

il-**Ħ**uttafa

Numru **189**

Lulju – Awwissu 2025



**Budakkra
tal-Frenza**



Hehe, żgur taf tghum, sur Editor?

#bieb Huttaf...

Arżnell tat-tikek
(blotched picarel)
ihuf għal xi haġa
bnina qalb il-haxix
tal-baħar

Sa ftit snin ilu ma kont naf xejn fuq il-ħajja fil-baħar ta' madwarna. Nittawwal minn maskla tal-ghawm kont nara kollox żlieg ġħax bla nuċċali jien ma narax ċar. Ma stajt ingawdi dik id-dinja sabiħa taħt wiċċ l-ilma.

Kos, anke f' *Il-Huttafa* rari kont ingib dwar ħut u hekk, ġħax ma kienx sugġett li nifhem fih.

Darba xi ħadd qalli:
"Isma' Vic, il-maskla tista' tagħmilha l-ħgieg tal-vista, ta!"

Ma kinitx kelma! F'daqqa waħda nfethitli dinja ġdida quddiem: id-dinja tas-snorkelling!

Armajt maskla u pajp, u bdejt inżur il-baħar kull ċans li jkolli. Bdejt nara u nagħraf ħut differenti, nitgħallem id-drawwiet tagħhom, fejn iħobbu joqogħdu. Meta l-ħut tidrahom isiru qishom ġirien. Issir taf min jgħix hawn u min jgħix hemm: ċeren taħt il-blat, budakkri fit-toqob, imsell fil-wiċċ, ċawl u kahli fi gruppi, bollijiet mal-qiegh, skorfon imperreċ fuq xi xifer, eċċ.

Xtrajt kamera biex nieħu r-ritratti ħalli naqsamhom magħkom f' *Il-Huttafa*. Kull darba li mmur snorkelling inkun eċitat ġħax il-baħar sinjur u qatt ma taf x'ser tara. Hemm gzuz ta' speċi.

Inħegġigkom ħafna taqbdal-passatemp sabiħ, edukattiv u rħis. Issa kompli gawdu s-sajf u l-baħar, imma ftakru dejjem x'tgħidilkom paġna 16!

Victor

Victor Falzon
L-Editor

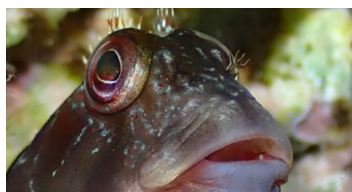
Bla maskla kollox żlieg...

Bil-maskla ħafna aħjaaaaaa!!!

Budakkra tal-Frenża

Molly Miller *Scartella cristata*

ħuta żghira u simpatika li tgħix fil-baxx ħafna. Il-gost tagħha toqghod f'toqba f'wiċċ il-blat tittawwal qisha mit-tieqa tad-dar tagħha, tosserva x'inhu jgħi madwarha u tkeċċi lil min jersqilha viċin wisq. Jekk titħajjar tagħmel snorkelling, din aktarx waħda mill-ewwel "ħbieb" li inti tagħmel!



Ritratt ta' Desirée Falzon



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Kitbu...

Desirée Falzon, Victor Falzon, Érica Moura, Michael Wilson

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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127 s'issa!



Mark-Anthony Falzon

F'**Il-Huttafa** li għaddiet konna habbarna tliet bejtiet tal-**fekruna tal-baħar** (loggerhead turtle *Caretta caretta*): waħda l-Ġnejna, waħda l-Mellieħa u waħda r-Ramla l-Ħamra f'Għawdex.

Minn dak iż-żmien 'l hawn il-bejtiet minn tlieta saru sitta, bit-tlieta l-ġodda lkoll fir-Ramla l-Ħamra. Dir-ramla kwiet, bla dwal u bla storbju qiegħda ideali għall-fkieren tal-baħar.

Żvilupp ieħor hu li l-bejtiet tal-Ġnejna, tal-Għadira u waħda minn tar-Ramla faqqsu. Mill-Ġnejna faqqsu **79** fkejrana, mill-Għadira **22** u mir-Ramla **26**.

Nawguraw suċċess lill-bqija tal-bejtiet, u prosi kbira lill-ħafna voluntiera għassa mal-bejtiet 24 siegħa kuljum.

Bil-lest!



Aron Tanti

It-tliet frieħ tal-**fras-servjenti** (black-winged stilt *Himantopus himantopus*) li faqqsu fir-riserva tal-Għadira das-sajf kibru u tgħallmu jtiru. Jafu jfendu għal rashom u jsibu l-ikel weħidhom, għalkemm ommhom xorta għadha magħhom.

Ftit tal-ġranet jew ġimghat oħra dawn l-għasafar żgħażaġh jagħmlu l-ewwel vjaġġ tagħhom – vjaġġ twil u perikoluż lejn l-Afrika Ċentrali. Ahna nawgurawhom mhux biss li jaslu qawwjin u shaħ, imma li s-sena d-dieħla jiġu jżuruna!

Ir-riserva naturali tal-Għadira hija l-uniku post f'Malta fejn il-fras-servjenti ibejjet b'suċċess.

+ Sentejn!



Victor Falzon

Sentejn ilu habbarna li r-**rizzi** (rock-urchin *Paracentrotus lividus*) saru protetti bil-liġi, u għal sentejn hadd ma seta' jiġborhom iktar. Dan għaliex ir-rizzi naqsu sew minn baħarna. Dil-liġi tagħtihom ċans jerggħu jżidu fin-numru.

Sadattant bdew jitrabbew rizzi żgħar fil-magħluq halli jintelqu biex ikomplu jkattru l-popolazzjoni.

Dawk is-sentejn issa għaddew u r-rizzi żdiedu, imma l-istudju wera li ma żdidux biżżejjed. Għalhekk il-liġi (jgħidulha moratorium) ggebbdet għal sentejn oħra, halli r-rizzi jkollhom iktar ċans jirkupraw.

Prosi! Issa hemm bżonn liġijiet bħal dawn għall-għasafar ukoll.

**Jekk tkunu qed issuqu
bil-lejl fil-kampanja, suqu
bil-mod biex jekk inkun
qed naqsam it-triq tarawni
fil-hin u ma ttajrunix.
Grazzi!**



Victor Falzon

Did-darba se nħarsu lejn rabta speċjali bejn sponża tal-baħar u granċ.

Granċ ... u Sponża

Eqdem mid-dinożawri

Meta ngħidu “animal” nimmaġinaw ħlejqa b’ras, ġisem u xi tip ta’ idejn jew saqajn u forsi denb. L-isponża tal-baħar m’għandha xejn minn dawn, imma hija xorta animal. Bħall-bqija tal-animalli l-isponož iridu jsibu l-ikel biex jikbru u jżommu ħajjin.

L-isponož huma animalli primittivi ħafna. Aktarx kienu uħud mill-ewwel animalli fid-dinja, ħafna qabel id-dinożawri.

L-isponož m’għandhomx forma partikolari imma jieħdu ħafna suriet differenti. Ħafna minnhom ikunu rotob u ma jiċċaqalqux mill-blata fejn ikunu kibru. B’hekk huwa faċli għall-predaturi li jigdmuhom. L-isponož jittieklul minn bugħarwien tal-baħar u xi ħut.

L-isponża tiekol billi ssoff l-ilma baħar mill-ħafna toqob li jkollha madwar ġisimha. L-ilma jkun mimli frak ta’ pjanti jew animalli, jew plankton.

Għaliex iġhidulhom sponož

L-isponož tal-baħar kienu l-ewwel sponož! L-isponża li ninħaslu biha illum hija ta’ materjal sintetiku. Imma qabel ġie vvintat dal-materjal in-nies kienu jużaw l-isponož tal-baħar, u mhux għall-ħasil biss. Dawn kienu jingabru minn għaddasa minn qiegħ il-baħar, jitnixxfu, jitnaddfu u jinbieghu! Illum dan ix-xogħol kważi spiċċa.



Bughaddas Grieg qed isensel ringiela sponož naturali li tella’ minn qiegħ il-baħar halli jinxfu fix-xemx.

Granċ barbier!

Il-granċ tal-isponża għandu relazzjoni speċjali mal-isponož. Dal-granċ għandu ħaġa differenti mill-bqija tal-granċijiet. Bħal granċijiet oħrajn għandu ħames pari saqajn. Il-par ta’ quddiem fihom it-tnalji (*pincers*) li jużahom biex jaqbad l-ikel u jiddefendi lilu nnifsu. Tnejn mill-erba’ pari l-oħrajn jużahom biex jimxi, u ż-żewġ pari ta’ wara jkun u ċatti u mdawrin għal fuq dahru. Għax bihom ikun qed iżomm sponża fuq dahru!

Dan il-granċ jagħzel sponża, iqatta’ biċċa minnha, ipoggiha fuq dahru u bis-saqajn speċjali jqasqas it-truf qisu barbier qed jittrimjalu xagħru! Fuq dahar il-granċ l-isponża sservi ta’ kamuflaxx għax tghattih: meta jkun wieqaf il-granċ ma tagħrfux mill-bqija tal-blat u l-isponož tal-madwar. U b’hekk predaturi bħall-qarnita jew ħut ma jattakkawhx għax ma jarawhx mistoħbi taħt l-isponża.

Dan il-granċ huwa l-ispeċi *Dromia personata*



Il-lajls x’int brava!



Żewġ sponož mill-baħar baxx madwar xtutna.



Desirée Falzon

U l-isponża x’tiehu?

Il-granċ jiddefendi l-isponża “tiegħu” mill-predaturi – dawk it-tnalji ma tiċċajtax magħhom! Fl-istess ħin, fdalijiet mill-ikel li jiekol il-granċ jiċċirkolaw fl-ilma li jidhul fl-isponża u hi tiffiltra u tiekol ukoll.

B’hekk it-tnejn jieħdu xi ħaġa minn xulxin. Kull qalb triid oħra!

¹plankton. Pjanti u animalli mikroskopiċi li jmorru fejn johodhom il-kurrent

L-Ghasafar KOLLHA ta' Malta

F'Malta s'issa dehru **408 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 iġibu l-lista kollha: dawn huma numri **201** sa **210**.

- | | | | |
|-----|--|-----|--|
| 201 |  <p>Isem Malti
Bagħdan Abjad
Isem Inġliż
Pallid Harrier
Isem xjentifiku
<i>Circus macrourus</i></p> | 206 |  <p>Isem Malti
Astun Aħmar
Isem Inġliż
Red Kite
Isem xjentifiku
<i>Milvus milvus</i></p> |
| 202 |  <p>Isem Malti
Bagħdan Griż
Isem Inġliż
Montagu's Harrier
Isem xjentifiku
<i>Circus pygargus</i></p> | 207 |  <p>Isem Malti
Astun Iswed
Isem Inġliż
Black Kite
Isem xjentifiku
<i>Milvus migrans</i></p> |
| 203 |  <p>Isem Malti
Sparvier tal-Lvant
Isem Inġliż
Levant Sparrowhawk
Isem xjentifiku
<i>Accipiter brevipes</i></p> | 208 |  <p>Isem Malti
Kuċċarda tal-Kalzetti
Isem Inġliż
Rough-legged Buzzard
Isem xjentifiku
<i>Buteo lagopus</i></p> |
| 204 |  <p>Isem Malti
Sparvier
Isem Inġliż
Eurasian Sparrowhawk
Isem xjentifiku
<i>Accipiter nisus</i></p> | 209 |  <p>Isem Malti
Kuċċarda Prima
Isem Inġliż
Eurasian Buzzard
Isem xjentifiku
<i>Buteo buteo</i></p> |
| 205 |  <p>Isem Malti
Ajkla tal-Baħar
Isem Inġliż
White-tailed Sea-eagle
Isem xjentifiku
<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i></p> | 210 |  <p>Isem Malti
Kuċċarda Hamra
Isem Inġliż
Long-legged Buzzard
Isem xjentifiku
<i>Buteo rufinus</i></p> |

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-Inġliż u xjentifiċi huma dawk li tuża BirdLife International (www.birdlife.org)

Ahbarijiet sbieh mid-dinja?



**Iktar
baħar protett**

 **Il-Portugall** għadu kemm iddikjara *Marine Protected Area* f'medda baħar ta' 98,000km² (ikbar mill-Portugall innifsu) fl-inħawi ta' Gorringe Ridge, fejn hemm vulkani f'qiegħ l-Oċean Atlantiku. Hawn tghix varjetà kbira ta' hajja (mill-inqas 850 speċi), fosthom qroll u foresti ta' kelp. B'hekk il-Portugall issa għandhom 27% ta' baħarhom protett.



**Ċaw ċaw
dolfinarja!**

 **Il-Messiku** habbar li mhux se joħroġ iktar permessi biex jinqabdu jew jitrabaw iktar dniefel għal skop ta' spetaklu. Fi kliem iehor ftit ftit id-dolfinarja kollha fil-Messiku se jkollhom jagħlqu. Bħall-animali fiċ-ċirku, id-dniefel posthom fil-beraħ, mhux maqfulin biex in-nies iħallu halli jarawhom jagħmlu triks stupidi.



**Inqas
karożzi, iktar sigar**

 Pariġi, il-belt kapitali ta' **Franza**, trid tnaqqas l-użu ta' karożzi privati. B'hekk jonqsu dhaħen, tpaqqiq, periklu u *traffic jams*, u l-parkeġġi qed jibdluhom f'għonna. In-nies qed jiġu mħajra jużaw it-trasport publiku fil-belt. Digà hemm 300 triq li huma *car-free*. Issa r-residenti vvutaw biex jingħalqu 500 triq oħra għall-vetturi. Oh la la!

FROM WRECKS TO HOMES: THE ARTIFICIAL REEFS OF MALTA



Wrecks That Bring Life

When ships, planes, or submarines sink, they can become artificial reefs! These wrecks turn into underwater homes for fish, crabs, and even tiny algae. If placed carefully and made of safe materials, they can become some of the liveliest spots in the sea.



The Brave Ship ORP Kujawiak

In June 1942, a convoy left Gibraltar for Malta during World War II, carrying supplies as part of Operation Harpoon. Attacked right away by Italian forces, several ships were lost, but the Polish destroyer ORP Kujawiak fought bravely, shooting down four enemy planes! The next day, as the convoy neared Valletta, a ship struck a mine. ORP Kujawiak rushed to help but hit a mine too and sank. In 2014, its wreck was found 97 meters deep, the front, with its big twin guns, still in good shape, though the back was badly damaged.



The Skyraider Splashdown

Just off the coast of Birżebbuġa, there's a sunken plane called the Douglas A-1 Skyraider. Back in 1947, it was delivering mail, but during one flight, its engine failed completely! The pilot managed to glide it into the sea at high speed. The plane floated for about a minute, just long enough for the pilot to hop into a dinghy and escape. He was rescued by a helicopter, making this the first helicopter rescue ever recorded in the Mediterranean!

Why Artificial Reefs Matter

Artificial reefs, like sunken ships or special underwater structures, are like fun parks for sea life! They give fish and other creatures food, shelter, and a safe place to live, especially where natural reefs are gone. These reefs make the ocean more colourful and exciting, help fishing communities, attract divers, and even protect coastlines. One creature's wreck really can be another's treasure!

Want to dive deeper into the world of artificial reefs?

Come explore the Malta National Aquarium! Discover how sunken ships become underwater homes, meet the sea creatures that live there, and learn how reefs help protect ocean life!



Girja għall- baħar!

Tajjeb tajjeb,
tistghu tnizzluni!

Yayy, fl-ahhar!
Tlaqna!

X'jahraq
ir-rame!

Ftit iehor,
ftit iehor!

Tim ta' nies dedikati jiehdu hsieb
dawn l-annimali, kultant għal
diversi xhur, u jagħmlu mill-aħjar
biex l-annimal jerġa' jiehu saħħtu.

Daqt wasalna...

Aaaa fl-ahhar...
il-baħar!

Jekk l-annimal ifiq,
jasal fl-ahhar il-
mument tant mistenni
meta l-annimal
jinheles lura fin-
natura. Dawn ir-ritratti
juru wieħed minn
dawk il-mument.

Din il-fekruna (loggerhead turtle
Caretta caretta) inhelset fir-Ramla
tal-Mixquqa fit-30 Ġunju 2025

Čaw hbieb u grazzi!
Forsi narakom is-
sena d-diehla!

Yahoooo!

Prosit guys!
Excellent work!
Keep it up!

Ritratti ta' Aron Tanti

Paletta

Eurasian Spoonbill

Platalea leucorodia





XAMMRU L-KMIEM

Gheżież tfal Kif intom? Nispera li tajbin! Jien dis-sħana ghejjetni ftit – b'igri tasal il-ħarifa issa! Illum xtaqt naqsam magħkom idea li gietni dan l-aħħar.

Kif tafu jien inħobb indur u intir ma' Malta u Ghawdex kollha. Dal-aħħar vera qed ninnota ħafna skart fuq il-bajjiet u madwar il-kosta tal-gżejjer tagħna. Għandkom mnejn tghidu li ftit skart ma jagħmilx differenza imma għaliya u shabi l-annimali vera jagħmlilna ħsara. Nistgħu ninqabdu fih, nikluh bi żball u anke jeqred id-djar tagħna!

Tghiduli biex ħiereg? Mela l-idea hija din. Id-darba li jmiss li tmorru tghumu jew xi picnic ħarsu madwarkom. Jekk taraw xi skart, anke jekk mhux tagħkom iġbruh u armuh fejn suppost. Importanti li tużaw l-ingwanti jew saqsu lil xi adult jghinkom. B'hekk mhux biss tghinu li l-Malta u Ghawdex ikunu aktar nodfa imma tkunu qed tghinu lili, lil shabi l-għasafar u l-ħut!

Immaginaw dinja fejn kull tifel u tifla jigbru biċċa waħda ta' skart. Taf x'differenza tagħmlu! U hekk ngħinu li jkollna ambjent aħjar.

Grazzi ħafna tfal! U nispera li narakom tigbru meta nkun qed intir!😊

Petitu

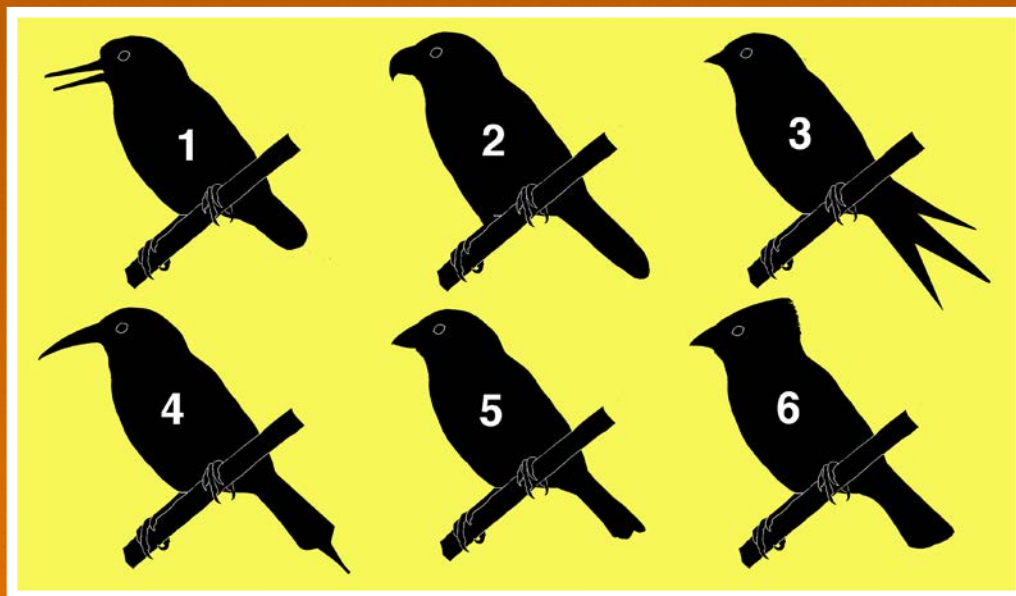
(l-għasfur tal-bejt)



Which one's the sparrow?

It's not easy to recognise a bird when you see it in silhouette (with the light behind it). Here are six birds. One of them is a sparrow, the others I made up from different birds! So which one's the sparrow?

Answer on page 13



Victor Falzon

Zebra crossing in the Serengeti



Send us your nature drawings so we can publish them here!

victor.falzon@birdlifemalta.org



Malvizz

Daniel Martinez 6

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!



Għadek m'intix membru fi Klabb Ħuttaf?

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

Minn dal-QR code tista' tingħada kolloxx onlajn. GRAZZI!



n Days! Club Days! Fun Day Clu



In Klabb Ħuttaf 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



We remember you from Il-Huttafa 181



Hi! I'm **Michael Wilson**, a young birder from Mellieħa. I'd like to tell you about...

The screaming fliers of Mellieħa

Since the spring of 2009 – not by coincidence in the same year that a spring hunting season was not opened for the first time in Malta – common swifts have been returning to the Mellieħa parish church to nest. They nest in cracks and crevices high up on the back and sides of the church. Swifts return to the place they hatch in to nest themselves, so over the years this colony has grown.

When on migration, you usually see swifts flying high and speeding north, so when I see them screaming low around the church I know *these* are the breeding ones.

This spring, the breeders arrived in mid-April in numbers of around 30 individuals but only around eight nests were built. The higher number of birds is because swifts do not mature until they are two years old, and some wait until their fourth year to breed. These are called prospectors, or bangers, and they still visit the colonies.

In the span of the breeding season, which takes about 70 days, up to three eggs are laid and incubated for around 25 days. When the chicks hatch, the parents start bringing them food. They catch flying insects with their wide mouth and return to the nest to feed the chicks this ball of hundreds of tightly packed insects called a bolus.

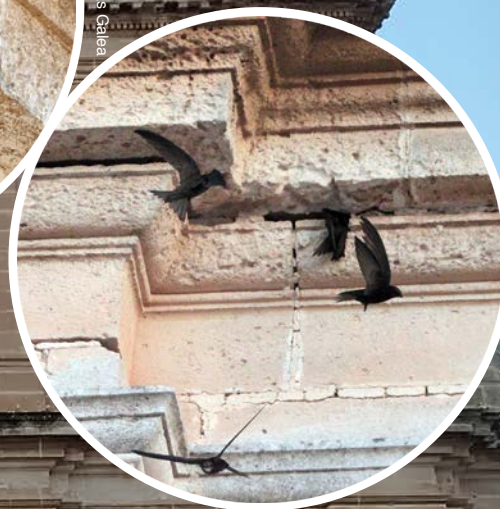
Once most chicks fledge and leave the nest, the number of birds flying around the colony now almost doubles.

The swifts remain here for a few more weeks, then migrate. All through winter they will stay on the wing without ever touching land until they return to nest again next year. Amazing!

I feel really privileged to enjoy swifts so close, and to know that the only time these particular birds land it's on our own parish church! I am already looking forward to their return.

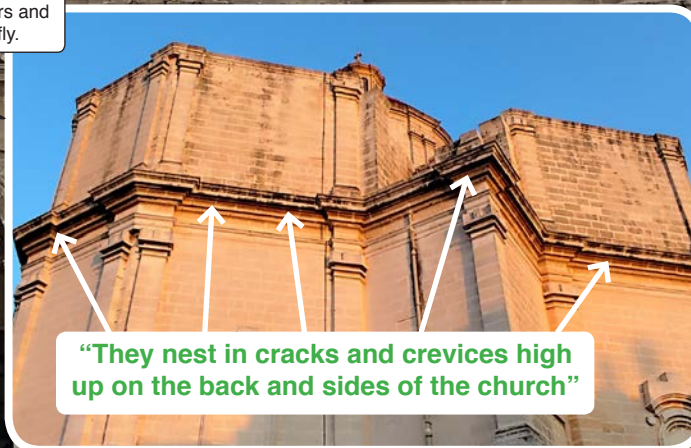


Nicholas Galea



Michael Wilson

To **fledge** means to grow feathers and learn to fly.



"They nest in cracks and crevices high up on the back and sides of the church"

Michael Wilson

Do YOU have swifts breeding in your village?

Għaliex jgħidulu **qattus**?

Ma tridx tkun ġenju biex tifhem għaliex din il-kokka jisimha hekk. Biżżejjed ikollok għajnejn f'wiċċek, anzi aħna biex inkomplu nġinukom ġibnielkom ritratt kemm tagħha kif ukoll ta' pejxu proprju.

Kif taraw, din il-kokka mhux biss għandna wiċċha tond u par għajnejn kbar iħarsu 'l quddiem, imma għandna wkoll il-widnejn. X'jonqos, li tagħmel *mjaww*?

Biex niftiehm, dawk il-“widnejn” mhuma widnejn xejn imma żewġ troffiet rix li l-kokka tqajjimhom meta tinħasad jew tkun eċitata. Il-vera widnejn tal-kokka jkunu moħbijin qalb ir-rix, u tisma' tajjeb ħafna bihom.

Din il-ġmiel ta' kokka hija **n-northern long-eared owl**, (*Asio otus*). F'Malta mhix komuni,

jidhru xi waħdiet, is-soltu fil-passa tal-ħarifa. Ġeneralment ma jiqfux hawn, għax Malta m'għandniex il-foresti li thobb.

Intom il-bnedmin thobbu xxebbhu annimali magħna l-qtates. Minbarra l-kokka, hemm serp li ssejhulu **qattus** għax għajnejh qishom tagħna – anke bl-Ingliż jismu **cat snake**. Hemm ukoll ħuta jisimha **qattus il-baħar**; tgħidulha wkoll **gattarell**, li ġejja minn *gatto* qattus bit-Taljan; anke bl-Ingliż jisimha **small-spotted catshark**. Hemm ukoll il-**catfish**, razza ta' hut tax-xmajjar li semmejtuhom hekk għax għandhom il-“mustaċċi”. Anke pjanti semmejtuhom għalina, pereżempju **mustaċċ il-qattus**, ħaxixa komuni magħrufa aħjar bħala denb il-fenek. Barra minn Malta jikber tip ta' safsaf tgħidulhom **pussy willows** għax il-blanzuni qishom qtates żgħar peress li jkunu miksijin b'fer fin.

U min jaf kemm hemm oħrajn!



Jekk tiftakru dehret ftit xhur ilu fil-Lista tal-Għasafar Kollha f'Il-Fluttafa 187.



Exploring Natura 2000 sites in Gozo & Comino

Natura 2000 sites aren't only found in Malta — there are several in Gozo too! Even the small island of Comino is a Natura 2000 site.

These sites are full of natural beauty and are home to unique plants and animals, some of which can't be found anywhere else in the world.

Here are **four Natura 2000 sites** found in the **northern part** of the Maltese Islands:



L-Inħawi tax-Xlendi u tal-Wied tal-Kantra u l-irdumijiet ta' Għawdex: id-Dawra tas-Sanap sa tal-Ħajt

This Natura 2000 site includes a valley, high cliffs, and wide rocky areas. The valley is special because it has one of the few freshwater streams in the Maltese Islands that flows all year round.

The cliffs are very important for seabirds, as many of them build their nests there. There are also hidden sea caves along the coast, which give shelter to many different animals.



Kemmuna u l-Gżejjer ta' madwarha

This Natura 2000 site is found between Malta and Gozo. It includes the island of Comino and nearby islets like Kemmunett, il-Ħagriet ta' bejn il-Kmiemen, and l-Iskoll ta' Taht il-Mazz.

Comino is famous for its clear waters and beautiful beaches. The most popular beach is the Blue Lagoon, which attracts many visitors every year. The terrestrial areas, along with the surrounding marine environment, are crucial for supporting plant and animal species.

l-Ċittadella

Found in the centre of Victoria, Gozo's capital city, this site is important for both its history and culture. It is best known for its old stone fortifications and beautiful views of the island.

But did you know that it's also home to a rare flowering plant? The Maltese Toadflax (*Linaria pseudolaxiflora*) grows between the ancient stone walls and paths of this ancient city.

L-Inħawi tad-Dwejra u tal-Qawra, inkluż Ħagret il-Ġeneral

This beautiful Natura 2000 site includes coastal cliffs, valleys, and even a freshwater pool. Dwejra was once home to the famous Azure Window.

Even though the window is no longer there, the area is still full of natural beauty. If you look closely, you might spot rare plants like the Maltese Everlasting, which only grows in the Maltese Islands, specifically in Gozo.



Scan this QR Code to discover more
about Natura 2000 in Malta

Brimba qabbieža tal-ispeċi *Hasarius adansoni*



L-annimali u l-pjanti spiss naghtukom l-isem xjentifiku tagħhom halli tkunu tistghu tiggugiljawhom biex titghallmu iktar dwarhom.

Bl-isem bil-Malti biss ma tantx ha taslu bl-Internet!

il-Brimba Qabbieža

Victor Falzon

 Il-brimb mhumie x in-setti. Fost differenzi oħrajn, għandhom ġisimhom maqsum f'żewġ partijiet, għandhom tmien saqajn u m'għandhomx ġwienaf.

 F'Malta hawn xi 150 speċi ta' brimb, imqassmin f'xi 30 grupp (familji). Fost dawn hemm il-familja tal-brimb qabbiež (*jumping spiders*).

 Il-familja tal-brimb qabbiež hija waħda mill-ikbar familji ta' brimb f'Malta. Tgħodd xi 20 speċi f'Malta, inkluż waħda endemika.

 Il-brimb qabbiež jgħidulu hekk għax dawn jaqbd u l-priża billi jersqu lejha bil-mod u fl-aħħar jaqbz u għal fuqha.

 Bħall-brimb kollu, il-brimb qabbiež jipproduċi l-ħarir imma ma jinsigħ għanqbut, għax il-priża ma jaqbadhiex fin-nassa imma jikkaċċjaha.

 Bħal ħafna brimb, il-brimb qabbiež għandu tmien għajnejn imqassmin mad-dawra ta' rasu.

 Il-brimb qabbiež għandu vista tajba ħafna meta mqabbel ma' brimb ieħor. Par minnhom kbar sew u jħarsu 'l quddiem (ara r-ritratti). Il-vista tgħin lill-brimba tqis id-distanza tal-priża biex mal-qabża taqbadha żgur.

 Xi brimb qabbiež juża saqajh mhux biss biex jimxi u jaqbež, imma wkoll biex jagħmel sinjali bihom u jikkomunika ma' brimb ieħor tar-razza tiegħu, speċjalment l-irġiel lin-nisa.

 F'ħafna brimb in-nisa jkunu ikbar sew mill-irġiel. Fil-brimb qabbiež m'hemmx differenza kbira fid-daqs imma spiss ikun hemm differenza fil-kulur. Dan jgħin biex tagħrafhom minn xulxin.

Brimba qabbieža raġel qed jipprova jfiehmed brimba mara biex ma taqbiżx fuqu u tieklu!



Il-baħar id-dar tagħhom.

(mhux il-landa taż-żibel tagħna)

