



Annual Report
2009

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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 2009.

Table of Contents

Mission Statement.....	1
Chairman’s Statement	2
CEO’s Statement.....	3
The Inauguration of the National War Museum	5
Capital, Rehabilitation and Maintenance Works	8
Interpretation, Exhibitions and Events.....	22
Research, Conservation and Collections.....	34
HM Conservation Division	49
The Institute for Conservation and Management of Cultural Heritage	58
Appendix I : List of Acquisitions.....	60
Appendix II : Heritage Malta Events Diary	74
Appendix III : Visitor Statistics	86
HM Consolidated Financial Funds	87

List of Abbreviations

AFM	Armed Forces of Malta
AMMM	Association of Mediterranean Maritime Museums
CMA	Collections Management System
EAFRD	European Agricultural Regional Development Funds
ERDF	European Regional Development Funds
EU	European Union
HM	Heritage Malta
ICMCH	Institute of Conservation and Management of Cultural Heritage, Bighi
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
MMM	Malta Maritime Museum, Vittoriosa
MRAE	Ministry for Resources and Environment
MRRA	Ministry for Resources and Rural Affairs
MTA	Malta Tourism Authority
MTAC	Ministry for Tourism and Culture
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 Division, OPM
PRM	Phoenician, Roman and Medieval Sites Department
SCH	Superintendence of Cultural Heritage, Malta
SPC	St Paul's Catacombs, Rabat
UCL	University College of London
UOM	University of Malta
VRP	Valletta Rehabilitation Project

Unless otherwise stated, all dates refer to the period under review: 1 January – 31 December 2009.

Mission Statement

“The mission of Heritage Malta is to ensure that those elements of the cultural heritage entrusted to it are protected and made accessible to the public. The agency also operates a conservation division for the training of conservators and conservation scientists”

Cultural Heritage Act (Malta) 2002

Heritage Malta is the national agency of the Government of Malta 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 related collections in Malta and Gozo, including seven UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Following the recognition of four key aspect of national cultural heritage, namely management, conservation, interpretation and marketing, HM bases all its activities bearing in mind that all our national museums and sites have an important role to play in education, learning, access and the generation of revenue to be reinvested into the heritage sector.

HM therefore seeks to act as a leader for education and outreach programmes not only by supporting school-based learning, but also by encouraging people of all ages and backgrounds to broaden their horizons through the museums’ collections. This is carried out, among others, by developing a programme of events to develop museums as active and inclusive cultural centres. Most importantly, HM is committed to provide physical and intellectual access to a wider audience in all its sites and museums by enhancing access to its various publics and by facilitating the interpretation of its sites and collections. HM is also aware that heritage can act as a catalyst for Malta’s tourism potential and consequently contribute significantly to the economy. It therefore seeks to improve both the service and the experience of all visitors in order to foster a more favourable image on a national and international level.

As from 2005, following an amendment to the Cultural Heritage Act, all activities previously carried out by the former Malta Centre for Restoration have been taken over by HM. The building at Bighi now houses the conservation unit of HM as well as the ICMCH, which is entrusted with the organisation of academic courses at various levels. It is to this effect that HM’s Mission Statement was amended accordingly.

Chairman's Statement

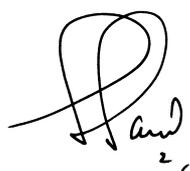
This Report documents the Agency's main activities during the year under review. Our portfolio includes no less than forty museums, sites and their collections, and HM is bound to conserve these assets and make them accessible to the public in general as well as to those in academia.

The Agency continued with its efforts to render cultural heritage appealing and relevant to all audiences. We do so not merely by means of various interpretation facilities but also through a long and varied list of events, including lectures, exhibitions, heritage trails, educational programmes, seminars, participation in EU projects, publications and media coverage. Our 'open days' are exceedingly popular and in 2009 we welcomed 100,000 persons (64,000 in 2008) who visited our museums and sites free of any charge. EU funded projects have continued and applications for new projects submitted.

During the year we also sought to focus on our core activities and operations so as to ensure close adherence to our mission statement as well as to reduce our reliance on Government subvention. In this regard our financial results speak for themselves. In all areas emphasis was placed on the establishment and improvement of systems and procedures aimed at containing costs; improving efficiency and increasing revenue while upholding the high level of professionalism that prevails throughout the Agency.

We firmly believe that our museums, sites and related collections are among the most precious assets that Malta and Gozo possess - this fact needs to be well understood and appreciated by all members of society without exception. The time has come for this sector to be placed at the forefront of our national agenda so as to provide it with the necessary resources so as to allow it develop into a pillar of our economy. We definitely have all the necessary 'raw material' to create another industry which will not merely generate added revenue but, perhaps more importantly, further strengthen our identity as a nation.

The challenges we face on a daily basis are not insignificant. Nevertheless the professional competence, dedication and determination of our staff as well as the support of all stakeholders, reassure us that HM can look to the future with confidence, thus fulfilling its mission of giving a bright future to our past.



Joseph Said

CEO's Statement

During the year under review HM has sought to consolidate further its structures, resources and procedures to ensure that it can effectively carry out its mission of safeguarding some of the most important cultural heritage assets of the country.

The highlight of this year was certainly the completion and inauguration of the refurbished NWM in May. However, notwithstanding that this required a considerable effort and strained its resources, the agency still managed to achieve a lot on other fronts. While the ERDF project of the shelters and visitor centre for Haġar Qim and Mnajdra is nearing completion, significant progress has been achieved in other major projects such as the ERDF project on Ġgantija Temples, Tarxien Temples and SPC. Important inroads have also been registered on other main projects such as that of Fort St Angelo, apart from the renovation works at the NMFA, the Inquisitor's Palace, the NMA, the MMM, and Ta' Bistra Catacombs among other conservation projects, and apart from a myriad of other initiatives as attested by this report.

My experience at HM is yet a brief one. Notwithstanding, I can certainly appreciate the flexibility and passion of all staff within the Agency. In a service-oriented organisation, the right attitude and professional approach of its people really make the difference. It is with pleasure that I note that the Board of Directors has endorsed an extensive human resource development programme for 2010 and beyond, which will undoubtedly contribute to better quality, outcomes and service-user satisfaction. It is indeed the commitment of its entire staff which enables HM to strive forward and to embark on new challenges, as it is bound to do in the coming years.

Frank Mifsud
Acting CEO

HM Board of Directors (as at 31 December 2009)

Joseph Said, Chairman
Isabelle Vella, Deputy Chairperson
Evelyn Baluci
Anthony Bonanno
Norma Camilleri
John Cremona
Marika Grech
Bryan Magro
Martin Mercieca

HM Management Team (as at 31 December 2009)

Frank Mifsud, Board Secretary and A/Chief Executive Officer

Senior Management

Kenneth Gambin, Chief Officer Curatorial and Quality Assurance

Management

Perit Ruben Abela, Manager Architecture, Stone and Objects Conservation
Dr Claire Baluci, Manager Diagnostic Science Laboratories
Ivan Barbara, Manager Estate and Security
Dr Ray Bondin, EU Projects and International Affairs
Pierre Bonello, Senior Executive Exhibitions and Design
Borg John, Principal Curator Natural History
Louis Borg, Manager Operations
Olivianne Briffa, Manager Finance
Alexander Debono, Senior Curator Arts and Palaces
Suzannah Depasquale, Senior Curator Phoenician, Roman and Medieval Sites
Thomas Dimech, Manager Business Development
Antonio Espinosa Rodriguez, Consultant to CEO
Dr Reuben Grima, Senior Curator Prehistoric Sites
Emmanuel Magro Conti, Senior Curator Modern, Maritime and Military History
Russell Muscat, Senior Executive Communications and Events
Nicoline Sagona, Manager Gozo Sites
Ninette Sammut, Manager ICMCH and Education
Alan Sant, Manager Human Resources and Administration
Joseph Schirò, Manager Paintings, Books, Paper and Textiles Conservation
Martin Spiteri, Collections Manager
Sharon Sultana, Principal Curator National Museum of Archaeology
Godwin Vella, Senior Curator Ethnography
Perit Dr Jevon Vella, Manager Capital Projects
Theresa Vella, Manager Research
Noel Zammit, Manager IT and Knowledge Management

The Inauguration of the National War Museum

The history of the military collection of artefacts related to the two world wars goes back to the early 20th century, when following the First World War, relics/war trophies of that conflict started being deposited at the Palace Armoury. The British authorities felt that such items were equal and as important to the historic arms and armour deposited in the PA by the Order of St John.

Honouring the collective memory by the deposition of military artefacts be them captured enemy war trophies or significant obsolete Allied armament was continued after the Second World War, this time with artefacts which had either seen actual service in Malta such as Gladiator 'Faith' or else items of 'trophy' significance such as the first captured Italian gun in the Sicilian campaign being the Vickers Terni. The somewhat forgotten nature of war related museums is that of a memorial, and by depositing such and other items, those fortunate to be still among the living desired that the memory of those who had paid the ultimate price for the benefit of others to have a tomorrow be kept remembered and thus somewhat 'alive'. Space constraints and context in the Armoury were however now becoming obvious.

The situation lingered up to 1974, when 'The Gloster Sea Gladiator 'Faith' and War Relics Exhibition' was set up in the Drill Hall of Lower Fort St Elmo by the Museums Department, with the assistance of the Armed Forces of Malta and the newly formed National War Museum Association. Following the success of the exhibition, it was decided to establish a permanent display to be known as the National War Museum, officially inaugurated in 1975.

Concurrently the Palace Armoury was transferred from its original location on the first floor of The Palace to the ground floor to make way for the new parliament. The conditions prevailing in the former Palace stables are not ideal, and it is reassuring to learn of Government's commitment to return the Palace Armoury to its original place on the first floor of The Palace after so many years.

Since then, the exhibition epitomised Malta's role as a fortress from 1798 onwards, focusing mainly on the Second World War. Although there was an influx of artefacts donated or bought for the NWM, it was rather cluttered and amateurish. In 2003 HM took the first steps to remove artefacts not related to the First and Second World Wars. Although it remained one of the most popular museums of the State, the museum still needed a major overhaul and HM, though aware that a larger building was necessary to house the entire collection, still decided that a revamp was necessary to do justice to the importance of the war, conserve items and to offer a better visitor experience.

In November 2007 the museum was closed for refurbishment, which included the structure, and the conservation, cataloguing, condition assessment and evaluation of all artefacts.

The cleaning and pointing of the exterior walls was carried out by vocational students of the ICMCH. Various contractors carried out civil works. The floor was exposed in one area so that visitors could observe the different floor levels the building had in different periods of use. The new visitor rest rooms were also fitted out together with the curator's office. The building's fabric and features were all retained and respected. Several previously walled-up Victorian period apertures came to light and were restored and retained in the display itself. The main door was also conserved. Six masonry and iron blast vents over the side passages were cleaned and repaired. The construction of a large quantity of partitions, pedestals and the refurbishment of showcases was taken in hand by HM maintenance team. Electrical connections, ventilation system, the security systems and modern technologies links were also installed.

The curatorial complement of the department was fully engaged on this project for the required research and production of the display and interpretation provisions. The artefacts to be exhibited were chosen in early 2008. These were conserved by HM conservation staff. Other items were at a later stage also conserved and prepared for storage. The arduous task of fitting the chosen items into the showcases within the available space commenced in December 2008. The former showcases were refurbished and adapted to their new setting because of lack of funds. The museum fabric was nearing completion by January and the re-displaying of artefacts in showcases commenced in March. In all, almost 2000 artefacts were displayed, some 20% of which are totally newly displayed items.

HM patrons visited the NWM on 11 April, while a special event was organised for HM staff in the evening. The museum was opened to the general public on Easter Sunday 12 April. The official opening was held on 25 May by Vice Prime Minister Tonio Borg and Minister of Education, Culture, Youth and Sport Dolores Cristina.

The museum now offers a totally different concept of interpretation and visitor experience. Taking the limits of space into consideration, the museum's collection on display focuses on the two World Wars. Rather than being divided in sections focusing on the navy, the air force and the army as was previously, the visitor is now guided through a historical journey spanning two world wars in a chronological manner. Maximum use has been made of the limited space available. The visitor is made to feel as part of the story, walking virtually inside a nation's diary aided by colour codes for different periods and large life size blow-ups of period photographs. While obviously retaining the most important and nationally significant iconic artefacts, such as the George Cross, the Gladiator 'Faith', the Willy's Jeep 'Husky' and other vehicles, artillery pieces and a host of other important national relics, the display recounts the unfolding of events which led to the two wars, their socio-cultural context, development and also their consequences, locally and abroad. Special reference is made to the role of Malta in the theatre of war, and to the contribution of the Maltese civil population to the war effort, especially during the incredibly difficult conditions of 1942.

Different levels of interpretation have been used: photographic timeline, bi-lingual panels, individual captions and video footage. This is also the first time that an extensive use was made of audio-visual projections, kindly made available by the Public Broadcasting Services. The visitor can either rush through the display in a few

minutes or can choose to spend an entire day, absorbed by a tiny island's input into WWII.

The story ends with the memorial dedicated to those who sacrificed themselves for Malta's freedom.

HM is indebted to the MTA for sponsoring part of the project. Its help was important so that HM could provide a further attraction and thus continue promoting Malta within the tourism industry as a leading cultural destination in the Mediterranean.

The Future

Given the opportunity, HM looks forward to set up a military history museum, ranging from prehistory onwards – for which, however, much larger space is required, e.g. within Fort St Elmo. In this way the two world wars could be explained and appreciated in the wider context of military history of the Maltese Islands.

Capital, Rehabilitation and Maintenance Works

ERDF 032 – Archaeological Heritage Conservation Project

The 'Archaeological Heritage Conservation Project' is part-financed by the EU's ERDF (85% EU funds; 15% National Funds) under Operational Programme I – Cohesion Policy 2007-13 - Investing in Competitiveness for a Better Quality of Life. The application for this project, under Priority Axis 2 – Promoting sustainable tourism and focus area 'Product Development; Niche market development and branding', was lodged in 2007 and was approved in principle in June 2008.

The project, as finalised in the Grant Agreement signed on 5 May 2009, will see the upgrading and conservation of two sites inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List as part of the 'Maltese Megalithic Temples', Ggantija and Tarxien Temples, as well as SPC which are an outstanding example of Malta's catacombs. The duration of the project is from January 2008 to March 2013 with a value of €9,151,333 (including VAT).

The works included in this project on the three sites are as follows:

Ggantija Heritage Park

- an interpretation centre (and 'exit' building) incorporating all amenities and interpretation facilities – a welcoming orientation point to the cultural resources of Xagħra
- walkway to connect the interpretation centre to the Temple, and landscaping works
- a study regarding the structural stability of the Temple structure and proposed interventions
- archaeological investigation and monitoring of works

Tarxien Temples

- the installation of a protective shelter which will ensure its long-term effective protection from the major causes of its deterioration
- a walkway to provide access for all around the sites, while protecting original floors and surfaces

St Paul's Catacombs

- a visitor centre incorporating all amenities and interpretation facilities
- a walkway to provide access for all around the sites (where possible), while protecting original floors and surfaces
- installation of environmental mitigation equipment to sustain the conservation requirements of the subterranean areas
- installation of specialised lighting systems that will eliminate and stabilise biological organism growths within the catacombs that are currently defacing the monument
- general landscaping works

Considering that the project includes construction, landscaping and other works to improve visitor-related infrastructure and facilities in sites of significant cultural value, any decision is to be based on an amount of significant research, data collection, and the analytical understanding of the available information. Hence, the first set of tenders, drafting of which commenced in 2008 and published during 2009, included the necessary base work to inform all subsequent design and construction decisions. These mainly involved:

- visitor survey for SPC and 'limits of acceptable change' studies for SPC and Tarxien Temples
- topographic and architectural surveys of SPC complex
- archaeological investigations necessary on all three sites, including the monitoring element during the execution of the eventual construction operations
- mapping of biological growth on the archaeological surfaces of Tarxien Temples and SPC
- a hydrological and hydro-geological study for Tarxien Temples and the surrounding landscape
- a geophysical survey and a structural analysis of SPC complex
- environmental monitoring of the underground spaces of SPC and a weather station at Tarxien Temples
- 3D documentation of Tarxien Temples and part of the underground spaces of SPC
- structural survey of Ggantija Temples.

Due to the specialised nature of these studies, the public procurement process for the engagement of suitable contractors/consultants on some of the above studies had to be

repeated at least twice, and in some cases such open tendering procedures still proved futile. However, notwithstanding the delays incurred in the project, most of the above studies are now underway.

On the other hand, since the project includes the construction of visitor-related facilities, architectural firms were engaged for SPC and the Ggantija Heritage Park respectively. Ray Demicoli and Associates were contracted for the SPC project through an open tender procedure, whereas the latter was engaged following the organization of a design contest entitled ‘Enhancing the visitor experience at the Ggantija Heritage Park World Heritage Site’, under the patronage of the Ministry for Education, Culture, Youth and Sports, launched on 22 October. Entries were received up to 16 December. The brief for this competition was prepared in collaboration with the Scientific Committee for the Megalithic Temples. The Jury included representatives from HM’s Board of Directors and curatorial staff, the Maltese Commission for UNESCO, the Scientific Committee for the Megalithic Temples, and the *Kamra tal-Periti*.

In all twelve entries were received, including two foreign architectural firms and also a further two entries that involved a collaboration between local and foreign firms. The winner of the design contest, announced on 18 December, was Perit Robert Sant. The Jury also identified a further two proposals worthy of an honourable mention, namely Prof Alex Torpiano (TBA Periti) and Perit Martin Xuereb (Martin Xuereb & Associates and Politecnica Soc. Coop. – Firenze).

Since aspects of the project require MEPA permits, applications for ‘Outline Development’ and ‘Full Development’ were submitted as follows:

Application No.	Description	Status
PA0629/09	Proposed visitor centre, pathway, and exit building to Ggantija Heritage Park	Decision on the application for an ‘Outline’ development permit at the Ggantija Heritage Park submitted on 19 February is pending MEPA review of policy in the Ggantija Temples Buffer Zone
PA0630/09	Proposed visitor centre	‘Outline’ development permit for proposals at SPC approved on 14 October and decision posted on 9 November
PA5801/09	Proposed visitors experience at SPC including an interpretation centre, exit building, children’s pavilion, information pods and general landscaping works	Application for ‘Full’ development submitted on 22 December
PA5745/09	Proposed visitor centre, pathway and exit building to Ggantija Heritage Park	Application for ‘Full’ development submitted on 21 December is pending MEPA review of policy in the Ggantija Temples Buffer Zone

In order to enable the execution of the proposed masterplan for the Ggantija Heritage Park necessitated, the site earmarked for the construction of the proposed interpretation centre was given back to Government by the Water Services Corporation and its title was subsequently transferred to HM. Furthermore, a strip of land, located between the interpretation centre site and Ggantija Temples, was expropriated from private owners, so as to enable the construction of pathway linking the centre to the Temples. The lease agreements of the remaining land affected by the project (to construct the pathway), were terminated with the respective farmers, and its title transferred onto HM. A fence was also erected to differentiate between the site of the interpretation centre site and other areas belonging to third parties. A land survey of the Ggantija grounds was carried out in connection with the same project between January and March.

The termination of lease procedure was also executed at SPC to enable HM to implement the proposed upgrading projects in the site. An exercise was also commenced with the Government Property Division to close-off apertures overlooking SPC complex and to rationalise ownership of the entire proposed heritage park.

Architect Alex Torpiano presented possible designs for a shelter at Tarxien Temples to HM Board of Directors and to the Scientific Committee for the Conservation of the Megalithic Temples. Feedback given following these meetings will feed into the final concept design which will form the basis of the application to be submitted to MEPA as well as the Design & Build tender for the construction of the shelter. Both are planned for 2010. Specifications for the tender for the construction of a new walkway at Tarxien are being drafted by Architect Torpiano, to be published in 2010. Proposals are being developed for the inclusion of two additional elements in this project: Acquisition of a small unused parcel of land between the Tarxien Temples and the Tal-Erwieħ Cemetery to facilitate the design of a walkway that provides access to visitors with a mobility impairment, and the design and construction of a new boundary wall and related security lighting system.

Being an ERDF part-funded project, the publicity element is an intrinsic aspect of the Grant Agreement. While adhering to the obligations included in the approved application, information regarding the project was continuously disseminated through the various media available, including television, radio and printed media.

Arts and Palaces Department

Refurbishment of Late Medieval and Renaissance Galleries

The first phase of this project has been completed during the current year as planned. Subsequently, all paintings were hung in place and a new wooden structure produced for the Abbatija tad-Dejr mural painting. Plans are now underway to implement the second phase of this project, namely the re-hanging and presentation of works on display. This will mean a greater focus on particular rooms with the intention of adding information and interpretation panels, backdrops, IT aided info systems and other means that will help provide an improved visitor experience. A preliminary choice has been discussed and a first draft of a permanent display and necessary boards and panels proposed.

Eco-Friendly Museum Project

This project aims at developing eco-friendly systems within a museum environment. This project is led by a multi-disciplinary working group including conservators, scientists and curators. Tasks concluded so far include the following. In June membrane was removed from the roof of the Late Medieval and Renaissance halls. The roof was scraped clean from a thick layer of tar and cement to reveal the original screed. A new layer of screed has been reinstated. Air ducts in this area that were previously blocked have been completely cleared of debris from roof level and hand operated aluminium louvered apertures with filters installed instead.

A high-tech monitoring apparatus has been identified and was subsequently purchased by HSBC Bank Ltd. This apparatus collates temperature, humidity, light levels and air currents according to a set time-table and transmits this information to a computer that in turn relays all information to HM's Conservation Division. A weather station has also been installed on the roof of the museum in November. The data that is now being collated will present a clear picture of the micro-environment of the building and enable the effective introduction of passive conservation measures. It is envisaged that ensuing developments will make the installation of any air-conditioning system superfluous and thus keep the carbon foot-print of the building low. The project was publicised in the local press and received very positive feedback from both the local and international public.

Main Courtyard Restoration Project

This restoration project, initiated in June 2008, is now at an advanced stage of completion. Over 85% of the wall surface has been cleaned of some fourteen layers of paint and re-pointed. Four new glazed clay rain-water ducts have also been installed. In one particular instance water ducts had to be relocated since the original ducts had

been trapped in between two wall structures ever since the construction of a new room at second floor level in the 1970s. The balustrades of the first floor balcony have been replaced and new balustrades were purchased for the balcony at ground floor level. These will hopefully be installed during 2010. Restoration works are currently underway on the remaining external wall surface.

The external wall of a room at roof level has also been scraped from excessive layers of paint and re-pointed afresh. Restoration of the courtyard at basement level will commence during 2010.

Other general works carried out at the NMFA include the following: Plastering, paintworks and other necessary maintenance works were carried out in the lobby of Casa Scaglia. A new board room has also been set up at Casa Scaglia. All faulty water mains from water-meter up to water reservoir tanks at roof level were replaced. This proved to be a very complex job since the historic fabric had to be respected as much as possible. Water mains and drains were also introduced into the new front-office staff room which can now be used for special functions and events held in the loggia. Maintenance works was carried on approximately 65% of doors and apertures leading onto the main courtyard of the palace. The original colour of these apertures was identified and three samples prepared. The final colour was chosen after consultation with architect in charge of conservation works and expertise from VRP. Outline development permit applications for the restoration of 8, Old Mint street and the facades of both buildings (Admiralty House and 8 Old Mint Street) have been submitted to MEPA. Preparatory work has been carried out for the publication of a request for quotation for the manufacture of a new reception desk. Continued assistance and coordination were provided as required with regards to the Pinto Clock tower restoration project of the Palace.

Ethnography Department

During the period under review, the department's main prerogative has been to enhance the experience on offer at the Inquisitor's Palace through the redesign, upgrade and augmentation of the permanent display, interpretation provision and ancillary visitor facilities.

The refurbishment and redesign of the Tribunal room commenced in May. The general lighting and power systems have been replaced, the respective wooden apertures were repaired and repainted, two broken lintels were propped up, while all loose pointing and plastering has been reinstated. The new permanent display setup offers better accommodation for groups, a more engaging interpretation provision for individuals and funds permitting it will in the future include a research terminal with supplementary information on the Inquisition's Tribunal.

Soon afterwards, works were taken in hand to refurbish two vaulted rooms at ground floor level in view of setting up an introduction to the Inquisition and the Inquisitor's Palace. Significant architectural features came to light on removing the thick layer of plaster and paint, thereby extending the original timeframe of the restoration works to

include a wider project which benefited from the sponsorship of The Alfred Mizzi Foundation. The two rooms formed part of the early 1530s Castellania, the surviving covered spaces of which (present day lobby, reception area, Site Officer's Office and restrooms) were also earmarked for eventual upgrading through the project that will spill into 2010. Besides enhancing the overall experience on offer to include an upgrading of the reception area and ancillary visitor amenities, this project is of particular relevance in view of the extrapolation of a wealth of information on the early development of the extant fabric and due to the discovery of hitherto unknown rock-hewn features. The Inquisitor's Palace will thereby valorise an important architectural legacy reminiscent of early Hospitaljer Malta.

The extensive programme of works on the timber apertures progressed as planned. All apertures overlooking the garden and several others overlooking Bishop's Palace and South Streets respectively were repaired and repainted.

Works were also carried out by the Gozo Area Office in the Ethnography museums in Gozo. Maintenance works at the **Folklore Museum** included the reconstruction of a collapsed rubble wall at the back of the soft area, which was damaged during a storm. A new water tank was installed, and a number of timber apertures were renovated. Following the issue of an authorization permit from the Ecosystems Management Unit at MEPA, the large carob tree in front of the **Ta' Kola Windmill** was pruned in February. Timber apertures in need of renovation were upgraded, thus eliminating water seepage into the windmill's tower. Damaged roofing slabs were replaced in November. An estimate for the reconstruction of the windmill vanes was prepared, while an assessment of the structural stability of the internal parts of the milling tower was carried out in December by an architect and structural engineer. A MEPA full development application was submitted in October for the repairs to the exterior stone wall, construction of timber canopy, and reconstruction of concave rubble wall.

The Gozo Area Office took part in an exercise with the Lands Department in order to establish the exact boundaries of HM properties in Gozo. A CCTV system was installed at the Gozo Area Exhibition Hall in February in order to increase the security of exhibitions held within these premises. Maintenance works were carried out on the external wall of the Gozo Area Office in December.

Fort St Angelo

Conservation works have been carried out on the fabric of the Knights' period gun-powder magazine. The *deffun* waterproofing layer at roof level has been reinstated by a group of specialised employees from the Restoration Unit of the MRRA, while a second group from the Public Works Department (Cottonera District) removed manually the interior cement-based plaster layer from the vaulted hall and demolished a number of modern brick partitions and related accretions. The Restoration Unit also assisted in the restoration of a number of structures surmounting the towering Cavalier, including the bell cot. Work on the latter was mainly carried out by HM Architecture Conservation team, which is also restoring the wall of the Cavalier ramp leading to the upper level of the Fort.

Various condition reports on various parts of the Fort were compiled, including one on the access road following its collapse in mid-July. As a consequence of this incident, the SCH issued a Conservation and Protection Order whereby no vehicles were to be allowed to access the Fort and this in order not to cause any further damage.

A full development application (PA 4149/09) for emergency works for the 'Restoration of the main gate, repair of access ramp, reconstruction of vaulted entrance and De Guiral Sally Port' was submitted to MEPA on 18 September. These works and the overall long-term plans for the Fort were discussed in detail with the MEPA Board during an onsite inspection on 12 November. Preparatory work for the tenders required to carry out the said works have commenced. In the 2010 Estimates the Government has committed €1.5 million for the required restoration works.

Modern, Maritime and Military History Department

Malta Maritime Museum

Structural works continued in the former ten bin silo at the former Naval Bakery. Projected works were concluded by end of 2009. Therefore the Ground Floor, First Floor, Second Floor and Roof level have all been made safe for use and further access is now possible to other areas of the bakery building previously inaccessible. At all levels, a wide passage together with smaller ones now link areas of the building. The civil works comprised the fitting out of visitor rest rooms on two levels. Old period refurbished portholes were used to embellish and as signage for all doors on all floors. The Ground Floor hard stone paving was restored and the discovered machinery trenches closed by timber planks. Ideally these should be replaced by glass so that the in situ machinery can be admired. The installation of a 19-passenger lift was concluded and now the museum is fully accessible for all. Various electrical works were carried out in the area. Old period refurbished light fittings were used throughout on three floors in keeping with the building's utilitarian look.

Another important and long overdue emergency restoration work commenced on the roof level in September. One of the three surviving lanterns above the ventilation turrets was in imminent danger of collapse. HM vocational staff erected protective scaffolding and dismantled the four meter high lantern. Several of the stone components are to be replaced and the rest cleaned, conserved and re-used in the re-building of the lantern and similar work carried out on the turret. Conservation and restoration works on the two other lanterns and turrets will follow.

Discussions once again took place regarding the propping of a defective roof renovated in 1995. It was finally resolved that the heavy beam support option is not ideal and unnecessary and that steel belts be inserted where necessary. Routine maintenance works could not be programmed because of lack of staff. The Anadrian Hall was sealed up in April for the required works to remove some asbestos which was found within. The hall was subsequently re-opened to the public.

National War Museum

Please refer to *The Inauguration of the NWM* (pages 5-7) above.

Palace Armoury

Further in house works were carried out in the new workshop. These included the cleaning of the floor and installation of shelving. Problems were encountered with the fumes cupboard extractor fan. Pending an inspection from an engineer, the design of a new system is being installed. Works on the office are still pending. Meetings were also conducted with the Palace electrical engineer to shift electrical meters to one place and change electrical supply from single-phase to three-phase.

National Museum of Archaeology Department

Restoration works on the wrought iron balconies and timber apertures of the upper halls overlooking Republic Street have commenced and are nearing completion since they both had to be temporarily put on hold due to the fact that the Salon was hosting the 'City Gate Project' exhibition. Preparation works for other required infrastructural works as part of the NMA permanent exhibition project are currently underway. Patching works have been carried out on parts of the roof membrane of the museum. The courtyard and parts of the basement have been cleared from unnecessary accumulated material.

Rehabilitation of the **Gozo Museum of Archaeology** by the Gozo Area Office continued with the installation of new ceiling light fixtures for the prehistoric sections and a complete upgrade of the Xlendi Wrecks hall in September, including paintwork, a new lighting system, the replacement of amphorae supports and the addition of a lead anchor stock to the display. Maintenance works at the museum included the installation of a new wall safe, renovation of apertures and the elimination of water seepage problems

Natural History Department

A number of works were carried out at the NMNH during the period under review. The inner room in the reception area was pointed, plastered and whitewashed and a new kitchenette installed. A room on the upper floor of the museum was cleared of accumulated material, whitewashed and now holds five chest freezers containing several hundreds of confiscated bird carcasses. Electricity has been installed in three large halls (formerly Mammals' Halls) and these will now be used to host temporary exhibitions. A wooden partition separating two rooms was removed to create a large storage area which now holds the entire Entomological Collection.

The Restoration Unit of the MRRA continued with the surveys on the bastions and outer walls of the palace according to planned rehabilitation works as part of the fortifications ERDF project. In collaboration with the Mdina Local Council, the Animal Welfare Promotion and Services, MEPA and ALE (Administrative Law Enforcement) the pigeon problem is being tackled. The large flock of more than 400 present in and around the palace, which was creating a health hazard, was reduced to about 40 birds.

A meeting was held with the Malta Police for the transfer of one large hall and three small rooms which are not being utilised by the police. These rooms originally formed part of the palace. Should these be acquired, the large hall will serve as a lecture/activity room and the three rooms will be transformed into the administrative section of the museum. The NMNH is also working on the idea of a new museum and various sources of funding are being investigated.

The boundary wall of the car park in front of **Ghar Dalam** collapsed following heavy rains early in the year. Subsequently it was completely re-built and further parking of cars was not allowed there any longer. To this effect seven large flower pots were placed to impede any parking of cars.

Renovation of the timber apertures of the **Gozo Nature Museum** was concluded by the Gozo Area Office early in 2009, and a new water tank was installed. Pointing to the building's inner courtyard was carried out in December.

Phoenician, Roman and Medieval Sites Department

European Agricultural Fund Regional Development Project

EAFRD funding with cultural heritage axis was spearheaded by HM in 2005. The original grant funding application 2004-06 did not address issues prevalent to cultural heritage sites found within agricultural zones. HM worked together with the MRRA on the development of a new axis that would remove such a vacuum, and to help generate micro economies within agricultural zones while allowing for the development of niche tourism. These areas have been identified in line with key national strategic documents.

A project proposal for the rehabilitation of Roman Baths and Christian Catacombs (REBACA) was submitted on 29 May. This project focuses to address the requirements of Ghajn Tuffieħa Roman Baths, Ta' Hāgrat, Skorba, minor archaeological sites, as well as Areas B and C of Ta' Bistra Catacombs. The project was submitted under two interlinking measures 313 and 323 with HM as lead partner together with two other strategic partners: the Mosta and Mgarr local councils. The project will last three years and will involve a total of €12,723,645 under Measure 323 and €4,159,748 under measure 313 (inclusive of VAT and national co-financing).

The project intends to regenerate cultural heritage within the rural landscape. It seeks to develop a holistic tourism product that highlights the unique cultural and natural

heritage found within the two distinct but neighbouring localities of Mġarr and Mosta. Measure 323 intends to study, research, conserve and safeguard Għajn Tuffieħa Roman Baths in Mġarr and two segments of the Ta' Bistra Catacombs in Mosta. The project will focus on conducting the required studies to ensure a better understanding of the sites involved as well as to understand their environmental conservation requirements in order to ensure its long-term accessibility and conservation. Measure 313 intends to conserve and safeguard a number of cultural sites found dispersed and relatively unknown to the general visitor. It intends to highlight these sites, provide visitor facilities, conserve and provide access via a number of pathways and interpretation aids. The sites involved include prehistoric temples, huts, catacombs, tombs, baths, quarries, cart-ruts and fortification lines

Abbatija Tad-Dejr

The project with *Din l-Art Helwa* was resumed in 2008. Dott. Claude Busutil was appointed conservation architect to develop draft plans for the site. Two proposals were developed. Discussions ensued with the neighbour in view of a potential collaboration development for the site, but no results ensued from these discussions. The project is currently on hold.

St Paul's Catacombs

The Hotel Scheme project regarding the boundary walls and fence of SPC commenced following the granting of the MEPA permit PA 1480/08. The conservation work will reach completion in 2010. Catacomb 24 was re-opened late in 2008 after it had been closed for decades. These two interconnecting hypogea had been used abusively for a considerable number of years, during which the site was also used as a stable. The hypogea were found to have been heavily mutilated and full of debris. Catacomb 24A was accessible but Catacomb 24B was completely flooded. Clearing works and disinfestation of the site ensued. The water flooding Catacomb 24B was diagnosed as sewage. Discussions are underway to identify the origin of the sewage inflow and to remove it.

St Augustine's Catacomb

Following extensive research on the ownership of this site carried out through 2008, it was found that although the underground site was government owned it was being used by private individuals. As such work ensued to recover physical ownership of these three small catacombs. Keys were officially handed over to HM late in 2008. The site had been closed for a number of years and was used for storage of construction equipment. Access was impossible before the clearing of all the equipment and associated debris, including a considerable amount of asbestos sheets which were disposed of according to health and safety regulations. Upon inspection it was clear that the roof that covered the *triclinium* area was in danger of collapse and needed immediate attention. A topographic survey of this area was conducted; a DNO

and MEPA full development application were submitted for the removal and replacement of this structure. Funds are being sought to finance such works..

Ta' Bistra Catacombs

This year saw the committee proceed on a dual course of action: preparing all necessary documentation and permits for the remaining works, and investigating further opportunities for funding grants, namely those of INTERREG IIIA, INTERREG IVA and EAFRD. In April the Sicilian Managing Authority issued a final claim for the last INTERREG IIIA funds, whereby the committee made a successful attempt at recuperating other much required funds for the implementation of finishing works within the site and towards the development of brochures and a promotional DVD. Certification and closure of accounts were completed, and discussions were held for the submission of phase two of this project under INTERREG IV A. All actions were undertaken to ultimately open the site for public appreciation and to target other funding applications. The Cultexchange project budget allocation for the entire partnership rose from €350,000 up to nearly €550,000, and direct investment on site grew from €50,000 to €228,000.

Other Sites

Work on **San Pawl Milqi** was limited to the basic maintenance and upkeep of the site. Discussions are underway to carry out repairs on the outside face of the foundations of the 17th century chapel. The tender for the rebuilding and extension of a wall at **Tas-Silġ** which collapsed following heavy rains and encroaching excavations is being drafted. Rain water seepage in the roof above the mosaics of the **Domus Romana** for the last years has resulted in severe structural roof problems. A full MEPA application has been submitted and remedial temporary and permanent action is being planned for 2010, upon granting of MEPA permit.

Prehistoric Sites Department

Haġar Qim and Mnajdra

The finishing of the Visitor Centre, including the creation of a permanent display, was brought to practical completion during the year under review. The creation of the audio visual content is currently underway in collaboration with Studio 7. The development of the educational programme for Haġar Qim and Mnajdra was also initiated during the year under review. The visitor centre is expected to receive its first visitors during the first quarter of 2010. All the membrane panels that form the protective shelters over Haġar Qim and Mnajdra were installed by the end June. During summer the welding of membrane joints and installation of water drainage system were also completed. Two of the membrane panels at Mnajdra were replaced

at the contractor's expense after they were damaged by very strong winds during installation.

BOV Tarxien Temples Project

The tender document for construction of a visitor centre, proposed for the BOV Tarxien Temples Project in 2004, was submitted by Architect Alex Torpiano and presented to Board of Directors last year. The estimated cost of the building was €900,000. The total project budget is of €885,000 to be funded in equal parts by HM and BOV. This project is in abeyance since specific funding from Government side has yet to be secured.

Hypogeum

A working group was launched to define and steer short and long-term solutions for the safeguarding of the site. The group is composed of staff from HM's Conservation Division and the Prehistoric Sites Department, together with Prof JoAnn Cassar and Dr John Betts from the UOM. In light of the progressive deterioration of the air-conditioning plant that was installed in the late 1990s, a complete replacement of the plant is now required, as well as interim measures that must be put in place before summer 2010 to avoid destabilization of the site. The highest priority short-term measure that is required is the installation of additional protection against solar radiation on the main roof.

EEA/Norwegian Funds: The contract for the 3D documentation of the Hypogeum was awarded to DMT GnbH& Co. An appeal lodged with the Department of Contracts by another tenderer was rejected in favour of the original evaluation report. Work started in August with the scanning of the site, complemented by 360° photography which will be used to create the texture mapping of the 3D model but which can also be considered a valuable deliverable in its own right. The final results are due by June 2010. A tender for the other main component of this project, the Supply and Installation of Environmental Monitoring Equipment was prepared in collaboration with the Department of Contracts and MSA. This tender was published in March. Bids were evaluated but none were found to be up to the standard required. The tender was dropped and shall be reissued in the coming months as three separate tenders.

Ġgantija Temples

Works on the Vodafone Ġgantija Project continued with the installation of a weather station close to the temples in March. The weather station collects data relating to barometric pressure, wind speed and direction, air temperature, relative humidity, solar radiation and rainfall. The weather station is equipped with a solar photo voltaic panel which provides the appropriate power supply requirements for the operation of the same equipment. Data is transmitted to HM Conservation Division via GSM technology.

A supply tender for a Technical and Visual Design Proposal, and the provision of an Interactive DVD-ROM (IDR) and setting up of all-in-one computers (kiosks) for Ggantija Temples was published in June and awarded in July. Text content for the IDR was prepared and will be translated into six different languages. The IDR will be installed in two kiosks to be placed onsite and will also be accessible to visitors with special needs. The content will also be linked to HM's webpage. Facilities include: 360 degree photography of the temples allowing the user to virtually experience a visit to Ggantija, historical interpretation of the site (part of which will be downloadable from the website), and interactive games. This project also forms part of the Vodafone Ggantija Project, coordinated mostly by the Gozo Area Office.

Technical specifications for the supply and installation of a CCTV system for the Ggantija grounds were prepared and a tender published in July. Parameters for the design of a walkway allowing access inside both temples were prepared before the publication of an expression of interest for the same design in September. These two projects also form part of the Vodafone Ggantija Project.

Routine maintenance works carried out by the Gozo Area Office included periodic grass-cutting, ploughing and the removal of invasive vegetation. Other works consisted of the repainting of the railing at the exit point of the site, the reinstatement of the boundary wall at the back entrance of Ggantija, and the installation of an awning for the museum shop. The sanitary facilities at Ggantija were given a complete overhaul during summer.

Interpretation, Exhibitions and Events

Arts and Palaces Department

Exhibitions

The need to create a monitoring and review structure for exhibitions by artists in museums has long been felt. An exhibition committee chaired by the Senior Curator has been set up, includes representatives of the Exhibitions and Design Department and the Communication and Events Department. The scope of this committee is to endorse and promote quality of exhibitions in all HM sites. It has met regularly since its establishment in February to assess applications to exhibit forwarded to HM as per standard procedures established in 2008.

During 2009 the following exhibitions have been curated or jointly coordinated/curated by the department.

Maps of Valletta from the Albert Ganado Map Collection: 23 - 29 March: A selection of Valletta Maps was put on display in the Preti Halls on the occasion of Valletta day celebrated on 28 March. Valletta residents were offered 50% discount on museum entrance fee.

Annus Paulinus Exhibition: 18 March - 30 April: The NMFA supported the organisation of the Annus Paulinus Exhibition at the Salon of the NMA, in collaboration with the Department of History of Art of the UOM. The exhibition included works by John Martin Borg twinned with archaeological artefacts from the reserve collection of the NMA.

Pioneers of Modern Art in Malta: An exhibition of 25 works of art by modern artists including paintings and sculpture works at the Casino Maltese, as part of the Notte Bianca activities. The exhibition was commissioned by the MCCA.

The Monument to the Unknown Soldier – Drawings by Antonio Sciortino (1879-1947): An exhibition of a selection of original drawings by Antonio Sciortino for the proposed Monument to the Unknown Soldier held during Notte Bianca. The exhibition was put up in memory of Dennis Vella, the late Curator for Modern and Contemporary Art, who passed away on 28 July.

Pictures of the Floating World - Ukiyo-e Prints from the National Collection: 19 December - 17 January 2010: An exhibition of 28 Japanese prints donated to the NMFA in the early 1990s by the OTA Foundation. The exhibition was also accompanied by a catalogue featuring a brief description of each print on exhibit and a concise general introduction. This exhibition was organised in collaboration with the Malta Japan Association.

Ministry for Gozo – HM Exhibitions

Two yearly exhibitions are organised by HM for the Ministry for Gozo. The exhibitions for 2009 were the following: **The Artist at Work – Drawings and Bozzettoes from the National Collection: 1 - 24 May:** Twelve works were carefully selected to describe the creative process of the artist through three centuries of artistic activity in Malta. Selected items were conserved and purposely mounted for this exhibition. The exhibition presented hitherto unknown or unpublished works including a drawing from the workshop of Mattia Preti and one by Giuseppe Cali. This exhibition was re-proposed at the Contemporary Hall, NMFA during the summer months. **Miniature Maps of Malta: 12 September – 11 October:** An exhibition of rare miniature maps curated jointly with the Paper Conservation Department. The exhibition included some ninety miniature maps of Malta and Gozo together with plans of Valletta and the three cities that were printed between the 17th and 20th centuries and published in various rare books around the world. This has been the first time that so many miniature maps were amassed under one exhibition roof in an exhibition that has been described as the first of its kind ever. A fully illustrated exhibition catalogue was also published for the occasion. Both catalogue and exhibition were widely acclaimed and received positive feedback from international scholars on the subject.

Artisport is a joint collaboration project between the NMFA and Kunsill Malti għall-Isport introduced in May 2008. The scope of this project is to introduce children to traditional games held at Hastings Garden and subsequently to a treasure hunt at the NMFA. Parents are provided with a tour of the museum during the time that children are participating in the event. A major Artisport event was held in March. The Senior Curator provided a special tour of sites then featuring in the event. Artisport was once again held at the NMFA during the month of May. It is the scope and intention of the organisers to introduce this project in all State schools. To this effect a pilot project was held with St Ignatius College during May and June. Another successful educational event held at the museum was the Carnival mask-making event in February, organised by the Education Department.

Events

Throughout the year the NMFA has developed, tried and tested a schedule of events, most of which will remain in place throughout 2010.

Art & Wine @ South Street – First Series: The concept behind this event is to introduce works by the Old Masters to a young audience and through the eyes of a contemporary artist. The first two editions from this successful event were held in April and June. The first featured artist Madeleine Gera and Lou Bondi and the second featured artist Pierre Portelli and Marie Briguglio. The third edition featured artist Caesar Attard and was held as part of the Destinationart open weekend held in late November. Delicata Wines are the official sponsors of this event which is also promoted through a you-tube promo produced by museum staff and a poster for each session produced by an up-and-coming photographer, designer or artist.

Night of the Museums: 19 May: The NMFA was one of four Valletta museums teaming up for this event which was jointly produced and coordinated. The main event was a treasure hunt happening in all four HM museums. Actors in period costume and *Commedia dell'Arte* characters (Arlecchino and Pulcinella) animated the evening at the NMFA. A you-tube promo was also produced for the event by NMFA curatorial staff.

Conservation Week: 25 – 29 May: This week long event included presentations by five HM conservators explaining works carried out on the artefact displayed in the museum. Lectures were held during mid-day breaks so as to attract audiences from within Valletta and its vicinities.

Life Class at the Museum by Artist Madeleine Gera: 20 and 27 June: Two life class sessions for practising artists and art enthusiasts were held at the museum. Classes were held by artist Madeleine Gera and a live model was also available. This is a first for Malta and rarely promoted abroad.

Notte Bianca: The museum opted to promote a publicity campaign during Notte Bianca on 3 October. Some 1,200 personalised letters produced in-house were distributed to visitors on the night. Volunteers were also available to help out during both preparatory phases and on the night.

The Vincenzo Bonello Commemorative Events: 28 - 30 October: In October the museum celebrated the 40th anniversary from the passing away of Vincenzo Bonello, the first curator of the Fine Arts collection. Events included two lectures by HM's conservators on restoration and conservation works carried out on works of art acquired by Vincenzo Bonello, and a commemorative lecture by Stephanie Vella MA, an art historian who has studied Vincenzo Bonello's contribution to the local art scene. Following this final lecture Filippo Paladini's *Mystic Marriage of St Catherine of Alexandria* was officially presented to the NMFA by the heirs of Vincenzo Bonello. It successfully restored in time for these commemorative events by conservator Anthony Spagnol. The anniversary was heavily promoted in the local press and through a you-tube promo starting from late August. The painting, which was immediately hung in the Renaissance section, has also featured on the front cover of *Treasures of Malta*.

Official Inauguration of the HSBC Vincenzo Bonello Library: The library was officially inaugurated in November by Alan Richards CEO HSBC Malta

Malta Children's Festival and World Children's Day: 22 November: A workshop was held at the museum every Saturday throughout November as part of this festival. On Sunday, the Senior Curator gave a special tour of the collection and a treasure hunt was available from the reception desk to whoever visited the museum.

Destinationart: 28 - 29 November: This was the museum's major event for 2009 planned over two days – an open weekend and book fair sponsored by Midsea Books. The event included story-telling sessions, a lecture on printing techniques by UOM lecturer Lino Borg and presentation of the book *Baroque Painting in Malta* by its author Keith Sciberras. Animators were also present at particular times as was the designer of the set of five bookmarks for children lately launched by the museum. Books were on sale and a selection of print-outs from particular books featuring

works from the permanent display of the museum were displayed in front of the painting featured in the publication. A musical concert was held towards the end of the open weekend and a special Art & Wine @ South street event held on Saturday. The event attracted over 700 guests and was widely publicised.

During 2009 the NMFA has seen a greater and planned focus on media coverage for all events happening at the museum. The following has been initiated and concluded during period under review. The curatorial team at the NMFA has developed a facebook application entitled *Arti mill-Mużew tal-Arti*. This application provides some 50 details of works of art from the collection that can be exchanged as gifts. Some 4,000 images of works of art have been exchanged to date. The latest news and forthcoming events at the museum are also heavily publicised on this social network.

A set of ten contributions marking a more popular approach to works of art in the museum has been published between March and December in the monthly magazine *Mużajk*. Works from the collection were discussed according to themes carefully chosen to work with the season or the topic of the month. A set of five bookmarks featuring caricatures of the artists Sciortino, Preti, Turner, Favray and Cafà were designed by young artist Mark Scicluna and sponsored by Midsea books. Between March and June the curators of the NMFA also actively participated in the weekly NET TV programme *La Qomna, Qomna*. This was a good opportunity to present the museum and its events to a wider audience.

Other general improvements to the display at the museum included the replacement of most captions relating to works of art on permanent display. Two plaques (one for the Albert Ganado Map Room and the other for the HSBC Vincenzo Bonello Art Library) have also been designed and produced. An acrylic stand in imitation of the original proposed in a recent publication was produced for Melchiorre Cafà's Charity of St Thomas of Villanova. Additional picture hanging rods were purchased; this will ensure that more works of art are put on permanent display throughout 2010. The curators also provided assistance in the development of an exhibitions schedule for the new exhibition venue at San Anton inaugurated by the President of the Republic in July.

Tal-Pilar Chapel hosted a cultural tour organised by the MCCA on 8 February and the annual Mass by the Hispano-Maltese Association on 27 June. The chapel was also open free of charge to the general public as part of the Notte Bianca activities, during which it hosted an exhibition of works of Karlu Darmanin and talks on papier-mâché by Renzo Gauci and Victor Caruana.

Ethnography Department

During 2009 the Ethnography Department has presented, organised and participated in the following initiatives.

Thematic Learning Programme – The intangible Heritage of Holy Week and Easter in Malta: 11-18 March and 8 April: Seven thematic activity days for children. Besides viewing *Passio et Resurrectio* – the permanent exhibition illustrating the major concepts on the subject, participants followed educational hands-on programme

including games related to the period, the cooking of local *kwareżimal* culinary delight and the making of themed craft sessions. The 8 April session was reserved for HM members' kids.

Sitio: 3 – 26 April: A temporary display of Good Friday and Easter statuettes from Mario Coleiro's private collection complimenting the seasonal outreach events and thematic learning programmes.

Thematic drawing activity for children: On 15 April students in their Easter holidays had the opportunity to enjoy a different experience. Following a complimentary tour of the palace, participants had the opportunity to express their creativity through an on-site drawing session

(AG)²: 25 April – 8 May: the Inquisitor's Palace hosted an exhibition of silver filigree works along its main staircase. This exhibition was a joint venture between Kevin Attard who executed the filigree work to the designs of artist Jason Lu.

Popular Sacred Statuettes: 26 April – 9 October: highlighting the ethnographic relevance of parochial feasts in summer, a temporary exhibition of popular sacred statuettes from Mario Coleiro's private collection was set at the temporary display area within the Inquisitor's Palace.

Experiencing Hospitaller Vittoriosa: The first of the 2009 programme of family based evening thematic events offering an alternative experience in our museums. On 26 June, in its intent to further valorise the Inquisitor Palace's relevance as one of the major early administrative buildings pertaining to the Order of St John in Malta, the department organised an evening tour of the Collacchio in Vittoriosa followed by a visit to the Inquisitor's Palace. The event, which was fully booked, was complemented with wine tasting and traditional food.

Skola Sajf: Following last year's highly successful initiative, during the months of July and August, the Ethnography and Education Departments, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Culture, held a series of seventeen activity-days for children participating in the *Skola Sajf* initiative at the Inquisitor's Palace. 414 students were encouraged to follow a specialized learning programme including a brief introduction on the Inquisitor's Palace and the Inquisition in Malta, a sharing session focusing on creativity and innovation throughout history, and a hands-on session centred around the cooking of traditional *sfineg* culinary delight.

Extended Opening Hours on Vittoriosa Parochial Feast Days: Visitors to Vittoriosa on 10 and 30 August were offered the possibility to visit the Inquisitor's Palace (and the MMM) till 23:00hrs at a reduced price.

Maltese Balconies: 21 August – 12 October: An exhibition of scale models of pre-1950 Maltese balconies. Through this temporary display set up for Birgufest, HM gave the opportunity to students from the MCAST Art and Design Institute to exhibit the deliverables of a project within their coursework.

Experiencing Besieged Vittoriosa: On 4 September the department organised another thematic evening tour of the surviving landmarks that played an active role in the epic

siege in 1565, followed by a lavish BBQ in the courtyard of the palace. The event was fully booked.

Birgufest: Between the 9 and 11 October, HM took part in the Birgufest including the Birgu by Candlelight event, organised by the Vittoriosa Local Council. The opening hours of the Inquisitor's Palace were extended accordingly. A total of almost 6000 visitors were registered for both days, including 2500 students. In collaboration with the Local Council, the Auberge de France was also opened for a display in the internal courtyard and surrounding rooms recalling Hospitaller Vittoriosa by Marco Agius.

'Prezz Speċjali għal Gruppi Lokali' Scheme: In view of attracting an increasing number of local visitors, groups from Local Councils, parishes and NGOs are being offered a special package of €5 per person which includes admission to the Inquisitor's Palace, guided tour, coffee break and an exclusive souvenir. Promotion through A5 flyers was launched during Birgufest 2009.

Via Matris Collection: After securing this generous donation of seven miniature statuary groups representing the seven Sorrows of the Virgin a permanent exhibition was set up as from 9 October within the Piano Nobile. The Via Matris collection is the work and donation of Christopher Ebejer, an increasingly leading exponent in local monumental art.

Experiencing l-Ghid tal-Erwieh: An event focusing on popular traditions associated with time-honoured beliefs in souls and the afterlife, and insights of the supernatural as perceived by the Roman Inquisition in Malta. The event, which was held on 6 November, featured a short presentation on 'The Inquisition and Supernatural' and a thematic supper and sleep-over inside the prison complex. It was fully booked.

Festival ta' Logħob Tradizzjonali Malti fil-Birgu: So as to strengthen its role as the National Museum of Ethnography, the department embarked upon the organisation of an annual event that will highlight aspects of the intangible heritage pertaining to childhood and traditional games. Among other attractions the festival held on 15 November offered an afternoon of twelve traditional games within and in the immediate environs of the Inquisitor's Palace. The event, which was very well attended, was held in collaboration with the Birgu Local Council and was fully sponsored by the Parliamentary Secretariat for Public Dialogue and Information. Visitors on the day were given a souvenir publication containing historical context to the games performed. Besides offering the possibility of visiting during extended opening hours at a reduced price, the general public was also encouraged to further enhance the national collection with donations of pre-1980 toys. This was a highly successful initiative which has been marked for a come-back next November.

Altar and Church Furniture Models: 9 October – 30 November: As part of the Festival ta' Logħob Tradizzjonali Malti fil-Birgu, a temporary exhibition of altar and church furniture models from Mario Coleiro's private collection was set up at the Inquisitor's Palace. For many generations such models served as toys especially to boys and adults who enjoyed setting up their church models in line with the salient festivities of the liturgical calendar.

Thematic Learning Programme – The Intangible Heritage Christmas in Malta: For the second year running four thematic learning days were with the collaboration of the

Educational Unit held for 145 children on 9, 11, 15 and 16 December. Besides viewing the permanent exhibition illustrating the major concepts on the subject, participants had the opportunity to follow an educational hands-on programme which included the cooking of the *Pudina tal-Hobż* Christmas culinary delight and the making of a craft session focusing on the Maltese Crib.

Christmas Eve: The Inquisitor's Palace was made accessible to the general public on Christmas Eve between 10.00 and 15.00hrs. Admission was reduced to €2 per person as in similar occasions.

As from last year one of the major concerns was increasing accessible areas within the museum, to this effect the end of 2009 registered a 30% improvement compared to the experience in previous years. The Kitchen Area at ground floor level has been cleared, equipped with a selection of relevant artefacts from the reserve collection and opened to the general public. An adjacent room formerly used for storage purposes was also cleared and refurbished to host thematic hands-on educational sessions and related events..

An outline plan was prepared for the upgrade of the weaving process and costumes display at the **Folklore Museum**. The display in the 'Pottery Room' was revised, following the acquisition of earthenware items belonging to Karmnu Sacco (1877-1965) in December 2008..

Gozo Area Office

The Gozo Area Office organized the *Skola Sajf* programme during July and August and attended by a total of 206 students (154 at the Citadel sites and 52 at Ta' Kola Windmill). Hands-on activities at the Gozo Museum of Archaeology included pottery making which proved a great success and was thoroughly enjoyed by all students participating in this exercise. Activities at the Folklore Museum included the playing of the traditional game '*passju*' and a search game in the museum. The activity at the Old Prison consisted of a drama recital relating to imprisonment during the Knights' Period, while traditional games were played at Ta' Kola Windmill and the Gozo Nature Museum. All students were given a certificate of participation at the end of the activity.

'Batik, Mosaic, Photography and Paintings from the National Collection' ran from December 2008 till January at the Gozo Area Exhibition Hall, the Citadel. This exhibition consisted of a small collection of works recently acquired by the NMFA and included a batik work by internationally-renowned batik artist Sarkasi Said.

HM participated in the exhibition **'St Paul: Faith and Iconography'** held at the Ministry for Gozo between 24 January and 14 February, through the short loan of the medieval sculpture of two male saints from the Gozo Museum of Archaeology

The 'Victor Pasmore Commemorative Exhibition' was held at the Gozo Area Exhibition Hall, the Citadel, between 2 March and 17 April. A public lecture on the

artist Victor Pasmore was delivered by Ms Katya Borg at the Ministry for Gozo on 27 March.

‘Żurna l-Hadd’ was an initiative held at the Gozo Museum of Archaeology on 22 March, and meant to encourage the public, especially local families, to visit museums at a reduced admission fee.

The Gozo Museum of Archaeology and the Old Prison were opened free of charge after hours until midnight during *‘Lejlet Lapsi – Notte Gozitana’* (22-24 May) and attracted a total of 1717 visitors after hours.

On the occasion of the Notte Gozitana, the Gozo Area Office set up a small exhibition featuring a *‘Bronze Statuette discovered in Gozo in 1771’*, and which had been kept in the reserve collection for a number of years. The exhibition was held at the Gozo Area Exhibition Hall, the Citadel, between 22 May and 10 July. Also featuring in the exhibition was the Byzantine lead seal forming part of the permanent display at the Gozo Museum of Archaeology, and a number of 18th and 19th century publications which make reference to the statuette.

A food-tasting function organized by a local travel agency was hosted at Ta’ Kola Windmill on 10 January. An open day was organized at the Windmill on 7 June as part of the *‘4 for Free’* event organised by HM. Organized guided tours were held and visitors were offered local delicacies as a compliment. On 28 June the Windmill also hosted an activity organized by a local restaurateur for owners of vintage cars, and a wine tasting activity was held onsite.

Modern, Maritime and Military History Department

The third edition of ‘Life at Sea’ on 25 January was a big success. The re-enactors engaged for the day brought the museum to life by firing of mortar cannon and muskets, military drills, a market stall with food and drinks, and conservation of a boat from the collection. The 1,400 visitors enjoyed the event to the extent that most just lingered on to participate and view the museum now and again throughout the day. The event was accompanied by a documentary specifically produced and aired by Bondi Plus.

On 23 February the official presentation of the Mercator Workbook was held at the National Library. On 25 April the museum hosted the Glorious memorial service held by the British and Maltese members of the Glarac Association. On 12 May a group of Moroccan naval cadets visited the museum to commemorate the historical negotiations between Grand Master De Rohan and the Moroccan Emperor Mahmet Bin Abdullah to free by purchase Muslim slaves held in Malta.

On 28 August the *Pranzo del Corso* was organized at the museum for representatives of the Dental and Medical professions of Malta. The museum extended its opening hours at a reduced admission fee on the occasions of the feats of St Lawrence and St Dominic in August, and for the annual *Birgufest* activities in October. The Annual

General Meeting of the Friends of the MMM was held at the museum on 29 November. On 6 November the NATO Admiral Gian Paolo de Paula visited the MMM and expressed his appreciation about the museum. A special guided tour was held on 7 December for Lieutenant Cadets of the AFM.

One new display was inaugurated during the year under review, namely the Carrack section in the Order of St John Hall. The display was inaugurated on 27 October with the collaboration of the Austrian Embassy in Malta. Ever since the opening of the museum, the need to include this section was felt but no key items were available for display. An early 19th century copy of the Carrack Santa Maria previously at Dragonara Palace was transferred to the MMM earlier in the year and now forms the corner stone of the section which includes information panels and copies of the Carrack *Sant' Anna* from the Vienna *Kunsthistoriches* Museum cartoon and tapestry sponsored by Prof. Robert Dauber SMOM.

Palace Armoury

The Palace Armoury participated in the Night of the Museums activities on 23 May, was open free of charge as part of the *Notte Bianca* activities on 3 October, and in the World's Children's Day activities held on 22 November throughout Valletta. Activities included storytelling and drawing sessions. The annual presentation of the works carried out through the sponsorship of Gasan and Mamo was held on 17 November.

National War Museum

The NWM participated in the treasure hunt organised on the occasion of *Night of the Museums* on 23 May, and was open free of charge for the general public as part of the *Notte Bianca* activities on 3 October and attracted a large number of people.

National Museum of Archaeology Department

The NMA hosted a number of exhibitions and events during the period under review. On 27 February the French Embassy in Malta organised the concert 'D'une seule voix' at the Salon. On 4 March the NMA was officially presented with a replica of one of the Haġar Qim Statues by Limestone Heritage. This replica was placed outside the showcase which contains the original statue. It is the first step towards having the artefacts made more accessible to the general public and in this case to the visually impaired. The inauguration of the exhibition 'Reflections on Pauline theology' organised in collaboration with the OPM took place on 17 March. For this occasion

paintings by John Martin Borg were complemented with archaeological artefacts dating to the Roman and Palaeochristian periods. The Salon also hosted 'The City Gate Project' exhibition by Renzo Piano from 28 June to 3 October.

The NMA took part in the Valletta week from 23 to 29 March organised by the Local Council whereby Valletta residents could, upon presentation of their ID card, enter the museum at half price. The press conference on the Fototeka together with the official sponsor Alf Mizzi Foundation took place on 26 March, while the ICOM Malta annual conference on 'Collections at Risk: Safeguarding our Cultural Heritage' was held from 15 to 17 May in the Salon. The NMA also took part in the Night of the Museums on 23 May, when tours and other activities, including a treasure hunt, were organised for the occasion. A children's play was held at the foyer of the museum on 25 September as part of the Researcher's Night activities. The museum also featured in the activities organised for the *Notte Bianca* on 3 October, when it was open free of charge, and for World Children's Day on 22 November, with memory and mystery object games. Special guided tours were held at the museum as part of the Festival *Mediterranea* on 4 November. On 27 November Dr Qin Dashu, Professor of Archaeology at the School of Archaeology and Museology, Peking University in Beijing delivered a lecture on 'The Art of Stone and Fire: Ancient Chinese Porcelain' at the Salon. On 9 October the ICOMOS Malta conference reception was held in the lobby of the museum, which also hosted two private functions in October and December.

Natural History Department

Events and Improvements to Displays

The museum hosted two temporary exhibitions in the front courtyard. On 7 June the exhibition 'Lace in the Street' by *Klabb Bizzilla Maltija* was set up as part of the '4 for Free' event organised by HM, while from 21 August to 7 September the courtyard hosted the exhibition 'Heritage at Risk' organised by the students of the ICMCH. On 18-19 April the museum extended its opening hours at a reduced admission fee for 'Medieval Mdina', an event organised by the MTA and the Mdina Local Council. On 19 April the museum also hosted the participants to an evening tour to Rabat organised by HM. The museum once again extended its opening hours at a reduced admission fee on 5-6 December for *B'impenn 'il quddiem, ġrajjetek magħrufa*, an event organised by the Mdina Local Council. An education event was also held on 11 and 13 September at the museum in collaboration with the Education Department. Games and crafts related to nature were the theme of the day.

BirdLife Malta and the Malta Entomological Society continued to make use of the premises for their meetings and lectures. Activities organised at the NMNH included two bird ringers meetings, three BirdLife research committee meetings, and two council meetings of the Entomological Society.

The Mammals Hall is in its final stages of completion, and will feature various groups of mammals (Carnivores, Primates and Marsupials). A small showcase highlights Maltese mammals. The entomological display was partly transferred to the lower corridors. Works are also underway to upgrade the Osteological (Skeletons) Hall. A new display will eventually replace the three small current display cases. Ten display cases were transferred from the Inquisitor's Palace to the NMNH to be used for temporary exhibitions. Two large plasma screens were installed at the NMNH in December. One highlighting the history of the NMNH was placed on the ground floor introductory display, and a second, screening sites of ecological importance was placed in the Islands Hall on the upper floor. An interactive programme highlighting the importance of Buskett. The system still has to be installed. A similar programme was also prepared for the new Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra visitor centre.

During the course of this year the NMNH had good media coverage. The Museum featured frequently on local television stations and press articles specifically on the EU Garnija LIFE Project. A series of information boxes (*Mir-Rokna tal-Mużew Nazzjonali tal-Istorja Naturali*) are also being featured in the Sunday newspaper *Illum*, and the article 'The Importance of Marine Protected Areas in the Maltese Islands' featured in the September issue of the Air Malta *Inflight* magazine.

Ghar Dalam and Museum

A large television screen and DVD were purchased through the HSBC Hotel Funds (Xara Palace, Mdina) and will be placed in the didactic hall, showing highlights of the history of Ghar Dalam. The site hosted a cultural tour organised by the MCCA on 15 March.

Phoenician, Roman and Medieval Sites Department

The **Domus Romana** and **SPC** were visited by a cultural tour organised by the MCCA on 18 January. The Domus also featured as part of an evening tour to Rabat organised by HM on 19 April. **San Pawl Milqi** was open to the public for the yearly mass and tour on 10 February. This was followed by a day-long open day in mid-March, which attracted more than 500 visitors. On 17 October the site also formed part of a heritage trail on olive oil through the ages. **Ta' Mintna Catacombs** were opened to the general public in collaboration with the Mqabba Local Council on 2 October on the occasion of *L-Imqabba araha tinbidel mal-Medda taż-Żmien*. The event was a great success..

Prehistoric Sites Department

Guided tours were held at Haġar Qim and Mnajdra on the occasion of the summer solstice on 20 and 21 June, while guided tours were held at Mnajdra for the equinox and winter solstice respectively, on 22 September and 20-22 December. On 14-16 October Haġar Qim and Mnajdra Temples hosted students from Qrendi primary school and the department took part in a discussion regarding the megalithic sites, in collaboration with Qrendi Local Council, for the event *Mill-Preistorja sal-Era Digitali* organised by the Local Council.

On 15 March Tarxien Temples hosted a cultural tour organised by the MCCA, while on 26 September the opening hours of Tarxien Temples were extended at a reduced admission fee on the occasion of *Epoka: Lejl ta' Kultura, Wirjiet u Spettaklu f'Hal Tarxien*, in collaboration with Tarxien Local Council. Guided tours were conducted at Ta' Haġrat and Skorba Temples on 6 November as part of the *Festival Mediterranea*. Guided tours were also held at Ta' Haġrat for 'Winter tastes', an event to promote different typical food, cooked mostly in winter organised by the Mġarr Local Council on 7 December.

Research, Conservation and Collections

Arts and Palaces Department

There has long been felt the need to create a functional policy covering works of art from the National Collection currently located in Ministries and Government Departments. Following a meeting at the Ministry for Education and Culture a draft policy and related procedures were formulated and eventually presented for discussion in the curatorial sub-committee. The final document has been presented to the Board of Directors and passed on to the Ministry for final endorsement. It is envisaged that this policy will come in force throughout 2010 but the concepts that lie behind this procedure are already being implemented by HM when requests for loans are forwarded to the agency.

A new reserve collection remains a necessary priority. Reports and related paperwork for the purpose of an application to the Good Causes Fund were prepared and presented to the fund for the purpose of sponsorship. Sponsorship was not granted but it is nonetheless envisaged that works on this long-overdue necessity will commence in 2010.

The Albert Ganado Map Collection was completely reorganised, including cross-checking with records and proper storage. A lot of preparatory work was carried out concerning the selection, collection and necessary conservation of Caruana Dingli works to feature in the forthcoming *Fondazzjoni Patrimonju Malti* exhibition scheduled for Easter 2010. Mattia Preti's *St John the Baptist wearing the Habit of the Order of St John* has been lent to an exhibition entitled 'From the Templars to Napoleon: Knights across European history and art, 13th – 19th century' held at La Venaria Reale, Torino, Italy from 28 November to 11 April 2010. Two paintings from the permanent display of the museum have featured in the Maltapost Christmas stamps edition.

The most important acquisition for the NMFA permanent display has been Filippo Paladini's *Mystic Marriage of St Catherine of Alexandria*, presented by the heirs of Vincenzo Bonello, the first curator of the Fine Arts Section, in his memory, on the fortieth anniversary from his death.

SMARTMUSEUM Project

The scope of this EU funded project is to develop an IT-based interface that can be utilised by visitors throughout their visit to the museum. The digitisation of the first 500 items from the national collection was immediately initiated following the employment of a researcher in February. This first phase also included essential

training in working with Getty standards, fine-tuning and additional developments to the database provided by IT partners, digitisation, photography and other related requirements. This first phase was completed by end June. An additional two summer students, three first-year Conservation Institute students, and one Leonardo foreign student were also directly involved in the second phase of this project that increased the number of artefacts to some 1,200. The cataloguing process is ongoing but the database is now accessible.

The necessary infrastructure for this project to operate at the NMFA was also put in place. Wi-Fi was installed in August following tests to establish the best location for each unit. RFID tags were also registered and tagged for each item in the collection. So far the 18th century Italian Halls and the Turner Malta Watercolour hall have been provided with RFID tags. The project was launched in October, including a demo at the NMFA. It subsequently received numerous positive press reviews in local papers.

Publications

The following publications were either completed or have been initiated during this year. A first draft for an Essential Guidebook of the NMFA featuring 40-50 key works from the national collection on exhibition at the museum has been prepared. It is envisaged that the design and layout of this much needed publication will commence in early 2010. The museum has not had a guide book of sorts since the late 1990s. A guide book for distribution during *Notte Bianca*, entitled *Patrimonju f'Kastilja* was specifically commissioned to the museum by the OPM. The 36-page catalogue featured a selection of works on display at the OPM.

Palaces

During the period under review the following tasks and projects were initiated or concluded. The portrait of Grand Master Pinto by Pierre Bernard and its elaborate frame was fully restored and taken back to the Palace. There are currently two other portraits, namely a portrait of Grandmaster de Rohan and Grandmaster Vilhena, that are in an advanced state of completion. It is envisaged that these latter works will be put back in place during 2010. Technical works on the existing decorative scheme of the Grandmaster's Palace corridors were completed in May. A thorough inventory check of all three Presidential palaces was held between March and July to coincide with the end of the Fenech Adami Presidency and the beginning of the subsequent Abela Presidency. A considerable number of works of art were found to be still not inventoried and were subsequently registered on the apposite inventory cards. In October the statue of Our Lady of Pilar sited at the Church of Our Lady of Pilar in Valletta was loaned to the Office of the President on the occasion of the feast of Our Lady of Pilar celebrated at San Anton Palace.

Collections Management & Libraries Department

Digitisation of Collections

The re-evaluation of collections management issues, together with the eventual procurement of a Collections Management System were the main tasks that were tackled through this year. The on-going research on terminologies, glossaries and ontologies, concerning all the spectrum of HM collections were intensified. This was especially implemented in the Smart Museum project, where HM Librarian's expertise on cataloguing was extensively tapped by our ICT department and more so by the sub-contractors of the project to develop a cataloguing module for the project. Other projects, such as Sterna, Athens, Carare were also scenarios of participation and contribution from the Collections Management office.

The effort to bring HM's collections catalogues in line with European models took on an important tack when the Collections Management office and the ICT & Documentation Departments collaborated to submit an ERDF project bid of €4.3 million. The project is called 'HeritageSTOR: Online Accessibility to Malta's National Collections'. This bid involved extensive preparation and various meetings with stakeholders, ministry, PPCD and auditors were held in an effort to have a strong and solid bid. Up to this date, there have been encouraging signs from the Project Selection Committee, especially after clarifications were asked and answered from our end. The work continued even after the bid itself with the submittal of a feasibility study and the on-going preparation of tender documents.

The drafting and compilation HM manual for Collections Management and Curatorial Policies and Operations continued with the necessary updates and research into the different areas of Collections Management issues and standards. The manual is targeted to be presented in draft form to stakeholders for review during 2010.

Research was carried out on internationally endorsed standards used in cataloguing. These standards are necessary for the cataloguing of three types of objects – hence three major disciplines: publications (library); documentary sources (archives) and realia (museums). Standards also vary according to the purpose of intended use, such as cataloguing standards, thesauri and classifications.

The above mentioned research was used as a test-bed through Smart Museum as already mentioned earlier on. Training was also provided to a Heritage Researcher in the use of the required standards and classificatory schemes. This project though finite in terms of life-span and scope, provided the necessary learning curve which will enable this department to embark on HeritageSTOR.

The same can be applied to Sterna. This project will make a sample of HM's collections – the Ornithology collection – totally accessible through Europeana. The department was involved in understanding the cataloguing system adopted by this project and mapping the various information elements to an international standard.

The department attended the Athena Third Plenary Meeting. Through this project HM will be providing digital access to part of its collections through *Europeana*.

Another initiative related to *Europeana* was an active participation in a CIP bid spearheaded by the Ministry of Education which invited key cultural heritage operators within its portfolio to discuss and participate in digitisation efforts within the cultural heritage sector. HM was one of these invitees as a major role player and was represented by the Collections Management and ICT Departments. Even though the bid was not granted, the ministry opened up communication channels in issues of cataloguing, automation and digitisation while keeping the work on the backburner in an attempt to resubmit the bid next year

Policy Documents regarding Research in the Archaeology collections, the Archaeology Library and the Central Repository were issued.

Other

The Collections Manager is the Maltese representative in the European Commission initiative 'Mobility of Collections'. As part of this project, Malta forms part of the two working groups: Long Term Loans and Mobility of Professionals. Active participation in these working groups entailed generating calls to European museums and collecting and compiling their feedback regarding the Long Term Loans, while in the Mobility of Professionals entailed in participating in the task group for the production of the final report. The department liaised with the Ministry and the Maltese EU Commission Representative office (Brussels) regarding matters of questionnaires' compilation for the other working groups. This project is on-going.

The department worked on the Wood CPR (ESF funding) project through the library services at Bighi. The work on this project is mainly divided in two: the purchase of books and information e-resources intended to sustain and complement studies in restoration of wood and the creation of a Virtual Learning Environment, through which provision of information and certain administrative work could be carried out and communicated by the ICMCH community. The work involved in assisting in the writing of tenders and identifying titles within the subject area. Work will now proceed with actual acquisition of such published information and eventual cataloguing.

Despite the intensive participation on projects library cataloguing continued and by the end of the year publications registered on the Library Management System reached 10,000.

Two new services were introduced in the HM Libraries network: (1) membership for past ICHMC students (against an annual fee) which will enable them to borrow out books and library material in the same manners as when they were full students. This will supplement the other benefits of membership (as specified in HM website – HM Library Membership scheme) and (2) Document Delivery Service: enables our library to deliver any publication/library material on its shelves to anybody who requests it (and cannot physically come to collect it) against a fee.

A study was conducted in the use of MARC21 (library cataloguing language) in the use of authority files. By the end of this calendar year, the number of authority files registered in the system will reach 4000 entries comprising, Subjects, Persons, Corporate Bodies and Geographical Names.

The department is assisting the conservators who are working on HM's *Fototeka*. The range of assistance includes in providing accession numbers and guidance on physical identification of the glass plates. Another area of assistance includes preparation of possible methodologies to be employed in the cataloguing of the glass plates.

The department currently forms part of the Freedom of Information Act internal implementation task force. A tender for the purchase and installation of industrial shelving for the Mrieħel warehouse was compiled and published. Adjudication and award are scheduled for the first weeks of 2010.

Digitisation Department

The Digitisation Department (formerly known as Documentation) has joined the ICT Department in the beginning of the year. Work concluded during the year under review includes the following: the collections at the NMFA have been digitized (excluding part of the reserve collection) and catalogued in a digital library system. Graffiti at SPC have been digitised in view of the ERDF project. The art collections at the Grand Master's Palace the Jesuit Church and Tal-Pilar church have also been digitised. The MMM collection is also currently being digitised in view of the new digital library that is being developed for the maritime and military collections.

Department staff has been trained for video footage shooting and editing. Since then, the department has produced footage on almost all museums and sites and also on events and exhibitions. This has allowed the ICT Department to start developing audio visual material for dissemination at museums and sites using the latest technologies in digital signage and audio visual LCD screens.

Turnstiles were installed at the Grand Master's Palace, the Inquisitor's Palace, Ggantija Temples, the NMA and the NWM. Audiovisuals were developed for the NWM and others are currently being developed for a number of sites, including the new Haġar Qim visitor centre.

EU projects

The SMARTMUSEUM system was launched and presented in a paper at SEMAPRO conference in October. A sustainable version of SMARTMUSEUM PDA guides for all HM museums and sites was also presented. The SMARTMUSEUM collection management system is currently being tailored for other museums so to create a digital library of all HM collections. This exercise was done in liaison with the

Collections Manager and Librarian. A researcher was employed through SMARTMUSEUM funds and has researched and catalogued the collection.

STERNA – The development of user interface and search facility for Natural History specimens in the HM website is being tested. This project will ultimately lead to the development of a digital library of natural history specimens.

Ethnography Department

Two important collections were secured by the Inquisitor's Palace, namely seven dioramas portraying local Christmas traditions and an exquisite crib by Austin Galea, and a set of seven clay sculptures by Chris Ebejer representing the Via Matris. Both collections were placed on permanent display in the respective thematic sections.

The early Twentieth century scale model of Birgu and Fort St Angelo by Ruzar Calleja, which is to feature prominently in the projected introductory display on the Inquisitor's Palace, was reassembled and documented thoroughly.

As far as the reserve collection is concerned, more effort was invested in last year's comprehensive stocktaking of ethnography-related artefacts and items currently on display or stored under HM's custody. Further progress was registered in the collection's reorganisation project. Following the delivery of new galvanised steel shelving in mid-January, a substantial part of the reserve collection was sorted out and stored in an orderly fashion. In the process, all bulky items within the same collection are being treated for insect infestations and reassembled at the Auberge de France, thereby to be made accessible to the general public on special occasions. A consignment of shelving was also procured for the costumes store. This will in turn be complimented by extra shelving in view of the new customised mounts that are being manufactured as part of the ongoing documentation and conservation project on the Ethnography costume collection.

In line with the networking established last year, this year has also seen the Inquisitor's Palace strengthen further its ties with Gozo Ethnography-themed museums. A number of on-site meetings were held at the Citadel Folklore Museum and Ta' Kola Windmill to contribute towards the improvement of interpretation provision.

Integrated Pest Management status sheets were compiled for all Gozo sites including the reserve collection by the Gozo Area Office. Between June and October a pest control exercise was carried out in the 'Winery Room' at the Folklore Museum. A similar pest control exercise in the 'Carpentry Room' commenced in June. Wooden stocks were transferred to Bighi for conservation treatment in October, and will eventually be placed on permanent display at the Old Prison.

EU & International Projects Department

This department started to function in January. Its main responsibilities are: Assisting in the implementation of projects approved prior to its setting up; Look for and implement new proposals for EU funding; Assist in the preparation of new proposals for EU funding; Keep contact with all agencies in Malta responsible for EU funding; Keep international contacts on behalf of HM; Process payments for EU projects; Process applications for internships within HM.

The department has maintained its programme of activities as listed above, handling various applications that have been made for EU funding, including major projects under ERDF and EARDF funding but also minor projects under Interreg and other programmes. The department has also been active in providing funding for training purposes within HM and abroad. It has been involved in the following projects, details of which can be found above.

ERA-Net – A European network on Research Programmes applied to the Protection of Tangible Cultural Heritage.

STERNA – a best practice network project supporting the objectives of the European Digital Library by pioneering the integration of the semantically enriched digital resources in the field of natural sciences and history.

SMART Museum - The overall objective of the project is to develop a platform for innovative services enhancing on-site personalised access to digital cultural heritage. Using on-site knowledge databases and global digital libraries, the platform makes possible the creation of innovative multilingual services for increasing interaction between visitors and cultural heritage objects in a future smart museum environment.

TECCN – Grundtvig – This partnership aims to learn how the territory is scattered with places where its cultural resources are represented and communicated to citizens and visitors. It aims to underline how the territorial patrimony might be a common tool for the lifelong learning process and the exchange of people and culture.

CARARE DoW - CARARE is a proposal to establish a Best Practice Network to improve the interoperability of digital content relating to Europe's Heritage sites with *Europeana* and possibly other services. The network will focus on rich media content for heritage sites, including monuments, historic buildings and townscapes that are recognised as being of world heritage, European heritage or national heritage importance.

The EU and International Projects Department also processed a large number of internships requests and placed various interns throughout the administrative and curatorial offices of HM. It has given advice to HM leadership with regards to international contacts, mainly as a follow up of requests from the Ministry, and has successfully organised a major conference for ICOMOS.

Modern, Maritime and Military History Department

Malta Maritime Museum

Restoration work on the 18th century frigate model continued. Hopefully this project will come to a conclusion next year and the model finally displayed. What made the restoration complex is the fact that two previous restoration attempts on the said model did more harm than good. Last year the identification of small original lead rectangular fixtures necessitated a re-thinking of the date frame of the model in the 18th century, and thus some replica pieces already worked had to be either modified or replaced.

Twenty six miniature models from the McGarel Groves donation were restored. All models are die cast and to one scale. The donation, consisting of hundreds of such Royal Navy and Merchant models, was brought over by the donor from England over a couple of years, several sustaining damage in transit. The research and model making of the Swift class Patrol Boat continued.

The vessel 'Temptation' was taken to Malta Shipyards for inspection. Since considerable funds are required restore the historic vessel, it was decided to shore her and put her in storage at the Boiler Workshop pending funds and eventual restoration.

As from mid-January, the museum was involved in salvaging for the National Collection numerous items, mainly ship plans from Malta Shipyards. Around 50,000 ship and establishment plans dating from at least 1870 have been thus acquired. Other salvaged items from the 'yard include furniture such as drawing tables, Admiralty-period desks, chairs and odd pieces of furniture and machinery. As a consequence of the large size of certain items, the former Boiler Workshop at the Shipyards was made available to store the larger items which include Victorian 1870s steam machinery. The logistical operations required for such movements drained the meagre resources of the museum.

On 28 October Mr Edward Parslow, a direct descendant of Sir Alexander Ball visited the museum and presented his own research re his family, mainly on Sir Alexander Ball.

Commencing from this year and with a visit on 16 December, A Level students from the Gian Frangisk Abela Junior College will be lectured at the MMM after a tour of the museum as part of their studies. On 9 April *The Sunday Circle* featured the porcelain/crockery collection at the MMM. On 22 April a news coverage on the mobile boiler was aired on the *Times on-line*.

On 16-18 April the museum organised and hosted a conference about Maritime Ethnography, presenting two papers entitled 'Maritime Confraternities' and 'Comparing and Contrasting Two Travelogues of the 18th century'. In April a lecture was delivered to the Dental Association of Malta titled 'A taste of the Grand Tour' in aid of Puttinu Cares, and a lecture to Mediterranean Underwater Archaeological

Superintendents entitled 'Exhibiting objects from the deep at the MMM'. On 19-20 May the museum presented a paper titled 'The Mercator Project' during the European Maritime Day held in Rome. On 2-4 September the University of Exeter and the UOM organised a three day workshop regarding Maritime Aspects of Slavery. The museum contributed with a paper 'Food on the Galleys in 1590'. The curator on his own initiative visited Portsmouth Historic Dockyards in late October and had a meeting with the 'Mary Rose' curator and discussed mutual matters and scope of further cooperation.

Palace Armoury

The Curator of the Palace Armoury reached retirement age in March. During his tenure of office for the past nineteen years, the importance of the collection was acknowledged worldwide, and is now internationally considered to be among the five most important such collections. An art historian and conservator, was appointed new curator in October. From May onwards the former curator was contracted as a consultant and to continue with his work on the GasanMamo project. The latter progressed further with several new metal and leather artefacts for the suites of armour display. A report was drawn up for the return of the Armoury to its proper location on the first floor of the Palace.

A Spanish conservation student spent three months working on a sample of wooden roundels long suspected to be original 16th century shields. Over-painted several times, these shields are a far cry from their original look. The results confirmed suspicion and the matter will be discussed further with HM conservators to decide on a way forward.

It has long been felt that the twelve suits of armour from the Palace Armoury at Auberge de Castille and San Anton Palace need conservation. Some components (around 40%) need to be replaced since they do not form part of the ensemble of the suits in question. During the latter part of the year under review, appropriate replacements were identified which constitute four near complete suits from the reserve collection. Restoration work is to commence early next year on these replacements and on the examples at Auberge de Castille and San Anton Palace.

National War Museum

Following the inauguration of the museum, the curator began the organisation of the reserve collection of the NWM at the MMM, because of lack of space at Fort St Elmo. The inauguration was followed by a steady flow of donations by the general public. Refer to Appendix I (pages 68 – 73) for more details. The museum also embarked on the Malta War Papers project, which is at a good stage of completion.

National Museum of Archaeology Department

The inventory of the reserve collection has commenced. This includes documentation (images of each artefacts / group of artefacts; referencing, main data such as description, measurements and weight) packing in acid free paper and repacking in plastic crates. To date 32 boxes were completed. A number of interns and students contributed to this effort. Work on the glass plate negatives of the *Fototeka* has also continued and 1200 have been cleaned and catalogued so far.

A number of artefacts have been documented and conserved to form part of the permanent exhibition at the Haġar Qim visitor centre. Three stone architectural fragments which belonged to the Royal Opera House and which were in the storage in the basement of the NMA were transferred to the NWM to form part of the permanent display.

From 23 November to 4 December the museum hosted a number of UCL students following a Masters in Sustainable Heritage, whose task this year focused on the basement and courtyard of the NMA. The presentation of their preliminary conclusions was held in December.

Throughout the year the museum also hosted an increasing number of researchers studying parts of the collection and also perusing the library and archive material. The adjoining offices of 138 Melita Street, which used to house the SCH, have been acquired and shall in future house the main library. Research was also carried out with the Lands Department as regarding other premises in Cart Street which originally made part of the Auberge.

Gozo Museum of Archaeology

Archaeological artefacts from the reserve collection were inked and put on permanent display at the Gozo Museum of Archaeology. Some of the artefacts forming part of the upgraded prehistoric display were transferred to HM's Conservation Division for cleaning and/or mounting. Upgrading of the permanent display continued during 2009, including wooden panelling and new interpretation panels for the prehistoric section and featuring the building's history.

The bronze statuette found in Gozo in 1771 and possibly dating to the Byzantine period was transferred to Bighi in September for conservation treatment and further study and analysis, and will eventually form part of the permanent display at the Gozo Museum of Archaeology.

Natural History Department

Acquisitions

Throughout this year the museum has received two significant donations; the Entomological Collection of the late Dr Carmelo De Lucca and a significant number of books and other publications from Mr Guido Lanfranco. A considerable number of donations ranging from single specimens to whole collections were also received through individuals as well as through the Law Courts, Customs and MEPA. For instance, 87 mounted birds (including protected species) were transferred from the Gozo Courts of Justice, through the Gozo Area Office. These will continue to enrich the museum's reference collections and providing adequate material for research as well as for display purposes. This constant flow of material now requires the clearing of some rooms to transform into collection repositories. For more details on the acquisitions please refer to Appendix I below.

Research and Collections

The museum, through its principal curator, was invited to form part of the core-group on the conservation and research of small islands in the Mediterranean at Six Fours (France) in October. He also presented the results from the EU LIFE Garnija project and the way forward to delegates from over 30 European and North African countries during the BirdLife International Global Seabird Group Meeting held at Valletta in October.

For the fourth consecutive year the museum presented a series of lectures to prospective tourist guides at the ITS. The title of this module is 'Eco-Tourism and Malta's Natural Environment'. A total of 13 lectures were presented, ranging from Maltese geology and palaeontology to invertebrates and vertebrates, floral aspects and human influence.

A digital photo-library hosting all the specimens present at the NMNH and Għar Dalam is being compiled. Work by the three volunteers on the conchological collection continued. The collection is now being systematically arranged and cross-referenced.

The annual helicopter visit to Filfla Plateau was carried out in collaboration with BirdLife Malta on 18 May. The main aim of these visits is to monitor the breeding population of the Yellow-legged Gull *Larus michahellis* nesting there. A total of 107 chicks (highest total ever) were ringed with Incoloy numbered rings. Notes on other aspects of flora and fauna were taken as part of this ongoing monitoring.

The museum, through its principal curator, was once again invited by the University of Palermo to participate in a series of research programmes between the two entities. Two visits were carried out, one to Lampedusa in April and the second to the island of Marettimo in July. The aim of the former visit was to prepare a research project on the

ecological affinities between Malta and Lampedusa, and the aim of the latter visit was to compare the breeding ecology of the European Storm Petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus* between this island and Maltese colonies. The principal curator also published a number of articles in scientific journals during the year under review.

Mr Edward Mifsud continued his studies on the use dioramas for his PhD degree in education. A poster titled: ‘The visual impact of wildlife dioramas on primary school children and the expression of their mental model in drawing’ was presented at an international conference in the UK. A copy of the poster is on display in the diorama hall. Kirsten Greer a post PhD student from Canada was in Malta to carry out research on British Military Personnel and their impact on the ornithology of Malta and Gibraltar, making extensive use of the museum’s library. Dutch scientist Edward Soldaat was in Malta for a three day visit to instruct the principal curator on the extraction and examination of stomach contents from dead seabirds. Fourteen Cory’s Shearwaters *Calonectris diomedea* and one Yelkouan Shearwater *Puffinus yelkouan* were dissected and examined. Results will be published following further analysis. Throughout the year, several individuals enquired on various topics related to natural history, including authentication to identification of specimens.

EU Projects

STERNA – The ornithological collections have been standardised so that they may be incorporated within the scope of this project to place public collections on the web. STERNA (Semantic Web-based Thematic European Reference Network Application) is the contribution of twelve European natural history museums and other institutions that collect and hold content on biodiversity, wildlife and nature in general, to the objectives and realisation of a European Digital Library. The project specifically addresses the many small cultural heritage institutions and content providers that want to actively participate and contribute to the European Digital Library initiative but lack both technical skills and financial resources to do so. To help content providers to make their valuable and rich resources available to a wider audience, the vision is to create a dispersed and networked information space, supported and sustained by a member network of autonomous content organisations which serves users with a special interest in nature and wildlife worldwide. The STERNA project is supported and partly funded by the eContentplus programme of the European Commission.

EU LIFE Garnija project – Now in its third year the EU LIFE Garnija project continued to accumulate data on the bird’s behaviour both on land and at sea. Site visits were carried out regularly from January to mid-July. During this year several techniques to record the bird’s whereabouts and behaviour at sea were deployed; these included geolocators, data-loggers and satellite tracking devices. This project is co-financed by the EU and is managed by BirdLife Malta, the NMNH (HM), the Centre for Fisheries Sciences, the Malta Maritime Authority, the AFM, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) in the UK and SPEA (the Portuguese Birdlife partner). MEPA and HSBC are co-financiers to the project.

Ghar Dalam

The stratigraphic wall inside the cave which for the past few years had been deteriorating and was crumbling was consolidated by HM conservators. The transfer of bone material from the stores at Ghar Dalam to the NMNH, where it will be stored in a better condition, is progressing well. Work on the digitisation of the database of bone remains was commenced.

Phoenician, Roman and Medieval Sites Department

The **Domvs Romana** Melitensis archaeological research project, in collaboration with Grand Hotel Excelsior, was launched on 15 May following discussions between HM, Dr A. Brown and Grand Hotel Excelsior, resulting in the signing of a three year agreement between the said parties. The main objective is primarily aimed at investigating particular areas within and around the grounds of the Domvs Romana, particularly on the surviving stratigraphy in the partially retained baulk which is being lost to weathering. Such works would allow a better understanding of the site and also feature within the drafting of a management plan, besides integrating data from the UCLA excavations of the 1980s. A full method statement was submitted to the SCH for approval in June. However feedback is still lacking and the project has been put on hold. In the meantime research and data collection has started.

The **UNESCO Mosaics Project** continued on the conservation assessment of the Domus mosaics in view of facilitating the final assessment and reporting by Dssa. Alberti. Works still need to proceed upon the Ghajn Tuffieħa Roman Baths. Excavations by the Missione Archeologica a Malta at **Tas-Silġ** continued during 2009.

During the latter half of 2008 an international Jewish Organisation, *Athra Kadisha*, raised issues in relation to scattered bone material found within **SPC**, requesting that this area be closed off to the public and that the material in question be reburied according to Jewish religious traditions. Due to the sensitivity of the treatment of archaeological human remains, and to the nature of the intervention requested, discussions and studies were undertaken with the SCH to understand the best methodological approaches to be used in such a case. Cleaning works and excavations of certain tombs were held between February and May under the direction of OPM and SCH. These included documentation, photography as well as the required osteological studies. During this process a new level of catacombs was discovered under catacomb 12 but the axial entrance is as yet undetermined. GPR studies within the ERDF 2007-13 project will guide the discovery and excavation of this area.

Prehistoric Sites Department

Scientific Committee for the Conservation of the Megalithic Temples

In December 2008 the Scientific Committee was reappointed by the Minister of Education, Culture, Youth and Sport. The committee provided its expertise for the ERDF 2007-13 project by providing input for: terms of reference for a structural study of Ggantija Temples; terms of reference for environmental monitoring equipment at Tarxien Temples; the preparation of the design brief for a shelter at Tarxien Temples and reviewing the concept designs for this shelter presented by Architect Torpiano; the design competition brief for an interpretation centre at Ggantija Temples.

The Scientific Committee also initiated studies related to a number of other conservation issues, including the structural integrity of the Central Temple at Mnajdra; possible methods for the restoration of two areas of collapse at Tarxien Temples; trial pathway surfaces at Tarxien Temples; Draft Management Plan for the Megalithic Temples. The Draft Management Plan was printed and a copy was sent to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre via Ambassador Licari, Malta's Ambassador for UNESCO. It was officially launched during a press event on 6 May. Following the launch the Plan was circulated to various entities for feedback as part of the consultation process. Deadline for feedback was end July. The Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) Audit Office has been in contact with MH to determine whether the Management Plan as well as the Conservation Plan for the Megalithic Temples should be subject to an SEA.

Underwater Cultural Heritage

HM / Aurora Special Trust project: The fourth season of fieldwork was conducted in early September, and focused on recording high-resolution video footage of the remains visible on the surface of the sea bed off Gozo, to complement the remote sensing work accomplished in earlier seasons.

Ta' Haġrat and Skorba

Texts for information leaflets for both Ta' Haġrat and Skorba were prepared. These will be designed and printed once funds are available. A section of the boundary wall at Ta' Haġrat collapsed due to strong winds in January. During repair works by the Works Division, a possible archaeological deposit was uncovered. This was reported to the SCH and discussions were held to identify the best way forward. Works were concluded before the end of the year.

Med_Archeo_Sites Project – Interreg IIIB Archimed: Following a problem with the online GIS system shared by all the project partners in this project, the online GIS database was improved and re-uploaded, making it available online once again. Editing of the scientific publication about Ta' Hāgrat and Skorba and their surroundings continued. The publication is being finalized and will be completed in 2010. Texts and designs for the interpretation panels for both Ta' Hāgrat and Skorba were completed. Information panels are currently being printed. Heritage Malta's outputs for this project were sent to the Lead Partner for final reporting and project completion.

Planning Applications and Land Acquisition: Following the request for expropriation of two plots of land in the immediate vicinity of Ta' Hāgrat, the expropriation procedures with the Lands Department were concluded and the expropriation notice was published on the Government Gazette. A Development Application submitted to MEPA for a penthouse in the immediate vicinity of Ta' Hāgrat was refused, following an objection by HM.

HM Conservation Division

Architecture, Stone and Objects Conservation Department

The year under review saw the department working in a number of projects mostly involving artefacts from the national collection and sites owned by the agency.

The Architecture Conservation arm of this department provided the main training grounds to twelve Masonry Heritage Skills vocational students. Through their apprenticeship the students are given the full complement of the competencies expected to be followed during their course.

In the first quarter of the year, the restoration and conservation works on the NWM courtyard were completed and work continued on the internal courtyard of the NMFA. The same team carried out maintenance and re-rendering works in two offices at HM Head Office.

Two private projects which were completed by the Architecture Conservation team were the restoration and conservation of the Oratory of the Blessed Sacrament at Żejtun and the conservation of the façade of the Sacristy of Our Lady of Rosary, also forming part of the Żejtun Parish Church complex. These projects provided a unique experience to the *Mastri* and students due to the variety of conservation skills required.

During the last months of the year one of the lanterns located on the roof of the MMM was dismantled due to its bad structural condition. This marked the beginning of restoration works on different parts of this historical building. The same team was involved in the erection of scaffold to be used by students and other staff on various sites, including Verdala Palace, the Jesuits Church in Valletta and Fort St Angelo.

The Objects Conservation arm of the department also worked on a number of artefacts in the past year, including materials such as glass, metals, ceramics and stone. During the first months of this year conservators from this team focused on the last conservation touches and displaying of artefacts at the NWM.

Following the inauguration of the NWM, each conservator was entrusted to specific projects related to the different collections. Among the conservation work carried out at the Inquisitor's Palace one can mention the continuation of a condition assessment on artefacts in the reserve collection and the setting up of a proper storage space within the museum. A diorama of St Paul's shipwreck and a painting on glass of St John from the same collection were also conserved.

The third chandelier of the Throne Room at the Grandmaster's Palace was completed and fixed in place. Further conservation work was carried out on the collection of the

Palace Armoury. Further investigative work on the Chinese ceramic collection at the Grand Master's Palace and others found at the reserve collection of the NMA continued during this year.

During this year a stone conservator together with a number of vocational students started a project which involved replacement of bituminous membrane with the traditional *deffun* on the roof of the NMFA.

Conservators from this team were also engaged in on-going practical work with the B.Cons students particularly on glass, ceramic and metal artefacts. A number of museum artefacts were conserved through this exercise.

Diagnostic Science Laboratories & Preventive Conservation Department

DSL and PCD have continued to provide support within the three main objectives of the section, i.e. scientific analysis and diagnostic services, research in conservation science and capacity building through education. The section has been involved in a large number of HM Conservation Projects, as well as external projects for third parties. The provision of assistance, including heavy involvement in lecturing, to students reading the ICMCH's Bachelor's and Master's degree courses has continued to form an integral element for the department. Some of the most important activities/projects of 2009 are briefly listed below:

Internal HM Projects

- Further analysis and colorimetry tests on different metal samples (copper and steel) as part II of the *Metal Phosphine Study*;
- Microscopic analysis of adhesive markers potentially required for use in the 3D documentation of the Hypogeum;
- Fibre analysis and identification:
 - Peasant's sandals – Horse/Donkey hair;
 - Preparation, embedding and examination of Egyptian Mummy textiles;
- Sampling and microscopic examination of the George Borg collection of unfired clay sculptures (NMFA);
- Documentation and embedding of paint layers from a painting of *St Ursula*;
- Analysis of samples (FT-IR) from the *Madonna ta' Filfla* panel painting;
- Analysis of glass and ceramics (involving the development and refinement of methods for the preparation of thin sections).
- Sampling and analysis of dust from NMA Salon for identification of asbestos particles.

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- Ecological survey and writing of a report following the investigation of tree species present within the Domus Romana and its surrounding area.
 - Soil analyses by IC, pH, conductivity – Haġar Qim and Mnajdra;
 - Plant eradication (*Ailanthus* sp.) – Domus Romana;
 - Microscopy of soiling material – *Beheading of Barbara/Catherine*;
 - Analysis and cleaning of enamelled object – Area B;
 - Microscopic analysis – *De Lucca Collection*;
 - Microscopic analysis of crippled object – Conservation Division;
 - Microscopic and SEM analysis of Żebbieġh coins – SCH;
 - Scientific analysis of the NMA gold ring – including comparative analysis on another ring and presentation of publication during a conference in France (May);
 - Preparation and finalization of a scientific paper for the journal *Archeoscience*;
 - X-Ray analysis, as well as further DNA analysis and analysis of textiles (in collaboration with Prof Zvi Koren, Israel) of the Egyptian mummy and its sarcophagus at the Natural History Museum;
 - Analysis of various artefacts from the ‘Jewish’ Catacombs at SPC (clay and metal materials)
 - Assistance provided for the preparation of a presentation delivered at the Louvre conference;
 - Sea salt aerosol study – first two sampling batches pre-tenting completed, but work still in progress;
 - Integrated Pest Management programme within various HM sites – ongoing;
 - Biological and environmental surveys at Haġar Qim and Mnajdra (Winter/Spring/Summer/Autumn sessions) – ongoing;
 - Microbiological and chemical analysis of water and air samples from the Hypogeum - ongoing;
 - DNA archaeological study – still awaiting permission from SCH, though further talks with archaeologists from the University of Venice with regards to radiocarbon dating of the same samples have taken place;

EU-Related Projects

- Provided assistance to the Project Leader and Project Executive of the ESF 1.31 Wood CPR, such as in tender design and writing, adjudication, implementation, etc.;
- Preparation of an ERDF OPI project proposal, including feasibility study, entitled CEQE - Creating a Centre of Excellence for Quality Education. This project aims to obtain the necessary funding to support the establishment and operation of multi-institutional core facilities and specialized equipment to

maximize the expertise, efficiency and quality of education and research in the field of Conservation and Conservation Science.

- Assisted in the writing of tender documents for the Hypogeum EEA project and adjudication of such tenders;
- Involved in the preparation of tender specifications and terms of reference for the acquisition of environmental monitoring equipment, and adjudication related to biological studies and environmental monitoring for the ERDF 032 project;
- Continuous contribution towards the ERA-NET FP7 project as HM nominated delegates, such as submission of various questionnaires, proposals in relation to research in the field of conservation, etc.;
- Carried out the work required from all Management Committee members for COST Actions IE0601 and D42 and attended a MC meeting in Brussels on behalf of Malta for the former;
- Involved as national technical expert for the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) TC RER8015; delivery of a presentation during the IAEA's coordination meeting, held in Vienna, related to the new three-year regional project (RER8015) in order to confirm HM's participation and to contribute to the planning of future conferences, training courses, meetings, etc, and another presentation of Malta's progress report at a workshop in relation to networking and partnership in Bosnia & Herzegovina.
- CEN 346 committee submissions and recommendations to MSA on how Malta should vote on proposed European standards.

Environmental Monitoring and Related Tasks

- Downloading of data from various HM sites where environmental monitoring is being carried out, and updating of all environmental monitoring data at Haġar Qim and Mnajdra Temples, Hypogeum, Tarxien Temples, NMA, Domus Romana, Notarial Archives, and MMM.
- Organisation and assistance in the installation of the Ggantija weather station, including training of staff members and familiarisation with the software to be used for environmental data collection and management;
- Installation of new temperature and relative humidity data loggers at the Hypogeum and Tarxien Temples;
- Installation of two soil water content sensors at Haġar Qim;
- Installation of the following sensors and data loggers:

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- Haġar Qim Temples (beneath the shelters) - temperature, relative humidity, surface temperature and soil water content sensors;
 - Mnajdra Temples – soil water content sensors and Hobo data logger;
 - NMA – Hobo data loggers, insect traps and pollution tubes for UCL students;
- Maintenance of Haġar Qim and Mnajdra temperature, relative humidity and surface temperature sensors;
 - Updating of existing environmental monitoring data into databanks so that it could eventually be easily incorporated into a database – Hypogeum and Haġar Qim are already finalised;
 - Regular updating of Mnajdra wind data;
 - Continuous correspondence with CNR and LSI Lastem personnel so as to solve connection problems commonly encountered at the Haġar Qim weather station;
 - Installation of cordless temperature, relative humidity and solar radiation sensors at Mnajdra temples - post tenting;
 - Analysis and comparison of environmental monitoring data at Haġar Qim and Mnajdra Temples before and after sheltering;
 - Preparation of an environmental monitoring report comparing internal sheltered conditions with external conditions at Mnajdra;
 - Installation of three data loggers at the NMA Salon for the Renzo Piano exhibition;
 - Installation and dismantling of Hobo data loggers from MMM;
 - Experimental work on a spectrochlorometer;
 - Completion of one year monitoring at the Notarial Archives;
 - Coordination of the installation of a wireless/remote environmental monitoring system at the NMFA; participation in a pre-procurement/implementation survey together with Evolve Ltd;
 - Support and help provided to students and conservators for data logger handling and data management;
 - Calibration of temperature and relative humidity sensors in collaboration with the Malta Standards Authority.

Lecturing Duties and Student Supervision

- Internal training and supervision of six MCAST apprentice students;

- Lecturing in various study units (theoretical and practical) for the B.Cons and Preparatory course – Biology, Chemistry, Scientific Investigations, Properties and deterioration of easel paintings and polychrome sculptures, etc. Preparation of new study units such as CRS2200 and CRS3103. Provided assistance in scientific analysis and onsite work;
- Assistance provided to a number of M.Cons students in their practicum design and dissertation studies;
- Assisted ICMCH in the re-design of study units for a training course (at EQF level 7) and M.Sc in Conservation Science;
- Assistance provided to UOM architecture, engineering and science students on site and within the laboratories.

Additional Laboratory Tasks

- Laboratory staff assisted Mr Richard Wolbers (foreign lecturer) during practical sessions held as part of a course on cleaning techniques for all Conservation Division staff;
- Assistance provided to local and foreign lecturers in the use of microscopes, SEM/EDS and FT-IR required during B.Cons and M.Cons practical sessions;
- Writing of a SOP for the glassware washer and an SOP for ‘method’ creation and calibration of standards for use with the IC instrumentation;
- Training of all staff members on the proper use of the Ion Chromatography instrumentation use of upgraded software by Italian experts.

Work for External Companies/Individuals

Various requests for analysis by many external companies/individuals, including:

- SEM/EDS analysis of copper alloy samples (MCAST/Department of Metallurgy & Materials Engineering, UOM);
- SEM/EDS analysis of MTA sample (Faculty of Architecture, UOM);
- SEM/EDS analysis of various PCB samples and electronic parts (Hetric Ltd.);
- SEM/EDS analysis of metal samples (Department of Metallurgy & Materials Engineering, UOM);

- SEM/EDS analysis of steel samples from boiler tubes (Department of Metallurgy & Materials Engineering, UOM);
- FT-IR analysis of plastic parts with Teflon (Methode Ltd);
- Assisted a number of UOM students, e.g. in sample preparation and IC analysis of stone samples from St Catherine's Church.
- Finalisation of IC analysis and compiling of report related to the analysis of samples taken from St Agatha's Chapel, Rabat;
- Analysis of steel samples from Boiler Tubes (Department of Metallurgy & Materials Engineering)
- Analysis of PCB samples (Hetronic Ltd)
- Analysis of dust samples for UOM students (Department of Chemistry)
- Analysis of magnesium samples, carbon and glass fibres for UOM students (Department of Metallurgy & Engineering)
- Analysis of HOLDEN brake light switches (Methode Electronics Malta Ltd)
- Analysis of carbon coatings on copper fibres (IMA Engineering Ltd)
- Analysis of VOLVO Engine Ignition Switches (Methode Electronics Malta Ltd)
- Analysis of various PCB samples and electronic parts (Hetronic Ltd)
- Analysis of numerous plastic and electronic parts (Methode Electronics Malta Ltd)
- Analysis of environmental samples/dust particles (MEPA)
- Salt and mortar analysis of several stone samples from the Royal Opera House – sampling, analysis, interpretation of results and report writing (AP Ltd/The Grand Harbour Regeneration Corporation plc).

The income generated through external work in 2009 was around €17,500, when compared to around €8,500 in 2008 and around €4000 in 2007.

Paintings, Books, Paper and Textiles Conservation Department

Paintings Department

The department has completed 44 paintings during the period under review while another thirteen paintings are 'works in progress'. Many of the works of art were by Edward Caruana Dingli in preparation for the forthcoming exhibition which is being organized by *Fondazzjoni Patrimonju Malti*. Other paintings finished by the department were the Last Supper by Favray, the Descent of the Holy Spirit, *Bozzetto St Paul's cupola*, *Face of Christ*, *Piscopo*, *Mystic Marriage of St Catherine*, *Grand Master Pinto*, *Temptation of St Anthony*, *Lamentation of Adam & Eve*, *Landscape*, *St John*, *Russian Tsarina*, and *St John* by Paceco de Rosa.

The wall painting of the *Allegory of the name of Mary* which is the sister wall painting of the *Death of St Joseph* at the Jesuit's Church has been chosen as a didactic project for the degree students, and work on the painting will continue in 2010.

Research continued on the effect of temperature and humidity on the Filfla and the Maestro Alberto wooden panels and an interim report was compiled and presented to the Board of Governors in April. A monitoring campaign on the movement of wood was started and some experiments on various adhesives were also carried out. The study should finish in 2010. In June a report was submitted on the findings based on the condition reports of the paintings and furniture which were stored at the Casino Maltese. These condition assessment reports were compiled by a painting and a furniture conservator.

Valeria Corcione finished her internship at the Paintings Department from 24 November 2008 to 16 March. Ana Wortley from Argentina did an internship at the Paintings Laboratory between 3 August and 30 September.

Books and Paper Department

Work continued on the infested books which were found at the NMFA library and forty books have been conserved. 203 works of art have been conserved and returned to the NMFA. Eighty maps from the Ganado collection have been conserved and mounted in preparation for the Miniature Maps Exhibition. Work continued on the *Fototeka* which has been set up at the NMA and 1200 negatives have been cleaned and put in new conservation envelopes.

Textile Department

The conservation glass for the Teniers Tapestry, which has been awaiting mounting and framing, has been ordered. Condition reports, photo shooting and cleaning has been carried out on 252 costumes and accessories and seventy flags and uniforms of the National Textile and Costume collection. Mounts and supports were also manufactured for their proper storage and eventual display. Dust covers for the shelving to be used in the storage room used for the National Textile and Costume collection housed at the Inquisitor's Palace have also been done and in June the department organized and presented a day seminar on the 'Survey and first aid interventions of the National Textile and Costumes Collection' which also included an exhibition of ready-mounted costumes and artefacts.

Uniforms from the NWM and the MMM collections were transferred from the textile studio at Bighi to the MMM. The department also prepared two bodices for *Fondazzjoni Patrimonju Malti* to be displayed at the MFSA. Lucie Radonova from Prague did an internship at the Textile Department between 1 September and 22 December.

Internship

Nadine Becker, an ERASMUS exchange student from the Hildesheim Faculty of Preservation of Cultural Heritage, Germany came back to do her Masters thesis under the supervision of Joseph Schirò. In July Joseph Schirò was invited by the Hildesheim Faculty to sit on the board of examiners for the Masters thesis which was presented by Nadine Becker in June.

The Institute for Conservation and Management of Cultural Heritage

Admissions

The year under review saw six new participants joining ICMCH's B.Cons.(Hons) and one repeater. Two of the six new participants were reading for other undergraduate courses in archaeology and chemistry in their first year of the previous academic year 2008-09.

The M.Cons and MA in Cultural Heritage Management did not open. Two out of the three M.Cons. students who are also HM staff, have finalized their masters. The seven students who joined ICMCH for their MA in 2008 have progressed to their second year.

Graduation

In November 2009, ICMCH saw one graduate in B.Cons.(Hons) in the paintings and polychrome sculpture area of the B.Cons.(Hons) course: the graduate was the only student during the 2005 intake. Moreover, two of the conservators working with HM in objects and textiles conservation-restoration respectively graduated in M.Cons. during the 2009 graduations.

Course provision and examination

The involvement of academics and professionals with particular expertise was again high on the list of priorities and once again ICMCH invited highly respected local and foreign experts to contribute in the courses for the academic year 2008-09. Among others were Dr Tim Padfield, Prof JoAnn Cassar, and Prof Dario Camuffo. As in the past, standards were ensured through the composition of Boards of Examiners including non-visiting external examiners.

Vocational education and training

The vocational level Masonry Heritage Skills Certificate Course admitted twelve students. Six vocational students progressed to HS2 level, six progressed to HS3 level year 1, and another six progressed to HS3 level year 2 and qualified to work as *mastri*.

Introductory Course to Conservation and Restoration

ICMCH also consolidated, developed and ran the Introductory Course to Conservation and Restoration which was held in July and was financially self-sustainable. Following this course there was the entrance examination for the B.Cons.(Hons) to which seven people sat and passed.

Other

The Conservation Division and the ICMCH also organised a successful open day at Bighi on 31 May, whereby the general public was given a unique opportunity to experience the practise of conserving Malta's cultural heritage. Activities on the day included a walk-through of the diagnostic science laboratories and all conservation laboratories and engage in conversation with conservators, learn about all the facilities, courses and services offered by the Conservation Division, and a learning programme for children.

On 29 November the ICMCH also coordinated a heritage trail at Bighi on 'Protecting our Heritage', when participants visited the paintings, textiles, paper and objects conservation laboratories and also had the opportunity to bring their own artefacts and discuss on the best way to conserve them with HM conservators.

The **Education Unit** within ICMCH also coordinated a number of other activities, including various heritage trails, job-shadowing experiences in HM museums, thematic student hands-on workshops at the Inquisitor's Palace, the NMNH and the NMFA, educational programme pilot studies at the NWM and the NMFA, set up stands in various student fairs and career conventions, and organised a customer care training programme for HM front office staff.

Appendix I : List of Acquisitions

1a: ARTS COLLECTION

Item	Description	Type of Acquisition	Source
1	Photograph of an old line drawing of the Church of St Catherine, Valletta	Donation	Mr Joseph Meli
2	Drawing: Mdina in Red by Walter Busuttil	Donation	Dr Walter Busuttil
3	Original painted wooden sculpture by Victor Pasmore	Donation	Mr Michael Bonello
4	Painting: Ir-Ramla l-Hamra by Andrew Micallef	Donation	Mr Andrew Micallef
5	Painting: Atlantis '5' Fallen Angel: abstract by Walter Vella	Donation	Mr Walter Vella
6	Abstract painting by Robert Galea	Donation	Mr Robert Galea
7	Sculpture: St. Paul on his way to Damascus by Anthony Lucian Cauchi	Donation	Mr Anthony Lucian Cauchi
8	Paintings by 19th century Neapolitan artist Nicola Crescimanno sive "Crino"	Donation	Mr Philip Dyson, UK
9	Book: Culture and Continuity: Revitalising European Heritage - A Norwegian Contribution: Published by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2009	Donation	Dr Ray Bondin
10	Painting: Mystic Marriage of St. Catherine by Filippo Paladini	Presentation	Collection of the late Chev. Vincenzo Bonello
11	Joint abstract painting by Carmel Bonello and Jeremy Ellul	Donation	Mr Carmel Bonello and Mr Jeremy Ellul

1b: ETNOGRAPHIC COLLECTION

Item	Description	Type of Acquisition	Source
1	Two Holy Week processional statues	Donation	Mr Mario Coleiro,
2	Sixteen photographic slides taken during the Independence celebrations in 1964	Donation	Ms Cecilia Xuereb,
3	Twenty four photographic slides taken in Valletta during the 1967 Carnival	Donation	Ms Cecilia Xuereb
4	Collection of relics of Dun Alfred Gatt, Fra Baskal and Suor Maria Teresa Nuzzo	Donation	Ms Cecilia Xuereb
5	Miscellaneous collection of leaflets and loose sheets of a religious nature	Donation	Mr Emmanuel Magro Conti
6	Gilju Qalb ix-Xewk: Giusa Bugeja	Donation	Mr Emmanuel Magro Conti
7	Periodical: Militia Christi	Donation	Mr Emmanuel Magro Conti,
8	Dolls in national costumes	Donation	Mrs Lina Borg Vassallo

Item	Description	Type of Acquisition	Source
9	Remembrance cards	Donation	Ms Cecilia Xuereb
10	Miniature Floats: Via Matris	Donation	Mr Chris Ebejer
11	Antique cotton embroidered bed sheet	Donation	Mrs Astrid Cassar
12	Electric shaver "Richard" in original cardboard box	Donation	Mr George Glanville
13	Safety Razor	Donation	Mr George Glanville
14	Gillette Super Silver: 1 open packet still containing 3 unused original blades	Donation	Mr George Glanville
15	Shaving brush	Donation	Mr George Glanville
16	"Brylcream" hair cream container	Donation	Mr George Glanville
17	"MK" 15 AMP: three pin plug with switch	Donation	Mr George Glanville
18	Three Electric Switches	Donation	Mr George Glanville
19	Bulb Holder	Donation	Mr George Glanville
20	Pair of salt and pepper containers	Donation	Mr George Glanville
21	Three Oval bowls	Donation	Mr George Glanville
22	Orange squeezer	Donation	Mr George Glanville
23	Small pill box	Donation	Mr George Glanville
24	Two containers with lid	Donation	Mr George Glanville
25	Photo taken in 1979 of a banquet attended by two De La Salle Brothers, the Hon. Minister of Education Philip Muscat, H.E. President Anton Buttigieg, His Grace Archbishop Giuseppe Mercieca, Mons. Xuereb & other guests	Donation	Mr Emmanuel Magro Conti
26	Telephone	Donation	Mrs Mary Gambin
27	Bin with lid	Donation	Mrs Mary Gambin
28	Spirit pressure cooking stove	Donation	Mrs Mary Gambin
29	Two Iron cloth press	Donation	Mrs Mary Gambin
30	Two-wick kerosene cooking stove	Donation	Mrs Mary Gambin
31	Religious Literature	Donation	Mr Emmanuel Magro Conti
32	Holy Pictures	Donation	Mr Emmanuel Magro Conti
33	Ghosts of History	Donation	Mrs Lily Agius
34	Zebra skin drum	Transfer	House of Parliament to the IP

1c: MARITIME COLLECTION

Item	Description	Type of Acquisition	Source
1	Two bronze medical mortars formerly at Royal Navy Hospital, Bighi	Donation	Mr Joseph M Busuttil
2	Computer memory stick containing details of donor's research carried out between 1985 - 2008	Donation	Lt Comm GB Mason, C Eng, RN (Rtd), UK
3	1930s deck chairs from aboard a luxury liner	Donation	Mr Arthur Taliana
4	Royal Navy cap tally "RNH Malta"	Donation	Mr Joseph M Busuttil
5	Sticker "Royal Naval Hospital RAF, Luqa	Donation	Mr Joseph M Busuttil
6	Book: Il-Vangelu fi Kliem San Mark,	Donation	Mr Emmanuel Magro Conti
7	Book: Sigħa ta Adurazzjoni Kuddiem Gesu` Sagramentat Flimchien ma Talb Iehor	Donation	Mr Emmanuel Magro Conti
8	Book: Sorriso in Famiglia Strenna - Almanacco delle Famiglie Cristiane *Per l'Anno 1931*	Donation	Mr Emmanuel Magro Conti
9	Book: Tagħlim fuq id-Dinja, L-ewwel Ktieb. X'Nitghallmu fil-Gjografija	Donation	Mr Emmanuel Magro Conti
10	Memento fly leaf	Donation	Mr Emmanuel Magro Conti
11	Holy picture representing a wooden statue of the Immaculate Conception	Donation	Mr Emmanuel Magro Conti
12	Holy picture of St Sebastian	Donation	Mr Emmanuel Magro Conti
13	Memento (Santa tal-mejtin) commemorating the demise of Giuseppe Campbell	Donation	Mr Emmanuel Magro Conti
14	Postcard illustrating the French passenger ship Le Charles-Roux	Donation	Mr Emmanuel Magro Conti
15	Two postcards; New York public library and Tropical Florida Scenery	Donation	Mr Emmanuel Magro Conti
16	Wedding Service Sheet according to the Naval Regulations	Donation	Mr Mario Coleiro
17	Two photographic albums with photos taken in the 1930s	Donation	Ms Cecilia Xuereb
18	Benson and Hedges cigarette case	Donation	Ms Cecilia Xuereb
19	Two photographic slides: Wied iz-Zurrieq and St Paul's Bay	Donation	Ms Cecilia Xuereb
20	Sofa and 2 armchairs (mid-nineteenth century)	Transfer	From Presidential's Palace in Valletta to MMM
21	Cast Iron stove late nineteenth century	Transfer	From Malta Shipyards
22	Sticker produced in 1965 "Entry - Malta Drydocks Apprentices (Strive for Perfection)"	Donation	Mr Louis Borg
23	Leaflet notifying pay, allowances, pensions and conditions allocated to Maltese soldiers in the Motor Transport Army Service Corps (French Language)	Transfer	Magistrate Parnis Bequest WWI Papers from NMFA to MMM
24	Leaflet notifying pay, allowances, pensions and conditions allocated to Maltese soldiers in the Motor Transport Army Service Corps (Maltese Language)	Transfer	Magistrate Parnis Bequest WWI Papers from NMFA to MMM

Item	Description	Type of Acquisition	Source
25	Preliminary notice for employment at HM Dockyard of shipwright, divers, masons, stone cutters, miners & labourers dated 17 February 1918. On verso Notice for employment (through Malta Dockyard Superintendence of Civil Engineer) of shipwrights, divers, builders, construction labourers to work for the admiralty in Corfu	Transfer	Magistrate Parnis Bequest WWI Papers from NMFA to MMM
26	Notice for employment of shipwrights and assistant shipwrights for admiralty work at Corfu (containing rate of pays etc.) (Maltese Language) on verso same notice in English	Transfer	Magistrate Parnis Bequest WWI Papers from NMFA to MMM
27	A selection of old correspondence pertaining to Messrs E Theuma & Co Ltd	Donation	Mr A Zahra
28	Wartime (1943) correspondence	Donation	Mrs Vera Wilkinson Symon's Cottage, UK (through Mr Corfield)
29	Model: Gorey Fishing Boat 1870-1900	Donation	Mr Doug Forder, Jersey (through Mr & Mrs Gordon Bullock)
30	Magazine: Sea Horse	Donation	Capt Adrian Stirckland
31	Magazine: Histoire Illustree de la Guerre 1914	Donation	Capt Adrian Stirckland
32	Magazine: La Guerre des Nations	Donation	Capt Adrian Stirckland
33	Antique canapé from HMS Hibernia	Donation	Mrs Vicky de Domenico
34	Military Tombstones	Donation	Mrs Vicky de Domenico
35	Nineteenth Century surgical Lancet bearing cipher on Queen Victoria on handle	Donation	Mr Emmanuel Magro Conti
36	Twentieth century sextant complete with box	Donation	Mr Vincent Micallef Malta Shipyards
37	Booklet: A new guide to Maltese conversation for use of British Officers & men in the Army & Air Force	Donation	Mrs Allison Bigden
38	Three watercolour views of Malta by Joseph Galea	Donation	Mr John Emmis, UK
39	A fabric nightdress holder decorated with a fan	Donation	Mrs Josephine Bezzina
40	Six twentieth century dressed dolls	Donation	Mrs Josette Ellul
41	Magazine: Lehen l-Imperial, Festa tal-Vitorja 2003: Ghaqda Muzikali Imperial Mellieha 2003	Donation	Mr Charles Debono
42	Magazine: Festa Maria Bambina 2003: Societa' Filarmonica La Vittoria, Mellieha 2003	Donation	Mr Charles Debono
43	Magazine: Festa tal-Vitorja 2004: Ghaqda Muzikali Imperial Mellieha 2004	Donation	Mr Charles Debono
44	Magazine: Festa Maria Bambina 2004: Societa' Filarmonica La Vittoria, Mellieha 2004	Donation	Mr Charles Debono
45	Magazine: Festa Maria Bambina 2005: Societa' Filarmonica La Vittoria, Mellieha 2005	Donation	Mr Charles Debono
46	Magazine: Festa tal-Vitorja 2007: Ghaqda Muzikali Imperial Mellieha 2007	Donation	Mr Charles Debono

Item	Description	Type of Acquisition	Source
47	Magazine: 1907-2007 Festi tal-Mitt Sena mit-Twaqqif tas-Socjeta' Filarmonica La Vittoria, Mellieha u ta' Maria Bambina: Societa' Filarmonica La Vittoria, Mellieha 2007	Donation	Mr Charles Debono
48	Magazine: Lehen l-Imperial, Festa tal-Vitorja 2009: Ghaqda Muzikali Imperial Mellieha 2009-10-01	Donation	Mr Charles Debono
49	Magazine: Nimxu 'l quddiem fl-ghaqda, Festa Marija Bambina 2009: Societa' Filarmonica La Vittoria, Mellieha 2009	Donation	Mr Charles Debono
50	Surgical forceps formerly in use at Nighi Royal Naval Hospital	Donation	Mr Brian Adams, UK
51	Magazine: DOC RN: Issue No. 43 of the magazine of the Royal Naval Medical Branch Ratings and Sick Berth Staff Association	Donation	Mr Brian Adams UK
52	Collection of newspapers clippers	Donation	Mr Carmelo Briffa
53	Three framed pictures of the sinking of HMS Barham	Donation	Mr Carmelo Briffa
54	Thirty two pre WWII photographs	Donation	Mr Carmelo Briffa
55	Collection ball pen of the HMS Barham Survivors Association	Donation	Mr Carmelo Briffa
56	Malta coat of arms formerly in use at the Malta Laws Court	Donation	Mr John Sant
57	Four old wooden buttons	Donation	Mr Emmanuel Magro Conti
58	Small sealed packet containing 2 dozens	Donation	Mr Emmanuel Magro Conti
59	Bit of machinery used for embroidery	Donation	Mr Emmanuel Magro Conti
60	Length of cotton thread on original cardboard bobbin	Donation	Mr Emmanuel Magro Conti
61	Length of rosary beads	Donation	Mr Emmanuel Magro Conti

1d: NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTION

Item	Description	Type of Acquisition	Source
1	Twenty Four photographic slides: miscellaneous collection	Donation	Ms Cecilia Xuereb,
2	Three Scorpions (Tunisia)	Donation	Mr Paul Spiteri
3	Cobra <i>Naja haje</i> (Tunisia)	Donation	Mr Paul Spiteri
4	Viper <i>Cerastes vipera</i> (Tunisia)	Donation	Mr Paul Spiteri
5	Two fossil specimens of <i>Litophaga lithodomus</i> (Malta 1976)	Donation	Mr. Fiteni
6	Fragmented fossil rib of <i>Metaxiterium</i> sp. (Malta 1976)	Donation	Mr. Fiteni
7	Two fragments of Lava (unknown origin)	Donation	Mr. Fiteni
8	Etruscan Shrew <i>Suncus etruscus</i>	Donation	Ms Magda Magri Naudi
9	Piece of Granite from Praslin (Seychelles)	Donation	Mr John J. Borg
10	Grey Heron	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
11	Purple Heron	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
12	Two Night Heron	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
13	Little Bittern	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima

Item	Description	Type of Acquisition	Source
14	Squacco Heron	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
15	Two Mallard	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
16	Pintail	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
17	Shelduck	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
18	Three Common Teal	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
19	Garganey	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
20	Ferruginous Duck	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
21	Six Marsh Harrier	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
22	Montagu's Harrier	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
23	Three Honey Buzzard	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
24	Red-footed Falcon	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
25	Common Kestrel	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
26	Two Sparrowhawk	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
27	Moorhen	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
28	Northern Lapwing	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
29	Golden Plover	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
30	Woodcock	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
31	Yellow-legged Gull	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
32	Sandwich Tern	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
33	Common Cuckoo	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
34	Scops Owl	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
35	Two Fieldfare	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
36	Two Blackbird	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
37	Golden Oriole	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima
38	Crested Dove (Australia)	Donation	Mr Joseph Grima

Specimens confiscated by the police and transferred to the NMNH by the Law Courts, all specimens have been tagged by MEPA Officials.

Lot 1

Bubo virginianus, Great Horned owl
 Two *Casmerodius albus*, Great Egret
Numenius americanus, Long-billed Curlew
Falco mexicanus, Prairie Falcon
Aphelocoma coerulescens, Scrub Jay

Two *Tyto alba*, Barn Owl
 Four *Buteo jamaicensis*, Red-Tailed Hawk
 Two *Cathartes aura*, Turkey Vulture
Otus kennicottii, Western Screech-Owl
Anas Americana, American Wigeon

Lot 2

Aythya nyroca, Ferruginous Duck
Circus aeruginosus, Marsh Harrier
Falco subbuteo, Hobby
Burhinus oedicephalus, Stone Curlew
 Two *Tringa tetanus*, Common Redshank
Tringa ochropus, Green Sandpiper
Streptopelia decaocto, Collared Dove
Cuculus canorus, Common Cuckoo

Asio flammeus, Short-eared Owl
Apus melba, Alpine Swift
 Three *Merops apiaster*, European Bee-eater
Coracias garrulous, European Roller
Turdus torquatus, Ring Ouzel
Oriolus oriolus, Golden Oriole
Asio flammeus, Short-eared Owl

Lot 3

Gallinago media, Great Snipe
Sterna sandvicensis, Sandwich Tern
Jynx torquilla, Wryneck
Melanocorypha calandra, Calandra Lark
Anthus novaeseelandiae, Richard's Pipit
Phoenicurus ochruros, Black Redstart
Lullula arborea, Wood Lark
Turdus torquatus, Ring Ouzel

Cisticola juncidis, Zitting Cisticola
Ficedula hypoleuca, Pied Flycatcher
 Three *Oriolus oriolus*, Golden Oriole
Lanius senator, Woodchat Shrike
Emberiza calandra, Corn Bunting
 Two *Mustela nivalis*, Weasel
 Order: *Microchiropetra*., *Pipistrellus* sp

Lot 4

Larus cachimans, Yellow-legged Gull
Burhinus oedicephalus, Stone Curlew
Charadrius morinellus (= *Eudromias morinellus*),
 Dotterel

Otus scops, Eurasian Scops Owl
Monticola saxatilis, Rock Thrush
Mustela nivalis, Weasel

Lot 5

Podiceps nigricollis, Black-necked Grebe
 Two *Puffinus yelkouan*, Yelkouan Shearwater
Nycticorax nycticorax, Night Heron

Hydrobates pelagicus, European Storm-petrel
Egretta garzetta, Little Egret
 Two *Lanius senator*, Woodchat Shrike

Lot 6

Circus aeruginosus, Marsh Harrier

Lot 7

Pandion haliaetus, Osprey

Lot 8

Haematopus ostralegus, Oystercatcher
Charadrius morinellus (*Eudromias morinellus*),
 Dotterel
Gallinago media, Great Snipe
Tringa glareola, Wood Sandpiper
 Two *Apus apus*, Common Swift

Acrocephalus arundinaceus, Great Reed Warbler
Himantopus himantopus, Black-winged Stilt

Calidris minuta, Little Stint
Lanius senator, Woodchat Shrike

Lot 9

Nycticorax nycticorax, Night Heron
Coracias garrulous, European Roller

Two *Oriolus oriolus*, Golden Oriole
Lanius senator, Woodchat Shrike

Lot 10

Sturnella neglecta, Western Meadowlark
 Seven *Turdus migratorius*, American Robin
 Three *Colinus virginianus*, Northern Bobwhite
Sturnella neglecta, Western Meadowlark
 Two *Gallinago gallinago*, Common Snipe
 Three *Anas clypeata*, Shoveler

Toxostoma curvirostre, Curve-Billed Thrasher
Phasianus colchicus, Pheasant
Anas crecca, Green-winged Teal
 Six *Grus Canadensis*, Sandhill Crane
Cynomys sp, Prairie Dog

Lot 11

Mycteria ibis, Yellow-billed stork
 Three *Gyps fulvus*, Griffon vulture
 Two *Chlidonias hybridus*, Whiskered tern
 Two *Buteo rufinus*, Long-legged buzzard

Aquila rapax, Tawny eagle
Bubo africanus, Spotted eagle owl
Aquila sp., Eagle sp.7
 Two *Buteo rufinus*, Long-legged buzzard

Lot 12

Three *Bubo sp.* (?), Owl sp. (pullus)

Lot 13

Tachybaptus ruficollis, Little Grebe
 Two *Podiceps nigricollis*, Black-necked Grebe
 Two *Calonectris diomedea*, Cory's Shearwater
Morus bassanus, Northern Gannet
 Two *Botaurus stellaris*, Eurasian Bittern
 Two *Ixobrychus minutus*, Little Bittern
 Two *Nycticorax nycticorax*, Night Heron
 Five *Ardeola ralloides*, Squacco Heron
Ardea cinerea, Grey Heron
 Two *Ardea purpurea*, Purple Heron
Plegadis falcinellus, Glossy Ibis
 Twenty one *Pernis apivorus*, Honey Buzzard
Elanus caeruleus, Black-shouldered Kite
Milvus migrans, Black Kite
 Five *Circus aeruginosus*, Marsh Harrier
 Five *Circus pygargus*, Montagu's Harrier
 Two *Circus macrourus*, Pallid Harrier
Buteo buteo, Common Buzzard
Aquila nipalensis, Steppe Eagle
 Two *Pandion haliaetus*, Osprey
 Three *Falco naumanni*, Lesser Kestrel
Falco tinnunculus, Common Kestrel
 Four *Falco vespertinus*, Red-footed Falcon

Two *Falco subbuteo*, Hobby
Falco eleonora, Eleonora's Falcon
 Two *Porzana porzana*, Spotted Crake
Himantopus himantopus, Black-winged Stilt
Burhinus oedipnemos, Stone Curlew
 Two *Glareola pratincola*, Collared Pratincole
Tringa tetanus, Common Redshank
Larus minutus, Little Gull
Larus ridibundus, Black-headed Gull
Larus audouinii, Audouin's Gull
Larus cachinnans, Yellow-legged Gull
Sterna sandvicensis, Sandwich Tern
 Two *Streptopelia decaocto*, Collared Dove
 Three *Cuculus canorus*, Common Cuckoo
Asio flammeus, Short-eared Owl
Apus melba, Alpine Swift
Alcedo atthis, Common Kingfisher
Ceryle rudis, Lesser Pied Kingfisher
Merops orientalis, Little Green Bee-eater
 Two *Merops apiaster*, European Bee-eater
Coracias garrulous, European Roller
Upupa epops, Hoopoe
Turdus torquatus, Ring Ouzel

Lot 14

One carved Elephant Tusk delivered by Customs

Lot 15

Branta bernicla, Brent Goose
Anas americana, American Wigeon
Bucephala albeola, Bufflehead
Podiceps nigricollis, Black-necked Grebe
Podiceps cristatus, Great Crested Grebe
Calonectris diomedea, Cory's Shearwater
Puffinus yelkouan, Yelkouan Shearwater
Morus bassanus, Northern Gannet
Phalacrocorax carbo, Cormorant
Botaurus stellaris, Bittern
 Three *Ixobrychus minutus*, Little Bittern
 Three *Nycticorax nycticorax*, Night Heron
Ardeola ralloides, Squacco Heron
Egretta garzetta, Little Egret
 Two *Ardea cinerea*, Grey Heron
 Two *Ardea purpurea*, Purple Heron
 Thirteen *Pernis apivorus*, Honey Buzzard
 Four *Circus aeruginosus*, Marsh Harrier
 Three *Circus pygargus*, Montagu's Harrier

Porzana parva, Little Crake
Burhinus oedipnemos, Stone Curlew
Charadrius hiaticula, Ringed Plover
Calidris minuta, Little Stint
Calidris temminckii, Temminck's Stint
Calidris alpina, Dunlin
Tringa glareola, Wood Sandpiper
Tringa ochropus, Green Sandpiper
Actitis hypoleucos, Common Sandpiper
 Two *Larus ridibundus*, Black-headed Gull
 Two *Larus genei*, Slender-billed Gull
Larus michahellis, Yellow-legged Gull
Sterna sandvicensis, Sandwich Tern
 Two *Chlidonias niger*, Black Tern
Streptopelia decaocto, Collared Dove
Clamator glandarius, Great Spotted Cuckoo
 Two *Cuculus canorus*, Cuckoo
Otus scops, Scops Owl
Asio flammeus, Short-eared Owl

Pandion haliaetus, Osprey
 Two *Falco naumanni*, Lesser Kestrel
 Two *Falco tinnunculus*, Kestrel
 Two *Falco vespertinus*, Red-footed Falcon
 Two *Falco eleonora*, Eleonora's Falcon
 Two *Falco subbuteo*, Hobby
Porzana porzana, Spotted Crake

Caprimulgus europaeus, Nightjar
Alcedo atthis, Kingfisher
 Two *Merops apiaster*, Bee-eater
Coracias garullus, Roller
Upupa epops, Hoopoe
 Two *Oriolus oriolus*, Golden Oriole
Lanius senator, Woodchat Shrike

1e: MILITARY COLLECTION

Item	Description	Type of Acquisition	Source
1	Bookcases	Transfer	Transfer from the house of parliament to the Palace Armoury
2	Desk	Transfer	Transfer from the house of parliament to the Palace Armoury
3	Fascio	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay
4	Two Razioni Italian case lids	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay
5	Four German parachute flares (Eisteld, Umg date 1939, 1940,1940,1940)	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay
6	Five large brass cartridges (without shells)	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay
7	Bomb like canister	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
8	Boot expander`	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
9	Electric heater	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
10	Bomb tail	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
11	American bomb tail	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
12	British illumination SPRA 9/41 Lotus	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
13	Metal pipe-like item	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
14	Large German bomb complete with tail	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
15	Three small brass cartridges	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
16	Three pairs of boots	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
17	Wind-speed and direction indicator	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
18	Barbed Wire	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
19	Model MT02 radio telephone transmitting and receiving equipment of the Navy Department Bureau of Ships, Chicago Illinois	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
20	British MK.II Tommy helmet painted in Malta camouflage	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
21	US M1 helmet	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
22	British Paratrooper helmet	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
23	British MK.II Turtle helmet	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna

Item	Description	Type of Acquisition	Source
24	British MK.II Tommy helmet painted in rubble wall camouflage	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
25	British MK.I helmet	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
26	Belt and holsters	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
27	Water bottle in pouch	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
28	2 Aladis lamps	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
29	2-piece uniform	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
30	RAF cap	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
31	Turkish (or North African) Fez	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
32	fencing guard in two pieces	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
33	Weather forecast panel	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
34	Sam Brown	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
35	Aircraft (bomber type) tail wheel	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
36	2 Two nose like containers	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
37	RAF cap	Donation	Baroness Christiane Ramsay Scicluna
38	<i>WW1 publication: Handbook for the .303-in Vickers Machine Gun</i>	Donation	<i>Mr Emmanuel Magro Conti</i>
39	<i>Ticket: permanent pass</i>	Donation	<i>Mr Donald Wake, UK</i>
40	<i>Old blue lid</i>	Donation	<i>Mr Mario Coleiro,</i>
41	Old white enamel dish	Donation	Mr Mario Coleiro
42	Old white round enamel dish	Donation	Mr Mario Coleiro
43	Old white enamel pan with single handle	Donation	Mr Mario Coleiro
44	Chalwyn pilot lamp and glass shield	Donation	Mr Mario Coleiro
45	Pilot lamp and glass shield	Donation	Mr Mario Coleiro
46	Original hand drawn and written, hour by hour World War II Air Raid Charts & Records	Donation	Mssrs Busuttill & Mrs Josephine Galea Busuttill
47	Old blue and white enamel cooking pot	Donation	Mr Mario Coleiro
48	Old blue and white enamel cooking pan	Donation	Mr Mario Coleiro
49	Old blue and white enamel oval bowl	Donation	Mr Mario Coleiro
50	Old blue and white enamel small plate	Donation	Mr Mario Coleiro
51	1930s 'Bombay' hat	Donation	Mr Mario Coleiro
52	Fragments of news paper IL-BERKA	Donation	Mr Mario Coleiro
53	World War II war head of a shell	Donation	Mr Mario Coleiro
54	World War II Royal Air Force Uniforms (jacket and trousers)	Donation	Mrs Elizabeth Drew, UK
55	Photograph of Squadron Leader Roger Rennels Drew	Donation	Mrs Elizabeth Drew, UK
56	Items formerly pertained to the donor's late father Mr John F Norris (b. 17 December 1919 – d. 21 July 2005) who during World War II served in the personal staff of the Governor of Malta (Dobbie, Gort and Campbell) as confidential clerk.	Donation	Ms Maria Norris, UK
57	1939 German 20 Reich mark Bank note	Donation	Mr Angelo Briffa through Mr. Emmanuel Magro Conti

Item	Description	Type of Acquisition	Source
58	Three brass shells	Donation	Mr Mario Coleiro
59	Book: The Pocket Pictorial Gospel of St. John: copy of Active Service Edition. Published 1939	Donation	Ms Maria Norris, UK
60	Shelter admission ticket	Donation	Mr Kenneth Gambin
61	KOMR badge	Donation	Mr Alfred Ciantar,
62	RAF badge	Donation	Mr Alfred Ciantar
63	Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regiment badge	Donation	Mr Alfred Ciantar
64	Twenty six British Army buttons	Donation	Mr Alfred Ciantar
65	Royal Navy button	Donation	Mr Alfred Ciantar
66	British Army 300 Cart 0.303-inch Ball Mk.7 BDR ammunition box	Donation	Mr Alfred Ciantar
67	Documents pertaining to Seaman Walter Ellis who served on sub HMS Sportman	Donation	Mrs MT Henderson
68	Book: Catholic Prayer book for HM forces published 1957	Donation	Mr Peter A Linford, UK
69	Book: The New Testament of Our Lord Jesus Christ	Donation	Mr Peter A Linford, UK
70	Metal badge mounted on wooden shield of the 39/93 Royal Pioneer Corps Club	Donation	Mr Peter A Linford, UK
71	Corps tie of the Royal Pioneer Corps	Donation	Mr Peter A Linford, UK
72	Royal Pioneer Corps cap badge	Donation	Mr Peter A Linford, UK
73	Pair Royal Pioneer Corps lapels badge	Donation	Mr Peter A Linford, UK
74	Wall Shield of the Royal Pioneer Corps	Donation	Mr Peter A Linford, UK
75	Royal Pioneer Corps shoulder title	Donation	Mr Peter A Linford, UK
76	British Army shoulder badge	Donation	Mr Peter A Linford, UK
77	Document: October 2008 & April 2009 issues of The Newsletter of the Royal Pioneer Corps Association.	Donation	Mr Peter A Linford, UK
78	Document: First Btn KOMR enlistment notice dated 12 May 1918 (Maltese language)	Donation	Magistrate Parnis Bequest WWI Papers from NMFA to NWM
79	Document: RMA enlistment poster dated 1 May 1918 (Maltese language)	Donation	Magistrate Parnis Bequest WWI Papers from NMFA to NWM
80	Document: Second Btn Maltese Labour Corps enlistment notice dated 4 May 1918 (English language)	Donation	Magistrate Parnis Bequest WWI Papers from NMFA to NWM
81	Document: Maltese Labour Battalion enlistment notice dated September 1917 (English language)	Donation	Magistrate Parnis Bequest WWI Papers from NMFA to NWM
82	Document: Second Btn Maltese Labour Corps enlistment notice dated October 1917 (English language)	Transfer	Magistrate Parnis Bequest WWI Papers from NMFA to NWM
83	Document: War Office Motor Transport Companies enlistment notice dated 3 December 1917 (English language)	Transfer	Magistrate Parnis Bequest WWI Papers from NMFA to NWM
84	Document: War Office Clerks and Bakers enlistment notice dated 15 Decemner 1917 (English language)	Transfer	Magistrate Parnis Bequest WWI Papers from NMFA to NWM

Item	Description	Type of Acquisition	Source
85	Document: Notice of pay of Maltese Soldiers (Drivers, Clerks and Bakers) dated 12 January 1918 (English language)	Transfer	Magistrate Parnis Bequest WWI Papers from NMFA to NWM
86	Document: First Btn Maltese Labour Corps enlistment notice for service at Salonica dated 1 April 1918 (English language) & (pasted) Employee Company enlistment notice for service at Salonica dated 22 February 1918 (for cooks, waiters and servants) (Maltese language)	Transfer	Magistrate Parnis Bequest WWI Papers from NMFA to NWM
87	Document: No.603 Army Service Corps Mechanical Transport enlistment notice (fitters, turner, skilled workers, carpenters, electricians) dated 21 May 1918 (Maltese language)	Transfer	Magistrate Parnis Bequest WWI Papers from NMFA to NWM
88	Document: First Btn Maltese Labour Corps enlistment notice for service at Salonica dated December 1917 (English language)	Transfer	Magistrate Parnis Bequest WWI Papers from NMFA to NWM
89	Document: Leaflet notifying pay, allowances, pensions and conditions allocated to Maltese soldiers in the Motor Transport Army Service Corps (French language)	Transfer	Magistrate Parnis Bequest WWI Papers from NMFA to NWM
90	Document: Leaflet notifying pay, allowances, pensions and conditions allocated to Maltese soldiers in the Motor Transport Army Service Corps (Maltese language)	Transfer	Magistrate Parnis Bequest WWI Papers from NMFA to NWM
91	Document: Motor Transport Drivers Army Service Corps enlistment notice dated 6 February 1918 (English Language)	Transfer	Magistrate Parnis Bequest WWI Papers from NMFA to NWM
92	Document: Maltese Employment Company enlistment notice for service at Salonica dated February 1918.	Transfer	Magistrate Parnis Bequest WWI Papers from NMFA to NWM
93	Model kits: A large collection of models of World War II and post war military vehicles, tanks, artillery pieces and personnel.	Donation	Mrs Beatrice Attard
94	Soldiers' sleeping nets	Donation	Mrs Maria Tabone Malta
95	WWII shrapnel fragments	Donation	Mr James Aquilina
96	Document: Innu Malti flyer distributed in villages during the George Cross celebrations, when he toured town & villages in Malta & Gozo	Donation	Prof Roger Vella Bonavia Australia
97	Booklet: War Illustrated: 16002	Donation	Mr B Smith, UK
98	Journal: Prop-Swing Spring 2009	Donation	Mr William Bradbiery, UK
99	Three photographs of a Gloster Gladiator, Shuttleworth, Duxford, UK	Donation	Mr William Bradbiery, UK
100	Twelve volumes containing the collected speeches and writings of Benito Mussolini	Donation	Mrs Cecilia Xuereb
101	Photo album containing photographs taken at the Royal Navy Rifle Range, Ricasoli	Donation	Mr Louis Zammit (through Dr Mario Tabone)
102	Large jeweller's safe	Donation	Mr Richard Micallef
103	Collection of forty four antique postcards of Malta	Donation	Mrs Marilyn Heffrey, UK
104	Life Belt	Donation	Mr Anthony Abela, Chaieman, (through Mr Louis Borg)
105	US Army Torch	Donation	Mr David Fiteni

Item	Description	Type of Acquisition	Source
106	Four plates dated 1940s	Donation	Mrs Rose Fiteni
107	RAF mug	Donation	Mrs Rose Fiteni
108	US Army mug	Donation	Mrs Rose Fiteni
109	Officer's blue jacket of The East Lancashire Regiment (mid-twentieth century)	Donation	Mrs Claire Arrigo
110	Two officer's blue pairs of trousers (with red line) of The East Lancashire Regiment (mid-twentieth century)	Donation	Mrs Claire Arrigo
111	Officer's peaked cap	Donation	Mrs Claire Arrigo
112	Side cap of The East Lancashire Regiment (mid-twentieth century)	Donation	Mrs Claire Arrigo
113	Four British Army (Far East) green jackets	Donation	Mrs Claire Arrigo
114	British Army (Far East) pair of green trousers	Donation	Mrs Claire Arrigo
115	Pair of brown boots	Donation	Mrs Claire Arrigo
116	Eight textile belts (three green and six khaki)	Donation	Mrs Claire Arrigo
117	Twenty-two photographs of scenes from a Malta Convoy	Donation	Mrs Claire Arrigo
118	British Army officer's green coat of The East Lancashire Regiment	Donation	Mrs Claire Arrigo
119	British Army green jersey	Donation	Mrs Claire Arrigo
120	British Army officer's peaked cap of The Lancastrian Regiment	Donation	Mrs Claire Arrigo
121	British Army whistle (1945)	Donation	Mrs Claire Arrigo
122	Two pairs of socks (one green and one violet)	Donation	Mrs Claire Arrigo
123	Pair of gaiters	Donation	Mrs Claire Arrigo
124	British Army green jacket of The Lancashire Regiment	Donation	Mrs Claire Arrigo
125	British Army green pair of trousers of The East Lancashire Regiment	Donation	Mrs Claire Arrigo
126	British Army green textile belt	Donation	Mrs Claire Arrigo
127	WW1 cap badge Manchester Regiment	Donation	Mr S McGlynn, UK
128	WW2 cap badge Manchester Regiment	Donation	Mr S McGlynn, UK
129	Cap badge of the Grenadier Guards	Donation	Mr S McGlynn, UK
130	Cap badge of the Irish Fusiliers	Donation	Mr S McGlynn, UK
131	Six photographs of RN ships taken in Malta in 1948	Donation	Mr Oliver Hunter, UK
132	Thirty three Malta and Gozo wartime photographs	Donation	Mr & Mrs B Turner, UK
133	WWII general civilian respirator	Donation	Mr Richard Micallef
134	RMA battle dress jacket (1937) pattern	Donation	Mr Richard Micallef
135	Book: The Malta Squadron: Edited by Roger Anthony and published in 2005	Donation	Mr Edward Stafrace
136	Book: Faith & Fortitude: The Life and work of General Sir William Dobbie: Britain, 1979	Donation	Mr Malcolm Henderson, UK

Item	Description	Type of Acquisition	Source
137	AFM peaked cap (without badge)	Donation	Mr Alex Randon
138	Colour plate of Infantry Tank MK II Matilda, RTR Tank Detachment Malta 1942	Donation	Mr Alex Randon
139	Postcard of Primo Centenario della nascita di Teseo Tesei, L'Elba e Teseo Tesei	Donation	Mr Giorgio Giusti, Italia
140	British Army signalling torch	Donation	Mr Paul Gunton, Ireland
141	Photograph of a group of first Holy Communion children and relatives	Donation	Mr Francis Bonett Florian
142	Pre WWII Union flag	Donation	Mr Michael Bicknell, UK
143	Wartime photographs	Donation	Mr Bill Crook, UK
144	Models of a 40mm Bofors Light Anti-Aircraft gun, Bofors Light Anti-Aircraft gun in emplacement, gun crew quarters and latrine	Donation	Captain George Pace Balzan
145	WWII life jacket from the merchant ship S.S. Almeria Lykes	Donation	Mrs L Gower, UK (through Mrs Susan Raftree)
146	RAF reflector gun sight MK II AM : Serial No. 15437/43 in original box (WWII)	Donation	Dr Thomas Loebenstein Favoritenstrasse, Austria
147	RAF bubble sextant MK9 : Serial No. 3210/40 (WWII): for use on bombers	Donation	Dr Thomas Loebenstein Favoritenstrasse, Austria
148	German Luftwaffe AC/DC Converter	Donation	Dr Thomas Loebenstein Favoritenstrasse, Austria

Appendix II : Heritage Malta Events Diary

Exhibitions hosted by HM

20 December 2008 – 1 February

Strange Cargo – An exhibition of suitcase portraits and paintings by Isabelle Borg at the Loggia, NMFA.

7 February – 15 March

Holidays in Malta – An exhibition of watercolours by Walter Busuttil at HM Head Office, Valletta.

7 March – 19 April

Tracking the Different – An exhibition of abstract paintings by Arben Theodosi from Albania at the Contemporary Hall, NMFA.

21 March – 3 May

Details of Life – An exhibition of paintings by Andrew Micallef at HM Head Office, Valletta.

21 March – 3 May

Epiphania – An exhibition of paintings by Anthony Spagnol at the Loggia, NMFA.

25 April – 8 May

(AG)² - An exhibition of silver filigree by Jason Lu and Kevin Attard at the Inquisitor's Palace, Vittoriosa.

25 April – 31 May

Still Lives – An exhibition of abstract paintings by Carmen Pizzuto at the Contemporary Hall, NMFA.

9 May – 14 June

Compositions – An exhibition of abstract paintings by Paul Cassar at the Loggia, NMFA.

10 May – 31 June

Under Construction – An exhibition of concrete, industrial paint, tar, glass and metal by Adrian Scicluna at the MMM.

15 May – 20 June

Shards – An exhibition of glass and stone sculptures by Walter Vella at HM Head Office, Valletta.

29 May

Raw and Pure – An exhibition of filigree and drawings by Kevin Attard and Denis Calleja at the Preti Hall, NMFA.

5 June – 14 July

Oulag Vethal (1946-2007) drawings & prints – An exhibition of drawings and prints by Oulag Vethal of Norway at the Contemporary Hall, NMFA.

26 June – 2 August

Xanthos: where the earth is coloured golden-brown – An exhibition of paintings by Robert Galea at HM Head Office, Valletta.

28 June – 4 October

Renzo Piano's Valletta Projects – An exhibition of plans and models of the City Gate Project by Renzo Piano at the Grand Salon, NMA.

8 August – 20 September

Passion tru Time – An exhibition of paintings by Anthony Lucian Cauchi at HM Head Office, Valletta.

21 August – 12 October

Maltese Balconies Exhibition – An exhibition of scale models of Maltese balconies by students from MCAST Art & Design Institute at the Inquisitor's Palace, Vittoriosa.

11 September – 25 October

Spectre-Bark – An exhibition of works of art by Anthony Catania at the MMM.

24 – 30 September

ALPS exhibition – A display of arts, books and photography by ex-Lyceum students at HM Head Office, Valletta.

2 October – 15 November

2 Diaries – A joint exhibition of paintings, collages and sculpture by Carmel Bonello and Jeremy Ellul at HM Head Office, Valletta.

9 October – 22 November

Il-Bieqja u ... - An exhibition of ceramics by Sina Farrugia Micallef at the Contemporary Hall, NMFA.

24 October – 29 November

The Spirit, Physical & Emotion – An exhibition of paintings by Noel Attard at the Loggia, NMFA.

27 November – 9 January 2010

Sculptures in Bronze – An exhibition of bronze sculptures by Antoine Paul Camilleri at HM Head Office, Valletta.

Exhibitions organised by HM**6 December 2008 – 10 February**

Victor Pasmore in Malta: Commemorative Exhibition – An exhibition of works of art at the Contemporary Hall, NMFA.

13 December 2008 – 1 February

From Within 2008 – An exhibition of works of art by HM Staff at HM Head Office, Valletta.

15 December 2008 – 23 January

Batik, Mosaic, Photography and Paintings - An exhibition of items from the National Collection recently acquired by the NMFA.

23 – 30 March

Maps of Valletta – An exhibition of maps from the Albert Ganado Map Collection tracing the historic development of Valletta, at the Preti Halls, NMFA.

3 – 26 April

Sitio – An exhibition of Good Friday and Easter statuettes from Mario Coleiro's private collection at the Inquisitor's Palace, Vittoriosa.

26 April – 9 October

Popular Sacred Statuettes – An exhibition of popular sacred statuettes from Mario Coleiro's private collection at the Inquisitor's Palace, Vittoriosa.

15 June – 10 July

Bronze statuette – An exhibition of a bronze statuette discovered in Gozo in 1771 at HM Gozo Area Office.

18 July – 1 September

The Artist at Work – An exhibition of drawings and *bozzetti* from the National Collection at the Contemporary Hall, NMFA.

21 August – 6 September

Heritage at Risk: Giving life to our forgotten past – An exhibition organised by the first year students reading for an MA in Cultural Heritage Management with the participation of leading local artists at the NMNH.

9 October

Inauguration of the Via Matris Collection – A permanent exhibition of clay statuettes representing the seven sorrows of the Virgin by Chris Ebejer at the Inquisitor's Palace, Vittoriosa.

9 October – 30 November

Altar and Church Furniture Models – An exhibition of altar and church furniture models from Mario Coleiro's private collection at the Inquisitor's Palace, Vittoriosa.

Exhibitions in collaboration with others**2 March – 17 April**

Victor Pasmore in Malta: Commemorative Exhibition – An exhibition of paintings in collaboration with MCCA held at the HM Gozo Area Office.

17 March – 3 May

Reflections on Pauline Theology – An exhibition of paintings by John Martin Borg accompanied by archaeological artefacts from the National Collection on the occasion of the Pauline Centenary, organised by HM in collaboration with the Department of History of Arts, UOM, at the Grand Salon, NMA.

2 – 24 May

The Artist at Work – An exhibition of drawings and *bozzetti* from the National Collection in collaboration with the Ministry for Gozo at the Banca Giuratale, Victoria, Gozo.

11 September – 10 October

Miniature Maps of Malta – An exhibition from the Albert Ganado Map collection in collaboration with the Ministry for Gozo held at the Exhibition Hall, Ministry for Gozo, Victoria.

6 – 31 October

Feast of Our Lady of Pilar – Exhibition of the statue of Our Lady of Pilar at the Chapel of Our Lady of Pilar, San Anton Palace, Attard, in collaboration with the Office of the President of the Republic.

19 December – 17 January 2010

Pictures from the Floating World – An exhibition of Japanese prints from the National Collection at the Contemporary Hall, NMFA, in collaboration with the Malta Japan Association.

Exhibitions in which HM participated**24 January – 14 February**

St Paul: Faith and Iconography – An exhibition of works of art relating to St Paul held at the Ministry for Gozo.

23 April – 24 May

Teżori ta' Ghawdex fil-Bibljojoteka Nazzjonali ta' Malta – An exhibition of manuscripts, plans, books, engravings and drawings from Gozo at the Exhibitions Hall, Ministry for Gozo.

29 April – 21 June

Whistles: From Ritual to Toys – An exhibition of over 150 whistles from Maltese private and public collections at Palazzo Falson, Mdina.

27 November 2009 – 11 April 2010

From the Templars to Napoleon: Knights across European history and art, 13th – 19th century – An exhibition held at La Venaria Reale, Torino, Italy.

Lectures organised by HM

17 April

Victor Pasmore in Malta – A lecture by Ms Katya Borg on the life and work of the artist at the Conference Hall of the Ministry for Gozo.

25 – 29 May

Conservation week – Five lecturers by six conservators/restorers discussing the conservation treatment of selected works of art from the National Collection at the NMFA.

12 June

Applied Conservation Studies (M.Cons.) presentation – One day seminar presented by students following the Masters course at HM Conservation Division, Bighi.

6 – 24 July

Introductory Course to Conservation Studies – Course offered by the ICMCH.

29 July

Lampedusa – a distant cousin? – Lecture delivered by the Principal Curator of the NMNH to BirdLife Malta members, including the screening of *La Notte con le Nerte* (a wildlife film) at the NMNH.

28 – 30 October

Vincenzo Bonello Commemorative Events – Lectures by conservators of HM on conservation/restoration projects of Mathias Stom's 'Death of Cato' and Le Valentin's 'Judith and Holophernes' and an official commemorative lecture by Ms Stephanie Vella at the NMFA.

27 November

The Art of Stone and Fire: Ancient Chinese Porcelain – A lecture by Dr Qin Dashu, Professor of Archaeology at the School of Archaeology and Museology, Peking University in Beijing organised by HM in collaboration with the China Cultural Centre at the Salon, NMA.

Events organised by HM

22 January

Official presentation by the Central Bank of an original painted wooden sculpture by Victor Pasmore to HM at the NMFA.

25 January

Life at Sea – Re-enactment of life at the Vittoriosa port in the 18th century including guided tours, military drills, a typical market, screening of film, conservation of an old boat and a demonstration of boat model making at the MMM.

11 – 12 February

Mask making workshop for students in the 8-12 years group at the NMFA.

25 February

Official launching of the publication *Atlas Mercator, Merchant routes and trade cities in the Mediterranean* at the National Library, Valletta.

4 March

Official presentation of a replica of one of the Ħaġar Qim statues by Limestone Heritage, at the NMA.

11- 13, 16 - 18 March and 8 April

The Intangible Heritage of Holy Week and Easter in Malta – Thematic hands-on programme including games related to the period, the cooking of local *kwareżimal* culinary delight and a themed craft session at the Inquisitor’s Palace.

15 March

Open day at San Pawl Milqi, including guided tours.

22 March

Żurna l-Hadd: Reduced entrance fee at the Gozo Museum of Archaeology.

26 March

Fototeka – Press conference on the *Fototeka* at the NMA together with the sponsors Alf. Mizzi Foundation.

15 April

Thematic drawing activity for children during the Easter holidays at the Inquisitor’s Palace.

19 April

Heritage Trail – Evening Tour ‘A Focus on Rabat’, including the Roman Domvs.

22 April

Art&Wine @ South Street – Artist Madelaine Gera interviewed by Lou Bondi at the NMFA.

25 May

Official inauguration of the NWM by Vice Prime Minister Tonio Borg and Minister of Education, Culture, Youth and Sport Dolores Cristina.

31 May

Bighi Open Day – Guided tours, learning programmes, and on-site stone restoration at HM Conservation Division, Bighi.

7 June

4 for Free – Free entrance to the NMFA, NMNH, MMM and Ta’ Kola Windmill as part of HM’s social responsibility. HM memberships were also offered at a favourable rate.

10 June

Art&Wine @ South Street (2) – Artist Pierre Portelli interviewed by Marie Briguglio at the NMFA.

20 – 21 June

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

26 June

Experiencing Hospitaller Vittoriosa – An evening tour of the *Collacchio* in Vittoriosa followed by traditional food at the Inquisitor's Palace.

10 August

Extended opening hours at a reduced admission fee at the Inquisitor's Palace and the MMM on the occasion of the feast of St Lawrence at Vittoriosa Parish Church.

21 August

Heritage at Risk: Giving life at our forgotten past – A conference organised by the first year students reading for an MA in Cultural Heritage Management linked to an exhibition of contemporary art with the participation of leading local artists at the NMNH.

30 August

Extended opening hours and reduced admission fee at the Inquisitor's Palace on the occasion of the feast of St Dominic at Vittoriosa.

4 September

Besieged Vittoriosa – Evening tour of the surviving landmarks that played an active role in the epic siege in 1565, followed by a lavish BBQ in the courtyard of the Inquisitor's Palace.

11 -13 September

Children's workshop including clay models, drawing artefacts from the museum collection and an interactive game, at the NMNH.

22 September

Guided tours on the occasion of the Equinox at Mnajdra.

13 October

Smartmuseum – Presentation of the Smartmuseum project at NMFA during the Third International Conference on Advances in Semantic Processing.

16 October

A group of local visitors from the **U3E society** were hosted **at the ICMCH** for a tour of the conservation labs, and a visual presentation on HM.

17 October

Olive Oil through the Ages Heritage Trail – A visit to San Pawl Milqi and to an olive pressing farm at Wardija followed by a typical Maltese lunch.

6 November

Experiencing l-Ghid tal-Erwieħ: A themed event focusing on popular traditions associated with time-honoured beliefs in the afterlife, and insights of the supernatural as perceived by the Roman Inquisition in Malta followed by a thematic supper, at the Inquisitor's Palace.

29 November

Heritage Trail: Protecting our Heritage – Visit to the ICMCH Laboratories with consultation sessions from HM experts on how to take care of private collections/treasures, activities for children and free optional educational workshop.

20 – 22 December

Guided tours of Mnajdra on the occasion of the winter solstice.

23 December – 13 January 2010

ERDF Ġgantija Design Contest – An exhibition of design contest entries (drawings and models) at the Ministry for Gozo, Victoria.

Events in which HM participated**26 - 27 February**

Naxxar Higher Secondary Career Week – The education unit within ICMCH set up an exhibition stand at the school, representing HM.

28 March

Artisport – Tour for parents at Palazzo Parisio by the Senior Curator of the NMFA.

1 - 4 April

Career Convention MCC – The ICMCH education unit set up a stand at MCC to promote careers within HM.

17 May

Setting up of an exhibition at **the Senglea Maritime Festival** in collaboration with the Senglea Local Council.

22 – 24 May

Lejlet Lapsi Notte Gozitana – Extended opening hours and free admission at the Gozo Museum of Archaeology and The Old Prison, Gozo.

28 June

Guided tours and wine tasting activity at Ta' Kola Windmill, organised by the Kartell Restaurant in collaboration with HM.

7 July

Seminar għall-Kunsilli Lokali dwar il-Wirt Kulturali u l-Att ta' Kurazija – Presentation given by HM at the Hotel Excelsior Floriana.

24 September

Ceremony to **inaugurate** the completed restoration project carried out by HM Conservators of the **Oratory of the Blessed Sacrament, Żejtun**.

26 September

Extended opening hours at a reduced admission fee for Tarxien Temples on the occasion of **Epoka: Lejl ta' Kultura, Wirjiet u Spettaklu f'Hal Tarxien**, in collaboration with the Tarxien Local Council.

24 October

Interventions in Historic Urban Areas: Conservation, Revitalisation or Redevelopment? – Workshops organised by Building Industry Consultative Council at the Auberge de Baviere, Valletta, with a presentation by the Manager of the Architecture, Stone and Objects Conservation Department of HM.

28 October

Sir Alexander Ball's death anniversary re-enactment at the Lower Barracca in collaboration with HRGM and MTA.

30 October - 6 November

Festival Mediterranea – Heritage events organised by Astra Theatre in collaboration with HM, including guided tours by David Trump at the Hypogeum, Ġgantija Temples, Gozo Museum of Archaeology, NMA, Ta' Haġrat and Ta' Skorba Temples.

14 November

Through the doors and up the stairs – A workshop conducted by Finnish-Maltese artist, Arja Callus Nukarinen at the NMFA.

22 November

World Children's Day – The Ministry of Education, Culture, Youth and Sport in collaboration with HM organised guided tours, story telling and drawing session at the Palace, mystery games at the NMA, treasure hunts and guided tours at the NMFA.

23 – 29 November

Science and Technology Fair – HM set up a stand in relation to the importance of science in conservation of cultural heritage.

5 – 6 December

Reduced admission fee at the NMNH as part of the cultural event **B'impenn 'il quddiem, ġrajjetek maghrufa** organised by the Mdina local Council.

7 December

Winter tastes - An event to promote different typical food, cooked mostly in Winter and guided tours at Ta' Haġrat with a reduced price organised by the Mgarr Local Council.

Events organised in collaboration with others**28 March**

Valletta Day – Admission to the NMA, NMFA, Palace Armoury and the Grand Master's Palace open at half price for Valletta residents. Organised by the Valletta Local Council in collaboration with HM.

18 – 19 April

Medieval Mdina – Extended opening hours and reduced admission fee at the NMNH for this event organised by the MTA and the Mdina Local Council in collaboration with HM

22 April

Launch of the publication **Ruins of a Megalithic Temple at Xeuchia, First Report by Fr Emmanuel Magri** by HM and the Salesians of Don Bosco at HM Head Office.

17 May

HSBC Heritage Trail ‘The Knight’s fortifications in the 17th century’ - A guided tour for HSBC employees, including the Red Tower, St Angelo and Wignacourt tower.

18 May

Annual scientific visit to Filfla by the NMNH and BirdLife Malta.

23 May

European Night of Museums and International Museums Day – Extended opening hours and treasure hunt at the NMA, NMFA, NWM and the Palace, guided tours, hands-on and other educational activities.

31 May

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

20 - 27 June

Life class sessions organised by Madeleine Gera at the NMFA.

20 July - 27 August

Skola Sajf Gozo - Activities organized by HM Gozo Area Office for students from 13 different centres, including fun games, drama and hands on at the Gozo Museum of Archaeology, Folklore Museum, Old Prisons, Gozo Nature Museum and Ta’ Kola Windmill, Gozo.

20 July – 28 August

Skola Sajf 2009 – Seventeen sessions of a specialized learning programme including a brief introduction on the Inquisitor’s Palace and the Inquisition, a session on creativity and innovation and a hands-on activity on the cooking of local *sfineġ* held at the Inquisitor’s Palace.

2 October

L-Imqabba araha tinbidel mal-Medda taz-Żmien – Special opening and guided tours of Ta’ Mintna Catacombs in collaboration with Mqabba Local Council.

3 – 4 October

Notte Bianca – The NMA, NMFA, Palace Armoury, State Rooms, Head Office and Tal-Pilar Church were opened free of charge in collaboration with MCCA.

5 - 9 October

ICOMOS – International conference at the MCC, concluded with a reception at the NMA.

9-11 October

Birgufest 2009 – Extended opening hours and reduced admission fees of the Inquisitor’s Palace and the MMM on the occasion of *Birgufest*, in collaboration with the Vittoriosa Local Council.

14 – 16 October

Mill-Preistorja sal-Era Digitali – Haġar Qim and Mnejdra Temples hosted students from Qrendi primary school and the Senior Curator Prehistoric Sites took part in a discussion regarding the megalithic sites, in collaboration with Qrendi Local Council.

27 October

Carrack Section – Official presentation of Prof. Robert L. von Dauber's donation and inauguration of the Carrack Section within the Order of St John Hall, at the MMM in collaboration with the Austrian Embassy.

15 November

Extended opening hours and reduced admission fee for the Inquisitor's Palace on the occasion of the **Festival ta' Loghob Tradizzjonali Malti fil-Birgu**, a joint venture between HM (Inquisitor's Palace), the Vittoriosa Local Council and the Parliamentary Secretary for Public Dialogue and Information.

17 November

Patronage Launch – Official launch of the GasanMamo Insurance patronage of the Palace Armoury for 2009-10 at the Palace Armoury.

20 November

Vincenzo Bonello Library Launch – A promotional event in collaboration with HSBC to launch NMFA library at the NMFA.

28 – 29 November

Destinationart – An open weekend at the NMFA including a book fair, guided tours and book launches organised in collaboration with Midsea Books.

Events hosted by HM**18 January**

Cultural Tour by the MCCA – A visit to the Domvs Romana and St Paul's Catacombs.

8 February

Cultural Tour by the MCCA – A tour of Valletta including a visit to Tal-Pilar Chapel.

27 February

'D' une seule voix – A concert organised by the French Embassy at the Salon, NMA.

15 March

Cultural Tour by the MCCA – A visit to the south of Malta including Għar Dalam and Tarxien Temples.

25 April

Glorious memorial service held by the British and Maltese members of the Glarac Association at the MMM.

15 – 17 May

The ICOM Malta annual workshop on ‘**Collections at Risk: Safeguarding our Cultural Heritage**’, at the Salon, NMA.

7 June

‘**Lace in the Street**’ exhibition by *Klabb Bizzilla Maltija* at the front courtyard of the NMNH.

27 June

Annual Mass by the Hispano-Maltese Association at Tal-Pilar Chapel.

28 August

Il Pranzo del Corso – An event organised for the medical professional of Malta, who were treated to an authentic 18th century corsair meal at the MMM.

25 September

Researcher’s Night – A play at the foyer of the NMA as part of the Researcher’s Night Activities.

27 October

Lejla ta’ Ġieħ – A seminar on the occasion of the 80th birthday of Paul Mizzi of *Klabb Kotba Maltin* organised by Midsea Publications under the patronage of the Prime Minister at the Salon, NMA.

Appendix III : Visitor Statistics

Sites/Museums	Jan – Dec 2009	Jan – Dec 2008
Għar Dalam	45,557	56,754
Haġar Qim & Mnajdra	114,488	76,667
Hal Saflieni Hypogeum	26,193	25,760
Inquisitor's Palace	39,900	39,643
Malta Maritime Museum	16,129	17,075
Domvs Romana	21,392	23,581
National Museum of Archaeology	84,007	88,737
National Museum of Fine Arts	16,560	17,550
National Museum of Natural History	13,144	16,337
National War Museum	55,562	Closed
Palace Armoury	84,111	90,642
St. Paul's Catacombs	71,380	71,461
Palace State Rooms	133,305	173,318
Tarxien Temples	102,427	125,881
Folklore Museum	3,780	7,328
Ġgantija Temples	179,805	196,460
Gozo Museum of Archaeology	9,262	12,256
Gozo Nature Museum	4,021	5,133
Ta' Kola Windmill	11,981	6,553
The Old Prisons	8,930	15,778
Borġ in-Nadur	69	276
Salina Catacombs	0	0
San Pawl Milqi	778	111
Ta' Haġrat Temples	438	447
Tas-Silġ	33	318
Skorba Temples	361	354
Bistra Catacombs	30	0
Total Paying Visitors	1,043,643	1,068,420
Total Visitors (paying and non-paying)	1,143,938	

Annual Report
and Consolidated
Financial Statements

31 December 2009



HERITAGE MALTA
Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements – 31 December 2009

	Pages
Directors' report	1 - 3
Statement of directors' responsibilities	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 financial statements	11 - 27

Directors' report

The directors present their report and the audited financial statements for the period ended 31 December 2009.

Principal activities

Heritage Malta is the national Agency of the Government of Malta set up in 2002 under the provisions of the Cultural Heritage Act, 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 restoring cultural property within its portfolio. It also includes a Conservation Division, covering training, education, research and practice of conservation and restoration. It is responsible for acting as a national consulting agency on all matters related to restoration, creation of public awareness on restoration and the establishment of working relationships with centres of restoration outside Malta.

Change in accounting reference date

As from 2009, the Agency's financial period was changed to a calendar year that is 12 months ending 31 December. Accordingly, these financial statements reflect the period from 1 January 2009 to 31 December 2009 whilst comparative figures cover transactions for the 15 month - period 1 October 2007 to 31 December 2008.

Financial allocation

The Agency finances its operations through a subvention voted by Government. In 2009 €3,300,000 (2008: €2,795,000) were allocated to meet Heritage Malta's administrative expenditure for the calendar year from 1 January 2009 to 31 December 2009 under Recurrent Vote 32, item 6031. In turn Heritage Malta pays Government an amount of € 233,950 (2008: € 233,950) covering rents in respect of various sites and premises that it occupies.

Further amounts were also allocated to Heritage Malta under Capital Vote V in the Government's financial estimates of 2009 .These include €500,000 (2008: €500,000) relating to improvements at museums and historical sites, and restoration works under item 7033.

The Agency's subsidiary, Heritage Malta Services Limited, acts as the commercial arm of Heritage Malta in promoting initiatives, activities and events of a commercial nature. Its main activities include the hiring out of venues for corporate entertainment, promoting its corporate patrons programme and monitoring the museum shop activities besides other day-to-day operations.

Review of operations

During the financial year the Agency succeeded in reversing the deficit of the previous period amounting to €3,000,000 and turning this to a surplus of €393,000, after a depreciation charge of €624,000. Such improvement over the previous year's figures was mainly due to a one-off financial injection from the Government of €500,000 together with a significant increase in revenue as well as tighter cost controls.

The results for the period under review show a more positive picture of the Agency's financial position than in previous years. The Agency's main income stream is generated by tourist visitor ticket sales. Notwithstanding that 2009 was marked by a significant drop in tourist arrivals, revenue was 22% higher than the previous (annualised) period in 2008.

Directors' report – continued

Review of operations - continued

During the year new procedures and stricter controls were introduced to enhance and safeguard revenue. Additionally, a number of cost-effective measures were introduced. Wages and salaries, together with rent, security and utilities constitute the vast majority of the Agency's outgoings. Although wages' increase was substantial, staff costs remained at the same level as employees who resigned/retired were not replaced. On the other hand staff costs relating to security staff were replaced by the outsourcing to specialist security firms.

In this period work was concluded on the National War Museum, and continued on the National Museum of Archaeology, the Malta Maritime Museum, the ERDF Project at Hagar Qim Park and several other minor projects. Preparatory work also started on Tarxien Temples, Ggantija Temples and St. Paul's Catacombs ERDF projects and Fort St. Angelo. Work on these sites will not just enhance visitors' experience but help in fulfilling an important role in the protection and conservation of cultural heritage.

The Board of Directors sought to steer the Agency towards focusing its efforts on core activities, functions and roles so as to ensure better fulfilment of its stated mission. In all areas emphasis was placed on the establishment and improvement of systems and procedures aimed at containing costs; improving efficiency; increasing revenue as well as upholding the high level of professionalism that prevails throughout the various areas of the Agency. Effort continues to be made on tapping more private funding towards the upkeep and restoration of sites. Patrons continue providing financial support to Heritage Malta and private contributions are constantly sought to complement the Government's annual funding subvention. Funding from EU projects has continued and applications for new projects have been submitted.

Besides increasing its revenue steadily in 2010 and beyond, Heritage Malta is also aiming to substantially increase its visitors, improve sales of peripheral products and generally maximise its assets. It also plans to continue a major programme of upgrading many of its sites.

Full details of the Agency's activities, projects and initiatives and undertakings are included in the Annual Report

Results

The results for the period ended 31 December 2009 are set out in the income and expenditure account on page 7.

Directors' report - continued

Directors

The directors of the Agency were:

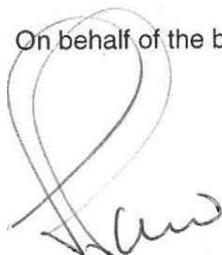
Joseph Said – Chairman
Isabel Vella – Deputy Chairman
Evelyn Baluci
Norma Camilleri
Marika Grech
Bryan Magro
Martin Mercieca
Anthony Bonanno
John Cremona

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.

Auditors

PricewaterhouseCoopers have indicated their willingness to continue in office.

On behalf of the board



Joseph Said
Chairman



Isabel Vella
Deputy Chairman

Registered office
Heritage Malta
Old University Buildings
Merchants Street
Valletta
Malta

24 May 2010

Statement of directors' responsibilities

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.

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 Agency will continue in business as a going concern.

The directors are also responsible for designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and the fair presentation of the 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 Agency and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Independent auditor's report

To the Directors of Heritage Malta

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of Heritage Malta on pages 7 to 27 which comprise the statements of financial position as at 31 December 2009 and the income and expenditure accounts, statements of changes in accumulated funds and statements of cash flows for the period then ended and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the EU and with the requirements of the Cultural Heritage Act, 2002. As described in the statement of directors' responsibilities on page 4, this responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

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 whether the financial statements are free of 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 judgment, 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 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 2009, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the period then ended in accordance with IFRSs as adopted by the EU; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Cultural Heritage Act, 2002.

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.

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 

167 Merchants Street
Valletta
Malta



Simon Flynn
Partner

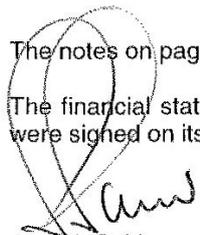
24 May 2010

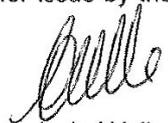
Statements of financial position

	Notes	Consolidated		Agency	
		Year ended 31 December		Year ended 31 December	
		2009	2008	2009	2008
		€	€	€	€
ASSETS					
Non-current assets					
Property, plant and equipment	4	3,720,426	3,561,744	3,720,426	3,561,744
Investments in subsidiaries	5	-	-	4,959	4,959
Total non-current assets		3,720,426	3,561,744	3,725,385	3,566,703
Current assets					
Inventories	6	19,911	32,508	19,911	32,508
Trade and other receivables	7	304,217	347,509	475,468	445,893
Cash and cash equivalents	8	1,620,558	1,394,840	1,416,250	1,279,799
Total current assets		1,944,686	1,774,857	1,911,629	1,758,200
Total assets		5,665,112	5,336,601	5,637,014	5,324,903
RESERVES AND LIABILITIES					
Reserves					
Specific endowment funds	9	969,726	1,151,607	969,726	1,151,607
Accumulated fund					
- Capital vote		3,862,602	3,899,149	3,862,602	3,899,149
- Recurrent vote and operating activities		(1,105,938)	(2,086,168)	(1,124,226)	(2,091,366)
Total reserves		3,726,390	2,964,588	3,708,102	2,959,390
Current liabilities					
Trade and other payables	11	1,937,117	2,371,034	1,928,912	2,365,513
Taxation		1,605	979	-	-
Total liabilities		1,938,722	2,372,013	1,928,912	2,365,513
Total reserves and liabilities		5,665,112	5,336,601	5,637,014	5,324,903

The notes on pages 11 to 27 are an integral part of these financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 7 to 27 were authorised for issue by the board on 24 May 2010 and were signed on its behalf by:


Joseph Said
Chairman


Isabel Vella
Deputy Chairman

Income and expenditure accounts

	Notes	Consolidated		Agency	
		Year ended 31 December 2009 €	Period from 1 October 2007 to 31 December 2008 €	Year ended 31 December 2009 €	Period from 1 October 2007 to 31 December 2008 €
Subvention from consolidated fund for recurrent expenditure	15	3,989,825	3,895,241	3,989,825	3,895,241
Income from operations	12	4,726,336	4,835,146	4,621,914	4,717,114
Funds available for recurrent expenditure		8,716,161	8,730,387	8,611,739	8,612,355
Staff costs	13	(5,271,789)	(6,621,654)	(5,185,678)	(6,513,168)
Other recurrent operational expenditure	13	(2,850,702)	(4,368,041)	(2,850,702)	(4,368,041)
Recurrent administrative expenditure	13	(183,718)	(820,121)	(183,033)	(812,652)
Deficit on recurrent expenditure before interest		409,952	(3,079,429)	392,326	(3,081,506)
Finance income	16	1,715	6,819	1,278	4,144
Deficit before income tax		411,667	(3,072,610)	393,604	(3,077,362)
Tax expense		(4,973)	(1,388)	-	-
Deficit for the financial period/year		406,694	(3,073,998)	393,604	(3,077,362)

The notes on pages 11 to 27 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 October 2007		167,571	3,538,675	3,706,246
Deficit for the financial year		(3,073,998)	-	(3,073,998)
Capital subvention for the year	10	-	1,180,733	1,180,733
Transfer of depreciation to capital vote		770,104	(770,104)	-
Transfer of acquisitions purchased		50,155	(50,155)	-
Balance at 31 December 2008		(2,086,168)	3,899,149	1,812,981
Profit for the financial period		406,694	-	406,694
Capital subvention for the period	10	-	536,989	536,989
Transfer of depreciation to capital vote		573,536	(573,536)	-
Balance at 31 December 2009		(1,105,938)	3,862,602	2,756,664
Agency				
Balance at 1 October 2007		165,737	3,538,675	3,704,412
Deficit for the financial year		(3,077,362)	-	(3,077,362)
Capital subvention for the year	10	-	1,180,733	1,180,733
Transfer of depreciation to capital vote		770,104	(770,104)	-
Transfer of acquisitions purchased		50,155	(50,155)	-
Balance at 31 December 2008		(2,091,366)	3,899,149	1,807,783
Profit for the financial period		393,604	-	393,604
Capital subvention for the period	10	-	536,989	536,989
Transfer of depreciation to capital vote		573,536	(573,536)	-
Transfer of acquisitions purchased		-	-	-
Balance at 31 December 2009		(1,124,226)	3,862,602	2,738,376

The notes on pages 11 to 27 are an integral part of these financial statements.

Statements of cash flows

	Notes	Consolidated		Agency	
		Year ended 31 December 2009 €	Period from 1 October 2007 to 31 December 2008 €	Year ended 31 December 2009 €	Period from 1 October 2007 to 31 December 2008 €
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash used in operations	19	656,447	(729,620)	563,270	(730,215)
Interest received	16	1,715	6,819	1,278	4,144
Tax paid		(4,347)	(933)	-	-
Net cash used in from operating activities		653,815	(723,734)	564,548	(726,071)
Cash flows from investing activities					
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	4	(783,205)	(883,613)	(783,205)	(883,613)
Net cash used in investing activities		(783,205)	(883,613)	(783,205)	(883,613)
Cash flows from financing activities					
Capital subvention from Government	10	536,989	1,180,733	536,989	1,180,733
Specific endowment funds	9	(181,881)	145,649	(181,881)	145,649
Net cash generated from financing activities		355,108	1,326,382	355,108	1,326,382
Net movement in cash and cash equivalents		225,718	(280,965)	136,451	(283,302)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period		1,394,840	1,675,805	1,279,799	1,563,101
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	8	1,620,558	1,394,840	1,416,250	1,279,799

The notes on pages 11 to 27 are an integral part of these financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements

1. Summary of significant accounting policies

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these 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 and comply with the Cultural Heritage Act, 2002. The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention.

Standards, interpretations and amendments to published standards effective in 2009

In 2009, the Agency adopted new standards, amendments and interpretations to existing standards that are mandatory for the Agency's accounting period beginning on 1 January 2009. The adoption of these revisions to the requirements of IFRSs as adopted by the EU did not result in substantial changes to the Agency's accounting policies. IAS 1 (revised), Presentation of financial statements is effective for periods beginning on or after 1 January 2009, but does not have any impact on the classification and measurement of the Agency's elements of the financial statements. This standard requires 'non-owner changes in equity' to be presented separately from owner changes in equity in a statement of comprehensive income, while IFRS 7 (amendment) requires enhanced disclosures about fair value measurement. In accordance with the respective transition provisions of these standards, comparative information has been re-presented in respect of the disclosures required by IAS 1 (revised) but has not been re-presented in respect of the disclosures required by IFRS 7 (amendment).

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 but are mandatory for accounting periods beginning after 1 January 2009. The Agency has not early adopted these revisions to the requirements of IFRSs as adopted by the EU and the Agency'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 2009 €3,300,000 (2008: €2,795,000) was allocated to meet Heritage Malta's administrative expenditure for the calendar year from 1 January 2009 to 31 December 2009 under Recurrent Vote 32, item 6031.

Further amounts were also allocated to Heritage Malta under Capital Vote V in the Government's financial estimates of 2009 covering the period from 1 January 2009 to 31 December 2009. These include €500,000 (2008: €699,000) relating to improvements at Museums and historical sites and restoration works under item 7033. In 2009 no allocation had been made for surveillance, security and automated ticketing system under item 7034.

Notes to the financial statements - continued

1. Summary of significant accounting policies - continued

1.2 Foreign currency translation

(a) Functional and presentation currency

Items included in the financial statements of the Agency are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the entity operates ('the functional currency'). These 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 account.

All foreign exchange gains and losses are presented in the income and expenditure account within 'other income/(expense)'.

1.3 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 Authority, 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.

Notes to the financial statements - continued

1. Summary of significant accounting policies - continued

1.3 Property, plant and equipment - continued

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:

	%
Infrastructural 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

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 disposal of property, plant and equipment are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount, and are recognised within 'Other income/(expenses)' in the income and expenditure account.

1.4 Consolidation

Subsidiary undertakings, which are those companies 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 fully consolidated from the date on which control is transferred to the Agency. They are de-consolidated from the date that control ceases.

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 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.

Notes to the financial statements - continued

1. Summary of significant accounting policies - continued

1.4 Consolidation - continued

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.

1.5 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 are subject to depreciation 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).

1.6 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.

Notes to the financial statements - continued

1. Summary of significant accounting policies - continued

1.7 Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are 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. A provision for impairment of trade and other receivables is established when there is objective evidence that the Agency will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of debts. The amount of the provision is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the effective interest rate. The amount of the provision is recognised 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, net of bank overdraft and any short term liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value. In the statement of financial position, the bank overdraft is included in borrowings under current liabilities.

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 Borrowing costs

Interest costs are charged against income without restriction. Thus, no borrowing costs have been capitalised.

1.11 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.

Notes to the financial statements - continued

1. Summary of significant accounting policies - continued

1.11 Current and deferred taxation

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 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.

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.

1.12 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.

(c) Dividend income

Dividend income is recognised when the right to receive payment is established.

1.13 Leased assets

Leases of assets under which all the risks and benefits of ownership are effectively retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Payments made under operating leases are charged to the income and expenditure account on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

Notes to the financial statements - continued

1. Summary of significant accounting policies - continued

1.14 Provisions

Provisions 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 embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation, and when a reliable estimate of the amount of the obligation can be made.

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, cash flow interest rate risk and price risk), credit risk and liquidity risk. The Group's overall risk management focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the Group's financial performance. The Group did not make use of derivative financial instruments to hedge certain risk exposures during the current and preceding financial years.

The Board provides principles for overall risk management, as well as policies covering risks referred to above and specific areas such as investment of excess liquidity.

(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.

2. Financial risk management - continued

2.1 Financial risk factors - continued

(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:

	2009	2008
	€'000	€'000
Trade and other receivables (Note 7)	304	348
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 8)	1,620	1,395
	1,620	1,395

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

The Group banks only with 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 effected 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 carrying amounts of the Group's assets and liabilities are analysed into relevant maturity grouping based on the remaining period at the reporting date to the contractual maturity date in the respective notes to the financial statements.

(d) Fair values

At 31 December 2009 and 31 December 2008 the carrying amounts of cash at bank, debtors, creditors and accrued expenses approximated their fair values in view of the nature of the instruments or their short-term maturity.

3. Critical 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 board members, 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.

4. Property, plant and equipment

Consolidated and Agency

	Infrastructural improvements €	Plant & equipment €	Computer hardware & office equipment €	Furniture fixtures & fittings €	Ticketing system €	Total €
At 1 October 2007						
Cost or valuation	1,928,298	2,132,991	420,135	1,664,819	477,525	6,623,768
Accumulated depreciation	(583,561)	(1,231,235)	(280,042)	(680,641)	(249,861)	(3,025,340)
Net book amount	1,344,737	901,756	140,093	984,178	227,664	3,598,428
Period ended 31 December 2008						
Opening net book amount	1,344,737	901,756	140,093	984,178	227,664	3,598,428
Additions	569,648	138,850	29,041	146,074	-	883,613
Depreciation charge	(176,481)	(287,159)	(57,969)	(171,024)	(227,664)	(920,297)
Closing net book amount	1,737,904	753,447	111,165	959,228	-	3,561,744
At 31 December 2008						
Cost or valuation	2,497,946	2,271,841	449,176	1,810,893	477,525	7,507,381
Accumulated depreciation	(760,042)	(1,518,394)	(338,011)	(851,665)	(477,525)	(3,945,637)
Net book amount	1,737,904	753,447	111,165	959,228	-	3,561,744
Period ended 31 December 2009						
Opening net book amount	1,737,904	753,447	111,165	959,228	-	3,561,744
Additions	337,122	109,090	66,044	270,949	-	783,205
Depreciation charge	(161,722)	(230,497)	(41,959)	(190,345)	-	(624,523)
Closing net book amount	1,913,304	632,040	135,250	1,039,832	-	3,720,426
At 31 December 2009						
Cost or valuation	2,835,068	2,380,931	515,220	2,081,842	477,525	8,290,586
Accumulated depreciation	(921,764)	(1,748,891)	(379,970)	(1,042,010)	(477,525)	(4,570,160)
Net book amount	1,913,304	632,040	135,250	1,039,832	-	3,720,426

5. Investment in subsidiary

	Agency
	€
Years ended 31 December 2008 and 30 September 2007	
Opening and closing net book amount	4,959
At 31 December 2009 and 31 December 2008	
Cost and net book amount	4,959

The subsidiary undertaking at 31 December 2009 and 31 December 2008 is shown below:

Agency	Registered Office	Class of shares held	Percentage of shares held
Heritage Malta Services Limited	Auberge de Provence Republic Street Valletta Malta	Ordinary shares	100%

6. Inventories

	Consolidated & Agency	
	2009	2008
	€	€
Publications held for sale	19,911	32,508

7. Trade and other receivables

	Consolidated		Agency	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	€	€	€	€
Amounts falling due within one year				
Trade receivables – gross	456,520	548,179	433,115	537,827
Provision for impairment	(182,502)	(279,531)	(182,443)	(279,281)
Trade receivables – net	274,018	268,648	250,672	258,546
Prepayments and accrued income	29,473	24,293	29,473	24,293
Deferred expenditure	-	52,306	-	52,306
Amount owed by related undertakings	-	-	194,597	108,486
Other receivables	726	2,262	726	2,262
	304,217	347,509	475,468	445,893

7. Trade and other receivables - continued

Deferred expenditure relates to projects funded by the European Union (Note 9). These expenses have been deferred until the income from the project is recognised.

8. Cash and cash equivalents

For the purposes of the cash flow statement, the period-end cash and cash equivalents comprise the following:

	Consolidated		Agency	
	2009 €	2008 €	2009 €	2008 €
Cash at bank and in hand	1,620,558	1,394,840	1,416,250	1,279,799

Included with cash at bank and in hand is an amount of €899,119 (2008: €994,292) in respect of the Specific Endowment Funds disclosed in note 9.

9. Specific endowment funds

	Consolidated & Agency	
	2009	2008
	€	€
Non – EU		
Restricted funds – Farsons Foundation	3,185	3,319
Restricted funds – MTA Roman Domus	9,317	9,317
Restricted funds – BOV Tarxien Temples	258,228	259,524
Restricted funds – Research Fund	16,200	16,200
Restricted funds – Mizzi Foundation	4,746	4,746
Restricted funds – Vodafone Malta Limited	82,614	84,834
Restricted funds – HSBC Malta plc	96,731	80,998
Restricted funds – HSBC Hypogeum Hilton	28,563	29,152
Restricted funds – HSBC SPC Radisson	46,432	46,877
Restricted funds – HSBC Mnajdra San Gorg	2,016	2,613
Restricted funds – HSBC Hagar Qim Intercontinental	10,729	12,717
Restricted funds – HSBC Vilhena Xara Palace	5,972	4,254
Restricted funds – HSBC SPC Golden Sands	6,563	6,563
Restricted funds – HSBC SPC Coastline	270	267
Restricted funds – HSBC Ta' Kola Windmill	94	93
Restricted funds – Maltacom Ganado Maps	2,760	2,760
Restricted funds – Domus Romana Mosaics	3,029	5,829
Restricted funds – Aurora Trust Scholars	2,329	2,329
Restricted funds – Abattija tad-Dejr – Din l-Art Helwa	3,377	3,513
Restricted funds – Palace Armoury – Gasan Mamo Insurance	63,872	32,239
Restricted funds – Education	800	-
Restricted funds – ESF	1,251	-
Restricted funds – Educational – Gasan Mamo	1,368	1,368
	650,446	609,512
	Consolidated & Agency	
	2009	2008
	€	€
EU		
Restricted funds – Net Heritage	14,766	-
Restricted funds – Cart Ruts	-	113,580
Restricted funds – ECPL Ldv Pilot Project	-	185,216
Restricted funds – Promet	52,121	52,121
Restricted funds – Michael Plus Project	88,878	88,878
Restricted funds – MM4ALL	20,232	12,658
Restricted funds – Sterna	47,018	22,002
Restricted funds – Smart Museum	80,265	67,640
Restricted funds – Grundtvig	16,000	-
	319,280	542,095
	969,726	1,151,607

9. Specific endowment funds - continued

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 €18,280 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	
	Year ended 31 December 2009	Period from 1 October 2007 to 31 December 2008
	€	€
Subvention received from consolidated fund under Capital Vote III, item 7033 in respect of improvements at Museums and historical sites, and restoration work	536,989	1,180,733
	536,989	1,180,733

11. Trade and other payables

	Consolidated		Agency	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	€	€	€	€
Amounts falling due within one year				
Trade payables	783,263	934,213	780,485	934,213
Indirect taxes and social security	374,809	746,120	369,382	741,181
Accruals and deferred income	779,045	690,701	779,045	690,119
	1,937,117	2,371,034	1,928,912	2,365,513

12. Income from operations

The income from operations was generated locally from entrance fees and other ancillary services.

13. Expenses by nature

	Consolidated		Agency	
	Year ended 31 December 2009 €	Period from 1 October 2007 to 31 December 2008 €	Year ended 31 December 2009 €	Period from 1 October 2007 to 31 December 2008 €
Employee benefit expenses (Note 14)	5,271,789	6,621,654	5,185,678	6,513,168
Depreciation of tangible assets (Note 4)	624,523	920,297	624,523	920,297
Rent	277,548	293,946	277,548	293,946
Other expenses (Decrease)/Increase in provision for impairment of receivables	2,229,378 (97,029)	3,787,831 186,088	2,228,502 (96,838)	3,780,323 186,127
	8,306,209	11,809,816	8,219,413	11,693,861

Auditors' remuneration for the current period amounted to €6,900 for the Agency and €600 for the subsidiary undertaking respectively (2008: €8,620 and €466).

14. Employee benefit expenses

	Consolidated		Agency	
	Year ended 31 December 2009 €	Period from 1 October 2007 to 31 December 2008 €	Year ended 31 December 2009 €	Period from 1 October 2007 to 31 December 2008 €
Wages and salaries, paid by Government on behalf of the Agency	53,346	141,704	53,346	141,704
Wages and salaries, paid directly	4,871,841	6,005,985	4,871,841	6,005,985
Social security costs	346,602	473,965	346,602	473,965
	5,271,789	6,621,654	5,271,789	6,621,654
Wages and salaries recharged to subsidiary undertaking	-	-	(86,111)	(108,486)
	5,271,789	6,621,654	5,185,678	6,513,168

14. Employee benefit expenses - continued

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

	Consolidated & Agency	
	Year ended 31 December 2009	Period from 1 October 2007 to 31 December 2008
Operations	222	237
Administration	57	61
	279	298

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 2009 €	Amount attributable to reporting period 2009 €	Total vote 2008 €	Amount attributable to reporting period 2008 €
Subvention received from consolidated fund for Heritage Malta:				
- 2008	-	-	3,834,149	958,537
- 2009	3,300,000	3,300,000	2,795,000	2,795,000
Additional amount received in kind, by way of payment by Government, of expenses on behalf of the Agency	-	689,825	-	141,704
	3,300,000	3,989,825	6,629,149	3,895,241

16. Finance income

	Consolidated		Agency	
	Year ended 31 December 2009 €	Period from 1 October 2007 to 31 December 2008 €	Year ended 31 December 2009 €	Period from 1 October 2007 to 31 December 2008 €
Bank interest	1,715	6,819	1,278	4,144

17. Taxation

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

18. Directors' emoluments

	Consolidated & Agency	
	Year ended 31 December 2009 €	Period from 1 October 2007 to 31 December 2008 €
Fees	13,974	37,645

19. Cash used in operations

Reconciliation of deficit on recurrent expenditure to cash used in operations:

	Consolidated		Agency	
	Year ended 31 December 2009 €	Period from 1 October 2007 to 31 December 2008 €	Year ended 31 December 2009 €	Period from 1 October 2007 to 31 December 2008 €
Profit/(Deficit) on recurrent expenditure	409,952	(3,079,429)	392,326	(3,081,506)
Adjustments for:				
Depreciation (Note 4)	624,523	920,297	624,523	920,297
Provision for impairment of receivables (Note 7)	(97,029)	186,088	(96,838)	186,127
Changes in working capital:				
Inventories	12,597	(1,791)	12,597	(1,791)
Trade and other receivables	140,321	942,436	67,263	943,207
Trade and other payables	(433,917)	302,779	(436,601)	303,451
Cash used in operations	656,447	(729,620)	563,270	(730,215)

20. Commitments

Capital commitments

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 (see note 9).

21. Related party transactions

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.

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 respectively.

Key management personnel compensations, consisting of board members' fees, have been disclosed in note 18.

Recharges of staff costs to related parties are disclosed in note 14.

22. Statutory information

Heritage Malta is a body corporate set up by the enactment of the Cultural Heritage Act, 2002.

Detailed accounts

	Pages
Income and expenditure account	29
Income analysis	30
Expenditure analysis	31

Income and expenditure account

	Agency	
	Year ended 31 December 2009	Period from 1 October 2007 to 31 December 2008
	€	€
Subvention from consolidated fund for recurrent expenditure	3,989,825	3,895,241
Income from operations	4,621,914	4,717,114
Funds available for recurrent expenditure	8,611,739	8,612,355
Staff costs	(5,185,678)	(6,513,168)
Other recurrent operational expenditure	(2,850,702)	(4,368,041)
Recurrent administrative expenditure	(183,033)	(812,652)
Deficit on recurrent expenditure before interest	392,326	(3,081,506)
Finance income	1,278	4,144
Deficit for the financial period/year	393,604	(3,077,362)

Income analysis

	Agency	
	Year ended 31 December 2009	Period from 1 October 2007 to 31 December 2008
	€	€
Income		
Entrance fees - sites	3,928,250	3,677,888
- The Caravaggio exhibition	-	189,296
Events	3,351	62,439
Publications	30,201	47,714
Sponsorships and royalties	151,088	228,337
Service charges	-	-
Commission on audio guides	26,347	29,187
Conservation fees	26,204	24,518
EU projects - income	358,367	323,289
Courses	31,823	58,885
Amounts released from specific endowment funds	18,281	34,037
Other income	42,712	34,262
Tender fees	5,290	7,262
	4,621,914	4,717,114

Expenditure analysis

	Agency	
	Year ended 31 December 2009	Period from 1 October 2007 to 31 December 2008
	€	€
Direct operational costs		
Cleaning	116,944	135,691
Repairs and maintenance	189,977	150,968
Security services	722,458	707,909
Water and electricity	191,521	229,219
Telecommunication	99,040	129,196
Commissions re ticketing system	135,321	107,452
Exhibitions, events - others	46,762	423,921
- The Caravaggio exhibition	-	263,756
Marketing costs	11,877	20,103
Libraries	5,159	13,816
Acquisitions and restorations - materials	20,943	48,841
- repairs and maintenance	10,535	39,893
- acquisitions	830	62,726
Cost of audio guides usage	161,352	200,806
Publications	30,103	33,359
Premium paid	2,759	4,747
Lecturing expenses	51,783	70,346
General staff costs	22,908	45,901
Medical expenses	-	126
Rent	277,548	293,946
Hospitality and accommodation	7,151	62,414
Depreciation	624,523	920,297
Staff training	15,950	61,703
EU projects - costs	105,258	340,905
	2,850,702	4,368,041
Staff costs		
Salaries and wages	5,171,704	6,475,523
Directors' fees	13,974	37,645
	5,185,678	6,513,168
Administrative expenses		
Transport and expenses	56,302	55,763
Telecommunication expenses	49,784	13,527
Printing, postages and stationery	24,402	35,000
Subscriptions and membership fees	5,805	7,255
Professional	69,235	72,419
Audit fees	8,057	3,494
Sundry expenses	7,783	15,791
Bank charges	2,075	3,191
Litigations	-	314,309
Irrecoverable VAT	-	105,776
Bad debts	56,428	-
Provision for impairment of receivables	(96,838)	186,127
	183,033	812,652

HERITAGE MALTA

Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements
31 December 2010

	Pages
Directors' report	1 - 3
Independent auditor's report	4 - 5
Statements of financial position	6 - 7
Income and expenditure accounts	8
Statements of changes in accumulated fund	9
Statements of cash flows	10
Notes to the financial statements	11 - 27

Directors' report

The directors present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2010.

Principal activities

Heritage Malta 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 2010 reached €4,920,565 (2009: €3,928,250).

A Government Subvention of €3,300,000 (2009: €3,300,000) was allocated to meet the Agency's administrative expenditure for the FYE December 2010 under Recurrent Vote 32, item 6031. The 2010 subvention was revised downwards during the year to €3,025,000.

Furthermore, an amount of € 227,930 (2009: €233,950) 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 2010. These include €481,286 relating to improvements at museums and sites - (2009: €500,000), and restoration works under item 7033. Other funds amounting to €226,478 were applied under other votes, viz; Vote 7270 - Restoration of Fort St. Angelo, Vote 8809 - Security, Surveillance and Automated Ticketing System and Vote 5557 - Fund for Acquisition of Contemporary Maltese Artworks.

The Agency's subsidiary, Heritage Malta Services Limited, serves as its commercial arm for activities and events of a commercial nature. Its main activities include the hiring out of venues for corporate entertainment, promoting its corporate 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 € 128,084.

Review of operations

The Board of Directors and Management continued to focus on the Agency's operational structures and human resources team so as to ensure Heritage Malta would continue to be in a position to face ongoing challenges. Various initiatives were taken with regard to human resources development and a number of training programmes were held for as wide as possible a cross-section of staff.

The Agency ended FY2010 with a surplus of €54,959 (2009: €393,604), after a depreciation charge of €619,318. The variation over 2009 figures was mainly due to a one-off financial injection from the Government of €500,000 received in 2009. Moreover a one-off expense of €83,342 was incurred in 2010 in connection with the transfer of Head office operations from Valletta to Bighi.

Directors' report - continued

Review of operations - continued

During the year under review we strove to conserve the forty museums and sites which we manage, together with all their related collections, and also 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. Such initiatives were also complemented by the staging of a number of Open Days at various museums and sites. Paying visitors in 2010 reached 1,065,957 (2009: 1,043,829) while that of non-paying visitors was 104,620 (2009: 100,295).

The major project concluded in 2010 was undoubtedly the building of the visitor centre and the installation of protective shelters over the Hagar Qim and Mnajdra Temples. Significant progress was also made in other ERDF projects including Ggantija Temples, St Paul's Catacombs and Tarxien Temples, while a substantial EARDF grant was also secured for the rehabilitation of the Ghajn Tuffieha Roman Baths and Ta' Bistra Catacombs. Restoration works also commenced at Fort St Angelo, while other works progressed substantially in other museums, including the National Museum of Archaeology, the Inquisitor's Palace and the Malta Maritime Museum. The implementation of a number of other EU-funded projects has continued, applications for new projects submitted, and preparations are underway for the application for funding of another two major projects concerning at Fort St Angelo and Fort St Elmo.

Apart from our ongoing programme of acquisitions, we further enriched the National Collection through a salvage operation at the former Malta Drydocks of a multitude of objects related to industrial heritage. Thousands of conservation interventions were also concluded on artefacts from the National Collection.

We also sought to upgrade and strengthen our core activities and operations so as to increase efficiency and thus reduce reliance on Government subvention. In this respect we managed to attract further funding from private sources, patrons and sponsors amounting to €139,545 which will help conclude various other projects.

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

Results

The results for the period ended 31 December 2010 are set out in the income and expenditure account on page 7.

Directors

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

Joseph Said – Chairman
Isabel Vella – Deputy Chairman
Evelyn Baluci
Norma Camilleri
Marika Grech
Martin Mercieca
Anthony Bonanno
John Cremona
Leonard Callus – appointed on 13 August 2010
Bryan Magro – resigned on 12 August 2010

Directors' report - continued

Directors - continued

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.

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 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 Agency will continue in business as a going concern.

The directors are also responsible for designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and the fair presentation of the 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 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 2010 are included in the Annual Report 2010, 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.

On behalf of the board

Joseph Said
Chairman

Isabel Vella
Deputy Chairman

Ex-Naval Hospital
Marina Street
Bighi
Kalkara
Malta

4 May 2011

Independent auditor's report

To the Directors of Heritage Malta

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of Heritage Malta on pages 6 to 27 which comprise the statements of financial position as at 31 December 2010 and the income and expenditure accounts, statements of changes in accumulated funds and statements of 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 page 2, the directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU and 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 whether the financial statements are free of 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 judgment, 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 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 2010, 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 requirements of the Cultural Heritage Act, 2002.

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.
- 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 

167 Merchants Street
Valletta
Malta

Simon Flynn
Partner

4 May 2011

Statements of financial position

		Consolidated			
		At December	At 1 January		
		2010	2009	2009	
Notes		€	€ <i>restated</i>	€ <i>restated</i>	
ASSETS					
Non-current assets					
	Property, plant and equipment	4	4,193,842	3,972,262	3,813,580
	Investment in subsidiary	5	-	-	-
	Total non-current assets		4,193,842	3,972,262	3,813,580
Current assets					
	Inventories	6	8,774	19,911	32,508
	Trade and other receivables	7	173,594	304,217	347,509
	Cash and cash equivalents	8	3,406,412	1,620,558	1,394,840
	Total current assets		3,588,780	1,944,686	1,774,857
	Total assets		7,782,622	5,916,948	5,588,437
RESERVES AND LIABILITIES					
Reserves					
	Specific endowment funds	9	2,706,191	969,726	1,151,607
	Accumulated fund				
	- Capital vote		4,269,179	4,114,438	4,150,985
	- Recurrent vote and operating activities		(472,582)	(1,105,938)	(2,086,168)
	Total reserves		6,502,788	3,978,226	3,216,424
Current liabilities					
	Trade and other payables	11	1,267,473	1,937,117	2,371,034
	Taxation		12,361	1,605	979
	Total liabilities		1,279,834	1,938,722	2,372,013
	Total reserves and liabilities		7,782,622	5,916,948	5,588,437

Statements of financial position - continued

		Agency			
		Year ended 31 December	At 1 January		
		2010	2009	2009	
Notes		€	€	€	
			<i>restated</i>	<i>restated</i>	
ASSETS					
Non-current assets					
	Property, plant and equipment	4	4,193,842	3,972,262	3,813,580
	Investment in subsidiary	5	4,959	4,959	4,959
	Total non-current assets		4,198,801	3,977,221	3,818,539
Current assets					
	Inventories	6	8,774	19,911	32,508
	Trade and other receivables	7	421,338	475,468	445,893
	Cash and cash equivalents	8	3,074,635	1,416,250	1,279,799
	Total current assets		3,504,747	1,911,629	1,758,200
	Total assets		7,703,548	5,888,850	5,576,739
RESERVES AND LIABILITIES					
Reserves					
	Specific endowment funds	9	2,706,191	969,726	1,151,607
	Accumulated fund				
	- Capital vote		4,269,179	4,114,438	4,150,985
	- Recurrent vote and operating activities		(517,900)	(1,124,226)	(2,091,366)
	Total reserves		6,457,470	3,959,938	3,211,226
Current liabilities					
	Trade and other payables	11	1,246,078	1,928,912	2,365,513
	Total liabilities		1,246,078	1,928,912	2,365,513
	Total reserves and liabilities		7,703,548	5,888,850	5,576,739

The notes on pages 11 to 27 are an integral part of these financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 6 to 27 were authorised for issue by the board on 4 May 2011 and were signed on its behalf by:

Joseph Said
Chairman

Isabel Vella
Deputy Chairman

Income and expenditure accounts

	Notes	Consolidated		Agency	
		Year ended 31 December 2010 €	Year ended 31 December 2009 €	Year ended 31 December 2010 €	Year ended 31 December 2009 €
Subvention from consolidated fund for recurrent expenditure	15	3,367,915	3,989,825	3,367,915	3,989,825
Income from operations	12	5,295,341	4,726,336	5,167,257	4,621,914
Funds available for recurrent expenditure		8,663,256	8,716,161	8,535,172	8,611,739
Staff costs	13	(5,348,583)	(5,271,789)	(5,267,943)	(5,185,678)
Other recurrent operational expenditure	13	(3,015,512)	(2,850,702)	(3,015,512)	(2,850,702)
Recurrent administrative expenditure	13	(204,175)	(183,718)	(198,129)	(183,033)
Surplus on recurrent expenditure before interest		94,986	409,952	53,588	392,326
Finance income	16	1,899	1,715	1,371	1,278
Surplus before income tax		96,885	411,667	54,959	393,604
Tax expense		(14,896)	(4,973)	-	-
Surplus for the financial year		81,989	406,694	54,959	393,604

The notes on pages 11 to 27 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 2009				
- as previously stated		(2,086,168)	3,899,149	1,812,981
- impact of voluntary change in accounting policy		-	251,836	251,836
- as restated		(2,086,168)	4,150,985	2,064,817
Surplus for the financial year		406,694	-	406,694
Capital subvention for the year	10	-	536,989	536,989
Transfer of depreciation to capital vote		573,536	(573,536)	-
Balance at 31 December 2009		(1,105,938)	4,114,438	3,008,500
Surplus for the financial year		81,989	-	81,989
Capital subvention for the year	10	-	706,108	706,108
Transfer of depreciation to capital vote		551,367	(551,367)	-
Balance at 31 December 2010		(472,582)	4,269,179	3,796,597
Agency				
Balance at 1 January 2009				
- as previously stated		(2,091,366)	3,899,149	1,807,783
- impact of voluntary change in accounting policy		-	251,836	251,836
- as restated		(2,091,366)	4,150,985	2,059,619
Surplus for the financial period		393,604	-	393,604
Capital subvention for the period	10	-	536,989	536,989
Transfer of depreciation to capital vote		573,536	(573,536)	-
Balance at 31 December 2009		(1,124,226)	4,114,438	2,990,212
Surplus for the financial year		54,959	-	54,959
Capital subvention for the year	10	-	706,108	706,108
Transfer of depreciation to capital vote		551,367	(551,367)	-
Balance at 31 December 2010		(517,900)	4,269,179	3,751,279

The notes on pages 11 to 27 are an integral part of these financial statements.

Statements of cash flows

	Notes	Consolidated		Agency	
		Year ended 31 December 2010 €	Year ended 31 December 2009 €	Year ended 31 December 2010 €	Year ended 31 December 2009 €
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	19	186,420	656,447	55,339	563,270
Interest received	16	1,899	1,715	1,371	1,278
Tax paid		(4,140)	(4,347)	-	-
Net cash generated from operating activities		184,179	653,815	56,710	564,548
Cash flows from investing activities					
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	4	(840,898)	(783,205)	(840,898)	(783,205)
Net cash used in investing activities		(840,898)	(783,205)	(840,898)	(783,205)
Cash flows from financing activities					
Capital subvention from Government	10	706,108	536,989	706,108	536,989
Specific endowment funds	9	1,736,465	(181,881)	1,736,465	(181,881)
Net cash generated from financing activities		2,442,573	355,108	2,442,573	355,108
Net movement in cash and cash equivalents		1,785,854	225,718	1,658,385	136,451
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		1,620,558	1,394,840	1,416,250	1,279,799
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	8	3,406,412	1,620,558	3,074,635	1,416,250

The notes on pages 11 to 27 are an integral part of these financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements

1. Summary of significant accounting policies

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these 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 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 Agency's accounting policies (see Note 3 – Critical accounting estimates and judgements).

Standards, interpretations and amendments to published standards effective in 2010

In 2010, the Agency adopted new standards, amendments and interpretations to existing standards that are mandatory for the Agency's accounting period beginning on 1 January 2010. The adoption of these revisions to the requirements of IFRSs as adopted by the EU did not result in substantial changes to the Agency's accounting policies.

Voluntary changes in accounting policies

During the financial year ended 31 December 2010, the Agency also changed its accounting policy with respect to heritage assets that are financed from the capital vote allocated by the Government to the Agency. As from the current financial year, capital votes are presented as increases in equity, and the acquired heritage assets are presented as assets in the statement of financial position. These assets are subsequently measured under the cost model in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1.4. This change in accounting policy has been applied retrospectively in accordance with the requirements of IAS 8, 'Accounting policies, changes in accounting estimates and errors'. Accordingly the Agency has adjusted the opening balance of each affected component of equity for the earliest period presented in these financial statements and other comparative amounts disclosed for the comparative period presented as if the revised accounting policy had always been applied. Consequently, and in line with the requirements of IAS 1, 'Presentation of financial statements', three statements of financial position, being as at 1 January 2009, 31 December 2009 and 31 December 2010, are being presented.

Prior to the change in accounting policy, heritage assets that were financed from the capital vote were charged to surplus or deficit as an expense in the financial year in which they were acquired, and an amount equivalent to the charge was transferred from the capital vote to recurrent vote. The financial impacts of this change in accounting policy comprise the retrospective re-measurement of heritage assets (Note 4) and capital vote for an amount of €251,836. In accordance with the requirements of IAS 1, the note for property, plant and equipment include information as at 1 January 2009, 31 December 2009 and 31 December 2010. Other notes have not been impacted by the restatement, and accordingly only include information as at 31 December 2009 and 31 December 2010.

1. Summary of significant accounting policies - continued

1.1 Basis of preparation - continued

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 but are mandatory for accounting periods beginning after 1 January 2010. The Agency has not early adopted these revisions to the requirements of IFRSs as adopted by the EU and the Agency'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 2010 €3,300,000 (2009: €3,300,000) was allocated to meet Heritage Malta's administrative expenditure for the calendar year from 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2010 under Recurrent Vote 32, item 6031. The 2010 subvention was revised during the year to €3,025,000.

Further amounts were also allocated to Heritage Malta under Capital Vote V in the Government's financial estimates of 2010 covering the period from 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2010. These include €706,108 (2009: €536,989) relating to improvements at Museums and historical sites and restoration works under item 7033.

As administrator of historical sites on behalf of Government, Heritage Malta is solely responsible for management of the sites entrusted to it. 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.

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 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. Summary of significant accounting policies - continued

1.3 Consolidation

Subsidiary undertakings, which are those companies 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 fully consolidated from the date on which control is transferred to the Agency. They are de-consolidated from the date that control ceases.

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 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:

	%
Infrastructural 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

Heritage 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 are subject to depreciation 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).

1.6 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.

amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the effective interest rate. 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. Summary of significant accounting policies - continued

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, net of bank overdraft and any short term liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value. In the statement of financial position, the bank overdraft is included in borrowings under current liabilities.

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 Borrowing costs

Interest costs are charged against income without restriction. Thus, no borrowing costs have been capitalised.

1.11 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.

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. Summary of significant accounting policies - continued

1.7 Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are 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. A provision for impairment of trade and other receivables is established when there is objective evidence that the Agency will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables. Significant financial difficulties of the receivable, probability that the debtor will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation, and default or delinquency in payments are considered indicators that the receivable is impaired. The amount of the provision is the difference between the asset's carrying

1.12 Provisions

Provisions 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 embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation, and when a reliable estimate of the amount of the obligation can be made. Provisions are not recognized 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 rate 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.

1.13 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.

(c) Dividend income

Dividend income is recognised when the right to receive payment is established.

1. Summary of significant accounting policies - continued

1.14 Leases

Leases in which a significant portion of the risks and benefits of ownership are 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, cash flow interest rate risk and price 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:

	2010	2009
	€'000	€'000
Loans and receivables category:		
Trade and other receivables (Note 7)	174	304
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 8)	3,406	1,621
	3,580	1,925

2. Financial risk management - continued

2.1 Financial risk factors - continued

(b) Credit risk - continued

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.

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 effected 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 2010 and 31 December 2009 the carrying amounts of cash at bank, receivables, payables and accrued expenses approximated their fair values in view of the nature of the instruments or their short-term maturity.

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.

4. Property, plant and equipment

Consolidated and Agency

	Infrastructural improvements €	Heritage assets €	Plant & equipment €	Computer hardware & office equipment €	Furniture fixtures & fittings €	Ticketing system €	Total €
At 1 January 2009							
Cost or valuation							
- as previously stated	2,497,946	-	2,271,841	449,176	1,810,893	477,525	7,507,381
- impact of voluntary change in accounting policy	-	251,836	-	-	-	-	251,836
- as restated	2,497,946	251,836	2,271,841	449,176	1,810,893	477,525	7,759,217
Accumulated depreciation	(760,042)	-	(1,518,394)	(338,011)	(851,665)	(477,525)	(3,945,637)
Net book amount	1,737,904	251,836	753,447	111,165	959,228	-	3,813,580
At 31 December 2009							
Opening net book amount	1,737,904	251,836	753,447	111,165	959,228	-	3,813,580
Additions	337,122	-	109,090	66,044	270,949	-	783,205
Depreciation charge	(161,722)	-	(230,497)	(41,959)	(190,345)	-	(624,523)
Closing net book amount	1,913,304	251,836	632,040	135,250	1,039,832	-	3,972,262
At 31 December 2009							
Cost or valuation							
- as previously stated	2,835,068	-	2,380,931	515,220	2,081,842	477,525	8,290,586
- impact of voluntary change in accounting policy	-	251,836	-	-	-	-	251,836
- as restated	2,835,068	251,836	2,380,931	515,220	2,081,842	477,525	8,542,422
Accumulated depreciation	(921,764)	-	(1,748,891)	(379,970)	(1,042,010)	(477,525)	(4,570,160)
Net book amount	1,913,304	251,836	632,040	135,250	1,039,832	-	3,972,262
At 31 December 2010							
Opening net book amount	1,913,304	251,836	632,040	135,250	1,039,832	-	3,972,262
Additions	344,261	200,950	88,876	48,158	158,653	-	840,898
Depreciation charge	(177,292)	-	(195,181)	(48,867)	(197,978)	-	(619,318)
Closing net book amount	2,080,273	452,786	525,735	134,541	1,000,507	-	4,193,842
At 31 December 2010							
Cost or valuation	3,179,329	452,786	2,469,807	563,378	2,240,495	477,525	9,383,320
Accumulated depreciation	(1,099,056)	-	(1,944,072)	(428,837)	(1,239,988)	(477,525)	(5,189,478)
Net book amount	2,080,273	452,786	525,735	134,541	1,000,507	-	4,193,842

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 2010 and 31 December 2009	
Cost and net book amount	4,959

The subsidiary undertaking at 31 December 2010 and 31 December 2009 is shown below:

Agency	Registered Office	Class of shares held	Percentage of shares held
Heritage Malta Services Limited	Auberge de Provence Republic Street Valletta Malta	Ordinary shares	100%

6. Inventories

	Consolidated & Agency	
	2010	2009
	€	€
Publications held for sale	8,774	19,911

7. Trade and other receivables

	Consolidated		Agency	
	2010	2009	2010	2009
	€	€	€	€
Amounts falling due within one year				
Trade receivables – gross	321,561	456,520	297,675	433,115
Less: Provision for impairment of trade receivable	(180,563)	(182,502)	(179,568)	(182,443)
Trade receivables – net	140,998	274,018	118,107	250,672
Amount owed by related undertakings	-	-	270,635	194,597
Other receivables	1,929	726	1,929	726
Prepayments and accrued income	30,667	29,473	30,669	29,473
	173,594	304,217	421,338	475,468

Deferred expenditure relates to projects funded by the European Union (Note 9). These expenses have been deferred until the income from the project is recognised.

8. Cash and cash equivalents

For the purposes of the statement of cash flow, cash and cash equivalents comprise the following:

	Consolidated		Agency	
	2010 €	2009 €	2010 €	2009 €
Cash at bank and in hand	3,406,412	1,620,558	3,074,635	1,416,250

Included with cash at bank and in hand is an amount of €2,476,877 (2009: €899,119) in respect of the Specific Endowment Funds disclosed in Note 9.

9. Specific endowment funds

	Consolidated & Agency	
	2010 €	2009 €
Non – EU		
Restricted fund – Rural Development	1,655,551	-
Restricted funds – BOV Tarxien Temples	256,747	258,228
Restricted funds – Vodafone Malta Limited	173,272	82,614
Restricted funds – HSBC Malta plc	102,735	96,731
Restricted funds – Palace Armoury – Gasan Mamo Insurance	61,476	63,872
Restricted funds – HSBC SPC Radisson	44,051	46,432
Restricted funds – HSBC Hypogeum Hilton	27,867	28,563
Restricted fund – Mediter	24,995	-
Restricted funds – Era Net	21,565	14,766
Restricted funds – Research Fund	10,835	16,200
Restricted funds – HSBC Hagar Qim Intercontinental	9,845	10,729
Restricted funds – MTA Roman Domus	9,317	9,317
Restricted funds – HSBC Vilhena Xara Palace	7,533	5,972
Restricted funds – HSBC SPC Golden Sands	6,563	6,563
Restricted funds – Mizzi Foundation	4,746	4,746
Restricted funds – Abattija tad-Dejr – Din l-Art Helwa	3,240	3,377
Restricted funds – Domus Romana Mosaics	3,029	3,029
Restricted funds – Maltacom Ganado Maps	2,760	2,760
Restricted funds – Aurora Trust Scholars	2,329	2,329
Restricted funds – Education	2,254	800
Restricted funds – HSBC Mnajdra San Gorg	1,751	2,016
Restricted funds – Educational – Gasan Mamo	1,368	1,368
Restricted funds – Farsons Foundation	1,193	3,185
Restricted funds – HSBC Ma	1,163	-
Restricted funds – HSBC SPC Coastline	270	270
Restricted fund – ReferNe	269	-
Restricted funds – HSBC Ta' Kola Windmill	94	94
Restricted funds – ESF	-	1,251
	2,436,818	665,212

9. Specific endowment funds - continued

	Consolidated & Agency	
	2010	2009
	€	€
EU		
Restricted funds – Michael Plus Project	88,878	88,878
Restricted funds – Smart Museum	80,265	80,265
Restricted funds – Sterna	47,018	47,018
Restricted funds – Carare	37,211	-
Restricted funds – Promet	-	52,121
Restricted funds – MM4ALL	-	20,232
Restricted funds – Grundtvig	16,000	16,000
	269,372	304,514
	2,706,190	969,726

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 €18,280 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	
	Year ended 31 December 2010	Year ended 31 December 2009
	€	€
Subvention received from consolidated fund under Capital Vote III, item 7033 in respect of improvements at Museums and historical sites, and restoration work	706,108	536,989
	706,108	536,989

11. Trade and other payables

	Consolidated		Agency	
	2010 €	2009 €	2010 €	2009 €
Amounts falling due within one year				
Trade payables	384,128	782,742	383,094	779,964
Indirect taxes and social security	12,319	374,809	1,933	369,382
Other current liabilities	9,732	521	357	521
Accruals and deferred income	861,294	779,045	860,694	779,045
	1,267,473	1,937,117	1,246,078	1,928,912

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. During 2009 a one-off sponsorship was received from the Malta Tourism Authority for the refurbishment of the War Museum.

13. Expenses by nature

	Consolidated		Agency	
	Year ended 31 December 2010 €	Year ended 31 December 2009 €	Year ended 31 December 2010 €	Year ended 31 December 2009 €
Employee benefit expenses (Note 14)	5,348,583	5,271,789	5,267,943	5,185,678
Depreciation of tangible assets (Note 4)	619,318	624,523	619,318	624,523
Rent	270,166	277,548	270,166	277,548
Other expenses	2,332,142	2,229,378	2,327,032	2,228,502
Decrease in provision for impairment of receivables	(1,939)	(97,029)	(2,875)	(96,838)
	8,568,270	8,306,209	8,481,584	8,219,413

Auditors' remuneration for the current period amounted to €6,900 for the Agency and €600 for the subsidiary undertaking respectively (2009: €6,900 and €600).

14. Employee benefit expenses

	Consolidated		Agency	
	Year ended 31 December 2010 €	Year ended 31 December 2009 €	Year ended 31 December 2010 €	Year ended 31 December 2009 €
Wages and salaries, paid by Government on behalf of the Agency	342,915	53,346	342,915	53,346
Wages and salaries, paid directly	4,665,391	4,871,841	4,665,391	4,871,841
Social security costs	340,277	346,602	340,277	346,602
	5,348,583	5,271,789	5,348,583	5,271,789
Wages and salaries recharged to subsidiary undertaking	-	-	(80,640)	(86,111)
	5,348,583	5,271,789	5,267,943	5,185,678

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

	Consolidated & Agency	
	Year ended 31 December 2010	Year ended 31 December 2009
Operations	208	222
Administration	19	19
	227	241

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 2010 €	Amount attributable to reporting period 2010 €	Total vote 2009 €	Amount attributable to reporting period 2009 €
Subvention received from consolidated fund for Heritage Malta:	3,025,000	3,025,000	3,300,000	3,300,000
Additional amount received in kind, by way of payment by Government, of expenses on behalf of the Agency	-	342,915	-	689,825
	3,025,000	3,367,915	3,300,000	3,989,825

16. Finance income

	Consolidated		Agency	
	Year ended 31 December 2010 €	Year ended 31 December 2009 €	Year ended 31 December 2010 €	Year ended 31 December 2009 €
Bank interest	1,899	1,715	1,371	1,278

17. Taxation

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

18. Directors' emoluments

	Consolidated & Agency	
	Year ended 31 December 2010 €	Year ended 31 December 2009 €
Fees	12,227	13,974

19. Cash generated from operations

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

	Consolidated		Agency	
	Year ended 31 December	Year ended 31 December 2009 €	Year ended 31 December 2010 €	Year ended 31 December 2009 €
Surplus on recurrent expenditure	94,986	409,952	53,588	392,326
Adjustments for:				
Depreciation (Note 4)	619,318	624,523	619,318	624,523
Provision for impairment of receivables (Note 7)	(1,939)	(97,029)	(2,875)	(96,838)
Changes in working capital:				
Inventories	11,137	12,597	11,137	12,597
Trade and other receivables	132,562	140,321	57,005	67,263
Trade and other payables	(669,644)	(433,917)	(682,834)	(436,601)
Cash generated from operations	186,420	656,447	55,339	563,270

20. 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 (see Note 9).

21. Related party transactions

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.

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 respectively.

Key management personnel compensations, consisting of board members' fees, have been disclosed in Note 18.

Recharges of staff costs to related parties are disclosed in Note 14.

22. Statutory information

Heritage Malta is a body corporate set up by the enactment of the Cultural Heritage Act, 2002.