



Club Garibaldi News

FEBRUARY 2010

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It was a pleasure to see so many of the Italian community attend the February Italian Mass at St Francis de Sales Church, Island Bay, which was celebrated by Don Marinko Antolovic from the Embassy of the Holy See, Wellington. I am sure that even more of our members and friends will attend the Italian Masses during 2010.

I hope you are enjoying the old family wedding photos in the monthly newsletters. Thank you to those members who have shared their photographic memories of our senior members, including those who have passed away and the ones who are still with us today. If you have a wedding photo dated up to 1950 and would like to share it with us, please contact me via email or telephone. All photos will be returned after being copied. Remember to record all the names of the bridal party in the photograph, plus the name and place of the church, as well as the date of the wedding.

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.

A BIT OF TRIVIA

ANSA Taranto - 4 January 2010

Boy, 4, telephones cops to give them his dummies!

An Italian boy telephoned the police a few days before his birthday to tell them they could have his dummies now that he was 4 years old. "I'm old enough now so you can have my dummies" the Sicilian boy told the emergency phone line. The local police were happy to accept the boy's offer and sent two officers to his birthday party. In return for the four discarded dummies the policemen gave the boy a police souvenir cap.

CLUB CONSTITUTION

Recently a clause in the club's constitution relating to membership qualification has been raised with the executive committee. As a result of two discussions on this issue the executive has decided to ask it's constitution sub-committee to re-form to consider whether the constitution should be updated in any way. The executive also decided to invite members who want to make submissions advocating any changes to the constitution to do so via the secretary. The constitution sub-committee will discuss the issues and make recommendations to the executive, which will then propose any changes to the annual meeting of members later this year. Should you wish to view a copy of the constitution, last updated in 2004, please email the secretary, Nina Cuccurullo.

TOMBOLA NIGHT

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

The next Tombola night will be **Tuesday, 23 March** at the usual time of 7.30pm. Please come along and feel free to bring a friend. Contact Maria if you have any questions.

SHARED LUNCH



Please note: As Easter Sunday this year falls on the same date as our next shared lunch date, the executive committee have postponed the lunch until the following Month, **Sunday 2 May**.

ITALIAN MASS

On the first Sunday of every month the Mass is celebrated in Italian at the Church of St Francis de Sales, 175 Clyde Street, Island Bay, Wellington. Mass starts at 11.30 am. Everyone is welcome and it would be good to see more members and their families attend, as we are very fortunate to have this opportunity in New Zealand. If you can help with a reading or the offertory, please contact Ida Basile. The Mass is celebrated by either His Excellency Archbishop Balvo or Reverend Marinko Antolovic from the Apostolic Nunciature.

The next Mass will be on **Sunday, 7 March 2010**.

BABY CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to Tony and Gemma Natoli of Strathmore, Wellington, on the safe arrival of their daughter Liliana Frances. A granddaughter for Salve and Anne Natoli of Island Bay, Wellington.

LUCIA ESPOSITO - 70 YEARS YOUNG!

Congratulations to Lucia Esposito of Island Bay, who recently reached the wonderful milestone of 70 years young. Buon compleanno Lucia, Club Garibaldi wish you many more happy and healthy years to come.

TONY MARESCA - 60 YEARS YOUNG!

Congratulations to Tony Maresca of Island Bay, who recently reached the wonderful milestone of 60 years young. Buon compleanno Tony, Club Garibaldi wish you many more happy and healthy years to come.

ENGLISH LESSONS REQUIRED

Newly arrived from Sicily and looking for 'one on one' tutoring in English (I speak only a little English at this stage). I am happy to consider either payment on a per hour basis (times flexible) or language exchange (Italian lessons for English lessons) Interested? Please contact Rosario Ferraro.



WELL DONE, LUIGI CACACE

Congratulations to Luigi Cacace who won the St Francis de Sales School, Island Bay, 75th Jubilee Award in early December 2009.

The award was won by the person who has a spirit of service to the school, sustained effort in learning and providing a positive role model of Gospel values. He is the son of Cav. Antonio Cacace and Luisa Cacace of Island Bay.

FAMILY NIGHT

A Family Night function is being planned for **Friday, 12 March 2010**, at our clubrooms. Once again, Alfonso Basile will be catering along the same lines as the previous dinners, i.e. a delicious plate of pasta with something sweet to follow. Dinner will be served at 6.30pm after which the children can either watch a DVD on the flat screen television or simply play. The adults can socialise, play cards or just relax at the end of the working week. The bar will be open as well.

Cost: \$8.00 per adult and \$2.00 for each child up to age 13 years.

For catering purposes please call Alfonso to advise how many members of your family will be attending, no later than Monday, 8 March. Please note that no bookings will be accepted after this date, and that it will be on a 'first come, first served' basis.

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS



Nicole Williams, daughter of Francesca and Garth Williams of Tawa, Wellington, and Steeven Sharpe, son of Graham and Sheila Sharpe of Middlesex, England, were married on 9 January 2010, at The Sanctuary Gardens, Napier followed by a reception at The Mission Estate Winery.

Congratulations Nicole and Steeven, Club Garibaldi wish you a lifetime of love and happiness.

ANNUAL BUS TRIP 2010 – DESTINATION: TAURANGA

By Jim & Lynda Marson

Another fantastic time had by all!

Day one: Bus left Island Bay at approx 6.20am. First stop and pick up were some of the Hutt mob from the Wellington Railway Station; next pick up was Paraparaumu. With the bus now full we were on our way! We stopped at Flat Hills Cafe for morning tea, then moved on to arrive in Rotorua about 1.30 pm for a light lunch and a bit of a leg stretch. Off we went, finally arriving in Tauranga around 4.30pm. Everyone was really hot after the long journey, and after checking into our hotel we all headed straight to the swimming and spa pools – BLISS !!!

The rest of the evening was spent doing whatever we wished; some chose to stay and relax at the hotel, some went into town for dinner, while others decided to go for a walk through town and did not come back! Salvi, Jo and Fifi decided to go for a walk quite late at night then lost their bearings! After a panic phone call from Salvi, Maria Colucci and a few others went out looking for them and finally found them about 2 km away from the hotel! Naturally, there were lots of jokes about this for the remainder of the trip.

Day Two: Up bright and early for breakfast then back on to the bus. We travelled to Katikati to see the murals and the bird sanctuary. We spent 2 hours going for a stroll, feeding the birds and enjoying a nice lunch.

Next stop was an invitation to visit an old club member's granddaughter Joanne Wiggett whose grandmother is Mrs Matilda Da Via of Island Bay. This was on a beautiful lifestyle farm block way up in the hills in Katikati. We were kindly given an afternoon tea of home cooking with coffee or tea, and were free to relax or just wander over the lovely grounds. Home again and back into the pool - Ahhh!!

At 7.30pm the same evening, all dressed up, we were dropped off at a nice Italian restaurant in the centre of Tauranga, which overlooked the harbour. After an excellent meal and a few wines we all drifted home and into bed.

Day Three: Shower, breakfast and we're off again.... this time to the Te Puki Kiwifruit Farm. After an educational and enjoyable couple of hours we set off for Mount Maunganui for the rest of the day to do as we wish. Some people went to the hot open air salt water baths, while others either went for a walk through the town or for a swim at the beach...a couple of people even walked to the top of the Mount. That night we ate at another Italian restaurant, wining and dining to the accompaniment of Armando and Salvi playing all the Italian favourites...a great night!!!!

Final Day: Baggy eyed, after having a fun filled, lots of laughter, and very full-on three days, we staggered to the bus with our luggage ready to make the long journey home. A nice cruisey trip to the sound of people snoring and Salvi's CD playing in the background, stopping south of Taupo for a bit of lunch and a wheel puncture ... before hitting the road again, still to the sound of people snoring and Salvi's CD playing in the background! Tama, our very informative bus driver, shared some very interesting Maori history information with us. He was both excellent for his knowledge as well as his driving. Finally we arrived back in Wellington about 8pm, all with smiles on our faces...one big happy family...all waiting in anticipation for the trip next year...to the Coromandel !

A big thank you to Salvi, Jo and Maria for their great organisation and to Armando and Salvi for the fantastic sing along. **PS: Put your names down fast for next year's trip !!**

CLUB GARIBALDI ANNUAL BUS TRIP TAURANGA 2010



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HAPPY 60TH BIRTHDAY TO THE CIRCOLO ITALIAN DI WELLINGTON!

By Ginette Toscano Page

On 30 January, representing the members of Club Garibaldi, I was an invited guest to the Circolo Italiano 60th birthday party celebration at our club rooms. Dr Donato Scioscioli, Charge` d'affaires, represented the Embassy of Italy. I was delighted to have been part of this very memorable and special occasion.

The club rooms were beautifully decorated: the perimeter of the floor was lined with mini olive trees, tea-candles were placed in the stairway and on the tables, a delicious birthday cake and red/white/green helium filled balloons with streamers hung down from the ceiling! Cav. Elizabeth Peek gave a wonderful PowerPoint presentation on the history of Circolo Italiano which was followed by a sing-a-long, music and dancing to the music of the Mediterranean Trio. A birthday card was given to the Circolo on behalf of Club Garibaldi members. The text read: *Vivissimi auguri e vivissime congratulazioni per il vostro sessantesimo compleanno! da parte del Presidente, Ginette Toscano Page, del Comitato Esecutivo e dei Soci e Amici del Club Garibaldi 30 gennaio 2010*

Check out the Circolo Italiano website to view photos of the evening: www.circoloitaliano.org.nz

'A DAY IN POMPEII' EXHIBITION AT TE PAPA

By Cav Nina Cuccurullo

February 14 was a busy day for members who enjoyed 'things Italian', while some of us were at the Blessing of the Boats at Island Bay others of us were at Te Papa 'spending an afternoon with Lavinia' and having coffee while enjoying our own Mediterranean Trio.

The photo on the next page shows member Letizia Columbano-Green, along with Raffaella Delmonte from Auckland and Luca Quaglia at the event *AN AFTERNOON WITH LAVINIA*. They gave us an insight into a day in the life of Lavinia, a woman from Pompeii as she shopped at a Pompeii market, planned and prepared a feast for her wedding. Read below for more of what was presented at this event. (Thanks to Letizia for providing the text).

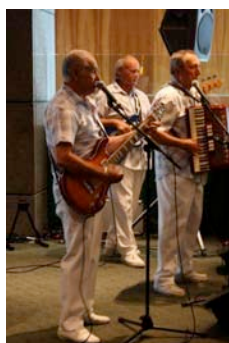
AN AFTERNOON WITH LAVINIA



A play with drama, laughs and lots of information on the life of two Patrician sisters in Pompeii before 24 August 79AD. Lucius, a young student of Tacitus will take you back to the time, a few days before the eruption when Lavinia with her sister Iulia are preparing all the necessary steps for her wedding: the decision of an extravagant menu with exotic ingredients and their preparation; the decoration of the atrium; Iulia medicinal garden with the special corner dedicated to the "poison plants"; the father's special guest arriving in the evening (a well-known foodie writer).

As the two sisters leave the Vetti's Domus (house) to go shopping Lucius gives a talk about the Roman calendar, the "*dies fasti* and *dies nefasti*", the importance to venerate the god Vulcanus (the god of fire) on 23 August and the Lares (the gods who protect the house).

Lavinia is at the market choosing the necessary ingredients for the dinner, talking about the best way to preserve food and giving some of the recipes...they then go to Via Dell'Abbondanza to choose the perfect material for Lavinia's wedding *velarium flammeum* and her father's purple colour toga...but with all the talking the two sisters forget to buy the live fish to honour the god, Vulcanus...an omen? Is it possible that if more of the inhabitants remembered on the 23rd to offer live fish as a sacrifice that it would have prevented the city from taking the brunt of the powerful fury of the volcano the following day?



MEDITERRANEAN TRIO

The photo shows members, Cav Salvi Gaeta, Robin Page and Armando Gilmoni performing to a packed Espresso Lounge playing traditional music and songs from all over Italy.

Remember to refer to the programme of events included in a previous newsletter. There are more great events to come including Brunch with Julie Biuso.

UPCOMING EVENT: BRUNCH WITH JULIE BIUSO

When: Sunday, 14 March

Cost: \$75 public, \$70 Friends of Te Papa

Tickets: From Ticketek www.ticketek.co.nz

Julie Biuso first went to Italy in 1975, traveling by ship from Auckland, stopping briefly in Naples, then docking in Genova but something drew her back to Naples. Whether it was the contrast between the stoic women dressed top to toe in black in the scorching heat of summer and the joy of cheeky, colourful ragamuffin children playing soccer on the streets or the daring of suave dark-eyed Italian boys pinching bottoms undeterred that intrigued her, or the general swagger of the place, the hordes going this way and that, the incessant cacophony of horns beeping, Vespas roaring, zigzagging through the mass like ants, the rich, the poor, mingling together along crumbling cobblestoned streets, stalls of food, mounds of rubbish, noise, rush and heat, and all this under the watchful eye of Mt. Vesuvius, Naples got to her. It was here she discovered the simple tastes of Neapolitan cuisine; tomatoes that tasted of sunshine, buffalo mozzarella cheese that ran like a river over puffed and blistered crusts of pizza dough, the scent of basil wafting through the streets of Naples, and at its heart, Pompeii.

Join Julie Biuso as she reads from letters she wrote to her family during her travels through Italy nearly 35 years ago, sharing her stories which reveal her hopes and aspirations at the time and her culinary awakening. She will re-live the day spent at Pompeii, a day unlike any other where the phrase *Vedi Napoli e poi muori* had real reason to ring in her ears.

Visit www.tepapa.govt.nz to find out more.

CIRCOLO ITALIANO - MARCH SOCIAL

At 7.30pm on **Thursday 4 March**, Lucinda Blakely, Team Leader from Te Papa Museum will give us a presentation. Lucinda will share with us inside information on all aspects of the development of the exciting exhibition **A Day in Pompeii**. The Power Point presentation will contain images of the various stages of the installation and also of the completed exhibition. Don't miss this chance to learn more about what has gone on behind the scenes prior to the opening and we will discover that there is more to staging an exhibition than meets the eye!!

A \$4.00 cover charge towards supper will apply.

CIRCOLO ITALIANO - APRIL SOCIAL

At 7.30pm on **Thursday 1 April** there will be a presentation by Don McLean of Italian Villa Holidays. Don will talk about **Independent Travel in Italy** and his presentation will be in the same style as his very popular and well-received evenings held for the Circolo in previous years. The material and visuals will be new and we look forward to being taken on a virtual armchair tour around Italy.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Thursday 4 March (7.30pm) – Circolo Italiano Social

Sunday 7 March (11.30am) – Italian Mass

Friday 12 March – Family Night

Tuesday 23 March (7:30pm) – Tombola

Thursday 1 April (7.30pm) – Circolo Italiano Social

Sunday 2 May (1pm) – Shared Lunch