



# MCCV News

**Maltese Community Council of Victoria, Inc.**

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## Melbourne Maltese community extends warm welcome to President of Malta

**L**ike the communities in the other Australian States, the Maltese community in Victoria gave a very warm welcome to the President of Malta, Her Excellency Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca, during her 4-day visit to Melbourne last July.

Her visit to Victoria was the final leg of her two-week visit to Australia, which started in Western Australia on 11 July 2016 and included visits to South Australia and New South Wales.

On 13 July, during her visit to South Australia, the President participated as a guest Keynote Speaker at the inaugural Student Wellbeing and Prevention of Violence Conference 2016 held at Flinders University in Adelaide.

Mrs Coleiro Preca also took part in a panel discussion regarding well-being policies organised by the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI). She was also appointed by SAHMRI as a member on their International Consultative Council.

In Melbourne the President had a very busy schedule with a number of meetings with members of the Maltese community. These included meetings with the younger generations of Maltese, the Maltese business and professional community, and with other Maltese



associations including the Maltese Language Teachers Association of Victoria.

On 21 July the MCCV held a very well-attended welcome reception for the President at the Maltese Community Centre in Parkville (see report on [page 4](#))

In Melbourne, President Coleiro Preca also visited the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Rosary Home for the Aged run by the Dominican Sisters of Malta and Melbourne's Shrine of Remembrance and the Maltese Shelter of Peace monument in the same grounds.

President Coleiro Preca paid a courtesy visit to the Governor of Victoria Her Excellency Linda Dessau at Government House. She also met with the Lord Mayor of Melbourne, Councillor Robert Doyle.

In her last engagement, President Coleiro Preca attended as Guest of Honour at the Charity Dinner Dance held to raise funds for the Malta Community Chest Fund over which she presides. The event raised \$11,000 (7,000 Eruos). ♦



## President's Perspective

# Welcoming the President of Malta

One of the key highlights of this year for the Maltese community residing in Australia was undoubtedly the two-week visit that the President of the Republic of Malta, Her Excellency Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca, made to this great continent.

After her visits to Perth, Adelaide and Sydney, where she met with the Maltese living in those cities, the Maltese community in Melbourne had the pleasure and privilege of extending our warm hospitality to her and her husband Mr Edgar Preca, the Minister of the Environment of Sustainability and Development, Environment and Climate Change the Hon. Dr José Herrera and the delegation accompanying her.

On 21st July 2016 the Maltese Community Council of Victoria hosted a cocktail party to welcome the President of Malta.

In my address I briefly outlined the history of the MCCV together with details of services that the Council provides to members of the Maltese community.

I also referred to the collaborative partnership between the community and the Missionary Society of St Paul (MSSP) which has lasted for many years and resulted in the construction of the Maltese Community Centre. I spoke about the close relationship between Council, members of the MSSP and Maltese diocesan priests of the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

I also spoke about the sterling work of the Dominican Sisters of Malta in caring for the aged residents of Rosary Home for the Aged located in Keilor Downs. President Coleiro Preca had the opportunity of visiting the home during her visit and meeting the residents, most of whom are Maltese.

As for the contribution of the Maltese community to Australia, I pointed out that the Maltese had not only given leadership to members of the Maltese community but also given leadership to the Victorian Ethnic Communities by providing four chairpersons to the Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria (ECCV). The ECCV is the umbrella organisation formed by the councils of all ethnic communities in Victoria, many of which are much larger than ours.

I sought the President's assistance in passing on a message to our brothers and sisters, parents and relatives living in Malta: that, despite the distance and many years which have separated us, we still hold dear our love for our country of birth, language and culture. We have the same love for Australia as our country of adoption, which has provided us with a home to raise our children and great opportunities for advancement.

In closing I requested the President to assist in supporting our request for the reconstruction of the historical building of Australia Hall in Pembroke, Malta in memory of the many

Australian air force pilots and service people, who lost their lives protecting Malta against heavy bombing raids which threatened to destroy Malta and its people. Australia Hall would provide a tangible monument to the close and strong relationship between the Maltese and Australian peoples and to the mutual respect and care that they have shown over many decades.

In her reply President Coleiro Preca remarked on the warm welcome that she had also received from the Maltese in Western Australia, South Australia and New South Wales.

She particularly congratulated the Maltese on the manner in which they have integrated into the Australian society. She was pleased with their achievements with many of them holding high office and responsible and managerial positions in all aspects in society.

As regards the survival of the Maltese language in Australia, she said that it was not essential for our children to speak Maltese because Australia is their first home. She said that they will always be recognised as Maltese and no doubt appreciate the Maltese Culture which had been passed on to them by their parents and community.

President Coleiro Preca said that she met a number of Maltese people on their visit to Malta and invited community members to contact her whenever they visit Malta.

The Hon. José Herrera spoke about Malta's economic progress and success he also referred to the opportunities in Europe open for those holding dual citizenship.

The Victorian Minister for Multicultural Affairs Hon. Robin Scott spoke highly of the Maltese Community in this state. He said that he is particularly grateful to Malta for its assistance during WWII and, as a personal connection to his uncle, who served in the war in the Middle East.

His Excellency Mr. Charles Muscat, High Commissioner for Malta to Australia and Mr Victor Grech, Consul-General for Malta in the State of Victoria, were also in attendance together with Mr Eddie Micallef, Chairman of the Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria.

We trust that President Coleiro Preca will entertain a second visit to Australia in the not too distant future.

### *Maltese Cultural Festival 2016*

After a break of several years, this year the MCCV organised the Maltese Cultural Festival consisting of a number of events that are being held in Melbourne during September.

The Maltese community in Victoria is urged to support the Festival to ensure its success. The Festival is intended to provide a great opportunity for the community to come together to celebrate our Maltese heritage, history and culture of which we are all so proud.

**Victor Borg**  
MCCV President



## Maltese Cultural Festival 2016

**T**he Maltese Community Council Victoria organised the Maltese Cultural Festival 2016 which consisted of a number of events that are being held in Melbourne during September.

The Festival commenced with the celebration of the Feast of Maria Bambina on 8th and 11th September and will conclude on Sunday 25th September with a lunchtime restaurant. Except for the religious events, all the other events will be held at the Maltese Community Centre in Parkville.

### Program of Events

The full program of events is as follows:

- **Thursday, 8th September – Maria Bambina Mass** will be celebrated at St. Paul's Chapel in Parkville at 7.00 p.m. Refreshments will be served afterwards at the Maltese Community Centre.
- **Sunday, 11th September – Maria Bambina Feast** day will be celebrated at St. Mary's Star of the Sea Church, Howard Street, West Melbourne. The Rosary will be recited at 2.30 p.m. followed by a Concelebrated Mass, the Procession with the statue of Maria Bambina and then Benediction.
- **Saturday, 17th September – "Open Invitation"** – At the Maltese Community Centre in Parkville the **Klabb Għannejja Maltin** together with **Manwel Casha** and the Girgenti Group will be holding an evening session of Maltese *għana* and music from 7.00 p.m. until 10.00 p.m. This is a genuinely Maltese Night not to be missed. Entry is free of charge. Everyone is welcome.
- **Sunday, 18th September – "Open Invitation"** – At the Maltese Community Centre in Parkville the **Maltese Literature Group Inc.** will be presenting **Maltese Prose and Poetry** to be read by members of the Group. The program includes traditional Maltese folklore music. Time: 2.00 p.m. until 4.00 p.m. Refreshments will be served at the end of the program. Entry is free of charge. Everyone is welcome.

## MCCV News

The MCCV News is published by the Maltese Community Council of Victoria every two months to inform the Maltese community about activities, news and information that would be of interest.

Contributions should be forwarded to the Editor either by email at [pro@mccv.org.au](mailto:pro@mccv.org.au) or alternatively by post to:

**The Editor—MCCV News, Maltese Community Council of Victoria, 477 Royal Parade, PARKVILLE VIC 3052**

• **Tuesday 20th September** – At the Maltese Community Centre in Parkville the **Maltese Historical Association Inc.** will be hosting a **presentation session** on *Celebrating the Building of Valletta*. In 2018 Valletta will be celebrated as the European Capital of Culture. A program of special events and projects developed with various local and international communities will be held in Malta during 2018.- For more information visit: <http://valletta2018.org> Time: 7.30 p.m. till 9.30 p.m. Refreshments will be served following the presentation. Entry is free of charge. Everyone is welcome.

• **Wednesday, 21st September** – The Maltese Community Council of Victoria will be celebrating **Malta's Independence Day** with a **Cocktail Party** at the Maltese Community Centre in Parkville at 7.00 p.m. It's a significant day in the history of our country of birth, so let us all celebrate and have a drink together. Donation \$22 per person

**Sunday 25th September** – Mass at 12 noon at St. Paul's Chapel in Parkville. After Mass, **Lunchtime Restaurant** at the Maltese Community Centre in Parkville with a Braġoli (beef olives) meal, anti-pasta and dessert with wine and soft drinks. A good social outing and music to dance to for a fun afternoon. Tables of 10 or eight are available. Entrance Fee \$35

## NISGA COOK-OFF 2016

When: **Sunday 23rd October 2016 at 12 noon**

Where: **William Angliss 555 La Trobe Street, Melbourne**  
(enter via 550 Little Lonsdale Street)



"The Maltese Cook Off" has been a vehicle for celebrating and raising awareness of Maltese culture and food in Australia. Combining family and traditional Maltese cuisine the Cook Off is a competition between Maltese descendants, often incorporating several generations in a single team of three, the initiative attempts to share the rich cultural heritage of Maltese immigrants in Australia and pass down treasured family recipes from parent to child to grandchild.

We have 8 teams ready to cook for you....

A degustation of Maltese food. Beverages: Soft drinks available for purchase. BYO wine.

Ticket Prices:

- \$40 per person in the main room
- \$120 Family Ticket (main room) - 2 adults and 2 children under 12
- \$30 per person in the foyer
- \$100 family tickets (foyer) - 2 adults and 2 children under 12

Order and pay for your tickets (via Credit Card) [HERE](http://www.nisga.org).

<http://www.nisga.org>



# President of Malta meets Maltese Community in Parkville

By Charles Gatt, Secretary—Maltese Historical Association, Inc.

**O**n Thursday 21 July the Maltese Community Council of Victoria held a welcome reception for the President at the Maltese Community Centre in Parkville.

A packed hall warmly greeted the President and her husband Edgar Preca as they entered to take their place on the podium. We all stood as she entered the room with her entourage. The outside lights switched on, shining for the first time through the magnificent stained glass window of the centre.

MC Mr George Saliba, president of the Maltese Newport Association, welcomed the many distinguished guests.

MCCV President Mr Victor Borg commended President Coleiro Preca for her reputation as a champion for the disadvantaged. He spoke about the many Maltese worldwide who had left Malta and endured considerable hardship to build a new life for their families. He acknowledged those who assisted the early Maltese settlers, and outlined the development of organisations, such as, the MCCV, which provide resources and support to the community. Now Maltese Australians excel in all walks of life. He asked Her Excellency to take a message home: that despite the distance and the years, we still hold Malta dear.

The Hon. Robin Scott, Victorian Minister for Multicultural Affairs, acknowledged the traditional owners of the land and welcomed the guests on behalf of the Victorian government. He observed that many of his own relatives would not be alive were it not for the Maltese in WW2. He commended the Maltese in Australia for their hard work, their dedication to family and church, their help to the less fortunate, and their leadership role in multiculturalism in Australia.

The Hon. José Herrera, Minister for Sustainable Development, the Environment and Climate Change in Malta, reminded us that the children and grandchildren of Maltese migrants



are entitled to Maltese citizenship. He outlined the rise in prosperity of Malta after the hardships during and after WW2 and how Malta is now doing very well. She is becoming multicultural, sharing sovereignty with 27 countries in the EU, and has a lot to learn from Australia in that regard.

In her address the President of Malta, Marie Louise Coleiro Preca, welcomed us, her Maltese brothers and sisters. She expressed her heartfelt thanks for helping making Malta great. She said that we will always share the same family and land of our forefathers. She praised us for maintaining our cultural traditions but also for being Australian and contributing to Australia's success and prosperity. Her message to us: Malta will always miss you. Malta will always be proud of you. Malta will never forget you. Tell your children, Malta will always make them welcome. Viva Malta! Viva Australia! She was given a

standing ovation.

Victor Borg presented her with gifts, including a boomerang in the hope that she will return to visit Australia soon. She presented Mr Borg with a memento, which will be placed in a showcase in the Centre.

Mr Ray Agius from the St George Association gave the President a cheque for the Maltese Community Chest Fund. She posed with him for a photo, holding the new banner of the St George Association, as she hails from Qormi, whose Patron Saint is St George.

The President then promised to greet everyone with a kiss from Malta. Not only was she true to her word, but she also found a few kind words for each of us. 💧

[Maltese Down Under TV program on President's Visit on Channel 31](#)



## President Coleiro Preca visits Rosary Home

**O**n 21 July 2016 the President of Malta, Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca, visited the Rosary Home for the Aged, run by the Dominican Sisters of Malta in the Melbourne suburb of Keilor Downs.

She was shown around the home by the administrator Sr Doris Falzon OP.

President Coleiro Preca thanked the Sisters for their hard work in the best interests of the elderly, adding that they 'surely give us peace of mind, in knowing that our Maltese and Gozitan elderly are in the best of hands at Rosary Home'.

The President was accompanied by the Minister for Sustainable Development, Environment and Climate Change, José Herrera. 💧





## President visits Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre

**O**n 20 July President Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca visited the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre within the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre Building in Melbourne.

President Coleiro Preca was shown around the state-of-the-art premises by Ms Dale Fisher, Chief Executive Officer and Professor Joseph Trapani, Executive Director of Cancer Research and Head of the Cancer Immunology Programme.

Whilst complimenting Ms Fisher and Professor Trapani for the outstanding architecture which facilitates its function and the priority given to prevention and research, the President expressed her satisfaction at the fact that a number of Maltese people are among the members of staff in its key departments.

President Coleiro Preca spoke about the National Cancer Platform which was founded by the Presidency and said that she looks forward to exploring new ways of how there can be collaboration between the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre and the National Cancer Platform.

Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre provides comprehensive cancer care, supported by the expertise of internationally-renowned cancer clinicians and researchers. It aims to lead the way in providing the very best in care for people with cancer, while working collaboratively to reduce the individual, social and economic impact which cancer has on communities.

During this visit the Maltese President was accompanied by Minister for Sustainable Development, the Environment and Climate Change, José Herrera. 💧

[[www.independent.com.mt](http://www.independent.com.mt)]



## President of Malta meets Maltese Language Teachers

**P**resident Marie Louise Coleiro Preca visited the Victorian School of Languages in Taylors Lakes, a suburb of Melbourne, which offers Maltese language classes.

If there is anything that identifies the growth of the Maltese nation, it is the Maltese language, she said.

The lessons are organised by the Maltese Language Teachers Association of Victoria, which was established in 2013 with the aim of keeping the Maltese language alive through lessons for children and adults.

While addressing those present, the President identified Maltese characteristics, and told the story of how Malta came to be and grow. She thanked those who teach Maltese in Australia. 💧



## President visits Governor of Victoria and Melbourne's Lord Mayor

**D**uring her stay in Melbourne President Coleiro Preca paid courtesy visits to the Governor of Victoria and the Lord Mayor of Melbourne.

On 22 July President Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca met Governor of Victoria H.E. Linda Dessau at the Government House in Melbourne.

During this meeting, the President and Governor Dessau discussed the excellent relations which Malta and the State of Victoria share, especially since Victoria is home to quite a large number of Maltese and Gozitans.

Also on 22 July President Coleiro Preca met Councillor Robert Doyle, Lord Mayor of Melbourne. During the meeting, she thanked the Lord Mayor for the hospitality which Melbourne had shown to those had migrated from Malta and Gozo.

The President and the Lord Mayor of Melbourne agreed on the need to find new ways through which the Maltese and Gozitan people living in Melbourne, as well as their families, would continue being active citizens within the community. During this meeting,

President Coleiro Preca was accompanied by the Hon. José Herrera, Minister for Sustainable Development, the Environment and Climate Change. ♦



Above: President Coleiro Preca with the Governor of Victoria HE Linda Dessau



Above: President Coleiro Preca with Lord Mayor Robert Doyle



## President visits Shrine of Remembrance and Malta's Shelter of Peace

**T**he President of Malta also visited the Shelter of Peace memorial in Melbourne dedicated to Malta's war effort during World War II.

Between 1 January 1942 and 24 July 1942 there was only one 24-hour period when no bombs fell on Malta. The population spent so much time in their underground shelters that health standards declined, malnutrition spread and scabies was rife.

This monument commemorates the awarding of the George Cross by King George VI to Malta in April 1942 for gallantry of its people.

President Coleiro Preca also participated in a remembrance ceremony at the memorial.

President Coleiro Preca also visited Melbourne's Shrine of Remembrance located a stone's throw from the Shelter of Peace. The Shrine is Victoria's largest and most visited war memorial of national significance. It is Melbourne's most recognised landmark.

The Shrine was constructed between July 1928 and November 1934 in remembrance of the 114,000 men and women of Victoria who served and those who died in the Great War of 1914-1918 — 89,100 of them served overseas and 19,000 did not return.

Designed by architects Phillip Hudson and James Wardrop who were both World War I veterans, the Shrine is in a classical style, being based on the Tomb of Mausolus at Halicarnassus and the Parthenon in Athens. ♦



President Coleiro Preca at the Shelter of Peace



President Coleiro Preca at the Shrine of Remembrance

## Charity Dinner in aid of the Malta Community Chest Fund

**O**n 23 July President Coleiro Preca was guest of honour at the Charity Dinner which raised more than \$11,000 (7,000 Euros) for the Malta Community Chest Fund. The event was organised by Daniel Pisani, Lourdes Piscopo (née Bongailas) and Joe Falzon with the intent to raise money for the fund, thereby keeping the Maltese spirit alive in Australia and giving back to a community that is so far away but still so close to our hearts.

These young Maltese-Australians brought together their skills and knowledge to bring Maltese descendants together to celebrate a night they would all remember.

The event was also attended by H.E. Carmel Muscat, High Commissioner of Malta to Australia and New Zealand, Hon. José Herrera, Minister for Sustainable Development, the Environment and Climate Change, and the visiting Maltese delegation. ♦



President Coleiro Preca at the Charity Dinner with the organisers Joe Falzon, Lourdes Piscopo and Daniel Pisani.



# Il-President iżżur l-istazzjoni tar-Radju 3ZZZ

Minn Paul Vella

**W**aqt iż-żjara tagħha f'Melbourne, il-President ta' Malta l-Eċċellenza Tagħha, Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca, flimkien mar-raġel tagħha, Edgar, il-Ministru Onor. Jose Herrera u s-Sinjura tiegħu u l-Kummissarju Għoli għal Malta f'Canberra, is-Sur Charles Muscat, għamlu żjara l-istazzjon tar-radju komunitarju f'Melbourne, 3ZZZ.

Dan l-istazzjoni jinkludi erba' xandara voluntiera Maltin Mario Sammut, Lewis Stafrace, Paul Vella u Emmanuel Brincat li bejniethom jxandru tliet programmi ta' siegħa fil-gimgha u programm ieħor darba fix-xahar.

Il-*Convenor* tal-programmi Maltin, Lewis Stafrace, u s-sinjura tiegħu, Marie, laqgħu lill-President u pprezentawliha bukkett fjuri.

Wara li ġew imdawra mal-istazzjon u l-istudios, il-President u l-kontingjent marru fil-boardroom fejn hemm tkellmu s-Sur Muscat, l-Onor. Herrera u l-President.

Il-President fahhret kif il-Maltin integraw kemm ilhom l-Awstralja u fahhret ukoll ix-xogħol tax-xandara.

Preżenti wkoll kien hemm il-President ta' 3ZZZ, George Salloum u s-Sinjura tiegħu u s-Segretarju, George Zangalis u s-sinjura tiegħu.

*Ritratti:*

Fuq il-President Coleiro Preca tidher qed tircievi plakka tal-istazzjon mill-President tat-3ZZZ is-Sur George Salloum bħala tifkira taż-żjara,

Isfel jidher is-Sur Lewis Stafrace Convenor tal-programmi Maltin jindirizza dawk preżenti għall-laqgħa.



## Laqgħa Ġenerali Annwali tal-Grupp Xandara Maltin ta' 3ZZZ

Minn Paul Vella

**N**har is-Sibt, 13 ta' Awwissu, inżammet il-Laqgħa Ġenerali Annwali tal-Grupp Xandara Maltin tar-Radju Komunitarju f'Melbourne, 3ZZZ.

Numru sabiħ ta' membri ta' dan il-Grupp attendew għal din il-laqgħa li nżammet fiċ-Ċentru Malti ta' Parkville, fil-11.30 ta' filgħodu.

F'din il-laqgħa dawk preżenti semgħu rapport mill-Convenor preżenti, Lewis Stafrace. Huwa tkellem fuq dak li għadda l-Grupp minnu matul din is-sena u fuq il-programmi li x-xandara prezentaw minn fuq dan l-istazzjon.

Huwa qal li l-Grupp Malti jxandar tliet programmi fil-gimgha: it-Tnejn (E. Brincat) u l-Gimgha, (Paul Vella) bejn il-5-6 pm u s-Sibt, bejn l-10-11 am. Il-programmi tas-Sibt ikunu preżentati minn Mario Sammut kull hmistax, u ż-żewġ programmi l-oħra matul ix-xahar jkun preżentati darba minn Lewis Stafrace u E. Brincat u l-ieħor, minn Lewis Stafrace u Paul Vella. Dawn l-aħħar żewġ programmi "Inservik" huma programmi ta' dedikazzjoni mis-semmiegħa. Hemm programm ieħor li jixxandar l-aħħar Erbgħa tax-xahar minn Lewis Stafrace. Wara inghata rapport finanzjarju.

Din kienet sena ta' elezzjoni. Kien hemm għaxar nominazzjonijiet għal disa' pożizzjonijiet. Imma wara li wahda min-nominazzjonijiet giet irtirata, ma kienx hemm bżonn ta' elezzjoni. Dawk li ġew eletti għall-kumitat ġdid kienu hekk: Lewis Stafrace, Mario Sammut, Paul Vella, Victor Borg, Edwina Mallia, Joe Stafrace, Guy Deguara, E. Brincat u M.A. Brincat.

Meta spicċat din il-laqgħa, saret laqgħa oħra biex il-kumitat ġdid jagħzel u jivvota għall-pożizzjonijiet fuq il-Kumitat.

Dawn ġew magħzula hekk: Dawn, Lewis Stafrace; Deputy Convenor, Mario Sammut; Segretarju, E. Brincat; Teżorier, Paul Vella; Membri oħra tal-kumitat: Victor Borg, Edwina Mallia, Joe Stafrace, Guy Deguara u M.A. Brincat.

Din kienet it-tieni darba li Lewis Stafrace ġie elett bħala Convenor tal-Programmi Maltin u dan juri l-fiduċja li l-membri għandhom fih. Ahna nifirħu lil li reġa' ġie elett u nixiequ sentejn oħra ta' tmexxija tajba tal-Grupp.

Il-programmi Maltin ta' 3ZZZ jistgħu jinstemgħu fuq il-website [www.3zzz.com.au](http://www.3zzz.com.au) waqt li jkun qed jixxandaru u wara għal madwar xahar wara x-xandir. ♦

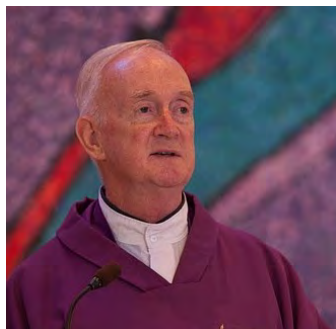


Is-Sur Lewis Stafrace ri-elett għat-tieni darba konsekuttiva bħala Convenor tal-programmi bil-Malti fuq ir-Radju 3ZZZ

## Obituaries

## Fr Paul Kierce mssp

By Fr Ivano Burdian, MSSP Provincial



**F**r Paul Francis Kierce mssp, who was born on April 9, 1938 in Melbourne, Australia, passed away peacefully on Wednesday July 20, 2016 aged 78 years. Fr Paul was professed as a Paulist Missionary on October 9, 1977 and ordained to the Priesthood on July 9, 1978. He served faithfully as a Paulist Missionary Priest for 38 years in Malta, Pakistan and Australia.

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**Fr Ivano Burdian**, MSSP Provincial, wrote this letter to his brother priests on Wednesday 20th July after Fr Paul's death:

Dear brothers,

I have to convey the very sad news that Paul Kierce died this morning after 2 and a half years of struggle with cancer.

Paul had a fall last Thursday and was hospitalised. He was very weak and was placed in the Palliative care ward. He had some good days and bad.

Yesterday he was very tired. This morning he had a turn and died at about 10.00am our time.

Last night as I was walking home after visiting him I was struggling to focus on the rosary when it struck me how they (the 5 sorrowful mysteries) reflected Paul's own journey these last 2 and a half years.

He went through the agony of the discovery of the original bowel cancer and the consequences of it spreading in the body, especially as they could not cure him but at best prolong life. He had to revisit the agony as news progressively got worse including the

definitive news that the chemo was no longer useful and to enter Palliative care. The last time was the news he would not be coming home any more. While at times it was a struggle for him, he embraced these moments with faith.

His body was scourged with the cancers, the chemo, nausea, falls, infections, and God knows what else, he may not have liked it, especially being in hospital, but he embraced them with faith. His mind was pierced with confusion, tiredness, sometimes dementia like symptoms and again he struggled through them with faith.

From the beginning of this Calvary he carried the cross without too much complaint and in Paulish fashion, trying not to be centre of attention. My suspicion is that these last few days he began feeling pain at times, but didn't want others to be put out. While he may have been tied with the rope of cancer and led down a road he would have preferred not to go, he walked it with faith and trust in his God.

These last few days he finished his 5th mystery getting ready for the final step home.

Its been a privilege to walk with him on this path, he has been a witness to me and helped me to break open some of my own selfishness and preconceptions. It has also been nourishing for me to see all the people that have expressed their love for Paul or who have been touched by him and his ministry.

I have no doubt that Paul now joins all our other brothers in the kingdom and I am sure he now prays both for our ongoing mission in Australia and for all of us. Keep his brother Peter in your prayers, this is the second brother he has lost to cancer. Take care and God bless.

May he rest in peace

## Fr Andrew Camilleri

By Mgr Greg Bennet, Vicar General, Melbourne Archdiocese



**F**r Andrew Camilleri, Parish Priest of St Clare's Parish in Thomastown West, passed away suddenly aged 69 years on Thursday 8 September 2016, the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

~~~~~

**Mgr Greg Bennet**, Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Melbourne wrote the following appreciation:  
 Dear Friends

I write to convey the sad news that Fr Andrew Camilleri PP, St Clare's, Thomastown West died during the night at the presbytery. In recent days, Fr Andrew had been very unwell and had been kindly cared for by his staff, friends and parishioners. His death has come as a shock to all of them.

Fr Andrew was ordained as a Salesian priest in 1981 at St John's [Co-]Cathedral, Valetta, Malta.

In 1990 following the death of his mother, Fr Andrew wrote to Archbishop Little seeking an opportunity to serve in the Archdiocese of Melbourne and expressing his desire to undertake parish ministry for one year, which was duly approved.

Later in 1990, Fr Andrew was appointed to St Peter's, Hoppers Crossing with Fr Dom DeGiorgio, which provided a warm welcome to Melbourne and proved his desire to remain with us. He was incardinated as a priest of the Archdiocese in 1994.

Throughout his ministry in Melbourne, Fr Andrew served as Assistant Priest in Hoppers Crossing, Fawkner North, Administrator of Thomastown West (2005) and later as Parish Priest from 2006 until his death.

Fr Andrew was a kind, hospitable and pastoral priest. You can take the man out of Malta, but you can't take Malta out of the man! His ministry was to his people and he created a sense of the "village" by his dedicated fidelity and pastoral kindness towards his people. He enjoyed the company and friendship of his parishioners, finding many ways to celebrate the events of life.

The Archdiocese has been blessed by the witness of those good priests who came from Malta to serve among us. The esprit de corps among the Maltese priests is legendary and Fr Andrew, who was larger than life in so many ways, was always the life of the party. His physical stature was matched by his generosity, kindness and welcome.

We join the people of St Clare's who will mourn the death of their pastor. While we are sad to learn of his unexpected death, we know his desire was always to remain among his people and so it was until the very end.

We can only imagine that he will enjoy the promise of the eternal banquet!

Hear with favour our prayers, which we humbly offer, O Lord, for the salvation of the soul of Fr Andrew Camilleri, your servant and priest, that he, who devoted a faithful ministry to your name, may rejoice in the perpetual company of your saints.

May he rest in peace and rise in glory!



## Appreciation

## Our community mourns the loss of Lillian Calleja

**T**he Maltese community in Melbourne mourns the loss of Lillian Calleja OAM, a prominent member of the community who passed away peacefully, aged 85 years, on 24 June 2016 with her family by her side.

The following is an edited version of the eulogy delivered at her funeral by Mr **George Saliba OAM**, President of the Newport Maltese Association:

*I have been a good friend and colleague with Vince and Lillian Calleja for over 50 years. Lillian was well-known among members of the Maltese community of this State, especially among those in the western suburbs of Melbourne for many reasons.*

*Lillian Calleja had an incredible life. She was born on 15th April 1931 in Valletta, the capital city of Malta. She was the eldest child in a family of 14 children born to Michael and Theresa Pace.*

*Her dad was a well-known magician in Malta, who used to perform on stage under the name of Chris van Burn. Being the eldest child, Lillian used to assist her father onstage performing. So at a very young age Lillian developed a passion to help make people socially happy, a passion that she carried right through her life.*

*One morning on a bright sunny day in 1947, when Lillian was 16 yrs old, she was having a stroll at the lower Barracca Gardens in Valletta, not far from where the family lived. There she met this tall handsome policeman by the name of Vince (Ċensinu, as she used to call him). They fell in love and, in 1953 they got married.*

*In 1955, like many other Maltese families at the time, they decided to migrate to Australia with their 9 month old daughter Marija, seeking a better future. They settled in the Melbourne suburb of Newport. A year after their arrival they welcomed in the family their new baby girl, Natalin.*

*For a good number of Maltese, who settled in Newport, the Sacred Heart Church in Newcastle Street was the focal point to meet and have a chat after Sunday mass.*

*As it happened, in 1973, a member of the Missionary Society of St Paul by the name of Fr Victor Shields was attached to the parish, serving members of the Maltese community. In his wisdom he saw the need to form an organisation that can cater socially for the Maltese to become known as the Newport Maltese Association.*

*Lillian and her husband Vince were founding members of the newly formed association, showing great enthusiasm and full of eagerness. Lillian was the logical choice to take over the social secretary portfolio of the committee as there was never any doubt about her ability to hold such a*



*position. For the next 40 years she carried out her duties with great determination and passion. She never refused to take on any task allocated to her and she never let the association down.*

*Lillian was so proud to be a member of an association and proud of the fact that she belonged to an organisation that was very successful in raising funds for the construction of the Maltese Community Centre in Parkville. There is no doubt that she played a big part in the establishment of the Newport Maltese Association and for that, we, the sons and daughters of Newport, will always be grateful for her long standing commitments.*

*Lillian was a very amicable person, always ready to help. Her involvement in fund raising—and her dedication to the Maltese community did not stop with the Newport group. For a number of years, she served as vice president of the Ladies Auxiliaries of the MCCV, working hard to do her part again in raising funds for the Centre in Parkville.*

*As a member of the Maltese Cultural Festival Committee, Lillian took on the task of organising the children's concert. She was always looking for new talent and giving them the chance to further develop their talent in drama, comedy, music, dancing and singing. Thanks to Lillian, today some of those youngsters have made a name for themselves in the world of entertainment.*

*For many years, Lillian organised the Christmas Eve Children's Pageant that took place at the Centre in Parkville, again involving young members of our community. Using her dress making expertise (and she was an excellent seamstress), she always managed to involve young children dressed in Maltese national costumes to take part in the celebrations of Our Lady of Victories feast celebrated in September every year at St Mary's church in West Melbourne.*

*Amazingly, Lillian managed to do all this without neglecting her family duties—as a wife, mother, grandmother.*

*Naturally, Lillian's valuable contributions to our community over the years did not go unnoticed.*

*In 1990, Harmonic 65 Culture Club Incorporated bestowed upon Lillian the Manoel de Vilhena award under the patronage of the then Prime Minister of Malta Dr Eddie Fenech Adami. The award was for her dedication to teaching song and dance to young members of our community.*

*In the year 2000 The City of Brimbank recognised Lillian's tireless contributions to the community over the years by awarding her the Citizen of the Year Award.*

*On the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the State of Victoria, the Victorian Government presented Lillian with a certificate of appreciation in recognition for voluntary work to the community.*

*On the 12th May 2011 at Government House in Melbourne Lillian was the proud recipient of the Order of Australia Medal for services to the Maltese community awarded to her on Australia Day earlier that year. But one of Lillian's proudest moments in her life was when pope John Paul II, now a saint, visited Australia and she was selected to meet him and receive holy communion from His Holiness dressed in a Maltese national costume.*

*Lillian loved the Maltese community with everything she possessed, she loved everything that is Maltese culture and traditions. However, above everything, she reserved her biggest love for her husband Vince, her two daughters Marija and Natalin, her son-in-law Ray, grandchildren Adam and David and their spouses.*

*For 63 years Lillian and Vince were inseparable. They did everything together and they truly observed those immortal words "for better or for worse" (in Maltese, kienu qieshom id-di u id-do).*

*In April 2012 Lillian reluctantly and with great sadness had to resign from the Newport Maltese Association because of ill-health. For the next 4 years it was heart-breaking for her husband Vince, their family members and everyone that knew Lillian to watch her health gradually deteriorating.*

*Lillian's journey on earth came to an end on Friday 24th June---she passed away peacefully at 8.10 in the evening surrounded by Vince and all the family members, leaving behind so many beautiful memories that will last all of us a lifetime*

*Lillian, for all those years you dedicated your time and energy to help make a better world for our community, we hope that the all mighty will award you with a golden pass to the gates of heaven.*

May she rest in peace! 💧

## Feast of Maria Bambina celebrated in Melbourne

By Paul Vella

**R**eskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group Inc. on behalf of the Missionary Society of St. Paul once again organised the feast of Maria Bambina this year.

On Thursday 8th September, a Mass was concelebrated by Fr Edwin Agius mssp and Fr Dr Victor Shields mssp in St. Paul's Chapel, Parkville. Around 100 members of the Maltese Community attended. Readers were Sally Bartolo and George Portelli. Prayers of the faithful were read by Joe Stafrace. The Offertory items were brought to the Altar by Fred and Theresa Cachia. A special CD was organised with hymns for the occasion.

Fr Edwin Agius, who returned from Canada and Malta a few days before, delivered the homily. Among those present were the President and members of the Executive of MCCV and members of the female section of SDC.

After Mass refreshments provided by Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group were served in the foyer of the Maltese Centre.

On Saturday, 10th September, Reskeon organised the **Vittoria Dinner Dance** at Firenze Receptions, Fawkner, which was well attended by more than 170 members and friends. Distinguished guests were the MCCV President, Mr Victor Borg; MCCV Treasurer, Mr Paul Borg and Mrs Pauline Borg; Honorary Life Members of Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group Inc., Dr Clemente Zammit and Mrs Mary Zammit; Fr Edwin Agius, mssp, Rector at Parkville and Fr Dr Victor Shields, mssp. Also with us was Past President of Reskeon, Mr George Scicluna and Mrs Anne Scicluna. An apology was received from Life Member of Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group Inc., Mr Caesar Vella and Mrs Phyllis Vella.

Music entertainment was provided by DJ King Charlie who catered for the music tastes of both young and old and kept everyone on the dance floor all night.

This year we were pleased to see among us a lot of young ones who enjoyed the dinner dance and asked us to let them know for next year.

MC for the night was Mr Joe Cutajar. After he welcomed all those present and thanked President, Mrs Salvina Vella, who single-handedly organised the dinner dance, he invited everyone to be upstanding for the singing of the Maltese and Australian National Anthems. The MC asked everyone to fill their glasses with champagne and made a toast for the Bambina Feast.



The birthdays and an anniversary were announced with a special 60th wedding anniversary of Grace and Alfred Muscat who were surrounded by a large number of family members who they invited for the dinner dance.

Later in the night the Malta Gozo Concert Band, under the direction of Ms Tanya Schembri, played marches for the occasion which created the merriment for the night, similar to that of the Maltese Festas, finishing with the Ave Maria and the Reskeon Theme Song, lyrics by Dr Clemente Zammit and music by the late Laurie Armato. All those attending complimented the way the night was organised, the food and the atmosphere.

On Sunday, 11th September Reskeon organised the **Feast of Maria Bambina** on behalf of the Missionary Society of St Paul, at St Mary Star of the Sea Church, West Melbourne.

Among those present were the President of MCCV, Mr Victor Borg; members of the MCCV Executive; Chev. Joseph Borg represented the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta; Mr George Portelli, Chief Representative of the Bank of Valletta in Australia; members of Sisters from religious Orders and members of the Society of Christian Doctrine. A large number of Maltese Associations attended as well along with their banners, as well as the banners from the four villages and towns where the Bambina is celebrated in Malta and Gozo: Senglea, Mellieha, Naxxar and Xaghra, Gozo.

Rosary was recited at 2.30 pm by Ms Miriam Belli, SDC. This was followed by a Concelebrated Mass: Prime Celebrant was

Fr Dr Victor Shields, mssp and concelebrating were Fr Edwin Agius, mssp, Rector at Parkville; Fr Emmanuel Adami, mssp; Fr Lonnie Borg, mssp; Fr Denis Carabott, mssp; and Fr Karm Borg. Master of ceremonies was Frank Siriani. The music and singing was provided by the Maltese Choir of Victoria under the direction of Mr Charles Schembri and Ms Lydia Gusman.

First Reader was Mr Paul Borg while Mr Paul Vella did the second Reading. Prayers of the Faithful were read by Ms Anoinette Bajada (Xaghra Association) and Mrs Yvonne Caruana.

The Sacrificial Offerings were brought to the Altar by Mr Joe Borg and Mrs Josephine Borg; Salvina Vella (President of Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group) and Sylvia Dakin.

After Mass, Fr Edwin thanked all those present and the Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group for organising the Feast on their behalf. Thanks went to Fr Anthony Bernal, Parish Priest of St. Mary Star of the Sea. Thanks went to the statue bearers, forcinas and the Maltese Own Band. This was followed by the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

The Procession took place in the streets around the church.

Later on refreshments were served to the distinguished guests and the helpers of the Feast.

Thanks to all those Reskeon members who on Friday helped with the taking the statue, pedestal, etc. to St Mary's Church and on Monday doing the same job back to the chapel in Parkville. ♦



## Reskeon celebrates two milestones: 40 & 20 years

By Paul Vella

**R**eskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group organised an Anniversary Luncheon, provided free of charge to all members, on Thursday 14 July 2016 at Firenze Receptions. Around 134 members attended the luncheon to celebrate Reskeon Maltese Association's 40th anniversary (it was founded in 1976) and Reskeon Seniors Group's 20th anniversary (founded in 1996).

Secretary, Paul Vella, introduced DJ Tony who provided the music for the day and Mr who acted as MC.

After the singing of the Maltese and Australian National Anthems, Mr Joe Cutajar MC for the night welcomed the distinguished guests: Fr Dr Victor Shields, mssp; the Honorary Members of Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group, Dr Clemente Zammit and Mrs Mary Zammit, the Treasurer of the Maltese Community Council of Victoria and our Honorary Auditor, Mr Paul Borg and Mrs Pauline Borg, ex-President of Reskeon Maltese Association and ex Co-Ordinator of Reskeon Seniors Group, Mr Caesar Vella and Mrs Phyllis Vella; Ex President of Maltese Association, Mr George Scicluna and Mrs Anne Scicluna.

We received apologies from the MSSP Rector at Parkville, Fr Edwin Agius, who was overseas. Apologies were also received from Mr Mario Gauci, who was to represent the founder of the Reskeon Maltese Association, Mr John Gauci and Mrs Anne Gauci (his parents); and Mrs Tess Colvin, who was to represent ex President, Mr George Colvin.

When members entered the hall they were served with hors d'ouvres and pre-dinner drinks. The entrée of baked fish and rice was served. This was followed by a serve of lasagne and tortellini carbonara on each plate. The main course consisted of chicken Parmigiana and roast beef with vegetables on each plate.

Dessert was Cassata and/or Tartufo ice cream followed by fresh fruit on a platter. Red and white wine, beer and soft drinks were served throughout the day.



two ex presidents who are no longer with us, John Gauci and George Colvin could have been represented as well.

Mrs Vella was presented with a lovely bouquet of flowers by committee members Alfred and Tess Cachia, and a lovely flower plant from the committee and members of the Association.

This presentation was followed by the cutting of the anniversary cake nicely decorated with the Reskeon logo while the Reskeon theme song was played. There was singing and dancing for a long time.

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.

Thanks to all those involved in helping to make this luncheon a successful one as always, especially President, Salvina Vella, who 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. ♦

After the main meal, the MC read a short history of the Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group with special mention of how it all started with Fr Victor Shields, mssp, going to Reservoir to form a committee with the late John Gauci, being the foundation President as well how Dr Clemente Zammit teamed up with the late member Laurie Armato to create the Reskeon theme song.

Reskeon President, Mrs Salvina Vella, delivered her special message on the occasion of the anniversaries being celebrated. She reminded those present of the hard work of the founding President of the Association and the following presidents. She wished that the



## Maltese Historical Association—June 2016 Event

# Earthquakes and Tsunamis in Malta

By Charles Gatt - MHA Secretary

**M**HA President Joseph Borg introduced his talk with an introduction to Plate Tectonic Theory.

The solid earth we know is just a thin crust, floating on molten rock, called *magma*. The crust is cracked like a broken egg shell and the pieces, called *plates*, move around in different directions, driven by convection currents, warm magma rising and cool magma sinking. These slow but powerful forces cause volcanoes and earthquakes, especially at the edges of the plates.

Present earthquakes and faulting in the Mediterranean area are a result of the African and European plates slowly swinging together, pushing up mountains. Although no igneous rocks are found in Malta it is surrounded by many active volcanoes, including Mt Etna, Stromboli and Lipari, Mt Vesuvius, Pantelleria, and Santorini.

Until 12 million years ago The Maltese islands were underneath the Tethys Sea, being formed by sedimentation of sand, stone, clays, and limestone. The islands dip 4 degrees to the N.E. probably due to heaving of the Pantelleria rift system. The Mediterranean had dried up completely on two occasions, forming deep layers of salt in the deeper basins. Until about 20,000 years ago, Malta was connected to Sicily.

Malta is crossed by two main fault systems. The older of the two, the



Great Fault, trends SW to NE, while the Maghlaq Fault system trends approximately NW to SE along the southern coast of the island and was responsible for the downthrow of Filfla to sea level. A system of horst and graben structures of East Northeast trend characterises Malta north of the Great Fault.

Localised earthquakes can also occur with the collapse of cliffs and caves or explosions. Tremors were caused by the cave-in of subterranean hollows (sink holes) such as that at Maqluba on 23 November 1343, the cave-in at Bahrija

which killed a boy and several sheep in 1923 and landslips, like that which occurred at Ghajn Tuffieha in 1980. Explosions can also shake local areas.

Many earthquakes have shaken Malta but the seven that caused most damage were:

**1542:** An earthquake from Eastern Sicily was felt strongly in Malta and a number of single storey buildings collapsed.

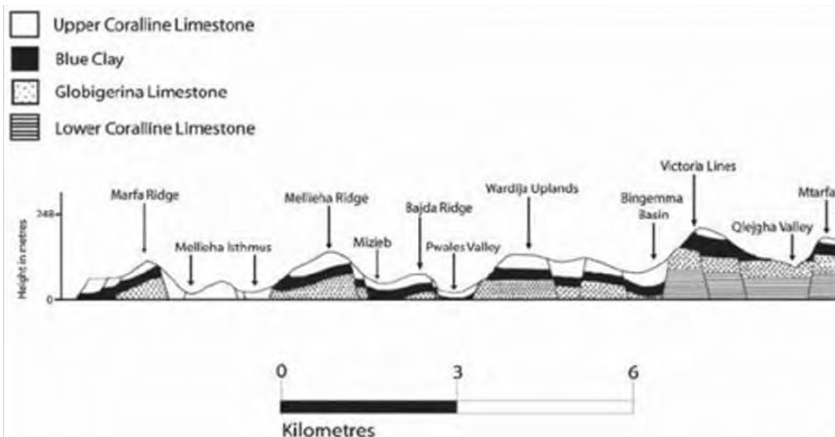
**1693:** A magnitude 7.4 earthquake from Eastern Sicily damaged most buildings in Valletta, some seriously; several church domes collapsed; Mdina and the Cathedral were seriously damaged. Parts of cliff faces reportedly fell into the sea.

**1743:** An earthquake from the Ionian Sea damaged Mdina cathedral and numerous churches in Malta and Gozo. Many hillsides collapsed.

**1856:** A magnitude 7.7 earthquake from Crete seriously cracked many houses in Malta and Gozo, especially the upper floors, and damaged church domes and walls, especially St George in Gozo.

**1886:** A week long earthquake from the Aegean Sea damaged the Court of Justice in Valletta, some churches, many houses, and the Mdina Cathedral.

**1911:** An earthquake from the



KB 2006

Cross-section of Malta from Marfa on the left to Mtarfa on the right, showing the 'horsts' (raised areas) and 'grabens' (sunken areas) due to faulting.

[Continued on page 11](#)



Maltese Historical Association—June 2016 Event

## Earthquakes and Tsunamis in Malta

[Continued from page 10](#)

Northwest of Gozo was strongly felt in Gozo. It caused significant damage to domes and houses and damaged Fort Chambray. It was much less damaging in Malta.

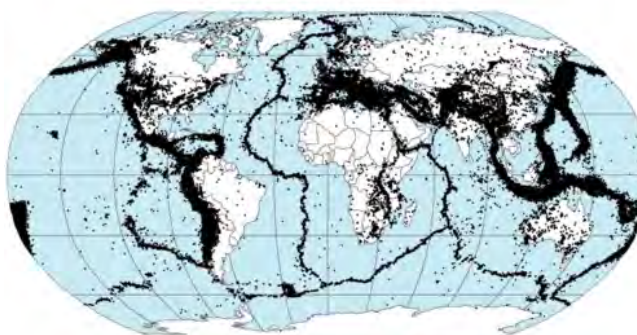
**1923:** An earthquake from the east of Malta was mostly felt around the Harbour area. It caused non-structural damage to churches and cracks in walls.

Mr Borg then drew on his engineering background to describe the desirable features of buildings in earthquake zones: their composition, foundations, dimensions and mass. Elastic bodies are better suited to carry vibrations than solid/brittle ones. Foundations help to stabilise buildings and absorb the shaking. Buildings should have shear connections. Steel structures are better than concrete or stone. He expressed concern about high rise buildings made from ferro-concrete; with concrete of poor quality and steel reinforcing subject to concrete cancer. Structures over 3 storeys made from unreinforced masonry, with heavy concrete flooring/roofing, and large open basements, are very susceptible to collapse in the event of the ground shaking.

Mr Borg went on to describe Tsunamis. These large waves are caused by submarine earthquakes, landslides, cliff-falls into the sea, volcanic explosions or asteroid impact into the ocean. Many reports and geological evidence show that Malta has been hit by tsunamis in the past. For example, the action of these high waves has moved large boulders to higher places.

In the open sea, the waves travel at speeds up to 700 km/h and are not very high. As they approach the shallower water of the shore, the wave height increases and the velocity slows, so that wave crests are closer together. The first indication of a tsunami is when the sea recedes for some distance. The water then rushes in at speed, a high wave followed by others in succession. It smashes ashore, sweeping everything in its path. It can travel inland for quite some distance depending on the terrain. The run-up height is higher when

Preliminary Determination of Epicenters  
358,214 Events, 1963 - 1998



funnelled into a V-shaped inlet (such as Xlendi Bay) or a U-shaped one (such as Marsaxlokk Bay).

20% of recorded Mediterranean tsunamis have been damaging. In AD 365, a Mag 7.7 earthquake in Crete created a tsunami which caused extensive damage in Libya, Egypt, Calabria and Spain. This tsunami is unique in the historical record, as it propagated across the entire Mediterranean without major attenuation. Malta must have been affected.

Tsunami heights exceeding 20m have been reported in the Eastern Mediterranean. Thera's explosion supposedly wiped out the Minoan Civilisation in Crete, and the Messina Earthquake of 1908 (Mag 7.5) caused waves 8.5 m high on the Sicilian coast and more than 10m high on the Calabrian coast. This area averages about 10 tsunamis per 100 years and the last tsunami was recorded in 1954

The strongest tsunamis are excited in the Aegean Sea and the Hellenic and Calabrian areas. Overall, large tsunamis are less frequent than in the Pacific Ocean. Expected heights of tsunamis in the more exposed parts of the Mediterranean are: 100 years – 1.5m high, 500 years – 4 m high, 1000 years – 7 m high.

De Soldanis reports that in the 1693 Earthquake the sea at Xlendi receded for a whole mile then rushed back in as a tremendous wave with thunderous sound. Miraculously, no lives were lost. If it happened now, there would be great loss of property and life, due to building developments and many tourists on the

shoreline.

The 1908 Earthquake of Messina did not cause any major structural damage but reports suggest that a 5ft high wave hit the island, with the water receding and returning several times at Marsamxett Harbour. Houses were inundated in Gzira, Sliema and Msida and serious flooding was reported at Marsaxlokk.

In 1973, fishermen and residents in Salina Bay reported

a marine disturbance, which old fishermen called 'il-milghuba', and which was alleged to have also taken place a few years previously. At 3 a.m. the sea level dropped by a couple of feet. A short while later a massive wave caused the sea to rise a couple of feet above the normal level. A rumbling noise was heard.

Due to climate change, water levels could rise up to 0.6 m above present level by the end of the century. Low lying areas, such as Pwales, Marsaxlokk and Birżebbuġa will be inundated. Loss of land, loss of water purity, especially in water tables close to sea, dying off of plant life in coastal areas, and greater impacts of storms and tidal surges will ensue. Over time as the sea warms, it will expand. Combined with the ice caps melting, the sea level could rise up to 4m over the next 500 years. ♡

[Link to PowerPoint presentation and Lecture recording](#)



## News from the Vatican

## Pope Francis speaks out

Compiled by Rev. Charles Borg-Manché from Vatican Radio sources

## Welcoming Refugees

**D**uring the first official event of his five-day visit to Poland for World Youth Day, Pope Francis urged the country's political leaders to welcome migrants fleeing from wars and hunger, while at the same time protecting human life from conception until natural death. The Pope's words came as he met with the nation's president, prime minister and other political leaders in the courtyard of Krakow's historic Wawel Castle complex.

Pope Francis said: *"The complex phenomenon of migration calls for great wisdom and compassion, in order to overcome fear and to achieve the greater good... Also needed is a spirit of readiness to welcome those fleeing from wars and hunger, and solidarity with those deprived of their fundamental rights, including the right to profess one's faith in freedom and safety. At the same time, new forms of exchange and cooperation need to be developed on the international level in order to resolve the conflicts and wars that force so many people to leave their homes and their native lands. This means doing everything possible to alleviate the suffering while tirelessly working with wisdom and constancy for justice and peace, bearing witness in practice to human and Christian values."*

## New work of mercy enshrined in first papal message for creation

**T**o mark the September 1st day of prayer for creation, Pope Francis has added a new work of mercy for Catholics to perform: caring for our common home, the planet and all its inhabitants.

At a press conference, Cardinal Peter Turkson, head of the new Vatican office for Promoting Integral Human Development, and Bishop Brian Farrell from the Council for Christian Unity, introduced the [Pope's message](#) for this annual observance, together with Irish author Terence Ward.

'It's not every day that you have a new work of mercy in the Catholic Church!' That was how the new director of the Vatican press office, American Greg Burke introduced the briefing, focused on

the papal message entitled 'Show Mercy to our Common Home'.

Since biblical times, Christians have been called to carry out 6 acts of mercy, listed in St Matthew's Gospel – giving food and drink to the hungry and thirsty, welcoming the stranger, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and the prisoners – with a 7th one, burying the dead, added in medieval times.

Now the new papal message adds an eighth one to that list, possibly the most significant of them: *"Caring for our Common Home. Groundbreaking and visionary, ecumenical and ecological. One could argue that this is the highest work of mercy because it includes all the others, a modern work of mercy for our modern epoch."*

As Bishop Brian Farrell explained, it's an issue around which there is [broad ecumenical agreement](#) throughout the Christian world, with Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and other Orthodox leaders pioneering many groundbreaking initiatives to raise awareness about critical ecological concerns.

This first every papal message for the day of prayer for creation calls for mercy as the key to unlocking that 'ecological conversion' of our hearts that Pope John Paul first called for a quarter of a century ago. It's a step by step process which begins by recognizing the harm we have already done through our selfish, irresponsible and greedy behaviour..

*"The first step in this process is to humbly acknowledge the harm we are doing to the earth through pollution, the scandalous destruction of ecosystems and loss of biodiversity, and the spectre of climate change—which seems nearer and more dangerous with each passing year. And to realize that when we hurt the earth, we also hurt the poor, whom God loves without limit"*

After acknowledging the harm done and confessing our sins, we are then called to change our lives, beginning with the small changes that can lower our own carbon footprint, while also advocating for an economic and political system that is just and sustainable, rather than focused on short term financial and electoral gains.

## 'Non-Violence: A Style of Politics for Peace' is theme for World Peace Day 2017

**V**iolence and Peace are at the origin of two opposite ways to building society.

The proliferation of hotbeds of violence produces most serious negative social consequences. The Holy Father sums up this situation in the expression: "A Third World War in Pieces". Peace, by contrast, promotes social positive consequences and it allows the achievement of real progress. Therefore, we should act within what is possible, and negotiate ways of peace even where they seem tortuous and impractical. Thus, non-violence can acquire a more comprehensive and new meaning. It will not only consist of desire, of moral rejection of violence, barriers, destructive impulses, but also of a realistic political method that gives rise to hope.

Such a political method is based on the primacy of law. If the rights and the equal dignity of every person are safeguarded without any discrimination and distinction, then non-violence, understood as a political method, can constitute a realistic way to overcome arm conflicts. In this perspective, it becomes important to increasingly recognize not the right of force but the force of right.

With this Message, Pope Francis wants to show a further step, a path of hope, appropriate to today's historical circumstances. In this way, the settlement of disputes may be reached through negotiation without then degenerating into armed conflict. Within such a perspective the culture and identity of Peoples are respected and the opinion that some are morally superior to others is overcome.

At the same time, however, it does not mean that one Nation can remain indifferent to the tragedies of another. Rather it means a recognition of the primacy of diplomacy over the noise of arms.

Arms trade is so widespread that it is generally underestimated. Illegal arms trafficking supports not a few world's conflicts. Non-violence as a political style can and must do much to stem this scourge.

The World Peace Day was initiated by Pope Paul VI and is celebrated on the first day of January. The Holy Father's Message is sent to all Foreign Ministries of the world and it indicates the diplomatic concerns of the Holy See during the coming year. 💧





## Hu Hsieb Saħħtek

Professur Maurice Cauchi



# Il-Glandola Tirojde (Thyroid gland)

**I**l-gisem għandu bżonn ta' ormoni li huma sustanzi li jirregolaw hafna mill-funzjonijiet ta' kuljum. It-tirojde (thyroid gland) hija wahda minn dawn il-glandoli li nsibuha n-naha ta' quddiem ta' l-għonq. Din il-glandola tipproduċi ormoni (tiroksina) li mingħajrhom jizviluppaw ċerti problemi.

### Is-sintomi

Jekk ikollok nuqqas ta' dawn l-ormoni tibda thossok għajjen, jew ma tkunx tista' tikonċentra fuq dak li tkun qed tagħmel. Tista' tibda żżid fil-piż, u anke xi drabi tinduna li qed titlef ix-xahar. Tibda thoss il-bard aktar mis-soltu għax iċ-ċirkolazzjoni tibda tmajna. Sintomi oħra jinkludu konstipazzjoni, il-ġilda issir xotta, id-dwiefer jinqasmu aktar malajr. Il-livell tal-kolesterol fid-demem jitle' aktar mis-soltu, u anke tiżviluppa pressjoni għolja u anke mard tal-qalb.

Dawn kollha huma sintomi li juru li l-glandola tat-tirojde qed tbatti u mhux qed taħdem sew, u mhux qed tipproduċi ormoni biżżejjed. (Dan jissejjah hajpotirojdiżmu jew 'hypothyroidism').

Dawn is-sintomi, li huma ġeneralment aktar komuni fin-nisa milli fl-irġiel, x'aktarx li jibdew bil-mod il-mod, ġeneralment f'dawk li għandhom 'l fuq minn ħamsin sena.

Mela jekk taħseb li qed tibda thoss xi ftit minn dawn is-sintomi, jista' jkun li għandek problemi ta' nuqqas ta' ormoni.

### Il-kawża

Issa nistgħu nistaqsu, x'iġib dawn il-problemi f'din il-glandola? Xi drabi jista' jkun hemm xi infezzjoni f'din il-glandola. Drabi oħra, jista' jkun li jiġri ċ-ċelluli tal-glandola bdew jinquerdu, marda li nsejjuha 'auto-immune disease', meta ċelluli fid-demem jattakkaw xi organu bħat-tirojde. Rament, jista' jkun hemm xi tumor li jeqred din il-glandola.

### Ara t-tabib tiegħek

Għalhekk huwa essenzjali li tara tabib jekk inti qed tiżviluppa xi sintomi bħal:

- għejja mhux tas-soltu u nuqqas ta' enerġija,
- thoss bard aktar mis-soltu u aktar minn haddiehor,
- jonqos l-apetit, u jiżdied il-piż,
- problemi ta' nuqqas ta' memorja, jew thoss depressjoni, jew tibda tara li xejn ma għadu jinterressak,
- uġiegh fil-ġogi, u
- ġilda niexfa u dwiefer li jinqasmu malajr.

F'dan il-każ għandek tmur tagħmel viżta għand it-tabib halli dan jara minn fejn ikun gej dan il-gwaj. Test sempliċi tad-demem



Image: <http://www.shapefit.com/>

jurik jekk hemmx nuqqas ta' ormoni, u xi drabi ukoll jista' jindika minn fejn għejja l-problema. Hija haġa komuni li ssib ukoll li l-kolesterol telgħa 'l fuq għielu ukoll.

Hafna drabi, kull ma jkun hemm bżonn huwa li tibda tiegħu pillola tat-tiroksina. Din tipprovi l-ormoni li hemm bżonn u għalhekk malajr tagħleb għall-aħjar. Però huwa essenzjali li l-eżami tat-tabib jeskludi aktar problemi serji.

Biex inkunu għedna kollox, xi drabi din il-glandola tibda tipproduċi hafna aktar ormoni mis-soltu. (Dan jissejjah hajpertirojdiżmu jew 'hyperthyroidism'). Allura is-sintomi ikunu bil-maqlub ta' dawk li semmejna hawn fuq: thoss shana aktar mis-soltu, il-piż jonqos, enerġija aktar mis-soltu, l-apetit għal-ikel jiżdied, eċċ. It-tabib jehtieg li jeżaminak u jagħmel testijiet li hemm bżonn biex jara x'inhi l-problema u jagħtik il-kura li jehtieg. ♦

## Community benefactor Lina Borg turns 90

**O**n 2nd July Mrs Lina Borg (née Pisani) celebrated her 90th birthday. She was born in Sliema Malta in 1926 and married Anthony (Tony) Borg on the 25th September 1947.

The family migrated to Australia in 1949, three months after her husband's arrival. Lina and Tony had five children: Vincent, Tony (deceased) Noreen, Jennifer and Samantha.

Tony and Lina were great community benefactors and worked tirelessly towards planning and construction of the Maltese Community Centre, taking part in the annual

fundraising fete, the preparation of food in the Centre's kitchen as well as raising funds for the venture.

Lina's husband passed away in April 2008.

Lina celebrated her 90th birthday with her family and close friends. She also shared a birthday cake with community members at the Centre (see photo).

The Maltese Community Council of Victoria and the Executive Committee congratulated her on her milestone birthday and wished her every happiness and long life in the future. ♦





# Reskeon Seniors presented with Government Certificate of Appreciation for Volunteers

**O**n 3 June 2016 the Hon. David Feeney MP, Federal Labor Member for Batman presented an “Australian Government Certificate of Appreciation for Volunteers” to the Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group. Receiving the certificate on behalf of the Group were its President Mrs Salvina Vella, and its Secretary, Mr Paul Vella.

The Group was among several local associations in his Electorate of Batman who were being formally acknowledged for their outstanding and well-deserving efforts as volunteers. The certificate accompanied the receiving of a grant for volunteers for small equipment.

In his letter of appreciation, the Hon. David Feeney said: “Volunteers play a critical role in helping shape Australia and building stronger and more resilient communities and supporting individual participation in community life. Volunteering touches all aspects of Australian society, whether it be helping out with local sporting teams and land care groups, responding to natural disasters and emergencies, or



From left: Mr Paul Vella, the Hon David Feeney MP and Mrs Salvina Vella.

helping local charities support some of our most disadvantaged people”.

He continued by saying: “More than six million Australian volunteer each year, freely giving their time, energy and skills to supporting others”.

Among those present to receive a certificate were seniors groups from different nationalities, including Reskeon, charitable organisations, the Police Force and other community groups. ♦



VICTORIA POLICE

## Naħdmu mal-Anzjani f'Victoria

### Pariri ta' prevenzjoni ta' atti kriminali

#### Serq mid-dar u serq ieħor

Meta xi hadd jidhollok f'darek biex jisraq tista' tkun esperjenza nkvetanti. Fafna nies iħossuhom skomdi bil-hsieb li persuna stranjera gerfext fl-affarijiet personali tagħhom. Ftiti passi sempliċi biex twaqqaf li jidhulek f'darek u jisirqu jinkludu:

- sakkar it-twieqi u l-bibien kollha.
- aghmel li jidher li xi hadd ikun qed id-dar meta tkun barra.
- aghmilha aktar diffiċli għall-hallelin li jidhlu fid-dar mingħajr ma jarahom hadd.
- Sakkar affarijiet prezzjużi f'sejf jew poġġihom f'post moħbi.

#### Sigurtà personali

Kollha kemm aħna għandna d-dritt li nħossuna u nkunu salvi waqt li nibqgħu għaddejnin bil-hajja tagħna ta' kuljum. Kollha nirreagixxu b'mod differenti għal sitwazzjonijiet diversi u sigurtà tista' tisser affarijiet differenti għal nies differenti. Ma rridux li ngħixu fi stat ta' nkwieta imma jrid ikollha attenzjoni tajba għas-sigurtà tagħna stess u biex inħossuna tajbin. Dan jinkludi:

- li nkunu alerti meta nkunu barra fil-pubbliku.
- li ma ngorrux magħna hafna affarijiet prezzjużi, iżommuhom tajjeb u bogħod mill-ghajn.
- noqogħdu attenti għas-sigurtà personali tagħna meta nużaw ATMs jew nitkellmu ma' teller fil-bank.

### Abbuż tal-anzjani

Kollha kemm aħna għandna dritt għal riġett u dinjità waqt li nibdew nidhlu fl-età. L-abbuż tal-anzjani huwa kull att li jikkaguna ħsara lill-persuna anzjana u jsir minn xi hadd li jkun jafu u jafdaw, bħall-familja, hbieb jew kerers. Dan jinkludi abbuż finanzjarju, emozzjonali, fiżiku, soċjali jew sesswali u abbandun.

Relazzjonijiet mal-familja u l-hbieb jistgħu jmorru hażin. L-abbuż tal-anzjani huwa tip ta' vjolenza fil-familja. Jista' jkun att kriminali kumpless, u moħbi li jista' jseħħ irrispettivament tas-sess tal-persuna, is-sesswalità, il-kultura, l-etniċità u l-isfond reliġjuż jew soċjo-ekonomiku.

Victoria Police hija impenjata li tirispondi għall-forom kollha tal-vjolenza fil-familja.

Jekk inti jew xi hadd li taf qegħdin tesperjenzaw abbuż tal-anzjani tistgħu tikkuntattjaw **Seniors' Rights Victoria** fuq il-linja ta' għajuna b'xejn u b'mod konfidenzjali: 1300 368 821 jew żuru [seniorsrights.org.au](http://seniorsrights.org.au) għal aktar għajuna.

Jekk tkun trid għajuna immedjata tal-pulizija ċempel Żero għal Tliet Darbiet (000).

### Is-Sigurtà fuq it-toroq

Li-bieċa l-kbira tal-anzjani fil-Victoria jsuq b'mod salv, jaċċettaw il-limitazzjonijiet tagħhom u jimmodifikaw is-sewqan tagħhom kif ikun xieraq.

Li tagħraf kmieni s-sinjali u s-sewqan tiegħek jista' jkun qed jehżien huwa pass importanti biex iżomm lilek u lil dawkl li toħb salvi.

Xi sinjali kmieni ta' twissija li jista' jkollok bżonn tibdel id-drawwiet tas-sewqan tiegħek huma:

- brix matul il-karozza.
- habbiet zghar.
- nies li jdoqqulek il-ħorn regolari.

Membri tal-familja jistgħu jippruvaw li jkollhom konverżazzjoni kuraġġuża miegħek jekk ikunu mħassba dwar is-sigurtà tiegħek fuq it-toroq.

Għandek tippjana li possibbilment tirtira mis-sewqan, bl-istess mod li tippjana li tirtira mix-xogħol.

Tkellem mat-Tabib tiegħek dwar kull kwistjonijiet ta' saħħa li jistgħu jiddlu s-saħħa tiegħek biex issaq. Sir familjari ma' għażliet oħra ta' trasport u servizzi komunikarji qabel ikollok verament bżonnhom.

Informazzjoni għal sewwieqa anzjani tinkiseb minn fuq il-websajt ta' **VicRoads**: [www.vicroads.vic.gov.au](http://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au)

[police.vic.gov.au](http://police.vic.gov.au)



## Order of Malta Award presented to Maltese-Australian student for outstanding academic performance

**S**onya Camilleri, daughter of Oliver and Frances Camilleri's, was the recipient of the Order of Malta Award. The award is presented to the student with the most outstanding academic performance in the post graduate study in Palliative Care.

In 2015 Sonya undertook postgraduate study at the University of Melbourne and was nominated the student with the overall highest academic grade for her year.

Sonya completed her undergraduate Nursing qualification in 1991 and commenced her nursing career as a graduate nurse at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne.

Sonya has spent most of her nursing career in paediatric oncology working in a variety of roles, predominately specialising in paediatric solid tumours.

Sonya's interest and passion for palliative care work stemmed from her oncology nursing experiences. She joined the Victorian Paediatric Palliative Care Program in 2014 and works collaboratively with this state-wide, multidisciplinary service to provide holistic care to support the children, their families and community.

Sonya's decision to pursue Post Graduate studies originated from her desire to seek advanced knowledge in this area and this has subsequently enhanced her ability to make a significant contribution to children with life limiting illnesses and their families.

Sonya feels very proud of her Maltese heritage and to be part of the Maltese community through her parents. ♦



Ms Sonya Camilleri (right) with her daughter Bonnie and the Director of Nursing at the Royal Children's Hospital

## Melbourne Debut after International Premiere

## Everyone wants a piece of Malta!

**M**altese-Australian artist **Danielle Asciak** debuts her internationally acclaimed one woman cabaret show *Everyone Wants a Piece of Malta!* in the inaugural 2016 Melbourne Fringe program at the Basement at Hawthorn Arts Centre Tuesday 27 September-Saturday 1 October 8pm and Sunday 2 October 7pm.

With 5-star ratings from Adelaide Theatre-guide, a nomination for the Vinaceous Cabaret Award Fringe World 2014 and a recent Artist in Residence with the Fondazzjoni Kreattività, Valletta, **Danielle Asciak** is one of this year's most anticipated cabaret acts.

Danielle Asciak grew up in Glenroy, Victoria and has been involved in Melbourne Fringe 2011 and 2012 as Artist and Comedy Judge. She recently moved to Sydney to broaden her career in film and television. She has been performing cabaret professionally for eight years thrilling audiences across **Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, Berlin, Paris, Tokyo** and **Seoul**, and now **Malta!**

Under the guidance of **Maude Davey** (*The Burlesque Hour, My Life in the*



*Nude*) Asciak develops her inner comedienne in a witty narrative about what it means to be exotic in Australia and the coming-to-terms experience she had when traveling back to her ancestral land Malta for the first time. With a selection of

original compositions, popular music, traditional Maltese folk songs and Eurovision hits; everyone will want a piece of it!

### The Reviews

"Miss Asciak is one of the most exciting new cabaret stars." — *The Australian*

"Asciak is the consummate cabaret performer; beautiful, funny, confident, with a fantastic voice: this is a consummate performance. A must see cabaret.

★★★★★ " *theatreguide.com.au*

"It's undeniable that cabaret performer Danielle Asciak is talented." — *Beat Magazine*

★★★★★ " *Rip It Up!*

### Everyone Wants a Piece of Malta!

Tuesday 27 September – Saturday 1 October 8pm, Sunday 2 October 7pm

Cheap Tuesday \$21 | Concession \$23 | Full \$27 | Group 4+ \$25

The Basement at Hawthorn Arts Centre 360 Burwood Road Hawthorn VIC

Buy Tickets: <http://www.hawthornartscentre.com.au/buy-tickets> + [www.melbournefringe.com.au](http://www.melbournefringe.com.au)

<https://www.facebook.com/missdanielleasciak/>

Instagram: @missdanielleasciak

Website: [www.danielleasciak.com](http://www.danielleasciak.com)

View trailer: [https://youtu.be/T4BRB31v\\_Zs](https://youtu.be/T4BRB31v_Zs)

For more information and interview please contact Danielle Asciak directly, [delleasciak@gmail.com](mailto:delleasciak@gmail.com) | +61 417 123 983

## Community Events Calendar

For up-to-date and more detailed information, visit our website at [www.mccv.org.au/community-events](http://www.mccv.org.au/community-events)

### September 2016

Tue 20 September @ 7.30 pm	Maltese Cultural Festival 2016 Event: Presentation on "Celebrating the Building of Valletta" - MHA	Maltese Community Centre, Parkville
Wed 21 September @ 7.00 pm	Maltese Cultural Festival 2016 Event: Malta Independence Day Cocktail Party	Maltese Community Centre, Parkville
Sun 25 September @ 8.00 am	Maltese Cultural Festival 2016 Event: Lunchtime Restaurant	Maltese Community Centre, Parkville

### October 2016

Sun 2 October @ 2.00 pm	Newport Maltese Association Annual General Meeting 2016	Maltese Community Centre, Parkville
Wed 5 October @ 7.00 pm	MCCV Council Meeting	Maltese Community Centre, Parkville
Sun 9 October @ 6.00 pm	Newport Maltese Association Annual Dinner Dance	-
Thu 18 August @ 6.00 pm	Fun Night @ Glenroy - Maltese Assoc. Northern Suburbs, Inc.	Glenroy Hall

### November 2016

Wed 2 November @ 7.00 pm	MCCV Annual General Meeting 2016	Maltese Community Centre, Parkville
Sun 6 November @ 8.00 am	Day Trip - Maltese Assoc. Northern Suburbs, Inc	-
Thu 17 November @ 6.00 pm	Pizza Night - Maltese Assoc. Northern Suburbs, Inc	-



## Aktar informazzjoni u għajnuna

Jekk tkun fil-periklu jew tara att kriminali jseħh ċempel **Zero għal Tliet Darbiet** (000).

Jekk ikollok informazzjoni dwar att kriminali kkuntattja lil **Crime Stoppers** fuq 1800 333 000 jew żur [www.crimestoppersvic.com.au](http://www.crimestoppersvic.com.au)

### Neighbourhood Watch

Neighbourhood Watch tinkoraġġixxi nies biex jieħdu sehem fil-prevenzjoni ta' atti kriminali u biex jinvolvu ruħhom f'sigurtà aħjar fl-inħawi fejn joqogħdu. Mur fuq [www.nhw.com.au](http://www.nhw.com.au) għal aktar informazzjoni.

### Consumer Affairs

Kulhadd jista' jaqa' fi skema ta' qerq. Skemi ta' qerq huma ddisinjati biex iqarrqu bik, ġeneralment għal skop biex jisirqulek flusek jew dettalji personali. Biex tirrapporta skema ta' qerq ċempel 1300 55 81 81.

### Seniors Card (Kard tal-Anzjani)

Għal aktar informazzjoni dwar is-Seniors Card ċempel 1300 797 210.

### COTA (Victoria)

Council on the Ageing (COTA) jipprovdi programmi ta' informazzjoni, support, attivitajiet u edukazzjoni għal nies anzjani. Ċempel 9654 4443 jew żur [www.cotavic.org.au](http://www.cotavic.org.au)



**MALTESE COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
477 Royal Parade, Parkville

**OUR CANTEEN SERVES MALTESE FOOD  
EVERY FRIDAY— BINGO NIGHT**

**WE OPEN AT 5.00 PM TO SERVE FOOD**

**BINGO HEADS DOWN AT 7.00 PM  
EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT**

*Għandek aptit ta' ravjulata?*

*Come along and enjoy our friendly atmosphere*

*We would love to see you*

*and bring your friends along with you!*

Have you heard about  
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**screens on c31 (channel 44)**

**Sundays @ 4pm**  
with a repeat  
**Tuesdays @ 3pm**

Anyone around the world can watch the  
show via LIVE stream on  
[www.c31.org.au](http://www.c31.org.au)  
as well as on demand via  
[www.c31.org.au/series/1313](http://www.c31.org.au/series/1313)

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[maltesetv@gmail.com](mailto:maltesetv@gmail.com)