



Club Garibaldi News

SEPTEMBER 2007

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

August was rather a quiet month for our club, which gave members and organisers a well deserved rest in anticipation for the busy times to follow. The shared lunch was, as always, a treat for those who love a variety of home made cooking.

The AGM was well attended, and I felt proud to disclose the results of another successful year. To achieve such results, the club depends upon the help of so many of it's members, who give their time and expertise freely. The club would not survive without this help.

I am happy to welcome two new members to the executive committee. Alfonso Basile is the new Vice President and Jim Mason, an executive committee member. My sincere thanks go to Antonio Cacace, the club's former Vice President, for his invaluable help over the last 2 years, especially leading up to, and during our annual Festa Italia. Antonio has agreed to continue his support to the club and Festa 2008. Thank you also to Lisa Devitt, who after 6 years on the executive committee, is taking a well deserved break. Lisa will still help on the social committee and continue to be involved with the club's soccer team and the children's Christmas party.

This month we will celebrate the club's 125th anniversary; an amazing and historical event - 1882-2007. All tickets have been sold to a celebration dinner to be held at our clubrooms, and we look forward to a great night on the 22nd. Outside of Italy, Club Garibaldi is the oldest, active Italian club in the world!

Early next month, Robin and I will travel to Washington DC, in response to an invitation from the Chairman of the National Italian American Foundation, to attend their 32nd Gala weekend conference. We are very excited, and honoured to be representing both our club and the Italians of New Zealand. Check out the NIAF website at: www.niaf.org

Ciao a presto
Ginette Toscano Page

ANNUAL SOCCER GAME: CLUB GARIBALDI vs CLUB ITALIA NELSON

This year the soccer game between Club Garibaldi and Club Italia Nelson will be played in Nelson on Saturday, 20 October 2007. Anybody who is interested in going as a supporter needs to book early so as not to miss out ~ remember that it is Labour weekend. We are hoping a lot of club members will travel to Nelson, to support the club's team at the game. The weekend away is a lot of fun, and is an opportunity to socialise and build friendships as it is to play football.

NATIONAL CONFEDERATION INSTITUTE OF ASSISTANCE

Dear Italian Pensioners: INCA can help you!!!

INCA (National Confederation Institute of Assistance) is an Italian organisation that helps Italian pensioners in many different ways, in Italy and overseas. If you receive a pension from Italy and you need assistance in order to fill forms or with administration, INCA can help you, for free. For example, every year people receiving a pension from Italy need to complete and return a form called RED.

INSITUTO NAZIONALE CONFEDERALE DI ASSISTENZA

Cari Pensionati Italiani: INCA puo' aiutarvi!!!

INCA (Istituto Nazionale Confederale di Assistenza) e'una organizzazione italiana che aiuta i pensionati italiani in molti modi diversi, in Italia e all'estero. Se ricevi una pensione erogata dall'Italia e necessiti assistenza per completare formulari o pratiche amministrative, INCA puo' aiutarti, gratuitamente. Per esempio, ogni anno le persone che ricevono una pensione dall'Italia devono compilare un formulario chiamato RED e rispedirlo. Di solito esso arriva alla fine di Settembre o all'inizio di Ottobre.

CONDOLENCES

Deepest sympathy go out to the following families, who have lost loved ones:

Teresa and Liberato Mollo and family of Island Bay, on the recent passing of their father and grandfather, Cataldo De Gregorio of Massalubrense, Italy.

Liberato and Teresa Mollo, John and Linda De Gregorio, and Michael and Helen De Gregorio, and their families, all of Island Bay, on the recent passing of their mother and grandmother. Maria Saveria Mollo of Island Bay, Wellington.

Salvi and Susan Esposito and family of Island Bay, on the recent passing of their father and grandfather Benedetto Esposito of Island Bay, Wellington.

7th ITALIAN LANGUAGE WEEK THROUGHOUT THE WORLD LA SETTIMANA DELLA LINGUA ITALIANA NEL MONDO

By Nina Cuccurullo

Please circle your calendars now for Thursday 25 October at 7.30 pm, as we will be celebrating Italian Language Week with a talk given by Paul Elenio on the Wellington Fishermen, Elizabeth Peek on the Perano Family, and Marco Sonzogni reading poetry. More information to follow in the next newsletter.

CALLING ALL OUR GARIBALDINI – YOUNGER CLUB GARIBALDI MEMBERS!

As part of the Italian Week Celebrations we are inviting our younger (school-age) club members to create pictures on the subject of the Ocean, which is the theme of the Italian Week, and in particular the Fishing Community ... so pictures of fishermen, boats, fish, Island Bay and Eastbourne would be great ... maybe the names of our fishes in Italian ... it will be up to the children to decide. The artworks will be placed on the clubroom walls for all to view.

Please use A4 sized paper and use paints as these are brighter than pencils or felts. Also indicate on the back of your painting your name and age and title of your painting

50TH GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

On 6 August 2007, Maria and Cataldo De Gregorio, parents of Teresa Mollo of Island Bay, Wellington, celebrated their 50th golden wedding anniversary.

Teresa and her husband Liberato, travelled to Massalubrense, Italy, to partake in celebrations for this special occasion, which commenced with family and friends attending Holy Mass in the Church of Santa Maria delle Grazie, in Massalubrense, the same church where the couple were married 50 years ago.

Sadly, that same evening Cataldo passed away suddenly, with all his family present.

Fifteen years ago, both Maria and Cataldo visited New Zealand for the first time.



Cataldo and Maria De Gregorio



Cataldo and Maria with their children Assunta, Teresa, Giuseppina, Liberato, Antonio, and Angelo.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER

A warm welcome to the following new member: Iona Cameron of Alicetown, Lower Hutt.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ITALIAN MASS

The next Italian Mass will be held on Sunday 7 October 2007 at 11.30am at St Francis de Sales Church, Island Bay.

Mass is held every first Sunday of the month throughout the year.



SHARED LUNCH

The next shared lunch will be held at the Club rooms on Sunday 7 October 2007 at 1pm. All members and families are very welcome.



Please bring a plate.

TOMBOLA EVENINGS

The Tombola nights are held every 4th Tuesday of the month. **The next evening is on Tuesday, 25th September, at the usual time of 7.30 pm.** Please do come along and feel free to bring a friend.

CIRCOLO OCTOBER SOCIAL

At 7.30pm on Thursday 4 October, Tamara Budec (the Circolo's Senior Tutor) will talk to us about her recent trip to Italy. Tamara was the recipient of the 2007 Charles Bell Memorial Scholarship and she attended a Teachers refresher course in Rome in July. Tamara will tell us about her experiences at the school and she will also give us her impressions of Rome. A \$4 cover charge towards supper will apply.

THE CATHAY PACIFIC ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL

If you are a movie buff, the Cathay Pacific Italian Film Festival is not to be missed. This year's film festival will be the 12th year that it has been running, and screens for two weeks in 7 cities across New Zealand. All films are in Italian language with English sub-titles.



The gala opening for the Wellington festival will take place on Wednesday, 17 October, and will continue through to Wednesday, 31 October, at the Paramount Cinema, Courtney Place, Wellington. See the Dominion Post for details, or visit their website, from 31 August, for film synopsis and more: www.italianfilmfestival.co.nz

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Saturday 22nd September - 125 Year Celebration Dinner
- Tuesday 25th September (7:30pm)- Tombola
- Thursday 4th October (7:30pm) - Circolo Social
- Sunday 7th October(11:30am) - Italian Mass
- Sunday 7th October (1pm) - Shared Lunch
- Wednesday 17th October - Film Festival opening
- Saturday 20th October - Aldo Cuccurullo Memorial Soccer Trophy

A GLIMPSE INTO ~ ~ ~ PARTINICO

By Ginette Toscano Page

This month Partinico is featured, the area where Liliane Bonafede's father, Micheleangelo Bonafede was born.

The origins of the ancient town of Partinico, situated in the province of Palermo, go back to around the third century AD. In Norman times the town was inhabited by Muslims who cultivated cotton and henna, the well-known red dye. According to the Arabian geographer Idrisi, the old village was destroyed after a battle between the Angevins and Aragonese, and then re-founded in 1309 by the Cistercian monks of Santa Maria di Altofone in Parco, who then improved the territory. The name Partinico derives from the Roman word Parthenicum, made up from Parthenos, which refers to a temple erected in honour of Diana, the goddess of hunting and of Inico, the original major town during the Sicanian reign.



Liliane Bonafede

The commune, which covers 11 hectares, has over 29,000 inhabitants, and sits 180 metres above sea level. The economy is driven by agriculture ~ specifically fruit, almonds, olives, grapes, foodstuffs and wine, as well as wooden and iron handcrafts. The inhabitants of Partinico are known as Partenicesi.

Preserved in the comunal archives is an important and historical letter hand-written by Giuseppe Garibaldi, dated 1866, in which he declares his acceptance of his citizenship of Partinico, and praises the courage shown by his fellow citizens during the struggle against their oppressors.

In the main street of the town centre, Corso dei Mille, stand many ancient buildings such as the 18th century Chiesa Madre, dedicated to Our Lady, Maria S. Annunziata and the Chiesa di San Giuseppe, which houses six 17th century paintings of the six stages in the life of St Joseph, and a baroque fountain which has eight outlets.

The Civic Museum holds an antiquarium which contains not only local archaeological finds, but also two floors of works by contemporary artists. In the anthropological section, an assortment of ancient instruments and sections of ancient Sicilian carts.

One of the most interesting and valuable monuments in Partinico is a small temple which houses the 'Assunta', a canvas painted by Antonio Spataford (1579-1594) which portrays the image of the Madonna being received into Heaven.

A BIT OF TRIVIA

By Ginette Toscano Page

ANSA - Rome - August 16, 2007



The world's biggest and smelliest flower has bloomed in Florence's botanical gardens. It is a rare event, since the species rarely flowers in cultivated situations, botanists said.

The Amorphophallus Titanum is better known as Titan Arum or Corpse Flower, due to the unpleasant smell it gives off to attract insects.

The plant was discovered by Italian botanist Odoardo Beccari, in the rain forests of Sumatra in 1878. It was the third time the smelly giant has flowered in Florence's gardens, with previous bloomings in 2002 and 2004.

When it blossomed on August 14, botanists said the Titan Arum flower had reached a height of 1.95 metres!

PROFILE OF VINCENZO DI MATTINA

By Ginette Toscano Page

It gives me pleasure to profile Vincenzo Di Mattina, one Club Garibaldi's most senior members. This article was dictated to me a couple of years ago, for the Stromboli Connection newsletter.

Ninety two years ago, on 5 May 1915, in Fico Grande, Stromboli, Francesca and Gaetano Di Mattina celebrated the birth of their son, Vincenzo.

After attending primary school and two years of elementary school, followed by another two years at a private school on the island, Vincenzo aged 15, departed the shores of Stromboli on 3 September 1930, to seek un buona fortuna.

As Vincenzo was very young, fellow Strombolano Giuseppe Panettieri, Angela (Cincotta) Panettieri's husband, was guarantor for him. Together, they travelled to Melbourne via the Suez Canal on the Orient Line ship 'Orvieto'. After a short stay in Melbourne, they boarded the Union Steamship 'Mahino' and arrived in Wellington on 17 October 1930.



Vince & Ines Di Mattina

During the 1930s depression, work was hard to come by, and eventually, Vincenzo found employment in a restaurant in Courtenay Place, Wellington. However, after eight months his employer was nearing bankruptcy and Vincenzo was made redundant. At that time, Vincenzo's older brother Guy was working for the Rabbit Board in Cambridge, and it was there he was able to find work.

Vince saved hard and in time bought a taxi in Otorohonga. After two years, he was called up for military service though he did not go to camp. Instead, he drove a truck for the government until Italy surrendered, after which time he was transferred to work in Bartolo Barnao's fish shop in Lambton Quay, Wellington. When the war ended he returned to Otorohonga, sold the taxi, and took a well-earned holiday in Australia.

In 1953, Vince returned to Stromboli for three months before coming back to Wellington, where he bought another taxi business and continued to work at this until his retirement in December 1990.

In 1954, Vince met his wife Ines at the Paino family home in Derwent Street, Island Bay. Both agreed the Paino family had successfully plotted to get them together! Their courtship had begun! At the end of 1954, Ines returned to her hometown, Olevano Romano, in Italy, to prepare for their wedding there on 12 February 1955. Following their marriage, the happy couple honey-mooned on their journey back to New Zealand.

Vince and Ines were blessed with two daughters, Angela born in 1956 and Marisa in 1959. Tragically, Angela was killed in an accident in 1991, aged 34 years. Marisa and her husband Rick have given Vince and Ines two beautiful grandchildren – Cara Francesca and Michael Vincenzo.

Since leaving Stromboli in 1930, Vince has returned several times to the land of his birth. Together with Ines, he celebrated his special milestone 90th birthday in 2005, in Melbourne, where their daughter, Marisa and her family live.

In retirement Vince and Ines still enjoy their garden, though these days, Ines does the hard work and Vince supervises! However, he was quick to tell me that he still prunes the grape vines each year!

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SUNDAY, 22 AUGUST 2007

Time most certainly passes quickly! As the completion of my first two year term as president of Club Garibaldi approached, I gave a great deal of thought as to whether I would put my name forward once more, to lead our community, for another two year term. The encouragement I have received from so many of you, helped me make the decision to continue for another term. So here I am!

The club has enjoyed a very successful and eventful year, and the number of members who frequented club activities and functions has risen. As at the end of our financial year in June 2007, membership stood at its highest, with 372 members! It is truly remarkable that Club Garibaldi continues to thrive, and move from strength to strength, in such a busy 'outside' world, which is full of other activities. To me, this proves that there is still a place for cultural clubs such as ours, in our society. One thing I learned very quickly at social events and functions which I attended on behalf of the club, is how well known and respected our club is. Our fore bearers would have been very proud of the way we have carried on their dreams and visions!

Here are some of the highlights: The beginning of the 2006-07 year started with a hiss and a roar, when the club's soccer team successfully challenged Club Italia Nelson for the Aldo Cucurcullo Memorial Trophy for the second year in a row! Well done, guys! You did us proud! The Senior Christmas Luncheon was most successful with over 90 members attending, and a good time was had by all. This was followed by 45 children enjoying a wonderful day of fun, food and activities at the children's Christmas party. We were blessed with a fine day at the annual picnic in February, and encouraged by the many new faces amongst the 150 people who attended. Furthermore, the festival keeps on getting bigger and even more popular! This year's Festa Italia was the biggest to date, as well as financially. The first stage of the club refurbishment ... the foyer area, was completed.

At the end of March the club hosted an extremely successful dinner for the prominent Chairman of the National Italian American Foundation, his wife Barbara and son Antonio. Re-iterating his words: 'Your club community is the embodiment of all that is wonderful about our world-wide Italian culture. Thank you for your exceptional hospitality and friendship'. The month of May saw the closing of the very successful 'Qui Tutto Bene: The Italians in New Zealand' exhibition at Te Papa, after showing for 2½ years, and which attracted over one million visitors since the opening. We Italians, here in New Zealand, have firmly made our mark in today's society.

As everybody knows, with success, there is always a strong team, whom I would like to sincerely thank.

Once again, first and foremost, my sincere thanks and much appreciation to my husband Robin, who not only holds the full-on position of club treasurer, but whose continued support in every aspect of my position, has been outstanding. Besides the responsibility of finance, Robin also stocks the bar for our many functions, organizes cleaners and bar staff, handles all the private clubroom hire arrangements and along with club member Milvia Hannah, led a team from the executive committee to complete the first stage of our re-decorating programme.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank Milvia as well, for her professional guidance and advice, which she has offered free of charge, through to the completion of the club re-decorating programme.

My sincere thanks to the outstanding members of the executive committee, Antonio Cacace, Marie Barnao, Robin Page, Maria Colucci, Lisa Devitt, John Cao, Martin Van der Donk and Mattio Amitrano, as well as the trustees: Paul Elenio and Armando Gilmoni, and legal advisor Rex Da Vanzo. Not only has it has been a pleasure working with you all, your support and help has been invaluable. Each executive committee member possesses unique talents, which were used as required. Many thanks to Antonio and Lisa who are standing down from their executive positions this year. Their support and help over the years, has been much appreciated.

Special thanks and appreciation go to our building manager, Salvi Gaeta. This is a huge job, as the building is over 40 years old and regular maintenance to plumbing and electrical is on-going. Rent is our major income, and it is certainly not easy keeping everyone happy, and ensuring that payments are made on time. We rent both the lower floors plus a storage area, and of course, the car parks.

Our club rooms are hired out for private functions, as well as to the Circolo Italiano, who hold regular Italian language classes, social functions and meetings.

Many thanks to the social committee, headed by Jo Gaeta and her team, including Salvi Gaeta, Maria Colucci, Lisa Devitt, Elizabeth Peek and Jane Di Mattina. This involves planning each function, organising food, setting up tables, and a lot of hard work. There are many others, too many to mention, who also pitch in during these functions and lend a hand ~ many thanks to you all.

Thanks also to Caterina Costa, who does a super job of looking after our membership registrations. This takes up many hours of her time and I can always rely on her to maintain an accurate data-base of contact information.

Special thanks also to Paul Muollo who has the big task of formatting the monthly newsletter, which everybody loves to read! It is surprising how soon 'newsletter time' comes around! Even before it has been posted out, I am working on the next one! Thanks also to David Da Col who posts the articles on the club's website. Many thanks to Maria Colucci, aided by her mother Lucia Esposito, and other members of their family, who fold and post the newsletters each month. Thank you to the team of translators, Giovanni Martini, Federica Vaino, Lucia Zanmonti and Simona Favatella who share this important job, as I know copies are sent to relatives in Italy.

To Nina Cuccurullo, another hard worker behind the scenes. Nina looks after the club's historical archives and was very much involved in our dealings with Te Papa during the 'Qui Tutto Bene' exhibition. Nina also does a fabulous job looking after the children's Italian class registrations, and negotiates with the Italian Embassy, who give us a grant toward these class expenses.

Antonio Cacace is standing down as vice president this year. Antonio has always been a keen and generous supporter of our soccer team. His other passion is the club's Annual Festa. For the last 4 consecutive years, La Bella Italia has been one of the three major sponsor. Thank you Antonio, I know you will continue your support to the club in future.

Also many thanks to Elizabeth Peek for her continued support and encouragement, both as President of the Circolo Italiano and as a member of the club. To Maria Elenio for her time and patience, training the children's tarantella dancers group, who hopefully one day, will be the future senior tarantella dancers carrying on this tradition.

Sincere thanks to all the members who helped during the festival by baking dolci and serving food, wine and beer, for the entertainment, setting up before the festival started and cleaning up after the function ended. To Letizia Columbano Green for organising the children to have fun and games and then entertain us as well. There are many more members who helped in various ways, but we would be here till midnight! Finally, my thanks and appreciation to each and every one of you, the members of Club Garibaldi, for your continued support and encouragement. I promise to carry on doing my utmost in every way, and carry the banner high for Club Garibaldi and Italy in general. May Club Garibaldi continue to flourish, so that the young Garibaldini of today, will carry the tradition on to the next generation.

Ciao a presto
Ginette Toscano Page

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2007-08

President	Ginette Toscano Page
Vice President	Alfonso Basile
Secretary	Marie Barnao
Treasurer	Robin Page
Committee	Maria Colucci Matt Amitrano John Cao Martin Van der Donk Jim Marson
Trustees	Armando Gilmoni Paul Elenio
Solicitor	Rex Da Vanzo