



Inc. Reg. No. A0028424X

RESKEON NEWSLETTER

**JUNE
2018**
**WINTER
EDITION**
Volume 22, No. 2

Welcome! Merħba!

Welcome once again to another issue of Reskeon Newsletter.

On Thursday, March 22, we had the first function of the year with a BBQ at Edwardes Lake Park. All those attending enjoyed the BBQ and the company of friends.

The Group celebrated Mother's Day with a Luncheon on Thursday, May 3, at Firenze Receptions where 146 members and friends attended and enjoyed the day.

Our friend and ex-member of Reskeon, Lewis Stafrace, passed away on April 17. Lewis will be missed by the Maltese Community. He was also a broadcaster on Radio 3ZZZ.

The statue of Our Lady of Sorrows, purchased by Reskeon on behalf of the MSSP, was displayed at the Mass in St Paul's Chapel, Parkville.

We managed to get a picture of the Ladies' Bocce Competition and another one of the Men's Bocce Group.

We always enjoy reading about successes of our young ones. On page 8 we feature reports on Madison Conwell and Alexander Smythe.

During May we welcomed Carmen Brent from the UK, sister of our member Vince Borg.

The week before Easter, at our weekly meeting, members enjoyed a little gift of a hot cross bun and some chocolates.

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!***

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Three other items
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Reskeon Seniors' Mother's Day Luncheon

Our Group, Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group, organised their Mother's Day Luncheon on Thursday, 3rd May, for their members, at the Firenze Receptions, McBryde Street, Fawkner. Around 146 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'oeuvres. 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 lasagne which was followed by the main meal of chicken parmigiana and roast beef on each plate. 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. Everyone complimented his selection of music on the day.

Distinguished guests present were the Consul General for the Republic of Malta in Victoria, Ms Joanna Pisani; Ms Miriam Cassar, from the Consulate Office; Fr Edwin Agius, Recator of the MSSP in Parkville; the MCCV Treasurer and our Honorary Auditor, Mr Paul Borg and Mrs Pauline Borg; and the Life Member and Ex-Co-Ordinator of the Reskeon Seniors Group, Mr Caesar Vella and Mrs Phyllis Vella; Apology was received from the Honorary Life Members, Dr Clemente Zammit and Mrs Mary Zammit.

Later in the day, Ms Joanna Pisani gave her message to all the Mums, saying that they play a great part in the family and that love and respect to the Mums should be all year round and not just on Mother's Day. President Salvina Vella also 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.

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**

**Maltese Downunder
Channel 31 (44)
4 pm**

Repeat Mon. 2 pm, Tues. 2.30 pm



Rest of story and more photos on Pages 2, 4 and 5

Għal min jippreferi jaqra' bil-Malti...

Naf li hafna jixtiequ jaqraw xi haġa bil-Malti f'din li Newsletter u allura se nippruvaw nagħtu xi dettalji fil-qosor.

L-IKLA GĦAL JUM L-OMM

Il-Hamis, 3 ta' Mejju, kellna l-Ikla Għal Jum l-Omm fil-Firenze Reception fejn 146 membri u ħbieb attendew. Kull min kien hemm kulhadd ha pjaċir. Magħna kien hemm il-Konslu Ġenerali ta' Malta fil-Victoria, Ms Joanna Pisani. Tqassmu t-trophies tal-boċċi tal-kompetizzjoni tan-nisa.

BBQ GĦALL-MEMBRI

Il-Hamis, 22 ta' Marzu, il-membri attendew għall-BBQ fil-Park ta' Edwardes Lake. Kien hemm hafna ikel u kulhadd ha gost. Grazzi li min organizza u sajjar l-ikel

IMUT LEWIS STAFRACE

Il-habib tagħna u ex membru, Lewis Stafrace, halla din id-dinja fis-17 ta' April. Huwa hadem hafna fil-komunita' Maltija, speċjalment fil-Festival tal-Gimgha l-Kbira u bhala xandar fuq ir-Radju Komunitarju 3ZZZ. Kondoljanzi lil martu Marie u l-familja.

L-ISTATWA TAD-DULURI F'PARKVILLE

L-istatwa tad-Duluri li Reskeon kienet xtrat għall-MSSP, kienet fil-Kappella ta' San Pawl, Parkville, fil-Quddies tagħha.

NIFIRHU BIT-TFAL TAGHNA

Ahna dejjem nifirhu bis-suċċessi tat-tfal tagħna. F'din il-ħarġa naqraw fuq Madison Conwell (neputija ta' Rose Sacco) u Alexander Smythe (jigi minn Michael u Carmen Borg)

ŻJARA MINN CARMEN BRENT

Dan l-aħħar kellna żjara minn Carmen Brent li ġiet iżżur il-familja tagħha mill-Ingilterra. Carmen tiġi oħt il-membri Vince Borg u din ma kienetx l-ewwel żjara tagħha fostna.

HOT CROSS BUNS GĦAL ŻMIEN IL-GHID

Fil-gimgha ta' qabel l-Għid, bħalma jsir kull sena, il-kumitat iqas-sam hot cross buns u ċikkulata lill-membri kollha. Xi haġa żghira imma l-membri jiehdu gost biha.

Rapporti bl-Ingliz flimkien ma' ritratti fuq dan li għadna kemm thadditna fuqu ssibuhom f'faċċati ohra ta' din li Newsletter. Sakemm nerġghu niltaqghu darb'ohra, insellmilkom u nghidilkom "Sahha"!

— Paul Vella, Editur

Men's Bocce Group 2018

In the last few days I managed to get a photo of some of the men's members bocce group. From left to right: Fred Pace, Alex Mangion, Joe Mifsud, Joe Cauchi, Frank Mallia, Paul Farrugia, Frans Bonavia, Charles Psaila, Lino Hammett, Philip Debono and Charles Galea. (Photo by Frank Gatt)



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

Mother's Day Luncheon (from Page 1)

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 Frank and Joyce Borg, 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. The Consul General for the Republic of Malta in Victoria, Ms Joanna Pisani presented the trophies. This year's winner was Carmen Grech; First Runner-up, Agostina Sultana; Second Runner-up, Cathy Gatt. 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. He also thanked all members for being present and enjoying the day together as one big family. He told them that he was so proud of them as they are the best members one could ever wish for.

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.



On Wednesday, May 16, President, Salvina, was presented with flowers and a necklace/ear-rings, to thank her for the work she performs for the Group. She was surprised by this sweet gesture and told everyone that what she does is done from her heart for the benefit of all. Thanks to Madeleine Vella, Carmen Grech, Sylvia Dakin and Charles Sacco for their help in organising this nice gesture. Thank you.



Jenny Mikakos MP

State Member Northern
Metropolitan Region

319 Spring Street, Reservoir 3073

Tel: 9462 3966

Jenny.Mikakos@parliament.vic.gov.au

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Congratulates Reskeon Maltese Association and Reskeon Seniors Group on their ongoing work amongst the Maltese Community

Funded from Parliament's Electorate Office and Communications

Reskeon members enjoy a BBQ at the Park

Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group enjoyed a \$2 BBQ organised by the association's committee on Thursday, March 22, at Edwardes Lake Park, Reservoir. Members enjoyed meat and sausages, five salads and bread, wine and soft drinks, tea and coffee and a lot of goodies supplied by some members.

Thanks to Vince Borg who cooked the meat, and Charles Sacco, Frans Bonavia, Dominic Micallef and Fred Scicluna who cooked the sausages.

Thanks to Salvina Vella, President who organised the BBQ and shopping and to Madeleine Vella, Vice-President who helped in many ways, and to Vera Sacco, Sylvia Dakin and Cathy Gatt who helped preparing the salads and distribute the meal.

Thanks to all the members, who are the best one could ever have, for the way they co-ordinated themselves in the queue to be served.

Present as well was Can. Fr Manny Bonello, Parish Priest of St Joseph the Worker Parish in Reservoir and Mr Paul Borg, our honorary auditor.

It was a sunny warm day enjoyed by one and all. Some members enjoyed a walk along the beautiful lake, others stayed together for a chat and many enjoyed a game of friendly Bingo.

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 on member Charles Sacco entertained 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.

Thanks to all 120 members who participated.



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Vale Lewis Stafrace

On Tuesday, 17th April, we received the sad news of the passing away of our friend and ex member of Reskeon, Lewis Stafrace. He was 86. Lewis was a member of Reskeon Maltese Association for a number of years and he was instrumental in restructuring Our Constitution under the Presidency of Caesar Vella.



Lewis married Maria nee Grima, on 6th of November 1954 and had three daughters: Christina, Annette, Louise. Lewis and Maria are grandparents of six boys and one girl and great grandparents to 4 girls and 3 boys.

In 2015 he was elected as the new Convenor of the Maltese Programs of Melbourne Community Radio 3ZZZ, a position he carried out in a fair and professional way. The broadcasters of the Maltese programs, Mario Sammut, Paul Vella and Liz Phillips will feel his loss with great sadness. Salvina Vella who helps on the phone on the requests programs missed him a lot as well.

Lewis also acted as Team manager Green Gully Soccer Club 1971. He served as President of Green Gully Ajax Soccer Club for 7 years. He was also responsible for the development of the Soccer Complex at Green Gully. Life Member Green Gully Ajax Soccer Club. Life Member Victorian Soccer Federation. Founder and President of Green Gully Senior Citizens Social Club.

Served as Executive Member of the Maltese Community Council of Victoria for two years.

He was also involved for many years in the Good Friday Association and now at Bacchus Marsh. Reskeon donated the funds for the acquiring of the statue of Christ the Redeemer.

To his wife Marie, children Christina, Annette and Louise and all the family, the President, Committee and members of Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group offer their condolences.

May God grant him eternal rest.

RESKEON ATTENDS PRACE'S AGM

Three committee members from Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group, President, Salvina Vella, Secretary, Paul Vella and committee member, Sylvia Dakin, attended the AGM of PRACE, on Thursday, May 24, at Prace Community Centre.

Chairperson, Cheryle Michael, opened the meeting with her report followed by the financial report by Treasurer, Fraser Baxter and another report by Executive Officer, Paddy McVeigh. When all the formalities were done, Reskeon's Secretary, Paul Vella told those present that on behalf of the President, Committee and members of Reskeon he would like to thank the staff of PRACE for their help and friendship during the year. He also thanked Aubrey Jansz and Botrus Mingana for their help every morning of our meetings. **Photo by Lauren Rizzacasa (from left): Paddy McVeigh, Cheryle Michael, Paul Vella, Salvina Vella and Sylvia Dakin.**



FEAST OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS IN MELBOURNE

On Friday, March 23, a Mass was celebrated on the occasion of the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, at St. Paul's Chapel, Parkville at 7 pm. The Mass, attended by about 90 members of the Maltese Community, was celebrated by Fr Edwin Agius, MSSP. Readers were Joe Borg, Paul Vella and a lady from the congregation. Our friend Alfred Asciak decorated the Chapel as he always does. The statue of Our Lady of Sorrows, which Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group donated to the MSSP, was displayed on a table in front of the Altar.



Ladies' Bocce Finals

In April the ladies were playing for the final positions of the competition. I caught them in one of the games.

From Left to right:
Josephine Schembri, Doris Schembri, Cathy Gatt (Organisor), Agostina Sultana, Carmen Topolcsanyi and Carmen Grech.





Ged Kearney MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR BATMAN
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FORTHCOMING EVENTS...

Mark these dates in your diary!

June 7: Restaurant Day (Roxburgh Park Hotel)
July: Free Sausage Sizzle (Merrilands)
August 9: Father's Day Luncheon (Firenze)
September 6: Bambina Mass (Parkville)
September 8: Vittoria Dinner Dance (Firenze)
September 9: Bambina Feast (St. Mary's, West Melbourne)
October 3: AGM at Merrilands Community Centre)
October: Day Out
November 28: Club Closing

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 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 some **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.



ROSIE GATT

Sister of Fr Edwin Agius, MSSP

TESSIE AQUILINA

Sister of members

Antonia Farrugia and Alfred Pace

JOHN SALIBA

Long time member of Reskeon
 Husband of ex-member Lisa Saliba

JOE BUSUTTIL

Brother-in-law of Caesar Vella

ROSE GATT

Sister of Fr Edwin Agius, mssp

JOHN BONAVIA

Cousin of Fr Edwin Agius, mssp

FRANK AGIUS

Cousin of Fr Edwin Agius, mssp

LINA DUCA CACHIA

Sister of member Charles Cachia

LEWIS STAFRACE

ex member of Reskeon

CASSILDA VELLA

Sister of Ex President, Caesar Vella

Please remember them in your prayers

R.I.P.

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

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Happy Birthday ...

June: 4: Margaret Spiteri; 3: Vivian Tabone; 7: Fiona Cutajar; 22: Tessie Colvin; 25: Jane Cutajar; 27: **July:** 1: Joyce Borg; Frank Micallef; 15: Lina Bonnici; 18: Theresa Scicluna; 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; 16: Gejtu Vella; 20: John Hili; 24: Frank Mallia; 25: Sam Bartolo, Rose Angelone; 30: Manwel Mifsud; 31: Tessie Sacco, Grace Azzilla.

Happy Wedding Anniversary ...

June: 5: Gwido and Jane Ciantar; 27: Mr and Mrs G.Vella. **July:** 8: Doris and George Caruana; 10: Lucy and Edward Fabri; 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:

George Topolcsanyi

Social Sec.: Salvina Vella

Members: Sarah Catania

Alfred Cachia

Theresa Cachia

Sylvia Dakin

Cathy Gatt

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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Another Success for Madison Conwell

Madison Conwell, granddaughter of Rosemary Sacco of our Club has been selected again to represent Australia at the World Series Indoor Netball Championships to tour Johannesburg, South Africa in October 2018.

Madison firstly trialled at a Zones weekend where she was selected to represent Queensland at the National Indoor Netball Championships held in Adelaide from 5 May 2018 to 12 May 2018. Madison represented Queensland in the Under 19 mixed indoor netball team. Along with this appointment, Madison was also named a co-Vice Captain. A great honour indeed.

Madison and her team competed in the 6s game which is the New Zealand format of indoor netball. This game differs from the Australian rules in that the ball never goes out and 2 points can be scored from outside the ring from mid court players. As the name suggests only 6 players are on court at the one time. This is a fast paced game and made all the more difficult when playing against the men. Competing against other states, Queensland reached the grand final and won the gold medal defeating South Australia.

The second part of the week, Madison and her team played the Australian 7s game of indoor netball. Again Madison and her team competed against South Australia, Victoria, Western Australia and New South Wales reaching the grand final where they defeated South Australia and were awarded with another gold medal. An awesome achievement to win two gold medals.

After a long and gruelling week in Adelaide, Madison attended a formal dinner where she was selected to wear the green and gold again to tour South Africa. This is the second time that Madison will be representing her country after representing Australia in the Under 16s ladies indoor netball team in 2014.

We welcomed Carmen Brent from the UK

In April we welcomed a visitor from the UK on her visit to Melbourne. Carmen is the sister of our member Vince Borg.

This wasn't the first visit of Carmen to Melbourne and she has attended our meetings some years ago. We welcomed her and she enjoyed attending our meetings. **In the photo, from left to right: Margaret Borg, Rose Pace, Joe Pace, Rose Borg, Vince Borg, Carmen Brent, Vera Sacco and Charles Sacco.**



Alexander Smythe Cycling for Malta

Alexander Smyth has been riding since he was 8 years old. His grandmother Teresa Puli's (nee Borg - Michael Borg's sister, and Carmen Borg's sister-in-law) wish was for her grandson to one day cycle for Malta. It was only recently when Alexander gained Maltese citizenship when this opportunity arose. Alex was extremely happy to be selected to represent his country of heritage, something he is proud to do.

Alexander said of the opportunity, 'It brings me great joy to take part in the Commonwealth Games, and be able to represent both my heritage and compete in the country where I have grown up. The Commonwealth Games is the biggest competition that I will have competed in to date, and the Drapac team has been a big supporter of my personal development so far this year', of which Alexander is extremely grateful.

Just before this event, Alex was competing in the Tour of Thailand. Luckily for Alex he wasn't injured badly in the crash during this tour, suffering only a bruised thigh. Unfortunately Alex was sick leading into the games but with the great support of the Maltese contingent, they were able to get him into a condition where he was able to start the race.

A hectic start to the race mixed with an unfortunate mechanical problem put him on the back foot and he was unable to continue past the 112km mark in this high level race.

Alex was initially disappointed with the outcome, but it sparked a new drive for him to perform better in the next races.



Hot Cross Buns and chocolates

On the Wednesday before Easter (28th March), Reskeon Committee presented all members with a Hot Cross Bun and chocolates.

Although this was a small gesture, it was certainly appreciated by all members and some grandchildren who were present on the day.

This is something that takes place every year at Easter time.



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Mark Farrugia
Manager

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