

il-**Ħuttafa**

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**Ghasfur ta'
San Martin**



Il-magazin ta' **Klabb Ħuttaf**





#bieb naturalisti...



Tghid l-Editor uża l-Photoshop?

Staqsejtu. Qalli le!

Ix-xagħat spettakolari tal-baħrija magħrufa bħala **l-imferfexxa** (vapourer moth)!

Jiena ngħallem fir-riserva naturali tal-Għadira. Meta jiġu studenti spiss jistaqsuni:

“Għandkom kukkudrilli?”

“Għandkom tigri?”

“Għandkom iljuni?”

... eċċetra eċċetra.

Ħafna drabi din tkun l-ewwel darba li dawn l-istudenti żaru riserva naturali, u allura ma jkunux jafu x'inh. Aktarx jaħsbu li riserva naturali hija xi speċi ta' żu, jaħsbu li l-animali jkunu tagħna u li aħna npoġġuhom hemm biex jiġu n-nies jarawhom.

Jien inkun qed nistennihom dawn il-mistoqsijiet, għax drajt nismagħhom. Għalhekk bi tbissima u bil-paċenzja nispejgħom id-differenza kbira li hemm bejn żu u riserva naturali. Naħseb intom tafu

d-differenza hux? Le?

Mela ħa ngħidilkom. Żu jkun biċċa art fejn is-sid jarma ħafna gaġeġ, kmamar u btieħi mdawrin b'rixtellu. Dawn jimliehom b'animali li jixtri minn pajjiżi differenti tad-dinja. Jimpjega xi nies biex jitimghuhom u jnaddfulhom u jiftaħ iż-żu għall-publiku, li jħallsu biex jidhru jaraw dawn l-animali. Sintendi f'żu l-animali ma jkunux fl-ambjent naturali tagħhom: la jistgħu jiġru, la jistgħu jtiru. Dejjem iduru fl-istess post, bin-nies jiċċassaw lejhom. Min jaf kif jixbgħu u jiddejjqu!

Riserva naturali differenti ħafna. Riserva naturali tkun roqgħa art li fiha ma jkunx hemm tfixkil mill-bniedem. F'riserva naturali attività li tagħmel ħsara jew ittellef lin-natura mhix permessi. Għalhekk għasafar u animali oħrajn imorru hemm għax hemm isibu l-kwiet u post fejn jistrieħu, jieklu, ibejtu, eċċ. bla ma jdejjaqhom ħadd. U jekk ikunu jridu jtitilqu, ħadd ma jzommhom!

Veru li fir-riserva naturali tal-Għadira m'hemmx iljuni, imma naħseb taqblu miegħi li l-animali li naraw hemmhekk ikunu ferm iktar kuntenti minn iljun jippassiġġa f'bitħa tal-konkos!



Miskin!



Victor

Victor Falzon L-Editor



F'dil-ħarġa...

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Mill-editor | 2 |
| Aħbarijiet | 3 |
| X'għandna mid-dinja? | 3 |
| Għaliex l-għasafar ipassu? | 4 |
| L-għasafar kollha! | 5 |
| On the road to extinction! | 5 |
| Butterflies as pollinators | 6 |
| il-Koniferi | 7 |
| Għasfur ċkejken... | 8-9 |
| Fading stripes | 10 |
| Agħti l-kulur | 11 |
| Photo Gallery | 11 |
| Birding in my hometown | 12 |
| Papoċċi | 13 |
| Nature Guardians | 13 |
| Xi Sbuħija ta' Ritratti! | 14 |
| il-Brimba tal-Fjuri | 15 |
| Il-Mużew tal-Istorja Naturali | 16 |

Kitbu

Thais Amaral u Charlie Matthews (National Aquarium), Desirée Falzon, Victor Falzon, Michael Wilson, John J Borg

Klabb Huttaf

Klabb Huttaf 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-Huttafa* 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 Huttaf and €20 for Family.

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Għasfur ta' San Martin

Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*

L-għasfur ta' San Martin huwa wiehed mill-iktar għasafar ikkulluriti tal-Ewropa. Aħna b'xortina li dan l-għasfur jiġi jżurna anke f'pajjiżna u jekk isibu post bl-ilma fejn jistgħu jaqbd u huta bil-kwiet, uħud anke jgħaddu x-xitwa kollha magħna. U fejn l-aħjar biex jagħmlu dan? Heqq, fir-riservi naturali tal-BirdLife!



Ritratt ta' Aron Tanti

el Español

Lejlet il-Ġimgha l-Kbira tfaċċat dil-ġmiel ta' fjamingu (mara) fir-riserva naturali tas-Salina. Kif taraw mir-ritratt kellha ċurkett ma' sieqha. Min-numru fuq iċ-ċurkett sirna nafu li faqqset fi Spanja, u ċ-ċurkett kien tlibbsilha fil-15 ta' Awwissu 1998 meta kienet għadha fellus! Jigifieri kellha 25 sena, età sabiġha għal għasfur. Nafu wkoll li marret anke l-Alġerija, u issa waslet Malta wkoll! Il-fjamingu damet fis-Salina xi ġimghat u rawha u gawdewha hafna nies u studenti li żaru r-riserva naturali. Nawgurawha hajja twila!



Fis-selvaġġ il-fjamingi jgħixu sa xi 40 sena.

Iktar inħawi mħarsin

F'Marzu li għadda l-Gvern habbar li erba' nħawi f'Għawdex u wiehed f'Malta nħatru *Special Areas of Conservation*. Dawn huma **l-Qortin ta' Isopu**, **Hondoq ir-Rummien**, **il-Ġebbla tal-Fessej** u **il-Ġebbla tal-Fnejja** f'Għawdex, u **Xrobb l-Għagin** f'Malta. L-ambjent naturali f'dawn il-postijiet huwa speċjali u għalhekk jixirqilhom liġi li tħarishom mill-iżvilupp.



Rix Rari



Aron Tari

Il-glalez huma għasafar imgerrxin u hafna minnhom diffiċli tarahom għax joqogħdu mistoħbijin. Għalhekk dejjem tiehu gost tilmah wiehed, speċjalment jekk tkun speċi rari bħal dal-**gallozz tal-faxxi** (Baillon's crake) li tfaċċa f'Wied il-Qlejgħa f'April!

X'għandna mid-dinja?

Telqu 510

Medium Tree Finch
Floreana Island



Fil-Gzejjer Galapagos (Ekwador) jgħixu hafna animali 'endemiċi, fosthom il-famużi għasafar tal-ghana (*finches*) li wasslu lil Charles Darwin biex ifassal it-teorija tal-evoluzzjoni. Il-Galapagos huma teżor dinji tan-natura imma sfortunatament fuq hafna minn dawn il-gzejjer iddaħhlu animali bħal qtates u firien li qed jeqirdu l-fawna tal-post. Fuq Floreana Island sar proġett biex jitneħhew dawn l-animali aljeni, u wara li dan sar b'suċċess intelqu 510 għasfur minn ħames speċi ta' dawn il-*finches* rari (inkluż speċi li tinsab fuq Floreana biss). L-għasafar li ntelqu huma kollha tteggjati halli l-istudjużi jkunu jafu fejn qegħdin u kif qed ikampaw. Nisperaw li l-proġett jirnexxi halli forsi xi darba dawn il-*finches* ma jibqgħux f'xifer l-estinzjoni.

¹endemiċi. Speċi li jinstabu biss f'dak ir-reġjun jew pajjiż
²fawna. L-animalli li jgħixu f'ċertu post (il-pjanti jissejhu l-flora)



8

Għaliex l-ghasafar ipassu?



Ray Galea

Parti minn qatgħa kbira ċikonji bojod (*white stork*) qegħdin ipassu fir-rebbiegħa

Bħall-annimali kollha, l-ghasafar għandhom żewġ bżonnijiet importanti ħafna f'hajjithom: li jibqgħu ħajjin, u li jrabbru ż-żgħar. Dawn il-bżonnijiet isibuhom fil-ħabitat fejn jgħixu. Fil-ħabitat tagħhom jistkennu, isibu l-ikel u jrabbru liż-żgħar tagħhom.

Pereżempju għasafar tax-xatt iridu post bit-tajn biex ihaffru b'munqarhom għall-ħniex. Bufula li tgħix fis-siġar trid bosk fejn ikun hemm dud, insetti u frott għaliha u għal uliedha fil-bejta.

L-istaġuni mhumiex l-istess madwar id-dinja. Meta n-naħa ta' fuq tad-dinja tkun xitwa, ikun sajj fin-naħa t'isfel. Dan għandu x'jaqsam mal-mod kif is-sħana tax-xemx tolqot lid-dinja waqt li d-dinja dduur max-xemx, u l-fatt li d-dinja dduur ftit immejla. Kif iħossu l-harifa ġejja, ħafna għasafar jitolqu minn arthom u jtiru sakemm jaslu fin-naħa tad-dinja fejn ikun ġej is-sajf.

Fl-inħawi fejn qiegħda Malta, għandna l-Afrika n-naħa tan-Nofsinhar (south) u l-Ewropa n-naħa tat-Tramuntana (north). Fi Frar u Marzu l-ghasafar jitolqu mill-Afrika Ċentrali (għax hemm tkun ġejja x-xitwa) u jtiru lejn l-Ewropa (fejn ikun ġej is-sajf). F'Settembru u Ottubru l-vjaġġ isir bil-kontra: jaħarbu mix-xitwa li tkun riesqa fuq l-Ewropa u jmorru jfittxu s-sħana tas-sajf fl-Afrika Ċentrali.

Dawn il-vjaġġi ngħidulhom il-passa (migration) u jsiru darbtejn fis-sena.

Fin-nofs

Malta qiegħda nofs triq bejn l-Afrika u l-Ewropa. Għalhekk birdwatchers Maltin jistennew bil-herqa r-rebbiegħa u l-harifa, għax jafu li se jaraw ħafna għasafar tal-passa! Ħafna minn dawn l-ghasafar jieqfu biss ftit granet, kemm jistrieħu u jimlew żaqqhom qabel ikomplu l-vjaġġ.

Mgħaġġlin!

Fil-passa tar-rebbiegħa l-ghasafar ikunu iktar mgħaġġlin mill-harifa għax ikunu qed jaħsbu biex irabbu familja. Fir-rebbiegħa jridu jsibu l-partner, ibiddlu r-rix, ipassu minn art għal oħra, u meta jaslu jridu jsibu u jokkupaw post tajjeb għall-bejta. Imbagħad iridu jibnu l-bejta, jinnamraw, ibidu, jfaqqsu u jrabbru liż-żgħar sa ma dawn jitgħallmu jtiru u jsibu l-ikel weħidhom!

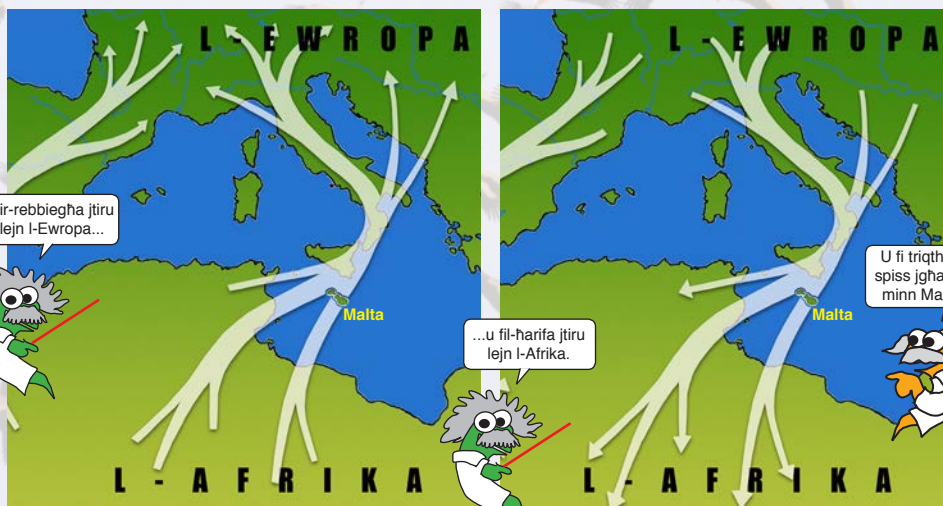
Minħabba li jkunu għadhom kemm biddu r-rix, l-ghasafar fir-rebbiegħa spiss ikunu fl-isbaħ dehra tagħhom.

Bil-kontra, fil-harifa l-ghasafar ma jkollhomx għaġla u s-soltu jagħtuna iktar ċans ingawduhom qabel ikomplu l-vjaġġ għall-Afrika. Wara l-battikata biex rabbew familja, id-dehra tagħhom fil-harifa tkun inqas spettakolari!

Mhix ħajja faċli tkun għasfur, u inkredibbli kif jirnexxielhom jagħmlu dal-vjaġġi twal. Għalhekk sabiħ li meta jieqfu f'pajjiżna waqt il-passa, nagħtuhom merħba sabiħa billi nilqgħuhom bla ma nfixkulhom!

Skont l-istaġuni

Issa l-problema tinqala meta l-ħabitati jinbidlu bl-istaġuni. Pajjiż li jkun komdu biex tgħix fih fis-sajf, jaf ikun iffriżat fix-xitwa. Jekk kullimkien ikun miksi silġ u borra, l-insetti jkunu nħbew jew mietu, u ħafna siġar ikunu waqqgħu l-weraq, għasfur la ħa jsib x'jiekol u lanqas fejn jistkenn. Jekk ma jitlaqx minn hemm ħa jmut bil-ġuħ u bil-kesha.



Fir-rebbiegħa jtiru lejn l-Ewropa...

...u fil-harifa jtiru lejn l-Afrika.

U fi triqthom spiss jgħaddu minn Malta.



L-Ghasafar KOLLHA ta' Malta

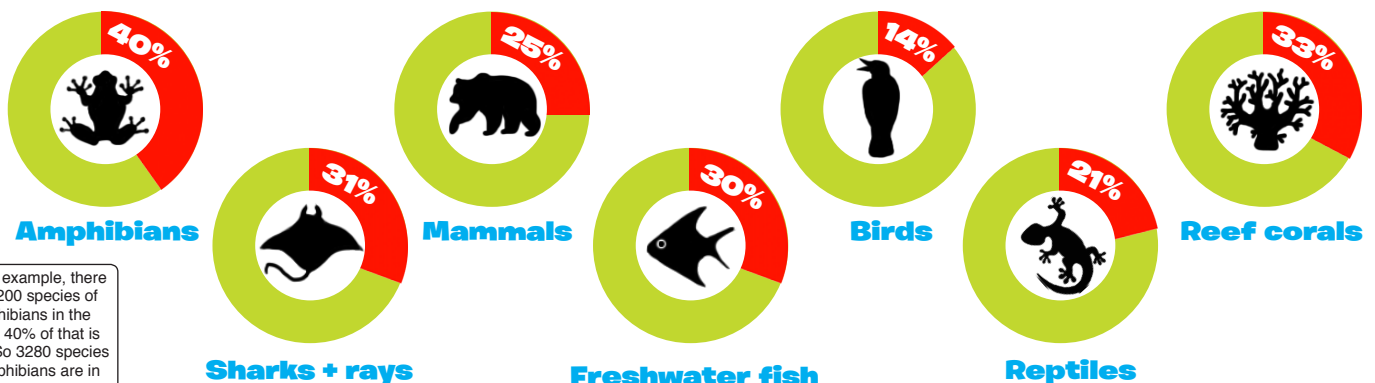
F'Malta s'issa dehru ftit **iktar minn 400 speċi** ta' ghasafar. Xi speċi huma komuni, ohrajn rari, uħud iżuruna ftit ġranet fis-sena, ohrajn jgħixu magħna s-sena kollha. F'dis-sensiela qed iŋġibu l-lista kollha! Dawn huma **Numri 121 sa 130...**

- | | | | | | |
|-----|---|--|-----|--|--|
| 121 |  | Isem Malti Monakella Imperjali Isem Ingliz Ruddy Turnstone Isem xjentifiku <i>Arenaria interpres</i> | 126 |  | Isem Malti Tertuxa Griża Isem Ingliz Temminck's Stint Isem xjentifiku <i>Calidris temminckii</i> |
| 122 |  | Isem Malti Pispisella Prima Isem Ingliz Red Knot Isem xjentifiku <i>Calidris canutus</i> | 127 |  | Isem Malti Pispisella Bajda Isem Ingliz Sanderling Isem xjentifiku <i>Calidris alba</i> |
| 123 |  | Isem Malti Girwiel Isem Ingliz Ruff Isem xjentifiku <i>Calidris pugnax</i> | 128 |  | Isem Malti Pispisella tad-Dabra Isem Ingliz Dunlin Isem xjentifiku <i>Calidris alpina</i> |
| 124 |  | Isem Malti Pispisella Bumunqar Isem Ingliz Broad-billed Sandpiper Isem xjentifiku <i>Calidris falcinellus</i> | 129 |  | Isem Malti Pispisella tal-Baħar Isem Ingliz Purple Sandpiper Isem xjentifiku <i>Calidris maritima</i> |
| 125 |  | Isem Malti Pispisella Ħamra Isem Ingliz Curlew Sandpiper Isem xjentifiku <i>Calidris ferruginea</i> | 130 |  | Isem Malti Tertuxa Isem Ingliz Little Stint Isem xjentifiku <i>Calidris minuta</i> |

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

On the road to extinction!

The IUCN is a group of world experts on rare animals and plants. The IUCN says that many animals of the world are in danger of becoming extinct. The numbers show how many of them are in danger.



So, for example, there are 8200 species of amphibians in the world. 40% of that is 3280. So 3280 species of amphibians are in danger of extinction!



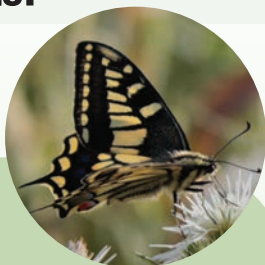
Butterflies as Pollinators



Butterflies are beautifully patterned creatures which play a vital role in our ecosystem as pollinators. As pollinators, they are naturally drawn to colourful flowers to obtain nectar with their long tongues. During this process, pollen grains get attached to their hairy bodies. As they visit other flowers of the same species some of this pollen rubs off and fertilizes the plant. Certain butterfly-pollinated flowers have highly unique features, such as strong fragrances that attract butterflies specifically.

Fun facts:

1.



Butterflies taste with their feet!

Unlike humans, butterflies have taste receptors on their feet instead of on their mouths. They use these receptors so they can sample potential food sources, such as leaves.

2.



Butterflies have transparent wings!

To most people's surprise, butterfly wings are actually clear! The vibrant colours and beautiful patterns we see on butterfly wings are caused by the way light reflects off the microscopic scales found on their wings.

3.



There are over 20,000 known species of butterflies!

There are plenty of different butterflies roaming around the world, all of which have different shapes, colours, and sizes.

4.



The smallest butterfly in the world is the Western Pygmy Blue Butterfly!

With a wingspan of just less than 2cm, these beautiful creatures can be found in alkaline environments such as deserts, salt marshes, and wastelands.

5.



The largest butterfly in the world is the Queen Alexandra's Birdwing!

These colourful butterflies can be found in the rainforests of Papua New Guinea. These astonishing creatures thrive in the lush, humid environment, where they can find their preferred food source. Unfortunately, due to deforestation, the Queen Alexandra's birdwing is now classified as an endangered species.

Bla fjuri imma mhux bla gost!

il-Koniferi

Il-koniferi huma siġar primittivi li evolwew tant ilu li n-natura kienet għadha ma "vvintatx" il-fjuri! Flok fjuri dawn is-siġar jagħmlu l-prinjoli (cones). Fil-Gżejjer Maltin jikbru erba' speċi ta' koniferi li aktarx kienu hawn qabel ma waslu n-nies f'Malta (hlief forsi wahda!).

il-Ġniepru



Phoenician juniper

Alex Casha

I-għarġhar



Araucaria

Victor Falzon

iċ-Ċipress



Italian cypress

Desirée Falzon

Iċ-Ċipress jista' jkun li dahhalha f'Malta l-bniedem ilu hafna.



iz-Żnuber



Aleppo pine

Victor Falzon

**Ghasfur ċkejken, qalbieni
 ghaddej itir
 wahdu
 madwaru bahar bla qies
 l-art ma tidher imkien
 kull fejn ihares sema u ilma
 imkien fejn jieqaf
 imkien fejn jistrieħ
 jgħum ma jafx, jekk imiss mal-baħar
 il-baħar jibilgħu
 b'dik il-qalb żghira ttaqtaq f'sidru
 itir u jtir u jtir
 b'għajnejh imsammrin fuq ix-xefaq...
 fejn hi l-art?
 fejn hi l-art?
 tghid jilhaq jasal
 qabel jegħja?**

**Dan huwa l-periklu li jsibu ma' wiċċhom
 miljuni ta' ghasafar li kull rebbiegħa u kull harifa
 jtiru minn art għal ohra u jaqsmu meded kbar ta' baħar.
 Dan huwa l-miraklu tal-passa.**

Ritratt ta' daqquqa tat-toppu meħud minn Ben Metzger 40km 'l barra mix-xtut ta' Malta



FADING STRIPES:

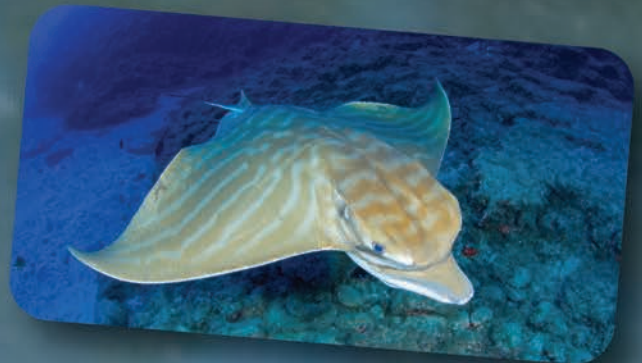
THE BULL RAYS' STRUGGLE AGAINST EXTINCTION



WHAT IS A BULL RAY?

The bull ray ('*għasfur*' in Maltese) is a type of eagle ray that is found from the Mediterranean all the way down to South Africa.

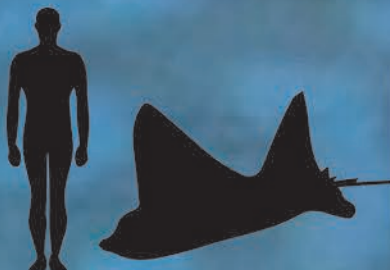
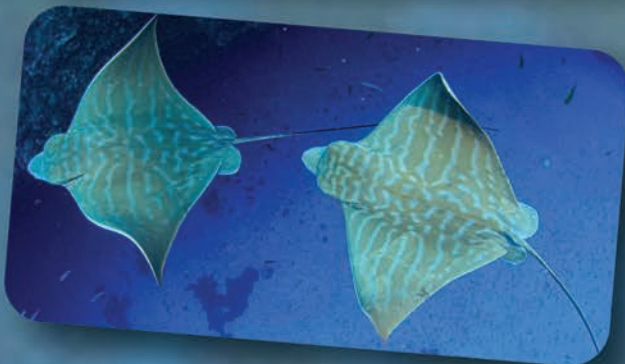
And the most surprising is that they are also found in Malta! Our islands are specifically very important for them, since their babies can sometimes be found here - and they are very rare to be found!



THE UNIQUE BLUE STRIPES

Like some other rays, they are social and have been found in groups of up to 25 at once. That's a lot of bull rays in once place, right?

However, unlike many other rays, the pattern on their back is their fingerprint - so you can tell which ray is which and where they may have been based on their beautiful blue stripes!



They can grow up to 2.5m wide and 3m long, making them true giants of shallow waters!

Hey, my name is Ghary and I love eating crabs and clams!



GHARY, THE BABY BULL RAY, WAS SPOTTED BY SHARKLAB-MALTA ON OUR SANDY BEACHES!

CAN YOU GUESS WHO IS WHO?

Scientists often turn their stripes into a black and white photo to identify their patterns better. Can you see the difference between the two bull rays below?



ARE THEY HERE TO STAY?

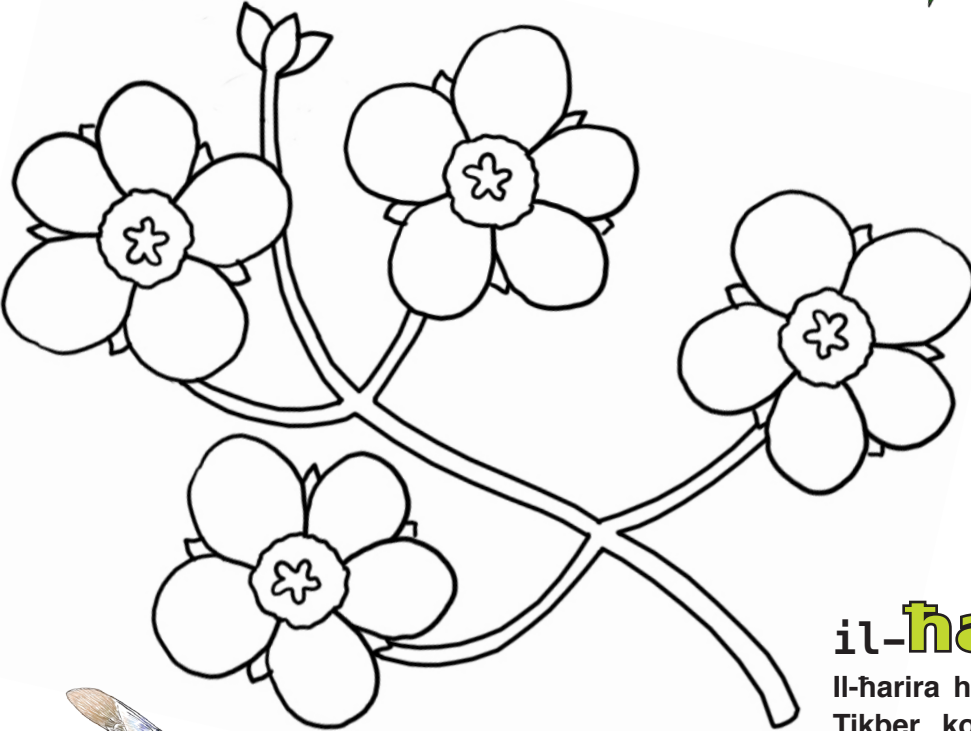
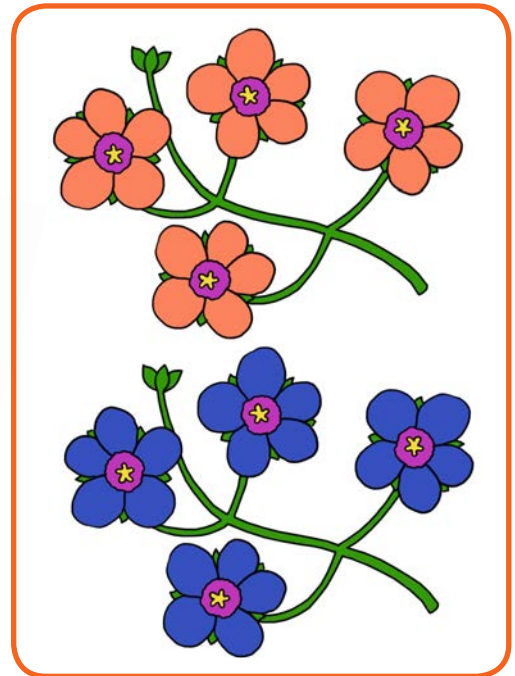
Bull rays are critically endangered, which means that if nothing changes, they will go extinct very soon. There aren't that many of these amazing creatures left, and they are mainly under threat from overfishing as they live in very shallow waters.

TO SAVE BULL RAYS, WE NEED TO FIGHT THREATS LIKE MOSTLY OVERFISHING, BUT ALSO CLIMATE CHANGE AND POLLUTION. WILL YOU HELP TO PROTECT THEM?

Agħti kulur...



Victor Falzon



il-ħarira

Il-ħarira hija pjanta baxxa ħafna bi fjuri żgħar. Tikber komuni mal-ġnub tar-raba', ġonna u kampanja. Il-fjuri tagħha jistgħu jkunu blu (tissejjaħ ħarira kaħla) jew lewn is-salamun (tissejjaħ ħarira ħamra).



Il-bomblu iswed (jew **nahla tal-qasab**) tarah daż-żmien idur mal-fjuri. Kapaċi jiftaħ il-fjuri tal-papoċċi u jidhol fihom għan-nektar!

Għadek m'intix membru fi Klabb Fluttaf?

- Tixtieq tidhol fil-Klabb?
- Tixtieq iġġedded?
- Tixtieq iddaħħal il-familja kollha?

Minn dal-QR code tista' tingeda kollox onlajn. GRAZZI!



Photo Gallery



Żabbella qiegħda tbid
Finn Ramos 7

Ibaghtulna r-ritratti li tiegħu tan-natura halli nġibuhom f'Il-Fluttafa.

victor.falzon@birdlifemalta.org

Tixtieq tagħti donazzjoni lil BirdLife Malta?

Il-BirdLife ikollha ħafna spejjeż biex tmexxi l-attivitajiet u biex taħdem għan-natura.

Minn dal-QR code tista' tagħmel donazzjoni onlajn. GRAZZI!



Fun Days! Club Days! Fun Days!



In Klabb Fluttaf we do lots of fun activities and adventures for you and your family. Check out our website for our next exciting activity!

www.birdlifemalta.org/events



Birding in my hometown

Michael Wilson



My name is Michael Wilson, I'm 12 and my hometown is Mellieha. I began birdwatching from my home in the spring of 2023. After I joined the Young Birders Club in autumn I grew more interested and I began visiting more areas around my village. Here I share with you some birding sightings around Mellieha and the birds I saw this spring.



Mellieha is the northernmost village in Malta. We are lucky to have quite a lot of natural areas and some stunning birding spots.

The village itself is home to lots of birds, and the buildings themselves provide good nesting places. Our parish church is home to a colony of **swifts** that scream around the village core in summer. **Collared doves** nest throughout the village wherever there are big trees. In places with cliffs or caves we also have **blue rock-thrush** breeding. In my garden I can hear resident birds like **Spanish sparrow** and **Sardinian warbler** chirping from the trees. They're nesting right now, so if you too have a garden do keep an eye out for them and their nests.

In March I started visiting Ċirkewwa with other birders to see waterbirds migrating through the Channel. I enjoyed watching large flocks of **garganeys** and **whimbrels** heading north to breed in Europe.

Ghadira nature reserve is not far from home and I often visit in the weekends or after school. During this spring migration I spotted **yellow wagtails**, **little egrets**, **wood sandpipers**, **little ringed plovers**, **black-winged stilts**, **purple herons**, **collared flycatchers** and **pieb flycatchers**. I was very happy to see an **avocet** that spent some days there during the Easter holidays but I missed two **spoonbills** that spent just a morning.

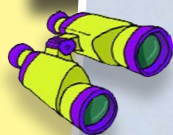
Close by is Foresta 2000 which has different bird species. This spring I saw **tree pipts**, **swallows**, **hoopoes** and a **goldcrest** there. There are also many breeding birds including both Sardinian warblers and **spectacled warblers**.

During this same season, L-Aħrax was also a hotspot for a variety of birds, including **wryneck**, **northern wheatear**, **blue rock-thrush**, **short-toed lark**, **common kestrel** and **western marsh-harrier**, many of them on their journey to northern Europe.

I'm really happy to be able to see so many birds around my hometown and I look forward to exploring more areas soon. I'm sure that close to your hometown too there are many places to see nature and birds. You should try them out!



A flock of **whimbrels** migrating across the Gozo Channel



A magnificent male **western marsh-harrier**



A **yellow wagtail** takes off from Ghadira nature reserve



A tiny **goldcrest** at Foresta 2000... and it's ringed!

Papocci

Desirée Falzon



Greater Snapdragon
Papocci Homor

Desirée Falzon



Sicilian Snapdragon
Papocci Bojod

Papocci means slippers, and it's the Maltese name for these two beautiful plants. They like to grow out of walls and roadsides in the countryside, and right now they're in full flower. Look closely at the flowers – don't they look just like the cozy winter slippers we wear at home? In English we call these plants **snappedragons**, and that's because the flowers look a bit like a dragon's head too, ready to snap at your finger! What lovely imagination, and what pretty flowers. And bumblebees just love them!



YES!

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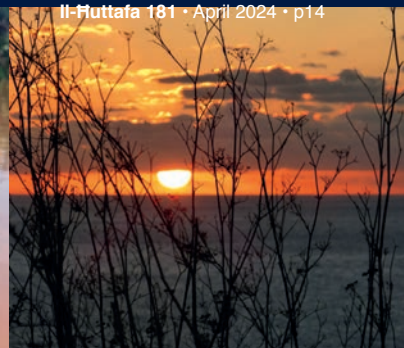
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Xi sbuhija ta' ritratti!

Kif ahna tfal? Tafu kemm inħobb ngħid jien s'issa. Ilsienu ma jiqafx imma llum ridt nagħti spazju għal xi tfal bħalkom li għamlu biċċa xogħol tal-ġenn!

Kif kont għidtilkom f'xi wieħed minn dawn l-artikli ta' kull xahar, il-BOV u Din l-Art Helwa organizzaw kompetizzjoni tal-fotografija għat-tfal. Ir-ritratti kellhom jittieħdu ġewwa l-Park tal-Majjistral u r-rebbieħa ngħataw ktieb u premju. Jien billi (ftit) defsa tkellemt mar-rebbieħa u dawn kienu l-kummenti tagħhom:

“Mhux biss din l-esperjenza għallmitni aktar dwar l-ekoloġija ġewwa l-Park tal-Majjistral imma edukatni dwar l-isfidi tal-klima u l-importanza li noħolqu stil ta' ħajja sostenibbli biex niproteġu l-ambjent.”

“Permezz tal-partecipazzjoni f'din il-kompetizzjoni jien skoprejt aktar il-Flora u l-Fawna fil-Park tal-Majjistral. Tgħallimt ukoll dwar l-importanza li niproteġu u nippreservaw l-ambjent ta' madwarna.”

“Din il-kompetizzjoni għinitni nirrealizza s-sbuhija fragli tan-natura u ispiratni biex nsahħah il-protezzjoni tagħha għall-ġenerazzjonijiet futuri.”

Bla kliem. Kemm huma bravi. U araw xi ġmiel ta' ritratti hađu!



Petitu
(l-għasfur tal-bejt)

il-Brimba tal-Fjuri



Il-brimb huwa differenti mill-insetti. L-insetti għandhom sitt saqajn mentri l-brimb għandu tmienja. Il-biċċa l-kbira tal-brimb għandu wkoll tmien għajnejn.



Il-brimb qiegħed fi grupp annimali jgħidulhom **araknidi**. L-iskorpjuni u l-busaqajn (*harvestmen*) huma l-kuġini tal-brimb.



F'Malta s'issa nafu b'mill-inqas 150+ speċi ta' brimb. Waħda minnhom hija l-**brimba tal-fjuri**



Il-brimb tal-fjuri huwa fi grupp ta' brimb li jissejŋu **crab spiders**. Dan għaliex iż-żewġ pari saqajn ta' quddiem huma twal u jzommuhom miftuħin, bħall-granċ.



Il-brimb tal-fjuri jissejjaħ hekk għax kważi dejjem fuq il-fjuri ssibu. Joqgħod hemm għax hemmhekk isib il-priża tiegħu.



Il-brimba tal-fjuri taqbad insetti li jinzlu fuq il-fjuri. Biex l-insetti ma jarawhiex, il-brimba tistaħba qalb jew taħt il-petali. Trikk ieħor hu li twaħħal żewġ petali flimkien bil-ħarir, u tistaħba taħt din it-"tinda".



Il-brimba tal-fjuri taqbad dubbien, naħal, ħanfus u friefet.



Il-brimba tal-fjuri tuża wkoll ftit kamouflaxx. Meta tkun fuq fjuri sofor spiss ikollha daharha **isfar** ukoll. Tista' tkun ukoll bajda, **orangjo**, **ħamra** u anke **sewda**.



Il-brimba tal-fjuri mhix perikoluża għalina.



Bl-Ingliż din il-brimba jgħidulha wkoll **Napoleon spider**. Dan għaliex id-disinn iswed li għandha fuq daharha jixbah il-kappell li kien iħobb jilbes **Napuljun Bonaparti!**



Minn insetti sa BALENI

Il-Mużew Nazzjonali tal-Istorja Naturali fl-Imdina huwa r-repożitorju nazzjonali tal-kollezzjoni bijoloġika, b'madwar miljun eżemplar ta' ħlejjaq li jvarjaw minn insetti sa għadam ta' baleni mill-ibhra tagħna. Il-mużew imqassam fi swali li jitttrattaw il-ġeoloġija u l-paleontoloġija tal-Gżejjer Maltin, sala bi ħlejjaq tal-baħar u swali oħrajn bi ħlejjaq diversi bħal għasafar, rettili u insetti kif ukoll l-origini tal-bniedem. Kull sala hija dedikata lil naturalist Malti li ta kontribut biex titqajjem kuxjenza dwar l-istorja naturali ta' pajjiżna.

