

## News



## Ramblers' first walk

Ramblers assembled for the season's first walk in St Julian's. The idea was to hug the coastline up to Bahar iċ-Ċagħaq, then turn inland and scale Wied il-Faham towards Madliena Fort and back to the start through Pembroke. The walk captured scenic, historical, cultural and natural landscapes.

The views from the coastline were exhilarating as ramblers skimmed the waterline right up to Paceville.

Except for the part under the unsightly towering concrete walls of the Portomaso complex, where there is hardly any leeway from the water's edge, the scenes were leisurely enjoyed and photographed, the Ramblers' Association said.

The water's edge had to be abandoned on approaching the Drag-onara right up to St George's Bay. Ramblers caught a first glimpse of Ġnien Pembroke with its waters and greens. The firing ranges were bypassed as the walk headed to the restored Qalet Marku Tower.

Ramblers strolled along the natural garigue area underneath the White Rocks complex before proceeding inland. Seascapes gave way to landscapes as the overwhelming landmass over Wied il-Faham dominated the ascent of the valley. The walk ended in St George's Bay.

The complete walks programme for autumn can be viewed on the website of the Ramblers' Association at [www.ramblersmalta.com](http://www.ramblersmalta.com).

# Malta's independence celebrated in Washington

The Maltese embassy in Washington celebrated the 50th anniversary of Malta's independence with a cultural event aimed to promote Mro Joseph Vella's *The Hyland Mass*.

The event was held at the EU delegation's headquarters and Christopher Hyland commissioned the *Mass*.

During the events, New York Choral Society director David Hayes announced that his society had decided to perform Mro Vella's *Mass* in 2015 in New York.

The event was well attended by EU and other ambassadors, a

number of US administration officials, and members of the Maltese community and of the diplomatic community in Washington, including the Apostolic Nuncio to the US.

Maltese ambassador to the US Marisa Micallef said that when she first heard the *Mass*, she knew it would be her responsibility to ensure it would be performed in the US, and the Maltese embassy put together this special event with that in mind.

The ambassador said Malta's economy had stayed on an even keel throughout the economic

difficulties which had struck the EU and the world. She described how the Maltese economy had gone from strength to strength through a steady process of diversification.

Micallef also paid tribute to the progress registered in Malta-US relations over the past few years and looked forward to broadening and deepening this relationship across a range of sectors.

The cultural programme included excerpts from *The Hyland Mass* and the Sistine Chapel Choir's Mro Massimo Palombella's *Hymn to St Francis*.



Former ambassador of Malta to the US, Albert Borg Olivier de Puget, Marisa Micallef and Christopher Hyland.

## ECVET Café Sessions 21st - 23rd October

**Would you like to learn more on how the European Credit system for Vocational Education and Training (ECVET) can support you in identifying the right persons to join your team?**

**Would you like to develop a better understanding of your employees' competences and help them unlock their potential, using a qualification system recognised both locally and in the EU?**

As part of the National ECVET team, the European Union Programmes Agency will be hosting a number of ECVET Café sessions where ECVET Experts will be available for free consultation meetings whereby they will be able to address any matters related to the adoption or implementation of the ECVET system.

The Café will be organised between the 21st and the 23rd October 2014 at the EUPA offices in St. Venera.

To set an appointment with an ECVET Expert, please contact [communications.eupa@gov.mt](mailto:communications.eupa@gov.mt) or phone 25586130.

You are kindly requested to contact EUPA by Monday 20th October.



These programmes are funded with the support of the European Commission



Agenzija Programmi tal-Unjoni Ewropea  
European Union Programmes Agency  
Continental Business Centre, Railway Road,  
Santa Venera SVR 9018  
tel: 00356 25586130 | fax: 00356 25586139  
email: [eupa@gov.mt](mailto:eupa@gov.mt) | web: [www.eupa.org.mt](http://www.eupa.org.mt)