



MALTA ROCK CLIMBING CLUB

2011 – A YEAR IN REVIEW

WHAT HAVE WE DONE IN 2011?



Environmental and Access Work

Beginners' Sessions



Trip to Chamonix, France



Bolting Work and New Routing



Photoshoots, Newspapers & Film



Website & New Facebook Group

Relationship Building with Stakeholders



ENVIRONMENTAL AND ACCESS WORK



Xaqqa Valley Access Ladder

Xaqqa Valley Clean-up



Chainsaw Access Work in Wied Babu

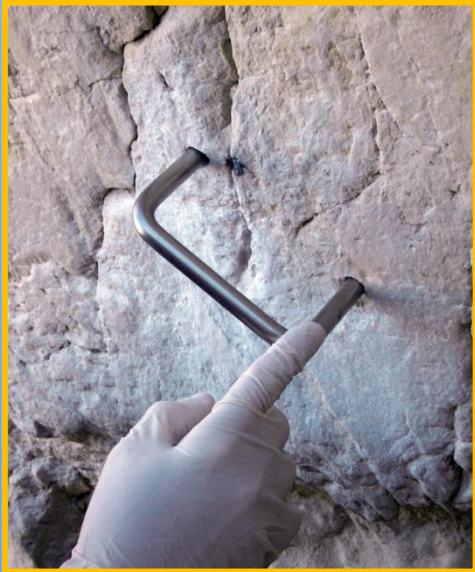
Wied il-Għasel Access Work





ENVIRONMENTAL AND ACCESS WORK

Xaqqa Valley Access Ladder





Xaqqa Valley Clean-up



Xaqqa Valley Clean-up





Xaqqa Valley Clean-up





Xaqqa Valley Clean-up





Xaqqa Valley Clean-up



Xaqqa Valley Clean-up





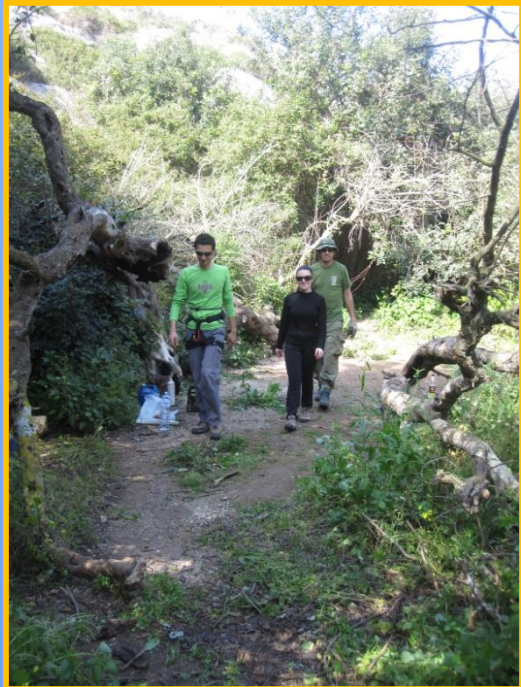
Xaqqa Valley Clean-up





ENVIRONMENTAL AND ACCESS WORK

Chainsaw Access Work in Wied Babu





Wied il-Għasel Access Work



Wied il-Għasel Access Work





Wied il-Għasel Access Work



Wied il-Għasel Access Work



Wied il-Għasel Access Work





Wied il-Għasel Access Work



Wied il-Għasel Access Work



Wied il-Għasel Access Work



Wied il-Għasel Access Work



Wied il-Għasel Access Work

Victoria Lines staircase discovered by Maltese climbers

In an effort to improve access for rock climbers at the popular climbing site of Wied il-Għasel, members of the Malta Rock Climbing Club (MRCC) have recently uncovered sections of a staircase that forms part of the Victoria Lines defensive wall. From the substantial amount of soil, vegetation and gravel dumped from the quarry above, this section of the staircase appears to have been hidden for many decades, and its existence was only noticed accidentally by the club's Environment and Access Officer Roland Iuliana, during a recent climbing activity.

The initiative to clear the steps, which was undertaken in collaboration with and under the supervision of the Ministry for Resources and Rural Affairs (MRRA), saw the participation of 15 members of the MRCC who, for the best part of a day, worked hard to uncover the whole length of the original staircase from the valley floor to the edge of the nearby quarry, most of which was buried under a mass of soil and vegetation. Commenting on this initiative, MRCC president Andrew Warrington remarked on the fact that an important part of Malta's military heritage had been uncovered for the appreciation of the public, while the staircase would also facilitate access for climbers visiting the area.

The Victoria Lines defensive wall, a major feat of engineering in its time, was built by the British colonial administration between 1870 and 1899 as a first line of defence for the island. It crosses several valleys and descends steeply down the sides of these, posing a challenge to the original builders when it came to making it possible for the soldiers defending the line to move quickly back and forth along their length. To tackle this problem, great skill and effort was dedicated to the placing of wide staircases, sometimes hewn out of the rock of the valley sides, along the defensive wall in the parts where it fell steeply into valleys.

Regrettably, the Victoria Lines are currently not very well preserved. According to Andrew Warrington, however, "the voluntary efforts of just 15 people is one that made a big dif-



ference to its original state".

The MRCC works for the benefit of the climbing community and is engaged in several environmental and infrastructural projects in close collaboration with the Malta Tourism Authority and the Ministry for Resources and Rural Affairs. More information about the club is available from www.climb-malta.com



BEGINNERS' SESSIONS

15 Beginners' Sessions in 2011

55-60 New Club members

First session of leading instruction

First Basic Rock Climbing Course

First Gozo Beginners' Session





Beginners' Sessions



Beginners' Sessions





Beginners' Sessions





Beginners' Sessions



Beginners' Sessions



Beginners' Sessions





Beginners' Sessions





Beginners' Sessions





Beginners' Sessions





Beginners' Sessions





TRIP TO CHAMONIX, FRANCE

Paragliding

Canyoning

Multi-pitch rock climbing

Mountain walking and glacier travel

Via Ferrata

Hydrospeed

Mountainbiking





TRIP TO CHAMONIX, FRANCE

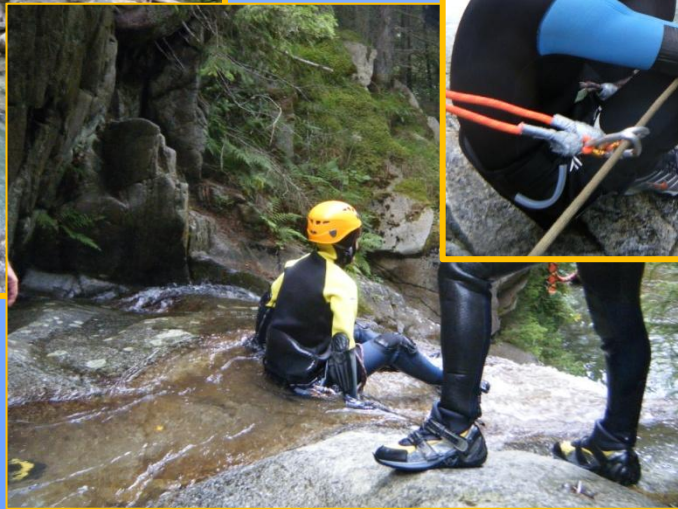
Paragliding





TRIP TO CHAMONIX, FRANCE

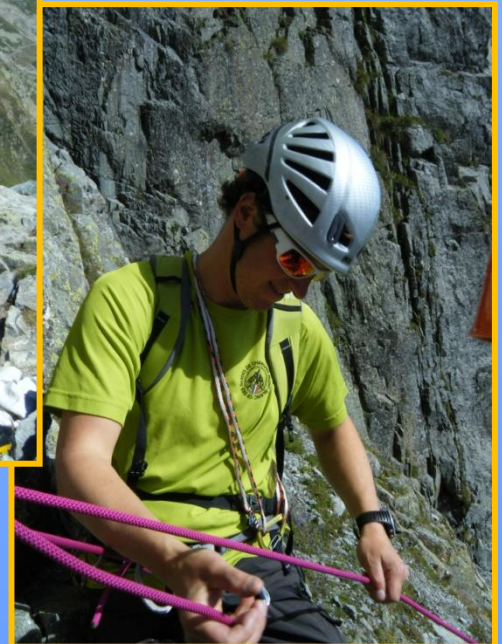
Canyoning





TRIP TO CHAMONIX, FRANCE

Multi-pitch rock climbing





TRIP TO CHAMONIX, FRANCE

Mountain walking and glacier travel





TRIP TO CHAMONIX, FRANCE

Via Ferrata





TRIP TO CHAMONIX, FRANCE

Mountainbiking





BOLTING WORK AND NEW ROUTING

12 New Routes in 2011: 6 sport / 6 trad

Lower-offs installed on 43 routes

90+ bolts installed by MRCC Bolting Team

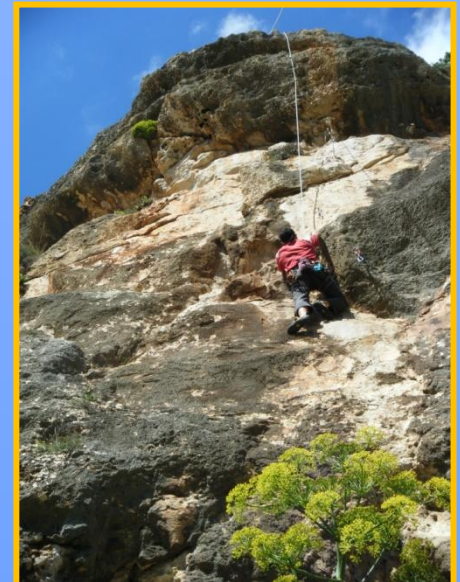
50+ MTA-MRCC bolts installed by other local climbers





BOLTING WORK AND NEW ROUTING

12 New Routes in 2011: 6 sport / 6 trad





BOLTING WORK AND NEW ROUTING

12 New Routes in 2011: 6 sport / 6 trad

Life of William

Qaghaq tal-Ghasel

Miss Pat and the SATU Warriors

Rum Line

Nina Technology

The Wanderer

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels

Lupin

Bonny Prince Albert



BOLTING WORK AND NEW ROUTING

Lower-offs installed on 43 routes





BOLTING WORK AND NEW ROUTING

90+ bolts installed by MRCC Bolting Team

50+ MTA-MRCC bolts installed by other local climbers





PHOTOSHOOTS, NEWSPAPERS & FILM

Presentation to Everest Summiteers - Jan

Times article re Bolting work (print, online, film) - Feb

Telezeuri Filming - Jun

David Simmonite photoshoot - Oct

Photoshoot with Pareti journalists - Nov

Filming of MTA video with Bryan Azzopardi - Nov

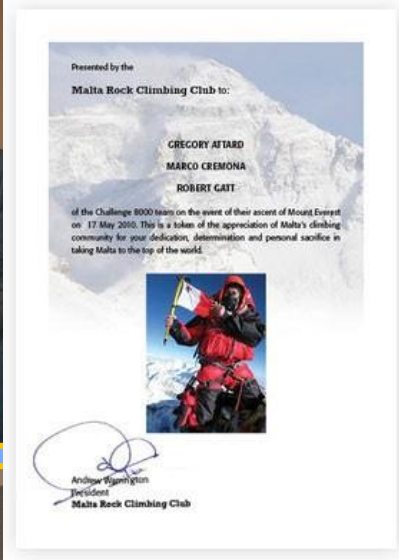
Media coverage of Victoria Lines initiative - Dec

Articles for local, UK & European climbing magazines



PHOTOSHOOTS, NEWSPAPERS & FILM

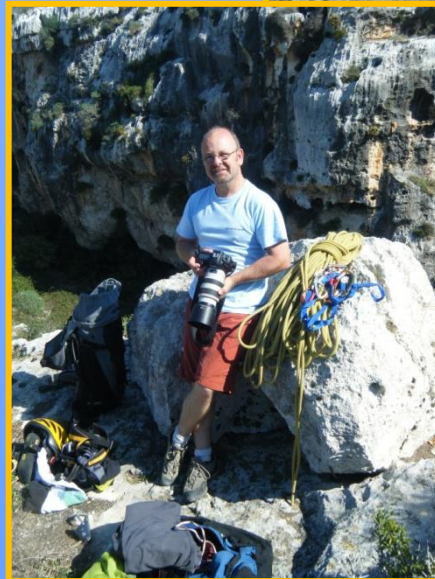
Presentation to Everest Summiteers - Jan





PHOTOSHOOTS, NEWSPAPERS & FILM

David Simmonite photoshoot - Oct





PHOTOSHOOTS, NEWSPAPERS & FILM

Photoshoot with Pareti journalists - Nov





PHOTOSHOOTS, NEWSPAPERS & FILM

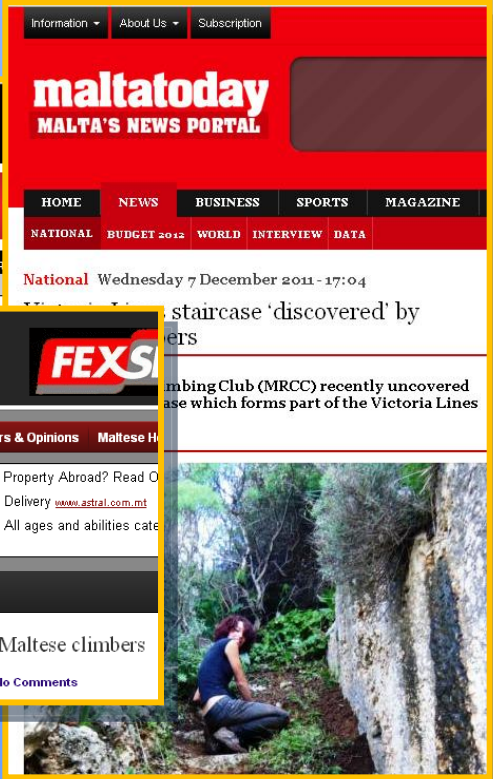
Filming of MTA video with Bryan Azzopardi - Nov





PHOTOSHOOTS, NEWSPAPERS & FILM

Media coverage of Victoria Lines initiative - Dec





PHOTOSHOOTS, NEWSPAPERS & FILM

Articles for local, UK & European climbing magazines

L-Orizzont

Misjub tarag "moħbi" li jagħmel parti mill-Victoria Lines



■ F'dawn l-aħbar għanet membri tal-Malta Rock Climbing Club (MRCC) li kienu qegħdin jagħmlu xogħol biex itjebu l-aċċess għal Wied il-Għasel, skoprew tarag li jagħmel parti mill-Victoria Lines.

Mill-ammont sostanzjali ta' ħammija, veġetazzjoni u radam mormi mill-barriera li tinsab aktar 'il fuq, din il-parti tat-tarag tidher li kienet ilha moħbija għal għadd kbir ta' snin, u l-eżistenza tagħha kienet biss innotata aċċidentalment mill-Environment and Access Officer tal-Klabb, Roland Sultana.

Matal l-inizjattiva, li saret bil-kollaborazzjoni ma' u taħt is-supervizzjoni tal-Ministeru għar-Riżorsi u l-Affarijiet Rurali, hadu sehem 15-il membru tal-

MRCC li hadmu biex ikun t-tal kollu tat-tarag, li mill-wied iwassal sal-barriera aktar 'il fuq.


F'kumment li ta dwar din l-inizjattiva, il-President tal-MRCC, Andrew Warrington, qal li waqt li parti importanti mill-wirt militari ta' Malta issa nkkafet biex tkun tista' ttagawda mill-pubblika ingenerali, dan il-tarag se ittejjeb l-aċċess għal dawk li jżuru l-żona biex jipprattikaw l-isport favorit tagħhom.

Il-fortifikazzjoni magħrufa bħala l-Victoria Lines, li kienet impriza tal-ingenierja kbira fil-żmien li saret fih, imbniet mill-amministrazzjoni kolonjali Brittanika bejn l-1870 u l-1899 bħala l-ewwel linja ta' difiża għal Malta. Din taqşam għadd ta' widien li ttaġġa u

nzal li hekk stadi lill-bennejja biex għamluha possibbli għas-soldati halli setgħu jaqsmu min-naħa għall-oħra fil-qisar hin possibbli. Biex dan seta' jsehh, il-haddiema ulaw hila u sengħa kbira biex għamlu tagħen waegħin, kultant inqatgħin fil-bat fil-għub tal-widien, tul il-hajt difensiv fil-partijiet fejn il-pendil fil-widien kien kbir.

Sfortunatament, il-Victoria Lines mhumiex fi stat ta' konservazzjoni tajjeb. Madankollu Andrew Warrington saħaq li "l-isforzi volontarji ta' 15-il persuna f'jum wieħed għamlu differenza kbira għal parti aghira mill-hajt. Im-magine x'jista' jsir bi sforz sistematiċu biex il-hajt ikun restawrat għall-istat oriġinali tiegħu."

The Malta Independent Daily



Victoria Lines staircase 'discovered' by Maltese climbers

The Malta Rock Climbing Club (MRCC) recently uncovered sections of a staircase which forms part of the Victoria Lines defensive wall along Mġieġ il-Għasel. From the substantial amount of soil, vegetation and sward dumped from the quarry above, this section of the staircase appears to have been hidden away for many decades, and its existence was only noticed accidentally by the club's Environment and Access Officer, Roland Sultana, during a recent climbing activity.

The initiative, which was undertaken in collaboration with and under the supervision of the Ministry for Resources and Rural Affairs (MRRA), saw the participation of 15 members of the MRCC, who for the best part of a day worked to uncover the whole length of the original staircase from the valley floor to the rim of the nearby quarry. Most of it was buried under a mass of soil and vegetation.

MRCC president Andrew Warrington remarked on the fact that an important part of Malta's military heritage had been uncovered for the appreciation of the public, while the staircase would also facilitate access to climbers visiting the area.

The Victoria Lines defensive wall, a major feat of engineering in its time, was built by the British colonial administration between 1870 and 1899 as a first line of defence for the island. It crosses several valleys and descends steeply down the sides of these, posing a challenge to the original builders in making it possible for soldiers defending the lines to travel back and forth rapidly along the length of the Lines. To tackle this problem, great skill and effort was dedicated to the glazing of wide staircases, sometimes hewn out of the rock of the valley sides, along the defensive wall in the parts where it fell steeply to its valleys.

Regrettably, the Victoria Lines are not very well preserved. According to Mr Warrington however, "the voluntary efforts of just 15 people in one day made a big difference to a small section of the wall. Imagine what could be achieved through a systematic effort aimed at restoring the wall to its original state".

For more information about the MRCC visit www.climbmalta.com.



WEBSITE & NEW FACEBOOK GROUP

**Website updated 70 times
with news of events and activities**

Replaced old Facebook Fanpage with Group Page



WEBSITE & NEW FACEBOOK GROUP

www.climbmalta.com

Welcome to the official site of the Malta Rock Climbing Club (MRCC)

The MRCC is Malta's largest rock climbing club, its members enjoy going off the cliffs, enjoying the views and the camaraderie that comes with it. We do most of our climbing on the island's rugged limestone crags.

Want something back home or just want to Facebook us? We're always looking for additional news, reports and photos.

47th December 2014 **Event**
Yet another successful beginners' event!
The last beginner's evening organised by the MRCC at the spacious and well equipped premises, an evening of great fun people gathered in Woodlands... read more

47th December 2014 **Bolting**
More bolting work in Mgarr ix-Xini
In preparation for the 2015 climbing season in Mgarr ix-Xini, the MRCC Club had been working on the bolting in the Mgarr ix-Xini area... read more

47th December 2014 **Event**
Sister island always has a lot to offer!
The MRCC planned another trip to the island of Gozo, this time to the Mgarr ix-Xini area... read more

4th December 2014 **Event**
Of Overhangs and Tufas - back to Thaiwand Walls
On a cold and foggy day we went to the cliffs that are east of Zebbie, an area of the island that is not very well known... read more

4th December 2014 **Environment & Access**
The MRCC's Access Initiative at Wied il-Ghasel
The MRCC has been involved in an important access initiative in Wied il-Ghasel, a route which has been part of the Via Ferrata since before World War II... read more

MRCC Club t-shirts available! Buy online

Looking for Equipment Hire or a Guide?

Click here to Become a member

News

10th July 2011 | **Event**
DWSing at Gh Ghar Hasan was a great success!
Ghar Hasan was a great success for the MRCC made the best of the day... read more

5th July 2011 | **Event**
A morning of fun!
The MRCC opted for a morning of fun before the... read more

3rd July 2011 | **Event**
Another beginner's session!
After the usual morning session for a large group of young adventurers... read more

17th December 2011 | **Event**
Yet another successful beginners' event!
The last beginner's evening organised by the MRCC at the spacious and well equipped premises, an evening of great fun people gathered in Woodlands... read more

13th December 2011 | **Bolting**
More bolting work in Mgarr ix-Xini
During last Thursday's climbing session the MRCC Club also had work to do on the bolting in the Mgarr ix-Xini area... read more

13th December 2011 | **Event**
Sister island always has a lot to offer!
The MRCC planned another trip to the island of Gozo, this time to the Mgarr ix-Xini area... read more

11th December 2011 | **Event**
Of Overhangs and Tufas - back to Thaiwand Walls
On a cold and foggy day we went to the cliffs that are east of Zebbie, an area of the island that is not very well known... read more

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Malta Rock Climbing
the comprehensive guide

by Richard Abela, John Codling & Andrew Warrington
Published: September 2007

Get this book TODAY! Click here

Malta Rock Climbing the Comprehensive Guide catalogues 21 areas on 3 islands, sporting 1200+ climbs described in detail and illustrated by full-colour photo-topos.

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Malta Rock Climbing
about the guide

by Richard Abela, John Codling & Andrew Warrington
Published: September 2007

From picturesque crags within steep-sided inland valleys, to iconic and exposed multi-pitch sea cliffs routes, and freezing deep water caves on the edge of coastal sea caves, the Maltese Islands host a vast selection of awe-inspiring crags.

The guide is fully illustrated, with colour photo-topos and an array of captivating action photos. Detailed road and area maps show access to crags which may often be remote, and bringing you to parking areas usually less than 15mins from the climbs. The climbs are not only depicted using both route markings and detailed route descriptions but grades, heights and star ratings provide a holistic picture.

Malta Rock Climbing the comprehensive guide is a 984-page catalogue of climbs; the first comprehensive guidebook published for the Maltese Islands. It details more than 1200 climbs and 21 climbing areas, on the 3 islands.

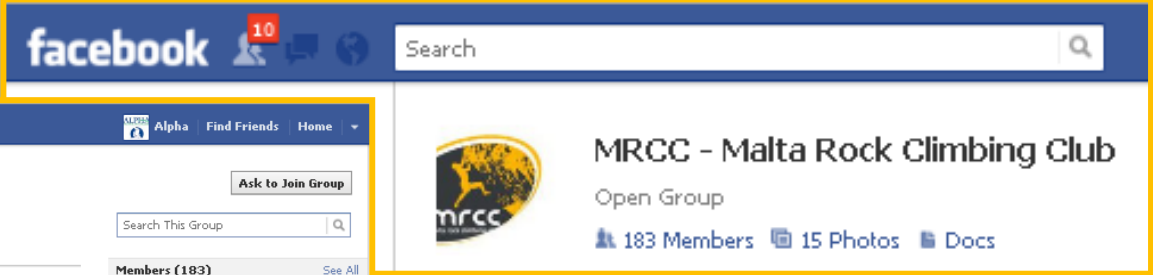
Though the climbing here dates back to World War II, Malta, Gozo and Comino have only more recently been discovered as a magnificent playground of rock for travelling climbers from around the world.

Malta Rock Climbing the comprehensive guide is the latest in the short selection of climbing guides to the Maltese Islands. It follows 3 previous guides which have been out of print for some years;

- Malta New Climbs (Brookes & Alden, 1986)
- Rock Climbing in Malta (Graham, 1971)
- Walls and Climbs in Malta (Stiles, 1949)



WEBSITE & NEW FACEBOOK GROUP



Search

Alpha Find Friends Home

MRCC - Malta Rock Climbing Club
Open Group
183 Members 15 Photos Docs

Ask to Join Group

Search This Group

Members (183) See All

The MRCC is Malta's longest established climbing club and its members are some of the islands' most passionate and committed hard-core climbers...
<http://www.climbmalta.com/>

People You May Know See All

- Stephanie Ciappara**
1 mutual friend
Add Friend
- Mario Attard**
Add Friend
- Stephanie Mamo**
Add Friend

Sponsored Create an Ad

Samsung Mobile Write your own review of the GALAXY Note and you could become Fan of the Month. Find out more.
Like: 5,890,826 people like this.

Maiju Skyttä was added by James Herrera.
December 21 at 10:20pm

Tia Silvano hei, toinen suomalainen!
4 hours ago

Maiju Skyttä Jep, vielään maltalla työssäoppimassa 14.1-10.2, ja ois ihan mahtavaa päästä kipeemää sinä aikanal :)
3 hours ago

Paul NotPaul
Hello! I did a climb last summer around Blue Lagoon and couldn't find it any guide books. Can you guys tell me if anyone's climb this route, established grade etc.. in which case I'll stop brashly saying I did a first ascent :). You can check out my video in the post.
<http://www.paulsammut.com/comino-climbing-video-deep-water-solo-in-malta/>
Also, thank you so much for all your upkeep of all the crags throughout Malta! I made very good use of your bolts.

Comino Climbing Video! Deep Water Solo in Malta
www.paulsammut.com
This past summer I had the absolute pleasure of spending 30 days of vacation in my sunny motherisland of Gozo, 30 days climbing, scuba-diving, delicious food from my aunt, swimming, camping, beach, bars, and more climbing. My friend, and climbing buddy, Nick came with me for the full 30 days and we ...

Share · Tuesday at 6:53pm near New York, NY

Stephen Farrugia likes this.

View all 4 comments

Paul NotPaul Thanks so much! haha I'm so excited! My first FA!
I'll do that and post up the best pictures I have of it.
Thanks for your work on the guide book by the way, it is the best guide book I've ever seen. Great pictures, route descriptions, a...
See More
Tuesday at 10:30pm



RELATIONSHIP BUILDING WITH STAKEHOLDERS

**New Environmental Projects & bolting initiatives
for 2012 being finalised**

**Cooperative initiatives between MRCC and
various government bodies and NGOs**



WHAT THEY ARE SAYING ABOUT US...



“ Thank you so much for all your upkeep of all the crags throughout Malta! I made very good use of your bolts.

Thanks for your work on the guide book by the way, it is the best guide book I've ever seen. Great pictures, route descriptions, and all the information was laid out in a very organized manner. It was indispensable during the last trip. ”

Paul Sammut, Facebook 27th Dec 2011



Sammut
www.paulsammut.com



THANKS TO...

- **Sophia Zozime from Alpha School of English for compiling this Presentation**
- **All the Committee and Club members who have dedicated their time and efforts towards all these achievements**
- **To my Paddy for putting up with my climbing addiction**
- **Everyone who came today to celebrate another year of the MRCC**