

NEWPORT NEWS

The Official Newsletter of the
Newport Maltese Association and Seniors Group Inc.
C/- 477 Royal Parade, Parkville, Victoria 3052
Email: Newport.nmasg@gmail.com

June 2023

Andrew Gatt —Editor

Vol. 8 Issue 2



Dear Members and Friends,

Welcome to our second Newsletter for this year. The first month of winter has been terrible, personally, I never expected this cold, wet and miserable weather and like most of you I will be looking forward to the end of Winter.

The Carnival Dance, B.B.Q, Mother's Day and the Fun, Games functions and Christmas in July have all been a success. With your support we will continue towards achieving what we have planned for you on the programme of events. Father's Day Luncheon and Annual Dinner Dance are the next two functions.

Our weekly gatherings have been going well even though a few of our members have gone overseas seeking the sun. The respect, friendship, and camaraderie of all the members is to be commended.

We have invested in an electronic bingo calling unit. We had a few teething problems until we achieved the result we aimed for. There will be more improvement in the weeks to come.

On the 24th September we will have our AGM. Please let us know if you will be attending to enable us to organize the catering.

In October we will be celebrating a remarkable milestone in the history of the Newport Maltese Association. This year marks our 50th Anniversary and it is a privilege to share this momentous occasion with you at the Annual Dinner Dance. This will be held at the Melrose Reception.

We will give you more details at a later date.
Until we meet again, please stay safe.

Joe Ellul
President



An Iconic Monument in the heart of Valletta, Malta----Manoel Theatre

The Manoel Theatre in Malta is both a historical monument of immense cultural value as well as the most important performing arts venue.

The Manoel Theatre dates back to the early 18th century. It is the “third oldest in Europe” and “the oldest in the Commonwealth of Nations”, and still in operation.

Antonio Manoel De Vilhena, Grand Master of the Sovereign Military Order at the time, in 1731 decided to build a public theatre,— a Latin inscription above the main entrance of the theatre reads - “for the honest recreation of the people” He wasted no time and the building of the Theatre (named after him) was completed in 10 months, The original interior was similar in design to the Palermo Theatre (Italy) of that

time, being semi-circular with straight sides projecting to the stage. Alterations through the years have brought the auditorium to its present effective oval shape.

The first of all first nights was on the 9 th January 1732 with a presentation of “Merope” a grand tragedy play by Scipione Maffei, a famous Italian Author in the 18 th century, and played by members of the Sovereign Military Order. Maltese playwrights and Composers earned their place among foreign authors. It was a Maltese by the name “Nicolo Isouard who became Protettore (protector) during the French occupation of Malta in the last two years of the 18 th century.

Due to the building of the Opera House in 1861, the Manoel Theatre became private property, and when the Opera House was destroyed by fire in 1873, some of the Manoel’s old glory returned – only till the Opera House was reconstructed. The Manoel theatre then served as a Dance Hall and subsequently as a Cinema.

The Malta Government acquired the building in response to public appeal and delicate process of restoration began. In December 1960 a grand opening performance of “Coppelia” by the famous “Ballet Rambert” took place.

The Manoel Theatre is now officially Malta’s National Theatre Points of interest: The Theatre was the venue for the first public airing of Malta’s National Anthem on the 27 th December 1922.

The three tiers of boxes are constructed entirely of wood.

On a personal note: I remember very clearly, as a young boy in the late 40’s, I use to go to the theatre with a cousin of mine to watch matinee movies of “Roy Rogers, Gene Autry and Tarzan” --Johnny Weismuller, usually on a Saturday afternoon.

George Michael Saliba OAM.





NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Our reference:

4/7/2023

Antonia Camilleri
President,
Maltese Community Council of Victoria Inc.
467-477 Royal Parade
PARKVILLE VIC 3052

Dear Antonia,

I am writing to thank you and the executive of the Maltese Community Council of Victoria Inc. for the success of the activities organised to mark the 75th anniversary of the Malta-Australia Migration Agreement.

I would like to particularly thank you for making the Maltese Open Day on 6 May such a success. This was one of the largest events hosted by National Archives in recent years. Seeing so many people interacting, exploring and discovering their own records in the national archival collection was wonderful. There was pure excitement amongst attendees, with many sharing their own personal stories with our staff, and proudly showing photographs of their own. The event was a real testament to how important access to our collection is, and will continue to be, for members of the Maltese community in Australia.

To organise an event of this scale and quality takes a lot of 'behind the scenes' effort, and I would like to especially acknowledge the major contribution made by Joseph Matina.

I would also like to acknowledge the ongoing support the Maltese Community Council of Victoria is providing to the associated volunteer project. This is a very important contribution to the preservation and accessibility of these records.

This partnership between National Archives and the Maltese Community Council of Victoria is proving to be a successful model which we hope to explore with other multicultural communities into the future.

Yours sincerely

Simon Froude
Director-General

PO Box 4824 Kingston ACT 2604 | Kings Avenue, Parkes ACT 2600
t (02) 6212 3600 | e archives@naa.gov.au | naa.gov.au



Australian Government
National Archives of Australia



These are difficult times and the attached links may help if in need REACH OUT.

<https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus/maltese>

<https://mccv.org.au/wp-content/uploads/sites/16/2020/06/Getting-tested-for-COVID-19-Maltese.pdf>

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

Thursday 20th -22nd April**3 Day Trip Lakes Entrance**

As we usually do for a long trip, we need to head off nice and early, and we had to wait for no one. Before 7a.m. the coach was all set to go. Joe welcomed everyone, and the day began with a prayer.

Benny was our coach captain, and we all know that we are in good hands, not just with his driving, but also with his knowledge of the land. First stop was at Yarragon for morning tea. Thank you to all our bakers.... We never go hungry.

Bingo was next on the agenda, and nobody from the committee were winners, Rennie and Maurice used our new bingo contraption instead of the DIY used on other trips. (That is not the reason why nobody from the committee did not win).

Before you knew it, we arrived in Bairnsdale, with a stop to visit St. Mary's Church, then on to Lakes Entrance, which is just so scenic as you approach. As we explored the local area, lunch had to be fish n chips, here you could not go wrong. After lunch, a quick tour of the town, then checking in to the RSL which is home for the next two nights. Nobody complained, as we all needed a rest. 6.30p.m. Dinner was on, a two-course meal, which was delicious.

Speaking with many, they all said they went out like a light.

Next morning after a hearty breakfast, we were all ready to go, first stop was to the look out. iPad and phones were at the ready to capture the moment. So memorable. Our next stop is to explore the beautiful township of Metung. So pretty and serene. Holiday homes all around, and the lucky locals seem to be relaxing at the coffee shops. Rennie did bring his fishing rod along, but never got a chance to use it. Lakes Entrance for lunch and relaxing before a visit to Wyanga Park Winery.

Dinner time again, we need to go on a diet, it's my clothes telling me this.

To support the local community, many used the facilities provided for our entertainment, they did tell us that music and dancing were available upstairs, but you all know, our knees are not the best for stairs, so we stayed downstairs.

After breakfast, it was time to say goodbye to Lakes Entrance.

The trip was broken up with a visit to the Maltese Community Centre in Morwell. Many of us remember Mario Sammut who entertained us for so many years, and he, and his committee made us most welcomed. Firstly, lunch was served, then a visit to their Maltese Museum, which took everyone back in time. Should you be in Morwell, it is certainly worthy of a visit.

Back to Parkville, we all said goodbye and thank you to Benny for the trip which was so enjoyable, and thank you also to the ones that came with us, these trips give us an opportunity to get to know you a bit better.

You are all such a great group.

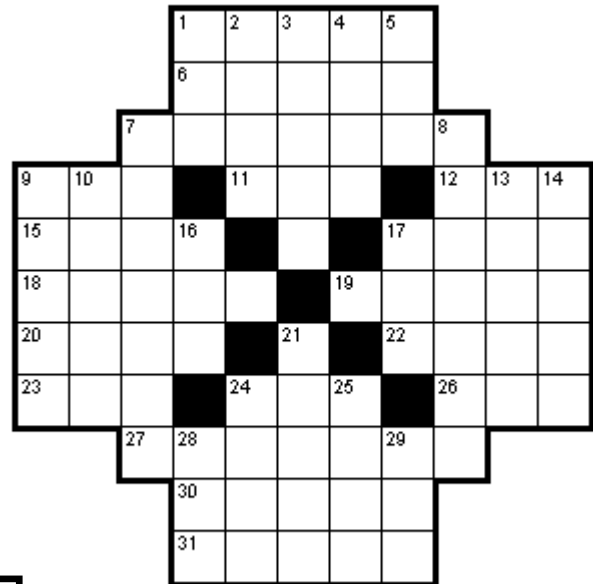
Gwen Busuttil

Across

1. Impart skills or knowledge (5)
6. Bird of prey (5)
7. Lean back (7)
9. Playing card (3)
11. Short jump (3)
12. Crony (3)
15. Multitude (4)
17. Prima donna (4)
18. Enter data (5)
19. Sweetener (5)
20. Halt (4)
22. Jail onboard a ship (4)
23. Male offspring (3)
24. Domestic swine (3)
26. Beer (3)
27. Explanatory drawing (7)
30. Imitate (5)
31. Industrial buildings (5)

Down

1. Golf pin (3)
2. Apiece (4)
3. Lambent (5)
4. Cut back (4)
5. Female chicken (3)
7. Answer (7)
8. Quip (7)
9. Not functioning properly (5)
10. Voice part (5)
13. Help (5)
14. Above average size (5)
16. Drink a little at a time (3)
17. Raise to knighthood (3)
21. Tenet (5)
24. Frozen precipitation (4)
25. Smile (4)
28. Fairy (3)
29. Perform (3)



DAD Jokes.

Granddad survived mustard and peeper spray during the war
We now call him a **seasoned** veteran

What Do you call 100 rabbits walking backward?
Receding hairline

DAD Jokes

How do you get four elephants in a mini?
Two in the front and two in the back

How do you know there's 8 elephants in the church?

There are two minis parked outside.

What do you call German pastors?
German shepherds

How do billboards talk?
Sign language.

Portelli Funeral Services



Joseph C. Portelli

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THE CARING ALTERNATIVE

9364 0047 - 0418 133 144

COUNTRY - INTERSTATE - OVERSEAS

ALL SUBURBS

24 HOURS - 7 DAYS



Australian Government



THE VISUAL ARTS AND CRAFT STRATEGY

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The President and Executive Committee of Newport Maltese Association & Seniors Group Inc. wish to thank the Department of Premier and Cabinet and the Victorian Multicultural Commission for their continued support of our Club.

Sunday 30th April

Mother's Day Lunch (Ferraro Reception)

As always, this function was attended by a good number of members and non members, except this year we celebrated Mothers day at Ferraro receptions for the first time.

Our functions always start with the Maltese and Australian national anthem and this one was not an exception.

Our president welcomed everyone with a toast to all mothers present at the function. Our DJ for that day was DJ Dominic who kept us dancing for most of the afternoon.

Shortly after the entree was served, the guys of the committee went around the hall giving every woman a small gift for Mother's Day. Everybody loved the small bag of home made almond biscuits.

More dancing until it was time to have a rest and enjoy the main meal. In the meantime it was our time, the girls in the committee, to start selling the raffle tickets. The raffle in our function helps the club with the finances to try and keep the prices of out functions as low as possible, as usual the raffle was a success thanks to all who bought tickets to help in our celebrations.

After desert it was time to try and burn a few calories on the dance floor. DJ Dominic did a great job to make sure we don't leave the dance floor. Like always it was time to draw the raffle to bring that afternoon to an end.

Congratulations to all the winners of the raffle prizes.



(contd page 10)

Sunday 21st May

Fun & Games Luncheon (Parkville)

The club's first fun lunch was held on Sunday the 21st May and it was another successful day for our club as was made clear by the laughter heard throughout the afternoon.

The ladies of the committee started early in the day making and the traditional Maltese "Hobz biz zejt" which was welcomed by all present. Wine and soft drinks were available throughout the afternoon as well as tea and coffee.

The next course consisting of roast chicken, salad and roast potato was served after which the fun began.

We started the afternoon off with 5 free bingo games with a \$20 prize and the person sitting on the right of the winner received a block of chocolate. The next five games the person sitting on the left of the winner received the chocolate.

After a short break everyone was happy to see that dessert was "ricotta cannoli" which is always a favourite among the members.

Then the real fun and competition began with the horse racing. The horses are named after a city or village in Malta so the competitiveness comes out in our members when taking out bets. The race is a lot of fun and there were a lot of happy faces when the winner was declared.

Everyone was saying when are we doing this again which shows quite clearly that our members do enjoy getting together to have fun and also having time to talk and catch up with one another.



Maltese rabbit stew (stuffat tal-fenek)

Ingredients

- 1 rabbit, jointed into 8 pieces
- sea salt and freshly ground pepper, to taste
- plain flour, for dusting
- 100ml vegetable oil
- 3 onions, finely diced
- 1 head garlic, cloves peeled and thinly sliced
- 280g tomato paste
- 2 tbsp curry powder
- 1 tbsp ground turmeric
- 1 tbsp paprika
- 1 tbsp ground cumin
- 1.5 litres chicken stock
- 4 potatoes, peeled cut into 2 cm dice
- 300g podded peas
- 1 cup parsley leaves

Marinade

- 100ml olive oil
- 1 head garlic, peeled
- 350ml red wine
- 5 bay leaves
- 3 cinnamon sticks
- 4-star anise
- 3 cloves



Cook's notes

Oven temperatures are for conventional; if using fan-forced (convection), reduce the temperature by 20°C. | We use Australian tablespoons and cups: 1 teaspoon equals 5 ml; 1 tablespoon equals 20 ml; 1 cup equals 250 ml. | All herbs are fresh (unless specified) and cups are lightly packed. | All vegetables are medium size and peeled, unless specified. | All eggs are 55-60 g, unless specified.

Instructions

Marinating time: 2 hours

To make the marinade, combine all the ingredients in a non-metallic bowl. Add the rabbit pieces, combine well, then cover and refrigerate for at least 2 hours.

Drain the rabbit pieces, reserving the marinade. Pat the rabbit dry, season to taste and dust with flour. Heat the vegetable oil in a large heavy-based saucepan over medium-high heat. Add the rabbit and cook until golden on both sides. Remove from the pan and set aside. Reduce the heat to medium, then add the onion and garlic and cook for 5 minutes or until softened. Add the tomato paste and spices and stir for a few minutes or until fragrant.

Add the reserved marinade and simmer for 15 minutes or until the mixture is almost dry. Return the rabbit pieces to the pan. Add the stock and simmer for 20 minutes or until reduced by one third. Cover with a lid, reduce the heat to low and cook for another 40 minutes. Add the potatoes and cook for another 30 minutes or until tender.

A few minutes before serving, stir in the peas. Scatter with parsley and serve.



Newport Maltese Association and Senior Group Inc

Program of Events for the Year 2023.

Sunday 27th August	Fathers' Day Lunch
Sunday 24th September	AGM
Sunday 8th October	Annual Dinner Dance
Late October	Annual Trip TBA
Sunday 19th November	Spring Carnival Parkville
Wednesday 13th December	Christmas Break-Up

Please note: These dates are subject to change.

NEWPORT MALTESE ASSOCIATION AND SENIORS GROUP Inc. COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Joe Ellul	9744 6096
Andrew Gatt	0416777807
Gwen Busuttil	9333 3693
Olga Ellul	9744 6096
Carmen Casa	9436 8196
Arthur Galea	0439830454
Maurice Spiteri	9469 2067
Carmen Spiteri	9469 2067
Victor Casa	9436 8196

Rennie Busuttil	9333 3693
Miriam Camilleri	9398 4018
Anne Caruana	9449 7792
Mary Galea	9304 1452
Antonia Camilleri	9390 1686
Joe Camilleri	9390 1686
Antonia Scicluna	0408750187
Fred Scicluna	93695325



Next Function.



**NEWPORT MALTESE ASSOCIATION
& SENIORS GROUP Inc.**
CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO THE



Father's Day Lunch
Sunday 27th August 2023
AT
FERRARO RECEPTION CENTRE
14 Onslow Ave, Campbellfield VIC 3061
Members \$50.00 Non-Members \$55

TIME: 12.00 NOON.
TABLE: _____

DRESS CODE: Jacket & Tie
DJ Thomas

Why did the tomato blush	It saw the salad dressing.
The inventor of the Throat lozenger died last week	There was no coughing at his funeral
Why didn't the melons get married	Because they cantaloupe
I have started telling everyone about eating dried grapes	It's all about raisin awareness.
I hate it when my partner gets angry with me for being lazy	it's not like I've done anything



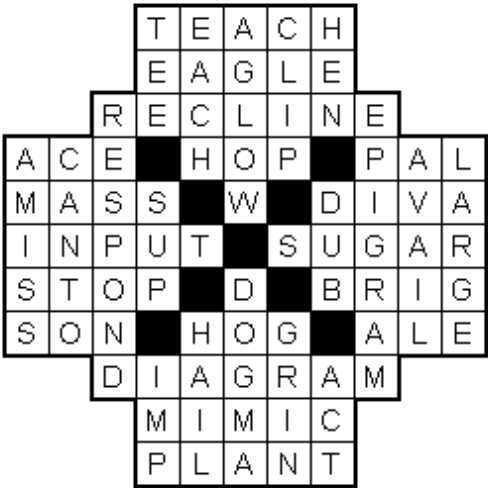
To all of our members who are celebrating Birthdays or Anniversaries over this period we wish you all the happiness and health on these occasions.

The Committee:




Did you know.

- 1. Australia has the world’s longest golf course measuring more than 850 miles long.
- 2. Australia is home to 21 of the world’s 25 most venomous snakes.
- 3. Perth is the only city in the world which can have aircraft land in its CBD.
- 4. The wine cask ([Goon!](#)) was invented in Australia (obviously).
- 5. Australia is even bigger than you think it is. It is almost the same size as mainland USA.
- 6. The largest cattle station in the world is in Australia and it is bigger than Israel.
- 7. Australia is ranked second on the Human Development Index which considers a long and healthy life, knowledge, and a decent standard of living. Nice!
- 8. 4 out of 5 Aussies live less than 50km from the coastline - now that is living the dream!
- 9. Each week there are an estimated 70 tourists that overstay their visas (who can blame them)?
- 10. Former Prime Minister Bob Hawke set a world record for sculling 2.5 pints of beer in 11 seconds. Hawke later suggested that this was the reason for his great political success.
- 11. The first Police Force in Australia was made up of the most well-behaved convicts.
- 12. The world's largest sand island can be found in Australia - [Fraser Island](#)!
- 13. It would take around 29 years to visit one new Aussie beach every day (there are 10,685 of them!)
- 14. The Great Barrier Reef is the planet’s largest living structure.
- 15. It even has its own Post Office box!
- 16. Aussies drink 1.7 billion litres of beer per year, that's about 680 bottles of beer for each adult.
- 17. Australia's Capital city, Canberra, meant "woman's cleavage" in Aborigine and was named that because the city is cradled between two mountains.
- 18. In Canberra it is legal to film hard core porn and selling the end-product has been made legal in the city. (Being a politician must get boring!)
- 19. AFL (Australian Rules Football) was invented to keep Cricketers fit in the off season, there are claims that the game may have been influenced by Indigenous Australians.
- 20. The world's largest rock is not actually Uluru, but Mount Augustus in Western Australia.




The Chicken Salad Spot



**Open
7 days**

10.00 am TO 9.00 pm



Shop 19, Gladstone Park Shopping Centre
Phone: 9334 5325

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