



# Club Garibaldi News

**MAY 2009**

## **THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

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Well, winter has certainly arrived! I hope you are all in good health and keeping warm! Talking about warmth, you can be assured of a warm reception at the clubrooms every Sunday afternoon from 3pm to 8pm. The heaters are very efficient, so wrap yourselves up and come on down for a cappuccino or something stronger. If you have never played indoor bowls, this would be a great opportunity to have a go. I am sure our regular players will be more than happy to guide you through a friendly game with them, or if you prefer, you could join in a game of cards or simply sit and have a chat.

The National Day of Italy celebrations at Club Garibaldi will be held on Monday, 1 June, Queen's Birthday, commencing at 7.30 pm. As in past years, the club will provide supper and wine. Please note that this function is open to financial members only.

Annual subscription fees are due for the year beginning 1 July 2009. Current subscriptions expire on 30 June 2009. We would appreciate you sending the completed form, together with your payment, as soon as possible. The form is on a separate page attached to this newsletter. Please ensure that you fill out the form (rather than just send the payment) as some members have the same name, and it is difficult to tell which member has sent the payment.

Ciao a presto  
Ginette Toscano Page

## **NEWSLETTER FORMATTER**

For over 5 years Paul Muollo has been doing a brilliant job of formatting the club's monthly newsletter. He has worked hard to ensure that the newsletters are set out well and easy to read for the enjoyment of club members. We would like to find a club member to assume the duties of the newsletter formatter.

## **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.

## VINCENZO DI MATTINA - 94 YEARS YOUNG



Vincenzo Di Mattina of Island Bay, Wellington, Club Garibaldi's second most senior member by seven months, celebrated his 94<sup>th</sup> birthday on Tuesday, 5 May 2009. Vincenzo who was born in Stromboli in 1915, immigrated to New Zealand in 1930, as a 15 year old.

Buon compleanno Vincenzo, Club Garibaldi wish you many more happy and healthy years to come.

## JANE DI MATTINA - 80 YEARS YOUNG!

Congratulations to Jane Di Mattina of Lower Hutt who recently reached the wonderful milestone of 80 years young. Buon compleanno, Jane. Club Garibaldi wish you many more happy and healthy years to come.



## ARCHIVE ENQUIRY

An enquiry has been received from a person living in Australia, asking for information of her late great uncle, Bindo Paolo Giacomo Bacchi, who died in Picton Hospital, aged 36 years, on 21 May 1904, of double pneumonia. He was born in Parma, Italy, and worked as a fisherman, and had only been in New Zealand for 3 months before he passed away. Bindo was married to Angelina in Queensland, Australia, at the age of 24 and had 2 children, a daughter, 7 years old and a son, 4 years old.

## A BIT OF TRIVIA

ANSA - L'Aquila, April 7, 2009

Grandmother 'crocheted' during 30 hour wait.

A 98 year old grandmother rescued after Monday's earthquake in Abruzzo said she had whiled away the time crocheting 'amid the rubble'. On Tuesday morning firemen found Maria D'Antuoni waiting in her bed surrounded by fallen plaster in the small village of Tempera. D'Antuoni told television crews, while eating cracker biscuits 'At least let me comb my hair' as they waited for an interview! 'What did I do all the time? I was crocheting' she replied.

## GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Congratulations to club members Sante and Colleen Battiston of Lower Hutt, who recently celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> golden wedding anniversary on 18 April 2009. Club Garibaldi wish you many more happy and healthy years to come.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### ITALIAN MASS

The next Italian Mass will be held on Sunday 7 June 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 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month.

**The first night for 2009 will be on Tuesday, 26 May, at the usual time of 7.30 pm.** Please do come along and feel free to bring a friend.

### 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 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 21<sup>st</sup> May (7pm) - Italian Film

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May (7:30pm) - Tombola

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June (7:30pm) - Italian National Day

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

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

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June (7:30pm) - Circolo Social

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June (7pm) - Italian Film

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

Capacity audiences enjoyed the singular talents of Christchurch singer Naomi Ferguson at the Clubrooms in late February. A highpoint was her stunning rendition of Leonard Cohen's

"Hallelujah" which concluded the evenings' entertainment. Naomi was supported by Brigitte Murray from Sydney, Sacha van Beek from Christchurch and various other performers, including some of the cast from the recent production of The Sound of Music who reprised songs from the show.



Naomi with Wellington's Mayor Kerry Prendergast

## **NGA KOHIKOHINGA: REMEMBERING THE 28TH MAORI BATTALION**

By Nina Cuccurullo

On Saturday 25 April (ANZAC Day), Ginette Toscano Page, along with club members Nina Cuccurullo and Letizia and Ralph Green attended a talk at Te Papa entitled "Nga Kohikohinga: Remembering the 28th Maori Battalion". The talk was given by Maruhaeremuri Stirling who gave a nostalgic and humorous talk about her intrepid journey with D Company veterans from Ngai Tahu, Kahungunu, and other tribes through Italy, Malta, Egypt, Turkey, and Tunisia. Following the talk Ginette, as club president, was asked to say a few words. Members of the 28th Maori Battalion have been part of Festa Italia celebrations in the past as well as being hosted at social evening in our clubroom rooms a few years ago.

### ***For your information ... History of the 28th (Māori) Battalion***

Soon after war was announced in September 1939, Māori leaders began contacting the New Zealand parliament to offer men for both home defence and overseas service.

Calls soon followed for the establishment of a Māori unit within the New Zealand army. In October 1939 an all-Māori infantry company was formed – the 28th (Māori) Battalion. The battalion was organised on a tribal basis, with different iwi forming its four companies.

By the end of the war, the 28th (Māori) Battalion was one of the most celebrated and decorated units in the New Zealand army. Nearly 16,000 Māori enlisted for service in World War II. Of these, approximately 3,600 served in the 28th (Māori) Battalion in campaigns in Greece, Crete, Italy and North Africa. The Battalion suffered far higher than average losses: in all, 618 soldiers were killed, 1710 wounded and 267 taken prisoner or reported missing.



## **THE ITALIAN NATIONAL RUGBY TEAM ARRIVES IN NEW ZEALAND**

Two years ahead of the 2011 Rugby World Cup, the Italian Rugby National team will be in New Zealand to face the All Blacks in the final game of the IVECO Series, which will be held at Christchurch's AMI Stadium on Saturday June 27 at 7:35 pm.

Before the game, an Italian Street Festival, organized by the Canterbury Rugby Football Union in cooperation with the Italian Chamber of Commerce in New Zealand, the Dante Alighieri Society and some local car- and scooter- owners' clubs, will colour the streets surrounding AMI Stadium in white, red and green. Italian cars, scooters, animation and naturally Italian food will introduce the much awaited clash with the All-Blacks. Radio Cartolina will also dedicate air-time to the event in the week leading up to the game.

Tickets to the game are on sale at [www.ticketek.nz](http://www.ticketek.nz) Italian supporters have been reserved several rows of seats in the Silver Paul Kelly Covered Stand.

## ELENIO - CUCCURULLO WEDDING



Pietro Elenio and Teresa Cuccurullo were married at Santa Maria della Lobra, Marina di Massalubrense, Italy, in April 1951. Their compare was Giuseppe Persico of Massalubrense.