il-Ħuttafa

Numru **174**

Jannar - Frar 2023

Gawwija Prima

BirdLife MALTA

Il-magażin ta' Klabb Ħuttaf

Klabb Ħuttaf

Aron Tanti

F'dawn il-ġimgħat ta' xita u umdità, il-bebbux qed ikollhom xalata!

mill-editur

Ħbieb naturalisti..

Kif taqraw f'paġna 3, is-sejba ta' wiżgħa rari bdiet tellieqa biex jaqbdu minnha kemm jifilħu. Tant qabdu eluf li l-ispeċi kważi sparixxiet mis-selvaġġ. Salvawha fil-ħin.

Għaliex dal-ġenn biex tinqabad? Ir-raġuni tas-soltu: għall-flus!

Fid-dinja hawn negozju enormi fil-pets [1]eżotiċi, u iktar ma jkunu rari, sbieħ, strambi jew *cute* iktar iġibu prezz tajjeb.

In-nies jitħajru jixtru u jħajru lil sħabhom. Id-domanda tikber u sintendi jinqabdu iktar. Id-domanda tant iżżid li n-negozjanti jippruvaw ikattru dawn l-annimali fil-magħluq. Imma ħafna drabi huwa irħas u eħfef li taqbad mis-selvaġġ milli tipprovdi l-kundizzjonijiet ideali biex trabbi fil-magħluq.

Meta nsemmu l-estinzjoni tal-annimali mid-dinja, spiss insemmu l-*climate change*. Il-bdil fil-klima hija vera problema tal-waħx, imma l-klima mhix l-unika raġuni għaliex l-ispeċi qed jisparixxu.

Bis-saħħa tal-*pet trade* eluf ta' speċi sparixxaw jew qegħdin f'xifer l-estinzjoni. Fost dawn hemm pappagalli, gremxul, sriep, wiżgħat, fkieren, brimb, amfibji, ħut u anke pjanti, speċjalment orkidi.

Victor Falzon

Għalhekk jekk mort il-*petshop* u ggustajt dik il-*clown fish* jew dak il-pappagall *African grey*, dak ix-*sugar glider* jew dik il-fekruna, aħsibha sew qabel tixtri.

Wara kollox, jekk inti tħobb in-natura, żgur ma tridx iżżid mal-problema tal-estinzjoni. Hux hekk?

U bilħaqq, jekk trid kelb jew qattus, agħmel kif għamlet Nina f'paġna 10, u adotta flok tixtri.

Victor
Victor Falzon L-Editur

[1]**eżotiċi**. Speċi li jiddaħħlu f'pajjiż minn artijiet jew ibħra oħrajn

FUQ QUDDIEM

Ritratt ta' Aron Tanti

Gawwija Prima

Yellow-legged Gull *Larus michahellis*

Il-gawwija prima hija waħda minn ħafna speċi ta' gawwi li naraw f'Malta. Imma hija speċjali għax hija l-unika gawwija li tbejjet f'pajjiżna. Fil-fatt hija l-ikbar għasfur li jbejjet fil-Gżejjer Maltin. Bħal ħafna gawwi ieħor, il-gawwija prima tiekol ħut u anke skart li ssib fil-baħar u anke mill-art. Il-gawwija prima mħarsa bil-liġi.

Klabb Ħuttaf · Dinja Waħda · BirdLife MALTA

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Kitbu

Thais Amaral (National Aquarium), Elena (Ecohive), Desirée Falzon, Victor Falzon, Nicholas Galea, Tommy Gatt, Marie Vella (BOV)

Klabb Ħuttaf

Klabb Ħuttaf is the junior (under 16) section of BirdLife Malta. Members

- can attend club activities, like walks, birdwatching, visits to nature reserves, boat trips and do environmental work
- receive *Il-Ħuttafa* every two months.

Your family too can become member, and you will then get *Bird's Eye View* magazine too. Annual subscription is €10 for Klabb Ħuttaf and €20 for Family.

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11,192 bi ngħas

Kull sena f'Jannar fil-Belt Valletta jinġabru grupp voluntiera tal-BirdLife... biex jgħoddu z-zizka bojod! Dis-sena ma naqsux.

Iz-**zakak abjad** (*white wagtail*) huwa għasfur komuni tax-xitwa. Binhar jinfirex mal-kampanja jfittex dud x'jiekol. Filgħaxija z-zizka jinġabru fi gruppi kbar u jidħlu jorqdu kollha fis-siġar li hemm fi Pjazza Assedju fil-Belt.

Fl-14 ta' Jannar, 16-il voluntiera nfirxu madwar is-swar tal-Belt u għamlu siegħa jħarsu lejn is-sema u jgħoddu z-zizka deħlin itiru. Wara, għaqqdu l-figuri u ħarġu total ta' **11,192** zakak. Lesti għas-sodda!

Aron Tanti

Rix Rari

Gawwija Amerikana
Bonaparte's Gull

Aron Tanti

Gawwija Imperjali
Pallas's Gull

Aron Tanti

Dawn l-aħħar xhur dehru ħafna speċi ta' gawwi, speċjalment fl-inħawi tas-Salina. Il-biċċa l-kbira kienu komuni imma qalb dawk l-eluf, xi berdwoċers tal-BirdLife b'għajnejn ta' seqer (u b'ħafna snin esperjenza) lemħu żewġ speċi tassew speċjali.

Waħda minnhom kienet **gawwija imperjali**, speċi rarissma mil-Lvant (mill-inħawi tal-Baħar Kaspju) li ftit drabi għadha dehret f'Malta.

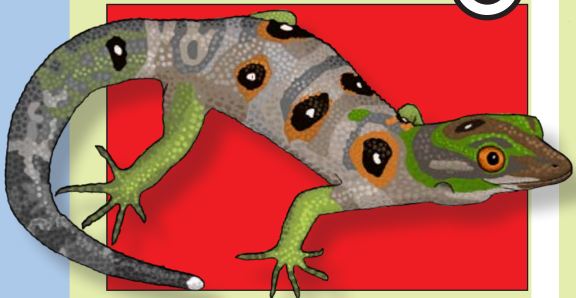
L-ispeċi l-oħra kienet **gawwija Amerikana** li, kif jixhed isimha, tfaċċat min-naħa opposta għax ġiet mill-Amerka ta' Fuq, jiġifieri biex waslet Malta qasmet l-Atlantiku u nofs il-Mediterran! Din l-ispeċi kienet iktar rari mill-oħra, għax din kienet fil-fatt *l-ewwel darba* li qatt dehret f'pajjiżna – fil-fatt kellna nagħtuha isem bil-Malti għax kien għad ma kellhiex! Iż-żewġ speċi dehru fir-riserva naturali tas-Salina.

Kaċċa STOP!

L-istaġun tal-kaċċa bħalissa magħluq. Jekk tisimgħu jew taraw kaċċa fi Frar u f'Marzu tistgħu tirrappurtaw billi ċċemplu 119.

X'għandna mid-dinja?

Daqs paperclip!



Ġo foresta fuq gżira żgħira fil-Karibew tgħix il-**Union Island** gecko, wiżgħa daqs *paperclip* imma l-ġmiel tagħha... u [1]endemika! Instabet fl-2006 u f'salt bdew jaqbduha għall-bejgħ – tant qabdu li naqset sew! Issa l-gvern t'hemmhekk ħoloq tim ta' gwardjani apposta biex jgħassu l-foresta fejn tgħix din is-sbejħa.

Reġgħu ġejjin!

Minkejja l-iżvilupp u l-popolazzjoni dejjem jikbru fl-Ewropa, xi annimali mdaqqsin qed jiżdiedu u jinfirxu mal-kontinent. Fost dawn hemm **l-ors**, il-**lupu**, il-**biver** u l-**biżont** (*bison*). Dawn l-affarijiet ma ġrawx weħidhom, imma bis-saħħa ta' [2]*reintroductions* u kontrolli, speċjalment fuq il-kaċċa li kienet kważi qerdithom.

Dan raw żejjed!

Fl-**Iżvezja**, pajjiż kbir, tgħix popolazzjoni żgħira ta' xi 400 lupu. Imma l-gvern Żvediż fettillu jrid inaqqas in-numru għal 170 biss, għalhekk fetaħ staġun tal-kaċċa għal dal-predatur importanti. Ix-xjenzati jgħidu li 170 huwa numru żgħir wisq, u l-lupu jista' jerġa' jsir estint fl-Iżvezja... kif diġà kien sa 60 sena ilu!

[1]**endemika.** Speċi li ma ssibha mkien iktar fid-dinja

[2]***reintroduction.*** Meta annimal jew pjanta jerġgħu jiddaħħlu f'post fejn darba kienu jeżistu.

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Desirée Falzon

Għaliex il-weraq ibiddel il-kulur qabel jaqa'?

Victor Falzon

Weraq tas-siġra tal-luq qed jibda jisfar

Ħaġa tant komuni li ma nagħtux kasha! Imma kos hux, xi jġiegħel lill-weraq ibiddel il-kulur? X'ikun qed jiġri, u għaliex il-weraq isir isfar u kannella, u mhux blu jew roża?

Fil-fatt huwa tal-għaġeb kemm isiru affarijiet – kollox fil-ħin tiegħu – f'kull werqa qabel ma taqa'.

Ħin għall-irqad!

Fil-ħarifa s-siġar kollha jħossu l-ġurnata tiqsar u jippreparaw biex 'jorqdu'. F'pajjiżi li jkollhom is-silġ fix-xitwa, l-ilma ta' ġol-weraq jaf jiffriża u jaqsmilhom il-vini. Għalhekk qabel jorqdu, ħafna siġar f'dawn l-inħawi tad-dinja [1]joħorfu, jiġifieri jwaqqgħu l-weraq.

Malta ma tantx għandna siġar [1]ħorfin għax ix-xtiewi tagħna mhumiex kesħin ħafna. Imma xorta waħda għandna wħud li jagħmlu dan, fosthom il-**luq,** it-**tin**, iċ-**ċawsli** u oħrajn. Dawn kif tmiss il-ħarifa jibdew jaħsbu biex iżarmaw.

Stop production!

L-ewwel ma jiġri hu li l-pjanta tibgħat kimika speċjali lejn il-weraq, u l-weraq jieqaf jipproduċi l-ikel.

Il-klorofilla (dak il-likwidu aħdar li jagħti kulur lill-weraq) jibdew jitmermrulha ċ-ċelloli.

Fl-istess ħin is-siġra tibda tiġbed in-nutrijenti mill-weraq lura għal ġol-friegħi. Hemmhekk taħżinhom ħalli tużahom fir-rebbiegħa biex tagħmel weraq ġdid. Materjal ieħor li s-siġra m'għandhiex bżonnu, bħad-dħaħen tat-tniġġis li l-weraq ikun ġibed mill-arja, jibqgħu fil-werqa.

X'ħin jibda jisparixxi l-kulur l-aħdar, jitfaċċa kulur isfar. Dan l-isfar dejjem ikun fil-werqa imma ma jidhirx meta l-werqa tkun mimlija klorofilla ħadra.

Agħlaq il-bieb!

Is-siġra mbagħad tibgħat sinjal kimiku ieħor, did-darba liz-zokk tal-werqa fejn tkun imqabbda mal-fergħa. Dan iz-zokk irqiq, li minnu jgħaddu n-nutrijenti kollha, issa jibda jagħlaq il-kuridur bejn il-werqa u s-siġra, biex ma jgħaddux sustanzi mis-siġra lura għal ġol-werqa. Il-'bieb' jingħalaq għal kollox... u l-werqa taqa'!

Il-kulur isfar jitmermer u jibqa' biss il-kannella li bih nagħrfu li l-werqa tkun mejta.

U l-evergreens?

Is-siġar u l-arbuxelli li ma joħorfux fil-ħarifa jgħaddu wkoll minn dal-proċess. Imma l-weraq iwaqqgħuh 'l hawn u 'l hemm matul is-sena kollha, mhux f'daqqa. Għalhekk aħna ma nindunawx!

Meta naraw dawk il-kuluri ħomor spettakolari f'xi foresti (speċjalment l-Amerka jew il-Kanada), ikun għaddej proċess ieħor. Is-siġra tipproduċi kimika ta' lewn ħamrani biex tipproteġi l-weraq mid-dawl tax-xemx waqt li tkun qed tiġbed n-nutrijenti minn ġol-weraq.

[1]**joħorfu, ħorfin**. Pjanti li jwaqqgħu l-weraq qabel jorqdu

L-Għasafar KOLLHA ta' Malta

F'Malta s'issa dehru ftit **iktar minn 400 speċi** ta' għasafar. Xi speċi huma komuni, oħrajn rari, uħud iżuruna ftit ġranet fis-sena, oħrajn jgħixu magħna s-sena kollha. F'dis-sensiela qed inġibu l-lista kollha! Dawn huma **Numri 51 sa 60**...

Ritratti Denis Cachia, Ray Galea, Aron Tanti, Ray Vella

51
Isem Malti
Daqquqa Prima
Isem Ingliż
Great Spotted Cuckoo
Isem xjentifiku
Clamator glandarius

52
Isem Malti
Daqquqa Kaħla
Isem Ingliż
Common Cuckoo
Isem xjentifiku
Cuculus canorus

53
Isem Malti
Gallozz tax-Xitwa
Isem Ingliż
Western Water Rail
Isem xjentifiku
Rallus aquaticus

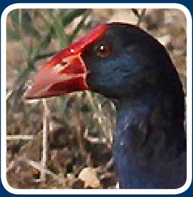
54
Isem Malti
Gallozz Aħmar
Isem Ingliż
Corncrake
Isem xjentifiku
Crex crex

55
Isem Malti
Gallozz tat-Tikek
Isem Ingliż
Spotted Crake
Isem xjentifiku
Porzana porzana

56
Isem Malti
Gallozz Żgħir
Isem Ingliż
Little Crake
Isem xjentifiku
Zapornia parva

57
Isem Malti
Gallozz tal-Faxxi
Isem Ingliż
Baillon's Crake
Isem xjentifiku
Zapornia pusilla

58
Isem Malti
Gallozz Imnaqqax
Isem Ingliż
Striped Crake
Isem xjentifiku
Amaurornis marginalis

59 
Isem Malti
Gallozz Sultan
Isem Ingliż
Purple Swamphen
Isem xjentifiku
Porphyrio porphyrio

60
Isem Malti
Gallozz tal-Afrika
Isem Ingliż
Allen's Gallinule
Isem xjentifiku
Porphyrio alleni

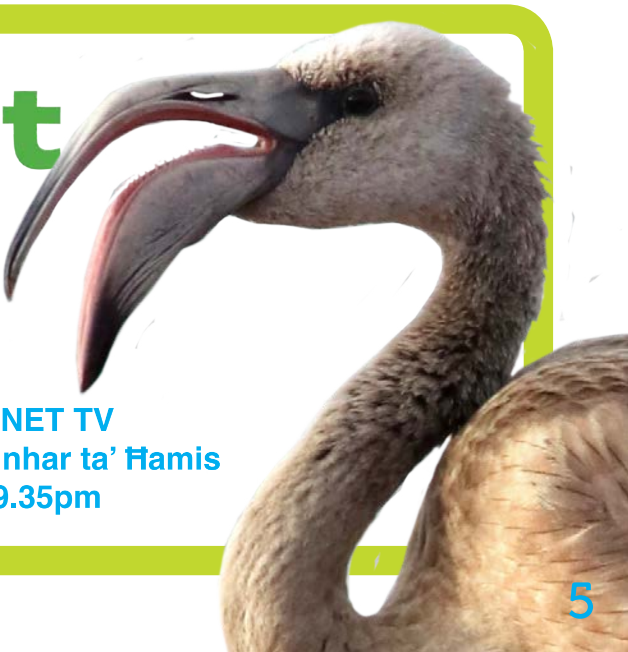
Lista approvata minn BirdLife Malta. Għalkemm xi speċi magħrufin b'iktar minn isem wieħed, dawn huma l-ismijiet uffiċjali bil-Malti li tuża BirdLife Malta. L-ismijiet bl-Ingliż u xjentifiċi huma dawk li tuża BirdLife International (www.birdlife.org)

NATURAlment

Titilfuhx!

Programm imtella' minn BirdLife Malta
fl-okkażjoni tas-60 sena mit-twaqqif tagħha

Fuq NET TV
Kull nhar ta' Ħamis
Fid-9.35pm



HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW SEA TURTLES?

MALTA NATIONAL AQUARIUM

Sea turtles are reptiles that can be found in all parts of the ocean, except for the poles. There are 7 species of marine turtles in the whole world, and 5 of them can be found in Malta: green, leatherback, loggerhead, hawksbill and Kemp's ridley!

GREEN

THEY ARE VEGETARIAN (LOVE SEAGRASS!)

LEATHERBACK

SIZE: 1.3 - 2.0 M
DIET: JELLYFISH
THE BIGGEST TURTLE EVER FOUND WAS A LEATHERBACK, LONGER THAN 3 METERS!

LOGGERHEAD

SOMETIMES THEY NEST IN THE MALTESE ISLANDS! BUT USUALLY THE NOISE AND POLLUTION SENDS THEM AWAY..

HAWKSBILL

DIET: SPONGES AND SEA ANEMONES

OLIVE RIDLEY

THE SMALLEST SPECIES: MAX 70CM!

KEMP'S RIDLEY

THE RAREST SPECIES OF SEA TURTLE, AND ALSO THE WORLD'S MOST ENDANGERED ONE!

SEA TURTLES HAVE EXISTED FOR OVER 100 MILLION YEARS AND CAN LIVE LONGER THAN 100 YEARS!

FLATBACK

IT ONLY LIVES IN AUSTRALIA!

1 IN 1000 BABIES WILL SURVIVE TO ADULTHOOD

HUMANS ARE THE GREATEST THREAT TO SEA TURTLES

BECAUSE OF: OVERFISHING, BYCATCH, CLIMATE CHANGE, NOISE POLLUTION, PLASTIC POLLUTION, HABITAT DAMAGE, ,BEING HIT BY BOATS, ETC...
WILL YOU HELP US SAVE MARINE TURTLES?

Life on dead wood

Many people think dead wood is rubbish and that it's only good for burning in the fireplace. But dead wood is not rubbish at all! It's a great habitat for lots of living things.

Many species of animals, plants and fungi live on dead logs. Dead wood gives them a place to live and grow. It's true that a dead log will slowly rot away, but that's okay, It means that all its nutrients are going right back into the ground. It's all part of nature's cycle.

And THAT'S why we don't clear away dead wood at our nature reserves!

1. snail
2. wall xanthoria (lichen)
3. slime mould
4. bracket fungus
5. bracket fungus
6. lichen
7. mushrooms
8. scorpion
9. woodlice
10. spider shelter
11. moss
12. bracket fungus
13. millipede
14. earwig
15. mushrooms
16. cramp balls (fungus)
17. soil centipede

Victor Falzon

Pispisella

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

Ritratt ta' Aron Tanti meħud f'Wied il-Qlejgħa

BirdLife MALTA

Hello!

Erġajt jien Nina, qed inżomm l-appuntament magħkom ta' kull xahrejn biex naqsam xi ħsibijiet magħkom, il-qarrejja tal-Ħuttafa.

Tiftakruh lil Ġiġi? ❤ Il-kelb li addottatli l-Mamà Diane fil-Milied? Ġiġi kellu familja oħra qabel ġie jgħix magħna, però sidu kien warrbu u ġabruh l-MSPCA.

L-MSPCA hija organizzazzjoni volontarja li toffri kenn lil klieb u qtates abbandunati sa x'ħin isibulhom dar ma' familja li tista' toffrilhom l-imħabba kollha li jkun jistħoqqilhom.

Skoprejt li l-MSPCA għandhom problema minħabba l-ammont ta' annimali abbandunati li għandhom bżonn kenn u trattamenti għal xi mard li jista' jkollhom. B'hekk bdew ifittxu l-għajnuna biex ikunu jistgħu jagħmlu rinnovazzjoni tal-bini tagħhom. Fittixt ftit aktar u sirt naf li l-BOV u xi kumpaniji lokali oħra għaqqdu s-somma ta' **€35,000** biex jiġi rranġat spazju abbandunat. Bis-saħħa tagħhom, l-MSPCA ser ikunu jistgħu jżidu l-kennels tal-klieb u spazju fejn ikunu jistgħu jilagħbu.

Apparti minn hekk, il-ġimgħa l-oħra kont San Ġwann ma' Mummy Ritianne u sibna ħanut li jbiegħ varjetà ta' oġġetti bħal ħwejjeġ, ġugarelli, u affarijiet tad-dar (fost ħafna aktar). Tal-ħanut qaltilna li dawn l-oġġetti huma kollha mogħtija bħala donazzjoni mingħand il-pubbliku u li d-dħul minnhom imur kollu għand l-MSPCA biex jgħinhom jieħdu ħsieb l-annimali abbandunati. Fuq l-internet sibt ħafna informazzjoni fuq dawn il-ħwienet. Jekk tixtiequ tkunu tafu aktar jew tagħtu xi affarijiet bħala donazzjoni, tistgħu tiskennjaw din il-barcode:

Jien u l-familja tiegħi għandna d-dinja b'Ġiġi, bih id-dar tkun dejjem mimlija bil-ferħ! Jekk tixtiequ kelb jew qattus dejjem tkellmu mal-ġenituri tagħkom u addottaw annimali li huma fi bżonn ta' familja minflok tixtru.

Grazzi talli erġajtu qrajtu kapitlu żgħir mill-ħajja tiegħi.

Nina

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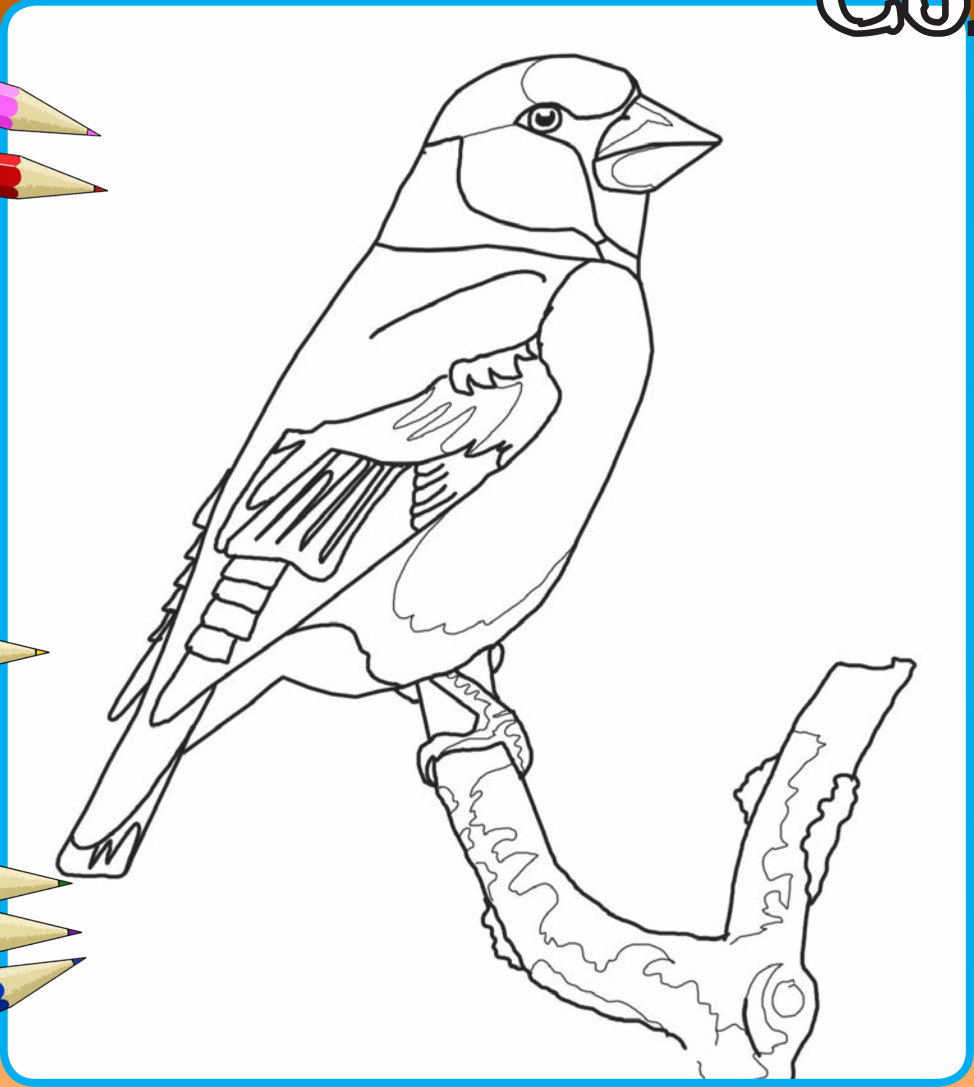
BOV Bank of Valletta

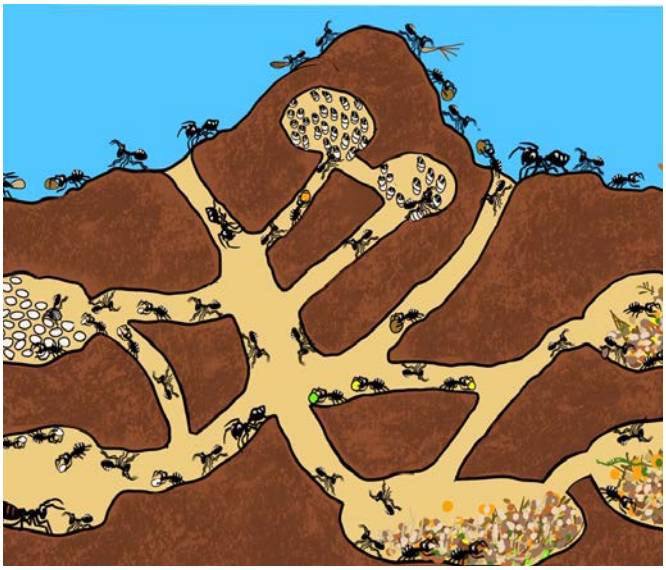
Colour me!



Victor Falzon

The hawfinch

The hawfinch is a nice chunky songbird with lovely colours and patterns. And just look at that massive beak! With that powerful tool this bird can crack olive stones (the seeds inside the olive) – and you know how hard *those* things are! The hawfinch's Maltese name is Taż-Żebbuġ.



Victor Falzon

Be nice to nature

Winter can be nasty to tiny animals. Many insects die of cold but as we know ants hide away in their cosy home underground with their nice store of food. But when it rains, many ant homes get flooded and that's a big problem for ants. So when you find an ants' nest don't make more problems for them. Don't poke sticks down their hole. It's like someone ramming a great tree trunk through your front door! Not nice! Just enjoy the ants and don't disturb. Be nice to nature. Thanks!

Fun Days! Club Days! Fun Days!

We at Klabb Ħuttaf do lots of fun activities and adventures for you and your family. To learn about our next awesome activity check out our website!

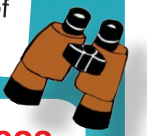
www.birdlifemalta.org/events

Young Birders Club

Hi, my name is Tommy Gatt. I am 10 years old and I have been birding for two years. I love birds and the environment. I try to go birding once a week to Għadira, Is-Simar or Salina nature reserves or Buskett. I live near a large open natural area called Tal-Wej (in Naxxar) which has loads of different birds and other wildlife...

Tal-Wej my winter birding hotspot

The star of Tal-Wej is the extremely rare **tadpole shrimp**. It's the size of your nose and lives in shallow rock pools that form after rain. In Malta we only find them in two places, and they have been around for over 400 million years, imagine that! When birding at Tal-Wej in winter I see **meadow pipits**, **stonechats** and **black redstarts**. I also see **zitting cisticolas** and **Sardinian warblers** that breed here and are present all year round. I often take my grandma's dogs there and I always keep them on a leash so they won't disturb the creatures that live in the ponds. I regularly meet Guido Bonett there, a well-known nature photographer. When we meet he always teaches me new things about nature and he is one of the reasons why I started enjoying birds and nature. Recently they tried to build at Tal-Wej but thanks to online petitions we stopped them. I hope Tal-Wej stays the way it is for long!

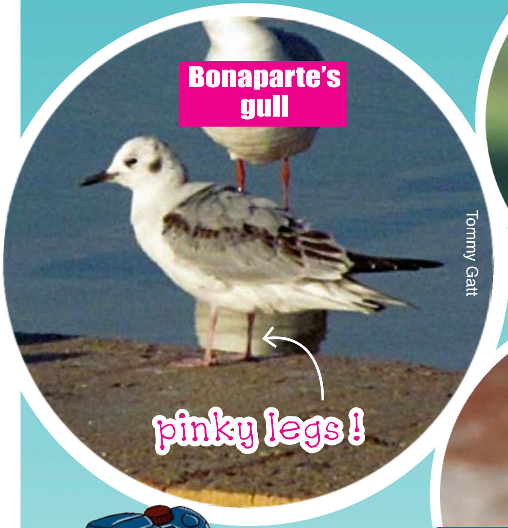


Owls and pellets Salina 8 Jan 2023

dissecting pellets

Our most recent club activity was one of the best. We learned how to dissect short-eared owl pellets collected from Kemmuna. When owls eat, they swallow their prey whole, so they have an extra compartment in their stomach to store the bones, fur and feathers they cannot digest. Later they regurgitate these bits in what we call **pellets**. So by studying pellets we learn what owls eat. In the pellets we dissected we found bones of small birds, bats, mice and rats. We used tweezers and magnifying glasses to find small bones and we had guide sheets to help us identify the skulls and other bones we found. In the pellet I dissected I found a young rat so tiny that at first we thought it was a mouse!

To make the activity even more special, while birdwatching from the visitor centre we spotted a **Bonaparte's gull**, a [1]lifer for me and most others present. This bird came straight from America, and it was also a first record for Malta. It was really cool to see it.



Bonaparte's gull

zitting cisticola

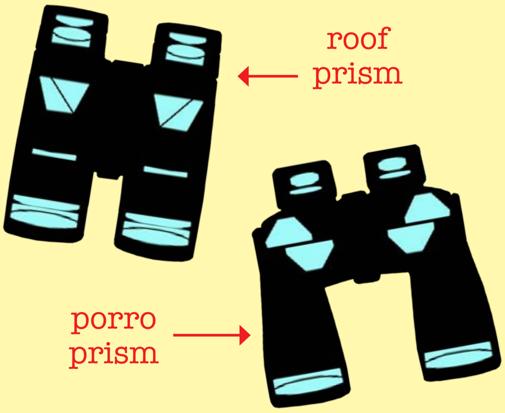
common kingfisher

[1]**lifer**. A birdwatching word that means a really rare bird you see for the first time.

The birder's best friend! by Nick Galea

The most important birding equipment are your **binoculars** (bins). There are many different sizes and prices to choose from but there are two basic shapes: those with straight tubes (**roof prism**) and those with a sort of zigzag shape (**porro prism**).

Most bins today are roof prism and they are what most birders use. Porro prism bins are also good and often cheaper, but they're bulkier, heavier and can break more easily. The smaller and lighter your bins are, the easier you can carry and use them for long periods.



When looking at the bins **specifications** we usually see two numbers with an x in between, e.g. 10x42 or 8x25. The first number shows **magnification** – that's how nearer the bins make objects look (e.g. 10x = 10 times nearer). The

The **Young Birders Club** is part of **Klabb Ħuttaf**. To join the group ask your parents to contact Nick Galea on **nicholas.galea@birdlifemalta.org**

il-Mixja ta' Marzu

Kull sena l-BirdLife norganizzaw mixja speċjali. Speċjali għax min jattendi jista' jiġbor (jekk irid) xi flus minn ħbieb u qraba li jisponsorjawh. Il-flus imbagħad nonfquhom fi proġett għan-natura.

Dis-sena nixtiequ nixtru apparat żgħir ħafna (imma għali!) jgħidulu *satellite tracker*. Dan inwaħħluh mar-rix ta' dahar gamiema, li mbagħad neħilsuha biex tkompli tpassi (aktarx mhux f'Malta ħalli ma tinqatilx mill-kaċċaturi).

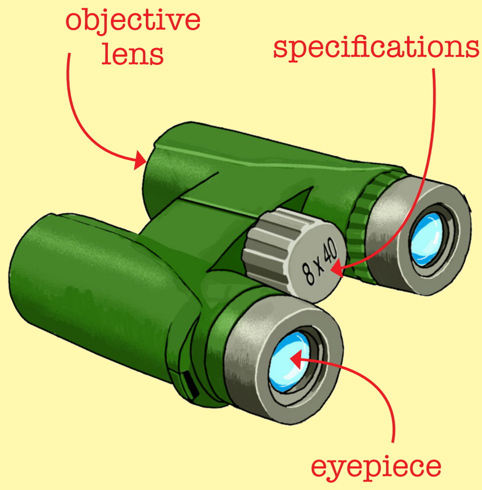
Dak it-*tracker* jibda jibagħtilna l-*location* tal-għasfur kull tant ħin, u b'dal-mod nitgħallmu iktar fuq l-għasafar li jpassu minn Malta. Iktar ma nitgħallmu fuq l-għasafar, iktar inkunu nafu x'inhuma l-bżonnijiet tagħhom. Ħalli nħarsuhom aħjar!

Dis-sena se mmorru dawra fl-**inħawi tal-Miżieb**, l-ikbar masġar f'pajjiżna. Jekk taraw il-mappa tindunaw li l-mixja vera hija dawra, għax nispiċċaw fl-istess post fejn ikunu bdejna! It-tul tal-mixja huwa **7km** u mhix diffiċli, imma ilbsu żarbun tajjeb għall-mixi.

Bħas-soltu, wara l-mixja ħa nqassmu **rigali** lil min ikun ġabar xi flus, biex ngħidu grazzi tal-għajnuna u s-sapport. Narawkom hemm!

Data: Il-Ħadd 26 Marzu 2023

Aktar dettalji hawnhekk
www.birdlifemalta.org/events

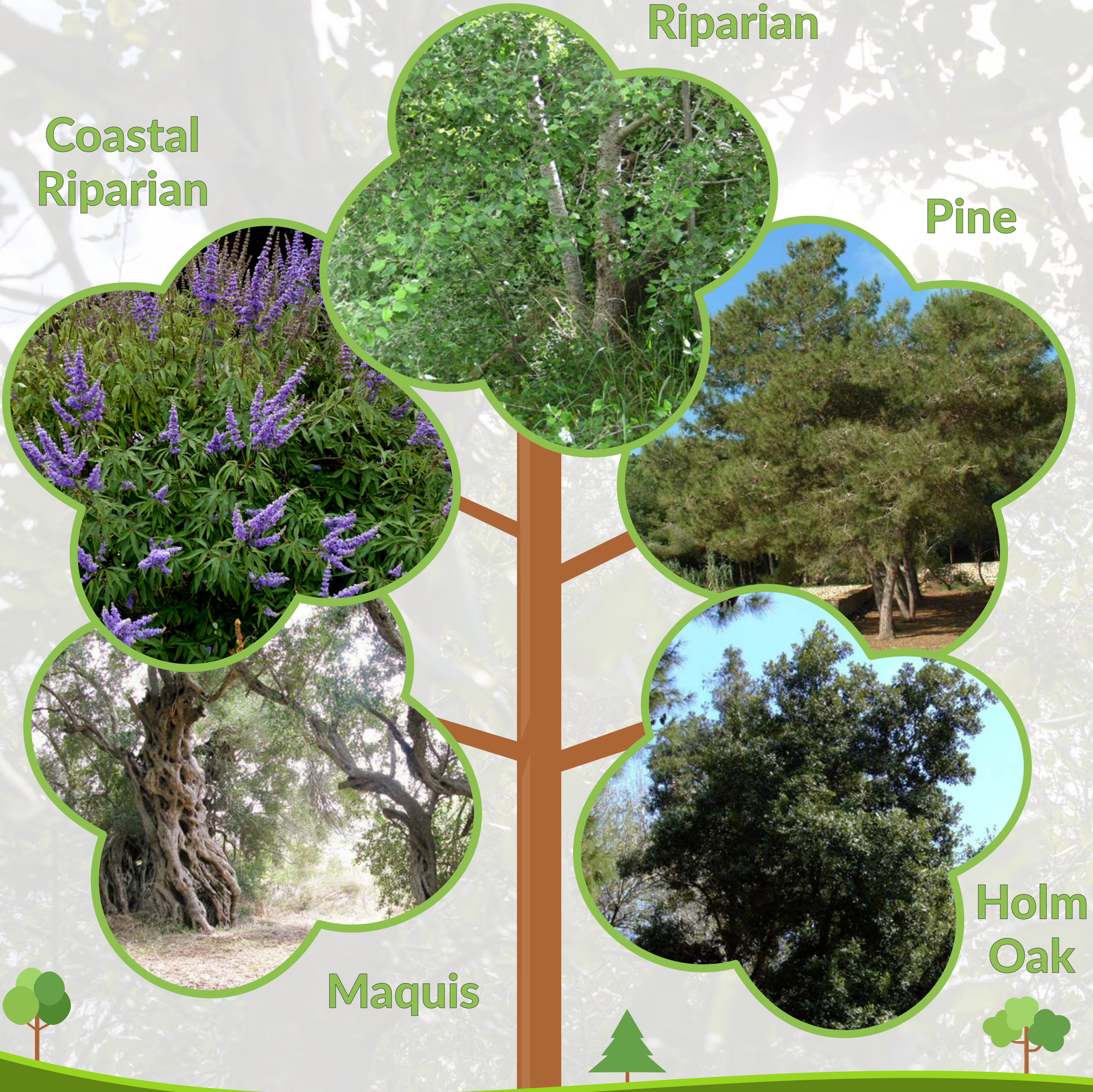


second number is the diameter in mm of the **objective lens** (that's the big lens at the back end). This determines two important properties: how bright the image will be and how large the **field of view** (the area you see when you look through the eyepiece) will be. The brighter the image, the more detail you can see and the bigger the field of view, the easier you'll find your bird.

The 10x42 is the most common combination used by birders. An 8X32 is also good, especially if you have small hands or if you also carry other equipment (e.g. a camera). Bins with larger magnification often give duller images and they're harder to keep steady.

Prices also vary a lot and some bins are super expensive, so don't rush to buy bins. Join some club activities first, see if birdwatching is a hobby you'd like to take up, and then we'll help you choose the best bins for you!

Woodlands in Malta



Maltese woodlands, or msaġar, are limited in number due to human activity over the years. Such human disturbance has resulted in woodlands now occupying small areas, scattered around the Maltese Islands. Locally, there are different types of woodlands. The main ones include the Mediterranean woodlands, based on hardy, evergreen trees. These are characterised by holm oak; by pine trees; and various maquis communities (such as the carob/olive maquis), as well as riparian communities. Both the white poplar and the tamarisk trees are riparian trees the latter of which thrive in coastal areas.

These woodland habitats are protected through legal site designation, whilst many species of local trees are also adequately protected with the aim that no further damage is done to harm their existence.

ERA
Environment & Resources Authority

FATTI FAWNA

Desirée Falzon

ix-Xaħmet l-Art

- Ix-xaħmet l-art huwa wieħed mid-disa' speċi ta' rettili tal-art li nsibu fl-ambjent naturali ta' Malta.
- Jismu xaħmet l-art forsi għax ftit smin, jew għax ileqq, qisu midluk bix-xaħam! F'xi nħawi t'Għawdex jgħidulu ħaxmet l-art.
- Għandu idejh u saqajh qosra, bilkemm ileħħqulu mal-art. Għalhekk biex jiċċaqlaq iktar iserrep u jiżżegleg milli jimxi.
- Fuq dahru għandu ħafna dbabar suwed b'tikka bajda fin-nofs. Jgħidulhom [1]oċelli, għax qishom għajnejn.
- Dawn l-oċelli tawh l-isem bl-Ingliż *ocellated skink* u l-isem xjentifiku *Chalcides ocellatus*.
- Ix-xaħmet l-art jgħix fil-beraħ fejn jara x-xemx. Iħobb ukoll ħitan tas-sejjieħ u ġebel żgħir, li jista' jistaħba taħthom.
- Ix-xaħmet l-art iħobb jixxemmex fuq blat li tkun ukoll saħħnitu x-xemx. B'hekk isaħħan dahru u żaqqu fl-istess ħin!
- Ix-xaħmet l-art jiekol insetti bħal nemel u ħanfus, kif ukoll brimb, ħniex u bebbux. Iħobb jilgħaq frott misjur jew tadam mifqugħ fl-art, li jinżillu għasel għax għalih sors ta' ilma.
- Kif jiffriska t-temp fil-ħarifa, ix-xaħmet l-art jitrekken f'ħofra f'ħajt tas-sejjieħ jew f'xi munzell zkuk. Hemmhekk jgħaddi x-xitwa.
- Ma jbidx bajd imma jwelled frieħ ħajjin.
- Xi nies jistkerrhuh għax jisimgħuh iħaxwex fil-ħaxix u jaħsbuh serp. Fil-fatt ix-xaħmet l-art mhux ta' ħsara jew periklu għall-bniedem.
- Ix-xaħmet l-art imħares bil-liġi. Ma jistax jitfixkel, jinqabad, jinżamm jew jinqatel.

[1]**oċelli.** Ġejja mil-Latin *oculus* + *elli*, li tfisser "għajnejn żgħar"

ECOHIVE MISSIONS
THE PLOT OF THE RAIN
WRITTEN BY ELENA
IT WAS A RAINY DAY AT ECOHIVE...
THIS TIME MY PLAN IS FOOLPROOF!
HEHEHE...
BUT THE GARBAGE MONSTER WASN'T AFRAID TO GET WET!
SINCE THEY LIKE WORKING SO MUCH...I WILL GIVE THOSE BUSY BEES SOMETHING TO DO!
I HAVE COLLECTED SO MUCH PLASTIC, I COULD COVER THE ENTIRE SEA!
I'LL JUST DUMP IT ON THE SHORE AND LET THE RAIN DO THE REST!
OH NO! HE'S DESTROYING OUR HOME!
GENERAL BUZZ! YOU HAVE TO HELP US! IF YOU DON'T, WE'LL HAVE NOWHERE TO LIVE!
AGENT SQUIRTLE?! WARN THE OTHER ANIMALS AND HANG ON TIGHT! WE'RE ON OUR WAY!
WHY WAS THE ALARM BLARING? I WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF A CLASS. DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
NO TIME TO EXPLAIN! WE HAVE TO GET THE BOAT AND HURRY! IT'S AN ECO EMERGENCY!
LOOK AT ALL THIS PLASTIC! THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN DEAL WITH IT ALONE!
THAT'S WHAT THE BEACON IS FOR! WE ARE NEVER ALONE! LET'S GET ALL HANDS AND FINS, ON BOARD!
CURSE YOU, BEES! WHY CAN'T YOU JUST MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS FOR ONCE?!
BECAUSE CARING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT IS OUR BUSINESS! AND EVERYONE SHOULD MAKE IT THEIRS TOO!
HAHAHA!
YEAH, YEAH... WHATEVER, SUCKERS! WATCH ME RUN!
TOGETHER WE CAN SAVE THE SEA HABITAT AND PREVENT HARM TO MARINE ANIMALS!
IT'S IMPORTANT FOR EVERYONE TO DO THEIR PART. NO MATTER HOW SMALL.
GOOD JOB, EVERYBODY! NOW LET'S TAKE ALL THIS PLASTIC TO ECOHIVE RECYCLING!
ALWAYS DISPOSE OF PLASTIC WASTE PROPERLY USING DEDICATED BINS! AND NEVER THROW PLASTIC IN THE SEA.
ECOHIVE recycling
REMEMBER IT'S HOME TO MANY DIFFERENT ANIMALS, PLANTS AND OTHER ORGANISMS! LET'S PROTECT IT!
VISIT ECOHIVE.COM.MT/KIDS