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# Club Garibaldi News

**Luglio - Agosto / July - August 2020**

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**Club Garibaldi**  
**118 Tory Street, Te Aro, Wellington 6011**  
[clubgaribaldi1882@gmail.com](mailto:clubgaribaldi1882@gmail.com)

## Note from the President

Benvenuti a tutti.

In July we hosted our "*Sunday isn't Sunday without Pasta*" lunch. Approximately seventy members and friends turned up on the lovely sunny Sunday afternoon and sat down to a delicious lunch cooked by Alf. We started off with cheese, crackers and gherkins, followed by pasta bolognese and salad; tiramisu for dessert and topped the meal off with tea, coffee and sweets. We got great comments on the lunch and the atmosphere was really relaxed and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. It was a nice catch up, especially after all the lockdowns and isolations over the past few months.

The lunch also acted as a fundraiser to help get our Football team down to Nelson later this year, and to that end we would like to thank those businesses who donated raffle prizes:

- Krissy Volpicelli-Muollo (Kristina Raffaele Hairdressers, Waring Taylor Street)
- Antonio & Luisa Cacace (La Bella Italia, Nevis Street, Petone)
- Pat Vinaccia (Empire Cinema and Eatery, The Parade, Island Bay) and
- Joe & Gino Cuccurullo (Mediterranean Food Trattoria, Constable St, Newtown). Mediterranean Foods also celebrated 30 years in business earlier on in the year. Congratulations Joe and Gino.



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Please support these businesses where possible, and once again, thanks to them all.

I would like to take this opportunity to also thank Alfonso for preparing the great meal; Jim and Lynda Marson; Jo and Dean Beavis and Josephine and Martin Van der Donk who worked so hard behind the scenes setting up the Clubrooms and cleaning up on the day. Also a big thanks go out to Charlotte and Sophia Basile and Gabriella & Julianna Quinn who served the lunch on the day and took care of selling raffle tickets. Thanks to Paul Muollo who drew the raffle tickets, and of course we cannot forget our two little princesses, Sophia Petagna and Chiara Cangiano who called out the numbers, and had a great time doing so. But most of all, thanks to all those members and friends who came along and supported this event.

The annual subs are due for renewal. If you haven't done so yet, please pay direct into our bank account and in the reference box place your name. Thanks. Please note – you don't need to fill out an application form unless you are a brand new club member.

That's it from me

Ciao for now –

*Linda*

## **Aldo Cuccurullo Memorial Trophy Football Game Labour Weekend 24-26 October in Nelson (25th Anniversary Game)**

As we have advertised throughout the year, 2020 marks the 25th Anniversary football game against Club Italia and Club Garibaldi as they vie for the Aldo Cuccurullo Memorial Trophy.

This is a significant milestone for both clubs and communities and something well-worth celebrating. To mark the occasion Nelson are putting on a 2 day event, and we are inviting all past and present players and of course our Members to come to Nelson and help celebrate this great milestone.

The weekend will commence on Saturday 24th October with the Football game between both clubs, and afterwards everyone is invited to Club Italia for a get-together and casual pizza evening. These are always fantastic events and there are rumours this year of a pizza making competition between the best pizza cooks in each club!

On Sunday 25th October the plan is for a formal evening meal and celebration at Club Italia, with dignitaries and special guests.

Club Italia will arrange for a 4-course meal and presentations and a chance for all to reminisce and share memories and catch up with old friends.

There will be no charge for pizza on Saturday night.

The Sunday meal will be subsidised by both clubs. The price is \$35.00 pp and this includes a 4-course dinner with some table wine. \$20.00 pp for students, and children 6 years and under Free.

If you haven't already done so, please RSVP - if you wish to attend the Sunday Evening Dinner to e: clubgaribaldi1882@gmail.com before 30th September 2020.

We would appreciate it if you could also make your payment for the dinner into the following bank account:

- ANZ Bank – Club Garibaldi Soccer Fund Account: A/c No: 06-0513-0005579-02 stating your name in the reference field. Thanks.



## Help – We require a Secretary!!

Sadly our Secretary Caterina Costa has resigned her position. Caterina has been an integral part of the Executive Committee for over 20 years and has done a fabulous job in keeping the day-to-day admin of the Club up to date. Thanks, Caterina, for all your great efforts – we really will miss you on the Committee.

We are now asking if anyone would like to step up to the challenge and volunteer their services on the Executive Committee as Secretary. Without a Secretary we will find it hard to send out emails/newsletters to our members. So please think about it, and register your interest to us via the club email [clubgaribaldi1882@gmail.com](mailto:clubgaribaldi1882@gmail.com)

Caterina has indicated her willingness to assist her replacement in their new role.

## Congratulations – Melhop Award Winners

The Melhop Award is an educational trust administered by the club to financially assist students of Italian descent. We congratulate this year's joint winners, Raffaele Volpicelli-Muollo, son of Antony Volpicelli and Kristina Muollo and Catlianna Sarti-Evans, daughter of Chris Evans and Dr. Antonella Sarti-Evans, and wish them well in their future careers.

## Happy Birthday to Joe Di Leva

We wish to offer belated 70th Birthday wishes to Joe Di Leva of Island Bay. Joe celebrated his birthday while we were in Lockdown during May this year. Maria put on a lovely dinner and all his family attended.

Happy Birthday Joe – all the best for the new decade!



## Condolences

The Club wishes to extend condolences to the family of Giovanni Strati. For those of you who knew Giovanni (Johnny), you will know he was a huge part of this Club in the days of Wakefield Street.

Below is a "Eulogy" written by Paul Elenio on the man himself. Johnny died in Brisbane earlier this month. RIP.

Club Garibaldi has a long history of colourful and interesting characters to lead it over its 138 years of existence. One of those was Giovanni Strati, president of the club from 1974-80, who died recently in Brisbane where he had been living for the last 35 or more years. He is survived by his wife, Lola, who he met in Wellington. Giovanni, known to many members affectionately as Il Calabrese to reflect the region of Italy he was from, was a bespoke tailor who had a business doing repairs and alterations in Cuba Street.

As you might expect from someone with his occupation he was always elegantly attired. He was also a mad keen punter and it seemed that he always had the racing betting bible, the Turf Digest, hanging out of his back pocket. He also owned shares in a trotter but no one remembers it being a champion. He also loved to play cards at Club Garibaldi and at times it was serious business. One particular poker night saw him so confident of the hand that he held that he put the keys of his car into the pot – and went home without it.

In the 1970s the club's home was an old three storey building in Wakefield Street. Giovanni would be one of the amateur cooks who would throw together an evening meal of pasta for all those willing to pay the \$2 charge. There was Italian cheese and salami also served and this could be washed down with imported Italian red wine at a time when there were still strong restrictions on imports. The poker playing and alcohol got the club into some trouble not long before we celebrated the club's centenary in 1982.

Over the years the club had "invested" in stocks of alcohol rather than show a profit (with the fear it might be taxed!) and so had quite a collection of spirits and liqueurs. One night the poker playing went into the early hours of the morning and a disgruntled spouse of one of the card players complained to the police who came for a visit.

They confiscated the stock of alcohol (estimated worth \$14,000-\$16,000) and the club had to front up to the Magistrate's Court and defend itself against a charge of breaching the liquor licensing laws. Giovanni was very nervous about all this but fortunately he was not called to give evidence. The lawyer that Rex Da Vanzo employed to help the club pleaded the case, one of the arguments being that the club was building up its stock for the forthcoming centenary celebrations in August 1982.

A few months earlier a raid at the Polish club had resulted in a successful prosecution. Good fortune was fortunately on Garibaldi Club's side because while it was convicted and discharged the alcohol was returned to the club.

The club then was run on the smell of an oily rag and would have struggled to pay any significant fine. Over the years Giovanni lived briefly in Island Bay and also Berhampore and Hataitai. Lola, who originated from Brisbane, was his companion for many years before one day they quietly got married in a registry office, ending his long status as a bachelor.

Not long after Giovanni and Lola emigrated to Brisbane where they owned several businesses including a fish and chip shop. He retained his love of a bet on the horses.

Giovanni was 89 when he died, leaving behind Lola and memories for older Club Garibaldi members. *(with thanks to Rex Da Vanzo, Fifi and Lucy Esposito).*

## Club's Car Parks

The only car parks available for financial members are in the Vivian St Car Park numbered I to 13 only, after 6.00pm Monday to Friday, and all day Saturday & Sunday. The other car parks on the Vivian and Tory St footpaths are leased to private clients at all times for 24 hours. The car parks are now monitored by the individual car park users, therefore, if you are illegally parked, your car will be towed away at your expense.

The Club takes no responsibility.

A current window sticker (2019-2020) must be attached visibly in the rear window of your vehicle.



## Annual Subscription Fees for 2020/21 are now due

This is a reminder if you haven't already done so – please pay your membership fees direct into the Club bank account – write your name in the reference field. Thank you.

## New Members

Welcome to the following new members who have joined over the past couple of months:

- Gino and Lisa Di Leva from Johnsonville
- Diego Bonelli from Crofton Downs

## Dates for your Diary



24-26 October  
(Labour weekend)

Aldo Cuccurullo Memorial Trophy - Nelson