



NEWPORT NEWS

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

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Lydia Cole—Editor

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The President's Message

Dear Fellow Members and Friends,

At the last Annual General Meeting of the Association one of the main topics discussed was the amalgamation of the Seniors Group with the Association. At the time I spoke about the process we need to apply step by step, to make it all happen.

Step (1) was the formation of a sub-committee which consists of George Saliba, Joe Ellul, Joe Cole, Gwen Busuttil and Andrew Gatt, to pen down a new Constitution which will cater for the Association and Seniors combined.

So far, the sub-committee met on two occasions and are well advanced in finalizing a draft copy of the revised constitution.

Step (2) will be the acceptance of the revised constitution by the two executive committees combined.

Step (3) a special general meeting will be organized for all financial members to put your seal of approval on the new constitution.

Step (4) by law, a copy of the new constitution will be sent to the department of Consumers Affairs Victoria for their approval.

As you can imagine, all this will take a bit of time, but when it is all finalized it will be for the benefits of all of us

With so many new members joining the Association and the Seniors Group, it occurred to me, how many of our members have no knowledge, or what the Maltese Community Council of Victoria stands for.

We, as an Association, are one of some 30 other Associations that are affiliated with the MCCV, and I feel that it will be beneficial for all of us, to be aware of the goodness that the MCCV provide for our community at large. There are many objectives for which the MCCV is established for, below are some I like to bring to your attention-

To encourage the full participation of the Maltese Community within the social, economic and cultural life of the Australian Community in the State of Victoria.

To lobby local, state and federal governments and organizations in the interest of Victoria's Maltese Community.

To encourage, foster and conduct educational, culture and social activities for, and on behalf of the Maltese Community in Victoria.

To undertake social welfare work and provide welfare services for the benefit and on behalf of the Maltese Community in Victoria.

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ASSOCIATION WEEK END TRIP

22nd-23rd April 2017

From the minute we started on our trip, the indications were that it was going to be a great weekend with lovely company and an abundance of food.

George had barely finished the prayer when Victor (the distribution manager) gave everyone the first dose of sugar. Thanks to some members and committee collectively, we had chocolates, lollies, cakes and biscuits galore throughout the weekend.

We played some not very serious bingo as well. We also tried to teach our coach captain Peter (Zorba the Greek), who is not new to these weekends with us, some Maltese words, and vice versa he told us how some people pronounce the name of his bus company OCEAN BLUE. I leave that to your imagination!!!

With all the goodies and meals over the weekend I am sure we came back a few kilos heavier. I cannot say the same for our wallets which were a bit lighter. Some members, no names mentioned, found time for other things too.

Walking past their room at the motel we stayed at, there was a note in front of the door saying "sex in progress". You can imagine the laughs when word went around very fast with someone knocking on their door and when the door opened this member came out doing up his shirt buttons!!!!

Olga Ellul-Assistant Secretary

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Through Planned Activity Groups, the MCCV provides Maltese older people with disabilities with an opportunity to socialize and stay connected with their friends and community.

The programme Community Development and Educational enables the building of bridge between the Maltese community and residential facilities and mainstream services.

The MCCV was established on the 6th July 1958. Next year the Council will celebrate 60 years in the making. God willing, we'll be looking forward to join in the celebrations

I like to say a very big thank you to all the members ,who through the internet are expressing their feelings of happiness, that they enjoy at our functions. They are words of encouragement to the hard working Committee members who continue to do everything they can to make everybody happy

Finally I like to share with you these words of wisdom :- The true test of character is not how much we know how to do, but how we behave when we don't know what to do.

**George Michael Saliba OAM
President & Seniors Co Ordinator.,**



Seniors' Corner

by Gwen Busuttil

Seniors' Group Fun Night 18th March, 2017

As the name implies, everyone there were eager to have some fun, and after all had their fill, whether you did some cooking at home, or opted to the easy way out of ordering pizzas, tables were cleared quickly so as we could start

BINGO. Fifteen games, with a bit of a twist. If you were sitting on the right hand side of the winner for the next eight games, you also won a bar of chocolate, and for the following seven games, people sitting on the left were the winners of the chocolates.

TRIVIA sheets were handed out to each table, with all the questions there in. This is where your general knowledge comes in handy, and a lot of discussion takes place amongst all on the table. I'm still wanting to check out a cat's claws....????? Silly me, took a short cut when the question Marsaxxlok or Marsascula, and while the table was deliberating, I wrote Marsa, (will fill the rest when the decision is made). Which, of course, time ran out.

Anyway there are some very clever people around, who got most of the questions right, or they are very fast on the smart phones.

THE HORSE RACE by far I feel is the most popular participating game of the night. Picking a winner, throwing the dice, seeing how your horse is progressing, or not moving. And then the frustration of nearly getting there, but the dice do not fall on the right numbers.

NEW GEORGE GAME don't have a name for this one, it involves having to accurately drop into a receptacle something which is tied around your waist, and you have to rotate to get your aiming right, frustrating to play, but lots of fun to watch.

COTTONBALL PICK-UP. When we came up with this game, we thought it was going to

be a lot harder, and fearful that someone might have a heart attack as they suck through the straw to pick the cotton balls, and then the ping pong ball. You were all winners, and you all made it look so easy.

Well done to all those who came along, participated, and showed us though your laughter, that nights like these are enjoyed and great fun.

WHY SHOULD THE KIDS HAVE ALL THE FUN!

Thank you all for being there to make it a success.

MOTHERS' DAY SUNDAY

7TH MAY, 2017
MELROSE DINNER DANCE

Champagne glasses were at the ready, while all the men were upstanding to toast the most important person sitting next to them. Whether it was their wife, sister, friend or relative, George acknowledged the fact that mothers are the most important people in the world. Nature created this instinct within them when they became mothers. To nurture and care for their offspring which God has blessed their family with, and at every stage of their life, a mother will always put their welfare first and foremost. So, it is only fitting, that on this special day, they are celebrated by all men.

A token gift was presented to all ladies present, CHOCOLATES yum, (watch those waistlines ladies, straight after Easter too!)

Thank you to Mr. Charlie Vassallo, who sang his rendition of Mamma, with his beautiful voice. It was appreciated by all.

Thank you also to Domenic, our D.J. for a great selection of music. This showed as at every bracket, the dance floor was full.

Dinner was delicious, and Melrose exceled once again, compliments to the chef and staff, who made sure the wines were never empty, and all with a smile.

George acknowledged all birthdays and anniversaries, occurring during this time.

Continued next page

In particular a special mention to two very special people celebrating their 69th Wedding Anniversary. Congratulation Charles and Edith Portelli, may you enjoy many, many more.

As the night drew to a close, it was time for the raffle, prizes were chosen with ladies in mind. A very lucky lady even had three choices from the array of prizes on offer. (And she wasn't on the Newport Committee either).

Thank you all for supporting another successful night with us, and hope to see you all at our next event.

On behalf of the Seniors Committee

Gwen Busuttil



Seniors' Mothers' Day



B.B.Q. at Brimbank Park **Thursday April 6th**

When we plan the BBQ at that time of the year, we have to be prepared for anything. The worst scenario is a really hot day with a 'fire ban' in force. It happened one year, and that meant that it was roast chicken to the rescue. But, this was not the case on this occasion. We could not have had a better day. Not bragging, but we really have this down pat! First the whole bag of onions, peeled and chopped, they go on the barbie first, and as they're cooking, I'm sure you can smell them as you entered Brimbank. Many hands make light work, and the men were at the ready. Then came the sausages, while the ladies prepared the salads.

Thank you to Vince Camilleri who offered to pick up the bread for us, and yes, it is the best, and it is from Altona North. Would like a dollar for everyone that asked us where we got it from.

Once the meat was cooked, we were ready to serve, and you can tell we killed you with the aroma. Even the children who joined us, as it was school holidays, enjoyed it.

Many complimented the chefs. It was a case of a little more than 'two fish and five loaves of bread' but to feed more than a hundred on your own is a nightmare, but with everyone pitching in, it was a breeze.

Thank you all for coming along, you are the best group of people I know.

Photos thanks to Mr Emanuel Brincat



Seniors' BBQ at Brimbank Park—Photos thanks to Mr Emanuel Brincat

NEWPORT MALTESE ASSOCIATION **FUNCTION DATES FOR 2016**

Sunday 1st October	Association A.G.M.	MCCV—Parkville
Sunday 8th October	Annual Dinner Dance	Melrose Receptions
Sunday 22nd October	Comedy Luncheon	MCCV—Parkville
Sunday 3rd December	Assoc Christmas Break-Up	Melrose Reception
Sunday 31st December	New Year's Eve Ball	Emerald Reception

For booking please contact Carmen Casa on 9436 8196

NEXT FEW FUNCTIONS FOR THE **SENIORS GROUP FOR 2016**

Sunday 16th July	Seniors' Christmas in July Dinner	Melrose Receptions
Sunday 20th August	Seniors' Fathers' Day Dinner	Melrose Receptions
Sat/Sun 16-17th September	Seniors Week-End Trip	TBA ????????
Late Oct to Early November	Trip	TBA
Wednesday 13th December	Seniors Christmas Break-Up Dinner	Melrose Receptions

For booking please contact Carmen Casa on 9436 8196

Don't Quit

**When things go wrong and they sometimes will
When the road you're trudging seems up the hill,
When the funds are low and the debts are high
And you want to smile but you have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit,
Rest if you must, but don't you quit.
Life is strange with twists and turns
As everyone sometimes learns
And many a failure comes about
When you might have won had you stuck it out;
Don't give up though the pace seems slow-
You might succeed with another blow,
Success is failure turned inside out-
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt,
And you never can tell just how close you are,
It may be near when it seems so far;
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit
It's when things seem worst that you must not quit.**

ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

George Saliba	President	9391 6081
Joe Ellul	Vice-President	9744 6096
Gwen Busuttil	Secretary	9333 3693
Joe Cole	Treasurer	8742 1142
Lydia Cole	P.R.O.	8742 1142
Carmen Casa	Social Secretary	9436 8196
Olga Ellul	Assistant Secretary	9744 6096
Lena Saliba	Assistant Treasure	9391 6081
Miriam Cunningham	Committee Member	9338 0851
Maurice Spiteri	Committee Member	9469 2067
Carmen Spiteri	Committee Member	9469 2067
Victor Casa	Committee Member	9436 8196
Rennie Busuttil	Committee Member	9333 3693
Vince Camilleri	Delegate	9314 3177

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
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
Mary Galea	Committee Member	9304 1452

REMINDER:

ON SUNDAY 1st OCTOBER THE NEWPORT MALTESE ASSOCIATION WILL BE HOLDING THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. THIS WILL BE HELD AT THE MALTESE COMMUNITY CENTRE IN PARKVILLE STARTING AT 2.00pm.

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED AFTER THE MEETING.

PLEASE CONTACT CARMEN CASA ON 9436 8196 OF YOUR INTENTIONS



THE VISUAL ARTS AND CRAFT STRATEGY

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The President and Executive Committee of Newport Maltese Association Inc. wish to thank the Hon. Robyn Scot MP, the Department of Premier and Cabinet and the Victorian Multicultural Commission for approving our applications for a “Senior Citizen Organisational Support Grant 2016-2019 and also the Festivals and Events Grant 2016-2017 Round 2”

A Blond Joke

A blonde, wanting to earn some money, decided to hire herself out as a handyman-type and started canvassing a wealthy neighbourhood. She went to the front door of the first house and asked the owner if he had any jobs for her to do. "Well, you can paint my porch. How much will you charge?" The blonde said, "How about 50 dollars?" The man agreed and told her that the paint and ladders that she might need were in the garage. The man's wife, inside the house, heard the conversation and said to her husband, "Does she realize that the porch goes all the way around the house?" The man replied, "She should. She was standing on the porch." A short time later, the blonde came to the door to collect her money. "You're finished already?" he asked. "Yes," the blonde answered, "and I had paint left over, so I gave it two coats. "Impressed, the man reached in his pocket for the \$50. "And by the way," the blonde added, "that's not a Porch, it's a Ferrari."

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