



President's Message

Hello Everyone

As I write this, my thoughts are on my feelings of pride, gratitude and honour of being your President for the past few years. It has been a wonderful experience and great joy to be part of such a great organization where friendship, comradeship and keeping our unique heritage and culture alive continues. To have been able to represent Casa Australia at the 2024 Encontro was a personal highlight for me as has been the experience of working with the Committee members, past and present, to ensure our association continues to be an opportunity for us to foster our get-togethers and see and mingle with our long time friends. So thank you all for your support and warm welcome every time we see each other as your President. As I step down from the Committee I am heartened by the current committee who have all garnered their support in continuing to serve our membership. Although I will no longer be on the Committee, I will remain the Editor of our newsletter and will also have the pleasure of assisting and arranging the various NSW& Qld functions.

AGM 2025

The Casa 2025 has been postponed to a date to be advised. Due to the lack of a Treasurer, the relevant Accounts and Statutory documentation have been delayed. Once the Auditors have finalised the paperwork, an AGM notice will be sent out.

The NSW Christmas gathering was again a huge success and we celebrated with our well loved Macanese influenced scrumptious buffet, our home grown band for entertainment, and of course, Santa for the children. Read more in the following pages.

We continue to work closely with the individual State Representatives and plans are already on the way for CNY 2026 – The Year of the Fire Horse.

As President, I look forward to hearing from our members and any suggestions or ideas you might have would be welcome.

We are lucky to have a very dedicated committee. My continued thanks to the Committee for their help, time and enthusiasm. Our Committee works well together and the knowledge and skill sets each member has complement each other and contribute to the success of our Casa. Our current Deputy Secretary, Kristy Wan, will step down at the 2025 AGM due to her increased work commitments. Kristy has been instrumental in streamlining some of our processes and our thanks and well wishes go with Kristy.

We continue with our efforts/ideas to encourage and impart our culture to the next generation and would welcome feedback and suggestions at any time. We are encouraged by the interest shown by some of our younger generation and their subsequent joining in Casa Membership.

Thank you all for the opportunity of being your President. I am sure the new Committee which will be elected at the AGM will serve us all well.

Viva Macaense

Rosanna Webb

Rosanna (da Silva) Webb
President



Photo of Committee after the 2024 AGM –
Left to right, Brian Rigby, Nina Deacon, Josefa Coelho,
Lizette Akouri, Antonieta Manolakis, Rosanna Webb,
Willamina Basto, Kristy Wan. Note: This photo is a montage
as two Committee members were absent when the photo was



Casa's Founding Members

All those many years ago after many meetings on kitchen tables at various members' houses, Casa de Macau Australia was officially formed. It might be of interested to newer members and to bring back to memory of long standing members, here is a list of the founding members.

FOUNDING MEMBERS LIST

The list of all the members who joined the Association in its first year of existence, terminating on the 14th October 1991, are to be know as the founding members of the Association, as follows:-

New South Wales

A. ANLON,	Angela Braga	AMERAS,	Daniel
ANLON,	Denis	ANTONIO,	Dr. Francis Ernest
AKOURI,	Lizette	ANTONIO,	Gabriel Manso
ALANSON,	Cecilia Maria	AMARANTE,	Leonardo Tavares
ALANSON,	Edward M.	AREVALO,	Robert & Josephina
ALONCO,	Alvaro A. & Therese	AREVALO,	Rosemarie
B. BASTO,	Antonio	BRAGA,	Dr. Antonio M.
BASTO,	Carlos Ricardo	BRAGA,	Antonio Jose
BASTO,	Olivia	BRAGA,	da Costa Carneiro
BASTO,	Richard	BRAGA,	Arnaldo Jose
BATALHA,	Luocel	BRAGA,	da Costa Carneiro
BATALHA,	Macina	BRAGA,	Cina
BATALHA,	Vera	BRAGA,	Maria
BAYOT,	Antonio	BRAGA,	Maria Teresa
BAYOT,	Lourdes	BRAGA,	da Costa Carneiro
BAYOT,	Fausto Maria Michael	BRAGA,	Michael
BAYOT,	Fausto & Cecilia	BRAGA,	Richard Brodie
BAYOT,	Peter Anthony & Julie	BRAGA,	Suzanne
BAYOT,	Michael & Gail	BRAGA,	Mary Theresa
BLAIR,	Alice M. da Silva	BROOKMAN,	
C. CALLAGHAN,	Maria Jose & James Patrick	COLLINS,	Bertha Pedroco
CARTER,	Laurette Frances	CONCEICAO,	Antonio
	Laitao	CONCEICAO,	Carlos
	Rosemarie Braga	CONCEICAO,	Jose
CHAP,	Christoforides, Adriana & John	CONCEICAO RIBEIRO,	Luis Manuel
COLLACO,	Ruelina	COORS,	Celeste & Darrell
COLLACO,	Graciette	CEUZ,	Beatriz
COLLACO,	Irene	CEUZ,	Luis
COLLACO-COX,	Sonia	CEUZ,	Francisco Jose
D. DA SILVA,	Jose	DE SOUSA,	Miguel Alberto
DA SILVA,	M.S.	DE SOUSA,	Elvira
DE ASSIS,	Aureliano	DOS,	Yvonne Pedroco
DE ASSIS,	Teresa da Costa	DOS,	Laura Sena
DE CARVALHO,	Maria Fernanda	DOS SANTOS,	Alfredo Maria
DE MOURA,	Maria Amalia	DOS SANTOS,	Joaquim Luis
F. FREDERICO,	Francisco F.	FERNANDES,	Rogério Tito dos Santos

A.C.T.

D'ASSUMPÇÃO,	Dr. Henrique	RIBEIRO,	Fernando Meneses & Maria Fernanda
BAIRES,	Quito & Nana	ROCHA,	Alvaro
GRILLS,	Margarida Maria	YVANOVICH,	Phillipe Antonio
	de Meneses Ribeiro	KELLS,	Tony
<u>Queensland</u>			
ANTONIO,	Elfrida Bertha	VIEIRA,	Fredarico Armando & Maria Luisa
DA SILVA STOTT,	Maria Amalia	VIEIRA,	Jose Luiz & Theresa Maria
DE SENNA FERNANDES,	Muno Jose Jr.	VIEIRA,	Thomas Artur Jose
FRANCO,	Blairina Bernadette	VIEIRA,	Maria Fatima
GARCIA,	Geraldine Mary Garsel	VIEIRA RIBEIRO,	Julio Carmo
GARCIA,	William Alexander & Eldora Filomena	WALKER,	Alberto Antonio & Matercia Maria
JURGE DA SILVA STOTT,	Jose Fernando & Fernanda Maria	XAVIER,	Antonio Maria
LAWRENCE,	Wilfred & Olga	XAVIER,	Leticia Maria & Hubert Joseph
NOGUEIRA-RICHARDS,	Elsa da Rosario	XAVIER,	Linda Maria
KIMMELIOS,	Arnaldo Jose	XAVIER,	Lucia Beatriz
RODRIGUES,	Alda Maria	XAVIER,	Ricardo Maria
SOARES BATALHA DA SILVA,	Joseph Julie & Mary Margaret	XAVIER GORDON,	Michelle Maria & James Iain
SOARES,	Roland Moreno & Mary Susan	GORDON,	

South Australia

ALVES,	Denis Jose	DA SILVA,	Alberto Alexandre
ALVES,	Jose Luis	DE FIGUEIREDO,	Balena Maria
ALVES,	Laura Maria	DE FIGUEIREDO,	Marie Celeste
DANENBERG,	Carolina	DUNHAM,	Roy E. & Patricia J.
DANENBERG,	Jude Bernard	DUNHAM,	Antonio Paulo
DANENBERG,	Nicholas John	GUTIERRES,	Pedro Antonio
DANENBERG,	Dr. Paul Joseph	GUTIERRES,	Carmen Maria
D'ASSUMPÇÃO,	Alaira Ernestina	YVANOVICH,	
D'ASSUMPÇÃO,	Bernardino		
D'ASSUMPÇÃO,	Dr. Marcus E.		

Tasmania

ESTORNINO,	Jorge Alberto
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Victoria

COEIRA,	Anthony Francis	COEIRA,	Michael Francis
COEIRA,	Francisco Leonardo & Vivienne	COEIRA,	Peter Francis
COEIRA,	Joao Bosco & Marilyn J. NORONHA,	COEIRO,	Francis De Sales
		FRANCISCO ANTONIO,	

Overseas Members

ALMEIDA,	Gilberto	Nacas	ESSENT,	Sophie	Gern.
CARVAL,	Alfredo	Port.	LOWCOCK,	Aida	HKG
DA SILVA,	Celeste	Brazil	GOMES,	Matercia	
				Brasco	USA
DA SILVA HING.	Fatima	Nacas	ROZARIO,	Jose J.D.	Macau

Thank you to Lizette Akouri for contributing the lists for this article.

Apologies for the small print of the names but I am sure you will know who they all are. Rosanna (Editor)

Milestones



Robert Olaes 88th Birthday



The very special occasion was celebrated on Robert's actual birthday on Saturday 26th July 2025 when he turned 88 years of age. All our dear families and a good number of friends came together to spend five very memorable hours in the Mahogany function room at St George Leagues Club, where Spotify music is available. However, the very talented beautiful Bugo family wanted to sing some special songs for Roberto and they provided some fantastic music for all to enjoy and dance to. Many thanks to Joey, Belinda and Aaron.



Our granddaughter Audry gave a beautiful speech honoring Grandpa and recalling loving memories and wonderful times. Our sons Tony

and Matt also recalled very loving and great memories.

As his loving wife since September 1967, I sure have lots of stories to share about this very special man, Robert Olaes. When I was 17 I met Robert at HSBC and we got to know each other and where Robert's gentle persistence and persuasion to win my hand in marriage, especially with the promise he will always be a very loving and caring husband and father won me over. I can't wait to share that he more than kept those promises. After a long banking career both in Hong Kong and Australia, Robert retired and did what he always wanted to do – teach Tai Chi.

In the last few years we have enjoyed a number of activities at the Little Bay Coast Centre with exercises and tap dancing and more recently choir.

Health challenges caught up however Robert's forever Positive Attitude stayed with him.

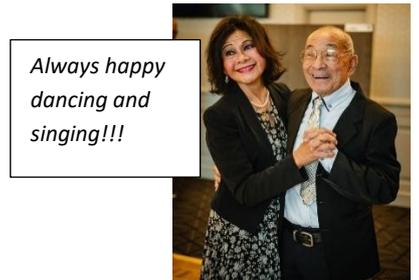
How could I not be bursting with pride, love and admiration for this wonderful man I am blessed with. Happy 88th Birthday Robert and many Happy Returns of the Day

Article and supplied by Antonia Olaes



Visit from old friends

A week or so after our birthday celebrations, Robert had a visit from the daughter of Francis Sousa (deceased) and her husband and three children. It was very emotional to see Francis and Gerda's daughter after so many years. They live in Germany and it was their first trip to HK/Macau and now Australia.



Always happy dancing and singing!!!





90th BIRTHDAY Antonio dos Santos

Article submitted by
Pat Santos and Yvonne Herrero

Celebrating 90 Years Young



On the 20th December 2025, Antonio Manuel Dos Santos (Tony, Toto) celebrated his 90th birthday (actual birth date is 24th December) over lunch with his family, close friends and ex work colleagues from HK and Sydney. An opportunity to also wish Teresa de Assis, as her birthday was on the 16th December. Good food and company mixed with nostalgia will be remembered by all who attended this very special occasion. Saude !



Happy Birthday Teresa de Assis



A double 'parabens' to our long time Casa de Macau members for reaching this milestone.



Happy 100th Birthday Luisa Harris



We are excited that our most senior member Luisa "Dolores" Harris (née Carvalho) just celebrated her 100th birthday on 10th January 2026. Feliz aniversário e muita saúde Dolores!

Michele Tonnochy
State Representative WA

Happy 100th Birthday Luisa Harris



WEDDINGS



NEWS UPDATE



Pete's documentary has been released and I thought you and the community might be interested to watch it. They've done an incredible job. Feel free to share the link below. Some of the Casa Australia members may spot themselves in there! now released and is available on the link above

Tim McLeave, Pete's Brother

CELEBRATION YEAR OF THE FIRE HORSE

The various State Representatives will be arranging their CNY celebrations and you will hear about them shortly.

News from Macao



450th Anniversary of the Diocese of Macau

On 23 January 1576 Pope Gregory XII established the Diocese of Macau and the Catholic faith spread to the other parts of Asia. The influence of Catholicism continues in Macau and regular church services, annual processions take place. Many historic churches can be found in Macau and the most famous church is the ruins of St Paul.

The Diocese of Macau has been organising a number of events to celebrate and these can be found on the Diocese's website and Facebook page.

Lunar New Year 2026 (17 to 21 February 2026 in Macau



The Lunar New Year 2026 will be particularly notable as it will be a 9 day celebration with the extended holiday sure to boost travel and allowing people to spend more time with their families. If the celebrations last year is any indication, Macau can expect to see activities such as the golden dragon parade, firework festivals, a float parade and a Chinese New Year market.

CNY NSW 2026 CELEBRATION YEAR OF THE FIRE HORSE 8 MARCH 2026



The CNY NSW 2026 celebrations will be on Sunday 8 March 2026 at the Crown Dragon, St George Leagues Club.



Aaron Bugo one of the band members has sent this in for members to participate. Please, if you can, respond by clicking on the link.

Aaron says: Something I've had in mind for a while was always to get the community more involved in what we do as a band. While we love seeing everyone dancing, it'd be great to get them to voice their opinion on songs. Being Chinese New Year, we were hoping to practice a few popular hits. However, I'd like to see what songs the community wants us to try and play - this could be a total surprise in terms of what songs we end up choosing. Would you be able to include a google forms link in the newsletter?

Here is the link I created:

<https://forms.gle/YNdPMu6EBExvqZMfA>

This might be a good way to get more involvement from the community as well as another way to have fun there too, making it hopefully more memorable and exciting for all involved! Again, please excuse my forwardness but I just had to ask as I'd love to build the Portuguese community and strengthen what connections we have with the people

Aaron Bugo

*Members please participate
and let us know your
favourite songs*



Casa de Macau Inc.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President: Rosanna Webb

Vice President: Antonieta Manolakis

Treasurer: Vacant

Secretary: Josefa Coelho

Deputy Secretary: Kristina Wan

Committee:

Leonor Deacon

Lizette Akouri

Willamina Basto

Brian Rigby

Interstate Representatives

ACT – Luiz Ribeiro

QLD – Rosanna Webb

SA – Anne Maher

TAS – Robert Estorninho

VIC – Eddie Raphael

WA – Michele Tonnochy

Newsletter – Rosanna Webb

Website – Maria Dos Santos-Lee

Casa Membership Renewals

Please attend to the Casa Membership Renewals in a timely manner.

A new Renewal Form has been designed to conform with the Auditors' requirements. Instructions and the renewal forms are in the process being sent out..



Bursaries 2026

Please note:

Those on bursaries who are continuing with their studies need to re-apply yearly and results of the previous year's studies to be submitted to the Committee. Please submit all your bursary enquiries to Willamina Basto, secretary@casademacau.org.au



Casa de Macau

Bursary

Are you attending University or TAFE to study' full time during 2026?

If you are a voting member (member of Macanese descent) and have been a member for the previous 2 years you can apply for a bursary from the Casa

For more information and an application form contact

Willamina Basto

Email:

secretary@casademacau.org.au

Applications close 1st April 2026.

IMPORTANT NEWS

IMPORTANT

Please note new email addresses for communications with Casa de Macau. secretary@casademacau.org.au OR newsletter@casademacau.org.au OR info@casademacau.org.au

PLEASE NOTE

Casa de Macau 's new Postal address:
PO Box 940, Ryde NSW 1680

AGM 2025

The 2025 AGM has been deferred to a date to be advised. Notices will be sent out in due course.



Festa de São João 2025

How we celebrated in Canberra/A.C.T.



Casa de Macau’s Canberra members celebrated Dia do Sao Joao on 20 June with a banquet at the renowned Ottoman Turkish Restaurant. And what a delicious banquet it was. Just when a number of members (not me though) were saying “I’m full”, out came one more delicious dish. And 10 minutes later, another. We had such a pleasant time, with conversation, food, lucky door prizes etc. I only remembered to take a photo at the end, after two members, Marie Ratterree and Ron Hickman, had left, and as you can see, the photo wouldn’t win any awards. Maybe I’ll be able to do better next time. Thank you again Casa Australia, and have a great rest of 2025.

Article and photo supplied by Luiz Ribeiro State Representative A.C.T.

Celebrations in South Australia

South Australian Dia de São João Dinner – 6 July 2025

This year’s São João dinner was a smaller gathering with 20 members, but the atmosphere more than made up for it. We met at Plus 82 GoGi in Goodwood, a South Australian draw for Korean barbecue.

Service was excellent, but it was the cook-your-own setup that made the night. Plates of pork belly, marinated beef, spicy pork, enoki mushrooms, and other fresh vegetables hit the tables alongside share dishes like shake shake rice (you had to be there), black bean noodles, spicy noodle salad, and more. You had to keep an eye on the grill, or risk someone else claiming your meat first!



We even managed to fit in a happy birthday for Carmen O’Brien, complete with a round of song and a Korean beer to mark the occasion.

It was a relaxed, lively evening with plenty of laughs and good conversation. Thanks to everyone who came along. Photos from the night are below.



Anne Maher SA State Representative

It’s always great to get news from our other States, particularly to see our members getting together and enjoying themselves.

Thank you Anne for sending in this article. Rosanna, Editor



Festa de São João 2024

How we celebrated in Victoria

*Vic report by Eddie Raphael
State Representative Victoria*

A small group of members recently gathered at Casa de Macau to celebrate belated Sao Juan's day with a festive lunch. The afternoon was filled with lively conversation, laughter, and the coming together to enjoy Yum Cha.



Everyone enjoyed a delicious feast of the usual Yumcha delicacies from Golden Leaf in Burwood. As part of the occasion, the raffle draw brought plenty of excitement, capably run by young Ryan, who once again did a sterling job. During the draw, Rei & Edlea were both lucky winners but gracefully declined one of the prizes, reflecting the generous spirit of our members, a further draw and prizes were distributed fairly evenly amongst tables & guests.

Adding to the afternoon, Mines & Adrienne shared highlights and photos from their recent trip to Africa. Their stunning photos of wildlife and breathtaking scenery were captivating, bringing a touch of wonder and adventure to our conversations. Definitely added to my bucket list.

We are also pleased to say we have 3 new applications for membership being my brother & sister in law, Ken & Michelle DeZwart and my

cousin, Bosco Collaco, brother to Rei & Alison. We welcome them and hope to see them at the next function.



The event was a memorable blend of food, friendship, tradition, and shared experiences – leaving us all looking forward to the next occasion together. Hoping to make it in November, early before the Christmas shenanigans.

Queensland Casa De Macau Dia Sao Joao 2025

Greetings everyone, we hope this finds you all well.

On Sunday 15 June 2025 39 members, made up of 35 adults and 4 children, shared a delightful 3 course meal at Gaythorne RSL, a new venue for us.

We had a function room for our own use and two dedicated staff who attended to our needs and served the meal. This was alternate drop for the adults and a menu the children could choose from. The function began with our MC Joe Vieira going through various items of interest. The drawing of the door prize was deferred for a couple of members who had not yet arrived. In the end both prizes were won by the Vieira family.



L – R: Darrell, Oz, Jack and Geoff



L – R: Steven, Oriana, Elizabeth, Alicia, Joe, Michael and Chris Vieira



L – R: Luisa, Cheryl, Lydia and Mia



L – R: Alexis, Harley, Trish, Brendan, Peter, Vivienne, Leo



L – R: Wayne, Rogerio, Georgianna, Hong, Emily, Rhianna, Isabella



L – R: Cristey, Angie, Mark, Keith, Deborah, Joe, Shirley



L – R: Joe Vieira, Rosie Soares Godwin, Vivienne Correa, Keith Seyer.

Amongst the exciting things on the day were a new found distant cousin or two, and a reconnection from an immigration journey. The Correa family, who came from the Gold Coast, have an ancestral connection to the Soares family. Hence the three Correa folk met many of the 13 at the Soares table. What a great joy!

As well, Keith Seyer recognised that Vivienne and family were on the same ship coming to Australia as his family were! Peter and Leo were not part of the picture then, but the matriarch has a good memory and appreciated the reconnection. Pretty unbelievable and all contributing to a great day.

*Rosie Godwin,
Qld State Representative*



Festa de São João 2024

How we celebrated in Western Australia



The Perth Casa had a lovely time celebrating Dia de São João this June. We enjoyed a bottomless feast of Brazilian Churrasco at Lapa Brazilian BBQ, sitting together on a long table with our group of 25. The wait staff brought us various cuts of grilled meat cooked on skewers, served straight onto our plates! We also tucked into an array of yummy sides which included Feijoada (black bean stew), tomato salad, grilled veggies, pasta, Brazilian cheese puffs, banana fritter, French fries and rice.



Our table was decorated with motifs of São João on mason jars filled with fairy lights and flowers. There were also flash cards explaining the traditions of São João (St John the Baptist) and how it came about to become one of the



most revered festivals celebrated in Portugal. Our Casa WA members got into the spirit of things with their martelo de São João (St John hammers) wishing each other good luck with a little tap of a mini plastic hammer that doubles up as a pen. The lucky draw was also a blast with prizes that ranged from scarves, beanies, an instant noodle bowl amongst a host of other novel gifts.



Group photo:



(Left from front): Romeo Dimanlig, Helen Dimanlig, Conrado Dimanlig, Julie Dimalig, Heather Lee, Ching Tat Lee, André Lee, Bethany Lee, Eric Wojcik, Alexandra Tassone, Chris Harris, Judy Harris, Raquel Tassone.

(Right from front): Patrick Tonnochy, Marissa Tonnochy, Priscilla Prince, Elayna Prince, Andrew Prince, Oscar Prince, Ray Whittle, Ethan Tonnochy-Whittle, Zachary Tonnochy-Whittle, Michele Tonnochy, Leonardo Tassone, Antonio Tassone.

Thanks and look forward to seeing the next newsletter!

Cheers,
Michele

Bursaries 2026

Please note:

Those on bursaries who are continuing with their studies need to re-apply yearly and results of the previous year's studies to be submitted to the Committee.

Please submit all your bursary enquiries and results to Willamina Basto, secretary@casademacau.org.au

For new bursary applications the deadline is 1 April 2026.

Sunday Lunches at the Clubhouse –

21 September 2025

Lo Pak Koh, Minchi, Curry and Batada



Some very lucky members including Volunteer Cooks, Brendan, Willamina and Luci Basto, thoroughly enjoyed a wonderful gathering with lots of good conversations and delicious Mekanese food and dessert. As always those who attended had a fabulous time and thoroughly enjoyed the scrumptious food. Thank you to the Bastos for keeping up the tradition and spoiling us.



Rosanna

26 October 2025 Pot Luck

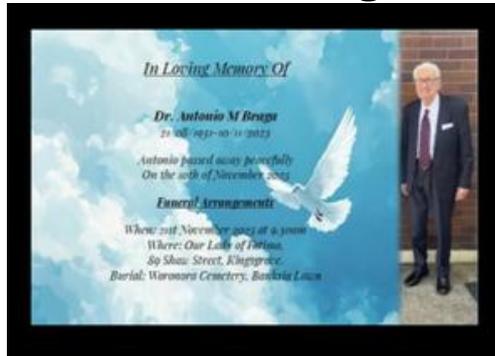
Again – what wonderful food we all shared on this great Sunday lunch event.

20 of us all got together at the MCC and those who cooked or brought food to share all did a fantastic job in presenting a fabulous feast for us all to enjoy!!!

- Potato Chow Mein – *Connie Reis*
- Chow Mein dish & a Soya chicken wing dish & Mango Pudding– *Maria Stening*
- Dessert - *Yvone Doong*
- Curry beef or chicken – *MaureenWan*
- Capella – *Antonieta Manolakis*
- Gummy Gummy *Brenda Chavez*
- Vaca Estufada* *Maria & Alvaro Xavier*
- Char Siu* *Paula McFadyn*
- Fresh Chinese Veges*



Dr Antonio Braga



Requiescat in Pace Antonio

Sadly our dear friend Dr. Antonio Braga (Chico), has passed on 10 November 2025. Chico was Casa de Macao Australia's 2nd President and many will have fond memories of Chico.

Vincent Lawrence

Vincent Lawrence, son of Wilfred and Olga, passed away on the 26th of June, 2025.

My mother Deidre, brother Adam, his granddaughter Azalea and I are all very heartbroken.

Message from daughter Ashley

Vincent was a member of Casa and many members would have met Vincent and Deidre at some of the Casa functions some years ago.

The Lawrence family were well known in HK & as early Macanese settlers in Sydney in the early 60s.

Vincent's Parents Wilfred & Olga had 2 sons, Wilfred Jnr (Wally) & Vincent.

The Lawrences are also very well known to Casa members.

Our sincere Condolences go to Deidre, Ashley, Adam and Azalea. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Rest in Peace Vincent

Connie Gavan's Passing

We are deeply saddened to share the news of the passing of Connie Gavan, a beloved member of the Casa De Macao Club. Connie was a remarkable woman whose warmth and kindness touched everyone she met. Her presence in our community was a blessing, and her loss leaves a profound void in our hearts. We extend our heartfelt condolences to her family and all who knew her.

Connie was loved dearly by many, especially her devoted husband Ray of 65 years, and her four wonderful sons, Jamie, Anthony, Daniel, and Rick as well as her nine grandchildren. As we reflect on her life, it's clear that words alone cannot fully capture the essence of who she was.

Connie passed of cancer related illness but even in her final days, she fought with incredible strength, giving her family a precious extra week together to share their goodbyes and express their love.

As we honour Connie's memory, we also acknowledge the unwavering devotion of her husband Ray, whose care and love over the past eight years have been nothing short of extraordinary. His dedication through challenging times is a testament to the depth of their bond. Ray continues to be a member of Casa de Macao, so please share your support and love to him.

Connie's greatest legacy, above all, is her gift of love—an enduring love she shared with her family, her friends and a love that she has passed on for generations to come. Her remarkable life reminds us all of the importance of love, family, and the impact we leave behind.

Rest in Peace Connie

Article supplied by Daniel Gavan, Connie and Ray's son.



Vicente Manuel Chavez

19 August 1949 –
21 December 2025



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Vicente Manuel Chavez on 21 December 2025, at the age of 76. Vicente is survived by his wife, Brenda and his children Christopher and Jaclyn, his son in law, Robert Arnold and beloved grandson, Ryan. Vicente was the first born son of Alberto and Laura Morais Chavez (deceased) and he has 4 siblings - Julieta, Rodolfo, Cristina and Americo (deceased).

Vicente was born in Hong Kong, where he built the foundations of his working life. He was known for his strong work ethic and versatility, beginning his career as a tourist guide before working as a clerk for an American company. His aptitude for learning and problem-solving later led him to secure a position as a Programmer with HKTVB, a role that reflected his intelligence, adaptability, and determination to continually better himself.

In 1974, Vicente made the courageous decision to migrate to Sydney, Australia under the Fiancé Sponsorship program to begin a new chapter in life. On 28 December 1974, he married the love of his life, Brenda, at St Catherine Labouré Church in Gympie. Their marriage was one of deep commitment, resilience, and devotion, spanning five decades of shared memories, challenges, and joy. Vicente and Brenda celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in 2024, a remarkable milestone that reflected the strength of their bond. He would have celebrated his 51st wedding anniversary had God not called him home.

The Service celebrating Vicente's life was held at the Guardian Funeral Chapel and was attended by more than 120 family members and friends, a testament to how deeply he was loved and respected by all who knew him. Those gathered came to honour not only his life, but the many relationships he nurtured over the years — as a devoted husband, a loving father and grandfather, a loyal friend, and a kind presence in the lives of so many. The service and later the Wake were filled with warmth, heartfelt tributes, shared memories, and moments of quiet reflection, capturing the essence of Vicente's character and the legacy he leaves behind. It provided comfort to his family to see such a strong community come together in remembrance, offering support, prayers, and love during this time of loss. Though he is no longer with us in person, his memory lives on in the hearts of all who knew and loved him. He is now in eternal peace.

Article supplied by the Chavez family

Rest in Peace Vicente



QUITTO BARROS
6 June 2025



Our long standing member Quito Barros migrated from Hong Kong to Canada, then in 1977 landed in Sydney. Then a five year stint in Canberra and back to Hong Kong. More recently Quito and Nana lived in Brisbane and shared their time with Brisbane and Sai Kung in Hong Kong..

Many of you will know Quito and have memories of times with Quito.

Quito was married in 1963 to his childhood sweetheart Nana (nee Carvalho). They had one son Rick and one grandchild.

Rest in Peace Quito



**Patrick Joseph
Tonnochy**

(14/01/1941 - 19/11/2025)



Dearly loved by all his family near and far, Patrick was a man that was full of life, he loved to tell stories and crack naughty jokes.

Patrick lived a colourful life, born in Hong Kong in 1941 during WW2 to a Scottish Portuguese father and Spanish Filipina mother. His family fled to Macau briefly as refugees before returning to Hong Kong.

He had an established career with HSBC in Hong Kong for over 27 years facilitating international trade deals as a Bank Officer before migrating to Australia in 1987.

He was the convenor of the Men's lawn bowl team at Club de Recreio and led the team to victory in the early 80s.

He was also a regular at Club Lusitano.

He got to visit many places around the world and celebrated many milestones with his wife Marissa and daughters Michele & Priscilla.

The family cherishes the many fond memories they shared with him as they hold him close to their hearts....

Rest in Peace Patrick

Article from Michele Tonnochy

CAROL XAVIER



Sadly our dear friend and long standing Queensland Casa member, Carol Xavier, passed on 17 October 2025.

Carol was married to Manual Xavier (deceased) and was the mother of Miguel and Monique. Carol was a familiar face at our Casa gatherings as she, together with Miguel and her grandchildren as well as her great grandchild, Joseph, attended many of our functions.

The celebration of Carol's life continued after the service with light refreshments.

Carol loved all her friends and made special arrangements for her wake.

Information supplied by Carol's family.

Carol was a fun loving lady who I had the pleasure of spending some time with in Macau during an Encontro and we spent many hours doing one of Carol's favourite things – Shop Shop Shop!!! Carol also had a great social life with her friends in Brisbane.

Rosanna, President Casa de Macau Australia



Obituaries are supplied by family. Where no obituary is supplied we can only print the information we have on hand.

Rosanna, Editor



Visit our new Casa de Macau website:

casademacau.org.au

AUSTRALIAN CASA NEWS

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 secretary@casademacau.org.au

Do not send articles to the newsletter email address – that address is only for distribution of emails.

Next newsletter is March 2026.
Deadline for articles is

10 March, 2026

Macau Cultural Centre

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*A very big thank you to everyone who contributed to this edition of Casa News .
This is your newsletter and we want to hear from you.*

Important Information about Membership

If your details have changed:

- *Change of address*
- *Change of phone number/s*
- *Change of email address*

*Or if you can receive your newsletter by email please let the secretary know on Email:
secretary@casademacau.org.au*



Macanese Geneology Site

In 2000 Prof. Henrique d'Assumpção from Adelaide in South Australia began an English language database of Macanese families, with names, births, marriages, deaths, based mainly on Dr Forjaz's books but supplemented by contributions from over 700 people around the world. Prof. d'Assumpção has created and maintains an archive of Macanese genealogy, culture and history that is accessible via his restricted website:

<http://macaneseamilies.com/>

This is a wonderful gift to the community and is much appreciated.

Voting members, who have not already done so, are encouraged to register and visit this restricted website which has more than 65,000 names, many interesting facts and stories of our community, gathered from contributors around the world, as well as recipes and audio recording of our unique Patuá language. We are sure you will find the experience enjoyable and even educational.