

Maltese Community Council of Victoria Inc.



ANNUAL REPORT 2016-17



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President's Report

It gives me great pleasure to present the Annual Report for the Maltese Community Council of Victoria (MCCV) for the year ending 31 October 2017.

Council's operations

The MCCV Executive Committee meets on a monthly basis to manage and progress Council's plans for the advancement of the Maltese community in Victoria.

Affiliated Associations attend on a regular basis for general Council meetings held every month, when they are advised and updated on progress of the work plan and initiatives of the Executive in the community's interest.

Council also operates through seven special sub-committees which assist the Executive in its operations. Memberships of the various Committees is provided by Executive members as well as nominated members of Affiliated Associations and members of the Maltese Community with special skills.

Young members

Council continues to make every effort to attract younger members of the community to utilise their special skills and ultimate transitioning to leadership roles within the community.

MCCV membership

Executive Committee members represent the MCCV on peak organisations, such as, the Ethnic Committees Council of Victoria Aged Policy Committee, Alzheimer's Australia, Carers Victoria and other service providers.

The MCCV continues to play an important role in advocating for the community and ensuring that members of the Maltese Community are not disadvantaged when seeking professional services from generalist organisations and obtaining a fair share of Government resources to finance its programs.

It also keeps a watchful eye on municipal authorities to ensure that Maltese share in resources and particularly the availability of Council premises for their activities and meetings.

Monitoring community progress

Council is constantly monitoring the progress of the Maltese Community and a large number of Maltese persons visit the Community centre regularly for access to services, social functions and other activities arranged by Council or its affiliated associations.

Council's close working relationships with the Maltese Religious, especially members of the Missionary Society of St Paul ensures that its welfare services are specifically tailored to meet community needs.

Grants

The Commonwealth and State Governments have through the grants process provided income to Council for its welfare services. Grants have also been obtained for maintenance of our premises at 477 Royal Parade Parkville and 12A Watt Street Sunshine. Council is currently in receipt of

Commonwealth State Funding for the planned activity groups. Conducted from the Parkville and Sunshine premises.

WELFARE PROGRAMS

Planned Activity Group (PAG)

Since the 1st July 2017 the Federal Government has provided funding for the Aged care activity groups for persons over the aged of 65 years.

The State government retains responsibility for the same program for person under the age of 65 years.

The Commonwealth government has also introduced a national scheme for services to aged persons known as "My Aged Care". This National scheme provides gateways for aged persons seeking to obtain aged care services.

Carers Group

There are a number of Maltese born persons caring for partners, relatives and children with physical and mental disabilities. Regular meetings are held at our Sunshine Premises and carers and their charges are invited to attend. Presentations are made at each session by medical practitioners, psychologists, lawyers, chefs and others as requested. These sessions are held on a monthly basis.

Visits are also arranged to aged care facilities for them to become familiar with life in these facilities. Those attending the carers group are assisted in planning for their future accommodation of their partners, relatives and children.

Memory Lane Café

Council arranges for the people suffering from dementia to attend monthly sessions organised by Alzheimer's Australia and the City of Brimbank. This is a multicultural group meeting currently held from premises at 27 Talmage Street, Albion. MCCV general arranges for transport of those attending the group meetings and receives nominal funding from Alzheimer's Australia towards these expenses.

MCCV Home and Aged Care Facilities Visitation Scheme

The MCCV received a grant of \$5,000 per year for a period of four years from the State Department of Premier and Cabinet to assist in the running of our Visitation programs.

Under the guidance of a co-ordinator volunteers visit aged persons in their own home. They also visit a number of aged care facilities in which persons of a Maltese background reside. During these regular visits to the Aged care facilities refreshments are provided to the group, consisting of Maltese delicacies. Maltese resources and access to our mobile library are also made available.

Advisory and Referral Service

This service was established by the MCCV to assist disadvantaged community members who constantly contact the community centre for help. The service is conducted by Victor Borg, President of the MCCV. He is a retired solicitor and together with a number of volunteers attends on a daily basis. The service recently recruited, as a volunteer a Maltese speaking practising solicitor Ms Marlene Ebejer who offers a free legal advice service.

Council advocates and lobbies on behalf of member Associations and community members generally. Regular presentations are made to community members especially the aged in various areas such as: Enduring Powers of Attorney, Wills and Probate, Domestic Violence and application for intervention orders. Through its membership of other peak bodies and their various committees Council attempts to influence policy changes in the interest of the Community.

Maltese Language Classes

Maltese Language classes are held at the Maltese Community Centre Parkville on Thursday Evenings. The Maltese teachers are volunteers and receive an honorarium annually.

Students purchase their own books and materials. Members are always on the increase and there has been considerable interest in the program.

Edwidge Borg a former MCCV President, co-ordinated the classes and is assisted by 3 volunteers.

2017 MCCV community awards

Council's Executive Committee awarded the MCCV community awards for 2017 to the following individuals for their community service. It believes that it is most appropriate for a community to give public recognition to those individuals from within the Maltese community, who have made a substantial contribution to the Maltese / Australian community:

- **Sr Lorraine Testa, asjm** for her valuable contribution to the Maltese community in the fields of education and aged healthcare services.
- **Fr Dominic DeGiorgio** for his valuable contribution to the Maltese community in the fields of spiritual leadership and welfare services.
- **Fr Karmel Borg** for his valuable contribution to the Maltese community in the fields of spiritual leadership and welfare services.
- **Fr Dr Victor Shields, mssp** for his valuable contribution to the Maltese community in the fields of spiritual leadership and welfare services.
- **Mr George Saliba OAM** for his valuable contribution to the Maltese community through his leadership and general services to the community.
- The late **Mrs Daphne Caruana Galizia** for general services to the broader Maltese community and her valuable contribution to democracy in Malta through fearless investigative journalism and by exposing corruption within its political system (posthumous award).

Distinguished visitors

In the past year the MCCV welcomed the following dignitaries to the Maltese Community Centre:

- On 9 November 2016 Her Excellency Ms Julianne Hince, the Australian High Commissioner designate to Malta visited the Community Centre.
- In March 2017 the Superior General of the Missionary Society of St Paul, Fr Mark Grima mssp, attended at the Community Centre during his visit to Australia
- In June 2017 the Rev Fr Dr Victor Shields mssp returned to Melbourne on a three-month visit to continue with his studies and to assist his fellow Priests as well as the Maltese community and the MCCV.

- On 18 June 2017 Mr Victor Grech Consul General for Malta in the State of Victoria attended his farewell function.
- On 21 September 2017 Ms. Joanna Pisani, the newly appointed Consul General for Malta in Victoria, attended the Malta Independence Day function and her welcoming reception.

Events and other activities

The following functions were held at the Maltese Community Centre in Parkville:

- 6 February 2017 Concert by the Maltese instrumental group Maltese ETNIKA Band
- 22 March 2017 50th Anniversary of the ordination of Fr Tarcisio Micallef mssp and Fr Denis Carabott mssp
- 25 March 2017 The screening of Maltese film Simshar
- 27 May 2017 Fr Emmanuel Adami – farewell prior to his return to Malta
- 18 June 2017 MCCV Community Awards 2016 and farewell to Mr Victor Grech, outgoing Honorary Consul of Malta for Victoria
- 21 Sept 2017 Malta Independence Day function

Bingo sessions and canteen services

The MCCV Social Committee, led by the Vice President Joseph Stafrace, has continued to conduct regular bingo sessions and serving Maltese meals from the MCCV canteen at the Maltese Centre in Parkville on Friday evenings.

Bingo sessions provide a great opportunity for socialisation for older community members. Recently a number of patrons attending our bingo sessions have increased substantially. We are most appreciative of the efforts of our Social Secretary Rita Pullicino for managing these bingo sessions. Proceeds from such activities and the sale of frozen Maltese food products, such as, *pastizzi*, *ravjul*, *qassatat* and *qagħaq tal-għasel* and other varieties of biscuits, assist Council in raising funds to be applied towards our welfare programs as well as maintenance costs and outgoings on our Parkville and Sunshine premises.

On behalf of the MCCV I wish to thank Joseph Stafrace and his team of volunteers consisting of Andrew Gatt, Lina Stafrace, Maurice and Carmen Spiteri, Rita Pullicino, Antonia (Lina) Camilleri. Callers at the bingo sessions Gejtu Deguara, Joe Sammut, and John Sultana have been appreciated for their commitment and their contribution.

Maltese media broadcasts

Council continue to enjoy their patronage of Maltese Broadcasters, who ensure that our Community is kept well informed and are always willing to broadcast notices, prepared by the MCCV for upcoming events.

The Maltese Down Under TV program broadcast on the local TV channel 31 every Sunday afternoon has impacted greatly on the community including young community members. We congratulate the directors and producers of this program, Marlene Scicluna, a prominent former SBS radio broadcaster and Mark Avellino for their outstanding productions which have benefitted the community greatly.

There are a number of community radio stations in Victoria broadcasting in the Maltese Language.

A total of 10 hours are broadcasts in Maltese each week on the following community stations.

The SBS2 FM radio station broadcasts for 2 hours each week in the Maltese Language on Tuesdays and Fridays at 12 noon.

We wish to thank producer and broadcaster Joe Axiaq for his long time commitment in providing an excellent service to the Maltese Community in Australia.

Bereavements

During the past year the Maltese community in Victoria farewelled several of its prominent members, including:

- Charles Belli 18 December 2016 – 84 years of age
- Fra' Richard Divall 15 January 2017 – 71 years of age
- Carmen Testa 11 April 2017 – 83 years of age
- Anthony (Tony) Zarb 19 May 2017 – 82 years of age
- Fr Claudio Borg 17 June 2017 – 91 years of age
- John Zammit 20 July 2017 – 91 years of age
- Fr Joe Pulis 28 August 2017 – 85 years of age
- Daphne Caruana Galizia 16 October 2017 – 53 years of age

Missionary Society of St Paul

Council is most appreciative of its continued partnership with the Missionary Society of St Paul (MSSP) and the assistance and spiritual leadership provided by its members. The Australian Provincial Fr. Ivano Burdian, Fr. Edwin Agius, Fr. Emmanuel Adami and Fr. Lonni Borg.

We also wish to thank Fr. John Taliana and Fr. Denis Carabott from St. Bernadette's parish in North Sunshine for their assistance and support.

Rev. Fr. Dr Victor Shields visited Melbourne from June to September 2017 to provide assistance to the Society and community members.

Through its association with the MSSP Council is able to monitor the needs and concerns of our community especially the aged.

We sincerely thank our Chaplain Fr. Edwin Agius for the spiritual leadership and advise given to the Council and its Executive as well as his tireless efforts in administering to members of the Maltese Community in the Melbourne and metropolitan area.

Those attending our Planned Activity Programs are grateful to him for celebrating Mass at their sessions.

Annual Meeting of the Council for Maltese Living Abroad

MCCV Vice President Dr Edwin Borg-Manché and immediate past President of the MCCV, Professor Maurice Cauchi, are the Maltese Community representative on the Council for the Maltese Living Abroad (CMLA). They attended at the Council's annual meeting called by the Malta Minister of Foreign Affairs held at the Ministry in Valletta, Malta in October 2017.

During these meetings they are in a position to inform and advise Government on the needs of members of the Maltese community living in Victoria and making recommendations which they consider appropriate.

Their term of office expires on 8 July 2018. The MCCV proposes to make recommendations for the Committees membership at the appropriate time.

We wish to thank Dr Edwin Borg-Manché and Professor Maurice Cauchi for their contribution to the Council in Malta and advancement of the Maltese Community in this State.

Malta High Commissioner and Consul General for Victoria

The MCCV wishes to acknowledge the assistance given to Council throughout the year by the High Commission for Malta in Canberra, His Excellency Mr. Charles Muscat and members of his staff.

Mr. Victor Grech the Consul General in Victoria has been most helpful and provided his assistance whenever approached. He is a regular attendant at Councils functions and Community Festas. He completed his term of office in June 2017.

We thank him for his continued support.

Council also wishes to acknowledge the contributions of the Honorary Consuls Dr. Edwin Borg-Manche and Mr. Mario Sammut to the Maltese Community in Victoria.

Council welcomed the newly appointed Ms. Joanna Pisani as the Honorary Consul for Malta who commenced her term of office in August 2017. We acknowledge her efforts and wish her every success in her term of office. We also acknowledge the assistance of members of her staff.

Special thanks

I wish to conclude this report by extending my sincere and heartfelt thanks to members of my Executive Committee for their efforts throughout the year. They have been extremely loyal to me and their commitment to our common cause to look after and safeguard the Maltese Community interests is to be commended.

I am extremely pleased over the efforts of those committee members, who attend the centre at Parkville almost on a daily basis to assist in the management and planning of our various welfare and other activities. I also thank those Committee members who have taken responsibility for various aspects of our Welfare Program who with the assistance of our team of volunteers continue to provide excellent services to our clients and their families.

I wish to acknowledge the efforts of our two Vice presidents Mr. Joseph Stafrace and Dr Edwin Borg-Manché and Treasurer Mr. Paul Borg. Their assistance is appreciated.

Joseph Stafrace has made an excellent job in managing the Parkville and Sunshine premises and has maintained these venues at a very high standard.

Dr Edwin Borg-Manché has also carried the responsibility for the publication of our newsletter and maintenance of our website and our Facebook page.

To our Secretary Mr. Andrew Gatt our congratulations for his attendance to the administrative requirements of the Council as well as Mrs Antonia Camilleri for her assistance in the Welfare Program particularly in the Aged Care Facility Home Visitation Scheme and Carers Group.

To our Welfare Director Mrs. Rosemary Attard for her ongoing commitment to our Welfare programs and in particularly Memory lane café co-ordination we are all grateful.

Our Social Secretary Mr. Rita Pullicino has maintained a great social activities program at her weekly management of the bingo sessions have resulted in considerable income to Council.

Finally, I wish to thank all members of our staff the Administrative Assistant Irene Grillo for her efficient attendance at the administrative office, Maree Rizzo as Co-ordinator of our PAG program and her support workers, Margaret Mallia, Rose Nuner, Mary Bolland, Neil Illsley, Frank Abela, and the volunteers.

60 years of service to the community

In 2018 the MCCV will be celebrating the 60th anniversary of its establishment with an enviable record of service to the Maltese community in this State.

Victor Borg
President, MCCV

Community Services

The Maltese Community Council of Victoria has as one of its objects the provision of welfare services to members of the Maltese Community in the State of Victoria.

Planned Activity Group (PAG)

The Planned Activity Group meet 5 times a week in Parkville and Sunshine and service Maltese frail older people and people with disabilities who reside in the Northern and Western regions of Melbourne. PAG's main priorities include keeping people active, maintaining their personal independence and enabling social connections with others in the community.



MCCV PAG caters to the cultural needs of our clients by providing nutritious meals, engaging activities and providing transportation.

Activities for 2017 have included regular gentle exercise, art and crafts, games and celebrations, guest speakers and the establishment of a knitting club.

Regular outings were also organised for all participants at a variety of different venues.

The development of bi monthly newsletter specifically for participants proved very popular. This newsletter included important information relating to Aged Care and Ageing, photographs and interviews with participants, recipes, poems, articles and birthday celebrations. Participants were invited to contribute to the newsletter and the response has been very positive.

The MCCV undertook a quality review at the end of 2016 to assess the performance of the planned Activity social support program against each of the 18 expected outcomes of the Community Care Common Standards as set out in the Quality Care Principles 2014 based on the assessment conducted during the quality review.



When the final report was submitted to the MCCV by the Australian Aged Care Quality Agency, all 18 standards had been met and the MCCV management and administration were commended on their hard work and efficiency of record keeping and governance. Some recommendations were put forward and the MCCV Welfare Department have put these into place during 2017.

The PAG Support Workers and volunteers continue to perform outstanding work in all areas of the PAG program. Their dedication and duty of care is exceptional. PAG staff have demonstrated leadership skills and excellent working relationships this year.

Staff and volunteers participated in training sessions during 2017, including, First Aid Level 2, confidentiality and duty of care and Client Incident Management and Reporting.

Staff meetings were held on a regular basis where discussions around improvements to program, planning of meals and activities and client issues were addressed.

Overall, the MCCV Planned Activity Social Support Program had a successful and productive year and looks forward to furthering improvements and innovative strategies in 2018.

Maree Rizzo

Coordinator Planned Activity Group, MCCV

Memory Lane Café – sponsored by Alzheimer’s Australia (Victoria)

Memory Lane Café is sponsored by Alzheimer’s Australia (Vic), whose aim is to bring together people from communities of different nationalities, who suffer from Alzheimer’s disease, every month to enjoy each other company for a few hours.



The groups are from the Macedonian, Vietnamese, Polish, Chinese and Maltese communities. Each group hosts a light lunch and some cultural entertainment twice a year.

In September 2017 Her Excellency Ms Linda Dessau, Governor of Victoria, joined the groups with her husband former County Court Judge Mr Anthony Howard QC. It was a highly enjoyable event, which was hosted by the Polish community.

The Maltese community averages around five guests a month. We would like to have more Maltese people participating in a day of Multiculturalism with the other groups. Anyone who is interested and / or knows of anyone who would be, please contact the Maltese Centre in Parkville on (03) 9387 8922 and we will put your name down and contact details to communicate with you about the next meeting. Transport can be arranged for those who require it.

Rosemary Attard

Director of Welfare Services, MCCV

Home Visitation Scheme and aged care facilities

During the past year, the MCCV continued to run its program of visiting aged care facilities in the Melbourne Metropolitan area, where there are number of Maltese residents. This has become an extremely popular program, particularly for those residents who have limited visits by relatives or friends.

During these visits residents are updated on community affairs, Maltese news and provide information for use by residents. During our visits we provided residents with Maltese delicacies eg: soft drinks (Kinnie), *galletti*, and Maltese almond biscuits and cakes.

Residents are also advised on our mobile library and their ability to access the same.

Staff members are also advised that Council can make presentations relating to Maltese Culture, traditions, Maltese food etc.

The program is generally conducted by MCCV President Victor Borg and MCCV Assistant Secretary, Antonia Camilleri.

Aged care facilities visited during the year included: Overton Lea Sydenham, Hestia Care and Rosary Home at Keilor Downs.

Council received a grant of \$5000 from the State Department of Premier and Cabinet for the MCCV friendly Maltese Visitors Program.

Antonia Camilleri
Assistant Secretary, MCCV



Visiting the Water Gardens Aged Care facility (Heritage Care in Sydenham).



Visiting the Rosary Home Aged Care facility in Keilor Downs.

Maltese Community Centre

The Maltese Community Centre in Parkville and the other MCCV centre in Sunshine are used by MCCV clients for various welfare program events as well as by members of the Maltese community for events organised by the MCCV and its affiliated associations.

The MCCV continued with its maintenance program for these premises in Parkville and Sunshine. It is important that both locations are properly maintained to ensure that it meets and complies with all Occupational Health and Safety standards and regulations.

The MCCV obtained a grant from the State Government to assist with infrastructure projects. The upgrading of the kitchen at Parkville (pictured right) was duly completed at a cost of \$52,000. Council met one half of these costs from its savings.

Council are presently undergoing upgrading of our plumbing system at our Sunshine premises.

Council looks forward to some financial support from its members to ensure that our properties and assets are maintained at a high standard.

Council acknowledges the efforts of our maintenance team of volunteers: Freddie Asciak, Joe Azzopardi and many others who come forward to assist when the need arises.



Council wishes to thank our Friday Night Bingo volunteers group, be it in the kitchen or on the floor running the bingo. Thank you for your continuous support, as without your help we would not be able to serve our patrons.

Joseph Stafrace

Vice President, MCCV

Maltese Language Classes

Beginners and a Composite Intermediate/Advanced class. The MCCV tutors for the Language classes for Semester 2 were Laura Schembri and Alexandra Scibberras. Edwidge Borg was the co-ordinator and emergency tutor and instructor. Twenty eight Students registered for Semester 2, 2016 .

All tutors were keen to continue with their professional development. In October 2016 Laura Schembri and Edwidge Borg attended the Federation of Maltese Language classes Professional (FMLS) Development Seminar in NSW. The tutors met with teachers from New South Wales and Queensland and exchanged experiences and resources.



The demand for Maltese Language classes increased considerably. In Semester 1, 2017 we had a record number of thirty-eight students. The increase in numbers allowed us to recruit a new teacher. Three classes were offered, Beginners, Intermediate and Advanced/Composite. In February 2017, Mary Diele joined the group of eager Maltese Language Tutors at MCCV. Mrs Diele started teaching the intermediate class. Mrs Borg mentored Mrs Diele during the induction period.

At the end of each Semester, students brought a plate of Maltese food and beverages to share. Students were encouraged to research forms of Maltese cuisine as part to their cultural heritage learning.



In addition to their textbooks and electronic media; students are advised of and encouraged to subscribe to the various Maltese Australian Media, such as, the MCCV website and newsletter, *The Voice of the Maltese*, Maltese E-Newsletter, Grupp Letteratura Maltija Tal-Victoria and Maltese Radio programs. Several students used the MCCV library, which is open on Thursdays nights during the MCCV Maltese Language scholastic year.

The Maltese Language Classes are seeking more teachers to support the growing demand for learning the Maltese Language.

Edwidge Borg

Coordinator MCCV - Maltese Language Classes

Public Relations

Eighth Meeting of the Council for Maltese Living Abroad held in Malta



Photo: John Pisani - MFTP

The Council for Maltese Living Abroad (CMLA) held its eighth annual meeting over two days on 19 and 20 October 2017 at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Trade Promotion in Valletta. The meeting was the first one presided over by Minister Carmelo Abela, as *ex officio* chairman of the Council, who was appointed to the portfolio following the last general elections.

In his opening address Minister Abela welcomed the Council members and spoke about a new reality that exists today in which there are Maltese communities residing overseas for only a number of years, instead of emigrating for good, as used to happen in the past. Their needs must also be taken care of.

Minister Abela said that future CMLA meetings should be planned in a manner that takes this new reality into account with the Council becoming more conscious of the aspirations of the Maltese and alter the way it works.

The Minister referred to four guiding principles of foreign policy that relate to relations with the Maltese diaspora:

- the guarantee of regular and closer consultations with Maltese living abroad;
- the strengthening of political and commercial relations with countries where Maltese reside;
- the encouragement of the role that Maltese living abroad to support the promotion of Malta, particularly its commercial and business facilities;
- the facilitation of the work and activities of the CMLA.

Minister Abela said that the Maltese Government is committed to these principles and this commitment is reflected in its electoral programme, which mentions the strengthening and broadening of relations with Maltese living abroad through the CMLA and, make sure that in these consultations, there is an increased involvement of youth and children of Maltese migrants in order to create stronger links with the younger generations.

Meeting Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was wide-ranging and covered over 30 topics. Among these were:

- the long delays in the processing of Maltese citizenship applications,
- the continuation of Consul-on-the-Move programme,
- the digital platform for the teaching of the Maltese language,
- the teaching of the history of Maltese emigration in schools in Malta,
- the introduction of new words (neo-logisms) in the Maltese language,
- the establishment of a Maltese Cultural Institute,
- the effect of the new Maltese planning laws as they impact on Maltese property owners living abroad,
- the impact of Maltese income tax laws on Maltese living abroad,
- the setting up of registers of organisations and prominent Maltese living overseas,
- banking services by Maltese banks for Maltese communities abroad,
- the setting of a CMLA website,
- applications for funds from the EU for the benefit of organisations supporting Maltese living abroad
- the roadmap for Maltese diaspora relations with Malta,
- proposals for amendments to Act XX of 2011 which set up the CMLA, and
- dual citizenship and how it might impact the eligibility of Maltese-Australians to contest elections for the Australian parliament.



Above: CMLA Members with Malta's Minister for Foreign Affairs Minister Carmelo Abela (centre standing) and Ministry staff.

MCCV newsletter

Six editions of the MCCV newsletter *MCCV News* were published during the past year. The newsletter was circulated by email to over 1,000 readers locally and overseas and is available for download from the MCCV website. Detailed news reports were published in the newsletter on various MCCV and Maltese community events that took place during the year. The editorial team consists of MCCV Vice President, Dr Edwin Borg-Manché, as Editor and Andrew Gatt, as Sub-Editor.

MCCV website and Facebook page

The MCCV website, which is maintained by Dr Edwin Borg-Manché, continues to be well received both in Australia and overseas. During the past 12 months our website had over 100,000 visitors from around the world who viewed the website and made over 950,000 visits. The MCCV also has a Facebook page which has over 1,000 followers.

Edwin Borg-Manché

Vice President, MCCV

Member, Council for Maltese Living Abroad

MCCV Library

This year the Library at the Maltese Community Centre has continued to provide a service to the general public through the provision of an extensive availability of books on all aspects that could be of interest to the Maltese public.

New books have been added to the library, and the whole system has been accessible on computer to make searches and administration of the books more efficient.

The Library is available both as a reference library as well as a lending library, and most books can be borrowed by members of the general public, including children.

We have also started a 'book-on-wheels' system for those who are home-bound, the sick, and those who for any reason cannot attend physically at the Maltese Centre in Parkville. It is hoped that this service will be found to be beneficial to those in need.



Some challenges, however, still remain, the largest being the reduced attraction of reading particularly by the elder members of the public, as well as the challenges presented by electronic media to the younger members. However, we hope to meet these challenges by adding to the collection of books and by introducing other media, including in particular a system of 'talking books', which contain spoken material, particularly for those who have poor eyesight or who for any reason find reading difficult.

No doubt the greatest loss this year has been the passing away of Mr Charles Belli who for years has been the person most involved in ensuring that the Library is functioning normally. He has had to deal with the mammoth task of entering all the thousands of books onto the computer, to start and work on the Dewey system of classification, and in every way to ensure that the Library is functioning as such over the years. We thank Mr Belli for his invaluable contribution: he will be sorely missed.

It is hoped that members of the public will make themselves available to ensure that the library is open for the public more frequently and for longer hours.

Prof. Maurice Cauchi
Library Co-ordinators

Ladies Auxiliary

The main aim of the Ladies Auxiliary (LA) group of the Maltese Community Council of Victoria (MCCV) is to assist and support the MCCV in its provision of welfare services to the Maltese Community at large.



During 2016/2017 the Ladies Auxiliary (LA) continued to provide financial funding to the MCCV for welfare services. The contribution to the MCCV is predominantly supported by a small group of Bingo enthusiasts, who attend sessions on Tuesdays commencing on the 1st Tuesday in February and concluding on the 2nd Tuesday in December. They look forward to the social gatherings and enjoy playing bingo in a more relaxed atmosphere. During the year their birthdays are celebrated as well as special event days such as, Shrove Tuesday, St Patrick's Day, Easter and Christmas.

In 2017, the bingo group welcomed some new members.

Earlier in the year, the LA together with the Bingo members decided to celebrate an additional event, Christmas in July. The lunch was well received and enjoyed by everyone - Roast chicken, salad, bread roll and for desert sticky date pudding and chocolate cake was provided. The Luncheon was provided at no cost to the attendees.

The LA is very busy during the months of November and December. They prepare and organize the Aged Care Christmas Luncheon together with the PEG staff. An invitation to the Tuesday bingo members is extended to attend the luncheon. During the day donated items are raffled and the money collected supports the expenses on the day.

The LA appreciates and recognises the support of all the committee members, their partners and volunteers. Their achievements cannot be fulfilled without their assistance and dedication.

In December 2016, the Treasurer and Vice President Theresa Tabone handed in her resignation. Theresa was a member of the LA for many years. The LA is grateful for her support and dedication throughout the years. Thank you, Theresa! In February 2017, Lina Dingli was nominated, and she accepted the position of Treasurer.

The LA hopes to continue its Tuesday Bingo session and looks forward to receiving new members in 2018. Everyone is welcome!

Committee members

The Ladies Auxiliary Committee consists of:

- Marlene Xerri, *President*
- Therese Tabone, *Treasurer/Vice President* (until December 2016)
- Lina Dingli, *Treasurer* (from February 2017)
- Mary Cefai, *Member*
- Inez Mifsud, *Member*

Marlene Xerri

President, Ladies Auxiliary

Appendix A – Community Highlights 2016-17

Sunday 18 June 2017

Farewell reception for Malta's Consul General Victor Grech on completion of term of office

In a Farewell Reception held on Sunday 18 June 2017 at the Maltese Community Centre in Parkville, members of the Melbourne Maltese community joined the MCCV in farewelling the outgoing Consul General of Malta for the State of Victoria, Mr Victor Grech. His term of office concludes at the end of June, after serving for almost four years.

Among those present were the Honorary Consul of Malta for the State of Victoria Dr Edwin Borg Manch ; the MCCV President, Mr Victor Borg; the Superior General of the Missionary Society of St Paul Fr Mark Grima mssp; MSSP Provincial, Fr Ivano Burdian mssp; members of the MCCV Executive



Committee and presidents of affiliated associations. MC for the event was Mr George Saliba.

MCCV President Mr Victor Borg welcomed those present to the community event to mark the end of the term of office of Mr Victor Grech as Consul General.

Mr Borg briefly spoke about Mr Grech diplomatic career, having served in various posts overseas, including Brussels and London on behalf of the Maltese government before his posting to Victoria in October 2013. Mr Grech is a senior member of the public service which he joined in 1976.

Mr Borg said that he is always pleased to see a career diplomat posted to the State of Victoria as it raises the status of the Maltese community in Melbourne.

Mr Borg said that Mr Grech impressed our community because he took part in just about every social activity in Victoria. "There is one thing about the Maltese community: if you become Consul General and you can't dance, you'll learn how to dance before you go home because we have so many associations and their social activities every year," he said.

Mr Borg referred to Mr Grech's personal involvement in the Consul-on-the-move programme by travelling to various locations in Australia and New Zealand to accept Maltese citizenship and passports from Maltese citizens living in or near places where there is no Maltese diplomatic or consular presence with the required biometric equipment. This saved these people from incurring significant travel and accommodation costs that they would otherwise have incurred to obtain these services.

Mr Grech travelled to Western Australia, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Northern Territory and New Zealand to deliver these consular services under this programme.

Mr Borg wished Mr Grech well on his next appointment. "You certainly showed a lot of effort and wisdom and we always welcomed your counsel from time to time. As a community, we've had a very close relationship with you and we regard you as one of our own," he said.

Mr Borg said that, on his recent visit to Malta, he caught up with former Consuls General in served in Melbourne, Angele Azzopardi and Charles Mifsud, both of whom spoke very highly of Australia. He said that he is "sure that the same thing will happen with Mr Grech, who will in future recall his time in Australia as one of great experience, meeting another large section of the Maltese community, knowing that we still hold Malta in our hearts and we still believe we are part of the larger global Maltese communities."

Finally, Mr Borg thanked Mr Grech for all his efforts and wished him and his family well in the future.

Next to speak was MSSP Provincial Fr Ivano Burdian, who, on behalf of his MSSP brothers, thanked Mr Grech for the very good relationship that was established and the service that he provided to the Maltese community during his tenure of office. Mr Grech was always ready to help when needed. He invited Mr Grech to visit the MSSP in St Agatha's at Rabat and to maintain an ongoing relationship.

In his reply address, Mr Grech said that for every beginning of a posting commitment there is an end. He thanked the MCCV for holding a farewell reception for him. He said it was unusual to get such a farewell at the end of a posting and the only one he could recall was in Strasbourg.

Mr Grech said that during the term of office it is assisting and guiding people who experience problems that motivates him in carrying out the duties of Consul General. He was looking forward with confidence that he would be able to serve well when appointed to the role.

Mr Grech said that the work of the Consul General is broadly divided into two areas: first, assisting in, and protecting, Maltese national interests and Maltese-Australians, and second, the promotion of trade, investment, tourism, and cultural exchanges between Malta and the host state, in this case, the State of Victoria.

The first, assisting in, and protecting, Maltese national interests and Maltese-Australians, consists of an ongoing service. He continued on the work of his predecessors to whom he wanted to pay his respects and thank them for the work they had done in this area.

Mr Grech said that he and his staff always go the extra mile to serve the community. During his term of office his office received and processed about 3,500 passport applications, and over 400 Maltese citizenship applications.

Mr Grech then spoke about his role in Consul-on-the-move, a programme which was launched in May 2016 and he was committed to make successful. During his visits to the various locations he delivered about 300 consular services. The programme was well coordinated by the Malta High Commission in Canberra.

To promote trade and investments, as part of the Consular Corps, Mr Grech attended various events organised by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Victoria. These included visits to Gippsland region, Phillip Island, Mildura, Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong and the Peter MacCallum Cancer Research Centre in Melbourne.

During his term of office Mr Grech was involved in visits to Melbourne by Opposition Leader, Dr Simon Busuttil, in November 2013 and by the President of Malta, Her Excellency Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca in July 2016.

Mr Grech also assisted the Honourable Bruce Atkinson, the President of the Legislative Council of Victoria, for a 3-day visit to Malta, which was very successful.



Mr Grech recalled his office's support in conjunction with the youth organisation Generation Australian Maltese (GAM) in promoting and showing the popular Maltese feature film, Simshar, in Melbourne. He also referred to other cultural exchanges that he promoted during his term.

Mr Grech thanked all those involved in the teaching of the Maltese language. He praised the work of the Maltese Language Teachers Association of Victoria (MLTAV) under the leadership of Mark Bonello and the work of the MCCV led by Edwidge Borg to encourage the learning of our language. He thanked Malta's Education Minister Evarist Bartolo who approved a grant of about 10,000 Euros in 2015 to the MLTAV.

Mr Grech thanked MCCV President Victor Borg for his dedication and energy and his predecessor Prof. Maurice Cauchi, for their support. He thanked the media and the religious orders for their invaluable services to the community. Mr Borg then presented Mr Grech with a small gift as a farewell memento.

Sunday 18 June 2017

Presentation of MCCV Community Awards 2016

The second part of proceedings at the Consul General's farewell reception held on 18 June at the Maltese Centre in Parkville consisted of the presentation of the MCCV Community Awards 2016.

In 2012 the MCCV established its annual MCCV Community Awards to publicly recognise, and show its appreciation for, the valuable contribution of Maltese people to the enrichment of the Maltese community in Victoria, whether by their contribution to scholarship, education, welfare services, culture, the arts and generally to the wellbeing of our Maltese community.

This year the MCCV honoured seven members of our community who have made a significant contribution to various aspects of our community life. The Awards were presented to the successful nominees, namely:

- *Education & Scholarship:* **Prof. Maurice Cauchi**
- *Culture:* **Mr Alfred Cachia** and **Ms Marlene Scicluna** (*in absentia*)
- *Welfare Services:* **Fr Edwin Agius mssp**
- *General services to the community:* **Mr Vincent Calleja**, **Mrs Marlene Xerri** and **Mr Charles Belli**

PROF. MAURICE CAUCHI



Prof **Maurice Cauchi** was born in Għarb, Gozo in 1936. He studied at the Lyceum and Royal University of Malta and graduated MD in 1961. The following year he proceeded to the UK to pursue further studies and obtained his M.Sc and Ph.D in Cancer Research at the Royal Marsden Hospital, University of London in 1967.

In 1969 Prof Cauchi proceeded to Melbourne, Australia to take up the post of Senior Lecturer in Pathology at Monash University. Later he was appointed Director of Haematology and Immunology at the Royal Women's Hospital in Melbourne, and Clinical Associate Professor at both the University of Melbourne and Monash University Medical Schools.

In 1992 Prof Cauchi returned to Malta and was appointed Professor of Pathology, Chairman of the Bioethics Consultative Committee in the Ministry of Health, and Chairman of the Gozo Health Council. After 11 years living in Malta, Prof Cauchi returned to Australia in 2003.

Prof Cauchi has represented the MCCV on various committees both in Australia and overseas. His current membership of the Council for Maltese Living Abroad and his past presidency of the Federation of Maltese Living Abroad are an indication of his commitment and involvement.

Prof Cauchi has also maintained a regular contribution to Maltese newspapers, particularly in relation to issues affecting Maltese living overseas. For three years, between 1988 and 1991, Prof Cauchi was Chairman of the Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria which represents the interests of all Victorian residents born overseas.

Prof Cauchi served as MCCV President for a total period of fourteen years, including the two consecutive terms of two years each ending in 2014. For many years, he has organised and directed the development of the MCCV library at the Maltese Centre, in Parkville, which contains the largest collection of books and other publications about Malta, its history, culture and literature outside Malta. Prof Cauchi continues to support MCCV initiatives and to serve the Maltese community in Victoria and overseas.

His other community commitments have included: President of the Maltese Literature Group (1984-1986); President of the Federated Maltese Council of Australia (1988-1991); Chairman of the Commission for Maltese Abroad (Ministry for Social Policy, Malta 1992-1994) and Chairman of the Malta Migration Museum (2001-2003) (www.maltamigration.com).

For his services to the community, in 1991 Prof Cauchi was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM). In 1992 the Maltese Government awarded Prof Cauchi the *Medalja għall-Qadi tar-Repubblika* (MQR), the 'Medal for Services to the Republic' of Malta.

Over the years, Prof Cauchi made a significant contribution to scholarship and education and gave a high profile to the Maltese community. He has written and published several books on health, migration and various aspects of Maltese community and culture.

His impressive list of books and publications relating to migration include: *Maltese Migrants in Australia* (1990), *The Maltese Migrant Experience* (1999), *Worlds Apart – Migration in Modern English Literature* (2002), *Maltese Achievers in Australia* (2006), *A Who's Who of Maltese-Background Persons in Australia and New Zealand* (2008), *Under One Umbrella: A History of the Maltese Community Council of Victoria 1958-2008* (2009).

MR ALFRED CACHIA



Alfred Cachia was born in Zebbug, Malta in 1939. At 20 years of age in 1959 he married his wife Victoria (Vicky) and they have four children, 7 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren.

Alfred is a skilled carpenter and in Malta he specialized in carpentry work in various churches. He also attended the school of arts, design and carving. He is passionate about Maltese culture and folklore.

Alfred arrived in Australia on the 6th January 1963 and was initially employed as a carpenter and joiner. He later specialised in the manufacture of quality and reproduction furniture.

Among the quality furniture that Alfred produced are the altar, the pews and the Bambina niche in St Paul's Chapel in Parkville.

Some 35 years ago Alfred achieved his dream and built his house at Hoppers Crossing in the style of a Maltese farm house. Many community members have enjoyed his hospitality and companionship.

Alfred is extremely competent in the Maltese language and an accomplished poet. For many years, he has been a keen member of the Maltese Literature group, regularly participating in presentations of the group and presenting some of his work.

Alfred is also an accomplished musician. He is a member of the Klabb Għannejja Maltin and regularly takes part in għana sessions playing his folk guitar, which he himself designed and manufactured.

Amongst other hobbies Alfred is a keen motor cyclist and enjoys regular runs in the Victorian Countryside.

During the construction of the Parkville Centre he was of great assistance to the planning committee and carried out odd jobs as required.

Alfred has been exemplary and a good role model for many young members of the community.

MS MARLENE SCICLUNA (awarded in absentia & presented on 21 September 2017)



Marlene Scicluna was born in Sydney in 1969 of an Aboriginal mother and an American father. When she was three years of age, she was adopted by a Maltese couple and taken to Malta, where she was brought up in the village of Xagħra in Gozo.

Marlene was very active in Performing Arts. At the young age of six, she started singing in local Song Contests and won

several festivals. She also performed in numerous stage productions in Xagħra directed by Chevalier Julian Refalo Rapa.

Marlene's interest in, and contribution to, Maltese culture started while she was living in Gozo. In the first half of the 1990s she volunteered as a Choreographer for Carnival dances and stage productions in the village of Xagħra in 1994 and for stage productions at the Oratory of Don Bosco in Victoria in 1996.

Between 1993 and 1998 Marlene worked as a Physical Education Teacher at St Francis Primary School, Victoria, Gozo.

In 1989, Marlene was introduced to broadcasting by Joe Borg Ghigo in the weekly PBS Radio magazine from Gozo – *Mill-Gzira ta' Calypso* – formerly known as *Mit-Tokk t'Għawdex*. She was the presenter for 10 years until 1998.

For six years following her return to Australia in 1998, Marlene was the choreographer for the Young Maltese Australian Dancers, a group of 20 young Australians of Maltese descent, performing Maltese traditional dances at various multicultural events around Melbourne.

In Australia, Marlene settled in Victoria and resumed her career in broadcasting. She started off as a contributor for Maltese Language Programs on SBS Radio and in 2001 became a permanent Broadcast Journalist.

During her 14 years in that role at SBS Radio, Marlene made a significant contribution to culture within the Maltese community in Australia. With her professionalism as a broadcaster and her mastery of the Maltese language, she became a household name among the Maltese in Melbourne.

For 10 years, she was the Senior Producer for the Maltese Language Program, a position she held until the rescheduling of programs on SBS Radio in 2013, when Maltese language programs were reduced from 9 hours to 2 hours per week. She soon returned to SBS Radio for another two years, after SBS agreed to temporarily restore two one-hour Maltese language programs per week until 2015.

As broadcaster at SBS Radio, Marlene interviewed numerous Maltese and Australian personalities, including Presidents and Prime Ministers of Malta and other visiting Maltese politicians, musicians and artists.

She has also presented numerous community events both in Malta and Australia. Marlene attended two Conventions for Maltese Living Abroad in Malta, both as a main speaker and as a reporter for SBS Radio.

In 2011 Marlene co-founded *nisġa*, a not-for-profit organisation set up to promote and enhance Maltese culture and cuisine in Melbourne. *nisġa* organises an annual Maltese Cook Off competition, where 10 teams made up of 3 members cook Maltese traditional dishes.

More recently, Marlene was Director, Executive Producer, Presenter & Editor of *Maltese DownUnder*, a Maltese cultural TV show produced in Melbourne and aired on the community TV Channel 31.

The program showcased Maltese cultural heritage, the arts, music, food, travel, cultural events and sport. Its aim was to inform and entertain its audience through stories that inspire and strengthen the pride of all Maltese Australians.

Some segments were presented in Maltese for Maltese native speakers and some in English for the younger generation of Australians of Maltese descent wishing to know more about their Maltese family heritage. Unfortunately, the program had to be discontinued due to a lack of sponsorship.

FR EDWIN AGIUS mssp



Fr Edwin Agius mssp was born in Malta. He joined the Missionary Society of St Paul as an aspirant at the age of 12 years. He commenced his novitiate in 1961 and was ordained in Malta on the 22 March 1969.

Following his ordination, he was appointed as a teacher at St Paul's Missionary College in Malta.

He arrived in Australia on the 4th February 1971 as an assistant Priest at St Bernadette Parish in Sunshine.

In 1981 he returned to Malta and was appointed as the Master of Novices. He became a member of the MSSP General Council and in 1994 was appointed as the director of St Joseph's Home in Hamrun.

In 1995 Fr Agius returned to Australia initially as an assistant priest and in 1998 became the Parish Priest of St Bernadette Parish in Sunshine.

In 2004 he was appointed Chaplain to the Maltese at Parkville and later the Rector at Parkville. He served for two terms as a member of the Provincial Council.

Since his arrival at Parkville, Fr Agius has been Chaplain for the Maltese Community Council of Victoria and has worked tirelessly in providing religious services to the community. He has

given great spiritual leadership and comfort to many members of the Maltese and general community.

Fr Agius is also on a roster for the Royal Melbourne Hospital where he attends at short notice and at all hours of the day.

He has been extremely helpful in providing weekly masses for the MCCV Planned Activity Groups at Sunshine and Parkville. He is constantly in demand to officiate at marriage celebrations, baptisms and requiem masses.

He is also the director of the Spiritual Program and responsible for organising religious activities at St Paul's Chapel for Christmas, Easter, Maltese feast days and days of obligation. He maintains a meaningful contact with Maltese families who seek his counsel from time to time. He is a much-respected member of the community.

Fr Agius attends MCCV Executive and Council Meetings on a regular basis. His contribution is very much appreciated.

MR VINCENT CALLEJA



Vincent Calleja was born in 1931 in Valletta, Malta and married his wife Lillian in 1953. They had 2 children, Maria and Natalin, 2 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren.

At the age of 18 years Vincent joined the Malta Police Force, an occupation which he held until his departure for Australia in 1955.

Vincent arrived in Australia on the 10th March 1955. Amongst his occupations, Vincent joined the Australian Post Office as a postman and later promoted to the investigation section, becoming a senior security officer. He retired in 1988 aged 57.

Vincent was a founding member of the Newport Maltese Association together with other prominent Maltese Community members living in the Newport area. For some 22 years Vincent served the

Association as a Vice President and held the position of President between 1994 and 2010.

Vince served the Maltese Community Council of Victoria initially as the Social Secretary and for 6 years held the office of Vice President.

Vincent has for some 25 years assisted with organising the Maltese Cultural festival and was heavily involved with the running of Bingo sessions at the Maltese Centre in Parkville.

Vincent and his recently deceased wife Lillian were a formidable team in raising funds and running activities at the Maltese Community Centre. Their regular visits to the Centre and their involvement in all activities was a clear indication of their commitment and their dedication to the advancement of members of the Maltese community.

Vincent was awarded the Medal for Meritorious to the Community and the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for his outstanding voluntary contributions to the Maltese Community in Victoria.

MRS MARLENE XERRI

Marlene Xerri was born in Hamrun, Malta. After the war her family moved to St Julians. In 1964 her family migrated to Melbourne, Australia, initially settling in Thornbury and later moving to Thomastown.



Marlene's first job was in the notes printing and issue branch of the Reserve Bank of Australia. Later, Marlene moved to Unilever as an invoice clerk. In 1967, she married Andrew and left work in 1968 to start a family. Together they have three daughters.

Late in 1970s Marlene became involved with the Maltese Community Council as a volunteer, working in the office at the old house in Parkville, answering phones and help with Social Security (Centrelink) forms. Later Marlene was employed as a Social Worker Aide, working with all the social workers employed by the MCCV. Marlene also worked on other MCCV projects, e.g. the Home Visitation Program.

In 1990 Marlene enrolled at the RMIT campus in Coburg as a mature age student. In 1994 she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Multicultural Studies.

Marlene worked at Centrelink as a bilingual officer on the Multilingual Call Centre line. She later transferred to the Family Call Centre. She was also employed by the National Accreditation Authority

for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI) as an Interpreter for the Maltese Community.

While working, Marlene remained active within the Maltese Community Council Ladies Auxiliary (LA) as a volunteer, as in the role of Treasurer and later as President.

The Ladies Auxiliary provided support during the Maltese Cultural Festival, Fete, and functions for VIPs visiting the Maltese Centre. The Ladies Auxiliary continues to run weekly bingo session on Tuesdays for the aging Maltese in our community which it is an important social & recreational activity.

Marlene has been President of the Ladies auxiliary for over 20 years.

MR CHARLES BELLI (posthumous award)

Charles Belli was born in Msida, Malta in 1932. He was educated at St Aloysius College in Malta. He arrived in Australia in 1954 aged 22 years. He married his wife Doris on the 17th September 1955. They have three children, Raymond, Anthony and Yvonne, seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Charles and his wife built their home in West Street, Glenroy, where they raised their family and have resided since. Shortly after arriving in Australia Charles continued with his education and obtained a Certificate of Civil and Civic Industrial Chemistry (Oxford) at RMIT Melbourne and a Certificate of Business Management at Melbourne University.

Charles worked for over 8 years as Production Assistant and later Production Manager with the Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation. Later he spent almost 20 years at Port Philip Mills in Melbourne as Dye House Manager and Centre Controller.

Charles served on various sport and social committees in Malta and in Melbourne. For some 30 years he held the position of President of the Broadmeadows Soccer Club and other positions on its executive committee.



At its meeting held in October 2016 the MCCV Executive Committee awarded an MCCV Community Award to Charles Belli for Community Services over a period of many years, including his significant contribution to the establishment and management of the MCCV library.

On Thursday 15th December 2016 MCCV President Victor Borg and Vice President Joe Stafrace attended at the Belli home to personally inform and congratulate Charles Belli of the MCCV Community Award, as they had been advised that he was in a poor state of health. He was extremely pleased and expressed his gratitude to the Council for the award.

Sadly, three days later, on Sunday 18th December 2016, Charles Belli passed away peacefully surrounded by his family.

Mr Belli's widow, Mrs Doris Belli, accepted the presentation of the Award Certificate.

Thursday 7, Saturday 9 & Sunday 10 September 2017

The Feast of Maria Bambina celebrated in Melbourne



The Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group Inc. once again organized the Feast of Maria Bambina on behalf of the Missionary Society of St Paul.

On Thursday, 7th September, a mass was concelebrated by Fr. Dr. Victor Shields (MSSP), Fr. Edwin Agius (MSSP) and Fr. Lonnie Borg (MSSP) in the St. Pauls Chapel at the Community Centre in Parkville. The Homily was delivered by Fr. Dr. Victor Shields who at the time was on a visit to Melbourne.

Mass was well attended and this included the President and Executive members of the Maltese Community Council of Victoria. Members of the female section of the Society of Christian Doctrine.

At the conclusion of mass, Fr. Edwin thanked all those who helped including Reskeon Association, and Mr. Alfred Asciak who decorated the Chapel.

After Mass refreshments were served at the Maltese Centre.

On Saturday the 9th September 2017, Reskeon organized the Vittoria dinner dance held at Firenze Receptions in Fawkner. This was attended by 200 members and friends. A number of distinguished guest were in attendance.

Recorded music was provided by DJ King Charlie who played the music enjoyed by young and old and kept everyone on the dance floor throughout the night. The Master of Ceremonies was Mr. Joe Cutajar, a member of the Reskeon Association. He welcomed all those present at the function and thanked the President Salvina Vella for organizing the event. After singing the Maltese and Australian National Anthems a toast for the Bambina Feast was proposed by the Master of Ceremonies with champagne provided for this purpose.

Later in the evening the Maltese Gozo Concert band, under the direction of Ms. Tania Schembri played marches for the occasion to the enjoyment of those attending. This provided the atmosphere of the traditional Maltese festa and enjoyed by everyone.

On Sunday the 11th September 2017 the feast of Maria Bambina was celebrated at St. Marys Star of the Sea Church in West Melbourne. This was organized by the Reskeon Association. The mass was well attended by members of the Maltese Community and those in attendance included the President and members of the MCCV Executive, Chev. Joseph Borg who represented the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Malta with another member of the Order Sisters from Religious Orders and member of the Society of Christian Doctrine.

A large number of Maltese Associations attended with their banners.

Rosary was recited at 3.00pm by Ms Miriam Belli. Mass was concelebrated by Fr. Dennis Carabott (MSSP) Fr. Edwin Agius (MSS), Fr. Dr. Victor Shields (MSSP), Canon Fr. Emmanuel Bonello and Fr. Carmel Borg.

Fr. Lonnie Borg delivered an appropriate homily for the occasion. Music and singing was provided by the Maltese Choir of Victoria under the direction of Mr. Charles Schembri and Ms. Lydia Gusman.

After mass Fr. Edwin thanked all those present and the Reskeon Maltese Association for organizing the feast on their behalf.

The benediction of the Blessed Sacrament followed the mass.

At the conclusion, a procession with the statue of Our Lady, took place in the Streets around the Church.

Refreshments were served at the Community Centre for distinguished guests and helpers from Reskeon Association who had assisted with the preparations for mass as well as transportation of the statue, pedestal and other equipment to St. Mary's Church.

Salvina Vella and Paul Vella

Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group Inc.

Sunday, 17 September 2017

Il-Grupp Letteratura Maltija jipprezenta Programm Muziko-Lettararju



Nhar il-Ħadd, 17 ta' Settembru, il-Grupp Letteratura Maltija tal-Victoria organizza Programm Mużiko-Letterarju, fis-sala taċ-Ċentru Malti f'Parkville, fis-2 pm li għalih attendew madwar 70 membru tal-Komunità Maltija.

Bdejna biex skużajna ruġna minħabba li ma kellniex aċċess għas-"sound system" u lanqas mikrofonu imma xorta waħda kollox mar sewwa.

Din is-sena ma kellniex il-mużiċisti tas-soltu minħabba li kellhom membri l-isptar u oħrajn li kienu msefrin. Imma l-President, Dr Victor Sammut, salvana fl-aħħar minuti u organizza l-mużika u l-kant mill-familja tiegħu li kulhadd ħa pjaċir bihom u veru ħaqqlhom prosit kbir.

Bħas-soltu bdejna bl-Innu Malti u dak Awstraljan fejn it-tifla ta' Victor u Doris Sammut, Amanda Steidle, kantat u daqqet l-Innijiet fuq il-kitarra. Il-PRO, Paul Vella, ta merħba lil dawk prezenti fejn introduċa lill-Viċi President, Marie Louise Anastasi fejn fost affarijiet oħra ntroduċiet lill-President, Dr Victor Sammut li tana rendikont ta' dak li l-Grupp għamel matul is-sena. Huwa fisser

l-għan tal-Grupp, u qal li niltaqgħu darba kull xahar u stieden lil dawk prezenti li forsi jridu jsiru membri. Tkellem fuq il-Folju tagħna li jmur lil madwar 500 ruġ fuq l-internet, organizzat minn Paul Vella bl-għajnuna tal-membri Rose Lofaro.

Wara l-messaġġ tal-President kien imiss lin-neputijiet ta' Victor u Doris li tawna reċta qasira "Jack and the Beanstalk". Ħadu sehem Ronin u Coen (ulied it-tifel Raphael); Zoe u Leo (ta' binthom Amanda) kif ukoll ħadu sehem (kbar) Amanda, Cecilia, Janette u Doris. Din ir-reċta intlaqgħet tajjeb ħafna.

Wara dan beda l-qari. Victor Sammut qralna "Il-Papa u l-Lhud" u "Sabiha l-Ħajja?" u warajh smajna lil Manwel Cassar li qralna numru ta' epigrammi. Rosemary Attard qrat żewġ poeziji ta' Joe Saliba

(illum mejjet), "Barbecue" u "Għasfur tal-Bejt". Filwaqt li Charles Attard qralna żewġ poeżiji ta' Manwel Nicholas-Borg (illum mejjet), "Hmura" u "Tfulija fl-Irgulija"



Wara intervent mużikali minn Amanda, Cecilia u Victor, Rose Lofaro qrat proża ta' Dr Clemente Zammit (li ma setgħax ikun magħna): "Suspetti Bla Rażan".

Wara li Ġużi Camilleri qralna żewġ prożi minn tiegħu, "Il-Ħajja tar-Ragħaj u Martu" u "Frangiska" wasalna għall intervent mużikali ieħor u din id-darba Amanda kantat il-kompożizzjoni tagħha "Thirty Years in Australia" li hi kitbet fl-okkażjoni li l-familja ċcelebraw dan l-avveniment fid-9 ta' Mejju ta' din is-sena. Kanzunetta sabiħa ħafna.

Imbagħad kien imiss li John Muscat li qralna żewġ poeżiji tiegħu, "Ix-Xita" u "Lid-Dinja". Manwel Casha kiteb erba' poeżiji li Paul Vella qara' minħabba li Manwel ma setgħax ikun magħna: "Lill-Poeta", "Lil Karmnu", "Lil M.M." u "Fid-Dell ta' Vestru".

Hawn waqafna għall-intervall fejn kulhadd kellu ċ-ċans jieħu kikkra te jew kafè, kejk u gallettini li ġew provduti b'xejn mill-Grupp.

Wara l-intervall, Rose Lofaro qrat żewġ poeżiji tal-membru tagħna li jgħix fi Queensland, Nazzarene Zerafa, li avolja jinsab tant 'il bogħod huwa membru attiv ħafna, "Metamorfosi" u "Mument Ikrah, Mudlam, Sewdieni". Marie Louise Anastasi qrat żewġ poeżiji tagħha, "Mejju.. f'Malta" u "F'Inzul ix-Xemx". Hawn kien imiss lil George Portelli li qralna poeżija sabiħa tal-Professor Oliver Friggieri, "Hekk Biss Ikun Poeta".

Wara li Michel Xuereb qralna żewġ poeżiji tiegħu, "Il-Mara bl-Għonella" u "Is-Skiet" kien imiss għall-intervent mużikali ieħor minn Amanda, Cecilia u Victor.



Bdejna noqorbu lejn it-tmiem u hawn kien imiss lil Paul Vella li qralna l-proża tiegħu stess, "Pietru u Sant' Antnin" u fl-aħħar Fredu Cachia qralna erba' poeżiji li kiteb huwa stess, "Barumbara", "Għidtilha Nħobbok", "Imnarja 2017" u "Mill-Vrus Maltin".

Spicċajna b'intervent mużikali ieħor, din id-darba minn Simone Cremona, li għalkemm ma setgħetx tkun magħna xorta bagħtet materjal fuq il-laptop.

Wara li ħadna ritratt għall-okkażjoni kulhadd mar fil-foyer taċ-Ċentru biex ħadna kikkra te jew kafè, "pies" u "sausage rolls", kejk u gallettini li kollox ġie provdut b'xejn mill-Grupp.

Nirringrazzjaw lil dawk kollha li għenu biex dan l-avveniment ikun suċċess, speċjalment lil Salvina Vella (Social Secretary) li għamlet ix-xiri u t-tisjir u lil Doris Sammut u Sunta Sultana tal-għajnuna tagħhom fil-kċina u t-tqassim tal-ikel. Grazzi lil Paul Vella u Rose Lofaro għall-ktieb li fih kien hemm il-materjal kollu moqri fil-Programm Mużiko-Letterarju ta' din is-sena.

Paul Vella

PRO Grupp Letteratura Maltija tal-Victoria

Wednesday, 21 September 2017

Maltese community in Melbourne celebrates Malta's Independence Day and welcomes new Consul General



The new Consul General of Malta for the State of Victoria, Ms Joanna Pisani, received a warm welcome at a well-attended reception, which was hosted by the Maltese Community Council of Victoria at the Maltese Centre in Parkville on Thursday 21 September 2017. The reception was also held to celebrate the 53rd Anniversary of Malta's Independence.

Among the distinguished guests at the reception were MCCV President Mr Victor Borg; Mr Eddie Micallef, Chairman of the Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria; Dr Edwin Borg-Manché, Honorary Consul of Malta for Victoria and MCCV Vice President; Mr Mario Sammut OAM, Honorary Vice Consul of Malta for the Latrobe Valley; Fr Edwin Agius and Fr Lonnie Borg of the Missionary Society of St Paul; and Sr Doris Falzon OP, Administrator of Rosary Home Residential Aged Care facility in Keilor Downs.

In his address MCCV President welcomed Ms Joanna Pisani as the new Consul General of the Republic of Malta for Victoria. He spoke briefly about the long gestation period of Malta's independence, touching upon the history of foreign dominations over the centuries, culminating in the granting of independence to Malta by the British on 21 September 1964.

The Maltese people had to go through a lot of suffering over the years and, particularly during the Second World War, before Malta was able to acquire its independence. Having become a republic in 1974, Malta joined the European Union in 2004.

Mr Borg then introduced Ms Joanna Pisani to the gathering. He said that Ms Pisani is a career diplomat, with great experience in this area. She joined the Malta civil service in 1976. After 12 years working in the Ministry of Agriculture, she moved to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where she headed the Scholarship Section for 15 years, during which time she was awarded a Quality Service Charter.

In 2003 Ms Pisani was appointed Consul General of Malta in Sydney until 2008. On her return to Malta on 1 March 2008, she was appointed Deputy Chief of Protocol within the Protocol and Consular Services Directorate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. On 17 September 2009 she was appointed Acting Director Protocol and Consular Services and on 24 November 2011 she was appointed Director, Protocol and Consular Services.

On 1 July 2015 she was appointed Chargé d’Affaires at the Embassy of Malta in Dublin, Ireland. On 14 August she took up the post of Consul General of Malta in Melbourne with jurisdiction over the State of Victoria.

Mr Borg welcomed Ms Pisani to Melbourne and said that he was sure that she would enjoy her stay here among the Maltese community. He said that he hoped that the MCCV would continue to maintain the very close relationship with the consular office.

In her reply address, Ms Pisani thanked everyone for their warm welcome. She said that she had previously been Consul General in Sydney but, after nine years, she never dreamt that she would return to Australia to serve as Consul General in Melbourne.



In relation to Malta’s Independence Day, Ms Pisani said that Malta’s location in the heart of the Mediterranean has historically given it strategic importance as a naval base which led to a succession of powers, including the Phoenicians, Romans, Moors, Normans, the Order of St John, the French and finally the British, to rule the Maltese archipelago.

Ms Pisani said that when Malta gained its independence, it established bilateral relations with Australia. Malta and Australia have outstanding relations, especially by mutual interests, such as, the Commonwealth and the Maltese diaspora. “I have every confidence that this excellent relationship with Australia will continue in the future,” she said. Evidence of this excellent relationship is the number of official visits by dignitaries between the two countries. The most recent visit was that of the Maltese President Her Excellency Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca who came to Australia in July last year. The President takes great interest in the second and subsequent generations of Maltese descent.



Ms Pisani said that Malta attaches great importance to the preservation of Maltese heritage among the Maltese diaspora in Australia. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs helped to facilitate the resolution of consular problems encountered by members of the diaspora by means of the Consul-on-the-Move project which has been very successful.

Ms Pisani referred to another initiative relating to the teaching of the Maltese language over a digital platform. It is hoped that this project will come to fruition in the not too distant future.

She briefly spoke about the reduction in Maltese language programs on SBS Radio from nine to two per week due to a substantial decrease in the Maltese population in Australia according to the

census. She stressed the importance of declaring the use of the Maltese language when completing the census.

In closing, Ms Pisani thanked those present for their welcome and she said that she looks forward to working closely together with the Maltese community during her stay on Melbourne.

Following her address, a recorded video message from the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Promotion, the Hon. Carmelo Abela, about Malta and its contributions on the international stage was shown to the audience.

Both Mr Borg and Ms Pisani also addressed the gathering in Maltese.

Appendix B – Grupp Letteratura Maltija tal-Victoria

Nhar il-Ġimgħa, 25 ta' Novembru 2016, il-Grupp Letteratura Maltija tal-Victoria kellhom il-Laqqgħa Ġenerali Annwali tagħhom fil-boardroom taċ-Ċentru Malti ta' Parkville fis-7.30 pm.

Il-laqqgħa bdiet b'talba u wara s-Segretarja, Rosemary Attard, qrat il-Minuti tal-aħħar Laqqgħa Ġenerali Annwali. Wara kien imiss it-Teżorier, Ray Anastasi, biex jaqra' r-rapport finanzjarju tal-Għaqda.



Il-President, Dr Victor Sammut, indirizza lil dawk preżenti u ta rapport tal-avvenimenti organizzati mill-Għaqda matul is-sena.

Fl-aħħar wasal il-ħin biex issir elezzjoni għal kumitat ġdid. Minħabba li n-numru ta' dawk innominati ma kienx akbar min-numru ta' pożizzjonijiet meħtieġa, ma kienx hemm bżonn ta' votazzjoni.

Il-Kumitat ġdid ġie ffurmat hekk: President, Dr Victor Sammut; Viċi-President, Marie Louise Anastasi; Segretarja, Rosemary Attard; Teżorier, Ray Anastasi; Uffiċjal għar-Relazzjonijiet Pubbliċi, Paul Vella; Segretarja għall-Avvenimenti Soċjali, Salvina Vella.

Il-membri rringrazzjaw lill-kumitat għal mod kif mexxa din l-aħħar sena u awgurawlihom l-istess ħidma u suċċess għal din is-sena li ġejja.



Paul Vella

PRO, Grupp Letteratura Maltija tal-Victoria

Appendix C – Maltese Ex Services Association

George Cross Award Commemoration 2017

On 15 April 2017 the Maltese Ex Services Association commemorated the 75th Anniversary of the award of the George Cross by King George VI to the island and people of Malta in 1942 with a mass held at St Paul's Chapel in Parkville. Fr Edwin Agius mssp was the celebrant. Mass was followed by the laying of wreaths ceremony and the playing of the last post at the George Cross memorial located between the chapel and the Maltese Community Centre. During the



playing of the last post, the flags were lowered as a mark of respect for the fallen.

Following mass the Association held a barbecue for all those who attended.

ANZAC Day March 2017

On 24 April 2017 a group of Maltese Ex Services Association members and their families participated at the annual ANZAC Day march held at the Shrine of Remembrance in Melbourne.

The group was led by Association President Mr Joseph Stafrace, who took over the presidency after the passing away of the much-loved former President Emmanuel 'Laurie' Spiteri in 2016.



A group of about thirty marched with the Maltese ex-servicemen to the Shrine as part of the official proceedings. Later they visited the Shelter of Peace dedicated to Malta's historic achievements in wartime located near the Shrine. Mr Stafrace gave a brief address to the gathering, remembering our fallen and thanking all those who attended.

For further information about the Association, contact the Association President, Mr Joseph Stafrace on 9389 8933 or mobile 0466 589 553.

Appendix D – Maltese Historical Association

The Maltese Historical Association held its Annual General Meeting on 15 November 2016 at the Maltese Community Centre in Parkville, with 15 members present. The minutes of the previous year's AGM were read and Robert Blythe was thanked for the MHA Facebook page, which has received 12,000 likes!

Joseph Borg then gave the President's report for 2016 and thanked the committee for their efforts during the year, especially Charles Gatt for the newsletter, Charlie Portelli for technical support with audio-visuals and Mario Bonnici for keeping the books in order. He thanked the many speakers for their essential contribution; Frances and Mario Bonnici for catering; all those who prepared the hall and cleaned up afterwards; all those who attended our discussions; and the MCCV Executive for making the hall available to us. He urged members to become more involved, either as presenters or as executives, and called for ideas on attracting younger members. Membership is not onerous and plenty of support is available for volunteers.

Elected on the committee were:

President:	Joseph Borg
Vice-President:	Robert Blythe
Treasurer:	Mario Bonnici
Secretary:	Charles Gatt
Members :	George Portelli Charles Portelli



Activities during 2017

The Association holds a lecture on Maltese History and/or culture every third Tuesday of the month (except for January and December).

This year, due to some members of the committee being away overseas, there were no meetings in July and August.

The following is a list of the lectures for 2017, which included a book launch.



Feb: The demise of the French and the arrival of the British (Joseph Borg)

March: Old Maltese trades and professions (Joseph Borg)

April: Agius de Soldanis (Joseph Borg)

May: Book Launch-Three Anzacs from Malta (Dr. Gioconda Schembri)

June: A History of Maltese Music and Musicians (Prof Maurice Cauchi)

July and August: no lecture

Sept: Underground Valletta (Mario Bonnici)

The attendances during the year have been steady. However, there is a need for new presenters to share the load in making the presentations. Some of the committee members feel that they

should move aside to allow for new faces to run the association. Problem is that not too many members are willing to do this with the possibility that the Association may fold in the next couple of years. This would be a pity because we believe that the work of the Association is very useful to the Maltese Community at large. We also encourage the community to attend our activities.

Though we ask for a subscription (\$10 single or \$15 for a couple) we welcome everyone to our lectures. Not being a subscriber means that one may not be able to vote on any decisions made by the Association.

Joseph Borg
President MHA

Appendix E – Newport Maltese Association

2016-2017 marked another great year for the members of the Newport Maltese Association.

This was all made possible, mainly because the support of the members was at the highest level right through the whole year.

The grant of \$6,960, which was received from the Victorian Multicultural Commission, helped the Association to subsidize the social activities to the members, in particular, the Carnival Dance, Annual Dinner Dance, Christmas Dinner Dance and New Year's Eve Ball.



Outings, luncheons, fun and games nights and interstate trips are still very much in demands by the members.

The Association Seniors Group, which meet regularly every Wednesday at the Maltese Community Centre in Parkville, continued to enjoy the facilities of the Centre by way of playing bingo, billiards, indoor carpet bowling, relaxing with a cup of tea or coffee and munching a *pastizz* or two.

With the membership of the Association surpassing the 400 mark, the Executive Committee vowed to remain committed to advocate on issues that matter most to the members, so that the Association remains purposeful and relevant to our members.



One of the most debated subject during the year was the amalgamation of the Association and the Seniors Group. At present, a new constitution is being drafted to combine the two.

The general feeling is that it will be of benefit for all.

George M Saliba OAM

President, Newport Maltese Association

Appendix F – Reskeon Maltese Association

Annual General Meeting 2016

Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group held their Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 5th October 2016 at Merrilands Community Centre in Reservoir. Ninety members attended.

In delivering her report, the Group's President Salvina Vella thanked the committee members for their work during the year, especially Victor Pulis for taking care of the finances. She also thanked all members for their participation during the year. She also thanked her husband, Paul, for the work he does behind the scenes.



Addressing the meeting, from left to right: Treasurer, Victor Pulis; President, Salvina Vella; Secretary, Paul Vella.

The President's special thanks went to the ladies in the kitchen, Madeleine Vella, Melita Magro and Sylvia Dakin, to Therese Cachia at the coffee table and also to Fred Cachia who is learning the ropes at the bingo table and to those who help with Bingo calling. She also thanked all those non committee members who helped organise the hall.

The Treasurer, Victor Pulis, read out the Treasurer's Report which was approved by all present.

The election of a new committee for 2016-2018 followed. As only one nomination for each position on the committee was submitted, the nominees were elected unopposed as follows:

President:	Salvina Vella
Vice-President:	Madeleine Vella
Secretary:	Paul Vella
Treasurer:	Victor Pulis
Asst. Treasurer:	Miriam Mizzi
Committee members:	Alfred Cachia, Theresa Cachia, Melita Magro, Sarah Catania, Sylvia Dakin.

Association Events

During the year Reskeon Maltese Association held a number of functions for their members. These include the Seniors Mother's Day luncheon on the 4th May and the Father's Day luncheon on the 10th August 2017.

These functions were well attended and enjoyed by all.

The President Salvina Vella and her Executive members were congratulated for their efforts.



Seniors Christmas breakup

On the 7th December 2016 the Associations held a Christmas Luncheon for their members at the Firenze Receptions in Fawkner. Some 133 members and their friends were in attendance.

Musical entertainment was provided by DJ Dominic who kept the guests dancing throughout the luncheon.

The President Salvina Vella delivered her Christmas message where she thanked the Committee and members for their efforts throughout the year. She wished everyone a Holy Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with good health and enjoyment.

Father Christmas also attended and distributed gifts to those present.

Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows

The Feast of our Lady of Sorrows was celebrated at four different venues in Melbourne. The Feast was celebrated by members of the Missionary Society of St. Pauls Chapel, Parkville. Fr. Lonnie Borg celebrated Mass and delivered the Homily for the occasion.

The Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group Committee presented a statue of our Lady of Sorrows to the Fathers of the Missionary Society of St. Pauls. Fr. Lonnie blessed the Statue and advised that the "Bradella" was made by Reskeon member Victor Pullis. Executive Members of the MCCV the President and Secretary and members of the Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors group, members of the ladies section of the Christian Doctrine Society, (MUSEUM) and members of other Maltese Associations were in attendance.

Salvina Vella and Paul Vella

Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group Inc.

Appendix G – MCCV Committees and Memberships

Executive Committee

- Victor Borg (President)
- Edwin Borg-Manché (Vice President)
- Joe Stafrace (Vice President)
- Andrew Gatt (Secretary)
- Paul Borg (Treasurer)
- Rosemary Attard (Welfare Director)
- *Vacant* (Public Relations Officer)
- Antonia Camilleri (Assistant Secretary)
- Rita Pullicino (Social Secretary)
- Fr Edwin Agius mssp (Chaplain)
- Prof. Maurice Cauchi (Immediate Past President)

Finance Committee

- Victor Borg (Convenor)
- Paul Borg
- Joe Stafrace
- Rita Pullicino
- Andrew Gatt

Community Services & Improvement Committee (Welfare)

- Rosemary Attard (Convenor)
- Victor Borg
- Joseph Stafrace
- Maree Rizzo
- Andrew Gatt
- Rita Pullicino
- Antonia Camilleri
- Joe Sammut

Corporate Governance Committee

- Victor Borg (Convenor)
- Joseph Stafrace
- Paul Borg

Human Resources Committee

- Victor Borg (Convenor)
- Joe Stafrace
- Edwin Borg-Manché
- Paul Borg

- Edwina Mallia
- Antonia Camilleri
- Andrew Gatt

Library Committee

- Prof Maurice Cauchi (Convenor)
- Victor Borg
- Joe Stafrace
- Antonia Camilleri

Social Committee

- Joseph Stafrace (Convenor)
- Edwina Mallia
- Victor Borg
- Andrew Gatt
- Antonia Camilleri
- Rita Pullicino
- Andrew Gatt

Risk Management & Physical Resources Committee

- Joseph Stafrace (Convenor)
- Paul Borg
- Rosemary Attard
- Victor Borg
- Andrew Gatt
- Rita Pullicino
- Antonia Camilleri

Membership & Council Representatives

HealthWest Partnership (Reducing Gambling Frequency with CALD Communities): Joseph Stafrace and Andrew Gatt

Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria:
Mr Eddie Micallef (ECCV Chair)

Radio 3ZZZ Board Member: Victor Borg

Radio 3ZZZ Members of Maltese Broadcasting Group:
Victor Borg, Joseph Stafrace, Paul Vella, Edwina Mallia, Mario Sammut

Appendix H – Affiliated Associations

Association	President
Australian Nadur Association Inc	Mr Tony Sultana
Bacchus Marsh Good Friday Association Inc	Mr Lewis Strafrace
Ex-Members of the Malta Police Force Ass.	Mr Vince Calleja
Hadfield Golden Years Social Club Inc	Mrs Rita Saliba
Klabb Għannejja Maltin Inc	Mr George Aquilina
Lalor United Bocci Club	Mr David Ellul
Malta Gozo Concert Band	Mr Dean Attard
Malta Star of the Sea House Inc	Mr Raymond Cini
Maltese Association Hobsons Bay Inc	Chev Joseph Attard
Maltese Association Northern Suburbs	Mr Giacinto Cassar
Maltese Australian Association	Mr Benedict Soler
Maltese Australian Community Centre & Social Club L.V. Inc	Mr Mario Sammut
Maltese Cultural Association of Vic Inc.	Mrs Sandra Grech
Maltese Historical Association of Australia	Mr Joseph Borg
Maltese La Vallette Association	Mrs Carmen Camilleri
Maltese Literature Group	Dr Victor Sammut
Maltese Own Band Philharmonic Society Inc	Mr Anselmo Xuereb
Maltese Performing Arts	Mr Ray Anastasi
Maltese Senior Citizens Club Airport West Inc	Mr Alfred Sammut
Maltese Social Bowls Club of Victoria	Mr Gregory Grima
Maltese Ex Services Association of Victoria	Mr Joseph Stafrace
Melita Social Club Inc	Mr Edwin Bonello
Moreland Malt. Elderly Citizens Assoc	Mr John Vella
Newport Maltese Association Inc	Mr George Saliba
Newport Maltese Association Seniors Group	Mr George Saliba
Our Lady of Grace Association	Mr Joseph Cutajar
Portarlinton Maltese Pensioners Assoc Inc	Mr Charles Attard
Reskeon Maltese Assoc and Reskeon Seniors Group Inc	Mrs Salvina Vella
St Albans Melita Band	Mr Joe Cardona
St Albans South Maltese Seniors Association	Mr Charles Desira
St Bernadette Seniors & Social Club	Mr Alfred Zahra
St Gaetan's Society Inc	Mr Jimmy Chircop
St Helena Maltese-Australian Social Club	Mr Victor Bartolo
St Paul's South Eastern Suburbs Ass Inc	Fr Noel Bianco
St Sebastian Association Inc	Mr Patrick Smith
Stella Maris Maltese Association	Mr Charlie Xerri
Sunshine George Cross Soccer Club	Mr Jamie Chetcuti
Tarxien Social Club Inc	Mrs Lina Mizzi
Tripoli Social Club	Mr Romeo Cini
Western Suburbs Maltese Association Inc	Mr Vince Aquilina
Whittlesea Maltese Seniors Association	Mr Giacinto Cassar

Appendix I – Maltese Programs on Ethnic Radio & TV Stations

The following is the program schedule for radio and TV broadcasts in the Maltese language in Victoria.

RADIO

SBS RADIO - MELBOURNE

Joe Axiaq
Executive Producer

SBS Radio
PO Box 294,
South Melbourne VIC
3205.
T: (03) 9949 2121
F: (03) 9949 2385
W:
<http://www.sbs.com.au/yourlanguage/maltese/>



The Maltese programs on SBS radio are broadcast as follows:

- **Tuesdays at 12 noon** – SBS 2/FM analogue (also on digital radio and digital TV)
- **Fridays at 12.00 noon** – SBS 2/FM analogue (also on digital radio and digital TV)

Maltese radio programs are also available over the internet as follows:

- Internet Live and On-Demand – <http://www.sbs.com.au/maltese> (live and catch up listening)
- iPhone and Android app – *SBS Your Language* app (live and catch up listening)
- Podcasts of program segments – <http://www.sbs.com.au/podcasts/your-language/maltese>

3ZZZ ETHNIC COMMUNITY RADIO - 92.3 FM

Lewis Stafrace
Convenor Maltese Programs



Radio 3ZZZ
144 George Street
North Fitzroy VIC 3068
(03) 9415 1923
(03) 9415 1818 or 9417 1670
W: <http://www.3zzz.com.au>

Mondays and Fridays 5.00 pm – 6.00 pm,
Saturdays 10.00 am – 11.00 am

STEREO 97.4 FM COMMUNITY RADIO



Stereo 974
594 Geelong Road
Brooklyn VIC 3012.
T: (03) 9318 0444
F: (03) 9318 0866
W: http://www.stereo974.com/program_grid.php

Wednesdays – **Mr Ray Anastasi**, Co-ordinator
Thursdays – **[insert name]**

Wednesdays and Thursdays
6.00 pm - 8.00 pm
(2-hour program)

RADIO 3 RIM 97.9 FM

Local Community Radio Station for western area of Shire of Melton that can be heard in Metropolitan Melbourne.



Miriam Vella
Broadcaster

RIM 979,
Centenary Avenue,
Melton, VIC, 3337.
T: (03) 9747 0450
F: (03) 9747 0450
W: <http://www.979fm.net/>

Tuesdays 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm (2-hour program)

RADIO NORTH WEST FM 98.9

Victoria Northern Suburbs
Community Radio



Emmanuel Brincat
Producer - Presenter

Radio North West FM 98.9
Post Office Box 403,
Glenroy, 3046.
T: (03) 9304 1244
F: (03) 9304 1468
W: <http://www.northwestfm.org/>

Mondays: 7.00 pm - 8.00 pm
Fridays: 6.00 pm - 7.00 pm

TELEVISION

PBS News from Malta



Two news bulletin from the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), Malta, are televised **every Thursday and Sunday at 8.00 am** on **SBS TWO**.

Maltese DownUnder tv



Marlene Scicluna and Mark Avellino
Directors, Presenters & Producers

Maltese DownUnder is a community TV show produced in Melbourne, showcasing Maltese cultural heritage, the arts, music, food, cultural events and sport. The programs are produced in both Maltese and English. Maltese DownUnder screens on C31 (TV channel 44) **every Sunday at 4.00 pm** with a repeat on **Tuesdays at 3.00 pm**. Anyone around the world can watch the show via LIVE stream on www.c31.org.au as well as on demand at www.c31.org.au/series/1313. For more information go to www.facebook.com/MalteseDownUnder or email maltesetv@gmail.com.

Waltzing Matilda – video archive 2010-12

Waltzing Matilda was a very popular TV program about Maltese in Australia produced by Mrs Josephine Zammit Cordina MQR, AM for many years and used to be shown on the national PBS TV station in Malta as well as Channel 31 in Australia. However, *Waltzing Matilda* is no longer produced. To view past editions of *Waltzing Matilda*, go to <http://www.users.on.net/~charbell/wm.htm>