



Club Garibaldi News

APRIL 2009

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Although this message is a little late as Easter is early this year and before the April newsletter was posted out, the sentiment is the same: *Tanti auguri di Buona Pasqua!*

Festival Italia 2009 was a huge success, drawing a crowd of 14,000 patrons. Although the weather outside was cold, wet and windy, it did not stop those who came from enjoying a little bit of Italy, here in the heart of Wellington. Club Garibaldi would like to acknowledge and thank Angela Vinaccia and Kevin Bull of the Overseas Terminal Function Centre, for supplying the venue to us at a fraction of its normal cost.

A visitor who traveled a very long distance to come to the festival was club member, Giovanni Martini, from the West Coast, South Island. His name will be familiar to you as he translates the club's newsletters into Italian. What a surprise! It was great to see him, and happy that he was able to spend an enjoyable day with us.

One of my personal highlights of the festival was that I dressed in 'traditional' southern Italian attire, including a pair of hand made wooden zoccoli which my great-zia sold in her general store on Stromboli nearly 50 years ago. At that time, zia gave two pairs to a teenager who was visiting the island with his mother from New York, as a small memento of his holiday. Last year this gentleman, who now holds a doctorate in Italian and Spanish in Australia, gifted a pair of zoccoli to me. I was delighted as this zia was my mother's favourite, and it is nice that I have something which was once hers.

Functions such as the annual festival, would not happen without a hard working, dedicated core of club members and helpers; this year was no exception. Special thanks to all the ladies, including those who are not club members, for their tremendous support in baking for the club's dolce stall. The dolce stall is always very popular and attracts a lot of regulars each year who know exactly which cake or biscotti they want as they have bought and them at previous festivals!

Sincere thanks to Alfonso Basile for baking such a huge quantity of dolce and to Rosaria Massa for sewing the green/white/red ribbons for the club stall helpers to wear. Special thanks also to those club members who shared their talent with us in the entertainment programme ~ you did us proud!

In addition to all the helpers on festival day, mention must be made of the following members who gave of themselves, one hundred and ten percent: To each of you, many thanks and much appreciation.

Saturday morning set up:

Armando Gilmoni, Adriana and John Wholey, Rex and Avril Da Vanzo, Ginette and Robin Page, Matt Amitrano, Martin and Josephine Van der Donk, Josephine Volpicelli, John Cao, Marie Barnao, Paul Elenio, Ida and Vince Basile, Lisa Devitt, Nina Cuccurullo, Luciano and Franco Colucci and their partners Dayna

and Katie, Mark and Heather Da Vanzo, Letizia Columbano Green and Miriam Vendor (organisers of the children's Pinocchio's corner).

Festival Day - Cake stall:

Maria Colucci, Lucy Esposito, Lisa Devitt, Teresa Mollo, Ida Basile, Josephine Volpicelli, Josephine Van der Donk, Jane Di Mattina and Cristina Vinaccia.

Festival Day - Bar:

John Cao, Martin Van der Donk, Angela Page, Graham Heath, Christi Cameron, Tim Buckland, Paul Elenio, Melanie Federico, Sean Keaney and Lisa Falleni.

Festival Day - Membership Table:

Marie Barnao, Rex and Avril Da Vanzo, Nina Cuccurullo and Caterina Costa.

This month's wedding photograph is of Caterina (Tina) and Luigi Dellabarca of Island Bay, Wellington.

Ciao a presto

Ginette Toscano Page

NEWSPAPER ARTICLE ON ITALIAN FESTIVAL

The Dominion Post, Monday, March 23, 2009



The following article and photograph were featured in The Dominion Post on the day following our festival.

Sisters Rebekah, 10, and Grace Amitrano, 12, are not only fleet-footed, they are also dab hands at the fine art of twirling spaghetti on a fork. Having performed the tarantella, Italy's traditional dance, twice at the annual Italian Festa yesterday, Grace went on to come second in the pasta-eating competition.

The Amitrano sisters have danced for the past few years at the festival, but the pasta-eating success was a first.

The girls' mother, Lynda, said their success was down to practice and a love of pasta. "It was being able to twirl their fork well." She said of Grace. "She has the technique."

Sunday's bad weather failed to deter the crowds, with an estimated 12,000 people flocking to Wellington's Overseas Terminal.

As well as an abundance of food, coffee and wine on offer, there were opera performances, a demonstration of pasta-eating etiquette and a barista contest.

CONDOLENCES

Our deepest sympathy to Fay (Raffaella) Search and family of Lower Hutt on the recent passing of their husband, father and grandfather, George Search.

BABY CONGRATULATIONS

Best wishes to Michael Di Leva and Amore Wessels on the safe arrival of their son, Kelvin Di Leva. A grandson for Maria and Joe Di Leva and a great grandson for Tina Dellabarca, all of Island Bay.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER

A warm welcome to the following new member: Celia Falchi of Khandallah.

A BIT OF TRIVIA

'Non-stinky' cards set for release

ANSA, Turin, March 23, 2009

A range of new 'non stinky' collectible cards aims to breathe new life into an Italian kids' craze after the smelly originals fell foul of the law. The Skifidol Puzz (Nasty Idol Smell) company said it was re-branding itself without odours after a Turin elementary class fell ill last week and the suspected products were confiscated.

'No smell, but stronger' is the launch cry for the new collection set to hit news stands soon.

Pinocchio's Corner 6th edition!!!

By Letizia Columbano Green

Rain, wind and bad weather did not stop the large number of visitors coming to the Wellington's Festival Italia 2009.

This year we played Pastatombola (Pasta Bingo): Where different types of pasta were substituted for numbers. Maccheroni, rigatoni, tortiglioni, cannelloni...all the names sound the same? Look carefully and you will see the difference...and then understand why they have been called like that.

Orecchiette, linguine, gomiti are not parts of the human body and conchiglie, lumache are not just invertebrates...45 minutes of double, triple...to arrive to the final Bingo!



Each win was celebrated with chocolate money in the shape of a Euro...some children went home as wealthy as a Swiss banker! A particular thank you to La Bella Italia for the sweets and Caffè L'Affare for the Pinocchio money boxes (a most appropriate gift for the occasion).

While the older children were playing bingo, the younger children had fun colouring pages of the most popular Pinocchio characters.

Miriam Vender, who with a

creative sound effects game, managed to 'immobilise' (sort of speaking) the majority of the young people as they pretended to participate to a horse race. Each child had to imitate the correct noise, depending on the horse's action or of what was happening around it.

Just imagine the horses preparing to race, the start of the race and the horses' hooves going clip-clop. The gates open; the horses are running furiously; they run to the right, they turn to the left; they cross a wooden bridge; they run close to the public stand; on the right is a beautiful lady; on the left a photographer; the horses cross a ditch of water ~ *splash splash*; they turn left then turn suddenly right; another wooden bridge when finally, exhausted, they reach the finish line. I feel exhausted just writing this...so you can imagine what it was like participating with lots of young, enthusiastic children!!!



The games of *Bandierina e Macedonia* are always enjoyed by all participants.

Age is not important. The competition was tough and hard, winners and losers...but always in a happy atmosphere.

The children's programme ended with *La Pentolaccia*. Every child had a turn of 3 bashes at the poor carton pot....until it finally broke ~ streamers, sweets, and small games, mixed with screams of delight, and arms and legs everywhere, marked the close of *Pinocchio's Corner* for 2009.

Thank you to all participants, Miriam and friends and all those who contributed to this year's success.



Arrivederci
Letizia

UPCOMING EVENTS

ITALIAN MASS

The next Italian Mass will be held on Sunday 3 May 2009 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 June 2009 at 1pm. All members and families are very welcome.



Please bring a plate.

TOMBOLA

Tombola nights are held every 4th Tuesday of the month.

The first night for 2009 will be on Tuesday, 28 April, at the usual time of 7.30 pm. Please do come along and feel free to bring a friend.

CIRCOLO MAY SOCIAL

At 7.30pm on Thursday 7 May we will show the DVD: **The Hero as Artist**; this episode from the famous 1969 series **Civilization** by Lord Kenneth Clark explores how Pope Julius sponsored such artists as Leonardo, Michelangelo and Raphael. Remastered onto DVD, the imagery and colour are wonderfully refreshed. Here is a chance to see some of the great works of art of the Renaissance.

A \$4.00 charge towards supper will apply.

CIRCOLO JUNE SOCIAL

At 7.30pm on Thursday 11 June (note change of date from our usual monthly arrangement) Robert Carew will give us a presentation. Last year Robert attended an Italian Language course in Genoa and he also enjoyed exploring the city and the surrounding region. He will show us some stunning photos and also tell us about his experiences.

A \$4.00 cover charge towards supper will apply.

ITALIAN FILMS

At 7pm on **Thursday 16 April** the film **The Legend of 1900** (dialogue in English) will be shown. Directed by Giuseppe Tornatore (Cinema Paradiso), this magical fable tells the tale of an extraordinary man who lives a remarkable life on a ship without setting foot on land. Based on a novel by Alessandro Baricco and with a beautiful score by Ennio Morricone, this film is sure to move you!!

A \$2.00 cover charge towards costs will apply.

At 7pm on **Thursday 21 May** we will show **Equal Time** (Par Condicio). This film is number 12 in the popular Inspector Montalbano series!!

A \$2.00 cover charge towards costs will apply.

At 7pm on **Thursday 18 June** we will show the Documentary **Forever Vespa**. Duration 54 minutes. This DVD was shown at Te Papa after the 2008 Italian Film Festival. **The Vespa**: An Italian symbol of a fresh start at the end of World War II; a picture of optimism and of growing wealth; an emblem of the family; and the witness of many love stories. Don't miss the chance to view this fantastic documentary.

A \$2.00 cover charge towards costs will apply.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 16th April (7pm) - Italian Film

Tuesday 28th April (7:30pm) - Tombola

Sunday 3rd May (11:30am) - Italian Mass

Thursday 7th May (7:30pm) - Circolo Social

Thursday 21st May (7pm) - Italian Film

Sunday 7th June (1pm) - Shared Lunch

Thursday 11th June (7:30pm) - Circolo Social

Thursday 18th June (7pm) - Italian Film

FESTIVAL ITALIA 2009

By Ginette Toscano Page

In spite of the cool weather, it did not deter the thousands of patrons who came to The Overseas Terminal Function Centre to enjoy a day of celebration! As you know, the festival is the brainchild of Club Garibaldi and is designed to bring a taste of Italy to Wellington every year, giving companies an opportunity to display their goods and services to the wider community.

This year marked the 15th festival since its inception in 1995, at the Settlers' Museum, on The Esplanade, Petone. The festival's continued popularity over the passing years, has truly established our festival as a tradition Wellington can be proud of.

Club Garibaldi wishes to sincerely thank the generous three main sponsors for their support: La Bella Italia, Scopa and Caffè L'Affare.

Sponsors: Peroni Nastro Azzurro, Radio Live, More FM, Freestyle – Total Print Production.

Salve Barnao Vision Enhancement, Europe Modes Tailoring, Franco Pol, Zico Cucina and Bar, Fish Fins, A Touch of Italy, Bruno Maresca, Wellington Trawling Seamarket, Sapori d'Italia, POS Technology, Moore Wilson & Co, Tony & Guy Maresca, Island Bay Butchery, Wellington City Council, Kevin and Angela Vinaccia.

Our thanks also to the following stall holders:

La Bella Italia, Scopa, Caffè L'Affare, I Go Imports Ltd, Genoese Foods Ltd, Carrello del Gelato, Bookfeast Ltd, Bell'Arte Ltd, Club Garibaldi, Circolo Italiano, Rhind & Gardiner House of Travel, Gazley Tory Motors Ltd, Europe Modes Tailoring/RMG Collection, La Famiglia – Pizza Ovens, Caffè Italia, Piazza Ovens Petone, The Italian Embassy, Catholic Enquiry Centre, Domus De Janas Inc, Pasta Mia Ltd, Tony Chestnut.

Proudly supported by Festival Hire and water kindly donated by Davis Trading.

The day began with a welcome from the President of Club Garibaldi, Ginette Toscano Page, followed by Donato Scioscioli, First Secretary/Deputy Head of Mission, representing the Embassy of Italy, in the absence of the Ambassador, giving a speech before cutting the green/white/red ribbons, marking the official opening of Festival Italia 2009. This was followed by Luigi Cacace who recited a piece of poetry in both the English and Italian languages, after which the Apostolic Pro-Nuncio, Archbishop Charles Balvo, the Pope's representative in NZ, blessed the venue and its occupancy. This was followed by the community singing the Italian Anthem. From thence onwards, it was all go!

The atmosphere was 'buzzing' with activity, and the wonderful food aromas drifting through the air, would tempt anyone's palate!

A large screen, kindly loaned from Salve Barnao of Vision Enhancement, was erected in the downstairs area, so that patrons could see what activities were taking place upstairs. Compare for the day was Tim Gordon who had the task of knitting everything together.

The audience in the upstairs lounge of the venue, were treated to an array of items:

An accordion and mandolin recital given by father and son, Tony and Phillip Muollo, Salvi Gaeta, singing popular Neapolitan songs, a piano accordion interlude by Rebekah Greig, La Bella Italia cooking demonstration and pasta eating competitions. Club Garibaldi children's tarantella dancers, Caffè L'Affare barista demonstration, operatic interludes, a sing-a-long of Italian favourites accompanied by Caterina Costa on piano, a general knowledge quiz on Italy, and a La Scala Lip Sync performance and competition.

Festival Italia 2009 was an extremely successful day, enjoyed by those who came to experience a genuine piece of Italian culture.

The club's executive committee offers its grateful thanks to its sponsors without whom the festival would not be possible, and in particular Cav Antonio Cacace, and to those club members who worked and planned the festival and undertook a variety of duties on the day.

FESTIVAL ITALIA 2009





DELLABARCA - DE GREGORIO WEDDING



Luigi Dellabarca and Caterina (Tina) De Gregorio were married at Santa Maria della Lobra, Marina di Massalubrense, Italy, on 10 October 1953.

Back left: Capitano, Nina De Gregorio, Luigi De Gregorio (father of bride), Tina De Gregorio (bride), Luigi Dellabarca (groom), Assunta De Gregorio (mother of bride), Geni De Gregorio, Salvi De Gregorio

Front left: Antonino De Gregorio, Assunta De Gregorio and Pasquale De Gregorio