# il-Ħuttafa

Numru **175**

Marzu - April 2023

**Isfar**

Il-magażin ta' Klabb Ħuttaf

BirdLife MALTA

Klabb Ħuttaf

Aron Tanti

Fras-servjenti (black-winged stilts) u żewġ ċewċewwiet (greenshanks) jistrieħu l-Għadira qabel ikomplu l-passa lejn l-Ewropa

mill-editur

# Ħbieb naturalisti..

Fl-inħawi fejn noqgħod jgħixu xi pari gamiem tal-kullar. Bħal dażżmien jibdew ibarqmu biex jiġbdu l-attenzjoni ta' xulxin. Il-ħoss *du-duuu-du... du-duuu-du... du-duuu-du* mhix xi għanja gwappa bħal tar-rożinjol, imma ngħid għalija dik in-nota ħelwa tpaxxini.

Dan l-aħħar għaddejt ftit ħin ngħodd kemm-il *du-duuu-du* l-gamiema tgħid f'kull sett ta' sejħiet! Sibt li fil-biċċa l-kbira bdiet tagħmel bejn seba' u disgħa f'kull sett. Imma xi drabi bdiet tieqaf wara tnejn jew tlieta. Tgħid għaliex?

Qgħadt nosserva l-gamiema bit-tromba minn fuq il-bejt, ħalli nara xi tkun qed tagħmel waqt li tbarqam. Imma xejn speċjali: imperrċa komda fuq arblu jew ħabel tal-inxir.

Imma wara ftit indunajt li kull meta għadda ajruplan minn fuqna (għax jien noqgħod fil-*flight path*) il-gamiema waqfet tbarqam. Ħmm...

Tgħid l-ajruplani qed ifixkluha?

Ħeqq, l-ajruplani tant huma storbjużi li meta jkunu għaddejjin minn fuq rasek ma tisma' xejn ħliefhom, veru? Forsi l-gamiema bdiet tieqaf tbarqam għax indunat li għalxejn tkompli għax ħadd ma kien ħa jismagħha!

Kos hux, min jaf kemm intellfu annimali bl-istorbju tagħna, u spiss bla ma nindunaw: magni, gafef, karozzi, muturi, ajruplani, ħelikopters, vapuri, *diggers, jiggers* u *chainsaws*, murtali, sparar, mużika qawwija, ħornijiet, qniepen...

Kjass sħiħ insomma! U bħas-soltu ħafna nies ma tantx jimpurtahom mill-bqija tal-annimali li jridu jissaportuna.

Mhux sew, ta! Hemm bżonn inbaxxu waħda l-volum...

Victor Falzon

*Victor*

**Victor Falzon** L-Editur

FUQ QUDDIEM

Ritratt ta' Aron Tanti

## Isfar

Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*

Fir-rebbiegħa jżuruna ħafna sofor. Is-sofor iħobbu joqogħdu fi gruppi u jfittxu postijiet bl-ilma bħal widien, u bwar mistagħdra bħall-Għadira, is-Simar u s-Salina. Hemmhekk jgħaddu ftit ġranet iħufu wara n-nemus biex jerġgħu jibnu l-enerġija ħalli jkomplu l-vjaġġ tagħhom lejn l-Ewropa.



Klabb Ħuttaf · Dinja Waħda · BirdLife MALTA

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## Kitbu

Thais Amaral (National Aquarium), Elena (Ecohive), Desirée Falzon, Elena Falzon, Victor Falzon, Nicholas Galea, Nastasya Koroleva, Marie Vella (BOV), Steve Zammit Lupi

## 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 work to help nature
- 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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Design and production Victor Falzon
Printer at Poulton's Print on sustainably sourced paper

Reg.Vol.Org. VO/0052

# Ċorma Ċikonji

Aron Tanti

Parti mill-qatgħa sabiħa ta' ċikonji bojod

Aron Tanti

Kmieni filgħodu ċ-ċikonji bojod bdew jistejqru mill-irqad!

Nhar it-30 Marzu 2023 dehret qatgħa ta' xi 47 **ċikonja bajda** (*white stork*) resqin lejn Malta minn fuq Kemmuna. Ġibdu lejn is-Salina u n-Naxxar, imbagħad qasmu lejn Ħal Qormi, l-ajruport u l-Kottonera. X'ħin dalam niżlu jistrieħu fuq bini fil-kampanja ħdejn Marsaskala. Parti mill-qatgħa nfirdet u niżlet torqod ħdejn iż-Żurrieq.

Diversi nies tal-BirdLife segwew ir-rotta ta' dawn il-ġmiel ta' għasafar u nfurmaw ukoll lill-pulizija. Flimkien għamlu lejl sħiħ jindukraw iċ-ċikonji jistrieħu, għax kien hemm jarawhom ukoll ħafna kaċċaturi! L-għada filgħodu ċ-ċikonji reġgħu ngħaqdu u komplew triqthom lejn it-tramuntana.

Li ma kienx għall-preżenza kontinwa tal-BirdLife u tal-pulizija aktarx kien isir massakru miċ-ċikonji, kif kien ġara f'Awwissu 2018.

Ara *Il-Ħuttafa* 147

## X'għandna mid-dinja?

### Xmara selvaġġa

Fl-**Albanija** twaqqaf l-ewwel *wild river national park* fl-Ewropa. Ħielsa minn kważi kull żvilupp, ix-xmara Vjosa sserrep 270km qalb muntanji, foresti u bwar. Fiha u madwarha jgħixu mal-elf speċi ta' pjanti u annimali, fosthom il-[1]lontra u l-[2]linċa. Il-Vjosa hija waħda mill-ftit *wild rivers* li baqa' fl-Ewropa.

### Biex jaqsmu t-triq

L-**Istati Uniti** għadha kemm ħolqot fond ta' $350m biex tgħin annimali jaqsmu t-triq! Mhux klieb u qtates imma annimali kbar bħal moose, orsijiet, ilpup u puma li jridu jaqsmu highways li jgħaddu mill-ħabitat tagħhom. Dawn il-flus ħa jintużaw biex jinbnew iktar *wildlife overpasses*, li jkunu bħal pontijiet naturali.

### Daqs Malta!

Fi Frar li għadda biss il-foresta Amazon, li l-biċċa kbira tagħha qiegħda fil-**Brażil**, tilfet roqgħa kbira daqs il-Gżejjer Maltin. Dan huwa iktar mid-doppju li nqered fi Frar tas-sena l-oħra. Nittamaw li taħt il-gvern il-ġdid dal-massakru jonqos sa ma jispiċċa għal kollox – għall-inqas hekk wiegħed il-president il-ġdid Lula.

[1]**lontra.** Mammiferu tax-xmajjar (bl-Ingliż *otter*)
[2]**linċa.** Speċi ta' qattus selvaġġ (bl-Ingliż *lynx*) – fl-Albanija tgħix il-*Balkan lynx*, razza f'xifer l-estinzjoni

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Desirée Falzon

# 2 Għaliex l-għasafar ikollhom kuluri differenti?

**Fid-dinja tan-natura l-kuluri huma importanti ħafna għaliex huwa l-mod kif ħafna annimali "jkellmu" lil xulxin.**

## Iwissi . . .

Pereżempju, **pitirross** jaf li pitirrossi oħrajn mhux se jersqu lejn it-[1]territorju tiegħu u jeħdulu l-ikel, għax il-lewn oranġjo ta' sidru jidher mill-bogħod. Dak il-kulur qed jgħid "Hawnhekk tiegħi!" Fil-fatt biż-żmien dal-oranġjo jitqawwa fil-pitirrossi rġiel, tant kemm hu importanti biex juru li dak l-għasfur huwa b'saħħtu u ma jaqbillekx tidħollu fl-art tiegħu!

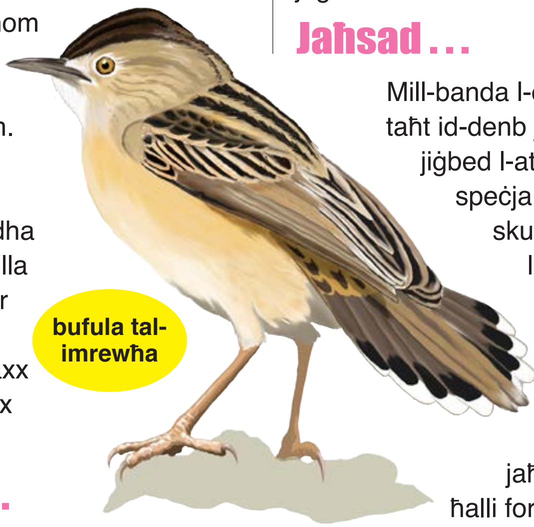
## Jitkessaħ . . .

Ilkoll nafu li l-għasafar jużaw il-kuluri biex jitkessħu quddiem xulxin fi żmien in-namra. Fil-fatt, fir-rebbiegħa, meta l-għasafar jaħsbu biex ibejtu, ir-rix jinbidel u jsir iktar karg u kkulurit. U meta jkun hemm iktar minn kulur wieħed, bħal fil-biċċa l-kbira tal-għasafar, dawn il-kuluri jagħmlu kuntrast ma' xulxin ħalli iktar jispikkaw. Pereżempju l-ikħal tal-ġwienaħ tal-**għasfur ta' San Martin** jaqta' sew mal-oranġjo ta' sidru.

## Jinħeba . . .

Mill-banda l-oħra, hemm ħafna sitwazzjonijiet meta għasfur ma jkunx irid jidher u hawnhekk l-ilwien ikollhom skop ieħor.

Biex nerġgħu nsemmu l-**pitirross**, meta dan ikun fuq il-bejta, dahru biss jidher, u għalhekk ir-rix tad-dahar huwa kannella ħadrani bħaz-zkuk tal-madwar. Il-kannella jgħodd għal dawk l-għasafar kollha li jbejtu jew jirgħu mal-art, fil-ħamrija jew qalb ħaxix niexef. Biex ma jarawhomx il-predaturi, dawn l-għasafar ikollhom kuluri li jixbhu l-isfond tal-ħabitat tagħhom. Pereżempju l-**bufula tal-imrewħa** għandha taħlita ta' kannella safrani u dbabar skuri – ilwien li joħolqu kamuflaxx perfett mal-ħaxix twil niexef.




## Jispikka . . .

Fl-arti, il-pitturi spiss jużaw l-abjad għall-kuntrast ħalli kulur ieħor jispikka iktar. L-istess f'ħafna għasafar. Meta tara għasfur, innota fejn ikun l-abjad. L-**għasfur tal-bejt** raġel ikollu wiċċu abjad ħalli jispikkaw l-iswed ta' taħt geddumu u l-kappell kannella. Il-**monakella** tgħix u tbejjet fi xtut ramlin biċ-ċagħaq, għalhekk ir-rix ta' daharha huwa lewn ir-ramel. Dak id-daqsxejn abjad qalb il-marki suwed fuq wiċċha huma biżżejjed biex speċi differenti ta' monakell jagħrfu lil xulxin.

## Jaħsad . . .

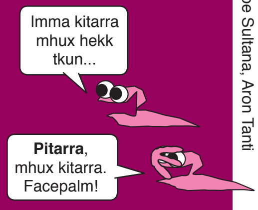
Mill-banda l-oħra rix abjad taħt id-denb jintuża biex jiġbed l-attenzjoni, speċjalment f'għasafar skuri. Pereżempju l-**gallozz iswed** jgħolli denbu u jikxef l-abjad jew biex iwissi glalez oħrajn, jew anke biex jaħsad lil xi predatur ħalli forsi jirbaħ dik is-sekonda prezzjuża li tagħtih ċans jaħrab!

[1]**territorju**. Il-post li annimal jiddefendi minn annimali oħrajn, speċjalment annimali tal-ispeċi tiegħu

Tpinġija Victor Falzon

# 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 61 sa 70**...




61
Isem Malti
**Gallozz Iswed**
Isem Ingliż
**Common Moorhen**
Isem xjentifiku
*Gallinula chloropus*

62
Isem Malti
**Tiġieġa tat-Toppu**
Isem Ingliż
**Red-knobbed Coot**
Isem xjentifiku
*Fulica cristata*

63
Isem Malti
**Tiġieġa tal-Baħar**
Isem Ingliż
**Common Coot**
Isem xjentifiku
*Fulica atra*

64
Isem Malti
**Damiġella**
Isem Ingliż
**Demoiselle Crane**
Isem xjentifiku
*Anthropoides virgo*

65
Isem Malti
**Grawwa**
Isem Ingliż
**Common Crane**
Isem xjentifiku
*Grus grus*

66
Isem Malti
**Pitarra**
Isem Ingliż
**Little Bustard**
Isem xjentifiku
*Tetrax tetrax*

67
Isem Malti
**Pitarrun**
Isem Ingliż
**Great Bustard**
Isem xjentifiku
*Otis tarda*

68
Isem Malti
**Għubara**
Isem Ingliż
**African Houbara**
Isem xjentifiku
*Chlamydotis undulata*

69
Isem Malti
**Bugħaddas**
Isem Ingliż
**Red-throated Loon**
Isem xjentifiku
*Gavia stellata*

70
Isem Malti
**Kanġu ta' Filfla**
Isem Ingliż
**European Storm-petrel**
Isem xjentifiku
*Hydrobates pelagicus*

**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)**

Ritratti Denis Cachia, Joe Sultana, Aron Tanti

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

# Oak Woodlands

The Holm Oak (il-balluta/is-siġra tal-ġandar) is an evergreen, slow-growing but long-lived tree which is native to the Mediterranean region.

The leaves are thick, dark green with very small white hairs on the underside to minimise water loss. They vary in size and shape and this is dependent upon their age and the surrounding environmental conditions. Leaves on the lower branches are observed to have a toothed margin similar to those of the European Holly whilst those on the top are usually much less spiny.

The Holm Oak has both male and female flowers called catkins growing on the same tree which form around April/May.  The female flowers differ from the male ones since they form acorns (the fruit).

Woodlands characterised by holm oak trees were thought be quite widespread in the Maltese Islands, however, the colonization of the islands by man and the grazing effects of cattle, led to the near disappearance of such woodlands.  Today, only four small woodland populations with old holm oak trees occur in Malta at Il-Ballut tal-Wardija, Imġiebaħ, Il-Bosk at Buskett and Wied Ħażrun (limits of Ta' Baldu).

The Holm Oak is legally protected in the Maltese Islands.

ERA
Environment & Resources Authority

# Bużaqq għal kull żaqq!

Il-bużaqq hija ħuta tal-għadajjar. Fir-riservi naturali tal-Għadira, tas-Simar u tas-Salina hemm numru sabiħ ta' bużaqq. Ħafna għasafar li jżuru dawn il-postijiet jagħmlu festa minn dan il-ħut. Dawn disgħa minnhom . . .

Ray Vella

blonġun sekond

Il-bużaqq hija ħuta rari f'Malta għax tgħix fl-għadajjar. L-għadajjar huma ħabitat skars ħafna f'pajjiżna.

agrett abjad

Aron Tanti

xifa

Ray Vella

Minkejja li jikluhom ħafna għasafar, m'hemmx periklu li l-bużaqq se jispiċċaw minn dawn l-għadajjar!

Aron Tanti

għasfur ta' San Martin

russett abjad

Aron Tanti

Aron Tanti

paletta

Aron Tanti

fras-servjent

Qed iqabbduni l-ġuħ!

blonġun żgħir

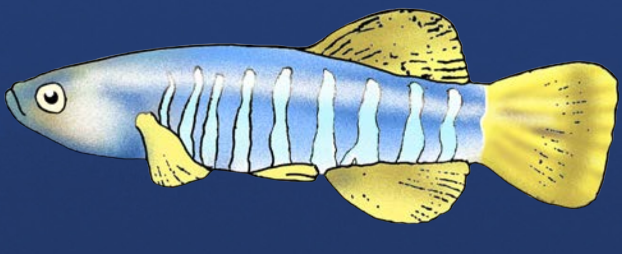
Aron Tanti

Il-bużaqq hija l-ħuta nazzjonali ta' Malta

Ray Vella

gallina tal-baħar

Nipprotesta bil-qawwi!



Victor Falzon

# International Waterbird Ce
# Mid-Winter 2023
# Bird Count in Malta

Bonaparte's Gull

## 14th January 2023

**30** birders

**45** locations

**502** observations

**15,387** birds counted

**57** species identified

**29** wetland species

Reed Bunting

Shelduck

# nsus

Infographic by Steve Zammit Lupi

Għadira Nature Reserve

Wetlands are very important habitats and support lives of thousands of species, including human lives. Waterbirds are a key part of a wetland ecosystem and their presence, numbers and trends tell us a lot about health of a wetland. Every year, the global NGO "Wetlands International" organizes an International Waterbird Census (IWC) such that countries monitor the status of birds in their wetlands.
On the 14th of January BirdLife Malta birdwatching volunteers organized a synchronized count of waterbirds present in wetlands and coastal sites in the Maltese Islands.

Greater Flamingo

Black-headed Gulls at Salina Nature Reserve

Little Grebe

## Top 10 reported birds

1. Black-headed Gull **7,096**
2. Yellow-legged Gull **1,968**
3. Mediterranean Gull **1,963**
4. Great Cormorant **333**
5. Cattle Egret **148**
6. Lesser Black-backed Gull **39**
7. Moorhen **26**
8. Little Egret **12**
9. Caspian Gull **11**
10. Sandwich Tern **11**

# HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF OCEAN ACIDIFICATION?

MALTA NATIONAL AQUARIUM

You've probably heard of plastic pollution, but the ocean is facing another big problem nowadays. Ocean acidification is a change in the properties of seawater, which becomes more acidic, and can be harmful for plants and animals.

1. Why is this happening? Basically, humans are releasing too much pollution in the atmosphere since we have too many cars and industries. The ocean acts like a huge sponge absorbing our pollution, and one main component of it is carbon dioxide ($CO_2$).

2. The carbon dioxide reacts with seawater and makes it acidic, dissolving the shells of animals like corals, snails, mussels, clams and urchins! Like this, they cannot grow normally and end up having a weak shell, which is their protective house.

## ONCE UPON A REEF

**OCEANS ABSORB CARBON DIOXIDE FROM THE ATMOSPHERE, CREATING CARBONIC ACID IN THE WATER**

CARBON DIOXIDE ($CO_2$) + WATER ($H_2O$) → CARBONIC ACID ($H_2CO_3$)

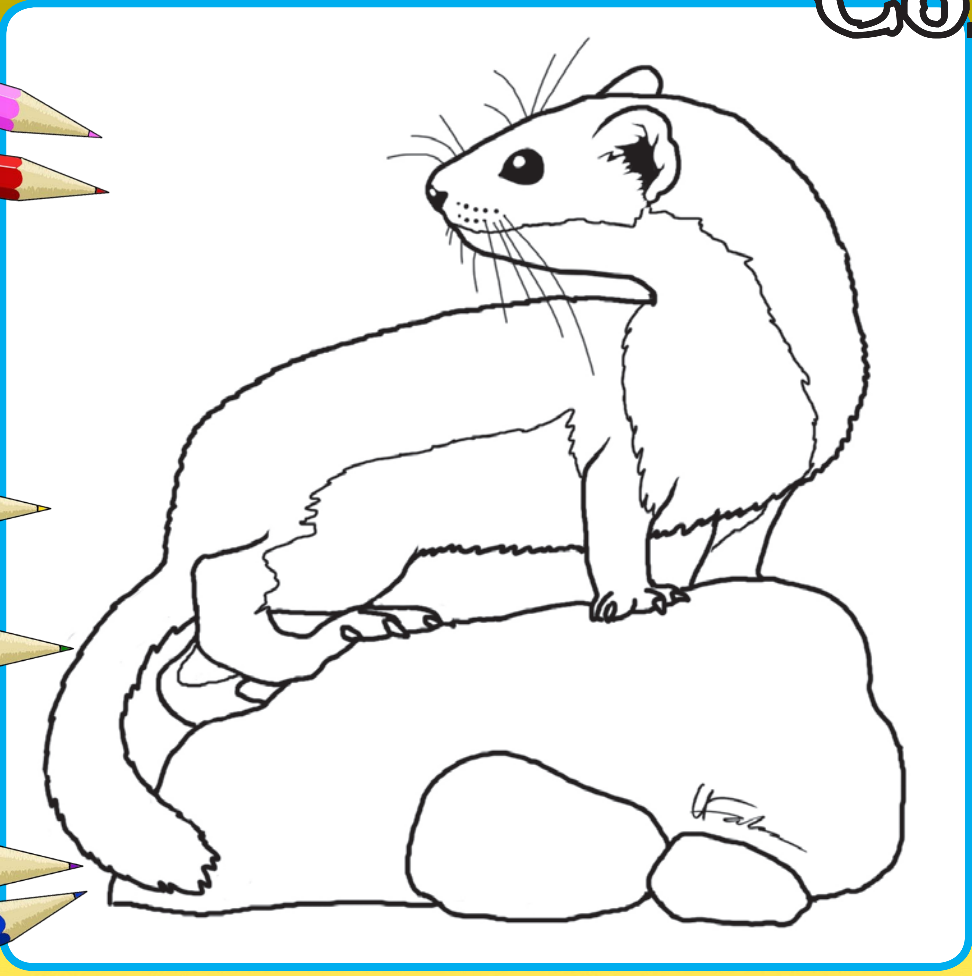
**CARBONIC ACID "STEALS" CARBONATE NEEDED BY SOME MARINE ORGANISMS FOR THEIR SHELLS.**

**So how do we fix the problem of ocean acidification?**
We need to reduce pollution and fight climate change! For example, we can ride a bike instead of using a car, use less plastic, eat less meat, turn off lights and water taps when not in use, etc.

Will you help us fight climate change and ocean acidification?

**Why shouldn't we remove shells from their natural environment?**
Shells provide a home for animals like snails and crabs, and also provide nutrients that are part of the chemical balance of the ocean. Their habitat is in the ocean, not in someone's living room as decoration!

# Colour me!



Victor Falzon

## The weasel

The **weasel** is a cute mammal that looks a bit like a cat, but it's much smaller! It lives in many habitats, especially if there are nice hideouts where to wait in ambush for its prey. It eats mice, snakes, chameleons, birds' eggs and chicks, big insects, etc. Yes it's cute but it's an excellent hunter too!

## Be nice to nature

Many minibeasts live under stones. They feel safe from predators there. Under stones it's also dark and a bit damp too, and that's how creatures like millipedes and woodlice like it. So be careful never to pick or kick stones you find in nature. If you REALLY need to check what's under a stone, do it very gently and carefully. And when you're done, put the stone back exactly as you found it. Remember: that's the roof of the creature's home. Would YOU be happy if a giant came along and took away the roof of your home? Of course not! So be nice to nature too. Thank you.

Victor Falzon

# Young Birders Club

Our new logo

Hello! I am **Elena Falzon**. I am 8 and I'm a member of the Young Birders Club.

Apart from the activities with the Young Birders Club, I also like to visit Imselliet valley near my school. It's full of reeds and in winter the area is flooded with water. In spring I really enjoy walking in the valley because I see birds like **swallows** flying around, and insects like **water boatmen** and **grasshoppers**.

water boatman

Nicholas Galea invited me to be part of the club at a bird ringing session at Għadira Nature Reserve. The expert bird ringer explained what information can be collected from a bird... it was so exciting and interesting! He taught us what measurements are taken after a bird is ringed. I saw a **spotted flycatcher**, a **swallow** and a **subalpine warbler** close up for the first time. Nicholas used a metal ruler to measure the bird's wing and small scales to weigh the birds. The bird is placed head first in a container to weigh it, but do not worry, it does not hurt! After the measurements were taken, Nicholas let me release a swallow back into the wild!

Victor Falzon

**In April I took many photos of wild flowers at Imselliet valley, and I also learned to identify them. Here are some...**

field gladiolus

bindweed

cape sorrel

poppy

borage

birdsfoot trefoil

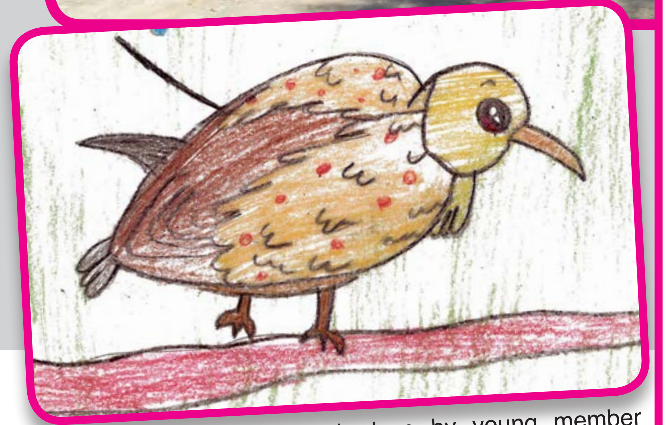
**After this exciting experience, I joined the club on many more adventures...**

- I **dissected owl pellets** at Salina Nature Reserve...
- I went on **a boat trip** in Marsaskala to watch **seabirds** and **dolphins**...
- I went on **long exciting walks** to places I had never been before...
- I even saw a **blue rock-thrush** (Malta's national bird) being ringed.

**I am so happy to be in the Young Birders Club**. I am learning so much about the incredible world of birds, the dangers they face and what I can do to help. If you join our club I'm sure you will enjoy it as much as I do.

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

# We walked the walk!



A lovely picture of a turtle-dove by young member Kimberly Marie Gatt, specially created for the occasion!

On **26 March 2023** a group of **60 people** of all ages gathered near Is-Simar nature reserve. Led by the BirdLife Malta team we went on **a fantastic 7km walk** through the beautiful landscape of northern Malta. We enjoyed the great weather and the lovely flowers and animals we saw along the way. We also learned the names of many plants and animals.

But wait, there's more! This wasn't just any hike. Every kid who joined had collected some sponsor money, and together we raised **a wonderful €927**. BirdLife will use the money to buy **a GPS tracker** to study the migration of turtle-doves. The three kids who raised most funds were **1st Skye Rose Caruana**, **2nd Kate Prasel Caruana** and **3rd Kimberly Gatt**. Thanks a bunch girls, and everyone else too! It was an unforgettable day full of fun, learning... and helping nature!

## Nature Guardians SUMMER edition

Nature Guardians returns for a special summer edition! In this popular course, a group of budding young naturalists immerse themselves in hands-on nature learning and action at BirdLife Malta's nature reserves. Two courses are on offer: one in July and one in August-September. Each course will consist of 13 sessions, held three times a week (Monday, Wednesday and Friday) from around 5pm to 8pm. The course will again take participants to our nature reserves at Salina, Simar, Ghadira and Foresta 2000.

The Nature Guardians summer edition promises something different in terms of nature appreciation. Group size will never exceed 20 children.

To register or for more details please email
**mark.gauci@birdlifemalta.org**

# Hello ħbieb,

Illum irrid naqsam esperjenza sabiħa li kelli! Il-Ħadd li għadda ħarġet ġurnata xemx u smewwiet blu, ġurnata tipika tar-rebbiegħa Maltija. Jien u l-Mamà Diane ħriġna r-roti mill-garaxx u morna nduru bihom sal-Buskett. Kemm hi sabiħa n-natura! Rajna lsien il-kelb, fjura mill-isbaħ, u nzertajna spanjulett jistrieħ fuq siġra tal-ballut.

Apparti minn dan, l-użu tar-rota għamel din l-esperjenza isbaħ. Ħassejtni libera, indipendenti u avventuruża, apparti minn hekk kien mod effettiv ta' eżerċizzju. Li tkun taf issuq ir-rota jeħtieġ il-prattika li ttik il-ħila ssuqha b'mod kunfidenti. Benefiċċju li tużaw ir-rota huwa li dan il-mod ta' trasport ma jagħmilx ħsara lill-ambjent u jgħin biex jitnaqqas it-traffiku f'pajjiżna.

Jien għamilt ftit riċerka dwar l-użu tar-rota u skoprejt li hawn Malta għandna għaqda jisimha ROTA – Dawn jieħdu ħsieb jedukaw lill-pubbliku fuq kif l-aħjar għandna nużaw ir-rota fit-toroq. Iddeċidejt li nkellimhom biex nara xi ħjiel jistgħu jagħtuni. Ipprovdewni b'ħafna tagħrif u xtaqt li naqsmu magħkom ukoll

- Dejjem ilbsu elmu biex tipproteġu raskom f'każ li taqgħu mir-rota. L-elmu jrid ikun ta' qies tajjeb għalikom u li jintlibes sew. Biex tiċċekkjaw jekk ilbistux l-elmu tajjeb ippruvaw din: wara li tilbsu l-elmu tbissmu tbissima kbira u jekk tħossu li l-elmu donnu qed jgħannaqkom lura mela lbistuh kif suppost.
- Agħmlu ċert li jekk toħorġu bir-rota kmieni filgħodu jew filgħaxija dejjem ikollkom id-dawl: dawl abjad fuq quddiem u dawl aħmar fuq wara; tajjeb ukoll li r-rota jkollha reflectors. Ilbsu wkoll ħwejjeġ li jirriflettu d-dawl biex tiżguraw li sewwieqa ta' karozzi u nies li jkunu mixjin fl-inħawi jarawkom.
- Qabel issuqu r-rota dejjem iċċekkjaw li r-rota tkun f'kundizzjoni tajba. Jekk b'subgħajkom il-kbir tkunu tistgħu tagħfsu t-tajer, ifisser li t-tajer għandu bżonn jintefaħ. Biex tiċċekkjaw il-brejk, ppruvaw imbuttaw ir-rota 'l quddiem u lura bil-brejkijiet magħfusin. Jekk ir-rota timxi, kellmu adult biex jaralkom il-brejkijiet. Jekk tinnutaw xi ħaġa ħażina fir-rota, qatt tużawha waħedkom qabel tkellmu adult.
- Jekk ser issuqu f'toroq bil-karozzi, dejjem suqu skont it-traffiku u mhux kontrieħ. Tgħallmu wkoll xi jfissru s-sinjali tat-toroq biex dejjem issuqu r-rota skont ir-regoli tat-triq. Finalment, jekk tkunu ser idduru fit-triq dejjem użaw idejkom biex tagħtu sinjal liema naħa ser idduru.

L-użu tar-rota hija esperjenza mill-isbaħ, però dejjem kunu żguri li hemm adult jakkumpanjakom biex jekk jinqala' inċident ikun hemm min jagħtikom l-għajnuna. Jekk għandkom biżżejjed età biex toħorġu waħedkom bir-rota għal distanzi qosra, xorta infurmaw xi adult fejn tkunu sejrin u kemm beħsiebkom iddumu.

Nawguralkom esperjenza mill-isbaħ għad-dawra bir-rota li jmiss u kunu dejjem siguri fit-toroq!

Narakom

Nina

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F A T T I F A W N A

# il-Fekruna Komuni

- L-isem xjentifiku tal-fekruna komuni huwa *Caretta caretta*. Ġejja mill-kelma Franċiża 'caret' li tfisser fekruna.
- Bl-Ingliż tissejjaħ *loggerhead turtle* għax għandha rasha kbira meta mqabbla ma' fkieren oħrajn.
- Il-fekruna komuni hija l-iktar fekruna tal-baħar li tidher spiss fl-ibħra Maltin.
- Minbarra din hemm żewġ speċi oħrajn ta' fkieren tal-baħar fil-Baħar Mediterran, u t-tnejn huma ħafna iktar rari.
- Il-fkieren tal-baħar huma rettili u għalhekk kuġini tal-gremxul, tas-sriep u tal-kukkudrilli.
- Għalkemm jgħixu fil-baħar, il-fkieren jitilgħu fil-wiċċ biex jieħdu n-nifs. Il-baħħara spiss jaraw fkieren jirrilassaw f'wiċċ il-baħar.
- Meta tkun mistrieħa, il-fekruna kapaċi żżomm in-nifs taħt l-ilma għal sagħtejn u iktar.
- Il-fkieren tal-baħar żviluppaw idejn u saqajn qishom *flippers* biex jaqdfu fl-ilma bil-ħeffa. Għandhom ukoll forma iktar misluta mill-fkieren tal-art, li wkoll jgħinhom fl-għawm.
- Il-fekruna komuni tlekol bebbux, granċijiet, bram u anke xi ħaxix tal-baħar.
- Biex tbid, il-fekruna komuni titla' fuq ramla, tħaffer ħofra u tbid xi 100 bajda; imbagħad tgħatti l-ħofra u terġa' lura l-baħar. Il-frieħ ifaqqsu wara xi xahrejn, u ġirja għall-baħar!
- Dari l-fekruna komuni kienet tbejjet regolari fir-ramliet Maltin imma fis-Seklu 20 waqfet għal-kollox. F'dawn l-aħħar snin numru żgħir ta' fkieren komuni reġgħu bdew kultant ibejtu.
- Bħar-rettili l-oħrajn ta' Malta, il-fekruna komuni hija mħarsa bil-liġi.

ECOHIVE MISSIONS
IT WAS SPRING
WRITTEN BY ELENA
IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL SPRING DAY AT ECOHIVE
THAT'S THE POWER OF TEAMWORK! WE'LL OPEN IN 15 MINUTES!
AND THE BEES WERE BUSY PREPARING FOR THE SPRING FESTIVAL
HAHAHA!
BUT THE GARBAGE MONSTER HAD OTHER IDEAS...
A FESTIVAL I WASN'T INVITED TO?! TOO BAD!
I'LL MAKE A SPECTACULAR ENTRANCE! I COLLECTED TONS OF BLACK POWDER DYE! I'LL CRASH THEIR PARTY!
THIS IS ALL SO EXCITING! THERE ARE SO MANY ACTIVITIES TO DO!
I CAN'T WAIT FOR THE PERFORMANCE AT THE END, WHAT SHALL WE DO FOR NOW?
BEEP BEEP!
BEEP BEEP!
BEEP BEEP!
BEEP BEEP!
AGENT MERILL? WHAT'S THE EMERGENCY?
BEEP BEEP!
AGENT MERILL
IT'S THE GARBAGE MONSTER! WE SPOTTED HIS HELICOPTER HOVERING OVER THE FAIR! HE'S UP TO NO GOOD!
TIME TO DULL DOWN ALL THESE COLOURS!
TAP!
DROP!
3, 2, 1...
WHOOOSH...
AGENT OLLIE! GATHER ALL THE BIRD AGENTS AND MOVE THE POWDER CLOUD TOWARDS THE VACUUM!
WE'RE ON IT! WE'LL USE OUR WINGS TO CREATE WIND IN THE DIRECTION OF THE GARBAGE MONSTER!
WHAT IS THIS TURBULENCE?! I CAN'T FLY LIKE THIS!
WOW! IT WORKED! WE MANAGED TO CAPTURE ALL OF THE BLACK DYE!
NOW WE CAN BAG IT UP AND TAKE IT TO ECOHIVE HYGIENICS TO BE DISPOSED OF IN A SAFE WAY!
CURSE YOU, BEES! ALL THIS PLANNING... AND FOR WHAT?! I'M GETTING TIRED OF YOUR GAMES! SEE YOU AROUND NEXT TIME!
ARRRR!!
AND FINALLY - THE SPRING SEASON WAS OFFICIALLY OPEN!
NOW THAT WE HELPED THE ENVIRONMENT, WE CAN FREELY ENJOY ITS BEAUTY DURING SPRING TIME!
VISIT ECOHIVE.COM.MT/KIDS