

# Australia News

## September 2019 – Vol 31 Issue 4



MACAO - International Fireworks Display Contest - Source: MGTO

### President's Report



I hope this newsletter finds you all well. Welcome to the September issue of our newsletter.

*Dia de Sao Joao* was held on 23<sup>rd</sup>

June 2019 at Club Central Hurstville. We had 100 in attendance and enjoyed a delicious Chinese Banquet. It was great to see all members enjoyed the Trivia, lucky door prizes and catch up with family and friends. A huge thank you to our Committee for organising a fun filled event. A huge thank you to **Melinda** and **Steph** for organising the Trivia and also **Nina** for the wonderful baskets. We celebrated and sang Happy Birthday to our dear Secretary, **Mary** and presented her with flowers. We are so thankful for your dedication and all that you do for Casa.



Encontro is fast approaching in November, as we receive any further information, we shall forward to all participants.

Our Sunday lunches at the MCC have been amazing this year as always with both attendance and cuisine. On 21<sup>st</sup> July, our chefs were **Brenda** and **Maureen** who cooked up a storm for us. A wonderful day was had by all. We enjoyed Spring rolls, Chilicote, Porco Bafassa, Vaca Estufada and delicious desserts.





I have listed below our upcoming events for the remainder of the year and hope to see many of you in attendance.

Looking forward to our Sunday lunch on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2019, our chefs will be **Rebecca Akouri** and **Stef Deacon**. It's so wonderful and encouraging to have the younger members volunteering at Casa events.

Our **Annual General Meeting** will be held on **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2019** at 10.00am, hope to see our Members in attendance.

To all of our Interstate Representatives, thank you for organising your events. We feel very grateful for all of your efforts towards all the preparations for these functions for our interstate members.

We hope you enjoy this Newsletter.

*Viva Macaenses!*  
Best Wishes  
**Antonieta Manolakis**  
*President*  
*Casa de Macau Inc*



Unfortunately, I had to cancel our August luncheon due to the peaceful passing of my beloved 94-year-old Grandmother, **Olga Amarante**. Thank you to all that sent our family prayers and messages.

I was also saddened of the recent passing of **Adelaide Maria Crestejo**, our sincerest condolences to your family. It was such a delight to see Laide at our functions. You will be greatly missed.



**As postal and printing costs increase please let us 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](mailto:rigbyfamily@ozemail.com.au)**

Date	Event	Where
Sunday 29 September	Sunday Lunch	MCC
Saturday 12 October	Annual General Meeting	MCC
Sunday 20 October	Sunday Lunch	MCC
Sunday 17 November	Sunday Lunch	MCC
Sunday 15 December	Christmas Lunch	Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club

## DELIVERED FROM THE JAWS OF DEATH

Stuart Braga

One of Macau's most prominent landmarks is the church at the southern end of the small peninsula. Standing atop the prominent hill, the church of Our Lady of Penha of France, contrasts with the giant casinos which have come in recent years to dominate, even to overwhelm, most of the rest of the ancient territory. Even Monte Fort is dwarfed by them. Not so Penha church. While so many of the buildings of the Portuguese heritage of Macau are ancient, with most of the World Heritage sites dating from the early seventeenth century, Penha church is relatively recent, having been built in 1935.



**Capela de Nossa Senhora da Penha, built in 1935.**

**A painting by Vicente Pacia, 1937.**

*J.M. Braga collection, National Library of Australia*

However, its history goes back much further than this.

A century earlier, in 1837, the Bishop of Macau built an out-of-town summer residence on this fine site which catches the sea breezes. Next to it was a church, which served as the bishop's

chapel. The Bishop of Macau continued to occupy his palace, which was located next to the Sé cathedral.

The new summer residence was not the first building on this magnificent site. More than two centuries before that, a small hermitage stood there. It was built as a result of a promise made by a group of terrified merchants and seamen who in 1620 were being hunted down by a Dutch ship, bigger and faster than theirs, and no doubt more heavily armed. In their dire predicament these eighteen men vowed that if Our Lady the Virgin of Penha da França would rescue them, they would give one percent of the value of their cargo to build a hermitage in Macau where her image could be honoured.

The details of what happened make fascinating reading. An original account of this voyage and the merchants' solemn vow has survived to our own times, while most other early records of Macau have been lost through four centuries of neglect, a tropical climate and attacks by mould and insects. This account was first printed in a newspaper *O Macaista Imparcial* in 1836, and then again in the *Boletim Eclesiastico da diocese de Macau* in 1937.<sup>1</sup> It was here that it came to the notice of the English scholar Charles Boxer, then a British Army officer in Hong Kong. He was an able linguist, with a good knowledge of Portuguese, Dutch and Japanese. He became a close friend of Jack Braga, then a teacher and businessman in Macau. After World War II, Boxer was appointed to the 'Camões Chair of Portuguese' at London University, the only such chair in the English-speaking world. He received several honorary doctorates, including the first such degree awarded by the University of Macau. He wrote many books and articles on the history of the Portuguese Empire, and the story of the hermitage of Our Lady the Virgin of Penha da França appears in one of his most important books, *The Great Ship from Amacon*.<sup>2</sup>



**16<sup>th</sup> century Portuguese lateen-rigged caravels. These were the ships in which the Portuguese ruled the eastern seas throughout the sixteenth century.**

<sup>1</sup> Translated from the documents transcribed in the 'Memoria sobre ermida da Penha de França' ('Memorial on the hermitage of Penha of France'), first printed in the *Macaista Imparcial* Vol. 1, no. 33 (29 September 1836), pp. 131-134, and reprinted

with notes and annotations in the *Boletim Eclesiastico da diocese de Macau*, May 1937, pp. 816-822.

<sup>2</sup> C.R. Boxer, *The Great Ship from Amacon: Annals of Macao and the old Japan trade, 1555-1640*, Centro de Estudos Históricos Ultramarinos, Lisbon, 1959, pp. 314-315.



*17<sup>th</sup> century square-rigged Dutch ship.*

*Fast and powerful, they swept the Portuguese from the seas in the seventeenth century, but lateen-rigged ships could sail closer to the wind.*

*The previous two illustrations are conjectural. Both vessels were armed, as all ships had to be in those perilous times, but this Dutch vessel, with twelve cannons, is more heavily armed.*

Boxer provided a few footnotes, which are reproduced here, but no other commentary. In particular, he does not speculate on the nature of the Portuguese vessel, which he calls a 'pinnacle'. This is generally thought of as a small vessel used in ports and coastal waters, not on long sea voyages such as the voyage from Macau to Japan, a distance of 2,000 km. It can only have been a caravel, perhaps a small one, but not a little coastal boat. It was certainly not the great nao, the annual 'black ship' which carried the bulk of trade with Japan.

Nor does he pass comment on the promise these terrified men made. They promised one percent of the value of the cargo. They would have been well aware of the tithe – the tax paid to the church amounting to one tenth of each person's income every year. This tax was levied throughout Christendom for many centuries, and was based on the Mosaic Law set out in several places in the Old Testament. One tenth of one tenth seems niggardly for men in such a desperate situation.

By 1620, the Portuguese merchants were well aware of the superior ships of the Dutch, who were systematically wiping out the Portuguese wherever they could. Only in Macau, two years later, did the Dutch fail to dislodge the Portuguese. In the account that follows, the unnamed writer, perhaps Captain Jorge da Silva himself, acknowledges that the Dutch ship was more 'nimble' than his own. For several hours on that fateful date, the Portuguese sailors, their vessel under

the lee (downwind) of the Dutch ship, watched doom approaching, until the enemy actually drew alongside.

What happened next? The writer of this letter does not explain, nor did Boxer make any comment. All we are told is that 'we were forthwith helped by Our Lady, because we escaped from the enemy under their very bows'. A change of wind may have assisted the Portuguese vessel, able to sail closer to the wind than its Dutch adversary. Read this account for yourself and see what you think.

'On the 28th day of the month of July of the year 1620, while the pinnacle *São Bartolomeu*, Captain Jorge da Silva, was on her voyage to Japan, at five o'clock in the morning we found ourselves under the lee of a Dutch ship. Shortly afterwards three other ships of our company hove in sight, and Captain Jorge da Silva immediately ordered the pinnacle to be cleared for action, and forthwith ordered the master-gunner to fire a shot as a signal to the other three ships. As soon as the shot was fired, the enemy hoisted a square flag and made towards the other ships; as two of them were nimbler, they took to flight at once. The enemy seeing this, and realising that he could not catch up with them, tacked towards us and pursued us relentlessly. As our ship was not very nimble, he got within cannon-shot of us, and then fired three shots which passed over our ship, as they had fired high in order to disable our rigging.

In this manner we fled before the enemy, although we saw we had no fair chance of outsailing him. We crowded on all sail in this danger, but the wind, which was very strong, carried away our fore-yard. When this happened, the enemy soon got close alongside us, and fired more shots, and waved us amain with a towel to strike our mainsail which we were carrying. Seeing ourselves at this moment in such deadly peril, and with no other recourse but for all of us to die (as we had already resolved) by blowing up our ship, we turned to beg Our Lady the Virgin of Penha da França<sup>3</sup> to help us and become our intermediary with her Blessed Son, that she would save us and help us against our enemies.

All of us unitedly and unanimously promising her that we would give one percent of all our own goods, as well as those of our associates, in the cargo which the ship *São Bartolomeu* was taking to Japan, in order to make an independent hermitage for Our Lady, in which her image could be enshrined in the city of Macao.<sup>4</sup> No sooner had this gift been promised, than we were forthwith helped by Our Lady, because we escaped from the enemy under their very bows. And as we are all happy to give one percent of all our own goods in the pinnacle, and feel confident that all our associates will likewise approve of

<sup>3</sup> A very popular invocation of the Virgin with Portuguese sailors at this period.

<sup>4</sup> The hermitage was duly built and the first mass celebrated there in April 1623.

this promise, we give her, and are happy to give her, this gift in order to build the hermitage.<sup>5</sup>

If it should so happen that the hermitage is not built, we declare that this promise will be null and void. And as regards the contributions to be paid, we hereby elect to collect them, Bernardo Fragozo,<sup>6</sup> Fernão d'Arias, João Taveira and João Pacheco. And as we are pleased and satisfied with the above, we sign here at the foot of this, and in the latitude of the island of Formosa, on the 28th of the month of July 1620.

*Signed: Jorge da Silva, Fernão d'Arias de Moraes, Bartolomeu Fragozo, António Gonçalvez d'Araujo, João Taveira, Manoel Fernandes Ferrão, Luis da Fonseca, Manoel Gomes, João Cazado Viana, António Correio, Francisco Pereira, Jacome Francisco de Paiva, António d'Almeida, João Pacheco, Francisco Lobo Guerreiro, António Pinto d'Oliveira, Jorge Carvalho, João Cavalim da Fonseca.'*



***The Penha Hermitage about 1830.***

***A drawing by George Chinnery,  
from the Geographical Society of Lisbon.***

Further details of the voyage are unknown, but the men did honour their promise. The hermitage was built in 1622, and became the residence of a small group of Augustinians. It was never a large monastery. Only the Jesuits had a substantial presence in Macau, but they were expelled in 1762 as part of the Portuguese government's attack on the Jesuit Order. They were allowed to return in 1862 to conduct St Joseph's College, which they had built in 1730, but they were again expelled in 1870. In 1834, more than two centuries after the hermitage was built, the Catholic Orders were struggling to maintain a presence in Macau. The Augustinians had four monks, the Dominicans three and the Capuchins three, who were in charge of 37 nuns.<sup>7</sup>



***The Penha Chapel about 1837, soon after it was rebuilt following the destruction of the original building by a typhoon in September 1831.***

***A drawing by George Chinnery, from the collection of Toyo Bunko.***

That year, the Augustinians were also expelled, as a result of a civil war in Portugal between conservative and liberal factions. That brought to an end the hermitage established by the merchants delivered from the jaws of death more than two centuries before.

**Stuart Braga**

**June 2019**



Friends of **Rui de Menezes** will be happy to know that he is moving back to Australia from Portugal. Rui returned to Australia on August 3<sup>rd</sup> and is living with his niece **Yvonne Husband**.

He can be contacted on 0412 193 046 or 02-9399-4480.

His address is 5 Carrington Road, Randwick.

<sup>5</sup> The habit of making such vows in an emergency was one of long-standing among Portuguese sea-farers. It was legislated for in the *Regimentos* or standing-instructions issued to the pursers of all outward-bound East-Indiamen. Cf. 'The naval and colonial papers of Dom António de Ataíde', in the *Harvard Library Bulletin*, Vol. V (1951), p. 36.

<sup>6</sup> His name is given as Bartolomeu Fragozo in the list of signatures below and in the other documents annexed to this '*Memoria*'.

<sup>7</sup> These were the figures given by an American Protestant missionary, Elijah Bridgman, in the *Chinese Repository*, vol. 3, no. 7, November 1834, p. 299.



**CASA de MACAU**  
Youth Corner



**2019 RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS  
JUNIOR WORLD  
CHAMPIONSHIPS, MOSCOW**

Hi, my name is **Brio Dos Santos-Lee** and I'm 15 years old and a Rhythmic Gymnast. This year, I reached a personal highlight by qualifying with my Junior Group to represent Australia in the 1<sup>st</sup> Rhythmic Gymnastics Junior World Championships in Moscow Russia on 19 – 21 July 2019.



Thanks to **Maria Dos Santos-Lee** for sending Brio's article in.

In order to qualify for the Junior World Championships we had to compete at a trial at the AIS (Australian Institute of Sport) as well as at the Australian National Championships in Melbourne, in June. At the National Championships we competed against other State Groups from Queensland and Victoria as well as Groups from New Zealand. Our NSW Group finished in 1<sup>st</sup> place Overall, as well as 1<sup>st</sup> in Ribbon and 2<sup>nd</sup> in Hoop, which earned us the right to represent Australia.



In the lead up to the Australian Championships, my Group was lucky enough to travel and compete in Romania, Bulgaria and Azerbaijan. However, the absolute highlight must be the Junior World Championships in Moscow. It was such a huge stage and so exciting to be competing among the best gymnasts from countries all over the world. This year has definitely been the most exhilarating of my life so far - full of experiences and opportunities I can never forget.

**CONGRATULATIONS!**



Welcome to the world **John Mario Kambourakis**, son of **Con** and **Alexia Kambourakis**. John is grandson to **Mario** and our President, **Antonietta Manolakis**. John was born on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2019.

Congratulations to all.





## CASA NEWS AROUND AUSTRALIA



**Casa Canberra** celebrated Dia do Sao Joao this year on 24 June with a fine lunch at the Rubicon Restaurant.



Thanks to Luiz Ribeiro for this update on the event. We were happy to have the Ambassador of Portugal, His Excellency **Pedro Rodriguez da Silva**, join us for the occasion as a Casa special guest. Ambassador Pedro (as he prefers to be called) very much enjoyed the event, meeting some of our members and sharing stories. He was keen to learn about the experience of Macanese in Macau, Hong Kong and also Australia.



He lent us a hand on the day by drawing the lucky door prizes, and was fortunate enough to win the first prize himself, a nice bottle of Australian wine. Casa Down Under (Casa Australia) in Sydney graciously offered Ambassador Pedro a book by **Stuart Braga**, *The Western Pioneers and their Discovery of Macau*, which we presented him.

He appreciated this book greatly, and asked us to personalise it by writing a few words from Casa inside the front cover. Ambassador Pedro has a connection with Macau, having spent time there on several occasions, including when his parents lived there. In 1993, in anticipation of Macau's return to China, an appeals court was established so cases could be heard in Macau rather than in the mainland. Ambassador Pedro's father was a Judge, who was involved in establishing this court, and served on it as a Justice for several years.

Ambassador Pedro may find time to join us again for another gathering. He said he'd love to. His wife Rosa wished to join us also but couldn't make it. Perhaps next time.

Thank you Casa Down Under for enabling us to have yet another most enjoyable gathering.



## CASA QUEENSLAND NEWS

On 23 June, forty-five members of the Queensland branch gathered for a buffet lunch at the Sofitel to commemorate the patron saint of Macau.

One of the Brisbane co-coordinators, **Joe Vieira** was masterful in his role and, besides the usual housekeeping, spoke about the reason that we celebrate Dia Sao Joao, as well as the upcoming Encontro, then the lucky door prizes were drawn.

We had two books for our door prizes, thanks to our Sydney committee, and our co-coordinator **Rosanna** organised gifts from Macau Tourism for our members. Half the group received pens and keyrings and the other half were gifted with luggage straps, so no one went home empty-handed and some with both hands full!



Happy times! Youth to Seniors.





Two members, **Keith Seyer** and **Mark Wittich**, only touched down on their return from Europe not long before midnight, were bright and bushy tailed – at least at the start of lunch!

Towards the end of the luncheon we were surprised by a special dessert – platters of Portuguese tarts – much appreciated and enjoyed by all.



Thanks to **Angie** again for collecting money, **Darrell** for helping with distribution of door prize tickets, as well as the gifts from Macau Tourism.



Some of the **Vieira clan**.



A good time was had by all and we look forward to our Christmas party there.



### Tasmania

Tasmania CASA Members enjoyed a lunch at Me Wah Restaurant on Sunday June 30th to celebrate Dia de Sao Joao.



Thanks to **Robert Estorninho** for the photo.



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## MACAO FOOD FOR THOUGHT FOR HEALTHY FUTURE

Macao's highly acclaimed standing as a UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy goes far beyond the dinner table.

Home to one of the world's earliest forms of fusion cuisine, this popular Asian centre has its sights firmly set on sustainability and avoiding food wastage, important ingredients to not only promoting its stance on a worldwide problem but also boosting its tourism appeal.

"Macao is on a 'great green food journey' which the locals, restaurants and other forms of eateries see significant in the future of the city," said **Helen Wong**, general manager of the Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) Australia and New Zealand.

"Food is very much the spice of life in the former Portuguese enclave, a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China for 20 years, but still well-aware of the importance of sustainability in addition to maintaining its culinary legacy," she said.

"It's estimated that 1.3 billion tonnes of food produced for human consumption around the world every year is wasted, but the chefs, kitchen hands and the growing number of hotel and resort managers in Macao are wasting no time in trying to quell the flow through education and sustainable efforts.

"All is food for thought for a bright, healthy future."

When it comes to cooking up interest among food lovers, the tiny Pearl Delta enclave knows how to excite the senses, something it has been doing over four centuries of European and Asian co-existence. A growing number of contemporary restaurants now boast Michelin star ratings

Dining all began in the homes, where locals of Chinese and Portuguese background would experiment in the kitchen to create a cuisine which would become uniquely Macanese – recipes using spices and ingredients collected by Portuguese seafarers along the coasts of Africa, India and South-East Asia with locally grown produce.

While the cuisine was primarily Portuguese based and inspired, the point of difference was in the addition of curry, coconut milk, chillies, cloves and cinnamon, to mention a few ingredients.



Such spicy creations as African chicken would become a signature dish in the restaurants along with chilli shrimps, the minced meat dish Minchi, and, of course derivations of the traditional Portuguese dishes Caldo Verde (soup of green cabbage), giant grilled sardines, casserole of rice, pork and seafood and the always popular Balcalhau patties (fried cod fish cakes).



Today, those passed down family recipes have been deservedly recognised by UNESCO with Macao designated among an elite group of 26 cities around the world as a Creative City for Gastronomy, one of only three in China.

This title reflects the global recognition of Macao's culinary legacy and the increasing interest among the younger generations in gastronomy culture and especially Macanese cuisine, thus providing favourable conditions for food traditions to continuously thrive.

If ever an organisation has been supportive of Macao and its east-meets-west heritage its UNESCO.

From the iconic Ruins of St Paul's with its impressive stone-carved façade to the equally significant A Ma Temple, the Goddess of Seafarers birthplace of Macao, the mix of European and Asian characteristics under the organisation's protection is apparent wherever you explore Macao.

Thanks to the Macao Government Tourism Office for this article.



**Helen Wong and Mike Smith at the Macao stand at the recent Sydney International Food and Wine Show**

**PIC: Denice Smith**



## CASA NEWS AROUND AUSTRALIA

We want to hear more news from all the members of the Casa **across** Australia.

What are our members doing?

Who is celebrating, weddings, babies, birthdays (major ones), remembering favourite festivals and how they were celebrated – then and now.

Stories of your family time in Macao, Portugal or Hong Kong.

Please send your stories to your editor [casademacaunews@gmail.com](mailto:casademacaunews@gmail.com) or to [denice.smith@bigpond.com.au](mailto:denice.smith@bigpond.com.au)



### Casa de Macau Australia

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[rigbyfamily@ozemail.com.au](mailto:rigbyfamily@ozemail.com.au)

## MACAU LITERARY FESTIVAL accepts submissions to its EIGHTH SHORT STORY COMPETITION

The 8th edition of The Script Road – Macau Literary Festival Short Story Competition is now accepting texts in Chinese, Portuguese and English. The stories should be delivered at the premises of the newspaper Ponto Final, at Travessa do Bispo, No. 1C, 6th Floor, Macau, up to 8pm of November 30, 2019; or by email to [shortstories.thescriptroad@gmail.com](mailto:shortstories.thescriptroad@gmail.com)



The competition will have similar rules to the ones applied in previous years. The winners (one for each language – Chinese, Portuguese and English) will be chosen by writers who visited The Script Road before, with a pre-selection being done by a jury composed by representatives of the festival's organization and other invited members.

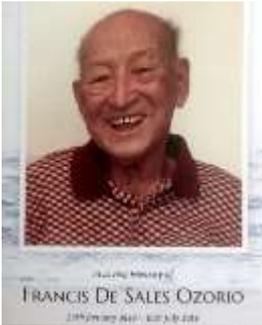
The Macau Literary Festival keeps the MOP 10.000 prize money for each of the winners and, as in previous editions, awarded texts will be published in a book – in three languages – alongside with the ones written by the authors who visited Macau during the latest edition of The Script Road. The rules for the competition are available at [www.thescriptroad.org](http://www.thescriptroad.org). The contest continues to be open to all participants who write in Chinese, Portuguese or English. All short stories must be somehow about Macau.

The next book of The Script Road Short Stories and Other Writings collection will be published and presented during Macau Literary Festival 9th edition, in March 2020.

### ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

The Script Road – Macau Literary Festival was founded in 2012 by Ponto Final newspaper. The festival is the first grand meeting of literates from China and Portuguese-Speaking Countries ever to be organized in the world. The Script Road also welcomes guests from other geographies and brings to city renowned writers, publishers, translators, journalists, musicians, filmmakers and visual artists. Macau Literary Festival is supported by the Cabinet of the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Macau Cultural Affairs Bureau, Macau Government Tourist Office and Macau Foundation, as well as for several private entities, with SJM – Sociedade de Jogos de Macau being one of its main sponsors.

# With Sympathy



From **Adrienne Carassellos**

**Francisco (Francis) De Sales Ozorio**, M.B.E, (born 30 January 1930)

Francis passed away at home in the loving presence of his family in Melbourne on 30 July, 2019 after an illness bravely borne. Much loved

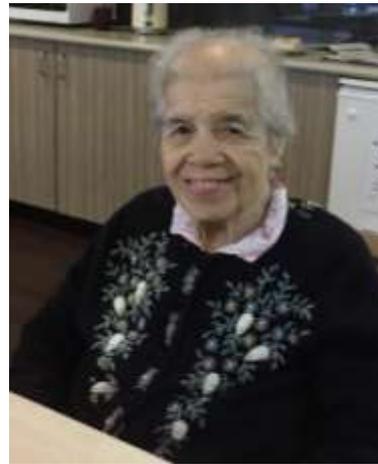
and deeply missed by his wife of 66 years **Estelle** (nee **D'Almada e Castro**), children **Michael**, **Adrienne**, **Jeremy** and **Colleen**, daughters in law **Vicki** and **Jeanne**, sons in law **Minas** and **Neil**, Grandchildren **Taryn**, **Jose**, **Melina**, **Jackie**, **Andreas**, **Leah**, **Rui**, **Jenna**, **Christieanna** and **Jeremy**, and Greatgrandchildren **Lily**, **Charlie**, **Rosie** and **Jamie**. Rest in peace, forever in our hearts.

Adrienne added that her Father had a long and rich life. He had many Macanese friends both in Australia and overseas and in Hong Kong, where he was born. He and my mother regularly attended and enjoyed Casa functions in Melbourne and Encontros in Macau, going back many years to its inception when **Bosco Correa** was the state representative This friendship continued when Adrienne replaced Bosco for nine years.



**Adelaide Maria Crestejo**

13 May 1927 to 12 August 2019



It is with much regret, that I would like to advise all the member of Casa De Macau of **Laide (Adelaide) Crestejo's** passing Monday, 12th August. As most of you know, Laide came to Sydney in 1963 with **Myra Ware (Noronha)** and was always considered part of the family. So much so, that in 2002, she joined us at the Noronha Family

Reunion in Las Vegas! She had a good heart and loved her mah-jong and pokies, and food!

Laide was rushed to hospital on Thursday 27th June with chronic heart failure. She spent two weeks in hospital and was transferred to respite care at The Palms Nursing Home, Kirrawee on Thursday 11th July. Although she did not like being there, she needed the 24/7 care. Unfortunately, her health continued to deteriorate and last Friday, 9th August, I was contacted again by the Doctor from Sutherland Hospital that her kidneys were starting to suffer and that I should arrange for anyone that would like to see her, to try and get there soon. She required regular medication. **Carl** and I stayed with her from Friday afternoon until Sunday evening when **Catherine** took over from Carl and we stayed up with her. Unfortunately, her time had come and God took her from us around 4 am, yesterday morning (Monday, 12 August, 2019). It is a huge loss to us all. Especially for **John Paul**, she cared for him from birth and, in the last few years, he cared for her.

Her funeral was held on Wednesday 21st August, 2019

Please keep Laide in your prayers.

**Susan Ware**

## FIREWORKS GALORE AS MACAO CELEBRATES 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY



Macao is preparing to celebrate its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China with a bang.

For the first time in the three-decade history of the annual Macao International Fireworks Display Contest, the highly charged competition will involve 12 nations, two more than in previous challenges.

The record-breaking contest, to be held over six nights from September 7 till October 5, 2019, will be the most comprehensive and spectacular series of fireworks displays staged in the former Portuguese enclave. The best vantage points will be along the waterfront near the iconic 338-metre high Macau Tower.

On top of this extravaganza, a special 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary fireworks night has been scheduled for December 20, the date of the handover in 1999, followed by the traditional New Year fireworks on December 31.

"Anyone who plans to visit Macao before the end of the year can expect some special moments during the year-long 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations," said Helen Wong, general manager of the Macao Government Tourism Office (Australia and New Zealand).

"In addition to the various fireworks, Macao will host a series of major festivals, some that will have you dancing in the streets," she said.

"Among those is the colourful International Parade along with the inaugural five-month long Art Macao festival which was launched in June and finishes on October 31.



"In line with Macao's designation as a UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy, the mouth-watering Macanese

cuisine will be highlighted at the many festivals,"

Major festivals to be held until the end of 2019 include:

- **Art Macao** (until Oct 31) – the largest array of art exhibitions, installations and performances in Macao, encompassing the resorts and galleries and theatres.
- **Wushu Masters Challenge** (Aug 1-4) – a four-day themed martial arts event that delves into Chinese culture, traditions and sporting heritage.
- **33<sup>rd</sup> Macao International Music Festival** (Oct 4 – Nov 3) – for all admirers of music.
- **19<sup>th</sup> Macao Food Festival** (Nov 8-24) – featuring a recreation of a Japanese village.
- **66<sup>th</sup> Macau Grand Prix** (Nov 14-17) – featuring a full program of racing on the challenging street circuit.
- **9<sup>th</sup> Macao Shopping Festival** (Dec) - with plenty of bargains to be had.
- **Macao Light Festival** (Dec 1-31) – the most colourful sound and light show in Macao.
- **Macao International Marathon** (Dec 1) – attracting athletes from around the world.
- **Macao International Parade** (Dec) – colourful street festival with plenty of song and dance.
- **4<sup>th</sup> International Film Festival and Awards: Macao** (Dec 5-10) – the largest and most glamorous in the red-carpet event's four-year history.



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