



Inc. Reg. No. A0028424X

RESKEON NEWSLETTER

**JUNE
2017**
WINTER
EDITION
Volume 21, No.2

Welcome! Merħba!

Welcome once again to another issue of Reskeon Newsletter.

June... second issue for the year... half the year gone.

On March 16 we had the BBQ for all members at Edwardes Lake Park.

We had the Mother's Day Luncheon at Firenze Reception on May 4 where about 140 members and friends were present. It was a good day and we thank all those members who found the time to approach a member of the committee to show their appreciation for such a successful day. Thanks to President, Salvina Vella who organised the day.

At the weekend of April 1 and 2, we had a two-day trip to Albury, Corowa and Mulwala where all those taking part enjoyed a good weekend together. They asked the committee to organise more of these trips.

As we do every year, we have a day out and this year we went to Mornington. All members taking part made the best of the day which was an excellent day weatherwise.

The Friday before Good Friday we attended a ceremony for the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows in St. Paul's Chapel, Parkville. On that day Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group bought and presented a statue of Our Lady of Sorrows to the Fathers of the MSSP.

On May 5, Sharon Spiteri, author of the book "Traditional Sweet Recipes from Malta" attended our meeting at Merrilands to talk about her book. After her address a lot of members bought the book, signed and personalised by the author.

You can read these stories in full on the inside pages of this newsletter. We encourage you to use the services of the advertisers in our Newsletter because they help financially in producing it for you. Tell them that you have seen their advert in our Newsletter.

Until we meet again, take care and drive carefully. In your prayers, remember those with no one to pray for them. Thank you.

PAUL VELLA, Editor

**FIND THESE
STORIES AND
MORE INSIDE!**

**Trip to
Mornington
Page 3**

**Reskeon's BBQ at
Edwardes Lake Park
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**Feast of our Lady
of Sorrows
Page 6**

**Mother's Day
Luncheon
Pages 1, 4 & 5**

**Visit to our Meeting
by Sharon Spiteri
Page 8**

BBQ at Edwardes Lake Park



Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group organised a BBQ for all members at Edwardes Lake Park, in Reservoir, on Thursday, 16th March, from 11 am.

We had 10 days of warm weather in the 30's, but the weather forecast for Thursday was rain in the morning and afternoon with a possibility of storms in the afternoon. We woke up to dark black sky and soon rain started to pour down and we were tempted to cancel the BBQ for another day. We persevered and took a chance and at 8.30 am we were at the Park. The Good Lord was on our side: the rain stopped and we had sunny breaks during the day and, most of all, no rain and no storms.

Soon the food preparation started and members began to arrive.

Salads and other items were prepared by Salvina Vella, Madeleine Vella, Vera Sacco, Sylvia Dakin, Melita Magro and Carmen Grech.

Around 120 members participated at this event. Cooking started at 11 am with George Topolcsanyi cooking the steaks and the sausages were in the hands of Charles Sacco, Joe Pace and Vince Borg.

(Rest of Story and more pictures on Page 6)

**MALTESE NEWS
on SBS 2 TV
Every Thursday, 8 am
Every Sunday, 8 am**

**These are two different
programs**

Weekly news bulletins prepared by the PBS (Malta) and are presented on **SBS 2 TV**



**Mother's
Day
Luncheon
Ladies'
Competition
winner and
Runners-up.
Story and
Pictures on
Pages 4 & 5**

Two days to Albury, Corowa and Mulwala

On the weekend of April 1 and 2, a group of 46 members and friends of Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group enjoyed a weekend trip to Albury, Corowa and Mulwala.

Those taking part boarded the Nationwide coach from the carpark of St. Joseph the Worker Church, North Reservoir, at 7 am. Coach Captain was Halil who brought his lovely wife, Lisa, with him.

We headed North and stopped at Nagambie for morning tea which was provided free of charge from Reskeon Committee. Tea and coffee was served with an assortment of cakes and biscuits. Other goodies were brought by members as well.

We left Nagambie and headed to our first club, Mulwala RSL Club, for lunch. After three hours' stay we left to our motel, Elm Court, in Albury to freshen up and rest for a while before going to the SS&A Club for another three hours' stay including dinner.

We left the SS&A around 10 pm back to Elm Court where some members walked to the Commercial Club searching entertainment and dancing while others gathered in one of the rooms for a chat and a drink.

Fully cooked breakfast was served at 7 am. Cereals with fruit and orange juice, bacon and eggs, toasts, tea and coffee.

We left Elm Court at 8 am and arrived at St. Mary's Church, Corowa, for Sunday Mass celebrated by the Parish Priest.

From there to our last club visit at Corowa RSL Club for a hearty lunch, after visiting the local Sunday Market.

After a three hour stay we departed the club and on the way home we stopped at the SPC Outlet in Shepparton where members had a chance to purchase some groceries.

Bingo was played on the coach with all takings given out as prizes. No raffles took place as this is our custom.

Thanks to our Coach Captain Halil and his wife who during this weekend became our friends as a big happy family. Thanks and congratulations to all members who took part, especially with the way they were always punctual when it was time to board the coach.

As we were asked to organise another weekend like this, the Committee will try to organise something similar soon.

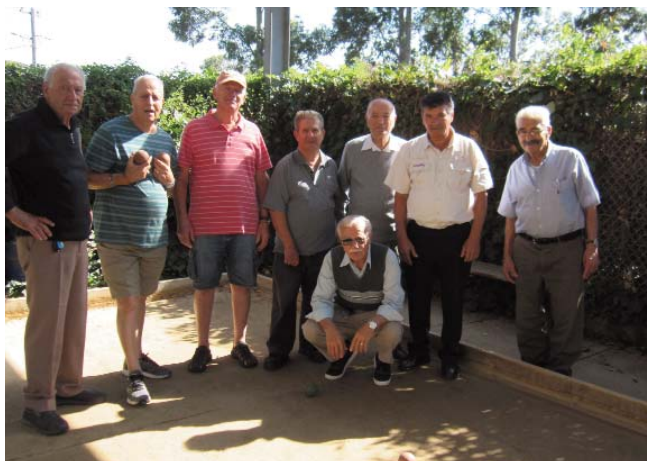


You can contact us by phone, mail or email:
Paul Vella, Secretary, 9460-4404 Mob. 0409 961 928
Email: (Paul and Salvina Vella) paul.vella44@gmail.com
Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group Inc.
Merrilands Community Centre, Cnr. Asquith and Sturdee Sts, Reservoir

Ladies' Bocce Group (Organisor: Cathy Gatt)



Men's Bocce Group (Organisor: Angelo Farrugia)



If you live in the City of Darebin (Preston, Reservoir, Keon Park, Kingsbury, Thornbury, Northcote, Fairfield and parts of Bundoora and North Coburg), and would like to become a member of Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group Inc. contact the Secretary, Paul Vella, on 0409 961 928.

Jenny Mikakos MP
State Member Northern Metropolitan Region
 319 Spring Street, Reservoir 3073
 Tel: 9462 3966
Jenny.Mikakos@parliament.vic.gov.au

- Representing our community.
- Offering information, advice and assistance regarding State Government issues.

Congratulates Reskeon Maltese Association and Reskeon Seniors Group on their ongoing work amongst the Maltese Community
 Funded from Parliament's Electorate Office and Communications

A DAY TRIP TO MORNINGTON

A group of 57 members of Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group travelled to Mornington to spend a day at this beautiful beach resort.

We were watching the weather forecast all week, saying rain and rain. But three days before the forecast changed to a nice warm day with some clouds.

The day was an excellent one, hotter than expected.

All members enjoyed the day. Some went to the Pier, others went for lunch at the Grand Hotel or for Fish and Chips at Top Catch, while others brought lunch with them and occupied a large table in the park.

A good day was had by all.

Once again thanks to all members for being punctual in the morning to board the coach and when it was time to go home.

I said it before and I will say it again: we feel our members are the best one can ever ask for.

Congratulations to the President, Salvina Vella, for organising this outing.



Hot Cross Buns and chocolates

On the Wednesday, 12th April, before Easter, Reskeon Committee presented all members with a Hot Cross Bun and chocolates.

Although this was a small gesture, certainly it was appreciated by all members and some grandchildren who were present on the day. This is something that takes place every year at Easter time.



Photos show some of the members in different groups enjoying the day together.

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RESKEON ORGANISED THEIR MOTHER'S DAY LUNCHEON AT FIRENZE

Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group, organised their Mother's Day Luncheon on Thursday, 4th May, for their members, at the Firenze Receptions, McBryde Street, Fawkner.

Around 140 members and friends attended. Most members arrived at around 11 am and when they entered the hall they were served with pre-lunch drinks and hors d'ouevres. Secretary Paul Vella, MC for the day, welcomed guests and members and invited them to stand for the Maltese and Australian National Anthems. After Champagne was poured into the glasses, all male members were asked to be upstanding to offer a toast for all the Mothers on the occasion of Mother's Day.

The entree of fish and rice and salad was then served. After this a pasta plate of tortellini with carbonara sauce and Strozzapreti with Bolognese sauce on each plate which was followed by the main meal of a choice of chicken Kiev or veal scaloppini. Later on members and guests were served a fruit platter and cassata ice-cream. This was followed by coffee and continental cakes.

The music on the day was in the hands of DJ Dominic who kept all those present dancing on the floor most of the day. Distinguished guests present were the Honorary Life Members, Dr Clemente Zammit and Mrs Mary Zammit; Life Member and Ex-Co-Ordinator of the Reskeon Seniors Group, Mr Caesar Vella and Mrs Phyllis Vella; Honorary Treasurer of the MCCV and our Hon. Auditor, Mr Paul Borg and Mrs Pauline Borg as well as Fr Edwin Agius, mssp, Rector at Parkville.

Later in the day, President Salvina Vella gave her message for the occasion of Mother's Day, wishing a good day to all Mums with their families and asked to remember and pray for all those mothers who were no longer with us. She wished all members to enjoy the day with their Mums and, as Mums themselves, to enjoy the day with their families.

The MC then read a list of members who were celebrating their birthdays around this time, as well those celebrating their wedding anniversaries. We had a special Wedding Anniversary of members Paul and Frances Schembri, who were celebrating their 50th and it's Reskeon's custom they be presented with a flower arrangement.

Then there was the presentation of trophies for the winner and runners-up of the Ladies' Bocce Competition which finished two weeks before this event. President Salvina Vella presented the trophies. This year's winner was Cathy Gatt; First Runner-up, Agostina Sultana; Second Runner-up, Carmen Topolcsanyi. All participants in the competition were asked to join them for a group photo. Salvina Vella thanked Cathy Gatt for her role in organising this competition.

Then the raffle took place and Paul on behalf of the committee thanked all those who donated some of the gifts for the raffle.

MC Paul Vella said that although it may not be proper coming from him, as her husband, he thanked President, Salvina Vella, who was responsible for the success of this function which she organised almost single-handed. We thank all members for being present and enjoying the day together as one big family.

Thanks to all those members who found the time to approach committee members to pay their compliments for this well-organised function which, as always, was heavily subsidised by Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group as members only had to pay half the cost. Thanks also to the management and waiting staff of Firenze Receptions for the way they looked after us like they do in all our functions.

(More pictures Page 5)





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RESKEON BBQ AT EDWARDES LAKE PARK (Cont. from Page 1)

In no time food was served. Soft drinks and red and white wine was served during the day.

After the meal there was a game of Bingo with tea and coffee and goodies brought in by some members.

When most members left, a group stayed behind to enjoy another cup of tea or coffee with the cakes brought by some members while having a chat. Later member Charles Sacco entertained us all with his jokes and singing.

It was a very good day enjoyed by all members and we appreciate those who took the time to show the committee their appreciation for what was organised.

Thanks to all those members who helped, one way or another, to make this day the success it was, especially President, Salvina Vella, who did all the shopping and meat preparation for the day. We also thank all members who co-ordinated themselves very well especially when it was time to serve the meals.

Special guest was the Parish Priest of St. Joseph the Worker Church, North Reservoir, Canon Fr Manny Bonello.



FEAST OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS IN MELBOURNE

The feast of Our Lady of Sorrows was celebrated at least in four different places in Melbourne.

We attended the one celebrated in the Chapel of St Paul, Parkville, run by the Missionary Society of St Paul.

Usually our friend Alfred Axiak decorated the chapel displaying a picture of Our Lady of Sorrows. This year, Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group's committee and members agreed to purchase a statue of Our Lady of Sorrows to be donated to the Fathers of the MSSP, after President and Secretary, Salvina and Paul Vella respectively, made arrangements with Fr Edwin Agius.

The statue was displayed at the chapel during the Mass which was celebrated by Fr Lonnie Borg who, as well, delivered a very interesting Homily for the occasion.

Before the Mass, Fr Lonnie told the 80 plus in the congregation that the statue was donated by Reskeon and that the "bradella" was made by Reskeon member Victor Pulis. After this Fr Lonnie blessed the statue.

Readers during the Mass were Joseph Borg and Rita Pullicino. During Mass we played "Ghanja lid-Duluri" by the late the Budaj and "Taht is-Salib" by Michael Chetcuti.

Before Mass, Lina Borg recited the "Visit to the Blessed Sacrament" while Tony Buhagiar recited the Rosary.

In attendance, among others, were members of the Executive of the Maltese Community Council of Victoria, the President and Secretary and members of Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group, members of the ladies' section of the Christian Doctrine Society (Museum) and members of other Maltese associations.

This feast is well known to attract a lot of devotees of Our Lady of Sorrows, both in Malta and Australia.



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FORTHCOMING EVENTS...

Mark these dates in your diary!

June: Restaurant Day (Roxburh Park Hotel)

July: Free Sausage Sizzle

August 10: Father's Day Luncheon at Firenze Receptions

September 7: Bambina Mass, Parkville

September 9: Bambina/Vittoria Dinner Dance, Firenze Receptions

September 10: Bambina Feast, St. Mary's Church, West Melbourne

October 4: Annual General Meeting

October: Day Out

MASSES IN MALTESE

For those members wishing to attend Mass in Maltese, we are publishing these times and locations.

Every Saturday, at 6 pm:

St. Paul's Chapel, Parkville (Maltese Centre)

Every Sunday, at 8.00 am:

St. Paul's Church, Sunshine Avenue, Kealba

Every First Friday of the month, 6.30 pm:

St Paul's Church, Glengala Road, West Sunshine

Every First Friday of the month, 7 pm:

Resurrection Church, 51 Gum Road, St. Albans West

Every First Saturday of the month, 6 pm:

St. Joseph The Worker Church, Wilson Blvd, Reservoir

Every First Saturday of the month, 4.45 pm:

St. Joseph Church, Springvale

Every Second Saturday of the month, 5.00 pm:

St. Luke's Church, 1a David Street, Lalor

Every Third Saturday of the month, 4.00 pm:

St. Francis of Assisi Church, Childs Road, Mill Park

Every Fourth Saturday of the month, 6.00 pm:

St. Thomas More Church, 65 North Street, Hadfield

(Confessions about half an hour before Mass)

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Consul General of Malta
9670 8427

Maltese Fathers, Parkville
9387 7433

Maltese Centre, Parkville
9387 8922

Thank you!

Ms Rita Mee for helping with proofreading, **Dr Edwin Borg-Manche**, who takes care of the MCCV website for his help in advertising our activities, to **Mr Paul Borg**, Treasurer of the MCCV, for his ongoing help in auditing our books, to **Darebin City Council** and the **Victorian Multicultural Commission** for grants received, and to all those who help in organising the Bocce competitions. We also thank the **Maltese Radio Stations** for advertising our functions and all those who assist us from time to time. Thanks also to the many members who give their help and assistance when needed.



ELIA SCICLUNA

Brother-in-law of member

Annie Scicluna

GODWIN FAVA

Nephew of members

Sylvia Dakin and Joe Dakin

MARY TABONE

Niece of members

Sylvia Dakin and Joe Dakin

NELLIE DAKIN

Sister-in-law of members

Sylvia Dakin and Joe Dakin

MARY FAVA

Family member of Sylvia Dakin

JOHN CUTAJAR

Brother of member Jim Cutajar

CHARLES MAGRO

Long time member of Reskeon

Husband of member Mary Magro

Please remember them in your prayers

R.I.P.

For enquiries about our Association please ring the Secretary, Paul Vella, 9460-4404 0409 961 928

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Happy Birthday ...

June: 4: Margaret Spiteri; 3: Vivian Tabone; 7: Fiona Cutajar; Lina Frendo; 17: John Saliba; 22: Tessie Colvin; 25: Jane Cutajar. **July:** 1: Joyce Borg; Frank Micallef; 15: Lina Bonnici; 19: Melita Borg; 22: Freddie Cachia, Carmen Cachia; 25: Annie Scicluna, Doris Cutajar; 30: Carmen Borg, Paul Azzilla. **August:** 1: Helen Bonavia. 2: Salvina Vella (Reservoir), Fred Mifsud, Lino Hammett; 7: Frans Bonavia; Edward Fabri; 8: Nino Angelone; 11: Doris Farrugia; 16: Gejtu Vella; 18: Dolly Agius; 20: John Hili; 24: Frank Mallia; 25: Sam Bartolo, Rose Angelone; 30: Manwel Mifsud; 31: Tessie Sacco, Grace Azzilla.

Happy Wedding Anniversary ...

June: 1: Doris and Charlie Farrugia; 5: Gwido and Jane Ciantar; 27: Mr and Mrs G. Vella. **July:** 8: Doris and George Caruana; 10: Lucy and Edward Fabri; 16: Lisa and John Saliba; 17: Charles and Frances Galea; 27: Toni and John Hili. **August:** 14: Antida and Jim Galea; 19: Rita and Charlie Zammit; 20: Miriam and Tony Mizzi.

Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group Inc.

President: Salvina Vella

Vice-Pres.: Madeleine Vella

Secretary: Paul Vella

Treasurer: Victor Pulis

Asst. Treasurer: Miriam Mizzi

Social Sec.: Salvina Vella

Members: Melita Magro

Sarah Catania

Alfred Cachia

Theresa Cachia

Sylvia Dakin

The group meets every Wednesday at Merrilands Community Centre, Asquith St, Reservoir, 9.30-2 pm.

For more information Ring 9460-4404

SAINT GEORGE PRECA

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

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

Let us Pray

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

Grant we beseech Thee O Lord that Thou wilt glorify Thy humble servant who worked with so much zeal for the salvation of souls and that through his intercession it will please Thee to grant this favour.....



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A Visit by Sharon Catherine Spiteri

On Friday, May 5, on my Maltese program on Community Radio 3ZZZ I had the opportunity to interview Sharon Catherine Spiteri, the author of "Traditional Sweet Recipes from Malta", a lovely hard-cover book in full colour.

The response from our listeners was great.

For this reason I felt the need to invite Sharon to our Wednesday weekly meeting of Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group, at Merrilands Community Centre. Sharon accepted the invitation to speak to our members and arrived with her husband, Daniele, and some books as well.

In her address to our members, Sharon said that Malta is her place of birth, ancestry line and heritage. She said that although arriving in Australia at an early age of 8 months old she always had a core of pride for her Island home in the Mediterranean.

Her parents always reinforced this pride with many stories of Malta, as she was growing up. Experiences they had as children and historical facts that always intrigued and fascinated her.

Our nation's History of Resilience during World War 2 and the Great siege of 1565 just a few examples of the Maltese Spirit and true Resilience!

Sharon first returned to Malta at the age of 16, her family's first overseas holiday.

Apart from being truly impressed by Malta's beauty and its peoples' kind hearted nature, her innate need and want of Authentic Maltese Recipes was very strong. She visited every book store she could find during her search.

Her mother was without doubt an

exceptional cook. She was extremely fortunate to experience her love of food and her efforts in ensuring good nutrition, quality produce and beautiful dishes. She told us that although she didn't realise it then, but her Mum inspired her so much with food.

Sharon later returned to Malta where she began her career in the food Service Industry. Studying at ITS Malta where she gained her qualifications as a Chef (City and Guilds of London) and Diploma in food production and preparation.

Once qualified she worked in Malta Hilton, Melbourne Hilton and the Grand Hyatt Melbourne.

Sharon always found it difficult to acquire authentic Maltese recipes, particularly sweets, that worked well. Although her Mum was a phenomenal cook, she didn't make a lot of sweets, so she only had a few recipes from her that were passed down.

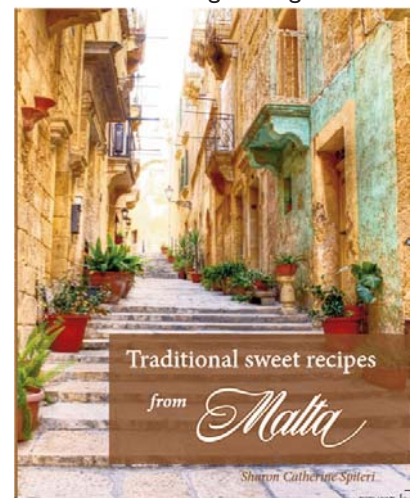
After a lifetime searching for Maltese sweets recipes with limited success, Sharon decided to produce her own book whilst at the same time displaying the provincial beauty and Old World Charm of Malta within its pages. Her motivation to create this book was to share her knowledge and experience with others. Food is a strong connection to our culture and heritage.

She told us that part of our history and traditions are passed down from generation to generation. Something of great value that is worth preserving.

"I know this is equally important to others in the community and with Malta being so far away from us here in Australia my main objective was to enable anyone who acquired the book

to create a small slice of Malta that feels like home."

After the talk, members gathered around her to purchase the book and she was kind enough to sign it.



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RETAIL OUTLET

Factory 3, 161 Settlement Road
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Mark Farrugia
Manager

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