

RESKEON NEWSLETTER

MAR. 2018 AUTUMN EDITION Volume 22, No. 1

Welcome! Merħba!

Welcome once again to another issue of Reskeon Newsletter.

We started a new year and we pray the Good Lord to give us a better new one. Summer is almost gone and we are looking at Autumn.

This is the 22nd year I've been publishing this newsletter and I thank first of all my wife, Salvina, for putting up with me when I'm putting this newsleter together. Thanks also to Msita Mee for her help and members and non-members from around the world who always compliment my efforts.

In this issue we read about the Christmas Break-up at Firenze which was another success thanks for our President for organising it.

In this issue we also read about a Maltese young man, Steven Cordina who was the baton holder for the Queen's Baton Relay on its journey to Queensland. Steven is the nephew of our Vice-President, Madeleine Vella.

Recently we had a speaker, Ms Nadereh Edwards who spoke to us on home care.

President and Secretary, Salvina and Paul Vella, respectively, once a month attend a meeting of the Northern Federation of Senior Citizens Clubs.

Reskeon gave a donation to the MSSP missions through Fr Mark Demanuele, mssp, who visited Melbourne from the Philipines. Another donation was given to help the poor and the needy through the Parish Priest of St Joseph the Worker Parish, Canon Fr Manny Bonello, who incidentally celebrated Mass on our first meeting followed by a free Sausage Sizzle with drinks.

You can read these stories in full on the inside pages of this newsletter.We encourage you to use the services of the advertisers in our Newsletter because they help financially in producing it for you. Tell them that you have seen their advert in our

Until we meet again, take care and drive carefully. In your prayers, remember those with no one to pray for them. Thank you.

PAUL VELLA, Editor

FIND THESE STORIES AND MORE INSIDE!

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First Meeting for 2018 Page 8

Reskeon Seniors' Christmas Break-Up - another great success



The Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group organised a Christmas Luncheon for their members at the Firenze Receptions, Fawkner, on Wednesday, December 6, 2017. Around 146 members and friends attended. When members sat at their tables, they were served hors d'ouvres and pre-dinner drinks. Distinguished guests were the Consul General of the Republic of Malta in Victoria, Ms Joanna Pisani; the Secretary of Malta Consulate Office in Victoria, Ms Miriam Cassar; Father Edwin Agius, mssp, Rector at Parkville; Parish Priest of St. Joseph the Worker Parish, Canon Fr Emmanuel Bonello; the Treasurer of the Maltese Community Council of Victoria and our Honorary Auditor, Mr Paul Borg and Mrs Pauline Borg; the ex President of Reskeon Maltese Association and ex Co-Ordinator of Reskeon Seniors Group, Mr Caesar Vella and Mrs Phyllis Vella; the President of the Xaghra Association of Australia, Mr Tony Bonello and Mrs Mary Bonello; and the Director of First National Real Estate Borg & Associates and sponsor of or Association, Mr Joe Borg and Mrs Josephine Borg. We received an apology from the Honorary Members of Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group, Dr Clemente Zammit and Mrs Mary Zammit. We had a special visitor from Malta (Senglea) Ms Mary Shepherd, cousin of our member Paul Cassar.

Paul Vella, acted as MC for the day. After he led the singing of the Maltese National Anthem and Advance Australia Fair, he welcomed the distinguished guests and all those present. Afterwards he invited all present to fill their glasses with champagne to make a toast for Christmas and the New Year. The entrée was a plate of ante pasta to each present. This was followed by a serving of tortellini with Bolognese sauce. The main course consisted of chicken parmigiana and roast beef on each plate with vegetables. Dessert was

Cassata ice cream followed by fresh fruit and tea and coffee accompanied by Continental cakes. Red and white wine, beer and soft drinks were served throughout the day. Music was in the hands of DJ Domenic who kept the guests dancing all day.

MALTESE NEWS on SBS 2TV

Every Thursday, 8 am Every Sunday, 8 am

These are two different programs

Weekly news bulletins prepared by the PBS (Malta) and are presented on **SBS 2 TV**

Maltese Downunder Channel 31 (44) from Sun., Sept. 3, 4 pm Repeat Mon. 2 pm, Tues. 2.30 pm



RESKEON NEWSLETTER, MARCH 2018

Għal min jippreferi jaqra' bil-Malti...

Naf li hafna jixtiequ jaqraw xi haga bil-Malti f'din li Newsletter u allura se nippruvaw naghtu xi dettalji fil-qosor. L-IKLA TAL-MILIED

Fil-bidu ta' Dicembru kellna l-Ikla tal-Milied fil-Firenze Receptions. Kien avveniment sabih fejn għall-ewwel darba f'dawn l-aħħar snin kellna fil-prezenza tagħna il-Konslu l-ġdid tar-Republika ta' Malta fil-Victoria, Ms Joanna Pisani.

DONAZZJONI TA' IKEL GHALL-FQAR

Il-Kanonku Fr Manny Bonello, Kappillan tal-Parroċċa ta' San Ġużepp Ħaddiem, North Reservoir, jorganizza ġabra ta' ikel għall-fqar. Reskeon għamlu donazzjoni ta' ikel għal dan il-għan.

DONAZZJONI GHALL-MISSJONI

Dan l-aħħar kien fostna Fr Mark Demanuele, mssp, li jiġi hu l-membru tagħna, Pauline Borg. Fr Mark kien fuq żjara ta' hidma mill-missjoni fil-Filippini. Fr Mark tkellem magħna fuq il-bżonni-jiet f'din il-missjoni u Reskeon offrew donazzjoni.

KELLIEMA FUQ L-GHAJNUNA FID-DAR

Dan l-aħħar, Ms Nadereh Edwards ġiet tkellimna fuq l-għajnuna fid-dar għal dawk li għandhom bżonn. Kien hemm ħafna li wrew interess u staqsew ħafna mistoqsijiet. Salvina u Paul kull xahar jattendu laqgħa tan-Northern Federation of ethnic senior citizens' clubs u fl-aħħar laqgħa kien hemm kelliema fuq l-istess suġġett.

L-EWWEL LAQGHA B'QUDDIESA

Fl-ewwel laqgha tas-sena, il-Kanonku Fr Manny Bonello, Kappillan tal-Parroċċa ta' San Ġużepp Ḥaddiem, North Reservoir, iċċelebra Quddiesa għall-membri tagħna. Wara l-membri kellhom Sausage Sizzle b'xejn flimkien ma' xorb minerali, te u kafe' u kejks. Għal dawk li baqgħu għall-aħħar Bingo, ġew servuti ġelat minħabba li kien jum ftit sħun.

TIŻJIN GĦALL-MILIED MINN SACCO

Fil-jiem tal-Milied kellna l-opportunita` li mmorru nżuru d-dar ta' Charlie u Vera Sacco biex naraw il-ġmiel ta' tiżjin bid-dawl u presepju kbir li Charlie ħadem għalih is-sena kollha.

MALTI JGORR IL-BATON TAL-GAMES

Malti, Steve Cordina, ġarr il-Baton fil-Queen's Baton Relay fi triqtu lejn Queensland għall-Commonwealth Games. Steve jiġi inneputi tal-Viċi-President, Madeleine Vella.

Rapporti bl-Ingliż flimkien ma' ritratti fuq dan li ghadna kemm thadditna fuqu ssibuhom f'faċċati ohra ta' din li Newsletter. Sakemm nerġġħu niltaqgħu darb'oħra, insellmilkom u nghidilkom "Saħħa"!

— Paul Vella, Editur

BON VOYAGE, GRACE!

During the Christmas holidays, Grace Bonello, sister of Canon Fr Manny Bonello, arrived in Melbourne on a visit from Gozo, to be with her family. As it happened, during the first meetings of our Group, Grace was still in Melbourne and she attended most of our meetings. We wished Grace a nice and safe trip back to Gozo and we hope that we will enjoy her company in the near future.



You can contact us by phone, mail or email:
Paul Vella, Secretary, 9460-4404 Mob. 0409 961 928
Email: (Paul and Salvina Vella) paul.vella44@gmail.com
Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group Inc.
Merrilands Community Centre, Cnr. Asquith and Sturdee Sts, Reservoir

STEVE CORDINA — Baton Holder

On Saturday 10th February 2018, Steven Cordina had the great honour of being a baton holder for the Queens Baton Relay on its journey to Queensland for the upcoming Commonwealth Games. Steven was nominated by the Altona Lifesaving club as a local legend for his tireless work and many hours spent working with other volunteers at Altona ifesaving club.

Lifesaving junior and senior members, as well as family and friends, lined The Esplanade in Altona, as Steven received the baton and ran with the baton before passing it onto the next baton holder. It was a very exciting and emotional for all Steven's family and friends who felt honoured and proud that they could be there to share in Steven's once in a lifetime moment.

Steve is the son of Effie and Betty Cordina and brother of Annette Murdock who supplied the story and photos. Steve is also the nephew of the Vice-President of the Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group, Madeleine Vella.



Steve Cordina, baton holder for the Queensland Baton Relay



Attending the monthly meeting of the Northern Federation of Ethnic Citizen Clubs (Spectrum)

Once a month, our President and Secretary, Salvina and Paul Vella repectively, rush from our weekly meeting at Merrilands soon after we finish and travel to Bell City Motel, Bell Street, Preston to attend the monthly meeting of the Northern Federation of Ethnic Citizen Clubs. The meetings are run by Ms Filomena Ciociola.

Committee members from different senior groups in the Northern area attend these meetings representing their respective groups, as we do representing Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group.

At the meeting of the 21st February, we had two speakers representing One Vita, who are specialists in Aged Care and Home Care Solutions.

These speakers were Directors, Ms Jen Thompson and Ms Catherine Brideson.

They spoke to us about their services: Residential Aged Care, Allied Health, Councils, Financial Service, Legal Services, Home Care Services and Respite Care.

After the talk, those attending were invited to ask questions.



Jenny Mikakos MP State Member Northern Metropolitan Region

319 Spring Street, Reservoir 3073 Tel: 9462 3966

Jenny.Mikakos@parliament.vic.gov.au

- Representing our community.
- Offering information, advice and assistance regarding State Government issues.

Congratulates Reskeon Maltese Association and Reskeon Seniors Group on their ongoing work amongst the Maltese Community

Funded from Parliament's Electorate Office and Communications

(Continued from Page 1)

We were very honored to have with us the new Consul General for the Republic of Malta in Victoria, Ms Joanna Pisani who gladly accepted our invitation after an absence of a Consul General to attend our functions for a few years. Ms Pisani spoke about the Maltese language and urged our members to preserve our language and speak it and teach it to our children and their children. Finally she wished one and all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. The President, Salvina Vella, delivered her Christmas message where she thanked the committee and all members for their help throughout the year and wished them and their families all the best for a Merry and Holy Christmas and the New Year filled with good health and happiness. A list of birthday and anniversaries that occurred around this time was read. One special birthday of Joe Mercieca who was celebrating his 90th, his three daughters organised a birthday cake for him. There was a special anniversary where Melita and Reno Borg celebrated their 50th anniversary. The committe presented them with a bouquet of flowers.

A Christmas gift was given to all those present. The men received a good bottle of red or white wine while the ladies received a large German Marzipan Christmas Stollen.

Father Christmas paid us a visit and cheered all those present and gave out lollies. It was a very good day and all those attending enjoyed themselves and many thanked members of the committee for the way it was organised. The event finished with the Reskeon theme song composed by the late Laurie Armato and lyrics by Dr Clemente Zammit where members joined in singing and dancing all the way.

Thanks to all those involved in helping to make this luncheon a successful one as always, especially President, Salvina Vella, who almost single-handed did all the organising and preparations. Thanks also to the owners and waiting staff of Firenze Receptions, for the way they always look after us.











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RESKEON NEWSLETTER, MARCH 2018

Donation to the Missions in the Philippines



Fr Mark Demauele, Father with the Missionary Society of St Paul, was on a visit to Melbourne during December and January. Fr Mark is the brother of our member, Pauline Borg.

During his visit, Fr Mark was assigned to do Pastoral work with the Society, especially celebrating Maltese Masses for the Maltese Community. Masses in Maltese are celebrated every Saturday. First

Saturday at St Joseph the Worker Church, North Reservoir second Saturday at St Lukes Church, Lalor; third Saturday at St Francis of Assisi Church, Mill Park; fourth Saturday at St Thomas More Church, Hadfield.

Our Secretary, Paul Vella, who is also a volunteer broadcaster on Community Radio 3ZZZ, interviewed Fr Mark for his program. The interview was very interesting where he described his work in the Philippines MSSP mission. Fr Mark takes care of students in a University. In his interview, he told us of how many hardships some student go through. One example was that a girl went without dinner, breakfast and lunch so that she will be able to pay for photocopying. Another student told Fr Mark that he couldn't travel from where he lived to the University because his father gambled all he had and there was no money left for the family. Other examples he gave I don't feel comfortable to discuss them in this story.

The Philippines Missionary of the MSSP received a lot of help in money, clothes or food.

Reskeon committee, on behalf of the members, decided to make a donation to Fr Mark's work in the Philippines to help them run their missionary better.

The Missionary Society of St Paul runs a sponsorship program collecting monies for their missions in the Philippines, Pakistan, Peru and other countries. A few of our Reskeon members already participated in this program. Reskeon have two of these donations running. The cost is \$60 per year and you receive a photo of a young boy or girl where your donation goes to help them with living and education.

You are under no obligation to continue if your circumstances change.

Since the money is being sent directly to the Paulist Missionaries overseas, no money is lost in charges or fees.

Cheques should be made payable to the

Missionary Society of St Paul and posted to

Missionary Sponsorship,

c/o St Bernadette's Presbytery,

59B Westmoreland Road, North Sunshine VIC 3020

Contact persons for this project are:

Bev Tessari - tel: (061) (03) 9364 8168 and

Carmen Grech - tel (061) (03) 9311 6317. e-mail: missions@mssp.org.au

When sending your donation, please indicate how you would like your money to be used: to help a child in Pakistan; a child in Peru; a child in the Philippines or a woman in Pakistan.

Charlie Sacco's Christmas Theme

Last Christmas, our members, Charlie and Vera Sacco decorated their house with Christmas lighting and the Nativity scene. We had the pleasure to visit and inspect the hard work Charlie put in during the year. Several people, local and from other suburbs visited the light decorations as well and congratulated the Sacco's.





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FORTHCOMING EVENTS... Mark these dates in your diary!

March: BBQ at Edwardes Lake Park

April: Day Out Trip

May 3: Mother's Day Luncheon (Firenze)

June 7: Restaurant Day (Roxburgh Park Hotel)

July: Free Sausage Sizzle (Merrilands)

August 9: Father's Day Luncheon (Firenze)

September 6: Bambina Mass (Parkville) September 8: Vittoria Dinner Dance (Firenze)

September 9: Bambina Feast (St. Mary's, West Melbourne)

MASSES IN MALTESE

For those members wishing to attend Mass in Maltese, we are publishing these times and locations.

Every Saturday, at 6 pm:

St. Paul's Chapel, Parkville (Maltese Centre)

Every Sunday, at 8.00 am:

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advertisers and

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Newsletter.

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you.Thank you

St. Paul's Church, Sunshine Avenue, Kealba

Every First Friday of the month, 6.30 pm:

St Paul's Church, Glengala Road, West Sunshine

Every First Saturday of the month, 6 pm: St. Joseph The Worker Church, Wilson Blvd, Reservoir

Every First Saturday of the month, 4.45 pm:

St. Joseph Church, Springvale

Every Second Saturday of the month, 5.00 pm:

St. Luke's Church, Ia David Street, Lalor

Every Third Saturday of the month, 4.00 pm:

St. Francis of Assisi Church, Childs Road, Mill Park

Every Fourth Saturday of the month, 6.00 pm:

St. Thomas More Church, 65 North Street, Hadfield

(Confessions about half an hour before Mass)

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Consul General of Malta 9670 8427

Maltese Fathers, Parkville 9387 7433

Maltese Centre, **Parkville** 9387 8922

Thank you!

Ms Rita Mee for helping with proofreading, Dr Edwin Borg-Manche`, who takes care of the MCCV website for his help in advertsing our activities, to $\boldsymbol{M}\boldsymbol{r}$ Paul Borg, Treasurer of the MCCV, for his ongoing help in auditing our books, to **Darebin** City Council Victorian M and Multicultural Commission for grants received, and to all those who help in organising the Bocce competitions. We also thank the Maltese Radio Stations for advertising our functions and all those who assist us from time to time. Thanks also to the many members who give their help and assistance when needed.



JOE CALLEJA

Long time member of Reskeon

JOE GAUCI

Long time member of Reskeon Husband of member Laura Gauci

DOLORES PACE

Long time member of Reskeon Aunty of member Doris Dalli Aunty of member uFrances Galea

BRIDGET BUSUTTIL

Sister of member Caesar Vella

VINCE CALLEJA

Ex President Newport Assoc.

MARY BARTOLO Sister-in-law Licia Bartolo

VICTORIA BARTOLO

Sister-in-law Licia Bartolo

MURRAY McNEIL

Brother-law Licia Sylvia Dakin

KARMENA CAMILLERI Cousin of member Angela Mizzi

CHARLES VERZIN

Long time member of Reskeon

husband of ex member Margaret DANNY GATT

Cousin of the late member Charles

Gatt and Cousin of Frank Gatt FRANK GAUCI

ex member of Reskeon Please remember them in your prayers

R.I.P.

<u> Нарру Birthday . . .</u>

March: 2: Joe Pace; 3: Doris Schembri; 8: Licia Bartolo, Teddy Farrugia; 9: Tony Mizzi; 14: Charles Sacco; 20: Vincent Abdilla; 21: Mary Abdilla, Joe Pisani; 27: Billy Dalli; 28: Rita Zammit; 31: Rosemary Sacco. April: 1: Mary Camilleri; 4: Doris Pullicino; 5: Charles Psaila; Doris Dalli, Frances Galea; 8: Tony Grech; 10: Angela Mizzi, Toni Hili; 13: Reno Borg, Tony Bartolo; 14: Sarah Catania; 15: Caesar Vella; 17: Lucy Fabri; 20: Lisa Saliba; 21: Freddie Pisani; 25: Charlie Farrugia, Rose Pace; 27: Jim Cutajar. May: 6: Charlie Zammit, Carmen Mizzi; 8: Lourdes Mifsud; 9: Melita Magro; 10: Tony Scicluna; 12: James Cassar; 19: Vince Borg, Mary Zammit, Elvira Sacco; 21: Guido Ciantar; 25: Connie Gatt; 26: Doris Caruana; 30: Maureen Dakin.

<u> Нарру Wedding Anniversary . . .</u>

March: 2: Joyce and Manwel Cassar; I 6: Carmen and George Topolcsanyi; 27: Charles u Carmen Cachia. April: 2:Teddy and Antonia Farrugia; 9: Frances and Paul Schembri; 11: Joe and Rose Pace; Helen and Frans Bonavia; 21: Caesar and Phyllis Vella; 22: Lina and Victor Pulis, Yvonne and Sam Caruana; 25: Doris and Frank Mallia. May: 4: Paul and Pauline Borg, Frank and Jane Zahra; 5: Tessie and Silvio Sacco; 6: Tessie and Lou Vella; 7: Mary and Vince Abdilla; 25: Joyce and Frank Borg; 26: Vivienne and Charles Tabone; 30: Salvina and Paul Vella.

Reskeon Maltese **Association Seniors** Group Inc.

resident: Salvina Vella Vice-Pres.: Madeleine Vella

Secretary: Paul Vella

Treasurer: Victor Pulis

Asst. Treasurer:

George Topolcsanyi

Social Sec.: Salvina Vella

Members: Sarah Catania

Alfred Cachia

Theresa Cachia

Sylvia Dakin Cathy Gatt

The group meets every Wednesday at Merrilands Community Centre,

Asquith St, Reservoir, 9.30-2 pm. For more information

Ring 9460-4404

SAINT GEORGE PRECA

The General Secretary, Society of Christian Doctrine, Blata I-Bajda, Malta



Lord, you called Dun George Preca to be a teacher and father to the young, and now you have numbered him with your saints in heaven. We thank you for this glory you have given him. We ask you to fill us with love like his: may we give ourselves completely to your service and to the salvation of mankind. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Grant we beseech Thee O Lord that Thou wilt

glorify Thy humble servant who worked with so much zeal for the salvation of souls and that through his intercession it will please Thee to grant this favour.

CHARLES TABONE Independent Travel Agent

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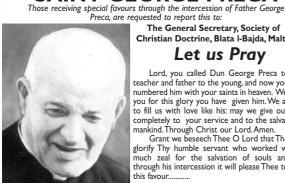
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Food Hampers for the Poor and the Homeless

Every year, the Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group organises a large hamper of food and toiletries to be distributed among the poor and the homeless.



Reskeon used to ask members weeks before Christmas to bring items of food to the weekly meetings. Members are always willing to help in this way. This year the committee decided to organise a shopping spree for these items for the poor and needy.

This year the food items bought were items for breakfast, such as cereals, juices, etc.

In the picture along with the items of food is Canon Fr Manny Bonello, Parish Priest of St. Joseph the Worker Church, North Reservoir, with President, Salvina Vella, committee member Sylvia Dakin and Treasurer, Victor Pulis.

Fr Bonello each year organises "stars" on the Christmas Tree at the Church, with an item of food so that parishioners take it home and return it with the item to the church the following week.

If more associations take the same initiative a lot of needy people and young children will have a better Christmas.

Talk by Ms Nadereh Edwards



At our weekly meeting on Wednesday, 21st February, we had a visit by Ms Nadereh Edwards, from the Australian Multicultural Community Services Inc., who spoke to us about home care and other support services.

Ms Edwards gave us information on Home Care Packages, Community and Home Support Programs, Social Support Groups, Specialised Support Services, Sector Support and Development, Centre-based Respite, Financial Well-being and Capability – Emergency Relief, Jobs Victoria

Employment Networks and Adult, Community and Further Education.

She told us that their services include Home Care Packages and Private Care, Basic Home Support, Information, Referral and Support, Social Support Groups, Respite for Carers, Volunteer Visits, Emergency Relief, Adult Education and Help to Find Work.

Our members showed great interest from this talk and this was shown by the number of questions asked and by seeking more information after the talk.

We would like to thank Ms Edwards for her visit and information.

RESKEON NEWSLETTER, MARCH 2018

First meeting of the year with a Mass

First meeting for the year was on Wednesday, 7th February.

At this meeting we started the day with a Mass celebrated by Canon Fr Manny Bonello, Parish Priest of St Joseph the Worker Parish, North Reservoir.

Around 110 members were in attendance.

Secretary, Paul Vella, introduced Fr Manny and told all those present that the Mass will be offered for the faithfully departed, members of our families.

Fr Manny started the Mass and his sister, Grace Bonello, who was on a visit to Melbourne from Gozo, did the readings.

In his Homily, Fr Manny spoke on the passage from the Acts of the Apostles narrated the shipwreck of St Paul on Malta. He said that we should be proud that Malta and the Maltese were mentioned in the Bible, especially when it was said that the Maltese were very hospitable and gave shelter to St Paul and his friends on the boat.

This was followed by a Bingo session and afterwards all those present were treated to a free sausage sizzle lunch, soft drinks, tea and coffee and cakes.

Then there was another Bingo session interrupted when the President, on behalf of the committee, distributed free ice-creams being a 36 deg. C. day. This was also to reward those few who choose to stay for the second Bingo session











Many of our members shopped at 'poultryplus direct' and were very pleased and we recommend you to visit and check for yourselves!

