

Australia News

February 2018 - Vol. 30 Issue 2

Source: MGTO



President's Report

Kung Hei Fat Choi and Happy New Year! I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas and festive season. On behalf of the Committee, we would like to wish

you and your families, good health and peace in 2018.

The Committee have organised a Yum Cha for NSW at **St George Leagues Club** on Sunday 4th March 2018 to welcome The Year of the Dog, we have sent out a separate flyer earlier this month. Casa will also have our usual two major functions, Dia de Sao Joao and Christmas.

This year brings on some exciting changes to our events, we will keep you posted as the year progresses. We are most appreciative to the excellent food and service we have received from Sidney and staff at Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club over the years. I have included the dates for our upcoming events until July 2018. We hope you will continue to support the wonderful efforts of our Committee and volunteer chefs.

Our Interstate representatives will be arranging their functions for 2018 and will advise members accordingly. We wish you all a wonderful gathering at these events and thank your representatives for all their efforts in organising these events.

NSW held their Christmas on Sunday 10th December 2017 and we were joined by Santa and his Elf.

A wonderful luncheon was had by all and the children were very entertained. The atmosphere of this event was made extra special by many Youth members joining their families for the celebrations. Thank you for your support of the Casa de Macau Australia and your future drive for involvement in the committee.

Hope to see many more youth members at future events.



Picture above: Casa Youth members who attended our Christmas Lunch.



Picture above: Your 2018 Committee in attendance at Christmas lunch. From Left: Mary Rigby, Ed Rozario, Nina Deacon, Antonia Olaes, Stephanie Deacon (Youth Leader), Antonieta Manolakis, Leonardo Amarante and Irene Mahanidis. (Apologies: Marcus Guttierrez and Belinda Rosario).



On Sunday 18th December 2017, we had an informal gathering to welcome **Miguel Fernandes**, President of Associação dos Macaenses (ADM) and his beautiful wife, **Ivone** at the Macanese Cultural Centre (MCC). Miguel and Ivone had a brief visit in Sydney.



It was a lovely evening full of laughter, reminiscing old times in Macau and an Aussie BBQ. Thank you to the Committee and members that were able to attend this gathering.



On Sunday 18th March, we will be holding a **Minchi @ the MCC** for our Youth Members. A Flyer is included in this issue please contact **Stephanie** for more details.

Our **Sunday lunches** will begin from **Sunday 22nd April**, our volunteer chefs are **Robert** and **Antonia Olaes**. Please ensure you book in early to avoid disappointment in missing out. Dates for upcoming events are listed below;

A reminder that all **membership renewals are due 31st March**.

We would like to wish you the very best for **2018 Year of The Dog** and hope that you enjoy the newsletter. Hope to see you all soon.

Viva Macaenses!

Best Wishes

Antonieta Manolakis

President, Casa de Macau Inc



Membership Renewal 2018

Membership renewal is due 31 March.

All details on the renewal form **must** be completed and the form returned. It will be emailed or posted with this newsletter.

If you do not state how you want to receive the newsletter you will not receive a copy.

For any inquires contact Mary Rigby:

Email: rigbyfamily@ozemail.com.au

Phone: (02)4733 3862



Casa de Macau Australia

Casa de Macau Inc.

P O Box A908, SYDNEY SOUTH NSW 1235

Macanese Cultural Centre (MCC)

244 Unwins Bridge Rd SYDENHAM

Date	Function	Location
18 March 2018	Youth Sunday Lunch	MCC Sydenham
22 April 2018	Sunday Lunch	MCC Sydenham
20 May 2018	Sunday Lunch	MCC Sydenham
24 June 2018	Dia de Sao Joao	To be advised
22 July 2018	Sunday Lunch	MCC Sydenham



As postal and printing costs increase please let your CASA know that you are happy to receive your newsletter and other information by E-mail. Please send your details to Mary Rigby: rigbyfamily@ozemail.com.au

The richest and most hated man in the whole place

Manuel Vicente Rosa one of Macau's most colourful people

Apart from missionaries, whose lives were dedicated to service and self-sacrifice, Europeans going to distant parts of the Earth seldom arrived with the intention of learning much about the people among whom they settled. Instead, some came with the express intention of enriching themselves as fast as possible at the expense of the locals. One such was Manuel Vicente Rosa, one of the most significant men in eighteenth century Macau. Public officials today are held accountable for their actions. In that era, they often did whatever they liked.

If they had enough self-confidence and bravado, once they arrived in a distant place, it was not difficult to acquire the manner, bearing and self-confidence that would ensure success. The eighteenth century was an age when young men could arrive in the colonies and acquire instant gentility. One had only to be Portuguese-born to be seen as one of the *fidalgos*, the gentry. Prosperity, fine clothing and a superior manner would effortlessly achieve in the East what could never be gained in the homeland, where mere merchants could never attain *fidalgua* or *nobreza*, gentility or nobility. Given that the whole of Macau's population, Portuguese and Chinese, survived through trade, strict rules of gentility could never be applied there. Making this even easier was the Portuguese government's policy of selling public offices. Always short of money, it tried to make ends meet by this means, no matter how much harm it caused. A major position in Portugal itself or in Brazil might prove costly. A judicial post in a minor African colony or in far off Macau, just a quiet backwater, might be attainable to an aspirant with little money and no family distinction.

This may have been the background of Manuel Vicente Rosa, who came from the small town of Tancos, 130 km north-east of Lisbon. He took up the position of *Ouvidor* (a judge appointed by the Crown and therefore of high standing) in Macau in 1714. Whatever his background may have been, Rosa was from the first one of the *poderosos*, or 'great ones' in the community. Rosa and his heirs and descendants were prominent members of the business community of Macau throughout the eighteenth century, for the next four generations. A Spanish priest, Fr Domingo Navarrete, had written in 1670 of 'the Broils, Uproars, Quarrels and Extravagancies there have been at Macao'.¹ They continued unabated in the following century, and the Rosa family were

enthusiastic participants in them. Many years later, a French visitor, Marcel Yvan was surprised to find in Macau 'two rival governments, or rather two contesting powers, perpetually striving to extinguish each other'.² That had been the situation for most of Macau's history. Rosa, who saw himself as the founder of something like a dynasty, also saw himself as the leader of the cohort ranged against the governor for at least part of his 47 years in Macau.

The position of *Ouvidor* in a small colony was of considerable importance, especially when, as in Macau, the governor's position was relatively weak. As a Crown appointee, the *Ouvidor* was responsible to the Crown through the Viceroy of India at Goa, but not accountable to anyone in Macau. Thus there was plenty of scope for the holder of the office to use it for his own benefit, for he was both Chief Justice and an administrator.³ 'These men are kings out here', wrote a young adventurer to his father, recommending that his younger brother join him in the East as *Ouvidor* in Goa.⁴ A century later the administration of the *ouvidores* of this period in Macau would be described as a 'torrent of iniquity'.⁵ One instance of Rosa's use of his position against an enemy was striking.



The fortress of Nossa Senhora da Guia.

Wealth created rivalry and enmity. Among Rosa's enemies was António de Albuquerque Coelho, President of the Leal Senado. His critics, chief amongst whom was Rosa, gained the ear of the Viceroy of Goa, Vasco Fernandes Cesar de Menezes, who ordered his arrest and return to Goa in 1714 to answer charges of tyrannous behaviour.⁶ When these instructions reached Macau, Rosa took advantage of his position as *Ouvidor* to imprison Albuquerque Coelho in the fortress of *Nossa Senhora da Guia*.

¹ J.S. Cummins, *The travels and controversies of Friar Domingo Navarrete*, vol. 2, p. 270.

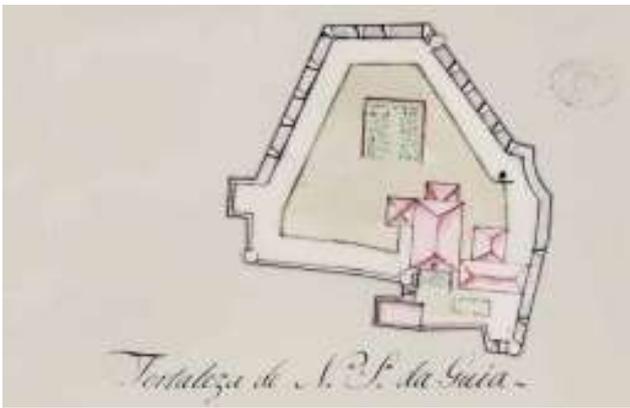
² M. Yvan, *Six Months among the Malays and a Year in China*, p. 300.

³ C.A. Montalto de Jesus, *Historic Macao*, p. 49.

⁴ C.R. Boxer, *Portuguese India in the mid-seventeenth century*, p. 13.

⁵ A. Ljungstedt, 'Independent of China', in *Canton Miscellany*, no. 4, 1831, p. 291.

⁶ C.R. Boxer, *Fidalgos in the Far East*, p. 245.



The fortress of Nossa Senhora da Guia.

However, when the case reached Goa, Viceroy Menezes not only quashed the charges but went on to appoint Albuquerque Coelho to the post of Governor and Captain-General of Macau. By the time he eventually returned in triumph to Macau in 1718, his enemy, the despotic Rosa, had already been removed by Viceroy Menezes from his position as *Ouvidor*, following a petition from Macau.⁷

Rosa may have grown more circumspect following this severe reversal of fortune. The record of his activities in later years is a catalogue of commercial dealings, growing wealth and importance and a significant role in community leadership.⁸ Perhaps the most significant surviving document bearing his name was a carefully worded memorial to the Chinese Emperor in 1719, accompanying a gift of selected European delicacies and curiosities. As the first signature was that of Rosa it is likely that he was the President of the Senate that year.

*The Portuguese of Macao [who] govern the place, Manoel Vicente Rosa etc., with all the others, have always received immense favours of your Imperial Majesty, whose name fills all the world ... To show in some way our thankfulness, we have selected a few articles, which we at present transmit to the Tsung-tuh, or Viceroy, begging him to have the goodness to present them to your Imperial Majesty.
Macao, 1st March 1719.*

Signed, M.V. Rosa, & c.9

It is uncertain what favours the signatories hoped to gain from this approach to the Emperor.

As a private trader, Rosa was a successful shipowner, dealing, among other things, in rice shipped from Siam to Macau and China.¹⁰ Despite these successes, or perhaps because of them, he became '*o mais rico e o mais odiado de toda a praca*', 'the richest and most hated man in the whole place'.¹¹

In 1724, lacking an heir, he considered returning to Portugal, but the governor, the superiors of the religious orders, members of the Senate, and other influential citizens asked him to stay. In a letter of 11 January 1725, the Viceroy of India expressed the desire of seeing him continuing his work in Macau.¹² He was too important to be ignored.

A long series of disputes followed. In 1731 a later *Ouvidor*, Moreira da Souza, was sent in chains to Goa by order of the Captain-General and Governor, António Barretto, who had been bribed by Rosa, it was alleged, with ten gold bars. Moreira da Souza too was reinstated, with orders from Goa to send back both Barretto and Rosa, also in chains, for further enquiries. Rosa escaped by seeking sanctuary in the seminary.¹³ He then appears to have made his way to Bangkok, where he had trading contacts, returning when the fuss had died down.¹⁴

Sometime later, in 1747, another Menezes was appointed Captain-General and Governor of Macau. António Telles de Menezes became instantly feared by personally thrashing one of the judges, António Pereira Braga, for neglect of his duties. Rosa pursued this second Menezes with implacable animosity. Menezes handled a difficulty with the Chinese mandarin poorly and was impeached. The accusation was supported by Rosa, no stranger to bribery, with a present of solid gold oranges to the Viceroy in support of the allegation.¹⁵ This time, Rosa had the satisfaction of seeing his enemy removed for good, first being imprisoned in Guia fortress.

⁷ The episode was dealt with at some length by M. Teixeira, *Os Ouvidores em Macau*, pp. 89-91.

⁸ M. Teixeira, *Os Ouvidores em Macau*, pp. 85-88.

⁹ A. Ljungstedt, *An historical sketch of the Portuguese settlements in China*, p. 62.

¹⁰ J.M. Braga Papers, National Library of Australia MS 4300/7.2/88 – Rosa, Manuel Vicente.

¹¹ A contemporary comment, quoted in an article by C.R. Boxer, in the Macau paper *Renascimento*, November 1943, p. 458.

¹² *Arquivos de Macau*, February 1965, p. 127 and March 1965, p. 148.

¹³ Recounted at length by C.A. Montalto de Jesus, *Historic Macao*, pp. 168-170.

¹⁴ According to an unreferenced note in J.M. Braga Papers, MS 4300/7.2/88 – Rosa, Manuel Vicente.

¹⁵ C.R. Boxer *Fidalgos in the Far East*, p. 245. C.A. Montalto de Jesus, *Historic Macao*, pp. 171-175 gave a detailed account of the episode.

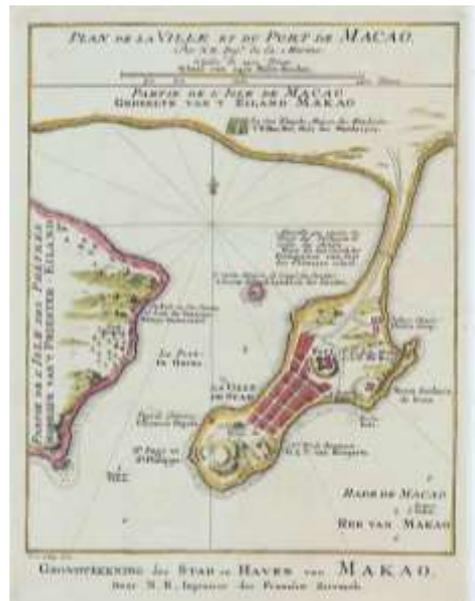


A statuette of Simão Vicente Rosa, Manuel Vicente's nephew and adopted son, about 1770. He is a be-wigged fidalgo in his fifties, clad in frock coat and breeches. This indicates that formal colonial attire followed closely that of metropolitan Portugal. His dress indicates his station in life, for inhabitants of Macau 'who are not Europeans by birth or descent' were prohibited in 1744 from wearing wigs. J.M. Braga Collection, National Library of Australia, nla.pic-an6227500

As often happens with wealthy, driven businessmen focussed solely on amassing personal power, wealth and prestige, Rosa had a succession problem. After many years of residence in Macau, he married Isabel da Cruz, sister of another rich merchant, António da Cruz. She died not long after, leaving a legacy of \$10,000 to the convent of *Nossa Senhora do Rosário*.¹⁶ With no heir, and now in his fifties, Rosa sent for his nephew, Simão Vicente Rosa, a young man of twenty, to come to Macau, be adopted by his rich uncle, marry well and soon inherit a fortune. It was a prospect that the nephew, impecunious and with no prospects, could not resist.

Manuel Vicente Rosa died the next year, aged about 70, confident that the succession problem was solved. Simão Rosa would become still richer, but by 1835 his descendants had lost everything. Like his wife, Manuel Rosa was buried in the churchyard at the entrance of St Dominic's church.¹⁹ Like her, he left a substantial legacy of 1,000 taels of silver (37.5 kg) to poor orphans to enable them to marry, this being an era in which dowries were essential.

Rosa made a major impact on Macau in the many years of his residence. Like many successful entrepreneurs, he was an enigmatic figure. The phrase *homens de maior condição*, men of higher standing, the essential qualification for public office in Macau, was sometimes used too loosely, but it was well applied to Manuel Vicente Rosa. While enriching himself, he had also, as a shipowner, provided employment for young Macanese men as seafarers. He was personally successful in a period of continuing decline.²⁰ He readily fitted into the traditional role of community leadership that Macau's particular circumstances gave, not to its own well-established families, but to young men fresh from the motherland. He was aspirational, opportunistic and at times ruthless. He was both a great hater (and was greatly hated, for success breeds envy) and a respected spokesman for Macau, dextrous in handling the difficult relations with the Chinese authorities.



Map 13 – 'Plan de la ville et du port de Macao'. A French map of Macau by Nicholas Bellin, 1784, reissued by a Dutch cartographer. The map shows the built-up area, the city walls and fortifications in considerable detail. To the north-west of Macau is the compound of the 'Casa Branca' mandarin.

In the twentieth century, Rosa's activities would have been exposed by newspapers and television journalism. In the twenty-first century, social media would have been filled with howls of outrage. But in Macau three hundred years ago, there was no organised public opinion, no press, and plenty of opportunity for an unscrupulous man to get rich quickly. Manuel Vicente Rosa was a man fully in tune with his age, and used its strengths and weaknesses with conspicuous success.

Stuart Braga



nla.gov.au/nla.map-rm302.

He arrived in Macau on 3 October 1738, and sixteen days later was married off to Maria de Araújo Barros, a bride pre-selected by his uncle. The twentieth century historian, Fr Manuel Teixeira hinted that the bride was ugly.¹⁷ Nevertheless there were seven children by 1750.¹⁸

¹⁶ M. Teixeira, *Os Ouvidores em Macau*, p. 83.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 82.

¹⁸ J. Forjaz, *Famílias Macaenses*, vol. 3, pp. 296-297.

¹⁹ J. Forjaz, *Famílias Macaenses*, vol. 3, p. 295. Their graves were later moved to *Ilha Verde*, Green Island.

²⁰ C.R. Boxer, *Portuguese society in the tropics*, pp. 61, 63.



2017 IDENTITY AWARD

Thanks to **Carmen O'Brien** for information on this amazing award!

The International Institute of Macau announced granting the Identity Award of 2017 to **Henrique d'Assumpção, Quito** for friends, for his very relevant contribution to the preservation of Macanese heritage and identity, disseminating their genealogy, history and culture, in the cyber space, in Portuguese and English. Born in Macau, but sent very young to Australia to study, "Quito" d'Assumpção played prominent roles in the Government of that country, achieving an enviable list of services and several titles and honorific orders.



After retiring from his academic life as Professor Emeritus at the University of South Australia, he devoted himself wholeheartedly, over the past 20 years, to create a permanent repository for the preservation of cultural and historical records of the Macanese people. Despite his numerous other professional and official commitments, he has been able to gather and make available a large collection of data. Improving the existing documentation about the genealogy of Macanese families, enriching it with thousands of photographs and many other information, collecting more than 200 recipes of Macanese cuisine, picking up verses, a lexicon and audio from the old Macau dialect he managed to digitize these elements into an electronic platform awaiting of biographical documentation related to more than 55,000 names, and prepared the development of this base "indefinitely for the future", without looking for personal interest and in a worthy of the highest praise.

The Identity Award, initiated in 2003 and decided by approval of all governing bodies of the IIM, aims to reward individuals or institutions that, in a continuous way, have contributed to the enhancement and appreciation of the Macanese Identity. Among the rewarded individuals or institutions, contemplated persons include Monsignor Manuel Teixeira, Henrique de Senna Fernandes, Arnaldo de Oliveira Sales and institutions such as the Macau Diocese, the Holy House of Mercy of Macau, the University of Macau, the Macau Portuguese School and other local and overseas entities, related to the Macanese diaspora.



Congratulations to **George Jose Conceicao Manolakis** and **Jaime Hinds** on the birth of their first child, a son, **Ari George Manolakis**. Born on Monday 9th October 2017 at 12.04pm. First Grandchild for **Mario and Antonieta Amarante Conceicao Manolakis**.

Blessed with the fifth generation for our family.



Pictured above from left: **Antonieta Amarante Conceicao Manolakis, Olga Tavares Amarante, Lucy Whittle, Ari George Manolakis and George Jose Conceicao Manolakis**

Many have met our granddaughter Sophie, we were blessed with the arrival of her little sister on 29 November 2017.



Emma Elisabet, is seen above at one day old, with her big sister Sophie and her Mum and Dad (Shay and Paul) proud grandparents are **Denice and Paul Smith** and left is a more recent photo of Emma.





Come to **Minchi at the MCC** on Sunday March 18, at the CASA clubhouse, all ages and even parents are welcome if you want to look after your kids

To assist with catering please RSVP by Monday March 13 by email to deaconstef@gmail.com



2018 Bursary Applications

Are you undertaking tertiary studies in 2018?

Are you a voting member of the Casa de Macau – Australia (Macanese decent)?

Have you been a member of the Casa de Macau – Australia for two or more years)?

If you answered yes to the above three questions you may be eligible for a bursary from Casa de Macau – Australia.

For an information package and application form contact Mary Rigby at rigbyfamily@ozemail.com.au

Applications close 1st April 2018.

Update on 2017 Bursary recipients

Congratulations to our bursary recipients from 2017.

Zachary Kockan: 1st year, is studying for a Bachelor of Law & Bachelor of Commerce. At the University of Adelaide Zachary parents are **Carmen (Gutteres)** and **John Kockan**. Her grandparents [are: **Yolanda** and **Peter Guterres**

Phillip Cruz 1st year, is studying for a Bachelor of Applied Finance with the degree of Bachelor of Commerce – Professional Accounting at Macquarie University Phillip parents are: **Maria** and **Roberto Cruz**

Dylan Gully 1st year, is studying for a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering and Science (double degree) at the University of Adelaide, Dylan Parents are **Michelle** and **Aaron Gully** and his grandparents are **Carmen O'Brien** (nee **de Souza**) and the late **Carlos Yvanovich** (deceased)

Isabelle Remedios: 2nd year, is studying is a Bachelor of Commerce/International Relations at the Australian National University. Isabelle parents are John and Kristin and grandparents on her dad's side are **Maria** and Carlos Remedios.

Sasha Kockan: 2nd year, is studying for a Bachelor of Mathematical and Computer Science with a Bachelor of Finance at the University of Adelaide. Sasha parents are **Carmen (Gutteres)** and **John Kockan**. Her grandparents [are: **Yolanda** and **Peter Guterres**

Jessica Cruz: 3rd year and has continued her study in Bachelor of Applied Finance with the Degree of Bachelor of Laws at Macquarie University. Parents are **Roberto** and **Maria Cruz**.

Jennifer Cheong: 3rd year and has continued her study in Bachelor of Science at Macquarie University. Parents are **Patrick** and **Valerie Cheong**





CASA NEWS AROUND AUSTRALIA



Perth CASA members at Christmas event



Perth CASA members at Christmas event



Casa News Adelaide

The CASA'S Christmas lunch in Adelaide Our Casa lunch held on Sunday, 3 December 2017, was held at *Sammy's on the Marina* in Glenelg, a suburban seaside area.



We had a fantastic private room at the top level of the restaurant overlooking the stunning views of the ocean. We had a three-course meal and a number of people chose their specialty seafood menu. The children's menu went down very well followed by ice-cream sundaes. There were some happy faces when the door prizes were handed out.

ACT Casa News



Canberra Casa Xmas dinner held 14 December 2017 – from Luiz Ribeiro

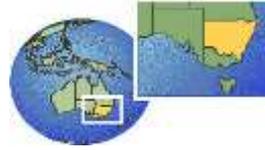


Casa News Western Australia



From Daniel Badaracco, the CASA WA Christmas event was held at Pan Pacific buffet. The members had a good time.





NSW Casa News

On the 10th December 2017, Casa de Macau in Sydney celebrated Christmas with a Buffet Lunch at Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club.



NSW Casa kids having fun

A total of 127 members turned up for a sumptuous selection of hot and cold foods, desserts and fresh fruits.



The Clubs chefs provided something for everyone, covering Australian, Chinese and Macanese cuisine. Thank you, **Lizette**, for organizing it.

Our President **Antonietta** led the proceedings, including a visit from "Santa" who brought gifts for all the children in attendance.



It was wonderful to see many younger members that came this year. There were also three door prizes of Gifts Cards.

We congratulated **Sasha Kockan** who was going to the USA for a year's study at Vermont University in January and we sent our best wishes to **Stephanie Keenihan** who would be undertaking her Year 12 studies this year. We welcomed **Dylan Gully** back to Adelaide after a visit to Japan.



By popular request our **Dia de Sao Joao** lunch in June this year will have a Macanese flavour whereby we will be preparing our favourite dishes and desserts.

After lunch **Henry d'Assumpcao** will give a short presentation for the children's benefit about their heritage and will no doubt have some anecdotes up his sleeve!

Finally, we all wish to congratulate Henry d'Assumpcao on the Identity Award of 2017 which he recently received from the International Institute of Macau. This was awarded for his relevant contribution to the preservation of Macanese heritage and identity (see further article on Henry in this Newsletter).

He has worked tirelessly for many years on the genealogy of Macanese families including photographs, Macanese cuisine etc. His website is: www.macaneseLibrary.org



Our thanks go to the Committee for their year's contribution and wish everyone a Happy New Year.

Carmen O'Brien - Casa Rep



This event would not have been possible without the help of all the Committee members (above), to each and every-one of you "THANK YOU".



Many Thanks for Santa for stopping by and to all our Members that came along: Muito obrigado!



May I take this opportunity to also wish all our Casa Members, a very Happy Chinese New Year of the Dog. "Kung Hay Fat Choy" and Sun Nin Fai Lock"!

Nina Deacon.



Family Search - Can you help Raymond?

From **Raymond Midgley**, son of **Marie**, sister to **Delcie da Silva**, **Cynthia Rodrigues**, and **Mythie Gonsalves**, **Ren da Silva** (Diamond Music), **Leo da Silva** (Hong Kong Bank), **Joey** and **Bing Remedios**. Grandparents, **Mario da Silva** (died 1922), **Luisa Noronha**, **Jeje Remedios**, second husband. My wife and I will be in Perth in October and looking to find out if any distant relatives/friends have settled there. I left Hong Kong 1967 and have stay in Great Britain since.



In Hong Kong with my grandparents in Happy Valley. Hope some connection could be made, we will be in the Algarve second half of April and will be seeing **Olga Braga**, nee **Tavares**. A very good friend of **Bosco**. Will check with her

as she is a very knowledgeable source of the travelling Macanese people.

Photo at right shows, my wife, Maureen and myself with **Olga Braga** and **Ann da**



Midgley nee da Silva at her 100 birthday.

Silva married to **Eddie da Silva**, brother to **Hilda Remedios** (Hawaii) married to my Uncle **Joey**. Left is **Marie** (Maryann)

We will also be in Hong Kong 27 September 2018 for four nights and will be doing the trail of the good old days. Been trying to contact **Lionel/Alan Castro** who was a journalist in Hong Kong and still there for many years, not responding to his email. We will be visiting my Mother's friend for many years (before WWII) **Cissy Santos**, Aunt Cissy was 106 in January and her family make sure they visit her every January, she lives in Happy Valley and we will have a memorable lunch with her.

When we visited about seven years ago, she asked us to lunch at her house, I asked for Chinese sausages, roast Duck and Char Siu with boiled rice, it was childhood all over again.

Raymond's email contact is nunmill@hotmail.co.uk



MACAO SETS THE TABLE FOR A MOUTHWATERING 2018

MACAO is set to celebrate 2018 with a year-long promotion that feasts on its recent *UNESCO Creative Cities – Gastronomy* recognition.



Now a member of an elite list of 26 global cities designated for their cuisine, the former Portuguese enclave will celebrate by promoting *2018 Macao Year of Gastronomy*.

Among the major food-related events for the year is Macao's hosting of the prestigious *Asia's 50 Best Restaurants* promotion from March 25-27, complete with dining experiences, lectures, a chefs' feast and a gala awards ceremony.



Throughout the Chinese *Year of the Dog*, Macao will be highlighted by a congested calendar of colourful festivals and events, along with the opening of a contemporary international hotel – the

1390-room MGM Cotai.

"Being recognised by UNESCO for its gastronomy is an exciting development for Macao which has always been renowned for having one of the world's earliest forms of fusion food," said Helen Wong, general manager of the Macao Government Tourism Office (Australia and New Zealand).

"Over four centuries, Macao has seen the evolution of what is known as Macanese cuisine, where families have prepared home-cooked dishes, recipes with elements of Portugal, Africa, India, Malaysia and China creating a real melting pot of tastes," she said.

"During that time, Portuguese traders brought to China capsicum, curry, shrimp paste, pickled cod fish and other spices. These ingredients were combined with the evocative flavours and aromas from south-east Asia such as cinnamon, coconut milk, tamarind, garlic and red chillies' along with the vegetables and fruit grown in the region.

"The story of Macanese cuisine is just as enticing as the taste of the food itself."

Among the popular dishes on the Macao menu are African Chicken, Minchi, the salt cod fritters and the sawdust pudding Serradura along with the sought-after Portuguese-style egg tarts.



Macao will kick off 2018 with its annual Chinese New Year celebrations, including two vibrant family street parades have been organised for the evenings of Sunday, February 18 and Saturday, February 24.

From April 27-29, the compact Asian centre of more than 600,000 will host its 6th Macao International Travel Industry Expo (MITE) at The Venetian Macao, this year's exhibition increasing to 500 booths.

Over five Saturday evenings from September 1 until October 1, the skies over the Macau Tower will explode into a kaleidoscope of colours as countries from around the world compete in the 29th Macao International Fireworks Display Contest.

For the first time in its history, the annual contest was cancelled in 2017 after Macao was devastated by the fury of Typhoon Hato which struck in the days leading up to the event.

On September 27, Macao will celebrate World Tourism Day with an array of colourful activities while, in October, it will host the Global Tourism Economy Forum.

Giant steins will be raised throughout the same month as the MGM Macau celebrates its annual Oktoberfest with all the food and singing expected at such a German-style gathering.

More food for thought in November will be the 18th Macau Food Festival, the overwhelming aroma of dishes enough to wake the taste buds as guests wander between street stalls.

December will be another busy month with the hosting 8th Macau Shopping Festival, the ever-appealing Macao Light Festival and the 3rd International Film Festival and Awards – Macao (IFFAM), completed with its red-carpet ceremonies.

To wind up 2018, sports fans can look forward to the Macao International Kart Grand Prix while lovers for fireworks can prepare for a colourful evening on December 20 to commemorate the 19th year since the establishment of the Macao Administrative Region along with the traditional New Year fireworks on December 31.

Despite last year’s impact of Typhoon Hato, Macao boasted a record-breaking 2017, attracting more than 32,600 international visitors – and increase of 5.4 per cent on the previous record-breaking year.

An increase in the number of integrated resorts and hotels coupled with a growth in attractions and activities have played key roles in the rise in popularity.

The total number of hotel rooms in Macao increased to almost 38,000.

Such expansion saw an increase of almost 10 per cent in the number of visitors taking overnight stays, ensuring the average occupancy rate would be between 88 and 90 per cent.



While manning the Macao stand at the February Flight Centre World Travel EXPO in Brisbane, MGTO general manager **Helen Wong** and colleague **Mike Smith** received a special visit from **Jose da Silva** and his family – all members of Casa de Macau.



Helen Wong with Jose da Silva and his family

For the da Silvas, now Australian citizens, it was likened to a trip down memory lane, chatting about the food and many UNESCO World Heritage listed sites.



Also discussed were the countless changes which had reshaped the area between Taipa and Coloane.

All were pleased to have spent the time chatting about what Macao had to offer today’s visitors.

Mike Smith



by Matthew Keegan in Macau



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Thanks to Brendan Basto the following is from an article – what do you think?

The number of people who speak Patuá – a blend of Portuguese and Cantonese – is down to just 50 as the casino-dominated ‘Las Vegas of the east’ continues to expand. Can they keep their native tongue alive?

‘Nowadays, nobody speaks much Patuá. Only the old people speak Patuá,’ declares 102-year-old Aida de Jesus as she sits across the table from her daughter inside Riquexo, the small Macanese restaurant that remarkably, despite her grand age, she runs to this day.

Patuá is the name of De Jesus’ mother tongue, and she is one of its last surviving custodians. Known to those who speak it as “Maquista”, Patuá is a creole language that developed in Malacca, Portugal’s main base in south-east Asia, during the first half of the 16th century, and made its way to Macau when the Portuguese settled there. It blends Portuguese with Cantonese and Malay, plus traces of other languages from stop-offs on the Portuguese trading route.

Patuá developed to eventually become the language of Macau’s indigenous Eurasian community: the Macanese. They first arose from intermarriages between Portuguese colonisers and the Chinese – mostly Portuguese men marrying and starting families with Chinese women.

Since Macau was handed back to China in 1999, that distinct community and unique Macanese culture is again fighting to hold on. Macau has swelled into the world’s most successful gambling hub, with its booming casino industry accounting for around 80% of its economy. While it has helped the city financially, this growth has done little to reflect Macau or its local culture. Instead, a number of local citizens say the favoured strategy has been to copy and paste Las Vegas, casino resort by casino resort, with only one goal in mind: easy money.

The link for the whole article is:

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/jan/10/macau-city-losing-language-china-portuguese-macanese>

