

#### Welcome! Merhba!

Welcome once again to another issue of Reskeon Newsletter.

Reskeon Seniors always make sure that from time to time they get special speakers on items of interest, being health or other. Lately, a talk was organised by Alzeimhers Australia on Dementia. All our members enjoyed the talk and they found it very interesting and informative.

Reskeon Seniors enjoyed two trips across the border this time to Mulwala Ski Club. Originally only one coach was going to be organised but as the demand was strong we had to organise another soon after.

It's September and this means the Feast of Maria Bambina which Reskeon Maltese Association and Reskeon Seniors Group organise on behalf of the Missionary Society of St Paul. We remind you of the Dinner Dance held at Firenze Receptions on Saturday, September 7 (see advt on this page). Then on Sunday it's the Feast of Maria Bambina at St Mary's Church, West Melbourne.

During the last few weeks we lost two of our members. Annetta Azzilla passed away 10 months after she cel-ebrated her 100th birthday. She was our eldest member ever. Áfter a few days we learned of the sad loss of Nellie Gauci. Nellie lost her husband Joe, exactly one year before. May they rest in peace and find eternal rest.

The Seniors organised a restaurant day at Roxburg Park Hotel and all members enjoyed the day.

On August 15, Reskeon Seniors organised their Father's Day Luncheon at Firenze Receptions. A good number of members attended and enjoyed the day

As we are in election mode, some weeks earlier we learned of resignation from Parliament and politics of the Hon. Martin Ferguson, MP. A Forum was organised where Mr Ferguson said goodbye to all and introduced the Hon. David Feeney as the new Member for Batman.

Reskeon Seniors meet every Wednesday at Merrilands Community Centre, Reservoir. Prior to each meeting a group of members always turned out early in the day to prepare the hall. Aubrey Jansz who is the care-taker of the Community Centre is always there with them to lend a hand. We thank him for all his help. We thank him for everything.

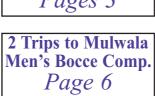
You can read these stories in full on the inside pages of this newsletter.

We encourage you to use the ser-vices 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 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







Page 8 **Reskeon Seniors**' Father's Day Luncheon at Firenze Receptions, on Thursday, August 15. The presentation of the **Bocce Competition** Trophies, from left: Salvina Vella, Mr Charles Mifsud, Charles Psaila. Frans Bonavia. Angelo Farrugia. Full story and more pictures on Page 4.

**Father's Day** 

Luncheon

Page 4

Talk on

Dementia

## **IN SEPTEMBER WE CELEBRATE** THE FEAST OF MARIIA BAMBINA

## Saturday, September 7:

On this day, our association is organising the Vittoria Dinner Dance at Firenze Receptions (see advertise-ment on this page). As always this event is very popular and tickets will be selling fast. We would like to see a great number of Reskeon members attending. Bring your friends with you and organise a table. Full infor-mation about this dance is available from — Salvina Vella **9460-4404**; Joe Cutajar **0420 626 053**.

## Sunday, September 8:

At St. Mary's Church, West Melbourne. Rosary at 2.30 pm. Immediately after, there will be a Mass followed by a procession (weather permitting) with the statue of Our Lady accompanied by the Maltese Own Band Philharmonic Society. This will be followed by Benediction. Everyone is invited to attend all these functions and let us be united as one Maltese Community. Be there and take part. As in every year Reskeon Maltese Association organises the Feast of Marija Bambina on behalf of the Fathers of the Missionary Society of St. Paul.



presented on SBS 2 T



#### Page 2

#### **RESKEON NEWSLETTER, SEPTEMBER 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

Ftakru li nhar is-Sibt, 7 ta' Settemberu se jkollna l-Ballu tal-Vitorja, go Firenze Receptions. Pruvaw aghmlu mejda u gibu lil hbiebkom maghkom. II-prezz dej jem inzommuh irhis: \$47 membri u \$49 ghal dawk li mhux membri.

#### **IL-FESTA TA' MARIJA BAMBINA**

Imbaghad I-ghada I-Hadd, 8 ta' Settembru, fil-Knisja ta' St Mary Star of the Sea, West Melbourne ikun hemm il-Festa ta' Marija Bambina, 2.30 pm Ruzarju u wara I-Quddiesa u purcissjoni.

#### **ZEWG HARGIET GHAL MULWALA** Reskeon Seniors kellhom zewg hargiet ghal Mulwala. Dawn il-hargiet dejjem

Reskeon Seniors kellhom zewg hargiet ghal Mulwala. Dawn il-hargiet dejjem popolari li l-ewwel coach intliet malajr tant li wara ftit jiem organizzajna ohra ghal dawk li ma lahqux ta' l-ewwel.

#### **RESKEON JATTENDU FORUM**

L-Onor. Martin Feguson, MP, kif tafu spicca mill-politika u organizza Forum fejn fih stieden lil kulhadd b'xi problemi li ghandhom u fl-isess hin jaghti l-ahhar tislima u jirringrazzja lil kulhadd u jintroduci l-Membru gdid ghal Batman, l-Onor. David Feeney. Reskeon kienu rapprezentati.

#### **TELFA TA' ZEWG MEMBRI**

Dan I-ahhar tlifna zewg membri.Annetta Azzilla li s-sena li ghaddiet ghalqet 100 sena u allura kienet I-aktar wahda anzjani fil-Grupp taghna, halliet din id-dinja. Wara ftit jiem smajna bl-ahbar tal-mewt ta' Nellie Gauci. Ahna noffru I-kondoljanzi taghna lill-familji taghhom.

#### TAHDITA FÜQ ID-DEMENTIA

Reskeon Seniors dejjem jippruvaw igibu kelliema dwar sahha u affarijiet ohra ta' nteress generali. Dan I-ahhar kellna tahdita minn Alzeimher's Australia fuq id-Dementia. II-membri kollha hadu gost b'din it-tahdit u sabuha ta' nteress.

#### IKLA F'ROXBURGH PARK HOTEL

Reskeon Seniors organizzaw ikla ghall-membri u l-hbieb taghhom f'Roxburgh Park Hotel. Bhas-soltu, il-membri hadu gost b'din il-harga ghaliex il-post huwa sabih u l-ikel mill-ahjar.

#### **IKLA GHAL JUM IL-MISSIER**

Fil-15 t'Awwissu Reskeon Seniors organizzaw l-ikla ghal Jum il-Missier. Kien hemm attendenza sabiha bhas-soltu u kulhadd ha gost. Din inzammet fil-Firenze Reception bhal ma naghmlu fl-okkazjonijiet ohra. Dak in-nhar tqassmu t-trophie tal-kompetizzjoni tal-bocci, sezzjoni ta' l-irgiel .

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

State Member Northern Metropolitan Region 319 Spring Street, Reservoir 3073

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- Jenny.Mikakos@parliament.vic.gov.au
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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

## A Visit to the Depares

One day in July, Caesar and Phyllis Vella along with Paul and Salvina Vella paid a visit to long-time members Alfred and Emily Depares. The Depares now live happily in a residential home in Blackburn. Both Alfred and Emily looked good and hapy in their new home. They are frequently visited by their children and families and friends.



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## RESKEON NEWSLETTER, SEPTEMBER 2013 Page 3 Restaurant Day at Roxburgh Park Hotel

Reskeon Seniors Group enjoyed lunch at a restaurant day at Roxburg Park Hotel, on Thursday, June 13. This was a buffet lunch.

Around 108 members and friends participated.

As usual, our members were very well organised in arriving on time, staying in the restaurant foyer until the management directed them to their tables.

On the day there were two large bookings, one of them of another 300 persons, so the management asked members to go and get their food one table at a time.

But as always, our members always act on directions and everything went smoothly.

So we would like to thank them and especially those who approached committee members afterwards to thank them for a wellorganised day and requesting this be done more often.

Roxburg Park Hotel is a very favourite spot with most of us. The food is excellent and so is the atmosphere and the waiting service is one of the best.



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## Bronwyn Halfpenny, MP

**State Member for Thomastown** 274 High Street Thomastown 3074 P.O Box 219 Thomastown 3074 Telephone: 9465 7533 — Fax: 9465 3656 Email: bronwyn.halfpenny@parliament.vic.gov.au



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# Page 4RESKEON NEWSLETTER, SEPTEMBER 2013The Seniors enjoy a Father's Day Luncheon

The Reskeon Seniors Group celebrated Father's Day with a Luncheon at Firenze Receptions, Fawkner, on Thursday, 15th August.

Around 140 members attended. This was a good number considering the amount of members holidaying in Malta and others who were suffering with the flu. When members entered the hall, pre-drinks and hors d'ouvres were served while they were seated at the tables. Secretary, Paul Vella, greeted all those present and the distinguished guests: Canon Fr Emmanuel Bonello, Parish Priest of St Joseph the Worker Church, North Reservoir; the Consul General of Malta in Victoria, Mr Charles Mifsud; Life Member of Reskeon Maltese Association and Reskeon Seniors Group, Mrs Anne Gauci; Honorary Life Members of Reskeon Maltese Association and Reskeon Seniors Group, Dr Clemente Zammit and Mrs Mary Zammit; MCCV Treasurer, Mr Paul Borg and Mrs Pauline Borg; Ex-President of the Maltese Reskeon Association and ex-Co-Ordinator of Reskeon Seniors Group, Mr Caesar Vella and Mrs Phyllis Vella. Apologies were received from the Vice-President of the Maltese Community Council of Victoria, Mr Guy Deguara and Mrs Mary Deguara and from Fr Edwin Agius, mssp, who was overseas. This was followed by the singing of the Maltese National Anthem and Advance Australia Fair.

Then the meals were served. Entrée was a serving of fish with rice, followed by lasagne. The main course was chicken Maryland and roast beef on each plate with roast potatoes and vegetables. Red and white wine, beer and soft drinks were served all day. Dessert was Cassata ice-cream and a fruit platter, followed by tea/coffee and continental cakes. DJ Tony provided the entertainment for the day. Members were on the dance floor all day dancing to his music.

Co-ordinator Salvina Vella gave a short message for Father's Day and wished them a good day and asked to pray for the fathers who are no longer with us.

Then it was the turn of Mr Charles Mifsud who delivered his last Father's Day message before going back to Malta after serving his term of office here. He also spoke of the role of fathers in our lives. We will miss Mr Charles Mifsud and we hope to keep in touch in the future. We wish him well.

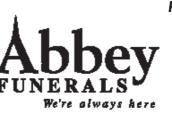
This was followed by the presentation of trophies for the Men's Bocce Competition. Winner was Charles Psaila, first runnerup, Billy Dalli and second runner-up, Frans Bonavia. The trophies were presented by the bocce organiser, Mr Angelo Farrugia. Billy Dalli was not present to receive his trophy.

The function finished with the Reskeon Theme Song, music by the late Laurie Armato, lyrics by Dr Clemente Zammit. A good day was had by all those attending this function. Thanks to all those who worked so hard to make this luncheon a very successful one. We would also like to thank the management of Firenze Receptions and their waiting staff for the way they look after us all the time.





Our eldest father, Mr Joe Mercieca enjoying a dance with his daughter, Margaret Spiteri on a special request.



Proudly supporting the Maltese Community 24 Hour Service 7 Days a Week Prepaid Funeral Plan available Member A.F.D.A.

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## **RESKEON NEWSLETTER, SEPTEMBER 2013** Reskeon Seniors attend the Batman Community Forum

On Tuesday, July 30, 2013, Salvina Vella and Paul Vella, Co-Ordinator and Secretary of Reskeon Seniors Group respectively, attended the Batman Community Forum, at the Darebin RSL Meeting Room, Bell Street, Preston.

This Forum was called by The Hon. Martin Ferguson, MP, Federal Labor Member for Batman, to meet members from the community. As you all know, Mr Martin Ferguson resigned from his position as Member of Parliament as of September and was not going to contest the upcoming Federal Election. Mr Ferguson took the opportunity at this meeting to thank all organisations, especially the large number of volunteers running them for their valuable work. At the same time, Mr Ferguson used this meeting to introduce to the community, The Hon. David Feeney, as the newly elected ALP candidate for the Batman Electorate.

Mr David Feeney, was Senator for Victoria, as well as Parliamentary Secretary for Defence.

In his speech, Mr Ferguson thanked all organisations and the volunteers who ran them and thanked them for the wonderful work they do for the community. The community in general will not be the same if it wasn't for the ongoing work these volunteers give to run their organisations.

Mr Ferguson invited those 100 plus present to ask questions about problems they and their members face from time to time. These questions were answered and explained by Mr Ferguson who afterwards asked Mr David Feeney to take over and answer the rest of the questions.

A lot of interesting items were raised and they were answered and explained by either Mr Ferguson or Mr Feeney.

As you know, we as a Group, never preach or talk about politics and always made it clear that we do not wish members to enter into political arguments when we meet. But, on the other hand, we do appreciate the ongoing help we always received from Mr Ferguson and from his friendly and hard-working office staff.

Mr Feeney addressed those present and promised that he will continue offering his help to all



organisations and the community in general.

Afterwards everyone was invited to a cup of tea of coffee and biscuits.

From here we would like to thank Mr Martin Ferguson for all the help he has given to us when it was asked of him. Thanks also to his very helpful and friendly office staff.

In the photo, Paul and Salvina Vella with The Hon. David Feeney, MP.

## **Our thanks to Aubrey**

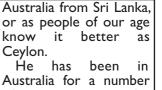


Aubrey Jansz is caretaker at Merrilands Community Centre where the Reskeon Seniors Group meets every Wednesday.

Aubrey is always there to lend a hand. At each of our meetings he helps to organise the tables and chairs in the hall for us. This is done at every meeting with help from some of our members who every week come early in the morning so that when members arrive they find everything done.

Every time we ask Aubrey for some help he is always willing to try to solve the problem.

Aubrey migrated to



Australia for a number of years and worked for the Government for some time.

We would like to say a big thank you to Aubrey for everything. Your help and friendship is greatly appreciated.

## **Reskeon lose their eldest member**

On Tuesday, 5th August, 2013, Reskeon Maltese Association and Reskeon Seniors Group, lost their eldest member, Annetta Azzilla, of Reservoir.

Ten months previously, the Seniors Group celebrated her 100th birthday, with a special birthday cake and flowers at one of their weekly meetings, surrounded by



her children Vivienne, Paul, Mitri and Alfred. She has another daughter, Lina, in Malta. She turned 100 on the 27th October last year.

Her funeral was held on Thursday, 7th August, at St Joseph the Worker Church, North Reservoir.

Annetta, her husband and son Paul have been members of Reskeon for a long number of years.

We offer our condolences to all the family. God, grant her eternal peace.

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#### Page 5

## Page 6

## **RESKEON NEWSLETTER, SEPTEMBER 2013** Two one-day trips to Mulwala **Men's Bocce Competition**

On Thursday, 16th May, the Reskeon Seniors Group organised a one-day trip to Mulwala Ski Club. The coach list was filled in no time with a lot of members finishing on the waiting list. So the committee decided to organise a similar trip the week after, 23rd May.

Both trips enjoyed beautiful days. Members enjoyed both trips.

Mulwala Ski Club is a beautiful club set on the lake with a nice large outside deck where patrons can enjoy a drink and a chat.

On both trips members enjoyed a stop at SPC Warehouse in Shepparton where most of them stocked on a lot of cans of fruit at very discount prices.

Both trips were with Harlan Coaches. Harrison was the Coach Captain on the first trip while Bernie was Coach Captain on the second.

## During the year, both our ladies and men members enjoy games of bocce throughout the year.

The ladies organise a bocce competition which comes to an end as Mother's Day approaches so that the winners and runners-up receive their respective trophies during the Mother's Day Luncheon.

Likewise, the men organise their bocce competition towards when our Father's Day Luncheon is organised so that the trophies will be presented to the winners and runners-up on that day.

Both the ladies and the men's bocce members enjoy the weekly games at Merilands.

We managed to get a photo of the men's players during one of their games.







Martin Ferguson MP MEMBER FOR BATMAN

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## SAINT GEORGE PRECA

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For more information

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Theresa Cachia

Those receiving special favours through the intercession of Father George Preca, are requested to report this to:

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

Let us Pray

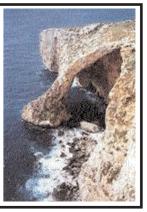
Lord, you called Dun George Preca to be a teacher and father to the young, and now you have numbered him with your saints in heaven. We thank you for this glory you have given him. We ask you to fill us with love like his: may we give ourselves complete the your guite and to be calveiing of completely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

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Alfred Cachia

Joe Galea Theresa Cachia

Madeleine Vella

The group meets every Wednesday

at Merrilands Community Centre,

Asquith St, Reservoir, 9.30-2 pm.

For more information

Ring 9460-4404

## **RESKEON NEWSLETTER, SEPTEMBER 2013**

# A talk on dementia

Page 8

On Thursday, June 19, members of Reskeon Seniors Group had the chance to attend a very informative talk on Dementia, at their Wednesday meeting, at Merrilands Community Centre, Reservoir.

About three months prior, Ms Norminda Forteza, CALD Project Officer with Alzheimer's Australia Vic. made contact with Secretary, Paul Vella to see if Reskeon Seniors Group would be interested in organising such a talk. Naturally the invitation was accepted as the group always have such talks on Glaucoma, diabetes, retiring homes, etc.

About 120 members were present. Speaker was Simon, from Alzeimher's Australia Vic., who was accompanied by Ms Norminda Forteza, Lisa and Bernadette.

The talk, which lasted about an hour, covered very interesting points and all aspects of Dementia, such as: When does it start; Memory/Dementia; Is it inherited?; Different types; How do I know? Signs and symptoms; Can you be tested?; What causes Dementia?; Does it affect the brain? and others.

Simon covered the subject fully and very professionally. He was very happy with the response from those present, especially with the very important questions that came from the floor.

The Dementia group provided a lot of literature about the subject both in English and Maltese which were distributed among the members.

All those present felt that this was a very important subject to learn about. Some members have been affected by Dementia with some members losing a member of the family from it. We would like to thank Alzheimer's Australia Vic for the opportunity they gave our group to learn more about it.

Reskeon Seniors Group enjoy such talks on Glaucoma, Diabetes and other interesting matters from time to time.

Following the talk, the Reskeon Seniors Group committee organized a free sausage sizzle with free tea and coffee and soft drinks for all members.





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