



Annual Report 2012

In accordance with the provisions of the Cultural Heritage Act 2002, the Board of Directors of Heritage Malta herewith submits the Annual Report and Accounts for the calendar year 2012.



Table of Contents

HM Mission Statement

Chairman's Statement

Board of Directors and Management Team

Human Resources Update

Capital, Rehabilitation, and Maintenance Works

Interpretation, Events, and Exhibitions

Research, Conservation, and Collections

HM Conservation Division

The Institute for Conservation and Management of Cultural Heritage

Appendices

I List of Acquisitions

II HM Calendar of Events: 1 January – 31 December

III Visitor Statistics

IV HM Consolidated Financial Statements



List of Abbreviations

AFM	Armed Forces of Malta
CMS	Collections Management System
EAFRD	European Agricultural Funds for Regional Development
ERDF	European Regional Development Funds
ESF	European Social Fund
EU	European Union
GHRC	Grand Harbour Regeneration Corporation
HM	Heritage Malta
ICMCH	Institute of Conservation and Management of Cultural Heritage, Bighi
KNPD	Kummissjoni Nazzjonali Persuni d'Diżabilità
MCAST	Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology
MCCA	Malta Council for Culture and the Arts
MCESD	Malta Council for Economic and Social Development
MEPA Malta	Environment and Planning Authority
MGOZ	Ministry for Gozo
MITC	Ministry for Infrastructure, Transport and Communications
MMM	Malta Maritime Museum, Vittoriosa
MRRA	Ministry for Resources and Rural Affairs
MTA	Malta Tourism Authority
MTCE	Ministry for Tourism, Culture and the Environment
NLM	National Library of Malta, Valletta
NMA	National Museum of Archaeology, Valletta
NMFA	National Museum of Fine Arts, Valletta
NMNH	National Museum of Natural History, Mdina
NWM	National War Museum, Valletta
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
PPCD	Planning and Priorities Coordination Department, OPM
SCH	Superintendence of Cultural Heritage, Malta
SPC	St Paul's Catacombs, Rabat
SCCMT	Scientific Committee for the Conservation of the Megalithic Temples
UCL	University College of London
UOM	University of Malta

Unless otherwise stated, all dates refer to the period under review: 1 January – 31 December 2012.



Mission Statement

The mission of Heritage Malta is to safeguard and render accessible the cultural heritage entrusted to it, thus contributing towards a better appreciation of Malta's cultural identity. While conserving and managing the cultural assets in its responsibility in a sustainable manner, Heritage Malta is committed to provide physical and intellectual access to all, and to improve the experience of all visitors in all its sites and museums.



Chairman's Statement

During the year under review the Agency continued to focus on its internal structures, systems and processes with a view to maximising the financial, technical and human resources at its disposal. As a national agency it needs to remain in a position to face and manage all challenges while availing itself of opportunities as and when these arise.

We continued with our mission of conserving the forty museums and sites within our portfolio, together with all their related collections, while also rendering them accessible to the general public. This was achieved through a long and varied list of events, including lectures, exhibitions, heritage trails, educational programmes, seminars, publications, interpretation facilities and media coverage. The staging of a number of Open Days at various museums and sites also complemented these initiatives. Foremost were those organised at Fort St Angelo and at our Head Office, Bighi. Both were a resounding success. Paying visitors in 2012 reached 1,038,738 (2011: 1,039,944) while non-paying visitors amounted to 87,020 (2011: 81,314).

The National Collection was enhanced by the acquisition of numerous objects, among which paintings by Giuseppe Cali, Victor Pasmore, Henry Mayo Bateman and an extensive collection of Lepidoptera from South America. Over 4,000 items were also catalogued. Our Conservation Departments worked on the restoration of hundreds of artefacts from the National Collection, including paintings from San Anton Palace, works by Mattia Preti, and ongoing work on photographic glass plates from the Fototeka. We are also closely involved in the Palace Regeneration Project by restoring a number of paintings of the National Collection currently displayed in The Palace. We produced a number of specific education programmes, and organised activities including hands-on sessions, drama representations and treasure hunts for school children, *Skolasajf* as well as for holders of the Culture Card.

The following major strategic EU co-funded projects were also taken in hand. These included:

- The ERDF 032 Archaeological Heritage Conservation Project (c. €9.5m) which includes the building of visitor infrastructure at Ggantija Temples, St Paul's Catacombs, and Tarxien Temples;
- The ERDF 245 Fort St Angelo Heritage Experience (c. €13m), which includes the rehabilitation of the Fort by converting it into a cultural attraction focusing on its importance in Malta's history;
- The ERDF 244 Fort St Elmo Heritage Experience (c. €15m, in partnership with GHRC), which includes the hosting of the current National War Museum and its transformation into a Military History Museum;
- The EAFRD M323/12 (c. €6m), includes the rehabilitation of the Ghajn Tuffieha Roman Baths and Ta' Bistra Catacombs.
- The EEA (Norwegian Funds) Financial Mechanism 2009-14 (c. €900,000) New Environmental Management System for the Hal Saflieni Hypogeum.

The transfer of the National Museum of Fine Arts to the Auberge d'Italie was also another major project which we took in hand. Extensive structural works were carried out at the Museum, while our offices and staff have already been relocated to the Auberge.

Other works included among others, the completion of refurbishment of the Phoenician Hall at the National Museum of Archaeology and commencement of similar works in respect of the Roman, Byzantine and Medieval Halls. Extensive reconstruction works on Ta' Kola Windmill are in full swing and set for completion by 2013. Extensive works were also carried out at the Inquisitor's Palace and the Malta Maritime Museum.

The exhibitions on '*Peasant Costumes*' and '*Giovanni Pietro Francesco Agius De Soldanis*' were veritable research projects that shed new light on the respective subjects, which were also supported by quality publications. A comprehensive study and catalogue was also published for the exhibition on Henry Mayo Bateman. Heritage Malta also actively participated in the exhibition '*This is Malta*' held at Harrods in London and in the exhibition '*Nine Centuries of Serving Faith and Charity*', held at the Kremlin, which featured important works of art of the Order of St John, and which in turn subsequently also featured in the exhibition '*Around the Maltese Cross*' in Warsaw. We also took part in a number of commemorative events on the 70th anniversary of the *Santa Marija Convoy* and the granting of the George Cross to Malta, apart from preparing all requirements for the setting up of a first-ever exhibition on Maltese prehistory in New York in 2013.

Apart from seeking to provide a relatively detailed account of the year's initiatives, this Report is also intended to highlight those areas which have been given and/or call for special attention. In this regard the *Status Report on Museums & Sites* compiled in November 2008 still provides a useful guide.

Preparations are underway for the celebration of the Agency's tenth anniversary in 2013. These will include a number of events the highlight of which will be a major international exhibition to celebrate the 400th anniversary from Mattia Preti's birth. Besides the masterpieces found in Malta, the exhibition will also include works of the celebrated artist from leading European museums.

When comparing the needs of all the museums and sites to the relatively limited resources that Heritage Malta has at its disposal, one wonders how so much is achieved. This really is only due to the dedication of many of the Agency's staff members who look upon their job as a vocation rather than as a mere source of income. There is no doubt that much of what is achieved by the Agency is due to the commitment and professional approach of such staff members.

The keen interest and consistent involvement of fellow directors has been a major help in providing the guidance and leadership that is expected of a board of directors. Perhaps one major achievement has been that of reducing the Agency's reliance on Government subvention, as alternative sources of revenue were created while also sensibly containing costs.

Thankfully Malta and Gozo have been endowed with heritage assets that are disproportionately higher than those found in other countries. While this is a blessing in itself, it places significant responsibilities on the country in general and Heritage Malta in particular. It is however reassuring to note that, supported by Government's commitment to the sector, Heritage Malta has the wherewithal to fulfil its mission of curating, conserving and rendering accessible the museums and sites under its charge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Said', with a small flourish at the end.

Joseph Said



HM Board of Directors (as at 31 December 2012)

Joseph Said, Chairman

Isabelle Vella, Deputy Chairman

Leonard Callus

Norma Camilleri

JoAnn Cassar

John Cremona

David Felice

Joseph Galea Debono

Martin Mercieca





HM Management Team (as at 31 December 2012)

Joseph Scerri, Chief Executive Officer

Senior Management

Kenneth Gambin – Chief Officer Curatorial & Quality Assurance

Joseph Schirò – Head Conservation

David Zahra – Head Projects

Noel Zammit – Head IT & Knowledge Management

Management Team

Kevin Abela – Manager ERDF Project 032

Ruben Abela – Manager Projects

Claire Baluci – Manager Diagnostic Science Laboratories

Ivan Barbara – Manager Estate & Security

Pierre Bonello – Senior Executive Exhibitions & Design

John Borg – Senior Curator Natural History

Louis Borg – Manager Visitor Services

Olivianne Briffa – Manager Finance

Alexander Debono – Senior Curator Arts & Palaces

Suzannah Depasquale – Senior Curator Phoenician, Roman, & Medieval Sites

Katya Stroud – Senior Curator Prehistoric Sites

Emmanuel Magro Conti – Senior Curator Modern, Maritime & Military History

Russell Muscat – Manager Marketing & Communications

Nicoline Sagona – Manager Gozo Museums & Sites

Ninette Sammut – Manager Education Programmes

Alan Sant – Manager Human Resources

Sharon Sultana – Senior Curator National Museum of Archaeology

Martin Spiteri – Collections Manager

Ray Spiteri – Senior Conservator

Godwin Vella – Senior Curator Ethnography



Human Resources Update

ENGAGEMENTS

Surname	Name	Grade	Employment date	Remarks
Busuttil	Christopher	Archaeologist Assistant	28/05/2012	EU Project
Fontanelli	Francesco	Archaeologist Site Supervisor	08/10/2012	EU Project
Scerri	Joseph G	CEO	22/01/2012	
Aquilina	Josef	Conservator	03/12/2012	
Baldacchino	Nick	Coordinator	22/08/2012	
Collins	Glenn	Coordinator	05/12/2012	Back to Back Basis
Gauci	Carmel	General Hand	05/01/2012	Detailing
Mifsud	Aaron	Quantity Surveyor	05/11/2012	EU Project
Grech	Jeanette	Research Officer	07/05/2012	EU Project
Cassar	Paul	Senior Clerk	25/06/2012	
Spiteri	Mark Anthony	Senior Clerk	02/07/2012	
Sammut	Janice	Senior Clerk	23/07/2012	Detailing
Farrugia	Tara Marie	Senior Clerk	17/12/2012	Detailing
Gatt	David	Technician	01/10/2012	

TERMINATIONS

Surname	Name	Grade	Termination date	Remarks
Mifsud	Frank	CEO	14/02/2012	Retired
Gatt	Erika	Conservator	30/10/2012	Resigned
Mamo	Michael	Coordinator	10/10/2012	Resigned
Agius	Thomas	Coordinator	15/03/2012	Resigned
Zerafa	Carmel	Coordinator	07/12/2012	Resigned
England	Jacqueline	Executive	15/07/2012	Retired
Farrugia	Emanuel	Senior Clerk	11/04/2012	Retired
Grech	Mario	Senior Clerk	28/07/2012	Retired
Zammit	Bernard	Skilled Tradesman	13/02/2012	Retired
Farrugia	Damian	Watchman	17/03/2012	Retired
Mangion	Joseph	Watchman	21/08/2012	Retired

TRANSFERS

Surname	Name	Grade	Termination date	Remarks
Abela	Vincent	Assistant Conservator	14/02/2012	Transfer to Govt Department
Formosa	Michael	Conservator	29/06/2012	Transfer to Govt Department
Grixti	Francis	Skilled Tradesman	17/06/2012	Transfer to Govt Department



Grundtvig Project

Staff from the Phoenician, Roman and Medieval Sites Department worked on the submission of a Grundtvig project entitled '*Inclusive Archaeology and Cultural Heritage: Volunteering opportunities for senior citizens*', in collaboration with the University of Sussex. The project grant-funding request was accepted and the project was implemented during the course of this year. This project gave the opportunity to six Maltese senior citizens to receive training and to participate on an archaeological excavation on the site of Barcombe Roman bath-house during June, while a group of British senior citizens joined the excavations at the Roman Baths in Mgarr in May. The project was a success and will be finalised in 2013.



Capital, Rehabilitation, and Maintenance Works

Arts and Palaces Department

Move to Auberge d'Italie and 'Back Home' Project

In November 2011 Government announced the relocation and rethinking of the NMFA in line with modern European and international standards. The museum collection which includes key works enjoying broad international recognition will be re-branded into a National Gallery of Art and housed in its original location at the Auberge d'Italie, where it was originally established and developed in the mid 1920s. The objectives of the project are briefly summed up as follows.

- Cost benefit rationale and maximisation on return of funds spent from a social and commercial perspective. The current seat of the NMFA collection is well off the beaten track, with exhibition facilities that can only showcase and display a fraction of the collection. It also has very limited potential to address social inclusion requirements including access to communities with special needs. The costs to refurbish collection and the current building to European standards will not yield its full potential given these clear drawbacks. A more central location has the potential to yield a much greater economic and social gain, beyond the obvious historic claims which link the collection to the Auberge d'Italie.
- Improved facilities and the potential to reach European benchmarking and excellence in museum development and management. This project represents a unique opportunity to rethink a national arts museum. It is one of very few projects happening throughout Europe that concern the complete rethinking and relocation of a national museum.
- A prime tourist attraction representing identity in the visual arts to service national commitments and priorities for culture-related events planned for Malta's EU Presidency (2017) and Malta's European Capital City of Culture (2018). The project is listed as a necessary requirement for Malta's European Capital City of Culture (2018) and is an integral part of the Malta Tourism Strategy, integrated within a network of attractions in Valletta and the Grand Harbour area.

Given that the collection is still displayed and branded in a colonial context, this project will be a positive catalyst to rethink and re-brand the permanent display and transform it from a static and connoisseur-based display to a user-friendly and pro-active display.

The project has now moved into implementation stage following its official announcement in November 2011. The following tasks have been undertaken to date. A broad consultation process was undertaken in January. The scope of this consultation process concerned a better understanding of the needs of the sector and potential audiences with a view to develop this project as a useful and user-friendly tool. Consultation meetings were minuted and feedback included in the design brief. A first draft of a design brief was completed and discussed in detail with experts from Tate network brought to Malta by the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Environment. The brief was also discussed in detail during meetings held with a core group purposely set up to provide feedback. This group features expertise from the philosophy department (UOM), expertise on museum branding, museology and the Euromed process.

In August HM took over property formerly known as Café la Veneziana and re-branded the site as a HM Showcase featuring token exhibitions of works from the National Collection, HM projects and related shows.



Following clearance of two rooms at Auberge D'Italie, the current space used as office space by the curatorial team of the museum, including the library and prints and drawings reserve collection, has been emptied of contents and relocated to these rooms at the designated site of the museum. The curatorial pool is operative from Auberge d'Italie as from end December. The library remains in storage due to limitation of space and the prints and drawings collection, including plan chests and other specialised furniture has been relocated to a purposely-renovated room at the current seat of the museum. Access to the museum has been blocked.

All other collection items at Casa Scaglia area, mostly majolica items were packed ready to be moved to the new museum venue. Temporary storage facilities have been purposely set up in order to keep all collection items in one place until the necessary safeguards are in place at the Auberge d'Italie to enable their final transfer.





In November Masters students from the Centre of Sustainable Heritage of the UCL have conducted an onsite workshop and study on the potential to develop the top floor of the building into a resource centre to house collections of works of art and storage space for museum artefacts. The final report is expected in April 2013.

In May the curatorial pool conducted an extensive internal consultation process among all HM staff except for curators and senior management. The scope of this exercise concerned the better understanding of the image of the museum within HM, art knowledge and suggestions on the new museum project. The highly informative results were processed by students from the Faculty of Tourism Studies at the UOM. The curatorial team of the museum is currently working on the conceptual redesign of the museum's permanent display with the external assistance of expertise from the Department of Digital Arts, Faculty of Media and Knowledge Sciences (UOM). A broad external and internal consultancy including focus groups on specific requirements and end-user interface is currently being drafted.

The upper level of Auberge d'Italie has been designated as a resource centre and back of house providing conference facilities. During period under review a tentative layout, including storage facilities, has been discussed in detail and consultation from key stakeholders on the proposed facilities is currently being sought.

Ethnography Department

Inquisitor's Palace

Following the considerable restoration works during the past few years, the Inquisitor's Palace benefited throughout the year from the presence and commitment of MCAST's vocational students under the direction of HM's Projects Office. Their main focus was the lateral facade overlooking Archbishop's Street. This restoration included cleaning, plastic repair, pointing and the inevitable replacement of heavily deteriorated stonework. Despite the setback caused by delays to remove a high-tension cable, this restoration intervention is well in progress and expected to be finalised by early next year. Our Projects Office also prepared the restoration method statement for the back façade of the Inquisitor's Palace. This work was also made possible through the Lithos Project, which is co-funded through the ERDF (Italia-Malta), and which is led by the Projects Office with the help of the architectural conservation arm lead by Mastri and a team of Heritage Masonry kills apprentices. Traditional tools and modern equipment used for restoration and conservation were bought, amounting to €90,000. This team together with architects from the Projects Office had a training experience in Sicily organised through the same project.

The team from the Projects Department at one of the laboratory sessions in Sicily



The restoration and conservation of the Inquisitor's Palace lateral facade

The vocational students and master-masons from the Project's Office were also employed in the restoration of two of the Messerano punitive cells at ground floor level and the cleaning, repair, pointing and minimal stone replacement of the south-east wall of the internal courtyard. This is the initial phase of a major project that will include the restoration and reinstatement and redesigning of complementary interpretation provision and visitor facilities of the entire Castellania courtyard, still considered as the emblematic resource of the Palace. The maintenance team was crucial in restoring a section within the former Castellania vaults – an important intervention unveiling the multifaceted history of the built fabric with extents from the authentic Castellania walls featuring unexpected recycling of Classical remains. A number of steps at ground floor level were also removed and replaced with ramps so as to ensure accessibility. Following conservation and consolidation of wooden beams in the hall at the far end of the Ruffo Apartments, restoration and renovation works were carried so that an additional refined hall was by October rendered accessible after a decade of scaffold-shoring.

The general museum facilities were also considerably improved. Between January and April over thirty plinths and customised showcases were manufactured for the costume sets and accompanying artefacts for the Peasant Costumes Exhibition. Professional, totally reversible panelling was installed in May and June, providing the right facilities and infrastructure for temporary displays in the courtyard adjoining The Castellania vaults and kitchen area. For the second part of the year the in-house maintenance team was engaged in the production of further plinths for the Popular Music and Christmas exhibitions; works on existent and new apertures, general upkeep of the exhibition spaces, library furniture and research desks within the curatorial office and the initial phases of shelving and corresponding furniture for heritage gifts in the reception area. This project, running into 2013, will test the ground and the potential for the Agency to start running its own museum shops to benefit for various spill-over effects including an improved welcoming space in the reception, and quality designed gifts that would extend and enhance visitor experience.

Fort St Angelo

Restoration works financed through the Emergency Fund allocated by Government in 2010 continued. These included the conservation and restoration of the Fort's Main Gate (Tender HM.05.15.2011 worth €86,100.11), which was awarded to Vaults Co. Ltd. in February. Work on site commenced in March. The conservation of the Main Gate's coat of arms and commemorative marble plaque was undertaken by our conservation team. In October HM's conservation staff also started the restoration of the stone crown formerly surmounting the niche at the back of the Fort's entrance.



The restoration of Fort St Angelo's Main Gate

In June, a general clean-up of the Fort was carried out by Kalaxlokk Ltd. at a cost of €44,850. Besides the removal of several tons of waste and debris, a general weeding programme was undertaken. In August, the tender for the restoration and part reconstruction of the entrance ramp (HM.06.37.2012 worth €98,722.13) was awarded to FortRes joint venture. Work on site commenced in November and is still underway. In August a comprehensive survey of all known water reservoirs and other underground spaces to assess their structural condition was also carried out. In September the tender for the restoration of the de Guiral sally port (HM 22.14.2012 worth €95,145.00) was issued and eventually adjudicated. The Adjudication Board's decision was awaiting DCC's approval by the end of the period under review.



The restoration of Fort St Angelo's entrance ramp

Besides the Government Emergency Fund, we applied for and succeeded in securing the sum of €13,390,000 by way of ERDF funding. In all four tenders were issued which will be taking up most of the approved budget for this project. By December we awarded the first two tenders: the appointment of an archaeologist (CT3040/2012 worth €41,429) to undertake a number of investigations in anticipation of the construction of the backbone infrastructure, and the appointment of a contractor to assist in the excavation works (HM 22.08.2012 worth €100,573.65). The former was awarded to AIS Ltd, whereas the latter was awarded to Alfred Stubbings Ltd.

Folklore Museum

The reconstruction of the retaining wall overlooking Żenqa Street was completed in early January. Extensive maintenance works took place within the Folklore Museum complex. These included: full restoration and pointing of the interior of the Textile Production Room, and the restoration of old showcases. Pointing works followed in the Lace Room, with the replacement of broken roof slabs. These rooms were reopened with a temporary textile display following structural maintenance works. In summer, structural maintenance works were initiated in the former Weaving Room. Works included pointing, the replacement of the stone window sill and door lintels and jambs, as well as the replacement of deteriorated timber. Routine maintenance was also carried out throughout the year.

Old Prison

In February, several dangerous stone fragments were removed from window posts overlooking the internal courtyard. Repairs to the same window jambs, mainly involving replacement of spalling masonry, were carried out by MGOZ staff in June, since the window actually belongs to the Law Courts complex but overlooks the courtyard of the Old Prison. Deteriorated stone blocks forming part of main doorjamb were replaced in November.

Ta' Kola Windmill

Following the relocation of the entrance at Ġgantija, a number of road signs showing directions to Ta' Kola were installed. Maps enabling visitors to easily locate Ta' Kola from Ġgantija started being distributed with the Ġgantija brochure. Two external light fittings were installed in the internal courtyard in March. The power supply of street lights adjacent to Ta' Kola Windmill was discussed with the Xagħra Local Council and Enemalta, with the latter providing a separate supply in June; these were previously connected to the windmill's supply. The electrical supply on the roof was also rewired in June.

Reconstruction works on Ta' Kola commenced with the replication of the set of wooden rings and cogs resting on the top of the tower. All carpentry works are being carried out by HM maintenance staff. Most of the wooden components are being replicated in high-quality Iroko timber. Footage of these works was taken in July by CVC. On 30 July another scaffold structure was erected on the other side of the windmill tower to facilitate dismantling works. The cone, old and deteriorating timber beams and the original windmill mechanism were dismantled between the 31 July and 1 August and stored offsite. The cone was temporarily covered with heavy-duty canvas. A news clip focusing on the dismantling was broadcast on 1 August.



The dismantling of Ta' Kola Windmill

Consolidation works on the tower masonry fabric were carried out by mastri from the Projects Office between 21 and 23 August. Ashwood and Austrian pine masts were ordered in August for the manufacture of the six antennae and main jib. In October, a fibreglass cover was installed on the exposed tower following rainwater ingress through the canvas cover. All restoration and reconstruction works are being carried out to the highest standards while aiming to restore the windmill to its original operational condition.

Other works in Gozo

In May, a number of bulky items were removed from near the sally ports' entrance in the Citadel so as to facilitate restoration works being carried out by the MGOZ. Enemalta provided a new electrical supply to our new office in St Martin's Quarter Street in the Citadel by laying an armoured cable from the Gozo Area Office across the street. Maintenance and electrical works continued throughout summer. New tailor-made display showcases for the Peasant Costumes exhibition were manufactured. Scaffold was put up outside the Gozo Area Office in view of ERDF restoration works managed by the MGOZ in June; to this effect all temporary exhibitions at the Gozo Area Office were cancelled until completion of works. Pointing works on the façade of the Gozo Area Office commenced in September.

Modern, Maritime, and Military History Department

Malta Maritime Museum

During routine cleaning of the museum's roofs in January, it was noted that fragments of limestone blocks had had fallen from around the main chimney area at second floor level onto a lower roof at first floor level and into a small back yard at ground floor level. Fortunately no stones had fallen onto St Lawrence Street at the back of the museum, where several cars are usually parked. An onsite inspection was held and the situation was deemed to be serious. MEPA was informed and an access platform was used to further investigate the situation; several other fragments were removed from the façade facing St Lawrence Street. Two of these (around 70x41x24cm) literally broke away and fell onto the public road upon just being touched.



It has been observed that in the building's high structures, namely the clock tower, main chimney and in the three (out of four) remaining ventilation turrets, William Scamp, architect and engineer of the building had introduced iron braces similar to huge staples on each and every face of these structures at intervals of several courses. In the case of the main chimney, of which only the base remains (having lost the upper vent section during WWII) it has been observed that these intervals are the most common, at every five courses. Masonry blocks clad these 'staples' from view - known as *fardal* in Maltese building terms. The iron staples have corroded and are causing the spalling of

the blocks (after some 170 years) thus splitting these fradal. Further corrosive activity is now literally pushing out the larger section of these fradal. Probably Scamp had introduced these iron staple-like reinforcements after the tragedy at the St Paul's Anglican Cathedral site at Valletta which he took up from the original British architect soon after the latter's presumed suicide while Scamp had just commenced the building of the Naval Bakery, now the MMM.

As a temporary precautionary measure, the entire museum was fenced off; necessary permits for immediate emergency works were applied-for and granted soon after. The main concern was the clock tower, since similar problems were observed. However temporary measures could not be carried out because of the height of the tower.

By July tenders were drawn and eventually awarded for the first two phases of the building's façade restoration. Phase 1 is the clock tower. Scaffolding was erected right up to the weather vane, in all over 42m in height (around 14 storeys high). Works had to be curtailed around certain requirements mainly not to disrupt the commercial activity of the nearby restaurants. Works have progressed significantly to date and it is planned that works on the said clock tower be concluded in 2013. Phase 2 abutting the clock tower was concluded in November except for the hard stone replacement at the lower courses, but the scaffolding has been removed.

It was observed that the clock tower's wooden apertures also needed attention, more so since some were missing or badly patched-up, while others were effectively unreachable. As a first step to address the apertures restoration problem, the two smallest apertures of circular format 1.83m in diameter are to be tackled in January 2013. These two apertures happen to be the two least accessible apertures; the scaffolding in place facilitating access for their removal and subsequent reinstatement. It was observed that one of these apertures was most probably seldom if ever painted after originally installed.

Great attention and consideration was also invested in the three clock face dials of the tower. The DSL took samples of the surviving paint to discover the original paint schemes. Results have unfortunately indicated that on several occasions, all former paintwork was scraped and new schemes applied. This was collaborated by the research in various photographic archives (MMM, NMA, National Archives, Ellis, publications). It has ultimately been decided that the later paint schemes (clock face backgrounds, Roman numerals & minute markings all in white and dark blue or black as background to Roman numerals & minute markings) are to be followed since mainly these have been on the clock faces for around a century. The opposite reverse colour/shade scheme was in use at least between 1870-99 and could have possibly been used earlier on, even possibly originally (1845-69) however photographic evidence and paint residue on the faces is very scanty. The observation that British public clocks had favoured this latter scheme was not taken lightly, however in order to show off against the dark clock face backgrounds, the clock hands had to be gilt, but no such traces were found during restoration at Bighi. The three sets of bronze and brass clock hands were removed, documented, analyzed, cleaned, restored and given protective coatings by HM conservators. The weather vane is to follow the same procedure when extracted in January 2013.

Storm water ingress from the various damaged roof levels was greatly addressed last year. During the current year attempts to solve such problems on minor and less easily accessible roofs were tackled. The four restored louvered apertures of a recently restored roof lantern were installed. A fractured concrete beam and various blocks of stone all acting as a parapet wall over a small yard butting St Lawrence Street were removed and the new level pointed properly. This work has solved storm water ingress in this area. Works included good rendering of storm water channels on same roof. In the same area, the party wall between the small museum yard and St Lawrence Street was removed and the yard cleared of debris and wild growth and subsequently all fenced off.

Readings continued to be measured on the proposed Cartography and Communication Hall's

defective roof. Further works were carried out and concluded to patch up a concrete floor over St Angelo's Hall kitchen. Three holes (around 40x80cm) which could not be tackled in 2010 were finally made good.

Works continued on the building's iconic clock mechanism. New wire ropes were purchased for the clock's three weights replacing the old spliced over gauged wire ropes from a possible destructive renovation carried out in the late 1980s. A protective canopy was designed, fabricated and installed over the clock mechanism which dates to 1810. All work has been carried out by Mr Stephen Zammit, who after these works began the actual commissioning of the refurbished clock mechanism. Meanwhile, three thick gauged hollow sections were cut to size and fitted next to the clock bells to accommodate the new stainless steel bell hammers. After calculations, measurements and adjustments, these three hollow sections were removed to be galvanized. They are to be permanently installed in February 2013 when scaffolding inside the belfry is removed because of the weather vane.

A major clearance and reorganisation effort was begun in the former Ovens Hall, now the full scale traditional Maltese boat storage reserve collection. Racking purchased from the former Marsa Ship building was adapted to be used for the traditional boats storage fitted to size in between the arches. Six out of twelve arches comprising the hall, thus half of the space, was used accommodating thirty boats in all, five in each on average. Works on the other six arches had to be halted because of several structural defects.

National War Museum

Since the re-opening of 2009, the interior temperature levels were noticed to be unbearable for visitors and also of concern vis-à-vis the artefacts. Technical studies for the installation of an air-conditioning system were carried out in 2010-11 and a tender was issued and awarded with works commencing before summer. Following the dismantling of the forced air ventilation system, the museum had to close temporarily for two weeks in order to install the new air-conditioning system. The system was ready by early summer, but it still could not be operated since the electrical supply was not sufficient as a cable needed to be connected from a nearby sub-station. This supply should be rendered functional by Enemalta in January 2013.

Fort St Elmo

The Fort St Elmo project was this year embarked upon with speed by GHRC. Between January and June, discussions were held with Commander Kelly of Malta Police, the main user of the new site for the Military History Museum. Talks were also held with the Public Works Department since it used to utilise the outer works of the fort as dumps and storage, and with the Commissioner of Illegal Immigrants, who also used a sizeable building within the same fort. Scores of items, both of a historic/artistic nature and re-usable material were salvaged from the fort prior to the major clearance began by GHRC. A survey exercise was also carried out to safeguard non movable items within the same fort to be retained and restored within their original context inside the fort. In the meantime the tender for the design competition was being prepared, and it was awarded in December. Restoration works on the various structures within the fort are underway at a very sustained pace.



Palace Armoury

The refurbishment of the office and library was finally concluded with the installation of electrical and IT installations, carpentry works and tiled flooring. Office furniture salvaged from Malta Shipyards was refurbished and installed in the office. The library cabinets were also transferred and installed in the appropriate area.

Former Boiler Workshop (Industrial Heritage)

This storage facility is shared with Transport Malta and as such not much maintenance could be carried out, also due to no budget having been allocated. The main effort focused on security issues when various doors and windows were seen too. A major shortcoming in this site is the lack of electrical supply that precludes the use of heavy lifting overhead cranes required to shift items and properly organise the heavy items. To gain more space, the use of bring-in sites was availed of on various occasions to dispose of several unwanted items left at the site by the former Malta Shipyards. Efforts are thus being made to optimise space to transfer nine old Maltese buses stored here to the Marsa Shipbuilding storage. To this end, a HM heavy fork lifter was maintained and employed well in this project, which is to continue next year.

Marsa Shipbuilding Storage

This site is hosting since July 2011 HM's collection of 84 vintage Maltese buses . Although the main shed under which the collection is stored has a ceiling and surrounding wall, third parties are also using the same space. Apart from being the cause of security concerns, the nature of work of these other users generates too much dust and the buses therefore have to be continuously cleaned. The available space was better organised and enough parking bays created so that next year, the nine buses at Boiler Workshop are shifted here. A disused office and adjoining rest room above the spare parts store in the same site was cleared and utilised.



National Museum of Archaeology Department

Maintenance works were carried out on the large window apertures of the two landings of the main staircase to eliminate water ingress. The drains of the restrooms of the upper floor were also replaced. Following the dismantling of the 'Metal Magic' exhibition in July, the room abutting the Salon was converted into a multi-activity space to accommodate lectures, workshops and other requests.

The tender issued in 2011 to remove the dangerous underlying roof of the 'Monetarium' (HM22.17.2011), which included works in the basement related to the changeover of the electrical supply from the substation, was not awarded since none of the bids received were administratively or financially compliant. The tender was issued again this year (HM22.05.2012) but no bids were received. The tender for the supply and installation of a Fire and Intruder Detection and Alarm System (HM22.15.2011) was adjudicated and should be awarded shortly. Works should start next year.

Gozo Museum of Archaeology

Maintenance works at the Gozo Museum of Archaeology included the repainting of some showcase bases and wall panelling, and repairs to a cupboard door forming part of the display. The first floor balcony door was repaired during summer. A highly sensitive balance capable of weighing very small items was procured in order to be able to update the museum's inventory.

Natural History Department

National Museum of Natural History, Vilhena Palace

Four wooden beams of a top floor room of the main building were replaced. The room was whitewashed and now holds the conchology collection. Two other rooms on the west wing of the palace also had five timber beams replaced. In total, five connecting rooms now hold the laboratories and related work stations. Another room, also located on the top floor was refurbished and shelving was installed. The room now holds the increasing wet collection. A separate room close to the upper stairway has been transformed into a store for empty specimen containers. Restoration work was carried out on various parts of the main and secondary roofs and adjoining walls of the palace. Work is still in progress. Since the pigeon problem reported on in previous years persisted, a plastic mesh was placed on the roof covering one of the interior courtyards.

Following years of discussions with the Police, the large hall situated at the rear of the police station and adjoining three rooms were handed over to HM. These have been refurbished; the large hall holds a multi-activity hall and space for temporary exhibitions and the three smaller rooms will host administration offices.

Għar Dalam

Since June discussions are underway with Enemalta regarding the re-aligning of the gate at the car park to facilitate visitor flow to Għar Dalam.



Further to the project award, the project team ensued to publish all required tenders as per the project plan. Several of the studies were concluded; these include the topographic studies, hydrological and geological studies, ecological studies and remote sensing. The biological organism studies and the environmental monitoring tenders had to be reissued and will be implemented in 2013, together with the conservation assessment of the site. The architects were engaged on the Ta' Bistra part of the project. The project team also strived to publish the design and build tender for the Ghajn Tuffieha heritage park through the Department of Contracts. The SCH approved the excavation permit for the archaeological works at the Roman Baths, and excavations on site initiated on 14 May.

The main aims of the excavations were: To investigate the successive phases of development of the site through archaeological excavations and dating of recovered archaeological material; to expose partly exposed and yet undiscovered archaeological features; to reinvestigate and extend the 1981 excavations done on site and to link them to modern excavations; and to increase our general understanding of the site. The archaeological investigations are primarily conducted by three archaeologists under the direction of the SCH and the department, but these were also joined by several volunteers. Works also initiated on the research front in view of collating all known data about the site and also current research on the studies of Roman baths.

Ta' Bistra Catacombs Mosta and St Augustines Catacombs Rabat

The Archaeotur Project, co-financed under the Italia-Malta Programme: Cohesion Policy 2007-13 'A sea of opportunities for the future', proceeded on its implementation course. The investment in this project involves €1.3 million of which Malta is the beneficiary of €747,600.

The project partners sought to implement the deliverables, seminars and all tendering processes required. This included the conduction of studies, development of ICT applications for the accessibility and marketing of the tourism product, the cross cultural transfer of knowledge and information across borders, the development of heritage trails between Mosta, Rabat, Ragusa and Santa Croce, the development of marketing materials, including a 2013 calendar with beautifully shot scenes of sites in Mosta and Rabat along with those from Ragusa and Santa Croce Camerina. In November the project partners participated in the annual *Borsa Mediterranea del Turismo Archeologico* in Paestum, Italy, from 15 to 18 November, during which they were awarded first prize for the best stand presentation. Brochures promoting the sites were also distributed along with other promotional and educational material. What really enhanced the Archaeotur stand was the provision of a 3D full emersion presentation of St Augustine Catacombs which was visited by many who enjoyed navigating the passageways and entering into the different tombs of this underground funerary labyrinth.



The archaeological studies and excavations at St Augustine's Catacombs were approved by the SCH and will be executed in the first quarter of 2013. It is to be noted that expropriation of the St Augustine's Catacombs adjacent premises was acquired through the project and the infrastructural works on the dangerous structure (roof) were implemented and concluded.

The project partners requested a six month extension to the project, from April to October 2013, to complete all the planned deliverables as well as to further implement additional objectives from the savings made through the tendering processes.

St Paul's Catacombs

The ERDF project for SPC continued with the closure of the topographic surveying works, environmental monitoring, biological studies and the development of the site interpretation, which will focus on a multi-sensory experience, and is being developed in collaboration with the Art and Design Institute. Important segments of the 24 catacombs were 3D laser scanned and the software applications were developed to enhance the accessibility of the site. The works tender for the site infrastructural development and landscaping was awarded and works are to initiate in 2013. Works ensued on part of the drains in the main road to stop infiltration into catacomb 24. Cleaning operations of this catacomb are planned to occur in 2013. The archaeological excavation came to a halt due to contractual issues and the contract was subsequently terminated amicably following prolonged negotiations.



Tas-Silġ

Works on the boundary wall to ensure the safety of the site were continued. Further boundary wall works are planned to occur on the existing North sector boundary wall as per MEPA approved application and upon allocation of necessary funding. Discussions were initiated with Transport Malta to schedule the work required to build the planned road that will by-pass the site. This will eliminate the use of the current road dividing the site into two. The *Missione Archaeologica Italiana a Malta* was given an extension by SCH for limited excavation and post excavation works. Further investigations were conducted with an ROV within the cisterns, where interesting archaeological details were discovered. SCH also provided Missione with a further extension to submit all documents and to publish the final report.



Ta' Mintna Catacombs



A documentation exercise was conducted in June to log the existing fissures within the site. Work on the documentation necessary for the conservation of the external structures was also conducted. A submission to MEPA for the conservation of these structures was submitted. The site had to be closed to the public in July since it was flooded with 1.5 metres of water after a main water line in the square was broken during embellishment works. The water was removed and that the site regained its natural environmental equilibrium. However the site was once again flooded with drainage in September following an intense downpour, during which the main drain pipe was blocked. The blockage was removed and all biological residues pumped out of the catacombs. A method statement for their cleaning from biological material was drafted and will be executed next year to ensure the right environmental conditions for the site. Consequently, it was not possible for the site to be open to the public for the traditional Lejla Mqabba in October.

San Pawl Milqi

Work on this site was limited to the basic upkeep. A restoration method statement was conducted for the conservation of the 17th century chapel and annex was drafted, and a MEPA application for its conservation was submitted. Discussions were also held with the St Paul's Bay Local Council in view of developing a collaboration project to conserve the site and make it accessible.

Other Sites

A GPR survey of the Roman Villa remains in Ramla Bay was carried out in July with the collaboration of the Gozo Area Office. No significant works were carried out at the Domvs Romana, except for the reconstruction of the boundary wall of the site since it was damaged following a traffic accident. No works were conducted at Abbatija tad-Dejr.

Prehistoric Sites Department

Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra

Remedial works to the Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra shelters were certified by Canobbio in February and the reinforcing of the base of the shelter pilasters were completed in April. A shelter maintenance proposal submitted by Canobbio is currently being evaluated. Maintenance was carried out by the relevant contractor to the roof membrane of the Visitor Centre after this was damaged during in severe winds in March. Further maintenance of the windows and rainwater drainage systems of the Visitor Centre is being planned with relevant contractors. An audit of the directional signage leading to Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra was carried out and new signs were installed in collaboration with related Local Councils to facilitate vehicle access to the sites.

Tarxien Temples

Activities at Tarxien revolved around the Archaeological Heritage Conservation Project (ERDF 2007-13) as well as several smaller conservation and infrastructural projects. Most of the studies forming part of the Archaeological Heritage Conservation Project were completed in 2011. One of the remaining studies, the Biological Survey of the Temples was completed in 2012. The final report was submitted to the Scientific Committee for the Conservation of the Megalithic Temples.

The archaeological investigation of the areas where the shelter foundations will be located is still pending. Since the contract was officially cancelled in 2011, investigations were sporadic, dependent on the limited time the curators could dedicate to fieldwork. A call for expressions of interest for the provision of such services was published in December for similar work on Tarxien and two more, large, sites. Unless outside help, in the form of experienced archaeologists, is provided soon, there may well be an impact on the implementation of the shelter structure since the archaeological sensitivity of the locations of the shelter supports is still to be determined.

Archaeological monitoring and investigations related to the construction of the new walkway were carried out jointly between the curators and an external monitor approved by the SCH throughout the year, as required by the project. This brought to light several interesting discoveries such as that of a previously unknown large megalith in the vicinity of the Central Temple, two sets of aligned stones possibly from different periods and a large dump of pottery probably dating to one of the 20th century excavations. With regards to the walkway itself, construction both inside and outside the Temple structures at Tarxien, is considered structurally complete. Apart from the installation of the steel and composite wood structure, works have included the dismantling of an extensive rubble wall which divided the site from the fields at its back and side. The tiny field standing on a small parcel of land which was recently transferred to HM from the nearby church was also substantially lowered and now supports part of the walkway structure. The contract, substantially delayed from the original end-2011 completion date is now considered complete, pending final snags which have to be resolved in early 2013.

With regards to the construction of the protective shelter, a second tender was published following the negotiated procedure form which restricts participation to those who bid for the first tender. The unusually complex evaluation took longer than expected but has now been completed. The letter of award should be sent to the winning bidder by the Department of Contracts shortly and the contract signed soon after, if no objections are filed.

Other works were carried out at Tarxien. Conservation works within the Temple structures are ongoing. The pointing exercise sanctioned by the SCCMT is almost complete and a new condition assessment, reviewing the results of the conservation plan and identify any new problems, is planned.

The granting of the MEPA permit requested in 2010 allowed works to start on the dismantling of several rubble boundary walls at Tarxien and the rebuilding of one of them. The latter in particular did not form part of the ERDF project but was rendered necessary by the condition of the wall and its proximity to the walkway and to one of the areas to be excavated for the shelter supports. The works were carried out by Vassallo Builders as a variation on contract CT3029/2010. In a separate but related task HM installed a temporary fencing in the field at the back of the site to compensate for the additional security risk caused by the dismantling of the rubble walls and the construction of the walkway. This is a temporary measure which will last until the outer boundary wall which separates the back field from Sammat Street is replaced. The MEPA permit for this work was issued this year).



Demolishing of boundary wall between Temple site and back field with protective scaffolding installed to ensure safety of archaeological remains

Works have also started on improving the overall aesthetics of the site. The raised area overlooking the remains next to the boundary wall with the church is being refurbished in order to integrate it in the visitor route at Tarxien. In the second quarter of 2012, a shanty hut which served for many years as a tool shed in this area has been demolished and several of the larger almond trees were removed to allow a clear view of the Temple facade from the same area. Several other large trees were removed from around the site to ensure good visibility of the remains from the site. In the first quarter of the year herbicide also started being applied manually, leaf by leaf, to the larger and more invasive plants within the Temple remains but it was discontinued in the third quarter due to lack of human resources. In December, following completion of the major works related to the walkway, a plan for the remaining works required was drawn up.

Also, in preparation for the refurbishment of the current visitor facilities at Tarxien, the department has changed the terms of the 2003 agreement on a concession given to a local farmer to use a small stone hut, a sheltered area at its back and the field to the left of the entrance passageway at Tarxien to cultivate small plants and vegetables. As per the new terms, his right to work the small field has been temporarily revoked to ensure no hindrance to works on the ERDF project. This will

be reconsidered at the end of the project. The small hut has been permanently removed from the concession as it is intended to become a staff room and storage area in the near future although he was allowed to keep his tools in the shelter he had built at its back. This hut is currently being used for the safe storage of finds from the archaeological excavations and tools.

The department drafted an interpretation plan for the Tarxien Temples which includes traditional tools for the walkway such as information panels but also new interpretation strategies and aids which are meant to enhance the visitor's experience and understanding. The first of the new interpretation aids are replicas of two large Tarxien phase 'amphorae' which were commissioned to a local ceramic artist and will be placed where they were discovered a century earlier. Also part of the artist's commission was replicas of twenty decorated sherds from the Temple Period to create an interactive point for visitors. At the same time, the supports for the interpretation panels will be manufactured in-house. All these elements will be installed on site in 2013.




Tarxien replicas - Full scale replicas of two Tarxien Period Amphorae created to be displayed on site in the location where the originals were discovered between 1915 and 1919.

Hypogeum

Environmental Management: Exchange with the engineer designing a new environmental control system for the site resumed, and the results of the analysis of environmental monitoring data gathered throughout the year were forwarded to him, together with plans of the site and overlying structure. The engineer was also supplied with results of two thermographic surveys conducted during March and May. The duration of the contract has been extended to allow HM sufficient time to gather this data before the designs are drawn, to ensure that the design of the system is based on real data.

In preparation for studies to be carried out in 2013, and as advised by the conservation specialist conducting analysis of environmental monitoring data gathered as part of the project part-funded by Norwegian Funds (see above), mapping of alterations within the Upper Level of the site was conducted by scientists from the DSL. Mapping was conducted over two weeks between 6.00 and 9.00, and in between each tour to respect the carrying capacity of the site. 360 degrees images



taken during the laser scanning of the site in 2010 were used, and a complete documentation of alterations in the Upper Level is now available. Further mapping of the other two levels will be carried out as part of the biological survey to be carried out in 2013-14.

Mapping of the presence and location of condensation and water infiltration and pooling was also carried out in April and August. The aim of this exercise is to determine patterns of water accumulation within the site. Two thermographic surveys of the external wall of the building overlying the site were also carried out in March and May by the DSL, to supply information on the insulation properties of the same wall to the engineer designing a new environmental management system.


Trials with different types of non-slip tapes were conducted in a few areas within the site, until a suitable product which adheres to the steps in spite of the high levels of water present at the site was found. Non-slip tape is now being installed throughout the site to reduce slipping hazards. Another action related to visitor safety was the review of the current set up of emergency lights, conducted together with the Estate and Security Department. Some changes to the set up were agreed on and are currently being implemented. Loose tiling in a part of the visitor area was also replaced with carpeting.

Following a drainage leak into the site, communication was made with the Department of Public Health and tests which are acceptable to both the Public Health Department and HM were identified to identify the location of the leak. Contacts were made with the owner of the house in question, and the carrying out of these tests has been approved and quotations are in hand. These are expected to be carried out early next year.

EEA/Norwegian Funds

The Conservation of the Hal Saflieni Hypogeum World Heritage Site, supported by a grant from Norway through the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2004-09

The contract for installation of equipment and analysis of environmental data was concluded during this reporting period. Two visits were conducted by the consultant conservation scientist, during one of which the results of a full year of monitoring were presented to both the Hypogeum Environmental Management Investigation group (HEMI) and HM staff. Following the conclusion of the contract, regular maintenance is still being conducted by Evolve Ltd every fortnight. This is ensuring that the equipment continues to function well in spite of the harsh environment within the site. Evolve Ltd have upgraded all the firmware of the transmitters which are connected to temperature and humidity probes, and also connected them to the 12V supply rail using stabilised voltage regulators supplied by Eltek. This has eliminated the need for batteries in the Middle Level, which due to the harsh environment were being depleted within a short time-frame. As a result, maintenance of the system will be more sustainable in the long-term. The contractor has also replaced the UPS with an upgraded model, which shuts down the system gracefully in the event of a power cut, thus avoiding damage to the operating system and hardware. Regular maintenance is also conducted on the server. As part of the same contract, training on vibration monitoring and on the use of vibration sensors which were purchased through this project was conducted for DSL staff. The project was officially closed on 30 April.





A New Environmental Management System for the Hal Saflieni Hypogeum World Heritage Site, EEA Financial Mechanism 2009-14

Following the submission of the application in 2011, a feasibility study for the project was carried out as requested by the PPCD. Several exchanges have been made with PPCD regarding the project, and formal approval and signing of the grant agreement is expected in 2013. Nevertheless, preparatory work for the project is already in progress. Terms of reference for the project architect have been concluded and a quotation was requested from Dr Marc Bonello. This quotation is in hand and within budget, and a direct order is being sought. Dr Bonello (TBA Periti) was the architect involved in the refurbishment of the Hypogeum during the 1990s, and was instrumental in finding practical solutions for necessary elements in the structure overlying the site. Dr Bonello is therefore very familiar with the site's sensitive nature and concerns, and this will ensure that any repairs and/or changes to the structure are fully compatible with the conservation requirements of the Hypogeum. Additionally, considering that the works involve alterations/developments over the existing structural elements, it is ethically correct to proceed with the original architect who designed and assumed responsibility for the structure. Terms of reference for the biological study, the condition assessment and project manager are also drafted and will be discussed early next year.

Ta' Haġrat and Skorba

A revaluation of the lands surrounding Skorba Temples, which were expropriated in 1992, was requested by HM from the Lands Department, in view of the changes in the nature of the lands from developable to non-developable. Furthermore, communication was re-established with the previous land-owners informing them that the remains which presently lie outside the boundary fence at Skorba will soon be incorporated with the rest of the site by modifications to the present fence. With regard to encroachment and development issues at Mgarr, the department was consulted by the SCH and MEPA on applications for permits which could potentially leave a negative impact on either of the two sites.

Ġgantija Temples

During February the area earmarked for the relocation of the ticketing office was cleared, and a number of shrubs were transplanted by in-house staff to allow for the placement of the ticketing office and gift shop. This took place in order to facilitate commencement of structural works onsite as part of the ERDF Archaeological Heritage Conservation Project, and to separate the construction area from that frequented by visitors. A temporary brick wall was erected as hoarding around the temple complex in March. The ticket booth and gift shop were relocated to the new temporary entrance on Parisot Street on 26 March.



A number of road signs were printed and installed in Xagħra in view of the entrance relocation. Landscaping works forming part of the ERDF project consisted of uprooting of trees which took place in March. During the same month a request was submitted to WSC to fix a temporary camera in the Interpretation Centre area in order to be able to take continuous footage. This request was granted and two cameras were installed on 23 May, one in the Interpretation Centre area and one covering the multi-purpose space behind Ġgantija. A sub-meter to the WSC main electrical supply was installed to enable recording of CCTV cameras' consumption. A site meeting with Xagħra Local Council and HM CEO took place in April to discuss the ERDF project. The third party kiosk was removed from outside the Ġgantija gate by its private owner in April.



Transport Malta set up two taxi stands and a bay for un/loading of Hop On/Off buses close to the Ġgantija new entrance on 30 May. A number of palm trees in the Interpretation Centre area were removed and delivered to WSC premises in Sannat on 6 June. Archaeological monitoring works in connection with soil removal and bedrock exposure occurred throughout May and June, and resumed whenever excavation works took place. A number of vine trenches cut in the bedrock were exposed during this exercise. A landscape survey using terrestrial laser scanning equipment was used to record these vine trenches. Most of them were reburied, while a few were left exposed in order to be enjoyed by visitors exiting the Interpretation Centre.

Also in June, the foundations of the Interpretation Centre were constructed, followed by installation of services in July and construction of the ground slab in September. Construction works on the exit building were initiated in June; the rock face was cleaned and the foundations laid in July. Infrastructure services were laid out in August, while the ground slab was constructed in October. The pathways were formed in May soon after soil removal in the Ġgantija grounds, and their construction continued throughout summer, with the first corten frames and exposed aggregate pre-cast slabs being laid in November.



Late in August and early September the temporary brick hoarding was dismantled and replaced with a scaffold structure to enable new road and landscaping works in the multi-purpose space. Two ERDF billboards were erected next to the Interpretation Centre area and the temporary entrance in September and October respectively. A block plan of the parking area outside the exit building was submitted to MRRA upon request, marking the location of a charging station for an electric vehicle.



An onsite meeting with Prof Torpiano and the Scientific Committee took place on 28 September in order to discuss Prof. Torpiano's proposals in view of the scaffold structure on the façade (part of the same ERDF project). The Scientific Committee expressed some concerns regarding the management of surface water runoff as part of the new design of the project, and a subsequent meeting between the Scientific Committee and ERDF project architects took place in October.

In July a GPR exercise was carried out in two fields in the Ġgantija grounds to check for the possibility of any underground caves, however giving negative results. Repairs to a collapse in the retaining wall of the olive grove were carried out in September following heavy rain earlier that month. An additional course was constructed above the same retaining wall in December in order to prevent loss of soil during the wet season. Routine ploughing and grass-cutting of the Ġgantija grounds occurred throughout the year.

Final snags in the walkway, including the installation of a missing floodlight in the South Temple central apse, were addressed by the contractor in February. The frames for the information panels together with LED light shades to be installed above each panel were tested in August and are pending installation. The info panels were completed in April, including printing and delivery to Gozo.

Several repairs were carried out on the weather station including the replacement of a faulty relative-humidity and temperature remote sensor in January, and to the remote connection to Bighi in November. Repairs were also carried out to the main gate on Parisot Street following damages by the WSC bowser in March. Servicing and repairs to the Exalta binoculars and multilingual info-pod and binoculars were carried out in May and June. The latter was re-sprayed and re-wired following several faults. The CCTV system installed by Alberta in 2010 was removed in June in order to be relocated to Għar Dalam by the same supplier. The Ġgantija souvenir shop closed down on 6 October.

Throughout the year, a number of MEPA applications in the vicinity of Ġgantija Temples were reviewed and feedback was forwarded to the SCH.

Borġ in-Nadur

For Borg in-Nadur, the year was characterised by increased research in order to understand the site better and to enhance its status. The most important issue in this regard was the ownership of the lands in which the Neolithic and Bronze Age remains are located, as well as the lands which lie in their immediate vicinity.

Throughout the year, direct communication with the Lands Department and the Notarial Archives has led to finalise the research and conclude that most of the lands in question are still under private ownership, with the exception of a small portion of land (containing the Neolithic remains) which had been expropriated by the government in 1935. Given the present situation, HM is not in a position to expropriate the lands containing the Bronze Age remains. HM is now preparing to submit a request for a 'transfer of title' of the land which is property of the government so as to be able to rectify its position as owner of the land. Once this is finalised, immediate action will be taken to secure the site better.







Xagħra Stone Circle

A new gate was installed in the fence of the Xagħra Stone Circle in February by the Gozo Area Office. Throughout the year, a considerable number of planning applications in the vicinity of the site were reviewed and feedback provided accordingly to the SCH. A number of technical studies are also underway to assess the best way of conserving the site, possibly by the installation of a protective shelter.



Interpretation, Events, and Exhibitions

Arts and Palaces Department

The following modern art exhibitions and events were organised or hosted by the museum:

Therese Sciberras: *Little White Lies*, December 2011 – 14 January

Little White Lies can be considered a conceptual representation of what is considered as contemporary art today. Sciberras combined a number of inspirations including the qualities of the traditional Italian School and her daily inspirations. The exhibition was curated by Jens Bruenslow.

Paul Caruana: *Short Stories*, December 2011 – 14 January

The exhibition entitled Short Stories by Paul Caruana was held at il-Loggia. The works were mainly autobiographical since Caruana illustrated his childhood memories. Most of the works were watercolours while some others were oils. All the works were accompanied by a short story.

John Martin Borg: *A Different Perspective*, 4 February – 20 March

This was one of the few exhibitions in which the artist collaborated fully with the curators of the NMFA. An extensive process of dialogue took place before the exhibition opening since both the artist and the curators wanted to show another aspect of this well known local artist. The abstracts works were exhibited in the Contemporary Hall.

Unni Askeland: *Friezed [Continued]*, 14 January – 25 March

This exhibition was organised in collaboration with Christine Xuereb of Artitude Gallery (Private Gallery). A series of works on show were brought from a private collection in New York. An interesting fact is that this exhibition was built on two particular themes. One was built on the idea of a frieze in which stylised natural landscapes were depicted, while the others were a series of prints showing popular people inspired by Andy Warhol.

Aligi Sassu: *Aligi Sassu Memories on Paper*, 24 March – 31 May

HM, in collaboration with Aligi Sassu Foundation, presented works by the internationally acclaimed artist Aligi Sassu. A set of unpublished drawings from different decades were on show. This exhibition was curated by Natalia Suarez Sassu, a PhD candidate at the University of St Andrews Scotland and a relative of the artist.





Kenneth Grima: *Polarities*, 29 March – 31 April

An exhibition of works by Kenneth Grima held at il-Loggia. A set of ceramic works both free standing and hanging works were exhibited. The artist's different influences including primitivism were reflected in the art works.

Hubert J. Florl: *Floating Bronze*, 5 May – 17 June

Florl's exhibition was a collaboration between HM and Trust Alliance. A number of bronze sculptures of different size and inspirations were exhibited in the Loggia.

Victor Pasmore: *The Victor Pasmore Donation*, 19 June – 22 July

The Pasmore Family donated two works by Victor Pasmore and to celebrate this kind gesture HM decided to organise an exhibition. Before this event a lengthy conservation treatment, had to take place since the works were extensively damaged.



Tarohei Nakagawa: *Portraits*, 23 June – 15 July

This exhibition was held at il-Loggia. Nakagawa, a contemporary Japanese artist, completed a series of photographic works in which portraiture was taken to a different dimension. A contemporary aspect of interpretation of identity was explored.

George Fenech: *Art and Life of George Fenech*, 28 July to 9 September

HM, in collaboration with the Fenech Family organised an exhibition dedicated to George Fenech. The exhibition was curated by Lino Borg and Joseph Paul Cassar who also contributed to the book dedicated to the same artist. This book, *Art and Life of George Fenech*, was launched during the same exhibition opening.

Anna Miggiani: *Now, Then and In-Between*, 14 September – 21 October

For this particular exhibition the artist wanted the members of staff of the museum to curate the exhibition. The artist was ready to collaborate fully and discuss with the curators the logistics and the choice of works and layout.

Carl-Peter Buschkuhle: *Headworks*, 29 October up till 30 November

Headworks was a healthy collaboration between the UOM and HM. Buschkuhle, apart from exhibiting his mixed media works (digital print, paint and ink) at il-Loggia, also delivered a number of lectures at the UOM.

Brocktorff Map Makers, 30 November up till 6 January

The Malta Map Society in collaboration with HM organised an exhibition of maps at the NMFA. Works from both private and public collections were intentionally borrowed for this event. A catalogue was purposely produced for this exhibition.



Paul Haber: *Fusion*, 10 December – 20 January

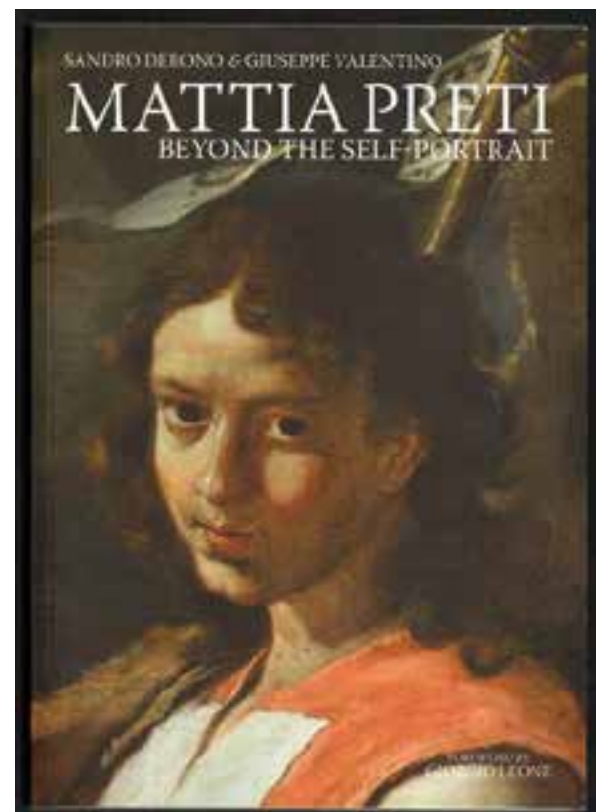
A new selection of ceramic works by Paul Haber was exhibited at il-Loggia. Haber experimented widely with various techniques, glazes and materials.

Storja bl-Arti – A Story with Art: Notte Bianca Exhibition: This exhibition is a first for Malta proposing an innovative approach to curating exhibitions that are within greater reach of the general public. This particular exhibition showcased the latest acquisitions, affected over the past three years through purposely allocated central government funds, grouped under one word headings representing key ideas across styles and make. This fresh approach shall be developed and adopted for other forthcoming projects.

Curatorial support and assistance was also provided to other exhibition projects happening within HM during period under review. These included the Peasant Costumes exhibition, for which an essay was also written for the exhibition catalogue, and the editorial remit for the exhibition pamphlet book and catalogue essays published on the occasion of the exhibition 'Henry Mayo Bateman: The Man who ... Loved Gozo' held at the Salon, NMA.

Mattia Preti International Exhibition Project

This is a. This joint three-year project with the Museo Civico di Taverna in Calabria, Mattia Preti's birth place, commenced in 2010 and has the following objectives: A better understanding of the Mattia Preti collection at the NMFA and works at Taverna through art historic, scientific and conservation point of view; promote this research through an international exhibition and a series of publications that rethink Mattia Preti's role and contribution to art in Malta and Baroque art in general, and to strengthen networks and develop Malta's potential to develop and market high profile international exhibitions through loan exchanges and collaboration with key high-profile international and European museums.



The exhibition will be inaugurated in Taverna on 24 February and run till the 21 April. It will then move to its second venue in Malta (State Rooms, President's Palace) between 3 May and 7 July. The following actions have been completed to date or currently underway: Secure confirmation of loans from key European museums and institutions including Prado (Spain), Louvre (Paris), Brera (Milan), Musei Vaticani (Rome), Museo di Capodimonte (Naples) and others; definition and endorsement of State Indemnity documents providing insurance cover for loans; coordination of exhibition catalogue including over 50 catalogue entries, nine academic essays and acquisition of photographic material. Scientific investigation on Preti's works including high-tech apparatus which determines the constituent elements of pigments and thus helps in the authentication of paintings and a better understanding of their state of conservation has also been undertaken.

The final drafts of a publication entitled *Mattia Preti: Beyond the Self-Portrait* edited by HM, Museo Civico di Taverna and Midseabooks have been submitted. This publication features essays by the exhibition curators and an introductory resume written by the acclaimed Italian scholar Giorgio Leone from the Soprintendenza Speciale per il Patrimonio Storico Artistico ed Etnoantropologico e per il Polo Museale of Rome. It will be published in February and anticipates some of the new hypotheses on Mattia Preti that shall be showcased for the first time in the exhibition.

Restoration works on all paintings from the NMFA Collection to feature in the Mattia Preti exhibition have been concluded, and work is underway for the procurement process and subsequent award of the tender for transport of works of art from the lending museum to the two exhibition venues and back. Development and implementation strategy of a marketing plan to cover build up to the exhibition and beyond is also in an advanced stage. Thanks to support by the MTA the exhibition has featured in the international tourism road show in Dublin. Promotion of the exhibition on social media networks is well underway.

Ethnography Department

Inquisitor's Palace

The department organised the following exhibitions: 'The Cult of St Paul in Malta' was held in the main courtyard of the Inquisitor's Palace from 10 February to 29 April. Patron saint and father of Christianity in Malta, this exhibition focused on the cult of St Paul as it contributed to shape national identity through the centuries. Exhibits included the vernacular element of art, literature and artefacts tied to popular belief.



'Peasant Costumes: Insights into Rural Life and Society': An exhibition of popular costumes from the National Collection, this was the department's major exhibition for this year, and a star attraction for MGOZ's *Lejlet Lapsi - Notte Gozitana* from 18 May to 29 July. Agricultural produce and harvesting, manufacturing methods and artistic representation were interwoven with costume displays to provide precious snippets of the ordinary hard working peasant population whose toil and simple life made inwards in literature and the arts, particularly in the 19th century. Much more than a display of popular attire, this exhibition celebrated the first tangible results of the ongoing national textile collection project, enriched the general awareness on the same and secured a number of donations. The exhibition was complimented by four publications: the catalogue *Peasant Costumes: Insights into Rural Life and Society*, a set of print reproductions from authentic watercolours by Francesco Zimelli within the National Collection, and two intrinsically linked publications namely *Methods for Storing Historic Costumes and Accessories* with practical lessons learned from the

ongoing costume collection project and a pattern book to address the need for correct reproduction of folk costumes, entitled *Country Folk Costumes in Malta and Gozo: Description and Patterns*. The salient parts of this exhibition were subsequently represented at the Inquisitor's Palace from 19 October to 27 January 2013, and were at the heart of various educational thematic programmes, career-oriented visits and other outreach initiatives.

'In the Wake of Caravaggio': An exhibition of 17 oil paintings by the Hungarian artist Tamás Cserna inspired by the works of Baroque Master Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio, who remains associated

the Inquisitor's Palace after being summoned for witness in 1607. This exhibition, held from 22 June to 31 August, was co-organised by HM, the Hungarian Embassy in Rome and Opus 64 Galerie, to bring together Hungary and Malta in an intercultural dialogue.

'Giovanni Pietro Francesco Agius de Soldanis – An Eighteenth Century Gozitan, Ecclesiastic and Scholar', was held on 7-23 September to mark the 300th birth anniversary of Agius de Soldanis. The exhibition was organised by the MGOZ, HM, Malta Libraries and the UOM at the MGOZ, on his 300th birth anniversary. This exhibition was also subsequently mounted at the NLM from 28 September to 18 November, and was accompanied by two publications: the exhibition catalogue *De Soldanis – An Eighteenth Century Intellectual* and a booklet *De Soldanis: L-Esploratur tal-Ilsien Malti*, which was distributed in all secondary schools.

Folk Music Exhibition: The department curated an exhibition for HM Showcase (former Café Veneziana) in Melita Street, Valletta for the Notte Bianca on 29 September. The exhibition focused on the popular aspect of music portrayed as an integral part of national identity. Besides illustrating the production and relevance of the *bedbut*, the *żummara*, the *fleġguta*, the *tambur*, the *zafzafa* and the *żaqq*, it also delved into the first recordings as precious snippets of early twentieth century musical heritage. This exhibition was also set up at the MMM for *Birgufest* (19-20 October) and subsequently at the Inquisitor's Palace from 26 October to 27 January 2013.



A Christmas Exhibition at HM Showcase was held from 17 December to 6 January 2013 and included a small display of cribs from the national collection. A small representative sample from the Albert and Lina McCarthy collection were displayed along an extensive circular traditional Maltese crib.

The department also organised the first successful participation of HM in the national bookfair in November, which registered considerable interest in HM publications and a good turnout in sales. Most titles were offered at very accessible prices. Publications were also on offer at HM showcase (former Café Veneziana in Melita Street) during Notte Bianca and the Christmas period.



The following events were also organised by the department. The thematic learning programme on the intangible Heritage of Holy Week and Easter in Malta took place on 7- 9 and 12-16 March. Besides viewing *Passio et Ressurrectio* – the museum's permanent exhibition on the subject, 353 participants followed educational hands-on programme including the cooking of local *Qagħaq tal-Appostli Helwin* culinary delight and the making of thematic Easter Lamb in plaster in a purposely designed crafts session. This thematic learning programme was followed by another on *Il-Patrimonju tal-Legġendi* on 21- 31 May. Participants were introduced to the relevance of oral traditions and the great significance of legends as carriers of national identity. 155 primary students were engaged in drama sessions whereby they enacted the legends of *San Dimitri* and *I-Għarusa tal-Mosta*. These were followed by a cooking session of traditional biskuttini tar-raħal as picked up from the refreshments served during the wedding ceremony of I-Għarusa tal-Mosta.

HM members, Folk groups and the general public were invited to a curator's tour of the exhibition 'Peasant Costumes: Insights into Rural Life and Society' (at the MGOZ) and a public lecture by the principal conservator of textiles on 6 July. A practical weaving demonstration by Alda Bugeja on a traditional loom followed and refreshments were served at the end.

Thirteen sessions were held for the *Skolasajf* programme between 24 July and 31 August. Students were encouraged to follow a specialised learning programme on the theme Solidarity with Commitment. Thematic sessions were designed to promote intergenerational activities whereby participants were introduced to games and leisure entailed by their grandparents which in themselves are carriers of intangible heritage. Following a brief introduction on the Inquisitor's Palace as the National Museum of Ethnography, participants were engaged to produce their own kite in the traditional way and prepare a seasonal refreshing lemon drink known as *ruġġata*.

Another thematic learning programme, this time on Weaving and Peasant Costumes, was held from 15 to 25 October. Eight sessions complemented the Peasant Costumes exhibition. Students participated in an engaging tour of the exhibition whereby the main exhibition themes were illustrated and manufacturing techniques delivered through an audiovisual. This was complimented with a paper weaving crafts session whereby participants could appreciate better the intricate world of traditional weaving. The Inquisitor's Palace extended its opening hours at a specially reduced price on the occasion of *Birgufest* on 19-20 October, and also hosted the lecture 'The Art of Dying Well' by Prof. Frans Ciappara on 24 November.

The Art of Dying Well in Baroque Malta

Saturday, 24th November 2012, at 10.00am
Inquisitor's Palace, Birgu



Public Lecture by **Prof. Frans Ciappara**
with accompanying music on the violoncello

ORGANISED BY THE INTERNATIONAL
INSTITUTE FOR BAROQUE STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF MALTA



Sponsored by  Heritage Malta

The traditional Christmas thematic learning programme was held from 3 to 12 December and focused on The Intangible Heritage of Christmas in Malta. Besides viewing the Christmas-related permanent exhibitions illustrating the main local traditions and international crib representations, 184 participants followed an educational hands-on programme including the cooking of local *Pudina tal-Hobż* Christmas culinary delight and the making of the traditional *Għageb* crib figurine following the traditional method in clay. This programme was extended to culture card holders on 27 December, when participants engaged in two hands-on-sessions, namely the cooking of the traditional *Pudina tal-Hobż* and the production of the traditional clay crib figurines, and were offered a clay figurine which they modelled and finalised to represent any of the characters pertaining to the traditional Maltese crib. On the following day a special Christmas thematic programme was offered exclusively to HM members through a family based activity in which parents were encouraged to assume an active role and assist their children. Participants were invited for a tour of the permanent Christmas collections by Austin Galea, founding member of the *Għaqda Hbieb tal-Preseppi* and the generous donor of the majority of the artefacts on display in the Maltese Christmas Traditions exhibition. He provided participants with precious insights and anecdotes behind most of the artefacts on display. Accompanied by their parents, children engaged in two hands-on sessions to prepare the *Pudina tal-Hobż* and produce their own *pasturi* in the traditional way. Refreshments consisting in traditional seasonal culinary delights followed.

Fort St Angelo

Apart from several guided tours for specialised groups, an open day was held on 17 June, whereby the general public was given the opportunity to view of the Fort before the commencement of the restoration works. The 2,500 visitors who turned up received also a free illustrated booklet on the Fort's intrinsic value and HM's vision for its valorisation and democratisation. In July, an exhibition entitled 'Fort St Angelo Heritage Experience' was set up at the MMM. It ran till the end of the period under review.



Folklore Museum

In April a number of cotton and woven specimens were washed, and the weaving loom and winding skeins were cleaned thoroughly in preparation for the upcoming Peasant Costumes exhibition. A considerable number of artefacts belonging to the weaving industry were temporarily loaned for the Peasant Costumes exhibition at MGOZ (May-July). These were then transferred to the Inquisitor's Palace in August as part of the same exhibition. In summer, the previous textile-related rooms were re-opened with a temporary textile display following structural maintenance works. The restored clay statuette groups were placed once again on permanent display. In July a preparatory document regarding a 'Historic house museum proposal' envisaging the eventual revision of the museum's permanent display was compiled together with the Ethnography Department.

Gozo exhibitions and events

All Citadel museums featured in '*Malta u lil Hinn Minnha*' on TVM. Two open days were held: the four Citadel sites were opened free of charge on 15 August, while Ta' Kola Windmill was opened free of charge on 13 December and guided tours were offered. Two interactive touch-screen kiosks in connection with the project www.ilovefood.com.mt were installed at the Folklore Museum and Ta' Kola Windmill respectively in January. New websites on the two museums were launched via the same project [<http://www.ilovefood.com.mt/folklore-museum>; <http://www.ilovefood.com.mt/ta-kola-windmill/>]. Draft content for the eventual implementation of audio-guides at Ta' Kola Windmill was concluded in January. The moon-rock at the Gozo Nature Museum was relocated to a new showcase in the Geology Hall in April. A small temporary display focusing on artefacts linked with Canon G.P. Agius de Soldanis was put up at the same museum in connection with the *Notte Gozitana* events (18-20 May). This was loaned temporarily for the Agius de Soldanis commemorative exhibition at the MGOZ and the NLM respectively (Sep-Oct).



A programme of activities for *Skolasajf* was prepared and implemented from mid-July till end of August. This year it was decided to include the Peasant Costumes exhibition in the educational programme since it was still running till end of July. A repeat of the same activities was carried out at Ta' Kola during August. The main focus of these activities was on traditions and original Maltese terms associated with peasant costumes and their manufacture, which are in danger of being forgotten and lost. The aim was to instil in our young visitors a pride for our rich cultural heritage and a responsibility to preserve it and thus pass it on to future generations. A total of 214 students from twelve centres participated. A total of 4,010 students visited Gozo museums and sites between January and November as part of their extra-curricular activities.

A new poster was designed to market the First Sunday promo ticket in Citadel sites and distributed in June. The Gozo multi-site ticket was reintroduced in November at a reduced price. The Gozo Area Office collaborated with the OASI Foundation by offering free access and guided tours in a number of HM sites for OASI residents as part of their therapeutic programme (Sep-Dec). The Gozo Area Office provided MGOZ and MTA with information leaflets of HM Gozo sites for distribution during all cruise liner visits to Gozo in order to improve marketing of our sites. Revisions of website texts on all Gozo sites were submitted for the new HM website. Revisions regarding HM sites were also submitted to the MGOZ for the website www.visitgozo.com in August. Meetings were held with the authors of Bradt travel guide to Malta and Gozo, and the French travel guide book *Guide du Routard* respectively, regarding revisions for the next editions.

Besides participating fully in the organisation of the Peasant Costumes and Agius de Soldanis exhibitions and related events mentioned above, the Gozo Area Office also organised the following exhibitions and events: The exhibition 'Modern Artistic Sensibilities in Maltese Art' was set up at the Gozo Area Exhibition Hall, the Citadel between 18 November 2011 and 14 January. The same location also hosted 'Journeys of Discovery II' from 29 March to 30 April, and '*Più Forte del Tempo*', by Italian artist Giorgio Celiberti, from 10 May to 10 June. The Gozo Heritage Trail 'In Defence of the Cross' took place on 28 January. Three Culture Card activities were also held in Gozo as follows: 'Nature Photography' held in two sessions (19 March and 10 April); 'Communicating with or without words' (14 April); and 'Christmas thematic activity' focusing on crib-making traditions, 22 December. *Jum ix-Xagħra* was celebrated on 29 April by giving free entrance and guided tours to Xagħra residents at Ġgantija, Ta' Kola and the Xagħra Stone Circle.



The Gozo Area Office also participated in the 'Celebration Exhibition' commemorating the Queen's Jubilee, put up by the British Residents Association at the Citadel Centre for Culture and the Arts from April to June, participated in the 'Careers in Tourism' Expo held at the Gozo College Boys Secondary on 26-29 April, and in '12 Steps' organised by the Victoria Local Council in the Citadel. The Old Prison was opened from 7-11pm on six consecutive Fridays from 21 September until 26 October. All Citadel museums had late night openings on 18-20 May for the occasion of *Lejlet Lapsi – Notte Gozitana*; a total of 1,427 attended free of charge. A children's quiz focusing on the Citadel sites was made available in all four museums.

Modern, Maritime, and Military History Department

Malta Maritime Museum

The museum organised or hosted the following exhibitions and events: The annual 'Life at Sea' festival was organised in February and once again proved to be successful with the general public. The exhibition 'Charles Dickens and the Maltese Seamen', including a small display of salvaged material from the wreck, original photos and a copy of the painting *The Volunteer*, featured from 28 February to 28 December, while the IPMS Malta – SSM 31st Annual Scale Model Exhibition of detailed scale models of aircrafts, marine vessels, armoured vehicles, dioramas and figurines was inaugurated on 9 March by the Prime Minister. An 18th century portulan was officially presented by Atlas Insurance Limited on 22 April, while the publication *Frà Johann Josef, Frà Karl Leopold and Frà Ferdinand Von Herberstein, Knights and Sea Captains of Malta* by Prof. Dauber was launched at the museum in collaboration with the Austrian Embassy on 26 April.



A group of inmates from the Correctional Facility of Corradino visited the MMM in collaboration with ICOM Malta and HM on the occasion of International Museum Day on 16 May. The annual general meeting of Grand Harbour Marina took place in June, and two open days were organised on 7 June and 8 September. The exhibition 'Fort St Angelo Heritage Experience' including audiovisual footage of the Fort's history was held between 17 June and 3 December. The results of environmental monitoring at the Hal Saflieni Hypogeum were presented at the St Angelo Hall by Tobit Curteis on 2 August, while the seminar on the 'Archaeotur Project: Integrated Management and Promotion of Archaeological Sites in Ragusa and Malta' was held on 5-7 September at St Angelo's Hall, which also hosted the lecture on 'Count Saverio Marchese's Literary Contributions' by Ms Krystle Farrugia organised by the Malta Historical Society on 18 September.

An exhibition of works by local contemporary artists set up in collaboration with the Valletta 2018 Foundation on the occasion of the visit by the Selection Committee of the European Capital of Culture 2018 to Malta on 14-20 October. The exhibition 'Traditional Maltese Musical Instruments' was set up on 19-21 October on the occasion of Birgufest, which once again was very popular. The ICOM Malta annual conference was held on 26 October, while in November a group of eight RN officers and men visited the museum on the occasion of HMS *Illustrious*' visit to Malta and presented the museum with a damage control report sustained by HMS *Illustrious* (1940) in January 1941 at Malta. The annual general meeting of the Friends of the MMM was held at the museum in December.



The following education-related events were also hosted at the museum: a hands-on session including the making of the *luzzu* scaled model using cardboard on 5 and 10 April, the exhibition 'Art encounters' focusing on art, music and literature by the pupils of St Margaret College, Cospicua Primary in collaboration with HM as part of the *Kreattiv* programme from 14 to 31 May, and a treasure hunt, museum tour and games for children who were introduced to boat building and signalling on 3 July. An In-service course for primary school educators which explored resources and ideas on how museums and historical sites can be stimulating for cross-curricular topics was held on 9-11 July at the museum, which also hosted *Skolasajf* activities from 23 July to 30 August, and a Cultural Mentors Network Meeting on 29 October.

During the year the museum was also visited by the following VIPs: A delegation from the San Diego Maritime Museum in January, a group from the *Soci dell' Arsenale di Palermo* in March, a delegation of Naval EU States Admirals in June, and a group of Turkish naval and military historians led by two admirals in September.



Palace Armoury

Artefacts from the Armoury travelled to the Kremlin, Moscow to feature in the exhibition 'Nine Centuries of Serving Faith and Charity' organised by the Kremlin Museums and Sovereign Military Order of Malta from 6 July to 9 September. The same artefacts subsequently travelled to Poland since they were included in the exhibition 'Around the Maltese Cross' organised by the Historical Museum of Warsaw, highlighting important works of art and regalia of the Order of St John and its links with Polish history from 19 October to 13 January 2013.

The Armoury participated in the *Notte Magica* in January, in the *Notte Bianca* in September, and in the children's festival *Žigužajg* on 20 November, and was visited by a delegation of Naval EU States Admirals and a group of Turkish naval and military historians led by two admirals in June and September respectively.

National War Museum

The museum played an active participation in the 70th anniversary celebrations of the bestowal of the George Cross to Malta. For a couple of days the George Cross was also displayed at the Palace and in Gozo at the *Banca Giuratale*. The museum also participated with the loan of artefacts in the 70th Anniversary Exhibition of the bestowal of the George Cross to Malta organised by the British Residents Association of Gozo. On 24 August *Skolasajf* activities including the making and decoration of paper boats and airplanes and a special adaptation of the classic game Naval Battle based on Operation Pedestal were held at the museum.

On 8 May the museum hosted the official presentation to HM of Mr Charles Paris' wartime slippers made by him in captivity, and opened its doors free of charge for an open day on 8 September and once again during the *Notte Bianca* on 29 September. The museum hosted HRH the Duke of Gloucester on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the granting of the George Cross to Malta on 14 April. It was also visited by a delegation of Naval EU States Admirals in June, a group of Turkish naval and military historians led by two admirals in September, and by a group of six Royal Navy officers on the occasion of HMS *Illustrious* visit to Malta in November.

National Museum of Archaeology Department

Permanent Exhibition Project

Following the opening of the Bronze Age hall last year, works continued on the next hall focusing on the early Phoenician period. This hall opened its doors to the public on 29 September for the *Notte Bianca* and could be appreciated by the thousands who entered the museum for free on that occasion. The highlights of this section, which had not been exhibited since 1995, are the Horus and Anubis gold amulet, the large terracotta sarcophagus and the inscribed papyrus. The artefacts chosen for this hall, aided by various media, present an overview of the general characteristics of the Phoenicians and their legacy to the Maltese culture.





Work on the next hall, which will display the late Phoenician, Punic and Roman periods is underway. The pieces which make up a fireplace previously installed in one of the rooms of the upper floor have been transferred to the NMA from the stores of the SCH in Verdala. The fireplace has been conserved and will be re-instated in its former position in the room which has now been earmarked to be the Roman period hall.

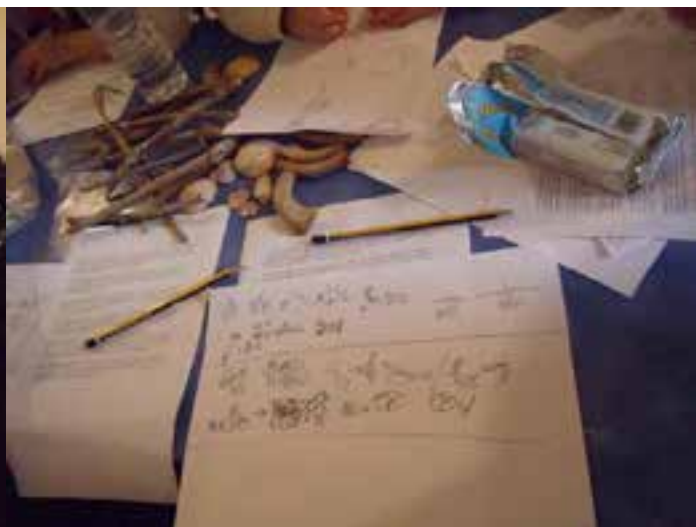
The text for the audio guides for the Neolithic and Bronze Age sections has been submitted. The gallery sheets of the Bronze Age are also in an advanced stage of completion, while the educational worksheets for the Bronze Age and Phoenician sections are being prepared.

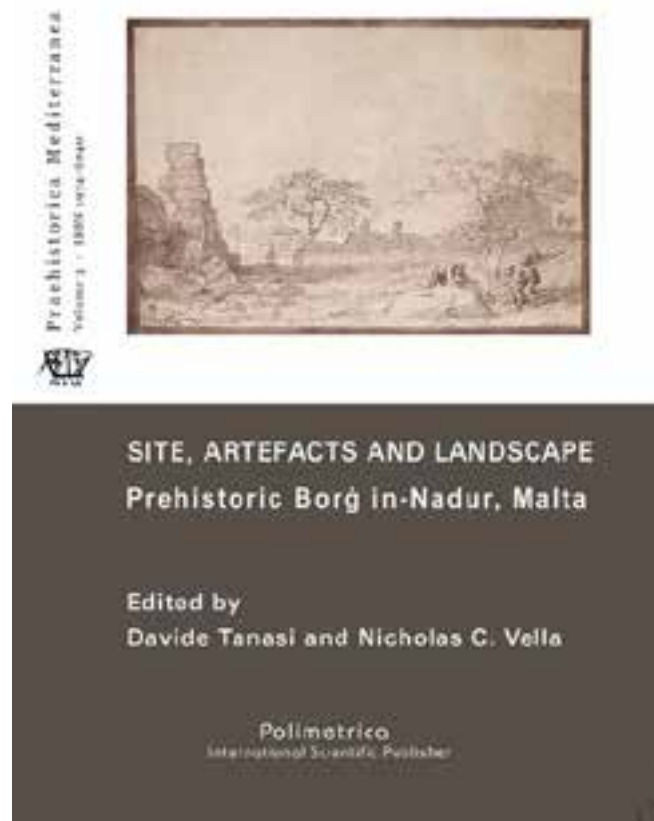
Exhibitions and events

During the period under review the museum has organised and/or hosted the following exhibitions and events.

For Valentine's Day (14 February) a small exhibition '5000 Years of Romance' was set up in the lobby of the museum showing the 'Embracing couple', a very small artefact excavated from Tarxien Temples which shows two people embracing each other – the earliest representation of human feelings in Malta's history.

Culture Card events targeted for children of various ages were held during school holidays so as to make it easier for them to attend. Three sessions were held. 'Life in Prehistoric Times' was spread over three days (4-6 January) with a hands-on activity taking place during each session, including the making of tools from stones and bones, pottery making, and the decorating of stones using the bone tools made during the first session. 'Communicating With or Without Words' (4-5 April) focused on the use of symbolic art, pictograms, and the invention of writing through prehistoric times. Participants were given the opportunity to create their own work of art using shells and bones on clay, to write a message using only pictograms, and decipher a message written in the Phoenician alphabet. 'Trash Archaeology' (1 November) tackled trash as an important resource for archaeologists. Participants were shown how to decipher important archaeological facts from trash. The archaeological experience also included an opportunity for children to present their own theories and conclusions.





The publication *Sites, Artefacts and Landscape: Prehistoric Borġ in-Nadur, Malta*, edited by Davide Tanasi and Nicholas Vella, was launched at the museum on 16 March by HM and the Archaeological Society of Malta. It contains a collection of essays on the site in its local landscape setting and in its regional south-central Mediterranean context, and a comprehensive catalogue of the finds that have never been properly published before.

On 21 March Ms Maria Zammit from the UOM discussed the painted scenes on an ancient Greek *krater* from the national collection reputed to have been found in Malta during a lecture 'Aphrodite or Pandora? An Attic *krater* by the Louvre Painter in the NMA'. The presentation was introduced by Prof. Anthony Bonanno who discussed Greek vase painting and the provenance of this *krater*, which was on display for the occasion.

The exhibition 'Ovid's Metamorphosis' was organised at the foyer of the museum from 25 July to 25 August in collaboration with the Malta Classics Association and the UOM's Evenings on Campus. It included thirty six printed illustrations of Ovid's *Metamorphoses* by German artist Monika Beisner. In connection with this exhibition a special event 'Metamorphosis with Salvu Mallia' was held on 12 August. In collaboration with the UOM's Evenings on Campus, HM invited youths to take part in a re-telling of a selection of Ovid's Greek myths with Salvu Mallia, artist and TV personality. Monika Beisner's prints in the exhibition offered the point of departure for Salvu Mallia's rendition of these myths. A competition tied to this exhibition also enabled the children to submit their own interpretation of Ovid's myths.

The exhibition 'Metal Magic – Spanish Treasures from the Khalili Collections', which was on show at the Salon, came to a close on 29 July. Accompanying educational activities based on the damascene inlay technique were provided and a competition entitled 'Deadly Beautiful' with prizes for those children who show the greatest creativity was held. The Salon also hosted the exhibition 'H.M. Bateman – The Man Who Loved Gozo' (29 September – 31 January 2013), including paintings and other works by British eminent cartoonist H.M. Bateman (1887-1970). On this occasion a lecture entitled 'The Man Who Was H.M. Bateman' was delivered at the Salon by Mr Anthony Anderson,

author of the book with the same title, on 23 October.



During this year's *Notte Bianca*, which was held 29 September, the NMA welcomed 3,130 visitors, who had the opportunity to visit the permanent exhibitions, the temporary exhibition on H.M. Bateman and participate in a competition 'Mystery object in a box'. Information sheets on the most interesting artefacts on display in the museum were handed out for this event. On 5 October the MTA organised a workshop for Italian travel agents in the lecture room.



Another educational event was held at the museum on the occasion of the Żiguzajg World Children's Festival on 20 November. The theme chosen for this year was 'Heroes vs Villains' and the NMA featured with a small play on 'archaeologist vs looter'.

The museum also participated in the following temporary exhibitions or events in other locations: 'Back to Life. Latest conservation projects by HM' at the NMNH from 15 September to 14 October included seven artefacts from the NMA. Twenty-five artefacts from the NMA collection retrieved from the Żejtun Roman Villa during past excavations featured prominently in an exhibition on this site organised by Wirt iż-Żejtun in October. On 7 November the NMA took part in 'Ancestral Voices – Writings from the Past' at the UOM. Several departments, including the Department of Classics and Archaeology, organised a day long activity as part of Discover University Open Week, which consisted of a combination of presentations and exhibits focusing on writings and writing systems from the past, with special reference to the Maltese Islands. There were presentations and/or exhibits on Phoenician/Punic, Greek, Latin, Hebrew, Arabic, and Maltese. Visitors got the opportunity to see various inscribed artefacts and copies of ancient manuscripts, and could speak with various experts in the aforementioned linguistic fields. The NMA participated by lending a number of inscribed artefacts which were used during these discussions.

A number of TV, radio and newspaper interviews were also conducted especially in view of the new Bronze Age and Phoenician halls. A Facebook page has also been set up for the NMA. This is updated weekly to keep followers, which so far number around 700, updated about the events happening at the NMA. The NMA was also awarded a 'Certificate of Excellence for the Year 2012' by the travel website Trip Advisor. Distinguished visitors to the museum during the year under review included the Turkish and Australian Ministers of Foreign Affairs.

Gozo Museum of Archaeology

Plinths, backdrops, info panels and organic specimens were installed in the Prehistoric section showcases (Food, Daily Life and Ritual). Two new artefacts were placed on permanent display in the Medieval Room in March. These were the 'crippled beggar' bronze statuette, previously kept in storage, and a stone with a carved human figure, previously detached from Ras il-Wardija sanctuary site, l/o Kerċem. The latter was handed over to HM by the SCH. A discoid figurine fragment from the Xagħra Stone Circle was placed on permanent display in the Bronze Age room in April. The permanent display inventory was transferred to a standard template which is compatible with MUSES during July and August through the assistance of a summer student. The marble she-wolf statue was temporarily loaned to the Agius de Soldanis commemorative exhibition at MGOZ and the NLM in September and October. The museum featured in several programmes of '*Malta u lil Hinn Minnha*' on TVM throughout the year, including the new season which started in October. All work was implemented by the Gozo Area Office.

Natural History Department

During the year under review work focused on general maintenance and no new display areas were inaugurated. The museum organised or hosted the following exhibitions and events:

The video 'Cranes over Spain' by Steve Zammit Lupi was screened to BirdLife Malta members on 1 February. On 14-15 April the NMNH once more participated in the Mdina Medieval Fest with reduced prices and organised tours of the museum; a hands-on display on distillation was also set up in the front courtyard. A photographic exhibition 'Through my Lens' by Brian J. Abela was hosted from 29 June to 29 July. The Wolverhampton Choir performed in the front courtyard of the museum on 25 July, while the new exhibition hall in the ex-Police Station hosted its first exhibition entitled 'Back to Life: Latest conservation projects by HM' from 15 September to 14 October.



The senior curator conducted HM's 'Sunset Tour' of the Haġar Qim Temples and Nature Trails on 21 April and the Comino Heritage Trail on 6 May. The senior curator also presented two lectures to MCAST Students on the 'Use of Fossils for Studying Climate Change' in January and another lecture at MCAST (Agri-business) on research facilities at the NMNH on 23 April. The museum participated actively in a one day conference 'Natura 2000 Quo Vadis' organised by Gaia Foundation on 25 April, and in an international conference on 'Rehabilitation of Coastal Sites' held on the island of Corvo, Azores on 13-19 May. The senior curator conducted a nature walk 'Nightlife at the Park' at *il-Majjistral* Heritage Park in collaboration with Nature Trust on 28 July, while NMNH staff led a group of teachers and students from Giovanni Curmi Higher Secondary School, Naxxar on a day trip to Cava d'Ispica and Oasi di Vendicari, Sicily on 25 November.

Introduction to Nature Photography: HM's Education Unit and the NMNH organised a course to introduce primary and secondary school students to the art of nature photography. The course was held at the NMNH (3 and 24 March) and at the Gozo Nature Museum (10 April and 10 May). The best photographs submitted by the participants were posted on the museum's Facebook page.

The museum once again participated actively in this year's *SkolaSajf* edition, from 24 July to 31 August. Children were guided around the museum, played a game about animal families and crafted their own plaster animals. Another educational activity on animal families was organised on 2 November. Children had the opportunity to play educational games, tour the museum and feel different animal bones, skins and become familiar with the features that distinguish particular animal families.

The Facebook page and blog (<http://heritagemalta.wordpress.com/>) were regularly updated with various news and topics related to the museum and events. The NMNH also had good media coverage through a number of TV interviews on various aspects of natural heritage. The NMNH was also featured in a number of press articles and news.

Għar Dalam

A very successful open day was held on 19 March, during which animated guided tours featuring 'Giuseppe Despott' were conducted.

An MCAST student prepared a digitised programme on Għar Dalam as part of his IT course. It is envisaged that in 2013 the finished interactive project will be installed at Għar Dalam to augment the interactive interpretation provision on site.



Phoenician, Roman, and Medieval Sites Department

The open day and guided tours of the **Domvs Romana** on 19 March were extremely popular. A special programme of educational activities highlighting domestic life in Roman times was organised for children from Inspire Foundation from 16 July to 24 August, while the site featured in the Rabat Evening Tour: extended opening hours and discounted price from 4 to 30 September. **San Pawl Milqi** was opened to the public for the yearly mass and guided tours on 10 February on the occasion of the feast of St Paul. Guided tours were also held on the occasion of *Festa Bdiewa Burmarrad* organised by the Burmarrad Administrative Council on 15-17 June, while a cultural visit to the site was held by the MCCA on 15 March. **Ta' Mintna Catacombs** hosted a cultural tour by AZAD on 15 February.

Prehistoric Sites Department

Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra

The audioguide script for the visitor centre, Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra has been translated into multiple languages and audio-guides will be launched on site shortly. An exercise to create a visitor profile for visitors to Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra continued with the help of three students who undertook part of the study as part of their Systems of Knowledge Course in their Post-Secondary studies. The sites' opening hours were extended to 19.00 between 1 April and 30 September. An audit of the directional signage leading to Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra was also carried out and new signs were installed in

collaboration with related Local Councils to facilitate vehicle access to the sites.

The two sites hosted the following activities: Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra were especially opened to the public for the observation of the Equinox and Solstice sunrise in March, June, September and December. Tickets for these events were mostly sold out, and complimentary coffee and seasonal snacks were also offered to participants as part of the event. An event to mark the 50th anniversary of BirdLife Malta was hosted at the Visitor Centre on 28 January. A silent concert of electronic music entitled 'Oracle' by local artist Cygna was organised at Ħaġar Qim in March. This event was sold out and resulted in an original experience for interacting with the sites. A passion play with a difference, 'Il-Passjoni f'Ħaġar Qim', was held in the landscape between Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra on 31 March and 1 April.



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On 12 April a session forming part of the Expressive Arts Symposium was held at the Visitor Centre audiovisual hall and included a private concert by local artist Renzo Spiteri. To mark World Heritage Day, a Sunset Heritage Trail was held at Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra on 21 April. This included a guided tour of the Visitor Centre, two sites, Misqa Tanks, and surrounding landscape. The Minister for Tourism, Culture and the Environment Dr Mario De Marco presented his '*Raba' Sena Ta' Hidma*' to the national press at Ħaġar Qim on 2 May. In June, Ħaġar Qim and

Mnajdra were the focus of a feature on *LineaBlu*, a popular Italian culture-oriented show on Italian National TV channel, Rai Uno.

On 29 June the Open Day at Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra with the theme 'A Day in Prehistory' was held, as a joint event with the national seminar for CARARE. It included various information stands, a series of talks in the audiovisual room, children's activities, tours and an animated history display at the Torri tal-Ħamrija. The event was attended by over 3000 visitors. Ħaġar Qim formed part of the visits in the *Skolasajf* initiative between July and August and curators from the Prehistoric Sites Department, together with the Site Executive and Front Office Staff, hosted this initiative which was received well by participants.

Other initiatives held at the sites included Degreeplus organised by the UOM and *Ewropa fuq ir-Roti* organised by MEUSAC. A clean-up was organised in the landscape of Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra by the staff of Hotel Intercontinental, as part of their Responsible Business Week, on 2 October. To mark World Children's Day, children from the Attard, Mtarfa and Santa Venera Scout Groups provided visitors with information about the sites and landscape. In November curators of the department were interviewed in relation to the sheltering projects at Ħaġar Qim, Mnajdra and Tarxien at the 15th edition of the *Borsa Mediterranea del Turismo Archeologico* which took place in Paestum, Italy. On 24 November the symposium by ICOMOS Malta on 'World Heritage Sites: The role of local communities' was hosted at the Visitor Centre.

Tarxien and Ġgantija Temples

The Tarxien Temples were the focus of a number of features on local TV shows, and an interview with Archeo Magazine director, Andreas Steiner. As part of the ongoing collaboration with the Tarxien Local Council, HM gave the council 150 complimentary tickets to the Tarxien Temples to distribute among residents for the festivities of *Jum Ħal Tarxien*. On the day, tours were held on the hour by

by HM staff. The Ġgantija Temples featured in '*Is-Sajf mas-Salv*' on TVM in summer, and were opened free of charge during an open day on 13 December and guided tours were offered.

Ta' Ħaġrat and Skorba

In January an educational worksheet on the Mġarr Temples was created with the intention of enticing youngsters (9-12 year-olds) to interact with the site and to understand better the significance of the temples in their landscape setting. Other educational initiatives included tours for DegreePlus organised by the UOM.

HM also participated in *Ġieħ l-Imġarr*, an event organised by the Mġarr Local Council on 5 February, to honour those who have contributed to the community of Mġarr. *Ġieħ l-Imġarr* was this year awarded to David Trump. In view of this, HM set up six information panels which were launched on the day, and exhibited in the hall of the local council.

The department maintained its collaboration with the Mġarr Local Council by participating in the annual spring event on 15 April – *Festa Frawli* – during which event the site of Ta' Ħaġrat was opened to the public with guided tours at the reduced price of €1. Furthermore, on 22 April, a tour was organised exclusively for HM members, which highlighted the agricultural landscape and local community's involvement in the management and care of the Mġarr World Heritage Sites.

Ħal Saflieni Hypogeum

A script for a fifteen minute infomercial on this project was written by the department, and the feature was produced using footage filmed for the same purpose. Copies of this infomercial were distributed to journalists and to staff working in prehistoric sites. The project was concluded this year and a closure event was held on site on 30 April.

Following a request by St Benedict College, a presentation about the Hypogeum was delivered to Form 1 students at the school. Since it is very difficult for school groups to visit the site, such outreach activities are considered an essential element of an educational programme which still needs to be developed for the site.

Discussions about the revision of interpretation facilities were initiated and focused on themes, possible artefacts to display and how to make the display more interactive. Necessary changes and installation of new interpretation facilities can be carried out when the site is closed for the implementation of the EEA project in 2014. A set of new postcards for the Hypogeum were produced by Clive Vella. The department provided brief information for each card, to ensure that the quality of information supplied in merchandise sold from the site is correct and informative. The postcards have since been on sale from the site. Discussions were held with Exalta Ltd regarding a possible sponsorship of ten new audio-guide units for the site. Currently, no extra audio-guide units are available in the case of failure, which puts the current sets under stress.





Borg in-Nadur

On 20 April Borg in-Nadur received its first of a series of visits by spiritual groups that seek to enjoy the site with a difference, compared to the regular visitor. Considering the ever increasing requests for these kinds of visits, the Prehistoric Sites Department created a Standard Operating Procedure document to regulate these visits in the best interests of the sites and the visitors. Also in relation to the spiritual significance of Borg in-Nadur, throughout the year the department established contact with the prayer group that visits the Bronze Age remains on a weekly basis. This is with the intention of increasing the awareness of the visitors about the site's unique archaeological value and to outline possible measures which can be taken to ensure that the site itself as well as the wellbeing of the members of the prayer group can be safeguarded.

Research, Conservation, and Collections

Collections Management

The Collections Management Department handles all recording and, in certain cases, manages or coordinates acquisitions, mobility of collections\items for purposes of loans in\out, project monitoring for conservation projects and population of MUSES – the in-house collections database. The departure of a key member who handled monitoring of conservation projects reduced the involvement of the unit in conservation project progress monitoring, but did not stop the important task of generating the file and recording the projects in their respective item's database record.

General

The main thrust for the year was to populate MUSES using graduate interns and university undergraduates who are specialising in specific humanities subjects related to our needs. The inventory consists of the basic physical data of an object whereas the catalogue is an extended record containing notes on historic, bibliographic and provenance annotations. The tasks related to conservation projects monitoring, namely projects with all their related documentation: including signed registration, movement recording, intermediate and final reports and adherence to records management principles in the use of the project file, were partially taken over by the collections manager, in close liaison with the Records Management Office in order to adopt international standards in record keeping and inventory control. This paves the way for an eventual seamless transfer of data into a Collections Management System (CMS) and ensures audit trails and technical documentation are stored for future consultation as part of the object's history. The conservation report generated at the end of each project is filed for future consultation in future projects. This year 533 projects were opened (*refer to list*).

The department was also actively involved in the Open Method of Collaboration (OMC) initiative of the European Commission through regular working group meetings and plenary sessions held in Brussels. Malta was involved in two working groups: Risk Assessment, and Transport. A lot of work was carried out in finding ways of how to simplify methods in encouraging mobility of collections across Europe. Thus issues such as indemnity and insurance, risk assessment, shipping\transport costs and documentation, Immunity from seizure, due diligence, valuation for insurance and loans purposes, loan fees and long-term loans were discussed, researched through surveys and through involvement of international consultants. The conclusion of this working group saw the publishing of a comprehensive Toolkit Manual, which is to be distributed throughout the EU.

The department also involved in upgrading policies on acquisitions, loans and access to collections for research purposes. It collaborated with several departments on numerous aspects of collections management: loans in exhibitions, providing a template for calculation of costs in conservation projects, consultancy on storage furniture and equipment for the 'Back Home Project' of the NMFA, supervision of ongoing library collections' cataloguing among other projects.

Acquisitions

Acquisitions throughout the year remained consistently good, especially donations. These were all immediately registered, fully documented and accessioned into MUSES by instantly assigning a unique object number. An object file is generated through Records Management thus ensuring completeness of records, traceability and transparency in the process.

There were approximately six hundred acquired items (600) - donations and purchases - this year: the approximation is due to some items which could not be transferred to the inventory, therefore accessioned properly, due to pending issues (*refer to table*). There are also a large number of natural history specimens (c.2000 insects and an unspecified number of molluscs) which still needs to be input but is currently being worked on. (Note: Sets of items are considered as singular items).

A donation worth mentioning is that of a large Cali painting - *Ophelia* - from a private owner in Australia. The process involved making all shipping arrangements, landing and eventual superficial conservation in preparation for exhibiting.



Inventorisation and cataloguing

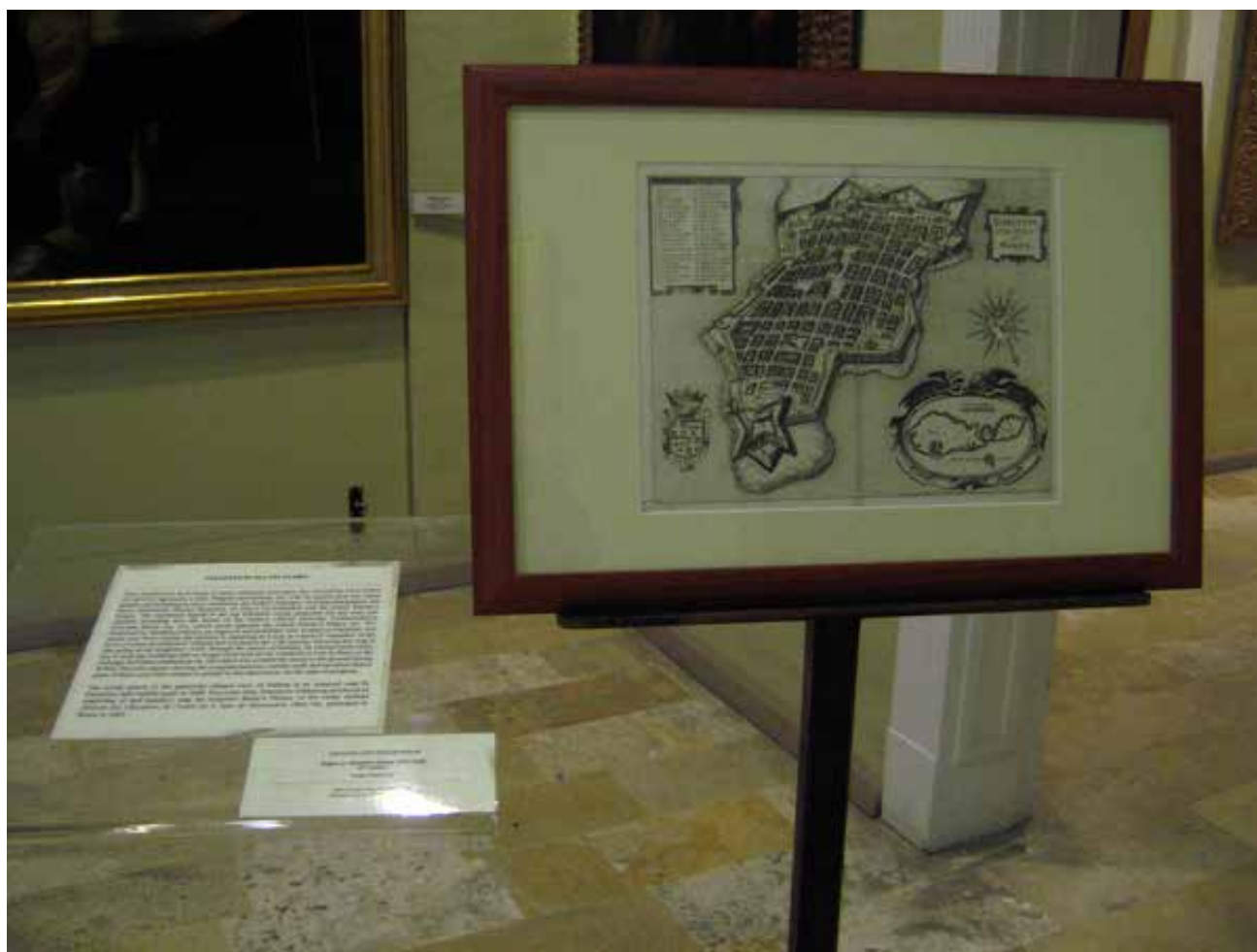
Cataloguing and condition assessment of display items and reserve collection of the NMA: The on-line Condition Assessment Form developed last year led to the conclusion of the inventorying, cataloguing and conditioning assessing exercise on-site at the NMA. The exercise took place in the exhibition halls during visiting hours, thus exposing visitors to behind-the-scenes work. The items were all input into MUSES with a newly assigned unique record number while all pre-existing numbers or markings were recorded as well, thus ensuring that no past identifiers were being lost in the digitisation of these objects. Cataloguing of the extensive archaeological reserve collection was also continued through the engagement of a contracted archaeologist with good experience on MUSES and through summer undergraduates from the UOM. The former completed over one thousand (1000+) catalogue entries in nearly eight months, whereas the students completed nearly one thousand five hundred (c.1500).

Inventorying and cataloguing of the McCarthy Crib Collection at the Inquisitor's Palace: The inventorying and cataloguing of nearly the entire (432 out of c.460 items) crib collection donated to HM by Mr and Mrs A. McCarthy was reactivated after the inventorying had been left pending by the departure of a staff member. This provided the opportunity to upgrade the extant partial data to fit into MUSES. The information obtained from several sessions with the donor and the documentation data was input into MUSES.



The cataloguing of the reserve collection at the Palace Armoury was also commenced through a suitably qualified Danish intern, who assisted the curator to research and catalogue 432 items from this important, yet still not fully documented, collection.

The Majolica Collection and the Albert Ganado Map Collection at the NMFA: Since the condition assessment and conservation proposals for the entire majolica collection of 458 units is the subject for an undergraduate thesis by one of the B.Cons students, under the supervision of the collections manager, it was decided to combine this study with a cataloguing exercise using interns. All items have a MUSES record (full inventory) including photographic documentation: nearly 300 have their full catalogue records completed on-line. The Ganado Map Collection's cataloguing also continued being updated extensively through contracting a researcher with experience on MUSES. She worked together with the curator to complete 417 records out of a total of 447.



All historically relevant fixtures, installations and features in the Fort St Elmo complex were inventorised. The on-site survey took several days to conclude and the follow-up data collation, inputting and reporting several weeks.

Thirteen government ministry offices, palaces and agency offices were visited in view of the ongoing programme of updating the inventory records of long-term loaned artefacts (mostly paintings, sculptures, furniture pieces and decorative arts) found in prominent public buildings. The exercise consisted of recording all the data pertaining to these artefacts, including photographs, measurements, etc. All the data has been captured into MUSES.

Libraries: The effort to continue cataloguing HM library material proceeded through contracting a librarian. This year the focus was on the NMFA library which included a large donation of about 250 books from the UK (in 2011) and the MMM. Another large donation of eighteen cartons containing approximately two hundred volumes was received from the UK mid-year and this was also included in the programme.

Arts and Palaces Department

Acquisitions from Contemporary Art fund

For the third time running, the museum was entrusted with the administration of Vote 5557 (Contemporary Art Fund). The committee, chaired by the senior curator and including Dr Joseph Paul Cassar (University of Baltimore, USA), and the Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art, proposed a shortlist for acquisitions most of which were eventually acquired. The task was concluded in November and a detailed report eventually submitted.

Reserve Collection

Works on the reserve collection has continued with a relatively good pace. The following has been carried during period under review. A space within the basement area used as a reserve collection for modern and contemporary art works has been re-organised. All works were wrapped and labelled accordingly. The re-organised space was designed in a way to facilitate access to the works. Most of the work was processed by four British interns. In conjunction with this exercise the art works were graded accordingly to their artistic status. Two other areas which are also used as a reserve collection are currently being re-organised. Modern and contemporary art works are being stacked and stored according to inventory number also with respect to size unless these are three-dimensional works. In the very near future new shelving will be added for better access.

Archives and research

The new museum project requires long overdue research input leading to a more contemporary interpretation of the collection. The major project initiated this year, also directly related to this pressing need, concerns object files. Each object in the collection has been assigned a file where all pertinent hard copy data and images will be stored. This system shall complement the modern artist dossier system established in the 1990s. Dossiers are nonetheless being re-organised and upgraded with new additions. Recent acquisitions affected through Contemporary Art Fund have also been thoroughly documented. Given that the chosen policy was to acquire works of art directly from the artist or his family and avoid middleman such as auction sales or consultants, this need could be more effectively addressed. Copies of records, newspaper cuttings, images and related data were willingly forwarded on request once artefact was acquired.



Restoration of paintings from the permanent display

Another important requirement which was addressed throughout the period under review concerns the state of conservation of works in the national collection. A priority list has been drafted and the necessary conservation works on these undertaken according to schedule. Thanks to the support of the Friends of the NMFA, the picture frame of Jusepe Ribera's St Stephen was also restored. Funds were raised by the Friends NMFA committee through two dinners held at the museum.



Maps, prints and drawings collections

The Albert Ganado Map Collection has now been completely mounted and inventory records tallied. The collection of maps has also been properly sorted according to themes and topics for ease of reference. The museum's prints and drawings collection is one particular cluster that still requires in depth study. During the period under review the first steps have been taken in hand to empower this necessary research to happen. The collection has now been properly classified and sorted for ease of reference. Discussions are currently underway with academics of the University of Genoa to bring the collection to the attention of students specialised in the study of drawings.

Bieganski

In May the *Times of Malta* published a prominently featured article highlighting Polish collector Zbigniew Bieganski's intention to donate his 2,000 strong collection of art on condition that Government provide museum facilities where to display his collection. The strength of his collection was highlighted in the media on grounds that it held key works by 19th and 20th century leading masters including Picasso, Monet, Corot, Lebasque and others. A Michelangelo drawing was also highlighted.

HM was roped at the initial stages and feedback on a possible way forward requested. Findings confirmed that Mr Bieganski had set up a foundation to manage his collection of art works once transferred to it instead of an outright donation to the people of Malta. He also mooted the possibility of going for a shared revenue model on entry ticket sales. The proposals remained nonetheless unclear.

Following a meeting with Mr Bieganski, including peer stakeholders and the Hon. Minister, it was decided to carry out a general review of the collection held by Mr Bieganski in Malta. The methodology chosen by MH, and endorsed by the Ministry, is summarised as follows:

- shortlist a selection of works by key or leading masters
- Forward notice of these works to leading academics in the field associated or working with internationally recognised museums and cultural institutions on email.
- If the initial reaction to this notification turned out to be positive the ministry could then opt to invite the selected expert to examine the work at first hand and confirm or otherwise.
- Once authenticity is secured HM would have then proceeded with defining provenance of each as clearly as possible.

The findings of this extensive exercise, which covered well over 1,000 works of art, can be summarised as follows: a) not more than 20 works from a collection of more than 1,000 works qualified as by leading masters. The rest were minor or regional artists with no direct link or Malta context, b) of these 20 works close to half failed first-impression attributions requested on email in an explicitly clear form. These included key works that were being construed as the backbone of the Bieganski collection. Given these clear initial reactions and the results of the preliminary surveys carried out onsite, it was decided to discard this potential project.

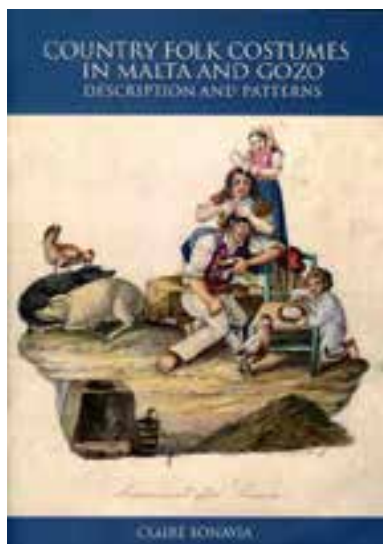
Contemporary Art Museum Project

The curatorial team of the museum was also called to contribute in a special working group with the specific objective of developing a brief for Malta's museum of contemporary art. The following support and feedback was provided: Active participation and leading role on meetings held with Tate Plus Network representatives, engaged by the ministry as special consultants to this project; feedback and input at various stages of the drafting process of the design brief. The senior curator has also attended a working group meeting in London and was invited to focused meetings with Tate merchandise company and curators of the Royal Collection (London). He also paid onsite visits to Turner Contemporary in Margate to acquaint himself with work practices and gallery requirements for contemporary art museums. The brief has now been completed ready for publication.

During the period under review the curatorial pool at the museum has provided regular assistance to students and scholars carrying out research on works of art in the collection. An average of six students per month was given the necessary assistance as required. Visiting scholars, both local and international, were also given the necessary assistance and guidance. The following networking initiatives were undertaken: In October, the Silver Society of the UK paid a week long visit to Malta, during which they identifies some of the silver items in the collection. In September the senior curator was invited to deliver two lectures on Caravaggio and Malta at Uppsala University, Sweden. This was also a good opportunity to visit the National Museum in Stockholm which has just embarked on a major renovation project happening over the next three years.

Conservation Departments

The Textiles Department published the manual *Methods for Storing Historical Costumes and Accessories*, kindly sponsored by the Farsons Foundation. Another publication, *Country Folk Costumes in Malta and Gozo* by Claire Bonavia contained a description and patterns of all the different components which form part of both male and female country folk attire. Both publications were published on the occasion of the Peasant Costumes exhibition. Claire Bonavia presented a paper 'Country Folk Costumes' at the costume colloquium held at the Auditorium al Duomo in Florence held on 8-11 November. The same author with Jeannette Huy also wrote an article entitled 'The Conservation Treatment of a Flemish Tapestry' which was published in the summer issue No 54 of *Treasures of Malta*. A picture of the restored tapestry appeared in the front page of the issue.



David Bugeja presented a paper entitled 'The Enclosure: sealing a 15th century panel painting in its decorative frame to control its microclimate' at the ICOM Malta Annual Conference held at the MMM on 26 October. Mario Galea presented a paper entitled 'The Preventive Conservation Unit of the Conservation Division of HM', while Frank Chetcuti presented a paper entitled 'Traditional 'deffun' mortars versus modern equivalents' at the same conference.

Ethnography Department

Inquisitor's Palace

Relevant collections were secured through donations, namely baptismal dresses, a hand knitted bedspread and other textile artefacts from Ms Mary Attard, lace (formerly belonging to Dun Alfred Gatt's family) from Ms May Caruana, early 20th century hats from Marco and Mario Grech and Ms Lydia Bugeja, and other textile artefacts from Mario Coleiro. A very relevant early 20th century hunter's dress was, together with other textile artefacts, donated by Georgina, Mary and Jane Saydon. The section also secured through acquisitions twelve early 20th century sewing machines, a cotton gin and a late 19th century clock *Tal-Kampnari* from Ms Monica Cuschieri.

As far as the reserve collection is concerned further progress was registered in the collection's reorganisation project. The unit also managed to secure further vaulted spaces on the first floor in the west wing within the Birgu Armoury. Modern partitions were removed and the original volumes reinstated. Following maintenance works and repairs will be the Armoury made accessible to the general public on special occasions.

As to the costume collection, most of the year's resources were invested in the Peasant Costumes Exhibition. Nonetheless the ongoing documentation and conservation project with customised mounts for the same collection maintained a steady pace.

At **Ta' Kola Windmill** onsite discussions with conservators took place in August re rainwater surface run off and current damage to stone walls, and the state of conservation of several artefacts. A number of artefacts from the **Folklore Museum** including textiles, a parchment document and a group of 20th century clay statuettes were sent to Bighi for conservation treatment. The latter group was returned in June.

Modern, Maritime, and Military History Department

Malta Maritime Museum

The Anadrian Hall was spruced up. All engine plinths and the metal staircase were repainted in a new colour – shipside grey instead of forest green. The triple expansion engine's electric motor and ancillaries were seen too as well with the help of Mr John Hili, a renowned Maltese collector and connoisseur of steam engines/electrical works. Another of the smaller inboard engines displayed in the intermediate level was seen to and re-painted. Unfortunately, the museum still lacks the services of a person proficient in steam engines.

An 18th century Frigate model, possibly as those favoured by Maltese corsairs, was displayed for the very first time. This period model was conserved and partly restored by Mr Joseph Muscat of Rabat, a former Museums Department employee, maritime historian and restorer. On reaching pension age in 1995, this model had to be shelved until recent years when a solution was found in how to continue its restoration. An extremely rare 17th century 'Galileo' type terrestrial telescope was also displayed for the first time after being restored.



The Keeper of Models continued the routine cleaning and maintenance of ship models and other artefacts on exhibition at the MMM. The showcasing of the collection's pride of place model, the mid 18th century Order's Nautical School instruction model was discussed and also planned, hopefully to be carried out next year. Mr Abela continued the scratch built model of the Order's Carrack *Sant' Anna*. Prof. Robert Dauber, Knight Grand Cross of the Order of St John and author of several studies and publications on the Order's Navy is assisting in this project by his own research and two yearly visits in April and October. Since no plans exist of this carrack, the model is being fashioned on a sole artist impression and from various descriptions that compare and discuss its size to other better documented European carracks. The model's hull has been redesigned and worked upon three times to ensure accuracy.



Two interpretation panels on Nelson and Malta were installed close to the Bighi Naval Hospital section as was the bronze bust of same by Robert Strickland. In 2002, a portrait depicting a Royal Naval auxiliary steam yacht flying the blue ensign in calm weather was purchased and displayed in the Royal Naval Auxiliaries section within the same hall. The opportunity was availed this year to purchase its companion piece depicting the same yacht in inclement weather and displayed alongside.

The first phase of uniforms reserve collection project was concluded this year. The whole collections of both the MMM and those of the NWM are sited here. The two rooms were vacated and items located elsewhere within the museum pending refurbishing and upgrading works in these rooms. Rockwool for this project was acquired for free from the former Marsa Shipbuilding. The next phase will hopefully see the collections back in a cleaner and stable environment. The opportunity was also availed as part of this project to re-locate and better store the Malta Shipyards salvaged items in the future Merchant, Navigation, Voyage, Cartography and Navigation Instruments Halls.

Great efforts were made to organise the boat storage. Wheeled trailers and wooden cradles was designed and made for each and every boat tackled so far, amounting to just over thirty traditional Maltese boats. A tractor was late last year adapted as a crane and used to hoist boats complete with

their wooden cradles onto the racking system. Work could not be continued mostly because of structural problems in half of the hall.

The technician shipwright unfortunately fell ill and could not continue with his designated work as from April. It is earnestly hoped that in the coming year a solution is found since of the pressing needs of the unique collection of traditional Maltese boats of the museum. Most of these crafts are sole survivors or rare examples in need of attention. The technician working exhibits tended to the Stuart engine on display at the Anadrian Hall with the assistance of William Tanti Bellotti.

Various artefacts from Dock No. 1 were salvaged, mainly connected with the sail loft, including early 19th century workman's benches and sewing machines. A dislodged banister complete with newel posts was also salvaged and is to be restored and installed in the clock mechanism chamber of the MMM next year. In May, all staff members took part in the salvage and replacement of the MV Pampas bell from Ta' Cejlu Church at Marsa. The bell is undergoing conservation and will eventually be displayed together with other bells from the March 1942 convoy as the main attraction in the WWII section of the Royal Navy Hall at the MMM.

The working research relationship with Professor Raymond Agius of Vittoriosa, residing in the UK was continued. Prof. Agius is a direct relative of Guzeppi Ruggier (known in the UK as Joe Rogers), who entered the hall of fame of mariners in 1859. Prof. Agius was present for the inauguration of a display on Charles Dickens at the museum, which apart from the various antique publications by Dickens, also featured artefacts donated by Prof. Agius. It should be observed that Charles Dickens wrote on the Maltese hero in a small work. Various discussions were also held with the National Aquarium of Qawra regarding possible co-operation and assistance between the two entities.



The support from Grand Harbour Marina in the form of sponsorship continued this year towards the museum's chime of bells which is to be rung on special commemorative dates linked to Malta's maritime history. This is a relatively complex project in that second hand harmonically tuned bells are being sourced through the British Keltek Trust. This non-profit organisation's goal is to find new homes to bells originating from British churches which either closed down and thus their items including the bells are sold, or the bells are in any way surplus in still used churches following the modification of the ring composition or total replacement. The proposed chime is to be composed of a minimum of eight to a maximum of twelve harmonically tuned bells depending on various factors such as weight, diameter and note. HM in 2010 used the services of the trust to acquire the three replacement clock bells. Keltek Trust located in 2011 a part set of four small bells by the renowned Gillet and Johnston Bell Foundry, which became available since the church in which they are presently installed in is to acquire heavier bells. These four bells (MMM chime bell numbers 1 to 4) cast in 1932 will be available for purchase around March/April next year. Thanks to the Grand Harbour Marina sponsorship, the first bell for this chime was purchased. Cast in 1933 also by Gillet and Johnston it will eventually be bell No. 5, and was likewise sourced by the same trust. Bells from this foundry are much sought after because of their near legendary good quality and since this bell foundry ceased to operate in 1957. Mr and Mrs Dave Kelly, trustees of the above mentioned trust, visited the MMM in early December and further discussions about this project were held which secured chime bell number 6, also by the same foundry dated 1940 to be purchased early next year.



The senior curator and curator attended the Association of Mediterranean Maritime Museums annual conference which was held in Istanbul Turkey in May and both presented a paper, one focusing on traditional Maltese boats and the other on the relevance and connection of the human element and traditional boats. The opportunity was availed of to study the various Western captured bronze cannon, armour and weapons found in the Military History Museum in Istanbul and contacts with the director and curators there established. The curator represented the museum in October in the first Turkish Military History conference held in Turkey, presenting two papers, one on the MMM on behalf of the senior curator and the other his own on the Order's and Maltese corsair's participation in the Russo-Turkish wars.

The senior curator and curator were interviewed on various occasions with reference to various Maritime topics by local media, and assisted a number of Sixth Form and UOM students in their studies and dissertations throughout the year.

As in previous years, the MMM acquired a number of artefacts for its collection by donation, transfer and purchase. A full list of acquisitions can be found in Appendix. Of note amongst these acquisitions are the transfer of the Sant' Anna relief from Fort St Elmo which is the only known artefact in the National Collection known or attested to have belonged to the carrack with the same namesake, the purchase of the portrait of the lawyer and merchant Dr Giuseppe Zammit popularly known as 'Cejlu', the MV Pampas bell and the above mentioned Royal Navy yacht portrait.

Palace Armoury

The Gasan and Mamo sponsorship this year tackled the lack of showcase problems. Mr Michael Stroud, former curator and consultant in this project, designed the required twelve showcases, which should be completed next year. Another related project was the design of two field cannon carriages by the same. Two Order of St John bronze cannon, one cast in Augsburg, the other by the Maltese *Gioacchino Trigance* in Milan have been identified as actually being field cannon. These are somewhat rare considering that in our military needs of the period, the Order preferred to invest more on defensive rampart and naval cannon. To date, only one such cannon was known in the collection being the renowned leather covered cannon which was this year also conserved and returned back on display. The future Communications Hall at the MMM was set up as a studio for this project. Mr Stroud took exact profile drawings of both 18th century cannon at the PA following studies on the different designs of such field cannon carriages, namely German and French schools and also then military design preferences according to the decade of production. Two different designs in typical 18th century practice of drawing and detailing were made in customary 1:2 including all metal fittings. The next step was to actually 'dismember' each carriage design, piece by piece and every component, be it wood or metal drawn 1:1 as templates for both HM wood and metalworkers.



The keeper of models cleaned all stone fortification models in the collection together with the wooden model of Valletta which was transferred from the NMA this year. Further studies and discussions were conducted about the eventual return of the Palace Armoury to its original hall inside the Palace instead of the present Parliament which is to be vacated next year. The curator presented a paper on the Palace Armoury collection in the ICOMAM conference.



Various meetings were also held with the Hamrun Local Council, re the loan of two broken iron cannon to be displayed on the Atocha (Tas-Samra) church parvis. Two other cannon were loaned to *Din L-Art Helwa* and were eventually restored in order to be installed on St Agatha's Tower at Mellieha next January.

National War Museum

The curator continued research into various aspects of the collection about new displays for the Military and NWM in Fort St Elmo. The Memorial Air Raid Siren, salvaged from the Drydocks, was sounded for the first time. The senior curator was interviewed on telephone by the National Australia Radio regarding Malta's role and sacrifices during WWII in April and by various other stations on the George Cross. In September, he was again interviewed and filmed for the BBC James Holland series of WWII documentaries to be aired next January.



The museums' display was tended to and improved slightly this year with the inclusion of a few donated artefacts. HM Keeper of models tended regularly to the museum's collection of models and continued to assist the curator in assessing and labelling the reserve collection. The NWM acquired a considerable number of artefacts for its collection by donation, transfer, and purchase. A full list of acquisitions can be found in Appendix.



National Museum of Archaeology Department

Inventory and related work

The inventoried artefacts found in the store referred to as 'the Ali Baba collection' have been transferred to the relevant museums as listed in the table below:

Artefacts transferred from the NMA in 2012

Location	Object No./ID	Name/Description
Palace Armoury	722	Rapier Pommel (260)
MMM	465	Bronze early 17th century bell complete with clapper emblazoned with the arms of the Order of St John.
MMM	483	Copper liquid measure with label.
MMM	484	Copper liquid measure with label.
MMM	485	Copper liquid measure with label.
MMM	486	Bronze measures: 1 tumolo, ½ tumolo, 1 mondello, ½ mondello, 1 misura, 1/2 misura. 19th century.
MMM	487	Bronze measures: 1 tumolo. Deformation due to impact damage.
MMM	488	Measure - Copper based metal painted in black.
MMM	489	Measure of 1765.
MMM	490	Measure with punched mark. Partly painted in green.
MMM	491	Steel yard without weights.
MMM	642	Engraving with mathematical instrument.
MMM	657	Box complete with weights, scale missing.
MMM	697	Stamp plate - Mathematical instrument by Stanley in wooden case.
MMM	698	Stamp plate - Mathematical instrument by Stanley in wooden case.
MMM	700	Stamp plate - Mathematical instrument by Stanley in wooden case.
MMM	703	Box of weights
MMM	699	Stamp plate - Mathematical instrument by Stanley in wooden case.
MMM	514	Ball's seal.

MMM	516	Hand seal - Audit Office.
MMM	536	Ball's seal without a handle.
MMM	524	Hand seal - Malta Government Charities.
MMM	501	Hand seal - Di Malta Magistrato.
MMM	509	Hand seal - Consolato Pontificio in Malta.
MMM	493	Hand seal presented by Emm Xerri 25/6/25.
MMM	525	Hand seal - Quarantine Office.
MMM	507	Hand seal - Generale di Polizia. Seal is almost worn out.
MMM	505	Hand seal - Malta Port Department. Magistrate Parnis Bequest
MMM	528	Hand seal - Consulate (Hannover).
MMM	517	Hand seal - Tesoreria del Governo.
MMM	518	Hand seal - Consulate of Venice.
MMM	531	Hand seal - Hospital (Nov. 1947).
MMM	502	Hand seal - Mediterranean Commissionary to Accounts.
MMM	519	Hand seal - Corte Civile Prima Aula, Malta Regia.
MMM	506	Hand seal - Hypothec Sigillum Registri Melitensis.
MMM	527	Hand seal - Monte di Pieta.
MMM	521	Hand seal - Executive Police, Malta. Handle detached from seal.
MMM	513	Hand seal - Public Health Department. G. Parnis Bequest
MMM	523	Hand seal - La Sanita di Malta.
MMM	526	Hand seal - Regina Victoria.
MMM	539	Hand seal - Grain Department. Wood fragments of the missing handle.
MMM	511	Hand seal - Lazzaretto of Malta.
MMM	529	Hand seal - Segreteria della Regia Commissione.
MMM	522	Hand seal - Ball Governor of Malta.
MMM	533	Hand seal - Corte di Commercio.
MMM	540	Hand seal - Corte D'Appello.
MMM	549	Commis. Debitor. Punch marker without a handle.
MMM	497	Hand seal - Treasurer.
MMM	495	Hand seal - Public Secretary, Malta.
MMM	515	Hand seal - Public Health Department.
MMM	520	Hand seal - Corte Civile - Judge Alfred Parnis 25/8/25.
MMM	530	Hand seal - Lascaris seal.
MMM	534	Hand seal - Gran Corte della Valletta.
MMM	508	Hand seal - Great Seal with lid missing.
MMM	499	Hand seal - Malta Court of Special Commission.
MMM	457	Engraved copper plate; map of Valletta and environment; 19th century. Stable condition.
MMM	456	Engraved copper plate; early 19th century bill of exchange. Stable condition.
MMM	458	Engraved copper plate; scene in the Valletta marina with Senglea and Dockyard Creek at a distance depicting a gentleman surrounded by 3 boat men; 19th century. Stable condition.
MMM	455	Engraved copper plate; Our Lady of the fleet protecting the Lascara galley navigating between Sicily and Malta; plate pertaining to the confraternity of seafarers; 17th or early 18th century. Stable condition.
MMM	453	Engraved copper plate; map of St Paul's Bay showing site of St Paul's shipwreck; 1st half of the 18th century. Stable condition.
MMM	454	Engraved copper plate; map of Rhodes; 18th century; author: Petroschi. Stable condition; possibly varnished.
	452	Engraved copper plate; map of the kingdom of Jerusalem with cartouche and coat of arm of G.M. de Vilhena (1722-36); 1st half of the 18th century. Discoloured stains.
Inquisitor's Palace	561	Glazed ceramic oil lamp. Lower part is broken with pieces missing.
Inquisitor's Palace	562	Stamp printing block: George V, 2 ½ penny Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	564	Stamp printing block: George V, 2 ½ penny Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	565	Stamp printing block: George V, 2 ½ penny Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	566	Stamp printing block: George V, 2 penny Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	568	Stamp printing block: George V, 3 penny Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	569	Stamp printing block: George V, 3 penny Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	570	Stamp printing block: 4 penny Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	571	Stamp printing block: George V, 1 penny Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	572	Stamp printing block: George V, 1 penny Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	573	Stamp printing block: George V, ½ penny Malta stamp; split in 2.

Inquisitor's Palace	574	Stamp printing block: George V, ½ penny Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	575	Stamp printing block: George V, ½ penny Malta stamp on wooden block. The metal plate is split in 3 parts.
Inquisitor's Palace	576	Stamp printing block: George V, 3 penny Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	577	Stamp printing block: 4 ½ penny Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	578	Stamp printing block: George V, 1 ½ penny Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	579	Stamp printing block: 4 1/2 penny Malta stamp on wooden block.
Inquisitor's Palace	580	Stamp printing block: George V, 1 ½ penny Malta stamp, split into 3 parts.
Inquisitor's Palace	581	Stamp printing block: George V, ¼ penny Malta stamp, split in 2 parts.
Inquisitor's Palace	582	Stamp printing block: George V, ¼ penny Malta stamp, is not totally split in 2 parts.
Inquisitor's Palace	583	Stamp printing block: 6 pence Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	584	Stamp printing block: 6 pence Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	585	Stamp printing block: George V, 1 penny Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	586	Stamp printing block: George V, 2 penny Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	587	Stamp printing block: George V, 2 ½ penny Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	588	Stamp printing block: George V, 2 ½ penny Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	589	Stamp printing block: George V, ¼ penny Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	590	Stamp printing block: 6 pence Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	591	Stamp printing block: 4 ½ penny Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	592	Stamp printing block: George V, 2 penny Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	593	Stamp printing block: George V, 1 ½ penny Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	597	Stamp Printing Block - 10 shillings stamps - Shipwreck of St Paul. Filiform corrosion. The block is wrapped in an envelope and has a card with details.
Inquisitor's Palace	598	Printing block - Stocks and shares.
Inquisitor's Palace	599	Printing block - Contracts.
Inquisitor's Palace	600	Stamp printing block - George V, 1 pound.
Inquisitor's Palace	601	Stamp printing block - George V, 5 pound.
Inquisitor's Palace	602	Stamp printing block - George VI & Queen Elizabeth, ½ penny (1937 Coronation Malta stamp issue).
Inquisitor's Palace	616	Stamp plate - Malta 2 ½ pence.
Inquisitor's Palace	617	Stamp plate - Malta 1 penny.
Inquisitor's Palace	618	Stamp plate - Malta 6 pennies.
Inquisitor's Palace	619	Stamp plate - Malta 3 pennies.
Inquisitor's Palace	643	Stamp plate - Stamps - St Paul
Inquisitor's Palace	644	Stamp plate - Stamps - Boat.
Inquisitor's Palace	645	Stamp plate - Stamps - St Publius
Inquisitor's Palace	646	Stamp plate - Stamps - Hagar Qim.
Inquisitor's Palace	647	Stamp plate - Stamps - blank, 5 shillings.
Inquisitor's Palace	648	Stamp plate - Neptune
Inquisitor's Palace	650	Stamp plate - 2 shillings.
Inquisitor's Palace	651	Stamp plate - 1 & 6 penny encasement.
Inquisitor's Palace	652	Stamp plate - 1 shilling, Sliema.
Inquisitor's Palace	653	Stamp plate - 10 shilling.
Inquisitor's Palace	654	Stamp plate - 3 shilling.
Inquisitor's Palace	655	Stamp plate - 2/6 shilling.
Inquisitor's Palace	656	Set of 5 keys
Inquisitor's Palace	660	Stamp plate vignette & St Paul
Inquisitor's Palace	695	Stamp plate - Two shillings
Inquisitor's Palace	702	Pedestal and Silver "raggiara". Loose parts in box.
Inquisitor's Palace	704	Silver halo with wreath.
Inquisitor's Palace	709	Fan with bone fins which have been restored in the past with printed/ hand painted textile. Cannot be opened.
Inquisitor's Palace	710	Hand cuffs with key. Cannot be opened.
Inquisitor's Palace	711	Button decoration with low relief stylistic leaves. Possibly gilt.
Inquisitor's Palace	712	Pill rounder. Longitudinal & transverse crack.
Inquisitor's Palace	713	Brass mould for suppositories. Residues may still be present.
Inquisitor's Palace	715	Melting utensil for melting substances.
Inquisitor's Palace	716	Stand.
Inquisitor's Palace	717	Mortar made up of vitrified white ceramic. Pestle has a wooden handle. Mortar is cracked and has been supported with a metal wire.

Inquisitor's Palace	718	Mortar made up of vitrified white ceramic. Pestle has a wooden handle detached.
Inquisitor's Palace	719	Mortar made up of vitrified white ceramic. Pestle has a wooden handle.
Inquisitor's Palace	720	Double sided mortar made up of vitrified white ceramic. Pestle has a wooden handle.
Inquisitor's Palace	721	Transparent glass bottle.
Inquisitor's Palace	723	Church ornaments for church models.
Inquisitor's Palace	621	Stamp plate - Malta ¼ penny.
Inquisitor's Palace	620	Stamp plate - Malta ½ penny.
Inquisitor's Palace	567	Stamp printing block: George V, 1 ½ penny Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	563	Stamp printing block: George V, 2 penny Malta stamp.
Inquisitor's Palace	453	Copper plate
Inquisitor's Palace	454	Copper plate
Inquisitor's Palace	455	Copper plate
Inquisitor's Palace	456	Copper plate
Inquisitor's Palace	457	Copper plate
Inquisitor's Palace	458	Copper plate
Inquisitor's Palace	629	Stamp plate - ¼ penny.
Inquisitor's Palace	631	Stamp plate - 2 ½ penny.
Inquisitor's Palace	632	Stamp plate - ½ penny.
Inquisitor's Palace	633	Stamp plate - 3 penny.
Inquisitor's Palace	634	Stamp plate - 4 penny.
Inquisitor's Palace	637	15 engraved copper books of the same book.
Inquisitor's Palace	640	Oval engraving plate.
Inquisitor's Palace	630	Stamp plate - 1 ½ penny.
Inquisitor's Palace		Plaster cast –part of a portrait bust
Inquisitor's Palace		Hand – presumably belonging to a Baby Jesus
Inquisitor's Palace	452	Engraved copper plate; map of the kingdom of Jerusalem with cartouche and coat of arm of G.M. de Vilhena (1722-36); 1st half of the 18th century. Discoloured stains.
Inquisitor's Palace		Small box with 2 broken and rusted 'pocket' watches and remains of what seem to be hotel key tags
NMFA	500	Hand seal
NMFA	510	Hand seal
NMFA	494	Hand seal
NMFA	492	Hand Seal
NMFA	498	Hand Seal
NMFA	504	Hand Seal
NMFA	512	Hand Seal
NMFA	532	Hand Seal
NMFA	537	Hand Seal
NMFA	538	Hand Seal
NMFA	696	Stamp Plate
NMFA	706	Earrings
NMFA	707	Coral Brooch
NMFA	727	Snuff Box
NMFA	541	Punch Marker
NMFA	542	Punch Markers
NMFA	543	Punch Marker
NMFA	544	Punch Marker
NMFA	545	Punch Marker
NMFA	546	Punch Marker
NMFA	547	Punch Marker
NMFA	548	Punch Marker
NMFA	550	Punch Marker
NMFA	551	Punch Marker
NMFA	552	Punch Marker
NMFA	553	Punch Marker
NMFA	554	Punch Marker
NMFA	555	Punch Marker
NMFA	556	Punch Marker
NMFA	471	Solid Urn
NMFA	472	Solid Urn + Base
NMFA	473	Solid Urn

NMFA	474	Solid Urn
Inquisitor's Palace	718	Mortar made up of vitrified white ceramic. Pestle has a wooden
NMFA	478	Plinth
NMFA	475	Decorative Small Column
NMFA	476	Fountain
NMFA	O477	Plinth
NMFA	559	Vase
NMFA	636	Engraving
NMFA	638	Engraving
NMFA	639	Engraving
NMFA	641	Engraving

An inventory of most of the architectural fragments stored in the basement has been carried out. This inventory was disseminated among other departments to identify any item relevant to their respective collections. The Collections Condition Assessment exercise of all the artefacts on display in the Neolithic permanent exhibition has been completed. The said artefacts have also been inventoried and inputted in MUSES. An inventory of all the books, plans and archival material in the library is also currently underway. Work on the Fototeka also progressed well. To date 1800 glass negatives held in the reserve collection (Fototeka section) were conserved and scanned following international conservation standards.



The museum hosted eight interns deployed on documenting the archival material found in the library and scanning of the old photographic archive. These were helped by student volunteers from the Department of Archaeology of the UOM who carried out work on the database of archaeological material stored at the NMA. The library, archive and archaeological items (on display and in storage) were very frequently used by a number of local and foreign students and researchers who also availed themselves of curatorial expertise for the supervision of projects and dissertations.

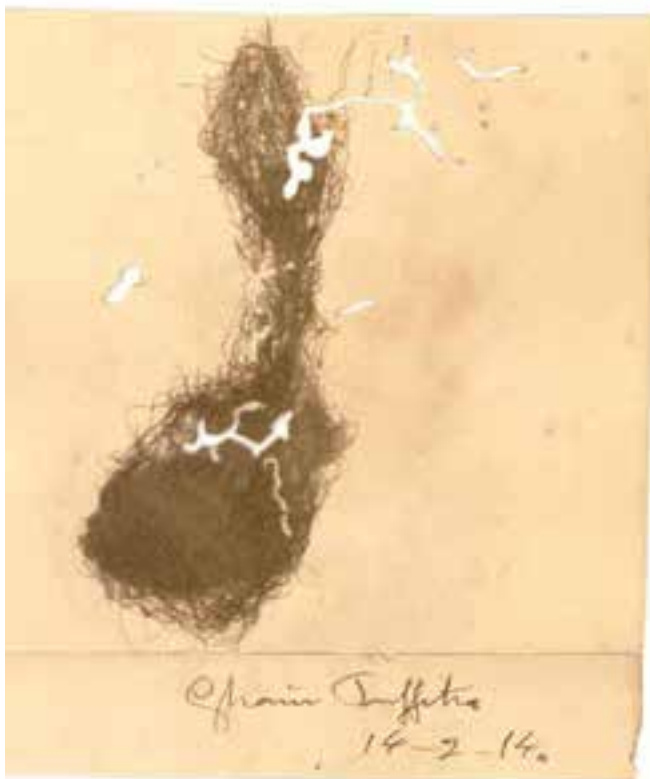
Gozo Museum of Archaeology

Extensive conservation works were carried out on the collection by the Gozo Area Office. These included all funerary items of the Classical period, a considerable number of ceramic artefacts of the Classical period, in situ conservation and cleaning of bulky artefacts in several parts of the museum (29 August), and conservation on bronze coins and jewellery from the Classical section. A conservation database covering all the concerned artefacts was drawn up by the Conservation Dept. Non-invasive petrologic analysis was carried out in France on two classical amphora sherds from an underwater site as part of private research in March.

Natural History Department

Work continued on the digital photo-library hosting all the specimens present at the NMNH and Għar Dalam. The library is being expanded to hold digital images and sounds of live specimens. Similarly to what has been done for the ornithological collection, all the collections will eventually be available on-line. Work also continued on the database review and nomenclature revision of Surgeon Rear Admiral Sir Reginald Bankart Lichen Collection. The work included a microscopic study of the collection and the cataloguing of the collection alphabetically according to modern nomenclature, allocating catalogue number to loose samples within the collection and preservation. Specimens were also removed from cardboard boxes to conservation-friendly containers.

More attention was paid to the local botanical aspects. The herbaria housed in the museum, including that of Caruana Gatto (algae and lichen collection) were photographed and the information digitised. The museum herbarium is being augmented by new specimens of locally occurring plants. These were photographed in the field and single specimens were collected and prepared (dried).



Four volunteers working on the conchological collection (Paul Sammut, Charles Sammut, Constantine Mifsud and Charles Cachia) continued with their two visits per week to work on the identification and cataloguing of the collection.

Following a year of discussions with MEPA and the ORNIS committee, a notice granting permission to the NMNH to prepare the numerous bird carcasses into study skins was issued in the on 6 December. Work on these skins will commence in January 2013.

A visit to the Filfla Plateau was carried out in collaboration with BirdLife Malta on 31 March. The main aim of this visit was to map the entire Yellow-legged Gulls' nests. A second visit scheduled for late May to ring the gull's chicks was cancelled due to technical problems.



Restoration work on the wooden sarcophagus of the Egyptian mummy was completed. The analysis of the data collated is underway for eventual publication.



The NMNH continued with research projects in collaboration with other HM Departments. Biological (Cryptogamic) surveys were conducted at the Xaghra Stone Circle to characterise the formation patterns of biological soil crust communities on soil flooring, top soils and soil infills, to monitor selected saxicolous lichen communities, and to collect voucher specimens for the NMNH. Similar surveys continued to be conducted at Tarxien Temples to characterise the formation patterns of biological soil crust communities on soil flooring, top soils and soil infills, to monitor selected saxicolous lichen communities, and to collect voucher specimens to be housed at the NMNH. Similar seasonal surveys also continued to be conducted at SPC to characterise the formation patterns of bryophyte and lichen communities within the catacombs and in surrounding grounds, and to collect specimens for the NMNH.

Throughout the year, several local individuals enquired on various topics related to natural history, ranging from authentication to identification of specimens. Various groups from the Coleoptera family (entomological collections) were studied by Dr David Mifsud and Mr Henry Borg-Barthet. Results were published later in Volume 5 of the *Bulletin of the Entomological Society*. As in previous years a number of MCAST and UOM students also sought assistance from the NMNH for their research projects and theses, focusing among other on Maltese rabbits, chameleons and rats.

Publications

The following publications were authored/co-authored by NMNH Staff and volunteers:

Borg, J.J., 'Naturalistic Aspects in *Il Gozo Antico-Moderno e Sacro-Profano*' in G. Vella and O. Vella (eds), *De Soldanis – An Eighteenth Century Intellectual*, pp.75-79.



Borg, J.J., 'Tuna farms – a seasonal supplementary food source for storm petrels *Hydrobates pelagicus melitensis*', in *Avocetta* 36 Vol.2, pp.91-94.

Borg, J.J., & Sultana, J., 'The Yelkouan Shearwater *Puffinus yelkouan* at I-Irdum tal-Madonna, Malta', in Yésou, P., Baccetti, N. & Sultana, J. (eds.), *Ecology and Conservation of Mediterranean Seabirds and other bird species under the Barcelona Convention* – Proceedings of the 13th Medmaravis Pan-Mediterranean Symposium. Alghero (Sardinia) 14-17 October 2011, pp.48-53.

Sultana, J. & Borg, J. J., 'The Mediterranean Storm-petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus melitensis* in Malta', in Yésou, P., Baccetti, N. & Sultana, J. (eds.), *Ecology and Conservation of Mediterranean Seabirds and other bird species under the Barcelona Convention* – Proceedings of the 13th Medmaravis Pan-Mediterranean Symposium. Alghero (Sardinia) 14-17 October 2011, pp.95-102.

Raine, A., J.J. Borg, H. Raine & R.A. Philips, 'Migration strategies of the Yelkouan Shearwater *Puffinus yelkouan*', in *Journal of Ornithology* (online).

Mifsud, C., *The Echinoderms of the Maltese Islands*.

International Collaboration

The joint NMNH and Natural History Museum, London MEDISLANDS Project was given the green light by the SCH and a team from the Natural History Museum of London lead by Prof. Adrian Lister and Dr Victoria Herridge visited Ghar Dalam and Beghisa Gap on 9-12 June to collect samples for dating. Further meetings were carried out at the Natural History Museum of London in October. Work also continued on the Italia-Malta Project: REMASI (2011-13). A team of Sicilian geologists and palaeontologists were in Malta (June and November) to identify and map sites of geological interest in the Maltese islands. A project steering committee meeting was held at the NMNH on 24-26 May, while four other similar meetings were held at Bivona, Sicily on 19-24 February (including fieldwork on Lampedusa), 27-29 April, 17-19 June, and 7-11 September.



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Donations and Acquisitions

A copy of Arie W. Janssen (2012) 'Systematics and biostratigraphy of holoplanktonic Mollusca from the Oligo-Miocene of the Maltese Archipelago', published in *Bollettino del Museo Regionale di Scienze Naturali*, Vol.28, No. 2 (2010), pp. 197, was donated to the museum by the author. Mr Joseph Debono of Mdina donated a stuffed and mounted Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* taken at Salina in the 1930s, a small collection of molluscs was presented by Mr Constantine Mifsud of Rabat, while Ms Annalise Falzon donated a dead Shrew *Suncus etruscus*.



Around 2,000 insects (mostly Coleoptera and Orthoptera species) were collected during the third research expedition by NMNH staff and volunteers to French Guiana (South America) from 3 to 23 August 2012. All specimens have been prepared, labelled and boxed by museum staff.

The following confiscated birds were transferred to the NMNH by the Malta Law Courts:

Lot 1

Black Kite *Milvus migrans*

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybridus* x3

Grey Hornbill *Tockus nasutus*

Lot 2

Smyrna Kingfisher *Halcyon smyrnensis* x 20

Lesser pied kingfisher *Ceryl rudis* x 2

Black-shouldered kite *Elanus caeruleus*

Little-green Bee eater *Merops orientalis*

Blue cheeked bee-eater *Merops superciliosus* x9

Common bulbul *Pycnonotus barbatus*

Lanner Falcon *Falco biarmicus* x4

Little Owl *Athene noctua* x2

Long-eared Owl *Asio otus* x2

Barn Owl *Tyto alba* x7

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybridus* x5

Little Tern *Sterna albifrons* x15



Lot 3

Gannet *Morus bassanus*

Lesser Spotted Eagle *Aquila pomarina*

Little Crane *Porzana parva*

European Bee-eater *Merops apiaster*

Lot 4

Spur-winged Plover *Hoplopterus spinosus*
Collared Pratincole *Glareola pratincola*
Common Bulbue *Pycnonotus barbatus*
Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*
Great Grey Shrike *Lanius excubitor*
Purple Gallinule *Porphyrio porphyrio*
Crested Lark *Galerida cristata*
Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

Lot 5

Black-necked Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis*
Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*
Yelkouan Shearwater *Puffinus yelkouan*
Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* x2
Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea* x2
Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*
Little Egret *Egretta garzetta* x4
Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides* x3
Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*
Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*
Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna* x3
Ferruginous Duck *Aythya nyroca*
Honey Buzzard *Pernis apivorus* x5
Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus* x 2
Pallid Harrier *Circus macrourus*
Montagu's Harrier *Circus pygargus* x3
Eleonora's Falcon *Falco eleonora* x2
Red-footed Falcon *Falco vespertinus* x2
Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*
Lesser Kestrel *Falco naumanni* x3
Spotted Crake *Porzana porzana*
Curlew *Numenius arquata* x4
Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta* x4
Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus* x5
Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* x2
Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius* x2
Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula* x2
Turnstone *Arenaria interpres* x2
Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus* x3
Dotterel *Charadrius morinellus*
Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*
Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica* x2
Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*
Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis* x2
Redshank *Tringa totanus* x 2
Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos* x2
Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus* x2
Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola* x2
Dunlin *Calidris alpina* x2
Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea* x2
Little Stint *Calidris minuta* x3
Slender-billed Gull *Croicocephalus genei*

Little Gull *Larus minutus*
Caspian Tern *Sterna caspia*
Black Tern *Chlidonias niger*
Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus* x2
Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*
Scops Owl *Otus scops*
Nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus*
Bee-eater *Merops apiaster*
Hoopoe *Upupa epops*
Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis* x3
Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*
Wryneck *Jynx torquilla*
Alpine Swift *Apus melba*
Golden Oriole *Oriolus oriolus* x2
Woodchat Shrike *Lanius senator*

Lot 6

Shag *Phalacrocorax aristotelis* (illegally imported from UK)

The following carcasses of dead birds were transferred to the NMNH by BirdLife Malta:

16 February

Allen's Gallinule *Porphyro alleni*
Black-headed Gull *Croicocephalus ridibundus*
Yellow-legged Gull *Larus michahellis* x2
Mediterranean Gull *Larus melanocephalus*
White Wagtail *Motacilla alba* x2
Olive-backed Pipit *Anthus hodgsoni*
Starling *Sturnus vulgaris* x 2

20 May

Scopoli's Shearwater *Calonectris diomedea* x3
Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus* x3
Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*
Yellow-legged Gull *Larus michahellis*
Bee-eater *Merops apiaster* x3
Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*
Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*
Sardinian Warbler *Sylvia melanocephala*
Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*
Hoopoe *Upupa epops*
Swift *Apus apus*
House Martin *Delichon urbicum*
Woodchat Shrike *Lanius senator*
Golden Oriole *Oriolus oriolus*
Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*
Spanish Sparrow *Passer hispaniolensis*

31 August

Scopoli's Shearwater *Calonectris diomedea*
Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*
Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*

Yellow-legged Gull *Larus michahellis* x2

Swift *Apus apus* x3

Spanish Sparrow *Passer hispaniolensis*

28 September

Yelkouan Shearwater *Puffinus yelkouan*

Scopoli's Shearwater *Calonectris diomedea*

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*

Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* x2

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus* x5

Honey Buzzard *Pernis apivorus* x2

Hobby *Falco subbuteo*

Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* x2

Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

European Bee-Eater *Merops apiaster* x4

Hoopoe *Upupa epops*

29 October

Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* x3

Little Crane *Porzana parva*

Robin *Erithacus rubecula*

Għar Dalam

The transfer of the bone collection from Għar Dalam to the NMNH is practically complete. The last remaining bones will be ready for transfer in the beginning of 2013. The results from the geological survey initiated in the latter part of 2011 have been delivered to HM, and a work plan is underway to address the various issues raised in the report. Digi-mapping of bones in situ inside cave initiated in 2011 continued through much of 2012.

Dr Alexandra Vander Geer (Naturalis Museum, Netherlands) and Dr George Lyras (Athens University) were in Malta from 5 to 9 November and measured various hippopotami and deer bones from the Għar Dalam collection for their research on biomass in extinct animals.

The senior curator authored the paper 'Għar Dalam: a shelter for WWII refugees and military fuel supplies' in the Malta Archaeological Review, Issue 8 (2006-07), pp.38: 42.

Prehistoric Sites Department

Ta' Ħaġrat and Skorba

For the third consecutive year, 'The Maltese Temples Landscape Project' (MTLP), a research project in conjunction with Bournemouth University, the German Archaeological Institute, the UOM and the SCH, was resumed in August. This year, activities with the MTLP focused largely on fieldwork, which took place in the lands close to the valley bottom. The excavations consisted in two aligned sondage trenches measuring 2.5m x 3-4m down to bedrock level, which were intended to provide information on deposits in the valley. Soil and shell samples from these trenches were also taken to Bournemouth University for further studies.

Further to the research commenced in 2011 on Limits of Acceptable Change, this year the department completed the review of the last study, and launched communication with internal stakeholders with the intention of taking stock of the present situation as well as to address desired achievements. In addition to this, a questionnaire was launched with which the department aims to obtain information about the present visitors.

Borġ in-Nadur

With regard to the conservation of the site, the department has brought present conservation issues to the attention of the Scientific Committee for the Conservation of the Megalithic Temples, so that these can be addressed. In 2013 a Condition Assessment of the site is planned to be undertaken as part of the Conservation Plan within which the site is envisaged to be included in the near future.

Scientific Committee for the Conservation of the Megalithic Temples

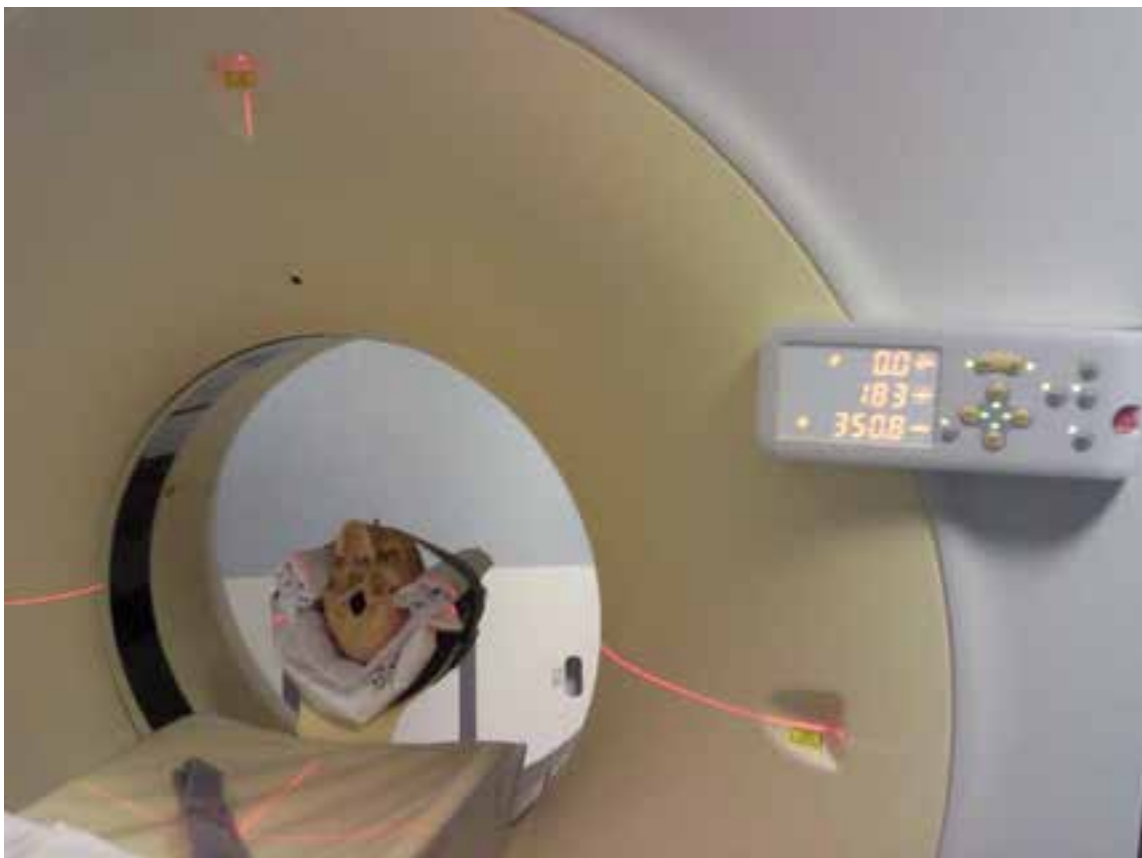
The Committee provided its expertise for the Archaeological Heritage Conservation Project (ERDF 2007-13) by providing feedback with regards to the proposed methodology for the structural assessment of Ggantija Temples, reviewing and providing feedback on the Biological Studies at Tarxien Temples, and providing guidance on the management of rainwater to the north of Ggantija. The Scientific Committee also developed a methodology for the conservation of the Central Temple at Mnajdra and discussed and revised environmental monitoring needs at Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra Temples.

UNESCO

Malta submitted retrospective statements of Outstanding Universal Value for the city of Valletta which was approved for further evaluation. Two documents were submitted to the World Heritage Committee with regards to the Megalithic Temples. One consisted of a reply to an ICOMOS review of documentation while the other was a general update on ongoing and planned projects within the property.

As a follow-up to the finalization of the Management Plan for the Megalithic Temples, the department is reviewing Local Plans for the Maltese Islands to discuss with the MEPA the inclusion of measures which ensure the safeguarding of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property.

A consultation document in preparation for the drafting of a Management Plan for the Hal Saflieni Hypogeum was concluded, and several consultation meetings with stakeholders were held. Stakeholders consulted include the Malta Archaeological Society, the Department of Classics and Archaeology of the UOM, HM staff and the Paola Local Council. Feedback is being received and a Draft Plan for public consultation should be concluded in 2013.



Ġgantija Temples

Research and discussions in view of the ERDF Interpretation Centre at Ġgantija were ongoing throughout the year. During January and February material pertaining to the dress and ornament, and tools sections was retrieved from the NMA stores to be eventually transferred to Gozo. A CT scan of a prehistoric skull from the Xagħra Stone Circle was taken at the Gozo General Hospital on 25 July, so that the raw data could be sent abroad for digital reconstruction. Although digital reconstructions are a popular interpretation facility in museums worldwide, the reconstruction of a prehistoric skull is a first timer for local museums. HM engaged the services of one of the leading specialists in this area for this task. Routine conservation works including the removal of vegetation growth, the cleaning of open megalith joints and pointing works was carried out by conservators on 29 August.

Xagħra Stone Circle

Preparatory works on the Conservation and Management Plan commenced in February in collaboration with the Gozo Area Office. This exercise involved the expertise of several sections with HM. An onsite meeting by the working group and other stakeholders and specialists was held on 22 March. The description of site and statement of significance, together with a document on landscape context were finalised in April. In the following months, an assessment of the skyline was carried out. A vegetation assessment was carried out in April. The sandbags assessment was completed in June. An onsite meeting with biologist Stephanie Sammut took place on 19 June where vegetation control with herbicide was discussed. Surface cutting of fennel plants took place around mid-June as part of the vegetation control exercise. In July ToRs were compiled for the execution of a topographic survey of the Xagħra Stone Circle and its environs. The contract was awarded to MatSurv & Associates Ltd. in September and fieldwork carried out throughout October. A condition assessment of the Xagħra Stone Circle was carried out by the conservators on 3 October, focusing mainly on structures in situ. In October, studies of a geotechnical nature commenced by geologist Adrian Mifsud, and continued throughout November and December.

Other

The department is assisting the ICT department in the CARARE project, an EU-funded Best Practice Network which aims to introduce archaeological and architectural heritage sites to the European Digital Library, Europeana. Activities once again focused on the creation of 3D content for prehistoric sites and objects as well as the compilation of a number of reports. These activities have included collaborating with third parties including lecturers within the IT department of the UOM and Phd students from foreign universities. The main results included the scanning of the prehistoric model of a facade originally from Tarxien, the simplification of the new Tarxien 3D model to reduce its size and make it more internet-friendly, the preparation of metadata for all prehistoric sites for inclusion within Europeana as well as the creation of the first 3D pdf files. In collaboration with the ICT department, the department also organised the national seminar for CARARE, the main dissemination activity envisaged in the project. This was carried out on 29 June in conjunction with the Open Day for Hagar Qim and Mnajdra Temples and it included a seminar describing the project as well as a stand dedicated to technology and its potential use within cultural heritage. At the stand, visitors were invited to explore the 3D files created for CARARE and Europeana, interact with a virtual model of Skorba created by an ICT graduate from the UOM and watch a virtual reconstruction of the prehistoric hut from Ġħajnsielem being created on the fly. In a separate dissemination activity in May, a paper on 3D models and CARARE was presented in Sicily at the event organised by the Phoenician, Roman and Medieval Sites department as part of its Archeotour project.

Throughout the year several students were assisted in their research in a variety of topics and levels which ranged from 3D reconstructions of prehistoric sites to the conservation of Maltese stone. PSD is assisting a Masters student who is conducting a study on Computational Fluid Dynamics and its application to the modelling of changing environmental conditions in enclosed spaces, utilizing the 3D model of the Hal Saflieni Hypogeum.



HM Conservation Division

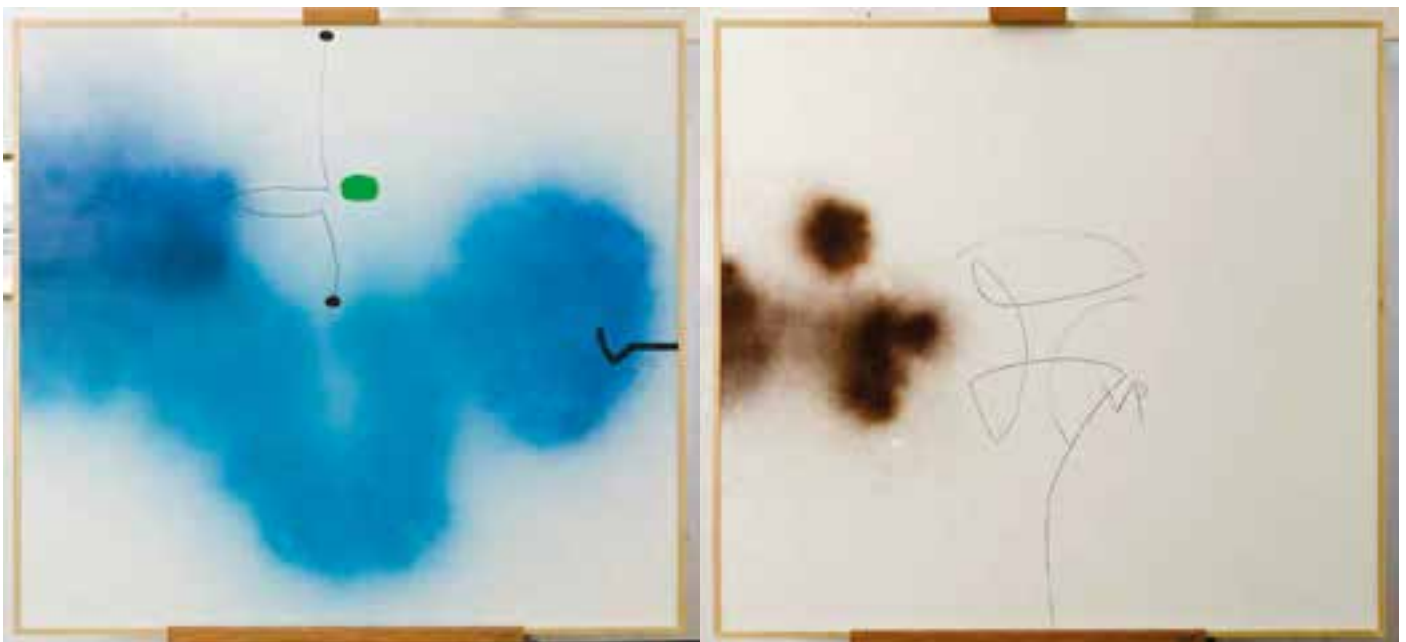
Joseph Scerri, Chief Executive Officer

The Conservation Division has been strengthened by the appointment of a new Principal Conservator, Claire Bonavia, who will be in charge of the textile and paper department and the appointment of Ray Spiteri as Senior Conservator. A new wood conservator, Josef Aquilina, also joined the division and will be establishing the Wood Conservation Department during 2013. To showcase the work done by the Division, an exhibition entitled 'Back to Life' was mounted in the new exhibition hall of the NMNH.

Paintings Department

The department worked on the conservation treatment of 15 paintings from San Anton Palace which had to be ready by March in time for the official opening of the Grand Masters' Hall at the same Palace. To be able to finish the work in time, the two new painting conservators who were given a year term appointment to finish the work had to be helped by other painting conservators from the same department. These two painting conservators have now been assigned other paintings from the Ambassadors' Hall of the same Palace which should be ready next year.

The department has also finished the conservation treatment of the following works by Preti in view of next year's exhibition to celebrate the 400th anniversary from the artist's birth: *St Paul the Hermit, Flagellation, Doubting Thomas, Crucifixion, Martyrdom of St Catherine, San Giovannino*.



The department also conserved two very important paintings by Victor Pasmore. One of the paintings was an abstract which was the very last painting that Victor Pasmore executed before he passed away. The other is entitled *Points of Contact 17*. When John Pasmore, the son of the late Victor Pasmore, saw the dedication and attention which was put into the conservation treatment of both paintings he decided, with the consent of all the heirs, to donate both paintings to HM.

Other conservation / restoration works include the following: *The Annunciation* – Italian school; *The Nativity* – Maestro Alberto; *Funeral of Angelo Emo* (pair) – artist unknown; *Ecce Homo* – Fetti; *Mary Magdalene* – Stanzone. Painting conservators have also, for the last year, delivered lectures and tutored B.Cons students.

Objects Department

The department continued with the temples maintenance programme on the Haġar Qim, Mnajdra and Tarxien Temples. Work was also done on the Xagħra Stone Circle, at the Roman Baths in Għajn Tuffieħa and at the Roman Domus. The condition assessment of all the artefacts which are on display at the NMA has also been concluded.

The following are conservation/restoration works carried out: eighteen swords and thirteen composite items for the Harrods exhibition in London; ten complete suits of armour from the Palace; marble fireplace from the NMA; nine clay models from the Inquisitor's Palace; bronze Pinto bust from the facade of the Auberge de Castille; two bronze bells from the MMM; two fine jewellery items and a miniature from the NMFA; clock dials from the clock turret of the MMM.



Books and Paper Department



The department finished the conservation-restoration of all the 467 maps from the Ganado collection: each map was conserved and mounted ready for exhibition. Work was also done on 67 flat works from the NMFA. Ten artefacts from the MMM were also conserved for the Harrods exhibition held in London. Three Maltese musical instruments were conserved for the *Notte Bianca* exhibition. A rare medieval manuscript from St Dominic's Priory Valletta was also conserved and a protective box made for it. Other work done by the department was the following: restoration of twelve books donated by the *Istituto Italiano di Cultura*; a pastel drawing by Pio Joris from the NMFA; a manuscript from the Inquisitor's Palace; nineteen drawing by H M Bateman; eight models of pastoral scenes in Malta from the Gozo Folklore Museum; six lithographs by Picasso, Matisse, Leger, Doufy, Braque and Askeland; eight photos of Joseph Calleja.

Fototeka

Work continued on the Fototeka at the NMA. To date 2,600 negatives have been cleaned and put in new conservation envelopes. They have also been put in a database and digitised. The amount of information uncovered is being researched and will lead to a publication.

Textiles Department

The department continued working on the cleaning of the costumes and accessories and preparing mounts and slings for packing. Ten lace artefacts were fully conserved for the Harrods exhibition which was mounted in London. Dust covers were also manufactured for the shelving units for the NMNH and for the MMM. Three large flags of Malta were cleaned and mounted for the *Notte Bianca* exhibition. The conservation treatment of two badly conserved uniforms coming from the NWM has been completed. Fibre analysis has been done on fibres of the canvas support of the Preti paintings and on a textile found in a rare medieval binding coming from St Dominic's Priory, Valletta.



Diagnostic Science Laboratories

The DSL have yet again provided support within the three main objectives of the section, i.e. scientific analysis and diagnostic services, research in conservation/conservation science and capacity building through education. In addition to diagnostic analysis and preventive conservation, the department has also been involved in the provision of scientific documentation services.

The DSL has also been involved in a large number of HM Conservation Projects, as well as external projects for third parties such as the UOM, MRRA, Malta Standards Authority, and a number of private engineering and architectural companies. The provision of assistance, including involvement in lecturing and practical supervision of students reading the UOM's Bachelor course, has also continued to form an integral element for DSL.

A selection of the most significant activities/projects is listed below:

HM Projects

Periodic testing of air and water samples from the Hypogeum and other sites, including microbiological and chemical testing in collaboration with Analytica Labs;

Periodic microbiological, pH and conductivity testing of tap water samples from Bighi for *Legionella*, *E.coli*, etc.

IR thermography imaging at the Hypogeum;

IR imaging session at Haġar Qim, Mnajdra and Tarxien Temples;

Pollution monitoring (including asbestos) of various sites (ongoing task);

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) programme within various HM sites (ongoing task);

Sea salt aerosol study at Haġar Qim and Mnajdra (ongoing);

X-Ray radiography of various artefacts within HM's collections, including:

Ceramic urn for identification of contents

The Feast of Baldassare painting

The Martyrdom of St Catherine painting

The Funeral of Angelo Emo in Malta in 1792 – two paintings

Parchment book

St Sebastian painting – San Anton Palace

SEM-EDS analysis and cross-section ID of samples from Siggiewi chapel fresco;

SEM imaging of molluscs from the NMNH;

Analysis of mounted birds for traces of arsenic, etc. – NMNH;

Identification of armour varnish protective layer;

Cross-section ID of NMFA detached fresco;

Identification of Tarxien Temples' walkway residue;

Residue in canvas ID of *St Sebastian* painting;

Textile/fibre analysis and bone/ivory identification of Inquisitor's Palace Brise Fan;

Textile and paper ID of Historical Bible Book with 'Alla Greca' binding;

Screening of contaminants present in a batch of isopropanol;

Pigment, varnish and hard composite material on canvas ID of *Feast of Baldassare* painting;

Wood and pigment analysis Maestro Alberto panel painting;

Biological ID of two paintings depicting the *Funeral of Angelo Emo*;

Textile ID of *The Martyrdom of St Catherine*, Mattia Preti;

Pigment ID of screenprint on canvas;

Various analyses of Preti paintings – *St Paul the Hermit*, *Crucifixion*, *Flagellation*, *Doubting Thomas*;



Pigment ID of Pasmore paintings

Pigment ID of Italian *School Virgin Annunciation*;

Pigment and varnish ID of *Fetti Ecce Homo* painting;

Pigment ID of *Blessed Name of Mary* painting (Jesuits Church);

Pigment and varnish analysis of Morroni painting of *Mary Magdalene*;

Pigment ID of painting depicting the *Lamentation over dead Abel* by Stomer;

Pigment ID of the MMM Clock Tower;

Textile/fibre identification and other biological analysis of uniforms from the MMM;

Textile/fibre identification, integrated pest management and other biological analysis of items from National Textile Collection (ongoing);

Textile ID and other biological analysis of mantle and horse back cover;

Pigment ID of Ducros' *Neptune's Fountain*;

Paper/textile identification and analysis/identification of binding media, analysis of biological degradation products, etc. of various heavily oxidized paper artefacts;

Analysis/identification of constituent materials, biological & chemical degradation products, etc., of musical instruments, including the *žummara*, *žafžafa* and *tanbur*;

SEM/EDS and FTIR analysis for constituent material identification, x-ray radiography, etc., of various stone and ceramic artefacts;

Pigment ID of jewellery item with fine miniature;

Identification of different constituent materials making up a silk painted fan;

Fort St Elmo paint and cement analysis;

Pigment identification/analysis (microscopy, SEM/EDS, FTIR) of Fort St Angelo stone crown;


Hypogeum Level 1 Surface Alteration Mapping Survey and microbial testing of unidentified growth;


Study on gunpowder standards recovery;

CT analysis of Egyptian Mummy in collaboration with Mater Dei Hospital, in addition to further work on consolidation of sarcophagus; regeneration of final 3D computer models for 3D prototyping, etc.

Further testing research on chemical alternatives suitable for use by all conservators and compilation of an informative report providing information on use and precautions;

Compilation of a document related on identified research projects to be carried out in collaboration with conservators and curators;





Participation as members of the Hypogeum Environmental Management Investigation (HEMI) group, including meetings with engineer Mariotti and other experts collaborating on the Hypogeum project;

Additional Laboratory Tasks

Maintenance of all laboratory equipment – FTIR, XRD, grinding polishing machines, SEM/EDS, reverse osmosis system, microtome, etc;

Preparation of RFQs and procurement of grinding machine, microscope digital camera and attachment, accompanying PCs and software, etc.

Creation of microscopy samples database and sample storage database compilation;

X-Ray photographs in-house database compilation;

Assessment of reliability of FTIR spectral interpretation of binding media following separation from pigments via solvent extractions (ongoing);

Assistance provided to local and foreign lecturers in the use of microscopes, SEM/EDS and FTIR required during B.Cons and other course practical sessions;

Consultancy provided to HM health and safety officers regarding chemical storage and usage;

Organisation, supervision and preparation of all requirements for the ETC Journeyman Certificate for Laboratory Technologists – Chemistry Practical Exam.

Environmental Monitoring, Preventive Conservation and Related Tasks

Continuous downloading and analysis of data from various HM sites where environmental monitoring is being carried out, and updating of all environmental monitoring data – primarily Ħaġar Qim, Mnajdra, Tarxien, Ġgantija, Xagħra Stone Circle; Hypogeum, Inquisitor's Palace, Fort St Elmo and NMFA;

Installation and configuring of database software to be able to build a complete database of environmental data for HM sites;

Installation of new sensors (temperature, relative humidity and soil moisture content) at Xagħra Circle (Hobo).


Installation of Hobo data loggers at the NMFA, the Auberge d'Italie and at the MMM to monitor the uniform storage area.

Involved in the finalisation of the environmental monitoring and interpretation project at the Hypogeum together with Evolve Ltd representatives and TobitCurteis Associates (UK);

Analyses of environmental data for various projects, including the provision of assistance to B.Cons. Masters (UOM) and intern students;

Provided assistance to UCL in the monitoring campaign at the NWM and Fort St Elmo, and ongoing discussions with Evolve Ltd regarding data transmission problems at the NMFA and Hypogeum and with AIS on faulty sensor at Ġgantija weather station.

Reporting to the Scientific Committee regarding environmental monitoring at Mnajdra, Tarxien, etc. and participation in various Hypogeum Environmental Management Investigation meetings.



Work for External Companies/Individuals

X-Ray radiography of a private painting – Mr P. Agius, and X-ray radiography of painting for identification of *pentimenti*, etc. – Dr J. Zammit.

SEM & IR thermography of fibre samples – MLSBio DNA;

SEM/EDS analysis of Valletta Drawbridge samples, and analysis of plasters and mortars from Mdina Ditch – MRRA;

FTIR analysis of complex samples – Prof. Camilleri (UOM);

SEM analysis of cement materials and IR thermography of dental materials – Dept. of Dentistry (UOM);

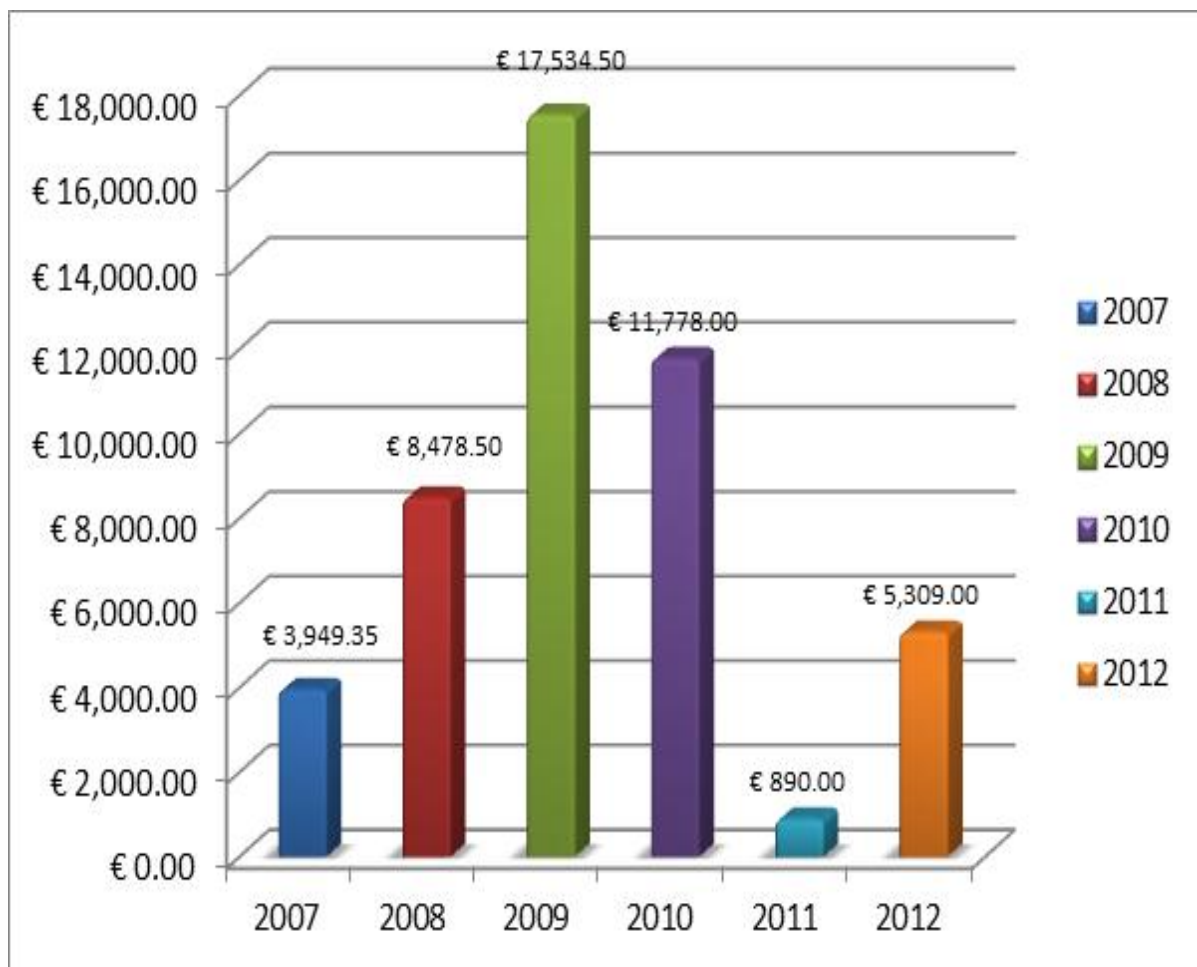
SEM/EDS analysis of several electronic parts; material analysis of silver plated parts; testing for presence of contaminants on PCB units (>10); identification of grease samples – Methode Electronics;

Gold paint analysis (SEM/EDS, etc) – St John's Co-Cathedral Foundation;

EU-Related Projects

Assisted in reporting for the Hypogeum EEA project;

Involved in the updating of technical specifications and the adjudication of tenders related to ecological/biological studies and environmental monitoring for the Tarxien, Għajn Tuffieħa and Ta' Bistra projects;



COST Action TD1201 Colour and Space in Cultural Heritage (COSCH) – carried out all work required from management committee members;

National technical experts for the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) TC RER8015 and National Project MAT0001;

Involved in completion of Malta's IAEA Country Programme Framework 2012-17;

Lecturing Duties and Student Supervision

Internal training and supervision of MCAST apprentice students, including training on laboratory equipment;

Onsite meetings with BTEC students to help them familiarise themselves with environmental monitoring techniques;

Assistance provided to a number of B.Cons, B.Sc., B.Eng and other university students in their studies (scientific laboratory analysis and onsite work) and in the analysis of environmental data;

Assisted students following B.Cons course in their dissertations;

Supervision of two Italian Master's graduate students following a Leonardo Da Vinci internship at DSL.

Training Courses

Participation of all DSL staff and students in a course on vibration sensing;

Participation in regional training course on 'Advanced Characterization of Cultural Heritage Artefacts using Nuclear Analytical Techniques' organised by the International Atomic Energy Agency in Tirana, Albania;

Participation in regional induction workshop on Implementation of Technical Cooperation Programme Cycle 2012-13 for CPs/NLOs, Vienna, Austria;

Participation in training course on Radiation Technology for Cultural Heritage Preservation, Lisbon, Portugal;

Intensive one-week training of all DSL staff members in X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF) and X-Ray radiographic techniques applied to cultural heritage – IAEA National Workshop as part of project MAT0001.

Conferences and Publications

Participation in several conferences (IAEA, NetHeritage, COST Actions) and publications in conference proceedings and journals, including the following:

ICOMOS ICORP International Symposium HAR2012: Cultural Heritage Protection in Times of Risk: Challenges and Opportunities – Istanbul, Turkey (November 2012): Disaster Plan for a Museum – A Case Study: The Malta Maritime Museum (Catania A., Borg C., Garrett G., Baluci C.) Paper published in symposium proceedings.

VIII Malta Medical School Conference – St Julian's, Malta (November): Reconstruction of a Three-Dimensional Replica of an Egyptian mummy head (Casha A.R., Baluci C., Borg J.J., Farrugia P., Borg JP, Mifsud A.) Poster presentation and publication in proceedings.

Education Programmes Department

Formal Education

B. Cons. (Hons) Course: there was no intake of students this year following the decision taken in 2010. In 2011 there were nine students following the B. Cons. (Hons) course: two fourth year students focusing on paintings and polychrome sculptures, and seven third year students specialising in ceramics, glass, metals and stone. The fourth year students have finished the course successfully, with the two students graduating in November (Second Class). Five of the third year students progressed to fourth year while the other two students could not progress and were granted the possibility to repeat their third year by the UOM. In November two students from the 2008 intake graduated B.Cons.(Hons) in paintings and polychrome sculpture.

Vocational Education and Training in Heritage Skills Course: The course content of the Heritage Skills course is now being managed only by the Institute for Building and Construction (IBCE) within MCAST. HM is still providing the Stone Conservation Workshop to MCAST students during their practical sessions which take place at Bighi. The theoretical part of the course is being carried out at IBCE. The course on restoration of wood was not offered and removed from the MCAST prospectus.

There are forty students following the different levels of the Heritage Skills course. This year fifteen new students were admitted: three students progressed to 'Sewwej 1', three were promoted to 'Sewwej 2', seven progressed to 'Mastru 1', nine new students joined 'Mastru 1', and seven were promoted to 'Mastru 2'. Three out of four students finished their vocational studies and are qualified to work as 'mastri'.

Informal Education

The activity sheets, interactive programmes and animated tours held in HM museums/ sites by the department were various: worksheets were developed for Ta' Ħaġrat and Skorba, the NMNH and the Peasant Costumes Exhibition, a fact sheet and treasure hunt for the MMM, and fact sheets for the NMA, the NWM, the NMFA, the Palace Armoury and the Inquisitor's Palace. The department also coordinated HM's participation in *Ziguzajg* during World Children's Day, Animal Awareness Day at the NMNH, the launch of book about de Soldanis at the Palace, the animated tour by Giuseppe Despott at Għar Dalam, and managed the interactive area, workshops and culinary session during the open day at Bighi.



Those who attended the Life at Sea at the MMM had the opportunity of participating in the following events: science experiments related to buoyancy; a dramatized representation of two legends related to the sea; a talk by Tony Cassar Darien about the sea in opera and the arts; seascape painting by artist Paul Caruana; a talk about Maltese idioms related to the sea by Martin Morana; a short talk about boat model making by Joe Abela. On the other hand children attending *Birgufest* at the MMM and the Inquisitor's Palace were given a brief tour, besides being greeted by Don Fabio Chigi at the Inquisitor's Palace.

HM also participated in **Skolasajf** (23 July to 3 September) through the delivery of activities in the following museums/sites: Haġar Qim and Mnajdra, MMM, Inquisitor's Palace, NMNH, Ta' Kola Windmill and during the Peasant Costumes Exhibition held at the MGOZ. The activities which took place in these museums/sites were the following: At the NMNH, after a short tour of the museum, children were engaged in a number of games and activities including a card game on animal families, a modelling clay activity based on animals and a crafts activity during which they created bookmarks featuring a number of animals. At Haġar Qim and Mnajdra, after a concise tour of the site, the children created their own comic strip based on life in prehistoric times and took part in a quest game around the temples. At the MMM children were greeted by a friendly pirate who explained that they will be taking part in a treasure hunt around the museum. The participants then were taken on a tour of the museum focusing on the exhibits included in the treasure hunt and finally divided into teams and sent on their quest. At the Inquisitor's Palace children learnt how to make the traditional almond *ruġġata* which was then left to cool while they participated in a crafts session during which they made their own traditional kite. The session came to an end with a cool and refreshing drink of the *ruġġata* they had made earlier. The activities held at Ta' Kola Windmill were based on the temporary exhibition of 'Peasant Costumes'. Participants first visited the exhibition and then were involved in two activities: the first was a game based on the board game 'Pictionary' but featuring the costumes exhibited while the second was a game during which the children had to recognise and sort the different elements of the traditional costumes and sort them by labelling two large images of the mannequins wearing the costumes. Worksheets consisting of a crossword puzzle and a word search based on the process and the costumes themselves were distributed to all those who attended.

The Inspire Foundation and the Eden Leisure Group booked a number of museum visits as part of a programme offered to those who join their summer clubs. During such visits hands-on activities were delivered. For more details refer to the appendix below.

Activities for HM members

Once again the Department joined the Communications and Marketing Department to offer activities organised specifically for HM members. The activities offered this year were as follows:

July: Activity at the MMM - Members present were first given a tour and then participated in a number of activities, namely how to send a signal using flags, luzzu model making and a treasure hunt created specifically for the museum. The event was a great success.

November: 'Animal Families' at the NMNH - The activity was aimed at children between 3 and 8 years of age and consisted in a number of activities and a specially designed tour revolving round Animal Families. The children were accompanied by their parents and guardians who participated actively.

December: Activity at the Inquisitor's Palace - HM members were invited to share in the traditions related to Christmas festivities. The first part of the activity saw the participants being transformed into little chefs and cooking a traditional Christmas culinary delight, while the second part saw them making Christmas crafts. Members were also given a special tour of the crib collection. Drinks and food prepared by the children themselves were served.



KREATTIV Programme

For the second year, HM participated together with other partners in this funding programme for schools, intended to “bring together creative practitioners into schools to work with teachers and students to inspire, learn and create in a collaborative and innovative way”: <http://www.maltaculture.com/content.aspx?id=269391>. HM is participating with St Margaret's College, Cospicua Primary, through the project '*Wara l-Kantuniera*'.

Culture Card Activities

The Culture Card is intended 'to encourage young people fall in love with culture.' As from this year, the card was extended to Form 4 students of all secondary schools. HM provided a calendar of activities in various museums appositely for these card users. The past activities can be considered a success story even though students did not join for the first few activities in both Malta and Gozo. This mishap could have been due to various administrative problems from the entities administering the card and from the card users' end who could not understand the purpose of such card straight away. Eventually, upon requests by parents, such activities were also being adapted for a wider age group irrespective of whether their children are card holders or not.

The table below shows the number of children attending these activities:

Activity	Culture Card users	Others	Total
Life in Prehistoric Times (NMA) 4-6 January	14	3	17
The Headless Owl (NMFA) 20-21 February	2	33	35
Introduction to Nature Photography (NMNH) 3 and 24 March	10	22	32

Activity	Culture Card users	Others	Total
Introduction to Nature Photography (Gozo Nature Museum) 19 March and 10 April	25	0	25
Model-making of a traditional boat – Luzzu (MMM) 5 and 10 April	4	11	15
Communicating with or without words (NMA) 4-5 April	4	5	9
Communicating with or without words (Gozo Museum of Archaeology) 14 April	10	1	11
Trash Archaeology (NMA) 1 November	6	4	10
A Journey through Peasant Costumes (Inquisitor's Palace) 2 November	6	6	12
A Humble Birth (Gozo Area Office) 22 December	4	2	6
Christmas Activity (Inquisitor's Palace) 27 December	8	13	21

Networking – Cultural Mentors Network Group

A group called Cultural Mentors Network Group was set up in March. The committee is chaired by the Ministry of Finance (Creative Economy) and its members are HM, MCCA, Manoel Theatre, St James Cavalier, Valletta 2018, and the Ministry of Education. The network addresses three particular audiences: students, teachers and parents teachers associations. The aim is to share each other's resources and expertise in order to maximise the time available by schools to engage in cultural activities. All information to be sent to schools is intended to be sent through one portal/newsletter etc. Networking sessions for all cultural mentors are organised every term. All cultural entities were asked to present some offers, discounts etc. to give to cultural mentors. In HM opted to present a free membership to all cultural mentors.

Children's programme on television

The series '*Talizmani*' shot on commission in various HM museums/sites in Malta and Gozo was aired by PBS in the television programme '*Iż-Żona*'. The shooting took place during the summer months and was aired from mid-January. The content of this programme was incorporated within an educational pack made up of a DVD featuring the series and a set of digitised worksheets, which was commissioned by the Ministry of Education and Employment. It was distributed in Malta and Gozo through the Cultural Mentors representing their respective school on 29 November. The set of worksheets related to the content of the DVD can be accessed from HM's website.

Courses

The Department collaborated with the Curriculum Section to develop and implement the in-service course for teachers in July and September. The course focused on the use of museums/sites and artefacts as a learning set-up and teaching resources. The other course was focused on pedagogical skills to address diverse publics. It was delivered to HM staff members who are usually involved in the delivery of educational programmes in museums ranging from tours to activities. The course was delivered in Malta and Gozo. Prof. Suzanne Gatt (Senior Lecturer of Science Education at

Primary Level, UOM) and Mr Tony Pace (Education Officer for History) together with Mr Alan Fenech (Education Executive, HM) delivered the sessions.

Free admissions

The total number of accompanied students who visited HM's museums/sites as part of their curricular needs or for extra curricular activities amounted to 39,360 subdivided as per table below:

Level of Education	Number of Students	Number of Teachers/Lecturers
Primary - State	17,630	2,078
Primary - Church	4,188	437
Primary - Private	2,347	264
Primary - Independent	337	25
Secondary – State	3,808	658
Secondary – Church	3,726	334
Secondary – Private	404	76
Secondary – Independent	509	46
Post-Secondary – MCAST	273	31
Post-Secondary – Junior College	365	38
Post-Secondary – Private	49	4
Tertiary – UoM	960	61
Tertiary - MCAST	129	9
Tertiary – Private	35	5
Post-Secondary – ITS*	75	8
Others	402	49
(Life Long Learning/Programmes for persons with special needs)		
SUB-TOTAL	35,237	4,123
GRAND TOTAL	39,360	

*Note: The amount listed does not cover the visits by students and lecturers who are provided with free membership cards which are required as part of their training as tourist guides. The totals in the above table were compared to those of 2011: there was a decrease in the number of visits by schools at primary level while an increase was registered in all other levels. However, there was an overall increase of 2,051 visits over last year.

Involvement of Education Programmes Department in Activities

Date	Educational Activity	Information	No. of Participants
JANUARY			
4	Thematic event related to nativity festivities organised for Naxxar Scouts	A tour of the Christmas display, a cookery session (<i>imqaret</i>), and a craft session (the Three Kings Caskets). After the craft session was over, the children had the opportunity to taste the freshly made <i>imqaret</i> .	35 scouts and 5 scout leaders
19 – 27	Kreattiv project: WASP Works of Arts in School Projects	Students from St Nicholas College were guided through the NMFA and took part in the museum treasure hunt. Towards the end of their visit, students were asked to vote for their favourite painting from a pre-selected group of 18 paintings (6 in	130 students with 15 teachers

Date	Educational Activity	Information	No. of Participants
		3 categories) namely: Portraits, Stories and Landscapes. The painting within the set which got the most number of votes will be sent to the said schools. The most popular paintings were Landscapes.	
17 and 24	Career visit to Bighi	Students from St Clare's College Boys Secondary School and from St Ignatius College Girls Secondary Hamrun respectively visited the MCAST lab for a hands-on session related to the Masonry Heritage Skills Course and the Wood Restoration Course by MCAST.	35 students + 5 teachers
4 - 6	'Life in Prehistoric Times' at the NMA	Youngsters who do not necessarily hold Culture Card attended for a 3-day activity. The event was split into three sessions and a hands-on activity took place during each session. Participants were made aware that past people had the same needs as we do. Such people survived through the use of tools, materials which were readily available such as clay and the animals which they hunted to provide them with food. The hands on sessions included the making of tools from stones and bones, pottery making, and decorated stone slabs using the bone tools produced in the first session.	25
23	'Art Encounters' Kreattiv project	Cospicua Primary Students had a guided tour accompanied by Mr Dione Borg (Artist) at the MMM.	30 + 3
FEBRUARY			
12	Life at Sea – MMM	Those who attended participated in the following: Science experiments related to buoyancy; a dramatized representation of two legends related to the sea; a talk by Tony Cassar Darien about the sea in opera and the arts; seascape painting by artist Paul Caruana; a talk about Maltese idioms related to the sea by Martin Morana; a short talk about a Boat Model Making course by Joe Abela.	718
20 - 21	Carnival - The Headless Owl: NMFA	The participants in question were guided by an artist and had the opportunity to create a new head for the owl using	32

Date	Educational Activity	Information	No. of Participants
		various media provided as well as a float of an owl. Participants were encouraged to wear their carnival costumes. The activity was a huge success and the children used their creativity to the utmost coming up with very interesting creations.	
MARCH			
5 - 16	Easter Thematic Event at the Inquisitor's Palace	Children had a demonstration of how to cook the traditional <i>Qagħqa tal-Appostli ħelwa</i> and painted the Easter Lamb made from plaster of Paris mounted on a wooden platform.	391
19	Open Day at Għar Dalam	The open day was characterised by a tour led by Giuseppe Despott (played by actor Charles Grech). This was very well received by those who attended who showed interest in the information given by Despott and the rather particular behaviour typical of Għar Dalam's first curator.	
24 and 25	Last Supper at the Inquisitor's Palace	A dramatised experience of the events that took place on the eve of the passion of Jesus in a unique location. Those who attended had the possibility of visiting the Palace itself particularly the rooms dedicated to Maltese Easter traditions. Great attention was paid to detail with regards to the way in which such suppers were held in the time of Jesus Christ.	
26	Pilot project of the Domus Romana Worksheets	Children from Fgura Primary school visited the Domus and were engaged in activities including the new worksheets. They were also given a toga each to wear during their visit.	21 students and 2 teachers
31	<i>Il-Passjoni f'Haġar Qim</i>	The landscape between Haġar Qim and Mnajdra replaced the streets of Jerusalem on that historical night and the audience became part of the drama. Starting from Haġar Qim Temples, the audience was guided through the main stages of the passion, leading to the crucifixion. A number of historical and natural spots served as backdrops for monologues which projected the events in a realistic	

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Date	Educational Activity Information		No. of Participants
		and personal manner. The cast included a number of established actors.	
6, 13, 20, and 27	Career Orientated visits to MCAST Stone lab at Bighi	St Theresa College Mriehel Girls Secondary, St Theresa College B'Kara Boys Secondary, St Margaret College Żejtun Girls Secondary, and St Nicholas Rabat Girls Secondary visited the Stone Lab at Bighi for an informative and hands on session regarding the Masonry Heritage Skills and wood preservation courses by MCAST.	120 students
APRIL			
1 April	<i>Il-Passjoni f'Haġar Qim</i>	As 31 March above	Circa 160 people
4 and 5	'Communicating with or without words' at the NMA	The event was split up in two sessions and hands-on activities took place during each session. Participants were taken through the use of symbolic art, pictograms and the invention of writing. They had the opportunity to create their own work of art using shells and bones on clay, to write a message using only pictograms, and decipher a message written in Phoenician alphabet.	10
2	Young Knights Educational Programme at the Palace Armoury and State Rooms	Young Knights programme was implemented at the Palace Armoury and the State Rooms for Siggiewi Primary.	50 students + 2 teachers
5	Special workshop at the Khalili exhibition	Students from 'Youth.Inc' took part in these two workshops.	20 students + 3 teachers
5 and 10	Model Making of a Traditional Maltese Boat - Luzzu at MMM	The Luzzu is one of the Maltese traditional boats which characterise our fishing villages. The purpose and significance of its shape and the characteristic colours which are used to blend it with the rest of the marine environment was explained through a hands-on activity which included the making of a cardboard Luzzu scale model.	14

Date	Educational Activity	Information	No. of Participants
14	'Communicating with or without words' at Gozo Museum of Archaeology	The event was a hands-on activity. During such sessions the participants were taken through the use of symbolic art, pictograms and the invention of writing through prehistoric times. The participants had the opportunity to create their own work of art using shells and bones on clay, to write a message using only pictograms, and decipher a message written in Phoenician alphabet.	8
25 – 30	EMBED Project	EMBED which is a project that encourages e-Skills, focused on Maltese History and HM took part by lending some replica of artefacts.	Children attended various workshops at MCC.
23 - 10 May	E f f e c t i v e Communication and Pedagogical Skills for a Diverse Spectrum of Clients	This course was designed and implemented by the Department.	
MAY			
3, 4, 8 and 10	Final Session of the course on pedagogical skills	The in-house course entitled 'Effective Communication and Pedagogical Skills for a Diverse Spectrum of Clients' came to an end with Fieldwork at ҒaҒar Qim and GҒar Dalam as well as an evaluation session. A certificate of attendance was distributed to the 18 participants who attended regularly and completed the course.	18 participants
11 and 25	Special School Visits organised by MEUSAC - <i>L-Ewropa fuq ir-Roti</i>	These special tours are being organised in collaboration with MEUSAC where students are visiting projects which are co-funded by the EU. The project of the temporary shelters covering ҒaҒar Qim and Mnajdra Temples were chosen in the case of HM. The Qrendi Primary and UOM tertiary education students visited the sites.	115
14	Launch of the Exhibition of Kreattiv Project 'Art Encounters' by Cospicua Primary in collaboration with HM	Official launch of the exhibition 'Art Encounters' at the MMM. The exhibition portrays the work of Cospicua Primary school children (Yr 4 - Yr 6). All the narrative, music and drawings were inspired by the environment within the MMM.	

Date	Educational Activity	Information	No. of Participants
21, 24, 25, 28-31	<i>Leggendi Maltin</i> - an educational thematic event at the Inquisitor's Palace	A thematic event on Maltese legends was implemented for seven days for school children. The programme consisted of a brief explanation on the difference between a legend and a tale; short tour of the museum; cooking demonstration of the traditional <i>biskuttini tar-raħal</i> ; performance of two Maltese legends namely <i>Il-Leġġenda ta' San Dimitri</i> and <i>L-Għarusa tal-Mosta</i> . A group of 15 children who were present for the event enacted a 19th century Maltese wedding procession using the available costumes and props. During this enactment the children ate the biscuits prepared earlier.	127 students and 14 teachers
JUNE			
18	Launch of Cultural Mentors Network	The Educational Programmes Department attended and participated actively in the launch of the Cultural Mentors Network held at Sala Isouard at Teatru Manoel. Manager, Ninette Sammut prepared a presentation and moderated one of the three workshop groups. The participants were also given a pack including educational material and worksheets issued by HM.	
JULY			
3	Activity for HM members at the MMM	The members present were first given a tour and then participated in a number of activities, namely how to send a signal using flags, luzzu model making and a treasure hunt created specifically for the museum by the Department.	8 adults and 15 children
18 and 20	Activities for Inspire Group at Domus Romana	Children from Inspire Foundation accompanied by their carers visited the Domus Romana where they participated in a special programme of activities highlighting domestic life in Roman times. The activity also included the making of a pendant featuring the initials of the particular child using the Latin alphabet.	46 children + 20 carers
24, 26, 27	<i>Skolasajf</i> activity at the Inquisitor's Palace	The children attending learnt how to make the traditional almond drink <i>ruġġata</i> which was then left to cool. Children then participated in a crafts session during which they made their own kite – once a	96 children + 8 adults

Date	Educational Activity	Information	No. of Participants
		popular past-time. With the kites completed, the session came to an end with a cool and refreshing drink of the <i>ruġġata</i> that was made earlier.	
24-26	<i>Skolasajf</i> activity at Ғағар Qim	A short guided tour, the making of a comic strip and the filling out of activity sheets.	81 children + 9 adults
24, 25, 27	<i>Skolasajf</i> activity at the NMNH	A short tour linked to animals, playing a game 'Animal Families' and the making of plasticine animals.	91 children + 11 adults
30-31	<i>Skolasajf</i> activity at the MMM	A short tour and a treasure hunt where the winners won a free admission ticket for an adult and a child.	67 children + 6 adults

AUGUST

1	Treasure Hunt - MMM	Children from the Guardian Angel Resource Centre participated in a special adaptation of the treasure hunt activity being held at the MMM. The participants showed great enthusiasm throughout the visit and the activity was well-received both by the children and their carers.	10 children + 8 adults
1-3, 8, 16-17, 28-31	<i>Skolasajf</i> activity at the NMNH	After a short tour of the museum, the children participating were engaged in a number of games and activities including a card game on animal families, a modelling clay activity on animals and a crafts activity during which they created bookmarks featuring a number of animals.	357 children + 36 adults
2-3, 6, 16-17, 20, 28-31	<i>Skolasajf</i> activity at the Inquisitor's Palace	The children attending learnt how to make the traditional almond drink <i>ruġġata</i> . Children then participated in a crafts session during which they made their own kite. The session came to an end with a cool and refreshing drink of the <i>ruġġata</i> that was made earlier.	212 children + 22 adults
2-3, 16-17, 20-23, 29-31	<i>Skolasajf</i> activity at Ғағар Qim	After a brief tour of the site, the children participating created their own comic strip based on life in prehistoric times and took part in a quest game around the temples.	219 children + 22 adults
6 and 10	Inspire Group at Ғағар Qim	After a brief tour of the site, the children participating created their own comic strip based on life in prehistoric times and took	54 children + 22 adults

Date	Educational Activity	Information	No. of Participants
		part in a quest game around the temples.	
8	Hospice Movement at the MMM	Children from the Hospice Movement participated in the treasure hunt activity held at the MMM.	7 children + 4 adults
9	Animal Awareness Day at the NMNH	The programme included a play entitled ' <i>Lura għall-Arka</i> ' dealing with endangered Maltese species, various crafts related to animals and a card game about animal families.	90 students + 10 teachers
10	Eden Leisure Summer Club at the NMA	Children from the Eden Leisure Summer Club participated in a special adaptation of the 'Communicating With or Without Words' activity. After a focused tour, the children were divided into two groups according to their ages. The younger children participated in an activity which saw them learning how to use shells to make different designs on play dough and clay to simulate designs on archaeological artefacts and make their own clay pendant which they eventually took with them. The group of older children first attempted to make tools from bones and then used these tools to make their own clay ornaments and pendants which they eventually took home with them.	31 Students + 4 teachers
17	Inspire Group at Inquisitor's Palace	A group of children aged between 3 and 5 years of age from Inspire Group were treated to a programme of special activities. The participants were first shown how to make the traditional <i>sfineġ ħelwin</i> and afterwards watched and participated in an interactive dramatized version of the traditional Maltese folk tale <i>Ġaħan u l-Istatwa</i> . After the play, the children ate the <i>sfineġ</i> they had made earlier during their visit.	40 children + 10 adults
20 and 24	Inspire Group at Domus Romana	Children aged between 7 and 10 from Inspire Group participated in a special programme. The children were first led to explore the different aspects of the Domus by means of a number of exciting tasks through worksheets. They were then led through a crafts session during which they made their own clay pendants	118 children + 20 teachers

Date	Educational Activity	Information	No. of Participants
		on which they inscribed their names of initials using the Roman alphabet.	
21 and 30	SkolaSajf at the MMM	Children were greeted by a friendly pirate who explained that they will be taking part in a treasure hunt around the museum. They were then taken on a tour of the museum focusing on the exhibits included in the treasure hunt and finally divided into teams and sent on their quest.	56 students + 5 teachers
SEPTEMBER			
5	Inspire Group	A group of children aged between 3 and 5 years of age from Inspire Group were treated to a programme of special activities held at the Inquisitor's Palace. The participants were first shown how to make the traditional Maltese <i>sfineġ ħelwin</i> and afterwards watched and participated in an interactive dramatized version of the traditional Maltese folk tale <i>Ġaħan u l-Istatwa</i> . After the play, the children ate the <i>sfineġ</i> they had made earlier during their visit.	25 children + 3 carers
6	St Edward's College Summer School	A group of children aged between 5 and 9 years of age from St Edward's College Summer School were treated to a programme of special activities held at the Inquisitor's Palace. Participants were first shown how to make the traditional Maltese <i>sfineġ ħelwin</i> and afterwards watched and participated in an interactive dramatized version of the traditional Maltese folk tale <i>Ġaħan u l-Istatwa</i> . After the play, the children ate the <i>sfineġ</i> they had made earlier during their visit.	22 children + 3 adults
7	Eden Summer Club	A group of children aged between 3 and 14 years from Eden Summer Club were treated to a special programme of activities held at Għar Dalam. The participants were taken first on a special tour led by Giuseppe Despott, which was very well received. Afterwards the children participated in some crafts. Firstly they made a pipe cleaner snake and then prepared a Fedora hat with a template prepared by the Department.	15 children + 3 adults

Date	Educational Activity	Information	No. of Participants
25-27	E f f e c t i v e Communication and Pedagogical Skills for a Diverse Spectrum of Clients	This course was designed and implemented by the Department for HM staff in Gozo. All staff attended.	

OCTOBER

15-18 and 25	22- A Journey through Peasant Costumes – an educational activity at the Inquisitor's Palace.	The aim of the activity was learning more about our ancestors through the clothes they wore and the process involved in making them. The participants experienced the weaving process by means of paper weaving.	80 students + 10 teachers
19	<i>BirguFest</i>	Children visited the MMM and the Inquisitor's Palace, where they were greeted by Don Fabio Chigi.	MMM: 237 Inquisitor's Palace: 261
28	Bighi Open day	The Department set up two rooms with activities such as jig-saw puzzles, word search, drawing sheets which were intended for all the family. These stand alone activities were further enhanced by three facilitated activities held during specific times of the day including paper weaving, pottery making and the preparation of the traditional Maltese <i>għadam tal-mejtin</i> .	2500
29	Cultural Mentors Network meeting at the MMM	The second seminar for school mentors was held, this time organised by HM at the MMM. As part of the pack given to attendees during the seminar, HM distributed a copy of the DVD Talizmani which was produced in collaboration between HM and PBS.	68 teachers

NOVEMBER

1	Trash Archaeology at the NMA	After a special tour of the museum, children received a brief explanation on the work of archaeologists and how trash can help one understand a particular group of people. They were then divided into three groups and given a bag of trash each. The young participants listed all the items in the bags and then were asked to form a profile of the person/s to whom the trash belonged. Finally they had to discard all degradable contents	10 Students
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Date	Educational Activity	Information	No. of Participants
		and see what they were left with. They were then made to realise that it is with these non-degradable remains that the archaeologist is forced to form his or her theories.	
2	A journey through peasant costumes at the Inquisitor's Palace	The aim of the activity was learning more about our ancestors through the clothes they wore and the process involved in making them. The participants experienced the weaving process by means of paper weaving.	13 participants
2	Animal Families at the NMNH	The activity was aimed at children aged 3-8 years and consisted in a number of activities and a special tour focusing on Animal Families. The children were accompanied by their parents and guardians who participated actively.	53 children
12, 19 and 23	Outdoor Learning at the NMNH	Year 1 students from St Benild's School visited the museum for a day of activities on 'Animal Homes'. The students were first given a specific tour of the museum after which they were split into three groups and participated in the different activities.	76 Students + 9 Teachers
13	Outdoor Learning at the MMM	Year 6 students from St Francis School (Msida) experienced a different way of having their lessons. In fact, the Maths, Art and Religion lessons were held in different parts of the museum by six educators. The experience proved to be a very successful one.	51 students + 6 teachers
16	Agius de Soldanis event at the Palace	As part of the event organized at the Palace, the Department engaged six actors to re-enact the dialogues written by de Soldanis.	NA
17	World Children's Day at Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra Temples	A number of scouts guided other children and adults around the temples in a special day during which the site was presented to children by children.	NA
20	<i>Žigužajg</i> Festival at the Palace Armoury	After last year's resounding success with 'Paintings Come to Life' at the NMFA, as part of this year's <i>Žigužajg</i> Children's Festival, HM participated with four short	586 students + 56 teachers

Date	Educational Activity Information		No. of Participants
		plays in four museums in Valletta. The theme chosen for this year was 'Heroes vs Villains'. The plays featured debates around this theme by a cast of popular actors. They were held at the NMFA (Judith vs Holofernes), the Palace Armoury (Knight vs Turk), the NMA (archaeologist vs looter) and Tal-Pilar Church (conservator vs developer).	
20	A journey through peasant costumes at the Inquisitor's Palace	The aim of the activity was learning more about our ancestors through the clothes they wore and the process involved in making them. The participants from MCAST Pathway experienced the weaving process by means of paper weaving.	36 students + 6 teachers
DECEMBER			
3-12	Christmas Thematic Event – A Humble Birth at the Inquisitor's Palace	Following the success of similar events in the past years, children were once again invited to share in the traditions related to the Christmas festivities. Children cooked a traditional Christmas culinary delight and also produced their own set of clay <i>pasturi</i> for the traditional Maltese crib.	141
21	Christmas Panto Bighi	- For the first time, HM through its Sports and Social Club launched the Christmas Panto, ' <i>Gladius Incapacis</i> ' written and directed by Alan Fenech and with the participation of various employees from different HM departments.	
22	Christmas Thematic Event – A Humble Birth at the Gozo Area Office	The event focused on the tradition of crib-making through a hands-on activity using recycled material to create the manger for Baby Jesus.	8
27	Christmas Thematic Event - A Humble Birth at the Inquisitor's Palace	Following the success of past years, children were once again invited to share in the traditions related to the Christmas festivities. For the first part of the activity participants cooked the traditional Christmas culinary delight made from Maltese bread, <i>pudina</i> . The second part involved the making of clay figurines known as <i>pasturi</i> for the traditional Maltese crib.	21

Date	Educational Activity Information	No. of Participants
28	<p>Christmas Thematic HM members were invited to share in Event - A Humble the traditions related to the Christmas Birth at the Inquisitor's festivities. Participants cooked a Palace traditional Christmas culinary delight and made clay figurines. Members were also given a special tour of this museum's crib collection by Mr Austin Galea known for crib making.</p>	33

Appendix II

HM Calendar of Events: 1 January – 31 December

EXHIBITIONS HOSTED BY HM

18 November 2011 – 14 January

Modern Artistic Sensibilities in Maltese Art – An exhibition of modern art works from the National Collection at the HM Gozo Area Exhibition Hall.

26 November 2011 – 8 January

Short Stories – An exhibition by Paul Caruana at the Loggia, NMFA.

3 December 2011 – 14 January

Little White Lies – An exhibition by Therese Sciberras at the Contemporary Hall, NMFA.

14 January – 28 March

FREIZED continued – An exhibition by Unni Askeland at the Loggia, NMFA.

17 February – 20 March

A Different Perspective – An exhibition by John Martin Borg at the Contemporary Hall, NMFA.

9 – 11 March

IPMS Malta – SSM 31st Annual Scale Model Exhibition – An exhibition of detailed scale models of aircrafts, marine vessels, armoured vehicles, dioramas and figurines at the MMM.

23 March – 31 May

Aligi Sassu (1912-2006): Memories on Paper – An exhibition of paintings by Aligi Sassu at the NMFA.

29 March – 30 April

Journeys of Discovery (2nd edition) – A selection of artworks in various media by Gozo College Primary Students inspired by the Folklore Museum collection held at the HM Gozo Area Exhibition Hall.

10 May – 10 June

Più Forte del Tempo – An exhibition of mixed media pictorial works and aluminium steles by renowned Italian artist Giorgio Celiberti at HM's Gozo Area Exhibition Hall.

10 May – 17 June

Floating Bronze – An exhibition of seventeen unique bronze sculptures by renowned Austrian artist and sculptor Huber J. Flörl organised by Fenech Farrugia Fiott Legal in collaboration with Alliance Trust and the Capstone Group at the NMFA.

18 – 20 May

Select specimens from the personal collection of Can. G.P. Agius de Soldanis, a pioneer in Maltese linguistics and a renowned historian, as part of the Notte Gozitana event at the Gozo Area Exhibition Hall.

22 June – 19 August

In the Wake of Caravaggio – An exhibition of paintings by Hungarian artist Tamás Cserna at the Inquisitor's Palace.

23 June – 15 July

Tarohei Nakagawa – An exhibition of black and white portraits shot by Japanese photographer Tarohei Nakagawa at the NMFA.

29 June – 29 July

Through my Lens – A photographic exhibition by Brian J. Abela at the NMNH.

28 July – 7 September

The Art and Life of George Fenech (1926-2011) – An exhibition of works by George Fenech at the NMFA.

14 August – 21 October

Then, Now and In Between – An exhibition of a collection of abstract works by Anna Miggiani held at the Loggia, NMFA.

26 October – 30 November

Headworks – An exhibition of images of heads in mixed-media by Carl-Peter Buschkühle at the Loggia, NMFA.

19 October – 21 October

Traditional Maltese Musical Instruments – An exhibition on folk music illustrating the production and relevance of traditional instruments and first recordings of early twentieth-century musical heritage at the MMM.

**14 October – 20 October**

An exhibition of works by local contemporary artists set up in collaboration with the Valletta 2018 Foundation on the occasion of the visit by the Selection Committee of the European Capital of Culture 2018 to Malta held at the MMM.

14 December – 20 January 2013

Fusion – An exhibition of ceramic works by Paul Haber held at the Loggia, NMFA.

EXHIBITIONS ORGANISED BY HM

8 November 2011 – 29 July

Metal Magic: Spanish Treasures from the Khalili Collections – An exhibition of precious Spanish damascene artworks in collaboration with the Khalili Family Trust at the Salon, NMA.



14 February

5000 Years of Romance – A unique artefact from the Maltese Neolithic Period which shows human emotions immortalised through artistic expression at the NMA.

28 February – 28 December

Charles Dickens and the Maltese Seamen – An exhibition including a small display of salvaged material from the wreck, original photos and a copy of the painting *The Volunteer* at the MMM.



17 June – 3 December

Fort St Angelo Heritage Experience – An exhibition including graphical imagery and audiovisual footage of the Fort's history held at the MMM.

19 June – 15 July

The Victor Pasmore Donation: Caring for the Nation's Gift – An exhibition of work by Victor Pasmore following a donation by the Victor Pasmore family at the NMFA.



15 September – 15 October

Back to Life: Latest Conservation Projects by HM – An exhibition of paintings, ceramics, glass, books, textiles and other objects restored by HM's Conservation Division held at the new exhibition hall, NMNH.

28 – 29 September

Maltese traditional musical instruments – An exhibition of Maltese traditional musical instruments and related material at the Cafè Veneziano (Auberge d'Italie) as part of the Notte Bianca activities.

28 September – 31 January 2013

H.M. Bateman: The Man who...Loved Gozo – An exhibition of paintings and other works by British cartoonist and artist H.M. Bateman (1887-1970) at the Salon, NMA.



29 September – 12 October

A Story with Art – Storja bl-Arti – An exhibition of recent art acquisitions held as part of the Notte Bianca events at the NMFA and the Auberge d'Italie.

1 October – 27 January 2013

Peasant Costumes: Insights into Rural Life and Society – An exhibition of popular attire and its pictorial representations in late 18th, 19th and early 20th century held at the Inquisitor's Palace.



1 November – 27 January 2013

Folk Music Exhibition – An exhibition highlighting traditional popular music as an integral part of Maltese identity held at the Inquisitor's Palace.

7 December – 6 January 2013

Back from the Ashes: The Great Auk – An exhibition commemorating this extinct bird at the NMNH.

17 December – 7 January 2013

Comparative international cribs exhibition at the Cafè Veneziano (Auberge d'Italie).

EXHIBITIONS IN COLLABORATION WITH OTHERS

2 March – 8 April

Adoration of Mary – A photographic exhibition by Zsuzanna Ardo organised by *Fondazzjoni Ċentru Għall-Kreattività* in collaboration with HM at St James Cavalier.

13 – 14 April

70th Anniversary of the George Cross – A temporary exhibition organised in collaboration with the OPM at the Auberge de Castile.

14 May - 31 May

Art encounters – An exhibition that brings together art, music and literature by the pupils of St Margaret College, Cospicua Primary in collaboration with HM as part of the *Kreattiv* programme held at the MMM.

18 May – 29 July

Peasant Costumes: Insights into Rural Life and Society – An exhibition of popular attire and its pictorial representations in the late 18th, 19th and early 20th century organised in collaboration with the MGOZ at the MGOZ.

24 July – 15 August

Ovid's Metamorphosis – An exhibition of thirty six giclée prints illustrating Ovid's Metamorphosis by German artist Monika Besiner organised by the Malta Classics Association in collaboration with HM at the NMA.

27 – 30 September

Il-Bandiera Maltija – An exhibition on state flags at the OPM.

27 September – 6 October

Il-Villa Rumana taż-Żejtun – An exhibition organised by *Wirt iż-Żejtun* at *Ċentru Arti u Artigjanat, Żejtun*.

30 November – 6 January 2013

The Brocktorff Mapmakers – An exhibition of rare broadsheets, books and various reports which were illustrated with maps drawn and lithographed by the Brochtorff family in the 19th century organised by the Malta Map Society in collaboration with HM at the Contemporary Hall, NMFA.



EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH HM PARTICIPATED

5 February – 15 April

An exhibition on the archaeological and cultural significance of the prehistoric temple sites of Ta' Hagarat and Skorba and other sites launched in conjunction with *Ġieħ l-Imġarr* at the Mġarr Local Council.



1 – 28 March

This is Malta – An exhibition of artefacts, digital screens, and Maltese photography organised by the Malta High Commission in the UK, together with the MTA, Malta Enterprise, Finance Malta and HM at Harrods, London.

28 March – 9 April

Il-Passjoni skond il-Mużew Nazzjonali tal-Arti – An exhibition including works from the NMFA collection at San Anton Palace.

20 – 24 June

Il-Kult tal-Battista Matul iż-Żminijiet – An exhibition of religious artefacts in connection with St John the Baptist organised by the *Soċjetà Filarmonika Prekursur* at the *Sede Soċjetà Filarmonika Prekursur*, Xewkija, Gozo.

6 July – 9 September

Nine Centuries of Serving Faith and Charity – An exhibition of important artefacts and regalia pertaining to the Order of St John from various museums around Europe organised by the Kremlin Museums and Sovereign Military Order of Malta at the Moscow Kremlin Museums.

19 – 26 August

Arti Sagra – An exhibition of paintings organised by the St Joseph Band Club, Għajnsielem at the St Joseph Band Club, Għajnsielem.

31 August – 1 September

An exhibition of the replica of the George Cross during the annual Wine Festival in Qormi organised by the *Kumitat Festi Esterni San Ġorġ Martri*, Qormi.

1 – 2 September

George Cross Commemorative Exhibition – An exhibition commemorating the 70th anniversary from the award of the George Cross organised by the MGOZ at the Banca Giuratale, Victoria, Gozo.

7 – 23 September

Giovanni Pietro Francesco Agius De Soldanis – Għawdxi, Ekkleżjastiku u Akkademiku tas-Seklu Tmintax – An exhibition of works by this 18th century Gozitan scholar including his pioneering work on the Maltese language, history, and archaeology organised in collaboration with the MGOZ, the NLM and the UOM at the MGOZ.



13 – 16 September

The Baroque Era and Francesco Zahra – An exhibition of paintings organised by the Senglea Local Council as part of the 'Maritime Senglea Annual Festival: A diversity of cultural expressions' held at the Oratory of St Philip's Church, Senglea.

14 – 29 September

Aldo Micallef Grimaud – An exhibition featuring works by the late artist organised by the Office of the President of the Republic at San Anton Palace, Attard.

5 October – 11 November

Giovanni Pietro Francesco Agius De Soldanis – Għawdxi, Ekkleżjastiku u Akkademiku tas-Seklu Tmintax – An exhibition of works of this 18th century Gozitan scholar including his pioneering work on the Maltese language, history, and archaeology organised in collaboration with the MGOZ, the NLM and the UOM at the NLM.

19 October – 13 January 2013

Around the Maltese Cross – An exhibition organised by the Historical Museum of Warsaw, highlighting important works of art and regalia of the Order of St John and its links with Polish history at the Royal Castle of Warsaw.

LECTURES ORGANISED / HOSTED / FACILITATED BY HM

9 & 16 January

Use of Fossils for Studying Climate Change – Two lectures delivered by the senior curator NMNH to MCAST students at MCAST.

18 January

Update on the Ħal Saflieni Hypogeum: conservation, research, interpretations and management plan – A public lecture organised by the Archaeological Society of Malta and delivered by MariaElena Zammit at the SCH.

27 February

Views from the Palace – A lecture delivered by the senior curator NMFA in which unpublished drawings for the lunettes in the armoury corridor were presented and put in context at the Palace, Valletta.

Aphrodite or Pandora? An Attic krater by the Louvre Painter in the NMA – A lecture delivered by Maria Zammit from the UOM on the painted scenes on an ancient Greek krater reputed to have been found in Malta.

21 March

Aphrodite or Pandora? An Attic krater by the Louvre Painter in the NMA – A lecture delivered by Maria Zammit from the UOM on the painted scenes on an ancient Greek *krater* reputed to have been found in Malta.

23 April

A lecture delivered by the senior curator NMNH on research facilities at the NMNH held at MCAST (agri-business).

13 May

Island Restoration for Birds and Man – A presentation by the senior curator NMNH on the work carried out during the EU LIFE (Garnija) project and the ongoing EU LIFE+ (Malta Seabird Project) during a workshop held on the Island on Corvo (Azores).

14 June

Early 19th century souvenir illustrations of the Ġgantija Temples – A public lecture by Nicoline Sagona at *Din l-Art Ħelwa* premises, Valletta.



20 July

Edward Pirotta: Sculptor (1939-1968) – A lecture focusing on the prolific sculptural output of prodigy Edward Pirotta delivered by Prof Joseph Paul Cassar at St James Cavalier.

2 August

Presentation of results of environmental monitoring at the Ғal Saflieni Hypogeum by expert Tobit Curteis at the St Angelo Hall, MMM.



20 August

Carta e Veduta Dell'Isola Del Gozo e Comino: portrait of an eighteenth century island reality – A public lecture by Godwin Vella as part of the events to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the University Gozo Campus at the University Gozo Campus.

18 September

Count Saverio Marchese's Literary Contributions: With reference to his connections with the *Accademia dell'Arcadia* – A lecture by Ms Krystle Farrugia organised by the Malta Historical Society at the MMM.

25 – 27 September

Effective Communication and Pedagogical Skills for a Diverse Spectrum of Clients – A course for HM employees organised by the Education Programmes Department in collaboration with the Curriculum Section, Ministry of Education at the multi-activity room, Bighi.

23 October

The Man Who Was H.M. Bateman – Lecture by Anthony Anderson at the Salon, NMA.

29 October

Cultural Mentors Network Meeting – A seminar for school mentors with two foreign speakers, Peter Jenkinson and Errol van de Werdt from the UK and Holland respectively, at the MMM.

30 October

Il-Valuri ta' De Soldanis – A talk at the NLM.

8 November

De Soldanis: intellettuali u patrijott – A talk organised by the organising committee on the 300th anniversary of the birth of de Soldanis held during the Book Fair at the MCC, Valletta.

24 November

The Art of Dying Well in Baroque Malta – A public lecture by Prof. Frans Ciappara organised by the International Institute of Baroque Studies at the Inquisitor's Palace.

The Art of Dying Well in Baroque Malta

Saturday, 24th November 2012, at 10.00am
Inquisitor's Palace, Birgu



Public Lecture by **Prof. Frans Ciappara**
with accompanying music on the violoncello

ORGANISED BY THE INTERNATIONAL
INSTITUTE FOR BAROQUE STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF MALTA



Sponsored by  Heritage Malta

6 December

Edward Lear in Gozo – A public lecture on the occasion of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Edward Lear delivered by Joseph Attard Tabone organised by the MGOZ in conjunction with the Gozo Culture and Information Office at the Conference Hall, MGOZ.

20 December

Korrispondenza oħra mhix magħrufa ta' de Soldanis – A talk organised in collaboration with the *Akkademja tal-Malti* delivered by Dr William Zammit at the Inquisitor's Palace.

EVENTS ORGANISED BY HM

4 January

Liquid Gold: An introduction to Beekeeping and Traditional Medical Uses of Honey – A presentation by a local beekeeper showing the various stages in the production of honey, equipment used, the role and life of bees and the use of honey, particularly in treating various ailments held at the Folklore Museum, Gozo.

4 January

A thematic event related to nativity festivities organised for Naxxar Scouts, including a tour, cooking and craft session, at the Inquisitor's Palace.

4 – 6 January

Life in Prehistoric Times – Three hands-on sessions for children which included the making of tools from stones and bones, pottery-making, and decorating the stones with bone tools, at the NMA.

17 & 24 January

Visit to the MCAST lab for a hands-on session related to the Masonry Heritage Skills Course and the Wood Restoration Course by students from St Clare's College Boys Secondary School and St Ignatius Girls Secondary Hamrun.

19 – 27 January

WASP – *Kreattiv Project* – A guided tour and a treasure hunt at the NMFA for students from St Nicholas College following which their favourite painting was sent to their schools.

21 January

'In Defence of the Cross' Heritage Trail – Guided tours of the Mgarr ix-Xini Coastal Tower, the Dwejra Coastal Tower and other sites located within the Citadel including the Gunpowder Magazine, silos and the Old Prison.

23 January

Kreattiv Project: Art Encounters – A guided tour for students from Cospicua Primary accompanied by artist Dione Borg at the MMM.

12 February

Life at Sea – Re-enactment of life at the Birgu harbour in the 18th century with guided tours, military drills, talks, science experiments and other activities at the MMM.

12 February

An exclusive HM members' tour of Fort St Angelo followed by coffee at the MMM.

20 - 21 February

The Headless Owl – An educational event for students guided by an artist to create a new head for a vase in the form of an owl by using the various media provided.

23 February

A conservation seminar held by HM's Conservation Division at HM's Head Office, Bighi.

3 March & 24 March

An Introduction to Nature Photography – A course for children aged 10 - 14 years consisting of two theoretical and practical sessions introducing participants to the world of nature photography at the NMNH.

18 March

An exclusive HM members' tour of Fort St Angelo.

19 March

HM open days – Free entrance and guided tours of the Roman Domvs and Għar Dalam.

19 March & 10 April

An introduction to Nature Photography – A course for children aged 10 - 14 years consisting of two theoretical and practical sessions introducing participants to the world of nature photography at the Gozo Nature Museum.

20 – 21 March

Guided tours of Mnajdra Temples and the Visitor Centre on the occasion of the Spring equinox.

23 March

'Valletta Then and Now' heritage trail – A walking tour of Valletta and a lecture at the NMFA focusing on historical aspects around the Grand Harbour depicted on original paintings comparing with contemporary sites around the Grand Harbour and Valletta.

24 – 25 March

Last Supper with Live Actors – A live re-enactment of the Last Supper according to traditional Jewish rites at the Inquisitor's Palace.

31 March – 1 April

Il-Passjoni f'Haġar Qim u l-Imnajdra – An interactive theatre performance of the Passion of Christ in the landscape between the Neolithic Temples of Haġar Qim and Mnajdra.



4 – 5 April

Communicating with or without words – Hands-on activity during which participants were taken through the use of symbolic art, pictograms and the invention of writing through prehistoric times at the NMA.

5 & 10 April

Model-Making of a Traditional Boat – Hands-on session including the making of the *luzzu* scaled model using cardboard at the MMM.



14 April

Communicating with or without words – Hands-on activity during which the participants were taken through the use of symbolic art, pictograms and the invention of writing through prehistoric times at Gozo Museum of Archaeology.

14 – 15 April

Apothecary at Mdina Medieval Fest – A medieval apothecary carried out distillation of flower water traditionally used in medicinal remedies and in cooking, held as part of the Mdina Medieval Fest in the front courtyard of the NMNH.

21 April

Sunset tour on the occasion of UNESCO World Heritage Day at Ғағar Qim and Mnajdra.

22 April

Temples in an Agricultural Community – A tour of Ta' Ғағrat and Skorba Temples for HM members on the occasion of World Heritage Day.

29 April & 20 May

A guided tour of Fort St Angelo on the history of the fort and the current ERDF restoration project.



6 May

Comino Heritage Trail: The Fortifications of the Knights and Natural Landscape – A guided tour of the Knights' fortifications built on Comino and on the flora and fauna of the island.

30 April

Official closure of EEA/Norwegian Financial Mechanism project for the documentation and environmental monitoring of the Hypogeum held at the Hypogeum.

3, 4, 8 & 10 May

Effective Communication and Pedagogical Skills for a Diverse Spectrum of Clients – An in-house course including fieldwork at Ғaғar Qim and Għar Dalam and evaluation sessions.

8 May

Official presentation to HM of a pair of WWII handmade sandals made from bits of tyres by Charles Paris as a prisoner of war in Japan, at the NWM.

18 – 20 May

Special quiz for children on the Citadel Museums on the occasion of *Notte Gozitana* at the Gozo Museum of Archaeology.

21, 24, 25, 28, 29, 30 & 31 May

Leġġendi Maltin – An educational thematic event on Maltese legends including a re-enactment of a 19th century Maltese wedding procession at the Inquisitor's Palace.

7 June

Open Day – Free entrance, activities, lectures and guided tours of the NMFA, MMM, NMNH and the Inquisitor's Palace.

17 June

Open day at Fort St Angelo including re-enactments, audio visuals, conservation demonstrations and tours of the Fort.



19 June

Official presentation of donation of works by Victor Pasmore by the Victor Pasmore family held at the NMFA.

20-21 June

Guided tours of Mnajdra, Ħaġar Qim and the Visitor Centre for the summer solstice.

29 June

Open Day – Free entrance, activities, lectures and guided tours of SPC, Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra Temples.

3 July

Treasure hunt, museum tour and games for children who were introduced to boat building and signalling at the MMM.



6 July

Peasant Costumes: Insights into Rural Life and Society – A tour of the exhibition for HM Members followed by a public lecture by the senior conservator of textiles at the MGOZ.

9 – 11 July

In-service course for primary school educators which explored resources and ideas on how museums and historical sites can be stimulating for cross-curricular topics held at the MMM, Ħaġar Qim and SPC.

16 July – 30 July

Skolasajf activities on 'Peasant Costumes' including weaving processes and worksheets at Ta' Kola Windmill and the MGOZ.

16 July – 24 August

A special programme of activities which highlighted domestic life in Roman times organised for children from Inspire Foundation at the Roman Domvs.

20 July – 6 September

Skolasajf activities consisting of a short guided tour, the making of a comic strip and activity sheets at Haġar Qim.

24 July – 31 August

Skolasajf activities consisting of a short tour, a game on 'Animal Families' and the making of plasticine animals at NMNH.

24 July – 6 September

Skolasajf activities consisting of a demonstration of the making of the traditional Maltese *ruġġata* and the construction of a kite at the Inquisitor's Palace.

23 July – 30 August

Skolasajf activities including of a short guided tour and a treasure hunt at the MMM.

9 August

Animal Awareness Day – Activities to celebrate animal awareness day as part of *Skolasajf* at the NMNH.

10 August

Skolasajf activities including using shells to produce a pendant and using bones to make different tools at the NMA.

15 August

Open day at Gozo Citadel Museums – Free entrance of the Gozo Nature Museum, Gozo Museum of Archaeology, the Folklore Museum and the Old Prison.

24 August

Skolasajf activities including the making and decoration of paper boats and airplanes and a special adaptation of the classic game Naval Battle based on Operation Pedestal at the NWM.

25 August

Weekend break in Gozo by a selected group of *Skolasajf* at Ta' Kola Windmill.



31 August

Exploring Historic Senglea – A heritage trail within the fortified city of Senglea.

4 – 30 September

The Rabat Evening Tour – Extended opening hours and discounted price to the Roman Domvs, SPC and the NMNH.

5 – 7 September

Archaeotur Project Seminar – A seminar on the Archaeotur project at the St Angelo Hall, MMM.

7 September

Tour of Għar Dalam including hands-on activity for children from Eden Summer Club.

8 September

Open day – Free entrance to the NWM and the MMM.

22 - 23 September

Guided tours of Mnajdra Temples on the occasion of the Equinox.

27 September

World Tourism Day – Free entrance to the MMM and the NMNH.

29 September

Notte Bianca – The NMA, NMFA, NWM, Palace Armoury, Palace State Rooms, Tal-Pilar Chapel and Café Veneziano (Auberge d'Italie) were open free of charge.

29 September

The Phoenician permanent display at the NMA opened its doors to the public.

18 October

Senglea Tour organised for Birkirkara Local Council.

28 October

HM Bighi Open day - Guided tours, conservation demonstrations, games for children, art exhibition, old Maltese buses, artists at work, re-enactments, and book sale at Bighi.



1 November

Trash Archaeology – An activity for children focused on how to decipher important archaeological facts from what seems to be trash at the NMA.

2 November

Animal Families – An activity for children introduced to different types of animals through feeling their skins and bones, including worksheets and craft activity at the NMNH.

2 & 20 November

A Journey through Peasant Costumes – An activity for children where they experienced the weaving process and discovered 18th century wedding costumes at the Citadel, Gozo and the Inquisitor's Palace.



17 November

World Children's Day – Scout activities held at Haġar Qim and Mnajdra.

22 November

Official presentation of a copy of the 'Damage Control' plan of the WWII aircraft carrier HMS *Illustrious* (1940) by Captain Andrew Pugsley of HMS *Illustrious* at the MMM.

13 December

Open Day at the Inquisitor's Palace, Ġgantija Temples and Ta' Kola Windmill.

21 December

Guided tours of Haġar Qim and Mnajdra Temples on the occasion of the winter solstice.

22 December

Maltese Christmas Traditions – A thematic event organised for children aged 10 to 14 years consisting in hands-on activity using recycled material to create the manger for Baby Jesus at the Gozo Area Office.

28 December

Maltese Christmas Traditions – A thematic event organised for HM Members consisting of cooking traditional Christmas culinary delight, making Christmas crafts and a special tour of the museum's crib collection at the Inquisitor's Palace.



EVENTS IN WHICH HM PARTICIPATED

18 January

Official presentation of Valletta's bid for European Capital of Culture 2018 held at St James Cavalier.

5 February

Ġieħ I-Imġarr – Presentation of *Ġieħ I-Imġarr* to Dr David Trump organised by the Mġarr Local Council.

15 April

Guided tours of Ta' Ħaġrat and Skorba at a reduced price on the occasion of *Festa Frawli* organised by the Mġarr Local Council.

25 - 30 April

EMBED – A specialised fair for students, educators and parents that encourage eSkills focused on Maltese history, organised by the Ministry of Education and MITA at the MCC.

11 May

Launching of the publication Malta: *Origini della Civiltà Mediterranea* by Midsea Books at the Ambassadors' Hall, OPM.

18 – 20 May

Free after hours entry to the Gozo Citadel Museums on the occasion of *Notte Gozitana* organised by the MGOZ.

18 June

Cultural Mentors Network – Launch of the Cultural Mentors Network at Isouard Hall, Manoel Theatre, Valletta.

15 August

TSUAEGEE-Catania & AEGEE-Valletta – A group of students from the European Student Association visited Ħaġar Qim as part of the association's travelling summer university event.

22 September

Gozo Heritage in Stone (2): A focus on rural and vernacular architecture – An international conference organised during the 7th edition of the Qala International Folk Festival by the Qala Local Council and the Menħir Qala Folk Group at the Qala Local Council's Community Hall.

19 – 20 October

Birgufest – Extended opening hours and reduced admission fees for the Inquisitor's Palace and the MMM.

7 – 11 November

Book Fair – HM participated for the first time with a stand with its publications at the MCC, Valletta.

20 November

Žigužajg – A performance with the theme 'Heroes and Villains' at the NMFA, NMA, Palace Armoury and Tal-Pilar Church.

EVENTS ORGANISED IN COLLABORATION WITH OTHERS

February – December

Tours of Fort St Elmo organised every Sunday after the *In Guardia* and *Alarme!* shows in collaboration with MTA.

10 February

Mass at the chapel of San Pawl Milqi followed by guided tours on the occasion of the feast of St Paul.

15 February

AZAD cultural tour – A guided tour of Ta' Mintna Catacombs to AZAD members.

5 March

Official launching of Fort St Angelo Heritage Experience ERDF project by the Hon. Minister Dr Mario de Marco at Fort St Angelo.



16 March

Launching of the publication *Sites, artefacts and landscape: Prehistoric Borġ in-Nadur, Malta* by the Archaeological Society of Malta and HM at the NMA.

25 March

Cultural visit to San Pawl Milqi by the MCCA.

29 March

A visit by the Birkirkara Local Council as part of their monthly cultural educational visits to the Conservation Laboratories of HM, Bighi.

14 April

Official visit by HRH the Duke of Gloucester to the NWM on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the granting of the George Cross to Malta.

22 April

Official presentation of an 18th century portulan by Atlas Insurance Limited to the MMM.

26 April

Official presentation of the book *Frà Johann Josef, Frà Karl Leopold and Frà Ferdinand Von Herberstein, Knights and Sea Captains of Malta* in collaboration with the Austrian Embassy at the MMM.

16 May

A group of inmates from the Correctional Facility of Corradino visited Bigli Conservation Division and the MMM in collaboration with ICOM Malta and HM on the occasion of International Museum Day.

7 June

'Re-Painted' – Life drawing and painting sessions organised by the Friends of the NMFA at the NMFA.

14 June

Official presentation of the conserved painting St Jerome in his study attributed to Jacopo Bassano (1510-1592) sponsored by Alf Mizzi Group followed by a concert at the NMNH.

15 June

Official presentation of a work of art by Austrian sculptor Hubert Flörl donated to the NMFA following his solo exhibition 'Floating Bronze' at the NMFA.

15 – 17 June

Guided tours of San Pawl Milqi on the occasion of *Festa Bdiewa Burmarrard* organised by the Burmarrad Administrative Council.

24 June

Special tours describing the archaeological remains and ERDF project at the Tarxien Temples on the occasion of *Jum Hal Tarxien* organised in collaboration with the Tarxien Local Council.

24 July – 8 September

Ovid's Metamorphosis – A competition for youngsters consisting of creating a work of art inspired by one of the exhibits by artist Monika Beisner at the NMA.

28 July

Nightlife at the Park – A nature walk at *il-Majjistral* Heritage Park organised in collaboration with Nature Trust.

13 August

Friends of the NMFA restoration project – A presentation of a restored frame sponsored by the Friends of the NMFA at the NMFA.



5 – 7 September

Seminar on the 'Archaeotur Project: Integrated Management and Promotion of Archaeological Sites in Ragusa and Malta' organised in collaboration between Malta and Sicily to develop an integrated tourist route of less frequented archaeological heritage on both islands held at St Angelo's Hall, MMM.

21/28 September – 5/12/19 October

12 steps 400 years later – An interactive experience organised by the Victoria Local Council which involved a game-performance by fourteen characters ranging from Queen Victoria to Sir Adrian Dingli, where the public was free to choose whether to actively take part or passively observe at the Citadel, Gozo.

22 September

Claire Baluci Live in Concert – Live concert by Claire Baluci in aid of the Malta Community Chest Fund under the distinguished patronage of the President of Malta, at Bighi.



26 September

A display of traditional peasant costumes during an international conference on agriculture organised by MRRA at St George's Square, Valletta.

2 October

Clean up exercise at Haġar Qim Park by Intercontinental Hotel Malta in collaboration with HM.

26 October

ICOM Malta Annual Conference held at the MMM.

7 November

Ancestral Voices: Writings from the Past – Presentations and exhibits on Phoenician/Punic, Greek, Latin, Hebrew, Arabic and Maltese writing from the past at the Archaeology Centre, UOM.

16 November

Official launch of the publication *de Soldanis: An Eighteenth Century Intellectual* at the Throne Room of the Grand Master's Palace in collaboration with the Office of the President and the UOM.



To the Rescue.

26 November

Sons of the Sea – Screening of the film *Sons of the Sea* (1926) organised in collaboration with the Malta Film Commission at the MMM.

6 December

Onomastica bellica di terra, di mare, di cielo – A linguistic conference organised by the UOM at the MMM.

EVENTS HOSTED BY HM

28 January

50 Years for Birds and Nature – An event to celebrate the 50th anniversary of BirdLife Malta organised by BirdLife Malta at the Ғағar Qim visitor centre.

1 February

Screening of video 'Cranes over Spain' by Steve Zammit Lupi to BirdLife Malta members at the NMNH.

28 February

Launching of the draft national biodiversity strategy and action plan aimed at protecting Malta's unique biodiversity by the Hon. Minister Dr Mario de Marco at Ғағar Qim.

28 February

Dickens and the Maltese Seaman – A Charles Dickens Film Festival Bicentennial Anniversary Celebration by the British Council, including a lecture by Prof. Raymond Agius followed by the earliest movie adaptation of a Dickens novel and Victorian era snacks at the MMM.

23 March

Oracle – A documentary 'The Architecture of the Sacred' by Dr Michael Zammit and a brief theatre ritual by Mexican artist Ada Wendy Moira followed by a silent 90 minute performance with wireless headsets by Cygna and Aes Dana organised by the Rubberbodies Collective at Haġar Qim.



24 March

Annual general meeting of the Historical Re-enactment Group Malta at the St Angelo Hall, MMM.

10 April

Performance by Renzo Spiteri during the Expressive Arts Symposium held at Għar Dalam.

12 April

Performance by Renzo Spiteri during the Expressive Arts Symposium held at Haġar Qim.

21 April

Investiture ceremony of the Order of St Lazarus at Tal-Pilar Chapel.

2 May

Presentation of the document *Raba' Sena ta' Hidma* by the Hon. Minister de Marco at Haġar Qim.

10 June

Annual seminar organised by the Friends of the MMM at the St Angelo Hall, MMM.



22/30 August

Summer Baroque Concerts by duo Silvio and Ramona Zammit and Cordia String Quartet in conjunction with the exhibition 'In the Wake of Caravaggio' held at the Inquisitor's Palace.

29 September

Cabrales at *Notte Bianca* – An ensemble of fifteen saxophonists from the Dutch Saxophone Orchestra Cabrale, Utrecht as part of the *Notte Bianca* events held at the NMFA.

11 October

Official visit to MMM by the EU delegation of Valletta 2018 as part of the European Capital of Culture bid selection process.

24 November

World Heritage Sites: The role of Local Communities – ICOMOS Malta Symposium held at the Haġar Qim Visitor Centre.



Heritage Malta official statistics - 2012

Site/Museum	Paying Visitors
Għar Dalam Cave & Museum	35,814
Ħaġar Qim Temples	108,605
Ħal Saflieni Hypogeum	27,406
Inquisitor's Palace	30,041
Mnajdra Temples	76,200
Malta Maritime Museum	20,577
Domvs Romana	27,683
National Museum of Archaeology	66,306
National Museum of Fine Arts	19,290
National Museum of Natural History	14,079
National War Museum	44,952
Palace Armoury	89,190
St. Paul's Catacombs	73,767
Palace State Rooms	130,948
Tarxien Temples	70,406
Folklore Museum	6,974
Ġgantija Temples	151,780
Gozo Museum of Archaeology	10,669
Gozo Nature Museum	3,998
Ta' Kola Windmill	20,404
Gozo Old Prisons	9,386
San Pawl Milqi	41
Ta' Ħaġrat Temples	682
Tas-Silġ Temples	9
Skorba Temples	737
TOTAL PAYING	1,039,944
FREE ADMISSIONS	83,108
GRAND TOTAL	1,123,052

HERITAGE MALTA

**Annual Report and Consolidated
Financial Statements
31 December 2012**

HERITAGE MALTA
Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements - 31 December 2012

	Pages
Directors' report	1 - 4
Independent auditor's report	5 - 6
Statements of financial position	7
Income and expenditure accounts	8
Statements of changes in accumulated fund	9
Statements of cash flows	10
Notes to the consolidated financial statements	11 - 28

Directors' report

The directors present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2012.

Principal activities

Heritage Malta ('the Agency') is the national agency of the Government of Malta. It was set up in 2002 under the provisions of the Cultural Heritage Act and entrusted with the management of national museums and heritage sites and their collections in Malta and Gozo - including seven UNESCO World Heritage sites. The Agency is responsible for ensuring that those elements of cultural heritage entrusted to it are protected and made accessible to the public as well as conserving and restoring cultural property within its portfolio. It also provides training in conservation, education, research and consultation. It strives to create public awareness through displays, exhibitions, thematic events, public relations and other initiatives.

Financial allocation

The Agency finances its operations through revenues, mainly from admission fees to museums and sites, and also from a Government subvention. The net revenue generated by the Agency in 2012 reached €4,637,559 (2011: €4,627,349).

A Government Subvention of €3,249,987 (2011: €3,233,950) was received during the year to meet the Agency's administrative expenditure for the financial year ended 31 December 2012.

Furthermore, an amount of €239,305 (2011: €232,927) is paid to Government as rent on various sites and premises occupied by Heritage Malta.

Further amounts were also applied under Capital Vote V in Government's Financial Estimates for 2012. These include €200,000 (2011: €474,627) relating to improvements at museums and sites and restoration works under item 7033. Other funds amounting to €237,425 (2011: €185,273) were applied under votes, V12 - Vote 7270 - restoration of Fort St. Angelo, Vote 8808 - Security, Surveillance and Automated Ticketing System and Vote 5557 - Fund for Acquisition of Contemporary Maltese Artworks and Vote 5623 Relocation of Maltese Fine Arts Museum.

The Agency's subsidiary, Heritage Malta Services Limited, serves as its commercial arm for activities. Its main activities include the hiring out of venues for corporate entertainment, promoting a patrons programme and monitoring the museum shop activities besides other day-to-day revenue generating operations. The net revenue generated through Heritage Malta Services Limited amounted to €136,322 (2011: €146,904).

Review of operations

The Board of Directors and Management continued to focus on the Agency's internal structures, systems and processes with a view to maximising its financial, technical and human resources so as to ensure Heritage Malta shall continue to be in a position to face ongoing challenges.

The Agency ended FY2012 with a deficit of €535,011 (2011: €486,380), after a depreciation charge of €529,107 (2011: €531,322).

During the year under review we continued with our mission of conserving the forty museums and sites in our care, together with all their related collections, and also sought to render them accessible to the general public. This was achieved through a long and varied list of events, including lectures, exhibitions, heritage trails, educational programmes, seminars, publications, interpretation facilities and also media coverage. The staging of a number of Open Days at various museums and sites also complemented these initiatives. Foremost were those organised at Fort St Angelo on 17 June and at our Head Office, Bighi, on 28 October. Both were a resounding success. Paying visitors in 2012 reached 1,039,944 (2011: 1,032,808) while that for non-paying visitors was 81,314 (2011: 93,022).

Directors' report - continued

Review of operations - continued

During the year under review focus was given to the transfer of the National Museum of Fine Arts to the Auberge d'Italie. Extensive structural works were carried out at the museum, while the offices and staff of the museum have already been relocated at the Auberge. Other works have also been undertaken. The Phoenician hall was inaugurated at the National Museum of Archaeology. Reconstruction work on Ta' Kola Windmill is in full swing. Extensive works have been carried out at the Inquisitor's Palace and the Malta Maritime Museum, while a number of technical studies have been conducted at the Xaghra Stone Circle in anticipation of infrastructural improvements at the site.

Heritage Malta is currently also managing the following major EU-funded projects: The ERDF 032 Archaeological Heritage Conservation Project (c. €9.5m) includes the building of visitor infrastructure at Ggantija Temples, St Paul's Catacombs, and Tarxien Temples; the ERDF 245 Fort St Angelo Heritage Experience (c. €13m) includes the rehabilitation of the fort into a cultural attraction focusing on its importance in Malta's history. This project is also complemented by national funds. The ERDF 244 Fort St Elmo Heritage Experience (c. €15m in partnership with the Grand Harbour Regeneration Corporation), includes the hosting of the current National War Museum and its transformation into a Military History Museum; the EAFRD M323/12 (c. €6m), includes the rehabilitation of the Ghajn Tuffieha Roman Baths and Ta' Bistra Catacombs. Work is also underway for the EEA (Norwegian Funds) Financial Mechanism 2009-14 (c. €900,000) New Environmental Management System for the Hal Saffron Hypogeum

Other initiatives worthy of mention are the following exhibitions: 'Peasant Costumes: Insights into Rural Life and Society', held at the Ministry for Gozo from 18 May to 29 July and subsequently at the Inquisitor's Palace from 19 October to 31 January 2013. This exhibition was accompanied with four publications, 'Henry Mayo Betteman (1887-1970): The Men Who ... Loved Gozo', was held at the National Museum of Archaeology from 29 September to 31 January 2013. An exhibition catalogue was also published.

'Governor Pietro Francesco Agius De Soldanis' Ghawdx, *Exkuzjazzjoni u Akkademiku tas-Seklu Tmintax* was organised in collaboration with the Ministry for Gozo, the National Library and the University of Malta at the Ministry for Gozo from 7 to 23 September and subsequently at the National Library of Malta from 5 October to 11 November, accompanied with a catalogue and a booklet. 'This is Maltese' was held at Harrods, London by the Malta High Commission in the UK, together with the MTA and Heritage Malta, from 1 to 28 March.

'Nine Centuries of Sacred Faith and Charity', including important work of arts of the Order of St John was organised by the Kremlin Museums and Sovereign Military Order of Malta at the Kremlin, Moscow, between 6 July and 9 September. Substantial parts of this exhibition subsequently featured in an exhibition entitled 'Around the Maltese Cross' at the Historical Museum of Warsaw in the Royal Castle of Warsaw, from 19 October to 13 January 2013. Heritage Malta also participated in a number of commemorative events on the 70th anniversary of the Santa Maria's convoy and the granting of George Cross to Malta.

Preparations are underway for the celebration of the Agency's tenth anniversary of (2003-13) through a number of significant events, the major of which will be a major international exhibition at the Grand Master's Palace to celebrate the 400th anniversary from Malta's birth in May-July 2013.

Moreover, we also enhanced the National Collection through the acquisition of thousands of artefacts, among which two large paintings of Victor Pasmore, a painting by Giuseppe Calli, and 2,000 insects from South America. Over 4000 items were also catalogued into the database.

The Conservation Departments worked on the conservation and restoration of hundreds of artefacts from the National Collection, including paintings depicting grand masters for San Anton Palace, paintings of Malta's Preli, and ongoing work on historic photographic glass plates at the Fototeke of the National Museum of Archaeology. We are also actively participating in the Palace Regeneration Project by restoring a number of paintings of the National Collection displayed in the Palace corridors.

Directors' report - continued

Review of operations - continued

HM was also very active on the education front through the production of thirteen specific education programmes and work sheets, and by the organisation of 150 activities including hands-on sessions, drama representations and treasure hunts for school children, and others attending Skolasajf and Culture Card holders.

The Heritage Malta Annual Report presents a detailed account of all our activities.

Results

The results for the period ended 31 December 2012 are set out in the income and expenditure account on page 8.

Directors

The directors of the Agency who held office during the year were:

Joseph Said – Chairman
Isabel Vella – Vice Chairman
Evelyn Baluci – Resigned with effect from 15 February 2012
Norma Camilleri
Martin Mergieca
Anthony Bonanno – Resigned on 31 July 2011
John Cremona
Leonard Gallus
JoAnn Cassar
David Felice – Appointed with effect from 1 April 2012
Joseph Galea Debono – appointed with effect from 23 July 2012

The above Chairman, Vice-Chairman and directors of Heritage Malta ceased to be directors, with effect from 15 May 2013. The now appointed directors of the Agency with effect from 15 May 2013 are:

Joseph Buttigieg – Chairman
Mario Tabona Vassallo
JoAnn Cassar
Anthony Dagliwanth
Peter Muscat
Gerald Montanaro Gauci
Anthony Zammit
Philip Agius

In accordance with the Cultural Heritage Act, 2002, the directors are appointed for such term and under such terms and conditions as the responsible minister may deem proper, and they are eligible for re-appointment.

The directors are required by the Cultural Heritage Act, 2002 to prepare financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of Heritage Malta as at the end of each reporting period and of the surplus or deficit for that period.

Directors' report - continued

Statement of directors' responsibilities for the financial statements

The directors are required by the Cultural Heritage Act, 2002 to prepare financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Group and the Agency as at the end of each reporting period and of the profit or loss for that period.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for:

- ensuring that the financial statements have been drawn up in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU;
- selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies;
- making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances;
- ensuring that the financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Group and the Agency will continue in business as a going concern.

The directors are also responsible for designing, implementing and maintaining internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and that comply with the Cultural Heritage Act, 2002. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Group and the Agency and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The financial statements of Heritage Malta for the year ended 31 December 2012 are included in the Annual Report 2012, which is published in hard-copy printed form and may be made available on the Heritage Malta's website. The directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the Annual Report on the website in view of their responsibility for the controls over, and the security of, the website. Access to information published on the Agency's website is available in other countries and jurisdictions, where legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from requirements or practice in Malta.

Auditors

The auditors PricewaterhouseCoopers, have indicated their willingness to continue in office and a resolution for their re-appointment will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.

On behalf of the board


Joseph Huhgrieg
Chairman


Mario Takona Vassallo
Vice Chairman

Heritage Malta Head Office
Manna Street
Bighi
Kalkara
Malta

3 July 2013

Independent auditor's report

To the Directors of Heritage Malta

Report on the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2012

We have audited the consolidated and stand-alone financial statements of Heritage Malta (together the 'financial statements') on pages 7 to 28, which comprise the consolidated and stand-alone statements of financial position as at 31 December 2012 and the consolidated and stand-alone income and expenditure accounts, changes in accumulated funds and cash flows for the year then ended and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Statements

As explained more comprehensively in the Statement of directors' responsibilities for the financial statements on pages 3 to 4, the directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the EU and with the requirements of the Cultural Heritage Act, 2002, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Group and Agency as at 31 December 2012, and of their financial performance and their cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with IFRSs as adopted by the EU; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the basis of preparation set at in Note 1.1 and with the requirements of the Cultural Heritage Act, 2002.



pwc

Independent auditor's report - continued

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

We also have responsibilities under the Maltese Companies Act, 1995 to report to you if, in our opinion:

- The information given in the directors' report is not consistent with the financial statements;
- Adequate accounting records have not been kept, or that returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us;
- The financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; and
- Certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made in the financial statements, giving the required particulars in our report.

We have nothing to report to you in respect of these responsibilities.

PricewaterhouseCoopers

78 Mill Street
Qormi
Malta

Simon Flynn
Partner

3 July 2013

Statements of financial position

		Consolidated		Agency		
		Year ended 31 December				
		2012	2011	2012	2011	
	Notes	€	€	€	€	
ASSETS						
Non-current assets						
Property, plant and equipment	4	4,586,671	4,594,670	4,586,671	4,594,670	
Investment in subsidiary	5	-	-	4,959	4,959	
Total non-current assets		4,586,671	4,594,670	4,591,630	4,599,629	
Current assets						
Inventories	6	38,985	41,120	38,985	41,120	
Trade and other receivables	7	695,314	265,039	871,770	403,886	
Cash and cash equivalents	8	3,615,302	3,309,770	3,323,612	3,107,007	
Current tax assets		14,719	-	-	-	
Total current assets		4,264,320	3,635,929	4,234,367	3,552,013	
Total assets		8,850,991	8,230,799	8,826,997	8,151,642	
RESERVES AND LIABILITIES						
Reserves						
Accumulated fund		4,527,323	4,475,645	4,527,323	4,475,645	
- Capital vote		(538,603)	(501,532)	(649,346)	(550,846)	
- Recurrent vote and operating activities						
Total reserves		3,888,720	3,974,113	3,877,977	3,924,799	
Non-current liabilities						
Specific endowment funds	9	2,619,201	1,911,504	2,619,201	1,911,504	
Current liabilities						
Specific endowment funds	9	209,771	917,000	209,771	917,000	
Trade and other payables	11	2,133,289	1,420,366	2,119,048	1,398,539	
Current tax liabilities		-	7,814	-	-	
Total current liabilities		2,343,070	2,345,182	2,328,819	2,315,539	
Total liabilities		4,962,271	4,256,886	4,948,020	4,227,043	
Total reserves and liabilities		8,850,991	8,230,799	8,826,997	8,151,642	

The notes on pages 11 to 28 are an integral part of these financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 7 to 28 were authorised for issue by the board on 3 July 2013 and were signed on its behalf by


Joseph Buttigieg
Chairman


Mario Tabone Vassallo
Vice Chairman

Income and expenditure accounts

	Notes	Consolidated		Agency	
		Year ended 31 December 2012	Year ended 31 December 2011	Year ended 31 December 2012	Year ended 31 December 2011
		€	€	€	€
Subvention from consolidated fund for recurrent expenditure	15	3,656,187	3,534,906	3,556,187	3,534,906
Income from operations	12	5,184,518	4,980,212	5,048,196	4,843,311
Funds available for recurrent expenditure		8,740,705	8,525,118	8,604,383	8,378,217
Staff costs	13	(5,897,502)	(5,580,148)	(5,805,128)	(5,473,321)
Other recurrent operational expenditure	13	(2,967,219)	(3,096,940)	(2,967,219)	(3,096,940)
Recurrent administrative expenditure	13	(422,461)	(313,806)	(339,659)	(289,882)
Deficit on recurrent expenditure before interest		(548,477)	(465,776)	(507,621)	(481,926)
Finance income	16	362	5,210	-	4,744
Finance costs	17	(27,448)	(9,195)	(27,380)	(9,198)
Deficit before income tax		(573,573)	(489,761)	(535,011)	(486,380)
Tax expense		(8)	(12,623)	-	-
Deficit for the financial year		[573,582]	(482,384)	(535,011)	(486,380)

The notes on pages 11 to 28 are an integral part of these financial statements.

Statements of changes in accumulated fund

	Notes	Recurrent vote & operating activities €	Capital Vote €	Accumulated Fund €
Consolidated				
Balance at 1 January 2011		(472,582)	4,269,179	3,796,597
Deficit for the financial year		(482,384)	-	(482,384)
Capital subvention for the year	10	-	659,900	659,900
Transfer of depreciation from capital vote		453,434	(453,434)	-
Balance at 31 December 2011		(501,532)	4,475,645	3,974,113
Agency				
Balance at 1 January 2012		(501,532)	4,475,645	3,974,113
Deficit for the financial year		(573,582)	-	(573,582)
Capital subvention for the year	10	-	437,425	437,425
Write off of suppliers balance		-	50,764	50,764
Transfer of depreciation from capital vote		436,511	(436,511)	-
Balance at 31 December 2012		(638,603)	4,527,323	3,888,720
Agency				
Balance at 1 January 2011		(517,900)	4,269,179	3,751,279
Deficit for the financial year		(486,380)	-	(486,380)
Capital subvention for the year	10	-	659,900	659,900
Transfer of depreciation from capital vote		453,434	(453,434)	-
Balance at 31 December 2011		(550,846)	4,475,645	3,924,799
Balance at 1 January 2012				
Balance at 1 January 2012		(550,846)	4,475,645	3,924,799
Deficit for the financial year		(535,011)	-	(535,011)
Capital subvention for the year	10	-	437,425	437,425
Write off of suppliers balance		-	50,764	50,764
Transfer of depreciation from capital vote		436,511	(436,511)	-
Balance at 31 December 2012		(649,346)	4,527,323	3,877,877

The notes on pages 11 to 28 are an integral part of these financial statements.

Statements of cash flows

	Consolidated		Agency	
	Year ended 31 December 2012	Year ended 31 December 2011	Year ended 31 December 2012	Year ended 31 December 2011
	Notes	€	€	€
Cash flows from operating activities				
Cash generated from operations	20	338,185	82,514	327,010
Interest received	16	352	5,210	-
Interest paid	17	(27,448)	(9,195)	(27,390)
Net tax paid		(22,542)	(17,170)	-
Net cash generated from operating activities		288,547	61,359	299,620
				190,573
Cash flows from investing activities				
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	4	(520,908)	(962,215)	(520,908)
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment		-	22,001	-
Net cash used in investing activities		(520,908)	(940,214)	(520,908)
				(940,214)
Cash flows from financing activities				
Capital subvention from government	10	437,425	659,900	437,425
Specific endowment funds	9	488	122,313	488
Net cash generated from financing activities		437,893	782,213	437,893
				782,213
Net movement in cash and cash equivalents		205,532	(98,642)	216,605
				32,372
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		3,308,770	3,406,412	3,107,007
				3,074,635
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	8	3,515,302	3,309,770	3,323,612
				3,107,007

The notes on pages 11 to 28 are an integral part of these financial statements.

Notes to the consolidated financial statements

1. Summary of significant accounting policies

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these consolidated financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

1.1 Basis of preparation

These consolidated financial statements include the results of Heritage Malta and its subsidiary Heritage Malta Services Limited, and are prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as adopted by the EU, and comply with the Cultural Heritage Act, 2002. The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRSs as adopted by the EU requires the use of certain accounting estimates. It also requires directors to exercise their judgement in the process of applying the Group's accounting policies (see Note 3 – Critical accounting estimates and judgements).

Standards, interpretations and amendments to published standards effective in 2012

In 2012, the Group adopted new standards, amendments and interpretations to existing standards that are mandatory for the Group's accounting period beginning on 1 January 2012. The adoption of these revisions to the requirements of IFRSs as adopted by the EU did not result in substantial changes to the Group's accounting policies.

Standards, interpretations and amendments to published standards that are not yet effective

Certain new standards, amendments and interpretations to existing standards have been published by the date of authorisation for issue of these financial statements, that are mandatory for accounting periods beginning after 1 January 2012. The Group has not early adopted these revisions to the requirements of IFRSs as adopted by the EU and the Group's directors are of the opinion that there are no requirements that will have a possible significant impact on the Group's financial statements in the period of initial application.

The Agency finances its operations through a subvention voted by Government in its annual financial estimates for the Ministry for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport (formerly the Ministry for Tourism and Culture). In 2012, €3,249,987 (2011: €3,233,950) was received by Heritage Malta to meet its administrative expenditure for the calendar year from 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2012 under recurrent Vote 32, item 6031.

Further amounts were also allocated to Heritage Malta under Capital Vote 7 in the Government's financial estimates of 2012 covering the period from 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2012. These include €200,000 (2011: €474,827) relating to improvements at Museums and historical sites and restoration works under item 7033. Other funds amounting to €237,425 (2011: €185,272) were applied under Votes V12, Vote 7270 – Restoration of Fort St. Angelo, Vote 8809 – Security Surveillance and Automated Ticketing System, Vote 5557 – Fund for Acquisition of Contemporary Maltese art and Vote 5823 Relocation of Maltese Fine Arts Museum.

1. Summary of significant accounting policies - continued

1.1 Basis of preparation - continued

As administrator of historical sites on behalf of Government, Heritage Malta (the Agency) is solely responsible for management of the museums and sites entrusted to it (refer to Appendix 1). Although Heritage Malta acts as project manager for the restoration of historical sites that fall under ERDF projects, funds allocated to, and expenses incurred in, such projects are handled directly by Government and do not form part of the financial statements of Heritage Malta. The related funding is deposited directly to the Treasury and is not available to Heritage Malta to meet its recurrent expenditure.

During the year, the Agency incurred a deficit of €535,011 (2011: €486,380) and at 31 December 2012 its Accumulated Fund for recurrent expenditure had a negative balance of €649,346 (2011: €550,846). Although its current assets exceeded its current liabilities by €1,805,548 (2011: €1,236,474), an amount of €2,359,625 (2011: €2,606,117) included with cash at bank and in hand relates to specific endowment funds, which use is restricted to the purpose for which they were received by the Agency.

After excluding these funds, current liabilities exceeded current assets by €454,077 (2011: €1,369,643). These financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis that assumes that the Agency will continue in operational existence in the foreseeable future due to its ability to generate additional income or failing this, to obtain Government support. The directors are confident that Government will support the Agency by making up for an eventual shortfall in cash generated, through its annual subvention.

1.2 Foreign currency translation

(a) Functional and presentation currency

Items included in the financial statements are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the entity operates (the functional currency). These consolidated financial statements are presented in euro, which is the Agency's functional and presentation currency.

(b) Transactions and balances

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from the translation at year-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the income and expenditure accounts.

All foreign exchange gains and losses are presented in the income and expenditure accounts within 'recurrent administrative expenditure'.

1.3 Consolidation

Subsidiary undertakings, which are those entities in which Heritage Malta, directly or indirectly, has an interest of more than one half of the voting rights or otherwise has power to exercise control over the operations, have been consolidated. Subsidiaries are consolidated from the date on which effective control is transferred to the Agency, and are no longer consolidated from the date that control ceases.

1. Summary of significant accounting policies - continued

1.3 Consolidation

The purchase method of accounting is used to account for the acquisition of subsidiaries by the Agency. The cost of an acquisition is measured as the fair value of the assets given, equity instruments issued and liabilities incurred or assumed at the date of exchange, plus costs directly attributable to the acquisition. Identifiable intangible assets acquired and liabilities and contingent liabilities assumed in a business combination are measured initially at their fair values at the acquisition date, irrespective of the extent of any minority interest. The excess of the cost of acquisition over the fair value of the Agency's share of the identifiable net assets acquired is recorded as goodwill. If the cost of acquisition is less than the fair value of the net assets of the subsidiary acquired, the difference is recognised directly in the Income and expenditure account.

Inter-entity transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions are eliminated. Unrealised losses are also eliminated unless the transaction provides evidence of an impairment of the asset transferred. Accounting policies of subsidiaries have been changed where necessary to ensure consistency with the policies adopted by Heritage Malta.

A listing of the principal subsidiaries is set out in Note 5.

1.4 Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment, is stated at historical cost less depreciation. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of items.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount, or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Agency, and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. The carrying amount of the replaced part is derecognised. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to the Income and expenditure account during the financial period in which they are incurred.

Capital work in progress is stated at cost. Cost comprises acquisition costs, expenses incidental to acquisition, borrowing costs and difference on exchange related thereto.

Depreciation is calculated on the straight-line method to allocate the cost of the assets to their residual values over their estimated useful lives as follows:

	%
Infrastructure improvements	5
Plant and equipment	10
Computer hardware office equipment	12.5 - 25
Furniture, fixtures and fittings	10 - 12.5
Ticketing system	15
Motor vehicle	25

Intangible assets are not depreciated. They are stated at cost less provisions for impairment. Provisions for impairment are made when it is estimated that the residual value of these assets has fallen below their original cost.

1. Summary of significant accounting policies - continued

1.4 Property, plant and equipment - continued

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount (Note 1.5).

Gains and losses on disposals of are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount and are recognised within 'recurrent administrative expenditure' in the income and expenditure account.

1.5 Impairment of assets

Impairment of financial assets

The Agency assesses at the end of each reporting period whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset is impaired. A financial asset is impaired and impairment losses are incurred only if there is objective evidence of impairment as a result of one or more events that have occurred after the initial recognition of the asset and that has an impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial asset that can be reliably estimated.

Impairment of non financial assets

Assets that have an indefinite useful life are not subject to amortisation and are tested annually for impairment. Assets that are subject to amortisation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use. For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash flows (cash-generating units). Non-financial assets other than goodwill that suffered an impairment are reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at the end of each reporting period.

1.8 Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. The cost of inventories is assigned by using the weighted average cost formula, except for items that are not ordinarily interchangeable or goods or services produced and segregated for specific projects, where cost is assigned by using specific identification of their individual costs.

The cost of inventories comprise all cost of purchase, costs of conversion, and other costs incurred in bringing the stocks to their present location and condition. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business, less estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs necessary to make the sale.

1. Summary of significant accounting policies - continued

1.7 Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables comprise amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business. If collection is expected in one year or less (or in the normal operating cycle of the business if longer), they are classified as current assets. If not, they are presented as non-current assets. Trade and other receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment (Note 1.5).

The carrying amount of the asset is reduced through the use of an allowance account, and the amount of the loss is recognised in the income and expenditure account within 'recurrent administrative expenditure'. When a receivable is uncollectible, it is written off against the allowance account for trade and other receivables. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against 'recurrent administrative expenditure' in the income and expenditure account.

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are carried in the statement of financial position at face value. For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash in hand and deposits held at call with banks.

1.9 Trade and other payables

Trade payables are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less (or in the normal operating cycle of the business if longer). If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade and other payables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

1.10 Current and deferred taxation

The tax expense for the period comprises current and deferred tax. Tax is recognised in the income and expenditure account, except to the extent that it relates to items recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity. In this case, the tax is also recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity, respectively.

Deferred tax is recognised, using the liability method, on temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the consolidated financial statements. However, the deferred tax is not accounted for if it arises from initial recognition of an asset or liability in a transaction other than a business combination that at the time of the transaction affects neither accounting nor taxable profit or loss. Deferred tax is determined using tax rates (and laws) that have been enacted or substantially enacted by the end of the reporting period and are expected to apply when the related deferred tax asset is realised or the deferred tax liability is settled.

1. Summary of significant accounting policies - continued

1.10 Current and deferred taxation - continued

Deferred income tax assets are recognised only to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profit will be available against which the temporary differences can be utilised.

Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are offset when there is a legally enforceable right to offset current tax assets against current tax liabilities and when the deferred income tax assets and liabilities relate to income taxes levied by the same taxation authority on either the taxable entity or different taxable entities where there is an intention to settle the balances on a net basis.

1.11 Provisions

Provisions for legal claims are recognised when Heritage Malta has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, when it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation, and when a reliable estimate of the amount of the obligation can be made. Provisions are not recognised for future operating losses.

Provisions are measured at the present value of the expenditures expected to be required to settle the obligation using a pre-tax that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the obligation. The increase in the provision due to passage of time is recognized in the income and expenditure account

1.12 Revenue recognition

Revenue comprises the fair value of the consideration received or receivable for the sale of services in the ordinary course of the Agency's activities. Revenue is shown net of sales taxes and discounts and is included in the financial statements as income from operations. Revenue is recognised as follows:

(a) Funds available for recurrent expenditure

Income is recognised upon performance of services rendered.

The income derived from the subvention from Government referred to in Note 10 is recognised on accruals basis.

(b) Interest income

Interest income is recognised as it accrues, using the effective interest method, unless collectibility is in doubt.

1.13 Leases

Leases in which a significant portion of the risks and benefits of ownership are effectively retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Payments made under operating leases (net of any incentives received from the lessor) are charged to the income and expenditure account on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

2. Financial risk management

2.1 Financial risk factors

The Group's activities potentially expose it to a variety of financial risks: market risk (including currency risk, fair value interest rate risk, and cash flow interest rate risk, credit risk and liquidity risk). The Group's overall risk management, covering risk exposures for all group undertakings focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the Group's financial performance. The Agency's board of directors provides principles for overall group risk management as well as policies covering risks referred to above and specific areas such as investment of excess liquidity. The Group did not make use of derivative financial instruments to hedge certain risk exposures during the current and preceding financial years.

(a) Market risk

(i) Foreign exchange risk

The Group's operating revenues, operating expenditure and financing are mainly denominated in euro. Accordingly, the Group's exposure to foreign exchange risk is not significant and a sensitivity analysis for foreign exchange risk disclosing how surplus or deficit and equity would have been affected by changes in foreign exchange rates that were reasonably possible at the end of the reporting period is not deemed necessary.

(ii) Cash flow and fair value interest rate risk

As the Group has no significant interest-bearing assets, the Group's income and operating cash flows are not dependent of changes in market interest rates. The Group's interest rate risk arises from long-term borrowings. Borrowings issued at variable rates, comprising bank borrowings, expose the Group to cash flow interest rate risk. Management monitors the level of floating rate borrowings as a measure of cash flow risk taken on. The Group had no borrowings at year-end.

Based on the above, management considers the potential impact on surplus or deficit of a defined interest rate shift that is reasonably possible at the reporting date to be immaterial.

(b) Credit risk

Credit risk arises from cash and cash equivalents, deposits with banks, as well as credit exposures to customers, including outstanding receivables and committed transactions. The Group's exposures to credit risk are analysed as follows:

	2012	2011
Loans and receivables category:		
Trade and other receivables (Note 7)	€1000	€000
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 8)	695	285
	3,515	3,310

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date in respect of the financial assets mentioned above is equivalent to their carrying amount as disclosed in the respective notes to the financial statements. The Group does not hold any collateral as security in this respect.

2. Financial risk management - continued

2.1 Financial risk factors - continued

(b) Credit risk - continued

The Group banks only with local financial institutions with high quality standing or rating.

The Group has no significant concentration of credit risk with respect to trade receivables in view of the large number of customers comprising its trade receivables base. The Group assesses the credit quality of its customers taking into account financial position, past experience and other factors. It has policies in place to ensure that sales of products and services are offered to customers with an appropriate credit history. The Group monitors the performance of these financial assets on a regular basis to identify incurred collection losses which are inherent in the Group's receivables taking into account historical experience in collection of accounts receivable.

The Group manages credit limits and exposures actively in a practicable manner such that there are no material past due amounts receivable from customers as at the reporting date.

(c) Liquidity risk

The Group is exposed to liquidity risk in relation to meeting future obligations associated with its financial liabilities, which comprise principally trade and other payables (refer to Note 11). Prudent liquidity risk management includes maintaining sufficient cash and committed credit lines to ensure the availability of an adequate amount of funding to meet the Group's obligations.

Management monitors liquidity risk by means of cash flow forecasts on the basis of expected cash flows over a twelve month period and ensures that no additional financing facilities are expected to be required over the coming period. The Group's liquidity risk is not deemed material in view of the matching of cash inflows and outflows arising from expected maturities of financial instruments. The Group's trade and other payables are entirely repayable within one year from the end of the reporting period.

(d) Fair values

At 31 December 2012 and 31 December 2011 the carrying amounts of cash at bank, receivables, payables and accrued expenses are reasonable estimates of fair values in view of the nature of the instruments or the relatively short period of time between the origination of the instruments and their expected realisation.

3. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and based on historical experience and other factors including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

In the opinion of the directors, the accounting estimates and judgements made in the course of preparing these financial statements are not difficult, subjective or complex to a degree which would warrant their description as critical in terms of the requirements of IAS 1.

HERIAGE MALIA
Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements - 31 December 2012

4. Property, plant and equipment

Consolidated and Agency

	Infrastructure improvements €	Heritage assets €	Paints & equipment €	Computer hardware & office equipment €	Furniture & fittings €	Typing system €	Total €
At 1 January 2011							
Cost or valuation	3,179,329	452,786	2,469,807	563,378	2,240,490	477,525	9,383,320
Accumulated depreciation	(1,099,056)	-	(1,944,072)	(426,837)	(1,239,888)	(477,525)	(5,168,476)
Net book amount	2,080,273	452,786	525,735	134,541	1,000,602	-	4,193,842
Year ended							
31 December 2011							
Opening net book amount	2,080,273	452,786	525,735	134,541	1,000,602	-	4,193,842
Additions	511,261	146,351	89,461	72,969	142,153	-	982,215
Disposals	-	-	(43,704)	-	-	-	(43,704)
Depreciation charge	(160,780)	-	(103,497)	(53,058)	(213,887)	-	(531,322)
Depreciation released on disposals	-	-	13,839	-	-	-	13,839
Closing net book amount	2,430,774	599,137	481,834	154,452	926,673	-	4,594,870
At 31 December 2011							
Cost or valuation	3,690,810	599,137	2,315,564	606,347	2,382,648	477,525	10,301,801
Accumulated depreciation	(1,259,838)	-	(12,003,730)	(481,895)	(1,453,975)	(477,525)	(5,706,961)
Net book amount	2,430,774	599,137	481,834	154,452	928,673	-	4,594,870
Year ended							
31 December 2012							
Opening net book amount	2,430,774	599,137	481,834	154,452	928,673	-	4,594,870
Additions	239,201	115,050	33,589	22,348	110,720	-	520,908
Depreciation charge	(151,677)	-	(82,592)	(58,460)	(228,378)	-	(529,107)
Closing net book amount	2,518,298	714,187	422,831	120,340	811,015	-	4,586,671
At 31 December 2012							
Cost or valuation	3,929,811	714,187	2,549,153	658,696	2,493,368	477,525	10,822,739
Accumulated depreciation	(1,411,513)	-	(2,126,322)	(538,356)	(1,682,353)	(477,525)	(6,236,068)
Net book amount	2,518,298	714,187	422,831	120,340	811,015	-	4,586,671

As disclosed in Note 1.1, capital votes are presented as increases in equity, and the acquired heritage assets are presented as assets in the statement of financial position.

5. Investment in subsidiary

	Agency
At 31 December 2012 and 31 December 2011	€
Opening and closing cost and carrying amounts	4,959

5. Investment in subsidiary - continued

The subsidiary at 31 December 2012 is shown below:

Agency	Registered Office	Class of shares held	Percentage of shares held
Heritage Malta Services Limited	Heritage Malta Head Office Ex Royal Naval Hospital Marine Street Kalkara Malta	Ordinary shares	100%

6. Inventories

	Consolidated & Agency	
	2012 €	2011 €
Publications held for sale	38,985	41,120

7. Trade and other receivables

	Consolidated		Agency	
	2012 €	2011 €	2012 €	2011 €
Current				
Trade receivables – gross	195,317	302,155	156,239	217,204
Amounts owed by related parties	273,919	195,729	273,919	195,729
Less: Provision for impairment of trade receivables and amounts owed by related parties	(246,534)	(246,534)	(225,601)	(225,601)
Trade receivables – net	222,702	251,350	204,557	187,332
Amounts owed by subsidiary	-	-	194,601	182,865
Other receivables	443,891	8,681	443,891	8,891
Prepayments and accrued income	28,621	24,998	28,621	24,998
	685,314	285,039	671,770	403,826

The amounts owed by subsidiary to the Agency is unsecured, interest free and repayable on demand.

8. Cash and cash equivalents

For the purposes of the statements of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents comprise the following:

	Consolidated		Agency	
	2012 €	2011 €	2012 €	2011 €
Cash at bank and in hand	3,515,302	3,309,770	3,323,612	3,107,007

Included with cash at bank and in hand is an amount of €2,359,625 (2011:€2,505,117) in respect of the Specific Endowment Funds disclosed in Note 9.

9. Specific endowment funds

	Consolidated & Agency	
	2012 €	2011 €
EU		
Restricted funds – Michael Plus Project	41,777	28,878
Restricted funds – Smart Museum	-	105,186
Restricted funds – Stena	-	55,844
Restricted funds – Carave	62,794	61,559
Restricted funds – Grundtvig	-	19,047
Restricted funds – Projects Mercator	-	(797)
Restricted funds – Projects Athena	4,997	4,947
Restricted funds – Projects Lithos	114,210	-
	<u>223,778</u>	<u>335,694</u>

9. Specific endowment funds - continued

	Consolidated & Agency	
	2012 €	2011 €
Non - EU		
Restricted funds - Rural Development	1,651,406	1,651,802
Restricted funds - BOV Tarxien Temples	253,780	255,280
Restricted funds - Vodalona Malta Limited	149,396	160,714
Restricted funds - HSBC Malta plc	82,023	92,530
Restricted funds - Palace Armoury - Gasan Mamo Insurance	63,136	65,249
Restricted funds - HSBC SPC Ragnsson	38,090	41,370
Restricted funds - HSBC Hypogeum Hilton	26,435	27,151
Restricted funds - HSBC Hypogeum Bank	45,972	47,955
Restricted funds - Era Mal	30,343	21,565
Restricted funds - Research Fund	10,835	10,835
Restricted funds - HSBC Hagar Qum Intercontinental	8,071	8,958
Restricted funds - MTA Roman Dornus	(933)	9,035
Restricted funds - HSBC Vilhena Xara Palace	10,270	9,133
Restricted funds - HSBC SPC Golden Sands	6,563	6,583
Restricted funds - Mizzi Foundation	-	4,746
Restricted funds - Abattija tad-Deir - Din l-Ar Helwa	2,956	3,103
Restricted funds - Dornus Romana Mosaics	-	2,663
Restricted funds - Matladom Ganado Maps	-	2,760
Restricted funds - Aurora Trust Scholars	-	2,329
Restricted funds - Education	2,585	2,565
Restricted funds - HSBC Majdara San Gorg	1,222	1,487
Restricted funds - Educational - Gasan Mamo	1,368	1,388
Restricted funds - Fawson's Foundation	(363)	830
Restricted funds - HSBC Maritime Seabank	1,163	1,163
Restricted funds - HSBC SPC Coastline	270	270
Restricted funds - ReferNet 2010	445	269
Restricted funds - HSBC Ta' Kala Windmill	94	94
Restricted funds - Tour Operators	168,822	29,479
Restricted funds - Grundtvig Senior	2,068	25,852
Restricted funds - Sports & Social Committee	1,171	805
Restricted funds - ESF	1,898	1,898
Restricted funds - Inquisitor Alf Mizzi	2,861	3,208
Restricted funds - Pilot Launch Operation	3,000	-
Restricted funds - Remasi	19,652	-
	2,605,194	2,492,810
	2,828,972	2,828,504

9. Specific endowment funds - continued

Specific endowment funds are disclosed as follows within the statement of financial position:

	Consolidated & Agency	
	2012 €	2011 €
Current	209,771	917,000
Non-current	2,619,201	1,911,504
Total specific endowment funds	2,828,972	2,828,504

Endowment funds are derived from gifts and donations to Heritage Malta and can only be used for specific purposes. Depreciation on property, plant and equipment funded by these funds amounting to €22,049 (2011: €30,702) has been transferred from the recurrent vote and charged to the respective fund.

10. Subvention from consolidated fund for capital expenditure

Amounts advanced by Government towards capital expenditure are made in the form of subventions from the consolidated fund in accordance with Section 22 of the Cultural Heritage Act, 2002. In accordance with the selected accounting policy, these amounts are accounted for upon receipt. Amounts advanced during the period were:

	Consolidated & Agency	
	2012 €	2011 €
Subvention received from consolidated fund under Capital Vote III, item 7033 in respect of improvements of Museums and historical sites, and restoration work	437,425	659,900

11. Trade and other payables

	Consolidated		Agency	
	2012 €	2011 €	2012 €	2011 €
Current				
Trade payables	499,967	358,686	499,494	367,895
Amounts owed to related parties	105,563	51,441	105,563	51,441
Indirect taxes and social security	13,369	10,299	191	342
Other current liabilities	21,788	460	21,788	460
Accruals and deferred income	1,492,612	999,482	1,492,012	986,401
	2,133,299	1,420,368	2,119,048	1,398,539

12. Income from operations

The income from operations was generated locally from entrance fees and other ancillary services, and is stated net of discounts allowed.

HERITAGE MALTA
Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements - 31 December 2012

13. Expenses by nature

	Consolidated		Agency	
	2012 €	2011 €	2012 €	2011 €
Employee benefit expenses (Note 14)	5,897,502	5,580,148	5,805,126	5,473,321
Depreciation of tangible assets (Note 4)	529,107	531,322	529,107	531,322
Rent payable	281,684	276,348	281,684	276,348
Professional fees	39,418	31,160	38,253	27,935
Increase in provision for impairment of receivables	-	65,971	-	46,033
Bad debts written off	100,931	-	22,489	-
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	-	7,864	-	7,864
Other expenses	2,438,540	2,498,061	2,437,345	2,497,320
	9,287,182	8,990,894	9,112,004	8,860,143

Fees charged by the auditor to the Group for services rendered during the financial periods ended 31 December 2012 and 2011 relate to the following:

	2012 €	2011 €
Annual statutory audit	7,950	7,650
Tax advisory services	385	985
Other non-audit services	150	12,485
	8,485	21,110

14. Employee benefit expenses

	Consolidated		Agency	
	2012 €	2011 €	2012 €	2011 €
Wages and salaries, paid by Government on behalf of the Agency (Note 15)	306,200	300,956	306,200	300,956
Wages and salaries, paid directly (including directors emoluments)	5,202,939	4,918,751	5,202,939	4,918,751
Social security costs	388,363	360,441	388,363	360,441
	5,897,502	5,580,148	5,897,502	5,580,148
Wages and salaries recharged to subsidiary undertaking	-	-	(92,376)	(106,827)
	5,897,502	5,580,148	5,805,126	5,473,321

HERITAGE MALTA
Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements - 31 December 2012

14. Employee benefit expenses - continued

The average number of persons employed by Heritage Malta during the period was as follows:

	Consolidated & Agency	
	2012	2011
Operations	228	249
Administration	34	32
	<u>260</u>	<u>281</u>

15. Subvention from consolidated fund for recurrent expenditure

Amounts advanced by Government for recurrent expenditure are made in the form of subventions from the consolidated fund in accordance with Section 20 of the Cultural Heritage Act, 2002. In accordance with the selected accounting policy, these amounts are accounted for upon an accrual basis. Amounts attributable to the reporting period were:

	Consolidated & Agency			
	Total Vote 2012 €	Amount Attributable to reporting Period 2012 €	Total vote 2011 €	Amount attributable to reporting period 2011 €
Subvention received from consolidated fund for Heritage Malta:	3,249,987	3,249,987	3,233,950	3,233,950
Additional amount received in kind, by way of payment by Government, of expenses on behalf of the Agency	-	308,200	-	300,956
	<u>3,249,987</u>	<u>3,556,187</u>	<u>3,233,950</u>	<u>3,534,906</u>

16. Finance Income

	Consolidated		Agency	
	2012 €	2011 €	2012 €	2011 €
Bank interest income	352	5,210	-	4,744

17. Finance costs

	Consolidated		Agency	
	2012 €	2011 €	2012 €	2011 €
Bank interest and charges	27,449	9,195	27,390	9,189

18. Taxation

Heritage Malta is exempt from any liability for the payment of income tax as per Section 13 of the Cultural Heritage Act, 2002.

19. Directors' emoluments

	Consolidated & Agency	
	2012 €	2011 €
Directors' fees	13,449	9,899

20. Cash generated from operations

Reconciliation of deficit on recurrent expenditure to cash generated from operations:

	Consolidated		Agency	
	2012 €	2011 €	2012 €	2011 €
Deficit on recurrent expenditure before interest	(1548,477)	(465,776)	(607,621)	(481,926)
Adjustments for:				
Depreciation (Note 4)	529,107	531,322	529,107	531,322
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	-	7,864	-	7,864
Loss on inventory write-off	-	1,000	-	1,000
Provision for impairment	-	65,971	-	46,033
Bad debts written off	100,831	-	22,489	-
Write off of suppliers balance through the capital vote	50,764	-	50,764	-
Changes in working capital:				
Inventories	2,135	(33,346)	2,135	(33,346)
Trade and other receivables	(511,206)	(177,416)	(490,373)	(28,581)
Trade and other payables	712,931	152,895	720,609	152,481
Cash generated from operations	338,185	82,514	327,010	194,827

21. Commitments

Commitments – infrastructural and ongoing works

Heritage Malta has committed itself to execute infrastructural works to heritage sites as funded by third parties. The relative funds so committed are disclosed as specific endowment funds (Note 9)

22. Contingent liability

As at 31 December 2011, Heritage Malta was in dispute with a third party in respect of claims amounting to €427,075. Included within trade and other receivables (Note 7) is an amount of €432,928, paid by the Agency to the court in respect of a garnishee order requested by the third party. The Agency is contesting these claims and in the opinion of its directors no provision is required to be made in the financial statements.

23. Related party transactions

Heritage Malta Services Limited, a subsidiary of Heritage Malta is considered by the directors to be a related party since this company is ultimately owned by Heritage Malta. Trading transactions between these companies would typically include service charges and other such items which are normally encountered in a Group context. Recharges of staff costs to Heritage Malta Services Limited is disclosed in Note 14.

IAS 24 "Related Party Disclosures", paragraph 8 states that knowledge of related party transactions, outstanding balances and relationships may affect assessments of an entity's operations by users of financial statements, including assessments of the risks and opportunities facing the entity.

The Agency is owned and controlled by the Government of Malta. In the ordinary course of its operations, the Agency carries out business with the Government of Malta, government departments, public sector corporations and other entities owned or controlled by the Government. Therefore, Government, all entities that are Government controlled and those which fall within the Government administration structure are considered by the board members to be related parties.

The directors consider that the following significant transactions with Government should be disclosed:

	2012	2011
	€	€
Revenue		
Government subventions	3,248,987	3,233,950
Improvements of museums and sites	437,425	474,627
Additional amount received in kind,		
of expenses on behalf of the Agency	305,200	300,956
Other funds	-	185,273
	<u>3,993,612</u>	<u>4,194,806</u>

23. Related party transactions

	2012	2011
	€	€
Expenditure		
Direct operational costs		
Security services	34,790	36,113
Rent payable	239,305	232,927
Water and electricity	222,732	253,413
Repairs and maintenance	67,726	29,740
Administrative expenses		
IT services	17,980	20,233
Sundry expenses	21,302	15,031
	603,836	587,487

Year-end balances owed by or to related parties, arising principally from the above transactions are disclosed in Notes 7 and 11 to these financial statements.

Key management personnel compensations, consisting of board members' fees, have been disclosed in Note 19

24. Statutory Information

Heritage Malta is a body corporate set up by the enactment of the Cultural Heritage Act, 2002.

25. Comparative Information

Comparative figures disclosed in the main components of these financial statements have been reclassified to conform with the current year's presentation format for the purpose of fairer presentation.

Detailed accounts

	Pages
Income and expenditure account	30
Income analysis	31
Expenditure analysis	32
Appendix 1: Museums and sites	33

Income and expenditure account

	Agency	
	2012 €	2011 €
Subvention from consolidated fund for recurrent expenditure	3,556,167	3,534,906
Income from operations (page 31)	5,048,196	4,843,311
Funds available for recurrent expenditure		
Staff costs (page 32)	8,604,383	8,378,217
Other recurrent operational expenditure (page 32)	(5,805,126)	(5,473,321)
Recurrent administrative expenditure (page 32)	(2,967,219)	(3,096,940)
	(339,658)	(269,882)
Deficit on recurrent expenditure before interest	(507,621)	(461,926)
Finance income	-	4,744
Finance costs	(27,390)	(9,198)
Deficit for the year	(535,011)	(466,380)

Income analysis

	Agency	
	Year ended 31 December 2012 €	Year ended 31 December 2011 €
Income	4,637,559	4,827,349
Entrance fees - sites	62,210	48,111
Conservation fees	189,031	-
Refund from EU projects	58,806	56,866
Amounts released from specific endowment funds	41,080	35,043
Publications	16,558	11,009
Membership fees	8,732	10,315
Events	-	4,633
Sponsorships and royalties	1,488	650
Tender fees	-	60
Courses	(592)	-
Commission on audio guides	-	-
EU projects - income	33,346	48,275
Other income	5,048,198	4,843,311

Expenditure analysis

	Agency	
	2012 €	2011 €
Direct operational costs		
Security services	1,014,507	927,072
Depreciation	529,107	531,322
Rent	381,684	276,348
Water and electricity	228,169	253,413
Repairs and maintenance	180,734	233,464
Exhibitions and events	85,620	187,779
Commissions re ticketing system	93,189	171,226
Cleaning	176,067	156,740
EU projects – costs	75,013	63,110
Cost of audio guides usage	41,878	59,054
Restorations:	30,991	32,529
materials	7,587	12,393
repairs and maintenance	35,581	64,445
Telecommunication	44,872	25,087
General staff costs	6,196	24,629
Staff training	6,874	20,656
Hospitality and accommodation	20,404	18,925
Publications	48,227	17,985
Marketing costs	2,785	16,147
Lecturing expenses	3,074	2,201
Libraries	1,589	1,839
Insurance premium paid	1,092	575
Medical expenses	40,999	-
Outsourced services	2,967,219	3,098,940
Staff costs		
Salaries and wages	5,791,677	5,463,423
Directors' fees	13,449	9,898
	5,805,126	5,473,321
Administrative expenses		
IT services	68,190	37,307
Transport and expenses	95,478	75,593
Printing, postages and stationery	23,354	23,802
Professional	27,285	21,035
Sundry expenses	52,657	10,180
Audit fees	8,968	6,900
Bank charges	-	6,574
Subscriptions and membership fees	4,801	5,516
Loss on inventory write-off	-	1,000
Insurance	382	454
Bad debts	22,489	-
Provision for impairment of receivables	-	46,033
Provision for legal expenses	-	55,488
Outsourced services	36,055	-
	339,659	289,882

Appendix 1: Museums and Sites

Dornus Romana-Rabat-Malta
 Folklore Museum-Cittadella-Gozo
 Ggantija Temples-Xagħra-Gozo
 Ġħar Dalam and Museum-Birzebbuga-Malta
 Gozo Museum of Archaeology-Cittadella-Gozo
 Gozo Nature Museum-Cittadella-Gozo
 Ġggar Ġim Temples-Qrendi-Malta
 Hypogeum-Paola-Malta
 Inquisitor's Palace-Vittoriosa-Malta
 Malta Maritime Museum-Vittoriosa-Malta
 Mnajdra Temples-Qrendi-Malta
 National Museum of Archaeology-Vallotta-Maria
 National Museum of Fine Arts-Vallotta-Malta
 National Museum of Natural History-Rabat-Malta
 National War Museum-Vallotta-Malta
 Old Prison-Cittadella-Malta
 Palace Armoury-Vallotta-Malta
 Palace State Rooms-Vallotta-Malta
 Skorba Temples-Mgarr-Malta
 St Paul's Catacombs-Rabat-Malta
 Ta' Bisra Catacombs-Rabat-Malta
 Ta' Mgarr Temples-Mgarr-Malta
 Ta' Kola Windmill-Xagħra-Malta
 Ta' Minjara Catacombs-Qrendi-Malta
 Tarxien Temples-Tarxien-Malta
 Burg in-Nadur-Birzebbuga-Malta
 Fort St Angelo-Birgu-Malta
 Ġħar la' Ġħajtu-Xagħra-Gozo
 Madra ta' Sansuna-Xagħra-Gozo
 San Pawl Milqi-Burmarrad-Malta
 Tal-Pilar Chapel-Vallotta-Malta
 Tas-Silġ-Marsaxlokk-Malta
 Xagħra Stone Circle-Xagħra-Gozo
 Abbejja tad-Dejir-Rabta-Malta
 Birgu Armoury-Birgu-Malta
 Fort Delimara-Marsaxlokk-Malta
 Fouqasse-Marsalforn-Gozo
 Ġħajn Tuffieħa Roman Baths-Malta
 Salina Catacombs-Naxxar-Malta
 Biġġi Ex Naval Hospital-Kalkara

