



# NEWPORT NEWS

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

June 2015

Lydia Cole—Editor

Vol. 3 Issue 13

## *The President's Message*

Dear Fellow Members & Friends,

By the time you will be reading this edition of Newport News, we will be halfway through the year and well into the miserable days of winter. During the first six months of 2015, things have been happening for our community, of which you the members have benefited from.

To start with on May 3, at a cocktail reception organised by the Maltese Community Council of Victoria we witnessed the unveiling of the mural in the hall of the Maltese Community Centre which feature a panorama of the capital city of Malta, Valletta. Those of you, who as yet, have not seen the mural should make an effort to visit the centre and admire the wonderful work done by artist Peter Toyne.

On the 17th May, the Maltese Ex-Services Association of Victoria celebrated the 73rd anniversary of the award of the "George Cross" to Malta. It was a beautiful sunny winter afternoon and everything went to plan except for one thing. I could only count 11 members from our community who attended to this commemorative celebration.

If we could only remember and pay tribute to all the services, civilian men, women and chil-

dren who paid with their lives during the war, that we live and continue to enjoy our heritage, then maybe things could be different.

I was very pleased to see a good number of our seniors who stayed back for a special cooking session at the centre on Wednesday 25th May.

Mrs Maria Cilia (winner of Maltese cook off) presented the cooking session with many tips for healthy eating.

This was followed with a talk by Professor Maurice Cauchi, a medical specialist who spoke on medical matters relating to benefits of health living and eating. Professor Cauchi's main topics of his talk emphasised how important it is to exercise and have a healthy diet.

All our members in attendance were provided with a free lunch.

I'm sure you all would like to join me in congratulating Andrew Gatt (Seniors Secretary) who has been appointed Public Relations Officer of the M.C.C.V.

Having worked with Andrew for about six years now, I know he will fit in nicely with the Council Executive and do his part to the fullest.

With the instalment of the defibrillator at the Maltese Community Centre at Parkville, one can feel more safe to visit especially as we get on in years.

On this matter, you will be interested to know that Arthur GALEA, Andrew GATT and MYSELF, have been issued with a certificate by VICSEG (a registered training organisation) for

continued next page

completing a short course in first aid-HLTAID003.

I like to finish my report with this inspirational quotation :- Never look for the faults as you go through life, and even when you find them, it is right and kind to be somewhat blind, and look for the virtues behind them.

God Bless,  
Until next time  
George Saliba OAM  
President & Seniors Co-Ordinator

### **Newport Maltese Association** **Luncheon** **7th June 2015**

This was listed as a day out but because of the cold weather we have been getting there were not many sheltered places we could go. After a few suggestions and ifs and buts it was too late to book a hall so it was decided to have a luncheon at the Maltese Community Centre in Parkville. Luckily the hall at the MCCV was vacant.

Three course meal supplied by Ferraro receptions was very tasty and we had many comments saying that it was more than enough.

John the DJ kept the music coming and everybody dancing and although we did not have a big crowd it was friendly with a relaxed atmosphere and everyone had a good time.

Thank you each and everyone for your support.

Lydia Cole  
P.R.O.

## **Phenomenon**

**This is the only time you will see this phenomenon in your life**

| Sun       | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs. | Fri       | Sat       |
|-----------|-----|------|-----|--------|-----------|-----------|
|           |     |      |     |        | <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>  |
| <b>3</b>  | 4   | 5    | 6   | 7      | <b>8</b>  | <b>9</b>  |
| <b>10</b> | 11  | 12   | 13  | 14     | <b>15</b> | <b>16</b> |
| <b>17</b> | 18  | 19   | 20  | 21     | <b>22</b> | <b>23</b> |
| <b>24</b> | 25  | 26   | 27  | 28     | <b>29</b> | <b>30</b> |
| <b>31</b> |     |      |     |        |           |           |

In 2015, August will have 5 Fridays  
5 Saturdays and 5 Sundays.

**This happens only once every 823 years.**

The Chinese call it 'Silver pockets full'.

## **DID YOU KNOW**

According to Albert Einstein, if honey bees were to disappear from earth, humans would be dead within 4 years.

People who laugh a lot are healthier than those who don't.

Laziness and inactivity kills just as many people as smoking.

A human brain has a capacity to store 5 times as much information as Wikipedia.

Our brain uses the same amount of power as a 10-watt light bulb!!

## Seniors' Corner

by Gwen Busuttil  
Senior Committee Member

### Seniors' B.B.Q.

Weather wise it wasn't perfect. It would have been if that wind stopped blowing everything off. As we drove up, the committee members that arrived earlier were busy trying to put up a wind break, this worked, giving some shelter to all the ladies as they got started on the onions, salads etc., when all got prepared for the fellas, it was time for a coffee break.

We greeted everyone that arrived carrying picnic tables, chairs, and picnic baskets, the atmosphere was jovial, and the men were not left out, the sausages had many would be chefs making sure they did not burn, when the onions went on the aroma got everyone prepared for the feast to follow. The meat was so nice and tender, and the bread was a bit moreish

Another successful day, the wind settled down, and after lunch some played bocci, some played cards, and many just enjoyed the company. We honestly have the best group of people you could wish for.

### MOTHER'S DAY LUNCHEON

April 26th at Melrose

As you arrived at Melrose and found your table, you would have noticed that there was champagne already, this was in readiness for the toast that George proposed to all the mothers there present, and of course all the men were upstanding for this. Then George invited Charlie Vassallo up to the microphone, and we learnt that this was rather impromptu. As Charlie sang his rendition of Mama. Tears welled up in our eyes, as memories of a very special person to all of us, our own mother. Not many there were lucky enough to have theirs still

living. Thank you Charlie, you certainly did not need to practice, you sang it beautifully.

Another lovely touch was the presentation of Lindt Chocolates to all our female members. (Those inches we put on over Easter are never going to come off).

The music thanks to Domenic, kept us on the dance floor, to songs we all love to hear. Melrose's Chefs are to be commended for the delicious meals they serve up. The fish entrée is a meal in itself, followed by a pasta entrée, then a main meal!!! What are they trying to do to us? We need to leave room for our favourite cassata.

Time for our raffle, and with ladies in mind, the raffle prizes were selected accordingly. Congratulations to the lucky winners, and thank you all for supporting us. Your participation in the raffle is one way that you can help us to cover some of the expenses for the event.

### Luncheon at Roxburg Park Hotel.

Thursday, 14th May

11.45a.m. was our time to meet, and many were there way before that, you could sit back and hear the cheerful voices of all those around you, greeting each other, anyone would think it was months since we met, not just yesterday. Such is the calibre of our members.

Not long after we were welcomed into the dining area, and as you made yourself comfortable next to friends that you wished to sit next to, you then had decisions to make.... From the vast array of prepared foods, there was soups, pasta, pizza, seafood, roasts, etc., etc., the choice was yours, and after you had your fill, there was sweets, sticky date pudding, apple crumble, cake, jelly, custard, ice creams, and more, and you could go up for seconds. Thank you George, a lovely luncheon, and most of our members were subsidised to the tune of 33% off. Another way we support members who support us.

## **L-Imnarja**

One of the principal occasions of amusement for us Maltese, is certainly the feast of St Peter and St. Paul (L-Imnarja) celebrated religiously at Mdina and in the outskirts of Rabat.

Apart from the solemn feast, there are popular outdoor festivities especially the one at ***"Il-Buskett"*** were the village folks used to and still do nowadays, divide into groups of relatives and friends and under the shades of the leafy orange trees they were and still are boisterously happy in eating their very plentiful and tasty dinner. This consisted, as we know, mainly of stewed or fried rabbit accompanied by traditional Maltese bread proceeded by pasta in the form of spaghetti with rabbit sauce.

After a hearty meal and a glass or two (or more) of wine, people start to feel unusually happy (you know what I mean) the jolly parties start to amuse themselves by playing the guitar and other rustic instruments, which of course leads to singing ***"Ghana"*** and dancing till the early hours. And then, as the traditions continue, many of them would go to church to hear mass. About mid-afternoon, we used to make our way to the ***"Saqqajja"*** to watch the races consisting of mules, donkeys and horses. Most of the animals, if you remember, are raced entirely unharnessed. The riders, many of them would be teenagers, would not have any means of maintaining their position except with their legs which they fix under the animal's belly.

Reaching the winning post first, the winners are rewarded with ***"Palji"***, and if you remember these are oblong pieces of rich coloured damask which are tied vertically to a long pole.

We also have wonderful memories of the ***"Karozzin"*** displaying the winner's flag and coloured ribbons decorating the head of the

horse. And who can forget the gaily decorate carts and cars who would drive at headlong speed towards their own villages.

Adding to all this, one cannot forget the agricultural exhibition which is held on the day at ***"Buskett"***. This show is generally a very good one with fruits, cereals, vegetables, honey and poultry and rabbits and as far as I can remember, also on show are donkeys, mules, bulls and cows.

Without a doubt, this feast is an occasion for having fun at eating, drinking and making everyone merry with guitar playing and listening to our traditional folk singing ***"Ghana"***

**George Saliba OAM**

**President & Seniors Co-Ordinator**





## Fun & Games Night.

It's a pity that not all the members of the Seniors Group have a liking to the "fun and games night" organised by the Group. I know it falls in the middle of winter and maybe that's one of the reasons why some members are not interested in attending, but rest assured, the hall at the Maltese Community Centre in Parkville on these cold winter nights is always warm and cosy.

For those of you who have never attended I'll say this much :- it's a **free night** of great relaxation where members mingle with each other, never ever short of food which is brought together by the members sharing the same table. 15 games of **free bingo games** with prizes awarded to the winners, a game of **trivia** which is very well contested between group members of each table, again **prizes** are awarded to the winning team and then everybody lines up to bet on the horses-10 horses which runs on a magnetic board by way of throwing a dice by some of the members.

And the beauty of it is all money collected from the betting goes back to the punters who backed the winning horse.

On the night **free** tea, coffee, wine and soft drinks are provided for all.

So how about it, next time if you have mixed feelings about the night, don't think twice, come along and I'm sure you will enjoy the atmosphere and all that takes place. It's really a good night out.

**George Saliba OAM**

**President & Seniors Co-Ordinator**

## *Walking With Grandma*

*I like walking with Grandma,  
Her steps are short like mine.  
She doesn't say "now hurry up"  
She always takes her time.*

*I like to walk  
with Grandma,  
Her eyes see things  
like mine do,  
Wee pebbles bright,  
a funny cloud,  
Half hidden drops  
of dew.*



*Most people have to hurry,  
They do not stop to see.  
I'm glad that God made Grandma  
Unrushed and young like me!*

## APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT

I refer to the recent death of the technical Manager at your Company and hereby apply for the replacement of the deceased manager.

Each time I apply for a job, I get a reply that there is no vacancy but in this case I have caught you red-handed and you have no excuse because I even attended the funeral to be sure that he was truly dead and buried before applying.

Attached to my letter is a copy of my C.V. and his death certificate.



# Seniors' Mothers Day 2015 Function at Melrose Reception











Below: Luncheon at MCCV





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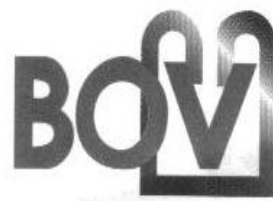
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**NEWPORT MALTESE ASSOCIATION**  
**FUNCTION DATES FOR 2015**

|                           |                             |                              |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>SAT/SUN JULY 4/5th</b> | <b>WEED-END TRIP</b>        |                              |
| <b>SAT AUGUST 8th</b>     | <b>ASSOC. COMEDY NIGHT</b>  | <b>MCCV</b>                  |
| <b>SUN OCTOBER 4th</b>    | <b>AGM</b>                  | <b>MCCV</b>                  |
| <b>SUN OCTOBER 11th</b>   | <b>ANNUAL DINNER DANCE</b>  | <b>MELROSE</b>               |
| <b>SUN NOVEMBER 29th</b>  | <b>BREAK-UP</b>             | <b>MELROSE</b>               |
| <b>THURS DEC 31st</b>     | <b>NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE</b> | <b>EMERALD<br/>RECEPTION</b> |

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

**NEXT FEW FUNCTIONS FOR THE**  
**SENIORS GROUP FOR 2015**

|                  |                      |                                  |
|------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>SATURDAY</b>  | <b>11th JULY</b>     | <b>XMAS IN JULY-<br/>MELROSE</b> |
| <b>SUNDAY</b>    | <b>30th AUGUST</b>   | <b>FATHERS' DAY<br/>MELROSE</b>  |
| <b>SAT/SUN</b>   | <b>18/19 SEPT</b>    | <b>POKIES W/END</b>              |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b> | <b>16th DECEMBER</b> | <b>BREAK-UP<br/>MELROSE</b>      |

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



## **Two Little Boys**

Two little boys, Tom and Danny, are excessively mischievous.

They are always getting into trouble and their Mom knows if any mischief occurs in their town, the two boys are probably involved. The boys' mother heard that a preacher in town had been successful in disciplining children, so she asked if he would speak with her boys. The preacher agreed, but he asked to see them individually.

The mother sent Danny in the morning, with the older boy to see the preacher in the afternoon.

The preacher, a huge man with a deep booming voice, sat the younger boy down and asked him sternly,

"Do you know where God is, son?"

The boy's mouth dropped open, but he made no response, sitting there wide-eyed with his mouth hanging open.

So the preacher repeated the question in an even sterner tone, "Where is God?!"

Again, the boy made no attempt to answer.

The preacher raised his voice even more and shook his finger in the boy's face and bellowed, **"WHERE IS GOD?!"**

The boy screamed & bolted from the room, ran directly home & dove into his closet, slamming the door behind him. When his older brother found him in the closet, he asked, "What happened?"

The younger brother, gasping for breath, replied,

**"We are in BIG trouble this time!"**

**"GOD is missing, and they think WE did it!"**

Young people have theirs,  
now Seniors have their own texting codes:

**ATD- At the Doctor's**

**BFF - Best Friends Funeral**

**BTW- Bring the Wheelchair**

**BYOT - Bring Your Own Teeth**

**CBM- Covered by Medicare**

**CUATSC- See You at the Senior Centre**

**DWI- Driving While Incontinent**

**FWIW - Forgot Where I Was**

**GGPBL- Gotta Go, Pacemaker Battery**

**Low**

**GHA - Got Heartburn Again**

**HGBM - Had Good Bowel Movement**

**LMDO- Laughing My Dentures Out**

**LOL- Living on Lipitor**

**OMSG - Oh My! Sorry, Gas**

**TOT- Texting on Toilet**

**WAITT - Who Am I Talking To?**

### **ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

|                   |                     |           |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| George Saliba     | President           | 9391 6081 |
| Joe Ellul         | Vice-President      | 9744 6096 |
| Vince Camilleri   | Secretary           | 9314 3177 |
| Joe Cole          | Treasurer           | 8742 1142 |
| Lydia Cole        | P.R.O.              | 8742 1142 |
| Carmen Casa       | Social Secretary    | 9346 8196 |
| Gwen Busuttil     | Assistant Secretary | 9333 3693 |
| Lena Saliba       | Assistant Treasure  | 9391 6081 |
| Miriam Cunningham | Committee Member    | 9338 0851 |
| Maurice Spiteri   | Committee Member    | 9469 2067 |
| Carmen Spiteri    | Committee Member    | 9469 2067 |
| Olga Ellul        | Committee Member    | 9744 6096 |
| Victor Casa       | Committee Member    | 9346 8196 |
| Rennie Busuttil   | Committee Member    | 9333 3693 |

### **SENIORS COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

|                   |                    |              |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| George Saliba     | Coordinator        | 9391 6081    |
| Andrew Gatt       | Secretary          | 0416 777 807 |
| Gwen Busuttil     | Cashier            | 9333 3693    |
| Carmen Casa       | Function Organiser | 9436 8196    |
| Victor Casa       | Committee Member   | 9436 8196    |
| Mary Cefai        | Committee Member   | 9391 8832    |
| Lena Saliba       | Committee Member   | 9391 6081    |
| Miriam Cunningham | Committee member   | 9338 0851    |
| Carmen Spiteri    | Committee Member   | 9469 2067    |
| Maurice Spiteri   | Committee Member   | 9469 2067    |
| Miriam Camilleri  | Committee Member   | 9398 4018    |
| Rennie Busuttil   | Committee Member   | 9333 3693    |
| Arthur Galea      | Committee Member   | 0439 830 454 |
| Anne Caruana      | Committee Member   | 0419 382 704 |

If you are right handed, you will tend to chew your food on your right side. If you are left handed, you will tend to chew your food on your left side.

If you stop getting thirsty, you need to drink more water. For when a human body is dehydrated, its thirst mechanism shuts off.

Chewing gum while peeling onions will keep you from crying.

Your tongue is germ free only if it is pink. If it is white there is a thin film of bacteria on it.

The Mercedes-Benz motto is “Das Beste oder Nichts” meaning “the best or nothing”.

The Titanic was the first ship to use the SOS signal.