



**Maltese Community
Council of Victoria
Incorporated
Annual Report
2019-2020**

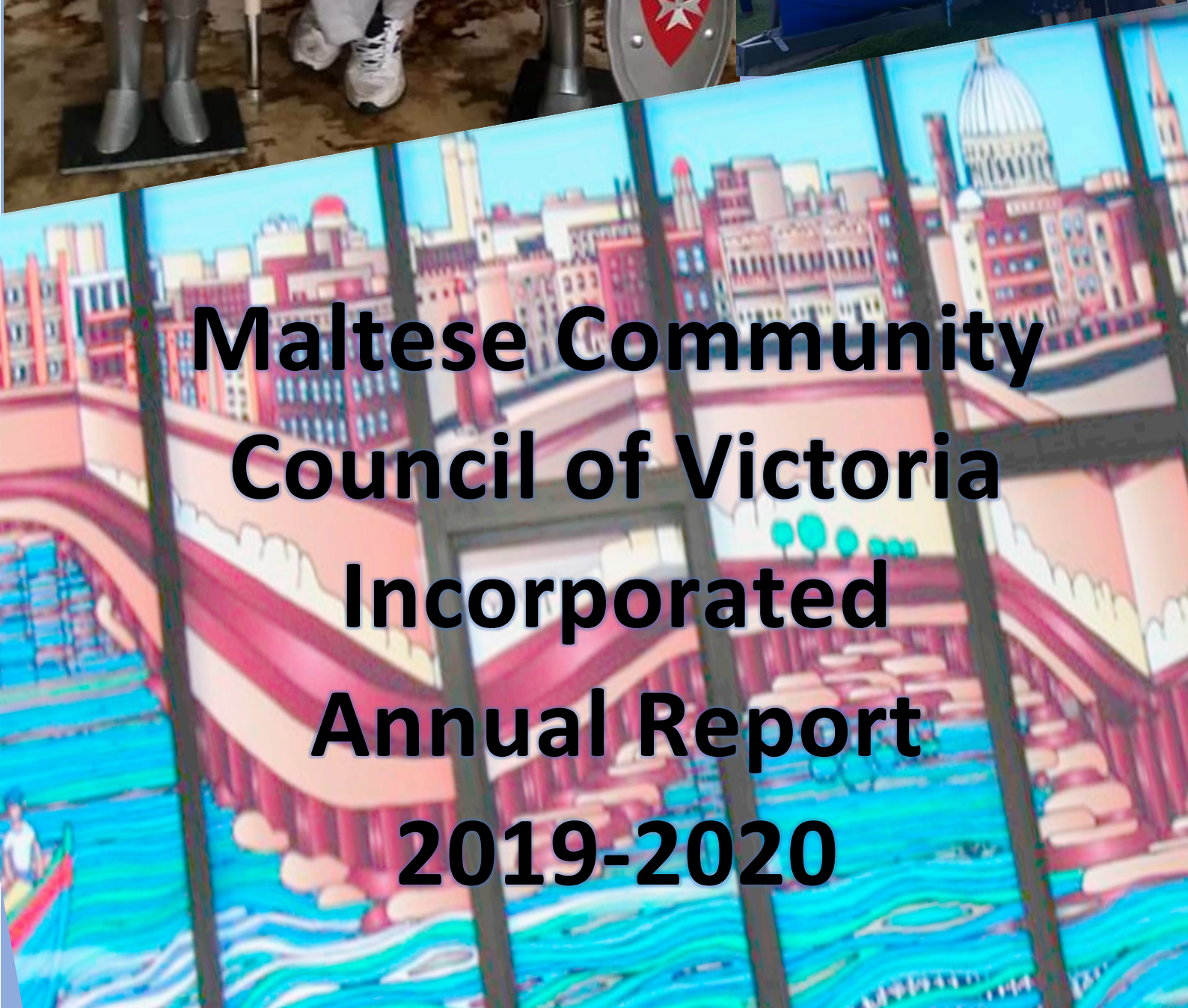


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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The last year has been a bit of a roller coaster for the MCCV and the Victorian Maltese community. There were some amazing highlights coupled with the loss of long-time board, council and hardworking volunteers.

On 16 November we welcomed the band Skorba to perform the musical story of the 1565 Siege of Malta. Everyone who attended thoroughly enjoyed the event. It was a little disappointing that it was not more supported by the community. When people heard about it later, they asked if it could be shown again. We may look at this again in the future as it was a performance not to be missed.

In November 2019 our community mourned the loss of long time President Victor Borg. He was fondly remembered by all and his contributions to the MCCV was recognised by naming our Parkville Hall after him.

In December 2019 Christmas Carols returned to the Parkville Centre thanks to the Maltese Own Band.

26 January 2020 proved to be a most busy day. First a group of 14 enthusiastic Maltese/Australians aged between 10 and 85 years paraded along Swanston Street Melbourne for the first time in the Australia Day Parade. We were introduced as the smallest group, but I can tell you we were loud and proud to be there in our Maltese costumes waving our Maltese and Australian flags. Following this I raced up the Princess Highway heading to the Portarlington Maltese Festa organised by the Maltese Own Band. There I saw many friends enjoying the array of entertainment. When I headed down the beach it was packed with mostly Maltese families. There was such a huge buzz of activity and it gave me much pleasure to see families of all ages enjoying the day. The night before some board members and I attended a dinner to celebrate the inaugural Maltese Cultural Cup organised by Caroline Springs George Cross. We were warmly welcomed and again were thrilled to see many people supporting this initiative which we hope to see again.

In February 2020 we attended the opening of the Maltese Museum in Morwell established by the Latrobe Valley Maltese Community. This small shack grew into an amazing collection of Maltese cultural artifacts. A true credit to the committee there. The next day we attend the Maltese festa in Morwell and were overwhelmed by the amount of people who attended. We ran an information stall and sold some books about the Maltese community in Australia. They sold out within in an hour and our free show bags went in a flash. Many people enquired about Maltese language classes and we even found time to enjoy the entertainment, a little shopping from the stalls and of course tasted loads of delicious Maltese food.

On 29 February 2020 I was invited on a panel organised by the MMG Concert Band of Victoria celebrating influential Maltese women. The room was filled with amazing Maltese women and men. The luncheon was a huge hit, and everyone enjoyed the discussions and catching up with old friends. The meal was organised by George Cross was also very impressive.

March 2020 led the MCCV down the road to the Moomba parade. About 24 of us had been practising for about 4 weeks to get our moves right and our costumes spruced up. We roped in people of all ages. We had our very own luzzu on wheels made and Antonia Camilleri and I captained it together. We were exhausted but elated. We saw many friends in the crowds waving and cheering us on.

15 March 2020 was our last outing to support the Newport Association Carnival Dance. There was a lot of trepidation and concern starting up about the dreaded Covid-19 Pandemic and many people were feeling quite uncertain about attending. The venue may not have been as packed as previous years and not everyone

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costumed up, but the night was a huge success and I must say my feet hurt by the end of the night with all the dancing and socialising. I hope that we can once again attend in March 2021.

Sadly, all our associations had to cancel their events, many of which I was so looking forward to going to do. We attempted a council meeting via Zoom, and I thank those that attended and understand that technology is not easy for everyone. What I have learned from this experience is when we can open, we will be offering computer and internet skills to our Associations, so if this continues or ever happens again people have the skills to stay connected.

Not long after the dance we were shut down. Our wonderful staff at the MCCV jumped into action and put together plans on how to continue to support our community while the centre was shut. Essentially, we have been closed since the end of March, but our work has continued, and our staff have all been able to retain their employment with government support.

Our coordinator Maree Rizzo and her excellent team in the Social Support Group created a roster and each took on our clients by calling them every few days, dropping off food parcels, helping with their shopping, creating a phone line bingo game, undertaking activities using digital technology and loads of activities which kept our community connected.

Irene Grillo, our administration officer continued to look after phone calls, make referrals, stayed connected with our associations and provided enormous support to our board.

The MCCV employed a Manager for the first time, Cheryle Lupa, on a fixed term contract to assist with setting up systems. Cheryle completed her role at the end of September 2020.

When the second lockdown started, we knew we needed to do more, so we started MCCV ISO Zoom Bingo on a Saturday afternoon. We only played 3 games, but we connected and had loads of laughs. At times we had 38 people on the screen. We continued until the lockdown ended.

We also introduced a Zoom session asking members of the community to bring a cuppa or a wine and show us what they have made in lockdown. This was also great fun.

Fr Lonnie has started a zoom Maltese Mass on the first Friday of the month which was most recently enjoyed by about 20 people.

What we have learned through this lockdown experience is that we need to ensure everyone has access to technology and knows how to use it. When we reopen our centres, this will be a priority.

Our Executive farewelled Antoinette Ciantar, Emanuele Baldachino and Leanne Abela. We thank them for their service and wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

Our board has been very fortunate this past year to have Lisa Zammit join us. Lisa comes from a community sector background and she has been extremely supportive and helpful with sharing her knowledge in respect to organisational structures and sourcing government funding.

Antonia Camilleri (Vice-President) and Andrew Gatt (Secretary) are always on hand to ensure the bills and staff get paid. Andrew has been instrumental in ensuring our Parkville Centre gets a makeover while it is closed, and Antonia has continued to connect with the nursing homes to make sure Maltese residents are being cared for.

Rosemary Attard, our longest serving board member, is always there to provide support whenever she is called upon.

We have used the lockdown to connect as an executive and spent about 4 sessions working with Patricia McNamara on a strategic plan. From that grew an opportunity to have a social work student from Melbourne

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University with us to conduct a must needed survey. The purpose of the survey was to assist us with future planning so that we can continue to be a relevant community organisation. A report of the survey outcomes was produced by Christine Tudor (Masters Social Work student). We have been both lucky and privileged to have been working with both Christine Tudor and her supervisor from Melbourne University Patricia McNamara. This survey generated many new ideas of how to engage with our community and we have had over 20 people come forward to volunteer with the MCCV.

Most recently I was invited to do an advertisement in Maltese on staying safe during the pandemic. I practised with Antonia no end to get it right. I hope you have seen it on Facebook. The State Government paid for this advertisement to be done in 55 languages. When I found out it would only be the government website I went into action and wrote to the Honourable Ros Spence, MP, Minister for Multicultural Affairs and sought support on having the Maltese News on SBS aired each week at the same time. Unfortunately, SBS have a contract with the basketball so our news services get dumped for that. Minister Spence has taken on our plight and has now taken that up with the Federal Minister given SBS is a federally funded station. From this then came an invitation to represent the Maltese community on the Covid19 Community Leaders group which is led by Minister Spence. Our voice was heard, and more information is coming out in the Maltese language not only in print but also vocal that can be aired on our Maltese radio programs.

I want to encourage you all to continue to support our wonderful radio programs; SBS radio Melbourne, Executive Producer Joe Axiaq, 3ZZZ Ethnic Community Radio, Conveyor Paul Vella, Radio 3 RIM, broadcaster Miriam Vella and Radio North West FM produced and presented by Emmanuel Brincat. MALTESE RADIO PROGRAMS can be found on our website, Facebook page and in this Annual report.

All of these programs support us by advertising our services and events and allowing us to join them from time to time to let our community know what is going on.

I would also like to thank Frank Scicluna editor of The Maltese e-Newsletter and Lawrence Dimech from the Voice of the Maltese. These online newsletters support us and the Maltese community in general with their vibrant, informative and engaging content.

Thank you, Dr Victoria Borg, Councillor from Brimbank Council, for her continued support and encouragement and also to our Consul-General Mario Farrugia Borg and his wonderful staff, Miriam, Pauline and Gioconda.

We said goodbye to a number of people throughout the year that were heavily involved with the MCCV over many years. In particular, I would like to mention Freddie Ascjak, although I did not personally have a connection to Freddie, he was highly spoken of and all of his tireless work in looking after the centre and creating props for events over many years has been greatly appreciated.

Charles Portelli who served on the MCCV Executive committee in the 90s passed away this year and I would also like to mention Nick Caruana who was one of the original committee members of the Newport Association as well as a huge contributor to music and entertainment within the Maltese community and beyond. We thank them for their contributions, and they will forever be remembered at the MCCV.

In closing I would like to thank Fr John, Fr Lonnie, Fr Noel and Fr Edwin of the MSSP for their continued support and blessings. When our centre reopens you will see some pleasant changes that have in most part been equally funded by the MSSP and the MCCV.

I so look forward to 2021 and seeing you all again. We have lots in the planning and looking forward to sharing it all with you.

Marlene Ebejer
President

RAPPORT TAL- PRESIDENT

Is-sena li għaddiet kienet sena diffiċli, kemm għaċ-Ċentru Malti tal-Victoria kif wkoll għal Komunita Maltija kollha fil-Victoria. Iċċelebrajna avvenimenti sbieħ, u tnikkitna bit -telfa ta' membri anzjani li servew fuq il-Kunsill, fl-Eżekutiv, kif ukoll voluntiera li tant hadmu għall benefiċċju tal-Komunita Maltija.

Fis-16 ta' Novembru kellna fostna l-Banda Skorba li tellgħu storja mużikali ta' l-Assedju l-Kbir ta' 1565. Nafu li kull min attenda hareġ ferm sodisfatt, għalkemm kien mistenni aktar appoġġ mill-komunita. Dawk li ma attendewx u saru jafu x'tilfu, iddispjaċihom u wrew ix-xewqa li forsi din l-istorja tkun repetuta. F'Novembru 2019, il-Komunita Maltija tnikket bit-telfa ta' l-Avukat Victor Borg, li għal bosta snin kien President taċ-Ċentru u strumentali fil-bini u il ftuħ tiegħu. B'rispett għal dak kollu li għamel, is-Sala taċ-Ċentru giet imsemmija għalih.

F'Dicembru 2019, grazzi għal Maltese Own Band, reġa kellna l-Christmas Carols fiċ-Ċentru ta' Parkville.

Fis-26 ta' Jannar 2020, kienet gurnata ferm impenjattiva meta grupp ta' 14 Maltin/Awstraljani bejn l-eta ta' 10 u 85 sena, għall-ewwel darba hadu sehem fil-parata li ssir matul Swanston Street gewwa Melbourne fl-okkazjoni ta' "Jum l-Awstralja". Introduċewna bhala l-izgħar Kontingent, imma konna l-aktar storbuġi, kburin bil-kostumi Maltin, inxejru l-Bnadar Maltin u Awstraljani. Fl-istess jum wara l-parata b'girja wahda tlaqt lejn Port Arlington fejn il-Maltese Own Band organiżżaw Festa Tradizzjonali Maltija. Hadt pjacir meta inżilt hdejn ix-xatt u rajt hafna familji u hbieb jiċċelebraw Jum l-Awstralja f'atmosfera Maltija. Il lejla ta qabel, jien u xi membri ta l-eżekkutiv attendejna għal ikla organiżżata mill-Caroline Springs George Cross, fejn giet inawgurata l-Maltese Cultural Cup li intlaqet tajjeb hafna u hadt pjacir nara hafna nies jissaportaw din l-inizjattiva.

Fi Frar 2020 konna mistednin u attendejna għal ftuħ Ufficiali tal-Mużew Malti gewwa Morwell, imniedi miċ-Centru Malti tal-Latrobe Valley. Min daqsxejn ta' bini zdingat, bnew l-ewwel Mużew Malti fl-Awstralja b'kollezzjoni ta hafna esibiti kulturali Maltin, miksubha minn kollezzjonijiet privati u oħrajn minn emigranti Maltin ta kull eta. L-għada, attendejna għal Festa Maltija tal-Latrobe Valley u bqajna skantati bl-attendenza kbira ta nies ta' kull eta, nazzjonalita u minn kull stat fl-Awstralja. Aħna kellna mejda mnejn tajna nformazzjoni dwar iċ-Ċentru ta' Parkville, il-lezzjonijiet bil-Malti kif ukoll kellna okkazzjoni inbiegħu kotba dwar il-komunita Maltija fil-Awstralja. Dawn il-kotba nbiegħu f'inqas minn siegħa, darba oħra nkunu aktar preparati. Kienu hafna li nteressaw ruħhom fil-klassijiet tal-Malti li joffri ċ-Ċentru. Kellna wkoll hin biex gawdejna kemm l-ispettaklu ta' talenti varji, kif ukoll biex induqu l-ikel u xorb tradizzjonali Malti li kien hemm b'abbundanza.

Fid-29 ta Frar kont mistiedna ngħamel parti mill-panel li organiżżaw l-MMG Concert Band ta' Victoria biex jiġi celebrat is-sehem i ta' nisa influenti Maltin. Is-sala kienet imbullata b'nies prominenti Maltin, kemm nisa kif ukoll irġiel. L-ikla, li kienet organiżzata mill-Klabb tal-George Cross, u kienet tajba hafna fejn kulhadd ha pjacir.

Maržu ta' 2020 wassalna għal famuża Parata tal Moomba. Wara erba xhur ta' preparamenti u kuncerti, b'luzzu zgħir fuq ir-roti, jiena u Antonia Camilleri flimkien ma grupp ta' persuni ta kull eta imxejna fil-parata. Kien ta pjacir kbir li rajna bosta hbieb qalb il-folla, ixejjru bnadar u iċapċpu biex jinkoraġġuna waqt il-parata. Spicċajna għajjenien imma ferm sodisfatti.

Fil-15 ta Maržu kien imiss li nissaportjaw lin-Newport Association fil-famuż Ballu tal-Karnival.

Kien żmien ta' incertezza kawża tal-pandemija u għalkemm l-attendenza ma kienetx daqs tas-soltu u b'nuqqas ta' kostumi, l-atmosfera xorta kienet brijuża b'żfin u tbaħrit tas-soltu. Nisperaw li s-sena d-dieħla l-affarijiet ikunu aħjar.

Sfortunatament għalkemm kont mistiedna għal aktar okkażjonijiet organiżżati minn għaqdiet oħra, hafna minn dawn kellhom jithassru minhabba fir-ristriżżjonijiet tal-pandemija. Ipprovajna ngħamlu laqgħa tal-kunsill bit-teknoloġija taż-Zoom, imma minhabba nuqqas ta' kunfidenza tal-midja soċjali minn għad ta' membri, sibna li kienet haga aktarx iebsa. Iddeċidejna li wara li jispiċċaw ir-ristriżżjonijiet ikun tajjeb jekk iċ-Ċentru jibda jgħamel taħriġ meħtieġ fuq il-kompjuter għal gejjieni u

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biex wieħed ikun preparat f'kaz li jinqala xi ħaġa oħra. Essenzjalment iċ-Ċentru ilu magħluq minn Marzu, imma l-ħaddiema tagħna żammejnihom impjegati bl-għajnuna tal-Gvern.

Il-Koordinatur tagħna Maree Rizzo, flimkien mat-team dedikat tagħna, ħolqot roster fejn il-klijenti tagħna rċevew telefonata kull ftitjiem. Kellhom għajnuna biex jgħamlu x-xiri, jirċevu xi pakki ta' ikel u jilgħabu l-Bingo virtuali fuq il-kompjuter. Bl-għajnuna tat-teknoloġija diġitali, il-komunita anzjana nżammet infurmata u naqas l-iżolament.

Irene Grillo, l-uffiċjal amministrattiv, ħadet ħsieb it-telefonati, għamlet appuntamenti, baqgħet f'kontatt kontinwu ma l-assocjazzjonijiet u tagħat appoġġ kbir lil Eżekuttiv. Għal l-ewwel darba l-MCCV impjegaw fuq kuntratt fiss lil Cheryle Lupa biex tolhoq sistemi diġitali. L-impjeg tagħha intemm f'Settembru 2020.

Meta t-tieni fażi ta' ristriżżjonijiet bdew, inħass il-bżonn li jsir aktar biex inżommu l-komunita magħquda u għalhekk l-MCCV beda ż-Zoom Bingo kull nhar ta Sibt wara nofs in-nhar. Jintlgħabu tlett loġħobiet biss, imma ċ-ċajt u divertiment hu kontinwu. Laħaq kellna 28 jilgħabu u dan ser ikompli diment li nibqgħu magħluqin. Introduċejna wkoll Zoom soċjali fejn il-partecipanti jgħaddu ftit ħin flimkien u bejn kikkra te jew kafe, jew xi tazza inbit, jaqsmu l-esperjenza tagħhom f'dawn iż-żminijiet li qedin ngħejxu fihom. Din intlaqet ferm tajjeb minn kullhadd.

Fr. Lonnie ta' bidu wkoll tal-Quddiesa bil-Malti fuq Zoom kull l-ewwel Gimgħa tax-xahar. Fl-aħħar waħda kellu udjenza ta 20 ruħ.

L-esperjenza qed aktar turina li hemm bżonn kbir ta tagħlim fost l-anzjani ta kif iħaddmu t-teknoloġija moderna. Din għanda tkun ta prijorita fil ġejjieni.

Mill-Eżekuttiv irtiraw Antoinette Ciantar, Emanuel Bartolo u Irene Abela. Nirringrażżjawhom tas-servizz siewi li taw u nixtquqhom kull suċċess għal ġejjieni.

Lisa Zammit ingħaqdet maċ-Ċentru Malti matul is-sena. Lisa għandha esperjenza fuq is-settur komunitarju u qed taqsam l-esperjenza tagħha rigward strutturi organazzivi u kif tapplika għal fondi minn għand il-gvern.

Antonia Camilleri (Viċi President) u Andrew Gatt (Segretarju) huma ferm effiċjenti biex jiżguraw li l-kontijiet u s-salarji jithalsu fil-pront. Andrew qed jieħu ħsieb li isir xi xogħol ta manutenzjoni u tisbieħ fic-Ċentru waqt li dan huwa magħluq. Antonia kompliet xogħol mad-djar ta l-anzjani biex tizgura li r-residenti Maltin qed ikunu imħarsa mill-aħjar.

Rosemary Attard, l-aktar waħda li ilha fuq l-Eżekuttiv, dejjem lesta li tagħti sehemha kull meta tintgħalab xi għajnuna min għandha. Ħadna l-oppurtunita li waqt li ċ-Ċentru kien magħluq l-Eżekuttiv ħa sehem f'erba seżżjonijiet informattiva ma Patricia McNamara biex flimkien ħadmu fuq pjan strateġiku ġdid. Minn dan ħareġ il bżonn li isir studju. Inqalet l-oppurtunita li nimpjegaw studenta mill-Universita ta Melbourne, li qed tistudja fuq għajnuna soċjali, biex tieħu ħsieb studju ta kif nistgħu naġġornaw il-komunita Maltija biex tkun relevanti għaž-żmien li ngħixu fiħ u għal futur. Barra l-istudenta, Christiene Tudor, konna xxurtjati li ksibna s-servizzi tas-supervisor tagħha, Patricia McNamara.

Dan l-aħħar kont mistiedna ngħamel appell bil-Malti ta kif wieħed għandu jżomm ruħu protett matul din il-pandemija. Għamilt siegħat nistudja u bl-għajnuna ta Antonia wasalt. Nispera li rajtuħ fuq Facebook. Dan kien imħallas mill-Gvern Statali u kien irrekorkjat f'55 lingwa differenti. Meta indunajt li kien ser jintwera fuq il-website biss, ktibt lil Onorevoli Ros Spence MP, ministru ta' Affarijiet Multikulturali, biex jintwera kull gimgħa waqt l-Aħbarijiet Maltin fuq l-SBS.

Sfortunatament l-SBS kellhom kuntratt biex minflok l-aħbarijiet bil-Malti, juru l-Basketball u għalhekk l-aħbarijiet bil-Malti ma sarux. Il-Ministru Spence mexxa d-dilemma tagħna mal Ministru Federali minħabba li l-SBS hu finanzjati mill-gvern Federali. Minn hawn irċevejt stedina biex nirraprezenta l-Kommunita Maltija fuq il Covid19 Community Leaders Group li hu mmexxi mill-

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Ministru Spence. Issa aktar informazzjoni bil-Malti ser tiġi mxandra fuq il-medja u programmi Maltin fuq ir-radju.

Inhegġgħkom biex tkomplu tappoġġjaw il-programmi Maltin minn fuq ir-Radju. SBS Radio Melbourne, Executive Producer, Joe Axiaq, 3ZZZ Ethnic Community Radio, Convenor, Paul Vella,

Radio 3RIM broadcaster, Miriam Vella, Radio North West FM, producer, Manuel Brincat u Radio 3GCR Gippsland, producer and presenter Mario Sammut. Skeda tal-programmi kollha ssibuha fuq il-website tagħna, fuq il-paġna Facebook u ser tkun fir-Rapport Anwali. Dawn il-programmi kollha jgħatuna servizz billi regolament ixandru s-servizzi u programmi kulturali tagħna. Huma wkoll jagħtuna hin biex inżommu l-Komunita Maltija aġġornata ma dak li qed jġri.

Nixtieq niringrazzja wkoll lil Frank Scicluna, l-editur tal ‘Journal of Maltese Living Abroad’ u lil Lawrence Dimech mill ‘Voice of the Maltese’. Dawn il-ġurnali eletroniċi jgħatuna ħafna appoġġ, kemm lil Kunsill Malti kif ukoll lil Komunita Maltija in general, b’kuntent vibranti, informattiv u li jgħaqqad lil Komunita.

Grazzi wkoll lil Dr. Victoria Borg, kunsilliera fil-kunsill ta Brimbank, ta l-għajjnuna kontinwa u nkoragġiment. Nixtieq niringrazzja wkoll lil Konslu Generali tal Victoria, Mario Farrugia Borg, u l-istaff ħabrieċi tiegħu Miriam, Pauline u Gioconda.

Matul is-sena kellna kontra qalbna ngħatu l-aħħar tislma lil numru ta persuni li ħallewna u li matul ħajjithom taw serizz kbir lil MCCV. Fosthom hemm Freddie Axiaq li għalkemm personalment ma kellix kuntatt miegħu, imma smajt kemm kien dedikat għal ħafna snin biex ħa ħsieb iċ-Ċentru, ħoloq xenarji għal ħafna okkażjonijiet ta kull xorta. Smajt li kien maħbub u rispettatt mill-Komunita Maltija tal-Victoria.

Charles Portelli, li serva fuq l-kumitat eżekuttiv taċ-Ċentru fis snin 90, kif ukoll Nick Caruana, li kien wieħed mill-ewwel membri tal-Kumitat ta Newport Association. Nick kien kontributur kbir tal-mużika u divertiment teatrali fost il-komunita Maltija. Lil dawn ngħidulhom GRAZZI u l-MCCV jibqa jiftakarhom. Qabel ngħalaq nixtieq ngħid grazzi lil Fr. John, Fr. Lonnie, Fr. Noel u Fr. Edwin tal MSSP tal appoġġ u l-barka tagħhom. Meta nerġġu nifthu iċ-Ċentru tkunu tistgħu taraw it-tibdil, li fil parti l-kbira kien ifinanzjat ugualment miċ-Ċentru u mill-MSSP.

Nistenna bil-herqa s-sena 2021, meta nerga nara lil kullhad mill-ġdid. Għandna ħafna pjanijiet oħra u nispera li ma ndumux ma ngħidulhom bihom.

Marlene Ebejer
President

MCCV EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



**MARLENE EBEJER
PRESIDENT**



**ANTONIA CAMILLERI
VICE PRESIDENT**



**LISA ZAMMIT
EXECUTIVE MEMBER**



**FR LONNIE BORG
MSSP**



**ANDREW GATT
SECRETARY**



**ROSEMARY ATTARD
WELFARE DIRECTOR**

MCCV STAFF



MAREE RIZZO
CHSP COORDINATOR



IRENE GRILLO
ADMINISTRATION



FRANK ABELA
CHSP SUPPORT WORKER



SARAH GALEA
CHSP SUPPORT WORKER



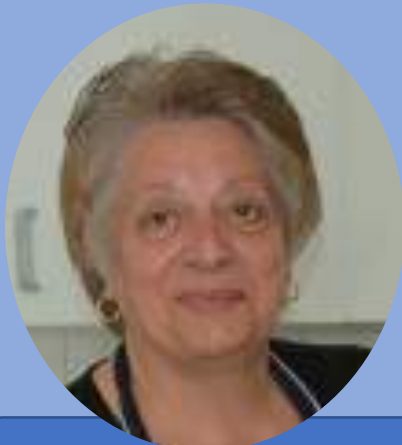
MARY BOLAND
CHSP SUPPORT WORKER



NEIL ILSLEY
**CHSP DRIVER/ SUPPORT
WORKER**



CAROL PARKINSON
CHSP SUPPORT WORKER



ROSE NUNER
CHSP SUPPORT WORKER

SOCIAL SUPPORT VOLUNTEERS



“My name is Connie and I am a volunteer at the Social Support Group in Sunshine. I look forward going to the centre, where I am able to help clients with activities and assist staff in the kitchen. I love listening to stories the clients share. It makes me very happy seeing them all enjoy themselves and that I can make a difference in their lives.”



“My Name is Joe Magri and I am a volunteer at the Sunshine Maltese center. I have meet some wonderful hard-working staff that always put their clients first. They always make sure that the clients are comfortable, organizing games, exercises and making sure that everyone is well fed. Along the way I have also met some wonderful older Maltese people that were always kind and loved talking about the days they spent in Malta before they migrated to Australia. They all have great stories to tell and are eager to share their experiences with each other. Of course, there is always time for playing some Bingo a game of cards.”



TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

Staff took the opportunity of working from home to undertake numerous online training, professional development and workshop activities.

Person centred care & Empowerment

COVID-19 Infection Control Training

Zoom Elder Abuse Workshop

COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment

COVID-19 Supporting Older Australians

Managing Behaviours of Concern

Workplace Documentation

A healthy you; understanding the self

What people living with Dementia teach us Webinar

COVID-19 Personal Safety

Aged care quality standards

COVID-19 Outbreak Management

COVID-19 In-home Care

Non-clinical Hand Hygiene

If you suspect a person has COVID-19

- COVID Safe Plan
- Return to Work Protocol for staff, volunteers, Association members and visitors.
- Progressive return to Social Support group Processes
- Infection Control Policies and Procedures
- Covid-19 Screening Checklists and Registers
- Risk Assessments and Risk Checklist
- Strict cleaning and sanitising Protocols
- Emergency and Isolation Procedures

The safety of all members of the Maltese community is of the utmost importance and the MCCV take this responsibility very seriously.

Numerous infection control, risk and safety plans and protocols have been developed to ensure all who will enter the MCCV in the future can do so with peace of mind.

The team at the MCCV look forward to, once again, delivering quality services to the Maltese Community as soon as possible.

THE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF MALTESE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF VICTORIA WOULD SINCERELY LIKE TO THANK THE COMMONWEALTH DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND THE VICTORIAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR CHSP AND HACC-PYP PROGRAMS.



GRANTS & FUNDING

Funded by the City of Melbourne, the Community Meals program provides lunch to Maltese community members on the third Wednesday of every month at the Maltese Community Centre in Parkville. This operates in partnership with the Maltese Newport Association.

Department of Health allocated Commonwealth Home Support Programme funding to the MCCV to provide Domestic Assistance and Centre Based Respite to Maltese over the age of 65 who reside in their own homes and live in the Western suburbs of Melbourne.

The Good Things Foundation provided funding the MCCV to develop a digital lending program. The Be Connected Digital Device grant enabled MCCV to purchase a number of iPads in order to teach Maltese older people their use and lend them out to them during Covid-19 lockdown stages.

The Business Support Grant is funded by Business Victoria to assist businesses during COVID-19 by assisting to meet business costs including utilities, salaries, rent and supporting activities related to the overall operations of a business.

The purpose of Multicultural Community Connections which is funded by the Victorian Government is to provide immediate and crucial support to multicultural community organisations to enable engagement and stronger connections with their communities during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

**AUGUST 2019
COMMUNITY MEALS
GRANT**

**OCTOBER 2019 CHSP
GROWTH FUNDING**

**MAY 2020. BE
CONNECTED DIGITAL
LENDING GRANT**

**JUNE 2020 BUSINESS
SUPPORT GRANT**

**JUNE 2020
MULTICULTURAL
COMMUNITY
CONNECTIONS**

MCCV EVENTS & MILESTONES



JULY 2019 MICHAEL ZAMMIT DANCE PARTY.



AUGUST 2019 MCCV MARKET DAY



SEPTEMBER 2019 INDEPENDENCE DAY
DANCE AT MELROSE RECEPTION



NOVEMBER 2019 SKORBA



OCTOBER 2019 DIGITAL HIGH TEA

MCCV EVENTS & MILESTONES



DECEMBER 2019 CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON



JANUARY 2020 AUSTRALIA DAY FLAG RAISING CEREMONY



FEBRUARY 2020 OPENING OF LATROBE VALLEY MALTESE MUSEUM

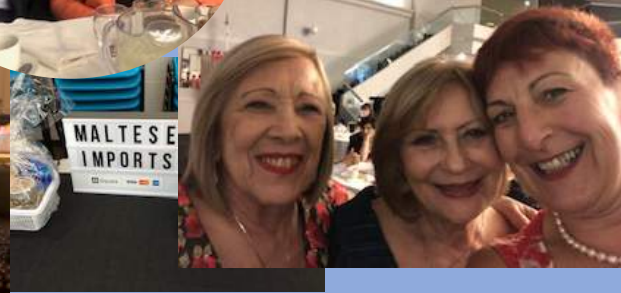


FEBRUARY 2020 MMG WOMENS LUNCHEON



MARCH 2020 MOOMBA PARADE

MCCV EVENTS & MILESTONES



DIGITAL HIGH TEA



In October 2019 900+ community organisations across Australia held local events which were aimed at supporting people with limited or no digital skills to get more out of life online.

The purpose of this event was to support all participants to familiarise themselves with digital technology. They set goals at the beginning of the session and most people achieved these goals. Some logged into Facebook, others took a photograph with funny filters and some even found their place of birth in Malta on Google Maps. They also shared a beautifully presented high tea and received a certificate of achievement for their wonderful efforts.



CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON



The annual Christmas Luncheon hosted by the Ladies Auxiliary, was, yet again, a great success. Over 100 people attended and celebrated a wonderful year at the Maltese Community Centre.

Entertainment was provided by Newport Seniors Group who sang wonderful Christmas songs and some great rock and roll hits that had people up dancing and singing along.



Mosaic Experiences provided a flash mob who surprised all in attendance with their wonderful costumes and traditional music. Participants were dressed up and invited to dance and celebrate. A great success overall and a wonderful way to end our year.



SOCIAL SUPPORT GROUP

The MCCV Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) Social Support group delivers a culturally sensitive and consumer-centred services across its sites in Parkville and Sunshine. Five Social Support groups operate each week providing freshly prepared meals, socialisation opportunities, transport and range of activities. These activities are engaging and tailored to support consumers in achieving their individual goals. Activities are designed to address a consumers physical, social, cognitive, spiritual and emotional needs and improve their overall quality of life.

Social Support groups significantly contribute to reducing social isolation of Maltese people over the age of 65 by providing them with the opportunity to connect with their community in a safe, welcoming and inclusive environment. Social Support staff actively work towards promoting wellness and reablement practices in all aspects of service delivery.

2019 ended with 2 wonderful events, the get online week celebration and the annual Christmas Luncheon.

2020 started well with staff undertaking a team building and planning day. Many wonderful ideas for the program were suggested and strategies to deliver these activities put in place.

Consumers enjoyed weekly Mass, music therapy, pamper sessions, arts and crafts, celebration of special days and seated dance and exercise.



SOCIAL SUPPORT GROUP

Due to COVID-19, the Social Support Group ceased operation in a group setting on 17 March. This was done in order to reduce the risk which it posed to consumers, who were in a vulnerable category.

Social support coordinator and staff implemented a Service Continuity Plan which was to ensure that consumers were not isolated despite having to remain at home.

Services which were delivered as part of the *Connection Program*, and included:

- Phone calls and welfare
- Fortnightly newsletters
- Delivered Mother's Day gifts
- Telephone support for carers
- Window visits
- Conference calls
- Home visits
- Small gardening projects
- Unaccompanied shopping assistance
- Picking up medication
- iPad lessons
- Facetime and zoom socialisation sessions.
- Activity packs posted to consumers
- Video chat bingo sessions
- Drawing and Craft Activities
- Birthday cards
- Maltese TV and radio reminders
- Calling vulnerable members of broader community
- Emailing photos to family members to pass on to consumer.



Although restrictions tightened once again, consumers had been exposed to enough digital technology to be able to connect with staff and other consumers independently. This was of great benefit to improving their moral and reducing their social isolation.



MEMORY LANE CAFÉ

All memory day events are held at the Albion Cultural Centre. We have had a visit from the Governor of Victoria, The Hon Linda Dessau AC, who visited the group. It was a very enjoyable day and also had dancing and a lovely luncheon.

During the Covid lockdown, Rosemary has made contact with some of the clients that usually attend the Memory Lane Café. Dementia Australia offered the group online dancing, but unfortunately due to lack of digital access, few clients could participate.

The clients whom Rosemary visits in nursing homes and at their homes have received calls on a regular basis. Rosemary was also able to "facetime" some of the clients which make them extremely happy.

Both groups are happy with the phone call and express their wish to be able to resume visits again.

Hopefully we will get over this Covid-19 pandemic and will get back to some normality in due course.



FRIENDLY VISITING PROGRAM

The MCCV offers volunteer friendly visits to residents who in aged care facilities across Melbourne . For the majority of these people, having a chat to someone in their native language, can make an enormous difference to their day.

During these regular visits, volunteers shared stories, provided Maltese refreshments and undertook social activities with Maltese older people with the intention of reducing their isolation and lifting their spirits.

This year the Aged Care facilities which were visited in the Melbourne and Metropolitan Area included:

Marina Age Care at Altona

- Rosary Home at Keilor Downs
- Cumberland Manor at Sunshine
- Heritage care at Watergardens
- Overton Lea at Sydenham
- Anzac Lodge at Coburg
- St Bernadette at Sunshine



Antonia Camilleri worked tirelessly to coordinate visits with these facilities and feedback from residents and staff was extremely positive.

Coronavirus restrictions to facilities made it challenging for this program to continue, however, telephone contact and welfare checks by telephone ensured continuity of the service.

CARERS GROUP

The purpose of the MCCV carers group is to provide a social outlet to carers of people who are elderly or who have a disability. This program is important as it enables carers to share experiences and knowledge and gain and offer support to one another in a social environment. It also provides them with the opportunity to socialise and get a well-earned break from their caring role.

The MCCV organised outings to restaurants for lunch during the July to December period. Due to the Coronavirus, no outings were organised for 2020. The MCCV are hoping return to regular outings with our carers group once restrictions have been lifted.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

MCCV Maintenance Report: year 2019/2020.

Year 2020 has been a challenging year for the MCCV Executive members but realizing the opportunity we embarked on a maintenance program taking advantage of the Parkville facility being vacant due to Covid-19 requirements.

A lot of planning took place and we started with the major works of upgrading the Air-conditioning unit in the Hall at Parkville Installing a dual system which has now been commissioned.

This was followed by the electrical switch board for the building being upgraded to meet compliance. Additional general electrical works was also done for safety requirements.

We wish to thank the MSSP for the great support given to the MCCV for the ambitious program we set to achieve to date.

Completed and works in progress:

1. Upgraded the Electrical switch board at Parkville. (Major works).
2. Upgraded the air-conditioning system installing a dual system which has now been commissioned. (Major works).
3. Upgraded the internet modem for Parkville.
4. Installed additional power points for Internet and other locations.
5. Maltese banner approved restoration to commence shortly.
6. Changed Battery unit in Defibrillator unit at Parkville.
7. Replaced all the chairs at Parkville.
8. Due to Covid-19 and need to comply with new cleaning requirement, sourced an approved provider and in process of finalizing documentation.

Next Stage:

1. Organize maintenance agreement for air conditioning system.
2. Upgrade the oven at Parkville to a fan forced unit.
3. Bollards are needed at the rear near the back gate to protect the electrical board.
4. Clean the storage area in the garage.
5. Painting the centre at Parkville.
6. Floor repair in the hall.
7. Upgrade the electronic equipment in the hall.
8. Replace overhead video unit in the hall.
9. Archiving of documentation held in Store to Electronic format.
10. Catalogue of all Books in Library.
11. Re front of building we are seeking quotes for the upkeep of the grassy area looking at option of regular landscaping and or installing artificial turf at a one-off cost.

Andrew Gatt.

LIBRARY REPORT

MCCV Library Report 2020

The Maltese Community Council of Victoria has the largest selection of Maltese books outside of Malta. The Maltese Community Council of Victoria has not obtained assistance from Governments in Malta or Australia. It contains thousands of books not available elsewhere in Australia.

The library is to ensure the collection of Malta's documentary heritage for present and future generations, to encourage reading for study, research, self-development and lifelong-learning information and leisure purposes.

It provides services for those interested in Maltese history, Maltese language, books for children, information about Malta and many other topics. It is a lending library, and anyone can borrow books.

In addition, those who are home-bound and cannot come to the Maltese Centre in Parkville, a mobile service has been organised so books can be brought to their own homes.

Computer facilities are available for those who can use such facilities. The MCCV have applied for a grant which will enable our library to provide a service which allows members of the community to utilise and learn about digital devices. If successful the MCCV library will expand to provide iPad training, use and loaning services.

Donations of books are continuously added to the library, and we thank those who have contributed.

The Library is open to the public to browse through our books from Monday to Friday during business hours.

We would like to thank the volunteers who have donated their time to keep the library functional, tidy and attractive.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Professor Maurice Cauchi for his continuous support over many years.

MALTESE LANGUAGE CLASSES

SEMESTER 2, 2019

The MCCV Maltese Language Adult classes were still actively sought by the Maltese Community in Victoria. During Semester 2 of 2019, classes were held both at the MCCV Parkville and Sunshine premises. Registration for classes was also made available through the MCCV website.

It was the first time that classes were offered at the MCCV Sunshine venue. 11 Adult students registered for the Sunshine classes. This class resulted from various queries received by the MCCV requesting a class to be held in the western suburbs. A quick advertisement on the local media resulted in a Tutor engaged at short notice.



The new recruit to our Tutor team was Charles Tabone who taught this new Beginner's class with enthusiasm and eagerness to impart his knowledge of the Maltese Language. Resources were made available for use at these premises. Edwidge Borg assisted C. Tabone to set up this new class and trained and supported him with the delivering of the school curriculum for the Beginners class. Other



developments in Semester 2, were the retirement of Denise Shead as Tutor and the virtual online class was suspended as there were no viable student enrolment. In Parkville 19 students registered for the beginners, intermediate and advanced classes. Laura Schembri tutored the beginner's class while Henry Mallia and Georgette

Pace tutored the intermediate and advanced class respectively. The usual end of semester bring a plate of Maltese delicacies was held. This end of year revision and social occasion, forms part of a class activity into the research of Maltese recipes and sampling of the variety of Maltese cuisine.

SEMESTER 1, 2020

The 2020 Semester school year started with successful and hectic activities towards the teaching of Maltese Language in Victoria. In Semester 1 of 2020 we had 39 registered students. Students complete a questionnaire with their registration form on their knowledge of the Maltese Language. Classes were than reorganised into two Beginner's classes to cater for the number of students. One class in Parkville and one in Sunshine and a Composite Intermediate /Advanced class in Parkville. Tutors for this Semester were L. Schembri, C. Tabone and G. Pace. This Semester has seen a lot of challenges both to Tutors and students.



MALTESE LANGUAGE CLASSES

FROM CLASSROOM TO VIRUAL LEARNING

In the last three weeks of Term 1, the MCCV Maltese Language classes, were suddenly faced with the closure of the MCCV premises due to the health implications of the COVID-19 pandemic. Resources and training to get the classes going were quickly organised. Thanks to the willingness of the tutors Laura, Georgette and Charles to modify their pedagogy, we had the classes online in two weeks. It was a steep learning curve for all of us. Tutors had to plan a variety of diverse instructional management



strategies, from the usual face to face teaching, to the use of the equipment and online software. It was a constructive, collaborative approach to the sudden changed situation impacted by the pandemic. Classes were tutored using ZOOM as a medium. Term 2 classes continued to be taught on ZOOM with teachers adapting to the time limits imposed by the free 40 minutes. This was a budgetary decision and one ZOOM licence was eventually acquired by the MCCV and was made available for use by the classes.

The feedback from students attending the classes has been positive. This has been shown by their eager email responses to the tutors regarding submission of homework and queries. The majority of students still prefer face to face classes. However, online classes have attracted students from the outer suburbs of Melbourne and regional areas, to enrol. Tutors are encouraged to attend a Professional Development session, held by the Federation of Maltese Language Schools Inc., on a yearly basis and frequent communication between teachers. While these COVID-19 restrictions are in force, teachers will also be having ZOOM training and support on a regular basis.

In view of the continuing COVID-19 restrictions, two Beginner's classes and one Composite class were



being planned for Semester 2, 2020 to be given online. With the assistance of the MCCV administration, Class advertising was initiated on the MCCV website and flyers were posted on Social Media. Class registration could now be made online through the MCCV website to reduce the carbon footprint and to streamline enrolment.

On behalf of the MCCV Maltese Language Tutors & Education Committee
Edwidge Borg
COORDINATOR
MCCV MALTESE LANGUAGE CLASSES

TESTIMONIALS & FEEDBACK

"Currently staff have been calling my father on a weekly basis and I am so grateful for this. My dad always lets me know when they have called, and it always lifts his mood as most of the time he is sad a lonely"



"Just want to touch base with you to say how wonderful all of you are. Dad went off yesterday with those other wonderful people on the bus. He went really well and I rang the ladies at the centre twice as I was anxious and, on both occasions, the lady was lovely and made me feel less agitated and stressed. Once again thank you and please forward my thanks to all that



"I would like to offer you some well-earned recognition for your efforts in organising phone calls to my father, during these challenging times. He shared with me how staff from the Maltese Community Centre has been ringing him and how much he has enjoyed the phone conversations. This is such a valued service during times when many, like my father, are rather isolated."



LADIES AUXILIARY

COMMITTEE

Marlene Xerri, *President*

Lina Dingli, *Treasurer*

Mary Cefai, *Member*

Inez Mifsud, *Member*

The role of the Ladies Auxiliary changed over the years. Their initial goal was to raise funds towards the building of the Maltese Centre. Funds raised now go towards the PAG /Bingo group Christmas luncheon expenses.

The contribution to MCCV is predominantly supported by a small group of Bingo participants who attend sessions on Tuesdays commencing on the 1st Tuesday in February and finish on the last Tuesday in November. They look forward to the social gatherings and enjoy playing bingo in a more relaxed atmosphere.

During the year birthdays are celebrated as well as special event days such as, Shrove Tuesday, St Patrick's Day, Easter, Mother's Day, Footy week and Christmas.



The first Tuesday in December the Bingo group and the PAG participants joined forces and enjoy a lovely Christmas lunch funded by the MCCV Ladies Auxiliary.

Sincere thanks to the Newport Committee for their assistance once again in the kitchen and with their entertaining during the day. Everyone had a great time.

Our thanks to Maree Rizzo, PAG Co-ordinator, Andrew Gatt, MCCV Secretary, Irene Grillo and Cheryle Lupa for their assistance and support during the year. Special thanks to the in-house photographer, Frank Abela, for taking photos on special occasions.

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



Sadly, this year we had to say goodbye to Victor Borg past president of the MCCV who always supported the Ladies Auxiliary and Alfred Asciak, volunteer, who was always ready to lend a hand when needed.

Unfortunately, this year the last bingo session was played on the 13th March as Melbourne went into its first lockdown period due to COVID-19. As a result, all bingo sessions were cancelled until further notice. Since March, contact with all participants has been maintained by phone. **Marlene Xerri President, Ladies Auxiliary**



VIVA MARIA BAMBINA IN MELBOURNE

THE FEAST OF MARIA BAMBINA IN MELBOURNE

As in every year, Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group, organises the Feast of Maria Bambina on behalf of the Fathers of the Missionary Society of St Paul, in Parkville.

On Thursday, September 5, a Mass was celebrated by Fr Lonnie Borg in St. Paul's Chapel Parkville where a good number from the Maltese Community attended. Fr Borg did the Homily. After Mass refreshments provided by Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group were served in the foyer of the Maltese Centre.



On Saturday, September 7, Reskeon organised the Bambina Dinner Dance at Firenze Receptions, McBryde Street, Fawkner attended by a good number of members and friends. MC for the day was Mr Joe Cutajar.

Those present were served hors d'oeuvres and drinks followed by the meal: entree Antipasto each person, ricotta cannelloni, chicken kiev and roast beef and vegies on each plate, fresh fruit, Cassata ice cream, continental cakes with tea and coffee.



Music was in the hands of DJ Domenic and later on the MMG Concert Band entered the hall to create the Festa merriment.

On Sunday, September 8, The Feast of Maria Bambina was held at St Mary Star of the Sea Church, West Melbourne, most of our community relate to it as the Church of the Maltese. The church was packed by devotees of Maria Bambina who attend every year.

The singing and music during the Mass was in the hands of Mr Charles Schembri.

A large number of Associations attended with their Banners.

As the weather was wet, windy and cold the Procession took place inside the Church, where the Maltese Own Band Philharmonic Society played Hymns for the occasion.

At the end there was the Benediction of the Holy Sacrament.

Fr Lonnie Borg thanked all those who were in attendance and the statue beareres and those with the "forcina".

He thanked Reskeon for their help in organising this Feast on their behalf. Refreshments were served for the helpers of the Feast.



Paul Vella, Secretary, Reskeon Maltese Association

3ZZZ MALTESE RADIO PROGRAM

3ZZZ MALTESE PROGRAMS STAYED ON AIR DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

We are still going through the Covid-19 Corona Virus Pandemic which has changed our lives completely. It affected many members of the Community mentally and in health. We were locked down for many weeks without being able to see or visit members of our families.

During these times, members of the Maltese Community were still able to enjoy the Maltese programs on Community Radio 3ZZZ with three programs every week.

The Station of 3ZZZ closed its studios from March 27 because of the Pandemic. The broadcasters of the Maltese Broadcasting Group, Mario Sammut, Paul Vella and Liz Phillips decided to produce and record three programs each week. As Paul Vella was the only one equipped to produce and record these programs at home, he did this since March this year. When the programs were recorded, each program was sent to the Audio Studio System, electronically where the Manager or Assistant Manager put these programs in the Maltese time slot of the programs and so the programs went to air every week.



Front is Mario Sammut.
Back from left to right, Liz Phillips, Paul Vella and Salvina Vella

During these times we ran a Membership Drive where we managed to attract over 40 new members of the 3ZZZ Maltese Programs. This was achieved because listeners appreciate our programs and we were always happy to receive a lot of feedback from listeners after each program showing their appreciation that even during these tough times we managed to keep our programs going.

Monday programs contained a march from a Maltese Band, and a lot of Maltese songs and Maltese literature readings. Friday programs also started with a march from a Maltese Band, the reading and homily of the Gospel of the following Sunday, folk singing (Ghana), readings of stories by Maltese writers and Maltese songs. The Saturday's program is mainly a request program. Listeners are invited to make contact with Paul, Mario and Liz with their dedication for an event they are celebrating. Every second Saturday, Paul invites the other broadcasters, Mario Sammut and Liz Phillips, to be on air through a phone call. With Liz, Paul conducts like interview of what's going on and finish with a few jokes which the listeners always wait for. In his segment, Mario, always presents items of interest to the listeners and finish with his comic segment of the story that he created and kept going for a number of years. Because of this our listeners kept in touch with all of our broadcasters.

So, we are glad that we managed to keep our programs on air to the delight of our dedicated and loyal listeners. Our programs, after going to air become available on demand on the 3ZZZ website and stay there for a month. Our programs are followed by the Maltese Community, interstate, and all over the world, with listener in USA, Canada, England, France and many other places. We are so happy to receive a lot of feedback from these listeners as well.

- Paul Vella, Convenor, 3ZZZ Maltese Broadcasting Group

MALTESE LITERATURE GROUP

ĊELEBRAZZJONI TAL-40 ANNIVERSARJU TAL-GRUPP LETTERATURA MALTIJA

Il-Grupp Letteratura Maltija tal-Victoria iċcelebra l-40 Anniversarju mit-twaqqif tiegħu b'ikla b'xejn għall-membri kollha.

Din saret fil-Firenze Reception Centre, Fawkner, nhar il-Ħadd, l-1 ta' Diċembru għal nofsinhar. Għal din l-ikla attendew madwar 36 membru.



Kienet ikla ta' sitt passati bix-xorb ta' ma' l-ikel: imbid aħmar u abjad, birra u xorb minerali.

L-ikla bdiet b'hors d'oeuvres, ante pasta, lasagne u casarecce fuq kull platt, chicken parmigiana u laħam-il forn fuq kull platt, frott frisk, ġelat, cassata jew tartufo, te jew kafe` u kejk tal-anniversarju.

Il-President, Dr Victor Sammut, kellu ċans jagħmel diskors qasir fejn tkellem dwar l-anniversarju u x-xogħol tal-Grupp.

Dawk li attendew kollha ħadu gost bl-organizzazzjoni, bl-ikel u l-atmosfera tas-sala.

Fuq kull mejda kien hemm il-logo tal-Grupp kif ukoll dekorazzjoni bi bżieža bil-kuluri tal-logo.

L-ikla li bdiet fin-nofs siegħa spicċcat ftit qabel il-ħamsa u nofs.

Grazzi lil dawk li organizzaw dan l-avveniment.

- Paul Vella, PRO, GLM



NEWPORT MALTESE ASSOCIATION & SENIORS

The Newport Maltese Association & Seniors Group started the year 2019-2020 on a high note, with so many of our activities well and truly supported by our members in particular the following:- **Christmas in July, Father`s Day Luncheon, Annual Dinner Dance, Christmas break up Dinner Dance, New year`s Eve Ball and the Carnival Dinner Dance.** Grants received from the Victorian Multicultural Commission for the year amounted to \$7,860. This amount of money helped the Association to subsidize the members mainly to the above-mentioned activities.



Other activities that we managed to organize before the Corona Virus restrictions came into force were - **End of the Year 15 Day Trip to the South Pacific Islands and Fiji, Spring Carnival Luncheon at Parkville with the Ladies wearing a hat and competing for the**

Miss Spring Carnival 2019 sash. And for the first time we came up with the idea of organizing the **Newport Talent Quest** with some of the contestants bringing back to life some old favorite



songs including :- **Give my regards to Broadway, You made me Love you, It had to be you, By the light of the silvery moon and many more.**

The members of the Association who meet regularly on Wednesdays at the Maltese Community Centre at Parkville continue to enjoy the facilities of the Centre by way of playing Bingo, Billiards. Indoor Carpet Bowling,



others relax with a cup of tea or coffee and munching a pastizzi or two while debating everything they can think of under the sun.

Naturally, with the Covid-19 restrictions our disappointment for the year was that we had to cancel some of the activities, especially our Wednesday gathering at the Parkville Centre, but during these difficult times, our number one priority is the safety of our members.

Overall, the Association continued to flourish and the Executive Committee of the Association remain committed to advocate on issues that matter most to the members and remain purposeful and relevant to our members.

George M Saliba
OAM
President.





Maltese Historical Association (Australia) *Għaqda Storika Maltija (Awstralja)*

What a year this has been!

The Association had its Annual general meeting last November, when the committee was re-elected unopposed.

A programme for the year was tailored at the Committee meeting held in early February.

The first meeting of the Association was held on the third Tuesday of February, held at the Maltese Centre. The lecture was delivered by the President Joseph Borg, and the subject was 'Ancient Harbours around Malta and Gozo'. The meeting was well attended.

Then the Covid hit and in view of the serious nature of the virus and the fact that the majority of our membership is in the senior age-group, we, i.e. the committee decided to postpone our March meeting. After that as we all know the situation got worse and no further meetings have taken place.

During this period, our Secretary has been diligently sending out a newsletter with interesting snippets and many links to various sites dealing with Maltese History and Culture. For this I want to publicly thank Charles Gatt. I also want to thank other members of the Committee for the help they gave Charles to achieve this result.

The committee have been meeting via 'zoom' to discuss future activities.
Annual General meeting via emails and 'zoom'.

Joseph Borg

President

MALTESE AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS	Title	Name	Surname	Position
Australian Nadur Association Inc	Mr	Tony	Sultana	President
Australian Maltese Chambers of Commerce	Mr.	Martin	Perigin	President
Bacchus Marsh Good Friday Association Inc	Mr	John	Sant	President
Ex-Members of the Malta Police Force Assoc.	Ms	Maria	Calleja	President
Hadfield Golden years Social Club	Mrs	Rita	Saliba	President
Klabb Ghannejja Maltin Inc	Mr	George	Aquilina	President
Sunshine George Cross Soccer Club	Mr	Mark	Sultana	President
Lalor United Bocci Club	Mr	David	Ellul	President
Malta Gozo Concert Band	Mr	Dean	Attard	President
Malta Star of the Sea House Inc	Mr	Raymond	Cini	President
Maltese Association Hobsons Bay Inc	Chev	Joseph	Attard	President
Maltese Association Northern Suburbs	Mr	Giacinto	Cassar	President
Maltese Australian Association	Mr	Benedict	Soler	President
Maltese Community Centre & L.V. Inc	Mr	Mario	Sammut	President
Maltese Cultural Association of Vic Inc.	Mr	Peter Paul	Portelli	President
Maltese Historical Association of Australia	Mr	Joseph	Borg	President
Maltese La Vallette Association	Mr	Joe	Cassar	President
Maltese Literature Group	Dr	Victor	Sammut	President
Maltese Own Band Philharmonic Society Inc	Mr	Anselmo	Xuereb	President
Maltese Performing Arts	Mr	Ray	Anastasi	President
Maltese Senior Citizens Club Airport West Inc	Mr	Alfred	Sammut	President
Maltese Social Bowls Club of Victoria	Mr	Gregory	Grima	President
Maltese Ex Services Association of Victoria	Mr	Joseph	Stafrace	President
Melita Social Club Inc	Mr	Edwin	Bonello	President
Moreland Malt. Elderly Citizens Assoc	Mr	John	Vella	President
Newport Maltese Association Inc	Mr	George	Saliba	President
Newport Maltese Seniors Association	Mr	George	Saliba	President
Our Lady of Grace Association	Mr	Joseph	Cutajar	President
Portarlinton Maltese Pensioners Assoc Inc	Mr	Charles	Attard	President
Reskeon Maltese Assoc & Reskeon Seniors Group Inc	Mrs	Salvina	Vella	President
St Bernadette Seniors & Social Club	Mr	Alfred	Zahra	President
St Albans Melita Band	Mr	Joe	Cardona	President
St Albans South Seniors	Mr	Charles	Desira	President
St Gaetan's Society Inc	Mr	Jimmy	Chircop	President
St Helena	Mr	Victor	Bartolo	President
St Paul's South Eastern Suburbs Maltese Seniors Ass Inc	Mr	Alfred	Griscti	President
St Sebastians Seniors Association Inc. Vic. Australia	Mr	Patrick	Caruana -Smith	President
Stella Maris Maltese Association	Mr	Charlie	Xerri	President
Sunshine George Cross Soccer Club	Mr	Mark	Sultana	President
Tarxien Social Club Inc	Mrs	David	Ferrigi	President
Tripoli Social Club	Mr	Romeo	Cini	President
Western Suburbs Maltese Association Inc	Mr	Vince	Aquilina	President
Ladies Auxillary	Mrs.	Marlene	Xerri	President
Whittlesea Maltese Seniors	Ms	Lucy	Priscapo	President
Rabat Malta Senior Citizen Association Inc	Mr	Joseph	Dingley	President

MCCV FINANCIAL REPORT

Maltese Community Council of Victoria Incorporated

ABN 66 736 675 892

Statement of Financial Position As at 30 June 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	1,037,289	676,712
Accounts receivable and other debtors	4	5,253	1,175
Total Current Assets		1,042,542	677,887
Non-Current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	5	1,042,253	1,041,956
Total Non-Current Assets		1,042,253	1,041,956
Total Assets		2,084,795	1,719,843
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts payable and other payables	6	78,175	56,160
Employee provisions	7	40,423	33,259
Total Current Liabilities		118,598	89,419
Total Liabilities		118,598	89,419
Net Assets		1,966,197	1,630,424
Equity			
Reserves	8	821,600	881,600
Accumulated surplus	9	1,144,597	748,824
Total Equity		1,966,197	1,630,424

Auditors Independence Declaration Under Section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001

To the Directors of Maltese Community Council of Victoria Incorporated

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2020, there have been:

- no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and
- no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



Michael Ganci (Registered Company Auditor)
Dated this 18th Day of November 2020

GANCI
ACCOUNTANTS & AUDITORS

Ganci Accountants & Auditors
Shop 3/100 Keilor Rd Essendon North VIC 3041

MALTESE RADIO PROGRAMS

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: <https://www.sbs.com.au/language/maltese>

The Maltese programs on SBS radio are broadcast as follows:

**Friday 12 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)

Podcasts of program segments –

<http://www.sbs.com.au/podcasts/yourlanguage/maltese>

3ZZZ ETHNIC COMMUNITY RADIO 92.3 FM

Paul Vella

Convenor Maltese Programs.



309 Albert Street, Brunswick 3056

Studios: (03) 9415 1923

Office: (03) 9415 1928

Mobile: 0409 961 928

F: (03) 9415 1818 or 9417 1670

W: <http://www.3zzz.com.au>

**Mondays and Fridays 5.00 – 6.00 pm
Saturday 10.00am – 11.00 am**

RADIO 3 RIM 97.9 FM

Miriam Vella

Broadcaster



RIM 97.9

Centenary Avenue

Melton Vic 3337

T: (03) 9747 0450

F: (03) 9747 0450

W: <http://www.979fm.com.au/>

Tuesdays 6.00 pm – 8.00 pm

Local community Radio Stations for Western area of Shire of Melton that can be heard in Metropolitan Melbourne.

RADION NORTH WEST FM -98.9

Emmanuel Brincat

Producer / Presenter.



NORTH WEST FM 98.9

PO Box 403

Glenroy, Vic 3046

T: (03) 9304 1244

F: (03) 9304 1468

W: <https://www.northwestfm.org/>

Monday 7.00 pm – 8.00 pm

Friday 6.00 pm – 7.00 pm

RADIO 3GCR

Gippsland 104.7 FM



Mario Sammut

Presenter Maltese Program

PO Box 579

Morwell VIC 3840

T: 5134 8444

<https://www.gippslandfm.org.au/?s=MALTESE>

Mondays & Wednesdays 6.00am – 9.00am