



# **Maltese Community Council of Victoria Annual Report 2020-2021**



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## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2021**

### ***The year that was***

Well, where can we start with the year of 2021 pretty much the same as 2020. Although we are the most locked down state in the world the MCCV has tried to shine some bright lights throughout the year to keep us all going.

### ***Our staff and board members***

Our staff have worked tirelessly to keep our programs going while in lockdown. We are delighted with our dedicated staff who give their heart and soul to our elderly clients involved in the social program, domestic service and respite service. Our board members continue to work within their own associations while staying on top of all the governance issues we face and give much of their time at our community events.



### ***The events***

We had planned a Maltese festa to take place at the Caroline Springs George Cross stadium for Australia Day. The Australia Day Council provided us with a grant of \$20,000 and we had many of our associations and volunteers come together to help us plan what was going to be an amazing event. Sadly, restrictions on public events meant we could not have such a large scale festa. The goodwill and planning will not be lost we will do it one day when there is much more relaxation in our Covid world.

The Australia Day Council were kind enough to allow us to use some of the funds, before returning the surplus, on three events. We held an **Australia Day Breakfast** at our Parkville Centre. 110 people sat down to a delicious breakfast with free-flowing coffee, tea and a splash of sparkling. Mia Haber sang the Australian national anthem and we met with old friends and made new ones.

In preparation for Easter, we had a reprieve from lockdown and spent a day at the CRC Regional College in Sydenham learning how to make delicious **figoli** under the superb tutelage of Peter Haber. Peter's energy and enthusiasm for the Maltese community is wonderful and we thank his son Oscar for helping out throughout the day. Around 100 people enjoyed the day and made so many delights to take home to their families. My favourite part of this day is the 3 to 4 generations of families that attend. We look forward to doing it again in 2022 along with many more cooking opportunities.



We launched our **Veteran memorial plaque** in April to past service people of a Maltese background who served in conflict. This was funding by Department of Veteran Affairs. We welcomed a number of families to the centre for the launch who saw their loved one's names on the plaques. We hope to build on this by including other names in the future.



**Mother's Day** we dressed up the MCCV into a high tea salon. 100 people attended this spectacular event. The food was divine there was so much of it that much walked out the door with guests. Yet again Peter Haber, his wife Marlene, daughter Mia and son Oscar, came to the rescue they prepare and served all of the food. Thanks to Rita Overman for shopping state wide looking for a collection of magnificent high tea crockery. Irene (renowned MCCV secretary) Antonia Camilleri (Vice President) and Lisa Zammit (committee member) worked tirelessly to set up the hall. Just take a look at the photos there was much joy and happiness that day.



We were planning a special **Father's day** but lockdown stopped that but do not fear dad's next year it will happen.

The Multicultural Festival and Events accepted our submission to produce a Maltese Film festival. We attempted a **Maltese film night** but lockdown stopped that. Never fear we have sourced the award-winning film "Luzzu" to show early in the new year. I had the pleasure of watching it online during the Melbourne International Film Festival and I think people will really enjoy it.

### **Maltese connections**

We virtually said good bye to our Consul General – Mario Farrugia Borg – who was elevated to the role of High Commissioner and replaced the long-standing High Commissioner Charles Muscat. We virtually welcomed the new Malta's Consul General of Victoria - Chirelle Ellul Sciberras. The Consul General arrived in May 2021. We attempted an official welcome but once again lockdown prevented that from happening. We do intend in welcoming the Consul General in the near future.

### **Our local connections**

The executive continued to meet online and planning for the future and looking at ways to ensure that the MCCV continues through the generations. We have a strong commitment to our first, second, third and fourth generations.

We have tried to stay connected with the community in general by offering online zoom bingo every Saturday afternoon during lockdown, Maltese Mass with Fr Lonnie and we even tried a couple of online trivia sessions. The people who attend really appreciate the weekly connection and we will continue to offer these services during all lockdowns. Once we re-open we plan to offer people a range of activities and opportunities to meet.

We have a strong social media presence on facebook with over 3000 followers but understand not everyone using that. We use our wonderful Maltese radio stations, SBS,

3ZZZ 92.3, North West FM 98.9, 3RIM 97.9 Community Radio and 3GCR Gippsland 104.7 to keep people informed along with our website and notices to our associations.

We held an information session online with Dr Caroline Bartolo, epidemiologist, spoke to us about covid and provided a very informative presentation on why vaccine is so important. We will be doing more in this space with a new grant just obtained from Federation of Ethnic Communities Councils of Australia to provide awareness and information to our community.

### ***Our national connections***

This year was census year and thank you to the Maltese Community Council of Victoria the Maltese across the country came together to run a campaign around completing the Census. Unless we say we are Maltese our language and culture will not be counted. It was such a wonderful experience seeing so many on zoom working together for our wonderful community across Australia. That was the beginning of something.

Our next national meeting was with the High Commissioner Mario Farrugia Borg talking about ways we could celebrate Maltese citizenships in the future.

Our next mission is to ensure that our language programs on SBS continue to be aired and supported.

### ***Government forums***

This year I had the pleasure of being continuously involved and informed by the Victorian Government Multicultural Affairs Community Leaders forum. Thank you to Minister the Honourable Ros Spence. She gives her time and that of her staff without consideration to keep us informed of a daily basis on government restrictions, support and wellbeing figures.

We continue to be a member of the Ethnic Community Council of Victoria.

### ***Special thanks to our volunteers***

Without volunteers we are nothing, of note this year I wish to acknowledge Joe Camilleri, Anne Caruana, Rita Overman, Rita Attard, Peter Haber and family, and Ted Delia.

### ***Our vision***

We are really itching to show you all our wonderful Parkville centre. Over \$130,000 was spent on renovations. Thank you to the Minister of Multicultural Affairs for providing half of the funding. We still want to raise funds to modernise the kitchen but that will happen. You will be blown away when you see what it looks like. When you walk in the door you see all the associations who have been a part of the MCCV from the start or joined during the journey, our refurbished bar donated all those years ago by the Newport Association and currently being restored our beautiful flag.

Our library is being redeveloped and we hope to launch the renovations in the new year with a community celebration.

At the time of writing the board have been conducting interviews to employ a CEO to take us further forward in ensuring we provide services and a centre that meets the needs of all who consider themselves Maltese.

I look forward to meeting you all in 2022 which I hope will be a wonderful year free of restrictions and an opportunity to come together and celebrate all that is Maltese.

Marlene Ebejer  
President  
MCCV

## **RAPPORT TAL-PRESIDENT 2021.**

### **Is-Sena li kienet.**

Nibda biex ngħid li is-sena 2021 kienet tixbaħ ferm is-sena 2020. Biss għalkemm spċajna bħala l-aktar Stat fid-dinja magħluqin kawża tal-pandemija, l-MCCV għamel min kollox biex żamm il-komunita Maltija magħqudin u informati skond il-bzonn.

### **IL-Haddiema tagħna u il-Membri ta L-Eżekuttiv.**

Il-ħaddiema tagħna ħadmu bla heda biex tkomplew il-programmi ta l-anzjani u oħrajn għalkemm kellna ir-restrizzjonijiet tal-pandemija. Dawn il-ħaddiema ferm dedikati komplew jiehdu ħsieb il-klijenti anzjani permezz tal-programmi soċjali, servizzi domestiċi u servizz ta serħan.

### **Festa Maltija f'Jum L-Awstralja.**

Wara li ircivejna għotja ta \$20,000 dollaru mill-Australia Day Council, ħsibna biex ngħamlu Festa Maltija f'Jum L-Awstralij ġewwa il-kumpless ta Caroline Springs George Cross. Saru bosta laqgħatu u pjanijiet u kien hafna għaqdiet u individwi u voluntieri li offrew is-servizzi tagħhom. Sfortunatament wara dan kollu, minħabba ir-restrizzjonijiet marbuta mal-pandemija, il-Festa ma saritx. Din forsi issir il-quddiem. Ingħtajna ic-cans li nuzaw xi ftit mill-fondi biex norganizzaw Australia Day Breakfast ġewwa Parkville. Dan attira madwar 110 ruħ, li gew servuti ikel, te u kafe u xi ftit xorb ħafif. Mia Harber kantat l-Innu Awstraljan, u mill-kummenti li ircivejna, kulħadd deher li kien sodisfatt. Il-kumplement tal-fondi li ma intużawx ingħataw lura lil ADC.

Ftit qabel Għid il-Kbir, meta ir-restrizzjonijiet illaxkaw xi ftit, kellna iċ-ċans li inmorru, CRC Regional Collage ġewwa Sydenham, biex nitgħallmu kif jinħadmu il-Figolli. Paul Harber wera intużjażmu kbir matul id-demostrazzjonijiet li għamel dwar kif isiru il-Figolli. Attendew madwar 100 ruħ li ilkoll ħarġu ferm sodisfatti għax barra li tgħallmu, kellhom ic-cans li huma stess jgħamlu xi ħelu li wara ħadu magħhom għal familja. Hadna pjacir naraw Maltin tat-tieni, tielet u ir-raba generazzjoni fost l-udjenza. Certi li din l-okkazjoni tkun terga issir is-sena id-dieħla. Grażzi kbira lil Paul Harber ta l-intrigu li ħa biex din id-demostrazzjoni tkun success.

Bis-saħħa ta għotja mid-Dipartiment ta Affarijiet tal-Veterani, twalet plakka fic-Centru ta Parkville bl-ismijiet ta Maltin u dawk b'konnessjoni mal-Maltin b'tifkira tas-servizzi li taw matul il-gwerer tal-passat. Il-kxif ta din il-plakka sar f'April u għaliha attendew familji Maltin li setgħu jaraw l-ismijiet ta l-geżież tagħhom. Hu ittamat li fil-ġejjieni jizdiedu aktar ismijiet fuq din il-plakka.

### **Jum l-Omm**

Għal din l-okkazjoni, iċ-Ċentru ta Parkvill inbidel f'resturant lussus, mnejn kien servut dak li hu magħaruf bħala "High Tea". Kien hemm attendenza ta madwar 100 ruħ. Grażzi mill-ġdid lil Peter Harber, martu Marlene u uliedhon Mia u Oscar li ippreparaw u servew l-ikel u l-ħelu kollu. Grażzi wkoll lil Rita Overman li kellha l-intrigu li tixtri ir-riċipjenti taċ-ċaqquf u oggetti oħra għal din il-festa ta ħelu, te u kafe. Irene (is-Segretarja taċ-Ċentru), Antonia Camilleri

(Vici president) u Lisa Zammit ( membru tal-Kumitat ) kollha ħadmu biex armaw is-sala għal okkazzjoni kif tistaw taraw mir ritratti.Bil-ħidma ta kulħadd din il-festa ta ħelu u xorb kienet success kbir ieħor.

Għalkemm xtaqna li nġhamlu xi ħaga wkoll għal Jum il-Missier,ir-ristrizzjonijiet mill gdid minħabba il-pandemija ,reġġu ħassrulna kollox u ikollna nistennu u nittamaw li is-sena id-dieħla tkun aħjar biex inkunu norganizzaw fest għalihom ukoll.

### **“IL-Luzzu”**

Wara li għamilna proposta sabiex norganizzaw ‘Festival Malti tal-Films’, liema proposta kienet accettata mill-Festival Multikulturali u Festi, saru l-arrangamenti sabiex fċ-Ċentru ta Parkville jintwera il-Film Malti “LUZZU”. Sar fehim u nixtara id-dritt għal wiri tal-film minn Malta u appena kollox kien lest għal darba oħra reġa bdew ir-ristrizzjoinijiet u kollox ġie pospost għal meta l-affarijiet jigu aktar għan normal aktarx is-sena id-dieħla. Jien rajtu u naf li ser jintogħogob minn kulħadd.

### **Mix-Xena Diplomatika.**

IL-Konslu Ġenerali fil-Victoria ,Mario Farrugia Borg kellu iħallina wara li kien elevat għal kariga prestiġġjuża ta Kummissarju Għoli ta Malti fl-Awstralja residenti gewwa Canberra.Għalkemm xtaqna nġhamlulu riceviment bħala turija ta apprezzament tax-xogħol fejjidi li għamel fil-Victoria,sfortunatament dan kellu jsir virtuali minħabba ir-ristrizzjonijiet.

L-istess ġara fil-każ tal-Konslu General ġdid tal-Victoria Ms Cherelle Ellul Sciberras li kellna nilqugħha fuq laqgħa virtwali permezz ta Zoom.Meta jkun jippermetti għandna il-ħsieb li xorta nġamlulha riceviment kif jixraq.

### **Eżekuttiv.**

L-eżekuttiv xorta baqgħu jiltaqgħu regolarment permezz ta Zoom.Komplew jaħdmu biex jiżguraw li l-MCCV jibqa relevanti għat-tieni ,tielet u ir-raba generazzjoni ta Maltin li jgħixu fil-Victoria.Iz-Zoom kien ferm importanti biex inzamm kuntatt mal-komunita l-aktar billi il-laqqgħat baqgħu isiru regolarment.Bdejna il-Bingo nhar ta Sibt,il-Quddiesa bil-Malti nhar ta Hadd kif wkoll il-logħoba tat-Trivja b’suggetti li kellhom x’jaqsmu ma Malta.

Fuq il-Facebook għandna madwar 3000 persuna li isegwuna regolarment,u nifmhu li mhux kulhadd għandu jew jaf juza din il-facilita.Nuzaw wkoll ir-radjiijiet li jxandru programmi bil-Malti biex inzommu il-komunita aġġornata .Nirringrazzjaw lil SBS Radio, 3ZZZ 92.3FM, NorthWest FM 89.3, 3RIM 97.9 u Gippsland FM 104.7.

### **Iċ-Ċensiment.**

Din is-sena kellna iċ-ċensiment.Nafu li mill -informazzjoni migbura,il-Gvern ifassal programmi għat-tmexxija tal-pajjiz .Fost dawn hemm il-bzonnijiet tal-komunitajiet Multikulturali u il-Kultura tagħhom.Biex nizguraw li lilna il-Maltin ma jinsewniex,l-MCCV flimkien ma entitajiet oħra,hegrew kemm setgħu biex fir-risposti taċ-ċensiment jingħata importanza l-użu tal-lingwa Maltija fid-djar tal Maltin.B’hekk nuru li għad hemm il-b/onn li meta jitfasslu skedi ta programmi fuq ir-radju ma inkunux diskriminati.

Hadna sehem f'laqgha mal-Kunmmisarju Għoli ta Malta, Mario Farrugia Borg, fejn iddiskutejna il-possibilita li tibda issir Ceremonja Ufficjali għal dawk li jingħataw iċ-Ċittadinanza Maltija. Fuq l-agenda issa għandna il-problema ta kif ser niżguraw li l-SBS jagħati widien għat-talbiet tagħna biex il-komunita Maltija tingħata ħin adekwat għal programmi bil-Malti fuq ir-radju.

Matul is-sena attendejt laqgħat tal-Victorian Government Multicultural Affairs Community Leaders forum. Grazzi lil Ministru Ros Spence u lil l-istaff tagħha li kontinwament zammewna infurmati fuq ristrizzjonijiet, u għajnuna li tista tingħata .

Bqajna wkoll membri tal-Ethnic Community Council of Victoria.

### **Ringrazzjamenti speċjali lil voluntieri.**

Mingħajr voluntieri ma tistax taħdem, u għalhekk din is-sena xtaqt li nuri l-apprezzament tiegħi lil Joe Camilleri, Annie Caruana, Rita Overman, Rita Attard, Peter Haber u il-familja, u Ted Delia.

### **Viżjoni għall futur tal-MCCV.**

Għandna seba mitt sena biex nurukhom x'tibdil għamilna fiċ-Ċentre ta Parkville. Infaqna aktar €130,000 dollaru fuq rangar u tisbieh. Ringrazzjament speċjali lil Ministeru ta l-Affarijiet Multikulturali li ħargu nofs l-ispejjeż. Issa irridu insibu fondi biex nirrangaw il-kċina.

Twaħħlu plakki ta l-assocjazzjonijiet affiliati u dawk li fl-imghoddi għenu liċ-Ċentru Malti. Il-bar li kien donazzjoni ta Newport Association qed ikun restawrat kif qed isir wkoll lill bandalora antika taċ-Ċentru. Il-librerija wkoll qed tinagħata bixra ġdida, u tkun lesta is-sena id-dieħla.

Bħal issa qed infittxu biex nimpjegaw CEO biex jieħu ħsieb it-tmexxija taċ-Ċentru Malti għal bzonnijiet tal-futur.

Nispera li ikollna l-okkazjoni li niltaqghu is-sena id-dieħla biex ingawdu flimkien dak kollu li hu Malti.

Marlene Ebejer

President. MCCV.



# **Executive Members**



**Marlene Ebejer**  
**President**



**Antonia Camilleri**  
**Vice President**



**Andrew Gatt**  
**Secretary**



**Lisa Zammit**  
**Executive Member**



**Rosemary Attard**  
**Welfare Director**



**Fr. Lonnie Borg**  
**Missionary Society of St Paul**

## MCCV STAFF



**Maree Rizzo**  
Welfare Co-Ordinator



**Tony Tanti**  
Grants Officer



**Irene Grillo**  
Administration



**Frank Abela**  
CHSP Support Worker



**Mary Boland**  
CHSP Support Worker



**Rose Nuner**  
CHSP Support Worker



**Carol Parkinson**  
CHSP Support Worker



**Sarah Galea**  
**CHSP Support Worker**



**Connie Galea**  
**CHSP Support Worker**



**Neil Ilsley**  
**Bus Driver/CHSP Support Worker**



**Catrine Cassar**  
**Domestic Assistant**



**Rose Muscat**  
**Domestic Assistant**



**Amanda Pittari**  
**Domestic Assistant**

## **VICE PRESIDENT REPORT**



You may not believe this, but the Executive committee had a very busy twelve months even though the centre was closed.

Having been lucky to secure a Victorian Government Multicultural infrastructure grant we set a very aggressive agenda to update the centre taking the opportunity of having the place closed to the public.

The whole centre has now been painted, the front serving unit has been upgraded and the electronic equipment box in the hall has been installed.

Major works of installing a complete electrical switchboard and a state-of-the-art fire alarm system has also been installed.

Security doors at the back of the Kitchen has been put in and the oven has been fixed with new gas outlets being upgraded.

There are other things to be done like upgrading the kitchen and additional security cameras to be organized but we are on the way in having the centre upgraded to ensure the safety and enjoyment of our clients are met.

I had the pleasure in meeting the Consul General of Malta on her arrival in Australia. Our discussion was based on the MCCV involvement with Associations and the Maltese Community within Victoria.

I organised a medical talk on zoom with Dr. Caroline Bartolo who spoke about the pandemic and the importance about vaccinations. This talk was very welcomed by the community and we look forward to having more discussions in the future.

A big thank you to the Executive and staff for the hard work in accomplishing such a task and I am sure that as new funding is sought, we will complete the upgrade for all to enjoy.

Stay safe

Antonia Camilleri  
Vice President



## **COMMONWEALTH HOME SUPPORT PROGRAM (CHSP)**

The MCCV continued to focus on wellness and reablement goals and the delivery of person-centred care for all of our consumers both in the centre and in the home. Domestic Assistance, Centre Based Respite and Social Support services were delivered to members of the Maltese community in the Northern and Western suburbs of Melbourne.

In early May a quality review by the Aged Care Quality Agency took place. This review focused on the Aged Care Quality Standards and the standard at which the Maltese Community Council of Victoria delivered services to our CHSP consumers. We are very proud of the outcome of this audit as MCCV met all Quality Standards which they had been assessed upon.



### **Social Support and Centre Based Respite**

2021 saw our Social Support and Centre Based Respite programs back at our beloved Maltese Community Centre. Friends were reunited after what seemed like an eternity. Although observing many changes due to increased Covid safe protocols, consumers were able to get together

and participate in many fun and engaging activities once again. Arts and crafts, Bingo, Zumba, exercises, music therapy, theatre participation, food preparation and even managed to go on a couple of outings.



Unfortunately, this did not last and services once again needed to change from centre based to being in the consumer's home.

All CHSP programs adapted to the changing needs of our consumers as a result of being in lockdown. Flexibility of Government funding guidelines allowed a range of service delivery modifications during the lockdown period. This provided Social Support and Centre Based Respite programs the opportunity to remain operational thanks to the hard work of our Coordinator and dedicated community support staff, who all worked tirelessly to connect with our elderly and deliver services in the consumer's home.

Services which were delivered included:



- Phone calls and welfare checks
- Fortnightly newsletters
- Telephone support for carers
- Home visits
- Conference calls
- Telephone Bingo sessions
- Small gardening projects
- Unaccompanied shopping assistance
- Transport to medical appointments
- Picking up medication
- iPad loaning service
- Facetime and zoom socialisation sessions.
- Activity packs posted or delivered to consumers







- Drawing and Craft Activities
- Birthday and Father's Day cards
- Maltese TV and radio reminders
- Delivery of food parcels to those needing assistance.



## **Domestic Assistance**

MCCV Domestic Assistance provides entry-level support to assist older people aged 65 years and over to remain living at home and in their community.

With a focus on wellness, reablement and assisting consumers to remain independent in their homes, qualified staff undertake essential light household tasks such as:

- general house cleaning
- unaccompanied shopping (delivered to home) and bill paying
- clothes washing and ironing
- dishwashing
- help with meal preparation
- house cleaning

In 2021, the newly funded Domestic assistance provided members of the Western suburbs of Melbourne with essential cleaning and shopping services. This continued during Covid-19 lockdown and the dedicated staff went above and beyond to provide so much more than a cleaning service. Community Support Staff made phone calls to check on their consumers and spent time with them reducing their isolation and assisting them to remain connected with the outside world.



**Maree Rizzo**  
**Welfare Co-Ordinator**

## **MCCV Maintenance Report: year 2020/2021**

The year 2021 has been another challenging year for the Maltese Community Council of Victoria Executive members. The second phase of the Major Works maintenance program at the Maltese Centre at Parkville commenced in mid-April.

Having the MCCV Centre's electrical switch board upgraded to meet building compliance, a Fire Alarm monitoring system was also required. The engineering design specified having heat and smoke detectors placed in every area of the building and to include the chapel, MSSP residence and the basement car park. All sensors to be cabled back to a sophisticated Fire Brigade alarm panel for monitoring and identifying fast alarm incidents.

Again, we wish to thank the Missionary of Society St Paul for the great support given to the MCCV for the ambitious program MCCV set to achieve by the end of 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

### **Second Major Works Completions:**

1. Installed new Fire Brigade panel AFD3030 in the main foyer, new heat/smoke sensors, special fire protected cabling hauled back into the sophisticated Fire alarm panel.
2. Professional painters painted all walls, doors, interior window frames and skirtings in the hall, foyer, offices, toilets, library, board room, back storerooms and the kitchen food preparation and storage areas.
3. Painted the foyer timber wall and food serving panels in the foyer to match with the new charcoal colour used on the doors.
4. Repaired and replaced damaged hall parquet, sanding, and applied three coats of satin finish polishing.
5. Installed new window blinds in the Victor G Borg Hall and coverings for the two bingo display boards. New windows blinds got also installed in the library, boardroom, and back-office windows.





6. Installed new security doors for the back-kitchen loading entrance and fitted new aluminium panels to protect the two timber doors from rainwater damage.

7. Plumber modified the mains gas feed and replaced the copper pipes with bigger gauge to match with the manufacturer's kitchen stove/oven appliances.

8. Painted kitchen storage cupboard doors to match with the new charcoal colour too.

### **Other maintenance Completions:**

- 1 Installed new laminated bench top and fitted new drawers to have additional storage spaces for glasses used for hall functions.
- 2 Plumber installed new toilet pan for the disabled toilet.
- 3 Replaced the carpet covering the small stage in the hall
- 4 Installed new data cabinet in the hall to house the PA equipment.

### **Next Stage:**

1. Upgrade the kitchen design to have separate areas dedicated for food preparation and washing dishes, etc. The food preparation will include an additional combi electric oven, new wash basins and food serving bench.
2. Kitchen tiled flooring upgraded by installing enhanced slip resistance vinyl to meet with kitchen commercial standards.
3. Install perimeter external lighting and CCTV cameras for community safety and extra security.
4. Safety bollards outside the chapel and at the rear near the back gate to protect the electrical board.
5. Replace the compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) and fluorescent tubes with LED lighting.
6. Clearing and cleaning the storage room in the garage to have extra storage for chairs.
7. Replace overhead video unit in the hall.
8. Archiving of documentation held in Store to Electronic format.
9. Catalogue of all Books in Library.
10. Upgrade the front landscape to reduce the upkeep costs for lawn cutting and garden beds.

Andrew Gatt / Tony Tanti



## MALTESE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF VICTORIA INC.

### MALTESE LANGUAGE CLASSES

#### ANNUAL REPORT 2020 – 2021

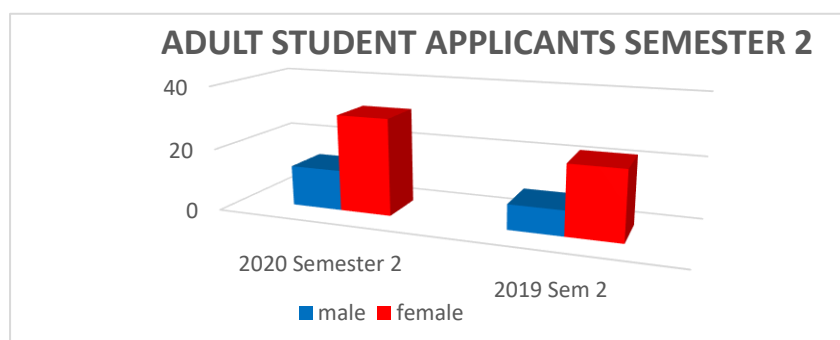
##### **Semester, 2 2020**

On the 16<sup>th</sup> July 2020 the Maltese Language Classes opened for Semester 2 terms one and two. These classes were offered as Virtual online classes to adults. No face-to-face classes were permitted due to Covid- 19. In the previous months various methods of advertising were initiated. Social media such Facebook was used. Flyers advertising these classes were posted. The MCCV website had this great advantage, that apart from the information given, registration could be made through the website.

Thirty-nine students registered for our Semester two Virtual online classes. This was an encouraging number as this was our second semester offering Virtual online classes. Twenty- five of these students were beginners. Students from the outer suburbs registered for our classes as using the medium of zoom permitted these students to be able to attend these classes. This number of students was reassuring that there was interest to learn the Maltese Language in the Maltese Community in Australia.

Laura Schembri, Charles Tabone and Georgette Pace were the tutors for our Beginners and Continuers Composite classes during this semester, Lorriane Stafford joined the classes as a tutor- in- training, in preparation for taking classes the following year. Classes were held on Wednesdays and Thursdays. A beginner's class was offered on both days. After the steep learning curve of offering classes online in Semester 1, tutors felt more confident about giving these classes Virtual online.

Classes finished on the 20<sup>th</sup> November and students were invited to prepare a plate of Maltese food to the online class and talk about it during their last lesson as no face-to-face celebration could be held. The graph below shows the increase in students from the previous year in the comparative semester.



## MALTESE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF VICTORIA INC.

LEARN MALTESE  
FOR PLEASURE, WORK OR TRAVEL.

JOIN OUR  
BEGINNER ADULT CLASSES.

Registrations are now open for  
Maltese Language Classes  
Semester 1, 2021

Embrace the Maltese Culture through the  
Maltese language

Classes are held live online  
Registration will be closing on  
Friday 22 of January 2021

Beginners: MONDAY, 6.30 pm  
or

THURSDAY, 6.00 pm

Advanced: WEDNESDAY, 6.00 pm

Intermediate: THURSDAY 6.30 pm

Tel: 03 9387 8922 or 0466 079 814 AH

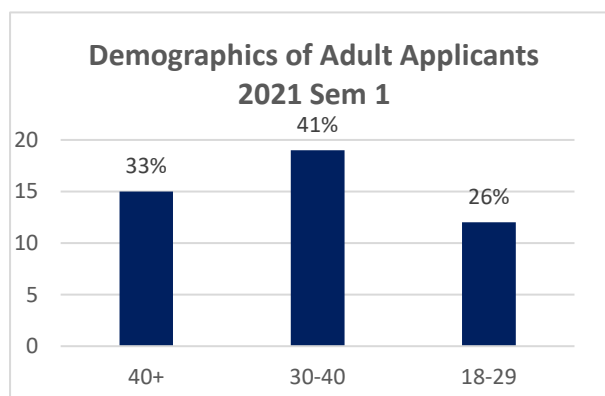
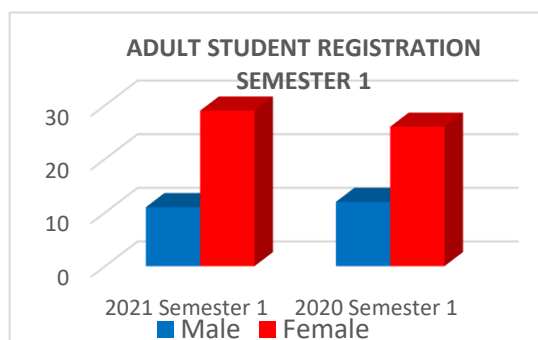
<https://mccv.org.au/services/language/>

## Semester 1, 2021

Four classes were offered this semester. This is an increase from two classes in 2019 Semester 1. Two classes for beginners, one class for Intermediate students and one Advanced class. On the 1<sup>st</sup> of February, 2021 classes started. Classes were held as follows: a class for beginners on Monday; a class for Intermediate on Wednesday and two classes, one for beginners and one for the advanced students on Thursday. Advertising online for the classes started well before Christmas in 2020 and continued throughout January 2021. The use of a second Zoom licence enables the classes to function concurrently. Forty-three students registered for classes by the time term one was on its way. This was a record number of students. Below are some of the statistic profiles of adult students attending Maltese Language classes offered by the Maltese Community Centre in Parkville, Victoria.

It appears from these figures that the second generation of Maltese in our community is very interested in learning the Maltese Language and the female members are the most motivated to learn. There is also interest in the third generation of youth in the Maltese Community.

Online virtual classes have attracted students from metropolitan and regional Victoria as well as interstate



students where Maltese Language classes were not being held.

A professional development (PD) session was held online for the tutors. This PD enabled teachers to share their knowledge of resources that will enable them to facilitate the teaching of Maltese as a Foreign Language as the majority of students wishing to learn Maltese have no Maltese language immersion in the community where they could absorb and practice Maltese.

I take this opportunity to thank the administrative staff and Executive at the MCCV for their support of the Maltese Language Classes and the dedication of the tutors to facilitating the dissemination of our Maltese Culture through language learning.

On behalf of the MCCV Maltese Language Tutors & Education Committee

Edwidge Borg

COORDINATOR

MCCV MALTESE LANGUAGE CLASSES



## Newport Maltese Association and Seniors Group.



As a group we have experienced a great deal of events, changes, and pandemics over the years. We class ourselves as the baby Boomers with the knowledge that we have accumulated as individuals and as a group. We have learned to adapt and adjust as the need arises.



This year we have managed to fit in two functions before restrictions, Carnival Dance and Mother's Day. Both functions were well attended. We also had a free BBQ for our members and a get together at the Maltese Centre. Then the lockdown and restrictions came back to haunt us. All the planned functions and get together had to be put on hold. This included our AGM.

Luckily most of our members can be contacted electronically. We could keep contact via emails to distribute our newsletter and other information as required. We could also communicate through our site on Face book, messenger and zoom. Mind you, a lot of us find the telephone as an easier way to communicate.

On a positive note, during lock down, a lot of cooking recipes were shared and tried by our members and I am sure that we can create our own recipe book for future generations.

In closing, I leave you with Vera Lynn's song "We'll Meet Again"



**We'll meet again, don't know where don't know when, But I know we'll meet again some sunny day. Stay safe until then.**

Joe Ellul  
President  
Newport Association



## **RESKEON MALTESE ASSOCIATION SENIORS** **GROUP INC.**



What a year! What a wasted year! We are sure that everybody agrees that we're going through very bad times, in Lockdown most of the time.

Our members are missing our meetings and events because most of the time we are not able to meet because of the continuous lockdown due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Normally we meet every Wednesday at Merrilands Community Centre with Bingo sessions and Bocce games for both the Men and the Ladies. These meetings were impossible because of the time we spent in Lockdown. During the Lockdowns we tried to phone members to see how they were especially those living alone.

When things started to open up again, we were told by the Management at PRACE where we meet, that we were only allowed 20 people at each meeting. We decided not to open because the number was too small. Meanwhile we prepared for better times by preparing the mandatory Covid Safe Plan, purchased the recommended equipment for safe opening and operation. Soon we were told that now we can open with 63 people, observing social distance and wearing masks and only allowed to have two people on each table instead of six. This way we managed to open and we were lucky that we only had attendances of between 50 and 60 members per week so that we didn't have to refuse some members to attend.

Some members tell us that other associations don't have these strict restrictions and procedures, but we tell them that we are governed by rules from the place where we meet (PRACE), Darebin Council and the Government and we have to abide by these rules.

We can say the same for our Luncheons at Firenze Reception. The Christmas Break-Up was not held in December 2020. We were lucky to be able to hold our Mother's Day Luncheon in 2021. Once again, we missed Father's Day Luncheon. While everything seemed to be running smoothly, we were told by the reception place that we were can only have 100 members attending and there was no dancing allowed. We told them that this was no good because our members don't attend these functions for the food, but more and more to dance and have a good time. So, we decided against holding this event when all of a sudden there was another Lockdown which would have prevented us to hold this event just the same. Same happened for the Bambina (Vitoria) Dinner Dance and we are not sure what's going to happen to this year's Christmas Break-Up.

To make things worse when we started again after lockdowns, we were informed that the cost to our luncheons went up from \$42 to \$60. This was a blow to our association as normally members were heavily subsidised for these luncheons and only had to pay \$20. This price was kept just the same. Even better for the Mother's Day Luncheon, the ladies were admitted free of charge and it was intended that the men were going to attend free for the Father's Day Luncheon, but this didn't happen. But the men will still benefit similarly in our next Luncheon.

This year it was decided by the Committee that members didn't have to pay their 2021 membership fees.

With great sadness this year, like last year, we didn't organise the Feast of Maria Bambina at St Mary's Church, West Melbourne, as we normally do on behalf of the Fathers of the Missionary Society of St Paul. We were very grateful that Fr Lonnie Borg, MSSP, organised a special Mass for this Feast, on Zoom, which was well attended. Thank you, Fr Lonnie.

As last year we were unable to hold our Annual General Meeting, we were instructed by Consumer Affairs Victoria to hold our 2020 AGM in 2021, which we did on Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2021. Being an Election year, the Election was held at this AGM. As there was only one nomination for each position needed, all those nominated were duly elected. This is the new Committee: President, Salvina Vella; Vice-President, Madeleine Vella; Secretary, Paul Vella; Treasurer, George Topolcsanyi; Ordinary Members, Sylvia Dakin and Cathy Gatt. We wish the new committee all the best. After the meeting, members were treated to a free sausage sizzle in bread rolls, with free tea and coffee and free soft drinks for all. Members enjoyed seconds as there was plenty of food left.

We hope that things will change, and we will return to some safe and ongoing normality in our lives.

- *Paul Vella, Secretary,  
Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group Inc.*





## **Latrobe Valley Maltese Community Centre**

I suppose that it will be an understatement to conclude that in my odd thirty years involved with the Maltese Community of the Latrobe Valley, the past year has been the most difficult and very disappointing. I have never experienced the frustration and inability to not being able to keep in contact with the community due the constant lock downs and restrictions due to the Covid -19 pandemic.



It's the first time in the Centre's history that the Community Centre had to keep its doors closed for such a long period. I am not saying that this situation was unique to our Centre.

We had many functions already booked in, and the bookings to the Maltese Museum were very encouraging, but the constant changes and new restriction made it impossible to accommodate these booking. Some of these functions were cancelled a few days before and the day which meant that some expenses were incurred by the Centre.



Due to the ongoing closures our members were very disappointed that we could not hold the long time Sundays gathering at the Centre. Which include ladies Bingo, men playing billiards and cards and meals provided for tea.

The problem was that the ongoing expenses were still there. Utilities still had to be paid, insurance, licenses, maintenance. Fridges and freezers had to be kept on for the frozen foods and pastizzi etc.

This was and still is a very challenging time when we had no idea what is next.



But apart from the doom and gloom, we still managed to provide support for our members and non-members, because after all we do support the whole Maltese Community of the Latrobe Valley.

In July, we delivered 50 \$20 dollar food baskets to those in our Maltese Community that were doing it tough and right now we are in the process of sending all members a \$20 dollar food voucher and advising them that this has been possible through grants provided by the Gippsland Ethnic Communities Council who secured funding from the State Government.

Recently, work started on the extension to the Museum thanks to funding by the Latrobe City Council and volunteer labor by some members. This work will see a new extension to the back of the Museum and the enclosing and beautifying the new acquired land behind the Museum.

Again, I thank all my members for their patients and understanding during this very difficult time and look forward to better times. I would also like to thank the Maltese Community Council of Victoria for all their ongoing support, and a special mention for the very helpful staff.



Mario Sammut (OAM)  
President  
Maltese Community Council Latrobe Valley

## **MALTESE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION 2021**

2021 has been a challenging year for the MHA. We faced many difficulties due to the global pandemic, Covid restrictions and the tragic loss of our secretary the late Charles Gatt, yet despite the ups and downs of this year the association has adapted the face of adversity.



Gflaqda Storika Maltija (Awstralja)

Our first talk for the year was given by Frances Bonnici in March about the history of Maltese cuisine, despite the long hiatus in 2020, due to the global pandemic, the talk was well attended with many new faces

April's talk was given by Joseph Borg on the subject of Maltese nicknames and was well attended.

In May professor Maurice Cauchi gave us a talk about his hometown of Gharb and the western half of Gozo, once again this talk was well attended.

In June and July, we again resumed our hiatus status due to covid restrictions, in this time we also lost our secretary, and dear friend, Charles Gatt

In August despite our low morale, we attempted something new and held a talk via zoom for the first time. Professor Albert Farrugia gave us a fantastic talk on Malta's first postmen, this was well attended and had a number of people from interstate and in Malta.

In September we once again held a talk via zoom. John Gatt talked about his book all about the coins Minted by the knights of Malta.

Despite a period of hiatus in the middle of the year and most of the previous year the MHA has shown resilience and a willingness to adapt to challenges. Due to our talks being held via zoom, we have been able to engage with Maltese community interstate and have even been contacted by a group of Sydneysiders who are interested in collaborating with our association. In October a London based author will be giving us a talk. An opportunity that would not have occurred if we had not made the decision to try to continue via zoom. Despite our preference for in person meeting, a zoom model may be an alternative way to engage and collaborate with non-Melbourne based groups and speakers; furthermore it is possible it could be a solution to the low attendance during the peak of winter. Despite the challenge we are faced with, we remain optimistic and will continue to support the MCCV and the Maltese community.

We would also like take this opportunity to thank the MCCV President, committee and Edwidge Borg for letting the MHA use the zoom account.

Robert Blyth  
President  
Maltese Historical Association

## MALTESE LITERATURE GROUP



The Maltese Literature Group Inc. meets every last Sunday of the month at Centru Malti, Parkville.

We are only a small group, but very dedicated to the Maltese Literature.

Our members write prose and poetry and share these writings with each at our meetings.

Anyone who loves the Maltese language is most welcomed to attend from 2.00p.m. to 4.30p.m.

Unfortunately for the past 18 months or so we only met about four times because of the lockdown of the Covid -19 Pandemic.

But we did keep in touch with each other from time to time.

Every year, apart from our monthly meetings, for the month of September, we have a special meeting of Program Muziko Letterarju.

This is an afternoon held at the Centru Malti, Parkville, where we have readings of prose and poetry with music in between.

Again because of the Covid-19 Pandemic we did not have this Program for 2020 and again 2021 because in September we were in lockdown.

We still put a gathering of some of our members works for 2020 that or honorary member Dr Clemente Zammit put in a flipbook form, for which we are most grateful.

For 2021 because we are in still in lockdown, the committee decided to incorporate the works of our members for 2020 and for 2021 in a book and had it printed.

When we are able to meet after the lockdown, we will have the afternoon for the Program Muziko Letterarju and we will present our members with the book.



We also have our “Festin tal-Milied” .....

Christmas get together, which for 2020 we were lucky to be out of lockdown and this was held at the home of our President Dr Victor and Mrs Doris Sammut.

It was a catered luncheon with a good turnout of 25 people and a good time was held by one and all.

After the meal we gathered and did a few readings with the Christmas theme and sang some Maltese Christmas carols.

We are hoping that we will be out of this present lockdown and be able to have our “Festin tal-Milied” again this year.

If anyone is interested to join our group, please ring our secretary.

Regards to All  
Rosemary Attard  
Secretary MLG



## Ladies Auxiliary 2020-2021

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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

July 2010 to June 2021 was a roller coaster year for everyone. Due to the Covid19 pandemic the centre went into lockdown several times. Organised events were cancelled.

Once the centre opened the Tuesday bingo group were happy to commence their get together. The group are now meeting in the board room as the hall is required for the PAG participants, since the premises in Sunshine were closed.



The bingo group accepted an invitation to an Elvis Event which unfortunately was cancelled due to Covid pandemic restrictions. As previous year contact is maintained with the bingo group. They understand the situation and patiently are waiting for the centre to reopen.

Due to the pandemic the Christmas celebrations were not held and the MCCV LA President, Marlene Xerri suggested to Marie Rizzo PAG Co-Ordinator, if it was possible to organise Christmas Hampers instead the usual luncheon. Their usual donation towards the Christmas luncheon was donated to help with the expenses. Maree Rizzo sought approval from the MCCV Board and Maree took it on board. With Irene and other volunteers Maree distributed over 80 hampers to the delight of everyone.

In October Marlene Xerri was asked to write her biography. It was published in the Voice, Maltese Magazine in Sydney in November 2020.

This year we farewelled Lina Borg, a very dedicated hardworking volunteer for many years.

Once the centre was opened and the maintenance was completed members of the Ladies Auxiliary attend Mother's Day High Tea Celebration. The centre was welcoming and very inviting. The tables were set up with floral cup and saucers and sweets and savouries served on multitier servers, together with a glass of champagne. It was a lovely afternoon to share with old friends and make new ones.

Our thanks to Maree Rizzo, PAG Co-ordinator, Irene Grillo and Andrew Gatt for their assistance and support during the year.

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

### **The Ladies Auxiliary Committee consists of:**

- ☐ Marlene Xerri, *President*
- ☐ Lina Dingli, *Treasurer*
- ☐ Mary Cefai, *Member*
- ☐ Inez Mifsud, *Member*

**Marlene Xerri  
President  
Ladies Auxiliary**

# Maltese Own Band

## Philharmonic Society Inc.



October 2021

Like everyone, COVID has affected the Maltese Own Band in many ways. Our goal has always been aimed at promoting our proud Maltese culture to future generations and providing the Maltese community with traditional entertainment at feasts. Over the last 2 years, it has been heartbreaking to see the number of popular feasts that have not been able to proceed due to COVID restrictions, and we wish to send our warm thanks and gratitude to each and every one of these associations and their Committee Members.

As well as being invited to be a part of the feast celebrations, our band had been organizing other events for our members in the background. Our first big setback was our Annual Portarlington Picnic. Our committee made the decision not to go ahead with this year's event in January. This was a very disappointing time for us, as a lot of hard work and planning had been done, with every best effort made to try and hold the event. Many discussions with the Portarlington Cricket Club and the City of Greater Geelong were held. The decision was made to maintain our band members and guests' welfare as our highest priority and as a result, we did not see fit for the event to proceed under the current circumstances at the time.

After the last Annual General Meeting in February, we made the decision to reintroduce Financial Memberships to the association. This enables our band member privileges to be extended to our band member's partners and families.

Our Functions Organiser Leanne Coleiro, with the assistance of our Secretary Danielle Ward-Smith and Assistant Secretary Corina De Leon, did an amazing job of organizing our Ladies Night Fundraiser on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021. This event had originally been scheduled for 28<sup>th</sup> May but was rescheduled due to COVID. We have received positive feedback from many of the ladies who attended, and we are so appreciative of the support we received from many businesses who provided donations for the raffle and the stallholders that attended. Andrew Portelli entertained our guests with an Elvis Presley and Rock N Roll show and there was a smorgasbord of food for dinner. We are looking forward to hopefully organizing another Ladies Night in 2022.

During the Melbourne Lockdown, our members have kept contact through a private Messenger Group and Zoom meetings. Our band players have been at home practicing the music for our latest virtual recording of 'Italian Holiday'. I'd like to extend a big thank to you to our own Band Master Mario Cassar and his wife Fiona for piecing together this amazing masterpiece.

We are hoping that we will be able to end the year on a festive note with our Annual Christmas Carol evening, and we are looking forward to planning our 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2022.

I would like to take this opportunity to send my best wishes to everyone in the Maltese Community, and I look forward to the day when our band can perform for you in person again. We hope the Maltese Community in general are staying safe and we look forward to next year with anticipation.

Joe Portelli  
President

PO Box 76  
Sunshine VIC 3020

ABN 36 585 341 794  
Registration A0001823P

malteseownband@gmail.com  
0410 982 829  
facebook.com/malteseownband



## **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, in fact the longest locked down in the world, 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, 2020 because of the Pandemic, although the studios were opened on and off during different lockdowns. 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 that 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

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.

We are very happy with the positive feedback from listeners we receive after each program telling us how much they loved the contents of the programs. Saturday programs are requests programs where listeners phone in to request a song for an event they are celebrating. As we are not in the studios, listeners phone us at home. We are also very pleased by the number of requests we received from listeners in Malta, USA and Canada.

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 Saturday, Paul invites the other broadcasters, Mario Sammut, alternating with 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 sends the link for each program every week to about 400 listeners all over the world.

**- Paul Vella, Convenor, 3ZZZ Maltese Broadcasting Group**

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



**Maltese Community Council of Victoria Incorporated**

ABN 66 736 475 892

Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2021

## **Maltese Community Council of Victoria Incorporated**

ABN 66 736 675 892

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## Committee's Report

As at 30 June 2021

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee on 30 October 2021.

DocuSigned by:  
*Marlene Ebejer*  
937143D46738454

Marlene Ebejer

DocuSigned by:  
*Andrew Gatt*  
C361E08267494FC

Andrew Gatt

Dated: 27-Oct-2021

## Committee's Report

As at 30 June 2021

The Committee Members hereby submit their report and the financial statements of the Maltese Community Council of Victoria Incorporated (the "Association") for the financial year ended 30 June 2021.

### Committee Members

The names of the Association's Committee Members at the date of this report are:

President	Marlene Ebejer
Vice President	Antonia Camilleri
Secretary	Andrew Gatt
Treasurer	Vacant
Welfare officer	Rosemary Attard
Member	Lisa Zammit
Chaplain	Fr Lonnle Borg

### Principal Activities

The principal activities of the Association during and since the financial year-end were to provide a number of aged care programs on site, in client homes and in aged care facilities that assist the elder with addressing their social isolation and mobility issues. The Association conducts education and cultural activities to people of all ages which promoted socialisation, education and community/cultural support, and provide free legal service and advocacy where required.

### Significant Changes

There were no significant changes in the nature of the Association's activities during the financial year or since the financial year-end.

### Operating Result

The surplus for the 2021 financial year amounted to \$542,625 (2020 \$395,773).

**Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income**  
As at 30 June 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
<b>Income</b>			
Revenue	2	1,089,080	929,842
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Grant Expenses			
Australia Day Grant		20,552	-
Be Connected Grant		2,633	4,847
Capacity Building Grant		-	2,338
Domestic Assistance		17,625	-
Planned Activity Group Program		294,688	278,985
Sundry		225	115
Other Expenses			
Administration		61,516	92,617
Advertising & Marketing		10,657	4,862
Bank Charges		845	472
Canteen Expenses		609	4,417
Computer Expenses		1,883	3,323
Consultancy Expenses		3,000	2,800
Cultural Festival		73	-
Depreciation		22,673	13,012
Donations & Gifts		-	286
Employee Provisions		8,911	10,560
Functions & Fundraising Activities		3,326	18,378
Insurance		4,243	4,998
Interest Expense		374	32
Legal & Accounting		27,758	22,167
Maltese Language		5,760	5,509
Occupancy Costs		46,741	55,502
Printing & Stationery		3,549	5,439
Reimbursements and Amenities		5,738	-
Social Activities		66	335
Subscriptions		3,010	3,055
		<u>546,455</u>	<u>534,069</u>
Net surplus for the year		<u>542,625</u>	<u>395,773</u>
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		<u>542,625</u>	<u>395,773</u>

**Statement of Financial Position**  
As at 30 June 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	1,476,702	1,037,289
Accounts receivable and other debtors	4	28,257	5,253
Prepayments		19,931	-
Total Current Assets		<u>1,524,890</u>	<u>1,042,542</u>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	5	975,060	1,042,253
Total Non-Current Assets		<u>975,060</u>	<u>1,042,253</u>
Total Assets		<u>2,499,950</u>	<u>2,084,795</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Accounts payable and other payables	6	71,794	78,175
Employee provisions	7	49,334	40,423
Total Current Liabilities		<u>121,128</u>	<u>118,598</u>
Total Liabilities		<u>121,128</u>	<u>118,598</u>
Net Assets		<u>2,378,822</u>	<u>1,966,197</u>
<b>Equity</b>			
Reserves	8	691,600	821,600
Accumulated surplus	9	1,687,222	1,144,597
Total Equity		<u>2,378,822</u>	<u>1,966,197</u>

**Maltese Community Council of Victoria Incorporated**  
ABN 66 736 675 892

**Statement of Changes in Equity**  
For the year ended 30 June 2021

	Revaluation Surplus \$	Accumulated Surplus \$	Total \$
<b>Balance at 30 June 2019</b>	881,600	748,824	1,630,424
(Deficit) on revaluation of property	(60,000)	-	(60,000)
Surplus for the year	-	395,773	395,773
<b>Balance at 30 June 2020</b>	821,600	1,144,597	1,966,197
(Deficit) on revaluation of property	(130,000)	-	(130,000)
Surplus for the year	-	542,625	542,625
<b>Balance at 30 June 2021</b>	691,600	1,687,222	2,378,822

**Maltese Community Council of Victoria Incorporated**  
ABN 66 736 675 892

**Statement of Cash Flows**  
For the year ended 30 June 2021

	2021 \$	2020 \$
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>		
Contributions (members) received	1,715	13,393
Grants operating received	929,615	851,555
Government grants and subsidies	190,400	52,000
Receipts from sale of goods and services	19,998	58,849
Donations received	2,388	2,585
Payments to suppliers and employees	(617,911)	(561,084)
Interest received	62	100
Interest paid	(374)	(32)
Net cash provided by operating activities	524,893	417,386
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>		
Proceeds from sale of plant and equipment	-	16,500
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(85,480)	(73,309)
Net cash used in investing activities	(85,480)	(56,809)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	439,413	360,577
Cash on hand at beginning of financial year	1,037,289	676,712
Cash on hand at end of financial year	1,476,702	1,037,289

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
For the year ended 30 June 2021

**Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

**Financial Reporting Framework**

The financial statements are special purpose financial statements prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. The committee has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity as the users of the financial statements are able to obtain additional information to meet their needs.

**Statement of Compliance**

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic)*, the basis of accounting specified by all Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations, and the disclosure requirements of Accounting Standards

AASB 101: *Presentation of Financial Statements*  
AASB 107: *Cash Flow Statements*  
AASB 108: *Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors*  
AASB 1031: *Materiality*  
AASB 1048: *Interpretation of Standards*  
AASB 1054: *Australian Additional Disclosures*

**Basis of Preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis and are based on historical costs. They do not take into account changing money values or, except where stated specifically, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless stated otherwise, have been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements.

**a. Income Tax**

The Association is a not-for-profit organisation and is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

**b. Property, Plant and Equipment**

Leasehold improvements and office equipment are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all PPE is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the Association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are as follows:

Class of Fixed Assets	Depreciation Rates
Motor Vehicles	25%
Furniture & Fixtures	20% – 40%
Leasehold Improvements	2.5%

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
For the year ended 30 June 2021

When both these conditions are satisfied, the Association:

- identifies each performance obligation relating to the grant - recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement;
- recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations.

Where the contract is not enforceable or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations, the Association:

- recognises the asset received in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards (e.g. AASB 9, AASB 16, AASB 116 and AASB 138);
- recognises related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer); and
- recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between the initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

If a contract liability is recognised as a related amount above, the Association recognises income in profit or loss when or as it satisfies its obligations under the contract.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax.

**h. Unrecognised Revenue**

**Volunteer Service**

The Association regularly receives volunteer services as part of its operations. Under AASB 1058, private sector not-for-profit entities have a policy option to account for donated services at fair value if the fair value can be reliably measured.

While the Association has assessed that the fair value of its volunteer services cannot be reliably measured, it has decided to adopt the policy option not to recognise volunteer services. Accordingly, no amounts are recognised in the financial statements for volunteer services.

**i. Leases**

**Concessionary Lease**

The Association leases a building from the Missionary Society of St Paul (the 'MSSP') with significantly below-market terms and conditions principally to enable it to further its objectives.

The Association has adopted the temporary relief under AASB 2018-8 and measures the right of use assets at cost on initial recognition.

**j. Accounts Payable and Other Payables**

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the Association during the reporting period that remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
For the year ended 30 June 2021

**g. Impairment of Assets**

At the end of each reporting period, the committee reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired.

If such an indication exists, an impairment test is carried out on the asset by comparing the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs of disposal and value in use, to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised in the income and expenditure statement.

Where an impairment loss on a revalued individual asset is identified, this is recognised against the revaluation surplus in respect of the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that class of asset.

**d. Employee Benefits**

Provision is made for the Association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee provisions have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

**e. Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

**f. Accounts Receivable and Other Debtors**

Accounts receivable and other debtors include amounts due from members as well as amounts receivable from donors. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

**g. Revenue and Other Income**

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable after taking into account any trade discounts and volume rebates allowed. For this purpose, deferred consideration is not discounted to present values when recognising revenue.

The Association has applied AASB 16: *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* (AASB 118) and

AASB 1058: *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities* (AASB 1058) using the cumulative effective method of initially applying AASB 15 and AASB 1058 as an adjustment to the opening balance of equity at 1 July 2019. Therefore, the comparative information has not been restated and continues to be presented under AASB 118: *Revenue* and AASB 1004: *Contributions*. The details of accounting policies under AASB 118 and AASB 1004 are disclosed separately since they are different from those under AASB 15 and AASB 1058, and the impact of changes is disclosed in Note 1.

**In the current year**

When the Association receives operating grant revenue, donations or bequests, it assesses whether the contract is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15.

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
For the year ended 30 June 2021

**k. Goods and Services Tax (GST)**

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the assets and liabilities statement.

**l. New and Amended Accounting Policies Adopted by the Association**

During the current year, the Association adopted all of the new and amended Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations application to its operations which became mandatory. The adoption of these Standards has not had a significant impact on recognition, measurement and disclosure of transactions.



**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
For the year ended 30 June 2021

**Note 2: Revenue and Other Income**

Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Grants	844,195	791,503
Care Services	4,513	20,173
Bingo & Canteen	423	3,763
Classes	10,120	8,881
Contributions & Donations	4,103	2,585
Functions & Fundraising Activities	5,820	18,118
Government Subsidies	219,844	62,000
Hall Hire	-	3,460
Profit on Disposal of Assets	-	16,500
Interest Received	62	99
Sundry	-	2,762
	<u>1,089,080</u>	<u>929,842</u>

**Note 3: Cash and Cash Equivalents**

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Social Welfare Account	-	5,431
Business Online Saver	43,231	-
Society Cheque Account	928,366	528,107
Cash Management Account	-	944
Society Cheque Account	500,630	502,838
Bingo Account	-	1
Credit Card	3,475	(32)
	<u>1,476,702</u>	<u>1,037,289</u>

**Note 4: Accounts Receivable and Other Debtors**

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Trade debtors	28,257	5,253
	<u>28,257</u>	<u>5,253</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
For the year ended 30 June 2021

**Note 5: Property, Plant and Equipment**

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Property (14 & 14A Watt Street, Sunshine)	840,000	970,000
Library Books	32,852	32,852
Less accumulated depreciation	(31,352)	(31,352)
	<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,500</u>
Motor Vehicles	70,327	70,327
Less accumulated depreciation	(23,398)	(7,755)
	<u>46,929</u>	<u>62,572</u>
Furniture & Fixtures	240,774	208,922
Less accumulated depreciation	(207,768)	(200,741)
	<u>33,006</u>	<u>8,181</u>
Leasehold Improvements	53,629	-
Less accumulated depreciation	(4)	-
	<u>53,625</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>975,060</u>	<u>1,042,253</u>

**Note 6: Accounts Payable and Other Payables**

	2021 \$	2020 \$
<b>Current</b>		
Trade creditors	5,648	6,068
GST liabilities	9,718	17,568
PAYG Withholding liabilities	13,258	10,896
Sundry Accruals	-	475
Bishop Joe Grech Memorial Fund	43,170	43,170
	<u>71,794</u>	<u>78,175</u>

**Note 7: Employee Provisions**

	2021 \$	2020 \$
<b>Current</b>		
Annual leave	15,643	12,356
Long service leave	33,691	28,067
	<u>49,334</u>	<u>40,423</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
For the year ended 30 June 2021

**Note 8: Reserves**

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Revaluation surplus	691,600	821,600
	<u>691,600</u>	<u>821,600</u>

**Note 9: Accumulated Surplus**

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Accumulated surplus at the beginning of the financial year	1,144,597	748,824
Net surplus for the year	542,625	395,773
	<u>1,687,222</u>	<u>1,144,597</u>

**Note 10: Right of Use Asset**

The Association's lease portfolio includes its registered office in Parkville.

Under the agreement between Association and MSSP, the building is leased without cost and without termination date so long the Association continues to further its objectives under constitution and to abide by the guidelines from MSSP. The Association is restricted on the use of the building as agreed with the MSSP and may not utilise it for other purposes.

The lease is measured at cost in accordance with the Association's accounting policy as outlined in Note 1.

The Association is dependent on this lease to further its objectives as it utilises the building to run its operations to deliver its services. Without this concessionary lease, it would be unlikely for the Association to continue to operate.

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Right of use assets	-	-

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
For the year ended 30 June 2021

**Note 11: Cash Flow Information**

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
<b>Reconciliation of Cash Flow from Operations with Net Surplus</b>		
Net surplus for the year	542,625	395,773
<b>Non-cash flows in surplus</b>		
Depreciation	22,673	13,012
Profit on disposal of assets	-	(16,500)
<b>Changes in assets and liabilities</b>		
(Increase)/decrease in current receivables	(23,004)	(4,078)
(Increase)/decrease in prepayments	(19,931)	-
Increase/(decrease) in current creditors	(6,381)	22,015
Increase/(decrease) in current provisions	8,811	7,164
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>524,893</u>	<u>417,386</u>

**Note 12: Association Details**

The registered office is:  
Maltese Community Council of Victoria Incorporated  
477 Royal Parade  
Parkville VIC 3052

**Annual Statements Give True and Fair View of Financial Position  
and Performance of Incorporated Association**

We, Marlene Ebejer and Andrew Gatt, being members of the committee of Maltese Community Council of Victoria Incorporated, certify that:

The statements attached to this certificate give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of Maltese Community Council of Victoria Incorporated during and at the end of the financial year of the Association ending 30 June 2021.

Decided by:

*Marlene Ebejer*

Marlene Ebejer

Dated: 27-Oct-2021

Decided by:

*Andrew Gatt*

Andrew Gatt

Dated: 29-Oct-2021

**Financial Declaration for Responsible Person**

*per section 80.15 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*

The Responsible Persons declare that in the Responsible Persons' opinion:

- a. there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable; and
- b. the financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

Signed in accordance with subsection 80.15(2) of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2013*.

Decided by:

*Marlene Ebejer*

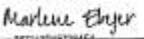
Marlene Ebejer - President  
Responsible persons' declaration

Dated: 27-Oct-2021

**Certificate by Members of the Committee**

, Marlene Ebejer, of 2302/90 Lorimer Street, Docklands Vic, certify that:

- a. I attended the annual general meeting of the Association held on 30 October 2021; and
- b. The financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2021 were submitted to the members of the Association at the annual general meeting.

DocuSigned by:  
  
20211027120454  
Marlene Ebejer

Dated: 27-Oct-2021

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

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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 2021, there have been:

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



Michael Ganci (Registered Company Auditor)  
Dated this 22<sup>nd</sup> Day of October 2021

**GANCI**  
ACCOUNTANTS & AUDITORS

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



## **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 Vic 3056  
PO Box 1160  
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.

## **RADIO 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

**Mondays & Wednesdays 6.00am – 9.00am  
Tuesday 5.30pm – 7.00pm – Live Streaming**