

Welcome! Merhba!

Welcome once again to another issue of Reskeon Newsletter.

The main event of the year for Reskeon Maltese Association, without any doubt, is the Feast of Maria Bambina in September. Reskeon organises the Feast of Our Lady on behalf of the Missionary Society of St. Paul, every year. On the Saturday, 7th September, Reskeon had the Vittoria Dinner Dance at Firenze Receptions and the Feast on Sunday, the 8th, at St. Mary's Church, West Melbourne.

Mr Charles Mifsud, Consul General of Malta in Victoria, ended his term of office in September. The Maltese Community Council of Victoria organised a farewell function at the Maltese Centre, Parkville, on Saturday, 31st August. Reskeon was represented at this function.

Reskeon Seniors Group organised a trip to Rye on Thursday, 17th October The day was not a good one regarding the weather but all members taking part made the best of it and enjoyed the day.

Reskeon Seniors Group had the Annual General Meeting on Thursday, 9th October. This year was not an election year. Afterwards, being the AGM and, as well, Seniors Week, members were treated to a free chicken and Roast potato lunch with free tea and coffee and soft drinks.

Reskeon Maltese Association had their Annual General Meeting on Sunday, 27th October, at the Maltese Centre, Parkville. This was followed by a General Meeting to accept the new changes in the Model Rules implied by the Department of Consumer Affairs which had to be incorporated and accepted in our Constitution.

We are always proud of the achievement of our children and grandchildren. In this issue we feature the achievement of Simon Vincent Borg, son of our members Vince and Rose Borg. Congratulations.

During the past few weeks we welcomed among us relatives of some of our members. Henry and Carmen Navarro from the UK, and Mike and Josephine Gillan from Canada.

We are reaching the end of the year and we are looking forward to the Christmas break-ups, both of the Reskeon Maltese Association and the Reskeon Seniors Group. We thank both committees for their work during the year as well to all our members.

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 pro-ducing it for you. Tell them that you have seen their advert in our Newsletter.

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





Overseas Pages 2

Visitors from

Well Done Sen. Sgt. **Simon Vincent Borg** Page 6

Merry Christmas and a Kappy New Year

The President, Co-Ordinator and Committees of Reskeon Mallese Association and Reskeon Seniors Group Inc. wish all our members, their families and friends a Merry and Koly Christmas and a New Year full of good health and prosperity. We extend the same wishes to all Maltese Associations, their committees and members and the whole

Maltese Community in general.





MALTESE NEWS on SBS 2 TV 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

The feast of Maria Bambina organised by Reskeon

Reskeon Maltese Association was again in charge of organising the Feast of Maria Bambina on behalf of the Missionary Society of St. Paul.

Because this year the 8th of September fell on a Sunday, the Mass at the Maltese Centre during the week was not held as this is normally held on the day of the actual Feast.

On Saturday, 7th September, Reskeon organised the Vittoria Dinner Dance at Firenze Receptions, Fawkner, which was well attended by around 215 members and friends.

On arrival, they were greeted with a welcome drink and hors d'ouvres. (Story and photos on pages 3 and 4)



Bambina Dance

and Feast

Pages 3 and 4

Farewell Charles

Mifsud/Rye Trip

RESKEON NEWSLETTER, DECEMBER 2013

Ghal 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.

IL-BALLU TAL-VITORJA

II-ballu tal-Vitorja inzamm is-Sibt, 7 ta' Settembru fil-Firenze Receptions u kellna attendenza mhux hazin. Kulhadd ha gost bil-lejla u hadna pjacir naraw hafna zaghzagh jattendu. Dawn hadu hafna gost ukoll li ga wrew ix-xewqa li jattendu s-sena d-diehla.

IL-FESTA TA' MARIJA BAMBINA

II-Hadd, 8 ta' Settembru, fil-Knisja ta' St Mary Star of the Sea, West Melbourne Reskeon organizzaw il-Festa ta' Marija Bambina ghan-nom tal-patrijiet tas-Socjeta` Missjunarja ta' San Pawl. Kellna attendenza sabiha u kollox mar sew.

L-AGM TAR-RESKEON MALTESE ASSOC.

Reskeon Maltese Association kellhom il-Laqgha Generali Annwali taghhom il-Hadd, 27 t'Ottubru fic-Centru Malti ta' Parkville. Wara kien hemm Laqgha Generali fejn inqrat il-Kostituzzjoni l-gdida biz-zidiet mid-Dipartment tal-Consumer Affairs.

L-AGM TAR-RESKEON SENIORS GROUP

Mill-banda I-ohra r-Reskeon Seniors Group kellhom il-Laqgha Generali Annwali taghhom nhar I-Erbgha, 9 t'Ottubru. Kien hemm attendenza sabiha. Wara I-membri gew ipprezentati b'ikla ta' tigieg u patata mixwija, te u kafe` u xorb minerali, kollox bla hlas. Dan kien ghall-AGM u biex niccelebraw il-Gimgha tal-Anzjani.

ZEWG KOPPJI BI BTALA F'MELBOURNE

Dan l-ahhar kellna zewg koppji, wahda mill-Ingilterra u ohra mill-Kanada, familjari ta' membri taghna, li kienu fuq btala f'Melbourne u attendew xi avvenimenti li gew organizzati mill-Reskeon Seniors Group.

SELLIMNA LIS-SUR CHARLES MIFSUD

Is-Sur Charles Mifsud temm il-kariga tieghu bhala I-Konslu Generali ta' Malta fil-Victoria u r-Reskeon kienu prezenti ghal riceviment li I-MCCV organizzaw ad unur tieghu.

KBURIN BIT-TFAL TAGHNA

Dejjem inhossuna kburin bl-acevimenti tat-tfal taghna. Illum naqraw fuq Simon Vincent Borg, tifel ta' membri taghna

HARGA OHRA GHAL MULWALA

II-Hamis, I4 ta' Novembru, kellna harga ta' gurnata ghal Mulwal. Bhas-soltu lmembri li hadu sehem hadu gost b'din il-harga u qattghu gurnata sabiha flimkien bhal familja wahda.

Rapporti bl-Ingliz flimkien ma'ritratti fuq dan li ghadna kemm thadditna fuqu ssibuhom f'faccati ohra ta' din li Newsletter. Sakemm nergghu niltaqghu darb'ohra, insellmilkom u nghidilkom "Sahha"! — Paul Vella



Jenny Mikakos MP

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



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You can contact us by phone, mail or email: Charles Tabone, Secretary on 0417 354 637 60 Huntington Drive, Craigieburn 3064 Email: charles.tabone@cbtraveladventures.com.au Email: (Paul and Salvina Vella) paul.vella44@gmail.com

Vistors from overseas....

Henry and Carmen Navarro (centre) were on holidays from the UK. Carmen is the sister of our member Rose Pace (right). Henry is the nephew of the late Maltese comedian, Johnny Navarro. Joe Pace is on the left.





Another couple on a visit to Melbourne who joined us on the trip to Rye were Mike and Josephine Gillan from Canada. Josephine is the sister of member Helen Bonavia. They enjoyed our company on this trip. From left, Mike, Helen, Josephine and Frans Bonavia.

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Maria Bambina Feast

(From Page 1) Distinguished guests were the Consul General of Malta in Victoria, Mr Charles Mifsud; Fr Dr Victor Shields, mssp; Honorary Life Reskeon Members of Maltese Association and Reskeon Seniors Group Inc., Dr Clemente Zammit and Mrs Mary Zammit; Life Member of Reskeon Maltese Association. Mr Laurie Bartolo and Mrs Theresa Bartolo; The MCCV Vice-President, Mr Victor Borg and Mrs Teri Borg; The MCCV Treasurer, Mr Paul Borg and Mrs Pauline Borg. Apologies were received from Fr Edwin Agius, mssp, Member and life of Reskeon, Mrs Anne Gauci.

MC for the night was Mr Joe Cutajar. After welcoming the distinguished guests, all present were upstanding to sing the Maltese National Anthem and Advance Australia Fair.

Music was in the hands of DJ King Charlie.

First course, antipasto, was served, followed by a pasta dish of ricotta cannelloni and tortellini in Bolognese sauce on each plate. Main course was Chicken Involtini and veal Scalopini with vegetable on each plate. Dessert was Bacio Ice-cream, followed by a platter of fruit, a platter of cheese, Continental cakes with tea and coffee. Red and white wine, beer and soft drinks were served all night.

Later in the night the Malta Gozo City of Brimbank Concert Band played marches for the occasion which created the merriment for the night, similar to that of the Maltese Festas.

MC Mr loe Cutajar thanked Social Secretary, Salvina Vella, who planned this night almost singlehanded. All those attending complimented the way the night was organised, the food and the atmosphere.

It was good to see among us some young guests who really enjoyed the night especially when DJ Charlie catered for their kind of music.

On Sunday, 8th September, Reskeon organised the Feast of Maria Bambina on behalf of the Missionary Society of St Paul, at St Mary Star of the Church. West Sea Melbourne.

This year it was a nice and warm Spring day and around 1000 of the Maltese Community attended this Feast. A large number of Maltese associations also attended with their banners and presented flowers to Our Lady.

Among those present were the Consul General of Malta in Victoria, Mr Charles Mifsud; the President of MCCV. Prof. Maurice Cauchi and Mrs Agnes Cauchi; members of the MCCV Executive; Dr Clemente Zammit and Mrs Mary Zammit; members of the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta and members of the

Ex-Services Maltese Association of Victoria. Together with the banners of the Maltese associations that were present were the banners from the four villages and towns where the Bambina is celebrated in Malta and Gozo: Senglea, Mellieha. Naxxar and Xaghra, Gozo. Also present were Sisters from Religious Orders, members of the Christian Society of Doctrine and the Chief Representative in Australia of the Bank of Valletta plc, Mr George Portelli and Mrs Portelli.

Rosary was recited at 2.30 pm by Mr Emmanuel Farrugia, which was followed by a Concelebrated Mass.

Prime Celebrant was the MSSP Provincial in Australia, Ivano Fr Burdian: Concelebrants were Fr Edwin Agius, Fr Dr Victor Shields, Fr James Bonello, Fr Emmanuel Adami, Fr Denis Carabott, Fr John Taliana, all of mssp; Fr Karm Borg and Fr Raymond Bugeja. The Homily in English was delivered by Fr Ivano Burdian, while Fr Dr Victor Shields delivered a short Homily in Maltese.

First Reading was by The Consul General of Malta in Victoria, Mr Charles Mifsud, who was attending his last function of the Maltese Community in Victoria, before returning to Malta (Continued Page 4)

Some members organised a table as a family group at the Vittoria Dinner Dance. Here are some of them ...

Below: the Bartolo, Vella, Cutajar family and friends **Below: the Mercieca** family





Below: the Caruana, Bonnici family and friends Hammett family and friends

Below: Cachia and





Bronwyn Halfpenny, MP

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- Representing our community.
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after the end of his term of office. Second Reading, Mr Edwin Borg-Manche', PRO, MCCV. The Prayers of the Faithful were read by Ms Antoinette Bajada and Mrs Phyllis Vella while the Sacrificial Offerings were brought to the Altar by Mr Joe Borg of First National, Deer Park and Mrs Borg, along with Mrs Anne Gauci and Mrs Tessie Cachia.

Master of ceremonies was Emmanuel Farrugia helped by Frank Sirianni.

The music and singing was provided by the Maltese Choir of Victoria under the direction of Mr Charles Schembri and Ms Lydia Gusman. tions took place: one going towards the Missionary Society of St Paul and the second one going towards the Church of St Mary Star of the Sea.

After Mass, Fr Edwin thanked all those present and the Reskeon Maltese Association for organising the Feast on their behalf. Special thanks went to Fr Anthony Bernal, Parish Priest of St. Mary Star of the Sea. This was followed by a Procession with the beautiful Statue of Maria Bambina in the streets around the church accompanied by the Maltese Own Band Philharmonic Society under the direction of Mro. George Aquilina, members of a large number of Maltese associations carrying their respectful banners and a large crowd from those attending the Church service.

The Procession was followed by the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Thanks to all those Reskeon members who on Friday and Sunday helped with the preparations for the Feast and then on Monday for putting everything back in its place.

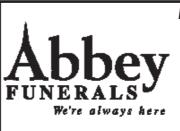
Special thanks to the statue bearers and the forcina, to Mr Caesar Vella and Mr Alfred Asciak for their help Mr Alfred Zahra, and President of the St Bernadette Seniors and Social Club for providing transport to carry items from Parkville to St Mary Star of the Sea Church, West Melbourne, and back.







Some of the photos taken during the Vitoria Dinner Dance and the Feast of Maria Bambina at St. Mary's Church, West Melbourne. Both went well.



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The AGM of Reskeon Maltese Association

The Annual General Meeting of Reskeon Maltese Association was held on Sunday, 27th October, at the Maltese Community Centre, Parkville, at 2 pm. Around 42 members attended.

Vice-President, Joe Cutajar, welcomed all those present and invited the Secretary, Charles Tabone, to read the Minutes of the previous AGM. The Minutes were accepted as read and were moved and seconded. This was followed by the reading of the Annual Financial Report by the Treasurer, Victor Vella. This report was accepted as circulated and read and was moved and seconded. Then the Vice-President gave his report. This was followed by a few questions in General Business.

Right after this AGM, there was a General Meeting held according to Notices sent to all members of Reskeon Maltese Association and Reskeon Seniors Group. In this meeting the Constitution of Reskeon Maltese Association and Reskeon Seniors Group Inc. were read. This was done as needed and instructed by the Department of Consumer Affairs to include new Rules added to the Model Rules by the same department. These Rules had to be accepted by

The Seniors' AGM

On Wednesday, 9th October, Reskeon Seniors Group had their AGM at Merrilands Community Centre, at 10 am, attended by about 110 members.

The meeting started with a prayer. Co-Ordinator, Salvina Vella, welcomed all those present. Secretary, Paul Vella, read the Minutes of the last AGM. This was followed by the Financial Report which was read by Paul Vella, in the absence of Treasurer, Victor Pulis, who was away on few days holiday. Both the Minutes and the Financial Report were received by the members.

Co-Ordinator, Salvina Vella, then gave her report. She said that we tried to organise as many events and outings as we could throughout the year. She mentioned that the luncheons of Father's Day, Mother's Day and Christmas, although the Reception Centre had increased their prices, we managed to keep the cost for each member to only \$16 per luncheon which is less than half the cost. Other functions are all subsidised by more than half and this is because of good management. We hope that this will keep going in the future as well. No questions were asked in general business.

Member Doris Mallia thanked the committee for the way they run things and looking after the members. After the meeting, members were treated to a free lunch of roast chicken and potato and free tea and coffee. This was as a treat for the AGM and for Seniors Week that happened during that time. This was followed by the usual game of Bingo.

Thank you, helpers!

On Sunday, 10th November, a BBQ was held to say 'thank you' to all our helpers throughout the year. The weather was good after some days of rain. All had a good time. Thanks to Paul and Salvina who organised the day and to all those who helped with the cooking, serving food and gave other assistance. Your help was much appreciated.





all members which were done. This was moved and seconded. A copy of the new Constitution as read will be sent to the Department of Consumer Affairs to be checked and accepted.

We thank all those members attending.

Refreshment were served afterwards: tea and coffee with biscuits and cakes, assorted sandwiches, pastizzis, pies and sausage rolls, red and white wine and soft drinks. Thanks go to Salvina Vella for taking care of the preparation of the refreshments.









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Group Citation for Merit

Acting Senior Sergeant Simon Vincent Borg received a Group Citation for Merit recently for exemplary service. The Citation was for exemplary service involving outstanding determination diligence and professionalism displayed in the development and implementation of the Victoria Police Investigation Model Project (Project AIM – Advancing Investigation Management) which resulted in significant improvements in investigation standards, capacity and capability. Back in November, 2011, Simon received another

Back in November, 2011, Simon received another Citation from the Queensland Police Service, this time the 2010-2011 Queensland Flood and Cyclone Citation which acknowledges his contribution towards ensuring an effective response was provided by the Queensland Police Service during the flood and cyclone disaster events of 2010-2011 and core police services were maintained during that period.

Simon, is the son of Vincent and Rose Borg, members of Reskeon Seniors Group.

He is a qualified motor mechanic and worked for TNT. He joined the Victoria Police Force in early 1990 and graduated in August of that year at Waverley Victoria Police Academy under Police Commissioner Kel Glare. First duty was patrolling CBD, Russell Street and City Watch House, later over 7 years with Traffic Accident Investigation Squad when he was promoted to Sergeant with Traffic Control. He was stationed at several suburbs and then working in charge of a Divisional Tasking Unit for two years.

Čurrently, Acting Seniors Sergeant Simon Borg, is at the City Command Centre, working on a Model Project, Advancing Investigation Management (AIM).

On behalf of our two Groups we congratulate Simon and wish him more success for the future.

In the photo, Acting Senior Sergeant Simon Vincent Borg is receiving the Citation from Victoria Police Commissioner Ken Lay.



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Mass for our dearly departed

On Wednesday, November 6, Reskeon Seniors Group organised a Mass for our dearly departed at their weekly meeting at Merrilands Community Centre. The Mass was celebrated by Fr Mannie Bonello. Members brought photos of their family members no longer with us. Before the Mass Paul read a list of dead members of both committees. Fr Mannie delivered a lovely Homily for the occasion. A large number of members were present.



A visit from Fr Dr Victor Shields

Fr Dr Victor Shields, mssp, who helped found the Reskeon Maltese Association in 1976 was on a visit to Melbourne during September. He found the time to come to visit the Seniors Group and celebrate Mass for us. In his Homily he said how happy he felt to see this Group still going strong and asked all members to help so that Reskeon will keep on growing. During his stay in Melbourne Fr Dr Shields also concelebrated the Maria Bambina Mass at St. Mary's Church, West Melbourne.





David Feeney MP MEMBER FOR BATMAN

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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.

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Farewell to Mr Charles Mifsud On Saturday, 31st August, the Maltese Community Council of Victoria organised a night of

farewell and awards at the Maltese Centre, Parkville. First was the farewell to Mr Charles Mifsud, at the end of his term in office as Consul General of Malta in Victoria. Mr Mifsud, apart from serving the Maltese Community as Consul General, always took the initiative to organise several events for the benefit of the same community. We would like to thank Mr Mifsud for his service and wish him well in his new position when he goes back to Malta. He was always there for the community, attending so many events, including all the events organised by Reskeon Maltese Association and Reskeon Seniors Group. In fact, he was there attending the Feast of Maria Bambina at the Church of St Mary Star of the Sea, West Melbourne, only 24 hours before his departure to Malta.

On the same night a young Maltese lady received a scholarship to go to Malta and learn about Maltese culture and see for herself the roots of her parents and grandparents. Finally there was the presentation of the awards to seven members of the community for their work throughout the years.

In the picture, Paul and Salvina Vella are seen with Mr Charles Mifsud.



Day Trip to Rye

On Thursday, 17th October, a group of 46 members of Reskeon Seniors Group, enjoyed a trip to Rye.

This trip was planned a few weeks before and the group was hoping for a warm nice day. The day of the trip wasn't like that. Weather forecast was windy, cold, raining, hail and thunderstorms. At least we missed on the thunderstorms.

But, nevertheless, the group enjoyed the day out. We left St Joseph the Worker Church carpark at 9.30 am sharp. The day looked sunny, but by the time we arrived at Rye it got cloudy and we had a bit of showers.

Members made the best of the day and had lunch at either the Rye Hotel or the RSL Club. Naturally, a few of the members tried their luck on the machines and some got lucky.

On days like these it's hard to plan a day with good weather. We have to admit on most of our outings we were always lucky to get good days. What matters most is that our members enjoy the day and the company of other members.

Our Coach Captain, once again was Terry and he looked after us very well. Thank you.





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