



Inc. Reg. No. A0028424X

RESKEON NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2015
AUTUMN EDITION
Volume 19, No. 1

Welcome! Merħba!

Welcome once again to another issue of Reskeon Newsletter.

Summer's gone and we are heading to Autumn. In this issue you will find a report on our Christmas Break-up which was held on Wednesday, December 3. Once again this function was a very successful one and all members enjoyed it.

The Seniors at Merrilands contributed towards the purchase of a Defibrillator which helps save lives in case of a heart attack. Other groups meeting at the Centre contributed as well.

On February 25 we had some important meetings such as the amendment of our Constitution after the amalgamation of our two groups and change of name. All these reports will have to be sent to the Department of Corporate Affairs for approval.

On our first meeting for the year, Fr Canon Emmanuel Bonello celebrated Mass for us. Fr Bonello wished us to continue with our work during this new year.

We are publishing a report on the Piers Festival 2015 held at Princes Pier.

You will find two photos of our members playing bocce.

There is a report on a BBQ to say thank you to our helpers.

The granddaughter of one of our members raised \$1600 for this year's Good Friday Appeal by creating artistic greeting cards. It's good to see our young ones finding time to think about others.

Our member George Topolcsanyi does a lot of community work and it's good to say something about him.

We take this opportunity to wish each one of you, your family and friends a Happy Easter.

You can read these stories in full on the inside pages of this newsletter. We encourage you to use the services of the advertisers in our Newsletter because they help financially in producing it for you. Tell them that you have seen their advert in our Newsletter.

Until we meet again, take care and drive carefully. In your prayers, remember those with no one to pray for them. Thank you.

PAUL VELLA, Editor

FIND THESE STORIES AND MORE INSIDE!

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Reskeon Seniors' Christmas Break-Up

The Reskeon Seniors Group organised a Christmas Luncheon for their members at the Firenze Receptions, Fawkner, on Wednesday, December 3. Around 152 members and friends attended. When members sat at their tables, they were served hors d'ouvres and pre-dinner drinks.

Distinguished guests were the Parish Priest of St. Joseph the Worker Parish, Canon Fr Emmanuel Bonello, the Honorary Members of Reskeon Maltese Association and Reskeon Seniors Group, Dr Clemente Zammit and Mrs Mary Zammit, the ex Vice-President of the Maltese Community Council of Victoria, Mr Gejtu Deguara and Mrs Mary Deguara; the Treasurer of the Maltese Community Council of Victoria, Mr Paul Borg and Mrs Pauline Borg, ex Co-Ordinator of Reskeon Seniors, Mr Caesar Vella and Mrs Phyllis Vella; Director of First National Real Estate Borg & Associates, Mr Joe Borg and Mrs Josephine Borg; the President of the Xaghra Association of Australia, Mr Tony Bonello and Mrs Mary Bonello. We received apologies from the Consul General of Malta in Victoria, Mr Victor Grech and Mrs Patricia Grech; the MSSP Rector at Parkville, Fr Edwin Agius; and

the Honorary Member of Reskeon Maltese Association and Reskeon Seniors Group, Mrs Anne Gauci, who were unable to attend due to other commitments.

Secretary, Paul Vella, acted as MC for the day. After he welcomed the distinguished guests and all those present he led the singing of the Maltese National Anthem and Advance Australia Fair. Afterwards he invited all present to fill their glasses with champagne to make a toast for Christmas and the New Year.

The entrée of baked fish and rice was served. This was followed by a serve of lasagne. The main course consisted of chicken Kiev and roast beef with vegetables on each plate. Dessert was Cassata and/or Moka ice cream followed by fresh fruit and tea and coffee accompanied by Continental cakes.

(Story continues with pictures on Page 3)

MALTESE NEWS
on SBS 2 TV
Every Thursday, 8 am
Every Sunday, 8 am
These are two different programs
Weekly news bulletins prepared by the PBS (Malta) and are presented on **SBS 2 TV**



Għal min jippreferi jaqra' bil-Malti...

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

IL-CHRISTMAS BREAK-UP

Din l-ikla inżammeth bhas-soltu fil-Firenze Receptions. Dawk li kienu preżenti kollha hadu gost u hafna sabu l-hin biex jirringrazzjaw lil xi membru tal-kumitat.

XIRI TA' DEFIBRILLATOR

Reskeon Seniors taw is-sehem tagħhom biex jinxtara Defibrillator. Dan huma strument biex jintuza f'każ li xi hadd ikollu attakk ta' qalb u allura jista' jsalva hajjiet ta' dawn. Xi gruppi oħra li jiltaqgħu f'Merrilands Community Centre taw is-sehem tagħhom ukoll.

LAQGHAT SPEĊJALI

Nhar l-Erbgħa, 25 ta' Frar, kellna laqgħat speċjali. Fost dawn kien hemm tibdiliet fil-Kostituzzjoni li kellhom bżonn isiru minhabba li wara li spiċċat ir-Reskeon Maltese Association, din ingħaqdet mar-Reskeon Seniors Group. Fl-istess laqgħa il-membri hadu sehem biex jgħażiż isem ġdid.

XEWQAT SBIEH GHAL JOE GALEA

Fl-aħħar ta' Frar, il-membri Joe Galea irriżenja minn fuq il-kumitat wara hafna snin minhabba impenji oħra. Joe dejjem hadem iebes speċjalment fil-kċina u żgur se nħossu n-nuqqas tiegħu.

QUDDIESA FL-EWWEL LAQGHA

Fl-ewwel laqgħa tas-sena, Fr Canon Emmanuel Bonello attenda l-laqgħa biex iċcelebra Quddiesa speċjali għalina.

PIERS FESTIVAL 2015

Din is-sena inżamm il-Piers Festival 2015 fuq Princes Pier. Dan ifakkar fuq in-numru kbir ta' emigranti li waslu fuq il-vapuri speċjalment dawk li ġew mill-Ewropa, bħalna l-Maltin.

\$1600 GHALL-GOOD FRIDAY APPEAL

Monique Grima, tifla ta' 11-il sena li tiġi n-neputija tal-membri Rose Sacco gabret \$1600 għall-Good Friday Appeal billi tagħmel u tbiegħ greeting cards.

GEORGE TOPOLCANYI

Il-membri tagħna George Topolcsanyi jahdem hafna fil-komunita' biex jgħin lil-l-haddiehor. Għalhekk ikun xieraq jekk nitkellmu ftit fuqu u fuq ix-xogħol li jagħmel.

Rapporti bl-Ingliż flimkien ma' ritratti fuq dan li għadna kemm thadditna fuqu ssibuhom f'faċċati oħra ta' din li Newsletter. Sakemm nergħu niltaqgħu darb'oħra, insellmilkom u ngħidilkom "Sahha"!

— Paul Vella



Jenny Mikakos MP

State Member Northern Metropolitan Region

319 Spring Street, Reservoir 3073
Tel: 9462 3966

Jenny.Mikakos@parliament.vic.gov.au

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

You can contact us by phone, mail or email:
Paul Vella, Secretary, 9460-4404 Mob. 0409 961 928
Email: (Paul and Salvina Vella) paul.vella44@gmail.com
Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group
Merrilands Community Centre, Cnr. Asquith and Sturdee Sts, Reservoir

A defibrillator for the Seniors

On Thursday, February 19, Reskeon Seniors Group represented the Group at an information meeting on how to use a defibrillator.

The Committee contributed to the purchase of a defibrillator to be used at Merrilands Community Centre, along with other groups that meet there.

Secretary, Paul Vella, and member Tarcisio Xuereb attended this information meeting where they were shown how to use the defibrillator in case the need arises.

The information was shown on the big screen and afterwards some of those who attended were given the opportunity to try to use it themselves.

Those present learned that in the event of a heart attack, each minute after the attack the chance of survival is decreased by 10 per cent.

When the defibrillator is purchased it will be put in the office next to the kitchen.

Tarcisio Xuereb showed interest in undergoing a first aid course.



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RESKEON SENIORS CHRISTMAS BREAK-UP

(Continued from Page 1)

Red and white wine, beer and soft drinks were served throughout the day. Music was in the hands of DJ King Charlie who kept the guests dancing all day.

President, Salvina Vella, delivered her Christmas message where she thanked all members for their help throughout the year and wished them and their families all the best for a Merry and Holy Christmas and the New Year filled with good health and happiness. A list of birthday and anniversaries that occurred around this time was read. A Christmas gift was given to all those present. The men received a bottle of red wine while the ladies received a large German Marzipan Christmas Stollen.

Father Christmas paid us a visit and cheered all those present and gave out lollies. It was a very good day and all those attending enjoyed themselves and many thanked members of the committee for the way it was organised. Thanks to all those involved in helping to make this luncheon a successful one as always, especially President, Salvina Vella, who did all the organising and preparations. Thanks also to the owners and waiting staff of Firenze Receptions for the way they always look after us.



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 P.O. Box 219 Thomastown 3074
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 Email: bronwyn.halfpenny@parliament.vic.gov.au



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

Meetings at Merrilands

On Wednesday, 25th February, 2015, members of Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group Inc. attended a number of meetings.

The first was in the form of an AGM, where the last Minutes were read along with the last financial report of Reskeon Maltese Association. Those present accepted both the Minutes and the financial report which were carried.

After this meeting, another short meeting started where members had to accept the amalgamation of Reskeon Maltese Association (which now is no longer functional) and Reskeon Seniors Group. This was moved and seconded and unanimously accepted and carried.

Another meeting followed to accept amendments to the Constitution. Secretary Paul Vella explained that the only amendments were to delete clauses referring to the Reskeon Maltese Association and keep only the ones which belonged to the Seniors Group. There were no other changes to the Constitution. This was moved and seconded and unanimously accepted and carried. At the same time members were asked to determine the new name of the Association which used to be "Reskeon Maltese Association and Reskeon Seniors Group Inc." It was suggested the name to be "Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group Inc." This was moved and seconded and unanimously accepted and carried.

Secretary Paul Vella thanked our Honorary Auditor, Mr Paul Borg, for his ongoing service to our Association.

After the meeting free tea and coffee, cakes and biscuits were served.



First Meeting Mass

The first meeting of the Seniors for 2015 started with the celebration of Holy Mass.

The Mass was celebrated by Canon Fr Emmanuel Bonello, Parish Priest of St. Joseph the Worker Parish Church, North Reservoir.

Around 120 people attended the first meeting and all were eager to start a new year of meetings and activities.

At the start of the Mass, Fr Bonello read a list of deceased members, especially the founder John Gauci and other committee members. The Mass was offered as well for the repose of member Saviour Bartolo who passed away only a few days before.

Members Mary Azzopardi and Miriam Mizzi acted as Special Ministers during Holy Communion while the music was in the hands of member Margaret Tanti.

Fr Bonello delivered a very interesting Homily encouraging the committee and members to keep going with the work of the Group.



At the end of February, member Joe Galea resigned from the committee because of other commitments. Joe worked hard during his years on the committee and we are going to miss him in the kitchen. We wish him all the best for the future. Well done, Joe!

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Piers Festival 2015

On Sunday, January 25, the Multicultural Arts Victoria organised the Fourth Piers Festival 2015 between 12 noon and 9.30 pm.

This Festival was held on Princes Pier, Port Melbourne.

The event was attended by a large number of people. It seemed that there was not enough publicity, especially where the Maltese Community is concerned. As myself and my wife attended this Festival we noticed that there were no members of our community in attendance, while other communities such as the Italians, Greeks, Turkish and others attended in large numbers.

At the same time, the members of these communities provided a lot of entertainment, such as music, dancing and singing showing off their culture. Once again, the Maltese Community was not there.

There was an exhibition of audio, visual and photos depicting stories of migrants who left their homelands migrating to Australia to start a new life for themselves and their children.

At least here we had a Maltese participation, thanks to Rosemary Attard, Secretary of the Maltese Literature Group in Victoria and Welfare Director of the Maltese Community Council of Victoria.

Rosemary, then a 16-year-old girl, left Malta for Australia along with her family on the ship "Arosa Kulm" which left Malta on April 8, 1956 with 511 migrants, most of them women and children.

Rosemary exhibited a large picture frame with a lot of pictures and interesting write-ups associated with this voyage.

This voyage of "Arosa Kulm" to Australia was not a very good one. When they arrived in Freemantle on May 8, 1956, the lifeboats were checked and were found not to be sea-worthy.

The passengers had to wait five days until all was fixed before the ship was allowed to continue its voyage to Melbourne and Sydney.

"Arosa Kulm" arrived in Melbourne on May 16, and then continued its journey to Sydney.

Incidentally, Rosemary Attard is the sister of our member Iris Sapiano, who naturally was a passenger on the same ship. My late brother, Anthony Vella, husband of committee member, Madeleine Vella, travelled on the same ship as well.



Photos: (top) the picture montage created by Rosemary Attard. (middle) A group of migrants especially some of them were teachers during the trip. Rosemary is second last on the right and at right is Anthony Vella, husband of our member Madeleine Vella and brother of Paul Vella. (bottom) The Ship.



Reskeon Seniors Group Bocce Groups play every week at our meetings at Merrilands Community Centre. On the left is the Men's Bocce Group who at the moment started playing bocce competition and on the right is the Ladies' Bocce Group who are playing bocce competition as well. We apologise that on the day the picture was taken some of the girls were not in attendance.

\$1600 for the Good Friday Appeal



Young Monique Grima, 11, is a bright young girl who works hard to raise money for the Good Friday Appeal.

Monique creates artistic greeting cards for all occasions and the profit from the sale of these cards go towards to Good Friday Appeal. We've seen some of her cards and actually we ordered some cards for members of our family and the result was very artistic.

Reskeon free BBQ for helpers

Every year, Reskeon Association in appreciation of the help received throughout the year from some members, organises a free BBQ to say 'thank you'.

This was held on Sunday, 16th November, at Edwardes Lake Park, Reservoir.

Although we were heading for Summer, it was a bit of a wintry day, but the rain stopped just in time for the cooking.

The BBQ was fully catered for by the committee. President, Salvina Vella, extended her thanks to one and all for their help and assistance.



RESKEON NEWSLETTER, MARCH 2015

The cards cost \$3 each and from the sales of these cards, Monique raised \$1600 for this year's Appeal.

In fact, her mum and herself will be interviewed on TV during the Good Friday Appeal telecast on Channel 7.

Monique is the granddaughter of Reskeon Seniors Group member Rose Sacco. Any members who would like to order some of these artistic hand-made cards from Monique should see Rose Sacco at one of our meetings.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS...

Mark these dates in your diary!

March: Barbecue at Edwardes Lake Park
April: Trip (by Coach) Day Out
May 7: Mother's Day Luncheon (Firenze Receptions)
June 11: Restaurant Day
July: Free Sausage Sizzle
August 13: Faher's Day Luncheon (Firenze Receptions)
September 8: Bambina Mass, St. Paul's Chaapel, Parkville
September 12: Vittorja (Bambina) Dinner Dance
September 13: Bambina Feast, St. Mary's Church, West Melbourne
October 7: AGM

MASSES IN MALTESE

For those members wishing to attend Mass in Maltese, we are publishing these times and locations.

Every Saturday, at 6 pm:
St. Paul's Chapel, Parkville (Maltese Centre)
 Every Sunday, at 8.00 am:
St. Paul's Church, Sunshine Avenue, Kealba
 Every First Friday of the month, 6.30 pm:
St Paul's Church, Glengala Road, West Sunshine
 Every First Friday of the month, 7 pm:
Resurrection Church, 51 Gum Road, St. Albans West
 Every First Saturday of the month, 6 pm:
St. Joseph The Worker Church, Wilson Blvd, Reservoir
 Every First Saturday of the month, 4.45 pm:
St. Joseph Church, Springvale
 Every Second Saturday of the month, 5.15 pm:
St. Luke's Church, 1a David Street, Lalor
 Every Third Saturday of the month, 4.00 pm:
St. Francis of Assisi Church, Childs Road, Mill Park
 Every Fourth Saturday of the month, 6.00 pm:
St. Thomas More Church, 65 North Street, Hadfield
 (Confessions about half an hour before Mass)

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Consul General of Malta
9670 8427

Maltese Fathers, Parkville
9387 7433

Maltese Centre, Parkville
9387 8922

Thank you!

Ms Rita Mee for helping with proofreading, **Dr Edwin Borg-Manche**, who takes care of the MCCV website for his help in advertising our activities, to **Mr Paul Borg**, Treasurer of the MCCV, for his ongoing help in auditing our books, to **Darebin City Council** and the **Victorian Multicultural Commission** for grants received, and to all those who help in organising the Bocce competitions. We also thank the **Maltese Radio Stations** for advertising our functions and all those who assist us from time to time. Thanks also to the many members who give their help and assistance when needed.



With great regret we announce the death of our members' and friends' loved ones which occurred recently:

JOSEPHINE BORG
 Auntie of member Rita Zammit

TONY PULLICINO
 Nephew of member Joe Pullicino

SAVIOUR BARTOLO
 Husband of Felicia Bartolo
 Brother of Laurie Bartolo

PAUL BONAVIA
 Nephew of member Frans Bonavia

SHAUN JOHN BRINCAT
 Nephew of member Josephine Scicluna
 Nephew of Mary and Gejtu Deguara

MARIA TALIANA
 Mother of Fr John Taliana, mssp

DELINA VELLA
 Sister of Fr. Frank Buhagiar, Werribee

Please remember them in your prayers

R.I.P.

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For enquiries about our Reskeon Maltese Association and Reskeon Seniors Group
 Sec. Paul Vella
 Phone 9460-4404
 Mobile 0409 961 928

Happy Birthday ...

March: 3: Doris Schembri; 8: Licia Bartolo, Teddy Farrugia; 9: Tony Mizzi; 10: Joe Pullicino; 14: Charles Sacco; 20: Vincent Abdilla; 21: Mary Abdilla, Joe Pisani, Doris Fenech; 22: Mary Anne Brincat; 27: Billy Dalli; 28: Rita Zammit; 31: Rosemary Sacco, Violet Portelli. **April:** 1: Mary Camilleri; 4: Doris Pullicino; 5: George Colvin, Doris Dalli, Frances Galea; 8: Tony Grech; 7: Chris Buttigieg; 10: Angela Mizzi, Toni Hili; 13: Reno Borg, Tony Bartolo; 14: Sarah Catania; 15: Caesar Vella; 17: Lucy Fabri; 19: Melda Farrugia; 20: Lisa Saliba; 25: Charlie Farrugia; 27: Jim Cutajar; 29: Mary Baldacchino, Mary Falzon. **May:** 5: Therese Scicluna; 6: Charlie Zammit, Carmen Mizzi; 9: Melita Magro; 10: Tony Scicluna; 12: James Cassar; 19: Mary Zammit, Elvira Sacco; 21: Guido Ciantar; 26: Doris Caruana; 30: Maureen Dakin.

Happy Wedding Anniversary ...

March: 27: Charles and Carmen Cachia. **April:** 2: Teddy and Antonia Farrugia; 4: Helen and Frans Bonavia; 21: Caesar and Phyllis Vella; 22: Lina and Victor Pulis, Yvonne and Sam Caruana; 25: Doris and Frank Mallia; Godfrey and Mary Camilleri. **May:** 4: Frank and Jane Zahra; 5: Tessie and Silvio Sacco, Violet and Spiro Portelli; 6: Theresa and Laurie Bartolo; 7: Mary and Vince Abdilla; 26: Vivienne and Charles Tabone; 30: Salvina and Paul Vella.

Reskeon Maltese Association Seniors Group Inc.

President: Salvina Vella
 Vice-President: George Colvin
 Secretary: Paul Vella
 Asst. Sec.:
 Treasurer: Victor Pulis
 Asst. Treas.: George Colvin
 Social Sec.: Salvina Vella
 Members: Gerald Magro
 Melita Magro
 Sarah Catania
 Alfred Cachia
 Theresa Cachia
 Madeleine Vella

The group meets every Wednesday at Merrilands Community Centre, Asquith St, Reservoir, 9.30-2 pm.

For more information Ring 9460-4404

SAINT GEORGE PRECA

Those receiving special favours through the intercession of Father George Preca, are requested to report this to:



The General Secretary, Society of Christian Doctrine, Blata l-Bajda, Malta

Let us Pray

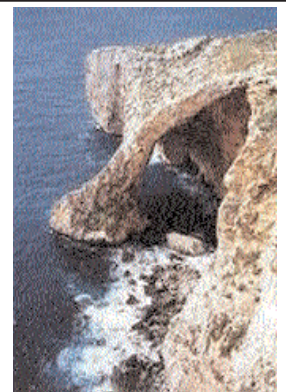
Lord, you called Dun George Preca to be a teacher and father to the young, and now you have numbered him with your saints in heaven. We thank you for this glory you have given him. We ask you to fill us with love like his: may we give ourselves completely to your service and to the salvation of mankind. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Grant we beseech Thee O Lord that Thou wilt glorify Thy humble servant who worked with so much zeal for the salvation of souls and that through his intercession it will please Thee to grant this favour.....

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Member George Topolcsanyi active in community work

Active member of the Hume Men's shed in Craigieburn with 40+ years production and manufacturing engineering experience. A shed is a place where men can come to spend time to relax, socialise, learn new skills and get their hand dirty by practicing skills learned in their working life.

This shed has able and partially disabled 60+ members from all walks of life, ages from 35 and older. Our facility consists of a canteen social area, office, and a large well equipped woodworking workshop. Like most sheds in Australia we are totally self-funded from various activities that generate income from sausage sizzles, and products/projects made in the workshop.

Some of the workshop projects are community based like the woodworking bench for the Coolaroo special needs kindergarten (see picture) the bench was designed and made by George.

Other projects are for special interest organisations like "St. Mary of the Cross", a special holding cross which is widely used by people in homes, hospitals and respite facilities because of its Australian religious significance and ergonomic and safe design. The two-tone colour of the cross symbolises the habit worn by the sisters of St. Joseph. Each cross is hand made in the workshop under the auspices of Sacred Heart Parish St. Albans.

We have done projects for Hume City Council, Salvation Army, Bridgewater retirement village, and other local organisations and individuals.



Some of George's works. (top) the bench with some of the children and the teacher. (middle) the famous Bingo Box. (bottom) the ergonomic Religious Crosses.



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