



# NEWPORT NEWS

The Official Newsletter of the Newport Maltese Association Inc.  
C/- 477 Royal Parade, Parkville, Victoria 3052

March 2014

Lydia Cole—Editor

Vol. 3 Issue 8

## *The President's Message*

*Dear Fellow Members & Friends*

*Welcome to the first edition of our newsletter for 2014. I am sure, you all agree with me in declaring that, the Association finished the year 2013 on a very high note, having organised one of the best New Year's Eve Dinner Dances. This was followed by another successful event on the 23rd February, of course I am referring to the Carnival Dance, witness to all this are the photos in this edition. Let's hope we continue in this trend for the rest of this year.*

*The Seniors Group resumed their gatherings on Wednesday 22nd January at the Maltese Community Centre in Parkville. It was great to see all the members who attend regularly on the Wednesdays. No doubt, while we are away for the Christmas/New Year break, we all miss the company of each other.*

*On the election day for the Seniors Group Committee, which took place on the 12th February, we welcomed Mr Arthur Galea to the Committee. Arthur, successfully contested the election and I am sure he will be an asset to the group.*

*With the workload for the Seniors Group always on the increase, the Seniors Committee saw the need to appoint Carmen Casa to the position of "Seniors Functions Organiser". For a while now, Carmen has been taking care of the*

*bookings for the Seniors activities, so she is no stranger to the position.*

*Before the next edition of our Newsletter, a good number of our members (including committee members) will be leaving our shores for a holiday in Malta. I like to take this opportunity to wish you all a fantastic holiday on our "Island in the Sun", enjoy the crystal blue water of Malta and come back safely.*

*On behalf of the Seniors Group, I would like to say a big thank you to James Cunningham, who has now retired from the Seniors Committee. While on the Committee, James played a pivotal role with the running of the bingo during our Wednesdays gathering. We all wish James a happy retirement and I have no doubt that James, with his wife Miriam will continue to be the first on the dance floor at our dinner dances.*

*The Maltese Community Council of Victoria is conducting a survey to obtain a picture of the Second Generation of Maltese in Australia about whom we really know very little. Please pass this information and request for survey participation on to your children, friends and acquaintances. For further information please phone the Maltese Centre on 9387 8922.*

*Easter is just around the corner, so once again on behalf of my fellow Committee Members of the Association & the Seniors, I like to wish you and all your families a Happy & Safe Easter.*

*Until next time, Sahha.*

*George M Saliba.*

*President & Seniors Co Ordinator.*

## **Christmas Break Up**

The month of December is full of festivities to celebrate Christmas and on the 1st of December 2013 at the Melrose Reception Centre, the **Newport Maltese Association** held their Christmas Break-Up Dinner Dance for our members and their friends.

This function was well attended and with DJ Tony Buttigieg the dance floor was always packed. Well done Tony. Emily Buttigieg, a young promising singer, gave us a medley of songs to everyone's delight.

Even Santa dropped in for a short time and everyone was gifted a Christmas Pudding which was accepted with many thanks.

As for the raffle, quite a few people went home with some lovely gifts.

Our thanks go to Mr & Mrs C. Camilleri and Ms. Maree Gauci for their donation to the raffle.

Of course you could not get out of the door before wishing everyone a Merry Christmas with a hug and a kiss.

The Committee would like to thank all our terrific members and their friends for their support throughout the year. So now we wait for New Year's Eve.

## **New Year's Eve**

Well another year came to an end and to celebrate the new year we all gathered at the "Lakeside Banquet and Convention Centre" in Taylors Lakes.

The entertainment for the night was supplied by Moody Blue Duo and as always our members like to have fun, enjoy themselves and dance the night away.

Just before midnight the committee distributed bags with hats, whistles and streamers, the floor was packed and at midnight with one loud voice everyone shouted "Happy New Year". This is the highlight of the night with whistles blowing and streamers everywhere and wishing each other a Happy New Year.

A very special occasion for a lovely couple was the celebration of the 60th Wedding

Anniversary for Alice and Eddie Leone-Ganado. Congratulations to you both.

And so we start a new Year, always hoping it will be better than the last.

## **Fancy Dress Dinner Dance**

**23rd February 2014**

**H**eld at the Melrose Reception Centre, The Carrick Room. The hall was beautifully decorated as usual, the food, 4 course meal plus fruit platter was excellent, Phillip the DJ played and sung his heart away all through the night and a song by Elvis Presley (George Saliba using Stan Azzopardi's voice) was a very clever idea which fooled everyone.

Once again there were more Ladies than Gents in costumes and I have to say the costumes are getting better every year and everyone had a good time and we had very good feedback.

Three Ladies and three Gents' names were lucky enough to be drawn out of a hat to win an Encouragement Award. The ladies were Veronica Fiteni, Helen Grima and Evelyn Attard and the Gents were James Cunningham, Charlie Degiorgio and Vince Camilleri.

Functions like this don't just happen, there is a lot of preparation and work behind the scene from the whole committee especially from George Saliba and Olga Ellul, so thank you both.



## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**The Newport Maltese Association would like to thank the Victorian Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship for the grant of \$500 to be used for the Fancy Dress Dance held on 23rd February 2014 at the Melrose Reception Centre.**

# Seniors' Corner

by Gwen Busuttil  
Seniors' Committee Member

## CHRISTMAS BREAK UP 2013

It's that time of the year again, the stage is set, Melrose looks fantastic, you can feel it in the air, and everyone is in a festive spirit ready for a fabulous night of fun and entertainment.

Hey, everyone loves Christmas, just because we are B I G kids now, doesn't mean we have lost it.

The months of preparation for us has paid off. Everyone loves the singing segment, believe it or not we actually train for it, it's not our fault that those vocal cords let us down at our age. What about Santa time. Bells ringing, cameras snapping photos, and we have a lot of fun doing it all.

Presentation time came for all the Bocci Competition winners, and all the recipients received trophies to recognise their achievements. Congratulations to you all.

BOCCI:	WINNERS	RUNNERS UP
<b>LADIES</b>	Rita Pullicino Jane Willett Gaeta Azzopardi	Lody Howick Margaret Bartolo Mary Cefai
<b>MEN</b>	Anthony Cassar Giacinto Cassar Frank D'Amato	Joe Stafrace Joe Galea Francis Zerafa

Thank you also went to the members who help us during the year, and there are many, however Frank D'Amato and Raymond Buttigieg are consistently there to keep the urn topped up, and calling Bingo. Thank you both.

Non Members who joined us on the night received some Baci Chocolates, and many of these loved the night and consequently are now members.

Santa's helpers distributed the hampers to all member, then came time to make the most of the lovely music on the dance floor.

Raffle time came, and there were some beautiful prizes to select from... Big Hamper, Ham, DVD, Picture Frame, Whisky, Wine, and a lovely Hamper donated by Ms Maree Gauci of some fantastic products from Earth's Choice. (From personal experience, their products are well worth a try.) P.S. This is not a paid commercial.

With lots of hugs and kisses, everyone wishing everyone a Merry Christmas it was goodbye 2013.

## Lorne 27th February 2014

Thank God it's not one of those 40 degree days, but a lovely sunny day by the time we reached Lorne. Every time we travel along the Great Ocean Road we marvel at the lovely scenery of our beautiful Victorian coastline. Best in the world.

101 members took advantage of this trip, heavily subsidized so many can enjoy the lovely day. We had a lot of places to select where to have lunch. The choice of most was the Fish'n Chip shop. A large queue formed waiting for it to open. Well worth the wait.

Many brought with them chairs, and under the trees on the foreshore was a lovely place for them. Bocci of course were very popular, and some took advantage of the nice shops in the area. We all enjoy each other's company, so it was a perfect time to catch up with everyone.

Thank you to all those who topped up our supply of lollies on the day, both Rennie and Victor were busy passing these along during the trip.





## **PHOTOS FROM THE SENIORS BREAK-UP**

**Below: THE HAPPY TABLE**



**Below: Ladies' Bocci Competition Winners and Runners Up and  
Gent's Bocci Competition Winners and Runners Up**



**Below: The Greatest Maltese Choir**





### ASSOCIATION CHRISTMAS BREAK-UP





## NEW YEAR'S EVE: Before and after Midnight



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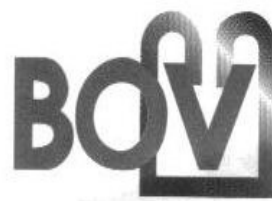
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**NEWPORT MALTESE ASSOCIATION**  
**FUNCTION DATES FOR 2014**

<b>SUN APRIL 6th</b>	<b>OUTING TO Warburton</b>	
<b>SUN JUNE 22nd</b>	<b>NEWPORT DAY OUT</b>	
<b>SUN AUGUST 10th</b>	<b>COMEDY LUNCHEON</b>	<b>M.C.C.V.</b>
<b>SUN OCTOBER 12TH</b>	<b>NEWPORT AGM</b>	<b>M.C.C.V.</b>
<b>SUN OCTOBER 26th</b>	<b>NEWPORT ANNUAL DINNER DANCE</b>	<b>MELROSE</b>

**For Booking please contact Olga Ellul on 9744 6096**

**NEXT FEW FUNCTIONS FOR THE**  
**SENIORS GROUP FOR 2014**

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>27th APRIL</b>	<b>MOTHER'S DAY MELROSE</b>
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>15th MAY</b>	<b>LUNCHEON-TBA</b>
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>7th JUNE</b>	<b>FUN NIGHT MCCV</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>6th JULY</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS IN JULY- MELROSE</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>31st AUGUST</b>	<b>FATHERS' DAY- MELROSE</b>

**For Booking please contact Carmen Casa on 9436 8196**



**CONGRATULATIONS  
ALICE & EDDY  
ON YOUR 60TH WEDDING  
ANNIVERSARY**



Dear Members: Please take note:-

The Newport Luncheon scheduled on

**Sunday 3rd August 2014**

has now been transferred to

**Sunday 10th August 2014**

**Come and join us for  
a great afternoon of  
Comedy**



**Introducing a new Seniors Committee**

**Member**

**Arthur Galea**

Born in Malta in Sliema on the 30th January 1946. I am one of 9 children (6 boys and 3 girls). I am number 5. I came to Australia on the 9th November 1962 together with Maurice and Richard Spiteri.

I got married at the age of 19 to my lovely wife Mary at the age of 17 on the 8th of January 1966. We just had our 48th Wedding Anniversary. We have two children, a son Jason, 41 and a daughter Catherine 38. We have four grand children, 2 boys and 2 girls.

I worked at Ford's for 34 years, Arvi Meritor for 7 years and at present I am working a part time job of 14 hours a week for Cool Drive Distribution in Box Hill.

My hobbies are: Gardening, Fishing and Cooking.



## Fancy Dress Dinner Sance







*I'm sure you will all recognize yourselves in the pictures because there are too many to mention besides, I don't know all of the peoples names, sorry.*



