A Report of Blue Flag Activities
Summer 2011
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Activity at Bugibba Perched Beach: Painting Nemo on the Wall
Introduction

The Malta Tourism Authority (MTA) managed six beaches during summer 2011. The beaches were operated with a sustainable management approach and abiding to international criteria. The aim of retaining the current Quality Awards and upgrading them in quality and quantity was a priority. Awards include the Blue Flag (BF) that requires achieving 100% of the BF criteria and Beach of Quality (BOQ) that requires over 70% of the same criteria. Through sustainable beach management operations locals and tourists can benefit from the good use of the coast while respecting the natural environment.

The beaches managed by MTA during summer 2011 were:

1. St. Georges Bay, (flying the Blue Flag)
2. Bugibba Perched Beach, (Blue Flag)
3. Mellieha Bay, (Beach of Quality)
4. Golden Bay, (Beach of Quality)
5. Qawra Point
6. Font Ghadir rocky coastal stretch

The Blue Flag Programme necessitates the organisation of a number of Environmental Educational Activities on every beach; a minimum of five on Blue Flag beaches and a minimum of three on Beach of Quality beaches. The MTA has worked beyond the required criteria and organised a number of activities that may be valid for all beaches together. Furthermore, MTA has worked to build a relationship with experts who can offer professional guidance for particular events. Marine Biologists, Divers, Archaeologists, professional trekkers, photographers, lecturers and Astronomers, all offer assistance for good results every time.

Hundreds of children from Malta’s summer schools, scores of adults through mailing lists together with physically or mentally impaired people are involved in MTA Blue Flag activities every year.
MTA activities have one particular criterion; *Learning through Fun*, enjoyable experiences that are branded into the minds of the participants - Edutainment for the young, and the young at heart.

Endangered Species, Sea-level Rise, Global Warming, Climate Change, Renewable Energy, what does this jargon mean to children? The Blue Flag activities organised during summer 2011, focused on the same pressing issues that are being dealt with at global level, in a tangible manner; Conservation of the Natural Habitat and creatures that dwell therein, saving water and reducing energy consumption.

Many of the activities organised also encouraged participants to re-use and re-cycle. For one particular activity, two schools were encouraged to find used materials, create a hat and decorate it with nature-related objects like dried leaves, artificial flowers, or toy animals. On the beach, all hundred children proudly paraded their hat creations. The messages conveyed during this activity included:

- Re-use of Materials
- Care for Nature
- Self protection from UV rays

Children’s activities begin in the classroom, continue on the beach and end again in class with reader-friendly material prepared for use by teachers.

When summer reaches its peak in Malta, beach activities start getting difficult under the strong sun rays on warm sand. Conversely, the evening sea breeze can offer a heavenly relief to a coastal experience.

Evening walks; sunset on the sea; listening to sea birds; tasting traditional, organic food delicacies; watching meteor storms and learning about the rare sand dune flora of the Islands, are activities that have always been fully booked ahead of the event.
Malta’s Blue Flag activities did not stop there. We visited coastal archaeological and cultural sites which abound in Malta and Gozo. Children loved to dirty their hands at the Old Potters’ House creating sea creatures that they had learnt about, or lending a hand in the Tree for You campaign (34U), of Malta’s National Park. The release of injured turtles back into the sea, snorkelling and messing with paint are activities that children keep asking for.

Malta’s Blue Flag events instil environmental awareness to ensure the future of beaches and a sustainable planet.

1. Activities for all Beaches

Blue Flag Photographic Competition and Exhibition

The Photographic Competition (Seaside Impressions) organised this year was divided into two categories; for children under 15 and for adults from 16 upwards. Emphasis on the coastal environment, marine, flora and fauna, was clear in the rules for photographers to focus upon.

Eighty (80) photos were submitted and the best thirty were displayed in an exhibition at the foyer of the three-hundred-year-old Auberge d’Italie, which houses the offices of the Parliamentary Secretary for Tourism Culture and the Environment (PSTCE), the Malta Tourism Authority (MTA), and is currently acting as a Tourist Information Office. The Parliamentary Secretary presented the prizes to the winners.
Application Form

Poster for shop windows

Launch of Photographic Competition at St. George’s Bay
The exhibition remained open for the big night *Notte Bianca* and together with a great number of other exhibitions around Malta’s Capital City, was visited by hundreds of people.
Every year the Malta Tourism Authority prepares all beach staff by holding an in-house seminar. The seminar focuses on beach management operations, code of conduct for beach users and legislation excerpts that may be of interest to staff. Experts in the field are invited to explain, by means of visuals, what every operation entails. The following figure is the programme implemented during the Seminar of 2011.

The seminar was reinforced by training the people through first hand experiences on the beaches, whereby besides beach management, they learn about the sensitive areas of each bay, particular beach processes and beach development, terrestrial and marine flora and fauna, and sand dunes where applicable.
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<td>9.15</td>
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<td>Seminar Organiser</td>
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<td>Ray Azzopardi</td>
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<td>Senior Manager</td>
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<td>Adrian Mallia</td>
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<td>- Coastal processes, flora and fauna</td>
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<td>Water Quality</td>
<td>Charles Bonnici</td>
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<td>Vince Attard</td>
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<td>- What is Blue Flag and Beach of Quality</td>
<td>President Nature</td>
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<td>- Advantages of achieving a Blue Flag</td>
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<td>Pauline Dingli</td>
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<td>Roderick Zammit</td>
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<td>Beach Management contacts and logistics</td>
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<td>12.30</td>
<td>Questions</td>
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Blue Flag Activities – Summer 2011 – Pauline Dingli

Beach Management

- Sand Sifting
- Waste separation bins
- Signs and Code of Conduct
- Clean toilets
- Walkway and disabled ramp

Bathing Water Quality Lecture

Blue Flag Awareness

Blue Flag Programme

- Blue Flag is supported by the following
  United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
  World Health Organisation - WHO
  IUCN - The World Conservation Union
  International Lifesaving Federation (ILS)
  International Council of Marine Industry Associations (ICOMIA)
  IUCN – The Coastal Union
  European Union (EU)
- BF is applicable for both sandy and rocky beaches

Charles Bonaci
Senior Principal Environmental Health Officer
Environmental Health Risk Assessment
Material prepared for beach activities and for the classroom

Various packs were prepared and printed in-house to be distributed to participants during different activities with different age groups and also follow up material that was given to teachers. MTA encourages ‘fun lessons’ that offer an experience that will help the student remember better the message that was being conveyed. Material included: Laminated pictures for snorkelling and painting, prepared walks for adults during evening walks or experiences, ecological bookmarks, sea animal pictures for sand building, clay moulding and painting, lists of wild plants in Maltese, English and Botanic names for the children to match and join following some research.

Two Books named Shab (Clouds) aimed for different age groups were given to hundreds of participants. The books encouraged creative writing based on the painting present on every page of the book. A book on historical places was given to adults during cultural events.

Books Shab given to young students
Laminated sheets with underwater wildlife

Power point presentation prepared for activities

Marine Ecology
Fieldwork Material for Snorkelling and Diving
- Underwater species
- Waterline species and flora
- Deep water
- Terrestrial

Plastic cards prepared and researched by a Marine Biologist
Plastic Cards researched and prepared by a Marine Biologist

Wind Vane in two Languages
Conservation of the Natural Habitat

Conservation of the Natural Habitat is an issue that was brought up in activities for adults as much as for children. Fifty four (54) wild flora species of the Maltese Islands were photographed and researched in different languages (Appendix 4). To make them attractive for participants, they were printed in the form of Poker cards. They were received well during activities and it was decided that the creation of real cards would make the project more long lasting. The design was sent for print and small plastic cards will be used in future activities. These will replace the creation of wild flora bookmarks that were distributed in the previous years.

In Conjunction with this project, a three-page article was written and published in a local magazine (Appendix 4). The article was written in Maltese to be read by as many people as possible. It dealt with the people’s perception of Weeds and how these weeds were utilised by our ancestors as medicinal and aromatic herbs. The article stresses that weeds are natural heritage that needs to be conserved. Furthermore, if their particular habitat is degraded or destroyed, it is most likely that the plant species will not survive.
Tree Sowing Activity

Tree sowing is an activity that took place in a summer school with two classes of different age groups. Parks Malta from the National Park distributed photos with information of indigenous trees of the Mediterranean to the first group. They discussed the photos and were happy to reply to the questions that they were asked. In the meantime, the children in the second class were busy dirtying their hands with soil, seeds and water sowing the tree that they were to take home.
The groups changed places for the second session of the morning. The activity was coordinated by Mr. Ebejer of the Parks Department who was well prepared for such an activity.

The young group watching how to sow the seeds of the Mediterranean Trees

**Mad-Daqqa T’Ghajn TV Programmes**

The Malta Tourism Authority sponsors Educational programmes that are aimed for the local population. One series of TV programmes focus mainly on the coastal environment, the shoreline and underwater features. The producers of the programme, in turn, offer five programmes from a series of thirteen to the Beach Unit of the MTA.

The beach unit prepares a campaign, an issue, or activities that need to be highlighted with locals, to the aired on the programme. This year’s theme was *Love Your Beach – Do not Litter*. The first programme dealt with beach management and how MTA strives to keep the beaches clean for beach users. The following programmes showed clips of most of the Blue Flag activities organised by the Beach Unit, and highlighted the messages that the activities conveyed.
The TV station that the programmes were aired upon, repeated these educational programmes three times each in different hours of the day so that they could reach larger audiences.

**Beach Libraries**

A Cabinet with books was installed on various beaches to encourage all beach users to read during idle hours.

Library Cabinets were placed at:
- St. George’s Bay
- Bugibba Perched Beach
- Mellieha Bay
- Font Ghadir
- Qawra Point

Sand Wheelchairs and the Roaming Exhibition were exhibited with the beach library during most of the events that took place on the beaches.

**Mellieha Bay Activities**

Mellieha Bay, also known as Ghadira Bay, is Malta’s the largest sandy beach of Mellieha. Besides being a beautiful beach, Mellieha Bay encounters interesting beach processes where the sand deposits are very dynamic; it also houses interesting flora and fauna together with a number of historic buildings and a Nature Reserve. It is frequented by thousands of people on a daily basis during summer.
The MTA started Beach Management at Mellieha Bay during 2009 where a number of problems that were present on the beach started to be tackled. The process continued during 2010 where a Beach Code of Conduct and a By-Law were implemented with continuous monitoring. Most of the Blue Flag criteria, including Environmental Educational activities where implemented and water quality testing was consistently reported to be very good.

During 2011, the MTA Beach Unit gave extra attention to Beach Management, Beach Safety and Environmental Educational activities. Feedback from the general public was positive.

**The Hat Parade**

The Hat Parade started in the classroom where children were encouraged to find materials that could be re-used such as textiles, carton and plastic. All children were shown pictures of different hats and were encouraged to create new hats and decorate them with ornaments like dried leaves, artificial flowers, and toys in the shape of animals or other nature-related objects.

The children worked hard for hours, while the teachers conveyed three messages, namely; reuse and recycle, care for nature and self protection on the beach from UV rays. The morning on the beach was a feast of hat creations which they paraded along the walkway.
Hat Parade at Ghadira Bay
Hands across the Sand

Joining hands for a clean energy future was an International event held on the 25\textsuperscript{th} of June, where over 40 countries worldwide united in one activity, in an effort to create awareness on clean air and to end our dependency on dirty fuels.

Blue Flag International recommended that Blue Flag operators join in this initiative called \textit{Hands across the Sand} and symbolically join at one moment in time to embrace clean energy.

Malta also participated in the awareness activity with people who were on the sand at Mellieha Bay.
Music from recycled waste products

Another activity at Mellieha Bay on the day included creating music from recycled waste, where two band maestros created the instruments, displayed them and toned them for people, in particular children. Seven identical bottles with different amount of liquid; seven tin cans with sand; plastic and wooden pipes of different thickness and large plastic containers making various sounds in every position placed. The musicians taught each person one note with timing. When all people played their note according to the timing instructed, the result was surprisingly real music.

Sand Building Activity for the Very Young

The activity was held with the younger classes of Mellieha Adventure School, but although it was meant for the very young, parents and other beach users joined in the fun. Sand building started with about 40 children and ended with more than 60 people making fish, pyramids and castles of all kinds.
Some of the following activities were coordinated with the Malta Astronomical Society. During the first activity, Summer Solstice, Professor Ventura explained how the seasons change from an
astronomical point of view, the difference between Equinox and Solstice, and other stars that were visible during the clear summer sky.

The summer solstice is an event which was possibly used in the past for calculating temple alignments and drawing up of agricultural calendars.

Reach on the Beach

In an effort to eliminate the cigarette buts from the sand, the Malta Tourism Authority has continued the campaign that was in effect the previous year. Large cigarette ashtrays were
posted on the beaches, different portable ashtrays for sand and for rocky shores were distributed to smokers by the beach supervisors, posters were placed on beach notice boards and adverts were commissioned on the local media. The Malta Medical Students Association (MMSA) had joined the campaign by launching the Reach on the Beach campaign with anti smoking and Melanoma skin Cancer awareness. Both campaigns were joined in one activity at Ghadira Bay whereby the MMSA measured the nicotine inside the chests of chain smokers who volunteered to undergo the tests. Information about the UV rays and the effect on the skin was given to participants of the activity.
Golden Bay Activities

The August Meteor Storm

The dark summer sky, dotted with tiny stars in places that are not yet polluted with light, can offer a spectacle to observe. When the night is busy shooting purseids, it is worth spending hours watching the “show”.

Astronomers and photographers prepare for this activity from weeks before and the MTA took this opportunity to coordinate an activity for people who are not normally aware of such happenings.

The group gathered early, watched the sun set on the sea enjoying the summer breeze until it got dark. Astronomer, Mr Borg explained star movement and the stars that they were about to see. Some 40 people attended the activity and the feedback was strong enough to repeat the activity on another day with the name Stars and Sea Birds.
Stars and Sea Birds

A similar activity to one mentioned earlier is the observation of stars while listening to sea birds as they return to their nests after a day of flight. People were encouraged to get a lunch pack and they could enjoy the sunset while eating their dinner.

The group stayed late star gazing while the astronomer John J. Borg explained the night sky by means of a star wheel, according to the day and month of the year and the location that they were in.
Snorkelling at the Park

Il-Majistral Nature and History Park is a Natura2000 site that includes part of Mellieha and Golden Bay. It hosts rare and endemic flora and fauna species, interesting geological features and an occasional Military Heritage site amongst others. The MTA holds Blue Flag events at the Park every summer. Snorkelling at the Park was held in collaboration with the Park Guide and with Sharklab Malta. Plastic guide cards were produced to assist the students in understanding marine species. The activity lasted for three hours were the children were grouped every half an hour according to their availability.
The following are a few of the comments that were received by MTA:

1. We must thank you for everything! The opportunity to participate on your activity was unique! It was really good to know the Majjistral Park and to get to know the nature in Malta. The snorkel was something that must be done again! We will from now, "look and see" things in a different way! Best regards, Adalberto and Cláudia Portugal.

2. We really enjoyed the snorkelling so thank you for that too - it has made me want to pursue it as a hobby in the future and maybe even do scuba diving! We are back in England now and missing Malta already - will try and contact you next time we are there (next year unfortunately..) to join you on another snorkelling trip! Tamsin, UK.
Kidz on the Beach on World Environment Day

An activity for children was held at Golden Bay with the Majjistral Nature and History Park Guide on World Environment Day. The activity was part of a programme organised by a local Council and MTA coordinated an environmental activity for children, within that programme.

The Park Guide produced marine products formerly beached on the sandy shore and she explained their origin and how they integrate within the coastal processes. Other flotsam was discussed so that children would encourage their families to keep the beaches litter free.
An Experience of Organic Farming at the Majjistral Park

This event was the first event that opened the Blue Flag Environmental and Educational activities for summer 2011 and was also held in collaboration with Il-Majjistral Nature and History Park and Koperattiva Rurali Manikata.

The activity, the first of its kind, took place at the Park and started at Manikata, late afternoon. People had pre-booked for the activity and 45 turned up on the day.

The congregation started moving towards the rural part of the locality where a walk commenced. Along the walk, on the rugged terrain, the Park guide stopped occasionally and gave information on the interesting flora, fauna and archaeology found at that particular spot.
The coastal edge offered spectacular views and the group enjoyed the silence being broken by the chirps of the Maltese National Bird, the Blue Rock Thrush (*Monticola solitarius*).

Towards the end of the walk the crowd entered the farm of the cooperative that is experimenting on organic farming. The farm representative explained what it takes to make agriculture in an organic manner and the challenges that the farmers face both to grow the products and also to put them on the market at a higher price.
An esplanade on the Park was lit with candlelight and torches. A table decorated with organic food was prepared for everyone to taste after enjoying the last rays of sunset. All the food presented was produced and preserved on the Park to be sold during similar events. This included home made jams, honey of different flavours and other delicacies like olives and olive oil, capers, sun dried tomatoes, peppered cheeslets and fruit.

The Majjistral Park Experience ended at Manikata Parish Church five hours after it started.
The last activity for Golden Bay and for the whole summer was a boat building activity that was organised in collaboration with *Jugs Youth Company*. The groups were first made aware of sensitive pockets of the beach including sand dune remnants, sea currents and processes that act on Golden Bay.

Four groups of people were each given cardboard (obtained from a white-goods vendor) and plastic sheets to create a boat, cover it with plastic to make it unsinkable and race it in the water to a specific buoy and back. This acted as a team building activity that included poem composing, singing and creativity. The activity lasted around four hours.
Font Ghadir Activities

Font Ghadir is a rocky, linear, coastal stretch in a popular tourist area. Although the sea water is always crystal clear, the area was most popular for sunbathing, diving and evening strolls along the promenade, rather than for swimming.

The Malta Tourism Authority understood the potential that this coastal stretch offers for bathers and introduced beach management including the introduction of a bridge for access into the sea, ladders and swim a zone area demarcated with floatables monitored by lifeguards.
Immediately people, including whole families started frequenting the area from very early in the morning. This measure helped ease pressure and the carrying capacity of swimming areas in the vicinity. Positive feedback was given in the local media, and also by old people who lived in the area. They could access the water easily for an early morning dip.

However holding certain educational activities for children on this coastal stretch was not easy due to the uneven shore platform. Furthermore, when summer reaches its peak in Malta, activities start getting difficult under the strong sun rays, during school hours. For this reason, one snorkelling activity was held with youths, one children's activity was held in an Old Potters’ House away from the beach and another activity took the children on an environmental educational tour. A Beach Library was stationed all summer at Font Ghadir.

**Snorkelling for Youths**

The snorkelling activity held on the 17th July was aimed for teenagers. A diver and marine Biologist were employed to explain what flora and faunal species one was expected to experience in this area. Plastic cards were printed for the activity so that youths could see the species with their particular names. Response for the activity was good and feedback was also very good. The marine Biologist was happy with the interest shown by the participants.
During the activity

Educational Tour: Conservation of Nature

An Educational tour was organised for school children whereby they could see farm animals, frogs, insects, a herb garden and learn about natural flora. Some commented that living in an apartment had never given them the opportunity to admire certain animals living on the farm. The children loved selecting the right plant food to give to the particular animal.
Watching dragonflies on water lilies

and searching for frogs

and fish

feeding chickens
Hands in Clay for Marine Species

The second activity was an experience at an Old Potter’s House. The children were given a short lecture on marine species and given the moulds. They had another short lecture on the history of the place, ancient pottery and how to handle clay. A special T shirt with the slogan; Love your Beach Do not litter was given to each child so that they may be uninhibited in enjoying themselves and get dirty. The children loved every minute of it while their teachers and head teachers contacted us to repeat the activity with other children in winter.
Portable ashtray given to beach users on rocky shores
Another messy and fun activity was the painting on the wall. The children were given pictures of fish to analyse, copy and paint on a paper on the wall of Bugibba Perched Beach. Some 55 metres of paper was mounted along the wall for all 50 children to paint their fish.

Special colour that is safe for children was purchased and mixed in different containers with paint brushes. All children were given a T shirt to protect their clothing and enjoy themselves.
Bugibba Flag Race

For this activity a large number of flora and fauna posters were printed, laminated and posted onto a stick to form a flag. The flags were placed on one side of the beach and three players, each representing a team, had to grab a flag, discuss with his team if the particular species lived underwater, terrestrial or both, then run along the beach to place it in the appropriate area designated for that particular habitat. The race was received well by the children.
Coastal Archaeological and Ecological Walks

Two walks were created specifically for the St. Paul’s Bay, Bugibba and Qawra areas. An experienced trekker was consulted for the route selection. The draft walks, Salina Walk and Xemxija Walk (Appendix 1 and 2), were tested and re-routed to incorporate the most interesting sites possible. The walks proved to be a success with people of all ages and were repeated a number of times, with tourists, students and locals. Many of the participants requested to take home the printed walk to pass on the experience to other family members.
Xemxija Walk

Xemxija Walk starts from the Olympic Grove at Xemxija, past the Simar Nature Reserve, on to the cliffs where archaeological remains bound in the area, passes to Rdum Rixwan or Mistra heights and ends near an unused quarry above Mistra Bay.

On Thursday 7th July, 2011, a group of 25 students from Bessel Gymnasium Secondary School of Minden, Germany, accompanied by three of their teaching staff, were taken on a guided tour of Xemxija to Rdum Rixwan Walk at St. Paul’s Bay. The group, led by the Master in charge Mr. Steffen Boch, followed with interest the historical information of the sites, the seaside and countryside landscape.
Foreign Students walking along Xemxija amidst Cart Ruts and Punic Tombs

Near Xemxija Ancient Apiary

Their guide Dr. Joseph Borg indicated specimen of a range of wild flora encountered along the way, as well as a brief overview of local agricultural and aquaculture practices of the area.

A Beach Library was available at Bugibba Perched Beach throughout the summer.
Qawra Point Activities

Qawra Point is a short rocky stretch that hosts a natural pool, a small shingle beach and has a rock, like an island attached to it. Qawra Point lies close to Bugibba Perched Beach and forms part of the same Local Council – St. Paul’s Bay. Activities for this bay had to be adapted to fit a rocky shore, yet remain as safe as possible for participants.

Snorkelling for School Children

Two schools with 85 children accompanied by parents and teachers took part in this snorkelling marathon. A team of eight divers, a marine biologist, a diving coordinator and a number of helpers were involved. Additional lifeguards and beach supervisors were employed for the day. The children were divided into small groups that were each led by a diver to the sea.

Plastic cards with fish and flora images were distributed and the instructor gave some information on the marine environment. Snorkelling gear was provided to every child. They were instructed how to wear the gear and breath through it. Some children, in particular girls, were over excited as they had never used a snorkel before.
When the activity was over, both parents and teachers asked for a repeat of the event. The children had fun and requested some of the photos that were taken during the activity.
Salina Bay Walk

Salina Bay Walk covers the expanse of Ghajn Rihana Valley which joins Wied il-Ghasel at Salini. Along the riparian walk one passes by three rural chapels, through the Burmarrad plain, past the Tal-Qadi Neolithic Temple, a Bird Park, the ancient Salini Salt Pans, Cart Ruts, Catacombs and a Fougasse or stone cannon.

Salina Catacombs
Finally the walk ends at Kennedy Grove which forms part of the Salina National Park. This walk has been repeated with various groups as an evening walk. It is a guided walk, however, the material provided (Appendix 2) enables people to walk along the selected route fairly easily.

Salina Catacombs

A group of locals at the tal-Qadi Neolithic Temple

and near the Fougasse (stone cannon)
Entering Salina Catacombs and the Bird Park

Grand Master’s Coat of Arms on the façade of the Ximenes Redoubt at Salina

Blue Flag Activities – Summer 2011 – Pauline Dingli
Activities at St. George’s Bay

The first event for St. George’s Bay had the theme *Waste Separation*. Two activities were organised simultaneously at two opposite ends of the same beach, with one school taking part in one event and another school in another. The schools changed places for the different activity.

The image below, distributed to the students, gives a clear idea what the organiser had in mind for activity one. The sand was sifted before the event and a maze was created by means of red tape and sand mounds. Heaps of litter that had been accumulated was cleaned and placed at one end of the maze while coloured bins were posted at the other end of the maze. Children were divided into groups and each group had to walk through the maze to find the right bin for
the litter object in hand. Competition was strong and the support from team members assisted the players in finding the bin colour quicker.
Recycle Three on Tuesday (*Irriċikla Tlieta it-Tlieta*)

Wasteserve Malta was the organiser of the games in Activity Two which included quizzes with prizes. The children were given a lecture where they had to memorise what was being said so that they could answer the questions and given a prize. All children were attentive and participants received educational books, pencils and an attractive baseball hat.
Talk regarding Safety and Lifeguard Services at Sea

The *Socjeta Nazzjonali tas-Salvatagg*, operators of the lifeguard services in Malta, was requested by a kindergarten teacher to give some information to his students. The MTA was happy to assist and commissioned the Society to prepare a morning for very young students. After the activity the teacher sent his comments.

“The talk was very interesting and the two speakers used basic language which the children could understand. They also talked about the sea crab and jellyfish awareness. The school is looking forward to next year’s talk when everyone at the Kindergarten Centre would be attending.”

Beach Library, roaming exhibition and sand wheelchairs at St. George’s Bay
Appendices

1. Xemxija Walk – St. Paul’s Bay
2. Salina Walk – St. Paul’s Bay
3. Material for Classroom
4. Playing Cards (Pdf)
5. Wirt Naturali Article
APPENDIX 1

Xemxija Walk - St. Paul's Bay
(Bajda Ridge and Rdum Rixwan to Mistra)
St. Paul’s Bay Walk
Bajda Ridge and Rdum Ruxwan Walk
A walk to discover the heritage sites and scenic views at Xemxija and Mistra Bays

This Walk commences at the Olympic Grave at the south end of Xemxija Bay. It proceeds along Stenax Nature Reserve and continues uphill on a track encountering Bajda Ridge and Rdum Ruxwan separating Xemxija Bay from Mistra Bay. Sites of historical value and environmental interest will be encountered along the way.

The walk is accessible both by car as well as by bus (routes 13 & 43 from Valletta).
APPENDIX 2

Salina Walk - St. Paul's Bay
(Ghajn Rihana – Kennedy Grove)
SALINA &
ST. PAUL’S BAY
BLUE FLAG WALK
APPENDIX 3
Sample of Education Material
for Classroom
Blue Flag Activities – Summer 2011 – Pauline Dingli

The park, which is 30km long and 22km wide, forms part of the protected Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) of international importance known as ‘Maltese Special Areas of Conservation’ (MSC). The park is a beautiful area with a wide variety of habitats such as salt marshes, freshwater wetlands, grasslands and farmland, and a diverse range of flora and fauna. The park is home to a variety of birds, including the Mediterranean Shrike, the Maltese Shrike, and the Malta Sparrow.

The park is also home to a number of interesting features, including the Blue Flag Beach, the Marsaxlokk Bay, and the Ta'Qali National Park. The park is a popular destination for birdwatchers, with a variety of species including the Mediterranean Gull, the Mediterranean Shrike, and the Malta Sparrow.

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Flowers
## Flowers:

Index of English and Maltese words

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>English Name</th>
<th>Maltese Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. White Clover</td>
<td>Silla Bajda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Cape Sorrel</td>
<td>Cares</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Wild Thyme</td>
<td>Saghtar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Friar's Cowl Arum</td>
<td>Garmi tal-Plπ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Winged Pea</td>
<td>Fiġiżielha Hamra</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Crane's Bill</td>
<td>Ġeranju Salvagġ</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Mallow</td>
<td>Hobbjżija</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Maltese Broomrape</td>
<td>Buddabbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Lesser Calamit</td>
<td>Kemmita</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Vervain</td>
<td>Buxxtem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Penny Royal</td>
<td>Plejju</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Brown Orchid</td>
<td>Dubbhiena</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Aconthuṣ</td>
<td>Hanrewiża</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Lords and ladies</td>
<td>Garmi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Bindweed</td>
<td>Lebliż tal-Blat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Corn Flag</td>
<td>Habb-il-Qamħ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Mediterranean Heather</td>
<td>Lefħietţ-xiħ</td>
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<tr>
<td>19. Wild Iris</td>
<td>Fjurdulli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Borage</td>
<td>Fidloqqorn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Mullein</td>
<td>Xatbatl Andar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Pearl Grass</td>
<td>Fanqil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. Scarlet Pimpernel</td>
<td>Harira hamra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. Heliotrope</td>
<td>Ghobbjiżja Bajda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. Snapdragone</td>
<td>Papoċċi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26. Caper Plant</td>
<td>Kappar</td>
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<tr>
<td>27. Campion</td>
<td>Ilssien fil-Ghasfur</td>
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<tr>
<td>28. Hair's Tail Grass</td>
<td>Dent-il Fenek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29. Field Scabious</td>
<td>Skablożja</td>
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<tr>
<td>30. Bird's Foot Trefoil</td>
<td>Qrempuż</td>
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<tr>
<td>31. Creeping Cinquefoil</td>
<td>Frawil Salvagġ</td>
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<td>32. Bitumen Clover</td>
<td>Silla Tal-Blat</td>
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<tr>
<td>33. Bladder Campion</td>
<td>Ġasqajża</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34. Buttercup</td>
<td>Ċfloq</td>
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</tbody>
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APPENDIX 4

Nature Conservation cards
And article
Haxix Hażin jew... Wirt Naturall?

Siltiet storiċi li jbexxqu tieqa fuq l-imghoddi ta’ rahal twelidna

minn Pauline Dingli

Għal hafla minna, ix-xtiei li jikkbu waħedhom fil-kampanja Rabija huma haxix hażin! Tarti bu bekk, li se fitt snin ilu, dipartiment tal-ġvern kienu jidokumentaw x-xagħar bħala "wasteland"; att li m’hi taiba għal xejn.

Ħwawar medċiżali

Ħwawar aromatiċi
Minħajri ħwawar aromatiċi li jekk tradizzjonali

B&W MAGAZINE
Int Rabti?

differenti aktor il-biodiversità tal-flora tkun sinirna, anke jekk biss tieb nipażew bil-kulju li jeffri fil-għelieqi taqgħa.


Ekożistemi tieg jghixxu l-pjanti

Riċerka turi li Malta ghandna madwar 10,000 speċi ta' flora u fawna differenti! L-istess ammont li għandhom gżejjer ħafna ikbar mimm Malta, bħall-żiklittura. Il-flora f'Malta tikker l'imadwar tkun il-ekosistema differenti li jinkludi: Bosklijiet (Woodland); Mqaijar b'siġer żgħar (Maquis); Xaqarin (Swamplands); Blat jew għelieqi l-hażx baxx - stepp (Rocky Steppe/steppe); Widien (Watercourses); Ghadjar li jkunx bl-ilma wara x-xita (Rainwater Rockpools); Ghadjar bl-ilma salmaistu (Saline Marshlands); Kosta bil-blat baxx (Rocky Shore); Sisien tat-talal (Clay Slopes); Gharam tar-Ramel (Sand Dunes); Sisien ta' Blat inwewqqa (Doughnut Creeks) u Ridunijiet.

Fl-ekosistemi Rabtin ishibu wkoll speċi importanti, bħall-qrant tal-ilma ħelu, il-Qebri, li jchixx biss ir-ħlabat u bħal użatt, imxied aktar tuddin.


**Pjanit intrudotti**


**Konkluzjoni**


Ambjensi naturali nadif, f’saħħtu u mimi kulu fiżli aċ-ċak torċa saħħa u hajża ta’ kwalità ċjenerali għallina li tnejm fih, sta għalina kif imżommhu! Ir-xtielet ta’ madwama huma Wirt Naturali u mhux ħafiz Ħażin.

**Messaġġ Ambientali**

In-Natura rari tieħħ żbball – dejjem l-użanżi

**Messaġġ tal-Ġurnata**

Xuxud ifitttru l-ferh, oħrajn joholqim. Il-ferh jittesthejed.

(Footnotes)


Blue Flag Activities – Summer 2011 – Pauline Dingli