

Casa Down Under Newsletter



March 2009

Volume 21
Issue 1

**At Christmas we celebrate the birth of Jesus.
At Easter we celebrate Jesus' victory over death.**

The Easter story comprises of three stories which include Jesus' execution, His burial and most importantly His rising from death. All this is recorded in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Before His death, Jesus had promised eternal life to those who followed Him; "for God so loved the world that He gave his only Son, so that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)"

If Jesus' story had ended at His death He would have been no more than any other religious figure with a finite life span. The fact that Jesus rose from the dead demonstrated that He had power over death and therefore only through Him can we experience eternal life. We pick up the story of Jesus' resurrection from the Gospel of Mark 16:1-8:



(Mark 16:1) And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him.

2 And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen.

3 And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?"

4 And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back--it was very large.

5 And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed.

6 And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him.

7 But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you."

8 And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to any one, for they were afraid.

The Editorial Committee together with the Board of Management of Casa de Macau in Australia wish all our readers a Happy and Joyous Easter.

Editor

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Special Points of interest:-

1 pages 4-6 Stuart Braga a story about Macau opening its door for the many refugees fleeing from occupied Hong Kong during WWII.

2 page 9 - The benefits of home grown food. An article about W. and M. Lawrence from the Canberra Times.

3 Also on page 9 Stuart Braga reviews the Familia Ribeiro book by Peter Grills.

4 pages 11-14 a detailed itinerary for the proposed Tour of Portugal in October.





President's Report

Dear Members,

The month of February was dominated by the Victorian bushfire tragedy, which touched our communities within Australia and the world. For the victims it will be a difficult time to bring their lives into some order; etched with much sadness for the lives lost. The carnage is surreal. But amidst the devastation it also brings out the best in mankind. The support, generosity and results from appeals and donations in kind have been astounding. The reliable hard working fire fighters and rescue teams are the heroes, so admired for their courage and determination. Added to this were the floods in northern part of Queensland – both States receivers of Mother Nature's wrath. We offer our prayers for spiritual strength.

I wish to inform members on the resignation of Henrique Barros who stepped down in late December

Government Tourist Office (MGTO) of Sydney was one of the major sponsors. As such there were several activities at Belmore Park (23rd to 25th Jan), including a Lantern Parade (1st Feb) and Dragon Boat Races at Darling Harbour (7th & 8th Feb). Thanks to Maureen, Samantha (Casa's Youth Representative) & Kristy Wan; for making time to assist at the MGTO stall; including our Vice President Marcus Gutierrez who volunteered at two events with Eduardo Gutierrez.

All Casas have been advised that the 2009 Youth Encontro in Macau will be held from the 19th to 25th July which is open to all younger members of Macanese descent between the ages of 18 to 40 years. Recent email from Guiomar Pedruco, Youth Encontro Co-ordinator, indicated that enrolments close on the 31st March. Organisers confirmed that airfares and accommodation will be subsidised for 3 Youth Representatives per Casa. An 'Expression of Interest' (EOI) and application form is attached to this newsletter. The Committee will select 3 to represent Australia. Here is your opportunity to learn more

Left to Right: Nick Griffin, Amanda Wu, Samantha Wan



about the unique Macanese culture, heritage, history, patua and gastronomy. EOIs close on 20th March to allow for the selection process to proceed with an announcement shortly thereafter and to meet the enrolment deadline date. Written applications are to be addressed to the Casa Secretary. For your convenience you can download details from Casa website: www.casademacau.org.au We encourage our younger generation to participate.

NSW members were recently sent a covering letter and invitation flyer detailing planned quarterly activities at our

2008. Henrique advised that he will be living offshore during 2009 and therefore could not serve out the term of office. The Committee thanks him for his time and interest and wish him well. Any current financial member of Macanese descent interested to fill this temporary vacancy until the end of the yearly term this September, should contact the Casa Secretary in the first instance by COB on the 27th March 2009.

Chinese New Year Festival in Sydney was held between the 26th January to the 9th February. Macau

Macau Cultural Centre (MCC) giving an opportunity for all members, family and guests, residing in NSW or visiting from Interstates to attend the activities. Kick starting with 'Open Days' - 10am to 3pm (on Wednesdays 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th, & Sunday 22nd March) plus 'Sunday Munch' – 11am to 4pm (8th, 22nd March; 5th & 19th April & 3rd May). To include Macanese cooking

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demonstrations by our Gastronomica Correspondent, Yvonne Bayot Husband scheduled for the 15th March and the 24th May; 11am to 3pm. RSVPs are required for both Sunday Munch and Cooking Demonstrations. Details of calendar events can be found on Casa's website.

The Official Opening & Blessing of our Macau Cultural Centre is scheduled for Saturday 16th May. This date was selected by the Committee to coincide with the feast of Our Lady of Fatima on May 13th, given our devotion and veneration to Our Lady of the Rosary. Formal proceedings will be conducted from 2pm to 4pm, 'by invitation' only. Following which members are invited to attend and celebrate this special event from 4pm to 8pm. As a courtesy please rsvp by 24th April your interest, to the Secretary, Mary Rigby (02 47333862 or email: rigbyfamily@ozemail.com.au) as this will assist greatly with catering purposes. The Committee looks forward to personally welcome you to your 'Macau Cultural Centre'.

Members are advised that the Committee has reverted to levying a small contribution for Casa's annual Dia de S Joao and Christmas social gatherings. We believe that this is a responsible approach since the projection of Casa's income from bank interests will see a decline of over 50%. We trust that you will understand the need for this move which will allow us to continue to support future events including Encontros in Macau. Your continued support and collaboration would be greatly appreciated.

NSW Dia de S Joao will be held on Sunday 28th June 2009 at Petersham Town Hall. Please rsvp to Casa Secretary by 5th June to secure your table booking. Menu will be confirmed in the near future and this information will be posted on Casa's website. There will be a small fee of \$10 per head and \$5 for children U12; to assist with offsetting catering and setup costs. Other events will be held nationally thanks to the co-ordination of our Interstate Representatives.

December 2009 marks the 10th Anniversary of the Regiao Administrativa Especial de Macau (RAEM). All Casas have been officially advised by Dr. Jose Manuel de Oliveira Rodrigues, President of the Standing Committee of the Macanese Communities Council that a set grant will be provided to each Casa to commemorate this event. We are thankful for the forthcoming allocation and have scheduled Sunday 20th December for a Sydney venue to be advised. More information is to follow on potential inclusion of our Interstates.

Documentary-Video "Ou Mun lan, Macanese - Casa de Macau Committee was recently advised that the sixth phase of this project will take place in Australia between 16th to 29th August 2009 following completion

in Portugal, North America, Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro.

The project has the support of the International Institute of Macau (IIM), Macao Foundation (FM) and Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC). Project Producer, Cheong Kin Man is a 3rd Year student from the Department of Portuguese Studies at the University of Macau. He explains that "The documentary-video aims to investigate the cultural identity of the population of Macau" and "has a profound cultural connotation and is related to a wide range of studies; the rational discussion and the sensorial notion are both needed. The rational discussion is based on the scientific studies of history, politics, archaeology, linguistics, race etc. while the sensorial notion is to interpret some undocumented phenomenon through the unique sensation of "Ou Mun lan, Macanese".

Casa members will be approached by the Committee for interviews. A testing edition of the documentary-video is being planned to be held at our Macau Cultural Centre. More information will follow in the next issue.

May the period of Lent be a special journey of spiritual renewal as we prepare for the celebrations that Easter bring.

Kind Regards,
Yvonne

A Lenten Reflection

Give up complaining—focus on gratitude.

Give up pessimism—become an optimist.

Give up harsh judgments—think kindly thoughts.

Give up worry—trust Divine Providence.

Give up discouragement—be full of hope.

Give up bitterness—turn to forgiveness.

Give up hatred—return good for evil.

Give up negativism—be positive.

Give up anger—be more patient.

Give up pettiness—become mature.

Give up gloom—enjoy the beauty that is all around you.

Give up jealousy—pray for trust.

Give up gossiping—control your tongue.

Give up sin—turn to virtue.

Give up giving up—hang in there!



MACAU

a most blessed place of refuge

In close to 450 years of Portuguese rule, Macau often experienced crises and disaster. No crisis was greater or more prolonged than World War II. Although Macau was not occupied by the Japanese, their occupation of nearby Canton in 1938 and Hong Kong on Christmas Day 1941 led to economic collapse and vast human misery throughout the region.

The Japanese occupied the Portuguese colony of East Timor, largely because of its proximity to Australia, which had sent a small military force there. It was defeated by larger Japanese force and they stayed there until the end of the war. The situation in Macau was quite different. In nearby Hong Kong, the British had been vanquished after a short bloody battle that lasted from 8-25 December. Trade and business virtually ceased, and starvation loomed for the entire population.

Hong Kong's population had massively increased since 1937 as Chinese refugees poured in from areas of China occupied by the Japanese. Now the pendu-

lum swung abruptly the other way, and over the next three years, up to 1,000,000 people fled to their place of origin -- their 'heung ha'. The thousands of Portuguese people in Hong Kong did not have the same option. However, the Government of Macau could and did open the way for them to seek refuge there. It need not have done so. Governor Gabriel Teixeira could easily have taken the view that Macau had already done enough, and that public services were already stretched to breaking point as it was.

He might have said that the Japanese had created this problem by occupying Hong Kong, planning for it to become the regional centre of their grand design -- the 'Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere'. Let them show what they could do, and harness the capabilities of the people they had inherited.

Perhaps the strongest reason not to accept Portuguese refugees from Hong Kong was that they or their forebears had turned their backs on Macau. If Macau meant so little to them then, why should Macau lift a finger for them now?

If any of these considerations crossed Governor Teixeira's mind, he quickly dismissed them. The disaster in Hong Kong had precipitated a huge humanitarian crisis. Over the next six months, thousands of Portuguese people fled to Macau, taking with them little more than what they could carry. We are fortunate to

MACAU - a sanctuary for thousands of refugees during the Pacific war



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have a graphic account of the first large group, 900 strong, who left Hong Kong on 6 February 1942 on a Japanese ship, the Shirugani Maru. It was ostensibly written by one of the people on the ship, and broadcast over the radio station of Macau Radio Club, there being no government or commercial broadcaster at that time. It appears that the script was read by Jack Braga, who may indeed have written it himself. It is understandable that he might choose to conceal his identity in these very troubled times. Whatever the authorship of this broadcast talk, it survives because Jack Braga included it in his remarkable collection of documents relating to World War II in the Far East.

The broadcast talk is a model in political correctness. There is no mention of the war, let alone the fall of Hong Kong. The dire conditions there are not even hinted at. Fulsome praise is lavished on the Japanese crew for their kindness. Governor Teixeira is rightly given full credit for all that he had done, not least for coming to the ship when it docked in Macau.

The broadcast did not hide the problems that once emerged – overcrowding and unemployment. Optimistically it hopes that most people would soon be able to find work. Comments about an ample, if basic, food supply also turned out to be too optimistic. In the next 3 1/2 years there was great hardship to be endured. However, Jack Braga, if he was the author, correctly judged that he should encourage many others to come to Macau. Wherever they had captured a major city in China – Nanking, Shanghai and Canton, the Japanese at once gained a reputation for great brutality, and their regime in Hong Kong would be no different. In Macau there might be privation; in Hong Kong there was fear, subjugation and mass starvation.

Stuart Braga

18th February 2009

Thank God for Macau

I have been asked to give my personal impressions of living conditions and matters in general in Macau at present, naturally from a refugee's point of view, and I am very grateful for such an opportunity as it affords me the chance to let my co-nationals in Hong Kong, Shanghai, Manila and other places to know just how well we have been provided for and looked after by the Portuguese authorities and the People of Macau. I intend to voice at the end of this broadcast the grateful appreciation of all my fellow Portuguese Refugees, in imitation of a good

story writer, by keeping the choicest part of the narrative for the end.

I will start my talk tonight from the very beginning, that is from the day we left Kowloon.

Early on the morning of the 6th of February, 1942, well before dawn, a stream of Portuguese Refugees, together with an almost interminable line of baggage, could barely be discerned in the dim twilight, wending their way to the pier near the Kowloon Star Ferry, there to embark for Macau by the ship "Shirugani Maru". I will not tell of the scene, as many relatives and friends accompanied us, to say a fond goodbye and to wish us bon voyage. Suffice to say that we managed to get on board, and all baggage as well, and by 10:15 a.m. we were on our way to Macau. There were some 900 strong on board, but as if by common agreement, everybody started praying and our prayers were heard, for we had the smoothest voyage imaginable. The Japanese officers on board were really nice to us, and before we quite realised it, we sighted Nove Ilhas, with Macau in the background. Excitement grew to fever pitch as the boat berthed alongside the pier and we were able to recognise our relatives or our friends. It seems that the whole of Macau was there to meet and greet us, so enormous was the crowd. We had intended singing "A Patria" and other patriotic songs whilst disembarking, but it was not to be, for many of the older folks could not contain their tears and dampened what patriotic ardour there was stirring. The Governor of Macau was at the pier and his anxious looks of concern and pity for us as we walked down the gangway, cheered us up considerably and we knew for certain that here indeed was a man who would spare nothing in his efforts to help us, which was exactly as it turned out to be.

Those who had relatives or friends, who could give them accommodation, were immediately taken away by these good people, and the less fortunate ones were told to go to Clube de Macau. What little we had been able to bring with us, confined to 3 packages of baggage per head, was left in the capable hands of the Macau Police, who transported every item of baggage to the Gremio Militar. Everything was accounted for.

When we got to the Clube de Macau we found everything as well as could be expected, but as there were so very many of us, the Escola Luso-Chinesa had to be hurriedly prepared and beds put up. In no time we were all comfortably settled and then word went round that we were to go to the Salesian College for our meals. Our first meal consisted of a big loaf of bread and thick savoury fish congee, as much as one wanted. The hours for meals are now as follows: -- 10 a.m. congee and one loaf of bread and at 5:30 p.m. rice with either fresh fish or meat and vegetables. Everything good and xx. In my wildest dreams, I had never visualised such magnanimous treatment. Just fancy, we are well housed, with

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two good solid meals a day, and a loaf of bread for breakfast. I am sure that I am speaking for all Refugees when I say that all are very grateful for such good treatment and when I say I am sure it means that I have investigated and talked with many of my brother refugees, and there wasn't one single complaint. I was, however, informed by a good Macau pal of mine that he had heard talk of some grouse, but knowing how many groundless rumours are circulated these days, I told him that unless he actually heard any complaint from the very lips of a Hong Kong refugee to disbelieve all such tales. Our gratitude is genuine.

So far I have mentioned only the Clube de Macau and the Escola Luso-Chinesa as centres. Other centres are the Gremio Militar, the Clube de 1° Junho and the Caixa Escolar as well as one at Penha and one at No. 7 Rua de Barao, the last named being generously placed at the disposal of the refugees by the owner of the house. All these centres are well organised and cared for and a Government Medical Officer goes round regularly to the centres and there checks up on the health of all the occupants.

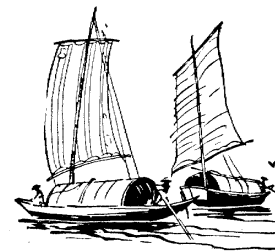
As regards employment, things must take time to settle but already some 50 able-bodied lads have been recruited as Policemen, and others have been given jobs to check up on sales in Government Controlled Commodity Centres. A couple of the more fortunate ones have gotten temporary positions, and others have been able to earn a few dollars by acting as brokers or doing odd jobs. A little more time is needed, however, and gradually nearly everybody should have something or other profitable to do. We have all been used to hard work and we know work never kills, so with a little imagination and initiative we should be getting into stride once again, before long.

My time is nearly up, but before concluding I should like to offer in my own name and on behalf of all the Hong Kong refugees in Macau our deepest gratitude and appreciation to the Governor of Macau, to the Colonial Secretary, the Salesian Fathers and the People of Macau are having received and treated us so kindly and generously. Words cannot adequately express our feelings and genuine thanks. The people of Macau have shared everything with us, and their idea of a brotherly division is 60% for the Hong Kong Refugees and 40% for themselves, and they are doing all this without a thought of personal glory or thanks. We know that all these acts of charity will not go forgotten. There is One above who sees and knows all and who will, in His own good time, reward and compensate, for kind deeds to their brother men. I will ask my fellow refugees one small favour, and that is, that they pray nightly that these benefactors of

ours may be long spared in this world to carry on their work of good to their less fortunate ones. May they have the happiness and prosperity which they have rightly earned!

We have learned, in Macau, to appreciate the efficacy of the influence of the Government of Lisbon, for their encouragement and support of Macau officials in this good and noble work which they are doing for their fellow nationals who have come to Macau for help and protection. And I end my talk tonight by offering thanks to God for all his tender mercies to us, asking Him to guard and bless the Government of Portugal at all times, that Portugal may continue to be blessed with capable statesmen at home and in the colonies. From the bottom of our hearts we cry "Viva Portugal", "Viva General Carmona", and "Viva Dr Salazar". May the Angels in Heaven echo our cry!

Goodnight everybody.



EDITOR'S DISCLAIMER

The Editor reserves the right to screen, accept or reject material for publication and takes no responsibility for any errors or omissions as provided by authors and contributors. While items from the Membership are sought and encouraged, the Editor reserves the right to edit articles as considered necessary. Publication of contributions is at the discretion of the Editor, and opinions expressed may not necessarily be those of the Editor nor of the Governing Committee of Casa de Macau Inc. Australia.

The Newsletter is not to be used for any member's own discourse. It is not intended to promote any propaganda nor support any political or religious affiliations. The contents are produced in good faith as a service for the benefit of Casa de Macau Members and as a method of communication within the Macanese community in Australia and abroad.



Casa de Macau Notices & Announcements



Membership Renewal

Membership Renewals were due on 31st January, 2009. If you have not yet renewed your membership please do so immediately. Otherwise you will incur a penalty (Application Fee) or loss of membership privileges. For more information contact, Mary Rigby
Email: rigbyfamily@ozemail.com.au
Phone/Fax (02)47333862

New Members

Following new members were accepted into the family of Casa de Macau. We extend to them the right hand of friendship.

NSW

Frances Xavier, Anthony Chubb, Alison Antonio, Emily Antonio, Tung Vu, Nicole Pereira, Ross Cutts, Oliver Da Silva.

Queensland

Deborah Cronau, Daniel Ryan

S.A.

Marcus d'Assumpcao, Georgia d'Assumpcao, Zachary d'Assumpcao, Eloise d'Assumpcao, Henry d'Assumpcao, Paul d'Assumpcao, Sally d'Assumpcao, Mary d'Assumpcao, John-Paul d'Assumpcao, Paul Keenihan, Louise Keenihan, Stephanie Keenihan, Elora Keenihan, Jack Keenihan, Carmen Kockan, Sasha Kockan, Zachary Kockan,

W.A.

Michele Tonnochy, Raymond Whittle, Andrew Prince, Josette de Oliveria.

Victoria.

Peter Gonsalves, Aneta Nikolovsk

ACT

Jasmin Douglas, Alexander Douglas, Xavier Bradley.

Birth Announcements



Patrick Leonardo Correa born on 23rd December, 2008 at John Flynn Hospital, Tugun, Queensland. His Parents are Meg and Peter Correa.

Patrick is the newest grandson to Frank and Vivi Correa.



Peter Gonsalves and his partner Aneta are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Maiya on 23rd January, 2009. Maiya, pictured above is the grand-

daughter of Angela and Papietuo Gonsalves.

Lucas Rigby born 7th February, 2009, to proud parents Robert and Stacey Rigby, a brother to Tristan and Cameron. Grandson to Mary and Gary Rigby.



Congratulations to **Eva Marie Rozario**, daughter of Sunti and Ed Rozario on her marriage to Anthony Chubb on 14 December 2008 in Sydney. The happy couple celebrated with family and friends at a reception at the Wharf Restaurant on the harbour.



News from Victoria

Victorian members of Casa de Macau celebrated their Christmas dinner on Saturday 6th December, 2008 at Jade Kew Chinese restaurant where 40 members and their guests enjoyed a Peking duck dinner. The children were excited to receive their presents from Santa and members also enjoyed a raffle on the night. We would like to convey our best wishes to the Committee on another successful year and congratulations on the realisation of our own club house.



At our June dinner we had a triple birthday, congratulations to Pat Gonsalves who celebrated his 80th birthday, together with Edwina Raphael and Lea Collaco.



Important events to remember



St Patrick's Day, 17th March

We celebrate St. Patrick's Day, the patron saint of Ireland on March 17. Traditionally people wear green in

memory of Ireland, the Emerald Isle and shamrocks, clover with three leaves.

St. Patrick was born in Wales, studied religion to become a priest and then went to Ireland to teach the people about God. There are many wonderful stories about St. Patrick, some true and some not true. The most famous legend is that he drove the snakes out of Ireland. This did not happen but the Irish will tell you that you cannot find a snake throughout the whole country of Ireland.

May the Irish hills caress you.

May her lakes and rivers bless you.

May the luck of the Irish enfold you.

May the blessings of Saint Patrick behold you.

~Irish Blessing.



To all Mothers
10th May, 2009

A mother is the truest friend we have, when trials, heavy and sudden, fall upon us; when adversity takes the place of prosperity; when friends who rejoice with us in our sunshine, desert us when troubles thicken around us, still will she cling to us, and endeavour by her kind precepts and counsels to dissipate the clouds of darkness, and cause peace to return to our hearts.

(Washington Irving)





BUMPER HARVEST



Figs just for starters

The following article written by Susan Parsons appeared in the Canberra Times on 3rd December, 2008, and is reproduced here with permission.

“Wilfred and Margaret Lawrence are installing a new kitchen in their Red Hill home which features a “his” and “hers” work bench. Their kitchen garden is close to the kitchen door, planned so it is easy to reach and so they can easily look after the crops. They also have large water tanks nearby.

The Lawrences share the cooking and gardening and their focus is on edible and foodbearing plants, especially with produce that doesn't travel well and is best enjoyed straight off the tree - fruits such as brown turkey figs. The early figs are larger than the later crop and to get to them before the birds, the Lawrences pick them early and grill them, sprinkled with a touch of balsamic vinegar and topped with goat's blue-vein cheese.

They bought the house 20 years ago and the original mature fruit trees, which were bearing well, encouraged them to grow more; they have apples, plums, pears, persimmon, quince, pomegranate, olive, apricot and almond trees, as well as a glasshouse so they can garden over all seasons.

They rotate crops in the vegetable garden and its success lies in diversity, plenty of compost, blood and bone, and lucerne mulch.

They grow all their edibles without chemicals. Over Winter, they picked silverbeet, salad rocket, kale, cress, pumpkins and spaghetti marrows. They have harvested radishes and asparagus, and now they are enjoying rhubarb, peas, broad beans and wild rocket.

For the Summer table, home-grown tomatoes, spring onions and salad greens are topped with lemon juice, olive oil and home-pickled olives.

Margaret Lawrence follows a recipe in an early cookbook by Tess Mallos, washing the ripe, black olives, cutting three slits in each one and putting them into glass jars and covering with cold water, which she changes daily for three days. Then she pickles them in brine.

The Lawrences grow fruit trees and herbs in abundance. During Winter they pickled their first crop of oranges and mandarins. They pickle lemons and limes, using a simple Claudia Roden recipe found in Jane Grigson's *Fruit Book*.

Strawberries, raspberries, blueberries and red currants are setting and colouring - ready for the Lawrence's festive Christmas dessert.”



Book Review

By
Stuart Braga

Familia Ribeiro

The family history and photobiography of Fernando and Maria Fernanda Menezes Ribeiro, by Peter Grills, 2008, 94 pages

This is a remarkably fine family history, reflecting great credit on Peter Grills, who is the son-in-law of these two outstanding members of the Macaense community. The Ribeiro family and Fernanda's family, the Nolasco da Silva family, both have a distinguished record in the history of Macau, and the first half of this book deals with it. Peter does not dwell much on the horrors of World War II, but shows that it was a catalyst for the Ribeiros' move to Hong Kong in 1947. Like so many other Macaense people, the Ribeiros decided to emigrate following the troubles of the mid-1950s in Hong Kong and in 1963, Fernando accepted an appointment to the Portuguese Embassy in Canberra. The family have lived there ever since.

This is a book about people, not a history of events, so the rest of the book deals with the ups and downs of family life in Australia over the last 45 years. Through it all, the strong personalities and great achievements of the family patriarch and matriarch shine through.

A particular strength of the book is the lavish provision of photographs. As Peter says in his subtitle, this is a photobiography. There are no fewer than 119 photographs! They range from family pictures taken in the 19th century to family life in Macau and Hong Kong, then moving to Australia. There are weddings, sport, happy family occasions and lots of fun. Peter Grills is to be congratulated, not only on writing this affectionate tribute to his parents-in-law, but also in publishing it during their lifetime. They are grand people who have made a difference in three countries, and their contribution is well worth celebrating.



Bur\$ary Report

Following are Casa de Macau Inc recipients of 2008 Bursary. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to the recipients and wish them the best of luck with their studies.

If you would like information about the bursaries please contact :

Mary Rigby

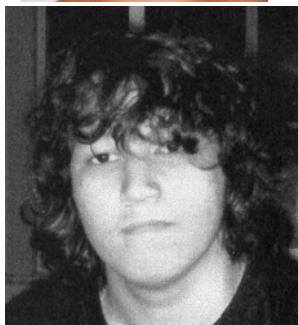
E-mail: rigbyfamily@ozemail.com.au

Phone /Fax (02)47333862



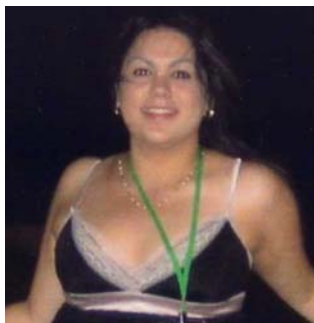
Alexandra Jessica Griskaitis is doing her Bachelor of Education - Primary at the Australian Catholic University.

Alexandra is the daughter of Carolina Maria Teresa de Mello Leitao Griskaitis. Her grandparents are Antonio Mario de Mello Leitao and Mabel Audrey Ablong Rodrigues



Jacob Manuel Antonio is doing a Bachelor of Music Studies at Sydney Conservatorium of Music, University of Sydney

Jacob is the son of Dr Francisco Ernesto Antonio and Alison Antonio.



Rebecca Ann Viana Akouri is doing a Bachelor of Business and Bachelor of Science in Information Technology at the University of Technology Sydney.

Rebecca is the daughter of Lizette Viana and Tony Akouri. She is the grand daughter of Eurico Gregorio da Luz Viana and Ermelinda Viana.



Jocelino Jorge is doing a Bachelor of Business (Sport Management) at the University of Western Sydney. Jocelino was born in Macau and migrated to Australia when he was six His parents are Natalino and Joana Leong Jorge.



We have now received the Itinerary for the Portugal/Spain trip in October. The plan is to have three options for this trip: a) Portugal only b) Spain only, and c) both Portugal and Spain. At this moment I'm still waiting for the Spain costing and itinerary and will post it on our website as soon it becomes available. If you are interested or have any questions on this trip please send an email to macgutz@gmail.com or call me on 0416 544 328. At this stage I'm waiting to see the interest as we will need at least 40 before we will be able to go ahead with it. Looking forward to hearing from you....

PROGRAMA CIRCUITO PORTUGAL (10 days/09 nights)

Day 1

OCT 2009 - PORTO

-

Arrive Porto Airport, after immigration and customs, transfer to hotel for check-in.

Depart hotel for "Discovering Porto - 2nd largest city of Portugal. Built in an amphitheatre on the right bank of the Douro River, Porto is a city rich in historical monuments.

The high part of the city is where most of the historical sites are, and where you have a beautiful panoramic view of the city.

-

Visit the Roman Cathedral of 12TH century and the Clergy Tower.

Visit the lower part of the city, one of the most typical with an enormous labyrinth of streets and shops.

Free time for lunch on your own.

On the other part of the River are the Port Wine caves. Visit one of the caves with wine tasting.

Return to hotel.

Dinner and overnight at hotel.

-

Day 2

OCT 2009 - PORTO / BRAGA / GUIMARÃES / PORTO

-

After breakfast, depart for BRAGA, known as Bracara Augusta in the Roman times.

Braga is proud of a long religious and commercial history.

In the 12th century, the city became the Archdiocese of Portugal.

Climbing the Sanctuary of Bom Jesus do Monte.

Continue with the visit of GUIMARAES, considered the birth of the Portuguese nation.

As soon as D. Afonso Henriques proclaimed himself king of Portugal in 1139, he chose Guimarães as the capital.

Visit the castle and the center of town.

Return to Porto.

Dinner and overnight at hotel.

-

Day 3

OCT 2009 - PORTO / BUÇACO / COIMBRA

-

After breakfast, depart hotel for visit to SERRA DO BUÇACO, one of the nicest of the country where the



famous Hotel do Buçaco is situated.

Continue to COIMBRA, the city of the students, where you find one of the nicest Universities of Europe, visit the Library, an absolute jewel of barroque art and also visit the Roman Cathedral of the 12th century.

Arrive hotel - dinner and overnight.

-

DAY 4

OCT 2009 - COIMBRA / FÁTIMA / BATALHA / ÓBIDOS / LISBOA

-

Breakfast at hotel. Depart for Lisbon en route visit:

FATIMA - world pilgrimage center of the Catholic religion.

BATALHA - visit Mosteiro de Santa Maria da Vitória, founded by D.João I. Here we find the perfect link between the gothic and manueline style.

NAZARÉ - one of the most famous ports of Portugal. In the past the fishermen would take the boats to the sea for them to be pushed by oxen. Today, Nazaré has progressed, but has not lose its charm.

There are possibilities of taking the cable car to the top "SITIO", for a beautiful view.

ÓBIDOS - one of the most picturesque villages of Portugal, with its castle and medieval forts, its Churches and Palaces witnessing a rich past.

Continue towards Lisbon, arriving at the end of the day.

Dinner and overnight at hotel.

-

Day 5

OCT 2009 - LISBOA

-

After breakfast city tour of Lisbon, passing by PRAÇA DO COMÉRCIO, where the Royal Palace remained for four centuries, followed by a visit to the area of the ALFAMA, the oldest and most typical district of Lisbon, followed by a climb up to the CASTELO DE S. JORGE, for one of the nicest views over Lisbon and the south margin.

Continue visit by bus towards the district of BELÉM, where we can see the TORRE DE BELÉM, a jewel in manueline architect and the famous MOSTEIRO DOS JERÓNIMOS, stone sculpture.

Lunch on your own during the visit time.

Around 6 pm return to hotel.

Evening dinner at typical Fado restaurant with Portuguese folk songs.

Overnight hotel.

Day 6

OCT 2009 - LISBOA

After breakfast leave for SINTRA, preferred summer residence of the kings during the Discovery ages.

Sintra is a village full of charm with coloured homes, fountains, palaces and enormous antiques - part of UNESCO World Heritage.

Visit the National Palace built in 13th and 14th century which was the residence of the Avis Dynasty.

Free time for lunch and continue our visit to CASCAIS and ESTORIL

Return to Lisbon - dinner and overnight at hotel.

Day 7OCT 2009 - LISBOA / ÉVORA / ALBUFEIRA

-

Breakfast at hotel, depart to cross the bridge over the Tejo towards Setubal, famous fishing centre.Continue to Evora, known as the Museum City.Roman Itinerary, depart for the south, towards the largest cork region of the world, in an exciting trip to the past.In ÉVORA, capital of the Alentejo Province, visit the ruins of the Roman Temple, the Roman Gothic Sé, the chapel of the bones and the University. A walk on foot by its streets will help to appreciate the characteristic of this city, World Heritage by UNESCO.Continue to the Algarve, towards Albufeira.Dinner and overnight at hotel.

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Day 8OCT 2009 - ALBUFEIRA

-

Breakfast at hotel. Depart for half day tour to Loulé including visit to its famous Market - fruits, vegetables, fish and arts and crafts. Lunch.Return to hotel. Free afternoonDinner and overnight at hotel.

-

Day 9OCT 2009 - ALBUFEIRA / LISBOA

-

Breakfast at hotel. Transfer to Lisbon.Free time for shopping and other activities in Lisbon (depending on arrival time at Lisbon).Dinner and overnight at hotel.Day 10OCT 2009 - LISBOA

-

Breakfast at hotel. Transfer to Lisbon Airport for flight to Madrid.End of services in Portugal

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PRICE BASED MIN 40 PAX:Per person double occupancy: € 950,00Suplem. Single : € 344,00Extra bed in room - triple share - do not recommend: € 923,00

**PACKAGE****10 DAYS /9 NIGHTS****OVERNIGHT 4* HOTELS****8 DINNERS AT HOTELS (NO DRINKS) + 1 DINNER AT A TYPICAL RESTAURANT IN LISBON (WITH DRINKS)****BUS AND GUIDE FOR TRANSFERS AND MENTIONED VISITS DURING THE PROGRAMME****ENTRANCE FEES TO MUSEUMS AND MONUMENTS MENTIONED IN PROGRAM.****HOTEL BAGGAGE HANDLER FEES****TOUR LEADER FEE**

-

OVERNIGHT THE FOLLOWING HOTELS

-

PORTO - BESSA HOTEL 4** PORTO (2 NIGHTS)****COIMBRA - HOTEL TIVOLI COIMBRA 4**** (1 NIGHT)****LISBOA - HOTEL HOLIDAY INN CONTINENTAL 4**** LISBOA (3 NIGHTS)****ALBUFEIRA - HOTEL PORTO BAY FALÉSIA 4**** (2 NIGHTS)****LISBOA - HOTEL HOLIDAY INN CONTINENTAL 4**** (1 NIGHT)****Sister Casa News****New Executive Boards for current term of office:****Casa de Macau in Toronto**

President: Lourenço Conceição
 First Vice President: Deniz Remedios
 Second Vice President: Jerry Noronha
 Treasurer: José Anok
 Secretary: Áurea Collaço Meyer

Lusitano Club of California

President: Nuno Prata de Cruz
 Vice President: Leonardo Xavier
 Secretary: Michael Carion
 Treasurer: Dorothy Oliveira
 Directors: Chris de Roza, Lucille Figueirdo, Ken Harper, Vanessa Roliz, Justin Schwab-Vieira, Jessica Xavier, Virginia Yoshida

Macau Cultural Association of Western Canada

President: Josephina A do Rosario
 Vice President: Sergio Rui de Pina
 Secretary: Helena M Xavier
 Treasurer: Barbara Cynthia Vieira

UMA

President: Raquel Remedios
 Vice President: Maria Gomes
 Secretary: Ileana Ward
 Treasurer: Rita Ribeiro
 Directors: Sally Carchidi; Eduardo de Assis; Robert de Graca, Daniel Gomes, Marie Guterres, Rita Guterres, Gloria Sequeira, Alex Xavier and Maureen Xavier.

Our Casa Committee wish to express our sincere best wishes to our Sister Casas Executive Board of Directors, for a successful and productive term/s of office.



Obituaries

da Silva, Edward 'Ted' Anthony - entered into God's Kingdom on 21st October 2008 after a sudden heart attack in Irvine, California. Ted was born on 27th December, 1960 in Downey, California and was the eldest son of long-time UMA members Eduardo da Silva and Janice (Greene) da Silva.

Gaan, Simplicia Elvina (Elvie - nee Lopes) - born 19th January, 1915 in Hong Kong. Married Bertie in '35 and had 8 sons. Will be remembered by many who touched her life. She is now in a better place than we will ever know on earth.

Ribeiro, Sylvia Regina (Barretto), born on 18th January, 1932 has returned to the Lord on 5th November, 2008. She is survived by her son Rick and daughter Joanne, many grandchildren, nephew and nieces.

Alexandrina "Alex" Mendoza



Born to this life on 25th November, 1923.

Entered into eternal life on 8th December 2008.

May she rest in Peace.

Luís Maria Nolasco de Guimarães Lobato

É com profundo pesar que comunicamos o falecimento do Presidente Honorário, Fundador e Curador da Fundação da Casa de Macau Senhor Professor Engenheiro Luís Maria Nolasco de Guimarães Lobato.

O passamento ocorreu dia 4 de Janeiro de 2009, realizando-se o funeral no dia 5 de Janeiro pelas 22 horas para o Cemitério do Alto S. João em Lisboa.

"It is with great sadness that we advise that Senhor Professor Engenheiro Luís Maria Nolasco de Guimarães Lobato has gone to be with the Lord on 4th January 2009 in Lisbon. He was Honorary President, Founder and Guardian of Fundação da Casa de Macau. Engenheiro Lobato was interred in the Cemitério do Alto S. João in Lisbon."

Eulogy

Mickey de Sousa

8/1/1909 – 13/1/2009

Eulogy



Mickey de Sousa, my dad, turned 100 years old on January 8, 2008. What a privilege it was to have been able to celebrate dad's 100th birthday, with many family and friends coming together to share in this very special occasion. This party took place on January 11th. Two days later, dad passed away peacefully on January 13th.

We have been blessed to have so many wonderful years with him. Words such as "legend", "fun loving", "great sense of humour" "a real gentleman" "zest for life" give some idea of what dad was like.

He was born in Hong Kong, the youngest of three children. As a young boy, he used to get into a lot of mischief. On one occasion he told us about how he burned down a Christmas tree belonging to the Japanese consul because it seemed like a good idea at the time!

Dad used to tell us about his experiences during the war years. He managed to escape internment by the Japanese by fleeing to Macau where he worked for the British Consulate as a pay master. He also collected intelligence for them. One memorable event was his rescue of an

(Continued on page 16)



(Continued from page 15)

American Pilot, George Clark and two of his crewmen. They had been shot down in enemy territory in China and it was up to dad to get them out to safety. He did just that and for many years, he remained firm friends with George and his family, staying with them while holidaying in New York. Dad received a number of service medals and was one of those selected to represent HK in the Victory Parade in London, after the war.

Following the war years, dad worked as a merchant in Hong Kong and then joined a large Real Estate firm, Harriman Realty, where he was involved in the wheelings and dealings of the property market.

Dad was totally devoted to mum, Nena. They married under difficult circumstances but remained totally devoted to one another and their absolute love has always been inspirational.

Dad's devotion to his family led him to leave a successful job and a great life style in Hong Kong and to migrate to Australia. He was in the Auxiliary Police Force and as Commanding Officer of the Emergency Services Units, was responsible for quelling the riots in the 1960's in HK. Dad saw little future for us there and left in order to give us, what he thought, was a better life.

Retirement in Australia was not on dad's agenda. He went into catering with some friends from the Lion's Club, buying franchises for cafes at the bus depots in Sydney. That was not what he expected it to be. He found something much more to his liking by working at the University of NSW as a requisitions officer in the library. He had to retire at the age of 75 because, as they said, he was setting a precedent for other staff. Dad often boasted that they had to hire 3 others to do his job when he left.

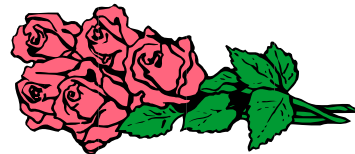
Music was dad's passion. The many parties he and mum were renowned for were filled with the very latest music, dances and of course great food.

Dad also loved to travel. Over the years mum and dad have been around the world quite a few times visiting our many relatives and friends. They had a lot of fun. Many of the recollections and wishes we have received reflect the fond memories many have of dad. The recurring theme is, "We are having a toast to Mickey – yum sing, vivace, couper riva, to life, bottoms up!

Family was everything to dad. He loved being around all of us. He and mum even moved to Kiama to be able to watch Rhiannon and Liam, their grand children, grow up.

We cannot have asked for a better father and friend. We have been truly blessed. We will all miss him but we have many beautiful memories to sustain us in the years to come. He has had a wonderful and colourful life and he lived it to the fullest. He is now with his beloved Nena.

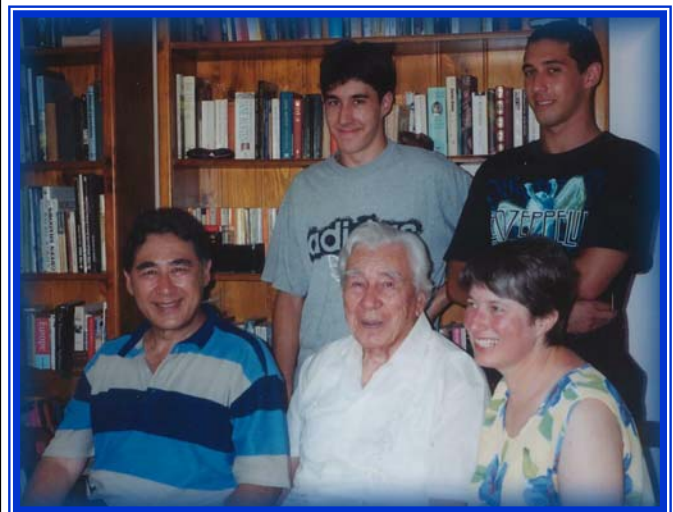
Marie Christine Pulford (nee de Sousa)



Eulogy to Wilfred Marriott Lawrence

31/12/1909 to 30/01/2009

Spoken by Ashleigh Lawrence,
his grand daughter at the funeral service held in the
Allambie Gardens, Gold Coast 06/02/2009



LtoR: Wally & Margaret, Standing, Andrew & Douglas

Wilfred Marriott Lawrence, my grandfather, was born on the 31st December 1909 in Hong Kong, to John Henry and Wilhemena. He had two brothers, Eddie and John and a sister, Pepita; who have all passed away. Wilfred was the last of his clan, and the last of all of his

(Continued on page 17)



school mates. He was the last man standing of his generation of friends.

Grandpa was very passionate about swimming. Around the time he was 18, he taught himself to swim, and within a year was successfully competing in the swimming championships. It didn't take long for him to start breaking all the records, and at one stage he held all the records in Hong Kong, from the 100 yards up to the Hong Kong cross harbour race. He remained swimming competitively until his late forties. He was not far from the world record and Olympic 100 yard time, set by Johnny Weismuller, who was famous for his roles of Tarzan and Jungle Jim.

In addition to swimming, Grandpa also used to play Soccer, Softball and Hockey at representative level.

Around the age of 25 he met Olga Riberio, at a Club De Recreio function; and immediately took a liking to her. During the courting process, to impress her, he skulled a bottle of Worcestershire sauce. I suppose the equivalent these days would be to skull a bottle of vodka.....A few years later, they married when Wilfred was 30 years old, just before World War II. Shortly after this time, they gave birth to their first son Wilfred Anthony Lawrence, better known as Wally. By this time, Grandpa was working as the airport supervisor at Hong Kong International Airport. A prestigious job, which included meeting and greeting all the VIPs who passed through the airport at the time, such as William Holden, Ava Gardner, Clark Gable and many others.

Grandpa was working at the Kai Tak airport when the first wave of Japanese air force flew past and shot at the observation tower where he was working. They had to run across the landing strips to safety while the tower was being bombed. It was five years of trying to stay alive under the brutal regime of the Japanese. Because they were in the Hong Kong volunteer army force, Wilfred and his brothers were taken as prisoners of war and were incarcerated for nine months. His brother John, and many of his friends were killed in prison. After nine months, they were released. Wilfred, his wife Olga; and their son Wally managed to escape to the Portuguese enclave of Macau, which was neutral at the time.

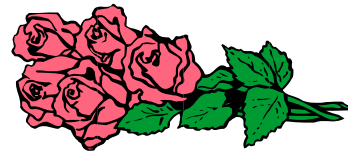
In the 50's Grandpa went to England to further his studies and his second son, Vincent Ferrer Lawrence, my father was born in London. The whole family immigrated to Australia in 1960.

Wilfred's wife Olga passed away in 1999, and at this time, Grandpa moved in with our family. He lived with me, my Dad, my Mum Deidre and Brother Adam in our house in Mermaid Waters. We have been lucky to have enjoyed Grandpa's company for the last ten years. He has traveled with us around the world to Thailand, Macau, Portugal, Spain, USA. Who would have thought that only a year ago he was in Thailand on a beach relaxing and eating his favourite Thai meal, curry chicken and rice. One thing for sure, Grandpa loved his food; and kept his appetite till the very end.

Last Friday, while eating dinner with us, he simply nodded off to sleep peacefully.

He has had a great, long 99 years of life. I am honoured that he was such a big part of my life and I've had a lot of fond memories with Grandpa. I will miss him dearly.

Rest In Peace.



HOW CAN IT BE?

With tear-filled eyes I stand and gaze
I almost disbelief
That God's own Son would come to earth
And bear such pain and grief.

To think that He who made the worlds
And flung them into space
Would come to earth in human flesh
And die in such disgrace.

All this I cannot comprehend,
It is a mystery.
Not knowing why, by faith I cry,
"Thank God, it was for me."

How can it be? How can it be
That on a cross at Calvary
The Son of God would come and die
And save a sinner such as I?

Author unknown



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Casa Down
Under
Newsletter



Next issue

is due out in **June, 2009**. Anyone wishing to contribute articles are requested to submit them no later than **Friday, 22nd May, 2009** to jestor38@gmail.com

WRITE TO US

MAIL: P. O. Box A908,
Sydney South,
NSW 1235.



E-MAIL: info@casademacau.org.au

Letters should be brief, preferably no more than 200 words. They must be signed and must include name and address for publication if required and telephone number for verification. While letters and articles from readers are sought and encouraged, the Editorial Committee reserves the right to edit them as considered necessary. Letters and articles are published at the discretion of the committee and its decision is final. # # # # #



LETTER FROM AN IRISH MOTHER

Dear Son

Just a few lines to let you know I'm still alive.

I'm writing this letter slowly because I know you can't read fast. You won't know the house when you come home - we moved.

About your father - he has a lovely new job. He has 500 men under him. He cuts the grass at the cemetery.

There was a washing machine at the new house when we moved in, but it hasn't been working too good. Last week I put in 14 shirts, pulled the chain, and haven't seen the shirts since. Your sister Mary had a baby this morning but I haven't found out whether it's a boy or a girl, so I don't know if you are an Aunt or an Uncle. Your Uncle Dick drowned last week in a vat of whisky in the Dublin Brewery. Some of his workmates tried to save him but he fought them off bravely. They cremated the body and it took three days to put out the fire.

I went to the doctor on Thursday and your father went with me. The doctor put a small tube in my mouth and told me not to talk for ten minutes. Your father offered to buy it from him. It only rained twice this week, first for three days and then for four days. Monday was so windy one of the chickens laid the same egg four times. We had a letter from the undertaker. He said if the last payment on your grandmother's plot wasn't paid in seven days - up she comes.

Your loving Mother.

P. S. - I was going to send you ten dollars but I had already sealed the envelope.