



# Club Garibaldi News

**NOVEMBER 2008**

## **THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

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On behalf of the club's members it gives me great pleasure to congratulate Club Garibaldi's soccer team, who successfully retained the Aldo Cuccurullo Memorial Trophy for the fourth year running against our sister club, Club Italia Nelson on Saturday 25 October, in Wellington. The final score was 1-0. The trophy has been put back on the shelf for another year! Well done guys ... you did us proud! See article about the game further on.

This year the club hosted fifty eight team members and supporters from Nelson which included Tony and Libby, brothers of the late Aldo Cuccurullo ... the largest number in the 13 years since the inaugural cup challenge in 1994. The entire weekend was an outstanding success and those who attended, enjoyed the strong bonds of friendship between the two clubs. May it long continue!

The after match dinner at the club was fantastic ~150 adults and children enjoyed a sumptuous buffet dinner 'at the best restaurant in town!' The tables were laden with the most amazing array of dishes ....and as soon as a plate or platter was empty, it was promptly replaced with yet more food! There was literally not enough room to put it all out at once!

Special thanks to the members of the executive committee including their spouses/partners and Salvi and Jo Gaeta for all their help during the weekend. Many thanks also to the following people: Maria Colucci, Paul Muollo and Mike Gaeta for their assistance in helping to make the game a great occasion: To those who helped in some way during the weekend, including cooking and baking the delicious plates of food: To those drivers who transported our guests to various places during the weekend. Please accept this as a personal acknowledgement.

Ciao a presto  
Ginette Toscano Page

## **SHARING NEWS**

We are looking for Italian items of interest, as well as special occasions to include in future newsletters. Please feel welcome to share them with your fellow members.

## **STELLA CRISCILLO - RIP**

By Ginette Toscano Page

On 14 October 2008, Maria Stella Criscillo, one Club Garibaldi's most senior and respected members passed away, aged 93 years. Stella, beloved wife of the late Cav Vincenzo Criscillo, a former, long time serving president from the years 1980 to 1995, has been a loyal and active member since she was a small child, attending functions with her parents. In latter years as her health and sight deteriorated, her interest in club matters did not wane, and on special occasions, with the assistance of her caregiver and family, she made a huge effort to come. Stella particularly enjoyed the monthly newsletters which her son Sal would read to her, as this kept her up with all the comings and goings within our club community.

Our deepest sympathy go to her three sons, Salvatore, Ben and Vic, their wives and families, all of Wellington.

## **CONDOLENCES**

Long time member of Club Garibaldi, Gino Girardin of Johnsonville, Wellington, recently passed away. Gino was a past Secretary of the club from 1959 to 1961, and also served as an executive committee member for a year in 1962-63. Our deepest sympathy go to his family, Cristina, Silvana and Riccardo, all of Wellington.

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO REX DA VANZO**

An Absolutely Positively Wellington Community Award for services to the performing arts was recently presented to Rex Da Vanzo by the Mayor Kerry Prendergast in the Council Chambers. Special mention was made of the twice-yearly Benefit cabaret evenings held at the Clubrooms since 1992 which the Mayor described as "a highly-prized part of Wellington's musical and theatre scene."



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## ITALIAN MASS

The next Italian Mass will be held on Sunday 7 December 2008 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 December 2008 at 1pm. All members and families are very welcome.



Please bring a plate.

## TOMBOLA NIGHT

Tombola nights are held every 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month.

**The next night for Tombola will be Tuesday, 25 November, at the usual time of 7.30 pm.** Please come along and feel free to bring a friend.

## CHRISTMAS SENIOR LUNCHEON

This year's Christmas senior luncheon date has been set for **Saturday, 29 November** at noon, for the meal to commence at 12.30 pm. For those senior members who plan to come, it is important you confirm that you will be attending by **Monday, 24 November**.

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

This will be held on **Saturday, 6 December** at the clubrooms, and will be from 11.30 am until 3.00 pm. As always, Father Christmas will be visiting ~ please ensure that your child/children have a wrapped gift with their name on it, for Santa's bag. The value of the gift should be no more than \$10.00 each.

## ANNUAL BUS TRIP

Next year's annual bus trip dates have been set for **9, 10 and 11 February 2009** ~ destination Hastings and Napier. This is always a great trip with lots of fun to be had, and is thoroughly enjoyed by all those who go on it. As the bus fills up pretty fast, please do not leave it too late to confirm that you want to go. More details to follow at a later date. Although you do not need to be a club member to come, members will be given priority.

## 'A NIGHT AT THE GARIBALDI' - NAOMI FERGUSON BENEFIT



Advance notice is given of the next Benefit to be held at the Clubrooms on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2009.

The beneficiary is the multi-talented Naomi Ferguson from Christchurch. Ticket price \$30.00 (which includes a light supper). No door sales.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November (7:30pm) - Tombola

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November (12pm) - Christmas Senior Luncheon

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December (11.30am) - Children's Christmas Paty

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December (11:30am)- Italian Mass

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December (1pm) - Shared Lunch

Mon - Wed 9-11<sup>th</sup> February - Bus Trip

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February - A Night at the Garibaldi

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February - A Night at the Garibaldi

## **CHILDREN'S LANGUAGE CLASSES**

For 13 years Nina Cuccurullo has been doing a brilliant job as co-ordinator of the children's Italian language classes. She has worked wonderfully to ensure the classes are well run and organised, has liaised with teachers and parents and maintained a positive link with the Italian Government through the Embassy. We would like to find a club member to assume the duties of classes co-ordinator and spend the first few months of 2009 learning from Nina.

## **A BIT OF TRIVIA**

ANSA - Parma, September 19

A woman whose husband left the family cat out overnight in the rain is taking him to a special animal court to sue for damages. The woman has filed a complaint against her husband at a new tribunal set up this month by the Italian Association for the Defence of Animals and the Environment specifically to deal with pet disputes and other animal issues.

The pedigree European Shorthair, called Ivano, was allegedly shut out on a balcony in the rain by the woman's husband and their housekeeper after they caught him sharpening his nails on a desk and then discovered he had urinated on the man's work bag. Only the next morning, seeing the seven-year-old cat's food dish still full, did the woman discover a soaking wet and shivering Ivano on the balcony.

The woman is asking for 500 euros in damages from her husband for veterinary expenses and moral damages and a further 200 euros from the housekeeper as accessory to the 'crime'.

## **CAR PARK WARNING**

For those members attending a club function and find our car park full, this notice is to inform you that the parking area outside Noel Leeming and The Warehouse, Tory Street, just up the road from the club, is a 'pay and display' area, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, tow away area. Unfortunately, during this year, some members have been towed away to the tune of \$180.00, so please heed this warning!

## **CAN YOU HELP?**

Photos of the late Frank Basile

We are looking for some photos of Frank Basile to help make up a family album. If anyone has any that we could borrow to scan it would be really appreciated.

## **NEW MEMBERS**

A warm welcome to the following new members:

Mark and Heather Da Vanzo, Khandallah, Wellington, Christine (nee Esposito) and Gareth Wilson, Island Bay, Wellington, Kim Barwell, Island Bay, Wellington. Jennifer Wilde, Palmerston North, Cristina Fruscalzo and Alan Fleming of Johnsonville, Wellington.

## **GOLDEN WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS**

Belated congratulations to Cav Giovanni and Madeleine Mersi of Wellington, who celebrated 50 years of marriage on 26 April 2008. Club Garibaldi wish you many more happy and healthy years to come.

## **THE LEONARDO DA VINCI MACHINE EXHIBITION – ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS - 1 QUEENS WHARF, WELLINGTON – SATURDAY, 13 DECEMBER AT 14.00 PM**

By Letizia Columbano Green

The exhibition was opened by the Italian Ambassador, Gioacchino Trizzino, on 7 November at the Academy of Fine Arts in Wellington. It includes 60 models based on the original drawings of the Italian genius, Leonardo da Vinci, and finely crafted by the famous Florentine artisans group, Teknoart. By being able to touch and handle the interactive models one is able to not only gain first-hand appreciation on how they work, but also to witness the sheer magnitude of this genius. The models are of different sizes and specialised in four categories: flight, war, hydraulic and mechanic machines. Members of Club Garibaldi, together with the Circolo Italiano di Wellington, the Sardinian Cultural Club in NZ and the Italian Department of Victoria University are invited to participate in a tour of the exhibition in the Italian language, organized by Luca Quaglia and Letizia Columbano on Saturday, 13 December at 2 pm.



The cost of the tickets is: \$12 for adults and \$7 for children. The ticket also includes a cup of coffee and a slice of panettone at Club Garibaldi after the tour (approx 1 hr)... a nice way to end an Italian afternoon!

## **REX DA VANZO – THE SOUND OF MUSIC**

A member of the Club Executive, Rex Da Vanzo, alias Baron Elberfeld, shares a backstage moment during the recent run of *The Sound of Music* at the State Opera House with the stage Maria (Jessica Graham) and two of the Von Trapp children (Garth Norman and Georgia Kargar). Rex also played the part of Otto in the musical.



## **THE ALDO CUCCURULLO MEMORIAL TROPHY SOCCER CHALLENGE**

Four seasons, two halves, one goal!

By Dave Da Vanzo

Four seasons of weather on the day did not detract from what was a swash-buckling cliff-hanger of a contest between Club Garibaldi and Club Italia Nelson at Crawford Green, Wellington.

Supporters from both clubs turned up in good numbers and witnessed a hard fought, no-quarter-given encounter, as Nelson valiantly attempted to give the Aldo Cuccurullo trophy some more air points. Referee Gary Oosterbaan let the game flow, and tolerated a State-of-Origin level of physicality, as both sides expressed their willingness to sacrifice limb and ligament to bring about their desired outcomes.

Nelson had the better of the first half, and launched numerous sorties into the Garibaldi box, only to be repelled at every turn by the athleticism and courage of Garibaldi-player-of-the-day keeper Jan Chmielewski...and the woodwork! In the second half Garibaldi started to gather some momentum and put together some good moves, but no goals were forthcoming and the deadlock continued. Time drifted on, and Nelson applied a full-field press (a full Nelson if you will), sending everyone forward to try and take the game by force, and inevitably, this created opportunities for Garibaldi at the other end. With only minutes remaining, the inveterate professional Mike Gaeta took the ball to the edge of the box from a quickly-taken throw in, and sent an intelligent low ball across to a sliding Damian Hannah, who guided the ball with...I think his knee-bandage...into the back of the old onion bag.

The task for Nelson had become seemingly insurmountable, however, they continued to play with courage and vigour until the referee blew time on the fixture for another year. A draw would have more fairly reflected the evenness of the battle, and Nelson should be commended on the massive contribution they made to the match.

Huge thanks to Maria Colucci, Paul Muollo & Mike Gaeta for their work making the game a great occasion.

## **DR A KENNETH CIONGOLI - R.I.P.**

By Ginette Toscano Page



Sad news has been received from Washington DC that Dr Kenneth Ciongoli, Chairman of the National Italian American Foundation, passed away on 28 October 2008, after battling cancer for a year.

You will recall that Ken, his wife Barbara and youngest son Antonio, visited our club in March 2007, where we shared a wonderful dinner and a very enjoyable evening together. Later that year, Robin and I travelled to Washington DC, as guests of Ken and NIAF at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Gala and Convention, where we were warmly welcomed and treated very well by everybody.

All who worked with Ken during the 18 years in which he served as the Foundation's president, vice chairman, and member of the Board of Directors will feel the loss of his leadership. Ken was admired and respected by Italian leaders, the Italian American community and all ethnic groups. A warm, generous and loving man, Ken believed deeply in his heritage. His unique leadership and inspiration will be greatly missed

On behalf of the Executive Committee and members of Club Garibaldi, I have conveyed our deepest sympathies, thoughts and prayers to Barbara Ciongoli and his children, Adam, Happy, Alessandra, Gregory and Antonio.

## **JOINING UP OF SPOUSES AS CLUB MEMBERS**

The Executive Committee passed a resolution in 2003 that certain Club Garibaldi's events are for members only, which means your husband, wife or spouse will be unable to attend if they are not a member. Events covered by this resolution include the Italian National Day Celebrations, the Senior Members' Lunch at Christmas, Children's Christmas Party and other functions which will be specified during the year. As you can understand, this is because events such as these are paid for or subsidised with Club funds and we are not in a position to fund visitors.

I have noticed that some spouses who were members last year are no longer members. If you have a single membership and your spouse is not a member, we would like you to encourage them to join. The annual subscription fee for a couple is only \$20 a year more than the cost of your single membership. (Couple rate is \$50 per annum). If your spouse wishes to be included

as a member, please send their name and date of birth and enclose \$20. **NOTE: Even if your spouse is not Italian they can be a member if you are.**

Caterina Costa  
Membership Secretary

## LEONARDO DI VINCI EXHIBITION COMES TO WELLINGTON

The Leonardo Da Vinci Machines Exhibition will open to the public on Saturday, 8 November 2008, at The New Zealand Academy of Fine Arts Academy Galleries, 1 Queens Wharf, Wellington, and will run until 15 February 2009. See enclosed flyer.

## FOREVER VESPA



A documentary about the worldwide phenomenon of a scooter! Exclusive interviews with designers, collectors, and commentators reveal how the six-decade-long Vespa story runs parallel with European history. Italian with English sub-titles.

When: Sunday, 23 November ~ 2pm–3pm.  
Where: Te Papa Soundings Theatre, Level 2

Film courtesy of Cathay Pacific Italian Film Festival and The Embassy Theatre.

Tickets \$10, no concessions, available only at The Embassy Theatre, 10 Kent Terrace, Wellington, or by phone **(04) 384 7657**. Not online.

## Labour Weekend Photos



Soccer spectators



More soccer spectators



**Lovely Nelson guests**



**Smile for the camera!**



**More smiles for the camera!**



**Happy Hannah family group**



**Say cheese!**



**Maria and Lisa with their parents Fifi & Lucia, cutting their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary cake**

**Club Garibaldi and Club Italia team members**

