombs, Mattia Preti’s residence and the village core.

22 December: **Winter Solstice Sunrise** at Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra Heritage Park, including a tour of the Visitor Centre.

23 December: **Open Day at the National Museum of Archaeology** with free admission and guided tours.

18 December: Heritage Malta **Members Christmas Party** at Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra Visitor Centre.

**vii EVENTS IN WHICH HM PARTICIPATED**

6-7 January: **1798 re-enactment at the Citadel in Gozo**, at the Old Prisons and Gozo Nature Museum, organized by the Historical Re-Enactment Group Malta and the Citadel Management Committee.

5 April: **Official ceremony to celebrate the acceptance of the Camocio Great Siege maps in the UNESCO Memory of the World International Register**, at Charles University, Prague.

7 April: A full day seminar on **‘1868-2018, 150 years as a non-active fortress’** at the Citadel, Gozo.

8 April: Guided tours at Ta’ Ħaġrat at a reduced price on the occasion of **Festa Frawli**, Mġarr.

21 – 22 April: **The Past into the Future** – educational workshop on how digital technology enhances cultural heritage at the Malta Robotics Olympiad, at the Mediterranean Conference Centre.

28 April: **Science in the Citadel** – various workshops and lectures at HM’s museums at the Citadel.

12 May: **Rulina – Logħba mhux rutina....rutina mhux taqbila** – An artistic immersive experience including music, dance and games, at the National Museum of Natural History.

31 May: Official inauguration of the **monument to Prime Minister Dom Mintoff**, at Castille Square, Valletta.

30 June: Press conference on the **Advanced Diploma in Cultural Heritage** offered at the Institute of Creative Arts of MCAST, at Fort St Elmo.

3 November: **Lejl Imkebbes** at the Cittadella – all HM museums open free of charge.

17 November: **Lungomare Mediterraneo: Il Patrimonio Ritrovato**, an international seminar on the restoration of military fortresses, in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, at Fort St Angelo.

8 December: **Reduced admission fee for the Domus Romana** on the occasion of Natalis Notabilis.

**viii EVENTS ORGANISED IN COLLABORATION WITH OTHERS**

7 January: **In Guardia** – Full scale military drills and re-enactments in period costumes organised in collaboration with MTA, at Fort St Elmo.

26 January: **Press Conference** organised by the Hon. Minister for Justice, Culture and Local Government, on the four Camocio maps of the Great Siege included in **UNESCO’s Memory of the World Register**, at HM’s Head Office, Bighi.

17 February: **Xalata ta’ Kitba** – An activity focusing on literacy skills of children together with their parents, in collaboration with the National Literacy Agency, at the Malta Maritime Museum.
18, 25 February: **In Guardia** – Full scale military drills and re-enactments in period costumes organised in collaboration with MTA, at Fort St Elmo.

10 March: **Xalata ta’ Kitba** – An activity focusing on literacy skills of children together with their parents, in collaboration with the National Literacy Agency, at the Malta Maritime Museum.

17 March: **FRAGSUS Conference** – A full day conference presenting the new conclusions reached by the FRAGSUS project on early Malta and its first inhabitants. A collaboration between institutions from Malta, Britain and Ireland, funded by the European Research Council, at the Egmont Hall, Fort St Angelo.

18 March: **Tal-Mintna Catacombs Open Day** organised in collaboration with the Mqabba Local Council and *Din l-Art Ħelwa*.

20-22, 26-27 March: **Let’s Play with Birds and Bats** – a workshop for kindergarten children focusing on how to differentiate between birds and bats, at the National Museum of Natural History.

23 March: **Tour of the Farsons Brewery** – A members’ event which included a guided tour of the brewery’s history and products, at Farsons Brewery, Mriehel.

7 April: **Xalata ta’ Kitba** – An activity focusing on literacy skills of children together with their parents, in collaboration with the National Literacy Agency, at the Citadel Museums, Gozo.

7 – 8 April: **Kantilena Procession** – An electronic music performance by Dutch composer Luc Houtkamp organised by Teatru Manoel, the Malta Association for Contemporary Music and Valletta 2018 Foundation, at Ta’ Bistra Catacombs.

21 April: **Round table discussions on Museum Future, Prospects and Potential**, organised by ICOM Committee Malta, at the National Museum of Archaeology.

30 April: **Let’s Play with Birds and Bats** – a workshop for kindergarten children focusing on how to differentiate between birds and bats, at the National Museum of Natural History.

2 May: **Official press launch of the ERDF Grand Master’s Palace Regeneration Project** by Hon Minister O. Bonnici at the Grand Master’s Palace, Valletta, in collaboration with the Restoration Directorate.

2, 9, 23, 30 May: **Klabb Interġenerazzjonali tal-Kitba** – literacy skills for parents and grandparents at the National Museum of Archaeology, led by the National Literacy Agency.

6 May: **Open Day at the Palace State Rooms and Palace Armoury**, including the Picasso and Mirò exhibition, free of charge for the general public, in collaboration with the Office of the President and *Fondazzjoni Patrimonju Malti*. 
20, 27 May: In Guardia – Full scale military drills and re-enactments in period costumes organised in collaboration with MTA, at Fort St Angelo.

3, 17, 24 June: In Guardia – Full scale military drills and re-enactments in period costumes organised in collaboration with MTA, at Fort St Angelo.


7 June: Garrison Life during the French Blockade – extended opening hours and reduced admission on the occasion of the 220th anniversary of the French Blockade, in collaboration with the Historical Re-enactment Group Malta, at Fort St Angelo.

7 June: Pageant of the Seas – extended opening hours and reduced admission, in collaboration with Valletta 2018 Foundation, at Fort St Angelo.

15 June: The Victoria Lines National Trail, seminar organised by the Friends of the Victoria Lines Trail, at the Ochre Hall, Ħaġar Qim Visitor Centre.


23 – 24 June: Ritual – a musical performance by Scottish trombonist John Kenny at sunrise and sunset, in collaboration with Teatru Manoel, the Malta Association for Contemporary Music, and the Valletta 2018 Foundation, at Mnajdra Temples.

29 June: Open Day at the Palace State Rooms and Armoury, including the Picasso and Mirò exhibition, in collaboration with the Office of the President and Fondazzjoni Patrimonju Malti.

6 July: Maltese Bats and their Conservation – including a presentation, listening to bats with a bat detector and visiting bastion tunnels to experience a bat roost, in collaboration with the Environment and Resources Authority, at the National Museum of Natural History.

3 August: Maltese Bats and their Conservation – including a presentation, listening to bats with a bat detector and visiting the cave to explain Pleistocene bats, in collaboration with the Environment and Resources Authority, at Ghar Dalam.

7 September: Maltese Bats and their Conservation – including a presentation, listening to bats with a bat detector and visiting bastion tunnels to experience a bat roost, in collaboration with the Environment and Resources Authority, at the National Museum of Natural History.

26 September: official signing of a memorandum of understanding with the China Palace Museum, in collaboration with the Chinese Cultural Centre of Malta, at the National Museum of Archaeology.
6 October: Free admission to the National Museum of Archaeology, Fort St Elmo, the National War Museum and the Fortress Builders on the occasion of *Notte Bianca*.

16 October: Special opening of Ta’ Bistra Catacombs for Mosta residents on the occasion of *Jum il-Mosta*, in collaboration with the Mosta Local Council.

21 October: *In Guardia* – Full scale military drills and re-enactments in period costumes organised in collaboration with MTA, at Fort St Angelo.

20 October: *Xalata ta’ Kitba*, in collaboration with the National Literacy Agency, at the National Museum of Natural History.

3, 24 November: *Xalata ta’ Kitba*, in collaboration with the National Literacy Agency, at the National Museum of Natural History.

12 November: *Commemorating WWI*, in collaboration with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and the British Legion, at the Pietà Military Cemetery and Fort St Elmo.

6, 9 December: *Treasure hunt in Valletta* organised in collaboration with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to commemorate the centenary from the end of WWI.

**ix EVENTS HOSTED BY HM**

27 January: *Battlefront Malta workshop* at the Admirals Hall, Fort St Angelo.

10 February: *Mass and guided tours at the Salini Catacombs and San Pawl Milqi*, organised by the Burmarrad Parish on the occasion of the shipwreck of St Paul.

17, 24 March: *Sword fighting lessons* by MTA at Piazza d'Armi, Fort St Elmo.

22 March: *Press Conference* organised by the Ministry of Justice, Culture & Local Government, to officially launch the *Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage Action Plan*, at the National Museum of Archaeology.

12 April: *Design4Innovation workshop* organised by the Valletta 2018 Foundation at Fort St Angelo.

20 April: *Conference of the Ghaqda tal-Ġudikaturi*, organised by the Department of Justice, at Fort St Angelo.


28 – 30 April: *European Confederation of Conservator-Restorers Presidents meeting*, at the National Museum of Archaeology and Fort St Elmo.

18 – 19 May: *Malta World Music Festival* at Fort St Elmo.
21 May: **Let’s Celebrate Natura 2000 Day** – A day of activities organised by BirdLife at Ghar Dalam.

22 May: **Musical Adventures in Seconda Pratica** – a concert by Claudio Monteverdi organised by the Manoel Theatre, at the St Angelo Hall, Malta Maritime Museum.

9 June: Graduation ceremony of the **International Maritime Law Institute** at the St Angelo Hall, Malta Maritime Museum.


20 October: **Symposium on the Maltese Village**, organised by Wirt iż-Żejtun, at the Gran Salon, National Museum of Archaeology.

9 November: **Symposium on Cosmology in Archaeology**, by the Department of Classics and Archaeology of the university of Malta, at the Gran Salon, National Museum of Archaeology.

10 November: Official visit and guided tour for members of the **Convention for European Friends of the Crib**, at the Inquisitor’s Palace.

13 November: **Forum dwar l-Arkivji**, by the National Archives of Malta, at the Malta Maritime Museum.
# APPENDIX 2

## PURCHASE OF MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ARTWORKS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artist/Owner</th>
<th>Artwork</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kane Cali</td>
<td>89967 Vertices</td>
<td>€ 9,204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kris Micallef</td>
<td>REGNUM x 3</td>
<td>€ 2,937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ritty Tacsum (Ritienne Muscat)</td>
<td>Madonna Valletta</td>
<td>€ 8,083</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Barakka</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MT TW</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TW 2013 x 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TW MOCA Taipei Seire</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigel Baldacchino</td>
<td>Landscape x 5</td>
<td>€ 7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The view from Mrs Thompson – Video</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elsa &amp; Poles x 7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antoine Camilleri/Kevin Drake</td>
<td>L-Ikla tar-Rahhal</td>
<td>€ 26,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>City Lights</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alex Attard</td>
<td>Parallel Existences</td>
<td>€ 6,775</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Overlooked Performance</td>
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</table>
APPENDIX 3

ACQUISITION OF NATURAL HISTORY SPECIMENS

- Mr Alfred Caruana Pettett donated a collection of seashells and a collection of seashell fossils.
- Mr Axel Israng donated various fossils from Gozo.
- The Environment and Resources Authority presented a large Leatherback Turtle *Dermochelys coriacea* found dead in Gozo.
- Mr Anthony Gauci presented two clam fossils from Gozo.
- The four volunteers working on the mollusc collection donated several specimens of local shells, including species previously not represented in the museum’s collections.
- Mr Adrian Agius donated several insects on a regular basis.

OTHER DONATIONS

- Over two hundred books, journals and magazines were presented by BirdLife Malta.
- A complete set of *il-Passa* and *il-Passatemp* was presented to the NMNH Library by the late Mr Joe Sultana of Xaghra Gozo.
- Mr Constantine Mifsud presented copies of a number of papers he published in 2018.
- Mr Paul Sammut presented a number of ‘set’ moths collected from Rabat in 2018.
## APPENDIX 4

### PURCHASE OF ITEMS FOR THE GOZO MUSEUM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Object Type</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Supplier</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Painting</td>
<td>Gozo Evening</td>
<td>Mary Fedden (1915 - 2012)</td>
<td>1976</td>
<td>Hugo Scott, London</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Painting</td>
<td>Mother and Child</td>
<td>Attrib. to Salvatore Busuttil (1798 - 1854)</td>
<td>19th century</td>
<td>Galerie Bassenge, Berlin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bundle of clothing</td>
<td>Belonged to Francesco Zammit and his wife Maria née Haber of Xewkija</td>
<td></td>
<td>Late 19th century</td>
<td>Lawrence Zammit Haber, Xewkija</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rare book</td>
<td>A Ramble in Malta and Sicily, in the Autumn of 1841</td>
<td>George French Angas (1822 - 1886)</td>
<td>1842</td>
<td>Hordern House, Sydney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watercolour painting</td>
<td>Fungus Rock</td>
<td>Anon. 19th century</td>
<td>19th century</td>
<td>Gingell Littlejohn Auctioneers, Sliema</td>
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<tr>
<td>Watercolour painting</td>
<td>Heavily laden Gozo boat</td>
<td>Possibly Giovanni Schranz (1794 - 1882)</td>
<td>19th century</td>
<td>Scheublein Art &amp; Auktionen, Munich</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rare book</td>
<td>Della Lingua Punica</td>
<td>G.F.P. Agius de Soldanis (1712 - 1770)</td>
<td>1750</td>
<td>Antiquariato Librario Bado e Mart, Padova</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pencil drawings</td>
<td>Views of Malta and Gozo (pair of drawings)</td>
<td>Attributed to Giovanni Schranz (1794 - 1882)</td>
<td>1820s</td>
<td>Obelisk Auctions Gallery, H’Attard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printed map</td>
<td>Map of the Maltese Archipelago</td>
<td>Pozzi, G.</td>
<td>1850s</td>
<td>Forum Auctions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rare book</td>
<td>Malta. The colour and life of Malta from original paintings.</td>
<td>Edward Caruana Dingli (1876-1950)</td>
<td>1925</td>
<td>Malta Online Bookshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vintage photograph</td>
<td>Vintage photo of British Governor Leslie Rundle</td>
<td>Unknown photographer</td>
<td>1914</td>
<td>International Autograph Auctions, Nottingham, UK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Map</td>
<td>Melite vulgo Malta</td>
<td>Seutter c. 1730</td>
<td>18th century</td>
<td><a href="http://www.raremaps.com">www.raremaps.com</a></td>
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## APPENDIX 5

### ACQUISITION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ITEMS

#### i Purchases

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Collection</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hovebooks eBay</td>
<td>61416</td>
<td>Letter sent by Commanding Officer HMS St Angelo Capt. J.W. Kelly</td>
<td>10.09</td>
<td>FSA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ebay</td>
<td>61444</td>
<td>1930 original photo of FSA</td>
<td>16.05</td>
<td>FSA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ebay</td>
<td>61447</td>
<td>‘Portrait of Cavaliere di Malta, Jorge Juan y Santacilia Graphite sketch of two hands with a portrait sketched on the reverse by Attilo Palombi</td>
<td>555</td>
<td>MMM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anton Saliba</td>
<td>61212</td>
<td></td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Arts</td>
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<td>Ebay</td>
<td>61448</td>
<td>1957 used photograph featuring FSA from Upper Barracca Set of 5 medals of AB P. Lughermo of HMS St Angelo, no. 134631. Medals are: 1939-1945 Star, Africa Star, Defence Medal, 1939-1945 medal and Long service and Good Conduct medal.</td>
<td>6.79</td>
<td>FSA</td>
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<td>Ebay</td>
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<td>Copy of photo of HMS Glamorgan</td>
<td>4.67</td>
<td>FSA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ebay</td>
<td>61492</td>
<td>Playing card showing artwork of Senglea</td>
<td>4.11</td>
<td>FSA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ebay</td>
<td>61493</td>
<td>Unused postcard featuring artwork of Grand Harbour and FSA</td>
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<td>FSA</td>
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<td>Belgravia Auctions</td>
<td>61495, 61496, 61497, 61498</td>
<td>Flintlock pistol single barrel, Single barrel flintlock pistol, Rossi single barrel flintlock pistol, 1595-1847 Malta Notarial Contracts</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>MMM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Belgravia Auctions</td>
<td>61499, 61500, 61501</td>
<td>Bolt action rife 44874 M 80; Viviani L, Storia di Malta 3 vol; Chamberlain J. Speech on the English language in Malta Original photo of FSA from St Barbara’s bastion, showing construction of casemated battery 1871</td>
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<td>NWM/FSE</td>
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<td>Ebay</td>
<td>61502</td>
<td>Original photo of FSA from Upper Barracca with HMNS Isaac Sweers passing by 1942</td>
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<td>FSA</td>
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<td>Vianova</td>
<td>61510</td>
<td>Antique print of French Fleet</td>
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<td>Royal Ph. Society</td>
<td>61511</td>
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<td>Beauchampbabe</td>
<td>61513</td>
<td>Postcard of St Angelo 1924</td>
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<td>FSA</td>
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<td>Ebay, Woofah</td>
<td>61515</td>
<td>Photo of Fort St Angelo 1917</td>
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<td>FSA</td>
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<td>Ebay, Nenah</td>
<td>61516</td>
<td>Photo of Fort Delimara</td>
<td>8.39</td>
<td>Delimara</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ebay ronnys</td>
<td>61519</td>
<td>Playing card showing Fort St Angelo</td>
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<td>Ebay bluespingo</td>
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<td>Postcard showing Fort St Angelo</td>
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<td>61551</td>
<td>Print of Fort Delimara</td>
<td>29.72</td>
<td>FD</td>
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<td>61552</td>
<td>Souvenir book of Fort St Angelo</td>
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ebay bubbamymfriend 61553 Stamp featuring FSA 10.72 FSA
ebay, libreria il tempo 61555 Postcard FSA 1865 19.5 FSA
ebay, tinto2333 61556 Postcard showing FSA 1900 6.29 FSA
ebay, tinto2333 61557 Postcard showing FSA 1900 6.29 FSA
ebay, fletchhart 61597 Set of two photos showing FSA 1898 31.01 FSA
ebaymillecartoline 61599 Unused postcard FSA 1930 10 FSA
ebaymillecartoline 61600 Unused postcard Fort Delimara 1930 9 Delimara
BDL 61608 Postcard of FSA at night 0 FSA
Ebay, lebatoche 61611 Painting with Lepanto 2500 MMM
Ebay, amgarchive 61667 Photo of FSA 35.14 FSA
Ebay, geosey0 61668 Postcard of FSA 6.99 FSA
Ebay, antiqueinspired 61669 Glass magic lantern slide 24.61 FSA
Ebay, michaewinkelhoefe0 61750 Original photo FSA 1930s 8.78 FSA
Ebay, norticpix 61752 Photo of FSA 1935 28.43 FSA
Ebay bonsuivit 61761 WREN magazine cutout 7.06 FSA
Ebay three4five 61762 Postcard HMS Egmont 1926 7.31 FSA
Australia auction Six coins Order St John Rhodes 1900 GM Palace
Monica Cuschieri 72168 Candlestick (blandun) 600 Inq. Palace
Monica Cuschieri 72169 Paddling toy horse 500 Inq. Palace
Monica Cuschieri 72170 18th pelmet 1000 Inq. Palace
N. Haber Four large candlesticks, sacristy altar, 6 predieus, 40 chairs 120 FSE
Ebay Antique print Gold coins being minted 44.82 GM Palace
Ebay Antique print gold mint 105.27 GM Palace
Ebay Copper engraving coin making machine 16 GM Palace
Aste Bolaffi, Torino Joseph Roux portolan 1327 Gozo Museum
Ggantija Art Gallery 79227 Volto Santo' print on textile 85 Gozo Ethn.
Belgravia Auctions Watercolour, The Boatman. C Brockdorff 1250 Maritime
Belgravia Auctions Watercolour, Teahouse, C. Brockdorff 1250 Inq. Palace
Ebay 61766 La Domenica del Corriere of 30 March 1941 24.25 FSA
Ebay 61767 Photo of HMS Bulwark near FSA 4.7 FSA
Ebay 61768 Photo of HMS Shropshire near FSA 4.7 FSA
Ebay 61770 Used postcard showing Fort St Angelo 6 FSA
Ebay 61777 Repro cigarette card 5.38 FSA
Ebay 61778 Postcard HMS Egmont 1925 14.56 FSA
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<td>61779</td>
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<td>61780</td>
<td>Postcard of FSA 8th Sept. regatta 1970s</td>
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<td>61782</td>
<td>Postcard FSA 1988</td>
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<td>61783</td>
<td>Map of Grand Harbour 1694, illust N de Fer</td>
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<td>61784</td>
<td>Map of Maltese Islands, 1694, illust. N de Fer</td>
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<td>Original watercolour painting of Fort St Angelo by Aldo M Galea</td>
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<td>61800</td>
<td>Original photo showing Fort St Angelo from Valletta Waterfront</td>
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<td>Original photo showing Grunenbergh batteries from Kalkara creek</td>
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### Donations

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<td>72030</td>
<td>Brother electronic typewriter</td>
<td>Ethnography</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juliet Cowper</td>
<td>61202</td>
<td>Set of eleven photos inside FSA</td>
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<td>Anon.</td>
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<td>Copy of painting of FSA by Edwin Galea</td>
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<td>FSE</td>
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